

ACT ONE

INT. LAW FIRM CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 1

A LAW PARTNER, JOSEPH KOLAR, 50'S, IS WELCOMING TWENTY NEW LAWYERS ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF WORK AT KOLAR, DIEMER, BURSON & LEAHY.

THE LITIGATION TEAM WE ARE GOING TO FOLLOW WATCHES FROM THE BACK WITH A COMBINATION OF CURIOSITY AND CONTEMPT.

THEY ARE: JOSH 32, DRIVEN WITH A CHIP ON HIS SHOULDER; AND JULIE 32, IVY LEAGUE SMART, TOMBOY COOL AND SEXY, THE TWO CO-LEADS OF THE TEAM. AS WELL AS THE OTHER ASSOCIATES, ELISE 31, BOOK SMART. STREET SMART? NOT SO MUCH; LIZ 28, A DARK CLOUD IN STILETTOS; AND ETHAN 24, HOME SCHOOLED AND IT SHOWS.

JOSEPH KOLAR

And so I welcome you on your first day  
of being a lawyer. But rest assured,  
we are not so much a law firm as one  
big happy family.

JOSH

And by happy he means over-worked--

JULIE

Over-stimulated.

ETHAN

Under-paid.

ELISE

Under-sexed.

LIZ

Over-tired.

ELISE

Under-sexed.

THEY ALL GLANCE AT ELISE.

ELISE (CONT'D)

I don't want to talk about it.

JOSH

And if by family he means the  
Sopranos.

JULIE

The Jacksons.

LIZ

The Mansons.

JOSH

Then yes, this firm is one big happy  
family.

ETHAN

Is that a new perfume Julie?

JULIE

It's Josh. Apparently, he thinks  
you're supposed to bathe in it, not  
sprinkle.

JOSH

I told you. It's aftershave and I  
spilled it.

THERESA, THE TEAM'S PARALEGAL, WEARING HER LARGE, JEWELLED  
GLASSES PROUDLY, ENTERS. SHE POINTS OUT TODD CLEMMONS, A  
SCRUFFY CUTE YOUNG MAN OF TWENTY-FIVE.

THERESA

We're getting the hot shot, Todd  
Clemmons, on our Law Dog team. He had  
offers from every firm in the country.

(MORE)

THERESA (CONT'D)

He's the skinny cute one between the  
Preppy Bulimic and Lurch with the  
Unibrow. His father is Ted Clemmons.

JOSH

The Ted Clemmons? The trial lawyer?  
Oh great. I hate these kids who are  
born on third base and think they hit  
a triple.

JULIE

Oh please not another one of your  
stories of how you had to walk a 1000  
miles to school in the snow every day.  
They were half the reason I broke up  
with you.

JOSH

Uh, I broke up with you. And I'm just  
saying when you grow up poor you  
resent these rich kids who get things  
handed to them.

JULIE

You're 32. You're wearing Armani and  
you smell like a girl. Get over it.

LIZ

Oh my god. Look at him. So young, so  
new, so excited. I can't wait to  
drain all of that out of him.

ETHAN

I'm just glad I won't be the youngest anymore. I'm going to make him my bitch.

THERESA

Yeah, you get right on that TuPac.

ELISE

I just want to swallow him like a baby bird and carry him around in my mouth until he can fly.

LIZ

That is like so frightening on so many levels.

THE PARTNER WRAPS UP HIS SPEECH AS THE NEW LAWYERS APPLAUD.

JULIE

There's our cue.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY 1

TODD CLEMMONS IS HUSTLING DOWN A HALLWAY WITH JOSH AND JULIE.

JULIE

So did you become a lawyer because of your father?

TODD

It was because of "A Few Good Men." I loved that movie as a kid. It looked so cool. You got Demi Moore. You got to kick Jack Nicholson's ass. "Did you order the code red?"

(MORE)

TODD (CONT'D)

I did the job, I- Did you order the  
code red? You're damn right I did...  
You can't handle the truth..."

JULIE LAUGHS. JOSH SCOFFS.

JOSH

If we're done with the prep school  
talent show, do you know what the most  
important thing is about this job?

TODD

Providing the best legal services to  
our clients so as to maximize their  
profits and potential.

JOSH

Were you up all night practicing that  
one? Dude, you got the job. Stop  
kissing ass.

TODD

Sorry. I wasn't sure how long I  
needed to keep the ass kissing going.

JOSH

The most important thing is making  
partner. It takes eight years. But  
if you make it, it brings money, power  
and did I say money?

TODD

How do you make partner?

JULIE

You have to bring in tons of clients,  
win huge cases, and kiss a lot of ass.

TODD

I thought he said not to kiss ass.

JULIE

His ass. Partner ass always needs to  
be kissed. It's like their morning  
cup of coffee.

