

HERE TO STAY

"Pilot"

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COLD OPEN

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - MORNING - ESTABLISHING

An UPBEAT SONG (e.g. David Bowie's "Queen Bitch" or Vampire Weekend's "A-Punk") sets the mood. A SERIES OF SHOTS of New York on a perfect morning: the skyline, bustling sidewalks, traffic on Fifth Avenue, etc.

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - SETH'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sun streams in through the windows. A YOUNG MAN climbs out of bed, looks in the mirror, and smiles: It's gonna be a good day. This is SETH PITTIFORD, 28. He's a handsome white dude, smart, ambitious, well-liked. He's everyone's best friend.

Seth gets ready for work. A SERIES OF SHOTS: He brushes his teeth, shaves, combs his hair. He puts on a tie and pulls a jacket from the closet. His ensemble is complete: perfectly tailored black suit, white shirt, black tie.

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Seth enters and finds his roommates, RILEY TYTHMANN (pronounced Tit-man) and JOHN "JUICE" CARVER, both 28. Riley is a sarcastic, gay, Jewish guy; he'd be called lazy if he were a member of any previous generation, but since he's not he's just "laid back." Juice is a handsome, ambitious, athletic black guy with a fear of being seen as a stereotype.

Seth does a model spin, seeking their approval of his outfit. The MUSIC STOPS ABRUPTLY, and the guys burst out LAUGHING.

RILEY

Nice suit. Now is that the actual one Diane Keaton wore in "Annie Hall," or is it just a replica?

SETH

What's wrong with the suit?

JUICE

That's a wedding suit, dude. Or a funeral suit.

(thinking)

The dress code for those two events really should not be the same...

SETH

It's my first day. I wanna make a good impression.

RILEY

I'm sure the other Reservoir Dogs will love you.

JUICE

It's a tech startup, dude. You'll be the best-dressed person there and they'll all think you're a goon. Is that the impression you wanna make? A goon?

SETH

I'm the CFO. I gotta turn this mother out.

RILEY

No. That phrase has been retired. It's over.

JUICE

Trust me, Seth. I'm black. We have excellent fashion sense.

SETH

OK, first of all: You once referred to white people as "we." You're Carlton black. And second: You're wearing jeans and plaid. Not exactly haute couture.

JUICE

Everyone there'll be wearing this.

SETH

It's a professional office, not a lumber mill. People aren't gonna be dressed like the Brawny man.

RILEY

OK, if you're not gonna listen to Uncle To--

Juice shoots him a look. Even though they're best friends, that's still not an OK phrase to use. Riley tries to salvage.

RILEY (CONT'D)

Remus... Uncle Ben? Why are all the famous uncles horrible black stereotypes?

SETH

Uncle Buck?

RILEY

If you're not gonna listen to Uncle Buck, listen to me. If there's one thing the gays know, it's fashion. And art. And restaurants. And quality premium-cable programming. And penises. OK, we pretty much know everything about everything.

SETH

What's the capital of Iowa?

RILEY

Nebraska...? Ya know what? Let's just stick to the matter at hand. Fashion. Which I know.

He eats some cereal, BURPS, and wipes his mouth on his shirt, which, btw, says "Doo-Doo Occurs" in big, brown letters.

SETH

Yeah, you're really crushing it.
(then)
I'm going with the suit.

RILEY

All right, fine. It's your funeral.

JUICE

Or wedding.

INT./EXT. APARTMENT LOBBY - SAME TIME

At the front desk is KIRBY LOGAN, early 30s, British. He's the building's doorman, insomuch as he wears the uniform and gets paid to do it. But he rarely works, and spends most of his time at the guys' apartment or hitting on female tenants. His current target is MRS. OSTERTAG, 40s, a semi-cougar getting off the elevator. He rushes to open the door.

KIRBY

Good morning, Mrs. Ostertag. You look absolutely ravishing as usual.
(off her gaping smile)
And where is Mr. Ostertag?

MRS. OSTERTAG

Out of town doing "business."
That's what I call his assistant.
(whispering seductively)
Wish I had some "business" to take care of. Or to take care of me...

KIRBY

Well, why don't I come by your flat later and we can have ourselves a good old-fashioned revenge fu--

MAN'S VOICE (O.C.)

Good morning, sir or ma'am...

KIRBY

(startled)
Bollocks!

MRS. OSTERTAG

(startled)
Son of a bitch!

PULL BACK to reveal a slovenly man standing six inches away, both feet firmly in their personal space. This is BARRY.

