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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SCENE | BIG BANG THEORY | Scene | KING LEAR |
| 1 | * Sheldon delegates power to the house and ownership of his chair to whoever could prove their intelligence so he can go on a science expedition * Lenard and Penny both anger Sheldon and exceed their three strikes and are banished from the house. * Howard and Raj are given the power to share over the house. | 1 | Lines 32-113  Lines 133-136  Lines 148-154  Lines 156-180 |
| 2 | * Sheldon returns ill and is bedridden; Sheldon expects the leaders of the house to care for him for his gift of power. * Raj and Howard have been abusing their power and neglecting their duty; Penny sneaks back into the house without his knowledge disguised as a housekeeper. * Raj and Howard then strip Sheldon of all his power and insult him. * Penny begins to take care of Sheldon while disguised |  |  |
| 3 | * Sheldon realizes how much he has wronged his true friends Penny and Lennard. * Lennard returns and forgives him |  |  |

**Script**

# Brian Nasson Introduction

CALLUM: Goodmorning/afternoon, firstly we would like to introduce ourselves. This is Coral, James and I’m Callum.

CORAL: We would also like to thank you, Brian Nasson, for giving us the opportunity in order to show our abilities in educational performances.

JAMES: The Shakespearean piece we have chosen is King Lear and we have created a parallel scenario using characters from the Big Bang Theory.

CALLUM: So without further ado, let’s get this show on the road and I hope you all enjoy.

# Play introduction

JAMES: Sup, I’m James.

CALLUM: I’m Callum.

CORAL: And I’m Coral and we’re the \_\_\_\_\_

CALLUM: Now we all know that you all love Shakespeare though you probably think ‘why the hell should we learn about this boring, old crap?’ But!

CORAL: If you ever look closely enough, you can find a lot of Shakespeare in the stuff you watch today.

JAMES: This is because Shakespeare was a pretty smart guy, and knew just how to read and control the masses back then

CORAL: And when you look at it, they haven’t changed much now

CALLUM: We’re saying all this, so where’s the proof?

JAMES: Alright, now you can find bits of Shakespeare in almost anything you read or watch, but we’ve chosen one in particular

CALLUM: We’re gonna have a look at The Big Bang Theory, and we think you’ll know what we mean when we say there’s some similarities

CORAL: But first we’re gonna have to torture you a bit

CALLUM: Yeah, you’re going to sit through our performance, and sit through the original story

JAMES: King Lear is a story about nothing…and murder, backstabbers, cheaters and money

CORAL: So with no further ado, we introduce King Lear by Shakespeare

# S1, P1, KL

\*\* MUST DO

1.1.32-180

LEAR: Know, that we have divided in three our kingdom, and tis’ our fast intent to shake all cares and business from our age, conferring them on younger strengths while we unburdened crawl toward death.

Our son of Cornwall, and you, our no less loving son of Albany, we have this hour a constant will to publish our daughters' several dowers, that future strife may be prevented now.

The princes, France and Burgundy, great rivals in our youngest daughter's love, long in our court have made their amorous sojourn, and here are to be answered.

Tell me, my daughters (since now we will divest us both of rule, interest of territory, cares of state), which of you shall we say doth love us most, that we our largest bounty may extend where nature doth with merit challenge?

Gonerill, our eldest born, speak first

GONERILL: Sir, I love you more than word can wield the matter, dearer than eyesight, space, and liberty; beyond what can be valued, rich or rare, no less than life, with grace, health, beauty, honour; as much as child e'er loved, or father found; a love that makes breath poor, and speech unable; beyond all manner of so much I love you.

CORDELIA: [Aside] What shall Cordelia speak? Love, and be silent.

LEAR: Of all these bounds even from this line, to this, with shadowy forests and with champains riched with plenteous rivers and wide-skirted meads, we make thee lady.

To thine and Albany's issues be this perpetual.

What says our second daughter, our dearest Regan, wife of Cornwall?

REGAN: I am made of that self-mettle as my sister and prize me at her worth.

In my true heart I find she names my very deed of love.

Only she comes too short, that I profess myself an enemy to all other joys which the most precious square of sense possesses, and find I am alone felicitate in your dear highness' love.

CORDELIA: [Aside] Then poor Cordelia, and yet not so, since I am sure my love's more ponderous than my tongue.

LEAR: To thee and thine hereditary ever remain this ample third of our fair kingdom, no less in space, validity, and pleasure than that conferred on Gonerill.

Now our joy, although our last and least, to whose young love the vines of France and milk of Burgundy strive to be interessed.

What can you say to draw a third more opulent than your sisters? Speak.

CORDELIA: Nothing, my lord.

