

UNTITLED SHAO TV SHOW

December 18, 20014

INT. UNRECOGNIZABLE CRAMPED ROOM - DAY

SHAQUILLE O'NEAL (the Big Aristotle, Diesel, Shaqtus) former world class athlete, now business mogul, fights the confines of a tiny room. Unable to move, he pushes out a door into...

INT. AIRPLANE - MOVING - DAY

Shaq, a giant in this regular sized world, steps out of the airplane bathroom and crouches making his way down the aisle towards his seat.

Even in his luxurious first class seat, this giant struggles to get his knees out of the aisle. Shaq pulls out the plane phone and dials...

INT. DENNIS'S HOUSE - ATLANTA, GEORGIA - 3AM

We hear loud SNORING--

We're in a nice house, lots of space and an amazing view, but it definitely could use a woman's touch. Lots of framed sports memorabilia, awards, photos of Dennis with athletes and one of him and his mailman dad.

More SNORING... we find DENNIS TUCKER, 30's, asleep on his bed in his clothes, above the covers--we can't quite make out his face, but somehow the SNORING keeps getting louder...

HIS CELL PHONE RINGS REALLY LOUDLY - He jumps up with an...

DENNIS
AHHHHHHH!

CELL PHONE BUZZ again-- Dennis gathers himself, picks it up. Intercut as necessary-

DENNIS (CONT'D)
Hello?

SHAQ
Listen, man. You got a pen?

Dennis hops out of bed and searches around frantically--

DENNIS
Yeah---

SHAQ
Write this down...Yak vs. Shaq.

DENNIS
Did you say Yak vs. Shaq?

SHAQ
I need you to make it right.

DENNIS
(no idea what's going on)
Yeah, yeah. Of course.

SHAQ
Don't "yeah, yeah" me. Why'd I hire you to be the CEO of my company?

DENNIS
Because I graduated top of my class at Chicago, my resume was bacon scented, which I know you love, and I am the biggest Shaquille O'Neil fan in history.

SHAQ
No. I didn't even read your resume.

DENNIS
But you smelled it.

SHAQ
I hired you to make things right. Are you gonna make it right? Say you're gonna make it right-

DENNIS
I'll make it right.

Dennis frantically moving throughout the hallway-- *no pens!*

SHAQ
Good. I'm about to go climb Mount Everest. Get a Guinness World's record for tallest man on it's tallest peak. I'm not going to have cell service, I'm back a week from Thursday and we'll shoot then.

DENNIS
But what exactly do you mean when-

SHAQ
I want Tarantino to shoot it. Don't let my mom find out. Peace.

CLICK. Shaq hangs up as Dennis is trying to maneuver his way over a doggy gate at the top of his staircase.

DENNIS
 What? Hello? What should I not let
 your mom find out?

Dennis trips over the gate, it rips from the wall, and he
 tumbles down the stairs HARD... CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

DENNIS (CONT'D)
 Uuuuuck.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRCASE--his overweight dog trots up
 and licks his forehead.

ROLL OPENING CREDITS.

EST. SHAQ INC - MORNING

MONDAY MORNING

Dennis walks (slight limp from the fall) into the building's
 lobby, now dressed in The Men's Warehouse's most expensive
 suit and he really does like the way he looks.

He walks through the office lobby, passing "The Sweat Shaq",
 a Shaq-branded gym, and "Shaq's Big Squeeze", a Shaq-branded
 cold-pressed juicery...

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Dennis steps into the elevator and before it closes, in pops
 LAURA MINOR, 30'S, dressed to dominate a man's world-- She's
 second in command at Shaq Inc, a consummate professional and
 excellent businesswoman. On this particular morning, she
 seems caught off guard to find herself alone with Dennis--

DENNIS
 Hey. L-Train.

Dennis goes for a hug but is shut down.

LAURA
 Please don't call me that.

DENNIS
 I'm sorry. I just thought because-

LAURA
 He's our boss. He can call me
 whatever he wants.

DENNIS
 Got it.

Silence.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

You okay?

LAURA

Uh...huh. Why?

DENNIS

Nothing. You just...you're acting....a little weird--

LAURA

I'm just walking into the elevator on a Monday morning. What's weird?

DENNIS

Forget it. I'm sorry. I didn't mean--

LAURA

Stop, okay. Let's not talk about it. Nothing happened.

DENNIS

Yeah. Okay. Perfect.
(extends hand)
Truce?

Laura eyes him, then takes his hand for a firm handshake, but when they touch--*There's an electricity between them they can't deny...but she has to.* They work together. Dennis smiles, Laura puts on *'the all business face.'*

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Did Shaquille O'Neal happen to call you last night?

LAURA

No... And you've been here four months, why are you still using his full name?

DENNIS

I like to. It's a sign of respect.

LAURA

(maybe a little jealous)
So he called you?

DENNIS

Yeah. From the plane. Said he wants to do something he called "Yak versus Shaq" and he wants Quentin to direct it.

LAURA
Quentin who?

DENNIS
Quentin Tarantino.

LAURA
That would be a situation where a
last name would be appropriate.
What does any of that mean?

DENNIS
No idea.

LAURA
Did you ask him?

DENNIS
Yeah, but he just told me to make
it right.

LAURA
(snort-laugh)

Dennis smiles and SNORT-LAUGHS back at her. He thinks he's
being charming--she thinks he's making fun of her.

