

Straight Superiors

Pilot - The Ninth Grade S01E01 - First 5 pages

by Alex Anico

Studio Mogura  
WGAI302391  
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Alex Anico  
Studio Mogura  
████████████████████  
Miami, FL 33130  
USA  
studiomogura@gmail.com  
████████████████████

EXT. HIALEAH STREETS- DAY

ALEX-PRIME, a charismatic 14-year old Hispanic and ALEX-SQUARE, his stocky Cuban gung-ho best friend, are riding their BMX bikes through suburban Hialeah. They are on their way to Yessy's house and Alex-Prime is about to ask her to be his girlfriend.

ALEX-SQUARE  
Are you really gonna do it?

ALEX-PRIME  
Yeah! I'm doing it!

ALEX-SQUARE  
You should be like Jim Morrison!  
Kiss her, and tell her she's the  
one!

ALEX-PRIME  
Alright, but just one thing?

ALEX-SQUARE  
What?

ALEX-PRIME  
Who's Jim Morrison?

CUT TO:

EXT. YESSY'S FRONT DOOR - DAY

Alex-Prime parks his bike, runs up to Yessy's door, and knocks on it. YESSY, a 14 year-old, curly-brown-haired, brown eyed, spunky Cuban girl, answers in a stained white T-shirt and gym shorts. Her face is covered in facial cream and her hair is wrapped turban-style in a towel. She has a toothbrush in her mouth and toothpaste stains the side of her lips.

YESSY  
Alex! What are you doing here? And  
why are you dressed like a hippie?

Prime is dressed like Jim Morrison. He sports leather pants, a long-haired wig, a flowing white shirt, and rounded sunglasses with peace sign imprints.

ALEX-PRIME  
Cause, you're the one.

Alex-Prime lowers his round peace sign glasses and stares at Yessy intensely.

(CONTINUED)

YESSY

You have an eye booger.

Alex-Prime turns away and hastily wipes his eye. He turns back to Yessy, trying to play it cool.

ALEX-PRIME

So, like I said, Yessy, you're the one.

Yessy looks behind Prime and sees Alex-Square, a stocky 15 year old Cuban, spelling out letters, Y-E-S, with his body.

YESSY

One what? What is wrong with you?  
Why does Square keep trying to spell out my name?

Alex-Prime turns around to see Alex-Square standing innocently. Prime turns back to Yessy and takes off the wing and sunglasses.

ALEX-PRIME

Look Yessenia I was just trying to... ask you... if...

Yessy leans in to better hear Alex-Prime.

ALEX-PRIME

Ugh, never mind.

Alex-Prime grabs Yessy and kisses her. Her eyes burst wide-open in shock. Alex pushes her off, leaving her in a daze, while ignoring the face cream on his chin.

Will you go out with me?

Yessy grabs Prime this time, surprising him with a kiss. When they separate Alex-Prime is left in a daze, covered in face cream, while tasting the toothpaste on his lips.

ALEX-PRIME

Spearmint?

YESSY

Yeah. How'd you know?

ALEX-PRIME

I think I use the same brand.

CUT TO:

OPENING CREDITS

INT. SCHOOL HALL- DAY

*Benny Goodman - Sing, Sing, Sing plays*

Alex-Prime skips down the hall. He passes the camera and we pan away from him focusing on other students. Prime snaps his fingers in our view and calls for our attention.

ALEX-PRIME

Hey! Over here! You saw that skip in my step? Hello? Over here! You're not looking. Geez, this guy. You see it? That skip? Right there! Not only is it cause it's my first day as an official ninth grader, but more importantly, I get to finally see her again!

Alex-Prime pulls out an old unflattering school photo of Yessy and shows it to the camera just as he turns down a hall. He peeks his head back out to us.

ALEX-PRIME

Where ya going? Homeroom is this way!

Alex-Prime continues walking down the hall.

ALEX-PRIME

My middle school experience wasn't like yours for a lot of reasons. Or maybe it was. If you had that.

Prime points next to him where there is a line of nerdy kids with their hands against the wall each receiving a major wedgie.

ALEX-PRIME

That.

Prime points to his other side and a guy body slams another kid, drops an elbow on him and a bunch of guys with bats and crowbars start beating on the kid.

ALEX-PRIME

Or the occasional that.

Prime points back to his other side and a bunch of guys are playing craps. One doesn't like the outcome and pulls out a gun and shoots the other guy as the other men cheer on.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX-PRIME

Then you probably went to my school. The great thing about Hialeah Middle was not only making it home in one piece, but also that as a 9th grader you weren't some loser freshman that seniors could pick on. You were the seniors. I was the senior. Not you. You know what I mean.

Alex-Prime walks up to a beat-up locker. He struggles to open it and once he finally does he starts rummaging through it.

ALEX-PRIME

You're probably saying, "What? Like, no way!" and I'm all like, "Yeah, totally!" See unlike your typical American middle schools of 6th through 8th grade and then high school being 9th through 12th, in Hialeah, the middle school was for 7th-9th grade, and the high school was 10th-12th.

CUT TO:

INT. COURT ROOM - DAY

A member of the school board hammers down a gavel.

ALEX-PRIME (O.C.)

Until this past year when some committee voted to move all the 9th graders to Hialeah High next year.

CUT TO:

INT. HIALEAH HIGH HALLWAY -DAY

A group of nerdy, pathetic looking freshmen walk the halls of a high school fit for Mad Max.

ALEX-PRIME (O.C.)

Some poor suckers were actually forced to attend this year as a trial run. Like lambs for the slaughter.

The freshmen huddle close as they get spit on, doused in vegetables and waste, and are lead into a classroom inside of a steel cage.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX-PRIME (O.C.)

Can you imagine the torment and anguish those losers went through when that high school got a real freshman class to pick on?

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALL- DAY

Alex-Prime is lost in thought for a moment and then returns his attention to us.

ALEX-PRIME

You better believe I'm gonna make the most of this year. What the heck am I doing? We didn't have lockers.

CUT TO:

INT. MS. CONTRERAS CLASS - DAY

Alex-Prime walks into Ms. Contreras' classroom and sits at a desk-chair as he continues speaking to the camera.

ALEX-PRIME

I know the last time I saw her was at the beginning of summer break and she was in Bermuda or the Bahamas the whole time, but how much could she have changed?! What's the worse that could've happen, she gets a darker tan? It's not like we didn't talk on the cell phone every day cause there were no cell phones back then!

Alex Prime pulls out a modern-day smart phone and tosses it behind him.

ALEX-PRIME

Cell phones look more like this. Crazy, right?

Prime pulls out an old cell phone that looks like you can call in an air strike. He throws it behind him.

ALEX-PRIME

Anyway the real lame thing about this year is, I don't have one class with her, not even lunch.