

EPISODES

"Episode 4.5"

Written by

Luke Yankee

April 23, 2013 Draft

Registered WGAW

Yankee Hill Productions
3440 Hathaway Ave. #225
Long Beach, CA 90815
323-823-4474
luke@lukeyankee.net

AT THIS POINT IN "EPISODES"...

(in between episodes 4 and 5 of Season 2)

"Pucks!" is up and down in the ratings, but the young boys on the show are starting to gain a following, much to Matt's chagrin. Sean is having a hard time forgiving Beverly and Matt for having sex with each other, so he has moved out and found his own apartment. Sean and Beverly are still very much in love, but his pride will not let him move back in with her. Matt wants his buddy back. Beverly wants her husband back. Sean cares for them both, but his hurt and anger have made him intractable. Beverly hates everything about "Pucks!", but she knows if the show is canceled, she and Sean will go back to London and there will no chance of a reconciliation. While they are still working together every day, there is at least a chance. Carol is still under the delusion that Merc is going to leave his wife for her.

"EPISODES" PRINCIPAL CAST BREAKDOWN

SEAN & BEVERLY LINCOLN - British couple, writer/creators of a successful UK series about a boy's boarding school - repackaged for American TV as a show about a hockey team called "Pucks!" Separated, but still a writing team...and still in love with each other.

MATT LEBLANC - former star of "Friends", now the star of star of "Pucks!" An egotistical, self-centered actor. A larger-than-life version of himself.

CAROL RANCE - Beverly's best friend. Second in command at the network. Having an affair with Merc.

STOKE, JASON & KEVIN - the 3 leading boys in "Pucks!" Older than they look, but not as smart.

MERC LAPIDUS - head of the network. A sleazy womanizer who will do anything to save his own skin.

MYRA - head of comedy development. Has never laughed a day in her life.

MORNING RANDOLPH - female lead in "Pucks!" A pretty, blonde ingénue who is no longer young. She's had lots of work done.

WENDY - Sean & Beverly's humorless secretary. Feels contempt for everyone and everything.

FADE IN:

INT. "PUCKS!" LOCKER ROOM SET - DAY

MATT is giving a pre-game pep talk to his key players, STOKE, JASON and KEVIN, all in their uniforms and skates. SEAN, BEVERLY and the DIRECTOR are on headsets nearby.

MATT

Now guys, I know it's been tough on you ever since Brian broke his hand. You're tired, you're stressed, your nerves are shot...but I know you can go out there and win this game!

STOKE

Don't worry, coach. You can cunt on me.

MATT

Okay boys, let's go out and get us a championship!

The boys all HOOT and HOLLER as they exit.

DIRECTOR

And...cut!

BEVERLY

(to Sean)

Did he say "cunt"?

SEAN

(relieved)

I thought it was me.

BEVERLY

No, he said, "cunt".

SEAN

Well, he can't.

BEVERLY

Of course he can't.

Matt walks up to them.

MATT

Can't what?

SEAN

Say "cunt".

MATT
(relieved)
I thought it was me.

The Director approaches Sean, Beverly and Matt.

DIRECTOR
Did he --?

BEVERLY
He did.

SEAN
It wasn't you.

DIRECTOR
Thank God.

BEVERLY
What's his name again?

SEAN
Stoke.

Beverly looks pained.

DIRECTOR
Do you want me to --

SEAN
I'll handle it.

Sean crosses over to Stoke, script in hand, as CAROL enters with a group of CONSERVATIVE LOOKING WOMEN.

CAROL
We know how important family programming is to our Christian affiliates. Among our new line up, we have a wholesome, All American comedy about a hockey team called "Pucks!".

SEAN
Um...Stoke?

Stoke never looks up from his iPhone.

SEAN (CONT'D)
About that last line...did you perhaps mispronounce something?

STOKE
No.

Sean flips through the pages of the script. A look of recognition crosses his face. He SHOUTS to BEVERLY across the set.

SEAN

It's a typo! It does say "cunt"!

Carol and the ladies stop breathing.

STOKE

(confused, shouting to
Beverly)

So the line is "you cunt count on
me?"