LAURA (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

DENNIS
I...don't know...

LAURA
(clearly upset about
something else)
You're such an ass. Jeez.

DING! ELEVATOR OPENS -- Laura storms out--leaving Dennis
alone to regret being an idiot.

DENNIS
I was just joking...I--sorry?

INT. SHAQ INQ. - DAY

The office's interior is your standard, boring corporate
office with one exception: random piles of Shaq merchandise
collecting in the corners. Dennis continues down the hall.

He reaches his OFFICE and sitting at the cubicle outside is,
JENNA LEIGH, 20's - Dennis' assistant, appointed by Shaq.

She's hotter than hot and knows it, she's also dumber than dumb and has no idea. She only wears tops that are borderline appropriate and is perpetually glued to her phone.

DENNIS

Morning Jenna. Any calls?

JENNA

Not sure yet.

DENNIS

Voicemail light's blinking.

JENNA

I know.

DENNIS

So...are you going to check it?

JENNA

Duh...obviously. That's my job.

DENNIS

Okay.

Dennis stands there...waiting for Jenna to check the VM...one, two, three...nothing--she's still checking INSTA for likes.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Okay. I'm just gonna put my stuff down and get ready for the Monday morning staff meeting. If it's not too much of a bother, I would *really* like a coffee.

JENNA

I *need* Friday off this week.

DENNIS

Didn't you take last Friday off?

JENNA

Friday's are just so bad for me.

DENNIS

What do you mean?

JENNA

Well, Thursday nights are kinda' the best nights and it's just like- if I want to go out and do something awesome on Thursdays, then I'm miserable on Fridays.

DENNIS

But that's like... life. You know?

Nothing - Jenna's focused on her phone. Dennis is trying really hard not look at her boobs but they're like sirens beckoning his attention.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Ok, good talk. I'm gonna go get some coffee and tit the conference room. You want anything?

JENNA

(smiles at him)
Friday off.

DENNIS

I'll think about it.

JENNA

You're the best! Oh...and I'll take a decaf vanilla soy latte with no sugar added.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A DISAPPOINTED WIFE lies in bed...not into it... A VERY AVERAGE, BALDING MAN tries his best, making love to her...but she's not into it at all. He looks dejected until-

BING! A SODA-SHAQ APPEARS IN HIS HAND, he opens it, chugs-

BOOM! The Average Bald Man **BECOMES SHAQ**... The Disappointed Wife's eyes light up in ecstasy... and satisfaction...

DISAPPOINTED WIFE (NO LONGER)

OH MY GOD! OHHHHH! OH MY GOD!

REVEAL: INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MONDAY MORNING STAFF MEETING

We were watching a commercial presentation on the monitor.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

*When you need a little boost...
drink Soda Shaq!*

Laura is disgusted, Dennis is baffled, Jenna sips her very complicated coffee while checking her IG.

BLAKE loves it! BLAKE NELSON is in his early 20's, a doughy millennial, wannabee writer/director/producer. He runs Shaq's social media but is also the self appointed office comedian.

BLAKE
(off Theo's look)
What?

DENNIS
This is not what we talked about.

BLAKE
We improvised a little bit.

DENNIS
We spent three hundred thousand dollars on that spot.

BLAKE
Everyone I've shown it to loves it.

DENNIS
(sighs)
Do me a favor and don't show that to anyone else--

BLAKE
I poured my heart into this and a lot of people think it's funny.

DENNIS
I'm sorry, Blake. I don't mean to upset you, but the Shaq brand has to be a respectable one and this-

COUSIN MIKE (Shaq's Cousin, 30's, rail thin-- decked in Nike gear and sporting an oversized diamond watch) walks in, on his Galaxy Note--*laughing*. Everyone (except Jenna) is staring at him--she's still eyeing her Instagram.

COUSIN MIKE
(into phone)
*Yes! I know. I literally almost **BEEPED** a turkey!*

DENNIS
Mike!?

Cousin Mike looks up, sees Dennis--*signals one second*.

COUSIN MIKE
Alright, Ma. I'll hit you later.

Dennis grabs a PLASTIC SHAQ-O-LANTERN (from the "Shaq of all Seasons" display) made in the image of Shaq's face and puts his cell phone in it.

DENNIS

Alright new rule: During our staff meetings, everyone's going to put phones into this Shaq-o-lantern.

(to Mike; not handing phone over)

Just because you're the big man's cousin, it doesn't mean you play by different rules. You're still part of this team.

He walks around the room, collecting phones from everyone.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Our company exists to leverage Shaq's brand and launch new products using Shaq's good image. That's what the--

BUZZZ! A phone inside the Shaq-o-lantern vibrates and rattles the bucket across the table. Everyone stares at it--

DENNIS (CONT'D)

That's what the brands we partner with are paying for. When I was a kid, I worshiped Shaq not only because he was a great player but also--

BUZZZZ! BUZZZZ! More phones send the Shaq-o-lantern rattling across the table. Dennis pretends to ignore it.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

--because Shaq was a great wholesome guy.

COUSIN MIKE

All due respect and no offense, but you're a nerd.

DENNIS

Let's not go-

BUZZZ! BUZZZ! More phones go off. Dennis eyes the bucket angrily.

COUSIN MIKE

Kids who love Shaq are adults now.
Shaq's gotta mature with his
audience. He's gotta say **BEEP** and
BEEP and **BEEP** and vaginadick--

DENNIS

Ok, we get it!

