

A Jaywalk on the Wild Side
An Original One-Act Play by
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ACT I

Scene 1

Hank Knight is sitting back in a chair wearing a fedora but not in a euphoric way. The office is dimly LIT. Hank begins to pour over some files and drink a coffee when a knock is heard at the door.

HANK

Come in.

Sarah saunters in.

SARAH

I got you a case Hank, a real doozy if you ask me.

HANK

Yeah, what is it, a murder?

SARAH

God no, that's what the actual police are for.

HANK

What's that supposed to mean?

SARAH

I mean, what have you been doing for a week, Hank?

HANK

I've been sitting here watching my programs and working on my art, the ushe.

SARAH

What programs?

HANK

You know some Top Chef Junior, a sprinkle of Voice Junior, and a dash of Pawn Kids.

SARAH

Why are they all about kids?

HANK

I've seen about all the Top Chef I want to see in my lifetime, or so I thought. Imagine a world where you go to a kitchen and see that your food is being made by... kids! They're like tiny adults...

SARAH

Yes. Kids are tiny adults.

HANK

Yeah but have you ever been to a Pawn Shop run by...
wait for it... KIDS?! They set the prices and make the
dea-

SARAH

Just take the case.

Sarah slams the case on the table.

HANK

What was that for, I think you broke my paper weight.

SARAH

Every time I just hand you a case, you put it in the
"Filing Cabinet."

HANK

You mean this bad boy?

He holds up a trash can.

SARAH

Sure. Maybe if I slammed it, I'd wake you from your
dream in which you're doing actual police work.

HANK

(Offended)

Alright, well I'm going to read this now.

Hank sits and reads.

HANK

What's that word.

SARAH

I'm on the other side of this desk, want me to come
over there and help you read?

HANK

No, I got this.

Hank clearly struggling, while mouthing.

HANK

Now what's this guy doing with all that cereal?

SARAH

What?

HANK

You know, he's a cereal jaywalker.

SARAH

Holy shit, how are you a detective? Its serial like with an S. The word's in front of you.

HANK

That's not how you spell it, silly. I would know, it's my favorite aisle at the grocery store.

SARAH

Wow, this is impressive. Have you ever heard of a serial killer? I mean, I would understand if you haven't, with the whole terrible detective thing.

HANK

No, I know exactly what that is.

SARAH

What is it.

HANK

It's top secret, detective business you know.

SARAH

No it's not, it's a person who likes killing people!

HANK

Who told you!?

SARAH

It's not a secret - never mind. Do you understand the case so I can leave?

HANK

Yeah I think so, we got this here Serial Jaywalker.

SARAH

Do you know what this is.

HANK

No.

SARAH

It's a guy who likes to cross the street illegally.

HANK

Alright, my toughest foe yet, since the Jitterbugging Litterbug.

SARAH

Alright I'm leaving, just read the case file and get out there and catch him. It should take like 5 minutes.

HANK

I'll do it over like 3 days. Gotta keep the union happy.

SARAH

That doesn't make sense, that's not how unions work—actually I'm done. Have fun.

Sarah leaves the room.

HANK

Shit. Shit. Shit. Shit. What the hell, I thought I wasn't allowed to take cases anymore after the last one. The fact that I'm only partially literate is now once again causing problems.

Picks up phone and calls Sarah.

HANK

(Sheepishly)

Hey Sarah, would you mind coming in here? I need a little bit of help.

Sarah walks in.

SARAH

Do you need me to read that to you?

HANK

So badly.

Sarah sits down and the lights fade out.

Scene 2

Hank is walking down the street when he runs into Crossing Guard Rachel. He walks towards her and begins to ask questions about jaywalking.

HANK

Excuse me miss, I have a couple questions about jaywalking.

RACHEL

Sure, how can I help you, detective?

HANK

What is it?

RACHEL

When you cross the street illegally, sir.

HANK

Well, well, well, well. Looks like you're the broad I'm looking for.

Hank begins to walk towards her with cuffs.

HANK

I got you, you son of a bitch.

RACHEL

What the hell man, I'm a crossing guard! Why are you trying to arrest me?!

Hank begins cuffing her.

HANK

I'm on the hunt for a serial jaywalker, and you're an expert. Therefore, through my wicked skills of deduction, you are the jaywalker to my Cap'n Crunch. Get it. Serial, Cereal. It's a good one.

RACHEL

I got it, but I'm too busy, you know, being arrested. Back off man, I'm also an officer of the law!

HANK

Likely story, tell the boys in the clink about that one.

RACHEL

I know who you are looking for. I saw him in the act!

Hank stops leading her away.

HANK

Well then, do tell.

RACHEL

I was here helping some old people cross the street when this guy came up in a ski mask and a trench coat. Also on the ski mask, there were like yellow dashed lines going down the middle so it kind of looked like a road which was really cool. I tried to stop him from jaywalking and even held up my stop sign, but he didn't listen. He kept going. Like a mad man. When he reached the safety of the other side, he just stared at me. He made it clear I was his enemy. The knight standing in his way.

HANK

Well technically I'm the knight standing in his way. Get it.

RACHEL

I don't get it.

HANK

Shit I didn't say my name yet. Hank. Hank Knight. Hank Knight, detective. Hank Knight like Knight...

RACHEL

I get it.

HANK

The last name joke or that I'm a detective.

RACHEL

Both. I got both.

HANK

Alright nice.

(Motions a one in the air)

Hank one, Crossing Guard zero.

RACHEL

This isn't a competition.

