

Lola  
Episode 3  
"Canceled"

written by

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INT. TELEVISION NEWSROOM - DAY

Two news anchors PEL PARSONS (early 40's, handsome, looks egotistical because he is) and ANNA BURKE (early 30's, more talented than her cohost) delivering the local news.

PEL  
--making local librarians remind  
the community that sausages are not  
good bookmarks.

ANNA  
Truly sage advice.

PEL  
Coming up, can global warming be a  
stopped by a product found in your  
pantry?

ANNA  
The answer... is no.

PEL  
But first we're going to meet with  
a social media star, Londonlaz, who  
has recently fallen from grace.

ANNA  
He's going to apologize to his  
local community, after the break.

Anna and Pel hold their smiles.

PRODUCER (O.S.)  
And... we're clear. Reset for  
Londonlaz.

Everyone in the newsroom starts bustling around prepping for the next segment.

LONDON and ROGER stand off on the side stage in front of a green screen. Roger looks tense.

LONDON  
They're not sausages. They're  
bratwursts.

Roger stares.

LONDON (CONT'D)  
It's a trend. The sausage  
bookmarks. They call them brat-  
marks.

Roger continues to stare.

LONDON (CONT'D)

They're supposed to mark where authors have given like super detailed descriptions of guys' dicks--

ROGER

Literally no one gives a shit.

LONDON

Okay, well I just thought like journalistic integrity--

ROGER

Fuck integrity. We're not here for integrity. We're here to apologize. If you wanted integrity, you shouldn't have freaked out in front of the entire nation.

LONDON

It was your idea to get me on that show.

ROGER

My idea was for us to get paid, London. Not for your Grandma to tell everyone you're a forgettable piece of shit.

LONDON

I don't know that I'm even sorry. That host was an asshole.

ROGER

I do not care that you're not actually sorry. Once again, fuck integrity, we are here to reclaim your brand and get money.

LONDON

What's my brand?

ROGER

It's you London. An apologetic version of you.

Roger grabs London's face.

ROGER (CONT'D)

It's this beautiful boy and everything he can be.

(MORE)

ROGER (CONT'D)

You're none of that dumb shit you've done before. Your brand is all of the good shit you're about to do. If anyone asks, anything you've done in the past wasn't the real you.

Roger lovingly pats London on the face. Pel makes his way on over to London and Roger.

PEL

Hey, London, Pel Parsons. Bummer about the freak out, but that grandma bit on "What's the Word?", absolutely hilarious.

LONDON

Thanks, but that's not really who I am--

ROGER

Yeah, we loved it too! That's a classic London.

Roger puts out his hand to shake.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Roger Phillips, London's manager. Everything you loved about the What's the Word bit is exactly who London is.

PEL

That's great to hear. Some people are completely different when we meet them in person. They'll perform as whoever you want for a buck. And, speaking as a journalist, it's hard to relate to people that lack my type of integrity.

ROGER

I was literally just saying that.

LONDON

You said, "Fuck integrity."

ROGER

Yep, fuckin' integrity.

Roger side eyes London.

ROGER (CONT'D)

That's what I said. We all need  
some fuckin' integrity.

Pel nods in agreement.

PEL

Well, we're all set for the  
apology. And I'm glad I could chat  
with you both before my co-host  
Anna comes over here. She's kind of  
a bitch.

Pel waves and smiles at Anna. Anna waves back from the anchor  
desk. She starts to walk over.

PEL (CONT'D)

Never accepts my advances. I think  
she's a lesbian. But not the sexy  
type.

LONDON

(under breath)

What the fuck?--

Anna reaches the green screen stage.

PEL

Hey, Anna. Just looping in the  
talent on what to expect today.

Anna shakes London and Roger's hands.

ANNA

Anna Burke. Glad to have you on the  
show. So, Pel already went over  
some of the questions with you.

London starts to answer but Pel interrupts.

PEL

Of course I did. I'm a  
professional.

(To London)

You'll do the apology and then  
we'll ask those questions. You'll  
do great.

Roger walks over to the cameras to stand off screen. Everyone  
on set settles in for filming.

PRODUCER

Alright, we're coming back in 3...  
2... 1...

Anna and Pel direct their comments to the camera.

ANNA

Welcome back, we're talking with Londonlaz, a local talent on the teen app of tiktok.

PEL

Absolutely amazing! You've got to be the oldest looking teen I've ever seen.

London laughs

LONDON

Well, it's not just for teens.

Pel looks at Anna in an "I told you so" type way. Pel crosses off something on his notecard.

PEL

Oh interesting.

LONDON

But a lot of teens definitely use it.

ANNA

London, recently you had a very public meltdown.

PEL

Here's a small clip for our viewers.

INSERT - PICTURE IN PICTURE

London watches an onstage screen. On it, he sees himself tearing apart the "What's The Word?" soundstage as he screams, "I don't fuck bears!"

BACK TO SCENE

ANNA

And it's our understanding that you wanted to make a public apology today.

LONDON

Yes, I did. Thank you.

London looks directly at the camera. Roger holds up cue cards for London to read from.

LONDON (CONT'D)

I wanted to apologize to my community and fans for how I acted. I know that while conspiracies claim that chocolate chips can end global warming, scientists say that the impact-- uh, I don' think--

Roger looks at his cue cards and realizes he's picked up the wrong ones. He starts searching for the right cue cards.

LONDON (CONT'D)

Um, I don't... look. I'm sorry. I should've acted better. I got upset, and I shouldn't have acted out. I'm sorry.

ANNA

Considering your broad audience, I'm sure it's meaningful to many people that you're taking this time to start your apology by addressing apologize your local community.

LONDON

Yeah, I hope it shows that I care a lot about those I know that I impact the most. And that I'm sorry... and that we can move on.

ANNA

Well, thank you for that apology, London.

PEL

I'm sure it'd be nice for you to put this behind you and get back to normal life.

London laughs.

LONDON

Definitely. What you saw on the tv is not who I am.

PEL

Right. It's time to get back to dancing.

London looks confused.

LONDON

Uh, yeah.

PEL

We actually would love for you to teach us one of your dances.

LONDON

I don't really--

PEL

We even set up our green screen to transport us to a couple of fun places, and maybe you could show us a tiktok dance that would be great for the occasion that pops up. Jerry, go ahead and--

The green screen suddenly shows a beach in the background.

PEL (CONT'D)

There we go. You got any fun summertime dances for when you're at the beach with your bros?

ANNA

Pel, he's not really that type of tiktoker.

PEL

Okay. Maybe like a Euro dance club.

The background shifts to a dance club scene.

LONDON

Tiktok dances aren't really the type of dances that you'd take out to the club.

The background shifts to a typical upper middle class living room with a dad sitting on a recliner in the background and a live laugh love stencil on the wall.

LONDON (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, that's... that's pretty accurate.

PEL

You're the expert.

LONDON

No, I'm not. I don't do dances and stuff on tiktik.



ANNA

(annoyed)

Pel, did you take a break from your drinking to look at the briefing that I made?

PEL

(nervously)

Of course I did! He's a... a travel blogger?

LONDON

You didn't even look up anything about me? You're part of my local community of support.

PEL

Yeah, well some of us can't sit on our phones all day.

ANNA

He sits with a bottle all day.

LONDON

So much for journalistic integrity, bro.

PEL

Okay, fine. Here's a thing I know. I know grandma hates you!

LONDON

She doesn't hate me, she just loves Lucas!

PEL

Then maybe try being Lucas and someone will know who you are.

LONDON

Yeah, well your name is Pel, so we're not all perfect!

PEL

It's short for Lompel!

LONDON

That's not even a name!

ANNA

(to camera)

To everyone tuning in, I'm sure you're interested in what London actually does on Tiktok.

(MORE)

ANNA (CONT'D)

After watching a few of your videos, it seems like you tend to pretend you're a grown Kevin McCallister and damage your Tesla.

LONDON

Yeah, but it's more than that.

PEL

Like what?

London starts to freeze up. He looks to Roger. Roger motions for him to just say anything.

LONDON

Like... like I got the shit kicked out of me in a boxing match.

Anna and Pel look at each other confused, wondering how that's an accomplishment.

LONDON (CONT'D)

And I uh... I did find out that my family kinda thinks I suck.

Anna and Pel continue to look confused.

ANNA

(trying to save the segment)

Maybe we *should* do one of those dances that kids talk about.

Anna awkwardly laughs and begins to do the floss dance. Pel pulls a flask out of his pocket.

PEL

(under breath)

Maybe she *is* one of the sexy ones.

LONDON

I did all that shit and you guys still don't even know who I am?

London looks to Roger. Roger mouths, "Just do a dance," and starts doing a tiktok dance.

LONDON (CONT'D)

I...

London looks around at the camera and lights. He sees himself on screen with a ticker that says, "Tiktok teen sensation Lompel Laz dances for dreams of clout."

LONDON (CONT'D)  
Okay, here's a dance.

London does awkward tiktok dance motions as he talks.

LONDON (CONT'D)  
I thought apologizing would help me  
get back to my life. But I'm  
killing myself for clout, and no  
one even knows who I am.

Roger looks on confused. Pel tries to drunkenly follow some  
of London's dance moves.

LONDON (CONT'D)  
So, I'm out. I'm doing my own  
thing.

London flips off the hosts and the camera and then moonwalks  
out of the shot. Anna and Pel look confused.

Anna looks at the camera.

ANNA  
Can chocolate chips stop global  
warming?--

PEL  
Give it a rest. We're done here!

Pel, clearly drunk, walks to the camera. He pushes it away.  
The screen cuts to static.