



## 2-PERSON SCENES

This scene is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at [yourstagepartners.com](http://yourstagepartners.com).

*Last Day of School* by Ian McWethy

1M, 1F

Comedy/Drama

*(Lights up on KASSIA, an alternative girl with ripped jeans and dyed hair [or whatever "alternative" means to you]. She is waiting outside the principal's office, complacent, bored, she's done this many times before. She's sitting in a row of empty chairs.)*

*JARED stomps into the room, he's livid, agitated. On edge. JARED is a straight-edge kid, buttoned-up shirt, parted hair. Very country club-looking.*

*In a Breakfast Club sense, JARED is Molly Ringwald and KASSIA is Judd Nelson.)*

**JARED:** I'm sorry are you...do you have appointment or—

**KASSIA:** To see the principal?

**JARED:** Yeah.

**KASSIA:** No. I mean, he is expecting me but...I wouldn't call it an appointment. It's more like...I'm in line to be punished.

**JARED:** Right. Okay, me too I guess. I don't know, I've never done this before. I don't know how this works.

**KASSIA:** You've never been to the principal's office?

**JARED:** No.

**KASSIA:** Ah...well it's very exciting. There's an open bar, appetizers. It ends with a hot stone massage. It's great, you'll love it.

*(JARED doesn't laugh. He paces, fidgets.)*

**JARED:** I guess...do you mind if I see him first?

**KASSIA:** See the principal first? Ahead of me?

**JARED:** Yeah do you mind?

**KASSIA:** No.

*(JARED goes for the door.)*

**KASSIA:** Whoa, whoa, whoa, hold on cowboy. He's seeing someone now. So you have to wait 'til he comes out and gets you.

**JARED:** He... Well... Well how long do you think he'll be in there?

**KASSIA:** I don't know. Not long, five minutes maybe?

**JARED:** Do you think I could just cut in. I really need to get this out of the way. So maybe I'll just go in and—

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**KASSIA:** You can't wait five minutes?

**JARED:** No, I can't! I need to see him now.

**KASSIA:** Really? Dude, it's just five—

**JARED:** NO! I CAN'T! OKAY! I CAN'T!

**KASSIA:** Whoa! What the hell?! Why are you yelling at me!

**JARED:** BECAUSE I AM LIVID!!!!

*(JARED paces around, calms himself down. He paces, takes deep breath.)*

**JARED:** I...I should not have yelled.

**KASSIA:** No you should not have.

**JARED:** I just...I've never had detention before and...I'm worried this could be on my permanent record so I'm a little...annoyed.

**KASSIA:** Well you still shouldn't yell at me, dude. I barely know you.

**JARED:** I just have a lot going on. I'm under a lot of pressure and...I'm not sure you would understand but...getting a detention is a big deal for me and I...I just really don't want it on my record so—

**KASSIA:** Okay, I get that, but Jared, guess what?

**JARED:** Hm?

**KASSIA:** You can't just YELL AT STRANGERS FOR NO REASON! THAT'S A CRAPPY THING TO DO ESPECIALLY SINCE I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO YOU! OKAY! SO DON'T DO IT!

*(JARED is shocked. Doesn't know how to take that.)*

**JARED:** Well, yeah, okay, but look...I said I was sorry! I don't know why—

**KASSIA:** No you didn't.

**JARED:** I didn't what?

**KASSIA:** Say you were sorry.

**JARED:** Yes I did.

**KASSIA:** No—

**JARED:** I did. That was the first thing I said after I yelled at you!

**KASSIA:** You...hold on...you think you apologized to me?! Just now, that's what you think happened?!

**JARED:** Yes!

**KASSIA:** You think you said "I am sorry for you yelling at you!"

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**JARED:** Yes! That was the first thing I said!

**KASSIA:** UuuuuuuuuAAAAHH!!!!

*(KASSIA gets up now, is pacing around, fuming.)*

**JARED:** What? What are you—

**KASSIA:** Well now I'm PISSED OFF NOW! Great!

**JARED:** I don't—

**KASSIA:** No of course you don't understand. You and your preppy expensive shirt and dumb Republican hair cut! You think you're always right and everyone else is always wrong. Well guess what, you DID NOT say I'm sorry! You know how I know!?