HANK

Life's a competition doll, you gotta play to win.

RACHEL

I don't live life in the fast lane.

HANK

It's the only way a detective like me can live. If I hadn't made it clear, no woman can hold me down, not even one like yourself, no matter how hard you try.

RACHEL

I wasn't trying to hold you down, frankly I'm not interest-

HANK

Save it for the judge, I've got a job to do and no dame can stop me.

RACHEL

I'm not trying to stop you, in fact, I have another clue to share.

HANK

Cool it kid, I'm like a kite in a hurricane, you can't hold me down.

RACHEL

Still not trying. Do you want this clue or not?

HANK

Yes very much so.

RACHEL

It's a business card. Name is Streets McCross.

HANK

Is that all it says?

RACHEL

Yes, it is.

HANK

Not much of a clue, how do I even know that this is the guy?

RACHEL

I mean isn't it obvious that...

HANK

Exactly. The name.

RACHEL

(Enthusiastically)

You did it! Good job!

HANK

So how's bout this one doll. You join me in the diner for some detective shit.

RACHEL

I thought you were a kite in a thunderstorm.

HANK

I'm actually a kite in a hurricane. Big difference.

RACHEL

What's the difference?

HANK

Location. Hurricanes typically occur in coastal regions while thunderstorms can occur just about anywhere.

RACHEL

What are you saying here, are you asking me out or no?

HANK

(Nervously)

What? NO! I have to go hang out with my friends at the diner. So yeah, now I'm off to the diner. Don't let the door hit you on the way out.

RACHEL
We're outside.

HANK
Alright. You got me there.

RACHEL
Crossing Guard 1, Hank 1.

Hank begins to leave in a fury.

RACHEL
Please uncuff me.

Scene end.

Scene 3

Hank walks into a diner and takes a seat at a table. He sits there impatiently for a little. One-Eyed Susy walks over to the table and bumps into some shit.

SUSY
Alone again, Hank?

HANK
What? I'm not alone all the time when I'm here. I've got work to do, ya know. Police stuff. You know my name not my story.

SUSY
What can I help you with tonight, Hank?

HANK
The ushe. Coffee.

SUSY
How do you want it tonight?

HANK
Pirates of the Caribbean 1.

SUSY
I don't understand, I never saw that movie.

HANK
Johnny Depp's best work besides Mortdecai. He plays a pirate who gets himself into all kinds of kooky antics and situations. There's this one time where he wants to drink rum but...
(stops to laugh)
...there is no rum!

SUSY
So how do you want the coffee.

HANK
Black.
(In a pirate voice)
Like the Black Pearl.

Susy walks away shaking her head. Hank takes out his files and begins to read and highlight with his crayon. Susy walks back over with the coffee and begins to pour it in his cup but spills some on his folder.

SUSY
I'm so sorry, can I get you a towel or anything?

HANK
No it's fine, that wasn't police work or anything, just some drawings. I left my files in my office. I also locked myself out of my office.

SUSY
Well if you're not on a big case, why are you here so late?

HANK
As a matter of fact, I AM on a big case. Just because I don't have my files doesn't mean I'm not working. I can't tell you anything about it though. It's top secret.

SUSY
Is it about that jaywalker guy?

HANK
(Suprised)
No! Of course not. I cover important cop things like murders and the Litterbug Jitterbug. But what do you know about this jaywalker guy?

He takes out papers and crayons to write notes.

SUSY
Oh, I encountered him one time. I was driving and-

HANK
You were driving?! That sounds illegal on account of that whole one eye thing.

SUSY
Don't be a narc, it's not like I hit anyone this time.

HANK

Alright just continue on then, I didn't think of it that way until now.

SUSY

So I was driving down the road and out of the corner of my eyes - shit I mean eye - I saw this guy wearing a face mask just walking without a crosswalk. He didn't have a care in the world. I even think he was whistling while he did it, like he enjoyed it or something.

HANK

My god. He's worse than I thought. Do you have any more details, for a friend? I'm not on the case. But like my pal is. It's not for me, just to clarify.

SUSY

Well if your friend wants to know a little more about this case, Chef Willie in the back knows the streets. He also deals if you like that.

HANK

I'm gonna look past that dealing detail and just go to the back. Enjoy your Knight. Like my last name. With a K. Do you get it.

SUSY

Just go to the back.

Hank walks over to Willie who is cooking behind the counter.

WILLIE

What can I do for you this fine night?

HANK

Well I AM in fact a fine knight.

SUSY

Stop making that joke.

HANK

Never. Now Willie, what's this about you dealing?

WILLIE

Deuces wild. Follow me.

Hank follows Willie off-stage.

Scene 4

Willie sits down at a poker table where for some reason other people are also sitting. Hank follows cautiously.

WILLIE

Take a sit officer, this game's above board.

HANK

Alright then. I don't see why you refer to this as dealing. It can be easily confused with the drug one.

WILLIE

Excuse me. Did you think i was slingin'?

HANK

I mean yeah. Never mind. Do you have anywhere else more private so I can ask you some official questions about my case?

WILLIE

Anything you can ask me, you can ask my boys.

THE BOYS

(Grunts)

HANK

Alright then. Do you know anything about Streets McCross?

THE BOYS

(Gasp)

WILLIE

Yes. Yes I do. In fact, I deal to him sometimes down her-

HANK

It still sounds like drugs.

WILLIE

Do you want the info? I deal him some of the good stuff down here sometimes. You know, a little black and a little jack. He's one of the meanest cats that I ever dealt in this joint.

