

Speed: Pilot

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INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

RYAN REYNOLDS, jaded 22-year-old in all black, vlogs to her camera. She holds a brand new electric tooth brush. Where there are ellipses, Ryan says things too vulgar and they are beeped out.

RYAN

Hey viewers, today we're going to continue our discussion about masturbation on a budget. Today's tool is the battery operated toothbrush. What you're gonna wanna do is ... then ... also ... and if you're feeling real saucy ...

FRANKLIN, 25 and cute, enters.

FRANKLIN

Bae, we need to talk. You weren't at lunch again. What's that, the third time this week?

RYAN

Oh sorry. I got caught up.

She pulls out her phone.

FRANKLIN

Do you know what it feels like to sit there alone with two burritos? One man, two burritos. Three days in a row. I was a straight up monster.

(beat)

I wanna be with someone who acknowledges my existence.

(beat)

What are doing. Are you swiping left? Was that a left swipe? Are you on tinder during *our* break-up?

RYAN

I swiped left.

FRANKLIN

We are no longer lovers.

RYAN

Okay, calm down. Hold on.

She turns on the camera to face Franklin.

RYAN (CONT'D)
What were you saying?

FRANKLIN
Are you trying to film our *break*
up?

GIL GILERSON, middle aged disgusting man in a gray outfit
pops his head in.

GIL
Hey Rye, I was wondering if you got
any of my packages again. I don't
know why they keep sending them
here. I definitely live next door.
Anyways I'm expecting a super neat
toothbrush. Cause you know I've got
that real aggressive case of
gingivitis.

Gil's tooth falls out into the hallway.

GIL (CONT'D)
Oh whoopsie daisy. No pressure I'm
sure it will turn up.

Gil looks at blood in his hand. He points to the toothbrush

GIL (CONT'D)
Hey is that-

RYAN
Get the fuck out Gil.

FRANKLIN
You're stealing from Gil again? Do
you know how many alignments that
man has? He could die. And all for
what? Your silly vlog. All so your
two viewers can get their jollies.

Franklin exits through the door.

FRANKLIN (CONT'D)
Not everyone can be a people
person. Enjoy dying alone.

RYAN
(to self)
We all die alone.

Ryan looks worried. Sound of Gil's teeth falling on ground.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Hey Gil, I know I told you to GTFO before and I committed a federal offense for my own personal gain and pleasure. But you don't think I have a people problem, do you?

GIL

Oh gee, Rye. Gosh that's a tough question. I think you're great. You know everyone's got their peaks and their valleys.

RYAN

Oh god damnnit, I don't care. Got any single friends?

She looks at his outfit. He puts his teeth back into his mouth.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Oh nope. Never mind.

GIL

Well, hey, if you're looking for a fella or a lady, I know a place, and they've got free water.

INT. SPEED MAIN HALL - DAY

Gil sits and drinks water. Ryan looks around confused. Ryan keeps refreshing her phone to see if she gets anymore views.

JETHRO LEWIS, vaguely aged cute but sloppy man, is in his "office." It is just a partition in the main hall. WINSLOW REGINALD, cheery 21 year old lovable goof, brings in the mail. BETH GOLDBERG, 20 year old basic white bitch, eyes one of the packages and runs to the bar. CHET, young mute caramel man, tosses her a bottle of whiskey.

WINSLOW

(like blues clues)

Mail time. This doesn't exactly match my excitement. But you've been served, with divorce papers. Again, sorry. Mail is just so exciting. I finally got a package too. Still waiting on that grad school acceptance though...

Winslow trails off in thought. Jethro smacks the divorce papers in the trash can and wipes off his hands in pleasure.

JETHRO

Forget about grad school.
Everything you need is right here!

He pauses to take in his office. He is in ecstasy. Bethany enters out of breath. She tosses him a bottle of Whiskey.

BETHANY

I heard a trigger word. Divorce. So I brought you some whiskey to get you through whatever emotionally weird stuff that is about to go down. You're welcome, and I'm always here for you. Always.

Beth heads out the door.

JETHRO

Oh...Beth.

BETHANY

(swept up in romance)
Yes?

