

# MUST READ ME

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Also, please do your best to read the entire piece before auditioning--it will help.

Underscoring of words in script (like this) indicates the writer-producer's emphasis. Please do your best to emphasize as indicated but don't let it straitjacket your performance.

Please record 48 htz/24 bit and SAVE and SUBMIT your **RAW** recording (with **ZERO** effects added--no noise reduction, no compression, no eq--NOTHING!) as:

**.WAV only\***

This means you will need to submit your file(s) via a Dropbox/WeTransfer/or the like **LINK** in an email (if the files too big as an attachment). **PLEASE NO PASSWORDS!!**

**\*.MP3 files will NOT be accepted for any purpose--neither for auditions nor for final delivery!!**

All cast VA's are pro-rate paid via PayPal Friends & Family upon emailed link(s) of each take completed to specs.

**Please email all links to:**

[martin@bymouth.org](mailto:martin@bymouth.org)

Looking forward to hearing your work,

Martin Garrison  
Producer | Writer | Editor  
**BY MOUTH Audio Drama**

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[www.bymouth.org](http://www.bymouth.org)

TITLE: ENEMY | Freely adapted from "Enemy of the People" by Henrik Ibsen.

**NOTE: Please audition with a scene of your choice for one or more of the below characters/scripts:**

**NOLAND** Hyer, Black male, mid-to-late 30's--intelligent, scholarly, affable--tenured Economics Professor at Greyfield College.

**5983 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$2700.**

**DEAN** Cloudine Bay, Black female, late-40's--Dean of Greyfield College--sister-in-law to Noland, sister to Lexi, daughter to Martin--highly educated/Rhodes Scholar, polished, married to her job, extremely ambitious and can be ruthless.

**3289 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$1500.**

**HALSEY**, Black female grad student, 23--editor of "The Greyfield" newspaper--bookishly bright and ambitious--attracted to women

**1890 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$855.**

**ACKERMAN**, Caucasian Female, 50's--posh Brit, professor and student advisor of "The Greyfield"--a broadly comic character--absurdly self-important--closeted lesbian having an affair with Halsey, editor of the paper and her female grad student.

**1735 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$785.**

**LEXI** Hyer, Black female, late-30's--Noland's wife--sister to the Dean, aunt to Patience and daughter to Martin.

**917 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$420.**

**BROOKS**, Black female grad student--assistant editor of "The Greyfield"---not bright, a follower, heavysset--attracted to women--a pretty broad comic character

**578 words x (3) takes x .15/word + Bonus = \$350.**

**MARTIN** Bay, Black male, near 80--Father to Lexi and the Dean--wealthy Greyfield Donor--earthy, self-made man with six grade education--built concrete company from nothing into a wealthy enterprise

**739 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$350.**

**PATIENCE**, Black female, 22--the Hyer's niece--loyal to her uncle Noland, down to earth

**688 words x (3) takes x .15/word = \$325.**

**FORESTER** Bill, Caucasian male, 50--investment advisor /finance entrepreneur--works (and lives mainly) in New York City

**261 words x (3) takes x .15/word + Bonus = \$200.**

1 NARRATOR: Welcome to By Mouth...bringing classic works  
2 to sonic life...in their essence.

3 By Mouth presents: ENEMY, a free adaptation of  
4 Henrik Ibsen's classic play "Enemy of the People".

5 The year: The fall of 2020. The setting:  
6 the ivy-covered campus of Greyfield College.

7 It's evening--and we're in the open family room and  
8 kitchen of Professor Noland Hyer's spacious  
9 faculty bungalow. The home is classically appointed and  
10 furnished. On the front wall are two doors--one leading  
11 to an entryway, and the other to bedrooms and an office.

12 BROOKS, a heavy-set, Black female grad student sits at  
13 the dining table. Host "LEXI" HYER, a Black female in  
14 her late-thirties, places a plate of barbeque and  
15 salad in front of her guest.

16 LEXI: You see--if you come late--you've got to put up  
17 with cold meat.

18 BROOKS (stuffing face): It's really good--thank you,  
19 Mrs. Hyer.

20 LEXI: Lexi--I told you. [Pause] My husband makes a  
21 point of having his meals on time--as you know.

22 BROOKS: It doesn't bother me--I like it when I can sit  
23 and eat all by myself--[worried she's offended] I mean--

24 LEXI: Don't you worry about a thing--now eat! I guess  
25 Halsey'll be coming late, too.

26 BROOKS: The odds o' that are pretty good.

27 LEXI [laughs]: How 'bout we leave the odds to your work  
28 with my husband. In my kitchen, we try to keep enough  
29 food around to cover all bets!

30 NARRATOR: There's a knock on the entryway door. It opens  
31 and DEAN BAY, a smartly attired Black professional woman  
32 in her mid-forties enters.

33 DEAN: Good evening! You don't mind, sister--I let  
34 myself in.

35 LEXI [tiniest bit disapproving]: I see. [tiniest bit  
36 ambivalent]: Good of you to come and see us.

37 DEAN: I just happened to be passing and-- [Pause]  
38 But you have company I see.

39 LEXI [a bit warmer]: Not at all. [Pause] Brooks, you  
40 know my sister, Dean Bay?

41 BROOKS [stands, mouth full of food]: Yes--of course.

42 LEXI: Join us, Cloudine--there's plenty of barbeque and  
43 salad left over.

44 DEAN: Thank you, no. Cold meat this late--you know--  
45 it wrecks havoc with my stomach.

46 LEXI: It was hot. Earlier.

47 DEAN: Of course. I'll just stick with tea.

48 LEXI: I can brew some--if you want.

49 DEAN: No, just hot water, thanks. [to Brooks] I pack my  
50 own, you see. Egyptian chamomile [Clears her throat]  
51 So...where's my brother-in-law?

52 LEXI: He went for a run.

53 DEAN: This late? [Sound of front door opening/closing]

54 LEXI: That might be him now. [shouts] Noland? [Door  
55 opens]

56 NARRATOR: Instead, HALSEY, another Black female grad  
57 student enters. She's bookish, bespeckled and petite.

58 LEXI: Oh, it's you, Halsey.

59 HALSEY: Sorry for being so late, Mrs Hyer. I'm on  
60 deadline at the paper. [surprised] Oh, Dean Bay--

61 DEAN: Nice to see you, Halsey. You came to speak to  
62 Professor Hyer?

63 HALSEY: Uhh...yes--about a piece--for "The Greyfield".

64 DEAN: I hear Professor Hyer's a prolific contributor.

65 HALSEY: Yes, the Professor's a good writer--when there's  
66 a subject that interests him.

67 DEAN [smiling and teasing]: Is that right? That's  
68 admirable--addressing himself to those who'll give him  
69 the most sympathy. You do know that--even though you've  
70 been known to lampoon me on occasion--that's no reason  
71 to think I bear ill will towards the paper.

72 HALSEY [smiling]: I agree.

73 DEAN: There's an excellent spirit of empathy on campus  
74 at present, Halsey--an admirable community spirit. And  
75 it all springs from our having a great common interest  
76 to unite us--an interest that's the concern of every  
77 one of our students.

78 HALSEY: You mean the new Center.

79 DEAN: Our Economic Justice Center--yes. Mark my words,  
80 the new Center will soon be known all over the country--  
81 and will ably represent the very heart of this campus--  
82 the very heart of Greyfield!

83 BROOKS [sucking up--dimly]: No doubt!

84 DEAN: Look how much it's grown the last few years!  
85 Donations have quadrupled--so there's more students of  
86 color enrolled--and more diversity and life on campus!

87 BROOKS [dimly encouraging]: That's true!

88 DEAN: Why, tuition for low income students of color  
89 has been greatly reduced--and will be reduced even more  
90 --should we get more exposure for the Center--you know--  
91 get more people talking about it--so it's seen in the  
92 broader community as a magnet.

93 BROOKS [dimly encouraging again]: That could happen!

94 DEAN: It's very promising. Why, inquiries about  
95 enrollment--and that sort of thing--are way up.

96 HALSEY: Then Professor Hyer's article should come in  
97 handy.

98 DEAN: Oh--has he written something new?

99 HALSEY: It's something he wrote in the winter--a piece  
100 on Justice in Policing.

101 DEAN [approving]: Is that right? But you didn't run it--  
102 at that time--was there an issue--with the article?

103 HALSEY: Not at all. He just told me to hold it until  
104 spring--because that's when his big study comes out.

105 DEAN [hiding her concern behind a smile]: I see.

106 HALSEY: The Professor's incredibly dedicated to  
107 his work.

108 DEAN: Yes--he is! Youngest tenured African-American  
109 professor in the country! And now our Obama Professor  
110 of Economics and Justice.

111 BROOKS: We wouldn't have a Center without him!

112 DEAN: Well, I've heard that some are of that opinion.  
113 I believe I myself have taken a modest part in the  
114 enterprise. [quiet, self-satisfied sound]

115 LEXI [dutifully mollifying her sister]: That's what  
116 Noland's always saying.

117 HALSEY: You set the whole thing going, Dean Bay--we all  
118 know that. I only meant that the idea of it first came  
119 from Professor Hyer.

120 DEAN: The idea, yes! My brother-in-law has many fine  
121 ideas. But when it's a question of giving a fine idea  
122 practical shape, well...you require an individual of a  
123 different kind, if get my meaning. I certainly would've  
124 thought that in this house at least...

125 LEXI [disappointedlly]: Sister...[changing the subject]  
126 Look--you haven't eaten a thing, Halsey.

127 HALSEY: Okay, maybe just a little something...

128 LEXI: Sister--come and help me with the dishes.

129 DEAN [clears her throat and lowers her voice]: Isn't it  
130 something how these janitor's daughters never seem to  
131 understand the concept of tact.

132 LEXI: You remember when we were their age. Anyway  
133 --can't you and Noland share the credit?

134 DEAN: I thought so but--apparently some are not quite  
135 satisfied with a share.

136 LEXI: You're being ridiculous, Cloudine--you and Noland  
137 get on so well. [Sound of front door open/close]  
138 There he is at last, I think.

139 NOLAND & FORESTER [laughs at a joke]:

140 NOLAND: Lexi, I've got another guest for you. Bill  
141 Forester, my wife, Lexi Hyer. Bill was out running too  
142 --so we ran together. Bill, you have to have some of my  
143 wife's barbeque.

144 FORESTER: I wouldn't want to intrude.

145 LEXI: Not at all--I made enough for an army!

146 NOLAND: You know my sister-in-law, Dean Bay.

147 FORESTER: Of course! Martin's daughter.

148 NOLAND: So is Lexi.

149 FORESTER [warmly]: Oh--I didn't realize that.

150 DEAN [tiniest bit coolly]: Mr. Forester.

151 FORESTER: Your father's one of my oldest clients--he's  
152 bragged about both of you often.

153 NOLAND: Bill's in finance. [to Bill] Sit down, sit down.  
154 Can I get you a drink?

155 FORESTER: Sure.

156 DEAN: I don't know how they can put away all that food!

157 FORESTER: They need it, the young--

158 LEXI: To keep up their strength--

159 NOLAND: And stir things up!

160 DEAN: And what will they find around here to "stir them  
161 up"?

162 FORESTER: You'd have to ask them. I'm an old fogie.

163 NOLAND: Me too!

164 LEXI: Speak for yourself!

165 NOLAND: No, really, I'm just so happy to have them here  
166 --both them--and my niece, who's doing her student  
167 teaching down the street--they keep us young. I have the  
168 Dean to thank for all of this--and Lexi, of course.  
169 I feel so fortunate to be in the middle of all of this  
170 growing, germinating life. It's as if a whole new world  
171 was being created around me.

172 DEAN [teasing with a hint of skepticism]: You think so?

173 NOLAND: Oh, you can't appreciate it like I can--you've  
174 been here so long. But for me--buried all those years up  
175 north, on a tiny campus--it's as if I'd been dropped  
176 into the middle of a crowded city.

177 FORESTER: Greyfield--a city?

178 NOLAND: Oh, I know it's not like New York--where Bill  
179 lives--but, well--compared to other places--there's so  
180 much life here--so much...promise--so many things to  
181 work for--and fight for--that's the main thing.  
182 [quietly] Lexi, did I get a package today?

183 LEXI [innocently]: No. Nothing.

184 NOLAND: Hmm. Anyway, to have a real home like this!  
185 [Blows out air thru lips] After the cramped apartment we  
186 lived in for so long--we can actually have guests over--  
187 more than one at a time--it's amazing!

188 DEAN [patronizing]: Of course.

189 NOLAND: To be able to get good cheese and meat--and  
190 no more cheap beer! Did you try some of Lexi's barbeque?

191 DEAN: No, I--

192 LEXI: It was offered--but it's late and her stomach--

193 NOLAND: Did you see Lexi's new kitchen do-hicki?  
194 Pretty sweet, eh?

195 LEXI: He pretends it was gift to me but suddenly he no  
196 longer has to chop veggies!

197 DEAN: Looks expensive.

198 NOLAND: Well, I can afford it now! I'm told I earn  
199 almost as much as we spend. [laughs] Heck, a tenured  
200 prof must maintain a certain lifestyle! Why, a plain ol'  
201 government bureaucrat spends more than I do!

202 DEAN [smiles]: Is that true, sister?

203 LEXI [seeding doubt for fun]: Well...

204 NOLAND: But I don't waste a single dime at the lab,  
205 I'll have you know! Every paperclip is accounted for.  
206 But I can't seem to deny myself the pleasure of  
207 entertaining my friends. I need it, you see. I lived  
208 so long without it--with my nose to the grindstone, that  
209 it's become a necessity to mix with bright young minds--  
210 open and active minds--and that's what those two  
211 enjoying their food are over there.

212 DEAN: Halsey told me she's going to run another  
213 piece of yours?

214 NOLAND: A piece of mine?

215 DEAN: Yes--on Justice and Policing.

216 NOLAND: Oh, that one. No, that one's not quite ready at  
217 the moment.

218 DEAN: Not ready? Why not? I'd have figured--coming on  
219 the heels of George Floyd and all the unrest--and the  
220 growing feeling in the larger community--one would think  
221 now would be the perfect time.

222 NOLAND: I'm not sure.

223 DEAN: About the timing?

224 NOLAND: About my conclusions.

225 DEAN [after a brief pause]: And those are?

226 NOLAND: To tell you the truth, I don't know yet.  
227 I'm still quantifying data. It's possible the data will  
228 back my initial thesis--I hope so--but, at this point,  
229 I just don't know.

230 DEAN: That sounds mysterious. Is there something going  
231 on I don't know about? I would've thought that I,  
232 as your Dean--

233 NOLAND: And I would've thought that, as a tenured  
234 research professor-- Oh, come on, Cloudine--  
235 let's not do this--not here.

236 DEAN: I don't know what you mean. I do know that  
237 research, like any academic pursuit, needs to be  
238 conducted in a businesslike manner. Through the  
239 proper channels. There can be no going behind  
240 anyone's back, Noland.

241 NOLAND [ceding]: Of course not.

242 LEXI [changing the subject]: Now--who would like some  
243 ice cream, huh? I've got Madagascar Vanilla and  
244 Coffee Toffee.

245 DEAN: Is it A2? A2 dairy doesn't upset my--

246 LEXI [short]: No, sorry, it's not. Anyone else?

247 BROOKS: I will!

248 HALSEY: Sure. A bit of the vanilla.

249 DEAN [not dropping it]: You have a tendency, Noland,  
250 to go your own way. An endowed professor should

251 always be mindful of those he serves--especially  
252 those entrusted with the welfare of the college and the  
253 well-being of the college community. [Pause]  
254 Yes--well... Good night all. It's late. Thank you for  
255 the tea, sister.

256 LEXI: Good night, Cloudine. [Pause then footsteps and  
257 entryway door open/close, followed by front door  
258 open/close; whispers to Noland) Is she gone?

