

Carlos A. Hernandez

"The Football Within Me"

2015

FADE IN:

EXT. ELGIN ST, HOUSTON, TX. - DAY

A street paves the way for ANSELMO (early twenties), a football player for the University of Houston, as he jogs around town. Modern houses are within view and cars pass him at an alarming rate. Sweat slides down his face as he jogs and he wipes it off.

The sky is clear blue with few clouds in sight. The sun beams and illuminates the vantage of the horizon. Anselmo increases his speed and breathes heavily. A few minutes pass and he stops to catch his breath.

In the distance, a large, red banner with white letters is seen above the street between two light poles. The banner reads "Go Houston Cougars!" Anselmo continues jogging until he passes the banner.

A school bus full of students (early twenties) passes Anselmo. The bus stops at a stoplight ahead. He catches up. A student looks out the window at him with an evil smirk. The student turns and talks to other students while pointing at Anselmo then laughs.

STUDENT

You're going to lose tomorrow,  
asshole!

Anselmo nods his head, smiles at the student, and continues jogging. The bus moves forward into the distance. Trees are lined up along the side of the road approximately twenty feet tall and fifteen feet apart from each other. Anselmo passes Riverside General Hospital.

Anselmo pulls out his smartphone and puts on a heavy rap song while putting his earphones on. He continues jogging until reaching a Mobil gas station.

EXT. MOBIL GAS STATION

Two cars are near the pumps while drivers put gas in them. A sign displays the price for unleaded gas with the number in the middle not displayed. The price of diesel is displayed underneath.

INT. MOBIL GAS STATION

Anselmo enters the building where he unexpectedly runs into his best friend JAY (early twenties).

ANSELMO

Yo, my dude. You trying to run into me on purpose or something?

Jay and Anselmo shake hands.

JAY

Not really. Just trying to get like you, big guy. I'm trying to get swole.

ANSELMO

Keep it up. I got this game coming up tomorrow night. It's going to be tough. We're playing against U.C.F. Those guys are nasty.

JAY

I think y'all will be fine, bro. I mean, last year you guys almost won against them so you could definitely do it this year.

ANSELMO

Yeah, it was real close, man. I'm going in there and giving it my all.

Anselmo grabs a Gatorade from the fridge.

JAY

Good. I look forward to it. Yo, so you know Sasha told Craig that she might want to get back with you?

ANSELMO

That she might want to get back with me?

Anselmo chuckles then goes to purchase his Gatorade.

ANSELMO

I don't know if I'll have time for that shit again. I broke it off with her for a reason.

JAY

True. Do what you gotta' do, man. I'll be at the game tomorrow so I'll see you around.

ANSELMO

Alright, bro. I'll see you.

Anselmo and Jay shake hands then exit the building.

EXT. MOBIL GAS STATION

Approaching the gas station is a mysterious looking vehicle. The vehicle stops and the door swings open. Out come two athletic men (early twenties). The men take a good look at Anselmo. Jay turns toward Anselmo and the vehicle.

MAN 1

So if it ain't Anselmo Rivera, the rookie quarterback of the year at U.H.

ANSELMO

Who the hell are you?

MAN 1

Let's say that I saw you play last year and saw the whoopin' you got. The same thing's going to happen to you this year.

ANSELMO

Oh, yeah? I guess we'll see about that, won't we?

The men approach Anselmo. Anselmo clutches his fists.

JAY

(to Anselmo)

Yo, just chill, bro.

MAN 1

I guess we will. I like this city, by the way. It kind of looks like Orlando.

Anselmo nods his head.

ANSELMO

Ah, so you play for the Knights, don't you?

MAN 1

You got that damn right.

ANSELMO

Welcome to Houston. Tomorrow, you're getting beat. You can count on that.

INT. ANSELMO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Anselmo arrives home where his parents greet him. FRANK (early fifties), Anselmo's dad, sits on the couch eating chips while MARIA (late forties), Anselmo's mom, is in the kitchen.

MARIA

How was your run? By the way, I just made dinner—rice, beans, and chuletas—your favorite.

ANSELMO

It was good. I ran into Jay at the gas station and two of the players from U.C.F.

FRANK

Wow, really? How was that?

ANSELMO

Tense. I mean, if anything, it gives me fuel for tomorrow's win. That's for sure.

FRANK

That's right, son. You got this.

