



"The Mentonian Marauders"

SUPER ON BLACK SCREEN:

Rugby is a game for barbarians played by gentlemen. Football is a game for gentlemen played by barbarians.

-- Oscar Wilde

FADE IN:

EXT./EST. 354 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY - DAY

Headquarters of the NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL).

INT. NFL - CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The OWNERS and EXECUTIVES of the NFL's 32 TEAMS eat gourmet munchies as they listen to Commissioner ROGER GOODELL.

GOODELL

I am pleased to report that each of our teams can expect a net revenue of one-hundred eighty-seven-point-seven million, up four-point-three percent from last year.

All are happy except Dallas Cowboys owner JERRY JONES.

JONES

Goodell, we ain't paying you forty-nine -and-a-half million dollars a year for a lousy, stinkin' four-point-three percent! We are paying you forty-nine -and-a-half million dollars a year to make us money! Now, you go make us some goddamn money!

INT. NFL - COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - LATER

Goodell sits at his massive desk, paralyzed by indecision. Phone beside him RINGS. He presses a button.

GOODELL'S SECRETARY (OVER PHONE)

Coach Shula on line two, Mr. Goodell.

"Coach Shula" as in DON SHULA, the winningest coach in NFL history. Goodell GROANS, picks up the receiver.

GOODELL (ON PHONE)

Coach, for the last time...

SHULA (OVER PHONE)

That's "Mr. Shula" to you, punk! You rake in forty-nine-and-a-half million bucks a year, and you skip out on a nine dollar tab?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GOODELL (ON PHONE)
The greens were limp and the croutons
were hard as rocks.

SHULA (OVER PHONE)
Bull! My place makes the best Caesar
Salad in town, you cheap bastard!
Don't make me send Csonka up there! I
want that nine bucks! Now!

INT. NFL - COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - LATER

Goodell still at his desk, still paralyzed by indecision.
RUBY, his secretary, waits to take dictation. Finally...

GOODELL
Ruby? Who is the most-annoying twit in
our sport?

RUBY
Besides Mr. Jones?

He GROANS.

RUBY (CONT'D)
Oh, that's easy. Tim Tebow.

He smiles. Now they're onto something.

GOODELL
And who is the most-annoying old fart
in our sport?

RUBY
Coach Shula?

He points AT her: "Bingo!"

RUBY (CONT'D)
Uh, I don't know where you're going
with this, Mr. Goodell.
(beat)
But I like it.

INT. HOUSE (INDIAN CREEK, FL) - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Exclusive residence of Shula and his wife MARY ANNE (68).
They SLEEP. Phone at her end table RINGS. She STIRS,
GROGGY, turns ON her table LAMP, grabs the receiver.

MARY ANNE SHULA (ON PHONE)
Hello?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She listens to the WALLA, then ROUSES Shula.

MARY ANNE SHULA (CONT'D)
Coach. It's David.

Confusion crosses his face as he takes the phone.

SHULA (ON PHONE)
David? What's wrong?

He tries to makes sense of the WALLA. He looks at a CLOCK on a wall: 2:30 AM. Now, he's really discombobulated.

SHULA (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)
It's two-thirty in the morning, David.
Nobody mows their lawn at two-thirty in the morning!... All right, all right...
I'll be right there!

He hands her the receiver. She HANGS UP as he gets OUT of bed, puts slippers on, stands/wraps a robe around himself.

MRS. SHULA
I should call the police, Coach.

SHULA
Don't bother, dear. He's probably sleepwalking again. I'll be back soon.

He leaves.

EXT. HOUSE (COOPER CITY, FL) - LATER

Upper middle-class. Luxury CAR PULLS UP/STOPS. Shula - in his slippers, PJ's, and robe - gets out/closes door.

EXT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Shula walks up, KNOCKS on the door. No response.

SHULA
David? David? It's me, Coach.

He turns the knob to find it unlocked.

INT. HOUSE - ENTRY - CONTINUOUS

Shula OPENS the door cautiously, enters.

SHULA
David? David?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He is HIT from BEHIND, goes DOWN. SCREEN GOES BLACK.

YOUNG MAN'S VOICE
Coach?... Coach?

