**“SWING BY WITH JASON KENNEDY”**

**MASTER SCRIPT**

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**A1 – TEASE AND TITLES**

JASON KENNEDY: Are you ready for this?

RICKIE FOWLER: It's tomorrow.

JASON KENNEDY: I know.

RICKIE FOWLER: See you tomorrow.

JASON KENNEDY: I’m early, sue me.

JASON KENNEDY: Slate it, baby.

JASON KENNEDY: You know, I appreciate you having me here.

RICKIE FOWLER: Well, I mean, you did show up a day early, so I kind of felt obligated to host you.

JASON KENNEDY: I get to call anybody I want your phone. Hey, man, I was just wondering if you'd let me come over.

JASON KENNEDY: I can't tell you how happy I am to be here with you, man.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Happy to have you here.

JASON KENNEDY: Do you still sometimes go? Is this really my life?

JUSTIN THOMAS:There's something to be said about playing like when you're a kid.

JASON KENNEDY: Do you want to take a seat here and we'll chat a little bit?

JUSTIN THOMAS: I'd love to.

RICKIE FOWLER: This is our normal life. We've got a pretty darn good.

JASON KENNEDY: This is nice.

**A2 – OPENING STANDUP**

JASON KENNEDY: I've made a career out of covering entertainment news. But it's my friendships with TOUR pros like Justin Thomas and Rickie Fowler that allowed me to connect both worlds. I've seen a lot of their games, especially here at the Genesis Invitational in Los Angeles. But it’s their world away from the course it's really interesting to me. So I hit up Rick and JT and they told me to swing by.

**A3 -- ON THE DOCK AND CHIPPING CHALLENGE:**

JASON KENNEDY: My brother, Rickie Fowler. I've known you 10 years. And we've never done an interview together. How is that possible?

RICKIE FOWLER: I just tried to avoid you.

JASON KENNEDY: Well, I kind of felt it. Your beautiful home has basically created some very special moments, something called the Fifth of July. For the viewers watching, Rick, what is the fifth of July?

RICKIE FOWLER: Everyone was there hanging for the Fourth of July. And then we just carried it on over and turn the Fifth of July into kind of our holiday.

JASON KENNEDY: It was a beautiful celebration.

RICKIE FOWLER: It was great.

JASON KENNEDY: Did anybody ever wear a mankini?

RICKIE FOWLER: There were multiple.

JASON KENNEDY: Multiple?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yes.

JASON KENNEDY: Those were the days, man.

RICKIE FOWLER: Things have definitely evolved since then.

JASON KENNEDY: We're more mature.

RICKIE FOWLER: No, no.

JASON KENNEDY: We're just saying that for camera.

RICKIE FOWLER: We have a few other responsibilities.

JASON KENNEDY: The responsibilities are pretty special. Got to spend some time today with Maya, and seeing you as a dad. Father to Father, that is one of the coolest things ever. How do you feel like fatherhood changed you?

RICKIE FOWLER: I mean, obviously helps continue to put things into perspective. You know, friends and family have always been a priority of mine. And then you start throwing kids into the mix and helps you realize that there's a lot bigger things in life than just the day-to-day grind or golf or whatever it may be. When your family's doing well and healthy and your friends are good. I mean, that's kind of that's really all you need. Let’s go hit some?

JASON KENNEDY: Yeah, let’s hit a few.

JASON KENNEDY: Your house, your rules.

RICKIE FOWLER: So we’re about 30 yards, so a little more of a pitch if you will.

JASON KENNEDY: And you get one opportunity and I get?

RICKIE FOWLER. I get one. How about I get two?

JASON KENNEDY; Okay, you get two.

RICKIE FOWLER: I haven’t hit a ball.

JASON KENNEDY: I haven't either. You're professional. I get three to four? I have to get four.

RICKIE FOWLER: You get four. Okay.

JASON KENNEDY: Here’s with a 60, about 30 yards.

RICKIE FOWLER: Soft, softly. Just off the back. What are your thoughts here?

JASON KENNEDY: My thoughts here are there's a lot of golf fans watching this, and golf fans can be really brutal. And I'm a TV guy, so just go easy on me.

RICKIE FOWLER: Let’s dry off the face.

JASON KENNEDY: Yeah, it's important, right?

RICKIE FOWLER: Softly Yeah. Good work.

JASON KENNEDY: Soft…took a little bounce. Softly.

RICKIE FOWLER: Little long again.

JASON KENNEDY: The rules are, if I win, I get to call anybody I want your phone. If you win, vice versa.

RICKIE FOWLER: Any thoughts on your victory call?

