

Kick Buttowski

"The New Guru"

By Evan Gore

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INT. KICK'S BEDROOM - DAY

EXTREME CLOSE ON: Dramatic moment: the upper curve of a shining sphere...REVEAL: it is a superball pinched in Gunther's fingertips... as he squeezes a blob of super glue on it.

1 GUNTHER
Kick, please let me wear the rubber ball suit. Can I?

2 KICK (O.S.)
Focus Gunther. Glue on the last ball NOW!

REVEAL: Kick wears a suit covered in FIVE HUNDRED SUPERBALLS!

3 GUNTHER
(GRUNT) Five hundred! I can't wait to be (SLO-MO) Ohhhh nooooo....

In SLO-MO, the ball slips out of his fingertips, then:

HIGH-SPEED ricochets angling around the room, PING PING PING! off Walls, a ceiling corner; knocking a framed picture (SHATTER!), and in the end: it STICKS fast to the ceiling, where 10 other balls stick, hanging from their glue blobs.

4 GUNTHER
Aww-no!

Kick drags a step ladder to the middle of his room, and climbs.

5 GUNTHER
Just forget it Kick. Four-hundred-ninety-nine balls is enough to break the bounce record for sure!

6 KICK
There are no short cuts to awesomeness Gunthaaaaaaa!

The ladder falls forward, sending Kick bouncing around the room at HIGH SPEED like a super ball.

--Kick is a BLUR, ricocheting at the walls and ceiling corner...

--He ANGLES up and down past Gunther...

--HE BASHES into the poster wall, knocking everything off it--

--He bashes the ceiling, the entire panel holding the stuck superballs sticks to him and comes off; and just as HAROLD (Kick's Dad) walks in:

7 HAROLD
What's going on up--oof!

Kick bashes them both off screen.

EXT. WOMENS' WORK FITNESS - DAY

Kick talks through the passenger window of his mom's car. She has just dropped him off at a pink storefront tucked between two knitting stores. "WOMENS' WORK FITNESS" features lady-like script and a picture of a mom in tights happily holding a tape measure around her waist.

KICK
"Women's Work Fitness?"

8 DENISE
It's not punishment Kick. It's "focusing your energy." You are LITERALLY bouncing off the walls at home, and these classes have always done wonders for me. So I'll pick you up in an hour!

She drives off, he turns with disgust towards the door.

KICK
(GRUNT of disgust).

INT. WOMENS' WORK FITNESS - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Kick GURU GABE is a short, muscular mid-weight in tight clothes and a pony tail.

10 GURU GABE
This class is called "Punch-a-robics Plus Glutes," My name is Gabe, but while in class, please call me "Guru."

Kick stands in a line of students we can't yet see.

11 KICK
"Guru Gabe?" I mean--for serious?

COUGHING MAN
(COUGHS)

The other classmates are SEVEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL, COUGHING MAN, an OLD WOMAN, and...Gunther! He rushes over.

12 GUNTHER
Hey Kick! Finally someone my own
age is in this class!

As EASY-LISTENING MUSIC plays, Gabe demonstrates alternating arm extensions, open handed. It looks nothing like punching.

13 GURU GABE
Let's all extend? Extend? Extend?

Kick reluctantly starts throwing some lame air punches.

14 KICK
This will focus my energy?

15 GURU GABE
No fist-making. For now, we just
send our arms a message, that we
will be punching after week four.

Kick drops his arms, and looks skyward for Heavenly intervention.

16 KICK
(GRUNT of disgust).

WIPE TO:

INT. SAME - ANOTHER DAY

Guru Gabe is waving his hands over his head.

17 GURU GABE
And right, and left, and right, and
left, and right and left, and right
and left--

Kick, his teeth clenched in bored agony, hitting his helmet with tight fists, left, right, left, right.

18 KICK
(DISGUSTED) And right and left and
right and left...

INT. WOMENS' WORK FITNESS - AFTER CLASS - DAY

Class is over, and Guru Gabe has a towel draped over his neck.

19 KICK
Uh, 'scuse me there Gabe?

20 GURU GABE
Guru Gabe....

21 KICK

Sorry, class is over. Are you planning to... speed things up a notch?

Guru Gabe looks peaceful and smug, holding a finger in the air.

22 GURU GABE

True Punch-a-robics takes years of training. I had mine in the caves of Mount Himalaya. Are you dedicated?

