

# SCRUBS

Written by  
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Pink  
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**(pilot)**

Final Draft:  
Revision:  
Blue

FADE IN:

1 INT. COLD OPEN, BEDROOM -- MORNING

1

As the clock turns to 6:00 AM, the alarm goes off. JOHN DORIAN, "J.D." to his friends immediately reaches out and turns it off. J.D. is 25, boyishly handsome, self-deprecatingly funny, likeable, and would probably be more self-confident if he realized any of that. As he gets out of bed, WE HEAR HIS VOICEOVER:

J.D (V.O.)

Since I was eleven years old, I've been able to sleep through anything. Storms, earthquakes, my girlfriend yelling at me to "Open the door or we're through," you name it.

2 INT. BATHROOM -- CONTINUOUS

WE SEE J.D. ENTER, start to undress...

J.D (V.O.)

Last night I didn't sleep.

3 OMITTED

3

4 INT. BATHROOM -- MOMENTS. LATER

J.D. is now in front of the mirror, towel around his waist, shaving cream in one hand.

J.D (V.O.)

I guess I get a little goofy when I'm nervous.

TIME CUT TO:

J.D. in a towel in front of the mirror, his body and face covered with shaving cream as if it were warpaint.

J.D (V.O.) (CONTID)

You see, today isn't just any other day...

*ANGLE ON J.D.'s hand as he turns on the radio.*

TIME CUT TO:

PULL BACK to see J.D. now dressed in hospital scrubs, looking at himself in the mirror.

J.D (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It's my first day.

MUSIC CUE.

J.D.  
(to mirror)  
I'm the man.

5

EXT. SACRED HEART HOSPITAL -- MOMENTS LATER

5

The music still plays as J.D. walks toward the entrance. The hospital itself is so old and depressing that it probably can't even remember its better days.

J.D (V.O.)  
And four years of pre-med, four years of med school, and hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid loans have finally made me realize one important thing...

6

INT. ER/ADMISSIONS -- CONTINUOUS

6

J.D. CASUALLY ENTERS through a sliding glass door. What he sees is akin to being dropped in Vietnam, patients are whisked by, children crying; This is a real hospital with much commotion. As J.D. takes this in, a frantic NURSE APPEARS, \*

NURSE KEARNEY  
Good, could you go drop a N.G. tube on the patient in 234 and call the attending if the lavage is positive?

\*

J.D.  
(beat)  
Sure.

J.D (V.O.)  
I don't know jack.

AS J.D. STANDS THERE, CLUELESS: END OF COLD OPEN.

FADE OUT:

## ACT ONE

INT. ER/ADMISSIONS - CONTINUOUS

J.D. still stands next to the nurse.

J.D. (V.O.)

So, this is my story...

J.D.

I'm supposed to be up in intensive care-

NURSE KEARNEY

Good. We just turfed him there.

(explaining)

We transferred him to I.C.U.

J.D.

Was this before you turfed him?

NURSE KEARNEY

That's what turfing means.

J.D.

I know that. I'm just having some fun with you. Woo-hoo...

The nurse stares at him, skeptically.

J.D. (V.O.)

Look, I got into medicine because I always wanted to help people, but orientation yesterday didn't really focus on patient care...

CUT TO:

8 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - THE DAY BEFORE

The hospital LAWYER drones on in front of a room filled with soon-to-be interns. On the chalkboard he's written the word LAWSUITS and drawn an X through it.

LAWYER

The hospital doesn't want to be sued, you don't want to be sued - *let's be honest*, no one likes being sued. Being sued is not .a good thing...

J.D. sits next to CHRIS TURK, 25, black, handsome, with the quiet confidence of a man who can't be flustered. Turk and J.D. speak with the familiarity of old friends.

J.D.

Turk, You know how I'm totally down with the rap music...

TURK

Dude, be whiter.

WE FREEZE FRAME on TURK:

(CONTINUED)

J.D (V.0.)  
Chris Turk is my best friend. We  
roomed together in college.

