ODE TO FILM SCHOOL: AN ACTOR IN WAITING

Written by

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Fade from Black.

INT. CLASSROOM – DAY

Flat two person desks, light grey with black posts rest on top of thin carpet. The sun shines through the windows.

Frank, 20’s, jeans and sunglasses.

Tim, 20’s, sweatshirt and shorts.

James, 20’s, tank top and head band.

Professor William Butters, 40’s, pocket protector and ruler.

FRANK
This is an amazing accomplishment.

JAMES
For the first time we are both completing something at the same time.

TIM
You guys have both acquired the final draft software over the internet for Mac. How do I get this on non Mac?

FRANK
Ask the prof.

JAMES
This is going to be good.

TIM
(Raising his hand)
How do I get the final draft software on a non Mac based operating system.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
The first thing you will need to do is make sure your delete key doesn’t function. To do this go into the keyboard settings and select enable delete key.

JAMES
Enable. I always get that word confused.
FRANK
I am pretty sure it is a word from an ancient Greek dialect meaning to limit the actions of-

JAMES
Limit the actions of what.

TIM
Limit the actions of the two of you.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Yes, you are 100 percent correct. Moving on with the lecture. The first thing that needs to be addressed.

(Slapping the ruler against the table)
Take everything you have previously learned and throw it out the window. We, all of you film school junkies are going to be starting over.

The lights dim, the classroom breaks into song and dance.

CLASSROOM
Film School Junkies...

(Clapping their hands, swaying back and forth in their seats)
Film School Junkies.

CLASSROOM BACK ROW
Hooooohaaaa. Hooooohaaaa.

CLASSROOM
Film School Junkies.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
At the beginning of every lecture
It is required for one person from the classroom to come up to the front of the room and tell read something that they have learned about one of the classmates. Everyone is going to get into the habit of doing this and before every review of one another’s work, or work by one of the film masters this is going to be done. Get it.
CLASSROOM
Film School Junkies....

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Got it.

CLASSROOM
Film School Junkies.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Good.

TIM
What about -

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
James, what is the primary responsibility of the first Assistant Director.

JAMES
To make sure Talent has everything they need to be comfortable.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Very good, someone paid attention to what is written on the board.

FRANK
Heheheh, That’s funny. It says we all suck cock.

Written on the white board in black marker: WE ALL SUCK COCK.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
You have a problem with this Frank.

FRANK
Yes, I don’t suck cock.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
It is a metaphor Frank. You and I both know that you are going to be sucking a lot of cock in your film career so on the first day of class we are all going to sit around and take turns describing cocks and what we can all do to make the cock of the actors perform the way we want it too and they way talent wants it too, and they way talent and we want it too.

(MORE)
The classroom door flies open.

SAM, 20’s, glasses, carrying several books.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS (CONT’D)
Just in time. Hold it where you are.

Sam begins to pick up the books that spill over the floor.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS (CONT’D)
Not an inch. Don’t move a single itty bity inch Miss ....

SAM

... ...

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Miss ....

The Lights dim, James stands up from his seat.

JAMES
Here... There... My love ... My love ... Where ...
(singing to Sam)
I have searched the scorns of the earth for --- you --- who --- you.

SAM
Me, not me, no miss, no my, not I. I couldn’t be, I can’t be.

JAMES
Could it be.. Would it. Be ---

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Name please.

SAM
Sam. My name is Sam.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM BUTTERS
Sam, welcome to Class Intro to Directing. Pull up a chair on the side of the classroom. From this point on
(Addressing the rest of the classroom)
(MORE)
Anyone who shows up late gets to sit on the side of the class. You do not get to participate in class functions. Your only responsibility in the classroom is to not be here. Take calls from home. Make calls to home. Pay your bills. Shop online. Login to facebook. Do whatever it is that you want. But, you are not allowed to participate in anything film related or any activity taking place in the class.

Sam drags her belongings to the side of the room. The sun shines against her back.

JAMES
  Oh could you be, you, you, you.

Fade to Black.

THE END.