BEVERLY

(annoyed - shouting back)
No! It's you can count on me!"
There's no "cunt" in it whatsoever!

CAROL

Ladies, why don't we go check out
the commissary?

Carol quickly hustles them off the set.

BEVERLY

(to Matt)
How could anyone think "count"
meant "cunt"?

MATT

(under his breath)
Stupid cunt.

INT. MAKEUP ROOM - DAY

Matt sits in the makeup chair. SHIRLEY, the makeup lady who's been around since the dawn of time, works on his face. She applies a PASTE near his left eye.

MATT

What's that crap?

SHIRLEY

Just something to hide the crow's
feet, baby.

MATT

Crow's feet?! I don't have crow's
feet!

She holds up a hand mirror, and turns his face to the right.

SHIRLEY
What do you call those? Stretch
marks?

MATT
Give me that.

He grabs the hand mirror.

MATT (CONT'D)
Holy, shit! When did I get those?

SHIRLEY
Don't worry, honey. You still got a
punim to die for.

She tweezes his eyebrows.

MATT
Ow! That hurts!

SHIRLEY
I'm just plucking the gray out.

MATT
(defensive)
I haven't got that much.

Shirley starts plucking his chest hair.

MATT (CONT'D)
Okay! That's enough!

Matt buttons his shirt all the way up.

INT. MERC'S OFFICE - DAY

MERC and Carol are watching the dailies of "Pucks!". Merc is
LAUGHING hysterically.

MERC
Play it one more time!

Bored, Carol dutifully pushes the remote for the tenth time.

STOKE (V.O.)
"Don't worry, coach. You can cunt
on me!"

Merc GIGGLES like a schoolboy.

MERC

That's the funniest thing I've seen
in years! Give that kid a raise!

CAROL

The Christian Coalition just pulled
five million in sponsorship because
of it.

MERC

Fire the little shit.

CAROL

He's the hottest thing on the show.
He's boosted the ratings by at
least ten points.

MERC

(incredulous)

You're shittin' me? He sucks! In
fact, "Pucks!" sucks.

CAROL

Tween girls love him. Maybe an
acting coach...?

MERC

As long as you get somebody in
house. I don't want to spend
another dime on that abortion.

INT. SEAN & BEVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

Carol stands in front of Sean.

SEAN

(flattered)

Me? An acting coach?

CAROL

(beaming)

Merc said he couldn't possibly
think of anyone better.

SEAN

(preening)

Well, you know I did do some "Am
Drams" when I was young.

CAROL

(quietly)

I don't think anyone would hold
that against you. I mean, I tried
Ecstasy a few times, but --

SEAN
 (patiently)
 Carol... "Am Drams" stands for
 "Amateur Dramatics."

CAROL
 (lying)
 I knew that.

Beverly enters.

BEVERLY
 What's going on?

SEAN
 Merc wants me to be an acting coach
 to Stoke.

BEVERLY
 You're a better man than I.

CAROL
 I'll go tell Merc the good news!

Carol exits.

BEVERLY
 I've just gotten a call from my
 mum.

SEAN
 My condolences.

BEVERLY
 (defensive)
 She asked for you.

SEAN
 Only because she knows we're a
 writing team and she wants you to
 keep getting a paycheck.

BEVERLY
 She's coming over for a week on
 Thursday. She got a special last
 minute fare.

SEAN
 Betsy? In LA? Head for the hills!

BEVERLY
 It'll be fun. We can take her to
 Catalina, the Chinese Theatre...

SEAN
(suspiciously)
"We"?

BEVERLY
(sheepishly)
You see, I never told her...

SEAN
That we're not together anymore?

BEVERLY
Right.

SEAN
Because you slept with the star of
the show?

BEVERLY
(hating the words)
You see how that might sound a
bit...

SEAN
Awkward?

BEVERLY
Precisely.

SEAN
You're in a bit of a jam then,
aren't you?

BEVERLY
(afraid to ask)
Unless you were to move back in?
Just for the week?

SEAN
You're not serious?

BEVERLY
Please? It would break her heart.
And it wouldn't be like we were
getting back together. It would
just be...to make mummy happy.

