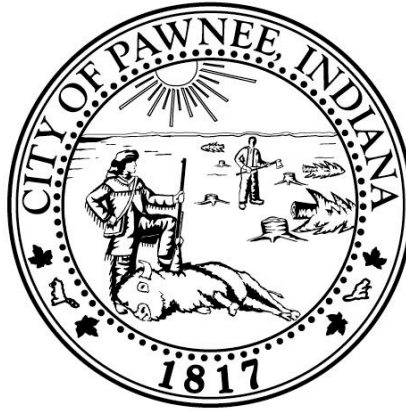


PARKS AND RECREATION



Practice Date
#02004

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PRE-TABLE DRAFT 08/10/09
TABLE DRAFT 08/12/09

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PARKS AND RECREATION
Table Draft

"Practice Date"

[02004]
08/12/09

CAST LIST

LESLIE
ANN
MARK
TOM
RON
APRIL

JERRY
DONNA
DAVE

WENDY
CRAIG WHITLEY
BARTENDER
EMCEE
70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN
WOMAN #1
WOMAN #2
WOMAN #3
WOMAN #4
WOMAN #5
WOMAN #6

COLD OPEN

INT. PLANNING DEPARTMENT OPEN AREA - MORNING - DAY 1

LESLIE, APRIL, TOM, JERRY, DONNA, and some OTHERS are all gathered around a television, watching the news.

ANGLE ON: The TV. City Councilman CRAIG WHITLEY stands beside his wife as he reads a statement.

WHITLEY

...And to my wife, I apologize. All I can say is: I wasn't just having sex. I was making love... to a beautiful woman... and her boyfriend, and a third woman, whose name I never learned. In my defense, it was my birthday, and I really wanted to do it.

ANGLE ON: The group.

LESLIE

(shaking her head)
City Councilman Craig Whitley. Another politico, felled by scandal.

WHITLEY (ON TV)

Furthermore, I would like to apologize to Habitat for Humanity. It was wrong of me to say I was building houses for the underprivileged, when I was actually having four-way sex in a cave in Brazil.

TOM

I bet cave sex is in-sane.

LESLIE

Why?

TOM

...Because of the echoes... and the humidity.

DONNA

(smiling and nodding)
Mmm.

LESLIE

Ugh. Think about his wife.

TOM

Oh I will. She's hot. I would totally have sex with her in a Brazilian cave.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

JERRY

Did you hear the craziest part? I heard
Jimmy Carter was having sex with them in
the cave.

LESLIE

No, Jerry. Jimmy Carter just founded
Habitat for Humanity -- he has nothing to
do with this at all.

JERRY

(shrugs)
Well that's what I heard.

LESLIE

It's not true!

JERRY

Agree to disagree.

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

LESLIE

People love to fixate on the tawdry
details of these scandals. Personally, I
care about Councilman Whitley's policies,
not whether he was high on nitrous and
cocaine during the cave sex... which, by
the way, I heard he was.

(beat)

I also heard that he used city funds to
pay a hooker to spank his face. But I
don't want to start rumors.

(beat)

He likes feet.

She holds up her hands like "That's all I'm saying."

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. PLANNING DEPARTMENT OPEN AREA - MOMENTS LATER - D1

April, Tom, Jerry, Donna, MARK and RON are still hung up on the scandal. They watch the TV.

NEWSCASTER (ON SCREEN)

...It turns out that Councilman Whitley may have also had sex with a prostitute in the limousine on the way to and from the press conference where he apologized for having an affair. Perd Hapley, Channel Four Eyewitness News.

Back to scene.

MARK

Why does anyone run for office? You're just asking to have your entire life exposed.

TOM

Well, if you're clean, like me, there's no problem. I'm as clean as a whistle, that's carved out of soap. After it's been washed... with soap!

MARK

You're married, and you hit on women constantly.

TOM

Yeah, but I've never sealed the deal. Just window shopping. "You can fly to Brazil -- just don't enter the cave." Am I right, guys?

April high fives Tom.

INT. PIONEER HALLWAY - LATER - D1

Leslie and DAVE walk along, joking around.

DAVE

Sometimes, I wish there wasn't any crime, but then I guess I'd be out of a job.

