

"THE GANG GETS QUARANTINED 2: FREEDOM FIGHTS BACK"
V1.2

Written by

Will Brady

Based on *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*
Created by Rob McElhenney

585 South Lyman Avenue,
Des Plaines, IL, 60016

(847) 951-7552

COLD OPENING:

TITLE CARDS:

"3:45 P.M." "On a Friday" "Philadelphia, PA"

CHARLIE (O.S.)
Guys, I got the decorations for St.
Paddy's Day!

INT. PADDY'S PUB - AFTERNOON

DENNIS, MAC, DEE, and FRANK are lingering around the bar as CHARLIE walks in with a plastic grocery bag full of something. The rest of the pub is empty.

DENNIS
Aaand how could you get enough
decorations for the entire bar to
fit in that little plastic bag?

CHARLIE
Oh, you told me to be economical,
so instead of going to the party
store, I just went to the park!

Dennis, Dee, and Mac GROAN. Frank seems unfazed.

DEE
Of course. Of course he did.

DENNIS
You know what? Fine. We'll play
along. What "economical" St.
Patrick's Day decorations did you
get for the bar?

CHARLIE
(fishing in bag)
Alright, so, I went to the park...
(producing from bag)
...and I got some real authentic
clovers or shamrocks or whatever--

DENNIS
Oh, great, you got a bunch of weeds
that are *this* big. And I bet ninety-
eight percent of those don't even
have four leaves on them!

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

MAC

Actually, Dennis, Saint Patrick himself used a *three-leaf* clover to symbolize the Holy Trinity!

CHARLIE

Yeah, what the Jesus freak said!

DENNIS

...Alright, screw it, fine. So what else did you get?

CHARLIE

(producing from bag)

So we needed green stuff, so while I was at the park, I picked up some goose poop--

Dennis, Mac, and Dee GROAN in disgust, louder this time.

MAC

You're making me regret having your back just now, man!

FRANK

Aw, what're you all complaining about? What were you gonna do, use actual paint on the walls? Goose crap don't smell like nothing, you can wipe it on the walls one day and wipe it off the next!

CHARLIE

Thank you, Frank! Thank you!

DENNIS

Goddammit, who let you do this alone?

CHARLIE

Well, I asked who wanted to come with me and nobody said anything...

The other four MURMUR in agreement.

DEE

And if it involved picking up bird shit, I'm glad I didn't go.

CHARLIE

Well, not birds, Dee, geese.

DEE

...A goose is a bird.

CHARLIE

Oh, a goose is not a bird!

The Gang ARGUE, not noticing INSPECTOR COLEMAN entering the building. Eventually, Charlie notices the health inspector.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

You know what? Fine! Let's ask this person!

(to Insp. Coleman)

Is a bird a goose!?

The two stare at one another for a beat as the others look on in confusion.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

...Is a bird a goose?

INSP. COLEMAN

(showing their badge)

...Inspector Coleman, Philadelphia Department of Health. May I speak with the owner of this establishment?

The Gang all look at one another.

MAC

Uh, that's kind of... all of us, depending on the situation--

DENNIS

It's mostly me, though.

Inspector Coleman walks up to Dennis and hands him a letter.

INSP. COLEMAN

This is your official notice that effective today, this bar is being shut down until further notice. Right now we're thinking till the end of March, but we reserve the right to extend it for longer.

DENNIS

Wh-what!? But what did we do?

INSP. COLEMAN

Have you been watching the news?

The Gang MUTTER amongst themselves.

MAC

N-nah, the news is too political.

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

INSP. COLEMAN

Well, a pandemic's just been declared, so for everyone's safety, we need to keep people away from each other.

DENNIS

A pandemic!? We had that flu pandemic a few years ago, they didn't make us shut our bar down like we were some cesspool of diseases! That was *our* choice!

INSP. COLEMAN

Yes, but this one is much more serious. *Every* bar in Philadelphia is getting shut down. And I'd suggest you all head home and give each other distance. And wash your hands.

MAC

B-but we're an Irish pub and St. Paddy's Day is next week!

DEE

Th-the name of our bar is "Paddy's Pub" for Christ's sakes!

DENNIS

Yeah, and furthermore, this is our living! We don't have any other way of making money!

INSP. COLEMAN

(looking around)

...Well, it looks like you're not making much money now--

The inspector notices Charlie's bag.

INSP. COLEMAN (CONT'D)

(pointing)

I-is that a bag of goose droppings?

CHARLIE

...Yeah?

