

# **PLAN B**

(Pilot)

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. WEDDING HALL - DAY

An ornate banquet hall in full celebration. A tacky WEDDING SINGER (30s) grips a wireless mic. He belts a sincere ballad with an earnest grin, but his pitch wobbles dangerously.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

It was at this very moment that  
everyone at the wedding discovered  
their plan A was doomed.

The singer hits a shrieking note. A CHANDELIER WOBBLES and crashes to the floor. Guests gasp. The singer swallows and plasters on a showbiz smile.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GAMING TOURNAMENT - DAY

A huge crowd surrounds a row of computer monitors. JADE LI (20s, analytical, determined) stares at her screen. She's a rising esports star, fingers flying over the keys.

COMMENTATOR (V.O.)

Jade "FlameKiller" Li is one kill away

from securing the championship.

Her avatar leaps off a digital cliff. Jade's fingers slip. Her character plummets to virtual death. The crowd gasps. Jade's shoulders slump.

JADE

...No.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET PERFORMER'S STAGE - DAY

OMAR AL-KHALID (40s, once-famous Yemeni musician) strums his guitar in a busy plaza. He closes his eyes, playing a soulful tune. A passerby tosses a coin at him, missing the guitar case and hitting his forehead.

OMAR

Ow! Seriously?

He keeps playing. A little dog grabs a tambourine and runs.

CUT TO:

INT. TECH STARTUP OFFICE - DAY

PRIYA MEHTA (30s, quick-witted stand-up comedian on the side) wears a hoodie emblazoned with a corporate logo. She stands before a whiteboard covered in equations and diagrams.

PRIYA

...So by pivoting our synergy, we can  
optimize—

The CEO busts into the room.

CEO

Priya, we're pivoting you out. We're  
letting you go.

Priya forces a smile.

PRIYA

So my synergy is fired? Cool, cool.

CUT TO:

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY

TANYA PETROVA (30s, Russian ballerina) in pointe shoes spins gracefully across the studio. She pirouettes, leaps, then wobbles. She crashes into the piano. The TEACHER winces.

TEACHER

Maybe... contemporary dance?

CUT TO:

INT. NARROW APARTMENT - MORNING

An alarm blares. B.E. "BENNY" DAVIS (late 30s, charismatic, slightly disheveled) shoots up from bed. He fumbles for his phone and knocks over a stack of motivational books: "HUSTLE FOREVER," "10X YOUR LIFE," "THE POWER OF PLAN A."

BENNY

Oh no, oh no, oh—

He reads an email on his cracked screen.

BENNY (CONT'D)

"...Due to low enrollment and questionable fiscal practices, we're shutting down your life coaching business effective immediately..."

He groans and falls back on his pillow.

BENNY (CONT'D)

I guess that was Plan A.

He stares at a POST-IT on the wall that reads "DON'T KILL YOUR DREAMS." He sighs.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: "DREAM JOB"

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

A faded banner reads "City Community Center - Dream Job Pilot Program, Room 12." The building has seen better days. A sprinkler sputters. A stray cat lounges on a "No Pets" sign.

Benny strides up the walkway carrying a cardboard box of pens, flip charts, and his battered trophy labeled "Best Local Motivational Speaker - Honorable Mention."

BENNY (V.O.)

(to himself)

Plan B: teach people to find their

Plan B.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - HALLWAY - DAY

Benny crosses paths with LUIS RAMOS (50s, stoic Puerto Rican former accountant) carrying a tray of cupcakes.

LUIS

You here for Dream Job?

BENNY

Instructor, actually. Benny Davis.

LUIS

(dry)

Oh. I'm bringing snacks. I'm also  
maybe here to fix my life. We'll see  
which goes better.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ROOM 12 - DAY

The room resembles a classroom - mismatched chairs, a whiteboard  
on which "WELCOME TO PLAN B" is scribbled. Benny arranges  
chairs in a circle. He practices in front of an empty room.

BENNY

(grand)

Welcome, dreamers! I'm your captain on  
this amazing voyage to your next  
chapter-

He makes finger guns. The fluorescent lights flicker. He  
cringes.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Okay. Tone down the finger guns.

