



STANDING UP

By Nick Zadina

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Character Breakdown

MOTHER	Nate's mom. Classic mom voice. Plays bullies and Natalie
NATE	Star athlete and actor. Torn between two worlds. Doubles as bully
RANDY	Nerdy friend and actor. Gets the brunt of bullying. Doubles as Troy
ALYSSA	Friend of both Nate and Randy. Personally impacted bystander. Doubles as Madison Jones

Props List

Mother	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sweater and glasses● Bully costume change x2● Natalie Klein costume change● Backpack
Nate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bully costume change● Headphones● Phone● Backpack
Randy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Headset● Controller● Phone● Backpack● Troy costume change● newspaper
Alyssa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Phone● Backpack● Madison Jones costume change

(NATE enters and sits, texting.)

MOTHER (offstage)

Nate! Nate, where are you Nate?

(NATE's MOTHER enters.)

MOTHER

Nate! Nate!?!? You shouldn't ignore your mother when she calls you, it's disrespectful. Are you listening to me?

NATE

Yes, mom.

MOTHER

Nathan, I just spoke with Mrs. Klein on the phone again and I just don't understand why you had to turn down her girl Natalie for homecoming. I just don't understand it. What is wrong with Natalie? She is a beautiful young lady! You would have had such a nice time with her at homecoming. You know I have known her family for years and years, great family, strong faith, good morals. I just don't understand why you didn't say yes. I mean, it is a little weird that she asked you to homecoming, that should be your job as the young man, but I suppose times are changing and you know it was very courageous of that young lady to ask you out. And I am sure she was so polite about it, but you just had to go and turn her down. Why did you turn her down Nathan? Why would you do that?

NATE

Because I don't like her like that, mom.

MOTHER

Oh, Nathan, you don't know that, you didn't even give her a chance. When I first met your father I didn't like him like that either, but I went out with him anyways. Gave him a shot and you see how that turned out? Here I am 20 years later and we're still together. Why didn't you like her like that Nathan, do you know why? Specifically?

NATE

No mom, I don't.

MOTHER

You're the best player on the football team, you're an all-state receiver, I just don't know what the problem is. You've got girls falling at your feet-

NATE

I don't have girls falling at my feet, mom-

MOTHER

You're almost out of high school and you know what comes after high school Nathan? College. You have to go and get a good solid education so you can get a good job. And why do you need to do that Nathan? So that you can be a good provider for your family. You and Natalie could have even gone to the same college together so you wouldn't have to face it alone!

NATE

Mom, Natalie is... I guess I just wasn't interested mom.

MOTHER

You're never interested, that's your whole problem. Nathan, are you gay?

NATE

Mom...

MOTHER

Oh I know, you don't like to talk about ... stuff like that. And in the end it doesn't matter whether you are gay or straight, I will love you no matter what.

NATE

That's nice, mom.

MOTHER

Well, it's true Nathan, I love you and I always will. And if you ever want to talk, I'm here. She exits. NATE dials on his phone. His friend RANDY picks up. He is immersed in World of Warcraft.

RANDY

Hello?

NATE

Hey Randy!

RANDY

Oh hey Nate, I got you on speaker, busy pawning noobs in Warcraft. What's up?

NATE

Oh, right on. Hey, did they post the cast list for the play yet?

RANDY

I don't think so man, I think I would have heard. How'd your audition go?

NATE

Really good, I think. How about yours?

RANDY

Yeah, I rocked it, I am totally getting in. One second, gnome warrior.

(He furiously plays the video game)

DAH! I hate getting killed by gnomes! Humiliation!

NATE

(mock-sympathetic) I am so sorry for you Randy.

RANDY

Your sympathy is not enough, Natorade-- I'm logging off. I don't think I can show my face on my server for the rest of the day.

NATE

What part are you hoping for?

RANDY

Don't really care. Felix would be cool. You?

NATE

I think it would be fun to be Oscar.

RANDY

Well, that would be fun, you and me as the two leads! I wish we were doing something other than The Odd Couple. It's like, ancient, man..

NATE

I kinda like it. I think it's funny.

RANDY

It will be if we get in.

NATE

Do you think I-

RANDY

Wait, I have somebody beeping in, it's Alyssa, OMG, hold on, I bet the list is up!

NATE

Okay!

(RANDY beeps over to ALYSSA)

RANDY

Hey Alyssa, what's up?

ALYSSA

Oh, not much... FELIX!

