

Hollywood 101

"Love Triangles, Squares, & Trapezoids"

by

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&

Megan McNamara

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SCENE A.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT - MORNING

MR. JOHNSON enters the building and strolls through the hallways, saying hello to everyone. It's a normal day in the office.

He gets on the elevator and goes to his office, humming to himself.

MR. JOHNSON  
Good morning, New Dean.

CHARLES  
Sir.

MR. JOHNSON opens his office door. He freezes and gasps.

SCENE B.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - MORNING

JOE is standing on top of the desk, practicing his jokes in front of an audience of half full coffee cups as he pretends to be on stage.

JOE  
Sit down, sit down! A standing ovation? For me? Well, okay. But one more before I go. Have you heard the one about the Jewish doctor and-

ANNE walks in mid-joke. She puts some papers down on her desk, looks up at JOE in disgust, and walks back out of the office, rolling her eyes.

JOE  
That was a really funny one, Anne! One day I'm gonna show you little people! (quietly) I really am!

JOE jumps off his desk and starts filing some papers that were on his desk. He tries to find papers that are stuck under the fishbowl, bag of water, and fish bowl accessories. CARIN walks in with a package for Joe.

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CARIN

Hey, Joe!

JOE

Oh, hi, Carin. (stares at the package) What's that?

CARIN

I dunno. Marcia told me to bring it to you. She said it came in today.

JOE takes the package from her and looks at it. There's no return address on it, nothing but his name in big letters and a huge heart around it. CARIN begins to walk out of the office.

JOE

Uh, Carin, hold on a sec. Did Marcia say who this is from?

CARIN

(lets out a big sigh) No, Joe, and I really need to leave right now, so please don't ask me any more questions.

JOE

Where you off to in such a hurry?

CARIN

Big audition. A commercial!

JOE

For what?

CARIN

A company. I'm trying out for Reporter #6. (looks at her watch) Oh, man, I'm totally late! See ya later, Joe!

CARIN runs out of the office. JOE places the package down on his desk, in-between the fish bowl and the water. He begins tearing it open. JOE let's out a huge sigh of disgust. He slowly lifts up two bags, one with a blue fish and one with a pink fish. He looks back into the box once again and finds a tape machine, which he places on the desk. Staring at both bags of fish, he presses play on the tape machine.

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VICTORIA (ON TAPE)

I thought by now you'd have figured out what I was up to. It's me, Victoria, but you knew that already. Joe, I wanted to let you know in the most romantic way possible how I feel about you. These fish represent our undying love for each other. I am so glad that we're still together, especially since I'm now in Los Angeles! We can finally spend all the time together in the world, just like we did back in New York! Enjoy the fish. I named them Joey and Vicky. Treat them with love, Joseph! I love you, hunny. Call me when you get this!

JOE

(still staring at the fish, stops the tape) Oh...crap. I hate her.

SCENE C.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT MARCIA'S DESK - MORNING

JOE, still holding the bags of fish, quickly walks out to Marcia's office. Before he even gets around the corner, he hears Victoria's voice. She is having a conversation with Marcia about the cultural significance of the movie The Wedding Date.

JOE slowly peaks around the corner.

VICTORIA

Marcia, I know. I just wouldn't be able to live without the modern day Lucile Ball.

MARCIA

I feel the exact same way.

VICTORIA

Girl after my own heart. So, Marcia. I'm actually here to surprise Joe. Have you seen him today?

MARCIA

Why, yes, I did in fact. He came in early this morning! I bet he's in his office right now. You want me to call him?

VICTORIA

Oh, no, no. I'll go find him. Thanks, Marcia! And remember. You're just as funny as Debra Messing, plus you've got bigger boobs.

SCENE D.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT HALLWAY - MORNING

JOE, panicked, backs up into ANNE, still holding the bags of fish. He drags her away from the front lobby and down the hall.

JOE

You've got to help me!

ANNE

What's going on, Joe?

JOE

Victoria! She's here, as in here in this building here right now! You've got to hide me.

ANNE

(confused) Victoria?

JOE

My ex-girlfriend. From New York...

ANNE

She's a real person?

JOE

Of course!

ANNE

I always thought you made her up.

JOE

What? Why?

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ANNE

Because someone would have to be  
deranged to go out with you.

JOE

I know! She is! (thinks about that)

ANNE

I have to go...

JOE

No, Anne! (he grabs her shoulders)  
Um...uh...be my girlfriend!

ANNE

Have you been drinking?

JOE

Not recently. No, I mean, pretend  
to be my girlfriend. Victoria will  
see that I'm taken, give up, and  
leave!

ANNE

And what would I possibly get out  
of an arrangement like that?

JOE

You'd actually have a date for  
once...

ANNE

Charming, Joe, just charming. You  
really know how to sweep a girl off  
her feet.

JOE

So, you'll do it?

ANNE

I'd rather sit through one of your  
comedy routines. (shudders)

JOE

Speaking of that, do you know any  
agents? Because I've been trying to  
get one...

ANNE

Joe. No one is going to represent  
you. You aren't funny!

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JOE

Oh, yeah? I'll show you I'm funny.  
Why did the mushroom go to the  
party?

ANNE

(annoyed) I don't know, Joe. Why?

JOE

Because he was a fun guy! Get it?  
Fungi!

ANNE

You're on drugs, aren't you? You  
know, the first step is admitting  
you have a problem.

