

community

"Debate 109"

Episode #109

Written by

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Directed by

Joe Russo

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COMMUNITY

EPISODE #109

SET LIST

INTERIORS

STUDENT LOUNGE
MUSIC ROOM
HALLWAY
STUDY ROOM
BASKETBALL GYM

EXTERIORS

CAMPUS

COMMUNITY
EPISODE #109
CAST LIST

JEFF.....JOEL MCHALE
PIERCE.....CHEVY CHASE
BRITTA.....GILLIAN JACOBS
SHIRLEY.....YVETTE NICOLE BROWN
ABED.....DANNY PUDI
ANNIE.....ALISON BRIE
TROY.....DONALD GLOVER
SR. CHANG.....KEN JEONG
DEAN PELTON.....JIM RASH
*PROFESSOR WHITMAN.....JOHN MICHAEL HIGGINS
*
JEREMY SIMMONS.....TBD
JEAN.....TBD
RICHARD.....TBD
CAMPUS COP.....TBD

COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

1

INT. STUDY ROOM - MORNING (DAY 1)

1

JEFF, BRITTA, SHIRLEY, ANNIE and PIERCE hang out. Pierce is telling the world's longest joke. Annie wears a sweatshirt that reads, "Greendale Debate."

PIERCE

...So then the guy says to the housekeeper, "make sure she's dead." Stop me if you've heard this one.

JEFF

It would've been nice to have that option twenty-seven minutes ago.

PIERCE

Anyway the housekeeper says, "we don't have a pool."
(chuckles)
And the guy says...

DEAN PELTON (O.S.)

Good morning, Greendale! A few quick announcements. The world class Greendale debate team...

ANNIE

We are kind of kicking butt these days.

DEAN PELTON (O.S.)

Will bring home the championship tomorrow versus City College. On that there is no debate.

*

PIERCE

So the housekeeper says to the guy, "we don't have a pool,"
(chuckles again)
and the guy says...

DEAN PELTON (O.S.)

To be clear, "there is no debate" is just a figure of speech. There is actually a debate at eight P.M.. Go Human Beings!

PIERCE

Now I've got to start the whole
joke over. So there's this guy on
a business trip...

BRITTA

No! I got one. A doddering old
fool walks into a bar, tells a
stupid joke, and I crush his
windpipe with my three ringed
binder.

The group sits in stunned silence.

SHIRLEY

(courtesy laugh, then)
I don't get it.

JEFF

Britta's trying to give up
cigarettes.

BRITTA

Don't tell them my business. I'll
smack that smug look right off your
pointy face.

JEFF

Okay, Britta, I'm saying this
because I'm your friend and because
I care about you. You need to
start smoking again.

ANNIE/PIERCE/SHIRLEY

He's right. / You should. / It's
really not that bad for you.

BRITTA

I appreciate your support, but I've
got to quit this time.

PIERCE

Have you tried hypnotherapy? I
know a dynamite hypnotherapist.

JEFF

Ten-to-one says it's him.

PIERCE

His name is Pierce Hawthorne. I'm very effective. Annie, I could make you less frigid. I could make Abed less inclined towards terrorism. Jeff I could make you less...

(air quotes)

Metro.

JEFF

Can you help me block out people's voices I find extremely annoying?

PIERCE

(re: Britta)

Jeff, she's right here.

BRITTA

Pierce, I would be grateful for your help.

PIERCE

Really? Super. We'll set it up.

Jeff pulls Britta aside and looks at her like she's crazy.

BRITTA

What? I'm going to quit smoking anyway. This way at least Pierce can feel good about himself.

JEFF

And he would deserve that... why?

BRITTA

I feel sorry for him. He wants to feel important so badly. Plus I just yelled at him.

JEFF

You yelled at me too.

BRITTA

(baby talk)

Ohhh. Did I hurt your feelings pointy face?

Troy enters with a lap top. He turns to Jeff.

*

TROY

Dude, have you checked out the film department web-site?

1

CONTINUED:

1

JEFF
(sarcastic)
What do you think?

1

CONTINUED:

1

TROY

All of Abed's films are about us.
Check it out.

