COLD OPENING / A

FADE IN:

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC WAITING ROOM - DAY (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Althea, Extras)

WE OPEN ON LEONARD, A POST-DOCTORAL THEORETICAL PHYSICIST, AN ACTUAL GENIUS -- HIS IQ IS OFF THE CHARTS. HE SITS IMPATIENTLY FOR A BEAT, SEES A RUBIK'S CUBE ON THE TABLE, PICKS IT UP AND SOLVES IT IN A FEW DEFT MOVES. HIS FRIEND AND ROOMMATE, SHELDON, ALSO A VERIFIABLE GENIUS WITH SIMILAR CREDENTIALS, EMERGES THROUGH A DOOR.

LEONARD
Took you long enough.

SHELDON
If you had any inkling of what I've just been through I think you'd be a little more sympathetic.

LEONARD
What could you have been through? You went in there to make a sperm deposit.

SHELDON
Leonard, think about it. We're selling our sperm to a high IQ sperm bank, but we can't guarantee high IQ offspring. Extreme intelligence is as much of a mutation as the migrating eye of the flounder.
LEONARD
And this came to you while you were...
pleasuring yourself?

SHELDON
Yes.

LEONARD
Did you see they had movies in there?

SHELDON
I couldn't stop thinking we were
committing fraud. Some poor woman is
going to pin her hopes on my sperm.
What if she winds up with a toddler
who doesn't know if he should use an
integral or a differential to solve
for the area under a curve.

LEONARD
I'm sure she'll still love him.

SHELDON
I wouldn't.

LEONARD
Sheldon, did you fill the cup or not?

SHELDON
Oh, I don't think the cups are
designed to be filled. The size is
meant to facilitate aim, like the
spittoons of the Old West.
LEONARD
Did you or didn't you?

SHELDON
Oh, yes. Eventually. For the record,
I have tennis elbow and I'm chafed.

LEONARD
Come on.

THEY CROSS TO THE COUNTER WHERE A RATHER BORED WOMAN, ALTHEA,
sits behind the counter working a crossword puzzle. She
doesn't look up.

LEONARD (CONT'D)
Excuse me.

ALTHEA
(INTENT ON THE PUZZLE) Hang on.

LEONARD
One across is "Aegean." Eight down is
"Nabokov," twenty-six across is "MCM,
thirteen down is - move your finger -
"phylum," which makes thirteen
across... Port-au-Prince. (OFF HER
UNHAPPY LOOK) Ta-da!

ALTHEA
Can I help you?

LEONARD
Yes, we’ve made two deposits. That’s
about eighty million egg-seeking
geniuses.
SHELDON
Potential geniuses. I have a sister
with the same basic DNA mix who
hostesses at Fuddruckers.

ALTHEA
I'll get you your checks.

SHELDON
Hold on, please. (TO LEONARD) I
can't take the money. It's not right.

LEONARD
(TO ALTHEA) Can you give us a minute?
He's having a crisis of conscience.
I'm sure you get this all the time.

ALTHEA
Not really. Most of the fellas pretty
much come and go.

LEONARD
(TO SHELDON) This was your idea. A
little extra spending money and we
pick up the eight-inch Celestron
telescope with the digital star finder
and the altazimuth mount.

SHELDON
I know, and I'm sorry. (TO ALTHEA)
We'd like our... contribution back.
ALTHEA
You want me to go back there and bring
you your sperm?

SHELDON
Yes.

ALTHEA
Should I leave it in the cups or do
you want me to see if I have a vase or
maybe a gravy boat?

SHELDON
The cups are fine.

LEONARD USHERS SHELDON OUT THE DOOR.

LEONARD
How is it you can recite pi to eighty
decimal places but you can't recognize
sarcasm?

SHELDON
Oh, I don't think the two are related.

THEY'RE OUT AND WE...

DISSOLVE TO:
INT. STAIRWELL - LATER THAT DAY (DAY 1) (Leonard, Sheldon, Penny)

LEONARD AND SHELDON, HOLDING BAGS OF TAKE-OUT INDIAN FOOD, CLIMB THE FIVE FLIGHTS OF STAIRS THAT LEAD TO THEIR APARTMENT.

SHELDON
How long are you going to be mad at me?

LEONARD
I don't know.

SHELDON
Do you see your anger fading gradually like a radioactive half-life, or suddenly like a quantum shift: angry, not angry.

LEONARD
I. Don't. Know.

SHELDON
Well, for the moment it appears to be holding steady.

