COLD OPEN/ACT ONE

INT. STUDY - EVENING, YEAR 2030
(FUTURE TED)

TED’S CHILDREN SIT ON THE COUCH, LISTENING INTENTLY.

FUTURE TED (V.O.)

Kids, if there's one day of the year
that you want to avoid shopping at all
costs, it's Black Friday. If there’s
another, it’s Super Sale Saturday.

INT. MCLARENS - AFTERNOON (DAY ONE)
(BARNEY, MARSHALL, LILY, ROBIN, TED)

THE GANG, MINUS TED, SITS AT MCLARENS.

MARSHALL

You can all now refer to me as
Marshall Eriksen: Inventor. I’ve come
up with the single greatest idea in
food history. Okay, it's macaroni--

TED HURRIES TO THE BOOTH.

TED

Guys, you'll never believe this! The
bicycle store on 35th & Clark is
having a huge sale.

BARNEY

Oh, joy! (BEAT) Bikes are for losers,
Ted. Real men grow awesome mustaches.

ROBIN

Barney, you don't have a mustache. Let
alone an awesome one.
BARNEY
If you’d read my blog, you’d know that real men have the ability to, but don't need to prove their manliness by actually growing one. Like Rambo. And Rocky. Or the guy in Cliffhanger.

LILY
Sylvester Stallone.

BARNEY
No. That’s not it.

ROBIN
He might be an old man, but I’d go to town on him. Showgirls style.

BARNEY GIVES ROBIN A "WHAT IN THE HELL" LOOK.

MARSHALL
I'm pretty sure I could grow a fairly thick and awesome mustache if I tried.

LILY
Oh, honey. (CHUCKLES, BEAT) Even I can grow a better mustache than you.

ROBIN
Uh, TMI, Lily.

LILY
Don't act like we don't go get our 'staches waxed every other Tuesday.

ROBIN LAUGHS NERVOUSLY. SHE TAKES A DRINK.
BARNEY

'Stache waxing? I've never been less aroused than I am right now, and I've seen those nudes of Barbara Walters that are going around. (SHUTTERS) Ugh.

TED

Guys! Can we get back to my story?

MARSHALL

Yeah, go ahead.

EXT. SIDEWALK - EARLIER THAT DAY

TED POWER WALKS DOWN THE SIDEWALK. A SIGN IN A WINDOW.

TED (V.O.)

I was on my daily power walk when--

INT. MCLARENS - PRESENT

(TED, BARNEY)

WHERE WE LEFT THEM. BARNEY SLAMS HIS GLASS ON THE TABLE.

BARNEY

Wait a cottin pickin’ minute! Power walk? You power walk? What, did you break a hip, Grandpa Mosby?

TED

For your information, power walking is recommended as an alternative to jogging because it significantly decreases impact on the joints.

BARNEY

(SARCASTICALLY) Okay, Dr. Mosby M.D..
EXT. SIDEWALK - EARLIER THAT DAY
(TED)

TED STARES, SLACK-JAWED IN THE WINDOW OF BUCK’S BIKES.

TED (V.O.)

Anyway. I was pow-- walking past
Buck’s Bikes when I saw a sign in the
window that said for one day only,
Schwinn Tailwinds are half-price!

INT. MCLARENS - PRESENT
(TED, BARNEY, MARSHALL, ROBIN, LILY)

BACK AT THE BAR.

ROBIN

So what?

TED

Do you know how much they’re worth?
It’s a top-of-the-line model! It’s the
only present I’ve asked my parents for
since I was nine years old.

BARNEY

That’s the only thing you’ve wanted
since you were nine? A dumb bike?

TED

It’s not a bike, it’s a Schwinn.

BARNEY

Whatever. The only Schwinn I need are
named Olga and Svetlana.

ROBIN

I don't get it.
BARNEY

Swedish twins. Schwins. Try to keep up.

LILY

(RE: BIKE, TO TED) When's the sale?

TED

About that. It's kind of on... Super Sale Saturday.

MARSHALL AND LILY GASP. HORRIFIED. BARNEY SPITS HIS DRINK.

LILY

That's crazy!