JOE

Anne, I'm not on drugs! My only  
problem at the moment is that you  
won't agree to be my fake  
girlfriend so I can get rid of my  
psycho ex-girlfriend.

ANNE

You're breaking my heart.

JOE

Anne, what can I do to get you to  
help me out?

ANNE

Nothing. So don't ask me again.

JOE

Please, Anne? Please!

ANNE

I said to not ask me again.

JOE

I didn't. I said please. You're  
probably just feeling guilty  
because you aren't helping me out  
of my predicament.

ANNE

That must be it.

JOE

They'll be talking about me one day.

ANNE

Who's they?

JOE

(ignoring her last comment) 'Hey, whatever happened to Joe?' 'Oh, he had to marry Victoria because...'

ANNE

He didn't have a backbone?

JOE

'Because Anne never helped me get rid of her!'

ANNE

Joe, this is your problem, not mine.

VICTORIA walks around the corner and starts to run toward him once she spots him.

VICTORIA

Joseph!

Incoherent yelling comes from the other end of the hallway. MR. JOHNSON rounds the corner in a fit of insanity. He sees VICTORIA and makes a break to tackle her. JORGE appears. He tackles MR. JOHNSON and drags him back to his office, kicking and screaming. VICTORIA approaches JOE.

VICTORIA

Oh my gawd! Who was that? Are you in danger here, Joseph? I am so facklept.

JOE

No, no. That was just my boss.

VICTORIA

Your boss? Are you serious?

JOE

Yep. That's Mr. Johnson. In all his glory.

VICTORIA

They hired him? I can't believe they hired him. That man almost attacked me. You saw that didn't you? You saw him almost attack me? Should I call somebody about this? Should I have your mother call somebody about this?

JOE

Why are you asking so many questions? What are you doing here anyway?

VICTORIA

I came to surprise you, silly! We haven't seen other in over six months! I missed you, Schnookums.

VICTORIA tries to kiss him. JOE drags in reinforcements quickly.

JOE

Victoria! I'd like you to meet someone. This is Anne, my co-worker...and my girlfriend

VICTORIA freezes. Her smile disappears. ANNE looks furious.

ANNE

Listen, Victoria. This is not what Joe is making it out to be. We are NOT-

VICTORIA

(in disbelief and disapproval)  
You're dating HER?

JOE nods. ANNE looks shocked.

ANNE

What's that supposed to mean?

VICTORIA

(still looking at Joe) Is she even Jewish?

ANNE

Are you saying I'm not good enough for him?

VICTORIA

And she's so...scrawny.

ANNE

Scrawny?

VICTORIA

Joseph, you can't be serious.

ANNE

He's more serious about me than  
someone who wears fake plastic  
nails. And are those roots I see?

VICTORIA

How dare you!

ANNE

I can spot 'em a mile away. (flips  
her hair) I'm all natural.

VICTORIA

Hmmm...I can tell.

ANNE

Let me at her!

JOE stands between VICTORIA and ANNE as they attempt to hurt each other.

JOE

Ladies, ladies! Let's just calm  
down.

JOE is enjoying this too much. He takes ANNE by the arm as the fighting subsides.

JOE

Victoria, it was very nice of you  
to come all this way, but you  
should probably go home. Anne and I  
are very happy. We should be going  
now.

ANNE sticks her tongue at VICTORIA as JOE leads her down the hall.

SCENE E.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT MR. JOHNSON'S OFFICE - LATER

JORGE hauls MR. JOHNSON into his office and drops him on the floor. CHARLES comes in after them and shuts the office door.

MR. JOHNSON  
(like Stella in Street Car Named  
Desire) Dr. Kitty! Dr. Kitty!

JORGE  
Man, pull yourself together! (he  
slaps Mr. Johnson)

CHARLES  
What's the matter with him?

MR. JOHNSON  
Dr. Kitty is missing! He's not in  
his usual spot on my desk under my  
coffee cup. Somebody has him. Who  
knows what terrible things could be  
happening to him? What if somebody  
too all of his little beans out!  
What am I supposed to do?

JORGE  
You can't go around tackling random  
people, for one.

MR. JOHNSON  
But I've never seen that girl  
before. I thought she had Dr.  
Kitty!

CHARLES  
She's probably just here on  
business. This is a production  
company...

MR. JOHNSON  
(to Jorge) He's so young,  
so naïve... (Jorge nods)

CHARLES  
(tries again) Well, Jorge should be  
able to find him. After all, he is  
head of security.

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MR. JOHNSON

You're right! Jorge! Teach me everything you know. Train me so I can find (dramatic pause) Dr. Kitty!

JORGE

I don't know. It's an intense process.

MR. JOHNSON

I can handle it! I just don't want anymore innocent stuffed cats to suffer needlessly.

JORGE

(gives in) All right. All right. I'll do it. Charles, we'll need to get a few things.

CHARLES

Actually, I was hoping I could slip out for a few hours. I was going to go to this casting call and audition for a part on a commercial.

MR. JOHNSON

Does Dr. Kitty mean nothing to you?

CHARLES

Well, actually, I didn't know him very well, and I really think I can get this part. Please, Mr. Johnson. I'll bring you back some chocolate milk..

JORGE

Let him go, Mr. Johnson. We don't need him.

MR. JOHNSON

All right. I wanted some chocolate milk anyway to go with my peanut butter and jelly sandwich. But be on the lookout, New Dean. We need all the help we can get.

CHARLES

Will do, Sir.

