

"FORREST GUMP"

Screenplay by

Eric Roth

Based on a novel by

Winston Groom

EXT. A SAVANNAH STREET - DAY (1981)

A feather floats through the air. The falling feather.

A city, Savannah, is revealed in the background. The feather floats down toward the city below. The feather drops down toward the street below, as people walk past and cars drive by, and nearly lands on a man's shoulder.

He walks across the street, causing the feather to be whisked back on its journey. The feather floats above a stopped car. The car drives off right as the feather floats down toward the street.

The feather floats under a passing car, then is sent flying back up in the air. A MAN sits on a bus bench. The feather floats above the ground and finally lands on the man's mudsoaked shoe.

The man reached down and picks up the feather. His name is FORREST GUMP. He looks at the feather oddly, moves aside a box of chocolates from an old suitcase, then opens the case.

Inside the old suitcase are an assortment of clothes, a pingpong paddle, toothpaste and other personal items.

Forrest pulls out a book titled "Curious George," then places the feather inside the book. Forrest closes the suitcase.

Something in his eyes reveals that Forrest may not be all there.

Forrest looks right as the sound of an arriving bus is heard.

A bus pulls up. Forrest remains on the bus bench as the bus continues on.

A BLACK WOMAN in a nurse's outfit steps up and sits down at the bus bench next to Forrest. The nurse begins to read a magazine as Forrest looks at her.

FORREST

Hello. My name's Forrest Gump.

He opens a box of chocolates and holds it out for the nurse.

FORREST

You want a chocolate?

The nurse shakes her head, a bit apprehensive about this strange man next to her.

FORREST

I could eat about a million and a half of these. My momma always said, "Life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get."

Forrest eats a chocolate as he looks down at the nurse's shoes.

FORREST

Those must be comfortable shoes. I'll bet you could walk all day in shoes like that and not feel a thing. I wish I had shoes like that.

BLACK WOMAN

My feet hurt.

FORREST

Momma always says there's an awful lot you could tell about a person by their shoes. Where they're going. Where they've been.

The black woman stares at Forrest as he looks down at his own shoes.

FORREST

I've worn lots of shoes. I bet if I think about it real hard I could remember my first pair of shoes.

Forrest closes his eyes tightly.

FORREST

Momma said they'd take my anywhere.

INT. COUNTRY DOCTOR'S OFFICE - GREENBOW, ALABAMA - DAY (1951)

A little boy closes his eyes tightly. It is young Forrest as he sits in a doctor's office.

FORREST (V.O.)

She said they was my magic shoes.

Forrest has been fitted with orthopedic shoes and metal leg braces.

DOCTOR

All right, Forrest, you can open your eyes now. Let's take a little walk around.

The doctor sets Forrest down on its feet. Forrest walks around stiffly. Forrest's mother, MRS. GUMP, watches him as he clanks around the room awkwardly.

DOCTOR

How do those feel? His legs are strong, Mrs. Gump. As strong as I've ever seen. But his back is as crooked as a politician.

Forrest walks foreground past the doctor and Mrs. Gump.

DOCTOR

But we're gonna straighten him right up now, won't we, Forrest?

A loud thud is heard as, outside, Forrest falls.

MRS. GUMP

Forrest!

EXT. GREENBOW, ALABAMA

Mrs. Gump and young Forrest walk across the street. Forrest walks stiffly next to his mother.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, when I was a baby, Momma named me after the great Civil War hero, General Nathan Bedford Forrest...

EXT. RURAL ALABAMA

A black and white photo of General Nathan Bedford Forrest.

The photo turns into live action as the General dons a hooded sheet over his head.

The General is in full Ku Klux Klan garb, including his horse.

The General rides off, followed by a large group of Klan members dressed in full uniform.

FORREST (V.O.)

She said we was related to him in some way. And, what he did was, he started up this club called the Ku Klux Klan. They'd all dress up in their robes and their bedsheets and act like a bunch of ghosts or spooks or something. They'd even put bedsheets on their horses and ride around. And anyway, that's how I got my name. Forrest Gump.

EXT. GREENBOW

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk across the street.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma said that the Forrest part was to remind me that sometimes we all do things that, well, just don't make no sense.

Forrest stops suddenly as his brace gets stuck. Forrest's brace is caught in a gutter grate. Mrs. Gump bends down and tries to free Forrest. Two old cronies sit in front of a barber shop and watch.

MRS. GUMP

Just wait, let me get it.

Mrs. Gump struggles to pull the stuck brace from the grate.

MRS. GUMP

Let me get it. Wait, get it this way. Hold on.

Forrest pulls his foot out of the grate.

MRS. GUMP

All right.

Mrs. Gump helps Forrest up onto the sidewalk. She looks up and notices the two old men.

MRS. GUMP

Oooh. All right. What are you all staring at? Haven't you ever seen a little boy with braces on his legs before?

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk along the sidewalk past the two old men. Mrs. Gump holds tightly onto Forrest's hand.

MRS. GUMP

Don't ever let anybody tell you they're better than you, Forrest. If God intended everybody to be the same, he'd have given us all braces on our legs.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma always had a way of explaining things so I could understand them.

EXT. OAK ALLEY/THE GUMP BOARDING HOUSE

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk along a dirt road. A row of mailboxes stands left.

FORREST (V.O.)

We lived about a quarter mile of Route 17, about a half mile from the town of Greenbow, Alabama. That's in the county of Greenbow. Our house had been in Momma's family since her grandpa's grandpa's grandpa had come across the ocean about a thousand years ago. Something like that.

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk along the Gump Boarding House driveway.

FORREST (V.O.)

Since it was just me and Momma and we had all these empty rooms, Momma decided to let those rooms out. Mostly to people passing through. Like from, oh, Mobile, Montgomery, place like that. That's how me and Mommy got money. Mommy was a real smart lady.

MRS. GUMP

Remember what I told you, Forrest. You're no different than anybody else is.

Mrs. Gump heads Forrest to the porch. She bends down to look Forrest in the eye.

MRS. GUMP

Did you hear what I said, Forrest? You're the same as everybody else. You are no different.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL / PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

PRINCIPAL

Your boy's... different, Mrs. Gump. Now, his I.Q. is seventy-five.

MRS. GUMP

Well, we're all different, Mr. Hancock.

The principal sighs, then stands up.

INT. HALLWAY

Forrest sits outside the principal's office and waits.

FORREST (V.O.)

She wanted me to have the finest education, so she took me to the Greenbow County Central School. I met the principal and all.

The principal stands in front of Mrs. Gump. Forrest, sitting left, listens.

PRINCIPAL

I want to show you something, Mrs. Gump. Now, this is normal.

The principal holds up a chart with a designations according to I.Q. and points to the center of the graph, labeled "Normal." A red line below the normal area is labeled "State Acceptance." The principal points to the section below the acceptance line labeled "Below."

PRINCIPAL

Forrest is right here. The state requires a minimum I.Q. of eighty to attend public school, Mrs. Gump. He's gonna have to go to a special school. Now, he'll be just fine.

MRS. GUMP

What does normal mean, anyway? He might be a bit on the slow side, but my boy Forrest is going to get the same opportunities as everyone else. He's not going to some special school to learn to how to re-tread tires. We're talking about five little points here. There must be something can be done.

INT. HALLWAY

Forrest sits outside the principal's office.

PRINCIPAL

We're a progressive school system. We don't want to see anybody left behind.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

PRINCIPAL

Is there a Mr. Gump, Mrs. Gump?

MRS. GUMP

He's on vacation.

EXT. GUMP BOARDING HOUSE - NIGHT

Forrest sits on a swing outside the house. Loud organic male grunts are heard coming from inside the house. Forrest sits on the swing as the grunts continue. The principal steps out of the Gump House and wipes the sweat from his face.

Forrest is sitting on the porch.

PRINCIPAL

Well, your momma sure does care about your schooling, son. Mm-mm-mm.

The principal wipes the sweat from his neck, then looks back at Forrest.

PRINCIPAL

You don't say much, do you?

Forrest grunts, imitating him. The principal, embarrassed, turns and walks away.

INT. GUMP BOARDING HOUSE/FORREST'S BEDROOM

Mrs. Gump reads from the book "Curious George" as Forrest sits on the bed and listens.

MRS. GUMP

Finally, he had to try it. It looked easy, but, oh, what happened. First there...

FORREST

Momma, what's vacation mean?

MRS. GUMP

Vacation?

FORREST

Where Daddy went?

MRS. GUMP

Vacation's when you go somewhere,
and you don't ever come back.

Forrest lies down on his bed and looks up.

FORREST (V.O.)

Anyway, I guess you could say me and
Momma was on our own.

EXT. GUMP BOARDING HOUSE - DAY

A cab driver closes the trunk of the car as two women walk
toward the house. A milkman steps down from the porch.

FORREST (V.O.)

But we didn't mind. Our house was
never empty. There was always folks
comin' and goin'.

MRS. GUMP (V.O.)

Suppa.

INT. GUMP BOARDING HOUSE

Mrs. Gump steps forward and speaks to all the boarders.

MRS. GUMP

It's suppa, everyone. Forrest...

A MAN WITH A CANE steps left across the hall.

MAN WITH CANE

My, my. That sure looks special.

Mrs. Gump looks into a sitting room and informs the boarders
about dinner.

MRS. GUMP

Gentlemen, would you care to join us
for supper? Hurry up and get it before
the flies do. I prefer you don't
smoke that cigar so close to mealtime.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometimes we had so many people
stayin' with us that every room was
filled with travelers. You know,
folks livin' out of their suitcases,
and hat cases, and sample cases.

MRS. GUMP

Well, you go ahead and start. I can't
find Forrest.

Mrs. Gump walks up the stairs.

MRS. GUMP

Forrest... Forrest...

FORREST (V.O.)

One time a young man was staying
with us, and he had him a guitar
case.

Mrs. Gump looks into Forrest's room. She hears singing coming
from another room and walks over to a closed door. Mrs. Gump
opens the door, revealing a young man with long sideburns as
he plays the guitar and sings. Forrest holds onto a broom
and dances oddly. The young man is ELVIS PRESLEY.

ELVIS PRESLEY

(sings)

"Well, you ain't never caught a
rabbit, and you ain't no friend of
mine."

Forrest's legs rock back and forth to the guitar.

MRS. GUMP

Forrest! I told you not to bother
this nice young man.

ELVIS

Oh, no, that's all right, ma'am. I was just showin' him a thing or two on the guitar here.

MRS. GUMP

All right, but your supper's ready if y'all want to eat.

ELVIS

Yeah, that sounds good. Thank you, ma'am.

Mrs. Gump leaves and closes the door. Elvis sits back down.

Forrest stands left, and looks himself in a mirror.

ELVIS

Say, man, show me that crazy little walk you just did there. Slow it down some.

Forrest begins to dance again as Elvis plays the guitar and sings.

ELVIS

(sings)

"You ain't nothin' but a hound, hound dog..."

FORREST (V.O.)

I liked that guitar.

Forrest dances as he watches himself in the mirror.

FORREST (V.O.)

It sounded good.

ELVIS

(sings)

"...cryin' all the time"

Forrest rocks up and down on his braced legs, then begins to step.

ELVIS

(sings)

"You ain't nothin' but a hound dog..."

FORREST (V.O.)

I started moving around to the music, swinging my hips. This one night me and Momma...

EXT. GREENBOW - NIGHT

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk along a sidewalk. A television inside a store window reveals Elvis Presley as he performs "Hound Dog" on a stage.

FORREST (V.O.)

...was out shoppin', and we walked right by Benson's Furniture and Appliance store, and guess what.

The television reveals Elvis as he thrusts his hips and sings.

ELVIS

(sings)

You ain't nothin' but a hound dog...

Mrs. Gump and Forrest watch the television. Elvis dances around in the same manner Forrest did. A woman in the audience screaming and applauding.

ELVIS

(sings)

You ain't nothin' but a hound dog...

MRS. GUMP

This is not children's eyes.

Mrs. Gump walks away, pulling Forrest with her. Forrest stops and takes one last look. Elvis continues to perform over the television.

ELVIS

(sings)

"Well, you ain't never caught a rabbit and you ain't no friend of mine."

FORREST (V.O.)

Some years later, that handsome young man who they called "The King," well, he sung too many songs, had himself a heart attack or something.

EXT. SAVANNAH/BUS BENCH - DAY

Forrest is still sitting on the bus bench. The black nurse looks at him.

FORREST

Must be hard being a king. You know, it's funny how you remember some things, but some things you can't.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD/ALABAMA - MORNING (1954)

Mrs. Gump and Forrest wait for the school bus. The bus pulls up as Mrs. Gump prepares Forrest for his first day of school.

MRS. GUMP

You do your very best now, Forrest.

FORREST

I sure will, Momma.

FORREST (V.O.)

I remember the bus ride on the first day of school very well.

The bus driver opens the door and looks down. Forrest walks to the steps of the bus and looks at the bus driver. She is smoking a cigarette.

BUS DRIVER

Are you comin' along?

FORREST

Momma said not to be taking rides from strangers.

BUS DRIVER

This is the bus to school.

FORREST

I'm Forrest Gump.

BUS DRIVER

I'm Dorothy Harris.

FORREST

Well, now we ain't strangers anymore.

The bus driver smiles as Forrest steps up into the bus.

INT. BUS

Forrest steps up onto the bus. Mrs. Gump waves to Forrest as the bus drives away. Forrest begins to walk down the aisle.

TWO YOUNG BOYS look up from the seat.

BOY #1

This seat's taken.

BOY #2

It's taken!

Forrest looks around. A larger girl slides over so Forrest can't sit next to her. She shakes her head. Forrest looks to the other side where a boy sits alone on a larger seat. They boy glares up at Forrest.

BOY #3

You can't sit here.

FORREST (V.O.)

You know, it's funny what a young man recollects. 'Cause I don't remember being born.

EXT. SAVANNAH/BUS BENCH - DAY

Forrest continues talking as he sits on the bus bench.

FORREST (V.O.)

I, I... don't recall what I got for my first Christmas and I don't know when I went on my first outdoor picnic. But, I do remember the first time I heard the sweetest voice...

INT. BUS - MORNING (1954)

Young Forrest is still standing in the aisle on the bus.

FORREST (V.O.)

...in the wide world.

GIRL

You can sit here if you want.

Forrest looks back at JENNY CURRAN, a young girl about Forrest's age.

FORREST (V.O.)

I had never seen anything so beautiful in my life. She was like an angel.

JENNY

Well, are you gonna sit down, or aren't ya?

Forrest sits down next to Jenny.

JENNY

What's wrong with your legs?

FORREST

Um, nothing at all, thank you. My legs are just fine and dandy.

FORREST (V.O.)

I just sat next to her on that bus and had conversation all the way to school.

JENNY

Then why do you have those shoes on?

FORREST

My momma said my back's crooked like a question mark. These are going to make me as straight as an arrow. They're my magic shoes.

FORREST (V.O.)

And next to Momma, no one ever talked to me or asked me questions.

JENNY

Are you stupid or something.

FORREST

Mommy says stupid is as stupid does.

Jenny puts her hand out toward Forrest. Forrest reaches over and shakes her hand.

JENNY

I'm Jenny.

FORREST

I'm Forrest Gump. Forrest Gump.

FORREST (V.O.)

From that day on, we was always together. Jenny and me was like peas and carrots.

EXT. OAK TREE - DAY

Young Jenny and Forrest run toward a large oak tree.

FORREST (V.O.)

She taught me how to climb...

Jenny sits on a large branch and calls down to Forrest.

JENNY

Come on, Forrest, you can do it.

Forrest dangles from the branch.

FORREST (V.O.)

...I showed her how to dangle.

Jenny and Forrest sit on a tree branch and read.

FORREST

"...a good little monkey and..."

FORREST (V.O.)

She helped me to learn how to read.

Forrest hangs upside down from a branch and swings back and forth. Forrest's braces are wedged in the tree.

FORREST (V.O.)

And I showed her to swing.

EXT. OAK TREE - NIGHT

The silhouette of the oak tree, Jenny and Forrest as they sit on a branch.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometimes we'd just sit out and wait for the stars.

FORREST

Momma's gonna worry about me.

Jenny puts her hand on Forrest's hand.

JENNY

Just stay a little longer.

FORREST (V.O.)

For some reason, Jenny didn't never want to go home.

FORREST

Okay, Jenny. I'll stay.

FORREST (V.O.)

She was my most special friend.

INT. SAVANNAH/BUS STOP - DAY

Forrest nods as he remembers.

FORREST

My only friend.

Forrest continues talking to the black woman. She doesn't seem to be listening as she reads her magazine. She looks up from her magazine.

FORREST

Now, my Momma always told me that miracles happen every day. Some people don't think so, but they do.

EXT. OAK ALLEY - ANOTHER DAY (1954)

Jenny and Forrest walk. A dirt clod hits Forrest in the back of the head. Jenny looks as Forrest rubs his head. THREE YOUNG BOYS get off their bikes and pick up more rocks.

BOY #1

Hey... dummy!

Forrest is hit in the eye with another dirt clod. Forrest falls backward onto the ground as the boys glare at him.

BOY #2

Are you retarded, or just plain stupid?

BOY #3

Look, I'm Forrest Gump.

Jenny helps Forrest back up. Boy #1 and Boy #2 throw more dirt clods at Forrest.

JENNY

Just run away, Forrest.

Another dirt clod hits Forrest in the arm.

JENNY

Run, Forrest!

Forrest tries to run along the road, but his braces makes it impossible. He hobbles along as Jenny yells after him.

JENNY

Run away! Hurry!

Boy #1 and Boy #2 turn back toward the bikes.

BOY #2

Get the bikes!

