

THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW

"The Hank's Contract Episode"

112

Written by

Paul Simms

Directed by

Roy London

REVISED SHOOTING SCRIPT

August 12, 1992

THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW

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#112

CAST LIST

REGULAR CAST:

LARRY SANDERS GARRY SHANDLING
ARTHUR RIP TORN
HANK KINGSLEY JEFFREY TAMBOR
PHIL WALLACE LANGHAM
JERRY JEREMY PIVEN
DARLENE LINDA DOUCETT

GUEST CAST:

* ROBIN WILLIAMS. ROBIN WILLIAMS
* GEORGE FOREMAN. GEORGE FOREMAN
SHELDON DAVIDOFF JAMES KAREN
BARBARA SUSIE SINGER
STAGE MANAGER (V.O.). (TBA)

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SETS

INTERIORS

TALK SHOW SET (N)

ELEVATOR HALLWAY (N)

LARRY'S OFFICE (D)(N)

WRITERS ROOM (D)

BACKSTAGE HALLWAY (N)

BULLPEN (N)

HANK'S OFFICE (N)

SC#	SCENE	PG#			
1	<u>SCENE 1</u> (N-1) (1) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>EVENING (5:30PM)</u> (Hank, Larry)				
2	<u>SCENE 2</u> (N-1) (1) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>AFTER FIRST COMMERCIAL</u> <u>(5:38PM)</u> (Larry, Hank, George Foreman)				
3	<u>SCENE 3</u> (N-1) (2) <u>INT. HALLWAY - AFTER SHOW</u> <u>(6:35PM)</u> (Larry, Arthur, Sheldon Davidoff, Hank)				
4	<u>SCENE 4</u> (N-1) (6) <u>INT. LARRY'S OFFICE -</u> <u>HALF HOUR LATER (7:05PM)</u> (Larry, Arthur, Hank, Darlene)				
5	<u>SCENE 5</u> (N-1) (9) <u>INT. BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS</u> <u>(7:10PM)</u> (Darlene, Hank, Larry, Arthur, Jerry, Phil, Barbara, Staff extras)				
6	<u>SCENE 6</u> (D-2) (13) <u>INT. LARRY'S OFFICE -</u> <u>THE NEXT MORNING (10:00A)</u> (Larry, Arthur, Darlene, Hank)				
7	<u>SCENE 7</u> (D-2) (19) <u>INT. WRITER'S ROOM - A</u> <u>MOMENT LATER (10:15AM)</u> (Larry, Arthur, Darlene)				
8	<u>SCENE 8</u> (N-2) (20) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>DURING THE SHOW (6:10PM)</u> (Larry, Robin Williams, Hank, Arthur)				
9 * *	<u>SCENE 9</u> (N-2) (20) <u>INT. TALK SHOW SET -</u> <u>CONTINUOUS (6:12PM)</u> (Robin Williams, Larry, Hank, Arthur)				

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SC#	SCENE	PG#			
10	<u>SCENE 10</u> (N-2) (23) <u>INT. ELEVATOR HALLWAY -</u> <u>LATER (7:15PM)</u> (Arthur, Hank)				
11	<u>SCENE 11</u> (N-2) (24) <u>INT. BULLPEN - A HALF</u> <u> HOUR LATER (7:45PM)</u> (Hank, Darlene, Staff extras)				
12	<u>SCENE 12</u> (N-2) (25) <u>INT. HANK'S OFFICE -</u> <u>MOMENTS LATER (8:00PM)</u> (Hank, Larry)				
13	<u>SCENE 13</u> (N-2) (27) <u>INT. STAGE STAIRS -</u> <u>LATER (8:30PM)</u> (Larry, Sheldon)				
14	<u>SCENE 14</u> (N-3) (29) <u>INT. BACKSTAGE - RIGHT</u> <u>BEFORE THE SHOW (5:25PM)</u> (Larry, Hank, Jerry, Arthur, Runner extra)				

FADE IN:

OPENING CREDITS

1 INT. TALK SHOW SET -- EVENING (5:30 PM)

1

We see the "Larry Sanders Show" opening montage.

