

LIFE IS LOUSY  
EPISODE ONE  
"PILOT"

Written by

Ethan McArthur

Based on many, many, many Sitcoms.

INT. "THE LOUSY DINER" DOWNTOWN TORONTO - DAY

MATTHEW (MATT) WILSON, a twenty-one year old man, sits at a booth with a twenty-one year old woman, SAMANTHA (SAM) BROWN. Sam has papers laid out across the entire table, leaving only a sliver of space for Matt to place his burger and fries.

Matt lifts a soggy fry from his tray and watches it pitifully droop in front of him.

MATT

Why do we still come here? The fries are always soggy.

Sam replies without raising their head from their papers.

SAM

Dunno, probably because no one else comes here. It's the only place I can study in peace.

Matt shrugs his shoulders and eats the fry. A BELL CHIME is heard from the front door of the diner. JOHN (JACK) MILLER and ALEXANDER (ZANDER) BROWN, two twenty-one year old men, enter the diner, approaching the booth where Matt and Sam are seated.

MATT

Jack! Zander! Thank god you showed up. Sam hasn't lifted their head from their notes for like two hours. I've started to run out of things to talk about.

SAM

Matt has basically been talking to himself.

Sam looks up briefly to Matt.

SAM (CONT'D)

I told you I have to study for my midterm on Monday.

Matt moves over in the booth to make room for Jack to take a seat. Zander squishes himself next to Sam as she struggles to hold back against him.

ZANDER

So what class you got a midterm in Sis?

SAM

You already know what class Zander, we're in the same program. Zander shouldn't you be studying for history too?

ZANDER

If I'm being honest I didn't even know there was a test coming up.

Zander glances over at the papers directly in front of Sam.

ZANDER (CONT'D)

You got 13 wrong by the way. It's B not D.

Sam rolls her eyes and angrily erases something from her page and corrects it.

A waitress arrives at the booth.

DANNI

Oh hey Zander, anything I can get for you and your friend?

ZANDER

I'll just get a coffee, black. You Jack?

Jack begins to sweat, his body starts to seize up.

JACK

Oh- uh- hi... yea I'll have a coffee too.

DANNI

Black as well?

JACK

Y-yes please.

DANNI

Gotcha, I'll be right back.

DANNI walks away. Matt and Zander start to chuckle at Jack, Sam also raises their head from their notes to laugh.

SAM

Everything okay J-j-jack?

The groups laughing intensifies.

MATT  
 (laughing)  
 I didn't know you liked black c-c-  
 coffee.

Jack places his head on the table, on top of Sam's papers.

JACK  
 I was just already upset and  
 flustered walking in. Where's Dolly  
 anyways? Who was that? Are we not  
 going to ask Zander why he knows  
 the new waitress already?

Jack lifts his head from the table. Sam picks up the papers that Jack had laid his head on, dusts them off and places them back where they were returning her gaze to her notes.

MATT  
 We'll get to that. What happened  
 that got you all upset Jack?

Jack buries his face in his hands.

JACK  
 I just got another bad grade. I  
 thought I was starting to do  
 better.

ZANDER  
 That's because you lack passion my  
 friend. Passion is the fuel that  
 drives this funny thing we call  
 "life".

Zander waves his hand slowly above his head as he says  
 "life".

JACK  
 Oh really? That's weird coming from  
 the guy who has never studied a day  
 in his life and is somehow on the  
 deans list. What is the so called  
 fuel that drives your life?

Zander leans in closely to Jack's ear.

ZANDER  
 (loudly)  
 Women!

Zander leans back in his seat.

ZANDER (CONT'D)  
Beautiful, beautiful women. They seem to love me the way I am, so what is there to do other than be myself?

Danni returns with the coffee's. She smiles at Jack and walks away.

JACK  
So are you gonna tell us how you know her?

Zander sits up and takes a sip from his coffee.

ZANDER  
Oh relax hot shot. I met her in my Psych class.

Sam raises her head from her notes again.

