

It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia

"The Gang Helps Animals"

written by

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COLD OPEN

TITLE: 1:20 pm

TITLE: On a Tuesday

TITLE: Philadelphia, PA

OVER TITLES, WE HEAR:

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Hey guys?

DENNIS (V.O.)
What?

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I think Cricket's dead.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

Charlie stands by the bathroom door. Sweet Dee, Dennis and Mac drink at the bar.

SWEET DEE
How can you tell?

DENNIS
Did someone kill him?

MAC
Oh, I wanna see!

The gang follow Charlie into the bathroom.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BATHROOM - DAY

Sweet Dee, Mac, Charlie, and Dennis stand around Cricket's body, a backpack nearby. Charlie pokes Cricket with a plunger.

MAC
Maybe he's still alive.

DENNIS
Why don't you give him mouth to mouth?

MAC
Don't be an ass. Just because I'm gay doesn't mean I go around kissing just anybody.

DENNIS
You took that CPR course.

MAC
Nope. Not with Cricket. Dee should do it, it's probably her fault.

SWEET DEE
No way. I know what's been in his mouth.

Charlie picks up the backpack, opens it.

CHARLIE
Hey guys, what's all this white powder?

DENNIS
Is that crack?

SWEET DEE
Can I check?

Charlie tugs the backpack away from Dennis and Sweet Dee. Mac makes chicken wings at Sweet Dee.

MAC
Aw, polly want some crack?

CHARLIE
Someone should test it.

A toilet flushes, and Frank comes out.

FRANK
I'll try it.

MAC
Were you pooping the entire time? That's disgusting.

FRANK
Who gives a shit? It's a bathroom.

Frank digs around in the backpack.

MAC
At least wash your hands.

Frank snorts some powder off his nail. He sits down. Then lays on the ground.

FRANK
It's K.

CHARLIE

Katamine?

DENNIS

I'm pretty sure that's ketamine.

CHARLIE

It's for cats. It's katamine.

MAC

Who does ketamine anyway?

CHARLIE

Cats!

DENNIS

Cricket, apparently.

SWEET DEE

How much can we get for it?

DENNIS

Maybe we can trade it for crack.

Charlie takes the backpack and zips it back up.

CHARLIE

None of you crackheads are getting this katamine. There's only one right thing to do in this situation.

MAC

Turn it in to the police?

CHARLIE

Nope. We're gonna open up a vet place.

SWEET DEE

What the hell? That's the stupidest idea I've ever heard.

CHARLIE

Well, we've got these cats around all the time -

DENNIS

Because you keep feeding them!

CHARLIE

And they're all sick and raggedy -

MAC

So?

CHARLIE

They don't snort the katamine in
the wild. Someone's got to put it
in front of their cute little
noses.

The rest of the gang look disgusted with him.

MAIN TITLES

Title: "The Gang Helps Animals"

Title: "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

ACT ONE

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

Dennis, Dee, Mac and Frank sit around a table drinking, watching Charlie draw cat faces on "Paddys vet" flyers with magic markers.

DENNIS

I think if we're gonna do this, I should be the vet.

CHARLIE

No, I'm the vet.

DENNIS

You never went to veterinary school.

CHARLIE

Neither did you!

DENNIS

Yeah, but I was going to.

SWEET DEE

Should I be the sassy receptionist, or the sexy veterinary assistant?

MAC

I wanna pet the cats.

FRANK

I can handle the books.

CHARLIE

No! You bastards ruin everything! I'm doing this out of the kindness of my heart for these poor cats, and I'm not letting you guys mess that up!

He takes his flyers and leaves.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC - DAY

Charlie walks in with a handful of flyers. A few pet owners sit around the waiting room.

Charlie hands a flyer to a CAT OWNER, holding her cat SPRINKLES, who wears a colorful speckled collar.

CHARLIE

Here, a new vet place just opened
up a block away.

CAT OWNER

I've been coming here for years.

CHARLIE

But Paddy's vet place is better,
cheaper, and there's no waiting.

The Cat Owner considers it.

The RECEPTIONIST approaches Charlie.

RECEPTIONIST

I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to
ask you to leave.

CHARLIE

Afraid of the competition, eh?

He stares the Receptionist down while he flings flyers at the
other pet owners, throws the rest of the flyers in the air,
and walks out.

