

AISHA

It's closer than what it used to be.

She 'ices' the toaster strudel in frosting and places in front of an empty chair at the table.

MO

In Pakistan I was a doctor but here they tell me go *back to residency*? Makes no sense.

Mo shakes his head in frustration and stuffs his resume in his leather bound briefcase.

AISHA

Please, try and do your best on this interview. We need the money.

Rohaam enters in full school uniform and a backpack around his shoulder. He's ready for the day.

He approaches the empty chair and looks down at the toaster strudel. The icing spells out '*I'll miss you!*' He looks to his mom who gives him a wink. He smiles, then takes a bite.

AISHA (CONT'D)

(To Rohaan)

See you in a few days okay? If you ace your history test, I'll bring you a souvenir from Manhattan.

She walks over and squeezes Rohaan's cheeks which he shoos away with his hand.

## START EXT. DRIVEWAY

Rohaam shuts the door behind him and walks down the driveway. His friends TJ, Caucasian (12) and YU, Asian (10) wait for him at the street. They wear the same school uniforms as Rohaan.

TJ

RoRo! You do the homework?

They each do their special made up hand shakes and begin to walk.

ROHAAN

I tried but... had to beat the last boss.

YU  
By yourself!? Did you?

ROHAAN  
What else you expect from the best  
player here?

Rohaam gives Yu a friendly jab on the shoulder and bolts away as Yu chases after him.

We hear the sound of an airplane in the distance.

~~EXT. STREET - DAY~~

~~Rohaam, TJ, and Yu now stroll back from school. Their uniforms not as pristine as they were this morning. Yu tries twirling a basketball on one finger.~~

YU  
My parents said we can get the  
jumpy house again if we win! You  
guys should sleepover.

They stop at Rohaans driveway.

ROHAAN  
I'll ask my mom but count me in!  
See you guys tomorrow?

TJ  
Everyday dude!

Special handshakes are done and Rohaan walks towards his home.

END

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Rohaam stares at his textbook unable to retain any information. His eyes grow heavy as he slowly lowers his head on his textbook.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Rohaam's eyes shoot open as his drool soaks the textbook page. He runs out the door.