\*  
\*  
\*

8A EXT. - DAY

8A\*

Two shot of Turk and J.D. (with mullet and flat top) when  
they were college freshman. (William and Mary sweatshirt,  
etc.)

\*  
\*  
\*

8B EXT. - DAY

8B\*

Two shot of Turk and J.D. in med school in similar pose.

\*  
\*  
\*

J.D (V.0.)  
We roomed together in med school.

\*  
\*

8C EXT. - DAY

8C\*

Two shot of J.D. and Turk six weeks ago.

\*

J.D (V.0.)  
Hell, we even got accepted by the  
same hospital.

\*

J.D. and Turk hold envelopes, celebrating their acceptance.  
They hug then part, both extremely uncomfortable.

\*

BACK TO FREEZE FRAME OF TURK

CUT TO: \*

9 OMITTED

9\*

10 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

10

Back on FREEZE FRAME of Turk reacting, then:

J.D.  
Here's the thing. Tupac, DMX, Dr. Dre in  
most of their songs, these artists use an  
extremely volatile word- -

TURK  
Nigger. Yes, I am aware of that.

J.D.  
My question is this. If we're both singing  
along, and knowing that otherwise I'd  
never use the word, am I allowed to say--

TURK  
No.

J.D.  
But what if-

TURK  
N000.

J.D.  
See, that's good to know.

ANGLE ON the Lawyer, who has now written on the chalkboard:  
ALCOHOL + SURGERY = NO-NO. He UNDERLINES No-No.

— \*

LAWYER  
...Finally Doctors, if you make a mistake,  
call me. Please, don't admit it to the  
patient, or the patient's family,  
especially if there is a death involved.  
Of course, if the patient is deceased,  
you can feel free to tell him or her  
anything.

The Lawyer LAUGHS. No one else does.

J.D.  
So, hey, I found us an apartment-  
J.D. is interrupted by CHIEF OF MEDICINE ROBERT KELSO, 56,  
he is a kind looking man with loads of law shucks' charm.

DR. KELSO  
Listen up gang, I'm Dr. Bob Kelso, and  
I'm your chief of medicine. We've got  
some exciting times ahead, gang, so I  
want you to think of me as your safety  
net, because I promise you, we are a family  
here. Now, I bought pizza in case you'd  
like to stick around and touch base with  
your fellow interns. Go get 'em, doctors.

CUT TO:

11 INT. PENTHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

11

The penthouse is a room with a few ratty couches, an old tv,  
a small table and an old PAC MAN video game currently in  
use. J.D. and Turk eat pizza and watch.

J.D.  
Can I sing black magic woman?

TURK

You can hum it.

(then)

So the surgical interns are gonna go grab a beer.

J.D.

The medical interns are having a Pac-Man tournament. Apparently we're all twelve.

ELLIOT (O.S.)

I love Pac-Man.

The guys turn to see ELLIOT REID, 26, an attractive, extremely driven young woman, so much so that she seems, to live at a slightly quicker pace than normal humans. She's also the type of girl that could make the world stop if she let her hair down. It's down right now.

J.D.

Me too. I love playing it, I love watching it played. I just love it.

ELLIOT

I'm Elliot.

TURK

(Finger out, a'la  
E.T.)

Ellllioott...

ELLIOT

Yeah, don't do that.

J.D.

I'm J.D., this is Turk.

TURK

So, Elliot... you medical or surgery?

TIME SLOWS. J.D. and Turk look at each other, then back to Elliot. Finally:

ELLIOT

Medical.

AS TURK REACTS and WE HEAR A PAC-MAN DIE:

CUT TO:

12 INT. CORRIDOR - MINUTES LATER

J.D. and Elliot walk up to I.C.U. Elliot gradually increases the pace.

ELLIOT

So every male in my family is a doctor. My dad, my granddad, my brother. Guess that's why Dad gave me a guy's name, made me play sports, date girls, I'm joking.

J.D.

I know, I would've laughed if you had paused.

ELLIOT

Good. It was funny. So, Turk's cute.

J.D (V.O.)

If she likes Turk, so be it.

J.D.

He's getting married.

