

"NOW WE'RE TALKING"

Episode 207

Written By

Tug Coker

Created By

Tug Coker and Tommy Dewey

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NWT2, LLC
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Tug and Tommy are interviewing JULIAN EDELMAN, New England Patriots wide receiver, for "SPOILER ALERT".

JULIAN

...and I was like, "you're on your own this time."

The three of them erupt with laughter.

TUG

So good. Now, Julian, tell us a secret about Tom Brady that no one else knows.

JULIAN

Um, I don't really talk about other players.

TOMMY

Oh, come on with the diplomat routine. Just give us a little inside look.

JULIAN

I've got nothing but love for my teammates.

TUG

Are you in love with Tom Brady? Like more than a friend? Because, it's obvious, we all see it.

JULIAN

I definitely love him. He got me two Super Bowl rings.

TUG

Yeah, but, spoiler alert: You got secrets, Julian Edelman.

(whispering)

I watch you.

JULIAN

You sure you're not in love with me? You need to calm down.

TOMMY

Yes, let's move on, Tug.

(then)

Julian, you wrote a popular children's book--

TUG

Wrong. Julian wanted that book to be for adults. He just writes at a third-grade level.

JULIAN

What's your problem, dude? I'm doing you guys a favor coming on this show.

TOMMY

We're just having some fun. We appreciate you being on--

TUG

Can't take the heat, Jules? We aren't afraid of you and your shiny Super Bowl rings, are we Tommy? Because we're the captains now.

TOMMY

Think it's time for a commercial.

TUG

(looking right at camera)
And if anyone else out there wants a freshly baked hot take from Yours Truly, well, spoiler alert: I'm right here!

TOMMY

You really need to use that phrase correctly.

TUG

(still to camera)
Bring it!

CUE MONTAGE of Tug and Tommy sparring with ATHLETES AND BROADCASTERS (the interviews can be in-person or via Skype/FaceTime like Deion Sanders does on NFL Network).

- LaDAINIAN TOMLINSON argues with Tug/Tommy that only Hall of Fame players should be able to call out other players. Tug responds that Tomlinson is only in the Hall of Fame because he played with Philip Rivers. He was a bum with the Jets.

- Tommy tells COLIN COWHERD that his show is "Spoiler Alert Lite". Colin replies that SPOILER ALERT has a tenth of the ratings he does. They fight over their social analytics.

-STEVE SMITH SR. tells Tug/Tommy they would've been the worst quarterbacks that he ever played with had they played together: "and I played with Brian St. Pierre!" Tug reminds them that they were teammates in Carolina. Steve: "I know. I said 'played together'. All you did was hand me water."

-STEPHEN A. SMITH and Tug yell at each other. Zero listening. Tug tries to play Stephen A's game.

TUG (CONT'D)
You just bloviate and perorate!

STEPHEN A.
You just harangue and inveigh!

Tommy holds his head in his hands.

TUG
Oh, please, the prevarication!

STEPHEN A.
Calumniation!

STEPHEN A. AND TUG
Mendacity! Jinx! I said it first.
No, I said it first.

CUT TO:

Titles

702 INT. DENVER HOTEL ROOM SET - STUDIO - DAY (LATER) 702

Tug and Tommy are finishing up their interview.

TOMMY
That's all the time we have today.
Thanks to our guest Julian Edelman
for a spirited conversation--

JULIAN
Show sucks.

TOMMY
And remember you can find SPOILER
ALERT anytime on the CUSP Sports
app or .com. Or get the podcast on
iTunes.

TUG

And don't forget to "Follow" us on twitter or "Like" us on FaceBook, or "Snap" with us on Snapchat, "Hang" with us at Houseparty, or "VR" with us on your Oculus. Or--

TOMMY

They get it, we're everywhere. See you next time, Everybody!

STAGE MANAGER

And we're out!

They guys take off their mics and decompress from the show.

TUG

Great show, Julian.

JULIAN

(walking away)
Fuck off!

TOMMY

Even me? I offered you a throat lozenge!

TUG

Julian, when you watch it back you'll love it!

Jasmine enters holding TWO BOXES.

JASMINE

Great show, guys. We're hitting personal bests with our social impressions.

TOMMY

Are we going to be able to get more guests? Feels like we're maybe cannibalizing our contacts.

JASMINE

Are you kidding? Agents are calling non-stop to get their clients in the line of fire. They all want to get roasted by Tug and Tommy.

