



Episode #04

"Civil War"

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Directed by:

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COLD OPEN**FADE IN:**

[Establishing shot of E Building. Marlowe is trying to play a video to his class. But it seems like he can't play it at all.]

INT. MARLOWE'S ROOM**MR. MARLOWE**

Hey guys... Does anyone know how to play this DVD on my desktop?

[Camera zooms out, and pans to the entire class. The entire class is looking at Krishna and the camera zooms in. Krishna whispers to John.]

KRISHNA

Why does everyone assume that I can fix technology?

JOHN

I mean you're the IT Guy.

KRISHNA

I'm not even in the IT program. I'm in Digital Media.

JOHN

Still doesn't change the fact you can fix any technology devices.

[Camera pans back to Marlowe]

MR. MARLOWE

Krishna, if you would be so kind, can you please fix my computer?

[Camera cuts to Krishna, who stands up]

KRISHNA

Yeah I can help.

[Goes to the computer and starts working on it. He starts mocking John and Marlowe in an Indian accent]

KRISHNA

And while we're at it, why don't you get me an arranged marriage and a job at a call center?

RAYAN TALKING HEAD
EXT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

RAYAN

Krishna is the I.T. guy, well that's what everyone calls him. It's because he's great with computers and a genius when it comes technology... or it's because he's Ind-

[Rayan gets a text from Krishna]

RAYAN

See? He fixed my laptop

[Rayan shows his phone to the camera, where Krishna texted him saying "Fixed your laptop, nerd"]

INT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

[Everyone is on their laptops. Jolena comes up to Krishna with her laptop.]

JOLENA

Hey Krishna. Can you check my Wi-Fi? It says it's connected, but I can't go to any of the pages.

KRISHNA

Yeah... Just line them up right here.

[Camera zooms out to see a bunch of laptops lined up on Krishna's desk. Jolena goes over to the end of the line and puts her laptop there.]

KRISHNA TALKING HEAD
EXT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

KRISHNA

I wish I went into the medical program and become a doctor.

[Pauses.]

KRISHNA

But then I would have to fix people.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. WCTA LIBRARY

[Michelle is talking to Crysty-Ann and Jolena at a table. Camera pans over to see Lucas coming in with a paper in his hand]

LUCAS

Michelle

[Lucas hands over a slip. It's from the counselor.]

LUCAS

Mr. Martin wants to see you.

MICHELLE

Oh okay.

[Camera cuts to Michelle taking the note and stands up to leave.]

MICHELLE

Be right back.

[Michelle leaves. Camera pans over as she leaves. Camera pans back to Lucas, Crysty-Ann, and Jolena.]

JOLENA

Hey Lucas. Are we going to do it then?

LUCAS

Yeah Shaun said he was going to tell Marlowe today.

[Crysty-Ann looks confused]

CRYSTY-ANN

What's goin-

[Jolena and Lucas ignore her]

JOLENA

Have you asked him today?

LUCAS

Nope.

JOLENA

Let's go ask him right now.

[Jolena stands up and leaves with Lucas. Camera zooms in on Crysty-Ann's face.]

CRYSTY-ANN

What?

INT. SWEIKERT'S ROOM

[Rayan is working on his laptop. Emmett comes in and sits next to Rayan.]

EMMETT

Rayan.

RAYAN

Yeah?

EMMETT

They posted info about the National Political Debate Competition on the bulletin board.

[Camera cuts to Emmett's side. Rayan turns to Emmett.]

RAYAN

They did.

EMMETT

Yeah. You want me to sign us up?

RAYAN

Yeah... do it!

[Camera cuts to Rayan's side. Emmett runs off]

RAYAN TALKING HEAD

EXT. SWEIKERT'S ROOM

RAYAN

The National Political Debate Competition is one of the biggest debate tournaments in the world. We represented West Tech and won the State competition for the past 3 years. We haven't won Nationals yet, but we will this year.

[Rayan pulls out the 3 photographs of Rayan, Antonio, Emmett, and John winning the competition for the past 3 years]

RAYAN

We called ourselves "The Master Debaters." It's cool. Emmett had something else planned. It was something stupid.

[Rayan thinks about it and then remembers.]

RAYAN

Oh yeah... The Fantastic Four. Terrible team name. They don't even have a good movie yet. Why would we even associate with them?

INT. A BUILDING

[Michelle is leaving Mr. Martin's room. Camera zooms in on a letter that she has in her hands. Camera pans upward to her face. She sees the camera and then tells the camera non-verbally to go outside]

MICHELLE TALKING HEAD

EXT. A BUILDING

MICHELLE

So I just received a letter from the Great Basin College. They have selected a bunch of students throughout the state and offer them a chance to graduate early and enter their college. And I...

[Michelle shows the letter to the camera]

MICHELLE

Got selected. Not sure if I want to do this now. I mean I'll have to move...

[Michelle looks away from the camera and stares off into the distance]

MICHELLE

And leave everyone here behind.

[Camera zooms in on Michelle's face, looking conflicted]

INT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

[Emmett walks in and sees Shaun at the sign-up board.]

EMMETT

Shaun? What are you doing?

[Camera cuts to Emmett's side]

SHAUN

Just signing up for the Debate.

[Camera cuts to Shaun's side. Emmett starts chuckling.]

EMMETT

No. Really. What are you doing? I'm

[Camera cuts to Emmett's side. Shaun shows him the sign-up sheet.]

SHAUN

For the National Political Debate Competition.

[Camera cuts to Shaun's side. You see Emmett's face turn from happy to shocked. He snatches the sign-up sheet from Shaun.]

EMMETT

What? No no no...We already have a team. Rayan's team.

[Camera cuts to an over-the-shoulder shot of Emmett looking at the list. The list has Shaun, Antonio, Jolena, and Lucas. Camera cuts back to Shaun's side.]