Troy opens his laptop and clicks a link. The group watches Troy's computer. An Abed film comes up. It's very similar to the scene in episode 107 where the group confronts Jeff about sleeping in his car.

BRITTA

Those people look just like us.
It's eerie.

SHIRLEY

Ooh. My character's got it going
on. I've got to wear purple more.

BRITTA

We had almost that exact
conversation last week.

TROY

(noticing)

But Abed posted this video two
weeks ago.

Everyone reacts, amazed and a little freaked out.

SHIRLEY

That boy is a soothsayer.

PIERCE

Shirley, relax. Simple folk like yourself shouldn't try to grasp the extraordinary things men are capable of. Whether it be Abed's psychic powers, or my ability to make people cluck like a chicken.

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TROY

(re: film)

This is wrinkling my brain.

*

OTHER TROY

This is wrinkling my brain.

*

TROY

(re: Abed's film)

That's wrinkling my brain.

PIERCE

Who's the old guy? He looks like he died and no one's gotten around to telling him.

*
*
*

OTHER PIERCE (O.S.)

Hi. I'm Pierce Hawthorne.

PIERCE

Oh, come on!

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2 INT. HALLWAY/MUSIC ROOM - LATER (DAY 1) 2

Britta and Pierce approach a sound proof music room.

PIERCE

I reserved the music room for our session.

They open the door. SR. CHANG is there jamming on a guitar. He's awesome, lost in a rock star fantasy. He notices them and stops.

BRITTA

Wow. You're amazing.

SR. CHANG

Thanks for the validation. Now my life is complete.

He exits.

BRITTA

I really appreciate you helping me out, Pierce.

PIERCE

And I appreciate the opportunity. Sometimes I feel like people don't take me seriously.

Pierce references a hypnosis manual. He steps behind Britta and reaches into his backpack.

BRITTA

(playful)

So what are you going to do? Wave a pocket watch in front of my face and tell me I'm getting
(ala old time hypnotist)
veeeery sleeeeeepy.

She turns to see Pierce holding an old-timey pocket watch.

PIERCE

Just checking the time.

Britta looks at him compassionately.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Now close your eyes.

She does.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Hypnosis is about three things...

(writes on board)

Relaxation... Affirmative

thoughts... And Positive-Energy.

Pierce has written these words vertically, with the first letter capitalized. The capital letters spell R-A-P-E. Pierce reacts.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
(erasing it)
Whoa. Never noticed that before.

BRITTA
(eyes closed)
Pierce, I can't thank you enough.
I really need your help. You have
so much to offer.

PIERCE
(happily surprised)
Thank you.
(soothing therapy voice)
Now listen to the sound of my voice
as I put you under. The only word
that will bring you out of your
trance is... "gorilla." Now, focus
on the rhythm of your breathing...

3 INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 3

Jeff walks down a hallway. DEAN PELTON, PROFESSOR WHITMAN
and Annie approach. *

DEAN PELTON
Mr. Winger, did you happen to hear
my announcement this morning? *

JEFF
Absolutely. I hang on every word.

DEAN PELTON
I'm going to assume that's sarcasm.

JEFF
Correct.

DEAN PELTON
So, you didn't hear my
announcement? *

JEFF
I'm barely listening now.

Whitman pushes the Dean away. *

PROF. WHITMAN

Now that the bed has been properly
soiled let me step in. Jeffrey, as
debate coach, I'm offering you an
opportunity to spend a night
drinking from the cup of life,
rather than romancing your nether
regions in front of the E! Channel.

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ANNIE

My debate partner dropped out. And
we want you to fill in for him at
the championship tomorrow night.

*
*

3

3

DEAN PELTON

Come on, Jeff. Who better than a former lawyer to really stick it to those City College snobs and their orator Simmons.

*
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*

PROF. WHITMAN

Simmons. He's a cerebral sequoia. If I were twenty years younger and not allergic to polyester, I'd don the Greendale debate togs and give him such a verbal beating his kids would be born dizzy. How 'bout it, Jeffrey? It's like I say in class, "carpe diem."

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JEFF

Pass.

*
*

DEAN PELTON

Listen jerk-wad, Greendale needs a win. Since I've been here, the best compliment I've heard about our sports program is that our basketball team is really gay. So what's it going to take to get you on board? A plum parking spot? Free meals?

