



[scrubs]

Episode #123

My Hero

Written by

Garrett Donovan
&
Neil Goldman

Directed by

Michael Spiller

Shooting Script
Blue Rev.

2/19/02
2/20/02



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J.D. ZACH BRAFF
ELLIOT SARAH CHALKE
TURK DONALD FAISON
CARLA JUDY REYES
DR. COX JOHN C. MCGINLEY
DR. KELSO KEN JENKINS
JANITOR TBD
NURSE ROBERTS TBD
LAWYER TBD
TODD ROBERT MASCHIO
DOUG TBD
DR. WEN TBD
JORDAN SULLIVAN CHRISTA MILLER
BEN SULLIVAN. BRENDAN FRASER
RANDALL TBD
CRISPIN TBD
ROY TBD
DR. ZELTZER TBD
BONNIE TBD

SCRUBS
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COLD OPEN, 3 INT. HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER (J.D., Jordan)	(2)				
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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

1 INT. ADMISSIONS -- DAY (DAY 1)

1

J.D. sees the Janitor sitting head down, obviously depressed.

J.D. (V.O.)

Oh my God, I can't believe I'm about to do this.

J.D. (CONT'D)

(to Janitor)

What's wrong?

JANITOR

I lost my mop.

J.D.

Really?

JANITOR

No. But that's the only thing that could make me unhappy, right? You people think of me as nothing but The Janitor.

J.D.

That's not true.

JANITOR

Uh-huh. What's my name?

J.D.'s POV as he tries to look at the Janitor's nametag, but the Janitor covers it with his hand.

J.D.

This is a very large hospital with lots of people. I mean, I doubt you know my --

JANITOR

John Michael Dorian.

J.D.

How do you know my middle name?

JANITOR

Because I care.

As the Janitor moves off:

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

J.D. (V.O.)
Today seems like a good day to hide
out in one of my patients' rooms.

CUT TO:

2 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY

2

Jordan yells at J.D. next to an empty hospital bed.

JORDAN
You're an incompetent fool!

J.D. (V.O.)
Unless, of course, my patient is
missing.

JORDAN
Where the hell is my brother? And
if you say, "I don't know," I'm going
to show you what I learned last week
in my crotch-punching class.

J.D.
I think it's great that you're going
back to school.

CUT TO:

3 INT. HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

3

J.D. and Jordan walk quickly down the hall.

JORDAN
Why would he wander off? Maybe he
went to a real hospital.

J.D.
Look, Jordan. Ben found out he had
leukemia yesterday. That's life-
changing news, so you can't be
surprised if he's a little depressed.

CUT TO:

4 INT. PEDIATRICS PLAY ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

4

Ben (in his street clothes) has a child over each shoulder.
He stomps around like a monster, then sees J.D. and Jordan.

BEN
Hey, Doc, I've got something on my
shoulder I'd like you to take a look
at.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

J.D.

Ben, put the small children down.

BEN

(he does so)

Okay, but I have to warn you. That leaves my hands free to do this.

Ben lifts up J.D. and starts spinning around.

J.D.

Ben. Ben, stop. Ben...

(then, gleeful)

Faster!

He gives J.D. a last spin then puts him on the ground. J.D. does that dizzy/wobbly walk into the corner and collapses onto some toys. Jordan turns to Ben:

JORDAN

As usual, you are the model of maturity.

BEN

What was that? You say you'd like a turn?

JORDAN

Don't you dare --

He picks her up.

BEN

Timmy, quick. Grab my camera and take a picture of the scary lady.

As Timmy grabs the camera Jordan stares him down:

JORDAN

I'm warning you, Junior. You take that picture, you'll never see eight.

As Ben starts spinning her around and the FLASH goes off:

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY

5

We start CLOSE ON the SNAPSHOT of Jordan (from the cold open). She looks extremely angry. PULL BACK to see Jordan, Ben, and J.D. Ben holds the picture:

BEN

I think you've got your Christmas card right here.

JORDAN

(takes it, rips it)
Look, I don't understand why you refuse to put on your hospital gown.

BEN

Because I don't want people to see my bottom.

JORDAN

Then wear underwear.

