

THE LUNCHROOM

Webisode 1x01

"The First Day"

Written by  
Bruce Snyder

Executive Producers  
Bruce Snyder  
Vincent Biga

Story Editor  
Rebecca Parker

Series Created by  
BRUCE SNYDER

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FADE IN:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCHROOM - MORNING (FLASHBACK)

SUPER: "A Long Time Ago..."

A young JOEL MAYBERRY sits at a table, listening to a CD player. He air drums and mouths the lyrics. A young WILL COOPER shows up and sits at the table.

WILL  
I can't believe it, Joel. Our first  
day of high school.  
(Joel doesn't notice)  
Joel. Joel. Joel!

Will slugs Joel in the shoulder to get his attention.

WILL  
What the fuck are you doing?

JOEL  
(removing headphones)  
Rocking out to some Prince. During  
his good years.

WILL  
I wasn't aware Prince had good  
years. Just decade after decade of  
mediocrity.

Joel sticks up three fingers.

JOEL  
Can you read? Then read between the  
lines, douche.

WILL  
How can you even listen to music  
now? Aren't you nervous?

JOEL  
Not really dude. We've been through  
many first days before.

WILL  
Yeah but this is high school man!  
If *Wonder Years* reruns have taught  
me anything, it's that this is when  
shit gets good.

(CONTINUED)

VOICE (O.S.)

Damn it, Casey! Why must you talk  
so loud?

Young LACIE NOLAN and CASEY JENNINGS argue two tables over.

CASEY

Why are you getting so mad with me?  
All I said was "good morning."

LACIE

Yeah but you didn't have to scream  
it.

CASEY

(confused)  
I just said it in my normal voi -  
(realizes)  
Are you hung over again?

LACIE

Depends on how you define hung  
over.

CASEY

Jesus, Lacie! I though you promised  
me you wouldn't get drunk on school  
nights.

LACIE

Hey! It's not my fault! I thought  
it was Friday!

CASEY

(ashamed)  
You can't keep doing this, Lace.

LACIE

Casey, I can't imagine going to  
school without being a little  
drunk. You need to lay off the  
nagging Casey, or this relationship  
is doomed.

CASEY

Nagging?

LACIE

Yeah. Every other day it's "Lacie,  
don't drink this" or "Lacie, don't  
smoke at my grandfather's funeral."  
You know, you should be thankful  
I'm with you.

(CONTINUED)

Casey starts to say something but gives up.

CASEY  
(defeated)  
I'm sorry. I didn't mean to snap at you.

LACIE  
It's all right. You didn't know any better.

A stunned Will and Joel look on.

WILL  
Ugh! Lacie Nolan still goes here?

JOEL  
(annoyed)  
Great. I have fourth period English with her.

WILL  
I hope you enjoy the smell of vodka and sadness.  
(re: Casey)  
Who's the sad sack with her?

JOEL  
Dunno. Must be new.

BROCK WARNER enters among the sounds of whispers and giggles. He sits at the table when DONNIE GLEN, your stereotypical douche bag, walks by with TWO CRONIES at his side.

DONNIE  
Hey, Brock. I've got a question for you. Since you've got two moms, do you call both of them "mommy" or just who's ever the bitch in the relationship?

The cronies laugh it up. Brock, furious, avoids eye contact. In the middle of their laughter, a hand comes up from behind and grabs Donnie by the hair.

DONNIE  
What the -

The hand slams Donnie's head into the table next to The Gang's. We now see the hand belong to BRIAN VANDELE. The cronies run away.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN

Look here, you cock-juggling  
thundercunt. I got three problems  
with what you just said: one,  
that's my best friend, so watch  
what you fucking say. Two, that  
wasn't even the least bit funny. If  
you're going to mock someone, say  
something with a little more wit.  
Three, not that keen on mocking gay  
people. Especially considering,  
deep down we're all a little gay.

DONNIE

(scoffs)

I'm not gay!

Brian slams his head.

BRIAN

Sorry about that. I have these  
violent reactions to bullshit.

DONNIE

But I'm not gay!

BRIAN

Who's your favorite actor?

DONNIE

Uh, I don't know. Johnny Depp I  
guess.

BRIAN

See. You're gay.

Slams his head again.

BRIAN

Now never repeat those three things  
again and we'll never have to be in  
these unfortunate circumstances  
again. That clear?

DONNIE

Crystal.

Brian lets go. Donnie flees.

BROCK

Thanks, Brian.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN

No problem. Always willing to kick some ass for a friend.

BROCK

I wish these people didn't have to gawk at me every time I get on the busy. Can't they just let it go.

BRIAN

(joking)

They act like they've never seen two chicks kiss before.

PRINCIPAL BOB STEVENS walks by with a young REICTHER by his side.

STEVENS

(to Reichter)

Congratulations. The bell hasn't even rung yet and you've become the first person of the year to get detention. Come to my office during your lunch period. I don't even see where a boy your age would get that many M-80's.

REICTHER

I think the better question is "where'd I get this lighter?"

Reichter pulls out a lighter and starts flicking it. Stevens quickly snatches it.

STEVENS

Make that two weeks, Mr. Reichter!

Stevens storms off. Reichter approaches the table, doing a celebratory dance.

REICTHER

Huzzah! I told you fools I would be the first person of the year to get detention!

BROCK

We didn't say you couldn't, we said you shouldn't.

REICTHER

Pay up suckers!

(CONTINUED)

WILL

Reichter, how many times do we have to tell you: it's only a bet if we agree to the bet.

REICTHER

(disappointed)

You guys never pay up.

A young CHRIS HUGHES and ELLEN CONNER walk by the table. Both are dressed formally, with Ellen in a casual dress suit and Chris in a tie.

ELLEN

As the Vice President of the Peer Helpers, it's my pleasure to give you a tour of our school.

CHRIS

Um, I'm confused. I thought you said we had to wear formal clothes to school. Everyone seems to be wearing shirt and jeans.

ELLEN

That's because they don't take school as seriously as they should. Now, to the library!

They walk away.

REICTHER

Holy crap! We have a black student now?

JOEL

Wow. High school *is* really different than Junior High.

WILL

Guys, I got a feeling this will be the best years of our lives!

VOICE (O.S.)

Grab him!

Just then a group of JOCKS run in and grab Will.

WILL

(panicked)

What the hell?

(CONTINUED)

JOCK #1  
Let's give him a slurry for being  
different!

ALL JOCKS  
Yeah!

They carry Will off, leaving a shocked Gang behind.

Long beat.

JOEL  
You guys think Prince is cool,  
right?

FADE TO BLACK

END OF WEBISODE