Anselmo sits at the table where his mom serves him a plate of food. He eats his meal quickly.

ANSELMO

This was great like always. Thanks, mom. I'll be upstairs.

Anselmo goes upstairs to his room. His phone rings. He looks at it. It reads "Sasha." SASHA (early twenties) is Anselmo's ex-girlfriend. He hesitates for a moment then picks it up.

SASHA (V.O.)

Hey. Are you ready for tomorrow?

ANSELMO

Yeah, I am. I would say so. What are you up to?

SASHA (V.O.)

Same ole. You know not much changes after a while around here.

ANSELMO

Yeah. Tell me about it.

SASHA (V.O.)

Look. I've been meaning to tell you, these last few weeks have been hard

for me. I was wondering if tomorrow we could meet up. There are some things we should talk about.

ANSELMO

Like what? About us? You know this is hard for me too, right? You're not the only one this is hard for.

SASHA (V.O.)

You're one of the few people I can count on. What I have to tell you is important.

ANSELMO

Okay. I'll call you tomorrow then.

SASHA (V.O.)

Alright. Goodbye.

Anselmo hangs up the phone. He takes a quick shower. He lies down on his bed where he has flashbacks of his and Sasha's former relationship.

MONTAGE UNDER MUSIC - ANSELMO AND SASHA HAVING FUN TOGETHER

A) Anselmo and Sasha walk in the park holding hands. They play fight under a tree and laugh with each other. Anselmo carries Sasha on his back while she holds him and smiles.

B) Anselmo and Sasha sit on Sasha's couch at her house while playing with her dog, a Golden Retriever. Anselmo makes Sasha dinner and pours her a glass of wine. They browse through Netflix until deciding which movie to watch.

C) Anselmo, Sasha, and Jay take a road trip to Dallas to meet with friends. They go to an abandoned practice football field to hangout and socialize. Sasha watches Anselmo throw a football to Jay.

D) Anselmo sneaks over to Sasha's house in the middle of the night. They kiss and tell each other what they mean to each other. They fall asleep together under the blankets while holding each other.

E) Sasha visits Anselmo after a victory game. She arrives with a box of chocolates that she gives to Anselmo. Anselmo and Sasha walk to Anselmo's car. She jumps on his back and he carries her to the door.

END MONTAGE

as Anselmo falls asleep.

The next morning, Anselmo wakes up, has breakfast, and heads out for a jog.

EXT. MONTROSE BLVD - DAY

Anselmo sprints on the sidewalk attempting to reach his top speed. He listens to a heavy rap song. He breathes heavily and begins to sweat. Construction is being done on the street. His phone vibrates. It's a text from Sasha. It reads "Meet me at the library in an hour."

INT. DOHERTY LIBRARY

Anselmo arrives at the library. The library is spacious with high ceilings. Large windows with a view of the outside lawn illuminate the interior. Shelves of books are evenly placed throughout the floor. In the back between two shelves is Sasha looking at books. Anselmo approaches her.

ANSELMO

Hey.

SASHA

Oh, hey.

Sasha closes her book, smiles, and hugs Anselmo.

SASHA

Let's go over here. There's a table we can sit at.

Anselmo and Sasha sit at a table. The room is quiet with a view of other patrons in the far distance.

SASHA

You're kind of sweaty... So, do you think you're ready for the game tonight?

ANSELMO

Yeah, I am.

SASHA

That's good... Look, so I've been thinking. I know I've messed up in the past, but...

ANSELMO

But what?

SASHA

Lately, you're all I've been thinking about.

Anselmo stays quiet and stares blankly at Sasha's face.

SASHA

To be honest... To be honest, I still love you. It's been over a year and I still feel the same. You were my high school sweetheart. Some things are just hard to forget.

ANSELMO

I know. I understand. It has been quite a while. Part of me still loves you, too.

SASHA

Do you think us getting back together again would ever work?

ANSELMO

I don't know, Sasha. I really don't.

Anselmo sighs and pauses for a moment.

ANSELMO

Just know that you can always count on me if you need anything.

SASHA

I will. I'll be at the game tonight, by the way.

ANSELMO

Alright. Maybe I'll see you then.

Anselmo grabs Sasha's hands and they look at each other.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, FOOTBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

Virtually every seat in the stadium is taken as spectators wait on the game against the U.C.F. Knights to start. Loud music plays in the background. Indistinct voices are heard as people in the crowd converse with each other. The Jumbotron displays a commercial for snacks and beverages.