**JARED:** I'm—

**KASSIA:** Because the whole time you're yelling at me I'm thinking "this guy is a big jerk for yelling at me for no reason. But you know what? Maybe he's had a bad day? Maybe I should give him the benefit of the doubt and just wait for him to apologize." And I wait, and I wait, and I wait for you to say you're sorry. And you know what doesn't happen? You know what two words I don't hear? I'm. Sorry. I hear excuses: that you yelling at me wasn't your fault, that you're under pressure. Blah blah blah. And then I hear you say, "well I said I was sorry." Which I know you didn't say because those are THE ONLY TWO WORDS I WANT TO HEAR! AND YOU DIDN'T SAY IT! OKAY! YOU...stuffed shirt! You didn't say you were sorry!

*(KASSIA sits down. Let's out a sigh.)*

**JARED:** All right well I'm sorry...now.

**KASSIA:** You should be! I didn't do anything to you! So I don't deserve to be yelled at!

**JARED:** You don't! You're right. I thought I said I was sorry. I really did. So...I'm saying it now. I'm sorry.

**KASSIA:** Okay. Well...thank you.

*(Beat.)*

**JARED:** Jeez. That really bugged you huh?

**KASSIA:** I just hate that stuff. You know when people like...deny reality. When people say they did something but they didn't actually do that thing. It's like talking to a lying six-year-old and it drives me crazy. Just...admit we live in the same reality! That's all I ask! You didn't say the words "I'm sorry," so, admit it and then we can move on!

**JARED:** Well I did!

**KASSIA:** I know! And now we're moving on!

**JARED:** Okay! Well...okay.



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*(Beat. They sit there. Trying to ignore each other. KASSIA takes a closer look at Jared's outfit.)*

**KASSIA:** So what did you even do anyway?

**JARED:** What?

**KASSIA:** To get detention. What does a boring, preppy, goody-good like you do to get detention?

**JARED:** Well it's a mistake believe me. I...there was a misunderstanding and I just got a little carried away. That's all.

**KASSIA:** Yeah? Doing what?

**JARED:** I...I screamed at the teacher. In class. And I used a bunch of expletives and...I lost my temper. Kind of how I did now. But at the teacher.

**KASSIA:** Wow, really? That's actually kinda cool.

**JARED:** No it's not. It was uncalled for but...it wasn't all my fault. I mean, okay, basically what happened was...Mr. Klein wanted to play a movie on the last day of class. Braveheart. I suggested that instead of watching Braveheart, I do a presentation on The Battle of Stirling Bridge because A. Braveheart is historically inaccurate, and B. Mel Gibson is a hateful bigot and we shouldn't support his movies. So I put my suggestion to a vote and I was voted down. So then I proposed a compromise. I would give a ten-minute presentation before the movie started just to give another perspective. Everyone agreed, I think just to shut me up, but it was voted on, and everyone agreed. And then today, right as I'm about to give my presentation Mr. Klein said, "Jared, I thought you were joking, just sit down. It's the last day of school, and no one, me especially, wants to hear your presentation." And I wouldn't sit down, because I stayed up 'til four in the morning preparing it. And then Mr. Klein got mad, and said "no one wants to hear your presentation Jared! Okay! No one! We're all exhausted. We're exhausted from listening to you in class all year and we want a break. So just sit down and shut up." Which really set me off because...I mean...this is a school! A teacher is telling me not to actively participate in...school! In class! I mean where am I?! An idiot's version of the USSR! I mean...what the ...hell is going on!?

*(Beat. JARED is livid but calms himself down. Takes a deep breath.)*

Anyway, that's what happened. Mr. Klein sent me to the principal for...voicing a dissenting opinion. Because he is a fascist. The end.

**KASSIA:** Wow. That's uh...that's the lamest reason I've ever heard for getting detention.

**JARED:** Well, sorry. Sorry I'm not a professional, cool, bad-ass...girl like you. Smoking and doing tricks on my skateboard.

**KASSIA:** Doing tricks on my skateboard? What are you talking about?



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**JARED:** Well whatever you guys do that's so awesome and bad! I don't know. I don't hang out with you and your...whatever...group! Crew! Whatever you call yourselves! I don't see bands at clubs and smoke and blah blah blah! I'm sorry my reasons for getting detention didn't meet your high standards of...whatever.

**KASSIA:** Dude, you're the one the dresses like you belong to a racist country club.

**JARED:** Well what then? What did you do? If what I did was so lame and boring, what did you do?

**KASSIA:** I gave myself a tattoo.

*(Beat.)*

**JARED:** I...don't understand.

**KASSIA:** Well a tattoo is when you permanently ink—

**JARED:** I know what a tattoo is, I...you gave yourself a tattoo?

**KASSIA:** Yeah.

**JARED:** In class?

**KASSIA:** Yeah.

**JARED:** No you didn't.

**KASSIA:** I did. Well, I mean I guess half of a tattoo because Ms. Blake stopped me and sent me here but...yeah. On my ankle.

*(KASSIA lifts up her jean leg, shows him a partially done tattoo.)*

**JARED:** That's insane.

**KASSIA:** No it's not. I wanted a tattoo.

**JARED:** You wanted a tattoo, so...instead of waiting like...two hours to get it done by a professional, you just...tried to give yourself one in class.

**KASSIA:** Yeah. It was chemistry and there was a Bunsen burner. All you need is heat, ink, and a sharp thing.

**JARED:** But aren't you...I mean don't you...what about getting an infection or—

**KASSIA:** Oh jeez man, look. I don't let stuff like that bother me.

**JARED:** What do you mean stuff?

**KASSIA:** You know like...I don't uh...I don't get afraid of like infections or...other things.

**JARED:** You don't get afraid of things?

**KASSIA:** Yeah.

**JARED:** "Things?" Just...things...aren't scary to you?

**KASSIA:** No. Not really.

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**JARED:** Like anything. Any noun. You aren't afraid of clowns or snakes or plane crashes.

**KASSIA:** Not really. I mean what's the point?

**JARED:** Because it's...it's not a matter of it having a point. Fear is just something everyone has. It's...a visceral reaction. It's—

**KASSIA:** Look man, just because you live in fear about what society thinks of you or if your daddy loves you enough doesn't mean I have to.

**JARED:** Well you've got to be afraid of something!

**KASSIA:** Meh. I...no...I just don't think I am.

**JARED:** Of course you are! Don't be an idiot! You're not...gah! You're frustrating you know that! You can't just walk around, and sit, and say ridiculous things and expect people to believe them. Just 'cause your jeans are...weird looking!

**KASSIA:** I'm not trying to fight with you Jared! I'm just not...afraid of stuff.

**JARED:** Stop saying that! Just...stop, that's so stupid just...look, I'll prove it to you.

**KASSIA:** What? How?

**JARED:** I'm gonna think of something. Something...that scares you. Something that instills fear in you because I don't believe that you're "not afraid of anything!" Okay. No one's that cool. No one's that alternative! You fear. You fear things so...I'm gonna...just...just let me think for a minute.

*(JARED walks a few steps away. Gets in a thinking pose. Whatever it is, it should look a little pretentious.)*

**KASSIA:** What are you doing?

**JARED:** I'm thinking.

**KASSIA:** You look constipated.

**JARED:** It helps when I have a problem to get in a position of equal balance. It calms my mind.  
*(Beat. KASSIA looks at him.)*

**KASSIA:** Look...dude why do you care so much?

**JARED:** Because I think you're wrong.

**KASSIA:** So?

**JARED:** Because I think you're wrong and therefor I think I'm right. And when I'm right, I win. I've been doing speech and debate for four years and I've never lost and...I'm not gonna lose now. Especially not to you.

**KASSIA:** But what do you think will happen if—



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**JARED:** I'm in my thinking position so can you please just...shh!

*(KASSIA is annoyed and weirded out as JARED continues to think. After a few silent moments—)*

**JARED:** Ah ha! Yes! Okay. Okay, yes, yes yes.

**KASSIA:** Oh God.

**JARED:** I thought of something.

**KASSIA:** Did you now?

**JARED:** Oh yeah. Big time! I thought of something that you would never...ever do because it would scare the bejeebus out of ya.

**KASSIA:** Bejeebus? Who says stuff like that? You sound like my grandfather's friend Bucky.

**JARED:** I thought of something that...if you did it. If you did this lame thing...your bad-ass rep would be vaporized! Like that! And that...scares you. Not being such a "cool, I don't care about anything chick" freaking...terrifies you.

