

KIND OF A BIG DILL

FADE IN:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

IGNACIO "NACHO" LOPEZ (late 60s, Hispanic), a recent retiree seriously geared up in sports goggles, tennis-style athletic wear and a knee brace, has the serve, and it's game point (10-7) for him and his doubles partner, FRED JOON LEE (early 70s, Asian), who is somewhat more casual in gear and intensity.

NACHO
Ten. Seven. One.

Nacho serves (underhand, that's pickleball for ya) and BIG BARRY (middle-aged, large, always looks like he needs to poop but can't) returns the serve to Fred's side.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Yours, Fred!

FRED
Yup.

Fred's hit goes to LI'L BARRY, Big Barry's father (70s, short, wild eyebrows, smile lines) who just barely musters a return.

For the next volleys, Nacho is showboating and hitting rather powerfully, as is Big Barry, and the two trade hits, until both Barrys end up too far back on their side of the court.

NACHO
You did it now, dumbass!

Nacho delicately dinks the ball close to the net in the center of the opposing side. Both Barrys try to run forward to return the ball, they collide, and Li'l Barry goes down. Big Barry makes awkward contact with his paddle, and the ball goes flying away as he, too, falls down. The small crowd gathered to watch can't help but laugh.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Yes! Ya got dinked! Ya dink!

Nacho starts a weird, strut-y dance as Fred walks around and helps the Barrys up. A few more chuckles from the crowd.

NACHO (CONT'D)
(singing)
Dink dink da dink dink dink dinka
dink dink!

FRED

Good game, guys. You all right?

LI'L BARRY

I'm fine.

BIG BARRY

I'm good. Much better than this,
I'll tell you that.

Nacho comes over to shake hands.

NACHO

Ehh, I dunno. You fell for those
dinks!

Fred coughs, lightly at first, but then a bit harder.

NACHO (CONT'D)

What? They literally fell! Gotta
work on your dink game, gentlemen.

LI'L BARRY

Enough with the dinks.

Nacho begins singing, dancing and hip-thrusting rather wildly
for a man his age.

NACHO

Dink dink dink dink dink!

LI'L BARRY

My goodness, such a celebration.
What sportsmanship.

BIG BARRY

I bet you're an even worse loser.
Loser.

NACHO

We'll never know, 'cause I never
lose. But, anyway. No matter how
good I am at it -- it's a game.
It's just a game.

BIG BARRY

Yeah, right. We can all see it's
just a game to you. See ya next
week, Fred. C'mon, dad.

NACHO

Next week? What about Friday? Don't
let a little loss stop you! We
always practice on Fridays!

Big Barry and Li'l Barry start to walk away. On the other three pickleball courts, old and young people are enthusiastically pickleballing away.

BIG BARRY
Friday's out. For everybody. Ask
Mariah. Jackass.

The Barrys leave.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY - DAY

Nacho and Fred are sitting on a bench. A YOUNG MAN and a YOUNG WOMAN are chatting on an opposite bench as TEN YEAR OLD KID, SEVEN YEAR OLD KID and FIVE YEAR OLD KID run around, yell and goof off like kids do.

NACHO
I can't with this shit. These
people need to keep their kids
under control.

FRED
Relax. They're just being kids.

NACHO
Exactly. Loud, stinky, dirty.

FRED
That sounds like you half the time.

NACHO
Well I earned being loud, stinky
and dirty! I pay taxes. I worked
hard for damn near 70 years. Sweat
equity.

FRED
So you started working when you
were negative two?

The kids are now throwing a ball around and getting closer to Fred and Nacho.

NACHO
Are you kidding me?
(to the kids)
Hey! You can't play ball indoors.

The kids ignore Nacho.

FRED
Be cool, Nacho. The community
center is for everyone.

NACHO
Uh-uh.
(to the young man and
woman)
Hey! Get control of your brats!

YOUNG WOMAN
Those aren't our kids.

YOUNG MAN
We do not and will not have kids
and those three are exhibit A as to
why.

This is news to the young woman.

NACHO
Damn right, brother. You get it.

YOUNG WOMAN
Uh, what?

The young man and woman argue inaudibly and leave. The kids
are getting much louder and crazier. The ball heads straight
for Nacho, and the five year old kid jumps to catch it,
landing right in Nacho's lap. Nacho jumps up.

NACHO
Ahhh! Get it off me!

The five year old kid lands on the ground and bursts into
tears. The other two kids run over and start in on Nacho.

TEN YEAR OLD KID
Dude what the crap?

SEVEN YEAR OLD KID
You're mean!

A BULKY MAN comes running down the hall out of nowhere.

BULKY MAN
What happened?

TEN YEAR OLD KID
We were just playing ball!

NACHO
Indoors. Not allowed!

TEN YEAR OLD KID
Don't you play pickleball indoors?

NACHO
Not in the hallway, smartass.

BULKY MAN
Hey! You don't talk to my kids like that!

NACHO
Hey! You should watch your kids and not treat the community center as your personal babysitting service!

The bulky man bursts into tears.

BULKY MAN
Oh my god, you're right. You're right! I have to be a better father.

Fred pats the bulky man's bulky shoulder.

FRED
It's okay. You're doing your best.

The kids have resumed running around and goofing with the ball in the hallway. MARIAH EVANS (40s, fun t-shirt with a serious blazer) opens her door and looks out into the hall.

MARIAH
Nacho? Fred? You wanted to chat?

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE - DAY

Mariah sits at her desk. Nacho and Fred sit across from her.

NACHO
Why is Friday out?

MARIAH
What?

FRED
Big Barry just said there's no pickleball on Friday. But we need to practice for the tournament.

MARIAH
Oh, right. No pickleball Friday or Saturday. The Creation Ovation, remember?

FRED

Obviously we do not. Is that some sort of homeschooling pageant?

MARIAH

Uh, close. Kids invent things and make a big poster about it. Like a science fair with less science.

NACHO

Basically Shark Tank for elementary school kids.

MARIAH

Sort of. A lot of the kids do seem to steal ideas directly from Shark Tank.

FRED

Sounds super exciting.

MARIAH

Well -- right. Anyway, we're hosting it here this year, set up is Friday. Judging is Saturday.

NACHO

Two whole days? For Baby Shark Tank? No. This is not OK.

MARIAH

It's totally OK. You can take a little pickleball break, it won't kill you.

NACHO

Well if it does, I will haunt you. Relentlessly.

MARIAH

Surely you have something else you could be doing this weekend?

FRED

You overestimate us. Him especially.

NACHO

I can't believe you are dropping this on us all last minute!

MARIAH

There are signs and flyers all over the center.

Fred looks around and sure enough, there are signs and flyers everywhere.

NACHO

I didn't notice. I don't read.
Reading is for nerds.

FRED

That is true. He will not read. He
won't even listen to audio books.

NACHO

That's like reading with your ears!
Then your ears are nerds!

MARIAH

I talked to both of you about this
last week, and the week before.

FRED

Oh, that does sound familiar, now
that I think about it.

NACHO

I don't really listen to you unless
you're telling me about free food.

MARIAH

Last week I reminded you about it,
then told you about the free donuts
in the lounge.

NACHO

I only heard the part about the
donuts. Come on, Mariah, I need to
play pickleball. Every day.

MARIAH

You can. But not this Friday and
Saturday. Not here. Sorry.

NACHO

Just let us get in a little
practice before the dirty little
gremlins set up on Friday.

Mariah gets up and opens her door.

MARIAH

Absolutely not. It's two days.
You'll be fine. There's more to
life than pickleball! Figure it
out!

Nacho and Fred get up to leave.

NACHO
Oh, I'll figure something out.

INT. NACHO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nacho tosses his keys into a pickleball-themed ashtray. He gets himself a drink. He sits in his recliner, turns on the TV and scrolls through the channel guide.

NACHO
Law and Orders!

Nacho puts down the remote and checks his phone.

ON THE SCREEN

A text message screen with the name "Nachito" at the top. The messages read:

NACHITO
(two weeks ago)
Sure, in a bit.

NACHO
(one week ago)
Hey son, how are you? Did you call the house phone? I must have missed it.

NACHITO
(a week later)
Good. Busy.

NACHO
(minutes after son's text)
Yeah. Seems that way. Hey, when's your next trip here?

NACHITO
(three days later)
Not sure. Busy. I'll call ya.

NACHO
(minutes later)
I've got time now. Always have time for you.

NACHO (CONT'D)
(two days after last text,
today in script time)
(MORE)

NACHO (CONT'D)
My busy son. I'm so proud of you!
Talk to you when you can.

Clicking over to voice mail reveals Nacho has no new messages. Nacho looks up at the TV screen.

NACHO (CONT'D)
I've seen this one.

Nacho goes back to the channel guide. Several channels are showing several different Law and Order episodes/series. He flips between them all.

NACHO (CONT'D)
I've seen every Law and Orders? I
did it! I've seen every Law and
Orders! These are my stories,
bitch!

Nacho throws his arms up and slams backwards in his recliner, causing it to rapidly recline all the way back, spilling his drink and almost flipping the entire chair.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Ow. Shit.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - NIGHT

Nacho and Fred enter and turn on the lights. It is Friday, and the pickleball courts have been transformed into a big, open room filled with tables, all of which have huge poster boards on them detailing crudely rendered inventions ripped off from Shark Tank.

FRED
I'm beginning to think Ms. Mariah
did not authorize this.

NACHO
She said it was fine, we just have
to put everything back.

FRED
Uh-huh.

NACHO
Let's just move a few of these
tables over. Easy peasy.

Nacho starts to move some tables over. Everything stays upright.

NACHO (CONT'D)
See? Lemon squeeze-y.

The door opens, and WILLARD CRICK (white, Late 60s, tracksuit with matching shoes and matching Kangol) and DR. OPAL JOHNSON (Black, mid-60s, bedazzled athleisure, designer jewelry) walk in.

OPAL
Now what in the entire hell?

FRED
Creation Ovation, I believe it's called.

OPAL
We are not supposed to be in here.
Dammit, Nacho!

NACHO
What? It's fine. It's poster board!
We'll put 'em all back when we're done.

Willard is strolling down a row of creations.

WILLARD
No, some of these are working models. This appears to be a spoon made out of hard candy.

FRED
The children are our future.

OPAL
I really needed to get a workout in. Let's go back to the retirement village. I think we can still make the Zumba class.

NACHO
Paging Dr. Rhinestones. We don't all live in your precious retirement village.

OPAL
Well, I do, and back I go. Willard?

WILLARD
Yep. You're my ride.

OPAL
(to Fred and Nacho)
Come with us.

NACHO
I think I'm still banned.

FRED
From the pickleball courts, for sure.

OPAL
Surely your infamy couldn't have reached all the way to the Zumba class?

FRED
Hard to say. It's a risk.

NACHO
We'll stay here.

OPAL
Fine. We're off. I implore you, don't tear down this maze of poster board and bad ideas.

WILLARD
Yeah, you'll never get it back together again.

NACHO
Wouldn't dream of it. Just gonna slide a few aside. No biggie. It's just dumb kid stuff.

Nacho pushes a table over, knocking the poster board and model from the table.

OPAL
Uh-huh. I'm gone. Talk to ya.

FRED
Bye!

WILLARD
(to Opal, as they go)
What's Zumba?

Opal and Willard leave as Fred waves. Nacho tries to put the display he knocked over back up. It doesn't look right.

NACHO
I'll get it later.

FRED

This doesn't seem like our best idea. Maybe we could give Zumba a shot.

NACHO

We'll just clear one court. Not a big deal.

FRED

I really think we should just put it back and go before --

Nacho is already moving more tables over. He pushes one a bit too hard, and it topples. The poster board flops over and a roller skate flies off the table into another display, which happens to be a fake water filter -- with lots of real water.