259 NOLAND: Uh-huh.

260 LEXI: She was in such a bad mood. What've you been  
261 saying to her?

262 NOLAND: Nothing. [Brief pause] Anyway, she can't  
263 force me to report to her about every detail of my  
264 research--that's not what a tenured research professor  
265 does!

266 LEXI: What do you have to report to her about?

267 NOLAND [waves it off]: Ah--don't worry--it'll sort  
268 itself out.

269 LEXI: I hope so.

270 NOLAND [Brief pause]: You sure that package didn't  
271 come, huh?

272 BROOKS [pats her belly and groans with pleasure--manly]:  
273 I feel like a new woman after a meal like that.

274 HALSEY [good-natured teasing]: Just a bigger one.

275 BROOKS: Yeah? Well, it's better than eatin' like a bird  
276 --and lookin' like a scarecrow.

277 HALSEY: Well, she wasn't in a very good mood tonight,  
278 the Dean--was she?

279 NOLAND: It's her stomach--bad digestion.

280 HALSEY: I think it was us two she couldn't digest.

281 LEXI: I think you came out of it pretty well.

282 HALSEY: That? Oh that was sort of a...a truce.

283 BROOKS: A what?

284 HALSEY: A stand-off.

285 NOLAND: You have to remember my wife's sister is a  
286 lonely woman.

287 LEXI: Noland!

288 NOLAND: What I mean is: no home life--you know--married  
289 to the college... [attempting to wriggle out with humor]  
290 And all that herbal tea--yikes! Now then--park it over  
291 here you two. Lexi's got ice cream for us!

292 LEXI: I do. [Sound of bowls being placed down]  
293 Help yourselves.

294 NOLAND: Madagascar--I haven't tried this one.

295 BROOKS: Like the movie!

296 HALSEY: Coffee an' Toffee...hmm.

297 NOLAND: Join us, Bill. Grab a bowl.

298 FORESTER: No thanks. [Sits.]

299 NOLAND: I want to hear about New York City. When do you  
300 go back?

301 FORESTER: Next week.

302 NOLAND: Do you miss it? The city?

303 FORESTER: Not yet. But I'm sure I will soon.

304 NOLAND: People are pretty riled up about the  
305 election for mayor there--aren't they?

306 FORESTER: I try to steer clear of those things.

307 NOLAND [teasing]: What--you take no interest in  
308 public affairs?

309 FORESTER [with innuendo] Affairs, yes. The public--no.  
310 [with a smile] Actually financial affairs are  
311 enough for me. By the way: my offer still stands of a  
312 job with us. We'd love to leverage that big egg of yours  
313 in the markets.

314 NOLAND: No, I'm too happy here. And the running  
315 terrain's better here too!

316 FORESTER: That's true--but there is Central Park?

317 NOLAND [he's got you]: Well--even if you're not  
318 involved in politics, you still vote, don't you?

319 FORESTER: No comment.

320 HALSEY: He just said he doesn't follow what's going on.

321 FORESTER: I didn't say that.

322 HALSEY: But it's your community--shouldn't you be  
323 willing to help?

324 FORESTER: I'm a bit older than you--sometimes the best  
325 help is to do nothing. Anyway, the markets are the best  
326 help there is!

327 NOLAND: It's amazing how little market-men care about  
328 anything except the markets!

329 FORESTER: You should try it sometime--you might even be  
330 happier! Anyway, I gotta go finish my run--so long,  
331 everyone--thanks for the good grub, Lexi--think about  
332 it, Noland!

333 BROOKS [after a pause]: This ice cream's sick!

334 LEXI: What?!

335 HALSEY: She means it's dope. [translating] Good.

336 LEXI [laughs]: Why didn't you just say so!

337 HALSEY: By the way, Professor, I'm counting on your  
338 Justice in Policing piece--for our next issue.

339 NOLAND: Oh, that one. I told you to hold it.

340 HALSEY: I've held it! But I need something serious for  
341 this issue and--well, I'm thinking, like the Dean said:  
342 it could be the right moment.

343 NOLAND: You may be right. But you'll have to wait  
344 all the same. I'll let you know.

345 [Door opens. Footsteps.]

346 PATIENCE [friendly]: He-llo.

347 NOLAND: You know my niece, Patience--

348 BROOKS [awkwardly forward]: Brooks! He-llo!

349 PATIENCE [chuckles]:

350 HALSEY: Halsey--

351 PATIENCE: Hi.

352 NOLAND: Patience is a teacher trainee at the  
353 grade school on campus. Halsey--with help from Brooks--  
354 edits the student paper--

355 HALSEY: "The Greyfield".

356 PATIENCE: Sure, I've read some of your pieces--  
357 they're good.

358 HALSEY: Oh. Thank you.

359 BROOKS [coming on too strong]: I'm assistant editor!

360 PATIENCE [a tad embarrassed]: Yes.

361 NOLAND: Come and join us for ice cream!

362 BROOKS [awkwardly forward]: Can I get you a bowl?

363 PATIENCE [chuckles with embarrassment]: Thanks but...  
364 I'll do it myself. I like a certain amount of each.  
365 [Sounds of ice cream scooped into bowl] By the way,  
366 Uncle, there was a package for you outside. I brought it  
367 in and left it for you near the door.

368 NOLAND [very pleased]: Oh, that's perfect! Thanks.  
369 [Rises. Footsteps.] Well, let's see... [Door opens.  
370 Footsteps. Package picked up. Footsteps.]

371 LEXI: Is that the one you've been waiting for.

372 NOLAND: It is. [Pause] Excuse me, but I think I'll take  
373 it to my office and--

374 [Footsteps. Door Open/Close.]

375 PATIENCE: What do you think it is, Auntie?

376 LEXI: I dunno. For the last few days he's been  
377 asking about it.

378 HALSEY: Must be something important.

379 LEXI: He's been working very hard on something.

380 PATIENCE: There--my ice cream mix is perfection!

381 BROOKS: Did you teach today?

382 PATIENCE: Student teaching--for four hours!

383 BROOKS: Then at school the rest of the time?

384 PATIENCE [embarrassment and exhaustion in voice]: Yes.

385 LEXI: And papers to correct tonite, yeah?

386 PATIENCE: A whole stack of 'em.

387 BROOKS: I bet!

388 PATIENCE: But it's also good--because afterwards I'm so  
389 wonderfully tired--

390 BROOKS: Are you?

391 PATIENCE: --and I sleep so well. [Brief pause] Today I  
392 asked a seven-year old boy what he wanted to be when he  
393 grew up and he said a Viking. A Viking? I said. You'd  
394 have to be a pagan, then. A pagan, he said, what's that?

395 BROOKS [in a whisper to Halsey]: What is that?

396 HALSEY: An unbeliever.

397 PATIENCE: All I could say was we don't get into that  
398 for another three whole grades!

399 HALSEY: At least you told 'im the truth.

400 LEXI: I'm not sure that's the point.

401 BROOKS: I'm a pagan and I'm proud of it! Someday we'll  
402 all be pagans!

403 HALSEY: But then who'll conduct mass in the  
404 Greyfield chapel?

405 PATIENCE: You think it's bad for a boy to be  
406 told such a thing?

407 LEXI: Of course not.

408 PATIENCE: We're fed so many lies--both at home and at  
409 school.

410 LEXI [mock hurt]: What lies do I tell?

411 PATIENCE: We're just forced to teach all kinds o' things  
412 we don't believe in.

413 HALSEY: That's true.

414 PATIENCE: I wish I could start a school of my own.  
415 It'd be very different, believe me!

416 LEXI: Ha!

417 BROOKS: I believe you! I'd be happy to supply you with a  
418 school house. The old house my father left me stands  
419 empty and there's a great big room downstairs--

420 PATIENCE [laughs]: Thanks but I'll think I'll stick  
421 with the program I'm in.

422 HALSEY: I'd have figured you for journalism more than  
423 teaching.

424 LEXI: Have you had any time to work on that story  
425 you were telling me and your uncle about?

426 PATIENCE: Not really.

427 HALSEY: A story?

428 BROOKS: We could run it in "The Greyfield".

429 LEXI: It sounded good when you told it to us.

430 PATIENCE: I don't know. Maybe someday.

431 HALSEY: I'm going to hold you to that.

432 BROOKS: Me, too!

433 [Interior door opens/closes. Footsteps.]

434 NOLAND: Well, now the campus will have something to  
435 talk about--let me tell you!

436 LEXI: What is it?

437 HALSEY: Something new?

438 NOLAND: Something surprising.

439 LEXI: Surprising how?

440 NOLAND: Well...let's just say: a surprising finding.

441 HALSEY: A finding of yours?

442 NOLAND: It's...not what I expected.

443 PATIENCE: Tell us what it is!

444 NOLAND: I will. Only give me time. I wish I had  
445 Cloudine here. Actually, maybe not. Anyway, it just  
446 goes to show how we form judgments--when in reality  
447 we're as blind as moles--

448 HALSEY: What are you getting at, Professor?

449 NOLAND: Well, isn't it assumed--at least in  
450 liberal circles--that police shoot Blacks at a  
451 higher rate than Whites?

452 HALSEY: Of course.

453 BROOKS: Everybody knows that.

454 NOLAND: And, in fact, wasn't this very assumption of  
455 bias behind much of the recent outrage at the death of  
456 George Floyd? Outrage that spawned riots across the  
457 country--causing significant damage to property, police  
458 stations, government buildings, ecetera, ecetera?

459 HALSEY: Yes, but--that damage was necessary.

460 BROOKS: Absolutely necessary!

461 NOLAND: Yes, and we've been endorsing it and  
462 praising it--Hell, I've written and written, both in  
463 "The Greyfield" and on Twitter--

464 HALSEY: Yes? So what, then?

465 NOLAND: George Floyd--we've made him out to be a hero--  
466 we've anointed him--Saint George, the Innocent Martyr--  
467 killed for being Black--

468 HALSEY: He represented all of our people killed by cops.

469 NOLAND: That's right! "They Choked Us Too"--wasn't it?

470 HALSEY [pleased with herself]: I wrote that.

471 BROOKS: She did!

472 NOLAND: Well, do you know what the assumption behind  
473 that headline of yours actually is? It's that cops  
474 shoot Blacks more often because they're biased against  
475 Blacks. Biased against means that you favor non-Blacks.  
476 That's the truth we assumed--and our understandable  
477 response to that assumed truth is what's caused so much  
478 destruction and divided so many of us as this country  
479 went up in flames this past summer.

480 HALSEY: Okay--what is it?

481 LEXI: Yes, sweetie--tell us!

482 NOLAND: It turns out...that that assumption...was false.

483 HALSEY: What?

484 NOLAND: It turns out...we torched our cities--we  
485 proclaimed the innocence of our martyr--we demanded the  
486 hide of the racist cop who appeared on video to  
487 choke the life out of our hero--and then the court--  
488 and the jury--and the medical examiner--and most of  
489 polite society--quietly went along. And the whole thing  
490 was built on a single assumption: that cops shoot Blacks  
491 at a higher rate than non-Blacks. And it turns out that  
492 that assumption was not true.

493 HALSEY: But, Professor--

494 NOLAND: I've had the US government data of all police  
495 shootings for the period of my study independently  
496 audited by a third party. This third-party wasn't privy  
497 to what the research was about or what the categories  
498 signified. Their report--which I just received--shows  
499 unequivocally that police were statistically less likely  
500 to shoot Blacks than non-Blacks during the period of my  
501 study.

502 LEXI: Are you sure?

503 NOLAND: It's raw government data--it doesn't lie--you  
504 can't spin it. I had it third-party audited because I  
505 didn't want any bias whatsoever to be seen to have had a  
506 hand in my conclusion. When you adjust for a higher  
507 incidence of police contact with Blacks, the data  
508 clearly shows that police were statistically slightly  
509 less likely to shoot Blacks than non-Blacks. Two points  
510 less likely to be precise. One can guess why this is so.  
511 The media's persistent condemnation of cops who've shot  
512 Blacks--Oscar Grant in Oakland for example--killed by a  
513 rookie cop with a new baby who mistook his gun for his  
514 taser--hardly someone likely to be hunting for Blacks.

515 LEXI: So that's what you've been so busy with.

516 NOLAND: Yes. But I needed the audit of the raw data.  
517 I couldn't do it online because I didn't want the  
518 auditing firm to know it was sent from my lab here.  
519 So I had an old friend send it snail-mail from his  
520 home address. Then he forwarded me the results.

521 PATIENCE: Did the government have any idea the kind of  
522 data they were giving you?

523 NOLAND: Obviously not--it's a Democrat administration,  
524 as you know.

525 LEXI [blows out air between her lips]:

526 HALSEY: What're you going to do now, Professor?

527 NOLAND: Publish it--of course.

528 BROOKS: They'll let you do that?

529 NOLAND: I have to. Or I'll lose credibility as a  
530 researcher and economist--much less a tenured professor.

531 LEXI: But why've you kept all this so secret?

532 NOLAND: I wasn't sure of the outcome. I had to be sure.  
533 In fact, when I began this study, I assumed I'd find  
534 corroboration of the reverse--that cops did shoot Blacks  
535 at a higher rate. And as you know, around here I'd be  
536 celebrated with that conclusion.

537 LEXI: Still, you might've told me.

538 NOLAND: I couldn't tell anyone. But now you can tell  
539 your sister--and your sister can tell your father.  
540 As one of Greyfield's biggest donors, I'm sure the  
541 old man will be astonished--and alarmed. I know he  
542 thinks I was too young for tenure--he argued against it  
543 --and now he'll feel both vindicated--and concerned.  
544 There'll be a very nice upset on campus!

545 LEXI: A nice upset?!

546 NOLAND: Yes--accepted falsehoods are always defended  
547 fiercely by institutions. But they're just as always  
548 corrosive to the very institutions who promote them--  
549 usually tirelessly. Only the truth is cleansing. I hope  
550 your sister and your father can understand that.

551 PATIENCE: So you were right about George Floyd.

552 NOLAND: Patience remembers that when the case blew up,  
553 I questioned whether the cop who applied the choke hold  
554 had done it with the intent to harm him--and not just to  
555 keep the man from harming himself. There was evidence,  
556 you see, that the hold he applied to Floyd's neck was  
557 taught at the police academy--and the video clearly  
558 showed officers asking Floyd many times if he was on  
559 drugs, which he just-as-many-times denied. But facts  
560 weren't relevant at that point. It was all about  
561 police bias--malice actually--a perception fueled by  
562 an assumption.

563 HALSEY: But that bias was longstanding.

564 NOLAND: Was it? We progressives wanted to believe it,  
565 that's for sure!

566 PATIENCE: What do you think Aunt Cloudine will say,  
567 Uncle?

568 NOLAND: What can she say? She as much as installed me  
569 here--as an important economist and researcher. She'll  
570 have no option but to back me on principle. Hopefully,  
571 in time, she'll be glad an important truth was brought  
572 to light.

573 HALSEY: Would you mind if a print a short note about  
574 this in "The Greyfield"?

575 NOLAND: Hmm--I don't know, Halsey.

576 HALSEY: Don't you think the community has a right to  
577 information as it breaks?

578 NOLAND: I guess so. [Pause] Let me think about it.

579 BROOKS: Well, Professor--you're going to be the most  
580 talked about person on campus!

581 NOLAND [sardonically]: Great...

582 BROOKS: Halsey--don't you think "The Greyfield should  
583 give Professor Hyer some kind of award?

584 HALSEY: I think that's a bit premature, Brooks.

585 BROOKS: Don't worry--I'll talk to Professor Ackerman  
586 about it!

587 NOLAND: Now let's not make too much of this right now--  
588 before the study's been published. Once it's published,  
589 we can field queries from the wider media.

