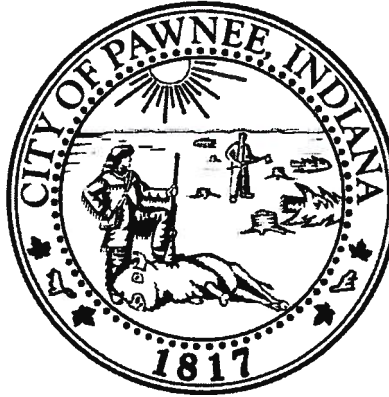


PARKS AND RECREATION



Soulmates
#03010

Written by
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TABLE DRAFT 10/13/10
SHOOTING DRAFT 10/19/10

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PARKS AND RECREATION
Shooting Draft

"Soulmates"

[03010]
10/19/10

CAST LIST

LESLIE
ANN
RON
TOM
ANDY
APRIL
BEN
JERRY
DONNA
CHRIS

JOE
CRAIG
KYLE
KIM
TED
COUNCILMAN HOWSER
CHECKOUT GIRL
STORE EMPLOYEES (3)
COWBOY HAT
BUSINESS MAN
JOCKY GUY

PARKS AND RECREATION
Shooting Draft

"Soulmates"

[03010]
10/19/10

SET LIST

INTERIORS

PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE

LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE

CITY HALL

Meeting Room

Outside Ben's Office

Hallway By Wildflower Mural

RON'S OFFICE

GRAIN 'N SIMPLE

General

Checkout Line

PLANNING DEPARTMENT COMMON AREA

JOE'S OFFICE

RESTAURANT

FOOD AND STUFF

General

Checkout Line

CONFERENCE ROOM

HALLWAY

CHRIS'S OFFICE

PIONEER HALLWAY

EXTERIORS

CITY HALL - DAY

COURTYARD - DAY

General

Ben's Area

COLD OPEN

1 INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - DAY 1

1

An adorable BASSET HOUND stands in front of a portrait screen awkwardly wearing clogs over his paws. JERRY takes pictures.

JERRY
There you go!
(chuckling, snaps picture)
Yay!

LESLIE, APRIL, DONNA, and RON watch with big smiles.

LESLIE
Jerry, there's just no way I can get around saying this: I am enjoying this thing you did.

Jerry smiles. TOM walks in.

TOM
What's going on?

JERRY
I started a new blog -- it's called "Canines in Size Nines."

Jerry keeps taking pictures. April walks over. Everyone stands quietly, not sure what's going to happen. She hugs him.

APRIL
Thank you.

TOM
Seriously? Dogs wearing shoes? People care about that?

JERRY
I get twelve hundred hits a day. Even got some interest from advertisers.

Tom thinks.

2 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D1

2

ANGLE ON: Tom's computer. There's a BLOG called "DOGS IN CLOGS BLOG." It's all the same photos, but they're in elaborate FRAMES. Jerry enters, holding a PUPPY and a pair of shoes.

JERRY
Tom, what the hell?

(CONTINUED)

TOM

You like my new website? It's the "Dogs in Clogs Blog!"

JERRY

This is exactly like "Canines in Size Nines."

TOM

Yeah, actually, my lawyer wants to talk to you about that. We're gonna need you to shut that down.

JERRY

Tom, you're literally using my pictures.

TOM

Mine have classy frames.

Jerry stares at him angrily.

TOM (CONT'D)

Look, you did inspire me, in an abstract, non-legally-binding way. So what?

JERRY

I can't believe you would do this.

TOM

Believe it, Jerry! This is a huge, potentially game-changing idea. And I won't let anything get in my way.

TOM

How much have I made? About forty dollars.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

4 INT. CITY HALL - MEETING ROOM - DAY 2

4

CHRIS and BEN have gathered representatives from every department in City Hall. Leslie, Ron, and Tom represent Parks.

CHRIS

Pawnee, as you all know, is the fourth most obese town in America.

TOM

Soon to be number three.
(to camera)
We're coming for you, San Antonio!

CHRIS

No, we are not. We are slimming down, starting right here in City Hall. I am instituting a new government-wide health initiative!

LESLIE

Ooh -- we could have a City Hall Dodgeball League!
(extremely fast)
I-get-first-pick-Ron!

CHRIS

Great! Let's keep those ideas flowing. Now: if anyone wants to join me, I will be running backwards up that hill behind the Wal-Mart.

He RUNS OUT of the room. Nobody moves except Ben, who starts to gather his things. After a beat.

BEN

Sorry -- "meeting adjourned." When he just runs out of the room like that, it means "meeting adjourned."

As they stand up to leave, JOE from Sewage eyes Leslie.

TOM

Don't freak out, but Joe from Sewage just unhooked your bra with his eyes.

She looks over.

LESLIE

What?
(sees him)
Oh. Oh boy.

(CONTINUED)

Joe walks over. Ben watches this unfold.

JOE

What's up, Knope? Looking good these days.

LESLIE

Ew, get away from me.

JOE

I'll get away from you... on a date with you. Whattya say? My van's out back -- let's roll.

LESLIE

Where is this coming from?

JOE

I don't know. You're sending off some kind of vibe -- driving me crazy. If you're looking for a good time, head on down to the Toilet Party. That's what we call the Sewage Department.

