

Rewrite

by
Paul Coleman

Based on Making the Grade
by
Alison Driscoll and Liz Mariani

Film Festival 2004
Fat Muffin Man Productions

BLACK SCREEN

PAUL COLEMAN (V.O.)
I'm not wearing pants. Where are
my pants? What day is it?
Wednesday. Hump day. Such a funny
spelling, Wednesday. Where are my
pants?

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

A classroom of semi conscious students comes to life as the
bell rings.

MR. ALAN
(raising his voice over
the
noise)
Don't forget, guys, your scripts
are due on Monday.

The class methodically mills from the classroom, swaying like
cattle. PAUL COLEMAN, a teenage student, stays behind with
MR. ALAN, a young teacher with curiously flexible thumbs.

COLEMAN
Uh, here's the thing...I can't
really think of anything.

MR. ALAN
That could pose a problem.

COLEMAN
Yeah, uh, it's not so much that I
can't think of anything, as it is
that none of my ideas are school
appropriate. MR. ALAN stares
blankly at Coleman.

COLEMAN
So...

MR. ALAN
Script's due on Monday.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Paul Coleman is standing near the entrance to the cafeteria,
idly gabbing with the students at the table there.

MR. RUSSO saunters up to Coleman.

MR. RUSSO
Hey Coleman, I hear you're having trouble with a script.

COLEMAN
Yeah.

MR. RUSSO
I've got a script here that's pretty good, but it could use a rewrite.

COLEMAN
Oh yeah?

Coleman takes the script from Russo. It is Making the Grade by Liz Mariani and Alison Driscoll.

COLEMAN
Ah, this is the one about the teachers who have an affair.

MR. RUSSO
Yeah, you think you can do something with that?

COLEMAN
I'm about out of options anyway. Thanks.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Paul Coleman is alone in his basement, pacing back and forth with an open copy of Making the Grade in his hands. There is a computer on a desk in the corner.

COLEMAN (V.O.)
This isn't bad. Not all that good, though. By turns good and bad. So a student on the cusp of failing finds out his teachers are having an affair and blackmails them to graduate...that's pretty cool.

Coleman pauses for a moment, staring at the script. He resumes pacing.

COLEMAN (V.O.)
It's the damn soliloquies, no one would talk to them self like that in real life. Could replace them with voice over. But voice over's stupid, too.

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