



CHANGE AGENTS

THE CHANGE AGENCY

StudentLifeKids

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The world is in a terrible mess. Enter The Change Agency, a top secret organization dedicated to changing the world through God's love. Their newest agent is Gary, a 12-year-old who discovers being a committed agent isn't always easy, especially when you're up against the toughest bully in town.

CHARACTERS

OLD GARY: 91, a crabby version of Mister Rogers. Our storyteller.

YOUNG GARY: 12, newest member of The Change Agency.

MYSTERIOUS MAN: Member of The Change Agency.

CASSIE: 13, the toughest, yet prettiest bully in town.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT: 11, Cassie's authority-figure sniffing stooge.

AGENT GLASS: British. Member of The Change Agency. Played by female.

CITIZENS ONE, TWO, and THREE

GOON ONE and TWO

COSTUMES

Old Gary should wear coveralls and a grey wig. Young Gary, Janie, Cassie and the Citizens dress in Steampunk-like garb and newsy caps. Gary and Citizens can wear suspenders too. Goons wear red hats and red masks/bandannas, and hazmat-like suits. Mysterious Man and Agent Glass wear trench coats, fedoras, and agency badge.

STAGE

A city park with a metal trash can, park bench, and play area for kids. There is a small shed down stage left, which belongs to Old Gary. The shed has a rocking chair, a wooden table and tools for gardening.

PROPS

Rocking chair
Laptop
Briefcase
The Red Button
Newsy bag and rolled newspapers
Noodles
Telegram
Three Change Agency Badges
Bible
Rope
Purple Brain Smasher
Two pies
Chess set
Second chair for shed (Act III)
Two Beans Crates
Toot Maker Machine
Tools for gardening (to fill shed)

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Scenes in the park take place in the past. Scenes in shed take place in the present day.

ACT I

SCENE 1

OLD GARY shuffles inside the shed. Every move is deliberate and takes a great deal of energy. He struggles pulling his arms through his coat. He gasps for air with each tiny tug. When he finally pulls his coat off he reaches out to hang it on the wall. But his poor depth perception causes him to miss it. PLOP!

OLD GARY

The wall musta moved while I was out.

He looks down at the fallen coat, contemplates, almost reaches down, but decides it's not worth it. Then he gazes up and spots the audience.

OLD GARY

Who's there? Where're my glasses?
(realizes he's
wearing them.)

Oh. Ahh... Don't laugh youngins'. When you're my ripe old age you'll understand. Course by the time you're my age you'll probably have some machine do your lookin for you. My name's Gary. Not Terry or Barry or quite contrary. Gary. Just plain Gary.

Times sure have changed. I hear they got electric foot massagers now. Back in my day it took some elbow grease to get them aches out. Back then, G-rated movies were rated "G" for good.

It wasn't all pop and butterscotch. Men didn't learn to tie their shoes till they's fifteen. And worst of all, the world was mean. But I helped change that. I know, it's hard to believe this old rickety body could do anything. But I did.

You want to hear about it? I don't want to tell you. I'm tired. I gotta take a nap before I go to bed. But I made a little motion picture using my *ladtopper* there.

He opens the laptop.

OLD GARY

How do I get this machine on... Oh, here we go.
(MORE)

OLD GARY (CONT'D)

Yougin's, this is what life was like when I was 10 years old - a long, long, long time ago.

He presses a key. Nothing happens.

OLD GARY

What in the fizzy pop is goin'...

He presses another key. Nothing happens.

OLD GARY

(to audience)

Looks like it's goin' take the five digit method.

He spreads open his hand to the audience. With each spoken number he curls his fingers toward his palm - ultimately making a fist.

OLD GARY

One. Two. Three. Four. Five.

BAM! He pounds his newly formed fist on the laptop.

SCENE 2

We are now in the past. The MYSTERIOUS MAN creeps and crawls into the park. (Make it big, physical and fun.) Then he retrieves a small black box with a red button on top from his coat pocket. He sets it on the park bench and exits.

Enter (young) GARY. He has a bag filled with rolled newspapers hanging over his shoulder and beach noodles tucked under his arm.