590 PATIENCE: I hereby raise my bowl of Vanilla & Coffee  
591 ice cream to your scientific integrity, Uncle.

592 HALSEY: To your integrity, Professor!

593 BROOKS: To your integrity!

594 PATIENCE: Here's hoping it brings you nothing but good  
595 luck!

596 NOLAND: Thank you, good friends--and family. I actually  
597 feel very happy. It's a wonderful thing to feel one has

598 done one's duty to the truth--and to his fellow  
599 researchers--and his students--and his loved ones.  
600 Isn't that right, Lexi?

601 LEXI What? Oh... [unable to mask her uncertainty]...yes.

602

603 [Musical Interlude]

604 NARRATOR: The next day, at the Hyer bungalow,  
605 Lexi enters thru the front door and makes her way  
606 down the hallway to the closed door of her  
607 husband's office.

608 LEXI: Noland, are you there?

609 NOLAND: Yeah--come in. [Door open and footsteps.]

610 LEXI: Well--I saw my sister.

611 NOLAND: And? What did she say?

612 LEXI: Not much actually.

613 NOLAND: You told her about the study?

614 LEXI: Yeah. She said she'd be coming over here to  
615 talk to you.

616 NOLAND: Okay. Well, I'm here.

617 LEXI: I'm nervous about how she'll take it.

618 NOLAND: How did she take it when you told her?

619 LEXI: She wasn't thrilled, that's for sure. But she's  
620 hard to read when she's threatened.

621 NOLAND: She seemed--threatened?

622 LEXI: Well--you know her. You're not anxious--  
623 about her reaction?

624 NOLAND: Of course I am. But--again--what can I do?  
625 What can she do?

626 LEXI: I think you should be...good-natured about it an'  
627 --share the credit with her.

628 NOLAND: Share the credit? She won't want to--believe me!  
629 She'll hate my conclusion. She won't be able to  
630 raise money on it. She'll pressure me not to publish it.

631 [Knock on door]

632 LEXI: Come in!

633 [Door opens]

634 NARRATOR: MARTIN BAY, an earthy, hardscrabble Black man  
635 near eighty, pokes his head around the door.

636 MARTIN [chuckles]: Is it...is it true?

637 LEXI: Daddy!

638 NOLAND: Good morning, Mr. Bay.

639 LEXI: Come in! [beat] Come in!

640 MARTIN: I'll come in if it's true. If it's not,  
641 I won't.

642 LEXI: If what's true?

643 MARTIN: This business about cops not bein' prejudice  
644 'gainst Blacks.

645 NOLAND: Yes, that's true. How'd you hear it?

646 MARTIN: Ran into your niece on 'er way to school.

647 NOLAND: I see.

648 MARTIN: Thought she was makin' a fool o' me. But that  
649 isn't like 'er.

650 NOLAND: No, it's not.

651 MARTIN: It's better not to trust nobody. You may find  
652 you've been made a fool o' before ya know it. So it's  
653 true, what she said?

654 NOLAND: According to an independent audit of the  
655 government data--yes. [Pause] Won't you sit down?  
656 [He sits] There'll be a nice upset on campus,  
657 won't there?

658 MARTIN [laughs]: A "nice upset"?!

659 NOLAND: A correction needed to be made. The integrity of  
660 science--you understand.

661 MARTIN: I'm not a man with learnin' like you, Nolan'.  
662 The six grade is all I got ta. Well...I shouldn'ta  
663 thought you was the sort to pull your niece's  
664 leg like that.

665 LEXI [good-naturedly]: Daddy!

666 MARTIN: That's the damnedest story I ever heard.

667 NOLAND: What do you mean?

668 MARTIN: Why you're the O-bama Professor of Economics and  
669 Justice, aren't ya? Everything that fancy lab o' yours  
670 studies has something to do with race.

671 NOLAND: That's true.

672 MARTIN: Did ya tell Cloudine?

673 LEXI: I did. She's on her way here.

674 MARTIN: You'll never get Cloudine to go along with dis.

675 NOLAND: We'll see.

676 MARTIN: Ya think she'd be fool enough to--? Do ya?

677 NOLAND: I hope the whole campus'll be fool enough.

678 MARTIN: The whole campus! Well, maybe it wouldn't be  
679 such a fool idea after all. It'd serve 'em right--  
680 teach 'em a lesson. They think they're so much more  
681 clever than us old-timers. They hounded me off o' the  
682 board, they did! Hounded me out! Now they're gonna pay!  
683 You pull their legs, Nolan--

684 NOLAND: Really, I--

685 MARTIN: You pull their legs!

686 NOLAND: Mr. Bay--

687 MARTIN: If you can work it so Cloudine and those big  
688 friends o' hers on de board all swalla the same bait,  
689 I'll give ten-thousan' to a charity--jus' like dat!  
690 [finger-snap]

691 NOLAND: That's very kind of you but--

692 [Door Knock.]

693 LEXI: Come in!

694 [Door Opens.]

695 HALSEY: Oh, I'm sorry.

696 MARTIN (chuckle): Is zis one in on it too?

697 HALSEY [innocently]: In on what?

698 MARTIN: She's the editor, ain't she? Yer puttin' it into  
699 the paper--I mighta known! Ya sure know how to work it,  
700 Nolan'! You put that great big brain o' yours to work--  
701 I can't wait! Now I have to go. You keep this game up  
702 for all it's worth--you won't regret it! You surely  
703 won't!

704 NARRATOR: Martin exits the room and Lexi follows him.

705 NOLAND [laughing]: Imagine--the old man doesn't believe  
706 a word o' it!

707 HALSEY: Oh, that's what that was!

708 NOLAND: The same thing that brought you here, am I  
709 right?

710 HALSEY: Can you spare a few minutes, Professor?

711 NOLAND: Of course.

712 HALSEY: Have you heard from the Dean?

713 NOLAND: Not yet. She's supposed to be on her  
714 way over here.

715 HALSEY [clears throat]: I've given this matter some  
716 thought--since last night.

717 NOLAND: And?

718 HALSEY: Well...from your point of view--as a professor  
719 and a scientist--this affair is simply a correction--  
720 a correction of an accepted societal falsehood. But  
721 perhaps you don't realize, Professor, that this matter  
722 involves a number of other things.

723 NOLAND: How so? [Brief pause] Please--sit. [She sits].  
724 Now then--you were saying--

725 HALSEY: Well, yesterday you said that the disparity in  
726 police shootings between Blacks and non-Blacks might  
727 have been influenced by the media's portrayal of  
728 cops who've killed Blacks.

729 NOLAND: Mostly white cops--but yeah--that was just a  
730 guess--it won't feature in my completed study--  
731 the chief finding of which will be that police shoot  
732 Blacks statistically less frequently than non-Blacks.  
733 But this was the accepted falsehood that set the  
734 George Floyd riots in motion.

735 HALSEY: I beg your pardon, Professor, but I believe the  
736 real falsehood that has shaped the considerable  
737 resentment among our race is what our entire campus was  
738 built on and what it's rotting on.

739 NOLAND: What are you getting at, Halsey?

740 HALSEY: This campus was literally built and maintained  
741 by our people's fathers and grandfathers and  
742 great grandfathers but our interests have, little by  
743 little, been eroded by a pack of elites.

744 NOLAND: Oh, come on now! Am I one these elites? Is the  
745 Dean, too?

746 HALSEY: Not you or her specifically--but many of the  
747 donors--

748 NOLAND: Are you kidding me? Old Mr. Bay there? Who was  
749 just here talkin' about his sixth-grade education? That  
750 wealthy old Black man is about as far from an elite as  
751 you can get. And guess what? His concrete money--which  
752 he made from nothing--is what subsidizes many students  
753 on this campus--you know that.

754 HALSEY: I'm not talkin' about him--but the elites who  
755 built this campus with the sweat of our people who  
756 weren't allowed to study here?

757 NOLAND: But that's largely been set right--you and  
758 Brooks are here, aren't you? Aren't you both on  
759 scholarship?

760 HALSEY: So you think it's all smooth sailing now?

761 NOLAND: Smooth sailing--or no--it's not the  
762 college it was a hundred-and-fifty years ago.  
763 It's not even the college of fifteen years ago!

764 HALSEY: With all due respect, Professor, it could be a  
765 college you won't like if the press doesn't get  
766 behind you on this.

767 NOLAND [disappointed]: Halsey, Halsey...I think the Dean  
768 will support me on this. And then so will you.

769 HALSEY: Personally, I'd be hesitant to bring the  
770 Dean into this. But only because she's your wife's  
771 sister. Though I agree that truth should be the  
772 first consideration.

773 NOLAND: That goes without saying. [with sudden emphasis]  
774 But--but--

775 HALSEY: As you know, my father was a janitor here.  
776 That's given me the opportunity to know what folks like  
777 him deserved--but didn't get.

778 NOLAND: And what was that?

779 HALSEY: He should been allowed some part in the  
780 management of public affairs. He should have been  
781 allowed to develop his capacities and intelligence and  
782 self-respect--

783 NOLAND: But he developed you. And you're developing  
784 your capacities in a way that he wasn't capable of.  
785 There were men--and women--of color--his age--who couldn't  
786 be denied an education--however difficult it was for  
787 them--and it was difficult. Should your father really  
788 have been consulted about public affairs when it's  
789 cleaning he was expert in?

790 HALSEY: In my opinion, Professor, a journalist has a  
791 responsibility to free the masses--the humble and the  
792 oppressed.

793 NOLAND: A journalist has a responsibility to all  
794 citizens, Halsey. Who is truly humble and who is  
795 oppressed is a matter of one's point-of-view. And of  
796 one's wisdom.

797 HALSEY: I know you probably think I'm an activist--and  
798 you have a right to think what you want, of course, but  
799 --as long as my conscience doesn't give me any trouble  
800 well--

801 [There's a knock at the door.]

802 NOLAND [friendly]: Come in! [Door opens.]

803 NARRATOR: Professor Ackerman, a short, British female  
804 around fifty, sticks her head from behind the door.

805 ACKERMAN: Excuse me for just barging in, Professor.

806 NOLAND: Not at all.

807 HALSEY: Is it me you want to see, Professor?

808 ACKERMAN: No, I didn't know I'd find you here, Halsey--  
809 it was Professor Hyer I came to see.

810 NOLAND [courtly]: An' I am "at your service."

811 ACKERMAN: Is it true what I heard from my student Brooks  
812 that you shall soon publish a controversial finding  
813 about police shootings of African-Americans.

814 NOLAND: That's right.

815 ACKERMAN: I see. Well, I've come to tell you that  
816 I shall back you up with every means in my power.

817 HALSEY: Ya see!

818 NOLAND: Well, I'm grateful but--

819 ACKERMAN: Having "The Greyfield" on your side--I'm the  
820 advisor, you know--well, that's no small thing! We form  
821 a kind of community majority on campus--if we choose.  
822 And it's always a good thing to have the majority with  
823 you, Professor!

824 NOLAND: I'm sure that's true but--I just don't see  
825 why it's necessary in this case--it seems so plain  
826 and simple.

827 ACKERMAN: Oh, believe me, I know our local community so  
828 well--which is why I think it would not be at all amiss  
829 if I organized a little...demonstration meeting.

830 HALSEY: That's right!

831 NOLAND: Demonstration meeting? What for?

832 ACKERMAN: I would proceed with the greatest moderation,  
833 Professor. Moderation's my number one aim, ya see! It's  
834 the greatest virtue in any instructor, don't you think?

835 NOLAND: It's a well-known characteristic of yours,  
836 Professor.

837 ACKERMAN: Yes, I pride myself on that. And this matter  
838 of police bias is of the greatest importance to our  
839 campus community. Of course, in the matter of academic  
840 integrity, a faculty member must side with a fellow  
841 colleague, especially one as esteemed as yourself.  
842 And as I am at present the Chairman of the  
843 faculty committee...

844 NOLAND [slightly impatient]: Yes?

845 ACKERMAN: Well, you can understand I come into contact  
846 with a great many people on campus. And as I have the

847 reputation of being a moderate faculty member, I have a  
848 certain influence, as it were, a little bit of power,  
849 if I may say--

850 NOLAND [tiring]: Of course.

851 ACKERMAN: And it would also be rather a simple matter  
852 for me to place in the paper a-- [clears throat]  
853 --testimonial.

854 NOLAND [genuinely puzzled]: A testimonial?

855 ACKERMAN: A kind of thank you from the community for  
856 your part in correcting an innocent error. I scarcely  
857 need to say it would have to be drawn up with the  
858 greatest regard for moderation, so as not to offend the  
859 administration of the college--who, after all, do have  
860 the reins in their hands! That said, as long as we pay  
861 strict attention to moderation, no one should take  
862 things amiss--I should think!

863 HALSEY: Even if they don't like it--

864 ACKERMAN: No, no, no--there must be no discourtesy to  
865 those in authority, Halsey. It would be of no use  
866 falling afoul of those upon whom our welfare so  
867 closely depends--I have done that in my time, and no  
868 good ever came of it--but no one can take exception to a  
869 reasonable and frank expression of a faculty member's  
870 views.

871 NOLAND: That's kind of you, Professor, really, but I  
872 don't understand the need for a demonstration--or a  
873 meeting. It seems to me that the published study should  
874 speak for itself.

875 ACKERMAN: Dear Professor, there are times when members  
876 of the community need to be encouraged what to believe.  
877 Far from it from me to appear to blame them for that.

878 HALSEY: We're gonna stir 'em up in "The Greyfield"  
879 tomorrow, huh--Professor!

880 ACKERMAN: But not violently, I trust, Halsey--not  
881 violently. Proceed with moderation, or you shall do  
882 nothing with them! [Brief pause] Well! It's time I said  
883 goodbye, Professor. You now know we fellow faculty  
884 members have your back, like a brick wall! Covered with  
885 ivy, of course. [Clears throat]. Know that you have the

886 campus majority on your side, Professor! [Brief pause]  
887 Going my way, Halsey--towards the office of the paper?

888 HALSEY: I'm sorry but I have something to discuss with  
889 the Professor.

890 ACKERMAN [covering her displeasure]: Very well.

891 [Footsteps. Door opens/closes.]

892 HALSEY: Well, what do you think of that, Professor?  
893 Don't you think it's about time we stirred a little life  
894 into this campus?

895 NOLAND: You mean with Professor Ackerman?

896 HALSEY: Her? Heck, no--she's so afraid--and so moderate  
897 --she won't do a thing.

898 NOLAND: You're right.

899 HALSEY: But I can. And that's why I want to seize this  
900 opportunity, and put a jolt into this community for  
901 once. The worship of campus elites must be shattered.  
902 The responsibility for this embarrassing and damaging  
903 falsehood must be placed firmly at the feet of these  
904 campus elites. I'll start preparing a lead article.

905 NOLAND: Now wait a minute! I'm not necessarily in  
906 agreement with that. And anyway I need to speak to the  
907 Dean first.

908 HALSEY: Don't worry, Professor, I've got you covered--  
909 I've got your back.[Footsteps. Door opens.] Oh, hello,  
910 Mrs. Hyer. [Door closes]

911 LEXI: My sister hasn't been here?

912 NOLAND: No, not yet. I had a talk with Halsey and that  
913 faculty advisor of hers, Ackerman. That ridiculous woman  
914 said I have the campus majority behind me.

915 LEXI [not sure]: Is that a good thing?

916 [Knock on door. Door opens.]

917 DEAN: Am I interrupting?

918 NOLAND: Not at all. Have a seat.

919 DEAN: No thanks. [Brief pause] Lexi told me about the  
920 government data you found and the conclusion you  
921 intend to draw from it.

922 NOLAND: Yes.

923 LEXI [after an uncomfortable pause]: I just remembered  
924 I left something on in the kitchen!

925 [Footsteps. Door open/close.]

