

HOLMES.

"It's like butter, baby."

One-Hour Original
Dramatic Comedy Series

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CONCEPT

Set in Detroit, HOLMES is a One-Hour Dramatic Comedy Series, which is a cross between SHAFT and SHERLOCK HOLMES, with the tone of PULP FICTION. *"It's like butter, baby."*

Meet **JOHN HOLMES**. Black, hip, smart.

Meet **REV**. White, comical, crazy.

Meet **IRENE HU**. Asian, sexy, deadly.

Holmes solves his cases utilizing his wit. Rev is Holmes' "eyes and ears" on the street. Irene is Holmes' Trojan Horse and muscle.

Together they solve cases that no one else will take or can do; especially ethnic cases where people lack money and resources.

Periodically, Holmes' team is beleaguered by Holmes' arch nemesis, MO -- leader of the most fearsome underground crime syndicate in Detroit.

Throughout their cases, sexual tension grows between Holmes and Irene, while Rev tries to be all that Holmes is: shrewd, cool, and sexy.

MAIN CHARACTERS

JOHN HOLMES (Private Detective)

Age: 33

Holmes is a hip, witty, street savvy African-American private detective. He used to be the most highly decorated detective in Detroit, but he had to resign due to scandalous ties to a crime boss.

Holmes is super cool. His catch phrase is *“It’s like butter, baby.”*

If you went grocery shopping with Holmes, he would probably switch price tags on all the items because “the grocery store is overcharging everybody anyway.” He would probably give those same groceries to a homeless person sleeping outside the grocery store on the sidewalk.

Holmes is the captain of the team and a master of disguise. Holmes and Irene are ex-lovers. He wants to get back together with Irene, but is too proud to go back on his word.

Holmes lives in the back of his disheveled pawnshop-like office in Southwest Detroit.

His private detective agency is a success at solving cases, but a complete failure financially. Holmes wants to help those that cannot help themselves and solve cases that no one else can solve and no one else wants to solve. Many of these cases end up being ethnic cases because they lack money and resources. Often Holmes accepts payment in the form of whatever his clients can give him -- an Atari, painted tie, sweet potato pies, etc. He does it for the challenge and the community -- but the money couldn't hurt.

Holmes is a Coke addict -- "Coca-Cola" that is.

What really gets Holmes' goat, are gag references to "that porn star."

What sets Holmes apart and makes him loveable is his sharp wit and intuition that allows him to see what others cannot.

SECRETS: Holmes' older brother, Buddha, is a big time crime boss in Detroit operating his gang from behind prison bars. Buddha used his criminal connections to get Holmes admitted into the police academy.

REV (The Eyes & Ears on the Street)

Age: 30

“Brothers and sisters, we are gathered here today to get through this thing called life.” Rev is a White Guy who thinks he’s Black. He tries to act like a down home African-American preacher, although he’s neither licensed nor ordained. He dresses in flamboyant obscure suits. He’s Holmes’ main sidekick and the source of comic relief. Rev is a passionate soul with a mischievous spirit.

Rev wants to be Holmes. If Holmes were missing, Rev would probably impersonate Holmes and rely on the power of prayer instead of wit. Rev sees himself as the word on the streets and as a “minister of information”. He raps under the hip-hop handle “The Minister.”

Rev constantly challenges Holmes’ observations: “I was just about to say that.” Rev openly lusts after Irene and must constantly beg God for the forgiveness of his sins.

Many believe that Rev lives on the streets or at a mission. Holmes appears to be his only source of income in addition to the coins he gathers from his sidewalk ministry. He can always be found on his apple crate preaching or rapping on West Grand Boulevard next to his favorite newsstand.

His greatest fear is that no one is listening and no one knows that he exists or counts.

Although few people take him seriously, he does know the streets and is able to provide Holmes with good intel.

What sets Rev apart and makes us love him is the fact that he is willing to go where others will not.

SECRETS: Little does everyone know, Rev has a Ph.D. in Philosophy and a member of a wealthy family.

