

PARKS AND RECREATION
"TO BEE"

Written by

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Draft 2

CAST LIST:

Leslie
Ann
Ron
Tom
Andy
April
Ben
Jerry
Donna
Chris

Hipster Clerk
Middle schooler
Boy
Virginia
Elliot
Snake Hole Lounge Security
Teacher
Security guard
Elliot JR
Bartender
Judge

TEASER

The whole group is busy sitting at their desks typing away. Suddenly, ice cream truck music starts playing outside. ANDY gets up from behind APRIL'S desk.

ANDY

WHAT? WHEN DID WE GET AN ICE CREAM TRUCK? Babe, can I get some? Please babe, please???

APRIL

Oh my god babe, yes. Bring me back an ice cream sandwich.

ANDY

YES!

Andy runs out of the office, and immediately runs back inside.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Umm, may I have some monies for the umm... acquirement of... iced... cream??

April pulls out some cash from her purse.

ANDY (CONT'D)

YES! Babe, you're the best!

Andy runs out of the office.

APRIL (TALKING HEAD)

(April is holding DJ ROOMBA as it is playing ice cream truck music)
There is no ice cream truck. I just like messing with people. No one is safe.

LESLIE appears from behind the window.

LESLIE

HEY! WHERE'S THAT COMING FROM? ICE CREAM? WHERE ARE YOU?

April smiles menacingly.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. PAWNEE PARKS DEPT - MORNING

LESLIE KNOPE is sitting at her desk, excited as can be.

LESLIE (TALKING HEAD)
Tomorrow is a very exciting day.
It is the 50th annual Eagleton
Regional Middle School spelling
bee. Why is that so special to me?
Oh I don't know...

Leslie pulls out a massive trophy from under her desk.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Maybe because I won it 25 years
ago! And this year the Pawnee
Spellers have asked me to be their
coach, which they desperately need.
Because they're terrible. Ever
since I won, Pawnee students have
placed at the bottom every single
year. But not this year, because
they have a ringer.

Beat

It's me. I'm the ringer.

Muffled grumbling comes from under Tom's desk.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Who's there? SHOW YOURSELF!

TOM pulls a curtain from under his desk and crawls out. He looks disheveled and ill.

TOM
Leslie, could you please stop
yelling? And for the love of god,
could you turn of those lights?

LESLIE
Tom, that's the sun.

TOM
THEN TURN OFF THE SUN LESLIE!
DAMN! Can't you see I'm in pain?

Tom's ringtone goes off ("Turn Down for What") very loudly in his ear.

TOM (CONT'D)
Ahhhh! Who is texting me? Can't
they see that I'm in pain?!

Tom throws his phone across the room at Leslie.

LESLIE
You want me to-

TOM
Yes!

LESLIE
Ok.

Leslie picks up Tom's phone and pulls up the message. Tom is now facedown on the floor, moaning.

TOM
What's it say?

LESLIE
It says-

TOM
Quieter!

LESLIE
(Whispering)
"Hey you! I had a really great time. I was hoping to meet up again sometime if you're interested". Tom, did you hook up with a girl last night?

TOM
I don't remember anything from last night. What does it say her name was?

Leslie looks at the phone.

LESLIE
It says... Grblghtrher. She sounds cute.

TOM
Damn! This sucks. Drunk Tom hooks up with a hot chick, and can't put in her name in Tom's phone? Stupid drunk Tom!

LESLIE
Well she just said that she had a good time. Maybe you didn't hook up with her?

Tom looks directly into the camera.

TOM

If she says she had a good time, we hooked up.

LESLIE

You're gross.

TOM

No Leslie. I'm suave.

BEN enters the office, and Tom promptly vomits on his shoes. Tom sobs his way back under his desk.

BEN

Good morning Tom. Glad to see you're well. Leslie, are you ready?

LESLIE

R-E-A-D-Y!

BEN

...O ... K?

LESLIE

You can work on it on the way over.

LESLIE (TO CAMERA) (CONT'D)

We are heading over to Eagleton Middle School to get a lay of the land. Reminisce. R-E-M-I-N-I-S-C-E!

BEN

That will never get old.

LESLIE

O-L-D. Let's go!

Leslie runs out the door. Ben chases after, his shoes still covered in vomit.

EXT. SIDEWALK - MORNING

CHRIS is in his bumbleflex, stretching before a jog. He is looking through his iPod.

CHRIS (TALKING HEAD)

I have been informed by many, many people that my musical taste is sub-par, and that I should "broaden my horizons".

(MORE)

CHRIS (TALKING HEAD) (CONT'D)

I mean, who knew there was more out there than Bruce Springsteen and Miley Cyrus?