The University of Houston cheerleaders cheer as the crowd awaits the players' entry. Different members of the team each raise a letter from the word "Houston" in support of their city. A sign reads "Go Cougars" on top of one of the sections. Advertisements display throughout the stadium.

In one of the sections near the field sits Anselmo's parents. His dad sits with a Bud Light in his right hand and headphones from his iPod Nano in his ears. He nods his head as he listens to music. Anselmo's mom sits with a hand-held

fan in her left hand and iPhone 5s in her right.

INT. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, FOOTBALL STADIUM, LOCKER ROOM

Anselmo sits awaiting his entrance onto the field along with his teammates. Bottles of water and Gatorade are scattered throughout the room. Nearly half of the lockers are open displaying some of the players' possessions while the other half are closed.

In the corner is an office where the coach awaits along with his assistant. The players wear red and white uniforms with their respective numbers on their jerseys. Inspirational videos play throughout various TV screens. Inspirational music and indistinct chatter are heard in the background.

Anselmo's teammates have a conversation about women they're looking at on one of their smartphones.

PLAYER 1

Damn. You see this girl's ass, man?

PLAYER 2

Boy, do I? I would love to hit that shit.

PLAYER 1

If I get the chance, bro, I'm going in.

PLAYER 2

Definitely, definitely. That's what it's all about. I'll see if she wants to come to the party tomorrow night.

ANSELMO

(interrupting)

Who are y'all talking about?

PLAYER 1

Ah, some chick. Don't worry about it.

ANSELMO

Damn, it's like that, then? Alright.

A few minutes pass and the coach comes out from his office. He prepares the players for their entry onto the field.

COACH

Alright, guys. We gotta' go out there and give it everything we've got tonight. This is our chance to

shine. You guys ready?

TEAM  
(in unison)  
Ready!

COACH  
Let's go out there and get em'.

INT. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, FOOTBALL STADIUM, BOOTH

The booth where game officials view the game is seen on top of one of the middle sections. The game announcer begins talking, hyping up the crowd, in preparation for the announcement of the players' entry.

GAME ANNOUNCER  
Tonight, all the way from the University of Central Florida, we welcome the Knights. Are you guys ready for the biggest game of the year?

The crowd cheers in excitement and anticipation.

GAME ANNOUNCER  
Everybody, this is the game we've been waiting for. Let's welcome our very own Cougars and the U.C.F. Knights out onto the field. It's time to begin!

The university's band plays loud music while the cheerleaders cheer. The players come out onto the field. The crowd screams in excitement. The national anthem is sung.

The game begins and takes place for over three hours.

The Cougars win the game and celebrate their much-anticipated victory.

INT. MARCUS'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The following night, Anselmo is at his teammate MARCUS's (early twenties) house where Marcus is throwing a party. On different tables and trash bags throughout the house are empty beer bottles. In the middle of the living room is a keg surrounded by more of the players.

MARCUS  
(to his teammates)  
Alright, guys. We killed em' last night. Hard work pays off. Now it's

time to celebrate.

The players cheer.

ANSELMO

You got that right, man. Yo, thanks for hosting, by the way.

MARCUS

No problem. By the way, do you mind going to the fridge and getting some ice real quick? We could use more out here.

ANSELMO

Yeah. I got you.

Anselmo walks over to the fridge making his way through the players. He opens the freezer and grabs a bag of ice. To his left enters Jay and Jay's brother MARK (early twenties).

ANSELMO

(to himself)

Oh, no. This ain't gonna' be good.

ANSELMO

What's up, guys? I didn't know y'all were coming.

JAY

Sup, bro? We got bored at the crib so we decided to come through.

ANSELMO

It's all good. We got drinks on deck. I'm gonna' show you how the Cougars party. By the way, I really don't want any problems so keep it cool, alright?

JAY

Definitely. Let me go say "what's up" to Marcus real quick.

Jay and Mark make their way through the players. Marcus stands by the keg. To Marcus's right is his brother LUKAS (early twenties), Mark's ex-friend who he lost after having sex with Lukas's girlfriend. Jay and Mark greet Marcus and grab their drinks.

LUKAS

So, who invited these clowns?

