

**COBRA KAI**

Episode 304

"The Right Path"

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1 INT. BIJINESU HOTEL - BAR - LATE AFTERNOON 1

It's happy hour at the hotel bar. Two excited BUSINESSMEN happily clink sake cups at a table, celebrating good news.

BUSINESSMEN  
BANZAI!!

They chug their sake and as one of the businessmen excitedly pours a second round, we find Daniel LaRusso. He sits dejected at the bar, tie loose, in a much different mood...

DANIEL (V.O.)  
At our core, we're a family run  
business...

FLASHBACK TO:

2 INT. TOYOTA CONFERENCE ROOM - EARLIER 2

It's moments after the end of 303. Daniel stands before a group of TOYOTA EXECUTIVES, including head of international sales, JIROU TANAKA. Charts are presented on a screen as Daniel finishes his big pitch to save LaRusso Auto.

DANIEL  
That's why we've sold more cars  
over the past ten years than any  
other dealer in the San Fernando  
Valley. And with our new incentive  
program, LaRusso Auto's partnership  
with your company can only get  
stronger.

Daniel reads the room. Dead silence. Jirou clears his throat.

JIROU TANAKA  
This is very impressive... but...

BACK TO:

3 INT. BIJINESU HOTEL - BAR - LATE AFTERNOON 3

Daniel takes a deep sip of Japanese whiskey, trying to drink away the pain...

JIROU TANAKA (V.O.)  
...Unfortunately we have already  
made our decision.

4

INT. TOYOTA CONFERENCE ROOM - EARLIER

4

Daniel now sits at the conference table. His face falls as the news gets worse and worse. We only hear snippets of what Tanaka says, including:

JIROU TANAKA

It's not just about sales.... We  
are trying to avoid negative PR...

(MORE)

JIROU TANAKA (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry to say the wheels are  
already in motion. Thank you for  
coming all this way...

Daniel slumps in his chair--

MATCH CUT TO:

5 INT. BIJINESU HOTEL - BAR - LATE AFTERNOON 5

Daniel slumps at the bar. He gulps his drink and checks his phone: the background is a picture of himself and Amanda. He stares at the picture, sad, taking another long sip...

AMANDA (V.O.) (PRE-LAP)  
How did the meeting go?

FLASHBACK TO:

6 EXT. TOYOTA TOKYO HEADQUARTERS - A FEW HOURS EARLIER 6

We find Daniel outside, businessmen and women walking past. Daniel FaceTimes with Amanda (at home), spinning the bad news like any good salesman.

DANIEL  
I'm... still working on it. (off  
Amanda's reaction) I know there's  
an answer, and I'm gonna find it.

AMANDA (ON SCREEN)  
Daniel, if it can't be done...

DANIEL  
It can be. I'm coming home with a  
"yes." Don't worry.

AMANDA (ON SCREEN)  
I know you are. Work your magic. We  
miss you. Have a good night.

DANIEL  
Have a good morning. (playing it  
up) Sayonara!

Amanda hangs up, and Daniel's brave face immediately drops.

DANIEL  
(sigh, to himself) What the hell am  
I gonna do?

7

INT. BIJINESU HOTEL - BAR - EVENING

7

CLOSE ON: Ice dropped into a highball of Japanese whiskey. The glass is handed to Daniel, who sips it, a bit unsteady. (NOTE: In the background, the TV is playing a travel channel for tourists).

Daniel is flipping through older pictures on his phone, going back in time, smiling wistfully at each one-- 1) A family photo of Daniel, Amanda, Samantha, and Anthony 2) Amanda hugging a newborn baby Anthony 3) Daniel and Amanda's wedding photo... 4) Finally, he lands on one of him and Mr. Miyagi. They're both smiling. The bartender (KENJI) takes Daniel's empty glass, but pauses.

KENJI  
(re: photo) You look happy there.

DANIEL  
(nods) Happier times.

KENJI  
That a friend of yours?

DANIEL  
Best friend I ever had. He grew up  
out here... well, on this side of  
the world.

KENJI  
Are you visiting him while you're  
in town?

DANIEL  
I wish. I'm afraid he's no longer  
with us.

Kenji smiles and shakes his head a bit.

KENJI  
Very American way of thinking. In  
Japan, you can always visit  
someone. They speak to us, even  
when they're gone.

This lands on Daniel. As Kenji goes to the other side of the  
bar, Daniel's attention is drawn up to the TV playing a  
traditional, soothing Japanese song.

It's a travel commercial featuring images of beautiful vistas  
and ancient shrines.

COMMERICAL NARRATOR (V.O.) (ON TV)  
(British accent) The nature. The  
tradition. Spend your four  
seasons... *in Okinawa.*

He smiles, hearing the universe loud and clear.

CLOSE ON: The TV, showing the beautiful scenery of Okinawa...

SUPER: **COBRA KAI**

9

EXT. MR. MIYAGI'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - DAY

9

Demetri approaches the punching bag.

DEMETRI

You see, it's all about the form...

With that, Demetri kicks the bag hard, sending it swinging.

DEMETRI

Ooh, that was a good one. Let's see how it came out...

REVEAL: the other Miyagi-Do students gathered nearby him. Jaden has been using Demetri's phone to record him. Demetri grabs the phone and takes a look.

DEMETRI

Oh yeah, that's a keeper.

Just then, the dojo doors slide open and Sam emerges with her game face on.

SAMANTHA

Okay guys, let's get lined up.

Demetri keeps typing on his phone, not looking up.

DEMETRI

I'm gonna need a minute. Just gotta find the right treatment for this 'gram... Boomerang. Nice. Now I just gotta apply the filter...

As Demetri keeps admiring his photo--

Sam SWEEPS HIM to the ground.

DEMETRI

Hey! What the heck!

The other Miyagi-Dos straighten up, realizing that Sam means business.

