

Takayuki Toyama

## *Radventure* (30-minute comedy TV show)

### Storyline

Ethan Leavenson is a 28-year-old cameraman who got into small TV station in Los Angeles three months ago as a new face. As his first job, he joined new documentary project called *Adventure TV* that globally covers people's curiosity. On the way to Japan where was first place to report, however, Lance Billard, a reporter, got a heart attack on the airplane and somebody had to take his place because it already cost a lot for this project. While everyone was too scared to have this big responsibility, Ethan, who was always confident with himself, gave his name as an understudy without hesitation. He took over Lance's job as a reporter of *Radventure*.

It turned out Ethan was such a terrible reporter. His too much curiosity and wrong knowledge always led trouble that involved entire team. Because of the heavy expense of this project, executives had no choice but to air this first show expecting it would be the last one. Against their expectation, however, this TV show drew big attention from people in Los Angeles. Some people enjoyed Ethan's pure curiosity. Considering this unexpected reaction from audience, executive decided to keep airing this show putting Ethan as a new reporter.

### Style

We are going to film all episodes in a single-camera setup without any laughter sound to make this look like an actual documentary.

Each episode covers each of his reporting projects. Once in a while, however, we describe what is happening at the TV station without Ethan's notice.

### Final Episode

Executives had to dismiss Ethan from a reporter job because Ethan's shadowy past was revealed to the public. In place of him, popular seasoned reporter took in charge of this job, but an audience

rating got lowered down little by little calling for Ethan as the reporter again. In the end, Ethan comes back and he kept carrying out his unique report.

## Script Excerpt

(From Ethan taking over reporter job to in the middle of his very first reporting)

### Int. Airplane

**Ethan:** (Peek his face into aisle suddenly with big smile. Start talking excitedly to camera). Hello, I am Ethan Leavenson. I am a reporter of *Adventure TV...Adventure TV?* Seriously? It sounds lame doesn't it? Okay, I am a reporter of *Radventure*. We are going to report new thing that's shrouded in mystery in our daily lives. And this time's project is about unveiling Japan. Before we start it, let me tell you this: I will promise you are going to face the reality with no disguise in this show. Case in point... (Look for something and point finger at Lance who lay down on the floor) that is a guy who was supposed to be a reporter. He is having a heart attack in real time... too much information?

**Cabin:** I am sorry, sir. Please keep it down.

**Ethan:** Oh, sorry it's my bad. I hope Kim Jong-eun's not going to shoot us missile. You know he's Japanese president by the way...right?

### Int. Airport, Japan

**Ethan:** So, we are in Japan! The kingdom of animes, foods, and of course beautiful geisha. Wow, look around!! All Asians! Is it just me or do they look like all the same? I feel like I'm watching *Being John Malkovich* of all Asian.

**Kei** : Ethan? Are you Ethan?

**Ethan:** Guilllllty! You must be Kei, how are you? Or should I say, "Ni hao?"

**Kei** : That is Chinese.

**Ethan:** Oh well, same difference. (To camera) he is Kei! He will introduce us Japan in this trip.

Thanks for coming today.

**Kei** : No problem. How was your flight?

**Ethan:** Nothing dramatic happened. Just Lance got a heart attack on a plane. Oh, hey, but I didn't know I could watch TV show on a plane! There was very funny comedy TV shows talking about how to eat sushi. It was so hilarious all of them eat sushi using their hands!

**Kei** : We do use hands. Anyway, are you hungry? If you are, I would like to take you to the restaurant first.

**Ethan:** I would absolutely love to! See! Our project is on a roll!

#### Int. Sushi Restaurant

**Ethan:** (Step inside) OH MY GOSH. Is this Sushi restaurant?

**Kei** : Guilllllly.

**Ethan:** Wohooa, Kei! (To camera) He is my soul mate already! Well, but wow, I didn't expect I was going to be here on a very first day!

**Kei** : This is the first place I want you to visit more than any place.

**Ethan:** You made my trip already, Kei. Look at these! Come on camera (points finger at human chefs), these are Sushi robots making sushi in front of us. (robot voice) I am Ethan. I will destroy you with chopstick.

**Chef** : Irasshaimase!!! (Welcome!)

**Ethan** : (Jump in surprise) Jesus (beep) Christ. Can they speak language!?

#### Int. Sushi Restaurant

(Cater goes up to them and hands them chopstick)

**Ethan:** Hey you know what? I don't need chopsticks. I know you guys ate sushi by hands, right?

**Kei** : (Laugh) not necessarily. If you want to, you can use chopsticks.

**Ethan:** No no no. I insist. Since I am in Japan, I want to be Japanese as close as I can.

**Chef** : Nani Kara Nigirimasho? (what can I get for you first?)

**Ethan**: Omg. What did he say? I feel like I'm listening to the foreign language.

**Kei** : You are. He's asking what you want to eat first.

**Ethan**: Camera, look. This is professional. He gets right down to the business this instant. No chitchat.

No word. Okay, this is what I want (pull out wads of money and dump it in front of chef).

Surprise me.

**Kei** : Ethan, that's... not how it works here. We are not mafia.

**Ethan**: "*Keep your friends close, but your enemies closer.*" *God Father*, you know. That's how it's played. (Close up to the wads of money. It turns out to be Chinese yen)

### Int. Sushi Restaurant

(Cater hands them Sushi plate)

**Ethan**: (To camera) Look camera! Here's sushi! Wow, this is the real one! Everyone in the United States, please enjoy it virtually first! This is art, isn't it? We can display it in museum along with *Da Vinci* by Mona Lisa.

**Kei** : (To camera) Inversion

**Ethan**: This is what I get after I paid \$1000 to that chef.

**Kei** : It's... not. It's... It's not worth \$1000

**Ethan**: Without further ado, let me taste it first (eat sushi by hands).

.....Oh My God!!! Oh My God!! (Overreact) What the (beep) just happened? I don't know what the (beep) just happened!

**Kei** : (Calmly) You just ate sushi

**Ethan**: It's incredibly amazing!

**Kei** : Oh, I'm...so glad you like it

**Ethan**: Let me explain this taste. At the very moment I put sushi in my mouth, it was like I ate steak for the first time in 10 years! And this raw fish just melted on my tongue. Very soft, softer than steak. And, this sourness of white rice! Just imagine steak...

**Kei** : You better not use steak metaphor to describe non-steak food.

**Ethan**: Listen, Kei. This sushi is actually very good. It blows my mind. But as a matter of fact, to be little harsh to you, Americans are not stupid to pay \$1000 for this.

**Kei** : (Look at camera as if to say “he is helpless”)

### Int. Sushi Restaurant

(Ethan comes back from bathroom with excitement)

**Ethan**: Oh my god, oh my god. I just discovered incredible stuff. Japanese toilet, it’s amazing. (To camera) You better go check it out. It’s so clean and toilet seat is so warm!

**Kei** : Toilet is one of the great stuff we are proud of.

**Ethan**: And I saw too many buttons attached to toilet and I didn’t know which one was for flushing

**Kei** : (Laugh) I get confused sometimes too

**Ethan**: But don’t worry. I think I did right.

(Meanwhile water keeps splashing up from toilet nonstop and makes a mess in bathroom)

**Ethan**: But I wonder why there was toilet paper in bathroom.

**Kei** : ... I’m sorry, what does that mean?

**Ethan**: I know you guys wipe your ass with left hand, right? Well seriously, It wasn’t that bad. Like I said, I want to be Japanese as close as I can. It’s very good to be in new culture. I swear I will never use toilet paper during this business trip. (Eat sushi by left hand in Kei’s face).

**Kei** : That’s India.

**Ethan**: What’s India? Oh, is it like a Japanese way of saying “Awesome”? This salmon is (beep) India.

**Kei** : No, I’m talking about country. We use paper to wipe. Indian does not. I mean, I’m not even sure about that.

**Ethan**: ... (Gets stiffed and Turns back to cater). Can I have chopsticks?

(Reporting continue...)