FADE UP INTO:

EXT. DOCK - EARLY MORNING

FOG. Shula COMES TO to find himself in a JACKET and SWEAT PANTS he doesn't recognize, and a YOUNG MAN, in the SAME jacket and sweat pants, hovering OVER him.

SHULA
You're not David.

YOUNG MAN
Who's David?

SHULA
My son.

He now looks hard at the Young Man.

SHULA (CONT'D)
Either I am having the mother of all nightmares, or you're Tim Tebow.

Indeed. TIM TEBOW gets HYPER, which is what happens when he is happy/excited, which is most of the time.

TEBOW
I can't believe you know me!

SHULA
Even microbes on Mars know you.

TEBOW
There are microbes on Mars?

Shula rolls his eyes.

TEBOW (CONT'D)
Can you stand up, Coach?

Shula nods. Tebow helps him stand. Groggy, Shula rubs the back of his head.

TEBOW (CONT'D)
One minute, I was at a prayer meeting, and the next minute, I'm here.

SHULA
Where's here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They look around:

THE TIRAC RIVER and THE TIRAC BRIDGE lord over them.

To their LEFT, two massive STONE WALLS - one running NORTH along the river, the other running WEST - meet at a corner (PALACE OF THE SOVEREIGN).

They look in front of them, and, as if on cue...

AHEAD of them is what looks like a GINGERBREAD HOUSE.

MUFFLED MUSIC UP: "John Carroll University Fight Song" by VAUGHN MONROE AND HIS ORCHESTRA.

The FOG PARTS enough to REVEAL large DUFFEL BAGS around them. Shula smiles, recognizing the music.

SHULA (CONT'D)
It's the fight song of my Alma Mater,
John Carroll!

He and Tebow ZIP OPEN/DIG through the bags.

SHULA (CONT'D)
(SINGS)
"Onward, on John Carroll, for we're
here to see you win, gold and blue.
Onward, on John Carroll, onto greater
goals and vict'ries new. Onward, on
John Carroll, for our faith in you is
boundless and true. Dear Alma Mater,
we're all for you. And for the gold
and blue!"

MUSIC ENDS, much to his disappointment. After more digging, Shula finds a FOOTBALL UMPIRE DOLL; it TALKS:

UMPIRE DOLL (MALE VOICE)
Good morning, Coach. You are in the
Kingdom of Mentonia, home of the new
NFL Europe franchise, the Mentonian
Marauders. The duffel bags sent with
you contain souvenir items designed to
promote the team to the populous.
(beat)
By now, you have become acquainted with
your starting quarterback, Tim Tebow.

Tebow pumps a fist, jubilant. Shula wants to deck him.

UMPIRE DOLL (CONT'D)
Your mission, should you choose to
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

UMPIRE DOLL (CONT'D)
 accept it - Ha! As if you have a
 choice! - is to prepare the Marauders
 for its inaugural season.

(beat)
 Should you or any member of your team
 be caught or killed or contribute to
 the delinquency of a farm animal, the
 Commissioner will disavow all knowledge
 of your activities.

(beat)
 This umpire will self-destruct in five
 seconds. Good luck, Coach.

Shula TOSSES it. It EXPLODES. Pause as he and Tebow try to
 get their minds around their predicament.

SHULA
 "Caught"? "Killed"? "Contribute to
 the delinquency of a farm animal"?
 What the hell kind of place is this?!

Just then, each feels SOMETHING tap him on the head. They
 look up, then at each other.

EXT. BORDER CHECKPOINT - MINUTES LATER

Shula and Tebow lug the duffel bags through SNOW DRIFTS to
 the "Gingerbread House", where they encounter WRITTEN SIGNS
 on its windows and doors: "Pancake Day. Please use Kiosk".
 They share a confused LOOK.

EXT. BORDER CHECKPOINT - KIOSK - MOMENTS LATER

KIOSK with a mind-numbing 92 PUSH-BUTTON KEYS. Shula and
 Tebow try to figure out how it works when suddenly...

KIOSK (MALE VOICE)
 Hey, there! Welcome to the Kingdom of
 Mentonia! Land of the people with the
 perfect reputation!
 (in Adyghe)
 For Adyghe, press one.
 (in Albanian)
 For Albanian, press two.
 (in Aragonese)
 For Aragonese, press three.
 (in Armenian)
 For Armenian, press four.
 (in Aromanian)
 For Aromanian, press five.
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIOSK (CONT'D)

(in Avar)
 For Avar, press six.
 (in Azerbaijani)
 For Azerbaijani, press seven.

