

a script from
skitguys.com

“Happy Gnus Year”

by
Sheree Mann

What What’s heavy, ugly, hairy, loud, and persistent? African Wildebeests, and often - life! This New Year’s script helps us remember that no matter how heavy and ugly life might be, God is working in and through us to make us more like Jesus.

Themes: New Year, New Year’s Day, New Year’s Eve, New Creation, Faithfulness, Growth, Trials, New Beginnings, Family, Christian Walk

Who Woman 1
Woman 2

When Present

Costumes and Props Casual Clothing

Go Big:
Large half-decorated Christmas tree
Children’s toys
Couch
Chair
Coffee Table or Side Table
Plate of Cookies

Go Simple:
2 chairs and a small table.

See “How” for instructions on both.

Why Lamentations 3:22-24, Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

How Go Big: Set the stage as a living room with a chair and a small couch with a coffee table or end table. A Christmas tree is off to the side in the “living room” and Christmas boxes, decorations, and children’s toys should be strewn about. It should appear very messy.

"Happy Gnus Year"

Go Simple: Set the stage as if Woman 1 left the living room and is now in a different room of the house that contains just a couple chairs and a small table.

If this option is used, the dialogue will need an adjustment. Instead of Woman 2 saying, "Let me guess", she would say, "Uh, I just walked through the living room. It looks like you were taking down Christmas decorations when you were

unexpectedly attacked by." The dialogue can continue as written from there.

Editorial Note: "Back the wildebeest truck up" is just a funny way to say, "Back up. I don't understand" so be sure to say it in that manner.

Time Approximately 3-4 minutes

TO

REMOVE

WATERMARK

AT

SKITGUYS.COM

Woman 1 is lying on the couch (or sitting in a chair in a way that shows exhaustion). The area around Woman 1 is littered with toys and Christmas decorations. A half-decorated Christmas tree should be somewhere close by. Woman 2 knocks then enters. Woman 2 is holding a plate of cookies.

Woman 2: Anybody home?

Woman 1: *(wearily)* Hi. Come on in.

Woman 2 sees Woman 1 and the mess and is concerned.

Woman 2: You okay?

Woman 1: *(sighs)* Yeah.

Woman 2: I just came over to bring you some cookies and say "Happy New Year".

Woman 2 holds out the plate of cookies and Woman 1 takes one and proceeds to eat as she talks.

Woman 1: *(mumbling, with mouthful)* Thanks.

Woman 2: So... *(looks around the room)* Let me guess...you were taking down Christmas decorations when you were unexpectedly attacked by a group of nap-deprived toddlers from the Grinch Returns Daycare?

Woman 1: *(laughs)* You're half right. I was taking down Christmas decorations when my son walked in and said "Happy GNUS *(pronounced NEWS)* Year"...so now I'm sitting here contemplating my life as it relates to wildebeests.

Woman 2: Hold it. Back the wildebeest truck up and start at the beginning. I have no idea what you're talking about.

Woman 1: *(laughs again)* My sweet boy just did a report for school on the wildebeests of Africa, and he discovered that they are also called Gnus *(news)*.

Woman 2: News? Like a newspaper?

Woman 1: No. Starts with a silent G. G. N. U. S. Gnus *(news)*. Anyway, he read me his report and then ended with "Happy Gnus Year".

Woman 2: Aw. *(smiling)* He's such a clever boy.

Woman 1: *(smiles)* He is. But it got me thinking. You know what wildebeests are known for?

Woman 2: *(shakes head)* I know ZERO things about wildebeests.

Woman 1: *(said slowly, stressing heavy, ugly, hairy, loud)* They are relentless! They'll walk hundreds of miles to get what they need. And they are heavy, ugly, hairy, and loud. They can bellow so loudly the sound can be heard in the next territory.

Woman 2: They sound sort of... *(pause)* awful.

Woman 1: Right? And you know what my year has been like? Heavy, ugly, hairy—

Woman 2: *(interrupting)* And bellow-y?

Woman 1: *(short, sarcastic laugh)* Exactly. And relentless! It's like it just kept coming after me! *(sighs)* I mean, YOU know. This year was SO hard.

Woman 2: *(nods)* I do know.

Woman 1: So, "Happy Gnus Year" was sort of upsetting—like what if next year is just as hard as this one was?

Woman 2: Scary thought.

Woman 1: Truth.

Both women pause to reflect. Woman 1 can finish off her cookie.

Woman 2: Well, in your contemplation of life as it relates to wildebeests, did you come up with any epiphanies?

Woman 1: You know... I think I did.

Woman 2: Really?

Woman 1: Well, sort of. I mean, I still don't have any great answers to the problems of the world. Goodness, I don't even have any answers on how to get my kids to pick up their toys. But I realized that, while I would never CHOOSE the things that happened this last year, I also wouldn't choose to go back to being the person I was before they happened. Does that make sense?

Woman 2: *(nodding)* Yeah. You know, 20 years ago *(or pick appropriate amount of time, depending on the age of the actress)*, I thought I had it all together. I really believed I was who God wanted me to be. But 2 decades *(or however many decades is appropriate)* of heartbreak and trials has shown me how far from that mark I really was. *(Pause)* How far I actually still am.

Woman 1: Exactly! I don't feel like I'm growing when I'm in the middle of the ugly. I feel like I'm dying. But when I look back, it's...it's different.

Woman 2: So the lesson here is... wildebeests are heavy and ugly but God is faithful and good?

Woman 1 and Woman 2 laugh.

Woman 1: Yes! And even if this next year is hard, I'm going to hold on to that. *(pause)* I am going to choose to remember... it's the heavy and ugly that draws me closer to Jesus, and isn't that my ultimate goal anyway?

Woman 2: I like that. I'm going to hold on to that too. *(pause)* But I think I'm also going to need cookies.

Both women laugh. Woman 2 picks up the plate of cookies and takes one, then holds the plate out to Woman 2, who also takes a cookie. Woman 2 looks at Woman 1, smiles, and holds up her cookie as she says the next line.

Woman 2: *(emphasize GNUS)* Happy GNUS Year, my friend.

Woman 1: *(looks at Woman 2, smiles, and holds up her cookie)* Happy GNUS Year.

Lights out.