

# CADDY RING

## SUMMARY & STORY BIBLE

BY MATT TUTHILL

631-834-5960

[mctuthill47@gmail.com](mailto:mctuthill47@gmail.com)

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## SUMMARY & STORY BIBLE

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### INTRODUCTION

- 3 Logline, Summary, & Setting
- 4 Why Audiences Will Care, Main Themes
- 6 Series Engine, Pilot Script
- 7 Cast of Characters

#### SEASON ONE STORY BIBLE

- 10 Episode 101
- 11 Episode 102
- 12 Episode 103
- 13 Episode 104
- 15 Episode 105
- 16 Episode 106
- 17 Episode 107
- 18 Episode 108,  
Episode 109



Reading on a phone? Or just hate this magazine layout and think it's too fucking cute for its own good? No sweat. Click [HERE](#) to get a plain text version of this story bible.

- 20 Episode 110

#### FUTURE SEASONS

- 22 Season Two
- 23 Series Arc: Seasons Three-Five
- 24 Why Now?
- 25 Glossary of Caddy Terms
- 27-28 Final Thoughts: Notes on Music;  
Who is Matt Tuthill?

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## LOGLINE

When a teenage boy lands a job at a prestigious golf course to save money for college, he finds himself at the center of a brutal hazing ritual.

## SUMMARY

*Caddy Ring* is a 30-minute dramedy that centers on the darkly comedic underbelly of one of the world's most exclusive golf clubs. Through the eyes of a rookie hire, Kit Alderson, we get a crash course in both the sport of golf and the life of caddies. We quickly learn that the “caddy corps”—as the former Marine caddy master is fond of calling his employees—with its eclectic assortment of gamblers, burnouts, thugs, pretty boys, blue collar grunts, and aspiring professionals—are vastly more interesting than the rich and famous members and guests.

*Caddy Ring* introduces viewers to real caddy hazing rituals—the titular boxing matches and other dangerous scenarios—while deftly casting a critical eye on the social issues that are inextricable from the sport of golf: namely systemic racism and misogyny. Through all the fighting, gambling, and yes, golfing, we see the extremes that a young person with nothing to lose will go through to make a living, and ultimately, belong.

Audiences get a peek behind the curtain not just at the life of caddies, but the unique caddy-player relationship which has never been

properly understood by most; the caddy is not merely there as an on-course assistant, but, in the best-case scenario, is a proper partner and sport psychologist who can make the difference between winning and losing a big tournament.

The contrast between how caddies publicly face and interact with an ultra-wealthy membership (showing up properly dressed, behaving deferential, etc) versus how they act in private (abusing drugs and alcohol, gambling away all their earnings, and brawling with one another for entertainment and money) provides a beautiful dichotomy.

Finally, we're telling a story about a very specific kind of man: from the head pro to the caddy master

to the entire caddy corps, these are locals who, through their machismo and uncommon exploits, are now proper kings of their hometowns. To use the derogatory term, you might call them townies, and they have never appeared on TV as anything other than comic relief or a punchline. But they're real people. Their story is hilarious at times. It can also be heartbreaking. In properly telling that story, *Caddy Ring* becomes about so much more than golf. It is a love letter to anyone who knew from the jump that the only thing they ever wanted was right there in their own hometown. That fact does not make these men losers.

It makes them blessed.



# THIS IS CADDY RING

## SETTING

Our story is set on one of the world's Top 10 golf courses in the Hamptons, here named The Patriot. The membership is mostly stuffy old-money blue bloods—as white and as male as can be, a glaring fact that will become a crucial plot point. The caddies, meanwhile, exist in a world of their own and they set the rules of that world. And because there are no women or responsible adults in the caddy yard, a modern-day version of *Lord of the Flies* plays out on a daily basis, with caddies adhering to a primitive hierarchy and indulging their basest impulses. But the forces of progress are about to visit this land that time forgot, and as characters in the caddy yard and in the clubhouse struggle with this change, it creates a virtually inexhaustible conflict machine that is present in every scene and every line of dialogue.

## WHY AUDIENCES WILL CARE

The main character, Kit, lost his father a short time before the series began. He's caddying, ostensibly, to save money for college, but it quickly becomes apparent that he's trying to run away from his home

because the memories are too much to bear. Everyone has sought escape for different reasons—perhaps for reasons they themselves couldn't put their fingers on at the time. So the underlying stakes are much bigger than money or college; it becomes a question of whether this

line with who they are to fit in will be able to invest in Kit.

For the Miller brothers, the other caddies, and the members, the show will follow them through an existential crisis. The hierarchy of the course and caddy yard have been undisturbed since its found-

ing. When that certainty morphs into doubt, most will struggle, but all will do so in their own unique and always entertaining way. I view this series as a true ensemble effort; right from the pilot we're working from multiple points of view. Each character's back story and motivations are important and create conflicting interests and multiple perspectives that audiences can "root" for.

*It is a love letter to anyone who knew from the jump that the only thing they ever wanted was right there in their own hometown. This fact does not make these men losers. It makes them blessed.*

## MAIN THEMES

### PRIVILEGE/ DIVERSITY

Coming of age might be front and center as we learn about Kit and what he's trying to accomplish,

but questions of privilege and diversity also figure prominently; this is a show that takes place on a Top 10 course, a quintessential symbol of white privilege where only the wealthiest, most well-connected people would ever be asked to come play. Women members, meanwhile, do not carry full membership sta-

kid will be able to get on with his life or not. As he faces danger and immense pressure to live up to the arbitrary and barbaric standards of manhood expected of him in the caddy yard, there's a looming question of whether he'll be able to maintain his morality. Anyone who has ever struggled with the dilemma of doing something that isn't in

# THIS IS CADDY RING

tus; they must use a side entrance to the clubhouse and cannot eat in the main dining room. Instead, they eat in a screened-in porch called “The Bird Cage”. These were real rules that governed the course where I worked as a young man. The membership roster of that course boasted a single black man; to earn the distinction, he needed to be one of the most powerful men in business—Ken Chenault, CEO of American Express at the time. Being so shockingly retrograde is possible for places like this because they’re so cloistered they’re able to completely avoid public scrutiny. But to our golf course, the public scrutiny is coming, and so is change. It will be painful. Also hilarious.

The show will approach racism and misogyny in a way that always serves the story. Handling this kind of material is akin to walking a tightrope, but if you’re writing about golf, it’s necessary because these issues are baked into the sport’s DNA. The pilot episode gives you a good idea of how to walk this tightrope; in general, the characters—like real human beings—are mostly worried about themselves and don’t pontificate out of nowhere. In utilizing a restrained approach, left-leaning viewers won’t feel coddled by what they are seeing and right-leaning viewers won’t feel condescended to or preached at. The realities of life on a golf course are simply presented as they are today. This also isn’t a “heightened”

comedic world where characters behave strangely and spout aloof dialogue to feed a joke machine. I happen to love a few shows like that, but that’s not what this is.

## MALE VIOLENCE

The violent/dangerous hazing ritual has a long history in all-male environments from sports teams to Wall Street to golf courses. If our increasingly litigious society didn’t root them out yet, then they’re likely to persist for the foreseeable future. Besides basic questions of equality and inclusion, *Caddy Ring* makes us consider the high toll that any all-male space can exact on men and boys.

## COMING OF AGE/ BELONGING

The main story of Kit Alderson and his struggle to find meaning and belonging doesn’t end in the expected way where he gets what he intended to get from the experience and moves on; the experience fundamentally changes him and makes him realize that wanting to “outgrow” his hometown and the people in it was perhaps more than a bit pretentious. We all find a sense of home and belonging in unexpected places. Kit’s ultimate realization that he actually wants to stay here—perhaps for the rest of his life—is one of the



# THIS IS CADDY RING



most satisfying discoveries I made while writing it and I believe audiences will delight in that epiphany, as well.

## SERIES ENGINE

The conflict inherent to Kit not belonging at the course and being met with open hostility, as well as the conflict inherent to the seismic shift taking place at the course, will show every character fighting for self-preservation. Season One will see Sue ultimately fail in her attempt to bring a PGA event to the course (though she'll succeed at a later point in the series). Through it all, new caddies will rotate in and out as the caddy yard is forced to comply with the new diversity push. Since the club house and caddy yard are both allergic to change, every disruption brings opportunities for drama and comedy.

## PILOT SCRIPT

Haven't read it yet? Huh. Kinda weird you'd wind up with this document first, but it's all good. Just click [HERE](#) to download the pilot.

CADDY RING

"PILOT"

Written by

MATT TUTHILL

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*Who's who in paradise...*

### KIT ALDERSON

A 16-year-old boy with dreams of getting the hell out of his hometown—mostly because he has no idea what else to do after the death of his father—he finds himself way in over his head at a place that doesn't need or want him, The Patriot Golf Links, a prestigious golf course in the Hamptons. He is made to feel terribly unwelcome, but the promise of a pot of gold—and the freedom that comes with it—is too much to resist, so he sticks it out. Bereft of a strong male role model, his job at the course is about to introduce him to dozens of strong-willed men who have exerted control over their own destinies. These men lead lives that will be appealing to Kit, though it's hard to imagine how any of these characters could have a positive effect on him.

