

DRAFT PITCH DECK

For Internal Use Only

# DRIVER'S ED

Written by CJ Colando & Paris Dylan  
Directed by CJ Colando

**Ahh, the teen comedy...**

**I know what you're  
thinking...**

**“Please don't be another  
generic teen comedy with  
fart jokes!”**

**Well, you are in luck! (Maybe!)**

## **LOGLINE**

**There is nothing more important to an American teen than having their driver's license. And nobody knows that more than Ethan, who just offered to drive the popular kids at school upstate for the coveted SoCal Fest music festival.**

**The only problem is, he doesn't have it. And there's a nihilistic Drivers Ed instructor who wants to keep it that way.**

# Synopsis

Ethan (16) just moved to Simi Valley from New York City. I know what you're thinking. Being a teenager is hard enough, let alone having to sever all friendships to move to the West Coast to start all over again. Thankfully, Ethan's a likable kid. The odds are in his favor in this new environment.

The first person he meets, the goofball skater boy Beo (15), is Ethan's entry into his new group of peers. The first night in his new hometown, Beo takes Ethan to a party. There, he meets Jamie Simbleton, one of the Populars. It is here Ethan makes his first rookie mistake all of us horny 16 year old selves make around the hot popular girl: he lies. Ethan tells Jamie and her friends that he has his drivers license, a revelation that the Populars take to mean he can be their ride to the coveted music festival SoCal Fest.



# Synopsis (cont'd)

Scared shitless, Ethan has only one choice to make... get his driver's license as quickly as possible to not only bypass the dreaded "new kid" status and slide his way into being the most beloved motherfucker in school, but also to actually fulfill his promise of being the driver to SoCal Fest.

Easy right?

Enter: Midge Monroe (55) One tough, hefty bitch. The last person you'd want standing between you and your ticket to a desirable social life. After recognizing his intentions, Monroe makes it her job to make Ethan's life hell.

# Comparables



Friends taking an opportunity to be with the popular girls



Dweebs getting their license



Character navigating a reputation based on a lie



Trials and tribulations of being the new kid

**Let's get to know the little  
shitbags.**

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# Taking a page out of the Book of Campbell\*

\*Joseph, not Neve

## CHARACTERS

1. The Villain: Midge
2. The Ally: Beo
3. The Hero: Ethan



Madison	12
Mayodan	14
Martinsville	39

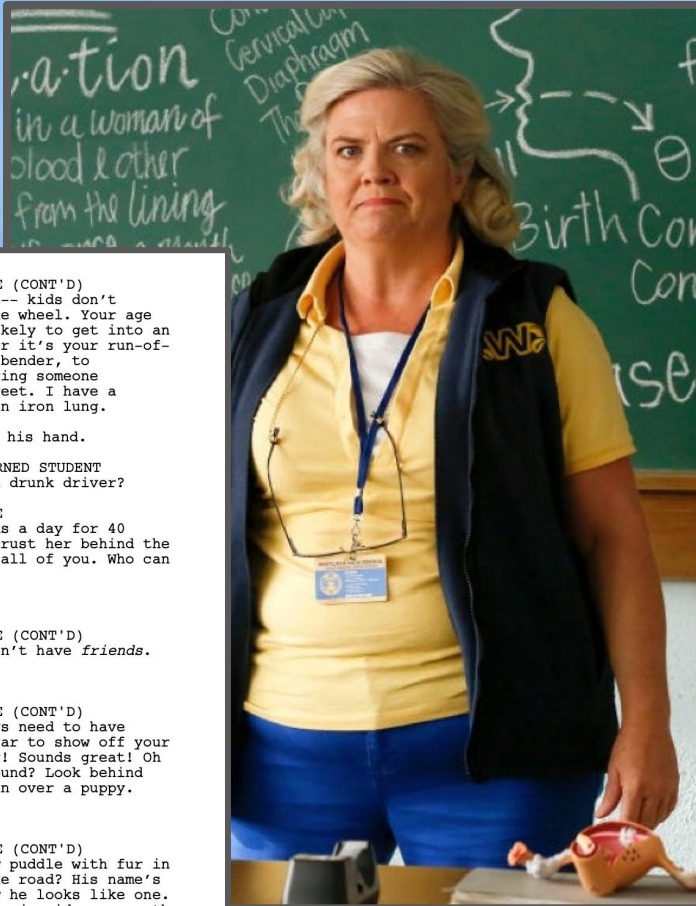


## The Villain

# Midge Monroe

What an absolute shitbag this woman is. I mean, one can appreciate a tough educator with good intentions...Monroe is not one of those people. Her version of molding young minds is rooted in nice old-fashioned brutality.

