



INCOMPATIBLE

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Incompatible

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December 10, 2020
Third Draft

Made in Highland

ACT I

INT. NEW YORK SUBWAY STATION - DAY

Quick Montage of commuters. One person is eating, others are listening to a busker. Two are swiping through a dating app, matching with each other, and not noticing the each other.

A young man, JASON PATEL (24), is struggling to get through a subway turnstile. The middle aged commuter behind him clears their throat.

JASON

Uh, it's just not going right now.
Hold on a second.

Jason frantically swipes his card, but the turnstiles don't budge. Jason steps aside and lets the commuter through. A large family of tourists slam oversized bags into Jason's body as they hustle past. While holding his crushed foot, a young woman CARRIE (26), hands Jason her card.

CARRIE

Don't bother, it's busted.

JASON

Who?

CARRIE

Not you, genius, the turnstile.
Use that one on the end.

JASON

Oh, uh thank you.

As they push through the turnstile together, Jason's hips touch Carrie's and he lunges forward to get through, the security bars whirl forward and Jason falls face first into grimy subway tile (Turnstiles really have it out for him today).

JASON

Its all cool beans! Im, uh, okay.

CARRIE

Well at lest you didn't dive into
that green puddle over there.

Carrie helps him up and they stand on the platform waiting for their trains.

CARRIE

Im Carrie

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JASON

Hi
(beat)
Oh my name! It's Jason.

CARRIE

Are you new to the city or something? I remember being a total disaster when I moved here.

JASON

Nope, I take the L train to work everyday.

Carrie's tries not to laugh, She cant believe this guy.

CARRIE

Oh good, I won't have to give you directions then.

JASON

Both home and the tech startup I work for are right next to the station. I, uh, designed it that way.

Carrie snorts.

CARRIE

Looks like you've got it all figured out then.

JASON

Uhh...Yeah, I guess so

CARRIE

It's cool that you work for a startup. Ive always wanted to start something on my own. Ya Know, like Banksy? He did his own thing and now everybody says he reinvented street art.

JASON

Yeah totally! The Banksy style of disruption is a huge influence at my job.

CARRIE

I wish. I write corporate tweets, so I just spend my day making soul- sucking capitalism look semi- human.

Jason laughs.

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JASON

Yeah I gotta work everyday to keep suits from turning my company into the jerks that need sell-out writers to make them seem human.

CARRIE

Excuse me?

JASON

Oh No! not you. I was just joking around. Like, um, in general.

CARRIE

Well my train is almost here.

JASON

Wait! Whats your, um, e-mail?

CARRIE

Are you on Smoldr instead? I only date on Smoldr because it shows people with the same interests as mine. For all I know, you could be a serial killer.

Jason looks incredulous. Carrie holds shows him her profile. Her interests are listed as "tech startups and British humor"

JASON

Oh, uh sorry, I , um, I don't actually have a Smoldr.

Jason nervously stuffs his hands in his pockets.

CARRIE

Don't feel bad! You wanna meet people the old fashioned way. Its cute. But hey, if you get on Smoldr, maybe we can match and grab a latte sometime.

Carrie's train arrives and she gets on. She turns around and the busker starts to play a romantic ballad. Jason looks up with hope in his eyes.

CARRIE

Jason!

JASON

Yes!

CARRIE

Give me back my metro...

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The train doors shut and Carrie speeds away. Jason is left looking dumb struck.

TITLE CARD - INCOMPATIBLE

INT. SMOLDR HQ - DAY

A Trendy company with stylish but uncomfortable looking desk chairs. There is a huge sign on the wall with the Smoldr logo saying "when the spark is gone, go Smoldr"

Gaby Gutierrez (26), a tall Latina in even taller heels, is holding an iPad and looking through pie charts. She swipes and scowls when the last Graph is missing.

GABY

MARNIE!

A mousy looking intern nearly falls over herself, ready to do Gabby's bidding.

GABY

Where's my weekly tend report?

Marnie Blanches.

MARNIE

I, I uploaded it 2 seconds ago.

GABY

Well it wasn't there when I was looking. Now Im going to be behind schedule for the rest of the day.

She taps her iPad showing a meticulously organized calendar. Jason walks in behind her as she taps the iPad again.

JASON

Gaby, what have I told you about tapping the glass? It scares the interns.

GABY

You're not off the hook yet.

Gaby whips around and follows Jason into his office. Jason groans as he sits down at his chair, he looks out the window.

GABY

And neither are you Jason! Being the CEO does not give you permission to skip my 9 am briefing.

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JASON
Good morning to you too Gaby.
Sorry, subway trouble.

GABY
Well I guess that just means the
afternoon berating will be even
longer.

Jason sighs looking exhausted.

JASON
Can you just bring me up to speed
now?

GABY
Fine. I really want to break 5
million followers by the end of
fall, but we really need some
synergy-

JASON
Uh huh, sure. Just launch it.

GABY
Jason! Look alive!

Jason jumps and some of the action figures on his desk fall
over.

GABY
You're usually so sharp when you
come in, what's up with you?

Jason tries to look engrossed in the paperwork on his desk.

JASON
Wow lots of followers! Whats the
plan?

GABY
Too late for that, tell me whats
on your mind.

JASON
It's the train.

GABY
Oh god, was it the Mariachi band
from 54th and 3rd?

JASON

No, This girl and I really hit it off, but, well, she only dates on Smldr.

GABY

Oh you're getting back out there.

GABY (CONT'D)

By any chance do you think she would be willing to focus group for-

JASON

Gaby.