TODD

And what if you don't make partner?

JOSH

You're shunned worse than an Amish boy  
wearing glitter.

JULIE

Put a fork in you, you're done here.

INT. THE POUND - DAY 1

THIS IS THE LAW DOGS WORK SPACE. THERE ARE NO WINDOWS ON  
THESE WALLS. THEY SURROUND TODD AT THE TABLE AND PEPPER HIM  
WITH AN OVERWHELMING RAPID FIRE VIEW OF HIS NEW LIFE.

JULIE

Josh and I are Co-leads. If you can't  
find us, ask Elise, if you can't find  
Elise, ask Liz, if you can't find Liz--

ETHAN

Find me. Ethan.

JOSH

Actually just keep looking for Liz.

ELISE

Things move quick here, so hang on.

The partners change their minds as

fast as they change wives.

JULIE WALKS TO THE DRY ERASE BOARD AND DRAWS SMALL AND LARGE CIRCLES.

JULIE

Which is why we only trust the people

in this room. This is us. And this

is everybody else. What happens in

here stays in here. What happens out

there, comes in here and we gossip,

dissect and rip it apart until we can

exploit it for our own gain.

LIZ

Just think of this place as high

school with paychecks.

JOSH

Failure is not an option. We work

hard, we play hard.

TODD

Got it. And I just want to say that I

will prove to you Josh-- to all of

you, that I am a true Law Dog.

JOSH

What did I tell you about the ass

kissing?

TODD

That wasn't ass kissing. That was genuine sentiment. Did anybody else think that was ass kissing?

THE ENTIRE TEAM NODS AND MURMURS "PRETTY MUCH," "SEEMED LIKE IT," "BROWN NOSE."

JOSH

Okay, good start new guy. Today we're going to do a practice run for next week's divorce mediation of Sarah and Trip Carlton.

JULIE

Because Sarah is our senior partner's niece. Lot of pressure on this one, would not want to be Josh.

ELISE

All I know is if a couple that hot and successful can't make it, what chance do I have? I'm dating a guy named Schlomo. Have you ever even met a guy named Schlomo? And I'm dating one.

LIZ

Grow up. You get married, you're going to get divorced. It's like jumping in a pool, you're either going to drown or contract a flesh eating virus.

ETHAN

I made out with Pauline from  
accounting last week. Turns out she  
used to be Paul. Nobody told me,  
nobody stopped me.

JOSH

Okay, does anyone have a legal opinion  
they would like to express about the  
case?

JUST THEN, JOSEPH KOLAR (THE PARTNER FROM THE OPENING ENTERS)

JOSEPH KOLAR

My niece's practice divorce mediation  
you had scheduled for this afternoon?

JOSH

Yeah?

JOSEPH KOLAR

She wants to get out of town, put it  
all behind her. I told her we could  
do it today. That a problem?

JOSH

No problem at all. We're ready.  
Let's do it now.

JOSEPH KOLAR

That's what I wanted to hear. Don't  
screw it up.

KOLAR EXITS. EVERYONE LOOKS AT JOSH.

JOSH

We are so not ready.

THEY ALL START DIVING INTO BOXES AND PULLING OUT DOCUMENTS.

SMASH TO OPENING CREDITS

ACT TWO

INT. THE POUND - DAY 1

THE TEAM, MINUS JOSH AND LIZ, ARE ENTERING THE POUND.

JULIE

He didn't.

ELISE

He did.

LIZ ENTERS

LIZ

Did what?

JULIE

That thing she didn't want to talk about? She's talking about.

ELISE

Last night, Schlomo and I were, you know. And just when I was about to, you know, have a you know. He stopped to answer his blackberry. And then he started typing, so he lost his you know, and so you know, NO, you know.

LIZ

You're a real dirty talker, aren't you?

JOSH ENTERS

JULIE

And why are you still with this guy?

JOSH

Because he's so Schlomo-lishish

ELISE

It's complicated.

JOSH

Always is. Okay, this is not a drill,  
we are doing the real divorce  
mediation this afternoon. So let's  
make sure we've reviewed their assets--

TODD RAISES HIS HAND.

TODD

Why do you think they didn't put all  
of their assets into joint trusts?  
And why do you think they opted out of  
power of attorney? And why do you  
think--

JOSH

Somebody tell the eager beaver not to  
ask questions until I have finished.

ETHAN

(giggling to himself)

You said beaver.

TODD

I'm sorry. I didn't know. I'm just  
kind of a question guy. Always want  
to know why.

(MORE)

TODD (CONT'D)

Like why did they divorce? Why did they divide their assets?

JOSH

Why are you still talking?

JULIE

He wants to learn. Josh is a little touchy on this one. He's been divorced for six months and still hasn't gone out yet, so the subject makes him--

LIZ

Cranky?

ELISE

Irritable?