MRS. OSTERTAG

(walking away)
I should be going. Mr. Logan...

KIRBY

You bloody wanker. I had her!

BARRY

(reading from a paper)
Good morning, sir or ma'am. I am looking for Seth Pittiford...

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The guys continue their conversation.

SETH

I'm wearing the suit! And I look awesome! And everyone's gonna be impressed! You'll see! And you'll see! You'll all see!

JUICE

There's no one else here.

A KNOCK on the door. Seth opens it. It's Kirby, holding a garbage bag and an Igloo cooler. Suddenly, out jumps--

SETH

Barry?

BARRY

Baby bro!

Barry GRABS Seth in a huge bear hug and SQUEEZES him.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT I

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

This is where we're introduced to Barry Pittiford, the 35-year-old well-intentioned idiot. He's the opposite of his younger brother Seth: dim-witted, lazy, overweight, sloppy. The disparity is obvious as they stand next to each other, Seth in a suit and Barry in a too-small T-shirt with a picture of a fat sheep that says "Ewes Not Fat, Ewes Fluffy."

BARRY

You gonna introduce me or what?

SETH

(reluctantly)

Guys, this is my big brother Barry.

JUICE

(offering his hand)

John Carver. Nice to meet you.

BARRY

Juuuuice! I know all about you.

Barry skips the handshake and wraps him up in a bear hug.

JUICE

So this is happening...

RILEY

(quietly, to Seth)

So...based on all the stories you told us over the years, I kinda thought your brother was retarded.

SETH

What?

JUICE

OK, this needs to stop happening.

Barry finally lets Juice go, and turns to Riley.

BARRY

And you must be--

RILEY

Riley Tythmann.

BARRY

(laughing)

Tit man?

RILEY
I'm aware of the irony.

BARRY
But you're the one who's--

Instead of saying "gay," Barry tilts his left hand side to side, the idiotic yet all-too-common gesture for "gay."

RILEY
I am indeed left-handed.

BARRY
Come here, ya big gay southpaw.

Barry grabs Riley and gives him his signature bear hug.

JUICE
(quietly, to Seth)
Dude, from your stories, I totally thought he was mentally challenged.

SETH
Why did everyone think that?

BARRY
So who's this Brooklyn person everyone's talking about?

Barry scratches his head. As he does, he gets a whiff of his armpit. He makes a disgusted face, then smells again anyway.

SETH
(getting it)
Ooohhh...

INT. THE GIRLS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

VALERIE, 28, bi-racial and equal parts neurotic and easygoing, packs stuff into a duffle bag as she talks to her roommate, AVIVA, 25, a gorgeous Long Island princess.

VALERIE
This is good. Therapeutic.

Aviva sits on the couch texting, barely paying attention.

VALERIE (CONT'D)
I mean, it's been a month. I can't keep his stuff forever, right?

AVIVA
Nope...

VALERIE

It sucks to just throw it away, but
I gotta move on. I guess I could
give it to the Salvation Army...

Aviva LAUGHS at a text she receives. Valerie notices that she
isn't paying any attention to her, and decides to test her.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

Or I could light the bag and myself
on fire in some sort of ritualistic
protest of the breakup. Thoughts?

AVIVA

Totally...

Valerie playfully throws a shirt at her.

VALERIE

You're not listening to me!

AVIVA

Of course I am, sweetie. You said
you can't keep his stuff forever.
However, you feel bad throwing it
away, so you're considering
donating it to charity or, barring
that, self-immolating in protest.

Valerie is dumbfounded. Aviva reads a text and LAUGHS WILDLY.

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

The guys sit on the couches and chairs in the living room.

BARRY

OK. First time in New York. What
should I do first? Big Christmas
tree or World's Fair?

SETH

It's September, and it's not 1939.

KIRBY

You've never been to New York?

BARRY

Never been out of Iowa.

RILEY

And you're how old?

BARRY
Thirty-five.

They REACT: Wow/You've never left?/Don't look a day over 40.

SETH
So why now? I've been here ten
years and you've never visited.

BARRY
(pondering for a moment)
I guess it goes back to when I was
six. Mom had gotten pregnant again--

SETH
Abridged version, please.
(off Barry's puzzled look)
Short version, please.

BARRY
Oh. OK. So last week when you were
back in Iowa for your party--

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. IOWAN BENNIGAN'S - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Seth and Barry sit at a large table surrounded by RELATIVES,
including their parents, MR. PITTIFORD (60s, stern) and MRS.
PITTIFORD (50s, sweet, quintessential Midwestern housewife).
Mr. Pittiford stands, in the middle of a toast.