(then)

Speaking of roasted, RONCO Chicken Rotisserie Roasters want to give you these.

(handing over the boxes)

They said they'd love to find a way to partner with the show, and maybe get a pic of you two using their roasters on your social platforms.

TUG

Absolutely. I could be in an apron, like, "Sexy Pitmaster"?

TOMMY

How committed are we to this? I'm typically a Cuisinart guy.

JASMINE

Totally fine. There's plenty more things coming your way. Speaking of, I've got a personal appearance setup for you guys next week.

TOMMY

That's cool. Speaking engagement?

JASMINE

In a way...judging a chili cookoff.

TOMMY

Feels a little small time, no?

TUG

Don't listen to him, Jasmine. We'll do it. Put us down for anything. No one's stopping this train now!

As Tug grabs Tommy in a joyful headlock, we:

CUT TO:

703

EXT. L.A. HOTEL PARKING LOT - DAY

703

Tug and Tommy are walking from the car to the hotel.

TUG

I enjoyed that drive home.

As they walk, TUG TWEETS: "Tweeps! Chrysler is now the official car for Tug Tanner's work commute. Grab one, pussies!"

TOMMY

(off Tug's phone)
Strong finish.

A group of guys notice Tug and Tommy, walk over to them.

FAN 1
Holy shit! The Spoiler Boys!

TUG
Wassup, guys? Thanks for watching.

FAN 2
Best show ever. Can you sign--
(look for paper)
--just sign on my shirt?

TUG
Absolutely. Just be sure to Febreze
or wash with delicates if you want
to keep the signature.

FAN 1
(to Tommy)
You're my favorite.

TOMMY
Wow. Thank you.

FAN 1
I bet you're the mastermind here.

TOMMY
It's a joint effort. My IQ's a
touch higher, sure.

FAN 1
I've followed you your whole
career. All those times you were in
the tabloids, sleeping with other
players' girlfriends, you stud.

TOMMY
Don't believe everything you hear,
kid.

FAN 2
(to Tug)
Can you "burn" me right now?

FAN 1
Oh, yeah, then do me.

Tug looks at Tommy for guidance. Tommy shrugs "up to you."

FAN 2
"Hot Take Tug"! "Hot Take Tug"!

Fan 1 joins in. Other people gather as well.

TUG
Are you a field goal kicker, by chance? Because you could boot a few footballs between those front teeth!!

FAN 1
(laughing)
Ooh! He's not wrong - I hate my teeth! "Hot Take Tug!"

As that chant echoes like those at a football game, we:

CUT TO:

704 INT. L.A. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

704

Tug and Tommy walk towards their room.

TUG
My god we have some wild fans.

TOMMY
It's a fun ride.

As Tug approaches their room, Tommy stops at different door. Tommy pulls out his own key card. Re: room change:

TOMMY (CONT'D)
I wanted to surprise you. Look, We've had some good times bunking up. But this is for the best.

TUG
Wow. I honestly thought this day would never come. You sure you don't want to stay one more night?

TOMMY
That would just confuse things.

TUG
This is harder than I thought.

TOMMY
It's weird for me too. But I want you to know if you need anything you can always--

Tug's door is closing. He's already gone inside his room.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
 (yelling through the door)
 I'm going to get some ice later if
 you want some! Happy to do it!

Tommy places his key card in the slot, sighs...

CUT TO:

706

INT. TOMMY'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

706

Tommy enters to find a well-appointed suite. He flips through a "Guest Services" book. He walks to the window, checks out the view. He flicks a LIGHT on and off. He spots a THICK FUR BLANKET on the end of the bed, walks over to it. He touches it, then leans down to test its softness with his face.

As he stands back up, he lets out a DEEP SIGH. He's already bored. He takes out his PHONE and calls his mom:

CANDY (V.O.)
 Hi sweetie.

TOMMY
 Hey mom. I was thinking - maybe
 you're due for another visit. Got a
 great new setup out here in L.A.

CANDY (V.O.)
 Oh, that's nice. I'm just so
 slammed with this bouquet I'm doing
 for the church.

TOMMY
 A single bouquet?

CANDY (V.O.)
 It's enormous.
 (then)
 And we talked about this. You've
 got to learn to be okay alone. Read
 a book.

TOMMY
 That's a non-starter.

CANDY (V.O.)
 Tommy.