The water splashes, wetting several other displays, one of which is electrical enough in nature to spark. That starts a small fire, which Fred puts out with the blanket from another display. Fred coughs for a bit and waves at the smoke with his arms.

Nacho, startled by the fire, backs into another display, which tumbles over, and an entire row of poster boards and models fall down like dominoes.

A couple seconds go by with no disasters. And then, two or three random tables Nacho and Fred disturbed collapse, sending more poster board and displays falling down.

NACHO

This is fixable.

FRED

Let's just fix it, then.

NACHO

Fine.

Two more small fires begin to burn. Fred and Nacho rush to put them out, and do, but there's a tiny bit of smoke and an alarm goes off on one of the displays. Nacho tries fanning it and it turns off. Fred coughs a bit more, then stops.

FRED

Did you hear that?

NACHO

Um, yeah. Some kid genius thinks she invented the fire alarm. I got it.

FRED

No, not that. I heard, maybe,
footsteps?

NACHO

What? No! Let's go!

A sound that could be people approaching is happening -- it's actually another of the inventions moving (some kid thinks they invented the metronome). Nacho and Fred gather their workout bags and bolt. NACHO'S PERSONALIZED GOGGLES drop from his bag.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

Nacho and Fred burst out of a side door of the community center. They hop in Nacho's car (the license plate reads ABIGDILL) and peel away.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Teachers and children look shell-shocked at the mess. Some kids are teary-eyed. A few parents are weeping. Some kids look relieved. A few are giggling. Some kids are running through the destruction. Many families are picking up their posters and displays and leaving.

Mariah walks in and surveys the damage. She spots NACHO'S PERSONALIZED GOGGLES on the floor and picks them up, then turns to help families remove their displays from the room.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE - DAY

Mariah is at her desk. Across from her are Nacho and Fred.

MARIAH

Thanks for meeting with me on such
short notice.

NACHO

Hey, no problemo. It's nacho
problem at all.

MARIAH

What?

FRED

What, uh, what's going on?

MARIAH

Well, as you two are well aware,
this morning we were hosting the
Creation Ovation.

NACHO

Baby Shark Tank doo doo doo doo doo
doo Baby Shark Tank!

MARIAH

Yes. That's the one.

FRED

Oh.

(a gulp, a little cough)

Oh no.

NACHO

Shouldn't you be there right now?

MARIAH

Well, that's the thing. It got
cancelled.

FRED

Wonderful! So nobody saw --

NACHO

Ahh, yeah, so nobody's using the
pickleball courts! Cool, I'm gonna
just go and get some practice in.

MARIAH

Unfortunately, you're not going to
be able to do that. The Creation
Ovation was cancelled because many
of the displays were completely
destroyed.

NACHO

Dang. That's too bad. Poor Baby
Shark Tanks. Welp, great meeting
with you, Mariah.

Nacho gets up to leave.

MARIAH

I think you're going to want to sit
back down.

NACHO

Ahh. Nope. I'm up already. My knee,
you know? Too much up and down no
good.

FRED

So the Creation Ovation, Mariah ...

NACHO

Yeah we just both want to say how bummed we are that it didn't go according to plan. What can ya do?

MARIAH

Well, for one, you can tell me how you're going to make it up to me, to the kids and to the community center. But mostly me.

NACHO

I don't know what you're getting at.

FRED

Nacho, the jig is up.

NACHO

What jig? I ain't got no jig!

MARIAH

You were pretty upset you couldn't use the courts yesterday.

NACHO

I'm a big boy! I got over it!

MARIAH

Someone saw your car tearing out of the parking lot about when the Creation Ovation displays were destroyed.

NACHO

A lot of people got that same car. Good mileage. Runs like a champ.

Mariah pulls Nacho's personalized goggles out of her desk drawer.

MARIAH

I found these next to an extremely wet but also burnt poster.

NACHO

Oh, I wondered where those went. Musta left them on the pickleball court! A classic senior moment.

FRED
Mariah, I just want to --

NACHO
You don't wanna do nuthin'! I'm
gonna go play some pickleball!

Nacho rushes out of the office and slams the door. Mariah and Fred look at each other. Fred clears his throat.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Nacho looks around at the mess. Most of the big posters and displays are gone, but the room still looks like a bomb went off. Nacho grabs a small wastepaper basket, looks around, then puts it back down. Mariah and Fred come in. Mariah is holding a laptop.

NACHO
This is pretty bad. I hope you
catch the guys who did this.

FRED
Nacho.

MARIAH
Remember a couple years ago, when
we did all those renovations?

FRED
Sure. That's when these pickleball
courts went in.

MARIAH
You two convinced me that
pickleball was a good addition to
the center. You said it brought
people together.

NACHO
It does! I made a lot of friends
playing pickleball.

MARIAH
Right. But you said more young
people would get into pickleball if
they didn't have to play it with a
bunch of stinky old people at the
retirement village.

NACHO
I don't think I put it that way,
but yes.

(MORE)

NACHO (CONT'D)

The community center is for the entire community. It's beautiful. Pickleball for everybody!

FRED

And you're not banned from playing pickleball at the community center.

MARIAH

So fun fact: we also put a few security cameras in when we added the pickleball courts.

NACHO

Nooooooooo.

MARIAH

Yes!

Mariah opens her laptop and hits play on a video window.

NACHO

I don't suppose we're about to watch some Law and Orders.

MARIAH

Kinda. Oh hey, it's this room, last night.

Mariah fast-forwards.

MARIAH (CONT'D)

Look who's here.

NACHO

I was just searching for my goggles.

FRED

Really, Nacho? I'm pretty sure she knows what happened next.

Mariah fast-forwards again.

MARIAH

Hmmm. It's your retirement village friends.

FRED

Mariah, we're so --

MARIAH

Save it. Let's finish the show.

Mariah plays, at high speed, the accidental destruction of the Creation Ovation.

FRED
(dabbing at his eyes with
a handkerchief)
Mariah. We're so sorry.

MARIAH
I can see that you're sorry, Fred.

FRED
I don't know how it happened. I
can't explain it.

Fred blows his nose.

MARIAH
I can. Nacho happened. You should
have gone with your retirement
buddies before everything went
down.

FRED
Yeah. Probably. Believe it or not,
I was trying to keep something like
what happened from happening.

Mariah and Fred both look at Nacho, who is just sitting
there.

MARIAH
Nacho, do you have anything to say?

NACHO
Not really. You got me. On tape or
laptop or whatever.

FRED
You could apologize. And say you'll
make it up to the center, somehow.

NACHO
I am sorry. I didn't do it on
purpose.
(to Mariah)
Am I kicked out?

MARIAH
I should kick you out. But first,
you're going to clean all this up.
Come see me when you're done.

FRED
Yeah. We can do that.

Nacho and Fred get to work. Mariah leaves.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE - NIGHT

Mariah is typing. A knock.

MARIAH
Come!

Nacho and Fred walk in. Each is quite disheveled. They are carrying full garbage bags. Fred is wiping his nose with his handkerchief.

NACHO
We're done. There's no remaining trace of our crimes.

MARIAH
That took a while. I assume the place is spotless.

FRED
We cleaned our hearts out. Just have to toss these bags.

NACHO
Speaking of tossing old bags, have you uh, thought any more about kicking me and or Fred out of the community center?

MARIAH
I have.

NACHO
And?

MARIAH
I believe I thought of something better.

FRED
Anything's better than getting kicked out on our asses.

NACHO
So I still get to play my beloved pickleball here on my beloved pickleball courts?

MARIAH

That's just it. The pickleball courts were a good idea. Lots of people love them.

NACHO

Well of course. Pickleball is life!

MARIAH

Sure. In fact, there are people who are very interested in pickleball, but don't know how to play.

NACHO

They just gotta watch me. The master at work.

MARIAH

Indeed. They could learn so much from you!

NACHO

I can teach all them fools.

MARIAH

Like maybe, oh, I don't know. Kids. Kids could learn from you.

NACHO

I can teach anyone pickleball, even dumb kids. They can come watch me play anytime they want. I don't do autographs, though. Oh, who am I kidding, I will definitely sign autographs.

MARIAH

Perfect. So, to make up for this disaster, you will teach a kids' intro to pickleball class three times a week!

NACHO

Like hell I will! I hate kids! Who said all that?

FRED

You did. You said you can teach anyone pickleball. All them fools.

MARIAH

And you will help him, won't you, Fred?

FRED

Ah. Yes. Of course. I helped him
into this. Well, I didn't stop him.

MARIAH

No you did not.

NACHO

Nah, man. I don't think I can
coach. Me and kids don't work.

MARIAH

I thought you had kids.

NACHO

Yeah. A son. He's ... very busy.
Lives out of town.

FRED

Way out of town.

NACHO

Yeah. Work.

FRED

Right. Work.

NACHO

Can I just, I don't know, repay the
kids in ice cream and candy? Kale?
Bitcoins?

MARIAH

It would get you out on that
pickleball court more than ever.
Practice for your tournament.

FRED

It's not like you don't need
something to do.

NACHO

Whose side are you on?

FRED

Yours. Always.

MARIAH

Well, let me know soon. A few of
the parents were very upset and
wanted to get any security footage
we might have to their lawyers.

NACHO
You're bluffing.

MARIAH
I'm pretty sure I can talk them
down. Or lie. But I'd need a good
reason to do that.

NACHO
Damn, Mariah. You're not playing.
And you're big mad.

MARIAH
I am. But it comes down to this: I
need a pickleball coach. You need
pickleball courts to play on. I
need a reason to not kick you out
on your ass. You ... need
pickleball courts to play on.

FRED
It sounds really bleak when you put
it that way.
(to Nacho)
At least think about it.

MARIAH
You have one day to decide. Now get
that trash out of my office!

NACHO
The garbage bags, or me?

MARIAH
Yes!

INT. DINER - DAY

Nacho, Fred, Opal and Willard are finishing breakfast.

OPAL
Do it, dum-dum.

NACHO
Kids are terrible. Loud, dumb,
stinky. Always hungry. No! I don't
want to.

WILLARD
Well no shit, but you're out of
options.

FRED
They're right. You have to teach
this pickleball class.

NACHO
Do I, though?

OPAL
We'll help you. Sometimes. When we
have nothing better to do.

WILLARD
I have a lot of moral support I can
donate to the cause.

NACHO
Oh, terrific.

FRED
If you don't have pickleball, what
do you have? You can't give it up.
What would you even do with
yourself?

NACHO
I'm gonna watch Law and Orders and
maybe get back into tennis.

OPAL
With your knee? Nope.

WILLARD
I thought you'd already seen every
Law and Order. You sent me a
billion texts about it.

Willard shows his phone to the group.

ON THE SCREEN

An image of Mariska Hargitay and Christopher Meloni looking
shocked with many texts beneath it in a large font:

NACHO
I'm SVU. Special Viewers Unit!

NACHO (CONT'D)
I AM the Law AND the Orders

WILLARD
Congrats you watched a lot of TV

NACHO
DUN-DUN!

WILLARD
Huh?????

NACHO
That's the Law and Orders sound,
pendejo!

Willard puts away his phone.

NACHO (CONT'D)
I'm going to rewatch them all and
start a podcast!

FRED
Do you know how to do that?

NACHO
I will learn.

OPAL
Aren't you the one who said
podcasts are for nerds?

NACHO
I'll make the first cool podcast.

WILLARD
A senior citizen talking about how
he's seen every Law and Order is
definitely the coolest thing I've
ever heard of.

The waitress comes to the table with the bill and Opal hands
her a credit card.

FRED
Why are we even having this
conversation? You're teaching that
class. You can't give up
pickleball.

NACHO
I know. I already told Mariah I'd
do it.

OPAL
Then why are we all here trying to
talk you into it?

NACHO
I ain't passing up no free
breakfast!

Opal throws her balled-up napkin at Nacho.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Still might start that Law and
Orders podcast, though.

