

Writers Guild Registration Number: 1934801

Show Synopsis:

Johnjohn is a suspenseful comedy about three unrelated but coincidentally identical men who decide to live with each other as one person: An Irish god-loving immigrant and a hardened hotheaded NY firefighter do their best to hide under the guise of their third counterpart - a gay, flighty outgoing actor who wants nothing more than to be the next famous comedy actor!

Character Synopses:

Johnjohn:

Johnjohn is a bubbly, flighty, naively ambitious aspiring actor, who has an all-too altruistic perception of the world. Although he's 35, his youthful energy makes him seem younger than he is. He's gay and single, but more preoccupied with his career than dating though it does lead him astray from time to time. His impulsive decision making often leads him into trouble, many times leaving him struggling for money and stability. Upon the loss of yet another job, he's at the end of his creative rope and convinces Casey, his best friend, to help him with his craziest idea yet, which could lead to ultimate success or complete disaster.

Marc McGregor:

Marc is a 38 year old good-hearted man whose first concern is his wife (also an immigrant) and two young children. He doesn't drink and lives a stable, religious life. Originally from Ireland, his tumultuous past back in Ireland forced him to flee his home country, back that dark past lies dormant waiting to erupt upon his return. Meanwhile, he started his life over in California, opening a restaurant and starting his family over the past 11 years, only to have it all threatened over the US's red-taped complicated path to citizenship and subsequent deportation. Succumbing to pressure to leave, he tells his family he's going back to Ireland, but ultimately can't face the repercussions of his past and instead takes his life on a major a detour.

Sheldon (Shelly) Quinn:

Shelly was a fire-fighter his whole life and comes from a family of fire-fighters and police officers who rarely venture outside the city of Manhattan. Unfortunately, one of his early experiences as a firefighter was 9/11, and he's never quite been the same. Lacking any sense of introspection

he has never really thought much about the world or himself - he just likes the simple things in life, like drinking with his buddies, playing a game of darts or ping pong, and getting laid every once in a while. He struggles with his drinking, gets in the occasional fight with friends and strangers alike, but his real vice is his gambling. He's awoken from a night out one too many times far more in debt than he can handle. He's run out of friends and family financial bail-outs, and this time gets himself involved with the wrong crowd, which untimely forces him out of the city, and into a world way outside his comfort zone.

Script:

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

A slender mid 30's man in a turtle neck, beanie and silver cross around his neck, Marc, is in a kitchen drinking a cup of coffee. There's a knock at the door. Johnjohn yells to Marc from another room to answer the door and he'll be out in a sec. Marc answers the door. A man that resembles him wearing a tank top and dark circles under his eyes is standing at the door.

SHELLY

I'm here for like, uhh-

MARC

-The contest thing, yeah, come in.

Shelly walks in and sits at a bar stool in the kitchen.

MARC

Coffee?

SHELLY

Sure. (beat) You live here?

MARC

No, I'm another winner.

Shelly looks Marc up and down.

SHELLY

You an actor? You don't look like an actor.

MARC

Well I.... You don't either.

SHELLY
I ain't no actor.

MARC
Neither am I. but why are you here
then? (beat)

Shelly stares right in Marc's eyes and doesn't answer. Marc nervously pulls subtly pulls out rosary beads to hold in his hands under the table.

MARC
I was spiritually drawn here I
believe. I was supposed to get
deported two weeks ago.

SHELLY
The hell you talkin about, you're
white.

MARC
I know it, but I'm not a citizen
either am I? Told my family I was
leavin', but I ran. I ended up here. I
couldn't bare to leave them for good.

SHELLY
Rang up bad debt with wrong type of
people. So I thought I was winning
some money or something from this. You
Gamble?

Marc nods.

Smart. Strung a couple of really bad
nights together. Maybe more than a
couple, with the wrong type of people,
but I quit. This time for good. (beat)
I guess we're both sorta hiding, huh?

MARC
From everyone but God.

Johnjohn walks in room.