*
*

(suggestive)

A night of companionship if you know what I mean?

JEFF

I'll do it for the parking spot. And if you promise not to tell me what you mean.

Annie squeals with delight and the Dean and Whitman pat him on the back.

*
*

4

INT. MUSIC ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

4

Britta is pretending to be under as Pierce continues.

*

4

4

PIERCE

...And when you feel the desire to
light a cigarette, you will
associate these urges with things
in your life that disgust you: bad
tasting food, sex with men, wearing
attractive clothes...

Pierce trips and does a hard pratfall over some band
equipment.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Oh God, I think I'm really hurt.
Somebody help me! Why did I put
you under so well? Damn my talent!

*
*

Britta surreptitiously opens one eye but is stuck pretending
to be asleep in order to protect Pierce's feelings.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Primate. Ape. Chimpanzee. Robin
Williams. Good Lord this hurts.

*

Pierce pulls himself up to a window and screams.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Help me!

Outside the window a STUDENT sees Pierce silently screaming
"help me". He continues on.

5

INT. STUDY ROOM - LATER

5

The Group is filing in. Annie is mid-conversation with Jeff.

ANNIE

The topic for the debate is, "Are
people inherently good or evil?"
So when are we getting together to
strategize?

JEFF

Annie, I was a lawyer. I was a
debater for money. I've gone pro.
I think I can handle it.

Shirley, Troy and Britta enter. Shirley wears purple, just
like her character in Abed's film.

JEFF (CONT'D)

How'd hypnosis go?

BRITTA

You will not be surprised to hear
it was weird -- but it's over, he
feels good. I'm awesome. The end.

TROY

Where's Abed? I need to talk to
him about his films.

SHIRLEY

The boy is flat out prescient. He
can read our minds.

Abed enters. They all turn and stare at him.

ABED

I know what you're going to say.
You saw my movies on the website.

SHIRLEY

He's a witch!

TROY

Get him!

ABED

I'm not a witch. I'm a student of
character. I know you all so well
I can predict how you'll behave.
Like, Shirley, I know you're a
sweet, Christian, generous person.

SHIRLEY

Oh, that's nice.

ABED

Oh, that's nice.

Shirley reacts. Then, starts to glower.

ABED (CONT'D)

I also know you have thinly veiled
rage issues.

SHIRLEY
(thinly veiled rage)
Careful, boy.

ABED
(thinly veiled rage)
Careful, boy.

ABED (CONT'D)
See, that's your character. Check
this out...

He hits a button on his laptop. A NEW FILM comes up. We see
"Jeff" kicking a vending machine and freaking out.

ABED (CONT'D)
Jeff's character acts like nothing
around here affects him, but things
bother him more than he lets on.
He's also very vain.

JEFF
Pfft. Ridiculous.

Jeff puts his foot on the table revealing his plaid socks
match his plaid button down. ON FILM we see Troy crying.

TROY
(re: film)
Why am I crying? Will I
accidentally listen to "Come Sail
Away" by Styx again? Stupid Styx.
Making me feel things.

ABED
You don't have to worry, Troy.
It's just a movie. I can't predict
the future.

On the film "Pierce" hurts his leg. Then real Pierce enters
with a thigh to ankle leg brace. Shirley reacts.

PIERCE
What up, happy people?

5

5

SHIRLEY

You tell me my future right now you
evil wizard!

PIERCE

Get him!
(then to Jeff)
Why are we getting him?

6

INT. BASKETBALL GYM - NIGHT

6

The court is set up for a debate: a podium, seats. Jeff is on the Greendale side with Whitman and the Dean who's flanked by the Human Being. There are a panel of judges and an audience including our group. All debaters wear sweatshirts except for Jeff. Annie is at the podium. *

ANNIE

...As Golding's Lord of the Flies demonstrated, man...
(studied hand gesture)
left to his own devices...
(eye contact with all three judges)
will descend into chaos and evil.

She hits the podium with her fist a little late. She leaves to a smattering of applause. The judges write notes.

DEAN PELTON

And now, for City College, Jeremy Simmons.

