

OUTSIDE THE PANELS

Episode One

Written by

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First Draft

ACT 1

INT. JACK'S HOME/COMIC STUDIO - DAY

JACK, 30, white male, dressed in dark hoodie, jeans, with a backwards hat, sits at his desk in his office visible from his living room, within eyeshot of the front door.

The front door opens and in walks SETH, 30, shaggy brown hair, wearing a zip-up hoodie with workout pants.

Jack pays no attention to his entrance into his house and keeps on working.

JACK

Your late.

SETH

It's all good, I have found the perfect way to catch up and actually get ahead of schedule.

Jack is still focused on his computer.

JACK

This ought to be good. OK, I'll bite. Whats this idea.

Seth walks over to Jack's desk in the office and sits at his desk positioned across from Jack's desk.

Jack now stares blankly at Seth sitting across from him.

SETH

OK. You know how we're always running a bit behind schedule, with our comic release each month.

JACK

Yeah, the longer you talk the more behind we get. Get to your idea.

SETH

Alright, hold on. What would you say if I have found a way to get ahead of schedule and it will cost us nothing?

JACK

What is this, an infomercial? Let's get on with. We have work to do.

SETH

OK, I'll just say it. We should get an intern.

JACK

Dude... we don't need an intern. We just need to work. One 22 page comic book each month. That's it.

SETH

With an intern, we could hit that mark, plus work on other projects, or get more free time.

JACK

Like what would we have them do? Are we even able to legally do that?

SETH

I've done all the research and yeah since we are a published and an official company, we are good to go.

JACK

How about we circle back to this after we complete this issue?

Seth pulls out his phone to check the time.

SETH

Well, the problem is, I already started the process of getting an intern.

JACK

No. You can't just do this stuff alone. Stuff like this we need to discuss.

SETH

But she's really talented.

JACK

"She"... Dude, really. We've known each other for what, twenty years? I know the angles you take to meet girls. How's that going to look, you dating our intern?

SETH

Trust me, it's not like that.

JACK
I trust that there's a lawsuit in
the making.

SETH
She's a student at the art school
in town and her style is like ours.

Jack stares out the window.

The doorbell RINGS.

JACK
That's her isn't.

SETH
Yeah.

JACK
Well, let in your future lawsuit.

END OF ACT

ACT 2

INT. JACK'S HOME/COMIC STUDIO (FRONT DOOR) - DAY

Seth opens up the front door and is greeted by GRACE, 20, cute blonde with a backpack slung over one shoulder, dressed in a red flannel and blue jeans.

SETH

Hey, did you find the place alright?

GRACE

Yeah, well, Google maps did most of the work, but yeah.

SETH

That's cool. Come on in, I'll show you the studio.

Seth walks over to where Jack is seated in the studio with Grace following.

They enter the office where Jack is still seated and working at his desk.

SETH (CONT'D)

Jack, this is Grace.

Jack looks up from his desk then stands to fully meet her, and shakes her hand.

JACK

It's nice to meet you. Could you actually give us a minute? You can have a seat in the other room.

GRACE

Yeah, of course.

JACK

Thanks, we won't be too long.

Grace exits the studio and walks to the living room and sits on a couch.

Jack walks over and pulls the studio's door shut. He then turns back to Seth.

JACK (CONT'D)

This is a really bad idea. How much of her work did you even look at?

SETH
I skimmed through most of it.

The sound of the front door OPENING and CLOSING from the other room.

JACK
Jen must be home from work.

A moment later the office door slowly opens and in pops JEN, 27, wearing blue nurse scrubs.

JEN
Who's the blonde in our living room? Is it your new fling Seth?

SETH
No, she's our new intern.

JEN
Is that what you call them nowadays? Well, she's a little young don't ya think.

JACK
Seth took it upon himself to get an intern so he can not do his own work. Now he *needs* to break the news that we don't need her.

JEN
Well, while you two figure out who she is, I'll go keep her company.

