

CAST LIST

"Artie's Gone"

#206

Revised Shooting Draft 4/15/93

REGULAR CAST

LARRY SANDERS.....GARRY SHANDLING
ARTHUR.....RIP TORN
HANK KINGSLEY.....JEFFREY TAMBOR
PHIL.....WALLACE LANGHAM
JERRY.....JEREMY PIVEN
BEVERLY.....PENNY JOHNSON
DARLENE.....LINDA DOUCETT
PAULA.....JANEANE GAROFALO

GUEST CAST

BRUNO KIRBY.....BRUNO KIRBY
STEVEN WRIGHT.....STEVEN WRIGHT
DRIVER (Bob).....TBA
STAGEHAND.....TBA
TECH GUY.....LES LANNOM
ROBERT.....D.V. DEVINCENTIS
CB GUY (V.O.) (Sergeant Metcalf).....TBA

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

"ARTIE'S GONE"

#206

Monday 4/12/93 - Friday 4/16/93

MONDAY 4/12	9:00 - 10:00	PRODUCTION MEETING
	10:00 - 10:30	TABLE READ
	10:30 - 1:00	REHEARSAL
	1:00 - 2:00	LUNCH
	2:00 - 6:00	REHEARSAL

=====

TUESDAY 4/13	10:00 - 1:00	REHEARSAL
	1:00 - 2:00	LUNCH
	2:00 - 5:00	REHEARSAL
	5:00 - 6:00	RUN-THROUGH

=====

WEDNESDAY 4/14	10:00 - 1:00	REHEARSAL
	1:00 - 2:00	LUNCH
	2:00 - 6:00	REHEARSAL

=====

THURSDAY 4/15	7 AM - 8 AM	CAMERA & SOUND PREP/ CAST IN MAKE-UP
	8:00 - 1:00	FILMING
	1:00 - 2:00	LUNCH
	2:00 - 7:00	FILMING

=====

FRIDAY 4/16	8 AM - 9 AM	CAMERA & SOUND PREP/ CAST IN MAKE-UP
	9:00 - 2:00	FILMING
	2:00 - 3:00	LUNCH
	3:00 - 8:00	FILMING

** ALL TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE **

SET LIST

"Artie's Gone"

#206

Revised Shooting Draft 4/15/93

INTERIORS

BULLPEN (D)

LARRY'S OFFICE (D)

ELEVATOR HALLWAY (D) (N)

WRITER'S ROOM (D)

TALK SHOW SET (D) (N)

BACKSTAGE - BEHIND CURTAIN (D)

BACKSTAGE HALLWAY (D) (N)

LIMOUSINE (D)

CONTROL ROOM (D)

MAKE-UP ROOM (D)

SC#

SCENE

PG#

1	<u>SCENE 1</u> (D1) (1) <u>INT. BULLPEN/LIMO - MORNING (10:00AM)</u> (Larry, Arthur, Beverly, Paula, Darlene, Driver) Arthur tells Paula he's stuck on PCH.			
2	<u>SCENE 2</u> (D1) (4) <u>INT. LARRY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS</u> (Larry, Beverly) Larry asks Beverly where Artie is.			
3	<u>SCENE 3</u> (D1) (5) <u>INT. BULLPEN/LIMO - CONTINUOUS</u> (Larry, Arthur, Paula, Beverly, Driver) Larry walks in on Paula talking to Artie on phone.			
4	<u>SCENE 4</u> (D1) (8) <u>INT. WRITER'S ROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER</u> (Paula, Phil, Hank, Jerry) Paula tells Hank and staff she's in charge. Hank does magic tricks.			
5	<u>SCENE 5</u> (D1) (12) <u>INT. BULLPEN - MINUTES LATER</u> (Larry, Darlene) Larry questions Darlene.			
6	<u>SCENE 6</u> (D1) (13) <u>INT. HALLWAY - 1/2 HOUR LATER</u> (Jerry, Paula, Phil) Paula questions writers on mid-show sketch.			

SC#	SCENE	PG#			
7	<u>SCENE 7</u> (D1) (14) <u>ELEVATOR HALLWAY -</u> <u>CONTINUOUS</u> (Paula, Beverly, Darlene) Paula gets a call from her boyfriend.				
8	<u>SCENE 8</u> (D1) (16) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>REHEARSAL (2:30 PM)</u> (Larry, Paula, Tech Guy, Phil, Stagehand (extra)) Paula talks to Tech Guy about air conditioning.				
9	<u>SCENE 9</u> (D1) (17) <u>INT. WRITER'S ROOM -</u> <u>SIMULTANEOUS</u> (Larry, Paula, Hank, Darlene) (VTPB) Hank watches Larry and Paula on feed.				
10	<u>SCENE 10</u> (D1) (18) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>CONTINUOUS</u> (Larry, Paula, Phil, Jerry (V.O.), Stagehand) Jerry impersonates Arthur.				
11	<u>SCENE 11</u> (D1) (19) <u>INT. CONTROL ROOM -</u> <u>SIMULTANEOUS</u> (Jerry) Jerry impersonates Arthur.				
12	<u>SCENE 12</u> (D1) (19) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>SIMULTANEOUS</u> (Larry, Jerry (V.O.), Paula, Phil, Stagehand) Larry talks to Artie over PA.				