RANDY

No.

ALYSSA

Yes.

RANDY

NO!

ALYSSA

YES!

RANDY

AWESOME! Did you get in?

ALYSSA

Yep! Gwendolyn Pigeon at your service!

RANDY

Congrats! This is gonna be so fun! (beat) I love you.

ALYSSA

Yeah, I know.

RANDY

Do you love me yet?

ALYSSA

Nope, sorry Randy.

RANDY

Will you go to prom with me?

ALYSSA

Prom is still six months away Randy and the answer is still no.

RANDY

Alyssa, I'm planning for our future! Get caught up in the moment and say yes!

ALYSSA

Yeah... no. Sorry Randy.

RANDY

You're impossible. Oh, hey! I got Nate on the other line. Did he get in?

ALYSSA

Sure did! He's Oscar!

RANDY

BOOM! Gotta let him know! Bye!

ALYSSA

Bye!

(RANDY clicks back over to NATE. ALYSSA exits.)

RANDY

(Sadly) Hey Nate. Yeah, that was Alyssa.

NATE

So?

RANDY

Well, I got Felix.

NATE

Oh, congrats man, that's awesome!

RANDY

Yeah... (pause)

NATE

So... I assume I didn't get in.

RANDY

No, I am totally messing with you, you are OSCAR!

NATE

God, you jerk, you're so annoying! YES!

RANDY

Ha! I so had you!

NATE

Yeah, yeah, I know! Did Alyssa get in?

RANDY

Yep, she's a Pigeon sister! And I will make her love me by the end of the show.

NATE

Oh, really? How many times have you asked her to prom now?

RANDY

Not enough, she hasn't said yes yet.

NATE

Yeah, good luck with that. When's the read through, did she say?

RANDY

Well, we open November 15th so it has to be soon.

NATE

(Realizing) November 15th, that's football playoffs.

RANDY

Well I hate to tell you this, star athlete, but you aren't going to be able to do both. If we even make the playoffs. Are we good?

NATE

I actually can't remember the last time we made the playoffs.

RANDY

Well, then it won't even matter. Beside Nate, remember, football is for pansies, theatre is for real men.

NATE

(Chastising) Randy! Not cool, dude.

RANDY

Sorry, sorry! Hey, I gotta log back on to Warcraft 'cause I wanna tell my guildies.

NATE

Who?

RANDY

My guildies, my online friends, the people I pawn noobs with.

NATE

Randy, I've known you for ten years and sometimes I swear you speak a totally different language.

RANDY

It's called nerd speak. Randroid out.

(RANDY hangs up)

NATE

I knew it would be hard, balancing the play, football and my schoolwork, so I made sure I was completely off book--that means all my lines were memorized--by the first rehearsal.

(RANDY enters wearing a sweater-vest and dancing)

RANDY

“Are you ready for this?!”

NATE

Oh my God, what are you wearing?

RANDY

What?

NATE

That.

RANDY

This?

NATE

Yes.

RANDY

This is a very fashionable sweater-vest. Do you have a problem with my sweater-vest? It happens to be a very nice sweater-vest.

NATE

Yes, it is very...nice.

(NATE cracks up)

RANDY

I'm just trying to get into character. I think Felix is the type of man who would sport a sweater-vest so I bought three of these last night.

NATE

You bought three... of those.

RANDY

Yes, three of these. And I will wear one every day, until the show opens.

(ALYSSA enters.)

ALYSSA

What's up Nate?

NATE

Hey!

RANDY

There she is, my future wife..

(ALYSSA looks at RANDY, looks at his sweater-vest, then looks up at him again.)

ALYSSA

Hey Randy.

RANDY

Hey, me, you, prom, and a whole lot of making out. Whaddya say?

(She walks over to him, grabs his sweater-vest, looks up at him and says...)

ALYSSA

Will you be wearing this?

RANDY

This and only this, if you desire.

ALYSSA

Randy, no. We've talked about this. TOO FAR.

RANDY

Sorry. Man, I love it when you play impossible to get.

NATE

You're a very sad man, Randy.

RANDY

Only when Alyssa isn't around. She is totally Hotty McHottycakes.

NATE

She's not a McDonald's sandwich, bro!

RANDY

(Singing the McDonald's theme song)

Bah-dah-budup-baa!

ALYSSA

So Nate, have you told the team yet that you're doing the play?