MARSHALL

Are you mad!?

BARNEY

You must be loco, ese!

ROBIN

Wait. What's Super Sale Saturday?

LILY

Black Friday was the new Christmas Eve. Then Cyber Monday became the new Black Friday. Now Super Sale Saturday is the new Cyber Monday.

MARSHALL

Prices are so low, they're practically subterranean. It's the single most dangerous shopping day of the year.

(MORE)
(BEAT) Well, except for the day U2
tickets go on sale.

TED

It’s not that bad.

LILY

What about what happened last year?

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - FLASHBACK

(TED)

TED AND A NERDY GUY PLAY TUG-OF-WAR WITH THE LAST STAR WARS
DVD BOX SET. TED PUNCHES HIM IN THE FACE. HE TRIUMPHANTLY
RAISES THE DVDS IN THE AIR. HE TURNS AND IS IMMEDIATELY
PUNCHED IN THE FACE BY A NERDY GIRL. SHE SNATCHES THE DVDS.

INT. MCLARENS - WHERE WE LEFT THEM

(TED, MARSHALL, LILY, ROBIN, BARNEY)

BACK AT THE BOOTH.

TED

But it's a Schwinn. And I need someone
to come wait in line with me in case I
have to pee. Marshall? Lily?

MARSHALL & LILY

No.

TED

Come on guys. Robin?

ROBIN

I'm gonna say... no?

TED

Barney?

TED GIVES BARNEY THE PUPPY DOG EYES. CUT BACK AND FORTH
BETWEEN TED'S SAD FACE AND BARNEY TRYING TO RESIST. THERE'S
PAIN IN HIS FACE. HE EVENTUALLY GIVES IN.
BARNEY

You know I can’t say no to the puppy dog eyes! That's cheating!

TED JUMPS UP. HE DOES A CELEBRATORY DANCE.

TED

Yes! (SINGSONGY) I'm getting a Schwi-inn! I'm getting a Schwi-inn!

BARNEY

How can anyone say no to such a poor, sad, pitiful, dejected--

TED

I get it, I'm pathetic. But it's common knowledge that every Triple S shopper needs a great wingman.

BARNEY

Hmmm. (THINKING IT OVER) Gabe Walker! That’s the name of the guy Sylvester Stallone played in Cliffhanger! Bike suit up, Ted! Because tomorrow, baby's coming home with a shiny, new bicycle!

TED

It's not a bike, it's a Schwinn.

BARNEY

Sch-whatever.

END OF COLD OPEN/ACT ONE
ACT TWO

INT. TED’S APARTMENT - NIGHT
(MARSHALL, LILY, ROBIN)

MARSHALL AND ROBIN SIT ON THE COUCH.

MARSHALL
And I’m going to call it Snack... aroni! Snackaroni! It's the New York City treat.

ROBIN
And what is it exactly?

MARSHALL
What is it!? I'll tell you what it is. It's only the tastiest macaroni and cheese on the planet! And it’ll come in single serving packs for enjoying when and where you feel the urge.

ROBIN
And that’s different than Easy Mac, how?

MARSHALL
You know... It's like... like totally different. And stuff.

ROBIN

LILY ENTERS FROM THE KITCHEN. MARSHALL, WEARING EXTREMELY TIGHT PANTS, STANDS. HE BENDS OVER TO PICK UP A MAGAZINE.
LILY

Oh, Marshall. You’re not wearing those pants again, are you?

MARSHALL

What's wrong with these pants? I think they're very becoming on me.

LILY

Nothing. Other than the fact that they’re a size 31 and it takes you over an hour to squeeze into them.

MARSHALL

Just because I’m a 34 doesn’t mean I can’t wear my sexy pants.

LILY

Seriously, they make your usually amazing ass look like two honey-baked hams shoved in a denim garbage bag.

MARSHALL

You know exactly how to hurt me, Lily Aldrin-Eriksen. (STIFLES HIS TEARS)You know exactly--

MARSHALL RUNS AWAY. LILY TAKES A SEAT NEXT TO ROBIN.

ROBIN

You tell Marshall what clothes he can wear? What, is he ten years old?