Over the course of the series, we see him evolve from being another mouth to feed in the caddy yard to holding his own, becoming a good player who can contribute to the annual caddy tournament against rival courses, to ultimately realizing that all he ever wanted was a place where he belonged. We also learn through a series of flashbacks that, like his sister, he had enormous academic potential, but refused to apply himself. More than just a lazy

student, he is drawn, inexorably, to the dark and dangerous just like his father was. When we eventually discover this connection—and that it was this pull of the dark and danger that cost Kit's father his life—his choices will all make perfect sense.

Through Kit, the audience will fully understand why so many caddies wind up spending their whole lives on the course. Alongside Kit, we realize that maybe it's the "normal" people with their 9-5 work days and dull offices who are the crazy ones. Kit saw this place as a means to an end, but it transformed him too much, and provided the perfect outlet for his dark side.

**Famously, Vince Gilligan's one-line pitch for *Breaking Bad* was, "I want to take Mr. Chips and turn him into Scarface." *Caddy Ring* will take a kid who should have grown up to be a high-powered attorney or banker and turn him into a townie. And boy oh boy are we going to have a lot of fun along the way.**

### SKYLAR ALDERSON

Kit's little sister is more outspoken and comfortable in her own skin than her older brother. She's such a gifted student she knows the world will have no choice but to open itself up to her. She didn't want to work on a golf course, but dammit, the money is really good and when she's asked to come down she can't help but say yes. It isn't "much to the chagrin" of her older brother; it's devastating. Her ability to learn quickly only exacerbates the rift between them.

### SUE HARDING

A serious golfer and person, Sue got a seat on the board of directors thanks to a promise from her late husband. She intends to make the most of her historic appointment, bringing a televised PGA event to the course and cementing her legacy as a trailblazer for women and minorities. A former journalist, she has strong connections to national media; the ability to muster the press to her aid ensures that the board members of the Patriot give her a wide berth as no one wants to draw undue attention to the club. Though her reasons are at least partly cynical, the change she's bringing is necessary, if painful for all involved. She knows exactly what she wants and often creates chaos in her bid to get it. Speaking of which, she'd really like to have her way with the caddy master or the pro and isn't shy about her intentions.

### MIKE MILLER

The head pro is a big bad alpha with a surprisingly big heart and is responsible for giving Kit his opportunity at the course. But big-hearted characters don't tend to navigate politically tricky waters too well. The decision-makers in the clubhouse will soon realize that it's impossible to diversify a 500-man membership roster overnight, but relatively easy to fire Mike and create the appearance of bigger change. After being fired at the end of Season One, he recommits himself to the game and his last shot at making the PGA tour.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## BILLY MILLER

Mike's brother is the caddy master and as close to an untouchable presence at The Patriot as one could be. A former Marine with a dry wit and breathtakingly decisive management style, he can be a tough read, and you can be sure he's a step ahead of whatever anyone is planning to undermine or take advantage of him. He might be old school and gruff, but ironically he isn't caught flat-footed by the big changes in the air. He doesn't agonize over decisions; he's all action all the time.

## SPIRIT

An apparent burn-out who lives in the woods next to the course, he's in touch with the universe and himself. He sleeps in a handmade shelter, bathes in the ocean, and doesn't wear clothes if he can help it. He'll take some pity on Kit and explain some of this strange new world to him. But his unique lifestyle will soon come under scrutiny and he'll be forced out of his woodland paradise to live in a house overstuffed with young Irish caddies working the course on holiday.

## TREVOR

A Hamptons native and Kit's arch nemesis, he'll take every

opportunity to make life difficult for Kit and try to force him to quit. He's a rookie caddy, but he's a player with a good working knowledge of the game and its etiquette, putting him light years ahead of Kit. Though we don't

*The show approaches racism and misogyny in a way that always serves the story. If you're writing about golf, it's a pre-requisite to address these issues because they are baked into the sport's DNA.*

know it when we meet him, he's the nephew of Billy and Mike Miller, giving new weight to Kit's early altercations with him.

## WILL THOMAS

The resident bully of the Patriot Golf Links, he'll get bored if he doesn't have an opportunity to instigate trouble or torture a rookie. He thrives on chaos in the yard and doesn't seem to mind that

most of his co-workers want to kill him. On the flip side, he's one of the membership's favorite caddies with a sterling performance record—a fact which further fuels his incredible arrogance. The chink in his armor? This tough guy still lives with mommy, and if the wrong person brings it up—ie, anyone besides his best friend Darryl—stand clear for the fireworks.

## DARRYL

The “golden boy” is young, handsome, and a hell of a player. When we meet him, he's the standard to which Kit will aspire. That will change as Kit realizes that Darryl is unscrupulous to his core, employing “whats and evers”—a tip pooling practice—with unsuspecting rookies. Pooling tips, of course, only works if everyone's being honest, and Darryl ain't that.

## RONNIE

An old drunk who lives in an RV in the caddy parking lot, he's abnormally crude, even by caddy standards. If not for his long history at the club, he'd never get a job under these new circumstances. By the end of Season One, his character—which to this point has mostly provided

# THIS IS CADDY RING

raunchy comic relief—will receive added depth with the revelation that he's also a racist who has no issue casually using the n-word. When Kit beats his ass for this, it sets a new course for Ronnie for the rest of the series. He'll probably never quite achieve full redemption in the eyes of the viewer, but his effort will be meaningful.

## MAC

A Scotsman who's been around the world and caddied at every great course, Mac is one of the finest players to ever set foot in the yard. He seems to be charming and charismatic, but his ego prevents him from ever showing deference when he needs to. Whenever he appears to finally be getting ahead, a misstep puts him back in the caddy master's doghouse. While riding the bench, he'll become a de facto mentor to Kit and Skylar. In later seasons, a pro will take a shine to him and bring him out on tour, which changes Mac's life forever.

## PAPPY

A 50-something American southerner, Pappy's nickname is derived from the famous bourbon, some of the finest hooch that money can buy. It's an apt moniker; Pappy claims his unmatched caddy skills make him the highest-grossing man in the yard. He's also an alcoholic and casual pot smoker who has no qualms with occasionally dabbling in harder drugs. His habits have put him in trouble with the

law throughout his life. He lost his driver's license ages ago and rides his bike through the course's fancy wrought-iron gates. When Sue Harding brings USGA scrutiny to the course, he is an obvious liability.

## EDMONDS

At 80 years old, he's the only black face in the yard at the start of the series. Prone to involuntary old-man naps even while he's out on a loop, he's surprisingly ambivalent about the effort to diversify. He's mostly just worried about paying his rent. When Sue Harding attempts to use him as a media prop to show the course's progressive bent, his brutal honesty with a reporter from the New York Times will make it backfire spectacularly.

## MELVIN

A black kid from Southampton High School, he arrives in the middle of Season One with the other "diversity hires" that Sue requested, but he's the only one who sticks it out. He slowly, and crucially, forms a friendship with Kit. They may have little in common, but the common ground they do share—being outcasts—is strong enough to keep them together. More active and outspoken than Edmonds when it comes to calling out instances of inequality, he's not as earnest and obvious about what he's after as he would appear to be at first. In short, he's got tricks up his sleeve, and is extremely careful about how and when to deploy them.

## PARKER MALLOY

The president of the Patriot at first seems overmatched by Sue Harding, but he proves his mettle by the end of Season One. This guy isn't going to take any major change lying down. Publicly, the membership might vocally support Sue's efforts, but they're all rooting for this guy to kneecap her. At the same time, Parker might have a contact list that includes ex-presidents and royalty, but if he doesn't deliver to protect the course from unwanted change, his days as president could be numbered.

## HARRY McINTYRE

The former MLB player shows up in Season Two. Curiously, he is not sensitive at all about losing all his money to his ex-wife and being forced to take a job as a caddy and tool around in a beat up Hyundai Sonata. That's just a minor detail to him. Win some, lose some. This man's life is all process, meaning he affords the craft of caddying the same amount of care and attention he'd give to breaking down the release points of opposing pitchers. He's pushing 50, but he's still an athlete through and through. And even though he's not rich and famous anymore, he inspires jealousy all around: whether by being a shredded Adonis who can eat a half dozen donuts by himself for breakfast, barely needing practice to make the McGregor cup, or taking home the hottest girl in the bar every time the caddies hit the town.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

# STORY BIBLE

Episode breakdowns through Season One.

The boy is aghast -- and entirely out of his element.

KIT  
I, I knew it would be nice, but...  
Oh my God.



*The following episode summaries contain the major dramatic moments on which the action will hinge. Lest it all seem too serious, know that final scripts will contain the comedic connective tissue that makes all this work, endearing us to even the most abrasive characters. Refer to the pilot script for perfect examples of this: the caddy banter while waiting to go out (the scene between Spirit, Darryl, and Will) and the encounters with random guests on the course (the sequence with Mac and Pappy). We are ultimately endeared to these characters through humor, and this is the kind of material that will hold all the following plot points together.*

## EPISODE 101: PILOT

After landing a job at one of the world's most prestigious golf courses on the east end of Long Island, 16-year-old Kit Alderson learns that getting in the door is only the beginning of his battle. He'll have to physically tangle with other caddies as well as his own impulse to quit if he wants a shot at the big bucks—which he needs if he's ever going to go away to college.

