

"CRUMBS"

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. FLAT ROCK, PENNSYLVANIA — DAY

Here litters the relics of America's Industrial Age.

DRONE PANORAMIC SHOT: We hover over huge mounds of discarded tires. Decades of them. They are everywhere. Nothing but them fills the screen.

O'MALLEY (V.O.)
Every year, three-hundred million
tires become waste in the United
States.

In the distance, stands the tall chimney stack of an abandoned factory. Printed vertically down its spine reads, U.S. Rubber.

O'MALLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Where should these abandoned tires
go?

QUICK-PACED MONTAGE BEGINS.

EXT. U.S. RUBBER FACTORY — SAME

Panes of blue-frosted windows. A few are broken, plays with the sheer conformity of industrial art.

O'MALLEY (V.O.)
I know. Not playgrounds. Not
soccer fields.

INT. U.S. RUBBER FACTORY FLOOR — SAME

Steel girders and concrete narrows down a long factory floor long since deserted.

O'MALLEY (V.O.)
In a time of universal deceit.

EXT. U.S. RUBBER FACTORY — SAME

The rusted relic remains, as a whole, drapes against a dark clouds.

O'MALLEY (V.O.)
Telling the truth.

EXT. U.S. RUBBER FACTORY DOCKS - SAME

A few tires linger about, as we peer down the railroad tracks.

O'MALLEY (V.O.)
Is a revolutionary act.

The very tip of U.S. Rubber Stack is in the distance, as Springsteen's My Hometown Instrumental plays.

FADE TO BLACK:

EXT. MOUNT VESUVIUS UNIVERSITY - SOCCER FIELD - NIGHT

SOUND: CLICK. Stadium lights turns night into day.

SUPER: "Firebirds' Soccer Field, Mount Vesuvius University."

A colorful soccer ball bounces on a green synthetic turf. As the ball raises higher, in slow motion, so does hundreds of tiny black rubber pellets. FREEZE.

SUPER: "Inspired by true events."

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - CENTER - SAME

M.V.U.'s women's RED TEAM scrimmages against their WHITE.

SUPER: "2010. The Team."

WHITE moves the ball up the field crisp pass by crisp pass.

Then, the Red MIDFIELDER/KEIRA, 20, nicknamed The Wall, cuts to the soccer ball and intercepts it. FREEZE.

SUPER: "KEIRA. THE WALL."

Keira eyes the CAMERA.

KEIRA
No one gets by me.

After two touches, she sets up their STRIKER and kicks the ball into open space.

The field of play now turns, as does the momentum.

Races ANNABEL, 21, to the ball. She's the Red team's STRIKER, a lanky warrior in pigtails who is running from her roots as fast as she can.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - OUTSIDE THE BOX - SAME

Annabel moves down the field at a pace of play the other girls do not possess.

WHITE's DEFENSE attempts to slow her down to no avail.

Annabel slices through them, in a zigzag fashion. As she separates herself from them, she stops. Then, she grunts as she swings her left leg hard, through the ball. Boom!
FREEZE.

SUPER: "ANNABEL. THE STRIKER."

Annabel eyes the CAMERA.

ANNABEL
I like to score.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME

The ball Annabel kicks heads toward the top right corner of the goal.

TESS, 38, older version of Annabel, watches her daughter shoot. The two are seventeen years apart. Tess is a blue-collar girl from a rust bucket town.

TESS
Wow.

FREEZE.

SUPER: "TESS. THE MOM."

Tess eyes the CAMERA.

TESS (CONT'D)
I like to watch my daughter
succeed.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - WHITE'S GOAL LINE - SAME

O'MALLEY, 21, the team's heart and soul, their star captain, leaps right and punches the soccer ball clear. Bright is her future. FREEZE.

SUPER: "O'MALLEY. THE KEEPER."

O'Malley eyes the CAMERA.

O'MALLEY
I like to give Annabel headaches.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — OUTSIDE BOX — SAME

Annabel brings both hands up to the side of her head.

ANNABEL

Ugh!

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — SIDELINES — SAME

COACH GORDON, 38, wears head to toe Puma gear. He's a true mentor of the game. He loved soccer before it was cool.

SUPER: "GORDON. THE COACH."

Gordon eyes the CAMERA.

COACH GORDON

Coaches have to watch for what
they don't want to see and listen
to what they don't want to hear.

Gordon breaks from CAMERA.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

Great save, O'Malley! Let's call
it a night.

The scrimmage ends and the Firebirds' TEAM moves off the field to...

THE SIDELINES

To fetch their water bottles and gear.

When there, O'Malley grabs her squeeze Gatorade bottle from the ground and sprays water into her mouth.

O'MALLEY

These two-a-days are killing me.

Turf's pellets cover the keeper's sweaty face. She wipes at her face with her forearm. Her cheek smears black.

THE STANDS

Tess comes and climbs down the steps to...

THE FIELD

She wears a fast food employee uniform, straight from back-to-back shifts.

ANNABEL

Mom. What are you doing here?

Tess realizes she's in her work uniform now. She opens her arms up wide.

TESS

Surprise.

ANNABEL

Are you ever going home?

COACH GORDON

All right girls. Give her some space.

Coach cuts in front of them.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

Hey, Tess. I like your uniform.

TESS

Hi, Gordon. You would.

TEAM

Gordon? Oooh.

This causes a sheer stream of giggling laughter.

Annabel shares with the girls.

ANNABEL

They went to high school together.

COACH GORDON

Okay. Time to cool down. One lap around the field.

The TEAM starts to run.

The team consists of young women of various ethnicity and differing financial upbringings.

Tess has her own moment of clarity.

TESS

I don't belong here.

COACH GORDON

Why not?

TESS

I saw it in her eyes.

COACH GORDON
What?

TESS
She's embarrassed of me.

COACH GORDON
She's young.

TESS
I'm just a reminder of home. A
blue-collar girl from a rust
bucket town.

COACH GORDON
You're more than that, Tess.

TESS
I could've been.

COACH GORDON
It's never too late to want more.

TESS
Always the optimist.

COACH GORDON
I escaped. Why can't you?

The Firebirds' team returns from their lap.

Coach Gordon sees O'Malley at the end of the pack.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
O'Malley! Get a move on.

Gordon looks at Tess.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Have any plans for dinner?

Tess looks down at her uniform.

TESS
Nope. Though, I do need a quick
shower and a change of cloths.

COACH GORDON
It's a date.

Coach eyes his team.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Huddle up, girls!

The Firebird team finishes their run and sits one-by-one near their coach.

Coach remains standing.

O'Malley joins late. She's out of breathe.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Saturday, we'll be facing our
division rivals, Great Lakes
State.

Reactions from the team are boos and hisses.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
I know. I know. I feel the exact
same way.

KEIRA
They're a dirty team coach.

COACH GORDON
Maybe. But what do I always tell
ya about that?

Team silence.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Come on.

O'MALLEY
We can only control ourselves.

COACH GORDON
True. And what else?

ANNABEL
(to coach)
Our actions speak louder than
words.

COACH GORDON
That's right. So, don't let them
push you off the ball. And when
they try... Jasmine.

The coach eyes them one by one until he lands on
JASMINE/JAZ, 19, Afro-American, edgy street fighter with a
soul of gold.

JAZ
You push them back.

COACH GORDON
I can't hear you.

TEAM
You push them back!

COACH GORDON
That's better.

The teammates look at one another and smile.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Nice practice, ladies.

Everyone stands up and places their right hand on top of one another's in the circle.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Firebirds on three.

TEAM
One. Two. Three. Firebirds!

COACH GORDON
Hit the showers.

Annabel goes over to Tess.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - SIDELINES - SAME

As the players move off the field, Tess attempts to aid her daughter Annabel with her bag.

ANNABEL
I got it.

TESS
Of course, you do.

ANNABEL
Mom, what are you doing here?

TESS
I wanted to watch.

ANNABEL
I mean at school?

TESS
Do I embarrass you that much?

ANNABEL
Yes.

Tess looks down at the turf.

TESS
Is this field new?

ANNABEL
Top programs have turf.

Annabel walks off.

TESS
What's wrong with grass?

Coach Gordon answers as he joins Tess.

COACH GORDON
Nothing, except the maintenance.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - CENTER FIELD - SAME

A White Firebird Head centers the green turf field. Hold.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - POWER BOX - SAME

Coach flips a switch. The stadium lights die to darkness.

NOTE: THIS IS WHAT THIS MOVIE IS ABOUT. CRUMB-RUBBER. The cancer-causing chemicals from recycled tires linked to synthetic fields just like this one.

MATCH CUT:

EXT. THORNHILL'S HOME - RITZY NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Eight-thousand-square-foot custom built home.

SUPER: "Batesville, Georgia."

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - KID'S BATHROOM - SAME

Enters MARTIN THORNHILL, 40ish, a grateful sort, big heart, big glasses, who takes pride in his family's third generation turf business.

SUPER: "THE UNLIKELY HERO."

His Son JACK, 6, sits in the bubble-filled Jacuzzi tub. He wears a diving mask and snorkel.

Jack looks up and spits out his mouthpiece.

JACK
Hi, Dad.

Martin looks around the bath. More water is out of the tub than in. He knees by his Son. The logo of his family's business stamps his shirt. It reads: 4-Ever Green with a tagline of: "When Nature Isn't Good Enough."

MARTIN
Where's Mom?

JACK
Out of towels.

MARTIN
Yes, I see that.

Five soaked towels and a fluffy white mat attempt to absorb the soapy bath water now on the bathroom tile.

Jack inserts his mouthpiece again and starts to swim. The remaining water splashes about and out of the tub.

Martin stands as bath water splashes him.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Youth.

Appears in the doorway, JILL THORNHILL, 40, the ROCK of the Thornhill household. She holds a stack of fresh towels and wears a big smile.

JILL
I'm b-a-c-k.

Jill's smile erodes as she sees her husband.

JILL (CONT'D)
You forget someone? Like our daughter.

Jill gives him a quick peck on the cheek as she brushes by.

MARTIN
Ellie. Soccer. Oops.

JACK
I'm done.

Jack jumps out of the tub. He tosses his mask and snorkel back into the tub with a big splash.

JACK (CONT'D)
Towel.

MARTIN
I forgot.

Jill uses a towel to wrap him up.

JILL
Jack.

JACK
Yeah, Mom.

JILL
What do we have to say to Daddy?

Jack looks right up at his father.

JACK
Actions speak...

MARTIN
Louder than words. Got it. Thank
you for reminding me, Son.

Jill gives Martin an all knowing glance.

Martin pats Jack's wet hair.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
I got her.

EXT. BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN - PARKING LOT - MINUTES LATER

Martin's black shiny SUV pulls into an available space near
the turf soccer field. But no one is there playing on it.

He gets go and instantly his glasses steam up.

MARTIN
Great. Where are they?

He wipes his glasses clear with his shirt.

EXT. BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN - THE GROUNDS - SAME

Martin approaches the parents of the girls on his
daughter's soccer team.

MARTIN
Where's the girls?

MOTHER #1
On the grass.

MARTIN
What's wrong with the turf?

MOTHER #2
Coach says its too hot.

MARTIN
Too hot. Really?

Martin walks up to the field his company donated to the school. The scoreboard advertises his company, "4-Ever Green, When Nature Isn't Good Enough."

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Whew. It's like I'm walking into an oven.

He knees down and touches the turf. He reacts to the extensive heat.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Ouch.

Martin looks back to the girls playing on the grass practice field.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Hmmm. When nature isn't good enough.

He takes out his iPhone and tabs on his weather app.
It reads: "Batesville, 83 Degrees."

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Strange.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - KITCHEN - NEXT DAY

Thornhill family moves about as they circle their granite slab kitchen island.

JACK
Hey, my toast is burnt.

Jill scoops up his plate.

JILL
Momma, will get ya some more.

By the fridge, Martin sips coffee from a mug that reads: #1 Dad. He looks to his first born as she approaches him.

MARTIN
How was practice last night?

ELLIE, 16, with ear pods in, she passes him in silence. She wears a Mount Vesuvius University Firebirds' jersey and Adidas soccer pants. She treats soccer as a profession.

Martin motions for her to take the ear pods out.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Practice?

ELLIE
What about it?

She opens up the fridge and grabs out a chilled peach.

MARTIN
How was it?

ELLIE
Good.

MARTIN
Can you expand upon that?

She closes the fridge.

ELLIE
Why?

MARTIN
The turf? What's wrong with it?

ELLIE
Too hot.

Ellie places her ear pods back in.

Martin eyes her.

ELLIE (CONT'D)
It burned our feet.

Martin looks to Jill as she cuts up Jack's pancakes.

JILL
Is that possible?

MARTIN
I'm going to talk to Chet about that today.

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - DAY

Modern structure of steel and glass. Green turf and rich red brushes landscapes the front.

To the left are five tall flag poles.

Here waves and wipes in the wind: "The Stars and Stripes, Georgia's State Flag, NFL Flag, FIFA Flag, and NCAA Flag."

Behind them, signage for, "4-Ever Green, When Nature Isn't Good Enough."

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - MARTIN'S OFFICE - SAME

Martin picks up the phone.

MARTIN
Darla. Is Chet back yet?

DARLA (O.S.)
He's expected back this afternoon.

MARTIN
Holler to me, when he comes back in.

EXT. M.V.U.'S OFF-CAMPUS - TEDDY BEAR BURGERS - DAY

Downtown 50's Themed Restaurant.

INT. TEDDY BEAR BURGERS & SHAKES - DAY

Eats at a long table members of the Firebirds' soccer team: O'Malley, Anna, Izzy, Jaz, Sophia, Keira, and Annabel.

JAZ
What's your Mom doing with Coach?

ANNABEL
I don't know.

IZZY
Does she really work at The Greasy Spoon?

ANNABEL
Yes. I think so.

SOPHIA
Coach seems awfully fond of her?

Sophia looks to Jaz.

JAZ
You trying to get some more minutes, girl?

The girls laugh at Annabel's expense.

O'MALLEY
What's with all the questions?

SOPHIA
Sheer curiosity.

ANNABEL
Girls, I don't know what's going
on. Honest.

Some of the girls don't believe her.

IZZY
Come on. We want details. She's
been here two weeks.

SOPHIA
And staying at his place.

KEIRA
Let's change the subject?

JAZ
Why?

O'MALLEY
Jaz. Have you forgotten?

JAZ
What?

O'MALLEY
I am a member of a team.

KEIRA
(on cue)
And I rely on the team.

IZZY
I defer to it.

JAZ
And sacrifice for it.

ALL THE GIRLS
Because the team, not the
individual, is the ultimate
champion.

They all look up to the heavens and with their hands held
high over their heads.

