

Booktalk!

Level 13 Script

For this Book Talk you will need

- 3 actors (Cam, Chuck, Pavel)
- **Cam:** jeans, t-shirt, running shoes
- **Chuck:** jeans, short-sleeved shirt with pocket, running shoes, wristwatch, folded piece of paper in his shirt pocket
- **Pavel:** jeans, t-shirt, running shoes
- **Additional props:** table with 4 chairs around it, 3 small cups of gummy worms, copy of *Level 13*

(all three boys sitting at a table at centre stage with Cam in the middle, and Chuck & Pavel sitting on either side of him; all three are frozen in position; each boy has a cup of gummy worms in front of him)

Chuck: *(unfreezing and speaking to audience)* Why couldn't Pavel and Cam be happy for me? If one of them had been the first of the Awesome Threesome to get a girlfriend, I would have been happy for him. *(pausing, then shaking head slightly)* Just jealous, I guess... Besides, if it hadn't been for Cam *(motioning towards Cam)* starting the Positive Action Group (or P.A.G.), I never would have gotten close to Daphne in the first place. *(speaking dreamily)* And now we're official: we're Daphne & Chuck – Duckne! *(crossing arms & looking pleased with himself)*

Pavel: *(unfreezing, looking at Chuck & coughing slightly)* Duckne?? *(shaking head)* You poor slob. Your life is technically over... *(sounding incredulous)* And if you think Daphne is going to turn our threesome into a foursome? Not. Going. To. Happen. *(eating a gummy worm)*

Cam: *(unfreezing, popping a gummy worm into his mouth, chewing for a few seconds and looking as if he had swallowed a real worm; turning to speak to Chuck)* Okay, we like Daphne – from a distance. After all, she was the first one to make a big deal out of P.A.G...but now it's monopolizing all my time. *(shaking his head in disbelief)*

Chuck: *(turning towards Cam and sounding a combination of surprised & annoyed)* How could you, of all people, complain about that? Sure, it wasn't what you

Level 13

a slacker novel



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originally planned, but the P.A.G. turned into the greatest thing ever! *(turning to look offstage to see if Daphne was coming, then checking his watch)* Anyhow, she's going to be here any minute.

Pav: *(speaking excitedly)* HERE – to Sweetness and Light? You invited her HERE? To OUR place? Do our traditions mean nothing to you? *(lifting up a gummy worm and shaking it at Chuck for emphasis before eating it)*

Cam: *(waving away Pav & speaking somewhat weakly)* What difference does it make? If I can't get my streaming career going, who cares if Daphne comes here?

Chuck: *(speaking to Cam, trying to make him feel better)* Having a girlfriend isn't all fantasticness, either. I mean, it's fantastic, but also distracting. *(pausing, then fishing a piece of paper out of his shirt pocket)* You know that science quiz we got back today? *(unfolding paper and laying it out on the table)* I got 11 out of 50.

Pav: *(sounding surprised)* Didn't you study?!

Chuck: *(shrugging & answering weakly)* Daphne wanted to go ice-skating. *(eating a gummy worm)*

Pav: *(sarcastically)* You should lend your test paper to Cam. With grades like that, he'd be ineligible to be P.A.G. president.

Cam: *(pausing momentarily, then a huge smile builds on his face)* Hey! That's it! THAT'S IT!

Pav: *(looking surprised & somewhat confused)* What's it?

Cam: If I was flunking, I wouldn't be allowed to be the head of the P.A.G.! My prayers would be answered!

Chuck: Yeah, but you're NOT flunking.

Cam: I don't have to fail for real. I just have to TELL everybody I'm failing. Then somebody else will be forced to run the P.A.G. And I'll have the time I need to get my stream up and running.

Pav: *(brightening, and nodding at Cam)* That could work, you know. Technically.

Chuck: *(nodding in agreement)* It's genius! You'll have the perfect excuse to disappear if you're bringing your grades up. *(eating another gummy worm)*

Pav: I'm in! *(popping another gummy worm in his mouth for emphasis)*

Cam: *(turning to audience)* How exactly am I going to put this plan into place? *(picking up a copy of Level 13 off the fourth chair)* You'll have to get yourself a copy of *Level 13* to see for yourself. It's at your Scholastic Book Fair.