BEN

You know how I feel about underwear.

JORDAN

Everyone who came to our house in the mid-eighties knows how you feel about underwear.

BEN

(to J.D.)
Ah, the sweatpants years.

J.D.

I don't like that kind of freedom down there. It's too risky.

JORDAN

I swear, if you don't start taking this more seriously --

As Ben and Jordan keep arguing:

J.D. (V.O.)

I'm a good intern, but when you're dealing with disease and family, an intern doesn't cut it. Heck, a doctor won't even do it. What you need...

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

Dr. Cox CHARGES IN.

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

...is a hero.

DR. COX

(to Jordan)

Shut up.

(to Ben)

Shut up.

(to J.D.)

Shut up.

J.D.

But, I didn't --

DR. COX

I know, but I enjoy saying it to you. Here's the deal.

(to Jordan; re: Ben)

I'll worry about him. You worry about who you're going to get to drop a rat in your cage tonight so you don't go hungry.

BEN

Get it? Because you're a snake.

DR. COX

(to Ben)

And you. Start acting like an adult with a serious illness instead of an eccentric man-child who thinks that hospitals are "playgrounds of the imagination." Now, if we're actually going to beat this, we've got to be a team, okay? Do you hear me?

J.D.

I hear you, Dr. Cox.

DR. COX

I'm not talking to you, Rhonda.

J.D.

Sorry, I just got excited.

DR. COX

(to Jordan and Ben)

Well, children? Are we a team?

JORDAN

I'm in.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

BEN
Go Team Cancer.

J.D. (V.O.)
Wow, he did it.

DR. COX
Okay, then. I have to go check on
some other patients.

IN J.D.'S FANTASY, Dr. Cox casually walks to the window and
flies out, Superman-like. As J.D. reacts:

CUT TO:

6 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY

6

Turk, Carla, and other interns look at a surgical list.

TURK
I don't believe it. I didn't get
tomorrow's Whipple procedure. Dr.
Wen assigned it to somebody else.

CARLA
So what? You got a...
(reading list)
Abdominal-perineal re-section. You
love those.

TURK
I'm the best damn surgical intern
here.

CARLA
(placating)
I know, I know.

TURK
This is ridiculous.

CARLA
Baby, calm down.

TURK
(loud, to others)
What's a man got to do to get a
whipple around here?

Carla pulls him aside.

CARLA
Listen to me.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

CARLA (CONT'D)

You have to stop turning your medical training into some ego-driven contest. No one else is doing that.

Bonnie, a young female resident, reads the list.

BONNIE

Yes! I got the Whipple! Suck it, Turk.

Bonnie WALKS OFF. Carla smiles, then:

CARLA

Oh, I will end her.

Turk doesn't let her go. REVEAL Todd, watching.

TODD

Dude, let her go. It'll be so hot.

CUT TO:

7 INT. I.C.U. -- DAY

7

J.D., Elliot, and Doug are at rounds.

J.D. (V.O.)

Lately rounds just feels like waiting to see who Kelso will pick on.

DR. KELSO

Can you tell me the treatment regimen for organophosphate toxicity, Dr. Reid?

ELLIOT

Well, first I would give intramuscular epinephrine, then I.V. calcium gluconate, followed by emergency hemodialysis.

DR. KELSO

Sweetheart, if I had wanted you to give three wrong answers in a row I would have just asked for "the usual." Dr. Murphy, care to jump in?

DOUG

Um, I think it's --

DR. KELSO

Do you have a speech impediment, sport?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7.

DOUG

Excuse me?

DR. KELSO

You insist on starting every one of your answers with an "um." So I have to figure it's either a speech impediment or you're a stammering know-nothing who doesn't belong in medicine.

DOUG

(beat)

Um...

DR. KELSO

Well spoken. Now, get out! All of you! And maybe tomorrow you'll show up without your heads up your collective keister!

(then, watching them go)

Jumpin' Jupiter, I do enjoy the tough love.

Dr. Cox and Nurse Roberts tend to a patient.

DR. COX

They probably like it too, whether they admit it or not.

DR. KELSO

("aw shucks")

Well...

