

"ANSWERS"

By

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EXT. CITY LIMITS- TWILIGHT

A luxury sedan with its headlights on cruises at a safe speed on a remote road surrounded by a grassy field on a clear, cool evening.

A convertible with its headlights off comes from behind and races by. The YOUNG WOMAN driver wears casual clothes and uses no seat belt while not watching the road and talking on her phone.

YOUNG WOMAN

You know how I am: when I find a  
guy I like it's straight to bed or  
goodbye forever!

She laughs, then bothers to look at the road... to see A SHARP LEFT TURN! Her carefree expression is replaced with THE FEAR OF GOD as the phone drops.

The SAFE DRIVER, a man in his 40's wearing a three-piece suit, watches in horror as her car SKIDS off the road and FLIPS over. The sedan quickly pulls over and the driver's door OPENS. He runs over to her body, which lay on the ground, and gently touches her neck. He then gets out his phone and dials 911.

911 OPERATOR (VO)

Emergency 911.

SAFE DRIVER

A woman was just thrown from her  
car, and she has no pulse!

EXT. AMBULANCE

As the same man watches helplessly, paramedics carefully LOAD the stretcher into the ambulance.

EXT. TO THE HOSPITAL

A siren BLARES as the ambulance races to the hospital.

EXT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE- NIGHT

The ambulance stops at the hospital entrance. A DOCTOR runs to the back. The back doors OPEN and the paramedic steps out and shakes his head. The doctor nods and looks at his watch.

DOCTOR  
Time of death: 7 o'clock.

INT. HOSPITAL MORGUE

A double door bursts OPEN as the paramedic pushes the stretcher inside. He leaves her remains in the middle of the room, then shakes his head and leaves. Her body lay still for a moment... the her neck SNAPS back together and she JOLTS back to life! She sits up, GASPING for air, then smiles happily because she was allowed to return with ANSWERS.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. CITY PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE- DAY

Four cubicles form a short hallway that ends with a copy machine and digital wall clock. The wall clock shows **FRI 4:59.**

POINDEXTER (NAR)  
I earned a degree, somehow got a  
new job and I'm a nice person.

Two women and one man wear the usual office attire as they sit in their cubicles waiting to go home. One is still working, a lonely guy known as a POINDEXTER.

POINDEXTER (NAR)  
But I'm still not happy.

The clock finally gets to **5:00.**

The other employees quickly turn OFF their computers and pick up their belongings.

Poindexter leans back and takes a breather.

The manager, MASTER #1 of attracting women, enters and stands in front of the copier. He takes out his phone and calls a friend.

MASTER #1  
Hey Scott, what's up?

Poindexter looks in the direction of the call.

MASTER #1

Yeah, we'll party like we always do.

Poindexter looks away.

POINDEXTER (NAR)

My new boss is having another party. I would ask to go, but I'm tired of people giving me that look. School is like the Hotel California-you can graduate, but you will never leave.

While still on the phone, the Master patiently walks between the cubicles as the two female employees enthusiastically OPEN the door and leave. The door CLOSES and the Master quickly turns around.

MASTER #1

You remember that model that came to my last party? We hooked up all night.

Poindexter sags.

POINDEXTER (NAR)

And some people never get to be popular.

He then looks at his computer, closes the work program and goes to a mail order bride website. Just then, his COWORKER walks in.

COWORKER

Aha, caught you!

POINDEXTER

Caught me doing what, what you do at lunch?

COWORKER

Got me there. You thinking about going to Russia, too?

POINDEXTER

Do I have a choice? You know how it is in this country, there's something about bad boys.

COWORKER

And nice guys don't get laid.

Coworker leaves the cubicle and approaches the Master, who pockets his phone.

COWORKER  
So, you're having another party  
tonight?

MASTER #1  
What about it?

COWORKER  
Can I come?

MASTER #1  
I would, but we have that policy on  
fraternizing.

Coworker nods and walks for the door.

Poindexter closes the program and turns OFF the computer,  
then gets up and leaves the cubicle.

MASTER #1  
You ready for the weekend?

POINDEXTER  
I guess.

MASTER #1  
What do you mean?

POINDEXTER  
I'm just going to watch TV, play  
video games and mess around online.

He then goes silent and trudges his way to the door.

The Master watches him go by, then makes a fateful decision.

MASTER #1  
I've noticed your hard work. Want  
to come to my party, instead?

POINDEXTER  
Sure!

MASTER #1  
I'll give you the address.

The Master walks over to a table with a coffee machine,  
takes a pen from his shirt pocket, grabs a napkin and writes  
down the address. He then walks back and gives it to  
Poindexter.

MASTER #1

Here.

POINDEXTER

Thanks, but what about that policy?

MASTER #1

That's the no sex with a coworker rule. I just don't want that guy at my house.

POINDEXTER

I don't blame you. So, when should I get there?

MASTER #1

Anytime tonight, it's not a job.

Master pats Poindexter on the back as they walk for the door.

EXT. MASTER'S HOUSE PARTY- NIGHT

Poindexter parks his car on the street, then OPENS the door and emerges wearing untucked t-shirt, jeans and tennis shoes. He CLOSES the car door, then walks to the house and RINGS the doorbell. After a moment, the door OPENS as MASTER #2, wearing Polo shirt neatly tucked into khaki pants with Docker shoes, looks at Poindexter suspiciously.

MASTER #2

The AA meeting's down the street.

Master #2 tries to SHUT the door, but Poindexter puts his foot inside.

POINDEXTER

I work with Randy, he invited me.

MASTER #2

Well that's different, come on in.

Master #2 OPENS the door all the way.

INT. MASTER'S HOUSE

Poindexter walks in to see a house pimped out with plush furniture, arcade-style dart game, a wall-mounted flat screen, blue ray, killer stereo, and an in-house bar where Master #1, still dressed in office clothes, stands looking at another wall mounted TV! Oh, and three SEXY WOMEN wearing

tight clothes and sipping drinks while standing near the dart machine. Poindexter stares in awe.

Master #2 SHUTS the door and shakes Poindexter's hand.

MASTER #2  
I'm Scott.

POINDEXTER  
James.

MASTER #2  
So you work with Randy?

POINDEXTER  
Kind of. I usually only see him in the morning when he hands me a stack of files.

MASTER #2  
TPS reports?

POINDEXTER  
What?

MASTER #2  
Never mind. So, did you come here all by yourself?

POINDEXTER  
As usual. Maybe see some action tonight, though. I mean, three of them, three of us... I like that math.

MASTER #2  
Uh... yeah. I'd talk with you more, but I'm busy.

Master #2 walks away, shaking his head as he goes back to the women.

Poindexter walks towards his boss while checking out the scenery.

They look at him like he's an alien.

He gets to Master #1.

POINDEXTER  
You must really like those clothes.

MASTER #1  
I was finishing something I brought  
back from the office. Who let you  
in?

POINDEXTER  
Scott.

MASTER #1  
I forgot to tell him about you. It  
wasn't too awkward, I hope.

POINDEXTER  
I just told him I know you, and it  
got my foot in the door. These  
chicks are hot!

MASTER #1  
Go talk to them.

POINDEXTER  
How?

MASTER #1  
You don't know?

POINDEXTER  
Still a mystery.

MASTER #1  
Not anymore.

#### THE ANSWERS BEGIN

Master #1 goes behind the bar to get a can of beer, then  
walks back and hands it to Poindexter.

MASTER #1  
It is a party, so there you go.

POINDEXTER  
Thanks.

MASTER #1  
You're a nice guy, aren't you?

POINDEXTER  
Of course!

MASTER #1  
Chicks want bad boys.

POINDEXTER

I know, but I don't want to be a bad boy.

Just then Master #2 comes over and stands next to them.

MASTER #1

You don't want to be a bad person. I'm nice when I can be.

MASTER #2

This is a nice party, what do you think?

POINDEXTER

I've never been to one like it. And what you're saying makes sense, but what about women?

While Poindexter waits for an answer, Master #2 brings Master #1 a few feet away. They speak in hushed voices.

MASTER #2

I'm not sure about this guy. I don't want him to scare off the chicks.

MASTER #1

I know he's a little weird, but he's alright.

Master #2 shakes his head and tries to speak.

MASTER #1

Someone taught us, now it's our turn.

They both walk back to Poindexter.

MASTER #1

You need to be cool.

POINDEXTER

Specifically?

MASTER #1

Tits are just fat glands. Figure that out and you realize she's up here.

MASTER #2

Look at the double I's, not the double D's.

POINDEXTER  
That's hard to do.

MASTER #2  
Then just talk to her like she's  
anyone else.

MASTER #1  
You also need to know about  
dangerous words.

POINDEXTER  
I hate you and I'm going to kill  
you?