23 KICK

I'm dedicated to NOT chewing my arm off from the boredom.

24 GURU GABE

Then let's play a game. Hold out your hand.

Kick holds out his hand.

KICK

I'm game.

GURU GABE

First one to say "ouch" loses.

Guru Gabe WHIP CRACKS his pony tail, causing Kick obvious pain, which he holds in.

KICK

Mmmnf!

Kick holds it in, the pressure turning him red and sweating.

26 GURU GABE

That was the Ponytail of pain. This is "the floating corkscrew."

SUDDENLY: Gabe is in the air, swinging a foot over Kick, who ducks to not get killed.

Gabe now stands before a heavy bag, then snaps to a punch pose so swiftly, he sinks his hand inside the heavy bag (barely moving it), then pulls out a handful of sand, and the bag empties onto the floor.

27 GURU GABE

"The punch of no return!"

He stands where Kick can stare in amazement, as he rubs his hands together so fast, they glow with light energy.

28 GURU GABE
"Hands of fire."

Gabe CLAPS his glowing hands, and the energy ball blasts Kick across the room. In a heap against the far wall:

29 KICK
Teach me, Guru Gabe.

REVEAL: The rest of the class watches from the doorway. They all drop to one knee in unison.

30 GUNTHER, KIDS, OLD LADY
(UNISON) Teach us Guru Gabe.

WIPE TO:

INT. WOMENS' WORK FITNESS - NEXT DAY

Class has improved. All the students are now wearing white gi, and Gabe shows more energy than in the last class. Gunther struggles to climb a rope with knots in it.

31 GUNTHER
(GRUNT) I'm FINALLY getting the
Ninja training I've dreamed of!
(GRUNT! GRUNT!)

Guru Gabe <SNAPS> his pony tail at Gunther's butt, making him scoot up the rope a little faster.

32 GUNTHER
Ouch!

33 GURU GABE
This is NOT ninjitsu-- To be
taught punch-a-robics plus glutes
is a rare honor. I am the first
of only four practitioners in the
world. If anything should happen
to me, one of you would have to
take my place.

Gabe walks among other students, each doing a different exercise: The old lady tries to hoist a large kettle ball, the boy swings a bamboo training saber, the girl throws a repetitive front kicks.

Kick holds a backwards bridge.

34 KICK
Uh-huh. And whattya think's going
to happen to you?

Gunther reaches the top of the rope, but slips off.

35 GUNTHER (O.S.)
Hey I made it to the toooooooooooop!

Gunther free falls, crushing Gabe like cement on a cracker.

EXT. WOMEN'S WORK FITNESS - SIDEWALK - DAY

SIRENS. UPSHOT on EMERGENCY HELICOPTER making a dramatic descent. A rescue gurney lowers straight down to camera.

GUNTHER
I hate when this happens. What are we going to do now?

Kick and Gunter stand bewildered on the sidewalk. PARAMEDICS roll Gabe out on a gurney. Kick grabs Gabe by the collar, pulling him up close.

36 KICK
Guru Gabe? Where are you going?
Aren't you going to teach me that secret "hands of fire" thing?

Gabe whips his pony tail <CRACK> at Kick's belly, dropping him to the mat.

37 KICK
Ouch!

Gabe snaps awake from limpness, grabbing Kick's collar with even more intensity.

38 GURU GABE
No more time for training. The new guru is the practitioner who wins the fight.

39 KICK
The fight? What fight?

The old lady and the little kids all start slapping and shin-kicking Kick.

40 OLD LADY/KIDS
Ha! Hya! Take that! Ha!!

41 KICK
Hey! Stop! Hey! Hey! QUIT IT!!

Kick pushes himself away, and holds out his hands to stop them. They recoil as if attacked.

42 GUNTHER, KIDS, OLD LADY
<GASP!>

The old lady, two kids and Gunther all go down on one knee.

43 GUNTHER
Kick, you are the new guru.

44 KIDS, OLD LADY
Our new guru...

WIPE TO:

EXT. PARK - PICNIC TABLE - DAY

Kick and Gunther sit on a picnic table <SLURPING> big gulps.

45 GUNTHER
Maybe it was destiny...Guru Kick.

46 KICK
Don't call me that.

47 GUNTHER
Why not?

REVEAL: the classmates stand obediently by, still in their gi, just a few feet away.

