

THE OH SO HAPPY LIFE
OF
DIGGER MULDOON

a one hour pilot script

by

Michael Steinberg

10/25/00

TEASER

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - LATE AFTERNOON

THOMAS "DIGGER" MULDOON, 23, pushes a scooter down the sidewalk of this picture perfect suburban community. The sun is low. The streets empty.

He's got a nice, perfectly likable face. Not necessarily handsome but not bad either. Interesting. At the moment, there's more than the usual amount of anxiety written on it.

EXT. ROCKY'S HOUSE

Digger turns up a driveway to find ROCKY DELGARTO, once the coolest guy in high school, shooting baskets in a BAD RELIGION T-shirt.

Rocky takes one look at Digger and sees that he's worked himself up again and will need a little guidance.

DIGGER

I've got one question for you.

Rocky fires a jumper. Perfect swish.

ROCKY

I'm all ears, brotha.

DIGGER

If you're like this great businessman and you know so much about how to make money and all...

Digger lifts up the garage door exposing Rocky's make-shift pad inside.

DIGGER (CONT'D)

Why are you living in your parent's garage?

Rocky gives Digger a deadpan look.

ROCKY

You are aware that some of our most profitable multinational corporations were started in garages just like this?

Digger looks in at the chaotic mess of this twenty-three year old "entrepreneur."

DIGGER
 Somehow, I'm having trouble picturing the
 next Bill Gates emerging out of this.

ROCKY
 Hey, you're open, bro!

Rocky fires the ball at Digger who flinches -

EVERYTHING FREEZES.

Digger's frozen flinch with the ball mid-air makes him look
 especially silly.

DIGGER (V.O.)
 It's at moments like this that I ask
 myself, "what am I doing with my life?"
 I mean, why am I subjecting myself to
 this kind of abuse from a guy who
 mentally has never progressed beyond high
 school...

Rocky in a frozen close-up that captures his trademark
 exuberant smile.

DIGGER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ...Then again, high school was pretty
 damn good to Rocky Delgarto. Better than
 most people's entire lives I'll bet...

A SCHOOL BELL RINGS.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway fills with students.

Heads turn as a pair of LONG LEGS in heels walk by in SLOW
 MOTION. Stunningly beautiful, far too sophisticated for 17,
 she is without a doubt the hottest thing with a book bag
 you've ever seen and her name is -

DIGGER (V.O.)
 Samantha Shelton. Samantha Shelton.
 Samantha Shelton. How the name rolls so
 trippingly off the tongue.

Samantha walks by HIGH SCHOOL DIGGER (same actor dressed as
 the art-nerd wallflower he was) who watches along with every
 other "no chance" male in the vicinity.

DIGGER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Sum her up in a word? Untouchable.

Samantha walks up to a long-haired guy whose back is turned as he digs in his locker. She whispers something in his ear and he turns - it's Rocky.

Digger watches as Rocky says something to make her laugh, they kiss, and walk off together.

Rocky shoots Digger a finger-gun as he passes. Digger turns into THE CAMERA.

DIGGER V.O.
Rocky, a non-athlete, non-scholar, non-anything but major partier, not only nailed the hottest hottie at John F. Kennedy High...

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

Samantha, a crowd favorite, leads a pompom cheer in front of an adoring crowd.

Digger watches through a chain-link fence along with other fan club members.

DIGGER
(to camera; over the noise)
...but he did her for, like, almost a half a year! Then he dumped her for that one!
(points to a red-headed cheerleader)
I mean this guy was Mack Daddy. He was the Fonze. Which, sad to say, makes me Richie Cunningham.

CUT BACK TO:

UNFREEZE as Digger gets hit in the gut with the ball.

DIGGER (CONT'D)
Ugghh!

Digger hurls the ball back angrily at Rocky but misses.

ROCKY
Bounce those passes for better accuracy.

DIGGER

Not funny! It's only my whole future on the line. If I get my license I could be set for life! Making a very comfortable wage, performing a time-honored service to the community. Fulfilling a family tradition. Tell me one good reason why I should walk away from all of that?

ROCKY

Because you're an artist! And I am entrepreneur and together we are bank, baby. Bank.

DIGGER

Designing websites isn't exactly my pursuing my art.

Rocky sees it's time to pull out the big guns.

ROCKY

Okay, let me put it to you this way. How many times did you get laid in high school?

This is obviously a sore point for Digger. He looks around to see if anyone is listening. Sure enough, a NEIGHBORHOOD KID is walking by who slows up to hear the answer.

DIGGER

Let's just say it was a small number.

NEIGHBOR KID

Yeah, "zero" is a pretty small number.

Digger decides to ignore the kid.

DIGGER

Your point?

ROCKY

"Why"?

DIGGER

Why what?

ROCKY

Why zero?

DIGGER

I was into other things.

ROCKY

No, Digger, you were the mortician's son.
Even if you had a chance with someone -
you didn't have a chance. Now what do
you think is going to happen if you
become the actual mortician?

Digger hates the fact that Rocky reads him like a book.

DIGGER

So where's this mysterious investor?

CUT TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - DAY

Digger, feeling very out of place, moves through the hip/nerd crowd of dotcom players discussing their various business machinations in this trendy SOMA (South of Market Area) eatery.

Digger spots the sharply dressed Rocky waving him over.

ROCKY

Pull your collar out, dude.

Digger straightens out his shirt as he sits down.

ROCKY (CONT'D)

You look like you got a gerbil up your butt. Relax. Now I want you to exude that Muldoon genius with just a touch of aloofness but go light on the artistic integrity rap.

DIGGER

It's not a rap.

ROCKY

I know but this is bidness, chicky baby.
Look around.

Digger check out the crowd at the restaurant.

ROCKY (CONT'D)

These are some of the major players on the scene. Look there's Steven Jobs right there 'thinking different.'

Sure enough it is STEVEN JOBS in a lunch meeting. Digger is impressed.

DIGGER
Right on.

Rocky jumps up when he sees someone approaching.

ROCKY
Hi, Sammy.

He kisses her on the cheek as Digger gets up and turns around.

ROCKY (CONT'D)
Digger, you remember Samantha?

It's her - Samantha Shelton - looking better than ever in a smart business suit.

DIGGER
Hi.

She sizes him up, vaguely remembering...

SAMANTHA
You used to come to the games.

DIGGER
Yeah... What are you doing here?

ROCKY
(winking at Samantha)
She's here for a business meeting.

DIGGER
(trying to be cool)
Really. Us too.

Samantha smiles.

ROCKY
She knows, Digger.

It finally dawns on Digger why she's there and he's hit with a complex rush of feelings not quite like anything he's ever felt before.

END OF TEASER