JETHRO

Your mom wants you.

Jethro's good mood leaves his face. He swallows deeply at the divorce papers.

INT. MAIN HALL - DAY

Ryan speed dates while Gil drinks water by himself. Ryan takes the drink from the man across the table.

RYAN

Thanks, so tell me about yourself.

MAN

I run a start up non prof. We save hurricane animals that are on their last legs. Literally some of them don't have legs. Then we donate them to needy children with cancer.

(holds out phone)

This is the one I'm fostering.

RYAN

(takes phone)

Aw that's so cute. Is this twitter? Oh my gosh I wrote this witty tweet about a sandwich the other day.

(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)
Wait lemme just follow myself for
you. It's worth it.

SMASHCUT
Ryan still flips through her phone and drinks.

RYAN (CONT'D)
So, what are you like on the
inside? Like, what is your person
like. What are. What's your dick
like?

She looks up and sees the man's Big Bang Theory shirt.

RYAN (CONT'D)
Leave.

SMASHCUT
Ryan sits across from a girl on her phone.

GIRL
So I just got a tumblr because I
just feel like I have really funny
things to say about topical events.

RYAN
Tumblr's cool and all but I'm
really into vlogging right now.

GIRL
That was super popular in 2012
right? I mean vlogging is alright I
suppose, but I prefer the written
word.

Bell rings. Girl walks away. Ryan snaps for another drink.

RYAN
Pretenious bitch.

Ryan is now with Gil.

RYAN (CONT'D)
Everyone in here is a literal
monster. You really *connect* with
these people?

GIL
They aren't monsters. The monsters
are inside our heads.

Ryan gives him a bizarre look.

RYAN

So what you're saying is it's our own inhibitions and insecurities that prevent us from emotionally and physically connecting with those around us. If we tear down those metaphorical walls that tether us so, only then will we be able to achieve true human intimacy? Wow Gil, I may have underestimated you.

GIL

(laughs, like a crazy person)
Whatever you say Rye.

Gil smiles and twitches his eye -- real creep. Ryan looks off into the distance with meaning.

RYAN

I should vlog about this.

INT. SLOAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Beth enters the room and SLOAN GOLDBERG, middle aged party mom, has crop tops laid out all over.

SLOAN

Hi sweetie!
(holds up a crop top)
It's time to crop it up.

BETH

Mom, I hate crop tops.

SLOAN

No you don't. We love them. You think we got that mole removed so you could wear turtle necks all the time? Put it on.

BETH

It's cold.

SLOAN

Bethany, honey, if you ever want a boyfriend you're gonna have to be uncomfortable sometimes. Plus the cold weather does wonders for your nips.

Beth grabs the top.

BETH
Fine. But I'm doing it for me.

SLOAN
That's my good girl. Now. Go get
Jethro. I need to talk to him.

INT. MAIN HALL - NIGHT - LATER

Ryan talks into her camera. Beth walks by but gets distracted
by herself in the view finder. She vogues. Ryan notices.

BETH
What's this thing?

RYAN
A camera?

BETH
No silly. Why are you talking to
it?

RYAN
I'm vlogging.

BETH
Vlogging. Am I saying that right?
What is that?

RYAN
You say a bunch of shit and you
post it.

BETH
Wow, I'm learning so many new
things today. Did you know that
ISIS isn't a pop band?

Jethro enters

BETH (CONT'D)
Sloan wants to talk to you.

JETHRO
What's this?

BETH
Vlogging

RYAN
Does anyone in this building even
own a computer?

JETRHO

I know what it is, I just don't understand why you'd do that.

RYAN

It's the only way to brand yourself these days.

BETH

I would say my Brand is like Katniss Everdeen and that girl from that comedy about that bipolar guy.

RYAN

Are you just comparing yourself to Jennifer Lawrence?

BETH

What? Thank you.

Sloan pops her head in the room

SLOAN

There's my tall drink of skim milk. Come on over here, you cutie.

JETHRO

Well carry on then. Enjoy your time here!

Jethro exits with Sloan. Beth watches Jethro.

RYAN

(to Jethro)

Nice meeting you!

(to self)

Connecting.

BETH

He's not interested.

She hisses and walks away.

INT. MAIN HALL - NIGHT

Ryan makes a puzzled face at Beth and walks away from her. She overhears Winslow on the phone.

Winslow pulls things out of a cardboard box - bath/lotion basket, stuffed red hearts, portrait of the two of them naked.

WINSLOW

(on phone)

No that's a personal sketch of us.
Well it looks like me when I'm
flexing! I don't want this back. I
created it for you.

RYAN

(to self)

Oh, raw human emotion. I wonder how
many views this would get?

As he talks she tries to film him on her vlog.

WINSLOW

It took me months to put together
the perfect bubble bath combination
-- Oh no. I think the bunny got
into the bath salts.

Winslow pulls out a dead bunny and holds back tears.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)

(under his breath)

Chi Chi.

He rubs it on his face. He looks into the bunny's eyes.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)

I thought it'd be romantic. Hello?
Hello?

Winslow hangs up. He notices Ryan who tries to inch away.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)

Have you ever had your heart
broken? Who are you?

BETH

(from across the room)

She's a

(drawn out)

blogger.

RYAN

Vlogger.

WINSLOW

Vlogger? Do you know Shane Dawson?
What do you vlog about? I can help.
I have the buzzfeed app so I guess
you can say I'm pretty serious
about keeping up with current
events.

RYAN

Right, but back to that crying thing. Can you do more? I mean what's wrong? Friend?

She puts up her camera to film.

WINSLOW

Friend.

Beth sees them, she hisses, and cuts Ryan off.

BETH

Oh Win, I saw the package. Is it Becca?

(to Ryan)

You don't know Becca. You never will. She dumped him. She doesn't love him. How could she? Look at him. He's disgusting. He's holding a dead animal.

(to Winslow)

You're sad. I'll make you a vodka cran. Because that's what friends do.

Winslow exits.

BETH (CONT'D)

You want in on this? This tight crew? Wanna be part of the clique? Well too bad. You can't. We already ordered our matching track jackets last week.

Winslow exits to the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

He takes a deep breath then smiles before walking down the hall. He smiles and waves to people calling out from different clubs. Signs on the doors say things like "Adult Chinese Lessons", "Adult Chinese Food Club," "Adult Adult Anonymous Meeting," "Adult." It's just an adult in a room.

INT. MAIN HALL - NIGHT

Beth makes a vodka cranberry.

RYAN

I feel like we got off on the wrong foot back there.

(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)

Normally I'd be okay with it because you're so basic, but I'm trying to be more open. So sorry if you thought I was hitting on your boyfriend.

BETH

My what? Who what? No.

RYAN

That older dude? Seems like there's something there.

BETH

Really?

Ryan notices Beth's excited expression and smirks. Beth pulls out a piece of paper and hands it to her.

BETH (CONT'D)

Well here's your tab. Have a nice day.

Ryan looks at the tab in shock.

RYAN

What? Why didn't my dates pay for my drinks?

BETH

It's 2015. Women pay for drinks too, ya know. I consider myself part of the feminist movement. Like I plan on working when I'm older. Unless I marry a doctor.

Beth drinks her cranberry vodka. Ryan looks puzzled at her bill.

RYAN

I really can't afford this. I just lost my job. Can I do like a lay away?

BETH

We're not KMart, but I'll throw you a bone. I need someone to do my job for me, cause the UV rays are super high right now and I better start tanning my midriff.

RYAN

Okay yeah. That sounds easy. What do you do? Just bring drinks to people?

BETH

Oh no, my job is much more complicated than that.

SMASHCUT

Beth slams a phone book in front of Ryan.

BETH (CONT'D)

Flip through this. Pick a random number and call them.

RYAN

Like, talk to them? Can I just text them?

BETH

No we've found actual talking to be a lot more responsive. Don't worry. I have a script for you.

Beth hands her a piece of paper.

RYAN

What's with all of these crossed out names?

BETH

Oh those are the perverts. Don't call them.

RYAN

But there's so many crossed out.

BETH

Well there's a lot of perverts. Welcome to the real world.

Ryan looks at her bill and then the phone book.

RYAN

\$15 dollars for a drink. Jesus. Why are your prices so high, anyway?

BETH

We're not really great with money.

Beth exits.

INT. SLOAN'S OFFICE

Sloan sits at the head of the table. Jethro and GEMSTONE ETHERAL, 27 year old yoganut, sit on either side.

SLOAN

So you guys aren't so great with money.

Sloan turns to Jethro who is taking notes on his hand.

SLOAN (CONT'D)

It's become a problem. Truth is, no one wants to speed date anymore. They're all on trinder. And son, you can't just jack up drink prices to \$20 thinking it will solve everything. Read a business book!

GEMSTONE

Business is the antithesis of community. Our goal is to bring people together. Not to make money.

SLOAN

Gemstone, you're one to talk. You don't even charge people for your classes! And besides, no one's into the hot yoga anymore. It's all about the cold yoga.

GEMSTONE

I can change. I can do cold yoga.

SLOAN

No you can't. You are not cut out for it.

JETHRO

Look, I don't know about Kidneystone, but Speed can become profitable. We have a solid, level-headed group of people.

SMASH CUT.

INT. BATHROOM

Winslow enters and sobs. He looks in the mirror and sings to himself "You gotta be strong."

INT. MAIN HALL

Ryan reads off her script on the phone in a monotone voice.

RYAN

Hey you, are you looking for sexy singles in your area? Do you feel the constant pressures of day to day life building up inside you? Do you need relief? There's no easier way to drop your load then to come on down to Speed for a quickie.

Ryan hangs up the phone in disgust.

INT. SLOAN'S OFFICE

SLOAN

You two are doing the worst in the center. We can't afford to keep you both running. Listen, I love you both. Jethro, you're practically a Goldberg. And Gemstone, I don't know what you are, but I don't wanna see all of this out on the streets. At the end of this month we'll decide which business we have to shut down.

(looks at her watch)

Oh, look at the time. I gotta run to shiatsu with my shih tzu. Now that's a business that knows how to brand itself!

Sloan heads to the door.

JETHRO

Wait Sloan! Cmon'

SLOAN

You've got 1 month! Look at me. I feel like the female Donald Trump. You're fired!

Sloan exits.

SLOAN (CONT'D)

Well not yet. But you might be!

Jethro turns to Gemstone with a smolder. He is obviously trying to schmooze.

JETHRO

Listen Gemstone. You could do yoga anywhere! Don't you wanna get out of here? Expand your horizons? Do something with your chakras? This is all I have. This is my home and my family. They need me. They will be lost without me. Don't end up like me kid. You could have so much more. Now get outta here. Go live.

GEMSTONE

I'm going to set your business ablaze. I'll kill your family and use your skin as my yoga mats. Namaste.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jethro walks down the hall in distress. He hears "A Thousand Miles Intro" briefly on the piano. It's only the first couple of notes. He sees Winslow in a room playing piano. From the hallway he talks to him.

JETHRO

Winslow, do you still know how to syphon gas with your mouth?

WINSLOW

It's like riding a bike. You never forget. Why?

Jethro walks off quickly. Winslow follows him, chasing after.

JETHRO

We are setting this place ablaze. Insurance will pay out in a big way.

WINSLOW

Wow. That's a great idea! I love the creativity! But I should also add ... that's arson. What's the deal?

JETHRO

We need money.

WINSLOW

Well, you know what's a great way to get money.

Jethro clicks on his lighter.

JETHRO
Pyro-technics.

WINSLOW
No. Customers. And you know a great
way to lure in customers.

Jethro groans.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

Beth tans, a shadow comes over her. She takes out her earbuds, hears heavy breathing and looks at its source. It's Winslow in a make shift inflatable man costume. An egg hits him in the face.

INT. MAIN HALL - JETHRO'S OFFICE - DAY

Jethro sits at his desk. His face is in his hands. He looks down at his divorce papers and around at his office. He looks deeply into the eyes of Tom Hanks on his wall.

INT. MAIN HALL - DAY

Ryan fiddles with her phone at the hostess stand. Jethro is in his "office" with his face in his hands. Beth barges in wiping Winslow's face off.

BETH
I know pre-teens can be really
mean.

She tosses Chet the towel, He continues to clean off Winslow.

BETH (CONT'D)
Jethro!

Jethro comes out of his office.

JETHRO
What's up?

He notices she's not at the hostess stand and looks surprised. He points at her and Ryan.

BETH
We've talked about this. You can't
re-create inflatable man. You have
to invest in one.

JETHRO
 We have nothing to invest.
 (earnestly)
 The economy...

BETH
 What?

WINSLOW
 Apparently we're broke.

JETHRO
 More than just broke. They're gonna
 shut this place down. What do you
 expect? We have no customers. All
 we have is Gil.

GIL
 Can I get another glass of water
 when you get a chance, Chet?

JETHRO
 Gil, why are you here all the time?
 Are you squatting?

Gil jolts out of his seat and runs out.

BETH
 Aw Gil, we were gonna do pilates
 later.

WINSLOW
 I can't believe we're doing that
 bad.

JETHRO
 I was shocked too.

BETH
 This is unbelievable.

RYAN
 Oh my god. Maybe it's because you
 are living in 1994.

Jethro looks down at his seinfeld-esque outfit. Seinfeld
 base.

RYAN (CONT'D)
 Lets start with the phone calls, or
 I'm sorry, sex calls.

BETH
 Sex calls?

RYAN

The script?

BETH

I'm a marketing major. It's called a hook.

RYAN

Point is, no one answers the phone anymore. In the time it takes you to make one call I could have blasted it all over the internet. And who wants to even speed date anymore? Everyone's got an app for that. You need something special, a brand.

Jethro hears a memory of Sloan from their earlier meeting.

SLOAN

Branding. Branding.

Jethro snaps back to reality.

JETHRO

You're hired.

BETHANY

What? What's she even gonna do?

JETHRO

Advertise. Branding. She's going to brand us. Go do the thing. Go quick.

RYAN

Wait, so I work here now?

JETHRO

I think you got what it takes, kid.

RYAN

Paychecks?

JETHRO

Every other Friday.

RYAN

Got it. But you've got to give me something other than speed dating to work with.

WINSLOW

I got it.

Winslow runs out.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)
See, you didn't give me employee of
the month for six months in a row
for nothing. Always remember that.
I'm your favorite.

Winslow trips and exits.

JETHRO
(to Ryan)
What size jacket do you wear?

Pan to Beth who is now fuming. Winslow re-enters with his
hands full of graphs, posters, charts and etc. He stumbles
in.

WINSLOW
I've watched a lot of "Shark Tank."
I'm ready for this moment.

Winslow composes himself.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)
Speed dating is all about coitus.
So when are people the most hot and
bothered? Science has proven that
just like the rabbits.
(quietly)
Chichi.
(long pause)
Humans are horniest in the spring.
And...

Winslow pulls out a sign of Justin Timberlake.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)
It's gonna May.

Winslow holds for laughter. No one laughs.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)
Right. So what holiday is in May?
Cinco de Mayo. And what do we
already have? A Mexican snack and a
Mexican man.

He holds up a picture of Chet and a picture of Churros. Ryan
Gasps.

WINSLOW (CONT'D)
Sorry. I'll try to be more PC. He
is of Latino descent.

RYAN

No it's perfect. Hashtag Cinco de Kinko.

Winslow folds up the paper he is looking at.

WINSLOW

That's better than my name.

RYAN

I can work with this. Let's do it.

BETH

I can help. I know how to use the internet. I can use emoticons. I can make them look dirty.

Beth makes hand gestures that look like emoticons.

JETHRO

Alright, 5th of May. That's in three weeks. We've got a lot of work ahead of us.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Gemstone is eavesdropping out of sight of the gang.

INT. YOGA STUDIO - NIGHT

It's dark, film noir lighting. Gemstone is on a yoga mat. She looks fiercely into the camera.

GEMSTONE

I know you don't have a home. I know that you need a home. I can get you a home. I need your inside advantage.

GIL

Well, okay.

Gil's tooth falls out.

TAG

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

The gang walks intimidatingly in a line in track jackets. Hard-core music plays. An egg gets thrown at them.