The
INHERENT
VICE
Film Companion

Victor Obeck
Contents

Introduction 1
The Film Companion 4
Appendix A: Characters 40
Appendix B: Deleted Scenes 45
References 47
Index 52
When asked what the film Inherent Vice was about, filmmaker Paul Thomas Anderson (PTA henceforth) was quick to respond, “it’s about Pynchon.” The author’s byzantine plots, poetic prose, and fantastical worlds have inspired countless forms of adoration as critique or homage, and in the case of PTA: adaptation. The same can be said of this companion, which serves as a love letter to both the author and the director.

While the book had been derided by some as “Pychon-Lite,” the film is one of PTA’s most confounding. Critics were often at a loss to make sense of the plot and audiences dubbed it “incoherent vice.” Misunderstood by many, the film resists first impressions and rewards those who spend time with it. As such, this companion is styled in the fashion of Steven Weisenburger’s A Gravity’s Rainbow Companion (essential to Pynchon’s magnum opus), but with timecode replacing page numbers and scenes replacing chapters.

I would not presume that my interpretation of the film’s deeper meanings are definitive or even relative. The companion catalogs — by timecode — the film’s motifs, themes, and references; allowing you the opportunity to draw your own conclusions. In addition, each scene is accompanied by trivia as to any cars, sampled music or location featured within it. Scenes are numbered and titled in correspondence to the final shooting script. To the observant reader, it will become apparent that some of the scenes from the script are missing. A full list of all the cut scenes is provided in Appendix B. Appendix A lists the film’s sprawling cast of characters along with notes on each. Rounding out the companion are references and an index. The index
exclusively uses timecode and is a helpful tool in identifying the film’s many motifs. All references are further categorized as such:

PROPS/SCENERY: All physical items in the film are in caps.
“Dialogue”: Spoken dialogue is in quotations.
Written words: Any text shown in the film is written in italics.
📍: Filming location
🎵: Music
🚗: Automobile

There is no correct way to use this companion, but might I make some suggestions? It can be read after having watched the film or consulted while viewing it. My preferred method is to view the film scene by scene, pausing after each to read the corresponding notes and analyze what was just watched. The choice is yours; some methods reward repeat viewings while others are more appropriate for first time viewers.

Ultimately the companion’s goal is to foster a deeper enjoyment of Inherent Vice. The film is so dense with allusion and plot that viewers can feel lost, but as Doc sez, “thinking comes later.” So my hope is that the companion can shoulder the burden of making sense of it all and allow you the opportunity to just enjoy a truly magnificent film.

Happy viewing, dopers.
I
n two short scenes we are introduced to the setting, time and our narrator, Sortilège, whose dialogue is the first paragraph of prose in the novel and sets up the following scene.

4210 The Strand, Manhattan Beach — PTA insisted upon filming on location in Manhattan Beach as it had such a strong connection to the author. The Strand is a pedestrian path that parallels the ocean and marks the beginning of the beach.

Gordita Beach, California — Fictional LA beach town, first mentioned in Vineland, and modeled on Manhattan Beach, where Pynchon lived between 1967 and 1971.

“Country Joe and the Fish” — 1960s psychedelic rock band from the San Francisco Bay Area.

This early scene is exemplary of the rest of the film as it is heavy in expository dialogue that also serves as theme and character development. We learn that Shasta is Doc’s ex-girlfriend whom he still has feelings for and that she is having an affair with wealthy real estate developer Mickey Wolfmann. His wife is also having an affair and conspiring to commit him to an insane asylum in a bid to rid him of his money. Doc has some trouble believing Shasta due to his inability to read her “face ingredients”
but agrees to raise the issue with the District Attorney’s office through his current girlfriend Penny.

“Dreamin’ On a Cloud,” Performed by The Tornadoses — An outer space-themed instrumental London group from the early 1960s.

“Rhythm of the Rain,” performed by The Cascades

“Flatland” — Architecture critic Reyner Banham defined the flatlands of Los Angeles as a cultural wasteland of “ticky-tacky houses” and “indistinguishable neighborhoods.” By contrast, he describes the foothills, where Wolfmann lives, as an area of “affluent suburban residences” and beach towns as “a place where a man needs own only what he stands up in — usually a pair of frayed shorts and sun-glasses.”

“Thinks he’s hallucinating” — Shasta, as will the film, questions Doc’s reality. The next time Doc sees her, he’s the one wondering if he is hallucinating.

“How about a beer?” — Doc gets out two cans of Burgermeister Beer, a now defunct San Francisco brewing company which made a tab pull can of beer in 1970 with the branding: Burgie! and the slogan of “union made.” The brewery would sell one year after the events of this film and would soon be shuttered, its location demolished to make way for a future Costco.

KRAZY KAT COMIC STRIP — Hanging on Doc’s refrigerator door is this 1936 comic strip by George Herriman.

“To make off with the hubby’s fortune?” — (Unintelligible) “I think that I’ve heard of that happening once or twice…”

“Hancock Park” — A wealthy enclave in Los Angeles that is also home to the Mayor’s residence.
SHIP IN A BOTTLE — The first of many model ships throughout the film.

Scene 3: DOC’S STREET

Doc walks Shasta to her car on bustling Ocean Drive in an impressive long take that ends with our first sighting of the Golden Fang. Doc sees her off but not before she tells him that he has never let her down. Again, he lets his emotions get the best of him telling Shasta that she “doesn’t have to go” and is even reluctant to let go of her car as she drives away. Afterwards Doc meets up with Denis and the two head off to eat.

1959 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz — Shasta’s classic car was once a luxury item made in Detroit.

“Vitamin C,” performed by Can — The music that accompanies the title is the German Krautrock band’s anachronistic 1972 song.

“Watch your toes” — This ad-libbed line is appropriately prophetic advice to Doc.

INHERENT VICE — The modified Drescher Grotesk font of the film’s title is modeled on the novel’s original cover.

“What’s up, doc?” — Oft-repeated Looney Toons reference.

“Like Godzilla sez to Mothra, man, let’s go eat someplace.” — These two Japanese sci-fi monsters are notorious for destroying cities, or “someplace.”

THE GOLDEN FANG (SHIP) — On the ocean’s horizon; The Golden Fang.
“doper” — A note on the term; doper would have meant any drug-user, while dope was used to specifically refer to marijuana or opioids and could be used interchangeably.

Scene 4: PIPELINE PIZZA

This long take introduces Sortilège in her other role as Doc’s wise friend, seen here listening to his complicated feelings for Shasta. She recommends that Doc change his hair style to gain a fresh perspective on the situation.

PIZZA — In the novel there is an “any size pizza, with anything on it” special that results in Denis ordering a topping of marshmallows which are seen here, falling off the pizza.

Scene 5: DOC’S APARTMENT (AUNT REET)

Taking Sortilège’s advice, Doc has braided his hair using strips of fabric which will produce a “white-guy Afro” when left in overnight. He then calls his Aunt Reet to gather information about Mickey Wolfmann. She tells him where he can locate the real estate mogul, but warns him against doing so without a good reason on account of his bodyguard detail. Then, in a moment of synchronism, a commercial for Wolfmann’s Channel View Estates airs with Bigfoot moonlighting as an actor dressed in hippie garb. Doc thinks he is hallucinating when Bigfoot appears to communicate to him through the television.

“Aryan Brotherhood” — A prison gang that originated in the late 1960s at San Quentin State Prison. The gang, which promotes fascism and white supremacy, counted some Manson Family members among their ranks.

“Dominguez Flood Control Channel” — The “channel” in Channel View is none other than the Dominguez Channel. Once a
natural river, it has now been encased in concrete by the Army Corps of Engineers in an effort to reduce flooding.

“What’s up, doc?” — See 00:08:12

Scene 6: CAFE

Doc learns that Bigfoot is looking for him in this short scene adapted from the novel but not in the script.

Walker’s Cafe, San Pedro, CA — Also appears as Pipeline Pizza in scene 4, and again in scene 88 (01:38:38).

“Tomorrow is another day...” — Bigfoot quotes Scarlett O’Hara in *Gone with the Wind* (1939).