CHRIS (CONT'D)

(Singing)

Ain't about how fast I get there.
Ain't about what's waitin' on the other side. It's the climb.

Tears up.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

It's the climb... poignant. And, I have found this to be factually accurate when I'm literally climbing mountains.

Chris puts his iPod into his pocket, and it slips through a hole in his bumflex, smashing on the ground.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I have been betrayed... by bumflex.

INT. PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE - MORNING

Tom, wearing large sunglasses and earmuffs slowly walks out from his office looking at his cell phone.

JERRY

Tom, you look ridiculous.

TOM

Quiet Jerry! At least I don't have to go through life with your stupid face!

Jerry looks crestfallen.

TOM (CONT'D)

I'm sorry Jerry. I'm just bummed that drunk Tom may have hooked up with a really cute girl last night, but I'll never see her again.

JERRY

You know, when I first met Gale-

TOM

Dammit Jerry, I didn't ask for your life story!

JERRY

Ok.

Donna suddenly looks up.

DONNA

Why don't you think you'll see her again? Did you tell her that you were Kim and Kanye's baby-sitter again? Because I told you that'll never work.

TOM

No. I was too drunk to get her name, and I don't want to ask for it with a text. What do I do?

DONNA (TALKING HEAD)

I wouldn't normally help Tom with his silly problems, but I have been binge-watching Sherlock, so I kinda feel like unraveling a mystery. And Benedict Cumberbatch. Mmm....

DONNA (CONT'D)

Alright Tom. I'll help you find out who this woman is, on one condition.

TOM

Anything!

DONNA

You sit in the back seat of the Benz, and you bring a garbage can with you.

TOM

I'm not even that sick anym-

Tom throws up on the ground. He then picks up Jerry's personal garbage can.

TOM (CONT'D)

Alright, let's go! And pick this up Jerry, it smells terrible.

JERRY

But you-

TOM

I said pick. It. Up.

JERRY

Ok.

Tom and Donna exit. Jerry looks sad.

INT. EAGLE-TONE MUSIC STORE - DAY

Chris walks up to a clerk behind the counter.

CHRIS

Hello there! I was recently betrayed by bumbleflex, and was looking to buy a new MP3 player.

HIPSTER CLERK

... so you want an iPod?

CHRIS

Whatever you think is best!

Chris looks over and notices a poster labeled "DUKE SILVER ALBUM RELEASE PARTY: "RELEASE YOURSELF" out Nov. 18th. SOLD OUT!". He points at the poster and gives a shocked impression into the camera.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Excuse me, but do you know this man?

HIPSTER CLERK

Umm... no. Not really my demographic. I only listen to sub-alternative-psychedelic-grunge-big band-alternative.

CHRIS

You said alternative twice.

HIPSTER CLERK

...Yeah?

CHRIS

Well, this guy is literally, my best friend in the world.

HIPSTER CLERK

Great. Are you going to buy something?

Chris smiles and laughs.

CHRIS

You're adorable.

Chris walks over to the poster and pulls out his phone. He takes a picture of the poster and begins typing an email.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Look at our very own Ron Swanson, a musical superstar! Now to send it to all his friends at City Hall... there. I wonder why he never told me about this?

INT. RON'S OFFICE - DAY

A "new email" sound tweets in Ron's office. Ron looks at his computer. Suddenly, his eyes get huge and his face turns beat red. He smashes his computer against the floor, and runs out of his office into the Parks Department.

INT. PAWNEE PARKS DEPT - DAY

He runs around to everyone's desk and smashes their computers as well. He looks like a madman. APRIL, ANDY, and ANN are the only ones in the room. Andy stares in shock, mouth agape.

APRIL

That was awesome.

ANN

Umm... what the hell was that?

JERRY walks in holding his cell phone.

JERRY

Hey Ron, I just got Chris's e-mail. I had no idea you were-

Ron grabs Jerry's phone and smashes it on the ground, stomping on it.

RON

DAMMIT JERRY! WHO ELSE GOT THIS EMAIL? I WANT NAMES, JERRY!

JERRY

I... I think it went to every department in City Hall. I'd check again, but....

Jerry gestures to his phone. Ron leans down to pick up the pieces and tries to put the phone back together. He is unsuccessful.

RON
DAMMIT JERRY! YOU COULD HAVE BEEN
USEFUL FOR ONCE!

JERRY
But you-

RON
MOVE!

Ron pushes Jerry aside as he run's out the door. You see him run into the parking lot, and off into the distance.

INT. EAGLETON MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY

Leslie is walking onto the stage with BEN.

BEN
I can't believe their middle school
has a valet.

LESLIE
What did you expect? It's
Eagleton. So this is where it all
happened 25 years ago. I remember
it well. Nothing has changed.

BEN
The building looks brand new...

LESLIE
Well, they renovated this whole
building about 15 years ago when
the Eagleton Area School District
won the lottery, so the place is
completely different. But I'll
never forget that smell of the
stage. Of victory. Of-

ELLIOT CLEARWATER (Will Ferrell) enters.

ELLIOT
Defeat? Hello Leslie.

LESLIE
Who are you? How do you know my
name? Are you a demon? No Leslie.
Demons don't exist. Are you a
ghost?

ELLIOT

Don't you remember me? It's been 25 years, and I've lost 55 pounds, and my acne has migrated from my face to my back, but you don't remember me?

LESLIE

Could you stretch out your shirt and puff out your face?

Elliot obliges.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Gasp ELLIOT CLEARWATER!

ELLIOT

The very same!

They begin circling each other.

BEN

Umm, I don't mean to interupt... whatever this is, but how do you know this guy?

LESLIE

This is the sorry sucker I beat in the the spelling bee, all those years ago.

BEN

Oh, cool.

LESLIE

No Ben. Not cool. Not even a little.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

As I recall, this is the very spot I defeated your sorry butt 25 years ago to the day.

ELLIOT

Actually, after the renovations, and there being several leap years, we are six days off, and four feet away from the exact day and spot... but I digress.

LESLIE

What is it you're doing with yourself nowadays, Elliot?

ELLIOT

Funny you should ask. I was just hired on to be the Vice-Principal of the Eagleton Middle School.

LESLIE

Well good for you. That is a very accomplished position.

ELLIOT

YOU DON'T THINK I KNOW THAT? What are you doing here, Miss. Knope?

LESLIE

Just scouting out the best spot for a victory speech for whichever student takes the crown back to Pawnee where it belongs.

ELLIOT

Oh? You didn't hear?

LESLIE

What? Hear what?

ELLIOT

Pawnee wasn't invited to compete this year. You see, every since my... stunning defeat 25 years, 6 days, and four feet away ago, Pawnee students have not performed very well. At all. So in order to keep competition up, we opted to keep Pawnee out this year. You understand of course.

LESLIE

Keep Pawnee out? You're a lunatic!

ELLIOT

L-U-N-A-T-I-C LESLIE? AM I?

BEN

Ok, anyone else think this is bizarre?

LESLIE

B-I-Z-A-R-R-E? Yes, things have gotten a little out of control. What if I can prove to you that this years spellers are better? Would you let us compete tomorrow?

ELLIOT

T-O-M-O-R-R-O-W? How droll. The
"champion" is begging at my feet-

LESLIE

What? I'm not-

ELLIOT

BEGGING AT MY FEET! For a chance
to let her children play again.
Very well, Miss. Knope. I'll play
your little game. But if none of
your little urchins impress me,
consider Pawnee permanently banned
from the Eagleton Regional Spelling
Bee! Muah ha ha ha ha!

LESLIE

Jokes on you buddy. Come to the
Pawnee Gym this afternoon, and I'll
show you who's boss.

ELLIOT

Very well, Miss. Knope. Good day.

Leslie starts exiting, turns back.

LESLIE

So do I just give my ticket to the
valet, or-

ELLIOT

I SAID GOOD DAY!

INT. RON'S OFFICE - LATER

Chris walks into Ron's office. Ron is sitting with his back
turned to the window.

CHRIS

Ron Swanson! Just the man I wanted
to see. Why is your computer on
the floor?

April enters.

APRIL

Ron told me to give you this.

April hands Chris a letter. Chris reads it aloud.

CHRIS

"From the desk of Ron Swanson. To Whom it May Concern: You have wronged me. I will no longer be speaking to you from the date listed above, on. Now leave." Ron, I thought you were a musician, not a comedian!

APRIL

He told me to give you this as well.

April hands Chris another letter.

CHRIS

"I am not joking." Ron, you're serious? Is this about the e-mail? I just wanted to spread the joyous word about your successful endeavors. I didn't mean to wrong you.

APRIL

Ron also told me to do this until you leave.

April stands in front of Chris, gets really close to him, and pokes him in the chest repeatedly. He slowly backs out.

CHRIS

RON! I hope we can still be friends!

Chris is finally pushed out of Ron's office, and Ron pushes the button on his remote controlled door, closing it behind them.

INT. TOM'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Donna and Tom enter Tom's place. The place is a mess.

DONNA

What a dump.

TOM

I didn't ask you to critique my apartment. Now can we please just try and find clues. My beautiful princess is without her prince.

DONNA

Ok, the first thing we need to do is lower your expectations. You have no idea what this girl looks like, and if she hooked up with you, and you were as drunk as you claim to be, girl must have been pretty thirsty. Now, do you remember where you were last night?

