

Rate-A-Date

(Restaurant. Couple enters. There are two sportscasters off to the side in the dark; lights up on them later.)

Mike Hi. Party of two, Dirkson. Well, I’m Dirkson, she’s Jones. But for tonight I guess we’re the Dirkson party. *(looking to her, not wanting to offend)* Or, we could be Jones?

Luanne Dirkson is OK.

Waitress Dirkson, for two. I’ll be able to seat you in just a minute.

Ted *(lights up on “sportscasters” Jerry and Ted; suit coats, headsets with mics)* Well, Jerry, we’re back with tonight’s “Rate-A-Date” couple.

Jerry That’s right Ted. Mike Dirkson and Luanne Jones, together for the first time.

Ted And if all goes well, maybe they’ll see more of each other. You know Jerry, the last time Mike went out on a date, things did not go so well. Mike has got to do better in this heat or he may be eliminated from the competition. Your thoughts?

Jerry I have to agree with you, Ted. He’s a promising young athlete but he simply must execute on the fundamentals.

Ted Let’s watch the action.

A

Waitress I can show you to your table now.

Mike Would you like the window seat?

Luanne Uh, sure. *(she goes over to the seat, waits for him to pull out the chair, he sits; she clears her throat)* Ahem!

B

Mike Got a little frog in your throat? Waitress, can’t you see she needs some water?

Waitress I’ll be right back.

Jerry Ooh, missed that cue, didn’t he Ted?

Ted That’s gonna cost him.

Mike Sit down, take a load off. You look tired. *(he looks at his menu, she sits, mildly frustrated)* I’ve never been here before but my mother says it’s a great place.

Luanne Your mother?

Mike Yeah she knows all the good places to eat.

Forging A Script – Author’s First Draft

Luanne You two close?

Mike She stops by a lot.

Luanne So she must not live too far away.

Mike I can see her place from mine...(beat) in the hall mirror. (she reacts, he tries to soften it) She has her own bathroom. **C**

Ted (can't believe it) After all the remedial training, he brings up the mother.

Jerry He's definitely in trouble, Ted.

Luanne You live with your mother? (waitress interrupts)

Waitress (bringing water) Here you go. Our special tonight is Alaskan crab.

Mike That sounds good to me. Leeann?

Luanne It's Luanne.

Mike Sorry.

Jerry Yikes. That'll hurt in the morning. **D**

Luanne Uh, give me just a minute, would you?

Waitress No problem. I'll check back a little later.

Mike Trouble making up your mind? That happens to me, too, sometimes. **E**

Luanne (mildly defensive) I just need a minute to look over the menu.

Mike Sure, sure. (he stares at her making her uncomfortable; she turns away from him to keep some privacy. She looks again at him; he smiles when their eyes meet; she smiles back but is obviously uncomfortable)

Ted You know, Jerry, I thought Mike had been working on his form, but he's looking completely out of shape here tonight.

Jerry It really is sad to see.

Luanne OK, I've decided.

Mike Your eyes look lovely in this light. **F**

Luanne (softening a little) Oh, well, thank you. (pause; suddenly struck anew with the strangeness of it) You live with your mother?

Mike (sweetly, changing the subject) Let me call our waitress. (yelling) Hey, Waitress!

Forging A Script – Author’s First Draft

Waitress *(quickly coming over)* Yes Sir.

Mike Our menus are closed... *(she doesn't get his point)*
That's your cue. *(to Luanne)* With some people you
have to spell it out. *(to waitress)* The lady is ready G
to order.

Waitress Sorry. What would you like?

Luanne I'll have the Angel hair seafood medley salad.

Waitress Very good. Anything to drink?

Luanne Water's fine.

Waitress And you Sir, to drink?

Mike I'll have a root beer.

Waitress *(can't believe it)* Crab and root beer...

Mike Make it diet root beer. *(to Luanne)* I'm watching my
girlish figure.

Waitress Diet root beer. I'll go put this in. *(exits)*

Mike You look healthy. Do you diet?

Luanne Uh, well, sometimes I...*(stops herself)* you know,
that's really a personal question.

Ted Ouch. That'll leave a mark.

Mike Sorry, I just like women who are in good physical
shape. But enough about me. Let's talk about you. H
(takes her hand) What do you think about...me so
far?

Luanne *(pulls her hand away)* No, let's talk about you.
What you do?

Mike Well, I'm a broker of collectibles.

Luanne *(suddenly excited)* Antiques? I love antiques. My
grandmother used to collect art deco. So do you
work at Sotheby's?

Mike Actually, I buy and sell Star Trek stuff on Ebay.

Luanne You can make a living at that?

Mike I wish! I'm taking some night courses at DeVry.