HANK

What info do you have about him?

WILLIE

Well, he wears a black ski mask with yellow lines painted across it to look like a road.

HANK

Alright, I already knew that. What else you got.

WILLIE

You're being incredibly rude here. I'm giving you info and you're getting upset that it's not the right info. I want you to apologize.

HANK

(Sheepishly)

I'm sorry.

WILLIE

What was that? I couldn't hear you. Say it again.

HANK

I'm sorry. Just tell me more.

WILLIE

Alright. He loves coffee. Like a lot. Had 3 cups while he was back here. He took it black too.

HANK

I knew he'd take it Pirates of the Caribbean 1.

WILLIE

Yeah sure, whatever that means. He was very hip as well. He wore tight dungarees and Heelys. He had a shirt for the local hip coffee joint as well.

HANK

Which one, there's so many. Does he frequent Bean There Done That, Sacred Grounds, Deja Brew, Perkatory, Brewed Awakening, Thanks a Latte, Espresso Patronum, Black Coffee Down, Bean Me Up Scottie, Fleetwood Macchiato, Brew HaHa!, Panda Espresso, Polar Espresso, or the Bean Cuisine?

WILLIE

Well first off, only two of those are local coffee places. He could either do Fleetwood Macchiato or Bean Cuisine. Bean Me Up Scotty's in the next town over.

HANK

Yeah I got a little carried away. Which one was he wearing the shirt for?

WILLIE

Well I'll tell you... after you give me something.

HANK

What do you want?

WILLIE

I want you to sing me a song.

HANK

What song?

WILLIE

You know Madonna?

HANK

Yeah... where's this going?

WILLIE

Sing "Like A Virgin."

The Boys freak out like it's a Worldstar video.

HANK

Can I just do the chorus?

WILLIE

Do the first two verses and the chorus.

HANK

Alright, it's your tax dollars paying for this.

Hank awkwardly sings "Like a Virgin."

HANK

I made it through the wilderness

Somehow I made it through

Didn't know how lost I was

Until I found you

I was beat

Incomplete

I'd been had, I was sad and blue

But you made me feel

Yeah, you made me feel

Shiny and new

Hoo, like a virgin

Touched for the very first time

(MORE)

HANK (cont'd)
Like a virgin

When your heart beats

Next to mine

Willie and The Boys cheer. Willie wipes a tear from his eye.

WILLIE
Aight man, that's good shit right there. Brings a tear to my eye. He goes to the Bean Cuisine.

HANK
Alright. I'm gonna leave now because after I sang that it got really uncomfortable.

WILLIE
Take this.

He hands him a box.

HANK
What's in it?

WILLIE
The answer to your problems. Open it at home. Trust me.

HANK
Whatever man, have a good night.

WILLIE
Aight man. You as well. Keep it tight.

Hank exits.

Scene 5

Hank walks into an apartment and hangs his hat and jacket up. He takes a seat on his couch and turns on the TV. He looks at the box and opens it. Inside there is a note. The note is read offstage by Willie.

WILLIE
Yo so I adopted this cat and I immediately regretted that decision. Here's the cat. Peace.

Hank pulls a stuffed cat out of the box because we're not sure we can have a real cat on stage.

HANK

Well, hi. Do you have a name? No. Alright then. Like all great detectives, which I am, I need a sidekick and you're gonna be that sidekick. I'll name you Watson. Alright Watson, we're gonna watch one of my favorite shows, Top Chef Junior. I Tivo'd it just for when I got home. You like Tivo, Watson? Some people say it's a dying company which is bad news because I invested a lot last year. They'll make a comeback, though. Tivo always makes a comeback. Thanks for listening to me, Watson, people generally don't hear me out the way that you are right now. Everyone always assumes I'm stupid, but you make me feel... not stupid.

Hank settles in to watch Top Chef Junior when he hears a knock at his door. He goes to answer the door and it is Sarah. She is wearing a nice dress and shit.

HANK

What are you doing here? It's like 11:30. I'm watching TSJ.

SARAH

I'm here to give you a message. Chief McGonigiggle wants to see you tomorrow.

HANK

Why are you so dressed up?

SARAH

I'm just coming back from the bar.

HANK

Who was there?

SARAH

A couple people from work?

HANK

I wasn't invited?

SARAH

I didn't organize it.

HANK

Which bar?

SARAH

Bar None, it's right down the street and I knew I had to stop by to give you the message. I figured you'd be home.

HANK

How did you know that?

SARAH

Where else would you be, it's TSJ night.

HANK

I could have been out with some pals.

SARAH

You're not.

HANK

(Sarcastically)

Oh you know me so well. Why don't you come in for a drink?

SARAH

Sure. But just one. We both have work in the morning.

Hank walks to his kitchen.

HANK

What do you want? I have every flavor of Hi-C and a few bottles of Powerade.

SARAH

Ummm I'll just take a water.

HANK

Your loss. I'll have me a Smashin' Wild Berry. You sure I cant get you a Grabbin' Grape?

Sarah looks at the couch.

SARAH

When did you get a cat?

HANK

Tonight.

SARAH

Ok then. Whats his name?

HANK

Sarah, drop the pleasantries. I know you're hitting on me.

SARAH

I have done none of that and am married.

HANK

Sarah, you know the deal. I'm like a balloon, I can't be held down. Especially during my programs. All you ladies in the office are always trying.

SARAH

Balloons can be held down, not that me or any other women are trying.

