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Amazon edition
INSIDE OUTSIDE USSR

Solzhenitsyn and the Surfer

Written by

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EXT. SOVIET BEACHES – 1972 – DAY

TITLE CREDITS BEGIN

The camera visits several beaches – Jurmala (Latvia), Nida (Lithuania), Vityazevo and Tuapse (Krasnodar Krai), Novyi Svit (Crimea), Russky Island (Primorsky Krai), Lanzheron (Odessa, Ukraine). Neptune (Novorossiysk) is host to tens of thousands of jelly fish. A motor boat cruises by the beach at Lytkarino (southeast of Moscow) and it creates a wake perhaps 8 inches. Soviet factory workers on vacation. At each beach there are children in ankle high waves. Teens are running on the sand and playing volleyball. But there are no surfers and the sky is overcast.

TITLE CREDITS END


We cut away from the boring Soviet beaches to a real break on a sunny Caribbean beach. The bathing suits of the locals have changed. There are three CUBAN SURFERS ripping it up and shown inside a tube. It is a sudden change of scenery.

Two Russian couples, each with one teenage son, are on the beach. The two boys are anxiously watching the Cuban surfers. The two fathers are also watching. The two mothers are simply sunning themselves and reading. Everyone is slightly burned by the sun.

The one of the two boys is BRIAN MORENOV (12) is fascinated. Brian’s friend is DENNIS KOZLOV (12). Life in Moscow hasn’t prepared him for this. ANDREI (35), Brian’s father and KGB archivist, is there on the beach with another KGB employee.

   BRIAN
   Russia has no waves.

   DENNIS
   Not even our utopian Soviet Union can produce a surfable wave?
BRIAN
No surf in the Baltic or The Black Sea and certainly not the Sea of Azolve.

DENNIS
We do manage to produce an abundance of jelly fish.

The boys listen to their fathers talk.

OTHER FATHER
You oversee the largest KGB library in Moscow.

Andrea looks left and right on the beach to make sure they aren’t being overheard.

ANDREI
Yes, the vault of Western decadence.

OTHER FATHER
What do you know about this surfing?

ANDREI
Funny you should ask. I’ve looked into the matter. Cuba has about 15 surfers and a population of 8.7 million.

OTHER FATHER
So three of them are here.

ANDREI
My boy wants to surf, but I have my fears about it. The boards aren’t illegal, per se, but the Cuban government is sensitive about any flotation devices that could aid would-be defectors.

OTHER FATHER
And there was that 1968 report that the CIA tried to bring in surveillance equipment disguised
as surfboards in a fake surfing contest.

Andrei seems to have learned something.

    ANDREI
    I wasn’t aware. Interesting.

A Cuban SURFER exits the water and walks past them on the beach. This conversation is in Spanish. Dennis translates into Russian.

    ANDREI
    Excuse me. Can you help me with some questions?

    SURFER
    Yes. I’m happy to help you. You are Russians?

    ANDREI
    Yes.

    SURFER
    Welcome to Cuba, the workers paradise.

    ANDREI
    Tell me what you can about surfing, please.

    SURFER
    Well, this is Calle 70. It is easy to find; it breaks right in front of your Russian embassy.

Everyone turns from the surf to look at the distinctive building.

    SURFER
    It is the best place in all of Cuba to surf.

    ANDREI
    You don’t need to travel around to other beaches?
SURFER
This is enough for me. And one problem is travel because sometimes in Cuba, even if you have the money to go, they won’t let you.

ANDREI
My boy is interested in surfing.

SURFER
This is not exactly a beginner’s beach. This spot is very dangerous to teach people. (half beat) If we could maybe move to the eastern side of the city with sandy beaches it would be different. Or if one of you can afford a car, I could say, 'O.K., put the surfboards on the roof and we’ll go.'

ANDREI
What about surfboards?

SURFER
Well we don’t have any shops here in Cuba so it’s extremely difficult to get boards.

ANDREI
I can imagine.

SURFER
There’s a lot of waiting for visitors to bring boards.

ANDREI
So what do you do?

SURFER
Most surfers have to use plywood most often ripped from discarded school desks, the long sort where three students sit. And they are coated in...
The surfer looks left and right.

SURFER
... black-market resin. And you nail a makeshift wood fin to the bottom and attach a length of clothesline for a leash.

ANDREI
And you did that?

SURFER
No some friends that come from Mexico have left this board. It was made in Los Angeles California.

ANDREI
Really. It is very nice.

SURFER
It is the most valuable thing you can imagine. But, every year more and more people are coming and leaving or selling us stuff here. But even wax, for example, can be a big problem getting.

ANDREI
Wax?

SURFER
You can drip candle wax on the deck for grip, but that can be really hard on your chest and skin. It is best to get a special wax from the United States.

ANDREI
I see.

SURFER
I know Cuba isn’t the only place on the planet where it’s hard to get surf stuff.
ANDREI
How did you learn to surf?

SURFER
Well, without access to information like films or surf magazines, we fight over a single page, surfers in Cuba must make their own progress on a separate path from the rest of the world.

Long beat. The surfer again looks left and then right.

SURFER
Listen, I know a guy here in Havana making boards from old refrigerator insulation. You want to buy a surfboard?

Brian hopes perhaps his father will take the bite. Brain’s father shakes his head.

ANDREI
Okay, thanks for your time.

The surfer walks off the beach toward some homes.

The two other surfers exit the water quickly.

SURFERS
Shark! Shark!

And a large shark fin is seen in the water very near the shore. Brian jumps up and runs to the sea. He stops in inches of water. The big shark swims only feet from him. Brian is unafraid and 100% curious. Denis also runs to view the shark but stops several feet back.

The surfers don’t watch the shark but run off the beach.

The shark swims only feet from the shore. The two boys follow the shark 100 yards down the beach until the fin disappears.

EXT. MOSCOW AIRPORT - DAY
It is snowing and everything is iced over. The two couples, with sons, disembark the plane and walk into the blizzard. After a week or two in the Cuban sun, they are hit in the face with cold sleet. Everyone is a life long Muscovite and expects it and they “weather” it well, but Brain is destroyed by the sudden cold. We can see that he hates it.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Solzhenitsyn (51) is an old man from a decade in prison and cancer treatments. He sits and broods. Solzhenitsyn's personal life is in disarray. NATALYA RESHETOVSKAYA (50) is packing and leaving their apartment. Men from Reshetovskaya’s family are moving her piano out of the apartment. She is crying.

There is a LITERARY FRIEND sitting with Solzhenitsyn in the front room.

SOLZHENITSYN
(to Reshetovskaya)
I remember you played Chopin's 14th Etude for me.
(to the literary friend)
When we first met. You called my your Sanya.

RESHETOVSKAYA
Well, you aren’t my Sanya anymore.

SOLZHENITSYN
Nor are you my Natasha.

RESHETOVSKAYA
(sarcastic)
A pity.

SOLZHENITSYN
I see how egotistical your love still is. Do you really imagine our future as an uninterrupted life together? The accumulation of furniture, in this cozy apartment, with regular visits from guests, evenings at the theatre?
RESHETOVSKAYA
And I must sacrifice all for your literary career?

SOLZHENITSYN
I’ve had a small triumph; you can’t be happy for that?

RESHETOVSKAYA
You changed! Acclaimed and surrounded by admirers...
   (to the literary friend)
...he became a serial adulterer and with young women.

Solzhenitsyn scoffs.

RESHETOVSKAYA
   (to the literary friend)
Do you know what he told me?
   ‘You’ve helped me to create one novel. Permit me to allow her to help me create another.’

SOLZHENITSYN
   (to the literary friend)
I tried to appeal to her shared interest in my literary career.
   (half beat)
Please understand me. I have to describe lots of women in my work. You don’t expect me to find my heroines at the dinner table, do you?

RESHETOVSKAYA
   (to the literary friend)
Ironically, he did. He “found” Natalya Svetlova on top of our dinner table and broke it.

Cut to the dinning room table. We see one of the legs has been broken and repaired.

RESHETOVSKAYA
   (to the literary friend)
He is 50; she is 28
SOLZHENITSYN
And a brilliant mathematician.

RESHETOVSKAYA
You are having a child with this woman!

SOLZHENITSYN
(to the literary friend)
You know in Kazakhstan, I contracted cancer. After several relapses, I was cured, though I believed the treatments had left me sterile. Well, obviously I was not.

LITERARY FRIEND
(to Solzhenitsyn)
So, she became pregnant?

The piano is moved out of the apartment. Reshetovskaya, tears in her eyes, gathers just a few more things. Reshetovskaya is about to make her exit but the pregnant NATALYA SVETLOVA arrives at the apartment. She runs to Solzhenitsyn.

SVETLOVA
(to Solzhenitsyn)
I beg you to remain married I will raise our child alone. Ms. Reshetovskaya is too old to make a new life and should not be abandoned.

Reshetovskaya is ready to make her exit.

SOLZHENITSYN
Where are you going?

RESHETOVSKAYA
The train station, Mr. Tolstoy.

This is a reference to "Anna Karenina" and Tolstoy's rejected and distraught wife, Sofiya.

As Reshetovskaya leaves, Svetlova blocks her exit and falls to her knees.
SVETLOVA
Please don’t go. Stay married.

RESHETOVS’KA
Get out of the way.

SVETLOVA
If you refuse, then please forgive me for taking your husband away.

RESHETOVS’KA
You are pregnant and I don’t want to walk through you.

Svetlova moves to sit by Solzhenitsyn.

SOLZHENITSYN
(to the literary friend)
Maybe it’s a boy.

LITERARY FRIEND
(to Solzhenitsyn)
Where is she going?