MR. PITTIFORD
We're proud of you, Seth. Your mom
and I. An MBA. CFO. You're gonna be
a very successful businessman, and--

BARRY
We are the 1 percent! Occupy
Bennigan's!

Seth leans over and whispers something to Barry.

BARRY (CONT'D)
I mean, we are the 99 percent!

MR. PITTIFORD
Can you be quiet for two seconds?

Barry quiets down--

MR. PITTIFORD (CONT'D)
Anyway. Seth, we're proud of--

They pull up to the airport departures area.

SETH (CONT'D)

Look, if you don't want Dad to be right, prove him wrong. It's not too late. Be something great.

BARRY

Like a rodeo clown?

SETH

Not at all like a rodeo clown. Look, you just gotta figure out what your thing is. When I was 18, I went to New York. Greatest city in the world. I love it. It's my thing. You just need to find yours. It's not too late, Bar. Don't let Dad be right about you.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - PRESENT TIME

The guys are as they were.

BARRY

You inspired me, bro.

JUICE

Awww. That's so sweet.

BARRY

(indicating Riley)
I thought he was the gay one.

RILEY

Oh, burned!

BARRY

So I went home after that and started packing my stuff--

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. PITTIFORD'S HOUSE - BARRY'S ROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Barry opens dresser drawers and pulls out all his clothes. He shoves them into a garbage bag and an Igloo cooler.

RILEY (V.O.)

That's your luggage? Really?

KIRBY (V.O.)
The cooler is filled with dirty
knickers.

BARRY (V.O.)
Can I finish my story, please?
(beat)
So then I headed to the airport.

INT. AIRPORT APPLEBEE'S - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Barry sits at the bar, four empty shot glasses before him.

BARRY (V.O.)
I was nervous. Never flown before.
So I had a drink to take the edge
off. Got drunk. Missed my flight.

INT. AIRPORT GATE - LATER - FLASHBACK

Barry sits by the gate, passed out -- mouth open, drooling --
as everyone else boards the plane.

BARRY (V.O.)
So I got another flight. Had time
to kill, so I went back to the bar.

INT. ANOTHER AIRPORT GATE - LATER - FLASHBACK

Barry is passed out at a different gate, just like before.

BARRY (V.O.)
But I got drunk again and missed
that flight. So--

RILEY (V.O.)
Oh my god, would you hurry up?

BARRY (V.O.)
Finally caught a flight. Got here--

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Seth opens the door. Barry bear hugs him. It's exactly what
happened like three minutes ago.

SETH (V.O.)
We already know this part, Bar.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - PRESENT TIME

BARRY

And that's it. That's the story.

(then)

So do I get Derek's old room or what? And what's your humidifier situation? My nose bleeds like a stuck pig come wintertime.

They REACT: Wintertime?!/How do you know Derek?/Etc.

Just then, Valerie enters and makes a beeline for Seth.

VALERIE

Your brother is here?!

(off Seth's puzzled look)

Riley texted me. So Barry's not handicapped? What's that about?

SETH

He's just...weird.

VALERIE

Snazzy suit, BTDubya. Is that from the Men's Warehouse Remington Steele collection?

SETH

More like the Remington...
Awesome... collection.

VALERIE

Good one.

Val crosses the room and introduces herself to Barry, who's suddenly very shy. Not much experience talking to girls.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

Hey Barry, I'm Valerie.

(off his awkward silence)

I'm friends with your brother. I live downstairs.

A LONG, AWKWARD BEAT. Barry is so nervous. Dripping sweat. He can't speak. Then...he just gets up and walks away.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

(sarcastically)

I thought you said he was weird...

(then)

So what are you gonna do with him while you're at work?

SETH
 (checking his watch)
 Crap. I gotta go. Riley, can you
 keep an eye on him today?

JUICE
 Bad idea. Riley sucks with kids.

RILEY
 No good with the niños.

SETH
 He's a grown man.

RILEY
 See, I'm not so sure. I think we
 might have a "Big" scenario here.
 Kid in an adult's body. Or a
 "Freaky Friday"-style body swap.
 Anyone seen Chunk from The Goonies
 recently? Cause I think they may
 have...

SETH
 So what do you expect me to do?
 Take him with me on my first day?

VALERIE
 No, Mr. Bond. We expect you to die.