926 DEAN: Was it necessary to conduct this research behind  
927 my back?

928 NOLAND: I didn't want to involve you until I was certain  
929 what the data indicated.

930 DEAN: Don't you mean what you concluded from the data?  
931 Those are not the same thing.

932 NOLAND: They can be. If one's doing the science the  
933 right way.

934 DEAN: So you're absolutely sure?

935 NOLAND: I sent away for a third-party audit of the data.  
936 So there'd be no question as to its validity.

937 DEAN: And it's your intention to publish this study  
938 --with this conclusion--at Greyfield?

939 NOLAND: Of course. As you know, I'm ethically obligated  
940 to follow the data and share my official finding with  
941 the wider research community.

942 DEAN [she doesn't]: I understand.

943 NOLAND: Can you see another way out? I can't.

944 DEAN: Have you considered the damage this conclusion of  
945 yours might do to this college--to the wider Black  
946 community and to our allies around the country?

947 NOLAND: I never expected--nor wished--that the data  
948 would support this conclusion--but it clearly does.  
949 As it is, truth in research is more important than  
950 any expectation or wish of mine--or any political  
951 considerations, for that matter.

952 DEAN: Then there's no way you could postpone the  
953 publishing of this study? Until such a time that the  
954 college and the wider Black community was more prepared  
955 for such a contentious and destructive conclusion of  
956 this kind?

957 NOLAND: You know that's not how these things work.  
958 I could simply not submit the study for publication--  
959 that would be an option. But that could damage my  
960 professional reputation and I'm not prepared to risk  
961 doing that.

962 DEAN: So you feel compelled to do this--at this  
963 juncture? Just when the Center of which you're the star  
964 is gaining attention for Greyfield as a beacon of  
965 equality and economic justice?

966 NOLAND: You know me well enough to know I didn't do this  
967 on purpose to derail the Center. But if the Center can't  
968 thrive alongside the pursuit of scientific truth then,  
969 well... maybe it shouldn't thrive at all!

970 DEAN: Noland, the death of George Floyd made anti-Black  
971 bias by police an established fact in the minds of the  
972 public. Why should the Center--whose entire purpose  
973 is to aid marginalized groups--suffer because of a  
974 two percentage point difference in a study done by its  
975 star? Noland, two points is an accounting error!

976 NOLAND: An "accounting error"?!

977 DEAN: Very near it. [Brief pause] Can you stand here and  
978 tell me you'd be threatening to publish this study if I  
979 hadn't stuck out my neck for you and made you the  
980 youngest tenured Black professor in the country--that  
981 you'd publish this if you didn't have tenure?

982 NOLAND: Do I really have to explain tenure to you?  
983 No case better illustrates why professors--especially  
984 research professors--need tenure.

985 DEAN: Yes, well I'm not convinced that the cost is  
986 worth it.

987 NOLAND: What's that supposed to mean?

988 DEAN: What would the real cost be to you to not publish  
989 this study? There might be whispering among your  
990 colleagues, yes--but you'd still have tenure and  
991 still be in charge of the wonderful Center with the Lab  
992 we built for you.

993 NOLAND: Sure but--

994 DEAN: When I guard my reputation, it's in the interest  
995 of the community I serve. Without moral authority in the

996 community, I'm powerless to direct public affairs for  
997 the common good. For that reason--and that reason alone--  
998 I must insist that this study of yours not be submitted  
999 for publication. In the interests of this community and  
1000 the wider African-American community, you must withhold  
1001 it. Then, later on, you may raise the question, quietly,  
1002 and we'll do our best--privately. But nothing of this  
1003 unfortunate study--not a single word of it--must reach  
1004 the ears of the public with Greyfield's name on it!

1005 NOLAND: Okay--I'll publish it under my own name--  
1006 personally.

1007 DEAN: You think that'll happen?

1008 NOLAND: Why not?

1009 DEAN: I have powerful friends, Noland.

1010 NOLAND: There are too many people who know about it.

1011 DEAN: Who? You don't mean those two young dykes  
1012 on "The Greyfield", do you? Or that idiot who advises  
1013 them and who answers to me?

1014 NOLAND: I could just publish it myself on Twitter.

1015 DEAN: Like I said: I have powerful friends.

1016 NOLAND: Or I could give it to Quillette or put it on  
1017 Substack.

1018 DEAN: You could. But that would be the act of an  
1019 incredibly independent man. Are you such a man? It seems  
1020 to me that you and my sister are enjoying all of the  
1021 perks that come along with being an exalted professor of  
1022 an elite institution. Are you ready to give up your  
1023 lovely home--to move back into a cramped apartment  
1024 without any furniture--and go back to drinking Black  
1025 Label beer? Have you given any thought to the  
1026 consequences that may ense for Lexi?

1027 NOLAND: Consequences? Like what?

1028 DEAN: There are always consequences to one's actions,  
1029 Noland. As a new found conservative, you can surely  
1030 appreciate that.

1031 NOLAND: What the hell do you mean?

1032 DEAN: I believe I've always behaved in a sisterly  
1033 fashion towards you--haven't I always done what I  
1034 could to help you?

1035 NOLAND: Of course you have. You've done more than help--  
1036 and I'm grateful.

1037 DEAN: Actually, I didn't do it for your sake at all.  
1038 I did it for my own. You were a diamond in the rough,  
1039 Noland--and once I created a setting for you, those  
1040 carats of yours reflected onto me. Of course, the  
1041 bonus was that, if I improved my sister's financial  
1042 situation, I'd have more power over her, which you can  
1043 guess I've wanted for a long time.

1044 NOLAND: So it was for your own sake!

1045 DEAN: Oh, I enjoyed having power over you, too. But  
1046 you're not so easy to control. You have a restless,  
1047 pugnacious, rebellious disposition. Then there's that  
1048 awful propensity of yours to need to write about every  
1049 possible--and impossible--thing on Twitter. The moment  
1050 an idea pops into your head, you have go and  
1051 tweet about it!

1052 NOLAND: Well, isn't it the duty of an academic to share  
1053 new ideas with the public.

1054 DEAN: The public doesn't need any new ideas, Noland.  
1055 The public is best served by the ideas it already has.  
1056 And bias against Blacks by the police is an established  
1057 idea.

1058 NOLAND: And you call yourself a Dean?

1059 DEAN: Somebody has to talk frankly with you--for once.  
1060 I've tried to avoid it--because I know how irritable you  
1061 can get when you're challenged. But now I must tell you  
1062 the truth. You have no concept of the harm you do  
1063 yourself by your impulsiveness. You complain about the  
1064 authorities, you complain about the government--you're  
1065 always nitpicking--you insist you've been neglected and  
1066 persecuted--but what else can such a difficult man like  
1067 you expect?

1068 NOLAND: What's worth it that isn't difficult?

1069 DEAN: You disregard everything you ought to have  
1070 consideration for. You seem to completely forget it's  
1071 me you have to thank for your position here.

1072 NOLAND: As if you'll let me forget it!

1073 DEAN: Who else saw what an academic megastar you could  
1074 become, huh? How long did I fight almost single-handedly  
1075 behind the scenes to support you?

1076 NOLAND: I appreciate it, Cloudine--but my work was  
1077 exceptional--I wouldn't have gotten here without it.

1078 DEAN: Let tell you something, Noland: nothing's ever  
1079 just based on your work. Your work was just as brilliant  
1080 at your tiny school up north. But as soon as the time  
1081 was right, I convinced our board to make you an offer.  
1082 That was no small doing.

1083 NOLAND: Yes, and now I'm in this...situation. Maybe you  
1084 should have left me in my little berg, eh?

1085 DEAN: To my mind, this whole thing comes down to  
1086 you seeking another outlet for your combativeness.  
1087 You need to pick a fight with your superiors--  
1088 an old habit of yours. You can't put up with any  
1089 authority over you--especially a women.

1090 NOLAND: Bullshit.

1091 DEAN: You look sideways at anyone who occupies a  
1092 superior position--you regard them as a personal enemy,  
1093 and then any stick's good enough to beat them with.  
1094 But now the interests of the community are at stake--  
1095 and, incidentally, my own too. Therefore, I must warn  
1096 you, Noland--you've been careless--you've spoken about  
1097 this to outsiders, when you ought to have treated it as  
1098 confidential--obviously it's impossible to hush it up  
1099 now--all sorts of rumours will get around and everybody  
1100 with a grudge against us will embellish these rumors--  
1101 so you'll need to refute them. Publicly.

1102 NOLAND: How? I don't understand.

1103 DEAN: You'll announce you're dropping the police  
1104 shooting study because you don't have faith in the  
1105 accuracy of the data given the institutional racism  
1106 entrenched in law enforcement and government.

1107 NOLAND [laughs]: So that's what you expect.

1108 DEAN: That's what I expect.

1109 NOLAND: Me--a respected man of science--release a  
1110 statement that sounds like it came from a

1111 communist party struggle session? Or from the mouth of a  
1112 first year social justice lesbian? Would you like  
1113 Brooks to read it while I stand next to her?

1114 DEAN: Take my word for it, Noland, I mean what I say--  
1115 as deliberately and emphatically as possible.

1116 NOLAND: You know, don't you--that any road to my  
1117 dismissal, given the tenure you helped get for me,  
1118 is not only a difficult one but would open you up to  
1119 charges of political bias and nepotism?

1120 DEAN: That would be reverse-nepotism--wouldn't it?

1121 NOLAND [laughs]: O-kay. What do you intend to do?

1122 DEAN: I did a tremendous amount to help you, Noland.  
1123 I can do just as much to hurt you. [Brief pause]  
1124 What? You don't think so?

1125 NARRATOR: The door flies open to reveal Patience and  
1126 Lexi, who've been listening in.

1127 PATIENCE: Uncle, you shouldn't take this!

1128 LEXI: Patience!

1129 DEAN: So you've been listening!

1130 LEXI: You were talking so loud we couldn't help it.

1131 NOLAND [to the Dean]: You were saying, Dean, about how  
1132 you could hurt me.

1133 DEAN: I lost my temper. Your stubbornness made me take  
1134 that tone with you.

1135 NOLAND: So I'm to lie. Publicly?

1136 DEAN: The college--considers it necessary--that you make  
1137 a public statement--as I've asked you for.

1138 NOLAND: And if I don't obey?

1139 DEAN: Then the college shall issue a statement--  
1140 to reassure the community.

1141 NOLAND: In that case, I'll make a statement myself--  
1142 defending my position. What will you do then?

1143 DEAN: Then I can't be responsible for the response of  
1144 the community to your misjudgments--and misdeeds,  
1145 Noland.

1146 NOLAND: What misdeeds?

1147 DEAN: I won't go into detail. Suffice it to say that  
1148 your inappropriate behavior in the Lab--

1149 NOLAND: What?!

1150 DEAN: --behavior we're in the midst of fully  
1151 documenting--is serious enough to warrant a  
1152 full investigation by the board. Do you insist upon  
1153 refusing to issue a public statement withdrawing your  
1154 study as I've asked?

1155 NOLAND: I've told you I--

1156 DEAN: So you won't reconsider? [Brief pause] Lexi?

1157 LEXI: Noland? You're absolutely sure this is something  
1158 you should be doing?

1159 NOLAND: Lexi, I don't have a choice.

1160 LEXI: Sweetie--think about it--carefully.

1161 NOLAND: There's nothing to think about. If I do what she  
1162 asks, I won't be able to look at myself in the mirror--  
1163 I'll no longer be the man you married.

1164 LEXI: The man I married didn't have a dream job--  
1165 a beautiful home, a wonderful community of people that  
1166 admire him--a wife that loves him. You have it all,  
1167 Noland--don't you see? You want to throw that all away  
1168 for some random data in some government report nobody'll  
1169 ever read? Noland, think about it--THINK!

1170 NOLAND: I have. [Pause] My answer is...NO.

1171 LEXI: NOLAND!

1172 NOLAND [softly but resolutely]: Never.

1173 DEAN [after a long pause]: Well. [Pause] Assuming that's  
1174 your final answer--and I can only assume it is--I must  
1175 officially ask you for your keys to the Lab--and to the  
1176 Center. You are hereby suspended from both--and from all  
1177 faculty advisor duties pending an official investigation  
1178 from the Greyfield College Board of Trustees.

1179 NOLAND: You utter BITCH!

1180 LEXI: Noland, DON'T!

1181 DEAN: I'll wait another hour, sister, for those keys at  
1182 my house--in case you can talk sense into your husband--  
1183 make him see what it means for you and for Patience--

1184 PATIENCE: I'm with Uncle!

1185 DEAN: --and for the community all three of you live in.

1186 NOLAND: My family's my business!

1187 LEXI: Noland!

1188 NOLAND: No! It's the duty of every real scientist to  
1189 correct--with hard data--any accepted falsehood in the  
1190 research--especially one that's caused incredible harm--  
1191 and will, if left uncorrected, corrode the very  
1192 community she talks so much about. I LOVE this  
1193 community!

1194 DEAN: You, who in your blind stubbornness, would destroy  
1195 our new Center--an institution that took years to  
1196 develop--and now sits at the heart of this community--  
1197 enabling the daughters of janitors and housecleaners to  
1198 attend this institution!

1199 NOLAND [really hot]: If spreading lies is the price  
1200 we have to pay so that janitor's daughters can go here,  
1201 then maybe it's better they work and pay their  
1202 own way--if they're driven to do so. This is a  
1203 university for godsakes! If we're not for truth, what  
1204 the fuck ARE we for. [Brings fist down hard on desk.]

1205 DEAN: How dare you get violent!

1206 LEXI: Noland!

1207 PATIENCE: Don't lose your temper, Uncle!

1208 DEAN: I won't put up with violence. You've been warned.  
1209 So reflect--on what you owe yourself--and what you  
1210 owe your family. Goodbye. (Footsteps. Door open/close)

1211 NOLAND [pacing]: This is insane!

1212 LEXI: You're right--it is!

1213 PATIENCE: I'd like to give Aunt Cloudine a piece of my  
1214 mind--

1215 NOLAND: It's my own fault--I ought to have stood up to  
1216 her a long time ago! Shown my teeth! Bitten! To hear her

1217 say I don't care about this community! ME! I don't have  
1218 to take that--I won't!

1219 LEXI: But, sweetie--my sister has power on her side.

1220 NOLAND: Yes, but--I have right on mine.

1221 LEXI: But what's the use of being right if you haven't  
1222 got the might?

1223 PATIENCE Oh, Auntie--don't say that!

1224 NOLAND: You think in a free country having right on your  
1225 side is meaningless? C'mon, Lexi! I might be throttled  
1226 here but I've still got my account on Twitter. People  
1227 all around the world follow me there. So I can still  
1228 speak freely.

1229 PATIENCE [worried]: They've been banning people on  
1230 Twitter, Uncle--you know that. They even banned the  
1231 president--and other people, too.

1232 LEXI: My god, Noland, you don't mean to--?

1233 NOLAND: Don't mean to what?

1234 LEXI To set yourself up in opposition to my sister.

1235 NOLAND: For god's sakes, what else do you suggest I do--  
1236 if I don't stand up for what's right--stand up for the  
1237 truth?

1238 PATIENCE: I was just going to say that.

1239 LEXI: But, sweetie, it won't do you any earthly good--  
1240 if they're against you.

1241 NOLAND: Lexi--just give me time--and you'll see--  
1242 how I bring the fight to them!

1243 LEXI: If you bring the fight to them, you might  
1244 lose your tenure.

1245 NOLAND: I don't think so. But even if I do, I'll have  
1246 done my duty to the public--to the community! ME--ME--  
1247 they call me the enemy!

1248 LEXI: But what about us, Noland? Patience and me--  
1249 the roof over our heads--your livelihood? Don't you  
1250 think you have a duty to those you provide for?