INSP. COLEMAN

Get that out of here right now, or I'll revoke your license for good!

Charlie walks off toward the bathroom with his bag.

CHARLIE

Alright, I... guess I'll flush 'em
down the toilet... I mean... that's
where poop goes, right?

The inspector heads toward the exit.

INSP. COLEMAN

You're closed effective
immediately, just like every other
bar in town! It's a quarantine!
Don't choose to take this
personally!

The inspector leaves.

DENNIS

...We're gonna choose to take this
personally!

CUT TO:

TITLE SEQUENCE (:20)

FADE TO:

EXT. PADDY'S PUB - ESTABLISHING - LATER

CUT TO:

INT. PADDY'S PUB - AFTERNOON

Dennis walks out of the men's room, looking at his phone. Dee
and Mac are sitting at the bar.

DENNIS

Alright, so I was doing some
research on my phone while I had a
moment; apparently they're gonna
force us to stay inside our houses
for God-knows how long?

MAC

What!?! How is that even legal!?

DENNIS

Apparently they think this disease
is so dangerous that the only way
they can fight it is by putting our
basic human rights on hold!

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

DEE

Well, I mean, if it's that bad,
that kind of makes sense...

(realizing they disagree)

I-I mean, it's *stupid*, but it kind
of makes sense!

DENNIS

"It's stupid but it makes sense."
That is such a Deandra Reynolds
sentence right there.

MAC

Yeah, I was about to ask her who's
side she thinks she's on, but I
don't think she even knows herself!

DEE

Aw, shut up! You boys just can't
handle complex opinions!

DENNIS

Okay then, well, here's a complex
question for your complex brain,
where's Charlie and Frank?

CHARLIE (O.S.)

(strained)

Hold on, we're coming!

Charlie and Frank emerge from the back room pushing beer kegs
on dolly carts and little red wagons.

FRANK

Okay, who's car we taking? And are
we just slinging beer or are we
gonna mess with hard liquor?

DENNIS

...What on earth are you talking
about?

CHARLIE

Well, we can't sell booze here, so
we'll sell it on the street!
Problem solved!

DENNIS

(to Dee and Mac)

Seriously? I ask you two to watch
after these maniacs while I'm in
the bathroom for a measly--

(checks watch)

(MORE)

DENNIS (CONT'D)

--forty-five minutes, and you let them run off and start another harebrained scheme?

DEE

You didn't ask us, you just walked off to go have Bathroom Phone Time.

Mac nods his head to agree with Dee.

DENNIS

Yeah, because that's the kind of leader I am! I shouldn't need to say things for you to just get them!

FRANK

Aw, Dennis, quit your bitching! Before you went off to take your hour-long dump, you said you wanted to be proactive about this! What's more proactive than circumventing bullshit laws?

DENNIS

Frank, when I said 'proactive,' I meant marching our asses down to City Hall and giving them a piece of our minds in person where they can't ignore us!

FRANK

Oh, c'mon, Dennis, if they gave a rat's ass about what bar owners like you thought, they wouldn't have shut you down in the first place!

DENNIS

Well, if you think the government's so powerful, how are you going to go around blatantly selling alcohol in public?

FRANK

It wouldn't have to be so blatant if you would just let us drive around with these kegs hidden in the back of your Range Rover, but I guess we're gonna have to be dumb and obvious about it since you won't help your own cause!

CHARLIE

Yeah, Dennis, you know, they say staying neutral in a conflict is choosing the side of the oppressor!

MAC

You hear that, Dee?

DEE

I'm not on the side of the government! I think this law is stupid, too!

DENNIS

Alright, Dee, if you're so not-neutral, are you gonna fight this civilly like *real* adults, or are you going to be a wannabe rebel selling beer out of a keg in a little red wagon?

DEE

Uh-- I don't know, I don't think either one of them is going to actually work--

MAC

(pointing at Dee)

Ah, *neutral!*

The boys all point and jeer at her while she covers her head with her arms in embarrassment.

BOYS

Neu-tral! Neu-tral! Neu-tral! Neu-tral!

DEE

(snapping at them)

SHOTGUN!

The boys murmur in confusion.

DEE (CONT'D)

(to Dennis)

If I drive downtown with you, do I get shotgun?

DENNIS

(still confused)

Uh... sure!

DEE

Alright, screw it, I'm with you.

MAC
Ideological victory!

Dennis and Mac high-five one another while Frank and Charlie mutter to themselves in frustration. Dee just looks embarrassed.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - LATER

Frank and Charlie are transporting a wagon carrying a beer keg down the sidewalk; Frank is pulling, Charlie is pushing. The area looks abandoned.