BOY #3

Hurry up!

The boys pick up their bikes and ride after Forrest.

BOY #3

Let's get him! Come on!

BOY #2

Look out, dummy, here we come!

The boys ride after Forrest. Jenny stands and watches.

BOY #2

We're gonna get you!

JENNY

Run, Forrest! Run!

Forrest hobbles along the dirt road.

JENNY

Run, Forrest!

Forrest looks over his shoulder. The three boys race on their bikes.

BOY #1

Come back here, you!

Forrest begins to run faster with his braces on. Forrest continues running as the boys chase him. Blood drips down from a cut on his head. The boys on the bikes are gaining on Forrest. Forrest hobbles along. He begins to gain speed.

JENNY

Run, Forrest! Run!

SLOW MOTION --

Forrest runs from the chasing room. He looks over his shoulder in fear.

The boys on the bikes peddle faster as they gain on Forrest, running.

Forrest tries to run even faster to get away. Suddenly his braces shatter, sending steel and plastic flying into the air.

Forrest runs and look down at his legs in surprise.

Forrest continues to run faster as the metal braces and straps fly off his legs.

Forrest runs free of his braces and begins to pick up speed.

The chasing boys ride over the remains of Forrest's braces.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, you wouldn't believe it if I told you.

EXT. SAVANNAH/ BUS BENCH - DAY

FORREST

But I can run like the wind blows.

The black woman continues to read her magazine. Forrest smiles as he remembers.

FORREST

From that day on, if I was going somewhere, I was running!

EXT. OAK ALLEY - DAY (1954)

Forrest sprints away from the boys. The boys stop the chase and watch in disbelief. Forrest is already at the far end of the road, clear of the chasing boys.

BOY #2

He's gettin' away! Stop him!

Boy #1 throws his bike down in frustration. Forrest runs across a field.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD

Forrest runs past a chain gang in their prison uniforms.

They are cutting at the weeds on the side of the road.

EXT. GREENBOW

Forrest runs across the street. THE TWO OLD MEN sit in front of the barber shop.

OLD CRONY

That boy sure is a running fool.

EXT. JENNY'S HOUSE

Forrest runs down a driveway toward Jenny's small house.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now remember how I told you that Jenny never seemed to want to go home? Well, she lived in a house that was as old as Alabama. Her Momma had gone up to heaven when she was five and her daddy was some kind of a farmer.

Forrest knocks on Jenny's door.

FORREST

Jenny? Jenny?

Forrest look around the field at the left. He notices Jenny and runs toward her.

FORREST (V.O.)

He was a very lovin' man. He was always kissing and touchin' her and her sisters. And then this one time, Jenny wasn't on the bus to go to school.

Forrest runs to Jenny.

FORREST

Jenny, why didn't you come to school today?

JENNY

Hsh! Daddy's takin' a nap.

Jenny grabs Forrest's hand and runs into the field. Jenny's DAD drunk, steps out onto the porch and shouts.

JENNY'S DAD

Jenny!

JENNY

Come on!

JENNY'S DAD

Jenny, where'd you run to? You'd better come back here, girl!

Jenny's dad steps out toward the field. Jenny leads Forrest into the thick tobacco field. Jenny's dad runs through the field searching for Jenny with a liquor bottle in his hand.

JENNY'S DAD

Where you at?

Jenny and Forrest run into a corn field as Jenny's dad tries to chase her.

JENNY'S DAD

Jenny! Jenny! Where you at? Jenny!

Jenny drops to her knees and pulls Forrest down with her.

JENNY

Pray with me, Forrest. Pray with me.

JENNY'S DAD

Jenny!

JENNY

Dear God, make me a bird so I can fly far, far, far away from here.
Dear God, make me a bird so I can fly far, far, far away from here.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma always said that God is mysterious.

JENNY'S DAD

Jenny! Get back here!

FORREST (V.O.)

He didn't turn Jenny into a bird
that day. Instead...

EXT. TRAILER PARK/ALABAMA - DAY (1955)

A police officer escorts Jenny to her grandmother's trailer.

Jenny's grandmother meets Jenny outside and leads her toward
the trailer.

FORREST (V.O.)

...he had the police say Jenny didn't
have to stay in that house no more.
She went to live with her grandma
just over on Creekmore Avenue, which
made me happy 'cause she was so close.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT (1955)

Jenny climbs over a second-floor railing and enters the house.

FORREST (V.O.)

Some nights, Jenny'd sneak out and
come over to my house, just 'cause
she said she was scared. Scared of
what, I don't know...

INT. GUMP HOUSE/FORREST'S BEDROOM

Jenny lies in bed next to young Forrest. She hugs him.

FORREST (V.O.)

...but I think it was her grandma's
dog. He was a mean dog. Anyway, Jenny
and me was best friends...

EXT. GREENBOW/OAK ALLEY - DAY (1961)

Forrest and Jenny are teenagers now. They walk along an
oaklined road.

FORREST (V.O.)

...all the way to high school.

Suddenly Forrest is hit in the back with a rock. Forrest and
Jenny turn around.

OLDER BOY #1

Hey, stupid!

JENNY

Quit it!

A teenage boy throws another rock as a pickup truck pulls up
behind him. Jenny turns and looks at Forrest.

JENNY

Run, Forrest, run!

OLDER BOY #1

Hey. Did you hear me, stupid?

JENNY

Run, Forrest!

Forrest drops his books and runs down the road. The teenage
boy jumps into the back of the pickup truck with another boy
as the truck speeds after Forrest. Jenny steps left and gets
out of the way.

OLDER BOY #2

Come on, he's getting away! Move it!

JENNY

Run, Forrest! Run!

OLDER BOY #1

You better be runnin', stupid.

Forrest runs along the road. The truck speeds after him.

OLDER BOY #2

Come on, dummy!

OLDER BOY #1

Haul ass, dummy!

Older Boy throws rocks at Forrest.

OLDER BOY #1

Yeah, you better be runnin'!

INT. TRUCK

BOY

Ya-hoo!

EXT. OAK ALLEY

The boys in the back of the truck throw rocks at Forrest as they drive up to him.

OLDER BOY #1

Move it, jack rabbit!

The truck follows right on Forrest's heels. A rebel flag license plate adorns the truck's grill.

OLDER BOY #1

Come on!

Forrest runs along the road as the truck chases him. The boys in the back of the truck pound on the roof as the truck turns right, after Forrest. The truck drives into a field.

Forrest runs toward a fence.

BOY

Run! Faster! Yeah! Go! Go! Come on,
Forrest! Yeah!

JENNY

Run, Forrest!

Forrest leaps over a five-foot fence as the boys try to catch him.

EXT. SAVANNAH/BUS BENCH - DAY (1981)

Forrest looks left as he continues telling his life story.

FORREST

Now, it used to be, I ran to get
where I was goin'. I never thought
it would take me anywhere.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL/ROAD - DAY (1961)

Forrest runs along the road in front of the high school. The truck continues to chase him as the boys pound on the roof.

OLDER BOY

Come on. Whoo-hoo!

The truck speeds past Forrest as he turns from the road and runs onto the high school football field. Forrest runs across the field during a football scrimmage.

In the stands watching the scrimmage is the legendary University of Alabama football coach BEAR BRYANT, wearing his trademark plaid hat.

A group of assistant coaches sit around him, as well as the high school football coach. The quarterback throws the ball into the air.

Forrest runs past the quarterback. The receiver catches the ball. Forrest runs past the receiver as an opposing player tackles the stunned receiver.

The football coach stands, followed by the assistant coaches.

FOOTBALL COACH

Who in the hell is that?

HIGH SCHOOL COACH

That there is Forrest Gump. Coach.
Just a local idiot.

Forrest runs under the field goal post and through the end zone.

FORREST (V.O.)

And can you believe it? I got to go
to college, too.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA STADIUM - DAY (1962)

The crowd roars with excitement as a football is kicked off.

The football players run around on the field. The crowd of cheering fans create a huge sign that reads: "GO."

Forrest is in a University of Alabama football uniform. He looks up into the cheering crowd as his teammate fields the kickoff. The teammate runs over to Forrest and hands him the ball.

FOOTBALL COACH

Okay! Run!

The football coach, the assistants, and Alabama players cheer for Forrest.

FOOTBALL COACH

Run, you stupid son-of-a-bitch! Run!

Forrest runs across the field. He speeds past the defending players. Forrest runs past the opposite players. The crowd cheers wildly, holding up cards, making a large sign that reads: "Go."

They turn the cards over, creating the word: "ALABAMA." The football coach runs along the sidelines as he yells.

FOOTBALL COACH

You stupid son-of-a-bitch! Run! Go!
Run!

Forrest cuts and runs toward the sidelines. Two opposing players collide. The football coach, the assistants and the players all motion for Forrest to run toward the end zone.

FOOTBALL COACH

Run! Turn! Go!

Forrest turns up the sidelines and runs toward the end zone.

Some opposing players fall down. Forrest runs along the sidelines. The opposing players try to catch him.

Forrest runs into the end zone as an opposing player dives at his feet. The referee holds up his arm, signaling a touch down. The crowd cheers wildly.

Forrest continues to run, smashing through the band members, then all the way toward the team tunnel. The football coach looks at an assistant coach.

FOOTBALL COACH

He must be the stupidest son-of-a-bitch alive. But he sure is fast!

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, maybe it was just me but college was very confusing times.

INT. GREENBOW/BARBER SHOT - BLACK & WHITE TELEVISION (JUNE 11, 1963)

An anchorman named CHET HUNTLEY appears over the television.

CHET HUNTLEY

(on TV)

Federal troops enforcing a court order integrated the University of Alabama today.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA - DAY

Forrest walks through a crowd of people.

CHET HUNTLEY

Governor George Wallace had carried out his symbolic threat to stand in the schoolhouse door.

GOVERNOR WALLACE

We hereby denounce and forbid this illegal and unwarranted action by the central government.

INT. GREENBOW/BARBER SHOP

A black & white television reveals George Wallace as he stands in the doorway of the schoolhouse.

KATZENBACH

(on TV)

Governor Wallace, I take it from that, uh...

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Forrest steps over to a young man as the crowd looks at the

demonstration.

KATZENBACH

...statement that you are going to stand in that door, and that you are not going to carry out the orders of this court, and that you are going to resist us from doing so. I would ask you once again to responsibility step aside and if you do not, I'm going to assure you...

FORREST

Earl, what's going on?

EARL

Coons are tryin' to get into school.

FORREST

Coons? When raccoons try to get on our back porch, Momma just chase 'em off with a broom.

EARL

Not raccoons, you idiot, niggas. And they want to go to school with us.

FORREST

With us? They do?

Forrest walks toward the schoolhouse.

INT. COACHES' OFFICE

A football coach looks at a black and white television as a newsman outside the schoolhouse speaks to the camera.

NEWSMAN

(on TV)

...block the doorway, President Kennedy ordered the Secretary of Defense then to use the military force.

BLACK AND WHITE FOOTAGE

The footage cuts to Governor Wallace as he speaks to General Graham.

NEWSMAN

Here by videotape is the encounter by General Graham, Commander of the National Guard, and Governor Wallace.

Forrest stands next to George Wallace and listens.

GOVERNOR WALLACE

We must have no violence today, or any other day, because these National Guardsmen are here today as Federal Soldiers for Alabamans. And they live within our borders and they are all our brothers. We are winning in this fight because we are awakening the American people to the dangers that we have spoken about so many times, just so evident today, the trend toward military dictatorship in this country.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Some of the Alabama policeman and citizens clap their hands as the National Guardsmen stand at attention with their weapons in front of them. Forrest walks through the crowd.

Two black students were being led toward the schoolhouse.

NEWSMAN

And so at day's end the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa had been desegregated and students Jimmy Hood and Vivian Malone had been signed up for summer classes.

The young black girl drops one of her books. Forrest notices and steps past the policeman toward the book on the ground.

Forrest steps out from the crowd and picks up the book. He brings it up to the girl.

FORREST

Ma'am, you dropped your book. Ma'am.

INT. COACHES' OFFICE - NIGHT (1963)

A coach looks at the television. The television reveals Forrest as he stands at the schoolhouse door. He looks around, then waves.

CHET HUNTLEY

(on TV)

Governor Wallace did what he promised to do. By being on the Tuscaloosa campus, he kept the mob from gathering and prevented violence.

An assistant coach looks at the television, then at the other coaches.

ASSISTANT COACH

Say, wasn't that Gump?

The football coach and two assistant coaches look. Forrest dries himself off with a towel as he steps from the showers.

CHET HUNTLEY

(on TV)

NBC News will present a special program on the Alabama integration story at 7:30 p.m. tonight...

ASSISTANT COACH

Naw, that couldn't be.

FOOTBALL COACH

It sure as hell was.

CHET HUNTLEY

...standard Eastern Daylight Time.
Now a word from Anacin.

Forrest steps up to the coaches' area and grabs a clean towel.

The coaches turn and stare at Forrest. Forrest gives them one of his silly waves, then walks away.

COLOR FOOTAGE - Governor Wallace waves to the crowd as he stands behind a podium with his wife.

FORREST (V.O.)

A few years later, that angry little man at the schoolhouse door thought it would be a good idea, and ran for President.

COLOR FOOTAGE - Governor Wallace mingles in a crowd. Gunshots are fired, wounding him. Some men wrestle the shooter. Wallace lies wounded on the ground.

FORREST (V.O.)

But, somebody thought that it wasn't.

EXT. SAVANNAH/BUS BENCH - DAY (1981)

Forrest sits on the bench as the black woman looks at him. A WHITE WOMAN with a bag sits left.

FORREST

But he didn't die.

A bus pulls up to the bus stop. The BLACK WOMAN looks down at her watch.

BLACK WOMAN

My bus is here.

FORREST

Is it the number 9?

BLACK WOMAN

No, it's the number 4.

The Black Woman gets up and steps over to the bus.

FORREST

It was nice talkin' to you.

The white woman sits closer to Forrest.

WHITE WOMAN

I remember when that happened, when Wallace got shot. I was in college.

FORREST

Did you go to a girls' college, or
to a girls' and boys' together
college?

WHITE WOMAN

It was co-ed.

FORREST

'Cause Jenny went to a college I
couldn't go to. It was a college
just for girls.

EXT, GIRLS' COLLEGE/JENNY'S DORM - NIGHT (1963)

Forrest sits outside Jenny's dorm in the rain.

FORREST (V.O.)

But, I'd go and visit her every chance
I got.

A car pulls up. A song is heard from the radio. Forrest,
holding a box of chocolates, looks at the car. The two people
inside the car begins to kiss and embrace each other. Jenny
is inside the car with a boy. She leans back against the
passenger side door as they struggle to get comfortable.

JENNY

Ouch! That hurts.

Forrest gets up and runs toward the car. He tries to look in
the window as he steps over to the driver's side door. He
opens the door and begins to punch the boy inside. Jenny
jump out of the car and runs over to Forrest.

JENNY

Forrest! Forrest! Forrest, stop it!
Stop it!

BILLY

Jesus!

JENNY

What are you doing?

FORREST

He was hurtin' you.

Jenny's date, named BILLY, gets out of the car angrily.

BILLY

What the hell is going on here?

JENNY

No, he's not!

BILLY

Who is that? Who is that?

JENNY

Get over there!

Jenny turns and looks at Billy. He shoves Jenny's hands away
from him.

JENNY

Billy, I'm sorry.

BILLY

What in the hell, git, would you git
away from me!

JENNY

Don't... Wait a second!

BILLY

Git, just git away from me!

JENNY

Don't go! Billy, wait a second!

Billy gets back into the car.

JENNY

He doesn't know any better!

Billy pulls away as Jenny steps toward Forrest.

JENNY

Forrest, why'd you do that?

Forrest holds out the box of chocolates.

FORREST

I brought you some chocolates. I'm sorry. I'll go back to my college now.

JENNY

Forrest, look at you! Come on. Come on.

Jenny grabs Forrest hand and leads him toward the dorm.

INT. JENNY'S DORM/HALLWAY

Jenny and Forrest sneak to Jenny's door.

FORREST

Is this your room?

JENNY

Shh!

Jenny unlocks the door and they step inside.

INT. JENNY'S DORM ROOM

Jenny pulls a robe off of her sleeping roommate's bed. Jenny hands the robe to Forrest, sitting on Jenny's bed.

JENNY

Do you ever dream, Forrest, about who you're gonna be?

FORREST

Who I'm gonna be?

JENNY

Yeah.

FORREST

Aren't I going to be me?

JENNY

Well, you'll always be you, just another kind of you. You know? I want to be famous.

Jenny picks up a towel, then walks back toward Forrest. Jenny dries the water from her hair.

JENNY

I want to be a singer like Joan Baez. I just want to be an empty stage with my guitar, my voice... just me.

Jenny takes off her slip and sits on the bed next to him.

She is only wearing her bra and panties. Forrest looks at Jenny like he's never seen a woman in her underwear before.

JENNY

And I want to reach people on a personal level. I want to be able to say things, just one-to-one.

Forrest looks down at Jenny's breasts. Jenny realizes that he is looking at her.

JENNY

Have you ever been with a girl, Forrest?

FORREST

I sit next to them in my home economics class all the time.

DJ

(over radio)
You're listening to WHHY in Birmingham, the clear A.M. voice of Northern Alabama. I'm Joel Dorn...

Forrest looks at Jenny as she removes her bra. Forrest looks away, a bit shamed. Jenny takes his hand and guides it up to her breast.

DJ

(over radio)
...coming to you on a night that is anything but clear. The weatherman says that rain's gonna fall all night long so stay with us, get warm, get

cozy, get under the covers to the
cool sounds of WHHY.

Forrest looks over at Jenny's breasts, the shudder as he has
an orgasm.

FORREST

Ohh... Oh... I'm sorry. Sorry.

JENNY

It's okay.

DJ

(over radio)
...444-6789, with ya till sunrise,
playing the music you want to hear
when you want to hear it. If you
have a request or dedication, give
us a call. We guarantee you'll hear
your requests within one hour.

Forrest breathes heavily. Jenny puts her bra back on.

JENNY

It's all right.

Jenny leans over and puts her head on Forrest's shoulder.

DJ

(over radio)
Candy is on the line tonight. Candy's
answering the phones, give Candy
your request, your dedication, and
ask her why she won't go out with
me, would you? Here's more music.

JENNY

It's okay.

FORREST

Oh, I'm dizzy.

A song is coming over the radio. Jenny hugs Forrest.

JENNY

I bet that never happened in home
ec.

FORREST

No.

Jenny laughs and kisses Forrest on the cheek. Forrest and
Jenny hug on the bed as Jenny's roommate pretends to be
asleep, but is listening, horrified, with her eyes open.

FORREST

I think I ruined your roommate's
bathrobe.

JENNY

I don't care. I don't like her,
anyway.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA/FOOTBALL STADIUM - DAY (1963)

Forrest runs across the field as the defending team chases
him. The crowd yells for Forrest. They flip a sign that reads:
"Go Forrest."

CROWD

Run! Run! Run!

Forrest runs along the field. The crowd cheers.

CROWD

Run! Run! Run!

Forrest runs into the end zone. The band members rush toward
Forrest with their hands up, signaling him to stop. The crowd
flips over cards, creating a sign that reads "STOP."

CROWD

Stop!

Forrest stops in the end zone as he hears the crowd yells.

The band motions for Forrest to stop and stay in the end
zone. A group of defending players fall over each other in
the end zone. Forrest looks as the crowd cheers wildly.

FORREST (V.O.)

College ran by real fast 'cause I
played so much football.

BLACK AND WHITE PARAMOUNT NEWSREEL - DAY (1963)

The White House with the words "The eyes and ears of the
world Paramount News" superimposed.

FORREST (V.O.)

They even put me on a thing called
the All-America Team where you get
to meet the President of the United
States.

BLACK AND WHITE NEWSREEL

PRESIDENT KENNEDY holds an autographed football as the All-
American Team stands behind him. Forrest is among the players
in suits.

ANNOUNCER

(over newsreel)
President Kennedy met with the
Collegiate All-American Football
Team at the Oval Office today.

INT. WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION AREA - DAY (1963)

The All-American players mingle around the food table. Forrest
steps up to the table. A large spread of food and soda is on
the table.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, the real good thing about meeting
the President of the United States
is the food.

Forrest takes a bottle of Dr. Pepper from the buffet table.

Numerous bottle of Dr. Pepper are displayed on the table. A
servant opens the bottle for him.

FORREST (V.O.)

They put you in this little room
with just about anything you'd want
to eat or drink. And since number
one, I wasn't hungry, but thirsty...

Forrest begins to guzzle the Dr. Pepper.

FORREST (V.O.)

...and number two, they was free, I
musta drank me about fifteen Dr.
Peppers.

Forrest sets down an empty Dr. Pepper bottle next to a large
number of other empty bottles. Forrest holds his stomach and
burps.

BLACK AND WHITE FOOTAGE - President Kennedy shakes hands
with the All-American football players.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Congratulations. How does it feel to
be an All-American?

1ST PLAYER

It's an honor, Sir.

Another player steps up to the President and shakes the
President's hand.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Congratulations. How does it feel to
be an All-American?

2ND PLAYER

Very good, Sir.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Congratulations. How does it feel to
be an All-American?

3RD PLAYER

Very good, Sir.

The player walks away. Forrest steps up to the President.

The President shakes his hand.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Congratulations. How do you feel?

FORREST

I gotta pee.

President Kennedy turns and smiles.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY

I believe he said he had to go pee.

INT. WHITE HOUSE/BATHROOM

Forrest urinates in the bathroom, then lowers the lid and flashes. Forrest washes his hands, then notices an autographed photo from Marilyn Monroe and a photo of John with his brother Bobby.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometime later, for no particular reason, somebody shot that nice young President when he was ridin' in his car.

ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE - DAY SLOW MOTION - President Kennedy rises in a convertible and smiles.

FORREST

And a few years after that...

ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE - Robert Kennedy stands at a podium as people around him applaud.

FORREST (V.O.)

...somebody shot his little brother, too, only he was in a hotel kitchen.

EXT. SAVANNAH/BUS BENCH - DAY (1981)

Forrest sits on the bench and shakes his head.

FORREST

It must be hard being brothers. I wouldn't know.

EXT. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA - DAY - GRADUATION DAY (1966)

Students in their caps and gowns step forward the podium to receive their diplomas. Forrest's name is called. He steps up and accepts his diploma.

DEAN

Forrest Gump.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now can you believe it? After only five years of playing football, I got a college degree.

The dean shakes Forrest's hand vigorously. Forrest looks out into the crowd.

DEAN

Congratulations, son.

Mrs. Gump, sitting in the audience, cries.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma was proud.

Forrest and Mrs. Gump have their picture taken in front of a large statue. A military recruiter spots Forrest and steps up to him.

MRS. GUMP

Forrest, I'm so proud of you. Here, I'll hold this for you.

Mrs. Gump takes the diploma from Forrest. The recruiter slaps Forrest on the shoulder and hands him some military literature.

MILITARY RECRUITER

Congratulations, son. Have you given any thought to your future?

FORREST

Thought?

Forrest looks at a pamphlet with a photo of "Uncle Sam" and the caption "EXCELLENT CAREERS FOR EXCELLENT YOUNG MAN. Apply now at your local U.S. Army Recruiting Center."

FORREST (V.O.)

Hello, I'm Forrest...

INT. ARMY BUS - DAY (1966)

Forrest steps onto the army bus. Rain pours outside as the army bus driver yells at Forrest.

FORREST

...Forrest Gump.

ARMY BUS DRIVER

Nobody gives a hunk of shit who you are, fuzzball! You're not even a lowlife scum sucking maggot! Get your faggoty ass on the bus. You're in the Army now!

Forrest is about to sit on the first available seat, but the recruit sitting there refuses Forrest.

RECRUIT #1

This seat's taken.

Forrest tries to sit on the next seat, but the 2nd recruit slides over, blocking him.

RECRUIT #2

It's taken.

Forrest steps forward, looking much like he did on his first bus ride to school years ago.

FORREST (V.O.)

At first, it seemed like I made a mistake.

A large black recruit with a strange look on his face, much like Forrest's, looks up from his seat. His name is BUBBA.

FORREST (V.O.)

...seeing how it was my induction day and I was already gettin' yelled at.

Bubba moves his case over, making room for Forrest to sit down.

BUBBA

You can sit down... if you want to.

FORREST (V.O.)

I didn't know who I might meet or what they might ask.

Bubba hands Forrest a handkerchief.

BUBBA

You ever been on a real shrimp boat?

FORREST

No, but I been on a real big boat.

BUBBA

I'm talkin' about a shrimp catchin' boat. I've been workin' on shrimp boats all my life. I started out my uncle's boat, that's my mother's brother, when I was about maybe nine. I was just lookin' into buyin' a boat of my own and got drafted. My given name is Benjamin Buford Blue.

Bubba and Forrest shake hands.

BUBBA

People call me Bubba. Just like one of them redneck boys. Can you believe that?

FORREST

My name's Forrest Gump. People call me Forrest Gump.

FORREST (V.O.)

So Bubba was from Bayou La Batre, Alabama, and his momma cooked shrimp.

INT. LOUISIANA/KITCHEN - DAY (1966)

Bubba's mother, a robust woman in a cook's uniform, carries a bowl of shrimp into a dining room. She sets it down on a table in front of a wealthy white man.

FORREST (V.O.)

And her momma before her cooked shrimp.

INT. SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH/KITCHEN - DAY (EARLY DAYS OF SLAVERY)

Bubba's grandmother carries a bowl of shrimp into a dining room. She sets it down on a table in front of a wealthy white man.

FORREST (V.O.)

And her momma before her momma cooked shrimp, too. Bubba's family knew everything...

INT. ARMY BUS - DAY (1966)

FORREST (V.O.)

...there was to know about the shrimpin' business.

BUBBA

I know everything there is to know about the shrimpin' business. Matter of fact, I'm goin' into the shrimpin' business for myself after I get out the Army.

FORREST

Okay.

INT. BARRACKS - DAY

A DRILL SERGEANT is in Forrest's face as Forrest stands in line with the other recruits.

DRILL SERGEANT

Gump! What's your sole purpose in this Army?

FORREST

To do whatever you tell me, Drill Sergeant!

DRILL SERGEANT

Godamnit, Gump! You're a goddamned genius! That's the most outstanding answer I've ever heard. You must have a goddamned I.Q. of a hundred and sixty! You are goddamned gifted, Private Gump!

The Drill Sergeant moves down the line to the next man.

DRILL SERGEANT

Listen up, people...

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, for some reason, I fit in the Army like one of them round pegs. It's not really hard. You just make your bed real neat and remember to stand up straight.

DRILL SERGEANT

That is one very intelligent individual! You lock your scuzzy bodies up behind that private and do exactly what he does and you will go far in this man's army!

FORREST (V.O.)

And always answer every question with "Yes, Drill Sergeant!"

DRILL SERGEANT

Is that clear?

FORREST & RECRUITS

Yes, Drill Sergeant!

ANOTHER DAY

The recruits are sitting at the base of their bunks assembling their rifles. Bubba speaks to Forrest.

BUBBA

What you do is you just drag your nets across the bottom. On a good day, you can catch over a hundred

pounds of shrimp. If everything goes
all right, two men shrimpin' ten
hours, less what you spends on gas,
you can...

Forrest finishes assembling his rifle as the other recruits
are still working on theirs.

FORREST

Done, Drill Sergeant!

DRILL SERGEANT

Gump!

The Drill Sergeant rushes up to Forrest.

DRILL SERGEANT

Why did you put that weapon together
so quickly, Gump?

FORREST

You told me to, Drill Sergeant.

The Drill Sergeant looks at his stop watch.

DRILL SERGEANT

Jesus Christ! This is a new company
record. If it wouldn't be a waste of
such a damn fine enlisted man, I'd
recommended you for O.C.S., Private
Gump. You are gonna be a General
some day, Gump! Now, disassemble
your weapon and continue!

The Drill Sergeant walks away as Forrest begins to disassemble
his rifle. After the Drill Sergeant walks past Bubba, Bubba
looks up at Forrest. Bubba continues talking about shrimp in
his slow southern drawl.

BUBBA

Anyway, like I was sayin', shrimp is
the fruit of the sea. You can barbecue
it, boil it, broil it, bake it, saute
it. There, uh, shrimp kabobs, shrimp
creole...

ANOTHER DAY

Bubba and Forrest shine their boots.

BUBBA

...shrimp gumbo, panfried, deep fried,
stir fried. There's pineapple shrimp,
lemon shrimp, coconut shrimp, pepper
shrimp...

ANOTHER DAY

Bubba and Forrest are on their hands and knees as they scrub
the floor with toothbrushes.

BUBBA

...shrimp soup, shrimp stew, shrimp
salad, shrimp and potatoes, shrimp
burger, shrimp sandwich... that's,
that's about it.

NIGHT

Bubba lies in his bunk and looks up quietly.

FORREST (V.O.)

Nighttime in the Army is a lovely
time.

Forrest lies in his bunk and looks up.

FORREST (V.O.)

We'd lay there in our bunks, and I'd
miss my momma. And I'd miss Jenny.

A young private tosses a Playboy magazine onto Forrest.

YOUNG PRIVATE

Hey, Gump. Get a load of the tits on
her!

Forrest pick up the magazine and turns the page, revealing
Jenny as she poses with a school sweater on, and that's all.

The pictorial is titled: "Girls of the South." Forrest looks
up with shock. He cranes his head up for a closer look.

FORREST (V.O.)

Turns out, Jenny had gotten into some trouble over... some photos of her in her college sweater. And she was thrown out of school.

SONG

"My baby does the hanky-panky..."

INT. NASHVILLE/NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT (1966)

Forrest, in his army uniform, steps into the foyer of the club.

FORREST (V.O.)

But that wasn't a bad thing. Because a man who owns a theater in Memphis, Tennessee, saw those photo and offered Jenny a job singing in a show. The first chance I got, I took the bus up to Memphis to see her perform in that show.

EMCEE steps out onto the stage.

EMCEE

That was Amber, Amber Flame. Give her a big hand, guys. Good job, Amber. And now, for your listening and viewing pleasure, direct from Hollywood, California, our very own beatnik beauty, let's give a big round of applause to the luscious Bobbie Dylan.

CROWD

Bobbie... Bobbie...

The emcee walks back off the stage and the curtain opens, revealing Jenny as she sits on a stool on the stage. She holds a guitar up and begins to play. She is topless.

JENNY

(sings)

"Yes, and how many seas must the white dove said, before she sleeps in the sand."

FORREST (V.O.)

Her dream had come true. She was a folk singer.

JENNY

(sings)

"Yes, how many times must the cannonballs fly before they're forever banned."

MAN #1

You gotta lose the guitar, darling.

MAN #2

Hey, come on, baby. Shake it up. Shake it up now.

MAN #3

Hey, somebody ought to get her a harmonica.

The men laugh.

JENNY

(sings)

"The answer, my friend is blowing in the wind. The answer is blowing in..."

MAN #

...skin, honey. This isn't Captain Kangaroo.

MEN

Yeah! Come on!

Man #5 reaches up and tries to stick some money in Jenny's shoe.

MAN #5 :

Hey, honey, I got something here for you.

Jenny kicks his hand. He yells angrily as he sits back down,

then tosses his drink on her.

MAN #5

Goddamnit!

JENNY

Hey! Hey! Stupid jerk! I'm singing a song here. Polly, get out here!

MAN #

Hey, show us some stuff, honey!

JENNY

Shut up! Oh, shut up!

Forrest walks up to Man #5 and grabs him and tosses him down on the ground. Man #4 tries to grab Forrest, but Forrest shoves him down too.

JENNY

Forrest, what are you doing here?
What are you doing?

Forrest climbs up onto the stage and picks Jenny up, guitar and all, and carries her.

FORREST

Come on.

JENNY

What are you doing? Forrest, let me down!

Jenny struggles and frees herself from Forrest. Forrest steps back in surprise. Jenny shoves the guitar at Forrest. Jenny walks off as Forrest holds the guitar. He follows after her.

EXT. MEMPHIS BRIDGE - NIGHT

Forrest follows Jenny over a bridge outside the night club.

JENNY

You can't keep doing this, Forrest.
You can't keep tryin' to rescue me all the time.

FORREST

They was tryin' to grab you.

JENNY

A lot of people try to grab me. Just --
you can't keep doing this all the time!

FORREST

I can't help it. I love you.

JENNY

Forrest, you don't know what love is.

Jenny turns and looks over the bridge.

JENNY

You remember that time we prayed,
Forrest? We prayed for God to turn me into a bird so I could fly far,
far away?

FORREST

Yes, I do.

JENNY

You think I can fly off this bridge?

FORREST

What do you mean, Jenny?

JENNY

Nothing.

Jenny turns and looks at the light of an approaching vehicle.

She steps into the street.

JENNY

I gotta get outta here.

Jenny runs and flags down the approaching vehicle.

FORREST

But wait. Jenny!

JENNY

Forrest, you stay away from me, okay?
You just stay away from me, please.

A pickup truck pulls over as Jenny looks at the driver.

JENNY

Can I have a ride?

DRIVER

Where you going?

JENNY

I don't care.

DRIVER

Get in the truck.

FORREST

So bye-bye, Jenny. They sendin' me
to Vietnam. It's this whole other
country.

Jenny walks toward Forrest. She looks at the driver.

JENNY

Just hang on a minute.

Jenny walks up to Forrest.

JENNY

Listen, you promise me something,
okay? Just if you're ever in trouble,
don't try to be brave, you just run,
okay? Just run away.

FORREST

Okay. Jenny, I'll write you all the
time.

Jenny takes a last look at Forrest, then climbs into the
truck. Forrest watches Jenny in the pickup as it drives away.

FORREST (V.O.)

And just like that.

EXT. GREENBOW/GUMP BOARDING HOUSE/RIVER - DAY

Forrest, dressed in his uniform, sits on a log and looks out
at a river.

FORREST (V.O.)

...she was gone.

Mrs. Gump walks toward Forrest and sits down next to him on
the log. Forrest leans down, placing his head on his mother's
shoulder.

MRS. GUMP

You come back safe to me, do ya hear?

EXT. VIETNAM/MEKONG DELTA - MORNING (1967)

The shadow of a helicopter over the rice field below. A
soldier is manning a gun from inside the helicopter. The
soldier looks left, Forrest and Bubba ride in the helicopter.

EXT. FIREBASE/4TH PLATOON

The helicopter circles overhead, then lands at the firebase.

SONG

"Some folks are born made to wave
the flag. Ooh, they're red, white
and blue. And when the band plays
"Hail to the Chief," ohh, they point
the cannon at you all. It ain't me.
It ain't me. I ain't no Senator's
son, no. It ain't me. It ain't me..."

Bubba and Forrest jump out of the helicopter with their gear/
They walk and look around oddly.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, they told us that Vietnam was
gonna be very different from the
United States of America.

The soldier places a case of beer on a large stack of cases.

He takes two beers out and walks away. In the background,

soldiers are barbecuing steaks and drinking beer.

FORREST (V.O.)

Except for all the beer cans and the barbecue, it was.

BUBBA

Y'know, I bet there's shrimp all in these waters. They tell me these Vietnams is good shrimp. You know, after we win this war, and we take over everything we can get American shrimpers to come on here and shrimp these waters. We'll just shrimp all the time, man. So much shrimp, why, you wouldn't believe it.

Lieutenant DAN TAYLOR steps out of a tent. Shirtless, he holds a roll of toilet paper in his hand.

LT. DAN

You must be my F.N.G.'s.

BUBBA AND FORREST

Morning', sir!

LT. DAN

Ho! Get your hands down. Do not salute me. There are goddamned snipers all around this area who would love to grease an officer. I'm Lieutenant Dan Taylor. Welcome to Fourth Platoon.

Lt. Dan looks at Bubba.

LT. DAN

What's wrong with your lips?

BUBBA

I was born with big gums, sir.

LT. DAN

Yeah, well, you better tuck that in. Gonna get that caught on a trip wire. Where you boys from in the world?

BUBBA & FORREST

Alabama, sir!

LT. DAN

You twins?

Forrest and Bubba look at each other oddly, they don't get the joke.

FORREST

No, we are not relations, sir.

LT. DAN

Look, it's pretty basic here.

Lt. Dan starts to walk. Bubba and Forrest grab their gear and follow him.

LT. DAN

You stick with me, you learn from the guys who been in country awhile, you'll be right. There is one item of G.I. gear that can be the difference between a live grunt and a dead grunt.

Lt. Dan stops and looks at the boys.

LT. DAN

Socks, cushion, sole, O.D. green. Try and keep your feet dry when we're out humpin'. I want you boys to remember to change your socks wherever we stop. The Mekong will eat a grunt's feet right off his legs.

Lt. Dan steps over to a large black soldier named **SERGEANT SIMS**.

LT. DAN

Sergeant Sims! Goddamnit, where is that sling-rope I told you to order.

SGT. SIMS

I put in requisitions at Battalion.

LT. DAN

Yeah, yeah, yeah, well you call those sonabitches again, call them again and again and again. I don't care how much it takes...

FORREST (V.O.)

Lt. Dan sure knew his stuff. I felt real lucky he was my lieutenant. He was from a long, great military tradition. Somebody in his family had fought and died in every single American war.

EXT. VALLEY FORGE/THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR - DAY (1778)

A distant relative of Lt. Dan's, wearing a revolutionary war uniform, falls dead in the snow.

EXT. GETTYSBURG/THE CIVIL WAR - DAY (1863)

Another relative, wearing a civil war uniform and bearing a striking resemblance to Lt. Dan, falls down dead.

EXT. NORMANDY/WORLD WAR II - DAY (1944)

Another relative, wearing a World War II, falls down dead on the beach at Normandy.

EXT. VIETNAM/MEKONG DELTA/FIREBASE - DAY (1967)

LT. DAN

Goddamnit, kick some ass!

SGT. SIMS

I'm on it, Lieutenant.

LT. DAN

Get on it!

Lt. Dan steps back up to Bubba and Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

I guess you could say he had a lot to live up to.

Lt. Dan walks along the walkway and Bubba and Forrest follow.

LT. DAN

So, you boys are from Arkansas, huh? Well, I've been through there. Little Rock's a fine town. Now, go shake down your gear, see the platoon sergeant, draw what you need for the field.

Lt. Dan steps inside the latrine, still holding the roll of toilet paper.

LT. DAN

If you boys are hungry, we got steaks burnin' right here.

Lt. Dan sits down out of sight in the latrine, then stands up, looking at the boys.

LT. DAN

Two standing orders in this platoon. One, take good care of your feet. Two, try not to do anything stupid, like gettin' yourself killed.

Lt. Dan sits back down out of sight in the latrine. Bubba and Forrest look at each other.

FORREST

I sure hope I don't let him down.

EXT. RICE FIELD - ANOTHER DAY

Forrest, Bubba, and other soldiers in the Fourth Platoon walk across the rice field. Some Vietnamese rice farmers are working as the soldiers walk past.

FORREST (V.O.)

I got to see a lot of countryside. We would take these real long walks.

EXT. JUNGLE/DIRT ROAD - ANOTHER DAY

Forrest's unit walks along a dirt road.

SONG

And we were always lookin' for this
guy named Charlie. I can't get no
relief.

Suddenly Lt. Dan holds up his fist, a signal for the unit to
stop. He motions for them to get down.

LT. DAN

Hold it up!

SGT. SIMS

Hold up, boys!

Forrest gets down and looks around.

FORREST (V.O.)

It wasn't always fun. Lt. Dan always
gettin' these funny feelings about a
rock or a trail, or the road, so
he'd tell you to get down, shut up!

LT. DAN

Get down! Shut up!

FORREST (V.O.)

So we did.

Lt. Dan motions for the lead soldier to get down. Lt. Dan
crouches down. Lt. Dan looks at the soldiers and points to
his eyes. He lies down on the dirt road and crawls.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, I don't know much about anything,
but I think some of American's best
young men served in this war. There
was Dallas, from Phoenix. Cleveland,
he was from Detroit.

CLEVELAND

Hey, Tex. Hey, Tex. Man, what the
hell's going on?

Tex holds up his hand, motioning that he doesn't know.

FORREST (V.O.)

And Tex was, well, I don't remember
where Tex come from.

LT. DAN

Ah, nothin'. Fourth Platoon, on your
feet! Still got ten clicks to go to
that river.

Forrest stands up and begins to walk with the platoon.

LT. DAN

All right, move out! Comin' out.
Look alive out there.

FORREST (V.O.)

The good thing about Vietnam is there
was always someplace to go.

LT. DAN (V.O.)

Fire in the hole!

EXT. VIETNAM/VIET CONG FOXHOLE - ANOTHER DAY

Lt. Dan walks away as Forrest rushes over, aims two pistols
in the hole, then climbs inside.

FORREST (V.O.)

And there was always something to
do.

LT. DAN

Mount 'em up.

SGT. SIMS

Spread out! Cover his back.

ANOTHER DAY - The platoon walks through a rice paddy, waits
deep in water. It begins to rain.

FORREST (V.O.)

One day it started raining, and it
didn't quit for four months.

EXT. JUNGLE

The rain pours down on Forrest and Bubba as they sit in a

foxhole.

FORREST (V.O.)

We been through every kind of rain
there is. Little bitty stingin'
rain...

ANOTHER DAY - The platoon walks through the jungle as rain
pours down on them.

FORREST (V.O.)

...and big ol' fat rain.

ANOTHER DAY - The platoon shelters themselves as they walk
through the wind and rain.

FORREST (V.O.)

Rain that flew in sideways.

ANOTHER DAY - Forrest and other soldiers walk chest-deep
through a river. The rain splatters back up from the river,
hitting the soldiers. Forrest holds his hand up to protect
his face.

FORREST (V.O.)

And sometimes rain even seemed to
come straight up from underneath.

EXT. ENCAMPMENT - NIGHT

The rain pours down on the men of the platoon as they sit in
a camp. Bubba sits down next to Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

Shoot, it even rained at night.

Bubba leans his back up against Forrest's back.

BUBBA

Hey Forrest...

FORREST

Hey Bubba...

BUBBA

I'm gonna lean up against you, you
just lean right back against me.

BUBBA

This way, we don't have to sleep
with our heads in the mud. You know
why we a good partnership, Forrest?
'Cause we be watchin' out for one
another. Like brothers and stuff.
Hey, Forrest, there's somethin' I've
been thinkin' about. I got a very
important question to ask you. How
would you like to go into the
shrimpin' business with me?

FORREST

Okay.

BUBBA

Man, I tell you what, I got it all
figured out, too. So many pounds of
shrimp to pay off the boat, so many
pounds for gas, we can just live
right on the boat. We ain't got to
pay no rent. I'll be the captain; we
can just work it together. Split
everything right down the middle.
Man, I'm tellin' you, fifty-fifty.
And, hey, Forrest, all the shrimp
you can get.

FORREST

That's a fine idea.

FORREST (V.O.)

Bubba did have a fine idea.

ANOTHER NIGHT - Some soldiers patrol the area. Forrest lies
in a pup tent and writes a letter as the rain pours down. He
uses his flashlight to see.

FORREST (V.O.)

I even wrote Jenny and told her all
about it. I sent her letters. Not
every day, but almost. I told her
what I was doin' and asked her what
she was doing, and I told her how I

thought about her always.

EXT. JENNY'S GRANDMOTHER'S TRAILER - DAY

Jenny steps out of the trailer with a backpack and a guitar.

She hugs a hippie guy, then jumps into the back of a Volkswagen bus with another guy.

FORREST (V.O.)

And how I was looking forward to
getting a letter from her just as
soon as she had the time I'd always
let her know that I was okay.

EXT. VIETNAM - NIGHT

Forrest writes a letter in his tent.

FORREST (V.O.)

Then I'd sign each letter, "Love,
Forrest Gump."

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

The Fourth Platoon makes their way through the jungle and rain.

SONG

"There's something happenin' here.
What it is ain't exactly clear.
There's a man with a gun over there,
telling' me I got to beware."

FORREST (V.O.)

This one day, we was out walking,
like always, and then, just like
that, somebody turned off the rain
and the sun come out.

Forrest looks up as the sun suddenly appears. Forrest's platoon is attacked. A bullet kills the soldier standing next to Forrest. Bombs explode all around as the soldiers scramble to the ground.

LT. DAN

Take cover!

Forrest crawls over a berm as bullets fly overhead and explode all around him. Forrest rolls over and pulls his pack off. Lt. Dan lies next to Forrest.

LT. DAN

Get that pig up here, goddammit!

BUBBA

Forrest, you okay?

Two soldiers with a machine gun fire into the jungle. Lt. Dan shouts into the radio. Forrest begins firing his weapon into the jungle.

LT. DAN

...Strongarm, please be advised...

Two soldiers pull a wounded soldier into the jungle.

BUBBA

Medic, we got a man down!

LT. DAN

Strongarm, this is Leg Lima 6, over!

LT. DAN

Roger, Strongarm, be advised we have
incoming from the treeline at point
blue plus two. A.K.'s and rockets...

The machine gunner fires into the treeline. Another soldier helps him with the ammunition. The machine gun jams.

SOLDIER WITH BIG MACHINE GUN

Misfire! Misfire!

LT. DAN

Goddammit, Mac! Get that pig unfucked
and get it in the treeline!

A rocket explodes on the machine gunner and the other soldier, killing them. Forrest looks down and covers his head as rockets explode all around him.

LT. DAN

(into radio)

Ah, Jesus! My unit is down hard and hurting! 6 pulling back to the blue line, Leg Lima 6 out! Pull back! Pull back!

BUBBA

Forrest! Run! Run, Forrest!

LT. DAN

Pull back!

BUBBA

Forrest! Run! Run, Forrest! Run! Run!

SGT. SIMS

Pull back! Let's go!

Lt. Dan gets up and grabs Forrest by the collar.

LT. DAN

Run, goddammit, run!

The platoon gets up and runs toward the cover of the jungle.

Rockets explode all around the field. Forrest runs into the jungle. The soldiers run through the jungle as bullets explode all around. A soldier is blown up by a rocket. A soldier runs through the jungle. Forrest runs past the soldier.

SOLDIER

Medic! Medic! Jesus, can I get a medic?

FORREST (V.O.)

I ran and ran, just like Jenny told me to.

Rockets explode in the jungle as Forrest runs out toward a clearing.

FORREST (V.O.)

I ran so far and so fast that pretty soon I was all by myself, which was a bad thing.

FORREST

Bubba!

Forrest turns around, then runs back into the jungle.

FORREST (V.O.)

Bubba was my best good friend. I had to make sure he was okay.

Rockets explode in the jungle. Forrest runs back into the jungle to look for Bubba.

1ST SOLDIER

Any friendlies out there?

2ND SOLDIER

Yeah, I've got three over there.

1ST SOLDIER

Where the hell are you?

Forrest stops and aims his weapon. He looks around, scared.

FORREST

Bubba?

Something moves. Forrest turns and looks, then rushes over.

FORREST (V.O.)

And on my way back to find Bubba, well, there was this boy laying on the ground.

FORREST

Tex!

Tex lies on the ground, his face distorted with pain.

FORREST

Okay.

Forrest reaches down and picks up Tex from the ground. Forrest pulls Tex up over his shoulder, then runs.

FORREST (V.O.)

I couldn't just let him lay there
all alone, scared the way he was, so
I grabbed him up and run him out of
there.

Forrest carries Tex out of the jungle and into the clearing.

He sets Tex down on the bank of a river, and runs back into
the jungle.

FORREST (V.O.)

And every time I went back looking
for Bubba, somebody else was saying,
"Help me, Forrest. Help me."

Forrest drops another wounded soldier down at the bank of
the river next to Tex, and then runs back toward the jungle.

Forrest grabs the third wounded soldier up from the ground
and turns him over. It is DALLAS.

DALLAS

Can't hear... Can't hear...

Dallas is dropped off at the bank next to the other wounded
soldiers. Forrest turns to go back to the jungle.

2ND WOUNDED SOLDIER

No sweat, man. Just lay back. You're
gonna be okay. You're gonna be okay.

FORREST (V.O.)

I started to get scared that I might
never find Bubba.

STRONGARM

(over radio)

You're danger close for crack air,
over.

Forrest trips over something and falls to the ground. He
looks up to find two bloody legs. It is Lt. Dan, who is
wounded. He speaks into the radio.

LT. DAN

(into radio)

Roger, Strongarm, I know my position
is danger close! We got Charlie all
over this area! I gotta have those
fast movers in here now! Over!

STRONGARM

(over radio)

Six, Strongarm, we want...

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan, Coleman's dead!

LT. DAN

I know he's dead! My whole goddamned
platoon is wiped out!

STRONGARM

(over radio)

Leg Lima 6, Leg Lima 6, how copy you
this transmission? Over.

Forrest tries to pick up Lt. Dan, who tries to push Forrest
away.

LT. DAN

Goddammit! What are you doing? Leave
me here! Get away. Just leave me
here! Get out!

Forrest pulls Lt. Dan over his shoulder and runs through the
jungle.

STRONGARM

Leg Lima 6, Leg Lima 6. This is
Strongarm, be advised, your fast
movers are inbound at this time,
over.

FORREST (V.O.)

Then it felt like something just
jumped up and bit me.

Forrest falls down.

FORREST

Ah, something bit me!

Forrest gets up as Lt. Dan yells. Lt. Dan fires his pistol at the unseen enemy as Forrest pulls him away.

LT. DAN

You dink son-of-a-bitch! I can't leave the platoon! I told you to leave me there, Gump. Forget about me. Get yourself out! Did you hear what I said! Goddammit, pull me down! Get your ass out of here!

Forrest drops Lt. Dan down at the bank, next to the other wounded soldiers. Lt. Dan grabs Forrest by the shirt, angry.

LT. DAN

I didn't ask you to pull me out of there, goddamn you! What the hell do you think you're going?

FORREST

To get Bubba.

LT. DAN

I got an air strike inbound right now. They're gonna nape the whole area.

Forrest gets up and runs as Lt. Dan yells after him.

LT. DAN

Gump, you stay here, goddammit! That's an order!

FORREST

I gotta find Bubba!

Forrest runs through the jungle searching for Bubba. Forrest slows down and looks around carefully.

BUBBA

Forrest...

FORREST

Bubba...

Bubba looks up as he lies on the ground.

BUBBA

I'm okay.

Bubba holds a palm frond over his wound. Forrest removes the frond to look at the wound. Bubba's chest has been blown open.

FORREST

Oh, Bubba, no...

BUBBA

Naw, I'm gonna be all right.

Forrest looks around as he hear the voices of the enemy.

FORREST

Come on. Come on. Come here...

Forrest carries Bubba through the jungle. The sound of approaching planes fills the air.

BUBBA

I'm okay, Forrest. I'm all right.

The roar of approaching planes is deafening. Forrest looks up in fear. Three planes dive down toward the jungle. They fire napalm as the jungle explodes with massive fireballs.

Forrest runs, carrying Bubba. The fireballs explode behind him. The entire jungle area is in flames as Forrest runs.

Forrest carries Bubba to the bank of the river. Lt. Dan and the other wounded soldiers wait for a rescue helicopter.

LT. DAN

Helo's inbound. Pop smoke, get it up there!

FORREST (V.O.)

If I'd a known this was gonna be the last time me and Bubba was gonna talk, I'd a thought of something better to say.

Forrest looks down at Bubba. A soldier releases a smoke canister.

FORREST

Hey, Bubba...

BUBBA

Hey, Forrest. Forrest, why'd this happen?

FORREST

You got shot.

FORREST (V.O.)

Then Bubba said something I won't even forget.

BUBBA

I wanna go home.

FORREST (V.O.)

Bubba was my best good friend. And even I know that ain't something you can find just around the corner. Bubba was gonna be a shrimpin' boat captain, but instead he died right there by that river in Vietnam.

The helicopter fly overhead.

BUS STATION - DAY

Forrest continues with his life story. A MAN is sitting next to Forrest on the bus bench.

FORREST

That's all I have to say about that.

MAN

It was a bullet, wasn't it?

FORREST

A bullet?

MAN

That jumped up and bit you.

FORREST

Oh, yes sir. Bit me directly in the buttocks. They said it was a million dollar wound, but the Army must keep that money, 'cause I still ain't seen a nickel of that million dollars. The only good thing about being wounded in the buttocks...

FLASHBACK - INT. US. ARMY HOSPITAL/VIETNAM - DAY

Forrest holds two ice cream cones in his hands as he is wheeled on a rolling stretcher.

FORREST (V.O.)