TOM

Wow, thanks for the pep talk, Donna. And no, I don't. I know I started drinking my left over snake juice, and then it gets fuzzy from there.

Donna opens up the cupboard in the kitchen labeled "Snake Juice", and six empty bottles fall and shatter on the ground.

DONNA

Ok, A. I'm not cleaning that up, and B. How can your tiny body handle this all this poison?

TOM

Don't judge me!

Tom proceeds to dry heave. Donna stares in disgust.

TOM (CONT'D)

Screw this, I'm going to bed. Let me know if you find anything.

Tom walks into his bedroom. Donna looks on the counter and sees a receipt from the Snakehole Lounge dated for last night. She pockets it.

DONNA (TO CAMERA)

The game is afoot.

Donna starts walking out, but before she does, she steals some hand creams from a basket in Tom's living room.

INT. LESLIE'S OFFICE - DAY

Leslie is sitting at her desk. Ben is sitting on the chair across from her.

LESLIE

What are we going to do Ben?

BEN

Well, how bad can Pawnee students actually be at spelling?

LESLIE

Last year a kid misspelled "cat".

BEN

Wow.

LESLIE

He spelled it with a Q. And an X. AN X, BEN! I mean... where Ben? Where could there be an X in cat. WHERE?

BEN

Ok, so they can't all possibly be that bad. Maybe you'll find a diamond in the rough.

LESLIE

Maybe you're right... I can't give up hope. I'll call the school and set up a practice bee, and hopefully one kid can spell something right.

BEN

There she is. That's the Leslie I know.

Leslie smiles and picks up her phone and starts dialing.

LESLIE

An X Ben. Seriously. Like, how do you even-

Leslie rants as Ben looks concerned at the camera.

INT. PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE - DAY

Ron is making himself a cup of coffee as April, Andy, Donna, and Jerry sit at their desks, working. Chris walks in with a bag of food, and walks up to Ron.

CHRIS

Ron Swanson! Just the man I wanted to apologize to. It pained me to do it, but as a token of my sincerest apologies, I went to Paunch-Burger, and picked up some lunch for you.

(MORE)

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Two triple-decker hamburgers put into each other, quadruple bacon, extra barbecue sauce, and no veggies were made within a twenty-foot radius of the sandwich. Your favorite.

Chris hands the bag in Ron's direction. Ron stares blankly through Chris and sips his coffee. Chris awkwardly tries to insert the bag into Ron's unused hand. He lets go of the bag, and it falls on the floor. Everyone in the office stares in amazement, as Ron makes his way past Chris and enters his office, closing and locking the door behind him. Chris looks terrified.

CHRIS (TALKING HEAD) (CONT'D)

What have I done?

INT. PAWNEE MIDDLE SCHOOL - LATER

Leslie, Ben, April, and Andy are all walking to the auditorium. They arrive at the entrance and see a sign that says "Speling B Audituns". Leslie looks in disgust.

LESLIE

Well we're off to a great start.
Let's get this out of here before-

Elliot enters

ELLIOT

Well what do we have here? Hello Leslie. Shall we get this over with?

Elliot walks in.

LESLIE

What are we going to do guys? This is going to be bad.

ANDY

Oh! I'll go up first and spell things really bad. Then the kids will look really great.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(To camera)
They call that inverse...
dichotomy.

BEN

No, they don't. And it's not. But Leslie, you've got this. One of those kids has to be a decent speller. Just give them really simple words, and I'm sure you'll find one of them will surprise you.

APRIL

Or they will all be terrible and you'll be the biggest disappointment in Pawnee spelling bee history.

LESLIE

Why are you even here?

APRIL

Ron smashed my computer on the ground, so I can't even look like I'm doing something. Plus, I can sell these kids cigarettes for way more than they are worth.

ANDY

Good thinking babe. Kids are so dumb.

LESLIE

April, you are not selling kids cigarettes. And no Andy, these kids are not dumb.

MIDDLE SCHOOLER walks by and interrupts.

MIDDLE SCHOOLER

Hey, can one of you guys tie my shoes?

Camera pans down to reveal he is wearing Velcro shoes.

ANDY

Let me help you out there champ.

Andy bends down and starts trying to tie his shoes, but he looks puzzled as to how the straps work.

LESLIE

Alright guys, lets go.

Leslie, Ben, and April leave Andy behind with the middle schooler.

ANDY

Guys! Wait up! I've almost got this! Just put the rabbit through the hole and... oh boy.

It is revealed that Andy has ripped the straps off the boys shoes. Andy starts to remove his shoes.

ANDY (CONT'D)

What size are you?

INT. PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE - DAY

Donna is sitting at her desk. She is on the phone.

DONNA

-and could you make sure you delete all the footage from last night? Because I am part owner, that's why. Who the heck are you? Just get it done.

Donna puts her phone down and dials another number.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Hey Tom? It's Donna. Were you at the Snakehole Lounge last night? How about we swing by there and see if we can find something on the security cameras? Tomorrow? Alright. Suit yourself.

Jerry enters.

JERRY

Donna, thank god your here! When I was cleaning up Tom's mess, a little got on my hand, and now I think I'm sick and need to go to the hosp-

DONNA

I'm on the phone.

JERRY

Ok.

Jerry sits at his desk.

DONNA

Alright get better Tom. See you tomorrow.

Donna hangs up.

JERRY

Ok Donna, now can you please-

DONNA

Can't you see I'm busy Jerry?

JERRY

Oh ok.

Donna flips through magazines. Jerry passes out at his desk.

INT. RON'S OFFICE - DAY

Ron is sitting at his desk on his type writer. Suddenly there is a sound of a rock hitting his window. Ron walks over to his window to reveal Chris in the courtyard holding DJ Roomba above his head playing "Say Something". Ron closes his blinds. Chris's audible sob is heard from Ron's office. Ron gives a slight smirk.

INT. PAWNEE AUDITORIUM - DAY

Twenty-five Pawnee children are lined up on stage. Leslie, Ben, and Elliot are sitting at a judges table, while April and Andy are sitting in the seats.

LESLIE

Thank you all for coming out here on such short notice. Such a big turn out! Today, as you are all aware, you are attempting to qualify for the Eagleton regional spelling bee.

MALE STUDENT

Wait, I thought this was auditions for "Oklahoma"?

LESLIE

No, this is for the spelling bee. If you'd like to audition for the spelling bee, you can stay and try out though.

Every student leaves except for one girl.

ELLIOT

Well Leslie, I have to say that the odds are stacked against you.

(MORE)

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Maybe you should just quit while you still have one shred of dignity.

LESLIE

D-I-G-N-I-T-Y. And no, Elliot, I won't quit. That would set a bad example for this girl. Let's just give her a shot.

Ben smiles.

ELLIOT

Very well. GIRL! State your name for the record.

VIRGINIA

It's Virginia.

ELLIOT

Alright Virginia. Spell "Dog".

VIRGINIA

Dog. D-O-G. Dog.

Andy pages through a dictionary.

ANDY

She's right!

ELLIOT (TO LESLIE)

Well I'm already surprised. I heard that last year a boy misspelled "cat" with an-

LESLIE

I remember the X, Elliot. Spell "Tree".

VIRGINIA

Tree. T-R-E-E. Tree.

Andy fumbles through the dictionary again.

ANDY

She's right again!

LESLIE

Alright, Virginia. Spell "Waffles"

VIRGINIA

Waffles. J-J-S-D-I-N-E-R.
Waffles.

ELLIOT

Ha! That's not even close!

Leslie stares up at Virginia in awe.

LESLIE

No. That was perfect.

ELLIOT

What? Spell "onomatopoeia".

Audible gasps from everyone in the auditorium.

LESLIE

No, she's too young! That's a ridiculous-

VIRGINIA

Onomatopoeia. O-N-O-M-A-T-O-P-O-E-I-A. Onomatopoeia.

Andy ruffles through dictionary.

ANDY

Holy shit!

LESLIE

Alright, she spelled your ridiculous word. Can she please be in the spelling bee tomorrow?

ELLIOT

...Fine. Bee starts at 8. Don't grasp at straws, Leslie. You never know what you'll find.

Elliot starts to exit.

BEN

What?

ELLIOT

I SAID GOOD DAY!

INT. CHRIS'S OFFICE - MORNING

Chris looks absolutely terrible sitting at his desk. His posture is bad, his hair is a mess, and he is wearing the same clothes as the day before.

CHRIS (TALKING HEAD)

I... was unable to sleep last night....

(MORE)

CHRIS (TALKING HEAD) (CONT'D)

My body needs to recharge... or
else... I can't... function...
Ron... needs to accept my...
apology... before... before...

Chris stares blankly at the his computer screen, silently.
Suddenly, he shakes back into awareness.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I need to talk to Ron.

INT. EAGLETON MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTRANCEWAY - MORNING

Leslie, Ben, April, and Andy enter the middle school. It is
a bustling place with people preparing for the event. Andy
see's the trophies, which are each 5 feet tall.

ANDY

Holy crap! Those things are huge!
(To Leslie)
Is it too late to sign up?

TEACHER

Actually, these are for members of
the audience. Here at Eagleton,
literally everyone is a winner!

Leslie rolls her eyes as Andy gets the happiest look on his
face.

LESLIE

Hi, we are here to register for
Pawnee Middle School.

TEACHER

Oh, you're from Pawnee? I was told
by Vice-Principal Clearwater to
give you these once you got here.

She reaches into a bag and pulls out several buttons that say
"LOSERS" on them.

BEN

But I thought you said that
everyone was a winner.

TEACHER

At Eagleton, yes.

She smiles blankly at them.

APRIL

I love you.

Teacher looks very uncomfortable by that statement as April stares at her with huge eyes. Leslie grabs the pins.

LESLIE

Come on guys, lets go.

They start heading out, but as they pass the table, Andy sneaks back and steals a trophy. He runs after them.

INT. SNAKEHOLE LOUNGE - DAY

Tom and Donna walk up to a bartender at the dimly-lit club.

BARTENDER

What can I grab for... hey, you look familiar...

TOM

Well maybe you've seen my fliers for my new line of men's shaving cream specifically for "down there" called "Australia". You know, because it's "down unda".

Donna rolls her eyes.

BARTENDER

Nope. You're the guy from a couple of nights ago who got in an argument with a urinal.

Donna laughs.

DONNA

Really?

TOM

I thought it was a Miami Heat fan.

DONNA

Listen, about the other night when he was here making a fool of himself. We were actually hoping that we could take a look at the security camera footage from that night.

TOM

I might have hooked up with a hot girl, but I don't remember what she looks like.

BARTENDER

You were screaming at a urinal about how it was being selfish about LeBron, and how it was only a fair weather fan. No offense dude, but girls don't go home with guys who do that. Like ever.

DONNA

We didn't ask for your opinion, we asked to see the security camera footage. Now I am a part-owner of this place, and you will show me to your security room. Now.

BARTENDER

...Right away miss.

Tom holds Donna back.

TOM

Donna, that was awesome.

DONNA

Don't talk to me, Heat hater. And LeBron can go where he pleases, but he won't get a ring anywhere else. He knows what he did.

Donna walks away, Tom is left speechless.

DONNA (CONT'D)

(Talking Head)

I have no idea what I'm talking about. I just needed him to know who's boss.

INT. EAGLETON MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY

Leslie, Ben, Andy, April, and Elliot are sitting in the front row, to the left of the judges. We are well in to the competition, as there are only three kids left on stage, including Virginia.

LESLIE

(Whispering to camera)

Virginia is doing so well. She's spelled words I could never spell at her age. I think Elliot is about ready for a piece of H-U-M-B-L-E space P-I-E.

ANDY

Did you say something about pie?

The judges cough and look at Andy and Leslie as Elliot shakes his head.

ANDY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, but who doesn't get excited about pie?

The judges look back at the spellers.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Geez... but seriously Leslie, if you have some pie, and you're not telling me, I'd be pretty upset.

LESLIE

There is no pie, Andy.

ANDY

UGH! Now I really want pie! Thanks for nothing, Leslie.

JUDGE

That is incorrect. I'm sorry, but you are eliminated. We are now down to our last two spellers. Will you two please step up to the front please.

One kid walks off the stage as Virginia and a boy steps up to the front.

JUDGE (CONT'D)

Congratulations on making it to the final round! Could you two please step up to the microphone and introduce yourselves, tell us where you're from, and tell us what you want to be when you grow up.

Virginia walks up to the microphone.

VIRGINIA

My name is Virginia, I'm from Pawnee-

Audible gasps from the audience. A baby starts crying as one family gets up and leaves. Elliot looks over at Leslie and smirks. Leslie disregards it and smiles at Virginia, giving her a thumbs up.

VIRGINIA (CONT'D)

-and I want to be an
Anesthesiologist when I grow up.

She backs up as the boy walks up.

ELLIOT JR.

Hi, my name is Elliot Clearwater
Jr, I'm from Eagleton-

Huge round of applause from the audience as Leslie gasps and looks at Elliot, who leans back in his chair looking victorious.

ELLIOT JR. (CONT'D)

-and I want to be the Vice-
Principal of Eagleton someday, like
my dad.

ELLIOT

That's my boy!

LESLIE

(Talking Head)
What the what?

EXT. RON'S CABIN - DAY

Ron is outside chopping wood. Suddenly, Chris appears behind him.

CHRIS

We need to talk.

RON

Jesus! Where did you come from?

CHRIS

I walked.

RON

Why are you so wet? It didn't rain
today.

CHRIS

It's flop sweat. May I sit down?

RON

I don't have any cha-

Chris collapses on the ground.

CHRIS

This is fine, thank you. I was hoping you would accept my apology, for as you can see, I am going to be miserable until you do. I can't sleep. I can't eat. I tried to run a marathon today, but I could only muster a measly 20 K. This is serious, Ron.

RON

I'm sorry you're not feeling well, but I cannot accept your apology. You have taken one of my greatest joys away from me, and made me a laughing stock at work. There is nothing you can do to make up for that.

CHRIS

What if I gave up running super-ultra marathons? They are 500 mile runs ran by 6 people every other year. Would we be even then? Ron?

Ron's door closes as he has went inside.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I guess I'll wait here for your answer then.

INT. SECURITY OFFICES - DAY

A security guard is looking through the tapes with Donna and Tom.

SECURITY GUARD

Yeah, I remember having to kick you out a little after midnight. You would have been banned if you weren't such a regular here.

TOM

I know. I'm sorry.

SECURITY GUARD

And you should really try and apologize to that urinal. You really hurt it's feelings.

TOM

Ha ha, very funny.

SECURITY GUARD

Well, here is the camera from about that time by the door. And there's you, trying to get the bouncer to let you back in. And then it looks like you started crying.

TOM

I'm starting to wonder how any woman decided to go home with drunk Tom.

SECURITY GUARD

Well there is a woman coming up to you know. Let me pause it... and zoom... hey, it kinda looks like-

TOM

DONNA!

DONNA

I told you guys to delete this yesterday.

TOM

Donna what the hell? Why would you lead me on this wild goose chase when it was you the whole time?

DONNA

It was the perfect crime. No one would suspect that the criminal I was looking for was me all along.

TOM

But wait... I already have your number in my phone... how did you text me from an unknown number?

DONNA

Elementary, my dear Tomson.

INT. PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE - LATER

Donna is at her desk, alone.

DONNA

(Talking head)

I have my own family plan, with three phones I give the numbers out to people I don't want to talk to, and they auto text my contacts list every so often.

(MORE)

DONNA (CONT'D)

That way, they think I'm still staying in touch, and I never have to see them, or really talk to them, ever again. This one is for one night stands, this one is for people I loathe, and this one... well this one's just cute.

INT. SECURITY OFFICES - DAY

TOM

I can't believe you Donna. Here I thought I had done something right, but it turns out I'm just as alone as I ever was. I'm leaving.

DONNA

Tom, wait-

Tom abruptly exits. Donna sighs.

SECURITY GUARD

And apologize to that urinal before you leave.

Donna gives him a stern look.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

It's sensitive.

INT. EAGLETON MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

The spelling bee continues.

ELLIOT JR.

I-T-Y. Principality.

JUDGE

Correct.

ELLIOT

YEAH! THAT'S MY BOY!

LESLIE

Calm down. That was an easy one.

JUDGE

Alright Virginia. Your word is "Emancipation".

VIRGINIA
Emancipation. E-M-M-A-N-C-I-P-A-T-I-O-N. Emancipation.

JUDGE
I'm sorry, but that is incorrect.

LESLIE
No!

ELLIOT
YEAH BABY! WOO! Take that Leslie!
Take that all the way back to
Pawnee and suck it!

LESLIE
I would never suck anything. You
suck it!

Ben looks sad.

JUDGE
If you guys don't mind, were not
done yet. Elliot Jr. still has to
spell another word correctly to be
the winner.

LESLIE
Sorry.

ELLIOT
You should be.

LESLIE
Shut your mouth.

JUDGE
Shh! Elliot, your word is "niece".

ELLIOT
Ha! That's an easy one! You've
got this son!

ELLIOT JR.
Niece. N-E-I-C-E. Niece.

JUDGE
I'm sorry, but that's incorrect.

LESLIE
Ha! Take that Elliot! I before E,
except after you suck it!

BEN

Could we please stop talking about sucking things. There are children here.

JUDGES

Alright, now if you spell this word correctly, you win. Your word is "Tomorrow".

VIRGINIA

Tomorrow. T-O-M-O-R-R-O-W.
Tomorrow.

JUDGE

That is... correct.
Congratulations Virginia. You are this years Eagleton Regional Spelling Bee Champi-

ELLIOT

No! Not again! I won't let this most sacred of trophies be won by a filthy Pawnee! I demand a do-over!

LESLIE

It's over Elliot. She won. Come on Virginia. Let's get out of here.

VIRGINIA

Umm... I'm going back with my family.

LESLIE

Oh. That's right. Sorry.

ELLIOT

Alright Leslie. Lets do this. For all the marbles. Street bee! Street bee! Street bee!

LESLIE

You wanna go, huh? Alright. Let's do this. Street bee rules.

The crowd starts chanting "Street bee, street bee" as Leslie and Elliot get on stage, taking the mic out of the stand and pushing Virginia to the side. Ben has his hands over his face as April and Andy go to town on a box of popcorn.

APRIL

I fucking love spelling bees.

INT. CHRIS'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Chris is sitting at his desk looking deeply into a blank screen. A janitor sweeps around him and moves him around on his swivel chair as he sweeps where he was sitting. Chris is completely motionless. As the janitor leaves, you can hear faint saxophone music coming from down the halls. Ron enters in full Duke Silver gear.

CHRIS

(faintly)

Hello Ron. Have you come to watch me die.

RON

No Chris. I would like to apologize to you. When you came out to my cabin and tried to apologize to me, you really showed your true colors as a good man. I now realize that I should not hide my passion of music, and you were instrumental to getting me out there. So for that, I thank you.

CHRIS

So does that mean...

RON

Yes. Chris, I accept your apo-

Chris immediately falls asleep at his desk. Ron then softly plays "Rockabye Baby" as he slowly backs out of Chris's office.

INT. EAGLETON MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - LATER

Many of the audience members have left as Leslie and Elliot are still going at it on stage. Virginia and Elliot Jr. are standing on the side of the stage, watching in both embarrassment and awe as the two spell it out. Ben, April, and Andy are just waiting for this to get over with.

LESLIE

Easy. G-R-A-D-U-A-T-I-O-N.
Harassment!

ELLIOT

You want me to spell it out for you? H-A-R-A-S-S-M-E-N-T!
Sanitation!

LESLIE

I'm going to wipe the floor with that word! S-A-N-I-T-A-T-I-O-N! Sorcerer!

ELLIOT

They call me Harry Potter, 'cause I spell so good. S-O-R-C-E-R-E-R! Embarrassment!

LESLIE

Like I'm going to embarrass you? E-M-B....

Leslie then looks over at Virginia and Elliot Jr, who are talking and laughing. Leslie sighs.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Stop. Just stop. Look at us. We are embarrassing ourselves over something that happened 25 years ago. We need to set a better example for our kids.

VIRGINIA

I'm not your kid.

LESLIE

I know that.

ELLIOT

Your right Leslie. I'm not ashamed to admit that I may have behaved a bit... boorish. Be that as it may, your student won fair and square. I'm going to permanently allow Pawnee students in to the spelling bee from now on. Deal?

LESLIE

Deal.

BEN

Great. Can we go now?

LESLIE

Yes Ben. Let's go.

Everyone gets up and starts to walk towards the door, except for Elliot and his son, who are still on stage. Leslie stops right before she gets to the door.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Hey Elliot. E-M-B-A-R-R-A-S-S-M-E-N-T! Suck on that!

ELLIOT

KNOOOOOOOOOOPPPPEEEEEEE!!!!

LESLIE

(Talking head)

I think we did a lot of good today. Virginia showed these Eagleton brats that we Pawneeans can keep up with them on everything. Except body mass. And general IQ. And they test higher. Nope. I'm going to focus on the good. One step at a time. I'm just glad we made some progress today. And maybe even a new friend.

ELLIOT

(Talking head)

I still think she's a bitch.

EXT. TOM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Tom opens the door after hearing a knock. It's Donna.

TOM

Are you here to give me a fake apology for the fake cell phone number you gave me that belonged to my fake girlfriend?

DONNA

No, Tom. I'm here to actually apologize. I'm really sorry. I just wanted you to feel like you got a win. You've obviously been feeling pretty lonely lately. I thought that if you felt like you did get a girl, you'd get the confidence to actually go out and get one instead of drink away your chances.

TOM

It's cool Donna. You know me. I may be down for a bit, but I'm never out. Thanks for looking out.

DONNA

You're welcome Tom. And here.
It's a real number that belongs to
a friend of mine that I think you
would get along with. She's cute,
and single.

TOM

Those are the only things I look
for! Thanks Donna! You're the
best!

DONNA

Have a good night, Tom.

DONNA (CONT'D)

(Talking head)

Yeah, it's a fake. I would never
hurt any of my girls like that. Are
you kidding me?

TAG

INT. CHRIS'S OFFICE - MORNING

Chris is still asleep in his office. Leslie enters.

LESLIE

Chris it looks like the budget you
gave us is-

Leslie notices that Chris is out.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

(whispering)

I'll come back later, sweet prince.

She shuts the door quietly.

INT. PAWNEE PARKS DEPT - MORNING

Jerry is still asleep at his desk. Leslie walks in.

LESLIE

LOOK ALIVE JERRY! This is no time
to be sleeping. You're at work!

Jerry is startled awake, still looking ill. He vomits a
little on his desk.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

You disgust me. Clean yourself up
and get back to work, Jerry.

Leslie goes into her office. Jerry looks confused, but goes
back to work.

END TAG