Jen closes the door behind her and walks to the room where Grace is sitting.

INT. JACK'S HOME (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

Jen moves over to the couch and sits by Grace.

JEN
Hi, I'm Jen. Jack's Wife.

Grace holds out her hand and shakes Jen's extended hand.

GRACE
Nice to meet you, I'm Grace

JEN
So what brings you here? How did Seth talk you into interning for them?

GRACE

Well since high school I've been a big fan of their webcomics and when I heard they were going to start publishing for print. I had to be involved.

JEN

Some advice... keep up your guard around Seth. He can be a little much sometimes.

GRACE

Oh, I can definitely tell, and really he isn't my type. He was the only reason I had to think twice about taking the position.

JEN

You seem like a bright person, as a woman, I just felt compelled to warn you about Seth.

JEN (CONT'D)

So I'm assuming you go to the art school in town.

GRACE

Yes, I started there right after high school. But I feel that there's only so much I can learn at school. I needed some way to gain more real-life experience.

Grace pulls out a portfolio of her work from her bag and hands it over to Jen.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Heres some of the work that I've done so far. As you can see I get a lot of my style from Jack and Seth's work.

Jen flips through and studies each drawing.

JEN

These are really good. You're actually better than Seth.

Jen stands up and with the portfolio in hand.

JEN (CONT'D)

Come with me.

Jen leads Grace to the studio and knocks on the door as she pushes it open.

INT. JACK'S HOME (STUDIO) - DAY

JEN

Jack. Have seen her portfolio.

JACK

No, but in all fairness, I just found out about her like 5 minutes ago.

JEN

I think you should take a look.

Jen tosses the portfolio on his desk. The room is silent while he flips through the pages quickly.

JACK

Yeah, these are for sure good, and you have some skills. I'm just sure that we need an intern.

SETH

Come on Jack. You work hard, you deserve this.

Jack stares at Seth for a moment, then looks over at Jen. She nods her head in approval.

JACK

I suppose we can try it out. But just as a test.

SETH

Works for me.

GRACE

I'm confused, I thought I already had the intern position.

END OF ACT

ACT 3

INT. JACK'S HOME (STUDIO) - CONTINUOUS

JACK
Go ahead and make yourself
comfortable at Seth's desk. Seth,
get her started.

SETH
You got it.

Jack follows Jen as she leaves the room.

INT. JACK'S HOME (LIVING ROOM) - CONTINUOUS

JACK
This is OK, right? Getting an
intern. I just feel weird having
someone work on our comic.

JEN
Yeah, its actually probably the
best idea that Seth has ever had.
Even though he did it with ulterior
motives.

JACK
You're probably right.

JEN
Plus, I see you in there working
your butt off every night, so this
is a good thing. You deserve it.

JACK
I just hope he behaves himself
around her. Maybe I'll try and
keep them separated as much as I
can.

JEN
I'm sure they'll be alright. She's
a little young, and a bit out of
his league.

JACK
 Maybe I'll finally get to some of
 my other projects I had to put on
 the back burner. I should probably
 get back in there.

Jack starts to walk back towards his studio then he stops and
 turns back to Jen.

JACK (CONT'D)
 Thanks for your help. I knew there
 was a reason I kept you around.

JEN
 Haha, you're hilarious.

INT. JACK'S HOME (LIVING ROOM) - CONTINUOUS

Jack enters the studio and Seth and Grace are still working
 at Seth's desk, now on his drawing tablet.

JACK
 You get her situated on there?

Seth just looks up and nods.

JACK (CONT'D)
 Great. Since she's working on your
 computer, would you mind going on a
 coffee run?

SETH
 What? Isn't that an intern job.
 Never mind, I'll do it.

JACK
 Thanks, oh and ask Jen if she wants
 anything.

Jack turns to face Seth as he walks by.

JACK (CONT'D)
 Great idea on getting an intern.
 It's already making life easier.
 Thanks, man.

Jack pats Seth on his back as he leaves the room.

END OF ACT