EXT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

The Cat Owner, holding Sprinkles, looks at the flyer, then to
the sign above the door. To the right of the "PADDY'S" sign,
a poorly handwritten "VET" is sloppily taped up on the
window.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BASEMENT - DAY

Charlie's in a vet costume, talking to the Cat Owner with her
cat.

CAT OWNER

It was a long wait, and you said
you were cheaper, right?

CHARLIE

Yes ma'am, just twenty bucks a hit.

CAT OWNER

A hit?

CHARLIE

Vet lingo. What's going on with
your cat?

CAT OWNER

Little Sprinkles has just been so stressed out these last few weeks. She licks her tail a lot, and she hasn't been eating.

Charlie takes the cat from her.

CHARLIE

I'll fix her right up. You can come back in a few hours.

CAT OWNER

So you know what's wrong with her?

CHARLIE

Yep.

The Cat Owner waits for more. Blank stare from Charlie.

CAT OWNER

Oh. Okay then. A few hours.

She leaves.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

Sweet Dee, Dennis, and Mac hang out at the bar. The Cat Owner comes up from the basement.

CAT OWNER

He's a real veterinarian, right?

MAC

He's got way more experience with cats than any human should have.

The Cat Owner looks uneasy, and leaves.

DENNIS

I can't believe people think Charlie's a real vet. I could have been a real veterinarian.

SWEET DEE

No you couldn't. You don't even like animals.

MAC

She's right, you'd make a terrible vet. I'd be a good vet.

SWEET DEE

Remember that cat you had as a kid?
Didn't you forget to feed it and it
died?

MAC

That's not what happened! My dad
took her to live on a big farm. And
Poppins is still alive and well!

DENNIS

A hydrogen bomb couldn't kill that
dog. But your cat's definitely
dead.

Mac gets weepy.

MAC

I'm gonna go help Charlie.

He heads down to the basement.

SWEET DEE

Charlie thinks he's so kind and
generous all the sudden - I think
we should show him up. Someone hung
this flyer up.

Sweet Dee pulls out an advertisement for a charity dinner.

SWEET DEE (CONT'D)

There's a big charity ball
happening on Friday night to help
animals. We should volunteer.

DENNIS

What's your angle?

SWEET DEE

You don't think I'd do something
like that out of the kindness of my
heart?

DENNIS

Uh, no.

SWEET DEE

Fine. Jerk. These events attract
all kinds of rich people. The mayor
will probably be there, sports
stars -

DENNIS

Like who?

SWEET DEE
- their wives, celebrities -

DENNIS
What celebrities?

SWEET DEE
Milani Cezanne.

DENNIS
Who?

SWEET DEE
The dog whisperer. She's even got her own show. But there'll be others! And this is how actors get discovered all the time - pouring drinks for some big producer or director. Maybe M. Night will be there!

DENNIS
Mmm, nah. That sounds like a lot of work.

SWEET DEE
I bet there's gonna be cat lady widows there with loads of money to waste on shit like this. But it's up to you. Maybe Charlie will let you scoop out litter boxes.

DENNIS
Fine. I'll check it out. But if you're lying to me about these wealthy widows, I will skin you alive.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BASEMENT - DAY

Mac finds Charlie holding a little dish of powder up to Sprinkle's nose as she sleeps on the table.

MAC
So, you need any help with anything?

CHARLIE
Nah, I got this. Just setting this baby up in her little kitty K-hole, and she's out for hours.

MAC

I'm good with cats, too. I can help.

CHARLIE

Since when do you like cats?

MAC

I've always loved cats! I'm great with cats!

CHARLIE

Remember that cat you had when you were little? Didn't you leave it in the closet-

MAC

No, she went to live on a farm!

CHARLIE

Yeah, yeah, ok. You can watch this one. I'm gonna go check the traps.

MAC

You're trapping them, too?

CHARLIE

Yeah, I figure we got so much K, might as well spread it around, rich cats, poor cats, everybody gets some K.

MAC

Like the Oprah of cats.

CHARLIE

Yeah. The Oprah of cats. Hear that, cats? I'm your god now.

Charlie leaves. Mac picks up Sprinkles, and holds it like a baby, rocking it back and forth. Its limbs just flop around.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - DAY

Sweet Dee and Dennis, wearing animal charity volunteer T-shirts, wrap silverware sets in napkins. Other VOLUNTEERS in the same T-shirts set up tables and chairs.