...is the ice cream. They gave me all the ice cream I could eat. And guess what. A good friend of mine was in the bed right next door.

Forrest, lying on his stomach, is wheeled to his bed.

Forrest's butt sticks up and is bandaged. Forrest looks at Lt. Dan lying on the bed. Forrest holds out an ice cream cone for Lt. Dan.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan, I got you some ice cream. Lieutenant Dan, ice cream.

Lt. Dan, annoyed, takes the ice cream cone and drops it into his bed pan. Forrest slides himself onto his bed. A NURSE reaches toward Lt. Dan.

MALE NURSE

It's time for your bath, Lieutenant.

The male nurse places Lt. Dan's hands on a pull-up bar, then picks up Lt. Dan, whose legs have been amputated.

MALE NURSE

Harper...

Another nurse wheels the rolling bed under Lt. Dan. The male

nurse sets Lt. Dan down on the rolling bed. Forrest looks up at Lt. Dan as he is wheeled away. A soldier reads the names from a pile of letters.

SOLDIER

Cooper, Larson, Webster, Gump, Gump...

FORREST

I'm Forrest Gump.

The soldier hands Forrest a large pile of letters.

"Undeliverable as addressed. No forwarding order on file."

Jenny Curran Rural Route 2 Greenbow, Ala. 39902 Forrest looks down at the pile of letters.

INT. ARMY HOSPITAL/VIETNAM - DAY

A group of wounded soldiers hang out in the hospital, recuperating. Forrest sits and watches "Gomer Pyle" on the television.

SOLDIER

Gump, how can you watch that stupid shit? Turn it off!

ANNOUNCER

From the D.M.Z. to the Delta, you are tuned to the American Forces Vietnam Network. This is Channel 6, Saigon.

Forrest turns the TV off and he is hit on the back of the head by a ping-pong ball.

SOLDIER

Good catch, Gump. You know how to play this?

Forrest shakes his head.

SOLDIER

Come on, let me show you. Here.

The wounded ping-pong player hands Forrest a paddle. Forrest and the wounded ping-pong player step toward the ping-pong table.

SOLDIER

Now the secret to this game is, no matter what happens, never, never take your eye off the ball.

He holds the ball up and moves it back and forth. Forrest keeps his eyes on the ball.

SOLDIER

All right...

The wounded ping-pong player tosses the ball down onto the table. Forrest begins to hit the ball back to the other player.

FORREST (V.O.)

For some reason, ping pong came very natural to me.

SOLDIER

See, any idiot can play.

FORREST (V.O.)

So I started playing it all the time.

Forrest hits ping-pong balls.

FORREST (V.O.)

I played ping-pong even when I didn't have anyone to play ping-pong with.

The balls at land in a bed pan positioned on a chair. A group of wounded soldier sit and watch Forrest play with himself. Forrest hits two balls at a time against the opposite side of the table.

FORREST (V.O.)

The hospital's people said it made me look like a duck in water, whatever that means. Even Lieutenant Dan would come and watch me play.

Lt. Dan stares out the window. Forrest lies in his bed asleep.

A hand reaches and grabs him.

FORREST (V.O.)

I played ping-pong so much, I even
played it in my sleep.

Lt. Dan pulls Forrest to the floor, and holds Forrest down.

LT. DAN

Now, you listen to me. We all have a
destiny. Nothing just happens, it's
all part of a plan. I should have
died out there with my men! But now,
I'm nothing but a goddamned cripple!
A legless freak. Look! Look! Look at
me! Do you see that? Do you know
what it's like not to be able to use
your legs?

FORREST

Well... Yes, sir, I do.

LT. DAN

Did you hear what I said? You cheated
me. I had a destiny. I was supposed
to die in the field! With honor!
That was my destiny! And you cheated
me out of it! You understand what
I'm saying, Gump? This wasn't supposed
to happen. Not to me. I had a destiny.
I was Lieutenant Dan Tyler.

FORREST

Yo-You're still Lieutenant Dan.

Lt. Dan looks at Forrest, lets go of Forrest and rolls.

Lt. Dan sits up as Forrest looks at him.

LT. DAN

Look at me. What am I gonna do now?
What am I gonna do now?

INT. REC ROOM/VIETNAM HOSPITAL - ANOTHER DAY

Forrest plays ping-pong by himself. An OFFICER walks up to
him.

OFFICER

P.F.C. Gump?

Forrest immediately grabs the ball and places it down on the
table under its paddle. Stands at attention.

FORREST

Yes, sir!

OFFICER

As you were.

The officer holds up an envelope.

OFFICER

Son, you've been awarded the Medal
of Honor.

INT. VIETNAM HOSPITAL WARD

Forrest steps up to Lt. Dan's bed.

FORREST

Guess what, Lieutenant Dan, they
want to give me a me...

Forrest stops in mid-sentence as he looks down at the bed. A
heavily bandaged soldier with bloodstains lies there. Forrest
turns and look at the NURSE.

FORREST

Ma'am, what'd they do with Lieutenant
Dan?

NURSE

They sent him home.

FORREST (V.O.)

Two weeks later, I left Vietnam.

INT. BARBER SHOP/GREENBOW - DAY

ANCHORMAN

(on T.V.)

The ceremony was kicked off with a candid speech by the President regarding the need for further escalation of the war in Vietnam. President Johnson awarded four Medals of Honor to men from each of the Armed Services.

The television reveals Forrest as he is awarded the Medal of Honor by President Johnson.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

America owes you a debt of gratitude, son.

Color footage revealing President Johnson as he places the award around Forrest's neck and shakes hands.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

I understand you were wounded. Where were you hit?

FORREST

In the buttocks, sir.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Oh, that must be a sight.

President Johnson leans and whispers into Forrest's ear.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

I'd kinda like to see that.

INT. BARBER SHOP

The television revealing Forrest as he drops his pants, bends over and shows the bullet wound on his bare buttocks.

President Johnson looks down and smiles. The three men in the barber shop look up in disbelief. Mrs. Gump looks up in shock.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Goddamn, son.

EXT. LINCOLN MEMORIAL - DAY

Forrest walks by the Lincoln Memorial. A fence surrounds the Memorial, as well as armed military guards.

FORREST (V.O.)

After that, Momma went to the hotel to lay down, so I went out for a walk to see our national capital.

ISABEL

Hilary, all right, I've got the vets, what do you want me to do with them?

HILARY

What are you doing here so late?

Forrest takes a photo of the memorial as a woman named Hilary gathers together some veterans against the Vietnam War.

HILARY

We've been waiting for you for half an hour, so just get them in a line, will you. Hey, hey, come on, pictures later. You look great. Oh come on, get in this line, come on, come on right in line. Come on, let him here, let him in here.

Hilary grabs Forrest and puts him in the line with the other vets against the war.

FORREST (V.O.)

It's a good thing Momma was resting, 'cause the street was awful crowded with people looking at all the statues and monuments. And some of them people were loud and pushy.

Hilary leads the line of vets toward the large anti-Vietnam War rally.

HILARY

Okay, follow me! Come on.

The group of vets walk as Forrest tries to take another picture. A vet behind him pushes him along.

HILARY

Let's move it out.

VET

Hey, buddy, come on. We could use
your help.

Forrest walks in the line. A banner reads "Veterans against
the War in Vietnam."

FORREST (V.O.)

Everywhere I went, I had to stand in
line.

HILARY

Follow me, let's go!

Hilary leads the vets through a crowd of people outside the
rally. Another woman, named Isabel, leads the vets toward
the back of a stage.

ISABEL

All right, come on, guys.

HILARY

Stand here.

VET

Hey, you're a good man for doin'
this. Good!

FORREST

Okay.

A man, wearing an American flag shirt, stands on the stage.

He is anti-war activist ABBIE HOFFMAN.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

We must declare to that fucking
impostor in the White House --
Johnson. We ain't going to work on
your farm no more! Yeah!

FORREST (V.O.)

There was this man, giving a little
talk. And for some reason, he was
wearing an American flag for a
shirt...

ABBIE HOFFMAN

Now, I'm going to bring up some
soldiers that are going to talk about
the war, man...

FORREST (V.O.)

...and he liked to say the "F" word.
A lot. "F" this and "F" that. And
every time...

ABBIE HOFFMAN

...that war has come home, and we
have to stop these politicians...

FORREST (V.O.)

...he said "F" word, people, for
some reason, well, they'd cheer.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

...these guys just told Lyndon Johnson
where to stick this fucking war!
Yeah!

Forrest looks up at the cheering crowd. Abbie turns and
motions for Forrest to come up on the stage.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

Come on, man. Come up here, man.

HILARY

Come on. Come on. Yeah, you!

Hilary pulls Forrest up onto the stage.

HILARY

Come on, get up there. Come on. Move,
move. Let's go! Let's go.

The other vets follow Forrest pushes onto the stage and push
him toward the microphones.

VET

Come on, go. You can do it. Just get up there. Go on. That's it.

Thousands of cheering protesters stand around the Washington Monument. Forrest looks at the crowd. Abbie Hoffmann steps up to Forrest.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

Tell us a little bit about the war, man.

FORREST

The war in Vietnam?

ABBIE HOFFMAN

The war in Viet-fucking-nam!

Abbie raises his fist as the crowd cheers wildly.

FORREST

Well...

FORREST (V.O.)

There was only one thing I could say about the war in Vietnam.

FORREST

...there was only one thing I could say about the war in Vietnam.

Forrest looks at the crowd as he speaks. A policeman looks around as he sneaks over to the audio circuit board.

FORREST

In Vietnam war...

The policeman pulls the patch cords out of the audio board.

Forrest's amplified voice becomes inaudible. Forrest continues to speak into the microphone, even though no one can hear what he is saying. Hilary looks over and notices the policeman. Hilary rushes over toward the audio board, pushes the policeman away and grabs his night stick. Another protester grabs the policeman and pulls him away.

POLICEMAN

Hey, what the hell are you doing?

HILARY

I'll beat your head in, you goddamned oinker!

Isabel, Hilary and another protester try to plug the tangled mess of wires back into the audio board.

ISABEL

Christ, what'd they do with this?

Forrest continues to speak into the microphone. The crowd grows restless.

CROWD

We can't hear you! We can't hear anything!

HILARY

This one! This one! Give me that!

Hilary plugs in the right patch cord.

HILARY

That's it.

FORREST

...and that's all I have to say about that.

Forrest looks at the massive crowd. They are silent. Abbie Hoffman steps over to Forrest and pats him on the shoulder.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

That's so right on, man. You said it all. What's your name, man?

FORREST

My name is Forrest Gump. Forrest Gump.

ABBIE HOFFMAN

Forrest Gump!

Abbie raises his fist into the air. Abbie steps away from Forrest. The crowd cheers.

CROWD

Forrest Gump!

JENNY

(screaming)

Forrest! Forrest!

Jenny wades out into the reflection pool and waves her hand into the air. Forrest recognizes her.

FORREST

Jenny!

Forrest rushes off the stage as Jenny makes her way out into the pool.

JENNY

Forrest!

Forrest jumps down into the crowd and runs. Jenny smiles as she tries to run through the water. The crowd parts as Forrest runs into the pool. Jenny rushes toward him.

JENNY

Hey! Hey!

The massive crowd cheers for the embracing couple in the pool.

FORREST (V.O.)

It was the happiest moment of my life.

EXT. WASHINGTON MONUMENT/PROTESTER'S ENCAMPMENT - NIGHT

Forrest and Jenny walk past the protesters who are camping out on the lawn.

FORREST (V.O.)

Jenny and me were just peas and carrots again. She showed me around, and even introduced me...

INT. BLACK PANTHER HEADQUARTERS/STOREFRONT, D.C. - NIGHT

Forrest stands at an open window and looks at the White House.

FORREST (V.O.)

...to some of her new friends.

A Black Panther, named RUBEN, steps over and pulls the shades down.

RUBEN

Shut that blind, man. And get your white ass away from that window. Don't you know we in war here?

Another Black Panther named MASAI grabs Forrest and pats him down.

JENNY

Hey man, he's cool. He's cool. He's one of us. He's one of us.

MASAI

Let me tell you about us.

WESLEY

Where the hell have you been?

JENNY

I ran into a friend.

MASAI

Our purpose here is to protect our black leaders from the racial onslaught of the pig who wishes to brutalize our black leaders, rape our women, and destroy our black communists.

BLACK PANTHER

Masai, phone. Talk to these guys.

WESLEY

Who's the baby killer?

JENNY

This is my good friend I told you about. This is Forrest Gump. Forrest, this is Wesley. Wesley and I live together in Berkeley, and he's the president of the Berkeley chapter of S.D.S.

MASAI

Let me tell you something else.

WESLEY

I want to talk to you.

JENNY

Okay, but...

WESLEY

No. Now! Goddammit!

MASAI

We are here to offer protection and help for all of those who need our help, because we, the Black Panthers, are against the war in Vietnam. Yes, we are against any war where black soldiers are sent to the front line to die for a country that hates them. Yes, we are against any war where black soldiers go to fight and come to be brutalized and killed in their own communities as they sleep in their beds at night. Yes, we are against all these racists and imperial dog acts.

JENNY

You are a fucking asshole!

Wesley hits Jenny across the face. Slow motion -- Jenny falls back. Slow motion -- Forrest steps forward with rage.

Slow motion -- Wesley turns and looks at Forrest. Forrest tackles Wesley and slams him onto a table. Jenny turns and looks as Masai pulls out a gun.

JENNY

Forrest! Quit it! Quit it! Forrest!
Stop it!

Jenny rushes over to Forrest and pulls Forrest off Wesley.

JENNY

Stop it!

Jenny tries to help Wesley as he moans on the floor. Wesley knocks Jenny's hand away. He gets up, holding his bloody lip.

WESLEY

Oh, God. I shouldn't have brought you here. I should have known it was just gonna be some bullshit hassle.

FORREST

He should not be hitting you, Jenny.

JENNY

Come on, Forrest.

Jenny steps out the door as Forrest picks up his hat.

FORREST

Sorry I had a fight in the middle of your Black Panther party.

The group of Black Panthers glare at Forrest. Forrest turns and walks out the room.

EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. - NIGHT

Forrest and Jenny walk past the White House. Protesters hold a candlelight vigil behind them.

JENNY

He doesn't mean it when he does things like this. He doesn't.

FORREST

I would never hurt you, Jenny.

JENNY

I know you wouldn't, Forrest.

FORREST

I wanted to be your boyfriend.

They walk in silence. Jenny touches Forrest's uniform.

JENNY

That uniform is a trip, Forrest. You look handsome in it. You do.

FORREST

You know what?

JENNY

What?

FORREST

I'm glad we were here together in our national capitol.

JENNY

Me too, Forrest. I have so much to tell you, you won't believe what's been going on...

FORREST (V.O.)

We walked around all night, Jenny and me, just talkin'.

EXT. ROUTE 66 - FLASHBACK - DAY

Jenny stands in the rain, hitchhiking. A car pulls over to pick her up. Jenny and other girls get into the car.

FORREST (V.O.)

She told me about all the travellin' she's done.

EXT. COMMUNE IN NEW MEXICO - NIGHT

A hippie gives Jenny a sugar cube of acid as they sit in front of a roaring fire.

FORREST (V.O.)

And how she'd discovered ways to expand her mind and learn how to live in harmony...

EXT. HOLLYWOOD/WALK OF FAME - DAY

A star with the name "Jean Harlow" on the sidewalk. Jenny and two other girls sing on the sidewalk and collect change from the passersby. Jenny plays the guitar.

FORREST (V.O.)

...which must be out west somewhere, 'cause she made it all the way to California.

JENNY

(sings)

"Smile on your brother, everybody get together, try to love on another right now"

A young hippie looks over his faded Volkswagen at the girls.

YOUNG HIPPIE

Hey, anybody want to go to San Francisco?

JENNY

I'll go.

YOUNG HIPPIE

Far out!

EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. - DAWN

Forrest and Jenny walk through the park.

FORREST (V.O.)

I was a very special night for the two of us. I didn't want it to end.

EXT. PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING

Jenny carries a backpack as she prepares to board a bus back to Berkeley.

FORREST

I wish you wouldn't go, Jenny.

JENNY

I have to, Forrest.

WESLEY

Jenny? Things got a little out of hand. It's just this war and that, that lyin' son-of-a-bitch Johnson. I would never hurt you. You know that.

FORREST

You know what I think? I think you should go home to Greenbow. Alabama!

JENNY

Forrest, we have very different lives, you know.

Forrest looks down at Jenny. He pulls his Medal of Honor from around his neck.

FORREST

I want you to have this.

Forrest places the Medal of Honor in Jenny's hand. Jenny looks up at him.

JENNY

Forrest, I can't keep this.

FORREST

I got it just by doing what you told me to do.

JENNY

Why're you so good to me?

FORREST

You're my girl.

JENNY

I'll always be your girl.

Jenny and Forrest hug each other. Wesley waits for Jenny.

Jenny turns and walks up to Wesley. They walk toward the entrance of the bus. Forrest smiles as Jenny looks at her.

Jenny climbs up into the bus. Wesley glares at Forrest.

Forrest gives Wesley the "evil eye." Jenny through the near window of the bus, knocks on the window. Forrest turns and looks. Jenny waves to Forrest. Forrest looks up and smiles sadly. Jenny gives Forrest the peace sign as the bus pulls away. The sign on the back of the bus reads "Berkeley to D.C." Forrest gives Jenny the peace sign.

FORREST (V.O.)

And just like that, she was gone out of my life again.

INT. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL/REC ROOM - DAY

A footage of Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon on television.

NEIL ARMSTRONG

That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind. The, uh, the surface is fine and powdery. I can, I can pick it up loosely.

Forrest demonstrates a ping-pong to some wounded vets.

