

PIP

runs as fast as she can and doesn't not let.

PIP (CONT'D)

Stop, Ben Handleman!!! Stop right now!!!

BEN

is so tense his skating deteriorates. In b.g., Pip is now within striking distance. He tries to accelerate and only manages to get all tangled up in his feet.

Pip closes the gap rapidly. While Ben continues to struggle, she reaches out and grabs him by the shoulders. She turns him around and brings her face inches from his.

PIP (CONT'D)

You told her, you told her! Why?

BEN

No, Pip, it's not true!

He tries to break free of her grasp and skate away.

PIP

You just pretended to help me!

BEN

I didn't tell her anything, she's lying!

PIP

(grabs at his backpack)
Show me your backpack!

BEN

No!

PIP

(threatening)

Ben!

Ben tries to fight her off but she is actually stronger. She yanks the backpack off his back and opens it.

BEN

There's nothing in there!

Pip pulls out a Barbie lunch bag and disregards it. Ben blushes - another hand me down. Pip keeps digging.

BEN (CONT'D)

I swear, Pip!

Pip's hand suddenly comes out of the bag holding... her walkman.

PIP

You swear you little liar?!

The transformation in Ben is radical. His face turns into total denigration and contempt. His voice is venom.

BEN

I don't care, you're just a loser -
you and that geekazoid! You've
got no friends and you're gonna
lose the bet, Miss Prissy Pippy
Do-Goody!

Pip's punch comes out of nowhere and with lightning speed. Before Ben even knows it, he's been decked and he falls flat on his ass. Stunned, blurry-eyed, all he can see is Pip storming away with her walkman.

ON RHONNIE

Enjoying this tremendously from a distance.

~~69. EXT. SOLITARY BEACH - DAY~~

~~Pip, extremely upset, walks by herself. She pauses to sniffle and wipe away another tear before moving on. Suddenly:~~

~~SALLY (O.S.)~~

~~Pip?~~

~~Pip turns to see Sally, concerned, walk towards her.~~

~~SALLY (CONT'D)~~

~~What's wrong?~~

~~PIP~~

~~Nothing, it's just Ben...~~

~~SALLY~~

~~What happened?~~

~~Pip shakes her head - she can't talk about it. She sniffs again. Sally reaches into her pocket for a small pack of tissues. She peels off several and hands them to Pip.~~

~~SALLY (CONT'D)~~

~~Don't worry, I've got plenty.~~

~~Pip blows her nose and manages a smile. They start walking together, in silence.~~

~~70. EXT. PUB - DAY~~

~~Silence. And then...~~