SHULA

English! How do you get English?!

KIOSK

(in Arpitan)
 For Arpitan, press eight.
 (in Asturian)
 For Asturian, press nine.
 (in Bashkir)
 For Bashkir, press ten.
 (in Basque)
 For Basque, press eleven.
 (in Belarusian)
 For Belarusian, press twelve.
 (in Bosnian)
 For Bosnian, press thirteen.
 (in Breton)
 For Breton, press fourteen.
 (in Bulgarian)
 For Bulgarian, press fifteen.
 (in Catalan)
 For Catalan, press sixteen.
 (in Celtic)
 For Celtic, press seventeen.
 (in Chechen)
 For Chechen, press eighteen.
 (in Chuvash)
 For Chuvash, press nineteen.
 (in Cornish)
 For Cornish, press twenty.
 (in Corsican)
 For Corsican, press twenty-one.
 (in Crimean Tatar)
 For Crimean Tatar, press twenty-two.
 (in Croatian)
 For Croatian, press twenty-three.
 (in Czech)
 For Czech, press twenty-four.
 (in Danish)
 For Danish, press twenty-five.
 (in German)
 For German, press twenty-six.
 (in Dutch)
 For Dutch, press twenty-seven.

Shula and Tebow are losing it. Finally...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIOSK (CONT'D)
For English, press twenty-eight.

SHULA
About damn time!

Shula PRESSES the "28" KEY, and... NOTHING.

KIOSK
(in Spanish)
For Spanish, press twenty-nine.
(in Estonian)
For Estonian, press thirty.
(in Erzya)
For Erzya, press thirty-one.
(in Faroese)
For Faroese, press thirty-two.
(in Finnish)
For Finnish, press thirty-three.
(in French)
For French, press thirty-four.
(in Frisian)
For Frisian, press thirty-five.
(in Gaelic)
For Gaelic, press thirty-six.
(in Gaguz)
For Gaguz, press thirty-seven.
(in Galician)
For Galician, press thirty-eight.
(in Gallo)
For Gallo, press thirty-nine.
(in Georgian)
For Georgian, press forty.
(in Greek)
For Greek, press forty-one.

All through this, Shula and Tebow have been BANGING on it frantically. An OPTION then catches Shula's ear.

SHULA
Hungarian! It just said press forty-two for Hungarian!

Shula PRESSES the "42" KEY. Incredibly, it STOPS.

KIOSK
(in Hungarian)
You have selected...
(beat; in English)
English.

Shula and Tebow are exasperated.

EXT. RISACCI - MAIN STREET - LATER

Earthy Italian meets The Brothers Grimm. Shula and Tebow walk, still lugging the duffel bags.

PASSERS-BY stare at these strangers in their strange land. Tebow waves at them to assure them that he and Shula are "friendlies"; they wave back.

SHULA

My father was from Hungary. He changed his last name from "Sule", S-u-l-e, to "Shula". He thought it sounded more-American.

TEBOW

Our name was originally "Tibout", T-i-b-o-u-t. We're Walloons from Bruges.

SHULA

Wha-what?

TEBOW

Walloons. French-speaking Protestant Belgians who were persecuted by the Dutch-speaking Catholic Belgians.

SHULA

Naturally.

He notices Tebow's anxiety has been replaced with his the-glass-is-always-half-full disposition.

SHULA (CONT'D)

What are you so happy about?

TEBOW

I'm first on the depth chart!

SHULA

You're the only one on the depth chart!

He then stops walking. Tebow stops.

SHULA (CONT'D)

Wait. We don't have to recruit players. We don't have to put a team together. We don't have to do jack!

He looks up as if to rail at the football gods.

SHULA (CONT'D)

You hear me, Goodell?! We don't have to do jack!

EXT./EST. UNITED STATES EMBASSY (RISACCI) - LATER

An armed GUARD allows Shula and Tebow to enter, both still lugging the duffel bags.

INT. UNITED STATES EMBASSY - MAIN LOBBY - MINUTES LATER

Decadent. Shula and Tebow walk up to a desk manned by a snooty BUREAUCRAT (30s).