Everyone throws their balled-up napkins at Nacho.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Fred and Nacho versus Opal and Willard. A warm-up.

OPAL
(to Nacho)
Show me what you got, old man!

NACHO
You asked for it, doc!

Nacho hits the ball very hard right at Opal and then pretends he's going to moon her. Opal covers her eyes and runs off the court.

OPAL
No sir! I get enough wrinkly old
ass sightings at the hospital!

The door to the pickleball courts closes, loudly. Mariah is there with eight kids: siblings DESTINY MILLER, ALEXA MILLER and JAYDEN MILLER (10, 9 and 7; brown/not white, great hair, silly t-shirts, latchkey kid confidence); ZOE CLARK (10, white, looks like a kid YouTube influencer); MERCEDES (Hispanic, 9, sporty); SOO (Asian, 10, tomboy); BELLA (Black, 7, glasses, a bit nerdy) and TUCKER (white, 9, a little ragged, like a member of Our Gang).

MARIAH
Nacho! Your students have arrived!

OPAL
It's okay, kids. I'm a doctor.
We're allowed to talk like that.
It's clinical.

Opal and Willard walk over to Mariah and the kids and they are talking but we can't hear them.

NACHO

Oh. Wow. There's so many. Little peoples.

FRED

Also known as "kids."

Destiny and Zoe walk over.

DESTINY

We even have names.

(to Nacho)

Hi, I'm Destiny. This is Zoe.

NACHO

I'm Nacho. I'm nacho coach.

DESTINY

But, you are my coach.

NACHO

Yeah. That joke didn't work this time.

DESTINY

Does that joke ever work?

NACHO

It did back in the seventies.

FRED

Nope. You never do it right.

NACHO

Like you could do better.

Mariah walks over. Some of the kids trail her. Others keep talking to Opal and Willard.

MARIAH

Fellas, work on the jokes later.
This is nacho time. This is my
time. And the kids'.

FRED

(coughs)

That's how it's done.

NACHO

Ms. Mariah! On fi-ya!

MARIAH

Just start coaching.

NACHO
All right, kids! Let's hit some
balls!

ALL THE KIDS
Yeah!

NACHO
Some pickleballs.

ALL THE KIDS
Awww!

The adults help the kids hold their paddles and hit the balls
back and forth.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY - DAY

Big Barry and Li'l Barry are snooping outside the pickleball
courts.

BIG BARRY
Leave it to Nacho and company to
use children to get more court
time.

LI'L BARRY
We could go help.

BIG BARRY
Are you off your meds? Those things
are covered in germs!

LI'L BARRY
Son. You're a pediatrician.

BIG BARRY
That's how I know they're covered
in germs.

Mariah walks by on her way off the pickleball courts.

MARIAH
Hello, Barry. Barry.

BIG BARRY
These kids gonna be around much, or
what's the deal here?

MARIAH
It's a class. Three days a week. Go
check it out.

BIG BARRY
Uh. No thanks.

MARIAH
Class is over in about ninety minutes.

LI'L BARRY
Great.

Mariah leaves.

BIG BARRY
These kids are monopolizing the courts! How are we supposed to practice?

LI'L BARRY
They are taking a few hours a week. We'll be fine. Relax.

BIG BARRY
You relax or I'll change my Hulu password.

LI'L BARRY
But I'm only on season two of SVU! Fin just got there!

BIG BARRY
Then relax.

LI'L BARRY
I'm relaxing. So relaxed!

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURT - DAY

Chaos. The kids are screaming and wildly hitting balls across the pickleball courts. Nacho blows his whistle and throws his paddle across the room to get their attention. It doesn't work.

NACHO
Time out! Kids! Stop being terrible!

Nacho keeps blowing the whistle. The kids do not stop. Opal and Willard are wandering around, unsuccessfully trying to intervene. Nacho blows the whistle frantically as he tries to pull the paddles away from the kids, but they easily evade him.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Fred! Help!

Fred has located a bullhorn.

FRED
Pizza!

All the kids stop and look around.

DESTINY
I don't see no pizza. You lyin'
about pizza, bruh?

FRED
Never! It's on its way. But until
it arrives, why don't you let Nacho
show you how to hold the paddles
correctly?

The kids immediately start making a bunch of noise and
goofing off.

FRED (CONT'D)
(through bullhorn)
No pizza unless you listen to
Nacho!

The kids turn and stare at Nacho.

NACHO
Man, that's creepy. OK. So. See the
"V" between your thumb and pointer
finger?

Zoe raises her hand.

NACHO (CONT'D)
Yes, uh, you, child.

ZOE
Zoe. I'm Zoe. My hand seems more
like a "U." Maybe a "J."

The other kids look at their hands and murmur about which
letter they see. Getting loud again. Nacho blows the whistle.

NACHO
OK, sure, choose your letter. The
point is, this space between your
thumb and finger, you want to use
it to grip near the top of the
handle.

WILLARD

Kind of like you're shaking hands
with the paddle.

NACHO

Right. Everyone got that? Fellow
old folks, let's check the grips.

Opal, Willard and Fred join Nacho in approving the kids'
paddle grips.

NACHO (CONT'D)

When you hold the paddle this way
you can hit forehand, backhand,
smashes, whatever with this grip.

DESTINY

Uh, what?

NACHO

Man you guys really are kids. Opal,
let's show 'em.

Opal and Nacho hit the ball back and forth.

OPAL

This is forehand.

NACHO

This is backhand.

The doors open and a PIZZA DELIVERY PERSON comes in with
several pies and a bag on a dolly.

DESTINY

Pizza!

All the kids run over to the pizza delivery person,
screaming. Nacho blows the whistle, which still has no effect
on the kids.

NACHO

Get back here!

FRED

(into bullhorn)

No pizza until you hit the ball
properly.

All the kids pick up balls and hit them, properly, directly
at Fred as he walks over to the pizza delivery person to pay.
Then they tear into the pizza as Willard tries to hand them
plates and napkins from the bag.

NACHO

I guess practice is over for today.

FRED

But the pizza party has just begun.

WILLARD

Just in time, I thought Nacho was going to start paddling the kids.

OPAL

This seems risky. What, are we going to use pizza to get them to listen every practice?

FRED

Of course not.

MONTAGE

The kids practice dinks and are rewarded with tacos. The kids are still wild during practice, the adults exasperated.

The kids practice volleys and are rewarded with burgers and fries. More smiles, less nonsense all around.

The kids practice lobs and are much better behaved. High-fives are exchanged. Their reward is corn dogs, cotton candy and funnel cake.

The kids practice serving and returning serves (hugs and chest-bumps; happiness for kids and adults) and then sit down to a full-blown high tea service.

END MONTAGE

INT. NACHO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nacho sits in his recliner, turns on the TV to Law and Order and dials a number on his phone.

NACHO

Hey son. Just checkin' in. I know you're busy. Me too. I'm teaching pickleball, can you believe it? Me. A teacher. Of children! Anyway. Call me back when you can. I'm beat and goin' to bed.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY - DAY

Mariah runs after Nacho and Fred.

MARIAH
Guys! A word?

NACHO
Hey Mariah. What ya mad at me for
this week?

MARIAH
The pickleball courts smell like a
food court. I'm getting complaints.

FRED
From Barry?

MARIAH
More than just Barry.

FRED
Barry and his father, also Barry?

MARIAH
They're right, you're not supposed
to eat on the pickleball courts.

FRED
The kids learn best when there is a
reward at the end.

NACHO
I teach best when there is a reward
at the end.

MARIAH
Figure it out!

Mariah walks away, then stops to talk to a VERY BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN.

FRED
Mariah has yet to forgive you, it
seems.

NACHO
I get her so riled up. Shit. She
probably just wants a plate of
these well-seasoned Nachos.

FRED
Doubtful. She's married.

NACHO

So?

FRED

To a woman.

NACHO

Hey, you're the one always going on about how sexuality is fluid or a melting pot or whatever.

Mariah and the very beautiful woman embrace and kiss, then part.

FRED

To that woman.

NACHO

Oh. Yeah. She just hates me.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Practice is finishing up. Fred hands each kid a goodie bag filled with candy, which they quickly stuff into their backpacks. Destiny approaches Nacho.

DESTINY

Mister Nacho?

NACHO

What's up, Destiny? Did Fred give you those gummy worms you hate again?

DESTINY

No, no, my candy is great. No it's ... I have a favor to ask.

NACHO

Oh.

DESTINY

So the librarian? She is a monster. And I was talking in the library and she told me to stop and I told her to get a better wig and she got super mad and then she said I had to have a parent or guardian come in for a conference tomorrow or she's gonna have me suspended.

NACHO

Damn. That sucks. I bet your mom is pissed.

DESTINY

My mom doesn't know.

NACHO

You want me to tell her?

DESTINY

No! She will be so disappointed in me and my stupid temper.

NACHO

She's your mom. She'll understand.

DESTINY

She has to work tomorrow. She always has to work. That's why I'm here or whatever.

NACHO

So what do you need from me?

DESTINY

I need you to be my parent or guardian. I guess guardian? Grandpa?

NACHO

What?

DESTINY

You can meet the librarian. Get me out of this bullshit situation.

NACHO

Whoa whoa whoa what is happening? I'm your coach, man. Dats it.

DESTINY

You're the only grown-up I know!

NACHO

You know Fred, Opal and Willard.

Nacho gestures to the other adults, who are not far away, chatting with the other kids and some parents. Fred is watching from a short distance.

DESTINY

You're the only grown-up I know
with the loose moral character to
impersonate a grandparent!

NACHO

Did Fred tell you to say that?

DESTINY

Yes. And he also said to say that
I'll tell Ms. Mariah about the
goodie bags if you say no, and
she'll kick you out on your ass
forever.

NACHO

Damn, Fred. I thought you had my
back.

Fred walks over.

FRED

You thought right. Honestly, Nacho,
can't you empathize with someone
wanting to bend the rules a little?

NACHO

I resemble that statement.

FRED

And you have one-hundred percent of
nothing to do tomorrow.

NACHO

I also resemble that statement.
(to Destiny)
Fine! I'll do it. Damn kids.

FRED

You're finally using your powers of
moral relativity to benefit someone
other than yourself. I'm so proud.

INT. NACHO'S CAR - DAY

Destiny and Nacho are in the school parking lot. They are
both deeply involved in the last few lines of Morrissey's
"The Last of the Famous International Playboys" and are
singing along, emoting, doing hand motions until it ends.

NACHO

Man I didn't know the kids were into Morrissey! I thought only old Mexicans liked that dude.

DESTINY

First of all, my mom is half old and also half-Mexican. But yeah, man, his songs rule. So good for karaoke.

NACHO

True. I won a hundred bucks once with that song.

DESTINY

Nice! So do we still have a little time? I'm scared. Ms. Kraus is so mean.

NACHO

She's a librarian, how much damage can a librarian do?

DESTINY

I don't wanna find out. Can we practice one more time?

NACHO

Sure, mi nieta falsa.

DESTINY

What are my sister and brother's names?

NACHO

Alexa and Jayden. Good at pickleball, but not as good as my little Destiny, who is a pickleball prodigy like her abuelo.

DESTINY

Tell me about my mom.

NACHO

Angie Miller, divorced, home health care nurse, always working, makes a mean pineapple upside down cake.

DESTINY

And you are?

NACHO

Nacho Lopez, your deadbeat dad's deadbeat dad, who has had a change of heart in his old age and wants to be a good grandpa.

DESTINY

Does my deadbeat dad have any siblings?

NACHO

How would I know?

DESTINY

Well do you have kids?

NACHO

One. Nachito.

DESTINY

Literally little Nacho?

NACHO

He's Nacho son.

DESTINY

Right. He's my fake uncle. My funk-le. Why haven't I met him?