LESLIE

I am totally the same. I often wish the whole world was a park, but then where would you put a park?

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Well most of the world is water, and we still build swimming pools, so I think you'd be okay.

(then)

I should get back to my post now, but I'll see you tomorrow night, right?

LESLIE

Absolutely.

DAVE

There's a couple of restaurants near my house that I really want to try.

LESLIE

Great. You choose the place, for our first official date. Check. Roger that.

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

In her office.

LESLIE

I'm not nervous. Why would I be nervous? We're just two people going on a first date. There's nothing to be nervous about.

Her PHONE VIBRATES. She jumps and throws the phone against the wall, where it smashes. She rubs her forehead.

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - LATER - D1

Mark, Tom, Ron, Donna, Jerry, and April.

MARK

I'm sure we could find something on you, Tom.

TOM

(ticking them off)

I changed my name, which is legal, and once in high school a girl beat me in a wrestling match. That's it. And I bet you anything I could find worse stuff on all you guys.

MARK

I'll play. What the hell.

DONNA

I'm in.

(CONTINUED)

JERRY

I'm out.

TOM

Not an option, Jerry. You're going down.

JERRY

No seriously, I really don't want to play.

TOM

No seriously, you are playing. We are going to nail you.

JERRY

(quietly)

Why are you doing this to me?

RON

I will play too, but only to prove that I can find more dirt on you than you can on me.

APRIL

...That's why we're all playing.

Ron gives April a look and goes into his office.

APRIL TALKING HEAD

APRIL

I love games that turn people against each other.

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - D1

Leslie walks Dave out of the office.

DONNA

You guys will never believe what I just found on Jerry's Facebook.

APRIL

A friend? Burn.

JERRY

Again, I'd really rather not play.

LESLIE

What are you guys doing?

APRIL

Seeing who has the least amount of dirt on them in case we want to run for office.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Well, it's not Jerry. That's for sure.

Jerry throws his hands up.

DAVE (CONT'D)

He's got a couple of 3-5-9s. Public
urination.

JERRY

It was Mardi Gras. Things got a tad out
of control.

TOM

There's no Mardi Gras in Indiana.

JERRY

You don't have to be in the North Pole to
celebrate Christmas.

(then)

I don't like this game and I don't wanna
play anymore.

Jerry storms out.

DAVE

He's probably going to go anger-pee in
the courtyard.

(then)

Okay, you crazy bunch of park people.
I'm outta here. Leslie, I will see you
tomorrow night.

LESLIE

Stew and brew!

DAVE

Stew and brew!

LESLIE

Stew and brew!

Dave exits. Leslie looks worried.

APRIL

You guys are weird.

INT. PIONEER HALLWAY - LATER - D1

Mark walks down the hall and runs into ANN.

MARK

Hey -- what are you doing here?

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

ANN

Having lunch with Leslie. What are you doing?

Mark realizes there's no good way to explain this.

MARK

...Well, I am looking for scandalous information about my co-workers. For a game. That we're playing.

Beat.

ANN

My taxes pay your salary, right?

MARK

Yup.

ANN

Cool.

EXT. COURTYARD - LATER - D1

Leslie and Ann eat lunch. Leslie is distracted.

ANN

...So after all that, I got to tell those kids that their daddy was going to be okay.

LESLIE

(not listening)

Yeah. Hey -- I'm kind of nervous about this date tonight. Can I borrow a good "first date" outfit? Like maybe some cargo pants?

ANN

I don't know if I'd go with cargo pants.

LESLIE

What about a sexy hat?

ANN

I'm not sure what that even is.

LESLIE

Helping already!

ANN

You wanna come over tonight after work?

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

LESLIE

Sure. Tonight. Several hours from now.

Leslie stares at Ann intensely.

ANN

Or... you could come over now?

LESLIE

(immediately)

Sure okay that sounds good that will give
us more time. Let's go!

She runs off. Ann glances to camera and walks after her.

LESLIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Hurry!

ANN

Coming!

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - LATER - D1

Jerry, Donna, and April sit at their computers, eyeing each other warily as they type. Tom walks through, full of confidence.

TOM

Whatcha looking for, guys? Dirt on me?
No point. Give up now.