SAMANTHA

After the car wash, Cobra Kai thinks they can walk all over us. But we're gonna prove them wrong. (helps Demetri up, to Miyagi-Dos) So stop messing around and get into position. (badass) Summer's over.

Demetri brushes himself off and turns to one of the Miyagi-Dos, wary of Sam.

DEMETRI

Guess there's a new sensei in town.

KREESE (PRE-LAP)

Never underestimate your enemy...

10 INT. COBRA KAI DOJO - DAY

10

Kreese stands before his students, all in tight formation.

KREESE

Even if you think they're weaker  
than you-- you *always* have to be  
one step ahead of them... that's  
the only way to guarantee victory.  
Is that understood?

COBRA KAI  
YES SENSEI!

KREESE  
Good. Now... let's see if you truly  
understand the lesson...

Kreese leads them to a tall wooden column (the thickness of a telephone pole). At the top of the column is a potted bonsai tree.

KREESE  
I want you to kick the tree off the  
top. Red! Go first.

Big Red nods to his sensei. He does a high kick, but misses. Kreese shakes his head, unimpressed.

KREESE  
Pathetic. Rickenberger!

RICKENBERGER (John Cihangir) takes a bigger running start. He whiffs and takes a hard fall to the ground in extreme pain.

KREESE  
Oh stop your sniveling.

Hawk looks at the column and has a realization.

HAWK  
I can do it, Sensei.

KREESE  
Then what are you waiting for?

Instead of taking a running start, Hawk approaches the column, standing practically next to it.

KREESE  
Don't you want a running start?

HAWK  
Don't need one.

With that, Hawk KICKS the base of the column with the side of his foot, causing the column to topple and the potted bonsai tree to SHATTER on the ground! Kreese looks impressed.

KREESE  
Not bad. Not bad at all.

RICKENBERGER  
(still in pain) Hey, he cheated!

KREESE

No he didn't. Unlike you, he did exactly what I asked him to do. If your mind is agile, so are you. That's how you beat your enemy. Not just with brute strength. You have to fight smart. Do that-- and you'll always come out on top.

Hawk and the other Cobras nod, taking this in.

11 INT. WEST VALLEY GENERAL HOSPITAL - DAY

11

Johnny is on the phone at the Nurse's station, talking apologetically with Bobby. He keeps one eye on Miguel's door, waiting for news about his surgery.

JOHNNY (ON PHONE)  
I'm sorry Bobby, I know I messed up... Just tell Robby I'll make things right-- (listening, frowns)  
Okay, fine, I'll tell him myself.

Ellen exits Miguel's room: There's news about Miguel.

JOHNNY (ON PHONE)  
I gotta go, Bob. Bye.

Johnny hangs up and cautiously walks up to Ellen.

JOHNNY  
Hey, how did the surgery go? Is Miguel okay?

ELLEN  
He's awake - A little out of it, but healing.

JOHNNY  
So he can walk?

ELLEN  
It doesn't work like that. Time will tell how successful it was. You can go in, if you'd like. I'm sure he'd like to see you...

Johnny smiles, relieved, but hesitates. He stares at Miguel's door, thinking about how upset Miguel was with Johnny (at the end of 302). Johnny can't bring himself to open that door. He can't face Miguel.

JOHNNY  
No. He should be with his family.

Johnny backs away and walks towards the elevator.

Just before the elevator doors open--

MATCH CUT TO:

12 EXT. OKINAWA - NAHA AIRPORT - DAY 12

Daniel exits the double doors of the Naha Airport. He stands before a "Welcome to Okinawa" sign (in both Japanese and English) and inhales deeply, genuinely grinning ear-to-ear.

Daniel hails a cab, which pulls up and pops the trunk. Daniel tosses his carry-on into the back and climbs into the taxi.

13 INT. YELLOW TAXI - CONTINUOUS 13

As Daniel slides into the seat--

DANIEL  
*Konnichi wa. Tomi Village.*

MAKO, the taxi driver, nods and drives off. As Bill Conti's classic music from KARATE KID PART TWO begins to play...

14 EXT. OKINAWA / INT. YELLOW TAXI - DAY 14

The yellow cab drives through the beautiful vistas of Okinawa. Lush hills, beautiful beaches, it's untouched paradise. Daniel looks out the window, taking it all in.

MAKO  
Lots of Americans here. Soldiers.  
When last time you see Tomi  
Village?

DANIEL  
It's been awhile...

Off Daniel's nostalgic smile, Bill Conti's music swells...

15 EXT. OKINAWA - CONTINUOUS 15

As the yellow cab drives the winding streets of Okinawa...

MATCH CUT TO:

16 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE - MONTAGE - **FOOTAGE FROM KARATE KID PART 1**

An older model taxi drives young Daniel LaRusso and Mr. Miyagi along the Okinawan coast and through the center of Tomi Village, a traditional Japanese town.

This takes us into a MONTAGE of Daniel's time in Okinawa; It's like a Tomi Village "Best of".

17 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE - STREET - **FOOTAGE FROM KARATE KID PART 2**

Young Daniel and Mr. Miyagi exit Mr. Miyagi's house and walk through the unpaved streets of Tomi Village.

YOUNG DANIEL

This looks like a town that time forgot.

They pass the Shinto Shrine, where ICHIRO plays for a group of kids. Miyagi leads Daniel past KUMIKO, a cute local girl who teaches the "O-bon dance" to a group of children. Young Daniel smiles, smitten. She waves to him, and he waves back.

18 INT. ORIGINAL MIYAGI-DO DOJO - **FOOTAGE FROM KARATE KID PART 2**

In the original Miyagi-Do Dojo, Daniel bows to Mr. Miyagi, both in silhouette with the Pacific Ocean in full view behind them. It's pure Okinawa magic...

MAKO (PRE-LAP)

We're here.

19 INT. YELLOW TAXI - DAY 19

Daniel snaps out of his memories and quickly pays Mako.