College, of course, isn't the end goal. A brilliant but lazy student who doesn't apply himself, Kit is running from the trauma of losing his dad too soon. We don't spell this out immediately. Rather, it ekes out

# THIS IS CADDY RING

in small doses. But when we meet Kit, one major issue is apparent: He's sullen and not just in a typical teenage passing phase sense. Without his dad, it's just him and his mother Sam and younger sister Skylar, who never misses an opportunity to needle her big brother. Adrift without a strong male model, he's about to get a bunch of them.

First up is Mike Miller, the pro at the Patriot Golf Links who fondly remembers Kit's dad and wants to help out by getting the kid a job and driving him to and from work.

Breaking with Kit's POV, we first meet the caddies as they cheer on a caddy ring—a boxing match where the combatants aren't allowed to hit in the groin or face. Here we learn how nasty these matches can get and the repercussions for winners and losers.

In the woods outside the course, we meet Spirit, a hippie-ish burnout who lives in a lean-to, a crude stick shelter. He bathes in the ocean, cooks over a fire, then dresses and walks to work, as well put-together as anyone. Bursting with folksy wisdom, he gives Kit some crucial advice.

We see what caddies actually do on the course through Mac, a charismatic Scotsman who gets too cavalier with the membership, and Pappy, an American Southerner whose crude turns of phrase arrive on cue to make us laugh when things are in danger of getting too serious.

On the practice tee we meet Sue Harding, the first female board

member of The Patriot, who eyes a progressive agenda for the club, though not for any altruistic reasons. She wants to host a PGA tournament, for which she'll need the backing of the USGA, which in turn will require major changes for The Patriot—starting with some added diversity. She makes this edict known to Billy Miller, brother to Mike and caddy master. At the end of their exchange, she tells him, "Please don't hire any more white guys," creating something of a problem as Mike just hired one—Kit—without telling Billy.

Finally, Kit tries to make friends with the wrong kids and is forced to fight in his first caddy ring. He appears to win, but is disqualified for striking the other caddy, Trevor, in the throat. Trevor and his friends take their revenge by stomping Kit's lunch into the dirt and hosing down his book—which bore an inscription from his late father. The pilot ends with Mike convincing Kit to hang on and keep trying—but in the same breath offers Skylar a job, which devastates Kit.

## EPISODE 102: DOG DAYS

We pick up a few days after the end of our pilot. The Alderson household wolfs down breakfast in silence. Close on Kit's angry eyes. Skylar glares back. A cautious Sam tries to break the tension but only escalates a fight. A car horn blares. It's Mike Miller waiting outside. Then we see Kit and Skylar get up, both dressed in the caddy uniform. So that's what all the fuss was

about. At the club, the bullies don't pick on Skylar, rather, they use her as a cudgel against Kit, concocting a running joke that she's ten times the caddy her brother is, though neither has seen the course yet. She likes the positive attention at first. Serves her mean old brother right, after all.

Sue Harding takes her proposal to the board and makes her desires clear: she wants a tournament, which means new minority membership. She's met with casual dismissiveness, particularly from Parker Malloy, the stuffy patriarchal president of the Patriot. Nevertheless, she stands her ground, informing them the caddy yard is already diversifying, and that the head of the USGA is coming in just over a week. The board is enraged that she'd make back channel arrangements without their knowledge. Malloy issues a dire warning to her, but she calls his bluff. He knows she comes from the media world and can create a lot of headaches if he outright shuts this down. She's safe—for now.

Freshly stuck in Billy's doghouse and doomed to ride the bench for several days, Mac decides to bring Kit and Skylar to the range and show them how to swing a club. Unfortunately for Kit, Skylar looks like a natural and he, most obviously, is not.

That afternoon, Skylar lands her first loop; Sue is delighted to see a girl in the yard, nods to Billy, and immediately requests the girl. There's a lot of business and the yard almost empties out. When the

# THIS IS CADDY RING

loops are all gone, there are only two caddies left, Mac and Kit. Kit is confounded that Mac isn't working. So they chat:

KIT  
I don't get it. If you're not an official employee and you don't have to be here, why not just sit out this... doghouse... suspension thing at home? Or on the beach?

MAC  
The beach isn't a punishment, lad. I can leave, yeah, but this bench would be waiting when I got back.

KIT  
So when is it over?

MAC  
Whenever the man decides.

We see Skylar on the course. She's adept at doing course math—averaging out inclines, wind, pin position, and golfer strength—and seems to select the perfect club every time. Sue loves Skylar, and tells her she'll be her regular caddy for all rounds going forward.

The running jokes continue. Trevor and Will Thomas, the resident bully, return from a loop and immediately begin clowning on poor Kit for not looping yet while little sister is already out making a name for herself. Feeling he can't get into a second fight so soon into his tenure, Kit absorbs the barbs without a word. When the yard empties out for a final time, he takes his frustrations back to the range. The episode ends with Kit striking balls in solitude, the sun setting over the majestic landscape.

## EPISODE 103: CHOP CHOP

We open on another perfect day in paradise...

Kit finally gets to see the course. The experience is beyond disastrous; Billy pairs Kit with a true "chopper" or terrible golfer who can't get around the course—hence this episode's title. Moreover, Kit's

caddy partner is Edmonds. Though Edmonds enjoys broad support from the membership—and despite being afforded a cart to haul his bags around the course—his age shows badly and he makes obvious mistakes. Kit can't identify the mistakes because he's too green, and Edmonds, who didn't even know the kid existed previously, now hates him, too. Turns out the other caddies in the yard had been protecting Edmonds from himself for years.

While Kit is out on the course, we see Pro and Billy doing something unusual: They tee up a ball just a few steps outside the pro shop, pull out a driver and let it rip toward the giant clubhouse flagpole, which sits about 200 yards away. When Skylar asks what they're doing, Spirit explains: Closest to the pole gets 100 bucks from the other guy. If you hit the pole, you win 1,000. These guys have been doing this for 20 years. Despite occasional winning streaks by both men over the years, pro is only up \$200 on his brother. As this is explained, we see Billy win. Make that a \$100 deficit. This is intended as a metaphor for the unchanging nature of life at the Patriot—steady as she goes. As the course is disrupted by the USGA attention and Sue's diversity efforts this seemingly harmless little game will also be thrown out of whack. Brotherly chiding will turn into a situation fraught with real tension.

Kit gets back from his loop, sweaty and disheveled, from both physical effort and a harrowing emotional ordeal. Edmonds is livid, and is still letting him hear it all the way back to the yard, haranguing the kid with all manner of antiquated insults that put the yard into fits of laughter. Trevor seizes on this and rips into Kit again.

Kit though, isn't taking it lying down today. Blinded with anger and embarrassment, he turns on Trevor and says, "Guess you want another ring." Cue the mad scramble to assemble a ring and place yer bets. Kit fights admirably, but his anger can carry him only so far. He keeps cocking back for maximum power on his haymaker and you don't need to be a trained boxer to take advantage of that. Trevor socks him square in the gut, doubling Kit over and knocking the wind out of him. For once, a clean win. Cheers from

# THIS IS CADDY RING

the crowd. Cash changes hands. Trevor takes his cut. Skylar is disgusted with her brother's choice, but also takes pity on him. Later, as she and Kit walk to Sam's car for pickup at the end of the day, they talk.

EXT. CADDY PARKING LOT - DUSK

KIT rubs his stomach and groans as they walk.

KIT  
Please don't tell.

SKYLAR  
You know, you've been nothing but a shit to me since I started here. Most of our lives, but especially since I started here.

KIT  
Please. You know how she is. She won't let me come back.

SKYLAR  
You're a fuckin' asshole, dude. If I wanted to help you I would tell her. This place doesn't exactly seem good for you.

SKYLAR stops walking. KIT stops, too, fear and desperation in his eyes.

SKYLAR  
You're so god damned angry all the time and if you keep going like this, it'll get you in worse trouble than a punch in the gut or losing this job.

(beat)  
You know me and mom lost dad, too. Difference is we're trying. I know it's hard... but do you think you can try?

KIT nods. They keep walking.

## EPISODE 104: PLAY THE GAME

The "brown faces" Sue Harding asked for in the pilot have arrived – three black athletes from Southampton high school. The yard is on their best behavior, seeming to offer them a warm welcome and coaching them up on how to carry bags, showing them the yardage book, etc.

Sue drives by in a caravan of golf carts with important-looking men: USGA bigwigs. She stops and indicates the caddy yard. "You've said the face of golf is changing," she says. "As you can see, our caddies reflect that change. We have more work to do, of course, but I daresay we are a far cry more progressive than other upper-echelon clubs." The USGA big-wigs nod in

approval. The black caddies, though far out of earshot, seem to have discerned her purpose. One of them, Melvin, 17, speaks up.