EMMETT

And Antonio is part of our team! Not yours.

[Camera cuts to Emmett's side.]

SHAUN

Rayan's team have represented our school 3 times. It's time for new faces to show up.

[Shaun takes back the sign-up sheet from Emmett.]

SHAUN

And for the record, Antonio came to us.

[Camera cuts to Shaun's side]

EMMETT

Pshh... Like Antonio would come to you.

[Camera cuts to Emmett's side.]

SHAUN

It's true. He said he felt like he was the only one who put in the effort to actually debate the other teams. I mean... you guys never made it past Nationals!

[Camera cuts to Shaun's side.]

EMMETT

Yeah...we know that, but this year, we're gonna win Nationals!

[Emmett takes back the sign-up sheet and grabs a pencil and starts erasing the names for Shaun's team. Shaun tries to take the sign-up sheet back and struggles with Emmett.]

SHAUN

You can't do that... It's first come, first serve!

EMMETT

Not if you want to make sure the school wins Nationals!

[They continue to struggle.]

EMMETT

Shaun...you imbecile!

(Shaun and Emmett continue to bicker mindlessly)

[Camera pans over Noah entering the room and seeing Emmett and Shaun fighting. Noah looks at the camera, irritated and the camera zooms in. He turns around and leaves.]

INT. SWEIKERT'S ROOM

[Antonio comes to the door. Camera pans over to Rayan who is still working on his laptop. Camera pans back to Antonio who sees Rayan. Antonio is about to go back and turns around when JC comes behind him. Camera zooms in on them.]

JC

Hey Antonio! Did you see that football game?

[Camera cuts to JC's side. Antonio looks anxious. Camera zooms in on Rayan who turns around and sees Antonio.]

ANTONIO

JC, I don't watch football.

[Camera cuts to Antonio's side. Antonio tries to leave, but JC stops him.]

JC

Yes you do. You told me you wanted the Cardinals to win last Friday.

[Camera cuts to JC's side. Rayan starts walking towards to Antonio.]

ANTONIO

I wasn't talking about those Cardinals.

[Camera cuts to Antonio's side.]

JC

There's another Cardinals team?

ANTONIO

No JC!

[Camera cuts to JC's side. Rayan is right behind Antonio at this point.]

ANTONIO

Look... I have to go. I need to-

RAYAN

Antonio.

[Antonio stops. Camera cuts to Rayan's side. Antonio turns around to face Rayan, looking fearful.]

ANTONIO

Yeah?

RAYAN

You ready for the debate?

ANTONIO

Uhh...yeah. Of course.

RAYAN

We should make a plan. Figure out what we need to say. I mean... We got to win natio-

ANTONIO

Um... I actually have to go.

[Camera cuts to Antonio's side.]

Such Great heights by the postal service I have oskei Iskek iskej oskwo ;aek opso jg isekd lei j

RAYAN

Oh... Where?

[Camera cuts to Rayan' side.]

ANTONIO

Uh... I need to see...umm, Izzy.

IZZY

I'm right here.

[Camera pans over to Izzy, who was sitting behind a computer and is now standing up.]

IZZY

What do you need?

[Camera pans back to Antonio.]

ANTONIO

Umm...I was just...wondering... Where you were.

[Camera pans back to Izzy.]

IZZY

Umm.. okay.

[Camera cuts to Antonio's side.]

RAYAN

Okay well since that's settled, let's start working on that plan. I'm sure John's in the ba-

[Camera cuts to Rayan's side.]

ANTONIO

Actually Rayan, there's something I need to tell you.

[Camera cuts to Antonio's side. Rayan still looks excited.]

RAYAN

What?

ANTONIO

You're not going to like it.

[Rayan's face slowly changes from being happy to shocked]

INT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

[Rayan dashes inside the room and camera pans over to the ground to see Shaun and Emmett on the ground still struggling.]

SHAUN

You're...not...going...to...the...debate!

EMMETT

Oh...yes...we...will...

RAYAN

Hey!

[Camera pans back to Rayan]

RAYAN

Guys!

[Rayan rushes towards and breaks up the fight. The sign-up sheet is in Shaun's hands.]

EMMETT

Rayan! You won't believe what this (Emmett name-calls Shaun) said.

[Camera cuts to Emmett & Shaun's side.]

RAYAN

Save it... I already know.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's side. Shaun looks stunned.]

RAYAN

Look Shaun...

[Camera cuts to Emmett & Shaun's side.]

RAYAN

I know that you mean well... but you got to let us do it. I mean... My team has experience.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's side.]

SHAUN

You've done it for 3 years, getting washed up. Now, it's time for the next generation of debaters to take the throne.

[Camera cuts to Emmett & Shaun's side.]

RAYAN

I'm telling you Shaun, you are making a big mistake putting your name on that list. There is a reason we are called "The Master Debaters". With us, together, we are unbeatable.

SHAUN

You ain't got nothing on "Occidentalis Arti Proprium Verbum Conlegium." We are taking the nationals title home. Plus Antonio does all the work, you just mooch off of him! Maybe if you worked as a Conlegium, you would have won.

RAYAN

Psh oh yeah well...Your face is a conloquium.

RAYAN TALKING HEAD

EXT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

RAYAN

Yeah. I know Latin too. Back in Freshman year, I met a girl online and she was taking Latin 1. She always asked me if I can do her Latin homework. And I did. After her course ended, we never spoke again.

[Rayan looks down, disappointed and quietly says the following line in Latin.]

RAYAN

Quid fuat me semper

INT. INT. G BUILDING - DURING LUNCH

[Crysty-Ann, Chris, and Ryan P are eating lunch. Justin approaches to them.]

JUSTIN

Do any of you smell that?

[Crysty-Ann and Ryan P look at each other.]

RYAN P

Smell what?

