

# PEN PALS



**CUPPA COFFEE STUDIOS**

13X 22 MINUTES

MARCH 2015



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# THE SERIES

PEN PALS is a stop-motion animated comedy about a pair of oddball roomies haplessly pursuing fame and the good life in their woe-begotten zoo home.

The series follows the misadventures of Ray and Jake, “pen-mates” since Jake accidentally trashed his pen and had nowhere else to go. Their home, the Metro Zoo has fallen into dire financial straits and through neglect and disrepair may soon face closure. Now, this pair of oddball roomies are on a mission to save their decaying Zoo home.

A self-proclaimed genius, Jake devises a never ending series of plans to get famous, bring more people to the Zoo, become a hero and get his old pad back.. just the way it was... before the accident... which he doesn't want to talk about.

Each episode features another of Jake's madcap plans set against the comic backdrop of this mismatched pair of roomies on their way... kind of... to becoming best friends, if not for... if Ray hadn't... well, you'll have to see for yourself.



# THE CHARACTERS: JAKE

He's Canadian! He's also a spoiled, demented pig with delusions of grandeur and a sense of entitlement that comes from believing he's an unappreciated genius.

After accidentally blowing up his own pen at the Zoo, or the third and final time, Jake is left with nowhere to live. Ray is the only zoo animal willing to share a pen with him.

Jake has taken up with Ray but he's not exactly thrilled with the living arrangements, and plans to get the Zoo back on its feet again so he can get his own pad once more.

But, failing that, Jake, of course has a backup plan. Something just might "happen" to Ray and he'll have the pen all to himself.



# THE CHARACTERS: RAY

Ray is a loud-mouthed, dim-witted slob with a heart of gold. But when Jake became homeless, Ray stepped up, the only “cat” to invite Jake to share his pen. And he doesn't even like Jake.

Little known fact: Ray once ate an action figure, which never came out. He ate several more in an attempt to rescue it, and had to be hospitalized. Emergency room visit aside, he's fine but he does have a fear of soldiers.

Ray loves the sweet life at the Zoo and jumps on board one after another of Jake's ridiculous capers to save it.

Who knows, together, they just might do something, well... good... maybe?



## OUTLINE - CALL THE DR. IT'S A VIRAL PSA

Jake has a fantastic fundraising idea. He and Ray can make a video to CONvince the internet people how desperate the situation at their zoo is. Everybody will want to support them and they will send money to Jake, er, the zoo. He will become super internet famous and lots of people will visit the zoo. Then, they can sell merchandise and lunch boxes and they will get their own brand new swanky pens. Ray has been dreaming of getting a new tire swing so he happily agrees to make a video with Jake.

Jake considers himself the most talented animal in the zoo, so he decides that he should star in the video. Actually, Jake is the only star... not just because nobody else wanted to be in his stupid video. Donning outlandish wigs and dressing up in amateurish costumes, Jake acts the part of all the zoo animals while Ray videotapes everything Jake does.... everything. Jake thinks his acting is ridiculously amazing. Ray thinks Jake's accents are just plain ridiculous... comedy gold. To amuse himself, he keeps goading Jake into increasingly bad performances and demented stunt ideas.

Not quite understanding the whole internet "viral" thing, Jake's final desperate scene is in a hospital bed, holding up cue cards, begging for help. When Jake exposes his disgusting belly rash, agents from the Centre For Disease Control crash through the windows and doors. Luckily Ray catches the whole dramatic CDC operation on camera and Jake's "Swine Flu" take-down becomes a viral phenomena.

With the insane popularity of his video Jake finds himself buried in donations... of skin cream. Happily, someone even sends Ray a new tire for his swing.



# MORE STORIES

## MAKEOVER MADNESS

Jake enters Ray in a local contest to get the pen a much needed makeover... now, he'll finally get the luxury pad he's always wanted. He may have stretched the truth a little when describing how bad things are. Now Jake needs to rip the place apart before the makeover crew comes over so he doesn't look like a liar and lose the contest. In a ridiculous turn of events, the usually slovenly Ray races to clean up after Jake so he can have the place looking nice for the company!

## WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS

Jake decides that the summer heat has created an ideal market condition for selling overpriced Lemonade to thirsty Zoo visitors. The dollars will roll in! Ray and Jake have no access to lemons but the horse trough is full of cauliflowers. In the mind of a pig, you can substitute cauliflowers for anything. The rickety Cauliflower Juice stand ends up creating a sickening stench as well as a long line of unhappy punters... plus the horses are ticked that someone has nicked their treats.

## ACCIDENTS IN THE PEN

Jake adjusts a sock monkey that looks suprisingly like his pen-mate Ray. "Sorry buddy. I just need the place to myself for a few days." Jake presses a button and the sock monkey rockets from a chair up to the ceiling, into the overhead fan and across the room onto a stretcher. "A few days in the hospital will do old Ray some good." Jake puts finishing touches on a host of hidden booby traps around the room. "Hey Ray! Can you come here a minute?" Jake's perfectly conceived plan goes inconceivably wrong and Ray mysteriously eludes each and every danger. Not so Jake, who falls victim to his own devilish devices... but Jake does enjoy a few days of peace and quiet in the hospital.



# RECURRING THEMES

Jake is always frustrated with Ray.

Ray loves to mess with Jake's head.

At times, it's difficult to figure out who's the genius and who's the rube.

Jake always has a scheme to get them into trouble, out of trouble, or deeper into the doo-doo.

Ray is usually the one to mess up Jake's plans.

Is he dumb or is he just being funny?

Hard to say.

You'll have to decide for yourself.



## DIALOGUE SAMPLE

JAKE: And that's why you should never go bear hunting, dressed as a hot dog.

RAY: Yeah, man. Thanks for the tip.

JAKE: Anytime. Hey, ah Ray. You wanna play a game?

RAY: Do I have to get up?

JAKE: Ahhh, no. It's 20 questions.

RAY: Alright. You gotta teach me how.

JAKE: Okay, okay. So, the way this works I'm gonna think of any possible thing on planet earth and you have to figure out what it is by asking me yes or no questions.

RAY: Hey, how many questions do I get?

JAKE: Take a wild guess.

RAY: Uh, I could probably do it in like 40 or 50.

JAKE: Well you only get 20!

RAY: That sounds tough but alright.

JAKE: Anything on planet earth.

RAY: Are you thinking.... of a gigantic papaya?

JAKE: No... wait... what! How did you know?



**THANK YOU**

**LET'S HAVE A CHAT!**

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