Scene 7: LSD INVESTIGATIONS

Doc meets Tariq Kahlil at his office, which is a rented room inside an actual medical facility. Tariq hires, though does not pay, Doc to locate Glen Charlock and settle a debt. Glen just so happens to be one of Mickey Wolfmann’s bodyguards which now gives Doc an excuse to visit Channel View Estates.


“Aryan Brotherhood” — See 00:10:25

*Paranoia Alert* — Doc pretends to write a note in the hopes of disguising his honest paranoia about Wolfmann’s connection to Tariq.

“Black Guerrilla Family” — Born of radical leftist ideology, this black-only prison gang is a rival of the Aryan Brotherhood.
“Artesia Crips” — Although fictitious, the practice of using the word “crips” to describe a street gang (e.g. Main Street Crips or Eastside Crips) originated in the late 1960s. Many of these gangs would soon merge with Raymond Washington and Tookie Williams’ The Baby Avenue Cribs to form the notorious Crips.

“Chino” — California Institution for Men, the fourth state prison built in California after San Quentin, Folsom, and Tehachapi.

_Not hallucinating_ — Doc again feigns note taking, but what he chooses to jot here is particularly relevant to the film.

“Can you show me on the map?” — The location of Channel View Estates is shown north of Artesia Blvd. between Compton and Gardena. For both cities, race has historically played an important role. Gardena is home to a sizable Japanese American community and Compton was the state’s first African American majority city.

**Scene 8: CHANNEL VIEW ESTATES**

Doc drives in the harsh afternoon light to Channel View Estates. Along the way, he spots African American pedestrians displaced by the new development and Wolfmann’s Aryan Brotherhood biker gang. Instead of any houses though, there is a makeshift mini mall housing a brothel. As Doc enters Chick Planet he almost becomes aware of a paramilitary group closing in on his location.

_Lancaster, CA._ — A special effect is used to show the Miracle Mile and Hollywood in the far background.

_1963 Dodge Dart_ — Doc’s Detroit made compact car was low cost even when it was new.
“Long, sad history of L.A. land use...” — Chavez ravine is the location of Dodger Stadium which was built using eminent domain to clear a working class barrio. The downtown neighborhood Bunker Hill, before being razed as part of a Redevelopment Project, was home to 130 acres of affordable housing.

Scenes 9 & 11: CHICK PLANET MASSAGE PARLOR

In this long take Doc meets two cunnilingus obsessed prostitutes before an unseen assailant renders him unconscious just as three gunshots are heard outside (00:19:56). When he awakes he is at the scene of a murder and being apprehended by the imposing Bigfoot of the LAPD.

“Simba,” Performed by Les Baxter — Baxter pioneered the musical style Exotica, a form of world music highly associated with tiki bars and Polynesia.

CHICK PLANET
MASSAGE
*PUSSY MENU*
BLOW JOB 14.95
PUSSY FEAST 14.95

OLD FASHION FUCK 24.95
2 GIRL FUCK $48.95

“Licensed P.I.” — Doc is a licensed Private Investigator.

“What’s up Doc.” — See 00:08:12

Scenes 13 & 14: PARKER CENTER

Before being interrupted by Doc’s lawyer, Bigfoot explains that the murder victim was none other than Glen Charlock, the
man Doc was looking for. He then tries to insinuate that Shasta was intimate with the deceased and that Doc is responsible for the murder. Wolfmann has also been reported missing, but the connection is unclear. Despite all the accusations, Bigfoot is quick to let Doc go and even drives him to the impound lot to retrieve his car.

545 S. San Pedro St. — Location was chosen because it matched archival photos of the Parker Center Interior.

“...wop-monkey, as my friend Fatso Judson always likes to say” — In the Hawaiian set film *From Here to Eternity* (1953), Sergeant “Fatso” Judson calls Angelo Maggio, played by Frank Sinatra, a wop which is a derogatory term for Italians.

“Mansonoid Conspiracy” — The events of the film take place just months after the Tate-LaBianca murders and subsequent arrest of Charles Manson an his “family.” Manson had not actually committed any of the murders he was on trial for, but rather had invented a theory he called Helter Skelter that prophesied a race-war and inspired his followers, mostly subservient women, to commit murder on his behalf.

“noblesse oblige” — Term meaning privilege entails responsibility.

**CHOCOLATE COVERED BANANAS** — In the novel, Bigfoot’s bananas are the by-product of an operation that makes a bogus hallucinogen drug out of banana peels. In an agreement to look the other way, Bigfoot is paid off with a near endless supply of frozen bananas that he keeps inside one the morgue’s cadaver refrigerators. Some of this was made clear in a now cut scene.
Scene 16: DOC’S PLACE —LATER

While watching television, Doc is annoyed to learn he was never a serious suspect for the murder of Charlock. Bigfoot explains to the newscaster that it was an accident at the hands of a civilian paramilitary group (See 00:18:07). The real Bigfoot then calls Doc to further agitate him emotionally about Shasta. Now worried, Doc makes a wish for Shasta’s safety and in a moment of coincidence is called by Hope Harlingten who mentions his Ex.

TELEPHONE — Curiously, both Bigfoot and Doc have green phones.

“To Shasta’s Safety... — From the Novel: “there was an ancient superstition at the beach... take a Zig-Zag paper and write on it your dearest wish, and then use it to roll a joint ... and your wish would be granted.”

Scenes 17 & 18: TORRANCE

Hope Harlingten employs Doc to investigate the death of her husband, Coy, who supposedly died from a heroin overdose. Hope believes him to be alive, but Doc worries she is in denial. After listening to her story about how she met Coy while smuggling heroin across the US border, Doc agrees to help Hope out of a concern for her daughter, Amethyst.

“Surf-Sax” — Fictitious category of music (referred to as Sufadelic in the novel).

“met cute” — A term describing a contrived romantic meeting popularized in classic movies and also mentioned in Gravity’s Rainbow.
“San Ysidro” — Originally a border town and now a suburb of San Diego, in 1970 it was notable for being the site of the largest land border crossing between the US and Mexico and a sizable Chicano population.

“AAAHHAHHAH!!” — The scream was not ad-libbed but in the script and novel.

“chompers” — Slang for teeth. In particular, Hope's dentures, which Doc cannot help but stare at and make faces. She compares heroin's destruction of her teeth to that of vampires.

**Scenes 19 & A20: Doc’s Car**

On his way to visit Mrs. Wolfram, Doc put’s on an outfit consisting of a double breasted suit and a short-haired wig in hopes of looking more presentable. Doc wishes to ascertain the location of Mickey Wolfram, who he suspects is being held against his will at an insane asylum.

**Scene 20: WOLFMANN MANSION**

Doc poses as a representative of a sanitarium and learns about the Chryskylodon Institute, even though he can not pronounce it. Everyone, including the LAPD, seem to be making light of Wolfram’s disappearance and Doc wonders if they are all in on it? On his way out he sneaks into the master bedroom and discovers that Wolfram has a hand painted tie for each of his mistresses, but Shasta’s tie is missing.

906 Loma Vista Drive, Beverly Hills — Location is across from the Greystone Mansion, which was Daniel Plainview’s residence in *There Will Be Blood*.
“Jimmy Wong Howe” — Celebrated Chinese-American cinematographer dogged by discrimination all his life. He is known for his expressive lighting in a career spanning over 130 films.

“Ojai” — A city located 80 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

“Chicana” — The feminine version of chicano, which describes a person of Mexican-American descent.

“An ounce of seedless Hawaiian and throw in a pack of Zig-Zags” — High quality marijuana and rolling papers.

“donde estas, mi hijata?” — Improper Spanish for where are you, my little daughter?

“psicodélico, ése” — Spanish slang for psychedelic, dude.

Scene 23: EXT. WOLFMANN MANSION

While the actors engages in some ad-libbed slapstick behavior, Doc wonders why is Bigfoot even there?