THEY CLIMB IN SILENCE FOR A MOMENT.

SHELDON (CONT'D)
Do you want to hear an interesting thing about stairs?
LEONARD
Not really.

SHELDON
If the height of a single step is off by as little as two millimeters, most people will trip.

LEONARD
Two millimeters? That doesn't seem right.

SHELDON
It's true. I did a series of experiments when I was twelve. My father broke his clavicle.

RESET TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS
THEY HEAD FROM THE STAIRS TO THEIR APARTMENT.

LEONARD
Is that why they sent you to boarding school?

SHELDON
No, that was a result of my work with lasers.

SHELDON PUTS THE KEY IN THEIR LOCK, WHEN THEY HEAR...

MUSIC CUE: FUNKY UP TEMPO MUSIC

...FROM A BOOMBOX. THEY TURN AND SEE A BEAUTIFUL GIRL, PENNY, DANCING WITH RECKLESS ABANDON THROUGH THE OPEN DOORWAY OF THE APARTMENT ACROSS THE HALL. THEY WATCH FOR A FEW BEATS, MESMERIZED BY HER RAW SEXUALITY.
NEW NEIGHBOR.

EVIDENTLY.

A significant improvement over the old neighbor.

Assuming one prefers incandescently attractive women to Harold the old fat nudist.

May he rest in peace.

THE BOYS WATCH AS PENNY PICKS UP A PHOTOGRAPH OF A HANDSOME MAN AND SETS IT ON FIRE WITH A LIGHTER. SHE DOESN'T NOTICE THEM AS SHE CONTINUES TO DANCE.

This might be cause for concern.

Could be a red flag.

PENNY REALIZES THAT SHE'S BEING WATCHED. SHE TURNS OFF THE MUSIC.

MUSIC CUE: MUSIC OFF

(Re: The picture burning in her hand)

Oh my God, I must look totally insane.

Not totally.
SHELDON
Unless this is kindling for a somewhat larger blaze.

PENNY
(RE: BURNING PHOTO) No, we're just breaking up. Burning his picture is symbolic.

SHE SETS IT DOWN IN A TRASH CAN.

LEONARD
You mean like a cleansing, closure kind of thing?

PENNY
No, my desire to set him on fire.

SHELDON
(TO LEONARD) I'm surprised you missed that.

PENNY
Penny. New neighbor.

THEY SHAKE HANDS.

LEONARD
Hi, I'm Leonard. This is Sheldon.

SHELDON
(INdicates THEIR APARTMENT) We're over here.

PENNY
Cool.
LEONARD
Okay, well... welcome to the building.

SHELDON
There's no sprinkler system.

PENNY
Got it. See you around.

SHELDON/LEONARD
Bye.

LEONARD AND SHELDON BACK INTO THEIR APARTMENT, COLLIDING WITH EACH OTHER AS THEY TRY TO EXIT GRACEFULLY.

RESET TO:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

THE APARTMENT IS A LIVING ROOM, DINING AREA AND A SMALL KITCHEN. DOORS LEAD OFF TO BEDROOMS AND A BATHROOM. EVERYWHERE WE LOOK WE SEE BOOKS, SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS, COMPUTER EQUIPMENT, GREASE BOARDS AND OTHER FLAT SURFACES PRESSED INTO USE AS GREASE BOARDS, ALL COVERED WITH EQUATIONS. AS THEY ENTER...

LEONARD
Should we have invited her for lunch?

SHELDON
Why would we do that?

LEONARD
She's obviously going through some emotional upheaval. We should help.

SHELDON
I'm not aware of anything in the social code that suggests we should intervene.
LEONARD
What about... damsel in distress?

SHELDON
Twelfth century code of chivalry. Not exactly current. Also, you'd have to have been knighted for that to apply.

LEONARD
We're going to be good neighbors. We're going to invite her over, make her feel comfortable and engage her in conversation.

SHELDON
That doesn't sound like us.

LEONARD
It's not difficult. You listen to what she says and you say something appropriate in response.

LEONARD CROSSES OUT, SHELDON FOLLOWS.

SHELDON
No. Definitely not us.

RESET TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS
THEY CROSS TO PENNY'S DOOR AND KNOCK. PENNY OPENS HER DOOR.

LEONARD
Hi. Again.

PENNY
Hi.
SHELDON
Hi.

PENNY
Hi.

LEONARD
So anyway, I don't know if you noticed, but we were carrying bags. Of food. Indian food. And I find when I'm going through emotional difficulties, which is what appears to be going on with you, good food and company can have a comforting effect. Also, curry is a natural laxative and I don't have to tell you that a clean colon is... one less thing to worry about.

