PILOT. "My First Day" written by Bill Lawrence

A: J.D.'s first day—adjusting to the hospital, figuring out its players
B: J.D. & Elliot—initial romance/attraction (Elliot confronts her ambition)
C: Turk moves in with J.D. (Turk's admission of fear)

John Dorian ("J.D.") prepares up for his first day as a medical intern at Sacred Heart Hospital, excited and nervous. His best friend, Chris Turk, is also an intern at Sacred Heart, but he's a surgical intern and is confidently thriving at work. J.D. worries that their different hospital experiences will weaken their friendship and prevent them from continuing to live together. J.D. meets fellow medical intern, cutie Elliot Reid, who's got a competitive edge. J.D. meets more of Sacred Heart's staff, including the yin and yang duo of Chief of Medicine, Dr. Kelso, and his nemesis, attending physician Dr. Cox (Kelso is good, Cox bad). During rounds, J.D. bails out Elliot on a tough question; the next day, when the situation is reversed, Elliot bails out J.D. He confronts her, and she responds coldly by saying, "if you didn't want to sleep with me, you would've done the same thing."

J.D.'s first night on call is as chaotic and frenzied as he imagined, and he even unexpectedly loses a patient. Later, Turk admits that he's scared and confused, too, and tells J.D. that he wants to move in with him. Just as the evening's winding down, J.D witnesses Kelso's true self, one whose concern for patients ends with whether or not they have health insurance. When J.D. is at his most confused, Dr. Cox steps up and works J.D. through a difficult procedure with compassionate but forceful encouragement (Cox good, Kelso bad). As J.D. heads home for sweet sleep, Elliot apologizes, and J.D. realizes what an accomplishment it was to have made it through his first day.

Rounds: 2  Body-count: 1 (Burski)
Fantasies:
*Marathon race, J.D. vs. Elliot—J.D. wins
*Sitcom life for J.D. and Elliot, explaining to their son how they fell in love
*J.D. as deer caught in headlights (with antlers), demolished by speeding truck
*Turk and Carla get it on, Todd cheers for them
*Kelso's red devil eyes (when his evilness is revealed)
Facts 'n' tidbits:
*J.D. and Turk were roommates in college and med school
*Every man in the Reid family is a doctor
A: J.D./Cox, smoking patient
B: Carla & nurses vs. Elliot
C: Turk courts Carla

J.D. treats a chronic smoker, Will Forte, whose irreverent attitude about his addiction worries J.D. He's torn how to handle Will—tough love or compassion—but he's certain that his budding relationship with Dr. Cox is becoming that of mentor and protégé, and eager for Dr. Cox's advice. Elliot's gotten herself in hot water with Carla by ratting her out to Kelso; but Elliot insists Carla genuinely messed up, and therefore Elliot doesn't think she owes Carla an apology. Her stubbornness only alienates her more from the nurses. Meanwhile, Turk's interest in Carla is beginning to show. Turk finally asks Carla out and is met with rejection. And J.D. finally thinks his passion and concern have broken through to Will...when he discovers Will smoking with the janitor in the stairwell.

Elliot's social gracelessness continues to shine when she inadvertently insults Turk's mother, and she seems to be turning into the hospital's pariah. J.D. tries to figure out the hostile and reclusive Dr. Cox—but most of Sacred Heart's staff is content with the explanation that Dr. Cox is just "a jerk." J.D., however, is not satisfied, and he goes to Dr. Cox's home to talk with him about Will. As Turk pretty much gives up on Carla, he confronts her about how she's been treating Elliot. By passionately defending Elliot, he begins to win Carla's heart, and she agrees to a date. Elliot then privately gives Carla credit to Dr. Kelso, and the two women reach a begrudging understanding. J.D.'s interaction with Dr. Cox is not what he was hoping for, but Dr. Cox does send J.D. off with sound advice: it's impossible to change some people, "...smokers, drinkers, druggies, fatties." J.D. accepts this fact, and senses that everyone around him is desperate for some kind of acceptance.

Rounds: 0    Body-count: 0
Fantasies:
*Turk snaps Todd's neck when Todd expresses interest in Carla
*Elliot digs her own grave.
*Tiny Turk after Carla rejects him.
*Elliot as band geek in high school; falls in cafeteria, jeered.
*J.D.'s head explodes in frustration.
Facts 'n' tidbits:
*Turk's mother is a Jehovah's Witness, looks like Morgan Freeman.
*Dr. Cox loves Days of Our Lives.
*Dr. Cox lives alone in a nice (but "charmless and sterile") apartment; has a poker night with buddies.
#102, “My Best Friend’s Mistake” written by Eric Weinberg

A: J.D. catches Turk’s mistake
B: J.D.’s missed opportunity with Elliot
C: Elliot called “sweetheart”; Cox as unwilling mentor

J.D. and Elliot have a late-night, flirtatious moment in a patient’s room. Its consummation—the kiss—gets interrupted, however, by Dr. Cox. The consequent awkwardness kills the romantic mood between J.D. and Elliot, and J.D. realizes that he has a precise 48-hour window in which to get that first kiss before he becomes permanently relegated to “the Friend Zone.” J.D. gets a patient on whom Turk operated; meanwhile, Turk’s relationship with Carla is getting more and more evolved, and J.D. fears he’s been put on Turk’s back burner. During rounds, Dr. Kelso calls Elliot sweetheart, which pisses her off. So she solicits Dr. Cox’s advice. Aggravated by her whining, Cox tells her she should confront Kelso directly. Surprisingly, Kelso is not very receptive to her complaint. J.D.’s patient takes a dramatic turn for the worse, and Nurse Roberts suspect that whoever operated on the guy must have left something in which caused a serious infection. J.D.’s stunned to have any doubts about Turk’s ability.

J.D. frantically tries to find Turk and warn him. When he finally does find Turk, he’d rather play basketball than listen to what J.D. has to say. Soon, though, the patient’s condition improves, and Carla points out to J.D. that the patient, a diabetic, had accidentally been given insulin. J.D. realizes that it was he, in fact, who had given the insulin. He thanks Carla for her save, but she says it was Turk’s realization. J.D. tells Turk he misses him, then runs off to find Elliot, only seconds left in his window. He’s too late, though, and loses the kiss. But he realizes that what he needs more than lovin’ right now is friendship, so he’s okay being in “the Friend Zone”…for now.

Rounds: 1  Body-count: 0
Fantasies:
*SNAPSHOTS of J.D., harassment consequences; then, SHOTS of J.D. & Elliot: married, in bed, etc.
*Ongoing 48-hour countdown clock
*Kelso as Hugh Hefner, after “sweetheart”
*Turk evaporates for sex—swoosh—remote floats then drops.
*J.D. sees Turk as patients as he questions their friendship.
*Turk and Todd ride off on motorcycle after basketball.
*Lawyer lounge singing “A Little respect.”
*The Friend Zone.

Facts ‘n’ tidbits:
*Dr. Wen has been attending for three years.
*Fletch is one of J.D. and Turk’s favorite movies.
A: J.D. & death-wish Matriarch
B: Turk and 20-yr-old
C: Elliot & Carla—Elliot’s decision

J.D. muses on the staggering statistic that one out of three patients admitted to Sacred Heart will die there. [The real national statistic is somewhere between three and thirteen per cent—John Doris.] His current admitted patient, Mrs. Tanner, is a feisty, spirited woman in her mid-eighties, for whom he develops an instant fondness. Turk’s patient is a twenty-year-old college student, David, who’s eager for companionship—or even mere conversation—in the hospital. Turk, however, is wary of allowing himself to befriend a patient. Elliot encounters an even deeper interpersonal obstacle with her patient, Mrs. Guerrero, a middle-aged Latina who doesn’t speak English. J.D.’s patient takes a turn for the worse, indicating she should be put on dialysis—but when J.D. goes to tell her, he finds that she’s left the hospital A.M.A. J.D. goes to retrieve her from the park, where she’s celebrating her granddaughter’s fifth birthday. Elliot’s patient’s condition gets drastically worse. Turk and his team of surgeons inadvertently stumble over something ominous inside David. And Mrs. Tanner stuns J.D. when she declines dialysis, saying, “I think I’m ready to die.”

Elliot’s torn about how to handle Mrs. Guerrero’s condition. Elliot is crippled by her indecision, and seeks Carla’s advice. Carla defers, however, and tells Elliot this is a decision that she has to make on her own. As J.D. spends lots of time and energy trying to convince Mrs. Tanner to go ahead with the dialysis and prolong her life, she forces him to analyze the way in which he values his precious time. In a flatline montage, all three patients die, and the three interns break the news to their patients’ families, before following some of Mrs. Tanner’s advice and merely lying out on the grass for a while.

Rounds: 0  Body-count: 3 (Tanner, David, Guerrero)

Fantasies:
*J.D. uses rewind button to try to remove his foot from his mouth. (Unsuccessful.)
*Mrs. Tanner digs her way out to freedom, à la The Shawshank Redemption.
*J.D. smooshes Samantha Tanner’s face into her birthday cake.
*Delivery guy (Schwartzy) drops a ton of bricks on J.D.
*J.D. vs. Death, Connect Four.

Facts ’n’ tidbits:
*Cox speaks flawless Spanish.
*Elliot and Carla both studied dance (although Carla did so at a more serious level).
#104. “My Two Dads” written by Garrett Donovan and Neil Goldman

A: Cox & Kelso vie for J.D.’s soul
B: Elliot’s healing boobs
C: Turk gives Carla ass pen

J.D.’s all proud of himself for discovering what he thinks is hospital carelessness—several expensive procedures being scheduled for a dead man. He tells Dr. Kelso, eager for the brownie points, which he does collect (in the form of an invitation to join Kelso’s weekly round of golf), but it’s a bittersweet achievement since Dr. Kelso still doesn’t know his name. What’s worse, Dr. Cox later lays into J.D. because he was billing the dead guy’s insurance for procedures other patients needed but couldn’t afford—Cox claims to literally “wash his hands of” J.D. An adolescent male patient of Elliot’s tells her that the one thing in the world that would make him feel better is to see some breasts. J.D. suggests Elliot go for it. Carla berates Turk for being too interested in sex and not enough in her. Elliot actually does flash Jared, and miraculously it really seems to boost his health. Turk decides the best way to prove that he really knows Carla is to get her a personal gift—a pen for her journal. But because he has so little time, he decides to take a nice pen from the lost and found box…which, unfortunately, is actually an ass box (items that have been pulled from people’s rectums in the ER). J.D. is shocked to discover that Dr. Cox is also part of Kelso’s golf game.

Elliot continues to flash patients, and is continually surprised to see the immediate results. Turk desperately scrambles to find Carla before she unwraps her ass pen—but he’s too late, and she loves it. And out on the golf course, Cox and Kelso play tug-of-war with J.D.’s soul and allegiance. Cox even presents an ultimatum that could end J.D.’s medical career. Just when Turk’s about to receive the best thank-you sex of his life, he tells Carla the truth about the pen, but instead of getting angry, Carla appreciates his honesty and ravages him anyway. Elliot tries to revive a coded gomer in the ER by flashing him, but he remains dead, and the hospital staff is amused and confused by her actions. J.D decides he’ll do what Cox has asked of him, knowing that Cox’s heart in the right place, but Cox tells him it was just a test—one that J.D. passed. Kelso, however, knows about what Cox has done and suspends him. J.D. then decline’s Kelso invitation to be a golf partner on a full-time basis.

Rounds: 0     Body-count: 1 (gomer Elliot flashes)

Fantasies:
*Family Feud* boobs.
*Wonder Years* J.D. and Cox as son and father.
*J.D. in golf attire and cleats sheepishly walking away from Cox.
*Steadman, Kelso, and doggy treats tossed into the mouth.
*Hospital as checkout line, J.D. as (body) bag boy.
*Star Wars: Darth Kelso vs. Obi Wan Coxi.

Facts 'n' tidbits:
*Carla keeps a journal.
*Kelso plays a weekly round of golf.
#105. "My Bad" written by Gabrielle Allan

A: J.D. & Christa
B: Elliot’s therapist/patient
C: Turk, Carla, and Mom

J.D. realizes his affection and admiration for Dr. Cox, who’s just been suspended. Dr. Kelso tells J.D. that he has to look after a big shot on Sacred Heart’s board. J.D. assumes it’ll be an old fart, but he’s surprised to see an attractive younger woman, Jordan Sullivan, who is a merciless bitch and relishes in abusing J.D. Elliot’s patient is a psychiatrist with a broken jaw; consequently, he’s forced to patiently listen to her work out her angst and confusion. Turk and Carla bicker over Carla’s mom’s presence in their lives/relationship. As Kelso and Cox’s hatred grows, J.D. thinks the only way to salvage Cox’s job is to go to the powerful Jordan and ask her to help. When he finally stands up to her, she literally throws him into bed with her and fucks him silly. Shortly thereafter, he learns that Jordan is, in fact, Dr. Cox’s ex-wife. And Elliot is devastated when she discovers that her patient/shrink has been discharged.

Everyone’s predicament sets off a chain reaction in which one character passes a wave of anger onto the next. With his new information, J.D. “breaks it off” with Jordan, who just mocks him. Elliot tries to turn to her mother for emotional guidance, but finds her mother’s more interested in the length of Elliot’s hair than in her psychological well-being. J.D. goes to Jordan and asks her to look into her heart and help salvage Cox’s job because Cox means so much to Sacred Heart. Jordan gives in, and Cox is reinstated, much to Kelso’s chagrin. J.D. realizes that every apparent ending actual just leads to new complications, as we see: Elliot after her first session as an official patient of Dr. Greenberg’s; Turk forced into watching Spanish TV with Carla; and J.D. shares a moment with Cox, who bluntly asks J.D. if he slept with Jordan. J.D. says “no.”

**Rounds:** 0  **Body-count:** 0

**Fantasies:**
* J.D. tight rope walks across the Grand Canyon.
* Jordan does a lion growl.
* J.D. grows chest hair.
* Surprise party for J.D. after he learns Jordan is Cox’s ex.
* Game show buzzer when Jordan asks Cox to name a place he’s been other than his apartment and the hospital in the last month.
* Cox breathes fire on J.D.  J.D.’s a sooty mess.
* Other ways to save Cox’s job: ask Keslo, Kelso laughs; plastic surgery, Jimmie Walker.

**Facts 'n' tidbits:**
* Cox’s ex, Jordan Sullivan, nasty-ass bitch; on Sacred Heart’s board of directors.
#106. "My Super Ego" written by Mike Schwartz

A: J.D. & Nick—leadership
B: Turk has self-doubt
C: Cox & Carla connect

J.D.'s confidence in himself and his abilities have been growing over the past few weeks. Just as he's beginning to suspect that he's the number one intern, he notices fellow intern, Nick Murdoch, who represents serious competition for the crown. Not only for the crown, but for Elliot's affection. Nick is beautifully handling a seven-year-old male patient. Meanwhile, when Todd farts in surgery, Turk's momentary hesitation forces him into serious self-doubt and cripples his confidence. Despite the seriousness of his feelings, he doesn't share them with Carla; when she finds out about the surgery incident from Elliot, she's upset that Turk hasn't been open with her. J.D.'s insecurities grow when Dr. Cox chooses Nick over J.D. to co-author a paper.

Dr. Cox hears about Turk's problem and offers the phony advice that pre-surgery masturbation will alleviate all jitters. J.D. begins to realize that Nick's leadership is actually a good thing, gelling the interns into a "well-oiled machine." Dr. Cox gives Carla some sound advice about Turk, despite his overt jealousy of Turk and his latent feelings for her. Nick's seven-year-old patient takes a terminal turn, causing a mental breakdown in Nick so severe that he leaves medicine entirely. J.D. realizes that any little thing a doctor can do just to make it through each day is incredibly important.

Rounds: 1 + afternoon lecture

Body-count: 1 (Nick's seven-year-old, though it's o.s. and after the show ends)

Fantasies:
* Nick coaches J.D. on how to strangle him more effectively.
* J.D. and Nick as dogs at a dog show, being inspected by Dr. Cox.
* Ghost-town hospital; Turk just wants to be left alone.
* Passing-the-torch fantasies.

Facts 'n' tidbits:
*(FLASHBACK) As kids, J.D.'s older brother forced J.D. to play M*A*S*H—dressing up as Hot Lips and kissing Frank, the family dog.
* Elliot's extremely awkward with men.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J.D.</td>
<td>*Roomed with Turk in college and med school. <em>Has an older brother who beat him up a lot. <em>Fletch is one of his favorite movies. <em>As kids, J.D.'s older brother forced J.D. to play M</em>A</em>S</em>H—dressing up as Hot Lips and kissing Frank, the family dog.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carla</td>
<td>*Studied dance seriously. *Elliot and Carla both studied dance (although Carla did so at a more serious level). *Keeps a journal. *Has close, co-dependent relationship with her mother.</td>
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<td>Kelso</td>
<td>*Kelso plays a weekly round of golf.</td>
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<td>Janitor</td>
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<td>Nurse Roberts</td>
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<td>Steadman</td>
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<td>Lawyer</td>
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<td>Dr. Wen</td>
<td>*Dr. Wen has been attending for three years.</td>
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<td>Doug</td>
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### Fantasy chart

| Pilot | *Marathon race, J.D. vs. Elliot—J.D. wins  
       | *Sitcom life for J.D. and Elliot, explaining to their son how they fell in love  
       | *J.D. as deer caught in headlights (with antlers), demolished by speeding truck  
       | *Turk and Carla get it on, Todd cheers for them  
       | *Kelso’s red devil eyes (when his evilness is revealed) |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 101   | *Turk snaps Todd’s neck when Todd expresses interest in Carla  
       | *Elliot digs her own grave.  
       | *Tiny Turk after Carla rejects him.  
       | *Elliot as band geek in high school; falls in cafeteria, jeered.  
       | *J.D.’s head explodes in frustration. |
| 102   | *SNAPSHOTS of J.D., harassment suit and consequences; then, SHOTS of J.D. & Elliot: married, in bed, etc.  
       | *Ongoing 48-hour countdown clock  
       | *Kelso as Hugh Hefner, after “sweetheart”  
       | *Turk evaporates for sex—swoosh—remote floats then drops.  
       | *J.D. sees Turk as patients as he questions their friendship.  
       | *Turk and Todd ride off on motorcycle after basketball.  
       | *Lawyer lounge-singing “A Little respect.”  
       | *The Friend Zone. |
| 103   | *J.D. uses rewind button to try to remove his foot from his mouth.  
       | (Unsuccessful.)  
       | *Mrs. Tanner digs her way out to freedom, à la The Shawshank Redemption.  
       | *J.D. smooches Samantha Tanner’s face into her birthday cake.  
       | *Delivery guy (Schwartzy) drops a ton of bricks on J.D.  
       | *J.D. vs. Death, Connect Four. |
| 104   | *Family Feud boobs.  
       | *Wonder Years J.D. and Cox as son and father.  
       | *J.D. in golf attire and cleats sheepishly walking away from Cox.  
       | *Steadman, Kelso, and doggy treats tossed into the mouth.  
       | *Hospital as checkout line, J.D. as (body) bag boy.  
       | *Star Wars: Darth Kelso vs. Obi Wan Cox. |
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       | *Jordan does a lion growl.  
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* Game show buzzer when Jordan asks Cox to name a place he’s been other than his apartment and the hospital in the last month.
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* Other ways to save Cox’s job: ask Keslo, Kelso laughs; plastic surgery, Jimmy Walker.

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* Nick coaches J.D. on how to strangle him more effectively.
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