LILY

My baby got's to look good.
ROBIN
Yeah, well I think baby's lookin' pretty fine in those pantaloons. You got yourself one hot piece of man meat.

LILY
Robin! What’s gotten into you tonight?

ROBIN
I can’t remember the last time I--

LILY
Took a dump?

ROBIN
Eww, no. Knocked boots. I really need to find a guy tonight. I have a serious case of lady-boner right now.

LILY LOOKS DISGUSTED.

INT. MCLARENS - NIGHT - LATER
(TED, BARNEY)

TED AND BARNEY STAND AT THE BAR, DRINKS IN HAND.

BARNEY
If I’m going to risk life and limb so you can fulfill some silly childhood dream of owning a Huffy Sledgehammer, you have to repay me in kind.

TED
I guess that's fair. As long as it doesn't involve stealing a platypus from the zoo.
FREEZE FRAME ON TED.

FUTURE TED (V.O.)

Kids, if there’s one thing you should never bring to a bar, it’s a platypus. But I’ll tell you more about that later.

UNFREEZE. BARNEY PUTS AN ARM AROUND TED’S SHOULDER.

BARNEY

We arrived here tonight as men, but by the morn, good sir, we will be gods.

TED

We have to be in line at Buck’s Bikes by 2 AM. Not a millisecond later. It's eight o'clock now, so that gives you... (LOOKS AT WATCH) six hours.

A COUNTDOWN APPEARS ON SCREEN. 6:00:00 IT STARTS. 5:59:59.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

Ted, I’m a pro. That’s ample time. Prepare to make history, because tonight, we do... The Midnight Pumpkin.

INT. TED’S APARTMENT – NIGHT
(LILY, ROBIN, MARSHALL)

LILY AND ROBIN STAND OUTSIDE THE BATHROOM DOOR. MARSHALL HAS LOCKED HIMSELF INSIDE.

LILY

Marshall, will you just come out of the bathroom already!? 
MARSHALL (O.S.)
This booty is one-of-a-kind! It does NOT look like a Thanksgiving turkey.

LILY
I said Christmas ham.

MARSHALL (O.S.)
Oh, like that's any better!

ROBIN
Actually, you said honey-baked ham.

MARSHALL (O.S.)
How heartless can you be?

ROBIN
If it's any consolation, I think you're rockin' the hell out of those jeans. I mean... (BITES LIP) Mmm.

MARSHALL (O.S.)
You hear that, Lily! I'm rockin' 'em!

LILY
I'm sorry I said your buns look like hams. Just come out.

MARSHALL (O.S.)
Not until you admit that it’s just as supple and juicy... and delicious...

ROBIN
Are you talking about your ass or the ham?
MARSHALL

My derriere, thank you very much.

ROBIN POKES LILY, URGING HER.

ROBIN

(TO LILY) If you don’t end this soon,
I can’t be held responsible if I break
down that door and have my way with
your husband. Mama needs it bad.

LILY

I admit it!

MARSHALL WHIPS OPEN THE DOOR. HE TAKES A HEROIC STANCE.

MARSHALL

Let’s roll!

INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER
(TED, BARNEY)

TED AND BARNEY AT THE BAR WHERE WE LEFT THEM.

TED

Midnight Pumpkin?

BARNEY

I originally called it The Pinocchio,
but due to copyright infringement,
Disney made me change it.

TED

(SKEPTICAL) Disney?

BARNEY

Dude. My blog. READ IT!
TED

So you're going to pretend you've been carved out of wood?

BARNEY

Don't be silly, Ted. There's only one part of my body that's wood. What up!

BARNEY RAISES HIS HAND FOR A HIGH FIVE. TED SHAKES HIS HEAD.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

Okay, so here's the deal. We acquire a gullible girl. You tell her that you are a woodcarver from a small Italian village and that you carved me out of a piece of magical wood. I've come to life, but at the stroke of midnight, I'm going to turn back into a block of wood, unless... Well, you know.

TED

This is what's going to make us gods?

BARNEY

This is one of the hardest plays to pull off. That's why I need YOU. You play a crucial roll in this one. You're Geppetto.