JOHNJOHN
Hi! (to Shelly) You made it! Okay oh
my gosh we have a LOT to talk about.
So first off, I wanna thank you guys
for auditioning. I, as a fellow actor
that know the *sacrifices* we make every

day for our craft. So, I'm like, super grateful to you both. And I mean, we are seriously like, triplets! It's cray cray! Anyway, before I go into detail... who all has ever acted professionally before?

Johnjohn raises his hand like a teacher while asking. Both men pensively raise their hand while looking at each other.

JOHNJOHN

Thank god. This is gonna be so much easier to explain. So, the reason I had this contest: I want all 3 of us to live as *one person*. (beat) Meaning get a job, live at my house, and go on auditions as each other.. we'll start out as me since this was my idea. but think about it! We'll pool our money, pool our time, and pool our resources, help each other with work, and auditions.. and we'll basically live as *one person*.

SHELLY

So, you want us to live as you?

JOHNJOHN

Yeah!

MARC

Under yer name?

JOHNJOHN

Yeah!

SHELLY

Your *whole identity?*

JOHNJOHN

Yeah! (beat) Okay, So as actors we're always struggling, right? Always barely surviving, always racing. This way, we'll *all* have time to audition, time to film, I'll work for you during your audition, you work for me during my audition, I'll get time off to do my laundry while you're at our day job, you get to sleep while you're at

our night job, there will be 3 income streams between us, and basically a flexible schedule.

And it's easy, I'll give you my social security number and bank info, and we'll make cute little ID's together and any other info you need, and I mean... listen, I know we just met but we're actors, and we actors understand each other, we stick together.

So? What do you guys think?

MARC

...But if we get caught, aren't we violating some federal laws? Isn't this identity theft?

JOHNJOHN

What? No, not even. Don't think of it as identity *theft*, I've giving it to you...well I'm lending it to you, so it's more like an identity *loan*.

SHELLY

Nobody'd know I was here.

MARC

Praise Jesus.

Shelly and Marc give each other a look.

JOHNJOHN

That's the one sort of drawback to this that I can see. You guys will sort of be invisible.. at first, and I have thought about that-...

MARC

Let's do it.

SHELLY

I'm in.

JOHNJOHN

Oh! Okay, awesome! This calls for snacks!

Johnjohn runs to the kitchen. Marc thanks the sky.

We see Johnjohn, Marc, and Shelly sitting around a kitchen bar in the apartment.

JOHNJOHN

Okay guys, so then, from this point on, we're gonna be one person. We're are all now Johnjohn.

SHELLY

Wait, your name is John-*John*.

JOHNJOHN

Yeah! But it's... it's *Johnjohn*.

SHELLY

John-*John*, that's what I said.

JOHNJOHN

Right but it's...

MARC

I think he just means yer emphasizing the wrong part. so instead of it bein' '*John-John*,' it's actually '*JohnJohn*'.

JOHNJOHN

Exactly.

SHELLY

Christ, who cares. Why you even need two John's? What's wrong with just one John? I think we should just go by one John.

MARC

If that makes it easier. It's certainly less noticeable...

JOHNJOHN

...What? No. That's not my *name*. And that's kinda the point. It's *more* noticeable.

An envelope on the table catches Shelly's eye.

SHELLY

...this piece a mail ain't got two John's on it. One John; John Duffy.

JOHNJOHN

Yeah, but that's my.. I changed it a

little while ago...

MARC

Changed it? John Duffy is a beautifully perfect Irish name. There's probably 4 John Duffy's in every pub in Ireland.

SHELLY

Yeah, I knew like 3 firemen named John Duffy, they didn't need no extra johns.

JOHNJOHN

Yes but we're actors remember? I'm trying to stand out from the crowd, y'know? Branding. (beat)

SHELLY

Yeahyeah we're actors whatever, but ain't we trying to blend in?

JOHNJOHN

Yeah, I mean, you guys are. But your *persona*, me...I'm trying to "break out" you know? So we can like, get noticed?