SHELDON
Leonard, I'm no expert here, but I believe in the context of a luncheon invitation, you might want to skip the discussion of bowel movements.

PENNY
Oh, you're inviting me over to eat?

LEONARD
Uh, yeah.

PENNY
That's so sweet. Hang on.
PENNY CROSSES TO A WASTE PAPER BASKET WHOSE CONTENTS ARE ENGULFED IN FLAMES. SHE USES A SPORT BOTTLE OF WATER TO PUT OUT THE FIRE.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Pictures of us having sex. I was going to send them to his mother, but it felt a little skeevy.

SHELDON
I understand. We tried masturbating for money this afternoon and I had similar qualms. (OFF LEONARD'S ANGRY LOOK) What? Conversation.

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES
ACT ONE

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

LEONARD AND SHELDON LEAD PENNY INTO THEIR APARTMENT.

LEONARD
Well, uh... make yourself at home.

PENNY
(SWEETLY, CLOSE TO HIM) Thank you.

LEONARD
(SHYLY) You're most welcome.

PENNY SEES A GREASE BOARD FULL OF EQUATIONS AND CROSSES TO IT AS SHELDON LOOKS AT LEONARD AND SILENTLY MOCKS HIS "YOU'RE MOST WELCOME."

PENNY
Hey, this looks like some serious stuff. Leonard, did you do this?

SHELDON SCURRIES TO THE GREASE BOARD.

SHELDON
Actually, that's my work.

PENNY
Wow.
SHELDON
(MOCK HUMILITY) Yeah, well, it's just some quantum mechanics with a little string theory doodling around the edges. That part there's just a joke. It’s a spoof of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation.

PENNY
So you're like one of those "Beautiful Mind" genius guys?

SHELDON
(SHEEPISHLY) Yeah.

PENNY
(RE: BOARD) This is really impressive.

LEONARD
I have a board. If you like boards, this is my board.

LEONARD INDICATES ANOTHER GREASE BOARD FILLED WITH EQUATIONS.

PENNY
Holy smokes.

SHELDON
If by "holy smokes" you mean a derivative restatement of the kind of stuff you can find scribbled on the wall of any men’s room at MIT, sure.
LEONARD
What?

SHELDON
Come on, who hasn't seen (RE: AN EQUATION ON LEONARD'S BOARD) this differential below "here I sit, brokenhearted."

PENNY PLOPS DOWN ON THE COUCH AND STARTS DISHING OUT SOME INDIAN FOOD.

LEONARD
Hey, at least I don't have to invent twenty-six dimensions just to make the math come out.

SHELDON
I didn't invent them, they're there!

LEONARD
In what universe?

SHELDON
In all of them. That's the point!

PENNY
(RE: THE FOOD) Is it okay if I start?

SHELDON SEES PENNY ON ONE END OF THE COUCH.

SHELDON
Um, Penny? That's where I sit.

PENNY
(PATTING THE COUCH) So sit next to me.
SHELDON
No, I sit there.

PENNY
What's the difference?

SHELDON
What's the difference?

LEONARD
Here we go.

SHELDON
In the winter, that spot is close enough to the radiator to be warm, yet not so close as to be uncomfortable. In the summer, it is directly in the path of a cross breeze created by opening windows there and there. It faces the television at an angle that is neither direct, thus discouraging conversation, nor so far wide as to create parallax distortion. I could go on, but I think I've made my point.

PENNY
Would you like to switch?

SHELDON
No, I'm fine.

SHELDON UNHAPPILY SITS NEXT TO HER. LEONARD TAKES A CHAIR.
LEONARD
Okay, well this is nice, huh? We
don't have company a lot.

SHELDON
That's not true. Koothrappali and
Wolowitz come over all the time.

LEONARD
Well, yes but --

SHELDON
Tuesday night we played Klingon Boggle
until one in the morning.

LEONARD
Yeah, I remember.

SHELDON
I resent you saying we don't have
company.

LEONARD
I'm sorry.

SHELDON
It has negative social implications.

LEONARD
I said I'm sorry!

AN AWKWARD BEAT, THEN:

PENNY
What's Klingon Boggle?
LEONARD
(EMBARRASSED) It's like regular
Boggle... but in Klingon. (CHANGING
THE SUBJECT) Well, that's probably
enough about us. Tell us about you.

PENNY
Me? Okay... I'm a Sagittarius which
probably tells you more than you need
to know.