TED

You do know that Pinnocchio turned into a real boy, not a block of wood.

(MORE)
Cinderella's carriage turned into the pumpkin at midnight.

BARNEY
Don't be such a buzz kill, Ted. I never said it was a perfect metaphor.

INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER
(MARSHALL, LILY, ROBIN, TED, BARNEY)
CLOCK: 3:59:59. MARSHALL AND LILY STAND AT THE BAR.

MARSHALL
Brett Favre was right! These pants are comfortable. (SINGING) Wearin' my comfy pa-ants/Feelin' so good, on muh bod-ay.

LILY
Really, Marshall? Really?

MARSHALL
Come on, babe. I know I look good in my special pants. You can’t tell me you don't want to hit this.

LILY
Oh, I want to hit you all right.

ROBIN, LOOKING DISHEVELLED, COMES TO THEM AT THE BAR.

ROBIN
If I don’t find a guy soon, I’m going to explode! I will literally take anything I can get.
LILY

Anything?

ROBIN

Anything.

MARSHALL

How about that guy over there?

THEY ALL LOOK AT AN OVERWEIGHT, UNIBROWED GUY.

ROBIN

Well, not anything. I just don’t know what’s wrong with me lately. I’ve been in the worst slump of my adult career.

LILY

Come on, it can’t be that bad.

ROBIN

Oh, really?

INT. BAR - EARLIER

(ROBIN, GUY)

ROBIN TAPS A RANDOM GUY ON THE SHOULDER. HE TURNS.

ROBIN

Okay, I’ve struck out with every guy in this place, so here’s a one time offer. How about you BEEP my BEEP then BEEP BEEP me in the BEEP. Take your BEEP and BEEP until you can’t BEEP anymore.

GUY

(REPULSED) Oh my god!
HE RUNS AWAY LIKE A LITTLE GIRL.

INT. BAR - PRESENT
(ROBIN, MARSHALL, LILY)

WHERE WE LEFT OFF.

LILY
You might’ve come on a little strong.

ROBIN
I need a drink.

ROBIN EXITS. TED AND BARNEY JOIN MARSHALL AND LILY.

TED


LILY
Marshall, it looks like you’re smuggling a hotdog and bun down the front of your pants.

BARNEY
Lily, we have more important things to worry about than food storage. We need a gullible looking girl, pronto.

MARSHALL POINTS TO A GIRL WITH A BEER BELLY.

MARSHALL
What do you think about her, Barney?

BARNEY
Yeah right. She’s got a “booty-doo”.

LILY
A what?
BARNEY

“Booty-doo”, where the stomach sticks out more than the booty do.

TED POINTS TO A SMALL-CHESTED GIRL WITH BUMPED HAIR.

TED

What about Snookie Jr.?

BARNEY

You’ve got to be kidding.

MARSHALL

What's wrong with her?

BARNEY

Only this whole region. (SQUEEZES HIS IMAGINARY BOOBS) She’s all nips. It looks like two aspirin on an ironing board. Like I dropped two peanut M&Ms on my kitchen floor.

LILY

You’re disgusting, Barney.

BARNEY

Come on, guys! Get your heads in the game! Ted, you’d think you know your best friend better than that by now.

TED

I do know Marshall very well.

TED AND MARSHALL CLANG THEIR BEER BOTTLES TOGETHER.

BARNEY

No. Me. Me, Ted. I'm your best friend.
Unh, that's open to debate.

Ooh, what about the blonde?

LILY POINTS TO A GIRL IN AN UGLY BROWN COAT.

I'd do her...

BARNEY

A favor! And tell her that no matter how hard you try, corduroy... it's just not coming back.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

ROBIN STANDS WITH A VERY COCKY LOOKING MUSTACHED MAN. HE TALKS TO ROBIN, BUT IS MORE FOCUSED ON HIS PHONE.

Hey there, cowboy. What's your name?

LIMAHL

You don't recognize me? I'm only the face of one of the most popular bands of all time. That's right, Limahl in the flesh.