JAY

Yo, who the hell are you talking to?

MARCUS

Yo, just chill. I don't want any problems.

Suddenly, Lukas grabs his cup of beer and splashes it onto Mark's face.

LUKAS

(putting his hands up to Mark)  
What's up then, bro?

ANSELMO

Shit!

Mark and Lukas brawl with each other exchanging heavy blows. The players stand by and watch. Jay takes off his shirt in anticipation of starting a fight of his own. Anselmo makes his way to the scene to intervene. Marcus grabs Mark by his shoulder and pulls him off of Lukas.

MARCUS

(screaming)  
Yo, chill. Y'all need to get the fuck out of here!

MARK

This guy threw beer on me, bro. You think I'm gonna' sit here and do nothing? I don't appreciate that shit.

LUKAS

(to Mark)  
You stay the fuck away from me and my girl, you heard? I'll fuck you up. I'll fuck you up, bro.

MARK

You know what? Fuck this shit. I'm out.

Mark pushes some of the drinks on the table down to the floor. He makes his way out the front door and slams it. Jay grabs his shirt and follows along.

ANSELMO

Damn. I can't believe this just happened.

The room is quiet while the players look around.

INT. ANSELMO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

The next morning, Anselmo and his dad sit on the couch where they are having lunch and his dad is drinking beer. On the TV is a game of the Houston Texans playing against the New England Patriots. The family dog, HUGO, a white, male Yorkie, lies on the carpet.

FRANK

Just imagine the possibilities if you were to play for the Texans. Wouldn't that be awesome?

ANSELMO

I know, it sure would. Hopefully one day it'll happen. For now, I'm a proud Cougar.

FRANK

Keep it up. You played an awesome game Friday night and I'm proud of you.

ANSELMO

Thanks, dad.

Frank walks to the fridge and grabs another beer. Hugo runs around frantically in anticipation of going outside.

FRANK

Son, I need you to come with me to New Mexico tomorrow until Wednesday. I have some merchandise I need to deliver and George can't come.

ANSELMO

I don't know. The thing is that tomorrow I was supposed to go with Jay and some other people to Dallas.

FRANK

Oh, I see. So now you want to make an excuse after I told you this since last weekend, huh?

ANSELMO

I'm not making an excuse. I told you I wasn't sure if I wanted to go.

FRANK

(angrily)

I really don't wanna' deliver this shit by myself. It'll take me twice as long and I could really use your help.

Enters NOEL (early twenties), Anselmo's younger brother. Noel goes to sit on the couch with his laptop.

NOEL  
What's going on?

ANSELMO  
Oh, you know. Just dad trying to get me to go on another one of his trips.

Frank chugs his beer then throws it in the trash can with extreme force. The can hits the bottom of the trash can and makes a loud sound that resonates throughout the living room. Frank walks over to the backdoor to let Hugo out.

FRANK  
Forget it. I'll go alone.

Frank exits out the backdoor and Hugo follows along. He closes the door.

ANSELMO  
I hate when he gets like this—a guy in his fifties who gets fed up over little things. It's ridiculous.

NOEL  
Yeah. He's probably had too many of them Bud Lights.

ANSELMO  
Probably. You know how he gets after a while. Imagine a whole thirteen hours to New Mexico with him and back. That would be crazy.

NOEL  
I think you'll be fine. Just go with him. He'll probably pay you again anyways.

ANSELMO  
That's true.

Anselmo ponders for a moment. He goes out the backdoor to meet with his dad.

EXT. ANSELMO'S HOUSE, BACKYARD

Outside is a small Oak tree, two plastic chairs, and a glass table. The sky is mostly clear with only a single cloud in sight. Hugo plays in the green, well-kept lawn. Anselmo sits next to his dad on the chair beside him.

ANSELMO

Hey, dad. I'll go with you tomorrow.

FRANK

Alright. I look forward to it.

Anselmo and Frank look at the scenery in silence.

INT. FRANK'S TRUCK, CABIN - DAY

The next morning, Anselmo and Frank are en route to Albuquerque in Frank's eighteen-wheeler company truck. They are on I-45 where the road is long and wide. They pass plains, wetlands, buildings, and houses.

FRANK

Nothing like being on the open road, huh?

ANSELMO

Yeah. It's kind of relaxing. It's just such a long trip and we've been driving for hours now.