CHARLIE
(calling out)
Beer! Get your fresh beer here! You can't get it in bars anymore! Beer!
(to Frank)
Wait... did we remember to bring the little red cups?

FRANK
What? ...Aw, hell, they can just drink straight out of the nozzle. We'll charge 'em by the second. Five bucks sound fair?

CHARLIE
Oh, if I was a raging alcoholic in a world without beer, I'd pay anything for a fix.
(pointing down the street)
Oh, hey, here comes somebody!

FRANK
(to the pedestrian)
Hey, you want some beer!?

We see a man giving them side-eye as he goes into the street to walk around them.

CHARLIE
Yeah, they just closed up all the bars! You can't get this anywhere else!

The man just keeps walking, leaving Frank and Charlie confused.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
What's his problem?

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

FRANK

Eh, probably a recovering alcoholic. Kinda looked like one of 'em born-again Christian who thinks he's too good to talk to us.

They notice another pedestrian coming from the same direction as the last guy.

CHARLIE

Oh, here's someone else!

This person, a woman wearing a surgical mask, also takes a wide berth around them into the street.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Excuse me, ma'am, can we interest you in some ice-cold beer?

FRANK

Yeah, they shut all the bars down, support your local business and stick it to the man!

She has passed them; again, they're confused.

CHARLIE

Why was she wearing a maxi-pad on her face?

FRANK

I dunno, probably some new feminist fashion statement. Let's go find some other people.

They start moving the wagon again.

CHARLIE

I gotta say, Frank, this is weird. People seem like they're avoiding us like we're diseased or something.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - LATER

Dennis's Land Rover is driving down an unusually empty road.

INT. DENNIS'S LAND ROVER - CONTINUOUS

Dennis is driving, Mac is shotgun, Dee is in the backseat.

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

DEE

So please explain to me how I wound up in the backseat anyway after I was promised shotgun?

MAC

Ah, now you see, Dennis and I discussed that, and we both agreed that we interpreted you calling shotgun to mean that if we wound up having to take up armed rebellion against the state to reopen our business, you would want dibs on the shotgun as your weapon of choice.

DEE

(sputtering)

Wh-- armed rebellion!? What on earth are you talking about!? Do either of you even own a shotgun? Are you insane?

DENNIS

Dee, the fact of the matter is that Mac has the shotgun seat *in the car* and you don't because of your own failure to communicate. So I suggest you be very ashamed of yourself so you can learn from this.

DEE

Oh, I didn't even want to sit in the front seat so bad! I just knew that you two boys get off on a masculine power trip from sitting in front and I wanted to take that away from you!

DENNIS

And that is extremely hateful toward male culture, Dee, but I'll tell you what: if you want to kill a man's natural power fantasies for the sake of it, channel that energy toward these goddamned politicians, because *here* we are!

EXT. CITY HALL - CONTINUOUS

The Land Rover is seen pulling up in the street in front of the building.

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

MAC (O.S.)

By the way, Dee, you can cover the parking meter, right?

DEE (O.S.)

Oh, goddammit!

CUT TO:

INT. CITY HALL - SHORTLY AFTER

Dennis, Dee, and Mac are walking into the main hall, which is also mostly abandoned.

DEE

Do either of you even know where you're going!?

MAC

Oh, here comes Dee with a joke about how we're men and we're too proud to ask for directions.

DENNIS

Dee, that is despicably bigoted of you! Obviously women have gone through a lot of shit at the hands of men, but men aren't going to feel bad about it if you constantly mock our way of life!

DEE

I didn't say anything! He just assumed I would say something like that and you believed him!

The three see a SECURITY GUARD eyeing them.

DENNIS

Well, watch this, Dee. I'm about to prove your prejudices wrong.

Dennis leads the three to the guard's booth.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

(putting on a sophisticated air)

Excuse me, good sir, we're three proprietors of a bar in South Philadelphia who have just been told that we need to shutter our only source of income immediately because of some silly disease;

(MORE)

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

DENNIS (CONT'D)

now, who may we talk to in order to rectify this wrong?

GUARD

...Well, God, for one.

MAC

Go on, go on, we're listening!

DENNIS

(to Mac)

Shush, no we're not.

(to the guard)

Seriously, who can we talk to in order have this ridiculous rule overturned?

GUARD

(staring unamused, then:)

Look, even if you had an appointment to see someone -- which it doesn't seem like you do -- city officials aren't taking visitors. We don't know how far this disease has spread already, and we can't have important people getting sick.