TOMMY
 Ugh. Fine. Love you.

CANDY (V.O.)
Love you, too.

He hangs up, and we...

CUT TO:

705 INT. TUG'S L.A HOTEL ROOM - DAY

705

Tug closes his eyes and takes a deep breath, thrilled to finally have a room to himself.

TUG
I love quiet.

As he puts his work bag down,

VOICE (O.C.)
Are you talking to yourself?

Tug shrieks. His wife, TRINA, is under the covers of one of the double beds.

TUG
You scared the shit out of me!
(confused)
How did you--? Did you--?

TRINA
Tommy let me know where you guys
were staying.

TUG
You and Tommy talk? Miracles never
cease.

TRINA
Can you come here and kiss me,
please? I've missed you.

TUG
(walking over, they kiss)
I've missed you too. Where's the
little guy?

TRINA
Back in Orlando with Mark.

TUG
I was referring to Mark.

TRINA

TJ is fine. Now, can you just get in here with me? We don't get a lot of down time, so let's enjoy it.

TUG

You know this isn't my bed, right? I like to be closest to the air conditioner and furthest from the door.

TRINA

I'm not going to ask again.

TUG

Getting in.

He jumps in bed and gets under the covers.

TUG (CONT'D)

What a great day.

TRINA

Tug, before we get into the heavy petting, I want to say that I'm happy to see your hard work paying off. I'm proud of you.

TUG

Thank you, Babe. I'm loving every second. And I'm proud of you too.

They kiss and then spoon. Tug stops.

TUG (CONT'D)

Are you wearing jeans under here?

TRINA

Yes.

TUG

Why?

TRINA

I snuck into a hotel room. You never know when you might need to run for your life.

TUG

God, I love you.

They kiss and have fun.

TRINA

Mmm, fully-clothed sexy-time. Let's chafe each other.

Off Tug and Trina re-connecting, we:

CUT TO:

CUT TO:

707 INT. CUSP SPORTS CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

707

Tug and Tommy are sitting around a table looking at a PLETHORA OF PRODUCTS. Tug has ripped into a bag of BEEF JERKY and is looking at products like it's Christmas morning.

TOMMY

(reading from a card)

"Please enjoy a new kitchen full of FOODFRESH. You two keep on 'Spoiling' things, and we'll keep the rest fresh." Aww, I love FOODFRESH. So All-American.

TUG

But it's not our brand. Our fans are dangerous, they want edge.

(scans the products)

We need something like this,

(reads the card)

"We love the way you chop up your guests. We'd love to join you. Sincerely, Stone Cold Latin Machetes!" That's a perfect fit.

TOMMY

Can we just get money from Blue Apron like every show on Earth?

TUG

Ooh, how about E-Schlongate - the #1 liquid gel capsule for male enhancement. That's basically us in a pill.

TOMMY

We cause boners?

TUG

Come on, this is fun for me. I haven't been given this much free stuff since I was around college boosters.

(then, playfully)

Which never happened.

ANTONIO HESS enters.

ANTONIO HESS

Hey, Guys. Cool machete. Listen, have you, by any chance, heard anything from Chris Bosh since he left the company?

TOMMY

No. Everything okay?

ANTONIO HESS

Oh, yeah. He just mentioned that... he left some photos in his office. Was hoping someone could drop them off. But I'll handle it.

(then)

Hey, E-Schlongate. I love that stuff.

TUG

Okay, what else we got?

TOMMY

We don't need to endorse everything. Took me years to get over that 2005 bedazzled jeans campaign.

TUG

(picks up a CAMO VEST)

Ooh, look at this!

TOMMY

...Looks great.

We PUSH IN on Tommy, realizing that Tug's a lost cause...

CUT TO:

708

INT. TOMMY'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

708

Tommy watches a CLIP OF "SPOILER ALERT" - he says something nasty about BART SCOTT (or whoever we end up getting from the 207 montage).

When he hears himself say "Spoiler Alert", he grimaces, and turns off the TV. He gets up from the bed and exits...

CUT TO:

709 OMITTED 709

710 INT. TOMMY'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - DAY 710

Tommy sits on the bed, staring at the wall for a beat. He takes a deep breath and places a call. It rings for a bit, then a VOICE MESSAGE:

VOICE (O.S.)

This is Bart. Can't wait? Gonna have to. Leave a message.