FORREST (V.O.)

I thought I was going back to Vietnam, but instead, they decided the best way for me to fight communists was to play ping-pong. So I was in the Special Services, traveling around the country cheering up all them wounded veterans and showing them how to play...

BUS STOP - PRESENT - DAY

Forrest looks at a man.

FORREST

...ping-pong. I was so good that some years later...

EXT. CHINA/PING-PONG TOURNAMENT - FLASHBACK - DAY

Forrest plays ping-pong against a Chinese player. A large mural of Mao Tse-tung hangs on the wall. A crowd of communist leaders sit and watch.

FORREST (V.O.)

...the Army decided I should be on the All-American Ping-Pong Team. We were the first Americans to visit the land of China in like a million years or something like that, and somebody said that world peace was in our hands. But all I did was play ping-pong. When I got home...

BUS STOP - PRESENT - DAY**FORREST**

...I was national celebrity. Famoser even than Captain Kangaroo.

Color footage of the DICK CAVETT Show. Dick Cavett stands up as he introduces Forrest.

DICK CAVETT

Here he is, Forrest Gump, right here.

Forrest makes his way onto the stage, shakes hands with Dick Cavett.

DICK CAVETT

Mr. Gump, have a seat.

Forrest sits down between JOHN LENNON and Dick Cavett.

DICK CAVETT

Forrest Gump, John Lennon.

JOHN LENNON

Welcome home.

DICK CAVETT

You had quite a trip. Can you, uh, tell us, uh, what was China like?

John Lennon lights a cigarette.

FORREST

Well, in the land of China, people hardly got nothing at all.

JOHN LENNON

No possessions?

FORREST

And in China, they never go to church.

JOHN LENNON

No religion, too?

DICK CAVETT

Oh. Hard to imagine.

JOHN LENNON

Well, it's easy if you try, Dick.

Forrest looks oddly at John Lennon.

FORREST (V.O.)

Some years later, that nice young man from England was on his way home to see his little boy and was signing some autographs. For no particular reason at all, somebody shot him.

EXT. STUDIO - LATER

A guard lets Forrest out a side entrance door. Forrest steps, an then stops as he hears s man sitting in a wheelchair speak to him.

LT. DAN

They gave you the Congressional Medal of Honor.

FORREST

Now that's Lieutenant Dan. Lieutenant Dan!

Forrest looks at Lt. Dan. He is a dirty with long hair.

LT. DAN

They gave you the Congressional Medal of Honor!

FORREST

Yes sir, they sure did.

LT. DAN

They gave you an imbecile, a moron who goes on television and makes a fool out himself in front of the whole damn country, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

FORREST

Yes, sir.

LT. DAN

Well, then, that's just perfect!
Yeah, well I just got one thing to say to that. Goddamn bless America.

Lt. Dan's wheelchair begins to slide down the ramp and spins around on the icy ground. Forrest looks down at Lt. Dan crashes at the bottom of the ramp.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS - NIGHT

Taxi cabs crowd the street as Forrest pushes Lt. Dan along the sidewalk.

FORREST (V.O.)

Lieutenant Dan said he was living in a hotel. And because he didn't have no legs, he spent most of his time exercising his arms.

LT. DAN

Take a right, take a right.

A taxi driver honks his horn as Forrest wheels Lt. Dan out in front of the taxi.

TAXI DRIVER #1

Hey! Come on already!

LT. DAN

Ah!

FORREST

What are you doing here in New York, Lieutenant Dan?

LT. DAN

I'm living off the government tit.
Sucking it dry.

A taxi skids to a stop, almost hitting them as they cross the street. The taxi honks at Lt. Dan. Lt. Dan slaps the bumper of the taxi.

LT. DAN

Hey! Hey! Hey! Are you blind? I'm walking here! Ah, get out...

TAXI DRIVER #2

Why don't you go home before you kill yourself? Get out of the way!

LT. DAN

Come on, go! Go! Go!

EXT. LT. DAN'S HOTEL ROOM - LATER

A Bob Hope Christmas special in Vietnam on television. Lt. Dan and Forrest watch the television.

FORREST (V.O.)

I stayed with Lieutenant Dan and celebrated the holidays.

BOB HOPE

You have a great year and hurry home.
God bless you.

LT. DAN

Have you found Jesus yet, Gump?

FORREST

I didn't know I was supposed to be
looking for him, sir.

Lt. Dan chuckles, drinks the rest of a bottle of wine and
tosses it down. He looks at Forrest. He wheels himself over
to television and turns it off.

LT. DAN

That's all these cripples, down at
the V.A., that's all they ever talk
about.

Lt. Dan picks up another bottle of port wine, but it is empty.
He tosses it onto the floor.

LT. DAN

Jesus this and Jesus that. Have I
found Jesus? They even had a priest
come and talk to me. He said God is
listening, but I have to help myself.
Now, if I accept Jesus into my heart,
I'll get to walk beside him in the
Kingdom of Heaven.

Lt. Dan tosses the empty liquor bottle down and picks another
bottle. He becomes enraged as he throws the bottle and looks
at Forrest.

LT. DAN

Did you hear what I said? Walk beside
him in the Kingdom of Heaven. Well,
kiss my crippled ass. God is
listening. What a crock of shit.

FORREST

I'm going to heaven, Lieutenant Dan.

LT. DAN

Huh? Ah, well, before you go, why
don't you get your ass down to the
corner and get us another bottle of
wine.

FORREST

Yes, sir.

INT. TIMES SQUARE BAR - NIGHT

A television shows DICK CLARK as he emcees the Times Square
New York Eve celebration.

DICK CLARK

We are at approximately 45th Street
in New York City at One Astor Plaza.
This is the site of the old Astor
Hotel. Down below us, well over a
hundred thousand people are milling
about, cheering with horns and
whistles and hats...

LT. DAN

What the hell's in Bayou La Batre?

FORREST

Shrimpin' boats.

LT. DAN

Shrimpin' boats? Who gives a shit
about shrimpin' boats?

FORREST

I gotta buy me one of them shrimpin'
boats as soon as I have some money.
I made me a promise to Bubba in
Vietnam, that as soon as the war was
over, we'd go in partners. He'd be
the captain of the shrimpin' boat
and I'd be his first mate. But now
that he's dead, that means that I
gotta be the captain.

LT. DAN

A shrimp boat captain.

FORREST

Yes, sir. A promise is a promise,
Lieutenant Dan.

LT. DAN

Now hear this! Private Gump here is
gonna be a shrimp boat captain. Well,
I tell you what, Gilligan, the day

that you are a shrimp boat captain,
I will come and be your first mate.

FORREST

Okay.

LT. DAN

If you're ever a shrimp boat captain,
that's the day I'm an astronaut.

Two sleazy women, named LENORE and CARLA, walk up to Lt.
Dan.

LENORE

Danny, what are you complaining about?

CARLA

What are you doing, huh?

LENORE

Mr. Hot Wheels. Who's your friend?

FORREST

My name is Forrest, Forrest Gump.

LT. DAN

This is Cunning Carla, and Long-Limbs
Lenore.

Carla puts a "Happy New Year" crown on Lt. Dan's head. Lenore
fixes her makeup.

CARLA

So where you been, baby-cakes, huh?
Haven't seen you around lately. You
know, you should have been here for
Christmas 'cause Tommy bought a round
on the house and gave everybody a
turkey sandwich.

LT. DAN

Well, well, I had, uh, company.

LENORE

Hey, hey! We was, we was just there.
That's at Times Square.

Lenore leans and speaks into Forrest's ear.

LENORE

Don't you just love New Year's? You
get to start all over.

CARLA

Hey, Lenore.

LENORE

Everybody gets a second chance.

FORREST (V.O.)

It's funny, but in the middle of all
that fun, I began to think about
Jenny.

DICK CLARK

(on television)
...getting wild out there. It's
beginning to...

INT. APARTMENT/L.A. - NIGHT

The New Year's Eve celebration over the T.V.

DICK CLARK

(over television)
...pour here in Times Square. It's
been off-and-on all night, but these
people hang in there.

Jenny fills her bag with her belongings.

FORREST (V.O.)

Wondering how she was spending her
New Year's night out in California.

A man lies passed out on the bed. Jenny looks at her black
eye in a mirror, then leaves the apartment. The TV shows the
ball in Times Square.

CROWD

(over television)

INT. TIMES SQUARE BAR - NIGHT

The ball is lowered, lighting up a sign that reads "1972."

CROWD

(over television)

...! Happy New Year!

The people in the bar cheer and kiss each other. They blow horns and toss confetti into the air. Forrest looks around as Carla and Lenore lean over and kiss him.

PATRONS

(sing)

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind..."

FORREST

Happy New Year, Lieutenant Dan!

PATRONS

(sing)

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne."

INT. LT. DAN'S HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Carla removes her top and sits on top of Dan in his wheelchair. They kiss and play around. Forrest sits in a chair. Lenore leaps on him and begins to kiss Forrest. She reaches down to Forrest's crotch. Forrest stands up nervously, causing Lenore to fall down on the floor. Lenore stands up, angry.

LENORE

What are you, stupid or something?
What's your problem? What's his
problem? Did you lose your pecker in
the war or something?

CARLA

What, is your friend stupid or
something?

LT. DAN

What did you say?

CARLA

I said, is your friend stupid or
something?

LT. DAN

Hey! Don't call him stupid!

Lt. Dan throws Carla back onto the bed.

CARLA

Don't push me like that!

LENORE

Hey, don't you push her!

LT. DAN

You shut up! Don't you ever call him
stupid!

CARLA

What's the matter, baby? Why you
treating me like shit?

LT. DAN

Get the hell out of here!

LENORE

You stupid gimp. You belong in
"Ripley's Believe It Or Not."

LT. DAN

Get the hell out of here! Go on!

LENORE

You should be in a side show!

LT. DAN

Go on! Get out of here! Get out of
here!

LENORE

You big loser!

CARLA

Come on, Lenore. We don't need this

shit!

LENORE

You're so pathetic.

LT. DAN

Get out of here!

Lt. Dan falls out of his wheelchair and lands down on the floor. Carla and Lenore laugh as they leave the apartment.

CARLA

You retard!

LENORE

You loser! You freak!

Forrest tries to help Lt. Dan. Lt. Dan pushes Forrest away.

LT. DAN

No!

Forrest steps back as Lt. Dan flips back over, then pulls himself back up onto his wheelchair. He breathes heavily.

FORREST

I'm sorry I ruined your New Year's Eve party, Lieutenant Dan. She tastes like cigarettes.

FORREST (V.O.)

I guess Lieutenant Dan figured there's some things you just can't change. He didn't want to be called crippled, just like I didn't want to be called stupid.

LT. DAN

Happy New Year.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - NIGHT

An ANCHORMAN reports in front of the White House.

ANCHORMAN

The U.S. Ping-Pong Team met with President Nixon today at an Oval Office ceremony...

FORREST (V.O.)

And wouldn't you know it...

PRESENT - BUS STOP

Forrest looks at the fat man on the bus bench.

FORREST

...a few months later they invited me and the ping-pong team to visit the White House. So I went again. And I met the President of the United States again.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

A plaque, presented to Forrest, reads "Presented to Forrest Gump, member of the United States table tennis team as player of the year for 1971. President NIXON holds the plaque.

FORREST (V.O.)

Only this time they didn't get us rooms in a real fancy hotel.

PRESIDENT NIXON

So are you enjoying yourself in our national capital, young man?

FORREST

Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT NIXON

Well, where are you staying?

FORREST

It's called the Hotel Ebbott.

PRESIDENT NIXON

Oh, no, no, no, no. I know of a much nicer hotel. It's brand-new. Very modern. I'll have my people take care of it for you.

INT. WATERGATE HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Forrest speaks on the phone.

SECURITY GUARD

Security, Frank Wills.

Forrest steps over to a window. Flashlights are moving around in an office across from Forrest's room.

FORREST

Yeah, sir, you might want to send a maintenance man over to that office across the way. The lights are off, and they must be looking for the fuse box or something, 'cause them flashlights they're, they're keeping me awake.

SECURITY GUARD

Okay, sir. I'll check it out.

FORREST

Thank you.

SECURITY GUARD

No problem.

FORREST

Good night.

SECURITY GUARD

Good night.

Forrest hangs up the phone. The camera tilts down, revealing the hotel stationary, which reads "The Watergate Hotel."

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

President Nixon makes a resignation speech on TV.

PRESIDENT NIXON

(over television)

Therefore, I shall resign the Presidency effective at noon tomorrow.

The television cuts to a shot of President Nixon standing outside Air Force One with his hands in the peace sign.

PRESIDENT NIXON

(over television)

Vice President Ford will be sworn in as President at that hour in this office. As I recall the high hopes for America with which we began this second term, I feel a great sadness that I will not be here in this office...

Forrest is playing ping-pong by himself at the gymnasium. An officer steps up to him.

OFFICER

Sergeant Gump!

FORREST

Yes, sir!

OFFICER

As you were. I have your discharge papers. Your service is up, son.

The officer hands Forrest an envelope, then walks away.

FORREST

Does this mean I can't play ping pong no more?

OFFICER

For the Army it does.

FORREST (V.O.)

And just like that, my service in the United States Army was over. So I went home.

Forrest takes his paddle and runs out of the gymnasium.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Mrs. Gump walks out of the house and smiles. Forrest walks up to the house, wearing his uniform.

FORREST

I'm home, Momma.

MRS. GUMP

I know, I know.

INT. GUMP HOUSE

Mrs. Gump and Forrest walk into the house.

MRS. GUMP

Louise, he's here. He's here,
everybody.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, when I got home, I had no idea
that Momma had had all sorts of
visitors.

In the house are stacks of ping-pong paddles and life-sized
cardboard cutouts of Forrest playing ping-pong. The name on
the ping-pong paddles boxes reads: "Gump-Mao table tennis."

MRS. GUMP

We've had all sorts of visitors,
Forrest. Everybody wants you to use
their ping-pong stuff. One man even
left a check for twenty-five thousand
dollars if you'd be agreeable to
saying you like using their paddle.

FORREST

Oh, Momma. I only like using my own
paddle. Hi, Miss Louise.

LOUISE

Hey, Forrest.

MRS. GUMP

I know that. I know that. But it's
twenty-five thousand dollars, Forrest.
I thought maybe you could hold it
for a while, see if it grows on you.
Oh, you look good, Forrest. You look
real good.

FORREST (V.O.)

That Momma, she sure was right. It's
funny how things work out.

EXT. BAYOU LA BATRE/BUBBA'S MOM'S HOUSE - DAY

Forrest walks up to a shack on the edge of the Bayou. A group
of black kids play in the front yard.

FORREST (V.O.)

I didn't stay home for long, because
I'd made a promise to Bubba. And I
always try to keep my promise. So I
went on down to Bayou La Batre to
meet Bubba's family and make their
introduction.

Bubba's mother named MRS. BLUE and her other children look
at Forrest.

MRS. BLUE

Are you crazy, or just plain stupid?

FORREST

Stupid is as stupid does, Mrs. Blue.

MRS. BLUE

I guess.

EXT. BUBBA'S GRAVE - DAY

Forrest steps over to Bubba's tombstone.

FORREST (V.O.)

And of course, I paid my respect to
Bubba himself.

FORREST

Hey, Bubba, it's me, Forrest Gump. I
remember everything you said, and I
got it all figured out.

Forrest pulls out notes from his pocket.

FORREST

I'm taking the twenty-four thousand,
five hundred and six-two dollars and
forty-seven cents that I got...

EXT. BAYOU - DAY

Forrest walks across a yard where men are cleaning shrimp.

FORREST (V.O.)

...well, that's left after a new
hair cut and a new suit and I took
Momma out to real fancy dinner and I
bought a bus ticket and three Doctor
Peppers.

Forrest walks along a wooden pier. Forrest pays an old black
shrimper a large wad of cash.

OLD SHRIMPER

Tell me something. Are you stupid or
something?

FORREST

Stupid is as stupid does, sir.

EXT. BUBBA'S GRAVE

Forrest stands at the grave.

FORREST

Well, that's what's left after me
saying, "When I was in China on the
All-America Ping-Pong Team, I just
loved playing ping-pong with my Flex-
O-Ping-Pong Paddle." Which everybody
knows it isn't true, but Momma says
it's just a little white lie so it
wouldn't hurt nobody. So, anyway,
I'm putting all that on gas, ropes
and new nets and a brand-new shrimpin'
boat.

EXT. BAYOU - DAY

Forrest steers his shrimping boat. The boat is old and rusty.

Forrest unleashes his nets as his catch of the day drops to
the deck. It is a bunch of garbage and shells. Forrest picks
up one shrimp.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, Bubba had told me everything he
knows about shrimpin', but you know
what I found out? Shrimpin' is tough.

EXT. DOCKS

Forrest pulls a couple of shrimp out of a bucket.

FORREST

I only caught five.

OLD SHRIMPER

A couple of more, you can have
yourself a cocktail.

The old shrimper begins to walk away, then stops and looks
at Forrest.

OLD SHRIMPER

Hey, you ever think about namin'
this old boat?

FORREST (V.O.)

I'd never named a boat before, but
there was only one I could think of.

Forrest paints a name on the side of his boat. The name is
"Jenny."

FORREST (V.O.)

The most beautiful name in the wide
world.

INT. DISCO

Disco lights flash and people dance. A guy asks a girl to
dance.

GIRL

Okay.

Jenny sits at a table with some other people. She is snorting cocaine.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, I hadn't heard from Jenny in a long while. But...

EXT. BAYOU LA BATRE - DAY

Forrest stands at the helm as the boat glides across the water.

FORREST (V.O.)