SAM  
What? We're in the same have the same courses, we don't have Psychology.

Zander smiles.

ZANDER  
Oh I'm not in the class, I just go because the girls are hot.

Sam rolls her eyes, then returns them to her notes. Matt and Jack nod their heads as if this is normal for Zander.

ZANDER (CONT'D)  
Doesn't matter anyways, I tried asking her out, a lot of guys have actually, says she's looking for the right guy. Whatever that means.

Sam chuckles to her notes.

SAM  
You'll never know what that means will you.

Zander rolls his eyes.

ZANDER  
Yea whatever. We're pretty good friends now, she acts as my wingman sometimes.

(MORE)

ZANDER (CONT'D)  
You wouldn't believe how well it works. I've told her all about you guys actually.

MATT  
Is that why she's been glancing over at Jack ever since you guys got here?

Jack's face turns red as he tries to sit up tall.

ZANDER  
(Smiling)  
Must be.

Sam begins to pack up her notes.

SAM  
It's getting too loud here.

Sam glares at the three guys.

SAM (CONT'D)  
I'm going back to our place.

MATT  
I'll walk with you, I've been here a while.

Zander takes a big gulp to finish off his coffee.

ZANDER  
I'll come too. Seems like Sam needs my help studying.

Sam punches Zander in the shoulder as they are getting out of the booth.

MATT  
You gonna come too Jack?

Jack gets up to let matt out of the booth.

JACK  
Uh nah, I'm gonna stay here for a bit to think...

Jack looks down at the table.

JACK (CONT'D)  
...Aaaand finish my coffee I guess.

Everyone, including Jack chuckle.

ZANDER

See you when you get back then!

SAM

See ya Jack.

Jack waves at the group as they leave the diner. He looks back down at his coffee. It is still completely full. He hears a thud which makes him look up from the coffee to see Danni sitting across from him, no longer wearing a waitress uniform.

DANNI

Wow, hated my coffee that much huh?

Jack gets flustered.

JACK

N-n-no I just. I don't usually get black coffee.

Danni drops a few packets of sugar and cream on the table for Jack. Jack begins to fix his coffee.

DANNI

I figured after I saw you hadn't had any after a while.

Jack smiles.

JACK

Watching me for a while?

Danni leans slightly over the table.

DANNI

Maybe.

Danni winks to Jack. She then sits back in the booth, smiling.

DANNI (CONT'D)

So, are you gonna ask for my number?

JACK

W-what?

DANNI

Oh c'mon I saw how you were acting whenever I came up to your booth, ask me.

JACK

Um... Okay.

Jack takes a sip from his coffee.

JACK (CONT'D)

Hey Danni, I was wondering if I could get your number?

Danni stares at Jack with a straight face.

DANNI

I'm sorry, I have a girlfriend.

JACK

Oh- but- why did you tell me to ask for your number?

Danni leans forward and looks at Jack extremely seriously.

DANNI

I meant as like friends but you did it sooooo romantically. I'm sorry if I led you on a bit there.

Jack lowers his head out of embarrassment. He raises his head when he hears CHUCKLING from Danni. Jack sees a piece of paper with the number "(416) 555 - 3245" written on it.

JACK

What's this?

DANNI

I'm messing with you. I'm Bi but I'm not seeing anyone right now.

Jack grabs the piece of paper and puts it in his wallet.

DANNI (CONT'D)

Oh yea, my manager asked me to bring you this.

Danni places the check on the table and begins to stand up.

JACK

Of course they all stuck me with the bill.

DANNI

Classic. I'll see you around Jack.

Jack gets up and starts to head towards the cash register.

DANNI (CONT'D)  
Don't wait too long to call,  
someone else might ask me out  
first.

Jack's face goes from happy to nervous.

DANNI (CONT'D)  
Just messing with you.

Danni leaves the diner.

JACK  
(Under his breath)  
That girl is gonna give me a heart  
attack.

Jack pays the bill and exits the diner.