

17. Lady-Killers

Topic: The awkwardness of a middle school mixer from the perspective of the guys.

Cast:

WILL: fun-loving, afraid of the girls

CORY: cute and full of his own cuteness

JAKE: typically more interested than brave

- 1 *(The BOYS are sitting in folding chairs that are in a straight*
 2 *line, gazing across the stage.)*
 3 **WILL:** *(Dejectedly)* **There is absolutely no way.**
 4 **CORY:** *(Similarly sad)* **You're right. No way.**
 5 **JAKE:** *(Also sad)* **It's just not gonna happen.** *(Pause. BOYS*
 6 *resituate, check cell phones, roll sleeves up, fidget, look*
 7 *around, etc., to indicate they are really bored.)*
 8 **WILL:** **So, what are we gonna do?**
 9 **JAKE:** **I have no idea.** *(Pause. They fidget again.)*
 10 **CORY:** **We could just sit here for the next three hours.**
 11 **WILL:** **That sounds like lots of fun.** *(Pause. They fidget.)*
 12 **JAKE:** **Maybe one of us should give it a try.**
 13 **WILL:** **Yeah, right. You volunteering, Jake?**
 14 **JAKE:** **Not me. I thought maybe Cory would want to —**
 15 **CORY:** **Yeah, forget it.**
 16 **JAKE:** **Yeah, you're right.**
 17 **WILL:** **We'll just have to sit here, then.**
 18 **CORY:** **OK, I guess that's our only option at this point.**
 19 *(Pause. They fidget.)*
 20 **JAKE:** **This is stupid.**
 21 **WILL:** **You can say that again.**
 22 **JAKE:** **This is stupid.**
 23 **CORY:** **Don't encourage him.**
 24 **JAKE:** **I'm bored.**

- 1 **WILL:** **We're all bored. Just shut up and sit there.** *(Pause.*
 2 *They fidget.)*
 3 **CORY:** **That one with the green jacket is cute.**
 4 **WILL:** **Good luck, Cory.**
 5 **CORY:** **I'm not going anywhere.**
 6 **JAKE:** *(Teasingly)* **She's looking at you.**
 7 **CORY:** **She is not.**
 8 **WILL:** *(Agreeing)* **Yeah, I think she's looking at you, Cory.**
 9 **CORY:** **No way.**
 10 **JAKE:** **She wants you to come over and ask her to dance.**
 11 **CORY:** **What are you now, like, an expert on girls?**
 12 **JAKE:** *(Getting into it)* **You can just tell. She keeps looking**
 13 **at you.**
 14 **CORY:** *(Very pleased with the idea)* **Well, I am super good-**
 15 **looking.**
 16 **WILL:** *(Not as impressed)* **Oh please. She probably thinks you**
 17 **have something growing out of your head or something.**
 18 **CORY:** **She's not looking at you, though, is she?**
 19 **JAKE:** **No, she's looking at Cory. Hey! Here she comes!**
 20 **CORY:** **Tell me she's not coming over here.**
 21 **WILL:** **She's coming over here.**
 22 **CORY:** **I asked you not to tell me that!**
 23 **JAKE:** **What are you gonna do?**
 24 **CORY:** **I don't know.**
 25 **WILL:** **You know, you could bite the bullet and dance with**
 26 **her.**
 27 **CORY:** **No way!**
 28 **JAKE:** *(Sarcastically)* **Yeah, Will, how stupid can you get? I**
 29 **mean we came to this dance specifically so we could sit**
 30 **in the corner with a couple of other guys and not dance**
 31 **with girls.**
 32 **CORY:** *(Starting to panic)* **She's still coming! What am I**
 33 **gonna do?**
 34 **WILL:** **She could be really nice. And she's cute. You should**
 35 **dance with her.**

- 1 CORY: I don't know how to dance!
- 2 WILL: Maybe you should have thought of that before you
- 3 came tonight!
- 4 JAKE: Hey, guys, the path is clear. Twenty feet and we're
- 5 out of here!
- 6 CORY: I'm right behind you! Let's go! *(They run out.)*

18. The Eighteenth Year

Topic: A cicada bug misses her entrance by a year.

Cast:

BRIANNA: a seventeenth year cicada bug; cheerful, naïve, anxious to make new friends

CLIFF and JAMAL: slightly sarcastic and sardonic bugs trying to be friendly

- 1 BRIANNA: *(Very cheerful, full of energy)* Well, hi there, guys.
- 2 CLIFF: *(To JAMAL in a stage whisper)* What in the heck is
- 3 that?
- 4 JAMAL: *(To CLIFF)* It looks like one of those seventeenth
- 5 year cicadas who were here last year.
- 6 BRIANNA: Am I late?
- 7 CLIFF: If you are what we think you are, then yeah, you're
- 8 a little late.
- 9 JAMAL: Like a whole year.
- 10 BRIANNA: *(Shocked)* A year? What? That can't be!
- 11 CLIFF: Women. Never on time.
- 12 JAMAL: What happened?
- 13 BRIANNA: Well ... I don't know ... I thought I was supposed
- 14 to come up now.
- 15 JAMAL: Last year.
- 16 CLIFF: You're only off by a year. Don't feel bad.
- 17 BRIANNA: Oh, goodness, how could this have happened?
- 18 *(Thinking it over. Obviously very upset)* Oh, dear! What am
- 19 I going to do? Everyone's gone and I'm a whole year late!
- 20 CLIFF: *(Trying to console her)* Oh, don't be upset. It's not that
- 21 bad.
- 22 BRIANNA: *(Through her tears)* It's not?
- 23 JAMAL: No, you didn't miss much last year.
- 24 CLIFF: Yeah, everyone was so grossed out by the thousands