NACHO

He doesn't live around here, and his job keeps him busy. I wish I could see him more.

DESTINY

Yeah, that's what my mom says about us. Sometimes I even believe it.

NACHO

I'm sure she does. Shit! It's time.

DESTINY

It's cool -- I think we got it! Just be nice to evil Ms. Kraus.

NACHO

All right. Can do. Let's go.

DESTINY

Oh, and try not to look at her wig. It's scarier than she is!

INT. SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

Nacho and Destiny are sitting at a library table, facing away from the double doors, waiting. The library is empty.

DESTINY
(whispering)
It's so weird that Ms. Kraus is not here yet.

NACHO
(quietly)
Are you sure we were supposed to meet her here?

MS. KRAUS opens the doors and comes in, but we won't see her until Nacho does.

MS. KRAUS (O.S.)
Miss Miller. Practically punctual, for once.

DESTINY
Uh, thanks.

Ms. Kraus makes it around the side of the table and pulls a chair out to sit. Nacho is so startled by her enormous, weirdly colored, ill-fitting wig that he scoots back in his chair in surprise. Destiny puts her hand on his shoulder to steady him.

NACHO
What the ... ah ... what a pleasure to meet you, Ms. Kraus.

MS. KRAUS
And you are?

NACHO
Wigging out. Uh. Yeah, I still get nervous in a school situation. A little wiggy, you know. Wasn't much of a scholar. I'm Nacho Lopez. Destiny's grandpa.

MS. KRAUS
Great. Do you know why I asked to see you? Well, not you, I wanted a parent.

NACHO
I'm the best Destiny could do on short notice. Her mom is always wiggling -- uh, working.

MS. KRAUS

Yes, I could tell Miss Miller hasn't got a strong support system at home. What about her father?

NACHO

Her mother supports the family, seems pretty strong to me. Her dad? Divorce. It happens. Does the librarian at the school generally need to know all this information, or?

MS. KRAUS

I try to intervene, especially when I know a student is coming from a poor situation.

NACHO

So, is Destiny in trouble? I actually don't know why you wanted to see me.

MS. KRAUS

Destiny has a bit of a behavioral issue. She doesn't respect the rules of the library. Or me.

DESTINY

I was talking too loud. One time. I'm sorry, I'll do better.

MS. KRAUS

You were caught one time. And that's already one time too many.

NACHO

So, let's get back on track. What would you like her to do in the future?

MS. KRAUS

I would like assurances that Miss Miller will behave like a lady at all times in the library. A quiet lady. Or I will be forced to suspend her.

NACHO

So, you have the power, as a librarian, to have a child suspended?

MS. KRAUS

They take my recommendations very seriously in the principal's office.

NACHO

Uh-huh. So you don't. Lady, I know a bluff when I see it. I've watched all the Law and Orders.

MS. KRAUS

Well! Just make sure you get this rude child under control!

NACHO

I think she's fine the way she is. She'll follow the rules. That's all you can ask of her.

MS. KRAUS

We're done here. You may leave my library!

Destiny helps Nacho up, and they leave the library.

NACHO

(under his breath)

Get a new wig!

Nacho and Destiny laugh as they walk away.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Big Barry and Li'l Barry are practicing. The kids are starting to filter onto the other three courts.

NACHO

Hey, Barrys! The kids' class started three minutes ago.

BIG BARRY

We're almost done.

Big Barry and Li'l Barry continue to hit the ball back and forth.

FRED

Gentlemen, please. You've just been delicately volleying the ball for the past ten minutes, anyway.

BIG BARRY
Get bent, you tutti fruttiti snow
cone.

NACHO
Nope! That's it.

Nacho angrily heads toward Big Barry, but Fred stops him.

FRED
Nacho. Big Barry is hardly worth
it. He's goading you.

NACHO
Well, it's working.
(to Big Barry)
Fred's sexuality is none of your
business, you big bigot!
(to the kids)
Kids, this is a teachable moment.
Someone's orientation is nothing to
make fun of.

ALL THE KIDS
Duh! No kidding. (etc.)

Destiny and Zoe walk in with Mariah, and point toward the
court from which the Barrys won't budge. Li'l Barry sees them
coming.

LI'L BARRY
Son! We should scoot!

BIG BARRY
Like hell we should!

MARIAH
Is there an issue here, fellas?

BIG BARRY
Nope, nothing I can think of.

Fred is holding Nacho back with both arms.

MARIAH
It's well past when the kids'
lessons should have started.

LI'L BARRY
Oh, no! We had no idea!

Nacho frees himself from Fred's grip and walks over to
Mariah. Fred seems very winded from the effort of holding
Nacho back.

NACHO
Yes you did! You refused to move!

BIG BARRY
My goodness gracious, I am so
sorry.
(loudly)
Kids! Apologies! Mea culpa!

The kids yell taunts, blow raspberries and direct rude gestures to Big Barry.

LI'L BARRY
We are beside ourselves, Mariah.
Truly.

MARIAH
Sure. Try not to let it happen
again.

BIG BARRY
You got it! Never.

The Barrys leave the court. Zoe and Destiny take the court and start warming up.

MARIAH
You can politely ask them to leave
if they go over time, you know.

NACHO
Mariah, I swear to you, we did.

MARIAH
Obviously there's no love lost
between you. Pickleball rivalries
run deep.

FRED
(still a bit out of
breath)
It's serious business to some, yes.

NACHO
You all right?

FRED
Fine. You're a hard one to hold
back, I guess.

NACHO
Damn straight.

Mariah turns and walks a few steps away.

DESTINY
Miss Mariah?

MARIAH
Yes?

DESTINY
That Big Barry guy is the worst.
He's a big bully.

NACHO
Destiny! Go on, get back to your
warm up.

Mariah turns to walk away and Nacho gives Destiny two big thumbs up. Destiny stifles a laugh. Mariah turns back around.

MARIAH
Did you say something?

DESTINY
Nope.

NACHO
Nope.

Mariah turns back around and then smiles as she walks away.

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Nacho is walking Destiny, Jayden and Alexa outside to wait for their mom.

DESTINY
That sounds awful!

JAYDEN
I think it would be fun. I'll go!

NACHO
That's my boy!

ALEXA
Um. What's a mall?

NACHO
Once upon a time, people used to go to these giant buildings with giant parking lots, and inside would be, like, all these stores and movie theaters and food and stuff.

ALEXA

And now they play pickleball there?

DESTINY

Now they are a place with maybe two stores, a crappy buffet and old people doing laps.

JAYDEN

That also sounds fun to me!

DESTINY

You like everything.

JAYDEN

What can I say? I love life.

NACHO

Come on, Destiny, it's two hours tops on a Saturday morning. Last year literally nobody signed up. We could win cash money and a year's supply of Vlasic Pickles!

JAYDEN

Fun!

ALEXA

That does sound fun. I love money.

DESTINY

There you go. Either of my bubble-headed siblings would love to win pickles.

Destiny checks her phone. She looks annoyed.

NACHO

No offense to your bubble-headed siblings, but you are by far the best pickleball player not just in your family but in our whole class.

JAYDEN

It's true, Destiny. I'm man enough to admit it.

ALEXA

Me too! I'm a good man, Destiny!

DESTINY

Well, I'm not. Count me out.

NACHO

We could have fun with it. Maybe
tell everyone I'm your abuelito?

Destiny gets the hint.

ALEXA

Our what?

DESTINY

It means grandfather in Spanish.

JAYDEN

Super fun! I've always wanted one
of those!

ALEXA

Me too! Destiny! Why are you being
such a meanie?

DESTINY

Yeah. Yeah, okay. I do like beating
people at things.

NACHO

That's what I'm talking about! Good
thing your mom is running late
today, so we could work this out.

DESTINY

Actually, she's doing a couple of
hours overtime, she just texted me.

NACHO

Then let's go grab Fred and get a
snack. I got really used to eating
right after each practice.

ALEXA

Can we, Destiny?

JAYDEN

Please?

DESTINY

Sure. Why not? I'll tell mom.

Destiny starts texting. She's much less annoyed.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

The kids are playing practice games to warm up. Lots of smiles. Nacho is the only grown-up there. He blows his whistle.

NACHO

Drill time!

ALL THE KIDS

Aww! Ugh! (etc.)

NACHO

You need to work on your dinks!
Everybody up to the kitchen!

ZOE

I read on a website we're not
supposed to call the non-volley
zone the kitchen.

NACHO

Zoe, muñeca. The internet is a
liar. But good on you doing
research on your own, however wrong
it turned out to be.

ZOE

They say it's a shuffleboard term.

NACHO

Well that may be. Shuffleboard is a
fancy, cruise ship activity. I'm a
humble man. A man of the people. A
pickleball man, who calls the non-
volley zone the kitchen like every
damn body else who plays
pickleball.

DESTINY

Welp, I'm convinced. Except for the
part about you being humble.

ZOE

Whatever. Fine.

NACHO

Let's just say we're both right,
I'm just a little bit righter. Now
get up to the kitchen and let's
dink.

Big Barry quietly walks into the pickleball courts.

DESTINY

I saw on Urban Dictionary that
"dink" means something else.

NACHO

What is it with you kids and the
internet? So. All I want you to do
is dink the ball back and forth,
changing where you hit it each
time.

JAYDEN

You mean on the court?

NACHO

Yeah, so, hit it to the left, then
the right. Maybe down the middle
sometimes. Softly. Try to get it to
drop.

ALEXA

This doesn't seem that hard?

NACHO

I never said it would be hard. I
just want you to get used to
dinking so it becomes second nature
to you. That's why we drill.

The kids practice dinking as Nacho observes. Nacho also
notices Barry skulking in the background.

ZOE

Can't you make a fault if you step
into the kitchen?

NACHO

Great question. Yes. You can't
volley from inside the kitchen,
ever. And if you volley outside the
kitchen but your momentum takes you
inside the kitchen, that's a fault,
too. Otherwise the kitchen is safe.

JAYDEN

Mr. Nacho, that Big Barry man is
here.

NACHO

Just in time! Big Barry knows all
about dinks -- and not just the
urban dictionary kind -- ain't that
right?

BIG BARRY

I know you use them to your advantage, as questionable as that seems.

NACHO

And that's why dinks are so important. You can really catch your opponent off-guard.

BIG BARRY

But what if I know it's coming?

NACHO

Whatcha mean?

BIG BARRY

I mean what if we did a dink drill right now, and the loser has to bow out of the tournament next month?

NACHO

Uh, that's a big bet.

BIG BARRY

Don't think you can beat me?

NACHO

Please. I know I can.

DESTINY

Show this big baby what's what. You can have our court.

Destiny and Zoe vacate their court, and Nacho and Big Barry face off. All the kids gather round. Mariah walks in.

NACHO

Here we go!

Nacho starts the drill. He easily dinks the ball over to Big Barry. They hit the ball back and forth several times. Barry is playing way too close to the net when Nacho hits a really crafty dink that goes almost to the back of the kitchen and Big Barry runs backwards to volley the ball back by standing outside the kitchen, but his toes are just slightly over the line. The returned ball hits Nacho and rolls away.

ZOE

Ahhhh! Coach Nacho! You won!

BIG BARRY

What? The ball hit him. That's his fault.

DESTINY

Yeah but your toes were over the line and you volleyed the ball. You faulted first. You lost.

BIG BARRY

No way. I backpedaled behind the line.

ZOE

Yeah, that's dangerous, you shouldn't run backwards. And your toes were over the line like Destiny said. You shoulda let it bounce first.

BIG BARRY

No! I won, Nacho, you're out of the tournament.

NACHO

Bro. You lost. Is there no honor in pickleball anymore?

DESTINY

Take the L, Big B. We all saw it.

BIG BARRY

Of course they take your side!
You're their coach! We had a deal!

Big Barry turns and starts to stomp away.

