

Pachucos

By

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Synopsis:

Following the death of a Mexican-American teen and the bombing of Pearl Harbor, tension rises for Carlos "Cheerio" Leon, a teenage "Pachuco," in East L.A., who is confronted by rambunctious soldiers that want to "protect America," racist police officers, and bias media that is determined to make Mexicans out to be hoodlums because they dress in Zoot Suits

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ACT 1 OUTLINE

In Act 1:

CHEERIO is introduced as a 17 year old Mexican in L.A. who lives with his 12 year old brother NACHO and his ABUELA (grandma).

CHEERIO goes to a track meet where a fellow student, a Mexican Pachuco gets shot and killed.

Racist cops try to break up a craps game, but can't because they are outnumbered by Pachucos, and the police force in L.A. is short handed due to the WWII draft.

MAX, a reporter, was able to take pictures of the craps game incident because he was at a donut shop across the street.

1	ACT 2: PRESS AND INTRODUCTION OF BOBBY THE SAILOR MAN	1
2	INT. NEWSPAPER OFFICE BUILDING. DAY	2

NEWSPAPERS can be seen hanging on the wall in frames. MAX is sitting at a DESK across from his BOSS.

MAX

I tell you they were outnumbered
5-1.

NEWSPAPER BOSS

This is a big problem. L.A.P.D. is short on cops, and the ones we have are hardly the creme of the crop.

MAX

Yeah, since the attack on Pearl Harbor. Many cops enlisted.

NEWSPAPER BOSS

I get it. We need to protect our country. Uncle Sam needs all the help it can get. But what about domestic affairs? Who is going to protect us here? Who will protect us from the filth on our streets?

BOSS looks at the developed PICTURES that MAX took of the incident at the craps game.

NEWSPAPER BOSS

These are good shots Maxy boy. Write it up, it will be in tomorrows paper.

(CONTINUED)

MAX

I already have the headline:
*L.A.P.D. incapable of keeping order
on the streets - Pachucos and draft
to blame*

NEWSPAPER BOSS

Take out the part about the draft
and you are ready to go.

3

EXT. IN FRONT OF A HOUSE IN DALTON, GA. - DAY

3

Bobby's PARENTS are outside the HOUSE. Bobby's MOM is
working in the GARDEN and his FATHER is washing an OLDER
CAR.

BOBBY gets out of an old truck. BOBBY closes the door of the
truck and waves towards the DRIVER.

BOBBY

Thanks for the lift!

Bobby's PARENTS come to greet him at the bottom of the
DRIVEWAY.

MOM

How was boot camp dear?

BOBBY

Well, you know ma. A lot of running
and push-ups.

MOM

We missed you. Are you hungry? How
about a kudzu jelly sandwich?

BOBBY

My favorite! Sounds good ma.

MOM walks into the HOUSE.

FATHER

How long until you have to go back?

BOBBY

I leave the day after tomorrow.

FATHER

Well, make sure that you are rested
up. Your gonna need your head on
straight.

(CONTINUED)

BOBBY

Yes sir.

MOM calls out from the KITCHEN WINDOW

MOM

Your sandwich is ready dear.

BOBBY goes into the house, and sits at the KITCHEN TABLE. He pets a DOG.

BOBBY

That's a good boy Buster. I missed you ol' pal.

He begins eating the SANDWICH and can see his FATHER wiping down the CAR outside of the window. He has a flashback of when he was a kid.

4

EXT. GAS STATION IN GA. DAY 1932 (BLACK AND WHITE)

4

Eight year old BOBBY and his FATHER get out of the car. It is a hot day, and you can see them sweating. FATHER wipes the sweat off of his forehead with a HANDKERCHIEF. They walk inside the GAS STATION and see an AFRICAN AMERICAN TEENAGER at the counter trying to purchase a BOTTLE of COKE.

CLERK

I said get out boy, we don't serve your kind here.

TEENAGER

But sir, it's hot outside and I have the money to pay.

CLERK

I don't care if you had \$5 and we were on the surface of the sun. I don't serve negros.

TEEN leaves the service station. FATHER brings up TWO BOTTLES of COKE.

FATHER

I'll just take these two cokes and a fill up.

FATHER pays and they leave the station

CUT TO

CAR driving down the street. BOBBY and FATHER inside. It approaches the TEEN walking along the road. FATHER pulls up to him and hands him his COKE. CAR drives off.

(CONTINUED)

BOBBY

Pa, why did you give that nigger
your pop?

FATHER pulls the CAR over to the side of the road.

FATHER

Don't ever let me hear you call
them niggers, you hear me? They are
people just like us and you should
treat them that way. That boy
didn't do anything to deserve to be
treated that way. Imagine if you
were the one hot and thirsty.

5 EXT. BUS STATION IN DALTON, GA. DAY

5

BOBBY and his PARENTS are standing in front of a BUS where
people are boarding. They give him a hug, and his MOM kisses
him on the cheek.

FATHER

Bye son, be careful.

MOM

Make sure you write so that we know
that you are ok.

BOBBY

I will. Take care of Buster for me.

BOBBY gets onto the GREYHOUND.

6 INT. GREYHOUND BUS AT SAN DIEGO STATION. DAY

6

BUS is seen arriving to San Diego station. Two young SAILORS
get on the bus and take a seat directly across the aisle from
BOBBY, who has an empty window seat next to him. A FILIPINO
MAN is sitting in front of where the SAILORS sit, his SEAT
is in the upright position. SAILOR 1 points to seat in front
of him where FILIPINO MAN is sitting

SAILOR 1

Man, this seat is back too far.
Besides, I ain't gonna sit behind
no Jap!

Are you a Jap man? Or maybe one of
those slimy Mexicans?

FILIPINO MAN turns and answers in a strong filipino accent.

(CONTINUED)

FILIPINO MAN
I am Filipino

SAILOR 1
You hear that Joe? He's a
Pil-a-pino! Well you gotta go sit
somewhere else boy!

SAILOR 2 begins to laugh. BOBBY is clearly annoyed and fed
up. BOBBY looks at the FILIPINO

BOBBY
You can sit here, have my widow
seat.

The FILIPINO MAN nods and moves to that seat quietly. BOBBY
then looks at SAILOR 1 who is on the ISLE SEAT across from
him.

BOBBY
And if I hear another goddam
complaint out of you two I will
throw your asses off this bus
myself!

SAILOR 1 begins to stand, but BOBBY stands up much quicker
and looks down on him. SOLDIER 1 sits back down and begins
to grin

SAILOR 1
Cool your jets amigo. We're on the
same team. I just needed my leg
room

BOBBY sits back down and looks forward.

END OF ACT 2