JASON KENNEDY: Yeah, I definitely have someone in mind. Michael Jordan.

RICKIE FOWLER: Oh, you wanted that right pin. Do we need to go measure?

JASON KENNEDY: If I simply would have clarified you have to be on the green, I would be calling someone in your phone right now. But since we didn't clarify, that's on me. You clearly are closer. Who you thinking? Is it someone we both know or are you just going to kind of scroll?

RICKIE FOWLER: It could be somewhat mutual.

NAT: We're on speaker we're good.

RICKIE FOWLER: Janny, Jill, Justin

JASON KENNEDY: Isn't he in Italy?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, that's fine.

JASON KENNEDY: Okay.

RICKIE FOWLER: Hey, man.

JASON KENNEDY: Hey man.

RICKIE FOWLER: Hey Rick, hey Jas.

JASON KENNEDY: I lost a bet. We were doing a chipping contest, about 30 yards. I got four opportunities, he got two. Who do you think won?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Rick?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yep, just barely.

JASON KENNEDY: Yep, and he had one “phone a friend”. He could pick anybody in my phone and he picked you while you're in Lake Como.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, it’s all good, about to go todinner here in a few. Look guys, I got this I got this new jacket while I was in Italy.

RICKIE FOWLER: I like that, dresses up the t-shirt. You can go anywhere.

JUSTIN THOMAS:Yeah, Rick, you know all about that. We love a good t shirt for a nice dinner

RICKIE FOWLER: The most we can dress down the best.

JASON KENNEDY: But if you'd be my second guest, it'd be my honor.

JUSTIN THOMAS:Oh my gosh, I would love to. Anytime I can follow Rick in anything, it’s a good thing for me.

JASON KENNEDY: Thank you, man.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Love you guys.

RICKIE FOWLER; I love you, bro. Have fun.

JUSTIN THOMAS: I'll talk to you guys like for real later.

JASON KENNEDY: Okay, get the house ready. I'm coming over.

**A4 – STANDUP TEASE**

JASON KENNEDY: Justin Thomas recently moved into a new house about 10 minutes away from Rickie Fowler. But these longtime friends practically were next door neighbors. As JT and his wife Jill get settled in their new place, Rick is enjoying a new season of life of his own.

**B1 – NEW HOME TURF – JT**

JASON KENNEDY: It's been a busy year for Justin Thomas. He's newly married, just opened a golf course he designed with Jack Nicklaus, recently moved into a brand new house and spends hours a day chasing his son Frank around the house. There's no chance that he has time for us to do a sit-down interview. But we showed up anyway.

JASON KENNEDY: I can't tell you how happy I am to be here with you. Does it feel like home yet? Because I know you moved in not too long ago.

JUSTIN THOMAS:It does. I mean, it's very homey. My wife does an unbelievable job with the decor. But yeah, you know, it's not often you get kicked out of your own bedroom like you did to Jill and I last night, you know. Jill demanded that he stayed in the master and we stayed in a guest room. But I know what you do for your host right?

JASON KENNEDY: Well yeah, to be honest, I appreciate it. But I just made me feel uncomfortable. You guys were on a queen. And I was in a king but you know…

JUSTIN THOMAS: it's you California King.

JASON KENNEDY: Sorry, I didn't want to get the details of that screwed up. Do you want to take a seat here? And we'll chat a little bit.

JUSTIN THOMAS: I'd love to. This is the comfiest interview I've done.

JASON KENNEDY: This is my goal. I've always wanted to do interviews like this where you guys feel comfortable, and I feel comfortable. And we're doing it, which is great. I want to get back to Jill and the house. This is a big jump. I've been to your last house to this. I mean, your last house was kind of like a bachelor pad. And this is like, I'm a married man. This is going to be like my family home. Right?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, I heard that a couple of times from Jill that, you know, you're not in college anymore. You know, we don't need all of this. We could actually make this a little bit more of a home. And yeah, so that's what we have now. Grown up.

JASON KENNEDY: What was the thing that she made you get rid of that still stings?

JUSTIN THOMAS**:** I don't need to put her on blast.

JASON KENNEDY: That's true.

JUSTIN THOMAS: But probably my Alabama pool table. I'm kidding. I'm kidding. She didn't make me but she would prefer it that way.

JASON KENNEDY: What happened to it?

JUSTIN THOAMS: people who bought our house they for some reason wanted it. So I said, Sure. Sounds good to me.

JASON KENNEDY: Did Coach Saban buy your house? Rickie doesn't live as close to you. He was like right around the corner.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, it's a little further away.

JASON KENNEDY: Have you processed not having your best friend nearby?

JUSTIN THOMAS:It's tough because we used to see him basically daily. You know, taking Frank for a walk we would just go down the driveway. And whether Allison liked it or not, I pretty much just walk in the side door. But he's got a lot of stuff going on there. So it's probably, they probably like it a lot more than I do.

**B2 – CLOSE TO HOME – RICKIE**

JASON KENNEDY: When kids are running towards you saying daddy, and you're like holy cow, I'm a parent. Do you still have those moments where you have to remind yourself this is my life right now? I'm a dad. Y

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, and that's your that's your main job. Seeing Maya’s reaction and how she lights up whenever she sees, you know, Allison or me. It really kind of makes it feel like nothing else matters.

JASON KENNEDY: There's something about a dad with his little girl.

RICKIE FOWLER: It's very special. Well, I don't have a boy but my sister has twin boys. But I just I feel like there's something with a little girl that just pulls a little harder as well.

**C1 – REJOIN AND KENNEDY STANDUP**

JASON KENNEDY: 2023 was a tale of two seasons for Rickie Fowler and Justin Thomas Ricky snagged a trophy in Detroit, but JT was grinding to make cuts. It gave him a new perspective and appreciation for the early success in his career.

**C2 – THERAPY SESSION**

JASON KENNEDY: This kind of catches your eye when you walk in the house. I see great trophies and accomplishments. What do you see?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, I see the same, I may think of them a little differently. Not that I need motivation. But it's just good, almost reminder sometimes.

ANNC: Justin Thomas is your latest PLAYERS champion. Justin Thomas is the FedEx Cup champion. It's going to be one of those years that is going to stand the test of time.

JUSTIN THOMAS:I think you can sometimes forget about stuff you may be done in the past or, or maybe at least me personally don't give myself enough credit for some things that I've achieved or accomplished. So I think seeing this every once in a while is a good thing for me.

JASON KENNEDY: Okay great, let's see the man cave. Can we do a little therapy session?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah.

JASON KENNEDY; I don't think I've ever done this in an interview before and want you to close your eyes, please. Take a big deep breath. Pretend that I'm your therapist. And I want you to throw some words at me when you think about last season. What comes to mind?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Frustrating. Bad. I felt like it was a as an amazing opportunity for me to grow and learn a lot. And I think that I'm very lucky to have a great support system around me and a great team that just constantly reminded me to keep my head up and keep pushing and looking forward, not backward. I don't know, I felt like I was very lucky for that

JASON KENNEDY: Help me understand the highs of winning a tournament and the lows of a missed cut.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Iwould say the lows are lower than the highs are high, which is I don't know if that's necessarily right, or what it should be. But it just it feels that way. I think it's very,

is that what you think, too, Frank?

JASON KENNEDY: He takes on the burden.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, it's so much easier to look back when things are over when it didn't go well and say I wish I would have done that. Or why didn't I do this? Versus when you win, it's like, it's great. You celebrate your joy, and then move onto the next tournament. The highs are great because that's what you work for. And it's what you're practicing for, what I've done my whole life. But then the lows, it just seems like you're just so you're just like sad, you know? And I mean, it's a weird thing to explain.

JASON KENNEDY: Give us a sense of how much pressure you put on yourself.

JUSTIN THOMAS. Yep. Over. What's the high score?

JASON KENNEDY: That says a lot, right?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah. I go in waves. I mean, when I think when things aren't going well that I put too much pressure on myself, but all the greats will tell you they win by basically letting everybody else lose. And you know, that's that there's something to be said for that.

JASON KENNEDY: You just answered my next question. When you're hanging with Tiger and Tom Brady and, and the legends of the game. Are they saying that exact same thing to you?

JUSTIN THOMAS: I've had a lot of conversation with Tiger that, you know, ask him the super deep question about something I'm really struggling on and he's just like, dude, just do it. I'm like, okay, thanks. Let me write that down in my yardage book, like that's, you know, it's the overwhelming kind of message that I would say any great that I've talked to, is just the belief in their own ability and putting the work in away from the tournament.

**C3 – A WINNER ONCE AGAIN**

ANNC: Rickie Fowler pours one in.

JASON KENNEDY: It's always fun watching you, man. First win in four years?

RICKIE FOWLER: Something like that.

ANNC: Rickie Fowler returns to the winner's circle.

JASON KENNEDY: Was there a specific moment where you said yourself, daddy’s back in the groove?

RICKIE FOWLER: I think a lot of it was just seeing the consistency and then some weeks where it wasn't necessarily playing that well, I was still able to, you know, make cuts, have a decent weekend and then salvage of maybe a top 20 or top 10 finish. Where in the last few years, it felt like I was a shot or two here or there and you missed the cut.

ANNC: One of the great putters on the planet, and it's not anything close to where we're expecting.

RICKIE FOWLER: It's a pretty fine line from packing your bags and flying home or playing the weekend. So that was one of the biggest things that I was able to continue to play weekends where there hadn't been a thing in the last few years and just kind of continued to build that confidence and momentum, and started to get myself in the, you know, contention and in the mix. And, yeah, it felt great to be there. I've won, and I knew that I could do it again. It's just, it's hard. So to finally get it done in Detroit felt good.

ANNC: Ten months ago, he was number 185 in the world, and now, back on top.

JASON KENNEDY: When you were going through your struggles, Wow bad did it get mentally? Because I feel like ever since I've known you, you're a guy, the wheels don't fall off the tracks, you seem cool, calm and collected. I never see you get like super emotional. But were there times years ago, where you're like, oh my gosh, man, this is really hard? Or do you just keep that stuff in?

RICKIE FOWLER: I mean, there are definitely doubts and second guessing or having worries. Because it's not easy. And especially when you're not seeing really any, any results, it's tough to really kind of lean on something. And the good thing was everything away from the golf course was great. Family life, friends getting married, having a little one. So golf was kind of the only thing that wasn't in a good spot. So luckily, I had a lot of good things to lean on. And it was more just the mental grind of just trying to keep pushing. I knew it was there wasn't far off. But when things last for, you know, two, three years, it's it can be really tough. So I do keep a lot of things kind of internal or to myself, I don't open up a whole lot, you know, JT and I would talk a little bit, Jordan, everyone's dealt with struggles on the golf course, that's if you play the game long enough, especially at this level, like you're going to have a tough time. So I think a big part was, I said things away from the golf course were great. And then having good people around, you can see the light at the end of the tunnel, they just had to keep chasing it.

**D1 -- WRAPPING THINGS UP**

JASON KENNEDY: What do we do?

RICKIE FOWLER: Throw and reel.

JASON KENNEDY: And what are we trying to catch here?

RICKIE FOWLER: Probably snook or jack.

JASON KENNEDY: It's very intimidating what you just did. You make it look so cool. Were you the type of kid that got up with your dad at the crack of dawn and went fishing all the time?

RICKIE FOWLER: No, I didn't fish much. My grandpa, he picked me up from elementary school every Wednesday and we'd go fish or golf.

JASON KENNEDY: What was the biggest one you caught?

RICKIE FOWLER: The biggest fish I've got a couple hundred pound marlin.

JASON KENNEDY: One thing hasn't changed. My love for fishing

JASON KENNEDY: You got a collection here.

JUSTIN THOMAS:I mean, these are guys that are competitors at what they do.

JASON KENNEDY: When did Rickie played baseball?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, so Rickie had a little stint with the Cardinals.

JASON KENNEDY: Just kidding, Dexter. We love you, buddy. Which one catches your eye first when you come in here?

JUSTIN THOMAS:MJs.

JASON KENNEDY. I figured. Cool message and I mean, he's MJ right? To Justin, I'm so proud of you, a true champion. Keep up the good work. Michael freaking Jordan. Going back to what I said at the beginning means a world that you would have me here. Let me into your home. I think you're just a top notch human being. You mean the world to me. And you're an incredible leader and friend and I appreciate your time.

JUSTIN THOMAS:I appreciate that. Thank you. Uber's up front.

JASON KENNEDY: I'm gonna go ahead and grab that, pack my bags.

JUSTIN THOMAS: They’re already up front.

JASON KENNEDY: All right, perfect.

JUSTIN THOMAS: I will see you guys later, man.

**D3 – CLOSING KENNEDY STANDUP**

JASON KENNEDY: We've all witnessed Justin Thomas and Rickie Fowler's incredible moments on the golf course. And in life, like golf, they're filled with highs and lows, but it's in the moments at home where we learn the most. Thanks for watching Swing by. I'm Jason Kennedy. We're going to be swinging by more homes in the future. And I hope you'll join us.

**D4 – ROLLOUT + OFF AIRS**

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, that's really good. I'm being dead serious.

RICKIE FOWLER: It’s called fishing, not catching

JUSTIN THOMAS:You’re 42? I thought you were older than that.

JASON KENNEDY: Frank does not like the drone.

JASON KENNEDY: Uncle Ricky. love you buddy.