NACHO

Man, it was your idea to bet. Tell you what, let's just call the whole thing off. You can stay in the tournament, no harm, no foul.

BIG BARRY

Of course I can! I won! I'm taking this to Mariah!

Big Barry runs out like a kid about to tattletale to the teacher.

MARIAH

Uh, I'm right here? And his toes were definitely over the line.

ZOE

So over.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Nacho, Fred, Opal, Destiny, Jayden and Alexa are in a booth. The adults are drinking coffee, the kids are doing homework.

OPAL
Why would you go back to that
godawful mall tour?

NACHO
That's just it! No competition! We
will clean up.

FRED
And this year he has a partner in
crime who can get him into the
mixed doubles category.

OPAL
So not you.

FRED
(lightly coughing)
So not me.

DESTINY
We were talking about it with the
whole class. I think a bunch of the
kids are gonna check it out.

NACHO
That's fine, as long as they don't
beat us, which they can't, because
we are the best.

A WAITRESS comes along with coffee.

WAITRESS
Your grandkids are so sweet! Doin'
their homework. There's awful kids
come through here, tell you what.

NACHO
Why thank you!

The waitress leaves.

OPAL
I couldn't tell who she was talking
to.

FRED
Maybe all of us!

NACHO

You think she thought we were a three-banger, you know, we saw a thing about it on the Today show -- a threesome?

FRED

A throuple. And, no. I don't think throuples have made it to our neck of the woods just yet.

OPAL

Then you aren't paying attention around the retirement home.

All three kids are now looking up from their homework, deeply interested.

DESTINY

Oooh, tell us more.

OPAL

Nope. I protect my grandbabies from salacious retirement home gossip.

FRED

Me too.

NACHO

Me throuple.

INT. GREAT OAKS MALL - DAY

The Vlasic Classic Pickleball Mall Tour is underway. There are plenty of people eating pickles and hot dogs, playing a VR pickleball experience and pickle-themed carnival games, and just generally milling about. Nacho and Destiny (wearing matching t-shirts that say "KIND OF" over a large cartoon pickle) are easily destroying a MIDDLE-AGED COUPLE on the pickleball court. PAT and JO, two hosts in full pickle costumes, are commentating on the game for the extremely small group of people gathered to watch.

PAT

Kind of a Big Dill is absolutely dominating! Who would have thought this unlikely pair could tear through two teams of able-bodied adult people to be here in the finale?

JO

Not me, Pat. But then, who would have thought two grown-ass Yale Drama grads would tour the dilapidated malls of America dressed as pickles?

PAT

Touché, Jo. And that's another point for Kind of a Big Dill, and the score stands at 9-2.

JO

It's honestly quite sweet, a girl and her great-grandfather, swatting the ol' pickleball around.

PAT

While you were getting googly-eyed over intergenerational pickleball, Team Big Dill scored another point!

JO

And here we go with what could be the last serve ... and ... yep, that'll do it! Kind of a Big Dill wins, 11-2.

PAT

Ah-mazing! Pickleball at its finest. I guess these two are proof that it's a great game for everyone, young and old!

JO

Kind of a Big Dill, come on over here and get your prize!

Nacho and Destiny are beaming as they are handed a trophy, a check and a giant jar of pickles.

PAT

Any words for your fans?

NACHO

Yes! It's Nacho win! We are Nacho winners, Kind of a Big Dill!

JO

Nonsensical, but we'll take it! Congratulations!

Jayden, Alexa and a handful of the other kids from the pickleball class run over to Destiny and Nacho.

Fred is slowly walking over, too. ANGIE MILLER (mid-30s, scrubs, messy updo), holding two bouquets of chocolate roses, parts the sea of excited kids and walks up to Nacho as he places the jar of pickles on the floor.

ANGIE
Mr. Lopez?

NACHO
I told you, call me Nacho.

ANGIE
Nacho. These are for you.
Congratulations.

Angie gives Nacho one of the bouquets. Fred makes it over.

NACHO
What if we had lost?

ANGIE
It was fairly obvious that was not a possibility. Besides, I think I owe you and your friends a lot more than candy flowers.

NACHO
Nah. It's our pleasure.

FRED
Your kids are a delight!

ANGIE
You all are going way above and beyond. You really don't have to.

NACHO
Oh, it's more of a give and take -- without Destiny, I wouldn't be the proud owner of this enormous vat of pickles.

Destiny pulls away from the group of kids.

DESTINY
Mom! Did you see us win?

ANGIE
I did, baby. Congrats.

Angie hands Destiny the second bouquet.

DESTINY
Ooh. Chocolate. Can I eat it now?

ANGIE
Sure. Nacho is.

Nacho is chewing on a rose. He offers one to Fred, who shakes his head and clears his throat.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE - DAY

Barry and Mariah are chatting.

BIG BARRY
I basically saved their lives.

MARIAH
Yeah, no, I'm glad there are pediatricians out there willing to confront parents who don't want their kids to get the flu shot.

BIG BARRY
So important, what I do. For the children.

Barry wipes a fictional tear.

MARIAH
If that's all, Barry, I really have to get back to it.

BIG BARRY
Well, there is one thing.

MARIAH
Shoot.

BIG BARRY
I am not sure if you know this, but your beloved Coach Nacho isn't quite as good an example to the kids as you might hope.

MARIAH
It seems to me that Nacho's good for the kids, and the kids are good for him.

BIG BARRY
The way he stuffs them with candy? Makes me want to switch to dentistry.

MARIAH
Barry.

BIG BARRY

They're like piñatas, they're so full of candy.

MARIAH

Candy is not a crime, Barry.

BIG BARRY

No, no. Nacho and I had a gentlemen's agreement, and he broke it in front of the kids.

MARIAH

A gentlemen's agreement, huh?

BIG BARRY

Friendly competition, but the loser was supposed to back out of the tournament. And I still see his name on the roster.

MARIAH

You think reneging on a bet is a bad example for kids, then? Not the bet in the first place, maybe?

BIG BARRY

It was a gentlemen's agreement, Mariah, and he gave his word. You can't go back on your word.

MARIAH

Well. So here's a little-known fun fact. There are security cameras in all the public areas of the community center.

BIG BARRY

Well, how about that.

MARIAH

Yeah. I took a still off one of them the other day that might be of interest to you. Want to see it?

BIG BARRY

Of course.

Mariah clicks on an icon on her desktop. A an image of Big Barry and Nacho running the dink drill appears.

MARIAH

Look familiar?

BIG BARRY

That's the gentlemen's agreement situation I was referring to. Too bad you don't have the moment I won.

Mariah clicks another picture open. It's of Nacho being hit by the ball.

BIG BARRY (CONT'D)

That's it!

MARIAH

Oh whoops, wrong pic.

Mariah opens a third pic. It's of Big Barry with his toe very clearly over the line to the Non-Volley Zone, or kitchen.

BIG BARRY

That's not real.

MARIAH

Oh, but it is. Should I take you off of the tournament schedule, you think?

BIG BARRY

Well, if Nacho can renege, so can I.

MARIAH

But your gentlemen's agreement?

Big Barry, enraged, jumps up and rushes out of the room, slamming the door behind him. Mariah is unbothered.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Nacho, Fred, Willard, Destiny, Alexa and Jayden are finishing dinner.

WILLARD

Are you sure you don't have any homework?

ALEXA

Nah! Tomorrow is open house at school. All we have done this week is make things for open house.

JAYDEN

And cleaning up and junk. It's crap but better than books.

FRED

Your education is important. Even if it is just learning how to clean up nice for a special day.

DESTINY

Well then we're learning a lot this week.

NACHO

Do you need me to represent as your abuelo?

DESTINY

Believe it or not, no. My mom has the day off.

NACHO

That's great!

DESTINY

I guess. At first she wasn't gonna make it but then suddenly she could.

NACHO

She works hard for you kids, Destiny.

DESTINY

Yeah. Sure. She just -- she never wants to hear about our stuff.

JAYDEN

I told her about that awesome tea place we went to and she just got this look on her face.

DESTINY

Hey, can we put some songs on the jukebox?

NACHO

Yes. Here's some quarters. Play at least one Morrissey or Smiths.

DESTINY

What am I, new?

The kids run over to the OLD-FASHIONED JUKEBOX across the diner. Fred goes with them.

WILLARD

Those kids are terrific. I am shocked at how good you are with them, coach Nacho.

NACHO

Oh, stop. Well. Keep going a little.

The kids and Fred select songs, then start doing ridiculous dances.

WILLARD

I just thought ... I mean ... you really used to hate kids, right?

NACHO

Seriously? I hated kids when I was a kid myself. Still do.

WILLARD

No, you don't anymore.

NACHO

Are you kidding? I'm not a fan.

WILLARD

Well, tell those kids that.

NACHO

Heh. Yeah.

A commotion from the other side of the diner. Fred sits on the floor, winded again. Nacho and Willard rush over.

WILLARD

Fred! You don't look right.

FRED

I'm just winded. This head cold will not go away.

NACHO

I dunno, dude, you look like shit. You cough all the time. We gotta get you to a doctor.

FRED

As a matter of fact, I have made an appointment with a very lovely, very hard to get an appointment with doctor -- but it's in three days.

NACHO

The tournament won't be over by then. I guess we'll have to drop out. You can't miss this appointment. You're sick.

DESTINY

Wait. Could I take your place? Or is it old dudes only?

FRED

I don't see why not. It's an open doubles tournament. No age or gender restrictions. That's why I like it, it's so egalitarian!

NACHO

And also, it's the only way to get enough doubles to hold a tournament around here.

FRED

That too!

DESTINY

Then I'll do it.

FRED

Thank you, Destiny.

NACHO

Are you sure? It's a long day.

DESTINY

Anything for my abuelito.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Angie, Destiny, Alexa and Jayden are walking away from the open house.

ANGIE

Well, that was a surprisingly painless night. Good work, everyone.

DESTINY

Thanks, mom. Thanks for, you know, uh. Being here.

ANGIE

Hey, if we leave now, we'll
probably beat the rush at the pizza
place.

As the family walks past the library, Ms. Kraus is suddenly
there in the doorway, like a bewigged demon. Alexa and Jayden
keep going.

MS. KRAUS

Destiny. Aren't you going to
introduce me to your fabled mother?

DESTINY

Mom, this is Ms. Kraus.

ANGIE

Oh! Wig -- wig got to get going.
Nice to meet you.

Angie and Destiny try to bolt but Ms. Kraus continues.

MS. KRAUS

Ah, ever the busy bee, Mrs. Miller?

ANGIE

Um. No, no, I have time today. Nice
to meet you. Are you one of the
teachers here?

MS. KRAUS

The librarian.

ANGIE

Oh. Well, great to meet you, but
wig got to get going.

MS. KRAUS

Off to work, perhaps?

ANGIE

I work quite a bit, but thankfully
not tonight, so I could be here.

DESTINY

So great to see you Ms. Kraus, but
we really do gotta go.

MS. KRAUS

Hm. I'm surprised but pleased to
say we haven't had any more issues
with your Destiny.

ANGIE

I'm sorry, what?

MS. KRAUS

You know, since the talking incident. Didn't your father give you a full report?

ANGIE

My father?

DESTINY

No, no, it's our dad's dad, our abuelo, that you met, Ms. Kraus.

ANGIE

Your ... abuelo?

MS. KRAUS

Ah, yes. You look surprised, Mrs. Miller. Surely you're aware of what's going on with your own children?

ANGIE

I -- of course. Must have slipped my mind. Just a talking incident in the library, after all. Not a big deal.

MS. KRAUS

Oh I assure you, it's a very big deal. And your father-in-law was a rather poor representative of your family.

DESTINY

But now it's over, and it will never happen again, so, yeah, nice chatting with ya, gotta go!

Destiny manages to drag her dazed mom away from the self-satisfied Ms. Kraus and towards the doors to the outside.