SC#	SCENE	PG#			
13	<u>SCENE 13</u> (D1) (20) <u>INT. BACKSTAGE BEHIND CURTAIN / LIMO</u> <u>MOMENTS LATER</u> (Paula, Phil, Jerry, Arthur, Driver, CB Guy (V.O.)) Larry questions Paula about lead guest and promos. Paula learns Artie won't make it.				
14	<u>SCENE 14</u> (D1) (23) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET - SIMULTANEOUS</u> (Larry, Paula) Paula tells Larry they have Steven Wright booked.				
15	<u>SCENE 15</u> (D1) (24) <u>INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS</u> (Hank, Paula, Beverly, Bruno Kirby, Steven Wright) Hank, Paula, & guests argue about lead guest.				
16	<u>SCENE 16</u> (N1) (26) <u>INT. MAKEUP ROOM - CONTINUOUS</u> (Paula, Hank) Hank and Paula argue about who is lead guest.				
17	<u>SCENE 17</u> (N1) (27) <u>INT. BACKSTAGE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS</u> (Larry, Paula, Beverly, Robert) Robert talks to Paula. Larry asks about cue cards.				

SC#	SCENE	PG#			
18	<u>SCENE 18</u> (D1) (29) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>DURING THE SHOW</u> (Larry, Hank, Darlene, Beverly, Paula) Larry asks for Artie.				
19	<u>SCENE 19</u> (N1) (30) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET - LATER</u> (Larry, Hank, Paula Bruno Kirby, Steven Wright) Bruno and Steven interview.				
20	OMITTED				
21	<u>SCENE 21</u> (N1) (31) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>DURING THE SHOW</u> (Larry, Hank, Paula, Steven Wright, Bruno Kirby) Paula tells Larry she produced the show.				
22	<u>SCENE 22</u> (N1) (33) <u>INT. HALLWAY BY ELEVATOR -</u> <u>SIMULTANEOUS</u> (Arthur, Beverly, Phil, Jerry) (VTPB) Arthur rushes in.				
23	<u>SCENE 23</u> (N1) (34) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>CONTINUOUS</u> (Larry, Arthur, Hank, Paula) Hank does card tricks.				

FADE IN:

1 INT. BULLPEN/LIMO - MORNING (10:00 AM) (DAY 1)

PAULA rushes in, wet and bedraggled, takes off her coat and dials her phone before she even sits down at her desk. DARLENE and BEVERLY are eating muffins at Beverly's desk.

DARLENE

It's really coming down out there, huh?

PAULA

There are two seasons in this town, rainy and riot. Is Larry in yet?

DARLENE

Not yet.
(re muffin)
You want some of this?

Paula lights up a cigarette.

PAULA

No time. I was supposed to have the Ted Danson pre-interview done yesterday.

BEVERLY

Paula.

PAULA

(into phone)
Ted Danson, please.

BEVERLY

Paula, Ted Danson's people just called. He can't make it tonight.

PAULA

Jesus, a little rain and this whole town shuts down.

BEVERLY

They said he has the flu.

DARLENE

Darn it. I wanted to ask him if he's really going out with Whoopi Goldberg.

Phone RINGS.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
(into phone)
Hello. One moment.
(to Paula)
And you've got Arthur on line
two.

ON ARTHUR'S LIMO

ARTHUR is talking on the phone in the back of a limo.
Outside, the SOUNDS OF HEAVY RAIN.

INTERCUT between Paula in the office and Arthur in limo
throughout conversation.

ARTHUR
Is Larry in yet?

PAULA
Uh-uh.

ARTHUR
Good. Listen very carefully:
I'm going to be a little late
today. The roads are blocked.

PAULA
Mud slides?

ARTHUR
Yes, there's a goddamn house
sitting in the middle of the
road up here. Don't ever move
to Malibu -- it's a fucking...
hellhole.

PAULA
That's why I live in the Valley.

ARTHUR
I'll make it in eventually --
even if I have to push the rest
of that fucking house into the
ocean myself, but -- You still
with me?