NATE

Not yet, I told the coach. He was fine with it. He's always been cool about stuff like this.

RANDY

Yeah, too bad the rest of the team is gonna hate you.

NATE

If it even matters, we haven't made the playoffs in forever.

RANDY

But if you do they will hate you. Troy Walters and his gang will certainly hate you.

ALYSSA

He's a jerk anyways.

NATE

No! Troy's cool, he's just competitive. Great leader and good teammate too, he can really get people fired up.

ALYSSA

Actually my mom wanted me to ask you about this--she wants me to write an article on you for the newspaper if the team makes the playoffs. It'd come out the week we open.

NATE

Why me?

ALYSSA

Oh you know my mom, she gets all upset about how the arts don't get enough support, blah blah blah and she thinks that it is awesome that you are choosing to do the play even though it may conflict with the playoffs. So, since she's the Faculty Editor, she wants the school paper to let everyone know about it.

NATE

I don't know, Alyssa.

ALYSSA

Oh, it'll be fine. I'm not going to make you sound like you're punking out on the football team. It would honestly be great publicity for the play too, Nate. Please? (Pause.)

NATE

Okay, fine it's not gonna happen anyway.

ALYSSA

Thanks Nate, Mom is gonna be pumped.

(Alyssa turns around, Randy is standing with his arms out. She deftly ducks and exits)

NATE

Smooth, Randroid. (RANDY exits) One month later. It's the week before the play opens and---we win our final regular season game, which squeaks our school into the state football playoffs for the first time in 10 years!! The article Alyssa writes about me is in the school paper. Troy Walters reads it. He's not happy.

(NATE exits. TROY enters. TROY opens a newspaper, the sports page and reads.)

ALYSSA

The Belmont High Football team has made it to the playoffs for the first time in ten years. The Panthers offense is led by All State Wide Receiver Nate Williams, who broke a regular season record this year for yards and catches. Nate, a senior, has been on the team since he was a

freshman but has really stepped up his game this year. Unfortunately, the Panthers are going to have to try and move forward without their star for the upcoming playoffs. Not only is Nate a star on the football field, but on the stage as well. Nate will not be participating in the first two playoff games so that he can play the role of Oscar in his Belmont High School's production of "The Odd Couple."

TROY

Are you serious?

(NATE enters, walking by TROY.)

TROY

Nate. What the hell man? What gives?

NATE

Oh, yeah, I'm sorry Troy. I didn't want to do the interview, but Alyssa made me.

TROY

Well, when were you planning on telling us? The playoffs are NEXT WEEKEND and we haven't been there for ten years. The whole town is counting on us to make a good showing.

NATE

Well, I did tell the coach and I didn't want to tell people before because I wasn't sure if we would even make the playoffs, Troy. I do feel terrible, but I don't know what else to do.

TROY

I can't believe this! Tom Brady wouldn't miss a playoff game to shoot a movie.

NATE

I know. If I'd known we'd make the playoffs then I never would have signed up to do the play.

TROY

Wait! You never thought we had a shot at the playoffs? What, do you think we suck?

NATE

Of course not, we just haven't been to the playoffs in so long...

(ALYSSA enters, unseen by the others)

TROY

Which is why I can't believe you're actually thinking of missing the game. You're actually gonna miss your High School Senior year football playoff game so that you can play dress up with your friend Randy?

NATE

I have no choice! You guys can still play that game without me, but if I back out of the play, the whole show will be cancelled. Don't worry man, it'll be fine. The play is only for two weeks. After that, I will so be there.

TROY

I can't believe this...

NATE

Sorry Troy.

TROY

Yeah, me too... fag.

(TROY exits.)

NATE

And that started it all...

(NATE exits, ALYSSA is alone on stage for a moment, then follows NATE. RANDY enters.)

RANDY

After the article came out, things started getting weird at school. In the hallways...

(RANDY is walking through the halls at school. A female student walks by him.)

FEMALE STUDENT

Hey Randy!

RANDY

Uh... Hey.

FEMALE STUDENT

Love the sweater-vest.

(She laughs and exits. A male student enters.)

MALE STUDENT

(Fake Sneeze) GAY! Oh excuse me, terrible cold... (Fake sneeze again) HOMO! Whew, bless me!

(He exits laughing.)

RANDY

In the lunchroom...

(Two chairs are set up, and a female student sits in one of the chairs, Randy goes and sits in the other.)

RANDY

Hey Jules, what up?

(The female student stands up and exits. Another male student comes over and tips his tray over onto RANDY.)

MALE STUDENT

Whoops, sorry man, didn't mean to do that... total accident. Why are you sitting alone? Nate cheating on you or something? I'm sorry you and your boyfriend are fighting.

(STUDENT Exits.)

RANDY

After school...

NATALIE walks up to RANDY and stops him.

NATALIE

(a la "Valley Girl") Hey Randy!

RANDY

Yeah?

NATALIE

Hey Randy, I'm Natalie, Natalie Klein, the girl Nate turned down for homecoming?

RANDY

Oh, right. Hi Natalie.

NATALIE

So, I just wanted to ask you something. I totally asked Nate to homecoming and he turned me down and totally ruined my life. I mean my mom told me he would say yes because she talked to his mom, so I am just trying to figure out why he said no. So today when I heard you and him were gay it made so much sense why he turned me down. So are you two really gay? I mean if you are that's cool, totally gross and disgusting, but whatevs, I just wanted to know because I don't know why else he would turn me down.

RANDY

Uh, no Natalie, we're not gay.

NATALIE

Are you sure, because I totally heard that you were.

RANDY

Yeah, we're not.

NATALIE

Huh... okay... well I still think you might be. You know, maybe you're just still in the dresser or whatever.

RANDY

In the dresser?

NATALIE

Yeah, you know, like you are gay, you just haven't told anybody.

RANDY

Do you mean in the closet?

NATALIE

Oh, yeah probably. See you ARE totally gay or else you wouldn't know that. Thanks for the info!

(Natalie exits. MADISON enters)

RANDY

And online. This was from Madison Jones' Twitter..

MADISON

(a la "Kim Kardashian") The Odd Couple opens soon at our school, but there is more to this odd couple than just the title of the play. Did you all know that the two leads in this play are actually a couple in real life? That's right, Nate Williams and Randy Dawson are actually dating each other. Recently in speaking to the both of them, they said they were very happy together and wanted me to let everybody know that they are planning on getting married. So be a fag hag and go to the wedding! I have added the wedding as an event here, RSVP if you can make it and send your best wishes to our homosexual superstars. And don't forget to tweet this to everyone you know.

(MADISON exits.)

RANDY

So, a few days later at rehearsal...

(RANDY sits. NATE enters. NATE sees RANDY seated there and knows everything RANDY is going through.)

NATE

Hey...

RANDY

Hey.

NATE

How's it's going?

RANDY

(Sarcastic) Great, really freaking great. How's your week been, boyfriend?!

NATE

I'm sorry Randy.

RANDY

Not as sorry as I am.

NATE

I know how you feel.

RANDY

Yeah, actually you don't. People don't mess with you as much Nate, you're still the best player on the team. People generally look up to you. And you can defend yourself a little. Me? Yeah, not quite as cool as good ol' Nate. Or as tough.

NATE

Don't worry about it man, it will blow over. You'll be fine.

RANDY

Have you checked Twitter lately?

NATE

No.

RANDY

No? Well, take a look at what Madison tweeted. You might be interested.

(NATE checks on his phone, finds it, and reads it. Laughs in disbelief, turns to RANDY.)

NATE

Dude, that is absolutely ridiculous. You can't let stuff like that bother you.

RANDY

Oh, really? Oh okay. I won't. I won't let it bother me when I walk down the hallway and hear fag, gay, or queer at least twenty times a day. I won't let it bother me when people who I used to be friends with will no longer talk with me or sit by me at lunch. I won't let it bother me in gym when one of the guys grabs me by the hair, pulls my face towards his, and says that if I don't stop

staring at him he's going to jump me after school. Okay Nate, you're right, I won't let it bother me. (Pause) You know, I don't really feel like rehearsing today.

(RANDY takes off the sweater vest, throws it on a chair and exits. ALYSSA enters.)

ALYSSA

Hey Nate.

(picks up the sweater-vest)

Where's Randy?

NATE

He left.

ALYSSA

Oh.

NATE

He said he didn't feel like rehearsal today.

ALYSSA

Yeah, I wondered about that. Did he quit the play?

NATE

I don't think so, he didn't say.

ALYSSA

Just sucks.

NATE

Yeah, it sounds like he is getting pretty tore up.

ALYSSA

I love that he has been wearing these, so funny. I bet that's not gonna happen anymore.

NATE

Probably not.

ALYSSA

And the things they are saying to him are just so...

(she folds the sweater vest, throws it backstage left)

NATE

Mean?

ALYSSA

Terrible!

NATE

Yeah...

ALYSSA

And Randy is so nice, he wouldn't hurt a fly. (realizing) Oh! I'm sorry Nate, they are probably getting after you too and I haven't even said anything to you. I am sorry about the article, it was a stupid idea.

NATE

(Lying)It's okay... I'm okay.

ALYSSA

I don't know how you deal with it, Nate. I mean, the stuff that's being said about both of you is bugging me, too.

NATE

Why's that?

ALYSSA

I don't know. It just is.

(Throughout this speech, NATE tries to interrupt her and find out what's wrong)

Nate, if you ever need to talk about anything, I'm a good listener, and the next time you talk to Randy tell him the same thing. (Laughs) He hasn't even asked me to prom once today.

NATE

(Laughs) Yeah, and that is definitely not normal for him. Look, Alyssa, is there anything--

ALYSSA

Well, I'm gonna go tell the director we're gonna have to rehearse without a Felix.

NATE

Thanks Alyssa.

(ALYSSA exits, NATE is left holding RANDY's sweater-vest)

The next day, I was sent a link to a message that was posted on Snapchat-- from Troy Smith to me and Randy...

TROY

Dear Nate,

I sat down and talked with a bunch of people from the team today and we are all really, really pissed off. You abandoned us. You let us down. But you are a lucky guy because we are willing to forget this and let all of it go. Here is the deal.

You quit the play and come and play for us this weekend. We win the game, the next game, and then the championship, and it is all good. No more making fun of you, and we will even leave that little queer Randy alone.

But if you do not choose to do this and decide to play dress up with your boyfriend, here is what happens. I have attached a picture. See, one of my buddies is really good with Photoshop and he has created a nice little photograph of you and your lover Randy in a bit of a compromising position. It would be a shame for this to end up online where ANYBODY can see it, that might make it even worse for you at school, right? But the decision isn't mine, it's yours. Oh, and don't bother trying to show this to anyone--it'll disappear by tomorrow.

See you at the game.

Your teammate,

(TROY exits.)

NATE

You have got to be kidding me. Screen shot. Now, Alyssa. Crap, why is your phone off?! Hey Alyssa, Troy is causing more problems. I'm going to send you a screenshot of this message he left for me and Randy on a Purge page. Call me back when you get it.

(NATE hangs up and calls RANDY. RANDY sees that it is NATE and answers.)

RANDY

Yeah, I saw that message from our good buddy Troy. Will you just--quit the play and stop calling me?

NATE

What?

RANDY

Quit the play and stop calling me! This has gone too far!

NATE

Randy, I'm not going to quit the play.

RANDY

God, fine, then I will quit the stupid play!! This isn't just about you standing up for yourself anymore Nate, this is about me surviving through high school!!

NATE

I know that Randy, but I don't think-

RANDY

STOP CALLING ME!!

(RANDY hangs up. NATE stands for a second not knowing what to do.)

RANDY

A text from Alyssa...

(ALYSSA enters.)

ALYSSA

Hey, Randy. How are you? Not good, I bet. I know what's been going on at school and online, and Nate just sent me a screenshot of that stuff Troy posted. Things have gotten really bad, really fast.

(STUDENTS speak from offstage, taunting RANDY like voices in his head.)

FEMALE STUDENT

Hey Randy, you know how I know you're gay? Because I'm not blind.

ALYSSA

I'm worried about how all of this stuff is affecting you.

MALE STUDENT

I can't believe I had a locker next to you in the locker room, disgusting!

ALYSSA

You haven't been yourself. I've barely seen you at school and you are missing rehearsals. And I totally understand why.

MALE STUDENT

Randy, please don't hit on me, okay?

ALYSSA

If you ever need to talk I'm here for you.

FEMALE STUDENT

We don't want your kind here.

MALE STUDENT

Watch your back, fairy.

RANDY (to the voices)

Stop it!!

(STUDENTS stop. Silence.)

ALSSYA

I am also writing you, well, because I think I need help too. Watching you go through this hasn't been easy for me either. I can't believe I am telling you this, I've never told anybody before. Randy, I think I might be gay.

(STUDENTS become the voices in ALYSSA'S head.)

FEMALE STUDENT

Hahahahaha! I knew it! Bull dyke!!

ALYSSA

And I hate myself for it.

MALE STUDENT

You should hate yourself for it.

ALYSSA

And every time I hear them say things to you or make fun of you, I feel like they are attacking me too, and it's killing me inside!

FEMALE STUDENT

You homos make me wanna puke.

ALYSSA

And I haven't been able to talk to you about any of this. You always make me feel better. You're so crazy. I miss you.

MALE STUDENT

You know everybody hates you, right?

ALYSSA

I feel so alone.

(STUDENT laughs hysterically.)

ALYSSA (To the voices)

Stop it!

(STUDENTS stop. RANDY closes his email, picks up his phone and calls ALYSSA. ALYSSA picks up.)

ALYSSA

Hello?

RANDY

Hi.

ALYSSA

Hi.

RANDY

I'm...here if--if you need to talk.

ALYSSA

Thank you. (Pause.)

RANDY

And if you think this is going to stop me from asking you to Prom, forget it.

ALYSSA

Good. I think I'd miss that.

(RANDY and ALYSSA exit. NATE enters.)

NATE

The next day at school, opening night.

(ALYSSA enters.)

ALYSSA

Hey Nate!

NATE

Hey, did you talk to Randy?

ALYSSA

Yeah, sure did.

NATE

How'd it go?

ALYSSA

Well, I convinced him not to quit the play.

NATE

Great!

ALYSSA

I couldn't convince him to come to school today, though But he promised he'd perform tonight.

NATE

Okay, well, at least the play is going to happen.

ALYSSA

What about you?

NATE

Yeah, I forwarded the message to the principal and I heard Troy got called down there just last period.

ALYSSA

I wonder what they will do to him.

NATE

Troy's friends told me afterwards it wouldn't make any difference to tell the school because it didn't happen on school grounds. They then proceeded to threaten me.

ALYSSA

Oh Nate, I'm sorry!

NATE

Whatever.

ALYSSA

Is that true? They can get away with that?

NATE

Well, I asked the principal about it and he said it didn't matter whether it was on school grounds or not if it affected the school. And he said thanks for telling him. So, yeah... hopefully that will be the end of that. Did you get that Facebook event made?

ALYSSA

Yeah. I invited tons of people. And I think it's gonna end up being a pretty awesome surprise. Lots of responses.

NATE

Good. I know my mom is up for it. I can hardly wait to see his face.

ALYSSA

I know. Me too.

NATE's MOTHER, NATE and ALYSSA turn and watch as RANDY enters and addresses the audience.

RANDY

So that night we opened the play, and it was such a great show. The audience was having a great time, we were having a great time. Lots of laughing. So then at the end, we went out to do our bows. And when I took my bow...the entire audience rose to their feet and applauded. And when I looked out, everybody in the audience that I saw was wearing...

(FEMALE STUDENT, ALYSSA and NATE put on sweater-vests)

a sweater-vest! Students in sweater-vests, parents in sweater-vests, teachers in sweater-vests. I even saw Nate's mom out there in a sweater vest. They all looked absolutely ridiculous and they were shouting--

NATE'S MOTHER

We love you Randy!

NATE

We have your back Randy!

ALYSSA

Great show Randy!

RANDY

And it. Was. Awesome. Alyssa and Nate told me later that they had invited a bunch of people on Facebook. They told them to wear a sweater-vest to the show that night if they didn't like what I was going through at school, you know, with all of the bullying and the gay slurs. They said that by wearing the sweater-vest, they were standing up for me and letting me know they cared. I have never been so... moved. It was way more dramatic than any play.

ALYSSA

After that things did get better at school, not because Troy or any of his friends let up, but now there was more support for people who got bullied. Nate, Randy and I started a GSA at our school, a Gay-Straight Alliance organization, and lots of students joined. Turns out a lot of people didn't like what was going on, but didn't know what to do. And now we use the

sweater-vest thing as an event for our GSA. Every semester we have a day where we all wear sweater-vests as a way to show that we won't put up with that kind of bullying at our school, and that everyone deserves kindness.

(MOM helps RANDY put on a sweater-vest.)

NATE

And it's helped. We took a terrible situation and were able to make something great out of it. It's like that saying, "When life hands you lemons-"

RANDY

"Put on a sweater-vest!" Lookin' good?

ALYSSA

Dead sexy.

ALL

Byeeee!

(RANDY, NATE, ALYSSA and NATE'S MOM all exit)

THE END