Leslie scurries away. Joe watches her as she leaves.

JOE (CONT'D)

Likin' the view!
(to himself, proudly)
Still got it, Joe.

LESLIE (O.C.)

No, you don't.

TOM

All of Joe's lines are sewage-related. "If you've got a clogged drain, I'll bring the snake." "Got any sewage in you? Would you like some?" And my personal favorite: "I'd like to lie face down in your gutter." Yeah. He said that. To a human being.

Chris does DEEP KNEE BENDS and SQUATS outside the door. Ron approaches.

RON

Christopher. Got a second?

CHRIS

Sure. Mind if I squat while we squawk?

RON

...Sure. Listen, I've eaten a commissary hamburger for lunch every day for twelve years. I just wanted to make sure this pointless health crusade won't affect the only part of my job that I like.

CHRIS

Oh, those hamburgers are gone. Red meat can cause sluggishness, heart disease, even impotence.

RON

Has the opposite effect on me.

CHRIS

Have you ever tried turkey burgers?

RON

Is that a fried turkey leg inside a grilled hamburger? If so, yes.

CHRIS

A turkey burger. You make the burger out of lean, ground turkey meat instead of beef.

RON

...Why would anyone do that to themselves?

CHRIS

Because it's good for you! What if I told you that I can make a turkey burger that's better than any hamburger you've ever tasted?

RON

(smiles)

Challenge accepted. Cook-off, tonight, in the courtyard. If I win, hamburgers remain in the commissary.

CHRIS

What do I get if I win?

RON

The rarest jewel of all: victory over me, Ron Swanson.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I like that. You're on.

Leslie and Ben walk down the hallway.

BEN

I can't believe I'm saying this, but I checked out that snow globe museum you recommended, and it was awesome. I did get in trouble for shaking one.

LESLIE

Yeah, I'm not allowed there anymore. Hey -- I have some ideas for this health initiative. We should turn the courtyard into a rock climbing wall. Also, we could have a program where everyone does lunges at lunch -- Lunging Lunches! Or: "Lunge..ches." Doesn't blend well.

BEN

Chris announced the proposal five minutes ago. How do you have this many ideas?

LESLIE

I wrote them down while he was talking. Here's another one: Push-Up Ladder. Just a name, not sure what it is yet.

BEN

Why don't I stop by at the end of the day and we can go over everything?

LESLIE

Okay. We could... do it after work, too -- maybe go to JJ's, get a bite to eat?

BEN

Uh. Yeah. I don't think I can.

(off Leslie's look)

It's -- let's just talk about it later, in... this building.

(beat)

You're great, though. Great ideas.

Ehhh. Bye.

Ben turns a corner. Leslie watches him go, sadly.

ANN kisses a handsome JOCKY GUY goodbye as she walks in.

JOCKY GUY

Bye, babe.

ANN

Hey, I brought the cholesterol testing kit for the health thing.

LESLIE

I asked Ben to dinner and he said no.

ANN

What? He totally seemed into you. What did he say exactly?

LESLIE

He said "Ehhhh, bye," and then walked into an office that wasn't his.

Ann rubs Leslie's arm with alcohol.

ANN

That's not good. But you know what? If he doesn't want to go out with you, he's nuts. You're awesome, and there are a million guys out there. I've been having fun seeing a bunch of different people.

LESLIE

I know, who was that cute guy you were--
(yelling)
Crap on a crayfish! That really stings!

ANN

I haven't pricked you yet.

LESLIE

Sorry, I was just picturing it. What is going on with me and guys right now? First creepy Joe hits on me, then this Ben thing...

ANN

You should cast a wider net. Why don't you try internet dating?

LESLIE

Really? I don't know, I mean--
(yelling again)
Aaargrghh! You're a monster!

ANN

Haven't done it yet. I've met some nice guys online.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

8

CONTINUED: (2)

8

ANN (CONT'D)

Seriously, it's not just for perverts anymore. I'll help you fill out your profile -- it'll be fun.

LESLIE

Okay.

(standing up)

Man, I'm glad that's over.

ANN

I still haven't done it yet.

LESLIE

Damnit.

Ann pricks her.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

(scream)

Fuck you, Ann!

9

INT. RON'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

9

Chris and ANDY stop by Ron's office. April is handing Ron a phone message that says "Forp called."

RON

Who the hell is "Forp?"

APRIL

I dunno. I couldn't really hear him. Sounded like his name was Forp.

RON

Get his number?

(she shakes her head no)

Good girl.

He tosses it in the trash.

CHRIS

Ron Swanson! April Ludgate! I'm on my way to Grain 'N Simple to get the very best ingredients for my burger. Want to come?

RON

What is "Grain 'N Simple?"

CHRIS

It's a health food store.

APRIL

Pawnee doesn't have a health food store.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

No -- but Snerling does! It's only a forty-minute drive.

RON

(to Andy)

What are you doing?

ANDY

I'm getting healthier snacks to sell at the shoeshine stand. Chris is a food genius. Did you know that the food you eat becomes energy?

(punches the air)

That's spaghetti!

(punches the air)

Nachos!

(karate kick)

Cookie!

He starts breathing really heavily.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Whoa. I'm gonna need more cookies.