ELLIOT

Anyway, I got better board scores than Gramps, my dad, and my stupid brother...I know what you're thinking.

J.D (V.O.)

Your butt looks like two pringles next to each other.

J.D:

No you don't.

13 INT. STAIRWELL -- CONTINUOUS

13

ELLIOT

The whole having-to-be-the-best thing, Miss "Hyper competitive," I mean it used to be a big problem for me, used to, past tense...

J.D.

(stops)

Hey. Are we racing?

Elliot gives him an "Are you crazy" look, then:

ELLIOT

Yes.

She TAKES OFF up the stairs. J.D. races after her.

14 INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

14

In J.D.'s fantasy, he now wears a MARATHONER'S OUTFIT. He RUNS past doctors and nurses, even takes a cup of coffee from one and POURS it over his own head. Finally, at the I.C.U. ward, J.D. PASSES ELLIOT and BREAKS THE FINISH LINE TAPE FIRST. A WOMAN IN A WALKER comes in third.

15 INT. I.C.U. NURSES STATION -- CONTINUOUS

15

BACK TO REALITY. J.D. bends over, gasps for breath. Elliot is not the least bit tired.

ELLIOT

So, you do a lot of cardio?



\*

\*

16

Too tired to speak, J.D. MOUTHS "YES". .SECOND-YEAR RESIDENT  
JEFFREY STEADMAN, 29, ENTERS. He is truly a weasel.

\*

\*

JEFFERY

Elliot Reid and John Dorian?

(of f nods, not thrilled)

Great. One, I am your resident, Dr.

*Jeffery* Steadman, not Jeff. Two, here are  
your Manuals..,

He hands them both an Intern Manual (universal text of basic  
procedures given to all interns). .

JEFFERY (CONT'D)

These can answer any basic questions you have so  
don't bother me, ever, kay? Three,  
don't be a moron and open your manual up in  
front of a patient, Four...

J.D. (V.O.)  
You ever notice how quickly some people make  
an impression?

Note: In the following dialogue, what we hear does not match  
Jeffery's mouth movements, it's just what J.D. hears.

JEFFERY  
I'm a tool, I'm a tool. I'm a tool, tool, tool, tool,  
unbelievably annoying tool.

J.D.  
Yeah.

JEFFERY  
Finally, these are your beepers. From now on, these  
control your life, kay?

J.D. stares at the beeper in his hand. It goes off.

MATCH CUT TO:

16     INT. ER/ADMISSIONS - PRESENT TIME

J.D. is where we left him earlier, next to the same nurse,  
staring at his beeper.

J.D.  
Sorry, gotta go.

CUT TO:

17     INT. HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

17

J.D. catches up to NURSE CARLA ESPINOZA, who is pushing an  
older patient quickly down the hall on a gurney.. She is  
Hispanic, thirtyish, painfully frank, and manages to be  
motherly and sexy at the same time.

J.D.

I was beeped...

CARLA

Aww, first day Bambi? Carla will take care of you - don't look at me when we're moving someone.

J.D. walks into some equipment, FALLS OUT OF FRAME. Hops up, and follows Carla into a room.

18 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

CARLA

We're waiting for Dr. Cox...

DR. PHIL COX ENTERS. He is an ATTENDING PHYSICIAN in his late-thirties, and a steamroller of a man.

J.D.

Hi, Dr., I'm--

DR. COX

Place an I.V. for me.

J.D.

We'll talk later.

DR. COX

Carla, a personal question. Do you spray your perfume on or do you keep a tub full of the crap and slosh around in it?

CARLA

(unfazed)

I smell nice.

J.D. is STRUGGLING WITH THE I.V.

J.D (V.O.)

C'mon, you've done this to cadavers before. So this guy's alive,, just poke it through his skin, poke it through - Now!

J.D. makes a move, but CAN'T DO IT. Dr. Cox notices.

DR. COX

Time's up. Do that for him, please. I'm also gonna need to get an ABG.

J.D.

Why are you telling her?

DR. COX

Shut up and watch.

CARLA

Awwww, be nice to Bambi.

(CONTINUED)