

# **Poker Nights**

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Season One

Blue Table Draft - 3/22/19

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**EPISODE 101**

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**INT. CONDO - NIGHT**

Condo living room. TIM (Brian Riley) places a set of poker chips on a nice poker table with chairs all around.

\*

SUPER: 6:49pm - Set Up

SASHA (Marie-Claire Huff) sits at the table dividing out the chips. Tim places chairs around the table. There's tension in the air.

\*

SASHA

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

Tim, you're a good actor. You were so good in the Broadcast News scene.

\*

\*

\*

**EXT. CONDO - NIGHT (FB #1 - BROADCAST NEWS - SASHA'S VERSION)**

\*

Sasha sits on a bench wearing a dress as similar as possible to Holly Hunter's. Tim stands in front of her in a suit. He holds her hand, and caresses her arm with the other hand.

\*

\*

\*

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)

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  
the acting thing.

SASHA  
But, you have all this great  
potential.

TIM  
I really don't.

**INT. CONDO - DAY (FB #2 - BROADCAST NEWS TIM'S VERSION)**

Sasha sits on a table wearing 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 we 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

Tim, 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 to the door and 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 (Max Trautmann) and JON (Andrew  
Gaga) 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  
Just standup!? 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, when you are in one of your little moods. \*  
(snaps fingers at Tim) \*  
Is Sasha here? I thought I saw her car outside? \*

TIM  
Umm... Bathroom. She's in the bathroom. What's going on?

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  
What set him off this time?

ALEX

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

TIM

Good for him.

JON

Not for the show.

ALEX

My god...

JON

No. I'm the writer. I went to film school... at USC! 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?

**INT. NANCY'S OFFICE - DAY (FB #3)**

\*

Tim is stretching with NANCY (professional) 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 Executive.

TIM

Exactly. So this guy is her  
chiropractor...

**INT. NANCY'S OFFICE - DAY (FB #4)**

Nancy is on a portable chiropractic table with DR. MIKE, Mike  
Bach, 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, chiropractors are doctors,  
right? 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 time 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 feel it there at the end.

TIM

What, the mat?

Jon and Sasha come back into the living room.

JON

...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 (John Dell) 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 never going to make it. \*



## INT. CONDO - NIGHT

Back to scene.

SASHA  
(disgusted)  
Yeah, he still drunk snaps me.

Jon and Alex roll their eyes.

TIM  
Me too.

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

ALEX  
I'd say more humorous than funny.

SASHA  
Maybe not laugh out loud funny.

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

JON  
Well thanks, guys! Your support  
means the world to me.

TIM  
Everyone good with drinks?

Alex sits next to Sasha.

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 little  
older guy?

TIM

He's just a little older than we  
are. He's mobile and he was  
treating one of my clients...

**INT. NANCY'S OFFICE - DAY (FB #3)**

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

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 drinking 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. Let me help you there.

Tim takes the tray of tacos and crosses to the kitchen.

DR. MIKE

All good things I hope, nice table.

Mike physically inspects the table and finds a squeak. He  
puts the bag down, adjusts the table and checks it. No  
squeak.

ALEX  
(to Sasha)  
Damn, he's good.

Tim enters.

TIM  
Sorry, I forgot, 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  
Yeah...What do think 40s or 50s? \*

JON  
I'll bet he's under 50.

ALEX  
Usual bet? \*

JON  
You're on. \*

On Alex's reaction 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.

**INT. JON & ALEX'S APARTMENT - NIGHT**

Jon, Alex, Sasha and Tim sit around the dining room table  
with a stack of board games in the center.

SASHA

I like Uno. It's fun.

Grumbles from the others.

TIM

What about monopoly?

JON

Monopoly brings out a dark side of  
me. I like you guys, you're my  
friends. I'm not ruining that over  
a board game.

Jon pulls Monopoly out of the stack and tosses it to the  
floor. Alex reaches for Aggravation.

ALEX

Same goes for me with Aggravation.  
Total trigger. I have cousins who  
still won't talk to me.

Alex tosses Aggravation onto...

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

**ANGLE ON THE DISCARDED GAMES**

Several other games pile up. Tilt up to the gang around the  
table. Only Uno is left in the center.

SASHA

Looks like it's Uno.

More grumbles from the guys.

TIM

If we're going to play cards, it  
should be poker. I have a poker  
table at my place.

On everyone's acceptance, we...

CUT TO:

## INT. THE CONDO - NIGHT

Back to scene.

TIM

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

SASHA

And Texas 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

(pointing at picture)  
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.

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.

SASHA

Grossest night ever.

TIM

Our cat ran away that night.

DR. MIKE

Wow. That's too bad.

TIM

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

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

FADE OUT.

EPISODE THREE

INT. CONDO - NIGHT

Overhead shot of the table with the cards spread out. Hands pick cards and turn them over.

DR. MIKE (O.S.)

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.

Alex is high with a Queen.

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 Retirement Account?

DR. MIKE

Exactly. So I did. When I got to Vegas the voice said, "Go to Caesar'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 grin 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 learned this new game...

\*

JON

Was this a game learned 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 confidant, 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 we were going to play?

\*  
\*

ALEX

You start with a sword and a coconut.

\*  
\*

Everyone reacts.

ALEX

Yeah, that kind of game.

TIM

Damn, sounds interesting. I don't have a sword. 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. And they use those plastic chips.

TIM

Amateurs.

ALEX

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

DR. MIKE

I'll check to the bettor.

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

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

\*

JON

Alex, why would 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.

\*

SASHA

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

DR. MIKE

I fold. And don't ask me, I've been divorced three times, twice to the same woman.

\*

\*

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, Bro?

JON  
It's Jon.

They shake hands.

ALEX  
Alex.

RONNIE  
I'm Ronnie! I'm featuring next week.

\*  
\*

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 ever  
perform at the Ice House?

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.

Ronnie is literally acting like a monkey.

JON  
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. Do  
you have an agent?

RONNIE \*  
No. \*

DUMPY PRODUCER \*  
We'll call your manager, get you an \*  
agent and work it out. \*

RONNIE  
Thank you!

The producers cross off.

RONNIE  
Jon, thanks for the lob. 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 didn't even have  
an agent. He only had 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 social construct.

TIM  
We're playing poker, not Ariana  
Grande.

ALEX  
I like Ariana Grande.

SASHA  
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 deals.

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 why I'm in this hand.

\*  
\*

ALEX

(to Sasha)

So how did the auditions go this week?

JON

(sarcastic as hell)

OMG, Auditions, as in multiple?

\*

SASHA

Fuck you, Jon. When's Ronnie's first day on the new job?

\*  
\*

Alex 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 a 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 holding a tray of devilled eggs.  
Alex enters. \*

ALEX  
Hey, are you okay?

SASHA  
Yeah.

ALEX  
Deviled eggs? \*

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

She shows off tray and puts them down and starts eats one.  
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. Well you did get cast  
in the bowling series. \*

SASHA  
(realizing)  
That is true. \*

ALEX  
The character any good? \*

SASHA  
It's not too well defined. The  
writer's a guy, so... \*

I had to do a bio, which I always do. She was born in Nashville. Her parents were struggling musicians...

\*

Alex takes a sip 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 his 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 be right, Tim.

TIM

What does that mean?

Jon lifts his head.

JON

All I'm saying is that if you two  
haven't had sex yet, I'd be  
shocked.

\*  
\*  
\*

Jon puts head back down.

DR. MIKE

I've been here an hour and half,  
and it's fairly obvious. Not sure  
if it's shockingly obvious, but...

\*  
\*

TIM

Really?

DR. MIKE

Oh yeah. What kind of situation you  
got there?

\*  
\*

TIM

No situation, we are just 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.

\*  
\*  
\*

Tim lets out a huge sigh.