FRANK

I know. We should be arriving to Albuquerque within the next few hours. At least we're together so that's all that matters.

ANSELMO

Yeah, true.

FRANK

So, talk to me. How are things with the team? What ever happened between you and Sasha?

ANSELMO

It's going good. I practice every week for hours and hours, and it gets exhausting. It's all for the team. I don't talk to that many other players though. I feel like many of them are kind of sketchy. And as for me and Sasha, I have no idea what we are, but it's probably best it stays that way.

FRANK

Honestly, at the end of the day, you just need to do what's best for you and you only.

Frank pauses for a moment.

FRANK (CONT.)

You know what's funny? When I was in high school, I got kicked off the school basketball team. I never told you, but it was everything to me, and I gave it all away—all over something stupid.

ANSELMO

Really? What happened?

FRANK

It was all over this girl I was dating—some girl named Sarah. I loved her, and I found out that she cheated on me with some guy named David, so I went and beat his ass. Next thing I know, I got kicked off the team.

ANSELMO

Would you say it was worth it, though?

FRANK

You know, it's hard to say. Sometimes you can't dwell upon what could have happened but only on what did happen. Just be sure not to let your pride get in the way and do what's always best for you.

ANSELMO

Thanks. I'll keep that in mind.

Hours later, Anselmo and Frank arrive to Albuquerque where they deliver some merchandise. They stay overnight in the truck's cabin at a truck parking lot.

The next day, they drive to different cities in New Mexico to drop off and pick up merchandise. They return home the following day.

INT. ANSELMO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

MARIA

So, how was the trip, guys?

FRANK

It was good. Anselmo and I spent quality time together.

Anselmo chuckles.

ANSELMO

It was fun. At least I got to get my mind off of school for a little bit. Now I gotta' catch up on some assignments.

FRANK

Do it. You'll be done soon so keep it up.

Anselmo's receives a call from Sasha. He picks it up.

ANSELMO

Hey. What's up?

SASHA (V.O.)

Meet me at the library again please. It's really important.

ANSELMO

Look. I told you that right now I don't know if it's the best time for us to get back together.

SASHA (V.O.)

(panicking)

No. It's not about that. Just meet me there.

Sasha hangs up the phone.

Anselmo heads over to the library.

INT. DOHERTY LIBRARY

Anselmo enters where he meets Sasha in the back at an isolated table. The room is quiet with no other patrons in sight.

ANSELMO

What's going on?

Sasha cries.

ANSELMO

Sasha, tell me what's going on.

SASHA

(stuttering)

This is so hard for me to say.

ANSELMO

Tell me!

SASHA

Last night, I was at Ashley's house. Jay and Mark were there, and we were all talking and having a few drinks.

ANSELMO

And?

SASHA

Things got... Things got really out of hand.

ANSELMO

What do you mean out of hand?

SASHA

We were all in Ashley's room. I was a little drunk and Ashley and Jay stepped out of the room. Mark was there and he was drunk. I went to exit the room, and he told me to sit back down.

Sasha pauses for a moment.

SASHA (CONT.)

I refused and told him I was going out of the room, and he didn't let me.

ANSELMO

(raising his voice)

He didn't let you?

SASHA

He grabbed me and threw me on the floor and told me to take my clothes off and not to say a word. I didn't want to...

Sasha cries louder.

SASHA (CONT.)

He... He raped me. I felt helpless...

Anselmo slams his hand on the table.

ANSELMO

That mother fucker! I can't believe this.

Anselmo gets up and walks quickly toward the exit.

SASHA

Wait!

EXT. DOHERTY LIBRARY

Anselmo calls Jay repeatedly and reaches his voicemail.

Anselmo peels out of the parking lot and races to Jay's house. He turns the stereo on to full blast listening to a heavy rap song.

EXT. JAY'S HOUSE

Anselmo exits the vehicle and slams the door. In Jay's driveway is his father's car with not a soul in sight. The grass is neatly mowed and the sky is pitch blue. In the corner of the lawn lies the family cat.

Anselmo goes to Jay's front door and bangs on it.

ANSELMO

(to himself)

Where the fuck is this guy, man?

JAY'S MOM (late forties) answers the door.

JAY'S MOM

Hey, Anselmo. Is everything alright?

ANSELMO

Is Jay here?

JAY'S MOM

No. He stepped out to Walmart. He'll be back in a few.