MASTER #1  
Crush, in love, and I want to marry  
you. Never say that to a woman you  
just met.

POINDEXTER  
Those words aren't dangerous!

MASTER #2  
Threat of rape, insult of lust.

Master #1 then hears DITZY LAUGHING from the women.

MASTER #1  
And don't tell her girlfriends,  
either.

POINDEXTER  
Why not?

BOTH MASTERS  
Because women talk, about  
everything.

POINDEXTER  
What if she asks?

MASTER #1  
Then say love takes time.

MASTER #2  
Tell her if she wants to hear it.  
Until then be alert to how she  
responds to you.

MASTER #1  
What she says and how she says it.  
The first time you meet her, she

(MORE)

MASTER #1 (cont'd)  
should either write you off as a  
friend or want to use you to get  
laid.

POINDEXTER  
That's fine, I'm all about  
devotion.

MASTER #1  
Nice guys usually are, now listen.  
Approaching women is a skill  
because they're so sensitive to  
what you say and do.

MASTER #2  
So if you talk or act like you want  
sex or you're in love already,  
she'll want nothing to do with you.

POINDEXTER  
Arrogant, aren't they?

MASTER #2  
They are not at all arrogant,  
they're just reacting to you acting  
like you're going to rape them.

MASTER #1  
And you need to know that some  
women just want to have sex.

MASTER #2  
A hot beef injection from a guy who  
won't get clingy.

POINDEXTER  
Isn't love more important?

MASTER #2  
Not to everyone.

Poindexter finishes his beer and puts the empty can on the  
bar.

Master #1 gets him another.

MASTER #1  
That's why nice guys cock-block  
themselves: they want a  
relationship, but the women don't.

MASTER #2  
Nice guys don't get laid because  
they get crushes.

Poindexter starts to take another drink.

MASTER #2  
Whoa, lay off the booze-it just  
makes you stupid.

He takes the can away.

POINDEXTER  
But it makes me feel good.

MASTER #2  
Confidence makes you feel good.

Master #2 gives the beer back, Poindexter just holds it.

Master #1 cocks his head toward Master #2.

MASTER #1  
What he said.

Poindexter nods and continues to just hold the beer, Master  
#2 gives a thumbs up.

MASTER #1  
Women detect confidence like men  
notice D cups-just sticks out.

POINDEXTER  
I never had any confidence.

MASTER #2  
You never had a reason.

MASTER #1  
That's the reason women need. For  
now, improvise with apathy.

Sexy woman #1 walks away from her group. Poindexter smiles  
awkwardly at her. She gives him a weird look, but smiles at  
the Masters and makes her way toward them.

SEXY WOMAN #1  
What are you guys talking about?

MASTER #1  
Sex.

SEXY WOMAN #1  
Conquest stories?

MASTER #1  
How-to.

SEXY WOMAN #1  
So you just want to fuck?

MASTER #1  
What's wrong with that?

SEXY WOMAN #1  
You're shallow.

MASTER #1  
You're going to look like that then  
judge me? That's like posting a  
notice that says, "Do not read this  
sign".

SEXY WOMAN #1  
I want love, too.

MASTER #1  
Then quit caring about birthdays  
and anniversaries.

Master #1 nods, pauses, then quickly turns back to  
Poindexter.

MASTER #1  
Remember to show just enough  
interest.

SEXY WOMAN #1  
Is that it?

Master #1 rolls his eyes and turns back to her.

MASTER #1  
Talk about something important to  
him, just not his money.

As all the girls gather by the bar, the Masters lead  
Poindexter safely away, next to the dart machine.

MASTER #1  
We act just a little interested  
because that makes us interesting.

MASTER #2

The losers come to them, drunk and trying too hard.

POINDEXTER

I am a loser.

MASTER #2

You just don't feel like a winner.

MASTER #1

And winners impress the girls.

MASTER #2

Do you play an instrument?

POINDEXTER

I can play the guitar a little.

MASTER #2

That's your Trump card. Although playing the violin would be better.

POINDEXTER

Why?

MASTER #2

Because few people play it. Guitarists are a dime a dozen.

MASTER #1

Then you just let her do all the talking and make her laugh.

POINDEXTER

But how!?

MASTER #1

By not trying. We become masters because we quit caring about getting laid and stop getting crushes.

MASTER #2

And we're fun to be with.

POINDEXTER

So what happened to me?

MASTER #1

Negative reinforcement of some kind.

MASTER #2

You need to be the good man who is so hard to find.

POINDEXTER

Then why do they like assholes?

MASTER #1

Because assholes don't act needy.

MASTER #2

Or she doesn't want to be treated like a goddess.

POINDEXTER

Women have more sense than men, none when it comes to men.

MASTER #1

Some women do. It's just better to be an asshole than a weakling.

POINDEXTER

So I have to be a jerk to get a girl.

MASTER #1

A lot of Chicks want a nice guy, they just don't want a weirdo.

MASTER #2

Just be cool until she says, "when do you want to take this to the next level?"

POINDEXTER

I'm learning something I actually need to know!

MASTER #1

What we have here is a failure to communicate useful information.

MASTER #2

What we have here is a game-show education.

He turns to Poindexter.

MASTER #2

You fail with women because you're unhappy with your life because you were prepared for Jeopardy instead.

POINDEXTER  
So what are you saying?

MASTER #2  
That there's more to life than  
getting laid.

POINDEXTER  
Are you sure?

MASTER #2  
Pretty sure.

MASTER #1  
We need to go shotgun with this  
guy.

MASTER #2  
His schooling interfered with his  
education.

POINDEXTER  
Will you guys really do that for  
me?

The Master share a glance and nod.

MASTER #1  
Why not? But one more thing to  
know: play the field.

POINDEXTER  
You mean the games you have to play  
with them?

MASTER #1  
I mean, meet a lot of women instead  
of thinking you're in love with the  
first one.

MASTER #2  
It's also finding the one you don't  
have to play games with.

MASTER #1  
But that's enough for now. Come  
back Sunday at two and we'll  
continue at that restaurant down  
the street.

POINDEXTER  
Why can't I stay here?

MASTER #1  
I'd rather you practice somewhere  
else.

MASTER #2  
Yeah.

Poindexter starts for the door, but then turns around.

POINDEXTER  
What's the short answer to women?

MASTER #1  
Understanding that sex is her  
decision. You just do something  
impressive, then be cool.

MASTER #2  
And impressing her can be as simple  
as not being impressed by her.

POINDEXTER  
And the best place to meet them?

MASTER #1  
Get invited to a party. I would say  
nightclubs, but the music is too  
loud to hear anyone.

POINDEXTER  
Why do they do that?

MASTER #1  
Makes people buy drinks.

POINDEXTER  
Let's say I get lucky, what if I  
come too soon?

MASTER #1  
Go to a sex shop and buy a  
desensitizer. Anything else?

POINDEXTER  
I'll think of more later.

Poindexter exits. The Masters pick up some darts off a table  
and then walk over to the ladies.

INT. HER FRIEND'S APT- DAY

Answers' GIRLFRIEND lay in bed, covered in sheet. The alarm clock shows **1:15 PM**. She opens her eyes and gets out of bed, wearing nothing but her football jersey. She leaves the bedroom and heads for the bathroom when she hears KNOCKING. She walks to the door and OPENS it to see someone she thinks she knows.

GIRLFRIEND

Oh hey, c'mon in.

ANSWERS

I'm so happy to see you!

Fresh out of the hospital, Answers RUSHES through the doorway and embraces her friend.

GIRLFRIEND

I'm... happy to see you too(?).

ANSWERS

I was afraid I would never see you again.

GIRLFRIEND

Why, what happened?

Answers lets go, SHUTS the door and brings her girlfriend to the couch.

ANSWERS

Remember when we were on the phone? You heard the tires squeal, didn't you?

GIRLFRIEND

Oh yeah, what happened?

ANSWERS

I was driving too fast and didn't see a sharp turn until it was too late. I died.

GIRLFRIEND

You mean a concussion?

ANSWERS

Have you heard of near-death experiences?

GIRLFRIEND

Of them.

ANSWERS

I just came back from one.

GIRLFRIEND

Do you mind if I put some clothes  
on first?

ANSWERS

Go right ahead.

Her girlfriend gets up and walks for her bathroom, looking  
puzzled.

Answers gets up and heads for the kitchen, where she starts  
a pot of coffee. She sits back down on the couch and hears  
the toilet FLUSH.

After a moment, her girlfriend comes back out wearing shorts  
and sits back down on the couch.

ANSWERS

I know you love coffee, I got some  
brewing.

GIRLFRIEND

Thanks. Are you all right?

ANSWERS

Better than ever. I'm so blessed, I  
can't wait to go to Church  
tomorrow.