“Burning Bridges,” performed by Jack Scott (1960)

Scene 24: DOWNTOWN

Although she is embarrassed to be seen in public with him, Penny meets Doc on her lunch break to discuss the Wolfmann case. She finds Doc’s story incredulous and even doubts his innocence which upsets Doc who now questions her trust. Penny’s preoccupation with Shasta seems in part to be an extension of Bigfoot’s emotional knife twisting.

“booby hatch” — Slang for an insane asylum and also a nautical term meaning a small hatch on the deck of a ship.
Scenes 25 & 26: FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

Penny’s request for Doc to accompany her back to work was a ruse to lead him to the FBI for questioning. The federal agents want to use him to connect the Wolfmann disappearance to Black Nationalist. Doc suspects that this is a cover-up story when he mentions Mickey’s name and the agents begin to involuntarily touch their noses.

433 S. Spring St., Los Angeles — Location was also used in The Master.

“I love you guys every Saturday 8PM” — Doc’s referring to the Ford Motor Company sponsored ABC television series The FBI (1965-1974). Doc is right about the time, but not the day; it aired on Sundays.

“Can I be Frank a minute....” — A wordplay joke in which Doc refers to himself as Frank Sinatra, Agent Borderline as Dean Martin, and Penny as Sammy Davis Jr. of the Rat Pack.

“COINTELPRO” — (AKA Counterintelligence Program) A covert FBI operation that originated as a means to disrupt domestic communist groups during the Cold War. As the 1960s progressed the operation was expanded in scope to include “Black Hate” groups such as the Black Panthers as well as liberal and student organization referred to as the “New Left.” In 1971, leaked documents showed the public that the FBI was essentially waging a war against blacks and hippies. The accusations were so incriminating that COINTELPRO operations ceased immediately.

“Book of Mormon” — Sacred text of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The FBI actively targeted Mormons for recruitment
in the 1960s due to their clean backgrounds and fluency in foreign languages as a result of mandatory missionary work.

**Scene 27: DOC’S OFFICE**

Doc is reading his notes in the lithotomy position when he is interrupted by Petunia paging him. Jade has left Doc a letter written in pink nail polish requesting a rendezvous that night.

**LOS ANGELES FREE PRESS** — In the lobby outside Doc’s office, a patient reads this alternative newspaper. The headline sez “Can Nixon Trust Army?” Another patient reads a vintage copy of National Geographic Magazine.

**“San Pedro”** — A harbor community at the base of the Los Angeles Port.

**Scene 29: SAN PEDRO DOCKS**

Doc meets Jade outside of the tiki bar Club Asiatique. He learns from her that Bigfoot placed him at the scene of Glen Charlock’s murder, but it was Puck Beaverton, working with the paramilitary group, who knocked him out. Doc then meets Coy Harlingen, who has faked his death and is living with his previous band under a false identity. He has kicked his heroin habit by going to a rehabilitation clinic north of the city that he is reluctant to name. Unaware that his wife contacted Doc, Coy asks him to check on his family before pointing out a boat that is called the *Golden Fang* and then disappearing into the fog.

**Buenas Noches Express**” — *Goodnight* Express; slang for being kicked unconscious.

**“BadAss Brigade”** — Referring to the paramilitary group in Scene 8.
“Topanga Canyon” — A rural community in the Santa Monica Mountains 21 miles west of downtown Los Angeles.

“The Boards” — Fictional surf-rock band (in the film, played by real-life rock band The Growlers). They seem to be a mix of the Beach Boys and the Monkees.

“Asian Indica” — Cannabis plant that originated in the Himalayans and has a greater content of THC than sativa resulting in a high that is described as more psychedelic.

**Scene 30: BEACH/SAND DUNE**

Doc has recruited his lawyer to investigate a three mast schooner called the *Golden Fang* which they spy on here.

“Charlotte Amalie” — Capital of the U.S. Virgin Islands and once an important port of the Danish West India Company.

“Bermuda Triangle” — An area of the Pacific Ocean subject to great lore on account of an usually high number of ship and aircraft disappearances. The boundaries are roughly formed by a line connecting Florida, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda.

“Running Lights” — These navigational lights are required by marine law, as is radio communication and flag of origin, both of which The Golden Fang does not comply with.

“...consortium in Bahamas” — The Bahamas are a popular tax haven for U.S. corporations. See 01:18:08

**Scene 31: FISH PLACE**

Sancho has become enthralled by the ship’s past which he recounts to Doc. Originally named *Preserved*, the ship once
belonged to movie star and blacklisted communist Burke Stodger. The actor and the ship went missing for a period of time and when they returned, both were changed. The boat had lost its “soul” and Burke now made anti-communist propaganda films for the government. Sauncho has also uncovered rumors that Wolfmann, last seen aboard the *Golden Fang*, is not actually missing but with FBI who are priming him to build a casino in Las Vegas outside the mob’s control.

**The Chowder Barge, Los Angeles Port** — This floating restaurant was once in the 1935 film, *Mutiny on the Bounty*.

**“The Throwaway Age,” performed by Bob Irwin & The Pluto Walkers.**

**“Burke Stodger”** — A fictional character most likely modeled on popular film actor and avid sailor Sterling Hayden. Hayden had been a communist sympathizer, and was called before the House of Un-American Activities Committee where he “named names.” At the height of his career, he turned his back on Hollywood and sailed to Papeete, Tahiti. However, in the film his likeness is that of American film and television actor Jack Kelly.

**“L’il Buddy”** — On the shipwreck-themed sitcom *Gilligan’s Island* (1964-1967) the Skipper refers to Gilligan by the nickname of L’il Buddy.

**“Eel Trovatore”** — A perhaps obvious pun on the Verdi opera, *Il Trovatore*.

**“Tequila Zombie”** — Tiki-bar progenitor Donn Beach (AKA Ernest Gantt) invented the the Zombie in 1934 at his Polynesian themed tiki bar Don the Beachcomber in Hollywood, California.
Originally made with numerous rum blends, the version ordered Doc and Sancho appear to be a poor imitations.

00:49:48, “somewhere between San Pedro and Papeete” — From where they sit to Tahiti, French Polynesia.

00:50:13, “Commie Confidential” — See 01:33:15

00:51:06, “a three hour tour” — Another reference to Gilligan’s Island.

00:52:27, Scenes 32, 33, 34, 35 & 36 : DOC’S PLACE

Doc returns home to a call from Sancho confirming that Shasta was aboard the Golden Fang, which we see sailing out to sea. Doc thinks of Shasta and times past, then invites Penny to his place.

MUSIC: “Harvest”, performed by Neil Young — First of two Neil Young songs.

Scene 37: DOC’S PLACE

Post-coitus, Doc and Penny see Coy Harrington on television, only Doc doesn’t let on and learns that he is working as informant. Coy’s televised stunt is actually an attempt to embed him with radical leftist groups.

Vigilant California Rally — The civilian group that Nixon is calling on to combat liberal activists is none other than the paramilitary group from Scene 8.

“Tricky Dick” — President Richard Nixon earned this nickname during the 1950 California Senate election. Nixon redbaited his
opponent, Helen Gahagan Douglas, and in return she christened him “Tricky Dick.”

“Unemployed UCLA Student Rick Doppel” — The name Doppel is one of Coy’s many doppelgängers. Penny seems to know him as Chucky!

“Glass House” — Nickname for The Parker Center. See 01:05:07

“Red Squad” — Elite police units formed at the turn of the 20th century to infiltrate and suppressed insurgent communist and anarchist groups. By 1970, Red Squads almost exclusively targeted anti-war activists and civil rights organizations.

Scenes 38, 39 & 40: TOPANGA CANYON HOUSE

Doc visits the Boards’ house party disguised as a reporter for Stone Turntable (a fictional magazine). Throughout the house women are busy performing chores such as rolling joints or making leis. After receiving one of these party favors, Doc is greeted by a paranoid Jade who is there with her friend Bambi as Spotted Dick groupies. She tells Doc where to find Coy and then asks for a ride home. As he wanders around the party, Doc wonders how sincere the hippie lifestyle was, and if it was being absorbed into the mainstream and commercialized.

“Here Come the Hodads,” performed by the Marketts — The only song in the film that was also featured in the novel. A Hodad is an antiquated surfer term for beach goers who do not surf, specifically Greasers.