CHARLES exits.

JORGE  
(with the look of a mad scientist)  
Let's get started.

SCENE F.

INT. CASTING CALL - AFTERNOON

CHARLES opens up the door to the meeting room where his casting call is taking place. He has a huge grin on his face as he sits down. He picks up a magazine, but looks around the room before opening it. He spots CARIN across the room, flirting with the director.

CARIN  
Wow. Those are some strong biceps.  
You must work out!

DIRECTOR  
Only every other day.

CARIN  
Really? I would've guessed every  
day. Definitely.

CARIN flashes a huge grin at the director just as CHARLES is walking over to her. CHARLES quickly spins her around.

CHARLES  
What do you think you're doing?

CARIN  
(turns to the director and smiles  
again, putting her finger up to  
tell him one second) I'm getting  
the part of Reporter #6 the easy  
way! What are you doing here?

CHARLES  
(shocked) Trying out for Reporter  
#6! And not the easy way!

They stand there for a moment in awkward silence.

CARIN  
So, Reporter #6, huh?

CHARLES

Yea. I'm gonna go sit down now.  
Good luck.

CARIN

Good luck to you, too.

CARIN and CHARLES run up to the desk where sheets of paper are lying for the audition sign-up.

CARIN

Too bad I'm getting the part.

CHARLES

What! (elbows her mid-run)

CARIN

I am! Look at me and look at you!  
(elbows him back)

CHARLES

(out of breath from the short run, he grabs a pen and signs the paper first) We'll just see who really ACTS better!

CARIN

(shoots him a dirty look) Fine! We WILL see!

CHARLES

I already said that.

CARIN

Well...we REALLY will see then, now won't we!

CHARLES

That's the same thing I said except you emphasized a different word this time!

CARIN

Shut up and give me the pen.

SCENE G.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT MARCIA'S DESK - NEXT DAY

VICTORIA is at the front desk, chatting with MARCIA. They seem to be hitting it off. A picnic basket is sitting on the countertop.

VICTORIA

I just love your blouse.

MARCIA

Thanks! It's from the head  
receptionist collection at Sax.

VICTORIA

You know, I used to be an office  
coordinator.

MARCIA

Get out!

VICTORIA

It's true. Not so much the front  
office, but I really learned how to  
work the phones.

MARCIA just stares at VICTORIA. JOE walks into the office.

MARCIA

Good morning, Joe.

VICTORIA

Joseph! I have a surprise for you.  
(she lifts up the picnic basket) A  
picnic lunch for this afternoon!

MARCIA

Mmm! It smells delicious, Joe!

JOE

Thanks, but no thanks, Victoria.  
You know we aren't dating anymore.  
Right?

VICTORIA

So you keep saying. You just need  
to be reminded of our love. I know  
distances are hard, but I'm here  
now. You don't have to hurt  
anymore.

JOE

Right...but I can't go out with you.  
I'm dating Anne now. It would hurt  
her too much.

MARCIA

You're dating Anne?

JOE

Yes. SO why don't you share the  
picnic with Marcia? I'm sure she'll  
appreciate it (to Marcia, under his  
breath) and will have her mouth so  
full that she can't say anything  
else about my new relationship.

MARCIA nods at the request, giving JOE a large wink.

JOE

I'll see you both later.

JOE heads off down the hall. At the elevator, he runs into  
ANNE. She is getting off as he gets on.

JOE

Morning, hunny.

ANNE shoots him a dirty look.

JOE

(joking) Whoa. That look says  
'You're sleeping on the couch  
tonight.' What did I do this time?

ANNE

Joe, we are not fake-dating  
anymore. Okay? I shouldn't have  
played along in the first place,  
but I just wanted to wring your  
psycho ex-girlfriend's neck...

JOE

You're a feisty one. That's what I  
like about you. But, alas, Victoria  
has returned to stalk me. So the  
fake-dating has to continue.

ANNE

What?

JOE

Yeah, and Marcia thinks we're dating now, too, so you need to keep up the act around her.

ANNE

Joe, this is ridiculous. I am not doing this anymore.

JOE

Don't be like that, Sugar Lips.

ANNE

Sugar lips?

JOE

It'll just be for a few more days. Then you can go back to hating me but still finding me secretly attractive.

The elevator door closes.

JOE

See ya later, Love Bug!

ANNE stands outside the elevator. She crushes her coffee cup in her hand.

SCENE H.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT RECEPTION - MOMENTS LATER

VICTORIA is crying her eyes out while MARCIA tries to comfort her.

VICTORIA

I gave him the best years of my life!

ANNE walks in and sees VICTORIA in tears. MARCIA motions for her to help.

ANNE

Victoria?

VICTORIA

What else can you possibly want? You already have my boyfriend!

VICTORIA cries even harder.

ANNE

Victoria, I just came to say that I'm sorry about what happened between us yesterday. (she gets an evil smile on her face) And to say that I just broke up with Joe. You were right. It never would have worked out.

VICTORIA stops crying.

VICTORIA

What? I don't believe you.

ANNE

It's the truth.

VICTORIA

Was it the Jew thing?

CHARLES enters the building. ANNE grabs him.

ANNE

Actually, it's because Charles and I are dating now. There's no more Joe. Isn't that right, sweetie?

We see that ANNE is digging her nails into CHARLES' arm until he says yes. He looks like he's in pain. MARCIA and VICTORIA await his answer.

CHARLES

Yea, that's right.

