

Forrest Gump

screenplay by

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based on a novel by

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screenplay presented by



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 mud-soaked 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 ping-pong 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 his 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

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."

PRI NCIP AL

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.

PRI NCIP AL

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

INT. PRI NCIP AL' S OFFI CE

PRI NCIP AL

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.

PRI NCIP AL

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.

PRI NCIP AL

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 meal time.

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 we
 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 shopping, 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 moneky 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 di dn' t never
want to go home.

FORREST
Okay, Jenny. I' ll stay.

FORREST (V.O.)
She was my most speci al fri end.

INT. SAVANNAH/BUS STOP - DAY

Forrest nods as he remembers.

FORREST
My onl y fri end.

Forrest continues talking to the black woman. She doesn' t seem to be li stening as she reads her magazi ne. She looks up from her magazi ne.

FORREST
Now, my Momma always told me that
mi racl es happen every day. Some peopl e
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 j ust pl ai n
stupi d?

BOY #3
Look, I' m Forrest Grum.

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 oak-lined 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.

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 school house.

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 racoons try to get on our back porch, Momma just chase 'em off with a broom.

EARL

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

FORREST

With us? They do?

Forrest walks toward the school house.

INT. COACHES' OFFICE

A football coach looks at a black and white television as a newsman outside the school house 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 baby 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, GRLS' 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 jumps 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 pisses 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, he shudders 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

DJ
 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 flips 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 bottles 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
 Congratul ati ons, son.

Mrs. Gump, sitting in the audi ence, cries.

FORREST (V.O.)
 Momma was proud.

Forrest and Mrs. Gump have their pic ure taken in front of a large statue. A mili tary recrui ter spots Forrest and steps up to him.

MRS. GUMP
 Forrest, I'm so proud of you. Here,
 I'll hold thi s for you.

Mrs. Gump takes the di ploma from Forrest. The recrui ter slaps Forrest on the shoul der and hands hi m some mili tary li terature.

MI LI TARY RECRUI TER
 Congratul ati ons, son. Have you gi ven
 any thought to your future?

FORREST
 Thought?

Forrest looks at a pamphlet with a photo of "Uncl e Sam" and the caption "EXCELLENT CAREERS FOR EXCELLENT YOUNG MAN. Appl y now at your local U. ARMY Recrui ting Center."

FORREST (V.O.)
 Hello, I'm Forrest...

INT. ARMY BUS - DAY (1966)

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

FORREST
 ... Forrest Gump.

ARMY BUS DRIVER
 Nobody gi ves a bunk of shi t who you
 are, fuzzbull! You're not even a low-
 life scumsucking maggot! Get your
 faggoty ass on the bus. You're in
 the Army now!

Forrest is about to si t on the first avail able seat, but the recrui t sitting there refuses Forrest.

RECRUIT #1
 Thi s seat' s taken.

Forrest tries to si t on the next seat, but the 2nd recrui t slides over, blocki ng hi m.

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
 Godamn it, Gump!

DRI LL SERGEANT
 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.

DRI LL 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.

DRI LL 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!"

DRI LL 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 shrimpi'n'
 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!

DRI LL SERGEANT

Gump!

The Drill Sergeant rushes up to Forrest.

DRI LL SERGEANT

Why did you put that weapon together so quickl y, Gump?

FORREST

You told me to, Drill Seageant.

The Drill Seageant looks at his stop watch.

DRI LL 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, di sassembl e your weapon and conti nue!

The Drill Seageant walks away as Forrest begins to di sassembl e 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 u.

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

EMCEE
 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 sail, 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 keep 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?

DRI VER

Where you going?

JENNY

I don't care.

DRI VER
Get in the truck.

FORREST
So bye-bye, Jenny. They sendi n' me
to Vietnam. It's thi s whol e other
country.

Jenny walks toward Forrest. She looks at the driver.

JENNY
Just hang on a minute.

Jenny walks up to Forrest.

JENNY
Li sten, you promi se me somethi ng,
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 & FORREST :

Mornin', 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

LT. DAN
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/FIEBASE - 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
burni n' 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 getti n' 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 looki n' 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
getti n' these funny feelings about a
rock or a trail, or the road, so
he'd tell u 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. ENCHAMPMENT - 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
 Medi c! Medi c! Jesus, can I get a
 medi c?

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 hears 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
Helos inbound. Top 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 shrimp'n' 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

FORREST
 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.

ANCHORMAN

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 doi n'
thi s. Good!

FORREST
Okay.

A man, wearing an American flag shirt, stands on the stage.
He is anti-war activist ABBI E HOFFMAN.

ABBI E 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...

ABBI E 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...

ABBI E 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.

ABBI E 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.

ABBI E 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 protestors 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-fuckin-g-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 protestor grabs the policeman and pulls him away.

POLICEMAN

Hey, what the hell are you doing?

HI LARY
I'll beat your head in, you goddamned
oi nker!

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

I SABEL
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
anythi ng!

HI LARY
This one! This one! Give me that!

Hilary plugs in the right patch cord.

HI LARY
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.

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

FORREST
My name is Forrest Gump. Forrest
Gump.

ABBI E HOFFMAN
Forrest Gump!

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

CROWD
Forrest Gump!

JENNY
(screami ng)
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/PROTESTOR'S ENCAMPMENT - NIGHT

Forrest and Jenny walk past the protestors 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 fucki ng asshol e!

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! Qui t i t! Qui t i t! Forrest!
Stop i t!

Jenny rushes over to Forrest and pulls Forrest off Wesley.

JENNY
Stop i t!

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 shoul dn' t have brought
you here. I shoul d have known i t was
j ust gonna be some bul lshi t hassle.

FORREST
He shoul d 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 i n the mi ddl e of
your Black Panther party.

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

EXT. WASHI NGTON D. C. - NI GHT

Forrest and Jenny walk past the White House. Protectors hold a candl el ight vi gil behind them.

JENNY
He doesn' t mean i t when he does thi ngs
l ike thi s. He doesn' t.

FORREST
I woul d never hurt you, Jenny.

JENNY
I know you woul dn' 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 waled 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 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, and then stops as he hears a 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 white 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)
 9... 8... 7... 6... 5... 4... 3... 2...

INT. TIMES SQUARE BAR - NIGHT

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

CROWD
 (over television)
 ... 1! 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)
 "Shoul'd aul'd 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

MRS. GUMP
 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 shrimpi n', but you know
 what I found out? Shrimpi n' 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 nami n'
 thi s 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 beauti ful name in the wide
 world.

INT. DISCO

Di sco l ights flash and peopl e dance. A guy asks a gi rl to
 dance.

GIRL
 Okay.

Jenny si ts at a tabl e wi th some other peopl e. She i s snorti ng
 cocaí ne.

FORREST (V.O.)
 Now, I hadn' t heard from Jenny in a
 long whi le. 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 explaini ng
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 shrimpi'n' 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 nighttime, 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' boat 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 stingin' 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 kneels 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 job 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 job 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 do you do?

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