

SERIES CONCEPT

THE BOTTOM LINE

By

Matt Schenk and Benjamin Wilson

*How can five screen and television writers balance their friendship
with their drive to succeed in Hollywood?*

A mix of five struggling and not so struggling Hollywood writers attempt to combine work and play in the series ***The Bottom Line***. This half hour single camera comedy has the inside Hollywood fun of ***Extras***, the group dynamic of ***Entourage*** and the geeky overtones of ***The Big Bang Theory***.

Ben Wilson is introduced to a group of friends, all of whom are attempting to make a career in Hollywood as writers. Ben has a script that has been moved to the Blacklist (a list of the best unproduced screenplays) and a small studio has taken interest. In the meantime, he works as a reader for Reality TV pitches and is penning a small independent film.

Mary is a Reality TV producer, and Ben's boss. She's a quirky Asian-American who seems a bit aloof, but who has a sixth sense for Reality TV hits and has made quite a career out of it. It's a far cry from her days in Film School, but she enjoys her work.

Darius Stone is an African-American stand-up comedian whose day job consists of writing material for late night talk shows and awards ceremonies. His on stage act is decidedly "street", but off stage he's as white bread as can be. He's trying as hard as he can to shed his private school roots.

Matt Schenk and Beth Fincannon write for an extremely popular (but fictional) sitcom, *Staten Island Fairy*. Matt went to film school with Ben and Mary. He's shed his former geeky persona and basks in the fame and popularity his writing gig has garnered him. Beth on the other hand attended Brown University and had aspirations of being a novelist. She despises writing for *SIF*, but is too scared to quit and complete her novel.

The series will follow the ups and downs of these five friends as they attempt to navigate the competitive atmosphere of LA. The main through line of the first season will be Ben's Blacklisted script and whether or not it will be produced. There is also the potential for cameos from celebrities (especially when on the set of *Staten Island Fairy*).

Other characters will include a writer for a well-respected and highly successful cable TV series (the ultimate goal of several of our core cast), Beth's vapid Reality Star turned actor boyfriend, the producer interested in Ben's script, Matt's shark of an agent, Darius's fellow stand ups, and Mary's personal assistant.