

THE UNDEFEATABLE PENNY

Genre/Themes: Comedy Drama

Logline: A chronically unemployed young woman who dreams of a better life struggles to remain positive even as everything around her goes badly.

Synopsis: (with script page reference)



ACT 1

- 1 A month before Christmas, PENNY GALLAGHER, 23, directs two hopeless teens in the stockroom of a cafe. Penny is popular with customers, but it doesn't matter as the boss calls her in and has to lay her off. "Well, at least you have that other job, Penny."
- 5 Penny drives her sputtering car home, and on the way up to the door of her run-down building meets up with ROBERT, 9, a resident who likes Penny and hangs around her, rather than go home. At her apartment door, she meets RONNIE, 21, a friendly young man visiting from the Philippines for college, who also likes her.
- 8 She barely gets in her apartment when ALEX, 23, her ex-boyfriend who won't leave her alone, shows up with donuts and takes a seat at her T.V. alongside the boy, Robert. Finally, after a brief but annoying debate about relationships, Penny gets rid of Alex.
- 11 As Penny moans to her parents on the phone later on, it turns out that she'd lost her other job earlier: "So, job hunting again!"
- 12 The next day Penny bumps into Miriam and Avi Blumenfeld, 70, residents who live right above her. She reveals her unemployment status and they sympathize, and say that they have to go out in the cold to buy food for their beloved parakeet Rhapsody in Blue.
- 13 Later doing laundry, Penny meets MR. PROCTOR, 60, superintendent. He's grouchy all the time, mostly because he always hurts himself doing his work. When he leaves, Penny sees Robert hiding there. He's afraid of the grouch. But then KIRI, 8, a cute Asian girl who likes Robert, comes looking for him! But Robert hides again!
- 16 Penny calls her parents about maybe having to cash a small savings bond, and tells them Alex wore her down and they're going out for dinner. But at the café, Penny and Alex go at it. He's not cruel, but he's possessive and immature. She catches him checking out a waitress even while he's trying to woo Penny back!
- 22 Later, at her building, Penny and Ronnie, from the next apartment, have a chat at their doorways. He is intelligent, mature and caring, but when Penny says she "holds in her anger" (at Alex), Ronnie intimates she may be a bit too timid.

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The Undefeatable Penny

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