People trickle in: Jade, Omar, Priya, Tanya, Luis. Each gives an awkward nod and sits.

BENNY (CONT'D)

(cheerful)

Hi everyone! I'm Benny. Welcome to Dream Job— Plan B— we're still working on the branding.

PRIYA

(whispering to Jade)

"Dream Job" sounds like a pyramid scheme.

JADE

(deadpan)

I signed up because my mom sent me the link with fourteen exclamation points.

LUIS

My daughter signed me up. She said retirement looked too boring on me.



OMAR

I thought there'd be a guitar...

BENNY

There will be metaphorical guitars!

We're going to retune your lives.

The group stares. Priya takes a bite of a cupcake.

TANYA

You are... motivational speaker?

BENNY

(beat)

I used to be. Now I'm your facilitator.

And peer. And friend. And—

PRIYA

IRS auditor? Do you also do taxes?

Laughter breaks the tension. Benny smiles, grateful.

BENNY

Alright. First thing's first: let's do an icebreaker. Go around, say your name, your plan A, and what you want your Plan B to be. I'll start.

He stands tall.

BENNY (CONT'D)

I'm Benny. Plan A: motivational speaking  
empire. Plan B: teaching this class.

(quickly)

Possibly also Plan C: bartending.

PRIYA

That was three plans. This is already  
complicated.

BENNY

Jade, you're up.

JADE

(monotone)

I'm Jade. Plan A: professional gamer.  
That ended when my avatar died in front  
of three million viewers. Plan B: I  
don't know. My mom says law school.

BENNY

And what do \*you\* say?

JADE

(shrugs)

I say I need a break from having  
strangers call me "noob" on the  
internet.

BENNY

Fair! Omar.

OMAR

(warm)

Omar. Plan A: international rock star.  
Plan B: busking star. Plan C: food  
truck? I make good shawarma.

BENNY

An entrepreneur, I love it.

TANYA

I am Tanya. Plan A: prima ballerina at  
Bolshoi. Plan B: ankles say no. Maybe I  
become Pilates instructor... or spy. Spy  
would be fun.

PRIYA

You'd make a great spy. No one suspects  
ballerinas.

BENNY

And you, Priya?

PRIYA

Priya. Plan A: stand-up comedy world tour and CFO of a tech unicorn at the same time. Turns out you can't have a sense of humor in corporate accounting. So here I am. Plan B: maybe writing for TV? Something with health insurance.

LUIS

(deadpan)

Luis. Plan A: accountant. Plan B: retire and relax. My family decided I need a hobby so I don't rearrange my spice rack alphabetically again.

PRIYA

What's wrong with alphabetizing spices?

LUIS

Nothing, unless you reorganize other people's kitchens. Turns out that's frowned upon.

The group chuckles.

BENNY

This is great. Honest. Vulnerable.  
Step one is admitting Plan A didn't work  
out. Step two is opening ourselves to  
possibilities. Step three is having fun!

JADE

Those are very vague steps.

BENNY

(aside)

I left my binder on the bus.

He coughs.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Moving on! We're going to do a vision  
board exercise. Pick magazines,  
newspapers, whatever speaks to you,  
cut out images that represent your  
future. Paste them. Dream big.

Benny unveils a table of old magazines. The group begins  
flipping through them.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - LATER - DAY

The group sits around the table, cutting and gluing. Jade stares at a photo of a courtroom. She shrugs and grabs a picture of a mountain instead. Luis meticulously cuts out a photo of a hammock. Tanya glues a spy satellite next to a yoga mat. Priya flips through a fashion magazine and finds a picture of a microphone. Omar pastes a food truck next to a guitar.

PRIYA

(to Benny)

Do you actually believe this works?

BENNY

Absolutely. Visualization is  
scientifically proven to—

LUIS

Actually, studies show that visualizing  
success can trick your brain into  
releasing dopamine, making you less  
likely to take real action.

BENNY

(blink)

Okay, Luis. You can facilitate next  
week.

The group laughs again. The mood warms.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - HALLWAY - DAY

Benny leans against the water fountain, texting furiously. His phone buzzes with a reply from "LANDLORD": "RENT PAST DUE. YOU'RE OUT BY FRIDAY." Benny's face falls.

BENNY (V.O.)