HANK

Sarah, our love just isn't meant to be. I'm a hot air balloon, emphasis on the hot, and you're a lonely secretary who only dreams of sleeping with the strong man she works for. I'm busy, I got TSJ to watch.

SARAH

Hank, you were at my wedding. I'm leaving.

HANK

Sarah, I just want to say, you can sexually harass me anytime you want, just not during Top Chef Junior.

Sarah leaves in disgust. Hank stares sadly as she leaves. He goes and picks up his cat.

HANK

Well, at least you can't leave.

Watson gets off his lap and walks away.

Scene 6

Hank enters from the doorway into the Bean Cuisine. He stands in line for a coffee. Also in line in Streets McCross. Streets approaches the counter.

STREETS

I'll take one large coffee please.

BARISTA

How would you like it?

STREETS

I'll take it MIB 3.

BARISTA

I don't know what that means.

STREETS

Come on, it's the best movie in the Men in Black Trilogy.

BARISTA

Just tell me how you want the coffee.

STREETS

You'd have to be an alien to not want it black. Men in Black.

HANK

I prefer to call it as Pirates of the Caribbean 1.

Streets turns around to talk to Hank and showcases his mask for the first time. Hank starts pointing and acting like a child who just received a Wii on Christmas in 2006. He loses his shit.

HANK

You're Streets McCross, aren't you?!

STREETS

You bet your biscuits I am.

HANK

The Serial Jaywalker?! What are you doing here at the Bean Cuisine?

STREETS

It's my favorite coffee place.

Hank begins to walk towards Streets.

HANK

That's all I needed you sick son of a bitch. You're under arrest.

STREETS

Are you a policeman? Under what authority am I being arrested?

HANK

The Knight's Order.

STREETS

What? I don't get it. That's not a thing.

HANK

Shit I didn't say my name yet. Hank Knight. Detective. Knight with a k. That's a crucial detail.

STREETS

Where's your badge?

Hank starts to rummage through his pockets. While he is doing that, Streets runs away. After Streets is gone, Hank pulls out a fake badge/toy.

(The rest of the scene takes place outside of the Bean Cuisine, can be broken up into two different scenes)

Outside the B.C. There is a street. (Figure out way to do this. Have some ideas.)

Hank pulls out a Nerf Gun.

HANK:

(Out of breath)
Freeze champ,
(Loads Nerf Gun)
I'm locked and loaded.

STREETS

I'm not scared of some idiot cop. Also that's not a real gun, it's a Nerf Gun.

HANK

They prefer the term blaster you stupid idiot. Also it's not just a Nerf Blaster, it's a Nerf N-Strike Elite Mega Cycloneshock Blaster.

STREETS

Whoa.

HANK

Yeah.

STREETS

How much does it retail for?

HANK

Approximately 19.99 but I got it at a swap meet.

STREETS

What'd you swap for it?

HANK

A crate of oven mitts.

STREETS

Where'd you get them?

HANK

They used to be my mom's.

STREETS

Whoa.

HANK

Yeah.

STREETS

Well I have a secret ability that neither you nor your Nerf N-Strike Elite Mega Cycloneshock Blaster has.

HANK

What's that?

Streets begins to jaywalk.

HANK

Stop doing that. Stop jaywalking. It's super illegal.

STREETS

Catch me if you can.

Hank tries to follow him but can't because it's illegal. Cue internal monologue.

HANK

I can't break the law. That would bring me down to his level. That's not what a Knight in shining armor does.

(Looks to audience with like a really meme'y look)

I'm not a criminal dammit, I'm a detective. There will always be other crooks. The laws the law for a reason. I protect these streets - as in the roads not this guy - I don't jaywalk on them. The worst part is that guy seemed really cool. Maybe we could hang out after all this if he wasn't doing my least favorite thing: breaking the law.

Hank reluctantly gives up and walks away from the street. Streets escapes.

Scene 7

Hank approaches Chief McGonigiggle's office. The Chief is standing at his desk when Hank knocks on the door.

CHIEF

Come in!

Hank walks in.

HANK

Sarah told me you needed to see me, Chief McGonigiggle?

CHIEF

Yeah, there was a mistake with case assignments and you got the wrong one. I just wanted to have a talk with you about it.

HANK

Alright sir.

CHIEF

Have a seat.

HANK

Where?

CHIEF

Just get on the ground son! The office doesn't have chairs, it messes with the feng shui.

Chief sits on his side of the desk while Hank sits on the other side, they can't see each other.

HANK

I can't see you, there's a desk in the way.

CHIEF

That's fine. We don't need to see each other to feel each other.

HANK

Excuse me.

CHIEF

I can feel your energy in this temple I call an office, and I assume you can feel mine as well. Do you feel me, Knight?

HANK

No, but regardless, what did you need me for?

CHIEF

What case are you on right now, scamp?

HANK

I'm investigating the Serial Jaywalker, his name is Streets McCross.

CHIEF

Wow that's honestly more than I thought you would be able to get. Good job, champ. What else you got?

HANK

Well, I saw him this morning at the Bean Cuisine.

CHIEF

Two questions rise from that statement. Firstly, why is he not in our custody right now, and secondly, why are you buying coffee from a cafe when we have free coffee in the precinct?

HANK:

I prefer rich Italian blends and the atmosphere brightens my morning.

CHIEF

You know just as well as I do that that was the second point, where's Streets?

HANK

He got away from me in a chase, he jaywalked away.

CHIEF

Why didn't you follow him?