Monroe is the only thing that stands between Ethan and a license. When he makes the lethal mistake of asking Monroe for an “expedited” track on day 1, her journey of making Ethan’s life a living hell begins.



MONROE (CONT'D)  
Plain and simple-- kids don't belong behind the wheel. Your age group is most likely to get into an accident. Whether it's your run-of-the-mill fender-bender, to literally murdering someone crossing the street. I have a grandmother in an iron lung.

A CONCERNED STUDENT raises his hand.

CONCERNED STUDENT  
Was she hit by a drunk driver?

MONROE  
Smoker. Two packs a day for 40 years. And I'd trust her behind the wheel more than all of you. Who can tell me why?

Silence.

MONROE (CONT'D)  
Because she doesn't have *friends*.

Huh?

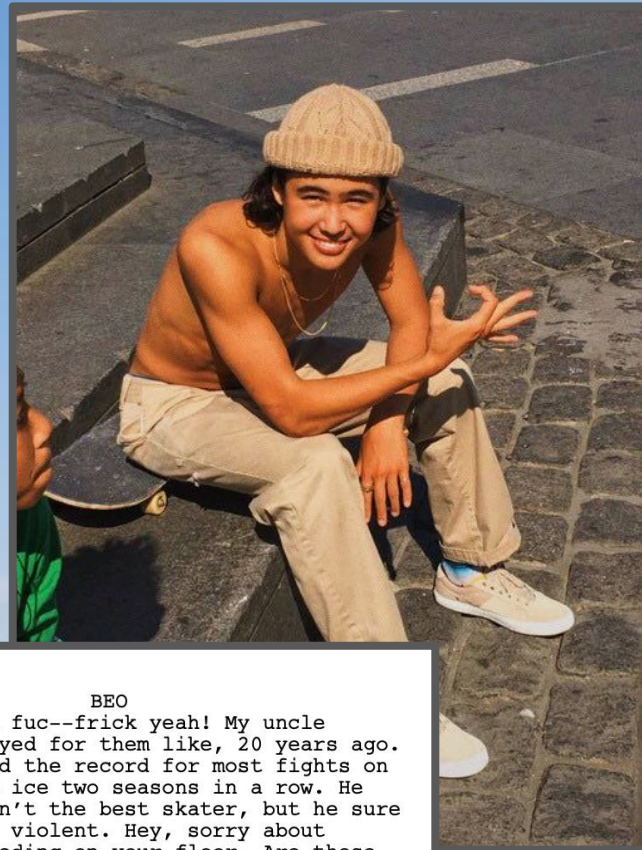
MONROE (CONT'D)  
You people always need to have friends in the car to show off your new freedom! Yay! Sounds great! Oh what was that sound? Look behind you. You just ran over a puppy.

Uncomfortable.

MONROE (CONT'D)  
That little stew puddle with fur in the middle of the road? His name's Waffles. And now he looks like one. Hope the reckless joyride was worth it.

# The Ally Beo

Beo (15) is the dweeb you somehow find yourself rooting for despite all of his irritating qualities. He's the model C-student with the loud personality. Beo's friend list is limited, mostly being burnout skaters at the mall who are too young to already be the stereotypical burnout skaters at the mall. In Ethan, Beo sees a chance to not only have that true friend, but if he gets to mooch off of Ethan's sudden popularity among the girls, why not?



BEO

Ahh fuc--frick yeah! My uncle played for them like, 20 years ago. Held the record for most fights on the ice two seasons in a row. He wasn't the best skater, but he sure was violent. Hey, sorry about bleeding on your floor. Are these real hardwood or laminate?





# Ethan The Hero

Ethan is the 16-year-old of the year... At least that's what the Populars at Jefferson think.

Back in New York, Ethan floated among the cliques, always in the background. He got used to being the kid everyone liked but was never someone's "best" friend.

Here in California, he sees this driving opportunity as a chance to change that. To be the focal point, instead of the guy in the backseat.

Ethan is flawed (who wasn't at that age?). We don't judge his mistakes-- We begrudgingly root for him, even if we see his juvenile fuck ups coming from a mile away.



# More players in Ethan's journey (Some suck more than others)



## Fernando

Ethan's Drivers Ed partner.  
Our "Mclovin", if you will.  
His eyesight sucks.



## Jamie

Listen-- is she probably a stuck up bitch? Sure. But when one of the hottest, visible girls in school takes an interest in you, you'd be a horse's ass to not pursue it (right?).



## Lauren

Unlike Jamie, Lauren actually has an interesting personality and much more suited for someone to bring home to mom. If only Ethan realized it.



## Darryl

The overnight security guard at the school. That's pretty much it, until Ethan and Beo discover his depth of knowledge of Monroe's discretions, making him an unexpected ally in their battle against Monroe.

**what's the movie  
gonna look like**

A thick, bright yellow curved line starts from the bottom left, curves upwards and to the right, and then curves downwards towards the bottom right corner. The background is solid black.









**where's the movie  
gonna take place**

A thick, glowing yellow curved line that starts from the left edge, dips down, and then rises towards the right edge, set against a solid black background.





**Jefferson High School, Simi Valley CA**



**Ethan's family home**



**Local gas station where Ethan's nearly busted**





**Carole's Sparkly Shine Car Wash**



**Ice cream shop, where Lauren's got a hookup**



**The mall, where teens go during their insufferable phase**

# Visual Style





Every 🙌 scene 🙌 matters 🙌



**Why are walk-and-talks in all comedies today so goddamn boring?  
Because they're always lazily shot. Make it art, idiots.**

# Car framing



**Any time Ethan is behind the wheel, the car will be small within the frame. Ethan's lack of driving experience and motives for getting his license don't deserve anything more.**



A red Subaru Impreza is driving on a city street at dusk. The car is in the center of the frame, moving towards the viewer. Behind it, a line of police cars is following, their blue and red lights flashing. The street is paved with white lane markings, and there are buildings and a traffic light visible in the background. The overall scene suggests a high-speed chase or a police pursuit.

**Until our finale!**

**(Police cars not included)**

# Stylistic Editing



**DRIVERS ED captures the kinetic, hopelessly explosive energy of the worst of the teenage years. We don't want to just see that. We want to feel it.**

**Throughout the film, it is my intention to amplify the angst and anxiety our hormonal, compulsive heroes subject us to through the use of stylistic, quick cut editing. Think Edgar Wright without the Britishness.**

**If we're at an underage drinking party, we want to be in the thick of that anxious fun-- quick smashing close ups of beer cups being filled, being consumed, kids vomiting, etc.**

**During driving tests, we're seeing sweaty hands clamping the wheel, turn signal clicking, wheel spinning, brakes screeching...**



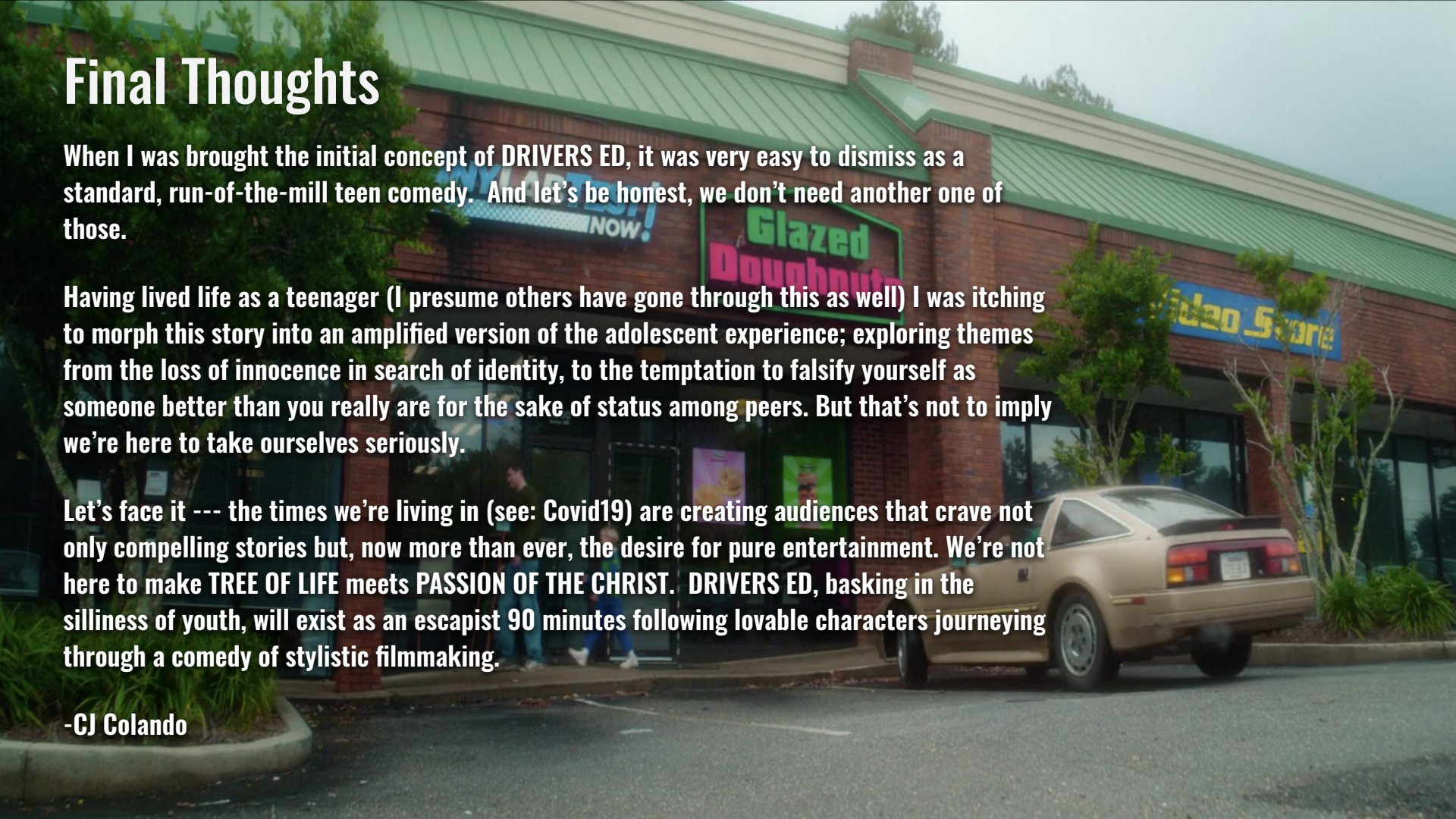
# Final Thoughts

When I was brought the initial concept of DRIVERS ED, it was very easy to dismiss as a standard, run-of-the-mill teen comedy. And let's be honest, we don't need another one of those.

Having lived life as a teenager (I presume others have gone through this as well) I was itching to morph this story into an amplified version of the adolescent experience; exploring themes from the loss of innocence in search of identity, to the temptation to falsify yourself as someone better than you really are for the sake of status among peers. But that's not to imply we're here to take ourselves seriously.

Let's face it --- the times we're living in (see: Covid19) are creating audiences that crave not only compelling stories but, now more than ever, the desire for pure entertainment. We're here to make TREE OF LIFE meets PASSION OF THE CHRIST. DRIVERS ED, basking in the silliness of youth, will exist as an escapist 90 minutes following lovable characters journeying through a comedy of stylistic filmmaking.

-CJ Colando







**Thank you!**

**- Paris Dylan (Creator) & CJ Colando (Director)**

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