

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address
Phone Number

FADE IN:

INT. MILTON HIGH CLASSROOM - DAY

The members of the Milton High Debate team gather in the auditorium for a mock debate.

COILY BEAST (15), a confident student, sits in a chair by the stage. Legend (15), a nervous student, sits next to her.

COILY BEAST
Good luck out there!

LEGEND shifts uncomfortably in her seat, fidgeting with her backpack strap.

LEGEND
Thanks, you too.

The COILY BEAST's gaze flicks over to LEGEND, taking note of her nervous fidgeting. A sly smile plays across her face as she watches LEGEND squirm.

COILY BEAST
I just hope I don't choke. The whole debate team is watching. How embarrassing would it be to choke in front of the whole debate team?

LEGEND
Wait. You're actually nervous?

COILY BEAST
um, yeah, I'm just a little nervous.

LEGEND
It can be really nerve-wracking, but don't worry. You're going to do great. You always have always been great in front of crowds. You never missed up in front unlike me at the fourth-grade spelling bee.

FLASHBACK:

INT. MILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S AUDITORIUM - DAY

A group of nervous and excited fourth-grade students stands on stage, waiting for the spelling bee to begin.

The auditorium is filled with parents and teachers, all waiting to see who will be Milton Elementary's best speller.

The Coily Beast (9) walks to another student. Legend (9) looks as the Coily Beast approaches.

COILY BEAST

Good luck out there!

LEGEND

Thanks, you too.

COILY BEAST

I hope I don't choke. How embarrassing would it be to choke in front of the entire school? I mean, It has to be at least 200 people out there. I would never be able to live it down if I choked in front of all those people. Especially on an easy word like Mississippi.

LEGEND

200...that's a lot of people.

COILY BEAST

Don't worry. You'll do great, Legend.

ANNOUNCER

Welcome, everyone, to the annual Milton Elementary school spelling bee! The Winner of this spelling bee will go to represent Milton Elementary in state championships.

The spelling bee begins, each student spelling increasingly difficult words. Some students are eliminated early on, while others make it to the final rounds.

Finally, there are only two students left: Legend and the Coily Beast.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Okay folks, we have two spellers left. This is the final round of the spelling bee. Are you ready?

Both Legend and the Coily Beast nod.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Legend, your word is "Mississippi."

Legend takes a deep breath and begins to spell.

LEGEND

M-I-S-S-I-S-S-I-P-P-I, Mississippi.

The whole crowd gasps.

ANNOUNCER

I'm sorry, Legend, that is incorrect.

Tears stream down Legend's face as she runs offstage.

PRESENT DAY

INT. MILTON HIGH CLASSROOM - DAY

LEGEND(15) bites their nails nervously, looking around the room. THE COILY BEAST (15) sitting beside her notices her fidgeting. A sly smile plays across her face as she watches the shy girl squirm.

THE COILY BEAST

Well, we are not 9 years old anymore. Public speaking can be really nerve wrecking, but I'm sure you'll do great.

Legend looks grateful for the support, but still a little wary of the Coily Beast's sudden kindness.

LEGEND

Thanks.

Teacher (mid-30s) stands at the front of the classroom.

TEACHER

Okay, let's begin today's debate. Today's topic: Can we define art as the production of aesthetic objects? Before we begin lets establish some ground rules.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Both of you ladies will have have minutes to present your argument. There would be no personal attacks. Lastly, the winner of this debate will become the next member of the Milton High Debate team.

Both Legend and the Coily Beast nod in agreement.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

First up we will have the agreement
for the affirmative.

The Coily Beast approaches the podium. The Coily Beast's hands shake as she clutches her notes and clears her throat. The Coily beast finally starts her speech.

THE COILY BEAST

In conclusion, if you visit your
local art museum, you don't see
someone dancing, and you don't hear
a track of Symphony No.7 from
Beethoven. Instead, you see
beautiful paintings and sculptures.

The Coily Beast walks to her seat as the crowd applauds.

TEACHER

Great job! Next, we will hear the
opposition from Legend.

Legend approaches the podium. She drops her notecards and quickly picks them up as students in the audience snicker.

LEGEND

(gulping)
Uh, h-hi everyone. My presentation
is about why art is more than
objects.

LEGEND (CONT'D)

You cannot go a day without
encountering some type of art.
Whether it be the tune that you
enjoyed on your way to work, the
city mural you enjoyed at a red
light, or the photo that you
admired in a fashion magazine or
online blog. Art is all around us,
yet if you ask ten different people
to define art, you will receive ten
different answers. Merriam- Webster
defines art as "the conscious use
of skill and creative imagination,
especially in the production of
aesthetic objects" or "decorative
or illustrative elements in the
printed matter". This definition is
flawed, as it only accounts for a
small percentage of art.

The teacher nods in agreement. The Coily Beast looks at Legend in disbelief. Legend continues her speech.

LEGEND (CONT'D)

In the words of John F Kennedy " If
art is to nourish the roots of our
culture, society must set the
artist free to follow his vision
wherever it takes him."

Everyone stands and clap.

The teacher and current members of the debate team deliberate
and finally announce the winner

TEACHER

You both made great arguments. But
the winner and s.... Legend.

Legend smiles as the coily beast storms out of the classroom.

LEGEND

Thanks so much you guys. I will not
let you down!!

FADE OUT.