You're in a band? That is so cool. (LUSTFULLY) You have great hair.
LIMAHL
I'm aware.

ROBIN
Do you have room for another groupie?

LIMAHL
Limahl can make accommodations. But first I need to excuse myself to the little boys room to make tinkle. Don't you run off, beautiful.

LIMAHL TAPS ROBIN ON THE NOSE, SHE NEARLY MELTS. HE EXITS. SHE RUNS BACK TO THE GROUP.

ROBIN
You won't this! I just met Limahl! The lead singer and synthesist... er...
ist... He plays keyboard for Kajagoogoo. And he’s into extreme sports. I am so good to go right now.

LILY
What the hell is “Kafloogl-loo”?

MARSHALL
Only one of the greatest 80’s bands of the 80’s!

TED GIVES MARSHALL A LOOK.

MARSHALL (CONT’D)
And when Limahl went solo, he made the greatest song ever! The Neverending Story theme song!
TED AND MARSHALL INSTANTLY BREAK INTO SONG.

MARSHALL & TED

(SINGING) Rhymes that keep their secrets will unfold behind the clouds/And there upon the rainbow is the answer to a never ending storyyy! Ah-u-ah, ah-u-ah, ah-u-ah!

MARSHALL

Great movie. How awesome would it be to ride Falkor?

TED

I don’t think there’s enough awesome on the planet for that.

BARNEY

And just when I thought you two couldn’t get any lamer.

MARSHALL

I have to meet him! He sounds unreal!

TED

He sounds like a real douche to me.

LILY

Shut up, Ted. (TO ROBIN) Go get yourself some, Miss Thang.

MARSHALL

(HAVING TED’S BACK) Yeah, totally. Extreme sports? What is this, 2004?

(CHUCKLES) Am I right? Am I right?
TED
Robin, you're only attracted to him because he's famous.

ROBIN
That's not true. I'm attracted to him because... because... Okay, it's because he's famous! I've never banged a rockstar before. I'm gonna whip it!

TED
Whip It is a Devo song.

ROBIN SEES LIMAHL COME OUT OF THE BATHROOM.

ROBIN
I gotta go.

LILY GIVES HER TWO EXCITED THUMBS UP. ROBIN RUNS OFF.

INT. BAR - LATER
(ROBIN, LIMAHL)

ROBIN STANDS FLIRTATIOUSLY NEXT TO LIMAHL.

ROBIN
So, you were about to take me back to your-- Wait a minute. Something's different. What did you do in there?

LIMAHL
Oh, yeah, I shaved off my mustache.

ROBIN
Why would you get rid of such a sweet flavor saver? You were rockin' the hell out of that 'stache.
LIMAHNL
The blog I read says that real real
men gain their power from knowing they
have the ability to grow a mustache,
but not actually growing one.

ROBIN
The guy who writes this blog wouldn't
happen to be named Barney would he?

LIMAHL
(EXCITED) You know about The Barnacle?

ROBIN
Oh, I know.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

INT. BAR - LATER
(BARNEY, TED, WOMAN)

TED AND A WOMAN STAND AT THE BAR. BARNEY RUNS UP. CLOCK: 2:07:43.

BARNEY
Papa! Papa!

TED
Oh, there you are, Pinocchio.

WOMAN
Are you really Pinocchio?

BARNEY
Gee whiz, I sure am, pretty lady.

WOMAN
If you’re lying, your nose will grow.

BARNEY
That’s not the only thing I have that grows.

BARNEY WINKS. THE WOMAN SLAPS BARNEY IN THE FACE.

WOMAN
That’s no way for a child to speak.

SHE STORMS OFF.

BARNEY
We almost had it that time.

INT. BAR - LATER
(ROBIN, LIMAHL)

ROBIN IS STILL WITH LIMAHL AT THE BAR.
ROBIN

Why would the singer of Kajagoogoo care what Barney Stinson thinks?

LIMAHL

About that...

ROBIN

Oh my god! You aren’t really in a one-hit-wonder 80’s band, are you?

LIMAHL

My name is Carl Figgins. I’m in a Kajagoogoo tribute band.

ROBIN

Do you even like extreme sports?

