

PRESENT LIFE

"Pilot"

Written by  
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COLD OPEN

TIM (V.O.)

On some days it can take a lot out of you. Other days, you get a lot back. I like to think I'm pretty balanced because of it.

FADE IN:

1 INT. 'BETSY AND BILL' COFFEE SHOP - DAY - D1 1

TIM is behind the counter serving a customer. He's slim, flamboyant and outspoken. We hear him shouting 'One cappuccino!' Over the loud 50's and 60's music. It is a busy coffee shop with many people queuing.

TIM is joined by RACH behind the counter. She is young and pretty but looks tired from working a 12 day stretch. Both are rushed off their feet.

TIM (V.O.)

I never thought of myself as a coffee shop owner. I never thought of myself in many career paths but certainly not coffee shop owner. But it's alright because that's not all we do.

2 INT. TIMS OFFICE - D1 2

TIM is sitting on a wooden chair next to a small desk with a Laptop. We see that the V.O. Is from this interview. A reoccurring format in this show.

Tim's office is in the basement of the coffee shop and all over the walls are puppets, costumes and magic tricks.

TIM

Running a business is a business in itself. It's really difficult in this day and age. I think it's important for a documentary like this to show the nation how versatile you have to be in order to be successful. Life is full of surprises, every day is a new challenge and I hope this documentary proves it. Thing is, when life surprises you. You've got to find a way to surprise it back.

TIM produces a puppet parrot. He acts surprised to see it.

TIM (CONT'D)

Bet you thought it was real. It's not. It's a puppet.

END OF COLD OPEN

TITLE CARD

"PRESENT LIFE"

EPISODE 1

FADE IN:

3 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - D1 3

RACH places a 'Staff wanted' poster up in the window.

4 INT. COFFEE SHOP - D1 4

TIM is standing behind the counter singing loudly to 'Young Girl' by Gary Puckett, while making himself a coffee.

TIM  
Do you want one?

RACH  
No, thank you.

TIM continues singing while RACH cleans up the tables around the customers.

The coffee machine splutters. TIM hits it and it starts working.

TIM  
It's a bit creepy, isn't it?

RACH  
What?

TIM  
This song. 'Young girl, get out of my mind'. It's a bit dodgy.

RACH  
I never thought about it.

TIM  
Neither did I until just now.

RACH  
I could make a new song list.

TIM  
It's not going to be all 'Religousy', is it?

RACH  
Not all.

TIM  
I think I'll stick to the paedophile songs.

TIM turns around to the till where a CUSTOMER is waiting with her young daughter.

TIM (CONT'D)

Hello there, what can I get you?

The CUSTOMER holds her daughter tight. RACH suppresses a smile as;

RACH (V.O. FROM INTERVIEW)

It's a good job. I don't mind it. I like the variety because every day is different.

5

INT. TIMS OFFICE - DAY

5

RACHEL is looking through boxes of balloons. JAMIE is sitting at the laptop writing an email.

RACH

Three Red 260's. Two Blue 260's and a bag of White 260's.

JAMIE

'Three Red, Two blue and one White.'  
There. Sent.

RACH

Could you also email the cake supplier and tell her we're out of raspberry muffins?

JAMIE

Sure.

RACH

Thank's Jamie. Also, we've got someone coming in for an interview this afternoon.

JAMIE

Do you want me to interview them?

RACH

No, you're not management. I just want you to make sure we're not disturbed. So if you could run things while Tim and I are in the other office, that would be great.

JAMIE

Sure.

RACH

Thanks Jamie. God bless you.

RACH walks out of the office.

JAMIE

God *help* me.

JAMIE turns to his computer and opens a minimised window, showing a tropical island, while;

RACH (V.O.)

Being a manager requires a lot of responsibility and part of that responsibility includes knowing what you can and can't be held responsible for. The good lord is the best manager, I simply try my best to emulate him...

6

INT. OFFICE UNDER THE STAIRS - D1

6

RACH is sitting on one of three chairs in a small corridor under the stairs which lead up to the coffee shop. The V.O. is from this interview.

RACH

... I like to think of myself as a 'Go Getter'. Because I think that's what the Lord said when I was born. 'Go, get her'. And it did. It got me.

INT. TIMS OFFICE - D1

JAMIE is sat at the desk.

JAMIE

I started this job Two years ago as I'm saving for my trip to India. I'm going to 'find myself'.

JAMIE looks around the basement subtly.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

(Incredulous)

'Found you.'

The phone rings.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Oh hang on.

He answers.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Hello Betsy and Bill, Jamie speaking, how can I help?

TIM enters the office.

TIM

Oh is he on the phone? Who is it?  
Jamie who is it?

JAMIE

Yes we can provide entertainment for your little ones party. How old is he going to be?

TIM

Oh it's a party. How exciting. Don't miss this. He's great on the phone. Very charming. Very.

JAMIE

Yes of course Verity, we do magic, puppetry, singing and give presents.

TIM

(To camera)

"Verity". What a charmer.

JAMIE turns his back so TIM can't be heard.

TIM (CONT'D)

How many children will be there?

JAMIE

Yes absolutely... and how many children will be there... Thirty... great... well we can offer you-

TIM

-Magical present party and karaoke.

JAMIE

We can offer you a magical present party and... yes that's right karaoke... well we believe that children like-

TIM

-They like to express themselves through song.

JAMIE

...through song. That way they-

TIM

-They overcome fear and build confidence whilst enjoying a magical and fun filled party and a present.

JAMIE

Yes... exactly.

TIM

If you've got to explain it all to her then God know's how she gets on in life. Honestly. Women. (To camera) I'm not sexist.