DR. COX

C'mon, Bob. "He's tough, but we love the ol' guy." Right? Right?

(then, off Dr. Kelso's nod, turning)

They hate you, Bob. From the bottom of your hooves to the top of your pitch fork. They hate you good.

Dr. Cox walks off. Nurse Roberts chuckles.

DR. KELSO

What're you laughing at?

NURSE ROBERTS

(standing up to him)

The "hooves" and "pitchfork" part. Why?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

DR. KELSO

(cowed)
No reason.

CUT TO:

8 INT. PENTHOUSE -- DAY

8

Dr. Cox sits, talking to J.D., who stands. The TV is on.

DR. COX

Peggy, tell me true. Can you handle making Ben behave like a patient or not?

J.D.

No problem.

There's a FLASH as we REVEAL Ben, taking a picture of them. He is sitting in the chair with a soda (wearing his gown).

J.D. (CONT'D)

(weakly)

I got him to put on his gown.

BEN

He did. And this chair is making my cheeks itch like crazy.

(he shifts, then, off
TV)

What're we watching?

DR. COX

"Wings." Shut up, I like the cab driver.

J.D.

Antonio. The actor was also great in a movie called "Big Night."

DR. COX

Newbie, your Dimaggio-like streak of saying nothing even remotely interesting is still alive and well.

As they watch TV.

J.D. (V.O.)

I didn't care about the abuse. The most amazing thing for me was to watch how Dr. Cox dealt with Ben. How he made him feel safe.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

BEN

Hey, do I have to get a special doctor?

DR. COX

An oncologist. I already picked one out for you. Now, do we have to talk about this? There must be something else on you mind.

BEN

(beat)

Nope. Pretty much just the leukemia.

Dr. Cox turns off the TV, and turns to Ben, angry:

DR. COX

Leukemia is an ugly, petty illness and we will not dignify it by speaking of it unless absolutely necessary, understood?

BEN

(smiles)

Gotcha.

As Dr. Cox turns the TV back on, J.D. looks at him, filled with admiration:

J.D.

You are such a stud.

As Dr. Cox reacts, horrified:

BEN

That was kind of interesting.

CUT TO:

9 INT. SCRUB ROOM -- DAY

9

Dr. Wen and Bonnie scrub up as Turk looks on.

TURK

So, Dr. Wen. You picked Bonnie to assist you on the Whipple procedure.

DR. WEN

Yes, I did.

BONNIE

(sweetly)

Thanks again, sir.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 9

Without Dr. Wen noticing, Bonnie mouths the words "Kiss my ass" to Turk, pointing at her butt. Turk looks angry, then:

FLASHBACK TO:

10 INT. SAME HALLWAY AS BEFORE -- DAY 10

A two-shot of Carla and Turk.

CARLA

Just let it go, okay, baby? You don't want to do anything to make it worse.

BACK TO PRESENT:

Turk nods in agreement, then:

TURK

Hey. You ever notice how both you guys are Asian?

As Dr. Wen and Bonnie react:

CUT TO:

11 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY 11

J.D. walks, looking at a chart. He passes the Janitor.

JANITOR

Your mother's maiden name is "Turner."

J.D.

Okay, so you used your key to get into my personnel file. Big deal.

JANITOR

Your first kiss was with Sarah Briggs at the embarrassing age of fourteen. She wore a green turtleneck, and sometimes you wonder if she still thinks about you. I'm betting no.

J.D.

How could you possibly know that?

The Janitor chuckles and walks off as the elevator door opens. J.D. enters, shell-shocked.

12 INT. ELEVATOR -- CONTINUOUS 12

The Lawyer stands flanked by three white-collar friends.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 12

LAWYER
Morning, Dr. Dorian.

J.D.
(still shaken)
Ted, you probably don't see it as
much as I do, but this hospital is a
freak show.

LAWYER
(nods, then)
This is my band. We all work in
different departments of the hospital.
(then, singing)
Legal.

RANDALL
(singing)
Accounting.

CRISPIN
(singing)
Shipping and Receiving.

ROY
(singing)
*On-Site Property Management Including
Pest Control, Night Time Security,
And Non-Arboreal Gardening Services!*

J.D.
That's, that's great. So, what kind
of stuff do you guys play?