As Ms. Kraus slithers back to the library, her wig catches on a decoration hanging from the ceiling and gets yanked off, revealing a terrible hair cut and splotchy color underneath. As she tries to retrieve the wig, a big rush of people fills the hallway, and they all stop to gawk and laugh. Some try to help grab the wig, which is swinging around madly.

Destiny turns around to look at the commotion but Angie, now more clear-headed, directs her to the exit doors where Alexa and Jayden are.

JAYDEN
Took you guys long enough.

ALEXA
For reals.

JAYDEN
What's happening back there?

ANGIE
(angrily)
Doesn't matter. Let's go.

The kids exchange glances -- they know someone's in trouble, but they're not sure who.

ANGIE (CONT'D)
(hushed, but very firm)
Now.

Everyone goes through the doors.

INT. NACHO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nacho is watching Law and Order on the television. He is taking notes on a legal pad.

NACHO
This is perfect for the podcast!

A knock at the door. Nacho gets up to answer it.

ANGIE
Mr. Lopez. We need to talk.

NACHO
Please, call me Nacho! But of course, come in, come in.

Angie walks in. Nacho closes the door.

ANGIE
I wanted to do this in person.

NACHO
Oh no -- are the kids all right?

ANGIE
The kids are fine. It's you who's not all right.

NACHO
I'm sorry, what?

ANGIE

You pretended to be my father-in-law?

NACHO

Well, not exactly.

ANGIE

You interfered with my daughter's education?

NACHO

If telling an old battle-axe where to shove it is interfering with your daughter's education, then, yes.

ANGIE

That's not your place! You are just their pickleball coach! Nothing more!

NACHO

Nothing more? I feed those kids. I help them with their homework. I teach them things besides pickleball! I am there for them!

ANGIE

Are you saying I'm not?

NACHO

I'm saying my friends and I have been there for them a lot these past couple of months. We're like family.

ANGIE

But you're not family. And you're not going to see them anymore. How about you go find your own kid and be his family, instead?

NACHO

Wow. Okay. Damn.

ANGIE

Just leave my kids alone. They're out of your pickleball class, they're out of your tournament, and they're out of your pathetic life!

Angie turns, flings the door open and leaves.

INT. MILLER HOUSE - DAY

Angie and Destiny are arguing in the kitchen.

DESTINY

Mom, please. You gotta let me play in the tournament. I promised I'd fill in for Fred. He's sick.

ANGIE

No! You and Mr. Lopez lied. You made me look like a shitty mother in front of that horrible teacher.

DESTINY

She's a horrible librarian.

ANGIE

That's not any better. What were you thinking? Why didn't you just tell me you were in trouble?

DESTINY

I didn't want to bother you. You're always so busy. Ms. Kraus wanted to meet with you the next day and you can't get time off that fast. You would have killed me.

ANGIE

I would have figured something out.

DESTINY

Yeah, my murder.

ANGIE

Destiny.

DESTINY

It's not fair. Nacho was just doing me a favor.

ANGIE

Overstepping his bounds? Some favor.

DESTINY

Oh come on, mom! And why are you punishing Alexa and Jayden? They don't deserve this!

ANGIE

I'm not punishing any of you. I'm punishing Mr. Lopez.

(MORE)

ANGIE (CONT'D)

And I'm going to talk to his boss
and get him fired from coaching.

DESTINY

Oh my god, mom, he's not getting
paid. He's a volunteer.

ANGIE

Well then I'll get him fired from
volunteering.

DESTINY

He was our ride to, like,
everything.

ANGIE

We'll figure it out. We had lives
before Mr. Lopez. We managed.

DESTINY

He made things a whole lot easier
to manage. I'm a kid. I'd rather
not have to manage.

ANGIE

He's not your family.

DESTINY

I dunno, mom. It kinda felt like he
was.

ANGIE

Well, not anymore. Dammit! I'm
going to be late for work. Do not
go to that tournament, do you
understand me?

DESTINY

Honestly, mom, I don't.

ANGIE

Mrs. Jackson next door said she'd
pop in during the day to check on
you. You have your phone. I have to
go.

DESTINY

But, mom.

ANGIE

We'll talk about this later!

Angie leaves. Destiny pulls out her cell phone and texts.
Alexa and Jayden come into the kitchen.

JAYDEN
Is it safe?

DESTINY
Yeah, mom's gone.

ALEXA
I don't want to quit pickleball. I like Nacho. I like having an abuelo.

JAYDEN
And candy. And the diner.

DESTINY
And Fred. And Opal. And Willard. And Mariah.

JAYDEN
And high tea. And pizza parties. And high tea!

ALEXA
Mom wouldn't really take all that away from us, would she?

DESTINY
I think she's just mad. I get mad, too. But I get over it. I think she'll get over it.

ALEXA
Too bad you have to miss the tournament.

DESTINY
Ha! I'm not missing the tournament. I told Fred I'd play for him. I told Nacho. I told everyone. I'm doing it. I already texted Nacho.

JAYDEN
Oh, man, you're going to be in so much trouble.

DESTINY
I don't care.

ALEXA
You know, we're already in trubs and we didn't even do anything.

JAYDEN
Yeah.

ALEXA

So let's do something. Let's go to the tournament.

JAYDEN

I bet there are gonna be epic snacks!

DESTINY

And you can support me and our abuelo.

JAYDEN

That too. Let's go!

The kids leave the house.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

There's a medium-sized crowd gathered for the tournament. Matches have already started. We can see Willard and Opal playing another pair, and also Big Barry and Li'l Barry are in the mix. There are line judges and a referee for each court. Nacho is pacing.

NACHO

We're up next, and no Destiny.

FRED

She said she'd be here.

NACHO

I can't believe her mother is letting her play. She was so mad last night. I was terrified.

FRED

I know several people who are quick to anger and quick to forgive.

NACHO

Okay, okay. Oh! Here they are!

Destiny, Alexa and Jayden walk in.

DESTINY

Sorry. We had to lock up our bikes.

NACHO

You biked here? One of us coulda come and got ya.

FRED

We are all certainly used to
picking you up.

JAYDEN

It's cool. Hey, Fred, how are you
feelin'?

FRED

Still a little under the weather.
Sometimes I just can't catch my
breath. Never get old, kids.

Fred laughs a bit, which makes him cough.

ALEXA

I won't! Never! I promise!

FRED

Perfect.

Mariah approaches.

MARIAH

Destiny, Nacho. You're up. Your
opponents are from out of town.
Springfield.

Two VERY FIT MEN in nice-looking gear are walking towards the
court.

NACHO

It's so sad they traveled so far
just to get their asses handed to
them immediately.

DESTINY

I dunno, they look, like, in shape.

NACHO

They're trying to look right, but
it's all wrong. They're wearing
fancy running shoes, for starters.

FRED

So they are. All that Law and Order
is rubbing off on you.

NACHO

Those outfits are brand new. They
just started playing pickleball and
think they're hot shit 'cause
they're young and buff. And they
are wrong.

DESTINY

We're gonna pickle their balls!

NACHO

Destiny Miller, what did I say about that joke?

DESTINY

You said it was very funny, and never to say it again. Oops.

Nacho and Destiny walk over to the court and shake hands with the fit men. A coin toss. The fit men win and choose to serve first. The first serve hits the net as it goes to Nacho and Destiny's side, and so the fit men get a do-over on the serve.

NACHO

I told ya.

DESTINY

Yeah. We got this.

The next serve is good and Nacho returns it. A fit man sends it back. This goes on for a short while, as Nacho and Destiny are feeling out the fit men. Destiny sees an opening and aims the ball at one of the fit men's feet and he whiffs it. Nacho takes the serve.

FRED

Go Nacho!

Nacho executes a perfect serve, and somehow, the fit men cannot return it.

DESTINY

Oh wow, this is gonna be even easier than we thought.

The fit men improve their play, but it remains Nacho's serve for five points. On Nacho's sixth serve, the fit men seem to come alive, and a long and involved and exciting for pickleball rally ensues. The fit men are running around too much but are holding their side down.

FRED

You got this! Team Nachoooooooo!

Fred coughs very hard and kind of slumps over. Opal and Mariah run over to him, administering aid. People scream. Nacho thinks they're screaming for him, as he hits a particularly smart ball and the fit men cannot get it in time. He looks to Fred and realizes something is wrong, and so does Destiny. They run off the court.

DESTINY

Fred!

NACHO

Oh my god.

OPAL

He's passed out. Give us room,
please.

Nacho and Destiny sit on the court, watching Opal and Mariah work on Fred. The paramedics arrive. Fred is taken out. Opal goes with the paramedics, Nacho takes the Miller kids and heads out, too.

MARIAH

(into a microphone)

I'm sorry, everyone. We're shutting
down the tournament for today. I'll
try to have rescheduling
information for you by tomorrow.

Big Barry walks over, with Li'l Barry not too far behind.

BIG BARRY

You are not serious. The show must
go on.

MARIAH

Barry. Please. Have some respect.

LI'L BARRY

The tournament can wait. Poor Fred.

BIG BARRY

Poor Fred my ass! This is probably
just a stunt!

MARIAH

Barry, I'm going to have to ask you
to leave.

BIG BARRY

I'll stay here as long as I want!

LI'L BARRY

Don't be an asshole, son. Everyone
is leaving, anyway. There's no one
left to play.

BIG BARRY

Then I win by default.

LI'L BARRY
I would not call this a win.

Li'l Barry walks away. Everyone walks away. Big Barry is alone and for once, silent.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Nacho, Alexa and Jayden are sitting and playing a card game. Mariah is standing nearby. Opal and Willard are drinking coffee and talking. Off to the side, Destiny is scrolling through Nacho's cell phone. She types something on her phone. Angie Miller arrives.

DESTINY
Mom. Hi. I'm sorry. Sort of.

ANGIE
How is Fred?

DESTINY
He's got pneumonia. We got to talk to him for a few minutes, even though kids aren't usually allowed in the rooms. Dr. Opal got them to let us in as family.

ANGIE
You wouldn't have had to see that if you had stayed home like I told you.

DESTINY
Mom. I made a promise. What was Nacho supposed to do without me?

ANGIE
Anyway. We should go.

Opal and Mariah approach.

MARIAH
Mrs. Miller.

ANGIE
Angie.

MARIAH
Angie. I got your message about withdrawing the kids from pickleball. Could we chat about that over a coffee?

OPAL

Oh, I could use a bite, let's us girls go down to the cafeteria for a hot second.

Opal threads her arm through Angie's and hustles her away. Nacho walks over to Destiny.

NACHO

In all this mess, I lost my phone. Can you believe it?

DESTINY

I can, 'cause it's right here.

Destiny hands Nacho back his phone.

NACHO

Oh, wow. So. You were not supposed to be playing in the tournament today, were you?

DESTINY

No. But I promised you and Fred. And now ... Fred.

NACHO

They said he's gonna be fine. He let a cold go too far but they're giving him medicine and he'll get better. He's pretty tough.

DESTINY

I was scared.

NACHO

So was I. We can be scared together, for now.

INT. HOSPITAL CAFETERIA - NIGHT

Angie, Opal and Mariah are eating pastries, drinking coffee and talking.

MARIAH

You're right, Angie -- Nacho was in the wrong. He's often in the wrong. But he tries.

OPAL

I have to be honest. I knew about the librarian thing.

ANGIE

And you didn't try to stop it?

OPAL

I encouraged it. Destiny didn't want to bother you. And Nacho needed something to think about other than himself, pickleball and Law and Order. It was just a pushy librarian having a power trip.

ANGIE

She is a horrible woman with a horrible wig and she made me feel like garbage.

OPAL

This may be small consolation, but Nacho stood up to her for Destiny. He stood up for you, too, if I'm remembering the story correctly.

ANGIE

He did?

OPAL

He did.

