

# The Race

A feature film comedy by

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## Logline

When famous and wacky 1980s fitness king (or should we say queen?) Victor Lemmons dies and is buried in his favorite gold lamé headband, his will states that only one of his twin brother's three adopted adult children will inherit his money. Knowing that the siblings haven't spoken in 13 years and are all broke, Uncle Victor stipulates that whichever sibling places best at the next Victor Lemmons Victory Challenge Annual Triathlon in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, will receive his fortune, all \$18 million. And *The Race* is on!

## Synopsis

When fitness guru, Victor Lemmons, dies on a beautiful May morning, he is survived by his identical twin brother Bern, Bern's wife Marge, and their three adopted adult children, Gen (Chinese-American) 45, Gerry (African-American) 42, and Gillie (Native American) 39. They all travel to Beverly Hills to attend the funeral. Bern and Marge fly in from Africa where they have been bring gleaming healthy teeth to the continent with their Quaker missionary work. The three siblings fly in from Chicago where they have been estranged from each other for the last thirteen years. After much squabbling by the children during the funeral, they all go to the reading of the will. More squabbling.

\$4 million will go to Chad, Uncle Victor's masseur – what?!?!?! But Uncle Victor has also stipulated that the rest of his estate go to whichever of the three Lemmons siblings places best at the next Victor Lemmons Victory Challenge Annual Triathlon on January 15 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. What will the fastest sibling inherit? \$18 million. The siblings are shocked, thrilled, and determined to win the money at all costs. And the race is on!

Gen (45) wants that money! She and husband Leonard, a dentist, are doing *very* well or, rather, *were* doing well. Leonard's best friend from college, Bjorn, has been their accountant for the past 20 years. He managed their money very well until he stole it - \$2.8 million - and ran off to the Caymans. They have lost everything. "That inheritance should be mine!" She's sure she can vanquish her looser siblings. Gerry is 50 pounds overweight and has always been ridiculously uncoordinated! Gillie is an airhead who never finishes anything and has no ambition at all. As far as Gen is concerned, this will be a slam dunk. She thinks, "The Bahamas here I come! And Leonard and the kids can come, too."

Gerry (42) could *really* use the money! Between the divorce and his failing window blind business, he isn't doing so well. But with \$18 mil, Tricia will regret ever divorcing him. Hell, forget Tricia, with \$18 million he'll be able to date supermodels! Of course, he'll have to lose 50 pounds and get into great shape and that's where his best friend since childhood, buffed construction worker Brad Dilley comes in. He'll start working out with Dill! But there's that

whole physical coordination thing... Oh, well, he'll figure it out. He thinks, "If Mike Tyson can have a one-man show on Broadway anything is possible for a Black man in America. Christy Turlington here I come!"

Gillie (39) is sick of her life, broke, and in debt. She barely makes ends meet teaching kindergarten and her boyfriend of 7 years just left her. He was paying the rent. Her dream was always to go to Paris to paint and she's ready. She wants to go France for the rest of her life and never have to worry about money or see her family again. And date sexy French men. She's sure she can win. "I always won races when we were kids in the backyard with Uncle Victor. And I'm still the youngest. Those old farts don't stand a chance. Gay Paree here I come!"

All three siblings go to Puerto Vallarta two weeks before the race to train. Gen's Dominican trainer, Blanca Mange, puts her through paces that challenge even Gen, and those torturous recovery ice baths have her screaming on the phone to Leonard. Gerry can't seem to jog down the beach without falling over drift wood or colliding with a seagull. He continually calls Dill back in Chicago for pointers. Gillie thinks lots of yoga while getting stoned is a crucial component to her training regime and is scared to death of the ocean.

The three siblings succeed in avoiding each other until a week before the race when Uncle Victor's lawyer, Ms. Bigelow, shows up and calls them all together. She tells them there are conditions regarding the race and the inheritance. They must all finish the race in under four hours or no one will inherit the money. They protest to no avail.

The next day water-phobic Gillie decides to finally attempt open water swimming, nearly drowns, and lies lifeless on the beach. Gen and Gerry come running. Gen does CPR and Gerry is so scared his little sister is dead he can't even cry. Gillie finally comes sputtering back to life, coughing and vomiting water. They all go on training and are again not speaking. But the night before the race, the three siblings find themselves together on the beach building a fire just like they did with Uncle Victor when they were kids. They also get stoned, care of some magical Mexican cannabis and, like, WOW! The three talk, laugh, accuse, scream, cry (well, only Gerry) and come to many realizations and understandings about themselves and each other.

The next day, still high, the three newly-bonded sibs band together and struggle to get through the race. Gerry hurts his "special place" with his bike seat (Ooooh Yowww Aaaaah!), Gen's foot is injured when uncoordinated Gerry accidentally steps right on it, and Gillie has a panic attack during the ocean swim and almost takes Gen and Gerry under with her. But they help each other and cross the finish line limping, groaning, dazed, exhausted and holding onto each other. Their time? 4 hours, 37 seconds. No one can inherit the fortune. But, Uncle Victor has one more surprise in store for the three Lemmons siblings.