HANK

I'm a cop, I can't break the law.

CHIEF

Yes you can, it's a right you have.

HANK

No that's not what I mean. I know I CAN break the law to chase a bad guy, but I can't do it. It's not the kind of man I am.

CHIEF

That's respectable. Dumb, but respectable.

HANK

Thanks, my goal in life has always been to be dumb but respectable.

CHIEF

Are you getting fresh with me?

HANK

No sir, I'm being serious right now. I know I'm not the best cop, but I always aim to be the most in-the-right cop. A White Knight if you will.

CHIEF

Was that a play on your last name?

HANK

Yes, yes it was.

CHIEF

(Disappointed in himself)

Hank 1, Chief 0. Anywho, I called you in here because I didn't mean to assign you this case. It was actually meant for Detective Johnson. I meant to give you a folder full of blank papers and crayons again, but I messed up and you got it. I originally called you in here to strip you of the case but I've had a change of heart. You may be by far the worst detective in the whole city, but I believe that you're the man for the job. Your moral compass is right once again.

HANK

Thanks sir, it means a lot.

CHIEF

It's the least I can do, kiddo. Now, what other leads do you have?

HANK

Well, to be honest sir, I'm fresh out of leads.

CHIEF

Like a ship in the Knight, aye.

HANK

Was that a play on my last name?

CHIEF

You bet your sweet caboose it was.

HANK

Chief 1, Hank 1.

CHIEF

Well I actually have a theory: what if he's connected to the mob? What if this Streets guy is doing this for insurance money or something? I don't know. Go find Tony and ask him whats up.

HANK

Do you mean Stinky Tony?

CHIEF

Don't call him that, he doesn't like that.

HANK

But he smells so bad.

CHIEF

Well then, get on it. You've got a case to solve.

Chief sticks his hand out for a handshake. Hank begins to stand up and leave.

CHIEF

You're leaving me hanging.

HANK

What do you mean.

CHIEF

I went for a handshake and you did not shake my hand.

HANK

How was I supposed to see that through the desk?

CHIEF

You were supposed to feel it. We went over this.

Hank sticks his hand out and the two do an air shake.

CHIEF

Did you feel it.

HANK

Sure, gotta run. Good luck with your yoga, Chief McGonigiggle.

CHIEF

You can do this, Knight!

Hank stops in his tracks.

HANK

What was that?

Chief stands up.

CHIEF

You can do this champ. I believe in you.

Hank gets all giddy.

HANK

Thank you sir!

Hank exits.

Scene 8

Hank walks towards a car crash next to which two people are having a bit of a squabble. To make reading the scene easier, the characters who are fighting will be assigned the names Dikembe and Willie the Chef. The Boys are there with Willie.

WILLIE

It's your fault dude, I got my boys as witnesses.

THE BOYS

(Angry)

Yeah!

DIKEMBE

It was either stop and get hit by you, or hit that weird masked dude.

WILLIE

I didn't see any masked dude, I just peep'd your punk ass slammin' on the brakes. I'm not going back to jail for this. They won't take me alive! Put up your dukes, kid.

DIKEMBE

I don't want to fight you, weirdo.

WILLIE

Get 'em boys!

The Boys start West Side Story snapping towards Dikembe. Rachel the Crossing Guard runs in and stands between them.

RACHEL

What's going on here, this is a no-gang-violence neighborhood!

WILLIE

This guy caused a car accident, I slammed right into him when he braked for no reason!

DIKEMBE

I didn't brake for no reason, I stopped because a dude just jaywalked right in front of my car!

RACHEL

Was he wearing a mask?

DIKEMBE

Yeah, painted to look like a street.

RACHEL

Alright guys, I know just the man to call. One second.

Rachel walks off screen and returns with Hank.

HANK

Willie! Why the hell did you give me a cat?

WILLIE

Shit man I just didn't want that responsibility any more and none of my boys wanted it.

The Boys shake their heads and wave their fingers in unison.

HANK

Well, whatever. Watson is my new associate.

WILLIE

Watson, you talking about my little Djimon? His name isn't Watson.

HANK

You gave him to me with no name tag, how was I supposed to know his name was Djimon?

WILLIE

You coulda asked The Boys.

The Boys nod and agree.

HANK

I'm done with this conversation, Willie. Rachel, why'd did you grab me from Bean Me Up Scottie to argue with this irresponsible former cat owner?

RACHEL

They saw Streets.

HANK

Well, that's interesting. I already have a lead though, so it doesn't matter to me

RACHEL

Well I thought you would want to know anyway.

HANK

So you were thinking about me. Rachel we've been over this, I'm a kite in a thunderstorm.

RACHEL

I thought it was a hurricane.

HANK

I've loosened up recently, I'm down to a thunderstorm now.

WILLIE

Whose fault is the crash?

THE BOYS
Yeah?

HANK
Oh I don't care, sue each other or something.

Dikembe shrugs and walks away and Willie and The Boys snap chase him off-stage.

HANK
Now back to you, Rachel. You were thinking about me.

RACHEL
I mean I guess so, but like not in a dating way.

Hank moves in and grabs her in like a romantic yet awkward way.

RACHEL
Whoa, ok. This is where we're at now.

HANK
What are you doing tonight?

RACHEL
I have to watch Apprentice Junior.

HANK
Me too. Want to come to my place and watch it?

RACHEL
Yes, I actually do.

HANK
It's a date.

RACHEL
I can't believe it is, but there's just a new confidence about you recently.

