YOUR 20s (Pilot)

written by

Khari X. Telesford

YOUR 20s

"PILOT"(1x1)

COLD OPEN

1 <u>INT. GUYS APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT</u>

1

Bushwick Brooklyn. We are in a typical messy, guys-guys studio apartment: movie posters, game console, bland decoration.

The group:

---ALEXIS WASHINGTON (28, African American, career driven, sarcastic)

---HAROLD "HARRY" O'TOOLEY (27, White, boyish, hopeless romantic)--

---J.C. EDWARDS (29, African American, handsome, witty)

---DIANE YIU (26, Asian-American, pampered master of none, offensive and does not care)---

Sit on the floor, around a table, playing a game of scrabble... but not the kind you play.

On the board are tiles spelling out names like Brett, Allison, Colin, Audrey, Claire, Zack, Connor and Hannah.

ALEXIS

B-R-E-T-T. That's 8 points.

DIANE

No six.

HARRY

Why do you guys like playing this game?

ALEXIS

You people?

HARRY

No. I meant. You guys?

ALEXIS

Now, I'm a guy?

HARRY

No no... I mean...

ALEXIS

I'm just messing with you Harry.
 (beat)

You mean White People Scrabble? Because its fun.

JC

Plus, its payback for the 500 hundreds years you're people had us in bondage. We need something for all of the free labor... the U.S government is nt handing out reparations. And food-stamps don't count.

DIANE

C'mon JC. I thought it was like, only three hundred years. Lincoln did free the slaves in 1863 you know?

JC

(to Alexis, re: Diane)
Get yo girl, Alexis.

ALEXIS

That may be true... but we've had Jim Crow, segregation, aparth--

DIANE

--Yeah yeah. But you dont hear Asians complaining about "the man" or racism.

As she speaks, Alexis and JC become increasingly shocked.

DIANE (CONT'D)

We immigrated to this country just like you... yet we manage to open up all kinds of businesses: beauty salons, restaurants, jewelry stores--

ALEXIS

Gimme a break.

DIANE

My family came here without a nickel to rub together and--

HARRY

--Werent they millionaire back in Beijing?

JC

Your family owns Yui Foods. The Burger King to Panda Express's McDonalds.

DIANE

Its way better than Panda Express.

(beat)

So what? I'm still out here hustling in these streets.

JC

Diane... You live in Williamsburg. In a high rise. With a doorman... (pointing to Alexis) ... With this one.

DIANE

Stay out my pockets JC.

ALEXIS

(to Diane)

Hustling? You call \$5000 acting classes... trying to create the next Kylie lip filler but quitting... and trying every "get-rich-scheme" as hustling?

DIANE

I'm business-women... and an artist Alexis. I have to spread my wings and fly.

She demonstrates spreading her wings.

ALEXIS

You are so annoying.

DIANE

But you love me.

In the midst of all of this, Harry has arranged a name. He smirks and sits back impressed with himself. The group gasps.

ALEXIS

That's good.

JC

That's really good.

DIANE

Damnn!

On the board we see he's spelled out: Z-A-N-D-E-R (alt. H-O-L-L-Y).

HARRY

(smug)

Its my second cousin's name.

JC

My second cousin's name is Trayshawn. Went into prison and came out "Khadheem 2X". Damn, I miss him.

JC wipes the board, scattering all of the tiles.

JC (CONT'D)

I win.

HARRY

You cheated.

JC

Just like the white man cheated us out of our names, language and religion. Beeyatch!

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

Shake It Fast by Mystikal plays

2 <u>INT. GUY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (DAY 1)</u>

2

It's Friday night in Bushwick Brooklyn. We are in a typical guys guys studio apartment: movie posters, game console, bland decoration.

The group...

- ---ALEXIS WASHINGTON (28, African American, career driven, sarcastic)
- ---HAROLD "HARRY" O'TOOLEY (27, White, boyish, hopeless romantic)--
- ---J.C. EDWARDS (29, African American, handsome, witty)
- ---DIANE YIU (26, Asian-American, pampered master of none, slightly racist)---
- ... Eat pizza before heading out for the night.

The music video to SHAKE IT FAST plays on a FLAT SCREEN T.V.

JC, Alexis and Harry sit on the couch. JC nods his head to the beat. Alexis rolls her eyes. Harry oggles at the dancers in the music video.

Diane dances in the middle of the living room to the music, trying to crump and twerk... but is failing miserably.

DIANE

(singing along between bites)

Attention, all y'all players and pimps, Right now in the place to be... you know JC, you kinda look like this guy.

JC

(munching on a slice)
Why? Because I'm black?

DIANE

(offended)

No! Because you're...

She stops twerking to take a good look at him.

DIANE (CONT'D)

Yeah. Because you're black.

6.

2 CONTINUED:

She goes back to dancing.

J.C

(ignoring her)

What is everyone planning for this lovely evening?

HARRY

(proudly)

Got a date.

They all turn to him, shocked.

DIANE

Harry... are you sure that's what <u>she</u> called it?

ALEXIS

Another blind girl?

JC

I told him... if she reads braille... DON'T chase the tail.

HARRY

No. This is a real living, breathing and seeing girl.

DIANE

(still dancing)

You sure?

She and Alexis laugh and wiggle their fingers, their strange hand shake.

HARRY

We met online. Been texting each other for the past couple of weeks. We even swapped a few photos. I'm a little nervous... but mostly optimistic.

ALEXIS

Which app did you match her on? Tinder? Bumble?

DIANE

White people meet and drink soy lattes and talk about Seinfeld dot com?

J.C

Nice one!

Diane and J.C fist-bump. Harry frowns.

2

HARRY

You cant say that. You're also...

(careful)

... fair-er skinned.

DIANE (O.S)

No, I'm Chinese. You're white. BIG difference.

Diane's hair and make is done Geisha style. She bows elegantly. A GONG rings in the background. They turn to the sound, confused, then back at Harry.

HARRY

(sheepish)

If you guys must know--I met her through the craigslist "Missed Connections" page. You've got to try all of the alternatives when it comes to dating in New York City.

JC

(serious)

You got be careful with that page Harry. Last summer when I was... you know--

He looks left and right, checking if the coast is clear. He snatches Alexis's phone and turns it off.

ALEXIS

Hey!

She takes her phone back.

JC

--"Selling Greens" in Washington Square Park, I saw the sexiest Indian girl wearing a juicy coutre track suit. Like the 2000s cheetah girls ones. But I ain 't get a chance to speak to her. So I posted on the missed connection page: "JC seeks <u>JC</u>. Looking for princess jasmine in juicy coutre from Washington Square Park".

HARRY

What happened?

JC

She replied... but it was nt the same girl.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Washington Square Park but its mostly empty: a few NYU students smoke, couples on dates walk by, a old man walks his dog.

An INDIAN GIRL (20s) wearing a PURPLE JUICY COUTRE track suit rolls up to J.C in a WHEELCHAIR. Large chunks of her hair is missing. He's flabberghasted. She smiles at us.

JC

Princess Jasmine?

She grins, nods her head and pats her lap.

CUT TO:

4 EXT. WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Aladdin's Its A Whole New World plays, JC sits on Jasmine's

lap as they ride around Washington Square park, ala Aladdin. Water from the fountain sprays them. Its romantic.

CUT TO:

5 INT. GUY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - PRESENT

5

ALEXIS

You are weird.

JC

(cocky)

Dont hate the player.

HARRY

But you did nt... you know...?

JC

Have sex?

(clearly lying)

Nooo.

CUT TO:

6 <u>INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK</u>

In bed, JC and Jasmine lay in underneath the sheets, postcoitus bliss. He pats her leg, "Good Job", and begins to hop

off the bed.

Jasmine yelps. She throws off the bed sheet and leaps off the bed. She has motor function --- she can walk!

6 CONTINUED: 6

Her eyes gleam as she looks at JC in wonder. Her gaze lowers to his groin. She rubs his dick.

JASMINE

My magic lamp.

CUT TO:

INT. GUY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - PRESENT

JC

(dreamily)

There's nothing better than P.P

The group turns to J.C, confused and slightly disturbed.

ALEXIS

P.P?

JC

(it should be obvious)
Paraplegic pussy.

HARRY

Whatever. What about you Alexis? Have anything fun planned?

DIANE

The Parkers reruns and your vibrator don 't count girl.

Alexis stares daggers at Diane. She throws her pizza crust at her.

JC picks it up, blows on it, then eats it.

ALEXIS

Ew. Anyway... I'm also going on a date. He's a big video game creator. Like if Steve Job had a baby with Halo.

Group oohs and ahhs.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

We matched on...

(she doesnt want to say

it)

... Tinder.

Harry and JC turn toward one another, conspiratorial.

HARRY AND JC

Interesting.

CONTINUED:

DIANE

Ooooh. Lemme see.

Alexis shows him the guy's profile.

DIANE (CONT'D)

You are so in there!

ALEXIS

I'm not going give it up on the first night. You know I have standards.

DIANE

Standard schmandard. You're no fun. (beat)

He's hot. He looks like a younger, sexyier version of Bernie Mac.

JC

RIP.

HARRY

The guy from Family Feud?

JC and Alexis look at Harry like "seriously?".

ALEXIS

I'm surprised you know who that is.

Diane attempts to sound like a "black girl".

DIANE

(impersonating Bernie Mac)
Hello my sista!? Hello America! I´m
woke, never broke. Ju know what I´m
sayin´? Shiiit.

ALEXIS

Don't ever do that again.

JC

You nervous?

Alexis fidgets nervously then recomposes herself, trying to put on a show of confidence.

ALEXIS

Hell no. Its just a date.

JC

Yeah... but youre not exactly how we call "girl-friend material". You're bossy--