ALL THE GIRLS (CONT'D)
Mia Hamm, we love you girl!

Together again, the girls giggle and laugh.

O'Malley's food is untouched.

KEIRA
O'Malley, you didn't eat anything.

O'MALLEY
I'm not hungry.

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Darla is on the phone.

DARLA
He's been on the company's payroll since he was Eight. Then, he was a cleaner, a sweeper, and a doer of what needs to be done. Thirty years later, our boss' job description remains the same. Yeah.

CHET, Director of Sales, black, 60, shaved head, muscular curves, and a smooth chiseled face who was Martin's Dad's right-hand man.

DARLA (CONT'D)
Oops. Chet's here. I got'ta call ya back.

Chet approaches Darla.

DARLA (CONT'D)
Marty wants to see ya.

Chet smiles as he strolls by Darla's desk.

CHET
I must be in trouble.

DARLA
You know damn well this place couldn't run without you.

Chet turns.

CHET
I know. I just like hearing it.

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - MARTIN'S OFFICE - SAME

Martin reviews the plans for a big stadium project they won in Canada.

There's a KNOCK on the door.

Through the glass, Martin sees Chet and waves him in.

MARTIN
When did you start knocking?

CHET
When they added CEO to your door.

Chet sits down.

MARTIN
It should be your name.

CHET
No. I prefer sales. Less headaches.

MARTIN
True.

CHET
What's up, Marty? Darla said you needed to see me. If it's about my expense account, I can explain.

MARTIN
No... but I better write myself a note to check that out.

The two share a laugh.

CHET
So, what is it?

MARTIN
The turf we installed at BC.

CHET
It's top shelf turf. Diamond ridged monofilament fiber.

MARTIN
And the infill?

CHET
Hmm. Crumb-rubber.

MARTIN
How did it test with heat?

CHET
In the lab, it ran hot.

Chet gets up.

CHET (CONT'D)
But I prefer to conduct my tests
on-site.

Martin joins him.

EXT. BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN - SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Green turf bakes in the sun as the temperature reads 93
degrees off Martin's iPhone.

MARTIN
How are we expecting young
athletes to play on this surface?

CHET
I can feel it through my shoes.

Chet pulls on a heat sensor. He holds it six inches off the
turf.

CHET (CONT'D)
Yeah. One-hundred and sixty
degrees Fahrenheit. Hot enough to
cook.

MARTIN
Hot infill.

CHET
Crumb-rubber absorbs heat.

MARTIN
Than why are we using it?

CHET
Cost, boss. Cost.

INT. MARTIN'S SUV - DAY

Martin's SUV drives along a rural road.

MARTIN
Siri. Call Gus.

SIRI
Calling, Gus Muller.

RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
National Turf Association, how can
I help you?

MARTIN
This is Marty Thornhill of
Four-Ever Green, I wish to speak
to Gus.

RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
One moment, Mr. Thornhill.

INT. NATIONAL TURF ASSOCIATION - GUS' OFFICE - SAME

GUS, late 50s, turf companies self-acclaimed holy man who
needs to go to confession. This prophet preaches on the
common good, profits. He's motto is conform or perish.

INTERCUT BETWEEN GUS AND MARTIN

GUS
Marty, congrats on landing the
Montreal deal.

MARTIN (O.S.)
Thanks Gus. I appreciated your
help with it.

GUS
That's why I'm here. So, how can I
be of service.

Martin in SUV.

MARTIN
What's the agency's stance on
crumb-rubber?

GUS (O.S.)
Crumb-rubber. It's safe,
cost-effective, and a responsible
use of discarded tire rubber.

MARTIN
Hmm.

GUS
Why?

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — MIDFIELD — DAY

Coach Gordon watches his team run a drill on goal. He likes what he sees and yells.

COACH GORDON
Rotate. Rotate. Good. Okay.
Hydrate.

Together, Annabel and O'Malley walks to the...

SIDELINES.

O'Malley removes her goalie gloves.

O'MALLEY
Do you ever wonder what's next?

ANNABEL
National Title.

O'MALLEY
No. In life.

ANNABEL
Oh. No.

O'MALLEY
Maybe we should.

ANNABEL
It will figure itself out. It
always does.

O'Malley takes a deep drink from her water bottle. She appears pale.

O'MALLEY
Ahh.

ANNABEL
What's wrong?

O'MALLEY
I've never felt so tired.

ANNABEL
These two a days.

O'MALLEY
It's more than that.

Annabel hits her shoulder hard.

ANNABEL
You got this girl.

O'MALLEY
What if I don't?

ANNABEL
So what. To fail. Is to try.

O'MALLEY
Yeah.

ANNABEL
No one is going to give you a win,
right?

O'MALLEY
Right. You gotta take it.

The two race back to their positions.

INT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - MARTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Chet strolls in.

CHET
So, what did Gus say?

MARTIN
Says its safe and environmentally
responsible.

CHET
And the extreme heat?

MARTIN
He agrees the crumbs are fifty
degrees hotter. Says watering it
before practice will help.

CHET
What does your gut say?

MARTIN
I need more data.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - NIGHT

Martin sits and watches a DVRed Arsenal game on a 90 inch
screen.

On the TV, NICKLAS BENDTNER approaches the goal fast with a
ball at his feet.

ANNOUNCER
Bendtner has a chance!

The TV channel switches.

MARTIN
What?

He turns back.

His daughter Ellie holds the remote in her hands. She wears a Mount Vesuvius hoodie.

ELLIE
Sorry Dad. My game is about to come on.

MARTIN
Your game?

ELLIE
Mount Vesuvius vs. Great Lakes State.

MARTIN
Who?

ELLIE
Dad. Don't you know anything?

MARTIN
Obviously not. Am I allowed to watch it with you?

ELLIE
Of course. Popcorn?

MARTIN
Sure.

Martin sprints up to get the popcorn.

Ellie sits in a recliner and puts her feet up.

ELLIE
Go, O'Malley. Go.

MATCH-CUT:

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE FIELD — SAME

On the green turf, two teams battle it out for first place in their division.

ANNOUNCER

Hi folks. This is Bobby Williams,
your Mt. Vesuvius Firebirds'
announcer. Tonight is a fight for
first place. Let's see who wants
it more. Firebirds take the field
for warm-ups. Should be
interesting tonight. Mt. Vesuvius'
goal keeper O'Malley Quinlan. The
senior leads the Division in goals
against average, and ranks top ten
in the nation.

UNIFORMS:

Great Lakes State are AWAY: All BLUE tops and bottoms with
gold socks.

Mt. Vesuvius are HOME: All WHITE top and bottoms with RED
socks.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME

Bobby reads from a piece of paper.

ANNOUNCER

Here's the starting lineup for Mt.
Vesuvius Firebirds.

The team waits at the sideline for their name to be called.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Across the back line, Left Back.
Number Five from the hometown of
Rome, New York. Sophia...

CROWD

Raucci!

Sophia sprints out onto the field.

ANNOUNCER

Right Back. Number Three from the
hometown of West Lafayette,
Indiana. Megan...

CROWD

Sherrick!

Megan sprints out onto the field.

ANNOUNCER
Center Midfielder. Number Thirteen
from hometown of Chicago,
Illinois. Keira...

CROWD
Erling!

Keira sprints out onto the field.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELDS - THE STANDS - SAME
Night approaches as Tess takes her sit.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE FIELD - SAME
The team mates continues to sprint out to the field.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Attacking Midfielder. Number
Seventeen from the hometown of
Naples, Florida. Izzy...

CROWD
Worley!

Izzy sprints out onto the field.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Right Winger. On the top of the
four-four-two, Number Two from the
south side of Chicago, Illinois.
Jaz...

CROWD
Buschur!

Jaz sprints out onto the field.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME
Bobby lays down his notes and peers out of the booth.

ANNOUNCER
Center Forward. Number Nine from
the hometown of Flat Rock,
Pennsylvania. Annabel...

CROWD
Shone!

Annabel sprints out onto the field.

ANNOUNCER
Between the pipes, Number One.
From the hometown of Batesville,
Georgia. O'Malley...

O'Malley sprints out onto the field.

CROWD
Quinlan!!! O'Malley! O'Malley!!

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - SAME

Martin comes back with two buckets of popcorn.

MARTIN
O'Malley Quinlan? Ryan's daughter?

ELLIE
Daa. She's been there for four
years.

The TV captures a wide shot of the field.

MARTIN
Nice field.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - MIDFIELD - SAME

Under the lights, the game gets underway.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Great Lakes State with the
kickoff, deep into space on the
far touch, returned near midfield
by Mt. Vesuvius.

Advances Firebirds breakaway on the near touch with Annabel
running and Jaz on her flank.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The duo is in the clear. Unlucky
collision with Cobb of the Great
Lakes State Cougars upends Shone.
Goal kick State. Both teams going
with the fresh-legged pace of a
Saturday night match.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME

Tess and Courtney Quinlan a row in front of her watches.

TESS
Let's go!

COURTNEY
Come on! Talk, girls! Talk!

She turns back to Tess.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)
Hi. I'm Courtney.

TESS
Your daughter is wonderful at goal.

COURTNEY
Thanks. She works hard at it.

TESS
I'm...

COURTNEY
Annabel's Mom. I know. Come.

She scoots over.

TESS
I haven't made it to a lot of games. In high school, I followed the wrong boy into the backseat of his Camaro. Since then, life has been shit except for her.

Tess eye Annabel on the field.

TESS (CONT'D)
She's all I have.

COURTNEY
I see. Take a sit. Keep me in check, Tess.

TESS
What do you do?

COURTNEY
Teach English.

TESS
Is that fun?

COURTNEY
Sometimes. What do you do?

TESS
I'm figuring that out.

Courtney, not judgy, just smiles back kindly.

COURTNEY
Good.

She nudges the man next to her.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)
This is Ryan, my husband. He's a nervous wreck.

RYAN
Hi Tess, you think after all these games I wouldn't be.

TESS
Its a gift to watch these girls play.

COURTNEY
Especially Annabel.

RYAN
She's got some wheels.

Chirps in KARL and JEANNIE, 40s, tall and fit, former college athletes and Keira's parents.

JEANNIE
Hi.

KARL
Does she get that speed from you?

TESS
No.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — ON THE FIELD - SAME

Cougar player grabs Jaz's jersey.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Big handful of Buschur's jersey sets up the first free kick of the night, and GOOOOOOOAAAAAALLLLLL Mt. Vesuvius! Keira Erling lofts it perfectly toward the back side of the penalty box. You could not have put the ball on a tee better for Annabel Shone.

(MORE)

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 She crisply flicks it right along
 the crossbar and buries it on the
 opposite side of the net. TV is
 getting its money's worth.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - SAME

Ellie tips over her bowl of popcorn as she stands and
 cheers.

ELLIE
 Great goal!

Martin gives her a high-five.

MARTIN
 Great set-up.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME

Bobby sits in the booth and watches with binoculars.

ANNOUNCER
 State restarts. Mt. V regains
 possession and moves forward with
 numbers. Fantastic overlapping
 passes through the midfield to
 bring the ball wide left side.
 Erling thinks about it, the tap
 crosses to Buschur who takes a
 stride to set then strokes a level
 shot for the far post. She's just
 a foot outside.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE SIDELINES - SAME

Jaz's shot misses.

Coach Gordon watches.

COACH GORDON
 Great attempt, Jaz! Keep firing.

Coach starts to pace.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE FIELD - SAME

Annabel awaits Cougar Keeper's kick.

ANNABEL
Come on. Let's win this Firebirds!

Jaz tracks down a long kick, but she's disrupted by a high cleat that grazes her in the cheek.

Jaz eyes the Cougar player.

JAZ
Girl, you just didn't do that.

Then, she eye-balls the REF.

REF
Play on.

A cougar breaks through the line.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
State on the assault.

The Firebirds' DEFENSE squeezes in on the Cougar player.

The Cougar gets off a weak kick to goal right at O'Malley. Who easily stops it.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Goal kick.

INT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE MIDFIELD - SAME

Off O'Malley's long punt, Annabel is whistled for contact and a restart to Great Lakes State.

Cougars advances and plays possession inside the 18, finally Sophia gets the clearance. Off the throw, quality cross is broken up by Megan and goal kick for O'Malley. Skillings and Jaz tie up again.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
This is a classic back-forward showdown. This time, referee says advantage Cougars. Buschur must be careful as she comes into tonight's match with four cards.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME

Bobby peers down at the game.

ANNOUNCER

Ball bounds over the State's
keeper Sullivan's head,
momentarily an open goal but the
ball backspins into Sullivan's
outstretched hands.

Bobby slaps his hand down hard on the table.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Oh, so close to Two-Zero.

State gets its' first threat as Hensen makes a solo
breakaway.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

O'Malley has two choices. Charge
or defend.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - GOAL LINE - SAME

O'Malley opts for charge, and comes within a foot of paying
for it. O'Malley dives at Petrillo right at the 18, and as
she falls, Hensen drives for the goal. All Mt. V can do is
watch, but the ball rolls wide left.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Wow. That was close.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - SAME

Both Martin and Ellie are standing a few feet in front of
the TV.

ELLIE

Whew. That was close.

MARTIN

Too close.

On the TV, O'Malley kicks the ball. Then, the Firebirds'
win it and set up a pass for Jaz. She boots the ball
towards the goal.

The Cougar's Keeper gets a glove on it and knocks it out of
bounce.

ELLIE & MARTIN

Corner!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

First corner of the night for Mt.
Vesuvius.

EXT. FIREBIRD'S FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME

Bobby peers down.

As a routine O'Malley punt caroms off a Great Lakes State player over the end line. Hensen sends it right across the face, and Cougar's Keeper charges. It skips through her hands, but not where the Firebirds can utilize the misplay.

ANNOUNCER

Another State scare as Buschur chips forward for Shone, Great Lakes State's Cobb has the ball flick the wrong way and Shone is on. Cobb recovers just enough to frustrate Shone's shot, otherwise it would have been one v one and again likely Two-Nil.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - SCOREBOARD - SAME

Shows 1-0, Home vs. Guest. Time stands 24:00 on the first half clock.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE BOOTH - SAME

The Firebirds owns the midfield. Keira steals the ball from an advancing Cougar player.

ANNOUNCER

They don't call Erling the Wall for nothing. Great steal. And...

Another chance as Keira breaks away. A Cougar player rushes after her. She gives a smart back heel flick to Annabel.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Ooooooh. What a pass!

The home crowd is brought in.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - COUGAR'S GOAL - SAME

Keeper steps out to cover.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Shone uses her left. Boom!

The Cougar's keeper makes an amazing save.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Wow. Stunning save. Still One-Nil
Mt. Vesuvius, clock now at twenty
in the first half.