GARY

Papers. Papers. Read all about it. Bully Cassie steals fruit from garden orchard. Mayhem ensues. Free beach noodle with every purchase.

Suddenly CITIZEN ONE - scared out of her mind - tumbles on to the stage floor.

GARY slides back and hides, leaving his noodles and papers, as CASSIE struts on eating an apple. JANIE-THE-SNOOUT follows close behind.

CASSIE

(to cowering kid)

Alright you lug hand me your baked beans. Hand 'em to me now.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

What do you need beans for boss? Is this for your top secret sinister plan?

CASSIE

It's a *secret* sinister plan. Get it?

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Oh right. Sorry boss.

GARY accidentally makes a noise.

CASSIE

What was that? Search the place. It might be a Change Agent.

The two search - which gives CITIZEN ONE a chance to escape.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

They gettin' away boss.

CASSIE

I can see that you nincompoop. Keep sniffing.

JANIE sniffs right up to GARY, grabs him and shows him off to CASSIE.

CASSIE

What do we have here? A little snooper?

GARY

I'm no snoop, honest.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

You know what we do to snoops?

GARY

(nervous)

Give 'em cookies and ice cream?

CASSIE

Nope.

GARY

Worth a shot.

(beat)

Hey, you're Cassie, "The Cass", "The Cass-tastrophe". The meanest, yet strangely prettiest bully in the city. And you... you're her sniffing stooge Janie-the-Snout.

CASSIE

Correct on both counts. Now sing little bird. Are you an Agent?

GARY

I'm no Change Agent.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

What's your name twirp?

GARY

Gary.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Did you say Terry?

GARY

No, it's Gary.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Barry?

GARY

Gary!

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Quite contrary?

CASSIE

It's Gary with a "G" you dim wit.

GARY

I'm just a boy. I can't hurt you sir.

CASSIE

Sir? I'm a lady.

GARY

Lady? Could have fooled me.

CASSIE

A wise guy huh? Kid you better canary up fast and tell me what you heard or get a knuckle sandwich right in the kisser.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

You mean about your secret plan boss?

CASSIE
Secret plan you lug.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 Sorry boss.

Just then the MYSTERIOUS MAN reappears, unseen by those on stage.

MYSTERIOUS MAN
 (like a bird)
 HOOTIE WHO! HOOTIE WHO!

CASSIE
 What was that?

GARY rushes away.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 He's making a break for it, boss.

CASSIE
 Come back, I won't hurt you.

A cat-and-mouse chase ensues over this dialogue.

GARY
 You don't have to do this.

CASSIE
 Don't have to do what, kid?

GARY
 Be a bully.

CASSIE
 It's who I am.

GARY
 But it's not. It's not how God made you. The Bible says the reason you bully is because of sin.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 I ain't never heard of no Bible.

GARY
 The Bible says when Adam and Eve disobeyed God they brought sin into world. And sin messed everything up. But love, God's love can and will fix it. And I'll show you.

GARY stops running. Then goes on the offensive by grabbing a noodle.

CASSIE

Oh, he's come out to play?

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

No boss, I think he wants to fight.

CASSIE

It's an expression you mug.

CASSIE picks up a noodle.

GARY

Jesus's love can change you. I'll prove it.

They battle - swashbuckling pirate style - over their dialogue. (Keep it fun and use the entire stage.)

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Get him boss.

CASSIE

I'm workin' on it.

CASSIE loses energy. But keeps trying. Finally, GARY lunges at her. She loses her balance and falls to the ground. Her noodle slips from her grip. She reaches for it. GARY kicks it away as he takes his "kill" stance over her.

CASSIE

Don't hurt me, sir.

But then, GARY drops his noodle and reaches his hand out to help her.

GARY

I told you I would show the love of Jesus. Let me help you up.

CASSIE

Say well, that's mighty nice...

CASSIE morphs from nice back to sinister.

She grabs GARY'S outreached hand and yanks him to the ground. Then pops up, grabs a noodle and takes her "kill" stance over GARY.

CASSIE

Look here preacher boy... prepare for a noodlin'.

GARY

No. Please. Anything but a noodlin'.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

Boss, do you have to give him a noodlin'? It gives me nightmares just thinkin' about it.

(sniffing)

Boss, I smell a rat.

CASSIE

What is it Janie? Is it an Agent? The Mayor? My little *brudher*?

The MYSTERIOUS MAN reappears in full sight of everyone.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

It's a Change Agent. Get out of here boss.

They start to run away.

CASSIE

You may have stopped us today... but we'll be back.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

With a secret plan.

CASSIE

Secret plan you twit.

They rush off. MYSTERIOUS Man helps GARY to his feet.

GARY

Thanks. I thought I was a goner.

MYSTERIOUS MAN says nothing as he hands GARY a telegram.

GARY

What's this?

He exits without a word.

GARY

A telegram? That was the weirdest Western Union Messenger I've ever seen.

(reading)

"Want to change the world? Stop. Then follow next instruction to the letter. Stop. Push red button. Stop." What red button?

GARY searches the stage, while asking about the button. (Ad lib) Hopefully, the audience will start shouting about it.

He continues for a few beats before finding it.

GARY

Should I push it? What's the worst that could happen?
(answering himself)

The world could stop rotating and we could go flying into space.

Curiosity gets the best of him. He inches his finger close to the button, then pulls away. He repeats this a few more times, each time getting closer. He musters the courage and presses the button.

At first nothing happens, which relieves GARY. Then he hears the voice of AGENT GLASS.

AGENT GLASS

(off stage)

Is this thing on? Oh. Good afternoon Chap. I'm speaking to you through a special frequency only you can hear. We are agents of Change Agency. As you know, the consequence for Adam and Eve's sin is that they and all humans were separated from God. That left the world in a terribly dodgy pickle. There needs to be change for the better. The Ultimate Change Agent wants to recruit you to the Change Agency. If you want... be at Building Five-Seventeen tomorrow afternoon at one o'clock. This is Change Agency signing off.

(now more relaxed)

Glad that's over. So... Emma how was your date with Jasper? Oh blimey, I forgot to press the off button.

(to Gary)

Don't forget Building Five-Seventeen at one o'clock. This is Change Agency signing off.

END OF ACT I

ACT IISCENE 1

*OLD GARY rocks in his chair.
He gazes up and spots the
audience.*

OLD GARY

-Who's there? Where're my glasses?
(realizes he's
wearing them.)

I was testin' you. You gotta keep sharp in the Change Agent game. Where'd we leave off? I was asked to join the Change Agency. I tossed and turned all night. I kept sayin' to myself - "I'm no Change Agent, I'm no Change Agent." I didn't think I was skilled enough, smart enough, old enough. But the Ultimate Change Agent, he asked for me. That had to mean something, right? Want to hear if I joined? I don't have time. But here... watch this on my ladtopper. This is what my life was like a long, long time ago.

*He shuffles to his laptop and
presses a key.*

SCENE 2

*Back to the past. (Young)
GARY creeps in and checks and
double checks the park. He
sits on the bench trying to be
inconspicuous, but failing
miserably. He reaches under
the bench and retrieves another
Red Button and an envelope.
He presses the Red Button.*

AGENT GLASS

(off stage)

Good evening Agent Gary. We're glad you decided to join the Agency. But more importantly so is the Ultimate Change Agent. I have your first assignment. You must find out what Cassie is up to. Then stop her by telling her about the Ultimate Change Agent. Remember, He can change anyone, even that dodgy Cassie. The envelope contains your Change Agency badge. Wear it proudly. We're counting on you. This is Change Agency signing off.

*GARY proudly pins his badge
and darts off stage.*

*Then CITIZENS ONE, TWO, and
THREE enter and mill around.*

CASSIE and JANIE, who's reading a book (Bible), pop up. They are unseen by the CITIZENS.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 What we doin' here boss? Are we gonna jump out and pulverize these guys?

CASSIE
 No Janie, the opposite. Their goin' help us with phase two.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 Phase two?