SEAN
And when did she ever do a bloody
thing to make me happy?

BEVERLY
She was nice to you at the wedding.

Sean glares at her.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)
I thought you two were Facebook
friends.

SEAN
I'm Facebook friends with the chap
who rotated my tires! That doesn't
mean I want to take him to the La
Brea Tar Pits!

Beverly stares at Sean plaintively.

SEAN (CONT'D)
You're giving me that look.

BEVERLY
What look?

SEAN
Like a Cocker Spaniel that knows it
just peed on the Persian carpet.

BEVERLY
So, that means...?

Pause.

SEAN
It means I'll think about it.

Beverly starts to embrace him, then stifles the impulse.

SEAN (CONT'D)
But I'm not going to Catalina! That
bloody boat makes me nauseous.

BEVERLY
So, I guess the teacups at
Disneyland are out as well?

Sean starts to protest.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)
Kidding!

Beverly exits quickly.

EXT. OUTSIDE "PUCKS!" STAGE - DAY

As Matt, Stoke, Jason and Kevin exit the stage, YOUNG GIRLS
scream with excitement.

TWEEN GIRL

Oh my God! There he is!

Matt pulls a pen out of his pocket and adjusts his Ray-Bans, ready to sign autographs. The girls rush past him and crowd around Stoke. Matt is deflated. As he starts to walk away, another TWEEN GIRL stops him.

TWEEN GIRL #2

Excuse me, didn't you used to be Joey on "Friends"?

MATT

(smiling and turning it on)
"How you doin?"

TWEEN GIRL #2

Could I get your autograph?

She hands him her autograph book.

MATT

Who should I make it out to?

TWEEN GIRL #2

Jacqui and Ralph.

MATT

Is Ralph your boyfriend?

TWEEN GIRL #2

No, those are my grandparents. They watched your show all the time when they were dating.

MATT

(outraged)
Your grandparents?! How old are they?

The girl starts to speak.

MATT (CONT'D)

Don't answer that!

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - DAY

The eternally glum MYRA sits at a table giving notes to Beverly, who is ready to strangle her.

MYRA

And on page seven, what do you mean by "tonsil hockey"?

BEVERLY
That's an American expression for
making out.

MYRA
You mean like...kissing?

BEVERLY
(at the end of her rope)
I believe making out generally
involves kissing.

MYRA
We can't just say "kissing"?

BEVERLY
No.

MYRA
Do you think anyone will get that?

BEVERLY
I do.

MYRA
What does that joke mean, anyway?

BEVERLY
"Pucks"? Hockey players? Tonsil
hockey...?

MYRA
Mmmm. (pause) I still don't get it.

Matt rushes on.

MATT
Beverly, I have to talk to you
right away. I've got a big problem
with my royalty permit.

BEVERLY
(to Myra)
Sorry, Myra. I'll have to get the
rest of your notes later.

Matt drags Beverly into his dressing room, leaving the door
open.

INT. MATT'S DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

BEVERLY
Your what?

MATT
My royalty permit.

BEVERLY
What's that?

MATT
I don't know. But it sounded good
and you looked like you were about
to rip her lips off.

BEVERLY
Was it that obvious?

MATT
Not unless you're a fuckin' moron.

BEVERLY
Why does she always look like that?

MATT
You mean like someone just spooaged
all over her grandmother and then
stirred her tea with it?

BEVERLY
(grossed out)
Must you make everything sexual?

Sean stands in the doorway.

MATT
What's wrong with spooaging?

SEAN
Um...am I interrupting?

MATT & BEVERLY
NO!

BEVERLY
We were just talking about Myra.

SEAN
I've never thought about Myra and
spooaging in the same sentence.

BEVERLY
Moving swiftly on...

SEAN
(to Beverly)
I just got off the phone with my
landlord.

(MORE)

SEAN (CONT'D)

He's been wanting to paint the place anyway, so it would actually be a perfect time for me to move back in.

MATT

(ecstatic)

That is so great! This is amazing news!

Matt runs onto the soundstage.

SEAN

Wait. Matt, it's not what you think...