**KASSIA:** Well I don't think it would but...fine, what? What is it? What?

**JARED:** Go on a date with me.

*(This takes KASSIA by surprise. She waits a beat.)*

**KASSIA:** You want to go on a date with me?

**JARED:** No. I didn't say that. What I said was I figured out something you would never do because it is soooo scary. And that's date a stuffy-shirted, OCD, perfect class attendance guy like me.

**KASSIA:** Well I...I mean...

**JARED:** And it has to be a public date! Where all your cool, edgy, stupid friends hang out. It can't just be...to like a movie or something. I'm talking...a public, crowded...place.

**KASSIA:** What like The Spot?

**JARED:** Yeah! The Spot! Whatever that is!

**KASSIA:** You want to go on date with me to The Spot. With the bed bug-infested couches where all the burnouts go...you want to go there? With me? On a date?

**JARED:** Yes I do. To prove that there are some things that even you won't do because you also feel the emotion of fear. Yes. Yes I do.

*(Beat. KASSIA thinks, walks around. This truly does scare her but how does she get out of it?)*

**KASSIA:** Fine. I'll do it. But—

**JARED:** No there's not buts.



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**KASSIA:** Oh there's a but. 'Cause I don't date anyone without a few provisions and this is no exception. I will go on a date with you because I'll go on a date with anyone. I will, I will give anyone a shot. I am not afraid to go on a date with you. But the only way I will go on this date with you, or anyone for that matter, is if you really want to go on a date with me, okay? If this is just a date of spite, or because you're trying to win an argument, then no, forget it. I don't care. That's stupid. But if you're actually asking me out on a date. If you're putting yourself out there and risking emotional humiliation because you actually like me, then yes. I will. I will go to The Spot with you and I'll wear a freaking...polo shirt and khaki pants. And then I'll tell all my friends to be there so they can watch us. Because it takes guts to ask someone out on a date if you really like them! It does! And I respect guts!

*(Beat. JARED thinks.)*

**JARED:** Well then...that's what I'm doing.

**KASSIA:** Are you?

**JARED:** I am!

**KASSIA:** Are you though?

**JARED:** Yes!

**KASSIA:** So you're asking me out with guts? Not to make a point or to prove me wrong but because you like me!

**JARED:** Yes! I am! And I don't understand it because I find you so infuriating and yet...I...I don't know, I'm also wildly attracted to you right now so yes! I'm asking you out! For real!

**KASSIA:** Well that took guts Jared! That did! And so...I'll go on a date with you!

**JARED:** Great!

**KASSIA:** Yeah! It is great! Because I'm...weirdly finding you attractive too! You stood up to your teacher because you were doing what you thought was right and that's hot! Even though I pretended like it was lame it's actually pretty...you know...it's just very hot!

**JARED:** Well then, I'm glad I'm asking you out then!

**KASSIA:** So am I!

**JARED:** I'll call you later!

**KASSIA:** Looking forward to it!

**JARED:** Great!

**KASSIA:** Fantastic!

**JARED:** Now if you don't mind I'm going to leave! Even though the principal hasn't even seen me because WHO CARES! I've got a date to get ready for!





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**KASSIA:** Well good for you Jared! Good for you!

*(JARED storms off stage.*

*KASSIA sits down in a huff. Fumes. Then.)*

**KASSIA:** Oh Jesus, I'm going on a date with Jared Futterman.

*(She sinks into her seat as the lights fade, and "Mr. Roboto" comes on over the loud speaker.)*

**End of Scene.**

### **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL by Ian McWethy**

**Length:** 75-90 minutes. (A one-act version is also available.)

**Cast Size:** 4-18 actors (suggested casting: 9F, 9M).

**Genre:** Dramey

**Synopsis:** On the final day of classes at Rochester High School, a renegade student takes over the morning announcements and proposes that everyone do something bold. Or unexpected. Or brave. Or stupid. The point is, you may not have another chance, so now's the time to stop being a wallflower and kiss the girl (or guy!). To let your enemies know that you have always hated their guts. Or to do something as simple as climb the rope in gym without throwing up. Through a series of interconnected scenes, misconceptions, grudges, and secret crushes come out into the open in hilarious and surprisingly touching ways. A comedy with a lot of heart, and no regrets.