LIMAHL

I went frolfing once.

ROBIN STARES AT HIM, THINKS IT OVER FOR A SECOND.

ROBIN

Eh.

SHE GRABS HIM, PLANTS A HUGE KISS ON HIM.

INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER
(BARNEY, TED, GIRL)


GIRL

Did you really carve him yourself?

TED

That's right. I sure did.
BARNEY

Golly gee willickers, Papa. I don't want to turn back into a piece of wood at midnight. I want to be a real boy!

GIRL

Oh my gosh... You're going to turn back into wood?

BARNEY

The only way to stop the process is to have sex with me before the “stroke” of midnight.

GIRL

Ugh! I don't think so. You're only 6!

SHE THROWS HER DRINK IN HIS FACE THEN WALKS AWAY.

BARNEY

So close. So-o close. I don't know why this isn't working.

TED

You mean, besides the fact that you're trying to convince girls that you're a wooden puppet and I'm your Italian woodcarving father?

BARNEY

Okay, I admit, The Midnight Pumpkin isn't the greatest. That's why you should always have a Plan P.
TED
Come on, Barney. I don't want to do this anymore. It’s getting late. We’re going to have to leave soon.

BARNEY
Ted, you can’t honestly expect me to stand in line for six straight hours without first getting my freak on, can you? Plus, you made a promise. And if you go back on a promise, then what faith can you have in this crazy, mixed-up world? Promises are the only thing that separate us from animals.

TED
And here I thought it was opposable thumbs.

BARNEY
Nope. It’s promises.

TED
Okay, what's Plan B?

BARNEY

TED
Are you just saying that to piss me off? I said, no platypi.
BARNEY

Au contraire, you said no stealing of platypi. I don't need to burgle a platypus. I have a guy.

TED

You need an exotic animal license for a pla-- Wait, you have a platypus guy?

BARNEY

Well, no. But I have a guy that has a guy. And he has a platypus guy.

INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER
(MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN, TED, LIMAHL)


LIMAHL

Those pants are quite striking.

MARSHALL

Thank you. Let me ask you something, pseudo-Limahl. What is the greatest culinary innovation of all time?

LIMAHL

Uh, the fork?

MARSHALL

No, it's macaroni and cheese that comes in single serving packets. It's a million dollar idea. And I'm going to call it Snackaroni! Does that not blow your mind?
LIMAHL

You mean Easy Mac?

MARSHALL

You too? Okay, I get it. Nobody appreciates true genius anymore!

MARSHALL THROWS HIS ARMS IN THE AIR. HE LEAVES.

ROBIN

Limahl, I mean, Carl, have ya met Barney?

LIMAHL

It can't be... THE Barney Stinson?

BARNEY

That's right. What's it to ya?

LIMAHL

I'm your biggest fan! Your blog is like my Bible, only less boring and way more awesome! I can't believe I'm actually standing here with you.

BARNEY

Finally! Someone's reading my blog.

LIMAHL

I live by your blog.

LILY

He even shaved his mustache.

ROBIN

He went into the bathroom 'stached-up and came out 'stacheless.
LILY
That bathroom is like the Bermuda Triangle for mustaches. One mustache goes in. No mustaches come out.

BARNEY
Way to slash the 'stache, bro. Like I always say, real real men know they--

LIMAHL
Have the ability to grow a mustache, but don't have to prove their manliness by actually growing one.

BARNEY POINTS AT HIM IN ASTONISHMENT.

LIMAHL (CONT’D)
Barney, you have to teach me.

BARNEY
I'm sorry, fake Limahl, but my bro limit has already been met. I'm at maximum “bropacity”.

LIMAHL
I'm upset, but I understand, sensei.

BARNEY
I have provided you with the tools and information you need to succeed via my blog. You must go and put them to use on your own, young grasshopper.

LIMAHL
I will make you proud.
LIMAHL LEAVES.

ROBIN

Hey, wait up!

BARNEY TURNS TO TED AND LILY. ROBIN RUNS AFTER HIM.

BARNEY

Good guy.

