



"Pilot"

Written by

Matt Murray and Kal Penn

Directed by

Oz Rodriguez



FULL YELLOW 3/20/19
FULL PINK 3/12/19
FULL BLUE 3/11/19
Shooting Draft 3/7/19

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List of Characters for SUNNYSIDE - "PILOT"
FULL YELLOW SHOOTING DRAFT - 3.20.19

GARRETT MODI	KAL PENN
MALLORY MODI	KIRAN DEOL
BRADY	MOSES STORM
GRISELDA	DIANA MARIA RIVA
HAKIM	SAMBA SCHUTTE
MEI LIN	POPPY LIU
JUN HO	JOEL KIM BOOSTER
DIANA BAREA	ANA VILLAFANE
DRAZEN	TUDOR PETRUT
BILL NYE	BILL NYE
RANDY	ROEL NAVARRO
RECEPTIONIST	REGINA DAYE ALLEN
OFFICER STARKS	LARRY BATES
ANDREA	KAMALA JONES

COLD OPEN

1 EXT. SUNNYSIDE, QUEENS STREETS - 2004 - DAY (ON VIDEO)(FB-D1) 1

GARRETT MODI (mid 20s, charismatic) walks toward camera, flanked by people wearing "MODI 2004" t-shirts.

GARRETT

I'm Garrett Modi and I'm running to be your next city councilor. My parents moved here in 1975 with one dream. To raise their kids in the greatest country on Earth in the greatest city on Earth.

We continue to hear Garrett's voice as the camera pops to photos on a shelf in PRESENT DAY:

Garrett (5) in a Yankees cap with his parents. A newspaper clipping: "MODI LEADS COLVIN HIGH TO PSAL CHAMPIONSHIP" with a picture of Garrett (17) pitching. Garrett (22) receiving his diploma from Fordham. Garrett (26) speaking at a podium on his first campaign.

GARRETT (V.O.)

It wasn't easy, but the people of this community supported them, and made sure that they would succeed. Now I want to return the favor. As your next city councilor, I promise one thing: to work as hard for you and your family as you did for me and mine. I'm asking for your vote because we all came from somewhere, but we all chose to be here. So let's get to work.

The video ends.

Back in the office, we pan across more photos. A newspaper headline: "MODI ELECTED IN UPSET, WILL BECOME YOUNGEST NEW YORK CITY COUNCILOR." Garrett posing with Michael Bloomberg and Bill Clinton.

We hear SNORING.

Pan across more framed photos, which become more tabloid-y: Garrett drunker and drunker at various celebrity parties. We also see some junk on the shelf next to the photos -- some empty Chinese takeout containers, a slice of half-eaten pizza, WAY too many Skittles wrappers.

And then we see GARRETT HIMSELF: asleep in his DESK CHAIR. Looks terrible.

(CONTINUED)

A desk nameplate reads: Councilman Garrett Modi, District 53. Or we think it does -- there's a dirty sock covering some of it.

A KNOCK rouses him and he shuffles over to the door, opening it to reveal DIANA BAREA (30, sharp), holding a box.

GARRETT

Oh hey, Diana! What's up?

DIANA

"What's up?" It's been a week. This is my office now.

GARRETT

(Clintonian)

Diana. I appreciate your passion. And I congratulate you on a hard fought race to replace me. You should be proud of what you accomplished. But this... "thing"--
(waving it all away)
it's gonna blow over.

DIANA

The council voted to remove you. Unanimously.

GARRETT

"Unanimously?" What does that even mean?

DIANA

Okay, I've asked you several times to pack up. And now somehow, you have more stuff here...

(it dawns on her)

Garrett, are you living here?

GARRETT

Absolutely not.

DIANA

Is this your shower caddy I found in the bathroom?

She holds up a SHOWER CADDY.

GARRETT

Yes! Thank you! I was looking for that!

DIANA

There's not even a shower in there!

GARRETT

With the right attitude, any place with running water is a shower.

DIANA

Get out of my office.

GARRETT

C'mon. Work with me here. I was the youngest person ever elected to the New York City Council. I've been on Anderson Cooper. Twice. I won a high-school baseball championship.

DIANA

And there's nothing cooler than a guy in his forties talking about his high school sports achievements.

GARRETT

Pfft. I'm not "in my forties." I'm forty. That's practically thirty.

DIANA

Can I tell you something? When you got elected I was so excited. Finally a young person in office who was going to make a difference. Then you spent most of your time partying with Wall Street douchebags and D-list celebrities instead of, you know, doing your job.

GARRETT

I did stuff! I once brought Elon Musk to Sunnyside and he almost agreed to dig one of those tunnels no one wants here!