SOLZHENITSYN
The train station, maybe?

LITERARY FRIEND
(to Solzhenitsyn)
She won’t, well she?

Solzhenitsyn shrugs. Svetlova gets up nervously and walks to the kitchen and begins a survey of all the stove, and refrigerator. She opens all the cabinets.

SOLZHENITSYN
(to the literary friend)
We were doomed from the beginning. In our first 16 years of marriage, we were only together one year. Our few meetings were always charged with frustrated love. As many prisoners did, I urged her to divorce me so she could find comfort with another man.
LITERARY FRIEND
And she did?

SOLZHENITSYN
Of course she did.

INT. KGB FIRST CHIEF DIRECTORATE ARCHIVE - MOSCOW

There is a great deal of security but Brian simply walks through the check points.

GUARD
You here to see your father?

BRIAN
Yes.

Brian is allowed to visit his father’s office at the archive. The thousands of shelves are full and it looks like a traditional archive, but it is abandoned; there aren’t any users.

ANDREI
You think you want to work here someday?

BRIAN
Perhaps.

ANDREI
So what is happening?

BRIAN
School.
(half beat)
I have to report on my father’s profession.

ANDREI
Oh. That might be problematic.

BRIAN
I understand. I just wrote you are a librarian.

ANDREI
You are finished?
BRIAN
The paper is finished, yes.

ANDREI
Then why are you here?

BRIAN
Because I can.

ANDREI
That’s not...

BRIAN
It’s okay. I wrote you organize information in a library.

ANDREI
Okay. Well, I’m glad you are here. (beat)
What is in your bag?

BRIAN
Books.

ANDREI
I can’t tell you how proud your mother and I are. Excellent student and responsible Komsomol member.

BRIAN
Thanks, father.

ANDREI
If you remain responsible, you can work here or anywhere you wish.

The phone on Andrei’s desk rings.

ANDREI
Hello.

It is someone important and Andrei is attentive.

ANDREI
I will be right up.
Andrei hangs up the phone and gathers a notepad and pencil on his way out of the office...

**ANDREI**

Stay here, I will be right back.

Brian remains in the office.

His father rides the elevator up.

Brain waits only 10 seconds and leaves the office into the deserted achieves. He goes to the card catalog drawers. He finds a random surfing item “Endless Summer (16 mm) 1966, Bruce Brown, surfing documentary. Brown follows two young surfers around the world in search of the perfect wave, and ends up finding quite a few in addition to some colorful local characters. Michael Hynson and Robert August”

Brian takes the number off the card and finds the film on the shelf.

On the left of the Endless Summer film is a copy of the Beatles White Album. And on the right is a large file folder with nude photos of Marylyn Monroe. Some are with John Kennedy. Brian examines each. He is tempted to pilfer each.

Brian replaces the film on the shelf with the books from his bag. He places the film reels in his bag. Instead of returning to his father’s office, he exits the building.

**INT. MOSCOW TRAIN STATION - DAY**

Reshetovskaya does make her way to a Moscow railway. She seems determined to throw herself in front of a train. She tries to write a suicide note and fails. At the station she does not kill herself.

**INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY**

Solzhenitsyn sits and writes. Svetlova puts lunch on the table and Solzhenitsyn get up from his writing. Solzhenitsyn rolls his just completed papers and places them into a champagne bottle. He sits down to eat. The bottle is in the middle of the table. Svetlova has a
sheepish grin and Solzhenitsyn enjoys his meal. They chuckle smile and wink at each other as they eat.

After the meal Solzhenitzen rises with the bottle and goes out into the garden with a spade.

Solzhenitzen brings vegetables for the evening meal from the garden. Svetlova smiles. The champagne bottle has disappeared.

INT. METRO2 TUNNELS - DAY

Brian, Dennis and their friends travel underground from their apartment building basement to a bomb shelter on the Merto2 subway line. The group has brazenly occupied the government shelter as their hideout.

INT. BOMB SHELTER ROOM - DAY

Brian and 10 other youth have a sheet hung up on the wall. There is an antiquated 16mm projector and they stare at the surf from around the world. Brian translates for them. He has limited but adequate English skills.

NARRATOR/BRIAN
But for us it's the sport of surfing!
(half beat)
The thrill and the fun of the sport of surfing.
(half beat)
Some people like to body surf.
(half beat)
Others like to ride a short belly board and get a short ride.
(half beat)
Still others like a short belly board and a long ride like George Greeno at Santa Barbara, California.
(half beat)
Most surfers like to ride a regular board and perform most would like to perform as well as Australian Matt Young here.
(half beat)
Or as well as American Van Archdalen.
(half beat)
Some surfers prefer the hairy thrill of a big wave.
(half beat)
You can go right or left, but you can't very well do both. The only way to avoid a wipe-out is to take this wide stink bug stance.
(half beat)
Spread your legs and hang on until your trunks rip right up the back.

The young people watching are memorized.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY

There are several literary and other decedents in the apartment. Solzhenitsyn is preaching to the choir.

SOLZHENITSYN
It is horrible that our officialdom is invulnerable. One cannot find the truth, and the horrible thing is that shamelessness is spilling over our society. The absence of conscience and honesty is the air of our society. It was like this in Soviet society, and it is going on now -- shamelessness is reigning.

INT. MORENOV FAMILY’S APARTMENT - DAY

MOTHER
I suspect you are becoming a rebellious teenager.

Brian’s mom might have a point. His hair is longer and he isn’t wearing shoes.

BRIAN
How is that? I go to school and Komsomol.
MOTHER
Your hair; you refuse to cut it.
I’ve asked you several times.

BRIAN
Okay, mom I will.

MOTHER
And you disappear for hours to an unknown location. Where are you going?

BRIAN
Out mom. I go out.

MOTHER
It’s not safe.

BRIAN
Mom, this is the Soviet Union and the safest society on Earth.

MOTHER
Well, put on some shoes. You never wear shoes anymore!

INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY

There are literary guests but Solzhenitzyn is ignoring them. He is reading the newspaper. Svetlova is serving tea and cakes.

SVETLOVA
We are very pleased with this place because it’s small, quiet street with low buildings; my husband is not very fond of tall buildings.

He sees a headline, “Workers of the world, unite!”

SOLZHENITSYN
"Workers of the world, unite!” Who of us has not heard this slogan, which has been sounding through the world for 125 years? Today we can find it in any Soviet pamphlet
as well as in every issue of Pravda still. But never have the leaders of the Communist Revolution in the Soviet Union used these words sincerely and in then full mean it. When so many lies have accumulated over the decades, we forget the radical and basic lie which is not on the leaves of the tree but at its very roots.

INT. BOMB SHELTER ROOM - METRO2 - DAY

Brian’s young friends, even Dennis, have lost interest and Brian is watching the surfing movie without them. He spends hours and hours studying the film.

Brian hears something like a metro card moving along the tracks. The lights are out in the shelter but the projector is on. The noise becomes louder. Brian turns off the projector and it becomes almost pitch black.

Brian moves out of the shelter out near the metro rails.

Here comes the Metro car. It is a very ‘official’ Soviet railcar; judging from the insignia it is the President’s personal Metro car. It is bright and empty except for Brezhnev, Konstantin Chernenko, Yuri Andropov and a very young Mikhail Gorbachev.

Brezhnev is teaching the men how he can drive the underground. Basically he is playing train.

The railcar passes Brian’s position and 100 yards down the line, it stops. Brian becomes worried. The car begins to move in reverse. Brian believes Brezhnev has seen him. Brian hides in the bomb shelter. The railcar passes him moving backwards and goes 100 yards in the other direction. The Metro car stops again. There is a long beat. The car then moves in the original direction until it is out of sight.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Solzhenitsyn is lecturing his friends.
SOLZHENITSYN
What about the workers' uprising in Novocherkassk in 1962? This was in Khrushchev's time, well after the so-called thaw. The story of this uprising will shortly be told in detail in my book, The Gulag Archipelago. It is a story of how workers went in peaceful demonstration to the Novocherkassk party headquarters, carrying portraits of Lenin, to request a change in economic conditions. They were fired on with machine guns and dispersed with tanks. No family could even collect its wounded and dead: all were taken away in secret by the authorities. I don't have to explain to those present here that in our country, ever since the Revolution, there has never been such a thing as a free trade union.

EXT. STREETS OF MOSCOW - DAY

Brian’s friends have a ladder and a 16mm camera. Brian surfs, standing on the top of a bread delivery truck. The truck cruises around Moscow with Brian standing on top. The boys see Brian launch and they run two blocks and wait for the truck to pass by. They manage to film a short 10 seconds of Brian surfing the roof.

Brian almost topples off several times on corners, stops and accelerating.

The driver is unaware of Brian on the roof. Brain is making noise as he struggles to keep his balance. The driver thinks and noise is a flat tire. The driver stops and walks around is delivery truck checking the tires. He doesn’t even consider looking up.

When the delivery truck returns to the bakery, he is greeted by his friends as a hero.

EXT. BREZHNEV HUNTING LODGE - MOSCOW - DAY
A deer bolts from a clearing into the forest. Brezhnev’s health is beginning to fail. His speech was slow, slurred. His appetite does not suffer. There is meal on a patio table, enough to feed five or six.

ANDROPOV
Solzhenitsyn has been announced as the winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

BREZHNEV
In the press, we must denounce Solzhenitsyn's award as a ‘politically’ hostile act.

ANDROPOV
Yes, it’s not literary but ‘political’.

BREZHNEV
He didn’t really earn it by printed words but by political posturing by the west.

ANDROPOV
He is a ‘tool’ of the west.