MARSHALL WALKS UP TO TED AND BARNEY. HE HAS A PET CARRIER.

MARSHALL

Hey, Barney, some guy said to give this to you. I think there's something alive in there.

TED

It's a duck-billed platypus.

MARSHALL

(OVERLY EXCITED) No way! Are you going to dress him up in little clothes and a hat and have a tea party?

BARNEY

No. I'm definitely going to be doing... that. Let's go, Ted.

TED GRABS THE PET CARRIER. TED AND BARNEY EXIT.

LILY

Marshall, will you just take off those ridiculous pants already?

MARSHALL

The girl at the pants store said these pants are very flattering on me.
LILY
That’s because she works for
commission and they cost 150 dollars.

MARSHALL
Vivica wouldn’t lie to me.

LILY
Honey. I love you, but you look like a
thirteen year old girl in those pants.
I’m telling you for your own good.

MARSHALL
Okay, I’ll take them off, but under
one condition... You know what.

MARSHALL RAISES HIS EYEBROWS.

INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER
(BARNEY, TED, WANDA)

TED AND BARNEY STAND AT THE BAR. TED IS HOLDING THE PET
CARRIER. THEY APPROACH A GIRL. CLOCK: 00:59:37.

WANDA
What's in the cage?

BARNEY
Ted, the puss!

TED RAISES THE PET CARRIER.

BARNEY (CONT’D)
This here's a platypus. One of
nature’s most amazing and ridiculous
looking creatures. What’s say you come
back to my place and get a closer look
at my platypus?
WANDA
Do you have a license for that thing?

BARNEY
The only license I need is a license to love.

WANDA
(SEDUCTIVELY) Oh, you don't need a license for that. (BEAT) But unfortunately for you, I'm a police officer and in the state of New York, you do need a permit for your platypus.

SHE FLASHES HER BADGE.

TED
No.

WANDA
I'm afraid you're under arrest.

SHE CUFFS HIM.

BARNEY
It's just a fish-rodent!

TED
Actually, it's a semiaquatic, egg-laying mammal.

WANDA
You too, Science boy. Put your hands behind your back. Lack of a platypus permit, that's a class 2 misdemeanor.
TED

It’s not my platypus, I swear! I’m holding it for a friend.

SHE CUFFS TED.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT - LATER
(BARNEY, TED, CELLMATE, JAILER)

BARNEY AND TED SIT IN JAIL. THE CLOCK FLASHERS 0:00:00.

BARNEY

Who would’ve known you needed a permit for a platypus?

TED

Me! I knew! I told you! And thanks to you, I’m not going to get my Schwinn. I hope your platypus was worth it.

BARNEY

Chillax, Bro Piscapo. Little “Parney” was definitely worth it.

TED

You ruin everything, you know that?

BARNEY

I said I was sorry. Isn’t that enough?

CELLMATE

What’re you two arguing about?

TED

He cost me a Schwinn Tailwind.

CELLMATE

You’re that mad over a dumb bike?
TED & BARNEY

It's not a bike, it's a Schwinn.

CELLMATE

Whatever.

THE JAILER OPENS THE JAIL CELL DOOR.

JAILER

Okay, you're free to go.

INT. POLICE STATION LOBBY - NIGHT - LATER
(TED, BARNEY, ROBIN)

ROBIN STANDS IN THE LOBBY. TED AND BARNEY ENTER.

ROBIN

Hey there, criminals, need a ride?

TED

I do. But he'll be taking a taxi.

BARNEY

Come on, Ted, I said I was sorry. What else do you want from me?

TED

I want my Schwinn. Goodnight, Barney.

BARNEY

But, Ted I--

TED

I said goodnight.

INT. TED'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON (DAY 2)
(TED, MARSHALL, MAILMAN)

MARSHALL

So what do you think?
TED
It sounds like you just invented Easy Mac.

MARSHALL
You, of all people, Ted. I thought you'd be on my side.

TED
What side? Are we choosing sides?

MARSHALL
You know what side!

MARSHALL HUFFS AND PUFFS THEN EXITS ANGRILY.

SFX: DOORBELL

TED OPENS THE DOOR. MAILMAN. HE HAS A HUGE BOX.