She LAUGHS an evil laugh. Seth stares at her.

VALERIE (CONT'D)
 'Cause of the suit.

SETH
 Oh, I got it.
 (then)
 Riley, please. It's just one day.

RILEY
 (reluctantly)
 Fine...

From the bathroom:

BARRY (O.C.)
 Hey, you guys gotta come look at
 this before I flush it!

Off Riley's flabbergasted look:

END OF ACT I

ACT II

INT. OFFICE - LATER - DAY

Seth, suit-clad, stands in front of a mural of his company's truly awful name: What's APPenin'. He's flanked by MAGGIE LEE, 28, the brilliant yet flighty Korean-American founder.

MAGGIE

Everyone gather 'round. I want to introduce you to the newest, and most inappropriately dressed, member of the What's APPenin' team.

REVERSE ANGLE: The other EMPLOYEES. All of them are wearing some variation of jeans and plaid. It looks like a party with Paul Bunyan, Al Borland, and most of Canada. Juice was right.

SETH

(to himself)
Dammit.

MAGGIE

He's an old college friend of mine and a great dude. Let's hear it for our new CFO, Seth Pittiford!

The crowd applauds. Seth smiles and waves hello.

INT. SETH'S OFFICE - LATER - DAY

Seth arranges his shelves. Enter RAJ KANAKARAJ, 29, the company's Indian-American CTO. Raj has a lot of faux-swagger and a longtime, more or less one-sided rivalry with Seth.

RAJ

Well, well, well. I knew Maggie was considering it, but I didn't think she'd actually do it. I guess she'll just hire anyone, huh?

SETH

She hired you, didn't she?

RAJ

(realizing, to himself)
Damn.
(then)
So that's how it's gonna be? The rivalry continues? Two alpha males, horns locked, fighting, clawing--

SETH
What do you want, Raj?

RAJ
Just wanted to give you this.

Raj tries to hand Seth a beautifully wrapped gift.

SETH
Lemme guess: Another box of pubes?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BAR - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Seth is among a large GROUP of PEOPLE wearing party hats and drinking beer. Raj approaches with a similar-looking gift.

RAJ
Happy birthday!

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A "Congratulations Graduate" banner hangs behind the table. Seth sits with his parents. Raj enters and sets a gift down.

RAJ
Mazel tov!

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM/BATHROOM - FLASHBACK

The living room is decorated for a party. Seth opens the bathroom door to find Raj, pants around his ankles, electric razor BUZZING in his hand. A gift box sits at his feet.

RAJ
Get out! It's not ready yet!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SETH'S OFFICE - PRESENT TIME

Seth and Raj are as they were.

RAJ
What? No! Why would you...? Just take it.

Maggie pops into the office.

MAGGIE

Hey Seth, you eat lunch yet?

SETH

I was about to meet Juice and Valerie next door. Wanna join?

MAGGIE

Who?

SETH

Juice Carver and Valerie Bedley.
 (off Maggie's blank stare)
 We went to college with them? And Riley? And Raj and his Robin Williams-like blanket of pubes?

RAJ

But alas, it is no more.

Raj offers Seth the box again. Seth slaps it out of his hand.

MAGGIE

Is Riley gonna be there? God, I'd love to see him. Swoon.

SETH

Yeah, the thing is, Riley's super gay...

She looks at him, clearly not grasping it.

SETH (CONT'D)

It's just that he prefers... And you don't have a... There's just nothing on you for him to... Ya know what, I'm just gonna go.

EXT. CAFE - LATER - DAY

Val and Juice sit at the cafe next to Seth's office. The WAITER approaches.

WAITER

Something to drink?

JUICE

Can I get a John Daly, please?

WAITER

And for your girlfriend?

JUICE
Whoa. Not my girlfriend.

VALERIE
Why'd you assume that? 'Cause we're
both black? You a racist, Jim Crow?

WAITER
(totally flustered)
Of course not. It's just-- You--
I'm very sorry. I'll get your
drinks. On the house, of course.

The waiter hurries away. Juice and Val high-five.

JUICE
Jim Crow. Nice addition.

VALERIE
White people. So simple. Speaking
of which...

Seth enters and sits down.

SETH
Sorry I'm late. You order yet?

JUICE
Just drinks. Free drinks.

SETH
Race card?

VALERIE
Yup.

SETH
Nice. Hey, you guys heard from
Riley? He's not answering my calls.

VALERIE/JUICE
Nope.

SETH
They're fine, right? They're
probably fine...

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Riley sits at his desk, trying to work. Across the room,
Barry does his stretches. As he bends over, his ass crack
reveals itself, right in Riley's line of sight. He SHUDDERS.

This begins a SERIES OF SHOTS of Barry annoying Riley:

-- Barry lies on the couch, headphones on, loudly singing "Breakfast at Tiffany's" by Deep Blue Something.

BARRY

*And I said what about Breakfast at
Tiffany's / She said I think I
remember the film...*

-- Barry opens a two-liter bottle of soda and it explodes everywhere, making a huge mess.

-- Riley is now wearing headphones, but they're not drowning out the sound of Barry cutting his toenails on the coffee table. It echoes, louder and louder. Clip. CLIP. **CLIP!**

-- Barry back on the couch, hugging a pillow and bawling his eyes out as he loudly sings Soul Asylum's "Runaway Train."

BARRY (CONT'D)

*Runaway train never goin' back /
Wrong way on a one-way track...*

SERIES ENDS as Riley yanks the headphones off Barry's head.

RILEY

No more. Get up. Field-trip time.

EXT. CAFE - LATER - DAY

Seth, Juice, and Valerie are finishing up their (free) lunch.

VALERIE

Oh, hey, how's Maggie? I always liked her.

SETH

She's good. She really wanted to come to lunch and see you but she couldn't find time--

Seth trails off as something catches his eye. We follow his gaze down the street, where Riley and Barry are getting out of a cab. They cross the sidewalk and enter Seth's building.

JUICE

That can't be good.

Seth takes off, running toward the building.

INT. SETH'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Barry is in mid-bear hug with a totally shocked Raj.

BARRY
Nice to meet you, Rog.

Barry lets him go.

RAJ
It's Raj.

BARRY
Rog.

RAJ
Rajjjj.

BARRY
Rogggg. Like, short for Roger.

RAJ
R-A-J.

BARRY
Jar?

RILEY
(at a loss)
Good god.

Seth bursts in, out of breath.

SETH
What the hell are you doing here?!

RAJ
He was introducing me to your brother, who, I must say, is just a delight!

RILEY
I couldn't take it anymore, dude. I'm sorry. It was... Ya know how you hate it when people clap at the end of movies?

SETH
The actors can't hear you! Totally negates the point of applause!

RILEY
And you just wanna slap all of them for being dumb and annoying?
(MORE)

VALERIE

(holding up a doggy bag)
Seth said you're crazy busy, but I
wanted to say hi. I brought lunch.

MAGGIE

(no idea who this is)
Heeeyyy...you...

VALERIE

It's Val. Valerie Bedley.
(off her clueless shrug)
You have no idea who I am, do you?

MAGGIE

Not a clue.

VALERIE

Well you don't have to be a bitch
about it.

SETH

(bleeped)
Fuck me.

JUICE

This has taken an unfortunate turn.

Out of nowhere:

RILEY

I'm gay! Just wanna put that out
there. Hear that, Maggie? I'm a
friend of Elton. Wieners for this
guy, please.

This has turned into absolute chaos. And then it gets worse.
Barry's face goes totally white. He shakes his head over and
over and over. Then he leans over and--

BARFS LOUDLY into the trash can.

Everyone REACTS: What the hell?/Is that a whole chicken bone?

SETH

And we're done here. Everyone. Go.
(to Riley)
Take him home.

Riley hesitates, and Seth gives him the evilest eye ever.
Barry stands up and wipes his mouth.

BARRY

I'm all right. Just too much pop.

Seth shuffles Riley, Barry, Juice and Val out. As they leave:

BARRY (CONT'D)
Domo arigato, Maggie!

SETH
Maggie, I'm really sorry. I--

MAGGIE
(following them out)
Bye, Riley! Call me!

SETH
And you're not even listening.
Awesome.

RAJ
Today couldn't have gone better if--

As he walks past, Seth gives Raj a little shove. Raj tumbles over the chair behind him and onto the floor.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - ELEVATOR - LATER

Juice, Riley, Valerie and Barry wait for the elevator. The doors open; Aviva stands on the elevator. They all get on and exchange greetings with Aviva.

AVIVA
Who's this?

BARRY
I'm Barry. Seth's brother.

He gives her, of course, a bear hug. Since the elevator is fairly packed, it's even more awkward than usual.

Valerie's phone BUZZES with a text. She reads it.