(super cocky)

There's nothing on me, except for the
fact that I'm actually a robot.

Tom starts dancing like a robot.

TOM TALKING HEAD

He's still doing robot moves.

TOM

(robot)

I am an automated sex machine.

In the b.g., Ron appears in the window behind him and slaps a picture of Tom in BLACK ROBES on the window.

RON

Muslim robes!

Tom looks at it, and jumps up...

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - D1

Tom crosses towards Ron's office.

DONNA
(holds up Muslim robe picture)
Hey Tom, nice Muslim robes.

TOM
That was Halloween -- I was dressed as a
ninja.

MARK
I'm sure the voters would be able to tell
the difference.

TOM
You're all racists.

Donna stares at him.

RON
This is going to be easier than I
thought, and I initially thought it was
going to be incredibly easy.

TOM
Well, did everyone know that Ron's ex-
wife Tammy is actually his second ex-wife
named Tammy? That's right -- he's got
two ex-wives, each named Tammy.

RON
(to camera)
Both of them bitches.
(to Tom)
Tom, that was a Jaeger-secret. You just
breached a Jaeger-secret.

DONNA
Damn, this heated up quick!

RON TALKING HEAD

RON
Yes, my mom's name is Tammy. What's your
point?

INT. ANN'S HOUSE - MID-AFTERNOON - D1

Leslie models one of Ann's dresses for Ann. PAN OVER to
piles of clothes strewn everywhere.

(CONTINUED)

ANN

I think that looks great!

LESLIE

Wow -- the first one I tried! How lucky.

ANN

I kind of wish you hadn't emptied out my entire closet before we started.

LESLIE

Better safe than sorry.

ANN

Will you be wearing it out of the store, madame?

LESLIE

I think I will, good lady.

Leslie starts to go and stops short.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

While I have you, can I ask you a question?

ANN

Shoot.

LESLIE

What if I choke on the date?

ANN

Like under pressure?

LESLIE

No, like on something. Celery, a raisin, whatever.

ANN

Just eat like you normally would, and you should be fine. Trust your mandible.

LESLIE

(writing that down)

Mandible. Got it. Thanks.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

And also, what if he asks me if I've been married?

ANN

Have you?

(CONTINUED)

LESLIE

No.

ANN

So, say that.

LESLIE

But, won't he wonder why not? I think I should say I've been married. The real question is if I say I have kids. Guys like girls with kids, right?

ANN

Whoa.

LESLIE

(spiraling)

What if I get drunk and bring up Darfur too much.

(then)

Or not enough! What if I don't bring it up enough?

ANN

Leslie, relax.

LESLIE

Okay, but real fast...

Leslie takes out a list of questions and begins to quick-fire read them to Ann.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

What if he shows up with another woman, or what if he wants to have sex through a plastic sheet? Or what if one of my sleeves catches on fire and it spreads rapidly? Or what if instead of Tic Tacs I accidentally pop a couple of Ambien and have to keep punching my own leg to stay awake?

ANN

These are all insane hypotheticals. I promise you they won't happen.

Leslie speaks quietly and intensely.

LESLIE

They have happened. All of those have happened to me.

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

LESLIE

No -- there's more. One time, I accidentally drank an entire bottle of vinegar -- I thought it was terrible wine.

(jump cut)

Once I went out with a guy who wore 3-D glasses the entire night, even while we made out.

(jump cut)

Another time, I went to a really boring movie with a guy, and when I fell asleep he tried to pull out one of my teeth. I literally woke up with his hand in my mouth. We went out a few more times, but then he got weird.

INT. ANN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER - D1

Leslie and Ann sit on the couch.

LESLIE

Look, I know it sounds crazy -- I'm a grown woman. It's just the first date. I've had an incredibly bad run of first dates over the last fifteen years, and every time it happens, I feel terrible about myself...

ANN

Okay. You have a problem. And we're going to fix it.

LESLIE

I know what you're going to suggest, but they take a long time and we need two more people.

ANN

...What? What did you think I was going to suggest?

LESLIE

A bridge tournament, to take my mind off of things? No?