BUREAUCRAT
Let me take a wild guess.

He points AT Shula.

BUREAUCRAT (CONT'D)
You're Don Shula.

He points AT Tebow.

BUREAUCRAT (CONT'D)
And you're Tim Tebow.
(beat)
And, let me take another wild guess,
you want to go home. Sorry, no can do.

They look at him: "Huh"?

BUREAUCRAT (CONT'D)
As you may know, the Commissioner's
brother is queer. And, as you may also
know, the President is a big supporter
of our rights.

SHULA
What "rights"?

BUREAUCRAT
The right to marry, for one!

SHULA
Since when is marriage a right?!

Tebow SIGNALS a halt before it gets too-heated.

TEBOW
So... let me get this "straight".

He and Shula CHUCKLE. The Bureaucrat is not amused.

TEBOW (CONT'D)
The Commissioner made this big
contribution to the President's re-
election campaign. And the President
is now returning the favor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

His SMIRK confirms Tebow's theory. Tebow suddenly LUNGES at him with righteous FURY. The Bureaucrat SHRIEKS.

BUREAUCRAT
 Help! Help! Get off of me, you
 goddamn Jesus freak!

INT. UNITED STATES EMBASSY - HOLDING CELL - LATER

A dazed Shula and Tebow sit up against a wall.

SHULA
 I'm proud of you, son. You've just
 earned yourself a twenty year stretch
 at Leavenworth. But I'm proud of you
 just the same.

TEBOW
 Thanks, Coach.
 (long beat)
 What's Leavenworth?

SHULA
 It's a federal prison in Kansas.

Tebow doesn't get it.

SHULA (CONT'D)
 That fruit is a government employee.

Five... four... three... two... one.

TEBOW
 Oh.
 (beat)
 Well, at least it's not in Colorado. I
 don't ever want to go back to Colorado.
 (suddenly upbeat)
 Hey! My brother lives in Colorado!

SHULA
 How many siblings have you got?

TEBOW
 Two brothers and two sisters.

SHULA
 I'm the fourth of seven: Irene; Joseph
 and Josephine, the twins; me; Jane,
 Jeannette, and James, the triplets.
 Josephine died before I was born. The
 triplets came along when I was six.
 They were my first coaching job.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tebow chuckles.

SHULA (CONT'D)

Dorothy, David's mother, had our five kids in the first six years of our married life. I changed jobs four times in those six years. I couldn't have accomplished or stayed in the profession as long as I did if I didn't have the strength she gave me.

(beat)

She passed, and I lost it. Then, I really went nuts. That's when I met Mary Anne. Great gal. She calls me "Coach". Come to think of it, she never calls me anything else. Not "Don" or "Donald" or "The Donald".

Suddenly, the FLOOR SHAKES with an ominous RUMBLE. They share an anxious LOOK. The WALL to their EAST is KNOCKED DOWN. DJOKOVIC, in RIOT GEAR, steps into the cell.

INT. PALACE OF THE SOVEREIGN - GRAND ENTRY - LATER

Djokovic and the PALADIN escort a freaked-out Shula and Tebow. Waiting for them are ANNE and GEORG.

ANNE

Your visas.

The TONE of her voice makes them nervous. They hand her their ENTRY VISAS. She examines them.

ANNE (CONT'D)

These are counterfeit. Where did you get these?

TEBOW

Th-they were in the bag.

She MOTIONS to the Paladin. They UNZIP the bags, shake the CONTENTS out, turn the bags inside-out, examine them.

A PAGE hands her a piece of paper. She reads it.

ANNE

Half-meter of snowfall by noon. Good, me and the pups get in some sledding.

Djokovic picks up a JERSEY.

DJOKOVIC

An American football jersey, Ma'am.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The very word "football" gets Shula and Tebow pumped.

SHULA
America's game!

TEBOW
God's game!

She purses her lips in disapproval. Georg hands her two envelopes. She hands them each an envelope.

ANNE
Your tickets and exit visas.
Mr. Djokovic will escort you to the
rail depot. From there, you may return
home.

TEBOW
The embassy! It-it was --

ANNE
Your Department of State violated the
terms of its agreement with the Crown,
so I ordered the property confiscated.
(beat)
Now, if you will excuse me, gentlemen,
your Secretary of State is threatening
to hold his breath until he turns blue
in the face.