1251 PATIENCE: Don't always think of us, Auntie.

1252 LEXI: It's easy for you--you have a job now--you can  
1253 support yourself. [to Noland] But think of me--

1254 NOLAND: You think if I go down on my knees to your  
1255 sister like a miserable coward--I'll be able look you  
1256 in the eye as your husband!

1257 LEXI: All I know is that if you go on defying her,  
1258 we'll find ourselves broke again--with no real income to  
1259 count on. Don't you think we had enough of that in the  
1260 old days? Remember, Noland--think what that means!

1261 NOLAND [clenching his fists] This is what slavery brings  
1262 to a free, honorable man--isn't it wonderful?!

1263 LEXI: You think I like to say these things? I hate  
1264 having to say them. But, for god sakes, one has to put  
1265 up with so much injustice in this world--is this  
1266 one lousy study really worth the cost to your family?

1267 NOLAND: If the whole world turns to shit, I will never  
1268 bow my head to this lie.

1269 [Footsteps. Open Door. Footsteps.]

1270 LEXI: Noland! [Open Door. Footsteps--she follows.]:  
1271 Noland--what are you gonna do!

1272 NOLAND (at the front door). I mean to give up these  
1273 keys. So I can earn the right to look my future son in  
1274 the face--when he's a grown man.

1275 [Footsteps. Door shut hard.]

1276 LEXI [bursts into tears]: Oh, God help us! God help us!

1277 PATIENCE: Uncle's wonderful! He won't give in!

1278 [Musical interlude]

1279

1280 NARRATOR: In the messy editorial office of  
1281 "The Greyfield", Halsey sits at a computer writing.  
1282 Brooks enters with phone in hand.

1283 HALSEY (still writing). Have you seen the Professor's  
1284 Twitter post?

1285 BROOKS: I was just tryin' to read it.

1286 HALSEY: He hits them pretty hard, doesn't he?

1287 BROOKS: That's just what I was going to say!

1288 HALSEY: But they're not the kind to throw up their hands  
1289 at the first smack.

1290 BROOKS: No--we'll have to smack 'em--over an' over--  
1291 until they're in a million pieces! Boy, is this  
1292 revolutionary!

1293 HALSEY [whispers]: Shush! We don't want Professor  
1294 Ackerman to hear you.

1295 BROOKS: Ah, Ackerman's a chickenshit! Are you gonna  
1296 print the Professor's tweet?

1297 HALSEY: Yes--and if the Dean doesn't like it--

1298 BROOKS: Tough shit--right?

1299 HALSEY: Well, hopefully we can turn the situation to our  
1300 advantage--whatever happens. If the Dean won't back the  
1301 Professor, she'll have most of the faculty against her.  
1302 And if she does support him, she'll have most of the  
1303 students against her. The Board members, I'm sure,  
1304 will side with her.

1305 BROOKS [stupidly]: You're right!

1306 HALSEY: And so the ring'll be broken up--and then  
1307 in every isssue of the paper we'll enlighten the  
1308 public on the Dean's incompetence--make it clear that  
1309 all the positions of trust on campus--the control of  
1310 campus affairs, everything--oughta be put in the  
1311 hands of the students--grad students first of course!

1312 BROOKS: Hey! That's right! That's RIGHT!

1313 (Knock at the Door)

1314 HALSEY: Shush! [Calling] Come in! [Door opens/closes]:  
1315 Oh, it's you, Professor! Come in! [Footsteps.]

1316 NOLAND: You can print my Twitter piece, Halsey.

1317 BROOKS: Hurrah!

1318 HALSEY: So it's come to that, then.

1319 NOLAND: Yes--it's come to that. They'll have to  
1320 take what I give them! There's going to be a  
1321 fight on this campus, Brooks!

1322 BROOKS: A knife to the throat, eh, Professor?

1323 NOLAND: This piece is only the beginning. I've got  
1324 four or five more sketched out in my head. Where's  
1325 Professor Ackerman?

1326 [Footsteps]

1327 BROOKS: Professor Ackerman, would you come out here  
1328 for a minute?

1329 HALSEY: Four or five more articles, did you say?

1330 NOLAND: That's right--all on the pursuit of Truth.  
1331 Once you start it's like pulling down an old house.

1332 BROOKS: That's it--pull the old junker down!

1333 ACKERMAN [coming in]: Pull down what? You're not  
1334 thinking of pulling down the administration, are you,  
1335 Halsey?

1336 HALSEY: Far from it--don't worry.

1337 NOLAND: No, we meant something very different--  
1338 didn't we? [in a low, intimate voice] Well...  
1339 what do you think of my piece, Halsey?

1340 HALSEY: I think it's phenomenal.

1341 NOLAND: You think so?

1342 HALSEY: So intelligent and clear. You should have  
1343 every student on your side!

1344 ACKERMAN: And every instructor too, I hope?

1345 BROOKS: Even the food service ladies!

1346 ACKERMAN: Well, in that case we can print it!

1347 HALSEY: I'll put it in tomorrow's issue.

1348 NOLAND: What I wanted to ask, Professor Ackerman, is:  
1349 whether you'd supervise the printing of it yourself--

1350 ACKERMAN: With pleasure.

1351 NOLAND: --and let me see a proof. I can't tell you how  
1352 excited I am to see it live in print. Twitter's  
1353 one thing--but to see it burst live on campus--

1354 BROOKS: Like a flash of lightning!

1355 NOLAND: You can't imagine what I've been through today.  
1356 First threatened with one thing--and then another--

1357 BROOKS: Yikes!

1358 NOLAND: Then suspended from my own lab! They won't win--  
1359 I've got tenure--but there'll be an investigation.  
1360 They've tried to damage me, make a coward of me, force  
1361 me to put personal interests before my convictions--

1362 HALSEY: Nothing surprises me from those facists.

1363 BROOKS: Nothing!

1364 NOLAND: Well, they'll get a fight from me--that you can  
1365 bet on! "The Greyfield" shall be my fortress now. Every  
1366 day I'll bombard them with one piece after another,  
1367 like mortar shells!

1368 ACKERMAN: Yes, but--

1369 BROOKS: It's war, it's war!

1370 NOLAND: I'll crush 'em, break down their defenses--  
1371 before the eyes of the faculty--and the students!

1372 ACKERMAN: Yes, but in moderation, Professor--  
1373 in moderation.

1374 BROOKS: No mercy, no mercy! Strap on the dynamite!

1375 NOLAND: Because it's not merely a question of the truth  
1376 --it's our entire social life we've got to remake!

1377 BROOKS: Into what?

1378 ACKERMAN: Now, wait--

1379 NOLAND: All the incompetents must be turned out--  
1380 in every walk of life! Young and vigorous truth-tellers--  
1381 those are what we need, my friends! We must have  
1382 new blood in command at every position!

1383 BROOKS: Fresh blood! Fresh blood!

1384 NOLAND: We only need to stand by one another--and we'll  
1385 win! The truth will win! The revolution will be launched  
1386 like a boat off a trailer!

1387 BROOKS [voices boat launching sfx]:

1388 HALSEY: Ya know--I think we now have a chance of getting  
1389 these tyrants just where we want them!

1390 ACKERMAN: And if we proceed with moderation, I can't  
1391 imagine there should be any risk.

1392 NOLAND: Who cares about risk! What I'm talking about is  
1393 doing something in the name of truth--something for the  
1394 sake of one's conscience!

1395 HALSEY: You deserve to be supported, Professor.

1396 ACKERMAN: There's no denying Professor Hyer's a true  
1397 friend to the college--a true friend to the college  
1398 community!

1399 BROOKS: A friend of the people!

1400 NOLAND: You know it's so refreshing to hear you say  
1401 that. My sister-in-law--the esteemed Dean--called me  
1402 something very different today. Well, she'll get it  
1403 back--with interest! But I have to go. I'll be back.  
1404 See that they keep an eye on my punctuation, Professor--  
1405 and don't leave out any exclamation points! If anything,  
1406 put more in!

1407 [Footsteps. Door open/close]

1408 ACKERMAN: What is that he said about the Dean?  
1409 I didn't quite catch it.

1410 HALSEY: Oh, nothing very important. Not yet anyway.

1411 ACKERMAN: Okay...as long as he sticks to this matter  
1412 about the police. If he goes farther afield, well...

1413 HALSEY: Either way he might prove useful--[flirting  
1414 shamelessly] to our cause.

1415 ACKERMAN [flirting back with sexual innuendo]:  
1416 Is that so? Well, you do seem have your finger firmly on  
1417 the pulse, Halsey.

1418 HALSEY [continuing to flirt shamelessly]: And I thought  
1419 you were a moderate, Professor Ackerman.

1420 ACKERMAN [flustered with desire and mindful of Brooks]:  
1421 Yes, well, when it's a question of campus leadership,  
1422 I'm moderate, of course--it's a...lesson I learned from  
1423 experience, let me tell you. [Flirting again] But try me  
1424 under other conditions, in matters that require senior  
1425 leadership, and see if I'm moderate then!

1426 BROOKS: But that doesn't make sense, Professor?

1427 ACKERMAN [short]: I am a woman with a conscience,  
1428 Brooks! That's the whole point. If you attack the  
1429 government, you don't do the community any harm--those

1430 people pay no attention to attacks--they go on just as  
1431 they are. But campus authorities are different--they can  
1432 be fired--and the next lot may be worse--and do a  
1433 great deal of harm to people like us.

1434 BROOKS: But what about government by students--don't you  
1435 think that's important?

1436 ACKERMAN [staring with desire in Halsey's direction]:  
1437 When a woman has interests of her own that consume her,  
1438 Brooks, she can't think of everything. [Brief pause]  
1439 Remember the example of your predecessor at the  
1440 assistant editorial desk...

1441 BROOKS: That fascist?

1442 ACKERMAN: Yes, well I think it's high time you put that  
1443 nose of yours to the grindstone--that is, if you want to  
1444 sit at Halsey's desk someday.

1445 BROOKS: You know I do!

1446 ACKMERMAN: Anyway...if I'm to be accused of  
1447 inconsistency in my principles, I'd like to point out:  
1448 my past is an open book--I've never changed, except to  
1449 become more moderate. I cannot deny I lean ever so  
1450 slightly towards campus authorities. But my heart  
1451 remains with the people.

1452 [Footsteps. Door open/close.]

1453 BROOKS: Shouldn't we try to get rid of her?

1454 HALSEY: Know anyone else who'll pay our paper and  
1455 printing bills and let us do what we want?

1456 BROOKS: You just like her cuz she goes down on you but  
1457 you don't have to return the favor.

1458 HALSEY: I told you there are perks to being editor.

1459 BROOKS: Wait--what about the Dean's father? They say  
1460 he's loaded.

1461 HALSEY: Him? He's senile!

1462 BROOKS: He's still loaded! If we got ridda Ackerman  
1463 and convinced the old geezer to pay for the paper,  
1464 we wouldn't have to have an advisor at all!

1465 HALSEY: You're goofy, you know that!

1466 [Door open/close. Footsteps]  
1467 BROOKS [very pleased]: Oh, it's you.  
1468 HALSEY: Hi Patience--have a seat.  
1469 PATIENCE: No, thanks--I have to go in a minute.  
1470 HALSEY: Is it something about your uncle?  
1471 PATIENCE: No, I'm here on my own account. I just wanted  
1472 to give you that story we talked about.  
1473 BROOKS [too enthused]: Oh, that's wonderful!  
1474 PATIENCE: You might not say that after you read it.  
1475 BROOKS: Why would that be?  
1476 [Door open.]  
1477 ACKERMAN [calling]: Brooks, I need you!  
1478 BROOKS [sighs]: Coming! [Footsteps and door close]  
1479 HALSEY: And why might I not say that after I've--?  
1480 PATIENCE: It's about a supernatural power that watches  
1481 over all the good people while all the bad people are  
1482 punished.  
1483 HALSEY: That's all right--that's just what our  
1484 readers want.  
1485 PATIENCE: Yeah? Well I don't believe a word of it.  
1486 Things like that don't happen in real life.  
1487 HALSEY: You're right--but an editor can't always  
1488 choose what she'd like. She has to satisfy the wishes of  
1489 the public. Politics are what's important--for a  
1490 newspaper, anyway--and if I want to lead my public to  
1491 progressive thinking, I can't frighten them away.  
1492 If they read a story with a moral at the bottom of the  
1493 page, they'll be more inclined to read what's printed  
1494 above it!  
1495 PATIENCE: I'd never go and set a trap for my readers  
1496 like that--I'm not a spider!  
1497 HALSEY [chuckles]: Thanks for having such a good  
1498 opinion of me. Actually, we journalists aren't  
1499 worth much.  
1500 PATIENCE: You actually mean that?

1501 HALSEY: Sometimes.

1502 PATIENCE: I can see how--in everyday life--but now,  
1503 when you have a serious matter to deal with--

1504 HALSEY: Your uncle, you mean.

1505 PATIENCE: Exactly--it seems to me you must feel...  
1506 pretty good about yourself.

1507 HALSEY: Today--yeah I guess I do.

1508 PATIENCE: It's a wonderful profession, journalism--  
1509 being able to pave the way for Truth! To stand without  
1510 fear in the open and take up the cause of the underdog!

1511 HALSEY: Especially when that underdog is--! [clears  
1512 throat]

1513 PATIENCE: So decent and honest, you mean.

1514 HALSEY (more gently): Especially when he's your  
1515 uncle is what I meant.

1516 PATIENCE: So that's first with you, is it? Not the  
1517 matter itself? Not the truth?

1518 HALSEY: Of course--that too!

1519 PATIENCE: Well...You've shown me who you are, Halsey.  
1520 I'll never trust you again--with anything.

1521 HALSEY: Don't you realize it's for your sake?

1522 PATIENCE: For my sake? Your not being honest with my  
1523 uncle? You talked to him as if the truth and the good of  
1524 the community were what were closest to your heart.  
1525 You've made fools of both of us. You're not who you  
1526 pretend to be!

1527 HALSEY: Why are you saying this? Especially now?

1528 PATIENCE: Why not now?

1529 HALSEY: Because your uncle can't do this without my  
1530 help.

1531 PATIENCE (looking her up and down). So you're that  
1532 sort of person too?

1533 HALSEY: No, I'm not. I just--

1534 PATIENCE: I know what I believe.

1535 [Open door. Footsteps.]

1536 ACKERMAN (hurriedly): Damn it, Halsey, I--! [Sees  
1537 Patience--suddenly friendly.] Oh--

1538 PATIENCE [to Halsey but for Ackerman's benefit]:  
1539 You can't have my story. I'll give it to someone I  
1540 respect.

1541 [Footsteps. Door open/close.]

1542 ACKERMAN: I say--Halsey?

1543 HALSEY [brusquely]: Yes, Professor--what is it?

1544 ACKERMAN [slightly hurt at tone]: The Dean is in my  
1545 office. She wants a word with you.

1546 HALSEY: The Dean?

1547 ACKERMAN: Yees. She came in by the back door--  
1548 didn't want to be seen--you understand.

1549 [Footsteps. Door open.]

1550 DEAN: Will you please see that no one--

1551 ACKERMAN: Of course.

1552 [Footsteps. Door close.]

1553 DEAN: You didn't expect to see me here--did you, Halsey?

1554 HALSEY: No, Dean Bay, I didn't.

1555 DEAN: Here I come, without any notice, to take up your  
1556 time!

1557 HALSEY: Not at all--I'm at your service.

1558 DEAN: Sit down.

1559 HALSEY: Thank you.

1560 DEAN [Brief pause]: I've had an extremely annoying  
1561 day today, Halsey.

1562 HALSEY: I'm sure with all the important business  
1563 you have to attend to, Dean Bay--that--

1564 DEAN: Professor Hyer's responsible for what  
1565 happened today.

1566 HALSEY: Really--the Professor?

1567 DEAN: He's releasing a study on police shootings  
1568 that will hurt our race.

1569 HALSEY: Is that right?

1570 DEAN: Hasn't he told you? I thought he'd--

1571 HALSEY: Well, come to think of it, he did say  
1572 something about--

1573 [Door open.]

1574 ACKERMAN: Halsey, I need the professor's piece.

1575 HALSEY [clears throat]: It's on my computer.

1576 ACKERMAN: Right.

1577 DEAN: Wait--that's what I'm talking about!

1578 ACKERMAN [innocently]: The Professor's Twitter piece?

1579 HALSEY [playing dumb]: Oh, THAT'S what you're  
1580 talking about!

1581 DEAN: Yes! What do you think of it?

1582 HALSEY: I'm only a graduate student and--I've only  
1583 skimmed it really--

1584 DEAN: Are you going to print it?

1585 ACKERMAN: I don't see how we can refuse a distinguished  
1586 professor--can we?

1587 DEAN: I suppose--not.

1588 ACKERMAN: But it's also the editor's call. I'm just the  
1589 advisor.

1590 DEAN: That's right.

1591 ACKERMAN: And so I must--! [Clears throat. Footsteps.]

1592 DEAN: Wait a minute, Professor.

1593 ACKERMAN: Yes, Dean Bay?

1594 DEAN: You're a discreet and thoughtful woman,  
1595 Ms. Ackerman.

1596 ACKERMAN: I'm pleased you think so.

1597 DEAN: A woman of considerable influence.

1598 ACKERMAN [flattered]: In my field, yes--I like to  
1599 think so.

1600 DEAN: Progressives are the majority of the faculty here.

1601 ACKERMAN: That's true.

1602 DEAN: No doubt you know the general trend of opinion  
1603 among them--isn't that right?

1604 ACKERMAN: Yes, I think I do, Dean Bay.

1605 DEAN: Yes. Well...since there's such a praiseworthy  
1606 spirit of sacrifice among the newer faculty--

1607 ACKERMAN: Spirit of sacrifice, Dean Bay?

1608 HALSEY [as in what?]: Sacrifice?

1609 DEAN: It's encouraging evidence of a public-spirited  
1610 feeling--extremely encouraging evidence. You might say  
1611 I'm surprised by it. But you have a greater knowledge of  
1612 public opinion than I.

1613 ACKERMAN: Yes, Dean Bay but--

1614 DEAN: Indeed, it's no small sacrifice the college will  
1615 have to make.

1616 HALSEY: The college?

1617 ACKERMAN: Yes, but I don't quite understand. Isn't it  
1618 just a single study?

1619 DEAN: Yes, but this study calls into question the very  
1620 existence of our new Center.

1621 ACKERMAN [frightened]: Does it?

1622 DEAN: Of course. If donations are affected--and with a  
1623 study like this they're sure to be--why then enrollment  
1624 --well, it may be necessary to scale back in certain  
1625 departments.

1626 HALSEY: You mean "The Greyfield".

1627 ACKERMAN: But our little operation here is fairly  
1628 buckled up as it is. You don't mean to say that--

1629 DEAN: Where else, my dear, is the money going to  
1630 come from?

1631 ACKERMAN: Why, surely, whoever's underwriting  
1632 this study ought to--

1633 DEAN: Those underwriting the Professor's lab are not in  
1634 a position to incur further expense.

1635 ACKERMAN: I beg your pardon but--you're absolutely  
1636 certain of this?

1637 DEAN [coldly]: Let's just say that if you want this  
1638 study bad enough, you'll have to pay for it.

1639 ACKERMAN: Well, I see. That's quite another matter,  
1640 isn't it, Halsey?

1641 HALSEY: It sure is.

1642 DEAN: The worst part of it is--I'm afraid we might even  
1643 have to close the Center if this study's released--  
1644 and donations plummet.

1645 HALSEY: Close it?

1646 ACKERMAN: Altogether?

1647 DEAN: It's very possible.

1648 ACKERMAN [stricken]: Well, we can't very well allow that  
1649 --now can we?

1650 DEAN: What would you have us do? You think donors  
1651 will be happy if they think their money is going to  
1652 sudies like this?

1653 ACKERMAN: So the entire thing is a misreading  
1654 of the data?

1655 DEAN: I can't come to any other conclusion.

1656 ACKERMAN: Well then it certainly appears to be work  
1657 unworthy of Professor Hyer.

1658 DEAN: My brother-in-law's unfortunately always been a  
1659 headstrong man.

1660 ACKERMAN: In light of this, do you still mean to give  
1661 him your support, Halsey?

1662 HALSEY: You think for one minute that I--?

1663 ACKERMAN: Of course not--of course not!

1664 DEAN: Fine. Now I've written a short summary of the  
1665 situation from a reasonable point of view. Addressing,  
1666 of course, the misinformation of the Professor's  
1667 unfortunate conclusion.

1668 HALSEY: Can you email it to me?

1669 DEAN: I've already done so.

1670 ACKERMAN: Good Heavens, there he is!

1671 DEAN: Who? [brief pause] Noland?

1672 HALSEY: Where?

1673 ACKERMAN: He just entered the office!

1674 DEAN: Damn--I don't want to meet him here. And we have  
1675 more to discuss.

1676 ACKERMAN: Dean, you stay here--we'll go talk to him.

1677 DEAN: Get rid of him--quickly.

1678 [Footsteps. Door Open/Close.]

1679 NOLAND [smiling]: Well, here I am again.

1680 ACKERMAN: Already, Professor? [sternly] Hurry up with  
1681 what you were telling me Halsey--I'm very pressed for  
1682 time.

1683 NOLAND: No digital proof for me to see yet, eh?

1684 ACKERMAN: Not yet, Professor.

1685 NOLAND: You'll have to excuse my impatience--I won't  
1686 have peace of mind until I see it in print.

1687 HALSEY: It'll take a good while yet--won't it--  
1688 Professor Ackerman?

1689 ACKERMAN: Yees--I'm afraid it will.

1690 NOLAND: All right--I'll come back. [Footsteps.  
1691 Then stop.] Oh, yes--there is one more thing--

1692 ACKERMAN: Could it wait for another time?

1693 NOLAND: It's only this: when my article is  
1694 read tomorrow, well--

1695 ACKERMAN: Yes, Professor?

1696 NOLAND: It was just my duty, you understand--my duty as  
1697 a researcher--and a member of this community--

1698 ACKERMAN: This campus has a high opinion of you,  
1699 Professor.

1700 NOLAND: Yes, that's what I'm afraid of. Whether it's a  
1701 banquet or a demonstration, or some other affair--  
1702 whatever it is, promise me you'll put a stop to it.

1703 [Door open.]

1704 HALSEY [to Ackerman in a whisper]: Sooner or later,  
1705 we're gonna have to tell him the truth.

1706 [Door close. Footsteps.]

1707 LEXI: Just as I thought.

1708 HALSEY: Mrs. Hyer?

1709 NOLAND: What are you doing here, Lexi?

1710 LEXI: You know very well what I want.

1711 HALSEY: Won't you--sit down?

1712 LEXI: No thank you. You'll have to excuse me for  
1713 coming to fetch my husband.

1714 NOLAND: Are you out of your mind!

1715 LEXI: Yes, I am--if you are IN yours!

1716 ACKERMAN: Well, as I say: moderation in everything!

1717 LEXI: You disrespect us both, Halsey--by making a  
1718 fool of my husband like this!

1719 HALSEY: Making a--!

1720 ACKERMAN [reading it wrong]: What's that? Halsey?!

1721 NOLAND: A fool? Of me? Ya think I'd allow myself to be  
1722 made a fool of?

1723 LEXI: Absolutely! You have more brains than anyone on  
1724 campus but you're just as easily fooled.[To Halsey]  
1725 You realize that he could lose his tenure if you  
1726 print what he's written.

1727 ACKERMAN: I don't understand!

1728 HALSEY [to Ackerman]: It's not what you think,  
1729 Professor!

1730 NOLAND [laughing]: Just let 'em try to take my tenure!  
1731 No, they won't be able to do that. I've got a  
1732 free press behind me!

1733 LEXI: That's what I'm afraid of.

1734 NOLAND [intimately to Lexi]: Go home now--will you?  
1735 Let me take care of my job--and you take care of yours.  
1736 How can you be so afraid, when I'm so confident and  
1737 happy?

1738 [Loud sneeze from inside Ackerman's office can be  
1739 heard.)

1740 NOLAND: What's that?

1741 ACKERMAN: That?

1742 NOLAND: Someone hiding in the closet, are they?  
1743 Well, let's see who it is.

1744 LEXI: Noland, let's go!

1745 [Footsteps]

1746 ACKERMAN: It's really just a--

1747 [Door open.]

1748 NOLAND: Well, if it isn't Dean Bay.

1749 LEXI: Noland!

1750 NOLAND: Here...talking over the members of the press.  
1751 Thought she would listen in on their dialogue--  
1752 with the heretic.

1753 DEAN: I was here for a meeting and--

1754 NOLAND: I bet you were! Let tell you something--  
1755 you think you can get rid of me---take my tenure?  
1756 Well, I'll get rid of you! You think I can't?  
1757 I have the press and the faculty behind me. Halsey and  
1758 Brooks will thunder in "The Greyfield"--and Professor  
1759 Ackerman will back me, won't you, Professor?

1760 ACKERMAN: I'm afraid that I cannot do.

1761 NOLAND: Of course you will--

1762 DEAN: How about you, Halsey? Will you be joining  
1763 Professor Hyer's movement?

1764 HALSEY: No, Dean Bay.

1765 DEAN: Halsey's not about to give up her editorship to  
1766 print divisive misinformation.

1767 NOLAND: Halsey?

1768 HALSEY: You've represented your case in a false light,  
1769 Professor. Therefore, I can't support you.

1770 BROOKS [trying to sound important]: And, after what I've  
1771 learned...[reverting to self] Me neither!

1772 NOLAND: You can leave that to the reader. [to Halsey]  
1773 Print my piece--that's all I ask. I'm very capable of  
1774 defending it myself.

1775 HALSEY: As editor of "The Greyfield", I will not print  
1776 your tweet, Professor Hyer. I can't--and won't--  
1777 and wouldn't dare--.

1778 NOLAND: Wouldn't dare? What horse shit--you're the  
1779 editor!

1780 ACKERMAN: And I am the advisor, Professor!

1781 DEAN: Yes, she is.

1782 ACKERMAN: Ultimately, it's public opinion--which is  
1783 comprised of our students and the greater campus  
1784 community--that oversees the press--

1785 NOLAND: So this is how it's going to be?

1786 DEAN: It appears so.

1787 ACKERMAN: It would clearly do damage to the  
1788 campus community were your article to appear.

1789 NOLAND: I see. [Pause]. Then you refuse to print it--  
1790 even as a Letter to the Editor--is that right?

1791 ACKERMAN: I'm afraid that wouldn't be possible--out of  
1792 concern for your safety--

1793 HALSEY: --and the safety of your family.

1794 NOLAND: You needn't concern yourself with that.

1795 DEAN: And--for the sake of the public, it'd be  
1796 appropriate that a statement from my office appear.

1797 HALSEY: Yes, I'll see to it it's included.

1798 NOLAND: But not mine. You think you can silence me and  
1799 stifle the truth? You won't find it as easy as you  
1800 think. I've already published it to Twitter, where I  
1801 have thousands of followers all over the globe.

1802 DEAN: You are free to do as you like. But you may find  
1803 your post on this issue runs afoul of Twitter's rules of  
1804 engagement. This college has plenty of influential  
1805 friends in the media, Professor.

1806 NOLAND: Then I'll read it out on campus!

1807 DEAN: Who will hear you?

1808 ACKERMAN: Not many--I'm sure.

1809 BROOKS: That's right--not too many--maybe two.

1810 NOLAND: You, too, huh? Well, I'll tell you why this is  
1811 so. This is so because all the leaders on this campus  
1812 are women--that's right--WOMEN! They--you--think of  
1813 nothing but their families, their security, their  
1814 community, their safety--of tenure--never about  
1815 the truth!

1816 LEXI: Let's go, Noland. Please!

1817 NOLAND: I'll get a drum and parade around campus with it  
1818 --I'll read it along the way!

1819 DEAN: You'll look like a fool.

1820 NOLAND: So what--I am a fool! And I thought I was  
1821 free here!

1822 ACKERMAN: You won't find a single person on campus to go  
1823 with you.

1824 BROOKS: Not--two!

1825 NOLAND: We'll see! I'm going. I'm going to see whether a  
1826 pack of cowards can gag a man of science who stands for  
1827 the truth--one who will not back down--one who refuses  
1828 to traffic in lies--one who really wants the best for  
1829 his students and fellow teachers and those he loves!

1830 [Footsteps. Door open/close].

1831

1832 [MUSICAL INTERLUDE]

1833

1834 NARRATOR: The next morning in Martin Bay's elegant,  
1835 wood-paneled study...

1836 MARTIN [pleased]: I figured I'd be gettin' a visit from  
1837 the Dean o' the College. [brief pause] Don't like this  
1838 police study business, do ya? Ha! I knew you wouldn't!  
1839 DEAN: What did you say to Noland, Father?  
1840 MARTIN: I told 'im I'd give ten-thousand to a charity  
1841 if he got your panties in a bunch over this. And the  
1842 panties of your friends on the board--who hounded  
1843 me out!  
1844 DEAN: This is serious, Father.  
1845 MARTIN: Oh, it is, is it? See those books on the shelves  
1846 behind me? Ya think I've read those books? I barely  
1847 made it to th' six grade! Those books are for show!  
1848 They're knick-knacks! But you can read 'em--why you've  
1849 had the best book-learnin' in the wold! Who did that?  
1850 DEAN: You did, Father. You.  
1851 MARTIN: That's right.  
1852 DEAN: And I'm grateful for it. But I'm serious.  
1853 I believe Noland wants to tear down the Center.  
1854 The Center you and I built.  
1855 MARTIN: Why would he wanna do that? He's got  
1856 everything here.  
1857 DEAN: This police study of his. If we back him,  
1858 it's going to make us look like fools. The other doners  
1859 are not going to like it. They might not be as  
1860 forgiving as you.  
1861 MARTIN: I thought he was pullin' my leg. You say he's  
1862 serious?  
1863 DEAN: Dead serious. And I don't think he'll stop  
1864 until he destroys the Center.  
1865 MARTIN: Destroys it? But the lab we built for him  
1866 is in it? That's his baby--why would he destroy that?  
1867 DEAN: Because he resents us--you and me. He won't stop  
1868 until he's destroyed everything we've built--including  
1869 his own Lab. Because we built it for him--you built it  
1870 for him. And he resents it. And he always will.  
1871 MARTIN: C'mon, Cloudine! Yer the one that convinned me  
1872 to back this whole thing--that he was the man to build  
1873 it around! I didn't think he was ready.

1874 DEAN: No you didn't. And you were right.

1875 MARTIN: You didn't think so at the time.

1876 DEAN: I thought he was ready. And he was--to build it  
1877 around. But now that it's been built, we must  
1878 protect it--protect it from men who would destroy it.  
1879 And he's one.

1880 MARTIN [laughs]: He is, is he?

1881 DEAN: Yes. It's up to you--and me.

1882 MARTIN: You and me, huh? Where were you and me when your  
1883 friends on the board sent me packin'?

1884 DEAN: You're right--that was wrong. That won't  
1885 happen again.

1886 MARTIN: Well, you are serious about this, aren't you?  
1887 [pause] Hmmm...Ya sure this is the right move?

1888 DEAN: I've never been more sure.

1889 MARTIN: Hmmph...Well...

1890 DEAN: By the way: I told Lexi today that if she  
1891 stood with Noland on this, I couldn't see how  
1892 she'd ever get another dime from Daddy.