HANK (V.O.)

Live, on tape from Hollywood,
"The Larry Sanders Show."
Tonight, join Larry and his
guests George Foreman, Sarah
Jessica Parker, and Cajun chef
Paul Prudhomme... and me "Hey
Now! Hank Kingsley. And now,
because he failed the med
school entrance exams...
Larry Sanders.

Larry enters through the curtains.

LARRY

(insert monologue)

CUT TO:

2 INT. TALK SHOW SET -- AFTER FIRST COMMERCIAL (5:38 PM)

2

Larry is interviewing GEORGE FOREMAN.

LARRY

So George, how much did you
make from your last fight?

GEORGE

I don't like to talk about the
money, but... five million
dollars.

LARRY

And who will you be fighting
next?

GEORGE

Well, I was thinking about
fighting Hank. I hear he's
free after next week.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

HANK

Hey Now!

LARRY

For the fifth time this week,
let me make this clear: As I
said earlier in the show, Hank
is not leaving the show. That
is just a rumor. He's in the
middle of contract
negotiations with the network
executives -- who are back in
their offices because they
just got a pardon from Hall --
and I'm sure they'll work it
out.

HANK

Indeed I hope they do.

LARRY

As do I. And as I'm sure you
do, George.

GEORGE

Hey, I want everyone to be
happy.

CUT TO:

3 INT. HALLWAY -- AFTER SHOW (6:35 PM)

3

Larry and Arthur come through the curtains. Larry is
wiping his mouth with a napkin.

LARRY

Oof. Chef Paul's gumbo was a
little strong tonight. Do
these Chefs always have to
make something when they come
on the show?

ARTHUR

No, you could just sit and
talk to them. You think that
would be less painful?

Beat as Larry consider this. SHELDON DAVIDOFF walks up.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

SHELDON
Nice show, boys.

ARTHUR
Hello, Shel.

LARRY
Hey, Shel, didn't see you.

ARTHUR
Hank still trying to rob you
guys blind?

SHELDON
Well... his latest demand is a
golf cart to get around the
studio.

ARTHUR
Poor deluded bastard.

*

LARRY
Please, Sheldon, I don't even
want to hear about what's
going on in this negotiation.
The only thing I want to hear
is that it's been resolved.

SHELDON
I wish I could tell you that,
but Hank's being very tough
this time. He claims he's
ready to leave the show.

Larry, Arthur, and Sheldon start laughing.

SHELDON (CONT'D)
He says he has other offers.

They start laughing again.

SHELDON (CONT'D)
(laughing)
Basically, he's doing the same
thing you two do when your
contracts are up for
renegotiation.

Larry and Arthur stop laughing abruptly. Sheldon's laugh
slowly winds down.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

LARRY

Hey, I actually did have
another offer last year.

ARTHUR

Take it easy, Lar.

LARRY

A certain network was very
eager to give me the slot
right after "Nightline."

ARTHUR

Sheldon believes you.

LARRY

Does he?

ARTHUR

Don't you, Shel?

SHELDON

Absolutely. We will try to
make Hank a happy man, but
there is a financial line that
we can't cross.

*

Larry holds his stomach.

LARRY

Ohh...

SHELDON

I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I know
how much you hate to get
involved in any of this
contract stuff.

LARRY

You're right, but this
(indicates stomach)
is actually about Chef Paul's
gumbo... My dog wouldn't even
eat that shit.

Hank walks down the hallway. He has a bowl of gumbo, which
he's wolfing down voraciously.

HANK

Hi, Lar, Artie. Mmm... good
stuff. Hello, Mr. Davidoff.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (3)

3

Steps closer.