LEAR: Nothing?

CORDELIA: Nothing.

LEAR: Nothing will come of nothing, speak again.

CORDELIA: Unhappy that I am, I cannot heave my heart into my mouth: I love your majesty according to my bond, no more nor less.

LEAR: How, how, Cordelia? Mend your speech a little, lest you may mar your fortunes.

CORDELIA: Good my lord, you have begot me, bred me, loved me.

I return those duties back as are right fit, obey you, love you, and most honour you.

Why have my sisters husbands, if they say they love you all?

Happily, when I shall wed, that lord whose hand must take my plight shall carry half my love with him, half my care and duty. Sure, I shall never marry like my sisters.

LEAR: But goes thy heart with this?

CORDELIA: Ay, my good lord.

LEAR: So young, and so untender?

CORDELIA: So young, my lord, and true.

LEAR: Let it be so, thy truth then be thy dower.

For by the sacred radiance of the sun, the mysteries of Hecate and the night, by all the operation of the orbs from whom we do exist and cease to be, here I disclaim all my paternal care, propinquity and property of blood, and as a stranger to my heart and me hold thee from this forever.

~~The barbarous Scythian, or he that makes his generation messes to gorge his appetite, shall to my bosom be as well neighboured, pitied, and relieved, as thou my sometime daughter.~~

[I think we should stop and explain here what has happened]

: [Exhales] Well, that was a lot to take in. Someone translate.

: It is true that Shakespeare can be hard to read, so we'll simplify.

: Here King Lear has stated he has become too old to reign as king, and wants to hand out his power to his daughters.

: And along with the power comes the riches.

: Lear uses a strange test to determine how to divide his realm, a test that he thinks will prove who loves him the most with a few words.

: And everyone knows that you can't put love into words. That's just what Cordelia thinks, so that's what she tells him, and he doesn't like it.

: He dislikes it so much that not only does Cordelia lose any hope of the riches, her father Lear disowns her entirely. And everyone plays along with it, talk about in it for the money.

: Well, not everyone.

KENT: Good my liege-

LEAR: Peace, Kent, come not between the dragon and his wrath.

KENT: Royal Lear, whom I have ever honoured as my king, loved as m father, as my master followed, as my great patron thought on in my prayers-

LEAR: The bow is bent and drawn, make from the shaft.

KENT: Think'st thou that duty shall have dread to speak when power to flattery bows?

To plainness honour's bound, when majesty falls to folly.

Reserve thy state, and in thy best consideration check this hideous rashness.

LEAR: Kent, on thy life no more.

KENT: My life I never held but as a pawn to wage against thine enemies, ne'er feared to lose it, thy safety being motive.

LEAR: Out of my sight!

KENT: See better, Lear, and let me still remain the true blank of thine eye.

LEAR: Now by Apollo-

KENT: Now by Apollo, king, thou swear'st thy gods in vain.

KENT: Kill thy physician, and thy fee bestow upon the foul disease. Revoke thy gift, or whilst I can vent clamour from my throat, I'll tell thee thou dost evil.

LEAR: Hear me, recreant, on thine allegiance hear me.

~~That thou hast sought to make us break our vows, which we durst never yet; and with strained pride, to come betwixt our sentence and our power, which nor our nature nor our place can bear, our potency made good, take thy reward.~~

Five days we do allot thee for provision to shield thee from disasters of the world, and on the sixth to turn thy hated back upon our kingdom; if on the tenth day following thy banished trunk be found in our dominions the moment is thy death.

Away! By jupiter, this shall not be revoked.

KENT: Fare thee well, king, since thus thou wilt appear, freedom lives hence, and banishment is here.

[To Cordelia] The gods to their dear shelter take thee, maid that justly think'st and hast most rightly said.

[To Gonerill and Regan] And your large speeches may your deeds approve, that good effects may spring from words of love. Thus Kent, O princes, bids you all adieu

# S1, P1, KL Exp

# S1, P1, TBBT

SHELDON: Gather around friends, for I have an announcement to make.

LENARD: What is it now, Sheldon?

SHELDON: Sit down Lenard. Now as you all may be aware, the university has chosen their most talented student to attend their extended scientific research expedition, which means that I will be leaving the household for some time.

HOWARD: So you’re saying that we’ll have *all this time* living without you Sheldon? \*motion celebration\*

LENARD: Shut it Howard. That’s great Sheldon, though why would this affect us?

SHELDON: As my position in the household, is the most important. I must put you all to the test, in order to decide who may temporarily claim my spot during my absence.

RAJ: What kind of test?

SHELDON: Well Raj, I carefully devised a solution which involves, you all trying to prove your intelligence. And whoever scores the best in my judgment, they may take the responsibility and power of my position. I will give you 30 minutes to prepare.