Whistle blows on Great Lakes State restarts the game near
midfield for Mt. Vesuvius.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - FIREBIRD'S GOAL - SAME

High cross from a Great Lakes State player earns the
Cougar's their second corner.

This time, O'Malley reaches high and misses. The ball lands
dangerously in the six-box, but a long clearance by Erling.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
The Firebirds avoids the
equalizer.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - MIDFIELD - SAME

Izzy attacks down the field.

ANNOUNCER
Slight breeze tonight out of the
south, and that aids a thirty-yard
cracker from Worley. It bends
toward the crossbar, and Sullivan
punches it over at the last
moment. Corner Mt. Vesuvius.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE CORNER - SAME

Izzy strikes the ball hard. It bends and lands before a
mele of players.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Somebody get a boot on it.

Cougar player clears it.

The home crowd reactions with a groan.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Clock winding down. Two minutes
left in the half. Firebirds still
lead One-Nil.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' - THE STANDS - SAME

Tess, from the bleachers, watches her daughter dribble through a crowd.

Annabel separates. She's one on one with the Cougar's Keeper.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - COUGAR'S GOAL - SAME

Annabel stops, places her foot and shoots. The ball sails slightly over the cross bar. A miss.

ANNABEL

Aaawwww.

Annabel smacks her head for missing a sure goal.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME

BART, 40s, a movie star looking man walks up the bleachers. He's eating a hot dog.

TESS

Oh, shit!

COURTNEY

Annabel's father?

TESS

Yes.

COURTNEY

I think I would have followed him into the backseat too.

TESS

In high school, he was everything. The QB captain of the football team with college scouts begging him to play for their schools.

COURTNEY

What happened?

TESS

Life. Now he works in glass factory for Eighteen dollars an hour.

COURTNEY

Oh. You too divorced?

TESS

Not yet.

Bart stands at the end of their row.

BART

Tess. She gets that temper our
her's from you.

TESS

You A-hole, what are you doing
here?

Bart moves to sit with Tess.

BART

Good day for a drive.

Bart moves people in Tess' row.

BART (CONT'D)

Excuse me. My wife misses me.

Bart takes a big bite of his hot dog as he squeezes in the
seat next to Tess.

Bart nods to the other parents.

BART (CONT'D)

What's the score?

RYAN

One-Nil, good guys.

He chews with his mouth open.

BART

Good.

EXT. FIREBIRD'S FIELD — THE BOOTH — SAME

ANNOUNCER

That will be the last attack of
the first half. We go to half time
at One-Nil Mt. Vesuvius.

INT. ATHLETIC COMPLEX — LOCKER ROOM — HALFTIME

The players rest on benches as Gordon stands.

COACH GORDON

First half. Thoughts?

KEIRA
We have the momentum.

COACH GORDON
True. But what have we learned
about momentum?

KEIRA
It swings.

COACH GORDON
Correct. Annabel and Jaz. What are
you seeing?

JAZ
Not enough goals from our
attempts.

COACH GORDON
Annabel?

ANNABEL
We missed scoring opportunities.

COACH GORDON
True. Stick to the basics. Those
scoring chances will come again.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE BOOTH — NIGHT

The second half begins.

ANNOUNCER
Great Lakes State gets a breakaway
that O'Malley comes off her line
to challenge. She makes the first
save, but the ball gets free. She
battles with Smoker, and gets
carded. From the penalty spot,
Hensen puts in the equalizer. Soft
placement to the low left side.
one-one... Clock now at Thirty-Six
left, and play is getting rough.

Home crowd is gets into the match with chants.

CROWD
Get it back. Get it back.

Cougar player crashes into a Firebird and gets called for
the foul. Great Lake player then pounds the ball away and
gets the yellow card for unsportsmanlike conduct.

After the free kick, Mt. Vesuvius picks up a throw in and Gordon substitutes Jaz back into the lineup.

ANNOUNCER

Great Lakes State overloads the Firebirds for the first time tonight. The first shot from Hensen ricochets off O'Malley's gloves, and Smoker drives it home for the two-one lead — just under thirty minutes left.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - GOAL LINE - MINUTES LATER

O'Malley comes off her line. She faces another Cougar challenge. O'Malley misses and a Cougar player chips into an empty goal.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Unlucky. That's Three-One with Twenty-Eight minutes left.

O'Malley retrieves the ball. Her breathing is laborious. She looks pale.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE STANDS — SAME

Reacts. Tess, Bart, Courtney, Ryan, and parents and fans.

COURTNEY

Eeeek.

TESS

There is plenty of time.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE BOOTH — SAME

Bobby watches.

ANNOUNCER

How a game can turn in two minutes. After being dominated for the opening Sixty minutes, Great Lakes State is now the aggressor, very energized on the front after their back-to-back goals. Now they're flying at Mt. Vesuvius.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE STANDS — SAME

Courtney sees a Cougar with the ball. The Great Lakes State player makes a break for the one v one goal.

Courtney stands.

COURTNEY
Someone get her!

Ryan looks around.

RYAN
Does anyone have the time?

CHRIS, Izzy's Dad answers.

CHRIS
Twenty minutes.

Cheers the Mt. Vesuvius fans.

FANS
Let's go, Red!

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE FIELD — SAME

The Cougars moves to a defensive stance.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Great Lakes State begins to dial
it back a bit, and looks to play
more possession to protect the
Three-One lead. Twenty minutes to
play.

Mt. Vesuvius swarms the Cougars for possession.

INTERCUT WITH THE THORNHILL HOME

Martin and Ellie's reactions to the game.

On the TV, the Cougars are content to play behind the ball to lock off opportunities.

Jaz breaks away, but where she found even numbers earlier, she's now doubled, with a third defender laying back.

ELLIE
Come on. They're eating time.

On the TV.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Great Lakes State has relaxed its
front to protect the three-one
spread. Sixteen left to play.

Mt. Vesuvius throws in.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELDS - THE SIDELINES - SAME

Coach Gordon walks up to the bench.

COACH GORDON
Worley. Raucci. Purks. You're in.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Coach Gordon makes three
substitutions.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE FIELD - SAME

The substitutes forces a quick attack, but State collapses
back on it.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Twelve minutes left. Annabel Shone
turns on a loose ball and let's
loose from twenty-five yards.
Keeper reaches for it.
GOOOAAAALLL. GOAL Mt. Vesuvius
Down by One.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - SAME

Martin and Ellie's joyous reaction. High-fives and hugs.

ELLIE & MARTIN
Go Firebirds!

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELDS - THE FIELD - SAME

The game plays on.

Megan brings the crowd to its feet with a long run from the
mid field stripe. Cougar defenders retreats to the
eighteen, then picks her off to end the attack.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Buschur advances up the near
touch, but she's forced to cross.

Keira and Annabel struggles for position.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Harmless to the Keeper. Seven
minutes left.

Mt. Vesuvius pulls the defense up high, adds more pressure.
Results in an off-sides trap for State.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Restart for the Firebirds at
midfield allows all but Erling to
stay back. No attack this time,
and the clock is now the enemy.
Four minutes to play down
three-two.

EXT. FIREFIRDS' FIELDS — THE STANDS — SAME

From the stands watches a nervous group of parents. They
look at the game clock opposite the field.

BART
Go girl. Go.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE FIELD — SAME

As if hearing her father's wishes.

ANNOUNCER
Shone spins away from a
midfielder, gets into the clear,
sets it perfectly to her left for
Erling. Sullivan charges out. Too
late! Erling's shot lofts over
Sullivan's shoulder! GOOOOAAALLL
MVU! Goal MVU!

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME — THEATER ROOM — SAME

Stands Ellie & Martin even closer to the TV.

Ellie stomps her feet in joy.

ELLIE
We are tied at Three!

MARTIN
One minute left.

On TV.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
The Cougars mount an attack.
Hensen makes a solo breakaway.
O'Malley has two choices – charge
or defend.

MARTIN
Why don't I remember O'Malley at
BC?

ELLIE
She went to Van Buren.

MARTIN
You're right. I forgot.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME
Courtney watches her daughter respond to the ball.

COURTNEY
Oh, dear.
Then, she looks to Tess.
Tess squeezes Courtney's hand for assurance.

TESS
She's got this.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - GOAL LINE - SAME
O'Malley charges to the ball.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
O'Malley opts for charge, and
comes within a foot of paying for
it.

O'Malley dives at Hensen right at the 18, saves a sure
goal.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - THEATER ROOM - SAME
Ellie stands and rocks a bit back in forth.

ELLIE
Whew. Gutsy girl.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - GOAL LINE - SAME

O'Malley hurries the ball back in play. Her kick is perfect. Targets Annabel.

Annabel settles the ball at her feet with two defender's on her back.

Annabel moves left, then right.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Shone is creating space!

Annabel sees Jaz and draws the defenders away.

Jaz taps it back to Shone.

Then, Annabel finds a higher gear. Jets pass her defenders. Now, she's One-on-One with Sullivan.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
This is going to be good.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME

Tess bites her finger nails.

TESS
Now, girl. Now.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE 18 - SAME

Annabel makes a quick move.

The Keep charges out to intercept.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
This could be it.

Jaz breaks wide.

The Cougar Keep commits to Annabel.

Annabel sees Jaz to her far right and taps it back with her left foot.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Oh, my! What a perfect pass.

The Cougar's Defense gets their late.

Jaz shoots point blank at an open goal.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
GOOOOOAAALLLL! In the final
minute!

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME- THEATER ROOM - SAME

Ellie and Martin reacts and celebrates.

MARTIN
Wow. This beats Professional.

ELLIE
What a goal.

MARTIN
What a game.

The TV captures the Firebirds' fans in the stands.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE STANDS - SAME

Erupts the Firebirds' fans.

High-fives Bart and Ryan.

Hugs Tess and Courtney.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - MIDFIELD - SAME

The Ref blows his whistle three times.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
And there's the three whistles.
Full time and the final score
Four-Three. Mt. Vesuvius! The
Firebirds win.

Firebirds' fans rushes down the stands and out onto the
field.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - THE 18 - SAME

The Firebirds' team celebrates as the girls hoist up, Jaz
and O'Malley.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
You couldn't ask for a better game
than that folks. Time to
celebrate.

Above everyone's shoulders, O'Malley points to the stands and her parents.

Annabel looks up to O'Malley.

ANNABEL
It all works out, Keep.

O'MALLEY
It certainly does. Go Firebirds!
Yeah.

Black spots and blood smears their jerseys.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — THE STANDS — SAME

Within a sea of cheering fans, Courtney realizes the Majesty of soccer played at this level.

COURTNEY
Ah, it's a beautiful game.

TESS
Yes, it is.

EXT. SOCCER CO-OP — SATURDAY NIGHT — LATER

College kids with red Dixie cups in their hands celebrates their victory over their regional rivals.

INT. SOCCER CO-OP — LIVING ROOM — SAME

Fill of team players out of their uniforms.

A few of the more daring parents linger about.

JEANNIE
Where's your husband?

TESS
He left. Bart prefers to be alone.

JEANNIE
Oh.

Tess approaches Jaz.

TESS
Great shot Jaz.

JAZ

It was your daughter Annabel that
set me up.

Jaz high-fives Annabel as she enters the living room.

ANNABEL

It felt good to win.

Enters Courtney and O'Malley, side by side, into the living
room.

O'Malley wears sunglasses, jeans and a Pearl Jam Tour
T-Shirt.

JAZ

O'Malley. What's with the
sunglasses?

O'MALLEY

Tonight... I feel famous.

Tess looks at O'Malley. The Keeper starts to wobble.

POV O'Malley as the room spins.

Tess attempts to grab her as she wobbles.

TESS

Honey... you okay?

O'Malley falls face down to the floor.

EXT. UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL — NIGHT — LATER

The ambulance pulls up. Paramedics pop out. We see O'Malley
in a stretcher as doctors and nurses rush out of the
hospital.

LEAD DOCTOR

Condition?

PARAMEDIC 1

Possible dehydration. Passed out
at a party.

LEAD DOCTOR

Signs of Alcohol?

COURTNEY

My daughter is an athlete. She
doesn't drink.

LEAD DOCTOR
(to paramedics)
Alcohol?

PARAMEDIC 2
No signs of alcohol poisoning.

LEAD DOCTOR
Okay. Check her vitals. We can
take her from here.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

Sits in awkward silence: Tess, Team Mates, Ryan, Coach
Gordon, and Courtney.

They all are in a daze.

A young DOCTOR comes out in clean white lab coat. He holds
charts up. Looks at them one last time. Then, he clears
throat as he looks up.

DOCTOR
Mrs. Quinlan?

COURTNEY
Right here. How's she doing?

DOCTOR
I'm afraid not well.

The others react to the news.

INT. COACH GORDON'S HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Coach Gordon makes two cups of fresh tea.

TESS
Stage four Hodgkin's lymphoma.

COACH GORDON
How?

TESS
She's only Twenty-One years old.

Gordon stares out the darken window above the sink.

COACH GORDON
I know.

INT. UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL — I.C.U. — DAY

Tess enters the room and sees her Daughter talking to an unconscious best friend.

Machines and monitors are everywhere.

O'Malley lays motionless in her bed.

ANNABEL
What are you doing here?

TESS
How many times are you going to say that?

ANNABEL
Until you go home.

TESS
Do you really think I wanted my life to turn out like this? Crap.

ANNABEL
You did nothing to stop it.

TESS
I did nothing. Hell girl. I was Homecoming Queen before I met you.

ANNABEL
So, it's all my fault.

TESS
No. But there were other options.

ANNABEL
What?

TESS
You want to have a Big-Girl conversation. Let's have it.

ANNABEL
I can't believe you just said that.

TESS
You spoiled brat. You cannot comprehend the sacrifices that have been made. All for you.

ANNABEL
Like what?

TESS
 You think I'm talking about me?
 Hmm. You are just like him.
 Pig-headed.

ANNABEL
 I prefer the word, determined.

TESS
 You would college girl.

Annabel moves to leave. Tess grabs her hard, and shakes her.

TESS (CONT'D)
 Wake up. Your father had every
 big-time school in three states
 begging him to play football.

ANNABEL
 Why?

Tess thinks back.

TESS
 He was fast.

ANNABEL
 Not as fast as you and Coach?

TESS
 Gordon and I were friends before
 you were even born.

ANNABEL
 I still don't like it.

Annabel storms off.

TESS
 You don't have to.

Tess walks over to O'Malley.

TESS (CONT'D)
 Poor child.

O'Malley's eyes open up.

TESS (CONT'D)
 You're awake.

O'Malley looks afraid.

Tess comforts her.

TESS (CONT'D)
It's okay, dear. Shh. It's going
to be okay.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM — NIGHT — LATER

Tess sits by Courtney.