SEAMUS

(deadpan)

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP Rim jobs.

SEAMUS, 40's, a gruff and temperamental Scot. He's the office IT guy, even though his tech competence is suspect. He's been there longer than anyone else, and no one is really sure why Shaq hired him. His background is also suspect, as evidenced by the COURT ORDERED ANKLET he is forced to wear.

BLAKE

9th Street Latino whores!

SEAMUS

I love that web-site.

BUZZZ! Another phone, BUZZ--BUZZ, vibrates in the bucket.

DENNIS

Alright! Cousin Mike, I appreciate the insights but I disagree and here's why...

LAURA

I think they're right.

DENNIS

I'm sorry?

LAURA

The kids who loved *Kazaam* are now adults. It's a broader conversation of the trajectory of our brand, beyond just Soda Shaq.

Everyone agrees with Laura. Dennis eyes her, embarrassed that she's shown him up in front of everyone.

DENNIS

Why don't we table this for now.
Old business: how's the Radioshaq deal coming?

LAURA

They're interested in a cross promotion but--

BUZZZ! - Yep, more phones vibrate with calls.

LAURA (CONT'D)

They're still refusing to change the "CK" to a "Q." You never replied to that memo...

DENNIS

(to Seamus)

Seamus, do you think you'll be able to look at my computer today? It's still giving me the bitmap error when I try to send internal emails.

SEAMUS

Maybe try turning it off and then turning it back on.

DENNIS

Please just look at it.

(noticing Jenna on her phone again)

Didn't I take your phone away?

JENNA

Backup.

(in response to her Instagram)

Why are guys so obsessed with tits?

All the guys are staring at her tits--

SEAMUS

They remind us of a simpler time, nuzzled in our mothers' breast, sucking milk from her giant nipples--

BLAKE

Why were her nipples giant?

DENNIS

Guys...

COUSIN MIKE

We talking nipples or areolas?

INTERN

What's the difference?

DENNIS

Guys...

Cousin Mike opens his sandwich and takes out a piece of salami and an olive and holds them in each hand.

COUSIN MIKE

These are nipples, these are areolas--

DENNIS

OKAY! NEW BUSINESS! Yak vs. Shaq!

Everyone quiets down and stares at Dennis.

BLAKE

What?

DENNIS

Shaquille called me in the middle of the night with an idea for a new show, "Yak versus Shaq" and he wants Quentin Tarantino, the film director, to film it next Thursday.

COUSIN MIKE

That's a great idea! Tarantino's the best. You see Death Proof with the Kurt Russells?

The Shaq-o-lantern continues to buzz with incoming calls--

DENNIS

No... I couldn't get him to clarify before he hung up and now he's not reachable for a week. Does any of this make any sense to anyone?

BLAKE

We already made a show last year called "Shaq Versus". It bombed.

COUSIN MIKE

It wasn't like this though. No one knew what Shaq was verse. Plus this one rhymes. And you know how much The Big Dr. Seuss likes to rhyme.

SEAMUS

We could do "crack versus Shaq." That rhymes. He smokes a bowl of crack and tries to dunk.

Jenna (Eureka!) looks up from her INSTAGRAM--

JENNA

I got it! What about... "Shaq versus Iraq?" He goes over there and talks to those ISIS people. We bring a few basketballs and boom! Peace in the Middle East.

All the guys always think Jenna's ideas are good (improv impressed). BUZZZ! The Shaq-o-lantern rattles around toward Dennis with more text messages. He angrily snatches the bucket, silencing it.

DENNIS

No! The show is Yak vs Shaq. That's what he came up with. He hired me to make it right and that is what we have to make right.

LAURA

Okay. Well we know we need a Yak and we know we need Tarantino...

BLAKE

Isn't Shaq good friends with Tarantino? He should call--

DENNIS

Like I already said, Shaq's unreachable from base camp. We're on our own.

LAURA

(to Dennis)

Why don't you get in touch with Tarantino's people--Jenna, he's over at Barnes, Morris. Put the interns on finding a Yak and we'll brainstorm every possible meaning of "Yak vs. Shaq."

DENNIS

Laura, please. I'm running this so... I'll track down Tarantino through his people at Barnes, Morris--Jenna try and get them on the phone. Interns, find us a yak. Everyone else, brainstorm what "Yak Vs. Shaq" could possibly be.

LAURA

That's exactly what I just said.

DENNIS

Laura, can I speak with you in my office for a moment. Guys...I want every possible idea ready to go by the time Shaquille O'Neal gets back. We have just under two weeks. No one rests until we have this!

Dennis leaves the room, confident he has inspired the troops. The team waits silently until the door closes behind him.

BLAKE

(pointing to a breakfast platter of fruit)

How many of those strawberries do you guys think I could fit in my mouth?

JENNA

Depends on how well you can control your gag reflex.

OFF everyone's look...

INT. SHAQ INC - DENNIS'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Dennis causally walks around behind his desk; faces Laura.

LAURA

What's up?

DENNIS

Um...what are you doing?

LAURA

What do you mean?

DENNIS

It seemed like you were trying to show me up just now.

LAURA

I was trying to help you. You were clearly floundering in there.

DENNIS

I was not floundering.

LAURA

You had no control over the meeting.

DENNIS
I had total control.

LAURA
Of course you did.