DENNIS

Oh, so democracy's out sick today, huh? Alright, alright. Well, listen here, buddy. This country was founded on three promises: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Forcing us to close our bar...

(counting on his fingers)

...deprives us of our livelihood... it takes away our liberty to run a legitimate business, and... uh--

DEE

And we can't be happy if we don't have the first two things!

MAC

Yeah, what she said!

DENNIS

What he said. So here's the deal. You may think you're "protecting" important people, but if they're really that important, they can be duly interrogated about why they think they can infringe upon our rights as Americans!

The guard glares at them, still unamused.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY HALL - SHORTLY AFTER

The guard escorts the three out the front door and closes the door behind him. They look at one another confused for a moment.

MAC

...Okay, now I say we sneak in through the sewers--

DENNIS

No, no sewers. If they want to shove us out onto the streets, then fine, we'll take to the streets, like patriots! We'll remind these municipal bigwigs about the power of the common man--

(looking at the street
confused)

...Dee, where's my car?

DEE

I don't know where you parked it!

MAC

But you paid for the meter, didn't you?

DEE

(producing receipt)
Yeah, I did, and here's the receipt!

The other two look at her in frustration as she realizes her mistake.

DEE (CONT'D)

I... I was supposed to put this in the window, wasn't I?

CUT TO:

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - AFTERNOON

Charlie and Mac are still dejectedly moving the keg wagon through the abandoned park.

CHARLIE

(panting)

Man, where *is* everybody today? With all the bars closed, I just sort of expected all the alcoholics in town to be wandering around aimlessly, looking for meaning in their life.

FRANK

Now, I ain't giving up yet, but I'm starting to worry people are actually taking this apocalypse-plague thing seriously.

CHARLIE

What? Why would they think that? The last pandemic was bullshit, and we already survived 2012, SARS, that one time the sun went behind the moon... Why would people think this one's the *real* apocalypse?

FRANK

I dunno, Charlie. People are--

Charlie sees something in the distance.

CHARLIE

Wait! Shh, shh! Stop...

He points for Frank to see; CRICKET is sleeping on a park bench, surrounded by empty beer cans and liquor bottles.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Frank... I have an idea. We give beer to homeless people... and they pay us in exposure!

FRANK

..."Pay us in exposure"!? Charlie, we're not some hippie artists looking for a big break, exposure ain't gonna save our business!

CHARLIE

But think of it this way! We give them some beer, and in exchange, whenever they ask people for money, they tell them about us! Word of mouth, it's the oldest form of marketing!

FRANK

Aw, what do you know about marketing? I say we cut out the middleman and have *them* pay with the money they get from panhandling. Besides, you just know half these guys are just faking it and probably drove to the park in a Ferrari! C'mon, let's go.

Frank leads the way as the two take the wagon over to the Cricket.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Hey Cricket, wake up!

CRICKET

(stirring awake)

...Hm?

CHARLIE

Cricket, we need you and the rest of the homeless underground to do us a favor! All the bars in Philly got shut down because of some crazy super-disease that's spreading around.

CRICKET

Hm... yeah, I remember someone mentioning that at the liquor store earlier today.

FRANK

Well listen, soon you won't be able to go to the liquor store anymore, so from today forward, you gotta start spreading the word that our mobile beer service is the only place to get booze from!

CRICKET

(stares confused; then:)
But... they said at the liquor
store that they're not gonna have
to close. They're exempt.

Frank and Charlie are silent for a moment, bewildered.

CHARLIE

Th- they are?

CRICKET

Yeah, apparently they're
categorized as an essential
business... hey, you guys got any
PCP?

CHARLIE

(beat; then, nervously:)
Frank, let's huddle.

They take a few steps away from Cricket and huddle.

CRICKET

So no PCP?

CHARLIE

(whispering to Frank)
The fucking liquor stores are
allowed to stay open? How are we
supposed to compete with that!?
Those are like bars but you can
take the booze anywhere!

FRANK

Charlie... I have an idea. Dennis
thinks we're not patriotic for not
civilly petitioning our government?
Well we're gonna do something truly
American: we're gonna take out the
competition, and we're gonna do it
by exploiting the vulnerable--

Frank turns and gestures to Cricket, but both realize Cricket
is drinking from the keg. They run over to shoe him away.

CHARLIE

Cricket, no!

FRANK (CONT'D)

Shoo, Cricket, no more!

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - LATER

Dennis, Dee, and Mac are knocking on the doors and windows of a random bar which is clearly closed.