CASSIE
 Phase two of my secret sinister plan.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 (yelling)
 Oh yeah! The SECRET sinister plan!

CASSIE
 Hush you dumb mug. You don't know who's listenin'.
 (noticing her reading)
 Hey. Save it for tea time you lady book club.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 It's that Bible book that kid was talkin' about yesterday.
 It's pretty *inerestin'*-

She shuts the book on JANIE'S hand.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 Ouch!

CASSIE
 Have you completed phase one?

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 The last shipment of baked beans arrives in *thwurdy* minutes.

CASSIE
 Perfect!

CASSIE picks up a wig and places it on her head.

CASSIE
 How do I look?

JANIE-THE-SNOOT
 Swell boss. You look just like my *mudher*.

CASSIE rolls her eyes as she pulls out a purple walkie-talkie contraption from her pocket.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

What's that boss?

CASSIE

I call it The Purple Brain Smasher.

JANIE leans way back from the machine in fear.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

What's it do?

CASSIE doesn't answer, just raises the machine to her mouth and speaks in it.

CASSIE

Slap your face-

JANIE uncontrollably slaps her face.

CASSIE

Tell a lie.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

I'm a sumo wrestler from Memphis.

CASSIE

Disco dance.

JANIE does her best Travolta.

CASSIE

Stop. Do you get now what it does?

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

No, boss.

CASSIE

Arrr... it makes people do what I say.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Oh... But why purple, boss?

CASSIE

It brings out the color in my eyes. Now beat it.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Okey-dokey boss.

JANIE exits, as CASSIE, with wig, struts on stage and mingles with the citizens. Then she jumps on the park bench.

CASSIE

Citizens, my name is Cass... a... Abigail. I'm just like you. But I'm angry. I'm tired of rules and I'm tired of following them. Aren't you?

CITIZENS cheer.

CASSIE

Then do what feels good. If we want to ransack this park, then we do it. Now listen closely.

She holds the Purple Brain Smasher to her mouth.

CASSIE

Destroy this park. Get others to do it. Destroy. Ransack. Mayhem.

The CITIZENS erupts in mayhem - spilling trash cans, etc. CASSIE hops down, leaving her Purple Brain Smasher and joins the rioters. GARY slips in undetected. Then:

GARY

STOP!

They halt.

CASSIE

You again.

GARY

Good citizens. Hear me out.

CASSIE

Don't listen to him.

CASSIE creeps back towards the Purple Brain Smasher.

GARY

Cassie, you don't have to be a bully anymore.

CASSIE

I like bullyin'.

GARY

That's sin inside you making you think that, but God can change you.

(To citizens)

God can change all of you.

CASSIE

Get him.

GARY

No wait. Listen. Jesus gave his life for ours. Place your faith in him and he will change you.

CASSIE reaches her purple machine, grabs it and tries to use it on GARY.

CASSIE

Gary, join us in the rioting-

But GARY covers his ears.

GARY

LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA.

He picks up a piece of trash and lunges it at CASSIE. Bam! The Purple Brain Smasher smashes to the ground.

CASSIE

Noooo, you broke it.

GARY

So citizens will you choose the Ultimate Change Agent?

CASSIE

Get 'em boys.

CITIZENS move toward GARY.

GARY

So, I guess that's no.

GARY tries to make a break for it, but they snatch him.

GARY

This is your doing Cassie.

CASSIE

My spell wore off a while ago. This is all them.

They tie him up with rope.

GARY

Stop it. Come on guys that tickles. Seriously guys. Quit foolin' around.

CASSIE

(to Citizens)

Go, stir up more riots.

They exit.

CASSIE

Alright Gary, Barry, quite contrary... you got two options - stay here tied up like a pig on a stick or be free. Just canary up what the Change Agency knows about my plan.

GARY

I'm no rat.

CASSIE

Is that your final answer?

GARY

What do you think?

CASSIE

It's your funeral.

CASSIE steps away.

GARY

Where are you going?

She returns with two fluffy, cream-filled pies.

CASSIE

Do you know what we do to people who don't squeal?

GARY

Give 'em gifts cards to toy stores.

CASSIE shakes her head.

GARY

Worth a shot. Wait!

She toys with him, bringing the pie closer, then moving it away. GARY can ad lib. She repeats this a few times. Then finally, splat!

CASSIE

See you in the funny papers, Change Agent.

GARY
Don't leave me here. Wait!

AGENT GLASS rushes in.

AGENT GLASS
Blimey! That dodgy Cassie did this to you didn't she?

GARY
You're the voice from the Red Button.

AGENT GLASS
Agent Glass at your service.

*AGENT GLASS unties GARY and
gives him a wash rag.*

AGENT GLASS
Are you okay now?

GARY
I guess I'm no Change Agent, huh?

AGENT GLASS
You obeyed and that's what a good agent does.

GARY
But I didn't stop Cassie.

AGENT GLASS
Seems all she wanted was a riot. We've put every agent on
it and will have them under control in a few days.

GARY
See, you don't need me. I quit.

AGENT GLASS
You don't want to quit.

GARY
I fire myself.

AGENT GLASS
It happens sometimes. My first field assignment was to be
nice to this substitute teacher.

GARY
That doesn't sound cool.

AGENT GLASS
That's what I thought at first. But I realized if I was
nice to her, when others were mean, then they might all see
the love of the Ultimate Change Agent.

GARY

What happened?

AGENT GLASS

That day some kids taped a mean sign on the sub's back. I froze, scared other girls would think I wasn't cool. I felt terrible about it afterwards. But the more time I spent with the Ultimate Change Agent, the more confident I became. And when the bullies did it again days later, I pulled off that sign.

GARY

Great story. Read all about it. But I'm no Change Agent.

AGENT GLASS

Becoming a committed Change Agent doesn't happen over night-

GARY

-Can you leave me alone please.

AGENT GLASS

No, not until you-

GARY

-I said, leave me alone!

AGENT GLASS

I beg of you not to give up.

GARY

Didn't you hear me?

He rips off the his badge and flings it on the ground.

GARY

I said, I'm no Change Agent.

AGENT GLASS

(disappointed)

So be it then.

AGENT GLASS exits. GARY plops down crossed-legged and sulks. Suddenly, GARY hears CASSIE and JANIE coming. He hides.

CASSIE

So did you get it all?

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

I got all the beans, boss.

CASSIE

Those agents will be busy for days with the mobs I created.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Oh, I see. They'll be so busy taking care of the riot, they won't even notice when we launch the final phase of your-

CASSIE

-Shhh. It's a secret plan remember?

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Right boss.

CASSIE

This time tomorrow the entire city will be in my hands. Let's beat it.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Hey boss, this Bible book is pretty good. That Jesus guy did some neat miracles and stuff-

CASSIE

There's no readin' in my gang. Put it up or I'll put it up for you.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Okay boss.

They exit. GARY freaks. He grabs his Red Button.

GARY

(into the Red Button,
freaking out)

Agent Glass, we have a problem.

(pause)

No. No. No. You can't be stuck in traffic. If you can't come, who will stop Cassie?

END OF ACT II

ACT IIISCENE 1

OLD GARY sits at his table playing chess. An empty chair sits across from him.

OLD GARY

Knight to Queen's Bishop... No. That won't work.

(gazing up)

Who's there? Where are my glasses.

(beat)

You're not tricking me this time. I know I'm wearing them on my face.

Oh, but he's not. The glasses rest on top of his head. Realizing his blunder, he slowly pulls them to his eyes.

OLD GARY

I bungled my first mission, so I quit the Agency declaring, "I was no Change Agent." But Cassie's evil plot wasn't over, with the worst yet to come.

He pauses briefly to work out his move. Then continues, splitting his focus for the rest of his recap.

OLD

So I called Agent Glass. She asked me to follow Cassie. I reluctantly agreed as long I didn't have to be face to face with Cassie.

(frustrated)

I can't win and tell you a story at the same time. Here watch this for yourself.

He bends down and presses a button on his laptop.

SCENE 2

GOONS ONE and TWO carry out a crate marked "beans." They place the crate. Goon One stays. GOON TWO exits.

