Class Clown

by

Chris Reilly

INT. MS. GAIR'S ROOM - DAY

Mr. Cashman walks into the class with a clipboard. He looks around and sees only 4 kids.

CASHMAN

Ah, only 4 kids. Cool cool, I mean I shouldn't have expected more. No one can sign up for my intervention period now with Flexi-Can't-Sched.

Cashman picks up his clipboard and starts to call attendance.

CASHMAN (CONT'D)

Let's see...Tony?

Tony, a casual and normal looking kid, is shown.

TONY

Hey.

CASHMAN

Great...Nelson?

Nelson, a confident student in a football jersey, gives a wink and finger quns.

CASHMAN (CONT'D)

Ok...Lola?

Lola, a studious looking girl sitting in the desk right in front of Cashman, raises her hand straight up in his face.

LOLA

Right here!

CASHMAN

Ok thank you Lola. Now...

Cashman smiles and nods as he reads the next name.

CASHMAN (CONT'D)

Big Daddy Kane.

Big Daddy is sitting with his legs kicked up on another desk. He is also holding a mug that reads "Big Daddy".

BIG DADDY

What's cracking Cash?

CASHMAN

Just living the dream man, living the dream. Now lastly is...Chad?

No one answers.

CASHMAN (CONT'D)

Chad? Has anyone seen Chad?

The kids shake their heads no. Cashman looks up and sees a clown doll sitting at a desk, wearing Chad's clothes.

CASHMAN (CONT'D)

Ah, the old dress a clown in a student's clothes prank. Like I haven't seen that one before.

Cashman reaches to pick up the clown when his action is interrupted.

TONY

CASH!

CASHMAN

Jesus, Tony. What?

TONY

I would NOT touch that. Creepy clown doll, emphasis on the creepy. Definitely haunted.

CASHMAN

Give me a break. If we should be worried about anything, it's Flexisched.

Cashman picks up the clown. We see the clown stare at Cashman, and then they both start wrestling, going back and forth between blows. The students scream.

INT. ENGLISH WING OUTSIDE GAIR'S ROOM - DAY

The students come running out of the classroom. They all stop and circle up as they try to catch their breaths.

NELSON

What...just...happened?

BIG DADDY

I'm pretty sure some funny business just went on in there.

Big Daddy looks around for everyone's approval of his joke, everyone just shakes their heads.

BIG DADDY (CONT'D)

C'mon, no one likes dark comedy here?

Again, they just shake their heads.

LOLA

This is serious, Cashman is-

Lola gulps.

LOLA (CONT'D)

Dead.

TONY

I mean I specifically said that clown was haunted, and what does he do? He touches it and now we are without a president of the Cardigan club.

NELSON

Forget the stupid club, let's just get out of here!

BIG DADDY

I'm with ya captain!

They all run down the hallway when they are stopped by Mr. O'Malley.

O'MALLEY

And what do you think you're doing?

They all start speaking at the same time, creating a bunch of nonsense.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)

Everyone shut it.

The kids all snap to a silence.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)

Frankie, what is going on?

NELSON

Well...a clown killed Cash Money and now thinking about it probably Chad too.

O'Malley looks at him in disbelief.

O'MALLEY

And you're expecting me to believe that? Let me go take a look.

O'Malley walks to Gair's door, looks in the window, and sees the clown.

O'MALLEY (CONT'D)

I don't see a creepy clown, I just see a clown in a stupid cardigan. I'm gonna go take a look inside-

TONY

I wouldn't do that. I literally just called the last murder, and I'll definitely be right about this one.

O'MALLEY

Alright then, you weird boy.

TONY

Ouch...

O'MALLEY

I don't care if there is a poorly dressed clown in this room, if Flexisched says you are in English intervention, then you MUST listen to Flexisched.

NELSON

Gosh, this school treats Flexisched like it's Big Brother.

TONY

I know, the school must be bugged or something.

O'MALLEY

Shut it! Both of you.

O'Malley walks in to the classroom. The kids faces are shown, and anxiety is all over them.

LOLA

Should we look?