MAC
Hello!? Allies!?

DEE
Anybody home!?

Dennis throws his hands up in frustration and walks away; the others follow.

DENNIS
Jesus, gathering all the other small-business owners in town to help us fight the city would be a lot easier if they weren't all already bending the knee!

MAC
Well hey, more business for us when we beat this stupid ruling!

DEE
But, uh... as much as the shut-down is... *stupid*... what if everyone *else* thinking it's *not* stupid makes *us* stupid? I mean... what's the point of being smart if it makes everyone else think you're dumb?

The boys look visibly confused by that.

DENNIS
(beat; then:)
Dee, take your bizarre armchair philosophizing and put it in your--

Dennis stops. He listens for something in the distance. The faint sound of a RALLY can be heard.

DENNIS (CONT'D)
I'm not gonna finish that insult.

He walks off quickly and the others follow.

DEE
What, now I'm not even good enough to be insulted!?

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - CONTINUOUS

The three turn the corner to see a large anti-shutdown rally congregated in the park. We can faintly hear people shouting things through megaphones, but they are unintelligible to us.

DENNIS

Hm... looks like the troops have already been rallied...

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - CONTINUOUS

The trio are approaching the crowd, who are collectively grumbling. Some are holding signs protesting the shutdown. Note that others in the background seem to be coughing or sneezing. Dennis is the first to speak to some protesters, a man and a woman each holding a posterboard.

DENNIS

E-excuse me, folks, what exactly are you guys protesting?

FEMALE PROTESTER

Would you believe what the city's doing? They're going to close down all the businesses in town and they don't even know for how long!

MALE PROTESTER

This is supposed to be the land of the free and the home of the brave, and we're gonna sacrifice our freedom because we're suddenly scared of germs?

DENNIS

Huh, well, it's interesting that you say that, because... we're small-business owners and we don't like the decision very much either!

MALE PROTESTER

Good! You should want to serve us to keep your livelihoods!

FEMALE PROTESTER

And it's disgusting how many business-owners are quick to just give in to this!

(MORE)

FEMALE PROTESTER (CONT'D)

I had a hairdresser's appointment scheduled for this weekend and she cancelled on me! What am I supposed to do now, grow my hair out forever and look like a hippie?

DEE

(chuckling nervously)

Well, heh... don't you have a pair of scissors at home?

The protesters look visibly offended.

DENNIS

(nervously)

Uh, let's- let's go find some more people to talk to, eh, guys?

He grabs Dee by the arm and leaves the scene; Mac follows.

The three are moving through the crowd, but they find it becomes increasingly dense and difficult to navigate through.

DEE

Where are we even going?

DENNIS

To the front! If I can put myself in a leadership position where I belong, then I can command these people to storm City Hall and get this ridiculous shutdown overturned!

The three don't realize it yet, but as they wade through the crowd, they start drifting further apart.

DEE

You think they're just going to let you take over this... this... whatever this is!?

MAC

If you don't ask, then the answer's always no, Dee!

DENNIS

Yeah, you tell her, Mac--!

Dennis turns around to realize that he can no longer see Mac nor Dee.

DENNIS (CONT'D)
Mac? ...Dee?

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - CONTINUOUS - MONTAGE

1) Mac is alone in the dense crowd.

MAC
Dee!? ...Dennis!?

2) Dee is alone in the dense crowd.

DEE
Dennis!? Mac!? Where the hell did
you guys go!?

A protester right next to her COUGHS; Dee SHRIEKS.

3) Series of claustrophobic shots inside the crowd, several of the protesters appearing to have a cold, and the terrified looks of Dennis, Mac, and Dee.

CUT TO:

INT. LIQUOR STORE - LATER

Near the front of the large liquor store, a cashier is checking out a young customer's purchase.

CASHIER
May I see some ID, please?

Elsewhere in the store, a loud CRASH of broken glass is heard, grabbing everyone's attention. They turn to see Cricket (seeming very intoxicated on something) standing in an aisle amid broken bottles.

CRICKET
Hello, everybody, my name is
Matthew and I'm currently under the
influence of bath salts!

He swings his arm and knocks more glass bottles to the ground; they SHATTER, causing more staff and customers to GASP and SHRIEK.

CRICKET (CONT'D)
I am not going to hurt you, I just
need to break stuff to get these
uppers out of my system!
(MORE)

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

CRICKET (CONT'D)

(breaks more bottles)

I usually prefer PCP, but I
couldn't find any, so I tried
something new and honestly, I don't
like it!

