

1 INT. CHURCH HALL

PASTOR

It's time for our 'it's too cold to stay in this church any longer' farewell psalm.

ELIJAH

Winter is here, la la la. Winter is here, la la la. Don't be sad, winter is here, don't be gloomy, winter is here.

GLADYS

Is he kidding? I'm gloomy and sad because of winter. How am I supposed to see shirtless men handling the grass or enjoy shirtless men landscaping?

AGNES

Mmm, maybe that's why God created winter. To cool down sluts like you.

GLADYS

I think it's more likely that God created winter based off your personality.

PASTOR

Just a reminder next Saturday night is the SCONE Winter Gala. Tickets are only twenty dollars and they're selling like Juniper Cloud on a Saturday night.

JUNIPER CLOUD

Wow, that means we're almost sold out I bet.

fx; Juniper Cloud audio gag

SUSANNE

Will there be strippers at the Scone Winter Gala? I can only imagine...the drama?

fx; Susanne audio gag

AGNES

Mmm, where's my audio gag?

GLADYS

What would it be Agnes? The sound of disapproval? Broken off-key trumpets?

AGNES

That sounds great!

fx; Agnes audio gag

PASTOR

The SCONE Winter Gala will feature our church's very own DJ: DJ Big Boy Blast.

DJ BIG BOY BLAST

Hell yea, can't wait to spin some tunes for the gala.

DOROTHEA

I have a question, will the tunes be clean?

DJ BIG BOY BLAST

Yeah, the tracks will be squeaky clean on the mixing board for me to dirty up with some scratches and reverb.

PASTOR

There will also be food provided by The Cockpit, the restaurant owned by Marjorie and Peter.

fx; rumbling.

MARJORIE

We'll be cooking all sorts of winter dishes! Like squash soup topped with cream sauce and cornish chicken breasts stuffed with pumpkin stuffing.

JAMES

Pumpkin stuffing? Why can't you cook normal food like steak and potatoes?

PASTOR

So we will see you then...

fx; microphone tussle

MARCY

Hello everyone...I just want to say thank you for letting me speak today.

PASTOR

I didn't let you speak, you grabbed the microphone--

MARCY

As I was saying, I will soon be departing for New York City in the upcoming month or two or three. I'm not sure when I'll leave. But no doubt, this will be our last Christmas together. Please, no tears.

fx; silence

MARCY

I see a few tears, please get rid of them.

GLADYS

Yeah, I'm crying. Crying out of joy that you'll be leaving.

GLADYS

(Singing in joy to the world tune)
Joy to the world that Marcy is leaving. Let New York receive her fat assssss! Let everyone, forget she existed. Forget she ever existed. Forget she ever existed. FooOOORRR ooorr get she ever existed.

MARCY

I haven't been serenaded like that since i received the lifetime achievement award from Frankie Frank and the funky bunch. Anyway, Since I'll be leaving in the future, I want to make sure this

is the best SCONE Winter Gala ever. We are going all out, there's no expense too much.

ELIJAH

Actually the budget is five hundred dollars.

MARCY

Only \$500? I made more money performing in St. Louis in 2007 as the backup singer to Nelly Furtado!

ELIJAH

Say it right? Well we're a church, not a Nelly Furtado tour--

MARCY

I expect you all in attendance at the SCONE Winter Gala. It's mandatory.

BARBARA

It's mandatory? But I was going to knit a sweater and watch reruns of Cheers.

AGNES

Oh GOD Barbara, are you the most boring person on Earth or what?

BARBARA

But Agnes, you asked me to knit you a sweater!

AGNES

But I didn't ask you to watch *Cheers* while you do it.

MARCY

Please, no gifts for me at the SCONE Winter Gala. Unless it's a really good gift. Or cash. Thank you!

GARFIELD

Women these days...all they want are gifts.

DENISE

Do I get a Christmas gift?

GARFIELD

Oh yeah you do...it's this big wrapped up cylinder I got in my lap.

DENISE

Oh that's for me?

GARFIELD

Yeah, it's a salami loaf from the deli. And there's a second salami down there too! He he he

2 INT. THEME SONG

fx; door rectory

LIV

Good morning, welcome to SCONE...oh it's just you Marcy.

MARCY

That is *not* the way we acknowledge our celebrity volunteer.

LIV

Well can you *volunteer* the reason why you're here?

MARCY

I came to help.

JONATHAN

Ohhhh...yeah, we don't need your help.

MARCY

Well you're not doing anything Jonathan.

LIV

I mean, she's right Jonathan. You were supposed to buy decorations for the SCONE Winter Gala.

JONATHAN

Relax Liv, I was going to after I watch this lip sync battle...

MARCY

I'll come with you Jonathan. You'll need someone with taste.

JONATHAN

Well you're the taste of tar, and I'd rather not have that in my mouth. Buh-buh-byeeeee.

fx; footsteps

MARCY

How dare him...Liv, well let me help you. What are in you in charge of?

LIV

Well I'm writing some emails now...

MARCY

I can do that!

LIV

Last time you wrote an email, it took you 15 minutes.

MARCY

Sorry for wanting a perfect 'grammared' message.

LIV

I appreciate...oh wait that's the wrong word. I'm thankful-- no, I don't like that. I *understand* you want to help. But I'm fine, I promise.

fx; footsteps

CAROL ANN

Good morning Liv, good morning Marcy.

MARCY

Carol Ann, you're ancient and more crumbly than a mall food court cookie. I'm sure you need my help in everything you do.

CAROL ANN

No, I'm all good! I was only given a couple of things to do for the SCONE Winter Gala.

LIV

That doesn't seem right. Usually, you're overworked Carol Ann.

CAROL ANN

All I have to do is making some latkes.

MARCY

Well I can make latkes. After all they are the food of my people.

LIV

Marcy I didn't know you you were Jewish.

MARCY

I am Irish Olivia. I know how to prepare a potato

CAROL ANN

Okay, I'll let you help...

fx; time passes.

CAROL ANN

Okay Marcy, I'm walking into the SCONE Rectory kitchen to see what progress you've made on those brownies...OH MY GOODNESS WHAT HAPPENED IN HERE?

MARCY

Oh Carol Ann just in time. I'm getting ready to fry these beauties on the stove.

CAROL ANN

Alright Marcy just be careful that is hot oil on a gas stove. I wouldn't want...

MARCY

Carol Ann please don't treat me like a child. I know the contents on the stove top are hot. Alright

lets toss one of these potato pancakes
in.

CAROL ANN

Marcy I don't think you should toss...

FX: Sizzling pan and oil. Flames erupt. Marcy and carol Ann
screaming.

MARCY

Carol Ann look what you made me do!
Don't just stand there get some water!

CAROL ANN

Oh my heavens! Marcy don't grab water!
Turn off the stove! Marcy don't put
that water on...

FX: oil sizzles and the fire alarm starts.

CAROL ANN

Marcy get the fuck out of the way! You
have to turn off the burner! Like this
and throw a towel or some baking soda
on it to smother it!

FX: flames fading out.

MARCY

Oh thank the lord Carol Ann you did
it. Now grab me a new pan before the
rest of the latkes get too brown.

fx; Elijah running in.

ELIJAH

What in the heavens, purgatory, limbo
or hell is going on down here?

CAROL ANN

Excuse my language, but Marcy almost
burnt the whole god damn church down.

MARCY

That is an exaggeration Elijah. I

was just frying up some potatoes.

ELIJAH

Marcy, the smoke alarm is going off and the cabinets are partially burned! You're lucky those flames didn't make it to the walls. look how much grease and old food is on them. (calm) Wow this kitchen is a mess Carol Ann.

CAROL ANN

I just cleaned it yesterday.

ELIJAH

Yesterday? We really need a stricter clean up policy in here. Anyway! Marcy! The stove top is trashed! How am I going to make my midday tea?

MARCY

Just put your cup of water in the microwave like every other American.

ELIJAH

Marcy I am at a loss for words.

MARCY

Thank God. I hope you're also at a loss for singing.