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side. Justin doesn't answer. He keeps sniffing. Camera cuts to Justin's side and shows Chris looking nervous. Camera pans back to Crysty-Ann.]

CRYSTY-ANN

I think he means the new perfume I bought last weekend from Ross. The label said "Peachy Orange" but it's more like "Lavender."

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side. Justin continues to sniff and approaches to Chris and realizes it's him.]

JUSTIN

It's you.

CHRIS

Wha- What are you talking about?

JUSTIN

Don't lie. I know that smell.

[Justin grabs Chris's arm and comes really close to Chris's ear.]

JUSTIN

Acetone.... Pseudoephedrine...

[Camera cuts to Justin's side. Ryan P looks at the camera, with a confused look on his face. Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side.]

CHRIS

What is wrong with you, let go of my arm freak.

[Justin lets go of his arm, but continues to intensely stare at Chris. Chris gets up.]

CHRIS

I gotta go.

[Camera cuts to Justin's side.]

CRYSTY-ANN

Where?

[Camera pans to Chris already leaving the table. He yells the following line.]

CHRIS

Anywhere but here!

[Camera pans to Justin and zooms on his face. He whispers the following line to himself.]

JUSTIN5

I know who you are.

[Justin walks backwards and leaves the room. Camera pans to Crysty-Ann and Ryan P, both looking at Justin as he walked away, stunned.]

RYAN P

Okay...

CRYSTY-ANN

You ever wonder if Justin killed someone?

[Camera zooms in on Ryan P's face as he looks the camera, scared. Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side. Michelle enters the room and sees Ryan P. Camera cuts to Michelle's side and Ryan P sees Michelle. Ryan P realizes it's not smart to stay here so he gets up.]

RYAN P

Talk to you later, Crysty-Ann.

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side. Ryan P turns to leave. Michelle comes to their table. Neither of them make eye contact.]

S

Hey Ryan.

[Ryan P leaves the room. Michelle sits down in Ryan P's seat. She's holding onto the letter from Great Basin College.]

MICHELLE

Did that feel awkward?

[Camera pans to Crysty-Ann. She shakes her head.]

CRYSTY-ANN

Nope!

[Camera pans to Michelle.]

MICHELLE

Really?

[Camera pans to Crysty-Ann.]

CRYSTY-ANN

I mean... besides you saying hello to him without making any eye contact, and Ryan leaving when you showed up without answering, then yeah, it wasn't that awkward.

[Camera pans to Michelle, who looks uncomfortable. Camera pans back to Crysty-Ann. Crysty-Ann points at the letter in Michelle's hand.]

CRYSTY-ANN

What's that?

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side.]

MICHELLE

Oh...It's um... Nothing.

[Michelle puts away the letter. She's not ready to share yet.]

MICHELLE

It's just some FBLA stuff.

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side.]

CRYSTY-ANN

Ohhh okay. Hey... Look we should start making homecoming plans soon. It's two weeks from now.

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side. Michelle realizes she'll be missing homecoming, but she doesn't say anything about it.]

MICHELLE

Right... We'll do that later. With Jolena. She said she had some ideas of where we can eat. Where is Jolena anyway?

INT. G BUILDING - DURING LUNCH

[Camera shows Rayan and Shaun sitting next to each other while Mr. Marlowe is talking to them. They refuse to look at each other. Emmett is behind Rayan, while Antonio is behind Shaun.]

MR. MARLOWE

So let me get this straight. Both of you want to represent your teams for the National Political Debate Competition.

RAYAN AND SHAUN

Yes.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side. Mr. Marlowe points at Rayan.]

MR. MARLOWE

And you're upset because Antonio has decided to join on Shaun's team instead of yours?

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

RAYAN

Yeah.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

I see.

[Mr. Marlowe nods his head. There's some awkward silence. Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Rayan and Shaun wait for an answer. They glance at each other and then back to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

SHAUN

So we were wondering...

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

About?

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

EMMETT

We were wondering if you could tell Shaun that his team isn't qualified.

SHAUN

We were wondering if you could figure out a solution for us.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side. Mr. Marlowe sighs.]

MR. MARLOWE

Guys, you're seniors. I shouldn't even be here right now to listening to your problems. You need to figure out the solutions on your own. Make compromises. I don't really care. I just came here to get my spicy chicken sandwich.

[Camera pans to Rayan, Shaun, Emmett and Antonio.]

EMMETT

There's only a couple of people who are acting like little kids.

SHAUN

Look who's talking.

EMMETT

Excuse me... I'm not the one who decided "oh look, I have a team of 4 who can debate. Let's enter the competition." Pshhh... Amateurs.

SHAUN

I'm just curious. I don't remember reading in the rules for the competition saying that only Rayan's team can be selected for West Tech.

EMMETT

Looks like you didn't read the fine print, idiot. And even if it wasn't in the rules, you'd be even more of an idiot to try and go against us. So I guess that makes you... a super-idiot.

[Camera zooms in on Shaun, rolling his eyes.]

MR. MARLOWE

Enough!

[Camera pans to Mr. Marlowe. He rubs his eyes.]

MR. MARLOWE

Ughh...I wish I had my coffee today.

[Camera pans to Antonio.]

ANTONIO

Why don't we just hold a school competition? I mean now that we have two teams from our school, it'd be better for the school to judge which team is better.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Excellent Idea. I like it. What about you?

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Everyone mumbles and agrees and nod their heads.]

RAYAN

Sure. It's fair. I mean it's going to be pretty embarrassing for Shaun after he loses.

EMMETT

Yeah.

[Emmett does a chuckle. He goes for a high-five with Rayan. Rayan sees it and shakes his head.]

RAYAN

Ew.

EMMETT

Sorry.

SHAUN

Not as embarrassing as the 3-year veterans getting destroyed at a school competition.

[Shaun high-fives Antonio. Emmett looks disappointed. Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Okay well I don't think I'm going to get the school's approval for this on time. So the school competition is probably going to happen on a Saturday. It might be during this weekend, actually.

[Mr. Marlowe grabs a piece of paper off the lunch room wall and creates two columns.]

MR. MARLOWE

Here.

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Mr. Marlowe hands them the sign-up sheet.]

MR. MARLOWE

You guys can write down the members of your team in these two columns.

RAYAN

Dibs on Antonio.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Rayan, you can't call dibs on Antonio. It's his choice.

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

ANTONIO

I'm on Shaun's team.

SHAUN

Antonio knows success when he sees it.

[Both Antonio and Shaun nod their heads.]

RAYAN

But we're one member short then.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's and Shaun's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Then find a replacement. Quickly. I'm going to close up sign-ups at the end of the day before someone else comes to my room telling me they have their own debate team.

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

RAYAN

A replacement? Who's actually good at debating?

[Rayan thinks deeply. Camera pans over to Jolena and Lucas entering the room. Rayan sees them.]

RAYAN

Jolena! Wanna join the-

[Camera pans to Shaun.]

SHAUN

She's taken. And so is Lucas.

[Camera pans to Rayan, looking frustrated. Camera pans to Jolena and Lucas.]

JOLENA

Sorry Rayan. So what's the plan?

[Antonio walks over to them.]

ANTONIO

We're having a school competition this Saturday.

LUCAS

Sounds good. Just another opportunity to win my money back from John.

[Camera cuts to Jolena's and Lucas's side.]

RAYAN

This isn't over.

[Rayan looks at Antonio and gets in his face.]

RAYAN

We don't need you. I'll find someone that's twice as capable as you.

[Rayan walks out of the room. Emmett goes to Antonio.]

EMMETT

You just started a war, bud.

[Emmett walks out of the room. Camera zooms on Shaun's face, as he rolls his eyes. Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Rayan pops his head back in the room.]

RAYAN

Wait, Mr. Marlowe, you said I had the end of the day to find a replacement?

MR. MARLOWE

Yeah.

RAYAN

Okay. Thank you.

[Rayan leaves the room.]

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MCKINNEY'S ROOM

[Ryan N, Ryan P, and John are writing in their notebooks. John looks over to Ryan P, who looks troubled. Ryan N overhears their conversation.]

JOHN

Psst... Phan-Ta.

[Ryan P looks at John.]

RYAN P

Yeah?

JOHN

Do you think if I just color the charts with only one color, would Ms. McKinney mind?

RYAN P

Probably.

[Camera cuts to John's side. John slaps his pen down.]

JOHN

Crap. I don't have time.

[John closes his notebook and puts in headphones. He blasts Darude - Sandstorm (or other song, I really don't care) and starts humming along.]

[Camera cuts to in front of Ryan N and Ryan P. Michelle passes by them and John notices how Ryan P doesn't even look. Ryan N notices Michelle.]

RYAN N

Hi Michelle.

MICHELLE

Hey Ryan.

[Ryan P looks up but realizes it's not him. Ryan N smiles and then continues to work. Camera pans to John.]

JOHN

Phan-Ta, you still hung over about the break-up?

[Camera pans to Ryan P and Ryan N.]

RYAN P

No. It's just... Today hasn't been the best.

RYAN N

Wait! You two broke up?

RYAN P

Yeah.

RYAN N

When?

RYAN P

It was like last month.

[Camera pans to John.]

JOHN

Yeah dude. I think you're probably one of the last ones to know.

[Camera pans to Ryan P and Ryan N.]

RYAN N

What? Why didn't anyone tell me?

[Camera zooms in Ryan P's face looking confused. Camera pans to Ryan N, who realizes he screwed up and changes the subject. Camera zooms out.]

RYAN N

I mean... I'm sorry. Are you two still in good terms?

RYAN P

I guess. It's more like feeling awkward when we see each other.

RYAN N

Oh... I see. Sorry to hear that. You two were a nice pair.

[Ryan N pats on Ryan P's shoulder. Camera zooms in on Ryan N's face. As he turns around to go back to his work, he has a little smile on his face.]

RYAN N TALKING HEAD

EXT. MCKINNEY'S ROOM

RYAN N

Oh I do feel bad for Ryan. I really do. But I mean...

[Ryan N smiles.]

Things happen for a reason.

[Ryan N pulls out a can of mints and puts a mint in his mouth.]

INT. MCKINNEY'S ROOM

[Rayan and Emmett enter the room.]

RAYAN

John! We've got a problem. Meeting. right now-

[Camera pans to Ms. McKinney.]

MS.MCKINNEY

Hey you two! Quiet!

[Camera pans to Rayan and Emmett.]

RAYAN

Sorry.

EMMETT

It'll be quick. Like 5 minutes.

MS. MCKINNEY

Okay.

[Rayan points to John.]

RAYAN

Okay. John. Come outside.

[Rayan notices Ryan P and Ryan N. He points at Ryan P.]

RAYAN

You too Ryan. We can use you on this.

[Both Ryans get up.]

RAYAN

No. Not you, Ng. Just Phan.

[Ryan P gets up and goes with Rayan. Camera zooms in on Ryan N as he sits down and looks at the camera, sad.]

EXT. MCKINNEY'S ROOM

[Rayan, John, Emmett, and Ryan P assemble outside of McKinney's room. Rayan looks so frustrated and stressed.]

RAYAN

Okay so we have a problem. Just stay calm.

JOHN

What's the problem?

RAYAN

Okay I lied. It's a major problem. And we're kind of screwed unless Ryan can help us.

RYAN P

What?

JOHN

What's going on?

EMMETT

The National Political Debate Competition. We're having a school competition this Saturday, to see who goes to nationals, because Shaun formed his own team..

RAYAN

And we've lost one of our own kin.

JOHN

What do you mean?

EMMETT

Antonio. He betrayed us to join Shaun.

