

FADE IN ON:

1. **EXT. FRONT DOOR OF HOUSE. MORNING.**

The front door of NICK's house opens suddenly, NICK, 11, races out the door, slams the door shut, and runs to the sidewalk. The door opens quickly again and a woman, the mom MRS. SANDY, rushes out waving a lunch bag towards NICK.

MRS. SANDY

Don't forget your lunch bag, NICK!

NICK runs back and grabs the lunch bag while MRS. SANDY leans in for a kiss on the cheek.

NICK

Thanks!  
(beat)

MRS. SANDY

No kiss?

NICK

(shouts)

I'm going to be late for school-

-and continues to race to the bus stop, a few blocks away.

2. **EXT. BUS STOP. MORNING.**

4 kids are standing near a bus stop. The leader, SID, leans on the stop sign.

SID

...and man,

SID tosses his hand to the side.

SID (CONT'D)

-was that party hot or what? You dudes should have been there; it was hot!

MARK

What was?

CALVIN

The girls, dumbos!

MARK

(thoughtfully)

Oh, cool... (MOLLY rolls her eyes)

SID

That's right, guys- you should have been to that party, but to me, it seemed like you had a very boring summer?

SID looks at the boys questioningly.

CALVIN

That's because you have those parents of yours... that let you do anything you want to do-

MARK comes up.

MARK

Yeah, he's right. We can't go without the permission from our parents and-

MOLLY

(interrupts)

Oh! Shut up! You guys act like spoiled brats-

CALVIN shoves MARK out of the way and smiles.

CALVIN

(interrupts)

Isn't that chick of yours going to that party at Bob's house?

SID

Which chick?

CALVIN

Courtney? Or was it ANN?

CALVIN grins at SID and nods at him.

SID

Courtney... though I wish it were ANN that was going.

MOLLY

Awwwww... (does a heart sign with her hand)

SID

Shut up! (looks annoyed and turns his back to him)

CALVIN

Well aren't we invited to the party?

SID

I don't know- (hands in the air)

MARK

Hey, (gestures to the boys) - there's someone coming...

CALVIN

Ohh, it's the new kid.

CALVIN and MARK grin at each other. MARK comes up to the group and mimics NICK with goofy beaver-like teeth.

MARK

Ohh, darn it! My shirt is wrinkled-  
(pause) Man! My shoes are dirt ridden-

CALVIN comes up and acts like MRS. SANDY, hands out in a fan in front of him like he just had manicured nails; he bats his eyelashes.

CALVIN

You know NICK, it's all ok. You can  
join the pigs in the back of the house  
for a nighty night's sleep-

CALVIN and MARK roar with laughter. Molly shushes them.

MOLLY

Don't be mean!

SID

(laughing)

Shut up! (looks at MOLLY) He's coming-  
(he winks at them)

NICK comes up to the boy and looks at them nervously. He gives a weak smile to them.

NICK

Hi- I'm NICK, (he waves at the boys,  
they nod) I just moved in this summer;  
I was going to do private school, but I  
kind of wanted to try out this school  
first. (shrugs)

SID nods at NICK and gives him a fake smile.

SID

Well, that's nice. I've seen you around  
some times and asked about your name.  
(NICK nods) I'm SID by the way, and  
those jerks over there are my friends.

SID points to the boys behind him.

SID (CONT'D)

That's MARK there - and those are the  
brothers and sister MOLLY and CALVIN-  
(pause) there're nice guys.

MOLLY rolls her eyes.

**3. EXT. SAME. MORNING.**

Suddenly, a school bus drives up and stops at the stop sign where the boys are and the doors to the bus open. The kids are talking loudly over each other and boys in the back seat are throwing paper balls at each other. A

girl flies an airplane to the front of the bus. The BUS DRIVER, a middle-aged woman in a bathrobe with bed-head hair, looks at the boys and NICK.

BUS DRIVER

Get in, stinkers! It's not like I have all day-

The BUS DRIVER turns and flexes her fingers with her bright red manicured nails. The boys shuffle in and NICK and SID go in last.

