

## WHAT'D YOU HEAR?

2 ACTOR SCENE FOR FESTIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

from

**Presentation Day: WORD POWER**

written by

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**FAITH BASED STUDENT MUSICALS**

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THEME

**THE POWER OF OUR WORDS**

**"Our words have the power to build people up...  
or tear people down..." Prov. 18:21**

### SYNOPSIS

It's Presentation Day at school, and Nellie is petrified to speak. The class has been studying what the Bible says about the power of our words. How will Nellie navigate her fear, respect confidences, and connect with an unlikely ally?

### CAST

**NELLIE**(F) Central character, terrified to speak in front of the class. Makes progress with the help of an unlikely ally.

**GIGI**(F) Cheerleader. Shiny surface, appears to have it together, intimidating to other students. Action reveals her insecurities just beneath the surface, and her true heart.

*Early morning, before school starts, NELLIE enters the quiet, empty classroom alone. She nervously looks around as she musters courage for the dreaded Presentation Day.*

*She sits at her desk, somewhat out of sight, takes folders out of backpack, and reviews notes. She becomes nauseous, pulls hood over head, and puts her head down on her desk.*

*GIGI bobs in, unaware that NELLIE is present. Thinking she is alone, GIGI decides to have some fun at the teacher's lectern.*

**GIGI**

*(clears throat)*

Thank you! Thank you all so much. Literally, I want to thank all my millions of fans and followers of my Gigi Squad for this award. You are all literally the little people who make my life possible. And now, literally, I'll sing my new hit single "Swingin' Those Words Around."

*GIGI attempts a song, badly.*

**GIGI (CONT'D)**

EVERYBODY'S SINGIN', EVERYBODY'S FLINGING,

*She definitely does not know anyone is listening.*

**GIGI (CONT'D)**

EVERYBODY'S SINGIN', FLINGING,

*NELLIE makes an accidental noise such as dropping a book or pencil. GIGI is startled, turns immediately.*

**GIGI (CONT'D)**

Who's there?

*Silence.*

I demand you reveal yourself immediately!

*NELLIE rises, now more nervous than ever.*

Nellie Parsons, are you spying on me?

**NELLIE**

...Uh, no, of course not! I just came in early, cause I get so nervous when I have to speak in front of the class.

**GIGI**

*(annoyed)*  
Too bad for you. Did you see anything?

**NELLIE**

No!

*GIGI crosses to NELLIE, threatening.*

**GIGI**

What did you see?

**NELLIE**

Nothing!

*GIGI now softens, changing tactics.*

**GIGI**

Look, I know I haven't always been the nicest to you, but I can change that.

**NELLIE**

*(petrified)*  
Really. Nothing. I didn't see anything.

**GIGI**

Nothing but me being stupid. Nellie Parsons, if you ever tell anyone...

**NELLIE**

I would never tell what I saw. I mean didn't see.

**GIGI**

*(bargaining)*  
Do I need to pretend we're friends at lunch for a month to keep you quiet about this?

**NELLIE**

No. Not unless you want to.

**GIGI**

Do I need to give you all my lip gloss rejects for the rest of the year?

**NELLIE**

No.

**GIGI**

Lemme guess, you want to post a picture of us together, as if we actually hang out.

**NELLIE**

No! I wouldn't tell something bad about someone on purpose.

**GIGI**

You wouldn't? Wow, that's a new one.

*Beat for GIGI to absorb this revelation.*

What a concept.

**NELLIE**

You want some help with that song?

**GIGI**

*(desperate to prep song)*

Yeah, I guess. Thanks. I know we're supposed to have it down today.

**NELLIE**

*NELLIE sings the proper melody, beautifully.*

EVERYBODY'S SINGIN',

**GIGI**  
EVERYBODY'S SINGIN',

**NELLIE**  
EVERYBODY'S FLINGIN',

**GIGI**  
EVERYBODY'S FLINGIN',

**NELLIE**  
EVERYBODY'S SINGIN', FLINGIN', A LITTLE MUD SLINGIN'

**GIGI**  
Hey, you have a nice voice. Really nice, actually.

**NELLIE**  
Thanks.

**GIGI**  
Thanks for your help. Speaking in public makes you really nervous, huh.

**NELLIE**  
The worst! I'd rather get a tooth pulled, or arrested, or cancelled!

**GIGI**  
Believe me, you don't wanna get cancelled. That almost happened to me when I – nevermind. Let's just say that now I actually **think** before I post.

**NELLIE**  
Good advice.

**GIGI**

I'm kinda used to public speaking, from cheerleading, ya know? But I always have to work on not yelling, or clapping, or rhyming. And the cartwheel is sometimes out of place.

**NELLIE**

Right.

**GIGI**

Well, thanks for your help with that song.

**NELLIE**

You're welcome.

**GIGI**

Hey, maybe I can help you get over your nerves a little bit.

**NELLIE**

*(shocked)*

Really?! Oh, that'd be great.

**GIGI**

OK, meet me after school. How about the gym? That'll be less...

*Pondering how this coalition will be viewed.*

more private.

*Awkward silence at this new coalition.*

**GIGI (CONT'D)**

Time for class I guess. Here come the animals!