Diana slams the door in his face, leaving him in the hallway.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

2 EXT. QUEENS APARTMENT - DAY (D-1) 2

Garrett struggles to carry various garbage bags and boxes down the sidewalk.

3 INT. QUEENS APARTMENT HALLWAY - LATER (D-1) 3

The door opens, revealing his sister, MALLORY (30s, sarcastic) in medical scrubs. She smirks.

MALLORY
Councilman.

GARRETT
Hey, sis! Little help?

MALLORY
(thinks, then)
Nah.

She walks back inside. He follows her, lugging his bags.

4 INT. MALLORY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D-1) 4

Garrett drags his stuff through Mallory's living room.

MALLORY
So, your girlfriend kicked you out of the apartment, and then the new councilwoman kicked you out of the office? Double kick-out?

GARRETT
Yes, but the girlfriend one was mutual.

MALLORY
Really?

GARRETT
Yes, we mutually agreed that I would get out of our place or she would beat me up. But she'll come around. I just need to talk to her.

MALLORY
I can see why you think that.

GARRETT
What's that supposed to mean?

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY

Talking is the only thing you've ever been truly good at. You talked your way into office, and college. When you were 8 you convinced me to give you the top bunk. What was I thinking? I won the coin toss! Bottom bunk sucks!

GARRETT

You know studies have shown that those who sleep lower to the ground tend to become more successful, confident people.

MALLORY

I guess that makes sense. I was always-- hey wait! You're doing it again! Bottom bunk sucks!

INT. GUEST ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D-1)

They walk into a small guest room...

GARRETT

Hey, I tried to be a good city councilman. I worked my butt off for two solid months.

MALLORY

And as soon as it got the slightest bit difficult, you bailed on work and used your office to score Knicks tickets.

GARRETT

Well. Politics is hard. And those Knicks tickets were insane. Once I was so close I could hear Michael Rapaport not getting recognized by Jerry Seinfeld!

MALLORY

What are you even doing here, man? Why can't you stay with mom and dad?

GARRETT

Because a guy my age living with his parents is pathetic. But a guy my age living with his sister: slightly less pathetic.

(then)

Besides it's only temporary.

He pulls a small white board out of one of his boxes, which has five bullet points written on it.

GARRETT (CONT'D)

I have a five step Path to Redemption.
Step one: lie low. People will eventually
forget... the thing. Step two: get a job,
save some money, make some powerful
connections. Haven't figured out steps
three and four. Step five: get re-
elected! America loves a good political
comeback story.

MALLORY

Counterpoint: Richard Nixon. Elliot
Spitzer. Anthony Weiner. Anthony Weiner
again.

GARRETT

(remembering)

Man, he really did do it again! That guy
cannot help himself!

MALLORY

It's bonkers.

GARRETT

Don't send pictures of your wiener to
people.

MALLORY

Especially if your name is
Weiner!

GARRETT (CONT'D)

Especially if your name is
Weiner!

MALLORY

It's too much!

Garrett smiles for a beat. He turns on his political charm.

GARRETT

Isn't this great? You and me living
together. I regret how we lost touch over
the years: me in the high-flying world of
city politics, you doing your heart
surgery--

MALLORY

Hand surgery.

GARRETT

And what are the hands but hearts that
live outside and have fingers? Come on,
just let me stay here for a week.
Or...let's say "a year." A year-plus.

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY
(sees right through him)
You don't have any money.

GARRETT
Completely broke, yes.

MALLORY
How is that possible?

GARRETT
Because all my savings are tied up in my
investments.

MALLORY
Jet skis are not investments--

GARRETT
I can't even tell you how stupid you
sound right now.

MALLORY
Get a job. And don't mess up my office.

GARRETT
Coin toss for your bedroom?

MALLORY
No!

She leaves.

6 INT. GARRETT'S BEDROOM - LATER (D-1)

6

Garrett opens his laptop and pulls up LinkedIn. On his page,
we see headline after headline with some variant of the
following: DISGRACE! HARD PARTYING COUNCILMAN MODI ARRESTED
ON BQE. He clicks on a video link.

7 EXT. BROOKLYN QUEENS EXPRESSWAY - NIGHT (ON SCREEN) (FB-N2)

7

Police dashcam footage: a cruiser approaches a clearly drunk
Garrett, who is walking in the middle of the rightmost lane
of the BQE. The siren flashes and we hear an OFFICER:

OFFICER STARKS (OVER SPEAKER)
Please step to the shoulder.

Garrett turns around, wobbly.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
What seems to be the problem, officer?

(CONTINUED)

Sunnyside
Full Yellow
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7

7

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Can I see some ID?