\*

DR. MIKE (CONT'D)

And 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

Assistant Director?

\*

TIM

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

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

As people do.

\*  
\*

They have a laugh.

\*

**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 #1)**

Linda (Emily Coupe) 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...

**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, we balance each other out, if that makes sense? But she's been busy lately and we barely see each other.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

DR. MIKE

Look, relationships aren't easy, believe me. They take time and effort and sometimes it's hard to see your partner's perspective. It can help to take a step back to get a better perspective; really try to understand where your significant other is coming from.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Tim thinks hard about Dr. Mike's words.

\*

TIM

I don't know.

\*  
\*

DR. MIKE (CONT'D)

Again, what do you want?

\*  
\*

JON

Who do you want?

\*  
\*

TIM

I want to be with Linda.

JON

Sounds like you need a new acting coach.

\*  
\*  
\*

TIM

Yeah, and I really don't want to do another 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." That's when she decides to move to Fresno, join a bowling team and lay low for a while.

\*



ALEX  
Wow, that was pretty specific. \*

SASHA  
I know, right? \*

ALEX  
So, do you feel better after  
devouring some eggs? \*

SASHA  
I do. Thanks. \*

She goes in for a hug, but his glass and a devilled egg are  
in the way. \*

SASHA  
Let's go play some cards. \*

She starts to exit but turns back. \*

SASHA  
You're a good friend. \*

She crosses off. \*

ALEX  
(to himself)  
Friend? \*

(beat) \*

Maybe boyfriend? \*

**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. Mike and Jon share a fist bump. A glum  
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 to 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 Hawaiian 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 plate 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.

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 rubs 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 (FLASHBACK #1)**

\*

Dr. Mike sits on his couch glued to the TV. We see a weed pipe, some weed and some smoke 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**

Back to scene.

\*

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.

DR. MIKE

Like I said, they feel lucky.

Dr. Mike then deals the river card.

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 seven bucks. \*

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? a boat with a fucking 2-7? If you were actually playing you would've folded that slop before the flop. Thinks he's all funny and charming but in reality you're just lucky ass back cracker! Today and tonight have been the absolute worst! \*  
Fuuuccckkkkk! \*

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

ALEX

He's just deflecting right now, he's not really mad at you. \*

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...

Flashback montage of Jon being agro. \*\*\*\*\*

ALEX  
I love the guy, and he's my  
roommate, but we could 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, that's important  
in your twenties, and especially in  
Hollyweird.

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. Do you not remember just screaming at him and us.

\*  
\*

JON  
I always mess everything up.

SASHA  
Not always.

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.

Xxx FB of girl chewing loud. Jon looks in disgust

\*

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.

TIM  
She's not my girlfriend. You are! \*

LINDA  
Out! \*

SASHA  
Wait, woah! Linda what are you  
talking about?

LINDA  
I have video of you two making out! \*

TIM  
That's not possible.

\*  
\*

LINDA  
Creepy Dave in unit F sent it to  
me.

\*  
\*  
\*

TIM  
Fucking creepy Dave.

\*  
\*

LINDA  
Pack your shit and get out.

\*  
\*

She runs up the stairs. Tim follows her 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 on the  
bench outside.

\*  
\*

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...we  
kissed.

\*  
\*

ALEX

And?

SASHA

And I kinda liked it... I kinda like him.

ALEX

This is my second worst nightmare... yeah... I... gotta go.

He exits in a huff.

SASHA

Where are you going?  
(to Jon)  
What the fuck was that?

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.

\*

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

A small suitcase and a bunch of clothes come land on the bottom of the stairs. Tim and Jon react.

\*  
\*

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 shifts his focus from the pile of clothes to the poker table.

\*  
\*

LINDA (O.S.)

Get back up here. I'm not done with you.

TIM

(small consolation)

At least she's not done with me.

\*  
\*  
\*

Tim sighs, as we...

\*

FADE OUT.

**END OF SEASON 1**

\*