APRIL

(to camera)

That's my husband.

RON

I've never been to a health food store. I imagine it's where manliness goes to die. I will come in the interest of curiosity.

CHRIS

Terrific!

Chris and Andy start to leave.

APRIL

You want me to come?

RON

Please, yes. I need a buffer between me and him.

CHRIS

(from hallway; delighted)

I heard that! Ron, you're a pistol.

At the Permits area, Ann kisses a BUSINESSMAN goodbye.

(CONTINUED)

BUSINESSMAN

See you tomorrow?

LESLIE

Is that a different guy from earlier?

ANN

What?

LESLIE

Never mind.

ANN

You ready to rock this profile?

11

INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER - D2

11

Ann is at the computer, open to the profile page of a site called "HoosierMate.com." Leslie paces around.

LESLIE

Yellow-haired female. Likes waffles and news.

ANN

(typing)

Sexy, well-read blonde... loves the sweeter things in life.

LESLIE

Bam.

JUMP CUT.

ANN

Hobbies?

LESLIE

Organizing my agenda. Wait, let's make it sound more fun -- jammin' on my planner.

JUMP CUT.

ANN

Favorite place?

LESLIE

Ooh -- upstairs there's a mural with these beautiful wildflowers. I like to sit on the bench right in front of it.

(CONTINUED)

ANN

...Really? It could be anywhere in the world. Paris, Hawaii, the Grand Canyon.

LESLIE

(thinks)

Nope. Bench in front of the mural.

ANN

Why not the actual meadow where the wildflowers are?

LESLIE

Ew, no. I'm scared of bees. Mural!

JUMP CUT.

ANN

Describe your perfect date.

LESLIE

We step out of the Capitol building. The cherry blossoms are in full bloom. On our way to the Smithsonian, we sign three bills into law --

ANN

How about dinner and a movie?

LESLIE

That's good too!

ANN

What kind of movie?

LESLIE

Foreign sci-fi! Wait no -- neither of those. Anything but those two kinds. Sorry. I'm nervous.

JUMP CUT.

ANN

What do you think of dogs?

LESLIE

Love.

ANN

Cats?

LESLIE

Love.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

ANN

Fish?

LESLIE

Love.

ANN

Turtles?

LESLIE

No opinion.

(off Ann's look)

They're condescending!

JUMP CUT.

ANN

What's your perfect guy?

LESLIE

Hmm. Dark and mysterious. And he can
sing... and he plays the organ!

ANN

You just described the Phantom of the
Opera.12 INT. GRAIN 'N SIMPLE - LATER - D2

12

Chris, Ron, Andy, and April enter the health food store.

CHRIS

Ahhh. Nirvana.

STORE EMPLOYEES

Chris! / Hey, Chris! / Hey, buddy!

CHRIS

Paul, Jaclyn, Marty! Great to see you!

Ron looks at the camera.

13 RON TALKING HEAD

13

RON

No, I don't plan to buy anything here. I
buy my burger ingredients at Food and
Stuff, a discount food outlet equidistant
from my home and my work. I came here
for the same reason people go to the zoo.

He sees a WHITE GUY WITH DREADLOCKS.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

13 CONTINUED:

13

RON (CONT'D)
(delighted)
Look at that thing.

14 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

14

Ann and Leslie.

ANN
You ready? Should have some results by
now.

LESLIE
Can you sort by eyebrow bushiness? I've
had some bad experiences.

They look at the screen.

ANN
Wow! Looks like you have a ninety-eight
percent match. A "soulmate-level" match.
I've never seen anything that high
before.

LESLIE
Wow. Okay.

Ann notices her hesitation.

ANN
I know what you're thinking. Forget
about Ben. He had his chance and he blew
it. This computer might have found the
future Mr. Leslie Knope! Whatever you're
selling, this guy is buying.

Leslie brightens.

LESLIE
You're right. Okay, entire-universe-of-
guys-I-might-date: show me what you got!

Ann clicks. A PICTURE OF TOM comes up on the screen.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Ahhhh!

Leslie pushes the monitor off her desk.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

15 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

15

Leslie is on the phone. CRAIG answers the line.

CRAIG (V.O.)

This is Craig at HoosierMate.com, how may I help you?

LESLIE

Craig, your service is crap.

CRAIG (V.O.)

...Can you be more specific?

LESLIE

Your "soulmate match" is totally wrong for me. I like him as a friend, but I would never go out with him. He's like a little sister to me.

CRAIG (V.O.)

We have a very sophisticated algorithm that's paired up thousands of couples. Clearly something about you is very compatible with this friend of yours.

LESLIE

Don't talk down to me, Craig.

CRAIG (V.O.)

I actually met my wife on the site.

LESLIE

It'll never last.

CRAIG (V.O.)

Excuse me?

LESLIE

You heard me. Your marriage is a sham. Goodbye, Craig.

16 INT. GRAIN 'N SIMPLE - LATER - D2

16

Ron and April pass a chipper Grain 'N Simple worker, TED.

TED

Would you like to sample our vegan bacon?
One hundred percent meatless.

RON

Yes, please.

(CONTINUED)

Ted hands it to Ron, who immediately drops it in the trash.

RON (CONT'D)

Another please.