But I thought about her a lot. And I hoped that whatever she was doing made her happy.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Drug paraphernalia and a large wad of cash are spread out on a table. A man drops a syringe on the table. He reaches over and touches Jenny. She is pale with dark lines under her eyes.

INT. BATHROOM

Jenny smears some lines of cocaine on a mirror. She looks at herself in the mirror.

EXT. BALCONY

Jenny steps out onto the high-rise balcony. She steps up on a table and stands on the edge of the balcony. A busy street lies many stories below. Jenny looks down to the intersection below.

She slips over the edge, regains her balance, turns and looks back at the intersection below, and begins to get down from the edge.

Jenny grabs a hold of the ledge and carefully climbs down.

She sits down on a chair. Jenny rocks back and forth as she cries. She looks up at the sky.

EXT. BAYOU LA BATRE/FORREST'S BOAT - NIGHT

The moon shines above in the sky. Forrest lies in a hammock on his boat.

FORREST (V.O.)

I thought about Jenny all the time.

EXT. FORREST'S BOAT/BAYOU DOCK - DAY

Forrest stands at the helm of his boat and slowly glides by the docks. Forrest looks around and notices something and bends down to get a clear view. Lt. Dan sits in his wheelchair on the deck. Forrest looks at Lt. Dan. He smiles, surprised.

FORREST

Hi!

Forrest leaps off of his moving boat and into the water. The boat continues as Forrest clumsily swims. Lt. Dan sits in his wheelchair at the edge of the dock. Forrest flails his arms as he swims up to the dock. Lt. Dan waits for Forrest, smoking a cigar. Forrest climbs up a ladder onto the dock.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan, what are you doing here?

LT. DAN

Well, I thought I'd try out my sea legs.

FORREST

Well, you ain't got no legs, Lieutenant Dan.

LT. DAN

Well, well, Captain Forrest Gump. I had to see this for myself. And I told you if you were ever a shrimp boat captain, that I'd be your first mate. Well, here I am. I am a man of my word.

FORREST

Okay.

Forrest shakes Lt. Dan's hand.

LT. DAN

Yeah, but don't you be thinking that
I'm gonna be calling you sir.

FORREST

No, sir.

Forrest's boat glides, crushing a dock. Forrest and Lt. Dan
look at it.

FORREST

That's my boat.

EXT. BAYOU LA BATRE WATERS - DAY

Forrest's shrimping boat is alone on the gulf waters.

LT. DAN

I have a feeling if we head the east,
we'll find some shrimp. So, take a
left. Take a left.

Forrest looks up. Lt. Dan is sitting in the rigging.

FORREST

Which way?

LT. DAN

Over there! They're over there! Get,
get on the wheel and take a left!

FORREST

Okay.

LT. DAN

Gump, what are you doing? Take a
left! Left! That's where we're gonna
find those shrimp, my boy! That's
where we'll find 'em.

Forrest empties the net. Their "catch" is debris that falls
to the deck.

FORREST

Still no shrimp, Lieutenant Dan.

LT. DAN

Okay, so I was wrong.

FORREST

Well, how we gonna find them?

LT. DAN

Well, maybe you should just pray for
shrimp.

INT. SMALL CHURCH - DAY

The all-black gospel choir sings and claps their hands.

FORREST (V.O.)

So I went to church every Sunday...

Lt. Dan is sitting in his chair at the back of the church.
He takes swigs from a liquor bottle.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometimes Lieutenant Dan came, too.
Though I think he left the praying
up to me.

EXT. BOAT - ANOTHER DAY

A catch of junk is dumped onto the deck. Lt. Dan lowers
himself from the rigging.

FORREST

No shrimp.

LT. DAN

Where the hell's this God of yours?

The wind begins to blow strong.

FORREST (V.O.)

It's funny Lieutenant Dan said that,
'cause right then, God showed up.

EXT. BOAT - NIGHT

Water sprays on deck during a hurricane. Lt. Dan on the rigging, shouts and shakes his fist as he is pelted by wind and rain.

LT. DAN

You'll never sink this boat!

FORREST (V.O.)

Now me, I was scared. But Lieutenant Dan, he was mad.

LT. DAN

Come on! You call this a storm?

Forrest slides back and forth as he attempts to steer the boat.

LT. DAN

Blow, you son-of-a-bitch! Blow! It's time for a showdown! You and me. I'm right here. Come and get me! You'll never sink this boat!

INT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

An ANCHORMAN over TV, is standing in front of a pier.

ANCHORMAN

(over television)
Hurricane Carmen came through here yesterday...

EXT. BAYOU DOCKS - DAY

The anchorman is standing in front of the ruined pier and boats.

ANCHORMAN

...destroying nearly everything in its path. And as in other towns up and down the coast, Bayou La Batre's entire shrimping industry...

INT. GUMP HOUSE

ANCHORMAN

...has fallen victim to Carmen and has been left in utter ruin. Speaking with local officials, this reporter has learned, in fact, only one shrimping boat actually survived the storm.

Forrest's boat comes down the river.

MRS. GUMP

Louise. Louise, there's Forrest!

FORREST (V.O.)

After that, shrimpin' was easy.

FORREST'S BOAT - DAY

Lt. Dan and Forrest empty their net. A huge catch of shrimp falls onto the deck. Lt. Dan opens another big catch.

Another catch drops open on top of yet another huge catch.

Forrest and Lt. Dan smile.

FORREST (V.O.)

And since people still needed them shrimps for shrimp cocktails and barbecues and all...

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

The man sitting on the bench listens to Forrest. An ELDERLY WOMAN sits next to the man.

FORREST

...and we were the only boat left standing "Bubba-Gump" shrimp's what they got. We got a whole bunch of boats. Twelve Jenny's, a big ol' warehouse, we even have hats that says "Bubba-Gump" on 'em. "Bubba-Gump Shrimp." It's a household name.

MAN

Hold on there, boy. Are you telling me you're the owner of the Bubba-

Gump Shrimp Corporation?

FORREST

Yes, sir. We've got more money than Davy Crocket.

MAN

Boy, I've heard some whoppers in my time, but that tops them all. We was sitting next to a millionaire!

The man laughs as he walks away.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Well, I thought it was a very lovely story. And you tell it so well. With such enthusiasm.

FORREST

Would you like to see what Lieutenant Dan looks like?

ELDERLY WOMAN

Well, yes, I would!

Forrest shows her the cover of a "Fortune" magazine with Forrest and Lt. Dan on the cover.

FORREST

That's him right there.

The elderly woman looks at the magazine and at Forrest with surprise.

FORREST

And let me tell you something about Lieutenant Dan.

EXT. BOAT/DECK - DAY

Forrest and Lt. Dan are working on the boat.

LT. DAN

Forrest, I never thanked you for saving my life.

Forrest looks a little surprised. Lt. Dan smiles, then looks away. Lt. Dan pulls himself out of his chair to the railing and jumps into the water.

FORREST (V.O.)

He never actually said so, but I think he made his peace with God.

EXT. BOAT

Forrest and Lt. Dan have dinner on the deck. The television shows an assassination attempt on President Gerald Ford.

ANCHORMAN

(over television)

For the second time in seventeen days, President Ford escaped possible assassination today when a woman, Sarah Jane Moore, fired on him as he stepped out of a hotel in San Francisco.

MARGO

(over radio)

Base to Jenny One. Base to Jenny One.

LT. DAN

Jenny One, go Margo.

MARGO

(over radio)

Forrest has a phone call.

LT. DAN

Yeah, well you'll have to tell them to call him back. He is indisposed at the moment.

MARGO

(over radio)

His momma's sick.

ANCHORMAN

(over television)

Lynett Alice Fromme, a follower of

Charles Manson better known as
"Squeaky," attempted to assassinate
the President as he was...

Forrest dives into the water as he reacts.

EXT. ROAD/GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Forrest carries a suitcase as he runs down the road. Forrest
runs past the row of mailboxes and turns into the drive.

Louise and others are on the front porch.

FORREST

Where's Momma?

LOUISE

She's upstairs.

INT. GUMP HOUSE - WOMAN'S BED ROOM

Forrest opens the door, the doctor stands next to Mrs. Gump
in bed.

MRS. GUMP

Hi, Forrest.

DOCTOR

I'll see you tomorrow.

MRS. GUMP

Oh, all right.

The doctor looks down at Forrest's legs.

DOCTOR

We sure got you straightened out,
didn't we, boy?

The doctor leaves and closes the door. Forrest takes off his
hat and steps over to her.

FORREST

What's the matter, Momma?

MRS. GUMP

I'm dyin', Forrest. Come on in, sit
down over here.

FORREST

Why are you dyin', Momma?

MRS. GUMP

It's my time. It's just my time. Oh,
now, don't you be afraid, sweetheart.
Death is just a part of life. It's
something we're all destined to do.
I didn't know it, but I was destined
to be your momma. I did the best I
could.

FORREST

You did good, Momma.

MRS. GUMP

Well, I happened to believe you make
your own destiny. You have to do the
best with what God gave you.

FORREST

What's my destiny, Momma?

MRS. GUMP

You're gonna have to figure that out
for yourself. Life is a box of
chocolates, Forrest. You never know
what you're gonna get.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma always had a way of explaining
things so I could understand them.

MRS. GUMP

I will miss you, Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

She had got the cancer and died on a
Tuesday. I bought her a new hat with
little flowers on it.

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

The elderly woman and Forrest sit. The woman is crying and wipes her eyes with a hankie.

FORREST

And that's all I have to say about that.

A bus stops. Forrest looks at the elderly woman.

FORREST

Didn't you say you were waiting for the Number Seven bus?

ELDERLY WOMAN

There'll be another one along shortly.

FORREST

Now, because I had been a football star, and a war hero, and a national celebrity, and a shrimpin' boat captain, and a college graduate, the city of fathers of Greenbow, Alabama, decided to get together and offered me a fine job.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Forrest rides a lawn tractor as he moves the football field lawn.

FORREST (V.O.)

So, I never went back to work for Lieutenant Dan.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE MAILBOXES

Forrest takes out a letter and opens it.

FORREST (V.O.)

Though he did take care of my Bubba-Gump money. He got me invested in some kind of fruit company. And so then I got a call from him saying we don't have to worry about money no more.

EXT. BUS STOP

FORREST

And I said, "That's good. One less thing."

INT. CHURCH - DAY The choir and members are singing.

FORREST (V.O.)

Now, Momma said there's only so much fortune a man really needs...

EXT. CHURCH

The sign reads: "Four Square Baptist Church." A new cross is placed on the steeple. New furniture is taken inside.

REVEREND

Praise the Lord.

FORREST (V.O.)

...and the rest is just for showing off. So, I gave a whole bunch of it to the Four Square Gospel Church.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

The sign reads: "Gump Medical Center Bayou La Batre, Alabama."

The ribbon-cutting ceremony.

FORREST (V.O.)

And I gave a whole bunch to the Bayou La Batre Fishing Hospital.

EXT. BUBBA'S MOM'S HOUSE

A postman delivers a letter to Bubba's mom. She opens the letter.

FORREST (V.O.)

And even though Bubba was dead, and Lieutenant Dan said I was nuts. I gave Bubba's mommy Bubba's share.

She is surrounded by her many children. She looks at the

check and faints.

EXT. BUS STOP

FORREST

And you know what...

INT. FLORIDA CONDO

A door opens as a white woman serves Bubba's mom some shrimp.

FORREST (V.O.)

She didn't have to work in nobody's kitchen no more.

MRS. BLUE

Smells wonderful!

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD

Forrest rides the mower.

FORREST (V.O.)

And 'cause I was godzillionaire and I liked doing it so much. I cut that grass for free.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE BALCONY - NIGHT

Forrest looks down the road as he steps onto the porch.

FORREST (V.O.)

But at nightttime, when there was nothing to do and the house was all empty, I'd always think of Jenny.

Jenny's image walks, then vanishes. Forrest looks away. He turns and walks into the house.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Jenny walks across the lawn to Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

And then, she was there.

JENNY

Hello, Forrest.

FORREST

Hello, Jenny.

FORREST (V.O.)

Jenny came back and stayed with me.

INT. GUMP HOUSE

Jenny lies asleep in bed.

FORREST (V.O.)

Maybe it was because she had nowhere else to go. Or maybe it was because she was so tired, because she went to bed and slept and slept like she hadn't slept in years. It was wonderful having her home.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Forrest and Jenny walking.

FORREST (V.O.)

Every day we'd take a walk, and I'd jabber on like a monkey in a tree. And she'd listen about ping-pong and shrimpin' boats and Momma makin' a trip to heaven. I did all the talkin'. Jenny most of the time was real quiet.

FORREST

...big ol' gobs of rain and little bitty stinging rain and rain...

Jenny's old house stands at the end of the dirt road. It appears to be deserted. Jenny walks toward the house and stops. She stares at the house. Forrest walks toward Jenny.

Jenny suddenly heaves a rock angrily at the house. She throws other things at the house.

JENNY

How could you do this?

She breaks a window. Jenny collapses to the ground and sobs.

Forrest knees down next to her.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometimes I guess there just aren't
enough rocks.

EXT. OLD OAK TREE - DAY

Jenny and Forrest sit on a limb together.

FORREST (V.O.)

I never really knew why she came
back, but I didn't care. It was like
olden times. We was like peas and
carrots again.

INT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Jenny sits by the vase of flowers and look out the window.

FORREST (V.O.)

Every day I'd pick pretty flowers
and put them in her room for her.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Forrest closes his eyes as he sits on the porch. Jenny places
a box of Nike running shoes in his lap.

FORREST (V.O.)

And she gave me the best gift anyone
could ever get in the wide world.

JENNY

Okay, you can open your eyes.

FORREST

New shoes.

JENNY

They make them just for running.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT

Through the windows, Forrest and Jenny are dancing as it
rains outside.

FORREST (V.O.)

And she even showed me how to dance.
And, well, we was like family...
Jenny and me.

EXT. RIVER - NIGHT

Jenny and Forrest sit on a log together and look at the river.

Jenny places her arms around Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

And it was the happiest time of my
life.

The fireworks explode in the sky.

INT. GUMP'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The Statue of Liberty is shown on the TV. Fireworks go off.

Forrest and Jenny are watching the 4th of July celebration
on TV.

ANNOUNCER

(over television)

And this Fourth is witnessing one of
the largest fireworks displays in
the nation's two-hundred year
history...

JENNY

You done watching it?

FORREST

Mm-hmm.

ANNOUNCER

(over television)

...here in New York Harbor. After
the spectacular display of tall ships
earlier, the Statue of Liberty...

Jenny stands up and kisses Forrest on the cheek.

JENNY

I'm going to bed.

Jenny turns off the TV and walks outside. Forrest stands as he puts down his Dr. Pepper. Jenny walks toward the stairs.

FORREST

Will you marry me? I'd make a good husband, Jenny.

JENNY

You would, Forrest.

FORREST

But you won't marry me.

JENNY

You don't want to marry me.

FORREST

Why don't you love me, Jenny? I'm not a smart man, but I know what love is.

Forrest turns and walks toward the door. Jenny turns and walks up the stairs. Forrest stands outside.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT

The house stands in the rain.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT

Forrest lies in his bed as the door opens. Jenny gets into bed next to Forrest.

FORREST

Jenny?

JENNY

Forrest, I do love you.

Jenny and Forrest kiss. Jenny takes off her nightgown as they make love.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - MORNING

Jenny carries her purse and walks toward a waiting cab.

CAB DRIVER

Where are you running off to?

JENNY

I'm not running.

INT. GUMP HOUSE

The cab drives away as Forrest is asleep in his bed. The Congressional Medal lies on a table by a ping-pong paddle.

Forrest holds a glass of milk and wears his bathrobe. He looks at the medal he had give to Jenny. Jenny's bed is made. Forrest stands in the doorway looking at the room and bed where Jenny had been.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - DAY

Forrest sit on a rocking chair with his running shoes on. He is still, as if in a trance. He slowly puts on his Bubba-Gump cap. Forrest stands. He walks off the porch. He begins to jog across the lawn. His speed increases as he runs farther away. Forrest runs down the drive away from his house.

FORREST (V.O.)

That day, for no particular reason,
I decided to go for a little run.

Forrest runs to the end of the drive, then turns right and runs down the highway.

FORREST (V.O.)

So I ran to the end of the road, and
when I got there, I thought maybe
I'd run to the end of town.

INT. BARBER SHOP - DAY

The three men sit as they watch the television. Forrest runs through the main street of town.

NEWSCASTER

President Carter, suffering from
heat exhaustion fell into the arms
of security agents.

FORREST (V.O.)

And when I got there...

EXT. ALABAMA ROAD

The sign reads "Entering Greenbow County."

FORREST (V.O.)

...I thought maybe I'd just run across
Greenbow County. And I figured since
I run this far, maybe I'd just run
across the great...

Forrest runs by a sign that reads "Mississippi welcomes you.
The Magnolia State."

FORREST (V.O.)

...state of Alabama. And that's what
I did I ran clear across Alabama.

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT**FORREST**

For no particular reason, I just
kept on going. I ran clear to the
ocean.

EXT. SANTA MONICA - DAY

The sign reads "Santa Monica yacht harbor sports fishing -
boating - cafes." Forrest runs under the sign and onto the
pier.

FORREST (V.O.)

And when I got there, I figured since
I'd gone this far, I might as well
turn around, just keep on going.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN

Forrest runs to a pier at the Atlantic Ocean.

FORREST (V.O.)

When I got to another ocean, I figured
since I've gone this far, I might as
well just turn back, keep right on
going.

Forrest runs across the pier. A lighthouse stands at the end
of the pier.

FORREST (V.O.)

When I got tired, I slept. When I
got hungry, I ate.

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT**FORREST**

When I had to go, you know, I went.

