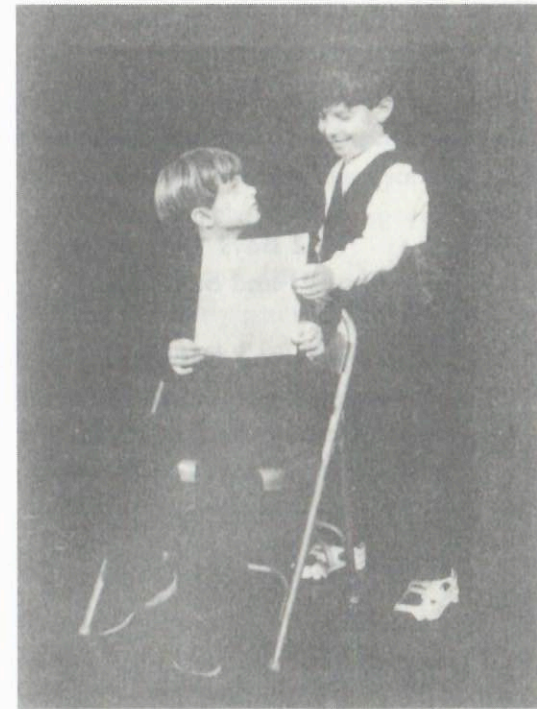


- Peter** That's right.
- Anne** *(Without moving)* Goodnight. *(Their faces are close together. There is a second's pause. Then Peter, too shy to kiss her, moves upstage.)*
- Peter** You won't let them stop you from coming?
- Anne** No. *(She rises and starts for the door, then turns back to him.)* Some time I might bring my diary. There are so many things in it that I want to talk over with you. There's alot about you.
- Peter** What kind of thing?
- Anne** I wouldn't want you to see some of it. I thought you were a nothing, just the way you thought about me.
- Peter** Did you change your mind, the way I changed my mind about you?
- Anne** Well—you'll see...

(For a second Anne stands looking up at Peter, longing for him to kiss her. As he makes no move she turns to go. Then suddenly he grabs her arm and turning her around, holds her awkwardly in his arms, kissing her on the cheek. Anne floats out slowly, dazed. She stands for a moment...shutting the door of his room after her...)

JOSH AND S.A.M. SCREENPLAY BY FRANK DEESE



In the movie, *Josh and S.A.M.*, two brothers run away from home after they are led to believe that they have accidentally killed a man. On their journey, they meet an eccentric young woman who facilitates their get-away by driving their stolen car and pretending to be their baby sitter for the sake of public appearance. During the course of their adventure together, Josh and Sam learn the importance of sticking together against all odds.

Josh and Sam's parents are divorced, and normally Josh and Sam live with their Mom, and their Mom's French boyfriend, "J.P." When the summer rolls around, however, it's time once again for Josh and Sam to go to Florida, where they stay with their father, their father's second wife *and* their aggressively

athletic step-brothers, *Curtis* and *Leon*. Because Sam is athletic, he is accepted by this side of the family; but Josh, who is more brain than brawn, is tormented by his macho step-brothers, and ignored by his own father. Josh and Sam haven't gotten along too well recently, either, so this puts Josh in the lonely position of being the family outcast. The situation gets worse and worse for Josh until finally he can't stand it anymore. In an attempt to create one ally in the family, Josh comes up with a bizarre plan.

In the following scene, Josh puts his strategy into action. Using a computer, some paper, and a lot of imagination, Josh gets Sam to believe the wildest of stories.

2 Boys

Josh (age 12) and Sam (age 8)

Josh You know, Sam, I didn't want to mention this with Mom around but I know where's there's this secret place where all the kids like you who fail a grade get together. It's right on the bluffs, high above the Pacific Coast Highway.

Sam What do they do there?

Josh Jump off.

(A moment)



Sam You're not my brother any more.

Josh What?

Sam I just decided it. The same way Dad isn't Mom's husband anymore.

Josh You must be dumber than Dad's stepsons! You can't divorce me!



Sam Uh huh, Dad could take you away forever, like he took the lawnmower and the barbecue.

Josh That wouldn't matter. I'd still be your brother, wherever I was. Even if I was a thousand million miles away.

Sam Not any more you're not.

Josh Say it all you want, Sam, you can't change who your brother is. Or even your parents. You're just stuck with whatever you get. *Forever.*

Sam Na ah, when I get to Florida, I'm making Curtis and Leon my real brothers... 'cause they don't like you *either*.



Josh I don't care. And it doesn't matter either.

Sam How come?

Josh 'Cause I just discovered something really bad that I have to tell you about. *(Sam starts to leave.)* This is *real*. I found something serious on Dad's computer last night. Something he's been keeping a secret all this time.

Sam So?

Josh It's about you.

Sam Is not. *(Thinks)*

Josh Yeah... You know. You're probably right. *(Josh turns to walk away. Sam calls after him.)*

Sam What is it?

Josh It's the real reason why you're having trouble at school. And why you're always fighting with kids at recess and getting into trouble...and even why you're so good at football...

Sam *(Seems skeptical, but at the same time intrigued.)* Why?

(Josh motions Sam to follow him to the side of the house.)

Sam C'mon, Josh. Why is that?

Josh *(Josh swallows hard. He musters a more intense expression, he's so upset to repeat this.)* I found proof on Dad's computer that you were genetically engineered and secretly trained to be a fighter, a soldier, a *child-warrior*.

Sam *(Studies Josh's sincere face, totally confused)* You're making this up.

Josh I'm not! Why do you think they're always calling you "S.A.M."?

Sam It's my name!

Josh No! It's your acronym. *(Josh unfolds a paper from his pocket looking very official with "S.A.M." printed in big letters across the top.)* It stands for "**Strategically Altered Mutant.**"

(Sam looks at the paper and Josh with his mouth open.)

Josh Listen, I have more proof than this. I tossed some secret documents out this morning. I'll watch out for Dad and you look under the window of his office. Go on. Get 'em.

(Sam exits and returns a few moments later with more "documents.")



Josh Go ahead. Read it for yourself.

Sam *(Reading)* 'Dear Secretary of Defense'...What's that?

Josh He's the guy who runs the Pentagon; the head of all the Army.

Sam Oh. *(Reading slow)* 'Regarding the Killer S-A-M, Strat-e-gi-cally Altered Mutant;' *(He pauses and swallows hard as Josh takes over reading the letter.)*

Josh *(Reading)* 'Please note that the funds for his delivery are to be split between myself and his gestating unit.' *(To Sam)* That means Mom. *(Reading again)* 'We believe our 'Killer Sam' will be a fine soldier, programmed to fight, kill, and give up his life for your cause. If you ever have need for another one, please let us know. It has been a pleasure doing business with you. Sincerely, Thomas Whitney.'

(Josh watches carefully for Sam's reaction, which is simply a blank face.)

Sam *(Rubs gently over the type on the page and his father's signature as if to feel if they're real.)* Dad wrote this?

Josh I didn't see him, but it's his signature. I found these in a secret file on the computer.

(Josh shows the stunned Sam the other pages.)

Sam *(Seeing his photo on one of the pages.)* This is me.

Josh *(Pointing to the "document.")* This here shows how you were genetically altered to be a fighter. This describes your enhanced tactical mental powers for war strategy.

Sam But... I failed second grade.

Josh Only 'cause you can't learn like normal kids. You absorb information only through special numbers and coded words.

(Sam thinks it all through, dumbfounded and astounded.)

Josh And look here. This is a diagram of the electronic aiming device inside your right eye. It's why you're so good at sports. 'Cause you were made to be the way. And you know that scar on your forehead? Mom and Dad said was from you falling out of the crib?

(Sam feels it on his head while he looks at the pages.)

Josh That's where they inserted the microchip computer. *(Reading)* 'To control and track movement of the mutant child on the battlefield.'

(Sam stands there, shocked and overwhelmed.)

Sam Josh. Why didn't they tell me?

Josh Because they were only thinking of themselves. When they deliver you to the Pentagon, Mom's going to use the money to go off to Europe with J.P. And get this—Dad's sending you off to fight in a war just so he can send the buttholes to football camp!

(Sam finally blows up in anger and tears.)

Sam Josh, I don't want to fight! I don't want to go to war!

Josh *(A bit overwhelmed by what he's done.)* Don't worry. You won't. It's a good thing I found this out in time, because I'm not going to let it happen. Be-



you know what? We have to keep this quiet and we have to stick together. No more teaming up with Dad's stepsons 'cause they're in on it, too. All their sports stuff is just training you for the battlefield.

(Josh folds up the papers and puts them in his pocket.)

Josh C'mon. We better get back. *(He leads the frightened, angry and confused Sam back toward the house.)*

Sam Josh! There was a kid in my class also named Sam. Was he one too?

Josh Coulda been. The Pentagon documents did mention some others.

Sam Then we gotta warn them. We gotta save them too.

Josh We gotta keep quiet. That's all we gotta do for now.



Sam How can you say you don't want to talk about it?

Josh What can you do, Sam, it sucks.

Sam *(Thinks)* I can tell Mom I know the truth. I can show her the documents.

Josh No! If she sees 'em she'll destroy 'em. Then she'll say I made it all up.

Sam Then what am I going to do? What do the other Killer Sams do? *(Josh looks into Sam's frightened and expectant face.)* Come on, Josh. Please. You gotta help me.

(Josh thinks hard.)

Josh Yeah, well, I didn't want to tell you this 'cause I didn't want to get your hopes up. But I read on the computer about the others escaping on something they call the "UNDERGROUND ROADWAY."

Sam You mean like a big, long tunnel?

Josh No. They just called it that 'cause it's a secret escape network, you know, that uses back roads with special drivers so the Army won't catch them. Then at night they form big caravans of Mutant Child Warriors all moving north.

Sam To where?

(Josh hesitates, thinking)

Josh To Canada. Just like the soldiers who didn't want to fight in Vietnam.

Sam I know where that is! I can go there, too!

Josh No, not alone. Not without finding the supreme commander first... She's probably leading a new group to safety and freedom right now.

Sam Their commander, she's a girl?

Josh A woman. A great woman. But really just a normal woman who's great because she cares so much about these children who've been made into soldiers that she raids their homes at midnight, takes them away, then protects them all the way to their new homes in Canada.

Sam I gotta find her, Josh.

Josh I don't know how.

Sam What's she look like?



I don't know. I never saw a picture of her. *(Glancing down, Josh spies the light-haired girl on the small "SPARKLE MAID" juice box.)* But the computer described her as having long, wavy blond hair. And real beautiful-looking. And she wears a red hat when she's out on her mission leading Mutant children north to Canada. They don't know her name except that she's called "Liberty." *(Glancing at juice box)* The "Liberty Maid." That's what they call her. But you'll never find her. Just asking would give you away.

Why didn't she come and get me, too?

(Looks at Sam, genuinely hurt by not being taken.) I don't know. Maybe it's not your time yet. Maybe you're still safe.



What else did you find out?

I don't think it's a good idea to talk here because I think it's bugged.

Josh, I have to know everything!

(Somber) Africa.

What's going on in Africa?

A war. A secret and brutal war that they want *you* to fight in.

That's not fair! They can't do that!

I know they can't, 'cause I'm not going to let 'em. Listen, I'm going to go and see if I can find a driver

for the underground roadway. It might take a couple of hours or more so don't open the door for anyone and don't tell anyone where I am, okay?

Sam Why can't I go with you?

Josh 'Cause, there could be scouts from the Pentagon out there. And they know what a Killer Sam look like. So don't go anywhere, or do anything till I come back.

(As Josh sticks his head out to look down the hallway, he turns to Sam with a super serious face. He gives him a thumbs-up, then disappears out the door.)

Josh So long, Killer Sam.

THE LEMON SISTERS SCREENPLAY BY JEREMY PIKSER



Set in Atlantic City, New Jersey, the film *The Lemon Sisters* is the story of the friendship between three girls, Franki, Eloise and Nola. The film follows their lives as they each experience success and failure; love and loss. Throughout it all, the one thing that remains the same is the love and loyalty that the three friends share with one another.

Surrounded by the flashy, glittery nightlife of Atlantic City, the girls dream of becoming glamorous, famous nightclub singers! Franki is obsessed with the idea of becoming a star. Eloise lives alone with her father, an eccentric collector who collects show business memorabilia for a living. Nola's family owns a local candy store on the Atlantic City boardwalk.

The following scene takes place on the beach under the boardwalk at night, as the girls make their secret pact to be best friends forever. They swear upon their lemons, prizes that they won that day at the fair.