Idiots Do as Idiots Do PILOT Written by Delvonnie Stephens

FADE IN:

# INT. ABOARD AIRPLANE – MORNING (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, FLIGHT ATTENDANT)

# RON AND JAY ARE ON THEIR WAY BACK HOME FROM THEIR SPRING BREAK VACATION IN SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA.

# ANGLE ON JAY (WINDOW SEAT) AND RON (LEFT SEAT)

JAY I had so much fun, Ron. I can't wait to go back next year.

RON

I'm glad you enjoyed yourself, baby, but that was expensive as hell, and I'm not doing it again next year. However, I do love you a lot.

THE FLIGHT ATTENDANT ROLLS THE CART BY THE COUPLE.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT Peanuts and water here, who wants them?

RON

Over here.

### THE ATTENDANT GIVES THEM THE PEANUT PACKS AND BOTTLE WATER.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT There you are. (STARES AT RON) Hey, aren't you Martin Lawrence?

# JAY AND RON EXCHANGE LOOKS.

JAY/RON What?!

FLIGHT ATTENDANT I knew that you looked familiar. You in town doing a movie or something?

> RON You're kidding, right?

JAY

Are you on drugs?

### FLIGHT ATTENDANT

(LAUGHS) No I'm not, and not anymore. I'm drug-free since '93. I'd recognize those ears anywhere. It's so nice to see such a big star like yourself headed to a place like Portland, Oregon. Is this your wife (ANGLE ON JAY)?

JAY

### Ma'am, he's not-

RON (HAND COVERS JAY'S MOUTH) Would you like an autograph?

> FLIGHT ATTENDANT I certainly would (PULLS OUT A PIN AND PAD).

# RON TAKES THE PEN AND PAD.

RON Who should I make this out to?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT Make it out to my friend, Michelle, he'll lose his mind.

# RON LOOKS UP AT THE ATTENDANT.

RON "He"? I thought you said Michelle.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT I did...he's a transsexual.

#### ZOOM IN ON JAY'S FACIAL EXPRESSION.

RON Pre-op or post-op?

### FLIGHT ATTENDANT Pre-op.

RON I guess I should make this extra special, then.

> FLIGHT ATTENDANT I would.

# RON To...Michelle. Here you go (HANDING PEN AND PAD BACK).

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Thank you so much.

RON

Well, I aim to please. Can you move us up to first-class?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

(PAUSE) Okay, why not? Let me just bump this 90-year-old couple back here to coach (WALKS TO FIRST-CLASS).

RON

Thank you, Miss.

JAY

What the hell are you doing, Ron?

RON

Relax, this is our chance to be big-shots, baby, just roll with it. After all, you owe me for hooking your ugly uncle up with that Nurse. That wasn't easy considering the fact that your uncle looks like Uncle Fester from the Adams Family, baby.

JAY Alright, okay. (SIGHS) How long do you think that you can keep this up?

> RON Just until we get caught as frauds.

CUT TO OPENING CREDITS.

FADE OUT.

# ACT ONE SCENE A

### FADE IN:

# INT. AIRPORT LOBBY – NOON (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, LIMO DRIVER)

# IN THE LOBBY, JAY AND RON SPOT A LIMO DRIVER HOLDING UP A SIGN THAT SAYS "MARTIN LAWRENCE".

RON

Look, baby, our own limo driver.

# RON GRABS JAY BY THE HAND AS THE TWO APPROACH THE DRIVER.

RON I believe you're here for us.

## DRIVER

# Who are you?

RON

It's me, Mr. Lawrence. Just look at my ears. Who else has ears like these?

DRIVER Right, sorry, sir, I'll take these (GRABBING THEIR LUGGAGE). Follow me.

> RON (ARM AROUND JAY) Stick with me, kid, and you'll never be bored.

> > JAY (ROLLS EYES) I wish that were true during sex.

THEY EXIT FRONT ENTRANCE.

#### SCENE B

### INT. LIMO – 12:30 NOON (DAY 1)

# RON AND JAY ARE SIPPING WINE AND EATING FANCY FINGER FOOD. RON, USING THE LIMO'S TELEPHONE, CALLS UP HIS BEST BUD, JAKE.

#### JAKE ANSWERS.

# JAKE Hello?

RON Jake, it's me; I and Jay are in a limo right now.

JAKE

No way. How so?

RON

It's a long story, so I'd rather tell you in person. Get dressed; we're coming to get you.

JAKE Alright! Can I bring my hooker?

#### RON

Sure.

JAKE

See you then. (HANGS UP) Hey, get up and get dressed, some friends are taking us for a ride in a limo.

JAKE LOOKS UPON HIS BED TO SEE THE SLEEPING HOOKER.