48 OLD LADY
Hey uh, kid with the helmet?

49 KICK
That's "Guru Kick."

50 OLD LADY
This class Are you planning to...
kick it up a notch?

51 KICK
Uh no, class dismissed.

52 GURU UMA (O.S.)
Hieeeeeeee!

A bamboo-sword-wielding girl (like a teenage Uma Thurman in Kill Bill) jumps down and lands in battle pose. CAMERA BEHIND HER LEGS FRAME Kick and the others.

53 GUNTHER
Uh-oh... destiny.

54 KICK
Are you the substitute teacher?

CLOSE ON UMA'S FACE: dramatically lit in scary colors.

55 GURU UMA
I am Uma! Third practitioner of
Punch-a-robics plus glutes.

Kick tries not to show his dread of a possible beating.

56 KICK
Good, because I still want to learn
some of that cool stuff.

57 GURU UMA
(THREATENING) I WILL teach you a
lesson... in saying..."OUCH!"

LETTERBOX FRAME, ACTION MUSIC:

58 KICK
But first to say "ouch," loses.

UMA spins her katana in the air like a propeller.

59 GURU UMA
Hieeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee etc.

Her bamboo sword sends Kick's drink exploding into the air,
spraying drops everywhere.

60 GURU UMA (O.S.)
"Bringer of Pain!"

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON WATER DROPLETS: As her blade slices down on
one shaving it mid-air, like a ham.

61 GURU UMA (O.S.)
"Splitter of water!"

Kick leaps through the air past her, grabbing her katana sword out
of her hand.

He lands with a smug look, like he's now got the upper hand. She
gets into fighting pose, but she has lost her confidence. What
will he do?

He spins a dramatic circle, swiping the sword through the air,
filling the room with a gusty breeze. The papers on a BULLETIN
BOARD flap.

62 KICK
"Cutter of wind!"

Beat. Wind still whips the room, especially those papers on the
bulletin board which start to come off. Kick and Gunther stare
in shock. Gunther snaps into adolescent giggles, and Kick can't
help join in the laugh.

63 KICK/GUNTHER
Hee-hee-hee-hee.

A paper, held by PUSH PINS flies off the bulletin board...

CLOSE ON PUSH PIN as it heads towards Uma.

64 GURU UMA
"Ouch!"
(then realizing)
GASP!

She gets pricked by a pin on her arm, as the wind finally dies. She realizes she just said "ouch," and she drops to one supplicant knee.

65 GURU UMA
(SACRED) You are the new guru.

Kick bows back.

Gunther turns off a wall switch for the ceiling fan, which we can see slows down. He says to himself:

66 GUNTHER
Woo...I got WARM!

INT. SIDEWALK - LATER - DAY

Gunther and Kick walk down the sidewalk slurping Big Gulps.

67 GUNTHER
Kick, I don't like you being the
new guru.

68 GUNTHER
There's nothing to worry about,
except getting surprise attack
every once in a while...

Suddenly, a big long Lincoln screeches up to the curb, and out of the driver's side squeezes a tall, over-muscled samurai warrior.

69 GUNTHER
Called it!

70 KICK
So what, I fight YOU now?

The samurai cringes away in fear.

71 SAMURAI
No! No-no! Not me no. I'm...just
the chauffeur. Hang on a sec:

He opens the passenger door, helping out a wrinkled old Asian man with wild white hair in a karate gi, GURU GRANDPA. The samurai chauffeur helps the old man get his 3-sided aluminum walker on wheels. His cute little TERRIER gets out too, also dressed in a karate gi.

72 SAMURAI
Bow down to Guru Grandpa.

Kick and Gunther bow formally, but eyes forward.

73 GUNTHER
Uh-oh Kick. I saw this in a movie
once, where the little old guy
turns out to be an amazing fighter.

The old man takes VERY SLOW walker steps towards kick. <CREAK.
CREAK!>

74 GURU GRANDPA
Excuse me. Excuse me young man...

75 KICK
I've seen the movie too old man. I
know you're here to fight.

76 GURU OLD MAN
You have defeated two
practitioners. Now you must fight
me.

<CREAK. CREAK!> The old man stumbles! Kick, Gunther and the
Chauffeur all make a move to catch him! But he's okay on his own.

77 GURU OLD MAN
I got it, I got it...

<CREAK. CREAK!> He moves in towards Kick...EXTREMELY SLOWLY,
until he and Kick are nose to nose, filling the screen with a
tense stand off. The old man's little dog jumps up and down in
the background bottom of frame.