VALERIE
Son of a--
(off the group's looks)
Pete is on his way over--

JUICE	RILEY
(annoyed)	(annoyed)
I thought we got rid of him.	That guy is a pube.

VALERIE (CONT'D)
He wants to get the stuff he left
at my place when we broke up.

JUICE
So what's the problem?

Off Valerie's look:

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. TRASH ROOM - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Valerie tries to cram the bag of Pete's stuff down the trash chute. It won't fit. She jabs at it with a broom handle. It still won't fit. She pulls the bag out and jumps up and down on it, totally crushing it. It finally fits. Aviva stands next to her, texting, half-watching the show.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ELEVATOR - PRESENT TIME

The gang is as they were. A DING as the elevator stops.

RILEY
There had to be a better way to
accomplish that task.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The doors open and Val runs off. As the rest of the group piles off the elevator, the door to the apartment across the hall OPENS. Kirby emerges, adjusting his uniform.

KIRBY
Evening, gents. Aviva.

JUICE
What were you doing in there?

KIRBY
Oh, I was nailing Mrs. Ostertag.

MRS. OSTERTAG (O.C.)
(angry, through the door)
What did I just ask you not to do?!

KIRBY
Sorry! I was nailing Carol.

BARRY
(shouting, thru the door)
Hi Carol! I'm Barry! Seth's
brother!

INT. TRASH ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Val is in the Dumpster/trash room in the basement, pulling hard on the strap of Pete's duffle bag. It finally comes loose, but with it comes a HUGE ROACH. She SCREAMS!

Once she regains her composure, she reaches down to open the bag -- and spots a condom draped over the zipper.

VALERIE

Nope.

She kicks the bag back into the pile of garbage and leaves.

EXT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - ROOF DECK - SAME TIME

Riley, Juice, Barry, Aviva, and Kirby hang out on the roof, drinking and shooting the shit. It's their post-work ritual.

RILEY

Probably. He said I was a five.

JUICE

Out of what?

RILEY

Five, I assume.

Seth enters, hair messed up, jacket rumpled, tie loosened, shirt untucked. He's kind of a mess.

SETH

Hey, all you morons who attempted to ruin my career: Can you please leave so I can talk to Barry alone?

KIRBY

I had no part in that. Just sayin'.

RILEY

I think what homeless Danny Ocean is trying to say is--

SETH

Out.

They all get up and file out. Once they're gone:

BARRY

(oblivious)

So how was your first day?

SETH
Barry, I'm just gonna be blunt with you. You can take it, right?

BARRY
Probably not.

SETH
You have to go home.

BARRY
This is my home now. You said--

SETH
I said it wasn't too late to do something with your life. But you gotta do your thing--

BARRY
I guess I could--

SETH
Not rodeo clowning. Go home and think about what your thing is, then do it. Plus, I'm sure Mom and Dad miss you. Well, Mom at least.
(off Barry's guilty look)
You didn't tell them you were leaving, did you?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE PITTIFORD'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

The Pittifords are fast asleep. The DOOR CREAKS open. Barry tip-toes in with his garbage bag and cooler. He WHISPERS:

BARRY
Mom. Dad. I'm gonna go live with Seth in New York, OK? Love you...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Seth paces, on the phone. Someone picks up. Immediately:

SETH
Did you know that Barry is at my apartment right now?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. THE PITTIFORD'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

Mr. Pittiford is on the other end of the line. He sits next to Mrs. Pittiford at the kitchen table, eating dinner. A third place is set in front of an empty chair.

MRS. PITTIFORD (O.C.)
Barry, your food's getting cold!

SETH
So, no.

MR. PITTIFORD
No, I guess we didn't.

SETH
Dad, you gotta talk to him. Get him to go home. He wants to live here.

MR. PITTIFORD
You kidding? This is our ticket to freedom! After 35 years! We're nearing retirement, Seth, and it'd be nice to be able to travel without worrying about him accidentally burning down the machine shed or running over the rabbits with the mower or drinking too much pop and throwing up in the fish tank again.

SETH
So that's a regular thing then?

MR. PITTIFORD
Sorry, Seth, but that tubby turd is your problem now.

Mr. Pittiford hangs up. Barry enters from the kitchen.

BARRY
What'd they say?

Seth can't bring himself to tell Barry the truth. So he lies:

SETH
They said they love you and they're proud of you and they know you're gonna do great living in New York.

Barry runs over and gives Seth his biggest bear hug yet.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Riley, Juice, Aviva, Kirby, and Barry sit on the couches and chairs. Seth stands before them.

