

**DEAL WITH IT**

**PILOT EPISODE**

**BY**

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**SECOND DRAFT**

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#### Recurring Characters

Dave - 39, makes his money from investments, married, no kids, social but tight.

Linda - 37, Dave's wife, social and very caring.

Nick - 40, Dave's mate, married, social, sarcastic but serious, always there to help, advise and listen to Dave.

Regina - 38, Nick's wife, doesn't like Dave and is jealous of Linda, but always tries to be friendly.

#### Series Synopsis

Dave is a guy who leads a relaxed life but always seems to get caught up in problems, usually indirectly caused by himself. Each episode approx. 22 minutes.

#### Pilot Episode Synopsis

Dave and his wife are hosting a kids' party. An old friend of Dave's visits in a classic restored convertible car. While inside, Dave tells some kids to go and watch the TV in the garage, but the kids see the car through the open garage door and their curiosity accidentally makes the car roll down the driveway and hit a pole. Dave is caught between trying to calm his mate down and get the kids' parents pay for the damage, but it only gets worse and worse.

1 CREDITS

ACT 1

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

STAN is an old buddy of DAVE's and they haven't seen each other for years. STAN drives into DAVE's driveway in an old restored classic convertible. As he stops the engine, the sound of PLAYING KIDS becomes evident in the background. STAN gets out of the car and DAVE comes out as he closes the car door.

DAVE

My god, is that you, Stan!?

STAN

Hey Dave, sure is. What do you think?

STAN gestures to the car, showing off. DAVE looks impressed.

DAVE

Beautiful. Did you restore it?

STAN

Oh god no, I just bought it last week. Don't know anything about restoring cars.

STAN is interrupted by LINDA who comes out to greet him.

LINDA

Stan?

STAN

Linda, nice to see you.

LINDA

Why don't you two come inside for a drink?

2 INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

DAVE and STAN are sitting around in the lounge on sofas chatting. LINDA comes into the room with a drink. The noise of a kids' party is even louder inside. A kid runs past DAVE and STAN. DAVE smiles awkwardly.

DAVE

We're hosting a kids' party.

(beat)

So, what you been doing with yourself the last two years?

LINDA hands STAN the drink and goes off.

STAN

Ahh, this and that. Thanks, Linda. Contracts, mainly. Was in Sydney for a while, came back. Taking a break.

DAVE

Oh yeah, made a bit of money, eh?

STAN

That's right.

DAVE's nephew TIMMY and a second boy of ethnic descent come in.

TIMMY  
Uncle Dave, can we watch the TV?

DAVE  
No, it's a party, you should be having fun!

STAN smiles.

TIMMY  
But we want to watch the TV now. Please?

DAVE  
Okay, tell you what, there's a TV in the garage you can watch.

TIMMY  
Okay.

The two boys go off.

STAN  
You're good with kids. Are any of these yours?

DAVE  
Oh, no, do you have any?

STAN  
Well, I'm still trying to work on the woman part first.

They share a chuckle.

3 INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

The garage door is open. TIMMY and ETHNIC BOY sit down to watch television. They are flicking channels when the other boy sees STAN's car parked in the driveway.

ETHNIC BOY's POV - the car is glossy and blurry as it shines, like a beautiful object. We cut back to see the boy's fascinated face.

ETHNIC BOY  
Wooooowww.

TIMMY  
What?

The ETHNIC BOY is up from his seat and going to STAN's car.

ETHNIC  
Look at the car, I've never seen a car like this before.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

TIMMY and ETHNIC BOY are touching and examining STAN's incredibly shiny car. The chome acts like a magnet. They look at their REFLECTIONS in the chrome and feel everything that sticks out. The ETHNIC BOY manages to climb over into the driver's seat. He starts playing with the controls and accidently makes the car begin to ROLL backwards down the driveway as TIMMY stands by and watches helplessly. It SMASHES into a pole and DAVE and STAN come

running out and freeze in shock, followed by LINDA who looks at the two men and then runs past them. The CRIES of kids can be heard.

Production note: To create the impression the car hitting the pole, move the camera towards the pole, then cut to the car coming towards camera backwards, then cut to the kid jolting in the car seat with crash sound effects.

4 INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

The ETHNIC KID looks sad as he sits next to his mother and father on the sofa. STAN sits in another chair while DAVE sits on another and LINDA watches from the doorway.

ETHNIC FATHER

It is not his fault, you should not have left such a vehicle in such a place, alone at a kids' party.

ETHNIC MOTHER nods in agreement.

STAN

It's a car. Your kid damaged my car. You are his parents, you are responsible for it.

ETHNIC FATHER

He is just a child. Your car looks ridiculous ..

STAN reacts to that.

ETHNIC FATHER (CONT'D)

.. so big and so shiny, and with no roof, at a kids' party, what did you expect? It is waiting for trouble, if you ask me.