She turns away.

SHULA
Wait!

She turns back to them.

SHULA (CONT'D)
Who are you?

GEORG
By the Grace of God, Her Most Gracious
Majesty, Anne, Sovereign of The Kingdom
of Mentonia, Grande Duchesse of Pathé,
Storfustinna of Bårgen, Velika Kneginja
of Duklja, Granduchessa of Risacci,
Defender of the Faith, Guardian of the
Realm, you get the idea.

She leaves, leaving them in shock... and awe.

EXT. DE TREIN DEPOT VAN PATHÉ - LATER

EMPTY. SNOWFALL CONTINUES. Shula and Tebow, minus the duffel bags, notice the STATUE of Jean-Guy Baillargeon.

TEBOW

Hey, his middle name is "Tibout"!

Shula could care less.

INT. DE TREIN DEPOT PATHÉ - MINUTES LATER

CROWDED. Shula and Tebow find PEOPLE seated at rows of set TABLES. By now, nothing about this place surprises them. Tebow gets the attention of a MAN (60s) in a "DE TROUWE KONINKLIJK ORDE VAN HET SPOOR" UNIFORM.

TEBOW

Pardon me, sir, do you speak English?

DE TROUWE MAN

(Swedish accent)

I do.

TEBOW

When is the next train?

DE TROUWE MAN

No trains today. Pancake day.

Before they can react, he escorts them to two SEATS at the table. DOZENS of WAITRESSES carrying plates stacked with PANCAKES emerge to the DELIGHT of the PEOPLE at the tables.

A stack of pancakes LAND on Tebow's and Shula's plates. Shula picks up his fork, cuts into them, eats.

SHULA

These are fantastic!

Tebow picks up his fork, digs in, nods/HUMS. The Man gives each a SACK of CODDLE MILK PANCAKE MIX as a WAITRESS POURS COFFEE into their mugs. They nod their thanks.

INT. DE TREIN DEPOT VAN PATHÉ - LATER

Shula and Tebow, having polished off 3 PLATES of pancakes and 3 MUGS of coffee each, are beyond stuffed. They notice the people at the the other tables PAYING their WAITRESSES. Shula hails the De Trouwe Man.

SHULA

How much do we owe?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DE TROUWE MAN
Nine kronkites each.

WAITRESS
(Swedish accent;
exaggerates)
Cheap.

SHULA
Will you accept American money?

They nod. Shula and Tebow reach into their pants' pockets.
A sickening LOOK then cross their faces.

INT. CONSTABULARY - JAIL CELL - LATER

Shula and Tebow sit on a cot, resigned.

SHULA
Two trips to the pokey in an hour.
That has to be some kind of record.

Tebow nods sadly. NOISE O.S. They look to their left.
Another sickening LOOK cross their faces.

INT. PALACE OF THE SOVEREIGN - GRAND ENTRY - LATER

Djokovic again escorts Shula and Tebow. Again, Anne and Georg are waiting for them.

ANNE
Gentlemen, my apologies. I forgot
Pancake Day was today.

SHULA
No apology needed, Your Majesty. Those
pancakes were worth it.

Everyone smiles/nods. Pause.

ANNE
We will allow you to contact your
families. Have them send by wire
eleven dollars, American, each, plus
fifteen percent gratuity, to De Trouwe
Koninklijk Orde van Het Spoor.

SHULA
The what, the what, the what, the what,
the what?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TEBOW
 "The Loyal Royal Order of the Rail".
 It's Dutch.

Shula is flabbergasted Tebow would know that.

A PAGE hands her two sheets of paper on "De Trouwe Koninklijk Orde van Het Spoor" LETTERHEAD as Tebow raises his hand as if he's in class. She points AT him.

TEBOW (CONT'D)
 Your Majesty, Ma'am? There's a statue of a man at the train station. His middle name is "Tibout". Was he a Walloon from Bruges?

ANNE
 No, he was a Fleming from Dendermonde, and my fifth great-grandfather. But his mother was a Walloon from Bruges.

TEBOW
 Would you know what her name was?

ANNE
 Yes. Catharina Tibout.