O'Malley lies surrounded by her teammates. She looks happy.
She's out of the I.C.U.

Courtney looks like she hasn't slept for days. She stands
and stretches.

COURTNEY
Tess, can I have a word with you?

TESS
Sure.

Courtney moves out to the hallway.

Tess follows her.

COURTNEY
You and Coach are... friends?

TESS
We are a little more than that
Courtney.

COURTNEY
I know. Could you talk to him for
me?

TESS
What about?

COURTNEY
The turf. Does he think it's safe
to play on?

TESS
The turf?

COURTNEY
Yes. The turf.

EXT. COACH GORDON'S HOME — DECK — DAY

Gordon and Tess enjoys some lemonade.

COACH GORDON
The field? It's brand new.

TESS
She was referring to their high school field back in Batesville.

COACH GORDON
Ahh. Well, some people think turf is bad.

TESS
Why?

COACH GORDON
The turf is made up of three major parts. Backing material. Plastic blades. And the infill.

TESS
Those tiny black crumbs?

Gordon nods yes.

COACH GORDON
The old grounded up tires support the blades.

TESS
So what's bad about tires?

COACH GORDON
I don't know.

TESS
Shouldn't you?

INT. O'MALLEY'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

O'Malley's lays prodded up in bed.

Annabel sits besides her.

O'MALLEY
Why are you so mean to your Mother?

ANNABEL
What's she doing here?

O'MALLEY
Does it matter?

ANNABEL
She should be back in Flat Rock.

O'MALLEY
She loves you.

Annabel grows silent.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)
Even though you give her every
reason not to.

ANNABEL
I... She embarrasses me.

O'MALLEY
How?

ANNABEL
She just does.

O'MALLEY
Hmm.
(tires)
Do me a favor.

ANNABEL
What?

O'MALLEY
Love her back.

Annabel starts tearing up.

ANNABEL
Why?

O'MALLEY
She gave you life.

Annabel ponders this.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)
I need sleep. Go.

ANNABEL
Okay.

Annabel walks to door and turns.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
I love you, O'Malley.

O'Malley rests with her eyes shut.

O'MALLEY

I know.

EXT. M.V.U. LIBRARY — COMPUTER STATION — NIGHT

Tess researches the Internet on possible cancer causing chemicals in artificial fields.

She sits and types into a search engine: "crumb rubber cancer."

Search results appear on the screen.

Tess clicks on one that with the keywords of crumb rubber contains. She reads out loud.

TESS

Arsenic. Barium. Benzene. Boron.
Cadmium. Lead. Mercury. Nickel.
Zinc.

Gordon approaches.

COACH GORDON

Here you are.

Coach looks around the library.

TESS

I love this place.

COACH GORDON

Tess, this is all new to you.

TESS

My college experience was changing
diapers One-O-One.

COACH GORDON

So what did you learn?

TESS

Used tires are no good.

INT. THE GORDON HOME — BEDROOM — DAY

The phone rings on bedside. On the third ring, Gordon answers it.

COACH GORDON

Hello. Uh-hmm. Uh-Hmm. Okay. I
will be right over.

Tess lies beside him.

TESS
What is it?

Gordon hangs up the phone. Tears start to stream down his face.

COACH GORDON
O'Malley. She's... gone.

TESS
How? I thought the treatments were working.

COACH GORDON
I don't know. Infection maybe. She was so young.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Martin wears a black suit. He is having trouble with his tie.

Jill comes to his aid and helps tie a perfect knot.

JILL
There.

MARTIN
Lymphoma.

JILL
It's such a shame.

MARTIN
How?

JILL
Who knows these things?

MARTIN
Hmm.

EXT. BATESVILLE CHURCH - DAY - LATER

Old Catholic Church of polished stone. A statue of St. Mary stands in front.

INT. BATESVILLE CHURCH - FUNERAL MASS - SAME

Bright sunlight streams through the stained glass as the PRIEST, in full formal attire, walks down the center aisle of the pews.

The pews are packed with men and women paying their final respects: friends, team mates old and new, teachers, coaches, and The Thornhills.

The Quinlan's grief as a wounded family in the front pew.

The Priest passes them as he approaches...

THE ALTAR

Flowers covers the altar. So does a blown up photograph of O'Malley besides her coffin.

PRIEST

Before we begin. Coach Gordon
wishes to say a few words.

Gordon sits beside Tess and Annabel. He stands and walks up to the podium. He nods to the Priest.

COACH GORDON

Thank you.

The Priest steps back.

Gordon looks out to the fill church packed with people who loved O'Malley.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

I was told once... When you're a
coach, and you die, you leave a
little piece of yourself in each
of your players.

Ryan and Courtney sits and listens.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

O'Malley left a huge piece of
herself in our team.

Gordon tears up.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

And in me.

The Priest re-appears.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
 She's irreplaceable. There is only
 one O'Malley Quinlan. We will
 always remember her. A great Keep.

Coach Gordon moves away from the podium and stares down at
 the flower covered coffin.

Gordon returns to his sit, one by one, his players nod
 their appreciation as he passes.

PRIEST
 Many wonder. Where is God in a
 time like this?

EXT. BATESVILLE CEMETERY - LATER

Tombstones covers the grounds around O'Malley's burial
 site.

The priest stands before a large gathering.

PRIEST
 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack
 nothing. He makes me lie down in
 green pastures...

Annabel and Tess hold hands. They look to one another.

Annabel squeezes her Mother's hand. She is grateful she
 still can.

PRIEST (CONT'D)
 Even though I walk through the
 darkest valley, I will fear no
 evil.

EXT. O'MALLEY'S HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Martin walks the turf. He still wears his dark suit from
 the funeral.

A GROUNDS KEEPER appears.

GROUNDS KEEPER
 Oh, Mr. Thornhill. It's you.

MARTIN
 Hey Mike. How do you like this
 field?

GROUNDS KEEPER

I love it. I don't have to cut it
or water it.

MARTIN

Is it safe?

GROUNDS KEEPER

Safe? What do you mean?

Martin bends down and scoops up some crumbs and plays with them in the palm of his hand.

MARTIN

Nothing.

INT. GORDON HOME - NIGHT

Tess still wears black.

TESS

These guys are evil.

Coach cleans up the kitchen.

COACH GORDON

Who?

TESS

The Rubber Manufacturers. And their lobbyists.

COACH GORDON

They are buying influence. Washington has always been that way. I bet Pharmaceutical lobbyists spend ten times as much money to get their way.

TESS

Maybe. But is that right?

Coach makes a face as he sees her point.

EXT. COURTNEY'S HOME - DAY

Jill rings the doorbell. She has a platter in her hands.

Just as she attempts to hit the buzzer, the door swings open.

Courtney appears in a bathrobe in the doorway. She says nothing.

JILL
Oh. Hi. I thought you may need
some food.

Courtney turns and walks into her home.

Jill enters.

The home is in disarray.

COURTNEY
Thanks.

Courtney points to the kitchen table as she returns to a
living room chair and sits.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)
There.

Jill sees mountains of platters and containers on the table
from family members and friends.

JILL
Well, if you need anything, let me
know.

Courtney stares at the TV that is off.

COURTNEY
How about my daughter?

INT. LOCKER ROOM — PREGAME - DAY

Before the Championship Game, the locker room chatters with
nerves.

NOTE: The girls are dressed in white with black armbands
with a white 'O' on them. They sit along two straight
wooden benches before their lockers.

In a daze, Coach Gordon stands by a large TV monitor.

There is a knock on the door.

Coach snaps out of his daze. He moves to answer it.

Appears Ryan Quinlan from around the counter.

COACH GORDON
Attention, girls.

They do not respond. Too loud.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)

Girls!

The team notices O'Malley's Dad. Everything stops. Utter silence. All look to him.

RYAN

Hi girls. My girl. Wanted you to have this.

He holds up a shiny DVD.

RYAN (CONT'D)

In fact, she insisted on it. She called it BIG-GAME MOTIVATION. I call it, her life.

Ryan starts to cry.

The team huddles up around him and hugs him hard.

Ryan pulls away.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Thank you. Here Coach.

Ryan moves to leave.

RYAN (CONT'D)

I can't watch it. I lived it.

COACH GORDON

Thank you, Ryan.

O'Malley's Dad leaves.

Coach inserts the DVD. And hits play. The room is silent again.

The video starts with baby pictures of O'Malley. Then Pearl Jam's, Just Breath plays.

SERIES OF SHOTS: O'MALLEY'S LIFE MONTAGE BEGINS.

- A. Her as an infant in Courtney's arms.
- B. As a toddler in only a diaper chases her Daddy.
- C. In a pink dress dances around a small table set for tea.
- D. Blows out candles. Birthday party after birthday party.
- E. On green grass with soccer ball.

F. Pee-wee soccer teams. Different color uniforms.

G. Plays soccer and scores.

H. Ryan holds up sign, That's my Girl.

I. Try-outs.

J. Select game matches.

K. Soccer tournaments.

L. High School matches.

M. College teammates.

N. Goofing off.

O. Mt. Vesuvius games.

As montage rolls Pearl Jam's, Just Breathe continues to play. After, "Meet you on the other side."

The video ends with a bald O'Malley, in her hospital bed.

O'MALLEY
Go Firebirds!

O'Malley cries.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)
Be Firebirds.

She blows a kiss.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)
Win for me.

O'Malley upper body returns to her bed.

O'MALLEY
Okay Daddy. Turn it off.

The team sobs for their fallen friend and player.

Silence. Their game faces are now on.

COACH GORDON
You know what to do.

JAZ
Let's kick some ass.

The girls storm out of the locker room, as they move down the hall.

ANNABEL
We're playing for more than a win.
We're playing to honor O'Malley.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - CHAMPIONSHIP GAME - DAY

In the booth sit Bobby Williams.

QUICK CUTS OF ACTION.

M.V.U. players void of emotion. Professionally and machine-like dominate the Game.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Never have on seen such a lopsided
Championship match.

The team their playing bench reacts from being schooled.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - AFTER WIN - LATER

No cheers. Just tears.

COACH GORDON
O'Malley would've been proud of
your girls effort today.

JAZ
Game ball goes to?

ANNABEL
The Quinlans.

The team agrees.

INT. THE GORDON HOME - BEDROOM - MORNING

The phone rings by the bedside. On the third ring, Gordon answers it.

COACH GORDON
Hello. Uh-hmm. Okay.

TESS
Who is it?

COACH GORDON
Bart.

TESS
Bart? Is he drunk?

Coach cups phone.

COACH GORDON
No.

TESS
It's my Mom.

EXT. FLAT ROCK CEMETERY — DAY

At Tess' Mom's funeral, a coffin fills a concrete silo. A big pile of dirt is beside it.

Everyone else has left except Tess, Gordon, and Bart.

The three old high school friends.

TESS
Can I have a minute?

GORDON
Okay.

Coach offers to shake Bart's hand. Bart refuses it.

BART
My best man. Please.

GORDON
Stop living in the past. We're not
in high school anymore.

Coach nods his good-bye. Then he walks toward his car.

Tess removes divorce papers from her purse.

BART
I'm not signing them.

TESS
Yes. You are.

BART
No. I am not.

Tess takes the cap off her pen. She looks straight through Bart.

TESS
Do you know what the word
'distress' means?

BART
You tell me college girl.

Tess uses the pen like a knife. It's tip touches Bart's neck.

TESS
Dis·tress. Means, extreme anxiety,
sorrow, or pain.

BART
So?

Tess pushes the pen into his flesh.

BART (CONT'D)
Hey. That hurts.

TESS
Good. I have you attention now.
Distress could describe the last
twenty years of my life. But no
longer. I'm tired of your shit.

BART
Tess. Don't give up on us.

TESS
Sign the papers. Now! We are done.

Bart looks around.

BART
Okay.

Bart uses a tombstone as a desk. Then, he signs the paperwork.

BART (CONT'D)
You will regret it, girl.

TESS
I won't.

BART
So. I was nothing to you.

TESS
Without you. No Annabel.

BART
Yeah. She's the best of us, both.
Sometimes the worse. Bye, Tess.

TESS
Bye, Bart.

INT. GORDON'S CAR — FUNERAL — SAME

With freshly signed divorce papers in hand, she enters Gordon's car.

COACH GORDON
How did it go?

TESS
Good.

She shows him the signed divorce papers.

COACH GORDON
How?

TESS
I channeled my inter-bitch.

COACH GORDON
Good. Let's finally say good-bye to this place.

INT. COLLEGE BAR — NIGHT

Great cover band plays, Rosalina Come Out Tonight.

TESS
Let's dance.

COACH GORDON
Why?

Tess offers him her hand.

TESS
Because we can.

COACH GORDON
That hand would look better. If it had a ring on it.

TESS
Okay. But let's dance first.

EXT. BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN — SOCCER FIELD — DAY

Martin, Jill, and Jack watches Ellie's game.

SERIES OF SHOTS: ELLIE'S GAME.

A. Ellie is the team's goalie.

- B. Shot by shot she stops.
- C. She dives left.
- D. She dives right.
- E. Her uniform gets dirty.

The REF blows his whistle three times.

Ellie's team celebrates.

Martin, Jill and the other parents goes to midfield to congratulate the girls.

JACK
Great game, Sissy.

Ellie walks towards him all messy and sweaty.

MARTIN
Good job, honey.

ELLIE
Thanks, Dad.

Martin grabs her bag and water bottle.

Ellie continues to walk toward the parking lot with her Mom, friends, and brother.

Martin stands at midfield, alone. He looks up at the sun. Then, he bends down and touches the turf.

Close-up of the cork, organic infill.

MARTIN
Good and cool. It's hard to beat nature.

INT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Martin leans back in his chair.

Chet talks about revenue projections. Behind him, a White Board captures sales projections, shows huge growth. He uses his arm to trace the line up.

CHET
Sales have never been better.

SALE REP #1
These schools we're signing only
care about their football field.

SALES REP #2
So adding the soccer field in, is
a slam dunk.

CHET
Good. Keep up the good work.

Chet looks at the chart on the with a map of America. Red
dots represents where his fields have been installed. The
dots are everywhere on the map and includes the soccer
field at Mt. Vesuvius University.

CHET (CONT'D)
Amazing.

Chet sees Martin staring out the window.

MARTIN
These new fields we're installing.
How many are sold with the
crumb-rubber infill?

Chet looks to his reps.

Sales Rep #1 looks to Sales Rep #2, then back to his boss.

REP#1
All of them.

INT. AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES BUILDING — DAY

Tess has a new ring on her finger as she walks down a long
corridor. She attempts to catch up to Dr. KOTZIN, 50s,
chubby, plaid on plaid academic. He's married to his work.