FLOWER LEIS — The decorative necklaces that are festooned upon Doc and Denis are a Polynesian tradition and can be made with flowers or shells.
“Spotted Dick” — Fictitious band named after an English dessert pudding.

**SWASTIKA JACKET** — Some Aryan Brotherhood bikers are also at the party.

**WALLART: The Great Wave off Kanagawa** — 19th century Japanese woodblock print by Hokusai.

**Scenes 41, 42 & 43: KITCHEN**

Doc finds Coy in the kitchen, amongst the groupies, where he briefs him on his family. Coy yearns to be back with them but says he is not able to leave his new employer. His commitment is lifelong he sez, like “a gang.” Coy joined this outfit because he wanted to do right by his country and they helped him get clean. Behind them, someone spies on their conversation as Doc tries to find out just who Coy is working for, but instead is told to find Shasta. In another part of the house a Nixon speech plays and Denis takes a photo of the Boards. The photo captures the band in the pose of Leonardo da Vinci’s *The Last Supper* with Coy as Jesus.

**Scene 45: JADE**

While Jade and Denis make out, Doc looks to see if they are being tailed. Asking again about the Golden Fang, Jade says she is referring to a heroin selling organization that used Chick Planet Massage was a front.

**“Indochinese”** — Geographical term for the mainland portion of Southeast Asia, home of Vietnam and, in 1970, a rapidly expanding heroin industry. See 2:00:06.
“Vertical package” — Jade references vertical integration, a micro-economics concept of a company controlling its supply chain.

Scenes 46, 47 & 48: PARKER CENTER 01:05:07

At the police station, where Doc is met with open hostility, he thinks about how Bigfoot once had a partner who was killed in the line of duty. Doc is there to make a case that a chocolate-banana eating Bigfoot should look into Coy Harlingen’s faked death. He surmises that Coy works for Vigilant California, the paramilitary group responsible for the death of Charlock, and thus a party to the Wolfmann case.

The Parker Center, Los Angeles — Filmed on location at the actual downtown police department named after William Henry Parker, the Los Angeles Police chief who died in office in 1966. His handling of the Watts riots the year before his death was heavily criticized.

“So - who around here handles resurrections?” — This Jesus-pun joke is underlined by The Last Supper photo.

LOS ANGELES FREE PRESS — Headlines ask “Why is the Manson Family still at the Spahn Ranch?” and “Who Controls Teen-Agers?”

Scenes 51 & 52: DOC’S OFFICE 01:07:22

While enjoying a perk of an office at a medical facility (nitrous oxide AKA laughing gas), Doc is paid a visit by the late Glen Charlock’s sister, Clancy. She suspects Puck Beaverton (who has since “sailed away”) is behind the kidnapping of Wolfmann and the murder of her brother. At Bigfoot’s guidance, she has come to Doc to employ him in tracking down Puck. She also tells Doc that Wolfmann, after experimenting with hallucinogens,
had decided to give away all his money and start a Manson-like desert commune. Outside the office, she is escorted by her Aryan Brotherhood boyfriends (“two at a time”), one of whom Doc last saw at the Board’s house party (See 00:58:45). Before leaving, she tells Doc that Shasta really was in love with Wolfmann. The scene then ends on a note of comedic improvisation as Doc tries to mask the smell of marijuana in his office with a can of air-freshener.

“Never My Love,” performed by The Association — This 1967 song is preceded by a commercial jingle for electricity performed by Cliff Adams.

“Les Fleurs,” performed by Minnie Riperton — The next song on the radio has special relevance as Riperton is the late mother of Maya Rudolph.

“Arrepentimiento” — This word is indeed “something Spanish”, but it actually means repentance.

Scenes 53 & 54: DOC’S APARTMENT

A paranoid Doc has trouble getting into his garage and, from the looks of his rear tail light, getting out too. On his front door, he finds a postcard from Shasta. In it, she waxes nostalgically about her past with Doc and he tries his best to recall the event of which she writes. There are also two cut away shots of Shasta at the beach and swimming in the ocean.

214 El Porto St., Manhattan Beach — Doc’s home is a beach shack built in 1944.

Roll, on, thou deep and dark blue Ocean, roll! — Written on the wall of Doc’s garage is the opening line to Lord Byron’s poem The Ocean.
POSTCARD — Shasta’s postcard is of Le Diadème Mountain on the island of Tahiti in French Polynesia. Diadem means crown, which the mountain resembles.

BURGERMEISTER BEER — See 00:02:17

Scene 55: SORTILÈGE’S HOUSE

In a flashback, Doc and Shasta consult a spirit board as to where they can score and are given a phone number for a drug dispensary that is just too good to be true. Sortilège tries to warn them it is a trap but is ignored.

728 W Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro — Location is directly next door to Walker’s Cafe in Scene 6.

OUIJA BOARD — The concept of the spirit or talking board has existed for millennia, but what we know as the Ouija board began in 1892 with the founding of the Ouija Novelty Company. In 1966, Parker Brothers bought the rights and expanded its exposure.

“You see, that’s the problem about Ouija boards” — Occultist Aleister Crowley warned that when using a Ouija board, one could contact an unknown spirit who may be a trickster.

Scene 56: FLASHBACK — SUNSET (NEAR VERMONT)

Besieged by an ominous rainstorm, Doc and Shasta visit the address only to find an empty lot, but they do not care because they are in love.

406 West 2nd Street, Pomona — Standing in for East Hollywood.
“Journey Through the Past,” performed by Neil Young — The second time a Young song accompanies Doc’s memories.

Scene 57: PRESENT — SUNSET (NEAR VERMONT) 01:15:38

Retracing his steps, Doc discovers the Ouija board may not have been wrong to direct them to 4723 Sunset Blvd., as it is now the the Golden Fang’s corporate headquarters.

Scenes 58 & 59: GOLDEN FANG ENTERPRISES H.Q. 01:16:24

Doc rightfully realizes that Golden Fang Enterprises is the “Indochinese heroin cartel” that owns the schooner and operates Club Asiatique as a front. Posing as a drug courier there to pick up a “package”, Doc is given a meeting with Dr. Blatnoyd, a legit dentist, albeit one with a rampant cocaine habit. The building is yet another front of a vast empire that is the Golden Fang. Dr. Blatnoyd assumes Doc is trying to track down the Golden Fang’s drug operation for personal use and offers him some lab quality cocaine as consolation before becoming distracted by a needy Xandra.

300 West Greet Street, Pasadena — The interiors are filmed at the former site of Ambassador College, an evangelical Christian liberal arts college built in 1966.

NAUTICAL SCENERY — Blatnoyd’s office is decorated with a metal ship plaque on the wall, a ship in a bottle on the desk, a binnacle next to the elevator, and behind the desk are paintings of junk boats and a model ship.

BUSINESS CARD — Doc produces a business card for a Los Angeles Chinatown head shop that reads “for all your smoking products.”
“syndicate” — Golden Fang Enterprises, Inc. is the Bahamian consortium mentioned in scene 30.

“Darmstadt” — A city in Germany that is home to pharmaceutical giant The Merck Group. Beginning in the late 1800s and for some time onwards, they were the world’s leading supplier of medical grade cocaine. Their production was only rivaled by that of the American pharmaceutical company Parke-Davis & Co.

**Scenes 60 & 62: HUGE ROOM / LOBBY**

With the doctor predisposed, Doc snoops around and comes across a room full of dentists and sexy dental assistants all working on hippie youths who he assumes are heroin addicts. Meanwhile in the lobby, Denis looks for Doc after having a mishap with his car.

**METAL SHIP PLAQUE** — Hanging on the wall in the otherwise sterile room is yet another ship.

**Scenes 61 & 63: BACK IN RUDY’S OFFICE / DR. BLATNOYD’S OFFICE**

Doc discovers Japonica Fenway, a teen runaway he once tracked down at her family’s request. Japonica has escaped from the Chryskylodon institute in Ojai where her father had placed her in and is now suffering a psychotic break. To escape the tension from a jealous Xandra, they all agree to accompany Japonica for a ride home.

“booby hatch” — See 00:38:15

“Palos Verdes” — A highland area at the southernmost part of Los Angeles County made up of wealthy and private enclaves.
Scenes 64 & 66: 1960 MERCEDES

Japanica, now hallucinating, runs a red light and the gang is pulled over by two rookie LAPD officers. Doc takes the cop’s advice that perhaps Japanica shouldn’t be driving, and takes the wheel while their information is recorded.

1960 MERCEDES-BENZ W128 SEDAN — This German made car is the only non-American car featured in the film.

“Charlie Manson” — The Tate-LaBianaca murders clearly have everyone on edge, but none more so then law enforcement who saw this as the empirical proof that hippies were a threat to society. The LAPD officer who approaches their car is literally shaking with fear!

Scenes 73 & 74: DOC’S/BIGFOOT’S APARTMENT

The following night, Doc uses his wall to diagram the film’s already convoluted plot. Coy’s drug dealer, El Drano, is first mentioned on the wall, and Shasta appears to be the connection between the Wolfmann disappearance and the Golden Fang. A joint smoking Doc then gets a call from a Scotch whiskey drinking Bigfoot. From the traffic stop, Bigfoot is aware that Doc was with Dr. Blatnoyd who has since been found dead. They arrange a meeting in person.

Scene 75: JAPANESE COFFEE SHOP

At a Japanese diner in Little Tokyo, Doc and Bigfoot meet to discuss Coy’s handlers. Bigfoot is determined to link Coy to Adrian Prussia through his drug dealer El Drano. But when Doc suggests that Bigfoot is harboring a personal vendetta against Prussia, Bigfoot gets upset and changes the subject. He laments being left behind by the changing times and sez that Blatnoyd was discovered with vampiric wounds to his neck. Doc wonder
if this the Golden Fang’s calling card and sez that whoever is behind Coy is much bigger than just Adrian Prussia.

**Otomisan Restaurant, 2506 1/2 E 1st St., Los Angeles —**
This Boyle Heights restaurant is a relic of the past when downtown Los Angeles was home to a large Japanese population.

**“Sukiyaki,” Performed by Kyû Sakamoto —** This 1961 Japanese song features lyrics inspired by the performers anger at American imperialism.

**“card trick” —** Bigfoot poorly executes the magic trick of “forcing” a card on a Doc.

**“China White No. 4” —** Heroin is classified by four grades, with No. 4 being its most purest form (80-99%). Heroin of this kind is a white powder that is water soluble. Beginning in late 1969, Chinese chemists from Hong Kong began working in Southeast Asia to produce large quantities of No. 4 for sale in the U.S. and to GIs serving in Vietnam.


**“Skip Tracer days” —** A Skip Tracer is a professional who tracks down a person for various purposes usually related to debt collections. In the novel, Doc’s nickname actually comes from this time as he was known to use a syringe filled with truth serum to intimidate his skips rather then a gun.

**“...used a baseball bat” —** Prussia is known for using a Louisville Slugger in his practice of collecting money. See 01:56:29
“Chotto, Kenichiro! Dozo, motto panukeiku.” — Hey, Kenichiro! Please, more pancakes.

“Cielo Drive” — Site of the Sharon Tate murders by the Manson Family. The crime scene had been handled poorly by the LAPD who did stumble about “contaminating evidence.”

“S.I.D.” — The Scientific Investigation Division of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Scene 76 DOC’S CAR

Another scene that makes a case for Sortilège occupying a space inside Doc’s head. She appears to accompany him on his trip to Chryskylodon only to disappear in the following scene.

“Animal tooth made out of gold” — Sortilège interprets chryskylodon as χρυσός σκύλος δόντι (pronounced chysos skylos donti) which roughly translates to gold dog tooth.

Scenes B77, 77 & A79: CHRYSKYLODON

In yet another disguise, Doc has arranged for a tour of the Institute posing as a client representing customer. The visit plays like a Zucker, Abrahams & Zucker comedy, full of moments of slapstick humor. Messianic guards carry military grade guns and chase a patient outside a window while in the Dinning Room recovering drug addicts subserviently pour Chenin Blanc and dish out soup to the staff. The building’s movie theater is playing a Burke Stodger marathon which appears to be a regular occurrence.

Arrowhead Springs Resort, San Bernardino, CA — The hotel was designed by architect Paul Revere Williams in the 1930s.
“Governor Reagan” — Ronald Reagan was governor of California from 1967 to 1975, during which time he helped to privatize the state’s mental health industry.

**MOVIE: Red Nightmare (1962)** — The anti-communism propaganda film the patients watch was produced in partner by the U.S. Department of Defense and Jack Warner of Warner Bros. Pictures. In the clip show, Jack Kelly (as Burke Stodger) is seen incorrectly claiming that Alexander Graham Bell was “an American.”

**Scene 79: STEAM TUNNEL**

The tour continues as Doc realizes Chryskylodon is yet another part of the Golden Fang apparatus. Sitting in on an advanced group therapy session, Doc makes two startling discoveries. Coy Harlingen is a patient at the Institute and Puck Beaverton is an orderly! Puck wears the missing Shasta tie, most likely taken from the tycoon when he was kidnapped and brought to this very facility.

**SWASTIKA TATTOO** — The swastika is indeed an ancient and auspicious symbol that originated from the Indian subcontinent. It can be found throughout Asia in the religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Nazis later gave the symbol a dual meaning as that of the Aryan race.

**Scene 80: LOBBY**

This short scene was most likely improvised as it is neither in the novel nor the script. Dr. Threeply’s comment about the zen garden being assembled by “obsessive patients” appears to be a play off a joke in the novel in which Doc’s business sign was hand painted by a group of detail obsessed speed freaks.
“Otsukaresama desu” — Japanese phrase roughly meaning a job well done, in which the person being thanked is assumed to have worked hard.

“Zen Garden” — Two komainu (Japanese lions) guard the entrance to the Zen garden seen in the background.

Scene 82: GROUNDS

Guarded by the FBI, Doc finds Wolfmann but he is too far along in the treatment of his “bad hippie dream” to be of any help. That dream, one that is clearly antithetical to capitalism, makes clear the film’s view of the 1960s counterculture and its inevitable death and appropriation by the mainstream.

Scene 88: NEWSPAPERS

Although his disappearance had driven the plot initially, Mickey Wolfmann turns out to be a McGuffin. His return does little to quell the many unanswered questions that frustrate Doc.

Walker’s Cafe, San Pedro, CA — Again…

KISMET Hotel & Casino — The casino’s name means fate or destiny.

LOS ANGELES FREE PRESS — Paper is dated March 27-April 2, 1970.

Scenes 89 & 90: DOC’S APARTMENT

Shasta’s unexpected return startles Doc, who unlike last time thinks he is hallucinating. She wears the same outfit of Doc’s memory described in the first scene along with a lei styled shell necklace that belies her story of being “up north.” Doc tries to
get information out of her, but she evades his questioning. Before Doc can press her further, he is interrupted by a call from Bigfoot who again prods Doc in the direction of Prussia, but Doc is more interested in the Golden Fang. Again, their actions mirror each other with both characters being distracted by the women in their life. Doc then rattles Bigfoot and catches the ire of Ms. Bigfoot, who is framed in the manner of an overbearing mother in a Looney Toons cartoon.

Adam-12 — Television show about the LAPD running from 1968-1975. Bigfoot, moonlighting as an extra, again appears to communicate with Doc through the television when he looks into the camera and winks.

“c'est la vie” — Shasta says the French phrase *that's life* and Doc retorts with an equally clichéd Spanish phrase *what will be, will be*.

BURGERMEISTER BEER — See 00:02:17

“Mr. Moral Fucking Turpitude” — Moral Turpitude is legal term for an act or behavior that is socially unacceptable and reflects poorly on one's character such as vice crimes.

Scenes 91 & 92: DOC

Doc quickly hides an erection when he catches sight of Shasta, now fully nude. She begins to seduce him with fantasies of male dominance, equating sex with power. Doc tries to change the subject but she continues to talk of patriarchy while physically arousing him. She keeps up this line of sexual taunting until Doc forcefully takes her. After making love, she comes clean about where she had been and calls herself Inherent Vice. Later, she sleeps and Doc checks her for vampiric fang marks.
“Manson Chicks” / “What would Charlie do?” — Charles Manson’s “family” was made up of mostly impressionable young women. Part of the process for induction to the cult was sleeping with Manson and all were expected to be sexually submissive; family members were told they could not orgasm until he said so.

VELVET PAINTING — This ocean themed art piece was also mentioned in the novel.

“three hour tour” — See 00:51:06

Scene 93: BEACH

Lost in thought, Doc remembers Shasta at the ocean. Sor-tilège, tries to get him to stop thinking about the past and concentrate on what is important now. Doc resolves to try and help Coy get back to his family so that his daughter, Amethyst, has a better future. This scene is not in the script or novel but is a reworking of a cut scene (72).

Scenes 49, 95 & 96: HALL OF JUSTICE

Cashing in a favor, Doc asks Penny to allow him access to the confidential records of Adrian Prussia in hopes of learning what his connection is to Coy, but instead gets insight into Bigfoot. Prussia is working as an assassin for the LAPD, and one of his murders is that of Bigfoot’s partner! Suddenly Doc realizes that the chocolate-banana eating lieutenant had been betrayed by the brotherhood of cops and that perhaps he was trying to protect Wolfmann. This scene was greatly abbreviated from the original script.

CIGAR — Doc lights a De Nobili brand cigar to help mask the odor of his marijuana joint.
**1892 Gummo Marx Way** — The location of Bigfoot’s partner’s death is a street named after the stage name of Milton Marx, the fifth Marx Brother. While he was a part of the comedy act’s vaudeville days, he never appeared in any of their films and subsequently never found fame.

**“patchouli fart”** — Patchouli oil had recently become a popular perfume amongst hippies as a result of fashionable trips to the Indian subcontinent where the herb originates from. The scent is also effective in masking the smell of marijuana.

**Scenes 97 & 99: ADRIAN’S OFFICE**

Doc doesn’t have a plan, but as soon as Adrian recognizes him, things go south fast. Using a secret call button under his desk, Prussia calls in Puck who slips Doc a mickey. Doc passes out, but not before he notices that Puck is wearing Shasta’s necklace from the night before.

**3200 Alameda Street, Compton** — This industrial location is beside a railroad track as it is in the novel.

**MOTORCYCLES** — The bikes out front foretell of the appearance of Puck.

**“Carl Yastrzemski”** — Professional Baseball player for the Boston Red Sox and Future Hall of Fame recipient. See 01:27:38

**THE GOLDEN FANG (PHOTOGRAPH)** — In addition to the photograph, Prussia’s office also has two boats in miniature.

**“PCP”** — Phencyclidine (AKA Angel Dust) was developed as an anesthetic in 1926 at the Detroit located Parke-Davis & Company. In the mid-1960s, medical use was discontinued but recreational use began increasing. Often disguised as other drugs, it was not
uncommon to find a marijuana joint laced with PCP as the one Doc unsuspectingly smokes. By the late 1970’s PCP use would peak, becoming the poster child of the War on Drugs.

**Scene 101: ROOM WITH WINDOWS**

**Doc** finds himself in a mirrored room about to be given a lethal dose of heroin from Puck who gives him a kiss on his neck like a vampire. Luckily our hero keeps plastic shims cut from an expired credit card belonging to Shasta hidden on him for just such occasions (being handcuffed is apparently a regular occurrence). This allows Doc to ambush Puck, inject him with the overdose, steal his gun, and shoot Prussia.

**“Golden Triangle”** — Term refers to a heroin producing region of Southeast Asia.

**GUN** — Smith & Wesson, Model 27.

**Scenes 102 & 103: GARAGE**

Having manufactured a situation in which Doc was forced to exact his revenge against Prussia without involving him directly, Bigfoot now steals some of the Golden Fang’s heroin shipment. Bigfoot had Doc’s car impounded in an effort help cover up his involvement, and now gives him a lift to retrieve it.

**1965 Pontiac GTO (Gran Turismo Omologato)** — Bigfoot drives a proto-muscle car manufactured by Detroit based General Motors. The car can be seen parked on the street at 01:56:19

**02:04:02, Scene 104: CANOGA PARK TOW YARD**

**Bigfoot** returns Doc’s car, with twenty kilos (44 pounds) of China White. Doc describes himself as bait, implying
that Bigfoot is using him to track down the higher ups in the Golden Fang.

**Scene 106: DOC’S PLACE** 02:05:11

Cocker Fenway turns out to be the lawyer representing the Golden Fang and calls a very paranoid Doc to arrange for a return of the heroin in exchange for his life.

**KOOL CIGARETTES** — Mentholated cigarettes. Starting in the 1960s, Kool began targeting African Americans when they found that whites gravitated towards Marlboros and the “Marlboro Man” image while people of color did not.

**“The Portola”** — Fenway’s club is named after the famous 18th century Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola.

**“Elysian Park”** — A large park in Downtown Los Angeles and the site of where Gaspar de Portola crossed the Los Angeles river.

**Scene 107: RESTAURANT** 02:06:35

Upon their meeting, Fenway is disgusted with what qualifies as a “jacket and tie” to Doc. Nevertheless, he strikes a deal for the release of Coy from his obligations to Vigilant California/Golden Fang in exchange for the stolen heroin. Fenway is representative of the institutions that the film is critical of. His contempt for Blatnoyd as a corrupter of his child is contradicted by the harm he has done in sending his daughter to Chryskylodon. His nativism is also on full display with his distasteful opinion of renters, seeing them as transient and inconsequential. For Fenway, the system is meant to support the bourgeoisie and their families only and he does not see the irony that this system is also what is corrupting his own family.
“endodontist” — A branch of dentistry specializing in dental pulp.

PORTOLA MURAL — Behind them; a depiction of Portola based on *Early California*, a New Deal era mural at the Compton Post Office.

Scene 108: SHOPPING MALL

Doc makes the heroin hand off to a group of Golden Fang Operatives disguised as a traditional American suburban family.

“What A Wonderful World,” performed by Sam Cooke

6150 Laurel Canyon Blvd. — This North Hollywood Macy’s opened in 1955. PTA said he was inspired to find “Beautiful Ugly Locations” for the film.

1953 Buick Estate Wagon — The last “Woodie” model made.

Scene 109: TOPANGA CANYON HOUSE

While a Buddhist monk performs an exorcism on the house, Coy gets his first taste of freedom after being exonerated by Burke Stodger personally.

Scene 110: COY/HOPE’S HOUSE

Doc tells Coy that he owes him nothing and then reunites him with his family.

Scene 112: SAN PEDRO

In a scene that nods to the novel but does little to explain anything, the *Golden Fang* is seized by the Department of Justice
much to Smilax’s delight. Sortilège’s narration comes close to being a thesis statement for the film, using the ocean as a metaphor for nostalgia and regret, no part in due to a foreseeable future. But is Doc lamenting the 1960s or Shasta, or both?

**Scene 113: DOC’S PLACE**

Bigfoot finally lives up to his nickname when he pays Doc a visit. Unshaven and perhaps on a bender, he comes his closest to connecting with Doc before running away.

**SHOE SHINE STAND** — Reminiscent of the shoe shine stand in the Zucker, Abrahams & Zucker comedy *Police Squad*. Above the chair, sketched on the wall, is a scene of a great wave and boat.

**“Zig-Zag”** — Brand name of cigarette rolling papers.

**Scene 114: DOC’S CAR**

Doc and Shasta reminisce about the past while driving in the fog. In the rear view mirror, Doc keeps an eye on a car tailing them.

**“Any Day Now,” performed by Chuck Jackson**

**Under the paving-stones, the beach!** — This post credit quote, also from the novel, was spray painted in Paris during the anti-capitalism riots of 1968.
Appendix A: Characters
(in order of appearance)

SORTILÈGE – She occupies a dual role in the film as both the narrator and a confidant of Doc. Her name means a sorcerer who can foretell the future. Even though the novel has no narrator, PTA wrote this character to help capture Pynchon’s “voice.”