Luanne You know what Mike? I've got this "thing" I just
remembered I've got to take care of.

Mike You have to go? We haven't even eaten.

Luanne I'll see you later. Don't bother getting up. I'll call a
cab.

Mike Uh, well, can I call you later?

Luanne Not for a while. I’m getting over a real horrendous relationship.

Mike Oh, I’m sorry. How long did it last?

Luanne Hmm... *(looking at her watch)* about 45 minutes. Well, see you later.

Ted Jerry, I don’t think anyone is going to pick up Mike’s contract now. I

Jerry Still, he’s young. Maybe he could pull it together.

Mike *(clueless it was him)* What kind of a jerk could do that much damage to a woman in 45 minutes? *(waitress has set down first plate; she’s still holding second plate)* Just leave that here...I’ll eat it.

Jerry You’re right, he’s finished. Well I’m Jerry—

Ted And I’m Ted—

Jerry And that’s all for this edition of Rate-A-D J

BLACKOUT

Script Assessment Page

This checklist is intended as a guide, rather than a foolproof means of evaluation. A good script does not necessarily include all of these elements, but many should be evident.

The script ...

- § has clear and adequate conflict
- § lacks conflict, but makes up for it with _____
- § gives the exposition concisely and clearly
- § is clever
- § is engaging and holds attention
- § creates high audience identification
- § has a single focus; does not cover too much
- § is clear and concise; has no “dead wood”
- § is about a real issue, and is addressed in a realistic manner
- § draws characters sympathetically and credibly
- § is real (even if it’s broad – it’s still rooted in reality)
- § has dialogue that sounds like real conversation
- § earns enough, in other words it would add to a service and merits the time necessary to perform
- § is credible, “I believe it”
- § shows and does not tell
- § does not preach
- § avoids pat answers to complex issues
- § is touching or funny
- § is not melodramatic
- § does not contain humor extraneous to the characters or situation
- § demonstrates a clear sense of suspense
- § is not predictable
- § demonstrates clear structure, “movement” (inciting action, rising action, climax)

Forging A Script –First Edit

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Rate-A-Date

A

(Restaurant. Couple enters. There are two sportscasters off to the side in the dark; lights up on them later.)

Mike Hi. Party of two, Dirkson. Well, I'm Dirkson, she's Jones. But for tonight I guess we're the Dirkson party. (looking to her, not wanting to offend) Or, we could be Jones?

Luanne Dirkson is OK.

Waitress Dirkson, for two. I'll be able to seat you in just a minute.

Ted *(lights up on "sportscasters" Julie and Ted; suits coats, headsets with mics)* Well, Julie, we're back with tonight's "Rate-A-Date" couple as they head to the fine dining portion of their date.

Julie That's right Ted. Mike Dirkson and Luanne Jones, together for the first time.

Ted And if all goes well, maybe they'll see more of each other. You know Julie, the last time Mike went out on a date, things did not go so well. Mike has got to do better in this heat or he may

be eliminated from the competition. Your thoughts?

Julie I have to agree with you, Ted. He's a promising young athlete but he simply must execute on the fundamentals. The same is true for Luanne. She's lost some of that fire she had in her earlier career.

Ted Let's watch the action.

Waitress I can show you to your table now.

Mike Would you like the window seat?

Luanne Uh, sure. *(she goes over to the seat, waits for him to pull out the chair, he sits waits for a second, then realizes he's not going to help her; she sits a bit perturbed)*

Waitress I'll be right back.

Julie Ooh, missed that cue, didn't he Ted?

Ted That's gonna cost him.

Waitress Take a look at the menus. I'll be right back with some water.

Luanne Wow. These are pretty steep prices.

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Jerry

C

mdemel 5/19/05 2:23 PM
Deleted: ; she

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: c

mdemel 5/19/05 2:23 PM
Deleted: /

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: ears her throat) Ahem!

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Jerry

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Jerry,

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Mike . Got a little frog in your throat? Waitress, can't you see she needs some water? .

mdemel 5/19/05 10:16 AM
Deleted: Jerry

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Jerry,

D

Forging A Script –First Edit

Mike I hear it's worth it.

Luanne *(awkward, trying to see if he's prepared to pay for her dinner too)* Uh, do you have enough to cover, uh, what you'll be ordering?

Mike I just put it all on plastic.

Luanne I could pay you back for mine later, if you want.

Mike *(getting it; sympathetic)* Oh don't worry, I'm buying. I guess I didn't spell that out when I asked you out. **E**

Luanne *(a bit relieved)* Sorry, I just didn't want to presume.

Julie A little falter there but a nice recovery.

Mike You know, my mother recommended this place.

Luanne Your mother?

Mike Yeah she knows all the good spots to eat.