City College students erupt with applause as SIMMONS emerges in a motorized wheel chair. He sports a pony tail and hipster facial hair. As the crowd chants, "Simmons! Simmons!" he pumps one fist in the air, blows kisses to the crowd, and shoots Annie a very seductive wink.

ANNIE

(blushes, flustered)
He thinks he's so hot.

ANGLE ON Pierce in the audience.

PIERCE

That is one sexually charged
cripple.

Simmons motors to the podium.

SIMMONS

There were 23,000 kidney donations
in America last year. Man is good.
The average life expectancy of a
man in a community is 23 years
longer than a man living alone.
Man is good.

(MORE)

SIMMONS (CONT'D)
Just ten minutes ago a bald,
bespectacled man, held the door for
a man in a wheelchair.
(points at Dean Pelton)
Man is good.

Dean Pelton gives him the Hollywood two-handed "thank you".

DEAN PELTON
(sotto)
I hate that guy.

Simmons winks at Annie again, who smolders.

7 INT. BASKETBALL GYM - LATER 7

Simmons holds the crowd rapt.

SIMMONS
...By the end of this debate I will
prove with facts and data and a
touch of inspiration, that man, is
inherently good.

The crowd erupts. Simmons motors back and forth, the model
of showboating arrogance. He wheels past Jeff and Annie.

SIMMONS (CONT'D)
(to Annie)
Hey, beautiful. I see you've got a
new partner?
(to Jeff)
Suck on my tail pipe, Yao Ming.

He stares Jeff down as he hits a button and motors off.

ANNIE
You've got to take him down Jeff.

PROF. WHITMAN
Little trick for achieving the
proper competitive mind set. I
always envision my opponent having
aggressive sex with my mother. *

Jeff reacts, as Whitman gives him an encouraging pat. Jeff
strides to the podium. *

JEFF
This feels so formal. Let's just talk.

He moves out from around the podium and approaches the three
judges, two of whom are female, as if they're a jury.

7

7

JEFF (CONT'D)
People are evil. They can't help
it.
(to female judge)
I didn't catch your name.

JEAN
It's Jean.

JEFF
Take Jean here, she spent a lot of
time this morning to make herself
look so lovely.

Jean melts slightly.

JEFF (CONT'D)
Tell me, Jean. How many people
bothered to tell you how great you
look today?

JEAN
None.

JEFF
Man is evil.

JEAN
But you just said I looked great.

JEFF
For my own selfish purposes. The
fact is, as hot as you look, and
it's quite hot, I wouldn't have
said anything.

Jean melts again. She writes something.

JEFF (CONT'D)
When I talk about people being evil
I could cite quotes, or dig up
statistics, but those are just
words and numbers. I'd like to
think we could have a little more
fun...

8

INT. BASKETBALL GYM - MINUTES LATER

8

Jeff has engaged the whole auditorium, judges, Whitman,
Annie, the Dean included, leading them in song.

*
*

JEFF

Ee-eevil Woman. Ba na-na-na-na-na-na.

He points to the Greendale side of the audience.

EVERYONE

Ee-eevil Woman.

He points to the City College side.

EVERYONE (CONT'D)

Ba na-na-na-na-na-na.

JEFF

(bringing it home)

Ee-eevil Woman.

(smiles at judges)

You've been great. That's my time.

The crowd erupts. The judges write and confer as Jeff remains, basking in his applause.

JEAN

At the end of round one. City
College fifty, Greendale... eight.

Simmons pumps his fist. Annie and the Dean react, devastated.

JEFF

I only got eight?

JEAN

(re: Annie)

She got eight. You got zero.

JEFF

(perplexed)

You heard me say you were hot,
right?

Simmons motors up.

SIMMONS

Nice work, L.A. Law. All sizzle
and no steak.

JEFF

Dude, I don't care. I'm doing this
for a parking space.