CHARLES kisses ANNE on the cheek. ANNE lets go of his arm.

ANNE

Joe's all yours. I wish you the best of luck.

ANNE walks off with CHARLES. VICTORIA sits for a moment, thinking.

MARCIA

What are you going to do?

VICTORIA pulls some make-up from her purse and starts to fix herself up.

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VICTORIA

I'm going to get my Joseph back!

VICTORIA finishes applying make-up, grabs the picnic basket and runs off. The phone rings and MARCIA answers it with her spiel.

SCENE I.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT MAIN ENTRANCE - AFTERNOON

JOE and VICTORIA walk in, VICTORIA talking a mile a minute.

VICTORIA

Oh, Joe, wasn't that romantic? We should do this every day. I can bring you a whole picnic, maybe some tuna next time? No, traditional peanut butter and jelly. That would be so cute! Aren't we just the cutest? The perfect New York-turned-Los Angeles couple!

JOE looks over at ANNE and CHARLES. CHARLES looks angry. ANNE flashes JOE a huge grin. JOE looks like he's going to die as he walks off to his office. VICTORIA is still talking.

MR. JOHNSON walks out of his office. He is wearing a suit and black sunglasses, and he's holding a squirt gun in one hand and a NINTENDO gun in the other. He points the NES gun at CHARLES.

MR. JOHNSON

Don't worry fine civilians working at Bonus Entertainment. Especially those of you whose names I've forgotten. (lunges the gun at CHARLES). I WILL find Doctor Kitty, even if it's the last thing I do!

ANNE

(smiling as she talks) And I hope it is.

MR. JOHNSON waves his gun at the imaginary spies helping him find Dr. Kitty. He leans down and presses play on a CD player that has suddenly appeared outside of his office. The Mission Impossible theme song begins to play.

MR. JOHNSON runs down the hallway like a secret agent, leaning up against the wall and crawling along it and somersaulting down the rug.

JORGE slowly comes out of the office. A tear rolls down his cheek.

JORGE

I taught him so well. (sniffles)

CHARLES rushes up to JORGE with a microphone in hand and starts to interview him for a fake television newscast.

CHARLES

So, Jorge, how does it feel to have helped Mr. Johnson become a superspy?

CARIN walks into the hallway and listens to CHARLES ask JORGE questions. She looks angry, and runs up to JORGE with a microphone in hand, knocking CHARLES out of the way.

CARIN

Jorge, has Mr. Johnson ever worn a suit before? Can you comment on this change in apparel?

SCENE J.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

JOE is sitting at his desk staring at VICTORIA. She still hasn't stopped talking. He finally speaks up.

JOE

Victoria, the picnic was absolutely, positively delicious and a wonderful surprise. But, I should probably get back to work now, don't you think?

VICTORIA

Now, Joe. I'm sure Mr. Johnson will understand if you're spending some time with your girlfriend who you haven't seen in FOREVER!

JOE

I don't know, Victoria. Mr. Johnson is a very strict man.

(MORE)

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JOE (cont'd)

He doesn't like us to have lunch  
for more than an hour at a time.

VICTORIA

(looking at her watch) It's only  
been 53 minutes! We still have some  
time we can spend together!

JOE

(looks around the room helplessly)  
Oh, no! I forgot that I told my  
mother I would call her back 53  
minutes ago! I really should do  
that during my last seven minutes  
of lunch.

VICTORIA

Oh my god, Joe, you're so right.  
You should definitely call your  
mother back. Tell her I say hello.  
(starts whispering as Joe picks up  
the phone) Okay, I'll see you  
later, sweetie. Bye!

VICTORIA waves as she walks backwards out of the office,  
knocking into the doorknob. She gives a shy smile and shrugs  
it off, continuing her wave once again and walks out the door  
as JOE pretends to talk to his mother. Once VICTORIA is out  
of sight and hearing range, JOE hangs up the phone and takes  
a piece of paper and a pen out of his desk.

JOE

I need to prioritize. (looks around  
the room) Okay, I'm ready. (starts  
to write) Number one: Send Fish  
back to Victoria.

JOE takes the fish and places them in a manila envelope. He  
then runs out to MARCIA's office with the fish.

MARCIA

What's this, Joe?

JOE

Fish. They need to be sent to  
Victoria ASAP. Today. Like, right  
now. Thanks!

JOE runs back to his office, leaving MARCIA sitting at her  
desk confused and with a soggy envelope.

JOE sits down at his desk again and starts writing.

JOE

Number Two: Get a different job.  
(looks up from the paper) Comedy is  
my real talent anyway.

JOE begins to stand on his desk as ANNE walks in the room.

ANNE

What are you doing?

JOE

Practicing my comedy routine!

ANNE

Spare me, Joe. You're not funny.

JOE

(lets out a little whimper, takes  
his one foot off the desk) I am too  
funny.

ANNE grabs three DVDs out of her desk drawer, shoots JOE an  
evil look, and then walks out of the office. JOE sits back  
down and begins writing.

JOE

Number Three: Get Anne to keep fake-  
dating me for another week. (finds  
a picture of Victoria on his desk  
and rips it in half) Maybe a week  
and a half. Number Four: Check  
messages.

JOE hits his phone and his messages begin to play.

CHET (ON MACHINE)

Hey, Joe! It's me, your roommate  
Chet. Like you didn't know that,  
right buddy? (chuckles to himself)  
Anyway, I heard Victoria's in town.  
You know she's a talent agent now?  
Can you believe that? I read it on  
your website! Anyway, we need more  
Tostitos and I ran out of  
Preparation H again. Pick some up  
on your way home. Peace out, bro.

JOE

She's a talent agent? How did I not  
know this? I need one to get my  
comedy act up and running!

(MORE)

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JOE (cont'd)

(hits himself in the forehead) No  
way! This cannot be happening!

JOE starts panicking and runs out to Marcia's office.

JOE

(out of breath) Marcia! This is  
really important, I-

MARCIA

(on the phone) Bonus Entertainment,  
full service entertainment company  
here to meet all your media needs.  
My name is Marcia Margerson, head  
receptionist and front office  
coordinator. How may I help you  
this afternoon? (pauses) Oh,  
really? You're an actor? (pauses)  
Mmm-hmm. (pauses) Well, we actually  
don't need any actors here, Mr.  
Haim. (pauses) No. We're not a  
casting studio. (pauses) No.  
(pauses) No, Mr. Haim. (pauses,  
then laughs) Okay, you have a good  
day too. (looks up at a very  
frustrated Joe) Hi, Joe. How may I  
help you this afternoon?

JOE

Marcia. Did the mailman come and  
pick up the packages yet?

MARCIA

Why, yes they did. Just before I  
took this phone call, actually.

JOE

Oh, no. How do I get it back?

MARCIA

Isn't the point of sending mail to  
make it go away?

JOE just stares at MARCIA angrily.

SCENE K.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT - AFTERNOON

ANNE and CHARLES sit in CHARLES' office. CHARLES looks very unhappy. ANNE sees JOE pass by them and starts ranting.

ANNE

Can you believe him? Joe has some nerve but he - listen to me, Charles - went too far this time. Now he's going to have to deal with Victoria all on his own. I wish I could've seen the look on his face when Victoria told him I'd broken up with him. (she laughs to herself, then pauses) Sit up straight, by the way, will you? You're going to have terrible posture one day. And your office is a real mess. What is this wall thing doing here anyway?

CHARLES

Anne...

ANNE

I think you should get rid of it. Then there'd be more space for me to sit in here. After all, we'll be spending the next few days together. Thanks, by the way. I'll owe you one, I swear. I know! I can help you organize your office.

CHARLES

Anne...

ANNE

No really, it's no trouble at all. I'm here anyway, aren't I? You should hang a picture of me up while we're at it. It will add to our fake-dating authenticity.

CHARLES

ANNE!

ANNE

What?

CHARLES

We can't fake-date anymore.

ANNE

Why not?

CHARLES

Because...because...I'm dating someone else. In real life.

ANNE

Charles, I'm sorry. I had no idea.

CHARLES

I mean, it was fine to help you out for a little while (rubs his arm where Anne hit him), but I'm sure I'm upsetting my girlfriend.

ANNE

Why? Are you dating someone in the office?

CHARLES

Yeah. I'm dating...(looks around)  
Marcia! I'm dating Marcia.

ANNE

Marcia?

CHARLES

Yea, it just sort of happened. We are both office assistants. There's a special connection there...

ANNE

But she was just there when I told Victoria about us. Why didn't she say anything?

CHARLES

(serious) I'm sure she was too hurt to say anything. I have to go to her. I can't lose her!

ANNE

I understand. I'm so sorry,  
Charles. I'll leave now.

ANNE gathers her things and leaves, quickly. As soon as she's gone, CHARLES drops the serious act.

CHARLES

I am SO getting the part in that  
commercial!

CHARLES walks off to find Marcia.

SCENE L.

EXT. VICTORIA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

JOE is waiting outside of Victoria's house, hoping to catch the mailman and get the fish back. JOE stares the mailman down as he takes out the mail for Victoria. The mailman looks scared of JOE, who looks psychotic. JOE quickly runs up to the mailman.

JOE

Mr. Mailman, sir. Hi. I need to  
take that envelope you're holding.

MAILMAN

I can't do that, son.

JOE

Why not?

MAILMAN

(looks at the envelope) Are you  
Victoria Grossberg?

JOE

No.

MAILMAN

Do you live at this house?

JOE

Well, no.

MAILMAN

No can do then. Sorry, son.

JOE

(tries to grab the envelope from  
the mailman) You don't understand,  
I have to take this back!

MAILMAN

(fighting with Joe over the envelope) Tampering with U.S. mail is a federal offense!

The mailman finally wins. When he grabs the envelope out of JOE's hands, JOE falls to the floor. Hearing all of the noise, VICTORIA opens her door.

VICTORIA

Hi, Bob! How are you today?

MAILMAN

I was fine until I ran into this guy. Here's your mail, Victoria.

VICTORIA

Thanks! Have a great day! (sorts through her mail, then looks down at Joe) Hi, hun. Aren't you here early?

JOE

Sure, whatever. Look, Victoria, you can't open that envelope, okay? I forgot to put this note in there for you, and I wouldn't want you to read it without th-

VICTORIA tears open the package, looks into it, and starts screaming. JOE looks like he's about to cry, and he starts crawling away.

Scene m.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

CHARLES sits with MARCIA at her desk. He is checking his reflection in the computer screen. MARCIA looks very unhappy.

CHARLES

So, the audition went really well. Carin thinks she is better than me but there's no way she has a shot at that part.

The phone rings. CHARLES moves to answer it. MARCIA slaps his hand.

MARCIA

No!

CHARLES

What are you doing?

The phone continues to ring.

MARCIA

You do not answer the phone correctly! I don't know how you run things down by Mr. Johnson's office but here we take answering the phones seriously.

CHARLES

I take it seriously!

MARCIA

"Hey, Bonus Entertainment. Talk to me!" is not the proper way to answer the phone!

CHARLES

Well, people don't want to listen to a ten minute speech!

MARCIA

It's "Bonus Entertainment, full service entertainment company here to..."

CHARLES

It's too long!

MARCIA

"meet all of your media needs. My name is" and then you say your name and your position...

CHARLES

(covers his ears) La la la la!

MARCIA

In my case it would be "Marcia Margerson, head receptionist and front office coordinator..."

CHARLES

Are you still talking?

MARCIA

"How may I help you this morning?  
Afternoon? Evening?" Whatever time  
of day it is!

JOE enters, head hanging.

JOE

My life is over.

MARCIA

At least you don't have to hang  
around with someone who doesn't  
know how to answer a phone.

CHARLES

I know how to answer a phone!

MARCIA

Do not!

CHARLES

Do to!

JOE shakes his head and walks back to his office.

MARCIA

Do not!

CHARLES

DO TOO!

MARCIA

I can't believe I ever agreed to  
fake date you.

CHARLES

I can't believe I ever asked you to  
date me!

JORGE walks by.

JORGE

What's going on here?

MARCIA

Charles is being insufferable.

JORGE

How so?

CHARLES

Don't listen to her, Jorge.

MARCIA

(crying) I tried to do Charles a favor but he just throws it back in my face.

JORGE

You poor thing...

MARCIA

(stopping the tears and turning to Charles) Look, Charles, I'm really dating Jorge. In real life! And he can beat you up. You saw what he did to Mr. Johnson.

MR. JOHNSON pops up behind them, looks around and then disappears.

JORGE

Marcia...

MARCIA

I know, Jorge. I'm sorry I was unfaithful to you by fake-dating Charles but I thought I was doing the right thing. I see now that I was wrong.

CHARLES looks nervous.

JORGE

It's...ok?

MARCIA

Will you kindly show him out?

CHARLES

(hands up) No need. I was just leaving.

CHARLES quickly exits.

MARCIA

Thank goodness he's gone. Thanks, Jorge.

JORGE

So we're dating, huh?

MARCIA

Uh-oh.

JORGE

Wanna come over tonight and play  
Halo 2? It can be a two player game  
you know...

SCENE N.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

JOE is sitting at his desk looking completely defeated. He  
picks up the phone to call VICTORIA and beg for forgiveness.

JOE

Victoria! Hi! It's Joe.

VICTORIA

I know who you are.

JOE

Look, Vicky, I'm really sorry about  
the fish. I have no idea how they  
got into that envelope, I mean-

VICTORIA

Save it, Joseph. Now I know exactly  
how you feel about us. About our  
RELATIONSHIP.

JOE

No, Vicky, it's not like that at  
all. See, the fish died. I told  
Carin to feed them and she forgot.  
So I put them in that envelope so  
I'd remember to go flush them down  
the toilet later and-

VICTORIA

(screaming) You were going to flush  
our love fish down the toilet?

JOE

Well, they were dead. Anyway, I  
guess Carin found the envelope with  
all of my mail and just sent it to  
you.

202 "Love Triangles, Squares, & Trapezoids"  
by Emily Krauser & Megan McNamara 32.

VICTORIA

I don't buy it, Joe. You killed our  
love fish. I don't know how I could  
ever forgive you.

JOE

How could I make this up to you?  
(tries to be slick) Miss Famous  
Talent Agent, you. Best one this  
side of Sunset! Maybe even in the  
whole zip code!

VICTORIA

Well, I bet I am the best in this  
zip code...

As JOE is talking on the phone to VICTORIA, MR. JOHNSON runs  
into the room with his water gun and NES gun and starts  
searching Joe's office. As JOE is talking, MR. JOHNSON picks  
up the telephone, Joe's papers, and Joe's chair. ANNE walks  
in the room, and Mr. JOHNSON starts poking her with the guns.

MR. JOHNSON

You stole Dr. Kitty didn't you?  
(keeps poking) Didn't you!

ANNE

No, Mr. Johnson! I would never  
steal that cat!

MR. JOHNSON

That's what you say now. Bet that's  
not what you'd say if I told you I  
was firing you!

ANNE

(shocked) You're firing me?

MR. JOHNSON

(puts the guns at his side) No, I'm  
just saying I bet that's what you'd  
say if I said I was going to fire  
you.

ANNE

Oh. I'm gonna go do some work now.

MR. JOHNSON

(pointing at her desk with the  
guns) You go on now.

(MORE)

202 "Love Triangles, Squares, & Trapezoids"  
by Emily Krauser & Megan McNamara 33.

MR. JOHNSON (cont'd)

You pretend to work at a DVD  
company, and I'll pretend to be a  
superspy.

ANNE

Sounds great.

MR. JOHNSON knocks JOE on the head with one of the guns and  
checks under Joe's hands one more time before rolling out of  
the room. ANNE sits at her desk as JOE continues on with his  
phone call.

JOE

So, what do you say, Victoria? Do  
you forgive me?

VICTORIA

Only partially. Not for the fish  
thing, yet. But, sure, I'll be your  
talent agent. I need a first client  
if I'm going to be the best talent  
agent this side of Wilshire, right?

JOE

This side of Sunset. Sunset,  
remember?

VICTORIA

Right. This side of Sunset! Okay,  
Joe, it's a deal. I'll see what I  
can do about booking your first  
comedy show!

JOE

My first what? No, Victoria, I'm  
not ready for that, I-

VICTORIA hangs up on JOE mid sentence, leaving JOE to just  
stare at the phone in shock.

ANNE

You're screwed, aren't you, Joe?

JOE

(smugly) No, Anne, I'm not screwed.  
(turns his chair around) I'm  
royally screwed.

SCENE 0.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

CARIN passes by CHARLES in the hallway. They stare each other down for a few seconds, then begin to circle around, still staring at each other.

CHARLES

You know, I'm going to get that part.

CARIN

You think you're getting the part? Ha! I'm the one with the body for it!

CHARLES

The part is Reporter #6. Not who-can-sleep-with-the-director-first #6.

CARIN

That is SO rude, Charles! I was Miss Avocado, thank you very much. I was interviewed by actual reporters. I totally deserve this part more than YOU do.

CHARLES

Because you were a fruit?

CARIN

Is an avocado even a fruit?

CHARLES and CARIN stop staring at each other for a moment to contemplate the state of an avocado. Then they shake their heads and continue to stare each other down.

CARIN

The public wants to see more of Miss Avocado 2005!

CHARLES

I think they've seen enough of you already. (points at her revealing outfit)

CARIN

They can never see enough of me, you jerk! I'm totally getting this part!

CHARLES starts walking down the hall, beginning to run after CARIN chases after him.

CARIN

I'm gonna get you, you smug little twerp! I deserve to the part!

CHARLES

(as he runs) But Six is my lucky number! And my favorite character from Blossom!

SCENE P.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT MARCIA'S DESK - AFTERNOON

MARCIA is at her desk. JORGE sits beside her, looking at her longingly.

MARCIA

Jorge, I'm sorry to break this to you but we aren't actually dating. I just had to tell Charles that so he would leave me alone.

JORGE

You don't have to deny your true feelings.

MARCIA

I think you should go. I'm grateful for your help, though. Thank you.

JORGE

Are you breaking up with me?

MARCIA

Jorge, I can't break up with you if we were never dating.

JORGE

I see how it is. It's okay. Break my heart. Everyone thinks I'm tough because I'm a security guard. (starts to cry) I have feelings too you know.

MARCIA

Jorge...

JORGE

No, don't speak. Whatever you say  
will

only hurt. I'm going back to my first love.

MARCIA

Who's that?

JORGE

Carin.

MARCIA

Oh...right. I knew that.

JORGE

Again you mock me.

MARCIA

No, no. I just didn't know you and  
Carin had a..."thing."

JORGE

Oh, we have a thing.

MARCIA

(not believing him) I'm very happy  
for you. (waves her hand) Run along  
now.

VICTORIA walks in. JORGE still stands at Marcia's desk.

MARCIA

Hello, Victoria.

VICTORIA

Hello, dear. Is Joseph around?

MARCIA

I believe he's in his office.

VICTORIA

Thanks.

MARCIA

Is something wrong?

VICTORIA

Oh, not at all. I've got Joseph  
chasing after me once again.

MARCIA

That's wonderful, dear.

VICTORIA

I'll fill you in later. Maybe over coffee? (beings walking away) I'll have my people call your people.

MARCIA

Sounds like a plan!

JORGE

I, too, must be leaving. Off to see Carin.

MARCIA

Tell her I say hello.

JORGE

(surprised) Oh, I will. But don't worry. One day, you'll want me back. And that's when you'll realize our ship has sailed.

The phone rings.

MARCIA

Bonus Entertainment, full service entertainment company here to meet all your media needs. My name is Marcia Margerson, head receptionist and front office coordinator. How may I help you this afternoon?

JORGE exits.

SCENE Q.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

JOE is sitting at his desk, working on his list again. A pile of papers is sitting next to him, but he ignores them. VICTORIA struts into the office. JOE looks up, alarmed.

JOE

Uh, hi, Victoria. How are you?

VICTORIA

(all smiles) Joe, listen. I'm just gonna cut to the chase. (sits down next to him) I accept your apology. I know you would never send dead fish to me on purpose. So, I will officially take you on as a client.

JOE

(looks surprised) Really?

VICTORIA

Yes. It's official. I even brought over paperwork for you to sign.

JOE

(looks at the paperwork) I don't even know how to thank you! Thank you, thank you, thank you! I promise, I won't disappoint you again. No more mail or anything. This is great!

VICTORIA

(smiling) I know you won't, Joe. And, as my first official act as your talent agent, I've gotten you a gig.

JOE

Already? But, how could you, I-

VICTORIA

Leave it up to me, Joe. This is my job now.

CARIN AND CHARLES run by the office as VICTORIA is talking.

VICTORIA

You'll never believe this. I got you the part of Reporter #6 on the new Maalox commercial!

CARIN AND CHARLES overhear this, and now run into Joe's office. Both of them are furious.

CARIN

How can YOU get the part? You didn't even flirt with the director once!

CHARLES

I spent three days memorizing my  
one line! How could you, Joe?

JOE

(standing up, hands up in the air)  
Look, guys, I had no idea! I don't  
even want to be an actor! (Charles  
and Carin inch closer to Joe.)  
Seriously, guys. Victoria just told  
me. Just now! I swear!