JAKE

Didn't you here me? (HE CHECKS HER PALSE) Holy shit, she's dead!

# SCENE C

# INT. LIMO – AFTERNOON (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, JAKE, HOOKER, DRIVER)

# EVERYONE IS HAVING A BLAST IN THE LIMO SHOUTING AND CARRYING ON.

# JAKE

# I'm rich, bitch!

#### EVERYONE Yeah!

#### JAKE PULLS OUT SOME COCAINE AND SNORTS IT.

RON Jake, what the hell are you doing?! This isn't a party at James Franco's house.

> JAKE Relax... (SNIFF) I'm doing what I normally do.

> > JAY You should get help.

#### THE NEW HOOKER POKES HER HEAD THROUGH THE LIMO'S SUNROOF.

HOOKER Woo! Look at me now –

THE LIMO KNOCKS INTO A BICYCLIST, AND HE FALLS OFF OF HIS BIKE. THE LIMO COMES TO A SCREECHING STOP.

RON What the hell was that?

JAY Oh my, God! I think we hit something.

# JAKE

Cool.

THE DRIVER REMAINS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT. EVERYONE LOOKS OUT THE BACK WINDOW TO SEE IF THE BICYCLIST IS OKAY.

THE MAN GETS TO HIS FEET.

DRIVER He's fine, everybody; thank God.

RON No fat-ass lawsuit for anyone.

# EVERYONE SIGHS IN RELIEF.

THE MAN THEN REACHES INTO HIS BACKPACK AND PULLS OUT A PISTOL.

HOOKER (BACK INSIDE) He's got a gun!

#### THE ANGRY MAN FIRES FOUR SHOTS AT THE LIMO AS IT SCREECHES OFF.

#### EVERYONE SCREAMS.

RON

At least no one got hurt. ANGLE ON THE NEW HOOKER LAID OUT NEXT TO JAKE. JAKE TURNS TO HER, AND SEES THE BULLET HOLE IN HER HEAD.

> JAKE Oh my, God, my hooker is dead, again!

THE LIMO PULLS INTO AN ALLEY, WHERE THE HOOKER'S BODY IS DUMPED. THE LIMO TAKES OFF.

### ACT TWO SCENE A

#### FADE IN:

# INT. HOTEL LOBBY – AFTERNOON (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, JAKE, TONY, KENNY, WILLIE)

# THE GANG, NOW JOINED BY TONY, KENNY AND WILLIE, ENTER THE PORTLANDIA GRAND HOTEL, LOUDLY. OTHERS STARE AT THEM.

THEY APPROACH THE FEMALE DESK AGENT.

FEMALE DESK AGENT Hello, can I help you?

RON Yeah, I'm Martin Lawrence, and I need the keycard to my room.

> FEMALE DESK AGENT (LOOKING AT RON) You're not Mr. Lawrence.

> > RON Yeah, I am, look at my ears.

> > > SHE DOES.

FEMALE DESK AGENT Oh, yes, here is your keycard, Mr. Lawrence.

> RON (TAKES KEYCARD) Thank you.

THE GANG CHEERS AS THEY WALK TOWARD THE ELEVATORS.

#### SCENE B

# INT. HOTEL SUITE – AFTERNOON (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, JAKE, TONY, KENNY, WILLIE)

# UPSTAIRS THE GANG SNORTS, SMOKES, DRINKS, TRASHING THE SUITE. JAY LOOKS THROUGH FAMILY PHOTOS OF MARTIN LAWRENCE.

JAY (HOLDING UP PHOTOS OF HIS KIDS) All of his kids have big-ass ears (TOSSES PHOTO ON THE FLOOR).

LIES ON THE BED NEXT TO WILLIE. RON EMERGES FROM THE BATHROOM.

RON (SMILING) The toilet paper is made out of money; I can literally wipe my ass with USD currency.

JAKE

Hey, you guys, we should go out tonight (LYING ON COUCH WITH COCAINE ON HIS NOSE). I feel like a good time, and the alcohol here sucks.

# TONY (ON THE COUCH NEXT TO KENNY) We should go somewhere alcohol-free since I, Ken, and Willie are in AA.

KENNY (SMOKING A JOINT) I agree. I don't want some place with more alcohol.

> WILLIE (SMOKING A CIGARETTE) I know just the place.

#### SCENE C

# EXT. OKTOBERFEST – NIGHT (DAY 1) (RON, JAY, JAKE, TONY, KENNY, WILLIE)

### ANGLE ON BIG OVERHEAD "OKTOBERFEST" BANNER, THEN JAKE.

#### JAKE

What the hell, Willie, I always get into drunken fights at these kinds of things.

#### WILLIE

Just don't drink – a lot.