ELIJAH

That's it, I'm getting Pastor Jamie.

fx; footsteps

MARCY

Please, what are Pastor and Elijah going to do for punishment? The last time they punished me, I had to donate one dollar to the charity collection.

fx; swipe

MARCY

You're not letting me come to the SCONE Winter Gala?

PASTOR

Marcy, you started a fire in the kitchen. The stovetop is unsalvageable and we don't have it in the budget for a new one.

ELIJAH

We don't even have a budget...

PASTOR

You're lucky the whole kitchen didn't go up and flames. And on top of that, you burnt my favorite cupboar

MARCY

How do you have a favorite cupboard?

PASTOR

(brink of tears)

That cupboard and I have a lot of good memories! I'm sorry Elijah take over.

ELIJAH

Marcy...

PASTOR

You know why that was my favorite cupboard? It's where I hid most of my guilty pleasure snacks ok. the secrets out. Most of the parish can't reach the top shelf and I keep a stool under my desk when I'm having a rough day.

CAROL ANN

I could have used that stool when I was dusting your bookshelf the other day Pastor.

PASTOR

Carol Ann, can you not make this about you right now? Can't you see I'm very emotional?

CAROL ANN

I'm sorry Pastor.

PASTOR

You should be. I had a \$50 bag of chips and that cupboard and now they're gone.

MARCY

I mean \$50 for a bag of chips is a little steep Pastor. I only pay two dollars.

PASTOR

They're imported from France. I got addicted to them during my time in Paris. They're called Rufflés.

MARCY

Pastor, do you mean Ruffles potato chips? They sell those everywhere here and America. You know what I'll pick up a bag for you right now and all will be forgiven.

ELIJAH

No, Marcy, On top of the the fact you just started a fire, we've had some major complaints about you lately.

MARCY

Who has been complaining? And what about me to do they have to complain about?

ELIJAH

Everybody has been complaining.

MARCY

Everybody?

ELIJAH

Yes, Miss Eve Reebody. She said you blocked her car in with your car in the parking lot.

MARCY

Well where did Miss Eve Reebody have to go?

ELIJAH

Miss Eve Reebody was driving

herself to the hospital due to a bad skin graft.

MARCY

Am I to blame for the skin graft too? Next you're going to tell me that Eve Reebody wants me out of this church.

PASTOR

I pulled out your file Marcy, and it's out of control.

fx; large thump sound

MARCY

Pastor, please be careful with that file. It looks delicate.

PASTOR

This file could be used to anchor a boat.

ELIJAH

Marcy, this will be your sixth social suspension. Is there something you'd like to share with us? Maybe there's a problem at home or a bad relationship?

MARCY

I'm not sure what Annabelle has to do with this. But I would like to share that I think this is a witch-hunt. And that the previous five social suspensions were ridiculous.

PASTOR

Well my hands are tied.

MARCY

How are your dry, chalky, mother's milk white, in desperate need of lotion, hands tied Pastor Jamie?

PASTOR

Well I was playing with this Chinese finger-trap.

fx; snare drum

ELIJAH

Oh that tyes my hands together oo--oh
wait, Pastor please, now is not the
time for parlor games.

MARCY

This whole church is a parlor game!
I'll be leaving soon for New York
City, and this is the thanks I get:
social suspension.

PASTOR

Are you seriously moving to New York?
A lot of people believe you're just
spewing more lies.

MARCY

When have I ever lied?

fx; silence

MARCY

I asked you two a question.

PASTOR

Well...you do seem to...

ELIJAH

I mean...

MARCY

Spit it out! Spit it out like when
Mick Jagger had to spit out funky-
tasting acid strips back when I toured
with him.

ELIJAH

People do think you exaggerate things
around here.

MARCY

Who thinks that?

PASTOR

Eve Reebody for starters.

MARCY

What in the name of this god-forsaken,
musty church that even Jesus would
condemn, have I exaggerated?

PASTOR

(pitch goes higher per sentence)
Well Marcy is it possible that maybe
you didn't work with Justin
Timberlake? Or that maybe you didn't
do backup for Madonna on tour? Or that
you were a founding member of Marcy
Playground?

MARCY

Wow, so suddenly I'm a liar.

ELIJAH

We didn't say that!

MARCY

But you believe it.

ELIJAH

Oh I can't say it but *Yes, I dooooo.*

MARCY

Fine. If I'm going to be disrespected
and socially probated, I'll do it on
my own terms. I'll put *myself* on
social probation.

PASTOR

Well you have to be on social
probation because we said so.

MARCY

Well too bad, I put myself on social
probation first. It's a shame...I'll
be leaving to New York City in the
next few months and you might never
see me again.

CAROL ANN

Is that going to be left in writing
somewhere?

fx; Marcy storms out.

ELIJAH

Is it just a verbal promise then?

PASTOR

I'll leave a note for Troy, our SCONE security guard that Marcy won't be allowed in at the gala.

ELIJAH

Oh Troy won't be here for the gala and the rest of the year.

PASTOR

Why?

ELIJAH

He's going to the Solstice Leather Convention and Symposium and then a Ten Day Silent Screw Retreat.

PASTOR

Ah, of course. No judgement.

3 INT. CHURCH HALL

ELIJAH

It's the day of the SCONE Winter Gala and we're setting up, setting up. Liv, Jonathan, Carol Ann and I are getting ready with the decorations, decorations.

JONATHAN

Thank you for singing about what's going on right now as if any of us didn't know we were in the church hall getting ready for the SCONE Winter Gala.

ELIJAH

You're welcome.

LIV

Well, all the decorations are hanging up, Marjorie and Peter have prepared all of the food, the prize bags are ready and DJ...Big Boy Blast is set up.

DJ BIG BOY BLAST

YA gurl, I'm ready to spin some tunes!

JONATHAN

I've heard from good sources that he's not a big boy and his bedroom skills are not a blast.

LIV

I knew both of those facts from his DJ name alone.

fx; footsteps

MARJORIE

The hot dogs are ready for our hot dog bar! Our finger foods are good, and I got plenty of winter fudge to pack in everyone's mouth.

ELIJAH

I'm uncomfortable...

CAROL ANN

Tell me we have sliced peach halves with chicken breasts? That's my favorite dish at the Cockpit.

MARJORIE

I'm sorry Carol Ann, I figured the schedule was too tight to fit such a big thick order.

ELIJAH

(nervous)

Well if we're all done acting like adultering skanks, we can go home and come back for the gala.

CAROL ANN

Sounds good, let's all head out...see everyone in a couple hours!

fx; footsteps and a light switch

fx; swipe

ELIJAH

It's been a couple hours and now we're back to start the gala...

JONATHAN

It feels like just two minutes ago I was hearing your voice.

CAROL ANN

I brought the olive garden gift cards we're giving away.

LIV

Yeah, 'giving away' olive garden gift cards as if there's a demand for them.

ELIJAH

Opening the church hall..oh my gosh, no...NO!!!! NOOOOO!

LIV

What's wrong--oh I see it now!

JONATHAN

I cannot even begin to describe what I'm seeing!

CAROL ANN

Well let me describe it...all the big decorations have been taken...stolen I would guess. The minor decorations have been ruined, the tablecloths are in tatters--

LIV

Oh those tablecloths came like that Carol Ann. We put this Winter Gala together on a shoestring budget. Or should I say *tablestring*.

fx; footsteps

MARJORIE

Someone took all the food except for the hot dogs!

JONATHAN

Good thing we have those hot dogs. I love hot dogs.

LIV

We get it, you like guys!

JONATHAN

No seriously, I like hot dogs. I'm a huge fan of Chicago hot dogs and Cleveland hot dogs...

LIV

Oh, okay. I learn something new about you everyday.

JONATHAN

Thank you, it's hard being the only interesting person in this church.

ELIJAH

No decorations, no food...oh my gosh, where are the prizes?

CAROL ANN

The prizes are also missing! Did Sharon come back and steal all of this?

ELIJAH

No, last I heard she was scamming people in Canada, eh.