ETHNIC MOTHER nods again. STAN sighs.

STAN

You should pay for the repairs. It's as simple as that!

DAVE realises that it is going nowhere and tries to calm them down.

DAVE

Look, I think that the kid did the wrong thing but also I think that Stan, the car shouldn't have been left like that. How about ..

STAN gets upset.

STAN

So which side are you on, Dave, huh?

DAVE

What? I'm not in any side, I just ..

STAN

Maybe you should pay for the damage, huh? You did tell the kids to go to the garage.

The ETHNIC PARENTS are stunned by the news. Seeing an opportunity, they stand up with the kid and make a move to leave.

ETHNIC FATHER

Yes, David, you must have honour and pay for this!

The ETHNIC PARENTS quickly walk out with their kid. DAVE goes to stop them but ETHNIC FATHER suddenly swings around and snaps at him.

ETHNIC FATHER

Do not touch me, or my family. You stay away!

ETHNIC KID starts crying and is dragged away by his parents. They get in their family van and drive off quickly. DAVE looks back at LINDA, then STAN. Stunned, STAN's eyebrows are raised, he doesn't know what to say, and simply stands up and walks out, drives off in the other direction. Party music is still quietly playing in the BG but a zoom in on DAVE's face shows he is very unhappy.

5 DAVE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

DAVE joins LINDA in bed for the night.

LINDA

I hope we don't end up paying for happened today.

DAVE

Hmm.

(beat)

Leaving that big old, silly shiny car out there like that really is asking for trouble.

LINDA gives DAVE a look.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I'll go and see Stan tomorrow, see if I can talk some sense into him.

DAVE switches off the LIGHT.

6 ACT 2

INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

DAVE is driving to STAN's.

EXT. STAN'S DRIVEWAY - DAY

DAVE pulls up behind STAN's classic car. A plastic cover has been thrown over the back to conceal the damage. DAVE walks to the front door and rings the bell. STAN opens it.

STAN

Have you come to pay for the damage?

DAVE hesitates his response. He wasn't expecting that.

DAVE

No. Look, we need to talk.

STAN

What's there to talk about, Dave? I'm not paying for my own car to be fixed!

DAVE

Come on, buddy. Be reasonable. We're grown ups here.

STAN  
Me be reasonable!? I didn't do it. The kid did it,  
the parents should pay.  
(beat)  
Maybe you can go half-half with them?

DAVE  
I really don't think I am at fault here.

STAN  
Then talk to them about it, it's not my problem.

7 INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

DAVE is driving to the ETHNIC FAMILY'S house. He pulls up out front and goes to the front door, rings the bell. ETHNIC FATHER opens the door. He is suspicious of DAVE.

ETHNIC FATHER  
What do you want?

DAVE  
Well, about what happened yesterday ..

ETHNIC FATHER  
You've come to apologise and you will pay for the damage?

DAVE  
Ahh, no ..

ETHNIC FATHER'S eyes turn angry.

ETHNIC FATHER  
Then, leave now! Leave, or face the consequences!

DAVE  
Please, can't I just come inside and we can talk about this like adults?

The family van pulls up in the driveway and ETHNIC MOTHER and ETHNIC BOY get out. DAVE turns around to look.

DAVE steps back from the door as ETHNIC MOTHER and ETHNIC BOY walk past and into the house, but the kid starts crying as he recognises DAVE. It causes ETHNIC FATHER to become more aggressive in his orders for DAVE to leave. DAVE slowly surrenders and walks away across the grass towards his car.

ETHNIC FATHER  
You get out of here, you leave my family now! Go!

DAVE gets into his car and speeds off very quickly.

INT. STAN'S OTHER CAR - DAY

We see DAVE drive off, then cut to STAN watching and thinking.

8 INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

DAVE is making a phone call on the handsfree. The name NICK is on the display as it dials.

NICK (FILTERED, PHONE)  
Dave, hello, how's things?

DAVE  
Not too good, buddy. Can I drop by and talk to you  
about something?

NICK (FILTERED, PHONE)  
Sure, see you soon!

DAVE hangs up.

9 INT. NICK'S OFFICE - DAY

DAVE is sitting at NICK's desk, finishing the explanation of what has  
happened. NICK is fixing him a coffee, hands it to him as he finishes  
speaking.

DAVE  
So now they want me to pay for it, and I don't think  
it's my fault in any way!

NICK  
Hmm, I agree with you. It's an unfortunate series of  
events, but you are definitely not at fault here.

DAVE  
Well I'm glad you think so!

NICK  
I feel that the parents should pay.

DAVE  
Yeah!

NICK  
Maybe you should contact your lawyer, just to be on the  
safe side.