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
Pfft. Bro. You don't know who I am? You
really don't know who I am?

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
I know who you are. You're on the city
council.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
More like I am the city council, dude.
It's me and a bunch of duuuuuuds. Zeroes.
Just total wastes of crap. Couple of
full on sex-creeps in there too, if I'm
being honest. Real weirdos.

As Garrett monologues, he walks toward the cruiser and begins unzipping his pants, then urinating.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Sir--

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
I can't wait to get out of that dump.
Couple more years with those idiots, then
I run for congress. Win. Then governor.
Win. Then, guess what? I'm gonna be
President, babayyyyyyEUGHGHH!!

Garrett barfs everywhere, including on the police officer.
Three WOMEN in minidresses stumble into frame.

WOMAN (ON SCREEN)
Can you hurry up? We're almost out of
cocaine.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Ma'am, I would maybe not admit to cocaine
possession in front of a police officer.

WOMAN (ON SCREEN)
No, it's fine. He's like the mayor or
something.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Okay, I'm going to put... I guess, all of
you under arrest.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
Waitwaitwaitwait. Wait.
(then, serious)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

GARRETT (ON SCREEN) (CONT'D)
Officer. If you let me go... I'll give
you ten thousand dollars.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Sir, you don't want to do this. Bribing
an officer is a felony.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
...Hundred thousand.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Sir, think about what you're doing.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
You drive a hard bargain and I respect
the hell out of that. Million bucks.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Sir--

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
Ten million.

OFFICER STARKS (ON SCREEN)
Sir--

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)
Okay. Okay. Okay.
(beat, dead serious)
One billion dollars.

Garrett closes the video. He sees a link to Air BnB
Experiences, where people offer their time and expertise for
money. Museum tours, bar crawls, photo shoots, etc.

Garrett gets an idea. He begins typing. "SPEND THE DAY WITH
NOTORIOUS EX-POLITICIAN GARRETT MODI. ASK ME ANYTHING!" He
thinks for a beat, then adds "THE BQE PUKER" after his name.
He clicks submit, and a MONTAGE begins...

8 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY (D-2)

8

Garrett smiles as a group of tourists take a selfie with him.

9 EXT. NYC BUILDING - ANOTHER DAY (D-3)

9

Garrett, less enthused, with some FINANCE BROS, who make fun
of him. He forces a smile.

10 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY (D-4)

10

Garrett halfheartedly reenacts his arrest for a group of old
people, who film with their phones. He is humiliated.

11 INT. BAR - WEEKS LATER (D-5)

11

Garrett walks into a bar. A college age guy, BRADY, waves him over to a table full of people. Garrett is all business, having done this several times now.

GARRETT

Okay, fifty bucks an hour -- each -- up front. I will not actually puke on you. No nudity of any kind. Pictures are 20, t-shirts are 30 --

BRADY

Nah, dude, we don't want any of that. We need your help. We're trying to become citizens.

GARRETT

Citizens? You seem pretty American to me.

BRADY

Yeah, no crap, 'cuz I am American. Well, I thought I was. Then I went to get my driver's license and I find out my friggin' mom brought me here when I was two and overstayed her visa and never told me. Now I have to take some dumb history test just so I don't get sent back to Moldova.

GARRETT

Where even is Moldova?

BRADY

I don't know man! What do I look like, a book? This is our little study group. That's Griselda, she's Dominican and she's old. Hakim, he's a nerd from Ethiopia. Mei Lin and Jun Ho, they're rich as hell and won't actually say where they're from.

JUN HO, (20s, Asian, wealthy) gets off his phone.

JUN HO

Technically, our dad now lives in international waters.

Jun Ho's sister, MEI LIN (20s, Asian, wealthy) nudges him, like, "Dude, shut up!"

MEI LIN

He means we have no knowledge of his current whereabouts.

(CONTINUED)

GRISELDA (60s, Latina, sweet, FedEx Uniform) pulls up a chair for Garrett.

GRISELDA

For the last few weeks we were all taking a class that was helping us with the paperwork and the test, but it shut down when someone bought the building.

MEI LIN

It's getting turned into one of those shared work spaces. It's like, ew.

GARRETT

Yeah, it seems like every building is getting turned into one of those.

MEI LIN

No, I mean, like "Ew. Work." And "share."

BRADY

Point is, it's like, impossible to get into a new class. They're all booked up, and the wait lists are super long. We need your political connections --

Loud Euro house music plays.

BRADY (CONT'D)

-- Dammit, Drazen! Not now!

DRAZEN (50s, Eastern European) has a small DJ set up.

DRAZEN

(can't hear)

Yes, it's good, eh?

BRADY

That music sucks!

DRAZEN

It's Adrian Copilul Minune! Number one in Romania!

BRADY

No one knows who the hell that is!

Drazen presses pause and walks over.

DRAZEN

Is this the man who will help? The man with the vomit and the pee pee? He will save us! This was a great idea, brother!

(CONTINUED)

He hugs Brady, who squirms.

BRADY

We are not brothers!

DRAZEN

We are Moldovan! We are countrymen! You and me are the same, Bojan!

BRADY

My name is Brady now. And we're not the same. I'm awesome, and you use the word "disco" as a verb.

DRAZEN

Aaaaah! You want to disco? Let's go! We disco right now!

GARRETT

Look guys, I don't know if you heard, but I'm temporarily...out of office.

GRISELDA

We know, and it's not temporary. You're done, baby.

GARRETT

(small)

...Matter of opinion.

HAKIM (30s, Ethiopian, dorky) leans over.

HAKIM

We need a teacher and we need a place to study. And we need you to call someone to make that happen. Preferably someone who has not humiliated himself as flagrantly as you have.

JUN HO

Or you could just like, make us citizens.

GARRETT

A city councilor can't just make someone a citizen.

MEI LIN

Uch, whatever, just do it.

GRISELDA

Please. We're asking you to make one phone call. You can convince anyone to do anything.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (3)

11

GRISELDA (CONT'D)

I saw you give that speech at the opening
of the Wahlburgers on Northern Boulevard.
It almost made me want to eat there!

Garrett melts a little.

GARRETT

(what the hell)

...Sure. I'll give it a try.

Garrett steps away from the group and dials his phone.

GARRETT (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm looking to speak with Councilman
Webber? This is Garrett Modi.

(beat)

Sorry, go what myself?

(beat)

That's what I thought.

(to group, covering)

Bad connection. I'll try someone else.

He dials again. A RECEPTIONIST in Diana's office picks up.

INTERCUT.

GARRETT (CONT'D)

Hi, Garrett Modi for Councilwoman Barea?

RECEPTIONIST

(to Diana)

Garrett Modi.

DIANA

Hmm. Tell him to go get hit by a truck
then hang up on him.

RECEPTIONIST

The councilwoman invites you to get hit
by a truck. Have a nice day. Bye-bye.

She hangs up. The group looks at him expectantly.

GARRETT

She was out of the office.

GRISELDA

No problem. Call someone else.

He thinks for a beat, then dials. Mallory picks up.

MALLORY

What do you want?

(CONTINUED)

Sunnyside
Full Yellow

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11 CONTINUED: (4)

11

GARRETT
Councilman! How are you?

MALLORY
What the hell are you talking about,
Garrett? I'm at work.

GARRETT
Look, I've got this great
group of folks here who need
some help with their
citizenship applications. You
will? That's fantastic!
Great. Talk soon.

MALLORY (CONT'D)
What? Whatever you're doing,
leave me out of it, man--

GARRETT
(hangs up, then)
He'll be in touch!

The group looks happy. Garrett forces a smile.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

12 INT. BAR - LATER (D-5)

12

The group studies. Textbooks and papers are strewn everywhere.

GRISELDA

What is the difference between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior?

GARRETT

Great question, and I thank you for it. And... the answer to that... is... that Interior... is responsible for the management and conservation of most federal lands.

GRISELDA

Did you just look that up on wikipedia?

GARRETT

I did, but only to check that my initial answer was right. Which it was, almost verbatim. Listen -- as much fun as it is to do homework as grown adults, when I said "Ask Me Anything" I meant things like "who is the coolest celebrity you ever made out with?" Not "how many amendments does the Constitution have."

HAKIM

Too bad. Until your friends call back, this is what we're paying you for. You will be our teacher and this is where we will study. It's not Philadelphia in 1787, but it will do.

(off Garrett's blank stare)

That's where the Constitution was signed.

GARRETT

I mean, obviously. That's why I didn't say anything. And by the way, it's Rihanna's cousin, if you're wondering. I made out with Rihanna's cousin. It was awesome.

Mei Lin and Jun Ho approach Garrett.

JUN HO

We have a proposition for you.

(CONTINUED)

MEI LIN

We pay you to take this test for us.

GARRETT

...First of all, that's definitely illegal. Second, how would that even work? I look nothing like either of you.

JUN HO

Oh, our dad has a guy. He can make anyone look like anyone.

MEI LIN

He's like Picasso with a scalpel.

GARRETT

Okay, well, no one wants to look like a Picasso, so that's a no from me.

RAUL, the bar's manager, leans over.

RAUL

Griselda! You're up.

She pulls a shirt with the bar's logo over her FedEx shirt.

GARRETT

Oh, I thought you worked at FedEx.

GRISELDA

I do, during the day. I work here at night.

GARRETT

Wow, two jobs.

GRISELDA

Kind of. In the mornings I deliver newspapers.

GARRETT

Oh--

GRISELDA

Then I teach a Zumba class at 7 before work.

GARRETT

At FedEx?

GRISELDA

No, at my paralegal job. Then I head over to the Genius Bar, fix some iphones for a couple hours. Then FedEx. Let me get you a refill.

She heads to the bar. Garrett flips through a textbook.

GARRETT

Man, this is a lot of stuff to learn.

BRADY

Dude, this is the easy part. You know how much crap we've had to deal with just to get here? First, you got to get a green card, which... good luck. I don't know if you heard, but they loooove giving those out these days.

HAKIM

You have to maintain residence for 5 years. Assuming you can find a job and a place to live. And the rent in New York makes the rent in Mek'ele look like Aleta Wendo!

(off their looks)

Where I'm from that is a very trenchant observation.

JUN HO

You have to keep a clean record. Like, why?

MEI LIN

Or you have to tell your dad to get certain "incidents" or certain "people" to "go away."

BRADY

Gonna move? Gotta fill out an AR-11. Traveling? That's an I-131. And who knows? Maybe while you're visiting your sick grandma they might just decide no one from your country is allowed in anymore --

Loud Euro house music begins to play.

BRADY (CONT'D)

-- Dammit Drazen not now! In fact: never! Never play that music!

(CONTINUED)

HAKIM

That's why we need your help connecting with someone powerful.

GARRETT

Well, your hour's almost up and they haven't called back. So, good luck. I'm glad I never had to learn this stuff.

HAKIM

You were an elected official.

Garrett shrugs.

JUN HO

You're really gonna leave? We were going to hire you for the week. Now we have to start over?

Garrett stops in his tracks.

GARRETT

Sorry, did you say "for the week?" That's like 15 thousand bucks.

JUN HO

The way you're saying that makes me think you think that's a lot. Oh no!

(to Mei Lin)

I think he thinks that's a lot.

Mei Lin pulls out an insane amount of money from her purse.

MEI LIN

Here. Take whatever this is. It smells weird.

Garrett stares at the money...he's in!

Garrett bursts into Mallory's house.

GARRETT

Guess what, Mal? I'm already at step two of my plan. I got a job! And this one doesn't involve humiliating myself.

MALLORY

What's the job?

GARRETT

This group of people wants me to help them become citizens.

MALLORY

Do you know anything about how to become a citizen?

GARRETT

I do not. But I'll be like, a "cool teacher." Take some field trips, do that thing where you sit in a chair backwards. Maybe wear a cool leather jacket.

(then, brandishing cash)

Plus, I'm getting paid! I can hire a PR team. Can you imagine how good it'll look for my reelection campaign if it gets out that I'm helping these poor people out of the goodness of my heart?

MALLORY

Except you're very clearly not doing it out of the goodness of your heart. You're doing it for your reelection campaign.

GARRETT

Tomato to-mahto.

MALLORY

And if you have cash now, you can pay me rent.

He quickly pockets the cash.

GARRETT

And I will do that, Mal, just as soon as I take care of some very pressing financial obligations, lawyer's fees, jet ski payments, and so forth. Once I'm solvent again, I promise: anything I have is yours.

MALLORY

(noticing)

Are those new Jordans?

GARRETT

Thanks! You're the best bye!

He disappears into his room.

14 INT. BAR - THE NEXT DAY (D-6)

14

The group studies intensely. They all seem a little stressed. Drazen hands a paper to Garrett.

DRAZEN

N-336 form finished.

(CONTINUED)

BRADY

Dude, you haven't even done your N-400.

DRAZEN

But 336 is before 400. Why does 400 go first?

BRADY

I don't know, man! I shouldn't have to know any of this stuff! I'm American!

DRAZEN

No, you are Moldovan. Like me!

BRADY

Stop saying that!

MEI LIN

Uch. Why can't this be like high school? When we had trouble, our dad would have one little conversation with our teacher, and we'd get all A's.

HAKIM

He bribed them?

JUN HO

I wouldn't call getting your family back a "bribe."

BRADY

Yo guys, it's becoming clear that your dad is a legit supervillain.

JUN HO

I plead the third to that.

GRISELDA

The third amendment prohibits the quartering of soldiers in private homes.

(proud)

I studied today while I waited tables at the Olive Garden.

JUN HO

Okay, then I don't know which one I plead. Why does everyone all of a sudden expect me to learn things?! It's not fair!

Garrett stands up to calm the situation.

(CONTINUED)

GARRETT

Guys, guys. I can sense you're all getting a little stressed out. I think you're too focused on what you have to know. Being American is as much about how it feels. Grab your stuff. We're taking a field trip.

15 EXT. RICHMOND COUNTY BANK BALL PARK - EVENING (N-6)

15

The group is now sitting in a baseball stadium, home of the Staten Island Yankees. Drazen returns from the concession stand with two hotdogs piled with several pounds of onions and relish.

BRADY

Drazen. You can't take that much relish!

DRAZEN

(shrugs)

It's free. They don't want me to take it, they should make it cost money.

GARRETT

(to Mei Lin and Jun Ho)

These seats are great. How'd you get them so quickly?

JUN HO

Our dad supplied all the steel that was used to build this stadium.

GARRETT

That's cool.

MEI LIN

Not really. If people start jumping up and down? Run.

GRISELDA

So, why did you bring us here? What does this place have to do with us?

GARRETT

Are you kidding? Look at those guys out there. You got immigrants from everywhere.

(pointing)

Dominican Republic. South Korea. Mexico. Cuba. Taiwan. Puerto Rico.

HAKIM

Puerto Rico's in the U.S.

(CONTINUED)

GARRETT

Yeah, that was a test. Only Hakim passed.
(then)

Part of what makes baseball so cool is that it's always been an immigrant's sport. Thirty percent of all major leaguers were born outside the US. Guys like Jose Altuve, Ichiro Suzuki, Miguel Cabrera, Albert Pujols. How much worse would the game be without those guys? How much worse would America be without all the people who came here from all over the world and brought their culture and history with them? We like to say that this country is a melting pot. I say: nowhere is that more clear than out there, on that green grass, on this warm summer night.

The group smiles, a little impressed.

BRADY

Was that actually the reason you took us here, or did you just want to go see a baseball game, then we called you on it, and you just pulled all that out of your ass just now?

GARRETT

Little of A, little of B. But you have to admit I did make some good points.

GRISELDA

You did. Thank you for the field trip. It has been very inspiring to be here.

(beat)

Welp, back to work!

Griselda puts on a Yankees cap and straps on a soda tray.

GRISELDA (CONT'D)

(then, yelling)

Soda! Soda here!

16 INT. HAKIM'S TAXI - THAT NIGHT (N-6)

16

Hakim drives Garrett home in his taxi.

GARRETT

Thanks for the ride, man.

HAKIM

No problem.

(CONTINUED)

GARRETT

So, must be quite a change, Ethiopia to New York City.

HAKIM

I guess so. I'm not making as much money as I used to, but that's okay.

GARRETT

Wait, what? What did you do in Ethiopia?

HAKIM

I was a cardiothoracic surgeon. Had a pretty sweet condo in Addis Ababa, lake house by the waterfalls in Bahir Dar. But, I won a green card lottery and this was my chance to come to America. I had to take it.

GARRETT

If you're a doctor, why are you driving a cab?

HAKIM

Can't get certified yet. Citizenship should help, but it will still take a few years. Then, I will be able to bring my family over. And I mean everybody. My brothers and sisters, nieces, nephews. I have an 85 year plan.

GARRETT

You'll be like 120 years old.

HAKIM

I have a plan for that, too. I'm a very good doctor.

GARRETT

I gotta say... all the bureaucracy, the background checks, the test... it all seems like a lot of work. You gave up a nice life in Ethiopia. Why not stay?

HAKIM

Because America is the best! Here, anything is possible. So I have to fill out some papers, drive a cab, leave my jet ski back home--

GARRETT

You have a jet ski?! I have a jet ski!

(CONTINUED)

HAKIM
Jet ski buddies!

GARRETT
Aw, that sucks you had to give it up.

HAKIM
It's worth it. I'm here because I love
America and I want to be a part of it. We
all do.

They pull up to Mallory's house. Garrett hops out.

GARRETT
That's... really awesome, man. Thanks for
the ride.

HAKIM
Hey, uh, America is great and anything is
possible, et cetera et cetera... but only
if you pay people for their work. You owe
me 27.50.

GARRETT
Oh. Right! Yup.

17 INT. BAR - THE NEXT MORNING (D-7)

17

Garrett enters with a coffee, a little bounce in his step.

GARRETT
What's up, y'all? Who's ready to learn?
I stayed up late last night, watched a
couple youtube videos about American
History, somehow ended up watching three
hours of people unboxing Legos, which is
weird because I don't even like Legos--

He stops, noticing that the group all looks shaken.

GARRETT (CONT'D)
What happened?

GRISELDA
They took Drazen.

GARRETT
What? Who did?

MEI LIN
Immigration.

GARRETT
...But he had a green card.

(CONTINUED)

BRADY

I guess he messed up his paperwork.
That's enough sometimes. Gah! He was so
bad at that crap! This blows!

GARRETT

I didn't think you even liked Drazen.

BRADY

I mean, yeah, he sucked, but nobody
deserves this.

HAKIM

Can you call one of your City Council
people and at least figure out where
they're holding him?

GARRETT

I doubt it. No one will return my calls.
They haven't spoken to me in months.

The group stares at Garrett, shocked. He's frozen.

JUN HO

You said someone was going to help us.

GARRETT

I did say that, and it was a lie, and
that was a crappy thing to do. The truth
is, even if I had gotten through,
politicians don't exactly spend their
days trying to help people like you. But
Hakim and I had a great talk last night!
I want to help you.

BRADY

Yeah, well I don't think we need your
help anymore.

The group disperses, shooting disappointed looks at Garrett.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

18 INT. MALLORY'S HOUSE - OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY (D-8)

18

Garrett, depressed, watches the end of his arrest video.

GARRETT (ON VIDEO)
One billion dollars.

He hits replay and it starts over from the beginning. It's clear he's been watching it over and over. Mallory pokes her head in the doorway.

MALLORY
If you watch it too much, it gets less funny. But if you keep watching it, it comes all the way around the other side and gets really funny again.

GARRETT
Remember those people I was helping? One of them got taken by ICE last night. Can you believe that?

MALLORY
I mean, that's awful, but yeah, I can believe it. You know how many of my patients have family members who got deported?

GARRETT
Drazen was doing everything right! He had a green card. It's messed up.

MALLORY
Yeah, it is. And it's been happening for years. Maybe you should have done something about it while you were in office, instead of partying on Alec Baldwin's yacht.

GARRETT
It was Daniel Baldwin's catamaran. I wish it was Alec's yacht.

MALLORY
Gross.

GARRETT
No, you're right, I'm a screw-up. Maybe I just should have become a doctor like you, and mom, and dad, and Harendra Uncle, and Bipin Uncle and Falguni Auntie, and--

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY

I'd rather be a cliché than someone pretending to be Mr. All American. "Oooh, I'm a politician, I played baseball."

GARRETT

("tearing up")

You know why I played baseball? Because I was good at it. And when kids saw I was good, nobody wanted to bully me anymore. They didn't see me as different. They accepted me.

MALLORY

(in Hindi)

Oh, get over yourself.

GARRETT

(in Hindi)

Hey! We were arguing in English! That's not fair!

MALLORY

So, this guy got taken. What are you going to do about it?

GARRETT

I mean, nothing. What can I do about it?

MALLORY

Of course. Things got hard, and you're bailing again. Is that step three or four of your "five step plan?"

She leaves. Garrett looks at his computer screen, sees a link to his old campaign ad from the cold open. He clicks it.

19 EXT. SUNNYSIDE, QUEENS STREETS - DAY (ON SCREEN) (FB-D1)

19

The same video from before.

GARRETT (ON SCREEN)

I'm Garrett Modi and I'm running to be your next city councilor. My parents moved here in 1975 with one dream. To raise their children in the greatest country on Earth in the greatest city on Earth...

20 INT. MALLORY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS (D-8)

20

As the video plays, Garrett gets a look of determination on his face. He gets up and runs out of the room past Mallory on the couch. He drops his five point plan in her lap.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

GARRETT

New plan!

21 INT. HAKIM'S TAXI - LATER

21

Garrett jumps into the backseat of Hakim's taxi.

GARRETT

A-ha! Found you! Look, before you say anything, I'm sorry. I messed up. I'm sorry for lying to you, I'm sorry for being a dick. But, in a way, lying about your credentials and putting your own happiness above others is one of the most American things you can do, so I guess that's another lesson you learned from me and you're welcome. Point is, I want to make it up to you.

HAKIM

(beat, then)

How many taxi cabs did you jump into before you found me?

GARRETT

A lot. There are a lot of very angry cab drivers out there. What do you say? Want to help me get everyone else on board?

Hakim puts the car in drive.

HAKIM

Let's go.

22 INT. INSANE TRIBECA LOFT - LATER (D-8)

22

We're in the largest apartment anyone has ever seen. Somehow, three Ferraris are parked inside. A very chic young assistant leads Garrett and Hakim in, and from across the massive loft they see a bored Mei Lin and Jun Ho staring at BILL NYE, who stands at a white board.

BILL NYE

...And we call that the Electoral College. But this is one college that doesn't have a football team!

He waits for a laugh that doesn't come.

MEI LIN

Ugh, what are you even talking about?

(CONTINUED)

Sunnyside
Full Yellow

"Pilot"

28A.
3/20/19

22

CONTINUED:

22

BILL NYE

Look, I told you. I'm more of a science
guy.

*

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

GARRETT

Guys, I know you're probably pissed at me, but I think I can really help you. And Drazen. Will you come with me?

JUN HO

Oh thank god, yes. Bill Nye suuuuucks.

*

MEI LIN

So boring.
(directly to Bill)
Be less boring!

They all leave together.

BILL NYE

Do I still get paid?

23 EXT./INT. LIBRARY - LATER (D-8)

23

Garrett, Hakim, Mei Lin, and Jun Ho enter a typically beautiful New York City Public Library. They see Brady across the room, studying intently, wearing glasses.

GARRETT

Brady. Come with us. We're getting the gang back together.

BRADY

(to everyone but Garrett)
You guys cool with this?

They nod.

BRADY (CONT'D)

(relieved)
Sweet.
(then, threatening)
If you tell anyone you saw me in a library, I will mess you up, understand?

GARRETT

Yup, I get it. Now we just need to find Griselda.

GRISELDA (O.S.)

I'm right here!

Reveal Griselda, pushing a cart, restocking the shelves.

GRISELDA (CONT'D)

It's almost my lunch break anyway. Where are we going?

24 INT. CITY COUNCIL OFFICE - LATER (D-8)

24

The group bursts into Diana's office.

DIANA

Oh, come on.

GARRETT

Wait! I want to apologize. I got to sit at that desk, basically because I was good at talking. I talked this city into electing me, and then I never did anything. You're not going to make that mistake. And you're going to be a better city councilor than I ever was.

DIANA

...I mean, that's a pretty low bar.

GARRETT

Harsh, but fair. What I'm trying to say is: I'm sick of talking -- I want to start doing. Their friend Drazen got taken by ICE last night. Can you help us find him?

DIANA

I can try, but they don't let anyone into those facilities. But I'll see what I can do.

BRADY

Also, we need to get into a citizenship class, and they're all booked up.

GARRETT

(smiles)

Actually, guys, that part I have covered.

Garrett turns to the group.

GARRETT (CONT'D)

When you're born in America, you never really have to learn how lucky you are. You guys are already working way harder than I ever did, just to get what I was randomly given at birth because my parents happened to live here. I don't want to take that for granted anymore. If you'll have me as a teacher, I'll learn whatever I have to. I'll help you get your paperwork in order. I'll help you study.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

GARRETT (CONT'D)
I'll know the Constitution better than...
the guy who wrote the Const--

HAKIM
James Madison.

GARRETT (CONT'D)
James Madison! I said it at
the same time as you.

GARRETT (CONT'D)
I'm going to be right next to you, and
we're going to figure out how to get
through this together. And here's your
money back. Minus a few hundred for
teaching expenses, shoes count as
teaching expenses.

(to Diana)
Is it okay if we come to you if we ever
need help navigating this process?

DIANA
Fine. But I'm only helping them. Also,
for your information there were a lot of
drugs left in your desk...

GARRETT
(proud)
Those days are behind me. You keep them.

DIANA
I threw them away, you maniac.

25 INT. MALLORY'S HOUSE - DAY (D-8)

25

The gang studies in Mallory's living room. Garrett flips to a
page featuring Benjamin Franklin.

GARRETT
Okay, can anyone tell me who Benjamin
Franklin is?

MEI LIN
Oh! He's the guy on the hundred. Those
are my favorites. Why does anyone use the
other ones?

GARRETT
Okay yes, but what did he do?

GRISELDA
He flew a kite in a storm and that was
smart for some reason?

GARRETT
That is true, but not what I'm looking
for.

(CONTINUED)

BRADY
Is he Hamilton from "Hamilton?"

GARRETT
...That's Hamilton.

Mallory enters, bedraggled from a long day at work.

MALLORY
...Garrett, I've been in surgery all day.
You can't just bring a bunch of strangers
into my house.

JUN HO
Actually, it would only be illegal if we
were soldiers and the government was
telling you to let us in. Boom. Third
amendment.

GARRETT
Jun Ho! You learned something!

The gang congratulates Jun Ho.

JUN HO
Oh my god I did! I'm amazing!

They all HIGH-FIVE and celebrate. Hakim approaches her.

HAKIM
What kind of surgery? We talking
arthroplasty? Fasciectomy?
(excited)
Composite tissue allograft?!

MALLORY
Who are you?

HAKIM
I'm Hakim!

END OF ACT THREE