ANSELMO

Alright. See you.

JAY'S MOM

You look upset.

ANSELMO

I got to go.

Anselmo runs back to his car and peels out of the driveway. He races to Walmart to search for Jay.

EXT. WALMART, PARKING LOT

Anselmo's tires screech as his car comes to a halt in a parking space. He exits the vehicle and stands nearby. He

looks toward the doors with the hope of seeing Jay coming out. Nearby are other shoppers entering and exiting the building.

A few minutes pass. In the distance, he spots Jay and Mark coming out of the building. He approaches them.

ANSELMO

(to Jay)

You know all about it, don't you?

JAY

(startled)

What are you talking about, bro?

ANSELMO

You mother fucker! You know about Sasha. You know what this guy did to her last night, don't you (pointing to Mark)?

Mark abruptly takes off running toward the other side of the lot. He weaves his way through shoppers and empty shopping carts. Anselmo follows behind keeping a close distance on him. Other shoppers watch to see what the commotion is.

ANSELMO

Get back here!

EXT. WALMART, GARDEN SECTION

Mark enters the garden section through the outside. He hides behind a cluster of large garden plants where he recovers his breath while breathing heavily. Enters Anselmo and Jay.

JAY

(to Anselmo)

It's not what it looks like, bro.  
Just let it be.

Anselmo looks through the aisles searching for Mark. He pushes down a large cluster of plants where he finds Mark ducked down attempting to avoid being seen. He grabs Mark by the neck and looks at him in the eyes.

ANSELMO

You raped her. You raped her, you mother fucker.

MARK

It's not what it looks like.  
Please...

Anselmo hits Mark with a heavy jab to the gut. Mark grunts

as he takes the blow. Jay grabs Anselmo from behind.

JAY  
Get off of him!

Anselmo lets go of Mark and turns toward Jay.

ANSELMO  
You knew about this and you didn't  
say shit? What kind of friend are  
you, man?

Anselmo stares at Jay. A few seconds of silence pass.

ANSELMO  
I'm done with this. Just know that  
you and him will pay. I'll make sure  
everyone finds out what happened.  
Just remember that.

Exits Anselmo.

EXT. RIVER OAKS PARK - DAY

The next day, Anselmo sits at a bench and has flashbacks of his and Sasha's former relationship, his friendship with Jay, and the week that took place.

MONTAGE UNDER MUSIC

A) Anselmo and Sasha kiss under the trees. They hold each other and tell each other what they mean to each other.

B) Sasha surprises Anselmo after a football game. They go to Anselmo's car where they kiss.

C) Anselmo asks Sasha out on the first day of his senior year of high school. Sasha accepts.

D) Anselmo throws a football to Jay at their middle school field where they meet. They go to the gym and have a conversation.

E) Anselmo and his dad talk in his dad's eighteen-wheeler company truck where his dad says: "Just be sure not to let your pride get in the way and do what's always best for you."

F) Sasha tells Anselmo she still loves him at the Doherty library. She tells him she's been raped by Mark then Anselmo races to Jay's house.

G) Anselmo hits Mark with a heavy jab to the gut at the Walmart garden section. Anselmo tells Jay: "Just know that

you and him will pay."

END MONTAGE

as Anselmo receives a call from his dad. Anselmo picks it up.

ANSELMO

Hey, dad.

FRANK

Hey. Are you coming home for dinner?  
We made rice, beans, and chuletas  
again.

ANSELMO

Yeah, sure. Just give me a little  
bit. I'm at the park.

Anselmo pauses for a moment.

ANSELMO (CONT.)

By the way, you were right.

FRANK

About what?

ANSELMO

At the end of the day, I need to do  
what's best for me.

FRANK

Always, son. Don't forget. I'll see  
you later.

ANSELMO

See you.

Anselmo hangs up the phone. He looks out into the sky.

ANSELMO (V.O.)

Some things were just not meant to  
be. Nowadays, you never know who you  
can trust. Friends come and go, but  
at the end of the day, I got me. I  
will always do what's best for me,  
always, and I will never let anyone  
get in the way. I will be the  
greatest quarterback the University  
of Houston's ever had, and I will  
make it as far as I can dream.  
Football will always be within me.  
It's up to me to make it all the  
way.

ROLL CREDITS as music plays.

FADE OUT.