

how i met your mother

"Slapsgiving"

Episode # 3ALH09

Written by

Matt Kuhn

Directed by

Pamela Fryman

FINAL DRAFT (PINK) - 10/17/07

Twentieth Century Fox Television.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. COPYRIGHT © 2007 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX TELEVISION. NO PORTION OF THIS SCRIPT MAY BE PERFORMED, PUBLISHED, REPRODUCED, SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED BY ANY MEANS OR QUOTED OR PUBLISHED IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING ON ANY WEB SITE, WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX TELEVISION. DISPOSAL OF THIS SCRIPT COPY DOES NOT ALTER ANY OF THESE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH ABOVE.

how i met your mother

“Slapsgiving”

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: October 17-19

**** PLEASE NOTE: All times are approximate.
Final call times per call sheet only ****

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

3:00 PM – TBD

STAGE 22

Block & Shoot

Lunch

Block & Shoot

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

3:30 PM – TBD

STAGE 22

Block & Shoot

Lunch

Block & Shoot

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

3:30 PM – TBD

STAGE 22

Block & Shoot

Lunch

Block & Shoot

HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER
"SLAPSGIVING"

OCTOBER 17, 2007
FINAL DRAFT (PINK)

CAST

NARRATOR (V.O.).....	BOB SAGET
TED.....	JOSH RADNOR
MARSHALL.....	JASON SEGEL
BARNEY.....	NEIL PATRICK HARRIS
LILY.....	ALYSON HANNIGAN
ROBIN.....	COBIE SMULDERS
BOB.....	ORSON BEAN
YOUNGER BOB.....	EBEN HAM
FEMALE ROBOTIC VOICE (O.S.).....	TBD

SETS

INT. APARTMENT
INT. BAR
INT. KITCHEN
INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT
INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT HALLWAY
INT. ROBIN'S KITCHEN
INT. TED'S BEDROOM

FINAL DRAFT (PINK)

OCTOBER 17, 2007

HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER
 "SLAPSGIVING"
 SHORT RUNDOWN

SHOOTING DATE:
 TIMING: _____

<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 1</u> (1) INT. APARTMENT – DAY (DAY 1) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 2</u> (1) INT. BAR – FLASHBACK – NIGHT (FB/N-1) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 3</u> (2) INT. APARTMENT – FLASHBACK – NIGHT (FB/N-2) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 4</u> (3) INT. BAR – NIGHT (NIGHT 2) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 5</u> (3) INT. APARTMENT - FLASHBACK (FB/D-3) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 6</u> (4) INT. BAR – BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 2) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 7</u> (5) INT. BAR – NIGHT (NIGHT 3) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 8</u> (8) FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 209: ROBIN SPARKLES (Narrator (V.O.))				
<u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 9</u> (8) FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 216: STUFF (Narrator (V.O.))				

<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 10</u> (9) FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 301: WAIT FOR IT (Narrator (V.O.), Marshall)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 11</u> (9) INT. BAR – BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 3) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 12</u> (10) INT. BAR – FLASHBACK – NIGHT (FB/N-4) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Extras)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 13</u> (10) INT. BAR – BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 3) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Younger Bob, Bob, Extras)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 14</u> (15) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT – NIGHT (NIGHT 4) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 15</u> (16) INT. APARTMENT – SAME TIME (NIGHT 4) (Marshall, Lily)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 16</u> (16) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT – BACK TO SCENE (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 16A</u> (17) INT. BAR / INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT HALLWAY – INTERCUT (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Barney, Extras)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 17</u> (18) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 18</u> (18) INT. APARTMENT – THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 5) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)</p>				

<p><u>COLD OPEN, SCENE 19</u> (20) INT. APARTMENT / INT. KITCHEN – SPLIT SCREEN – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 20</u> (21) INT. APARTMENT – A LITTLE LATER (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 21</u> (21) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Ted (V.O.), Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 22</u> (21) INT. APARTMENT – BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 23</u> (22) INT. KITCHEN – SAME TIME (DAY 5) (Lily, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 24</u> (23) INT. ROBIN’S KITCHEN – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 25</u> (24) INT. APARTMENT – BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 26</u> (24) INT. KITCHEN – SAME TIME (DAY 5) (Lily, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 27</u> (25) INT. ROBIN’S KITCHEN – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 28</u> (26) INT. APARTMENT – BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)</p>				
<p><u>ACT 1, SCENE 29</u> (26) INT. ROBIN’S KITCHEN – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)</p>				

ACT 1, SCENE 30 (27) INT. KITCHEN – BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) (Lily, Robin)				
ACT 1, SCENE 31 (27) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMET – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 32 (31) INT. KITCHEN / INT. APARTMENT – SPIT-SCREEN - DAY (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 33 (31) INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)				
ACT 2, SCENE 34 (31) INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Lily, Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 35 (33) INT. ROBIN’S APARTMENT – FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4) (Ted, Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 36 (33) INT. APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney)				
ACT 2, SCENE 37 (33) INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Lily, Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 38 (34) INT. APARTMENT / INT. KITCHEN – SPIT-SCREEN – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)				
ACT 2, SCENE 39 (36) OMITTED				
ACT 2, SCENE 40 (36) INT. APARTMENT – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Marshall, Barney, Lily, Bob)				
ACT 2 SCENE 41 (40) INT. TED’S BEDROOM – CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) (Ted, Robin)				

<u>ACT 2, SCENE 42</u> (41) INT. APARTMENT – LATER (DAY 5) (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Bob)				
<u>ACT 2, SCENE 43</u> (44) SERIES OF SHOTS OF THE GROUP ENJOYING DINNER (Narrator (V.O.), Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Bob)				
<u>ACT 2, SCENE 44</u> (44) INT. APARTMENT – A BIT LATER – NIGHT (NIGHT 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin, Bob, Female Robotic Voice (O.S.))				
<u>TAG, SCENE 45</u> (48) INT. KITCHEN – LATER (NIGHT 5) (Ted, Marshall, Barney, Lily, Robin)				
TOTALS:				

COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

1 INT. APARTMENT - DAY (DAY 1) 1
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

EVERYONE'S HANGING OUT.