GABY

Sorry, Im happy for you, really. Its just that the guys on Smldr, are well, not always the sharpest knives.

JASON

I never knew you dated on Smldr.

The two make awkward eye contact followed.

GABY

It's efficient for rebounds.

(a beat)

Listen, Im sure she just thought a smart guy like you was too good to be true. Try talking to her again next time you see her on the train.

Jason nods.

JASON

Thanks Gaby.

INT. JASON'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jason walks through his apartment door looking exhausted. The living room is a modern and expensive penthouse. He shuts the door and his best friend/resident squatter, FRANK

- a, hairy, unkempt, and half asleep couch potato wearing designer sweats - looks up.

FRANK

Hey brah, how was work?

JASON

Hey Frank. It was alright I guess.

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He wanders over and sits on the couch beside Frank. Frank moves out of his reclined position to sit up excitedly.

FRANK

Great! Because I have a proposition for you.

JASON

Frank if this is about putting the highway of tubes in the walls so a hamster can spy on the girl in 2B, it still counts as stalking.

Frank looks disappointed but shakes his head.

FRANK

No, this is better. Im entering the Brooklyn Documentary Film Festival with a movie about YOU.

JASON

Im impressed, but the last time you cast me I got all wide eyed and couldn't say anything.

FRANK

Thats just your personality, which isn't important. You are the creator and CEO of Smoldr!

JASON

I rather not be reminded about what I do for a living right now.

FRANK

The theme this year is career and dating. At work you help people date, or at least get em' to hook up. Either way, you would get me into this festival for sure! If I win, I could finally move into my own place.

JASON

Let's not get ahead of ourselves, what happened to making documentaries about traffic signals?

FRANK

I need to explore new things to grow as an artist.

JASON
(Sarcastically)
Really? But I thought Yield signs
were so compelling!

FRANK
So did I!

FRANK (CONT'D)
But the judges last year said it
needed more "movement." You more a
little more than a stop sign.

JASON
Alright, you can film me at work
tomorrow and on Monday. Just don't
distract the interns.

FRANK
Rodger that Captain!

INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY

Jason and Frank are standing at the platform where Jason met
Carrie. Frank is trying to get a close up of Jason, but Jason
is just looking around.

FRANK
Jason Patel, genius of love, takes
the train just like everyone else.

JASON
Frank Im trying to focus.

Jason looks around some more and but no sign of Carrie.

FRANK
Overwhelmed by work, the CEO of
Smolldr almost misses his train.

JASON
What?

FRANK
Trains leaving bro.

JASON
Gaby's gonna kill me. Let's move!

Jason grabs frank and pulls him onto the train.

INT. JASONS OFFICE @ SMOLDER HQ - THE NEXT DAY

Jason is sitting at his desk. Its littered with more office toys, including, a Furby sitting on the corner of the desk.

Frank is next to him, moving up and down in a swivel chair while holding his camera. He reaches for the Furby and Jason moves it to the other side of the desk.

Gaby barges in with her signature iPad/clipboard apparatus of organization. Frank points the Camera at Jason, ready for another intrusive closeup.

JASON
Hey Gaby, what's up?

GABY
Thats funny.

JASON
Uh, what is?

GABY
That you forgot about whats upstairs right now.

JASON
Oh crap the board meeting! Owen is gonna be such a dick.

GABY
Yep.

JASON
Remind me why hired him?

GABY
He had money and we didn't.

JASON
Right and ow late am I?

GABY
30 minutes

Jason looks horrified.

GABY
But I just sent an intern on a coffee run.

JASON
What would I do without you?

GABY
Probably go bankrupt.

JASON
Probably.

Jason gets up to go and Frank follows.

JASON
Sorry buddy, this meeting is for
board members only.

FRANK
No biggie, I'll just hang here.

Jason and Gaby leave. Frank, now alone, reaches for the Furby.
It makes an electronic squeak and Frank jumps back.

INT. SMOLDR HQ, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Jason and Gaby walk into a modern conference room full of
twenty-somethings typing and drinking coffee. OWEN, a "tall,
dark, and handsome" man wearing a too-tight designer suit sits
at the head of the table.

OWEN
If we get more investors from
pharmaceutical companies to
advertise experimental medicine in
the app, we can really boost ad
revenue.

The interns type vigorously.

OWEN
Oh hey, glad you could finally
join us boss.

JASON
Morning, sorry about the wait
guys. Let's get to the first order
of business. Gaby, you have a
presentation on the follower goal?

OWEN
Well that brings me to my next
idea to increase advertising
revenue. Just let me finish.

Owen flashes a used car salesman smile. Gaby rolls her eyes but
gives Owen the floor.

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OWEN

Jason is the face of Smoldr, but users don't know who he is.

JASON

I created the algorithm and-

OWEN

Yeah nobody cares.

OWEN

To attract new users and keep current users interested, Jason will create his own profile.

JASON

Woah, a profile for me? I'm a big picture guy, and talking to users, um gosh, well outside my job description.

OWEN

Jason, your'e missing the big pitcure.It's all about image buddy.

JASON

Buddy?

Gaby steps in.

GABY

I hate to admit it, but Owen is right.

JASON

What?

GABY

Users should know and trust who the face of the company is. Plus it will easily take us into the quarterly follower goal!

JASON

I have the final say on decisions like this. So there's no use ganging up on me.

GABY

Besides, You could match with someone you really hit it off with, or reconnect with a past fling.

She gives Jason a knowing look.

JASON
Reconnect?

GABY
I promise it will be fun!

GABY (CONT'D)
Worst case scenario, it's an
experiment in how well the
algorithm works for you.

JASON
Alright fine. How long do I have
to do this?

GABY
Great! Now we just need pictures
for your profile.

JASON
Gaby!

GABY
Just until Monday! Okay, meeting
adjourned. Go back to your
keyboards.

The twenty somethings type vigorously.

INT. JASON'S OFFICE @ SMOLDER HQ - MOMENTS LATER

Gaby drags Jason by the arm into his own office. Frank is
looking in Jason's desk drawers and filming its contents.

FRANK
Jason Patel uses this double sided
tape to keep couples together in
these modern times.

GABY
Frank!

Frank quickly slams the drawers closed, but its jammed so he
has to slam it several times.

FRANK
What? Who?

The Furby chirps and he recoils back again.

GABY

Stop fooling around, I need you to photograph Jason.

FRANK

Ooo are we thinking Puppies or Glitter? Or how about a shot of Jason covered in glitter and holding a puppy? This will be great for my documentary you know.

Jason cuts in by standing between them.

JASON

I'll decide how I embarrass myself to my users.

FRANK

Awe, bummer

JASON

How about a simple headshot?

FRANK

With puppies?

JASON

I don't mind that but where would we even find one?

GABY

Just photoshop one in, half our users photoshop their pictures anyway.

ACT II

INT. JASON'S OFFICE @ SMOLDR HQ- NIGHT

While frank takes some pensive night shots in the back ground, Jason is putting the finishing touches on his profile. He presses 'okay' on a photo with him and a puppy photoshopped in his arms.

JASON

Gaby approved profile, check.

He lists his interests as theoretical math, and... he writes dogs but then changes it to British humor.

JASON

Date with my dream girl...

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Frank breaks something in the background loudly.

JASON
Pending. Come one Frank, let's go
home.

Quick montage of Jason swiping is his apartment over the weekend.

INT. JASON'S APARTMENT - FRIDAY NIGHT

Jason and Frank sit on their couch eating pizza and watching TV. We can't see the screen, but they are watching a British sitcom.

Jason swipes while carefully looking at each profile. None of them are Carrie, so he rejects them.

FRANK
Jason?

Jason doesn't look up.

JASON
Yeah buddy

FRANK
I don't get this.

JASON
Neither do I.

INT. JASONS APARTMENT - SATURDAY MORNING

Jason is snoozing in a luxurious looking king sized bed. His drool cancels out any dignity the expensive surroundings give him.

Frank stealthily rises up from the other side of the bed, trying to get a compelling shot of the snoozing CEO.

FRANK
Helping people fall in love is an
exhausting business, even for
übermensch Jason Patel.

Jason snores and rolls over. Frank uses this as an opportunity to get an aerial shot. He stands on the bed, straddling Jason and uses an obnoxiously long zoom lens to get really close in.

FRANK
So peaceful...

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Jason jumps awake knocking Frank off the bed.

JASON
Frank! Not while I am sleeping!

INT. JASONS APARTMENT - SUNDAY MORNING

Jason and Frank are playing a board game together.

FRANK
That strategy is a fools errand.

JASON
If you assume we are playing the
Cambridge rules, but we agreed on
the Oxford variation.

FRANK
Wait, Nooooo!

We can now see they are playing shoots and ladders. Franks
phone buzzes and he looks at it.

FRANK
Well I have to go anyway. Meeting
for coffee with that girl I
matched with yesterday.

JASON
Have fun.

Frank leaves and Jason sets up the board to play against
himself.

INT. JASONS APARTMENT - SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Jason is still playing the game when Frank comes back, with
Jessica, an attractive blond. They don't even acknowledge
Jason.

JASON
Hi Frank.

They don't notice.

JASON
Please, um, could you, like, use
the guest room this time.

JESSICA
Whatever. Let's just be done by
nine. I wanna catch up on
housewives.

They make out into the hallway and offscreen.

JASON

Uh, It was nice meeting you.

Jason looks through Smolldr. No one has responded to his messages. He searches for the name "Carrie" but there are no matches with that name.

Jason puts the phone down and switches on the TV, defeated.

INT. JASON'S APARTMENT - LATER

Jason is on the couch, eating cheese doodles and watching a nature documentary. Two animals are fighting to the death. Jason feels like the loser.

Jessica walks out from the hallway and leaves. Both avoid eye contact with each other. As soon as the door shuts, Frank walks out a conquering hero.

FRANK

Oooo, I love this show! It's so funny when the weak ones die.

JASON

Uh I don't know. I think they put up a fight.

Frank Shrugs.

FRANK

He still loses his head.

Jason rubs the back of his neck self consciously.

JASON

You think she will call you again?

FRANK

Who?

JASON

Jessica.

FRANK

Nah. Just a Smolldr hookup. You know how it is.

Jason slams the barrel of cheese doodles on the coffee table.

JASON

Actually I don't know how it is. Im created the damn App and I can't get this girl Carrie to match with me!

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FRANK

Wait, you talked to a woman? Like
and actual woman, who doesn't work
at Smolldr

JASON

I met her on the Subway We really
hit it off and she gave me her
metro card.

FANK

How did you get her metro card but
not her number?

JASON

Thats not the point. I cant even
get a woman I already know AND
LIKE to match with me.

FRANK

Jason, now I think you're missing
the point. It's its your app. Just
change your algo-thingy.

JASON

The algorithm is a carefully
crafted equation that matches
people based on their interests,
preferred news organization, and
childhood celebrity crush. I will
not mess with it.