ANN

No. What? No. We'll go on a practice date. I'll pretend to be Dave, and you can practice on me.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

LESLIE

(thrilled)

Oh, that's a way better idea. Awesome.

Thanks, Ann.

(beat)

Oh God -- I'm getting so nervous.

ANN

...For our practice date?

LESLIE

Yeah. I'm freaking out. I've had some
legendarily bad practice dates. Okay.
I'll be okay. Let's go.

Off Ann -- yikes...

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - LATER - D1

Tom is reading something. WENDY enters.

WENDY

Hey, Tommy. You ready?

TOM

Yes I am, darlin' -- just give me one second.

Tom looks over at Donna.

TOM (CONT'D)

Hey Donna, let me ask you something -- do you hate black people?

DONNA

Excuse me?

TOM

Apparently, in 1988, you gave money to the Presidential campaign of David Duke.

JERRY

The Klansman?

DONNA

(fuming)

I got a phone call... they said he would lower taxes...

TOM

Boom! How's it feel to lose so hard?

(to Wendy)

Sorry. Let's get coffee.

Tom and Wendy head to the courtyard, passing Ron.

TOM (CONT'D)

Honey, you remember my boss, Ron Swanson.

WENDY

Of course. How are you?

RON

Fine, thank you. How are things at the hospital?

WENDY

Really well, thanks -- I just got a Pediatric Surgery fellowship.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

TOM

We're celebrating, because she's rich,
and she's super hot. Take it easy, Ron.

Tom and Wendy walk out into the hallway. Ron follows them
with his eyes.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - LATER - D1

Leslie and Ann sit at a bar having a glass of wine.

ANN

So, from now on, I'm Dave. I'll be
sitting here waiting for you and you come
to the table.

LESLIE

Should I go all the way back home?

ANN

...No.

LESLIE

Back to the car?

ANN

No. Just walk up.

LESLIE

Okay. This is fun.

Leslie walks three steps away and then turns around. She
waves at Ann like she's seeing her for the first time.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

(waving)

Hey Dave, it's me. It's Leslie.

Leslie walks up.

ANN

Hi, Leslie. Great to see you.

LESLIE

So.

(long beat)

Let's begin our conversation.

ANN

...You don't have to... I mean, you
should just start talking.

(CONTINUED)

LESLIE
(nervous)
About what, though? You know? About
what?

ANN
Whatever's on your mind.

Off Ann's look.

ANN TALKING HEAD

ANN
Leslie is in worse shape than I thought.
(beat)
I probably shouldn't have left her at the
bar alone.

She turns around to see Leslie in the b.g., practicing eating
from an empty plate and pantomiming conversation as the other
diners stare at her.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - LATER - D1

Leslie is rambling nervously.

LESLIE
...Of course, in German it's *auf und ab*
Maschine, which quite literally means the
"up and down machine."

ANN
Wow. That is a thorough history of the
"teeter-totter."

LESLIE
What should our second topic be?

ANN
Just... ask me a question. Try to get to
know me.

LESLIE
Okay.

Beat. Leslie stares at her. Ann stares back: "Well?"
Leslie opens her mouth. Nothing comes out.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
I can't think of anything to ask you.
Not one thing. My mind is blank.

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

ANN
Just... ask the first question that pops
into your mind?

LESLIE
(immediately)
How big is it?

Ann recoils.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Oh God. Oh God!

Leslie slams back a drink.

ANN
(quietly)
Wow.

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - LATER - D1

Tom, April, Jerry, and Donna are still trying to uncover each other's dirty laundry. Mark walks in.

JERRY
(nervously)
Hey Mark, a little birdie told me you
have one unpaid parking ticket.

MARK
Really Jerry, because a little birdie
told me that your adoptive mother was
arrested for marijuana possession.

JERRY
(broken)
What?

MARK
Oh you didn't know, huh?

JERRY
I didn't know I was adopted.

Beat. Mark looks like he feels bad.

MARK
Oh no. Sorry.

JERRY
(exiting)
I really didn't want to play.

Jerry walks out, muttering to himself.

(CONTINUED)

MARK

That was not what I intended.

TOM

Not your fault -- he totally baited you
with that unpaid parking ticket.

APRIL

This game is fun.

RON (O.S.)