DENNIS
Listen...if this is about the other
night, I promise you I haven't told-

LAURA
Stop. I just want to forget it.

DENNIS
Okay. It's forgotten, but I feel
like you're mad at me because of
it. And I'd like to clear the air
so it doesn't affect our work.

LAURA
Dennis. What happened on Saturday
was-
(notices Jenna, stops-)

JENNA (O.S.)
What happened on Saturday?

They turn to see Jenna standing at the door's threshold.

LAURA	SKIP
Farmers Market...gas	Jeopardy...singing
station...Hanukkah recital.	lessons...Airforce one.

Laura looks at Dennis--*what?*

DENNIS
I mean... the parade.

JENNA
Which parade?

LAURA	DENNIS
Israeli Day...Gay pride	Tim Tebow...Spanish heritage.

Laura and Dennis stare at each other frustrated, they can't
synch up on *anything*.

JENNA (CONT'D)
(scandalously)
You guys *did it*.

DENNIS
No we didn't.

LAURA

We did not.

JENNA

Yes. You. Did. I could tell by your faces. I knew it. Both of you guys always fighting, all that tension-- it must've been really intense.

DENNIS

It was not!

JENNA

Oh, it was short? That's okay, it happens to a lot of guys with me.

DENNIS

Jenna, who has been on hold for the duration of this interrogation?

JENNA

Oh, Tarantino's lawyer. On one.

DENNIS

(picking up)
Hello? Hello? Hello?
(to Jenna)
Dammit. Try him back please.

Jenna exits, closes the door behind her--

LAURA

"Singing lessons?" Jesus.

DENNIS

You said "farmer's market!?" That's better?

LAURA

A hundred percent. You can't sing to save your life.

DENNIS

Hence... the lessons!

CUT TO:

INT. CENTER OF THE OFFICE - VARIOUS

Our core group sits around Blake's desk watching him stuff strawberries into his mouth. The interns cheer as his goes to stuff one more in his already full mouth.

SEAMUS

Just picture your favorite actor.

Blake presses one more strawberry into his mouth but it won't fit... Plhewww. He spits out the strawberries onto his desk.

COUSIN MIKE

Listen up! First intern to find a yak gets a real job with benefits and everything!

SEAMUS

(whispered)

You can't promise them that.

COUSIN MIKE

(whispered)

Sure I can. They don't know what's happening, they're like goldfish... BEEP 'em.

INTERN #1

(On phone; yells out)

I can get a miniature horse!

BLAKE

No he said yak. It doesn't work with the rhyme.

INTERN #3

Seamus! My browser keeps giving me a server error.

SEAMUS

Try turning it off and on again.

BLAKE

Staring contest? That's what the show could be.

SEAMUS

What if they shot free throws?

COUSIN MIKE

No! No free throws.

BLAKE

(joking)

Maybe a rap battle?

COUSIN MIKE

(shaking his head)

Blake...

INTERN #2

I called every zoo in Georgia.

SEAMUS

Did you call the rodeos?
 (back to the core group)
 They could try to pull a Buick?

BLAKE

A Buick filled with Laker girls?

COUSIN MIKE

Okay, now we're talking.

SEAMUS

I'd watch that.

Seamus kicks his feet up on the desk--like a boss. Intern #3 clocks Seamus's anklet.

INTERN #3

Why do you have that anklet?

SEAMUS

Less you know the safer you are.

Jenna emerges from the hallway and struts up with news--

JENNA

Guess who finally banged?!?

Scandalous excitement improves from everyone...hip gyrating, offensive sex noises...until Intern #1 call outs--

INTERN #1

We found a Yak!

ACT BREAK

INT. SHAQ INC - DENNIS'S OFFICE - LATER

Dennis sits at the desk rubbing his head frustrated. He's on the phone with Tarantino's lawyer--

DENNIS

(on the phone)
 No...I understand, but this is very important. How do you reach Quentin in an emergency?

Laura paces...

DENNIS (CONT'D)

I see. Well maybe you can tell us where he writes from and we can...Shaq can't call himself unfortunately, no...Got you. Well, thank you. Good bye. Yes, we love Icy Hot here too, obviously.

(hangs up)

He doesn't talk to anyone while he's writing.

LAURA

What are we gonna do?

DENNIS

I don't know... maybe we try calling his mom? Would that be a weird thing to do?

LAURA

I'm talking about Jenna... and what she heard.

DENNIS

What's the big deal? Let's just tell them the truth and move on.

LAURA

Are you out of your mind? I've worked my ass off to get to this position and I will not have that jeopardized and be made a fool of.

Jenna appears at the door, excited-

JENNA

Hey, Lovebirds.

LAURA

We're not lovebirds-

JENNA

Sorry, I didn't mean to offend you. Hey... pussy-penis partners.

DENNIS

Jenna, what? What's up?

JENNA

The weird intern found the only guy in the Southeast with a yak.

DENNIS

Great!

JENNA

But he won't rent it.

LAURA

Where is he?

JENNA

He's tracking down the domain names
for Shaq-In-The-Box.com

LAURA

Not the weird intern. The Yak?

JENNA

Oh...I'm not sure.

LAURA

Well, go ask the weird intern.

JENNA

(snot face)

Um...okay.

(walking away)

I'll close this door behind me in
case the moment strikes you... and
you sir want to redeem your self.

Jenna winks and closes the door as she exits.