SHELDON
Yes, it tells us that you participate
in the mass cultural delusion that the
sun's apparent position relative to
arbitrarily defined constellations at
the time of your birth somehow affects
your personality.

PENNY
I'm sorry?

LEONARD
I think what Sheldon's trying to say
is that Sagittarius wouldn't have been
our first guess.

PENNY
I get that a lot because I have a
really strong moon in Virgo.

SHELDON
Hence our confusion.
LEONARD SHOOTS SHELDON A LOOK.

PENNY
I used to be a lacto-ovo vegetarian
but that got too political, so now I'm
just eating according to my blood
type.

SHELDON
That's interesting. Leonard can't
process corn.

LEONARD GIVE SHELDON ANOTHER LOOK. SHELDON SHRUGS, "WHAT?"

PENNY
And I'm a José Cuervo shot girl but
I'm also writing a screenplay about a
girl who came to L.A. to be an actress
and failed and wound up as a José
Cuervo shot girl.

LEONARD
Well, if that was a movie, I would go
see it.

PENNY
I know, right? What else?... I guess
that's about it. That is my life.
That is me.

LEONARD
Well, it sounds wonderful--

PENNY
It was. Until...
SHE SUDDENLY STARTS CRYING. LEONARD AND SHELDON EXCHANGE DUMBFOUNDED LOOKS.

SHELDON
(TO LEONARD) What's happening?

LEONARD
I'm not sure. Um... (TENTATIVELY PATTING PENNY'S SHOULDER) There, there.

PENNY
I'm sorry. It's just this breakup. It wouldn't be a big deal except I still love him.

LEONARD
Sure.

PENNY
But at the same time I hate his freakin' guts. Pretty crazy, huh?

LEONARD IS AT A LOSS. HE LOOKS AT SHELDON. SHELDON SHRUGS, EQUALLY CLUELESS.

LEONARD
No, it's not crazy, it's just... a paradox. And paradoxes are a part of nature. Think about light. If you look at Huygens, light is a wave, as confirmed by the double-slit experiments. But along comes Albert Einstein and he discovers that light behaves like particles, too.

(MORE)
LEONARD (CONT'D)

How do you resolve it? Is it a wave, is it a particle... or is it both?

PENNY IS MYSTIFIED.

SHELDON

Well, Penny, did you find that helpful?

PENNY

It's something to chew on. (PULLING HERSELF TOGETHER) Listen, my shower isn't working and I've been moving all day. Would it be totally weird if I used yours?

SHELDON

Yes.

LEONARD

No.

SHELDON

(TO LEONARD) No?

LEONARD

(TO SHELDON) No.

SHELDON

(TO PENNY) No.

PENNY

Okay... Where is it?

THEY POINT SIMULTANEOUSLY TOWARD THE BATHROOM.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Thanks. You guys are really sweet.
SHE EXITS TO THE BATHROOM. THE GUYS STARE AFTER HER IN SILENCE.

SHELDON
Well, this is a first.

LEONARD
What do you mean?

SHELDON
We've never had a woman take her clothes off in our apartment before.

LEONARD
That's not true. Remember at Thanksgiving, my grandmother with Alzheimer's had that "episode."

SHELDON
Oh, right. Somehow I place this in a different category.

LEONARD
Yeah.

SHELDON
You know, she's not going to have sex with you.

LEONARD
What?

SHELDON
Face it, Leonard. She is not the female of the species of which you are the male.
LEONARD
I'm not trying to have sex with her.
I'm just trying to be a good neighbor.

SHELDON
Oh, of course.

LEONARD
I mean, that's not to say that if a carnal relationship were to develop, I wouldn't participate. However briefly.

SHELDON
Hm. Do you think this possibility will be helped or hindered when she discovers your Bilbo Baggins "No More Tears" shampoo?

LEONARD
It's Gandalf shampoo.

THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. LEONARD CROSSES TO ANSWER IT.

LEONARD (CONT'D)
Bilbo Baggins is the conditioner.

HE OPENS THE DOOR REVEALING THEIR FRIENDS HOWARD WOLOWITZ AND DAVE KOOTHRAPPAI, TWO MORE CERTIFIABLE GENIUSES IN THEIR TWENTIES. KOOTHRAPPAI WEARS A BASEBALL CAP. WOLOWITZ HOLDS UP A DVD.

WOLOWITZ
Wait 'til you see this.

KOOTHRAPPAI
It's fantastic.

THEY CROSS IN.
LEONARD

See what?