(breaks more bottles)

That said, if any of you have any
PCP, it may help me come down!

He breaks still more bottles. We can see people from every
part of the large store making their way to the front to
observe the scene.

CUT TO:

INT. LIQUOR STORE - CONTINUOUS

Charlie and Frank are standing around with two shopping carts
in the back of the store; a security guard leaves a back
office and runs past them toward the front, giving Frank and
Charlie the chance to feverishly start stuffing their carts.

FRANK

Alright, Charlie, we're gonna wanna
load up on the hard stuff. Quality
over quantity, people are gonna
wanna get really drunk if the
world's closed. Vodkas, rums--

CHARLIE

(holding up bottle)
Moonshine?

FRANK

Sure, toss it in.

An especially loud CRASH of glass can be heard from the front
of the store; Charlie and Frank smirk at this, but they don't
stop stuffing their carts.

FRANK (CONT'D)

(hushed)

And stupid Dennis thinks we're not
patriotic? We just recreated the
Boston Tea Party!

CHARLIE

And for bonus points, we're
destroying their supply *and*
stealing it, so it's like we're
doing a Robin Hood thing, too!
...Wait, would that make us the
British?

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

FRANK

No, no, Charlie, we're not *giving* the booze away, this is more of an Al Capone thing.

CHARLIE

...But what side were the Italians on at the Boston Tea Party?

SECURITY GUARD (O.S.)

I beg your pardon, gentlemen?

They stop in their tracks to realize that another security guard has emerged from the office, now standing behind them.

CHARLIE

(to the guard)

Uh... the Italians were on the same side as the Nazis, right? So by the transitive property, I guess that means they were on the bad side with the British--

Frank throws a large bottle of vodka at the guard's shins; Charlie follows Frank's lead and throws a rum bottle at the guard's feet. Both bottles SHATTER on impact and the guard SCREAMS in pain; as he goes to clutch his lower extremities, he slips and falls in the liquid and broken glass.

FRANK

Run, Charlie!

Frank gets ready to escape with his cart.

CHARLIE

But I already threw rum!

FRANK

RUN!

The two take their carts and run through the doors to the back storage area. Still writhing in pain, the security guard reaches for his walkie-talkie.

SECURITY GUARD

(to radio)

Jesse, call the police, I'm hit and we've got thieves running out the back!

"JESSE" (O.S.)
(over radio)
I'll try, man, but all the cops are
tied up at the protest downtown!

CUT TO:

EXT. LIQUOR STORE/BACK ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie and Frank emerge with their carts from a back door into the alleyway. They hear a POLICE SIREN and see a police car speed by the alley on the main road. They take off running with their carts in the other direction, toward the camera.

FRANK
Aw, shit! C'mon, let's head toward
downtown! More people to sell to,
more people to blend in with!

CHARLIE
Fucking Cricket was supposed to be
a better distraction than this!
(beat, then:)
...By the way, where'd you get
those bath salts for him?

FRANK
What? Those weren't bath salts,
Charlie, that was fish food!

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - LATER

At the edge of the mass of protesters, Mac finds himself shuffled out of the crowd and onto a city street. He looks across the street and sees a convenience store. Note that some guy is lighting a cigarette in front of the store but he is not the focus. Mac has an epiphany.

MAC
I know what I must do...
(beaming)
I'm gonna make you proud, Dennis!

He walks off toward the convenience store.

CUT TO:

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

EXT. ALLEYWAY - LATER

Charlie and Frank are still feverishly pushing their carts, now through a different alleyway full of debris and potholes. Another police car drives past the alley on the main street, its SIREN spooking Charlie and Frank, who look back only to crash their carts when the wheels get caught in potholes. The carts both tip over and several bottles break open with a CRASH.

CHARLIE

No no no no no no no NO!

FRANK

Alright, screw this! I don't care about the bar! I have enough money! I just wanted to give a big middle finger to the government, but I ain't going to jail again! Dump the booze, Charlie!

CHARLIE

What!? But we're almost at Washington Square, there'll be plenty of people there!

Frank grabs a bottle of vodka, opens it, and pours it into a grated manhole cover. As he does:

FRANK

Dump the booze, Charlie! Cut our losses! Quit while we're ahead! C'mon, help me out here!

Charlie grabs two bottles of clear alcohol, opens them, and dumps them into the sewer alongside Frank. They both also scrape the glass shards into the grate with their shoes.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - LATER

Closer to the center of the crowd, Dennis and Dee push and shove their way forward and ultimately realize that they've found one another.