LAURA

How does that walking set of
mammary glands still have a job?

DENNIS

I think that's a little harsh.

LAURA

Are you taking her side? She's
unqualified to do anything yet she
somehow continues to advance.

DENNIS

I'm not taking sides. I'm just-

LAURA

You're as bad as every other guy.

DENNIS

I am not.

LAURA

Of course you are. You want to
sleep with her too.

DENNIS

I definitely don't want to sleep with her. She's not my type at all.

Jenna is at the door--

JENNA

That's a shame, because I would totally do you after two margaritas.

DENNIS

(probably has a semi)
Really?

Laura looks on, appalled.

JENNA

The Yak's at an ox farm in White Oak, but the guy seemed hesitant. Apparently it's like, insemination season there.

(grinning)
Maybe here too?

DENNIS

Great. Set up a meeting for me and let's close that ASAP!

Dennis stands, inspired...

DENNIS (CONT'D)

We're half way there. We just need to track down Tarantino. Tell Blake to put out some sort of social search for him--offer a prize to anyone who spots him?

JENNA

Why don't you just call him?

DENNIS

Because apparently he only has a phone for emergencies while he's writing. And his reps won't even think about giving that number out.

Jenna pauses -- then reluctantly...

JENNA

I have it.

DENNIS

What?

JENNA
I have his number...

LAURA
(sotto)
Of course she does.

DENNIS
Why didn't you say anything this morning?

JENNA
Cause I know how everyone looks at me. Like I'm only getting ahead because guys want to do me.

DENNIS
Jenna, nobody thinks you got where you are because of your looks.

JENNA
Of course you don't. You don't find me attractive at all.

DENNIS
I'm sorry. That's not what I meant. It's just that it's...we're at work and...you're...it would be very inappropriate for me to...say anything about...on anything on that situation.
(beat)
You're very striking.

JENNA
Do you like my body?

Dennis looks nervously to Laura's disapproving glare, then back to Jenna--

DENNIS
Sure, you're very fit. You look very healthy. Now, if I could just get Tarantino's number? We really need this.

JENNA
Do I get Friday off?

DENNIS
Yes. Fine.

She gives him a huge hug--squeezes him really tight, whispers something in his ear, then runs out of the office.

Dennis stands awkwardly hunched over watching her go... perhaps trying to hide something--

LAURA

Why are you standing like that.

Dennis slowly turns away from Laura toward the wall, still hunched.

DENNIS

That fall I took. Something's still up with my back. Could you give me a second?

INT. SHAQ INC OFFICES - THE NEXT DAY

An intern carries a tray of SHAQ ENERGY SODAS into the center of the space - now converted into a production office. A handful of newly hired production coordinators are hard at work setting up shop.

They're making calls, punching numbers into calculators and taping production schedules onto the walls. Our regular employees are huddled in the conference room.

INT. DENNIS'S OFFICE - MORNING

Dennis sits at his desk dialing Tarantino's number on speaker phone. RING--RING... Jenna stands at his open door eavesdropping.

INT. TARANTINO'S OFFICE - SAME - INTERCUT AS NECESSARY

Tarantino sits hunched over at his computer, working hard on a new masterpiece. He answers the phone--

TARANTINO

QT here.

DENNIS

Yes, hi. My name is Dennis Tucker and I'm calling from Shaquille O'Neal's Shaq Inc. We have a project that we're--

TARANTINO

I'm sorry. How the BEEP did you get this number? This line's reserved exclusively for sluts.

Jenna walks into the office frantically motioning to Dennis and mouths "Don't say my name!" Dennis looks around, thinking on his feet--

DENNIS

Uh, sorry. Yea, I got the number from...Kristina...Veronica--Mary?

TARANTINO

Listen man, if Shaq needs something, he can call me directly. I don't want to hear from you.

DENNIS

But he's out on--

CLICK. The line goes silent.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Ahhhhh.

JENNA

Why don't you just call him back as Shaq?

DENNIS

I can't do that. That's immoral.

JENNA

Do you want him to shoot your show or not?

Dennis thinks for a moment... then dials.

TARANTINO

Hello?

DENNIS

(in horrible Shaq voice)
Hey, QT. It's Shaq baby.

Jenna gives Dennis the thumbs up but motions for him to lower his voice.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Listen man, just wondering if you come do Shaq vs. Yak with me.

TARANTINO

Anything for you. Here's the situation, I'm a big time director and I'm in the middle of writing a script that's probably going to be up for an academy award...so I normally would say no but I got a lot of issues with the IRS right now and I have a couple lawsuits to quiet down and some cash would go a long way. I'll do it for you but I need half a million dollars cash. Small bills, I'm talking tens and twenties. And I don't want you telling my agents. I don't like paying them commission. That work?

DENNIS

Uhh-uhhhh...

Jenna gives the thumbs up and motions for him to say "yes" just as Laura enters with a stack of papers.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Sure. We shoot next Thursday.

Dennis hangs up, avoiding Laura's questioning gaze.

LAURA

What are you doing?

DENNIS

Shaq gave us the orders and I'm doing whatever it takes to get them done.

LAURA

So you're impersonating our boss to a major motion picture director?

DENNIS

Yea, well he agreed to do it... For five hundred grand.

INT. SHAQ INC. OFFICES - MOMENTS LATER

The team sit at their desks, interns making calls, Blake tweeting (and now wearing a paperclip necklace), Seamus bothering the interns-- when Dennis, Laura and Jenna (on cell phone) walk up.

DENNIS

GUYS! Okay, we got Tarantino but he wants \$500,000 in cash.

SEAMUS

We couldn't Jenna to go suck him down to a better price?

JENNA

Excuse me?

DENNIS

We say "suck up" in America.

JENNA

He knows what he meant.

BLAKE

Well maybe you could remind Jenna that we make bank off tweeting endorsements from Shaq's twitter...which I run!

Jenna rolls her eyes-*whatever*.

DENNIS

A few grand per tweet's not gonna do it but I like the initiative

BLAKE

It won't if we tweet for brands Shaq already endorses, but if we endorse a *new* brand, those pay out big money for the first tweet.

DENNIS

We can't just go and endorse a new brand without Shaq's approval.

BLAKE

Sure we can, we just have to follow his golden rule: Only endorse things that black people like.

SEAMUS

What do black people like?

An intern looking to get in on the action blurts out--

INTERN #1

Walking slowly!

DENNIS
 Jeez man, take it easy.
 (to Jenna)
 Is that the weird intern?

JENNA
 No, you'll know when you meet him.

DENNIS
 Okay, other ideas. Come on guys.

BLAKE
 Sporting events?

INTERN #2
 Hats with stickers on them.

SEAMUS
 Key chains?

JENNA
 Black guys like me?

BLAKE
 Black guys like... grape soda!

COUSIN MIKE (O.S.)
 Ahem.

The group turns to see Cousin Mike standing in the doorway looking VERY upset.

COUSIN MIKE (CONT'D)
 What the hell are ya'll doing?
 Talking about 'what do black people
 like?' You should be ashamed.

DENNIS
 Mike, it's not what it looks like.
 We were just trying to--

COUSIN MIKE
 Not all black people like grape
 soda. Ya'll are a bunch of racists.

Cousin Mike shakes his head as he lifts a freshly cracked can of grape soda to his lips.

COUSIN MIKE (CONT'D)
 I on the other hand happen to love
 grape soda... as a human being.

An intern runs up to Dennis--

INTERN

Anthony Chodesman is waiting for you.

DENNIS

Who's Anthony Chodesman?

INT. DENNIS'S OFFICE - LATER

ANTHONY, the Yak rancher greets Laura and Dennis.

ANTHONY

Hi, Anthony Chodesman.

LAURA

Thank you for coming in. I understand you're very busy.

ANTHONY

As I explained to your employees, we're getting ready for female insemination but when I heard it was Shaquille O'Neal asking...

DENNIS

So you have a yak we can use?

Anthony removes a binder with pictures of his livestock. He proudly displays a picture of a yak--*it has a massive penis.*

ANTHONY

Right here we got a Tibetan Royal... a beauty. Good horns, nice coat, it's the "Cadillac of yaks."

LAURA

Does he have any on camera experience?

ANTHONY

He starred alongside Brendan Fraser in Bulletproof Monk.

DENNIS

Do you have any other yaks we could look at? Maybe a girl yak?

ANTHONY

Do you know how many yaks are left in North America? They're a threatened species.

DENNIS

I know it's hard to find one last minute, but it's going to be on camera and this is going to be family entertainment.

ANTHONY

I should go.

LAURA

No, don't. I'm sorry, will you excuse us for a moment?

Laura pulls Dennis away from the wrangler for a word-

LAURA (CONT'D)

What's wrong with you?

DENNIS

Did you see the penis on that thing? We can't put that on TV?

LAURA

It's a Yak.

DENNIS

I just don't feel comfortable.

LAURA

It's the only Yak left in the southeast.

DENNIS

Fine. Maybe we can tape it up or something.

Laura nods and they both move back to Anthony.

LAURA

He's great. We'll rent that one.

ANTHONY

Good choice. When do you need him?

DENNIS

Next Thursday.

ANTHONY

Next Thursday? No sir. I need this stud on the farm through next Sunday. Insemination is the following week and the zoo is counting on me. Earliest he could be available is in two weeks.

DENNIS
Shaquille O'Neal's schedule is more-

ANTHONY
More what? Important than saving a
threatened species?

LAURA
Please? There has to be something
we can do.

ANTHONY
If it's that important... I guess I
could just extract here. Of course,
it's a lot more work for me.

DENNIS
Shaq would really appreciate it.

ANTHONY
One condition. I want Shaq to play
one game on my basketball team at
the JCC.

DENNIS
You're Jewish?

ANTHONY
That surprises you?

DENNIS
Well, your name is Anthony and
you're raising livestock in rural
Alabama.

ANTHONY
Listen man, it's our playoffs and I
can't lose to the Maccabees again.
We need a ringer.

LAURA
I don't think he can do that..

ANTHONY
Then good luck finding another yak.

DENNIS
Deal!

ANTHONY
Will you cover my rubber glove and
goggles expenses?

ACT BREAK

INT. SHAQ INC PARKING LOT (THE SET) - SHOOT DAY - MORNING

Dennis arrives early to the parking lot behind the office, over the past week it has been transformed into the film set. There are banners, trophies, a boxing ring, and various pieces of memorabilia displayed for the camera.

Trailers and crew member are EVERYWHERE. It's a mini village of activity leading up to the big event.

Anthony unloads his MASSIVE YAK from a trailer and walks him onto the set.

Cousin Mike, Seamus, Blake, Jenna and a few interns are grazing at the morning buffet. Dennis walks up holding a stack of papers.

DENNIS

Alright everyone, today's the day.

Mike and Seamus turn around to face him. Jenna continues taking an instagram of the breakfast as Blake looks over her shoulder.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Think we're ready for this?

COUSIN MIKE

Oh yea, no problem. The yaks all set over there and Tarantino just showed up.

Mike points to Tarantino's limo, yes it has flames painted down the side, waiting for him to be needed.

DENNIS

Perfect. Shaq should be here in about three hours.

COUSIN MIKE

(getting closer)

Heard about you and Laura... how was it? She looks like a freak.

Cousin Mike picks up a binder clip and snaps it a few times.

COUSIN MIKE (CONT'D)

You use these on her? You did, didn't you? You animal!

DENNIS

Those are binder clips, Mike..

Laura approaches holding a clipboard, she's all business.

LAURA

Just got off the phone with the
AHA, they approved the leash you
wanted but said no restraints.

DENNIS

(off Mike's look)
For the yak!

COUSIN MIKE

Sure...

Mike turns back to the buffet as Dennis leads Laura a few feet away from the crew for a private conversation.

DENNIS

(whispered)
Look, we've got to clear the air.
We have to tell everyone what
happened.

LAURA

No, we can't.

DENNIS

These rumors are going to get us
fired.

DEEP VOICE (O.S.)

What rumors?

Dennis and Luara turn to see SHAQUILLE O'NEAL standing right behind them.

DENNIS

(startled)
Shaq! Hey, you're back early. What
happened?

SHAQ

Yeah, I reached the summit fast. My
big feet were like snow shoes. I
was built to climb that thing.

DENNIS

Well, we got everything all set up
for you, just putting the finishing
touches on now.

Shaq clocks Anthony staring back at him while nonchalantly "extracting" from the Yak (we can only see his arm moving).

ANTHONY

Hi Mr. O'Neal, I'm a big fan.

SHAQ
That's nice.
(to Dennis)
What the hell is that?

SEAMUS
That right there is the Cadillac of
Yaks.

BLAKE
The Buick of yaks!

SHAQ
Okay...why is he jerking it off?

ANTHONY
I need to stay on schedule. The
testes of a yak are basically on a
three hour window. It's a ticking
time bomb.

SHAQ
Tell him to stop staring at me
while he does that.

The yak lets out a loud groan.

Just then Tarantino, wearing snake skin pants, sidles up.

TARANTINO
Hey Diesel.

SHAQ
Quentin?

They exchange a complicated secret handshake (one that only
Shaq would come up with).

SHAQ (CONT'D)
What are you doing here?

Shaq looks back to the yak, now eating a CHAMPIONSHIP RING
from a display case positioned on the set.

SHAQ (CONT'D)
Don't let it eat my ring!

Laura rushes over to push the yak with all her might, but it
won't move. It devours the ring and sits down on the floor.

LAURA
We'll get that back, no problem.

SHAQ

Dennis! What the BLEEP is going on here!?

DENNIS

Yak versus Shaq. This is the set. We're all ready to shoot.

SHAQ

Yak versus Shaq? What are you talking about?

DENNIS

Just like you said. Remember?

SHAQ

No?

DENNIS

You called me in the middle of the night and said get a yak and Tarantino?

SHAQ

I said Yao versus Shaq! I wanted to play Yao Ming one on one as a pay per view special. East vs West!

DENNIS

That makes more sense...

SHAQ

And I wanted my gardener's nephew to film it! The film school kid. Mark Tarantino.

COUSIN MIKE

Oh little Mark Tarantino's the best! I'd love to see that shit!

SHAQ

How much did you spend on all of this?

DENNIS

Not much.

SHAQ

How much is 'not much?'

DENNIS

You know... a couple hundred... thousand dollars.

SHAQ

You spent two hundred thousand dollars to have Tarantino film that guy jerking off a yak? Are you out of your mind!?

DENNIS

Well that wasn't the idea... But it was a little bit more than that. It was more like four hundred... six hundred thousand.

SHAQ

Six hundred grand!?

DENNIS

Most of that was for Tarantino.

TARANTINO

Still waiting on that!

Tarantino mimes jerking off--*he doesn't give a fuck.*

SHAQ

I'm sorry Quentin.

(to Dennis)

I ain't fighting no yak. Shit's an endangered species.

STRANGE VOICE (O.S.)

Technically...

Everyone turns to see THE WEIRD INTERN, a kid with TIGHT JEAN SHORTS and a tucked in tuxedo shirt. He's sporting a combover and clip on sheriff's badge.

WEIRD INTERN

It's a threatened species. Not an endangered species. You should know that.

SHAQ

Now who the BEEP is that?

DENNIS

That... is our weird intern.

SHAQ

Fire him.

DENNIS

We can't.

SHAQ

Why?

DENNIS

His dad runs the network and they already bought the show.

SHAQ

Shut it all down.

Shaq storms over to the morning buffet. Dennis turns to Tarantino nervously.

DENNIS

Hey, I'm really sorry. This was a huge misunderstanding. I'm sorry for wasting your time.

TARANTINO

It's fine, it's fine. But just let Shaq know that now... he owes me a favor. (Beat)
Do you know where Jenna went?

Dennis jogs up to Shaq at the buffet-

SHAQ

What the hell's wrong with you?

DENNIS

I...I...uh...

JENNA

His mind was probably clouded from having sex with Laura.

Everyone oohs--*Shaq eyes both Laura and Dennis.*

LAURA

We did not have sex!

JENNA

Then what was all that talk about what happened on Saturday night?

SHAQ

You realize that there is no place for inter office romance here.

DENNIS

Yes, sir. We didn't have sex.

COUSIN MIKE/BLAKE/SEAMUS

Oh, what'd you do, give her a Bangkok dangerous?/ You do the cowboy's funeral./ I bet you slipped her the Scout's honor.

DENNIS

No! Are you guys just making stuff up right now? The truth is...we shared a taxi home from the diamond dinner with Laura and... well, she farted....

(Laura hangs her head)

And it smelled so terrible that the cab driver asked us to get out of the car.

Everyone turns to Laura-- *red-faced and embarrassed.*

EXT. SHAQ VS YAK SET - LATE AFTERNOON

Shaq towers over Dennis. They're standing 50 yards away from the rest of the crew having a private conversation.

SHAQ

I'm gone for a week and this is what happens? Yak vs. Shaq? Who would think of that?

DENNIS

I just do what you tell me!

SHAQ

Listen D-Money, if you're going to run my company, you have to know better than to waste a week running around like this. And now I owe a favor to Quentin Tarantino!

DENNIS

You actually owe two favors. I kinda promised the yak farmer you'd play a game on his JCC basketball team.

SHAQ

What's a JCC?

DENNIS

It's a Jewish community center.

SHAQ

That yak guy was Jewish?

DENNIS
Surprisingly so...

SHAQ
What is wrong with you? Do I go
around volunteering you for stuff?
'I know Dennis Tucker, want him to
clean your fish tank?'

DENNIS
I'm sorry. I was just trying to
make this happen for you.

SHAQ
Don't go crazy next time doing "yak
vs. Shaq" - think! You're the head
of my company and I need you to get
your head on straight.

DENNIS
I promise I'll do better.

SHAQ
Good, you can start by fixing this.
No one leaves here until I get my
ring back.

Dennis walks away to break the news to everyone, but Shaq
stops him--

SHAQ (CONT'D)
Did Laura really fart up the cab so
bad they had to pull over? Or did
you BEEP her?

DENNIS
I wish I could say the latter, but
yea... she ruined that cab.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT - LATER

The crew sit around in front of the buffet in foldable
chairs. Everyone is cold, wrapped in blankets and sipping
coffee as they await Dennis' orders.

Dennis inhales, about the address the team when - DING.
Jenna's phone makes a noise.

JENNA
My Uber's here, gotta run.

DENNIS
No, we all have to stay.

JENNA
 (outraged)
 You said I could have Friday off.

DENNIS
 Today's still Thursday.

BLAKE
 I have a stand up show that I need
 to--

DENNIS
 No one leaves til we get that ring!
 (beat)
 Let's try and make the best out of
 this...Someone want to make some
 drinks...blend up some Margaritas
 maybe?

SEAMUS
 Why don't we just kill the yak?

JENNA
 Don't you dare.

BLAKE
 We could put a really powerful
 magnet near its ass to pull it out.
 Happened to me once with a cross
 fire marble.

WEIRD INTERN
 No, we can't. There's too much iron
 in its blood. It will cause massive
 jellyfish hemorrhoids.

DENNIS
 Alright you can go home now.

Everyone groans at this lucky, weird intern--

DENNIS (CONT'D)
 We just need a way to speed up
 mother nature. What makes you guys
 go to the bathroom?

JENNA
 I never go to the bathroom.

COUSIN MIKE
 Soft meats.

SEAMUS
 Goldschlager.

BLAKE
Folger's hazelnut decaf coffee.

INT. SHAQ INC SET - MUCH LATER

Employees are gathered around the yak looking exhausted.
Empty cartons of ex-lax and Folgers litter the area.

JENNA
Come on you stupid yak!

BLAKE
What's taking so long?

INTERN
Maybe they have a bunch of
stomachs?

SEAMUS
I still say we cut it open.

Dennis leans over to Laura, both staring ahead at the yak.

DENNIS
I'm so sorry that-

LAURA
You don't need to-

DENNIS
Hey...at least we didn't have sex.

LAURA
Yes. At least we didn't have sex.

Their eyes lock--definitely a moment here-

FRRRRAAAPPPPPPPPP! The yak suddenly and explosively let's out
days worth of clogged up excrement in one sickening display
of dung (we will only hear this and witness reactions).

CLINK!

Finally Shaq's ring plops out onto the ground. Blake jumps at
the ring and hoists it up victoriously.

BLAKE
We got the ring back!

The employees all celebrate!

DENNIS
Okay, everyone can go home now.

INT. ANTHONY'S J.C.C - THE NEXT DAY

Your standard team of players you might find at any JCC play their hearts out. An overly intense point guard dribbles down the court flanked by his equally intense team. They're all wearing protective goggles and running hard. It's deadly serious.

The point guard does a quick crossover and gets by Anthony, his defender. He charges the basket, pulls up for a shot and--

BAM! Shaq blocks the shot, catching it easily. He towers over everyone on the court with a glazed over look in his eyes. He's the MVP without ever moving his feet.

Shaq palms the ball and underhand drops it down to Anthony, who leads an energetic charge to the other end of the court.