[Camera zooms in on John's face as he gasps.]

JOHN

What? Why??

[Camera pans to Rayan.]

RAYAN

It doesn't matter why. What matters right now is that we're one man down.

[Camera pans to John, who looks frustrated. Camera pans back to Rayan and zooms out. Rayan points at Ryan P.]

RAYAN

Which is where you come in, Ryan.

RYAN P

You want me to join your debate team?

RAYAN

Yeah... I always considered you a fifth member of the team. If only the contest allowed us to have more than 4 people in our team, you would have been with us since Freshman year.

RYAN P

And you're telling me this now?

RAYAN

Yeah. Since Antonio is gone, you're our next best thing.

[Camera zooms in on Emmett's face.]

EMMETT

For the record, I never believed this.

RAYAN

So, what do you say?

[Camera cuts to Rayan and Emmett's side.]

RYAN P

Well I'm afraid I'm going to have to pass on that offer.

[Camera cuts to Rayan and Ryan P's side. Camera zooms on Rayan.]

RAYAN

What?

[Camera pans to Ryan P.]

RYAN P

I'm not a good debater. I'm not sure what you saw in me, but I think you're better off without me.

[Ryan P shrugs.]

RYAN P

Besides, I have a lot things in my mind right now. I don't want to get distracted... and you know, cost your chance to winning Nationals. Sorry.

[Camera pans to Rayan. He sighs.]

RAYAN

It's alright. I understand... You still haven't gotten over the break-up.

[Camera pans to Ryan P.]

RYAN P

Um...That's not why-

[Camera pans to Rayan.]

RAYAN

It's okay. It's okay. I get it. You can go.

[Camera pans to Ryan P as he goes back inside. Camera zooms out.]

JOHN

So what do we do now?

EMMETT

Michelle?

RAYAN

I doubt it. I mean she didn't have time for Ryan. What makes you think she'll have time for us?

EMMETT

True.

RAYAN

Wait. I think I know someone who would be up for it.

INT. F BUILDING RESTROOM UPSTAIRS**[Camera follows Rayan and Emmett as they go to the restroom. Camera stops outside of the restroom and you can only hear the audio from this point.]****CHRIS****Oh my god...****EMMETT****Hey buddy****CHRIS****How long have you guys been standing there..****RAYAN****That is irrelevant. Anyways, we need to talk business****CHRIS****What business.****EMMETT****Your membership to the Master Debaters.****CHRIS**

What's that.

RAYAN

The debate team. We're one member short. And we were wondering if you wanted to join. I mean you have the skills.

CHRIS

And what skills are these?

RAYAN

Remember that debate you did in Government? The one about the executive branch gaining too much power, screwing up the checks and balances?

CHRIS

Oh, yes, how could I forget.

CHRIS TALKING HEAD

EXT. F BUILDING

CHRIS

Somebody from the previous period left some notes on their chair and I basically ran with it. The power of improv is truly a great thing.

[Chris shrugs.]

I honestly didn't even know we had a debate.

INT. F BUILDING RESTROOM UPSTAIRS

[Camera sees Chris, Rayan and Emmett getting out of the restroom.]

RAYAN

So... you're in?

CHRIS

What's in it for me?

EMMETT

The pride and dignity of being on a winning team.

CHRIS

Trust me, I already have enough of that. And anyways, I'm all booked. I have to... work on my math homework.

RAYAN

I could give you mine.

CHRIS

We have a really big test coming up and I-

RAYAN

For the next two weeks.

CHRIS

That's quite tempting but I really should study. I kind of bombed the last quiz, so I'm gonna have to really prepare for the unit test.

RAYAN

Come on Chris. Please.

[Rayan falls down to his knees. Chris feels uncomfortable.]

RAYAN

I'm begging you.

CHRIS

I'm sorry. Got to go. We got speaking day in Spanish.

[Chris walks away. Camera pans to Rayan and zooms in on his disappointed face.]

RAYAN

Chris! Chris! Please don't leave! Ugh...

[Camera zooms out as Rayan slumps over the floor toward the ceiling.]

RAYAN

I don't know what to do anymore.

[Awkward pause.]

EMMETT

You should probably wash your hands.

RAYAN

Right. Good idea.

[Rayan starts heading back to the restroom. Justin walks out from the restroom.]

JUSTIN

Acetone.... Pseudoephedrine.... There is no escaping the past...

[Justin walks out and completely ignores Rayan and Emmett. Camera pans to Rayan and Emmett looking confused, not sure what happened.]

EXT. G BUILDING

[Michelle is waiting for her ride. She's reading the letter again when Jolena comes in.]

JOLENA

What's that?

[Michelle gets startled and tries to hide the letter.]

MICHELLE

What? What are you talking about?

JOLENA

Is that a love letter?

MICHELLE

No.

JOLENA

Ooooooh... who's it from?

[Camera cuts to Jolena's side. Michelle sighs.]

JOLENA

No really... who's it from? I'm just curious.

[Michelle decides to give up the letter to Jolena.]

MICHELLE

It's from the Great Basin College.

[Camera cuts to Jolena's and Michelle's side.]

JOLENA

A love letter from a college?

MICHELLE

No...Just... Read the letter.

[Jolena reads the letter. She yells out the following line.]

JOLENA

You're leaving????

[Michelle stands up to cover up Jolena's mouth. Camera cuts to Jolena's side.]

MICHELLE

Don't say it out loud!

[Michelle looks around to see if anyone else heard it. Nobody did. Camera cuts to Michelle's side. She removes her hand. Camera cuts to Jolena's and Michelle's side.]

MICHELLE

I haven't told this to anyone yet.

JOLENA

Why not?

MICHELLE

Because I'm not sure if I want to take it. I mean the offer's great. I get to be ahead on everything and graduate early.

[Camera cuts to Jolena's side.]