78 DOG
Yap! Yap! Yap! Yap!

The old man's hand slowly balls into a fist, <KNUCKLES CRACKING>.

79 KICK
I'm not going to fight you old man.

80 GURU GRANDPA
Very good. You have respect for
your elders. It will make
defeating you so much easier.

SUDDENLY THEY'RE MID-FIGHT!

CUTTING TO THE PUNCH: The Old Man's punch flies right past Kick's ear towards camera, his fist hugely looking huge from the perspective, as Kick looks shocked while dodging backwards.

81 GURU GRANDPA
"Punch of a thousand punches!"

CUTTING TO THE NEXT PUNCH: Kick uppercuts, just touching the edge of the old man's wispy hair, which it <BZZZZZ> shaves flat like an electric razor.

82 KICK
"The uh...Barbershop..."

REAL TIME: The old man lands. He feels where his hair got buzzed. He cannot believe it!

83 GURU GRANDPA
You cut my hair! You CUT MY HAIR!

84 KICK
That's what ya get from messing with the new guru.

85 GUNTHER
How come you never offer to cut MY hair?

86 KICK
C'mon Gunther.

Kick turns to leave. A THROWING STAR embeds itself in the back of his helmet <THUD!>

87 KICK
(SIGH)

Kick skateboards away downhill. Gunther looks back to see:

Guru Grandpa now holds five throwing stars in each hand, and is poised to attack.

88 GURU GRANDPA
Hiiiiieee!!!

BEHIND KICK AND GUNTHER, as Gunther skates past Kick in a panic.

89 GUNTHER
Uh, let's go Kick!

Kick looks back to see: the old man races towards him RIDING HIS WALKER, standing on it like a skilled surfer. His little dog follows.

90 DOG
Yap! Yap! Yap!

ON KICK'S FOOT: With one good push, Kick powers his skateboard into high speed.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NEARER INTERSECTION - DAY

Approaching a DOG WALKING LADY on the sidewalk, Kick veers around her, and into the street, veering around the backs of cars...

Guru Grandpa also veers around the Lady, then into the street.

Further down the block, across the street now, Kick jumps a curb and disappears around a corner.

A DRIVER cranes his neck to take in the scene, as the old man rides his walker at a fast pace following Kick. Eventually, the little dog runs over the hood of the guys car.

Grandpa also disappears around the corner. So does the dog.

91 DOG
Yap! Yap! Yap!

EXT. STREET GOING INTO TUNNEL - DAY

Kick again stands backwards on his board which speeds down a street. In the b.g. is the opening of a tunnel, which creeps closer.

92 KICK
I don't want to fight you old man.

93 GURU GRANDPA
You must! It is the law of Punch-a-robics that the new guru is the one who defeats all practitioners!

INT. DARK TUNNEL - DAY

Kick enters the dark tunnel, and his board drives up the side wall (he's still backwards) as the old man goes in after him.

SILHOUETTE FIGHT! The two of them trade a half-dozen fast punches, which we see as an abstract shadow fight. We see the glint of throwing stars. Shadows of fists. It's dramatic and badass.

94 KICK/GURU GRANDPA
Ha! Hunh! Ya! Ha! Hunh! etc.

EXT. TUNNEL - DAY

SLO MOTION: Kick and Grandpa fly out of the tunnel, tumbling through the air. Grandpa reaches to grab Kick's ankles, but Kick tucks up so tightly, he jumps over the Grandpa, while his board goes under him. Cool.

Kick lands on the ground. No problem. He watches as Guru Grandpa drops down into a fountain of water. SPLASH!

95 GURU GRANDPA
Yaaaa!

Gunther skateboards up to a stop next to Kick.

96 KICK
This fight is over.

Guru Grandpa sits up in the water, dripping, out of breath.

97 GURU GRANDPA
There is...another.

The big black car screeches up, and again the huge samurai gets out the drivers side.

98 KICK
Ah... so I DO fight you.

Again, the Samurai completely wimps out, backing away in total fear.

99 SAMURAI
No!! Don't fight me!

He quickly runs around the car, scoop up the old man, puts him in the car, and drives off...leaving the little dog behind at the fountain.

100 DOG
Yap! Yap!

101 GUNTHER
That was WEIRD, Kick.

Kick looks around... suspicious.