RILEY

No. No way. Absolutely not.

SETH

Come on, guys. He's my brother. And since Derek is gone for 18 to 24 months, even with good behavior, we have an extra bedroom.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING - FLASHBACK

A man lies on his back, asleep. This is DEREK, 28, their old roommate. PULL BACK to reveal that he's lying not in a bed, but on a kitchen counter -- and not in the guys' kitchen. REVERSE: We were seeing him from the POV of a totally shocked family -- MOM, DAD, TEEN BOY, TEEN GIRL (SAM).

Derek rolls over, waking up. He sees the family. He's a little confused, but no biggie. He casually hops down.

DEREK

Howdy, neighbors. Guess I climbed in the wrong window again. My bad.
(with a wink)
Hey Sam.

SAM

(swooning)
Hey Derek.

Then we PULL BACK to reveal that, this whole time, he has been TOTALLY NAKED from the waist down!

DEREK

Oh, BTDub. There's probably a girl in here somewhere. If you could find out her name for me, that'd be great. Also, if you could find out how much she charges for a blowj--

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER - FLASHBACK

A COP slams Derek, pantsless and handcuffed, against a police car. Seth, Riley, and Juice look on in shock.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - PRESENT TIME

The group is as they were.

SETH

So rent would be less. Way less.

JUICE

Eh...

RILEY

Yeah, still no.

Just then, Valerie bursts in, freaking out.

VALERIE

Gimme your stuff!

The guys REACT: What?/Huh?/I don't share!/etc.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

I need your junk. Please.

KIRBY

I knew you'd come around.

Kirby starts to undo his belt.

VALERIE

Ew. No. Pete's gonna be here any minute to get his stuff. And I don't have it.

JUICE

I thought you were Dumpster diving for it.

VALERIE

I tried, but there was a roach and a condom and--

SETH

What?

JUICE

Like, a penis condom?

KIRBY

That may have been mine...

VALERIE

I just need some of your old stuff to give to him like it's his and hope he doesn't notice. I can't be the girl who destroys her ex's stuff. I can't be the crazy girl.

RILEY

Yeah, this plan is really gonna help you dodge that bullet.

SETH

This'll never work. But I kinda wanna see what happens, so knock yourself out.

JUICE

Just stay out of my bottom drawer. That's my private place.

RILEY

Oh yeah, good call. Don't look in the box in my closet marked "Erotica." It's my...baseball cards...

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - BEDROOMS - MOMENTS LATER

QUICK SHOTS of Valerie rifling through the guys' stuff:

-- She takes a couple CDs off Juice's shelf.
 -- She snags a trophy off Riley's desk.
 -- She grabs an old shirt and tie out of Seth's closet.
 -- She takes a well-worn romance novel off the shelf in Riley's closet: "Arms of the Wind" by Georgina Patton. Weird.
 -- She pulls a box from Riley's closet. "EROTICA" is written on the lid. Intrigued, she opens it to find...a highly organized collection of baseball cards.

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Back to the others: Seth, Barry, Riley, Juice, Aviva, Kirby.

SETH

Let's just vote. All in favor of Barry taking over Derek's old room?

Seth raises his hand. So do Kirby and Aviva. And Barry.

RILEY

He doesn't get a vote!

SETH

Sorry, Bar. You can't vote. So three in favor. All opposed?

Riley and Juice raise their hands.

SETH (CONT'D)

Three to two. If Valerie votes in favor, he stays.

RILEY

Two of the yes votes don't even live here! It's fine if they vote on what movie we watch or what bar we go to or if we should take Kirby to the hospital or just bandage it up and hope for the best. But not on apartment stuff. I declare shenanigans on this whole charade.

JUICE

Shenanigans seconded.

Valerie comes back into the living room with a box of stuff and sits on the couch with the rest of the group.

SETH

Ya know why he should get to stay?

KIRBY

So your parents can have sex without the fear of him walking in?

SETH

I moved here ten years ago, and I didn't know anyone or anything. I was a scared kid from Iowa, two thousand miles from home. From my family. From everything I knew. But then I met you guys, and you became my family.

(re. Juice and Riley)

My brothers.

(re. Valerie)

My sister.

(re. Aviva)

My super-hot cousin that we all have to pretend isn't hot 'cause she's family.

(re. Kirby)

My...stray dog we stupidly fed once and he just never went away. I love you guys. You're my surrogate family.

