LOVERBOYS

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FINAL DRAFT 10 2023 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO BAY, 1978 - MORNING

TITLE CARD:

JULY 1978

SAN FRANCISCO

A trim sailboat glides through the water. We watch this through...

INT. A TELEGRAPH HILL APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

... the large picture window of PETER GOODWIN's apartment. In front of the window is a bookshelf. A large glass "impossible bottle" containing a miniature sailboat sits on top of it.

We hear a SCREAM. A WOMAN'S FIST flies towards the camera and SMASHES into a man's face.

INT. PETER GOODWIN'S BEDROOM - AN HOUR LATER

Peter, 25, adjusts his tie in front of a mirror. He is a clean-cut, handsome preppy. He has a Band-Aid on his bloody nose.

INT. HARDING & HARDING - MORNING

Peter exits an elevator and heads into a fancy office.

INT. HARDING & HARDING OFFICE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

HARDING (O.S.) Peter! You're late!

It is his boss and his fiancee's father, WHITNEY HARDING III, a large red-faced man of fifty.

PETER

Hello, Sir!

Harding clamps a thick arm around Peter's shoulders. They proceed down the hallway. Peter is visibly uncomfortable.

HARDING I want to talk to you, Goodwin. Man to man. Hell, father to son! (MORE)

HARDING (CONT'D)

I never had a son, Goodwin. I only gave you this job because you're marrying Meredith. You dropped out of Stanford, for Christ's sakes! And you don't golf. What sort of a PERSON doesn't golf?

PETER

Well sir, I --

They stop in front of an office door. A workman is engraving something onto the door.

HARDING Peter, my father built this firm on loyalty and hard work. And if Meredith believes you've got what it takes, then dammit, so do I. What happened to your nose?

PETER

Oh, ah, nothing, Sir, I --

WE SEE the nameplate on the door now reads "PETER GOODWIN, VICE PRESIDENT."

HARDING Call me Dad. Peter -- son -- I'm promoting you to Vice President!

Harding opens the door and SMACKS Peter hard on the back. He stumbles into ...

INT. CORNER OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

... a corner office with a stunning view of the bay.

The phone on the desk RINGS. Peter steps around the desk and answers it.

PETER Hello?

(holds out the phone) It's for you...Dad.

Harding takes the phone.

HARDING Meredith? Oh. Put her through. (beat) Hello, darling girl. Everything all right? Harding looks at Peter. His eyes narrow. Peter backs away slowly.

PETER Dad, wait! Dad, I can explain!

We hear a PUNCH.

TITLE CARD:

1 YEAR LATER

MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA

INT. A MENLO PARK CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Tight close up on a gadget sitting in the middle of a large conference table: It looks exactly like an early Sony Walkman.

DAVE (O.S.)

Your job was to make me something new. Something revolutionary. You work on it for months. And you bring me... a toaster.

ALAN FRIEDEL, 26, winces in his leather executive chair. He has hair to his shoulders, thick glasses, long sideburns, and is wearing a Captain Kirk STAR TREK t-shirt. A can of Tab is in front of him.

DAVE WERKS, 30, paces behind him. He's a full '70s hippie: his hair is long and stringy and he has a bushy beard. He wears bellbottom jeans, beads, and an Indian Kurta shirt. He is barefoot.

> ALAN I told you -- it's a personal music device. The Japanese are already working on one! We have to move fast!

DAVE (laughing) The Japanese. The Japanese!

Dave grabs the gadget and presses a button dramatically. A cassette tape pops up just like a piece of toast from a toaster.

The other executives, all in various 1970s tech nerd outfits, snicker. There is a can of Tab in front of each of them.

ALAN You're being shortsighted. This is gonna change the world!

The other executives gasp.

DAVE No, Alan. <u>I</u> am going to change the world. I AM the change. I am the FUTURE. And you're going to be left behind in the past, jerking off over a cute little RADIO.

A speakerphone BUZZES.

SPEAKERPHONE VOICE Mr. Werks, your yogi is here.

DAVE (calmly) Be right there, Haruko.

Alan takes a sip of his Tab. Dave karate-kicks the can. It goes flying, hits a wall, and EXPLODES.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DAVE I'm terminating our partnership. Raj will take over your duties as Chief Engineer and Serendipity Officer.