Tom, could you come into my office?

INT. RON'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER - D1

SPY SHOT: Tom enters and Ron motions for him to close the
door behind him.

RON

(big smile)

Tommy Tomatoes.

TOM

Ronald McDonald!

RON

Congratulate me.

TOM

On what?

RON

Winning the game. I just found out,
through some back channels, that your
wedding was a sham. It's a green card
marriage.

TOM

That's crazy! I was born in South
Carolina. These colors don't run.

RON

Yes, but Wendy was born in Ottawa.
Canada. Her visa was set to expire the
day after you got married... at the
county courthouse, in front of three
strangers and no family.

Beat. Tom is screwed.

TOM

(sighs)

We met in college.. she wanted to work in
the states, she couldn't get a permit...

(CONTINUED)

RON

I knew you couldn't get a wife as hot as her.

RON TALKING HEAD

RON

I've established a scientifically perfect ten-point scale of human beauty. Wendy is a 7.4, which is way too high for Tom, who's a 5.6.

(beat)

Ten is tennis legend Steffi Graf.

INT. RON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - D1

TOM

Dude. Ronseph. Games aside, you gotta be cool about this.

RON

Don't worry, I'm not going to turn you in. I don't want her to get deported back to Canada. Just admit, when it comes to digging up dirt, I bested you in this game. Say I bested you

TOM

Fine. You bested me. Is that all?

RON

No. I'll have your wife tonight.

TOM

What?

RON

I'm just kidding. Get out of here.

Tom leaves, forcing a smile.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - LATER - D1

Leslie and Ann.

ANN

Okay -- I have a new idea. Just go with me on it, okay?

LESLIE

Whatever you want. I am putty in your hands.

ANN TALKING HEAD

Ann is all business.

ANN

Leslie has a medical-grade phobia. In nursing school, we did a psych unit on how to treat phobias with a method called "exposure therapy." It's like, if you're scared of snakes, we would immerse you in a tank of snakes. I am going to immerse Leslie in a tank of bad date.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - CONTINUOUS - D1

Leslie gets up and sits back down.

LESLIE

Hi, Dave--

ANN

You're late. And I can see your nipples through that shirt.

Leslie looks panicked.

LESLIE

What?

ANN

You're twenty minutes late -- I almost left.

LESLIE

I thought I was on time?

(covering)

I'm sorry... I had to drop my niece off at... swimming.

ANN

What's your niece's name?

LESLIE

(immediately)

Jorping! No. Jorping's not even a name. And I don't have a niece. My niece's name is "Stephanie!"

ANN

Please don't lie to me.

ANN TALKING HEAD

ANN

I like being Bad Date Dave -- I get to
channel every ass I ever went on a date
with.

(beat)

And of course, I'm helping Leslie.

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER - D1

Ann and Leslie have moved to a table.

ANN

I don't care about the history of the
teeter-totter. That doesn't interest me.

LESLIE

Oh God. That was going to be my opener.
Okay. Just hang on. I'll think of
something. Oh look -- bread!

Leslie offers some bread to Ann, knocking over a vase of
flowers, which drop into Ann's stew.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

(panicking)

Flowers!

Leslie picks the flowers out of Ann's stew.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

I got flowers in your stew.

Leslie quickly puts the flowers into Ann's water glass.

ANN

That's my water.

LESLIE

It's delicious.

Leslie drinks Ann's water.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

I have to go to the... whizz palace.

(off Ann's look)

Oh God. I forgot the name of the toilet
place. What is it, Dave? What's the
name of the toilet place?!?!?

She RUSHES OFF.

ANN TALKING HEAD

ANN

I hope this was a good idea.

Leslie POPS INTO FRAME in the b.g.

LESLIE

Got it. Got it. It's "bathroom."

(beat)

Still have to go.

She runs off, COLLIDING with a WAITER, who drops a TRAY of PLATES.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

(calling to Ann, terrified)

Plates!

INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - EARLY EVENING - NIGHT 1

Tom looks like he's been up all night cracking a case.

TOM

(to himself)

Ron, Ron, Ron, what have you "don?"

Through the window, Tom sees Mark's office light is on. He heads out...

INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - N1

Tom rushes by Jerry, who is packing up for the day...

TOM

(to Jerry)

Jerry, plastic surgery?

JERRY

(beaten down)

I got hit by a fire truck.

Tom heads outside.

INT. MARK'S OFFICE - LATER - N1

Tom approaches Mark, who's working.

TOM

Mark, you hate Ron, right?

MARK

No. I think Ron is fine.

(CONTINUED)

TOM

So we're on the same page.

Mark looks puzzled.

TOM (CONT'D)

You gotta help me take this guy down.
There has to be something on him.

MARK

I'm starting to feel kind of gross about
this game. I don't think people's pasts
should be dredged up and put on display.

TOM

(genuine)

It's not about the game anymore. Ron has
some serious dirt on me, and I need to
balance things out. Please.

Mark stares at Tom.

MARK

There's a guy named Duke Silver. He
hangs out at a bar in Eagleton. He's an
old friend of Ron's -- maybe you should
ask him.

TOM

Thanks, man. I'm going to dig up so much
dirt on that guy that I will need a
shovel.

(beat)

That sounded way snappier in my head.

Tom heads off.

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER - N1

Ann and Leslie sit at the table. Each has a bowl of STEW.

LESLIE

(defensive)

Why would you say that, Dave? I loved
that dog. She was my best friend. Her
funeral was the saddest day of...

ANN

(loud)

Brrrrring. Brrrrring.

(mimes holding phone)

Hey, Tiffany. Sure, I can see you
tonight. Yeah, definitely wear that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANN (CONT'D)

Not right now, I'm on a date with a real
drip. Oh, okay, I'll ask.
(to Leslie)

Hey, are you into three-ways?

LESLIE

You know what, Dave? You're disgusting.

ANN

That's a "no" on the three-way?

LESLIE

Okay. Well, this has been a disaster. I
don't need to be here anymore. Thanks,
Dave, for nothing. Don't call me.
Goodbye.

She grabs her purse. Ann smiles.

ANN

All right! Well done.

LESLIE

...Are you still talking to the person on
the phone?

ANN

You survived. You passed.

Leslie looks confused.

ANN (CONT'D)

Sorry. I had to get "medical" on you.
Now you see, though, that even if
everything goes wrong, you'll survive.
Just a bad date.

LESLIE

(sitting back down)

Well well well. You coy bastard.

ANN

You just had to find your spine. And you
did.

LESLIE

I knew it all along.

(beat)

I didn't know it all along. I was super
confused. I almost cried a little, in
the whizz palace.

A WAITER passes by.

(CONTINUED)

ANN

Two glasses of champagne, please.

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

B-roll: Leslie and Ann drinking, having a good time, laughing, dancing, drinking...

LESLIE (V.O.)

Ann is so awesome. I'm lucky to have a friend who would spend her night off pretending to treat me so poorly.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - LATER - N1

Leslie and Ann sit at the bar again, both a little tipsy.

ANN

I want you to hear me on this. Most first dates are train wrecks. Andy took me to the state fair. I paid for everything because he "forgot his money in his other wallet." Then, he rode the "Gravitron" without me four times and threw up a candied turkey leg all over me. And then we dated for three years.

LESLIE

What if it isn't a disaster, but he just... doesn't like me that much?

ANN

Impossible. It's impossible not to like you. He's going to freak out because of how awesome you are!

LESLIE

(sincerely)
Thank you, Dave.

ANN

I'm Ann now.

Ann finishes her drink. Leslie does the same.

ANN (CONT'D)

Listen to me: he's going to love you. You're cool and sexy and funny and smart, and any guy would be lucky to go on a date with you!

LESLIE

Yeah!

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

ANN

Yeah! See you tomorrow. Call me when
you get home.

She walks off. Leslie is glowing. She thinks.

EXT. DAVE'S HOUSE - LATER - N1

Leslie bangs on the door to a house. She's all riled up with
liquid courage. DAVE answers.

DAVE

...Hey.

LESLIE

(super cocky)
Yeah -- I'm here.

DAVE

I see that.

LESLIE

I know that right now, it's today, and
not tomorrow, but I felt like you should
know that you're lucky to have me, and
that our first date tomorrow is gonna be
off-the-charts amazing. Up top!

Dave gives Leslie a tentative high five.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Let's do this, bitch! I'm not scared.
I'll go on the date right now.

DAVE

I don't think that's the best idea.

LESLIE

You know what? Lemme in. Move. You
make a better door than a... guy.

Leslie pushes past him into his house.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. JAZZ CLUB - LATER - N1

Tom is at a jazz club, looking around. He goes up to the BARTENDER.

TOM

Hey -- this is going to sound weird. I'm looking for a guy named Duke Silver?

BARTENDER

Yeah -- he goes on in a second.

The bartender gestures toward the stage. Tom is confused, but sits down. Looks around -- almost the ENTIRE AUDIENCE is WOMEN between the ages of 40-60.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - LATER - N1

Leslie is sprawled out on the couch. Dave fixes some food in the kitchen and brings it to her.

DAVE

Wow. You sure know a lot about teeter totters.

LESLIE

No -- you know a lot about teeter totters!

DAVE

I do now. Here, I heated up some leftover pizza and brought you water and coffee and several aspirin.

LESLIE

Are you hot? I'm like, burning up.

DAVE

Hmmm, it may be a little on the warm side, sure.

LESLIE

I'm awesome.

DAVE

Okay.

LESLIE

It's honestly hot in here.

DAVE

Lemme see what I can do about that.

DAVE TALKING HEAD

DAVE

It's freezing cold in here.

He counts to four in his head and then walks back.

INT. JAZZ CLUB - LATER - N1

Tom sits and waits. An EMCEE takes the stage.

EMCEE

Ladies, ladies, ladies... it's about that time. It is with the jazziest pleasure that I bring you... Mr. Duke Silver!

The women go nuts as Ron takes the stage. In a sexy, sharkskin suit, wearing sunglasses and a fedora. With a saxophone.

RON

Good evening. As always, it's a thrill to be here, during this witching hour, with you fine ladies. Now relax, as the Duke Silver Trio takes you on a journey... to yourself.

Ron wields a saxophone and begins playing "Almost Paradise" from "Footloose." Tom looks at the camera, elated, and begins taking pictures with his phone.

EXT. ANN'S HOUSE - LATER - N1

She comes to the door. Mark is there.

ANN

Hey.

MARK

Hello.

Beat.

ANN

Can I help you? At 11:48 P.M.?

MARK

I was on my way home, and I had to pass your house. So I dropped by, instead of calling. And that pretty much brings us up to date.

ANN

Great.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

MARK

Okay, here's the whole thing. Here's all my skeletons.

(deep breath)

When I was sixteen I had sex with a married woman. When I was in college, I smoked a decent amount of pot, nothing insane... and I cheated on a test, but in my defense--

ANN

What the hell are you doing?

MARK

I've done some stuff in my life that I'm not proud of. And I like you, so I'd rather you not find out about it from anyone but me.

(beat)

This was a bad idea.

ANN

No. I get what this is, and why you did it.

She smiles.

MARK

Anything you want to tell me about your past? To balance the scales?

ANN

Yeah. One time this guy rang my doorbell at midnight to brag about getting laid when he was sixteen, so I murdered him.

MARK

Good night.

He heads off.

INT. DAVE'S HOUSE - LATER - N1

Dave sits back down as Leslie tries to remove her sweater. It's a shirt-sweater combo.

LESLIE

I need to return this sweater. I think it fused to my shirt in the dryer or something.

DAVE

I think it may be one of those sweater-shirt combos.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

Leslie gives it one last try.

LESLIE

Did you see my bra? I was gonna wear the
good one tomorrow. Can I use the
bathroom?

(bragging)

Impressed I know what that's called?

DAVE

Yeah. Maybe I should just give you a
lift home.

Leslie suddenly realizes exactly what she's done.

LESLIE

Oh God. Oh my God, I went to your house.
I drank too much and went to your house,
is what I did.

DAVE

Leslie--

LESLIE

No, don't say anything. Please. Don't
say a word. Just take me home.

He gets up and they head to the door.

INT. JAZZ CLUB - LATER - N1

Ron finishes up playing on stage. The band continues with
rhythm behind him.