But he is gone. They follow him quickly.

INT. "PUCKS!" STAGE - CONTINUOUS

Mat rushes onto the stage where MORNING is rehearsing a scene with the boys.

Matt WHISTLES loudly.

MATT

Hey everybody! I've got an announcement to make! Guess who's getting back together? Sean and Beverly!

Everyone APPLAUDS and CHEERS.

MORNING

That is so awesome! I knew you guys would work it out!

SEAN

But, we're not --

He is interrupted by Carol, who throws her arms around them both, hugging them awkwardly.

CAROL

I knew it! I mean, if you two can't make it work, who can?

Beverly stares at Sean helplessly. He gives her a look that says, "Just go with it."

MATT

So, how about a big kiss from the happy couple?

Everyone WHISTLES and CATCALLS. Giving into the pressure, Sean puts his arm around Beverly and gives her a peck on the lips.

MATT (CONT'D)
 C'mon! I kiss my grandmother better than that! How about a little tongue action, huh?

The entire cast and crew starts CHANTING, "KISS HER! KISS HER!"

Sean looks around awkwardly for a moment, knowing there is no way out. Finally, he grabs Beverly, dips her and plants a big, wet, passionate lip locker on her. The crowd SCREAMS with joy. They are both hiding the fact that they really enjoyed it.

SEAN
 Thanks, everybody. Back to work.

Beverly and Sean exit to opposite sides of the stage. Sean turns to Matt with a plastic smile.

SEAN (CONT'D)
 May I see you in your dressing room for a moment please?

MATT
 What'd I do now?

Sean motions towards the dressing room. Matt enters and Sean slams the door behind them.

INT. MATT'S DRESSING ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Sean turns to Matt, seething with anger.

SEAN
 You fucking idiot!

MATT
 (shocked)
 What?

SEAN
 We are not getting back together! I'm moving back in for one week while Beverly's mother comes for a visit.

MATT
 Oh, shit.

SEAN

Yes.

MATT

Well...anything could happen in a week.

SEAN

(firmly)

Not if you don't want it to.

MATT

Why doesn't Beverly just tell her you split up?

SEAN

That's none of your business!

MATT

You're right. I'll just go back out and tell them...

SEAN

Don't you think you've done enough damage for one day?

MATT

You know you two belong together.

SEAN

And I also know that it's entirely your fault that we're not.

MATT

(getting annoyed)

How many more times can I say I'm sorry?

SEAN

Don't you realize how much worse you've just made everything?

MATT

(quietly)

I was just so excited about the idea of everything being the way it used to be.

SEAN

Well, there's no chance of that now.

Sean exits quickly. Matt picks up his script and throws it across the room.

INT. MERC'S OFFICE - DAY

Merc and Carol are in the office. Merc sidles up to Carol and grabs her ass.

MERC

Aw, Come on! Just a pearl necklace?

As Merc unzips his fly, there is a KNOCK at the door.

CAROL

(glaring at Merc)

Come in!

Disappointed, Merc zips up as Stoke enters. Merc goes to embrace him, turning on the charm.

MERC

Hey, mister Lady Killer! How's it going, pal?

STOKE

Hey, Mr. Lapidus.

MERC

Call me Merc, buddy boy! Have you seen this week's ratings for the show? Everyone says they're climbing sky-high because of Smoke!

CAROL

(under her breath)

Stoke.

MERC

Stoke! People are calling you a breakout star. The girls love that crazy hair!

STOKE

Cool.

CAROL

So, since we're looking to feature you in an upcoming episode, we thought maybe you could do a little work with Sean.

STOKE

What kind of work?

CAROL
 (searching)
 Just something to bring out the
 nuances of your acting.

STOKE
 The what?

CAROL
 It's really more so that Sean and
 Beverly can get a sense of your
 range.

STOKE
 Hunh?

MERC
 You just keep bringing in the
 numbers, Spoke --

CAROL
 Stoke. And we'll do the rest, okay?

STOKE
 (giving a high five to
 Merc)
 Word.

Stoke exits. Merc turns to Carol incredulously.