HANK
Thanks. I think me and the Chief feeling each other helped.

RACHEL
Excuse me?

HANK
We felt each other in his office this morning.

RACHEL
Wow that must be like a huge HR problem.

HANK

I don't think so, he does it with everyone.

RACHEL

Well I'm gonna go now.

HANK

Don't you need my number?

RACHEL

Yeah I do.

Hank hands her a paper.

RACHEL

The Chief won't be there tonight, will he?

HANK

Why would he be there?

RACHEL

Don't worry about it. I'll see you for Apprentice.

Rachel exits.

Scene 9

Hank walks into Stinky Tony's office. When he opens the door, he immediately recoils from the scent. Tony is at his desk, eating a pile of garlic knots.

HANK

Hey, are you St- Er... I mean Tony?

TONY

One second, bub.

Tony turns to one of his henchman.

TONY

Giuseppe, order me a double order of onion rings from Out of Parm's way. AND DON'T FORGET THE GARLIC SAUCE!

Giuseppe the Henchman leaves. Tony turns to Hank.

TONY

What do you need, kid?

HANK

Well, I'm investigating the case about the serial jaywalker, Streets McCross...

TONY

Woah woah woah. You don't think I'm connected with that monster, do you?

HANK:

I heard that you-

TONY

Wait a second, kid. Luigi, go make me a Prosciutto and Capicola sandwich.

(Pronounce mayonnaise extremely Italian)

And make sure it's got extra mayonnaise.

HANK

Listen Stinky Tony-

TONY

Eh eh eh wise guy, you come into MY office and insult me?! So what if I enjoy the finer foods, such as garlic and onions, and maybe all the foods I like happen to be stinky, but that doesn't make me a stinky person. I've got important waste management business to deal with, so ask your questions and get the pepperoni out of my office.

HANK

Chief McGonigiggle...

TONY

That jamoke? Get the spaghetti out of here. Do you know how much business, in the garbage industry, that I have lost because of him?

HANK

I'm not here to mess with your salami.

TONY

HEY, that's racist! That is our word!

HANK

Look TONY, I'm not here to mess with your waste management, I'm here to talk about Streets McCross. I couldn't care less about any mob dealings-

TONY

AY! Alleged mob dealings.

HANK

I couldn't care less about any ALLEGED mob dealings you may or may not be involved in.

TONY

Alright kid, usually I don't talk to any polizia, but since you're doing good work, I'll help you out. Now I ALLEGEDLY have an arm and a leg in every illegal business operation, and pizza joint, in this town, but jaywalking? Only animals get involved in that disgusting crime. I swear on my mother, I have nothing to do with that shi-

LUIGI

I got your sandwich Tone.

The sandwich is covered in mayonnaise.

TONY

Ah, just how I like it.

Tony sprinkles garlic powder on the sandwich.

TONY

Ayy, where's the mozzarella you jamoke. Now go get me another capicola and prosciutto sandwich, this time with a little mozzarella!

LUIGI

Goddammit. Just when I thought I was out, they puuuulllllll me back in.

Luigi exits.

TONY

Where was I?

HANK

You were talking about Streets.

TONY

Oh yeah, that stromboli. As I said, I may not be involved in the jaywalking biz, but I've been hearin' a lot about this Streets guy. I don't know much, but I know that he's planning something big. He's gonna jaywalk a street, and it's gonna have even more panache than before. He's taking it to the next level.

HANK

What's he going to do?

TONY

I don't know. Maybe he's gonna jaywalk diagonally, maybe he's gonna do it in front of a Pizza Parlor-

GIOVANNI

Hey Tony I got that thing you wanted.

Giovanni hands him a letter, Tony hands him a box.

TONY

Thanks Giovanni, say hi to your mother for me.

GIOVANNI

We still playing poker tonight, boss?

TONY

What kind of question is that? We're playing poker every night! And don't forget to tell Corrado that thing. You know the thing.

GIOVANNI

I know, I know.

Exeunt Giovanni.

HANK

Wait, so you don't know anything else?

TONY

Alright wise guy, I already told ya I'm not in the jaywalking biz. If you want more info, I'm not the one to ask. But I can give you a piece of advice my ma used to tell me. Sometimes you gotta break the law, to enforce the law. Sometimes you gotta break a couple eggs to make an omelette.

HANK

Tony, I can't do that, I've never broken the law in my life.

TONY

HEY. Listen to me, bub. Sometimes you gotta break the law, to enforce the law. Sometimes you gotta cut up some pepperoni to make a pizza.

HANK

Alright, I'll keep that in mind I guess.

TONY

Now make like a pizza delivery boy, and get the hell out of my office as soon as possible. Say hi to your mother for me. Scram. Capiche?

HANK

Capiche.

TONY

(Angry)

Ayyyyyy.

Blackout.

Scene 10

*Hank is in his apartment tidying up nervously.
Rachel knocks on the door. Hank opens this door.*

HANK

You got here early.

RACHEL

Yeah, I didn't want to miss any Apprentice Junior.

HANK

It starts in an hour. I don't know what you're planning on doing for an hour.

RACHEL

Let's just talk.

HANK

Ok.

The two go to the couch.

HANK

Are you sure you just want to talk? I have Candyland in the closet.

RACHEL

I want nothing to do with Candyland. That game is terrible.

HANK

Well, I think it's pretty good.

RACHEL

No, I just want to get to know Hank Knight.

HANK

As you know, I'm a man of the law. A Knight in Shining Armor, if you will.

RACHEL

I think you already told me that exact line but whatever.

HANK

It's a good line. I'm also an avid fan of children's reality shows.

RACHEL

I already know this. Tell me about the real Hank.

HANK

Well... it all began in middle school. My mom forced me to sign up for ballet and-

Hank begins crying and the lights fade.

NARRATOR VOICE

(Probably Garrett)

58 minutes later.

HANK

And that's when I finally stopped wetting the bed every week. Now it's only a once in a while oopsie.

RACHEL

Well that's a hell of a story, but I don't get why you didn't try to-

HANK

Shut up! AJ is on.

RACHEL

I have so many questions though.

HANK

Let the Donald Jr. answer them.

Hank puts his arm around Rachel and they kiss.

RACHEL

Wow, I thought you didn't want any distractions.

HANK

The opening credits were on, I've seen them a million times.

Rachel moves in for another kiss.

HANK

Not now. Wait for commercial.

Hank's phone rings.

HANK

This better be important. No one calls during Apprentice Junior.

STREETS

Why hello there, Mister Knight.

HANK

Who is this? I'm busy with something really beautiful.
The Apprentice Junior.

Rachel sighs.

HANK

Also I have a lady friend here, so how about that, Mr.
Person on the Phone.

STREETS

Well, I figured you might want to hear this call.

HANK

Alright, but it better be super important because now
I'm pausing this show. That means my live tweets will
be minutes later than usual.

STREETS

Do you know who I am, Mr.Knight?

HANK

Dad?

STREETS

No, it's your arch rival.

HANK

The Litterbug Jitterbug?

STREETS

No, the new one.

HANK

Willie? It's my cat now.

STREETS

No like the guy you're investigating right now.

HANK

OJ Simpson?

STREETS

Holy shit how are you a detective. It's Streets.

HANK

Well then, I'm gonna track your location and have
squads there in minutes, Mr. McCross.

Rachel looks at him in concern.

STREETS

You don't know how to do that. Just listen. Tomorrow, I'm pulling my biggest stunt yet in your shitty city. I'm gonna cross the most dangerous road in town.

HANK

Martin Luther King Blvd?

STREETS

No, I did that one already. I'll give you one hint. It's my way or the....

HANK

Or the what?

Hang up noise.

RACHEL

That was Streets?

HANK

Yeah he's planning a big job tomorrow. I don't know where, though.

RACHEL

Did he give you any hints?

HANK

Yeah, but I don't get it.

RACHEL

What was it?

HANK

He said it was his way or the... and then he just stopped.

RACHEL

C'mon Hank. You can figure this clue out.

HANK

I think it might be a pizza place, that's all Stinky Tony talked about today.

RACHEL

What rhymes with "my way"?

HANK

Well, it's not your way, it's his way.

RACHEL

Answer the question.

HANK

He's gonna jaywalk across the Bay? I thought this town was landlocked. That's impossible. This is too hard, I need to watch some AJ.

RACHEL

Alright, maybe it will give you some ideas.

Hank points the remote at the TV. He sits there for a few minutes. He sits there with a dumb look on his face.

HANK

It's highway.

RACHEL

You did it! Nice. How'd you get it?

HANK

It just came to me. I think I'm finally starting to get a hold of this detective thing, thanks to you.

He goes to put his arm around her shoulder again.

HANK

If you were a pirate would you prefer your parrot on this shoulder...

(Touches far shoulder)

...or this one?

(Touches close one and leaves his hand there)

RACHEL

Just do the yawn thing instead.

Hank takes his hand off her and has a sudden moment of realization.

HANK

I have an idea Rachel. I know how to catch Streets.

Hank does the yawn thing. Blackout.

Scene 11

Streets is standing at the highway doing stretches getting ready. He looks impatient.

STREETS

Where are you Hank? I'm gonna cross this bitch if you don't stop me soon. Not here? That's cool I guess, the riddle was probably too hard for you. What an idiot. How are you a detective? Nope, I guess you're still not

(MORE)

STREETS (cont'd)

here. That's cool, I'm just talking to myself anyway. Well, I mean I might as well start. Bet you can't stop me! Shit I thought that might work. Ok I'm done waiting to show you my greatness. I'm going now. 1... 2... 2 and a half... 2 and 3 quarters... 3. Alright, here goes...

(Looks at audience)

...the greatest jaywalk the world has ever seen!

Streets begins to jaywalk and eventually reaches the middle.

STREETS

I'm halfway through, Hank Knight! Or should I say Hank Bitch. Boom, I got you.

Hank emerges on the side of the highway that Streets is walking towards.

HANK

Your Knight in Shining Armor has arrived. Keep on walking, Streets. Right into jail.

STREETS

Do you think you outsmarted me? You didn't outsmart me. I'm a goddamn genius. You can't outsmart the great Streets McCross! I'm just gonna jaywalk back the 4 lanes I already did.

HANK

Shit, I didn't think of that.

Stage lights go out and just a spotlight remains on Hank.

HANK

Ok, so he realized the obvious flaw in my plan. Think, Hank. You can do this.

Off-stage we hear Willie.

WILLIE

Just lie to him. He won't call your bluff. Trust me, I deal.

HANK

Oh, that's a good plan.

Lights come back up.

HANK

Sure, just put your tail between your legs, a la my best friend Watson, and run right into the arms of the SWAT squadron on the other side of the highway.

STREETS

There isn't a SWAT squad you idiot. I'm jaywalking, not murdering someone's family. They only devoted their worst detective to me. The police aren't concerned about me.

Lights go out again.

HANK

Ok, so he called my bluff. Thanks Willie. What else do I got in this brain?

TONY

Luigi! Go pick me up some onion rings!

HANK

Nope not useful in the slightest. On the right track though. You got this brain.

TONY

Sometimes you gotta crack a few omelettes to make an egg salad, capiche?

HANK

What?

TONY

Sometimes you gotta follow the rules to break the rules.

HANK

Am I misremembering or was he really speaking that incoherently? C'mon Knight, there's too much riding on you right now to misremember the advice of a mob boss.

TONY

Sometimes you gotta break the law to enforce the law. Sometimes you gotta cut some pepperoni to make a pizza. Sometimes you gotta-

HANK

Alright alright, I got it. But I can't break the law. That's my thing.

TONY

You gots to, how else are you gonna catch that pastrami?

HANK

I'll find a way. I always do.

Lights come up again.

HANK

Ok, so you called my bluff. You know me well enough to know that I can't break the law. You bested me, Streets.

STREETS

Hah. I knew it BITCH Knight. Or should I say Hank Bitch. Now watch me, kinda, complete this 8 lane jaywalk. That's a pretty serious misdemeanor, Hank. If only you could catch me. But you're too busy hanging out with your cat and watching kids' reality shows. Why don't you quit the detective business and just open up a suck shop? Cause that's what you're best at. Sucking. Boom. Streets 1, Hank 0.

Rachel emerges on the other side of the highway.

HANK

Rachel? What are you doing here?

RACHEL

What do you mean, we already made this plan like 5 hours ago.

HANK

We did?

RACHEL

Yeah and it was your idea.

HANK

Must have had one too many Hi-C's last night. You're surrounded, Streets. Hank 1. Streets 0. Your back to 0 because your point didn't really count. How would I open a suck shop if I clearly don't suck? Why don't you open up a suck shop? Hank 2, Streets 0. Boom 2 points.

STREETS

Even though you caught me, you're still an idiot.

HANK

Save it for the judge.

Blackout.

Scene 12

Hank is booking Streets in the precinct while being real close with Rachel. Wheyo. Chief walks in.

CHIEF

You did it, Knight. You caught the first and only serial jaywalker I've ever seen. Great detective work.

HANK

I couldn't have done without the help of my lovely girlfriend here.

CHIEF

Rachel, is that you? From the crossing guard division?

RACHEL

Yes it is, sir.

CHIEF

Well then. Good for you, kinda.

HANK

So what's this crook gonna get? Couple years behind bars? Maybe death penalty?

CHIEF

Probably like a week. Maybe he'll pay like a 500 dollar fine.

RACHEL

So Hank, who was harder to catch, Streets or the Litterbug Jitterbug?

CHIEF

Who's that?

HANK

My former arch rival. A hardened litterbug who danced while he threw his trash all over this town.

CHIEF

I've literally never heard of that guy, I think you made him up.

Chief walks away.

RACHEL

Was that the guy who felt you?

HANK

So hard.

STREETS

Hah, I knew it, Hank Bitch. I'll be back on those streets and I'm not gonna be using a lot of crosswalks if you know what I mean.

HANK

Rachel, would you mind leaving the room?

RACHEL

Why?

HANK

Police stuff, just trust me.

Exeunt Rachel.

STREETS

(Nervously)

Why'd you send her away? Now it's just us in the room, I thought that wasn't allowed.

HANK

Of all the things I do, you think this would be the one thing to get me fired? Being in a room alone with you?

STREETS

How have you not been fired? Your office is just full of crayon drawings.

HANK

I fill a quota, I'm one-sixteenth Cherokee.

STREETS

Whoa.

HANK

Yeah. Listen here, Streets, if that is your real name.

Hank removes Streets' mask.

HANK

I knew it'd be you, Luigi!

STREETS

Who the hell is Luigi?

HANK

Do you not work for Stinky Tony?

STREETS

The mob boss? He wouldn't dare put his salami in jaywalking, he's too scared.

Hank slaps Streets.

HANK

That's their word. He taught me that.

STREETS

Well Hank, it doesn't matter if you hit me. I'll never stop jaywalking. It's in my blood.

HANK

Oh yeah?

Pulls out Nerf N-Strike Elite Mega Cycloneshock Blaster and puts on Streets' head. Streets is scared af.

HANK

If I ever hear of you jaywalking on MY streets again, I will find you, and I will kill you.

STREETS

Did you just quote *Taken*?

HANK

Not the point.

STREETS

Alright alright man, I'll leave town. But I'll never stop jaywalking. Even though you caught me, you're still an idiot and always will be.

HANK

Hey Streets, I have an idea.

STREETS

What's that, Hank Bitch?

HANK

In that next town over, why don't you open up a suck shop?

Blackout.

Scene 12

In Hank's apartment, he and Rachel are sitting on the couch with the cat.

RACHEL

Turn to channel 5, Hank! Survivor Junior starts in 20 minutes and I don't want to miss anything!

HANK

Alright, sounds good.

He points the remote.

NEWS ANCHOR VOICE

The town of Next-Over-Ton has recently experienced a spike in jaywalkings. According to the Police Chief, Rory O'Dublinshire, we might have a serial jaywalker on our hands.

Hank turns off the TV.

RACHEL

You ok, Hank?

HANK

Yeah I'm ok, honey. He may not have gotten the death penalty like I wanted, but at least I jaywalked him out of town.

Blackout.

END SHOW.