WOLOWITZ HEADS FOR THE TV. AT THE SAME TIME KOOTHRAPPALI CROSSES INTO THE KITCHENETTE AREA WHERE HE TAKES OUT A BOX OF ALUMINIUM FOIL, TEARS OFF A SHEET AND REPLACES THE ALUMINIUM FOIL THAT'S LINING HIS BASEBALL HAT.

WOLOWITZ

It's a Steven Hawking lecture from MIT

in 1974.

LEONARD

This isn't a good time.

WOLOWITZ LOADS THE DVD PLAYER.

WOLOWITZ

(CREEPY COMPUTER VOICE) It's before

he became a creepy computer voice.

KOOTHRAPPALI

He sounds like Benny Hill, but smart.

LEONARD

That's great. You have to go.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Why?

LEONARD

It's just not a good time.

SHELDON

Leonard has a lady over.

WOLOWITZ

Yeah, right.

WOLOWITZ TURNS ON THE TV.
LEONARD
She's not a "lady." She's just a friend.

WOLOWITZ
Hang on. There really is a lady here?

WOLOWITZ TURNS OFF THE TV.

LEONARD
Uh-huh.

WOLOWITZ
And you want us out because you're anticipating coitus?

LEONARD
No, she's just a friend.

WOLOWITZ
So she's available for coitus?

LEONARD
No, she's --

PENNY CROSSES OUT. SHE'S NAKED WITH A TOWEL WRAPPED AROUND HER.

PENNY
Hey, is there a trick to getting it to switch from tub to shower? (OFF THE NEW GUYS) Oh, hey. Sorry. Hi.

WOLOWITZ POPS OFF THE COUCH.
Énchanté, mademoiselle. Howard Wolowitz, Cal Tech department of applied physics. You may be familiar with some of my work -- it's currently toodling around the surface of Mars.

Hi. Penny.

You smell wonderful. What is that scent you're wearing?

It's called b.o.

Ah. Hence the shower, of course. Leonard, where have you been hiding this one? She's charming.

(SOTTO, TO LEONARD) Oh, he's good.

AND ON LEONARD'S UNHAPPY EXPRESSION, WE...

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

SCENE B

FADE IN:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)

(Leonard, Sheldon, Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

AS BEFORE.

LEONARD
Come on, I'll show you the trick to
the shower.

LEONARD AND PENNY CROSS TOWARD THE BATHROOM.

WOLOWITZ
Bonne douche.

LEONARD/PENNY
What? / I'm sorry?

WOLOWITZ
It's French for "good shower." It's a
sentiment I can express in six
languages.

LEONARD AND PENNY REACT, THEN EXIT.

SHELDON
(TO KOOTHRAPPALI) How's the microwave
radiation these days?
KOOTHRAPPALI
Awful. Between the cell phones, the relay towers and the wi-fi I can actually smell my brain cooking.

SHELDON
How are you handling the gonad situation?

KOOTHRAPPALI
(RE: HIS CROTCH) Spun iron mesh.

SHELDON
Seems a little medieval. Any problems with rust?

KOOTHRAPPALI
Only if I drink too much coffee. But it's not without its advantages.

HE TAKES A KITCHEN MAGNET OF ALBERT EINSTEIN'S HEAD OFF THE REFRIGERATOR AND HOLDS IT A FEW INCHES FROM HIS CROTCH. HE LETS IT GO AND IT FLIES TO AND STICKS ONTO HIS PANTS WITH A MAGNETIC "CLICK."

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)
What do you think?

SHELDON
I think the magnet is yours now.

LEONARD CROSSES BACK OUT.

LEONARD
Listen --

LEONARD NOTICES THE MAGNET ON KOOTHRAPPALI'S PANTS. HE DECIDES TO IGNORE IT.
LEONARD (CONT'D)
You guys have to go.

WOLOWITZ
Why?

LEONARD
Because Sheldon and I have to run an errand for Penny and you can't be here.

SHELDON
Where are we going?

LEONARD
I'll tell you later.

WOLOWITZ
Leonard, I'm perfectly comfortable waiting here. In fact, Dave, why don't you go with them?

KOOTHRAPALI
I don't want to go with them.

SHELDON
(TO LEONARD) Where are we going?

LEONARD
(TO WOLOWITZ) Why would you stay?

WOLOWITZ
Well, I was trying to be discreet about the elephant in the room, but surely all of you saw what happened between the lady and me.
LEONARD/SHELDON/KOOTHRAPPALI
No. / Sorry? / What?