BUS DRIVER

You're new, aren't you?

The BUS DRIVER smiles and looks freakier than ever.

NICK

(mumbles)

Yeah-

BUS DRIVER

Well? It's nice to have you her... you know what...

NICK and SID go find a seat while the BUS DRIVER blabs away about her nails.

BUS DRIVER

...I got these beautifully sparkling jewels at Your Nails- for eighty buck-a-roos! You can't beat that price-

The bus lurches forwards. NICK holds on and sits next to a girl, ANN. She looks up and smiles.

ANN

Hi, I'm Ann, (bushes her backpack out of the seat next to her)

We see SID in the background giving NICK a cold stare, but smiles back at NICK when he turns to see where he was sitting.

**4. EXT. BREEZE WAY. MORNING.**

The kids rush in the school and split into their groups. The boys come in and the kids look nervously at them and back away from the gang. SID walks in a cocky way and the other boys walk haughtily in and nod to a group of girls. They giggle and whisper at each other.

COURTNEY

Hey, SID-

NICK comes in and heads towards SID and his gang. Some of the kids look at NICK nervously and give him the dead sign. NICK comes near SID and his group.

NICK  
(sheepishly)

Hi-

NICK looks at SID apprehensively; SID gazes at NICK with a what-ever face.

MARK  
(sneers)

So... it's Sandy the beach girl-

MARK and CALVIN giggles like crazy. SID smiles. MOLLY tries shushing them.

SID  
Go away pretty boy, and don't you dare  
sit with my girls,

SID and his gang walk away as the school bell is ringing. NICK looks shocked... Molly gives him a sorry expression and mouths 'sorry'.

5. **INT/EXT. CAFETERIA. NOON.**

The cafeteria is hectic and crazy while kids find a spot to sit while yelling out to each other. We see NICK at a corner table sitting with two other boys, MARCELLUS 11 and JOHNATHYN 12. They just sat down and are taking out their lunch while talking about their day. MARCELLUS has a yogurt and an apple whereas JOHNATHYN has an egg sandwich. NICK has his peanut-butter and jelly sandwich. About five tables away, we see SID and his gang peering over at NICK at his table. We see SID nod over to his gang and they briskly get out of their chairs.

NICK  
Is that all you really eat, MARCELLUS?

MARCELLUS shrugs.

MARCELLUS  
I would have been late for school,  
(pause) and definitely on the first day  
of school- (bites into his apple)

JOHNATHYN  
Well, I was here thirty minutes before  
school started. (sandwich in hand)

NICK nods at them, telling us he was listening. NICK jumps suddenly when SID slams his hand on the table.

SID  
So, (takes NICK's sandwich out of his  
hand calmly. NICK hasn't eaten yet)

The gang surrounds the table with a kingly manner on their faces.

SID (CONT'D)  
How's pretty boy doing- (bites into  
sandwich) - on his very first wonderful

day of school with a fascinating A plus to add to it?

MARK  
(mimics)

Mrs. Bell! (raises his hand into the air) Twenty-two divided by sixteen is one point three seven five.

CALVIN  
That's GREAT MR. NICK- you're a star!

The boys howler in laughter. SID finishes NICK's sandwich and makes 'mmmm' sounds. NICK, MARCELLUS, and JOHNATHYN look at them dumbfounded.

SID  
Great sandwich by the way NI-

PRINCIPAL (woman)  
(interrupts)  
Then you boys will have a DANDY time in my SENSATIONAL office. Come,

The boys swerve when they hear her voice. The PRINCIPAL glares at SID and his gang and beckons them to follow her. They follow her reluctantly out of the cafeteria, giving NICK and his friends threatening glares.

JOHNATHYN  
That was a close cut,

NICK and MARCELLUS grin at each other.

6. **INT. GYM. AFTERNOON.**

NICK, his friends, a few more boys, and SID and his gang burst through the gym doors. The P.E. teacher, HARRY, is waiting for them at one side of the gym, under the basketball hoop. We see SID and his gang give smirks and deathly glances at NICK and his friends. The boys surround the P.E. teacher. MOLLY sits at the bleachers.