RON

I and Jay won't drink either (JAY NODS IN AGREEMENT).

# ANGLE ON THE GANG, WITH TONY AND KENNY MISSING. JAY (LOOKING AROUND) Where's Tony and Kenny?

ANGLE ON TONY AND KENNY DRUNK, STAGGERING AND NAKED. THEY PUKE ON ONE ANOTHER AND FALL OUT.

#### WILLIE

#### Here we go again.

# CUT TO ENTIRE GANG BEHIND BARS IN HOLDING CELL. TONY AND KENNY ARE WRAPPED IN ROBES, AS JAKE HOLDS AN ICE PACK ON HIS RIGHT EYE. RON AND JAY ARE SIDE-BY-SIDE, NEXT TO WILLIE.

RON I hope that no weirdoes are in here with us.

#### ANGLE ON STRANGE MAN BEHIND THEM.

MAN If I give a dollar, would one of you touch me?

# SCENE D

# INT. COURTROOM - MORNING (DAY 2)

# THE GANG STANDS BEFORE JUDGE KAREN MACKEY.

JUDGE MACKEY

You all stand accused of public nudity, public intoxication and assault; how do you plead?

RON Guilty, your honor.

JUDGE MACKEY Very well, you'll pay the fine of \$350 (BANGS GAVEL).

#### THE JUDGE EXITS COURT TO CHAMBERS. THE GANG IS LEAVING.

RON (V.O.) Who has \$350, because I don't?

JAKE (V.O.) Don't look at me; mine all went to hookers, remember?

# ACT THREE SCENE A

# INT. PORTLAND REHABILITATION CENTER – MORNING (DAY 3) (JAKE, THERAPIST, EIGHT OTHERS IN GROUP SESSION)

# JAKE IS IN HIS FIRST REHAB SESSION; SITTING IN A CIRCLE OF ADDICTS. HIS ARMS ARE CROSSED, AND HE CLEARLY DOESN'T WANT TO BE HERE.

DR. GOLD

I want what all of you want, what all of your families and friends want, and that is to see you overcome your addictions. You are bigger than your addictions, and with a lot of work, support and faith in yourselves, we'll get through this together.

JAKE YAWNS.

DR. GOLD I'm sorry, am I boring you?

> JAKE Yes.

DR. GOLD What's your name, sir?

JAKE

Jake.

Jake.

DR. GOLD

Well, Jake, I wouldn't think that you'd be here if you weren't serious about getting clean. Why don't you tell us about what is ailing you?

JAKE

Okay. I am a cocaine addict. I've been on it for about two years. I started using after my father died; he choked on a chicken bone at KFC.

DR. GOLD You were close with your father, weren't you?

JAKE

Honestly, his death devastated me. I couldn't fully accept it. He was a big part of my life suddenly gone – thanks to his love of fried chicken.

DR. GOLD

His death left a void in your life that you tried to fill with drugs.

# JAKE

And hookers, as well as alcohol and fighting; and the settlement from KFC helped some. I bought myself a new truck, and a lot of sex (SMILING).

# DR. GOLD

But none of that will ever really cure the pain of losing your father, will it?

# JAKE PAUSES FOR A SPLIT SECOND, NOT SMILING.

JAKE No…it won't.

#### SCENE B

# INT. MECHANIC'S SHOP – NOON (DAY 4) (RON, JAKE, EDDIE, MARK, MR. WRIGHT)

# FOUR MEN ARE SITTING IN THE BREAKROOM EATING LUNCH TOGETHER.

#### JAKE

I'm in rehab, guys.

### THE OTHER MEN JUST LOOK AT HIM.

RON

What took so long?

EDDIE

Yeah, we all have been urging you to get some help. The company even offered to pay for you to go.

#### MARK

Why the sudden change of heart, man?

JAKE

I don't know, maybe it's time to get my shit together. After all, if Kobe Bryant can overcome rape charges, then I can beat my addiction.

RON

Good for you.

JAKE Still pretending to be Martin Lawrence, Ron?

RON

Not anymore. The Real Martin Lawrence found out about me, and threatened to sue. And we all know that I have no money.

MARK How did you afford that trip to Florida for you and Jay?

RON You know that business venture my cousin got me to invest in?

> EDDIE You got a huge return on your investment?

#### RON

No, the company went belly-up. However, my cousin loaned me the trip money from his bar and grill that he owns downtown.

# JAKE

Any plans to pay him back?

#### RON

Nope. (BITES HIS SANDWICH) Next year, I'm taking Jay spring-breaking in Cincinnati.

JAKE

What's in Cincinnati?

RON

I don't care, all I know is that it'll be a cheap get-away, and she can eat some Skyline chili and ride that new streetcar they're building.