SWEET DEE

See? This isn't so bad.

DENNIS

Eight hours of work a day for three days? Time is money, Dee, and my time is worth more than this.

MILANI CEZANNE (40s), looking like a ruthless, disapproving librarian, enters with her dog, HERCULES.

SWEET DEE

Oh look! It's Milani Cezanne! She's been on Oprah six times.

Milani scolds the VOLUNTEERS in her dog-training tone, with an exotic, posh accent. Hercules follows her, mimicking her attitude like a mini-me.

MILANI

Oh no. Oh no! Bad. Bad. Stop it.
No. Bad!

Milani zeroes in on the FLOWER ARRANGING VOLUNTEER. She suddenly breaks into the warmest smile, and clicks a dog clicker.

MILANI (CONT'D)

Good girl! This is beautiful! Who's a good girl? You are!

The Flower Arranging Volunteer looks overly ecstatic from the praise. Hercules licks her hand in approval.

DENNIS

Goddamn, she is rocking that sexy librarian look.

SWEET DEE

Gross. Don't be a creep around her, she might need an assistant for her show, and this could be my big break.

Milani's smile from the flower arrangement disappears as she approaches Dennis and Sweet Dee.

Milani unrolls a napkin - the silverware falls to the floor.

MILANI

This is very bad. The napkin is supposed to be tucked in. Redo all of these. Bad. BAD!

Dennis and Sweet Dee flinch and cower with each word.

SWEET DEE
I saw you on -

MILANI
Stop it!

Milani moves on. Hercules stares at Dennis, disapproving.

DENNIS
What are you looking at?

Sweet Dee sneezes. Hercules growls at them both, then leaves.

DENNIS (CONT'D)
Are you allergic to dogs?

SWEET DEE
No, that one just stinks.

Hercules consults with Milani, who yells at them from across the room.

MILANI
Very bad!

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BASEMENT - DAY

Charlie comes back with two traps full of alleycats.

Mac rocks Sprinkles in a rocking chair.

CHARLIE
Sprinkles didn't wake up yet?

MAC
No, she's just been having scary
kitty dreams. Her arms and legs
twitched for a while, and then she
pooped and peed herself in her
sleep. But don't worry, I cleaned
her up.

Charlie sets down his traps and examines Sprinkles.

CHARLIE
I think you killed her.

Mac looks horrified.

MAC
No I didn't! She's just sleeping!

CHARLIE
Well, wake her up.

Mac throttles the cat. Nothing.

Mac drops to his knees, tears in his eyes, and screams out in grief.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
See? You're just no good with cats,
dude.

Mac runs up the stairs, crying.

A moment later, Frank pokes his head down.

FRANK
Hey Charlie, you got some dead cats
down there?

CHARLIE
Yeah.

FRANK
Can I have 'em?

CHARLIE
Okay.

Charlie takes Sprinkle's collar off and tosses her body into a garbage bag.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Sweet Dee and Dennis clean out dog kennels, covered in sweat and poop, looking exhausted. Sweet Dee's eyes look puffy and red, and she sniffles non-stop.

DENNIS
I thought you said there weren't
going to be animals here.

SWEET DEE
How was I supposed to know she was
going to bring a bunch of stupid
mutts to perform?

Milani Cezanne rehearses with a dozen dogs on stage.

MILANI
Sit. Beg. Sit. Lay down.

They obey her.

Mac enters and approaches Dennis and Sweet Dee.

MAC
What's up, bitches? Frank told me
you guys were over here
"volunteering".

SWEET DEE
Done killing Charlie's cats?

Mac blinks back tears.

MAC
No. Why would you say that? Did
Charlie tell you anything?

Dennis hands Mac a sponge and cloth.

DENNIS
Here, do something useful.

Dennis approaches Milani while she instructs the dogs.

MILANI
Walk backwards. Circle. Now dance.

The dogs follow her orders.

DENNIS
I couldn't help but appreciate your
love for these beautiful creatures.
I, too, love dogs. All kinds of
dogs. I was going to be a
veterinarian, you know.

MILANI
No. Stop it. Go bring some food
from the kitchen. We need six
pounds of boneless chicken breast.
Get!

She returns her attention to the dogs. Dennis heads for the kitchen.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - KITCHEN - NIGHT

The kitchen is filled with Vietnamese workers. Frank argues with the VIETNAMESE COOK.

VIETNAMESE COOK
 (in Vietnamese)
 No amount of cat meat is worth an
 hour with my sister! You pay in
 cash!

FRANK
 But they're fresh, still warm!

Dennis approaches Frank.

DENNIS
 Frank? What are you doing here?

FRANK
 Franks Fluids, LLC is taking care
 of the food and drink for this
 thing. Big tax write-off. Whaddaya
 need?

DENNIS
 Six pounds of chicken.

FRANK
 "Chicken" chicken?

DENNIS
 I don't care, it's for a bunch of
 goddamn dogs.

FRANK
 (to the Vietnamese Cook)
 Just use the meat, we'll talk about
 payment later.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BASEMENT - NIGHT

The Cat Owner comes down the stairs to find Charlie
 surrounded by unconscious cats all over the table, chairs and
 floor.

CHARLIE
 Sprinkles, right?

CAT OWNER
 Yes, how's she doing?

CHARLIE
 Just fine.

Charlie pulls out a similar looking cat. The new cat looks
 younger and healthier, wearing Sprinkle's speckled collar.

CAT OWNER
Oh my goodness, she looks
completely different!

CHARLIE
Well, I'm a good vet.

CAT OWNER
She looks half her age and twice as
beautiful! What did you do?

CHARLIE
Old vet secrets. But come back
anytime! Just twenty bucks a hit.

CAT OWNER
You're a miracle worker! I'll tell
all my friends.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Mac, Sweet Dee and Dennis feed each of the dogs in their
separate dog dishes. Sweet Dee starts having a coughing fit.

DENNIS
Dee, what the hell?

MAC
Go home!

SWEET DEE
Gotta finish...
(coughs)
My hours...

She coughs some more. Milani approaches.

MILANI
No! This is disgusting. Get! Go
home, NOW! GET!

SWEET DEE
My... hours...

MILANI
You'll get your hours, just get out
of here. SHOO! GET!

Sweet Dee hurries away.

DENNIS

I apologize for my sister. She's a simple woman, but she just loves animals.

MILANI

No! One does not "love" the dog. You respect the dog. Why? Its unwavering obedience. No other creature in the world can demonstrate such blind obedience.
(to the dogs)
Attention!

Every dog stops eating and stares at Milani. Mac also stops and stares at her.

She makes a tiny gesture with her finger. The dogs bow down to her. Mac takes a knee.

She waits a moment. Then clicks her clicker.

The dogs instantly return to their food, and Mac stands closer to Milani, a huge smile on his face.

MAC

I'm done feeding the dogs, can I do anything else for you?

Milani inspects him, then clicks her clicker. Mac is ecstatic.

MILANI

Follow me. You can pick up after Hercules.

Milani leads Mac and Hercules out.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

A line of people with cats strings around the block.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

Dennis and Frank drink, watching the people with angry, upset cats waiting in line for the basement.

A FAMOUS SPORTS STAR comes out with his cat, docile and purring, and exits the bar.

FRANK

Isn't that guy one of the Eagles?

DENNIS

Yeah, I think he's the quarterback.
Dee's gonna be so pissed when she finds out.

FRANK

Weren't you and Deandra both going to that animal fundraiser?

DENNIS

Nah, the shit they had us doing wasn't worth it. And that dog whisperer was a real bitch.

FRANK

If you want in, you just gotta help out in the kitchen. Once the meal's done, you mix, mingle, and pick up some classy broads.

DENNIS

I'm not going to find some Vietnamese mafia meeting in the walk-in freezer, will I?

FRANK

Nah, nothing like that. Stay away from the chicken though. And the other meat. Just don't eat any of the food.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - DAY

Sweet Dee carries a plate of chicken, her eyes bloodshot, her face puffy and red.

SWEET DEE

One for you.

She tosses a hunk of chicken at Hercules from across the room. He catches it. Sweet Dee gags a little.

SWEET DEE (CONT'D)

And one for you.

She tosses one at Mac. He catches it in his mouth. She gags again. Mac spits out his chicken.

MAC

You're not contagious, are you?

SWEET DEE

I don't know what this is. I'm not allergic to dogs, it's not a cold... maybe it's these flowers?

She takes a big whiff.

SWEET DEE (CONT'D)

Nope. Does anyone else notice these dogs smell awful? I don't know what it is, but it just makes my nose burn, and throat dry.

MAC

They smell clean to me, just like dog shampoo.