CARIN and CHARLES lunge at JOE, who barely misses their  
swinging arms. They start chasing JOE around the room.  
CHARLES AND CARIN catch him after two loops around the room  
and pounce on him.

JOE

(trying to get up) Thanks,  
Victoria.

VICTORIA

No problem, Joe! I'm just gonna let  
you get back to work now. Call me!

VICTORIA leaves without helping JOE, who's now stuck fighting  
off CARIN and CHARLES.

JOE

Look, you can take the part from  
me! Just let me up!

SCENE R.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT JOE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

JOE takes a deep breath and walks into Mr. Johnson's office.  
MR. JOHNSON is sitting in his chair with his back to JOE.

JOE

Mr. Johnson? There's something I  
have to tell you.

MR. JOHNSON

(seriously) And there's something I  
have to tell you too, Joe.

MR. JOHNSON swings around in his chair. He is back in his  
usual attire. No more suit and sunglasses.

MR. JOHNSON  
I FOUND DR. KITTY!

MR. JOHNSON holds Dr. Kitty up high in the air in celebration. He hits a CD player and Hallelujah music plays. JOE stops the music.

JOE  
That's great, Mr. Johnson. I'm happy for you, but about that thing I had to tell you.

Mr. JOHNSON

What is it?

JOE  
This is hard for me to say, since you've been so...good to me here, but-

MR. JOHNSON  
Are you dying?

JOE  
No, Sir. I am not dying. I am leaving, though.

MR. JOHNSON  
Leaving for those pearly gates?

JOE  
(getting annoyed) No, Mr. Johnson. I'm quitting.

MR. JOHNSON  
Quitting the journey that is life?

JOE  
(angry) I'm quitting Bonus Entertainment because I found another job!

MR. JOHNSON  
No need to get angry. What prompted this, Joe?

JOE  
I've just decided I need to try other things. Something to bring a little light into my life.

MR. JOHNSON

No, Joe! Don't go towards the  
light!

JOE puts his head in his hands.

SCENE S.

INT. BONUS ENTERTAINMENT RECEPTION - AFTERNOON

Everyone is standing around MARCIA's desk. MARCIA has tears  
streaming down her face. JOE looks at MARCIA.

JOE

Now, Marcia, I'm sad to be going  
to, but you don't have to cry about  
it.

MARCIA

Actually, I just stabbed my finger  
on this paper clip by accident.

JOE

Oh. I'll miss you too, Marcia.

MARCIA

Oh, no, I really will miss you,  
Joe! I'll look for you on TV!

JOE

(blushes) Thanks. (to himself) My  
career's just starting, and I  
already have a fan!

CARIN

Listen, Joe. If you meet any  
actors, just send them my way.  
(slips Joe a piece of paper) Okay?

JOE

Uh, sure, Carin. I'll definitely to  
do that.

ANNE

At least I'll get my office back  
now.

JOE

You know, Anne, despite the animosity between us, these last few months were great. I really enjoyed working with you.

ANNE

Shove it.

JOE

Glad we're on the same page. Bye, Sugar

Lips.

ANNE

Man, I hate you so much I could-

MR. JOHNSON

(holding up Dr. Kitty, waving his paws) We will miss you. (pauses) May you look down at us and smile. Well, I hope it's down, because if it's up, then you'd be in hell, and that's all red, but I already wished you off to that place that's all white and-

JOE

Uh, yeah. I'm not dying, though. But thanks for the opportunity to work here, Mr. Johnson. I really learned a lot.

MR. JOHNSON

That's great, Joe. What'd you learn here?

JOE

Um...uh...(holds up a bottle cap) Look, Mr. Johnson, something sparkly and shiny!

MR. JOHNSON

(looks mesmerized) Ooh, pretty! Did you learn how to make that here?

JOE

Yes, yes I did. (looks around the room) Okay, everybody, I'm off now. I'll see you around town, I'm sure.

(MORE)

202 "Love Triangles, Squares, & Trapezoids"  
by Emily Krauser & Megan McNamara 43.

JOE (cont'd)

(smiles big) What do you guys say?  
Group hug?

Everybody rushes towards JOE to give him a group hug, pushing him out the door. They all wind up on the floor outside, covered in snow. They look around confused.

CARIN

What's this stuff?

CHARLES

I dunno. It's kind of...white. And fluffy. It's white and fluff stuff!

MR. JOHNSON

It's like cold cotton! (screaming)  
It's heaven! I knew you were dying,  
Joe!

JOE

(from the ground, nursing his  
bruises) Guys, it's okay. It's just  
snow.

EVERYBODY

Snow?

JOE

Yea, you know. Snow. Falls from the  
sky when it gets cold. You can make  
snowmen and have snow ball fights.

MARCIA

But it's 70 degrees out today.

JOE

I swear, it's snow! I'm from New  
York, I would know!

VICTORIA

(standing over Joe) You are so  
immature, Joseph. (puts her hand  
out to help him up) We're going to  
need to talk about this if we're  
going to be in a relationship.

JOE

(standing up, brushing snow off) WE  
ARE NOT IN A RELATIONSHIP.

JOE storms away. VICTORIA rushes after him.

VICTORIA

Joseph, wait for me!

202 "Love Triangles, Squares, & Trapezoids"  
by Emily Krauser & Megan McNamara 45.

VICTORIA catches up with JOE and continues to talk as he shakes his head. Everybody from the office takes Joe's advice and starts having a snowball fight.