MERC
 Is there a person in there? And
 he's so skinny! He looks like a
 talking dildo with hair.

INT. SEAN'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Sean is packing up and putting things away for the painters.
 As he is moving a heavy box, Matt enters.

MATT
 Let me help you with that.

Matt grabs the box.

SEAN
 Who let you in?

MATT
 I'm here to help you move.

SEAN
 What makes you think --

MATT
I know. Yaddah, yaddah, yaddah.
I've got my SUV in the loading
zone.

SEAN
I don't want your help.

Matt heads towards the door with the box.

MATT
I'll put this in the car.

Sean starts to protest.

MATT (CONT'D)
How long would it take you to move
in that fancy sports car?

SEAN
You should know. You paid for it.

MATT
That car was built for style, not
for hauling shit. C'mon. We can do
this in one trip.

Seeing his point, Sean picks up two suitcases and follows
Matt.

INT. BEVERLY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Beverly and Carol are seated at the kitchen table with large
glasses of wine in front of them.

CAROL
Seriously? You're not?

BEVERLY
(shaking her head)
It's just while my mum's in town.

CAROL
(devastated)
Crap. This calls for some Waikiki
Queen.

BEVERLY
Some what?

Carol takes a joint out of her purse and lights up.

CAROL

It's this really potent weed from Oahu. I got it the last time I was over there.

BEVERLY

How'd you get through airport security?

CAROL

Easy. I just got a jar from the Kaiulani Spice Company and I put it in there.

BEVERLY

And the dogs didn't sniff it out?

CAROL

I also gave the TSA guy a hand job in the oversize baggage room.

As Carol lights up, Sean walks in carrying two suitcases, followed by Matt.

SEAN

Hello. God, what's that smell?

MATT

(smiling)
Is that Waikiki Queen?

CAROL

Impressive!

MATT

Do I know my ganja or what?

Carol hands him the joint. He takes a long toke.

BEVERLY

(to Sean)
Here, let me help you.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sean and Beverly stand in the hallway.

BEVERLY

What the bloody hell is he doing here?

SEAN
Never mind that. How far gone are
you and Princess Puffer?

BEVERLY
She only stopped by for a drink.

Matt and Carol LAUGH raucously from the next room.

SEAN
And does she take her Waikiki Queen
on the rocks or with a twist?

BEVERLY
I don't see the harm --

SEAN
Listen, if I'm moving back in, your
little "giggle smoke" gatherings on
school nights are going to have to
stop.

BEVERLY
Since when did you become such a
school matron?

SEAN
I'm not --

BEVERLY
I can hear your sphincter
tightening from here.

There is a CRASH from the living room. They run back in.

INT. BEVERLY AND SEAN'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Beverly and Sean re-enter to see Matt and Carol convulsing
with laughter. Matt has knocked over one of the faux columns,
which lays on the floor. He is next to it.

MATT
Sorry, guys. I leaned on the column
and...

Carol helps him up and they hang onto each other as they
enjoy their buzz.

SEAN
Should we get you two a room?

Sean picks up the column.

MATT

Even I know better than to mess
with the boss' girl.

CAROL

That's right, Daddykins.

MATT

Beverly, I'm sorry I screwed things
up so badly today. I want to make
it up to you. When your mom
arrives, I want to cook her a big,
Italian meal.

BEVERLY

Thanks, but you don't have to.

MATT

I'm an incredible cook. I learned
it all from Nonna Fusco. I can make
a *brajole* that'll have your mother
creaming in her Depends.

SEAN

(grimacing)

Now there's an image I truly could
have lived without.

BEVERLY

Really, that's very kind of you,
but she has a sensitive stomach and
only eats traditional, English
food.

MATT

So, what are you gonna cook for
her?

BEVERLY

Well, she loves bangers and mash.

Beverly starts to reach for the joint and stops herself.

MATT

You mean like head bangers or like
prostitutes? Cause if your old lady
is into hookers, I can--

SEAN

That would be sausages and
potatoes.

MATT

(lying)
I knew that.
(sounding faux British)
You mean like "chips"?

SEAN

No, chips are fries.

MATT

Then what are chips?

SEAN

Crisps.