1893 MARTIN [chuckles]: You told her that?

1894 DEAN: Yes.

1895 MARTIN [chuckles again--then, with affection]:  
1896 Well, my little bookworm...you are serious.

1897 DEAN: Yes, Daddy. [Footsteps. Door open].

1898 DEAN: Oh and...Bill Forester's hosting a public meeting  
1899 for Noland tomorrow night. [Pause] I know Bill manages  
1900 some of your investments.

1901 MARTIN: He did.

1902 DEAN [very pleased]: Ha!

1903

1904 NARRATOR: The next evening, at the public meeting...

1905 STUDENT 1: Oh! You here too?

1906 STUDENT 2: Wouldn't miss it.

1907 STUDENT 3: Brought your signs, too, I see.

1908 STUDENT 2: Of course--haven't you?

1909 STUDENT 3: See! Steve said he was going to bring a  
1910 bull-horn.

1911 STUDENT 2: Awesome! [Laughter among the crowd.]

1912 STUDENT 4: What's going on here?

1913 STUDENT 2: Professor Hyer's giving a talk attacking the  
1914 Dean.

1915 STUDENT 4: But the Dean's his wife's sister, isn't she?

1916 STUDENT 1: That doesn't matter--Professor Hyer's not one  
1917 to back down.

1918 STUDENT 3: But he's spreading misinformation--it said so  
1919 in "The Greyfield".

1920 STUDENT 2: That must be right--because I hear the  
1921 college wouldn't give him a hall for this meeting.

1922 STUDENT 1: A tenured professor and they wouldn't  
1923 give him a hall?

1924 FACULTY 1: Who are we supposed to back in this?

1925 FACULTY 2: Watch Ackerman--and do as she does.

1926 BROOKS: 'Xcuse me, 'xcuse me--mind lettin' me through?  
1927 I'm reporting for "The Greyfield".

1928 FACULTY 3: Who was that?

1929 FACULTY 4: That was Brooks, one of Ackerman's reporters.

1930 NARRATOR: Bill Forester brings in Patience from a door  
1931 on the right.

1932 FORESTER: I thought you might sit here. You can slip out  
1933 easily, if things get too...rowdy.

1934 PATIENCE: You think there'll be trouble?

1935 FORESTER: One can never tell with these things.  
1936 But sit--and don't worry. [Brief pause] Your Aunt  
1937 won't be coming?

1938 PATIENCE: No--I don't think so.

1939 FORESTER: Sorry to hear that.

1940 PATIENCE: Me too.

1941 PATIENCE: It was kind of you to lend Uncle this space.

1942 FORESTER: Don't mention it.

1943 PATIENCE: It was a brave thing to do, Mr. Forester.

1944 FORESTER [waving her off]: Ah, it was nothing!

1945 NARRATOR: Halsey and Professor Ackerman make their way  
1946 through the crowd.

1947 HALSEY: Professor Hyer's not here yet?

1948 ACKERMAN: He's waiting in the next room. [Movement in  
1949 the crowd by the door at the back.] Look--here's the  
1950 Dean!

1951 HALSEY: Well, she came after all.

1952 NARRATOR: The Dean makes her way gradually through the  
1953 crowd. Bowing politely, she takes up a position along  
1954 the wall. Professor Hyer then enters thru the door on  
1955 the right.

1956 NOLAND [whispers]: How are you doing?

1957 PATIENCE [whispers]: I should be asking you that, Uncle.

1958 NOLAND [whispers]: No sign of Lexi, huh?

1959 PATIENCE [whispers]: No. I'm sorry.

1960 NOLAND [whispers]: Don't be. I'm fine.

1961 PATIENCE [whispers]: Remember: stay calm--and try not  
1962 to lose your temper.

1963 NOLAND [whispers]: Don't worry--I know how to  
1964 control myself.

1965 NARRATOR: Professor Hyer looks at his watch, steps onto  
1966 the platform, and smiles.

1967 NOLAND: It's a quarter past--so I'll begin. [Removes his  
1968 speech from his pocket).

1969 ACKERMAN [loudly]: I believe we should elect a moderator  
1970 first.

1971 NOLAND: No, it's not necessary.

1972 STUDENTS 1-4: Yes! Yes! Moderator! Moderator!

1973 DEAN [loudly]: Yes, the meeting should have a moderator.

1974 NOLAND: But I called this meeting to give a lecture,  
1975 Dean Bay.

1976 DEAN [loudly]: Professor Hyer's lecture may contain  
1977 misinformation and thus contribute to an unsafe  
1978 atmosphere for students.

1979 STUDENTS 1-4 [loudly]: Moderator! Moderator!

1980 HALSEY [loudly]: It appears the community wishes a  
1981 moderator be chosen.

1982 PATIENCE [clears throat as message to Uncle]:

1983 NOLAND: (restraining himself). Al'right--if we have to.

1984 ACKERMAN: I nominate Dean Bay!

1985 STUDENTS 1-4: Bravo! Bravo! Dean Bay! Dean Bay!

1986 DEAN: As Professor Hyer's sister-in-law--my sister is  
1987 not present tonight by the way--I must decline the  
1988 nomination. But, fortunately, there's someone here I  
1989 think will be acceptable to you all. Advisor to our  
1990 acclaimed campus newspaper, "The Greyfield", Professor  
1991 Ackerman!

1992 FACULTY 1-4: Yes--Ackerman! Bravo! Ackerman!

1993 NARRATOR: Professor Hyer paces up and down the platform  
1994 holding his speech.

1995 ACKERMAN: Since you, my fellow Greyfielder's--students  
1996 and faculty--choose to entrust me with this duty,  
1997 I cannot refuse.

1998 [Loud applause. Footsteps mount platform.]

1999 NARRATOR: Brooks takes a selfie video.

2000 BROOKS: Correspondent Brooks here at Professor Hyer's  
2001 talk attackin' the Dean. Professor Ackerman was just  
2002 elected moderator! And the crowd's behind her! The  
2003 Professor looks pissed--I mean bothered--I mean upset.

2004 ACKERMAN: And now, as your moderator, I should like to  
2005 say a few brief words. I am a quiet and peaceful person,  
2006 who believes in discreet moderation--and in--moderate  
2007 discretion--my friends can testify to that!

2008 FACULTY 1-4: That's right! Go Ackerman!

2009 ACKERMAN: I've learned--in the school of life--  
2010 that moderation is the most valuable virtue a  
2011 professor can possess--

2012 DEAN: Hear, hear!

2013 ACKERMAN: And moreover--that discretion and moderation  
2014 are what enable a professor to be of the greatest  
2015 service to her students and to the greater campus  
2016 community. I would therefore stress to my esteemed  
2017 fellow professor, who's called this meeting, that he  
2018 should strive to keep strictly within the bounds of  
2019 moderation.

2020 STUDENTS 1-4: Three cheers for moderation! Three cheers!

2021 NOLAND: Wait a minute--

2022 STUDENTS 1-4: Shush! Shush!

2023 ACKERMAN: You must not interrupt, Professor Hyer--  
2024 please! Does anyone wish to say anything before we  
2025 begin?

2026 DEAN: Yes, Ms. Moderator.

2027 ACKERMAN: The Dean shall address the meeting.

2028 DEAN: Given my familial relationship with Professor  
2029 Hyer, I should have preferred not to speak at this  
2030 event. But my official position--as Dean and as chairman  
2031 of the Center of Economic Justice at Greyfield--compels  
2032 me not only to speak but to bring forward a motion to  
2033 this assembly. I presume that there's not a single one  
2034 of our campus community present who considers it  
2035 desirable that misinformation about police shootings of  
2036 people of color should be spread from Greyfield to the  
2037 community at large.

2038 STUDENTS 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: No, no! Definitely not!  
2039 We're against it!

2040 DEAN: Therefore, I should like to propose that this  
2041 meeting should not permit Professor Hyer either to  
2042 read or comment on the statement in his hand--  
2043 which he previously submitted to "The Greyfield" and  
2044 which was rejected for containing serious  
2045 misinformation.

2046 NOLAND: What?!

2047 PATIENCE [clears her throat twice in warning to Noland]:

2048 NOLAND [Collecting himself]: **Okay--go ahead!**

2049 DEAN: In my Dean's statement to "The Greyfield",  
2050 I placed the essential facts of this matter before the  
2051 campus community in such a way that every fair-minded  
2052 community member might easily form his or her  
2053 own opinion. In short, the main result of Professor  
2054 Hyer's study--apart from constituting misinformation  
2055 on the subject of police shootings--would be to  
2056 saddle our community with a brand new Center we can  
2057 no longer afford due to a damaged reputation in the  
2058 donor community.

2059 STUDENTS 1-4: Booo! Booo! Misinformation!  
2060 Misinformation!

2061 ACKERMAN [ringing her bell]: Silence, please! I would  
2062 like to support the Dean's motion. No one doubts the  
2063 honesty of the Professor's academic intentions.  
2064 I myself, as a professor of journalism, am a believer in  
2065 free speech, provided the exercise of it doesn't  
2066 hurt the community--or fall too heavily on students and  
2067 faculty. And that would surely be the case here--that is  
2068 why I would rather see Professor Hyer sanctioned--or  
2069 even removed--before I would stand with him in this  
2070 matter. You can pay too dearly for a thing sometimes--  
2071 that's--my opinion.

2072 [Loud applause.]

2073 HALSEY: As editor of "The Greyfield", I, too, feel  
2074 called to explain my position. Professor Hyer's activism  
2075 did gain my sympathy at first--and the sympathy of  
2076 others--so I initially supported it--as impartially as I  
2077 could. But I soon realized I'd allowed myself to be  
2078 misled by a misrepresentation of the study--

2079 NOLAND: **Misrepresentation--!**

2080 HALSEY: Let's just call it an untrustworthy  
2081 representation. The Dean's piece in "The Greyfield"  
2082 proves that. If anyone doubts my journalistic  
2083 principles, the attitude of "The Greyfield" towards  
2084 free speech is well-known to everyone. But the advice of  
2085 thoughtful community leaders has convinced me that in  
2086 strictly campus matters a newspaper should proceed with  
2087 caution--especially with regards to misinformation.

2088 BROOKS: Viewers, your editor has called ot Professor  
2089 Hyer for employing--or is it deploying?--misinformation.

2090 HALSEY: And so, in the matter before us, is it not a  
2091 fact that Professor Hyer has public opinion against him?  
2092 What's an editor's first and foremost duty if it's not  
2093 to work in harmony with the newspaper's readers? Have I  
2094 not been given a mandate to work tirelessly for the  
2095 welfare of those whose opinions I represent? Am I  
2096 wrong in this?

2097 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: No, no! You're right--  
2098 you're right!

2099 HALSEY: It's cost me a great deal to break with someone  
2100 in whose house I've lately been a guest--someone  
2101 who until today enjoyed the goodwill of both  
2102 students and faculty--someone whose only mistake  
2103 is that he's listening to his head instead of his heart.

2104 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: That's true! Bravo, Bravo!

2105 HALSEY: But my duty to my community forces me to  
2106 break with him. Along with another consideration--and  
2107 that's for his--

2108 NOLAND: Stick to my study!

2109 HALSEY: --for his wife, Mrs. Hyer, who's not here and  
2110 whose absence--

2111 NOLAND: I said: stick to my study!

2112 ACKERMAN: I shall now put the Dean's motion to a vote.

2113 NOLAND: That's not necessary. [Rips up his speech  
2114 dramatically into small pieces] I no longer intend to  
2115 defend my study--or discuss police shootings at all.  
2116 No--now I have something very different to say.

2117 DEAN (whisper to Ackerman): What is he up to?

2118 ACKERMAN [whispers]: I don't know!

2119 DRUNKEN MAN (by the door): I'm part of this community,  
2120 too!! And I'd like to speak!!

2121 STUDENT 1-4: Quiet! Quiet!

2122 ACKERMAN: Security, please remove him--he's drunk!

2123 NOLAND: Am I allowed to speak?

2124 ACKERMAN (ringing her bell): Professor Hyer shall  
2125 address the meeting.

2126 NOLAND: You think, a few days ago, anyone would've  
2127 dared silence me as you've done tonight? I would've  
2128 defended my free speech like a lion! But now? I don't  
2129 care. Why? [Brief pause] I'll tell you.

2130 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [grumbles uncomfortably]:

2131 NOLAND: These last few days, I've thought a great deal.  
2132 I thought about so many things that in the end my head  
2133 seemed too full to hold them.

2134 DEAN [clears throat trying to alert Ackerman]:

2135 NOLAND: But I got them clear in my head at last, and  
2136 then I saw the whole situation plainly. I have a  
2137 great revelation to make to you, students and faculty  
2138 of this esteemed university. I will impart to you a  
2139 discovery of a far wider scope than the trifling matter  
2140 of the data on police shootings in the United States in  
2141 the year 2019.

2142 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: Don't talk about that! We don't  
2143 wanna hear you!

2144 NOLAND: You see, the great discovery I want to talk  
2145 about--the great discovery I've made--is that the  
2146 very stream of college life--the entire fabric of our  
2147 academic community--has been contaminated with the  
2148 virus of accepted lies.

2149 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: What's that? What's he say?

2150 DEAN: That's a serious accusation--!

2151 BROOKS: The Professor's made a serious accusation,  
2152 viewers--very serious!

2153 ACKERMAN [rings bell]: I call upon the speaker to  
2154 moderate his language.

2155 NOLAND: I've always loved this area. I was young when we  
2156 moved away--and my memories cast a big halo over  
2157 both the area and its institutions. [Smattering of  
2158 claps/applause] And I stayed away for many years, at a  
2159 small school up north. I don't think anyone up there  
2160 could've accused me of having forgotten my native town--  
2161 I was like a bird sitting on its nest--and what I  
2162 hatched was plans for this Center--which included this

2163 incredible Lab and these gifted students--and of course  
2164 the tenure--the academic tenure I enjoy today.

2165 [Handful of claps.]

2166 STUDENT 1-4 [vocalizations of protest]:

2167 NOLAND: When fate--with quite a bit of help from my  
2168 sister-in-law--made it so that I'd be coming home again  
2169 --I can tell you, I felt like all of my childhood dreams  
2170 had come true. It was the one thing I wished for--to do  
2171 good work at the prestigious college near my hometown  
2172 and have the community I grew up in be proud of me.

2173 DEAN [clearing throat to get Ackerman's attention]:

2174 NOLAND: And so, eyes blind to facts, I wallowed in my  
2175 happiness. But yesterday afternoon, ladies and gents--  
2176 my eyes were opened--wide, and the first thing I  
2177 realized when I looked without blinders was the  
2178 absolute colossal stupidity of those in authority--

2179 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Uproar, shouts, laughter]:

2180 DEAN: Ms. Moderator!

2181 ACKERMAN [ringing bell]: By virtue of my authority--!

2182 NOLAND [laughs at Ackerman's faux pax]: If the shoe  
2183 fits, Professor--! What I mean is--only--that I got an  
2184 incredible whiff of the unbelievable stench of the  
2185 falsehoods our leaders have been brewing, stewing for  
2186 years at this institution. I can no longer stomach such  
2187 brews, such stews and such "leaders". They're like  
2188 billy-goats on a farm--they do mischief everywhere.  
2189 They stand in a free man's way, everywhere he turns,  
2190 and if it were up to me, they'd be exterminated,  
2191 like any other pest--

2192 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [GREAT UPROAR]:

2193 DEAN: Ms. Moderator, will you allow such talk?

2194 ACKERMAN: Professor!

2195 NOLAND: I really can't understand how I've only now  
2196 gotten a clear view of who these "leaders" are--  
2197 when daily before my eyes I had such a perfect example--  
2198 my sister-in-law--Dean Bay--Rhodes Scholar--  
2199 Greyfield Emeritus--power-mad--and grasping--  
2200 devoid of any integrity--

2201 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Laughter, Uproar, Hissing]:  
2202 [Bell is rung violently.]