JULIE

I was going to say emotionally vulnerable because just saying emotionally vulnerable to Josh makes his sphincter knot up like a pine cone.

JOSH

Why am I suddenly a guest on The View? I just want to finish my statement without being interrupted.

ELISE

But you are emotionally vulnerable. You're like a little boy lost in a forest trying to find his way home.

JOSH

I thought you got off the Paxil.

ELISE

Noooo, I just went generic.

JOSH

Okay, well now that you've robbed me  
of two minutes of my life that I will  
never get back, how about you work on  
your asset review assignments?

TODD RAISES HIS HAND

TODD

Uh, I don't have an assignment.

JOSH

How about quit asking questions and  
just shut up and learn?

JOSH EXITS THE ROOM.

TODD

Okay. Now I have an assignment.

INT. LAW LIBRARY - DAY 1

TODD, LIZ AND ETHAN FORM AN ASSEMBLY LINE AS THEY PREPARE THE  
LITIGATION CASE BOOKS.

TODD

What's the deal with Josh? Was it  
just me, or is he like that with all  
the first years?

ETHAN

No, it's just you.

TODD

What?

ETHAN

Well, it's not really you. It's just people like you that he hates.

TODD

Is this supposed to make me feel better?

LIZ

Okay, I'm going to step in here because Ethan is not human. Look, Josh is a great guy, but he had to scrap to get in here and resents anyone who didn't. So just kick his ass and prove him wrong.

TODD

Great. And to think I requested to be on Josh's team because I wanted to learn from the best.

ETHAN

Too bad it's not Julie's case. She's easier on first years and her hair smells like a weekend in New England.

TODD

She does seem nicer.

LIZ

Julie's nice the way a cat seems nice.  
She's cute and fun, but get near her  
food and she will scratch your heart  
out and show it to you before you die.

TODD

I didn't know cats did that. So  
what's with Josh and Julie's whole  
Sawyer-Kate thing?

ETHAN

They used to date their first year.  
But it was too intense for them to  
date and compete for partner against  
each other so they broke up.

TODD

They're competing against each other  
for partner? I thought they both were  
shoo-ins.

LIZ

No way. The firm has never chosen  
partners from the same class and the  
same team. So only one of them will  
make it.

TODD

That's brutal.

LIZ

We think they got it from the Nazis.

TODD

It does explain their sexual tension.

LIZ

Believe me, it's not just them. This entire office is filled with sexual tension. The pressure, the hours, the intensity. This place is like eHarmony on crack with a Viagra chaser.

TODD

That wasn't mentioned in the benefits package.

ETHAN

But be careful. Don't sleep with partners, subordinates or anyone who is married.

LIZ

Unless it's at the Christmas party, then anything goes.

INT. THE POUND

JOSH, JULIE AND ELISE ARE REVIEWING DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS.

ELISE

I thought you were the most beautiful, sexy woman I ever saw when we first met.

JULIE

And I was totally into you.

ELISE

Our first kiss was amazing.

JULIE

Totally amazing.

JOSH

Man, transcripts are not boring when they're read by two chicks.

JULIE

They are when you're one of the chicks. No offense, Elise.

ELISE

Really? It was making me kind of curious.

JOSH

Seriously?

ELISE

God you're easy. Why didn't we have Todd read them to us? That's what we usually have first years do.

JOSH

Ehhh. I don't think he really fits in with us. Maybe we can trade him.

JULIE

For what? A Dominican shortstop? He's been here for one hour.

JOSH

He's already annoying me. The fancy daddy. The "I can't handle the truth." We could trade with the tax department for their first year.

ELISE

The Steven Hawkings guy? Smart, but not so much a debater.

JOSH

Fine. You mentor him. I'm not into making the rich richer.

JULIE

Yeah, you tell that to our clients.

INT. MEN'S ROOM

TODD IS AT THE URINAL IN THE EMPTY BATHROOM WHEN HE HEARS A VOICE.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Todd Clemmons. Big Todd. TC. How's it going?

TODD LOOKS AROUND.

BOB ROPEKEE  
(from a stall)

Behind ya. Don't you recognize me?  
Just kidding. Bob Ropekee. We met at your interview.

THE TOILET FLUSHES.

TODD

Right, right. I totally remember.

BOB ROPEKEE, ANOTHER SENIOR ASSOCIATE, EMERGES FROM THE STALL.

BOB ROPEKEE

So why don't you quit the Law Puppies  
and transfer over to a real litigation  
team?

TODD

What?

TODD STARTS TO TURN TO BOB.

BOB ROPEKEE

Whoa, watch it. Look, we fought hard  
to get you, but you got assigned to  
them. It's still the first day, you  
can change. Come with us and I'll put  
you in court doing pleadings with  
those young, hot DA's.

TODD

Really? In court?