DENNIS

Dee!?

DEE

Dennis!

DENNIS

Do you know where Mac went!?

DEE

No, and the only reason I found you was because I just assumed an egomaniac like yourself would be pushing and shoving your way to the front so you could take over the protest without finding us first!

DENNIS

Well then, once again, my unfailing leadership skills have saved you. With any luck, Mac might have had the same idea.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - CONTINUOUS

Mac is making his way through the crowd, looking confident, holding up his hands balled into fists, one fist at his chest and the other straight in the air, a lit cigarette sticking out between each finger. He's coughing sporadically from the smoke. Between the coughing and the smell, people are moving away from him in disgust, giving him room to move forward.

MAC

I'm gonna make you--
(cough, cough)
--proud, Dennis! ...Oh, excuse me!

He pushes past a man and accidentally burns him with a few of the cigarettes; the man SCREAMS in pain.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - MOMENTS LATER

An angry "Karen" type is screaming into a megaphone, standing alongside a few other rally leaders in an open space amid the crowd. Note that they're standing on a paved surface with a grated manhole cover in their midst.

ANGRY KAREN

(into megaphone)
They don't need to shut down my city! If they want to stop people from getting sick, then they should take down those cell phone towers!

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

The crowd erupts in CHEERS and APPLAUSE. This is followed by audible confusion as Mac, cigarettes still in his fists, pushes his way into the clearing and approaches the speaker. Dennis and Dee see him from the crowd.

DEE

What's he doing!?

ANGRY KAREN

Who the hell are you?

MAC

(to the crowd)

Uh, hello, people of Philadelphia, my name is Ronald, but, uh, my friends call me Mac. Oh, and by the way, I'd like to say hi to my friend, Dennis, and this other person, Dee!

Dee and Dennis push their way to the inner circle.

DENNIS

Mac, what the hell are you doing?
You don't know how to rally people!

MAC

Oh, hi guys! I figured out a way to the center!

DEE

What're you doing with cigarettes?
You're a health nut!

MAC

But I'm *also*... a *liberty* nut!
(addressing the crowd)
For you see, my fellow citizens,
I'm a small-business owner--

MAN IN CROWD

(far in back)

WE CAN'T HEAR YOU!

As Mac keep talking, the crowd starts BOOING. Dennis and Dee are visibly embarrassed.

MAC

(screaming)

--SO I'M JUST AS AFFECTED BY THIS
AS ALL OF YOU, IF NOT MORE! AND I
WANT TO FIGHT FOR MY RIGHTS, HEALTH
BE DAMNED! BECAUSE YOU KNOW WHAT!?
(MORE)

MAC (CONT'D)

IF THEY TAKE AWAY MY RIGHT TO RUN A BUSINESS BECAUSE IT'S A HEALTH RISK, THEN IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY BAN OTHER THINGS FOR BEING HEALTH RISKS! LIKE CIGARETTES! THEY'RE DISGUSTING AND THEY'RE EXTREMELY BAD FOR YOU AND I DON'T USUALLY SMOKE THEM BECAUSE THEY MAKE IT HARD FOR ME TO WORK OUT AND MAKE MYSELF HOT, BUT TODAY, I'M GONNA DO IT ANYWAY WHILE IT'S STILL LEGAL! BECAUSE THAT'S HOW MUCH I LOVE FREEDOM!

Mac tries to maneuver his fingers to stick one cigarette in his mouth without releasing the others, but one does drop and falls into the sewer grate. He eventually gets one in his mouth as the BOOS and CONFUSED MURMURING of the crowd grows louder.

DEE

Mac, you don't have to do this.

DENNIS

Whatever this is isn't helpful!

Mac attempts to take a drag off the cigarette but immediately starts COUGHING violently. Many in the crowd GASP.

WOMAN IN CROWD

He has the cell phone disease!

ANGRY KAREN

Get the hell out of here, you weirdo!

She goes right up behind Mac (still coughing) and shoves him back into the crowd. Dennis and Dee get out of the way and he crashes in to a random protester behind them.

FALLEN PROTESTER

GAH! HE BURNED ME WITH HIS CIGARETTES!

Mac gets up hastily and nervously.

MAC

Oh, shit! I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry! L-look! It's okay, I'm getting rid of the cigarettes now!

He goes to the sewer grate and throws the rest of the still-lit cigarettes in the holes, not noticing wisps of black smoke coming out of the sewer.

DENNIS

Mac, what was that all about? What were you planning to accomplish?

