

ALWAYS SUNNY IN PHILADELPHIA - SPEC SCRIPT

COLD OPEN

TITLES

A Wednesday - 11:30am -
Philadelphia, PA.

DENNIS (V.O.)

What? Nobody's saying that - open
your God damn ears when I talk,
Dee, I swear, if-

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

DENNIS is drinking behind the bar, DEE is sat across from him
with an open magazine.

DEE

Swear, Dennis! Do it. It's been a
good week for the jar.

MAC bursts into the pub.

MAC

(pumping his arms)
Oh man - hey, you guys! Charlie
found a way for me to communicate
with my dad.

DEE

Big whoop.

DENNIS

Is this the same way Charlie
believes he's communicating with
TV's Jack Bauer?

DEE

What happened to prison visitation?
Did he take you off the visitor
list?

MAC

(beat)
No - I can't speak to him because
he's still in the hospital.

DENNIS

(narrows his eyes)
Buuut he still took you off that
list, though, didn't he? For being
gay?

MAC
Come on...He tried to take his own
life.

DENNIS
(nodding)
...Because gay?

MAC
Yeah, he took me off the visitor's
list.

DENNIS
Boom! Worst father/son relationship
ever.

FRANK enters.

FRANK
EEHHHHHH!! Wrong!

CHARLIE follows him in, pushing a shopping cart of hobo
science supplies - it's junk, but CHARLIE keeps a 90's
keyboard on the top of the pile to indicate the technological
applications.

CHARLIE
(scoffs)
Uh? Uh? I'm sorry? Frank, how long
have you been doing this? I've gone
through trial and error-like, how
many trials have you...

FRANK
Charlie, you've been at this for a
day.

CHARLIE
Yeah, so, still longer than you.
Guys-GUYS!

CHARLIE wheels his cart to the gang - FRANK plops onto a
stool and pulls out his blackberry, and a snack-sausage.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Who wants to do a nice flat line?

DEE
Oh, no-no-no-no-no-
DENNIS
Nope. Not uh, can't really...

DENNIS (CONT'D)
Charlie, I'm clean.

FRANK
You're drinking a beer.

DENNIS

Clean isn't the same as sober,
Asshat.

DENNIS throws a quarter off camera - it CLINGS on something.

CHARLIE

I don't mean a line of cocaine-

DEE pulls out a chip/coin from a recovery group.

DEE

Yeahhh, but our cleanliness is from
many, many, many select things -
all the good things, actually.

FRANK

Except beer.

DENNIS

(pulling out a coin as
well)

We've sort of a buffet line of
sobriety, if you will.

CHARLIE

Is that casino money?

DENNIS

No.

DEE

They represent our sobriety from-

DENNIS

Cleanliness, Dee, shut the hell up -
basically, lines of anything "fun"
are a big no-no, Charlie. Keep your
shit to yourself.

DEE snaps her fingers and points - DENNIS throws a quarter
into a large jar marked "Swear Jar/MDMA money"

MAC

How long have you been on the
wagon?

CHARLIE

What? You shouldn't be on anything
when you're staying clean.

MAC

No, no, wagons are okay.

FRANK
And beer, apparently.

DENNIS
Jesus Christ, Frank-

DENNIS throws his recovery token into the swear jar.

DENNIS (CONT'D)
You happy now? Charlie: Gimme some crack, then - or whatever the hell it is you're peddling - I'm relapsed, baby.

CHARLIE
It's not drugs!

CHARLIE whips away a tarp to reveal - a car battery.

MAC CHARLIE (CONT'D)
"Flatliners!" "Flatliners!"

MAC
Like the Keifer Sutherland movie! My daddy's in a coma right now, so I'm gonna walk through the "realm of purgatory" and tell him I still love him! Make my apologies - honestly? Maybe even walk him back to the land of the living.

FRANK
Apologies?

DEE
There's no such thing as a purgatory, or alternate planes-

MAC
Dee, I'm very religious. I know about all the realms, and angels, and I'm part of Jesus' crew, you know that.

DENNIS
Oh yeah? What's the big guy got to say about your life of buggery? Is God a fan of you? You don't think maybe you're off his visitor's list as well?

MAC
God is the ultimate father.

DEE

Yeah, and you're the Jesus Christ of Daddy Issues.

FRANK

Charlie! Listen! Those Keifer kids were using death to get high, you're playing with fire. You'll get addicted, and be as strung out as these two knuckleheads.

CHARLIE

I've been watching the movie backward and forward for days, Frank - I've learned everything I can about the way to do this safely.

DENNIS

And then presumably unlearning it all while watching on "rewind" - Frank: Can you explain this little death drug thing that Keif and his friends were up to? What's that all about?

MAC

That doesn't matter! I'm the only one here going under, and then Charlie's gonna zap me back to life!

CHARLIE brandishes two thick, exposed wires leading from the car battery. He makes them kiss and spit sparks.

CHARLIE

"It's a good day to die" baby!

MAC

That's the Kief' line! That's the Kief Line!!

Sparks from the battery and wires rain down over all of them in ecstatic celebration.

CUT TO BLACK

TEXT

"The Gang Goes To Hell"