*

SHELDON

Please, Hank -- it's Shel.
For the past four years it's
been Shel.

HANK

When it comes to business, I
have to call you Mr. Davidoff.
Please don't take it
personally, Shel.

SHELDON

(to Hank)

So, Hank, what we might be
able to do is readjust your
cut of potential syndication
points...

As Hank and Sheldon walk down the hallway, we see that Hank
has a stain on his pants.

LARRY

Do you think that stain on
Hank's pants is from Gumbo?

Arthur gives Larry a look.

LARRY (CONT'D)

I don't think so either.

*

Larry and Arthur laugh. Hank turns and looks over his
shoulder at them laughing, then walks on.

LARRY (CONT'D)

I think he was masturb --

Arthur and Larry laugh again, enter Larry's office.

*

CUT TO:

4 INT. LARRY'S OFFICE -- HALF HOUR LATER (7:05 PM)

4

Larry and Arthur. Arthur is reading People Magazine. Larry is biting a Rolaid and washing it down with a glass of Alka-Seltzer.

LARRY

Do you want an Alka-Seltzer?

ARTHUR

Yes, just one. Make it a double. I don't want you to call me a pussy.

*

Arthur takes Alka-Seltzer.

ARTHUR

Do you think if I was around 30 again, that Chynna Phillips --

LARRY

I don't know. Jesus, don't I have enough pressure on me? I I don't know what you were like when you were 30.

ARTHUR

Does the name "Kim Novak" mean anything to you?

LARRY

What about her?

Arthur rolls his eyes coyly.

LARRY (CONT'D)

What about Marilyn Monroe?

*

Hank enters carrying an autographed basketball.

HANK

Lar? I was just cleaning out my office, and I thought you might want this.

Hank sets the ball on Larry's desk. It slowly rolls towards the edge. Throughout the next few lines, Hank keeps resetting the ball, and it keeps rolling towards the edge.

HANK (CONT'D)

It's autographed. Kenny Stabler.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

LARRY

He played football.

HANK

I didn't have any spare
Footballs around when he was
on the show. But this is the
closest kind of ball I had.
Do what you want.

*

LARRY

Come on -- you don't have to
play this "I'm-really-leaving-
the-show" game with me.

HANK

(troubled)

Yeah, well...

(beat)

I just wanted to thank you for
your kind words on the air
tonight. The sentiment really
touched me and my stepmother
who was watching in
Pittsburgh. I hope it wasn't
lost on the boys at the
network.

LARRY

Well, Artie wrote it and had
it put on cards for me. I
just read it off the cards.

HANK

Where it would have stayed had
you not read it.

LARRY

Glad to help out.

HANK

Are you?

Larry and Arthur look at each other quizzically.

LARRY

Of course I am.

HANK

Hmmm.

Hank leaves.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

LARRY

What the hell was that?

ARTHUR

He's just flexing a little muscle. Hank Kingsley will never leave this show.

LARRY

How much does he think he's worth, anyway?

ARTHUR

I don't know. How do you put a price on a man who introduces Winona Judd as "The Judd."

Larry and Arthur laugh.

LARRY

Even for him that was a low point.

(beat)

How about Jane Russell? Did you fuck her?

ARTHUR

Jane was before my time.

LARRY

Yeah, well would you fuck her?

Larry and Arthur crack up. DARLENE enters.

DARLENE

Larry? Arthur?

She notices that they've been laughing.

DARLENE (CONT'D)

Were you just talking about Hank?

LARRY

No.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (3)

4

DARLENE

*

Oh, 'cause my ears were
burning. Anyway, the staff is
having a little going-away
cake for Hank, and it would be
nice if you'd join us.

Larry and Arthur head towards the door.

LARRY

This is ridiculous. Isn't he
taking this game a little far?

ARTHUR

Fuck it. Free cake. We don't
want to miss this.

Darlene exits. Larry and Arthur follow.

LARRY

What about Ginger Rogers?