DEE

Unless you *didn't* have a plan, which honestly would be less embarrassing than if that was the best plan you could come up with!

MAC

Guys, guys, I was just trying to prove to these people that we as business owners don't want to shut our bar down and that we'd do things we didn't even want to do to exercise our freedoms because... because that's how much we love freedom! And... and I was trying to make you guys proud...

He gives them a puppy-dog look and they look for a moment like they're starting to feel sympathy for him. Note the smoke from the sewer is getting thicker and some bystanders are starting to notice it.

MAC (CONT'D)

Well, mostly you, Dennis.

DEE

Oh, screw you, Mac--!

The Angry Karen interrupts and once again shoves Mac away.

ANGRY KAREN

GET OUT!

MAC

(turning around)

Hey, I fought for your freedom to do commerce, don't use your freedom to shove me--! Oh, shit!

He realizes that there is now a steady flame coming out of the sewer. Mac pushes and shoves through the crowd, Dennis and Dee follow, and the event leaders jump away from the flame while SHOUTS and SCREAMS from the rest of the crowd draw attention to other tongues of flames coming out of other drainage covers.

CUT TO:

"The Gang Gets Quarantined 2: Freedom Fights Back"

EXT. DOWNTOWN PARK - CONTINUOUS - MONTAGE

A series of shots showing the crowd of protesters panicking, SCREAMING, and dispersing from the park amid flames coming from the sewer grates.

RANDOM PROTESTER (O.C.)

(amid crowd)

They're blowing up the planet from the inside, just like they did with the Twin Towers!

CUT TO:

EXT. PADDY'S PUB - LATER

A fire engine drives past the bar as Dennis, Dee, and Mac run up from down the street and in through the front door.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - CONTINUOUS

The three run in to see Charlie and Frank sitting around drinking at the bar. The TV in the corner appears to be showing a NEWS REPORT about the sewer fire, but Charlie turns it off when he sees the three enter.

CHARLIE

(nervously)

Oh, uh, h-hey, guys, what's up?

FRANK

How was your, uh... adventure at City Hall?

DEE

It ended with stupid Mac trying to out-freedom a bunch of stupid freedom-nuts but he just looked stupid and it caused mass panic and chaos.

MAC

And I'm afraid that I may have given myself lung cancer in the process.

DENNIS

Yeah, uh, by the way, um... d-did your little exploit to sell booze off the street end with you two chickening out and dumping large quantities of our highest-proof alcohol directly into the sewer?

CHARLIE

What!?

(scoffs)

Oh, no, we... it wasn't any of *the bar's* alcohol, no, we, we... we didn't waste any of our own supply, don't you worry!

DENNIS

...So everything *else* I guessed was right.

FRANK

Dennis, it's not scientifically possible to start a sewer fire by dumping a bunch of gallons of vodka into it! At least that's what I'm saying if the pigs ask! But I'd much prefer if I don't have to talk to them *period*, so don't go inviting them here!

DENNIS

Oh, no, no, we, uh... we have no interest in them finding us either, *I mean--* we have no interest in *dealing* with them either. So, uh...

MAC

Hey, how about we all... lay low for awhile?

DEE

Yeah, it might be a good idea to... stay inside! Where... you know... angry mobs might have trouble finding you!

FRANK

Or where the cops can't get in without a warrant!

MAC

Exactly! And, uh... I gotta say, we interacted with a lot of people today, and the vast majority of them were very unpleasant.

CHARLIE

I know, right!? All day people were looking at me like I had two heads or... or like I had the bubonic plague or something!

DENNIS

Yeah, is this what the general public is like these days? I mean, the lack of money flow's going to be an issue, but emotionally, I could totally go for not having to deal with ornery customers for a while.

DEE

Or with people in general.

DENNIS

Exactly! So... it's agreed? We're gonna shut down the bar and hang out inside for a little while? Are we thinking... a few weeks?

CHARLIE

(scoffs)

Oh, at least a month!

FRANK

Or two or three, possibly longer!

DEE

I second that!

MAC

Third!

DENNIS

Alright, so it's settled! We're gonna ride out our respective storms just like we're in a nuclear bunker waiting for the apocalypse to pass! Who wants to play Monopoly?

MAC

I call the thimble!

The others all MURMUR in cheerful agreement for a few moments before the mood is killed by Frank COUGHING violently. The others stop talking and stare at him in horror; when he stops, he looks around at them in offended confusion.

FRANK

...What're you all looking at?

CUT TO: CREDITS

END OF EPISODE.