Ted hands him another. Ron puts it in the trash.

TED

Sir? Is there a problem?

RON

I'm making sure no one ever has to eat this.

TED

I don't think I can give you any more.

APRIL

I want one.

He hands her one. She dumps it in the trash. April and Ron smile at each other.

Ann kisses a GUY IN A COWBOY HAT goodbye and sits down with Leslie, drinking coffee.

COWBOY HAT

See you, sweetheart.

LESLIE

He seemed nice.

ANN

Eh. He kind of lives in a barn. What's up?

LESLIE

What's wrong with me? Good guys hate me and gross guys love me. Do I smell weird? Do I have Wrong Guy Disease? You're a nurse. Diagnose me.

ANN

There is nothing wrong with you. You're an attractive, intelligent, classy woman. And for whatever reason, right now, only douchey guys are buying what you're selling.

LESLIE

So I need to go to those guys and ask them what they think I'm selling.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

17

CONTINUED:

17

LESLIE (CONT'D)

A douche-vestigation! You're a genius,
Ann.

Leslie walks off. Ann gets a text.

ANN

Who the hell is Phillippe?
(remembers)
Oohhhhh! Hmmm. Why not...

She starts texting back.

18

INT. JOE'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

18

Joe is leafing through a "Redbook"-style magazine.

JOE

(looking at a picture)
Nice.

Leslie takes a deep breath and approaches.

LESLIE

Hi, Joe. I know you're going to take
this the wrong way, but can I talk to you
for a second?

JOE

You can do anything to me, for any number
of seconds. You want to talk outside, in
my van?

LESLIE

Here is good. I was... flattered by what
you said earlier, and I was just
wondering what it is you look for in a
woman.

JOE

She can't be in a wheelchair. No canes.
No gray hair.

LESLIE

So just... no older women.

JOE

I guess I never thought of it that way.

LESLIE

So I'm your type because I'm not elderly.

JOE

Well, yeah. And as I aforementioned, you
got a killer dumpster.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

18 CONTINUED:

18

JOE (CONT'D)

Now, if I've satisfied your curiosity, my
van's out back -- let's roll.

He smiles and extends his arm as if to walk her to his van.

LESLIE

Okay, bye, Joe.

19 INT. GRAIN 'N SIMPLE - LATER - D2

19

Ron and April look down the aisle. Chris is running and
pushing Andy in a shopping cart.

ANDY

Wheee!

20 INT. GRAIN 'N SIMPLE - LATER - D2

20

Chris and Andy are looking at produce.

ANDY

What's this?

CHRIS

That's a starfruit.

ANDY

What's this?

CHRIS

That's a kiwano, or horned melon.

ANDY

What's this?

CHRIS

That's a peach.

ANDY

Oh yeah.

(to camera, proud)

Knew that one.

CHRIS

Wow -- look at this. Fresh lettuce is my
all-time favorite food. What's your
favorite food?

ANDY

I put Skittles between two Starbursts.
You know what I call it?

CHRIS

"Skittle Sandwich?"

(CONTINUED)

ANDY

"Andy's Mouth Surprise." It's awesome. The flavors in the Starbursts really bring out the similar flavors in the Skittles.

CHRIS

You poor thing. You haven't eaten fresh food your whole life. Come on -- you're about to discover a whole new way of eating.

Andy looks happy.

21 INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - LATER - D2

21

Leslie scrutinizes Tom as he talks on the phone.

TOM

(into phone)

Yes, I would like to lodge a complaint about this Seaweed and Almond Under Eye Cream I just purchased. It smells terrible! I even tried mixing it with another eye cream and it still smelled. I ruined two eye creams! ...Yes, I'll hold.

Beat. Tom starts singing along to "Forever Young" by Alphaville.

TOM (CONT'D)

(passionate)

FOREVER YOUNG / I WANNA BE FOREVER YOUNG
/ DO YOU REALLY WANT TO LIVE FOREVER--

LESLIE

Heeeyyyy... Tom.

TOM

'Sup?

LESLIE

What do you say we get some lunch?

TOM

Nah, I don't want to go to JJ's.

LESLIE

We can go to any restaurant of your choice. I'm buying.

TOM

Can I get apps and zerts?

22 TOM TALKING HEAD

22

TOM

Zerts are what I call desserts. "Tray-
trays" are entrees. I call sandwiches
"sammies," "sandoozles," or "Adam
Sandlers."

(jump cut)

I call cakes "big ol' cookies."

(jump cut)

Air conditioners are "CoolBlasterz," with
a "z." I don't know where that one came
from.

(jump cut)

I call cakes "3-D Cookies." I call
noodles "long-ass rice." I call root
beer "Super Water." Fried chicken is
"fry-fry chicky-chick." I call eggs
"future birds" or "pre-birds." Tortillas
are "bean blankets." And I call forks...

(smiles and points to camera)

..."food rakes."

23 INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - D2

23

LESLIE

You can get as many zerts as you want.

TOM

Cool. Let's get in my Go-Go Mobile.

24 TOM TALKING HEAD

24

TOM

Car.

25 INT. RESTAURANT - LATER - D2

25

Tom and Leslie order from a pretty waitress, KIM.

KIM

Anything to drink?

