

EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - DAY - SUMMER 1993

An articulating sprinkler waters a green lawn. A PAPERBOY, 16, adjusts his newspaper bags and fires up his bright red gas-powered minibike. He takes off and throws a newspaper.

INT. HENRY'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

The shades are drawn and sunlight slices into the wood-paneled game room. A cassette tape is snapped into a stereo. Music plays. HENRY, 11, has built an elaborate Hot Wheels track from the ceiling to the floor using books and furniture. Henry's dad, GERRY, 38, steps into the room wearing work clothes.

GERRY

Headed to work, make sure you put  
all of this away, see ya later  
buddy.

HENRY

See ya dad.

EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - DAY

GERRY pulls out of the driveway in a wood-paneled Jeep Grand Wagoneer as the paperboy buzzes by on his minibike.

INT. HENRY'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

The sound of the Ice Cream Truck song can be heard outside. Henry notices it and runs into the kitchen, dumping out a coffee mug of pens, pencils and a red BIC lighter. He gathers a few coins and sweeps them into his hand and runs outside.

EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - DAY

Henry picks up his bicycle off the grass and rides off down the street. Two friends, WYATT and JACK, both 11, join Henry and they ride in a "V"-formation.

WYATT

What's up Henry?

HENRY

Hey man. What's up Jack?

JACK

Hey dude.

HENRY  
Y'all see where he went?

The boys stop and listen. The sound of the ice cream song can be heard in the distance.

JACK  
That way!

The boys all peddle hard after the music.

EXT. LUIS'S HOUSE - DAY

LUIS, 11, is shooting hoops in his driveway and he sees the boys ride by.

LUIS  
Wait for me!

Luis grabs his bicycle and catches up with the other boys. They all ride together.

HENRY  
Luis, what's up dude?

LUIS  
What are y'all doing?

JACK  
Trying to find the ice cream truck.

WYATT  
Do y'all have any money?

They stop riding and dig in their pockets. Each boy holds out the change they have and they count it.

JACK  
I only have two quarters.

WYATT  
I have a dollar.

HENRY  
All I could find is a bunch of dimes and nickels and pennies.

LUIS  
Hold on.

Luis digs in his pocket and pulls out a crumpled five.

JACK

Score!

They hear the ice cream truck and see it cross the street far in the distance.

HENRY

There it is!

WYATT

Let's go!

They all go on the chase again.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

The tailpipe of the rusty old ice cream van sputters out smoke, it backfires and takes off across a busy street.

EXT. BUSY INTERSECTION - DAY

Henry, Wyatt, Luis and Jack arrive at a busy street on the edge of the neighborhood. They see the back of the ice cream truck across the busy intersection as it turns into the next neighborhood.

HENRY

We have to cross it.

JACK

That's Thornberry. They go to Colleyville.

WYATT

Me and Luis rode our bikes over there once - the houses are huge.

LUIS

They're rich.

There is a break in the traffic.

HENRY

Now's our chance, let's go for it!

Just as the boys start across the road, a huge F-250 blowing black diesel smoke barrels down on them.

JACK

Ahhh!

LUIS

Go! Go!

The boys cross just in time as the truck goes roaring by.

WYATT

Geez, we almost got nailed.

Henry catches his breath and gets back on the bike.

HENRY

C'mon, let's keep going.

EXT. THORNBERRY NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

The boys look at the big brick houses in awe as they ride past.

JACK

A house over here has an elevator.

WYATT

Houses don't have elevators.

HENRY

Yes they do, if they have three stories.

In the distance four figures appear on bicycles in the middle of the street.

LUIS

Guys, look at that.

As the boys approach, they come to a stop in the middle of the street, facing 4 other boys, *the rich boys*, ETHAN, MIKE, JAMES and CALEB, preppy, all riding gleaming GT BMX bicycles.

MIKE

Where are you guys from?

Jack points behind them.

JACK

We live over there.

ETHAN

Where do y'all go?

WYATT

We go to Spring Garden.

HENRY  
Where do y'all go?

JAMES  
We go to Colleyville.

HENRY  
Have y'all seen the ice cream truck  
drive by?

CALEB  
What ice cream truck?

The ice cream truck can be heard in the distance.

LUIS  
That one.

MIKE  
I don't hear anything. Do you hear  
anything James?

JAMES  
I don't hear anything.

ETHAN  
Why don't y'all go back where you  
came from.

HENRY  
Dude.

WYATT  
Why don't you go back in your mom?

ETHAN  
You're gonna run home crying to  
your mom if you don't *shut up*.

WYATT  
Why don't you make me shut up.

They all hear the ice cream truck louder this time.

HENRY  
Did y'all hear that? C'mon. We can  
all go together.

ETHAN  
You're not going anywhere but back.

WYATT  
He's right guys, let's just turn  
around.

LUIS

What?

JACK

Yeah, we'll go back, whatever.

HENRY

Aw man.

WYATT

C'mon.

The boys reluctantly turn around and walk away with their bicycles.

ETHAN

And don't come back.

Ethan, Mike, James and Caleb all laugh.

HENRY

Geez, those guys are buttheads.

Wyatt stops and reaches into his pocket and pulls out a plum.

WYATT

Watch this.

Wyatt drops his bike, takes a crow hop and beans Ethan in the side of the head with the plum, knocking him off his bike.

ETHAN

Oww!

JAMES

You're dead meat!

Henry, Wyatt, Jack and Luis scramble. A chase ensues with Mike, Caleb and Ethan pursuing. James ditches his bike and gets to Wyatt before he can get back on his bike and James and Wyatt lock up like Greco Roman wrestlers. Henry rides onto a lawn and grabs a hose and Jack cranks the water on.

JACK

Blast 'em!

A burst of water soaks Caleb and Ethan.

CALEB AND ETHAN

Ahh!

Ethan sees a soccer ball in the yard and kicks it, smacking Henry in the forehead.

HENRY

Ow!

ETHAN

Goal!

Mike crashes his GT bike into Luis.

MIKE

(sarcastic)

Cool Huffy!

LUIS

Hey, my bike!

Luis drops his bike and takes off running. Mike picks up Luis's bike and runs with it.

MIKE

Ghost ride!

Mike let's go of the bike and sends it at Wyatt and James who are still wrestling. Just before it hits them, they jump over it as it crashes to the ground.

JAMES

Close one.

Luis surprise tackles James. Wyatt takes off and finds a green Super Soaker in Ethan's yard. He pumps it and tries to spray James, who is taking haymaker swings at Luis, but Wyatt accidentally sprays Luis in the face.

LUIS

Ahh!

WYATT

Whoops!

JAMES

Ha!

Ethan and Caleb run into Ethan's garage and find a big bucket of tennis balls and two rackets. They run out and start hitting the balls at Henry and Jack.

JACK

Look out!

ETHAN

I'm Andre Agassi!

CALEB

I'm Pete Sampras!

Henry and Jack run across the street and find wiffle ball bats laying in the yard. They start sending the tennis balls back with huge swings.

JACK  
I'm Bo Jackson!

HENRY  
I'm Frank Thomas!

Caleb takes one to the crotch.

CALEB  
Ooh.

Jack takes one to the face.

JACK  
Oww!

Mike opens the side gate and goes into Ethan's backyard. The paperboy comes riding down the street on his minibike and swerves, one of the balls grazes his head.

PAPERBOY  
Hey watch it, you psychos!

LUIS  
Cool minibike.

JAMES  
That thing is sweet.

James and Luis both admire the minibike and then look at each other, remembering they're at war. They run at each other and windmill smacks ensue.

LUIS AND JAMES  
Ow! Ow! Ow!

Mike comes out of the backyard carrying a box full of water balloons.

MIKE  
Guys!

ETHAN  
Get the launcher!

Ethan and Caleb run back to the garage and pull out a huge rubber slingshot.

Jack reaches in his pocket and finds two smoke bombs.

JACK  
Look what I have.

Henry pulls a red BIC lighter out of his pocket.

HENRY  
Look what I have.

They light the smoke bombs and throw into the street.

Mike pulls back the launcher. Jack and Henry's eyes go wide. Mike launches a ballon and it drills Jack in the chest. The ballon explodes.

ETHAN  
Direct hit!

Mike loads another and fires it at Henry, but Henry pulls his shirt out and catches it mid air. Ethan and Caleb are impressed.

HENRY  
Eat it suckers.

Henry crow hops and overhand launches the ballon, hitting Mike's hands right in front of his face, dousing him.

MIKE  
Ahh!

Wyatt finds a bag of potting soil in the flowerbed and swings it at Mike, covering him from head to toe in dirt. Ethan and Caleb turn on Wyatt who picks up a shovel ready to attack.

CALEB  
Two against one.

Ethan punches his fist into his palm. Wyatt spins the shovel in his hands like a Shaolin warrior and raises the shovel.

WYATT  
Bring it suckers!

Henry and Jack go from laughing to looking horrified.

JACK  
Wyatt no!

HENRY  
Truce, truce! Guys! This is crazy.  
I call a truce!

Luis and James stop fighting.

JAMES

Truce.

LUIS

Truce.

James gets up and helps Luis up. Wyatt drops the shovel and Caleb and Ethan breath a sigh of relief. James has a drip of blood coming out of his nose and he wipes it with his arm smearing it. Luis rubs his shoulder, a big bruise appearing on his cheek.

JAMES

Dude, you're going to have a shiner.

LUIS

Cool.

The boys all come together in the street and shake hands. Everyone looks at Mike.

HENRY

You ok man?

Mike coughs out dirt.

MIKE

Yeah, I'm good.

They all laugh.

INT. ETHAN'S MOM'S CAR

Ethan's mom hums and drums a beat on the steering wheel, driving around the bikes lying in the street.

LUIS

Car!

The boys move out of the way as a green minivan pulls into Ethan's driveway. ETHAN'S MOM steps out of the car and is oblivious to the war that just took place.

ETHAN'S MOM

Ethan, can you and your friends help me unload these groceries?

The boys all walk over and start pulling out groceries.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

And look what you can share with your friends.

Ethan's mom pulls out a giant box of Orange Creamsicles. The boy's eyes go wide.

WYATT

No way, orange creamsicles!

MIKE

Oh sweet!

Ethan tears open the box and starts distributing ice cream.

HENRY

These are my favorite.

ETHAN

Thanks mom.

ETHAN'S MOM

Enjoy boys. And Ethan, please pick up your toys before you come in.

The boys look over at the chaotic mess they've created. Smokes drifts across the street scattered with bikes, bats, balls and rackets. They all walk over and sit on the curb and eat their popsicles. They hear the sound of the ice cream truck.

MIKE

No way.

The worst ice cream truck you've ever seen drives by in front of them. The DRIVER, a gross man in his 40's looks down at them. Three TEENAGE boys chase after it on skateboards. All the boys on the curb laugh. Henry takes a bite of ice cream.

HENRY

These are the best.

CALEB

Y'all wanna go play homerun derby?

JACK

Sure!

CALEB

Let's go!

LUIS

Woo!

Henry takes out the last orange creamsicle and leaves the box on the curb. All of the boys pick up the wiffle ball bats and run off into the sunset.