CHYRON: EIGHT MONTHS AGO

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Back when we were dating, Robin and I
had this running joke. We were the
only two people in the world who found
it funny.

BARNEY

No way. March does not have thirty-
one days.

MARSHALL

Of course it does. Everybody knows
that. That's like general knowledge.

TED AND ROBIN EACH GIVE A SALUTE.

TED AND ROBIN

General Knowledge.

TED AND ROBIN CRACK UP AS THE OTHERS ROLL THEIR
EYES.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And we did it all the time.

CUT TO:

2 INT. BAR - FLASHBACK - NIGHT (FB/N-1) 2
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN,
EXTRAS)

LILY'S READING A MAGAZINE. SHE TALKS TO ROBIN AND TED.

LILY

Isn't it sad? I mean in 2007, some
countries actually still condone
corporal punishment?

TED AND ROBIN EACH GIVE A SALUTE.

TED AND ROBIN

Corporal Punishment.

THEY CRACK UP AS LILY STARES AT THEM.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Because once you start, it's
surprisingly hard to stop.

CUT TO:

3 INT. APARTMENT - FLASHBACK - NIGHT (FB/N-2) 3
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

THE GANG IS HANGING OUT. THERE'S A BOWL OF POPCORN
ON THE TABLE. MARSHALL PICKS AT HIS TEETH.

MARSHALL

Man, I think I got a kernel stuck in
my teeth.

TED AND ROBIN EACH GIVE A SALUTE.

TED / ROBIN

Colonel Stuck-in-my-teeth.

TED AND ROBIN CRACK UP.

MARSHALL / LILY / BARNEY

Please stop! / You're killing me! / I
hate you!

CUT TO:

NARRATOR (V.O.)

You can't be as candid as you used to be.

TED

So then this hot intern leans over my
desk and I can totally see she has a
pierced...

*

*

TED SEES LILY AND ROBIN ENTER FROM LILY'S BEDROOM
AND CROSS TO THE DOOR.

*

*

TED (CONT'D)

...Brosnan. Pierce Brosnan is my
favorite of all the Bonds.

*

*

BACK TO:

*

6 INT. BAR - BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 2) 6
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN,
EXTRAS)

AS THEY WERE.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

But most importantly, you can never,
ever be alone together.

*

BARNEY

All right, I'm outta here.

MARSHALL

I'm gonna pay.

*

LILY

Peeing.

EVERYONE SCATTERS TO LEAVE TED AND ROBIN ALONE.
THEY LOOK AWKWARDLY AT EACH OTHER.

A SHORT BEAT AS THEY REALIZE THEY'RE ALONE, THEN:

TED

ROBIN

I'm gonna help Marshall pay. I'm gonna help Lily pee.

AS THEY LEAVE THE TABLE IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS...

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES.

7 INT. BAR - NIGHT (NIGHT 3) 7
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN,
EXTRAS)

THE GANG SITS AROUND A TABLE. LILY ENTERS HOLDING
A LARGE ITEM IN A GROCERY BAG.

LILY

*

All right, we have a turkey.

*

SHE UNVEILS A GIANT TURKEY AND PLOPS IT DOWN ON THE
TABLE. EVERYONE AD-LIBS GENUINE EXCITEMENT.
MARSHALL LEANS IN VERY CLOSE TO THE TURKEY.

*

*

MARSHALL

*

(SOFTLY) I want you inside me.

*

LILY

Isn't this exciting? Our first

*

Thanksgiving together as a group. No

*

horrible travel days, no screaming

kids, no freakishly huge corn-fed in-

laws. (OFF MARSHALL'S LOOK) I'm

speaking universally.

MARSHALL

Yeah, this is gonna be the best

Slapsgiving ever.

BARNEY

(STARTLED) What?

MARSHALL

(I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING) This is gonna
be the best Thanksgiving ever.

BARNEY SHAKES IT OFF.

TED

Yeah, it'll be nice. Just the five of
us...

ROBIN

Oh, that reminds me, I invited Bob.

*

LILY

Bob? You've been on, like, three dates
with that guy. We haven't even met him.

*

ROBIN

He doesn't have anywhere else to go
and I didn't know what to say. Is it
really that big a deal?

LILY

Yes. It's our first Thanksgiving.
Thirty years from now we'll look at
the photos and be like, "Oh look,
there's the four people I love most in
the world. And Bob."

*

*

*

*

*

ROBIN

I'm sorry, sometimes I forget how
seriously you guys take American
Thanksgiving. Real Thanksgiving
happened over a month ago.

BARNEY

I'm sorry. Did you just say that
Canadian Thanksgiving is quote "the
real Thanksgiving?" What the hell do
you guys even celebrate?

ROBIN

Canadian Thanksgiving celebrates
explorer Martin Frobisher's valiant
yet ultimately unsuccessful attempt to
find the Northwest Passage.

BARNEY

(BEAT) Why are you guys even a country?

ROBIN PUNCHES HIM IN THE ARM.

*

BARNEY (CONT'D)

*

Ow!

*

MARSHALL

Oh by the way, if anyone wants to come
early Thursday, we can all watch the
Slapsgiving Day parade.

*

BARNEY

There. You said it again.

MARSHALL

Said what?

BARNEY

Slapsgiving.

MARSHALL

Oh yeah. I guess I did say that. And you know why? Because I've invented a new holiday: Slapsgiving. It's the one day we set aside each year to gather together and give slaps.

BARNEY LOOKS CONCERNED.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

I should explain. Kids, you remember the slap bet.

CUT TO:

8 FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 209, "ROBIN SPARKLES"
(NARRATOR (V.O.))

8

NARRATOR (V.O.)

A year earlier, Marshall made a bet with Barney and won the right to slap him five times. He had already used the first--

WE SEE MARSHALL'S FIRST SLAP. CHYRON: 1

CUT TO:

9 FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 216, "STUFF"
(NARRATOR (V.O.))

9

WE SEE MARSHALL'S SECOND SLAP. CHYRON: 2

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And the second--

CUT TO:

10 FOOTAGE FROM EPISODE 301, "WAIT FOR IT" 10
(NARRATOR (V.O.), MARSHALL)

MARSHALL SENDS BARNEY THE SLAP COUNTDOWN WEBSITE.
WE SEE THE NUMBERS COUNTING DOWN.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

But Marshall had something special in
store for the third...

MARSHALL

Slapcountdown.Com...

THEN, OFF BARNEY'S HORRIFIED FACE...

BACK TO:

11 INT. BAR - BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 3) 11
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN, EXTRAS)

THE GANG AS THEY WERE.

BARNEY

No, no, the countdown ends at three
p.m. the day after Thanksgiving. I
counted it out.

TED

How many days are in October?

BARNEY

Thirty.

TED

Dude, I thought we cleared this up
last year.

FLASHBACK TO:

12 INT. BAR - FLASHBACK - NIGHT (FB/N-4) 12
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN, EXTRAS)

BARNEY ENTERS WEARING A BORAT GREY SUIT COSTUME,
COMPLETE WITH WIG, MUSTACHE AND FLAG. HE APPROACHES *
THE GANG IN THE CORNER BOOTH. *

BARNEY

(AS BORAT) I like Halloween very much.

Is nice.

TED

Is also tomorrow.

BARNEY

Dammit!

BARNEY HANGS HIS HEAD, RIPS OFF HIS MUSTACHE AND
DROPS THE FLAG.

BACK TO:

13 INT. BAR - BACK TO PRESENT (NIGHT 3) 13
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN, *
YOUNGER BOB, BOB, EXTRAS)

BARNEY COUNTS ON HIS HANDS FOR A BEAT, THEN...

BARNEY

(TO HIMSELF) Dammit! (THEN) You're
gonna slap me on Thanksgiving?

MARSHALL

Slapsgiving.

BARNEY

That's not allowed. Lily, you're the *
Slap Bet Commissioner, is that allowed? *

LILY

The hostess in me who's using her
wedding china for the first time wants
to say hell no, but yeah, I'm going to
allow it.

*
*
*

BARNEY

Well, you know what? If you're trying
to freak me out about spending
Thanksgiving--

*

MARSHALL

Slapsgiving.

BARNEY

-- at your place, then you failed.
Truth is, I'm not scared.

MARSHALL

Really.

BARNEY

Right. 'Cause you blew it. The worst
part about getting slapped is not
knowing when it's going to happen.
But now I know exactly when I'm gonna
get slapped. You took out all the
suspense. You showed your hand.

MARSHALL

And Thursday at 3:01 p.m., your face
is going to show my hand.

ROBIN MOTIONS OFF-SCREEN.

ROBIN

Oh, there's Bob! By the way, heads
up, he's a little older than us.

TED

How old is he?

ROBIN

He's forty-one. (CALLING OUT) Hey
Bob! Over here!

FREEZE ON ROBIN.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Okay kids, the truth is Bob probably
looked like this.

UNFREEZE. A HANDSOME, ATHLETIC, FORTY-ISH MAN WALKS IN.

YOUNGER BOB

Hey, sweetie.

HE GIVES ROBIN A KISS. TED LOOKS UP. **FREEZE ON TED**.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

But when your ex is dating someone
new, your mind tends to accentuate
their flaws. This is how I saw Bob.

UNFREEZE. ROBIN FINISHES A KISS WITH BOB, WHO IS
NOW IN HIS 70'S ALTHOUGH WEARING THE SAME OUTFIT AS
YOUNG BOB. OLD BOB SPEAKS AND ACTS LIKE A YOUNG-AT-
HEART FORTY-YEAR OLD.

BOB

Hey dudes, what's crackin'?

THE GANG AD-LIBS INTRODUCTIONS.

BOB (CONT'D)

Sorry I'm late. I just had dinner
with my parents.

TED

Parents?

BOB

Yeah, they're totally on my case about,
"What are you gonna do with your life?
You're forty-one." And I'm all,
"Chillax, snowboarding is a legit
career. You should be stoked that I
found my bliss." Speaking of bliss,
sugar me, baby.

BOB GRABS ROBIN AND KISSES HER. TED GRIMACES.

ROBIN

(TO BOB) Let's get a drink.

BOB AND ROBIN CROSS OFF TO THE BAR.

TED

Wow, unbelievable. Robin is dating
Orville Redenbacher.

*

*

LILY

*

What are you talking about? He's forty-
one. He looks great.

*

*

MARSHALL

(SINCERELY) Yeah, dude he's in pretty
good shape. He could kick your ass.

TED

How are you guys not seeing this? *

He's a hundred and fifty and Robin's *

twenty-seven. Let's have fun with *

this. Barney, what do you got? *

BARNEY

(RAISING GLASS) Nothing but respect
for that man.

LILY

Oh, by the way, we're all baking pies
at Robin's on Wednesday. I can't trust
Marshall with pies in our apartment
overnight.

MARSHALL

(COVERING) For the millionth time,
sleep-eating is a very serious and *

delicious medical condition. *

LILY

(TO THE OTHERS) I caught him finishing
off this blueberry pie I baked and he
goes like this...

SHE CLOSES HER EYES, PUTS HER ARMS OUT LIKE A ZOMBIE
AND MIMES EATING PIE.

LILY (CONT'D)

"Shhh, I'm asleep."