TOM

How sweet is your ice tea?

KIM

It's actually not that sweet.

TOM

If I need it any sweeter, I'll just mix
you into it, sugar.

Kim rolls her eyes and walks off. Leslie looks repulsed.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

25 CONTINUED:

25

LESLIE

So, that waitress. What is it about her,
that you like?

TOM

There's one thing I like about her.
Wait, are boobs one thing or two?

Leslie wrinkles her nose.

26 INT. GRAIN 'N SIMPLE - CHECKOUT LINE - LATER - D2

26

Chris unloads his overflowing cart. He sees Ron sitting on a
bench near the checkout area.

CHRIS

I don't see any ingredients. Have you
bought ingredients?

RON

Nope.

CHRIS

Do you need help shopping?

RON

No.

CHRIS

...Can you move? Are you hurt?

RON

Never felt better.

CHRIS

You do understand that if I beat you
today, that'll be the end of hamburgers
in the commissary.

RON

I understand perfectly.

Andy comes running up to Chris carrying a box of cereal, some
vegan cookies, and a pinwheel.

ANDY

(six-year-old)

Chris! Can I get these?

CHRIS

I said one thing.

Andy stares at his items.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

26

CONTINUED:

26

ANDY

Arrggh. I can't decide. Honey?

APRIL

(reading a magazine)

Pinwheel.

27

INT. RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER - D2

27

Leslie and Tom eat.

LESLIE

Okay. You rub a bottle, genie pops out.
What are your three wishes?

TOM

Come on, Leslie.

LESLIE

What? It's just a fun game. Three
wishes. Go.

TOM

I want a big house with a ton of
balconies.

LESLIE

(not displeased)

Okay...

TOM

I just want to stand on all my balconies
and survey my empire, like a drug dealer
in a Michael Bay movie. Also, you know,
I could read my iPad out there, drink
espresso, wear a terry cloth robe.

LESLIE

That sounds --

(she can't say anything nice)

Wish #2?

TOM

I'm the CEO of the Spike TV network. My
personal assistant-slash-best friend is
Jamie Foxx.

LESLIE

All right. Never mind.

TOM

No -- I'm into it now. Third wish: they
do a remake of "Point Break," and I play
both roles. Keanu and Swayze.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PARKS AND RECREATION

"Soulmates"

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22.

Shooting Draft

27 CONTINUED:

27

TOM (CONT'D)

It's a giant hit, I get super rich, and I have three simultaneous theme parties on three of my balconies -- Heaven, Hell, and Sexy Masquerade.

Leslie sighs sadly.

28 INT. FOOD AND STUFF - LATER - D2

28

Ron and April walk into Food and Stuff, a low-end grocery store. At the meat shelves, he grabs a styrofoam pack of ground beef from the bottom shelf that says "50% OFF!"

29 RON TALKING HEAD

29

RON

I love Food and Stuff. It's where I buy all of my food. And most of my stuff.

30 INT. RESTAURANT - LATER - D2

30

KIM refills their drinks.

TOM

What do you say, Kim? If you're single, I'm ready to make you tingle.

KIM

I have a boyfriend.

TOM

Maybe it's time to make a man-friend.

Kim leaves.

TOM (CONT'D)

I got that line from Ben Roethlisberger.

LESLIE

Didn't he get suspended for sexual assault?

TOM

I don't know. I don't follow football.

LESLIE

Let's play another game. I'll say something about me, and you say on a scale of one to ten how interested in that thing you are. Ready? I love fresh air, sunshine, and early morning walks.

TOM

One.

(CONTINUED)

LESLIE

I've read five biographies of Eleanor Roosevelt.

TOM

One.

LESLIE

I work in the Parks and Recreation Department--

TOM

One.

LESLIE

That's what you do!

TOM

One.

LESLIE

I kissed a girl in college--

TOM

Eight.

LESLIE

--where I graduated Summa Cum Laude in History--

TOM

One. Zero. Negative a billion.

Leslie screws up her face.

Ron plops the ground beef down on the counter.

APRIL

Can I get these?

She holds up two stuffed crows.

RON

How much are they?

APRIL

Two bucks a piece.

RON

Good deal.

31 CONTINUED:

31

CHECKOUT GIRL
Anything else?

RON
Nope. Just the crows and the beef.

32 INT. RESTAURANT - LATER - D2

32

Leslie is frustrated.

LESLIE
So all you look for is "hotness?" Lucy,
Wendy -- all you cared about was the
shapes of their boobs?

TOM
...You're acting super weird. Why did
you even buy me lunch -- just to come
here and yell at me about what I like in
women?

Leslie takes a breath.

LESLIE
Promise not to tell anyone? I know it's
insane, but we got matched up on
HoosierMate.com. You and me. Ninety-
eight percent. Soulmate-level match.

Tom shoots a delighted look to camera.

33 TOM TALKING HEAD

33

He shows us his phone with his PROFILE on it.

TOM
I have twenty-six profiles on that dating
site -- one for each kind of girl. The
one Leslie got matched up with is Tom N.
Haverford. The "N" is for "nerd." Tom
N. Haverford collects globes. His
favorite movie is books.

34 INT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS - D2

34

TOM
You want to date me! This is a date! Oh
my God. This is the best thing that's
ever happened!

LESLIE
No, it's not a date.

TOM

You took me to a nice restaurant, paid for my meal, and wanted to get to know me better. That's a date, girlfriend.

LESLIE

I needed to find out why only sleazy guys are into me right now.

TOM

(starts dancing in his chair)

Nice try. You love me.

(tunelessly singing)

Leslie Knope, Tom Haverford / Dating in the day, dating in the night / Dating all the time 'cause he keepin' it tight.

LESLIE

Tom!

TOM

(still singing)

Dating in the car, dating on the floor / Dating everywhere 'cause she wants some more...

Leslie looks miserable.

35 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

35

Leslie is finishing up her ideas.

LESLIE

I'm printing them out. Can you grab them?

TOM

One second -- I'm looking at real estate listings. Here's a great one for us -- three bedrooms... ooh!

(sing-song)

It has your big closet that you want -- dream closet!

LESLIE

Ugh.

She sits down. He approaches her tenderly, stares gently into her eyes.

TOM

Hey, kid -- where'd you go? Come back to me.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

35 CONTINUED:

35

LESLIE

Stop it.

TOM

Don't disappear on me. I need you.

She slaps his hand away.

36 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER - D2

36

Leslie, Tom, Jerry, and Donna meet with Ben.

TOM

Can I pour you a coffee, Leslie? I know how you like it. Short, dark, and bearded.

BEN

Okay. Let's get into it. What do you guys have for health tips?

TOM

Ben, if it's okay with you, Leslie and I are going to lead this meeting together because of our deep spiritual connection.

LESLIE

No, we aren't.

TOM

She's my boo. We're always finishing each other's sentences.

LESLIE

Actually, I'm going to lead this meeting --

LESLIE (CONT'D)

-- on my own.

TOM

-- wearing no bra.

TOM

See?

BEN

Is everything okay?

TOM

Everything is perfect, Ben. Les and I had something magical happen at lunch today.

He slowly reaches out and covers her hand with his.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

There is some weird juju in this room
right now.

LESLIE

(quietly, to Tom)
That's enough.
(to Ben)
Office yoga! Stretching exercises you
can do standing by your desk or in your
chair.

As Leslie speaks, Tom rests his chin on his hands and gazes
at her lovingly.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Maybe we can get pedometers, and give
prizes to the people who walk the most.
Anything to get their heart rate up for a
few minutes a day.

TOM

You know what else gets the heart rate
up? Doin' it.
(to Ben)
Talkin' 'bout sex with m'boss.

LESLIE

Ben, would you excuse us for one second?
Thank you.

Leslie drags Tom out of the room.

TOM

Ow!

37 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS - D2

37

Leslie faces Tom.

TOM

Wow, Leslie, you are feisty right now!

LESLIE

You're being a real ass, and you're going
to stop right now, or else.

TOM

Or else what? I can't fight this
feeling, girl. You and I are daaaaa-
ting.

Leslie grabs him and KISSES HIM. Tom freezes, stunned.

(CONTINUED)

LESLIE

You should be so lucky.

Leslie starts walking away. She runs into Chris, who's seen the whole thing.

CHRIS

Leslie? Tom?

Leslie stares at him. Then slowly reaches out, while still staring at Chris, and pulls a FIRE ALARM. Nothing happens.

LESLIE

They should fix that.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

38 INT. CHRIS'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

38

Leslie sits in his office. During the whole conversation, he cuts cucumbers into delicate flower-shaped garnishes with a large knife that he waves around.

LESLIE

It was a joke. I assure you, there is nothing romantic going on between Tom and me.

CHRIS

But you were kissing, correct? I have a very strict policy: no office relationships, especially between a supervisor and an employee.

(holds up garnish)

Look! Cucumber flower!

Leslie takes it and puts it in her mouth.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

That's a garnish. I didn't mean for you to eat it.

LESLIE

(mouth full)

Sorry...

CHRIS

It's in there already, go ahead and swallow. Leslie, we are paid by the taxpayers. If we do anything that looks even remotely scandalous -- one-on-one drinks after work, dinners, stuff like that...

Chris makes a cutting motion with his knife on his throat.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, that was needlessly graphic. I just happened to be holding this knife.

LESLIE

I understand.

CHRIS

Just to be clear: if you can't keep your mouth to yourself, I'm going to have to suspend you.

(holds up a pluot)

Organic pluot?

39 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER - D2

39

Ben, Tom, Donna, Jerry.

BEN

So type up the ones we talked about and we'll get them finalized tomorrow. Thanks.

Donna and Jerry exit. Ben stops Tom from leaving.

BEN (CONT'D)

Hey, what was that stuff with you and Leslie.

TOM

Girl likes Indian food, what can I say?
(off Ben's glare)
Fine, we got matched up on an internet dating site. I was messing with her, she got pissed, and out in the hallway she kissed me, out of revenge.

BEN

Really.

TOM

Yeah. I gotta say, and it pains me to admit this, it was... not disgusting.

BEN

Okay... I don't need to --

TOM

I'm just saying, she knows what to do. It was... stirring.

BEN

Bye.

Ben tries not to care about that information.

40 INT. CHRIS'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

40

Chris, Andy, and April dice vegetables and make marinades. They use a crazy array of mortars and pestles, mixing bowls, and blenders. It's a flurry of activity.

CHRIS

You know your way around a blender!

APRIL

Yeah. My secret is pushing the button.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

40

CONTINUED:

40

ANDY

Hey -- thanks for teaching us how to eat healthy, man. I used to want to live fast and die young, but now that I'm married, I need to get more into this lame, boring shit.

April looks at him and nods in agreement.

CHRIS

My pleasure, guys! I think you'll find that with just a little effort, the world can be a healthier, happier place!

Andy beams.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

(addressing his ingredients)

Okay. Talk to me, cumin!

41

INT. PIONEER HALLWAY - LATER - D2

41

Leslie walks and talks with Ann.

ANN

A bunch more matches came up. You want to look at them after the burger tasting thing?

LESLIE

Yeah, okay. Line 'em up, right? Let every guy in town get a taste of Knope.

COUNCILMAN HOWSER walks by.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Councilman Howser.

COUNCILMAN HOWSER

Leslie.

42

EXT. COURTYARD - LATER - D2

42

The tasting panel of Tom, Jerry, Donna, and KYLE is seated at a long table. Chris, wearing a chef's hat and apron, has placed his burgers on beautiful asymmetrical plates and garnished them with cucumber flowers and slices of colorful fruit.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

I humbly place before you my patented East Meets West Traeger Turkey Burger: an Asian fusion burger with Willow Farms Organic Turkey, a Toasted Taleggio Cheese Crisp, Papaya Chutney, Black Truffle Aioli and Microgreens on a Gluten-Free Brioche Bun.

The panel tastes Chris's turkey burgers. They make "mmm" sounds.

TOM

Damn. This tastes as delicious as Beyoncé smells. I'm guessing.

DONNA

What is this in here -- saffron?

CHRIS

Whoa! Somebody's got a sharp palate!

KYLE

I love the umami flavor.

JERRY

Stop being so pretentious, Kyle.

KYLE

Sorry.

CHRIS

I am so gratified that you all like my healthy, organic meal so much. It was a pleasure to serve you.

RON

Here's mine.

Ron places paper plates down in front of the panel.

RON (CONT'D)

It's a hamburger, made out of meat, on a bun, with nothing. Add ketchup if you want. I could care less.

As they all bite into them.

CHRIS

I'm disappointed in you, Ron. I thought you were going to provide an actual challenge--

Shooting Draft

42

CONTINUED: (2)

42

TOM

Never mind, this is better.

DONNA

Way better.

JERRY

Yup.

ANDY

Kyle?

KYLE

Sorry, Andy. Ron's is better.

ANDY

Damn it, Kyle.

Andy tastes Ron's burger.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(instantly)

It's so much better it's crazy.

He stuffs the rest of the burger in his mouth at once.

RON

Turkey will never beat cow, Chris.
Sorry.

CHRIS

I can't believe this. I've tinkered with
my recipe for years. Granted, it's been
a long time since I've eaten a hamburger.

Ron hands Chris one of his burgers. Chris takes a bite.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Okay. You win.

(to the group)

The commissary will continue to serve
horrifying, artery-clogging hamburgers.

The panel applauds.

43

EXT. COURTYARD - LATER - D2

43

April and Andy are eating hamburgers.

ANDY

We spent like fifty hours making those
turkey burgers.

APRIL

I know. Hard work never pays off.

(CONTINUED)

ANDY

Promise me, that no matter how long we're married, or how little money we have, we will never cook for ourselves. Because cooking is dumb.

She hands him one of the stuffed crows.

APRIL

I swear on this dead crow -- I will never cook you dinner.

ANDY

I love you.

Elsewhere, Chris walks over to Leslie and Ann, who are also eating burgers.

CHRIS

Leslie -- I just want to make sure there are no hard feelings from when I forced you to break up with Tom.

LESLIE

We weren't -- no, no hard feelings.

CHRIS

It's just a real bugaboo of mine. And the rule applies to everyone -- just the other day, Ben told me he might want to socialize with someone in this government, and I told him, sorry, not possible.

LESLIE

(realizing)

Really.

She eyes Ben across the courtyard, talking to April.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Did he say who?

CHRIS

No, and I didn't ask. Because it's irrelevant. It simply can't happen.

(re: hamburger)

This is literally the best thing I have ever eaten. And it's so bad for me. I have to jog while I eat this. Excuse me.

He RUNS OFF.

44 EXT. COURTYARD - BEN'S AREA - MOMENTS LATER - D2

44

Leslie walks over to him. He's eating a turkey burger.

LESLIE

What's up?

BEN

I think I'm allergic to chutney. Also,
what's chutney?

LESLIE

No clue. I never got to tell you the
rest of my ideas. You wanna go somewhere
and talk about them?

BEN

I'd love to. Let me grab some actual
food, and I'll meet you by that
wildflower mural on the second floor.

LESLIE

Sounds good to me.

45 INT. CITY HALL - HALLWAY BY WILDFLOWER MURAL - LATER - D2

45

B-roll: Leslie and Ben eat their burgers on a bench in front
of the BEAUTIFUL WILDFLOWER MURAL.

LESLIE (V.O.)