DJ BIG BOY BLAST

Oh no, someone stole all my cords...I can't play any of my own music and remixes for the party.

ELIJAH / JONATHAN / CAROL ANN / LIV

Oh no that's terrible, I love hearing local DJ's original music / Oh no, you have the best remixes / What, you're the best DJ I know / Shoot, and we love your music DJ Big Boy Blast.

LIV

Who did this?

ELIJAH

There's two people that come to mind. And right now, only one of those two is on social probation.

JONATHAN

Oh my gosh, Marcy?

LIV

I mean that's a great guess. Marcy's more vindictive than a 40 year old female divorcee in divorce court.

ELIJAH

I'll have to call the Pastor, but I think I'll also have to summon the SCONE Court.

fx; gasps and string music.

STACEY

Hi guys, it's me Stacey!

ELIJAH

Oh, our child violin prodigy Stacey is here, at least she can play music for us at this gala!

LIV

What the hell is scone Court?

FX: Dun. dun.

4 END OF PART ONE

5 PART TWO: THE PLEA

6 INT. RECTORY

fx; door jingles

MARCY

Good morning Olivia, I was summoned here and so now I'm here.

LIV

I didn't summon you here. Jonathan, did you summon Marcy?

JONATHAN

Trust me, I didn't either. I'd rather summon the devil himself.

LIV

What's the difference?

FX: Liv and Jonathan laughing.

MARCY

It was neither of you lowly employees. I was summoned here by Pastor and Elijah. Although, to be fair, they're also lowly employees.

LIV

Go ahead than to Pastor's office.

MARCY

Thank you for not making this a hassle.

LIV

I just don't care.

JONATHAN

It's Marcy, does anyone care?

fx; footsteps

MARCY

Pastor, I'm in the hallway, coming to see you.

PASTOR

Marcy, Elijah and I are in the collaboration space.

MARCY

A collaboration? The last time I did a musical collaboration, I was very unhappy with Steven Tyler's vocals on the track...

fx; door opens a bit.

ELIJAH

Marcy, please sit down.

MARCY

My goodness, this feels as serious as the time I had to represent myself in court against my own label. What's going on?

PASTOR

Funny you mentioned court...you're being accused of ruining the SCONE Winter Gala and we're taking you

to SCONE court.

MARCY

What? Are you serious? Are you as serious as the song "Serious" by Duran Duran off their album "Liberty"?

ELIJAH

Um Yes. We have summoned the three judges of SCONE Court. Your trial will start in two days at 6pm.

MARCY

That's a terrible time to have court.

ELIJAH

Well it's easy to forget that everyone works and goes to school except for the SCONDIES.

MARCY

6pm is my daily *personal* singing practice. It's how I stay *sharp*.

ELIJAH

Sharp and *off-key* I would say.

PASTOR

Marcy, this is a serious accusation against you. And if you're found guilty by the SCONE court, you will be excommunicated from this church.

MARCY

What exactly am I being accused of?

ELIJAH

You know what you did!

MARCY

Is this because I tried to help for the Winter Gala? And you didn't take my help? And now I'm being blamed for the outcome? I wasn't even there, but knowing this church the Winter Gala was probably more messed up than Miley

Cyrus twerking on stage at the VMAs!

PASTOR

Marcy, you stole the decorations,
prizes and food from the Winter Gala.
You ruined the entire event!

MARCY

That's preposterous.

PASTOR

My posture is fine thank you.

MARCY

I wasn't even in the church that day!
I decided to go meditate by myself.

ELIJAH

Marcy, I've never seen you meditate or
using any form of self-reflecting.

MARCY

Ha ha Elijah. Jokes on you, I can
reflect on myself. It's hard since I'm
so impressive.

PASTOR

Jury selection begins in two days.
Meanwhile, we can't afford you a real
lawyer. But we did find someone
willing to defend you in SCONE Court.

MARCY

Well please tell me it's Lawyer Larry.
He's actually equipped for this
miscarriage of justice.

ELIJAH

Unfortunately, Lawyer Larry *committed*
a miscarriage of justice and is behind
bars for a decade. Your lawyer should
be here shortly...

fx; door opens

GLADYS

How dare you talk to my client without me present!

MARCY

Are you saying that *Gladys* will be defending me? Isn't Gladys better suited for the role of a criminal than a lawyer?

GLADYS

I will have you know I have been to court... I mean uh I've seen court on the television MANY times. So I know how to prepare a defense. Also, no one else in this church wants anything to do with you since you ruined the Winter Gala. Granted, they didn't want anything to do with you before you ruined the Winer Gala....

MARCY

How much are you being paid Gladys?

ELIJAH

We're paying her twenty dollars a day to defend you.

MARCY

It explains why someone of Gladys' *stature* is defending me then.

GLADYS

Relax, I'm going to actually defend you. I have been on the receiving end of a lot of false accusations at this church. So I want to stick it to the man!

PASTOR

Or woman.

GLADYS

Well, yes I suppose woman in this case. This place is pretty judgy for having their mantra be no judgment. You're not guilty anyway, Marcy! Unless you are guilty. You can tell me if you are

guilty Marcy, not that I care I still get paid...

PASTOR

Unfortunately, from this point out we must cease contact. Elijah and I will be the prosecutors in this trial.

MARCY

You two couldn't prosecute a squirrel for stealing bird feed!

ELIJAH

Normally I'm not confrontational, but you broke something in me Marcy. I hope you burn.

fx; light gasps

ELIJAH

Burn what you did into your subconscious and realize that you did a bad thing.

MARCY

Well that wasn't as threatening as it could have been.

GLADYS

Come on Marcy, we have work to do. Elijah, Pastor...under normal circumstances I'd tell you to lower the hear in the church and to have a good day. But since you're my opponents, fuck off! Come now Marcy.

fx; door closes.

MARCY

This is ridiculous. I didn't steal Christmas.

GLADYS

And I didn't steal John Wayne's underwear back in the day.

MARCY

Gladys, I'm serious!

GLADYS

I am too, I just claimed John Wayne
slept in those undies.

MARCY

I think I'm being framed and
railroaded.

GLADYS

I don't need to hear about your sex
life. Anyways, I got you another
person who's going to defend you in
court.

MARCY

Who?

7 INT. JUNIOR DETECTIVE LEAGUE

ANNABELLE

Well over my name, Annabelle, I do not
want to defend my step-grandmother.

GLADYS

Annabelle, I know you think Marcy is
the worst. I happen to think Kid Rock
is probably the worst of the worst.
But I get it. Marcy's definitely down
there.

ANNABELLE

Ever since Marcy married my
grandfather, she's been a thorn in my
side.

MARCY

"Thorn In My Side" would be an
excellent name for a song.

ANNABELLE

Marcy's so vapid that she isn't even
aware I'm talking about her. She makes
a terrible wife to her husband, my
grandfather.

MARCY

Annabelle, your grandfather is never
around. When was the last time you saw
him?

ANNABELLE

It was at Christmas!

MARCY

Last year's Christmas? Exacty.

ANNABELLE

You don't even know my grandfather's name.

MARCY

Of course, his name is Annabelle's Grandpa.

ANNABELLE

See Gladys.

GLADYS

Listen you little Nancy Drew, if you can help defend Marcy, you'll get a ton of points for your little Junior Detective League.

RICKY

That's a great point Gladys.

GLADYS

Where the hell did Ryan come from? Was he in the cigar lounge with all the boys drinking whisky and talking about doing it with his mistresses? Like my FIRST HUSBAND DID?

RICKY

Um. No. Ms. Gladys I've been here the whole time. My name is RICKY and I haven't been doing anything mischievous. So are we defending Marcy?

ANNABELLE

Ricky, Marcy hasn't been anything but rude to us. Why should we help her?

RICKY

It hasn't all been bad. Remember that one time we got Outback Steakhouse?

ANNABELLE

Remember that one time Marcy threw water on the stage and made me slip so she could play the lead in a childrens play? Or that time Marcy scared us at Holloween. Or the countless amounts of times she bullied us?

RICKY

Well, Marcy's not perfect but she deserves a chance to prove her innocence. Plus Jesus taught us to forgive. It's what Jesus would do.

ANNABELLE

I don't even think Jesus would defend Marcy, but Fine, we'll help investigate and defend Marcy.

GLADYS

Hehehe. Plus, you can think of this like an internship. We'll offer you no real means or payment. But the experience will be worth while.

MARCY

Good news, I texted Jean Blue and she's coming back to help defend me.

GLADYS

I don't know how Jean Blue will help your defense, but we need all the man power we can get even if Jean has the power of a wilted daisy.

RICKY

I can help too!

GLADYS

How about you help us by getting us snacks while I interview Marcy?

RICKY

Sure, we got some leftover glue somewhere!

ANNABELLE

Rickay!

8 INT. CHURCH HALL

fx; dramatic music

ELIJAH

Day 1. Jury Selection. The time is 5:55 PM. Pastor and Elijah are sitting at the prosecutor's desk. Marcy, Gladys, Annabelle and Jean Blue are over at the defense desk.

PASTOR

Are you going to narrate this whole trial Elijah?

ELIJAH

I'm recording notes...we can't hire a court transcriber so this will be how we keep things on the record.

MARCY

Well who is the judge?

GLADYS

So, that's the thing. SCONE Court has 3 judges.

MARCY

3 Judges? What in the world...

GLADYS

They're elected by secret ballot. And we don't know who the judges are until they walk out and sit at that beer pong table.

MARCY

So if there are *three* judges, then why do we even need a *jury*?

ANNABELLE

The three judges ensure that the trial is fair. The six jurors decide guilt.

MARCY

This sounds more convoluted than

the most recent few albums from Alicia Keys.

AXL

Yo, all rise. I'm the bailiff and I'm about to release the SCONE judges.

PASTOR

Why is Axl the bailiff?

ELIJAH

I think we needed someone bulky and both Garfield and James want to be on the jury.

PASTOR

Yikes, shouldn't they be excused from being on the jury then? That sounds like a conflict of interest.

ELIJAH

Eh, in real court maybe...

f;x door opens

AXL

Please rise for Judge Carol Ann, Judge Chet and Judge Marjorie.

MARCY

The overseerers of justice are Carol Ann, Chet and Marjorie? Well justice is blind...and deaf, and tasteless and corrupt.

CAROL ANN

Judge Carol Ann reporting for duty.

CHET

Yo, I'm here. Judge Chet.

MARJORIE

Hi, it's me Marjorie! Oops, I mean Judge Marjorie!

CAROL ANN

It's now time for jury selection. The juror pool includes all active

members of the congregation. Axl, can you get the first group of people?

fx; swipe

GLADYS

James...is it true that you were in the war.

JAMES

Absolutely I was in the war!

GLADYS

Then you cannot serve in this jury!

fx; light gasps

JAMES

Why are you prejudicing me!?

GLADYS

Because Marcy also served in the war and you might show bias to her because of it.

fx; light gasps

ELIJAH

(into the microphone)

6:13...Gladys accuses James of having potential bias in the jury.

PASTOR

(half whisper)

Are you really going to whisper in that recorder this whole time?

ELIJAH

I want to be able to explain the gasps in the backdrop.

JAMES

That's poo-posterous. Marcy isn't a veteran.

MARCY

(whisper)

Annabelle, where is Gladys going with this?

ANNABELLE
 (whisper)
 Shh, lemme listen.

GLADYS
 I didn't say Marcy is a veteran, I
 said she was in war. The war against
 good music.

fx; light gasps.

CAROL ANN
 Well that's an effective argument.
 I'll grant it, what say you Chet and
 Marjorie.

CHET / MARJORIE
 Whatever / Absolutely!

FX: Hammer pounds

JAMES
 goddamn Gladys...ruining all the fun
 out of this...mmmhm...

JEAN BLUE
 I have a question for Garfield.

CAROL ANN
 I'm sorry Jean Blue, are you part of
 Marcy's defense.

JEAN BLUE
 Well I did study pre-law at Emerson.

fx; light gasps

ELIJAH
 (stage whisper)
 People are gasping because that seems
 extremely out of character.

JEAN BLUE
 Garfield, I've heard you make many
 comments about how you dislike Marcy.
 Do you think that should exclude you
 from this trial?

GARFIELD
 When have I ever said that?

JEAN BLUE

I have you on record on this snapchat video last week, shall I play the audio?

GARFIELD

(video audio)

Why I hope Marcy fries...she's guilty for this crime and I'll convict her if I'm on the jury. That hussy.

fx; gasps.

PASTOR

Alright, we have to cool it on the gasps.

GLADYS

Also, Garfield isn't good with judgement. He is seeing Denise after all.

MARJORIE

I agree with both these claims, Garfield you are excused from the jury pool.

FX: Hammer pound

CHET

Damn it Marjorie I wanted to do the hammer thing.

MARJORIE

Ope sorry Chet. You can do it next time sweetie.

CAROL ANN

May I ask the court why we have hammers and not actual gavels?

PASTOR

All the Masons have the gavel's for their meeting down the hall. All we have are Benni's hammers.

CHET

I think there's blood on mine.

JONATHAN

Hello? Can I be excused from the jury pool?

GLADYS

No, because I think you'd vote for my side.

PASTOR

Objection!

ELIJAH

Pastor Jamie objects.

CHET

I don't see a problem with Gladys for saying that. Jonathan can stay on the jury.

FX: Hammer pound

PASTOR

Well I want Jonathan out of the jury.

JONATHAN

Omg, Judge Carol Ann...Pastor is being homophobic.

PASTOR

I'm not being homophobic!

JONATHAN

Well you don't want me, a gay man, to be on this jury with all these straight-os. I don't know what else to call it.

CAROL ANN

It does look like that Pastor...

ELIJAH

Yikes if a judge says it Pastor...

PASTOR

FINE, Jonathan can be on the jury. But then Elijah and I get to pick someone.

CHET

I could not care less.

PASTOR

Then I'm picking Chet's Mom.

CHET

That feels like a conflict of interest.

CHET'S MOM

I'd be fair and very impartial. I'd only listen to the facts. I am a Police Sargent after all.

MARJORIE

Well I think Chet's Mom is a perfect choice for the jury.

CAROL ANN

Same here.

CHET'S MOM

Besides I don't want to miss my little baby boy's first trial as a judge.

ANNABELLE

Calm down, he's not a real judge.

GLADYS

I would like to excuse Denise from the jury pool. I find her to be a tart.

AGNES

I do too!

GLADYS

And since Agnes has good taste, I'd like her to be juror number three.

AGNES

Why thank you.

fx; silence

GLADYS

You're welcome!

PASTOR

I have issues with Susanne as a juror.

SUSANNE

Oh? Sounds like there's...drama.

fx; Susanne audio gag.

PASTOR

Well that's exactly my issue. Susanne is going to create a lot of drama if she sits on this jury.

SUSANNE

Pastor, I would never create drama. Or would I?

fx; Susanne audio gag

CAROL ANN

Well would you Susanne?

SUSANNE

I dunno...maybe? Maybe not? but Maybe?

fx; Susanna audio gag

MARJORIE

Susanne, you're excused from jury duty.

SUSANNE

Darn it. All I was going to do was talk with the jury about the case when I'm not supposed to.

ELIJAH

I feel like Pagan Ginger would be a good juror.

GLADYS

I agree, I have no problems with Ginger.

AA GINGER

Did someone call for me?

PASTOR

No AA Ginger, she clearly met Ginger as in Pagan Ginger.

AA GINGER

Well that's confusing since

there's two Gingers...

PAGAN GINGER

I never know which Ginger we're talking about when we say 'Ginger'...

GLADYS

Enough of this. So we need two more from this jury pool...I'm afraid to say I want to pass on Barbara and Katherine. The two of them are like sheep.

BARBARA

That's not fair, I was only baah-ing the other day because I fell asleep during mass and was counting sheep!