LAWYER
We mostly do a cappella versions of
cartoon theme songs.

As the Lawyer counts off and the group starts singing SPEED
RACER (or whatever clears), J.D. hangs his head in misery.

CUT TO:

13 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY 13

CLOSE ON Dr. Kelso pressing the elevator button. We can
HEAR off-screen the faint sound of the Lawyer's singing.
Elliot and Carla walk by.

DR. KELSO
Dr. Reid, I hope I wasn't too harsh
on you at rounds this morning.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

ELLIOT

It's okay, sir. I don't hate myself much more than I usually do.

Dr. Kelso hands Elliot a paper.

DR. KELSO

Well, turnabout is fair play and all that, so here's an evaluation form. I figured I'd try to get a read on how all you interns think I'm doing. "Don't dish it out if you can't take it," that's my motto. I only wish my wife's motto was, "Don't dish it out."

(he laughs, then)

She's a horrible cook. Just horrible. Anyway, don't sign your name, completely anonymous, and Dr. Reid, I'm no she-doc. I can take it.

ELLIOT

Of course, sir.

Then, as Carla and Elliot walk off:

CARLA

You're going to crush him, right?

ELLIOT

Oh yeah.

(then)

How do you spell "inadequate"?

As Carla snatches the paper:

CARLA

Give me that. I'll fill this out.

ELLIOT

Can I read it after?

CARLA

We'll see.

CUT TO:

14 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY

14

Dr. Zeltzer, a socially awkward oncologist is talking to Ben. Dr. Cox, J.D., and Jordan are also there. Ben is up and about, still upbeat. Dr. Cox lies in Ben's bed.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

DR. ZELTZER

Unfortunately, Mr. Sullivan, your
blast percentage is quite higher
than we all expected. Around eighty
percent.

BEN

And I want the number to be low.
Like in golf.

DR. ZELTZER

Exactly. Like in golf. Do you play?

JORDAN

Who the hell cares if he plays golf?

DR. ZELTZER

I'm bonding.

BEN

(sincere)

You're doing great.

JORDAN

Why is this clown here?

DR. ZELTZER

You are a terrifying woman.

J.D. (V.O.)

Dr. Cox to the rescue.

DR. COX

(sits up)

I'm pretty sure Paul is the best
oncologist in the room, so what say
we all clam up and listen.

DR. ZELTZER

We need to start chemo.

BEN

When?

DR. ZELTZER

This afternoon.

BEN

This afternoon's not great for me.
Ironically, I'm playing golf.

DR. COX

Don't sweat this, Benji.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

BEN

Don't sweat the chemotherapy. Got it. You'll be there, right?

DR. COX

Buddy, I've got another thousand patients to check on, so I'll have to miss this first one, but I'll leave my beautiful and talented assistant Kimmy, okay?

BEN

(brave-face)

Team Cancer rocks.

Dr. Cox EXITS. J.D. watches Ben sigh, dejected for the first time. Jordan puts her hand on his head.

DR. ZELTZER

(aside)

Am I Kimmy?

J.D.

No, I'm Kimmy.

DR. ZELTZER

Oh. Good.

CUT TO:

15 INT. CAFETERIA -- DAY

15

Carla and Elliot sit with Nurse Roberts, eating.

ELLIOT

I'm telling you, Carla torched Dr. Kelso for me.

CARLA

No matter what I wrote down, I always tried to bring it back to sexual inadequacy.

(then)

C'mon, Laverne, give it up..

NURSE ROBERTS

I accidentally wore my daughter's shoes today -- they're a size too small.

(then, re: feet)

Nothing's going to make me laugh until these dogs stop barking.

Doug SITS DOWN, then re: Nurse Roberts' feet:

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

DOUG
Wow. Puffy feet.

ELLIOT
So, Doug, what did you write on
Kelso's evaluation?

DOUG
What evaluation?

ELLIOT
You didn't get yours yet?

DOUG
I don't think anybody got one.