They shrug in nervous agreement, then they all turn to peer in through the door window. O'Malley is seen getting ready to drop an elbow on the clown. He jumps down and out of frame. Then the students see the clown pop up, wearing O'Malley's safety goggles.

BIG DADDY

If I wasn't scared then, I most certainly am now.

NELSON

I know this sucks, but does that mean I don't have to take my chemistry quiz next period?

Nelson are you kidding me? This clown just killed two teachers...and Chad! We have to get out of here.

LOLA

We have to tell someone though.

TONY

You heard O'Malley, he didn't believe us, and that means no one will--

Tony is interrupted when he sees a beautiful girl walk by the students. This is Leah. She waves at Tony.

LEAH

Hey Tony.

TONY

(shyly)

Hi Leah.

Leah walks away and Tony starts to speak under his breath.

TONY (CONT'D)

You're beautiful and I love you!

Leah obviously does not hear.

NELSON

Good one lover boy.

TONY

Shut up. As I was saying, we need to leave or else we will get the blame for all this.

BIG DADDY

I'm alright with that, see ya pals!

Big Daddy runs off in one direction.

NELSON

Yeah I'm good with that too, peace!

Nelson runs off in another direction.

TONY

Seriously, don't tell anyone.

Fine...I promise. Wanna go get a snack in the cafe?

TONY

Sure, anything to take my mind off this.

Tony and Lola leave the hallway.

EXT. TURCO FIELD - DAY

Nelson stands on the field confidently, he is wearing a jersey and holding a football. Next to him is another football player, Drew. Coach Costello paces back and forth in front of Nelson, ready to give a speech. He is holding a McCafe coffee.

COACH

Now Nelson, listen here, you're going to need a perfect tryout because our quarterback situation right now is as good as a chicken cutlet on a cool evening.

NELSON

Coach, I promise I'll be as good as a chicken cutlet on a cool evening, WITH some Greek sauce from Rico's.

Coach is now holding a bag of sunflower seeds.

COACH

Jiminy criminy that sounds good, I could slurp that sauce down in a mug. Alright, let's go!

Nelson lines up ready to start his tryout. However, in the stands sits the clown, looking right at Nelson. Nelson starts his tryout and does not complete one throw, his body language shows frustration and defeat. Coach is now holding a sandwich.

COACH (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ Nelson, your big weird body just performed the grossest display of football I've ever seen.

NELSON

So that's a no?

Coach is now holding a Cumberland Farms's coffee with his sandwich. He takes a sip, then speaks.

COACH

Duh! Now get out of here, I'm gonna go get me a couple three pizzas with some Greek sauce.

Coach rubs his belly and smiles. Nelson walks off the field in sadness. As he walks off he drops his ball. He bends down and grabs it, but on his way up he looks into the stands and sees the clown. Nelson now realizes why he did so bad.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

Mr. Kim is sitting in the front row of the auditorium, judging all the Dance Company auditions. There is a petrified girl on stage awaiting Mr. Kim's critique.

MR. KIM

You expect ME, to like THAT. That was disgusting! Get off my stage.

The girl runs off stage crying.

MR. KIM (CONT'D)
Alright, next person to disappoint

me is...Big Daddy Kane?

Big Daddy Kane runs out eagerly onto the stage, dressed from head to toe in athletic wear.

BIG DADDY

Prepare to be dazzled, hit it!

Big Daddy Kane points to the tech box and the music starts to play, and he starts out amazing. He impresses Mr. Kim, as he is making faces of surprising enjoyment. Suddenly, the clown appears in the tech box, and the music speeds up. Big Daddy is forced to move faster and faster, to keep on the beat. He starts moving so fast that he falls off the stage.

BIG DADDY (CONT'D)

Owwwww...

MR. KIM

I knew you couldn't be that good. Make like a banana and get the hell out of here!

Big Daddy Kane sighs, gets up, and starts to walk out of the auditorium. As he comes up to the tech box, he looks in and sees the clown, and makes an angry gesture at him.

INT. MR. ALAN'S ROOM - DAY

Mr. Alan stands at the front of a full class, directing the order of presenters for a project.

MR. ALAN

Ok so next up to present is Lola. And what did you do your project on?

Lola stands up out of her seat excitedly and turns to the class.

LOLA

I decided to do my project on Appearance versus Reality in The Great Gatsby.

MR. ALAN

Far out man.

Lola walks over to the computer and puts her first slide up, it is a picture of the cover of *The Great Gatsby*.

LOLA

This theme is very apparent in the novel, as you'll see on my next slide.

Lola changes the slide and it is a picture of the clown.

LOLA (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, a little technical difficulties I guess.

She continues to try and change the slide but the new slides are still just pictures of the clown. However, the clown keeps inching closer and closer to the students in the pictures, with the class getting more scared with each picture. The last picture is the clown up extremely close to the class, making them scream, until Mr. Alan pulls out the plug for the computer and the slide goes dark.

MR. ALAN

Everybody relax, just relax. Except you Lola, you'll be getting a 0 for giving the class a heart attack and making Julio cry. A boy named Julio is seen in his seat crying. Lola looks like she is on the verge of tears as well, because of her O grade. But then she sees the clown sitting on a computer in the back of the class. Her sad tears now turn to sad and scared ones.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Tony stands looking in the mirror, fixing himself up and giving himself a little pep talk.

TONY

(To himself)

You got this Tony, you're a swell guy, anybody would be lucky to go out with you. Leah won't see what's coming. You're a lean, mean - oh god, booger.

Tony quickly grabs a paper towel and wipes it.

TONY (CONT'D)

(To himself)

Gosh that was a big one.

Tony composes himself.

TONY (CONT'D)

(To himself)

And now, it's showtime.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Tony walks out of the bathroom in slow motion, throwing looks at people who walk by, and they give him mean looks back. He also attempts to hi-five people walking by, but no one will return the gesture. Suddenly, a large football player walks by and shoves Tony.

TONY

Arghhhhhhhh...

FOOTBALL PLAYER

Ha-ha, loser.

Tony shakes it off and enters the cafeteria. He sees Leah, she sees him back, they both wave at each other. Tony stops and collects himself.

(To himself)

You didn't work up all this courage for nothing. It's your moment, don't let those weeks of practicing in your room with your teddy bear go to waste. Besides, mom says I'm a super duper special boy, and momma knows best!

Tony exhales and starts to walk over. As he walks over, the clown is sitting at a table in the back corner of the cafeteria, watching over the soon to be interaction. Leah sees Tony walking over and her face lights up. Tony notices, and his face and body language show a rise in confidence. Tony is a couple feet away from the table.

LEAH

Hey Tony.

TONY

Hey L--

Just as he is saying hi back, Tony slips on a banana peel. As he comes down, he knocks off food from Leah's table and it spills all over him. He sits on the ground in disbelief.

LEAH

Oh my god, Tony, are you ok?

TONY

(Sarcastically)

Great.

Tony gives an unenthusiastic thumbs up.

TONY (CONT'D)

I'm just gonna go now, bye Leah.

Tony starts to walk away when he turns around to get a final look at Leah, but as he turns he sees the clown staring at him. Tony realizes the clown was the cause of the incident. Tony's face now shows anger, but also determination, and he sprints out of the cafeteria. However, he falls after a couple steps into his sprint. He grunts, gets back up, and sprints off.

INT. ENGLISH WING OUTSIDE GAIR'S ROOM - DAY

It is after school, and the hallway is empty. Big Daddy Kane, Nelson, and Lola are all walking together towards Gair's room.

I told you guys, I was sent an anonymous email saying I could find extra credit of up to 10 points if I went to Gair's room, so obviously I'm gonna take that. But why are you guys here?

NELSON

I was told that there was a little buffet action going on in Gair's room, AND that it included corn dogs. I love my dogs.

LOLA

And you Big Daddy?

BIG DADDY

I stay after everyday anyways. I like to see what goes on in the school...after hours. Then I saw you guys so I just tagged along.

The three turned the corner and made a stop, shocked to see Tony standing in front of Gair's room. They all come together, creating a circle formation.

NELSON

You better not be here for the buffet, I am NOT sharing the dogs.

TONY

No I'm not here for the dogs. I was the one who emailed all of you.

Everyone gasps.

BIG DADDY

Wait, why didn't I get an email?