I don't know if the online thing is right
for me. I prefer to meet people in
person.

46 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

46

B-roll cont'd: Leslie looks at her HoosierMate account. On
the screen, it says "YOU HAVE 49 MORE MATCHES. CLICK HERE TO
SEE THEM."

Leslie moves her mouse to the "DELETE ACCOUNT" button. She
clicks it.

LESLIE (V.O.)

It's like "Door #2" in "Let's Make a
Deal," you know? Do you want the thing
you have, that you know you like, even if
it's not perfect... or do you want to
give it up for whatever's behind Door #2?

ON THE SCREEN: Prompt: "ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DELETE YOUR
ACCOUNT?" Leslie clicks yes.

47 LESLIE TALKING HEAD

47

LESLIE
I think I like what I have. I'm gonna
try to make it work with Tom.
(then)
I'm kidding.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

48 INT. LESLIE AND TOM'S OFFICE - LATER - D2

48

LESLIE

Be honest. How did we get matched up?

TOM

I made twenty-six profiles, one for each kind of girl. Each one has a different middle initial. Tom A. Haverford is sporty and sexy. Tom B. Haverford is soulful and sexy. Which one did you get?

LESLIE

Tom N. Haverford.

TOM

(laughing)

The "N" stands for nerd. I never even check that one because no one ever responds to it.

LESLIE

All right.

TOM

Tom N. Haverford collects globes.

LESLIE

Enough.

TOM

His favorite movie is "books."

Leslie motions to Donna, who enters.

LESLIE

Donna?

Donna leans over and kisses Tom. Tom is frozen.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Every time I want you to shut up from now on.

(to Donna)

Thanks, Donna!

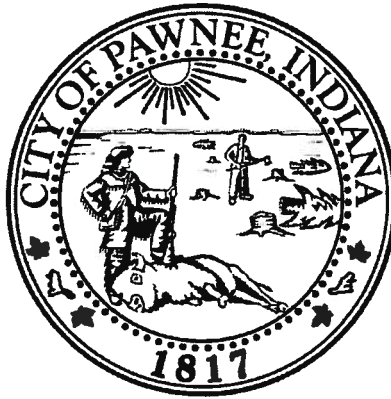
DONNA

(as she exits)

Any time.

END OF SHOW

PARKS AND RECREATION



Soulmates
#03010

Written by
Alan Yang

Directed by
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MUST SHOOT CANDY BAG 10/19/10

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SCENE 6 - RON AND CHRIS DISCUSS HAMBURGERS

EXT. CITY HALL - LATER - D2

AS WRITTEN IN THE SCRIPT:

Chris does DEEP KNEE BENDS and SQUATS outside the door. Ron approaches.

RON
Christopher. Got a second?

CHRIS
Sure. Mind if I squat while we squawk?

RON
...Sure. Listen, I've eaten a commissary hamburger for lunch every day for twelve years. I just wanted to make sure this pointless health crusade won't affect the only part of my job that I like.

CHRIS
Oh, those hamburgers are gone. Red meat can cause sluggishness, heart disease, even impotence.

RON
Has the opposite effect on me.

CHRIS
Have you ever tried turkey burgers?

RON
Is that a fried turkey leg inside a grilled hamburger? If so, yes.

CHRIS
A turkey burger. You make the burger out of lean, ground turkey meat instead of beef.

RON
...Why would anyone do that to themselves?

CHRIS
Because it's good for you! What if I told you that I can make a turkey burger that's better than any hamburger you've ever tasted?

RON
(smiles)
Challenge accepted. Cook-off, tonight,
in the courtyard. If I win, hamburgers
remain in the commissary.

CHRIS
What do I get if I win?

RON
The rarest jewel of all: victory over me,
Ron Swanson.

CHRIS
I like that. You're on.

MUST SHOOT:

Chris does DEEP KNEE BENDS and SQUATS outside the door. Ron
approaches.

RON
Christopher. Got a second?

CHRIS
Sure. Mind if I squat while we squawk?

RON
...Sure. Listen, I've eaten a commissary
hamburger for lunch every day for twelve
years. I just wanted to make sure this
pointless health crusade won't affect the
only part of my job that I like.

CHRIS
Oh, those hamburgers are gone. Red meat
can cause sluggishness, heart disease,
even impotence.

RON
I've eaten a commissary hamburger every
workday for the past twelve years, and I
feel great. If it were up to me, the
American flag would be a bald eagle with
a hamburger in its mouth, and the eagle
would have a proud woody.

CHRIS
Have you ever tried turkey burgers?

RON
Is that a fried turkey leg inside a
grilled hamburger? If so, yes.

PARKS AND RECREATION
Must Shoot Candy Bag
CONTINUED: (2)

"Soulmates"

[03010]
10/19/10

3.

CHRIS

A turkey burger. You make the burger out of lean, ground turkey meat instead of beef.

RON

...Why would anyone do that to themselves?

CHRIS

Because it's good for you! What if I told you that I can make a turkey burger that's better than any hamburger you've ever tasted?

RON

(smiles)

Challenge accepted. Cook-off, tonight, in the courtyard. If I win, hamburgers remain in the commissary.

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What do I get if I win?

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The rarest jewel of all: victory over me, Ron Swanson.

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I like that. You're on.