ANGIE

Oh.

MARIAH

Could you maybe reconsider taking the kids out of the center? They don't have to do pickleball, there are other programs. Unless you've already lined something up.

ANGIE

No. I haven't. I just -- I said some crappy things to Nacho.

MARIAH

Hey. I was raised by a single mom. It's an impossibly hard situation. Mistakes will be made. Tempers will flare.

OPAL

Nacho is no stranger to a bad temper. Although he's calmed down a lot ever since ... well, ever since he started teaching that class and hanging out with your kids.

ANGIE

You mean taking care of my kids.

OPAL

Well. He has been. And I think it's been good for all of them. And, well.

ANGIE

For me. It's been good for me.

MARIAH

It's okay to accept help, especially when it's freely given.

OPAL

Would it be all right if I interfered just one more time? I'd like to put your name in for a nursing position at the retirement village. Great pay. Regular hours.

ANGIE

I don't know, I don't enjoy hanging out with old people as much as my kids do.

The women laugh together. Angie relaxes.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Destiny is alone, texting. We can hear the sound effects of typing and texting but never see the screen. Angie appears in the hallway with Alexa and Jayden.

ANGIE

Hey. We should get going.

DESTINY

If this is the last time I get to see Nacho and Opal and everyone, can I at least say goodbye?

ANGIE

Well, I think this is probably not the last time you'll see them.

ALEXA

Really?

ANGIE

Yeah. I also got you back into the prestigious pickleball class that apparently has a wait list now.

DESTINY

Um, and what about the tournament?

ANGIE

Well, we don't even know when it will be rescheduled.

JAYDEN

Very true.

ANGIE

And, you're all grounded.

JAYDEN

What?

ALEXA

Mom!

DESTINY

That's fair. We did exactly what you told us not to.

ANGIE

Two weeks. No goofing around. You have to start listening to me. And I'll start listening to you, too.

DESTINY

But we still go to pickleball.

ANGIE

Yes.

ALEXA

And visits to Fred?

ANGIE

Well, of course. Poor Fred. Pneumonia is no joke at his age.

JAYDEN

And occasional meals out with Nacho and Opal and them?

ANGIE

It's two weeks, Jayden. You can go that long without your precious high tea.

JAYDEN

I can. But they're old, mom. Two weeks might be all they have left.

DESTINY

Wow.

JAYDEN

Too soon?

ALEXA

Way too soon.

DESTINY

Way too real.

JAYDEN

Okay. Two weeks.

ANGIE

Two weeks is short. It will go by quick, just watch.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

The tournament is back on! This time, the kids are playing, too.

MONTAGE

Alexa, Zoe, Jayden, Mercedes, Soo, Bella and Tucker are playing in a kids' tournament against some randos to bulk it out a bit. Nacho and Destiny are on the sidelines, giving advice and coaching the pickleball class kids. Angie is there to support Alexa and Jayden.

Kids serve, kids volley, kids get hit in the face, kids accidentally send their paddles flying, kids bonk heads, kids get caught in the net, kids fall and start crying.

Zoe defeats Soo to win a trophy and an enormous gift basket filled with treats, which she promptly shares with all the kids.

END MONTAGE

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY - DAY

Nacho and Destiny are chatting before their next match. They are wearing their "Kind of a Big Dill" shirts.

NACHO

Your mom is a lot more chill since she started working at the retirement village.

DESTINY

Thankfully.

NACHO

Hey. She loves you.

DESTINY

I know, I know. So any last-minute strategy tips before we go back in there and start wreckin' fools?

NACHO

Not really. I've taught you everything I have to teach you.

DESTINY

About pickleball?

NACHO

About everything! I'm not a smart man, Destiny.

DESTINY

That's okay. I hate nerds.

NACHO

That's correct. Nerds are the worst. I've taught you well.

The very beautiful woman (Mariah's wife), pokes her head into the hall.

VERY BEAUTIFUL WOMAN

Destiny! Nacho! Your next match starts in five.

NACHO

Let's do this!

DESTINY

Anything for my abuelito!

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Three of the courts have intense pickleball games running, once again with line judges and referees. Destiny and Nacho roll up to their court and see the two very fit men from the aborted tournament.

DESTINY

I remember these dudes!

NACHO

Uh-huh. They have court shoes now.

DESTINY

That doesn't mean they're at our level, right?

NACHO

Of course not! No one is at our level, mi vida.

DESTINY

Enough with the mush. We're tough. We play pickleball, the sport of ... uh ... not kings.

NACHO

The sport of Nacho. It's Nacho sport!

DESTINY

And yet, it is.

Destiny and Nacho play a very relaxed game of pickleball, staying calm, hugging the kitchen and looking super cool while the very fit men are run ragged: darting all over the place, sweating, panting and collapsing in a heap when they lose. Destiny and Nacho help the very fit men up and shake their hands.

NACHO

Hey guys, good game.

DESTINY

And nice kicks!

VERY FIT MAN ONE

Thank you. We thought we'd improved a lot these past few weeks.

NACHO

You have!

VERY FIT MAN TWO

But obviously, we didn't improve enough.

DESTINY

You know, if you wanted to improve more, Nacho is an amazing coach.

VERY FIT MAN ONE
Are you taking new clients?

NACHO
Maybe. Say, uh, how much did those
court shoes run ya?

VERY FIT MAN TWO
Oh. Not much for custom shoes. Five
hundred dollars, something like
that?

NACHO
As a matter of fact, I am taking
new clients!

EXT. BIG BARRY'S CAR - DAY

Big Barry, in a trench coat, hat and dark glasses, is sitting
in the back of his own car with TINA (50s, tennis whites,
eccentric glasses).

BIG BARRY
You have to make it look real.

TINA
Then you have to make it worth my
while. My husband has his heart set
on placing in the top three.

BIG BARRY
Babe, I've seen you two play. That
was never gonna happen.

TINA
Our price just went up.

BIG BARRY
Fine.

Big Barry stuffs another \$20 bill into an envelope and hands
it to Tina, who pushes it open to inspect the payoff.

TINA
That'll do, Big Barry.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - DAY

Big Barry and Li'l Barry are playing a solid game of
pickleball against Tina and her HUSBAND.

Tina makes it look real by appearing not to throw the game at all, leading to a tie game and some nasty looks from Big Barry. Tina chases a ball that's gone out of bounds and Big Barry follows her.

BIG BARRY
What the hell, Tina?

TINA
You wanted real. I'm giving you
real. I'm giving you drama. The
show is about to start.

BIG BARRY
It had better.

MONTAGE

Tina "forgets" to let the ball bounce on the service return.

Tina doesn't move up far enough and then makes a show of running to save a ball and missing completely.

Tina sneezes when her husband serves, and the ball hits the net.

Tina charges into her husband who is about to smash the ball over to the Barrys, sending his shot clear into another court, which brings the score to 11-7, and the Barrys win.

Big Barry celebrates with an elaborate dance on his side of the court, while Li'l Barry goes to shake hands with Tina and her husband. Big Barry stops dancing and walks off court, carrying a sports bag with the trench coat partially hanging out.

END MONTAGE

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER GROUNDS - DAY

Nacho and Destiny are taking a break and chatting with Jayden, Alexa, Zoe and Angie.

DESTINY
Mom, I'm serious, you guys should
take off. We still have a few more
matches to go.

NACHO
Well, if we keep winning.

Nacho and Destiny both laugh.

DESTINY

Jayden and Alexa are super bored.

ALEXA

So bored.

ZOE

Me too. No offense. Pickleball is fun to play, but not that much fun to watch.

NACHO

We get it. We wouldn't stay to watch, either.

DESTINY

The championship match should be in about three hours. I'll text you to come back and watch if we're in it, I'll show up at home if we're not.

ANGIE

You sure, baby?

JAYDEN

Mommmmmmmmm! She said it's okay!

ANGIE

Okay. Zoe, you need a ride?

Zoe is staring off into the parking lot.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Zoe?

ZOE

Oh, yeah, sorry, Ms. M. I got distracted by Big Barry in his weird costume.

Everyone turns to see Big Barry ducking through the parking lot in his trench coat, glasses and hat, holding his empty sports bag in front of his face, sneaking towards his own car like a one-man spy movie spoof.

NACHO

Big Barry is such a dipshit. Oh! Sorry, Angie, I shouldn't let you know I talk like that around your kids.

ANGIE

Probably not, but Big Barry really is a dipshit.

Barry gets in the backseat of his car. An ATHLETIC MALE exits through a side door of the building and approaches Barry's car.

DESTINY

What are they doing?

ANGIE

Do they not realize we can see them? Anyone could see them.

DESTINY

They might not know we're here.

Barry and the athletic male are talking. Barry hands the man an envelope. The athletic male takes the envelope and looks inside. The athletic male gets out of the car and goes back into the community center.

NACHO

I think he just gave that dude money.

ALEXA

For what?

DESTINY

Like, to lose on purpose? I mean, it's weird the Barrys keep winning. They're not that good.

NACHO

You don't know that. Maybe Big Barry just owed that guy money.

Big Barry takes off his disguise, stuffs it in his sports bag, gets out of his car and goes back to the community center.

JAYDEN

Mom, can we go now?

ANGIE

Yeah. Let's go.

(to Nacho)

You gonna do something about that dipshit?

NACHO

Yeah. I'm gonna beat him.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - NIGHT

Big Barry and Li'l Barry are winning against the athletic male and his equally ATHLETIC PARTNER. Nacho and Destiny are watching.

DESTINY
I don't get it.

NACHO
What?

DESTINY
How did Big Barry even know he'd be playing this dude's team?

NACHO
Good question.

A LADY in a designer tennis outfit overhears and comes over.

LADY
Oh, that big jerk was offering everyone money to lose if he played them. He gave me \$100 in an envelope and I'm not even playing. You two should get in on it.

The lady walks away.

DESTINY
He really is a ...
(whispers)
dipshit.

NACHO
And that dipshit can't buy us. He's gonna have to actually win.

DESTINY
Speak for yourself. I'm about to get paid!

Destiny mimes "making it rain" then does a little dance. Fred walks over.

NACHO
Fred! You made it!

FRED
I wouldn't miss this for the world. After all, I'm the one who brought you two together. So in a way, I'm also kind of a big dill.

DESTINY
You sure are.

INT. MEN'S LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Big Barry and Li'l Barry are resting before the final match. Li'l Barry moves Big Barry's sports bag to sit down, and he notices the trench coat.

LI'L BARRY
What's with the coat?

BIG BARRY
It's nothing, dad.

LI'L BARRY
Where did you keep going to today?

BIG BARRY
Nowhere, dad.

LI'L BARRY
Why did you pay all those people
all that money?

Big Barry doesn't answer.

LI'L BARRY (CONT'D)
Is it really winning if you have to
pay for it?

BIG BARRY
Yes! I want to win, I have money, I
use the money to win. Easy.

LI'L BARRY
Too easy, if you ask me. Did you
give Nacho money, too?

BIG BARRY
Are you kidding? I wouldn't give
that bean burrito a dime.

LI'L BARRY
I don't want to tell you how to be
racist, but his name is Nacho. Why
didn't you call him a "Cool Ranch
Dorito" or the "Frito Bandito" or
something chip-related?

BIG BARRY
Hey, good ones, dad. I'm gonna take
this bag out to the car. Be right
back.

Big Barry leaves with the bag,

LI'L BARRY
Dipshit.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER PICKLEBALL COURTS - NIGHT

There are far fewer people around than earlier in the day,
but Angie, Jayden, Alexa, Fred, Opal and Willard are there to
cheer Nacho and Destiny on. Mariah and her wife, the very
beautiful woman, are sweeping the court and checking the net.

MARIAH
This is it! The last match of the
day. Kind of a Big Dill versus
Barry Squared!