HARRY  
Hello, my name is HARRY and I am going to be your P.E. instructor for this year-

SID  
(skeptically)  
But you're just 16?!

HARRY looks at SID and silences him. Everyone looks bored.

HARRY (CONT'D)  
Before we do a quick game of basketball, there are a few rules I would like to make. First, everyone will be quite when I'm talking. (looks at SID) Second, everyone will be courteous to each other. And lastly, have fun.

HARRY picks up a basketball and tosses it to SID.

HARRY  
 You'll be team-captain and you, NICK,  
 you'll be team-captain for the red  
 team...

SID grins and starts to choose his teammates. After a few seconds, SID has all his gang and a few other boys are on his team, while NICK and his friends and the rest of the boys are on the other team. The teams split up and start to play.

MARK trips NICK intentionally.

MARK  
 (sarcastically)  
 Ooops! Are you ok (whispers) pretty  
 boy?

NICK glowers at him. HARRY is looking at them.

NICK  
 Yes- (grits his teeth and gets up)

They keep playing. SID begins to guard NICK. JOHNATHYN passes the ball to NICK.

JOHNATHYN  
 Here, NICK! (tosses ball)

NICK tries to catch the ball but SID intervenes and while shoving NICK out of the way.

SID  
 Dimwitted idiot!

HARRY  
 SID! I heard that! Go sit down for a  
 while, (indicates to the bleachers)

SID grudgingly goes towards the bleachers, glaring all the while at NICK and HARRY. He mutters to himself.

SID  
 (whispers by NICK)  
 Milksop!

We see SID sit down and MOLLY giving him a what-just-happened look and her saying it.

**7. EXT. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL. SIDE WALK. AFTERNOON.**

Kids are getting on the bus rowdily. NICK and his friends climb aboard the bus. The BUS DRIVER is still in her early attire.

BUS DRIVER  
 How was your first day of school, sweet  
 pea?

NICK shrugs.

NICK

Ok, I guess-

BUS DRIVER

I never liked school because there were always kids like those- (points at SID and his gang)

NICK nods vigorously.

NICK

You're right about that,

NICK and his friends walk towards the back of the bus to find a seat. We see SID and his gang climb aboard the bus too and sit near the middle. SID sees NICK, gives him a sneering look, and sticks his tongue at him.

**8. EXT. SIDE WALK. LATE AFTERNOON.**

We see NICK and his friends walking home from the first day of school, exhausted.

JOHNATHYN

(sighs)

Wow, that's what school's going to be like every week until summer rolls in again. (NICK and MARCELLUS nod in agreement)

MARCELLUS

So, did you like school, NICK?

NICK

With you two... yeah (nods) - but with SID and his group? I don't think I'll last another day with them again...

MARCELLUS and JOHNATHYN laugh fretfully.

MARCELLUS

I'm with you-

We see the boys split off to their own homes waving goodbye to each other.

**9. EXT. NICK'S HOUSE. LATE AFTERNOON.**

We see NICK come up to his house, open the door, and disappear within it, closing the door with a slam and a sigh.

**10. INT. NICK'S HOUSE. SAME.**

NICK closes the door behind him and starts to climb the stairs.

NICK

(yells)

I'm home, mom!

MRS. SANDY appears from the living room.

MRS. SANDY

(scolds)

You don't need to shout! (pauses) How was school by the way?

NICK

Ok, except for the bullies-

MRS. SANDY

(scowls)

Did they hurt you, darling? (she looks at NICK with dewy eyes)

NICK

Mentally? -- Is dinner ready?

MRS. SANDY

(shocked)

It's only four thirty! -- And anyway, you owe me a kiss,

NICK

(climbs the stairs higher)

For what?

MRS. SANDY

(rolls her eyes)

'For what'? For not giving me one in the morning!