(thinking)

Don't panic. Inspire others. Figure  
your own stuff out later.

He pockets the phone and plasters on a smile as he reenters the room.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ROOM 12 - DAY

The group has hung their vision boards on the wall. They take turns presenting them.

OMAR

(gesturing)

This is my shawarma truck. And this is  
me on stage at the World Cup. It's  
important to have multiple revenue

streams.

TANYA

Here is me teaching Pilates on a space station. And here is a cat. Cats bring joy.

LUIS

I've organized my board into quadrants. Retirement, volunteer work, travel, and not being volunteered to babysit.

PRIYA

(proud)

Mine is just a giant microphone with a tiny tax form hiding behind it.

JADE

(awkward)

Mine is... mountain climbing? I've never climbed anything that wasn't a digital wall but... maybe it's time.

BENNY

See? Possibilities! Keep these. They're reminders of where you're heading. And now—



The DOOR opens. A stern PROGRAM DIRECTOR (50s) enters.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Benjamin Davis?

BENNY

(bright)

Yes! That's me. Welcome to Plan B.

You must be here to—

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

(quietly)

A word.

Benny glances back at the group.

BENNY

(to group)

Keep visualizing. I'll be right back.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The Program Director shuts the door. Papers fill their hands.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

We need to talk about your budget.

BENNY

If this is about the cupcakes, Luis brought them—

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

It's about everything. The center can't justify this class if it doesn't deliver measurable outcomes. The mayor's interested in funding programs that get people employed, fast.

BENNY

That's the idea! We're pivoting dreams into jobs.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

You have six weeks. Show me success stories or we'll reassign this room to senior yoga.

BENNY

Six weeks?! That's not a lot of time to turn lives around.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

(pointed)

It's more time than we're giving you to  
pay your rent here. I know about your  
eviction notice, Benny.

Benny blanches.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

(softening)

I believe in second chances. But  
sometimes we run out of them.

The Director exits. Benny exhales, shaken.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ROOM 12 - DAY

Benny returns to find the group mid-argument. Jade and Priya  
stand face-to-face.

JADE

You can't just put glitter on your tax  
form and call it a dream.

PRIYA

It's called arts and crafts, Jade.  
Loosen up.

LUIS

Ladies—

BENNY

Hey! Group! Remember, we're on the same team. Dreamers support dreamers. Jade, Priya, what's really going on?

JADE

(blurting)

I don't know what I'm doing with my life! Everyone keeps telling me what they think I should be. I don't want to be a cautionary tale on a viral fail compilation.

PRIYA

(softens)

Wow. That's... relatable. My parents think comedy is a hobby. My boss thinks comedy is why I'm unemployed. I just want to do something that's mine.

TANYA

My ankles think everything is a suggestion.

Laughter erupts. The tension melts.

BENNY

(heartfelt)

What if we make this pact? We stop  
killing our own dreams. We stop letting  
others kill them too. For six weeks,  
we commit to trying ridiculous,  
unexpected things that could lead to a  
Plan B. Deal?

They exchange glances.

LUIS

I'm in if there are more cupcakes.

OMAR

I'm in if my shawarma is invited.

JADE

I'm in if we never use glitter again.

PRIYA

(extends hand)

Deal.

They all stack their hands in the center, including Tanya's  
elegant ballerina fingers.

BENNY

Dream Team on three. One, two—

ALL

DREAM TEAM!

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Benny returns home, exhausted. Boxes are piled everywhere. An EVICTION NOTICE flutters on the fridge. He picks up his cat, MR. MITTENS, and sighs.

BENNY

(to cat)

It's going to be fine. It has to be.

He sits at his tiny kitchen table, opens his laptop, and begins typing: "Plan B Curriculum Ideas." His fingers hover. He writes "HELP" and laughs at himself.

His phone buzzes. A text from an UNKNOWN NUMBER: "Saw your life coach video. Interested in working together. Let's talk."

Benny squints.

BENNY

(to cat)

Either a scam or a miracle.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY (A WEEK LATER)

Super: ONE WEEK LATER

Benny enters Room 12 with two large cardboard boxes labelled  
"FIELD TRIP." The group waits, curious.

BENNY

Today we're going off-site. Field trip!

TANYA

Spy training?

PRIYA

Food truck festival?

LUIS

Retirement home?

BENNY

You'll see. Trust me.

EXT. JOB FAIR - DAY

The group stands at a huge outdoor JOB FAIR. Booths line the park, offering everything from legal internships to beekeeping.

JADE

We're recruiting?

BENNY

We're exploring. You're going to talk to strangers about jobs you know nothing about. Sometimes Plan B is something you didn't know existed.

OMAR

(noticing a stage)

There's open mic.

BENNY

(grins)

Yes. Priya, the stand-up tent is that way. Omar, there's a mobile kitchen demonstration. Luis, there's a booth for financial literacy workshops. Jade, there's a rock climbing wall. Tanya—



TANYA

There is circus audition.

BENNY

Perfect. Spread out. Collect three  
brochures. Then meet back here in  
twenty.

The group disperses.

EXT. JOB FAIR - VARIOUS - DAY

Montage of each member trying something new:

— Jade, wearing a harness, clings to a climbing wall,  
terrified. A TEENAGER encourages her. She slowly reaches for  
the next hold and grins.

— Omar flips falafel on a sizzling grill at a food truck demo.  
He improves a jingle. People clap.

— Priya takes the microphone on a small stage. She tells a  
joke about being fired for using spreadsheets for comedic  
timing. A crowd laughs.

— Luis sits at a table with three seniors playing chess. He  
smiles genuinely as one of them checkmates him.

— Tanya hangs upside-down on aerial silks with surprising ease. She wows the circus instructor.

— Benny stands at a table labelled "Life Coach Collaboration."

A WELL-DRESSED WOMAN (40s) hands him a brochure.

WOMAN

I run a career transition company.  
We help people pivot. I saw your  
motivational video. You're charming.  
Unpolished, but charming. Maybe we can  
partner up. You have a... relatable  
energy.

BENNY

(flattered)

Thank you. I'm working on the polish.

WOMAN

You might have something here, Mr.  
Davis. Call me.

She hands him a card. He stares at it like it's a golden ticket.

EXT. JOB FAIR - LATER - DAY

The Dream Team reconvenes, breathless.

JADE

I climbed halfway up. That's higher  
than my confidence has been in months.

PRIYA

People I didn't know laughed at my  
jokes. On purpose.

TANYA

I did aerial. A man asked if I was a  
spy. I said no. Maybe later.

LUIS

Chess seniors invited me to their club.  
They said I have potential. It felt  
nice.

OMAR

I traded a falafel recipe for a song.  
I feel... excited.

BENNY

See? Plan B might not be a plan.  
Maybe it's an adventure. This is just

the beginning.

He looks at his group, proud. He looks at the business card in his pocket, hopeful.

BENNY (CONT'D)

We have five weeks. Let's make them count.

FADE OUT.

OVER BLACK:

BENNY (V.O.)

(serious)

Full disclosure: I'm not just your instructor. I'm also a student in this class. My Plan A crashed and burned. But I'm not ready to stop dreaming. I hope you aren't either.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - ROOM 12 - NIGHT

After hours. The room is empty except for Benny, who sits at the whiteboard, scribbling ideas. He writes "FIELD TRIP,"

"GUEST SPEAKER," and underlines "PARTNERSHIP?"

He steps back, satisfied. He hears a creak. The DOOR opens.  
It's Luis.

LUIS

Forgot my jacket. You're still here.

BENNY

Planning. Lots to do.

LUIS

(studies Benny)

You okay?

BENNY

Honestly? I might be getting evicted.  
The program might get cut. I have no  
idea if I can save any of us.

LUIS

(sits)

You don't have to save us. We just  
needed someone to hold the flashlight  
while we looked around. That's you.

Benny blinks, touched.

BENNY

You're... kind of wise for an accountant.

LUIS

(shrugs)

You alphabetize enough spices, you learn things.

They share a laugh.

LUIS (CONT'D)

For what it's worth, I'm glad my daughter volunteered me. It's nice to be part of a team again.

BENNY

Me too.

They sit in comfortable silence, staring at the chaotic whiteboard covered in arrows and doodles. It is messy, uncertain, and full of potential.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT