

A script from



“Vines University: Cut Day”

Script 7

by

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- What** Cheerleading tryouts didn't go the way Mandy had planned. Being cut from a squad is painful; like pruning it can either discourage us or help us grow. Join Professor Pumpkin as she explains to Mandy the necessity of pruning.
Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Pruning, and Children's Drama
- Who** Mandeville "Mandy"
Professor Pumpkin
- When** Modern Day
- Wear (Props)** Desk
Chairs
Books
Papers, etc.
- Why** John 15:2, Luke 15:11-32 Times of pruning encourage us to return to our loving heavenly Father who welcomes repentant hearts.
- How** The setting is an office. There should be one large desk with a chair behind it. There should also be a couple of chairs in front of the desk for students. Other 'office' items should clutter the room. (Books/ possible bookshelf / etc.)
- Time** Approximately 5 minutes

Professor Pumpkin sits at her desk grading papers.

Mandy sheepishly enters.

Mandy: Hello, Professor Pumpkin.

Professor: Hello, Mandy.

Mandy: Can I talk to you for a minute?

Professor: Students are always welcome in my office. How can I help you?

Mandy: I wanted to talk to you about my grade.

Pause.

Mandy is clearly uncomfortable.

Mandy: The grade on my mid-term paper.

Professor: Yes.

Mandy: It wasn't what I was hoping for.

Professor: No? And what were you hoping for?

Mandy: A passing grade.

Professor: Well, Mandy your paper was 3 days late.

Mandy: I know.

Professor: And it was poorly written.

Mandy: *(Admittedly)* It wasn't my best.

Professor: And I recall a post-it note attached to the paper.

Mandy: *(Cringing)* Please don't re-read that.

Professor: *(Reading from a post-it-note)* Dear Professor, please take into consideration while grading this that you scheduled a mid-term paper during the week of cheerleading tryouts. Seeing as how my spot on the squad is vitally important to the success of my college career, I trust that any minor failings in this paper will be overlooked.

Pause.

Professor Pumpkin looks up from the post-it note and looks at Mandy who is cringing and shutting her eyes.

Mandy thinks the worst is over and begins to regain composure.

Professor continues reading as Mandy sits and hangs her head, embarrassed.

Professor: P.S. Seeing as how there are multiple squads I plan on joining, please check the cheerleading tryout calendar before scheduling the final exam.

Mandy: That was a little—

Professor: *(Interrupting)* Inappropriate? Arrogant?

Mandy: I was going to say wrong.

Professor: Well, I was unable to overlook the minor failings. Thus, you did not receive a passing grade.

Mandy: I'm sorry.

Professor: For the note or for barely putting any effort into this paper let alone this class?

Mandy: Both.

Professor: Mandy, can I ask how your cheerleading squad is helping the success of your college career?

Mandy: It's not.

Professor: *(surprised to hear her response)* Well, I'm glad that you figured that out.

Mandy: It's not, because I didn't make the squad.

Professor: I'm sorry to hear that.

Mandy: Really? I thought you'd be glad.

Professor: Why would you think that?

Mandy: It means I'm going to have more time to focus on my grades.

Professor: Well, I am happy about that. But I'm not happy that you're upset. Getting cut from the squad had to be very difficult for you.

Mandy: I've never been cut from anything before. And I've never failed a midterm before either.

Professor: College life is full of a lot of firsts.

Mandy: I'll say.

Pause.

Professor: Sometimes getting cut, or as we were learning in class today, getting pruned isn't always a bad thing.

Mandy: I don't understand. How can failing a final be good for me?

Professor: Well, that's just it; you didn't fail a final, did you? You failed a midterm.

Mandy: What's the difference?

Professor: The difference is a matter of passing or failing this class. By failing the midterm, you can recognize your mistake of not taking this class seriously. If you learn from this time of failing, it may very well keep you from failing the final exam and this entire class.

Mandy: I guess you're right.

Mandy nods and stands, preparing to leave.

Professor Pumpkin returns to grading papers.

Mandy: Professor?

Professor: Yes.

Mandy: If I really study hard, and do well on the final exam, do I at least have a chance of a B?

Professor: I don't see how. Even if you aced the rest of the semester, I think the best you're looking at is a C+.

Mandy nods, and turns to leave.

Professor: But—

Mandy turns back towards Professor Pumpkin.

Professor: If you are interested in some extra credit work, I may be able to come up with something.

Mandy: Yes. Absolutely.

Professor: Come to my office tomorrow after class and we'll discuss some extra assignments.

Mandy: Thank you so much.
Mandy exits.
Lights down.

PURCHASE

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