BOB ROPEKEE

Of course, that's where you belong,  
isn't it? Anyway, I'll let you finish  
your business there. Let me know by  
the end of the day.

AT THE MOMENT, A VERY TALL TRANSVESTITE, PAULINE, DRESSED IN  
A SWEATER AND LEGGINGS, ENTERS AND GOES INTO A STALL..

PAULINE

Bob.

BOB ROPEKEE  
(uncomfortable)

Pauline.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

JULIE, JOSH AND ELISE ARE STILL REVIEWING THE DEPOSITIONS.

ELISE

Doesn't this case break your heart?

This couple was so in love at the  
beginning.

JOSH

Trust me, no matter how much you're in  
love, one day you're going to wake up  
and say "get your leg off me."

JULIE

I don't believe you believe that.  
Don't you want to be in love again?

JOSH

Yes, I think about it when I'm  
doodling unicorns and rainbows.

JULIE

You need to get out. You need to  
start dating.

JOSH

I don't need to go out. I need to  
focus on work. And why do you care so  
much if I go out anyway?

JULIE

Because I want my friend to have a life outside of 100 hour work weeks and fantasizing about football players.

JOSH

It's called fantasy football.

JULIE

I'm just saying being single in your thirties is really fun and you are missing out.

ELISE

It's not as rosy as you paint it, Jules. It's not like your twenties, dating in your thirties is like dog years. Three months equals one year. One year equals "where is my ring?"

JOSH

Which is exactly why I don't want to date right now. I don't want to start anything I can't finish.

JULIE

But why does it have to be an end game? Stuart and I both know we're not going to marry each other, but we still have a good time dating.

JOSH

Of course he has a good time. He's getting sex without having to commit to you. That's like winning the lottery and not having to pay taxes.

JULIE

Having to commit to me? Like that's a bad thing?

AN AWKWARD MOMENT.

JOSH

No, not at all. Not you as in you, you as in you being all women and--  
Wow, look at the time. Don't you have those settlement negotiations with River Oaks Labs to get to?

JULIE

Actually I settled the case before I came in here.

ELISE

Did you get the \$10 million you were gunning for?

JOSH

Not if she's been sitting here quiet about it. Five mill tops.

JULIE

Josh is right. I didn't get ten.  
(beat) I got twenty!

JOSH

What? How?

JULIE

You know that Deep Throat whistle-blower that wouldn't testify? I got her to agree to testify. I spent all night on the phone with her. Turns out both our grannies are from Iowa.

JOSH

You win the biggest case of the year because your ancestors milked cows?

JULIE

I feel your pain. Look, it was just my turn to be lead counsel. Could have as easily happened to you.

JOSH

But it didn't.

JULIE

I know. I am so stoked!

ELISE

Wow. You clearly have moved ahead of Josh in the partner race.

JULIE

I'm not clearly ahead. It's still two years away. And you might win this case.

JOSH

You're taunting me now?

JULIE

Not you as in you...

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

THE TEAM, MINUS JOSH, ARE SETTING UP THE CONFERENCE ROOM TO PRACTICE FOR THE MEDIATION LATER IN THE DAY.

TODD

Would you look at that view? Is that Wrigley?

LIZ

Nice try rookie, we ask the twenty questions, not the other way around.

JULIE

Number four. Longest relationship?

TODD

Five months.

ETHAN

Why did you break up?

TODD

I needed my space.

LIZ

The real reason.

TODD

She needed her space.

JULIE

Do you really want to leave our team  
to join that loser Bob Ropekee?

UH-OH.

TODD

Uh...

LIZ

We knew about it before you flushed.

JUST THEN, JOSH ENTERS CARRYING TWO BOXES AND A VERY ANNOYED  
DEMEANOR

JULIE

Hey Josh, we've got an issue to deal  
with--

JOSH

Whatever it is, forget it. We have  
bigger problems. The opposing counsel  
just sent over these boxes of  
financial records, which she swore had  
been "misplaced."

JULIE

That's so Wendy Franklin.

LIZ

That whore.

EVERYONE LOOKS AT LIZ.

LIZ (CONT'D)

I hear she doesn't wear underwear.

JOSH

Hey, focus. So now we have to go through them before the mediation to make sure there are no surprises. I need everybody's focus.

ELISE AND LIZ START OPENING THE BOXES. TODD LOOKS AT JULIE, THEN....

TODD

Give me a box. Let me show you what this law dog can do.

THE REST OF THE TEAM SHOUT OUT "ALRIGHT'S" AND "YEAH."

JOSH

Sit down. I don't have time to teach you what you don't know. There's nothing you can do to help so stay out of the way.

ELISE

Uh, Josh... this box is all in German. Swiss banking records.

JOSH

What?

ETHAN

Frank on team two speaks German.