DAVE  
No, oh no, I don't want to take it that far.  
(beat)  
Maybe if I just stay out of it, things will sort  
themselves out.

NICK  
Maybe. So how's the house going? Did you get that old  
drainpipe fixed?

DAVE  
No, it's still stuck to the house, but who knows for  
how long. Really need to do something about that.

NICK nods.

NICK  
Hmm.

10 INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

DAVE and LINDA are seated at the dinner table having their dinner.

DAVE



.. and Nick says that it's not my fault, that it's clearly the parents who should pay. We agreed to just let it fade away and see what happens.

LINDA

Hmm, I'm not sure that's a very good idea, honey. Stan may be very unhappy with you.

Suddenly, we hear a car come up their driveway outside. BEEPING starts and the car skids to a stop. DAVE and LINDA are unsettled. DAVE gets up and looks out the window.

LINDA

Who is it?

DAVE

It's the parents.  
(beat)  
Oh no..

DAVE's face turns to great worry as he realises the van has some panel damage.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Close up of damage to the ETHNIC PARENTS' family van, like someone has taken a baseball bat to it.

Production note: To create the illusion of damage, please film close up of damage to a similar coloured car at night at a wreckers. It is the only time we need to see the damage.

CUT TO

Family van. ETHNIC FATHER gets out of the driver's side and is holding a baseball bat. He has a very determined face and makes his way to the doorbell, rings it. No answer. He rings it again - no answer.

ETHNIC FATHER

David, you come out here now!

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - STAIRS - NIGHT

DAVE is running up the staircase, yelling to his wife.

DAVE

You stay in the kitchen, honey! I'll talk to him.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - CLOSET - NIGHT

The closet door is opened and a golf club is retrieved.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

ETHNIC FATHER

David, where are you!

DAVE

Up here!

DAVE is standing out on the upstairs balcony looking down at him.

ETHNIC FATHER

David, your stupid friend, he come to our house and

smash up our car! Look!

DAVE

I can see. I'm very sorry. I'll call him right now.  
Hang on.

DAVE, holding the golf club out of view, starts to go get the phone, but is stopped.

ETHNIC FATHER

No, you pay for everything now! This is enough!

DAVE

I'm not paying for anything, it's not my ..

ETHNIC FATHER

Then we have war! You give me his address now!

ETHNIC FATHER tries opening the front door but it is locked. He comes back out and looks up at DAVE, very angry.

From DAVE's P.O.V. we see ETHNIC FATHER start to climb up the drainpipe with the baseball bat somehow.

DAVE

No, don't climb the drainpipe! It's broken, it'll fall off!

ETHNIC FATHER ignores DAVE's words and continues up the drainpipe. We see a close up of the drainpipe shaking in its mounts.

DAVE

No, stop! Don't climb, it's dangerous!  
(turns to yell into house)  
Honey, get out of the house. Quick, drive away!

ETHNIC FATHER continues to climb up the drainpipe when it suddenly breaks loose and falls off, with him on it.

Production note: We don't see wide shots of him falling with the pipe or hitting the ground, just close ups. When he hits the ground, we are seeing DAVE running down stairs so we don't see any wide action.

We cut to DAVE running down the stairs and coming out to find him on the ground, sore and out of breath, but still holding the baseball bat. DAVE is holding the golf club in a defence posture.

Suddenly there are POLICE SIRENS yelping as a police car comes up the driveway. The lights are blinding DAVE.

INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT

Looking out the front windshield, the scene is DAVE holding the golf club up like he is about to thump ETHNIC FATHER on the ground.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

POLICE OFFICER (LOUDSPEAKER, FILTERED)

Put the golf club down and move away from the man.

DAVE is frantically trying to explain himself as the police officers come over and call an ambulance and arrest DAVE. ETHNIC FATHER is sitting up in pain. Note: Must show that ETHNIC FATHER is alright.

11 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

NICK and DAVE are walking out of the police station and get into NICK's car. DAVE is unshaven and is holding his jumper, looks a mess. He is happy to be out of there. He telephones LINDA.

DAVE

Hey honey?

(beat)

Everything's fine, I've just come out.

(beat)

Stan and the parents have come to an agreement. Yeah.

I'll see you soon, bye.

DAVE hangs up.

DAVE

Well I'm glad that's over.

NICK

Yeah. Come on, I'll take you home.

EXT. STREET - DAY

NICK starts to pull out of the parking spot. DAVE spots a classic car.

DAVE

Gee, that's almost as classic as Stan's.

NICK takes a look as well, but doesn't stop pulling out. NICK doesn't see a car coming along where he is pulling out into and they crash. NICK and DAVE share a bad look.

Production note: We see the two cars moving to each other, then a close up of the approaching car's lights and then cut to the jolting effect of DAVE and NICK being in a crash, with sound effects dubbed in.

THE END

END CREDITS