PAULA
I'm here.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2)

ARTHUR

Until I get in, I'd like you to
fill in for me. If you can
handle it.

Paula is stunned.

PAULA

I can handle it.

ARTHUR

Don't tell Larry I'm not there.
You know how he gets when I'm
not around.

PAULA

Okay. I'll tell him that...

ARTHUR

I don't want to lie to Larry.

PAULA

I understand.

ARTHUR

Tell him I'm in editing.

PAULA

Okay.

ARTHUR

I hate lying to Larry.

Paula swivels her chair around and hunches down so no one
in the office can hear her.

PAULA

(whispering)

Artie, you shouldn't even be out
on the roads in this weather.
Let me produce the show today.

ARTHUR

Your concern for my safety is
touching, but no. I'll be
there. Anything I need to know
about so far?

PAULA

Ted Danson canceled for lead
guest.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (3)

1

ARTHUR

Shit!

The limo driver slams on the brakes.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

(to limo driver)

I wasn't talking to you, Bob.
Sorry.

(to Paula)

Okay, go to my Rolodex --
Christ, I almost went through
the windshield -- and look
through the names that have red
sticky-notes on them...

ON PAULA AT HER DESK

As Paula takes notes, LARRY enters the bullpen also
soaked.

LARRY

I am soaking wet. And I mean
that sexually.

WE FOLLOW Larry into his office.

CUT TO:

2 INT. LARRY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

2

Larry enters and puts his umbrella in the closet. Beverly
enters.

*

*

LARRY

Is Artie in yet?

BEVERLY

I'll check.

Beverly helps Larry with his coat.

LARRY

Was someone smoking in here?

BEVERLY

Abraham.

LARRY

Who?

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
The janitor.

LARRY
Please tell him--

BEVERLY
Done. Moving on... Facilities
Maintenance asks: Do you want a
new couch in your office? Or do
you just want this one spot-
cleaned?

LARRY
New one. No, spot-cleaned. Or
actually just... No, maybe...
(thinks)
You know what? Ask Artie.

BEVERLY
Got it.

Beverly opens Larry's umbrella to let it dry.

LARRY
Is Artie in yet?

BEVERLY
I'll check.

LARRY
(re umbrella)
Don't open that. That's bad
luck. Close it.

CUT TO:

3 INT. BULLPEN/ARTHUR'S LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

Paula is still on the phone with Arthur, as Beverly leaves
Larry's office and exits bullpen.

ARTHUR
The network would like Larry to
plug their new Saturday Night
Rock 'n Roll Video Fuck Fest or
whatever it is. If you catch
him in the right mood, he might
do it.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

PAULA

Got it.

ARTHUR

Bruno Kirby is on the show tomorrow. Don't tell Darlene because she won't be able to function for the rest of the day.

PAULA

I thought they broke up two years ago.

ARTHUR

Trust me, two years is two days in Darlene time.

Larry comes out of his office, hovers by Paula's desk. Paula cups her hand over the phone and looks up at Larry.

LARRY

Have you seen Artie?

PAULA

No. He was here a second ago.

LARRY

Oh.

Larry stares at the phone. Paula stares at Larry.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Is that Artie on the phone?

PAULA

No. It's my mom. Artie had to... go down to editing.

ON ARTHUR'S LIMOUSINE

The driver jams on the brakes.

ARTHUR

(to driver)

Jesus! Will you watch where the fuck you're going?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

ON PAULA

Paula holds the phone away from her ear due to Arthur's shouting.

PAULA
(into phone)
Mom, please.

Larry starts to wander back into his office. He stops and returns.

LARRY
Did Artie say anything about the couches?

PAULA
The couches?

ON ARTHUR'S LIMOUSINE

Arthur is whispering as loud as he can into the phone.

ARTHUR
Spot-clean! Spot-clean!

ON PAULA'S DESK

PAULA
I thought I heard him say something yesterday about spot-cleaning.

Larry thinks about this for a moment.

LARRY
That's right. That's right.
Good idea. Say hi to your Mom.

Larry exits into his office.

ON ARTHUR'S LIMO

ARTHUR
(on phone)
I think you'll do alright, Paula. Call me if you have the slightest question. Hold on a second--

Arthur rolls down the limo window, flips someone off.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (3)

3

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

(out window)

Pull around on the fucking
shoulder! That's what it's
there for, asshole!

(to Paula)

Fucking L.A. I still don't see
why we can't produce this show
in Galveston. You call me on my
cellular if there's a problem.
Do you have the number?

PAULA

(on phone)

Yes and don't worry. I have
everything under control. I'm
not going to let you down. Bye-
bye.

Paula hangs up the phone and drums on the desk, exits
bullpen carrying her clipboard and cigarettes.

