

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

by Kamron Klitgaard

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A Comedic Duet

by Kamron Klitgaard

SYNOPSIS: Two student body officers quibble over whether they should attend the unofficial activity or stay in class to pass a resolution, and in the process, learn a deep secret about each other.

TIME: Present day.

SETTING: A classroom.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(2 either gender)

HARPER (m/f).....Structured, Organized, Proper.
(65 lines)

RILEY (m/f).....Spontaneous, Adventuresome,
Daring. *(62 lines)*

COSTUMING: Student attire.

SET: A classroom, several chairs, a table.

PROPERTIES: An official looking document, 3 x 5 cards.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: The set can be as little or as much as desired. One chair is sufficient.

AT START: *HARPER stands at the head of the class as RILEY sits in a chair in a daze.*

HARPER: And so, as student body president, I have officially presented this proposal to the student body officers, detailing the pros and the cons of said proposal through the medium of spreadsheets, PowerPoint, multi-media and a 25-page document complete with facts, figures and statistics. *(Holds up the document.)* It is now time for an official vote. All those in favor of petitioning the administration to change the lunchroom trashcan liners from blue to orange, say aye. *(Waits for a response from RILEY, which doesn't come.)* All those against? *(Waits for a response from RILEY, which doesn't come.)* Riley!

RILEY: *(Snaps out of the daze.)* Huh? Oh... uh, I must've phased out there. What's going on?

HARPER: We're voting on the proposal.

RILEY: The trash bag thing?

HARPER: Yes! What do you think I've been talking about for the last fifteen minutes?!

RILEY: Your voice is one of those phase-out voices. You know, when you try to listen, but... it's just futile. Like Mr. Jorgensen's history class.

HARPER: Well, we're about to pass the resolution. It's time to vote.

RILEY looks around at the empty classroom.

RILEY: I'm the only one here.

HARPER: I'm here too.

RILEY: Why?

HARPER: What do you mean, why? This is our class. Student government? This is where we are supposed to be.

RILEY: Harper, it's optional. You can either go to the end of the year activity or you can go to class. Miss Lloyd is not even here.

HARPER: Look, if we don't vote on this resolution, we could end up starting next year with blue trashcan liners in the cafeteria, and that would be a disaster.

RILEY: Shouldn't the student body president show up at the end of the year activity?

HARPER: It's not a real activity. It wasn't planned by us, and we plan all the activities.

RILEY: Just because the SBOs didn't plan the activity doesn't make it not-real.

HARPER: There's no pulpit and no microphone. They said I don't need to make any announcements or speak to the student body or... do anything. So, what possible reason would I have to be there.

RILEY: Fun?

HARPER: It's time to vote.

RILEY: You're the only one here.

HARPER: You're here too.

RILEY: Only physically.

HARPER: That's all I need. Let's vote.

RILEY: First, I propose that we postpone the vote until we have the rest of the SBOs here.

HARPER: No.

RILEY: Shouldn't we vote on it?

HARPER: Fine. All those in favor of postponing the vote on the trashcan liner proposal say "aye."

RILEY: *(Raises hand in favor.)* Aye.

HARPER: All those opposed. *(Raises hand in opposition.)* Nay. Oh, look at that. A tie.

RILEY: Just like Tic Tac Toe. Well played. Now what?

HARPER: The rules of student government clearly state that if a tie happens during a proposal vote, the class will hear arguments from both sides of the issue and then vote again.

RILEY: Are you serious?

HARPER: Is there anyone who would like to argue for the "delaying the vote" side?

RILEY: Harper, why aren't you at the activity having fun?

HARPER: Anyone?

RILEY: Alright. I defer my side's argument and call for a re-vote.

HARPER: Excellent. All those in favor of postponing the vote on the trashcan liner proposal say "aye." *(Waits for a response from RILEY which doesn't come.)* All those opposed.

RILEY and HARPER: *(Raise their hands.)* Nay.

HARPER: The nays have it. The vote will not be delayed. Let us move on to the proposal of the trashcan liners.

RILEY: Harper, if I vote for your proposal, will you come to the activity?

HARPER: It's not an official activity.

RILEY: I didn't say it was an official activity. Don't you wanna make some good high school memories?

HARPER: I have made plenty.

RILEY: (*Sees a bunch of 3x5 cards on the table.*) What are those?

HARPER: (*Looks through the cards.*) These are my notes.

RILEY: Notes for what?

HARPER: My proposal.

RILEY: You have notes for your proposal to have orange trashcans?

HARPER: Trashcan liners. Don't you have notes?

RILEY: No, I don't. I'm a junior class officer. I go to class. I listen in class. I leave the class. Then, on a really exciting day, I get to hear one of your proposals, argue about one of your proposals and then vote on one of your proposals. What notes?

HARPER: You know, you could present a proposal yourself.

RILEY: You present so many proposals that they'd never get to me. Besides, I don't really care to propose anything.

HARPER: Don't you want to effect change? Don't you want to right wrongs, tear down injustices?

RILEY: Harper, you're proposing to have orange trash bags. That proposal cries out, "Mock me! Ridicule me! Scorn me forever!"

HARPER: It's important.

RILEY: Yes, we must have orange trash bags or Halloween might get its feelings hurt!

HARPER: This is not a laughing matter.

RILEY: We must have orange trash bags so that all the discarded orange peels will blend in and be camouflaged so it looks like we don't have that much trash!

HARPER: Riley!

RILEY: Would you lighten up?

HARPER: No, I will not. How can I when all the SBOs have decided to sluff class?!

RILEY: They are all at the activity creating nostalgia.

HARPER: They should be here.

RILEY: You're a real letter-of-the-law kinda SBO, aren't ya?

HARPER: The letter "L" makes the law.

RILEY: That doesn't mean anything.

HARPER: Just because you don't know what it means doesn't mean that it doesn't mean anything.

RILEY: You're talking crazy talk.

HARPER: All those in favor of petitioning the administration to change the lunchroom trashcan liners from blue to orange say "aye."

RILEY: I'll only vote yes if you come to the activity.

HARPER: Always be where you're supposed to be, and you won't get into any trouble!

RILEY: Always be where you're supposed to be, and you won't have any fun!

HARPER: All those in favor of petitioning the administration to change the lunchroom trashcan liners from blue to orange say "aye!"

RILEY: Whoa, whoa, whoa! This is not a proposal to actually change the trash bags? It's just to ask the administration if they will change them?

HARPER: Well, yeah. We can't make the official decision.

RILEY: Why not?

HARPER: We don't do the ordering.

RILEY: So, you're proposing that we ask—

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