The four players walk out to the courts to a smattering of
applause and a few shouts. The players approach each other to
shake hands.

NACHO
Just so you know, Barry, I'm not
gonna go easy on you.

BIG BARRY
I wouldn't expect you to.

DESTINY
Bruh. He's always gone easy on you.

BIG BARRY
Ha! I don't believe you.

LI'L BARRY
I'm sure she's telling the truth,
son. Nacho may not be a good sport,
but he is a great pickleball
player.

NACHO
And Destiny is a much better
pickleballer than Fred ever was,
god love him.

DESTINY
Anyway! Good luck!

Mariah walks over with a coin.

NACHO
Nah, no coin toss.

MARIAH
Huh?

NACHO
Barry and Barry can choose like
they won the coin toss.

MARIAH
Unorthodox, but it's your match.
Barrys?

BIG BARRY
We'll serve.

MARIAH
Great.

Big Barry serves. Nacho returns. Li'l Barry is about to return but Big Barry ballhogs the return to Destiny, who executes a perfect shot right in the hole Big Barry left, giving the serve to Nacho. Nacho serves. Big Barry returns it, and Destiny returns that right to Li'l Barry, who does not move an inch to try to return the ball.

BIG BARRY
Dad! What are you doing? They got a
point!

LI'L BARRY
Well I thought you were just going
to rush over here and take my play,
like last time.

BIG BARRY
Just play the game, dad!

MARIAH
Gentlemen? Can we continue?

BIG BARRY
Of course. Sorry.

MONTAGE

Nacho serves again. A few volleys, then Nacho gets the perfect opportunity to dink and scores another point.

Nacho serves. Volleys. Big Barry tries his best, but he's beginning to see that he's far outclassed. His play gets sloppy, and Destiny gracefully smashes the ball to win another point.

Nacho serves, Big Barry overruns the serve and it hits him, losing another point.

Serves, volleys, points. Nacho and Destiny are playing a very relaxed game because they are much, much better than the Barrys, which only enrages Big Barry more.

Big Barry gets more and more upset, making his play even worse, at one point rushing the net so hard he falls right over it. Big Barry and Li'l Barry don't score a single point.

Nacho and Destiny's friends and family cheer politely at each point, but try not to rub it in. Li'l Barry tries to keep playing but Big Barry is everywhere, doing everything wrong.

As Nacho serves the 11th (and winning) point, Big Barry throws his paddle down, falls to the ground and throws a huge tantrum, then stops and lies still. The ball bounces away.

The room is silent. Li'l Barry tosses his paddle onto his son's butt and walks off the court.

Nacho and Destiny approach Big Barry and try to help him up. He resists like a toddler, going limp. After a short struggle, they get him standing up.

END MONTAGE

DESTINY

Uh. Good game?

NACHO

Yeah. Hey. Barry. It's only a game.
Honestly.

Big Barry doesn't say a word to Nacho. He just turns and trudges away.

BIG BARRY

Dad? Dad!

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY - NIGHT

Nacho, Fred, Opal, Willard, Destiny, Alexa, Jayden and Angie are chatting about where to eat. Big Barry and Li'l Barry appear to be arguing in the far back corner.

JAYDEN

You know my vote. High tea.

OPAL

It's not tea time, dear heart. We could hit the deli on 3rd, get you a sandwich and a cookie.

A MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL approaches.

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL

Nacho? Destiny? Congratulations on your wins. Well, maybe not that last one.

NACHO

Why thank you. We're kind of a big dill around here.

DESTINY

Did you want an autograph? Because he's going to give you one whether or not you ask.

Nacho rips a flyer advertising the tournament dates off the wall, pulls a Sharpie from nowhere and signs the flyer, then hands it to the man.

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL

Oh, uh, thanks. You two are dynamite.

DESTINY

True.

NACHO

Very.

Big Barry stops arguing with his dad and moves closer to eavesdrop on the conversation.

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL

Did you know the governor is a big pickleball fan? Well, she is, and she's hosting an invitation-only tournament at the state capitol.

NACHO

Whoa. Sounds exciting.

DESTINY

Totally. When is it?

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL
A couple of weeks. Here's your
invitation.

(hands Nacho an envelope)
Follow the instructions inside to
accept your spot.

DESTINY
Cool.

NACHO
Thanks, dude.

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL
Looking forward to seeing you
there.

The man in business casual starts to leave, but Big Barry
runs over and stops him at the door.

BIG BARRY
Hey. Business casual. Can I have
one of those invites? I did come in
second place.

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL
Nope.

BIG BARRY
That's it? Nope?

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL
Yep. It's invitation only, and I'm
afraid I haven't got an invitation
for you.

BIG BARRY
And why not?

MAN IN BUSINESS CASUAL
I'm going to go out on a limb and
say it's because you're not
invited. But you are welcome to
attend as a spectator!

The man in business casual leaves. Li'l Barry approaches and
hands Big Barry an envelope.

BIG BARRY
Dad! Did you get an invitation to
the governor's tournament?

LI'L BARRY
No, son.

BIG BARRY

Then what the hell is this?

LI'L BARRY

My resignation. I don't want to be your partner anymore, and I'm starting to rethink the whole father/son thing as well.

BIG BARRY

A resignation letter? Seriously, dad?

LI'L BARRY

Seriously, son. And quit being such a schmuck!

Li'l Barry leaves. Everyone is quiet. Big Barry storms out.

EXT. STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS - DAY

Hundreds of people are gathered for the governor's invitation-only pickleball tournament. Serious players are engaged in matches, each with small crowds around them. There are vendors, food booths, face painters, clowns -- it's a scene.

INT. ANGIE'S CAR - DAY

Angie is driving and Nacho, Destiny, Alexa and Jayden are passengers. They pull off an exit and are driving slowly down a very crowded street in the state capitol.

ANGIE

Oh, wow, look at what a big deal the governor's tournament is!

NACHO

Dang! That's way better than anything we've ever played in.

From the slow-moving car, the outdoor courts and carnival atmosphere are easily viewed.

JAYDEN

What time is it? Are we late?

ANGIE

Don't worry, I knew there'd be a lot of traffic, so I gave us plenty of time. We'll get there.

A big banner marks the entranceway to the capitol grounds and the tournament. A flagger is directing traffic. Angie, however, keeps driving down the street.

INT. FANCY HOTEL - DAY

Jayden leads the pack as the group walks up to a host behind a reservation desk.

JAYDEN

Hi. We have a reservation, we're meeting a big group in one of the private rooms?

HOST

Excellent, sir. Most of your party is already seated. Follow me.

The host leads the Miller family and Nacho through a beautiful restaurant, which is hosting an elaborate tea service with pretty teapots and sandwiches, petit fours, cookies and other delights on tiered display trays. Some people are also sipping champagne. The host stops outside of a pair of curtained french doors.

HOST (CONT'D)

Your room. Can I help your party with anything else at the moment?

JAYDEN

No, thank you. You've been very helpful.

Jayden slips a folded-up bill into the host's hand. The host opens the french doors to a lovely private room with a scenic view. Mariah, the very beautiful woman (her wife), Opal, OPAL'S HUSBAND, OPAL'S MOM, Willard, WILLARD'S WIFE, Fred, FRED'S FEMALE DOCTOR and FRED'S MALE NURSE are all milling around the room, chatting, nibbling on small sandwiches and scones, and drinking tea.

OPAL

Jayden, they just brought the food and drinks in, I swear to you. We were hungry!

JAYDEN

It's cool. They can always bring more.

Nacho, Destiny, Alexa, Jayden and Angie mingle with the small crowd of their friends. Nacho approaches Fred, who is chatting with Mariah, his doctor and his nurse.

NACHO

Hey, Fred. Hey -- ahh, don't I know you two?

FRED'S FEMALE DOCTOR

Yes. I was one of Fred's doctors at the hospital.

FRED

The best doctor.

FRED'S MALE NURSE

And I was one of his nurses.

FRED

The best nurse. Truly, they were lifesavers.

FRED'S FEMALE DOCTOR

And now we're practically life partners!

NACHO

I'm sorry, what now?

FRED

We're taking this occasion as our chance to come out as a throuple!

FRED'S MALE NURSE

Fred here has round-the-clock medical attention -- and then some.

Fred's male nurse and Fred's female doctor walk over to chat with Opal, and Willard.

NACHO

Opal was right, throuples have made it to our neck of the woods. Good for you, Fred!

FRED

Who knew a little bout of pneumonia could be so lucky?

MARIAH

It was a big bout of pneumonia!

FRED

Nah. Hey, Mariah, can I ask you something?

MARIAH

Sure.

FRED

Why did you give me and Nacho the chance to coach the kids, instead of kicking us out on our asses?

MARIAH

Eh. Well. I always liked you two.

NACHO

Oh yeah? Even me?

MARIAH

Even you. You're both, I don't know. Kind of adorable?

Li'l Barry walks into the party room and over to Mariah, Fred and Nacho. Mariah turns to greet Li'l Barry and Nacho mouths "told you" to Fred, who rolls his eyes.

NACHO

(to Li'l Barry)

Hey man, glad you could make it.

FRED

Li'l Barry, such a surprise! I didn't know you were coming.

LI'L BARRY

Nacho invited me last night, while we were doing research and setting up our equipment.

NACHO

We've been hanging out a lot, working on our Law and Orders podcast.

The party continues, with everyone mingling, laughing and talking. Destiny gets a text and casually sneaks out of the room. She returns with NACHITO (late 30s, Hispanic, snazzy outfit), and they approach Nacho from behind as he is telling the outrageous story of how he got kicked out of the retirement village's pickleball courts to Mariah and Mariah's wife, the very beautiful woman.

DESTINY

Nacho!

NACHO

(not turning around)

Destiny, mi vida, I'm in the middle of the greatest pickleball story ever told. So I take the adult diaper and the pudding and I --

NACHITO
 Maybe you could start your story
 over? I'd love to hear it.

Nacho freezes, then slowly turns around. His eyes are shining
 with undropped tears.

NACHO
 Nachito! How?

NACHITO
 Destiny and I have been texting.
 She's been telling me all about
 your adventures. She even asked if
 it was okay that she called you
 abuelo.

DESTINY
 I was going to keep calling you
 abeulo anyway, but I did think the
 right thing to do was ask.

NACHITO
 Also, I just really love tiny
 little sandwiches.

MONTAGE

Jayden and Alexa run over, plates of tiny sandwiches in hand.
 They shake hands with Nachito and offer him a snack.

Everyone gathers around Nacho and Nachito, as Nacho starts
 retelling his story, wildly gesticulating and using tea
 service items as props.

Angie side-hugs Destiny and Destiny rests her head on her
 mom's shoulder.

Fred, Fred's female doctor and Fred's male nurse are holding
 hands in a circle, then pull close and lean their heads into
 each other.

The party continues, with the kids running around, people
 chatting, people eating, and lots of smiles and laughter.

END MONTAGE

Fred and Nacho are chatting with Nachito and Destiny.

NACHITO

So you and Destiny were invited to that big pickleball tournament I drove past to get here?

DESTINY

Yeah. We thought about it, but, eh. We're both kinda busy or whatever.

NACHO

And we finally got a reservation here! It takes forever to get a private party room. Very exclusive.

Jayden walks up with a tray full of sweets.

JAYDEN

I think you made the right call. This tea is legit.

FRED

So I guess Mariah was right.

NACHO

Hell yeah she was. I'm super adorable.

FRED

No, what she said about pickleball.

NACHO

I forget what she said about pickleball.

FRED

She said there's more to life than pickleball, and you said you'd figure it out.

NACHO

Well, shit. I did figure it out ... and I found my Destiny.

Destiny hugs Nacho. Alexa runs up and attaches herself to the hug as Jayden does the same. Angie walks over and shakes Nachito's hand. Everyone is chatting and laughing and snacking. The party continues.

FADE OUT.