MELVIN  
I couldn't hear a word of that, but it looked a lot like 'See how well-behaved our colored boys are'?

The CADDIES laugh.

WILL  
Pretty much.

MELVIN  
(beat)  
The fuck?

WILL  
Well, let's look at the facts: You don't play, you've never looped, and we've got fifty far more experienced guys here. Did you think you were... needed? I mean, for non-PR reasons?

MELVIN is dumbstruck.

Out on the course, the USGA big-wigs are amazed by the panoramic vistas as well as the A caddies guiding them around the place – Darryl and Pappy, who are as entertaining as they are informative. Sue seems to be pressing all the right buttons.

Back in the yard, the black caddies have been sitting all day. They are—as everyone is on their first day—out of their minds with boredom and ready to quit. Murmurs of, "Man, fuck this place," and, "Bunch of racist assholes," can be heard. Edmonds, who can't hear a damn thing, hears that.

EDMONDS  
Enough of that, wide body. You window dressing? Maybe. But you got a job. Ride the pine a bit and you'll get out and make more money than any of your friends do in a week. Racists. Heh. Go find the perfect place that ain't got any, then come get me when you do.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

Later that afternoon, as loops dwindle and caddies begin to leave, Kit starts to pack his things. Mac tells him to hold up; he shouldn't go home, but stay to play a proper round. It's the only way he's going to figure out how to really help people out there. Kit ascends. He grabs a loaner bag of clubs from the back of the shop and sees Melvin gearing up to leave. Kit asks Melvin to join him, but Melvin explains he's never played before. "Me neither," says Kit. "Only one

way to learn, right?" Melvin shrugs, joins him.

Melvin dribbles one off the first tee. Kit tells him to sit higher to the ball and swing easier. Melvin does so. It's not terrific contact, but he didn't spray it through a clubhouse window. Kit's tee shot is slightly better. From the podium area, we see that Billy notices this.

A NOTE ON THEME: The title of this episode—Play The Game—isn't just a reference to Kit commit-

ting to learn the game of golf, but a thematic embodiment of Edmonds' philosophy that one must go along to get along. It isn't heroic, but it's inspiring in its own way; he is not, after all, some pushover who lets anyone give him shit for any reason. Rather, he has always had his eyes on a bigger prize. It remains to be seen if the new young guns, freshly armed with the unpleasant knowledge that they are diversity hires, will see the wisdom of this approach or deem it outmoded.



# THIS IS CADDY RING

## EPISODE 105: COLLISION COURSE

The annual member-guest tournament has arrived, and with nine flights plus a ladies' bracket, every caddy—even rookies like Kit, Skylar, Melvin and the other diversity hires—will be working twice a day. In the opening sequence of this episode, the full beauty, promise, and excitement of the Patriot is on full display. As we whip around from hole to hole with every caddy in action, it dawns on the viewer that this really is an amazing pursuit: great money and great exercise that requires the full use of the mind and body. Not to mention all the interesting people you cross paths with, plus free playing rights. If they could stay this busy all the time, then they'd never beat the shit out of each other. Right?

If only. As the tournament wears on, Kit's member-guest pairing is on a collision course with Trevor's for the top spot in the eighth flight. They meet on the afternoon of the final day of the three-day tournament; the caddies are predictably chilly to one another, but there's no outright hostility the players can pick up on. That is until the 15th hole. With the match all square, Trevor and Kit stand on the top of the hill to forecad-die—that is, watch the tee shots pass over a blind hill and see where they land to avoid any lost balls.

Kit's players split the fairway, one on the left, one on edge of the fairway to the right. As he's been trained, Kit takes his bag to the short ball on the left. But Trevor, who's man is in the tall grass on the right, waits for Kit to turn his back, then switches balls, putting his man into the fairway and plunking Kit's man into the rough. He then steps on Kit's ball for good measure. When Kit brings his bags over to what he thinks is his man's ball in the fairway, Trevor speaks up: "You're on the wrong ball. Yours is in the weeds."

Kit is incredulous: "No way. Not true. I watched it."

"Not close enough," says Trevor, then apologizes to all the players in a convincingly diplomatic way: "He's new, you see, and didn't watch the ball the whole way. Lots of balls that roll to the right will keep rolling if you watch the whole time; I know that because I've been playing here since I was eight... All apologies, you'll have to excuse him." The players accept this over Kit's objections. Kit, after all, is angry and not half as

smooth as his nemesis.

This little sleight of hand gives Trevor's man the edge in the tournament, and his member-guest pair wins. Coming off the 18th green and the round of handshakes, Kit is pissed. He lets Trevor hear it the whole walk back to the pro shop, and this time it boils over before a ring can be set. Kit attacks, and the brawl happens right there in front of assorted members, guests, Sue, and President Malloy. Billy grabs Kit by the collar and throws him, ripping half the kid's shirt off in the process. Trevor charges to attack and Billy knocks him down an arm bar to the chest. He then grabs each kid by the ear and drags them behind the shop. It's all so damned effortless and effective. Billy then lays into both of them.

BILLY  
Enjoy putting on that show? That was the president you fucking gorillas just performed for. Un-fuckin-bel--

KIT  
He cheated! He spiked my man's ball in the rough!

TREVOR  
Bullshit! You didn't see--

BILLY  
A tournament cheat?

BILLY sizes up TREVOR, buys the idea immediately.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Maybe I'd understand if you were in the first flight with a lot of money on the line. But the eighth? Jee-sus Christ... So I've got one kid who can't decipher between keeping average choppers moving at a decent pace and fair play in a money tournament and another who's such a hot head he starts swinging right in front of the members.

BILLY rubs his chin, his lips turned in disgust.

BILLY  
Down the road. Both of you.

KIT  
What?

TREVOR  
Fired? You think me and him are the same? What--

BILLY  
Shut. Your fucking. Mouth. I said down the road.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## EPISODE 106: PHOTOTROPISM

We open in the dimly lit board room of the clubhouse. Malloy, flanked by a dozen old white stiffs and Sue, listen to Billy mutter an apology we know he doesn't mean. He acknowledges that ripping the shirt off a young kid and knocking another one down—no matter the circumstances—was out of line and that it won't happen again. Malloy accepts, then it seems as if their business is done. Then Sue asks how the boys are doing. "Fuck if I know," Billy says, explaining they've both been fired.

That can't happen, Sue says, explaining that if bad blood about the incident festers, the course is apt to be sued; Billy may have been keeping the peace, but the events would sound very different in a courtroom—and in the press.

"Trevor is my nephew," Billy starts to explain, "He's not going to..."

Sue interrupts: "That means nothing in today's environment. They both come back, and you better make them happy enough to forget, or at least forgive, your actions."

Billy looks to Malloy. The President doesn't like giving anything to Sue, but he makes an expression that indicates she's got a point.

Billy exits the clubhouse and we see that it is late afternoon, and more than a dozen caddies, dressed to play, are ready to tee off on the first hole. It's the first qualifying day for the McGregor Cup, the annual tournament that pits the best caddies on Long Island against each other. It is deadly serious business.

Skylar is there, but she's not trying to qualify; she's caddying as many rookies are for the veterans. She's on Mac's bag, and their round will reveal just how valuable it is for a caddy to play and know the course. On the thirteenth green, she squats low to read Mac's putt, then tells him to put the ball on the right edge of the cup.

He questions it, so she reiterates: Her man had the same putt this morning and it broke to the left, so trust me. He comes over and squats low next to her. They have the following exchange:

MAC  
This morning I believe it. Problem is...

MAC indicates the setting sun off to the right.

MAC (CONT'D)  
The sun is low now...

MAC indicates the water hazard.

MAC (CONT'D)  
And it's been glaring off that water for hours... And all plants, no matter how tiny...

MAC caresses the short grass at their feet.

MAC (CONT'D)  
Worship the sun, and they bow before their master. Feel that?

SKYLAR rubs the grass.

SKYLAR  
It's bent to the right.

MAC smiles at her.

MAC  
Not a lot. But just enough. So...?

SKYLAR  
Left edge.

MAC  
I reckon so.

MAC lines up the putt carefully, gives the ball a little tap, and we see it close up: it rolls just a shade to the right before plunking into the cup.

SKYLAR is delighted — and speechless.

MAC  
Don't let it get in your head. It's a subtle thing, never enough to cancel out a real slope, but on an almost flat putt? You've got to remember not just where you are on the green, but when you are in the day.

Our closing scene takes us to Billy's podium, Trevor on one side, Kit on the other. Billy lays down the law: No more fighting. No more interacting at all. He'll keep them off the same loop for as long as he can, but circumstances will dictate that, sooner or later, they'll have to work together. When that happens, it had better go smoothly. Both boys agree.

As they walk back, Kit misreads Trevor's seemingly contrite showing in front of Billy as a real desire to make amends. He asks if they can really put it behind them, stops, offers his hand. Trevor sneers at him, "Just stay outta my way, pussy."