MARSHALL

The literature is very clear. If you
ever see a sleep-eater, do not try to
wake them. Just get them a glass of
chocolate milk.

TED

So what time are you guys getting to
Robin's?

LILY

Seven thirty.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Now kids, there is no way I wanted to
risk being alone with Robin.

CUT TO:

14 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, ROBIN)

14

ROBIN OPENS THE DOOR. TED ENTERS CARRYING PIE SUPPLIES.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So the next night, at nine thirty
sharp...

TED

Sorry I'm late. (LOOKING AROUND)

Where's Marshall and Lily?

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

ROBIN

They just called. They're both super
swamped preparing for tomorrow.

FLASH TO:

15 INT. APARTMENT - SAME TIME (NIGHT 4) 15
(MARSHALL, LILY)

MARSHALL SITS ON THE COUCH WATCHING TV, TOTALLY
STILL, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT HE'S STRENGTHENING
HIS RIGHT HAND WITH A GRIP MASTER. IN THE
BACKGROUND, WE SEE LILY RUNNING BACK AND FORTH IN
THE KITCHEN LIKE A MANIAC.

BACK TO:

16 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - BACK TO SCENE (NIGHT 4) 16
(TED, ROBIN)

AS THEY WERE.

TED

*

Is Bob coming?

*

ROBIN

No, he went to see Green Day.

AWKWARD BEAT AS THEY BOTH REALIZE THEY'RE COMPLETELY ALONE.

TED

So, it's...

ROBIN

Just the two of us.

TED

Just the two of us.

ROBIN

Making pies. All right.

TED

Great. That way we can catch up.

AN AWKWARD BEAT.

TED (CONT'D)

ROBIN

I'm going to go make a
phone call.

I'm going to go change.

CUT TO:

16A INT. BAR / INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT HALLWAY -
INTERCUT - (NIGHT 4)
(TED, BARNEY, EXTRAS)

16A

TED IS ON THE PHONE. TIGHT SHOT: BARNEY STANDING
AT THE BAR.

TED

Hey, it's me. Listen, can you please
come over here and make some pies with
me and Robin?

BARNEY

Yeah, absolutely, I'll be there.

TED

Oh, awesome, you're a lifesaver. It's
still kinda weird being alone with
Robin. But if you were here--

BARNEY

Hey, say no more. I mean when I pulled
you out of that burning wreckage, I
wasn't doing it to have a battleship
named after me. But if you insist,
yes, I'll be there at the christening.

TED

You're hitting on someone right now,
aren't you?

CUT WIDE: TO REVEAL BARNEY STANDING NEXT TO A
BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WHO IS ENRAPTURED.

BARNEY

No, I'm not wearing the medal of honor.
That would be tacky.

TED

So you're not coming to make pies.

BARNEY

No, no. Thank you, Mr. President.

CUT TO:

17 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER (NIGHT 4) 17
(TED, ROBIN)

TED RE-ENTERS. ROBIN IS THERE, WEARING A DIFFERENT
SHIRT.

TED

So, should we make a pie?

ROBIN

It's pie time we did.

THEY SHARE AN UNCOMFORTABLE CHUCKLE.

DISSOLVE TO:

18 INT. APARTMENT - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 5) 18
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

BARNEY WATCHES FOOTBALL WHILE MARSHALL CUTS OUT
HAND-SHAPED TURKEY DECORATIONS. A HARRIED LILY
CROSSES FROM THE KITCHEN TO THE TABLE CARRYING SOME
BOWLS AND SHOOTS MARSHALL A LOOK.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

After a very long night, it was finally
the big holiday. Sorry, the two big
holidays.

LILY

Marshall, are you working on the
cranberry sauce?

MARSHALL

In a minute, baby. I've only got...
so many hands.

MARSHALL HOLDS UP TO BARNEY A ROW OF HAND-SHAPED
TURKEY DESIGNS.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

See what I got going on here? They're
turkeys, but they're also hands, because
later we're going to eat turkey, and
then I'm going to slap you in the face.

BARNEY

Dude. You ruined it. In a horror
movie, does the killer get a bullhorn
and announce, "Attention unsupervised
teens here at the lake house: At
precisely three a.m., I'm gonna jump
out of that closet right there and
hack up the fake boob chick with a
machete. P.S. I cut the phone lines
and fire is my one weakness."

SFX: DOORBELL.

TED CROSSES IN TO ANSWER THE DOOR. IT'S ROBIN,
HOLDING A FEW PIES. THEY'RE VERY FRIENDLY TO EACH
OTHER.

ROBIN

Hey, Ted.

TED

Hey, Happy Thanksgiving.

ROBIN

You too. Is Lily in the kitchen?

TED NODS AS ROBIN CROSSES OUT.

CUT TO:

19 INT. APARTMENT / INT. KITCHEN - SPLIT-SCREEN - 19
CONTINUOUS (DAY 5)
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

ROBIN APPROACHES LILY, AS TED SITS NEXT TO MARSHALL.

TED

Marshall?

MARSHALL

Yeah?

TED

Something really weird
happened last night.

ROBIN

Lily?

LILY

Uh huh?

ROBIN

Something really weird
happened last night.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF COLD OPENING

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

20 INT. APARTMENT - A LITTLE LATER (DAY 5) 20
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

MARSHALL, TED, AND BARNEY AS THEY WERE.

MARSHALL

Wait. What do you mean something weird
happened last night?

TED

You may not realize this but since we
broke up, Robin and I have never really
been alone together.

FLASHBACK TO:

21 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - FLASHBACK - (NIGHT 4) 21
(TED, TED (V.O.), ROBIN)

ROBIN AND TED SIT ON THE COUCH, SILENT AND WEIRD.

TED (V.O.)

So we're sitting there on the same
couch we broke up on six months earlier
and we don't have a damn thing to say
to each other.

*

BACK TO:

22 INT. APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) 22
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

TED CONTINUES.

