

TV Bits

By

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INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

TWO GUYS are standing around talking. A THIRD GUY comes running in.

GUY #3
Hey guys, I have an idea for our television show.

GUY #1
Okay, let's hear it.

Guy #1 and Guy #2 pull up a couple chairs and sit down.

GUY #3
You've seen the show 24 with Kiefer Sutherland, right?

GUY #1
Sure.

GUY #2
Of course.

GUY #3
Well this is just like that only instead of having 24 hours to tell the story, our show would tell it in 24 seconds. The tag line would be: Jack Bauer needed 24 hours. We get the job done in 24 seconds.

Guy #3 takes a deep breath, to prepare.

Guy #1 pulls out a stop watch.

GUY #1
Go!

GUY #3
(double speed)
A sniper takes a shot at president while our hero is guarding him. Hero saves president's life then chases sniper down and tackles him. Hero uncovers massive conspiracy led by power hungry Vice President and terrorist fundamentalist group. Hero tries to warn everyone but is captured by bad guys before he can. He uses his wits and MacGyver like skills with a crayon to escape. Exposes conspiracy, gets medal of honor. Lives to fight another day.

(CONTINUED)

GUY #1
Time is up!

Guy #3 is bent over, trying to catch his breath.

GUY #3
Wait, let me do it again. I can do better.

Guy #1 gets up. Pats Guy #3 on the back.

GUY #1
Save it for the season 2.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

THREE GUYS are standing around.

GUY #2
You guys have seen the show
Friends, right?

GUY #3
Yeah.

GUY #1
Of course.

GUY #2
Well how about we do a show exactly like that, except instead of being about a bunch of people who are all friends, this show would be about a bunch of people who have never met.

INT. COFFEE SHOP -- DAY

A MAN and WOMAN are seated at opposite ends of a couch a la the couch at Central Perk on *Friends*. They both have some distinguishing feature or item of clothing that causes them to resemble two characters from *Friends* (doesn't matter which two).

The Man puts down his magazine and then begins staring as she drinks from an over-sized mug of coffee and reads a newspaper.

He leans over and taps the woman on the shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

MAN

Excuse me but you look familiar.
Have we met before?

WOMAN

Nope.

The man shrugs.

MAN

Oh okay. Sorry to bother you.

WOMAN

No bother.

The man and the woman both return to reading and coffee sipping and begin ignoring each other once more.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

THE GUYS are standing around, like before. They are all deep in contemplation.

GUY #2

On second thought, that concept might have somewhat limited story options.

Guy #1 and #2 nod in a agreement.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

GUY #2 and GUY #3 are sitting in chairs, talking.

Guy #1 enters.

GUY #1

You guys have both seen *The X-files*, right?

GUY #2

Yeah, of course.

GUY #3

Isn't that the show about FBI agents who investigate paranormal phenomena?

(CONTINUED)

GUY #1

Yeah, that's the show. We could make a show just like that except instead of the crazy, conspiracy theorist being right all the time, the skeptic would be the one who was always right.

INT. BAR -- DAY

A MAN #1, who is dressed like Mulder and a WOMAN, who is dressed like Scully are walking around, with flashlights, searching for something. While MAN #2 looks on.

MAN #1

Where was the last place you remember seeing your keys?

The Man #2 walks over to a spot near the center of the room.

WOMAN #2

Right here.

Man #1 paces for a moment, then stops abruptly.

The Woman continues to search the room with her flashlight.

The Man snaps his fingers in a moment of realization.

MAN #1

I know what happened. Aliens came down from outer space and stole the keys.

MAN #2

Why would they do that?

MAN #1

So that they could study your reactions and gain a better understanding of human behavior patterns. They plan to use the information they gather to take over planet earth. It's all part of a global conspiracy that was cooked up by the aliens with the support of a super secret government organization.

WOMAN

I found the keys. They were right over here under this couch cushion.

(CONTINUED)

MAN #1

Okay forget about the aliens. This is actually a case spontaneous teleportation. Documented cases are quite rare. Victims are reluctant to come forward for fear that they might be ridiculed for their beliefs.

MAN #2

Actually, come to think of it, I probably dropped them down there yesterday while I was watching tv.

Man #2 walks over and takes her keys back from the Woman.

MAN #2 (CONT'D)

Thanks.

WOMAN

No problem.

Man #2 exits, leaving a perplexed Man #1, standing by and scratching his head.

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

The THREE GUYS are standing around, as before. Guy #2 shakes his head.

GUY #2

I don't know. Maybe we should keep working on it.

GUY #3

Agreed.

GUY #1

Hey.

Guy #1 is clearly upset that his idea has been dismissed this easily, but he shrugs it off and they keep going.

FADE TO BLACK