FRANK

Broski, I was with you when you
"crafted" that equation. You were
very high and sleep deprived. You
are a genius, but you also got
struck by lightning. Maybe if you
tweak the algo-whatever, maybe
lightning will strike again with
Carmen.

JASON

Its Carrie.

FRANK

Whatever just, remember it's up to
you.

Frank grabs the cheese doodles off the coffee table and walks
out munching a handful of them.

Jason walks over to the window and looks out at the New York
City Skyline.

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JASON
I know you are out there,
somewhere. I just need...

He looks down at his phone.

JASON
Lightning?

He goes back to the couch and pulls out his laptop and He gets to work.

INT. JASONS APARTMENT - DAY

Jason hasn't moved from his spot. He looks exhausted and has cheese doodle dust all over his hoodie.

He leans back on the couch.

JASON
Finally...

He hits a key on the computer

JASON
Done. I hope this works.

Carefully he picks up his phone and swipes though Smoldr like he just diffused a bomb. After two swipes, he matches with Carrie.

Jason nearly drops his phone with excitement.

JASON
FRANK!

Frank wanders in wearing fluffy bathrobe and boxers.

FRANK
Jason what are you doing up at this hour? It's not even noon thirty.

JASON
I did it! I matched with her. Oh god I matched with her. What do I do now?

FRANK
Calm down Casanova. Just Say Hi.

Jason picks the phone back up. Carefully he opens the profile and starts typing.

At first Jason types "greetings and salutations."

FRANK

No that makes you sound like E.T

JASON

What about - Hows it hangin on the flippity side?

Frank just looks at Jason like he's the idiot now.

JASON

No? I thought it sounded cool.

FRANK

No, for once don't over think something.

JASON

Okay how about...

Jason starts to type "AYO SHAWTY" but Frank grabs it and just types the word "hi." He hits send

JASON

AH! What did you do?!

Jason lunges for the phone but Frank, who is taller, holds it just out of reach.

FRANK

Just wait 4 more seconds.

An instant later the phone pings. Its a message from Carrie saying "Hey! You're that guy from the L train. Lets grab coffee, you still owe me a metro card lol".

FRANK

I just got you your dream girl.

JASON

Oh my god frank, how do I thank you?!

FRANK

Thank me by being yourself. She already likes you dude.

(A beat)

Actually can you pick up beer and ramen after work? I like to mix em together.

JASON

Thats disgusting, but okay.

Jason looks at his watch.

JASON
Shoot! I got to get to work. And
you gotta make your documentary!
let's go!

FRANK
Awe cant I sleep a little longer.
An artist needs his rest.

JASON
Come On!

Jason bolts out the door and frank groans as he follows.

JASON (O.S.)
Frank! Put on some pants.

Frank groans as he comes back in, puts on pants and a t shirt,
grabs his camera, and walks out.

INT. SMOLDR HQ - DAY

Jason and Frank walk into the office, Jason has a dopey love
struck expression across his face. Frank pans his camera around
the office.

FRANK
Back at another day of love
central, for CEO Jason Patel.

Marnie ambushes Jason, getting really close to Frank's Camera
and we see it from the camera's P.O.V

MARNIE
It's unbelievable. You guys gotta
get out of here, before she finds
you.

Marnie's mouth breathing fogs up the camera and she runs away.
Frank's phone beeps.

FRANK
Huh, I didn't know my cousin Larry
was on Smolldr...and liked me that
way.

Jason's blissful ignorance is finally broken by the sound of
Gabby's heels clomping towards him.

JASON
I know shed be mad that I came in
late.

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GABY
 JASON! Where have you been!

JASON
 Oh you know, helping with Frank's
 documentary.

Jason puts Frank in front of him like a human shield. Gaby has a coffee stain all over her top and her signature slicked back ponytail is frizzed out everywhere. Frank holds up his camera and the automatic zoom moves the lens closer to Gaby.

FRANK
 When you yell at him, try to look
 pensive.

Gaby shoves Frank to the side and he yelps.

GABY
 You and I need to do damage
 control right now!

JASON
 Wait, damage control? Its
 just 5 minutes past 9:00!

FRANK
 I told you they wanted buidoir
 profile photos.

GABY
 Oh no no. You have no idea Jason
 Patel.

She drags him over to a large screen in the lobby of the office and flicks it on to a conservative news channel. The Chiron says "Smoldr? More like incest dumpster fire"

FRANK
 Wow cable news has really gone
 downhill.

GABY
 Listen!

She turns the volume up.

NEWS ANCHOR
 Millions of users on the popular
 dating app, Smoldr, woke up to a
 disturbing update this morning as
 the app's proprietary software
 replaced all their matches with
 the profiles of their family and
 relatives. Have the youths of the
 nation gone too far? Are we doomed
 to a future of inbreeding? More
 after this.

The tv switches to an erectile disfunction commercial for men over 70 and Gaby mutes it.

JASON

Oh Fu-

Gaby grabs Jason as she yanks him into his personal office, Frank follows. In the background, The twenty somethings from before are trying to fan smoke away from a desktop computer and an intern is hiding under a desk.

GABY

Last night our software decided to perform Seppuku on itself and the algorithm is completely corrupted.

JASON

Okay, okay. Has tech been able to locate the bug?

Gaby starts pacing back and fourth.

GABY

I have the entire tech team on it. I even burned through 7 interns - actually 8 including Marnie - and the bug is impossible to find. Its like someone put it there.

Jason shits his weight.

GABY

We only have one option.

JASON

Shit, that means.

GABY

Total reboot.