CASSIE and JANIE lug out a bulky, blanket-covered object.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Boss, you never really told me what the final phase was to your sinister plan.

CASSIE

That's cause you never could keep a secret.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

I won't slip, honest.

CASSIE

I guess you need to know.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Oh goodie, I always wanted to know a secret sinister plan.

CASSIE yanks off the cover, revealing an industrial contraption with copper pipes, gears, and a funnel. (Think brightly colored Model T engine.)

*

CASSIE

This machine will paralyze the city, giving anyone with-in thirty miles...

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Give 'em what boss?

CASSIE

Give 'em... the toots. I call it the Musical Fruit.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

I get it... beans, beans the musical fruit, the more you eat 'em the more you... go to the bathroom.

CASSIE

Imagine a city full of gassy citizens.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

You're plan *stinks*... in a good way.

CASSIE

Nice wise crack.

They share a good laugh and then-

CASSIE

-Enough clowning around.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Sorry boss. But I don't see how a city full of tooty people helps us.

CASSIE

Recently, I purchased several shares of stock in Antacids R' Us. And by several, I mean, several million.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

We're gonna be rich.

CASSIE

Now, give me the beans.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Right.

JANIE rushes to a crate, but struggles opening the tightly sealed container. She huffs and puffs and jumps and tussles with it before finally getting it open.

CASSIE

Do you have a can opener?

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Of course boss. I'm not forgetful.

CASSIE

Well, give it to me then.

JANIE searches all her pockets and even her socks and hair.

A PERSON DRESSED AS GOON TWO subtly enters.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Hey, boss. I kinda, sorta forgot the can opener.

CASSIE

If you want a job done right you gotta do it yaself.

CASSIE storms off stage.

JANIE-THE-SNOOUT

Where you goin' boss?

No answer. JANIE doesn't know what do.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

You want me to follow you boss?

JANIE, still embarrassed, decides to follow. But over compensates by ordering the other goons.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

Come on mugs, get off your rumps and follow the boss.

The GOONS follow. Then PERSON DISGUISED AS GOON TWO hangs back. Once the others walk out he rips off his mask, revealing that he's GARY! He rushes to the machine and calls AGENT GLASS on the Red Button.

GARY

Agent Glass, it's Gary. Cassie's got some kind of crazy machine. It's got lot of wires, copper pipes and some gizmos.

AGENT GLASS

Is there a timer?

GARY

I don't see one.

AGENT GLASS

Must use a remote receiver. Do you see a blue wire next to a green one?

GARY

It's right here.

AGENT GLASS

Blimey! It's a *Cut the Cheese 3,300*. One went missing from a warehouse in Djibouti last April. You have to disable it!

GARY

I'm not a Change Agent anymore, remember.

AGENT GLASS

There's no time. What happens if that machine blows? Think about your friends. Think about your family.

GARY

I'm no Change Agent.

AGENT GLASS

Gary, the Ultimate Change Agent believes in you.

GARY

Really, he does?

(beat)

I'm scared Agent Glass.

AGENT GLASS

It's when you're most scared that you have to trust in Jesus.
Which is all he wants.

(pause)

Gary, we're running out of time.

GARY

Alright, what do I do?

AGENT GLASS

Slowly, pull off the top funnel.

(startling Gary)

SLOWLY! Don't forget.

GARY

It's done.

AGENT GLASS

Now cut the blue wire.

*GARY pulls the wire, just as
AGENT GLASS exclaims-*

AGENT GLASS

-Wait, don't do it!

GARY

What? I already cut it.

AGENT GLASS

I forgot it's a fail safe. Blimey, we only have 20 seconds
before...

GARY

Before what?

AGENT GLASS

It explodes.

GARY

Oh no. What have we done?

AGENT GLASS

We can stop it. Listen carefully. First, remove the motor
pipe.

GARY

The what?

AGENT GLASS
It's near the top.

GARY
It's done.

AGENT GLASS
Now cut the yellow wire.

GARY
Are you sure? Last time you said that I set off the timer.

AGENT GLASS
I'm positive.

GARY hesitates.

AGENT GLASS
Cut it Gary. Cut now.

GARY pulls it, then ducks for cover. After a few seconds he gazes up.

GARY
We did it!

AGENT GLASS
Good show! Still think you're not cut out to be a Change Agent? Look, you better scam before Cassie returns. See you at headquarters.

GARY rushes out, but before he can get away, he runs into CASSIE and JANIE. They grab him.

CASSIE
What did you do?

GARY
I flushed your toot maker.

CASSIE
Canary up or get a noodlin' and a pie to the face.

JANIE
Boss, nobody can handle the noodle and the pie in one day.

GARY
I'm no rat.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

(to Gary)

Come on man. Nobody can handle both.

GARY

Bring it.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Who is this guy, boss?

GARY

You want to know who I am? I'm a... Change Agent.

CASSIE

Get the pies and the noodle.

(to Gary)

I'm taking care of you once and for all.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

Oh boss, do we havta?

GARY

Wait. I challenge you to a duel.

CASSIE

A duel? You got my attention.

GARY

If you win, then I fix your machine. But if I win, you stop your plan and listen to how the Ultimate Change Agent can change your life.

CASSIE

Deal kid. What's the competition? Water Pistols at 50 paces? Yatzee?

GARY

Anything you want.

CASSIE

Anything?

GARY

(challenging her)

Anything.

CASSIE

Then I challenge you to the Ninja Game.

JANIE-THE-SNOOT

No, not the Ninja Game.

GARY

You're on.

CASSIE immediately jumps into the game without any warning. They battle, exchanging blows over their dialogue.

CASSIE

3-2-1 Ninja. Hi, ya.

GARY

Dirty trick, Cassie.

CASSIE

Your move.

(beat)

You play Ninja like a girl.

GARY

My mother is a girl, so I take that as a compliment. Is that the best you got? Where's the legendary "Cass-trastrophe" I'm always hearin' about.

CASSIE

Hush, I can't concentrate.

GARY

You missed slow poke.

CASSIE

Slow and steady gets the worm.

GARY

It's the early bird gets the worm... But slow and steady... wins the race.

He hits her hand on "win".

GARY

I won! I really won!

CASSIE

Nooooooooo. The humanity. Why me?

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

What do we do now, boss?

CASSIE

I may be a girl bully, but I'm a man of my word. I'll listen to you, but make it snappy.

GARY

Just give me a few minutes to share how the Bible says Jesus can change you.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

I been readin' that Bible book. Can you read us a story?

CASSIE

Don't encourage him.

GARY

How about some ice cream? My treat.

JANIE

Triple fudge rocky road?

CASSIE

You can't butter me up. I ain't changin'. I ain't changin'.

They exit.

SCENE 3

*We're back in the present.
OLD GARY works out his next
chess maneuver. The other
chair remains empty.*

OLD GARY

No. No. That won't work. What about...? No. Oh. Oh.
Oh. I've got the perfect move!

GARY slowly makes his play.

OLD GARY

Now I got 'em where I want 'em.
(Gazing up to
audience)

Is the story over already?

*JANIE - now old - shuffles
inside and sits in the other
chair. (Actor wears grey wig)*

OLD GARY

Where you been?

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

Sorry, I was readin' Bible stories to some orphan kids.

OLD GARY

I made my move. It's her turn. Where is she? Cassie!
Cassie!

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

Cassie!

*CASSIE - also old and wearing
a wig - shuffles inside.*

CASSIE

Keep a lid on it. I'm here.
(To Janie)
You're in my chair.

JANIE-THE-SNOUT

Oh no. I'm sorry, Boss.

CASSIE

How many times do I have to tell you: I'm not your boss, I'm
your friend, Janie.

OLD GARY

See, anyone can change. Even, as Agent Glass used to say,
that dodgy Cassie. Obey God. Live the way He commands.
And God will change others through you. And remember, God
is with you always, giving you the strength even when it
seems hard and even when you mess up. So go now. Be Change
Agents.

CASSIE

It's your move.

THE END.