

#4A Intro Act 1, Scene 2

Act I Scene 2

START

(The executive offices of Urine Good Company. CALDWELL B. CLADWELL, with MR. MCQUEEN at his side, is meeting with SENATOR FIPP.)

FIPP

Where's my dough?!

CLADWELL

Isn't that what we're all asking ourselves, Senator? Where's my dough? From the cop walking his beat to the little baby asleep in his mother's arms, we're all asking the same question: Where's my dough? And by dough, of course, I mean money.

FIPP

I made my speech! Where's my dough?!

CLADWELL

Oh, there'll be plenty of dough for everyone, Senator, once the new fee hikes breeze through the Legislature.

FIPP

I was hoping to wait for the vote during my latest fact-finding mission – to Rio! Wouldn't want to be around once the new fee hikes breeze through.

CLADWELL

You think I've gone too far this time, don't you, Fipp?

(HOPE enters.)

FIPP

It's a powder keg out there, Cladwell. This time I think it's gonna blow!

HOPE

Daddy?

CLADWELL, FIPP & MCQUEEN

Whaa-?!

CLADWELL

Hope darling, I thought you'd never get here! (THEY embrace.)

HOPE

Sorry I'm late, Daddy. I left just as soon as my exams were finished.

CLADWELL

How's everything, dear?

HOPE

Fine, Daddy. Just fine. It feels great to be done with school. Finally.

CLADWELL

You see there, Mister McQueen! Beautiful, big-hearted, and now with a head filled with the best stuff money can buy.

MCQUEEN

Well, if the stuff in her head is nearly as big as the stuff in her heart, I'm sure she'll be running this company in no time.

(MCQUEEN laughs. CLADWELL doesn't.)

CLADWELL

That'll be all, Mister McQueen.

MCQUEEN

Yes, of course.

(MCQUEEN exits. FIPP approaches HOPE.)

FIPP

Well I'll be. Hope Cladwell, and all grown up, too.

HOPE

Hello, Senator.

FIPP

Come to join your father's little operation?

HOPE

It's just a fax/copy position, of course. First day.

FIPP

A fax/copy girl, huh?

(Taking her hand)

Well, your father mentioned he was bringing on a new fax/copy girl. He neglected, however,

to mention how beautiful she'd be. You'd be. You're so beautiful. Even as a little girl I always thought-

CLADWELL

That's enough, Fipp.

FIPP

Yes, of course.

CLADWELL

Well, we won't keep you Senator; it's a big day. I'm sure you'll have your hands full on the floor of the Legislature, what with the fee-hike vote and all.

FIPP

Oh, they'll be full, Cladwell. And by this time tomorrow I fully expect them to be full of cash.

CLADWELL

Oh, they'll be full of cash, Senator. We'll all be full of cash, provided the vote comes through.

FIPP

Oh, the vote will come through, Cladwell. It'll come through just as long as you come through with the cash.

CLADWELL

No worries there, Senator. Once the vote comes through, there'll be nothing else to come through but the cash.

FIPP

And no need to worry about the vote-

CLADWELL

Fipp! I think we understand each other.

FIPP

Yes. Well. Goodbye. (FIPP exits.)

CLADWELL

Let's meet the staff. Staff!

#4B Staff Entrance

(UGC STAFF Enters.)

Staff, this here's my daughter - and our newest fax/copy girl - Hope Cladwell. Hope Cladwell, the good people of Urine Good Company, or UGC, as it's known for short.

HOPE

Hello, everybody!

STAFF

Hello, Hope!

CLADWELL

Say a few words, Hope darling.

HOPE

Well...uh...it's a great company and I hope to help you make it even greater. (ALL applaud.)

CLADWELL

Well, that's absolutely right, Hope dear, absolutely right. For you see, ladies and gentlemen, twenty years ago we came to the people of this community with a simple proposition: Look the other way while we run this company the way we see fit, and we will keep the pee off the street and the water in the ground. Hope here has come to join our little operation, to help us keep that promise, so promise me you'll treat her like the Cladwell she is, for one day

(Vamp for "Mr. Cladwell" begins)

she may be standing in the shoes you see me wearing today, the shoes I wore when I made that promise those many years ago.

#5 Mr. Cladwell

I SAW GRAY SKIES, FORBODING AND COLD!
I SAW GRAY SKIES AND MADE THEM RAIN GOLD!
NOW THOSE SKIES AREN'T SO BLEAK TO BEHOLD!