TESS
Dr. Kotzin. Dr. Kotzin!

DR. KOTZIN
Yes.

TESS
I'm Mrs. Gore. Coach Gordon's
wife.

DR. KOTZIN
I know who you are. The turf? I'm
watching it closely. I take
samples every week.

TESS
Good. But...

DR. KOTZIN
Is it safe for the girls to play on?

TESS
Yes.

DR. KOTZIN
As we speak, California is conducting a massive study on that exact subject.

TESS
Our girls practice and play on that field.

DR. KOTZIN
I'm aware.

Dr. Kotzin looks at his watch.

DR. KOTZIN (CONT'D)
I need to go. I have a class.

Dr. Kotzin walks on.

TESS
Oh.

From down the hall, Dr. Kotzin turns and shouts back.

DR. KOTZIN
Tomorrow. My office. Ten a.m.
Let's talk then.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME — THEATER ROOM - NIGHT

It's movie night at the Thornhill's home.

Jill and Martin watches the end of, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington.

On screen is Jimmy Stewart, as JEFFERSON SMITH, as he addresses the SENATE. Smith's speech starts with...

JEFFERSON SMITH
I guess this is just another lost cause Mr. Paine. All you people don't know about lost causes. Mr. Paine does.

(MORE)

JEFFERSON SMITH (CONT'D)

He said once they were the only causes worth fighting for and he fought for them once. For the only reason any man ever fights for them. Because of just one plain simple rule. Love thy neighbor. And in this world today of great hatred a man who knows that rule has a great trust. You know that rule Mr. Paine and I loved you for it just as my father did. And you know that you fight harder for the lost causes than for any others. Yes you'd even die for them. Like a man we both knew Mr. Paine. You think I'm licked. You all think I'm licked. Well I'm not licked. And I'm gonna stay right here and fight for this lost cause. Even if this room gets filled with lies like these. And the Taylors and all their armies come marching into this place. Somebody will listen to me.

Stewart collapses.

MARTIN

Why don't they make movies like this anymore?

JILL

Because no one seems to care.

INT. AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES BUILDING - OFFICE - DAY

Tess sits across from Dr. Kotzin in his cluttered office.

DR. KOTZIN

Think Tess. Each square foot of field has ten plus pounds of tire crumbs. So with that said.

He goes to a chalkboard, and with chalk marks.

DR. KOTZIN (CONT'D)

A typical three-hundred-foot-long field. That is one-hundred-fifty-feet-wide. Equals forty-five-hundred-square-feet.

He circles the number.

DR. KOTZIN (CONT'D)
Forty-five-thousand pounds of
chemically infused waste.

TESS
That our children are playing on.

DR. KOTZIN
Exactly. But we need proof.

TESS
What can I do to help?

He grabs box of vials from a nearby shelf.

DR. KOTZIN
I always could use more samples.

The doctor hands the box to Tess.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - SIDELINES - DAY

Coach Gordon watches Dr. Kotzin and Tess at the other side
of the field.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - OTHER SIDE - SAME

Tess scoops up some black pellets. With care, she places
them in a short, clear tube.

DR. KOTZIN
It's that simple.

Tess hands over the vial.

DR. KOTZIN (CONT'D)
Now, I can test it.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - SIDELINES - SAME

Appears DR. ARCHER, 50's, corporate-climber-type, appears
in a fresh suit next to Coach Gordon. Dr. Archer is Mt.
Vesuvius' new Athletic Director bent on turning Mt.
Vesuvius into a regional football powerhouse.

DR. ARCHER
Hi Coach.

COACH GORDON
Dr. Archer.

DR. ARCHER
What are they doing?

COACH GORDON
Taking samples of the field.

DR. ARCHER
Samples? Why?

COACH GORDON
They're looking for...

DR. ARCHER
We just finished paying for this
field. Trust me. It's the best
money can buy.

COACH GORDON
If you say so, sir.

DR. ARCHER
I say so.

INT. DR. KOTZIN'S LAB — DAY

Dr. Archer peers in.

DR. ARCHER
Andy. May I have a word with you?

DR. KOTZIN
Sure, Bill. What's up?

Dr. Archer picks up various objects in lab.

DR. ARCHER
I'm concerned.

DR. KOTZIN
About what?

DR. ARCHER
Mrs. Gore?

DR. KOTZIN
What do you mean?

DR. ARCHER
I'm tired of her doubting the
integrity of our sports fields for
one.

DR. KOTZIN
She's just helping me collect
samples.

DR. ARCHER
She's not a scientist, Andy.

DR. KOTZIN
Neither are you, Bill.

DR. ARCHER
True. But the money our sports
teams bring in. Pays for much at
this University. This nice lab of
yours for one.

DR. KOTZIN
Bill. Nothing is more important
than the safety of our students.

DR. ARCHER
Of course. No research I've seen
has linked crumbs to cancer.

DR. KOTZIN
Yet.

DR. ARCHER
Exactly.

INT. GORDON'S OFFICE - DAY

Gordon sits at his desk, reviewing a video clip of a
potential M.V.U. player's high school game.

Andy appears at the door.

DR. KOTZIN
Knock. Knock.

Gordon looks up.

COACH GORDON
Andy. What's up?

DR. KOTZIN
You have a minute?

COACH GORDON
Sure.

DR. KOTZIN
Congrats, by the way.

COACH GORDON
Thanks. I've had my eye on Tess
since the third grade.

DR. KOTZIN
She's the reason I'm here. Dr.
Archer is tired of her questioning
the fields.

COACH GORDON
Someone needs to find out if these
fields are safe.

MATCH CUT:

EXT. ORLANDO FIVE-STAR HOTEL - TURF CONFERENCE - NIGHT

Turf exes and their vendors wander about as Gus and Martin
debate the topic at hand.

GUS
Fifty independent studies says
it's safe. It's safe.

MARTIN
But...

GUS
Marty. If you question the
integrity... what is going to stop
others?

MARTY
The heat factor alone should stop
us from using this material as a
variable option.

GUS
Every year, three-hundred million
tires become waste in the United
States. Three-hundred million.
Where should these abandoned tires
go?

MARTY
Not fields our children play on.

GUS
The EPA is happy with our efforts.

EXT. ANNABEL'S GRADUATION CEREMONY — DAY

Tess walks up to girls from the team. She takes a picture with her phone.

Annabel stands by Jaz, Keira, and friends with graduation gowns on.

Snap. Annabel comes and gives her Mother a hug.

ANNABEL
First round, Mom. I made the first round.

TESS
Congratulations.

The two still embrace.

TESS (CONT'D)
I'm more impressed with the diploma.

ANNABEL
Thanks, Mom.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD PRACTICE — DAY

Practice drills. Tess approaches Gordon.

TESS
Do you know Amy Griffin?

GORDON
She's was a goalie in the Ninety-One Olympics.

TESS
Yeah.

GORDON
No. Why?

TESS
I need to meet her.

EXT. STARFIRE FACILITY — TUKWILA, WASHINGTON — DAY

Tess visits Annabel in Seattle for her first professional game for the Seattle Sounders. As she does so, she scoops up pellets from the AstroTurf field and places them in a vile for Dr. Kotzin.

Seattle Reign SOCCER PLAYER looks at her, then Annabel.

SOCCKER PLAYER
What's she doing?

ANNABEL
Testing the turf. Seeing if it's
is safe to play on.

SOCCKER PLAYER
Oh. I can save her the time. It
ain't.

The player runs across the field to warm up.

EXT. WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY — DAY

On the Women's Lower Soccer Field, the Cougars Women's
Soccer Team plays The Huskies.

Tess reads Brené Brown's Daring Greatly as the Huskies
players approach. She sees their goalkeeper coach, Amy
Griffin and pops up.

TESS
Coach. Do you have a minute?

Coach Griffin quickens her pace. She thinks she's a
reporter.

COACH GRIFFIN
Sorry. I need to make a bus.

TESS
It's about the artificial turf.

COACH GRIFFIN
Are you a reporter?

TESS
Concerned Mother.

COACH GRIFFIN
We need more of you.

Tess and Amy talk for few minutes.

HUSKY PLAYER comes over.

HUSKY PLAYER
Coach. The driver says.

COACH GRIFFIN
I know.

TESS
I'm sorry. I took too much of your time.

COACH GRIFFIN
No. You haven't. Can you ride with us back to Seattle? I wish to continue this conversion.

TESS
Well... I have a rental.

COACH GRIFFIN
Carol.

HUSKY PLAYER
Yes, Coach.

COACH GRIFFIN
Take Mrs. Gore's car and follow us.

INT. HUSKY CHARTER BUS - NIGHT

Names of all youth players she knows fighting cancer.

TESS
That many?

COACH GRIFFIN
It seems weird to me. That you are not allowed to burn or bury them. You're not allowed to do so many things because they're deemed unsafe. Yet we can spread them around our athletes' playing fields.

TESS
Why isn't anyone doing anything?

COACH GRIFFIN
You are.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF SEATTLE - CAMPUS - NIGHT

Tess POV. As the Husky Team exits bus, Carol waits with her rental car.

Coach Griffin yells to Tess as she walks to her car.

COACH GRIFFIN
Contact Jeff Ruch at Peer in DC.
He will open your eyes wider.

INT. GORE'S HOME - DAY

Gordon watches Tess re-pack.

COACH GORDON
Where are you going?

TESS
To DC.

COACH GORDON
You just got back.

TESS
I need to see a man. It's about...

COACH GORDON
I know what's it about.

Gordon sighs.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Good luck.

EXT. WASHINGTON MALL AND CAPITOL - DAY

Group of kids of various ethnicity plays soccer in park.

INT. LOCAL RESTAURANT - DAY

Tess meets with JEFF KUCH, 50s, a fellow fighter of lost causes. He works at Peer group, a Consumer Activist Group over lunch.

Kuch eats a bite of pink salmon.

JEFF KUCH
Well... tires are nasty to deal with. They catch on fire. Those fires are hard to put out. So the solution was. Let's make lemonade out of this lemon. Salt.

Tess hands him salt.

JEFF KUCH (CONT'D)

Thanks. So let's take waste and turn it into a product by chopping it up and putting it into various uses.

TESS

Like artificial fields.

JEFF KUCH

Exactly. It was a solution to a solid waste problem that had a public health blind spot.

TESS

Amazing.

JEFF KUCH

Not if it's your kids playing on it. Pepper.

INT. SUPER STORE - CEREAL AISLE - DAY

Martin's cart bumps into another person's cart. As he looks up, he sees Ryan Quinlan.

MARTIN

Oh. Hi, Ryan.

RYAN

Hey, Marty. Sorry.

MARTIN

No worries.

RYAN

Your family is in the turf business, right?

MARTIN

Yes. Three-generations.

RYAN

Good. So, Courtney has been telling me that turf may not be safe. Is that true?

MARTIN

The most respected scientists says they are.

RYAN

I'm not asking them. I'm asking you.

Martin lowers his eyes.

MARTIN

I...

FLASHBACK:

EXT. PARK - DAY - YEARS AGO

By accident, a YOUNGER O'MALLEY, her hair in French braids, kicks a soccer ball at Martin's head.

Martin moves to miss it.

Ellie as a toddler retrieves it.

Younger O'Malley approaches him for her ball.

YOUNGER O'MALLEY

Sorry, Mr. Thornhill.

MARTIN

Good kick, O'Malley.

Ellie returns. She hoists up ball to O'Malley.

ELLIE

B-a-w-l.

Younger O'Malley accepts it. Then, she runs off to play.

END OF FLASHBACK:

INT. MARTIN'S HOME - FOUR CAR GARAGE - NIGHT

Martin sits behind the wheel of SUV. His hands still grip the wheel.

Jill opens the garage door. As she stands in rich powerful light, she sees her husband.

JILL

Marty? You okay?

Martin does not reply.

Jill walks to the car door.

JILL (CONT'D)

Marty? You scaring me.

MARTIN

I'm scaring myself.

JILL
What happened?

MARTIN
I ran in to Ryan Quinlan at the store.

JILL
And?

MARTIN
He asked me if exposure to turf fields killed his daughter?

JILL
Oh, honey. She went to Van Buren. Not BC. Her soccer field wasn't installed by us.

MARTIN
I know...

He turns to his wife.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
But we have installed hundreds of those same fields. Hundreds.

JILL
Then, do something about it. Fix it.

EXT. WEMBLY STADIUM, LONDON — OLYMPICS — DAY
Aerial Shot of the stadium.

INT. WEMBLY STADIUM — DAY

SUPER: "WEMBLY STADIUM — THE LONDON OLYMPICS."

A sports clip shows the highlights as the USA Women's Soccer Team beats Japan to secure Gold at Wembley Stadium during the London 2012 Olympic Games.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
United States beats Japan Two-One to win the gold.

In the stands, Coach Gordon, Tess, and Annabel attends as fans.

INT. WEMBLY STADIUM — NIGHT

Stadium lights radiates an empty arena.

On the field, Tess scoops up beads and places them in vial for Dr. Kotzin.

Annabel walks along the field. The sheer size awes her.

Then, she sprints down the field and acts as if she is playing.

Coach Gordon kicks a soccer ball to her from across the field.

COACH GORDON
One minute left!

Annabel explodes to the goal. She kicks the ball. Boom!

The soccer ball bends high and hard.

ANNABEL
Shoots, and scores!

Tess yells to her husband.

TESS
Easier when there's no goalie.

COACH GORDON
No Keeper could have stopped that ball.

INT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - MARTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Martin sits at his desk as his phone rings. He picks it up.

MARTIN
Marty here.

GUS
Marty, you've to stop drawing attention to yourself.

MARTIN
What are talking about?

GUS
The safety studies?

MARTIN
So I reached out to a few friends.
I needed more data.

GUS
Let me reaffirm the association's
position, your position, the
fields are safe.

MARTIN
What if they're not?

EXT. GORE'S HOME — DRIVEWAY — DAY

Gordon and Tess gets out of the car.

TESS
EPA had never done a risk
assessment.

COACH GORDON
You getting warmer, Tess. What
next?

EXT. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM TRY-OUTS — DAY

Annabel runs to the sidelines and grabs some water. As she
drinks it, looks at all the caliber of talent in the midst
of drills. She is amazed.

Keira comes up to her.

KEIRA
Do you believe we are actually
here?

Annabel sees the players she has idolized on the field.

ANNABEL
No.

KEIRA
Well. We are.

ANNABEL
Let's make the most of it then.

KEIRA
Yeah.

In the background, HOPE SOLO stops ball after ball at goal.

KEIRA (CONT'D)
Do you ever think about O'Malley?

Annabel downs her paper cup of water and crushes it.

ANNABEL

Everyday.