*
*

ON ARTHUR'S LIMOUSINE

Arthur is talking to the driver.

ARTHUR

Bob, take a left by these
garbage cans here and ease
across the grass.

DRIVER (O.S.)

That's somebody's yard, sir.

ARTHUR

It's Jimmy Coburn's yard. He's
a friend. Now floor it!

CUT TO:

4 INT. WRITERS ROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER (DAY 1)

4

PHIL and JERRY enter the writer's room. Jerry slams the
door.

JERRY

That's fucked up, man. I've
been here twice as long as she
has. I'm the one who should be
filling in for Arthur.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

PHIL
Maybe he called for you before
you got here.

JERRY
Impossible.

PHIL
What time did you get here?

JERRY
11:30.

HANK enters and shuts the door.

HANK
Okay listen up boys, here's the
low down. Arthur is unable to
be here. Detained. Absent.
Not-o here-o.

JERRY
(still upset)
Fuck!

HANK
Shhh-shh-shh. We're going to be
fine. No reason to panic. Now,
Teddy Danson cancelled...

PHIL
Ted Danson cancelled! Oh my
God!

HANK
Hey!

PHIL
Oh my God!

HANK
Hey!

PHIL
Oh my God!

HANK
Hey! Stow it sailor.

Paula enters.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

HANK (CONT'D)

(to Paula)

Paula, great, listen, get Ray
Combs on the blower for me.
We've got to fill that lead
guest spot.

PAULA

I've already got that under
control.

JERRY

Didn't you hear? Paula's
producing the show today.

Hank stares at Paula. After a beat, he laughs heartily.

HANK

That's the spirit. Gallows
humor.

PAULA

It's not a joke, Hank.

Hank stops laughing.

HANK

You? Producing? You're in your
twenties.

PHIL

Arthur called and asked her to
fill in until he gets here.

HANK

Well then there now. I guess...
Let me know how I can... What
are you -- 28?

PAULA

Twenty-six and I appreciate your
support, Hank.

(to Phil and

Jerry)

If it's no problem, I'd like to
see the mid-show comedy sketch
by lunch.

PHIL

You realize we don't eat lunch
until 5:30.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (3)

PAULA
Okay, brunch then.

Paula exits. Hank remains standing, stunned. He's playing with a deck of cards.

PHIL
What you got there, Hank?

HANK
In case we don't get a lead guest, I might have to stretch out there tonight. So, I dusted off some old sleight-of-hand material from my cruise ship days.

PHIL
Larry hates your magic tricks.

HANK
This isn't a magic trick -- this is an illusion.

Hank fans out the cards to Phil.

PHIL
Shoud I pick one?

HANK
You've seen this one before?

Phil picks one.

HANK (CONT'D)
Put it back.
(looking at
Jerry)
What crawled up his ass and died?

Jerry shakes his head. Hank proceeds with the magic trick.

HANK (CONT'D)
So, I go like this. And like this. Shuffle. Cut. Shuffle. Lot of rain, we're having, huh? Shuffle again. Is this your card?

PHIL
No, Hank, it's not.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (4)

HANK
I know. Take off my shoe and
look inside.

Hank puts his feet up on the table, kicks off his loafer.
Phil's card is inside it.

PHIL
That's fantastic.
(to Jerry)
Did you see that? This is my
card. Incredible. How did you
do that?

HANK
Magic. Now my problem is, I
don't have any funny patter for
that. If I had funny patter, I
think Larry would like it. For
Godsakes, I'm pulling the card
out of my shoe -- there's got be
some funny patter I can say
about that.

JERRY
Fuck!

Hank starts to exit.

HANK
Good news about Paula, huh?

CUT TO:

5 INT. BULLPEN (DAY 1)

Larry walks out of his office. He passes by Darlene's
desk.

LARRY
Darlene? Have you seen Artie?

DARLENE
I think I saw him in a hallway
once.

LARRY
Uh-huh. Is Bruno Kirby on
tomorrow night or is it next
week?

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

DARLENE
Tomorrow night.

Darlene starts weeping. Larry wanders out into the hallway toward elevator.

LARRY
Artie? Artie?

CUT TO:

6 INT. HALLWAY - HALF AN HOUR LATER (DAY 1)

Jerry is poking at the ceiling panels with a broom. Phil stands next to him.

JERRY
Shh. Listen. Over there.

They flail away at a different panel. Paula rounds the corner.

PAULA
What's going on?

PHIL
Jerry bought a parakeet at Thrifty's but it got out of the cage.

JERRY
Shh. Over here.

They flail at a different panel.

PAULA
I don't mean to be a pain in the ass, but I really do need to know what the mid-show comedy piece is.

JERRY
Why do you need to know?