TED

I mean, you can't discuss how close you used to be. You can't discuss how close you're not now. You just feel like anything you say is just gonna make things worse.

BARNEY

Exactly. And you know why? You don't want to hurt someone you really care about. Especially around the holidays. I mean, what decent human being would want to cause any kind of emotional or physical pain--

MARSHALL

You're still getting slapped.

TED

I wanted to leave but I couldn't stick her with making all the pies by herself. She was exhausted.

*

*

FLASH TO:

23 INT. KITCHEN - SAME TIME (DAY 5)
(LILY, ROBIN)

23

ROBIN POURS WINE AND CONTINUES THE STORY. SHE STANDS IN THE WAY OF LILY'S FRENETIC COOKING ACTIVITY.

ROBIN

I yawned like a million times trying to get him to leave.

LILY

Yeah, some people can't take a hint.
By the way, I'm pretty swamped in here.

ROBIN

I kept checking my watch. Totally
clueless.

LILY

Uh huh. I'm not sure I have time to
mash those potatoes you're standing
right next to.

*

ROBIN

And then Ted does the thing he always
does when there's an awkward silence.

LILY

Yup. Masher's right there next to the
pot.

*

ROBIN

He panics and explodes like a super
volcano of awkwardness.

FLASHBACK TO:

24 INT. ROBIN'S KITCHEN - FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4)
(TED, ROBIN)

24

TED AND ROBIN ARE MAKING PIES.

ROBIN

Hey, did you know the first pies in
recorded history came from ancient
Egypt?

AN AWKWARD BEAT.

TED

Remember last year's Thanksgiving when
we had sex seven times?

BACK TO:

25 INT. APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) 25
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

MARSHALL AND BARNEY WINCE.

MARSHALL / BARNEY

Ooooo. / Terrible.

TED

*

I thought it would break the ice.

CUT TO:

26 INT. KITCHEN - SAME TIME (DAY 5) 26
(LILY, ROBIN)

ROBIN CONTINUES THE STORY.

ROBIN

I'd already broken the ice with my
cool pie fact. And then he made it
ten times more awkward.

LILY

How do you respond to that?

CUT TO:

27 INT. ROBIN'S KITCHEN - FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4)
(TED, ROBIN)

27

TED AND ROBIN STAND THERE AWKWARDLY.

ROBIN

Did you know that the Egyptian pyramids
can be seen from space? Probably?

SFX: DING

TED

The oven's pre-heated!

ROBIN

Okay, the pecan pie is gonna take the
longest. Why don't we put that one in
first?

TED

Pecan pie? Why are we making that?

ROBIN

(COVERING) Oh, um, it's my favorite.

TED

You're allergic.

ROBIN

I know... (COVERING) I just like
smelling it. It's like eating with
your nose.

TED

So we're making a pie for Bob.

ROBIN

Well... yeah.

CUT TO:

28 INT. APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5)
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

28

BARNEY AND MARSHALL REACT DISGUSTED.

BARNEY

She's got you making pies for her new
guy?

MARSHALL

(POINTEDLY TO BARNEY) Wow, that is a
real slap in the face.

OFF OF BARNEY'S ANXIOUS LOOK, WE...

FLASHBACK TO:

29 INT. ROBIN'S KITCHEN - FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4)
(TED, ROBIN)

29

AS THEY WERE.

TED

You know, instead of lying, you could
have just said it was for Bob.

ROBIN

Yeah, but I thought that might upset
you.

TED

Upset me? Wait a second. Do you think--
(CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF) Do you think I'm
jealous of Bob?

*

ROBIN

I don't know. Is it so ridiculous to
think that you might be?

TED

Yes.

ROBIN

Why?

TED

Because he's a thousand years old.

BACK TO:

30 INT. KITCHEN - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5)
(LILY, ROBIN)

30

LILY

No! Ted, what are you doing? Tell me
he pulled up out of that nose dive.

FLASHBACK TO:

31 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - FLASHBACK (NIGHT 4)
(TED, ROBIN)

31

TED AND ROBIN ENTER FROM THE KITCHEN, STILL ARGUING.

TED

The only reason I'm jealous of Bob is
that we can only talk about the first
Thanksgiving, but he was actually there.

ROBIN

Come on.

TED

The only reason I'm jealous of Bob is because I heard Noah gave him shotgun in the ark.

ROBIN

Ted...

TED

The only reason I'm jealous of Bob is that I'm just an architect, but he discovered fire. How do you top that?

ROBIN

He's forty-one! Why are you bashing on him this hard?

TED

I'm not. I'm just joking around. That's what friends do.

ROBIN

It's mean.

TED

Well, how come we're all allowed to bust on Barney when he dates some skanktron, but when you sleep with the Crypt Keeper's dad, I can't say a word?

ROBIN

First of all, Bob and I are not sleeping together, we're just dating.

(MORE)

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Secondly, have I said one word about *
the parade of dubious conquests you've
been marching past me for the last few *
months? One of whom got you a butterfly *
tattoo?

TED

Hey, that's not--

ROBIN

And if you and I are such good friends,
why is helping me bake a pie for Bob
so weird?

TED

If we're such good friends, why couldn't
you just tell me that's what we were doing?

A BEAT AS THEY BOTH EXHALE.

TED (CONT'D)

Maybe we should talk about all of this
later. I should get going anyway.

TED GRABS HIS COAT AND STARTS MOVING TOWARD THE DOOR.

ROBIN

Yeah, what are we doing? It's
Thanksgiving.

TED

I'm sorry, this is stupid.

ROBIN

I'm sorry too. Of course we're friends.

I'm glad we're friends.

TED

Me too.

THEY HUG... AS THEY PULL AWAY, SUDDENLY THEY'RE
KISSING. IT'S UNCLEAR WHO STARTED THIS. AS THEY
MOVE TO THE COUCH...