WOLOWITZ
She's is obviously hot for me.

LEONARD/SHELDON/KOOTHRAPPALI
What? / Sorry? / What?

WOLOWITZ
Frankly she's not even my type, but as the alpha male in the group, it is my burden.

LEONARD CONSIDERS THIS FOR A BEAT.

LEONARD
Okay, I think we can go.

LEONARD WRITES A PHONE NUMBER ON A SCRAP OF PAPER AND HANDS IT TO KOOTHRAPPALI.

LEONARD (CONT'D)
This is my cell phone number. Give it to Penny when she comes out of the shower. Come on, Sheldon.

SHELDON
Again, where are we going?

AS LEONARD USHERS SHELDON OUT, KOOTHRAPPALI USES THE MAGNET TO ATTACH THE PHONE NUMBER TO HIS PANTS, AND WE:

CUT TO:
SCENE C

INT. LEONARD'S CAR - A LITTLE WHILE LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon)

A BEAT-UP BUT SERVICEABLE SEDAN. LEONARD DRIVING, SHELDON IN THE PASSENGER SEAT.

SHELDON
Leonard?

LEONARD
Yes?

SHELDON
At the risk of being redundant, where are we going?

LEONARD
We're just going and getting the rest of Penny's clothes for her.

SHELDON
Why can't she get her own clothes?

LEONARD
She could, she's just trying to avoid having a scene with the guy she was living with.

SHELDON
Uh-huh. So this gentleman will be there?
LEONARD
I assume so, yes.

SHELDON
And you think this quest will win the maiden's heart?

LEONARD
I don't know.

SHELDON
Let me propose another approach which might have a better chance of achieving your goal.

LEONARD
Okay.

SHELDON
Lure Penny to a lead-lined shelter you've built far beneath the surface of the earth and keep her there until the rest of humanity is consumed by a nuclear conflagration.

LEONARD
Why don't we put a pin in that and see how the clothes thing goes.

SHELDON NODS, AND WE...

CUT TO:
SCENE D

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME (DAY 1)  
(Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

PENNY (DRESSED IN A PAIR OF LEONARD'S JEANS AND A T-SHIRT) AND KOOTHRAPPALI ARE SITTING ON THE COUCH.

          PENNY
          So, you guys work with Leonard and
          Sheldon at the university?

KOOTHRAPPALI GLANCES AT HER, THEN NERVOUSLY LOOKS AWAY.  
          PENNY (CONT'D)
          I'm sorry, do you speak English?

WOLOWITZ CROSSES OVER WITH A TRAY OF FOOD.

          WOLOWITZ
          Oh, he speaks English. He just can't
          speak when there's a woman in the
          room.

          PENNY
          Really? Why?

          WOLOWITZ
          Well, basically he's nuttier than rat
          droppings in a pistachio factory, but
          he's also the best particle physicist
          in the Western Hemisphere.
PENNY
Oh.

WOLOWITZ
Anyway, I've whipped us up a little something. It's basically melted string cheese and Doritos, but I think it's a nice approximation of a fondue.

PENNY
Oh, thank you.

WOLOWITZ
I probably don't have to tell you the Swiss regard fondue as the most sensual of the cheese dishes.

AS HE OFFERS THE FOOD TO PENNY AND SMILES WAGGISHLY, WE...

CUT TO:
SCENE E

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING – MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Kurt [V.O.], Bobby, Extras)

LEONARD CROSSES UP TO THE INTERCOM PANEL AND RINGS A BUTTON.

SHELDON
The trick is going to be how you
trigger nuclear Armageddon and still
have her see you as a nice guy.

WE HEAR THE VOICE OF PENNY'S EX-BOYFRIEND, KURT, OVER THE INTERCOM.

KURT (V.O.)
Yeah?

LEONARD
Hello, I'm Leonard and this is
Sheldon.

SHELDON
Hello.

LEONARD
We're here to pick up Penny's clothes.

KURT (V.O.)
Get lost.

SHELDON
Okay, we tried. Let's go.
LEONARD
Wait. We're not going to give up just like that.

SHELDON
Leonard, the clothes are in the building. We have been denied access to the building. We're done.

LEONARD
Excuse me, if I were to give up at the first little hitch I would never have been able to identify the fingerprints of string theory in the aftermath of the Big Bang.

SHELDON
I apologize. What's your plan?

LEONARD CONSIDERS FOR A BEAT THEN CROSSES TO THE LOCKED DOOR AND FUTILELY YANKS ON IT.

SHELDON (CONT'D)
It's just a privilege to watch your mind at work.

LEONARD
Shut up and let me think.

LEONARD CONSIDERS THE SITUATION AS A DEVELOPMENTALLY-CHALLENGED DELIVERY PERSON, BOBBY, APPROACHES WITH A STACK OF MENUS.

BOBBY
Hiya.

LEONARD
Hi.
BOBBY
I have a job and make my own money. I
put one menu at every door. I'm
Bobby.

LEONARD/SHELDON
That's great. / Good for you.

BOBBY PRESSES ALL THE BUZZER BUTTONS.
SFX: MULTIPLE BUZZERS
A BEAT AND THE DOOR BUZZES OPEN.
SFX: BUZZ

BOBBY
Bye bye.

SHELDON
Did you see which button worked?

LEONARD
Just grab the door.

SHELDON GRABS THE DOOR AND THEY CROSS IN, AS WE:

CUT TO:
SCENE H

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KURT'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Kurt, Joey)

SHELDON AND LEONARD APPROACH THE DOOR. LEONARD KNOCKS. THE
DOOR OPENS REVEALING KURT, AN IMPOSING FRAT-BOY-TURNED-
STOCKBROKER.

KURT
Yeah?

LEONARD
Hi, I'm Leonard. This is Sheldon.

SHELDON
From the intercom.

KURT
How the hell did you get in the
building?

LEONARD
Uh. We're scientists. Anyway, we
just need to pick up Penny's clothes
and we'll get out of your hair.

KURT
(SIGHS) All right, come in.

THEY ENTER.

LEONARD
(TO SHELDON) See? No problem.
INT. KURT'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

GLASS, CHROME, ETC. ANOTHER KURT-LIKE FELLOW, JOEY, IS SITTING ON THE COUCH WATCHING A FOOTBALL GAME AND HAVING A BEER.

    JOEY
    What's going on?

    KURT
    These guys came to get Penny's stuff.

    LEONARD
    I'm Leonard. This is Sheldon.

    SHELDON
    Hello.

    KURT
    Want a beer?

    LEONARD
    No, thank you.

    KURT
    You don't drink beer?

    LEONARD
    No, we drink beer.

    KURT
    But you're too good to drink beer with us.

    LEONARD
    I think a beer would be nice.

    SHELDON
    I'd like a beer.

    KURT HANDS THEM A COUPLE OF BEERS.
KURT
Want to tell me how long you've been
boinking my girlfriend?

LEONARD
Oh no. There's no boinking.

SHELDON
"Boinking"?

LEONARD
Colloquial. Fornication.

SHELDON
Interesting.

KURT
So you're telling me you're just
running around town for her because
you're a nice guy.

LEONARD
Um, yes.

KURT
I don't buy it. Do you buy it, Joey?

JOEY
I don't buy it.

SHELDON
Actually, he hopes to boink her.

LEONARD
Sheldon!

SHELDON
It's not a transitive verb?
LEONARD
Just stay out of it.

SHELDON
Well, he didn't accept your explanation. I thought that if I validated his premise we could acknowledge the situation and move forward.

LEONARD
I don't think these are the kind of people who need their premises validated.

SHELDON
Fine. I'll follow your lead.

LEONARD
Gentlemen, this is clearly an awkward situation, but I'm sure we can conclude our business without giving in to understandable but ultimately childish emotion.
SCENE J

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Extras)

LEONARD AND SHELDON WALK OUT OF THE BUILDING IN T-SHIRTS AND BOXER SHORTS.

SHELDON
Leonard?

LEONARD
What?

SHELDON
My mom bought me those pants.

LEONARD
I'm sorry.

SHELDON
You're going to have to call her.

THEY CROSS OFF, AS WE...

CUT TO:
SCENE K

INT. STAIRWELL – A LITTLE WHILE LATER (DAY 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon)

THE BOYS CLIMB THE STAIRS.

LEONARD
I feel terrible about dragging you
through this.

SHELDON
It's okay. It wasn't my first
pantsing and it won't be my last.

LEONARD
I am such a fool. Even if I'd gotten
her clothes, packed them in the Ark of
the Covenant and tossed in the Holy
Grail she still wouldn't be interested
in me.

SHELDON
Yes, but we'd have the Ark of the
Covenant and the Holy Grail -- a
veritable E-bay bonanza.
LEONARD
Well, anyway, I'm all done with this. I've got my work and someday I'll win a Nobel prize and after that, I'll die.