PASTOR

The last thing I need is Socialist Dave and Communist Derek yelling about how unfair we are during the trial.

COMMUNIST DEREK

That unfair prosecutor is making accusations about us! I demand justice for this government swine.

CAROL ANN

All four of them are dismissed.

JONATHAN

What about Peter? Can he join the jury?

JEAN BLUE

I'd normally say a husband to a judge shouldn't join the jury. But Peter seems to have no interest in Marjorie, so it's fine by me.

ELIJAH

Pastor and I agree with what Jean Blue said.

PETER

It's true, I can keep my love for Marjorie on the sidelines.

LIV

Like that's something new for him.

GLADYS

So we need one more juror....well no offense Alice, but I don't think you'd be a great juror.

ALICE

Are you serious?

PASTOR

Gladys is right, you do have a habit of yelling.

ALICE

I DO NOT YELL! I AM SIMPLY JUST LOUD!

JEAN BLUE

Well, I only have a pre-law degree, but I think yelling and being loud is the same thing.

ALICE

You cannot kick me off this jury, I'm a perfect jury member.

GLADYS

Well damn...I'm a sucker for a strong woman.

ELIJAH

Day 1, 6:30pm. Alice has made a big stink and we will leave her on the jury.

CAROL ANN

Alright, it's now time for opening statements before we close for the night. If the prosecutors would like to begin.

PASTOR

Ahem. There's only one person in this whole room who can be guilty of treachery.

JAMES

It wasn't me, I never betrayed the army.

PASTOR

Only one person wanted that SCONE Winter Gala destroyed. Jealous that her help went unneeded, upset that we were banning her, Marcy was the one to ruin the Winter Gala.

ANNABELLE

Wow, there's no facts but the emotion is simply overpowering!

PASTOR

We will prove with evidence that not only did Marcy commit this crime, but we will advocate that she should be ex-communicated for doing said crime. That is it.

fx: gasps

ELIJAH

Pastor sits down after finishing her opening statement. The church is stunned.

CAROL ANN

Alright, will the defense do their opening statement.

JEAN BLUE

I got this Gladys.

GLADYS

Are you sure Jean Blue?

JEAN BLUE

Yes....Hello everyone, it's me Jean Blue. I came back from New York City because I believe in Marcy. I believe in her so much. I believe in her innocence, and I believe in her generous heart.

ANNABELLE

Gladys, you better do something. I don't think the jury is buying these lies.

MARCY

Excuse me, I have a very generous

heart.

GLADYS

Generous heart at the buffet I bet...alright Jean Blue, thank you for that rousing introduction. Can I be candid with the jury?

AGNES

Yes, please be candid with us.

MARJORIE

Agnes, that's the judges decide if the lawyers can be candid.

AGNES

Well let them be candid, jesus Marjorie.

MARJORIE

Okay! Gladys, you may be candid.

MARCY

Did someone say candid camera? Have the paparazzi arrived?

GLADYS

Jury...do I think Marcy is great? No. Do I think Marcy is a good person? No. Would I go to a private dinner with Marcy to the finest restaurant in town? Maybe, if the meal was free. Would I rather choke myself to unconsciousness and let a bunch of kids think I'm dead and let those same kids stick a branch in my eye then hang out with Marcy? Yes, I would.

JONATHAN

Wow, I love this candid defense attorney.

GLADYS

However, Marcy didn't do this crime. She might be terrible, but she didn't do this terrible act.

ELIJAH

(soft whisper)

The crowd seems to agree. Just because Marcy is the worst, doesn't mean she committed the worst thing to happen to SCONE.

GLADYS

So do not cast judgement yet. That's what I'm going to say.

CAROL ANN

Alright, we will commence with day two of the trail tomorrow. The prosecution will begin the proceedings tomorrow.

AXL

Everyone stand up, the judges are leaving.

AGNES

I'm not standing up for Carol Ann, Chet and Marjorie...if I didn't stand up for the President at the State of the Union when I was a guest, then I'm not standing for these three bimbos.

- 9 END OF PART TWO
- 10 PART THREE: THE PROSECUTION
- 11 INT. CHURCH HALL

AXL

The jury of six will now enter the room.

ELIJAH

(whisper into the microphone)

Yesterday, we decided that the jury would be made up of Foreman Jonathan, Peter, Alice, Pagan Ginger, Chet's Mom and Agnes.

JONATHAN

To be honest, when I volunteered to be the foreman, I thought foreman meant something dirty.

PASTOR

Elijah I really doubt we need your commentary on the recorder...

ELIJAH

Pastor, please. If there's one thing I know around here, it's recordings.

AGNES

Mmm, it's definitely not how to sing into a recording. I can attest to that.

AXL

All rise for the three judges of SCONE COURT: Carol Ann, Marjorie and Chet.

CAROL ANN

Well, it's day two of court proceedings. The prosecution will begin their facts to the jury.

PASTOR

I would first like to call up our first witness, SAMANTHA, to the jury.

ELIJAH

Samantha has been called up to the stand.

GLADYS

Samantha? The teenage girl who thinks she's a slut but she's never been with a single human soul let alone a vibrator?

JEAN BLUE

Objection, we didn't know that Samantha was a witness your honors. In fact, we don't know any of the prosecution's witnesses.

ELIJAH

Your honors, according to the bylines, neither the prosecution or the defense have to inform the other of their witnesses.

CHET

Huh, I guess that sounds right.

CHET'S MOM

Chet, sweetie...you're a judge. You have to be more official-sounding.

CHET

Fine mom. The judges agree with Elijah. I mean Elijah's holding the bylaws so why would he lie?

ELIJAH

I have never lied in the history of this church.

GLADYS

OBJECTION, Elijah called the choir 'excellent' when we know the choir is barely good!

fx; light gasps

ELIJAH

Your honors, that was a white lie at best. An exaggerated compliment I would say.

GLADYS

You're honors, Elijah has just lied about lying and confessed to the truth of his lies and now how are we to believe anything he says? I suggest we lock him up in up in the basement until this trial is over!

ELIJAH

I did not lie about lying! I may have lied but the lie was a necessary lie and I'd be lying if I say I have never lied but that lie would be a good lie because you can't handle the truth of that lie!

GLADYS

You confessed again to the lies of your lies!

FX: Gladys and Elijah arguing.

FX: hammer pounding

CAROL ANN

Order in the court! I have no idea what anyone is saying! And I demand both of you sit down at once.

MARJORIE

I agree, moving on to Samantha. Hello sweetie. I believe the pastor has some questions for you.

PASTOR

Samantha, is it true, on the day of the Winter Gala...you saw Marcy in this church?

SAMANTHA

I did!

fx; gasps

PASTOR

What time was that?

SAMANTHA

About two hours before the Winter Gala?

fx; gasps

PASTOR

So, for the record, Elijah, Jonathon, Liv and I got there at 4:30 and you saw Marcy in the church at 4pm. just a half hour before we walked in to find the Gala had been cleaned out?

SAMANTHA

Yes!

fx; gasps

GLADYS

Your honors, can we have the gallery stop gasping at every little statement? It's

distracting.

CAROL ANN

We need the gallery of spectators to limit their gasps to one group gasp per minute.

JAMES

I went to war, I should be allowed to gasp as much as I want to!

GARFIELD

I'm not gasping from the trial, I'm gasping because of my sleep apnea.

ELIJAH

Alright Samantha, you're excused from the stand.

SAMANTHA

Wait, doesn't the defense get to grill me?

JEAN BLUE

Yes we do. Samantha, is it true that you're a woman of the night?

SAMANTHA

Well I suppose so. The night is beautiful to me...

JEAN BLUE

And Samantha, would you call yourself a slut?

SAMANTHA

Well of course.

JEAN BLUE

Your honor, this witness is lying about her sexual history! She cannot be trusted to tell the truth about Marcy's whereabouts.

ELIJAH

Your honors, that's a stretch!

CAROL ANN

Samantha, are you telling the truth?

SAMANTHA

I am allowed to call myself a slut if I want to your honor!

ELIJAH

Exactly, let her be a sex worker.

JEAN BLUE

Samantha is, by definition, *not* a harlot, a hooker, an adulteress...she's none of them. And thus if she lies about herself, can she be trusted to tell the truth about my client?

CAROL ANN

We'll let the jury decide that. Pastor, call your next witness.

PASTOR

My next witness is Pastor Wyatt.

fx; gasps

CAROL ANN

Alright, the gallery of spectators used your one group gasp for the next minute.

PASTOR WYATT

Why hello everyone, it's so good to be back at Scone. And to see Pastor Jamie.

GLADYS

Objection your honors! The prosecution is bringing witnesses that are lying and not to be trusted. Pastor Jamie is wearing a terrible blouse and an ill fitting jacket. Why would Pastor Wyatt say it's lovely to see her? Pastor Jamie looks like a pirate going to an interview for a position at Key Bank.

CAROL ANN

Overruled. While I will agree that Pastor Jamie's blouse is not the most flattering I do believe Pastor Wyatt is happy to see

Pastor Jamie. You may continue Pastor Wyatt.

PASTOR WYATT

Pastor Jamie I think that is a lovely blouse.

FX: Gladys groans.

PASTOR

Wyatt this is not a social call, this is court.

WYATT

Why, I'm sorry I couldn't help but notice those gorgeous eyelashes...

PASTOR

Marcy claims she was mediating at Mediative Meadows from noon to 6. Are you familiar with Mediative Meadows?

AGNES

Yes, it's that hippie place where you pay to meditate in an indoor meadow, right?

PASTOR

I was asking Pastor Wyatt, not the jury.

PAGAN GINGER

I have a coupon if you want to go Agnes.

AGNES

I'd rather go straight to HELL!

CHET'S MOM

Chet sweetie, you need to reign this jury in. They're getting a little wild and they are your responsibility.

CHET

Mom relax I'm trying to be a judge.

CHET'S MOM

What did I tell you about standing

up for yourself? If all your friends wanted to vape to death, would you do so too?

CHET

Mom please, I don't vape, I smoke weed.

PASTOR

OBJECTION TO ALL OF YOU!

WYATT

You can object me all you like Pastor. And back on track, yes I am aware of mediating meadows.

PASTOR

And Pastor Wyatt you happen to know that Marcy was not at mediating meadows last week on the day of the SCONE Winter Gala. Why is that?

WYATT

Because I work the front desk at Mediating Meadows every Saturday!

fx; gasps

MARJORIE

Alright, I'm setting the clock for one minute...

PASTOR

So Marcy *wasn't* at Mediating Meadows on the Saturday in question?

WYATT

Nope, she didn't sign in, pay a fee, wave a membership card...I even went back and checked the footage and she wasn't there.

PASTOR

Thank you Wyatt, that's all I need.

PASTOR WYATT

Is that so Pastor Jamie?

GLADYS

Is it my turn to badger the witness.

WYATT

I'd rather be badgered by Pastor
Jamie...

GLADYS

Is it possible that Marcy mixed up the
days she went?

WYATT

I'd say so, that could be a common
mistake anyone makes.

GLADYS

Exactly. ANYONE could make it.
Furthermore...sorry, Pastor Wyatt is
so gorgeous I lost my train of
thought.

JEAN BLUE

I got this Gladys. Pastor Wyatt, when
you work at the Meditating Meadows, do
you take a break?

WYATT

I get two fifteens and a lunch.

JEAN BLUE

So it's possible that Marcy was there
and you just happened to be on your
break?

WYATT

I suppose so, but what about the
footage. Marcy's not on any footage--

JEAN BLUE

And is it possible that these cameras
don't successfully showcase the
establishment?

WYATT

I mean, there are only two cameras and
they aren't that great, so it's
possible...

JEAN BLUE
I dismiss Pastor Wyatt.

PASTOR
So do I! Both as a witness and
romantically.

WYATT
Awh.

PASTOR
We have a forensics expert...Officer
Michelle will be taking the stand.

GLADYS
Objection, Officer Michelle is
extremely incompetent.

OFFICER MICHELLE
That's right--oh wait, that's *not*
right!

MARJORIE
I've always loved Officer Michelle.
She reminds me of myself.

JONATHAN
YIKES so that's not a compliment.

PETER
I've always been more of a fan of
Officer Patrick personally.

LIV
No surprise, Peter prefers the *man*.

PASTOR
Officer Michelle, please state for the
record your background.

OFFICER MICHELLE
Former TRUTH program intern turned
police officer turned detective.

PASTOR
I see, that's a lot of experience.

OFFICER MICHELLE
Absolutely.

PASTOR
In examining the crime scene, what did you find?

OFFICER MICHELLE
I found that the person responsible for the attack someone had it out for the church. The massive theft proved it was personal.

PASTOR
Do you have any details on the demographics of the thief?

OFFICER MICHELLE
It had to be someone vindictive, someone with a mastermind of evil in their head. Someone who is egotistical, vain, vapid and narcissistic.

MARCY
That doesn't sound like me at all.

OFFICER MICHELLE
Knowing Marcy, I think she fits the bill.

PASTOR
Did we find fingerprints at the crime scene?

OFFICER MICHELLE
Unfortunately, the crime scene was tampered with since you still *held* the SCONE Winter Gala.

ELIJAH
Well we still had the hot dogs leftover.

PASTOR
Gladys and Jean Blue, this is your witness now.

GLADYS
Officer Michelle, is it true that

you were the one who discovered
Silver's purse operation?

OFFICER MICHELLE

Yes, that was me.

ANNABELLE

(under her breath)

If that's what you have to tell
yourself at night

GLADYS

Was that your first 'cracked case'
sort to speak?

JAMES

Garfield and I have already cracked
this case of beer.

GLADYS

I wasn't talking to your dumbass! I
was talking to *this* dumbass.

OFFICER MICHELLE

The purse operation was my first
cracked case.

GLADYS

So you don't have much experience,
right? You have more experience than
Samantha, but not a lot.

SAMANTHA

Wow that's so rude.

OFFICER MICHELLE

What's your question?

GLADYS

How can you come up with these
theories about the crime when you're
not an expert?

OFFICER MICHELLE

I'm a detective!

JEAN BLUE

Let me handle this like I handled the
old key to the apartment I shared with
my ex-husband...Officer Michelle, is
it

true or is it not true that you have a degree in criminology.

OFFICER MICHELLE
No, I studied Biology actually.

JEAN BLUE
No degrees, no certificates...

OFFICER MICHELLE
I have a certificate from a scrapbooking class.

JEAN BLUE
So what makes you qualified to make general statements about who did this crime?

OFFICER MICHELLE
Well I am a detective...

JEAN BLUE
And you've solved one case in your career, you don't have any background in forensics, profiling, law, DNA...

OFFICER MICHELLE
I'm just naturally gifted.

JEAN BLUE
Which means nothing in this court. You're excused.

CAROL ANN
Wow, that was gripping. I didn't know Jean Blue was such a good lawyer.

MARCY
Jean Blue, you should consider becoming a lawyer! You'd be excellent.

JEAN BLUE
My ex-husband said I'd make for a better courtroom custodian than a lawyer.

MARCY
Jean, just like this trial, your

ex-husband is a waste of time and is complete garbage.

PASTOR

Your honors, the prosecutors rests.

ELIJAH

To be fair, I've been resting this whole time.

CHET

Alright, we shall convene for the day and resume tomorrow.

JONATHAN

Peter...do you want to talk about the case with me? Privately perhaps? In a hotel room? With champagne flutes and strawberries?

PETER

I'm good but thank you for the offer.

CHET'S MOM

Chet, I'm so proud of you for being a big boy!

CHET

Mom, don't make me sequester you...

ANNABELLE

So tomorrow we'll be interviewing our witnesses, right?

GLADYS

Yeah.

ANNABELLE

And who are our witnesses.

GLADYS

Funny story, we don't have any.

ANNABELLE

Are you serious Gladys? If we don't have any witnesses, Marcy is more fried than a fried Louisiana alligator po'boy with french fries

and some fried beighnets!

GLADYS

Relax, I have a couple ideas...

fx; swipe

PASTOR

Elijah, are you sure you want to handle the cross examination?

ELIJAH

Yes, I need to work on my confrontational skills.

PASTOR

I guess this *trial* is the perfect place for that then.

GLADYS

Hey, prosecutors...you're going down.

PASTOR

I doubt that Gladys...the only thing I see going down is justice.

GLADYS

You wouldn't know justice if it hit you in the face.

PASTOR

I'll have you know that justice *has* hit me in the face. It was back when I ran AA in Paris. Justice was upset with life and accidentally punched me. She ended up becoming a local city councilwomen.

ELIJAH

I won't have to be punched tomorrow will I?

12 END OF PART THREE

13 PART FOUR

ELIJAH

It's day three of the trial...and now it's the defense's turn to

bring up witnesses...

JEAN BLUE

Your honors, the first person we want to call up is Annabelle!

fx; 'outrage outrage outrage'

PASTOR

I agree with the outrage coming from the gallery!

MARJORIE

There's an art gallery going on in the back of the church hall?

CAROL ANN

Well this is weird Gladys, but I suppose we can allow Annabelle to take the stand.

ANNABELLE

Well let's see if this works...

GLADYS

Annabelle, you live with Marcy, is that correct?

ANNABELLE

I didn't want people to know that embarrassing fact!

GLADYS

And is it true that Marcy is your step grandmother?

ANNABELLE

What do these terrible facts have to do with Marcy's case?

GLADYS

I'm getting there. Were you with Marcy on the day of the alleged theft?

ANNABELLE

I was.

GLADYS

Was it around the time that Marcy was supposed to be stealing

things.

ANNABELLE

A half hour before Elijah and them found the church hall cleared out...Marcy was home.

fx; gasps

CAROL ANN

Alright, that's our gasp for the minute. We can't gasp again for another 55 seconds.

GLADYS

And how do you know that?

ANNABELLE

I was on a facetime call with Ricky. I have that time and Ricky can back me up.

RICKY

It's true, I saw Marcy on the facetime video!

AGNES

I suppose we can trust kids. Back in my day we didn't trust kids until they turned twenty-five.

JEAN BLUE

Annabelle, do you have any other information that would prove Marcy's innocence?

ANNABELLE

Before Marcy interrupted my call with Ricky, I did see her an hour before the attack as well. She was making a light snack. She told me that she came from the studio that used to be my old bedroom before I got moved to the basement.

JEAN BLUE

Thank you Annabelle, that shall do. Your witness, prosecution.

ELIJAH

Annabelle...is it possible you're

lying because you love your step-grandmother?

ANNABELLE

No, if anything it's *painful* to tell you the truth.

ELIJAH

Is Marcy forcing you to say this? Is she threatening to kick you out of the house and make you live an Orphan Annie 'The Sun Will Rise Tomorrow' kind of situation?

MARCY

Please Elijah, Annabelle doesn't have the *range* to do Orphan Annie. Although Annabelle does have the *looks* for Miss Hannagan, the orphanage caretaker.

ANNABELLE

You see how Marcy treats me, there's no way I would lie for Marcy, the *real* Miss Hannagan.

ELIJAH

But Marcy's been known to be crafty. Do you think she might have crafted something up even with a time crunch?

ANNABELLE

How does one ruin an entire event so quickly? I don't think she could have done it Elijah. It sucks, because I would love Marcy to *justly* serve a social suspension. But your story, the prosecution's story, isn't what truly happened.

fx; gasps and murmurs from the jury.

PETER

Wow, Annabelle makes a great witness.

JONATHAN

I'd love to be your witness.

ELIJAH
I have excused Annabelle.

PASTOR
(side whisper)
You went pretty easy on Annabelle.

ELIJAH
She's an eleven year old girl, what was I supposed to say? 'Stop lying you beeyotch?'

JEAN BLUE
The next witness we want to call up is me, Jean Blue.

fx; crickets

GLADYS
What? Where are the gasps for that bombshell?

GARFIELD
We gotta wait ten seconds till we're allowed to gasp again.

JAMES
I was in the war, I'm gasping now!
GASP!

PASTOR
Objection, the entire defense team are suddenly 'witnesses'.

CHET
This is pretty wild and I love it.
I'll allow it.

PAGAN GINGER
Wow, this play is phenomenal.

ALICE
Pagan Ginger, we are in the middle of a TRIAL!

PAGAN GINGER
Yeah, the play is called 'The Trial.'

ALICE
Pagan Ginger this is a real

criminal trial! Except it's not criminal or civil and SCONE isn't a true governing body...so yeah, I suppose it is like a play.

PAGAN GINGER

I smoked a few joints before coming to tonight's feature.

CAROL ANN

I agree with Chet. Jean Blue *can* be a witness, but I'll be watching her like I watched my drinks around Jeffery Dahmer back when I volunteered in prison.

MARJORIE

You better not be doing this as a trick Jean Blue!

JEAN BLUE

The only trick I know is when my husband would lock me out of our New York City apartment and I'd have to pretend to be a dog for him to let me back in.

MARCY

Jesus, she's like an HBO special. Except Jean Blue is free!

GLADYS

Jean Blue, I heard you have evidence that makes Marcy innocent.

JEAN BLUE

I do. I was with Marcy having dinner forty-five minutes *after* the church hall was found ruined and destroyed.

GLADYS

And do you have proof.

JEAN BLUE

I have this receipt.

GLADYS

Let the record show that the receipt has Marcy's signature

meal: an expensive steak with a salad side and steamed broccoli.

MARCY

I have *many* signature meals Gladys.

JONATHAN

Sure, just like Marcy Playground had *many* hits.

GLADYS

I would like the inept and somewhat high jury to see the receipt please.

CAROL ANN

Yes, please pass the receipt and a high five to the jury Axl.

AXL

I'm passing things now? I thought my job as the bailiff was to just stand around.

ELIJAH

Well we don't have a real prison so you probably could just pass things around...

ALICE

Oh wow, the time on this receipt is *awfully close* to the time of the SCONE Winter Gala.

AGNES

Unfortunately Jean Blue is my daughter so I'm quite aware that she wasn't at the SCONE Winter Gala. I wouldn't let her come, she'd embarrass me.

GLADYS

Elijah, your turn to question Jean Blue.

ELIJAH

Absolutely. Jean Blue, are you not friends with Marcy.

JEAN BLUE
No, that's not true.

ELIJAH
I thought you and Marcy are friends.

JEAN BLUE
We are friends!

ELIJAH
I just asked if you're not friends
with Marcy.

JEAN BLUE
I'm confused by the question.

CAROL ANN
I think we have established that Jean
Blue is Marcy's only friend.

MARCY
Only friend? I'll have you know that I
talk to Nelly Furtado on a regular
basis. The only pop artist I respect.

ELIJAH
So is it possible you're lying?

JEAN BLUE
You want to talk about lying? How
about when your husband tells you that
he loves you and then he breaks your
heart by saying his love wasn't true?

ELIJAH
Well that's never happened to me--

JEAN BLUE
Lying like the time my husband forgot
to buy me a sandwich because he said
he 'thought I hated sandwiches?'

ELIJAH
Nobody hates sandwiches!

JEAN BLUE
Lying like the time when my ex

husband told my sister that I could stand to lose some weight after I gained two pounds after I broke both my legs and had to limp around the house because he was too cheap to buy me a wheelchair and help me out?

ELIJAH

Uh...can we get back on topic?

JEAN BLUE

Lying! Like I LIED to myself!? All those years apparently in love now...finding it's all a lie. His lie. My lie. *Our* lie.

ELIJAH

Welp. Okay.

JEAN BLUE

I think Elijah's done questioning me.

CAROL ANN

Is that true Elijah?

ELIJAH

Uh...I guess so?

CAROL ANN

Alright, back to the defense.

PASTOR

You didn't even *ask* a question this time!

ELIJAH

What was I supposed to do, Jean Blue had a whole monologue cooked up like we're one of the two schools in the state with a properly funded drama program!

GLADYS

We cease our defense presentation. We believe that the receipt and Annabelle's testimony is enough to prove innocence.

CAROL ANN

Alright, well it's time for closing arguments.

GLADYS

Well can what I say count as our closing statement? I mean come on jury, when would Marcy have had the time? Look at her! She's old and decrypt, loud and annoying and way too noticeable to get this heist done. If Marcy's elsewhere on the time, she didn't do this crime!

JEAN BLUE

Ooh I love that. Reminds me of the OJ case.

LIV

Why because they're both guilty?

MARCY

That quote will make for an excellent lyric when I write a song about this experience.

CHET

Alright, Pastor and Elijah, your turn. Give us your closing statement.

PASTOR

Elijah, I think I'll handle this.

ELIJAH

Why? Is it because I bungled the cross-questioning?

PASTOR

Absolutely.

ELIJAH

Okay that's fair.

fx; footsteps

ELIJAH

(to the recording)

I think for the record, my interrogation wasn't too bad.

PASTOR
Jury of esteemed SCONE members.

AGNES
There's no one except me who is
esteemed on this jury.

CHET'S MOM
Excuse me, I'm a police sergeant.

AGNES
FINE, there's no one esteemed on this
jury except myself and 'look at me,
Sergeant Chet's Mom'.

PASTOR
It's clear who did this crime. And I
can spell it out for you. M-A-R-C-Y.

PAGAN GINGER
Woah. I'm way too high to spell. Did
she spell Wyatt? Like Pastor Wyatt?

ALICE
No, she spelled Marcy.

PAGAN GINGER
Oh I think Marcy did it with the
candlestick in the kitchen.

ALICE
WHAT?

PAGAN GINGER
Is this not a live rendition of 12
Angry Jurors?

ALICE
DAMN PAGAN GINGER are you that high?
And if so, let me know what you're
smoking, I want some of that.

PASTOR
No one else in this congregation had
the motif. No one else in this
congregation had the skill. No one
else in this church is troublesome.

ELIJAH

(to the recorder)

Pastor's embellishing, most people in this church are troublesome.

PASTOR

The answer is Marcy, and the decision is guilty. Thank you.

CAROL ANN

Alright its time for the jury to decide if Marcy is innocent or guilty. In the SCONE procedural handbook, each member of the jury will state their opinion before deciding their verdict. It's supposed to be done in the 'way they do it on reality competition shows.'

GARFIELD

Damn this whole court is some wacky tobacky!

ELIJAH

What happens if there's a tie in the verdict? There's six people.

CAROL ANN

If there's a tie, the judges vote.

ALICE

What dumbass wrote these court rules.

PASTOR/ELIJAH

(fake whistle vibes)

I dunno / Not sure

MARJORIE

Alright, we will start with Agnes and her verdict.

AGNES

Mmm well I feel as though this crime is something that Marcy would do. And even though evidence was presented, I'll go with my gut feeling. Guilty.

CHET

Alright, mom what do you think?

CHET'S MOM

I think you did a wonderful job being the judge!

CHET

I meant like what your verdict is mom.

CHET'S MOM

Well as a police sergeant...

AGNES

Oh here we go!

CHET'S MOM

I like facts. And I think the facts proves that Marcy is innocent! The defense provided an alibi during the time of the crime and the prosecution is just based on here say.

ANNABELLE

Alright, it's 1-1 and Alice is up next. She supports women, she has to vote for you!

ALICE

It is TRUE that I support women but I do NOT support crime. Marcy is GUILTY.

ANNABELLE

Welp, I was wrong.

MARCY

I'm not surprised, you're always wrong Annabelle.

MARJORIE

Pagan Ginger, what do you think?

PAGAN GINGER

This was a great time.

CAROL ANN

We're looking for a verdict sweetie.

PAGAN GINGER

Oh, what's that? Like innocent?

JEAN BLUE

She said innocent, let's move on to Peter.

PASTOR

Wait a minute--

PETER

I did find doubt. Did Marcy do it? I'm not sure. After all, I did enjoy the movie Doubt starring Meryl Streep and Viola Davis.

LIV

Oomph, that's a pretty gay movie.

GLADYS

Well that's good, if Peter has doubt he should vote innocent right?

PETER

That being said, I'm an honest man.

LIV

Mmmm, I dunno about that.

SUSANNE

Liv, who are you talking to?

LIV

I'm sorry, just myself.

SUSANNE

Keep it up...I love the drama.

fx; susanne jingle

PETER

Since I love honesty... I honestly believe that Marcy is guilty. So I'm voting guilty.

CAROL ANN

Alright, its 3 in favor of guilt, 2 in favor of innocence. It all comes down to Jonathan.

GLADYS

I'm sure Jonathan's been come down on a lot...

JONATHAN

Well just for that, I'm voting GUILTY.

CAROL ANN

Well that's four people who think Marcy is guilty...so I suppose--.

PASTOR

Stop the trial!

fx; gasps from the audience

GARFIELD

Were we allowed to gasp then? I wasn't keeping track on the timer...

PASTOR

I'm using my Pastor and Liturgical Minister card to overturn the verdict.

fx; more gasps

CAROL ANN

I too just gasped. According to the by-laws, the pastor and the liturgical minister can overturn a sentence of the SCONE Court.

AGNES

So why the hell did we have a trial then?

PASTOR

Marcy..whether or not you did it, although I think you did it, it's the season of Christmas and Hannuakah and Kwanzza and Saturnalia and the Yuletide and every other end of the year celebration. We should live those holiday values and release you from a guilty verdict.

ELIJAH

I agree! We didn't need DJ Big Boy Blast's music, or Peter and Marjorie's sexual food for the SCONE Winter Gala. We didn't need exquisite centerpieces I made which was impressive considering my budget. All the SCONE Winter Gala needed...was each other.

PAGAN GINGER

Oh wow, is this a live rendition of The Grinch Who Stole Christmas?

MARCY

Well I accept your apology. And you're right...it was a shame that the Winter Gala got ruined. But we're all here together and that's the true Christmas spirit.

PASTOR

Ah ah ah, it's not just Christmas.

MARCY

Christmas, *etc.*

LIV

So is that it? Was this whole trial just a waste of time?

GARFIELD

I had fun, I even got myself a souvenir.

LIV

Garfield that's a *bible* from the *chair* next to you.

GARFIELD

Exactly, it's something I can take home.

ELIJAH

Pastor Jamie...Was letting Marcy off the hook for probably ruining the Winter Gala the right decision?

PASTOR

I have to admit, Marcy might not

have done the crime.

ELIJAH

But this was fun, maybe we should
SCONE court more often!

fx; swipe

GLADYS

Well I got a couple bucks and you're
not banned from SCONE after all.
That's a win-win for me!

MARCY

It doesn't matter anyway, I'll be
moving back to New York sometime in
the next week or month or year.

GLADYS

Annabelle's testimony and that receipt
really saved your butt today.

MARCY

Yes those two things kept me from
being excommunicated like Arsonist
Andrew after he burned down the holy
water fountain.

GLADYS

Maybe I should get into law school
after this? I have another good decade
left in me.

MARCY

A decade in *dog years* perhaps. I must
be going, Jean Blue and I are going to
get dinner before she leaves for New
York.

GLADYS

Huh...wait a minute...I thought Jean
Blue came from New York City to *defend*
you. So how did you have dinner with
her the night of the crime?

MARCY

Gladys, you're off the clock, don't
worry about it.

GLADYS

Marcy...you did this didn't you? You ruined Christmas after all.

MARCY

I have no clue what you mean Gladys...I definitely didn't order this food on a to-go order ahead of time to serve as an alibi. I also definitely didn't stage myself so that Annabelle would have seen me as I was in between of my heist...I mean, a heist. Thanks for defending me. Have a great Christmas, I owe you one...

fx; footsteps

GLADYS

She just got away with a crime. Damn is she good.