Annabel sprints back out onto the field.

Keira does the same.

KEIRA

Me too.

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - BATHROOM - DAY

Chet stands before the mirror as he washes his hands.

Martin joins him at the counter.

CHET

Replacing the crumb-rubber fields,
free of charge, is going to cost
this company a fortune.

MARTIN

Yes, it is.

Martin eyes Chet.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

But it allows me to look my
neighbors in the eye. Something a
week ago, I could not do.

EXT. MT. VESUVIUS UNIVERSITY - DAY

Students nears Union Building as Tess hands out, "No
Crumbs" in our Parks leaflets to students.

To each passing student, she offers one.

TESS

Here you go. Thank you. We have a
meeting next Thursday if you wish
to attend.

Dr. Archer approaches her. He snatches a flyer from a
passing student.

DR. ARCHER

Thanks.

He reads it.

DR. ARCHER (CONT'D)

What? Tess.

TESS
A discussion on the safety of our
fields, Mr. Archer.

DR. ARCHER
We shall see about that.

He storms off.

TESS
Dr. Archer... You're welcome to
attend!

INT. NEWS SHOW - DAY

NEWSCASTER interviews a medical doctor.

SUPER: "DR. DONALD NORTH, ONCOLOGIST MAYO CLINIC."

DR. NORTH
There has been no proof that these
are definitely cancer causing
exposures.

NEWSCASTER
Let's get the Turf Association's
stance on this, Kelly.

The screen switches to KELLY, a reporter standing beside
Gus Muller.

KELLY
I'm here with Gus Muller, the
president of the National Turf
Association. Gus, are the fields
as safe as grass?

GUS
Safer. This is a bio-friendly
product.

Gus smiles broadly at the camera.

GUS (CONT'D)
You don't need any pesticides or
herbicides on its surface.

INT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - MARTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Martin sits at his desk, as his computer pings. He sees he
has received an email from his daughter.

The email's subject line reads: "Watch this Dad."

So, Martin clicks on it.

The link takes him to a YouTube page for Abby Wambach.

The video starts with a Pre-Roll 4-Ever Green commercial.

CELEBRITY SPOKESMAN
When Nature is not good enough...
try Four-Ever Green Turf
Solutions.

Wambach's interview starts.

ABBY WAMBACH
Playing on turf is a 'nightmare.'

Martin stops the video.

MARTIN
Advertising dollars well spent.

He shakes his head, as his phone rings. He picks it up.

DARLA (O.S.)
It's your accountant again.

MARTIN
Take a message.

DARLA (O.S.)
He's sounds worried.

MARTIN
Yeah.

INT. ANNABEL'S ROOM - NIGHT

YOUTUBE ANNABEL SHONE TRIBUTE VIDEO starts off in Annabel's room.

She and Keira sings Madonna's Like A Pray.

ANNABEL
Life is a mystery, everyone must
stand alone.

Keira joins in.

ANNABEL AND KEIRA
I hear you call my name. And it
feels like home.

INT. DR. ARCHER'S OUTER OFFICE — DAY

Coach Gordon, Dr. Kotzin, and Tess sits and waits outside his office.

His RECEPTIONIST approaches.

RECEPTIONIST
He's still in a meeting.

INT. DR. ARCHER'S OFFICE - SAME

Martin meets with Dr. Archer regarding the new soccer field his company installed.

DR. ARCHER
Replacement? No.

MARTIN
Did you get my letter?

ARCHER
Yes.

MARTIN
And?

DR. ARCHER
Countless studies found no elevated health risks. Therefore, I see no reason of replacing the crumb-rubber with an organic.

MARTIN
That's a mistake.

INT. DR. ARCHER'S OUTER OFFICE - SAME

DR. ARCHER
Thank you for coming, Mr. Thornhill. The University appreciates your offer.

MARTIN
If you change your mind, the offer stands.

DR. ARCHER
Good day.

Dr. Archer turns to the waiting room and sees Coach Gordon, Dr. Kotzin, and Tess approaching.

DR. ARCHER (CONT'D)
You're up.

They pass Martin.

Tess' shoulder hits Martin's.

TESS
Oh.

MARTIN
My apologizes.

Martin and Tess eye one another.

TESS
What kind of mood is he in.

Martin looks back at Dr. Archer, then says to Tess.

MARTIN
Good luck.

INT. DR. ARCHER'S OFFICE - SAME

As the group enters they see Sports memorabilia litters the office: autographs & signed baseballs, footballs, and basketballs.

They see no men or women's soccer balls or jerseys.

COACH GORDON
Hey Bill. Where's that
Championship ball I gave you?

Dr. Archer returns to his massive desk.

DR. ARCHER
It's around here somewhere. So.
What's this meeting about?

COACH GORDON
Bill, we need to return to grass.

DR. ARCHER
The hell we do. That turf is
bought and paid for. The man that
sold it to me just left.

Tess looks back at the door.

COACH GORDON

As an educator and coach, my first responsibility is for the well-being of our student athletes.

DR. ARCHER

No. You first responsibility is to win.

Gordon turns to Andy.

COACH GORDON

There is a possible risk to the student athletes.

DR. ARCHER

Possible.

DR. KOTZIN

The rubber crumbs contains cancer-causing chemicals. Fact.

Dr. Archer raises his finger.

DR. ARCHER

Very low-levels, yes.

TESS

But these chemicals smear into the cuts and abrasions of these girls.

DR. ARCHER

Please don't take this the wrong way, Tess. But... you have no idea what you are talking about.

Tess opens her mouth to interject, looks to her husband.

Gordon eyes her for a moment and nods.

Tess continues.

TESS

Maybe not. But a heat gauge doesn't lie. Outside air of seventy-five degrees equals a hundred and twenty plus on the field.

Dr. Archer looks to Andy and Gordon.

Gordon and Andy nods their agreement.

DR. ARCHER
That's what the irrigation system
is for. To cool the turf down.

TESS
Well, it's not doing enough. An
air temperature of eighty-six
degrees, is a hundred fifty
degrees on the field.

DR. KOTZIN
Scientists via satellite thermal
imaging concluded that synthetic
turf fields are up to Sixty
degrees hotter than grass fields.

DR. ARCHER
What else can you confirm besides
that it's hotter than grass?

Silence from the three.

DR. ARCHER (CONT'D)
This meeting is over.

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD - MIDFIELD - DAY

Martin walks the soccer field. He sees Anna and Izzy
practicing their shots at goal.

Martin approaches them.

MARTIN
Excuse me. Do you two play soccer
here?

IZZY
Daa.

ANNA
Yes.

MARTIN
Did you know O'Malley Quinlan.

Izzy and Anna's bodies straighten and they both nod yes.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
I'm from Batesville, and my
company installed this field.

IZZY
Well, you should talk to Annabel's
Mom.

MARTIN
Why is that?

ANNA
She wants this field torn out.

MARTIN
Well then, we have something in
common. Do you know where I could
find her?

ANNA
She's giving a speech tonight at
Kennedy Auditorium.

MARTIN
Thank you.

INT. KENNEDY AUDITORIUM — NIGHT

Dr. Archer stands in the back of the auditorium as Tess
gives speech to a mostly empty room.

Martin sits a few rows in front of him.

TESS
Forty years ago, this campus was
part of a movement. Where have
those activists gone?

Shouts a smart ass from crowd.

SMART ASS
Wall Street!

Dr. Archer and the room laughs at this joke at Tess'
expense. Archer smirks as he walks out.

INT. KENNEDY AUDITORIUM — LATER

Tess packs up her things.

Marin walks up.

MARTIN
I liked what you had to say.

TESS
That surprises me.

MARTIN
Why?

TESS
You're the one who's responsible
for that field being here.

MARTIN
Archer's office?

TESS
I have wide shoulders.

MARTIN
Good. Because I need your help.

EXT. URBAN STREET - DAY

YouTube Video cuts of Annabel in white shirt before the
camera laughs.

SERIES OF SHOTS: YouTube with music.

- A. On street doing soccer tricks.
- B. In Nike outfit doing sprints on field.
- C. Shoots at goal, again and again.
- D. Goofing off with team.
- E. Long hotel corridor with teammate. Both move towards
camera and tugs their luggage closer and closer.

INT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE -LATER

Martin seats in the weekly sales meeting as Chet forecasts
sales.

The White Board shows flat sales.

CHET
We're being underbid on every job.

SALE REP #1
We R Turf is losing money on every
deal.

MARTIN
They have the money to lose.

CHET
We can't win this war, Marty.

MARTIN
I know.

CHET

Sales have grown cold. And
re-filling the fields with organic
is costing us twice the amount we
budgeted.

MARTIN

Gus' boys want to teach us a
lesson.

Martin raises.

Sale rep #2 looks hard at Sale rep #1.

SALES REP #2

Marty, we're hundred percent
commission, and have families.

MARTIN

What are our options?

Darla comes into the conference room.

DARLA

Boss, your accountant...

MARTIN

Tell him, to leave me a message.

DARLA

He's in your office.

The men in the room eye one another.

MARTIN

Perfect.

INT. MARTIN'S OFFICE - SAME

SAM, a bookish accountant, late 40's, sweater vest type
stands by the window.

SAM

Marty, what's going on here?

MARTIN

I'm attempting to right a wrong,
Sam.

SAM

I don't think your in the position
to do that any more.

INT. GORE'S HOME — NIGHT

Tess' phone RINGS. She sees picture of Annabel appears on her screen.

TESS
Hey, honey.

INT. PRACTICE FIELD — SEATTLE - SAME

Annabel calls her Mother.

ANNABEL
Mom.

SPLIT SCREEN:

TESS
Yes, dear.

ANNABEL
I made it. The National Team. I'm
on the roster. Me.

Tess reacts. She drops her phone and screams off.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
Mom?

Coach wanders in. He sees the phone on the ground and picks it up.

COACH GORDON
Congratulations.

ANNABEL
Where's Mom?

COACH GORDON
Running up and down our street.
Terrifying our neighbors.

ANNABEL
She's one of a kind. Isn't she?

COACH GORDON
Yes, she is.

ANNABEL
Thank you, Coach.

COACH GORDON
For what?

ANNABEL
You know what.

COACH GORDON
You're welcome.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - DAY

Martin watches C-SPAN.

SUPER: "The Consumer Product Safety Commission."

Darren Gill, Vice President of Marketing for Field Turf, the biggest installer of synthetic turf in the United States.

DARREN GILL
We are hundred percent confident in what the available data tells us that anyone using our products should rest assured there are no valid health concerns tied to artificial turf.

NEWS ANNOUNCER
The U.S. has more than eleven-thousand artificial turf fields, which can cost \$1 million a piece to replace.

Tess turns the television off.

TESS
Money. We need to do more.

INT. TURF ASSOCIATION - GUS' OFFICE - DAY

Gus is on the phone with We R Turf. They specialize on the installation of NFL and FIFA fields.

GUS
I know. I know. Just keep underbidding him. He will break.

Gus listens for a spell.

GUS (CONT'D)
Well, if he doesn't. He will soon be out of business.

Gus listens again.

GUS (CONT'D)
Yeah, I heard that too. Someone
seems to be driving up the price
of organic infills.

Gus laughs hard.

GUS (CONT'D)
He will be crawling back to the
trough soon enough.

EXT. M.V.U. PRESIDENT'S HOUSE — NIGHT

Dr. Kotzin, Coach Gordon, and Tess sits in the parlor of
the University's Madame President and discusses the turf
issue over drinks.

MADAME PRESIDENT
It's not just me saying this. We
need more data.

DR. KOTZIN
I agree.

TESS
I can get more samples.

MADAME PRESIDENT
Have you asked Dr. Patel to
examine the samples?

A light bulb goes off in Dr. Kotzin's head.

DR. KOTZIN
No. But that's a brilliant idea.

TESS
Who's that?

COACH GORDON
The chair of engineering
department.

MADAME PRESIDENT
I learned early in my career.
Clever people see complex problems
differently. Perhaps, he can help.

EXT. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM PRACTICE — DAY

Tess watches Annabel run drills. She looks down at the
synthetic turf. She bends down. Touches it. She runs her
fingers through it.

GROUND'S KEEPER sees her.

GROUND'S KEEPER
Isn't it great? Looks just like
grass.

Tess looks up.

TESS
What's wrong with grass?

INT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

YOUTUBE ANNABEL SHONE TRIBUTE VIDEO starts off with still
shots on field. Then the video goes to her scoring
highlight reel.

Shot by amazing shot, each kicked soccer ball hits the back
of the goal. Annabel turns to the camera. She bows. Then,
she laughs as she runs off the screen.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Martin, Jill, Ellie, and Jack eats pizza. From a small TV
in the kitchen, shows a reporter in Washington, D.C.

On the TV.

REPORTER
With concerns mounting about
artificial turf athletic fields
and playgrounds made of crumb
rubber, two top Democrats on the
Senate Commerce Committee today
asked President Barack Obama to
initiate a comprehensive
federal-led study into the
potential health risks posed by
the surfaces.

LAWMAKER
Given that millions of children
and young athletes play on crumb
rubber synthetic surfaces every
day, this correlation with cancer
cannot be ignored.

Ellie looks at her father.

ELLIE
Is our field safe?

MARTIN
Yes. We already replaced the
infill with cork.

ELLIE
What about the others?

MARTIN
Yes. And it's costing us a
fortune.

He mumbles to quietly for Ellie and Jill to hear.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
A fortune we no longer have.

INT. GORE'S HOME - NIGHT

Tess watches the news, NBC News Interview.

SUPER: "Does Artificial Turf Present a Health Risk?"

SUPER: "FERGUSON, MISSOURI."

RON ALLEN
Are weighing charges against the
officer. The grand jury decision
on that could be several weeks or
more away. Brian. Ron Allen in
Ferguson, Missouri tonight.

SHOT IN STUDIO.

BRIAN WILLIAMS
Ron, thanks. Tonight a member of
congress is calling for action
after our NBC News Investigation
aired here last night about
artificial turf on the soccer
fields and football fields. We
have heard from a lot of viewers
including parents and athletes
themselves sharing their stories,
their concerns. We get our
follow-up report tonight from
NBC's Stephanie Gosk.

TAPED INTERVIEW.

GOSK
Megan Loul couldn't sleep last
night.

MEGAN LOUL

Last night I was watching TV and was in total shock.

GOSK

The twenty-four-year-old was a soccer goalie through college where she says she played almost exclusively on fields with crumb rubber. Those little black dots made from shredded car and truck tires.

INT. STUDIO - WHITE SOUND STAGE - DAY

One Nation. One Team. 23 Stories Interviews Annabel.

As the camera rolls, Annabel balances a soccer ball on her head and rolls it to her lips, then back to her head. She removes it.