*

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

32 INT. KITCHEN / INT. APARTMENT - SPLIT-SCREEN - DAY 32
(DAY 5)

(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

LILY LOOKS SHOCKED AT ROBIN. MARSHALL AND BARNEY
LOOK SHOCKED AT TED.

LILY / MARSHALL / BARNEY

You guys slept together last night?

END SPLIT SCREEN.

LILY SHAKES HER HEAD.

LILY

That is a terrible idea.

SMASH TO:

33 INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) 33
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

MARSHALL SHAKES HIS HEAD.

MARSHALL

Horrible idea.

REVEAL BARNEY WITH A BIG SMILE AND HIS HAND UP FOR
A HIGH FIVE.

BARNEY

My man! Relapse five! That's where
we high five, then it's awkward for a
little while, then we high five again.

SMASH TO:

34 INT. KITCHEN - DAY (DAY 5) 34
(LILY, ROBIN)

AS THEY WERE.

ROBIN

What the hell am I doing?

LILY

Yeah, what the hell are you doing?
Let's review. You and Ted broke up
six months ago.

ROBIN

Yup.

LILY

You're dating another man...

ROBIN

You are correct, sir.

LILY

...who's coming to my Thanksgiving
dinner today.

ROBIN

That is a truth-fact.

LILY

...an event Ted is also attending.

ROBIN

Kablammo.

LILY

Why are you trying to destroy American
Thanksgiving?!

ROBIN

Lily, it's not as bad as it sounds.
Bob and I aren't that serious, and
last night was a fluke.

*
*
*

LILY

*

Well, did you guys at least talk about it?

*

FLASHBACK TO:

35 INT. ROBIN'S APARTMENT - FLASHBACK - THE NIGHT 35
 BEFORE (NIGHT 4)
 (TED, ROBIN)

TED AND ROBIN GET DRESSED, HARRIED IN A POST-COITAL
SORT OF WAY. A BEAT, THEN:

TED

ROBIN

There's office material
to catch up on, so...

Yeah I think I hear
something burning...

ROBIN SCURRIES TO HER ROOM AS TED GRABS HIS STUFF
AND RUNS OUT THE DOOR.

BACK TO:

36 INT. APARTMENT - BACK TO PRESENT (DAY 5) 36
 (TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY)

AS THEY WERE.

TED

Clearly, we need to ignore this.

MARSHALL AND BARNEY NOD IN AGREEMENT.

SMASH TO:

37 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS (DAY 5) 37
 (LILY, ROBIN)

ROBIN AND LILY AS THEY WERE.

ROBIN

Clearly, we need to talk about this.

LILY NODS IN AGREEMENT.

WIPE TO:

38 INT. APARTMENT / INT. KITCHEN - SPLIT-SCREEN - 38
 CONTINUOUS (DAY 5)
 (TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

SPLIT-SCREEN, SIMULTANEOUS:

TED

ROBIN

You know, to save the
friendship.

You know, to save the
friendship.

ROBIN CROSSES TO THE LIVING ROOM. END SPLIT-SCREEN.
ROBIN AND TED BUMP INTO EACH OTHER.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Hi.

TED

Hi.

ROBIN / TED

We need to talk. / Stuffed mushroom?

TED HAS AWKWARDLY OFFERED HER THE HORS D'OEUVRES TRAY.

ROBIN

We need to talk about last night.

TED OFFERS HER THE TRAY AGAIN.

TED

Is there anything not made better by
Worcestershire sauce? *

ROBIN *

Ted, can we please just deal with this? *

I'm not mad, I just-- *

TED *

Why would you be mad? You started it. *

ROBIN

What?! You're crazy!

IN THE SCENELET THAT FOLLOWS THE PLAYERS MIGHT USE
THE TRAY OF MUSHROOMS AS A METAPHORICAL HOT POTATO
OF BLAME.

TED

We said truce, we hugged, and when I
tried to pull away, you kept your hand
on my neck.

ROBIN

Only because your hand was still around
my waist.

TED

Oh, come on. You leaned into it.

ROBIN

(DISBELIEF) I "leaned into it?"

TED

Yeah, you're like that crappy kid in
Little League who knows he's not gonna
make contact so he just kinda, (TED
DEMONSTRATES LEANING IN, THEN
"INNOCENTLY") oops! I got hit by the
pitch, better take my base!

ROBIN

That was you in Little League, wasn't it?

TED

My on base percentage was off the
charts!

TED LOSES HIS GRIP ON THE TRAY. IT FALLS TO THE FLOOR.

MARSHALL

Oh no, the slappetizers!

BARNEY SHUDDERS AS LILY GRABS TED AND ROBIN BY THE
ARM AND STARTS LEADING THEM ACROSS THE APARTMENT.

LILY

That's it. This is Thanksgiving. *

Solve this right now. And if you have *

sex again, neither of you gets dessert.

LILY SHOVES TED AND ROBIN INTO TED'S ROOM. LILY *
SLAMS THE DOOR. *

CUT TO: *

39 OMITTED

39 *

40 INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS (DAY 5)
(MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, BOB)

40 *

LILY *

What the hell kind of Thanksgiving is
this? *

BARNEY

Um... most Thanksgivings?

MARSHALL

Don't stress, baby. Let me find
something to drown out the sound.

MARSHALL OPENS HIS LAPTOP.

LILY

Aw, thanks, baby. Some classical music,
maybe?

WE SEE THE SLAP COUNTDOWN CLOCK. AND NOW WE HEAR
AN ANNOYING, PENETRATING TONE THAT MARKS EVERY SECOND
TICKING DOWN. BARNEY FLINCHES A LITTLE.

MARSHALL

Oh, look. That means we're into the
final hour of the countdown.

BARNEY

(OBVIOUSLY UPSET) Doesn't bother me.

MARSHALL

Then why is your left cheek twitching?

