

Luke Schiltz
Get Rich (Working Title)

Synopsis: Floyd Bernstein is a conman who preys on small town folk with his complicated financial schemes. His partner, Lisa, acts as his secretary and assists Floyd by helping him close deals with potential marks. Floyd has no problem taking money from those whom he believes to have excess, with a sort of “Robin Hood” mentality. After sealing the deal with a yuppie couple, Floyd and Lisa are surprised by a walk-in who wants to invest his life’s earnings in what he believes to be a solid opportunity. Floyd is now stuck with the biggest challenge of his career: to not take someone’s money for once. Set in the early 1990s, *Get Rich* shows how greed affects people of all walks of life and the foolish risks that the pursuit of money can lead one to take.

Characters

Floyd Bernstein (30s): Floyd gets his kicks from manipulating the unmanipulatable. He sees himself as an entrepreneur who is only taking advantage of the hand he was dealt. Growing up he watched his father interact with men-in-suits daily and wanted for nothing more when he came of age. When his father disappeared after being investigated for fraud, Floyd took matters into his own hands in order to support his mother and himself. Learning the conman trade he worked his way up from small time deals for petty cash, to selling fake shares in companies that didn’t exist for thousands. He could sell anything to anyone and did so with the attitude that failure was never an option. Understanding the consequences of the game, Floyd takes careful risks to ensure guaranteed success.

Lisa (late 20s): Lisa was struggling to make ends meet in college when she met Floyd. She worked a service job, made near no money, and barely had time to focus on classes. Wondering why she was even trying, she noticed that Floyd seemed to effortlessly glide through life - without a worry or care in sight. She would later learn that Floyd wasn’t actually attending college and that he was using it as a cover for his grifts. Growing up with this idea that she will always be wealthy, she was shocked when her family cut her off after failing several classes. Her and Floyd started to work as a team and saw that they were exponentially more successful in their pursuits than alone. Lisa brings a peace of mind and comfort to the marks, and Floyd brings the manipulation and confidence.

William Goldsmith (late 20s): Always adorned in the latest of fashion trends, William is the type of person one still calls a “kid,” even at 28. Born with a golden spoon in his mouth and three nannies taking care of him, he has never known struggle beyond what color Polo sweater would be appropriate for a Wednesday golf outing. Pretentious, arrogant, and ignorant only begin to explain his character. While he thinks himself a charming fellow, most only hang around him for the money and perks. His father has recently passed, leaving William to find out that most of his families fortune has been bequeathed to a charitable organization.

Enraged by this, William takes what wealth he has to Floyd with hopes of finding a shortcut to his father's fortune and lifestyle.

Gary Kleinwood (late 40s/50s): A simple man; not ignorant, but not all that informed either. He wakes up, goes to work as a janitor for the local school, and goes to sleep until the next day. He has never left the small town in which he was born. Tired of his usual routine, Gary seeks out the help of Floyd in an attempt to add some flourish to his life. While not greedy, he is optimistic in his thinking, with hopes that Floyd will fast-track him to retirement.

Sheryl Goldsmith (early 20s): She may as well be mute, because she truly does not have much to say. Beautiful and blonde, she is William's wife - for now. Like most, she follows the money, and struck gold when she met William. She won't be around for long if William can't restore his fortune to its' true glory.