CUT TO:

5 INT. BULLPEN -- CONTINUOUS (7:10 PM)

5

The staff is gathered around a cake. Darlene comes from
Larry's office.

DARLENE

*

(whispering)

Okay, okay. They're coming.
Shh! I'll go get him now.

Darlene knocks on the door to Hank's office.

DARLENE (CONT'D)

Hank.

Hank opens it a crack.

HANK

(whispering)

Are they all there?

DARLENE

Yes, Hank. I got everyone.

HANK

Is Larry there?

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

DARLENE

Yes.

Hank starts to close the door.

HANK

White cake with coconut
sprinkles?

DARLENE

Yes, Hank.

Hank comes out.

DARLENE (CONT'D)

Surprise!

The staff applauds. Hank acts completely surprised as he crosses to the cake. When Hank sees the cake he seems genuinely surprised and moved. The caricature of Hank on the sheetcake has much more hair than Hank does in real life. You can barely tell it's Hank because it's such an overly-flattering picture. The caricature has a cartoon balloon coming out of its mouth saying, "HEY NOW!" Below the caricature: "HASTA LA VISTA, HANK."

HANK

(moved)

Well. Well. What can I say?
If someone invented a camera
that could take snapshots of
our feelings, I'd take a
picture of this moment and
keep it in the wallet of my
heart forever. Knowing most
of you -- most of you, has
been a great pleasure. The
powers that be want to put a
price on what we have here...
but that price is just too
low, and Hank Kingsley is not
a man to cave in on what is
just.

Darlene, alone, applauds.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

ANGLE ON LARRY AND ARTHUR

They're standing in a corner of the bullpen, watching Hank's speech. They're laughing quietly...

LARRY

I've seen more honest
sentiment on America's
Funniest Home Videos.

ARTHUR

Even the one where the guy
gets hit in the nuts with the
Whiffle Ball.

(laughs)

That's still my favorite.

CUT TO:

ANGLE ON HANK

WE SEE Hank notice Larry and Arthur laughing.

HANK

This reminds me of when I was
just a cruise director on the
Andropolous -- it was a Greek
liner, luxury ship, every room
was a suite. Every night --

Hank's anecdote is interrupted by JERRY and PHIL, who wheel in a gigantic cake.

HANK (CONT'D)

(genuinely surprised)

Hey Now -- what's this?

JERRY

Hank, every time we have a
going-away party for you, it's
too much of a downer because
everyone's so sad about you
leaving.

PHIL

So this time, we decided to
spring for something a little
more fun.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (3)

5

HANK

This is too much.

He shakes hands with the guys.

HANK (CONT'D)

I didn't know you and...

PHIL

Phil.

HANK

Phil could be so openly
expressive about your
affection. I'm touched.

Phil hits the button on a boom box. WE HEAR CHEESY
ELECTRONIC DISCO MUSIC, to which the top of the cake opens,
and a BARBARA, a stripper, jumps out.

BARBARA

Surprise!

She dances out of the cake, facing away from Hank. When
she turns and faces him...

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Hank?

HANK

(startled)

Barbara!

(covering)

It's very nice to meet you.

BARBARA

Meet me? You've done a lot
more than meet me.

HANK

(laughing,
embarrassed)

Hey Now!

BARBARA

You asshole. That phone
number you gave me is some dry
cleaner in Torrance.

HANK

Oh, that's right -- my area
code was changed.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (4)

5

BARBARA
Bullshit! I'm not your whore!
Who needs this gig?

Barbara storms out angrily.

HANK
(chuckling, to staff)
People see you in enough lawn
furniture spots, they start to
fantasize about you. Who
wants cake?

Hank continues to serve cake.

CUT TO:

6 INT. LARRY'S OFFICE -- THE NEXT MORNING (10:00 AM)

6

Larry is at his desk, on the phone. Arthur is sitting on
the couch, reading a magazine. Larry's pen rolls off his
desk.