PAULA
So I can tell Larry when he asks me.

PHIL
Telegrams To Larry.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

PAULA

Didn't Larry cut that in rehearsal last week?

JERRY

That was Faxes to Larry. Now if you'll excuse us, we're a little busy right now.

PAULA

Why don't we forget about the fucking bird for a minute and consider the fact that we don't have a mid-show comedy piece.

JERRY

We do have a mid-show piece. Telegrams to Larry.

PAULA

(calming)

Guys, please, as a favor to me will you just help me out here.

Phil hears something.

PHIL

It's over there. We'll see what we can do.

Paula exits. Phil takes Jerry and they exit down the hall.

CUT TO:

7 INT. ELEVATOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

Paula is walking down the hallway toward the bullpen. Beverly comes out of the bullpen.

BEVERLY

Paula, Robert on line five.

Paula picks up the wall phone.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

PAULA

(into phone)

Robert honey? Shit! I forgot!
You're not at the restaurant
already, are you? I would have
called earlier but-- I know your
time is valuable, too.
Something came up at work. I am
so sorry. What's the number at
the restaurant. I promise I
will call you back in five
minutes.

Paula hangs up the phone and rushes towards the bullpen.
Darlene enters from the bullpen and stops Paula.

DARLENE

Sid is out sick today.

PAULA

Sid?

DARLENE

Is Bruno really on the show
tomorrow?

PAULA

Darlene, I am so sorry. I meant
to tell you...

DARLENE

God, I haven't seen him since we
broke up and I don't want to.
That whole thing was so awful--

PAULA

Could we talk about this later?

Paula exits into the bullpen.

DARLENE

(to passerby)

Jeez. Give someone a little
power and they turn into a total
bitch.

CUT TO:

8 INT. TALK SHOW SET - REHEARSAL (2:30 PM) (DAY 1)

8

Phil is throwing a football with a STAGEHAND. Paula talks to a TECH GUY off to the side.

TECH GUY

The air conditioning is busted.
The condensing unit needs a new
compressor.

PAULA

Fine. Go ahead and do it.

TECH GUY

Artie will need to sign the
invoice.

PAULA

I'll sign for Artie

TECH GUY

Can't do it. I'll just go get
Artie's signature.

PAULA

No...

Larry enters and sits at his desk.

LARRY

Jesus, it's hot in here.

PAULA

(to Tech Guy)

Will you just wait here for two
mintues.

Paula crosses toward Larry. We see the Tech Guy walk away immediately.

LARRY

Do we have a lead guest yet?

PAULA

Artie's booking one right now.

LARRY

And isn't my chair supposed to
be a little higher? Will you
check with Artie and see if this
chair is adjusted at the normal
height of which I normally sit?
Where is Artie?

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

PAULA

He's on the phone booking a lead guest.

LARRY

You do realize that I can't just look at the notes at the last second, right? Do we have any fucking idea who it's going to be?

PAULA

Yes. Yes, we do.

CUT TO:

9 INT. WRITERS ROOM - SIMULTANEOUS (DAY 1)

Hank is in the writer's room watching the monitor, playing with his cards.

PAULA (ON MONITOR)

I think Arthur mentioned Elayne Boozler for lead.

HANK

Elayne Boozler? No! No good. No, no, no.

LARRY (ON MONITOR)

Elayne? For lead? I don't know...

HANK

Ha! I told you so.

PAULA (ON MONITOR)

That was just one option. There are many, many others.

Hank stands and taps his finger on Paula's face on the monitor...

HANK

In over your head, aren't you young lady?

Hank knocks on the glass behind Darlene's desk.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

HANK (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Darlene? Did Ray Combs call
back yet?

CUT TO:

10 INT. TALK SHOW SET - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

Larry is shuffling through blue cards. Beverly enters,
sets Larry's coffee on the desk.

LARRY
Coffee. I hope it's as hot as
it is in here.

BEVERLY
It is hot here.

LARRY
Isn't it?

PAULA
I think it's fine.

LARRY
Look at you, you're all sweaty.

PAULA
I feel fine.

LARRY
What's the mid-show comedy
piece?

PAULA
Phil?

Phil, still throwing the football with the stagehand.
Phil walks up to Larry's desk.

PHIL
Telegrams To Larry.

Paula glares at Phil, infuriated. Larry stands and starts
to walk out.

LARRY
That sounds just like "Faxes To
Larry."

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

PHIL

No.

LARRY

Which I cut last week, because
it sucked. So why are we doing
it this week?

OVER THE STAGE PA, we hear Arthur's voice...

JERRY (V.O.)

(on PA doing

Arthur's voice)

Larry? It's Artie. What's the
problem?

Larry returns to his desk, relieved.

LARRY

Artie, where are you?

CUT TO:

11 INT. CONTROL ROOM - SIMULTANEOUS (DAY 1)

11

Jerry is in the audio booth, doing Arthur's voice into the
PA microphone.

JERRY

(doing Arthur's
voice)

I'm in the booth. The Telegrams
piece is completely different
from the Faxes piece. It's so
funny you'll piss in my pants.

CUT TO:

12 INT. TALK SHOW SET - SIMULTANEOUS (DAY 1)

12

LARRY

Okay, I'll give it a try.

JERRY (V.O.)

(on PA, doing

Arthur's voice)

Then try it you will!

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

LARRY

Artie, you sound a little
hoarse.

A long beat.

JERRY (V.O.)

Then a little hoarse I am.

CUT TO:

13 INT. BACKSTAGE BEHIND CURTAIN/LIMO - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)

13

Paula cradles a phone to her ear. Jerry and Phil are
talking to her while she's on hold.

PAULA

(on phone)

Well, do you know someone who
can get a compressor over here
in the next fifteen minutes?
Hold on.

(different line)

Steven, it's Paula. Yes, I'll
hold.

(to writers)

The Telegram bit sucks, okay?
And you know it.

(on phone,
sweetly, a
different line)

It's the lead spot for tonight.
You can? That's terrific!
We'll send a car right over.
Bye.

(to writers,
angry)

And when the Telegrams bomb,
it's going to be your ass, not
mine. Why don't you go find
your fucking parakeet now!

Phil and Jerry exit.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

PAULA (CONT'D)
(different phone
line, angrily)
I want it sixty-four degrees by
show time. I don't care if you
have to get a forty foot fan and
a five million pound ice cube.
Just do it.

ON ARTHUR'S LIMO

ARTHUR
(on phone)
Problem with the AC compressor,
Paula?

PAULA
(surprised)
Oh. Artie. When are you
getting here?

ARTHUR
(into phone)
I'm not going to make it by
showtime. Can you handle it?

A silent beat.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)
This is your big chance! You're
going to produce the show --
while it's on the air. This is
what you wanted, right?

PAULA
Right.

ARTHUR
Good. Now remember: Stand with
Larry while he goes over his cue
cards. Make sure he gets hand
make-up. Don't let the weird
intern bother the guests. And
before the show, have a glass of
wine.

PAULA
I'm not much of a drinker.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

ARTHUR

You don't have to drink it.
Just walk in front of the
audience with it. They see you
relaxed, it relaxes them.

PAULA

The way I look right now it
won't relax anyone to see me
drinking.

ARTHUR

Hmm. I see. Is Jerry around?

PAULA

Arthur, I can handle this.

ARTHUR

Okay then. Good luck.

Arthur hangs up. He reaches over and picks up a CB radio
handset.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Breaker, breaker, what's the
situation? The fire road's
closed?

CB GUY (V.O.)

Hazardous conditions. Emergency
vehicles only.

ARTHUR

Is Sergeant Metcalf there?

CB GUY (V.O.)

This is Metcalf.

ARTHUR

Sarge, you got the Salty Dog
here. What if I come by Topanga
and travel on the top of the
ridge to Coldwater Canyon?

CB GUY (V.O.)

No can do, Artie.

ARTHUR

Did you get those Lakers tickets
I sent you?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (3)

CB GUY (V.O.)
Alright, alright. Come on
through.

ARTHUR
Thanks Sarge. Wilco. Salty
Dog. Out.
(to driver)
Let's get moving, Bob.

CUT TO:

14 INT. TALK SHOW SET - SIMULTANEOUS

Larry is at his desk.

LARRY
Paula!

Paula crosses over from phone.

LARRY (CONT'D)
We don't have a lead guest, do
we? I'll have to talk to Hank
for five minutes. Goddamnit, I
knew we were fucked --

PAULA
I got Steven Wright.

LARRY
Oh, he's good.
(holding up blue
card)
What's this?

PAULA
That's the plug for the new
music video show--

LARRY
(calling into
space)
Artie? Artie? No. No. I'm
not going to do one of those
fucking, "Stay tuned for Late
Night Videos. Party all night,
dudes..."

(CONTINUED).

14 CONTINUED:

14

PAULA
Okay. Okay. Okay.

Larry starts to exit toward backstage.

LARRY
And it's hot. Really, really
hot. And the chair's still
low...

CUT TO:

15 INT. HALLWAY - LATER (DAY 1)

15

Paula rushes down the hallway from bullpen toward stage.
STEVEN WRIGHT is standing outside the greenroom.

PAULA
Steven. I am so glad you could
make it.

STEVEN WRIGHT
Maybe you can settle this. I'm
lead right?