IRENE HU (The Muscle, Mrs. Hu's Niece)

Age: 25

Irene is a feisty, hot, sexy Asian girl whose hip-hop flavor and flare could turn heads. She's a Tae-Bo instructor who can kick a hole through your front door. Irene is spicy.

Complacent with her thriving Tae-Bo classes, Holmes and Rev have to always coerce her into helping with cases. With the body of a pin-up girl, and the skill of Bruce Lee, Irene is Holmes' Trojan Horse. When the team must sneak in someplace in disguise, Irene is the first person in, because no one suspects a hotty to be lethal weapon.

Irene lives on the third floor of an old 40's style building five minutes across the border in Windsor, Canada. She teaches her Tae-Bo classes at a community center in Windsor.

Irene works with Holmes to be near him, and like mastering Tae-Bo, to rid the streets of the scum of the earth.

What sets Irene apart and makes us love her, is her ability to be play the sweet and innocent damsel in distress, while at the same time challenge Steven Seagal to a celebrity death match.

SECRETS: Irene wants to get back together with Holmes, but she doesn't know how to tell him that she's still a virgin.

SECONDARY CHARACTERS

LOPEZ (Police Detective)

Age: 35

A wryly, wimpy, but warm hearted Latin police detective. Holmes and Lopez used to be partners. Holmes constantly visits Lopez' office to borrow - "steal" - case files to help Holmes solve Holmes' cases. Because Holmes is always operating outside of the law, he always gives Lopez the collar.

As a result, Lopez has now replaced Holmes as the most decorated cop in city. Devoid of any real detective powers of his own, Lopez has succumbed to the delusion that he really has solved all of Holmes' cases.

SECRETS: Lopez switched test scores with Holmes to graduate from the police academy.

GREGORY (Police Lieutenant)

Age: 50

He's a Caucasian and a real hard-ass. As Holmes' former boss, and Lopez' current boss, Lieutenant Gregory is determined to prove that Holmes is a charlatan and actually a criminal. While on the force, Holmes plagued Gregory by constantly bending – “breaking” – the law to solve his cases and garnering too much press.

Gregory suffers from an ulcer as a result of Holmes' antics and has resorted to pills and booze as a palliative in addition to a restraining order on Holmes.

SECRETS: Gregory is a closet “cross-dresser” and still works undercover for the vice squad.

MRS. HU (Holmes' Landlady)

Age: 65

She's a seemingly mean-spirited Asian landlady - "slum lord" - with an exterior of coal and a heart of gold. She hobbles around on an old wooden cane, mainly to have something to use to hit people with, and she does -- usually Holmes. She's Irene's aunt, and it's clear where Irene gets her stamina and spunk.

Holmes is the antithesis of the model tenant. He never pays his rent and has trashed his place.

Her favorite pastime, aside from beating Holmes with her cane, is steaming open his mail and going through his messages in hopes of getting some back rent out of him.

SECRETS: Even though Mrs. Hu publicly despises Holmes, she privately worships Holmes because he's genuine and helps the community. She has turned her closet into a shrine with collections of Holmes' personal effects and news clippings.

RECURRING CHARACTERS

MAURICIO “MO” ESPERANZA (Crime Boss)

Age: 40

Holmes' Latin arch nemesis and the leader of the most fearsome underground crime syndicate in “Mexican Village” the Latin part of Detroit. He has a horrible scar on his face. Holmes is the first person to take Mo down, and Mo has pledged to get Holmes if it's the last thing he ever does.

SECRETS: Mo knows everyone else's secret.

BUDDHA (Holmes' Older Brother, Crime Boss)

Age: 45

He's an ominous powerful looking African-American inmate, who even the prison guards cringe to with respect. Buddha chooses to stay in prison, and secretly runs his crime organization from behind bars. He's the only person who is smarter than Holmes and from time to time Holmes must come to the prison to pimp Buddha for information.

SECRETS: Buddha is actually a “deep cover” special agent for the FBI.

SAL BANDUCCI (Repo Man)

Age: 33

He emulates Sam Jackson in PULP FICTION and even tries to wear his hair in a Gheri curl. He’s a repo man for his Uncle Tony’s used car lot. From time to time, he and his brother Sal unsuccessfully attempt to repossess Holmes’ convertible Caddy for Uncle Tony during inopportune moments for Holmes.

SECRETS: Sal has never had the heart to tell his half-brother Joey that they really aren’t brothers at all.

JOEY BANDUCCI (Repo Man)

Age: 29

Joey thinks he’s John Travolta in PULP FICTION. He works as a repo man with his half-brother Sal for their Uncle Tony. He’s a connoisseur of weak White rappers who believe they are hard-core.

SECRETS: Joey is ashamed that he is secretly having affair with he and Sal's sister (who he does not realize is not his blood sister after all).

LEROY (Bum)

Age: 45

He's a scraggly, unkempt, and African-American. "He'll work for booze" and he does. Holmes often utilizes him as a body double or other ruse to foil Gregory or the nasties.

SECRETS: Although Leroy works for booze, he is actually not an alcoholic. He empties out all the cans and bottles, because he is secretly trying to construct a work of art in the junkyard to outdo LA's Watts Towers.

L'IL EVIL (Mo's Henchman)

Age: 22

He's a pushy napoleonic underling and a coward. L'il Evil tags teams with Big Dough. He's the brains.

BIG DOUGH (Mo's Henchman)

Age: 27

He's L'il Evil's burly, brainless, sidekick and only follower. He's the brawn.

THE STREET PEOPLE (Holmes' Helpers)

Age: Varies

These are the street urchins that assist Holmes in a ruse while he's in disguise.

PILOT IDEA

"Mo's Independence Day Massacre"

When Holmes' ex-girlfriend is kidnapped, he must rescue her and unravel his arch nemesis' plot for revenge against all of his nemesis' enemies.

Holmes arrests Mo for extortion and illegal arms dealing. Mo pledges an oath of revenge. Mo walks free on a technicality when Mo's lawyers draw ties to Holmes and a crime boss. Holmes resigns from the force.

Flash forward 3 years later. Independence Day weekend. Mo now has the most powerful crime syndicate in Detroit. He's Mo, ergo "Mo-Town." Mo is promoting a huge Independence Day Celebration and "MoTown Review" on the waterfront. All of the heads of the other crime syndicates will be there. The crime bosses believe that Mo's Independence Day Celebration is to give them their independence. Unbeknownst to them, Mo's Independence Day Celebration is to celebrate

his independence from them. At the end of the Motown Review, when all the fireworks go off, a small nuclear bomb will blow up all of Mo's enemies at one time as well as thousands of innocent bystanders--*Mo's*

Independence Day Massacre.

Holmes must now rescue his ex-girlfriend, capture Mo, and disarm a small nuclear warhead before the fireworks go off at 9:30 p.m. on Independence Day. Can he do it?

"It's like butter, baby."

EPISODE IDEAS

1. **“The Slayer”** - The homeless people are disappearing from the streets, and the city does not care about it; they are glad about it. The Street people believe that they are being rounded up for secret government experiments. At risk of national security, and the lives of his entire team, Holmes must correct a moral injustice to preserve the lives of thousands of indigents.
2. **“Gone in 60 Seconds”** - Uncle Tony’s used cars are disappearing and nobody cares. Uncle Tony suspects that the Mafia is behind it, so he can’t utilize his usual resources. Uncle Tony allows people to buy cars with no credit. If he goes out of business, many people will not be able to afford transportation. Uncle Tony hires Holmes to stop the crime ring that’s stealing his cars.
3. **“In the Line of Fire”** - During a routine ruse with Holmes and company, Irene hesitates and is shot. As a result, she loses her nerve, is afraid to fight anymore, and can no longer teach her Tae-Bo

classes. At risk of jeopardizing Irene's life, Holmes must put her back into the line of fire to prove to her that she still has what it takes.

4. **“Virus”** - Actually believing that he is a great detective, Lopez is recruited by the FBI for a top-secret mission. When Lopez bumbles the mission, the entire Detroit water supply is poisoned with a lethal virus. Holmes has 48 hours to find the virus' creator and inject the Detroit water reserve with the anti-virus to neutralize the water before the virus infects the entire population.