2203 DRUNKEN MAN [who's got in again]: Is it me he's talking  
2204 about?! I heard my name--My name's-- Let me go--let me  
2205 go!!

2206 DEAN: Who is that man?

2207 ACKERMAN: Remove him, please remove him! [brief pause]  
2208 Continue, Professor but--please--moderate your language.

2209 NOLAND: Okay. Well, if anyone thinks, from what I've  
2210 said, that my goal is to attack these lying "leaders",  
2211 he would be incorrect. No, no, I'm comforted by the  
2212 knowledge that these liars--every one of 'em--pave the  
2213 way for their own destruction. They don't need the help  
2214 of a PHD to help to accelerate their demise! Nor is it  
2215 them who're actually the greatest danger. It's not them  
2216 who're poisoning our moral life and infecting the ground  
2217 we stand on. It's not them who are the most dangerous  
2218 enemies of truth and freedom among us!

2219 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: Who then? Who's to Blame?  
2220 Name them!

2221 NOLAND: You bet I'll name them! That's precisely the  
2222 great discovery I made yesterday! [Raises his voice.]  
2223 The most dangerous enemy of truth and freedom among us  
2224 is the MAJORITY--that's right--that's it--now you know--  
2225 it's YOU!

2226 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Tremendous uproar, shouting,  
2227 stamping, hissing]:  
2228 [Bell is rung violently].

2229 ACKERMAN: Silence, silence! As Moderator, I call upon  
2230 the speaker to withdraw the statement he's just uttered!

2231 NOLAND: Never! It's the MAJORITY in our community that  
2232 denies me my freedom and seeks to prevent me from  
2233 speaking the truth.

2234 HALSEY: The majority has right on its side! Truth too!

2235 NOLAND: That's one of those lies, Halsey, an  
2236 intelligent person like you must fight against always.  
2237 Who makes up the majority of any place? Is it the smart,  
2238 or the stupid? Do you, dear editor, dispute the fact

2239 that the stupid are an overwhelming majority all the  
2240 world over? Good Lord, you really think it's right that  
2241 the stupid govern the smart!

2242 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Uproar and cries]:

2243 NOLAND: Yes--shout me down! But you can't answer me--  
2244 can you? The majority has might on its side but it  
2245 doesn't have right. I am in the right. I and a few other  
2246 scattered individuals. Truthtellers are always in the  
2247 minority!

2248 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Renewed uproar and cries]:

2249 HALSEY [snidely]: Professor Hyer became a truthteller--  
2250 the day before yesterday.

2251 NOLAND: I guess I did.

2252 BROOKS: Professor Hyer became a truthteller a few days  
2253 ago, viewers--he's a truthteller now!

2254 NOLAND: I guess I am. I'm a leader of a revolt against  
2255 the lie that the majority has a monopoly on the truth.  
2256 What kind of truth does the majority support? Truth so  
2257 old it's beginning to fall apart. Truth as old as that  
2258 --why--it's is on its way to turning back into a lie!

2259 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Laughter and mocking cries]:

2260 NOLAND: Truth doesn't live as long as we do, ladies and  
2261 gents. I'd say your average truth lives about  
2262 twenty years. Truths that old are worn thin--and it's  
2263 only then that the majority recognizes 'em and feeds 'em  
2264 to us as wholesome nourishment. But there's no nutrition  
2265 in that kind of food, I can tell ya!

2266 ACKERMAN: The speaker has wandered a long way from his  
2267 subject.

2268 DEAN: I agree with the moderator.

2269 NOLAND: But--my esteemed Dean--I am sticking as close  
2270 to my subject as I can. My thesis is thus: it's the  
2271 accepted falsehoods of the majority that corrode our  
2272 precious institutions--and threaten the very ground  
2273 we stand on!

2274 HALSEY: And all this because the majority's smart enough  
2275 to recognize only the truths that don't destroy it.

2276 NOLAND: Halsey, if a single truth--like the one in my  
2277 study--can destroy a community, that community doesn't  
2278 deserve to survive.

2279 HALSEY: Why not give us one example of these lies we're  
2280 being fed--instead of vague generalities.

2281 [Applause]

2282 NOLAND: Okay, here's one you and your paper are fed on!

2283 HALSEY: And that is--?

2284 NOLAND: The doctrine you proclaim far and wide--that the  
2285 masses are the essential part of the population--  
2286 that the People, the ignorant element in the community,  
2287 have the same right to pronounce judgment and to govern,  
2288 as the intellectually superior persons in it.

2289 HALSEY [shouting]: Take good note of that, students--

2290 BROOKS: Take good note of that, viewers--

2291 HALSEY: He's put his foot in it!

2292 BROOKS: He's stepped in it now!

2293 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: Only the superior should  
2294 govern, eh! He's a Nazi!

2295 STUDENT 1: Throw him out for spreading misinformation!

2296 STUDENT 2: Throw him out!

2297 NOLAND: Listen to reason! Look, I didn't expect you to  
2298 agree with me--but I did expect Halsey to admit I was  
2299 right--when she'd recovered her composure a little.  
2300 Because, after all, she's one of the smart ones--  
2301 and she has experience with the stupid!

2302 BROOKS: Who has no experience, viewers--who?

2303 HALSEY (shouting). When have I ever said that--about the  
2304 smart and the stupid--where?

2305 NOLAND (reflecting): No, you're right--you haven't had  
2306 the courage to. Well, I'll say it then. When you tell  
2307 people in "The Greyfield" that the masses are the real  
2308 essence of the People, you're telling a comforting lie  
2309 to your readers, our young people! The masses? They're  
2310 only the raw material of which an intelligent people is  
2311 made!

2312 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Groans, laughter and uproar]

2313 NOLAND: Well, isn't that true? Isn't there an enormous  
2314 difference between a well-bred and a poorly-bred dog?  
2315 Think of your ordinary Mexican street dog--one of those  
2316 dogs that do nothing but run around the streets and piss  
2317 on the walls of houses. Compare one of these to a  
2318 French poodle who for many generations has been  
2319 raised inside, where they've had the best food and the  
2320 opportunity to hear soft voices and music. You don't  
2321 think the poodle's brain has developed to a different  
2322 degree from that of the street dog? Of course it has!

2323 HALSEY: So we're dogs now, eh?

2324 NOLAND: Unfortunately we are!

2325 BROOKS: Professor Hyer thinks we're pets, viewers--pets!

2326 NOLAND: We're the finest animals on the planet!  
2327 But, even among us, exceptionally fine animals are rare.  
2328 There's a tremendous difference between poodles and  
2329 street dogs. And the funny part of it is--is that  
2330 Halsey agrees with me--as long as it's a question of  
2331 four-footed animals--

2332 HALSEY: That's true!

2333 NOLAND: But as soon as I apply it to two-legged animals,  
2334 Halsey stops short. She no longer dares to think  
2335 independently, pursue her ideas to their logical  
2336 conclusion--she proclaims in "The Greyfield" that street  
2337 dogs are the finest dogs in the world! But that's  
2338 always how it is.

2339 HALSEY: I'm a janitor's daughter, and I'm proud of where  
2340 I come from!

2341 STUDENT 1-4: Bravo, Halsey! Bravo!

2342 NOLAND: The common folk I mean are not only found  
2343 low down on the social scale--they swarm all around us--  
2344 even in the highest social positions. You only have to  
2345 look at our own fine, distinguished Dean, my sister-in-  
2346 law, who's every bit as common as anyone pushing a mop!

2347 STUDENT 1-4 [laughter and hisses]:

2348 DEAN: You're beneath attacks like these!

2349 NOLAND [imperturbably] And that's not because like me  
2350 she's descended from some old rascal of a plantation  
2351 owner--

2352 DEAN [in disgust]: Oh!

2353 NOLAND: --but because she thinks what her superiors  
2354 think, and holds the same opinions as they do. People  
2355 who do that are, intellectually speaking, common--and,  
2356 that's why my magnificent sister-in-law is in reality--  
2357 very common--and in truth is very far from being  
2358 progressive!

2359 DEAN: Ms. Moderator!

2360 HALSEY So only elites are progressive!

2361 BROOKS: Only elites, viewers--only elites!

2362 NOLAND: Another lie is that broadmindedness is the same  
2363 thing as morality. Day in and day out "The Greyfield"  
2364 proclaims that the masses have the monopoly on  
2365 broad-mindedness and morality--that corruption and every  
2366 kind of depravity are the result of culture--just as  
2367 it's undeniable, according to government data, that, on  
2368 average, police shoot members of the Black community  
2369 LESS than members of other communities--meaning that the  
2370 narrative that police hunt Blacks is a self-serving lie!

2371 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Uproar and interruptions]:

2372 NOLAND: And yet "The Greyfield" goes on preaching that  
2373 the masses should be lifted in life! But if this is so,  
2374 this very lifting would mean nothing more than setting  
2375 the masses on a path to corruption! Luckily the theory  
2376 that culture degrades is simply an old falsehood that  
2377 our forefathers swallowed and we can discard. It's  
2378 ignorance, poverty--the ugly conditions of life--  
2379 these are the real oppressors! In a house that doesn't  
2380 get aired and swept daily--people will quickly lose the  
2381 power of thinking and acting in a moral manner. Lack of  
2382 oxygen weakens the conscience. And I suspect there's a  
2383 lack of oxygen in many of the structures on this campus,  
2384 judging from the fact that you all seem eager enough to  
2385 stake the prosperity of this college on a river of lies!

2386 ACKERMAN: We cannot allow such an accusation to be flung  
2387 at this community!

2388 STUDENT 1: I move the Moderator cancels the speaker!

2389 STUDENT 2: Yes, Cancel him--cancel him!

2390 NOLAND [losing his self-control]: Then I'll shout the  
2391 truth at every corner on campus! I'll tweet it endlessly  
2392 online! The whole country will know what's going on  
2393 here!

2394 HALSEY: It appears that the Professor's intention is to  
2395 destroy this colege.

2396 NOLAND: I love this college! But I'd rather destroy it  
2397 than see it flourish on lies!

2398 ACKERMAN: This is serious!

2399 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4 [Uproar and cat-calls]:

2400 PATIENCE [loudly clears throat]:

2401 HALSEY [shouting above the din]: One must be a  
2402 public enemy to wish to destroy our new Center!

2403 NOLAND [with growing fervor]: What does the Center for  
2404 Economic Justice really stand for, if it's built on  
2405 lies? It ought to be demolished! You'll end up infecting  
2406 the whole college--you'll bring about such a state of  
2407 affairs that the whole college won't be worth saving.  
2408 And if that comes to pass, I say from the bottom of my  
2409 heart: let this college die, for it doesn't deserve  
2410 to live!

2411 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: He hates this colege!  
2412 He's an enemy! He hates his own race!

2413 BROOKS: The People are rising up, viewers--the People  
2414 are rising up!

2415 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: He's an enemy of the colege!  
2416 An enemy of the colege!

2417 ACKERMAN: As a member of this faculty and of this  
2418 community, I am profoundly disturbed by what I've heard.  
2419 Professor Hyer has shown himself to be someone I do not  
2420 recognize. I am hereby obliged to act on the opinions of  
2421 the majority of this community and endorse the motion  
2422 that Professor Noland Hyer be declared an enemy of this  
2423 colege!

2424 [A storm of cheers and applause.]

2425 PATIENCE: Uncle, Uncle!

2426 NOLAND: **Oh, you fools, you fools!**

2427 ACKERMAN [ringing his bell]: We can't hear you now! This  
2428 is a democratic institution and we're about to take a  
2429 vote. How many are in favor of the motion to declare  
2430 Professor Hyer an enemy of this college? Please say Aye.

2431 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: AYE!!!

2432 ACKERMAN [in a rush]: Well, as there seems to be little  
2433 doubt as to the majority opinion, I officially conclude  
2434 as moderator of this meeting that the Aye's have it!

2435 DRUNKEN MAN: Wait, I wanna vote, too!! I didn't get to  
2436 vote!! My vote should count, too!!

2437 [Laughter. Footsteps. Chaos.]

2438 MARTIN: Well, Nolan'--now I see where these tricks o'  
2439 yours have lead to.

2440 NOLAND: **I have a duty, Mr. Bay. To the truth.**

2441 MARTIN: What was that you said up there? You said our  
2442 new Center should be torn down--isn't that right?

2443 NOLAND: **You heard correctly. And I said that the**  
2444 **community was responsible.**

2445 MARTIN: I don't have to remind you it's me that's been  
2446 the biggest contributor to the Center--do I?

2447 NOLAND: **Yes, I know.**

2448 MARTIN BAY: I'm a builder, Nolan'. Been a builder  
2449 all my life. Got to know concrete and it's taken me far.  
2450 Very far. My concrete has built many a building  
2451 on this campus.

2452 NOLAND: **I know, Mr. Bay.**

2453 MARTIN: You gonna put that in your study?

2454 NOLAND: **I won't hide anything, sir.**

2455 MARTIN: And I thought you was just pullin' my leg.  
2456 Well, well...May this cost you dearly, son. Dearly.  
2457 [Footsteps.] Hey, there, Forester--do you always  
2458 lend out yer premises to enemies o' the college?

2459 FORESTER: I'm used to doing what I like--with my own  
2460 property--Martin.

2461 MARTIN: Is that a fact! Well--then I guess you won't  
2462 object to me doin' the same--with mine.

2463 FORESTER: That's your right--sir.

2464 MARTIN BAY: I'll see you later. You'll hear from my  
2465 new broker tomorrow.

2466 FORESTER: Yes, sir.

2467 [Footsteps leave. Footsteps approach.]

2468 PATIENCE: My grandfather can really hurt your business,  
2469 can't he, Mr. Forester?

2470 FORESTER: Yes he can.

2471 [Bell rung loudly.]

2472 ACKERMAN: I'd like to close this meeting by saying:  
2473 three cheers for our honorable campus community!  
2474 [Renewed applause] Three cheers for our able and  
2475 energetic Dean, who has so loyally navigated the  
2476 pressures of family feeling! [Cheers.] This meeting  
2477 is dissolved!

2478 DEAN: Three cheers for our wonderful mediator,  
2479 Professor Ackerman!

2480 STUDENT 1-4/FACULTY 1-4: Three cheers for Professor  
2481 Ackerman! Hurrah!

2482 NOLAND: Let's go, Patience. [Double Footsteps then Stop]  
2483 Thank you so much, Bill.

2484 FORESTER: My pleasure--Noland--anytime.

2485 NOLAND [after a brief pause]: By the way: that job in  
2486 the City--it wouldn't still be available, now would it?

2487 FORESTER: I was hoping you'd ask. In fact, there might  
2488 be two jobs. [Brief pause] We'll talk soon, eh?  
2489 [Footsteps].

2490 PATIENCE: That's a good friend, Uncle.

2491 NOLAND: Yes--he is.

2492 PATIENCE: Grandpa Martin will make him pay, won't he?

2493 NOLAND: I expect he will. [Pause] Let's go. [Double  
2494 Footsteps for a distance. Then stop.] By the way,  
2495 Cloudine: when you and your father--and the board--

2496 bring charges against me, I won't be defending them.  
2497 I'm giving up my tenure. I don't wanna stay here  
2498 anymore. I'm moving--to New York.

2499 PATIENCE: And so am I.

2500 DEAN: New York? You mean you'll take a job in the  
2501 private sector?

2502 NOLAND: That's right.

2503 DEAN: You're giving up so much, Noland--everything you  
2504 worked for.

2505 NOLAND: I guess so. But in the city, what I'm paid  
2506 will be what I earn--not what I've been given. [brief  
2507 pause] I like it better that way.

2508 DEAN: Well...what in heaven's name will my sister say?

2509 NOLAND: I don't know. [Pause] Why don't you and your  
2510 father ask her.

2511 [Double Footsteps.]

2512 THE END