MICHELLE

But I don't want to leave here.

[Michelle looks down.]

MICHELLE

Especially now. With Ryan.

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side.]

JOLENA

I understand. You miss Ryan. But it's just awkward between you too.

[Camera cuts to Jolena's side.]

MICHELLE

I thought we could just be friends. But now, we barely talk. We don't make eye contact. It's like we're total strangers. I just feel like if I leave now, am I leaving because I want to be successful or because I don't want to deal with Ryan anymore?

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side. Jolena sighs.]

JOLENA

Do what your heart tells you to do. I think what you really need...

[Jolena puts her hand on Michelle's shoulder.]

JOLENA

Is a massage. And I guess some closure.

[Camera cuts to Jolena's and Michelle's side. Michelle looks at Jolena.]

MICHELLE

Maybe that's what I need

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side. Jolena's phone rings and she checks it.]

JOLENA

Oh... gotta go. Shaun wants to meet up for the debate. See you later

[Jolena gets up to leave. Camera cuts to Jolena's side.]

MICHELLE

Byee. and Jolena...

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side. Jolena looks back. Camera cuts to Jolena's side.]

MICHELLE

Thanks for the advice. And don't tell anyone about it!

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side. Jolena gives her a thumbs up.]

JOLENA

Don't worry. I won't tell anyone.

INT. E BUILDING

[Shaun, Lucas, and Antonio are waiting near Marlowe's door. Shaun is looking inside the room through the window. Suddenly, Camera pans to Jolena, running down the hallway. Jolena yells out the following line.]

JOLENA

She's leaving! Michelle's leaving!

ANTONIO

What??

LUCAS

Why?

[Jolena tries to catch her breath after running.]

JOLENA

She... got an offer... from the Great Basin... College.

ANTONIO

Wow.

LUCAS

Lucky her.

JOLENA

And she's probably... going to accept it. Does anyone have... a fresh bottle... of water?

[Antonio hands Jolena a bottle of water. Jolena starts drinking it.]

LUCAS

Going to miss her. She was nice. Has Ryan found it?

[Jolena shakes her head.]

ANTONIO

I wonder who's going to break it to him.

[Camera cuts to Lucas's side. Jolena notices that Shaun never even looked at her when she arrived,]

JOLENA

Shaun, did you hear what I said?

[Camera pans to Shaun.]

SHAUN

Shhh... They're in there. It looks like they might not even be competing.

[Jolena walks to the window to see.]

JOLENA

Really?

SHAUN

They only have 3 members right now.

[Camera pans over to see Ryan N coming towards them with box full of popcorn.]

RYAN N

Hey guys...You guys want to buy some Popcorn? We have Chocolate and Caram-

SHAUN

Shhh! Not right now, Ryan!

LUCAS

Can't you see we're eavesdropping?

[Ryan N looks at them, depressed.]

INT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

[Ryan, John, and Emmett are talking with Mr. Marlowe.]

RAYAN

There's literally no one else that wants to join.

[Ryan N enters the room.]

MR. MARLOWE

No one?

EMMETT

No one.

JOHN

Is there a way you can just make it 3 people?

[Camera cuts to Ryan's, Emmett's, and John's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Sorry boys. I can't do that. It's the rules.

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Ryan N has approached to Mr. Marlowe's desk.]

RYAN N

Popcorn?

MR. MARLOWE

I'll take one bag. Just the normal one.

[Ryan N puts the box down.]

RAYAN

Mr. Marlowe, We don't know what to do. If not having a fourth member is really going to make us lose our chances of entering the debate, then I don't know what to say.

[Camera cuts to Ryan's, Emmett's, and John's side. Ryan N hands over the popcorn while Mr. Marlowe hands over the cash to Ryan N.]

MR. MARLOWE

Ask again. Persuade them. There's gotta be someone at this school, willing to join your team.

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

RAYAN

There's literally no one. We've asked everyone.

[Camera zooms on Ryan N.]

RYAN N

Umm... you guys didn't ask me.

[Camera pans to Rayan.]

RAYAN

Literally nobody.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's, Emmett's, and John's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

Wait why didn't you ask him?

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

JOHN

It's a personal feud.

EMMETT

One that involved a dictionary.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's, Emmett's, and John's side. Mr. Marlowe's trying to understand what's going on.]

MR. MARLOWE

Okay but Rayan-

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

You need a fourth member. You might want to think about that and put aside your differences.

[Camera zooms on Emmett and John.]

EMMETT AND JOHN

He's right.

[Camera pans over to Ryan N and Rayan. Ryan N just shrugs while Rayan facepalms and starts making weird noises because he's stressed. He finally mumbles the following line, but no one can hear him.]

RAYAN

Fine.

EMMETT

What?

[Rayan mumbles again.]

RAYAN

Fine.

[Camera cuts to Rayan's, Emmett's, and John's side.]

MR. MARLOWE

What did you say?

[Camera cuts to Mr. Marlowe's side. Rayan finally yells it out.]

RAYAN

Fine!

[Rayan looks at Ryan N.]

RAYAN

Don't think we just became friends.

[Ryan N looks at the camera, sad.]

RYAN N TALKING HEAD

EXT. E BUILDING

RYAN N

This might be one of the stupidest decisions I've ever made in my entire life. It goes right along with the decision of buying a dictionary for Rayan.

EXT. MARLOWE'S ROOM

[Shaun and his team are still looking through the window.]

JOLENA

What's going on?

ANTONIO

Don't know.

Boys...

SHAUN

Ahem!

JOLENA

And Jolena... it looks like Ryan joined their team.

SHAUN

Dang... Now we actually have to go against them.

LUCAS

Quick they're coming! Act normal!

ANTONIO

[Shaun's team go into normal positions, pretending as if they never watched Rayan's team talking with Mr. Marlowe. Camera cuts to Shaun's team's side. Rayan's team is leaving out of Marlowe's room. Rayan sees Shaun as Camera pans over to Shaun. Camera pans back to Rayan.]

You were spying on us?

RAYAN

[Camera cuts to Rayan's team's side.]

Trying to figure out if we actually had to compete against you losers.

SHAUN

[Camera cuts to Shaun's team's side.]

Hey! We won 3 times in State! How many times have you guys won? Oh that's right, None!

EMMETT

[Camera cuts to in between both teams facing each other. The camera backs out to see each member. John is facing Lucas, Ryan N is facing Jolena, Emmett is facing Antonio, and Rayan is facing Shaun.]

But guess what? We're actually going to win Nationals this year... something your team tried for 3 years.

SHAUN

What was that? What language are you speaking? Because all I hear is crap.

RAYAN

Keep talking, someday you'll say something intelligent.

SHAUN

Maybe we shouldn't do any trash-talking, guys. I mean it's just a competit-

RYAN N

RAYAN

Shut up Ryan... Don't make me kick you out. Even though that'll cost us our spot in the competition. But it'll be totally worth it to make you shut up.

[Everyone looks at Rayan.]

RAYAN
Kidding.

JOHN
Are we putting a bet?

LUCAS
Loser team has to give \$20 to each member of the winner team.

JOHN
Alright.

ANTONIO
Wait what? 20 bucks??

RYAN N
I don't even earn that much.

RAYAN
I accept this bet.

SHAUN
Yeah, me too. Guess we'll settle this on Saturday then.

RAYAN
Guess so.

[Awkward pause as everyone looks at each other.]

RYAN N
I should probably get going. The popcorn's getting cold.

[Ryan N leaves.]

ANTONIO
So how long are we going to keep doing this?

SHAUN
Ugh... let's just go home.

RAYAN
I'm watching you.

[Shaun raises his eyebrow. Rayan realizes they're right. He sighs.]

RAYAN
Fine... we're done here. Let's go.

[Everyone nods and begins to leave. Jolena then remembers about Michelle and turns around to Rayan's team.]

JOLENA

Oh guys... Michelle's leaving the school.

[Camera pans to Rayan's team.]

RAYAN'S TEAM

What?

EXT. G BUILDING

[It's finally Saturday. Chris is about to walk inside the building when Justin appears out of nowhere.]

JUSTIN

How much?

CHRIS

What?

JUSTIN

You know... Acetone. Pseudoephedrine. Don't play dumb, let's do business.

CHRIS

Dude...I honestly don't know what you are talking about, but this is the second time somebody has tried to do business with me this week, and if I said no to Rayan, what makes you think I would say yes to you?

JUSTIN

Wait. Rayan too?

CHRIS

Anyways...

[Justin notices a nail polish stain on Chris's jeans. Justin points at the stain.]

JUSTIN

Is that nail polish?

[Camera zooms in on the stain. Camera pans to Chris.]

CHRIS

What's it to you.

[Camera pans to Justin.]

JUSTIN

Hmm... You are a hard one to crack... Looks like I'll take my business elsewhere.

[Justin leaves. Camera pans to Chris, who looks confused.]

INT. GYM

[The teams are sitting down in the middle of the gym, with Mr. Marlowe in between them. Camera cuts to the bleachers, where everyone in the main cast is there, except Michelle, Ryan P, and Ryan N. Everyone knows that Michelle is leaving, and now everyone's debating who's going to win.]

IZZY

Without Antonio, Rayan is pretty much done. They barely do anything during the debates in the past years. Shaun's going to win this in a landslide.

[Crysty-Ann nods.]

CRYSTY-ANN

She's right.

JC

But what about Emmett? I mean he did a really good job last year during the Jackson debate in APUSH.

[Crysty-Ann nods again.]

CRYSTY-ANN

He's also right.

IZZY

Yeah, but then after that, Antonio pretty much killed him with the evidence from the Trail of Tears.

[Crysty-Ann nods again.]

CRYSTY-ANN

She's also right.

JC

Hey! When are you going to stop saying everyone's right and actually take a side?

IZZY

Yeah.

CRYSTY-ANN

He's right... hmmm...

[Crysty-Ann looks at Noah.]

CRYSTY-ANN

Who do you side with, Noah?

[Camera pans to Noah.]

NOAH

I'm on no one's side.

[Camera pans to Izzy.]

IZZY

Then why are you here?

[Camera pans to Noah.]

NOAH

They told me that they were going to offer some free food.

[Camera pans to JC.]

JC

Free food? Where?

[Camera pans to Noah.]

NOAH

If I knew, we wouldn't be having this conversation.

[Camera pans to the entrance as Ryan P enters the building and sits down in the bleachers next to Crysty-Ann. Camera cuts to Ryan P's side.]

RYAN P

Hey guys.

[Everyone else looks super uncomfortable. Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side.]

RYAN P

Is everything all right?

[Camera cuts to Ryan P's side.]

CRYSTY-ANN

You haven't heard about it?

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side.]

RYAN P

About what?

[Camera cuts to Ryan P's side. Crysty-Ann looks at everyone else and then back to Ryan P looking concerned.]

CRYSTY-ANN

It's about Michelle. She's leaving West.

[Camera cuts to Crysty-Ann's side.]

RYAN P

What? Why?

[Camera cuts to in between Ryan P and Crysty-Ann.]

CRYSTY-ANN

She got an offer from the Great Basin College to graduate early. And she's probably going to take it-

[Michelle enters the building and everyone looks at her. Camera cuts to the debate team.]

RAYAN

Michelle! How could you be so selfish leaving us?

[Camera pans to Michelle.]

MICHELLE

How do yo-

[Michelle realizes that Jolena told everyone about it and then looks at her. Camera pans to Jolena and zooms in on her. Jolena tries to hide behind Antonio. Camera pans back to Michelle as looks at the audience. Camera zooms on Ryan P, sad. Camera cuts to the bleachers' side.]

MICHELLE

Okay yes... I'm leaving West. I got an offer from the Great Basin College that'll let me graduate early. I didn't want to tell anyone because I wasn't sure if I wasn't going to take it.

[Camera cuts to Michelle's side. The camera is focused on Ryan P. Camera cuts back to the bleachers' side.]

MICHELLE

But I've made a decision last night. I was going to tell everyone today... I'm gonna take it.

[Awkward pause]

MICHELLE

I'm going to miss you guys and-

[Camera pans to Mr. Marlowe.]

MR. MARLOWE

Hey Michelle. Sorry to interrupt, but we need to start the debate now.

[Camera pans to Michelle.]

MICHELLE

Oh okay.

[Michelle goes to the bleachers to sit down. Camera pans to Ryan N who entered the building.]

RYAN N

Sorry I'm late. What did I miss?

[Camera pans to Rayan, facepalming. Camera cuts to the beginning of the debate and shows both teams sitting down, ready, while Mr. Marlowe is in the middle, sitting with a couple of other adults as judges.]

MR. MARLOWE

Okay... first topic.

[Camera pans to Rayan and to Shaun and back to Mr. Marlowe as he begins reading the first debate topic.]

MR. MARLOWE

Scientists have cloned sheep, mice, dogs and other life forms, but they have yet to clone humans. Should humans be cloned? Rayan's team has to justify it, while Shaun's team has to attack it. Go!

EMMETT

Okay, this is the easiest question I have gotten in the past 3 years I have done this. See, imagine the scenario. I am on a deserted island with a scientist, but the problem is, we are both male. How do we repopulate you ask? We don't. We just clone myself hundreds or even thousands of times. With the skills I possess, my clone army and I will build the perfect utopia on this deserted island and-

[Emmett gets cut off by Antonio]

ANTONIO

See, this is why I needed to leave that toxicity. Nothing you have said so far is backed up by fact. First of all, just look at all of the horrible mutations that have occurred when scientists have attempted to clone animals. If cloning is known to be this flawed, why risk doing this to a human?

RYAN N

May I respond?

[Rayan completely shuts down Ryan N.]

RAYAN

No. My turn. Okay, you want fact? Fact is WE ARE THE MASTER DEBATERS FOR A REASON AND YOU GUYS STAND NO CHANCE IN BEATING US-

[Both teams start arguing.]

MR. MARLOWE

Everyone be quiet! Can we please just have a normal debate without this immaturity!

[Both teams settle.]

Thank you. Ryan N. You seemed like you had something good to say. Please, go ahead.

RYAN N

Well, about human cloning, it's not as negative as you think Antonio...

[Camera pans to clock at 12:00 PM]

[Next shot, clock says 1:45 PM]

RYAN N

So, in conclusion, I'd like to restate the fact that human cloning could be very beneficial as it could help infertile couples have a child or create a child identical to a parent, give a human replacement body parts, or be used to test new drugs and medical procedures.

[Ryan N nods and smiles. Camera pans across to everybody else in the room either asleep, looking at their phones, or staring off into the distance, bored out of their mind. Mr. Marlowe realizes that Ryan N has finally finished and asks the opposing team if they have anything to say in response. Nobody answers.]

MR. MARLOWE

Well, I'd say that we have an obvious winner here, since everyone in the other team already left during your speech.

[Ryan P exits the room. Michelle notices and follows.]

MICHELLE

I guess I owe you an apology.

RYAN P

No, you don't owe me anything.

MICHELLE

Yes, I do. I owe you an apology for not telling you that I was leaving. I've been having this inner conflict with myself and I just couldn't do it. I didn't want it to seem like I was leaving because I didn't want to deal with you. I really do like you Ryan. It's just I needed to set my priorities straight and right now, my priority is being successful in life. I hope you can see that.

[Ryan P is speechless.]

So, are we good? I can't leave knowing I left us in a terrible spot.

[Ryan P is depressed at this point but fake smiles. Ryan P nods.]

RYAN P

We're good.

[The two of them walk back into the cafeteria right as the final vote has been casted for the competition.]

MR. MARLOWE

The final vote is in. And the winner of the West Tech Debate Competition is... The Master Debaters! Congratulations to your four, I mean to Ryan N, for carrying your team to a landslide victory.

RAYAN

HAHA! YES! HOW 'BOUT THEM APPLES!

[Everybody on the Master Debaters is celebrating. Shaun goes up to Rayan to congratulate him on his win, but completely ignores it and continues to rub it in his face. Emmett goes up to Antonio and mocks him for leaving their team in the first place. John goes over to Lucas and retrieves the money that Lucas now owes him. Ryan N is celebrating by himself in the back. Nobody is acknowledging him for his stellar work.]

RAYAN TALKING HEAD

EXT. COURTYARD

RAYAN

See, it may look like I was rubbing it in to Shaun's team after winning that debate, but really, the debate didn't mean that much to me. You know, there is so much more to life than just winning. As the famous quote goes, no matter if you win or lose, the most important thing in life is to enjoy what you have.

RYAN N TALKING HEAD

EXT. COURTYARD

RYAN N

I honestly don't care if the other members of the team notice me for my work. There is only one person in mind that I care about seeing that performance and she is right out there in the audience.

[Camera pans over to Michelle. Ryan N hopes to woo her with his debate skills, and does not realize that Michelle is leaving the next day to go the Great Basin College.]

Now that I know that she has broken up with Ryan P, she will not be able to resist the combination of my wits, my looks, and this carefully thought-out love note that I have written for her that I will stealthily slip into her backpack during first period on Monday.

[Ryan N smirks at the camera and stuffs the love note into his pocket. Everybody starts to exit the cafeteria in the background.]

END OF SHOW