TEBOW
 Oh, my God! Oh... my... God!
 (beat)
 Catharina Tibout was the great-great-great-great-great-grand-daughter of Jacobus Tibout, the brother of my great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather, Jan Tibout! Do you know what that means, Your Majesty, Ma'am? We're eleventh cousins, once removed!

She looks at Shula.

ANNE
 Is he on drugs?

Shula gives a sheepish, exaggerated SHRUG.

INT. PALACE OF THE SOVEREIGN - HALL - MINUTES LATER

Shula and Tebow are each at a PAY PHONE, each hold the sheet of paper with the "De Trouwe Koninklijk" letterhead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. SHULA RESIDENCE - DEN - MINUTES LATER - EVENING

CLOCK: 5:30 PM. Mary Anne is surrounded by Shula's children - DAVID (55), DONNA (53), SHARON (52), ANNE (50), and MIKE (49) - their SPOUSES and CHILDREN. Each has a SMARTPHONE.

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
 Goodell's goons took everything: our money, our cell phones. They even took my Costco senior discount card! We would still be in the pokey had Her Majesty not allowed us to post IOU's!

INT. TEBOW FARM (JACKSONVILLE, FL) - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

In their modest God-fearing abode, an ecstatic PAM (65) and BOB TEBOW (67) sit at a table with a phone ON SPEAKER MODE surrounded by their children - CHRISTY (38), KATIE (36), ROBBY (33), and PETER (31) - their SPOUSES and CHILDREN. Everyone has SMARTPHONES except Bob and Pam.

TEBOW (OVER PHONE)
 Me and Christy and Katie and Robby and Peter and Her Majesty are eleventh cousins, once removed!
 (beat; bummed)
 She thinks I'm on drugs.

INT. SHULA RESIDENCE - DEN - CONTINUOUS

As Shula TALKS, the kids and grand-kids crunch the numbers on their smartphones.

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
 We take the train to Anže, Kopitar.

MIKE SHULA
 Wait, Coach. "Anže Kopitar"? Isn't that the hockey player?

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
 No, it's the capital of Mentonia's neighbor.

(beat)
 Then we fly to Frankfurt. Then from Frankfurt to Atlanta. From there, Tebow flies to Jacksonville, and I take the first plane to Miami.

DONNA/ANNE SHULA
 Coach, that's eight-thousand, four-hundred and seventy miles!

INT. TEBOW FARM - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Tebow's siblings are doing likewise on their smartphones.

PETER/CHRISTY/KATIE TEBOW
Timmy, that's eight-thousand, one-
hundred and twenty-four miles!

INT. SHULA RESIDENCE - DEN - CONTINUOUS

Everyone betrays concern.

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
Have you heard from David?

DAVID SHULA
I'm here, Coach.

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
David! Where the hell were you?!

DAVID SHULA
In Apopka for the Shula Burger launch.

SHULA (OVER MARY ANNE'S SMARTPHONE)
Oh, jeeze, that's right! My bad!
(beat)
I want you to contact Ólaf Ólafsson at
De Trouwe Koninklijk Orde van Het
Spoor, and secure exclusive rights to
those pancakes! We're going to kick
those sons-of-bitches Denny's and I-HOP
and Chuck Wagon and The Original
Pancake House right in the crotch!

INT. TEBOW FARM - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Everyone also betrays concern.

BOB TEBOW (ON PHONE)
The what, the what, the what, the what,
the what, Tim?

TEBOW GRANDCHILD #1
"The Loyal Royal Order of the Rail",
Grandpa.

TEBOW GRANDCHILD #2
It's Dutch.

Bob looks at them, flabbergasted.

INSERT: OPENING for the ESPN2 show "FIRST TAKE".

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. ESPN (BRISTOL, CT) - TV STUDIO - DAY

"FIRST TAKE". SKIP BAYLESS and STEPHEN A. SMITH sit at a table, the *First Take* LOGO on a SCREEN behind them.

BAYLESS

If half - half! - of what Mrs. Shula says Coach told her is true, Roger Goodell is in big, big trouble!

SMITH

The Executive Committee may as well sign it all over to them right now, because, as you say, if half of this account is accurate, Don Shula and Tim Tebow are going to wind up owning the National Football League!

INT. NFL - PRESS ROOM - DAY

A smug Goodell stands at the podium before a sea of MEDIA.

GOODELL

I, more than anyone, appreciate what Coach Shula has done for our sport, and has meant to our sport. But, come on! How old is he now, a hundred-fifty?

REPORTER #1

So, Commissioner, you disavow all knowledge of Coach Shula's and Tim Tebow's activities in Mentonia.

GOODELL

That is correct.

REPORTER #2

So, there was no deal to keep Coach Shula and Tim Tebow in Mentonia until the end of the Marauders's first season?

GOODELL

That is also correct.

REPORTER #3

So, what is your reaction to Queen Anne refusing to allow the League to launch NFL Europe in Mentonia?

GOODELL

The bitch! Who the hell does she think she is?!

GASPS. Goodell just stepped in it, stepped in it good.

EXT. AIRPORT (ANŽE, KOPITAR) - DAY

What July is supposed to be: sunny and hot and not a spec of snow to be seen.

Shula carries a sack of Coddle Milk Pancake Mix as he tries to make his way inside while surrounded by the MEDIA.

SHULA

Tim has asked Her Majesty to marry him.
They're planning a June wedding.

EXT./EST. TEBOW FARM - DAY

Straight out of Norman Rockwell.

ROBBY TEBOW (PRE-LAP)

But she's more Catholic than the Pope!

INT. TEBOW FARM - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Robby, Bob, and Pam huddle around the phone on the table ON SPEAKER MODE.

BOB TEBOW

Robby, nobody cares about that kind of thing anymore!

Pam pushes the speaker mode button OFF.

PAM TEBOW

Now, we all know Timmy is a little touched in the head; that's what playing football will do to you. But he is a grown man, capable of making his own decisions.

She and Bob look at each other.

PAM TEBOW (CONT'D)

We're going to have royal grand-babies!

He pumps his fists as she SHRIEKS with delight. Robby throws up his hands in defeat.

INT. PALACE OF THE SOVEREIGN - DINING HALL - DAY

Anne and Tebow sit at opposite ends of a table, eating, attended to by FOOTMEN under Georg's direction. She feeds her two DOGS, standard-issue mutts, food off her plate.

There is something there. But she'd rather slit her throat than admit she's half as sweet on him as he is on her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TEBOW

Uh, Your Majesty, Ma'am? Would you please pass the salt?

She reaches for the salt shaker, then stops. She GESTURES to a Footman, who takes it, goes to Tebow, sets it down before him. He nods his thanks. Georg approaches her.

GEORG

Your Majesty, General Nieuwendyk.

She nods. JOSEF NIEUWENDYK comes to her, bows.

NIEUWENDYK

Your Majesty, you are not going to believe what those touchy-feely pansies are up to now! If I may?

She nods. He grabs the TV remote off the table, points it at the FLAT-SCREEN TV on the wall. TV turns ON. ON the SCREEN is a SPOKESPERSON at the WHITE HOUSE PRESS ROOM.

WHITE HOUSE SPOKESPERSON (ON TV)

The president is considering all options, including military action.

Anne and Nieuwendyk burst out LAUGHING. A confused Tebow begins to freak.

She stands, and confronts the TV.

ANNE

You think you can take us on, you arrogant, incompetent ass?! Bring it! We will kick your arrogant, incompetent ass back to Kenya!

Georg leans over to a now-scared shit-less Tebow.

GEORG

You did not hear that.

Tebow shakes his head quickly.

INT. COMEDY CENTRAL (NEW YORK CITY) - TV STUDIO - DAY

"The DAILY SHOW". JON STEWART sits behind a desk, a PICTURE of Anne ON the SCREEN behind him.

STEWART

It's official, Mentonia! Your ruler is bat-shit crazy!

The audience LAUGHS/WHOOPS it up.

INT. WNET (NEWARK, NJ) - TV STUDIO - DAY

"CHARLIE ROSE". CHARLIE ROSE interviews CONDOLEEZZA RICE.

ROSE
Madame Secretary, what just happened?

She cracks a small smile.

RICE
What just happened, Charlie, is that the ruler of a country the size of Delaware has called the bluff of the most powerful man in the world, forcing him not merely into a defensive posture, but even daring us to invade, knowing full-well that we won't. Brilliance. Sheer brilliance.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SHULA RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Shula sits at the table, surfing the web on his TABLET.

SHULA
There really is a place called Mentonia.

He notices Mary Anne enter.

SHULA (CONT'D)
The dream I had last night, honey, it was, as the grand-kids would say, "off the hook".

MARY ANNE SHULA
You can tell me about it on the way to Marky's if you want to come with.

EXT. DELICOMB COFFEE SHOP (JACKSONVILLE) - LATER

Tebow enters as De Trouwe Man and the Waitress leave -- only it isn't them.

TEBOW
Mr. and Mrs. Ólafsson! How are you?

ÓLAFSSON
(Swedish accent)
Hello, Tim!

TEBOW
I had the craziest dream last night. And y'all were in it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MRS. ÓLAFSSON
(Swedish accent)
What was it about?

TEBOW
(a laugh)
Don't get me started!

INT. MARKY'S GOURMET STORE (MIAMI) - LATER

Shula finds himself in the International Food aisle. He then sees SOMETHING that throws him for a loop.

INT. DELICOMB - CONTINUOUS

PATRONS recognize Tebow - who has also just been thrown for a loop as he notices a DISPLAY - but none approach him.

He reaches out to the display, and grabs... a SACK of CODDLE MILK PANCAKE MIX!

EXT. MARKY'S GOURMET STORE - PARKING LOT - LATER

Shula and Mary Anne are APPROACHED by REPORTERS as they walk to their car. A BAG BOY pushes their groceries in a cart. In the cart with the rest of the groceries is a SACK of CODDLE MILK PANCAKE MIX.

REPORTERS
Coach? May we have a comment?

SHULA
A comment? About what?

INT. DELICOMB - CONTINUOUS

Tebow - a sack of Coddle Milk Pancake Mix on his tray - notices ON the TV above him: CHRIS BERMAN of ESPN at a desk, a "BREAKING NEWS" CRAWL on the TV screen. ON the SCREEN behind Berman is a PICTURE of Goodell and VIDEO of the Bureaucrat displaying a MEMO on "United States Department of State" LETTERHEAD to the MEDIA.

BERMAN (ON TV)
Secretary of State John Kerry and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell have both resigned in the wake of revelations made by an attaché with the American Consulate in the Eastern European
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BERMAN (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 country of Mentonia that the State
 Department and the National Football
 League cut a secret deal to
 (disbelief)
 are you sitting down?!

INT. AT&T STADIUM (ARLINGTON, TX) - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS
 Home of the Dallas Cowboys. Jones talks to REPORTERS.

JONES
 I always said he was bat-shit crazy!

INT. SUV (MOVING)/EXT. FLORIDA STATE ROAD 934 - CONTINUOUS
 Shula sits next to Mary Anne, who DRIVES.

He watches his tablet while wearing a headset. He tips it
 toward her so she can SEE Anne SPEAKING IN the PALACE THRONE
 ROOM. She takes a quick glance.

MARY ANNE SHULA
 Why, she's just a child.

Long pause as he listens to Anne.

SHULA
 She's throwing us out of the country.
 (pause)
 And she's moving De Trouwe Koninklijk
 Orde van Het Spoor into our embassy.

MARY ANNE SHULA
 The what, the what, the what, the what,
 the what?

SHULA
 "The Loyal Royal Order of the Rail".
 It's Dutch.
 (quickly)
 Don't ask me how I know that.

INT. DELICOMB - CONTINUOUS

Tebow watches Anne ON the TV, a goofy smile on his face.

SFX: T-MOBILE RING TONE

He reaches into a pants pocket, pulls out his CELL PHONE,
 flips it OPEN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INSERT: CELL PHONE SCREEN: "Jimmy Sexton. Agent".

BACK TO SCENE

TEBOW (ON CELL PHONE)
Hey, Jimmy. What's up?

SEXTON (OVER CELL PHONE)
(crazed)
Timmy! The press is all over me like
stink-on-stink for a comment about this
NFL-State Department thing!

TEBOW (ON CELL PHONE)
Jimmy... I'm in love.

SEXTON (OVER CELL PHONE)
What?!

He CLOSES the phone. Memorized by Anne, he CHORTLES like a
giddy school boy.

FADE OUT.

END.