
GUYS**TROY**

Are you kidding? To them, I'm "the playmaker dude." Sometimes I don't want to be "the basketball guy." I just want to be, *(pause)* you know, *(pause)* me.

TROY

But practice is over, dad. Detention was my fault, not hers. And you know what else? "That girl" is named Gabriella, *(softening)* and she's very nice. Did you ever think maybe I could have friends? And my name is Troy, dad, *(pause)* not Bolton!

TROY

This isn't about my dad. *(pause)* This is about me – about how I feel. And I'm not letting the team down. They let me down. *(confident)* I'm gonna sing. *(softening)* What about you?

MR. DARBUS

(With Shakespeare, every phrase must come to life with your expression. Make each word mean what it says. Use arm movements)

(Hark!) "But, soft! *(what is that amazing light?)* What light through yonder window breaks? *(gasps)* It is the east, *(oh, what beauty)* and Juliet is the sun. *(calling loudly to her)* Arise, fair sun, *(dramatic)* and kill the envious moon, *(crying)* who is already sick and pale with grief.

MR. DARBUS

(Falsetto voice) Brava! Susan. Such emotion, such... uhm ... joie de vivre! *(joowah de veevrah)* *(ZHwä dä 'vëvrä - exuberant enjoyment of life)* *(claps hand twice in the air)* Next!

COACH BOLTON

What the heck is my team doing here, Darbus?! *(points to Troy & Chad)* You two, into the gym, right now. Chad and Troy are my two, star players – you can't have them acting like idiots when they should be at practice! I'm trying to teach these kids about teamwork! *(mockingly)* Drama Queen.

COACH BOLTON

You bet it's nothing! In case you've forgotten, you have the biggest game of your life in two days. Get your head in the game Bolton. Your team is depending on you.

CHAD

Good. Because you can't expect the rest of us to be focused on the game if you're off somewhere singing in leotards. You're a hoops dude, not a *(beat)* musical singer person.

CHAD

Me too. *(pause)* I think. *(defeated)* What are we gonna do now? We can't let them quit. *(fighting for the cause)* We have to figure out a way for them do both.

RYAN

And they never even asked our permission to join the Drama Club. I mean, come on! Someone's got to tell that new girl the rules. Um. *(pause)* What are the rules again?

RYAN

Somebody here ought to chill out, sister. And it ain't me. We'll get the roles we want; we always do.

JACK SCOTT

(Like Wolfman Jack) Yo, yo, yo, Wildcats, this is Jack Scott, *(softening romantically)* the Velvet Fog of East High with a special announcement: *(nasal phone operator)* Please remember to sign up for the school musical, Juliet and Romeo, by, *(pause – now himself)* oooo, the one and only red-hot composer babe Kelsi Neilson. *(clears throat and back to Wolfman)* Be there or be square! *(Velvet Fog)* All for now, Peeps.

JACK SCOTT

(Wolfman) Well, Wildcats... it's time to *(sings tune to, "What I Did For Love")* *(Velvet Fog)* "Kiss today goodbye and point me toward detention." *(Wolfman)* So all you evil doers better get yourselves to the theatre immediately or face the wrath of Darbus the Merciless. *(Velvet Fog)* This is Jack Scott signing off.

MR. TENNY

10 to the negative 18th power? That's quite impossible. *(she checks her notes)* Well, Ms. Montez... I stand corrected. I'm very impressed. And *(pause)* welcome aboard!

GIRLS**GABRIELLA**

Oh, you know... my Mom took me on a ski trip. All I did was read. Well, uhm, actually, I did meet a boy. They threw a New Year's Eve party. (*dreamily*) It was like a dream.

GABRIELLA

At my other schools I was "the freaky math girl." (*can you believe it?*) That's all they thought I was... always pointing at me, whispering behind my back. They made me feel like I was a freak – (*sad*) and I hated it. So, that's kind of why I want to keep a low profile here, you know, so I can (*pause*) just be me.

GABRIELLA

Guess what? I don't want to do the callbacks, either! Who were we kidding? I'll do the Science Decathlon and you win your championship. It's where we belong. (*sarcastic*) Go Wildcats!

SHARPAY

(*Fake and snooty*) Troy is such a sweetheart, isn't he? He's the star of the basketball team, just like I'm the star of the Drama Club. We're perfect for each other, don't you think? (*calling after Troy*) Are we having lunch together, Troy? (*to herself*) He totally likes me!

SHARPAY

(*whining*) I'm not just talking about my role in the play, Ryan. I'm talking about my role in like... the school. I'm not a Jock, I'm not a Brainiac... (*dramatic*) I am the Star – (*serious*) that's my role. (*dramatic*) And if they take it away from me, (*philosophical*) who am I?

MS. DARBUS

(*With Shakespeare, every phrase must come to life with your expression. Make each word mean what it says. Use arm movements*)

(*Hark!*) "But, soft! (*what is that amazing light?*) What light through yonder window breaks? (*gasps*) It is the east, (*oh, what beauty*) and Juliet is the sun. (*calling loudly to her*) Arise, fair sun, (*dramatic*) and kill the envious moon, (*crying*) who is already sick and pale with grief.

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TAYLOR

Troy? I wouldn't consider myself an expert on that particular sub-species... unless you speak cheerleader, as in: *(Do cheer movements in a cutesy cheer voice with the following phrase)* "Isn't Troy Bolton just the hottie super bomb?"

TAYLOR

Wait. *(light bulb idea)* Halftime! *(no brainer)* Everybody takes a break! *(self-assured)* Leave everything to me. *(under her breath)* Let's just hope Darbus doesn't take a break.

KELSI

(a bit too excited but shy) If you want to rehearse, I'm usually in the music room during free period - and after school... and sometimes even during biology class. Call me on my cell phone and I'm there! Or if it's easier, I can give you a wakeup call and come over with my accordion... *(cheery)* it's mobile!

KELSI

But you have to give them a chance! They've been practicing all week and they're really, really good. It's what you're always talking about, like, reaching for the stars. That's what they're doing. Please. Just two more minutes. I'll go look for them.

MARTHA COX

Gabriella, you've changed my entire life! Hip-hop is my passion! *(do the movements on this video <https://youtu.be/Q0FzvELs8u8> to the following words)* I love to pop, lock, jam and break. It's just dancing. And the truth is, *(dreaming)* sometimes I think it's even cooler than homework!

MS. TENNY

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