102 KICK
I know... Now I'm just waiting for
the other shoe to--you're kidding.

WHIP TO THE FOUNTAIN:

The DOG stands on his hind feet in a fighting pose. Kick calls after the departing car:

103 KICK
(CALLING) The dog? I'm supposed to
fight the dog?

THE CAR DRIVING AWAY: Grandpa's head sticks out the window.

104 GURU OLD MAN
Yes! He is the third practitioner!

ON THE DOG: who gestures for Kick "bring it."

105 KICK
No-no. Sorry. No girls, no old
people, and no dogs!

The dog bares a mouthful of scary-looking, razor-sharp teeth.

106 DOG
<GROWL... ATTACK!>

The dog runs to Kick, leaps into the air, then descends down TO
CAMERA for a drop-kick.

107 DOG
<YELP!>

Before the dog knows what hit him, he has been chained to a pole
by Kick.

108 GURU GABE (O.S.)
You have passed the test.

Guru Gabe stands behind Kick.

109 KICK
Guru Gabe??

WIPE TO:

INT. WOMENS' WORK FITNESS - AFTER CLASS

It is an awards ceremony. The class is lined up on one end of the
mats, while another line is formed by the Practitioners Uma,
Grandpa and Dog. Kick stands in the middle, as Gabe presents him
with a medallion.

110 GURU GABE
You have fought admirably, Kick
Buttowski.

Kick stands tall, and tries to be modest.

111 KICK
Thank you one and all. I... never
asked to be the new guru, but now
that it's over--

112 GURU GABE
Oh No...it's not over--

Kick now notices that his classmates and the practitioners all
have a murderous look in their eye...

113 KICK
But I already beat everyone...

PAN the four practitioners, ready to fight:

Gabe snaps his pony tail in the air, Uma wields her sword, Grandpa
raises a handful of shirikins, and Dog bares his teeth.

114 KICK
Wait! I'm supposed to fight all of
you? At once?

115 GURU GABE
Yeah, why?

116 KICK
Well, for one thing, you're barely
even punching! You're throwing
things and--that dog nearly bit me!
I don't have a secret weapon.

Gunther sidles up for a private word with Kick, as they keep their
eyes on the enemy.

117 GUNTHER
I'm more worried you don't have
protective gear--I mean, you've got
your helmet, but if only you had
something that would cover the rest
of you.

Kick grabs Gunther by the shoulders. Eureka!

118 KICK
Gunther! You're a genius!

WIPE TO:

INT. SAME - LATER

Kick confidently addresses the room of attackers and students.

119 KICK

Thank you all for waiting, I am now ready with my secret weapon.

REVEAL: Gunther is now wearing the superball suit.

120 GUNTHER

Wow. I can't believe you're letting me wear this. I can't believe it fits!

Kick holds up his fists, kickboxing style. The other practitioners slowly move in.

AERIAL SHOT of Kick and Gunther in the middle as they are approached on all four sides.

Each of the practitioners rears back their fists, their weapons... it's on.

121 KICK

Everyone's talking about Punch-a-robics, but how come nobody talks about the glutes?!

Kick gives a surprise bump to Gunther with his butt, tipping Gunther over, which sends him flying around the room!

Everyone ducks as Gunther flies low over their heads, going from one end of the room to the other, then up to the ceiling and down!

Gunther starts flying directly towards Guru Uma, who readies her sword, and swings!

SIDE VIEW: Uma's sword bounces off Gunther's suit and she smacks herself right in the face.

122 GURU UMA

Ouch!

Gunther bounces off the wall, and heads straight at Kick. Kick throws a roundhouse punch at Gunther, sending him right at Guru Grandpa.

One of Grandpa's throwing star slices off Guru Gabe's pony tail.

123 GURU GABE

Ouch!

Uma swings her sword, but misses and unexpectedly spanks Dog on the butt.

124 GURU DOG

Yelp!

Guru Dog flies forward, and his teeth land on Grandpa's ankle.

125 GURU GRANDPA
Ouch!

AERIAL SHOT: The four walk backwards towards the center spot on the floor... as Gunther drops from the sky, and crushes them all like a cracker

126 GURUS
(UNISON) Ouch!

Kick walks up to the pile of bodies, and leans an elbow on Gunther.

127 GUNTHER
Kick, ya did it!

128 KICK
We did it, my secret weapon. WE
are the new guru. Oh yeah.

IRIS OUT:

THE END