BREZHNEV
Yes, that is good. Maybe we can take care of this in the press?

ANDROPOV
With respect, if Solzhenitsyn continues to reside in the country after receiving this prize, it will only strengthen his position, and allow him to propagate his views more actively.

BREZHNEV
We will see.

Brezhnev sits down to his meal.

Away from Brezhnev, Andropov stops and a Brezhnev aide whispers in his ear.
AIDE
He works only four or five hours a day, frequent naps, massages, saunas, and snacks, and round-the-clock attention from his doctors.

ANDROPOV
When did he last hunt?

AIDE
Yesterday.

ANDROPOV
Successfully?

AIDE
Of course.

Andropov nods that he understands and leaves.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN'S APARTMENT - DAY

SOLZHENITSYN
I would love to accept the award in person but I’m forced to decline.

LITERARY FRIEND
Why?

SOLZHENITSYN
Because I fear that I will not be allowed to return.

INT. FIRST CHIEF DIRECTORATE ARCHIVE - MOSCOW

Brain uses the same techniques to steal more material from his father’s KGB archive - chiefly surfing magazines and Beach Boy records.

INT. MOSCOW SCHOOL - DAY

School is dismissed for the day.

Brian continues his slow progression from ideal Komsomol member to surfer dude – even longer hair, laid back slacker and with all the surf slang.
Brain gives his friends the "hang loose" sign. It consists of extending the thumb and smallest finger while holding the three middle fingers curled, and gesturing in salutation; the hand is then rotated back and forth for emphasis.

His ideology teacher is standing behind him with a book. Brian turns and the angry teach confronts him.

TEACHER
This book, *Gidget, the Little Girl with Big Ideas*. Where did you get it?

BRIAN
Found it.

TEACHER
You found such a book in English?

BRIAN
I am an English student. upstairs, Mrs. Kamenev.

TEACHER
In the capital city of the Soviet Union?

BRIAN
Maybe.

TEACHER
Nine thousand kilometres from Los Angeles?

BRIAN
Not likely but it’s possible.

TEACHER
I must warn you. I’ve noticed your fixation with the West. Your hair and all your surfer slang and hand gestures.  
(half beat)
Clearly, you are on the wrong path.
BRIAN
I’m okay.

TEACHER
Well, perhaps, but not long ago you were exemplary.

BRIAN
Yes.

TEACHER
Let me remind you, I know your father and he would be mortified if he knew how you are regressing. I will speak to him personally if you don’t straighten up.

BRIAN
Okay.

Beat.

BRIAN
Can I have my book back?

TEACHER
No. Go home.

EXT. MOSKVA RIVER - DAY

Brian sits and watches the river. Small boats cruise by. Slow barges. He notices a large wake (or a very small wave) behind one large ship in the river. He watches and studies looking for an opportunity to surf. He glances at his wrist watch and makes a note of the ship’s schedule.

INT. RESHOTOVS KAYA’S APARTMENT - DAY

Two very obvious KGB agents from the “internal security against artistic, political, and religious dissension” are sitting in front of Reshotovskaya.

RESHOTOVSKAYA
Let me get this correct. (half beat)
You don’t want me to divorce my husband.

KGB AGENT
Yes. It is your duty to the nation.

RESHOTOVSKAYA
Why does everyone want me to endure the unendurable?

KGB AGENT
Are you sure we can’t persuade you?

RESHOTOVSKAYA
Punish me if you must; I don’t care. But I MUST be divorced from this man.

KGB AGENT
I hope not to have to punish a woman, but the state requires you to remain married.

INT. FIRST CHIEF DIRECTORATE ARCHIVE - MOSCOW

Brian visits his father’s library again. Brian sits in his father’s office. His father is doing paper work at his desk. Brian’s father looks up occasionally. Brian continues to read.

ANDREI
What is the occasion?

Brian shrugs.

BRIAN
Might want to work here someday.

ANDREI
You need a haircut.

Brian’s reading continues. Father writes something in a report but then looks up.

ANDREI
Can we have a frank talk?
BRIAN
Father to son? Sure. Dad.

Andrei rises and walks out of the office into the archive area. Brian follows.

ANDREI
Our system. Socialism, it’s not easy for young people.

BRIAN
I know.

ANDREI
But the future belongs to the young people that can endure it. As you get older, it becomes more bearable.

BRIAN
I understand.

ANDREI
Everything for your entire life is determined from your school. I’m worried if you continue you will lose your position in your school. (half beat) They will put you in railroad high school.

BRIAN
I wouldn’t mind to drive a train.

ANDREI
Son, they don’t teach that there. The students learn to build the railroad. Manual labor.

BRIAN
I’m a good student father.

ANDREI
It doesn’t matter how smart you are, they will ruin your life with this sort of education.
(half beat)
It all depends on how good a socialist you are. I know astrophysicist who are sweeping floors. And I know doctors who are idiots.

BRIAN
I know, dad. But I’m a good socialist.

Andrei and Brian return to the office.

Brian’s sits and the reading continues. Father writes something more in a report.

Finally, the phone rings and Andrei answers. He listens and then takes a stack of folders to the elevator.

Brian steals a file on “fiberglass”.

The file is basically industrial espionage that has been pigeon holed. Brian however knows what to do with the information.

INT. GOVERNMENT OFFICE - MOSCOW

Solzhenitsyn marries Svetlova.

EXT. SIDEWALK - MOSCOW

SOLZHENITSYN
What do you mean? I’m not allowed to live with her. We were just married.

KGB
It is for your protection. Many citizens know your anti-soviet writing and have threatened retaliation.

EXT. PARK - MOSCOW

We see Brian’s friends dealing in contraband music but they are too timid to actually surf on a moving vehicle. They
are however willing to help Brian. They distract a driver as Brian stealthily mounts the car.

Brain is filmed again. This time he is on top of a car at eye level of people on the street. Heads turn. Shop clerks looking out the windows reach for the telephone.

Police arrive just after Brian dismounts and runs off.

**EXT. BOAT FACTORY - MOSCOW**

Brian’s friends are willing to skirt the law and obtain the necessary materials to build a board.

**DENNIS**

Psssst, psssst...

**BRIAN’S FRIEND** looks uncharacteristically shifty as he peers through a wire fence, trying to attract the attention of a worker at the factory.

Employees, like in every factory in Russia, supplement their meager wages by selling the materials of their trade on the black market.

Pretending to take a cigarette break, a **WORKER** sidles up to the fence three meters to the left of Brian’s friend. Looking in opposite directions, a rapid-fire exchange takes place.

**WORKER**

What you want?

**DENNIS**

A mask and goggles, Fiberglass wool and resin.

**WORKER**

How much?

**DENNIS**

Enough to cover a door.

**WORKER**

145 rubles.

**DENNIS**

No way, man. 100.
A tense hour later, the worker appears clutching a flimsy plastic bag containing three cylindrical shapes wrapped in newspaper, presumably the resin, and a table cloth size of fabric.

**Dennis** checks the package to see if the deal is kosher.

**WORKER**

Don’t worry. I would rather have a repeat customer than rip you off.

**Dennis** makes a hasty retreat home to the bomb shelter workshop.

**INT. BOMB SHELTER - MOSCOW**

We see a refrigerator disassembled in the space Brian has been watching the surf movie.

Brian pulls out a shaped piece of polyurethane refrigerator insulation. He has a makeshift breathing mask and all the tools needed.

Brian and his friend put on masks and goggles and begin to fashion a surf board.

Brian does the work but his friend is paying close attention and trying to learn. As they work...

**BRIAN**

You must be careful, if caught, that guy can face time in prison.

**FRIEND**

We are too young for all that, but you can kiss your school goodbye.
BRIAN
It’s stressful but what choice do I have?

FRIEND
Resin’s not for sale in Russia. You have to steal it or buy it from a worker. If we didn’t do it, we wouldn’t be able to make a board.

BRIAN
It’s a risk I simply will have to take.

EXT. MOSKOVA RIVER - MOSCOW

Brian has 10 seconds of bliss on a wave in the river. He is of course elated his friends are jazzed. But the good soviet citizens look on him with scorn. The police come but the boys narrowly escape capture.

EXT. SOLZHENITSYN APARTMENT - MOSCOW

Solzhenitsyn suffers to write.

Solzhenitsyn hides his documents in champagne bottles.

EXT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT - MOSCOW

Brian hides his surfer magazines.

EXT. MOSKVA RIVER - MOSCOW

Brian surfs the river behind a large river ship several times but the escapes become increasingly more narrow. And Brian becomes bored with this wave.

EXT. MOSCOW STREETS - MOSCOW

Brain returns to balancing himself on the top of moving buses and cars. He surfs a train.

Of course Brain eventually crashes like the water surfers in the West. Twice Brian is uninjured; a flower cart and a newspaper stand break his fall. In a third accident, Brian
flies through the windshield of a bus. This third fall puts him in the hospital. All this is spectacularly filmed by his friends.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Solzhenitsyn and Svetlova are there to visit Reshetovskaya. Hospital room.

In the hall before entering, Solzhenitsyn gives money to Svetlova.

SVETLOVA
(to Solzhenitsyn)

It is very generous of you to pay for your former wife's expenses.

Cancer is…. Well you know.

They enter the hospital room. Reshetovskaya is in bed and obviously very sick.

Solzhenitzen's grumpily sits and stares out into the hallway. Ms. Svetlova approaches the bed. With a gift, a radio.

RESHETOVSKAYA

You care?

SVETLOVA

Of course.

RESHETOVSKAYA

You are a better person than your husband.