SURE ENOUGH, BARNEY'S LEFT CHEEK IS TWITCHING A
LITTLE BIT. DURING THE FOLLOWING, BARNEY TRIES TO
STOP IT, BUT HE CAN'T.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Maybe it's because Future Me slaps
Future You so hard, it reverberates
backwards through time, shattering the
time-slap continuum.

BARNEY SPRINGS TO HIS FEET.

BARNEY

Please don't slap me!

*

MARSHALL

*

What?

*

BARNEY

*

Oh God, don't slap me, please! I don't
want to get slapped again! Those first
two hurt so much! I don't like it! I
don't like it at all!

*

*

*

*

MARSHALL

Wow. But I thought I ruined it by
putting a clock on it.

*

BARNEY

You didn't! You made it so much worse!
I can't eat, I can't sleep, I've lost
ten pounds! My suits are wearing me!
You know what?! I'm outta here!

*

*

MARSHALL

What? No, you can't leave.

BARNEY

Why can't I?! Nowhere in the rules
does it say that I have to sit through
this kind of mental torture! You're
allowed to slap my face, sir! You're
not allowed to slap my mind! Goodbye!

BARNEY STARTS TO EXIT.

MARSHALL

But... it's Slapsgiving!

LILY

It's Thanksgiving!

*

BARNEY AND MARSHALL BOTH STOP AND LOOK AT LILY.

LILY (CONT'D)

Our first one as a married couple - as
grown-ups. And you're not even trying
to be part of it. (RE: TED'S ROOM)
None of you are. So, as Slap Bet
Commissioner, I'm issuing a ruling.
Thanksgiving is a day of peace. There
will be no slaps today.

MARSHALL / BARNEY

What? / Yes!!!

BARNEY

(LAUGHS) In your face! Not my face!

Your face!

IN THE MIDST OF THIS, BOB ENTERS HOLDING A TUPPERWARE.

BOB

'Sup, dudes.

THEY ALL AD-LIB DISTRACTED HELLO'S TO BOB.

MARSHALL

But baby--

LILY

The Slap Bet Commissioner's word is
final. Now get in the kitchen and
mash some potatoes. Now.

MARSHALL HEADS TOWARD THE KITCHEN.

LILY (CONT'D)

For the rest of the day, we're going
to enjoy a civilized, grown-up holiday.

BOB

Well, not too grown-up. (RE:
TUPPERWARE) I made Jello shots. We's
gonna get silly, bitches!

BOB PLOPS DOWN ON THE COUCH AS LILY ROLLS HER EYES
AND HEADS TO THE KITCHEN.

CUT TO:

41 INT. TED'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS (DAY 5)
(TED, ROBIN)

41

TED AND ROBIN ARE STILL ARGUING.

*

TED

...And that's why on base percentage
is the most important statistic in
baseball!

ROBIN

Thanks for staying laser focused on
what this argument's really about, Ted!

TED

Well, what is it about?!

ROBIN

I don't even know anymore! (BEAT,
THEN CALMLY) Look at us. We can't be
alone together, can we?

TED

Apparently not.

ROBIN

What does that mean? We're supposed
to be friends.

TED

Well, we aren't friends, are we? Not
really. We avoid each other. We smile
politely. We're like, stunt doubles
of friends. We're like, the Canadian
Thanksgiving of friends.

*

(MORE)

TED (CONT'D)

We're two people who pretend to be
friends because it would be inconvenient
not to.

ROBIN

Well maybe we should stop pretending.

A LONG BEAT.

TED

Maybe we should.

ANOTHER LONG BEAT.

ROBIN

So... what do we do now?

TED

I suppose... we eat dinner.

ROBIN

Yeah.

TED

And then that's it.

ROBIN

Okay.

ROBIN EXITS. A BEAT.

TED

Happy Thanksgiving.

DISSOLVE TO:

42 INT. APARTMENT - LATER (DAY 5) 42
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN,
BOB)

THE GROUP SITS AT THANKSGIVING DINNER IN THE LIVING
ROOM (THE COFFEE TABLE HAS BEEN REPLACED BY A TABLE
BIG ENOUGH TO SEAT 6 PEOPLE). THE FOOD LOOKS
TERRIFIC, BUT THE MOOD IS A LITTLE ODD.

*

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So we sat down to our first Thanksgiving together as a group. And apparently, our last.

REVEAL LILY, LOOKING MISERABLE AND DRINKING A LOT OF WINE. BARNEY SMILES, GLOATING, AT MARSHALL.

BARNEY

Marshall, you're not eating. Did something spoil your slappetite?

MARSHALL

(ANNOYED) No. I just thought that before we eat, maybe the chef would like to say a few words?

LILY

Nope. This sucks. Eat up and leave.

LILY SULLENLY GRABS A TURKEY LEG, STARTS GNAWING ON IT. EVERYONE AWKWARDLY STARTS TO DIG IN. MARSHALL LOOKS AT LILY. HE'S MISERABLE OVER HOW MISERABLE SHE IS. HE STANDS.

MARSHALL

Okay, then I want to say something.
Today, Lily did something great. Not
only did she gather us all here and
cook a delicious meal-- that alone
would be awesome-- but today, she
started a new tradition. We're all
going to do this next year, and the
year after that, and the year after
that. Maybe for the rest of our lives.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

ANGLE ON: TED AND ROBIN LOOKING UNCOMFORTABLE.

*

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

It's pretty amazing when you think
about it. And it's all thanks to you,
Lily. I love you. (RAISES HIS GLASS)
To the first of many Thanksgivings
together.

*

*

*

*

MARSHALL RAISES HIS GLASS AND THE OTHERS FOLLOW.
LILY SMILES, TOUCHED. MARSHALL GIVES HER A KISS.
TED AND ROBIN CLINK GLASSES AWKWARDLY, WHILE AVOIDING
EYE CONTACT.

