

# **Poker Nights**

Season One

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**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Our condo living room. TIM (27ish, fit, biracial) places a set of poker chips on a nice poker table with chairs all around.

SUPER: 6:49pm - Set Up

SASHA (20s, female, actress) sits at the table dividing out the chips. Tim places chairs around the table. There's tension in the air.

SASHA  
Hey Tim, I think we should talk  
about last night.

TIM  
Sasha, I know you've been trying  
your best helping me with the  
acting thing, but--

SASHA  
But what?

TIM  
I don't think I have it.

SASHA  
You're a good actor

**FLASHBACK #1 - BROADCAST NEWS - SASHA'S VERSION:**

Sasha sits on a table wearing a dress as similar as possible to Holly Hunter's. Tim stands in front of her in a tux. He holds her hand, staring at her.

TIM  
(loudly to himself)  
Why can't I let go of this woman?

SASHA  
Well...

He interrupts her with a brief and delicate caress of her dress near her cleavage while continuing to look at her.

SASHA (CONT'D)  
(flustered)  
At least kiss me when you do that.

TIM  
(a grin)  
You can't stop editing me, can you?

SASHA  
(nervous laugh)  
This is hysterical.

He kisses her. She gets way into it...

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Tim takes a step back as Sasha steps into him.

TIM  
I just don't think I'm cut out for  
this acting thing.

SASHA  
But, you have all this great  
potential.

TIM  
I really don't.

**FLASHBACK #2 - BROADCAST NEWS TIM'S VERSION:**

Sasha sits on a table wearing a jeans and T-shirt. Tim stands in front of her in workout clothes. With one hand he holds her hand, in the other is a script.

TIM  
(too loud)  
Why can't I let go of this woman?

SASHA  
Well...

He doesn't interrupt her, but after reading he puts his hand near her breast.

SASHA (CONT'D)  
(passionate)  
At least kiss me when you do that.

TIM  
(reading)  
You just can't stop editing me.

SASHA  
(nervous laugh)  
This is hysterical.

She slaps the script out of his hand, and slips her hand behind his neck and forces a kiss.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Tim takes another step back.

TIM

I think I need to work on different kinds of scenes.

SASHA

These have been some of the best scenes in American film.

TIM

They're all romantic comedies.

SASHA

Yeah. Look at you. That's your type, romantic lead.

TIM

But I'm starting to have... feelings.

SASHA

Yes!  
(covering)  
That's acting.

TIM

Really?

SASHA

Acting is all about tapping into your emotions.

TIM

This is all so confusing.

SASHA

What's confusing?

SFX: Door Knock

Tim crosses and opens the door. He turns back.

TIM

I don't know, you... me... learning.

An aggravated Sasha sighs, and crosses off to the bathroom.

Tim opens the door. ALEX and JON enter carrying snacks & beers.

JON

(to Alex)

That's such bullshit! Just because he does standup doesn't make him a writer.

ALEX

What makes him a writer is he has a kick ass late night packet.

JON

That doesn't qualify him to write on a fucking network sitcom.

ALEX

Well Ben Wexler and the execs at NBC disagree.

JON

But he just does standup.

ALEX

Would you be saying the same thing about me if I got hired to write on a sitcom?

JON

(beat)

Yeah, probably, because you're not a writer.

ALEX

You are such a shit.

(to Tim)

Is Sasha here? I thought I saw her car outside?

TIM

Umm... Bathroom. She's in the bathroom. Sorry, what were you saying?

ALEX

Jon doesn't think stand-ups are writers.

JON

It's not narrative, just jokes.

ALEX

Bullshit! My act-outs are awesome, because I'm a storyteller.

TIM

(to Alex)

What set him off this time?

ALEX

Ronnie got a staff job on "Don't Call Me Buddy."

TIM  
That's good for him.

JON  
Not for the show.

ALEX  
My god...

JON  
No. I'm the writer. I studied film  
and TV in college. I have eight  
specs, twelve pilots, I won the  
Carl Gottlieb award, and I can't  
even get a general meeting at NBC.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

TIM  
That beer should go in the fridge.

JON  
Yeah, yeah.

Jon storms off.

ALEX  
So how'd you meet the new guy?

\*  
\*

TIM  
I was working with Nancy Clyne.

\*  
\*

ALEX  
Who?

\*  
\*

**FLASHBACK #3 - TIM'S CLIENT**

\*

Tim is stretching with NANCY (40ish) dressed in yoga pants  
and t-shirt. They're sitting on the floor, leg's separated,  
facing each other with their feet touching.

\*  
\*  
\*

NANCY  
Are thing's better with Linda?

\*  
\*

TIM  
Not really.

\*  
\*

Tim slowly pulls her forward in a stretch.

\*

NANCY  
How about your acting?

\*  
\*

Tim zones out, and continues pulling her forward.

\*

NANCY  
Owww. Owww. Owww.

\*  
\*

**INT. CONDO**

Back to scene.

ALEX  
Oh, the Warner Brothers lady.

TIM  
Exactly. So this guy is her  
chiropractor.

**FLASHBACK #4 - DR. MIKE**

Nancy is on a portable chiropractic table with DR. MIKE  
examining her.

DR. MIKE  
Oh, yeah, I've seen these injuries  
before.

TIM  
Really? So it's not a problem?

DR. MIKE  
Not at all. Very common among  
wrestlers.

TIM/NANCY  
Wrestlers?

DR. MIKE  
Mud wrestlers. What were you two  
doing?

Mike adjusts her.

**INT. CONDO**

Back to scene.

ALEX  
So he's a doctor.

TIM  
Yeah, I think chiropractors are  
doctors. Nancy, does call him Dr.  
Mike.

ALEX  
Cool.

FADE OUT.

EPISODE TWO**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Tim and Alex stand by the poker table.

ALEX

Tim, let me know the next you go  
indoor rock climbing. I had a  
blast.

CUT TO:

**INT. VERDUGO BOULDERS - FLASHBACK #1**

Alex falls on the mat. Widen out to show Tim standing over  
Alex laughing and shaking his head.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Back to scene. Tim smirks.

ALEX

I was really starting to get it  
there at the end.

TIM

What the mat?

Jon comes back into the living room.

JON

And one more thing, fuck this  
business. Some hack standup does  
five minutes at the Ice House,  
those chuckle monkeys yuck it up,  
and he gets staffed?

TIM

Ronnie was funny when you brought  
him to poker night.

JON

He sucked.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT (FB #2)**

RONNIE (Schlubby comedian) sits at the table looking at Sasha  
like a fat kid looks at a triple scoop ice cream cone. He  
picks up his phone, and taps the screen twice.

RONNIE  
(into the phone)  
Bit idea: dating a wannabe actress -  
I try to be supportive, but know  
she's not going to make it.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Back to scene.

ALEX  
Yeah, he sucked.

Jon and Alex roll their eyes.

JON  
Hack.

TIM  
Get over it.

JON  
He doesn't know structure or story,  
which I do, and I'm funny.

ALEX  
I'd say more humorous than funny.

Sasha enters.

SASHA  
Maybe not laugh out loud funny.

TIM  
You're a good writer and I like  
your characters and stuff.

JON  
And stuff?!

ALEX  
Hey, Sash. You're here early again.  
(trying to be funny)  
People are starting to talk.

SASHA  
Well, they shouldn't be talking.

This shuts everyone up for a beat.

TIM  
Everyone good with drinks?

JON  
So, who's the new guy tonight?

TIM  
Chiropractor, He's a little older,  
but he's hilarious.

JON  
Great! A funny chiropractor. But  
does he know story?

No one reacts. \*

JON  
What? That was a callback! It's  
funny. \*

SASHA  
So how do you know this old guy? \*

TIM  
He's not that old. He's just older  
than we are. He's mobile and he was  
treating one of my clients...

**FLASHBACK #3 - DR. MIKE** \*

Nancy lies on a chiropractic table. DR. MIKE (40s,  
professional) stands over him. \*

TIM  
So you don't have an office? \*

DR. MIKE  
I used to. It was called the Crack  
House... But then the DEA raided me  
and I had to make some changes.

Tim chuckles. Nancy rolls her eyes. \*

NANCY  
You need some new material Mike. \*

DR. MIKE  
It kills at the Ice House. \*

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

And we're back. Jon is holding an open bottle of beer.

SFX: Door Knock \*

Tim opens the door and Mike enters with a large foil wrapped  
tray and a grocery bag of stuff.

TIM

Mike, welcome. We were just talking about you actually, thanks for coming.

\*  
\*

DR. MIKE

All good things I hope, nice table.

\*

TIM

Thanks. Everyone, this is Dr. Mike.

DR. MIKE

You can just call me "Doctor."  
Kidding, call me Mike. I brought baked tacos, and all the fixings.

TIM

Oh cool, thanks. This is Sasha, Alex, and Jon.

\*  
\*  
\*

Everyone greets Mike. Mike crosses out of shot to the kitchen. Sasha and Tim follow. Alex starts to follow but Jon holds him back.

\*

JON

(sotto)  
Fixings?!

ALEX

You need to just let some things go, Dude.

\*  
\*

JON

Don't "Dude" me.

\*  
\*

Alex crosses off as we...

\*

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. CONDO - LATER**

The five of them sit around the table, eating, drinking, ready to start playing.

DR. MIKE

So how do you all know each other?

SASHA

We met in an improv class, and we were the only ones who ever kept in touch.

ALEX

Well, Jon and I were already roommates. And then we discovered that we all like poker.

TIM

So it's time for House Rules. Dealer's choice, but we mainly stick to draw and 5 & 7 stud.

SASHA

And Hold 'em. I love hold 'em.

JON

And no foofy games like Night Baseball, or Anaconda.

TIM

But the occasional Pass The Garbage, or Red Montana is fine. We also throw in Hi/Lo in the stud games, just to spread the wealth.

DR. MIKE

Got it. Nothing crazy. I'm a stud and hold 'em guy also. My question is: Tim, is Sasha the girlfriend?

TIM

No, no, that's Linda. She works production, so she's not here much.

SASHA

And I just got out of a long term relationship a couple of months ago.

Sasha takes a long draw on her beer. Mike looks at Jon.

DR. MIKE

And you're the writer.

JON

Comedy writer.

DR. MIKE

And Alex, you're the standup?

ALEX

Slash bartender at Flappers in Burbank.

\*  
\*

DR. MIKE

So I'm auditioning for a regular seat?

TIM

Yeah, it's tough to find someone who's a good player and not...

JON

Insane.

DR. MIKE

And that's been a problem?

ALEX

It is Los Angeles.

**FLASHBACK BAD PLAYER MONTAGE**

- Hold 'em only Guy
- Hoodie Table Stakes Guy
- The psychic
- Alex's GF -
- Funny VO Artist (Ken)
- Flatulent Person

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Everyone is a bit shell shocked at the memory. Jon and Alex chuckle as...

SASHA

Grossest night ever.

TIM

Our cat ran away that night.

DR. MIKE

Wow.

TIM

I hated that cat... Let's play.

He fans the cards and everyone picks as we...

FADE OUT.

EPISODE THREE

OVER BLACK

DR. MIKE (V.O.)

I used to have this voice in my head that gave me great advice. One night I was at a bar and the voice said, "buy the red head at the end of the bar a drink." I did and that led to the most incredible weekend of my life.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

The players turn over their cards. Alex is Hi.

TIM

Alex, it's your deal.

Alex collects the cards and starts to shuffle.

DR. MIKE

Then I was getting gas and a coke, and the voice said buy the "Lucky Seven" Scratcher. So I did.

We tilt up from Alex shuffling the cards to Alex.

ALEX

Did you win?

DR. MIKE

Two hundred bucks.

SASHA

No way.

DR. MIKE

Way. So then the voice says, "Cash in your IRA and go to Vegas."

TIM

Your Individual Retirement Account?

DR. MIKE

Exactly. So I did. When I got to Vegas the voice said, "Go to Ceasar's Palace, and straight to the high roller poker tables."  
(glances around the table)  
So I'm sitting there with twenty-five thousand dollars in chips in front of me.

TIM

Seriously?

DR. MIKE

Seriously. It's a hold 'em table, and on my first hand I get pocket aces, spades and diamonds.

ALEX

Nice!!!

DR. MIKE

Vegas Baby! So the voice in my head says, "go all in." I push all twenty-five kay in, with a smile on lips, a twinkle in my eye and about 25 percent chub. The flop comes Jack of Hearts, ten of Hearts, Nine of Hearts. And I hear the voice in my head say, "Oh shit!"

Everyone laughs... except Jon.

JON

That was hardly a joke, just a fake story.

ALEX

Narrative.

Jon gives Alex a look.

\*

SASHA

So, Alex, what are we playing?

ALEX

I actually have a new game I want to try.

JON

Did you learn this game at the OTHER poker night you're playing in now?

ALEX

Once. I went once!

TIM

Once?! Where? With who?

ALEX

One of my regulars at the bar. He's a Vietnam vet. And they played some different kinds of poker.

**INT. VET'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (FB #1)**

Tight on Alex nervously holding a Samurai sword. A Kamikaze Headband wrapped tightly around his head. His eyes dart from side to side. We widen out to reveal Alex is shirtless, and two other older vets sit in various states of undress with cards in their hands.

COWLICK

All's fair in love and war. Alex, you want to prove your love for a woman.

SKINNY VET

Or person!

COWLICK

Or person. You have to be confident, willing to go hard, burn down an entire village if necessary. That's the way we did it.

DOUG

Wasn't always effective, but it got people's attention!

ALEX

So when everyone turns over their cards, I do what with the sword?

CUT TO:

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Tight on Alex.

ALEX

But, maybe we'll just play five card stud.

SUPER: Hand #1 - 7:06 pm

Alex deals.

TIM

(insecure)

So what was their table like?

ALEX

It was just a wooden coffee table.

TIM  
(Feeling the table)  
So, not like this.

\*  
\*  
\*

ALEX  
No, Tim.

\*  
\*

Alex looks at the cards.

\*

ALEX  
(to Sasha)  
Queen bets.

SASHA  
A dollar.

ALEX  
Call.

DR. MIKE  
Call.

JON  
So how weird was this game you were  
going to call?

ALEX  
Tim, do you have a sword?

Everyone reacts.

ALEX  
Yeah, that kind of game.

TIM  
Damn, sounds interesting. But no,  
Linda made me sell it...

JON  
(tossing his cards)  
Another great start.

TIM  
Call.

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. CONDO - LATER**

Alex deals the fourth up card.

ALEX  
Last up card.

TIM

So they didn't have felt or anything?

ALEX

No.

TIM

Amateurs.

ALEX

All right, Sasha's out. That makes Mike's Twos high on board.

DR. MIKE

I'll check to the better.

TIM

Me too.

ALEX

Three bucks.

DR. MIKE

I'm pretty sure he paired his ten.

SASHA

Look at Alex, starting the night strong.

ALEX

Yeah, I got some good tips from the vets, and interesting dating advice.

JON

Alex, why do you go to old vets for advice and not your friends?

ALEX

(to Jon)

Because you can't keep a relationship for more than two weeks, and suck at poker.

SASHA

What about me? You never ask me about dating advice.

DR. MIKE

I fold. And don't ask me, I've been divorced twice.

TIM

So did any of their advice work?

SASHA

Again, what about me?

FBS 3/4/5 Alex trying to ask out Sasha

#1 - Pool - Ronnie pushes Alex in the pool

#2 - Outside comedy club Maliya pulls Sasha away.

#3 - Sasha Enters the guy's apt. Complaining about ex.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Tim stares at Alex's cards.

ALEX

(to Tim)

Not yet.

SASHA

You can ask me for advice, anytime.

ALEX

I'll definitely ask you at some point.

TIM

You have the tens don't you?

ALEX

Three bucks and you'll know for sure.

TIM

Shit, I'm folding.

SASHA

(leaning in)

You had 'em, didn't you?

ALEX

Maybe I'm just good at bluffing.

They rake in the cards as we...

FADE OUT.

EPISODE FOUR**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Jon shuffles the cards. He sets the cards down and takes a healthy swig from his beer. He picks the deck back up and considers...

**SUPER: 8:05 P.M - HAND 14 (5-Card Draw)**

JON  
Five card draw.

Groans from the regulars.

JON  
Progressive, progressive.

**SUPER: 8:05:07 P.M - HAND 14 (5-Card Draw - Progressive, progressive)**

Louder groans.

DR.MIKE  
I like draw.

JON  
Deuces wild.

TIM  
You're done.

**SUPER: 8:05:11 P.M - HAND 14 (5-Card Draw - Progressive, progressive - Deuces Wild)**

DR.MIKE  
You might be gilding the lily there, buddy.

ALEX  
Gilding the lily???

SASHA  
It means he's being extra.

JON  
A) Don't call me buddy. B) My deal, my call.

Alex and Tim smirk at each other.

ALEX/TIM  
(Mocking)  
*Don't call me Buddy.*

Jon deals.

DR.MIKE

So, Alex, how did you meet Deuces Wild over here?

ALEX

Our roommate Ronnie actually.

DR.MIKE

Oh yeah, he was one of your "guest" players right?

SASHA

Yeah, he's...

**INT. JON & ALEX'S APT. - NIGHT (FB #1)**

Jon, Alex, Sasha, Maliya and Ronnie sit around talking.

RONNIE

(to Maliya)

No, you're wrong. You should be doing standup. That's how you get a writing job.

Jon and Maliya shake their heads and role their eyes.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Back to scene. Jon has finished dealing.

SASHA

...a bit of an ass.

JON

Long story short, my manager suggested I get into standup, so I went to a club...

**INT. SMALL STAGE**

ALEX is on stage at Flapper's Comedy Club doing his 3 minutes

ALEX

Why is it that dogs and cats get very different treatment? For example: the food they eat.

(beat)

"Beggin' Bits"?

(beat)

"Fancy Feast"?

(beat)

Clearly there is a disparity between the two. Why is it that we cram 7 human years into a dog year and cats get 9 fucking lives? What is this nonsense?

**EXT. COMEDY CLUB ALLEY - NIGHT (FB #2)**

Alex leans against the wall hitting his vape. Ronnie walks up dragging Jon by the elbow.

RONNIE

Alex, you have to listen to this.

(to Jon)

Tell him what you said.

JON

Your dog and cat bit. You could add, "Why do dogs have to beg, and cats get the fancy stuff just for showing up?"

RONNIE

Great tag on that bit. I told you it needed something.

ALEX

Not bad. I like that.

RONNIE

What's your name, Dude?

JON

It's Jon.

\*

They shake hands.

ALEX

Alex.

RONNIE

I'm Ronnie!

Jon and Alex share a look.

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Back to scene.

JON

Okay let's get back to poker. Tim, how many?

Tim looks at his cards, and mucks three.

TIM

Three.

Jon deals out the cards.

SASHA

Two... No, wait, Three... No wait,  
fold.

JON

Oh-kay. Alex?

ALEX

(feeling it)

Two.

Jon peels off two cards.

JON

Mike?

Mike puts his cards on the table in front of him, and places  
a small stack of chips on them.

DR.MIKE

I'll play these.

Jon gives a disgruntled look at Mike. He looks at his cards,  
then glances quickly around the table.

JON

Dealer takes one.

He deals himself a single card after mucking one.

TIM

Check.

Alex grabs some chips like he's going to bet.

ALEX

Ah, screw it, check.

DR.MIKE

Four bucks.

Jon looks at his draw card.

JON

Call, and raise two dollars.

TIM

Fold.

ALEX  
(mucking His cards)  
I hate draw.

DR.MIKE  
Call.

Mike tosses in two chips, and turns over a flush with two deuces at the end.

JON  
I drew a straight. A natural  
straight. Damn it.

SASHA  
You called deuces.

DR.MIKE  
So Alex, do you and Ronnie always  
perform at Flappers?

JON  
(steaming)  
Can we please stop talking about  
Ronnie, or even mentioning him for  
the rest of the night?  
(beat)  
As a personal favor to me?

A stunned silence.

ALEX  
It's a bit of touchy subject.

**INT. OFFICE LOBBY - DAY (FB #3)**

Jon watches through the glass as Ronnie is interviewing in front of three producers. The producers are laughing and Ronnie is in full performance mode.

JON  
Why are they laughing? He's not  
funny. He's a dancing monkey. Is  
that what they like?

The producers stand and shake Ronnie's hand. Ronnie has a huge smile. They exit the room.

DUMPY PRODUCER  
Everyone on staff will love you.  
We'll call your manager and work it  
out.

RONNIE

Thank you!

The producers cross off.

RONNIE

Jon, thanks so much. They loved me.

JON

They also love pineapple on their pizza.

RONNIE

When I get my first check, I'm taking you out for a nice steak dinner. How about the Smokehouse?

JON

I'm a vegetarian.

RONNIE

Since when?

JON

Five seconds ago.

\*

RONNIE

The offer stands.

Ronnie exits as we dissolve to...

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Jon sits with his head in his hands. Tim surreptitiously grabs the deck of cards, and starts to shuffle.

DR.MIKE

(chuckling)

So let me get this straight, you suggested your roommate for your dream job?

Alex gives Mike the "cut" sign to try and stop him.

JON

Yes.

DR.MIKE

And he got it!

JON

(rage)

He's not a writer.

He's not even that funny, and he doesn't have an agent. He has a manager... A shitty one. I know because he's my manager too.

DR. MIKE

I feel you. Salad on me, anytime.

Defeated, Jon's head drops to the table, as we...

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE

EPISODE FIVE

**INT. THE CONDO - NIGHT**

**SUPER: Hand 11 - 8:18pm (7 Card Stud)**

Everyone sits waiting for the hand to start.

TIM

All right ladies, Seven card stud.

SASHA

(singing)

*When all is said and done /  
you'll believe God is a Woman.*

JON

God is a human construct.

TIM

We're playing poker, not Ariana Grande.

ALEX

I like Ariana Grande.

SASHA

(sarcastically)

Me too. I'm totally into her new album!

Tim rolls his eyes.

SASHA (CONT'D)

God is a Woman, bitches.

JON

You wanna talk god--

SASHA

(cutting him off)

No thank you. Tim, deal please.

Tim starts to deal.

MALIYA (PRELAP)

Girl, you need to get Tim out of your mind.

**INT. SASHA'S BEDROOM- NIGHT (FB# 1)**

Sasha and MALIYA (20s) sit on Sasha's bed facing each other sharing a bong. Maliya starts to take a hit.

SASHA

He's so confusing. He's seriously either really dumb or doesn't know what he wants.

MALIYA

Probably both and I know you like him but you shouldn't be playing cards that are already in someone else's hand.

SASHA

(impressed)

Wow, that's pretty good.

MALIYA

Did you see what I did there?? Because y'all have some weird poker cult going on.

SASHA

We're just friends.

Maliya isn't convinced.

**INT. CONDO- NIGHT**

Tim deals 7-stud.

TIM

Three to the Jack, no help. Ace to the five, it stretches. King to the Eight, doesn't stretch. Pair of Sixes. And the dealer gets a four. I have no idea.

ALEX

(to Sasha)

So how did the auditions go this week?

JON

OMG, Auditions, as in multiple?

SASHA

Fuck. You. Jon. By the way, how's Ronnie doing these days?

Alex surreptitiously shares a fist bump with Sasha.

JON

Too soon, Sash. Too Soon.

SASHA  
(to Alex)  
To answer your question,  
(self satisfied)  
I got cast.

MALIYA (PRELAP)  
Which one? The bowling one or the  
security guard one?

**INT. SASHA'S APARTMENT - DAY**

SASHA  
The bowling one... thank god.

MALIYA  
I told you that blonde girl wasn't  
competition.

SASHA  
She was nice, and so pretty.

MALIYA  
Stand up straight. Stick your tits  
out. See that? Blonde girl got  
nothin' on you.

SASHA  
I was funnier.

MALIYA  
Lord knows bowling needs as much  
funny as it can get.

SASHA  
It's actually fun script, and I'm  
the only girl on the team.

MALIYA  
Wait. Do you have any scenes that  
don't have a male in it??

SASHA  
Actually yes.

MALIYA  
Is the scene about anything but a  
relationship with a guy??

SASHA  
(thinking a beat)  
No.

MALIYA \*  
(handing Sasha the bong) \*  
Well that sure doesn't pass the \*  
Bechdel test. \*

SASHA \*  
What? \*

MALIYA \*  
Basically, if a female character \*  
doesn't serve any other purpose \*  
than being a part in a male's story \*  
line, it doesn't pass. And if the \*  
scenes between female characters \*  
are only about relationships, it \*  
fails the test. \*

SASHA \*  
(beat) \*  
Oh my god that's every role I've \*  
ever had! \*

MALIYA \*  
(indication them) \*  
If this were a scene, us talking \*  
about Tim, fails the Bechdel test. \*

SASHA \*  
But us talking about the Bechdel \*  
test... \*

MALIYA \*  
Passes. \*

TIM (PRELAP) \*  
Sasha, you in? \*

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT** \*

Back to scene. \*

SASHA \*  
Yeah I'm in. \*

ALEX \*  
Fold. \*

DR. MIKE \*  
Fold. \*

JON \*  
(tosses cards in) \*  
These two can battle it out. \*

SASHA  
Raise, two dollars.

TIM  
It's my call.

SASHA  
What's it going to be?

Tim looks up and sees a framed photo of Linda and him. His smile fades.

**INT. SASHA'S BEDROOM- NIGHT (FB# 1)**

Maliya sits at her computer. Sasha paces in the BG.

SASHA  
Are you listening to me?

MALIYA  
Yeah, yeah. Tim, poker, whatever.  
I'm trying to finish my spec for  
the Warner Brothers fellowship.

SASHA  
I'm trying to not fuck up my life.

MALIYA  
You're not going to fuck up your  
life. Just be yourself.

SASHA  
I was myself yesterday, and that  
was a fucking hot mess.

**INT. SASHA'S BEDROOM- DAY (FB# 2)**

Sasha and Tim sit on Sasha's bed. She is straddling him as they make out. Sasha pulls his shirt up to take it off. He hesitates and pulls away.

TIM  
Hold on.

SASHA  
(starts to adjust herself)  
What? What am I hurting you?

TIM  
What? No, you're fine. I don't  
think this is a good idea.

SASHA  
Oh. Yeah.

TIM  
I'm sorry it's just... Linda is  
still in the picture...

SASHA  
(to herself)  
Barely.

TIM  
And I don't want to be that ass  
hole. We've been together so long.

SASHA  
Why do we keep doing this. It's not  
a one way street here, Tim.

TIM  
I don't know.

SASHA  
What, you don't know what this is  
or you don't know what you want?

TIM  
(little more upset)  
I don't know, Sash.

SASHA  
(pissed)  
Maybe you are that ass hole.

**INT. SASHA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Back to flashback.

MALIYA  
Whoa, holy shit. Have you two  
talked about it?

SASHA  
I'm going to see him at poker  
tonight. I'll talk to him then.

MALIYA  
Good, you can't just leave it  
hanging there like a limp dick, no  
one likes a limp dick.

SASHA  
Wasn't limp last night.

On Maliya's reaction we...

CUT TO:

INT. CONDO - NIGHT

Back to scene.

SASHA  
Two bucks.

She tosses in two chips.

TIM  
It's still my call.

SASHA  
Well then do something.

TIM  
I'll fold.

SASHA  
(to Tim)  
Really? After all that, you're just  
gonna fold? You could've checked.

Tim glances from Sasha's queens back up at the picture of  
himself and Linda.

TIM  
I can't beat what's already on the  
table.

She rakes in her winnings, stands and heads towards the  
kitchen.

SASHA  
(mad)  
I need a drink.

Alex gulps down the rest of his drink.

ALEX  
Yeah, I need to freshen mine up,  
too.

Alex follows her out.

DR. MIKE  
She won, why's she so upset?

Tim checks his phone, Jon shrugs and we...

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE

EPISODE SIX

**INT. CONDO KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Sasha stands at the fridge. Alex enters.

ALEX  
Hey, are you okay?

SASHA  
Yeah.

She opens the fridge, and pulls out a tray of devilled eggs and shows them to Alex.

ALEX  
Where'd the deviled eggs come from?

SASHA  
Apparently, Tim's been taking a cooking class. So...

She shows off tray and puts them down and starts eating them. Alex presses his glass into the fridge for more ice.

ALEX  
I thought you were just grabbing a beer?

SASHA  
Right.

She opens the fridge and grabs a beer.

ALEX  
What was all that about?

SASHA  
I don't know. I'm having a weird week.

Alex pours himself a bit of Scotch.

ALEX  
Fair enough. So tell me about the bowling series. Is it a good character?

SASHA  
It's not too well defined. The writer's a guy, so... I had to do a bio, which I always do, but she was born in Nashville. Her parents were struggling musicians...

Alex takes a swig as we...

**INT. CONDO LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Tim, grabs the cards and looks to Mike and Jon then...

TIM  
(calling off)  
Sasha, it's your deal.

SASHA (O.C.)  
(yelling back)  
We're taking a little break!

Tim hangs his head and shuffles the cards. Jon has head down on the table.

**SUPER: 8:25 PM - Taking a Break**

Tim glances at Mike and shrugs.

**INT. CONDO (KITCHEN) - CONTINUOUS**

Sasha rolls her eye, then...

SASHA  
(to Alex)  
Where was I?

ALEX  
Her parents were musicians...

SASHA  
Right... Then they joined a bowling league to help advance their careers...

ALEX  
As people do.

**INT. CONDO LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Tim shakes his head.

DR. MIKE  
I'm thinking you have more of a Sasha problem, than a Linda problem.

TIM  
Shhh.

JON  
(head still down)  
I think he might right, Tim.

TIM  
What does that mean?

Jon lifts his head.

JON  
She's into you, are you dense?

Jon puts head back down.

DR. MIKE  
I've been here an hour and half,  
and it's fairly obvious.

TIM  
Really?

DR. MIKE  
She's invested, man. But what's the  
deal with Linda?

TIM  
We've been together for a bit over  
two years.

DR. MIKE  
What does she do?

TIM  
She's an A.D.

DR. MIKE  
An Assistant Director?

TIM  
Yeah. She's a second A.D., but  
she's working her way up.

DR. MIKE  
And the Sasha situation?

TIM  
We're friends.

Mike cocks an eyebrow and Jon raises his head and attempts to  
cock an eyebrow.

TIM (CONT'D)

What?! We met in the improv class,  
and she offered to help me with my  
acting. That's it.

DR. MIKE

And how has that worked out?

**MONTAGE OF TIM AND SASHA KISSING**

Various shots of them kissing and making out.

**INT. CONDO LIVING ROOM**

Tim throws his hands up.

TIM

Oh man, it's out of control.

DR. MIKE

I was going to say inappropriate,  
but "out of control" works. Do you  
love her?

TIM

Who?

DR. MIKE

Linda.

TIM

Yeah. I think so.

JON

You think so?

Tim shrugs. Jon's head is still planted on the table.

JON (CONT'D)

Speak up.

TIM

Yeah, I still love Linda.

as we...

CUT TO:

**INT. CONDO (KITCHEN) - CONTINUOUS**

Sasha takes a sip of her beer, then...

SASHA

So in her sophomore year of High School she had to take either phys. ed. or an elective and she took bowling, and met her first true love.

Alex nods as if he's interested.

**INT. CONDO LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Tim holds his head in his hands.

TIM

I am so screwed.

DR. MIKE

No, you're not. You know who you want. You just have to act on that emotion.

TIM

Yeah. I guess I do.

DR. MIKE

Now, how did you meet Linda?

TIM

I gave her boss at the time a gift certificate for a free work out and evaluation. He gave it to her, and one thing led to another.

JON

One thing led to another...

**INT. CONDO - DAY (FB #?)**

Linda, in workout clothes paces in the living room.

SFX: Door Knock.

She crosses to the door, and opens it. Tim stands there.

LINDA

Okay, this is crazy, you can't keep giving me free workouts.

He steps in and kisses her.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Unless that's something you feel strongly about.

TIM

You've got one more workout and that's it.

She kisses him back and pulls him out of shot.

TIM (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Okay maybe two...

DISSOLVE TO:

**INT. CONDO**

Back to scene.

TIM

She gets really stressed and wrapped up in projects, and I'm the only one who can calm her down. She's the only one who focuses me. She's intense and driven, and she inspires me to do more. That's why I wanted to do the acting thing.

DR. MIKE

It sounds like you have a real yin and yang relationship.

TIM

Yeah, we do. She gets me, and we balance each other out, if that makes sense?

DR. MIKE

Again, what do you want to do?

TIM

I want to be with Linda.

DR. MIKE

What about Sasha?

TIM

I have to stop the acting lessons, and I really don't want to do another damn character bio.

**INT. CONDO (KITCHEN) - CONTINUOUS**

Sasha finishes her beer. Alex is engrossed in her character bio.

SASHA

So she's flying back from Mexico, and realizes, "Holy shit, I'm a drug mule." And then decides to move to Fresno, join a bowling team and lay low for a while.

ALEX

That's a lot of backstory for a web series. So, do you feel better after devouring some eggs?

SASHA

I do. Thanks, you're a good friend. Okay, I've definitely had enough of these, let's go play some cards.

She crosses off.

ALEX

(to himself)

Fucking friend zone, again.

**INT. CONDO LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Sasha enters.

SASHA

So it's my deal?

TIM

Yeah.

(he leans into her)

You were right, we need to talk about yesterday.

They share a look. Alex crosses in and sits down as we...

FADE OUT:

END OF EPISODE

EPISODE SEVEN

**INT. THE CONDO - NIGHT**

**SUPER: Time: 9:36 - Hand 45 (Texas Hold 'Em)**

Dr. Mike has the biggest chip stack. He's dealing the flop in a Hold "Em hand, and going slowly because he's telling a joke. Jon is getting antsy and agitated and is very close to running out of chips.

DR. MIKE

And that's why you should never go fishing with a Gemini.

Everyone laughs but Jon.

TIM

(Finishing laughing)

I'm a Gemini and that is so me. I used love astrology until Jon here convinced me it's all bullshit.

SASHA

It's not ALL bullshit.

JON

(to Sasha)

It's bullshit!

CUT TO:

**INT ALEX AND JON'S APT - DAY**

Jon and Alex are playing video games And eating pizza as Sasha is reading horoscopes.

SASHA

Ohhh no. That's not good. Jon you're a Capricorn right?

JON

Yeah?

SASHA

Your horoscope says you need to watch your diet, you're prone to be super stressed this week.

Sasha sees the Pizza. Walks over picks up Jon's plates and tosses it in the trash.

JON

(Angry)

What the hell?! Are you serious?  
Astrology is a bunch of shit, plus  
I'm stressed all the goddamn time!

VIDEO GAME (O.C.)

Player Two wins!

ALEX

Ha! I finally beat you!  
(re: pizza)  
Hey, I could've eaten that.

JON

Me too...

**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Back to scene.

JON

That was extreme, plus Astrology is  
just vague personality traits with  
whatever they think people are  
going through that week. Two  
dollars.

Sasha shoots Tim a disapproving look. Jon grabs a couple of  
chips and tosses them in.

TIM

Which is also vague. Fold.

Sasha tosses her cards in the middle.

SASHA

Fold.

ALEX

Call.

Alex tosses in two chips.

DR. MIKE

I haven't looked at my cards yet,  
but,  
(he pats them)  
They feel like winners. Call.

Dr. Mike then pulls a cigar out.

ALEX

Mike, I didn't know you roll that way, and super fat too.

JON

That's a cigar, Dumbass.

ALEX

It looks like a blunt.

DR. MIKE

What's a blunt?

Jon rolls his eyes.

TIM

It's a cigar wrapper but with weed instead of tobacco, usually Swisher Sweets.

DR. MIKE

Those are nasty.

SASHA

(to Tim)

You don't smoke. How'd you know that?

TIM

I went to college... for a semester.

DR. MIKE

Ahhhh, no I don't smoke the Wacky Tobaccy, but I used to when I was younger. The stuff they grow these days is way too strong.

CUT TO:

**INT MIKES APT - NIGHT**

Dr. Mike sits on his couch glued to the TV. We see a weed pipe and some weed and some clouds in the air. Mike is stoned out of his mind.

DR. MIKE

Dammmmmmmnnnnnn.....

(a long beat)

Wow... I'm hungry

(beat)

Then passes out on the couch

## INT. CONDO - NIGHT

JON

"Wacky Tobaccy" sounds like a mascot for an anti-smoking campaign.

ALEX

Or a bad rapper name.

SASHA

"Jays all Daze" is a fucking brilliant song.

Everyone laughs. Alex laughs longer than everyone else. He realizes quickly and shuts up. Dr. Mike deals the turn card.

Jon grabs about half his stack and counts it quickly but drunkenly.

JON

Three-Fifty.

ALEX

Fold.

TIM

Well Mike, are your Thursday nights usually free, because I think you're our 5th player?

DR. MIKE

Yeah, unless one of my ex wives rears her ugly head.

Jon rolls his eyes. Mike grabs \$3.50 worth of chips and tosses them in.

DR. MIKE (CONT'D)

Call.

SASHA

You still haven't looked at your cards, huh?

DR. MIKE

Like I said, they feel lucky.

Dr. Mike then deals the river card.

TIGHT ON JON

JON (V.O)  
(drunkenly)  
I got this. 3 of kind, with the  
cards that are out there,  
mathematically I'm definitely  
winning.

Jon looks at his meager stack of chips.

JON (CONT'D)  
I'm all in.

SASHA  
Ohhhh, low stack over here feeling  
good about his cards.

DR. MIKE  
(looking at his chips)  
I'll call, I can afford to lose  
three fifty.

Everyone laughs lightly and Jon gets agitated but confident he's gonna win. Jon reveals his 3 of kind and is already reaching for chips but as he's doing so Dr. Mike reveals his cards only to find he has a full house. Jon loses it.

JON  
What?!? No fucking way! That is  
some bullshit! Really he won with a  
fucking 2-7? Really?? If you were  
actually playing you would've  
folded that hand before the flop.  
Thinks he's all funny and charming  
but in reality you're just lucky  
ass back cracker! Gah I hate this,  
I hate you guys. Fuuuccckkkkk!

Jon storms off to the bathroom. Everyone sits in silence.

ALEX  
He's just deflecting right now,  
he's not really mad at us.

DR. MIKE  
Well I think on that note I should  
leave.

SASHA/ALEX/TIM  
What? No? Why?

DR. MIKE

Yeah it's been a lot of fun playing with y'all but Jon is a bit too (air quotes) "agro" and you guys, and gal, are awesome but a bit too young for my speed, so I think it's best if this was a one-time thing.

Dr. Mike starts to count up his chips.

TIM

(To himself)  
Jon, you son of bitch...

SASHA

He usually doesn't get like this...

ALEX

I love the guy, and he's my roommate, but let's just kick Jon out.

DR. MIKE

No no. Don't do that. I don't want to ruin the group dynamic here. You all are friends, and that's important, especially in your twenties, and he needs you guys.

As he's saying this he cashes out his chips.

DR. MIKE (CONT'D)

Once again thank you for everything and Tim whenever you need the back cracker, shoot me a text and always remember, if the person is holding the balloon...

ALEX/SASHA/TIM

Then they're the air head.

Everyone has a bit of a sad laugh as Dr. Mike exits.

Jon staggers back into the room. All of them glare at Jon.

JON

Where'd Mike go?

Off everyone's pissed off reactions we...

FADE OUT.

THE END

EPISODE EIGHT

INT. CONDO - NIGHT

**SUPER: Cleaning Up - Time: 10:27**

Everyone is still pissed at a still drunk Jon. Tim, Alex and Sasha pack up the chips, put chairs away, etc. Jon slouches in a chair.

JON

I can't believe Mike just left.

TIM

You were being really shitty to him.

JON

Was I?

ALEX

Yes. You were grumbling and putting him down all night.

JON

I always mess everything up.

SASHA

No you don't.

JON

Yeah, I do. I work on my scripts too long, keep rewriting, and rewriting, until I wring anything good and fun out of them.

TIM

You are a bit of a perfectionist.

JON

I can't keep a relationship. I'm always nitpicking and finding problems.

ALEX

Yeah, that actress, Dakota.

SASHA

You said she chewed too loud.

JON

She chewed so loud. That wasn't me.

TIM

That was all you man.

JON

I was thinking of Emily.

SASHA

Yeah, Emily was great.

JON

I know, but she was so annoying.

ALEX

She was smart, and attractive--

JON

(agreeing)

... And she ate red meat, which was a good thing, but I just lost interest.

TIM

Yeah, there's something wrong with you.

The front door opens and LINDA (late 20s) dressed for set-work enters. She's not happy.

LINDA

Oh perfect, the gang's all here.  
(to Tim)  
I want you out.

TIM

What?

LINDA

Out. You, your friends, and especially your little girlfriend here.

Linda storms up the stairs.

TIM

She's not my girlfriend. You are!

LINDA (O.C.)

Out!

SASHA

Wait, woah! Linda what are you talking about?

LINDA (O.C.)  
I have video of you two making out!

Tim runs up the stairs and the argument continues in the b.g.  
Throughout the rest of the scene.

ALEX  
(to Sasha)  
Video?

She looks at him panicked, then...

SASHA  
(realizing)  
The Broadcast News scene.

Sasha starts towards the stairs. Alex grabs her by the arm.

ALEX  
What do you think you're doing?

SASHA  
I'm going to tell her that nothing  
happened.

ALEX  
Think about it, if you thought your  
boyfriend was cheating on you would  
you believe the other woman?

This deflates Sasha.

SASHA  
But nothing really happened.

ALEX  
What do you mean, "really?"

SASHA  
There was a kiss in the scene,  
and... well... you know.

Alex glances upstairs.

ALEX  
Oh, yeah... I... gotta go.

He exits in a huff.

SASHA  
Where are you going?  
(to Jon)  
What's his problem?

JON  
Seriously? He likes you... a lot.

SASHA  
He likes me?

JON  
A lot. It's annoying.

SASHA  
Why didn't he ever ask me out?

JON  
Low self-esteem, fear of rejection,  
bad timing. You know the normal  
shit.

SASHA  
He gets up on stage, tells complete  
strangers intimate pieces of his  
life, but he can't ask a girl out?

JON  
Oh, he asks girls out... with some  
regularity. But it's asking THE  
girl out that's his problem.

Sasha realizes and exits. As she walks out the door, Mike enters.

DR. MIKE  
Where's she going?

JON  
After Alex.

DR. MIKE  
Oh, that makes sense.

JON  
Why are you back?

DR. MIKE  
I forgot my food tray.

JON  
Right, and your fixings.

DR. MIKE  
Exactly.

Mike Crosses to the kitchen.

JON

Hey, I'm sorry for being so harsh.

DR. MIKE (O.C.)

No worries. If I may, don't take things so seriously.

JON

Easy for you to say.

Mike enters with his tray and bag of stuff.

DR. MIKE

Not so much. You have some solid friends here. Don't drive them away.

JON

Yeah, not driving tonight.

DR. MIKE

Good choice.

Tim comes back downstairs.

TIM

Hey, Mike. What are you doing back?

DR. MIKE

Forgot my tray.

TIM

You guys better go. This is going to get worse before it gets better. If it gets better.

JON

I'm too drunk to drive. Can I crash here?

TIM

It's not a good night, Dude.

JON

Yeah, but Alex took off, and Sasha chased after him.

TIM

Wh- why.. Never mind. Mike, would it be possible for you to take Jon home?

DR. MIKE

Uh, sure thing. Lets go, Buddy.

JON  
*Don't call me Buddy.*

They both have a laugh and exit. Tim stands staring at the poker table.

LINDA (O.S.)  
Get back up here. I'm not done with you.

Tim sighs heavily, as we...

FADE OUT.

THE END