Dr. Kelso walks by and salutes Elliot with her sealed
envelope. As Carla and Elliot react, wide-eyed, and Nurse
Roberts starts quietly LAUGHING:

CUT TO:

16 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY

16

Turk looks at the surgical list again. Dr. Wen looks over
his shoulder.

TURK
Look at that. I'm doing a hemorrhoid
surgery tomorrow.

DR. WEN
Challenging.
(then)
You know, until this list, I did the
assignments completely by random.

TURK
Sir, I'd like to take this opportunity
to once again apologize to you and
the Asian people.

DR. WEN
I'll pass it on at the next big
meeting.
(then)
You know, Christopher, I was you
once. Surgeons don't have to be
shallow, rank-obsessed clichés.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16.

TURK

(nods, then)

Who's the best surgical intern?
Bonnie? Me? I've got to know.

Todd then TURNS THE CORNER talking to a surgical nurse.

TODD

The periampullar carcinoma patient
had a failed palliative stenting of
the common bile duct, so we're going
to have to prep him for a pylorus
sparing pancreaticoduodenectomy.

TURK

(off Dr. Wen)

No.

Dr. Wen nods, "yes."

TODD

(noticing Turk)

What up, T-Man! Show the Todd some
love.

Turk dazedly lifts his hand as Todd high-fives the crap out
of it.

CUT TO:

17 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY

17

Dr. Cox walks down the hall. J.D. catches up to him.

J.D.

Dr. Cox, I've got a question.

DR. COX

Sorry, but I'm really not the one to
recommend a good place to get a
Brazilian wax.

J.D.

Ben seemed pretty down after you
left, so how about I cover for you
so you can hang with him?

DR. COX

Well, you're an absolute lamb, but
you don't have to do that.

J.D.

I don't mind at --

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: 17

DR. COX
Newbie, stop.

J.D. looks at Cox.

J.D. (V.O.)
It's funny how people handle bad
news in different ways.

CUT TO:

18 INT. CAFETERIA -- DAY 18

Elliot and Carla are still in shock, looking at Dr. Kelso
(sitting) reading the evaluation.

J.D. (V.O.)
Some people have a visceral reaction.
Elliot pukes (off-screen).

CUT TO:

19 INT. SCRUB ROOM -- DAY 19

Todd scrubs up.

TODD
Time to get my soapy-soap on.

J.D. (V.O.)
Some people go into denial.

TURK
(exiting, re: Todd)
No way.

CUT TO:

20 INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS 20

J.D. and Dr. Cox as before.

J.D. (V.O.)
And others?

DR. COX
What chance do you give a guy with
Ben's blast percentage? Twenty
percent? Maybe thirty? I can't
handle that. Cannot. No thank you,
Johnny.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

J.D. (V.O.)
Others just walk away.

Dr. Cox walks off down the hall. In J.D.'s FANTASY, Dr. Cox has a red superhero cape on. After a few steps, it loosens and falls to the ground.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

21 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY

21

Ben sits with a chemo I.V. drip.

J.D. (V.O.)

Chemotherapy looks so harmless, but
it's basically poison pumped directly
into your veins.

BEN

You know, when I was little, whenever
I was sick, Mom would get me a Tonka
truck.

JORDAN

Yeah, so?

BEN

Where's my Tonka truck?

Jordan looks at him for a beat, then quickly pulls one out
of her purse and tosses it to him.

BEN (CONT'D)

Score.

J.D.

(excited)

Dude, the earth-mover. Can I see?

As J.D. reaches for it, Ben pulls it away.

BEN

See with your eyes, man.

As J.D. looks:

J.D. (V.O.)

Things were going pretty well,
until...

JORDAN

I can't believe Perry bailed on you.
Typical. He's always out the door
as soon as things get too real.

As J.D. reacts:

CUT TO:

22 EXT. VARIOUS BACKDROPS -- DAY

22

In J.D.'s FANTASY, it's like "THE REAL WORLD"'s opening credits. J.D. mugs for the camera. His name is chyroned on screen.

J.D. (V.O.)
This is the true story...

ANGLE ON Ben, singing like in the credits.

BEN
True story...

Jordan mugs for the camera. Her name is chyroned on screen.

JORDAN (V.O.)
Of four people, forced to hang out
in a hospital...

Ben mugs for the camera. His name is chyroned on screen,
along with the words "has leukemia," an unhappy smiley face,
and an arrow pointing to him.

BEN (V.O.)
To find out what happens when people
stop being polite...

Dr. Cox mugs for the camera. His name is chyroned on screen.

DR. COX (V.O.)
And start being real.

BACK TO REALITY:

23 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY

23

As Ben considers what Jordan says:

J.D. (V.O.)
For some reason it was important to
me that Ben still believed in Dr.
Cox, so I made the best argument I
could.

J.D. (CONT'D)
He didn't bail.

BEN
I know.
(then)
Of course, if he did bail, he's a
total wuss.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: 23

As J.D. reacts:

CUT TO:

24 INT. NURSES' STATION -- DAY 24

Dr. Kelso talks to a nervous Elliot, as Carla observes from behind the nurses' station.

ELLIOT

But you said you were giving evaluations out to all the interns.

DR. KELSO

Not all at once, sweetheart. I mean, with your way there would be no accountability. No back and forth. You wouldn't be able to explain to me why, let's see,

(then, reading paper)

"I'm most likely frustrated because I haven't 'gotten any' since the Bay of Pigs."

ELLIOT

Sir, "Bay of Pigs" is a hip-hop movement that started, gosh, just a few days ago. It's got kind of a, this thing going on.

She weakly does a dance, then bails on it under Dr. Kelso's glare.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Sir, I am so sorry.

(then, small)

Are we cool?

DR. KELSO

Dr. Reid, I'm tempted to make a blond joke, but I'm afraid it would be insulting to all the fake-breasted tarts my son brings to our summer house, God bless him.

(then)

I mean, what could possibly have possessed you to write such filth?

Carla steps forward.

CARLA

Dr. Kelso, I need to tell you something...

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

ELLIOT

That's okay Carla, I'm going to take care of that patient.

CARLA

But --

ELLIOT

(pointed, to Carla)

I've got it.

(then, to Dr. Kelso)

Sir, I did it because I didn't think you'd know it was me and I thought it would be funny.

DR. KELSO

Let's take a walk. I'd like to tell you a few things I think are funny.

As he leads Elliot off and Carla reacts:

CUT TO:

25 INT. OPERATING ROOM -- DAY

25

Turk and Dr. Wen look through the glass (into the scrub room) at Todd. He's pretending to spank a nurse who stands by the glass on Turk and Dr. Wen's side.

TURK

C'mon, how could he be the best?

DR. WEN

You want to know what the difference is between you two?

TURK

For starters, I don't strip down naked in the locker room and use my penis as an air guitar.

DR. WEN

When you're working I can always see your wheels turning. You're thinking about what you have to do next, what could go wrong. You're not in the moment, and as much as it pains me to say this, the Todd is.

As Turk preps for surgery we hear his thoughts.

TURK (V.O.)

Please.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

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

Just because I'm thorough and I want to keep two Kelly clamps on the field in case the appendiceal artery is inadvertently incised so I can gain immediate hemostatic control doesn't mean I think too much. Plus, what if I need to...

As Turk's stream of consciousness continues, the camera PANS to REVEAL Todd across the table. In Todd's thoughts, he hums the theme song to "Bonanza" as he holds a scalpel.

TODD (V.O.)

Dum de de dum, de de dum, de de dum, shiny scalpel. Dum de de dum, de de dum, de de dum, gonna slice him up.

CUT TO:

26 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY

26

J.D. passes the Janitor in the hallway.

JANITOR

(sing-songy)

You're afraid of escalators.

J.D.

That's not uncommon.

JANITOR

(sing-songy)

You like the way cashmere feels on your skin.

J.D.

(hurrying off)

How're you doing this?

JANITOR

That's right, run! Run away from the truth!

J.D. (V.O.)

Actually, I'm not running away. I'm running right into the fire.

CUT TO:

27 INT. DR. COX'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

27

J.D. is in the middle of talking to a disheveled-looking Dr. Cox, who sits quietly on the couch with a drink.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

J.D.

Look, Dr. Cox, I've been giving it a lot of thought, and I honestly think the only reason you're not down at that hospital right now is because, well... you're afraid.

DR. COX

(sighs, then)

I think you're right. Partly because you've really gotten to know me over the last year, but mostly because (he turns)

I told you I was afraid this morning. Please tell me you didn't come over here to reiterate things that I've already said. Because I know the things I've already said. In fact, I've actually said them.

J.D.

(trying)

Come on, you have to get back in the game, Coxie.

(off his glare)

Okay, 'Coxie' was a mistake, you didn't hear 'Coxie.' It's starting to grow on you a little bit though, isn't it? No? Okay, no 'Coxie.'

DR. COX

Get out.

J.D.

Hey, I lied for you, man. I told Ben... I just can't believe you'd bail on a patient.

DR. COX

(conversational)

He's not a patient. A patient is a stranger in a bed that you can distance yourself from if you need to. Ben is my friend. And I'm going to try to get back in there over the next few weeks, and if I can't, it'll be sad for me, but really, it'll just mean that I'm human. Oh, and Newbie, don't kid yourself into thinking that you came here because Ben needs me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

DR. COX (CONT'D)

You're here because you're scared to death that you might actually have to rely on yourself for once. And that's the saddest thing of all.

As J.D. reacts and heads out, ANGLE ON Dr. Cox as he sits in his chair.

J.D. (V.O.)

I think one of the most universal human experiences is feeling alone. You'd never know it, but there's most likely tons of people feeling the exact same way.

BEN, seated in HIS ROOM, PUSHES IN from the side creating a SPLIT SCREEN. (Note: Throughout the following, all of Ben's actions are SYNCHRONIZED perfectly to Dr. Cox's -- shifting, scratching, etc.).

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

Maybe because you're feeling completely abandoned.

CUT TO:

J.D., sitting in the PENTHOUSE (THE NEXT DAY, DAY 2), PUSHES IN, creating a TRIPLE SPLIT SCREEN. (Note: He's SYNCHRONIZED also).

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

Maybe because you realized that you aren't as self-sufficient as you thought.

Carla (DAY 2), also seated, PUSHES IN from the side of the screen, forcing Dr. Cox out of the TRIPLE SPLIT SCREEN on the other side (movements SYNCHRONIZED).

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

Maybe because you know you should've handled something differently.

Turk (DAY 2), also seated, PUSHES IN from the side of the screen, forcing Ben out of the TRIPLE SPLIT SCREEN. (Turk's actions are synchronized.)

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

Or maybe because you aren't as good as you thought you were.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (3) 27

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

(then)

Either way, when you hit that low point, you have a choice. You can either wallow in self-pity or you can suck it up.

MUSIC CUE: a cappella version of "Underdog" theme (no words yet)

J.D., Carla, and Turk simultaneously stand.

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

It's your call.

CUT TO:

28 INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS 28

BACK TO FULL SCREEN

ANGLE down the hallway as J.D., Turk and Carla all EXIT from different rooms to the humming.

CUT TO:

29 INT. SCRUB UP AREA -- DAY 29

Turk marches up to Dr. Wen.

TURK

Dr. Wen, I don't care that I'm not the best right now, because I'm all about the upside, and someday, I'm going to own this place. This right here is going to be the Chris Turk Wing... or a strip club -- I haven't decided yet.

CUT TO:

30 INT. NURSES' STATION -- DAY 30

Carla marches up to Dr. Kelso. Elliot is there.

CARLA

Dr. Kelso, I filled out that evaluation. Elliot didn't write a single word. I mean, come on, the girl blushes and closes her eyes whenever she says "doodyhead."

Elliot stands up nervously next to Carla.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

ELLIOT

But I would've written every word of it if I had the courage and the other-side-of-the-tracks upbringing that Carla did. Because you want to know what I really think of you?

CARLA

You tell him.

ELLIOT

(closes her eyes)

You're mean.

CUT TO:

31 INT. HALLWAY -- DAY

31

J.D. walks determinedly down the hall.

J.D. (V.O.)

As for me, I decided that if Dr. Cox couldn't do it, well then, I would have to be the one there for Ben.