SHELLY

Get noticed? Have you tried talkin in public wit that little t-rex hands thing you do? You seem hard to miss.

Marc and Shelly chuckle to each other.

JOHNJOHN

Aw, thank you Shelly! But also those are spirit fingers. But like you say there's like a million John Duffy's, like there's a kid in LA who's a comedian... and there's this really old man composer who died while owning my domain name, and then there's some murderer guy on death row or something... and if you go on IMDB just forget it, I think I'm like John Duffy Roman Numeral 39, it's crazy, BUT... when you go on Facebook there's like, no Johnjohn's except this one pro surfer guy and just like

a few others here and there. Plus, I've been introducing myself this way for like a year now, so if you stop, then people will be like, what the? And I wouldn't want you guys to blow our cover, so... great. it's settled. It's Johnjohn. From here on out. Yay! Yuo guys, this is gonna be so great!

Johnjohn gets up and grabs a cup of coffee.

SHELLY

Did you understand any of that?

Marc Shrugs. (beat)

Johnjohn sits back down.

JOHNJOHN

Now. you guys, we're gonna have to work on your accents.

SHELLY

Accents?

JOHNJOHN

Yeah, what kind of voice training have you guys done?

MARC

I hardly have an accent, I don't think it's noticeable.

SHELLY

You freakin' kiddin me right now? You sound like you fell out of a box a' Lucky Charms.

MARC

What are you talking about? I lived in California for eleven years, I barely have an accent. Your accent is worse than mine.

SHELLY

I'm from upstate New York, my accent is american, therefore I have no accent. (beat) Fuckin *girls*, love the way I talk. Soon as I open my mouth they start putting their p-

JOHNJOHN

-Ooookay first off, ew, second off, focus? ...aright guys, you've gotten to know me a little bit. Can you guys sound like me?

MARC

You have a pretty high octave.

JOHNJOHN

I'd say that it's more my voice just fluctuates a little bit more.

MARC

Especially, I've noticed, at the end of sentences.

JOHNJOHN

Okay? ummmm, sure?

SHELLY

it ain't hard. (Mocking, but sort of trying) Yeah, I'm so excited, everything's great, I'm an actor.
(beat)

What?

MARC

Jesus Loves you but that was terrible.

SHELLY

Aright "Lucky Charms," let's see what you got.

MARC

We already sound pretty much alike, but, okay. (beat)

(In his best Johnjohn accent) Oh my god you guys, did you like, see Big Bang Theory last night? Like, first off, *awesome*.

(Beat)

The camera gets a CU of Johnjohn looking stressed.

JOHNJOHN

... .. Great. (beat) Okay, So, Shelly let's talk about that scar above your

eye.

Shelly looks up guarded.

JOHNJOHN

How comfortable are you wearing
makeup?

SHELLY

Not gonna happen.

JOHNJOHN

No I mean, I'm not asking you to do
drag or anything.

SHELLY

I know you're not. Cuz if you did I'd
give you a matching scar above your
eye.

JOHNJOHN

Okay, simmer down cowboy, I'm just
trying to think of a way to cover that
scar.

SHELLY

Nope.

JOHNJOHN

Well, how did you get it?

SHELLY

That's none of your business.

Shelly takes a swig of a flask from his pocket.

JOHNJOHN

Oh. Okay, it's fine. I was just
curious.

The room becomes visibly uncomfortable.

JOHNJOHN

Well...maybe we could all have scars
then... I think it's kind of cute,
right?

Johnjohn looks at Marc for confirmation.

MARC

It's character.

JOHNJOHN

Character, yeah. Okay, yes, I'm sure I have scar makeup in my drag bag, no biggie.

Just then John's phone dings, he looks down.

JOHNJOHN

Oh my god you guys....

MARC

Must you use the lord's name so often in vein.

JOHNJOHN

Oh my god, I got an audition! Or we did or, whatever, yay! Okay, it's for a 9/11 documentary thing.. "come with a New York accent."

They both look at Shelly.

SHELLY

Well who's learnin' who's accent now, huh?

END