*
*

A bunch of gay basketball players jog in. They're very fit, several are shirtless, several wear mesh tank tops, several have mustaches. They start limbering up. Everyone stares. *

RICHARD
(in mesh half-shirt)
We reserved the gym for practice. *

PROF. WHITMAN
This it outrageous. We're in the middle of a championship debate. Tell them, Dean. *

DEAN PELTON
(re: PDA)
Yup, they reserved it. They got us by the short ones. All right, debate suspended 'til tomorrow! (pointed to Jeff)
Hopefully by then, we can get our act together. *

The Human Being nods, "Get it together, Jeff." Jeff exits as Simmons and Annie and the Group follow him out.

SIMMONS
Why you walking away, Winger?
Can't take the shame.

ANNIE
Lay off him, Simmons. Jeff didn't understand the rules.

SIMMONS
You like to sing, Winger? I like to sing too.
(to Evil Woman)
Zero for Winger. Ba na-na-na-na...

Jeff tries to contain himself. Simmons continues to sing.

SIMMONS (CONT'D)
Was a big shot lawyer. Ba na-na-na-na-na-na. Now he's a loser. Ba na-na-na-na-na-na.

JEFF
Shut up!

Jeff kicks a trash can violently, similar to Abed's film.

SHIRLEY
(as if seeing a ghost)
Oh my god, it's all coming true. *

In the background, one of the players throws down a ferocious *
dunk, hangs on the rim, then drops. They all applaud *
enthusiastically. *

RICHARD
Sweet dunk, Bruce! *

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

9

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER (NIGHT 1)

9

Jeff strides away. Annie catches up to him.

ANNIE

Jeff, wait. When are we getting together to prepare for tomorrow?

JEFF

Never. Because, it's stupid and I don't care.

ANNIE

There's a knocked over trash can back there that says otherwise. Maybe Simmons is right. You really are all sizzle and no steak. You probably couldn't beat him if you tried.

JEFF

(overly dramatic)

What do you mean, I can't beat him? You and me are going to study harder than we've ever studied before, and we're going to beat City College tomorrow!

ANNIE

Really?!

JEFF

No! Who am I, "i-Carly??"

ANNIE

Abed was right, you act like things don't bother you, but they do.

JEFF

Six months ago I was a lawyer, I wore suits. Someone came to my office and watered my plant. Now I'm losing a community college debate to Jeremy Simmons.

(realizing)

Oh my god, I'm part of his legend.

Simmons motors by.

SIMMONS

(singing Evil Woman)

Stu-u-pid Winger. Can't satisfy a
lay-day.

(singing, re: Annie)

She's a big time lo-ser. Probably
never have a baby.

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JEFF

That's it. We're gonna take you
down you pony-tailed bastard!
(to Annie)
Come on. We've got a debate to
prepare for.

*

The basketball team jogs past.

RICHARD

Great practice, boys. Who's
showering?
(then)
Nice ass.

JEFF

Thank you.

RICHARD

I was talking to her.

JEFF

I don't know what the hell's going
on any more.

Britta takes out a pack of cigarettes, resists the urge, puts
them away. A tan, douchey, CAMPUS COP drives by in a campus
security vehicle and honks the horn.

*

*

CAMPUS COP

(lascivious)
Yeah, I like that.

BRITTA

Feeling pretty cool in your little
bumper car! I'm so hot and
bothered! Please come back so we
can do it you mall cop wannabe!

Britta pulls out a cigarette, lights up a match. The moment
before it touches the cigarette, a hand comes into frame, and
two fingers snuff it out. WIDEN to reveal Pierce.

PIERCE

(cool despite the pain)
Ow. Guess our session didn't take.
I'm surprised.
(suspicious)
You were under, right?

BRITTA

Yes. You are a gifted man. Thank
you for affecting my life in a
positive way.

PIERCE

Sometimes with the feebler brains
it doesn't take. Let's set up
another session.

Pierce exits shaking out his burnt hand.

11

INT. STUDENT LOUNGE - DAY

11

Shirley is there. Britta and Troy pass in the hall. Troy is crying.

TROY

(through tears)

I liked you better when you were smoking.

BRITTA

Troy, I'm sorry.

TROY

No. You're right, my feet are long and stupid. You can't unring that bell.

(off crowd looks)

What are you looking at?! She maced me cause I was doing something strong!

Shirley reacts, notices Abed reading a newspaper. Shirley storms up to him. She knocks the newspaper out of his hands.

ABED

Hey. That's my newspaper.