SHELDON
Oh, come on. You know there's a fantasy and science fiction convention in San Diego next week. That's always a great place to meet "women."

CUT TO:
SCENE L

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT – CONTINUOUS (DAY 1)  
(Leonard, Sheldon, Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

PENNY, WOLOWITZ AND KOOPTHAPPALI ARE LOOKING AT A LAPTOP COMPUTER. A SMALL REMOTE-CONTROLLED VEHICLE WITH CAMERAS MOUNTED ON IT SCOWTS AROUND THE FLOOR. WOLOWITZ IS CONTROLLING IT FROM THE LAPTOP.

WOLOWITZ
So now we're seeing what the excursion module camera sees.

PENNY
Oh, that's so cool. And they use something like this on Mars?

WOLOWITZ
Uh-huh. Okay, let's scoot it around and see what we see.

THE VEHICLE ROLLS UP BEHIND PENNY AND TAKES A SHOT UP. SHE'S FOCUSED ON THE SCREEN.

PENNY
What are we looking at now?

WOLOWITZ
Your ass.

PENNY
Ah.
WOLOWITZ
Of course on Mars, we'd be looking at
a rock.

PENNY
And you'd have a better shot with the
rock.

WOLOWITZ
Touché.

LEONARD AND SHELDON ENTER.

LEONARD
We're home.

PENNY
Oh, my God, what happened?

SHE CROSSES TOWARD THEM. WE STAY WITH WOLOWITZ AND
KOOTHRAPPALI FOR:

WOLOWITZ
(SOTTO TO KOOTHRAPPALI, RE: SCREEN
IMAGE) You want this?

KOOTHRAPPALI NODS.

WOLOWITZ (CONT'D)
You got a flash drive?

KOOTHRAPPALI REACHES INTO HIS POCKET AS WE ANGLE ON: LEONARD,
SHELDON AND PENNY.

LEONARD
So anyway your ex-boyfriend sends his
best and I think the rest is fairly
self-explanatory.
PENNY
Oh, I am so sorry.

SHE GIVES BOTH OF THEM A HUG.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Thank you for going and trying. You
guys are just terrific.

LEONARD/SHELDON
You're welcome. / Sure.

PENNY
Tell you what. Why don't you put some
clothes on? I'll get my purse and
dinner's on me.

LEONARD/SHELDON
Great / Thanks.

SHE EXITS. THEY WATCH HER GO. LEONARD SIGHS, INFATUATED.

SHELDON
Yeah.

LEONARD
I have to keep trying.

SHELDON
Yeah, you kind of have to.

THEY CROSS OVER TO WOLOWITZ AND KOOTHRAPPALI.

LEONARD
Is that your new Mars rover?

WOLOWITZ
Uh-huh.
SHELDON
(RE: LAPTOP SCREEN) What are you looking at?

WOLOWITZ
Guess.

LEONARD
Well, that looks like a butterfly, but what's the surface?

KOOTHRAPPALI
Heaven.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
TAG

FADE IN:

INT. LEONARD'S CAR - THAT NIGHT (NIGHT 1)
(Leonard, Sheldon, Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

LEONARD IS DRIVING, SHELDON IS IN THE PASSENGER SEAT. PENNY IS IN THE BACK, SQUEEZED BETWEEN KOOTHRAPPALI AND WOLOWITZ.

LEONARD
Thai food okay with you, Penny?

PENNY
Sure.

SHELDON
We can't have Thai food, we had Indian for lunch. That would be spicy-spicy. We need spicy-savory. That means either Japanese, which will be crowded, or Mongolian barbecue, which I prefer.

LEONARD
Mongolian barbecue all right with you, Penny?

PENNY
Sure. (TO KOOTHRAPPALI) Is that okay with you?

KOOTHRAPPALI OPENS HIS MOUTH TO ANSWER. NOTHING COMES OUT. SADLY, HE LOOKS AWAY.
WOLOWITZ
(INTIMATELY, TO PENNY) And afterwards
maybe you and I can go out for a
little karaoke. (SINGING SOFTLY TO
HER) FLY ME TO THE MOON...

SHELDON
(SOTTO, TO LEONARD) I don't know what
your odds are in the world as a whole,
but as far as the population of this
car goes, you're in like Flynn.

AS LEONARD ALLOWS HIMSELF A SMALL SMILE, AS WOLOWITZ KEEPS
SINGING, AS Koothrappali ADJUSTS THE ALUMINUM FOIL IN HIS
HAT, WE...

FADE OUT.

__________________________
END OF SHOW