

Three Blind Guys
 "Pilot"
By: Elijah Virgil

Fade In.

Ext. Nondescript City - Sidewalk - Noon

A large city, camera is pointed to a door leading to an apartment complex. Two disgruntled men **KENNY KEANE** [Late 20s, Tall, Eccentric, a Yes-man] and **JASON MOOP** [Late 20s, Short, Paranoid] exit through the door, the landlord showing them out the door. The two men walk down the sidewalk.

Jason

Another apartment out of our price range. Everything in this city is too damn expensive.

Kenny

Calm, down. We'll figure something out.

Jason

You wouldn't be so optimistic if you had to spend another week at my parents house. "Jason do this, Jason fix this, Jason help me find my glaucoma medication." Just another day in the Moop household Kenny!

Kenny

Don't get mad at me just because your name sounds like a thinly veiled 'Seinfeld' reference. Speaking of which, let's stop by a diner, I could use a slice of pie.

Jason (Scoffs)

Well I'd better take out a loan first.

FADE TO:

INT. Diner-Booth-Noon

Kenny and Jason sit in a booth eating. A news **ANCHOR** speaks over an old TV sitting in the corner.

CUT TO:

News Broadcast

Anchor

...and Holt hit a two-run triple to finish out the game and sweep the series for the Swordfish. They'll be on the road next week versus the Colonels.

[Beat]

In pressing news, city-wide housing rates have skyrocketed from last September and are still on the rise. Many prospective home-buyers and long-term leasees are looking elsewhere for accommodation. More on that at eight. We now send you over to **MIKE MONROE** for the weather.

Mike

Thanks Jake, tomorrow's forecast calls for clear skies with highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 80s. We have a high pressure situation forming right above the city, so we can expect this weather pattern to continue well throughout the week, and into this weekend. Better dust off those grills...

CUT TO:

Kenny and Jason finish their meals.

Jason

Why'd we have to come here anyway, can't we get an apartment in the suburbs or the next city over?

Kenny

No way, my car isn't reliable and I can't risk being late to my new job. No one forced you to come anyways.

Jason

Well I can't afford to lease a place on my own. You know that as well as anyone!

Kenny

That's because you can't hold down a job.

Jason

You mean *I refuse* to hold down a job.

Kenny (sighing)

Same thing...anyways I gotta go do laundry at my sister's place. You tagging along?

Jason

Nah, I have to go get more oxygen tanks for my dad or something, I don't think Dani likes me anyways.

Kenny

That's because you tried to steal a pair of her pants.

Jason

They looked comfy! I'm nothing if not a connoisseur of comfort. Besides, they made my butt look fan-tastic.

Kenny

Feh, I'll see you later.

Jason

Yeah, peace.

The two men leave a tip on the booth and walk up to the front to pay.

FADE TO:

INT. Dani's Apartment-Laundry Room-Night

The room in in laundromat style, with several washers in a row

A low rumble come from the washing machine, Kenny sits on top, scrolling through his phone and his sister **Dani** [early 20s, attractive, sarcastic] flips through a high-fashion magazine while wearing a dingy tank-top and old sweatpants.

Dani

Still no luck finding a place to stay?

Kenny

Unfortunately, at least I'm on a first-name basis with the entire motel-staff now, I just wish they'd stop cleaning my room while I'm in the shower.

Dani

You still pal-ing around with the perv?

Kenny

Jason? Oh he's harmless, at least he's good company.

Dani

Harmless? I had to burn my favorite sweatpants.

Kenny

He's not great at first impressions.

Dani

I'll say. Speaking of apartments, aren't they building a new place somewhere around here?

Kenny

Yeah but it's ADA-only housing, plus those are three-bedroom apartments.

Dani

ADA?

Kenny

Yeah **American's** with **Disabilities Act**. It's affordable housing for those who are blind, paraplegics, or otherwise handicapped.

Dani

Sounds right up you guys's alley, as long as you apply for dumb and lame housing.

CUT TO:

Kenny sneers and sticks his tongue out at his sister.
Suddenly, an idea. He hops down from his perch on the washing machine and walks towards the door.

Kenny

I gotta make a call real quick. Watch my clothes will ya Dan?

Dani

Whatever

Kenny

Thanks, I owe you one.

Dani

Several.

Kenny Exits

CUT TO:

INT. Jason's Bedroom-Parent's house-Next morning.

Jason wakes to his phone going off, the camera pans out to reveal a comically small bedroom that hasn't been redecorated since Jason was very young. The room comes complete with stuffed-animals, junior baseball gear, and a child sized bed with posts resembling pencils.

Jason

Yeah?

TRANSITION:

The screen splits diagonally and Kenny slides in from the right side of the screen. He is on his phone walking down the street.

Kenny

Hey I set up another apartment tour with a landlord. This new place is pretty nice, and it falls well within our budget.

Jason

That's amazing. When are we meeting? Where should I show up?

Kenny

I scheduled the tour in two hours. The building is on the corner of Tanner Street and Park Avenue.

[Kenny reaches a nondescript building and heads inside.]

Jason

Wait...hold up, isn't that the new handicapped apartments?

Kenny

Yeah, I got us a tour. One of the seeing-impaired tenants has space for roommates.

Jason

Wait, what? We're not blind. They'll laugh in our faces.

Kenny

Don't worry. I've got us everything we'll need.

Jason

Everything we need for what?

Kenny

Everything we need to land this apartment.

Jason

Kenny, I'm not gonna fake being blind to get an affordable apartment.

CUT TO:

Kenny opens the door to Jason's room, shattering the illusion that they were any distance apart.

Kenny (Still using the phone)

Yes you are, c'mon we don't have much time to get ready, so put some drawers on and let's go.

Jason (angrily ends call)
What? How'd you get in here?

Kenny (offended that he was hung up on)
Your parents gave me a key, let's go!

Kenny starts to walk off. He shouts offscreen.

Kenny
Thanks Mr. and Mrs. Moop! Have a great day!

Kenny Exits

Jason (Yelling)
I'M NOT DOING THIS

HARD CUT:

EXT. Street-Downtown-Morning

The two men head towards their date with the apartment tour
guide

Jason (Defeated)
I can't believe I'm doing this.

Kenny
Don't sweat it, we'll be fine.

Jason
Is this wrong? Are we bad people?

Kenny
We're not bad people, we are just two guys who are desperate to
find a place to live. Besides, there's plenty of rooms available
for other blind dudes. How many could there possibly be?

Jason
Seven-thousand. I 'Googled' it.

Kenny
They'll be fine. Now shut up and pop these in.

Kenny hands Jason a small plastic container.

Jason
What's this?

Kenny
Contacts, they'll make your eyes look grey and lifeless.

Jason
Ugh, like my mother's...Where did you find these so quickly?

Kenny
I got them from a friend who's into cosplay, and BDSM... and
EDM... and MDMA. Lotta weird stuff.

Jason (Interjecting)
What?

Kenny
Oh,yeah, EDM stands for Electronic Dance Mus...

Jason (Interjecting)
No, I mean what's a cos-play?

Kenny
It's where he dresses in drag as a sailor girl and goes to a big
convention center to get ogled at by fat kids.

Jason
Eh? Nevermind that, I can't wear those, I have chronically dry
eyes. Besides, the idea of something touching my eyeballs makes
me queasy.

Kenny
I thought you might say that. That's why I picked up these
Kenny produces a thick pair of sunglasses.

Jason
These stupid looking things? These are like what my mother
wears.

Kenny

Those are what your mother wears.

Jason

These don't let any light through, how am I supposed to see anything?

Kenny

You're not, hurry and put those on, it's that or I'm forcibly touching your eyeballs.

Jason (Cringes)

Okay, fine.

Jason begrudgingly dons the large, boxy specs. He immediately waltzes into a streetlamp.

Kenny

Whoops, Here!

Kenny hands Jason a white cane. He has another one for himself

Jason (Lifting glasses)

Where'd you get these?

Kenny

Let's just say I got some strange looks at 'CVS'

Kenny pops in his own contacts, looks satisfied with himself, and keeps walking, now using a cane.

Jason

You're just now noticing that, huh?

FADE TO:

EXT. Apartments-Tanner Street and Park Ave-Noon

The two now-blind men find their way to the complex. Meeting them outside is **AVA** [40s, eager, and "synergetic"]

Ava

Greetings gentlemen! I'm Ava, and I'm the landlord. I'll also be your tour guide for today.

Kenny grabs Ava's hand from her side and shakes it. Ava looks confused and suspicious, but accepts this.

Kenny
Pleased to meet you!

Ava
Uhhh...yeah. I'll just have you step inside here and we can get...started.

Ava opens the door and ushers the two men inside. Kenny stealthily nudges Jason to remind him to use his cane, which Jason currently has tucked under his arm.

Jason
Oh, right. Thank you.

FADE TO:

INT. Apartment Complex-Lobby-Noon

Ava hands Jason and Kenny each a stack of papers with both ink and braille.

Ava
Okay, here's the housing application. After you fill those out, we'll continue with the tour. If you're interested afterwards, we can talk about payment options. I'll be right here if you guys have any questions.

Kenny looks at the paper, luckily it has both printed words and braille. He fruitlessly feels up the paper, while reading it with his eyes. Jason tries to peep under his glasses while hand-reading.

Jason
Could you tell me what this word on the top here is?

Ava
You mean the 'Name' space?

Jason

Yeah...that's it...thanks.

The next few minutes are silent and painful for all involved. Kenny and Jason fill out paperwork "blindly" for entirely too long. Kenny tries his hardest to avoid eye contact. The two stumble through the braille with clumsy fingers. At times attempting to read one another's application.

Jason
Alright, I'm done. Kenny?

Kenny
Allllmost...there!

Ava (Suspiciously)
Okay, let's start the tour then.

CUT TO:

INT. Apartment Complex-Hallway-Noon

Ava leads our heroes down a hallway. At the end lies a room marked '42'.

Ava
Here we are. Fourth floor, room 42. After you!

Kenny and Jason thank Ava. Jason walks into the doorframe because of his glasses.

TRANSITION:

INT. Apartment Complex-Room 42-Noon

The room is large with an open floor. It is sporadically decorated. On a couch in the middle of the room sits **DEN** [Mid 50s or 60s, Long grey hair, and wearing an old combat fatigues jacket.] Sitting on the ground next to him is **NED** [2, Golden Retriever] his guide dog.

Ava

This will be your room, Den, your roommate, and his guide dog, Ned are here so you can meet them, Den is your prospective roommate. Say hi guys.

Kenny
Oh, Hey Den.

Den
No, it's just Den...Ava, how many more of these tours are you giving today?

Ava
These will be the last guys today. Then I'll get out of your hair.

Kenny
Wow, but it looks **GREAT** in here.

Ava
What's that?

Jason
He said it smells **GREAT** in here.

Ava (suspicious)
Oh...

Jason
Mind if I have a look...er have a feel around?

Ava
Yeah...go ahead.

Jason moves around with his cane, he carelessly knocks over a mic stand next to a keyboard. Kenny reflexively catches and uprights the mic. Ava turns around quickly, just barely missing the scene.

Den
Whoops, sorry. I must've left my music stuff out.

Kenny (feeling around)
Oh you play...keyboard?

Den
Nah, I just like to mess with the pre-set tunes and pretend I'm
Stevie Wonder.

Kenny nods, it is unclear whether or not this is a joke.
A housekeeper **AMY** [18, Cute, Fresh from High School] knocks on
the doorframe and enters.

Amy
Den, I brought you fresh towels. Where do you want them?

Den
Throw them on the dresser.

Amy
Aye-cap'n

Den
Last time I was called Captain, I was torching huts in Grenada.

Amy
Sounds fun! I bet you had a blast there!

Den
I *blasted* alright...2 gallons of napalm at a time the things I
saw there were-

Ava
Hey guys, this is Amy, she's Den's housekeeper

Amy
Helloooooo!

Jason
Howdy

Kenny (Ever the flirt)

Hey, I love your hair!

Amy
Um...Thanks!

Ava (Convinced)
Okay, I already mentioned all the amenities and utilities, do
you guys have any questions?

Kenny
Nope, I think we're good.

Ava
Okay, once we're finished going through all the applications,
I'll let you know, and we can get started on the deposit.

Jason
Thank you so much, we'll find our way down. Bye.

Kenny and Jason exit

Amy
See you later Den!

Amy exits

Ava
Hrrrrmmph!

Ava exits

Fade to:

INT. Dani's Apartment-Living Room-Night

Dani is cooking on the stove, Kenny is folding his laundry. The
Studio layout of the apartment allows us to see them both at
once. Kenny's phone buzzes in his pocket. He pauses mid fold and
answers.

Kenny
Hello?
Yeah speaking.
Really? Say that's great!
Yes.
Yes.

As soon as possible.
Yeah does Thursday work to drop of my deposit?
Excellent.
Thank you **so** much!
Okay.
Bye.
Oh I will.
Bye.

Kenny hangs up

Kenny
Hey Dani, I got an apartment!

Dani
Oh yeah? What's it called.

Kenny
Collins's Assist...uh Collins's Acres Apartments.

Dani
So when can I stop cooking for you?

Kenny
We should be moved in by next week! Oh, I gotta call Jason and
tell him the news.

CUT TO:

INT. Collins's Assisted Living Apartments-Back Office-Night

Ava hangs up a wall-phone with a long cord and turns to face
SANDRA [late 60s, matronly], she is slightly overweight as a
result of sitting in a wheelchair. The camera pans down as Ava
takes a seat to be at eye level with her.

Sandra
You givin' that room to those two younger boys, then?

Ava
*Sighs...*yeah I guess.

Sandra
I thought you said those guys were...

Ava
Faking it?

Sandra
Yeah, pretendin' to be blind and such.

Ava
I have a strange hunch but... why would they do that?

Sandra
People are desperate nowadays

Ava
Because?

Sandra
It costs a bundle to live in this city, just last week I saw the old deaf man in room 35 listening to a CD player. When I tapped on his shoulder he fell to his knees thanking the Lord for being "healed." Point is, they wouldn't be the first.

Ava
Unfortunately, they had the strongest application and demonstrated the most need for the room. Even though I'm 99 percent sure they are sighted, if they filed a discrimination lawsuit, the Department of Transportation would have my ass, and my job.

Sandra (Chuckling)
You don't mess with the ADA, that's for sure.

Ava
My only option is to catch them acting, or get some...kinda proof.

Sandra
Ha, this will be interestin'. Keep me updated.

Ava
Sure thing...

Sandra exits

Ava sits with her head on her hands.

FADE TO:

A phone conversation between Kenny and Jason, Kenny is in his sister's apartment, Jason is in his parents' house.

Jason
Hello?

Kenny
I've got news!

Jason
Good or bad?

Kenny
Good for us, bad for all the foxy handicapped chicks in
COLLINS'S ASSISTED LIVING APARTMENTS!

Jason
You mean they bought it?

Kenny
Yeah can you believe it!

Jason
To be honest I was hoping we'd get turned down. I feel kinda
crappy about this one.

Kenny
Hey but we finally found a place in this overpriced city! Now I
don't have to worry about being late for work, and you don't
have to stay with the two walking **DNRs** anymore.

Jason
Yeah, but what if someone needs the room more than us?

Kenny
The manager lady says we "demonstrated the most need" for it.
Meaning, that we earned it.

Jason
BUT WE AREN'T BLIND!

Kenny
You're blind to a good deal when you see one!

Jason
Maybe I am, but now we have to pretend that we are blind
everyday.

Kenny
Yeah but I work everyday and we can just stay out later and only
use the apartment for sleeping. Plus we have that cute maid to
do our shopping and laundry.

Jason
You're not helping me feel like less of a scumbag. This is just
until we find something else alright?

Kenny
Whatever, man. See you Monday.

Jason
Yeah...Bye

The call ends

FADE TO:

INT. Collins's Assisted Living Apartments-Room 42-Next Week

Kenny and Jason sit in the room as movers bring their boxes in.
Den sits petting Ned. Jason taps his cane around haphazardly,
Kenny plays his like an air-guitar. Ava enters the room.

Ava (Unenthusiastically)
Alright guys, the movers are getting the last of your boxes.
We'll have your bedrooms and mattresses finished tomorrow
morning, so you can move in that evening.

Kenny
Sounds great! Any more housekeeping we gotta look after?

Um... I mean work on?

Ava (Teeth Gritted)

Nope, everything's good to go. We'll see you tomorrow.

Jason

Okee doke.

Jason pets Ned and heads for the door.

Kenny

Bye Den, bye Ned!

Kenny pets Den on his greying head.

Den

Grrrr.

Kenny

Oh

Jason

Feisty , ain't he?

Kenny and Jason leave.

Den

Ava? I have a question.

Ava

Yeah Den?

Den

You ever kill a man?

Ava

I'd certainly like to...

Den

I have. Held pints of blood in my cupped hands, actually, that was a bad nosebleed, but the sentiment still stays. Like my blindness that I got from a flashbang during the Grenada

Invasion. In all my years I never seen a hellhole like that place. Fire everywhere, bodies strewn in the streets. My whole platoon was wiped out by a miscalculated bombing run...so many arms missing, legs flying...ears bleeding...don't forget the mosquitos-

Ava

Um... I gotta go Den.

Ava leaves.

Den looks around, removes his sunglasses and tosses his cane aside and skips over to the fridge. He grabs a beer and flops back down on the couch and turns on a baseball game. He watches intently.

Den

Finally gone eh Ned. I thought they'd never get out of here.

CUT TO:

Title Sequence that normally would go at the beginning of the episode. Followed by credits.