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## EPISODE 107: PARTY TIME

We open on a mass of bags and eager guests near the putting green. There are 40 golfers ready to tee off. “That’s an awful lot at one time,” Kit remarks to Spirit, who replies, “Citizens Bank party. CEO is a member here. So it’s him and his company officers. Everyone wants a piece of this because the caddy wage comes out of the shop, but most of these guys will tip as much as the full fee, so it’s like being paid twice. AND they play again tomorrow morning.” Kit can’t believe it when he gets the call, and he’s doubly astounded that his players are relatively maintenance-free, happy to drink a few beers, kibitz, and eventually tip big. He gets \$200 for the round and another \$200 from his men.

Riding the high of pockets full of cash, the caddies are in a mood to celebrate. Pappy declares, “Let’s hit the Derb. First round’s on me.” He eyes Kit. “Even you, PUNK.” Kit’s nervous. “I’m not twenty-one,” he protests. The caddies laugh. “No one gives a shit at the Derb,” Darryl says.

So they go, and they drink. And the local girls seem to know these boys have too much money and it quickly gets out of hand. And a beer turns into two and then into a dozen, and Kit is out of his mind in a surreal montage of debauchery and mayhem: Darts and dancing and shots and cards and cash hitting the table and... Kit wakes up in the Irish flop house, Mac practically punching him to wake up. He does, but the hangover is fierce and his clothes are filthy and he stinks.

“There’s toothpaste and cologne in the bathroom. Brush yer teeth with a finger and spray yerself down. We’re leaving in thirty seconds.” Mac and the Irish caddies are beat up, but they’re polished compared to Kit.

They get to the course and immediately need to prep to go out. Kit stumbles picking up his bags, then runs off to puke behind some bushes. He’s determined to keep it together. He washes his face in the locker room, then emerges to find Skylar on his bags. Billy tells him to go sleep it off in the cart barn: “I don’t need you today.” Kit is deflated, and Skylar doesn’t seem to delight in taking her brother’s loop.

A short while later, Kit awakens to find Pro pulling out a cart. Pro is startled to find the kid, but he’s in a rush and doesn’t ask why Kit looks so terrible. Instead, “Good – I thought we were out of caddies. I’m giving Missus Harding a playing lesson. You’re with us.”

Sue is playful with Mike. He demurs. She’s not-so-subtly hitting on him the same way she did his brother.

The sun beats down unmercifully and Kit turns pale, sweating profusely. He shivers. On the green, Pro indicates that Kit should hustle up the next hill to forecaddy. Kit does so, and halfway up the hill collapses. Cue the ambulance.



# THIS IS CADDY RING

## EPISODE 108: MORE THAN WHAT YOU ARE

We open in the ER. The doctor is explaining to Sam that it was just a severe case of dehydration, nothing to lose sleep over. Kit will be fine—just needs plenty of fluids and rest. The doctor leaves. There is silence, then Kit tries to rescue himself, “...it was really hot out there.”

Sam nods, “Oh my, yes, much too hot for a sixteen-year-old whose only meal in the last 24 hours consisted of Heineken and Jägermeister.” Kit stares back. Fine, his mom knew he was drinking, but how did she know exactly what he’d been drinking? She reads his thoughts, waves her hand, “Lucky guess. Well, not lucky, educated: When your father and I were dating in high school, same damn thing happened to him. I thought they had done away with those fucking rings, but the bruises on your ribs—oh yes, I saw them when you were out—told me that nothing’s really changed. So those boys aren’t just still beating the piss out of each other over nothing, the celebration drink combo is still the same... Anyway, what were you celebrating? I hope it wasn’t a big payday, because there were 14 dollars in your pocket,” Kit’s eyes go wide, “yeah, I thought so. And no, I don’t want to know how much. The way you feel should be punishment enough for that. ... but one thing’s clear: you’re not going back to that place.”

Back at the course, Sue is taking another playing lesson. Skylar is with them this time. Sue sends Skylar ahead to the halfway house,

“There’s no one behind us, so we’re going to practice with this sand trap for a bit. We can rake up. Go get yourself a Coke.” Skylar goes inside but it takes forever. As she gets antsy, the halfway house attendant offers to check on them while he takes out the trash. He walks around the green, finds Mike with his back against the wall of the sand trap, Sue grinding against him, their lips locked. The halfway house attendant comes back a moment later, betraying nothing as he tells Skylar, “They should only be another minute.”

In the yard, Billy has summoned Ronnie and Spirit. The USGA guys had cast a suspicious eye on Ronnie’s beat up RV, and it needs to go. Ditto Spirit’s lean-to. Both guys put up a fight in their opposite styles. Billy loves em both, but his hands are tied. Times are-a-changin’. Meanwhile, the diversity hires are extremely restless. After yet another long day of sitting, two of them quit, leaving Melvin as the only young black caddy.

At home, Kit stumbles out of his room after sleeping it off. He sits at the kitchen table and talks to his mother, who is making dinner. There’s a long silence, then Kit speaks: “I need to go back.” His mother makes to interrupt, but he won’t allow it, launching into a monologue, “I know why you’re scared. I’ve screwed up a lot this summer. I’ve been angry and distant and stupid and it’s coming out at you and Sky. And I know I’ve been like this since we lost dad. All I know is that he was the best person I ever knew and if he could get something

good out of that place, then maybe I can, too. I don’t feel like I belong there, but if I keep trying – then I might belong, and if you belong at a place like that... there’s more than money there. There’s an opportunity to become more than what you are. It’s already happening for Sky. I think I can make it happen for me.”

Sam digests this for a long beat, then gives the kid a sympathetic smile. “One more chance,” she says. “If I ever have to go get you at the hospital again--” He nods. They eat, and we FADE OUT to Warren Zevon’s “Factory”.

## EPISODE 109: THE CUP

The McGregor Cup has arrived. Skylar caddies for Mac, Kit for Spirit, Trevor for Pappy, Melvin for Darryl. Festering animosities are suspended; the only thing that matters for the next three days is beating the caddies from all those other courses. “Patriot Pride” is the motto, and everyone is on the same page. It’s a tough battle on Day One, but The Patriot caddies eventually dispatch their opponents on the 17th hole, 2-up with 1 to play. Their main competition—the Shinnecock caddies—however, roll the well-regarded boys from Maidstone on the 12th hole. It’s a state-ment win and The Patriot caddies are nervous; a Sunday afternoon meeting for the top spot seems inevitable, and it’s impossible to say what could happen then.

Between rounds on Day One, we see the flagpole game again. Billy nailed the thing square. The pro shop staff ooo’s and ahh’s over the

# THIS IS CADDY RING

feat, and Mike quickly produces the thousand bucks out of his pocket—yes, he keeps that much in his pocket—and forks it over without a word.

We see the end of Day Two; as expected, The Patriot caddies have kept rolling, as have the Shinnecock caddies. The final is set. If The Patriot is going to win the cup for the first time in seven seasons, they'll have to put on a clinic tomorrow.

At sunset we see Mike teeing up his shot at the flagpole. He rips it and it sails just 5 yards to the right of the pole. Seemingly satisfied, he steps back. That's enough to win on most days. But without any practice swings, Billy tees off and comes a shade inside Mike's shot. Mike drops the hundred-dollar bill on the ground and walks off without a word. Billy says nothing, but the assistant pro is concerned, "What's up with him?"

"Dunno," Billy replies. "Pussy on his mind, maybe."

Day Three is a heroic test. We see Kit, Skylar, Trevor, and Melvin, all laser-focused on calculating distance, reading the greens, cleaning clubs, and forecaddying. Then we see the outcomes: Mac loses on the 18th, but Spirit and Pappy win their matches. Improbably, The Patriot is on the verge of winning—as long as Darryl can secure his match; if he loses, the entire outcome will come down to a playoff. So the entire caddy corps descends on the 14th hole, where the match is still playing out and they follow the action like a galley at a professional tournament.

In a sequence of shots, we see

Darryl's opponent, Shinnecock's Rick Fox, a seriously intimidating presence, sink a series of long putts to draw the match even after 18. To the playoff we go. But we're losing daylight fast. The players scramble back to the first tee to get this underway. Melvin walks ahead to forecaddy. Kit squints at the setting sun, gets an idea, sprints down the cart path to help forecaddy on the opposite side of the fairway. And thank God he did; Darryl's tee shot finds the tall grass, but Kit has a beat on it. He runs over to the spot, can't find it immediately. He's then joined by Melvin and the rest of the Patriot caddies, who are looking in vain.

"Hate to do it," Fox says, "But we've got to run a clock on this. Three more minutes, then you take the penalty," which would all but seal the win for Shinnecock. Time runs out. Darryl is resigned to dropping a new ball, but Melvin is frantic, walking quickly up and down the path. In the hustle of it, he flattens a patch of grass, and then Kit finds it, yelling, "Got it! Don't hit that ball! I've got it." Fox is incredulous, but inspects; the kid is telling the truth. Darryl makes a heroic shot onto the green and Fox is shaken, three-putting the green. Darryl sinks his and the celebration that follows is explosive. The McGregor cup is awarded, filled with champagne, and everyone drinks from it, especially Kit, who for the first time has contributed something of real value.