PAULA
Of course you're lead.

BRUNO KIRBY steps out of the greenroom.

BRUNO KIRBY
Excuse me. But I was told that
I would be on first.

PAULA
Bruno! You know, I have you
down for lead guest tomorrow
night.

BRUNO KIRBY
That's what I thought, too. But
when Hank called--

Hank pops his head out from make-up room.

HANK
Bruno! You're a life-saver.
Sorry about the short notice,
but don't worry: I've got some
tricks up my sleeve --

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

PAULA

Hank, I need to speak to you.

STEVEN WRIGHT

Hank, nice to see you.

HANK

I don't believe I've had the pleasure...

STEVEN WRIGHT

Steven Wright.

HANK

Of course. Of course. Nice to meet you. Great. Great.

Hank goes into the make-up room.

BRUNO/STEVEN

I thought you said I was on first.

Beverly approaches.

BEVERLY

Paula! Pardon me. You do know that Sid is sick today, right?

PAULA

Sid?

BRUNO KIRBY

I really do have someplace I have to be.

PAULA

I'm sure we can clear this up...

STEVEN WRIGHT

Come on, man. If it's an ego thing, say it's an ego thing.

BRUNO KIRBY

I don't know what that means -- "ego thing." Paula? Is Artie around?

PAULA

Just a sec. Beverly? Can you help me out here?

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

BEVERLY
Of course.

Paula exits into the make-up room.

BEVERLY
Gentlemen...

PAULA (O.S.)
Hank!

BEVERLY
Would either of you like
something to drink?

BRUNO KIRBY
Water.

STEVEN WRIGHT
Sparkling water.

BEVERLY
It's taken care of.

Beverly exits down hallway.

CUT TO:

16 INT. MAKE-UP ROOM - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

22

16

Hank is in the make-up chair. Paula is standing next to him.

HANK
You look like hell.

PAULA
Hank, I already booked Steven
Wright for lead.

HANK
Funny man, but bad mix.

PAULA
You've got to tell Bruno that
you made a mistake and that--

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

HANK

Excuse me. Excuse me. If I were you, I'd worry about the fact that it's 105 degrees in the studio. But I suppose it's a dry heat and I'm just an old fuck.

Paula exits into hallway.

CUT TO:

17 INT. BACKSTAGE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)

Paula heads down the hallway.

ROBERT

Paula?

PAULA

What!

Paula turns around and sees ROBERT, her sensitive boyfriend.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Robert, what are you doing here?

ROBERT

I came to say goodbye. This is it. Unless you can give me one good reason why you've been so completely rude to me today.

PAULA

I'm sorry, but Artie...

Larry has walked out to the water cooler. An awkward beat.

ROBERT

Well?

LARRY

It's still hot in here. Very hot.

PAULA

Please, can we talk later?

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

ROBERT

That's what I thought.

Robert walks away. Paula thinks about following him, but turns and walks down the hallway with Larry, smoking obliviously. They come through the doors to backstage. Beverly is waiting there with his pre-show tray.

LARRY

Does Artie know how hot it is out there?

PAULA

Artie has the pages passing out free sodas to the audience.

LARRY

Good idea.

They come to a stop behind the curtains. Larry looks around.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Where are my cue-cards?

PAULA

Where are Larry's cue cards?!

LARRY

Where's Sid?

PAULA

Where's Sid? Sid?

BEVERLY

Sid the cue card guy. He's sick.

The play-on music starts and. Larry straightens his tie and walks onstage.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)

I'll take care of this, Paula.

CUT TO:

18 INT. TALK SHOW SET - DURING SHOW (NIGHT 1)

18

VTR SHOT

Larry finishes his monologue.

FILM SHOT

Larry finishes his monologue. Darlene is holding the cue cards. Beverly is next to Darlene writing cue cards quickly.

DARLENE

Are you going to need the monologue cards anymore?

LARRY

No thank you.

Larry crosses to Paula at Arthur's monitor.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Where the fuck is Artie? Does he just not give a damn about this show?

PAULA

He's feeling really, really sick.

LARRY

Oh. I didn't know that.

PAULA

He's watching from the booth. I've got him on the headphones.

Larry squints up behind the audience towards the booth.

LARRY

Is Artie okay?

PAULA

(listening to headphones)

He sees you and says don't worry about him, he's fine. He's waving to you.

PAULA

Sip?

LARRY

Huh?

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

Sip? PAULA

*

No. LARRY

*

CUT TO:

19 INT. TALK SHOW SET - THE SHOW IN PROGRESS (NIGHT 1)

19

LARRY
Our first guest...

WE HEAR soda cans popping in the audience.

FILM SHOT

Paula wincing and trying to shush people in the audience.

VIDEO SHOT

LARRY (CONT'D)
...and he can be seen on--

HANK
I loved him in "City Slickers".

LARRY
He wasn't in "City Slickers".

HANK
Oh, yes he was.

FILM SHOT Paula cues band to start play-on music.

The curtains part: both Bruno Kirby and Steven Wright walk out.

FILM SHOT At the unexpected sight of Bruno Kirby, Darlene drops the cue cards and runs off, upset.

VIDEO SHOT Bruno Kirby and Steven Wright sit down, each insisting he's the lead guest. As they get laughs, they play it up.

Larry and the audience are enjoying this -- it seems like a pre-planned bit.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

FILM SHOT: ARTIE'S MONITOR

Paula drains her glass of wine, refills it, and drinks that one down.

CUT TO:

20 OMITTED

20

21 INT. TALK SHOW SET - DURING THE SHOW - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)

21

LARRY

I wish you two could stick around. We'll be right back.

*

COMMERCIAL MUSIC UP.

FILM SHOT

A drunk Paula weaves her way across the floor towards the desk. Bruno Kirby and Steven Wright are standing to leave.

PAULA

Steven, priceless. Bruno, a pleasure. Hank, fuck you.

Paula works her way towards Larry. The guests stand and exit.

LARRY

How's Artie think it's going?

PAULA

Great. So all in all, a very funny show?

LARRY

Yes. Considering everything Artie had to deal with. You know, you should watch him very closely. You can learn a lot.

Paula starts to walk away, then comes back.

PAULA

Hey, guess what? Artie wasn't even here today.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

LARRY

What?

PAULA

He wasn't even in the office
today. I produced the show
today. I did. By myself.
Thank you very much.

Paula flips Hank off. Larry is getting very nervous.

LARRY

But... where is Arthur?

STAGEHAND (O.S.)

Back in five...

LARRY

You're in charge?

STAGEHAND (O.S.)

Four...

LARRY

Artie?

STAGEHAND (O.S.)

Three...

LARRY

You're producing?

STAGEHAND (O.S.)

Two...

LARRY

You're what -- 28?

HANK

Twenty-six.

Hank moves over to guest spot. Paula crosses back to monitor.

COMMERCIAL MUSIC UP

VIDEO SHOT

Larry is more rattled than we've ever seen him on the air.

LARRY

How much time do we have left?

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

STAGEHAND

Two and a half minutes.

LARRY

Well. I'd like to... I guess...
thank all our guests who were
with us tonight. So... how much
time do we have left now?

STAGEHAND (V.O.)

Two minutes twenty seconds.

LARRY

Oh. I guess now would be a good
time to... remind everyone to
stay tuned for Late Night
Videos, which is on right after
us. Dance all night, dudes.

HANK

I'll be up.

LARRY

In fact, the only thing I like
more than videos... is magic
tricks. Hank, didn't you
mention that you had a magic
trick?

HANK

Well, it's not exactly a magic
trick, it's more of an illusion.

CUT TO:

22 INT. HALLWAY - SIMULTANEOUS (NIGHT 1)

22

Arthur rushes off down the hall, wearing a soaking-wet,
mud-splashed heavy-duty yellow raincoat. He peels it off,
and underneath, his suit is immaculate. Beverly, Phil,
and Jerry are standing around a monitor in the greenroom
door, watching the show and laughing.

BEVERLY

Artie! Welcome back.

ARTHUR

Three minutes left?

PHIL

Three minutes.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

ARTHUR
How's it going?

BEVERLY
Interesting... Hank's doing card
tricks.

ARTHUR
Oh, Christ.

Arthur continues down the hall, taking off his hat.

CUT TO:

23 INT. TALK SHOW SET - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 1)

23

FILM SHOT

As Hank starts to do the magic trick, Arthur walks up to monitor. He takes the glass of wine out of Paula's hand.

ARTHUR
Thank you, Paula.

PAULA
(startled)
Oh, you scared me.

BACK TO HANK

HANK
Fifty-two men come into a shoe
store.

BACK TO ARTHUR

ARTHUR
You told him, didn't you?

PAULA
I didn't mean to... Yes, I
blurted it out. I told you I
can't drink.

Arthur waves at Larry.

VIDEO SHOT While Hank does the trick, Arthur whistles to Larry. Larry sees Arthur. Larry smiles with relief and snaps back to normal.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

LARRY

How much time do we have, Artie?

ARTIE

Twenty seconds.

HANK

Hmm. Smells like the nine of diamonds.

LARRY

How did you do that? That is fantastic.

End of show MUSIC UP.

LARRY (CONT'D)

My card was the three of hearts, asshole.

END