DANIEL

Great. Thanks-- *Domo arigato.*

20 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE GREEN - MOMENTS LATER 20

But when Daniel steps out of the taxi, his glowing smile (and the romantic Bill Conti score) fades.

REVEAL: Present Day Tomi Village has now become an outdoor mall (think an Okinawan version of The Grove). A large sign welcomes Daniel to "Tomi Village Green."

DANIEL

"Tomi Village Green"? A mall?

Daniel is clearly crestfallen.

21 OMITTED 21

A22 INT. SOUP KITCHEN - AFTERNOON A22

Robby, feeling just as joyless but in a hairnet, works in a soup kitchen with other JUVIE KIDS. Robby robotically pours soup into the bowls of the HOMELESS. Then--

JOHNNY (O.S.)  
Hey Robby.

Robby looks up, surprised. Johnny stands in line, keeping a low profile.

ROBBY  
You're not supposed to be here.

JOHNNY  
It's the only way I could see you.  
Found out you were doing community  
service to try and get out earlier.  
I respect that...

Robby scoffs. He doesn't care. As Robby continues to work, Johnny notices Robby's black eye.

JOHNNY  
Is that a black eye? Are you  
fighting in there? After everything  
that's happened...

ROBBY  
Are you seriously going to lecture  
me about starting fights?

JOHNNY  
(calms down) You're right. I'm  
sorry. (deep breath, begins speech)  
Look, I just wanted to say... I  
know how you feel right now and--

ROBBY  
Save it.

JOHNNY  
Robby, I'm just trying to say--

ROBBY

Let me guess. "You're in my corner." "You've got my back." Let's be honest: that means jack shit. Mr. LaRusso said the same thing and look where I am...

JOHNNY

Hey, forget about LaRusso, okay? I--

Suddenly, LYNN calls out from a bit further down the line.

LYNN

Hey! Quit holdin' up the line! Don't make me throw a shoe atcha! (recognizes Johnny) Well lookie what we have here. You stalkin' me, pretty boy?

JOHNNY

Of course not.

LYNN

You better not be eating my soup, Goldilocks. I called dibs on them beans.

JOHNNY

Jesus Christ-- (shoves a full bowl on her tray) Here. Take your slop and get the hell out of here.

LYNN

Tou-chy.

Lynn takes her food and the line continues.

JOHNNY

Look, I'm not leaving until we talk.

ROBBY

That's gonna be awhile. Don't know if you noticed but I'm a little busy.

Johnny takes a bowl and holds it out for Robby to fill.

JOHNNY

Then it's a good thing I'm hungry.

A beat, then Robby fills his bowl. Robby watches curiously as Johnny goes to find a seat. Johnny sits, sniffs the spoon, tastes it, and nods - it's better than he thought.

Robby shakes his head, but has Johnny changed? As Robby fills another bowl--

22 INT. WEST VALLEY HIGH - CAFETERIA - DAY

22

CLOSE ON: A bowl of yogurt. REVEAL: Yasmine and Moon at the "cool table". Demetri takes a seat next to Yasmine, setting down a diorama covered in a bed sheet.

DEMETRI

(to Yasmine, re: diorama) Are you ready to ROCK... our Earth Science presentation?

YASMINE

I'm ready to go back to a world where we don't have to talk to each other on a regular basis.

DEMETRI

Hey, my popularity is on the rise, while yours is steadily declining. But we could meet in the middle, like a sexual Venn Diagram.

Yasmine looks disgusted as Moon chuckles.

MOON

So what's under the sheet?

DEMETRI

I'm glad you asked...

Demetri rips off the sheet, unveiling a Lego model for their school project.

DEMETRI

Behold! What scientists believed to be the Valley... "when dinosaurs roamed the Earth." (to Yasmine) Go on, press the hadrosaur egg. (off her look) The speckled rock -- Wow, did you do any of the reading?

Yasmine rolls her eyes and taps the egg. The volcano comes alive! Moon "oohs" and claps, impressed.

YASMINE

Not bad. (sotto, to Moon) My parents may not have to pay for my "A" this time.

Behind her, Big Red passes, holding up his phone recording a video. He brings us to the Cobra Kai table, where Rickenberger and the other Cobras watch Hawk juggle a soccer ball like a badass. Hawk catches the ball and turns Big Red's phone --

HAWK

That's twenty-two in a row. New record.

Hawk feels good, until he hears the ELECTRONIC ROAR of a dinosaur. Hawk looks over to see Demetri still showing off his project to Moon and Yasmine. Hawk focuses on Moon laughing, and his smile drops--

23	OMITTED	23
24	INT. WEST VALLEY HIGH - CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS	24
	BACK AT DEMETRI'S TABLE:	

DEMETRI

And at 8,251 individual pieces,  
this meticulously assembled model  
shows the exact moment before the  
asteroid hit the--

SMASH!! A soccer ball flies in and utterly destroys the Lego diorama. Pieces go everywhere; the girls scream. Demetri is heartbroken. Hawk jogs to retrieve his ball, grinning.

HAWK

My bad, the ball got away from me.

DEMETRI

That took me three weeks to build!!

HAWK

And it took my ball three seconds  
to destroy. Sorry bro.

Hawk, Big Red and Rickenberger snicker and walk back to their table. Yasmine looks pitifully at Demetri.

YASMINE

Do you have another one?

Inspired by Sam's speech at the dojo, Demetri gets up from the table, storms past Sam holding a lunch tray, and up to Hawk.

DEMETRI

Another week, another pissing  
contest. I shouldn't be surprised,  
since you love pissing so much.

Hawk steps up to Demetri.

HAWK

You made ONE kick. You were lucky.

Just then, Sam approaches, putting down her tray.

SAMANTHA

You better back off, or you won't  
be lucky.

Just then, out of the corner of Hawk's eye-- he sees Counselor Blatt enter the cafeteria. He turns to Sam.

HAWK

Yeah right. Like you're gonna start  
anything. Why don't you go sleep  
around with someone new, then break  
his heart.

Pissed off, Sam PUSHES Hawk. Hawk purposely falls back on the table, causing a scene-- Counselor Blatt approaches.

COUNSELOR BLATT

What's going on here, Ms. LaRusso?!  
You know our new guidelines on  
physical contact. (to Hawk) Did she  
enter your personal bubble without  
your verbal consent?

Hawk looks solemn as he manipulates Blatt like a pro.

HAWK

She definitely triggered me in my safe space, Counselor Blatt.

DEMETRI

He started it by destroying my science project!

HAWK

It was an accident. He shouldn't bring his toys to school.

COUNSELOR BLATT

I don't want excuses. I just want you all to respect each other.

HAWK

She's right, guys. We gotta stop the aggression-- macro *and* micro.

Counselor Blatt smiles, buying Hawk's bullshit.

SAMANTHA

Oh, gimme a break.

COUNSELOR BLATT

Hey! Consider this a warning, Ms. LaRusso! (to Demetri, re: Legos) And get those Legos off the ground. Someone could get hurt.

Counselor Blatt walks away as Hawk, Rickenberger and Big Red return to their table. Demetri starts picking up his Lego pieces as Sam kneels down to help.

DEMETRI

How the hell are we supposed to defend ourselves now?

Sam focuses on Hawk, fuming, wheels turning...

25 OMITTED 25

26 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE GREEN - AFTERNOON 26

Daniel walks through the mall, strolling his carry-on, gazing at the storefronts. Among some unfamiliar Japanese outlets are more familiar American brands: California Pizza Kitchen. The Gap. Baskin Robbins. Daniel shakes his head, dismayed.

DANIEL (PRE-LAP)  
Tomi Village was sold?

A27 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE GREEN - CONCIERGE DESK - AFTERNOON A27

Daniel stands at a large concierge desk (no carry-on suitcase - it has been checked), speaking with REN, a helpful mall employee.

REN  
When villagers' crops started to die out, village almost died as well. So Mr. Sato turned to a whole new economy: retail. Now Tomi Village Green is premiere destination for shopping, entertainment, and--

DANIEL  
But what happened to the villagers? Aren't they upset about what happened to their home?

REN  
No. It brought them jobs. Modern homes. It saved the village.

DANIEL  
(looks around sadly) But this is nothing like what I remember.

REN  
Yes, there are a lot of changes. We used to have a Sbarro, now it's a California Pizza Kitchen. I have a menu, if you'd like to see it...?

DANIEL  
No, that's okay. Thank you for your time. *Arrigato.*

REN

(bows) Enjoy the rest of your time  
at Tomi Village Green.

Daniel walks away. Just then, he hears a TRADITIONAL DRUM  
BEAT, masking the mild mall music. He smiles at the  
recognition, and walks toward the sound.

27 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE GREEN - AMPHITHEATER - MOMENTS LATER 27

A crowd has formed around the multileveled grassy stage. As Daniel passes a sign, "SHOHASHI DANCE STUDIO - REHEARSAL TODAY" (both in English and Japanese), he pushes through the watching crowd to get a better look. He witnesses a group of DANCERS performing and smiles at the traditional performance.

Just then, the dancers break formation to reveal: KUMIKO, Daniel's long lost love, dancing with her students. Daniel's breath catches as he sees her dance, which starts out traditional but then evolves into something more contemporary and upbeat. Daniel is entranced by Kumiko's dance--

INTERCUT WITH:

28 INT./EXT. MONTAGE - **FOOTAGE FROM KARATE KID PART II** 28

*We see Daniel's memories of young Kumiko throughout Daniel's time in Okinawa.*

*- Kumiko dance the traditional O-bon dance with grace.*

*- Kumiko shows Daniel the Castle of King Shohashi.*

*- Daniel and Kumiko dance at the 50's dance club.*

*- CLOSE ON: Kumiko, smiling warmly at Daniel during their tea ceremony. WIDE: Daniel and Kumiko lean in and share a kiss. They loved each other, once upon a time.*

29 EXT. TOMI VILLAGE GREEN - AMPHITHEATER - MOMENTS LATER 29

The crowd applauds as Present Day Kumiko finishes her dance. Daniel snaps back to reality, clapping loudest of all. Kumiko nods politely to the crowd, until she meets eyes with Daniel. She's surprised, then gives him a heartwarming smile.

KUMIKO  
*Akisamiyo! Daniel-san?*

As Daniel smiles back...

30 OMITTED 30

30

OMITTED

30

31 INT. WEST VALLEY GENERAL HOSPITAL - MIGUEL'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

CLOSE ON: A cup of glistening ice water. A straw floats lackadaisically. REVEAL: Miguel reaching for the cup, but it's just out of reach. Just then, Ellen enters.

ELLEN

Oh! Don't strain yourself, let me get that for you.

Ellen bring the cup to Miguel's mouth, holding the straw out for Miguel to sip from, like a child. Miguel, feeling babied, leans forward and sips. He hates this. Once he's had his fill...

MIGUEL

Thanks.

Ellen picks up the call button and puts it on his lap, and even places his finger atop of it.

ELLEN

Anything you need, just hit that little button and we'll take care of it for you.

Ellen picks up Miguel's chart, but clocks that he's still upset.

ELLEN

What's wrong? Can I turn the TV on for you? Get you a new pillow?

MIGUEL

What if the surgery didn't work?  
What if I never walk again?

ELLEN

Don't think like that, sweetie.  
(beat, then smiles) I know what'll make you feel better: A big piece of chocolate cake. Huh? How's that sound?

Miguel gives her the slightest smile.

MIGUEL

Sure.

Ellen, oblivious, leaves the room.

Miguel grabs his phone and scrolls through Instagram. He stops at a video of Hawk juggling a soccer ball at school. Miguel clicks on Big Red's profile and is flooded with pictures of his friends at school, at the dojo...

Miguel grows more melancholy as he sees his friends out in the world, living their day to day lives while he's stuck in here. He throws his phone down on the rolling tray.

He focuses back on his toes, trying to will them to move. Off Miguel, frustrated and resigned...

32

INT. SOUP KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

32

A homeless man enters the soup kitchen. He passes Johnny, still sitting at the table, waiting for the right opportunity to speak with Robby. Just then, Robby comes out from the back with a fresh vat of NAVY BEAN SOUP, struggling with the heavy pot. Johnny notices Lynn eyeing his unfinished bowl.

JOHNNY

Here, take it, you vulture.

Johnny pushes the bowl to Lynn and gets up. He goes over to Robby and grabs the other side of the pot.

JOHNNY  
Lemme give you a hand.

ROBBY  
I don't need your help.

JOHNNY  
You're right. You don't. But you're my kid, Robby. And I'm your dad. So let me give you a hand.

Robby considers this as he struggles with the pot. He nods and Johnny, hiding a smile, takes the other handhold.

JOHNNY  
I know we've had problems, but before that fight at the school you and I were going in the right direction--

ROBBY  
We had one good day, over a month ago. Where have you been since then? (trying to keep it together) Where have you been, Dad? Why didn't you show up?

For a brief moment, Robby looks like a scared kid - a kid who needs his father.

JOHNNY  
I'm really sorry, Robby. I wanted to come see you, but something happened at the hospital and--

Robby hardens at the truth: Johnny was with Miguel.

ROBBY  
(cold) No. I get it.

JOHNNY  
Robby...

ROBBY  
It's fine. I shouldn't be surprised you chose Miguel over me. Again.

JOHNNY  
I didn't-- Goddamn it, I'm just trying to make things right.

ROBBY

I'm sure Miguel appreciates that!

JOHNNY

(defensive, angry) Hey I'm not the one who put him in the hospital--!!

Robby looks slapped in the face, and Johnny immediately regrets his outburst. Johnny reaches out to Robby.

JOHNNY

Robby... c'mon--

ROBBY

Don't touch me, asshole!

Robby shoves Johnny, sending the vat of soup to the ground, spilling everywhere. Lynn scrambles to the ground, excited...

LYNN

Woo-hoo!

She scoops beans off the floor and shovels them in her mouth like Augustus Gloop.

ROBBY

I don't need you anymore.

This hits Johnny like a pile of bricks. Other juvie kids, including Shawn, snicker and whisper to each other as a SECURITY GUARD grabs Johnny by the arm. Johnny shrugs him off and exits the soup kitchen on his own, leaving his son behind.

33

EXT. WEST VALLEY HIGH - SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

33

Sam, Demetri and the Miyagis get ready for gym class by the bleachers; It's PE at West Valley High. They watch as a crowd of students make a path for Hawk and the Cobras Kais (including Rickenberger, Mikey, Ajay and Big Red). One STUDENT is too busy playing on his phone to move out of the way. Hawk and Rickenberger exchange a look and lift him up, SHOVING HIM IN A TRASHCAN. The rest of the kids immediately make a path. As they cackle--

DEMETRI

I wish we could do something about those cretins.

SAMANTHA

(looks around, then smiles) We can.

DEMETRI

How? Counselor Blatt will give us detention just for breathing near them.

SAMANTHA

I don't see her out here, do you? Besides, what's a game of soccer without a little physical contact? (to Demetri and Miyagi-Dos) They think we're door mats. Let's prove them wrong.

Sam, Demetri, and the others share conspiratorial smiles.

TIME CUT TO:

CLOSE ON: Gym shoes dribbling a soccer ball down the field. Hawk sends the ball through the goal and celebrates like Cristiano Ronaldo. He winks at Moon, cheerleading with the freshman girls on the sidelines. She rolls her eyes and talks to a male cheerleader. Hawk's jealousy boils over and he shoves a passing student out of the way to get the ball. Demetri, sensing an opportunity, runs alongside Hawk.

DEMETRI

She loved you, you know.

HAWK

What did you say?

DEMETRI

She told me. Man, you had a good thing going with the hottest girl in school, and you ruined it. (leans in) By becoming a loser.

Demetri SWEEPS Hawk (just like how Sam swept Demetri), sending him into the mud face first. Everyone "OOHS" at the kick. As Demetri dribbles the ball away --

DEMETRI

I guess that's why the Europeans call it "football".

TWEEE! The gym teacher, MRS. BENADRETTI, sets down a whistle.

MRS. BENADRETTI

Hey, let's take it easy with the physical contact!

Ajay helps Hawk up. Hawk shoves Ajay away, enraged. Rickenberger is about to go after Demetri, but Hawk grabs him, holding him back.

HAWK  
Remember. Be smart.

As a fun energetic rock song crescendos...

In a QUICK MONTAGE, the Miyagi-Dos and Cobra Kais use the physicality of the soccer game to disguise their fighting. Thanks to Sam, the Miyagis are more aggressive than ever. Amidst the ongoing soccer action are QUICK PUNCHES:

- Sam slide tackles Mikey, taking him out.
- Hawk pops the ball into the air. He's about to head the ball... but head butts Demetri instead.
- Fighting for the ball, Rickenberger trips Sam and she falls to the ground.
- Demetri kicks a ball hard into Hawk's face.
- Finally, Sam dribbles the ball. Rickenberger and Mikey run at her. Sam pops the ball into the air and instead of kicking the ball, bicycle kicks the Cobras in their faces.

It's absolute chaos until-- TWEEEE!!!

MRS. BENADRETTI

Stop stop stop! That's it! All of  
you to the Principal's office! NOW!

As the Miyagi-Dos and Cobra Kais walk off the field, glaring at each other, Hawk glances over his shoulder at Moon. They briefly make eye contact, but Moon looks away, upset. Hawk hardens as the whistle is blown one more time: TWEEEEEE--

MATCH CUT TO:

34

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

34

TWEEEE!!! A hand-painted Tsuboya teapot blows steam. As the steaming pot is poured, we RACK FOCUS to a waiter carrying a tray with a beautiful Tsuboya teapot and a set of cups to an outdoor cafe, passing where Daniel and Kumiko sit (already with their own tray). As Kumiko pours Daniel a cup and hands it to him...

KUMIKO

After graduation, I joined the  
Hijikata Tatsumi dance company. We  
traveled all over the world...  
Sydney, Paris, Singapore...

DANIEL

You got your dream. That's  
terrific. Did you have a favorite  
place?

KUMIKO

London.

DANIEL

Let me guess, the tea?

KUMIKO

No, I saw the Cranberries open for  
Radiohead in 1995. They played  
Linger, Zombie, and Dreams!

Daniel and Kumiko laugh. As Daniel pours a cup for Kumiko, he  
chuckles, shaking his head:

DANIEL

I'm sorry, this is absolutely surreal. It feels like I haven't seen you for five minutes, but it's been thirty years. Thirty years!

KUMIKO

Maybe if we had Facebook, or Instagram, we would have never lost touch.

DANIEL

(nods, smiles) So when did you start teaching?

KUMIKO

When I moved back to Okinawa. Auntie Yukie got sick... and this was always my home.

DANIEL

I was sorry to hear she passed. I know she was very proud of you.

KUMIKO

She was. Although deep down she wished I had gotten married. I stayed a... what was your word for it? "Free agent."

DANIEL

(laughs, then) C'mon, I'm supposed to believe a guy never got a ring on that finger?

KUMIKO

Oh many have tried. But not one of them ever fought to the death for me.

DANIEL

Hey that's a hard act to follow.

They chuckle at the memory. But then Kumiko studies Daniel, sensing something is off.

KUMIKO

Why did you come to Okinawa, Daniel-san?

DANIEL

I told you, my business--

KUMIKO

No. Why are you really here?

Daniel pauses, considering the question, then opens up...

DANIEL

I got my dream too, you know. I've got an incredible family and my own business. I should be counting my blessings... But so many things have been going sideways lately. Everyone looks to me for answers, but I'm spinning around so much I can't tell which way is up.

KUMIKO

That is an unsettling feeling. I used to have this nightmare that I was about to go on stage, but I didn't know the choreography. I felt so out of control.

DANIEL

Exactly. Usually, I'd go to Mr. Miyagi for help. But... (chuckles sadly) You know, I'm the same age Mr. Miyagi was when he met me. He had everything figured out and I... feel so lost. I just wish he could be here to help guide me.

KUMIKO

I think I can make that happen.

Kumiko smiles - maybe there's still some Okinawa magic left to discover. Off Daniel's curious, confused look...

35 INT. DIVE BAR - AFTERNOON

35

Johnny sits at the bar, equally lost. He finishes a Banquet, gulping heavily, drinking his sorrows away. He shakes the stubby bottle at the bartender (DAVE).

JOHNNY

Another one of these.

DAVE

Sure. Everything good, boss?

JOHNNY

Not in a talking mood.

Dave shrugs and cracks open another Banquet, setting it in front of Johnny. Johnny gulps it down, drinking his sorrows away. Behind him, a TALL MAN enters the bar and approaches Johnny.

KREESE (O.S.)

Barkeep! A cutty and water!

Johnny knows that voice. He turns and sees Kreese approaching.

KREESE

I thought I'd find you here.  
Figured your little temper tantrum  
is over by now and we could talk  
like adults.

The bartender gives Kreese his drink. Furious, Johnny stands and grips the bottle, ready to smash it over Kreese's head... and murder him. It's like a western - the tension could be cut with a knife. But before Johnny can take a step, OFFICER DAWSON, an off-duty cop exits the bathroom behind Kreese. Johnny and Kreese freeze, staring at each other.

OFFICER DAWSON

(to bartender) Hey Dave, lemme get  
a chicken sandwich to-go.

DAVE

Sure thing. Give me three minutes.

The Off-Duty cop leans on the bar as Kreese walks past, approaching Johnny carefully. Johnny returns to his seat, never taking his eyes off Kreese.

JOHNNY

(intense) You've got three minutes.

Kreese sits down at the corner of the bar opposite Johnny. He takes a sip of his cutty and water.

KREESE

You don't look so good, Johnny.

Johnny looks away, still gripping the bottle.

KREESE

You're in a bad place. And maybe I put you there. But you gotta believe me, it was for your own good. I don't want to hurt you. I want to help you.

Johnny looks back to Kreese, confused.

KREESE

You did the impossible. You brought Cobra Kai back to life. Hell, you brought me back to life. But when you started taking those kids down the wrong path, I had to step in. I kept trying to warn you, but you wouldn't listen. So I had to act. But now it's time for you to come home.

Johnny slowly shakes his head, resisting it.

KREESE

You may hate my guts-- but I'll always be your teacher. I know you more than you know yourself. There's only one way to get you out of this funk-- *the way of the fist*.

Kreese makes a fist. Johnny continues to take this in. Is Kreese getting through to him?

KREESE

You can teach that to these kids. You've done it before.

(MORE)

KREESE (CONT'D)

And when our boy comes back, he's gonna need help getting up on his feet--

Kreese has gone too far. Johnny loses what little cool he's got left. He looks Kreese dead in the eyes.

JOHNNY

If you come anywhere near Miguel, or his family, I'll kill you.

Kreese watches the bartender hand Officer Dawson a to-go box. As the cop exits, Kreese smiles with that cheshire cat grin.

KREESE

Looks like my time is up. Think about what I said, Johnny.

Kreese finishes his drink, throws down a couple bucks, gets up and exits. Johnny releases his grip on the bottle, his knuckles white.

36 INT. WEST VALLEY HIGH - OUTSIDE BLATT'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON 36

Outside Counselor Blatt's office, the intensity between the bruised and battered Cobra Kais and Miyagi-Dos is boiling. Sam, Demetri, Rickenberger, and Mikey never drop eye contact, waiting for any of them to make the first move. Sam is about to stand, when Counselor Blatt comes out... With Hawk.

COUNSELOR BLATT

Miller, Rickenberger... Eli... you're all free to go.

Hawk, Mikey, and Rickenberger grin ear to ear. They get up, grab their backpacks, and leave. The Miyagis are upset --

SAMANTHA

You gotta be kidding me!

DEMETRI

Unbelievable!

SAMANTHA

What about us?

COUNSELOR BLATT

The rest of you will be receiving rehabilitative, not punitive, Saturday detention--

The Miyagi-Dos erupt in protests.

DEMETRI

Detention!!? Great. Another blemish  
on my permanent record!!

SAMANTHA

This isn't fair! We were just  
playing soccer!

COUNSELOR BLATT

Kicking a ball and kicking a person  
are quite different. That "soccer"  
game was an unprovoked, poorly  
disguised attack on innocent  
students.

That's the last straw - Sam completely loses her cool.

SAMANTHA

This is FUCKING BULLSHIT!!

COUNSELOR BLATT

Ms. LaRusso! That is not how we  
express ourselves here. I think you  
need two weekends of rehabilitative  
detention.

SAMANTHA

(fuming) This school sucks!

Samantha storms off, banging a locker with her fist.

37

EXT. YUKIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

37

CLOSE ON: KSSH! A match is struck. A lantern is lit. REVEAL:  
Daniel sets the lantern down, sitting on a cushion in the  
courtyard of a traditional Japanese house. As Kumiko sits  
across from him, setting down a small box...

DANIEL

So this was Yukie's house?

KUMIKO

Yes. She left it to me when she  
passed. I just don't have the heart  
to sell it.

DANIEL

I can relate to that. (re: box) You  
found what you were looking for?

KUMIKO

(smiling warmly) Yes --

Kumiko opens the box for Daniel: It's full of letters, all written in Japanese.

KUMIKO

These are letters Miyagi-san wrote  
to Auntie Yukie over the years.  
They are very sentimental.

\*

DANIEL

(taken aback) You're kidding... Mr.  
Miyagi wrote love letters?

Kumiko smiles and takes a letter out.

KUMIKO

Don't be so surprised. He was very  
romantic. (reading) "Ever since we  
were little, and you smiled at me  
so shy, I have loved you. One good  
thing came out of our time apart -  
I got to fall in love with you  
twice in one lifetime."

\*

\*

As Kumiko reads this passage, it's almost as if she's saying  
her own feelings to Daniel. They share a moment, then they  
look away. Daniel clears his throat and turns his attention  
back to the letters, rummaging through the treasures.

DANIEL

Kumiko, this is amazing... Oh.

Daniel's heart stops. He double checks the date of a letter.

KUMIKO

What? What is it?

\*

DANIEL

This was written the week Mr.  
Miyagi died.

KUMIKO

...Would you like me to read it?

DANIEL

Please.

Kumiko gingerly takes the letter and begins reading.

KUMIKO

"*Wan Umuya-gwa...* My sweetheart  
Yukie, I am sorry it has been a  
long time since my last letter. I  
am happy to hear Kanhizakura is in  
good health..."

\*

DANIEL

Who's that?

KUMIKO

(smiles) Kanhizakura is an Okinawan cherry blossom. (continues reading)  
 "I am sorry to say I am back in the hospital. Please do not worry."

\*

Daniel's smile falls. He looks down at his hands, remembering those days. It was a hard time in Daniel's life.

KUMIKO

"There is nothing to do. Nothing to do except watch television and think. Think of us. Think of family. Think of where I have been. Think of where I will go. Almost all of my life I looked for signs to tell me if I am going the right way. But I got lost. Until... I met Daniel-San."

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Daniel looks up at Kumiko, surprised.

KUMIKO

"His kind heart, strong "chi", and loyalty and love for those around him was a guiding light to me. I am so proud of the man he has become. (pauses, smiles) Even though he still has hard head."

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Daniel chuckles. Kumiko smiles, then continues.

KUMIKO

"I never thought I would have a family again. But Daniel-san has welcomed me into his family, and passed on what I teach of Miyagi-Do to his daughter. Samantha makes me feel like I am her *tanmee*."

\*  
\*  
\*

DANIEL

*Tanmee?*

KUMIKO

Grandfather.

Daniel chokes back tears.

KUMIKO

"In life we always lose our way... but it is people, not signs, who guide us back to the right path."

Daniel takes this in, Miyagi's words echoing in his head.

KUMIKO

"Do you like that Yukie? I heard it  
on a car commercial."

Daniel laughs through his tears. It's the exact kind of Miyagi-ism Daniel needed to hear. For a small moment, it's like Mr. Miyagi is in the room with him.

KUMIKO

"*Kanashii*... Love, Nariyoshi  
Miyagi."

DANIEL

(looking up) Thank you, Mr. Miyagi.  
(to Kumiko) Thank you.

KUMIKO

You are welcome, Daniel-san.

Kumiko hands the letter to Daniel, and they sit quietly in the candle-lit room. Off Daniel's face, no longer lost...

38

INT. WEST VALLEY HIGH - MAIN LOBBY - DAY

38

Sam walks with fire in her eyes. Demetri, Little Red, and the other Miyagis walk with her, backpacks slung on their shoulders. They stop and see Hawk and the Cobra Kais, laughing mockingly. Demetri notices Sam tensing up.

DEMETRI

"There's nothing we can do, Sam.  
It's Chinatown." (off Little Red's  
blank stare) Try seeing a movie  
that doesn't have the words "fast"  
or "furious" in it.

Sam's anger finally boils over.

SAMANTHA

That's it. We're not taking their  
crap anymore.

Sam storms toward the Cobra Kais. Demetri and the Miyagis share a look and follow.

Sam gets in Hawk's face.

SAMANTHA

You think you're hot shit for getting out of detention?

Sam's outburst has gotten the attention of the other students. Kids stop what they're doing to look over.

SAMANTHA

You're nothing but a bunch of pussies.

HAWK

What'd you say to me?

Sam leans in further, almost nose to nose.

SAMANTHA

There will come a time when mommy won't be there. But we will be. And we'll be ready.

Feeling strong, Sam leaves with the Miyagis in tow. Hawk glowers as she walks away - it's clear Sam's challenge was received loud and clear.

HAWK

They want a fight? Well... let's give it to them.

Hawk smiles a Kreese-like grin. This isn't over.

39

INT. WEST VALLEY GENERAL HOSPITAL - MIGUEL'S ROOM - DAY 39

Johnny approaches the door and peeks in. He sees Miguel lying in bed, stretching to reach his phone on the rollaway cart just a hair out of reach. When Miguel gives up and lies back in bed, something comes over Johnny. He storms in.

MIGUEL

Johnny..?

JOHNNY

You want the phone?

Miguel nods. Johnny KICKS the rolling cart away.

JOHNNY

Go get it.

MIGUEL

But... I can't walk. Even with the surgery, I might never--

JOHNNY

QUIET!!

Miguel is taken aback.

JOHNNY

Never. Can't. Those are just words. They're meaningless. It's time to get out of that bed and do something.

Miguel absorbs this, sitting straighter, a bit less defeated.

JOHNNY

You're not a kid anymore. The world isn't gonna just hand it to you. You want something? You're gonna have to crawl across the floor. Use your damn teeth if you have to. You're gonna do whatever it takes... (leans in) And I'm always gonna be right here next to you. Because I'll always be your teacher. (intense) Now... Go. Get it.

Miguel smiles warmly, happy to finally have someone treating him without kid gloves.

MIGUEL

Yes sensei.

Miguel dramatically throws his sheets off. The score triumphantly builds as he uses his arms to force his way out of bed. The music crescendos... and then Miguel falls (out of frame) onto the floor. The score abruptly stops.

JOHNNY

Oh shit. (helps him) It's okay, you  
fell like a champ...

Miguel takes his hand, BEAMING as his sensei helps him up.

40 OMITTED 40

41 INT. SYLMAR JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY - DORM - DAY 41

Robby, still furious about his "visit" with Johnny the other day, enters. Shawn leans on the wall nearby.

SHAWN

(mocking Johnny voice) Robby,  
you're my son! (then, whiny) But I  
hate you, dad!

A couple guys in the bunk snicker. Robby, at the bottom of the juvie totem pole, stops short when he sees his bed. His sheets are gone, his stuff scattered everywhere.

SHAWN

Aww, your girl left you, your dad  
hates you, you got nobody. And now,  
you got nothing.

A guard, RANDALL appears in the doorway.

RANDALL

Back to your bunk, Payne.

Shawn gives a patronizing salute and leaves.

RANDALL

Keene, you've got a visitor.

ROBBY

(annoyed) Who is it?

42 INT. SYLMAR JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY - VISITING ROOM - DAY 42

BZZ!! Robby enters the visitation room. It's empty, save for Robby's guest... Kreese. Kreese smiles that same crocodile grin he gave Johnny back at the bar.

KREESE

Hello, son.

A43 EXT. OKINAWA - STOCK FOOTAGE - DAY A43

The noonday sun shines brightly over Okinawa.

43 INT. MIKKAKAN RESTAURANT - BAR AREA - DAY 43

CLOSE ON: A sheet of ice placed in a bracket (identical but smaller than the one in the ice chopping competition in *Karate Kid II*). But when the ice is SMASHED with a small ice pick, a BARTENDER places the shards into two Awamori drinks, set before Daniel and Kumiko. We're back where Daniel began, at a bar, but Daniel is rejuvenated. Kumiko picks up her glass. Daniel follows suit.

KUMIKO

*Karii!*

DANIEL

*Karii!* To you, Kumiko. Hearing those letters last night... It was like I was back with Mr. Miyagi. Thank you, Kumiko. Really.

They clink glasses, and as they sip...

KUMIKO

Auntie Yukie used to tell me: "Put good into the world, good will come back to you."

DANIEL

I like that. I could use a little good right now.

KUMIKO

I know things are still unresolved with your business. But you put a lot of good into the world, Daniel-san. You affected the lives of a lot of people, for the better. Including me. It will work out. I know it.

They smile. As Kumiko reaches for her glass, their hands touch. The two former lovers pull away, chuckling awkwardly. But then they look into each others eyes, sharing a moment... until Daniel hears a familiar imposing voice.

VOICE (O.C.)

DANIEL-SAN!

Daniel freezes at that voice. It can't be... Daniel turns around... It's CHOZEN.

FLASHBACK TO:

44 INT./EXT. OKINAWA - **FOOTAGE FROM KARATE KID PART 2** 44

*In a series of quick flashes, we see young Chozen terrorize young Daniel LaRusso throughout his visit to Okinawa.*

*- Chozen shoves Daniel in the bar, just before the ice-chopping challenge. Daniel looks afraid.*

*- Chozen pushes Kumiko away. When Daniel tries to help, Chozen kicks him in the stomach. Daniel doubles over in pain.*

*- Chozen holds Daniel back, a spear to his neck, as Chozen's minions trash Mr. Miyagi's courtyard.*

- *CLOSE ON: Chozen, sneering at Daniel, his rival.*

MATCH CUT TO:

45 INT. MIKKAKAN RESTAURANT - BAR AREA - DAY

45

Chozen, a grown man but still terrifying, glares at Daniel. What is he going to do? Off Daniel's look of fear, the past coming back to haunt him...

DANIEL

Chozen...

**ENDSNAKE**