SHIRLEY

What do you need a paper for? You knew what was going to happen yesterday you Middle Eastern Magic Eight Ball!

(grabbing his lapels)

Pierce hurt his leg. Britta made Troy cry. What's my destiny? Do I die in a car?! Does it happen soon?! I have tickets for a cruise next summer!

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ABED

Shirley, I'm just an entertainer with no psychic abilities. Like Vince Vaughn. But if it'll make you feel better, here's what I'm working on.

He hits a key on his laptop. Abed's film come up. We see the Shirley character being chased by a werewolf.

SHIRLEY
(you're an idiot)
I'm sorry, am I being chased down
by a werewolf?

ABED
Yes. But this is how you would
behave in that situation. No?

SHIRLEY
The situation being-- me being
chased by a werewolf.

On the screen we see "Shirley" and the werewolf run past
"Jeff" and "Annie" kissing.

SHIRLEY (CONT'D)
And there's Jeff and Annie locking
lips? You're a fool.

She exits.

Annie and Jeff are there. The table is covered with books
and papers and coffee cups. Jeff is fried.

ANNIE
So in the experiment, Stanford
students were divided into
prisoners and guards. The guards
immediately started to abuse--

JEFF
(guttural pained moan)
Uhhhhhhh.

ANNIE
What's wrong?

JEFF
I've got this weird pressure point
right above my eyebrow.

ANNIE
(annoyed)
It's called a stress headache.
(MORE)

ANNIE (CONT'D)

They happen to people who actually
make an effort in life. Not tall,
popular people who never had to
work for anything.

JEFF

Hey! I've worked hard my whole
life to not have to work at things.

ANNIE

Well you're knee deep in it now,
brother, this is debate. You want
to win you need to prepare.

JEFF

Well if you want to win you need
to...

(mimics her stiff hand
gesture from debate)

Loosen up. Go off book.

*

He mimics her stiff punching the table gesture.

ANNIE

You're right. Look at me. My hair
is pulled back like a spinster
librarian, I dress like a
housewife.

Annie undoes her hair and takes off her sweater. She looks
great.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

That feels better. I'm so tense.

She stretches out her back in an unintentionally seductive
fashion. Jeff notices. Shirley pops her head in, laughing.

SHIRLEY

Be careful. Abed thinks you two
are going to kiss. Ridiculous.

Shirley exits, laughing. Jeff and Annie stare at each other.

JEFF

Us kissing. That is ridiculous.

ANNIE

Totally. Let's get back to work.

JEFF

Okay. People are inherently evil.

ANNIE

Ooh, we can use this Hobbes quote.

She moves to Jeff to show him. She leans over him, he turns to look at her paper and can't help staring at her cleavage.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

(reading)

"Man is a collection of base, animal urges. To act on them and experience sinful pleasures would be morally no different than taking a breath." That's poignant right?

JEFF

(voice cracking)

Yes.

(then)

You know, I'm starting to feel tense.

He stretches his arms over his head revealing his six-pack. Annie notices. A sexually tense beat.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Maybe it'd be better if we prepared on our own.

ANNIE

Yes. That way we can be more reproductive... productive.

JEFF

See you, buddy.

ANNIE

See you, pal.

She goes in for a hug, he goes for a handshake. He switches to a hug as she switches to a handshake. Finally, he pats her on top of her head and she leaves.

13

INT. MUSIC ROOM - LATER

13

Pierce is with Britta. She's "mid-hypnosis." Pierce paces with his leg brace, still referring to his manual.

PIERCE

...The next time you see a
cigarette you will think of things
that disgust you. If you've heard
me and you're truly ready to quit,
I want you to say... mmm.

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BRITTA

Mmm.

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*

PIERCE

I want you to say... ahhhh.

*
*

BRITTA

Ahhhh.

*
*

PIERCE

(enjoying his power)
All the ladies in the house say,
"Oh yeah!"

*
*
*
*

BRITTA

(beat)
Oh yeah.

*
*
*

Pierce struts around the room feeling good about himself, then notices Britta's reflection in the bell of a tuba. She OPENS HER EYES and mouths "What the fuck?" Pierce reacts, surprised and hurt and gets an idea.

*
*
*
*

PIERCE

While you're under so deep, you'll
also find yourself attracted to
slightly older men? Perhaps a
barrel chested stud with just
enough tummy to love. You'll want
to buy him dinner. Then go back to
his hot tub. Maybe you'll have
some sort of fixation with
massaging his buns.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

Britta struggles not to react.

*

PIERCE (CONT'D)

After three weeks of old school
passion, you'll sense his boredom
and invite one of your friends to
join us for a three way.

*
*
*
*
*

(MORE)

13

CONTINUED:

13

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Perhaps someone with low self
esteem and slightly larger breasts.

(then)

Aaaaannnd Gorilla.

*
*
*
*

13

13

BRITTA
(opening eyes)
Go to hell, you disgusting pig.

*
*

PIERCE
Ah ha!

*
*

BRITTA
Pierce, I've been awake the whole
time. I was faking it.

*
*
*

PIERCE
I know. I saw you. What am I,
some kind of joke to you?

*
*
*

BRITTA
No. I was trying to make you feel
better about yourself.

*
*

PIERCE
Why?

*
*

BRITTA
(caught)
You know, because people don't
always take you as seriously as--

*
*
*

PIERCE
How dare you pity me. You know, I
may be a little older, some of my
ideas may seem weird, my fashion
sense may cause envy... But I have
a lot to offer and I am not to be
pitied.

*
*
*
*
*
*

He exits confidently, trips, falls and hurts himself badly.

*

PIERCE (CONT'D)
(pointed)
Do not help me up.

*
*
*

14

INT. BASKETBALL GYM - NIGHT

14

Everyone is there for the debate. Simmons is at the podium.
Jeff sits with Annie looking serious this time. He sports a
Greendale Debate sweatshirt.

SIMMONS

...As German poet Franz Wickmeyer wrote, "Snow falls from the heavens pure. We can not blame the snow for being soiled by the Earth." Ergo, the world may be bad, but man, is inherently good.

City College applauds. Dean Pelton, Annie and the Human Being wince.

PROF. WHITMAN

Now Jeff Winger will offer a two minute rebuttal.

*
*

DEAN PELTON

(sotto)
It's all on the line, Winger.
(re: sweatshirt, sincere)
Thanks for suiting up.

*
*

Jeff gives Annie a thumbs up. He's ready. He walks to the podium. Simmons turns to his giant, chubby SAMOAN partner.

SIMMONS

Who's the "fifth Beach Boy" gonna hit on now? What a joker.

The Samoan nods.

JEFF

In the Stanford Prison Experiment twenty-one out of twenty-one students, when given absolute power, abused and tortured their fellow students...

*

Whitman reacts, impressed. Annie leans towards him.

*

ANNIE

Jeff prepared. Grab an umbrella. It's gonna rain City College blood.

*
*
*

JEFF

...Genocide has taken place in every century throughout recorded history. My competitor likened people to pure falling snow. I would respond, "It is written, there is none righteous, no, not one." Now, I realize Mister Simmon's quote was from the great Franz Wickmeyer.

*
*

(MORE)

14

CONTINUED:

14

JEFF (CONT'D)

Mine was just from a simple desert
handyman. Named Jesus.

Simmons' face drops. Annie and the Dean beam. EYE OF THE
TIGER type music begins. THE FOLLOWING ARE QUICK CUTS:

ANNIE

...survival of the fittest wires an
impulse to eliminate people into
our hearts.

PROF. WHITMAN

Counter point!

*

*

SIMMONS

Mother Theresa, Joan of Arc...

PROF. WHITMAN

Rebuttal!

*

*

JEFF

Not ninety-percent. One-hundred
percent.

PROF. WHITMAN

Rejoinder!

*

*

The SAMOAN at the podium raises his hand to make a point,
hesitates, CUT before he speaks.

PROF. WHITMAN (CONT'D)

Final arguments! This round will
determine the winner.

*

*

ANGLE ON our group in the crowd.

PIERCE

This is a real barn-burner.

(notices Shirley)

Oh God, did I just say cross-
burner?

SHIRLEY

No you did not.

PIERCE

Oh good.