MATT

Damn, why can't you people talk good?

He picks up Carol's purse as Beverly reaches for the joint and takes a toke.

MATT (CONT'D)

Now, what do you call this?

BEVERLY

A purse.

MATT

(imitating her)
"A puuuuhhse"? It's a "poggabook"!

Matt waves it around.

BEVERLY

A what?

MATT

A poggabook.

Matt beats it on the table.

CAROL

It's Prada, you asshole!

Carol snatches it from him.

MATT

What else are you gonna serve?
Because so far, this meal sounds like dogshit.

BEVERLY

She loves a good rocket salad.

MATT

What the hell is that?

BEVERLY

You know. Rocket.

MATT

The only rocket around here is the one between my legs and I'm not wasting that on some dried up, old lady's crumpet.

Sean LAUGHS. Beverly shoots him a withering look as he reaches for the joint.

SEAN

I believe in the states you call it "arugula"

BEVERLY

That's pathetic. "Aruuuugula"! It's like a sound a werewolf makes. (howling like a wolf) "Aruuuugula!"

They all let out a stoned GUFFAW.

SEAN

Or one of those old-fashioned car horns.

Sean squeezes one of Beverly's tits like it is a bulb horn.

SEAN (CONT'D)

"Aruga-ruga-laaaaa!"

They all LAUGH even louder. Beverly swats his hand away.

BEVERLY

(laughing)
Don't bruise the fruit unless you plan to buy it.

SEAN

(suddenly realizing what he has done)
Sorry. I won't.

Sean moves away. Beverly hides her disappointment. Matt and Carol take this in.

MATT

I still cannot believe you're turning down Nonna Fusco's homemade *pannacotta*. What are you gonna serve for dessert?

Pause.

BEVERLY

I'm afraid to tell you.

They all look at Beverly expectantly.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)

Spotted Dick!

They roll around in hysterics until the tears roll down their faces.

INT. "PUCKS!" SOUNDSTAGE - DAY (DAY 2)

Stoke is playing Nerf basketball by himself. Sean sits at the table, puts on a pair of reading glasses and starts thumbing through a large stack of books. Stoke continues shooting hoops and doesn't even acknowledge him.

SEAN

In "An Actor Prepares", Stanislavski talked about "The Magic If". In other words, "If I were in this situation, what would I do?"

STOKE

Cool.

He makes a basket.

SEAN

Would it be asking too much for you to stop playing with the Nerf ball and sit down?

STOKE

(shrugs)
Whatever.

Stoke crosses to the table and sits down, still rolling the ball on the table.

SEAN

Take a look at this book by Uta Hagen.

(MORE)

SEAN (CONT'D)

If you were to fully understand the difference between sense memory and emotional memory, it could make you a much stronger actor.

STOKE

(hurt)

Dude, what's wrong with my acting?

SEAN

(pained smile)

Nothing! But perhaps if you could go deeper into the subtext --

STOKE

I thought this episode was about winning a hockey game.

SEAN

It is, but --

STOKE

So, like, either we win or we lose. Where's the subtext in that, dude?

SEAN

(gently)

Tell me Stoke, have you actually studied acting?

STOKE

Sure. I took a one day workshop with Lou Ferigno.

SEAN

Who...?

STOKE

Dude! He's awesome! He played The Incredible Hulk on TV.

SEAN

(forcing a smile)

Would you excuse me for just a moment, please?

Sean gets up from the table and quickly goes into the men's room.

INT. MEN'S ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Sean is about to let out a blood-curdling scream of frustration.

Before he does, he yanks the ROLL OF TOILET PAPER out of its holder and stuffs it into his mouth just as the scream rises in his throat.

At that moment, Matt enters and casually crosses to the urinal.

MATT

So, the little shit can't act, huh?

Sean screams into the roll of toilet paper.

MATT (CONT'D)

I could've told you that.

Sean removes the half-chewed roll. As he turns around, he has toilet paper shards all around his mouth.

MATT (CONT'D)

You better wash your face. You look like you've been blowing a piñata.

INT. SEAN & BEVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

Beverly is working at her desk as WENDY, their humorless secretary, enters.

WENDY

Stoke needs to leave at four o'clock tomorrow.

BEVERLY

Why?

WENDY

He's cutting the ribbon at a new hair salon in Santa Monica.

Wendy exits as Sean enters.

BEVERLY

How was the acting lesson?

SEAN

You don't want to know.

BEVERLY

Not a budding Marlon Brando under all that?

SEAN

Not even a budding Pee Wee Herman.

BEVERLY

I thought I'd fix dinner for the two of us tonight. A lovely shrimp salad.

SEAN

Thanks, but --

BEVERLY

Of course! You're allergic to shellfish. I'd forgotten. Well, I'll make something else.

SEAN

No, you enjoy it. Unless you want to share my leftover Pasta Bolognese from lunch.

BEVERLY

Actually, I'm off red meat. And gluten.

SEAN

Since when?

BEVERLY

Since just after you...Carol turned me onto this new diet. It's great. But we can still sit together.

SEAN

Of course.

BEVERLY

Um...about the toilet seat...

SEAN

Did I leave it up again?

BEVERLY

Cold porcelain is such a shock on the bum at 4 a.m.

SEAN

Sorry.

BEVERLY

(smiling)
Not at all.

SEAN

Would you mind terribly if I slept on the other side of the bed?

BEVERLY

On my side?

SEAN

You see, in my apartment it's further from the window and I'd rather gotten used to it.

BEVERLY

(too brightly)

Whatever you like.

SEAN

I could always sleep in the guest room if you'd rather --

BEVERLY

No! It's fine. Besides, how would it look to mummy?

SEAN

You could tell her I snore. Lots of people --

BEVERLY

But not us. She thinks we're the perfect couple.

SEAN

Right. (pause) Funny how one's habits can change after such a short time apart.

BEVERLY

(deadpan)

Awfully funny.

SEAN

It's almost as if we were never--

BEVERLY

(fighting back tears)

Please don't say that.

SEAN

(tenderly)

I'm sorry.

WENDY (O.S.)

Carol Rance on two.

Saved by the bell, Sean and Beverly cross to the phone.

SEAN & BEVERLY

Hi Carol!

CAROL'S ASSISTANT (V.O.)

Hold for Carol.

They share a look. Will she ever learn?

CAROL (V.O.)

Hey kids!

SEAN & BEVERLY

Hi Carol.

CAROL

We've got a little problem. Can you come down to the set right away?

INT. "PUCKS!" STAGE - DAY

A few minutes later, Sean and Beverly enter as Stoke is having an argument with the director. Kevin and Jason are looking very annoyed. Stoke is in a full hockey uniform, including his helmet.

STOKE

No! Dude, it's not believable.

DIRECTOR

All I'm asking is for you to take off your helmet as you walk into the scene.

STOKE

But they're about to play a big match. What's my motivation for taking off my helmet?

SEAN

(to Beverly)

Bloody hell - who knew he could read?

STOKE

(pointing to Sean)

I'm just doing what he told me.

The director looks to Sean helplessly. Sean puts his arm around Stoke in a fatherly way and pulls him aside.

SEAN

Stoke, I think the reason the director wants you to remove your helmet is so that we can better see your face. And remember the eyes are the window into an actor's soul.

Merc enters and stands next to Carol.

STOKE

But dude, it doesn't make any sense dramatically. If I'm about to go out onto the rink--

MERC

Take off the helmet, fuckface, or you're fired!

Stoke removes his helmet.

SEAN

(to Carol)
Problem solved.

EXT. RUNYON CANYON - DAY

Carol and Beverly are out for their lunchtime run.

BEVERLY

What makes you so sure?

CAROL

Oh, please! There was so much sexual tension between the two of you last night, even I got a hard-on.

BEVERLY

And you don't think Sean was just reacting to the marijuana?

CAROL

That kind of pot makes you mellow, not horny.

BEVERLY

What should I do?

CAROL

He's there in your bed at night, isn't he? Put the moves on him.
(MORE)

CAROL (CONT'D)

Get some sexy lingerie. No man can resist that.