Milani enters, and the dogs follow in an orderly procession behind her. Mac follows in line up to the stage.

MILANI

(to Hercules)

Have you been a good boy? Making sure everyone's staying in line while I'm away?

Hercules nods. She clicks the clicker and gives him a dog treat.

MILANI (CONT'D)

(to Mac)

And have you been a good boy?

Mac nods. She clicks the clicker and gives him a dog treat.
Mac eats it.

MILANI (CONT'D)
Can you get the rest of these dogs
washed and brushed?

Mac nods. Milani turns her attention to Sweet Dee.

MILANI (CONT'D)
You look disgusting. If you can't
get yourself cleaned up, I can't
allow you to be at the dinner in
any capacity.

SWEET DEE
I'm fine! I'll do anything. Just
tell me what to do.

MILANI
Go clean up the waste outside. And
if you're sure you're not
contagious, maybe you can help out
in the kitchen.

Sweet Dee nods and scrambles outside.

INT. NEWSROOM - DAY

Charlie sits for an interview with Chet.

CHET
Good morning, Philadelphia. With us
today is Charlie Kelly, local
veterinarian. I hear you have some
wonderful stories about bringing
cats back from the brink of death.
Some are even calling you the "cat
whisperer".

CHARLIE
Yep, that's me, the cat whisper.

CHET
Whisperer.

Charlie makes a "whatever" gesture.

CHET (CONT'D)
Can you tell us about what you do?

CHARLIE

Well, I've been helping a lot of cats lately, but I suppose you want to hear about Sprinkles. She was sick, dying. Barely got to my office in time. But in a few short hours, she was looking years younger, as bouncy as a little kitten.

CHET

That's amazing. What did you do?

CHARLIE

Oh, you know, vet secrets.

CHET

But is there any advice you can give our audience to make their cats as youthful and healthy as Sprinkles?

CHARLIE

Yeah, you can bring them on down to Paddy's Pub. It used to say Paddy's Vet, but my sign fell down and I can't seem to find more tape. I'm there pretty much all day, every day.

CHET

And what services does your animal clinic provide?

CHARLIE

"Paddy's Vet: we make cats good again."

CHET

Do you offer spaying, neutering, vaccinations?

CHARLIE

Nah, that always makes cats sick. Have you ever seen a cat after they get neutered? All sad and wobbly, walking around with a cone on their head. Nope. At Paddy's Vet, we just do one thing. Make cats good again.

CHET

So there you have it. Making cats good again. Thank you, Charlie "the Cat Whisperer" Kelly.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - KITCHEN - DAY

Sweet Dee and Dennis stare at Charlie on the TV. She wipes her runny nose with a dish towel.

DENNIS
I don't believe it.

SWEET DEE
That little butt nugget's on TV? I was supposed to be the one meeting celebrities. This was my idea!

DENNIS
I hate to give Charlie credit, but he turned that backpack of ketamine into a goldmine.

SWEET DEE
What happens when it runs out?

DENNIS
Super glue? Paint thinner? I'm sure he knows a hundred ways to kill brain cells.

Mac runs in, panting.

MAC
Where's the lunch? We gotta bring out the lunch for the dogs and the volunteers and everybody.

He's jogging in place, super excited.

MAC (CONT'D)
Come on, come on, Milani left me in charge and I can't disappoint her.

SWEET DEE
Fine, fine.

She throws a tray on the counter. She fills the tray with handfuls of food from pots, pitchers, and bags in the cupboards, including raisins and chocolate chips.

MAC
No! This is bad! Bad Dee! Dennis, make her do it right!

Dennis looks Mac right in the eyes, and pours a pot of gravy on the tray. Sweet Dee sneezes on the tray to top it off.

DENNIS

There.

MAC

I'm telling Milani! You guys are very bad!

DENNIS

Tell her what? That you didn't respect our obedience? So you couldn't make us obey? She'll be so disappointed.

Mac storms out, taking the tray of food with him.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - DAY

The hall is looking beautiful, as the Volunteers set name cards by each place setting.

Mac sets down the tray of food on the stage, and Milani's dogs, including Hercules, wait for his signal.

Mac gives the slightest nod. The dogs chow down. Mac's giddy with delight.

MAC

Everyone else, you can help yourself to food in the kitchen.

The Volunteers don't look as excited about this.

Hercules eats a few more chocolate chips, then belches.

MAC (CONT'D)

Excuse you.

Hercules opens his mouth again.

MAC (CONT'D)

No.

Hercules throws up.

MAC (CONT'D)

Oh shit! Dee, you stupid bitch, get out here.

Sweet Dee exits the kitchen. Dennis follows her.

SWEET DEE
Goddammit Mac, I don't want to be
around these dogs, the smell makes
me want to -

She starts gagging.

MAC
Look what you did to Hercules!

Hercules sniffs his mess. He laps up a few chunks. Dennis
heads back into the kitchen. Sweet Dee turns away, gagging.

MAC (CONT'D)
We gotta get him to a vet!

SWEET DEE
I can't even look at this.

MAC
You did this! We'll take him to
Charlie. You hold him, I'll drive.

SWEET DEE
Won't he just give him ketamine?

MAC
Do you want to pay for a real vet?

SWEET DEE
Fine.

She picks up the dog, turning her head away and gagging as
she walks.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - BASEMENT - DAY

Mac runs down the stairs, pushing people and their cats away.

MAC
Get! Shoo! Out of the way, dog
emergency!

The cat owners protest.

Sweet Dee follows, carrying a very sick Hercules. Both of
them are covered in vomit.

CHARLIE
Hey, whoa, whoa, I just do cats
here. They're gonna freak out when
they notice that dog.

Mac and Sweet Dee check out the sleeping cats stacked floor to ceiling. None of them notice the dog.

MAC

Charlie you gotta help us, Dee fed the dogs something bad and now Milani's dog won't stop throwing up.

CHARLIE

Whaddaya think he is, like four to five cat's worth?

SWEET DEE

Like as heavy as four or five cats? More like ten.

Charlie measures out some powder.

CHARLIE

Okay, let's dose him up.

Sweet Dee lays Hercules on the table, and Charlie puts the powder in front of his nose. Hercules lays still.

SWEET DEE

I'm gonna take a shower and get dressed.

MAC

No, first we gotta get Hercules cleaned up and back before Milani notices.

CHARLIE

Well, I got some of this pet shampoo Frank gave me. It gets cat poop out of anything.

Charlie hands Mac a bottle. Mac pours the entire bottle over Hercules, then tosses Sweet Dee a sponge.

MAC

Hurry up, Milani's waiting.

SWEET DEE

Why me?

MAC

You fed him bad food and you threw up on him!

SWEET DEE

God dammit.

She cleans the dog.

MAC

Hey Charlie, can I get a baggie for later? In case he starts throwing up again?

Charlie hands Mac a baggie.

CHARLIE

This should be carefully administered by a licensed professional.

MAC

Yeah, yeah.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Milani enters. Mac is petting the dogs, including Hercules, on the stage. Hercules is sleeping, and the rest of the dogs seem sluggish and sick.

MILANI

Hercules, heel.

Hercules doesn't wake up.

MAC

Oh, he's sleeping. We were really busy earlier, getting everything ready.

MILANI

Heel!

Mac obediently stands near her. Hercules burps in his sleep.

MILANI (CONT'D)

What did you do to my dog? We need to get him to a vet, immediately.

MAC

No, we already took him to a vet. He'll be fine, he's just gonna sleep it off.

MILANI

He better be!

Mac winces from the disapproval. Milani marches off.

He takes out the baggie, pours a little powder in his hand, and puts his hand over a dog's snout.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - KITCHEN - NIGHT

The Vietnamese cooks are scrambling to plate orders, the Volunteers are all dressed in fancy waiter costumes, and Dennis and Frank wear tuxedos, sipping on champagne.

Sweet Dee enters wearing a waiter costume, her arms red and swollen, her face puffy, her eyes barely visible under her swollen eyelids and heavy makeup. She scratches at her arms.

DENNIS

What the hell happened to you?

SWEET DEE

It's that goddamn pet shampoo!
Frank! Where's Frank!?

He's right in front of her, but her eyes are too puffy to see.

FRANK

Right here, Deandra. I got a booth for the pet shampoo during the banquet. They're going to be giving out free samples all night.

SWEET DEE

What the hell's in that stuff?

FRANK

Little bit of this, little bit of that. I only sell the stuff. But ya smell great.

Milani bursts in.

MILANI

Everyone's seated, so start the dinner service now!

(to Sweet Dee)

You look disgusting. Go home.

