

PILOTS

By

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COLD OPEN

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT - DAY

A pilot's hand is pushing up a throttle lever. Then another hand gets put on top of that hand and the lever continues up. The whole scene is revealed. Two young pilots' hands clasped over the throttle looking into each other's eyes with big cheesy smiles.

INT. AIRPLANE - CABIN

The cabin is full of uncomfortable and miserable people. CAPTAIN TEDDY VOLANT (20s), confident with the voice of a radio presenter, is talking into his microphone.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

(over loudspeaker)

Good morning ladies and gentlemen and little ones. This is Captain Volant here on flight UB7480 to New York. Beside me is my excellent colleague and First Officer Scott Cadere. Flight time today will be approximately one hour and forty-three minutes.

The captain continues to speak as we cut to two flight attendants getting their trolley ready.

STEWARDESS #1

You think they're going to do their tag team routine again?

STEWARDESS #2

(looking up at the speaker)

They should just get a room. I don't know what to make of those two, good friends, lovers or just weirdos.

STEWARDESS #1

They have both dated some pretty ladies.

STEWARDESS #2

Absolute stunners. Oh, here they go.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

(over loudspeaker)

In this cockpit we share everything. So, it's not just me that speaks.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN TEDDY (CONT'D)  
Let me pass you over to possibly  
the best in the business, Scott.

Sitting in the co-pilot chair is FIRST OFFICER SCOTT CADERE  
(20s), arrogant and loud-mouthed.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
(over loudspeaker)  
Thanks Teddy. Hello everyone, First  
Officer Cadere here. We have now  
reached our cruising altitude of  
33000 feet. The outside temperature  
is a penis shrinking -37C and 28C  
back down where we were. Can you  
believe that?

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Science Scott.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Science. Isn't science amazing?

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
I love science.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Science makes me hard.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Science.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Science.

STEWARDESS #1  
These guys really need to cut down  
these chats over the PA.

STEWARDESS #2  
56 minutes was their record. It's  
like they forget the bloody thing  
on. All they do is chat shit. Half  
the passengers have their  
headphones on.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Flying is awesome man.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
We're awesome.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Awesome flight people.

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT

The two pilots are looking into each other's eyes again.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Flight bros.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Flight bros.

They fist bump and then make flapping bird shapes with their hands.

END OF COLD OPEN

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT - FLASHBACK

A stewardess enters with the pilot's food.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT (V.O.)  
It was better in the early days.

STEWARDESS #1  
Here you go my lovelies.

She digs into her pockets.

STEWARDESS #1  
And here's a couple of miniatures  
of that single malt you like.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT (V.O.)  
It wasn't just whisky with food. We  
did a lot of things we shouldn't  
have.

CUT TO:

Scott is making out with someone in his seat and Teddy has a girl on his lap chinking miniature bottles.

CUT TO:

Scott is snorting a great big line of coke.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
Woooo. Come on! Let's land this  
baby.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Scott we've already landed.

We see a shot of the plane from the outside. Then hear the two pilots laughing their heads off.

## INT. GROUP MEETING PLACE - PRESENT

We see Scott, now in his 40s and a nervous wreck sat at what looks like an AA meeting talking to a group of people.

SCOTT

I should have lost my wings many times before, for drinking, drugs, parties and a whole lot more. Being a pilot went to my head and I fooled around so much that my head got messed up. Now I'm a pilot that is afraid of flying. Does anybody want to tell me how that works?

## EXT. DIMLY LIT PARK - NIGHT

Scott and a woman are having a heated argument. The woman storms off. Scott is left there crying. Two men come up and one of them shoves a knife in Scott's face. Scott hands over his wallet and phone. The second man grabs Scott's pilot's hat. Scott tries to grab it back but gets punched and knocked out. The second man wears the hat and puts both his arms out and pretends to be an airplane. The other man joins him, and they circle Scott's semi-conscious body like they are coming into land.

SCOTT (V.O.)

I hide behind my substance abuse but losing the love of my life took me to a dark place. Depression followed by anxiety that spiralled out of control. I lost my confidence. I lost the ability to do my job.

(beat)

Being mugged on the same night also didn't help.

## INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT

A hand pushes up the throttle. We see the whole scene but it's the two pilots and they're much older. Scott is now internally a nervous wreck. Without Teddy he probably wouldn't cope.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

(over loudspeaker)

Good evening everyone this is Captain Volant. The weather is clear today so we should be able to stick to our flight time of one hour and thirty-eight.

(beat)

Would you like to say anything?

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT

What? You mean give them outside temperature and what altitude we're flying at? Why do they need to know? If they really want more info. They've got their little screens that take us closer to being made redundant.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

We won't be redundant in our lives Scott. No need to worry.

(beat)

Look behind you. Even Reggie is still flying with us.

An urn is sitting in the back corner of the cockpit. It has a label that reads 'Reginald' on it and also has a pilot's cap on.

There is a knock at the cockpit door. Then in enters BEN ACTON (40s), A butch British air steward. A kind of mixture between Vinnie Jones and Jason Statham. An Ex SAS military officer with lots of grim survival stories.

BEN

Afternoon ladies.

Just behind Ben enters JESS SMITH (20s), timid and soft spoken but with a look of kick ass behind her eyes.

JESS

Hey guys. Can we get either of you drinks?

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT

I need the bathroom first, but a coffee would be great.

JESS

So, a coffee then?

BEN

Jess will get you the coffee. Shall I take you to the bathroom?

Scott stares angrily at Ben.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

Coffee for me too please. Minus the bathroom.

Scott gives both Ben and Teddy a nasty look. They both chuckle.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

You need to lighten up Bud. We need our old banter back.

BEN

I'd get better banter off an enemy soldier.

(beat)

But then I would be torturing them I suppose.

Everybody looks at Ben. He just shrugs.

JESS

Ok. Let's leave these two lovebirds to it.

(beat)

Ben will bring you your coffees.

Ben and Jess leave. Scott looks desperate.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT

I'm going to the bathroom. Let's hope a passenger hasn't turned it into a crime scene.

CAPTAIN TEDDY

I'd be quick there; we have reports of turbulence up ahead.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT

You want to flip the seatbelt on sign early?

CAPTAIN TEDDY

Got you partner.

INT. AIRPLANE - CABIN

With the ding of the seatbelt sign. Scott jumps out of the cockpit door like a ninja.

The first bathroom is ahead.

He slowly opens the door. He falls back gagging. How did somebody get shit on the ceiling?

He speed walks to the back of the plane and takes a peek into the bathroom:

Yes! It's clean! He quickly jumps in and unzips but two seconds into relieving himself, the plane starts to shake.

First, he tries to steady himself by holding the ceiling. Next he has his arms out like a surfer trying to stay on his board. Nothing is working. He decides to do a sumo style squat while both his arms are out pushing against the walls. Success!

The flight is getting bumpier. He goes to wash his hands and a bump causes him to wet his crotch.

He looks like he has pissed himself. He goes to get out of the cubicle and a bump causes him to hit his head.

He curses and tries to head back to the cockpit.

The plane is getting extremely bumpy. A worried look starts to appear on his face. He gets another jolt into the air.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
(high pitched squeal)  
Eeeeeek.

A passenger stares at Scott's crotch that has been thrust into their face. The plane throws Scott into the air.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
(like a child on a ride)  
Weeeee.  
(then coming back down.  
Deep voiced)  
Arrrghhhh.

This continues with Scott's screams getting odder and odder as he makes his way down the cabin. Jess and Ben spot him as he nears the cockpit.

BEN  
Bloody hell! What's wrong with him?

JESS  
Should we be worried?

BEN  
Nah. Engines sound fine and we've been through worse than this.

Scott runs into the cockpit, oblivious to the cabin crew standing there.

BEN  
He reminds me of a shell-shocked soldier.  
(beat)  
A good slap would sort him out.

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT

Scott runs to his seat and straps in, terrified.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
You ok there buddy?  
(beat)  
It looks worse than it is. I think we'll be through it soon.  
(fighting the yolk)  
You better let the passengers know this is only temporary.



Scott grabs the microphone.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 Hello ladies and gentlemen First  
 Officer Scott here with  
 (screams)  
 Arrgghh  
 (then normal)  
 an update. We are experiencing  
 some unusual turbu-arrgh-lence but  
 we expect...

We just hear long heavy hyperventilating while the passengers  
 look at each other, worried.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 ...to be ouuutttt of this quite  
 soon. So please  
 (screams)  
 Arrrghh.  
 (beat)  
 Is this normal?

The microphone is still on.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
 Scott it's fine. We've been through  
 worse.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 No something's wrong. Is it the air  
 pressure? Do we have to descend? I  
 can't breathe. It has to be the air  
 pressure.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
 Calm down buddy. You're panicking.  
 Breathe deeply.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 Panicking. You know what happens  
 when pilots panic? They crash  
 planes. That's what happens!

Screams start coming from the cabin. This causes Scott to  
 freak out more.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 I need oxygen.

Scott scrambles for the mask. Teddy tries to stop him.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
 Calm down man. Everything is  
 alright. Trust me.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
No. It isn't. I can't breathe. I'm  
going to faint. I can't feel my  
hands. How am I meant to fly  
without any hands?

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
I'm flying. Now take a drink from  
the emergency stash.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
(looking at his hands)  
I'm not Hook. Pirates don't fly  
planes.  
(beat)  
Funny our stash is rum huh?

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Just drink.

Scott takes a large swig from the bottle. There's a large  
jolt and he spills the rum.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
We're gonna die Teddy.

We hear more screams from the cabin. Then screams from Scott.  
Then screams from the cabin then screams from Scott.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT (V.O.)  
And this isn't the first time I  
freaked out.

MONTAGE: We see a montage of Scott's different freak outs.

CUT TO:

-- AIRPLANE TAKING OFF

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
(freaking out)  
Are we flying? Can we fly? I can't  
hear the engines. We're going to  
crash! Argghhhh!

CUT TO:

-- MID FLIGHT

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
The engine is making a funny sound.  
I don't like this Teddy.

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
Nothing unusual. We're all good.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 No really, I can hear bad sounds.  
 Why are we slowing down?

CAPTAIN TEDDY  
 We are just levelling out.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT  
 We're going to crash!  
 (screaming)  
 We're gonna dieeee.

QUICK CUTS:

- Scott sweating and trembling while taking the controls.
- Scott drinking alcohol in the bathroom.
- Teddy taking over the controls while Scott is trying to land.

FIRST OFFICER SCOTT (V.O.)  
 But after a freak out that all the  
 passengers could hear, the  
 complaints came through and I was  
 put on leave pending investigation.

INT. SCOTT'S BEDROOM

Scott is now sporting a messy beard and unkempt hair. He is in bed where he might have been for days. The room is a mess. Empty bottles of alcohol and pizza boxes everywhere. He just lays there looking up at the ceiling. The phone rings. The caller keeps trying. Scott picks up on the third attempt.

SCOTT  
 Go away.

He hangs up. The phone almost immediately starts ringing again.

SCOTT  
 Go away.

He hangs up. Same again.

SCOTT  
 What do you want?  
 (beat)  
 Ok. Come over in an hour.

Scott just lays there. At one point he puts his hand down his pants to masturbate but gives up pretty quickly and goes back to being miserable. The doorbell chimes. An hour has passed. Scott uses his duvet as a cape and drags himself to the door.

TEDDY

Hey buddy.