5. **“Reverend Holmes”** - While Holmes is on vacation, Rev impersonates Holmes only to learn that solving crime is not as easy as Holmes makes it look. In above his head, when Holmes returns from vacation, he's able to put the pieces together and rescue a now missing Rev while simultaneously solving Rev's case.

6. **“Double Jeopardy”** - Rev is late, and as a result, Holmes and Irene are taken hostage with no escape and due to be executed.

Convinced that their time is up, Holmes and Irene confess their true

feelings for each other. Once they are rescued, they realize that they liked each other better when they were at wits end. Mrs. Hu orchestrates a situation for them to get mad at each other so that they may return to business as usual.

7. **“Mo Returns”** - Mo escapes from prison and seeks revenge on Holmes. Irene, Lopez, and Rev are taken hostage when Holmes makes an error in judgement. Mo offers their safe recovery in return for Holmes taking the wrap for a murder he did not commit. Holmes agrees and is tried and convicted, but set free on a technicality before Mo can release his friends. Holmes has 24 hours to find them before the news of his freedom hits the press.

8. **“They Check In, but they Don’t Check Out”** - People without money and insurance are being steered to one particular hospital. However, it’s not the usual hospital for poor folks and once they check it they don’t check out. Holmes investigates the mysterious failure rate at this E.R. only to learn there’s more going on than meets the eye.

9. **“The Other Side of the Law”** - An unscrupulous gang has encroached upon Buddha’ territories. As a result, innocent people are dying. To avoid a gang war and let other innocent people die in the crossfire, Buddha asks Holmes to take down his rival and send him to prison.

10. **“Washed in the Blood”** - A minister has been accused of murder. The only problem is he did it; but with morally sound reasons. Holmes must help him find legally sound reasons to clear him in a court of law.

11. **“Kidnapped”** - Someone is trying to kill Lieutenant Gregory, but he doesn’t believe it. At risk of breaking his restraining order, Holmes must kidnap Gregory to place him into protective custody until the killer is apprehended.

12. **“Body Double”** - Holmes is hired to impersonate a U.S. Senator, whose life has been threatened, until his would-be assassin is captured.

BIOGRAPHY

CHRISTOPHER ODOM

Christopher was born in Queens, NY, but has lived in 10 states from the Atlantic to the Pacific. He matriculated through three high schools and three universities. While he was an undergraduate at MOREHOUSE COLLEGE, each summer he came home, he came home to a new state. Moving can be difficult, but rather than focus on what he would lose, Chris looked forward to what he would gain.

After two years of switching his major each week at MOREHOUSE, Chris eventually dropped out of school in search of common sense. Four years later, Chris was living in a hospital for three months alongside his dying roommate. While the roommate was planning his own funeral, Chris was planning his own future. It was then when Chris saw the light - only it was the light of the camera. He was to become a filmmaker.

Chris returned to school and earned his Bachelor of Arts in Film & Video with a Minor in Theater from GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY in Atlanta. While in Atlanta, Chris worked as a writer and a producer for the sketch comedy show THE PFHAR SIDE on GCTV. Today Chris is a graduate of the UCLA MASTER OF FINE ARTS SCREENWRITING PROGRAM.

Winner of the APA MARTY KLEIN COMEDY WRITING AWARD, the WILLIAM J. & LEE PHILLIP BELL / THE YOUNG & THE RESTLESS TELEVISION WRITING AWARD, and the STEVE LAWRENCE AND EYDIE GORMET FELLOWSHIP, Chris has written several scripts including 10 feature length screenplays, 4 sit-com specs, 2 short scripts, a one-act play, and a 1-hour dramatic comedy pilot.

During his short walk on this earth, Christopher has also been an accomplished musician, singer, actor, dancer, performer, and all around entertainer. He recently starred in the original musical "MAKE MINE 3-6-9," which played in Los Angeles. His dance credits include performances for Merv Griffin, Magic Johnson, and the President of the United States of America.

Today, Chris strives towards launching his own studio. And, although Chris has written several scripts in many genres; including drama, comedy, action, and science fiction; most importantly, Chris would like to be recognized for writing scripts with *heart*.