BEVERLY

But if he rejects me, it'll be ten times worse.

CAROL

And if he doesn't, you'll have your husband back.

Beverly considers this for a moment.

INT. "PUCKS!" STAGE - DAY

That afternoon, Beverly and Sean are on the stage as Stoke, Jason and Kevin enter to shoot a scene.

SEAN

How's it going, guys?

STOKE

Great. Matt is like the most awesome acting teacher.

BEVERLY

Matt? As in Matt LeBlanc?

JASON

Yeah. He ordered in Chinese for all the guys and worked with us over lunch.

SEAN

(trying to make sense of it)
Really?

KEVIN

Oh yeah. He taught us all this really cool stuff. Wait'll you see.

DIRECTOR

And places from the top of the scene, please.

Matt and the boys take their places on the set. They all stand facing Matt, with their backs to the camera.

MATT

I gotta hand it to you guys. You played some great hockey out there today.

JASON

It was even worth getting this
black eye, coach.

But we cannot see it.

STOKE

And I think I chipped a tooth. See?

Nor can we see this, because they all keep their backs to the
camera, facing Matt.

KEVIN

Hey, it was all worth it, right
guys?

DIRECTOR

And cut.

Sean and Beverly shoot daggers at Matt. He stares back, full
of wide-eyed innocence.

MATT

What?

INT. BEVERLY & SEAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Beverly comes out of the bathroom in a slinky, black negligee
with a sheer, black robe. She feels awkward, but stands in
front of the bedroom mirror trying to find the right sexual
pose. Each one is worse than the next. She lays down on the
bed, props the pillows up behind her, gets under the covers,
then gets back on top. Nothing works. She feels totally
stupid.

She hears Sean coming down the hall and becomes a deer in the
headlights. Deciding on the direct approach, she faces the
doorway expectantly. No Sean.

BEVERLY

Sean? Are you coming to bed?

Sean calls to her from down the hall.

SEAN (O.S.)

I thought I'd try sleeping in the
guest room tonight. That way, we
can both have the side of the bed
we like.

BEVERLY

It's alright --

SEAN
No, really. I want you to be comfortable.

Beverly looks in the mirror, totally humiliated. As she slowly heads towards the bed, Sean enters.

SEAN (CONT'D)
I just have to get my --

Beverly freezes. Sean takes a long look at Beverly. He totally gets it.

SEAN (CONT'D)
Toothbrush.

Beverly tries to look casual, then knows she's been caught.

SEAN (CONT'D)
You look beautiful.

BEVERLY
(casually)
I sleep in this every night now.
Had it for years and I never...

She stares at him guiltily.

SEAN
(lovingly)
I'm sorry. I just can't.

She nods.

BEVERLY
(Trying not to cry)
Maybe I should just tell my mother the truth.

SEAN
Would you rather I left?

BEVERLY
No. I don't know. Maybe.

SEAN
I'll go to a hotel.

Beverly's cell phone rings. At this hour? She looks at the caller ID and picks it up.

BEVERLY
Hi mum. Are you all packed? What?
Calm down.
(MORE)

BEVERLY (CONT'D)

Are you in a lot of pain? I'm so sorry. Where are you? What did the doctor say? You get some rest and we'll speak tomorrow. I love you.

Beverly hangs up the phone.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)

Well, at least our current dilemma is solved. Mum slipped on the curb and broke her hip. She's in hospital for at least a week. She sounded awful.

SEAN

Poor thing.

BEVERLY

She's heartbroken not to be coming. That's probably worse than the pain.

SEAN

They'll take good care of her. It's not like being sick over here.

BEVERLY

(starting to cry)

True. She depends on me so much. I hate being so far away from her at a time like this.

Beverly lies down on the bed curls up in the fetal position and cries. Sean watches her for a moment then lies down next to her, holding her tightly from behind.

SEAN

Shh. Shh.

He brushes a strand of hair out of her face and kisses her gently. He wraps both his arms around her. Still crying, Beverly closes her eyes and relaxes into this cocoon of safety. Just as she starts to nod off, he notices something. He touches her sleeve and gently removes the dangling price tag from her negligee.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE