

"Spaced Out" Pilot

PETER

8 PGS

PETER #1

REVISED
2/7/17

INT. SPACE ONE - DAY

It's a massive, open space: people bustling about, a working mission control, technology everywhere. It's like Willy Wonka for nerds. Also, EVERYONE wears SPACE ONE gear.

SPACE ONE MECHANIC (O.S.)
ROCKET COMIN' THROUGH!

A HUGE ROCKET, 200 feet long, passes by (this happened to us on our visit to the real SpaceX). Awed, Peter asks:

PETER
How cool is that?!

Everyone in earshot looks at him: *who the hell is this guy?*

PETER (V.O.)
Right. This is every day stuff for them. Be cool. Take it in stride.

Peter nods, playing it off, very casual.

PETER
Whatever. Just a giant rocket. No big deal.

After covering, Peter looks off at the rocket, longingly, then gets STARTLED by a voice:

MAX (O.S.)
Peter Gibbons!

MAXINE "MAX" DONOVAN (29), a no-bullshit, born leader, alpha female engineer, approaches.

MAX (CONT'D)
Max Donovan.
(off his look)
The leader of the propulsion team.

PETER
You're Max? Sorry, I thought you were a guy.

MAX
We spoke on the phone. You think I sound like a man?

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PETER
No, I thought "he" sounded like a woman.

PETER (V.O.)
Nice save.

PETER
So let's do this. I am all about helping humanity become a multiplanet species. Seriously, they call me "Multiplanet Peter."
(quick turn)
They don't call me that. I don't know what I'm doing.

MAX
Would it be better for you if I talked and you just listened?

PETER
So much better.

Max walks, points out MISSION CONTROL (like NASA's):

MAX
That's mission control, where you can get a twenty-four hour feed from all of our satellites.

PETER
Satellites...

MAX
(re: CAFETERIA)
That's the snack bar where you get frozen yogurt.

PETER
Fro-yo...

MAX
That's a really big guy on a tiny bike...

PETER
Large man, small wheels.

Peter sees a HEAVY GUY ride past on a TINY BIKE.

PETER (CONT'D)
I mean, no judgement here. Who knows why that gentleman is so heavy.

2/8

PETER (V.O.)
He eats too much.

As Peter stares at the guy:

MAX
Stop staring. It's rude.

PETER
I'm not staring. You just think I
am, because I don't blink a lot.
It's a medical condition.

MAX
Is it?

PETER
Yeah.

He stares at her for a long beat without blinking. She stares
back. Finally, he can't help it and he blinks.

PETER (CONT'D)
Fine, it's not.

3/8

Sc. 2

PETER #2

INT. SPACE ONE - MEETING ROOM - DAY

Everyone is there. Max GLARES DAGGERS at Peter.

PETER (V.O.)
This could not get any worse.

Leon hands him a PEN, holding it like a microphone.

LEON
Here you go, Peter. An imaginary
microphone. The floor is yours.

PETER (V.O.)
I stand corrected.

Peter takes the pen. Leon starts to move off. Peter SPEAKS
INTO THE PEN:

PETER
Sir, one quick question--

LEON
Peter, the imaginary microphone is
only for speeches.

PETER
(into "mic")
Of course, sir--
(realizes, lowers "mic")
I mean, of course, sir.
(beat)
I forgot my question.

LEON
Great. Good luck, then.

Leon EXITS. Max turns on Peter, unloading:

MAX
I am not okay with this. How did
this happen? Are you his son?

PETER
I don't think so.

MAX
You know what? I don't care.
Clock's ticking. Let's hear one of
your super exciting big ideas.

4/8

PETER

Okay... I might have one thought to get more power out of your engine.

PETER (V.O.)

It's a great idea, but be cool. After you say it maybe take a casual sip of coffee.

PETER

I don't know, what if we cover the engine in photovoltaic paint and use solar power to squeeze out a little extra juice?

Peter takes a "super casual" sip of coffee: "Ahh..."

MAX

That's actually a great idea.

Peter smiles. Max goes to the DRY ERASE BOARD. IN a CIRCLE it reads: INCREASE POWER 0.002%. Lines shoot out with ideas.

MAX (CONT'D)

That's why it's on the board. I came up with that idea a month ago.

(then)

Peter, did you really think that on your first day you were going to come up with something that we hadn't already thought of in the last six months?

PETER

Well, I obviously did. Excuse me.

Peter EXITS.

5/8

SC. 3

PETER #3

EXT. SPACE ONE - NIGHT

Peter is outside, looking up at the stars. Max approaches.
There's a beat. Peter's gaze stays on the sky.

MAX

What are we doing?

PETER

Mopey star-gazing?

MAX

That's my favorite kind.

(off no response)

What's with you, man? You're like
"I don't believe in myself, I do
believe in myself, I don't, I
do..." Just pick one.

PETER

I am! I'm out here under the stars,
picking "not believing in myself."

(then, sincere)

You know what? I'm pretty sure the
only reason Leon gave me this job
was because I remind him of
himself. But here's the thing: I
don't think I can ever be Leon.

MAX

(sympathetic)

Oh, Peter... Of course you can
never be Leon.

PETER

You're a mean woman.

MAX

Do you want to know what the
biggest difference is between you
and Leon?

PETER

Is it that he's slept with ten
supermodels and I've only slept
with zero supermodels.

MAX

It doesn't matter what problem
we're trying to solve.

(MORE)

6/8

MAX (CONT'D)

Whenever I look in Leon's beautiful blue eyes-- his eyes...

PETER

Hey. Come back. The conversation's over here.

MAX

Whatever. Leon's not a quitter. He never gives up.

PETER

I'm not a quitter.

MAX

Oh, please, you don't think I read up on you? You quit college...

PETER

I didn't quit, I was expelled.

MAX

Right, right. Did you ever reapply? I mean you're obviously smart, did you try to get into any other schools? Or did you just run back to work in a body shop because there's no risk in that? Peter, did you even apply to work here, or did Leon go find you?

PETER

I'm not going to answer any of those questions.

MAX

Why?

PETER

Because the answers make me feel bad about myself.

MAX

Come on, man, don't give up yet. If he saw something in you, it's in there. You got your hands on the engine. What did it feel like when we opened the damn thing up?

As Peter considers this, we FLASHBACK to a shot of him opening the ENGINE PANEL and looking inside.

7/8

PETER

Ugly. It looked like a robot threw up wires and computer chips into a giant metal cylinder. So much stuff in there.

MAX

Okay, not the most scientific answer, but--

Peter holds up a hand as he's on a track of thought:

PETER

Can you give me a few minutes?

Max nods, heads back in, leaving Peter alone. As Peter (and Leon, in B.G.) stares up at the sky, we go--

8/8