

YESHIVA

Evaluation

Overall	Premise	Plot	Character	Dialogue	Setting
8	8	7	7	7	7

Era	Present
Locations	School, car, home
Genre	Comedy
Logline	Shai is a 16-year-old Israeli immigrant living in America, going to high school, crushing on girls and defying his parents, just like every teenager ever. When a poorly made joke gets him suspended from school, his parents take him to tour Yeshiva as punishment, and through his own accidental volition he ends up enrolling.
Pages	40

Strengths

The story wastes no time, diving in right in the center of the action. The cold open entices the audience right away, while also playing a bit of a joke on them, for they spend the first portion of the pilot believing that something truly serious has occurred. Hearing Noam accuse his son of being the culprit of their run-in with the law is funny, but we're not sure in that instance if he's just hard on his son or if this really was Shai's fault. It's very fun to watch the story unfold and find out. This script perfectly exemplifies what it's like to be a defiant teenager, constantly straddling the line between rebellious adventure and serious offense. Shai is the perfect vessel through which to experience this - he's just cool enough to make us love him and just lame enough to make us cringe for him. He's around the cool kids but he's not quite one of them, and he'll do just about anything for a wild night, for the girl, etc. The relationship between him and his parents will be intriguing to watch unfold over the course of the series as well. They have valid reason to resent one another, but the truth is they don't understand each other. Watching them gain mutual understanding over the course of Shai's adolescence will be heartfelt, funny, tumultuous and relatable, and the show as a whole will follow suit. T

Weaknesses

When Shai enters Yeshiva, there is far too much screen-time (or page-time at the moment) spent on the school tour. This part of the script felt a bit boring, and like it could have been jazzed up to feel more like when Sebastian Hastings enters Illyria (in *She's the Man*, of course). When Sebastian enters, he's thrust into the action, meeting everyone and really experiencing what it's like. Another example is Gabriella in *High School Musical*. Channeling these scenes would help keep the script alive during this portion of the story. Yossi and Margolese are fun characters and the Becca portion is gold (and of course crucial to the plot) but try to cut these scenes down a bit and consider introducing him to more characters. Could he shadow Yossi during a prayer class? Actually go to lunch with him? Anything that feels more like Shai is inserted into the school and its community rather than merely showed around, so the audience remains engaged and also gets a sense of what his new environment will be like, will benefit the story. On a smaller note, there are a considerable amount of typos particularly in the first 10 or so pages (and Alex's gender gets mixed up).

Prospects

There is tremendous potential here. Shai and his parents are so wonderfully relatable while also representing a demographic that is rarely seen on television, and the world of Yeshiva, while certainly not frequently seen on screen, is filled with television fodder, both comedic and cultural. A universal coming-of-age story mixed with such a specific premise is just what buyers are looking for. This show would be low budget, and would appeal to teens and adults alike. Younger audience members will relate to Shai while older members will feel nostalgic for the time when they did, and the world will gain insight into what it's like to be an Israeli immigrant, as well as what it's like to be a typical teen in an Orthodox Jewish world.