SWEET DEE

But I volunteered-

MILANI

NO! GET!

Milani heads back out to the ballroom.

SWEET DEE

You stupid bitch. No one's going to keep me from this. I'll eat your dogs alive and feed you my shit for breakfast!

MILANI (O.S.)

I heard that!

SWEET DEE

(whispering)

Yeah, I bet your little dog-whistle ears heard that. Bitch.

Sweet Dee scratches her arms.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Every table is full with men in tuxedos and women in gowns. The Volunteers, including Mac in a waiter uniform, serve food and drinks.

Dennis sits at a table next to a WEALTHY WOMAN (50s). She wears an expensive gown, jewelry with huge gemstones, and has two small dogs under her chair.

DENNIS

I didn't know they let guests bring dogs in here.

WEALTHY WOMAN

Well this is meant to benefit animals. Besides, Captain and Sir Roderick are my babies. They go everywhere I do.

DENNIS

Cute. So, are you here alone, or with your husband?

WEALTHY WOMAN

Oh, I'm not married. Not anymore. My husband died a few years ago, and I haven't found another man who loves my babies as much as I do.

Dennis leans in and puts his hand on hers.

DENNIS

That must be so lonely. I, too, love dogs. I was going to be a veterinarian-

Sweet Dee sneaks into the hall. She's now dressed in an evening gown, arm-length gloves, and a veiled hat. She bumps into people and vendor tables as she feels her way around.

SWEET DEE
Shit. God dammit.

She approaches the dog shampoo vendor table. The VENDOR opens a bottle and holds it up for her.

VENDOR
Free sample? It smells wonderful.

Sweet Dee slaps it away, gagging.

SWEET DEE
Get that toxic shit away from me!
Are you trying to kill me?

The ballroom goes silent as everyone stares at Sweet Dee.

She fakes laugh, then finds an empty seat at a table and sits down. The other guests at the table scoot away from her.

Milani stands on stage with her dogs lined up behind her.

MILANI
Thank you everyone for coming, it's for a wonderful cause. Six weeks ago, these dogs were rescued from animal shelters, nearly put down, because of severe behavioral issues. Tonight I'll demonstrate what my intensive training course can do.

She turns to the dogs. They look woozy.

MILANI (CONT'D)
Attention! Up! Circle! No! What are you doing?

The dogs stumble and tip over.

MILANI (CONT'D)
Hercules! Take the lead! Show them how it's done!

Hercules approaches Milani, wobbles a bit, and vomits on her shoes.

Mac throws down the champagne bottle he was pouring and runs up to the stage.

MAC
I'll take the lead. Dogs! Follow
me!

He marches around the stage. The dogs weakly follow him.

MAC (CONT'D)
See? I'm doing it. I'm doing it!

MILANI
NO! Get down.

Mac cowers and backs off.

Milani tries the clicker, clapping her hands, whistling, but the dogs wander around and fall off the stage.

Sweet Dee's table receives their entrees. The "chicken" looks stringy and undercooked.

SWEET DEE
Looks like something the cat
dragged in, am I right?

The other guests at the table ignore her.

SWEET DEE (CONT'D)
Hey, how about let's go around and
introduce ourselves. My name's Dee,
I'm an actress. I was in that M.
Night movie, a musical,
commercials. How about you guys?
Any big directors here? Sports
stars? A-listers?

The person closest to her leaves the table.

MILANI
Ladies and gentlemen, it seems
something is going around and the
dogs aren't feeling well. Instead
of a performance tonight, let's
bring out our very special guest.
You've seen him on "Good Morning
Philadelphia", here's Charlie
Kelly, the cat whisperer!

Milani picks up Hercules and hurries him off the stage. Mac follows her.

Charlie kicks open the door to the ballroom and pushes in a wheelbarrow full of cats in various states of consciousness. A few more lively ones run away.

The Wealthy Woman's dogs chase one of the cats. She runs after them, and Dennis follows her.

Charlie passes out cats to guests as he moves toward the stage.

CHARLIE
You get a cat. You get a cat.
Everyone gets a cat!

The guests seem confused.

Charlie grabs two armfuls of cats and stands on stage.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
I'm the cat whisper. The Oprah of cats. And today, everybody gets a cat!

He throws a "sleeping" cat at someone. They shriek and duck.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Hey now, you're supposed to catch that!

He throws another cat. A guest tries to catch it, but the cat is awake enough to claw and bite. The guest screams.

Milani marches in, furious.

MILANI
NO! What are you doing? Get!

Some of Milani's more lucid dogs start to chase the cats around, stumbling and vomiting as they go.

INT. BALLROOM - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mac opens a champagne bottle, throws away the cork, and stops. He leans over the trash can.

There's a bunch of cat collars in the trash.

He notices the plates of chicken. He opens the walk-in freezer and gasps.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Charlie and Milani are arguing on stage.

CHARLIE

Look lady, you get to be the dog
whisper, I'll be the cat whisper. I
don't tell you how to run your
dogs.

MILANI

You're not a cat *whisperer*, you're
a horrible person and a fraud.

Charlie throws a cat at her.

Milani catches the cat as it claws and hisses. Several dogs
bodyslam her to the ground. Milani screams, her posh accent
gone.

MILANI (CONT'D)

Help! No! Get these disgusting
animals off me!

SWEET DEE

God dammit, Charlie! I just wanted
to meet some goddamn celebrities
and you've ruined everything!

Mac runs out from the kitchen, waving his arms, and runs up
on stage.

MAC

Stop eating! Everyone stop eating!
The chicken is cat! THE CHICKEN IS
CAT!

The guests gag, vomit and scatter.

INT. CHARITY FUNDRAISER - HALLWAY - NIGHT

The Wealthy Woman holds one dog, and looks grateful as Dennis
carries her other dog toward her.

DENNIS

I found this little guy on his way
out the door. Caught him just in
time.

The dog barks and nips at him.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Whoa there buddy, it's okay.

WEALTHY WOMAN

Thank you young man. You really
amaze me! I'm old enough to be your
-- older sister.

The Wealthy Woman and Dennis lean in toward each other. The dog in Dennis's arms barks incessantly. Dennis stares down at the dog.

The Wealthy Woman closes her eyes and readies for a kiss. She hears a "crack" noise, and the barking stops. She opens her eyes.

Dennis holds the dog by the head, its body limp.

WEALTHY WOMAN (CONT'D)

My baby, my Captain! You've
murdered him! Murderer!

Dennis flashes his teeth, hisses at her, then runs away.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

INT. NEWSROOM - DAY

Chet reads the teleprompter as footage from the fundraiser plays behind him.

CHET

Milani Cezanne, famously known as the Dog Whisperer, saw an end to her career last night as her dogs refused to cooperate, and in fact, attacked her in cold blood. When reached for comment, Milani said, "I effing hate you all." In related news, dozens were sickened after attending a charity dinner. The cause of the outbreak has yet to be found.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

The gang sit at the bar, drinking. Sweet Dee looks less red and puffy, almost normal.

SWEET DEE

Well the good news is, we raised money for animals, right?

DENNIS

You weren't really doing it for-

SWEET DEE

Well no, but God dammit, just let me have one victory.

FRANK

I made bank last night. Five hundred a head, tax free, and I didn't even have to serve dessert.

SWEET DEE

Wait, what? I thought that was a charity fundraiser?

FRANK

Yeah, I got a five-oh-one cee three for tax purposes.

(MORE)

FRANK (CONT'D)

Franks Fluids, LLC donates to the Frank Helps Animals non-profit, and the non-profit buys all Franks Fluids products. It's like a daisy chain for money.

DENNIS

And do we see some profit from that?

FRANK

You got to go to the event, didn't you? Bang some classy broad? I saw you hanging out with some rich broad with two dogs.

DENNIS

I don't know what you're talking about. I left early to take in some dry cleaning.

EXT. PADDY'S PUB - BACK ALLEY - DAY

Cricket pokes his head out of the dumpster.

CRICKET

What a night.

He looks around. No backpack.

CRICKET (CONT'D)

Shit. Big Rico is gonna take one of my lungs for this.

INT. PADDY'S PUB - DAY

Cricket enters and finds the gang drinking.

CRICKET

Have you guys seen my backpack?

CHARLIE

Nope.

FRANK

No.

MAC

What backpack?

Cricket exits the pub.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Cricket walks down the sidewalk, searching. A few cats sniff the air as he passes.

A cat pops out of the alleyway and starts to follow him.

Several more cats emerge from dumpsters and boxes, following him. They drool, looking sick and demented.

Cricket glances behind. The cats are gaining on him. He breaks into a run.

END OF EPISODE