As Svetlova and Reshetovskaya speak, Solzhenitsyn is listening to two government officials “bitch out” Brian’s father.

ANDREI

I don’t understand; he has been very responsible.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL #1

(looking at Brian’s file)

I don’t understand this young man, either.
GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL #2
How can he be a productive soviet worker if he falls and breaks his neck?

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL #1
He is providing a bad example to the other youth.

Solzhenitsyn is interested in the conversation and curiously looks into Brian’s room. It might not be all that interesting to him but ANYTHING to avoid paying attention to Reshetovskaya.

Dennis is there with this camera and gets a few feet of footage. Brian is handcuffed to in the bed, his head and ribs bandaged. He has a cast on an arm and a foot. Brian has cuts from the windshield all over his body. As Dennis films, Brian signals “Hang Loose” and smiles.

INT. JUVENILE COURT - MOSCOW

Soviet authorities prime Brian for an insane asylum.

PROSECUTOR
The state respectfully asks for confinement to a mental institution until tests can be done to determine the juveniles mental condition.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY
Your honour. This young man, while reckless and immature, has managed to stumble upon a new fiberglass technology, until now unknown in the socialist nations. I have affidavits from 2 high ranking naval officers and two KGB officials that his techniques will have “useful military applications” in the production of light speedy attack/torpedo boats. They have written that the fibreglass is superior to that produced in the West.
JUDGE
What would you have the court do?

DEFENSE ATTORNEY
Release him to his parents with a strict warning.

Long beat.

JUDGE
Very well, young man. I’m not going to send you to a mental institution but you are sentenced to home arrest.
(half beat)
And in the future please be more careful. Evidently you are a valuable mind.
(half beat)
You are released to your mother and father.

EXT. SOLZHENITSYN APARTMENT - MOSCOW
Solzhenitsyn suffers to write.
Solzhenitsyn hides his documents in champagne bottles.

EXT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT - MOSCOW
The Beach Boys, “In My Room.”
His parents lock Brian in his room.
Brian escapes out a window and down the side of the apartments.

EXT. AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION - MOSCOW
A ZiL arrives and chauffeur gets out. He chats with the attendant. The chauffeur polishes the car. The attendant changes the oil and fills the gas tank. The chauffeur vacuums the car’s carpet. The attendant checks the various fluids in the car. Again, the chauffeur polishes the car.
The hiding near by are Mark’s friends. As the Zil leaves the station it is blocked by a line of Mark’s friends. The stand like an unmovable army of medieval foot soldiers. The chauffeur halts and can’t understand.

But then the line of young men parts and the Zil is allowed to progress. The camera pulls back and reveals Brian laying on the roof of the Zil. The car passes the boys slowly to the street. As it picks up speed Brian pops up on the roof and surfs past the Soviet mansions.

Dennis films the adventure. But as the car passes the various Soviet mansions, the servants all seem to be cleaning the windows and see Brian pass by surfing the Zil. They all look as it very oddly and then chuckle. But at the same time, the wives and daughters of the politburo members are overseeing the workers. They notice the Zil with the youth on top; they do not chuckle. They all get on the phone to report the incident.

It is Brezhnev’s limousine; his chauffeur has taken it for service. As it slows to approach the Kremlin gate, Brian realizes he might have made a mistake; his face turns ashen. He jumps from the car. Uninjured, he runs to the nearest Metro. The Kremlin guards are dumbstruck.

EXT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT - MOSCOW

Brian arrives back through the window into his locked bedroom, just as his father and mother unlock the door. They don’t say a word but they both look into the room.

Brian hopes perhaps his punishment is over, but his father locks the door. His hope are squashed.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT - DAY

A surgeon arrives at the apartment. Solzhenitzen brings out some microfilm and some old books. The doctor open his bag and they sit at the table. The doctor pulls out a scalpel and operated on the books. Solzhenitzen fetches some paper glue and puts it on the table beside.

SOLZHENITZEN
Thank you. I would attempt this but my hands shake.
SURGEON
Nerve damage?

SOLZHENITZEN
Yes. I’m sure.

SURGEON
From the beatings?

SOLZHENITZEN
Mostly.

SURGEON
I understand.

SOLZHENITZEN
I’m sorry to bring you into this.

SURGEON
Not a problem. I support the truth. Happy to help.

The doctor has cut a place in the cover to slide the tiny microfilm. He places a tiny bit of glue to conceal the opening.

SURGEON
Okay, that does it.

SOLZHENITZEN
I feel better already.

SURGEON
Take a day or two of rest and drink a lot of water.

Solzhenitzen places the books on a shelf in his library.

EXT. STREET OF MOSCOW - DAY

Outside Brian’s apartment complex. Several KGB agents are sitting in a car waiting for something to happen. They are overweight and sweating.
KGB AGENT #1
It is 33º C, the hottest day of the summer.

KGB AGENT #2
Why are we here?

KGB AGENT #1
I have no idea.

Brian’s friends are surveilled when they surface from their bomb shelter hideout but escape through various tunnels, fire escapes. They teenagers are like cockroaches and scatter, hide and find every narrow space. The KGB can’t keep up.

Young teenagers leave schools and factories in the middle of work as the large ships comes down the river.

EXT. MOSKVA RIVER - DAY

Brian’s friends escape to the river bank to watch the surfers behind the large ship. The KGB agents arrive at the riverbank just in time to see a surfing explosion.

There are at least 10 or 12 surfer insight. The KGB busily make notes in their notepads. They take photographs. One agent gets on the radio to call for backup.

The KGB boat is called out into the river. It comes at break neck speed down the river leaving a huge wake and behind it there are surfers taking advantage.

The surfers then exit the river on the far bank. The KGB cars drives to the neared bridge but by the time they arrive on the far shore the surfers have disappeared.

KGB HEADQUARTERS - DAY

YURI ANDROPOV is being briefed on the “illegal” surfing.

ANDROPOV
These so called “surfers” are anti-soviet. They disappear for an hour out of schools and factories as the large ship comes down the river.
AIDE
Yes.

ANDROPOV
And then they return like nothing happened?

AIDE
What should we do?

ANDROPOV
Eradicate this activity.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT – DAY

Solzhenitzen is writing at his desk.

His typist/assistant, ELIZAVETA VORONYANSKAYA, arrives to retrieve the pages she is to type. She hands Solzhenitzen some finished typed pages. Solzhenitzen places them beside some photography equipment.

Solzhenitzen goes to the garden with a spade. From the window it appears that he is digging potatoes. He produces a champagne bottle turns it upside down and shakes it until the pages fall out. Some pages refuse to emerge. Solzhenitzen takes the bottle to a rubbish can and breaks the bottle and retrieves the pages. He brings them inside along with a few vegetables.

Voronyanskaya is handed the small rolled up pages.

VORONYANSKAYA
How many pages?

SOLZHENITZEN
I don’t know. I measure my work by volume, quite literally, in cubic centimeters to be hidden until typed, turned into microfilm and then destroyed.

She takes and places them in her bag with the vegetables.

SOLZHENITZEN
You destroy the copies?
VORONYANSKAYA
I have. I don’t understand but I did what you asked.

SOLZHENITZEN
I’m fearful that people mentioned in it will suffer reprisals.

VORONYANSKAYA
So why don’t you allow Gulag to be published in the west?

SOLZHENITZEN
Perhaps. I hesitate. I want it to be published here first.

VORONYANSKAYA
It would be less treasonous that way.

Solzhenitzen gives her a harsh look.

VORONYANSKAYA
Oh. I don’t mean ‘treasonous’. I mean the authorities will argue it is giving aide to the enemy. But if it is read here first they can’t make this argument.

SOLZHENITZEN
Yes. That is the reason.

VORONYANSKAYA
Well, it’s not realistic. It can’t be published here. They will never allow it.

SOLZHENITZEN
Not only the people in the book; the courier and you might face retaliation.

VORONYANSKAYA
But, what is the purpose then if you refuse to allow it to be printed.
SOLZHENITZEN
There will be a correct time to publish, don’t worry.

Voronyanskaya takes the typed copies she has created and places them in her typewriter case.

SOLZHENITZEN
Take care to hide everything properly. Type it and destroy it.

She nods, smiles and leaves.

INT. MOSCOW STREETS - DAY

Voronyanskaya leaves the apartment and is followed back to her apartment by the KGB.

INT. VORONYANSKAYA APARTMENT - DAY

Voronyanskaya is inside typing the documents when the KGB come to her door. She manages to hide everything as they try to break down the door.

INT. KGB HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Voronyanskaya is tortured by the KGB.

INT. VORONYANSKAYA APARTMENT - DAY

The KGB bring the battered Voronyanskaya back to her apartment and she shows them the location of the original Gulag manuscript. It is under a loose floorboard. She didn’t destroy it.

The KGB leaves her there with two ‘guards’.

Voronyanskaya is totally defeated.

INT. VORONYANSKAYA’S FUNERAL - DAY

Solzhenitsyn and his literary friend are in attendance. His other literary friends surround them.

In the back of the mourners are several KGB agents. They are also in cars with cameras recording it all.
Words are spoken by the priest and people begin to file by the grave as they depart. Solzhenitsyn whispers to his literary friend as the funeral is finishing.

SOLZHENITSYN
(beat)
It is a literary and historical record of the vast and brutal system of prison and labour camps.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT - DAY

After the funeral, Solzhenitsyn announces that he will publish Gulag. Again, his literary friend is there. His other literary friends surround them.

LITERARY FRIEND
(to the other friends)
Now, Pravda will call it a big lie.

SOLZHENITSYN
But there are excerpts from documents, oral testimonies, eyewitness reports, and other material, which is inflammable.

FRIEND
Names are named?

LITERARY FRIEND
Sending 'Gulag' is a rash, and a very risky business, but opportunities here are few...

SOLZHENITSYN
Right, will send it abroad. My heart has surfaced from one wave of anxiety only to plunge into another... a double? I feel like the Hawaiian surf riders described by Jack London, standing upright
on a smooth board... on the crest of the ninth wave...

Solzhenitsyn and his literary friend walk to the kitchen, out of earshot of the others.

LITERARY FRIEND
Will you send a trial balloon first?

SOLZHENITSYN
Good idea.

LITERARY FRIEND
Here, send this.

He hands Solzhenitzen roll of a 16mm film.

LITERARY FRIEND
If it goes through then you can send the real documents.

SOLZHENITSYN
If there are informants...

The men smile.

INT. WRITERS' UNION BUILDING - DAY

Sergei V. Mikhalkov, a writers' union official, stands.

MIKHALKOV
I propose that Mr. Solzhenitsyn leave the country because of these treasonous writings.

Rasul G. Gamzatov, a poet, stands.

GAMZATOV
I agree, if Solzhenitsyn does not like our system, our socialist life and our country, we really cannot help persuade him. Let him go where it suits him and where the buy lies.

INT. HERMOSA BEACH FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY
A MOTHER and a FATHER and a blonde blue eyed AMERICAN DAUGHTER are watching the television news. The American public sees the film of Brian surfing.

TV BROADCASTER
Life in the Soviet Union must be incredibly boring for young people. A unique film emerged from behind the Iron Curtain today. It depicts surfing in what is believed to be the Moskova River. The short film also shows young people riding on the top of various vehicles (some official and some private) in a surfer’s stance. And we might add not always successfully.

In the end of the film, Brian loses his balance and falls off a car into the windshield of the bus.

EXT. KGB HEADQUARTERS - MOSCOW

KGB are watching the 16mm highlight reel of Brian surfing the Moskva river and trucks, buses and a train. Finally we see the recording of Brian on Breznev’s ZiL with the Kremlin in the background.

The KGB is enraged as they watch the film. They leave to arrest Brian.

EXT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT - MOSCOW

Brian is back in his locked bedroom when the his father reluctantly unlocks the door. Two KGB agents grab Brian off the bed and haul him out of the apartment.

EXT. BRIAN’S JAIL - MOSCOW

Brian quietly speaks to himself in the dark damp cell.

BRIAN
So what? I’m isolated.
(half beat)
And my support and encouragement has disappeared.
(half beat)
I might contemplate surrender but...

BRIAN
(shouting)
I will not surrender.

EXT. BOMB SHELTER - MOSCOW

Brian has become something of a draw. And young Muscovites are coming around inquiring about buying surfboards. Brian’s friends charge several hundred rubles for a surfboard.

Outside the bomb shelter hideaway there is an eye-sore. There are twenty disassembled refrigerators with the foam insulation missing. Inside the underground hideout Brian’s friends have set up something of an underground surfboard factory.

EXT. PARK - MOSCOW

Dennis is simply standing in the park.

Other teenager friends are in the park with a long “surfboard shaped” object covered in the tarp. It is very obviously they are up to no good but, the boys try to look normal.

DENNIS
It is 16mm, 1 minute long but has the best of Moscow’s surfing adventures. There are several scenes of my friend surfing the river, a truck, a taxi, a bus, a train and Brezhnev’s ZiL.

BUYER
I know I heard. I have the money here.

Money is exchanged. A tiny reel of film is handed over.

DENNIS
And if you want a surf board please bring 500 rubles.
A young Russian girl, a BLONDE BLUE EYED BEAUTY, approaches with her two friends. She holds out a wad of cash. Brian’s friend, is awed and it’s love at first sight.

We hear the first 15 seconds of the Beach Boys “Surfer Girl”...

DENNIS
You are Moscow’s first ‘surfer girl’. Right?

OTHER FRIEND
I’ve not seen another?

SURFER GIRL
I want to do this.

You must be careful of the authorities.

SURFER GIRL
I know.

This girl is sexy and a rebel too. Dennis is love struck.

DENNIS
You know the song ‘Surfer Girl’? The Beach Boys?

SURFER GIRL
They are American?

She shakes her head she hasn’t.

DENNIS
Keep your money.

SURFER GIRL
Why?

DENNIS
You are great for the sport.

She doesn’t know how ideal she is. Dennis simply smiles at her. Long beat.
DENNIS
You wanna hear some illegal
surfing music?

It looks like the three girls might.

INT. BRIAN’S JAIL - MOSCOW

Brian is harshly interrogated.

INT. KREMLIN - MOSCOW

Brezhnev and Andropov speak over the General Secretary’s
desk. Brezhnev has several letters in his hands. He throws
them at Andropov. Most fall on the floor. Andropov picks
them up.

ANDROPOV
Australia, Balli, Hawaii, Hermosa
Beach, California.

BREZHNEV
International surfers! Thousands
of letters asking me to pardon the
boy.

ANDROPOV
In the end, the Soviet government
will tire of tolerating these
hoodlums.

BREZHNEV
And...

ANDROPOV
The question of Solzhenitsyn has now
gone beyond being a criminal matter
and turned into a not unimportant
political question.

(half beat)
I hear from Soviet people ‘Why do the
authorities not take steps against
Solzhenitsyn?’

BREZHNEV
I thought the press has condemned his
writing.
ANDROPOV
He has been criticized in the press but he has not put down his weapons but has rather spoken out even more brazenly against Soviet power.

BREZHNEV
We can let the military and certain segments of the party apparatus; continue to oppose him in the press?

ANDROPOV
Despite the steps we have taken to expose its anti-Soviet character, Solzhenitsyn’s book, has received a certain sympathy from some representatives of the creative intelligentsia.

BREZHNEV
Young men riding the roof of my car, what else could happen?

ANDROPOV
We have also confirmed cases in which specific workers or students have made statements to the effect that Solzhenitsyn has called on the Soviet leadership to cut prices for consumer goods and curtail assistance to Cuba and other developing countries in the interests of raising the living standards of the Soviet people.

BREZHNEV
These thoughts are not contained in his this book?

ANDROPOV
They are, as you recall, in a letter from Solzhenitsyn to the Soviet Leaders.

BREZHNEV
I read this letter?
EXT. FAMILY HOME - HERMOSA BEACH - DAY

The blonde daughter’s father is being interviewed by a television reporter.

FATHER
I wrote General-Secretary Brezhnev stating that there is nothing wrong with surfing and that we will adopt the young man and his family should he be expelled. He can go to school here and surf to his heart’s content.

REPORTER
(to the daughter)
And do you have an opinion?

DAUGHTER
We asked Mr. Brezhnev to do the right thing... if he can.

INT. POLITICAL HALL - WEST GERMANY

Chancellor WILLY BRANDT is giving a speech and walks off the stage. A GERMAN REPORTER asks... and Brandt’s response is made extemporaneously.

REPORTER
Can you address the controversy over Nobel Prize winner Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn?

WILLY BRANDT
Mr. Solzhenitsyn's work fits perfectly into the West German tradition of free expression. Mr. Solzhenitsyn would be able to live in freedom and work unhindered in the Federal Republic.

Brandt exits the room. A TASS REPORTER approaches the German reporter.

TASS REPORTER
May I please have a transcript of Mr. Brandt's comments to you?
The German reporter pauses and thinks. He then nods in agreement.

REPORTER
Sure.

INT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT – MOSCOW

Brian is denounced in every Soviet newspaper. His lawyer is there with the mother and father. The lawyer brings all the newspapers to the apartment to share them with the mother and father. He reads a few lines from each and hands the newspaper to the father.

LAWYER
Only a maniac who has gone mad from hatred, a man without kinship and breeding can in such a disrespectful tone act out against a man whose heroic deeds in the great patriotic war served the people. The General-Secretary still serves the people.
(beat)
This young man has fully unmasked himself as a traitor of the motherland.
(beat)
This young man is only a pawn of a larger reactionary circle with anti-Soviet purposes.
(beat)
The young man is only a run of the mill surfer. In the Western press, it has actually been call a ‘sacrilege to mention the young man’s name with the real surfers of Hawaii and Southern California.’

Brian’s lawyer looks at the family with a pessimistic expression.

LAWYER
I will fight and I like a good fight. But I need to tell you to expect the worst.
INT. SOLZHENITSYN’S APARTMENT – MOSCOW

The same newspapers have been brought to Solzhenitsyn’s home. The writer and his friend have been going over them. Svetlova is working in the kitchen but she is apparently listening to the conversation.

SOLZHENITSYN
Tass has dismissed the book as a ‘novel’.

LITERARY FRIEND
But no one believes them anymore.

SOLZHENITSYN
They have lost their hold on the imagination and loyalty of the audience.

LITERARY FRIEND
But they still try to work the old magic.

SOLZHENITSYN
Only brute force will keep them in power.

SVETLOVA
Do the math. Force is expensive and fatiguing. Think about it; the official dissemination of a huge library of lies.

SOLZHENITSYN
They will exhaust themselves. An entirely fabricated history.

INT. MORENOV FAMILY APARTMENT – MOSCOW

Brian’s mother is in a panic and his father can only console her. Andrei explains to the lawyer.

FATHER
Brian turns 14.
She pushes a stack of warm clothes and food across the table to the lawyer. She isn’t able to speak for the tears.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN’S APARTMENT – MOSCOW

Solzhenitsyn loves the foreign media and has a short-wave radio.

BBC
This is the BBC. The Gulag Archipelago is becoming one of the most widely read books of samizdat underground publications in the Soviet Union.
(half beat)
The book that outlines nearly 50 years of Soviet abuse of power, is being typed out again and again on typewriters.
(half beat)
Samizdat copies of texts are passed between trusted friends. The techniques used to reproduce these forbidden texts vary. Several copies might be made using carbon paper, either by hand or on a typewriter.
(half beat)
Mr. Solzhenitsyn’s book is one of the works most fiercely opposed by the authorities. The police confiscate it during searches; those who were found to have read it, or have it in their possession, are being fired or dismissed from their places of study.
(half beat)
Those who disseminate the book, or make copies of it, faced arrest and trial.
(half beat)
Also in the news...

Solzhenitsyn turns the radio dial until he gets the VOA.
VOA

In the west, The Gulag Archipelago is creating a stunning impression as irrefutable proof of the price and consequences of the Communist experiment.

(half beat)
The official bureaucratic abbreviation of the term ‘Main Camp Administration’ became a metaphor and the word ‘Gulag’ entered the world’s lexicon as one of the terms for a ‘humanitarian catastrophe of political origin and of a national or global scale.’

(half beat)
With The Gulag Archipelago, there is now a new period in the understanding of Russian 20th century history.

INT. BRIAN’S PRISON CELL - WINTER - MOSCOW

It is clearly a cold place. Brian is black and blue from the KGB torture. His lawyer brings him warm clothes, which he is happy to receive.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN’S APARTMENT - MOSCOW

There is a knock on the door. Svetlova answers. A young procuracy trainee is there.

CLERK
Mrs. Solzhenitsyn. Hello. I have a summons for Aleksandr Isayevich Solzhenitsyn. He must appear at the procuracy on...

Before he can complete the sentence Svetlova slams the door on him.

SOLZHENITSYN
Who was that, honey?

SVETLOVA
(mater of fact)
The prosecutor.

INT. BOMB SHELTER – WINTER – MOSCOW

It is winter but the underground factory is still producing surfboards. Above ground, the pile of discarded refrigerators grows.

A KGB car comes by and they notice the refrigerators but it is too cold to get out and they don’t think of looking for the workshop underground.

INT. PARK – WINTER – MOSCOW

Snow is a foot high in the park. We see two teens trudging through the snow with a tarp-covered surfboard.

INT. SOLZHENITSYN’S APARTMENT – MOSCOW

The young clerk comes back and wants to serve the summons. Solzhenitsyn answers the door.

CLERK
Aleksandr Isayevich Solz...

Solzhenitsyn interrupts.

SOLZHENITSYN
Given the unending and general lawlessness which has reigned for many years in our country, I refuse to recognize the legality of your summons and will not appear for interrogation at any state institution. Before demanding that citizens obey the law, learn to execute it yourselves.

The clerk begins to back up. He is frightened.

Solzhenitsyn chases after him and doesn’t stop until the clerk is half way down the block.

SOLZHENITSYN
Free the innocent from imprisonment. Punish the
perpetrators of the mass exterminations and the authors of the false denunciations. Punish the administrators and the special detachments which carried out genocide (the deportation of whole peoples). Deprive today the local and departmental satraps of their limitless power over citizens, of their controlling sway over law courts and psychiatrists. Satisfy the millions of lawful, yet suppressed statements of complaint.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT - DAY

Svetlova enters the kitchen and finds a note taped to the refrigerator door - “If you are free at nine, let’s listen to the radio together.”

Solzhenitsyn goes outside for a walk. He paces back and forth across the small frozen garden/court yard. Solzhenitsyn returns inside.

SVETLOVA
Don’t you ever grow bored wearing out the same tracks?

SOLZHENITSYN
No. I got used to it in jail.

Solzhenitsyn sits and writes.

SVETLOVA
What are you doing?

Solzhenitsyn hands her a paper.

SOLZHENITSYN
I might be completely naïve, but I have a list of possible reprisals against me. Imprisonment, internal exile, and even murder, but to be honest I think a press campaign and petty harassment will be the most likely punishment.
INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT – AFTERNOON

Solzhenitzen is meeting with FOREIGN NEWSMEN. He is clearly prepared to press on. The foreign newsmen have a tape recorder and put it out on the table.

SOLZHENITZEN
( answering a question )
I do anticipate arrest. But, gentlemen I have an excerpt from the still unpublished sections of “Gulag”.

With his wife looking over his shoulder, Solzhenitzen reads it for a recording. He gives no hint of tension.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S BEDROOM – AFTERNOON

Solzhenitzen and Svetlova lay in bed.

SVETLOVA
What will happen?

SOLZHENITZEN
The forecast for February?

SVETLOVA
Yes. Please, prognosticate.

SOLZHENITZEN
Apart from attempts to discredit me, they aren’t likely to do anything, and there will probably be a breathing space.

SVETLOVA
Good.

The camera pulls back and we see Solzhenitzen sleeps with pitchfork near his bed.

INT. KREMLIN – DAY

The politburo is meeting to discuss the options in dealing with Solzhenitsyn.
DINMUKHAMED KONAYEV
We must consider the trial, conviction and execution of Solzhenitzen.

VIKTOR GRISHIN
No one has had a chance to read the book, but its essential contents are already known. It is a filthy anti-Soviet slander. We have to determine what to do about Solzhenitsyn. By law, we have every basis for putting him in jail. He has tried to undermine all we hold sacred: Lenin, the Soviet system, Soviet power—everything dear to us... This hooligan Solzhenitsyn is out of control.

ANDROPOV
I can tell you that this new work could do as much, in its way, to undermine Soviet power as all the nuclear arsenals in the West.
(half beat)
I think Solzhenitsyn should be deported from the country without his consent. Trotsky was deported in his time without getting his agreement....

KIRILL MAZUROV
Overseas everyone is watching us to see what we will do with Solzhenitsyn—if we will mete out punishment to him or if we will just leave him alone.

NIKOLAI PODGORNY
Here good socialists are watching us as well. Will we leave the criminal alone? I maintain that we must take legal action and bring the full force of Soviet law against him. And we must make
things clear not to follow this lunatics anti-soviet path.

ANDROPOV
You should be angry at his impudence, his meetings with foreign correspondents, his brazen flouting of Party control over literature and his publication abroad.

(half beat)
But the most harsh punishment will not be execution. It’s expulsion and exile. He fears it. And everything he says from the West our people will consider propaganda.

ALEXEI KOSYGIN
We can send Solzhenitsyn away to serve his sentence in Verkhoyansk, beyond the Arctic Circle. Not a single foreign correspondent will go visit him there, because it’s so cold.

NIKOLAI PODGORNY
I’m furious, and I disagree with Andropov’s proposal to expel Solzhenitsyn.

(half beat)
In China, there are public executions. In Chile, the Fascist regime shoots and tortures people! In Ireland, the English use repression on the working people!

(half beat)
We must deal harshly with an enemy who gets away with sling mud at everybody.

BREZHNEV
No matter what is done this Solzhenitsyn affair will pass. The regime is unshakable.
NIKOLAI PODGorny
In 1968, we did not worry about acting against the counter-revolution in Czechoslovakia. (half beat)
And, we did not worry about throwing out Stalin’s rebellious daughter.

Brezhnev
We survived it all. And I think we’ll live through this.

Andropov
West German Chancellor, Willy Brandt, is willing to accept Solzhenitsyn. We have to act quickly, before Brandt changes his mind or Solzhenitsyn gets wind of the plan.
(half beat)
There will be costs, but unfortunately we have no alternative. It is a matter of inflicted on us the least cost.
(half beat)
I have a minute-to-minute plan to arrest him and hustle him out of the country before he or his family has a chance to react.

Brezhnev
Without objection?

Long beat. The members are afraid to disagree with Brezhnev once they see the direction he is leaning.

Brezhnev
Very well. Proceed.

The meeting is adjourned?

Brezhnev rises to leave. He is so old and frail and the room is cleared before Brezhnev is able to exit.

The room is empty and Brezhnev is approached by one of Andropov’s aides.
AIDE
Sir, the question what to do with the boy?

Brezhnev is just sick of it and rages…

BREZHNEV
Deport them both.

The aide leaves but then returns.

AIDE
The boy is only 14.

Brezhnev is the most grumpy man ever to live.

BREZHNEV
Same fate as the writer.

Grumpily Brezhnev waves for the aide to leave.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT – DAY

The clock says 5:00 P.M.

Seven KGB officers burst into Solzhenitzen's apartment and arrest him forcibly. He is thrown to the ground and handcuffed.

KGB #1
You are under arrest for treason.

KGB #2
Here is a resolution empowering us to take Mr. Solzhenitsyn to the Procuracy.

They show the document to the wife but don’t leave it with her.

KGB #3
Don’t worry Alya, Alexander lsayevich will return soon.
Solzhenitsyn is led away, but two KGB guests stay in the apartment. They take up posts by the door and the telephone.

Svetlova tries to use the phone but is prohibited.

Svetlova sits and stares at them coldly. They remain there for about half an hour.

The KGB leaves and pull the phone cord out of the wall; the clock says 5:35 P.M.

Svetlova only now cries. She runs to the bed and cries. She covers her head with the blankets and a pillow.

EXT. MOSCOW STREETS – DAY

The KGB bring him to Lefortovo Prison.

INT. LEFORTOVO PRISON – DAY

Solzhenitsyn is stripped and interrogated 18 hours by the KGB.

Government lawyers arrive in his holding cell with a decree…

LAWYER
This document says you are stripped of your nationality for ‘performing systematically actions that are incompatible with being a citizen.’

SOLZHENITSYN
You know this will be the first forced expulsion of a political dissident since 1929, when Stalin ordered Leon Trotsky exiled?

LAWYER
In 10 or 20 years know one will remember you.
SOLZHENITSYN
The question is will they remember you? It’s you who are mimicking Stalin.

LAWYER
Say good-bye to your wife and family.

SOLZHENITSYN
What you are doing is delivering the capitalist West a Nobel Prize author. How to you expect to win when you give away your cows?

LAWYER
Your award is a political award, not a literary.

A state prosecutors enters and the lawyer leaves.

PROSECUTOR
We want you to agree to exile.

SOLZHENITSYN
I vow I will never leave the Soviet Union of my own free will.

(half beat)
I will agree to a long prison sentence rather than leave.

The prosecutors look at him strangely. One prosecutor looks at the other.

PROSECUTOR
(to the other prosecutor)
Someone should have explained to him.

(to Solzhenitsyn)
You are charged with treason - Article 64 of the criminal code.

(half beat)
I’m not offering you a prison term. I’m offering you a chance to avoid execution.

Solzhenitsyn does, in the end, agree to accept exile.
PROSECUTOR
Sign here.

SOLZHENITZEN
I’m afraid you will just have to take my word on this.

PROSECUTOR
You will be immediately deported from Russia to Frankfurt, West Germany.

SOLZHENITZEN
What about my wife and my things?

Without a word the prosecutors leave the room. He is allowed to sleep.

INT. SOLZHENITZEN’S APARTMENT – DAY

A Western reporter shows up at the apartment. Svetlova and Solzhenitsyn’s literary friend are there. And Svetlova reads a statement by Solzhenitsyn into a recorder.

SVETLOVA
My husband wrote this beforehand, for use in the event of arrest. In advance, ‘I declare as incompetent any criminal trial of Russian literature, of a single book of it, of any Russian author. If such a trial is prescribed for myself, I shall not go there on my own two feet – they will deliver me there in a Black Maria, with my arms twisted behind me. I shall not answer a single question at such a trial. Sentenced to imprisonment, I shall not submit to the sentence except in handcuffs. In imprisonment itself, having already lost my best eight years to forced labour for the state, and contracted cancer in the process, I shall not work for the oppressors even half an hour more.'
In this way I leave open for them
the straightforward option of
overt tyrants: to bump me off
quickly for writing the truth
about Russian history.’

The reporter moves the microphone in the direction of...

LITERARY FRIEND
Shame on the country that allows
its greatness and its glory to be
abused. Wretchedness on the
country whose tongue they tear out
with tongs. Misery on the nation
which is deceived.
(half beat)
Blessing and support to the man
who now, rudely separated from
family and friends, slandered
before his people, is — yes now,
at this very minute! — conducting
his silent duel with the lawless
violence.

INT. SHEREMETYEVO - DAY

The Aeroflot ticket clerk is informing people of the flight
status as they check in for the flight.

TICKET CLERK
The plane is going to be late
taking off, fog.

The passengers walk to the windows and they look outside.
It is winter but visibility is good. The passengers look at
each other curious what the story really is. They say
nothing; no complaints. They simply sit and wait to board
the plane.

The airport workers and foreign-airline representatives at
Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport also look outside at the
weather. They are aware that something unusual is
happening, but of course nothing is said.

Everyone, airline staff and passengers, looks nervous. Each
person is surveying the faces of the others looking for
even the most tiny clue. No one knows what is going on.
Outside the plane, the pilots who are chain-smoking cigarettes. They also look nervous about the delay.

EXT. STREETS OF MOSCOW – DAY

There are four KGB cars moving toward the airport.

Solzhenitzen is in the back seat of a KGB car. There are KGB cars full of men in front of him and behind him.

Brian is in the last car.

In approaching traffic, they pass a car with a surfer on board. All the KGB agents turn to get a look. They are enraged. Even Solzhenitzen turns and follows the surfer and then gives us a warm chuckle.

The agents in Brian’s car are enraged as well. They all turn their heads. The KGB driver of Brian’s car slams on the breaks. They sit debating whether to turn and give chase. The driver is frozen for a few seconds. He makes a U turn in the middle of a major street and gives pursuit. They turn some corners left and then right. By the time they catch up to the car, the surfer has disappeared. They drive around the area, looking for the teenager.

The KGB are like eagles searching. Brian is smiling but stops when the KGB begins give up. This explains the 2-hour delay in the departure of Solzhenitzen’s plane.

Eventually, after a time, they begin again toward the airport.

INT. AEROFLOT TU-154 – DAY

Solzhenitzen and Brian are brought aboard the plane.

There are eight KGB agents on the plane with the deportees.

Solzhenitzen is in the middle of a row and there are agents sitting on each side. Three in the row in front of him. Three in the row behind him. Brian is sitting alone. He is being watched, but isn’t surrounded.

The plane is gradually filled with the passengers, children and adults. American, French and German businessmen
returning from Russia. Some tourists, etc. The passengers seem talkative until they see Solzhenitzen and the stone faced KGB. The plane then becomes quiet.

Solzhenitzen seems to be mentally taking notes. He looks at each of the KGB agents. He watched the passengers. He tries to get a glimpse out the window. He watches Brian trying to understand and record everything in his mind.

Brian impulsively rises and walks to the plane’s lavatory. No KGB agent escorts him; they hardly notice. Brian doesn’t ask permission, on impulse. It is clearly a mystery to Solzhenitzen. Solzhenitzen seems more worried about the bathroom situation then the KGB agents. They are all focused on Solzhenitzen. Only one agent turns to watch Brian enter the lavatory.

Brain returns to his seat and buckles his seat belt.

The plane takes off.

INT. FRANKFORT AIRPORT - NIGHT

When the Soviet airliner lands in Frankfort after its two-and-one-half-hour flight, several WEST GERMAN AGENTS and an American CIA AGENT are waiting.

Also there is an entry-level diplomat, JAMES DOZIER (24), from the Berlin Embassy.

The passengers are allowed to disembark first. The men waiting for Solzhenitzen become nervous, as there is a good amount of time between the last passenger off and Solzhenitzen.

    DOZIER
    He’s not coming out?

    CIA AGENT
    You were told to watch and learn; I swear all you State Department types are all the same.

    DOZIER
    Sorry.
Solzhenitzen gets off the plane and walks out into the terminal building. Soon after him Brain emerges. A KGB agent walks to the plane’s door and nods to the western agents and then disappears back into the plane.

The West German’s have sealed off the airport to newsmen and Solzhenitzen is whisked quickly off to a car. The West German agents and the CIA agent gets in the West German’s luxury MERCEDES 230.

CIA AGENT
Follow in my vehicle.

The CIA agent hands Dozier keys and points to an older smaller BMW in the parking lot. Dozier runs to the car and starts the engine. He watches Brian who is standing in the cold on the sidewalk. Brian looks left and right.

INT. BMW 2002 - NIGHT

The Mercedes departs and Dozier must hustle to keep up in the BMW. But he stops and questions Brian.

DOZIER
Are you with Mr. Solzhenitzen?

Brian simply nods, yes.

DOZIER
Well, you were almost left.

Brian simply stands there in the cold.

DOZIER
Well, get in.

Dozier gestures to ‘get in’ and Brian does.

Brian has studied English in school; he might respond, but he is in shock.

Dozier drives to follow the Solzhenitzen car.

INT. AEROFLOT TU-154

On board the plane, the eight KGB agents are sitting, waiting. Two agents keep checking their watches.
KGB #1
Do you think they have taken him away yet?

KGB #2
We better wait a few more minutes.

They sit and waste time.

INT. BMW 2002 - NIGHT

Dozier and Brian drive behind the Mercedes.

DOZIER
So you are Solzhenitzen’s son?

BRIAN
No.

DOZIER
His nephew?

BRIAN
No.

DOZIER
Then who are you?

BRIAN
I’m deported.

DOZIER
What? How old are you?

BRIAN
Fourteen.

DOZIER
What? Where are you parents?

BRIAN
Moscow, I suppose.

DOZIER
They didn’t come with you?
BRIAN
Maybe they were not allowed.

DOZIER
What did you do?

BRIAN
I stood on top of Brezhnev’s car…
 (beat)
when it was moving.

DOZIER
Oh, you are the surfer.

BRIAN
I must tell you that I didn’t know
it was his car. It was just a big
car.

DOZIER
Well they shouldn’t have deported
you.

BRIAN
You think my parents will be able
to join me?

DOZIER
We will see.

Long beat.

DOZIER
You are worried. Of course you are
worried. What did they tell you?
The Soviets?

BRIAN
Nothing.

Long beat.

DOZIER
Don’t worry. We will sort this
out. My name is James Dozier and I
work for the US State Department.
(half beat)
Uh, I’ve been assigned to this case. Technically, I’m supposed to watch and learn, but…

BRIAN
I’m here.

DOZIER
I’m learning.

Long beat.

DOZIER
Of course there is a big international stink about Solzhenitzen.

(half beat)
No one even thought what to...

BRIAN
...do with me?

Long beat.

BRIAN
What do you think will happen?

DOZIER
We are taking him to Langenbroich, the home of Heinrich Böll.

BRIAN
Who is that?

DOZIER
Solzhenitzen’s friend. Another writer.

BRIAN
What will happen then?

DOZIER
I don’t know.

BRIAN
I will be able to call home about my parents?
DOZIER
Okay, but right now I’m more concerned with keeping up. I wish they wouldn’t drive so fast.
(half beat)
Let me take care of this and we will get in touch with your parents.
(half beat)
Okay?

BRIAN
Thank you.

INT. - MERCEDES-BENZ 230 - NIGHT.
Solzhenitzen is emptionless and not distressed.

INT. AIRPORT TERMINAL - FRANKFORT
The KGB agents carefully exit the plane. The don’t want to run into Solzhenitzen. The flight attendants exit without hesitation. The flight attendants must encourage the agents to speed up the pace.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Come on guys, live a little.

INT. - MERCEDES-BENZ 230 - NIGHT.

CIA AGENT
You seem in good spirits; are you relieved that your fate is exile rather than another long imprisonment?

Solzhenitzen says nothing.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
Where you surprised?

SOLZHENITZEN
The deportation decree was only shown me this morning and was completely unexpected.
CIA AGENT
Can you give us some more information on that?

SOLZHENITZEN
I’m being punished.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
They are pretending life is so great there, it is punishment to be exiled.

CIA AGENT
I’d be happy as hell. Standing in line to buy a pair of shoes, come on!

Solzhenitzen seems a bit angry.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
I thought they would not put you in prison again.

Solzhenitzen seems confused.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
Willie Brandt gave a speech you would be welcome almost two weeks ago. And then Soviet press attacks against you dropped dramatically.

CIA AGENT
Everyone at Langley also thought there would be no official action.

SOLZHENITZEN
Well... I hate to disappoint you.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
How many Soviet officials were on the plane with you?

SOLZHENITZEN
Eight.
WEST GERMAN AGENT
Where you struck?

SOLZHENITZEN
Of course.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
Striped naked?

SOLZHENITZEN
Of course.

WEST GERMAN AGENT
When was the last time you ate?

SOLZHENITZEN
I haven’t.

They are just passing a roadhouse café and they stop rapidly and return to it.

INT. HOFBRÄUHAUS – FRANKFORT

The eight KGB agents are drinking with the flight attendants. Their food arrives. The flight attendants aren’t particularly thrilled; they are accustomed. The KGB agents are delighted with the food.

INT – MERCEDES-BENZ 230 – NIGHT

Both cars pull over at a café and a West German diplomat runs inside for some food and a coffee.

INT – ROAD HOUSE – NIGHT

Dozier stands at the counter.

DOZIER
I’ll have the same thing.

The older extra-stern West German diplomat looks strangely at the young American diplomat as if to say, “I just ordered food for Solzhenitzen. You shouldn’t need to eat.”

INT – MERCEDES-BENZ 230 – NIGHT
The CIA agent is left in the car with the Solzhenitsyn and the West German driver.

CIA AGENT
The Soviet dissidents will be in shock over this?

SOLZHENITZEN
In recent months, the political leadership have used selective exit permissions to deprive various groups of Soviet dissidents of some of their leaders.

CIA AGENT
You are another crippling blow.

SOLZHENITZEN
It won’t be.

CIA AGENT
Sakharov, has been working toward a trip to the United States.

SOLZHENITZEN
He won’t do that now.

CIA AGENT
You are sure?

SOLZHENITZEN
After today? Fairly sure. Yes.

CIA AGENT
This will be a setback to detente.

SOLZHENITZEN
I thought Kissinger is coming?

CIA AGENT
What is the situation in Russia as you see it?

SOLZHENITZEN
For those in Russia, communism is a dead dog, while, for many people
in the West, it is still a living lion.

The West German diplomat exits the road-side dinner and returns to the Mercedes. Solzhenitzen is handed his food and coffee. They don’t wait for the young American diplomat. They drive away.

INT. - BMW - NIGHT

Dozier runs out of the road house and to the car holding Solzhenitzen is far down the road.

DOZIER
I’m sorry; she gave me a coffee.

BRIAN
I like coffee.

DOZIER
You don’t care? You’ve never Coke anyway?

BRIAN
No really. No.

Brian was starved and eats enthusiastically.

INT. - MERCEDES-BENZ 230 - NIGHT

Solzhenitzen eats calmly as they drive.

INT. - BMW - NIGHT

The BMW Dozier is driving is almost out of gas. The tank reads something less than 1/16th. Dozier honks and flashes the lights. The Mercedes holding Solzhenitzen continues. Brain pulls into a filling station.

The young diplomat fills the tank and then tries to catch the car with Solzhenitzen. He can’t.

Finally as they reach Langenbroich, Dozier stops at a phone booth to call his boss at the Embassy. Brian remains in the car.
Dozier returns to the car in a daze. He doesn’t know what to do.

BRIAN
Did they tell you where the house is?

DOZIER
The desk officer wouldn’t tell me. There are security protocols about phones. Maybe we can try in the morning.

Long beat.

Finally, they see a woman who is walking her dog. Dozier leaves the car question the lady. From Brian’s POV, it is a stroke of luck she knows and she points and gives directions.

INT. HOME OF HEINRICH BÖLL - NIGHT

Solzhenitzen is taken to the home of Heinrich Böll's. Just as he is being greeted by Böll, the phone rings.

BÖLL
It’s the New York Times reporter from Moscow.

Solzhenitzen takes the phone.

SOLZHENITZEN
I've just arrived at my friend's house in the last couple of minutes. It is shortly after 9 P.M. I'm very tired. I want to call my wife. Have you seen my family today? How many hours ago? How are they?

Solzhenitzen listens and then looks relieved.

SOLZHENITZEN
Alya seemed disappointed? She said this? Disappointed you say?
Long beat.

SOLZHENITZEN
No, I would rather not discuss my emotions.

Long beat.

SOLZHENITZEN
Tass said that?

Long beat.

SOLZHENITZEN
Okay. Thank you. Good-bye.

They gather around a radio for the news.

ANNOUNCER
After Solzhenitsyn arrival, Tass distributed a 66-word news item—later read over Soviet radio and television—reporting that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet had revoked Mr. Solzhenitsyn's citizenship and ordered him exiled.

(half beat)
West German Embassy officials, who reported that they had known nothing of the deportation move in advance, said that it would be no problem for the author's wife and sons to obtain West German entry visas.

(half beat)
In Moscow, Mrs. Solzhenitsyn has told newsmen that she and their three sons will join him in exile. 'We intend to follow him, certainly, but where, when—we just don't know.'

Tass, the Soviet press agency, said, 'Solzhenitsyn's family can join him when they deem it necessary.'
There is a celebration on this news. Solzhenitzen smiles and drinks champagne.

Solzhenitzen has been rather stoic and now he only smiles politely. He is puzzled when the Dozier and Brian show up at the home of his writer friend.

SOLZHENITZEN
I didn’t speak to you on the plane; I’m sorry.

BRIAN
It’s okay.

SOLZHENITZEN
I thought you were the son of one of the...

BRIAN
It’s okay.

SOLZHENITZEN
You are very young to be deported. What was your crime?

BRIAN
Brezhnev’s car.

Solzhenitzen is reserved no longer. He laughs. He laughs and doesn’t appear to stop. The diplomats and the Boll family join in the laughter.

BOLL
He surfed the roof of Brezhnev’s ZiL.

Solzhenitzen laughs again and harder. The entire gathering - the mixture of intelligence officers, professors, philosophers and intelligentsia - they applaud and move to congratulate the young man.

Solzhenitzen reaches out to Brian and embraces him.

SOLZHENITZEN
(to Brian)
Please call your family.
(to Boll)
He can call his family?

BOLL
Of course.

Boll gestures to the phone.

INT. BERLIN EMBASSY - DAY

There is a high-level meeting in the Embassy behind closed doors.

Brian is in the hallway awaiting his fate.

Dozier emerges all smiles. Several of the diplomats exit the room smiling at Brian.

DOZIER
Australia and Bali are out.
(half beat)
It’s Norway, California or Hawaii?
Take your pick.

Dozier and Brian slap high five.

EXT. SWITZERLAND - DAY

Solzhenitzen is speaking to reporters. There are microphones in his face. This is the last question of the press conference.

SOLZHENITZEN
Okay, one last question please.

REPORTER
What do you see in the future for Russia?

SOLZHENITZEN
I am confident in predicting that I will return to a free Russia. Write this in your newspapers. In my lifetime, gentlemen.

The reporters are in awe at the idea. They shuffle off to write their stories.
Two journalists speak as they walk to their cars.

REPORTER #1
I think he’s lost his mind.

REPORTER #2
Perhaps the Soviets, they drugged him?

REPORTER #1
Or the beatings maybe?

EXT. BOAT FACTORY - MOSCOW

Dennis is standing at the fence talking to the factory worker that he has been doing business with.

DENNIS
What? 800 rubles per bottle?

WORKER
You have competition.

Brian’s friends aren’t the only ones lining the pockets of the plastic factory workforce.

Beach Boys “Little Deuce Coup”.

A car with modified fenders pulls up in the parking lot. It is a VAZ-2101. It has been seriously modified and even has rear and front spoilers and it sounds (suped-up) also. The stereo is blasting western music. The driver rolls down the window and marijuana smoke bellows out.

DENNIS
That’s half a doctor’s salary!

WORKER
It’s the market, my young friend.

After everything we have been through together, you are selling resin to mould oversized car parts?

WORKER
As if the workers care about the development of the surf scene in Moscow. We just want to make money
and people customizing their cars have a lot more than you.

EXT. HERMOSA BEACH PIER - DAY

We see Brian and his parents on the Hermosa Beach pier eating ice cream with the surfer girl’s family. This is the same family who offered to adopt Brian earlier.

FADE OUT

END CREDITS
1. The title (Inside Outside USSR) comes from the chorus of the “Surfin’ USA” song by the Beach Boys. It would be keen if we had a Russian band cover the song for the film’s soundtrack. They could substitute the beach names in the original song with the names of Moscow streets.

2.