GIRLFRIEND

Church?

ANSWERS

Yes! I have so much to tell them,  
so much about the scriptures that  
they need to know.

GIRLFRIEND

Scriptures!? Have you become a  
Jehova's witness or something?

ANSWERS

Kind of, but they need to know,  
too. Everyone does.

GIRLFRIEND

Are you going to push Jesus stuff  
on me?

The coffee maker GURGLES.

Answers hears it and gets up. She returns with a cup for her  
friend.

ANSWERS

Here you go. Jesus is great, all he  
wants us to do is be nice to each  
other.

GIRLFRIEND

Thanks for the coffee but don't do  
this to me.

ANSWERS

Just because some religious people  
are goofy doesn't mean Jesus is.

GIRLFRIEND

Change the subject.

ANSWERS

You need to hear the truth,  
everyone does.

GIRLFRIEND

I can't handle it; I like things  
the way they are.

ANSWERS

And you don't know a line is  
crooked until you put a straight  
one next to it.

GIRLFRIEND

Learn that from Jesus?

ANSWERS

And more.

GIRLFRIEND

Why can't we just talk about boys?

ANSWERS

Because there's more to life than  
getting laid.

GIRLFRIEND

Like shopping!

Girlfriend tries to high-five Answers, but Answers embraces her again.

ANSWERS

You already have things, this is what you need.

Answers lets go.

GIRLFRIEND

I don't want a relationship, I have a career. When I get that baccalaureates, I can make manager.

ANSWERS

Have you ever heard of a resume being read at a funeral?

GIRLFRIEND

Huh?

ANSWERS

You're not ready. But you can get promoted quicker if you just play along with the politics.

GIRLFRIEND

I'm listening.

ANSWERS

Learn golf, when you get good, ask to play with the execs. If you help them win...

GIRLFRIEND

I don't want to play golf.

ANSWERS

Do you want a raise?

GIRLFRIEND

I shouldn't have to.

ANSWERS

You'll stand out from the competition. Have you ever tried it?

GIRLFRIEND

No.

ANSWERS

You might even like it. Most Americans don't care about soccer because they've never played it.

GIRLFRIEND

You a philosopher now?

ANSWERS

It's just the truth. Want to know more?

GIRLFRIEND

I want to watch TV.

She picks up the remote and points it at the screen. The TV ENERGIZES, then a commercial comes on.

ANSWERS

It would make more sense to read a book or go out for a jog.

GIRLFRIEND

I don't feel like it.

ANSWERS

I'll go meet new people, that's better than this.

Answers gets up and heads for the door, then stops.

ANSWERS

You need a man to hold you tight.

INT. RESTAURANT- DAY

The guys are now all dressed casual and sitting at a table finishing their meals.

POINDEXTER

I was thinking yesterday, wouldn't play the field apply to lots of things?

The door OPENS and Answers walks in, dressed in sweats and sneakers.

MASTER #1

Oh God yes: mechanics,  
restaurants... Tonight Show hosts.  
I would say religion, too, but I  
don't know.

She hears them talking and stops to face them from a short distance.

POINDEXTER

That's controversial for some  
reason.

MASTER #1

Tell me about it. It makes no sense  
that you would be tortured forever  
because you didn't accept Jesus,  
even though you were a good person.

MASTER #2

I know, seems like all the  
religions are doing the same thing,  
just using different words.

ANSWERS

I heard you guys talking.

They turn to see a woman.

ANSWERS

I should tell you what happened to  
me.

They look at each other and shrug.

POINDEXTER

Okay.

ANSWERS

I... died.

They all look at her like she's crazy, then give themselves  
a look-over.

POINDEXTER

What, did we die too and no one  
gave us the memo?

Both Masters fist bump Poindexter.

MASTER #1

Here's your memo: that was you not  
trying.

She walks over and sits down.

ANSWERS

I did something stupid and died,  
but then asked God to send me back.

MASTER #2

You going to preach some kind of  
religion on us?

ANSWERS

Religion that makes sense.

MASTER #1

We're listening.

GOD

ANSWERS

People need to be loved, because  
the opposite of love is reacting to  
something we fear.

MASTER #1

Deep.

ANSWERS

Actually it's all very simple.

POINDEXTER

Computers work and they're  
complicated.

ANSWERS

A computer is just simple things  
that look complicated from a  
distance.

MASTER #1

So what does God want us to know?

ANSWERS

For one thing, worship means to  
love God back through each other.

POINDEXTER

By helping people?

ANSWERS

Yes, for us to accomplish good  
things we need to work together.

MASTER #1  
Work together how?

ANSWERS  
At the very least, people need simple, specific answers so they know how to do things right.

POINDEXTER  
Like the answer to women?

ANSWERS  
Why do you want a woman?

POINDEXTER  
Someone to love.

ANSWERS  
Then meet someone new.

POINDEXTER  
Why does it have to be someone new?

MASTER #2  
Because a woman can be like a referee: she makes a split second decision and never reverses it.

POINDEXTER  
Never?

MASTER #2  
Unless you get rich.

ANSWERS  
You can't buy love.

MASTER #2  
But money attracts it.

ANSWERS  
Money is just the result of being responsible and ambitious, that's what women want.

MASTER #1  
So what does God want us to do?

ANSWERS  
To enjoy life.

MASTER #2

The way I love my shady parking spot?

POINDEXTER

Did you park in the shade?

ANSWERS

I died in a car crash.

POINDEXTER

I'm sorry.

ANSWERS

It's okay, all this walking gives me a good workout.

MASTER #2

You were talking about how God loves us, let me prove it.

Master #2 leaves and returns with beer bottles.

ANSWERS

Quoting Ben Franklin? Beer can be proof, if you enjoy enough.

POINDEXTER

Didn't Jesus drink wine?

ANSWERS

Actually, yes. But here's a newsflash: Jesus Christ was not his real name. It was Jeshua Hanashia, Aramaic for Jesus of Nazareth. Jeshua became Jesus and Christ is the Hebrew word for Messiah.

MASTER #1

Too bad they crucified him for it.

ANSWERS

Actually, the Son of God was unofficially punished because of the incident with the money changers. And the Jews didn't kill him, the Romans did. But what's useful is a passage in the Koran that says if a person calls themselves a Christian, then Muslims must be nice to them. So the Israelis just announce themselves official Christians.

POINDEXTER

That's all they have to do!?

ANSWERS

That simple.

MASTER #2

And people keep telling me to accept Jesus, and that wasn't even his name?

ANSWERS

Love is what saves you.

POINDEXTER

So you met Jesus?

ANSWERS

Yes.

POINDEXTER

What was he like?

ANSWERS

Glorious, yet frustrated.

POINDEXTER

How so?

ANSWERS

Some of what he taught was changed by mean people. Sex isn't sinful, it's just risky.

MASTER #1

What about being rich?

ANSWERS

It's okay to be rich, just don't be greedy. Make a profit, not a killing.

MASTER #1

In regards to the crucifixion, I don't mean to be anti-Semitic but Jews can be the greediest people.

ANSWERS

People of all kinds of religions will kill you if you mess with their money. It wasn't about them being Jewish.

MASTER #2

What about the other Commandments?

ANSWERS

Two is no false idols. You know how a lot of people worship celebrities?

SHOW FOOTAGE OF:

A celebrity being worshiped by fans.

BACK TO SCENE

ANSWERS

Enjoy what they do, but don't worship them. Three is about blasphemy.

POINDEXTER

"Goddamn" is just a word.

ANSWERS

God is love, so, "In the name of love, I..." People assume they're doing God's work, and then order other people to kill and die.

SHOW FOOTAGE OF:

George W. Bush and Osama Bin Laden.

BACK TO SCENE

ANSWERS

No, declare peace! Four is the sabbath day. On a day off, listen to advice, then share it, like with a mentor.

POINDEXTER

It's supposed to be today, isn't it?

ANSWERS

Can be. Our weekdays are really just named after pagan gods. Most people are going to have a day off, so they use the time to learn something useful. Not hard.

MASTER #1

Then they go to church.

ANSWERS

If they want. The entire Universe is God's cathedral.

MASTER #2

How you figure?

ANSWERS

Prayers are answered and miracles happen all around us because God is everywhere, just be alert to it.

POINDEXTER

Then why do bad things happen to good people?

ANSWERS

To get them out of their comfort zone.

MASTER #1

And that's how history is made.

ANSWERS

Jesus was crucified to amplify his message. Ever notice you learn a lot about someone after they die?

MASTER #1

It certainly motivated the apostles.

ANSWERS

Exactly.

POINDEXTER

Why are there bad people?

ANSWERS

Some become distorted from lack of love.

MASTER #1

Like with physics-there is heat, or lack thereof in the form of cold.

ANSWERS

Exactly. And there is no evil, only stupidity.

POINDEXTER

Why was the King of Kings born to homeless parents in a mangy animal barn?

ANSWERS

As a lesson in potential. Instead of seeing someone for what they are, see them for what they can be.

POINDEXTER

But they need to know something to use their potential?

ANSWERS

Yes. We are not just human, we are in fact angels, we just don't remember. This is our human life.

POINDEXTER

Why don't we remember?

ANSWERS

In Heaven, you know everything. If you took any of that with you, you couldn't function. You know how it is cramming for finals?

Poindexter rolls his eyes and nods.

ANSWERS

Imagine that, but worse, and all the time. You have to forget in order to do things here.

MASTER #1

You seem fine to me.

ANSWERS

I kept basic knowledge on important things.

POINDEXTER

So what are you supposed to learn?

ANSWERS

What you love. The angel within is receptive to God's brilliance. Discover what you love, and learn about it so you can remember your purpose.

SHOW FOOTAGE OF:

Einstein explaining relativity.

BACK TO SCENE

ANSWERS

It's like a radio: you just play the field with different subjects until you get to something that makes sense, then write it down, like with a screenplay.

POINDEXTER

So you're saying I don't have to go to church anymore?

ANSWERS

Of course not! You will meet nice people, make connections, and receive guidance if you ask for it.

MASTER #2

Why don't you like going to church?

POINDEXTER

I can't stand the singing.

MASTER #2

That's like saying I would go to the beach, if it weren't for the sand and the water.

POINDEXTER

If churches would sing top ten stuff that had something to do with love or peace, I would be all for it.

MASTER #1

Right?

MASTER #2

If worship was like a KISS concert, I'd go all the time!

ANSWERS

I actually saw them in concert once.

MASTER #2

What was that like?

SHOW FOOTAGE OF:

KISS in CONCERT, Kicking aSS!

BACK TO SCENE

ANSWERS

I wish I hadn't done it now.

MASTER #2

What!? I'd give my left nut to see  
KISS!

ANSWERS

KISS spoiled me. I haven't enjoyed  
another concert since. And if you  
don't like worship, then just go to  
Sunday school. Back to God...

MASTER #2

What's the difference between KISS  
and God?

ANSWERS

Not much, now listen. Five is honor  
thy mother and father. At least  
listen to them.

POINDEXTER

I can't be in the same room with  
them.

ANSWERS

Then listen to someone else's  
parents. Six is do not kill.

MASTER #2

Isn't it obvious you shouldn't kill  
people?

ANSWERS

It also refers to dreams. Look at  
what we have now because of someone  
ambitious. How many examples are  
there?

MASTER #1

It's a long list. I know a lot of  
people broke the four minute  
barrier after Bannister did, but no  
one did it before.

ANSWERS

Exactly. If their dream proves a  
mistake, they learn. If they make  
it happen, everyone does.

MASTER #1

And adultery doesn't just mean being unfaithful to your lover, but to your dreams, too.

ANSWERS

You know a lot about The Commandments.

MASTER #1

I dated a Hispanic chick for a while, she made me go with her to Catholic mass.

MASTER #2

She must have been good!

MASTER #1

Yeah.

MASTER #2

What happened?

MASTER #1

No sex is that good.

She rolls her eyes, shakes her head.

ANSWERS

Eight is about stealing. Keep your things from being stolen.

POINDEXTER

What else?

ANSWERS

When a control freak tells you it won't work, do it anyway.

MASTER #1

It's the aggressive critic who has the problem, not you.

ANSWERS

Explain that differently.

MASTER #1

There is nothing wrong with you, and anyone who says different is the one who has the problem. My dad taught me that.

POINDEXTER

Must be nice.

MASTER #2

You don't steal, you appropriate.  
Like the Senate Appropriations  
Committee.

POINDEXTER

Why do nice people get hurt?

MASTER #1

Well, it's like I said about not  
being nice all the time.

MASTER #2

There are people out there that use  
you for your kindness. Don't let  
them.

ANSWERS

That's right. Nine is about  
responsibility. Just set yourself  
up for success in the first place  
so you have nothing to lie about  
anyway.

MASTER #2

You're not lying, you're selling.  
Whether it's a job interview, or a  
date.

MASTER #1

Just don't volunteer bad  
information. That's my policy.

POINDEXTER

That happened to me a couple months  
ago. I offended this girl I worked  
with.

MASTER #1

What did you do?

POINDEXTER

I said something personal and she  
took offense to it, and it wasn't  
even about her. So she went to the  
company president and I got fired.

MASTER #1

That's how you came to work for me.

POINDEXTER

Yes.

MASTER #1

I call that a land mine. So, don't talk about anything personal around women at work.

MASTER #2

Women everywhere tend to be easily threatened, or jealous, so you only talk about what they talk about.

ANSWERS

Ten is about jealousy. Don't get jealous, get excited and learn from them.

SHOW FOOTAGE OF:

"The Pursuit of Happyness", Chris Gardner asks the man how he got his fancy car.

BACK TO SCENE

POINDEXTER

Why the different religions?

ANSWERS

So we can learn about the same thing from different sources.

MASTER #1

You will learn more from each other than you will from me.

ANSWERS

I was about to say that! How did you know?

MASTER #1

An instructor said that when the class started in my senior year.

ANSWERS

And that is one of the two reasons God loves us-we can figure out things on our own.

MASTER #1

What's the other?

ANSWERS

We are connected with God.

MASTER #1

So it's God inside that gives us our potential?

ANSWERS

Yes. When you live up to your potential, and help others do the same, it helps God implement the big plan we've all heard about.

She looks at the guys while they think about it.

ANSWERS

Would you throw away a Ferrari just because you couldn't drive it?

MASTER #1

No, but I'd probably sell it!

ANSWERS

Not if you loved it.

MASTER #1

I've never heard about any scripture that said one man can calculate the fate of another.

MASTER #2

Fundamentalists say the earth is 12,000 years old. That couldn't have been the earth rotating 7 times, those had to be God days.

ANSWERS

It's been 12,000 years since the last ice age.

MASTER #1

They say God put fossils in the ground to test our faith. I think God put fundamentalists here to test our faith!

ANSWERS

Scriptures are like the Commandments. When it says that the dead shall rise, it means dead personally.

MASTER #1

Deep.

ANSWERS

You want deep, you notice the Bible is full of contradictions?

MASTER #1

Everyone has.

ANSWERS

That's because we are. Everyone is good at something different.

POINDEXTER

So who goes to Heaven?

ANSWERS

Most people, but some learn how much pain they caused others and punish themselves.

POINDEXTER

So if God loves us, then why do we get judged?

ANSWERS

You judge yourself.

POINDEXTER

I do that all the time, now.

MASTER #1

That's why you cock-block yourself, too.

Just then, the door pub door OPENS and the same man who called in the accident walks in. He now wears casual-formal clothes.

ANSWERS

Alex!

POLITICS

Light!

She gets up and walks to him. They embrace for a sweet moment.

POINDEXTER

You're name is Light!?

ANSWERS

It is now, I changed it after I returned. Nice, isn't it?

POINDEXTER

Yes it is.

POLITICS

New friends?

ANSWERS

New and intriguing.

Politics pulls out a chair from a nearby table and takes a seat, Answers goes back to her spot.

POLITICS

So what are you talking about?

ANSWERS

Things everyone should know.

POLITICS

POLITICS

What do you know about politics?

MASTER #2

I know 9/11 was an inside job.

POLITICS

It was not.

MASTER #2

Oh, really?

POLITICS

Bush had nothing to do with 9/11.  
9/11... worked.

MASTER #2

I've seen the evidence, the New World Order planned it for years.

Politics pauses to order a beer from the waitress, then resumes.

POLITICS

I'm sorry, I could just never believe he would do that to this country.

MASTER #2

Do you know how much money  
Halliburton has made from this!?

POLITICS

Someone is always going to profit  
from war.

MASTER #2

Say what you want, Bush was the  
worst president we've ever had.

Waitress brings him a pint of bitter, setting it on the  
table.

POLITICS

I know, but do you know why?

MASTER #2

He's an idiot.

POLITICS

No, we've had a few idiot  
presidents. Bush's problem was that  
he only listened to people who  
agreed with him. Did any of you see  
"The Fog of War"?

They all shake their heads.

POLITICS

It's a documentary about Robert S.  
McNamara. He talks about the Cuban  
Missile crisis, and what he said  
blew my mind.

POINDEXTER

What happened?

POLITICS

There was the threat of nuclear  
missiles in Cuba, and Kennedy was  
going to invade. All his advisers  
agreed, except one. Tommy Thompson  
stepped up to the plate and said,  
"Mr. President, you're wrong". 30  
years later, McNamara met Castro  
and asked him:

Politician counts his fingers while he talks

## POLITICS

1) did you have nuclear missiles,  
 2) would you have recommended to  
 Khrushchev that you use them, and  
 3) even if it meant Cuba was  
 destroyed? yes, I had them, I did  
 not would have I DID recommend they  
 be used. And yes, even if it meant  
 Cuba was destroyed. THAT close!

Politics holds fingers 'that far' apart.

## POINDEXTER

I'm glad Bush wasn't in office  
 then!

## MASTER #2

No, they did have weapons of mass  
 destruction, but they didn't have  
 oil!

## ANSWERS

Judge not, people: all that  
 protesting from people who have  
 cars.

## POLITICS

I know, it just gets me how Bush  
 was wrong about the WMD's and  
 wouldn't even admit it or  
 apologize.

## MASTER #1

I don't think Bush was that bad. It  
 was the media that made fun of him.

## POLITICS

Okay then, would you make Bush the  
 CEO of your company?

## MASTER #1

Er... uh... got me.

## POINDEXTER

I can't wait to we get all our  
 troops out of Iraq.

## POLITICS

Neither can I, but we have to wait  
 until Iraq can defend itself.

MASTER #2

Oh, you own Halliburton stock.

POLITICS

Iraq borders Iran to the east,  
Israel to the west. We leave Iraq  
too soon...

POINDEXTER

Then we'll have a World War  
One-style powder keg waiting to go  
off.

POLITICS

But with nuclear weapons.

POINDEXTER

So our soldiers have to stay in  
Iraq?

POLITICS

Until the insurgents calm down.  
Then we can get our troops the  
hell... outta there.

ANSWERS

Or until the Israelis accept Jesus.  
But the Cuban Missile Crisis is an  
example of how we haven't really  
had that many wars.

POINDEXTER

What do you mean?

ANSWERS

The few wars we'd had taught us to  
avoid it.

MASTER #1

That's why I love "MASH" so much,  
it taught me about stupid war is.

POINDEXTER

I thought it was about Korea.

MASTER #1

It was set in Korea because Vietnam  
was going on. "MASH" was about all  
wars.

MASTER #2

War-a rich old white man declares  
it, a poor young man fights it.

(MORE)

MASTER #2 (cont'd)  
 Someone give me a better  
 definition.

She nods then gets up.

MASTER #1  
 People want world peace, that's  
 easy: make the people who declare  
 war have to fight it, too!

They raise their bottles and CLINK them together.

POLITICS  
 It still bothers me though.

POINDEXTER  
 What?

POLITICS  
 So many people hate Bush. Bush is a  
 good man.

MASTER #2  
 You must be rich enough for a tax  
 cut.

POLITICIAN  
 He stopped drinking for his wife,  
 brought about Amber Alert, and he  
 signed into law the Sarbanes-Oxley  
 Act.

POINDEXTER  
 Sar-what?

POLITICS  
 Sarbanes-Oxley. Keeps corporations  
 from cooking the books, like with  
 Enron.

POINDEXTER  
 If he's a good man, then why the  
 bad decisions?

POLITICS  
 The bad choices come from not  
 listening to good advisers. But I  
 just have to let you know what Dick  
 Cheney said. A reporter told Cheney  
 that two thirds of Americans are  
 against the war in Iraq.

MASTER #2  
And what did he say?

POLITICS  
"So?"

They all shake their head in shame and disgust.  
Answers rejoins them with a cup of coffee.

MASTER #2  
Bush talks about sending a message.  
Answers asks a good question on purpose.

ANSWERS  
How could all presidents do their  
job better?

POLITICS  
Next time the President is signing  
a bill, he should read it in front  
of a camera.

MASTER #2  
I still say 9/11 was an inside job.

POLITICS  
I don't. Bin Laden decided to teach  
our government a lesson, and in the  
process gave Bush an excuse to  
invade Iraq.

MASTER #1  
So what do we do about it?

POLITICS  
Ignore him, because the publicity  
just gives him more power.

POINDEXTER  
That's nice, but what about actual  
politics?

MASTER #2  
What you need to know is that we  
need another revolution!

POLITICS  
You say you want a revolution?  
Well, you know... participate.

POINDEXTER

By voting?

POLITICS

At least. But before you do, look up their voting record, which exposes what politicians are doing. And hopefully you vote conservative.

POINDEXTER

You're crazy.

POLITICS

The government screws up everything, conservatives keep that to a minimum. And be careful about bonds.

POINDEXTER

Except for school bonds.

POLITICS

Especially school bonds! Other than keyboarding or driver's ed... what do you use now?

POINDEXTER

Math is useful.

ANSWERS

School bonds will work best when the money goes to the teachers, then just let them do their job without micromanaging them.

POINDEXTER

So why do so many politicians suck?

MASTER #2

Because most people only vote for the six-footer with a catchy name and executive-style hair cut.

They sit in silence for a tense moment.

ANSWERS

You were talking about voting, just for the President?

POLITICS

We should be more concerned with local elections.

POINDEXTER

So what more is there to know?

POLITICS

You notice that almost every politician is a lawyer?

MASTER #2

I have.

POLITICS

Lawyers go through money like a fish goes through water. The money used to debate the Health Care Bill should have just gone into health care. Let's elect accountants from now on.

MASTER #1

Jewish accountants?

POLITICS

Is there any other kind?

MASTER #1

I don't think so. I'm up for going somewhere else now.

Master #2 finishes his beer.

MASTER #2

Good idea.

They all get up, but Master #2 looks at his beer.

MASTER #2

Maybe I shouldn't drive.

MASTER #1

I've been drinking, too.

ANSWERS

I can't drive your car.

MASTER #1

You have a car.

POLITICS

It's in the shop.

MASTER #1

Then how did you get here?

POLITICIAN

I live down the street. I come here  
for my fresh tap beer.

MASTER #1

You could just build a bar in your  
own house.

Politics freezes and his jaw gapes as the rest head for the  
door.

EXT. RESTAURANT

They gather outside.

MASTER #1

I'll just call a cab.

Master #1 gets his cell as Politics walks out to join them.

POLITICS

Actually, I'm going to stay inside  
and watch the news.

Politics walks back for the pub, waving. Just then a minivan  
cab pulls up. The doors OPEN and two passengers get out.

MASTER #1

I wish cabs were always this fast!

They get in the van.

INT. CAB

Answers rides shotgun next to the MUSLIM cab driver.

MUSLIM

Where to?

MASTER #1

The park.

The Muslim nods and the van starts moving.

POINDEXTER

Why are we going to the park?

MASTER #1

You'll see.

The group becomes silent for a moment, then Muslim breaks  
the ice.

MUSLIM  
How is your day?

ANSWERS  
Enlightening.

MUSLIM  
How so?

ANSWERS  
I've been teaching them about God.

MUSLIM  
I can share.

POINDEXTER  
Who are you?

MUSLIM  
It is not who I am, it is what I  
know.

Muslim glances at them all in the rear-view mirror.

MUSLIM  
What do you know about Islam?

POINDEXTER  
I know the terrorists were Islamic  
extremists. Everyone listens as he  
drives down the street.

MUSLIM  
They may have called themselves  
Muslim, but what they did was not  
the Islamic thing to do.

He comes to a stop at a light.

MASTER #1  
What do you mean?

Muslim points to a symbol of Islam hanging from his mirror.

MUSLIM  
Islam is an Arabic word. It means  
"peace acquired by submitting  
yourself to God's will".

POINDEXTER  
So that's the Islamic thing to do?

MUSLIM

That's the translation. The Islamic thing is to submit to God.

MASTER #1

You trying to convert us?

MUSLIM

I've always thought that as long as you are nice to other people, there is no need to convert you to anything.

ANSWERS

He's right.

MASTER #1

So, peace through submission. In other words, stop doing what isn't working and join the winning team.

MUSLIM

Correct.

POINDEXTER

So why are you teaching us about Islam?

MUSLIM

I don't like it when someone judges me before they meet me, (to Poindexter) do you?

POINDEXTER

No, story of my life.

MUSLIM

We're not all bad. In fact, we're just like you in many ways.

POINDEXTER

So far so good.

MASTER #1

What about beheading a woman because she got raped?

POINDEXTER

Why would she have to die?

MASTER #1

Adultery.

POINDEXTER  
That requires consent.

MASTER #1  
Tell him.

MUSLIM  
Sometimes our laws make no sense,  
but the same can be said of yours.

MASTER #1  
Like what?

MUSLIM  
Making Catholic priests take a vow  
of celibacy. Anyway, Islam is about  
submitting yourself to God's will.

ANSWERS  
When someone gives you advice,  
listen to them.

MASTER #1  
I golf, And when I finally listened  
to my instructors and swung as  
relaxed as I could, I hit the ball  
way better. I just quit trying too  
hard.

ANSWERS  
The person with potential obeyed  
the expert. I learned that up  
there.

She points a finger upwards.

Muslim looks at her funny, but doesn't ask.

POINDEXTER  
So I just lay off the booze and be  
cool, and I'll do better.

MASTER #1  
Yeah, but it isn't really about  
seduction. Just find your real  
love, and don't offend the rest.

POINDEXTER  
So just be cool.

MASTER #1  
Just don't act desperate.

MUSLIM  
What are you talking about?

MASTER #1  
Attracting women.

Muslim smiles.

EXT. PARK

The van gets to the park. The doors OPEN and the occupants get out, including the Muslim.

MUSLIM  
So just make her jealous, that works almost as well as money.

The doors SHUT as Poindexter loses his mind.

POINDEXTER  
Does everyone know how to do this but me!?

MASTER #2  
Can seem like that, sometimes.

MASTER #1  
Oh yeah, everyone but you.

MUSLIM  
But whoever you marry, make sure she signs a prenuptial agreement.

POINDEXTER  
Do I have to?

MUSLIM  
I'm not driving that for a social experiment.

MASTER #1  
You taking a break from the taxi?

MUSLIM  
Yeah, been at it since five this morning. You in a hurry?

MASTER #1  
No, it's cool. But yeah, except for money, jealousy can be the best way to attract them.

POINDEXTER

Why?

They make their way toward an empty grouping of picnic tables.

MASTER #1

Makes her think you're not a loser after all.

They get to a table.

POINDEXTER

What can you teach me about Islam?

MUSLIM

Do you really care?

He looks at a group of nearby women.

MASTER #1

I don't.

The Masters head off in the direction of the women.

POINDEXTER

Where are you going?

MASTER #1

All be Bach.

MASTERS AT PLAY

The Masters walk to the YOGA GIRLS, too busy yoging to notice. Master #2 walks over to the girl on the side, while Master #1 does his thing.

MASTER #1

Hi.

She opens her eyes in surprise.

YOGA #1

Oh, hi.

MASTER #1

Yoga, right?

She nods.

MASTER #1  
Does it really work that well?

YOGA #1  
Sure. Loosens me up, stimulates my  
chakras. Makes me feel better.

MASTER #1  
Well, that's one way to do it.

YOGA #1  
What do you mean?

MASTER #1  
I don't know, I just saw a joke in  
there. Although I saw a picture of  
someone's chakra, once.

YOGA #1  
What did it look like?

MASTER #1  
I thought it was a tie-die at  
first. So is yoga all you do?

YOGA #1  
Of course not. I like to read, ride  
my bike, swim, blah blah blah, blah  
blah blah...

As she yaps, Master #1 nods, smiles and a THOUGHT BUBBLE  
appears above his head: "pretending to care, pretending to  
care".

YOGA #1  
And I'll watch live theater  
sometimes.

MASTER #1  
You just love the outdoors, don't  
you?

YOGA #1  
Oh yes.

MASTER #1  
Are you stuffed in an office too?  
Just getting outside when you can?

YOGA #1  
I could never do that. I'm a  
wildlife photographer.

MASTER #1  
That sounds fun. Anyway, I have  
time for a party at my place  
tonight.

YOGA #1  
I guess you're inviting me?

MASTER #1  
Yes.

She looks him over and shakes her head.

YOGA #1  
I don't date players.

MASTER #1  
I'm just playing the field.

YOGA #1  
Are you going to love me in the  
morning?

MASTER #1  
That takes time.

She nods approvingly and gives him a quick look-over.

YOGA #1  
So what do you do for a living?

He looks irritated for an instant.

MASTER #1  
I work for the city.

While Master #1 does his thing, Master #2 makes a good first  
impression.

MASTER #2  
Master Yoga?

She cracks a smile and shakes her head while continuing her  
workout.

YOGA #2  
Right, you are.

MASTER #2  
This is a beautiful day, what do  
you think?

YOGA #2  
Oh it's a great day.

MASTER #2  
I just love the fresh air, what do you think?

YOGA #2  
Oh, of course, better than my stuffy apartment.

MASTER #2  
I know, can't stay inside all the time, what do you think?

YOGA #2  
Who wants to stay inside? I do have a life, after all.

MASTER #2  
I know what you mean. I say meet new people, what do you think?

YOGA #2  
Make new friends, always a good idea.

MASTER #2  
Tell me about it. So what do you do for a living?

YOGA #2  
Paralegal.

MASTER #2  
Paratrooper?

YOGA #2  
I feel like one sometimes.

MASTER #2  
What do you mean?

YOGA #2  
Oh... politics, deadlines, being inspected. Can I just do my job without other people making it complicated? It's bullshit.

MASTER #2  
Speaking of bullshit, how about that almost perfect game?

YOGA #2

Oh God, you got me started. New rule: bring instant replay to baseball. What do you think?

Master #2 goes quiet and a THOUGHT BUBBLE appears above him, showing his HEART POUNDING.

MASTER #2

I think I want to give you my card!

YOGA #2

Sure.

He takes out his wallet and removes his card, showing his name, picture and contact info. He gives it to her.

YOGA #2

I'll call you.

The masters turn and walk away.

MASTER #1

How'd it go?

MASTER #2

She has potential, although sometimes I think about getting a Russian mail order bride.

MASTER #1

Pffft! What do you think I do at lunch?

ISLAM CONTD

Now sitting at a table, Poindexter wants to learn more.

POINDEXTER

What's the difference between Islam and Christianity?

MUSLIM

Very little, actually. We do not believe Isa, peace be upon him, to be the Son of God, but a prophet.

POINDEXTER

Peace be what?

MUSLIM

We show our respect for any prophet by saying, "peace be upon him."

ANSWERS

What did you think of 9/11?

MUSLIM

I was more upset than any of you. What they did was not the Islamic thing to do.

POINDEXTER

What should we do to get back at them?

MUSLIM

Ignore them. Their leader is just an attention whore, so stop listening to him.

POINDEXTER

If they're jealous of our freedom, they should fight for their own.

MUSLIM

They didn't attack us because of our freedom. Bush said that because he was told to say that. Al Queda attacked us because of our foreign policy.

ANSWERS

It's possible they did us a favor.

Anger covers faces, but she holds up a hand to calm them down.

ANSWERS

Jesus said to turn the other cheek. That means if someone spites you, then you let God teach them a lesson. I'd rather a bunch of terrorists do it than suffer God withdrawing our blessings.

POINDEXTER

So we keep our blessings by using our Department of Defense money to help impoverished people in third world countries?

ANSWERS

In God we trust.

POINDEXTER

For everything else there's  
Mastercard?

They smile at each other.

MUSLIM

So someone hits you and you do  
nothing?

ANSWERS

You can avoid or block it.

POINDEXTER

It's like I heard Chuck Norris say:  
"The best defense... is not to  
offend."

The Masters come back, catch the last few words, and sit  
down.

MASTER #1

The best defense is knowing how not  
to offend.

MUSLIM

So we're done talking about Islam,  
then?

MASTER #1

If we want to learn more, we'll  
just Google it... which will take  
us to Wikipedia. What you're saying  
is that Muslims are mostly good?

MUSLIM

All people are.

POINDEXTER

Why do we only hear about the bad  
ones?

MUSLIM

Because bad news sells. TV is the  
real tunnel vision. Watch too much  
of it and you lose faith in people.

ANSWERS

That's why we need to look on the  
bright side, towards the light. By  
the way, can I get your card?

MUSLIM  
Sure, here.

Muslim hands over the card.

MUSLIM  
How long are we staying here?

POINDEXTER  
You leaving?

MUSLIM  
You needed a ride, didn't you?

ANSWERS  
I called a friend of mine when we  
got here, he's on the way. Go make  
yourself some money, I have your  
card.

Muslim collects money from Master #1, then walks to the minivan.

An instant later, another friend of Answers, BUSINESS, another man in his forties and wearing business casual clothes, approaches the table.

BUSINESS  
Light!

Business takes a seat.

BUSINESS

ANSWERS  
This is Jack, he knows about money.

BUSINESS  
That's why I'm here.

Master #1 looks at the exercising women.

MASTER #1  
That's why I'm here.

All the guys check them out.

ANSWERS  
No, let's talk money, that's  
important, too. But (addressing  
Business) can we talk about it on  
the way to your car? We left a car  
behind.

MASTER #2

And I'm not getting arrested. They can tow me, that's better than a dui.

POINDEXTER

I've always wondered that: why do rich people get fined as much as we do?

MASTER #2

Yeah, take them to the cleaners, too.

ANSWERS

And that's why equality is bad.

POINDEXTER

How is equality bad!?

She stands up.

ANSWERS

Equality treats us all the same. That's bad because we're all different. We should be concerned with balance.

The group of new friends get up and start walking to Business' car, parked a good distance away. They wonder down toward a busy street with stores and customers aplenty.

POINDEXTER

So what about business?

BUSINESS

Well, it's really about money and the way you use it. I mean, there's a difference between spending and investing.

They get to the street.

POINDEXTER

What do you mean?

BUSINESS

First, you all need to know about a book called "Rich Dad, Poor Dad".

MASTER #2

Oh, that's an old trick: get rich by writing a book about how to get rich.

BUSINESS

Then don't buy it. But at least  
look at it, it's got good stuff.

MASTER #1

I've seen it. It was on the  
bestseller list, wasn't it?

BUSINESS

Oh yes, and it makes a lot of  
sense. Do you all think a house is  
an asset?

POINDEXTER

Everyone knows that.

BUSINESS

A house is a liability because it  
costs you money.

POINDEXTER

What if I sell it, make a profit?

BUSINESS

If you can. It's hard to flip  
unless you know what you're doing.

POINDEXTER

So I shouldn't buy a house?

BUSINESS

If you do, then you have to pay the  
mortgage, property taxes,  
insurance... at least.

Master #1 nods throughout the speech.

MASTER #1

My house eats me alive.

Business stops and turns to him, they all stop with him.

BUSINESS

Then why'd you buy it?

MASTER #1

To get laid.

Business looks at him like he's an idiot for a moment, then  
turns to the rest.

BUSINESS

Most people are broke because they have assets and liabilities reversed. Shiny possessions you get on credit are liabilities.

POINDEXTER

Live within my means.

BUSINESS

Exactly. Credit is only really useful for background checks.

MASTER #1

So what else you got?

BUSINESS

What does everyone have in common?

They look around, no one responds. Answers stays quiet on purpose.

BUSINESS

24 hours in a day. You all have as much time as Donald Trump, why aren't you as rich as him?

POINDEXTER

True, but what about money?

They start walking again.

BUSINESS

When you sign something, what's easier, getting into something, or getting out of it? It's better to just stay out of debt.

POINDEXTER

I own my car. Feels nice.

BUSINESS

And don't just work to earn, work to learn. Like Einstein, when he got a job as a clerk at a patent office.

ANSWERS

What kind of job should a person get?

BUSINESS

Learn to sell.

MASTER #1

That's how you meet women.

BUSINESS

I was at a meeting when this one guy said to my upline, "I don't want to be a salesman." My upline says, "You're telling me a guy as ugly as you is hooked up with Miss America, and you're not a salesman?" His girlfriend thought it was funny.

POINDEXTER

But what if they're just trying to get a job at all?

BUSINESS

You get a job because you know someone. Develop connections and you'll meet someone who's hiring.

MASTER #1

That's another good reason to go to school: make new friends. Half the time you get a job not because of what you know.

ANSWERS

What other reason are so many people poor?

BUSINESS

People don't how to make money work for them.

ANSWERS

You were talking about signing, what about cosigning?

BUSINESS

Oh, never cosign. Most of those end in disaster.

POINDEXTER

Then why isn't cosigning illegal?

BUSINESS

It should be.

POINDEXTER

It's definitely something I would do to help someone.

MASTER #1

And that's why most co-signings happen: someone nice wants to help.

MASTER #2

And they find out.

They all stop and look at Master #2.

MASTER #2

There's a reason I bring girls to Randy's house. It'll be a long time until I can get a mortgage.

BUSINESS

And if the salesman says you have to sign it, don't. Show the contract to someone you know.

POINDEXTER

So where did you learn this stuff?

BUSINESS

Amway.

MASTER #2

You're not going to sell Amway products, are you?

BUSINESS

Not with your attitude.

MASTER #2

I don't want in, just change the subject.

BUSINESS

Then stay out. But it's not about getting into Amway.

Master #2 looks at him reluctantly, but rolls his eyes and gives him the 'go ahead' nod.

BUSINESS

Amway means American Way. What is the American Way?

POINDEXTER

Freedom.

BUSINESS

No, it's free enterprise. It's owning your own business, and using it to get rich.

He looks at the various small business around them.

BUSINESS

You are all surrounded by opportunity but hardly anyone does anything with it. Anyone can make it, just do something with a good idea.

Business turns to Poindexter.

BUSINESS

So can you! Getting excited yet?

POINDEXTER

Yes?

BUSINESS

Notify your face.

MASTER #2

I'll give you that, we have the best country.

BUSINESS

But why?

MASTER #2

We're free.

BUSINESS

No, we have the best combination of civil liberties and economic opportunities, and it's not going to change.

MASTER #1

But our pledge of allegiance should be.

Raised eyebrows all around.

MASTER #1

I pledge allegiance to the people of the United States of America,

(MORE)

MASTER #1 (cont'd)  
 and to the republic which serves  
 them. One indivisible nation in  
 service to God, with liberty,  
 justice, and opportunity for all.

POINDEXTER  
 Better than pledging allegiance to  
 laundry.

BUSINESS  
 As for those opportunities, you  
 know how The Declaration of  
 Independence says "pursuit of  
 happiness"? That means the pursuit  
 of profit. So, our government  
 provides us with tax breaks.

POINDEXTER  
 Heard of them, never used any.

BUSINESS  
 Well, if you start your own  
 business, you have two years to  
 turn a profit.

POINDEXTER  
 How?

BUSINESS  
 Document your expenses, like your  
 mileage, and show it all to the IRS  
 in April.

MASTER #1  
 I've actually heard of the mileage  
 rule, what's it up to now?

BUSINESS  
 55 cents.

POINDEXTER  
 That's pretty good, actually.

They continue down the street.

BUSINESS  
 That's just the start, find out  
 what they are and learn to use  
 them.

POINDEXTER

So if I get into that Amway thing,  
I can deduct my expenses?

BUSINESS

Of course. But it applies to any  
business. Could be a coffee shop or  
a car wash. But Amway is good  
because you don't have to sell  
someone else on startup money.

POINDEXTER

Sounds nice, but it's a stupid name  
for a business.

BUSINESS

I know. Sounds like someone's  
middle name, doesn't it?

MASTER #2

Whatever it's called, I usually  
just run the other way.

Business stops and turns to address Master #2 head on.

BUSINESS

People like me make you rich so you  
never have to be imprisoned by your  
job ever again.

MASTER #2

I like my job.

BUSINESS

Then keep it, this will only  
enhance it. Although it would be  
nice to go to work not because you  
have to. Be careful about that,  
though.

MASTER #2

Why?

BUSINESS

Lot of places push around their  
employees for a power rush. You'll  
have to do that job you like  
somewhere else.

MASTER #2

Amway just makes money off people.

BUSINESS

Every business does. And if you feel that way, then why do you have a job?

MASTER #2

At least I make money!

BUSINESS

That's because you do the work. But they only pay you so much.

MASTER #2

And if I say "no", no matter what you say?

BUSINESS

My upline told me to just show it to who wants to learn more about it. You get in when you want to.

MASTER #2

I wish they all did that.

BUSINESS

So do I. I haven't made any money at it yet, but at least I've learned good things from it.

MASTER #2

See!? They're just using you.

BUSINESS

I just got in. And I can't use my deductions right this second. Besides, ask any business owner, you can go years before you turn a profit.

MASTER #1

What else have you learned?

BUSINESS

Things like be nice, but not all the time, be alert to how a prospect responds to you, and don't make a project out of people who aren't interested.

Both Masters look at each other with surprise.

MASTER #2

Really?

Business starts toward his car again, they all follow him down the street.

BUSINESS

Yeah, it's about sales, and this is how we define it: giving someone a clear understanding of what you offer, and they sell themselves.

POINDEXTER

I remember I became a salesman for 5 minutes after I saw The Sixth Sense. I talked 2 people I know into seeing it.

BUSINESS

And why did they listen to you?

POINDEXTER

I was excited and had nothing to gain.

BUSINESS

Exactly, you knew it worked, and had no ulterior motive.

MASTER #2

You have an ulterior motive!

Business stops again.

BUSINESS

You know, you're right.

MASTER #2

See?

BUSINESS

I want everyone in my downline to get rich as soon as possible.

MASTER #2

I hear what you're saying, I've just had bad experiences with those people.

BUSINESS

So you're against multilevels? Do you support the troops? E-1, E-2, E-3, sounds multilevel to me. You

(MORE)

BUSINESS (cont'd)  
just don't like salesy people. I mean, you are part of a multilevel already. You noticed that almost every business out there has a customer referral program? Same if you recruit a new employee. But, if you don't want to hear anymore, then take the blue pill.

MASTER #2  
I hope you're done, I don't want to get brainwashed.

BUSINESS  
I was trying to unbrainwash you.

MASTER #2  
What do you mean?

BUSINESS  
What's retirement age?

MASTER #2  
65.

BUSINESS  
You're brainwashed now. You don't have to be old to retire, you just need to have money.

MASTER #2  
Let's talk about something else.

BUSINESS  
Were you in it once?

MASTER #2  
Yeah.

BUSINESS  
Did they say you would make money?

MASTER #2  
Yes.

BUSINESS  
They shouldn't have. You can turn a profit, but you got to do the work.

MASTER #2  
It's a pyramid, and I lost a lot of money on tools.

BUSINESS

Pyramids are in Egypt, and did you listen to those tools?

MASTER #2

I didn't have time.

BUSINESS

Then turn off the TV.

MASTER #2

I work too much. I don't feel like it.

BUSINESS

Think you're tired now? Work another 30 years.

MASTER #2

I like my job anyway, good pay and benefits.

BUSINESS

We call that dangling a carrot. Does your company really care about you that much, or are you there until new management takes over?

MASTER #2

So you expect me to get into Amway now?

BUSINESS

I don't expect you to do anything. It's your life, but I hope you do something big with it instead of using it to make someone else rich until there's nothing left of you.

ANSWERS

Why do people get into Amway?

BUSINESS

Whatever they've doing now they have to put too much time into it and don't make enough money.

ANSWERS

And how does a person succeed in it?

## BUSINESS

Become a master of the basics. You ask good questions.

## ANSWERS

I now know how to ask good questions, it's a good skill to learn.

Everyone nods. Just then a phone RINGS. Master #1 reaches in his pocket.

## MASTER #1

Hello? Oh, hi Teresa. Sure, but I have to get back home first. Be ready in an hour. Okay.

He hangs up and addresses the group with the good news.

## MASTER #1

One of the chicks wants to come over again tonight.

## MASTER #2

Bringing her friends?

## MASTER #1

Duh.

He turns to Business.

## MASTER #1

Drive us there?

## BUSINESS

Sure.

## ANSWERS

I'll call that Muslim guy, he seemed nice enough.

## POINDEXTER

What about the girl you were talking to?

## MASTER #1

I got her number, now I just ice her for at least a week.

## POINDEXTER

Why?

MASTER #1

I really am busy, but some guys do that to make her think he has a life.

MASTER #2

And even then just call her once.

Business comes to his car, the doors OPEN as they all get in.

INT. MASTER'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Same house, but a new party. While the Masters chat with the sexies in the living room, the rest stand in the same spot it all started.

ANSWERS

More people who want to listen. This is how William Edward Deming felt.

BUSINESS

And I can take your word for that.

ANSWERS

And you really believe in what you do.

BUSINESS

It just makes sense.

ANSWERS

That's what belief means.

Enlightened look from Poindexter and Muslim.

POINDEXTER

Wow.

BUSINESS

Yeah, wow. Say it backwards.

MUSLIM

Sounds like scripture.

ANSWERS

You all should know some other things I learned that are even more important.

She makes her way to the patio. They look at each other and follow.

EXT. PATIO

MUSLIM

What other things?

POINDEXTER

Oh, she had died and met God.

MUSLIM

Do tell!

ANSWERS

When you die, you take your beliefs with you. I saw ghosts that had been Christian or Muslim in this life that were fighting because of their differences.

MUSLIM

I don't get that. The Koran says in Surah 5, verse 82, that "nearest among them in love to the believers are those who say WE ARE CHRISTIANS."

ANSWERS

That's what Muhammad said.

MUSLIM

You met Muhammad!?

ANSWERS

Only briefly. JESUS is the man.

A look of surprise and dread crosses Muslim's face.

ANSWERS

Don't worry, Muslims go to Heaven, too. At least the peaceful ones do.

MUSLIM

What about martyring yourself?

ANSWERS

Good question! Like celibacy, martyr means any sacrifice. Committing murder-suicide to please a loving, merciful being is wrong.

POINDEXTER

Is what you were describing Hell?

ANSWERS

One of them. There are multiple levels of Heaven, and of Hell.

BUSINESS

Doesn't surprise me.

ANSWERS

The Heavens don't need to be mentioned, but the Hells should.

Everyone looks at each other wide-eyed.

ANSWERS

One hell was an ongoing holy war. Another was the suicides, souls who were earth-bound. One of them would constantly hover around apologizing to his mother.

She looks at the others sadly.

ANSWERS

The damage from suicide is really caused when you hurt someone who loves you.

POINDEXTER

So the suicides, they just rot, or something?

ANSWERS

Until they get reincarnated.

MUSLIM

What else do you take?

ANSWERS

Addictions. I was shown a bar with people getting drunk, surrounded by ghosts who trying to get one more drink, or drag.

POINDEXTER

So what are we supposed to do?

ANSWERS

Use the angel within to make things better for everyone. You need to know about the life review, also.

POINDEXTER

When your life flashes before your eyes?

ANSWERS

You're finding out how you made other people feel. In fact, that's the answer to world peace: when you die you get back the pain or joy you caused others.

While Poindexter and Answers get to know each other, Sexy Woman #1 turns and sees Poindexter talking to Answers, gives a double take and looks him over. Poindexter glances at her but shows more interest in the woman in front of him. He smiles at her and sets his beer down on a small stand next to the door. He turns to see the Master's trying to get his attention. He OPENS the slide door and goes inside.

FINALE

POINDEXTER

What's up?

MASTER #1

It occurred to us that the only woman worth talking to is the one out there.

POINDEXTER

You just now figured that out? Why do you think I'm outside with her?

The other three come inside with him.

ANSWERS

Don't walk away when I'm starting to like you.

POINDEXTER

I like you too, but love takes time.

ANSWERS

That's because there's so much of it to discover.

MASTER #1

I want to show you guys a book I bought.

Master #1 holds up a finger in a 'just a sec' motion, then walks off and ducks into a room.

POINDEXTER

What does that have to do with anything?

ANSWERS

I think I know, and it is interesting.

He returns with the book.

MASTER #1

You should all read this.

MASTER #2

What is it?

MASTER #1

Michael Crichton's autobiography, "Travels". It's the "They" chapter. It's only eight pages and makes a lot of sense.

He sets it on the bar.

MASTER #1

I want to say one more thing about women. My mom taught me something: you get what you want when you're not desperate. And I listened to her because I'm a mama's boy-

He leans his back against a wall, sticks out his left knee and turns his head to the left, nodding with a big smile.

MASTER #1

-yes I am, yes I am.

MASTER #2

And my mom taught me that the rules that apply to one situation can apply to lots of things. It's as if everything is connected.

ANSWERS

Your mothers are right. And there's another interesting thing you all should know about Jesus: he was actually born in October of 4 BC.

POINDEXTER

So why do we celebrate Christmas when we do?

## ANSWERS

What we call Christmas actually started as the pagan Winter Solstice Festival. Early Christians just-

She glances momentarily at Master #2.

## ANSWERS

-appropriated it. Now, there is a more important question no one has asked me yet: the meaning of life.

Most of them listen with interest. The sexes look at her like she's crazy.

## ANSWERS

I asked Jesus before he let me go back: the meaning of life is discovering your divine purpose, then using it to make life here, "on earth as it is in heaven".

She looks around the room as the rest ponder the information.

## ANSWERS

And the last thing Jesus told me was that our history transpired the way it has to teach us the consequences of our actions, and that the only reason people get hurt is because they did not know something useful ahead of time. That said, the end of the world as we knew it, and the fulfillment of the Prophecy is going to happen starting right...

BLACKOUT

TEXT:

## THE BEGINNING

TEXT: Just be careful: what you say and do have consequences, so remember...

## MASTERS HOUSE

Answers stands in front of the whole cast.

## ANSWERS

The Beginning... is a very delicate time.

## BLACKOUT

text: Now, go ye forth and simplify

text: And while you do so

text: Learn more from each other than you have from me-

## THE METATRON

Highest archangel and unpunishable Voice of God

FLASH FADE OUT THEN FADE IN TO SCENE FROM "DOGMA":

## METATRON

If there isn't a movie about it,  
it's not worth knowing, is it?

## BLACKOUT

TEXT:

## APOCALYPSE

Unveiling knowledge hidden from the majority of humanity.

TEXT:

## RAPTURE

All caught up in the ecstasy of being transported from the old confusing world to the new heavenly one.

TEXT:

1 Thessalonians 4:16

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven, with a mighty shout, with the voice of **the archangel**, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ will rise first.