RON

You are all beautiful creatures of the
earth, and it's been a real gift making
sonic love to you tonight.

Tom is still delighted.

RON (CONT'D)

If you want more of the Duke, I have both
of my CDs for sale: "Smooth As Silver"
and "Hi Ho, Duke."

He holds them up.

RON (CONT'D)

And look for my new album next month,
"Memories...of Now." So, come see me,
come talk to me, come love with me... or
we can just howl at the moon together.
Thank you. Good night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He plays ONE LONG LAST NOTE and runs off the stage to uproarious applause. The lights come up.

Ron towels off, then wades into the crowd to sign autographs. He flirts and takes pictures with a few women. Tom steps up.

TOM
Duuuuke. Huge fan.

Ron looks up and he and Tom share a tense moment. Ron starts slowly clapping.

RON TALKING HEAD

RON
Yes. Once a month, at a bar in Eagleton, Indiana, I play tenor jazz saxophone under the name Duke Silver, for an audience of mature women.

He stares at the camera.

INT. JAZZ CLUB - LATER - N1

Ron and Tom speak quietly in a corner.

RON
Look, Tom. I imagine you'll want to tell everyone about this, but I've worked pretty hard to cultivate a certain... authoritative, or intimidating, image around the office--

A 70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN comes up to Ron with a camera.

70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN
Can I get a picture?

RON
(gritted teeth)
Sure.

Tom takes the camera.

TOM
Say "I bested you!"

70 YEAR-OLD WOMAN
(going with it)
"I bested you!"

Tom snaps the picture.

(CONTINUED)

Table Draft

CONTINUED:

TOM

One more -- give her a little kiss, Duke.

RON

Oh, that's--

TOM

Come on! Give her a little taste of the Duke.

Ron scowls, then KISSES the woman on the cheek as Tom takes another picture. She leaves. Tom smiles at Ron.

RON

Truce?

TOM

Truce.

They shake.

EXT. CITY HALL - LATER - N1

Establishing. Night-to-day.

INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - MORNING - DAY 2

Leslie, looking miserable, sits in her office.

TOM

You showed up at a dude's house in the middle of the night, drunk, and you didn't even sleep with him?!

LESLIE

No. Should I have? Would that have made it better?

TOM

It never hurts.

Dave pokes his head in and knocks on the door frame.

DAVE

Hey.

TOM

(leaning back in his chair)

Nice.

DAVE

You left quite a bit of stuff at my place last night. Earrings, your purse...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE (CONT'D)
a shoe somehow. Not sure how I didn't
notice the shoe.

LESLIE
Tom. Can we have the room please?

TOM
Sure. Seems like you two have a lot to
be awkward with each other about.

Tom leaves.

LESLIE
I am so sorry for last night. On my list
of embarrassing things I've done in my
life, that is numbers one through seven.

DAVE
Ah, forget about it. We all do stupid
stuff when we're drunk. One time I
handcuffed myself to my gun.
(smiles)
So, I can't wait until our second date
tonight.

LESLIE
Second?

DAVE
Yeah -- our first date was last night.
So tonight would be our second one. I'm
looking forward to it. Stew and brew?
Eight o'clock?

LESLIE
(re-excited)
Stew and brew!

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

Leslie is glowing.

LESLIE
Our first date happened, and I didn't
even know about it. A.K.A. -- I nailed
it. No fires, no ambulances -- just good
old-fashioned showing up drunk at a guy's
house late at night. Knope for the win!

*

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. JAZZ CLUB - N1

Ron wails away on stage, and we INTERCUT a series of WOMEN, 40-60, giving testimonials.

WOMAN #1

Duke Silver is the sexiest man alive.

WOMAN #2

I can only listen to his CDs while my husband's at work.

WOMAN #3

My kids think I'm at book club.

TOM

He is to die for.

WOMAN #4

I vacuum to "Hi Ho, Duke." I make love to "Smooth as Silver."

WOMAN #5

I made my husband grow a mustache like Duke's. It's just not the same.

WOMAN #6

He makes me feel dirty.

INT. JAZZ CLUB - LATER - N1

Ron looks right into camera and winks.

RON

You ladies have a good night.

END OF SHOW