NICK

I'll give you two before I go to bed, (and goes up the stairs to his room)

MRS. SANDY flings her arms into the air and walks back to the kitchen to prepare dinner.

**11. EXT. SID'S HOUSE. EVENING.**

SID and his mom and dad are outside eating pudding. The parents are reading.

SID'S MOM

(whines)

So how was school, honey bun?

SID

(complains)

It would have been the best day if it weren't for that Sandy boy! (takes a mouthful of pudding)

SID'S DAD slams his book close.

SID'S DAD

Did you beat him up, son!? (SID'S MOM looks at SID sternly)

SID gasps at SID'S DAD.

SID  
(afraid)

No, dad! I would never in my life beat anyone, I mean - (SID puts on a fake puzzled look on his face) - I wouldn't... besides, I've never hurt anyone. (pause) (angrily) OK! (looks mad)

SID'S MOM

I'm sure you haven't, (rolls her eyes at SID'S DAD) and drop that malapert expression off that face of yours young man or you'll be going up to your room.

SID  
(with a grudge)

Yes, mom.

**12. INT. BUS. MORNING.**

NICK climbs onto the bus and sees SID talking with MARK next to them, his back is to NICK. The gang is sitting in the seats nearby SID. NICK tries to sneak by SID but does not succeed.

SID  
(turns & sneers)

So you think you could sneak up by me? Well aren't you stupid, snob-

NICK  
(defensive)

Stop bothering me,

SID  
(mimics)

Stop bothering me, (SID and his gang laugh at SID)

MOLLY  
(smacks SID'S head)

Shut up, SID! (to NICK) Sorry,

**13 EXT. BUS. FRONT OF SCHOOL. MORNING.**

Kids get off the bus and NICK and his friends come out last. The BUS DRIVER, with a prom dress on and a curler iron in her hand, stops NICK before he leaves the bus.

BUS DRIVER

Was that kid bothering you?

NICK

The usual,

BUS DRIVER

Well, (waves her ironer around) if he starts to be a pest, you can just get an adult to fix that brat up, --- (catches herself) (laughs) I mean that wonderful darling...

NICK and his friends walk up the stairs to school while we see the bus start up and head off to the street...

**FADE OUT:**

**CREDITS ROLLING:**

**FADE IN:**

Ending 2

**14 EXT. CAFETERIA TABLES. MORNING.** Sid is sitting alone on the cafeteria table looking at his grades. Three girls came up to him both eating ice cream (OR DRINKING LEMONADE): COURTNEY, ANN, and MOLLY.

SID

Oh, have you come to sign my yearbook? (opens the book and tries to hand it to her)

COURTNEY  
(shocked)

(laughs) Your year book? (looks at the girls and takes the book to look at) Come-on, you know I won't be signing you yearbook today or any other day, you look like a gander goose. (hands the book back)

SID

Are you ditching me??!! (looks at Courtney, than at Molly) Molly? Ann?

MOLLY

It's pretty obvious; you haven't been nice to Nick or his friends. I tried telling you...

ANN

You probably huts his feelings- (looks at her ice cream [OR THE LEMONADE] and then at the girls) Yes, we're ditching you, but (acts sweet) we wanted to know if you would like some -ice cream- (-lemonade-)?

The other girls nod and smile at him holding out their ice cream (OR LEMONADE).

SID

Ok, (pauses) thanks-

The girls dive at him.

MOLLY

'Ohh, darn it! My shirt is wrinkled'-  
(and smashes her ice cream into his  
chest OR DRENCHES HER LEMONADE)

ANN

You 'dimwitted idiot'! (and smasher (OR  
DRENCHES) hers too- on his neck)

COURTNEY

-and you 'pretty boy'! (and smasher (OR  
SPLASHES) hers in Sid's face)

The girls step back and toss their cones (OR CUPS) at him.

MOLLY

When you say your sorry, we'll forgive  
you, and nick too...

They walk away, their backs to him. On the back of their shirts, written in  
markers, the word 'LOOSER' is written.

**FADE OUT:**

**CREDITS CONTINUE:**