Ted *(can't believe it)* After all the remedial training, he brings up his mother.

Julie He's in trouble, Ted.

Luanne *(mild disgust)* What grown man still relies on his mother? *(he stares at her; she tries to recover)* I guess you two are close?

Mike *(insulted)* She's my mother. Of course we're close. **G**

Waitress *(bringing water)* Here you go. Our special tonight is Alaskan crab.

Mike That sounds good to me. Leeann?

Luanne It's Luanne.

Mike Sorry.

Julie Yikes. They'll pick that apart when they watch the game films. **H**

Luanne Uh, give me just a minute, would you?

Waitress No problem. I'll check back a little later.

Mike Trouble making up your mind? That happens to me, too, sometimes.

Luanne *(mildly defensive)* I just need a minute to look over the menu.

Mike Sure, sure. *(he stares at her making her uncomfortable; she turns away from him to*

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: You live with your mother? *(waitress interrupts)*

mdemel 5/19/05 10:42 AM
Deleted: Jerry

mdemel 5/19/05 10:42 AM
Deleted: That'll hurt in the morning.

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Sit down, take a load off. You look tired. *(he looks at his menu, she sits, mildly frustrated)* I've never been here before but my mother says it's a great

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: places

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: <sp> -

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: the

mdemel 5/19/05 10:35 AM
Deleted: Jerry

mdemel 5/19/05 10:35 AM
Deleted: definitely

Forging A Script –First Edit

	keep some privacy. She looks again at him; he smiles when their eyes meet; she smiles back but is obviously uncomfortable)	Waitress	Very good. Anything to drink?	
		Luanne	Water's fine.	
Ted	You know, <u>Julie</u> , these two have been working on their form, but tonight they're both looking a little out of shape.	Waitress	And you Sir, to drink?	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Jerry, I thought Mike had been working on his form, but he's looking completely out of shape here tonight.
		Mike	I'll have a root beer. Make it diet root beer. <i>(to Luanne)</i> I'm watching my girlish figure.	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: .
Julie	It really is sad to see.			Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Mike .
Luanne	OK, I've decided.	Waitress	I'll go put this in. <i>(exits)</i>	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Jerry
Mike	<u>You know, I probably should have said this earlier... but that's a nice dress.</u>	Mike	You look healthy. Do you diet?	mdemel 5/19/05 10:17 AM Deleted: Jerry
Luanne	<i>(softening a little)</i> Oh, well, thank you. <i>(pause, suddenly struck anew with the strangeness of it)</i> <u>Do you live</u> with your mother?	Luanne	Uh, well, sometimes I... <i>(stops herself)</i> you know, that's <u>kind of</u> a personal question.	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Diet root beer.
		Ted	Ouch. That'll leave a mark.	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Your eyes look lovely in this light.
Mike	<i>(sweetly, changing the subject)</i> Let me call our waitress. <i>(yelling)</i> Hey, Waitress!	Mike	Sorry, I just like women who are in good physical shape. But enough about me. Let's talk about you. <i>(takes her hand)</i> What do you think about...me so far?	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: really
Waitress	<i>(quickly coming over)</i> Yes Sir.			Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: You
Mike	The lady is ready to order.	Luanne	<i>(pulls her hand away)</i> No, let's talk about you. What you do?	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Our menus are closed... <i>(she doesn't get his point)</i> That's your cue. <i>(to Luanne)</i> With some people you have to spell it out. <i>(to waitress)</i>
Waitress	What would you like?	Mike	Well, <u>a little of this, a little of that.</u> Currently I'm a broker of collectibles.	Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM Deleted: Sorry.
Luanne	I'll have the Angel hair seafood medley salad.			

Forging A Script –First Edit

Luanne (suddenly excited) Antiques? I love antiques. My grandmother used to collect art deco. So do you work at Sotheby's? L

Mike Actually, I buy and sell Star Trek stuff on Ebay.

Luanne You make a living at that?

Mike I wish! I go to all the Star Trek conventions. I do a mean Spock imitation. *(holds out his hand in the Vulcan "V" shape)*. I'm picking up an alien life-form, Captain Kirk.

Luanne But what about a career?

Mike *(defensive)* I'm taking night courses at DeVry.

Luanne So you're not working anywhere?

Mike Well, school is work.

Luanne How do you pay the bills?

Mike Mom helps out. M

Luanne So you *do* live with your mother?

Mike Why do you have a problem with that? She's got her own room.

Luanne Mike, you're a nice guy and all but it really creeps me out you live with your mom, and that you like Star Trek, and that you don't work anywhere. I think it was a mistake to go out with you tonight. I don't mean to be rude, but I think I better go.

Mike We haven't even eaten.

Luanne I'll save your mother some money.

Mike Uh, well, can I call you later?

Luanne Not for a while. I'm getting over a real horrendous relationship.

Mike Oh, I'm sorry. How long did it last?

Luanne Hmm... *(looking at her watch)* about 25 minutes. Well, see you later.

Julie Ted, I think Luanne fouled out with that last play. N

Ted And I think Mike's benched for the season too.

Mike *(clueless it was him)* What kind of a guy could do that much damage to a woman in 25 minutes? *(waitress has set down first plate;*

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: can

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: You have to go?

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: see you later. Don't bother getting up. I'll call a cab.

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: some

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: You know what Mike? I've got this "thing" I just remembered I've got to take care of.

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: 45

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: Ted . Jerry, I don't think anyone is going to pick up Mike's contract now. .

mdemel 5/19/05 11:04 AM
Deleted: Julie . Still, he's young. Maybe Mike could pull it together for another go. .

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: jerk

Mark Demel 5/22/02 3:16 PM
Deleted: 45

Forging A Script –First Edit

she's still holding second plate) Just leave that here...I'll eat it.

| Julie ~~Never mind,~~ he's finished. Well I'm Julie-

Ted And I'm Ted—

| Julie And that's all for this edition of Rate-A-Date.

BLACKOUT

mdemel 5/19/05 10:47 AM
Deleted: Jerry

mdemel 5/19/05 10:48 AM
Deleted: You're right

mdemel 5/19/05 10:48 AM
Deleted: Jerry

mdemel 5/19/05 10:46 AM
Deleted: Jerry

Forging A Script - Second Edit

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Date of the Week

(Restaurant. Couple enters. There are two sportscasters off to the side in the dark; lights up on them later.)

Mike Hi. Party of two, Dirkson. Well, I'm Dirkson, she's Jones. But for tonight I guess we're the Dirkson party. *(looking to her, not wanting to offend)* Or, we could be Jones?

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Ted *(lights up on "sportscasters" Julie and Ted; suit coats, headsets with mics)* Well, Julie, we're back with tonight's "Rate-A-Date" couple as they head to the fine dining portion of their date.

Julie That's right Ted. Mike Dirkson and Luanne Jones, together for the first time.

Waitress I can show you to your table now. **A**

Ted And if all goes well, maybe they'll see more of each other. You know Julie, the last time Mike

went out on a date, things did not go so well. Mike has got to do better in this heat or he may be eliminated from the competition. Your thoughts?

mdemel 5/17/05 4:20 PM
Deleted: Rate-A-Date

Julie I have to agree with you, Ted. He's got a lot of talent and experience but he simply must execute on the fundamentals. The same is true for Luanne. She's lost some of that fire she had in her earlier years.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:32 AM
Deleted: a promising young athlete

Ted Let's watch the action.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:32 AM
Deleted: career

Mike *(they approach the table)* Would you like the window seat?

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:31 AM
Deleted: Waitress . I can show you to your table now. .

Luanne Uh, sure. *(she goes over to the seat, waits for him to pull out the chair, he sits; she waits for a second, then realizes he's not going to help her)*

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:50 AM
Deleted: ; she sits a bit perturbed

Julie Ooh, missed that cue, didn't he Ted?

Ted Woops – the night has just started and he's already missing an easy one.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:39 AM
Deleted: That's gonna cost him

Julie True but it's still early – she can't over-react here.

Waitress Take a look at the menus. I'll be right back with some water. **B**

Forging A Script - Second Edit

Mike Sorry again for not being able to pick you up in my car. I hope the cab ride was okay.

Julie It was fine. We could have taken my car.

Mike No – my mechanic’s right around the corner – he said he’d drop it off here while we eat.

Luanne Wow. These are pretty steep prices.

Mike I hear it’s worth it.

Luanne (awkward, trying to see if he’s prepared to pay for her dinner too) Uh, do you have enough to cover, uh, what you’ll be ordering?

Mike I just put it all on plastic.

Ted Okay, very quickly they approach this first hurdle of who’s paying...

Julie They’re both to blame on this one – should have taken care of this in pregame prep. **C**

Luanne I could pay you back for mine later, if you want.

Mike (getting it; sympathetic) Oh don’t worry, I’m buying. I guess I didn’t spell that out when I asked you out.

Luanne (a bit relieved) Sorry, I just didn’t want to presume.

Julie Very nice. Working as a team there!

Mike You know, my mother recommended this place.

Ted Ohhhh!!!!

Luanne Your mother?

Julie He’s in trouble, Ted!

Mike Yeah she knows all the good spots to eat.

Ted (can’t believe it) This is what I mean by executing on the fundamentals.

Julie You’re right, Ted, bringing up “mother” – that’s just not what you expect from a veteran.

Luanne (he stares at her; she tries to recover) I guess you two are close? **D**

Mike No, she lives two miles away.

Waitress (bringing water) Here you go.

Ted Saved by buzzer here, but my guess is she’ll try to exploit that weakness.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:43 AM
Deleted: A little falter there but a nice recovery
 Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:44 AM
Deleted: .

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:45 AM
Deleted: After all the remedial training, he brings up his mother

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:45 AM
Deleted: He’s in trouble, Ted

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:47 AM
Deleted: (mild disgust) What grown man still relies on his mother?

Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:47 AM
Deleted: (insulted) She’s my mother. Of course we’re close.

Forging A Script - Second Edit

Julie	He's going to have to make some adjustments during the break.	E	Luanne	Okay, I've decided.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:31 AM Deleted: k
Waitress	Okay, our special tonight is Alaskan crab.		Mike	You know, I probably should have said this earlier... but that's a nice dress.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:54 AM Deleted: o
Mike	That sounds good to me. Luanne?		Luanne	<i>(softening a little)</i> Oh, well, thank you.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:30 AM Deleted: e
Luanne	It's Luanne.		Julie	I don't think that move will fool anybody.	F
Mike	Sorry.		Luanne	<i>(pause; suddenly struck anew with the strangeness of it)</i> Do you <u>really live with...</u> ?	
	<i>That's gonna cost him later. He's just falling apart!</i>				
Luanne	Uh, give me just a minute, would you?		Mike	<i>(sweetly, changing the subject)</i> Let me call our waitress. <i>(yelling)</i> Hey, Waitress!	Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:55 AM Deleted: Julie - Yikes.
Waitress	No problem. I'll check back a little later.				Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:55 AM Deleted: They'll pick that apart when they watch the game films. -
Mike	Trouble making up your mind? That happens to me, too, sometimes.		<u>Ted</u>	<u>A deflection but it's only a matter of time before he pays for that earlier mistake.</u>	G
			Waitress	<i>(quickly coming over)</i> Yes Sir.	
Luanne	<i>(mildly defensive)</i> I just need a minute to look over the menu.		Mike	The lady is ready to order.	
Mike	Sure, sure. <i>(he stares at her making her uncomfortable;)</i>		Waitress	What would you like?	
			Luanne	I'll have the Angel hair seafood medley salad.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 9:56 AM Deleted: she turns away from him to keep some privacy. She looks again at him; he smiles when their eyes meet; she smiles back but is obviously uncomfortable
Ted	You know, Julie, these two have been working on their form, but tonight they're both looking a little out of shape.		Waitress	Very good. Anything to drink?	
			Luanne	Water's fine.	
Julie	It's really is sad to see.				

Forging A Script - Second Edit

Waitress	And you Sir, to drink?		
Mike	I'll have a root beer. Make it diet root beer. <i>(Luanne)</i> I'm watching my <u>weight</u> . H	Julie	Ah, that will get him some points but is it <u>enough to make any difference in the final outcome?</u>
Waitress	I'll go put this in. <i>(exits)</i>	Luanne	<u>What do you specialize in?</u>
Mike	You're fit and trim - <u>do you work out?</u>	Mike	<u>Star Trek stuff.</u>
Luanne	Uh, well, <u>yeah</u> I... <i>(stops herself)</i> you know, that's kind of a personal question.	Ted	We're just seeing a lack of depth on his part. I think you can just chalk this one up in the <u>loss column</u> . J
Ted	Ouch. That'll leave a mark.	Luanne	You make a living at that?
Mike	Sorry, I just <u>admire people</u> who are in good physical shape. But enough about me. Let's talk about you.	Mike	I wish! I go to all the Star Trek conventions. I do a mean Spock imitation. <i>(holds out his hand in the Vulcan "V" shape)</i> . "I'm picking up an alien life-form, Captain Kirk."
Ted	<i>(mildly surprised)</i> Well, there's a nice move. He's trying to minimize the damage. First <u>positive thing we've seen all night</u> . I	Luanne	But what about a career?
Julie	It may be too late, Ted.	Mike	<i>(defensive)</i> I'm taking night courses at DeVry.
Luanne	<u>No</u> , let's talk about you. What do you do?	Luanne	So you're not working anywhere?
Mike	Well, a little of this, a little of that. Currently I'm a broker of collectibles.	Mike	Well, school is work.
Luanne	<i>(suddenly excited)</i> Antiques? I love antiques. My grandmother used to collect art deco.	Julie	He's just going through the motions. I don't think he has anything left.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:02 AM
Deleted: girlish figure.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:03 AM
Deleted: look healthy

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:03 AM
Deleted: . d

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:03 AM
Deleted: diet

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:08 AM
Deleted: Actually, I buy and sell

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:08 AM
Deleted: on Ebay

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:03 AM
Deleted: sometimes

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:06 AM
Deleted: like

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:06 AM
Deleted: women

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:06 AM
Deleted: . *(takes her hand)* What do you think about...me so far?

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:06 AM
Deleted: *(pulls her hand away)*

Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:08 AM
Deleted: So do you work at Sotheby's?

Forging A Script - Second Edit

Luanne	Mike, you're a nice guy and all...			Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:35 AM Deleted: Luanne - How do you pay the bills? .
Ted	Uh, I hate this part of the game. K	Luanne	Well, that was thoughtful of you. How could you afford it?	Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:06 AM Deleted: Hmm... (looking at her watch) about 25 minutes. Well, see you later
Luanne	...but it really bothers me that you like geeky Star Trek stuff, you don't work anywhere and that you live with your mom. I don't mean to be rude, but... I don't think this is going to work out.	Mike	I don't need to worry about money – my dad passed on to me a 42 million dollar software company. I'm taking classes at DeVry to learn more about the industry.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:06 AM Deleted: .
Mike	Wait.	Ted	What a swing in momentum, Julie!	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:33 AM Deleted: creeps
Luanne	I'll save your mother some money, – I'm assuming she pays for your dinner, too.	Julie	I'm stunned. I'm really stunned.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:33 AM Deleted: out you live with your mom, and
Julie	This is just ugly.	Luanne	(sheepishly) I see, so school really is work. L	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: and that
Mike	I don't live with my Mom!	Julie	Ted, I think Luanne has fouled out.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:33 AM Deleted: I think it was a mistake to go out with you tonight.
Ted	Wait a second here.	Mike	Yeah. Oh, and the Star Trek "junk" I collect? That's just so I can relate better to a thirteen year-old kid I'm a Big Brother to. He thinks all that "geeky" stuff is really cool. And you know what? So do I.	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:39 AM Deleted: I think I better go.
Luanne	Well, you still seem very attached, I mean you live two miles from her.	Julie	I guess I misjudged you...	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:34 AM Deleted: We haven't even eaten
Mike	No, she lives two miles from me. I bought her a condo in Schaumburg when my father died four years ago. She was lonely and wanted to live closer to her only son.	Mike	(getting money out of his wallet and putting it on the table) I guess so. Enjoy your salad and (more money) I hope you won't mind getting a cab ride home – I'm sure you'd find something wrong with my Jaguar, too. (exits)	Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:41 AM Deleted: .
Ted	Amazing move! Does he still have a chance here?!			Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: with that last play
				Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: Uh, well, can I call you later?
				mdemel 5/19/05 3:00 PM Deleted: Ted - And I think Mike's benched (... [1])
				Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: Not for a while. I'm getting over a (... [2])
				Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:09 AM Deleted: .
				Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: .
				Mark Demel 7/2/01 10:42 AM Deleted: Oh, I'm sorry. How long did it last?

Forging A Script - Second Edit

Julie He's done it! He's pulled this thing out!

Ted I knew he had it in him, Julie. The fortitude, the confidence... There goes a champion!

Luanne *(waitress arrives with food)* Could you just wrap everything up to go? And if you don't mind – would you order me a cab?

Waitress Sure, I've been there before.

Mike

Julie Well until next time I'm Julie —

Ted And I'm Ted Nobetter —

Julie And that's all for this edition of Date of the Weak.

BLACKOUT

Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:42 AM

Deleted: Still, they're both young. Maybe Mike could pull it together for another go.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:49 AM

Deleted: *(clueless it was him)* What kind of a guy could do that much damage to a woman in 25 minutes? *(waitress has set down first plate; she's still holding second plate)* Just leave that here...I'll eat it.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:49 AM

Deleted: Never mind, he's finished.

Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:54 AM

Deleted:

Mark Demel 7/2/01 11:54 AM

Deleted: Rate-A-Date

Date of the Weak

(Restaurant. Couple enters. There are two sportscasters off to the side in the dark; lights up on them later.)

Mike Hi. Party of two, Dirkson. Well,

Waitress I'll be able to seat you in just a minute.

Ted *(lights up on "sportscasters" Julie and Ted; suit coats, headsets with mics)* Well, Julie, we're back with tonight's "Date-of-the-Weak" couple as they head to the fine dining portion of their date.

Julie That's right Ted. Mike Dirkson and Luanne Jones, together for the first time.

Waitress I can show you to your table now.

Ted And if all goes well, maybe they'll see more of each other. You know Julie, the last time Mike went out on a date, things did not go so well. Mike has got to do better in this heat or he may be eliminated, Your thoughts?

Julie I have to agree with you, Ted. He's simply got to execute on the fundamentals. The same is

Ted And they both need to pick up on some of those conversational signals they've been missing lately – that's the key to this game. Let's watch the action. **B**

Mike *(they approach the table)* Would you like the window seat?

Luanne Uh, sure. *(she goes over to the seat, waits for him to pull out the chair, he sits; she waits for a second, then realizes he's not going to help her)*

Julie Ooh, missed that cue, didn't he Ted?

Ted He's already missing an easy one.

Waitress Take a look at the menus. I'll be right back with some water.

Mike Sorry again for not being able to pick you up in my car. I hope the cab ride was okay.

Julie It was fine. We could have taken my car.

Mike No – my mechanic's right around the corner – he said he'd drop it off here while we eat.

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:55 AM
Deleted: , I'm Dirkson, she's Jones. But for tonight I guess we're the Dirkson party. (looking to her, not wanting to offend) Or, we could be Jones? .
 .
 Luanne . Dirkson is OK.

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:55 AM
Deleted: Dirkson, for two.

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:58 AM
Deleted: Woops – the night has just started and

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:58 AM
Deleted: h

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:58 AM
Deleted: Julie . True but it's still early – she can't over-react here. .

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:56 AM
Deleted: from the competition

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:56 AM
Deleted: He's got a lot of talent and experience but

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:56 AM
Deleted: h

Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:57 AM
Deleted: must

Forging A Script - Final Edit

Luanne	Wow. These are pretty steep prices.	Waitress	Okay, our special tonight is Alaskan crab.
Mike	I hear it's worth it.	Mike	That sounds good to me. Luanne?
Mike	<u>Actually</u> , my mother recomm ^C ended this place.	Luanne	It's Luanne.
Ted	Ohhhh!!!!	Mike	Sorry.
Luanne	Your mother?	Julie	Yikes. That's gonna cost him later. He's just falling apart!
Julie	He's in trouble, Ted!	Luanne	Uh, give me just a minute, would you?
Mike	Yeah she knows all the good spots to eat.	Waitress	No problem. I'll check back a little.
Ted	<i>(can't believe it)</i> This is what I mean by executing on the fundamentals.	Mike	Trouble making up your mind?
		Luanne	<i>(mildly defensive)</i> I just ^D id a minute to look over the menu.
Luanne	<i>(he stares at her; she tries to recover)</i> <u>So</u> you two are close?	Mike	Sure, sure. <i>(he stares at her making her uncomfortable;)</i>
Mike	No, she lives two miles away.	Ted	You know, Julie, these two have been working on their form, but tonight they're both looking a little out of shape.
Waitress	<i>(bringing water)</i> Here you go.	Julie	It's really is sad to see.
Ted	Saved by buzzer here, but my guess is she'll try to exploit that weakness.	Luanne	Okay, I've decided.
Julie	He's going to have to make some adjustments during the break.		

Stave – can you take
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:59 AM
Deleted: .
 .
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:59 AM
Deleted: Luanne . *(awkward, trying to see if he's prepared to pay for her dinner too)* Uh, do you have enough to cover, uh, what you'll be ordering? .
 .
 Mike . I just put it all on plastic. .
 .
 Ted . Okay, very quickly they approach this first hurdle of who's paying... .
 .
 Julie . They're both to blame on this one – should have taken care of this in pregame prep. .
 .
 Luanne . I could pay you back for mine later, if you want. .
 .
 Mike . *(getting it; sympathetic)* Oh don't worry, I'm buying. I guess I didn't spell that out when I asked you out. .
 .
 Luanne . *(a bit relieved)* Sorry, I just didn't want to presume. .
 .
 Julie . Very nice. .
 .
 Julie . Working as a team there!
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:59 AM
Deleted: You know
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:00 AM
Deleted: later
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:00 AM
Deleted: That happens to me, too, sometimes. .
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:59 AM
Deleted: .
 Mark Demel 7/3/01 5:59 AM
Deleted: I guess

Forging A Script - Final Edit

Mike	You know, I probably should have said this earlier... but that's a nice dress.	Waitress	I'll go put this in. <i>(exits)</i>
Luanne	<i>(softening a little)</i> Oh, well, thank you.	Mike	You're fit and trim - do you work out?
Julie	I don't think that move will fool anybody.	Luanne	Uh, well, yeah I... <i>(stops herself)</i> you know, that's kind of a personal question.
Luanne	<i>(pause; suddenly struck anew with the strangeness of it)</i> Why do you live so close to your mother?	Ted	Ouch. That'll leave a mark.
Mike	<i>(yelling)</i> Hey, Waitress!	Mike	Sorry, I just admire people who are in good physical shape. But enough about me. Let's talk about you.
Ted	A deflection but it's only a matter of time.	Ted	<i>(mildly surprised)</i> Well, there's a nice move. He's trying to minimize the damage. First positive thing we've seen all night.
Waitress	<i>(quickly coming over)</i> Yes Sir.	Julie	It may be too late, Ted.
Mike	The lady is ready to order.	Luanne	No, let's talk about you. What do you do?
Waitress	What would you like?	Mike	Well, a little of this, a little of that. Currently I'm a broker of collectibles.
Luanne	I'll have the Angel hair seafood medley salad.	Luanne	<i>(suddenly excited)</i> Antiques? I love antiques. My grandmother used to collect art deco.
Waitress	<u>Good choice.</u> Anything to drink?	Julie	Ah, that will get him some points.
Luanne	Water's fine.	Luanne	What do you specialize in?
Waitress	And you Sir, to drink?	Mike	Star Trek stuff.
Mike	I'll have a root beer. Make it diet root beer. <i>(to Luanne)</i> I'm watching my weight.		

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:01 AM
Deleted: D

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:01 AM
Deleted: live

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:01 AM
Deleted: with

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:01 AM
Deleted: *(sweetly, changing the subject)* Let me call our waitress

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:02 AM
Deleted: before he pays for that earlier mistake. -

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:02 AM
Deleted: Very good

Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:03 AM
Deleted: but is it enough to make any difference in the final outcome? -

Forging A Script - Final Edit

			Mike	Wait.	
	Ted	<u>And that will lose him some points.</u>			
	Luanne	You make a living at that? E	Luanne	I'll save your mother some money – I'm assuming she <u>still gives you an allowance.</u>	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:03 AM Deleted: We're just seeing a lack of depth on his part. I think you can just chalk this one up in the loss column.
	Mike	I wish! I go to all the Star Trek conventions. I do a mean Spock imitation. <i>(holds out his hand in the Vulcan "V" shape).</i> "I'm picking up an alien life-form, Captain Kirk."	Julie	This is just ugly.	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:05 AM Deleted: pays for your dinner, too.
			Mike	<u>What do you mean, dependent on my mother?</u>	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:05 AM Deleted: I don't live with my Mom!
	Luanne	But what about a career?	Luanne	<u>You still seem very attached, I mean you live two miles from her.</u>	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:05 AM Deleted: Ted . Wait a second here. .
	Mike	<i>(defensive)</i> I'm taking night courses at DeVry.	Mike	No, she lives two miles from me. I bought her a condo in Schaumburg when my father died four years ago. She was lonely and wanted to live closer to her only son.	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:05 AM Deleted: You don't? Well, y
	Luanne	So you're not working anywhere?			
	Mike	Well, school is work.			
	Julie	He's just going through the motions. I don't think he has anything left.	Ted	Amazing move!	
			Julie	Does he still have a chance here?!	
	Luanne	Mike, you're a nice guy and all...	Luanne	Well, that was thoughtful of you._How could you afford it?	
	Ted	Uh, I hate this part of the game.			
	Luanne	...but it really bothers me that you like geeky Star Trek stuff, you don't work anywhere and that <u>you're overly dependent on</u> your mom. I don't mean to be rude, but... I don't think this is going to work out.	Mike	I don't need to worry about money – my dad passed on to me a 42 million dollar software company. I'm taking classes at DeVry to learn more about the industry.	Mark Demel 7/3/01 6:04 AM Deleted: you live with
			Ted	What a swing in momentum, Julie!	

Julie	I'm stunned. I'm really stunned. <u>You can't judge a book by its cover.</u>	Waitress	Sure, I've been there before.
Luanne	<i>(sheepishly)</i> I see, so school really is work.	Julie	Well until next time I'm Julie <u>Pickonem</u> —
Julie	Ted, I think Luanne has fouled out.	Ted	And I'm Ted Nobetter—
Mike	Yeah. Oh, and the Star Trek "junk" I collect? That's just so I can relate better to a thirteen year-old kid I'm a Big Brother to. He thinks all that "geeky" stuff is really cool. And you know what? So do I.	Julie	And that's all for this edition of "Date-of-the-Weak".
Julie	I guess I misjudged you...		BLACKOUT
Mike	<i>(getting money out of his wallet and putting it on the table)</i> I guess so. Enjoy your salad <i>and (more money)</i> I hope you won't mind getting a cab ride home – I'm sure you'd find something wrong with my Jaguar, too. <i>(exits)</i>		
Julie	He's done it! He's pulled this thing out!		
Ted	I knew he had it in him, Julie. The fortitude, the confidence... There goes a champion!		
Luanne	<i>(waitress arrives with food)</i> Could you just wrap everything up to go? And if you don't mind – would you order me a cab?		