

Pretentious Textbooks

Written by

Daniel J. Murphy

Property of Grady's Bone
Productions

2nd Draft
September 6th 2011

FADE IN:

...Gliding towards THE BOOKSTORE ENTRANCE...

CUT TO:

INT. BOOKSTORE-NIGHT

JOSH MOORE the Director of the Bookstore tidies up a few things inside his store. Wiping down the counter. Sweeping down the aisle. Shutting down the computers. He kindly interjects a conversation between two students.

JOSH

I'm sorry girls but the store is closing.

GIRL 1

Okay sorry.

JOSH

Oh it's quite alright.

The girls exit.

Josh behind the counter signs off the registers. A work study exits from the backroom.

WORK STUDY

Goodnight boss.

JOSH

(smiling)

Oh goodnight Colleen, see you Thursday.

Josh finally finds his jacket and hat and proceeds to the door. He takes one look around and then flips off the lights, closes the door and LOCKS IT.

We GLIDE down the dark aisles of the bookstore until we reach the textbooks. Before us, a book FALLS to the ground.

FEMALE VOICE

(muffled)

OWWWWW!

MALE VOICE

(laughs)

That's what you get you expensive piece of sh....

The Male voice is cut off by the Female...

(CONTINUED)

FEMALE VOICE

(muffled)

Come down here at once and pick me up.

Another book falls to the ground.

MALE VOICE

(muffled)

That does kind of hurt.

CUT TO: Close up of the two books now standing upright on the floor.

FEMALE VOICE

Do you have to resent me forever just because I'm more expensive?

MALE VOICE

I don't care. I'm Elementary Functions. I'm easy and people want to take a class about me.

FEMALE VOICE

Biology, I will have you know is an exciting field that's constantly evolving with new discovers every day. And only smart kids want me, because they are pre-med majors.

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY-DAY

The biology book sits upright on a desk, with a bunch of notebooks around it. There is a laptop and a steaming hot cup of coffee in the background.

FEMALE VOICE

Oh my god. I love being the primary learning tool for students that will go on to be doctors and save lives.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. BOOKSTORE-NIGHT

MALE VOICE

So, I get bought by the cool kids
that party all weekend and know how
to have a good time.

CUT TO:

INT. DORM ROOM PARTY-NIGHT

In a dark room, highlighted by a black light and some
Christmas lights the Elementary Functions book stands in a
similar position facing us, with a red Solo cup right in
front of it.

MALE VOICE

Oh yeah.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. BOOKSTORE-NIGHT

...The two books face each other in a moment of silence.

MALE VOICE

I'm newer.

FEMALE VOICE

I'm more popular.

MALE VOICE

My cover is prettier.

FEMALE VOICE

Why do you always refer to yourself
as pretty? You're math, not science
okay? Math is handsome. Science is
pretty.

MALE VOICE

I am pretty! Math can be pretty!

FEMALE VOICE

You need like serious psychiatric
help, have you talked to psychology
in modules yet?

CUT TO: Psychology in Modules book on a shelf.

(CONTINUED)

OTHER MALE VOICE

Nope.

MALE VOICE

Shut up Psych, what's a trigonometric function?

OTHER MALE VOICE

You need serious psychoanalytic analysis.

FEMALE VOICE

Enough fighting! Neither of you prep students for med school, like me.

MALE VOICE

Yeah well...well I'm rentable!

FEMALE VOICE

What?

The Elementary Functions book is now flipped over, it's back cover is facing us. On it's back is a sticker that says "rental."

MALE VOICE

Yeah check this out!

FEMALE VOICE

Oh. My. God.

MALE VOICE

Suckahhh!

FEMALE VOICE

You went too far.

MALE VOICE

Aww did I rip your pages?

FEMALE VOICE

I hate you.

MALE VOICE

Rentals are cool, excuse me for being cool. Who's more popular now?

Suddenly there is a rustle in the background. The doors to the bookstore open. It's Josh.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

Every single night I forget that
damn Thesaurus of mine.

Josh walks into the background then we follow behind him
out. He notices the books on the floor in the back. He
MARCHES down the aisle towards them.

JOSH

What the hell?

Each of the books are torn to shreds. He picks their covers
up. Giving them a closer look.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Oh, Good thing these are last years
editions. Why weren't these thrown
out yet?

Josh tosses them into a nearby trash bin and whistles as he
exits the bookstore.

FADE OUT:

On the books in the trash bin...

The end.