*

*

BOB

This is rad. A nice, small, simple
Thanksgiving. I'm the youngest in a
family of ten, and our Thanksgivings
are always a mess. The fighting, the
yelling...

*

*

*

*

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And then a funny thing happened...

BOB

It's just like, a major buzz-kill.

*

WITHOUT THINKING, TED AND ROBIN BOTH SALUTE.

TED AND ROBIN

Major Buzz-kill.

MUSIC CUE: THE BEST SONG WE'VE HAD ALL SEASON

*

A BEAT. THEY JUST STARE AT EACH OTHER, SURPRISED
THAT JUST HAPPENED. IT'S A NICE MOMENT.

AS BEFORE, EVERYONE ELSE GROANS, AD-LIBS
DISAPPROVAL... BUT YOU CAN TELL EVERYONE IS
COMPLETELY RELIEVED.

BARNEY

Ugh, I thought we were done with all that!

ROBIN AND TED SHARE A LOOK.

ROBIN

(BEAT, THEN SMILING) I guess we're not.

DISSOLVE TO: *

43 SERIES OF SHOTS OF THE GROUP ENJOYING DINNER - 43
ROBIN AND TED ARE AT EASE NOW.
(NARRATOR (V.O.), TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN,
BOB)

NARRATOR (V.O.)

You see kids, friendship is an *
involuntary reflex, it just happens, *
you can't help it. That first *
Thanksgiving turned out to be a *
wonderful dinner with the four people *
I love most in the world... and Bob. *
And it did become a tradition. That's *
why every year we go to Aunt Lily and *
Uncle Marshall's for Thanksgiving.

DISSOLVE TO:

44 INT. APARTMENT - A BIT LATER - NIGHT (NIGHT 5) 44 *
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN, BOB, FEMALE
ROBOTIC VOICE (O.S.))

THE GROUP'S STILL WORKING ON THE MEAL. BARNEY HOLDS
UP THE LAPTOP, WHICH HAS SLAPCOUNTDOWN.COM UP.

BARNEY

Check it out! We're in the last twenty seconds of Marshall's countdown to nothing.

LILY

Oh, just put it away.

BARNEY

How does it feel Marshall? To sit there impotently, your large, flaccid hand just dangling in the wind...

FEMALE ROBOTIC VOICE (O.S.)

The slap will occur in ten...nine...

EVERYONE LOOKS OVER AT THE LAPTOP.

BARNEY

Wow, robotic, vaguely British female voice. Classy touch, dude! You really worked hard on this thing! Too bad!

LILY

Barney, put it away.

BARNEY

I will. In five...four...

LILY TURNS TO MARSHALL.

LILY

You can slap him.

BARNEY'S EYES WIDEN.

BARNEY

Wait--

FEMALE ROBOTIC VOICE (O.S.)

...two...one...

BEFORE BARNEY KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING, MARSHALL PLANTS
ON BARNEY'S FACE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FOREHAND SLAP
IN THE HISTORY OF SLAPPING.

*
*

BARNEY

Ow!!!

MARSHALL

That's three!

BARNEY

Ow!!!

MARSHALL

(TO LILY) Thanks, baby, you're the
best.

BARNEY

Ow!!! Man, that really hurt.

MARSHALL

And, as an added bonus: I've composed
a song just for this occasion. Ted,
lights?

TED DIMS THE LIGHTS. MARSHALL WALKS OVER TO THE
PIANO. THE OTHERS FOLLOW, EVEN BARNEY, WHO'S STILL
RUBBING HIS FACE.

MARSHALL STARTS PLAYING AN ORIGINAL COMPOSITION,
ENTITLED, "YOU JUST GOT SLAPPED."

*

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

(SINGING) *WHAT IS THAT FEELING? /* *
THAT'S PUT YOU IN YOUR PLACE? / *
THE RED HOT BURNING ON THE SIDE OF *
YOUR FACE... *

WE SLOWLY DISSOLVE ACROSS THE GROUP LISTENING (A LITTLE LIKE THE "WE ARE THE WORLD" VIDEO). TED AND ROBIN EXCHANGE A SMILE.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

(SINGING) *WHEN YOU FEEL THE BLOOD RUSH* *
TO YOUR CHEEK / *
AND TEARS FILL YOUR EYES.../ *
YOUR LIPS ARE TREMBLING, YOU CAN'T *
SPEAK / *
YOU'RE TRYING NOT TO CRY... *

EVERYONE'S REALLY ENJOYING THIS EXCEPT BARNEY. TED AND ROBIN BOTH HOLD UP LIGHTERS.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

(SINGING) *YOU JUST GOT SLAPPED /* *
ACROSS THE FACE MY FRIEND.../ *
YOU JUST GOT SLAPPED / *
YES, THAT REALLY HAPPENED / *
AND EVERYBODY SAW IT / *
EVERYONE LAUGHED AND CLAPPED / *
'CUZ IT WAS AWESOME.../ *
THE WAY YOU JUST GOT SLAPPED...

MARSHALL FINISHES WITH A FLOURISH AND EVERYONE APPLAUDS, BARNEY INCLUDED. *

MARSHALL (CONT'D) *

Happy Slapsgiving, everyone. *

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

45 INT. KITCHEN - LATER (NIGHT 5) 45
(TED, MARSHALL, BARNEY, LILY, ROBIN)

THE GANG LOOKS AT THE ENORMOUS PILE UP OF DIRTY
DISHES.

LILY

Well... have fun, guys.

TED

Man, this is gonna be a major cleanup.

WITHOUT THINKING, THEY ALL SALUTE.

EVERYONE

Major Cleanup.

... AND THEY IMMEDIATELY REGRET IT.

MARSHALL

Aw crap. We're gonna be doing this
all the time now, aren't we?

ROBIN

That's the general idea.

EVERYONE

(SALUTING) General Idea.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW