

# MY STORY CAN BEAT UP YOUR STORY!

Teen Sitcom Pilot Template (Cold Open/3 Acts)

SERIES TITLE: Dog With A Blog

EPISODE TITLE: A New Baby?

S:01, E:18

A/B, C Story\*

\*Note: This has an unconventional Cold Open/3 Act structure. Don't use this for your series!

## STORIES:

'A' STORY – Kids mistakenly believe that Mom and Dad are planning on having a baby.

'B' STORY - Dad is up for a big job that will bring in a lot of money.

'C' STORY – Stan becomes a spy to learn what's going on with Mom and Dad.

	ORPHAN	COLD OPEN
1	<i>Comedy Open</i>	After Avery and Chloe demonstrate their 'Wake Up Tyler' song for Sam, Tyler comes down and show the burrito canon he designed. Stan (the dog) gets excited and runs out of the house, hoping Tyler will shoot him a burrito. Tyler says that he needs money from Mom and Dad to finish it. The girls don't think the parents will support Tyler.

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2	<i>B Story setup</i>	Bennett and Ellen talk about Bennett being in the running for a position on a speaking tour where Bennett would go around the country and give seminars for a considerable amount of money. They agree not to tell the kids yet until it's for certain. Tyler enters and they cover for their money discussion.
3	<i>Comedy open callback. A Story setup</i>	Tyler returns to the girls, showing off the money he got from them. Chloe goes to her parents and comes back with money and a necklace. Avery thinks that something very weird is going on.
4	<i>High concept hook of the episode</i>	Parents continue their discussion, saying that the downside of the tour is that Dad will be away for weeks on end. They discover that the kids are listening in at the door.  Kids return to the living room, convinced that something big is going on. Stan returns with a burrito he stole from a construction worker.
		<b>END ON A STRONG BUTTON</b>

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	ORPHAN (cont)	ACT ONE
5	<i>C Story setup</i> <i>C Story plan</i>	Avery asks Stan, the dog, to spy on their parents and find out what they were taking about. Stan's up for it and says he has the perfect disguise. CUT TO:  Stan is wearing an oversized cat outfit. Avery says that he's overthinking the spying and that he should go as a dog. CUT TO:  Stan is now wearing an oversized dog outfit.
6	<i>C Story amplification</i>	Stan is at the computer saying that spying will be just like the movies.  FANTASY SEQUENCE of Stan being lowered into the kitchen ala Mission Impossible.
7	<i>B Story complication</i>	Bennett tells Ellen that the leader of the tour is going to come over for dinner and that Bennett is now closer to getting the gig. Mom says that the guy will be judging the entire family.
8	<i>C Story complication</i>	Stan isn't sure he's the right person for the job of spying. He's too nervous.

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9	<i>A Story complication</i>	Stan walks into the kitchen where Bennett and Ellen talk about what they're going to buy with their new money. Bennett talks about how he wants a boat and how he would name it and Ellen says how she wants a new addition to the house.
10	<i>A Story disaster</i>	<p>Stan reports back to Avery, Tyler and Chloe on what he heard, the parents talking about a new addition and asking "What would we name it?" and Avery assumes her parents were talking about having a baby.</p> <p>Tyler thinks it's cool. Avery doesn't. Stan is excited at the thought of all the food that will be dropped. We see a FANTASY of Stan on the floor with Cheerios being dropped.</p> <p>Tyler says that a baby can be handy. We see a FANTASY of him wearing a baby in a Snuggli and picking up girls in the park. He says that the baby would be a chick magnet which excites Chloe. We see a FANTASY of Chloe holding the baby, surrounded by baby chicks.</p> <p>Avery says that the baby will disrupt everything. She convinces Tyler and Chloe. ACT BREAK</p>
	<b>WARRIOR</b>	

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11	<i>A Story new plan.</i>	Stan goes to Avery dressed as a spy, while Avery figures that her parents are keeping it a secret. Avery says that she needs to research pregnancy to support Mom.
12	<i>B Story complication C Story complication</i>	Mom enters with a tray of sushi and Avery knocks it out of her hands saying that it's not safe. She tells Mom to start thinking of a 'shower.' Dad enters and Mom asks him if she smells. Dad's got a boat catalog and Stan misunderstands again that they're talking about a baby but haven't made up their minds. He goes to report to the kids.
		<b>END ON A STRONG BUTTON</b>

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	<b>WARRIOR (cont)</b>	<b>ACT TWO</b>
13	<i>A Story plan</i>	Stan tells Avery, Tyler and Chloe that Ellen isn't pregnant yet and Avery comes up with a plan to tell her mom directly that she doesn't think she should have a baby.
14	<i>A Story complication</i>	Avery, Tyler and Chloe tell their parents they're against this "new addition" and Bennett and Ellen explain that this "new addition", actually an addition to their house, is non-negotiable. And Bennett exclaims how he can't wait to bring home his "New Baby", a new boat, so the kids think that their parents are having two new kids.
15	<i>A Story riskiest plan is devised</i>	Avery, Tyler and Chloe come up with a plan to act out and misbehave at dinner when Bennett's new boss comes so that the parents won't think it's a good idea to have a new baby.
		<b>END ON A STRONG BUTTON</b>

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		<b>ACT THREE</b>
16	<i>A/B/C Story plan</i>  <i>BIG YES</i>	Stan overhears Bennett and Ellen talking about the new bathroom and the new boat and wants to tell the kids that there is no new kid.
17	<i>A/B/C Story complication</i>  <i>NO</i>	Bennett's potential new boss comes in, says he's allergic to dogs, and Bennett sends Stan outside before he can tell the kids they're not having a baby.
18	<i>A/B Story disaster</i>  <i>BIG NO</i>	Avery, Tyler and Chloe act out terribly and offend Bennett's boss and the boss tells him that he doesn't want to give him the tour.
19	<i>A/B Stories resolve</i>  <i>FINAL YES – Ultimate success/back to normal</i>	Ellen asks why Avery, Tyler and Chloe acted out and they explain that they don't want the family to change and Ellen tells them it was all a misunderstanding and there is no new baby.  Bennett's boss is impressed by how much the family loves each other and asks Bennett if he wants to do the tour, Bennett declines the offer saying he would miss his family too much.
		<b>SOFT TAG</b>

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20	<i>C Story resolves</i>  <i>Comic twist on 'back to normal'</i>	Stan blogs about communication and relates it to his debut as a 'master spy' which did not go well. He has another FANTASY where he's lowered into the kitchen but ends up with his foot in the water bowl.
		<b>END ON A STRONG BUTTON THAT RESETS THE SERIES</b>