In the afterglow, the caddies are awash in dopamine and getting drunk quickly. The moment Mel-

vin leaves the locker room, Ronnie speaks up, "Fucking amazing, Darryl. Amazing. And you, Kit! You saved the day! Eyes like an eagle. Unlike that--" ... and he blurts out the n-word. The word's cruel, dehumanizing power is somehow amplified by the casual way Ronnie says it. Kit is incensed. A few of the other caddies stop, roll their eyes, mutter a "hey come on now," but mostly seem intent on ignoring it and continuing with the celebration.

Kit takes a deep breath. "Ronnie, when was the last time you were in a ring?"

Ronnie laughs. "You want a piece of me for that? You fucking punk, I was complementing you."

Kit won't be placated. "I can challenge anyone I want, including an old drunken piece of shit like you. So..." Kit commands the room, and speaks with real authority to the caddies, "Get outside and make a ring." They listen. Ronnie laughs in disbelief.

They go outside. Skylar sees what's happening. Screams at her brother, "No! You can't!"

Melvin is confused, too, "Dude, we just won. What the fuck is going on?" But no one will utter a word of what just happened inside. Billy wanders over to see what's going on, someone whispers in his ear. He nods.

The ring starts. Ronnie comes in hot, lands a few, but Kit's purpose is too righteous and he gets the upper hand, thoroughly embarrassing his opponent. Kit is met with cheers, but walks off without a word, Melvin and Skylar still dumbfounded.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## EPISODE 110: DTR

Kit arrives for work and the newfound respect is evident. Nods of approval. A scooch to the side to make room on the bench. Not Trevor and his friends, and certainly not Will. Skylar is icy and Melvin seems shook. But overall this shift is good. And it isn't trite. It's a huge deal.

Ronnie arrives for work his usual disheveled self, but like a wounded animal, won't look up.

Sue is giddy in the locker room. She tells the assistant to bring her clubs down to the first tee and to tell Billy to make sure Skylar is ready. The USGA folks are coming back and today's the day to seal the deal.

Mike and Billy tee up. Mike misses the pole by inches. Improbably, Billy connects again. When it clangs off the iron, Mike is livid. He demands they do it again. Billy is taken aback, "That would be a first." His brother doesn't respond, so Billy says, "Alright..." He tees up another. He's off, but not by much. Mike is further off. He asks to do it again. "Something you wanna tell me?" Billy asks. A crowd has gathered now. Mike says nothing, just shoves his brother aside and tees up another. It misses by an inch. Billy, oozing ease and confidence, clangs another. The caddies whoop and cheer. They've never seen anything like the clinic he just put on. Mike storms off. He doesn't have \$2,100 in his pocket.

Back at the clubhouse, Sue is walking out of the locker room. She bumps into Malloy, who offers to escort her to the pro shop. They exchange pleasantries, but the tension is barely concealed. Finally, they get

to the pro shop where they spot the USGA head on the adjacent putting green.

She smiles, "Thank you, Parker, but my guest is here."

"Oh right," Malloy replies. "That came up when he called me last night."

Sue looks murderous.

The USGA head trots up. "Susan! I asked Parker here if he'd join us. You don't mind, do you?"

She draws a deep breath. "Of course not," she says.

Kit gets the call to work. It's a choice loop—Mr. Gilroy—who was previously established as Trevor's regular guy, but Billy took it away, presumably because of the tournament cheating. Trevor didn't get the memo that this was a permanent arrangement, and is standing by with a wet towel. "As you were," Billy says. Trevor stares at Kit... and we can guess there's something terrible waiting for him when he gets back.

Out on the course, Malloy and the USGA head are too close for Sue's comfort. She decides to be direct, addressing the issue of the course's diversity efforts and her hopes for a pro tournament. The USGA head is similarly direct, saying that a few diversity hires in the caddy yard aren't enough to land an event and that membership would need to make a significant leap. "Which is why I called Parker here last night, and he was very receptive to the idea."

"A major overhaul is needed," Malloy smiles. "And while we work up a white paper to outline our outreach efforts to BIPOC member candidates—which, mind you, could take

a few more seasons—there is more change that can be implemented straight away, particularly in positions of high visibility."

Sue is confused. She watches the USGA head line up his next shot, sigh, then he mutters, "Shame about Mike. I really did like him. You'll find something good for him?"

Malloy nods. "Certainly." It finally dawns on Sue, and the smirk she's getting from Malloy confirms her suspicions. Mike is now down the road (DTR) because Sue was sweet on him. Someone saw—and told.

Kit returns from his loop, is paid handsomely by a happy Mr. Gilroy, who would seem to be Kit's new menses. He cleans the clubs and puts the member's bag away. He goes to his locker and spins the combo, but stops and sniffs. Something stinks. He opens the locker and finds that someone—obviously Trevor and his friends—used the vent at the top of the door to stuff it with live bait and squid. Not only does it stink and need to be scrubbed, a big fat piece of squid has been lying on his copy of Foundation—the same battered copy from his father that Trevor and his friends soaked at the end of Episode One. There's no saving it now. Kit is seeing red. He slams the door shut.

Sue arrives at the shop out of breath. She marches past the counter and into Mike's office, which he's clearing out. She's firm, "Stop right now. I will make this right." He waves her off. In a stirring monologue, he explains that he's turned down every opportunity to leave The Patriot that he's ever been of-

# THIS IS CADDY RING



ferred; there have been a ton of them and they all paid more money than he makes now.

“But this is practically your birth-right,” she says. “Four generations of Millers have run this place. That legacy is not ending because that peckerhead wants to get to me.”

Mike explains that some legacies can become burdens. Besides, if his sacrifices didn’t mean anything to the president—if he could still just be a pawn after giving his life over to the course—then he didn’t want to be there anymore. “It’s not all bad,” he concludes. “Think I’ll take a year to get my game in shape. Maybe I’ll be back when you land that tourney.” He gives her a wink and walks out.

The sun is low. The yard is empty but Kit is sitting and staring, a corked bottle of rage ready to blow. Skylar walks off her loop, sets her

bags down, sits with Kit. “Trevor is on 16. Should be back in a half hour.”

Kit spits. “Thirty minutes to live. If only he knew.”

Skylar sighs. “He wanted to fuck with you. He couldn’t have known the book was in there.”

“Doesn’t matter! It’s ruined!” Kit fires back.

A long beat, then Skylar gets sincere, “Dad gave you more than a book. He gave you—gave us—everything we need to make something of ourselves, and if you keep going like this, you’re not just going to get hurt, you’re going to blow it. And believe it or not—I don’t want to work here without you. I...” she hesitates. “I look up to you. And... I love you.”

Kit’s anger gives way to tears. Skylar puts her arm around her brother, who mutters, “I just miss him so

much.”

“I do too,” she says. Another long beat, then Skylar speaks again, “Now head up. You don’t need to fight this guy to get him back. Just bide your time, OK?” Kit nods.

CUT TO: Trevor hopping on his bike at dusk. He knocks out the kickstand, then steps on the pedals, and promptly falls flat on his face. He inspects the bike, which has no chain.

We end in the Alderson house at night. Kit tells his sister thanks, makes a move to say more, but she stops him. “Enough mushy shit for one day...” Kit smiles and heads upstairs. Skylar goes outside to the trash can, opens her bag, then dumps a bike chain into the can.

**FADE TO BLACK**

**END OF SEASON ONE**

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## FUTURE SEASONS

### SEASON TWO

When we first see Kit in Season Two, he is well on his way to becoming a star caddy. He's working on his game, showing up on time, staying out of trouble, and getting choice loops—maybe a few too many, drawing the critical eye of veterans who view his frequent looping as unearned. When Kit outshines a newcomer—veteran transfer Harry McIntyre—the two wind up on a season-long collision course for a ring. Harry is something of a local legend for having grown up on Long Island and brief-

ly making it to the Major Leagues, where he was a journeyman who had a productive season-and-a-half run with the Mets. Whatever money he made, his ex-wife has it now, and he approaches his caddy craft with the single-minded seriousness of a monk. He's still in excellent shape and is an imposing threat for a potential ring.

Trevor is still lurking and seeking revenge. With the aid of Will, he'll figure out that while it may be too dangerous to risk his job by taking direct action and challenging Kit to another ring or further escalating the pranks we saw in the Season One finale, he can still do plenty of damage. Will sniffs out the wedge between Kit and Harry and coaches Trevor on how to further exploit it and hasten the collision course.

Meanwhile, Skylar and Sue hit the road. Sue has become more aggressive in her pursuit of a tournament and has taken her USGA goodwill efforts to famous courses around the US. Their travels prove fruitful for both. Sue impresses a group of venture capitalists seeking to build a resort in New Zealand and believe a strong female president would be just the thing they need to make a splash. Initially, Sue doesn't like the idea of it. Isn't she just being used for window dressing? She wants to transform HER club. But this opportunity will continue to dangle in future seasons, with the pot gradually growing sweeter. The trip also accelerates the development of Skylar's skills, and she's on the cusp of becoming a formidable caddy and player.



# THIS IS CADDY RING

The Patriot's new pro is Victor Kim, an Asian-American man with incredible credentials who once competed with Team USA in the Walker Cup. Much to the chagrin of Billy and the caddy corps, he's pretty much a flawless hire. It's impossible to imagine Mike coming back once this new standard of excellence has been set.

We see snippets of Mike throughout the season. He's living in Florida and is going by his middle name, Thomas. He's taken a job as a caddy at a nice course where he can live quietly and take just enough loops to qualify for playing rights and devote most of his energy to working on his game. He's finally noticed by a member from The Patriot who comes down to play. The member wants to engineer Mike back into the pro's job at The Patriot and makes a tempting offer with a plan to destroy the new pro that might just work. But when he learns that Victor has been doing an excellent job, he refuses the call and doubles down on trying to play his way onto the tour.

## **SERIES ARC: SEASONS 3-5**

Later seasons build toward Kit becoming a great player, making the competitive caddy team and competing against rival courses. As we leap forward in time after Season Two, we see him impress a pro who asks him to come on tour with him; he struggles mightily, but the experience makes him one of the best caddies at The Patriot when he returns. He earns the grudging respect of old enemies like Will and Trevor, and in the

case of the latter, we get to see that blossom into an unlikely, sweet, and satisfying friendship. The eventual series finale would leave the impression that the big fancy job at an investment bank that Kit has finally earned—by graduating and landing an apprenticeship through a member—is the last thing he wants. He wants to stay at this course. It's a big, damaged, dysfunctional family, but by this point, it's HIS family.

The course, meanwhile, will move in the direction that Sue Harding pushes it, but not without multiple attempts to destroy her and a lot of public embarrassment for all involved along the way. She's left to question whether her pyrrhic victory of finally getting a PGA event at the course—and the “maverick” kind of press coverage she had always sought—was worth it and if she wants to continue battling against these old blue bloods or strike out and build a course all her own with those investors who keep wooing her to come to New Zealand. If she did the latter, she might have need of her favorite caddy Skylar in a special role. That would pose something of a dilemma for Kit's sister, who's earned her choice of free rides to college.

Other major developments:

- Mike makes the PGA tour. When the US Open comes to The Patriot in Season Five, he's got a leg up as no one knows the place like him. It's a battle of the top pros' raw ability versus Mike's incomparable local knowledge. Does he

win? No, but playing on Sunday of a major tournament gives him a wealth of new opportunities and local legend status he can ride for the rest of his life.

- Kit beats Will's ass. Will has enjoyed years of instigating shit between other people and picking easy fights he knows he can win. When Kit finally has enough of his manipulative ways, he'll step up and defend a rookie from Will's machinations and effectively put an end to the Will Thomas king-of-the-yard era.

- Mac goes out on tour for a top 10 player and never looks back. His man is in the money every week and even wins a major. When we see him return to the Patriot with his new menses, he's a millionaire.

- Melvin becomes a great caddy and makes enough money to move out of his mom's house. He becomes a lifer by Season Five and we see him loop with Ronnie, who's still hanging on somehow. Ronnie watches Melvin work a round perfectly and gets emotional. Melvin still doesn't know that Ronnie called him a racial slur in Season One and Ronnie's not about to cop to it now. But Ronnie acknowledges that he doubted the kid because he was “... an outsider” and apologizes. It makes little sense to Melvin, but we see the pain in Ronnie's face. It makes us realize that living this way and harboring prejudices has maybe hurt him as much as anyone else.

# THIS IS CADDY RING

## WHY NOW?

It's not just the right idea. It's the right time.

*Caddy Ring's* answer to the burning question that every new show must face is a solid one and multifaceted. You wouldn't be wrong to first look to the enthusiastic way that sport-centric television has been embraced in the past few years. *Ted Lasso* and *Ballers* found devoted audiences by telling stories that, like *Caddy Ring*, didn't require any prior knowledge of the sporting worlds they inhabited. Like courtroom dramas and procedurals, scripted sport content gets the benefit of drama that is baked-in—that is, stakes that are inherent to the premise around which all the character relationships revolve. It is by no means a new phenomenon; going back just a bit further from very recent examples, *Friday Night Lights*, *Eastbound & Down*, and *The League* were hit shows that took advantage of the genre to masterful effect.

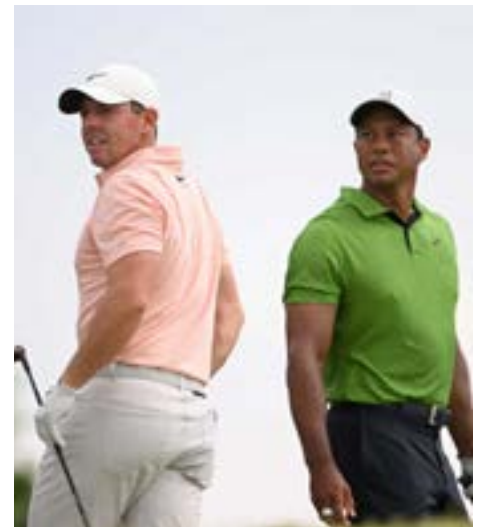
Still, the argument for making *Caddy Ring* today runs deeper than the fact that sports and sport-adjacent content work well on a fundamental level. To wit, Netflix's docuseries *Formula One: Drive to Survive* created a legion of new fans for the pinnacle of motorsport. The popularity of the show has fed into record ratings for each grand prix (which are up a staggering 500% in the US), and the two now feed each other; *Drive to Survive* has been



The incredible success of *Drive To Survive* is about to repeat—this time with golf. Are you ready for when that happens?

renewed for at least two more seasons and the sport itself is on the cusp of securing a new record deal for broadcast rights. With an eye on these numbers—and making a sound judgment call regarding audiences' boundless appetite for F1—Apple just acquired the rights to a new film that will center on the sport, with Brad Pitt set to star. Pitt will produce alongside seven-time F1 champion Lewis Hamilton, and *Top Gun: Maverick* director Joseph Kosinski is helming the project.

Which brings us to golf. Following the *Drive to Survive* format, Netflix's *Full Swing* is now taking viewers behind the scenes of golf in a brand new way at the most pivotal moment in the sport's history. Interest will only intensify as the proposed merger between



the PGA and the Saudi-backed LIV tour comes to a head. Whatever your position on that issue, it won't be possible to escape golf news for the foreseeable future. This has all the makings of a "rising tide lifts all boats" situation, with golf ratings set to get a significant boost. Moreover, golf-related content will clean up in this environment. Sure, *Caddyshack* is about to be streamed a few million more times, but what new material can you offer audiences? The world is about to go crazy for golf in a way not seen since Tiger Woods' heyday. With all these external factors working in your favor, it's not really a question of whether you should make *Caddy Ring*. The question, rather, is can you afford not to?

## GLOSSARY OF CADDY TERMS

A handy guide to what these maniacs are saying.

*A crude but colorful bunch, caddies have a unique way of looking at the world, which is reflected in their slang. This handy guide will help you get a handle on their use of language, though it should be noted that the meaning of these terms will become evident to the viewer through context and repetition.*

**BLEEDIN:** v.: To sweat profusely and soak one's shirt. Example, "Shit. Sun ain't even high yet and this bitch is bleedin'."

**CADDY RING** or simply, **RING:** n.: A boxing match involving two or more caddies who may not strike each other above the neck or below the belt.

**CADDY RICH:** adj.: The state of possessing at least sixty dollars cash on one's person.

**CART JOB:** n.: A loop where the bags ride in a cart. It comes in two varieties: 1) Everyone rides in a cart, with the caddy hanging onto the back of one of these carts; 2) The caddy drives the cart and the

players walk. Very old caddies like Edmonds only do cart jobs.

**CORN:** n.: A woman who is so attractive that one might "eat the corn out of her shit," as Pappy so eloquently puts it in the pilot. Rather than repeat the entire phrase, caddies can simply use the word "corn" when surrounded by polite company and still get their point across.

**CHOPPER:** n.: A bad golfer.

**CHOP CHOP:** v.: Playing poorly.

**DOWN THE ROAD:** v.: Fired.

**LOOPIN BITCH:** n.: A caddy who works a lot.

**SIMPLE BITCH:** n.: A dumb caddy.

**PLAYIN BITCH:** n.: A caddy who plays golf very well.

**RIDIN BITCH:** n.: A caddy who uses a golf cart instead of carrying the bags.

**ROLL THE PILL:** v.: Putting extremely well. Example: A player sinks a long putt and his caddy exclaims, "He can roll the pill!"

**RIDING PINE:** v.: Sitting—and not caddying—for an extended period of time.

**WIDE BODY:** n.: Fat person.

**GUTS:** n.: A variant of poker played with three cards, with the low card in each player's hand always being wild. The dealer calls, "One, two, three, guts," and on the final word, players either drop their cards to fold, or hold them. If two or more players hold, the winner takes the pot, with the loser(s) replacing everything within the pot. If only one player holds, that player must face the top three cards of the deck. A more aggressive variant—gorilla guts—is often played, where the top card of each hand is dealt face-up, and whoever is holding the highest card loses the ability to fold that hand.

**GORILLA:** n.: Another term for

# THIS IS CADDY RING

caddy, it is derived from the caddy's appearance while holding two bags where both hands resting on the club heads resemble monkey's paws. Also pronounced go-rilla, with a heavy emphasis on the GO.

**LIFER:** n.: A caddy for life with no "real" job. Also called a grown caddy.

**MENSES:** n.: Players regularly designated to a specific caddy. Example: "Billy, when do my menses tee off? I saw Mister Marchand bring some guests up earlier." A crude plural form of man, it is pronounced differently and should not be confused with the identically-spelled word for a woman's monthly period.

**SLEEPWALK:** n.: Any loop that is too easy, such as a cart job.

**STRIPE:** v.: (striping, striped): A pure strike down the center of the fairway. Examples, "Striped the fairway with that one," or "He can stripe it," or "Look at this stripin' bitch."

**WHATS AND EVERS:** n.: The practice of pooling tips and distributing them evenly amongst a group of two or more caddies. Whats and evers has fallen out of favor in recent

years and is mostly used by unscrupulous older caddies to make sure younger caddies don't get paid more.

**ALTERNATE TERMS FOR GOLF BALLS:** Eskimos have 50 different words for snow. It's understandable. When a single element is so integral to a people's way of life, it's only

natural for myriad linguistic variants to arise to accurately describe the nuanced differences between type. To that end, caddies don't have 50 different words for golf ball, but they have quite a few. Some of them are: BULLETS, EGGS, GRENADES, NUGGETS, NUTS, PEBBLES, PELLETS, PILLS, ROCKS.



# THIS IS CADDY RING

## FINAL NOTES

### A WORD ON MUSIC

The show's conceptual soundtrack is a mixture of pop, rock, punk, and rap that conjures teen angst across generations, hence Bob Seger's "Night Moves" appears alongside Green Day's "Nice Guys Finish Last," Cheap Trick's "Surrender," the Goo Goo Dolls' "Ain't That Unusual," Blink-182's "Dammit," and Good Charlotte's "The Anthem." The heavier themes of love and loss are leavened by half-humorous covers: Bobby Darin's "Dream Lover" as performed by The Misfits, Dusty Springfield's "I Only Want to Be With You" as performed by Danish metal band Volbeat, and Go West's "King of Wishful Thinking" as performed by post-emo darlings New Found Glory.

Most other songs were chosen with specific scenes or sequences in mind. For instance, Episode 5's opening—with its whip around the course to show caddies working flawlessly during a massive tournament—is paired with Gordon Lightfoot's "Summertime Dream." The proposed opening credits theme—Weezer's "Island in the Sun"—is a perfect encapsulation of the feeling of working at a place like The Patriot, and a direct reference to our Long Island setting. Moreover, the earnest-but-not-too-serious mood it evokes is a precise match for the show's tone.

### WHO IS MATT TUTHILL?

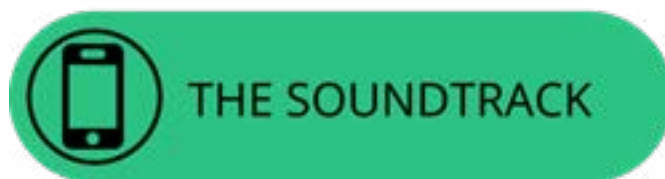
And why is he the guy to write this?

I'm a journalist with over 20 years of experience. I've written magazine cover stories on superstar athletes (Michael Strahan, Drew Brees) and movie stars (Dwayne Johnson, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Henry Cavill, Terry Crews, Hugh Jackman, John Cena) and my feature story on transgender powerlifter Janae Marie Kroczaleski was named to the list of Notable pieces of sportswriting in the anthology *Best American Sportswriting 2016*. I currently serve as VP of content and communications for Robert Irvine, with whom I have co-authored three books, including the upcoming business leadership book, *Overcoming Impossible* published by Harper Collins.

Moreover, I was a caddy for about 10 years at a really incredible place on Long Island that was a lot like The



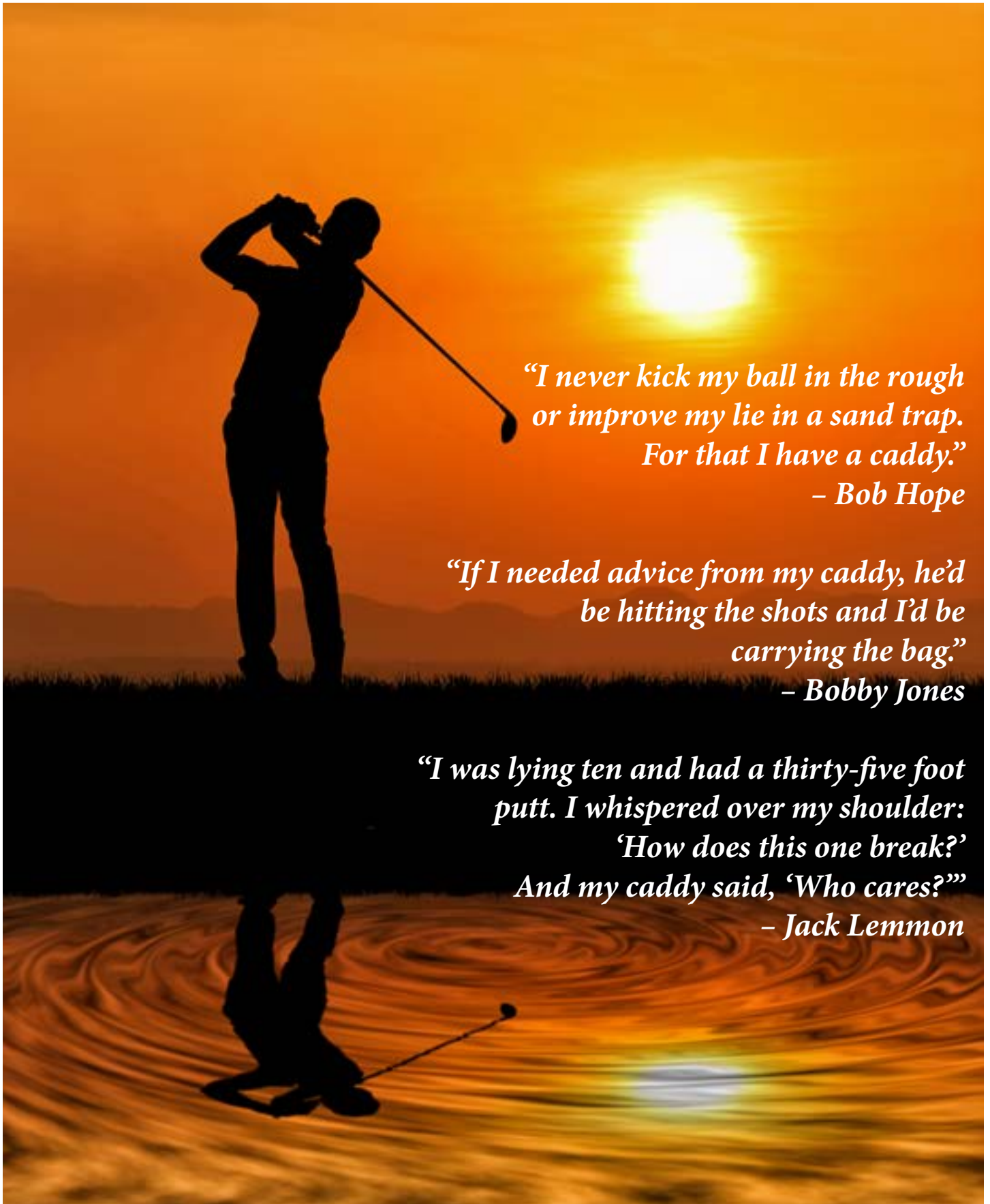
What does this show sound like? Click [HERE](#) or scan the code for the Caddy Ring Sountrack on Spotify.



Patriot. I see my life as having been a success both in spite of, and because of, my experience in such an unusual situation. Working at a prestigious golf course with a lot of money on the line and my ability to continue going to college hanging in the balance would have been enough pressure for any young man. Doing so while dealing with a lot of violent and dangerous characters who wanted to beat me up and take my money, well... it's a funny thing to realize you never want your kid to go through a situation like that while also acknowledging that a lot of your own strength, fortitude, and focus in the face of adversity comes from that experience.

It's a messy and complicated story, like real life. But with distance, that mess can be seen with perfect clarity and focus. In writing it, I understood myself—and the people who once wanted to kill me—a lot better. The prospect of sharing that experience with audiences excites me more than anything I've ever written.

# THIS IS CADDY RING



*"I never kick my ball in the rough  
or improve my lie in a sand trap.  
For that I have a caddy."  
– Bob Hope*

*"If I needed advice from my caddy, he'd  
be hitting the shots and I'd be  
carrying the bag."  
– Bobby Jones*

*"I was lying ten and had a thirty-five foot  
putt. I whispered over my shoulder:  
'How does this one break?'  
And my caddy said, 'Who cares?'"  
– Jack Lemmon*