MAILMAN
Delivery for Theodore Evelynn Mosby.

TED
I didn't order anything.

MAILMAN
I guess I must have the wrong Theodore Evelynn Mosby. Just sign for it, dude.

I have Maroon 5 tickets.

TED SIGNS. HE CLOSES THE DOOR. HE OPENS THE BOX. IT'S A BIKE.

INT. BAR - AFTERNOON (DAY THREE)
(TED, BARNEY, MARSHALL, ROBIN, LILY)

TED, LILY AND ROBIN SIT AT THE BOOTH.

LILY
Robin, you seem different.
ROBIN

Maybe it’s because I had an amazing
two and half minutes in a bathroom
stall with the lead singer of a
Kajagoogoo tribute band Friday night.

MARSHALL, WEARING A RIDICULOUS PONCHO, SETS 4 BEERS ON THE
TABLE AND TAKES A SEAT.

LILY

Marshall, I take it back. I’d rather
have you wear the tight pants. You
look like a Mexican drifter.

MARSHALL

You have to come to terms with your
jealousy. That’s what Dr. Phil says.

LILY

Well, Dr. Lily says, men who wear
stupid ponchos don’t get sex. Are you
ready to come to terms with that?

MARSHALL

Poncho gone.

MARSHALL QUICKLY REMOVES THE PONCHO AND TOSSES IT OVER HIS
HEAD. BARNEY ENTERS.

TED

Barney, did you buy me a bike?

BARNEY

No Ted, I bought you a Schwinn.

TED

Whatever. How did you afford it?
BARNEY
Cyber Monday, dude. Why would I wait in line when I could buy online?

TED
I can't believe this.

BARNEY
I know. Cyber Monday deals are way better than those stupid Super Sale Saturday sales, sucka.

MARSHALL GOLF CLAPS.

MARSHALL
Great alliteration.

TED
It's been over twenty years, and I finally have it. This is the greatest day of my life. Well, except for the day I got those U2 tickets.

LILY
What are you waiting for? Try that beeotch out!

ROBIN
Ride that thing like it's your birthday!

TED
You're right. I need to do this. I'm gonna ride!

TED GRABS THE BIKE AND RUNS OUT.
EXT. CITY STREET - AFTERNOON
(TED, SHADY GUY)

TED RIDES HIS SCHWINN DOWN THE STREET. HAPPY MUSIC.

FUTURE TED (V.O.)
And that's how I got my first Schwinn.

SHADY GUY
HEY! Hey, guy!

TED COMES TO A STOP NEXT TO THE SHADY GUY.

TED
And what can I do for you this fine day, sir?

THE SHADY GUY PULLS A GUN. HE POINTS IT AT TED.

TED (CONT'D)
Wait... Are you stealing my bike?

SHADY GUY
No. I'm stealing your Schwinn. It's a Tailwind. Do you know how much this thing is worth?

TED GIVES HIM THE BIKE. THE SHADY GUY RIDES AWAY.

SHADY GUY (CONT'D)
(SINGSONGY) I got a Schwi-inn! I got a Schwi-inn!

FUTURE TED (V.O.)
And that's how I lost my first Schwinn.

END OF ACT THREE
TAG

EXT. THE SKY - DAY - (DREAM)
(MARSHALL, FALKOR)

MARSHALL, EXHILARATED, RIDES FALKOR. THE MOVIE THEME PLAYS.

    MARSHALL

    Hurry, Falkor, the nothing’s
everywhere!

    FALKOR

    Don’t worry, Marshall, we’ll reach the
boundaries of Fantasia.

    MARSHALL

    Falkor?

    FALKOR

    What is it, Marshall?

    MARSHALL

    Can you call me Bastian?

    FALKOR

    All right, hold on tight, Bastian!

    Whaaaa!

    MARSHALL

    Yeah!

    MARSHALL THROWS AN ARM IN THE AIR AS THEY FLY THROUGH THE
CLOUDS AND OVER MOUNTAINS.

    MARSHALL (CONT’D)

    Wow! Wow-wee!

THE END

*