LARRY
(into phone)
Does the LXE come with a...

ARTHUR
Limited-slip differential...

LARRY
(into phone)
Limited-slip differential?

ARTHUR
Is it an option?

LARRY
(to Arthur)
I don't know...
(into phone)
Is it possible to have that
added as an option? Uh-huh.

ARTHUR
Next model...

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

LARRY

*

(into phone)

Do I have to go to the next
model up to get the limited-
slip differential? I see.

(beat)

Well, let me ask you this:
What exactly is a limited-slip
differential?

ARTHUR

*

If you're up on the curb...

LARRY

*

I like my car... Why do we
have to do this?

ARTHUR

*

'Cause you deserve it.
Safer... Classier and safer.

Darlene enters.

LARRY (CONT'D)

(into phone)

I'll call you back.

(to Darlene)

What does Hank want?

DARLENE

(trying to subtly
indicate Arthur)

He wants to see you alone.

LARRY

What about Arthur?

Darlene thinks for a moment.

DARLENE

I'll go check.

Darlene starts to leave. Arthur stands.

ARTHUR

That won't be neccessary,
Darlene. I'll leave.

DARLENE

*

Okay.

Darlene exits. Arthur starts to leave.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

LARRY

Please don't leave me alone
with Hank.

ARTHUR

I'll listen in on your
speakerphone.

Arthur punches a button on Larry's speakerphone.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I don't want to miss this.

Arthur leaves through the back door. Hank enters.

HANK

You wanted to see me?

LARRY

Would you like a Coke?

HANK

If you think I should have a
Coke, I'll have a Coke.

Hank gets a Coke out of the fridge.

HANK (CONT'D)

So have you talked to Shel
recently?

LARRY

About what?

HANK

About me leaving...

A beat.

LARRY

Oh, come on, Hank, you're not
leaving the show. In fact
what I'm thinking is next
year, Artie and I will
personally take responsibility
for selecting the stripper.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (3)

6

HANK

(accusatory)

Funny. Okay. Go ahead. A woman I happened to have met popped out of the cake. Go ahead and make fun of that.

LARRY

Hey, it could happen to anyone.

HANK

Might as well laugh in my face for a change. I know you and Artie are laughing at me every time I turn my back.

LARRY

Not true.

HANK

(exploding)

She was half the Judds, now there's just one of them, so she's a "Judd"! A single Judd!

LARRY

The mother was ill --

HANK

And what about when I slipped and chipped my tooth on the bathroom urinal -- that was comical?

LARRY

Well, it was a back tooth, Hank.

Hank takes a deep breath.

HANK

(calmly)

I shouldn't be so angry about this. Because you know what I'm really feeling? Hurt. It hurts, Lar. It hurts.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (4)

6

LARRY

Hank, I know this has been a
tough week for you, but don't
you think you're over-
reacting?

Suddenly, we hear Arthur sneeze loudly over the
speakerphone. Larry and Hank stare at each other.

LARRY (CONT'D)

(looking around)

Did you fart?

HANK

It was the speakerphone.

LARRY

Nice try.

HANK

I'm not kidding. Someone's
listening to us on the
speakerphone.

LARRY

You think so?
(angrily, into
speakerphone)
Who's there! Is someone
listening, God damn it?!

Beat.

ARTHUR (V.O.)

(on speakerphone)

It's me, Larry. Arthur.

LARRY

Arthur, what are you doing?

ARTHUR (V.O.)

(on speakerphone)

Oh, you're there with Hank?

LARRY

Yes, I'm here with Hank.
Right here. We're in my
office. How did you get on
the phone?

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (5)

6

ARTHUR (V.O.)
(on speakerphone)
I don't know. I have no idea
how I got on the phone. I was
eating a sandwich in my
office, and then suddenly I
heard you guys.

LARRY
That is so weird! Your elbow
must have hit the button or
something.

