

NED:

Do we have to do this now?

PATTY:

Yes, he trashed the house again, I'm sick of it!

NED:

He's lived here a long time.

PATTY:

What does that mean? He's been here longer than me so I matter less?

NED:

No, Patty-cake, of course not, it's just—we went to High School together, we were in a band together.
He's my best friend.

PATTY:

He's not your friend. He's a freeloader, Ned, and he never pays rent. He takes advantage of you. He's
rude to me, and it's time he paid some rent!

NED:

Waking him up in the morning is a bad idea. It's like using a beehive as a piñata—it's dangerous!

PATTY:

You can't live your life letting people push you around. Go! Do it!

NED:

Dewey. Dewey? Dewey!

PATTY:

Wake up, Dewey! Time to get up!

DEWEY

The point is, today you can just chill out. We'll start on the teaching crapola tomorrow. Take recess.
Have fun. Leave me alone. You. Lucy Lui.

SUMMER:

Summer Hathaway. Do you have any questions about our schedule? Mrs. Dunham starts with vocabulary followed by a word quiz, then she divides us into reading groups—

DEWEY:

Don't you see that Mrs. Dum-dum is not your teacher today? I am. And I say it's time for recess.

SUMMER:

My parents don't spend fifty thousand dollars a year for recess.

DEWEY:

Fifty thousand dollars?

SUMMER:

Mr. Schneeibly. Come with me. This poster tracks our achievements. We get gold stars for how we do in class.

DEWEY:

What kind of sick school is this? This is a tool of The Man! The man is everywhere! Don't you know who the Man is? Ms. Mullins is the Man. The man is responsible for global warming, tuxedos, Jar Jar Binks and the Kardashians. You're supposed to fight him! With Rock'n'Roll and spirit and everything you've got to give!

SUMMER:

That's all very well, but how can we be graded or get any gold stars today, if we just have recess?

DEWEY:

Now, listen! As long as I'm here, there will be no grades and no gold stars and absolutely no achievements! We're gonna have recess all the time! Geddit? Now re-cess! Go!

SUMMER:

We'll see what Ms. Mullins has to say about this.

DEWEY:

May-Meh May Meh May! No, we won't. Now go!

LAWRENCE:

Mr. Schneebly, can I speak with you a moment?

DEWEY:

What up homey?

LAWRENCE:

I don't think I should be in the band.

DEWEY:

Why not?

LAWRENCE:

I'm not cool. People in bands are cool. I'm not cool.

DEWEY:

Dude, you're cool. The way you play? Why do you say you're not cool?

LAWRENCE:

Nobody ever talks to me. I have no friends. Except Tomika, and she doesn't speak.

DEWEY:

Those days are over. Trust me.

LAWRENCE:

You don't understand what it's like. You're too cool.

DEWEY:

Hey! Come back here! Pop a squat next to papa. You think I don't understand what it's like? To be fat and lonely, to have no friends, to be left out of everything? Believe me, kid, I understand better than you know.

LAWRENCE:

I never said I was fat.

DEWEY:

Fat or thin, by the time I'm done with you, you'll be so cool you'll be a walking popsicle. You'll be King Cool of all you survey.

ROSALIE

Mr. Schneebly, I've been thinking—

DEWEY

I wish you'd call me Dewey.

ROSALIE

Why would I call you Dewey?

DEWEY:

Ned! Dewey's my other name. My middle name. Ned Dewey Schneebly.

ROSALIE

Some people are born lucky. So is there a Mrs. Ned Dewey?

DEWEY:

Noooo! No! I'm not really in the financial position to date right now. Most girls end up wanting me to be something that I'm not. Like handsome...You know what, I'm going to put on a random song.

ROSALIE:

You know this is the first time a teacher has ever asked me to do anything outside of school.

DEWEY:

Really?

ROSALIE

It's true. Not in six years.

DEWEY

I bet they're just intimidated.

ROSALIE

It's not that. They hate me.

DEWEY:

They do not.

ROSALIE

Yes, they do. You know, I was fun once. Funny even. But you can't be funny and a principal because when it comes to their kids, people have nooooo sense of humour.

HAMILTON-FREDDY-TOMIKA-WILLIAMS-SPENCER-MOONEYHAM-ZACH

HAMILTON

I don't believe it. More music? Should I tell you what my homework was? Or how I had to chop wood and bring it in when I finished? Jeez, Freddy, if I had your life...

FREDDY

Ok, I get the message.

HAMILTON

No, you don't. Do you even know why I'm paying for this school? So you can have any career you choose.

FREDDY

I choose or you choose?

HAMILTON

Pick up that hammer and get to some real work.

TOMIKA

But I don't fit in, I miss my old school.

SPENCER

But we love your new school!

WILLIAMS

Your old school was falling apart. Do you know how long we were on the waiting list for Horace Green?

TOMIKA

But I miss my friends.

SPENCER

Don't be silly! You can make friends anywhere you go.

TOMIKA

They're so much smarter than me!

SPENCER

No one is smarter than you, Tomika. No one is better than you.

WILLIAMS.

And how cute do you look in that uniform.

TOMIKA

But I don't know how to talk to anyone—

SPENCER

Tomika, we know what's best for you.

MOONEYHAM

(on phone)

Look. I'm not asking anymore, just get it done.

ZACH

Hey, Dad. You won't believe the day we had—

MOONEYHAM

What did I say when Daddy's on the phone?

ZACH

You're working.

MOONEYHAM

I'm working. (back to phone) Hey, Jim? I want ten thousand shares in Northbrook Chemicals. Never mind why. I know what I know. Just do it.

ZACH

You talk all the time. But you never listen

MS SHEINKOPF

Ms. Mullins, when will he be here?

ROSALIE

I told him we begin at eight forty

MS SHEINKOPF

But it's nine forty-five

ROSALIE

Let's hope he arrives before ten.

MS SHEINKOPF

And will he fit in?

ROSALIE

His resume is very impressive. Can you take care of them until he arrives.

MS SHEINKOPF

Get back! All of you! Now!

(A little girl runs on)

ROSALIE

No running!

(The little girl begins to cry.)

ROSALIE

Don't cry. Do you want to hug?

(Child screams)

ROSALIE

But I—