

INSOMNIA CAFE

SCENE IDEAS

Written by Patrick Garbin

SCENE ONE: Inside Insomnia Café

Most of the show's scenes occur inside the café

OPEN ON: CHERYL is sitting at the café's bar while HACK is bartending.

CHERYL: (frustrated) You know, Hack... It has almost gotten to the point where I'd sleep with almost anyone to get the right part in the right movie.

CHERYL continues to complain to HACK that she has not even had the smallest of parts in a television show or movie in nearly a year. She is upset, broke, and desperate enough to do almost anything. As CHERYL grieves, HACK is consoling her.

HACK: (known to be an admirer of women) Does "almost anyone" include myself?

CHERYL: (doubting) What part in a movie could YOU get for me?

HACK explains that the film he knows of is low budget but CHERYL would be a perfect fit for the leading female part.

CHERYL: (somewhat excited) Go on. I'll take almost any work now, especially if I have a leading role. What's the name of the film?

HACK explains that the film's title is "Hammerin' Hack". Interestingly, HACK will produce, direct, and run the film's only camera (CHERYL is starting to realize that she wants no part in HACK's film). In fact, the filming will be done from HACK's apartment (bedroom), will be X-rated, and HACK will also play the leading male.

SCENE ONE ends with HACK acting amused while CHERYL seems almost disgusted.

As SCENE ONE ends, Insomnia Café's introduction and/or theme music plays. SCENE ONE should last, at most, one minute or so.

SCENE TWO: Inside Insomnia Café

OPEN ON: CHERYL, DUNCAN, REWIND, and PUSSY drinking inside the café.

The characters of Insomnia Café are often joking and making small talk with one another inside the café.

As dialogue is exchanged amongst CHERYL, DUNCAN, REWIND, and PUSSY, JUDGE THELMA enters the café.

MS. SHILTZ: (loudly) Here comes the Judge!!!

A reoccurrence on Insomnia Café is whenever JUDGE THELMA enters the café for the first time in all episodes, someone inside the café says out loud "Here comes the Judge!"

Perhaps the most appealing aspect of this reoccurrence is that it is said by someone at random in every episode. "Here comes the Judge!" may be said by the lead character Cheryl, a supporting character, a recurring character, or some extra sitting in the background of the café. On The Simpsons, viewers love the fact that there is a couch gag during the title sequence that is always different on each episode. A random character saying "Here comes the Judge!" is so appealing that Insomnia Café viewers who missed a particular episode will most surely ask "Who said 'Here comes the Judge!' in the last episode?"

During the joking and small talk amongst characters, REWIND (very gay and in his early 40s) is starting to notice that a kid in his teens has been starring at him for quite some time. REWIND approaches the 15-year old boy and asks if they know one another.

KID: No, we've never met.

REWIND: Well, would you mind telling me why you have been starring at me for the last 15 minutes?

KID: Because I believe that you're my dad.....(REWIND is obviously in shock).

End of SCENE TWO

SCENE THREE: Inside Insomnia Café

OPEN ON: REWIND starring at KID in shock over his statement that he is the KID's father. CHERYL, DUNCAN, PUSSY, and JUDGE THELMA look on seemingly as surprised as REWIND.

REWIND: There MUST be some mistake (laughing)!!!

The KID mentions how he was born in San Francisco (where REWIND is from) in 1990 and has lived there ever since. Recently, his mother, CHARLENE, admittedly told the KID that he was conceived during a night of passion mixed in with lots of drugs and alcohol. It was such a wild night, in fact, that CHARLENE cannot remember the father's name (although she'd recognize him if she saw him). CHARLENE has told the KID that she has heard that the father is homosexual, living in Los Angeles with his mother (although he is 40+ years old), and somehow works in the film industry.

KID: After lots of searching, time, and with the help of a private investigator, I have been led to believe that you are my father!

REWIND is still in a state of shock. The KID says that he will mention to his mom (CHARLENE) that he believes that he has found his father. CHARLENE will probably want to meet REWIND to make sure. The KID leaves the café to contact his mom to tell her to leave San Francisco and come to Los Angeles for confirmation.

CHERYL: Well, obviously BRIAN (the KID) is mistaken, right REWIND? (No answer from REWIND) Right REWIND (louder with more emphasis)???

REWIND: (softly) Maybe not...

DUNCAN: Maybe not??? You're gay! How can you conceive a child?

REWIND goes on to discuss his life 15-20 years ago.

REWIND: If you think that I'm a sex-crazed, flaming, loser homosexual NOW, you should have seen me in the late 80s and early 90s.

REWIND discusses how he used to really party in San Francisco without a care in the world. He would indulge himself with sex, drugs, and alcohol almost on a daily basis. Many of his sexual encounters were with several partners at once during all night orgies.

PUSSY: That still does not explain everything.

JUDGE: Yeah! Unless CHARLENE is a male and men could somehow give birth in San Francisco during the early 1990s, I'm still confused.

REWIND: You know how I often mention that I've probably slept with over 1,000 people? (characters nod) Well, not all of those are guys! There were a few wild nights years ago where I had sex with women.

CHERYL: If you're gay, why would you have sex with a woman?

REWIND: Girlfriend, if you took the drugs I took and drank as much as I did, you'd have sex with the JUDGE!

REWIND: And there are always those girls that would just love to have sex with a gay man, especially with drugs and alcohol mixed into the picture. It's some kind of "mental" satisfaction for them.