ANNABEL

I think a lot with soccer. That your personality off the field, translates on to the field.

INT. GORE'S HOME - NIGHT

Coach watches news coverage of Dr. Archer and a group of reporters outside Firebirds' Field.

COACH GORDON

Oh no.

Shot of Dr. Archer on TV.

DR. ARCHER

Of course we are concerned. But no credible evidence connects crumb rubber fields with cancer.

REPORTER

What is the University doing to ensure its students safety?

DR. ARCHER

Everything.

REPORTER

That's not what Mrs. Gore is telling us.

DR. ARCHER
Mrs. Gore has no affiliation with
this University.

REPORTER
But.

DR. ARCHER
No further questions.

Coach Gordon turns off story. As he does his home phone
rings.

COACH GORDON
I wonder who this is?

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME — THEATER ROOM - NIGHT

Ellie sits and watches. She wears a "No-Crumbs" T-Shirt.

ON TV, NBC News Investigates Interview.

Amy Griffin appears on screen.

AMY GRIFFIN
I've coached for Twenty-Six,
twenty-seven years. My first
fifteen years, I never heard
anything about this. All of a
sudden it seems to be a stream of
kids.

NEWS ANNOUNCER
Despite a series of NBC News
reports on the growing debate
about the safety of crumb rubber
artificial turf, the federal
agencies that regulate the product
have remained largely silent.
Earlier this month, in fact, the
head of the Environmental
Protection Agency would not answer
a direct on-camera question about
whether the surface found on
playgrounds and athletic fields
across the country is safe for
kids to play on.

TV CLIP: INTERVIEW: EPA, Gina McCarthy, acknowledges the
data gaps. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy told NBC's
Stephanie Gosk when Gosk caught up with her in a Capitol
Hill hallway.

REPORTER GOSK

Does the EPA know if these beads really enter the body or have the ability to break down? Are the crumb rubber beads connected with these types of health consequences?

GINA MCCARTHY

It's worth looking at those issues. Because these are the issues that I don't believe we have systemically looked at for a long time or ever.

REPORTER

Mrs. McCarthy, is the EPA's view that these fields are safe to play on?

GINA MCCARTHY

I have nothing to say about that right now.

Ellie gets up and looks at her father.

ELLIE

Dad!!!!

EXT. SOCCER FACULTY — DAY

Television interview of Mia Hamm, as she weighs in on the USWNT issues with Turf in the World Cup.

ANNOUNCER

Soccer legend Mia Hamm knows the toll turf can take on a soccer player's body and wonders why the Women's World Cup isn't getting the same natural grass surface as the Men.

MIA HAMM

I love playing on grass. It's the biggest tournament. With the brightest stars. You wanna see the best players on natural surface.

INT. STUDIO — WHITE SOUND STAGE — DAY

The players creates U.S. Women's #SheBelieves Campaign.

A member of the National Team sits down before the camera.

PLAYER

Girls. Women. You can accomplish anything.

INT. ANNABEL'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

YOUTUBE TRIBUTE VIDEO.

Annabel laughs again as Keira introduces her.

KEIRA

Annabel Shone. From Flat Rock, Pennsylvania. She's a left striker for us. She played at Mt. Vesuvius University. Fine Program there.

ANNABEL

Keira, you would know.

KEIRA

Shh. I'm doing the interview here.

ANNABEL

The Wall has spoken?

KEIRA

Shh.

INT. GORE'S HOME - DAY

ON TV: ESPN STUDIOS.

JULIE FOUDY

I remember the first time I played on synthetic turf field. I thought, wow, this is amazing. What is this stuff? It seemed so much better than that concrete-like Astro Turf that was essentially just a green, thin carpet over hard ground.

INT. GORE'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tess sits on a sofa. Before her, on coffee table lies the 2015 U.S. Women's Soccer Team Sports Illustrated cover.

Gordon enters the living room with magazine in hand.

COACH GORDON

Have you seen this?

TESS
Yes. The Group of Death.

COACH GORDON
Yeah. Tough teams.

He pages through it.

COACH GORDON (CONT'D)
Canada is going with artificial
turf too?

TESS
I know.

COACH GORDON
What Annabel's view on the
subject.

Tess looks up from the paper. She eyes her husband.

TESS
I don't know.

INT. MARTIN'S SUV - NIGHT

Martin drives home as his bluetooth device informs him:
"Call from BNT Bank. Call from BNT Bank."

Martin thinks about not answering it. Then he does.

MARTIN
Marty, here.

BANK MANAGER
Marty, we have a problem.

EXT. THORNHILL'S HOME - DECK - NIGHT

Martin drinks a double scotch.

MARTIN
Three generations.

He raises his glass in a mock salute.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, Dad.

Jill comes out.

JILL
There you are.

MARTIN
I need to tell you something.

JILL
Payroll.

MARTIN
You know.

JILL
It's a small town.

MARTIN
Yeah.

JILL
I spoke to Sam. We own the house
free and clear.

MARTIN
You love this house.

JILL
I love you and our family more.

INT. BNT BANK - MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Jill and Martin signs documents one by one.

Bank manager reviews them and hands them over to Sam.

SAM
Okay. We bought some time.

EXT. THORNHILL'S HOME - OPEN HOUSE - DAY

A For Sale sign stands in the front yard as an Open House
takes place.

Families and real estate agents invades the Thornhill's
home.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jill picks up her phone as it buzzes on the granite
counter.

Martin stands beside her.

JILL
Full asking price. Good. Do it.

Jill hangs up.

MARTIN
Maybe we don't have to sell.

JILL
This place is too big. We're too big.

Martin hugs Jill.

JILL (CONT'D)
We're doing the right thing.

MARTIN
How can you be sure?

JILL
A Momma always knows.

She leads him out of the kitchen.

JILL (CONT'D)
Let's go to bed.

INT. TURF ASSOCIATION - GUS' OFFICE - DAY

Gus sits at his desk with the phone in his hands.

GUS
What do you mean he paid his vendors in full? How?!? Great. Well, keep up the pressure.

Gus listens to the other end for a spell, sees the image on the muted TV screen.

GUS (CONT'D)
I'm going to have to call you back.

Unmutes his TV, from the News.

SOCCER PLAYER
I would have them in my ears. I would have them everywhere. In my hair. I would even blow my nose. And I would have them in the tissue.

REPORTER
Last year she was diagnosed with NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA. Today she is in remission.

GUS

Damn it!

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — DAY

Tess watches Dr. Archer with a swarm of reporters. She along with her husband and other Mt. Vesuvius faculty stands behind the AD.

DR. ARCHER

Yes. We are excited to have two of our own play for the Womens' National Team. And a chance at the World Cup.

REPORTER

What about the issue of them not wanting to play on the artificial turf?

DR. ARCHER

You should ask them both that question. Not me. Tess, has your daughter shared any concerns. Insights?

REPORTER

Mrs. Gore, what does your daughter think?

TESS

She doesn't think about such things. She's young. But as a Mother. I do.

DR. ARCHER

See. There you have it. Fear based on parental concern.

TESS

They're unsafe.

Dr. Archer eyes Tess.

DR. ARCHER

It is a question of Fear vs. Fact. Naturally we have a need to find something. Or someone to blame when cancer claims any one's life. Especially a young athletes... Yet. Studies show no increased risk when playing on artificial fields. Prove me wrong.

(MORE)

DR. ARCHER (CONT'D)
And I will be the first person
with a shovel to rip up that
field. Anyone?

REPORTER
But NBC reports.

DR. ARCHER
I don't know about NBC but I
watched an excellent video. The
Truth About Crumb Rubber and
Artificial Turf.

REPORTER
That was produced by the turf
manufactures.

DR. ARCHER
The top leading scientists in
their fields says it is safe. Do
you know something they don't?

Silence.

DR. ARCHER (CONT'D)
Then, I recommend you watch it.
Good day.

INT. BANQUET ROOM — PREGAME DINNER — DAY

The WNT sits at circle tables and prepares to be fed.

SUPER: "MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND — TEARS OF JOY"

SUPER: "SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA."

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
It was the ultimate Mother's Day
surprise as U.S. Soccer reunited
the U.S. Women's National Team
members with their Moms over
Mother's Day Weekend. On Saturday
night, as the team prepared for a
send-off game vs. Ireland in
advance of the twenty-fifteen FIFA
Women's World Cup, an ordinary
team meeting and dinner took a
dramatic turn as the featured
guests were revealed to be
non-other than the players' Moms.

EXT. AVAYA STADIUM - DAY

Mothers and daughters, in pairs of two, crosses field.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Then, on Sunday during the U.S.A.
vs. Ireland game a unique breaking
of tradition took place. Rather
than taking the field with youth
soccer members to enter the
stadium, the players walked out
with their Moms in a heartwarming
tribute to Mother's Day and Moms
across America.

INT. STUDIO - WHITE SOUND STAGE - DAY

Annabel is on camera. She wears a worn-out gray Mt.
Vesuvius sweatshirt.

Tess is besides her.

ANNABEL

I can't believe you hid this from
me.

TESS

I straight out lied.

ANNABEL

I don't get surprised often.
Today, I was surprised.

EXT. U.S. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Annabel walks out on to the field with Tess. The two wave
to the crowds.

ANNABEL

I'm glad you're here.

TESS

You too.

INT. THORNHILL'S HOME - ELLIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ellie lays with an iPad on her lap in bed.

ELLIE

Let's see what Annabel is up to.

Ellie goes to Annabel's YouTube page.

ELLIE (CONT'D)
Wow, girl. Over one million
subscribers.

She taps on the latest video labeled "Soccer Tricks."

On the iPad screen, Annabel does several soccer tricks with
her feet.

ANNABEL (V.O.)
I love watching the Brazilians. I
love the sound of the ball. Of
players, confident striking it.
And I think from a young age. I
tried to duplicate that.

INT. THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW - STUDIO - DAY

RACHEL MADDOW speaks to the camera and her audience.

MADDOW
Why must these girls be forced to
play on a second grade surface.
Hmm? Anyone?

EXT. SOCCER COMPLEX - DAY

YOUTUBE ANNABEL SHONE TRIBUTE VIDEO.

Annabel works out hard with the team. Drill, after drill.
Dribbles, does tricks with her foot always on ball. The
video moves to her running on treadmill with oxygen mask.
Then, her on stationary bike.

ANNABEL
My legs feel great. Perhaps, a
little heavy. But other than that...
good.

More practice.

ANNABEL (V.O.)
I just go out there. On days that
I want to get fitter. And work.

Close on Annabel as she plays.

ANNABEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Work until I can't work anymore. I
call it. Work until you fail. I
know if I'm doing that. Plus one
more. Pass the fail zone.
(MORE)

ANNABEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That I have gotten better. Being
able to change directions on a
dime and doing that at a fast
speed. The agility. Is probably
what I have to do best at my
position.

More shots from field.

ANNABEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Hard work gives us confidence,
momentum for the team. That's
contagious. It's very important to
establish that rhythm. To see the
focus of your team just change.
When you get in game mode, that
rhythm.

EXT. WINNIPEG, CANADA — DAY

A CANADIAN REPORTER interviews Tess.

REPORTER
So, Mrs. Gore you are unhappy with
FIFA's decision to let the women
play on turf?

TESS
Unhappy? Is not a strong enough
word.

REPORTER
What would be a better word?

TESS
Pissed. Yes, pissed would be a
better word.

The reporter reacts to Tess' comment.

REPORTER
Well, that's all from Winnipeg.

PRODUCER
We are off air.

TESS
Too strong?

The reporter looks at Tess as he takes off her mike.

REPORTER
No. Just right.

EXT. BART'S HOME - MOBILE HOME PARK, FLAT ROCK - DAY

The very tip of U.S. Rubber Stack is in the distance. These are the humble homes of the plants' workers.

One by one, we pass the narrow manufactured homes and their narrow lots. We stop at the driveway of a double-wide. A 1985 F-150 parks there. The PA plate reads: "MVU DAD."

A fresh, "Go Firebirds!" sticker stamps the truck's bumper.

On a small spade of grass besides F-150 rests Annabel's well-weathered Nike soccer ball.

INT. BART'S HOME - DAY

Bart drinks a "Tall Boy" of beer as he watches a college football game on ESPN.

A commercial airs on the TV promoting a special.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
How Safe Are The Fields Where We
Play?

Bart spits out some beer.

BART
I'll be damned.

He raises his 20 oz. Schlitz can way high.

BART (CONT'D)
Give'em hell, Tess!

INT. TESS' HOTEL ROOM - WINNIPEG, CANADA - DAY

Before WNT Match against Australia, Tess prepares to leave.

SOUND: KNOCK.

Tess answers her door and sees Annabel.

TESS
Shouldn't you be at the stadium?

ANNABEL
I'm on my way.

TESS
What's so important that couldn't
wait until after the game?

ANNABEL
Can you give your stance on
Synthetic Turf, a break? At least,
until after the tournament?

TESS
Why?

ANNABEL
I saw you on TV again, preaching.
Pissed. Come on Mom. My
endorsements.

TESS
What endorsements?

ANNABEL
Well... future ones.

TESS
So. You want me to remain silent,
to lie?

ANNABEL
Just give it rest, until we get
back in the States.

TESS
No.

ANNABEL
No? I'm the one playing on the
stuff not you.

TESS
This is bigger than you dear.
Remember O'Malley. Maybe you
should.

ANNABEL
I gotta go. Say what you want.

TESS
I will. But it would be better...

Annabel slams the hotel door.

TESS (CONT'D)
If it was coming from you.

INT. FIVE STAR HOTEL — MONTREAL, CANADA — DAY

The morning of the USNT vs. GERMANY SEMI-FINALS GAME.

Tess and Annabel enjoys a hot breakfast in a players and family only conference room.

Mia Hamm enters. She walks towards Annabel, then stops.

Annabel is star-struck.

MIA HAMM
Great game versus China.

ANNABEL
Thank you.

Tess leans forward, as she clears her throat.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
This is my Mother.

MIA HAMM
Hi.

TESS
Hi, Mia. I'm Tess.

Mia smiles.

TESS (CONT'D)
Being an Olympic hero and all. Are you mad that the men get to play on real grass for The Cup, but not the women?

ANNABEL
Mother!

TESS
Well.

Tess eyeballs Mia.

TESS (CONT'D)
Thoughts?

MIA HAMM
So you're the one?

ANNABEL
I'm sorry. My Mother is taking prescription drugs. She's...

Mia signals Annabel to stop.

MIA HAMM
No. Your Mother has grit. I like grit.

Other players come and steals Mia away. As they do, she turns back to Annabel and Tess.

MIA HAMM (CONT'D)
And yes, Tess. About FIFA's decision. I don't think it's fair.

Mia smiles for effect.

MIA HAMM (CONT'D)
That's why us women, sued their asses.

Tess and Annabel find an empty table.

ANNABEL
She's amazing.

TESS
You could be too. Speak up.

ANNABEL
I'm not exactly the star of the team.

TESS
Yet.

INT. THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW - STUDIO - DAY

US Women's soccer objections forces end to FIFA use of artificial turf.

Rachel Maddow reports on the damage artificial turf does to soccer players' skin when they slide, and the objections by the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team to being forced to play World Cup matches on artificial turf, leading FIFA to end the practice.

RACHEL MADDOW
How crazy is this? Hundred and twenty degree temperatures on the field, on a seventy-five degree day in Canada. Something isn't right.

SERIES OF QUICK CUTS: DENYING HAZARDS.

1. Bigelow. President of the Recycled Rubber Council.
2. Garver. President of the Synthetic Turf Council.
3. Reddy. Managing partner at Sprinturf and is a founding member of the Safe Fields Alliance.

4. Gus. Turf is safe.

EXT. BC PLACE STADIUM — VANCOUVER, CANADA — DAY

CLIP: WNT victory of Japan in the FIFA WORLD CUP Championship game.

Highlight reel ends with Annabel's amazing goal.

INT. PHOTO SHOOT — DAY

Photographer snaps SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COVER.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

In an unprecedented event in the history of Sports Illustrated, all Twenty-Three members of the U.S. Women's National Team will grace covers of the latest issue of the widely popular sports magazine. This is the first time every member of a team has had a dedicated solo cover. After finishing atop the 'Group of Death' at this summer's Twenty-Fifteen FIFA Women's World Cup in Canada.

INT. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB — DAY

Abbey Wambach talks of how soccer can improve you.

Abby addresses the topic of Artificial Turf and Health Concerns from Rubber Infill.

ABBY WAMBACH

Well, I think we all know my stance on turf. I'm not a huge fan of it, at all. Our World Cup was played on turf last summer.

Shoot of the press as they listen to Abby.

ABBY WAMBACH (CONT'D)

There is serious health concerns. What's in those rubber pellets? I don't know. But I don't want my kids be the ones that suffer, because they are the Guinea pigs...

MATCH CUT:

INT. TURF ASSOCIATION - GUS' OFFICE - SAME

Gus watches Abby's interview from his desk.

ABBY WAMBACH
Of these BIG Turf companies
wanting to make a ton of money.

GUS
Damn it!

Gus grabs phone.

GUS (CONT'D)
Thornhill. Now!

INT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

The President honors the Women's World Cup Champions at the White House. He holds up OBAMA 44.

Annabel stands in the back row.

EXT. INTERNATIONAL SOCCER GAME - NIGHT

USWNT vs. Trinidad Victory Tour

Annabel gets knocked down in play. The turf causes a bad burn on her right leg. She holds her leg a moment. We see the blood dripping down her leg. Then, she pops up.

ANNOUNCER
Oh, you can see the rug burn
there. Ouch. Bad burn.

ANNOUNCER #2
Nasty.

ANNOUNCER
That's what you get on this turf.
Those burns.

Annabel sets up for a corner kick. But her leg is bleeding too badly. The ref comes over and looks at it. Then she waves to the U.S. bench for a substitute.

ANNOUNCER #2
We see the turf, leaves its mark.

We see Annabel race across the field. Unaffected by the blood. She meets team docs on sidelines.

ANNOUNCER
We have all been there, Julia.
Anyone that's played, especially
indoor.

The game continues.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)
Nasty business.

INT. ANNABEL'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Annabel films her bleeding legs.

ANNABEL
These are the joys of playing on
turf. It never gives. But you do.

Her smartphone rings. It's her agent. So, she answers it.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
Speak.

She listens.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
Marty who?

TV CLIP ON THE INDUSTRY'S PROPAGANDA RESPONSE "NOTHING IS
MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN" VIDEO.

ANNOUNCER
This video is intended to educate
decision-makers, coaches, parents,
and the general public on the
science related to the safety of
artificial turf fields and
recycled rubber.

EXT. TOWN OF BATESVILLE - DAY

Establishing shots of this small town in Northern Georgia.

- A. City limits.
- B. Downtown.
- C. High School.
- D. High School Soccer field.

EXT. VAN BUREN HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD - STANDS - SAME

The stands on both sides of the field are filled with people: Chet and his family, 4-Ever Green employees, Sam and his family, the banker and his family, and the Quinlans.

Arrives the Thornhills and Annabel at the base of the stands.

ANNABEL

Thank you, for inviting me.

MARTIN

I knew you won't want to miss this.

ANNOUNCER

Today we are dedicating our field in memory of O'Malley Quinlan. We would like to thank Four-Ever Green for our new scoreboard in her honor. Along with updating the field to organic cork.

The crowd claps politely until they see Martin and his family.

Small group, by small group, stands in his honor as he passes.

MARTIN

(to Annabel)

I think they recognize you.

JILL

Small town.

ANNABEL

No. I think this welcoming is for you two.

Annabel pushes the Thornhills forward.

The crowd reacts with thunderous claps of their hands.

Martin and Jill waves in appreciation.

MARTIN

Thank you.

His eyes find Ryan Quinlan.

Ryan nods back.

JILL
Caring, makes us better people.

EXT. O'MALLEY'S HEADSTONE - DAY

Annabel stands before the granite slab that reads:
"O'Malley Quinlan. Beloved Daughter. Born May 29, 1990.
Died October 11, 2011."

ANNABEL
Hey girl.

Annabel uses her finger to trace along the groove of the
stone that reveals O'Malley's name.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
I know how much you like bling.

She removes an object from her pocket.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
So I want you to have this.

Annabel gently sets her World Cup metal atop the stone. The
metal dangles down near the inscription that reads: "*To
live in the hearts of those we love is not to die.*"

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
I miss you.

Annabel falls to her knees and begins to weep.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
Where did you go?

EXT. GORE'S HOME - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Tess grabs the mail out of the box.

Gordon is doing yard work nearby.

Tess sees an official looking document.

TESS
Hmm.

She tears it open and reads it.

TESS (V.O.)
The Honorable Fred Upton of the
Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade
Subcommittee requests your
appearance.

Tess looks to Gordon.

GORDON
What is it?

TESS
They want me to testify.

Gordon smiles and moves to give his wife a big hug.

INT. ANNABEL'S APARTMENT — NIGHT

Annabel sits before her computer and tapes herself. A TV is on behind her.

ANNABEL
As a professional athlete, people ask me to endorse their products a-l-l the time. Last week, I visited a friend of mine in Batesville, Georgia. His family owns a turf company that is doing it right. Uses cork instead of crumbs. I know, smart. Anyways... He hasn't asked for my endorsement. Marty's not that kind of guy. Therefore, I'm giving it. If your school or college needs a new field. Or if you want to update to cork. Reach out to Four-Ever Green for a safe, organic solution for turf. That's the number four dash E-V-E-R-G-R-E-E-N dot com. Ask for Marty. He will stir ya right.

Annabel turns and sees the muted broadcast.

The NEWS ANCHOR breaks in.

NEWS ANCHOR
Next week in Washington a Consumer Products Oversight Committee meets.

ANNABEL
Hmm.

Annabel turns off TV. Then, she grabs her phone. We see a picture of Keira appear on the iPhone's lit-up screen.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)
 Hey girl. My Mom's testifying next
 week in Washington. Yeah. I have
 an idea.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON D.C. — DAY

THE OVERSIGHT HEARING CHAMBER

SUPER: "Industry Perspectives on the Consumer Product
 Safety Commission"

The Chamber room full of witnesses, politicians, and
 reporters.

An old, CAREER POLITICIAN, in the spirit of Richard Jordon,
 begins the process.

CAREER POLITICIAN
 We have had the Tire Association
 testify, under oath, state that
 the fields are safe to play on.
 What do you know that they don't?

YOUNG POLITICIAN
 I am eager to hear what the
 witnesses have to say.

CAREER POLITICIAN
 For the record, could you
 introduce yourself?

Tess sits among a panel of people. Scientists, coaches,
 parents. Her name sign reads: Tess Gore, Mother of U.S.
 Women's National Player. She sits beside Dr. Kotzin, and
 Dr. Patel.

TESS
 I'm Tess Gore. Concerned parent.
 Slash. Activist.

CALIFORNIAN POLITICIAN
 I see.

He reads off 8 x 11 sheet of paper.

CALIFORNIAN POLITICIAN (CONT'D)
 Mrs. Gore, is it true that before
 your daughter's soccer matches. In
 Europe, Canada, and here, in the
 United States.

He looks up and smiles.

CALIFORNIAN POLITICIAN (CONT'D)
You collected black crumb rubber
samples?

TESS
Yes. I had taken crumb rubber
samples from over two hundred
different artificial fields.

CAREER POLITICIAN
And what happens to these samples,
Mrs. Gore? You are not a
scientist. Slash. Activist. Are
you?

A few chuckles from the reporters.

TESS
No. I am not. I delivered all my
samples to Andy, I mean, Dr.
Kotzin.

Old, career Politician turns to Andy.

CAREER POLITICIAN
So, Dr. Kotzin. A professor of...

He looks down on a piece of paper.

CAREER POLITICIAN (CONT'D)
Soil Science?

DR. KOTZIN
Yes, Senator.

CAREER POLITICIAN
Are you aware of the
California-led investigation into
the possible health risks
associated with crumb rubber?

DR. KOTZIN
Yes. I am.

CAREER POLITICIAN
The top scientists in the country
are part of that Californian-led
study. So, with that said, what do
you do Andy... I mean Dr. Kotzin,
differently?

Dr. Kotzin turns to Dr. Patel.

DR. KOTZIN
I give them to Dr. Patel to
examine.

CAREER POLITICIAN
I see. Dr. Patel. Please introduce
yourself for the record.

Dr. PATEL, 40s, Oxford educated who knows he's the smartest
man in the room.

DR. PATEL
I'm Dr. Rajiv Patel. Materials
Engineer at Mt. Vesuvius Research
Laboratory.

OTHER POLITICIAN
(interrupts)
Your exact area of expertise,
Doctor?

DR. PATEL
Molecular.

The politician clears his throat.

CAREER POLITICIAN
Continue.

DR. PATEL
My specialties. Molecular modeling
of polymers, composites,
nano-structured & biological
materials.

CALIFORNIA POLITICIAN
Chemical kinetics?

DR. PATEL
Correct.

CAREER POLITICIAN
Are you aware of two independent
studies that stated the levels are
too low to cause cancer?

DR. PATEL
Certainly. They dealt with
contact...

Dr. Patel raises his long forefinger.

DR. PATEL (CONT'D)
Not the absorption.

YOUNG POLITICIAN

What exactly did you just say?

DR. PATEL

Every sample I received, contained minor levels of cancer-causing chemicals, like carbon black. And yes. In mere contact terms, I agree the levels are not hazardous. But. If these carcinogens are digested, or consumed by your pores.

ANOTHER POLITICIAN

Consumed by your pores? Explain.

DR. PATEL

What do we do after a heavy work-out?

The dumbstruck senators look at one another.

DR. PATEL (CONT'D)

Come on now. You shower.

CALIFORNIAN POLITICIAN

Shower?

DR. PATEL

Cause. Effect. Cold water. Reacts with an athlete's heated body. The cold forces your wide-open pores to close. Thus, seals in these cancer-causing chemicals into your body... Then, your...

CALIFORNIAN POLITICIAN

Bloodstream.

CAREER POLITICIAN

Absorption?

DR. PATEL

Absorption. Evident by the abnormal cases of Leukemia. Slash. Lymphoma.

The reporters and spectators start to rumble a bit within the chamber.

DR. PATEL (CONT'D)

The data gathered by the California Study will soon reveal this. It is a certainty.

ANOTHER POLITICIAN

That study does not publish until
twenty-eighteen.

YOUNG POLITICIAN

Mrs. Gore, thank you.

CAREER POLITICIAN

Mrs. Gore, do you know the number
of jobs related to the
installation of these fields?

TESS

I imagine, Senator, the same
number in the removal.

Enters the U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM along with a
few other female athletes down the two rows of seats.

These Women Wear White Jerseys – With The Names Of Players
Who Died Of Cancer On Their Backs. Each name is written in
PINK block lettering.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE responses to the room's
reaction to this. He slams down his gavel again and again.
Harder and harder.

CHAIRMAN

Order! Order!

Tess turns back to Gordon.

TESS

Annabel. My little activist in the
making.

INT. THE AISLES - ATHLETES - SAME

DEAD POETS' MOMENT. Two Rows of Women Athletes Young and
Old Stand Tall. In crisp white uniforms we see their faces
one-by-one: Abby, Mia, Carli, Alex, Megan, Ali, Tobin,
Rose, Amy, Keira, and Annabel.

REVERSE SHOT OF THEIR BACKS: Friends/Players of various
names lost To Cancer.

Annabel's Jersey reads: "O'MALLEY."

ANNABEL

We got this.

Ends with photos of players who died of cancer. Last shot
is of O'Malley Quinlan with her Mt. Vesuvius team lined up,
shoulder-to-shoulder along a goal line.

EXT. THE CAPITOL'S STONE STEPS - DAY

Reporters surrounds Gus, a born politician. He takes advantage of the prevailing winds.

GUS

Even though, no government agency has warranted it, nor any scientific study has demanded it, the National Turf Association, along with all its members, sees the wisdom of no longer infilling our fields with crumb-rubber.

WALLA: reporters reaction.

REPORTER #1

What of the twelve thousand current fields?

GUS

We've already began a process of updating them to a better organic solution that will solve the heat issue, and guarantee the integrity of these fields. Win. Win. In fact, Four-Ever Green, one of our oldest members, has championed this exact organic movement.

Gus smiles at the CAMERA.

GUS (CONT'D)

Questions?

EXT. 4-EVER GREEN CORPORATE - DAY

The wind whips and the flags of capitalism sway.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - SAME

Darla's phone is lit up.

DARLA

Four-Ever Green, please hold.

Darla's finger presses a red button.

SOUND: CLICK.

DARLA (CONT'D)

Four-Ever Green, please hold.

Darla's finger presses a red button.

SOUND: CLICK.

DARLA (CONT'D)
Four-Ever Green, how can I help
you?

EXT. FIREBIRDS' FIELD — PRESENT DAY

Tess kneels before a restored organic soccer field. Before
her, sways the fiber blades like real grass in the breeze.

SOUND: SHEERING wind.

The wind plays with Tess' hair, as she gently waves her
outstretched fingertips over the blades and the organic,
crumb-free surface.

TESS
Ahh... beautiful.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END