Scott just grunts and heads back to his bed. Scott gets back into the same position.

TEDDY

It's been six months Scott. You need to get out. You need to sort yourself out buddy.

SCOTT

(depressingly)

Buddy Holly died in a plane crash.

TEDDY

Seriously are they even paying you anymore?

SCOTT

They stopped three weeks ago.

TEDDY

Come on you need to get out again. The airline has plenty of other jobs to do.

SCOTT

Don't want to work anymore.

Scott's doorbell rings.

SCOTT

GO AWAY!

TEDDY

I'll get it.

Teddy comes back with Jess and Ben. Ben is holding a bunch of helium balloons with positive messages printed on them.

TEDDY

Brought you some friends.

BEN

Hey geezer.

JESS

Hi Scott.

(scans the room)

Everything ok?

SCOTT

Is a bird with clipped wings ok?

TEDDY

You'll get your wings back.

SCOTT

How? A pilot that's afraid of flying. I think I must be the first.

TEDDY

You're not the first. Remember how confident you were in flight school? Remember how you would teach the rookies below us how to fly?

Teddy goes and picks up Reggie's urn. It is now sitting in Scott's room.

TEDDY

You were Reggie's favourite student. The man entrusted his ashes in you for god's sake. That must mean something?

SCOTT

(angrily)

Put Reggie down.

BEN

You could always pilot something else?

SCOTT

Like what? Those balloons you're holding.

BEN

Only trying to help mate. I could always try to find a mercenary gig for ya. My old SAS buddies are always in need of pilots.

SCOTT

I'll give getting shot at a miss for now thanks.

BEN

I remember when they shot the pilots we were flying in with. Both dead. I had to take the controls. Took her down to fifteen thousand. Then ran back and jumped out with my squad.

(looking up, daydreaming)

I remember parachuting down. Watching our Hercules fly into the sandy desert.

(beat)

The fireball...

JESS

He's having one of his flashbacks again. What do you want to do Scott?

SCOTT

Why don't we have a drink? That would cheer me up.

TEDDY

We can have a drink. We can even have a little party?

SCOTT

Really?

TEDDY

Yes, but...

SCOTT

Ah the kind of butt I don't like.

TEDDY

Just listen. I've found this group. Just go join them once and I promise you a blowout party.

Scott sighs and just keeps looking up at the ceiling.

BEN

Come on mate. That's not a bad compromise for a party.

(beat)

Imagine being hungry in the desert. Thirsty, living off snake meat.

(beat)

I could have done with a party then.

Scott just continues looking at the ceiling.

JESS

I think getting this place tidied up will help clear your head.

Jess gives Ben a look that says follow me. They all start cleaning. Time speeds up and we see them finishing cleaning. Teddy leaves a leaflet on the bed and they all leave. We see the leaflet is for 'Pilots Without Wings'. Scott continues to look up. We look up with him and see all the balloons with positive messages on them.

INT. SCOTT'S BEDROOM - NEXT DAY

Scott opens his eyes and a few balloons are still on the ceiling with others lower down. He drags himself up to find a spotlessly clean room.

He gets out of bed and heads to the kitchen.

INT. SCOTT'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Scott stands in the middle of his kitchen and rotates slowly. He can't believe how clean the house is. He spots a pie and a card on the cooker. He opens the card - Get Well Soon. It has 'get well' crossed over and 'cheer up' written on top of it. He opens the card, it reads:

-- Hope to have our Scotty back soon. Jess xx.

-- To the best buddy and co-pilot a man can have. Teddy.

-- You Wanker. Ben x

A little tear forms in his eye. He folds the card up into an airplane and throws it across the room.

CUT TO:

INT. SCOTT'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Scott is in front of his mirror fixing the collars on his pilots' uniform. He picks up the leaflet on his bed and grabs his phone.

SCOTT

Hey Teddy. The party is on. Get the wheels in motion. I'm off to this group.

(beat)

I was good at teaching those rookies back in the day wasn't I?

Scott grins and puts the phone down.

INT. GROUP MEETING PLACE - LATER

Scott walks into what looks like an empty school hall with chairs in the middle. Set out in a circle like you see in AA type meetings. GREGG (60s), a man that looks like an ostrich and talks like an awkward teacher, is standing in the corner.

GREGG

Hi, you must be Scott? Welcome to pilots without wings or as we like to call it PWW.

He pronounces PWW like the word pew but extended. When he says PWW his neck extends forward like a pigeon and he says it like a squawk.

SCOTT  
 (bemused)  
 Hi.

GREGG  
 So how long have you been without  
 your wings?

SCOTT  
 About six months now.

GREGG  
 Tough isn't it? It's been eight  
 years for me.

SCOTT  
 Ouch.

GREGG  
 Ouch indeed but it gets better.

Two people walk through the door.

GREGG  
 Ah people are starting to arrive.  
 Take a seat Scott.

The two people sit next to each other and smile at Scott. The rest of the group follow moments later. There are now seven people in total with one chair empty.

GREGG  
 I have an announcement to make  
 before we begin. Our good friend  
 and brother John Two has passed  
 away.  
 (beat)  
 Late last night his body was found  
 at the bottom of a cliff. A note  
 was found which just said, 'It is  
 time to take my final flight'. John  
 Two was a PW (squawk) brother for  
 three years and we will miss him  
 dearly. I would like us to have a  
 minute's silence for our fallen  
 comrade.

Gregg presses play on an old cassette deck. Funeral trumpets play. We hear police sirens from outside. We hear a gun salute from the cassette deck and then a gun battle and shouting from outside.

GREGG  
 Thank you everyone.  
 (beat)  
 I'd like to welcome a new member  
 that has joined us today.  
 (MORE)



GREGG (CONT'D)

This is Scott Cadere. Whenever somebody new joins we take turns introducing ourselves. I'll start.

(beat)

Hello everyone, I'm Gregg and I have been without my wings for eight years.

This next line everyone squawks PWW in an odd manner. All looking like different breeds of birds pushing their necks out or pulling them in.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWW!

Scott examines everyone like they are strays from a mental hospital.

GREGG

I lost my wings because I failed a routine medical. Sadly, it's an issue that can't be fixed.

BOB RUSSO (30s), his look and demeanour screams sex addict. Has a little dig at Gregg.

BOB

Erectile dysfunction. Booyah.

Gregg shoots an evil squint at Bob. The next person takes over. They've obviously done this before.

JOHN ONE

Hello everyone. I'm John and I lost my wings five years ago.

THE GROUP

(squawking)

Welcome to PWW!

JOHN ONE

I lost my wings because of a disagreement with management caused me to rage out so I pissed all over the instruments and took a dump on the centre console.

ABDUL

Hi all I'm Abdul and my wings were taken two years ago.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWW!

ABDUL

The reason for me losing my wings?  
9/11. Who wants to hire a pilot  
called Abdul after 9/11?

SANDY

You mean who wants to hire a pilot  
that smokes weed in the cockpit?

ABDUL

At least I don't smoke what you do.

He pretends that he's giving head.

GREGG

We don't speak while others are  
speaking. Sandy you can go now.

SANDY

Hi, I'm Sandy and I joined these  
crazies three years ago.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWW!

SANDY

I lost my wings for having cock in  
the cockpit.

Abdul makes the same gesture as before and they both give  
each other the evils.

BOB

Hi everyone. I'm Bob and I was  
dethroned four years ago.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWW!

BOB

I lost my wings because I turned  
the cockpit into a pussy-pit.  
Booyah!

He hi-fives Sandy. Gregg shakes his head in disgust.

OTTO

Hi, I'm Otto and I lost my wings 12  
years ago.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWW!

OTTO

I lost my wings because my supposed  
friend and captain was not capable  
of doing his job. He told lies and  
dragged me under with him.

There's a beat where Scott doesn't say anything, and he just stares at everyone and they stare right back.

GREGG

Scott would you like to introduce yourself to everyone just like we did?

SCOTT

(hesitantly)

Hi, I'm Scott and I lost my wings six months ago.

THE GROUP

Welcome to PWV!

SCOTT

The reason for me losing my wings was losing my cool while leaving the PA system on.

BOB

Rookie error dude.

SCOTT

I should have lost my wings many times before, for drinking, drugs, parties and a whole lot more. Being a pilot went to my head and I fooled around so much that my head got messed up. Now I'm a pilot that is afraid of flying. Does anybody want to tell me how that works?

OTTO

(angrily)

It was the issue I had with my captain. He turned into a nervous wreck. I could have forgiven him if he didn't take me down with him.

JOHN ONE

We all have nervous moments and bad days. It's not only you. Your problem is you fell down the rabbit hole and can't find your way back.

ABDUL

I've been terrified of flying before. Once I was heading back to the cockpit and I was wrestled down by passengers who thought I was a terrorist and they tied me up. That was fucking terrifying!

BOB

I had a fire on board. Some idiot thought they'd use the usb port to warm up their fleshlight and they ended up starting a fire at the back of the plane.

SANDY

(in jest)

I bet it was you, you sicko.

BOB

Hahaha. Yes, it was. Booyah!

He hi-fives Sandy and then goes to hi-five Otto but he's left hanging.

BOB

Whatever man.

JOHN ONE

So, what happened with the fire?

BOB

Oh, the passengers freaked out but cabin crew were on it straight away.

(beat)

And I was on it straight away in the cockpit. Booyah!

Bob goes to hi-five Sandy but gets no response. He goes into a sulk.

GREGG

I had a bird strike.

THE GROUP

Woahhh.

BOB

Did you Sully it man?

GREGG

No wasn't that serious. We just continued on to our destination.

SANDY

I had a landing gear failure when coming into land.

THE GROUP

No way.

JOHN ONE

I always wanted that to happen.

ABDUL

Me too. What happened?

SANDY

I slid her underbelly onto that runway like butter. It was smoother than my usual landings.

(beat)

What a rush.

SCOTT

So, what have you guys been doing since losing your wings? Have any of you tried flying again?

SANDY

I'm a pilot again.

SCOTT

Really?

BOB

A hot air balloon pilot.

SANDY

I'm still in the air, I'm still a pilot and I'm still getting some.

She hi fives Bob. Bob gets really chuffed by this. He looks like a dog that has just received a treat.

SCOTT

What about the rest of you?

ABDUL

Taxi driver.

OTTO

Taxi driver.

GREGG

(disappointed)

Taxi driver.

JOHN ONE

Warehouse worker.

BOB

Limo driver.

SCOTT

So, all I have to look forward to is being a driver or flying balloons?

(beat)

Great.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF A GROCERY STORE - DAY

Scott walks by a grocery store and sees a kid outside enjoying a ride on a little coin operated airplane. He stops and stares. He slowly starts tearing up which turns into a sob then into full on wailing that is loud enough to drown out the music of the ride. The child's mother gets freaked out and pulls her child away.

RANDOM CHILD

Why is that man crying mummy?

Scott climbs into the now empty ride, barely fitting. The ride rocks him back and forth while he continues to cry.

INT. SCOTT'S CAR - DAY

Scott is driving. With Jess in the front seat and Ben squashed up in the back. The Smiths - Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now is playing through the car stereo.

BEN

This will cheer you up mate. Always helps me out when I'm blue.

SCOTT

Thanks for dragging me out guys. Never tried anything like this before.

JESS

Well you never know. This might help you discover a new talent.

SCOTT

Well anything beats this I suppose.

EXT. DICK'S SHOOTING RANGE

A taxi pulls up outside of Dick's Shooting Range. Scott gets out of the driver's side and the rest follow.

SCOTT

You guys better give me a five-star rating.

JESS

Sorry until you change that depressing music. It's going to be three stars from me.

BEN

Girlfriend in a Coma. Now that's a song I can relate to.

Scott and Jess just stare at Ben.

JESS

Come on guys. Worse shot buys the next round of drinks.

INT. DICK'S SHOOTING RANGE

We move across the room seeing Ben and Jess shooting away. When we get to Scott, we see him just staring at the gun. His face covered in sweat. A speech bubble appears above Scott's head. It shows him looking up and the muggers running around him. Scott lifts his gun and takes aim with trembling hands. At the same time, he lifts a gun at the muggers in his speech bubble. He squeezes the trigger four times. The speech bubble evaporates, and Scott now has a smile forming on his face. Jess and Ben come over with their target sheets.

JESS

Hey Scott check this out.

Jess lifts her sheet and all the bullets have entered exactly in the same place. In between the target's eyes. Ben lifts his. He also has a load of headshots but nowhere near as good as Jess's shooting.

BEN

We have a secret little sharp shooter here.

JESS

We learnt how to shoot at a young age in my household.

(beat)

Scott how did you do?

Scott presses the button to call his sheet back. He has a chuffed look on his face. The sheet slowly arrives. He unclips it and takes a long scan over it. Not even a mark. It seems to be in pristine condition.

BEN

Any hits?

SCOTT

No. I think my gun must have been jammed or something.

JESS

Let me take a look.

SCOTT

No it's ok. I'll get the drinks in.

EXT. DICK'S SHOOTING RANGE

Scott, Jess and Ben come out of the shooting range. They look across at the taxi and it has been clamped.

We see Scott starting to build up a rage.

JESS  
I'll call us a taxi.

INT. SCOTT'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Scott is in front of the TV watching Airplane. His doorbell rings.

SCOTT  
(shouting)  
Come in. It's open.

TEDDY  
Hey buddy. I've got us a bottle of blue label. Let's get this party started.

SCOTT  
Anyone else coming?

TEDDY  
Just me, you and this bottle of blue. What more do you need?

SCOTT  
(smiling)  
Some glasses?

TEDDY  
Some snacks?

SCOTT  
I'm on it.

Scott comes back with two glasses and snacks. Then proceeds to pour them large measures of whisky.

SCOTT  
Cheers!

TEDDY  
Cheers!  
(beat)  
So how was the group session?

SCOTT  
They were a bunch of nutters to be honest. I'm not even sure why half of them were there. They run some kind of crazy bird cult.

Scott gets up and puts both hands against his hips and starts flapping his elbows about. Then stretching his neck back and forth as he speaks.



SCOTT  
(imitating PWW members)  
Welcome to PWW.  
(Scott makes chicken  
sounds)  
Welcome to PWW.  
(more bird sounds)  
I'm a taxi driver. Welcome to PWW.

TEDDY  
Wow they do sound crazy!

SCOTT  
It's like they all miss flying but  
none of them are trying to get back  
into it.

TEDDY  
Remember some things mean a  
permanent ban.

SCOTT  
You're right.  
(beat)  
I got away lucky I suppose.  
(beat)  
If you can call this lucky.

TEDDY  
Trust me Bud. You definitely got  
lucky. With a little bit of work  
we'll have you in the skies again  
in no time.

SCOTT  
Should I really remain a pilot? All  
those people's lives and one  
mistake. Poof we're cornflakes.

TEDDY  
Toast?

SCOTT  
Yeah any breakfast of your  
choosing.  
(quickly)  
Holy smoke Batman. We're crumpets!

TEDDY  
Have you even had a crumpet?

SCOTT  
Yeah Ben keeps a hidden stash of  
his favourite British foods.

TEDDY  
He's probably used them in war.

SCOTT  
 (badly imitating Ben)  
 I fashioned ninja stars out of my  
 crumpet's governor.

TEDDY  
 (even worse imitation of  
 Ben)  
 Oi! Squire! Feed our troops those  
 crumpets before the Jerries get  
 here.

Scott stands for this next bit of imitation. Acting out his  
 words.

SCOTT  
 (still imitating Ben)  
 I was stuck on the roof. With  
 enemies approaching. I had to think  
 quick. Then I remembered my  
 emergency supply of crumpets. I  
 quickly threw them down. Then  
 hurled myself down. The crumpets  
 broke my fall. I stood up in time  
 to catch my enemies with my  
 flamethrower. I cooked them and my  
 crumpets in the process. Then I  
 used their fat as butter, human  
 butter.

Teddy rises and gives Scott a standing ovation. Scott bows to  
 his audience.

TEDDY  
 Wow food critic Scott! Now that's  
 what you should be trying next.

SCOTT  
 I think you're right I should try  
 something new.  
 (beat)  
 I loved trains as a kid. Why not  
 give that a shot?

TEDDY  
 Not as glamorous but every job has  
 its risks. Trains don't exactly  
 have captains.

SCOTT  
 No captains but I could have a love  
 train.

TEDDY  
 We had a love plane back in the  
 day.

(MORE)

TEDDY (CONT'D)

(beat)

No Thomas the bang engine.

(beat)

Talking of transport. How's the taxi driving going?

SCOTT

I got fired. Too many parking fines.

(beat)

I now owe more than I actually made.

TEDDY

Ouch!

SCOTT

I wasn't enjoying it anyhow. A blessing in disguise those parking tickets.

TEDDY

Like you said, a blessing in disguise. I'm looking into ways of getting you back into the sky bud.

SCOTT

You going to buy me a ticket? I'm joking. Thanks man.

(beat)

We did have fun on those flights, didn't we?

(beat)

Remember when the whole plane got food poisoning?

TEDDY

God that was terrible.

SCOTT

Passengers were shitting in the aisles.

TEDDY

We had to put our oxygen masks on to avoid the smell!

SCOTT

Remember the mayday call?

TEDDY

Mayday mayday. There's been a defecation event on board. Request to land.

SCOTT

You remain so calm and formal. If I took that call. I would have been like: Mayday mayday. People are shitting themselves. It's all over the aircraft. We have our masks on, but the smell is so bad I can smell it through my eyes!

The scene speeds up and we see the pair drinking and laughing throughout. It slows back down, and the pair are watching Top Gun singing along very badly to Danger Zone. It speeds back up and the next slow down Scott is crying his eyes out.

SCOTT

Why did she leave me?  
(beat)  
Dumped and mugged on the same night.

Time speeds up again and we see the pair drinking more.

FADE TO:

INT. SCOTT'S BEDROOM - DAY

There's a heavy knock at the door. Scott wakes up groaning. He uses his duvet as a cape again. He walks to the...

HALLWAY

He heads to the front door. We see the mess left after his party. He opens the door.

EXT. SCOTT'S HOUSE FRONT PORCH - DAY

He looks down and sees a package has been left for him. He squints to look across the road. A taxi is pulling up on the other side of the road.

SCOTT

Fuck you.

He starts walking towards the taxi.

SCOTT

Fucking taxis.

He angrily continues forward like he's going to attack the taxi but a noise stops his progression. He looks up into the sky. We see a single engine propeller plane dragging a banner. It advertises a local taxi firm.

SCOTT

SCOTT  
(screams)  
Fuck you!

He watches the plane go by.

SCOTT  
I know what to do.  
(beat)  
I know what to do!

The camera zooms in on Scott's face.

SCOTT  
I know what to do!  
(beat)  
I'm going to open up a flight  
school!

A big grin forms across Scott's face.

END OF EPISODE