JOSH

Well that's just great. And now his litigation team gets to steal my thunder and-

TODD

I speak German.

ETHAN

Hello.

JOSH

You speak German?

JULIE

Nice.

TODD

Fluently. Wer braucht mich jetzt Sie  
großspuriger Esel wischt?

ENGLISH SUBTITLES: "WHO NEEDS ME NOW YOU COCKY ASS WIPE?"

JOSH

And that means?

TODD

Can't wait to help.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. MEN'S ROOM - DAY 1

TODD AND ETHAN ARE STANDING AT THE URINALS.

ETHAN

This is your big chance. I would be so nervous if I were you. I mean, like super nervous. Like oh my god, what have I--

TODD

I'm not nervous at all. You know why? I've got a plan.

TODD FINISHES AND CHECKS ALL THE STALLS TO SEE THAT THEY ARE EMPTY.

TODD (CONT'D)

I am going to translate like a motha' for Josh. Help him win the case, then when he realizes at the end of the day how great I was, I'm going to tell him I'm transferring to Ropekee's team.

ETHAN

You are a stone cold killa, my brotha.

THEY BOTH MOVE OVER TO WASH THEIR HANDS AT THE SINK. TODD IS CHECKING HIS CONTACTS.

TODD

What would you do?

ETHAN

The way he treats you? Same. But we can still hang out, right?

TODD

Totally. You know, when I was a kid I was embarrassed that my grandmother only spoke German. And now it's going to save my-- No, no, no.

ETHAN

What?

TODD

My contact just went down the sink.

REVEAL THAT TODD, WHILE DIGGING INTO THE SINK, GOT HIS PANTS AND TIE SOAKED FROM THE WET SINK COUNTER TOP. ETHAN GIGGLES.

ETHAN

That looks like you wet your pants.

TODD

Yeah, I got that part, it's the size of Nebraska. Is there a plumber in the--

TODD REACHES FOR SOME TOWELS AND STARTS TO DRY OFF.

ETHAN

Let me help.

ETHAN TAKES A TOWEL AND STARTS TO TRY AND DRY TODD'S TIE. AS TODD IS TRYING TO PUSH HIM AWAY, ETHAN SLIPS TO HIS KNEES AS A MAN WALKS IN...

TODD

Ethan, let go of it. Stop rubbing, I'm done. I'm done.

AND SEES ETHAN IN FRONT OF TODD AND QUICKLY WALKS OUT.

TODD (CONT'D)

And the day just keeps getting better.

INT. JULIE'S OFFICE - DAY 1

JULIE AND ELISE ARE GETTING READY TO MEET WITH THE CLIENT,  
SARAH CARLTON.

JULIE

So Sarah Carlton is on her way over  
and they say she's pretty shook up.

ELISE STARTS TYPING FURIOUSLY ON HER BLACKBERRY.

ELISE

Oh yeah, well I don't think so. We  
had plans. You just can't cancel on  
me like that.

JULIE

Elise, you realize I can hear you.

ELISE

I have to get it out because Schlomo  
will only fight now via e-mail because  
he's uncomfortable with personal  
confrontation.

JULIE

You did not just say that.

ELISE

He thinks we choose our words more  
carefully this way.

JULIE

Again, you did not just say that. And  
this is the man you want to marry?

ELISE

I don't know if I want to marry him.  
I just want him to want to marry me.

JULIE

I am absolutely speechless.

ELISE

Wait until you and Josh hook up again.  
You guys made me and Schlomo look like  
an episode of 7th Heaven.

JULIE

That was six years ago. We were kids.  
And with this job? There's no way  
we're getting together again.

ELISE

I don't care how long it's been, he's  
seen you naked. You can't take that  
back. You're lecturing about an  
amicus brief and he's thinking about  
the time you sucked his toes for an  
hour.

JULIE

I never did that.

ELISE

Really? Schlomo says everyone does that.

JULIE

I'm telling you. We're way past it.

ELISE

Past it? You guys are like two zoo tigers separated by a moat during mating season.

JULIE

It's just playful. It's how we are. We're two Type A's, we compete in everything. Remember when I spiked him because he was blocking home plate?

ELISE

I'm sorry, but you've never done the toe suck thing?

SARAH CARLTON, THE CLIENT, ENTERS. JULIE AND ELISE GO TO HUG.

JULIE

Sarah. How are you?

SARAH

Not good. I'm sorry I rushed you guys to do this today. I just want it over with.

JULIE

Not a problem. We have it all under control.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

TODD IS TRYING TO TRANSLATE THE GERMAN DOCUMENTS AT THE TABLE. HE IS COVERING ONE EYE WITH HIS HAND WHILE RUBBING THE OTHER ONE AND BLINKING HEAVILY. JOSH AND THERESA ARE HARD AT WORK REVIEWING OTHER FILES. JOSH NOTICES THE BLINKING.

JOSH

What the hell is wrong with you?

TODD

I lost a contact. So my good eye is straining to over compensate, which is blurring my vision and--

JOSH

Can you translate the documents or not?

TODD

Slowly. I'll go faster when my new lenses get here.

JOSH

How long will that take?

TODD

Well, they advertise in about an hour.

JOSH

We don't have an hour. This is the real world, not a class. I knew you couldn't hack it.

TODD

What does that mean?

JOSH

It means you haven't had to earn anything so you just can't hack it.

TODD'S HAD ENOUGH.

TODD

Yeah, well Bob Ropekee thinks I can hack it. He wants me on his team.

JOSH

Really? Fine. Then go.

TODD

I will.

THERESA

You're not going anywhere yet. And you, Mr. Biting-Off-Nose-to-Spite-Your-Face. You need the boy to finish translating. What's your vision, Sweetie?

TODD

20-80 for reading.

THERESA

Almost the same as me. Here, use these. Problem solved. I got another pair at my desk.

TODD PUTS ON HER LARGE, JEWELLED GLASSES. HIS EYES APPEAR AS IF THEY ARE IN A FISHBOWL. HE STANDS UP TO GET ANOTHER BOX IN HIS WET STAINED PANTS. HE LOOKS RIDICULOUS.

TODD

Thanks. Theresa. And Josh, I'll  
finish this, but you need to show me  
some respect.

JOSH

Did you wet your pants?

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 1

THE TEAM, MINUS TODD IS ASSEMBLED TOGETHER.

JOSH

Okay, everybody gather up. After a  
review of the Swiss bank records,  
nothing was found out of the ordinary.

JULIE

Where's Todd?

JOSH

Todd has transferred to Ropekee's  
group.

THEY ALL ASK "WHAT?" REALLY?"

JOSH (CONT'D)

Focus, focus. Worry about who's here.  
It's game time in five minutes. So  
hands in.

THEY ALL HOOT.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Who are we?

ALL OF THEM

Law Dogs.

JULIE

What are we?

ALL OF THEM

Law Dogs.

THEY ALL START WOOFING AND BOUNCING LIKE BEFORE A FOOTBALL TEAM BEFORE A GAME. REVEAL TODD WATCHES FROM DOWN THE HALL.

INT. THE POUND

ETHAN SITS AT THE TABLE AS TODD PACKS UP HIS STUFF.

TODD

Not even a thank you for translating from Josh. I'm so glad I'm out of there because I was about to fight him.

ETHAN

(as Yoda)

"Remember, a Jedi's strength flows from the Force. But beware. Anger, fear, aggression. The dark side are they."

TODD STARES BLANKLY.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Yoda? The smallest, yet arguably the wisest and most powerful Jedi of all time?

TODD

You really were home schooled, weren't you?

A PARALEGAL ENTERS CARRYING A LARGE FILE BOX.

PARALEGAL

This was delivered to the tax  
department by mistake. Looks like more  
of those Swiss bank records.

TODD

What?

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - AFTERNOON 1

THE MEDIATION IS IN FULL TILT. EVERYBODY LOOKS TENSE.  
THERESA IS OPERATING THE CAMERA NEAR THE DOOR. WENDY  
FRANKLIN, THE ATTORNEY FOR TRIP CARLTON, IS TRYING TO BADGER  
SARAH.

WENDY FRANKLIN

As a working woman I'm offended that  
you want anything. You have a job--

JOSH

Do you have a question there Wendy or  
are you paid by the word?

WENDY FRANKLIN

I'm establishing your client is asking  
for more than she deserves.

JOSH

You're establishing you have no case.

INT. THE POUND

THE DOCUMENTS ARE SPREAD ACROSS THE TABLE. TODD IS WEARING  
THE BIG JEWELLED GLASSES AGAIN AS HE IS READING THEM.

ETHAN

Anything? Anything?

TODD

Son of a bitch.

ETHAN

What?

TODD GRABS A FILE, STARTS WRITING A NOTE AND TAKES OFF.

TODD

I'll show him. Blackberry Julie I'm  
coming in.

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

NOW IT'S JOSH ON THE ATTACK. JULIE LOOKS AT HER BLACKBERRY,  
THEN WHISPERS TO LIZ WHO GETS UP TO GO TO THE DOOR.

JOSH

And on July 8th, wasn't it Sarah who  
advised you to sell the stock and thus  
avoiding a huge loss?

TRIP CARLTON

We consulted together.

JOSH

Oh together, but on the bad decisions  
you're saying they were all her fault?

WENDY FRANKLIN

Stop putting words in my client's  
mouth.

AS LIZ OPENS THE DOOR, TODD COMES RUNNING IN WITH SO MUCH  
EXCITEMENT THAT HE'S A LITTLE OUT OF CONTROL.

JOSH

Stop stonewalling on --

TODD TRIPS OVER THE CAMERA CORD AND FALLS CHIN FIRST INTO THE  
LARGE, HARD CONFERENCE TABLE. HE IS OUT LIKE A LIGHT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. THE POUND

A HAND IS STROKING TODD'S HEAD AS HE COMES TO. REVEAL THAT HIS HEAD IS LYING ON PAULINE, THE TRANSVESTITE'S LAP.

PAULINE

Hi Todd. I'm Pauline. That was a pretty hard shot you took.

TODD

What am I lying on?

ETHAN

I don't want to talk about it.

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

JOSH, JULIE, THE CARLTONS, JOSEPH KOLAR AS WELL AS THE OPPOSING COUNSEL ARE SITTING IN THE GLASS CONFERENCE ROOM.

JOSH

Dude. We got your nuts in a vise. We've found several million dollars in hidden Swiss accounts.

SARAH CARLTON

How could you do that to me? We used to be so close.

TRIP CARLTON

What do you want me to say? We haven't been close in years. We were more into our careers than we were each other.

SARAH CARLTON

Then we were stupid.

TRIP CARLTON

Welcome to the world.

JULIE

So we want 80-20 of these new  
accounts.

WENDY FRANKLIN

50-50 or we tie this up for a hundred  
years.

JOSH

80-20. And we won't investigate how  
he made it.

TRIP LOOKS AT WENDY.

INT. JOSH'S OFFICE - NIGHT 1

THE TEAM, MINUS TODD, IS DECOMPRESSING IN JOSH'S OFFICE.

JULIE

Well, you definitely made your partner  
points on this one.

ELISE

Big time. Kolar's going to owe you.

JOSH

Actually, I think I pulled ahead of  
Julie.

JULIE

Keep dreaming.

JOSH

It was a pretty big case.

JULIE

Not even listening.

INT. LAW FIRM LOBBY - NIGHT

JOSEPH KOLAR IS SPEAKING WITH TODD.

JOSEPH KOLAR

Good work, son. I'm glad we have you.

You reminded me of your father. He'll

do whatever it takes to win.

TODD

Yes he will.

JOSEPH KOLAR

But a little advice. Get some new

glasses. Not a real partnership look.

THE PARTNER SLAPS TODD ON THE SHOULDER AND WALKS AWAY.

INT. JOSH'S OFFICE - NIGHT 1

THE TEAM IS TAKING TURNS THROWING DARTS AT THE PHOTO OF THE PARTNER, JOSEPH KOLAR.

JULIE

Those Carltons. They were so focused

on their work that they forgot they

had a life.

JOSH

Why are you looking at me?

JULIE

I'm looking at all of us. We could be

them.

(MORE)

JULIE (CONT'D)

We work so hard on our careers that we can miss the good things that are right in front of us.

JOSH

I'm not missing anything. I've got a 65 inch plasma, PS3 and XBOX 360.

ETHAN

You got the 65 inch? Can I come over and play?

JOSH

What are you, twelve?

ETHAN

Is that a no?

JULIE

Well, I am missing things. In dating I make it so clear that it's just fun and nothing else, that maybe I've never given anyone the chance to be the one. Maybe I've missed the guy I was supposed to be with and I didn't even see it.

THERESA

I completely agree with you. May not even see it right in front of you.

LIZ

How's Todd doing?

ETHAN

He's fine. Just a little headache.

JULIE

Todd is a Law Dog, Josh. He saved your ass. You can't let him go.

JOSH

What? I was just hazing him.

THEY ALL HOOT JOSH DOWN THAT IT WAS MORE THAN THAT.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Why is everyone so concerned about him? Nobody protected me when I first started.

THERESA

That's because nobody liked you. He was all Good Will Hunting and such. Except Julie. She liked him.

JULIE

I didn't like him.

THERESA

Oh then that wasn't you I caught with him in the supply room going at it like a couple of monkeys?

JULIE TURNS AWAY AND BLUSHES.

ETHAN

Oh, you're so pretty when you blush.

TODD KNOCKS ON THE DOOR. EVERYONE GETS UP TO LEAVE.

TODD

You wanted to see me?

JULIE

Okay, boy's talk time. We're out of here. Drinks on me at the Derby. We'll see you guys there.

JOSH

You have a good time. I'm not going. I have to dig into this Carlton stuff.

ELISE

Come on. It's only 9:00. We can come in early tomorrow.

JULIE

Don't beg him. It's his call if he doesn't want to join in our reindeer games.

THEY EXIT. AS JULIE DOES, SHE PATS TODD ON THE SHOULDER.

INT. THE POUND - NIGHT 1

TODD SITS IN FRONT OF JOSH AT THE TABLE.

JOSH

So, let me ask you. Why did you help out after all the crap I gave you?

TODD

I wanted to rub it in your face that I'm good. I wanted to show you that you're an idiot and made a stupid--

JOSH

Okay, down boy. I get it. Look, if you still want to go to Ropekee's team, I won't stop you. But if you want to become a real lawyer, you'll stay here.

TODD

I want to become a real lawyer.

JOSH

Good. You did your job today. The way we all do it every day. That's what's expected.

TODD

Got it.

JOSH

That's all. You can go.

TODD

Okay.

AS TODD HEADS TOWARDS THE DOOR.

JOSH

Unless you want to stay and start reviewing some more of these case files. I could use some help.

TODD

You want me to work with you?

JOSH

Jesus, don't start humping my leg.  
Just grab a box and get to work.

TODD

I'm on it.

JOSH

And don't be so peppy Richie Rich.

TODD GRABS A BOX. A BEAT.

TODD

Just so you know. That story about me  
wanting to be a lawyer because of "A  
Few Good Men?"

JOSH

Yeah, I was just jotting it down in my  
diary.

TODD

It's BS. The truth is, my dad left  
when I was eight. Haven't seen him  
much since.

JOSH

Jeeze. I had no idea.

TODD

And he was such a good lawyer, that we  
never saw a penny of support. I became  
a lawyer to keep that from happening  
to others.

JOSH

Sounds like we both had great dads.

TODD

Oh, your dad--

JOSH

Enough bonding. Look this doesn't mean I like you now. It just means I'm not inclined to hate you.

TODD

I will take that as progress.

INT. THE DERBY - NIGHT 1

MIDNIGHT. A HOT DANCE CLUB. A CROWDED BAR AND DANCE FLOOR. JULIE, ELISE, LIZ, AND ETHAN ARE HANGING OUT. TODD ENTERS.

LIZ

He's alive. He's alive.

TODD

Barely. Josh just sent me home but he's still there working.

JULIE HANDS TODD A DRINK.

JULIE

To the new Law Dog.

THEY ALL SHOUT "TODD."

ETHAN

Todd. Check it out. I really like that blonde.

TODD

Okay, you know what? You sound like a serial killer.

LIZ

I'm surprised they even let him in here.

ELISE COMES UP EXCITED TO TODD.

ELISE

Todd. I dumped Schlomo.

TODD

Really?

LIZ

I can't hear this story again.

ELISE

We were at dinner and he just kept typing away, tick tick tick on that blackberry and it hit me. We're just like that Carltons, Schlomo's more into work than he is into me. So I just grabbed it and smashed it.

JULIE

We are so proud of you.

LIZ

Don't encourage her, she'll just tell it again.

TODD

So shouldn't we call Josh and taunt  
him about being a light weight?

JULIE

Actually, let's lay off a bit. I feel  
bad because I think I've been pushing  
him too hard when he's clearly not  
ready to--

JUST THEN, JOSH ENTERS WITH WENDY FRANKLIN, THE ATTRACTIVE  
ATTORNEY FROM THE MEDIATION.

JOSH

What, nobody's dancing? I thought Law  
Dogs played hard.

THEY ALL CALL OUT IN SURPRISE AND JOY TO SEEING JOSH ARRIVE.  
JULIE IS VERY SURPRISED.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Everybody. You know Wendy Franklin,  
Esquire. I thought she might want to  
join us tonight.

EVERYONE SHOUTS OUT "HELLOS" AND "WELCOMES" TO WENDY.

JULIE

Great. Drinks are on me Wendy, so  
don't let him pretend he's a big shot.

WENDY FRANKLIN

Please. He's already told me about  
his 65 inch. Come on, Josh. Let's  
dance.

JOSH STARTS TO TAKE WENDY TO THE DANCE FLOOR, THEN TURNS BACK TO JULIE.

JOSH  
(sotto to Julie)

Hey. You were right about missing the  
good things right in front of me.

Thanks for pushing me.

JULIE

Anytime.

JOSH HEADS OUT TO THE FLOOR AND IS DANCING WITH WENDY LIKE A REAL PRO. THERE IS JUST A SLIGHT TWINGE IN JULIE'S HEART, WHICH COMES AS A SURPRISE TO HER. ELISE SLIDES UP TO JULIE.

ELISE

It's nice to see Josh out.

JULIE

Yeah. And with Wendy.

ELISE

Still think you're past it?

JULIE  
(unsure)

Absolutely.

JOSH WAVES EVERYBODY OUT ONTO THE DANCE FLOOR. AS THEY HEAD OUT...

LIZ

So how did you like your first day?

TODD  
(laughing)

I'll let you know when it's over...

AS WE PULL BACK ON THE TEAM DANCING TOGETHER IN A CIRCLE,  
WE...

FADE OUT.