ELDERLY WOMAN

And so, you just ran?

FORREST

Yeah.

EXT. HIGHWAY

Forrest is running along the highway. Forrest runs down a
road between field of wheat. A Mountain river. Forrest runs
across a cobble-stone bridge. The Rocky Mountains are behind
him in distance. Forrest runs through some meadowland.

Split rail fences line the road.

FORREST (V.O.)

I'd think a lot about Momma and Bubba,
and Lieutenant Dan, but most of all,
I thought about Jenny. I thought
about her a lot.

EXT. BARBER SHOP

The three men in the barber shop watch the news on television.

NEWSCASTER

For more than two years now, a man named Forrest Gump, a gardener from Greenbow, Alabama, stopping only to sleep, has been running across America.

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Jenny fills customer's coffee cups.

NEWSCASTER

Charles Cooper brings us this report.

NEWSMAN

For the fourth time on his journey across America, Forrest Gump, a gardener from Greenbow, Alabama, is about to cross the Mississippi River again today.

The TV shows Forrest runs across a bridge that reads "Mississippi River."

JENNY

I'll be damned. Forrest...

EXT. MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE

NEWSMAN

Sir, why are you running?

1ST REPORTER

Why are you running?

2ND REPORTER

Are you doing this for world peace?

3RD REPORTER

Are you doing this for women's right?

NEWSMAN

Or for the environment?

REPORTER

Or for animals?

3RD REPORTER

Or for nuclear arms?

FORREST (V.O.)

They just couldn't believe that somebody would do all that running for no particular reason.

2ND REPORTER

Why are you doing this?

FORREST

I just felt like running.

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

FORREST

I just left like running.

EXT. SMALL EASTERN TOWN

Forrest runs as a YOUNG MAN runs up to him.

YOUNG MAN

It's you. I can't believe it's really you.

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

FORREST

Now, for some reason what I was doing seemed to make sense to people.

EXT. SMALL EASTERN TOWN

The young man jobs behind Forrest.

YOUNG MAN

I mean, it was like an alarm went off in my head, you know. I said, here's a guy that's got his act together. Here's somebody who's got it, all figured out. Here's somebody who has the answer. I'll follow you anywhere, Mr. Gump.

FORREST (V.O.)

So, I got company.

Forrest runs up a slope on a high mountain road. A group of people are jogging behind him.

FORREST (V.O.)

And after that I got more company.
And then...

A large group jogs behind Forrest across the desert road.

FORREST (V.O.)

...even more people joined in.
Somebody later told me...

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

FORREST

...it gave people hope. Now... Now,
I don't know anything about that,
but...

Forrest and his followers jog through a small town. A man runs up and talks to Forrest.

FORREST (V.O.)

Some of those people asked me if I
could help them out.

AGING HIPPIE

Hey, man, hey, listen. I was wondering
if you might help me, huh? Listen,
I'm in the bumper sticker business
and I've been trying to think up a
good slogan. And since you have been
such a big inspiration to the people
around here, I thought you might be
able to help me jump into... Whoa!
Man, you just ran through a big pile
of dogshit!

The hippie jumps over the "dogshit" as he runs along Forrest.

FORREST

It happens.

AGING HIPPIE

What, shit?

FORREST

Sometimes.

The hippie stops to ponder this profound thought.

FORREST (V.O.)

And some years later I heard that
fella did come up with a bumper
sticker slogan...

A bumper sticker reads "Shit Happens."

FORREST (V.O.)

...and he make a lot of money off of
it.

The truck with the bumper sticker drives into an intersection.

It collides with a car.

EXT. TRUCK STOP

Forrest runs, followed by his group, as a man runs up to him.

FORREST (V.O.)

Another time I was running along,
somebody who had lost all his money
in the T-shirt business, and he wanted
to put my face on a T-shirt, but he
couldn't draw that well and he didn't
have a camera.

WILD-EYED MAN

I think it would be really fortunate
for me if I could get your name on
these, oh, your face and name on
these T-shirts. It would be wonderful.

A truck splashes mud onto Forrest as it goes by. The man hands Forrest a yellow T-shirt to use as a rag to wipe the mud off.

WILD-EYED MAN

Here, use this one. Nobody likes that color anyway.

Forrest wipes his face on the towel and hands it back to the man.

FORREST

Have a nice day.

The man looks at the T-shirt. He holds it up displaying the "Happy Face."

FORREST (V.O.)

And some years later I found out that that man did come up with a idea for a T-shirt and he made a lot of money off of it.

EXT. MONUMENT VALLEY

Forrest runs with a group that follows behind him.

FORREST (V.O.)

Anyway, like I was saying, I had a lot of company. My Momma always said you got to put the past behind you before you can move on. And I think that's what my running was all about. I had run for three years, two months, fourteen days, and sixteen hours.

Forrest stops running. The group stops behind him. Forrest stands and looks as the group waits expectantly. Forrest turns and look.

YOUNG MAN

Quiet. Quiet, he's gonna say something.

FORREST

I'm pretty tired. I think I'll go home now.

Forrest walks toward the group. The group parts for Forrest as he walks down the middle of the road.

YOUNG MAN

Now what are we supposed to do?

FORREST (V.O.)

And just like that, my running days was over. So, I went home to Alabama.

A television shows President Reagan and his staff as they react to gunshots in front of a limo.

NEWSCASTER

(over television)
Moments ago, at two twenty-five p.m., as President Reagan was leaving the Washington Hilton Hotel...

INT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

Forrest sits eating a sandwich, watching the news of the assassination attempt.

NEWSCASTER

...five or six gunshots were fired by an unknown would-be assassin. The President was shot in the chest and the assailant was immediately tackled by a half a dozen lawmen. As the Presidential...

LOUISE

I picked up the mail.

FORREST

Oh, thank you, Miss, Miss Louise.

FORREST (V.O.)

One day, out of the blue clear sky, I got a letter from Jenny...

EXT. BUS STOP - PRESENT

Forrest takes the letter out of his pocket.

FORREST

...wondering if I could come down to Savannah to see her, and that's what I'm doing here. She saw me on TV, running, I'm supposed to go on the Number Nine bus to Richmond Street and get off and go one block left to 1-9-4-7 Henry Street, Apartment 4.

The elderly woman looks at the letter.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Why, you don't need to take a bus. Henry Street is just five or six blocks down that way.

FORREST

Down that way?

ELDERLY WOMAN

Down that way.

Forrest hastily grabs his suitcase and letter as he stands.

FORREST

It was nice talking' to you.

Forrest runs, the elderly woman shouts from the bus stop bench. A truck honks its horn as Forrest runs across the street past the truck.

ELDERLY WOMAN

I hope everything works out for you.

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jenny opens the door.

JENNY

Hey! Forrest! How you doing?

FORREST

Hi.

JENNY

Come in. Come in.

FORREST

I got your letter.

JENNY

Oh, I was wondering about that.

Jenny shuts the door. Forrest looks around.

FORREST

Is this your house?

JENNY

Yeah, it's messy right now. I just got off work.

FORREST

It's nice. You got air conditioning.

Forrest hands Jenny the box of chocolates.

FORREST

Ah...

JENNY

Thank you.

FORREST

I ate some.

Jenny picks up a scrapbook and turns the pages.

JENNY

Hey, I kept, I kept a scrapbook of your, of your clippings and everything. There you are. This, I got your running.

FORREST

I ran a long way. For a long time.

JENNY

There. Listen, Forrest. I don't know how to say this. Um, I just... I want to apologize for anything that I ever did to you, 'cause I was messed up for a long time, and...

There is a knock at the door. LYNN MARIE enters as she opens the door.

LYNN MARIE

Yoo-hoo.

JENNY

Hey.

LYNN MARIE

Hi.

Jenny grabs a young boy.

JENNY

Hey, you. This is an old friend from Alabama.

LYNN MARIE

Oh, how do you do?

JENNY

Ah, listen, next week my schedule changes, so I'll be able to... but thanks for picking up.

LYNN MARIE

No problem. Got to go, Jen. I'm double parked.

JENNY

Okay.

Lynn Marie closes the door and waves bye to Forrest.

LYNN MARIE

Bye.

JENNY

Thanks. This is very good friend, Mr. Gump. Can you say hi to him?

LITTLE BOY

Hello, Mr. Gump.

FORREST

Hello.

LITTLE BOY

Now, can I go watch TV now?

JENNY

Yes, you can. Just keep it low.

The little boy runs into other room and picks up TV remote control.

FORREST

You're a momma, Jenny.

JENNY

I'm a momma. His name is Forrest.

FORREST

Like me.

JENNY

I named him after his Daddy.

FORREST

He got a daddy named Forrest, too?

JENNY

You're his daddy, Forrest.

Forrest continues to stare at Forrest Jr. Forrest then looks frightened and starts to back away.

JENNY

Hey, Forrest, look at me. Look at me, Forrest. There's nothing you need to do, okay? You didn't do anything wrong. Okay?

Jenny turns and looks at Forrest Jr. in the other room.

JENNY

Isn't he beautiful?

FORREST

He's the most beautiful thing I've

ever seen. But... is, is he smart,
or is he...

JENNY

He's very smart. He's one of the
smartest in his class.

Forrest breathes deep. He looks at Jenny, then at Forrest
Jr.

JENNY

Yeah, it's okay. Go talk to him.

Forrest walks into the room and sits down next to Forrest
Jr. "Sesame Street" is on the TV.

BERT

Oh, great.

ERNIE

Hey, Bert, can you give me a hand?

BERT

A hand? Well, yeah, what do you want,
Ernie?

FORREST

What are you watching.

FORREST JR.

Bert and Ernie.

ERNIE

Well, it's the first stage. Bert.
It's planning to write a story, Bert.
I have pencils right here to write
with, Bert. Now, we got, uh, paper.
I'll take that paper, Bert. See, we
have the paper to write on.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Forrest and Jenny sit on a bench. Forrest Jr. swings behind
them.

JENNY

Forrest, I'm sick.

FORREST

What, do you have a cough due to
cold?

JENNY

I have some kind virus. And the
doctors don't, they don't know what
it is. And there isn't anything they
can do about it.

FORREST

You could come home with me. Jenny,
you and little Forrest could come
stay at my house in Greenbow. I'll
take care of you if you're sick.

JENNY

Would you marry me, Forrest?

FORREST

Okay.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - DAY

A group has gathered on the lawn for the wedding. Louise
walks up to Forrest.

MINISTER

Please take your seats.

LOUISE

Forrest, it's time to start.

Jenny walks out of the house. Forrest walks over to greet
her. She wears a white dress. She walks up to Forrest and
adjusts his necktie.

JENNY

Hi. Your tie.

Lt. Dan is walking across the lawn. He uses a cane. A WOMAN
is walking next to him.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan? Lieutenant Dan!

LT. DAN

Hello, Forrest.

Jenny walks over to Forrest and Lt. Dan.

FORREST

You got new legs. New legs!

LT. DAN

Yeah, I got new legs.

Lt. Dan lifts his pant leg to display his metal leg.

LT. DAN

Custom-made titanium alloy. It's
what they use on the space shuttle.

FORREST

Magic legs.

LT. DAN

This is my fiancée, Susan.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan!

Susan shakes Forrest's hand.

SUSAN

Hi, Forrest.

FORREST

Lieutenant Dan, this is my Jenny.

JENNY

Hey, it's nice to meet you, finally.

Jenny steps forward and kisses Lt. Dan's cheek. The group is
seated as they watch Forrest and Jenny take vows on the front
lawn. Forrest Jr. stands next to Jenny.

MINISTER

Do you, Forrest, take Jenny to be
your wife? Do you, Jenny, take Forrest
to be your husband? If so, I pronounce
you man and wife.

The wind blows fallen leaves across the ground. Jenny,
Forrest, and Forrest Jr. walk toward the house. They all
hold hands as they walk.

INT. GUMP HOUSE - MORNING

Forrest steps into Jenny's bedroom. He carries a tray with
breakfast on it. Forrest looks at Jenny as she sleeps.

Slowly she wakes up and looks at Forrest.

FORREST

Hey.

JENNY

Hey.

Forrest sets the tray down next to Jenny as she sits up in
bed. Forrest opens a window, then sits down next to the bed.

JENNY

Hey, Forrest, were you scared in
Vietnam?

FORREST

Yes. Well, I, I don't know.

EXT. VIETNAM - FLASHBACK - NIGHT

Forrest looks up into the sky as the rain stops. Forrest
removes his helmet. The stars emerge from behind the clouds.

FORREST (V.O.)

Sometimes it would stop raining long
enough for the stars to come out.
And then it was nice. It was like
just before the sun goes to bed down
on the bayou...

EXT. BAYOU - FLASHBACK - SUNSET

Forrest stands on his boat and looks at a deep orange and
red sunset.

FORREST (V.O.)

There was over a million sparkles on
the water. Like that mountain lake.

EXT. MOUNTAIN LAKE - FLASHBACK - DAY

Forrest runs along a highway. A lake reflects the mountains
and the sky.

FORREST (V.O.)

It was so clear, Jenny. It looks
like there were two skies, one on
top of the other. And then in the
desert, when the sun comes up...

EXT. DESERT - FLASHBACK - SUNRISE

Forrest runs along a desert highway. The morning light casts
an orange glow over the desert.

FORREST (V.O.)

I couldn't tell where heavens stopped
and the earth began. It was so
beautiful.

INT. GUMP HOUSE - MORNING

Forrest looks at Jenny. Jenny looks out the window.

JENNY

I wish I could have been there with
you.

FORREST

You were.

Jenny reaches over and takes Forrest's hand.

JENNY

I love you.

FORREST (V.O.)

You died on a Saturday morning.

EXT. JENNY'S GRAVE AT OLD OAK TREE - DAY

Forrest stands under the old oak tree where Jenny has been
buried.

FORREST

And I had you placed here under our
tree.

Jenny's grave marker. Forrest tries to hold back his tears.

FORREST

And I had that house of your father's
bulldozed to the ground.

EXT. JENNY'S OLD HOUSE - DAY

Forrest watches as Jenny's dad's house is knocked down by a
bulldozer.

FORREST (V.O.)

Momma...

EXT. JENNY'S GRAVE

FORREST

...always said dyin' was a part of
life.

Jenny's grave marker reads: JENNY GUMP July 16, 1945 -- March
22, 1982 Beloved Mother, Wife and Friend

FORREST

I sure wish it wasn't. Little Forrest,
he's doing just fine.

INT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT

Forrest Jr. reads a book to Forrest sitting next to him.

FORREST JR.

(reading)
"But he wasn't quite sure. Everywhere
they went, the new guests...

FORREST (V.O.)

About to start school again soon. I

make his breakfast, lunch, and
dinner...

EXT. JENNY'S GRAVE

Forrest looks down as he sobs.

FORREST

...every day. I make sure he combs
his hair and brushes his teeth every
day. Teaching him how to play ping
pong.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE - NIGHT

Forrest tries to teach Forrest Jr. how to play ping-pong.

FORREST

Okay...

FORREST (V.O.)

He's really good.

FORREST

Forrest, you go.

Forrest Jr. serves the ball, causing Forrest dive and miss
it.

EXT. GUMP HOUSE/RIVER - DAY

Forrest and Forrest Jr. sit on a log by the river and fish.

FORREST (V.O.)

We fish a lot.

EXT. JENNY'S GRAVE

Forrest looks down at the grave marker.

FORREST

And every night, we read a book.
He's so smart, Jenny. You'd be so
proud of him. I am. He, uh, wrote a
letter, and he says I can't read it.
I'm not supposed to, so I'll just
leave it here for you.

Forrest places the letter down at the grave marker, next to
fresh flowers. The name on the envelope reads: "Mom." Forrest
steps back and looks down at the grave.

FORREST

Jenny, I don't know if Momma was
right or if, if it's Lieutenant Dan.
I don't know if we each have a
destiny, or if we're all just floating
around accidental-like on a breeze,
but I, I think maybe it's both. Maybe
both is happening at the same time.
I miss you, Jenny. If there's anything
you need, I won't be far away.

As Forrest walks away, a flock of birds flies overhead and
lands in the tree. Forrest turns and watches.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

Forrest walks with Forrest Jr. for the bus. The bus drives
toward them.

FORREST

Here's your bus. Okay.

Forrest pulls "Curious George" out of Forrest Jr.'s backpack.

FORREST

Hey, I know this.

FORREST JR.

I'm gonna show that for show-and-
tell because grandma used to read it
to you.

Forrest looks at the book. The feather from the beginning of
the movie drops out of the book, unnoticed.

FORREST

My favorite book.

The bus comes to a stop. The door opens.

FORREST

Well...

Forrest puts the book back into Forrest Jr.'s backpack and hands it to him.

FORREST

...okay. Hey, there you go.

Forrest Jr. walks toward the bus. Forrest stands up.

FORREST

Hey, Forrest. Don't... I wanted to tell you I love you.

FORREST JR.

I love you too, Daddy.

FORREST

I'll be right here when you get back.

Forrest Jr. looks into the bus and at the bus driver. It is the same bus driver, only older now, who drove Forrest to school when he was a young boy.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER

You understand this is the bus to school now, don't you?

FORREST JR.

Of course, and you're Dorothy Harris and I'm Forrest Gump.

Forrest Jr. looks over and waves to his father. Forrest nods approvingly.

Forrest Jr. gets on the bus. The bus pulls away. Forrest stands next to the mailbox.

Forrest sits down. The camera cranes down, revealing the feather as it lies at Forrest's feet.

A gust of wind picks the feather up. The feather floats up into the air.

Forrest sits at the side of the road. The feather floats higher into the air.

The feather soars up into the sky and travels up and down, then covers the camera lens.

THE END