ARTHUR (V.O.)
(on speakerphone)
How's my old buddy Hank?

Hank stares at Larry. Long, long beat.

LARRY
Arthur? I'm going to hang up
now, because I'm having a
personal conversation with my
buddy Hank.

Larry pushes a button on the phone.

HANK
(re: speaker phone)
That's the kind of shit I'm
talking about. And I've taken
it for long enough.

LARRY
Hank, if you'd just give me a
chance to explain --

HANK
It's too late for that, Larry.
I'm tired of being your
personal village idiot.
Goodbye, Larry.
(to speaker phone)
Goodbye, Artie.

ARTHUR (V.O.)
So long, Hank.

Hank exits and slams the door.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (6)

6

ARTHUR (CONT'D)(V.O.)
That wasn't a gunshot, was it?

CUT TO:

7 INT. WRITER'S ROOM -- MOMENT LATER (10:15 AM)

7

Larry walks in. Arthur is wiping the speakerphone with a napkin.

LARRY
Nice move.

ARTHUR
(shrugs)
Fucking allergies. I take the
shots for nothing.

LARRY
Did you hear everything?

ARTHUR
Yep.

LARRY
Do you feel as lousy as I do?

ARTHUR
Yep.

LARRY
Jesus. He's really ready to
quit. Two months ago he was
paranoid he was going to be
fired. This is really a crazy
business.
(beat)
And I still have to go out
there and do a show with him
tonight.

ARTHUR
Don't worry about it. You're
a pro, Hank's a pro...

Darlene sticks her head in the door.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

DARLENE
Madonna just cancelled.

ARTHUR
God damn it!

CUT TO:

8 INT. TALK SHOW SET -- DURING THE SHOW (6:10 PM)
Larry is in the middle of a ROBIN WILLIAMS interview.
{INSERT INTERVIEW}

8

CUT TO:

9 INT. TALK SHOW SET - CONTINUOUS (6:12 PM)
They go to commercial. Arthur approaches.

9

ARTHUR
Delightful, delightful. Your
mind is a national treasure.

*

ROBIN
That's very kind of you.

*

ARTHUR
Do you want to do another
segment?

*

ROBIN
Sure.

*

Arthur crosses off. Robin turns to Larry.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
How did I do, really?

LARRY
You killed, are you kidding?
I don't know if you're aware
of this, but you're Robin
Williams.

ROBIN
Well, when I started talking
about my --

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

LARRY

Penis?

ROBIN

No, my new baby. I thought it was a little slow. I thought the stuff about my penis was really strong. Just like my penis is -- really strong. Did you see my penis in The Fisher King? What row were you in?

LARRY

Let's just say I spit up a large Coke.

ROBIN

Frontal nudity. I'm there.

(beat)

I really didn't feel that funny tonight. Was it really that good? Was I too mean to Hank?

LARRY

I have no idea. I don't know what too mean to Hank is anymore. We're right in the middle of going through that now.

Hank walks in.

HANK

Robin, great show. This probably isn't a great time but could you sign an autograph for my niece, Katy?

He hands Robin a piece of paper.

LARRY

Do you want me to sign that, Hank?

ROBIN

I hope I wasn't in your face out there, Hank.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

HANK

Are you kidding? When you said that my head reminded you of your penis after a cold swim, I was honored. I'm a perfect foil for you.

LARRY

I don't get it. If I said that to you, you would be insulted.

HANK

There's a difference. Number one, that was on stage. Number two, Robin's not supposed to be a friend of mine. Number three, he didn't do it behind my back. Number four, all the time.

Hank exits.

ROBIN

Boy, I can see where he is an easy target.

LARRY

But a wonderful guy.

ROBIN

But what are you going to do? It's hard to avoid, we're comics. It's the nature of the beast.

LARRY

(beat)
We're fucked.

A long beat.

STAGE MANAGER (O.C.)

Five, four, three, two...

LARRY

You're not going to do Leno or Arsenio, are you?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

9

ROBIN

Not until my next movie comes out.

CUT TO:

10 INT. ELEVATOR HALLWAY - LATER (7:15 PM)

10

Arthur is talking to Hank.

ARTHUR

I agree with what you're saying. You're one of the greats, Hank. Hell, you're a legend. But it's tough out there. Times are bad... The trend in talk shows right now is not to have a sidekick.

HANK

It is a dying art. But listen, I've already been talking to Dick Cavett about the possibility of becoming a co-host.

*
*

ARTHUR

What's he doing?

HANK

What do you mean what's he doing? He has that talk show on CNBC.

*

ARTHUR

CNBC? What the hell is that? What's that mean?

HANK

Don't you know?

ARTHUR

No. My TV stops at Channel 13 like it's supposed to. All I'm saying is, as far as sidekicks go, it's not exactly a seller's market right now.

The elevator doors open and Hank.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

HANK
(conspiratorial)
I'm not going anywhere. I've
got the network by the balls
on this one.

ARTHUR
You do.

HANK
I've got a meeting with
Sheldon right now. This whole
thing'll be over in half an
hour.

ARTHUR
Good luck, buddy.

The elevator doors shut.

CUT TO:

11 INT. BULLPEN -- A HALF HOUR LATER (7:45 PM)

11

Hank enters the bullpen from the hallway and heads towards
his office.

DARLENE
Well? How'd it go?

Each person he passes in the bullpen asks Hank how it went.
Hank gives each of them an elated thumbs-up. Hank exits to
his office.

CUT TO:

12 INT. HANK'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER (8:00 PM)

12

Hank is lying on the couch. The lights are out. Larry enters, closes door.

*

LARRY

Hey, buddy, got a minute?

Hank is silent.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Look, I just wanted to say I'm
sorry about any of the things
I might have said which --
boy you keep it dark in here.

Larry claps twice, the lights go on.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Still doing the spots for
them?

Hank nods.

LARRY (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

HANK

The network passed.

LARRY

What?

HANK

The network passed.

LARRY

The network passed? What did
they say?

HANK

They said, "Hey you
untalented, overpriced
sidekick -- you're just
another piece of meat to us.
Take what we gave you last
year and be happy with that,
you worthless piece of shit."

LARRY

What did they say exactly?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

HANK

I don't remember, but believe me, that was the gist of it.

LARRY

Well, times are hard. Maybe you should just accept last year's offer.

HANK

I can't do that. Can I? I can't do that. I've been on national television saying I won't cave in. So I am fucked.

LARRY

What does Artie think?

HANK

I can't tell Artie about this. It'll be embarrassing enough -- when it's on the front page of Variety. The second page at worst.

LARRY

Weren't they afraid you'd take the Cavett job?

HANK

Cavett? There is no Cavett. Cavett doesn't want a sidekick. I was bluffing.

*

LARRY

You were bluffing.

HANK

Yes bluffing. I was doing the same thing you did when you said you had the offer from the other network.

LARRY

I had an offer to go on after Nightline. That's why I had the leverage.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

HANK
Oh, I thought you were
bluffing.

CUT TO:

13 INT. STAGE STAIRS - LATER

13

The stairs are dark. Larry is waiting, Sheldon enters.

LARRY
Shel, over here.

SHELDON
Jesus, Larry, I could have
gotten us a nice table at
Chasen's.

LARRY
But I don't want anybody to
see us.

SHELDON
Let's make it quick. I've got
a breakfast with Fred Dryer in
the morning.

LARRY
Fred Dryer, boy, you're
wasting you time there. What
exactly does Hank want?

Sheldon takes a piece of paper out of his breast pocket and
hands it to Larry. Larry looks at it.

SHELDON
He want's a five percent
raise, gross syndication
points, three more weeks paid
vacation --

LARRY
Jesus.

SHELDON
...and a Hankmobile.

LARRY
(off sheet)
What is a "Hankmobile"?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

SHELDON

It's that golf cart I told you about.

(beat, then)

I smell urine here.

LARRY

Sheldon, don't be so cut throat about this. Make the deal so that he can walk away with some dignity.

SHELDON

We're talking about business.

LARRY

No, we're talking about Hank. Sheldon, this is what it comes down to. Give Hank everything he wants or I leave the show. If he goes, I go.

SHELDON

Oh, get off it.

LARRY

I mean it.

Larry starts to walk away up the stairs.

*

SHELDON

(sarcastically)

And I suppose you'll be having one of those fake going-away parties?

LARRY

I don't need to fake it. I can go on after Nightline anytime I want. Call Bob Iger and check it out.

SHELDON

This won't work.

LARRY

Make it work. Because... I love being here -- well, not here on these steps, but you know what I mean.

*

CUT TO:

14 INT. BACKSTAGE -- RIGHT BEFORE THE SHOW

14

Larry is going over the cue cards at curtain. WE HEAR A BEEP. Hank drives up in a golf cart with the name "KINGSLEY" stenciled on the front.

*

JERRY
(re: golf cart)
Hey, she's a beaut, Hank.
They must really love you.

HANK
Got everything I wanted! Told
you they'd come through.

He parks and gets out.

LARRY
Wow, Hank. You must be pleased.

HANK
Very pleased.

Hank looks in a backstage mirror and straightens his tie.

LARRY
So, did you get the salary
bump?

HANK
Yep, sure did.

LARRY
Did you get the syndication
points?

HANK
When they gave me the salary
bump, I felt like I had to
give them something. I don't
need the syndication points.

LARRY
The three weeks vacation?

Hank gives Larry the "thumbs up".

HANK
Week and a half.

LARRY
And they gave you this. It's
gorgeous.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

Hank mumbles something.

LARRY (CONT'D)

What?

HANK

(quietly)

I bought the golf cart myself.
Please don't tell anybody, I
beg of you. And, Larry...
thanks for going to bat for
me.

LARRY

I don't know what you're
talking about.

HANK

Let me get this right: If I
go, you go?

LARRY

(re: cart)

So you went for the white
interior... Very smart,
cooler in the summer.

HANK

You show your love in your own
way, don't you? Come here...

Hank moves to embrace Larry.

LARRY

(backing off)

Hank, please...

STAGE MANAGER (V.O.)

Hank? You're on in ten
seconds.

HANK

I'll catch you after the show.

Hank tosses the keys to a runner.

HANK (CONT'D)

Hey, Alphonse. Park her by
the prop room. And no joy-
riding -- I'll be 58 minutes
exactly.

*

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

Hank walks through the curtain. Arthur walks up from behind the curtain. Larry seems troubled.

ARTHUR

The house is as hot as a pistol... Are you in your own moment, or is something wrong?

*

LARRY

This fucking network.

*

ARTHUR

Oh, you're not in your own moment.

*

LARRY

No, I am not in my own moment. I laid myself on the line, and they still didn't give him everything he wanted.

*

ARTHUR

Poor baby. But he's happy.

*

LARRY

That is not the issue. The issue is; doesn't the network think enough of me to do exactly what I tell them to do? It's an insult.

We hear the MUSIC start and Hank's opening announce.

HANK (V.O.)

Live, from Hollywood...

ARTHUR

Boy, you'd think they'd be nervous that you're going to take that offer to go on after Nightline.

LARRY

That's what I'm saying.

*

ARTHUR

You did get an offer to go on after Nightline, right?

HANK (V.O.)

...Larry Sanders!

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (3)

14

LARRY

Fuck no.

Larry exits through curtian.

*

LARRY (CONT'D)(O.C.)

*

Thank you. Thank you. Boy,
you're as hot as a pistol
tonight...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW