

STEVE AND EDGAR

PLAY: Wait Wait Bo Bait
 GENRE: Comedy
 TIME: 2:00

DESCRIPTION

Steve and Edgar sit outside the principal's office, awaiting punishment.

ACTING HINTS

Have you ever been in a situation where you've waited for something unpleasant? How did it affect you physically? Did it affect your breathing? Think about giving the two characters contrasting physical states.

There is a moment of silence as STEVE and EDGAR sit. Waiting. They adjust their position. They both give a big sigh.

STEVE: How long have they been in there?

EDGAR: Almost half an hour.

STEVE: Half and hour. How long does it take to decide a punishment? Mrs. Dufour always struck me as a rather decisive woman. Two weeks detention – zap! You're suspended – pow!

EDGAR: Your dad is über-decisive. He's the king of decisiveness.

STEVE: I know. Can I have the car, dad? No. Two seconds tops - whamo! What the hell are they talking about?

EDGAR: Maybe they're not talking about you. Maybe they wrapped up you in the first five minutes and now they're talking about vacations. (STEVE looks at EDGAR) It's possible. They could be comparing vacation spots. "I like Hawaii. Jamaica is nice this time of year."

STEVE: You're just in a good mood 'cause they haven't reached your parents and you're not going to get yelled at till later.

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EDGAR: What's the worst that could happen? You've never been in trouble before. Sure, your first time out has been a bit of a doozy but really, how hard on you can they be?

STEVE: My dad's going to kill me.

EDGAR: Be serious.

STEVE: Seriously he could kill me.

EDGAR: Not gonna happen. Think smaller-scale.

STEVE: I don't know. Maybe he'll hide all my shoes.

EDGAR: "Son. We've decided your punishment. We're going to hide all your shoes."

STEVE: Just because your dad is all "Boys will be boys. Hey man, I was young once too. Peace out."

EDGAR: I don't know Brillo. I've never set fire to a bathroom before. My dad did a lot when he was young, but I'm pretty sure he never set fire to a bathroom.

STEVE: But we didn't mean to set fire to a bathroom.

EDGAR: If only that counted.

STEVE: Who knew toilets were so flammable?

EDGAR: Hindsight is twenty-twenty.

STEVE: What are they doing in there? I wish they'd just come out and get it over with. Just come out right now and get whatever it is, whatever punishment, out in the open. I just want to know. The waiting is killing me!

EDGAR: Ah ha! Chinese water torture. I think there is no punishment. They're just sitting in there, making you sweat it out.

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STEVE: (*standing up*) Enough is enough. This is inhuman. If they're going to punish me, fine. Just come on out of there and do it. Do you hear me?! I deserve to know. It's my basic human right to know and I want to know right now!

EDGAR: Aw crap. The door's opening.

STEVE: (*sitting down*) I changed my mind. I can wait.

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JAKE AND MR. WESTLAKE

PLAY: The Bright Blue Mailbox Suicide Note
GENRE: Drama
TIME: 2:10

DESCRIPTION

Jake finds a suicide note in his mailbox. He becomes obsessed with finding out who wrote the note. Instead, he stumbles on a secret he never wanted to know: He learns that his best friend Ken tried to kill himself, and never shared his feelings with Jake. Jake is unable to cope with the news.

In this scene, Jake goes to the school guidance counsellor to see if he can get any help with the note.

ACTING HINTS

Jake is extremely focused on his objective: finding out about the note. Everything else: Ken, his girlfriend, his friends, are put aside. How will you physicalize this obsession?

Whatever you decide for Jake's physical nature, give Mr. Westlake an contrasting physical state. The two should clash physically and emotionally at every turn.

JAKE: (*to the audience*) Ok. I should have talked to Ken. As soon as he said it, I should have... but I didn't. I went home and sat in the dark and tried to think as little as possible. It's not as easy as it sounds. I didn't get to sleep until 3am.

JAKE sits down with MR. WESTLAKE, the school guidance counsellor. MR. WESTLAKE is holding JAKE's note.

MR. WESTLAKE: You look tired, Jake. Are you all right?

JAKE: I'm fine, I'm fine. What do you think?

MR. WESTLAKE: I'm a little puzzled. What exactly are you looking for?

JAKE: I don't know. Do you see any clues?

MR. WESTLAKE: Clues?