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**TITLE OF SHOW:** King and Queen of America

**FORMAT OF SHOW:** Reality TV series

**Logline:** Several couples will compete for the title of *King and Queen of America*, a position they will hold for one year which the winners will live in a mansion and experience all the luxuries that go with it. The contestants are selected by video submissions from people who are living on or below the poverty line.

**Synopsis:**

Several married couples will be brought together for a journey. In this series, each person will explore and discover what their relationship is really made of as each week, our couples are put to the test to see if their marriage has what it takes to survive our tests of working together, faithfulness, integrity and determination. The couples cast will be married for an extended period, and all will be at a turning point of their lives. Whether with the loss of employment, foreclosure, sickness in the family, strained relationship etc. The previous year's winners will make guest appearances in some episodes, to either motivate the couples, or tell them some harsh realities about themselves.

All of the couples will live primarily in the mansion, living in close quarters. There will be bickering, rivalry, jealousy, scheming, and friendships formed and lost.

Contestants will consist of:

**The Country Hillbillies** – Bob and Sue-Ellen are country folk who live in a small home in rural Kentucky. Bob is a worker for a local truck company and Sue-Ellen works in a diner. Life has not been easy since Bob lost his job, and Sue-Ellen has to work double shifts at the diner to make the mortgage payments on their less than comfortable 2 bedroom home. Bob & Sue-Ellen are on the brink of divorce, mainly due to his excessive drinking, but their hope from being on the show is to discover a side of themselves they think exists. They really do not care for the Mansion and all the benefits that go along with it, as neither of them would know what to do with the lifestyle. But will they rediscover the passion they once had, or will the big-city prove overwhelming for this couple?

**African Americans** – Introducing Yolanda and Steve. They live in Detroit, renting a 1 bedroom apartment that they can barely afford. Steve & Yolanda worked at a car manufacturing plant until the company went bankrupt. Unable to find work for the past 8 months, Steve now tries to make a living by washing people's cars at stop-lights, while Yolanda works in a laundromat, earning a measly wage each month. Their monthly joint income is not enough to make ends meet, and they often rely on the handouts from family and friends. Their hope in being part of the show is to win the lifestyle Yolanda thinks that they are deserving of. It is more of "Compensation" than anything else. But will Yolanda and Steve see the meaning and reason of what it takes to become more in touch with each other, more than just being "Compensation" ?

**Mexican Family** – Introducing Jose and Miranda. They recently immigrated to America, with great hopes and dreams. However, life has not been that easy for them. Jose and Miranda travel north during the growing season, following the crops. They face innumerable hardships such as low wages, unacceptable housing, and lack of health care.

Jose and Miranda have decided to be a part of the show to try and win the lifestyle they had always hoped for. It would also serve as credit for their families back home to see that they have made something of themselves in America, or as they call it "The Land of Dreams".

**Southern Family with a lot of kids** – Introducing Mark and Grace. Mark, Grace and their 4 children (three girls aged 9, 7 and 4, and 18 month old son), live in a rented split home in TN. They are both God-fearing, church dedicated, people. Mark works as a kitchen-hand and Grace works as a shelf-stacker at the local grocery store. As peaceful as they live, their landlord cannot tolerate their "bible-praising", and has on many occasions threatened to evict them if they do not cease their fanaticism. With the cost of raising 4 children, the rent, food, clothing, schooling, Mark & Grace find it hard enough to afford anywhere else to live, but this house was the only option available at the time. Their landlord – John – is an atheist who does not believe in the idealism of "the just live by faith" – especially when it comes to the rent being paid on time. Mark & Grace has decided to compete in the show for the purpose of "blessing others". Their vision is to adopt more children and with living in a mansion for a year they envision being a blessing for homeless children by providing them with a roof over their heads, a warm bed, and a hot meal on the table.

**The Conservative Family** – Meet Alan and Deanne from Toledo. Steve and Deanne have one son, Rick (aged 5). Alan works as a sales person for a cell phone reseller and Deanne works at night delivering pizzas. They have a mortgage soon to foreclose which has put a lot of strain on their already struggling relationship. Steve and Deanne are on the show in the hope to provide a better life for themselves and their child.

**The Celebrity Family** – Introducing Peter and Gwen from Los Angeles. Peter is a talented musician who makes a living by busking on the street, hoping to be noticed by a talent agent. Gwen is a housewife who works as a waitress in a bar. They both have talent, and they are on the show in the hope to become noticed by a TV director.

**The NY Couple** – Introducing Reuben and Selena. Reuben was a high rolling executive on Wall Street who made a lot of money, and Selena worked in advertising. Their lifestyle has hit the rocks, as since the crash, their excessive lifestyle has come to a grinding halt, and gone are their Amex Gold Cards; the lush apartment. When the crash happened, it took it's toll hard on Reuben and Selena. Both of them lost their jobs, and for the first time in both of their lives, they have seen what it is like to live on the poverty line, where he works as a telemarketer for \$10 an hour and she works as a cashier. The once lush apartment is gone, and now they sub-rent a 2 bedroom apartment on W82nd street. They are on the show after being advised by their marriage councilor. Their hope primarily is to win the lifestyle they once had. But will they discover something more about themselves and will their marriage survive the series of tests challenged, or will they end up in divorce?

**The Gay Couple** – Introducing Terry and Nick. Terry and Nick met at an art exhibition. Both are into fashion, art and margaritas. Terry & Nick work at the same art gallery in xxxxx. Terry and Nick were married in a civil union four years ago. Although they have a lifestyle which could be described as moderate, recently their union has faced it's own differences, in that Terry wants to adopt a child, but Nick does not want to, and Nick has been secretly seeing another man for the last 4 months. But that is not all. Terry has dreams of his own that he wants to fulfill. One being a writer for Broadway. Nick does not share in his partners' enthusiasm as he feels that Terry wants too much. To adopt a child is one thing, but to want to move to NYC to become a "producer" is another thing entirely,

which he does not support. Yet, Nick has found comfort in the arms of another man. They are on the show to see if they have what it takes to work through their own personal issues and become stronger as a couple.

**Meet The Brits** - Sean and Sam. He works in finance, she is an internet model. He wants to be on the show for the money. She wants to be on the show for the exposure. They are as far from being a normal couple as you can imagine whereas he is conservative, she is outgoing and like to expose herself on camera.

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We will each couple on a romp-around-the globe.

On their journey they will be set-up at events, outings, and other social adventures where they will be faced with different challenges each week.

Each of our couples will be privy to fear-provoking activities while they are in the midst of their own journey of temptation, the struggle of working together when put into difficult circumstances.

Some circumstances will be met with each couple being separated and placed in situations where temptation is aplenty, whether it is with a new love, a prospect of a new secure job in a remote part of the country, the prospect of money. The challenge faced by each one of the couples (both together and separately) will involve their greatest weakness. If adultery has been in the marriage, then one (or both) of the couple will be faced with that situation on (hidden) camera. If security – then one person will be faced with having to decide between their family or the security of a stable job, with a new life.

When one person of each couple returns from their journey, that the other does not know is that they will return to face the ultimatum by their partner on Live TV. Either stay with them or walk away.

Each week, the couple with the lowest rating from "viewers" will be eliminated from the show. The "viewers" will comprise of 4 panelists, who are everyday people and they will judge the contestants on a series of levels: Strengths; Weaknesses; Performance; Motives; Working Together; Talent, etc. Each week, one couple will be eliminated from the show.

### **Scenarios:**

**Dance-Off:** One week, our couples will be faced with a dance-off competition. With little rehearsals, each couple must dance to the song that was played at their wedding (If applicable), or dance to a song selected by the host/panel. The dance style will be judged and the couple with the lowest score will be eliminated.

**Wilderness:** For one week, our couples will be left in the "outback" to fend for themselves. Will they have what it takes to face the wild? The only things they have with them is a "survival pack". A 2-person tent, rations for one day, other "wilderness" supplies (matches, flint, etc). While the isolation in the wilderness is meant to draw them closer, it will also test their strength. Food will be hunted. Such as rabbits, possums etc (staged).

**Fear:** What is the greatest fear? One week our couples will face the ultimate test in support as one of each couple is faced with a different challenge. Such as: Eating a plate of worms; Buried in a pit of snakes; Walking across hot coals; Skydiving, etc. The challenge is a test of "togetherness", to see if each person supports their partner, no matter what the peril they are faced with. At the end of that episode, the "panel" will point out each persons strong and weak points, and one couple will fail the test, having failed the Fear Portion of the show.

**Talent:** One week we will test our couples to see if they have talent. Talent show can be done by: Singing a song they came up with by themselves; Acting; Comedy sketch etc. All material in the Talent Contest must be original by each couple. One couple will fail the Talent Show, and we will see the couple crying as they are eliminated.

**Relocation Experiment:** What if you were offered a job in another city? Not just any job, but the job that you had always dreamed of? That is the test that each couple will face. (*think Simple Life*) Each couple will be separated for a week and placed in the job that they had wanted. (*Each person will not know where their partner is working or the city they are living*). Each job will come with housing, whether a rented house/apartment or sharing. During the week, each one of the couples are forbidden to make contact with their partner. When the week is over, each person of the couple will be given the ultimatum. Continue in that secure job and leave their partner, or will their devotion to their partner be stronger than stability and security? The choice will not be that easy as with their backgrounds, stability would be high on their list. One couple will choose to remain in the situation, leaving their partner. We see the emotional hardship the other faces when their partner chooses to live in that city with the new job, which gives them the stability they wanted.

**Final Episode:** The final episode will be between two couples. These four people have managed to stand the trials and the tests set before them, and now they are ready for the final challenge.

In this episode we will re-cap of the series, the performances, the arguments, see the highs and lows of what the eliminated couples, and these two couples have gone through. We will laugh at their lighthearted moments, cry in their moments of sadness. We share in the afterglow, the elation, and the disappointment of the others who were eliminated. And finally sharing a dream come true for that one couple selected.

But now comes the final test, the final challenge.

One challenge. One elimination.

The eliminated couple will walk away with nothing and we introduce the new "King and Queen of America".

Each couple faces elimination or go onto the next round.

Ten adventures, ten couples, all leading to ten moments of drama on Live TV.

For some couples it will be the final straw. For others, a new beginning.