TOMMY

Bart Scott! Hey man, Tommy Arondall. Look, I know I said some shitty things to you the other day. And, um, I did, but I didn't want to...I mean, sure, I used to like saying shitty things to your face on the field...but, that was-- I don't really know what the fuck I'm doing with this show, man. Media is super weird. It's fun, sometimes. Whatever. Listen, Bart, I like you. This message is too long. I hope you can like me one day. So, yeah, sorry, bud. Talk soon. Maybe? Ugh.

He hangs up, wonders what the fuck he just said...

CUT TO:

711 INT. TUG'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT 711

Tug and Trina enjoy their room service.

TRINA

Can't believe you didn't get the steak.

TUG

Trying to stick to salads. I re-watch the show, and, bleh, I'm a drowned Ted Danson.

Tug looks at her and smiles. Trina is unsettled.

TRINA

Already sounding very LA.

TUG

Plus, Kristen Bell gave me this recipe for slimming soups.

TRINA

So, the new show. How will it work? Can we still live in Orlando?

TUG

Well, now that I'm a studio analyst...I think we should think about moving to LA.

(beat)

You okay?

TRINA

(re: NFL teams)

It's just that Trina-ty was starting to get some traction.

TUG

There's tons of factories out here.

TRINA

And it's not like we're strangers to moving, Tug. Arizona, Houston, Jacksonville, back to Arizona--

TUG

I wanted you to see the country.

(then)

Plus, I've looked into neighborhoods and LA school districts. And TJ can still get a great public education all the way through pre-school.

TRINA

Going to miss no state income tax.

TUG

Yeah, but I'll make it up being a brand ambassador. Tons of sponsorship deals in the works.

TRINA

That's exciting.

(then)

(MORE)

TRINA (CONT'D)

Well, I don't want to complicate things, but would it be possible for you to maybe get Trina-ty involved with the show?

TUG

Yeah! Absolutely! I'll bring it up with Jasmine in the morning.

TRINA

(mood brightening)

This could be a win for both of us.

TUG

We'll be LA's newest power couple.

TRINA

Okay, now I'm getting excited about this.

TUG

Me too.

TRINA

I love you.

TUG

I love you too.

As they kiss over the table, we:

CUT TO:

712 INT. TOMMY'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - DAY 712
Tommy paces, restless. Suddenly, He exits the room...

CUT TO:

713 EXT. L.A. HOTEL ATM - DAY 713
Tommy, gets MONEY FROM AN ATM. It looks like a very large amount of money. He pockets it and moves on...

CUT TO:

714 OMITTED 714

715 INT. BACK ROOM - DAY

715

Tommy enters a smoky GAMBLING PARLOR. GAMBLERS OF ALL AGES HUNCH OVER POKER and BLACKJACK TABLES. Tommy scans the room, makes his way to an unoccupied blackjack table and takes a seat in front of an UPBEAT FEMALE DEALER (50). He throws down a STACK OF CASH.

DEALER

Hi there!

She takes the money and starts counting chips.

TOMMY

Hi.

DEALER

Why the long face?

TOMMY

(alarmed)

It looks "long"?

DEALER

It's an expression.

TOMMY

Oh.

DEALER

You upset?

Beat.

TOMMY

Let's just gamble.

DEALER

Okay.

She throws down a couple cards. Tommy, looking for someone to connect with:

TOMMY

You ever feel trapped?

Off Tommy, waiting for a response, we:

CUT TO:

716 OMITTED

716

A716 INT. PODCAST STUDIO - DAY

A716

Jasmine taps her foot impatiently. Tug rushes in to meet her.

JASMINE

Thank God. They want to start any minute. Where's Tommy?

TUG

Texted him. Never heard back. Our schedule is crazy right now.

JASMINE

If you're looking for a way to manage stress, I like to sip on chia seed oil. Xanax also helps.

TUG

Quick question, have any apparel companies contacted you about working with us?

JASMINE

Only general inquiries--

TUG

Okay, because I had this thought--

JASMINE

Until this morning - a company with a lot of heat reached out: BIG BALLER. They want to do an exclusive deal.

TUG

Are you serious?! The Ball Family is reaching out?

JASMINE

It could be a huge, I think Lavar may have a man crush on you.

TUG

I find him oddly handsome as well.

JASMINE

It'd be a great match, but they'd want to be the sole apparel sponsor. I'm sorry, you said you had a "thought"?

TUG

A thought?

JASMINE
An apparel idea?

Beat.

TUG
No. I had no thoughts. Nice work,
Jas!

PODCAST HOST(PRELAP)
Now I'm gonna say something you
might not like...

CUT TO:

717 INT. PODCAST STUDIO - DAY

717

Tug is in conversation with a PODCAST HOST. Jasmine sits nearby, supporting Tug.

PODCAST HOST
But so many people saw you as a
bust. You were a first-round pick,
Tug. It's harsh but it's true.

TUG
I know. And that was hard for me to
acknowledge for the longest time.

PODCAST HOST
I mean, you were real bad.

TUG
Not as bad as you were on TV. I'm
kidding, of course. Well, I'm
teasing. But the truth is, I
underachieved. I was...not the
best. See, even now, it's hard for
me to say. But I just re-focused
that drive I used as an athlete
into being a great announcer.

PODCAST HOST
That doesn't work for every
athlete.

TUG
I don't see Warren Sapp being
interviewed in here.

PODCAST HOST
So, you're enjoying it.

TUG

I'm enjoying it.

(then)

Look, I want to say thank you to CUSP for believing in me. And--

(gets emotional, reaches for his sunglasses)

--is it dusty in here? Somebody cutting onions? Anyway, to all my haters, I want to say "eat shit", and "I own you now". And to all my teammates I let down as a player, I hope you can look at me and finally say "that's my quarterback". And also that "Tug is the best broadcaster of all-time".

Tug cries silently. It goes on too long.

PODCAST HOST

You know podcasts are just audio, right? So...this is kinda killing us.

As Tug raises one finger asking "for a minute", we:

CUT TO:

718 INT. BACK ROOM - DAY

718

Tommy's been dealt a TEN. A large STACK OF CHIPS sits in front of him. Big bet on the line. He's been baring his soul to the dealer:

TOMMY

...it's just not fair. I go through all this bullshit to get here, and then I'm forced into a role that I'm uncomfortable with. Being a "bad boy" was fine when enough people still worshipped me, but that's over, and-- I mean, the way I see it, if I want to be remembered a certain way, I've got about ten more years to make a change and lock it in. If I don't get to "decent guy" by 50, I'm frozen as "selfish prick" forever.

She deals him ANOTHER TEN. He eyes her up card - it's a TEN.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Hit me.

DEALER

Book says you should never do that.

TOMMY

Fuck the book. And it's just, like, one page of info, I don't get why they call it a "book".

Beat.

DEALER

So why you doing this broadcasting thing?

TOMMY

I don't know. I thought I'd be able to recreate that rush from my playing days.

DEALER

Exactly. "Play"-ing days. Now you have to work for the first time. You think I like dealing at an illegal casino?

TOMMY

Doesn't seem that bad.

DEALER

I run hookers out of here, too.

TOMMY

Really?!

(then)

I mean, sure, that's probably tough.

DEALER

But I have three beautiful grandchildren who love me, I'm a regional tennis doubles champion, and I have an award-winning vegetable garden.

TOMMY

Hmm.

DEALER

That's what I focus on. The rest of this shit is just a job.

Tommy's phone buzzes. Tommy picks it up, reads a text from Tug: "Where r u? Lezzgo!!!"

TOMMY
 Actually, there's another reason
 I'm doing it.
 (then)
 So, hookers, huh?

DEALER
 Cut a guy's ear off once, too.

Tommy nods, and we...

CUT TO:

719 INT. TUG'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

719

Tug comes out of the bathroom to A KNOCK on the door.

TUG
 (opening the door)
 Short workout or you forget your
 key?

JASMINE
 Big Baller! We're making it happen!

TUG
 That's awesome!

Trina enters from the hallway.

TRINA
 What are we celebrating?

TUG
 Oh, Trina, this is our producer,
 Jasmine. Jasmine, this is my wife,
 Trina.

JASMINE
 Nice to finally meet you.

TRINA
 Likewise. So what's the good news?

JASMINE
 Big Baller apparel has agreed to
 partner with SPOILER ALERT.

TRINA
 That's great! I know Karen over
 there, she helped design our
 Trina-ty logos.

JASMINE
 (re: champagne)
 Let me get you a glass.
 (then)
 Trina-ty? I'm embarrassed, I'm not
 familiar.

Trina cuts a look to Tug.

TRINA
 (to Tug)
 You didn't even mention--
 (to Jasmine)
 You know, it's the apparel company
 I started.

JASMINE
 (to Tug, joking)
 Why don't you bring it up to me
 next time, Tug? Hogging all the
 glory for yourself?
 (then, raising a glass)
 To everyone's hard work.

Jasmine and Tug clink glasses.

JASMINE (CONT'D)
 Get in here, Trina!

Trina stares at Tug.

TRINA
 (re: Jasmine)
 Could you excuse us for a second?

FLIP TO:

720 INT. TUG'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

720

TUG
 I tried to tell her.

TRINA
 Oh...you tried? Well, that's fine,
 thank you.

TUG
 I messed up.

TRINA
 We're supposed to be a team.

TUG

We are.

TRINA

You're galavanting around the country chasing your dream...

TUG

I'm not "galavanting". I would never galavant.

TRINA

First football, now this.

TUG

I'm doing all this for our family.

TRINA

I keep the family together! And I would just like a little support from you now that I'm trying to chase my dream.

TUG

I'm doing that. I'm sorry.

TRINA

Okay.

(then)

So why didn't you mention my company to Jasmine?

TUG

Your company's not there yet.

Trina steps back as she takes this in.

TUG (CONT'D)

I wish I could help you. It's just easier to align with a bigger company. And I'm not saying what you're doing is not a winner. I'm just saying it's not a winner today.

TRINA

(hurt, confused)

You're supposed to say "spoiler alert" before you give a hot take.

(then)

I think I need to get some ice.

As Trina walks out the door, we:

CUT TO:

721 INT. TOMMY'S L.A. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

721

Tommy sits on his bed, an ADULT COLORING BOOK open in front of him. As he colors it in:

TOMMY
(to himself)
It really is soothing.

A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. As he opens it, Trina darts in, agitated.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
What's up?

TRINA
I don't know! It's just-- I don't know.

TOMMY
You want a beer?

TRINA
Yes.

Tommy gets her a beer from his mini-fridge.

TRINA (CONT'D)
So Tug was generally happy until you took his place in Arizona--

TOMMY
Oh Trina, I was doing so well. Please don't kill that for me. These moments of peace are so rare--

TRINA
This isn't about you. Just listen - he was happy, then he wasn't, for a long time. And all I've wanted is for him to be happy again. But it's a warped happy, a happy I don't recognize. And I'm not sure how I fit into it.

Beat. Tommy's not great with this stuff, but:

TOMMY

You know how sometimes in movies, a guy will platonically hug a girl to comfort her? Unfortunately, I don't trust myself to do that non-creepily, so...

TRINA

I appreciate the thought.

TOMMY

No problem.

(then)

You know what? I'll take care of it.

TRINA

How?

TOMMY

Well, I was talking to this card-dealing gardener pimp.

TRINA

Comforting.

TOMMY

Look, I'm at least partially responsible for putting that chip on Tug's shoulder. Let me see if I can take it off.

Beat.

TRINA

Okay. Thank you.

TOMMY

Apparently, I've grown a conscience when it comes to helping other people.

TRINA

It suits you.

TOMMY

So, yeah, give yourself a break, go home for a couple days and I'll get to work killing Captain Hyde.

TRINA

It's "Mr. Hyde".

TOMMY
Oh. What am I thinking of?

TRINA
Captain Morgan?

TOMMY
Yep. Correct.

CUT TO:

722 INT. DENVER HOTEL ROOM SET - STUDIO - NIGHT

722

Tug and Tommy are preparing for the broadcast. People are buzzing around the set as they get makeup applied.

TUG
Do I listen with my mouth open? I want you to watch for that.

JASMINE
(handing them a paper)
We're doing a mid roll tonight for Little Giant Ladders. And no jokes about the advertisers, thank you - you guys were especially mean to Huggies last week.

ANTONIO HESS flies in, stressed, to talk to the guys.

ANTONIO HESS
You two didn't tell me you went to a SMUBIN event.

TOMMY
What? We didn't think we had to.

TUG
Plus, it was awful. We left early.

ANTONIO HESS
Well, fuck.

The stage manager steps in.

STAGE MANAGER
Just a few seconds away, guys.

ANTONIO HESS
Have a great show.

STAGE MANAGER
10 seconds!

TUG
 (to the group)
 "We few. We happy few, we band of
 brothers/For he to-day that sheds
 his blood with me"...say it with
 me, Tommy.

STAGE MANAGER
 6...5...

TOMMY AND TUG
 "Shall be my brother!"

STAGE MANAGER
 3...2...

The stage manager points at the hosts and we,

CUT TO:

723 INT. L.A. CLUB - NIGHT

723

Tommy and Tug sit in a booth, observing the crowd. Tug takes
 in Tommy's calmer demeanor:

TUG
 All the makeup has turned my face
 into brillo pad.

TOMMY
 Moisturize at night. That's the
 key.

TUG
 Good tip. You do look good. Less
 agitated.

TOMMY
 Really? Thanks. I'm focusing on
 better work/life separation.

TUG
 Yeah, me too.

TOMMY
 Really?

TUG
 What does that mean, "really"?

TOMMY

Look, it's not like I've figured it all out, but maybe your anger from, you know, the past, is making its way into the show--

TUG

Why are we talking about this? Everything is great. We're killing it.

TOMMY

I know. Look, maybe it's fine to let some old beefs play out on camera. But when you then take that energy home with you...

TUG

Right, because your home life is perfect.

TOMMY

No. Would you please listen? Trina is concerned that--

TUG

Holy shit! Now you're in cahoots with my wife?

TOMMY

God, you're difficult. What I'm trying to say--

A SERVER ARRIVES.

SERVER

(to Tommy)

I'm sorry, we're having some problems with your credit card. Says it's declined.

The server hands the card back to Tommy.

TOMMY

It's our CUSP corporate cards, cheap bastards.

TUG

(to server)

What's your working-in-the-kitchen-to-pay-off-a-bill policy?

(then)

Kidding, we're really successful. Here's my personal AmEx.

(MORE)

TUG (CONT'D)

Run it, pile some travel miles on that baby!

CUT TO:

724 INT. L.A. HOTEL HALLWAY - NIGHT

724

Tug and Tommy walk down the hall.

TOMMY

What the hell you think happened?

TUG

Maybe they're switching over to new cards?

They spot a LARGE MAN IN A SUIT leaving Tug's room WITH TUG'S LAPTOP.

TUG (CONT'D)

Whoa, whoa, whoa. That's my laptop!

LARGE MAN

I know. I'm confiscating it.
Property of CUSP Sports.

TOMMY

What?! You can't do that!

TUG

How did you get into my room?

LARGE MAN

Front desk gave me a key - I'm well dressed and huge.

(then)

Any other company-provided computing devices? I'll need those, too.

The guys stand there impotently for a beat, then Tug pulls out his IPHONE. He looks at it, then THROWS IT ON THE GROUND AND SMASHES IT WITH HIS HEEL.

LARGE MAN (CONT'D)

That was unwise.

TUG

(petulant)

Maybe.

TOMMY
 (to Large Man)
 I'll tell you one thing, pal -
 you're not getting into my room.

LARGE MAN
 Already did.

TOMMY
 Fuck.

The Large Man turns and starts to leave.

TUG
 I had some really important recipes
 saved on that computer. Maybe we
 shouldn't let him take our shit.
 (then)
 We could probably take him.

Neither moves.

TOMMY
 Definitely could.

TUG
 Big, but slow.

TOMMY
 You've got a nice long reach, so
 I'd have probably have you take the
 first shot, then I'd have come in
 with, like, a sneaky side thing.

They don't move, and the Large Man disappears around a
 corner.

TUG
 Shit. Too late.

TOMMY
 Damn it. Lost our chance.
 (then)
 Let's call Hess.

Tommy pulls out an IPHONE. He dials Hess. As it rings:

TOMMY (CONT'D)
 (to Tug)
 This has gotta be a
 misunderstanding. He'll sort it
 out.

HESS(V.O.)
 (gruff)
 Hello?

TOMMY
 Hi Tony! Tommy Arondall and Tug
 Tanner calling. Listen, bud, we
 just had a little run-in with a
 large, very rude--

HESS
 Lose my number.

TOMMY
 Pardon?

HESS
 LOSE. MY. NUMBER.

TUG
 What's he saying?

CLICK. Tommy, stunned, pulls the phone away from his ear.
 After a long beat:

TOMMY
 I think...it doesn't sound good.

Deafening silence as we PULL BACK - the guys face each other.
 Motionless. Shell-shocked.

CUT TO BLACK.

725 OMITTED

725

726 OMITTED

726