(to debate team)

Let's go Klan!

(corrects on a dime)

Team!

Simmons is at the podium.

SIMMONS

Webster's Dictionary defines
inherent as "existing in someone or
something as a permanent and
inseparable quality." Permanent.

(MORE)

14

CONTINUED:

14

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

So for one to be "inherently evil"
one would need to be born that way.
Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you
this...

Simmons reaches behind the podium and holds up an adorable
BABY.

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

(re: baby)

Is he evil?

The City College side erupts. Simmons points to a teen
mother in a City College sweatshirt. She gives him a "way to
go" fist pump. Troy starts to applaud.

TROY

(off looks)

I'm sorry, that dude's awesome.

ANGLE ON Simmons basking in his moment. ANGLE ON Britta
watching disappointed from underneath the bleachers.

BRITTA

Those guys are screwed.

She takes out a cigarette, then stops herself, staring at it
quizzically. ANGLE ON Whitman, the Dean and Annie
devastated. Jeff confidently strides up to Simmons. *

JEFF

(re: baby)

May I?

Jeff takes the baby, holds him up to eye level. The baby
slaps Jeff in the face as the crowd reacts amazed.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Actions speak louder than words. *

The crowd breaks into applause. They start chanting "Winger,
Winger, Winger." He's done it. He basks.

ANNIE

That was brilliant. How did you
know it would do that?

JEFF

Babies hate me. They can sense I
don't care.

Whitman and the Dean are elated. *

DEAN PELTON

Winger, you did it! There's no way
he can win in rebuttal.

PROF. WHITMAN

Simmons is finished.

*
*

Simmons is at the podium. He takes in the crowd, then
dramatically tosses his notes in the air as he motors
towards Annie and Jeff. The notes waft stylistically behind
him. The crowd ripples with anticipation.

ANNIE/CROWD/JUDGES

He's abandoning his notes. / He's
going rogue. / It's a gambit.

*
*

Simmons gets closer to Jeff. JEFF'S POV. Simmons is about
to reach him, pulls the levers on two wheel breaks and
launches himself into the air SLO MO towards him. Jeff
instinctively catches him. A silent, stunned beat.

SIMMONS

(from Jeff's arms)

People are inherently good.

The City College side goes nuts. Jeff is at a loss. Suddenly,
Annie grabs Jeff's head and makes out with him. The crowd
reacts. Shirley reacts; "Abed was right." Jeff submits to
the kiss, reaches to hug Annie while tossing a limp Simmons
to the floor. Simmons lands with a thud. Annie breaks the
kiss and turns to the crowd indicating Jeff and Simmons.

ANNIE

People are inherently evil!

The crowd goes BONKERS. It's pandemonium.

JEAN

Greendale wins!

PROF. WHITMAN

Huzzah!

*
*

Simmons deflates. The Samoan starts to weep. The judges
hand the Dean a tiny trophy. He hoists it in the air.

ANNIE

(to Jeff)

That "off book" enough for you?

*

JEFF

Eat that Simmons!

CONTINUED:

Jeff and Annie, lost in the moment, hug, then back away, thinking better of it. He pats her on the head again as she gives him an "attaboy" punch on the arm.

Shirley approaches Abed freaked out.

SHIRLEY

They kissed. You do have powers.
I'm going to die by werewolf!

ABED

Shirley, I don't have powers.
Trust me. In my next film we
discover Pierce is an actual
genius.

SHIRLEY

That's not happening.

ABED

No it's not. And neither is the
werewolf.

She exits satisfied. Britta runs up to Pierce, elated. *

BRITTA

Pierce, I can't smoke a cigarette
anymore without thinking of a three
way in your hot tub! You did it! *

PIERCE

(beat, then bravado) *

Yeah, I did. *

Pierce reacts, pleased with himself. She puts her arm around
him as they pass Abed.

BRITTA *

You are a genius. *

Abed takes this in. *

PROF. WHITMAN *

Let's celebrate outside. Looks
like a full moon tonight. *

ABED

(running out)
Shirley! *

As Abed runs out we see Jeff and Annie celebrating at the
center of a crowd. We hear Whitman howling as we... *

FADE OUT. *

END OF ACT THREE *