TONY

Because I see you lurking around the halls after school anyways when I stay to work on my art projects.

LOLA

Oh my god, you do art? That's so cool.

Tony now acting all smooth and confident.

Yeah, it's kinda how I express my true emotions ya know.

NELSON

Alright Romeo, why did you email us?

TONY

Sorry, I wanted to bring you all here because I have heard about the series of unfortunate events that have recently happened.

Tony looks at Nelson.

TONY (CONT'D)

Your football failure.

Now to Big Daddy.

TONY (CONT'D)

Your slip up on the dance floor.

And now to Lola.

TONY (CONT'D)

Your presentation that practically gave your whole English class nightmares, and sent Julio to therapy. And my...um...fall.

Frankie and Big Daddy Kane giggle.

NELSON

Yeah the whole school heard about that. Banana peel, slip, fall, no date. Pretty embarrassing I'd say.

LOLA

Shut up, Nelson. I'm really sorry Tony. I hope you're ok.

BIG DADDY

Yeah I really wish I felt your pain, but I'm rollin' in honeys.

Everyone looks at Big Daddy Kane confused.

TONY

Alright well thanks for all that. But besides the point, I think you all know the cause of everything.

That stupid clown.

TONY

That's right, and for some reason he's decided to haunt us.

NELSON

So let's just kill the damn thing. We have to fight fire with fire, man, and woman...

Nelson looks at Lola. She nods back as to say thank you.

NELSON (CONT'D)

... Versus clown.

LOLA

But how?

The group stands and thinks to themselves silently on how to kill the clown. Big Daddy Kane jumps in front of the door.

BIG DADDY

I've got it! I shall go inside the murder room and search for clues on the clown's weakness.

NELSON

Alright Scooby-Doo go for it.

Big Daddy Kane walks into the room. He looks in all directions for evidence but is suddenly pulled away from the view of the other kids.

TONY

Ummmmm...where'd he go?

LOLA

I'm afraid to look.

NELSON

Maybe he's doing a dance routine that he practiced for dance co.

TONY

Or maybe he just stepped aside to call one of his honeys.

Suddenly the clown appears on a desk directly in front of the kids. He is wearing Big Daddy Kane's glasses. They all become very afraid.

Well this isn't good. Why did he kill Big Daddy?

NELSON

Maybe he heard me say we have to kill him and now he's mad.

TONY

What do we do?

NELSON

I don't know about you guys, but I'm out of here.

Nelson runs down the stairs to escape the clown.

TONY

Might as well follow him.

LOLA

Let's go.

INT. ART WING - DAY

Tony and Lola follow Nelson down the stairs. When they get to the bottom they see the clown wearing Nelson's football jersey. They both scream and run back up the stairs.

INT. ENGLISH WING - DAY

The kids run in and out of classrooms in an attempt to escape the clown. The clown is also seen coming in and out of classrooms to find the kids.

LOLA

Where do we go now?

TONY

(Frantically)

Quick, get in that classroom.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Tony and Lola run into a classroom and cower in the back corner. They are both holding each other and shivering, each full of fear.

LOLA

Tony.

Yeah.

LOLA

I kind of have a confession.

TONY

And you want to say it right now?

LOLA

Well I was just thinking this could be my last moment in this world.

TONY

Great attitude.

LOLA

And I just wanted to say, I've always liked you and maybe if we survive we could hang out, like "together".

Tony makes a flattered and happy look towards Lola.

TONY

Wow Lola, I never would of thought. I would love to hang t--

The POV changes to the clown, and he charges at the two kids in the corner, interrupting the moment. The kids scream in fear and the screen cuts to black.

INT. GAIR'S ROOM - DAY

Mr. Connolly steps into the classroom, scanning a clipboard. He walks to the front of the class, with his eyes still locked on the clipboard.

MR. CONNOLLY

Hello kids, I will be taking over for Mr. Cashman as he is no longer with us. First I'd like to take attendance.

Mr. Connolly looks up and sees no kids, but he sees the clown sitting in the very middle seat of the classroom. It is looking right at Connolly. He drops his clipboard.

MR. CONNOLLY (CONT'D)

Oh fu--