Jason looks askance and starts pacing as much as Gaby. Frank slowly puts up his camera to capture the freakout.

JASON

Users will loose all their matches I'll never- uh users may never meet up for dates they planned.

Gaby laughs. It's a somewhat unhinged and nervous laugh. Like Smolldr, she's one glitch short of a total melt down.

GABY

Oh ho ho, It gets way worse.

Gaby taps on her iPad and turns it around to show a quickly dropping follower count. Jason winces.

JASON GABY

Yikes We have lost 12,000
instagram and facebook followers
in the Last hour. This sets us
back 2 and a half quarter and Im
not even gonna mention the fall
quarter follower goal. We have to
reboot the app now, before it
gets worse.

JASON

We don't have to be too hasty,
lets just brainstorm-

GABY

Brainstorm?! Jason I matched with
my gross uncle Geene this morning.
I didn't know they allowed
smartphones in prison!

FRANK

Hahah ew! You gonna message him?

Gaby lunges at him like a Silverback Gorilla about to rip a rival's face off. Frank backs up trying to get this all on camera.

FRANK

Oooo this is a great wide shot!

Just before Gaby can make contact with her prey, Jason steps in and holds her by the shoulders.

JASON

Gaby! Calm down!

GABY

I AM CALM

FRANK

Somehow I don't believe you...

GABY

FRANK!

Gaby lunges forward again and Jason has to physically block her from the front. At that exact moment Owen walks in and all three stop dead in their tracks.

OWEN
Woah did I walk in on something
again?

Jason steps away immediately and tries to clear his throat but gets into a coughing fit instead. Frank swivels his camera on Owen.

GABY
Absolutely not. What do you want.

OWEN
Im gonna save smldr.

JASON
Owen now is not the time for one
of your corporate sell out
strategies.

OWEN
Jason, you underestimate me, which
makes me sad. Especially because I
got us an exclusive segment with
on Conservative Cable News.

JASON
What that's amazing!

Gaby perks up and smooths out her shirt, but her hair still looks like a rats nest.

GABY
Okay, okay. This could buy us some
time to patch the bug.

JASON
And we wouldn't have to reboot!
When is your interview?

OWEN
In 20 minutes.

GABY
Shit, Frank can you film?

FRANK
for sure! But one more question.

GABY
Yes?

GABY

Will uncle Geene want to double
date when he gets out of prison?

INT. SMOLDR HQ, CONFERENCE ROOM

Frank sits with his camera hooked up to a laptop computer.

Owen sits down in front of Frank and straightens his tie as
Frank composes the shot.

GABY

Remember, stick to the script. We
just need damage control.

Generic news music plays and Jason and Gaby scramble to the
other end of the room to watch the video feed on a laptop.

NEWS ANCHOR

We are back with Smolldr Board
member and social media mogul,
Owen Lucas.

OWEN

Great to be here Kathy. But I
really see myself as a media
visionary.

Jason and Gaby roll their eyes.

NEWS ANCHOR

Sure. Does incest-gate signal a
permanent change in Smolldr's
culture and leadership?

OWEN

Incest-gate, is a completely
random computer glitch.

Jason and Gaby are relieved and relax a bit in their chairs.

Jason looks down at his phone and its a text from Carrie that
says "Hey! Can I get a raincheck? Things are crazy at work
today LOL." Jason sinks lower into his seat.

OWEN

But Smolldr's leadership could
change any moment. Personally, I
see the company merging with a
international business
conglomerate in the next six
months.

(MORE)

OWEN (CONT'D)

If, hypothetically, the incest model is successful I don't see why we cant bring that to international markets with corporate resources.

NEWS ANCHOR

So you are saying you want to spread incest globally?

OWEN

No no, not at all! Im just saying I love making money and if we can do that with incest and corporate sponsorship then Im all for it.

Jasons and Gaby's jaws drop.

NEWS ANCHOR

You heard it here folks. Smoldr is coming to steal your honest jobs in America's heartland with Incest and corporate lobbying.

OWEN

Wait thats not-

NEWS ANCHOR

Thats all the time we have today. Up next, how are robots out to corrupt our children?

Frank pans to Jason and Gaby's horrified faces (P.O.V from frank's camera).

OWEN

Uh, guys were on air.

Their horrified faces swivel towards the camera.

GABY

Frank Cut!

Gaby reaches for the camera and the video goes dark.

ACT III

INT. JASON'S OFFICE @ SMOLDER HQ

Jason and Gaby sit with their heads in their hands at Jason's desk, while Owen and Frank stand to the sides awkwardly.

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GABY

We're already trending on twitter.
Reddit has meme'd us. This is a
disaster.

The furby on Jason's desk turns on and chirps happily.

FURBY

This is a disaster!

Gaby slaps the furby off the table with pure rage.

GABY

Why do you even have that thing?!

JASON

I use him to take dictation! Don't
hurt Lord Tyrion!

Frank leans into Jason so get him stroking the furby gingerly.
Owen clears his throat confidently.

OWEN

We could try to get a spot on this
other show, I have a contact in-

Gaby slams her palms on the table.

GABY

No you've done enough today! I
think you need to leave. Jason and
I need to make some decisions.

Owen looks a little hurt but turns to Frank.

OWEN

Come on Frank, I'll buy you a
smoothie.

They exit.

GABY

We need to reboot Smoldr if we
wanna get out of this.

JASON

I don't know, what if we launch a
campaign-

GABY

Jason! You have been stalling all
day! Give me one reason why we
shouldn't reboot!

JASON
Fine! It's Carrie.

