

**BATTLE OF THE BANDS**

Episode 1  
"The Pigeons: Part 1"

by  
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COLD OPEN

1 INT. STADIUM - NIGHT

1

In a distant packed stadium thousands of people scream as the show begins . . .

A BAND burst into a driving punk song as the lights come up.

As the song reaches the chorus, something strange starts to happen. Wind starts mysteriously generating in a circular pattern around the stage and the band. Instruments start glowing.

On the other side of the stadium a SECOND BAND is playing the same song in unison generating energy in the same fashion.

Singer #2 is singing the second verse along side Singer #1. In fact, both bands are playing the same song at the same time, trying to be the first to generate enough energy to attack.

Right when the second chorus hit the two vortexes creating from both band's music collide and form a super storm surrounding both of them.

From here the entire stadium can be seen. The floor of the stadium is mostly empty except for the two stages which are strategically placed on opposite sides of the floor; with a small ocean of concrete separating the two. The Stages are elevated about ten feet of the ground with a series of small wooden pillars holding them up.

The stalemate rages on until they reaches the bridge.

Band #1 begin repositioning themselves to prepare for their attack. Singer #1 and Bassist #1 walk over to opposite sides of the front of the stage while Guitarist #1 hangs towards the back of the middle, right in front of the drums.

Suddenly Bassist #1 and Singer #1 simultaneously begin running to the right of the stage and make a flinging motion with their respective instruments, redirecting the vortex. The wave created by their motions meet in the middle and send Band #2's blast flying high in the air.

Band #2 is sent stumbling around the stage, their energy is gone.

Right as the maneuver kicks in, Guitarist #1 takes a running start towards the front of the stage. He launches himself into the air and begins his guitar solo.

Guitarist #1 lands on the concrete sea and begins making his run to the opponent's stage. Every note of the solo is represented by a blue firework materializing a foot in front

of him and firing out. The sparks span the rest of the concrete and take potshots on the pillars. The structure of the stage begins folding in on itself. All while Band #2 tries to pull themselves together and start playing again.

But it was all for naught. As the final note of the song rings out, Guitar #1 stops about twenty feet away from the stage and lets out one more sparks. It flies through the air and takes out the last pillar that could hold the whole thing together.

The entire stage comes down in a giant puff of the smoke and the crowd goes WILD. Guitarist #1 slowly turns around to face his band and he puts his hands into the air in celebration.

CUT TO:

2 INT. CLASSROOM #1 - DAY

2

In a school in BISBEE, ARIZONA, GUS, 16, average height and build, is watching the video of the battle on his phone while all his classmate loiter before school starts. Gus slams his fist on the table.

GUS

Yes!

TEACHER #1 enters the classroom. She is clearly not amused by these shenanigans.

TEACHER #1

Alright class, put your toys away and take your seats. That includes you too, Gus.

Gus doesn't respond.

TEACHER #1 (CONT'D)

Gus.

Nothing. The Teacher folds their arms.

TEACHER #1 (CONT'D)

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

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

3 INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

3

The school's GUIDANCE COUNCILOR sits at a desk pouring over a file while, MIKEY, 18, tall and lean, sits nervous yet quiet.

COUNCILOR

Alright Mikey, it looks like you have everything you need to graduate. Have you picked a college yet?

MIKEY

Not yet, I'm not sure what I want to do. My brother and I are trying to get into the Summer Battle League. If we do I guess I'll just do that.

COUNCILOR

You mean that nonsense where people fight each other with guitars?

MIKEY

Yes, that.

COUNCILOR

Michael, I'm not going to tell you what dreams to have or pursue, but as your councilor I would like you to know that there's nothing wrong with having a fall back plan.

The Councilor pulls out a pamphlet from her desk and slides it over to Mikey.

MIKEY

Thank you. And with all due respect, it's something my brother and I take very seriously.

The Councilor looks over Mikey's shoulder.

COUNCILOR

I can see that.

Mikey turns around to see Gus walking out of the Principal's office with a citation note.

Mikey stands up.

MIKEY

Thank you!

Mikey grabs the pamphlet and quickly exits.

CUT TO:

4 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

4

Gus walks down the hallway. Mikey chases him down.

MIKEY

Gus!

Gus looks back at Mikey. The two continue walking together.

MIKEY (CONT'D)

Were you watching battles on your phone again?

GUS

You know I did.

MIKEY

And you know that if you fail any class you get sent straight to summer school. And we can't go and battle if-

GUS

-If I'm stuck in summer school. But bro you should've seen the battle. Taking the Helm and Bearizona were doing a vortex formation trying to knock each other out when Bearizona redirects it to throw Taking the Helm off balance and send their guitarist in for the kill. That's something we have to try in the Summer League.

MIKEY

Yeah that's if we even get in.

GUS

We will, we just need to get Mom to give us the van to drive to Phoenix.

MIKEY

And a car to get us around after we get in and a manager to sponsor us. Plus we don't even have a singer.

GUS

I thought I was going to be singer.

MIKEY

You can barely play guitar let alone sing at the same time.

The brothers stop outside of Gus' classroom.

MIKEY (CONT'D)

This is going to be harder than you think.

GUS  
We'll talk about it with Abby at  
practice.

Gus walks to his classroom door.

GUS (CONT'D)  
Don't worry Mikey, we just need to  
have a plan B.

Gus exits. Mikey looks down at the pamphlet in his hand and  
reads the title, "College: is it right for you?"

MIKEY  
Yeah, plan B.

CUT TO:

5 INT. CLASSROOM #2 - CONTINUOUS

5

"Intro to Spanish" is scrawled on the blackboard.

Sitting in the back is ABBY (15) wearing a giant pair of  
headphones over her trucker hat and taping out a beat on a  
practice drum pad.

She starts out playing along to the song perfectly but  
quickly throws in her own flourishes and combinations. Her  
drumming gets more and more energetic to the point that she  
starts generating energy.

A small vortex of wind begins forming around her. Soft and  
small at first but then starts spreading out and gaining  
energy. Her gusts of wind begin gaining the attention of her  
classmates.

MR. HERNANDEZ enters followed by HANK, 16, average height and  
thin.

MR. HERNANDEZ  
Buenas tardes class! Today we-  
ABIGAIL! Calmarse usted diminuta  
niña espástica!

Abby looks up to see the entire class staring at her angrily.

ABBY  
Sorry Señor Hernandez!

Abby puts her things away while Mrs. Hernandez speaks.

MR. HERNANDEZ  
As I was saying, we have a new  
student joining us today. Everyone  
say hello to Hansk!

ENTIRE CLASS

Hola Hank!

MR. HERNANDEZ

Hank why don't you tell the class something about yourself?

Hank steps forward.

HANK

(nervous)  
Hi, I'm Hank. I'm from New York, I turned sixteen last week, I like telling jokes and uhhhh, I do impressions.

STUDENT #1

Do an impression!

STUDENT #2 (CONT'D)

Yeah do one of Mrs. Hernandez!

The rest of the class echoes in agreement.

MR. HERNANDEZ

Hank buddy you don't have to if you-

HANK

(in Mr. Hernandez' voice)  
ABIGAIL! Calmarse usted diminuta niña espástica!

The entire class bursts out laughing. Mrs. Hernandez is visibly embarrassed.

MR. HERNANDEZ

Alright thank you for sharing that with us Hank, why don't you take a seat.

Hank walks to the only empty seat in the room right next to Abby.

ABBY

Hi I'm Abby!

HANK

Hi . . .

MR. HERNANDEZ

Alright class, we're going to review future tense verbs. Which are things that are going to happen.

CUT TO:

## ACT TWO

6 EXT. ROAD - DAY

6

An old TOURING BUS drives through the town belching out black smoke, making all kinds of noises that would signal mechanical failure yet it chugs along.

Gus and Mikey stand at a crosswalk holding guitar cases, waiting for the walk sign to appear.

GUS

What if we got Abby to sit on your shoulders and we covered you with a big trench coat?

MIKEY

I don't think looking taller is the problem, we need someone to represent us at the battle, not just sign us up.

The walk light appears. Gus and Mikey begin crossing the street. The Bus barrels down on the intersection ignoring the red light.

GUS

Not really, I did research. Managers don't really do anything, they just-

MIKEY

LOOK OUT!

Mikey grabs Gus and pulls him out of the way of the Bus, narrowly avoiding collision.

MIKEY (CONT'D)

Wow that was close! Gus, are you alright?

Gus stares at the Bus as it drives away.

MIKEY (CONT'D)

Gus?

GUS

I think I've seen that bus before.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. STORM DRAIN - AFTERNOON

7

Gus and Mikey walk down a dirt path to the storm drain, a giant concrete tunnel designed to divert water in the event



of a flood.

GUS

I'm telling you Mikey I swear I've seen that bus before.

MIKEY

There are a million buses like that, how can you be sure you've seen that one before!

GUS

I don't know, it's just a gut feeling.

Gus and Mikey enter the storm drain to find Abby warming up on an ancient, beat up drum kit.

MIKEY

You and your gut feelings.

Gus and Mikey pull out their instruments: a guitar and bass held together with duct tape and spit respectively.

MIKEY (CONT'D)

Hey Abby what's up?

ABBY

Nothing much, the funniest thing happened in Spanish today. This new kid came into class and did a perfect impression of Mr. Hernandez. It was so good I thought it actually was Hernandez.

GUS

(diverting)

That's cool, let's try me on vocals again.

Abby and Mikey groan.

GUS (CONT'D)

Oh what?

ABBY

You can barely play guitar let alone sing at the same time.

Mikey gives a smug smile to Gus.

GUS

I can do this guys, just give me a shot.

Mikey and Abby look at each other.

The band begins playing together, getting into a strong rhythm building up energy.

Gus steps up to the microphone, staring down a roughly assembled dummy with a target painted on it's chest.

GUS (CONT'D)  
(singing)  
SOMETIMES I-

BOOM!!!

Gus is thrown out of the storm drain into the open air landing flat on his back. He looks back at an up side down world and see the Bus from earlier driving by. He sees a SPARROW painted on the side.

GUS (CONT'D)  
I have seen that bus before.

Mikey steps out of the drain.

MIKEY  
(sarcastic)  
Wanna try again?

CUT TO:

8 INT. GUS AND MIKEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

8

Gus and Mikey sit at the dinner table with their parents, CLARITA, 45, and DANIEL, 45. Gus is looking at his phone under the table.

CLARITA  
So the Grandparents are coming in for your graduation party the morning of and your cousins are coming right before the party starts.

MIKEY  
(disinterested)  
Cool.

CLARITA  
Your Grandmother wanted to remind you how hard it is for them to come all the way from Mexico.

MIKEY  
Do you remind them that the border to Mexico is ten minutes away?

Gus' phone reaches a webpage titled, "American Battle League Archives".

DANIEL

Don't ever bring that up son, I learned that the hard way. Anyway have you picked which college you're going to? I hope it's cheap.

MIKEY

Not yet, but hey we got the summer to decide, right?

DANIEL

Hmm.

MIKEY

And speaking of the summer, (looks at Gus) we were hoping to talk about the Summer Battle League.

DANIEL

Oh, that.

MIKEY

Listen we just need a ride to Phoenix and for you to fill out the paperwork. Gus can tell you what to do it'll be easy.

Daniel and Clarita exchange glances.

DANIEL

Son, we're both very proud of you and your brother and thinks it's great that you have a hobby.

MIKEY

But?

CLARITA

We've seen what these battles are like and it's very dangerous.

MIKEY

They CAN be Mom, doesn't mean we WILL get hurt. Even if something does happen it'll be worth it just to have a chance at something. That's all we want, a chance.

Gus finds a web page with a picture of the bus he saw.

DANIEL

Alright son, that's fair. We won't stop you, but we won't help you. You're a man now so you'll have to find your own way.

MIKEY  
 (defeated)  
 Thanks Dad.

Gus stands up from the table.

GUS  
 I gotta go, study session with  
 Abby!

DANIEL  
 Seems fairly late for that.

GUS  
 Just playing it safe Dad, (looks at  
 Mikey) don't want to end up in  
 summer school.

Gus leaves.

GUS (CONT'D)  
 I'll be back before curfew!

CUT TO:

9 EXT. TRUCK STOP - NIGHT

9

Gus rolls into the quiet parking lot on his bike, a sea of parked semi trucks under sterile florescent lights.

Riding through the rows on the momentum of his bike Gus looks for the bus like it was a book in a library.

Gus makes it through the densest section of the parking lot with no Bus in sight. He looks back trying to see if there was something he missed when out of the corner of his eye he sees a light over a hill.

Gus pedals over to the source of the light.

10 EXT. HILL - CONTINUOUS

10

At the top of the hill Gus sees the Bus, the flickering light of a television leaking through the windows. A clothes line connected from the corner of the bus to a post in the ground waves in the gentle wind.

Steeling himself Gus rides down the hill approaches the door of the bus.

Gus raises a closed hand to knock the door when the door is kicked open by NATE, 40's, tall and burly, holding a laundry basket.

The two stand and stare for a moment.

NATE  
Aren't kids supposed to have a  
curfew?

GUS  
Not until 11.

NATE  
Oh, well good for you.

Nate steps past Gus and starts taking down laundry.

NATE (CONT'D)  
(disinterested)  
So what do you want-

GUS  
-Gus.

NATE  
What do you want Gus?

GUS  
I was wondering if you could give  
me and my friends a ride to  
Phoenix?

NATE  
Does this look like a passenger  
bus? Besides what would a bunch of  
twelve year olds-

GUS  
(defiant)  
-Sixteen.

NATE  
What?

GUS  
I'm sixteen. My brother is eighteen  
and our friend is fifteen.

NATE  
Alright fine, what do a bunch of  
teenagers with no car of their own  
have to do in Phoenix?

GUS  
Summer Battle League.

NATE  
Oh, I see. Well sorry kid I can't  
help you. Like I said I don't give  
rides.

Nate makes his return to the Bus.

NATE (CONT'D)  
Probably for the best, battling  
isn't for everyone.

Nate reaches the door of the Bus.

GUS  
I know who you are.

Nate freezes in place for a moment. Then in a flash he drops his laundry, picks up Gus, and pins Gus to the side of the Bus.

NATE  
Alright Gus, if you really know who I am then you should know the things I've done and seen. That said you should know I how serious I am when I tell you this-

Gus stops struggling.

NATE (CONT'D)  
-You are not ready.

GUS  
How do you even know?

NATE  
You play guitar, your older brother most likely is on bass, can play guitar better than you, but choose to bass because you begged him once when you were younger, and your fifteen year old friend is the drummer. And you don't even have a vocalist.

GUS  
I'm the vocalist!

NATE  
Oh really? You can play and sing at the same time?

GUS  
Well . . .

NATE  
Hmm, that's what I thought.

Nate drops Gus.

NATE (CONT'D)  
Do yourself a favor kid, keep it in the garage for another few years. And get yourself a singer. Battling  
(MORE)

NATE (CONT'D)  
is extremely dangerous for an adult  
let alone a kid.

Gus picks up his bike and gets on.

GUS  
All we're asking for is a chance.

Gus bikes away.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. TRUCK STOP - CONTINUOUS

11

Gus stops at the border of the of the truck stop and road,  
fighting back tears.

Gus looks over to the hill where Nate and his Bus sit in  
silence when suddenly he is struck by inspiration.

GUS  
Time for Plan "B" I guess.

The back tire of Gus' bike kicks up a cloud of dust as he  
bikes away.

ACT THREE

CUT TO:

12 EXT. ABBY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

12

Gus sneaks along the side of the house until he reaches a  
window. He gently taps the glass.

A sleepy Abby opens the window.

ABBY  
Gus? What's wrong?

GUS  
Nothing. Tell me about the new kid  
in Spanish class.

CUT TO:

13 INT. ABBY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

13

Gus and Abby sit on Abby's bed.

GUS  
So it was an perfect impression?

ABBY  
(yawn) One hundred percent.

GUS  
Are you sure?

ABBY  
(dozing off)  
Like I said I thought it was,  
thought it was, ummm-

GUS  
Mr. Hernandez?

ABBY  
Yeah him.

Abby falls asleep.

GUS  
Do you think he can do other-  
(notices Abby asleep) Abby. Abby!  
Stay with me.

ABBY  
Huh, what?! Hey gimme back my  
drumsticks Mr. Leprechaun!

GUS  
Abby!

ABBY  
Maybe. I don't know you'll have to  
ask him.

Abby falls dead asleep.

Gus smiles.

MIKEY  
(O.S.)  
It might work.

CUT TO:

14 INT. HALLWAY - DAY

14

Gus, Mikey, and Abby walk down the school hallway through  
endless crowds of students carrying their lunches.

GUS  
Haha very funny.

MIKEY  
No seriously, if it works it could  
actually make us very dangerous in  
(MORE)



MIKEY (CONT'D)  
the Summer League.

ABBY  
What is this plan again?

GUS  
Don't you remember me telling you  
last night?

MIKEY  
That's why you missed curfew.

ABBY  
All I remember is you shaking me  
before falling asleep.

MIKEY  
Yeah that you written all over it  
Angus.

ABBY  
(laughing)  
Angus?!

GUS  
Anyway Michael, that new kid Hank  
can do any impression of any voice  
he hears, right?

ABBY  
Right?

MIKEY  
So Gus thinks that means he can do  
impressions of singers as well.

GUS  
And if I'm right, that means this  
kid can triple the types of songs  
we can do! We'll be unstoppable!

Gus' shout garners the attention of nearby kids. Gus is  
embarrassed.

MIKEY  
Right. There's only one problem.

GUS  
What?

The trio stops at the door to the school courtyard.

MIKEY  
Does he even want to get into  
Battling?

Mikey points out the window to Hank sitting alone on a

courtyard table reading a book titled, "1,001 terrible jokes".

GUS

Well I guess we just have to ask.

Gus exits.

Gus enters.

GUS (CONT'D)

Abby you should probably go first since he knows you.

ABBY

Alright.

Abby exits followed by Gus then Mikey.

CUT TO:

15 EXT. COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

15

Gus is showing Hank a video of a battle on this phone while Mikey and Abby watch. Hank stares with wide eye amazement and horror at the display in front of him.

GUS

There are a lot of different types of battles but they most just boil down to last band standing. I'm basically that guy.

Gus points to the guitarist.

GUS (CONT'D)

(pointing to bassist and drummer)

Those two are Abby and Mikey and there, (points to singer) is where you would be. The singer, also called frontman, plays on offense along side the guitarist with the bassist and drummer on defense. (rambling) But there are all kinds of strategies and techniques that mess around with arrangement it's so cool! I once saw a drummer take down an entire band by themselves! This other time-

HANK

(to Mikey)

Is it dangerous?

MIKEY

Sometimes people get hurt, but it's almost always because of something the person did and it's never serious.

ABBY

Plus no one has died in like a million years.

GUS

Thirty-six actually. They tried this thing with bungee cords and it ended up being a terrible idea, obviously.

Hank cracks an awkward smile.

GUS (CONT'D)

So what do you say?

HANK

Look, I really appreciate you guys thinking of me like this. I'm amazed anyone learned my name, but I don't think I'm cut out for this. I'm not an athlete, just a dork who tells jokes.

GUS

Oh come on buddy, just give it a try.

Gus holds out a pair of headphones.

HANK

Buddy? Alright I guess.

Hank puts on the headphones and plugs them into Gus' phone.

GUS

Don't force it, let the energy come to you and just move it.

Hank closes his eyes and listens.

Hank begins to sing acapella, a perfect duplicate of the singer in the video.

Gently the space around Hank loses gravity. The joke book, Gus' phone and even Hank himself begin to levitate.

Gus, Mikey, and Abby exchange positive glances.

Hank's performance begins to attract the attention of the kids in the courtyard.

Hank suddenly opens his eyes realizing he is not touching the ground and panics.

HANK

WHOA!

Hank drops to the ground. He is met with cheers and applause from the kids in the courtyard.

HANK (CONT'D)

Oh my God that was so cool!

GUS

That means you're in, great! (to Abby) bring him with you to practice today I'll meet you guys there!

Gus runs towards the exit.

MIKEY

Where are you going?

GUS

To get us a ride to Phoenix!

MIKEY

You still have three more periods!

GUS

It's the last week of school no one cares!

Gus exits.

CUT TO:

16 EXT. HILL - DAY

16

On his bike Gus rockets over the hill only to find the Bus is gone.

GUS

No!

Gus spins the bike around and goes off in another direction.

CUT TO:

17 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

17

Gus flies down the road looking down every intersection he hits one after another.

GUS  
 Please still be in town! Please  
 still be in town! Please still be  
 in town!

Gus passes an intersection barely noticing the Bus barreling  
 in his direction.

GUS (CONT'D)  
 Shoot!

Gus squeezes the brakes and slams his foot on the asphalt,  
 power sliding and turning around only to fail at that  
 launching himself onto the ground.

Unphased Gus quickly stands up and runs into the  
 intersection, standing firm directly in front of the Bus.

Nate slams the brakes and comes to a complete halt feet from  
 Gus. He then gets out of the Bus.

NATE  
 ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND BOY?! IF I  
 DIDN'T SEE YOU WIPE OUT ON THE  
 STREET I WOULD HAVE HIT YOU!

GUS  
 (panting)  
 We have a singer!

NATE  
 What?!

GUS  
 (panting)  
 WE HAVE A SINGER! We have a space  
 nearby where we practice. Let us  
 play for you, and then you can  
 write us off as a bunch of kids.

Nate is dumbfounded.

GUS (CONT'D)  
 (panting)  
 What else is there to do in Bisbee?

Long pause.

NATE  
 Get in.

CUT TO:

the Bus pulls up.

Gus gets out.

GUS  
Here it is!

Gus runs down the hill into the drain while Nate follows.

GUS (CONT'D)  
Guys! Guys! Guys! Guys! Guys!

Gus comes to a sudden halt.

GUS (CONT'D)  
Is Hank ready to go?

HANK  
I guess---

MIKEY  
Gus what is going on? Who is (Mikey  
sees Nate) oh my God.

Mikey pulls Gus aside.

MIKEY (CONT'D)  
Why is Nate Anderson here and  
please tell me you didn't blackmail  
him.

GUS  
Blackmail! Why didn't I think of  
that?

MIKEY  
Gus!

GUS  
Remember that dude who almost ran  
us over yesterday? Well it was  
Nate, I talked him into letting us  
audition for him. If we nail this  
he'll rep us in Phoenix!

Abby approaches Nate.

ABBY  
(gushing)  
Hi, I'm Abby. I'm a huge fan of  
you! That solo you did at the  
European Cup in 1972 blows my mind  
to this day.

NATE  
(charmed)  
Oh well-- I didn't think anyone  
(MORE)

NATE (CONT'D)  
remembered that.

ABBY  
You're my hero.

Abby awkwardly stares at Nate. Hank leans in to Abby.

HANK  
Uh Abby, who is this?

GUS  
Alright Nate, are you ready to see  
greatness?

NATE  
I haven't seen greatness since 1994  
kid, but I got time to kill.

GUS  
Good enough for me!

CUT TO:

19 INT. STORM DRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

19

The band is full swing while Nate watches from outside the tunnel.

Crackles of energy spike around the band readying them for an attack.

Hank stands microphone in hand waiting for his cue.

GUS  
Now!

Hank blasts a single note into the microphone triggering a bolt of lightning heading directly towards the dummy.

CRACKA-BOOM!

The bolt misses the target completely.

All the energy the band generated dissipates immediately.

NATE  
I've seen enough.

Nate walks away.

GUS  
No wait!

MIKEY  
We did all we could.

HANK  
I'm really sorry guys I messed up.

ABBY  
You did fine Hank.

MIKEY  
There's always next year.

Gus turns to Mikey.

GUS  
No! There isn't! Because you're gonna go off to college and it won't be the same! We only have this one shot!

Gus turns to his amplifier and cranks all the settings to max then runs out of the tunnel.

MIKEY  
Gus wait!

CUT TO:

20 EXT. STORM DRAIN - CONTINUOUS

20

Nate is halfway to the Bus when Gus comes flying out of the tunnel completely shredding out a guitar solo. The energy generated from his playing instantly creates a bolt of the lightning.

CRACKA-BOOOOOOOOOM!

The bolt of lightning explodes above the Bus creating a shower of sparks over Nate's head.

Nate stands for a moment before resting his head against the door of the Bus.

NATE  
(to self)  
Just get these kids home safe.

Nate turns to Gus.

NATE (CONT'D)  
One trip to Phoenix. I will be your manager for the tryouts. After that you are on your own, win or lose.

GUS  
(panting)  
That's all we wanted.

Nate turns to Mikey, Abby, and Hank who are standing on the



threshold of the tunnel.

NATE  
Do we have a deal?

ABBY  
Yes!

Mikey walks up to Nate and shakes his hand.

MIKEY  
Thank you so much for this sir.

NATE  
Hey! It's Nate. You respect your  
elders but don't make them feel  
old.

Nate stares down Gus.

NATE (CONT'D)  
Everyone ready to go?

GUS  
Let's do this.

Gus drops his guitar in the dirt and walks to the Bus. As the Bus drives away a trail of sparks from the cable sets the guitar on fire.

CUT TO:

21 INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

21

The Band stands around the front of the bus while Nate drives.

ABBY  
Woo! Phoenix here we come!

NATE  
Not quite, we need to make a stop  
along the way.

MIKEY  
Where?

Nate glances at Mikey.

MIKEY (CONT'D)  
No---

GUS  
Where?

Mikey looks at Gus.

GUS (CONT'D)

(panic)  
Oh please no!

ABBY

(hysterical)  
Not again! Dad said we'd never had  
to go there again!

HANK

(terrified)  
Where are we going?!

GUS

The most horrible place on Earth-

The Bus drives down the interstate, passing a sign reading,  
"TUCSON: NEXT EXIT".

BAND

NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

END.