

THAT'S THE SPIRIT

Pilot Sample

Written by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. CAR - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

YOUNG MAX, 11, tomboy, and her DAD (39, suburban, mustached fun dad) hop into his blue Ford Explorer pick-up truck.

MAX
Ice cream time!

Her dad starts the car and starts driving.

DAD
I think I'm going to get a banana
split this time.

Max laughs.

MAX
You ALWAYS get a banana split.

DAD
Why mess up a good thing?

He grabs her leg playfully to tickle her. They're both laughing as headlights are seen on the driver's side window and the car flips over.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Young Max wakes up in a hospital bed. Her MOM (37, blonde bob, wears too much makeup so she looks older) is at the bed crying with full-on raccoon eyes. The GHOST OF HER DAD stands next to her mom, he smiles when Max blinks awake.

MAX
Dad?

Max's Mom starts crying louder.

DAD
Good morning, sunshine.

A door appears next to him.

DAD
I love you, Maxine, always and
forever. I'll always be proud of
you, just do the right thing.

"Just do the right thing," echoes as he walks through the door. Max's mom sees none of this.

MAX'S MOM
No, honey, your father
didn't...didn't...make it.

Max's mother starts wailing.

INT. MAX AND SERGIO'S APARTMENT - MORNING

ALARM goes off, ruining the sad moment.

Present day MAX (27, pretty without trying but dresses like a slumlord) awakes on her ratty but very comfortable couch in a fun and cozy two bedroom apartment. The TV is on, goldfish pieces and fun-sized candy bar wrappers surround her. A bunch of wrappers fall onto the floor as she JOLTS up. She grabs a cup on the coffee table and takes a big swig, then immediately spits it out.

Her roommate and best friend SERGIO (26, gay and wise beyond his years) hears her from his room. He peaks out the hallway, already dressed and ready for the day.

SERGIO
You insisted on taking vodka to bed
again.

MAX
You mean the couch.

SERGIO
You know once we move I am NOT
dealing with candy wrappers in my
new living room, right?

Max rubs her temples.

MAX
I am quitting candy once we move.

SERGIO
Yeah right sweetheart, and I'm
quitting dick.

Max grabs the warm vodka and quietly pukes into the cup.

SERGIO
Well it looks like the Sambucca
finally hit you.

Max gags at the word "Sambucca."

SERGIO
I told you it was a bad idea. But
you just wanted to impress Jake.

MAX
Sounds like me.

SERGIO
Check your phone, you took drunk
photos again.

Max already has her phone out. She gets more and more drunk in each photo. It's Max, Sergio and JAKE, (29, very hot bartender) in the photos. The last one is Max trying to lick Jake's arm as he rests his head on his hand and looks at her like she's nuts.

MAX
Wow, well looks like a typical
Tuesday night for me!

SERGIO
Yup, you were thirsty as hell.

MAX
I will have sex with him again. I
just have to, you know, be cool
about it.

SERGIO
Cool Max, sure I've heard of her
but I have never ever met her.

Max scoffs and keeps scrolling on her phone.

MAX
(sotto)
It'll happen, I know it.

Sergio goes back into his room.

VOICE (O.S.)
What'll happen?

Max looks up and JUMPS. More trash falls to the floor. She sees NELSON (21, a ghost, dressed like Lil Wayne circa 2008) stands in front of her.

MAX
What the shit!

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. MAX AND SERGIO'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Back to Max and the ghost of Nelson. Nelson waves.

NELSON

Hi!

MAX

Don't just hi me!

SERGIO (O.S.)

What is it?

MAX

Nothing, just the ghost of my first boyfriend appearing in our living room, no big deal or anything.

Sergio peaks out of his room.

SERGIO

In our apartment?! What the hell!?

MAX

I guess there is a first time for everything! At least it's happening towards the end of our lease here!

SERGIO

Handle it and see me after! No ghosts in the new place! New rule!

Sergio slams his door.

MAX

(to Nelson)

What are you doing here?

NELSON

Wow Max, you really grew up but... still look the same.

INT. CAR - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Cornrow Nelson and TEENAGE MAX are making out in a busted car. Max looks the same, aside from her teenage Hot Topic-y clothing back then. Nelson looks the same.

INT. MAX AND SERGIO'S APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT

Back to present-day ghost of Nelson who does not have cornrows.

MAX

I'm glad you got rid of the cornrows. What happened? McCarthy couldn't save your life?

NELSON

Wow, you're still hung up on that? I just asked her to prom because I didn't think you'd want to go! I told you I was sorry.

MAX

You didn't actually, you just said "I'm breaking up with you g2g see you in chem tomorrow" but you spelled breaking like a car brake.

NELSON

Damn, Max, that's what I love about you great memory.

MAX

Yes, and if memory serves right, you died a while ago right?

NELSON

I mean no, what? I don't know! I got hit by a car leaving the movies. Sure, I was a little drunk because I needed a little buzz to watch Indiana Jones!

Max finally stands up and starts to clean herself off. She goes into the kitchen.

MAX

The newest one?

NELSON

Yeah with Shia!

MAX

That's a real shame. Not to be super rude but again, what are you doing here?

NELSON

I knew you could help me because of your special gift. I mean aside from your mouth skills.

Max rolls her eyes. He is still so young and dumb.