(MORE)

SETH (CONT'D)

And Barry is my real family. So that means he's your family too. And you can't turn your back on family.

After a LONG BEAT:

VALERIE

I vote yes.

AVIVA

Me too.

KIRBY

Standing firm on yes.

JUICE

I think I'm gonna change my vote. Boss speech, man.

Everyone looks at Riley.

JUICE (CONT'D)

Come on, man. Look at his face.

CLOSE ON Barry. A more vacant stare has never been seen.

A KNOCK at the door interrupts. Val opens it to find Pete.

VALERIE

Hey.

PETE

(cold)

Hey. You have my stuff?

She hands him the box; a shirt on top covers the contents.

PETE (CONT'D)

This isn't my shirt.

VALERIE

(casually, covering)

Oh, it's not? It must belong to one of the many lovers I've taken since we broke up. You can have it.

She looks at Aviva and the guys, who are watching intently. They give her thumbs-up: Nice/well done/good cover/etc.

PETE

None of this stuff is mine.

(pulling out a CD)

Jamiroquai? Really?

JUICE

That is an underrated band!

(covering)

Is an example of something a big
Jamiroquai fan such as yourself
would say...

SETH

(quietly, to Juice)

Jamiroquai? How white are you?

Pete pulls a trophy out of the box.

PETE

This has Riley's name on it.

RILEY

(quickly)

Typo.

PETE

(looking through the box)

Where's all my stuff? My throwback
Kris Humphries jersey. My boat
shoes. My calendar with daily
quotes by Turtle from "Entourage."

(searching frantically)

Hey where's my Hollister giftcard?!

JUICE

Wow.

RILEY

See? Total pube.

PETE (CONT'D)

Valerie, where's my stuff?

VALERIE

I kinda threw it away. After I
smashed it all. I'm sorry.

PETE

You threw away my stuff? My K-Humph
jers?! Come on!

VALERIE

It's not how it sounds.

PETE

You need to grow up, Valerie. You
and this ridiculous, codependent
little family you have! You're like
a dysfunctional Brady Bunch!

Aviva and the guys REACT: Hey!/Not cool, man!/etc. Except
Juice. He smiles, proud of the Brady Bunch comparison.

PETE (CONT'D)

You suck. You guys all suck! And,
just for the record, I cheated on--

BARRY

(losing it)

Enough! That is enough! Valerie's
part of my new family, and I'm not
gonna stand by while you talk to
her like this!

PETE

Who's this curly-haired tampon?

BARRY

I'm Barry. Seth's brother.

With that, Barry puts his hand squarely in Pete's face and
SLAP-SHOVES him out the door, SLAMMING it behind him. Faced.
Barry turns to find the group staring at him, smiling, in
total shock at what he just did.

Finally, after a LONG BEAT:

RILEY

I wanna change my vote.

Barry smiles like a dope.

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - BARRY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Barry is in bed in his new room, the covers pulled up to his
chin. He looks like a 35-year-old 8-year-old.

SETH

Just lemme know if you need
anything, OK? I'm right next door.

(beat)

G'night, Bar.

Seth turns and heads for the door.

BARRY

Hey Seth?

(Seth stops)

Love you, baby bro.

SETH

Love you too.

Seth smiles, then exits and CLOSES THE DOOR behind him.

END OF ACT III

TAG

INT. THE GUYS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Seth, Riley, and Juice sit on the couch. Barry stands before them. On the coffee table is a large, sheet-covered box.

BARRY

I wanted to get you guys something, as a thank you. For the whole apartment. So while you were out, I poked around to see what you didn't already have. By the way, Juice, your keyboard was already covered in syrup when I found it.

JUICE

God dammit.

BARRY

But I couldn't think of anything to get you. And then it hit me!

He pulls off the sheet, revealing a cage with a FERRET in it. Juice SCREAMS at the top of his lungs, terrified!

RILEY

No, no, no, no, no!

SETH

Absolutely not! We do not need a phallic rat in the apartment.

BARRY (CONT'D)

I haven't told you the best part.
His name--
(a long, dramatic beat)
--is Ferrets Bueller.

He looks at the guys expectantly. At first, there's no reaction. Just blank stares. After a LONG BEAT:

RILEY

OK, that's pretty awesome.

SETH

Yeah it is. So I guess we have a pet ferret now. Well done, Bar.

Juice, still terrified, slowly climbs over the back of the couch and backs away, keeping his eye on Ferrets Bueller the whole time.

END OF SHOW