SHASTA FAY HEPWORTH – The film’s femme fatale. She is a failed actress who briefly dated Doc and has since drifted apart from him.

LARRY “DOC” SPORTELLO – The film’s protagonist. His look was modeled on Neil Young and the underground comic *The Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers*.

DENIS – Beach-bum sidekick of Doc. His name is specified as rhyming with penis in both the novel and the script.

ENSENADADA SLIM – He silently enjoys a slice of marshmallow pizza with Doc and Denis.

AUNT REET – Her long history as a L.A. real estate agent is evident in her intimate knowledge of the industry.

LT. DET. CHRISTIAN F. “BIGFOOT” BJORNSEN – Doc’s foil, and in many ways his equal. They have a long history that began when Bigfoot was a beat cop in Gordita Beach.

MICHAEL Z. WOLFMANN – Real estate tycoon and lover of Shasta whose disappearance drives the films plot. He has an implied history with Bigfoot, though the film never explains how so. Goes by Mickey, like the mouse.

SLOANE WOLFMANN – Faded beauty and wife of Mickey. Sloane’s black bikini and veil show that she is in “mourning” albeit frivolously so.
PETUNIA LEEWAY – Played by PTA’s significant other and SNL alum, Maya Rudolph. Petunia is a flowering plant in Nightshade Family closely related to the belladonna which has been used for both medicinal and recreational purposes. Petunia is also the name of Porky Pig’s significant other.

DR. BUDDY TUBESIDE – Doc shares an office with this medical doctor who at one point had an expanded back story.

TARIQ KAHLLIL – A client of Doc who asks him to track down Glen Charlock. Later he used as a scapegoat for the disappearance of Wolfmann by the FBI. Described as an imposing black man, he was featured heavily in several cut scenes.

GLEN CHARLOCK – Bodyguard of Wolfmann who turns up dead after Doc tracks him down. Like Doc, he was working both sides of bifurcated subculture and this may have led to his death. Charlock is a plant more commonly known as Field Mustard.

JADE – A source of much information, she is deeply involved with the Golden Fang turning up multiple times in Doc’s investigation. She later hits it off with Denis. Jade is a emerald stone closely associated with Asia.

BAMBI – Jade’s coworker at Chick Planet and Spotted Dick groupie.

SAUNCHO SMILAX, ESQ. – Doc’s lawyer who specializes in Marine Law and has a fascination with the Golden Fang schooner. Smilax is a species of plant that includes Sarsaparilla and is used to make Native American medicines as well as root beer.

HOPE HARLINGEN – The optimistic wife of the presumed dead Coy. She recently had her smile replaced with false teeth and now involuntarily makes funny mouth movements.

COY HARLINGEN – An ex-junkie who became involved with the Golden Fang because they helped him quit heroin. Like his wife, Coy’s name describes his demeanor.
AMETHYST HARLINGEN – The Harlingen’s child was at one point strung out on Hope’s breast milk. Amethyst is a mineral that the Ancient Greeks believed could ward off intoxication.

LUZ – Housekeeper and part-time mistress to the Wolfmann household. The name Luz is a reference to the Virgin Mary.

RIGGS WARBLING – Sloane Wolfmann’s spiritual advisor and suspected adulterer.

DEPUTY D.A. PENNY KIMBALL – Doc’s girlfriend and Deputy District Attorney for Los Angeles County. She prefers to keep her work life separate from her personal life as the two differ greatly.

SPECIAL AGENT FLATWEED AND BORDERLINE – The two named FBI Agents.

BURKE STODGER – Fictitious movie star and the original owner of the Golden Fang schooner. Like Wolfmann, Stodger once sympathized with leftist ideas, but then came under the spell of the Golden Fang.

CHLORINDA – The menu’s disgusting food is not lost on this waitress who suggests that her patrons get “fucked up” before they eat. Played by comedian Jillian Bell. Her Workaholics co-star, Anders Holm, plays the cop in scene 66.

SMEDLEY – Keyboardist for Spotted Dick.

THE BOARDS – Fictitious band portrayed by real life Southern California surf rock band the Growlers.

CLANCY CHARLOCK – The sexy sister of Glenn Charlock is played by Michelle Sinclair, better known as the adult film star Belladonna.

XANDRA – Clad in a vinyl jumpsuit, Dr. Blatnoyd’s assistant is possessive of the Doctor’s attention and drugs.
DR. RUDY BLATNOYD, D.D.S. – This velvet suite wearing coke-head dentist is played by SNL alum Martin Short. He is having an affair with Crocker Fenway’s daughter for which he will pay dearly.

JAPONICA FENWAY – Having once been hired by her family to locate and return the runaway girl, Doc now feels a sense of responsibility to Japonica. Her name is the Latinization word for “Japanese” and can also refer to a flowering shrub.

BIGFOOT’S KID – He also doubles as Bigfoot’s bartender and wears a Cowboy outfit complete with a two gun holster belt.

DR. THREEPLY – Doctor at Chryskylodon Institute whose name is a pun on three ply toilet paper.

DR. LILLY HAMMER – Assistant to Dr. Threeply.

KIMBERLY – This waitress in withdrawal is then 34th named character.

DR. IGOR – Another doctor at Chryskylodon. Igor is a stereotypical name of lab assistants in classic horror films.

PUCK BEAVERTON – Aryan Brotherhood member and muscle for Adrian Prussia. He knocked out Doc in the beginning of the film and waylaid Wolfmann, the man he was supposed to be protecting. He is identifiable by his swastika face tattoo.

MRS. CHASITY BJORNSEN – Bigfoot’s domineering wife.

LEONARD JAMES / LOOSE MEAT / EL DRANO – Coy’s drug dealer who sold him the dose that supposedly killed him. He works for Adrian Prussia.

DA RHUS FROTHINGHAM – Unnamed co-worker of Penny. Rhus is the genus of sumac and poison ivy.
VINCENT INDELICATO – Bigfoot’s late partner was killed by an inside job on December 15th 1969. Bigfoot was listed as his nearest relative.

ADRIAN PRUSSIA – A loan shark who appears to moonlight as a hired killer for the LAPD and a drug runner for the Golden Fang.

CROCKER FENWAY – The Dark Prince of Palos Verdes is a high ranking member of the Golden Fang and detests Doc’s kind as transient trash that do not contribute to society.

BODHI & ZINNIA – These groupies of The Boards are not mentioned in the film but appear in the end credits.
Appendix B: Deleted Scenes

Scene 7: Extended scene had more dialogue about race with Tariq.

Scene 10: Doc comes to after being knocked out but inside Chick Planet.

Scene 12: Bigfoot talks to Doc about Glenn Charlock who is being carted away on a gurney.

Scene 15: Bigfoot offers Doc the opportunity to become a police informant.

Scene 21: Doc is escorted out of the Wolfmann house by Luz.

Scene 28: Doc meets Jade at Club Asiatique.

Scene 41: Alternate take.

Scene 42: Alternate take.

Scene 44: Doc is followed by another car while Denis goes down on Jade in the backseat.

Scene 49: Bigfoot shows Doc where he stores his frozen chocolate banana stash: inside a body bag in the department’s morgue.

Scene 50: Establishing shot of Doc’s office.

Scene 65: Doc, Denis, Blatnoyd and Japonica driving.

Scene 67: Blatnoyd is dropped off at a mansion in Bel Air and Doc speaks to Japonica more.

Scene 68: Petunia warns Doc of visitors.
Scene 69: Doc finds Tariq Khalil and Clancy Charlock having sex in his office.

Scene 70: Tariq tells Doc that Glenn Charlock was providing him with arms.

Scene 71: Doc, Tariq, and Clancy go to dinner.

Scene 72: Doc has a conversation with Thomas Jefferson about the film's plot and Coy.

Scene A75: Doc drives to meet Bigfoot for pancakes.

Scene A77: Cut Doc drives past the security gate at Chryskylodon.

Scene 78: Doc sees a photo of Sloan Wolfmann on the wall at Chryskylodon.

Scene 81: Coy tells Doc he is at Chryskylodon for a bi-monthly check up and reiterates his desire to return to his family.

Scene 83 & 84: Doc is confronted by the FBI.

Scene 85: Doc escapes the FBI.

Scene 86 & 87: Unknown.

Scene 94: Doc visits Bigfoot at a shooting range where they discuss Adrian Prussia.

Scene 98: Doc talks to Adrian's assistant.

Scene 100: Doc has a PCP trip in which he talks to himself in the mirrored glass.

Scene 105: Doc hides the heroin at Denis’ apartment.

Scene 111: Sancho explains the term Inherent Vice to Doc.
References


Bevk, Alex. “Shotgunning SoMa’s Brewing History with Burgie! Beer.” Curbed SF, 13 Nov. 2014.


Cate, Martin, and Rebecca Cate. Smuggler’s Cove: Exotic Cocktails, Rum, and the Cult of Tiki. Berkeley: Ten Speed, 2016.


_Cbryslyodon Blues_. Laura Colella, June 16, 2015.


_Everything in this Dream_. Paul Thomas Anderson, 2013

“Facilities Locator.” cdrc.ca.gov California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation


Hopwood, Jon C. “James Wong Howe.” *imdb.com* Internet Movie Database


“Parker Center Jail: Downtown Los Angeles Jail & LAPS Bail Information.” 888bailbond.com California Bail Bonds


Thank you:
Archives of American Art
Christina Ng
Cigarettes & Redvines
Dictionary.com
Fonts In Use
Garett Zunt
Google Translate
IMDB
Jackie Hasa
Kevin Oberther
PynchonWiki
Randall Karasek
Rhiannon Smith
SF Public Library
simpleicon.com
Tomo Saito
Tony Hoffarth
Index

African American, 00:15:08, 00:16:19, 00:16:22, 00:40:05, 00:42:33, 02:05:24
Aryan Brotherhood (Nazis, Swastikas), 00:10:25, 00:13:49, 00:16:22, 00:58:45,
01:07:22, 01:34:24, 01:56:19
Automobiles, see cars

Bananas, 00:24:30, 01:05:07, 01:55:35
Baseball, 01:27:38, 01:56:29, 01:56:42
Bermuda Triangle, 00:48:05
Black Militants, see African American
Boat, see ship
Buddhism, 01:34:24, 01:35:27, 02:13:46
Burgermeister Beer, 00:02:17, 01:13:41, 01:41:55

Capitalism, 01:35:40, 02:28:19
Cars
  1959 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz, 00:06:39
  1963 Dodge Dart, 00:16:22
  1960 Mercedes-Benz W128, 01:22:54
  1965 Pontiac GTO, 02:02:11
  1953 Buick Estate Wagon, 02:11:18
Cartoon/Comic
  Krazy Kat, 0:02:30
  Looney Toons (Bugs Bunny), 00:08:12, 00:12:12, 00:21:02, 01:39:08
  Scooby-Doo, 01:27:31
China/Chinese, 00:33:08, 01:17:46, 01:27:15
Chryskylodon, 00:32:50, 01:20:24, 01:30:49, 01:38:38
Cocaine, 01:16:24, 01:18:51
Communism, 00:42:33, 00:48:42, 00:55:10, 00:56:12, 01:33:15
Compton (city), 00:16:19, 01:56:19 (location), 02:09:13
Country Joe and the Fish, 00:00:50, 01:39:08

Detroit, 00:06:39, 00:16:22, 01:59:37, 02:02:11, 02:11:18
Economics, 00:48:28, 01:04:38

FBI (COINTELPRO), 00:40:05, 00:48:42, 01:35:40
Fog, 00:43:45, 02:19:59
French Polynesia, see Tahiti

Germany, 00:07:23, 01:18:5, 01:22:54
Gilligan’s Island, 00:49:24, 00:51:06, 01:50:37
Golden Fang, 00:08:48, 00:43:45, 00:47:57, 01:16:24, 01:26:10, 01:31:08, 01:56:54
Gun, 2:01:51

Hallucination, 00:01:24, 00:09:41, 00:15:57, 01:39:08
Hawaii, 00:21:59, 00:35:02
Heroin, 00:28:13, 00:30:11, 00:43:45, 01:04:33, 01:19:36, 01:27:15, 01:59:46, 2:00:06,
02:02:11, 02:04:02, 02:05:11, 02:11:18

Indian subcontinent, 00:47:48 (Himalayas), 01:34:24, 01:55:14
Indochina, see Southeast Asia

Japan/Japanese, 00:08:37, 00:16:19, 00:58:53, 01:26:10, 01:35:21, 01:35:27
Jesus, 00:59:18, 01:06:22, 01:31:25

Last Supper, The, 01:04:09, 01:06:22
Lei, 00:57:43, 01:39:08
Looney Toons, see cartoon
Los Angeles (City), 00:00:55, 00:16:18
    Chinatown, 01:17:46
    Elysian Park, 02:06:21
    Hancock Park, 00:04:16
    Little Tokyo, 01:26:10
    San Pedro, 00:43:42
Los Angeles (County)
    Palos Verdes, 01:21:54
    Topanga, 00:45:24
Los Angeles Free Press, 00:43:04, 01:06:35, 01:38:49
Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), 00:18:15, 00:21:06 (Parker Center), 00:32:50, 00:56:05 (Glass House), 01:05:07 (Parker Center), 01:22:54, 01:29:24, 01:39:08, 01:53:14

Manhattan Beach, 0:00:27, 01:12:08 (location)
Manson, Charles (Manson Family), 00:10:25, 00:22:47, 01:06:35, 01:07:22, 01:23:52, 01:28:40, 01:43:53
Marijuana, 00:08:46, 00:26:53, 00:35:02, 00:47:48, 01:07:22, 01:54:23, 01:55:14, 01:59:37
Marine Law, 00:48:14, 01:50:47
Marx Brothers, 01:55:16
Mexico/Mexican, 00:28:38, 00:34:53

Nazism, See Aryan Brotherhood.
Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), 01:07:22
Nixon, Richard, 00:43:04, 00:55:10, 00:59:18

Ocean (Sea), 00:00:00, 00:08:38, 00:52:27, 00:58:53, 01:12:08, 01:12:22, 01:44:39, 01:51:15, 02:16:08, 02:17:11
Ojai, 00:33:43, 01:20:24
Ouija, 01:13:49, 01:14:37

Parke-Davis & Co., 01:18:51, 01:59:37
Patchouli, 01:55:14
Phencyclidine (PCP), 01:59:37
Portolá, Gaspar de, 02:06:20, 02:06:21, 02:09:13

Rain, 01:14:41
Reagan, Ronald, 01:31:26

Ship, 00:05:35, 00:08:48, 00:38:15, 00:47:53, 00:48:05, 00:48:14, 00:52:27, 01:17:13, 01:19:48, 01:21:14, 01:56:54, 02:16:08
Sinatra, Frank, 00:21:59, 00:42:23
Southeast Asia, 01:04:33, 01:27:15, 02:00:06
Stodger, Burke (fictional), 00:48:42, 01:31:25, 01:33:15, 02:13:46
Swastika, see Aryan Brotherhood

Tahiti, 00:48:42, 00:49:48, 01:12:55
Teeth (Dentistry), 00:30:11, 01:16:24, 01:19:36, 01:26:10, 01:31:08
Television, 00:09:41, 00:25:06, 00:40:40, 00:55:10, 01:39:08
Tiki Culture, 00:18:15 (music), 00:43:45, 00:49:36

Vampire, 00:30:11, 01:26:10, 01:43:15, 01:59:46
Vietnam, See Southeast Asia
Vigilant California, 00:18:07 (paramilitary group), 00:44:39 (Bad Ass Brigade),
00:55:10, 01:05:07, 02:06:35

Zig-Zags (rolling papers), 00:26:53, 00:35:02, 02:17:58
Zen Garden, 01:35:27
Zucker, Abrahams & Zucker, 01:31:25, 02:17:11