



2-PERSON SCENES

This scene is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at yourstagepartners.com.

Mascots by Ian McWethy and Carrie McCrossen

1F 1 any
Comedy

Principal Gurgins has given the students of Drysdale High the chance to pitch their ideas for a new school mascot at an assembly. This immediately goes off the rails.

Scene 2. A House Cat is Only Loved by Its Owner

(A meek girl with an awkward turtleneck walks on stage. She is carrying an 8x10 picture of a very normal looking cat [so, you know, the cat looks bored and mildly annoyed.]

MAYBEL takes out a cue card and reads in a fast, nervous mumble. Nearly swallowing the mic as she talks.)

MAYBEL: Hello fellow classmates and thank you for listening to why I think our new school mascot should be my cat Mrs. Pumpkins because not only is she kind and generous and the best friend a human being could ever have Mrs. Pumpkins is also the funniest feline and a very handsome feline with a good fashion sense and impeccable timing. Show picture. Oh.
(MAYBEL holds out the picture.)

MAYBEL: Now that you've seen Mrs. Pumpkins I think we can all agree this is the only rational choice for school mascot. I urge you to vote only for Mrs. Pumpkins and for no other mascot because we should all be so lucky to have a mascot as handsome and generous and inspirational as Mrs. Pumpkins. She is an extraordinarily effective leader with far more wisdom than one would expect from someone just two years old. Mrs. Pumpkins is also my best friend and at night a warm and generous pillow. I rest my case and God Bless America.

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Okay. But Maybel...do you even have a cat costume?

(MAYBEL shakes her head no.)

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Okay. But don't you think you'll need a—

(MAYBEL leans into the microphone.)

MAYBEL: A costume won't be necessary. I'm not suggesting that me or some other human "play act" as Mrs. Pumpkins. I'll simply bring Mrs. Pumpkins to every game and have her beautiful eyes stare into your souls and we'll be better for it and win every game.

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Well, look. We're not going to have a live animal as our mascot. It's too much upkeep.

MAYBEL: But for Mrs. Pumpkins you'll make an exception, won't you?

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: No, Maybel, I'm afraid we can't. And I'm honestly starting to get a little worried about you. You bring this cat to everything. Homecoming. Science Fair. When you ran for student body president, you just brought that picture of your cat and said "this is your president now."

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MAYBEL: Well maybe she should have been! Mrs. Pumpkins would've been a perfect president because she is a perfect cat!

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Is she, though? A perfect cat? Because she looks like a pretty normal cat to me?

MAYBEL: Normal? You— You— I'm sorry *normal*?

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: If anything it looks a little bored?

(MAYBEL shoves the picture in GURGINS' face.)

MAYBEL: I am going to make a thousand copies of this picture! And I'm going to hang it in every room of your house! And then I'm gonna take whatever copies I have left and shred it into pasta-like strips and make you eat them! You tall, sad excuse for a man! Eat it until you start to get it!!!

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Ew. What? You're threatening to force feed me pictures of your cat? Why?

MAYBEL: Cause you're not getting it!!!!

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Getting what?

MAYBEL: That Mrs. Pumpkins is a prince and a scholar! And if I have to make you eat pictures of Mrs. Pumpkins like spaghetti until you understand that, then that's what I'm going to do!

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Okay, please just leave Maybel. Your time is up. We get it. You like your cat. Please leave.

(MAYBEL calms down. Walks back to the mic.)

MAYBEL: Principal Gurgins should be fired. He is a terrible principal. Vote Mrs. Pumpkins. She should rule us. That is all.

(MAYBEL then pushes the mic to the floor and walks away.)

PRINCIPAL GURGINS: Okay, well that was Maybel. And her cat that she's...very excited about. Maybe you should all just forget that happened. I know I will.

End of Scene.

MASCOTS by Ian McWethy and Carrie McCrossen

Length: 30-35 minutes **Cast Size:** 6-18 actors (suggested casting: 16 any) **Genre:** Comedy

Synopsis: Drysdale High School has a problem. For the first time in their fifty-year history, they need to replace their beloved (but also deeply problematic) school mascot, Cujo. So Principal Gurgins turns to the student body to submit and select a new mascot, one that can represent (and fire up!) Drysdale for the next fifty years. During the play, we'll see new mascots ranging from an ordinary house cat, to the Titanic, to the mineral quartz, to even a bland, inexplicable teal square. A playful comedy that explores something we all cheer for even though we're also scared of them, a mascot.

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