Peter glances over at RAJ, an expressionless, overweight Indian guy in a disco shirt and a crisp part in his shoulderlength hair.

> ALAN You can't do that! I came up with the gooey!

Dave closes his eyes and assumes the Downward Dog position.

ALAN (CONT'D) Our new interface! That was me!

Dave jumps up and gets in Alan's face.

DAVE I AM the INTERFACE, DIPSHIT! INT. OFFICE CUBICLE FARM - CONTINUOUS

Dave's voice is reverberating through the office. 1970s-era nerds at workstations exchange concerned glances.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, CONTINUOUS

DAVE I also had the locks on our townhouse changed.

A burly security guard appears in the door. Behind him is a janitor pushing a cart filled with black garbage bags and clothes. Alan's stuff.

ALAN

But Dave --

DAVE Goodbye, Alan.

Dave casually does an elaborate yoga pose.

ALAN You can't fire me! This is my company too! We started it together!

The security guard grabs him and starts to pull him out of the room.

DAVE Don't forget your toaster!

He throws the cassette player and the headphones at Alan, who clumsily catches it.

ALAN Fine! I quit!

As he leaves we hear Dave yell:

DAVE (O.S.) YOU JUST LOST YOUR STOCK OPTIONS!

INT. ERNIE ZANZIBAR'S, A FERN BAR IN SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

Tiffany lamps, planted ferns, and nautical paraphernalia festoon the walls. Hip 1970s bohemian types sip drinks at the polished bar.

PETER GOODWIN is behind the bar. His hair is longer than when we last saw him and he has a tan. He wears short shorts and a polo shirt with a popped collar. He's pouring pink cocktails for two pretty girls. They eye him like catnip.

He drops straws into the drinks and slides them over to the girls.

GIRL #1 Ooh, what's this called?

PETER

Love Potion. A Zanzibar's special.

The girls look at each other and giggle. Peter smiles, but his heart isn't in it. He's done this routine too many times.

> GIRL #2 What's in it?

A tipsy Mrs. Robinson type at the end of the bar takes a drag on her cigarette and laughs.

> MRS. ROBINSON Lies and broken promises. It's delicious the first time, but the hangover is permanent. Right, Peter?

Peter grimaces and hurries over to her.

PETER I asked you to stop coming in, Kathleen.

MRS. ROBINSON Old habits die hard, Petey. One day you'll know how it feels when true love slips through your fingers. So help me, I hope you do.

BARB, the salty broad who runs the place, hangs up the phone.

BARB Pete! Ernie says he needs you down at the dock in 15 minutes.

BARB (CONT'D) He says you're working on the boat tonight.

PETER (relieved) I'm on my way. Peter grabs a cardboard box filled with various bottles. The phone RINGS again. Barb picks up.

> BARB (into phone) Yeah?

She holds the phone out to him.

BARB (CONT'D)

Peter!

PETER Tell him I'm coming!

BARB It's not Ernie.

Peter sighs, drops his box on the bar and takes the call.

PETER (into phone) Hello?

INT. A PHONE BOOTH IN MENLO PARK - CONTINUOUS

ALAN Oh wow, hey, Peter! It's me, Alan!

INTERCUT between Peter and Alan's phone call.

PETER

Who?

ALAN Alan! Alan Friedel! You know --

PETER Oh, okay, hey Alan! Wow, it's been a while. How's it going?

ALAN Oh pretty good. I mean, except I

just got fired and lost my apartment. Oh, and I'm broke.

Peter stares at the two girls at the bar. They are sucking their drinks out of straws in a highly suggestive manner for his benefit.

PETER

Sorry to hear that. Can we talk later? I'm working right now.

ALAN Yeah, sure. Wait! Can I crash at your place tonight?

One of the girls slides a cocktail napkin towards him. On it is a scrawled phone number and the words "Make it a double."

> PETER This is not a good night for me.

> > ALAN

Aw man.

Peter hears Alan sniffling.

PETER (sighing) I'll have the super put a key under the mat. I might be working late.

ALAN I won't forget this, Peter! It'll be just like freshman --

Peter hangs up.

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO BAY MARINA - DAY

A huge wooden sailboat is moored to a pier. The name on its stern reads "APHRODITE." Peter is on the deck setting up the bar, arranging Champagne glasses. A scuttle opens on the forecastle and the sunburned face of ERNIE ZANZIBAR, 50ish, pops out. He is wearing a captain's hat at a jaunty angle and smoking a cigar.

> ERNIE Beautiful job, my boy. Tonight's guests will be mighty impressed.

PETER What's the occasion?

Ernie goes to the bar and pours himself a cocktail.

ERNIE

I'm selling Zanzibar's.

Peter's mouth drops.

PETER What? But - why?

ERNIE

When I opened in '72, I was on to something. Zanzibar's was a classy place to put the moves on the distaff side. They were newly medicated to limit fecundity, and we gents needed the right environment to take advantage, so to speak.

Ernie tosses back his drink.

ERNIE (CONT'D)

Nowadays, all you kids want is a dark room with lasers and dope. Nope -- party's over. It's almost 1980, boy. Time for me to grow up.

PETER What are you gonna do? Sail off into the sunset?

ERNIE I'm selling this barge too! I put a down payment on a condo in Cocoa Beach, I plan on putting my feet up

Beach. I plan on putting my feet up on dry land for a change.

Peter freezes.

PETER

You're selling the APHRODITE?

ERNIE

A buyer's coming by right now. Big Hollywood director. Got rich making movies about space aliens. In my day, we had *real* movies --

PETER But I love this boat. (beat) Would you sell her to me?

ERNIE I'm afraid you haven't got enough of the folding stuff, eh?

Peter looks pained. He caresses the gunwale.

PETER How much do you want for her?

ERNIE She's a bargain at one-fifty!

PETER A hundred and fifty thousand DOLLARS?!

ERNIE She's a trim 120-foot mahogany schooner with a Cutter rig. She's worth even more!

Ernie glances at Peter, remembering something.

ERNIE (CONT'D) That reminds me. I'll need you to work your magic on a young lady tonight while the grownups talk turkey. I'm prepared to pay you handsomely.

PETER I'm done doing that. I quit.

ERNIE Peter, you're a smart kid. College boy. Trust me when I say, don't quit just yet. Look.

HOWARD (O.S.) Yoo-hoo! Ahoy mateys!

Ernie and Peter look down the dock. WE SEE HOWARD HARTE, 60, ANGELA FONTAINE, 25, BROCK, 28, and CATARINA, 40 hurrying toward the boat. They are in a state of high revelry. Howard is an older man with blow-dried white hair, oversized glasses, and a voice like Liberace. Catarina is hanging on Ken-doll blonde Brock, her current boy-toy.

> PETER (to Ernie) Is that Angela Fontaine? The actress?

ERNIE In the flesh. And oh what flesh! Here's an advance on tonight's job.

Ernie stuffs a wad of bills into Peter's shirt pocket.

HOWARD Permission to come aboard, Cap'n?

ERNIE

Granted!

The four visitors climb aboard.

ERNIE, CONT. Welcome to the Aphrodite, crown jewel of the Zanzibar empire.

Peter emerges from below in a fresh shirt. Howard notices him.

HOWARD (leering at Peter) You certainly keep it well stocked.

Peter makes eye contact with Angela. She is beautiful and built.

ERNIE Peter here is my first mate and bartender extraordinaire. He'll supply you with anything you need. Anything at *all*.

Peter winces. Howard hands Peter a glass.

HOWARD Pour me some grog, sailor!

Peter, annoyed, goes to the bar.

ERNIE We sail at sunset for Ernie Zanzibar's world-famous tour of the bay.

EXT. THE APHRODITE, ON THE BAY - NIGHT

Raucous laughter can be heard from below deck. The door to the galley opens. Peter emerges holding a tray of empty bottles.

ANGELA

What kind of boat is this?

Peter spins around. Angela is standing on the deck alone. He sets the tray down and slings a towel over his shoulder.

PETER

(clearing his throat) 120 foot mahogany schooner, with a Clipper rig, Miss Fontaine.

ANGELA

Call me Angela.

PETER

I... loved your work in "Heated Bodies," Angela.

ANGELA My agent says I should stop doing nude scenes so I can be taken seriously as an actress. What do you think?

PETER I think your agent's an idiot.

ANGELA

That's what Howard said! We're headed to Saint Tropez tomorrow. Our new film is premiering at the festival.

Angela takes a step towards him. She stares up at him and pulls the bar mop off his shoulder seductively.

PETER I better start bringing her around. Ernie likes to be in bed by midnight.

ANGELA

So do I.

Peter is transfixed.

INT. PETER'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Peter sits up in bed. There is a note on the pillow. It reads:

"See you in Saint Tropez -- Angela"

INT. PETER'S LIVING ROOM AND KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is small but tidy.

ALAN is on the couch in tighty whiteys. On the floor next to the couch are several large black trash bags. He is reading *Rolling Stone* magazine.

Peter walks in. Alan tosses the magazine down.

ALAN Peter! Was that ANGELA FONTAINE who just left?

PETER Hey, Alan. (worried) You didn't talk to her, did you?

ALAN (rubbing his palms together) Don't worry, I pretended to be asleep! Oh man! You BAGGED Angela Fontaine! Right in the next room! She's got those incredible -- well, you know.

Peter heads into the tiny kitchen.

PETER I'm more of a leg man, myself.

He is looking in coffee cans. All are empty. He opens the last one. Pulls out a thin roll of cash. He adds the wad Ernie gave him to the roll.

> ALAN I'm an everything man. An anything man, really.

PETER How much is a plane ticket to France?

ALAN I don't know.. six, seven hundred bucks?

Peter grimaces and starts making coffee.

ALAN (CONT'D) You see her last movie? Not exactly an Oscar winner. Except when the aliens ripped off her spacesuit with their tentacles. That part was REALLY good.

PETER

An art film.

The coffee machine starts to sputter and steam. Peter rejoins Alan in the living room, where he is examining the Impossible Bottle with the model ship inside it.

> PETER (CONT'D) Careful with that!

> > ALAN

(sets it down) Thanks for letting me crash here last night.

PETER Hey, you're gonna land on your feet. This whole electronics craze is really taking off.

ALAN

Maybe. Maybe not. I might go back to law school. I just need a few days to plan my next move.

PETER Well, you can't stay here.

ALAN

But it'll be like in the dorms! I won't even have to sleep in the hallway when you're having -- company.

PETER I can't afford another mouth to feed. Ernie's selling the bar, and I'm gonna be out of a job.

ALAN Selling Zanzibar's? Party's over, huh? End of an era.

Peter plops down on a chair, defeated.

PETER (RAMBLING) I'll be okay. I needed a change. I've been sort of drifting. I need to focus. Stop wasting my time. I studied business! At Stanford! What the hell am I doing working at a bar?

ALAN

Didn't graduate though.

Peter gives him a pointed look.

PETER Thanks for reminding me. So why'd they fire you?

Alan pulls a small metal case from his bags.

ALAN Because of this.

Alan opens the case and dramatically removes ...

The Walkman lookalike.

PETER

A toaster?

ALAN Nope! This is my prototype. I call it the EAR MATE.

He puts the headphones on Peter and presses Play. We hear the dulcet tones of KISS's "I was made for loving you."

PETER (loudly) A toaster that plays KISS. Cool.

ALAN

Right?

PETER (loudly) What if I want to listen to music with friends?

ALAN That's the point! You can listen in private, without bothering your friends!

PETER (still too loud) Why would I want to do that?

Alan reacts like he's been slapped.

ALAN Peter, this is a once-in-a-century idea, and I need a new partner. Are you in?

Peter takes off the headphones.

PETER I'm in, relax.

They shake hands.

ALAN We're gonna be rich! Fifty-fifty, partners. I owe you one. Remember?

Alan shoots him a meaningful look.

PETER (examining the Ear Mate closely) This thing's pretty cool. How'd you make it? I thought you said you were broke.

ALAN I was. I am. Dave and I never paid each other a salary. I had to spend all my grandma's social security money paying my half of the rent. (bragging) So I had to get a little.... creative to engineer the prototype.

Peter gets up and walks to the bathroom.

INT. PETER'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Peter is brushing his teeth. He starts the shower.

PETER (calling out) Didn't your grandma die like, ten years ago?

ALAN (O.S.) That's none of the government's business! (beat) Is the Chinese food in the fridge still good?

Peter sighs and steps into the shower.

PETER (yelling from the shower) Get dressed. I know a good place.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE PETER'S APARTMENT - DAY

Peter and Alan are heading out. A stoned hippie couple is pounding on the apartment door next to Peter's.

STONED HIPPIE Hey Dean, open up! It's us, man!

The door opens. A groovy guy with feathered hair opens the door. He is DEAN HONEYCUT, 28.

DEAN Shh! My neighbors have straight jobs, okay?

PETER

Hey Dean.

DEAN (to the hippie) Not him, though - he's cool. (to Peter) Hey Pete! Sorry if my hippies woke you up.

PETER It's cool, we were up.

WE SEE one of the hippies hand Dean some money. Dean looks around, then hands him a small baggie.

INT. ZANZIBAR'S FERN BAR - DAY

Alan and Peter are finishing breakfast. There are empty Bloody Mary glasses in front of them. Ernie walks in.

> ERNIE Pietro my boy! You're up early, considering.

PETER You still selling the Aphrodite?

ERNIE Nope. Already sold it!

PETER What? But you told me -- ERNIE

It's not official yet, but Howard loved it. Of course, he doesn't know shit from Shinnecock when it comes to sailboats. He'll run her aground in Sagaponack!

PETER Then sell her to me. I ... (he glances at Alan) ...may be able to pay you what you

Alan winks and nods.

BARB (0.S.) Ernie! Phone! Your ex!

want soon. Very soon.

ERNIE

Which one?

BARB

Four!

ERNIE (grimaces) Take a message, would you doll?

Barb shakes her head, muttering to herself as she jots something down. Ernie leans over to Peter.

ERNIE (CONT'D) Howard lowballed me for one fifty. If you come up with half as down payment before he does, it's yours, my boy. May the best man win!

Ernie winks and walks away.

ALAN 75 grand? Aw, that's nothing! The Ear Mate's gonna make us the richest guys in America! I'm telling you, our ship has come in!

Barb smacks the bill on their table.

Alan takes out his wallet and removes a shiny gold credit card.

ALAN (CONT'D) (plunking down the card) My treat. PETER Gold card? I thought you were broke.

Peter lifts the card up and examines it.

PETER (CONT'D) (reading) Who the hell's "Wilber Franks"?

Alan snatches the card back.

EXT. STREET BETWEEN ZANZIBAR'S AND PETER'S APARTMENT - DAY

Peter and Alan are walking and arguing.

PETER You stole a credit card?

ALAN I made it!

PETER You MADE a credit card?

ALAN

I took advantage of a loophole I uncovered in the financial system. It's simple, really. I had to find some way to buy the components I needed, so I--

PETER

Oh shit.

Alan realizes that Peter is standing stock still, staring across the street.

ALAN

What?

Alan turns to see what Peter is looking at.

It is a Radioshack. A huge crowd has gathered outside. A giant sign in the window reads:

THE SONY WALKMAN IS HERE! ONLY \$149.99!

Giant Walkman ads and posters are plastered over all the plate glass windows of the store. The Walkman, whatever it is, looks exactly like Alan's Ear Mates. ALAN (CONT'D)

Oh shit.

INT. PETER'S APARTMENT - DAY

Alan is on the couch, his head in his hands.

ALAN "WALK MAN"?! What does that even MEAN? Two years of work down the drain! I'd kill myself but I can't die a virgin!

PETER You seem pretty upset. Do you want me to go ask Dean for a Quaalude?

ALAN

(moaning)
I told Dave the Japanese were gonna
beat us if we didn't do it first. A
hundred and fifty bucks! I was only
gonna charge 99! Dave was right. I
am a loser! We're both losers! But
we can be losers together, right,
Peter?

Peter catches a glimpse of himself in a wall mirror, unshaven, hungover. The weight of Alan's truth hits him hard. He looks around. He sees Alan's wallet lying open.

He sees the gold card. It glimmers with hope.

PETER Why don't we use this card to rent a car, drive up the coast, get away for a few days. We could both use a vacation.

ALAN That card's almost maxed out.

PETER

Oh.

Peter is surprised by the intensity of his disappointment. Alan looks up at him.

ALAN I have more.