REWIND goes on to say that it is a possibility that he MIGHT have fathered a child. He does recollect some wild nights in San Francisco years ago where he did have sex with a woman on a rare occasion.

CHERYL: And you didn't wear condoms?

REWIND: Did I mention all of the drugs and alcohol I was using at the time (sarcastically but frustrated)?

BRIAN reenters the café after having been gone for 1-2 minutes.

BRIAN: Excuse me, Mr. Rewind? Can I get a phone number where I can reach you?

REWIND: Sure (writes down number). Now, when Mommy comes to L.A. from San Fran, you give me call. We'll get this "thing" straightened out.

BRIAN: Okay. See you later, Dad... (characters are wide-eyed).

****End of SCENE THREE****

SCENE FOUR: Rewind and his mother's apartment

****It is well known that Rewind's MOTHER (mid 60s) has a serious problem with REWIND being gay, and always has. She constantly teases him and wonders aloud how he could be homosexual. Despite her torment, MOTHER does love REWIND and allows him to live in her apartment.****

MOTHER: (Upon hearing that REWIND may be a father) I KNEW that you weren't gay!!!

REWIND: Mother, you know that I am. If I do have a son, it is because of an "accident" a long time ago.

MOTHER and REWIND continue having a conversation about BRIAN that lasts 2 or 3 minutes. They discuss if REWIND owes any money to BRIAN and/or CHARLENE, where will BRIAN live, will BRIAN live in Mother's apartment, will BRIAN and CHARLENE live in the apartment? Both REWIND and the MOTHER are becoming very frustrated with one another.

MOTHER: That's fucking great! I now might have a strange woman, an illegitimate child, and a faggot son living under my roof!

They continue to argue.

REWIND: Fine! I'm leaving and going over to CHERYL's. She doesn't mind the fact that I'm...I'm...(struggling to find something to say)...that I'm a faggot!!!

****End of SCENE FOUR****

SCENE FIVE: CHERYL's apartment

Besides inside the café, Cheryl's apartment is the most popular place where scenes occur. CHERYL can often be found there wondering aloud, talking on the phone, or having a personal conversation with one of the other characters.

This scene should be short (two to three minutes). REWIND and CHERYL, who are very good friends, discuss the possibility of REWIND being a father to BRIAN and what the implications could be. From this scene, it is apparent that REWIND and CHERYL have a wonderful friendship and they both would do anything for one another. By the end of the scene, after much conversation and thinking, REWIND is convinced that he is BRIAN's dad and will do what it takes to be a good father to the boy.

End of SCENE FIVE

SCENE SIX: Inside Insomnia Café

OPEN ON: A very nervous REWIND pacing the floor inside the café. Several of the characters attention is drawn on him. REWIND is dressed a little nicer than usual. JOHN CROW (recurring character) enters the café and notices REWIND.

JOHN: Hey, Rewind. What's going on? You look a little nervous.

REWIND: (glancing at his watch) Lets just say that any minute now, I may be meeting the mother of my son.

JOHN: (extremely puzzled—he has no idea of REWIND's situation). Okay...whatever. On that note, I think I'm going to get a drink.

JOHN walks to the bar and starts to talk with HACK.

For the next couple of minutes, REWIND has a conversation with CHERYL, DUNCAN, and PUSSY. He is obviously nervous but very anxious to meet CHARLENE. Upon their meeting, it should be confirmed if BRIAN is REWIND's child or not.

CHARLENE walks in to the café. She is rather attractive but extremely "weathered". She can definitely pass for someone who has done more than their share of drugs and alcohol in the past. She has an ungracious attitude and personality.

BRIAN enters the café directly behind his mom.

BRIAN: Mom! There he is (pointing to REWIND)! Is that him? Is that Dad???

CHARLENE slowly approaches REWIND. She studies him head to toe and looks him over for 10-15 seconds.

CHARLENE: No way in Hell! (pause)

BRIAN: What?!?

CHARLENE: There is no way this is your father. Hell, there is no way I would have had sex with this guy.

REWIND: Look here, sister. You don't have to be insulting. I'm just as relieved as you are (not being entirely truthful)! Are you sure I shouldn't take a blood test, or something???

CHARLENE: Don't worry about it. I had sex with plenty of unattractive men years ago, some of them gay. But I would have never, ever slept with you. I'm sorry but I would remember you, no matter how many drinks I had or pills I had popped.

CHARLENE: Brian! I told you not to trust that private investigator, especially because his name was supposedly "Magnum P.I.".

Characters make small talk for several seconds.

Just when CHARLENE and BRIAN are about to walk out of the café, CHARLENE notices JOHN CROW at the bar.

CHARLENE: John?!? John Crow?!? (JOHN turns around from the bar and seems to recognize CHARLENE). It's been years! Do you remember me? From San Francisco?

JOHN: Charlene!! It HAS been years! What...15 or so? Boy, we had some wild times in San Fran. (JOHN sees BRIAN) Who is this guy (speaking of BRIAN), Charlene? Is this your son?

PUSSY: (under her breath) He may be yours also...

CHERYL: (remembering that the PI indicated to CHARLENE and BRIAN that the father lived with his mother in L.A.) Um, John... You don't happen to live with your mother, do you?

REWIND: (remembering that the PI indicated that the father was gay) Um, John (REWIND seems excited)... You don't happen to be gay, are you?

BRIAN: (towards JOHN) Dad???

JOHN looks extremely confused as the episode ends.