GABY
Who?

JASON
The girl from the subway!

GABY
Oh. Thats surprising. Your'e still into her? Because usually you lose interest when- Forget it. what does she have to do with this anyway?

JASON
I changed the algorithm so I could match with her. Then shit hit the fan and now I might never see her again and-

GABY
YOU DID THIS FOR A GIRL?! YOU OF ALL PEOPLE-

JASON
Gaby, Gaby. I know this looks bad but once you understand-

GABY
IM NOT THROUGH WITH YOU YET! How could you risk everything for her? You barely know her! How could you do this to Smoldr? How could you do this to me!

JASON
She's just...Ive just never met anyone like her. I want a relationship. Someone to grab a beer with afterwork. Someone to go home with. Someone to try new things with. I just...I think she could be that person for me.

Gaby takes a step back, she looks at Jason like she doesn't recognize him.

GABY
That still doesn't excuse you for being careless! You are such...such an insecure selfish asshole!

(MORE)

GABY (CONT'D)
 You needed to ruin the company
 just to get a date with a girl!

Jason looks deeply hurt, it struck a nerve.

JASON
 I...I never saw it that way.

Jason looks down kicks the furby to avoid Gaby's gaze.

FURBY
 Insecure selfish asshole!

Gaby looks away now, a little guilty.

GABY
 Can you just change it back?

JASON
 I can, but if I change it, I
 would un-match with Carrie. If we
 reboot I would lose her too. Im
 stuck.

Gaby rolls her eyes and laughs, she can see the old Jason peeking through. Jason's face has a combination of whiplash and confusion.

GABY
 Jason, I thought you were dumb but
 now I know your an idiot

JASON
 Im sorry what?

GABY
 We have her phone number in our
 data base, you can just get it
 from there.

JASON
 So she was there the whole time?

Gaby looks away again. Hearing that was more painful than she thought it would be.

GABY
 Well I wouldn't say that was her
 experience but-

She reverts to her "Iron Lady" composure as types something out on her iPad and Jason's phone dings.

GABY

Here....This is her number, and the next number is the raise you are gonna give me to help you clean up this mess.

JASON

Gaby thank you, Im not sure if this is ethical, but thank you! We still have a problem what are we gonna do about Owen and this PR disaster?

GABY

Oh Im scheduling a massive press conference. And you are leading it MR.CEO.

JASON

Oh wow! Me...I just, um, that many people is like, wow...I

GABY

Oh there is no way out. You owe me.

JASON

Who am I to get in the way of your bidding.

GABY

Thats right. But never do this again or so help me!

Jason laughs.

JASON

Okay okay! With all the yelling you'd think you were my boss.

GABY

Don't push it Patel. Lets just go round up the troops and initialize the reboot.

JASON

God yes! I need today to be over.

Frank comes in carrying a smoothie and his camera.

FRANK

Reboot?

(MORE)

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FRANK (CONT'D)
Oh that would be perfect for act
two of my documentary!

Jason groans.

GABY
Come on, when this is all over
I'll buy you a beer.

INT. DIVE BAR - NIGHT

Jason, Gaby are sitting at a grimy dive bar, the kind that would make you feel sticky just by looking at it. They are drinking beers and laughing.

JASON
What was that anchor even talking
about? Stealing jobs from the
heartland? I didn't even want to
give Owen a Job!

Gaby snorts and nearly chokes on her beer.

JASON
Oh the snort! Haven't heard that
one in a while.

GABY
Shut up, it's only because this is
my second one.

Jason finishes his drink and slams it on the bar.

JASON
And this is my fourth. Hey, can I
get another one!

Gaby slides the fresh bottle of beer away from Jason.

GABY
We have work tomorrow. So when's
the big date?

JASON
That's the worst part! She
cancelled on me G.

GABY
Yikes. Maybe she doesn't deserve
your time.

JASON

Thats the part I don't get. I went through hell to find her, and I finally get to go out with her but I make a fool of myself and she cancels. I thought dating was supposed to be fun.

GABY

It is, but you gotta remember that Relationships don't take off as fast Smoldr, and they shouldn't. You gotta go through a few duds to find the right one for you.

Gaby and Jason looks into each others eyes for a second longer than they should have. Gaby leans in and closes her eyes when, Jason's phone buzzes.

Its another text from Carrie it reads "Hey! Sorry about leaving you hanging today. There's a Banksy Exhibit this weekend at the Met Brewer, wanna Come?"

Jason nearly jumps out of of his seat and Gaby whips back to a "non-romantic" distance.

JASON

Oh my God! I think I have a date with her!

Gaby tried hard to sound enthusiastic.

GABY

See, I told you. You just have to be patient.

JASON

You are amazing Gaby! I couldn't ask for a better friend. I gotta go home and study Banksy so Im ready for my date.

Gaby winces as he hugs her and runs out. Gaby puts her elbow on the bar and rests her head in her hand. She takes a long sip of her beer and sighs.

GABY

I need to stop being so patient...

FRANK

Hey! Can you do that again but from a different angle?

It's revealed that Frank is sitting on the other end of the bar holding his camera and recording Gaby.

GABY
Frank?! What are you doing here?

FRANK
I thought this would be a nice
ending.

End of Pilot.

Made in Highland

SMOLDER



SERIES LOGLINE

Jason Patel doesn't think he's asking for much, just some nice dates and someone to take to the office Christmas Party. But he has screwed himself over by creating the popular dating app, Smolder. Nonetheless, he is still (somewhat delusionally) optimistic about his search for a girlfriend. Every day, Jason will just try to keep Smolder afloat without sinking to the bottom of the dating pool.

SERIES OVERVIEW

Have you ever gone on an online date so bad that you wonder if the people running the site just do it to watch you suffer? Well, what if those people couldn't seem to find a connection either? On the surface, Jason Patel looks like your run of the mill socially anxious twenty-something looking for love in the big city. But he isn't another debt-drowned, couch surfing wannabe (That would be Jason's best friend and failed indie filmmaker, Frank Leone). No, Jason is the genius running the world's most popular dating app, Smoldr.

At work, Jason's PR Manager, Gaby Gutierrez, keeps Smoldr's lights on by launching social media campaigns, where Jason is (unfortunately for him) at the center of attention. Sometimes, he can weasel out of Gaby's efforts to put him in the spotlight with Frank's help, but he knows that there is no stopping her freight train of a one-track mind when she is determined to accomplish something. In reality, Gaby really cares about Jason, even if that means giving him a push (or shove) towards his full potential. Amid all this, we can always rely on the resident trust fund baby and executive board member, Owen Lucas, to keep Jason busy by constantly trying to develop corporate sell-out schemes for maximum profit. No matter their differences, they all want to see Smolder expand its reach out of New York and help the whole world find love (or just hook-up).

Outside the office, Jason is constantly finding himself free-falling into love too fast and with all the wrong people. Whether it's with a funny yet disinterested writer he meets on public transportation, a driven sexy executive who turns out to be a dominatrix or the pretty girl next door who simply can't seem to remember his name - Jason always seems to be left single and asking himself the question "Is there someone out there for me...or are they with someone else on Smolder?" The answer may be closer (and pushier) than he thinks.

Jason is only 24, but he has already made millions of dollars on his match-making algorithm and whether you call it blind optimism or a delusion he still believes in love. Jason will juggle running a global social media company, overcoming social anxiety in New York City, and finding his true love in a dating pool that always seems to be weighing other options.



SMOLDR



JASON PATEL



Although many people in the social media world would call him a recluse, he prefers the term “chronically awkward”. You see, his first true love was numbers. At six years old he derived complex equations by hand, and at twenty he invented an algo rhythm that helps millions of people date. But despite his brilliance, when it comes to romantic love he might as well be playing dodgeball. He is picked last and is usually left feeling like he was punched in the gut. Each day as the CEO of Smoldr, Jason will try to control the pandoras box of non-committal relationships he released on the New York City while also trying to find long lasting love within it.

GABY GUTIERREZ



In her interview, Gaby used her clipboard to intimidate Jason into giving her the job. As the head of PR and marketing at Smoldr, she uses it to keep Jason from running the company into the ground. Although she is tough on Jason and routinely pushes him out of his comfort zone, she truly cares for him as a friend and wants to help him build Smoldr into an empire. She has even bigger plans for herself and her dream of starting an international PR firm in her name. When she isn't freaking out over Instagram analytics, she is front and center at a high intensity spin class in Brooklyn.

FRANK LEONE



Jason met Peter sitting on his couch eating Captain Crunch. Six years later, Frank's is now a Smoldr super user, but his occupation as Jason's couch surfer and his refined cereal palette remain. As an openly bisexual man, he only gets off the couch to put the moves on anything that, well, moves. As a failed indie filmmaker, Frank spends his day trying to capture the essence of New York City without getting hit by a Bus. But most importantly, as Jason's best friend he's there to help Jason when he is down by dispensing nuggets of dating wisdom and a comforting plate of actual chicken nuggets.

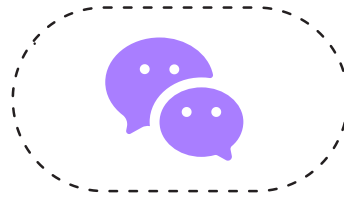
OWEN LUCAS



Some people are born with a silver spoon, but Owen was born with a platinum PC. As the son of a software giant, Owen has spent his life expected to become “the next big thing” but the only big thing he has done is waste six million investing on a rejected Shark Tank product. Smoldr is his last chance, and his last six million dollars to live up to his name. As a controlling stake holder in Smoldr, Owen uses his suave personality and too-tight designer suits to divert power away from Jason and take all the credit for Gaby's hard work.



SMOLDR



EPISODE IDEAS

Episode 2

Smoldr gets audited by IRS and the entire team has to work around the clock avoid going to federal prison for accidental tax fraud. Jason reminisces about how Smoldr has evolved since he started it in college and Gaby worries that the company is growing too fast. The two argue about the future of Smoldr and how hands-on they should be with the day to day. Frank somehow gets them out of the whole debacle by pulling some strings with his uncle, who says he's a lawyer but has dubious ties with

Episode 3

The press conference and museum date with Carrie (teased in the pilot) are both happening on the same day at the same time. Luckily, the press conference is around the block from the museum, unluckily, Jason makes a mess of being in two places at once. Meanwhile, Gaby is busy trying to keep Owen away from the Cameras.

Episode 4

Jason goes to a social media conference and gets a rebound date with a charming fellow CEO, Sandy. She also happens to be running a dominatrix dating website. As Sandy pursues him like a blood hound, Jason realizes that he needs to be more assertive in his business and personal lives. At the same conference Gabby struggles to get the attention of her business idol, the editor in chief DigitalCouture.com. All the while, Frank is locked in the hotel sauna. By the end, Gaby and Jason seriously reevaluate their career goals and Frank loses ten pounds.

Episode 5

The premiere of Frank's documentary gives Jason the chance to finally go on a redemption date Carrie. When Frank makes Jason look like an insecure jerk on the big screen, Jason must destroy Frank's big moment to get a real chance with Carrie. While watching Jason on the big screen, Gaby realizes she is still in love with Jason.

Episode 6

Gaby's pipes burst in her building, so she has to stay with Jason and Frank for a couple of days. This leads to co habitation and work chaos and increased tension about Gaby and Jason's romantic past. To stay out of the line of fire Frank and Owen strike up a friendship over a game of golf after discovering their parents belong to the same country club and they bond over the pressures of living in the shadow of their parent's success.

SMOLDR



PILOT OVERVIEW

Picture the most romantic place in the world. Now picture the New York City Subway, with all its sweat, grime, andsmells. Even though you feel like showering now, JASON PATEL thinks he has just met his dream girl, CARRIE LOMBARD, on his usual L-Train commute to work. He hits it off with Carrie but never gets her number because she only matches with men on Smolldr. Later, Jason gets to the office where GABY GUTIERREZ quickly corners him after traumatizing an innocent intern. She retracts her claws to grill Jason on why he didn't make it to her 9 am briefing. She mentions a quarterly follower goal that Smolldr should reach by the end of the month, and Jason clearly isn't listening. Gaby interrogates him until he finally admits he was late because he met someone on the subway. Gaby's reaction suggests that they have a history, but she puts it aside to give him some dating advice.

Jason goes home to discover that his best friend and resident couch surfer, FRANK LEONE, has decided to make a documentary all about him for a film festival. Jason wants nothing to do with it, but Frank uses his self-proclaimed "boyish charm" and Jason agrees to let him film over the next few days at work. The next day Frank is filming Jason at the office when Gaby reminds Jason about a meeting on social media strategy he is missing. At the meeting, OWEN LUCAS, an executive board member with the unbridled confidence of a frat boy, suggests making a Smolldr profile for Jason to better connect with users. Jason refuses but Gaby is on board because it would help with the follower goal. Gaby gets him to agree by teasing that he could match with Carrie if he participated. Over the weekend, Jason and Frank hang out while Jason swipes endlessly for Carrie. After striking out on Smolldr, Jason rants to Frank about not being able to understand the dating scene. Frank - in his simpleton-sage ways - reminds Jason that he practically created the modern dating scene and that he should just change the algorithm to work in his favor. After some back and forth with himself, Jason changes the algorithm and matches with Carrie the next morning.

Upon arriving at Smolldr HQ, Gaby tells him that people are only matching with their family members on the app because of a bug in the algorithm. They watch a segment on conservative cable news that calls the crisis incest-gate. Gaby announces that the only way to solve the issue is to reboot the app and delete all the matches that people have made since that morning. Jason realizes he would lose Carrie in the reboot and stalls by getting Owen to go on the conservative cable news show from earlier. For a moment, it looks like Owen saves the day, however, it goes off the rails when Owen starts fantasizing about corporate conglomeration. In the middle of this, Carrie cancels their date. They pull Owen off the air, but it's too late Smolldr's followers hit rock bottom, and so has Jason. Gaby starts to freak out while Jason continues to stall. Gaby kicks everyone out but Jason and goes all CSI on him, trying to get him to admit what is going on. Jason finally admits to changing the algorithm and stalling to keep Carrie as a match. Gaby goes ballistic and is genuinely a little hurt. Jason sincerely apologizes and Gaby hits him with an insult that really hurts him. Gaby sees the damage she did and feels guilty, so she goes into the Smolldr database to give Jason Carrie's number. The other Smolldr employees, and Frank, come back in to initialize the reboot. The app restarts, incest-gate is solved, and Jason heads home after smoothing things over with Gaby. But he is still worried about seeing Carrie again. Frank gives Jason a pep talk and suggests that relationships don't need to move at the speed of startups. The episode ends with Jason getting a date with Carrie to see an art exhibition at the Met from an artist they both like.



SMOLDR



SEASON ARCS

SEASON 1

The first season will follow Jason and Carrie's relationship, while also exploring the working relationships between Jason, Gaby, Owen and Frank. At Smoldr HQ, Jason will have to fight with Owen's dreams of corporate domination to get his ideas of finding true love using software across. Gaby will swoop in to keep things calm while Frank distracts everyone with his documentary project. Despite the chaos, Smoldr grows its user base and expands to overseas offices by the end of the season. As a socially clueless man and a hopeless romantic, Jason will try to win Carrie's heart the old-fashioned way, by overthinking it and with several disastrous romantic gestures.

By the end of the season, the two have (by some miracle) gotten to know each other but Jason struggles to work up the courage to ask her to be his girlfriend. He finally does it, just by being himself and not hiding behind any rom-com cliché. But she breaks his heart and turns him down, saying she doesn't want to be tied down to a single partner. At his lowest point, Frank, Gaby and Owen are there to pick Jason back up. In a moment of vulnerability Gaby nearly admits her feelings for Jason, leaving a cliff hanger for season two.

SEASON 2

Jason makes a 180 and tries to play the field using Smolder to meet multiple women. While still awkward, Jason just wants to wash out the bitter taste of Carrie's rejection. Gaby unknowingly hires Carrie for the PR department creating an awkward love triangle. Jason and Carrie start seeing each other again briefly and when that ends poorly Gaby transfers her to Smoldr's Beijing office. Meanwhile Frank's filmmaking career will start to take off and Gaby start to work towards starting her own fashion PR firm. With the possibility of her leaving Smoldr for good, she finally admits her feelings for Jason.