#### IN WALKS THEIR BOSS, MR. WRIGHT.

### MR. WRIGHT

Listen up, corporate has ordered random drug-testing for all employees.

#### JAKE

The bosses, too?

# MR. WRIGHT

We're better than you. Anyway, drug-testing will be on Friday. If anyone is found to have drugs in their system, they will be fired. And the company won't pay to send you to rehab; they believe it's too costly. (TURNS & WALKS AWAY)

# SCENE C

# INT. DRUG-TESTING SITE – MORNING (DAY 5) (RON, JAKE, ALL OTHER EMPLOYEES)

# ALL EMPLOYEES (MECHANICS) ARE IN THE BREAKROOM, BEING DRUG-TESTED ONE AT A TIME.

# ANGLE ON RON AND JAKE, SITTING NEXT TO EACH OTHER.

JAKE

Do me a favor, Ron. I need a clean urine sample from you.

RON

I don't think so. I did that for a guy years ago. And then he flew a plane into that building.

JAKE I'll pay you a \$100.

RON

Consider it done.

THEY SHAKE HANDS.

#### SCENE D

# INT. REHABILITATION CENTER – EVENING (DAY 5) (JAKE, DR. GOLD, OTHER ADDICTS)

### ANOTHER GROUP SESSION FOR JAKE. ANGLE ON DR. GOLD.

DR. GOLD

Alan, I don't think cutting yourself is a good way to cope without drugs.

ALAN (SHAKING) I do...I need a fix bad, doc; either that, or I'm going to slit my wrist.

> DR. GOLD What happen to church?

ALAN (SHAKING) If God didn't want us to get high, he wouldn't have created dope.

#### OTHER ADDICTS NOD IN AGREEMENT.

DR. GOLD God loves you, Alan, and he doesn't want you to go through this.

JAKE (RAISES HAND) I got something to say.

#### ALL EYES ON HIM.

JAKE Today, my job administered mandatory drug-tests. And I passed.

#### EVERYONE CLAPS.

DR. GOLD (SMILING) You see, everyone, that's progress. I'm proud of you, Jake. This good news is good news for all of us. That represents hope for us all.

ALAN LOOKS DIRECTLY AT JAKE, WHO LOOKS BACK.

ALAN (ANGRY) Fuck you.

# EXT. IN FRONT OF BUILDING – EVENING (DAY 5) (JAKE, RON, KENNY, WILLIE, TONY, JAY)

# AFTER THE SESSION, JAKE'S FRIENDS ARE WAITING FOR HIM OUTSIDE AS HE EXITS THE BUILDING.

JAKE Hey, guys, what are you doing here?

RON

We came to get you. Tonight, we're throwing a party. And we can't have a party without you.

JAKE Who is coming?

> JAY Everyone.

JAKE (PUTS ARMS AROUND JAY & RON) Where would I be without you guys? (SMILES)

# ANGLE ON WILLIE, KENNY & TONY.

WILLIE We're here, too, you dick.

#### JAKE

I meant you guys, too.

# WILLIE Oh...right. (SMILES)

#### AND WITH THAT, THEY ALL WALK OFF INTO THE SUNSET.

RON (V.O.) Jake, you do know that this party we're having will have drugs, sex and alcohol, right?

JAKE (V.O.) Duh...all our parties always have those things. Besides, I can always check myself into rehab.

#### ROLL CREDITS.

#### FADE OUT.

# Synopsis of Idiots Do as Idiots Do By Delvonnie Stephens

Logline: A group of friends in Portland, Oregon run afoul being stupid and doing stupid things that get them into trouble, regardless of the consequences.

This pilot is the telling of Jake's cocaine addiction problems, and his poor attempt at sobriety by checking himself into rehab. The situation only becomes more serious as his employer administers mandatory drug-tests for everyone. Fearing for his job, he pays \$100 to his best friend, Ron, who slips Jake some of his clean urine. Jake cheats his way out of unemployment, and then heads to a party full of drugs, sex and alcohol with his idiotic friends.

This sitcom is meant to be edgy and funny, while giving a look into the lives of young friends in Portland that love to do whatever they want. IDAID does not take itself too seriously – it's not a drama – and I'm no Tyler Perry – it's meant to make you laugh.

Jay (Nurse): Ron's girlfriend. She's short, pretty and a big mouth. Ron (Mechanic): The kind of guy you wouldn't like. He does whatever he wants. Jake (Mechanic): Does what he feels like doing. Loves sex, alcohol and drugs. Tony (Choreographer): He might be gay, but no one is certain. Kenny (Telemarketer): Loves Star Wars, and all things sci-fi; is sort of a nice guy. Willie (Waiter): He is handsome, and uses it to escape trouble; sort of shallow.

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