And now it’s time to prove your worth Howard; the test will commence in 3.. 2.. 1..

HOWARD:

SHELDON:

RAJ:

SHELDON:

LENARD: Sheldon, your test is stupid, you already know my mental capacity. You know Howard would’ve just memorized that line from one of your text books, and Raj just quoted what you said a week ago.

SHELDON: What did you just say Lenard? Stupid? Don't try to mock me, now I'll give you one chance to prove yourself.

LENARD: I'm not going to waste my time trying to tell you something you should already know.

SHELDON: That's it, Lenard. You were on your second strike, though you continue to mock me, you have now exceeded your strikes, I hereby banish you!

LENARD: Come one Sheldon not the three strikes thing again…..

SHELDON (cutting Lenard off): No Lenard this is a big deal you were well aware that you were on 2 strikes though you continued to mock me and my test. You’ve reached your three strikes and I now forever banish you from the apartment!

# S1, P1, TBBT Exp

CALLUM: As you can see Sheldon has already lost sight under pressure and is blinded to deception and loyalty.

CORAL: A key component to Shakespeare’s work and the hamartia of King Lear himself -

CALLUM: Wait. What? Hamartia? \*Whisper\* We didn’t talk about this…

JAMES: Hamartia is just another word for a characters ‘fatal flaw’

CALLUM: Ohh.. Okay, I think I get it now..

CORAL: As I was saying… The hamartia of King Lear was his hubris.

CALLUM: Hey! Enough with that! What even is hubris? And all these other H words.

JAMES: Hubris is another word for pride…

CALLUM: Alright then.

JAMES: So from all that, who does Sheldon look a lot like now?

CORAL: King Lear?

JAMES: Hey! That wasn’t for you Coral. Let’s just continue to watch these next couple of scenes.

# S1, P2, KL

\*\* LEAVE UNTIL THE END

# S1, P2, KL Exp

# S1, P2, TBBT

SHELDON: Oh, hello Penny. What impeccable timing! As the topic of the recent discussion is utmost important, due to the fact I will be leaving for quite some time… However, knowing the close relationship you and Lenard share, I assume that he told you everything.

PENNY: How could you do that to Lenard, Sheldon, you know that he is the most responsible out of Howard and Raj. \*looks over to them scratching their balls or something\* I just think you’re being over-dramatic and you’re just pushing away the people who care about you the most.

SHELDON: I see that you have taken a bias standpoint, and you’re here to mock me as well. To prevent further confliction, you are now also banished from my apartment.

PENNY: What? I didn’t even –

SHELDON: Penny, I think it’s time for you to leave. The door is one hundred and sixty-four degrees west from your position, if you’re having any troubles.

PENNY: But –

SHELDON: Be gone!

Raj and Howard win power…

# S1, P2, TBBT Exp

Have you ever been in a pickle? That’s from Shakespeare

[insert phrase]

Thank him for that one too

# S2, KL

# S2, KL Exp

# S2, TBBT

##### Sheldon: (knocking) Guys I’m back, open the door. Raj: uh oh Howard: It’s Sheldon, Quick turn off the light Raj so we can pretend no one is home. Sheldon: Wait never mind I’ve got a spare set. Howard: Damn! Quick Raj go jump behind the door and hold it shut (door opens whilst saying that) Oh hey Sheldon how was the exhibition? Sheldon: Dreadful, just dreadful. Howard: That’s great. Sheldon: Well aren’t you going to ask why it was bad? Howard: (sigh) why was it bad Sheldon? Sheldon: Oh where do I begin, firstly the food was all in cans, there was no TV, no comics and worse of all the heat went out and now I have a chest infection and the doctors say I have to be in bed for at least 3 weeks and as you have the power of the house it is you guys responsibility to take care of me. Howard: (sarcastic tone) Well of course we will take care of you after all you have banished Lenard and penny from the apartment, Won’t we Raj? Raj: I guess so.

# S2, TBBT Exp

just have sheldon saying that because he's given them the power they should be responsible for taking care of him and they say ok, but then have them turn around and talk seperately about how they can take advantage of it, then penny puts on a disguise (while telling the audience that shes putting on a disguise) and sneaks back in and tells sheldon that shes there to clean the house and she actually takes care of him then stop and explain how raj and howard are taking advantage of their power or something

that was sort of my summary for the whole middle part of the big bang theory, maybe add at the very end before the explanation sheldon talking to disguised penny how he thinks he made a mistake getting rid of lennard

# S3, KL

# S3, KL Exp

# S3, TBBT

# S3, TBBT Exp

# Ending…