As J.D. walks past the Lawyer's singing group (they have been doing the humming), we stay on them as they make the transition to lyrics:

LAWYER AND FRIENDS

*When criminals in this world appear
and break the laws that they should
fear and frighten all who see or
hear the cry goes up both far and
near for Underdog! Underdog!*

We then cut back and forth between them and J.D. as he walks to the door and takes a deep breath.

LAWYER AND FRIENDS (CONT'D)

*Speed of lightening, roar of thunder,
fighting all who rob or plunder.
Underdog! Underdog!*

32 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

32

J.D. ENTERS Ben's room to see Dr. Cox already in there.

J.D.

(relieved)

Oh, thank god.

J.D. turns back around and EXITS. Dr. Cox turns to Ben.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

DR. COX

(awkward)

So what's up?

BEN

Not much. I met someone. But then
she took a stool sample so I think
she might work here.

(then)

Susan? Tall, red hair?

DR. COX

(thinks, then)

No.

BEN

Then she is a strange young lady.

DR. COX

So what, then, we're just going to
joke around?

BEN

(turns, angry)

We'll do whatever the hell I want to
do. And if you don't like it, I
guess you'll just have to run away
again.

DR. COX

Ben, you could at least hear my side.

BEN

Fine. Why did you bail?

(off Dr. Cox's shrug)

Oh my God, you're such a wuss.

DR. COX

Yeah, big one.

(then)

I guess I got a little scared.

BEN

Oh, you're scared. I'm so sorry.
Is there anything I can do to help
you get through this?

DR. COX

Look, I'm not good at this stuff, I
don't like the tough conversations,
you know that.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (2)

32

BEN

Yeah. It's okay.

(then)

So I've been thinking a lot about death.

DR. COX

Aw, man.

BEN

You think it's like New York, where you can get anything at any hour?

As Dr. Cox hangs his head:

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (2) 32

J.D. (V.O.)
To most people it might have seemed
like nothing had changed. But it
had a little.

DISSOLVE TO:

33 INT. I.C.U. - DAY 33

Rounds. ANGLE ON Carla and Elliot watching Dr. Kelso question
Doug.

DR. KELSO
Well, Dr. Murphy?

DOUG
Um...

DR. KELSO
Go on.

DOUG
Could it be lupus?

DR. KELSO
(hating it)
Good job, sport.

DISSOLVE TO:

34 INT. O.R. -- DAY 34

Turk bounces his head as he operates on a patient.

TURK (V.O.)
*Joy and pain. Come on, come on,
here we go! And sunshine. What
else?! What else?! And rain. Cut
him up. Cut him up.*

DISSOLVE TO:

35 INT. PATIENT'S ROOM -- DAY 35

Ben is having another round of chemo. Jordan and Dr. Cox
look on.

J.D. (V.O.)
Turns out Ben responded well to the
chemo and went into remission.

Jordan and Ben dissolve away, leaving Dr. Cox.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: 35

J.D. (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Still, the first one's easy. Maybe
he'll be back, maybe he won't. As
for Dr. Cox...

As Dr. Cox EXITS Ben's room:

36 INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS 36

Dr. Cox walks past J.D. who sits next to the Lawyer's group.

J.D. (V.O.)
I realized that sometimes being able
to admit we're not heroic is when
we're the most heroic of all.

Dr. Cox walks by J.D.

MUSIC CUE: reprise "Underdog"

LAWYER AND FRIENDS
*Speed of lightening, roar of thunder,
fighting all who rob or plunder.
Underdog! Underdog!*

ANGLE ON Dr. Cox at the end of the hall, silhouetted, his
hands on his hips in a superhero pose.

CUT TO:

37 INT. PENTHOUSE -- LATER 37

CLOSE ON A PEN writing along in a journal (simultaneously
with voiceover).

J.D. (V.O.)
I guess he'll always be a hero to
me.

PULL BACK as J.D. smiles to himself, gets up, puts his journal
in his locker and EXITS. After a beat, the Janitor appears,
unlocks J.D.'s locker and removes his journal.

JANITOR
(reading)
"...always be a hero to me."
(to himself)
What a girl.
(then, turning page)
What else we got?

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

