

# THE BIPARTISAN HOLIDAY BAILOUT

by

Chris and Ryan Wilkins



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Chris and Ryan Wilkins



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## AUTHORS' NOTE

Feel free to censor any of the language you feel is too inappropriate for the performance.

All the holiday characters are often referred to as, “the holidays.” This is because they represent them, even though they aren’t specifically “the holiday” and are more of the leaders of said holiday.

For THE APRIL FOOL, find a happy medium between him laughing during his lines, and being very dry. He doesn’t need to say all the, “April Fools’.”

Color should be used to symbolize where the scenes are along with the chairs of each holiday. For THE APRIL FOOL consider blue and white.

Since the script is a bit repetitive in that several inspections happen, make sure to find the variance in them.

The costumes of all the holiday characters should be slightly different than what would be expected of them. Any politician should wear a white shirt with a blue or red tie depending upon their political standings.

Pacing during the inspection is important. Though the holiday’s that aren’t getting inspected make many comments, keep the focus on whoever is getting inspected.

Have fun!

## **CHARACTERS**

**PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT:** The great great great grandson of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Is a good-hearted senator. Is also a democrat.

**DANNY THE DEMOCRAT:** The leader of the democratic senators. A mid 40's black man. Hates republicans.

**RAPLH THE REPUBLICAN:** The leader of the republican senators. An older white male. Hates democrats.

**SANTA CLAUS:** The head honcho of Christmas. Is always jolly.

**EASTER BUNNY:** In charge of Easter. Is a major dick.

**LUCKY THE LEPRECHAUN:** Manages St. Patrick's Day. Is very self-conscious because the other holidays make fun of him often. Usually the only logical holiday.

**THE APRIL FOOL:** Runs April Fools' Day. He thinks his jokes are hilarious. Hardly ever means what he says.

**PUMPKIN HEAD:** The leader of Halloween. Is incredibly creepy and says the weirdest things.

**RONALD REAGAN'S EVIL GHOST:** After his death, the soul of Ronald Reagan split into two halves: a good half and an evil half. This is the evil half—the evil ghost of Ronald Reagan. He is summoned by the republicans to sabotage those damn democrats. The good ghost of Ronald Reagan is rumored to be doing missionary work in China, and could not make it for this play.

**ELF:** One of Santa's little helpers. Is very timid.

**THE EVIL GHOST OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT:** After his death, the soul of Franklin Delano Roosevelt split into two halves: a good half and an incredibly evil half. He is the most evil and vicious of all ghosts. If you say his name aloud three times, he appears out of nowhere to wreak havoc.

## **SETTING**

The play starts in the office of Danny the Democrat then switching to the Holiday Headquarters, Santa's Workshop, Easter Bunny's burrow, the middle of a forested area, Lucky's factory, Pumpkin Head's pumpkin patch and lair, and the chamber of the United States Senate.

## **TIME**

The time is 2009.

## THE BIPARTISAN HOLIDAY BAILOUT

### SCENE ONE

*(Lights up on the office of DANNY THE DEMOCRAT. An abnormal amount of things have either been painted blue or have blue highlights. DANNY THE DEMOCRAT messes with some papers while at his desk. There is a knock on his door. PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT enters.)*

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You wanted to see me, Danny?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Peter! Just the man I was looking for. Have a seat. *(Slight pause)* I've hatched a plan, Peter.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I don't like where this is going.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: This plan is going to make every republican in the Senate crap their pants.

*(Immediately after DANNY THE DEMOCRAT's line, the door opens and RALPH THE REPUBLICAN pops his head in.)*

RALPH THE REPUBLICAN: What the hell are you talking about?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: *(In disgust)* Ralph the Republican. A man so conservative he legally changed his name to Ralph the Republican.

RALPH THE REPUBLICAN: *(Equally disgusted)* Danny the Democrat. An imbecile so liberal, he changed his name to Danny the Democrat.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: No, I did it because I knew it would piss you off!

RALPH THE REPUBLICAN: Why are you talking about Republicans, huh? Plotting against us again?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: I think the real question is why the hell are you poisoning my office with your conservative vomit breath?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Guys, let's be civil here.

RALPH THE REPUBLICAN: Whatever you're planning it won't work. I'll make sure of that. *(Slams door)*

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: *(Slight pause)* God, I hate him.

RALPH THE REPUBLICAN: *(Opening the door quickly, peeking in)* You suck! *(Slams door)*

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Real mature you right wing conservaTIT!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Why do you hate Ralph so much?



DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: I don't hate Ralph. I hate all republicans. You see, when I was very little my single impoverished mother told me, those republicans! They're the reason we're so poor! And the reason I'm so single! Never trust a republican, Danny! Not once! And I never have.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Is that why you always plot against the republican senators?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: (*Confused by his civility, ignoring his question*) Peter, why'd you get into politics?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I want to be president like my great great great grandfather Franklin Delano Roo—

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Shh!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: What?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: (*As though he didn't interrupt him*) You were saying?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I want to be like my great great great grandad and make America a better place.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Haha. Oh Peter, that's a stupid reason to get into politics. I got into politics to screw the republicans.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I believe if we work together with the republicans, we can accomplish more—

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Don't be silly. Bipartisanship died when Reagan killed it. Peter, if you ever want to be the president you have to learn some things about politics. Rule number one, the democrats are trying to liberate the country's awesomeness, and the republicans are trying to conserve its awfulness. Example number one! Why I called this meeting. Guess who's gone bankrupt?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Ford?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: The holidays.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: What?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: You know! Easter? St. Patrick's Day? I just got off the phone with Santa Claus.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You can't be serious.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Serious as the Great Recession. The holidays are running out of money.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I thought they, you know, made all their stuff with holiday magic.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Don't be silly. Magic doesn't exist. The holidays have been buying supplies from Taiwan for years now. And they're running out of moolah, so they called us. And we're going to bail them out.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: So we're doing this to save the holidays

for Americans everywhere?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: No. I'm doing it to piss off the republicans. Imagine how angry they'll be, when we need to raise taxes to save the holidays. But they'll look so bad if they try to stop us. The democrats will be the heroes that saved the holidays!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: But the holidays aren't a business. We can't bail them out.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: You're thinking like a republican! I knew that's what they'd say. Hence! My plan. If the holidays can pass government inspections, they can qualify as non-profit organizations. Hence, we can fund them by raising taxes.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I don't know, Danny. I feel like the only reason you're doing this is to piss off the republicans.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: *(Not understanding Peter's hesitance)* Peter! I'm surprised at you! I selected you to do these inspections because I thought you had aspirations!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Wait. I'm doing the inspections?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Peter, if you ever want to be president, you got to do stuff for the party. Make friends, not enemies.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: *(Surrendering)* Will this really help my political career?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Do the republicans summon ghosts to sabotage the democrats?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Do they what?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Summon ghosts—PBR. You really don't understand how politics work, do you?

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I thought you said magic doesn't exist?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: I said magic doesn't exist. Ghosts are very real. And you should be scared of them and expect one to show up sometime soon. My money is on Ronald Reagan's Evil Ghost.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You're telling me the republicans are going to summon Ronald Reagan's Evil Ghost?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: They usually do. He's there go to guy—he always gets things done for the Republican Party. I'd respect the hell out of him if I didn't hate his republican guts.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: *(trying to make a joke)* Let's hope they mess up and accidentally summon his Good Ghost.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Impossible—Ronald's Good Ghost is doing missionary work in China.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Wait—you're being serious right now, aren't you?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: We'd summon our own ghost, but the only evil ghost we have with more power than Reagan is the Evil Ghost of FDR, and the last time we summoned him he burned down half of San Francisco.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You mean my great great great grandfather Franklin Delano Roose—

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: (*quickly*) Shh! Don't say his name out loud! If you say his name three times out loud he appears out of thin air! The things he does, Peter... the things he does...

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I thought that was Beetle Juice?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Peter! Jeez! Don't say his name out loud either! Two more times and he'll show up! You'll never get far in politics unless you understand ghosts, and you'll never make it far unless you do this inspection for the democrats!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: (*Beat*) So I just have to do the inspections and file a report?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Just walk around The Holiday's places of work, write some inspection notes, and then file a report saying how well the holidays passed the inspections. And make sure no funny business happens.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: What do you mean funny business?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Don't let them run off and hide evidence. Or do anything suspicious. We don't want the republicans to find out and call for a re-inspection. And when you write your report, do it here in the Democratic headquarter. We speak in front of the Senate tomorrow. I don't want to give the republicans any time to pull some right wing trickery.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Where exactly am I supposed to find The Holidays?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Get the information from my secretary.

*(PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT gets up and starts to exit.)*

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Oh, and Peter.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Yes?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: If those inspections don't go so well, I'm sure you'll make them look good in the report.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You want me to lie?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Peter, if you want to be the president, you have to learn to lie.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: Can't the republicans just call my report into question?

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: Of course they can't! As long as nothing suspicious happens, they can't call into question shit!

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: I guess I'll do my best, sir.

DANNY THE DEMOCRAT: You'll make a great president one day, PBR.

*(PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT exits the office. DANNY THE DEMOCRAT returns to messing with the papers on his desk. Lights fade down.)*

## SCENE TWO

*(Lights up on a rectangular table. Each holiday character is sitting in a chair that is color coated to represent their holiday. All the holidays are a bit on edge.)*

SANTA CLAUS: All right guys! Let's begin the first ever holiday bankruptcy meeting! And let's make it a good one!

EASTER BUNNY: Why is he always so jolly?

LUCKY THE LEPRECHAUN: Chill, Easter Bunny. Everyone knows he's jolly because he's got so much Christmas spirit.

EASTER BUNNY: Well it pisses me off. Almost as much as Lucky never sharing his cereal with us.

LUCKY THE LEPRECHAUN: *(Hiding his internal rage)* Guys. I'm not that Lucky the Leprechaun. There is more than one Lucky the Leprechaun. I don't make Lucky Charms.

SANTA CLAUS: I know we're all falling on hard times—

THE APRIL FOOL: I don't know what you guys are talking about. These economic times haven't affected me at all.

EASTER BUNNY: Shut up, April Fool. Why don't you make like an egg and beat it, before I beat you! *(Brandishes paws)*

THE APRIL FOOL: April Fools'!

EASTER BUNNY: Oh my god!

SANTA CLAUS: Calm down, Mister Easter Bunny. We're all here to have a civilized meeting. I've already come up with a plan to help fix our bankruptcy problem.

PUMPKIN HEAD: Well it better be something good, Santa Claus. The things I've had to do to get by. I've had to do things you wouldn't believe. Do you know how expensive ghosts are?

SANTA CLAUS: Pumpkin Head, you make my weirdo alarm go  
(*making a siren sound while waving his hands around*) whooo ho ho ho  
ho!

EASTER BUNNY: You think ghosts are expensive? Half the eggs I gave  
out last year were rotten. The other half weren't even eggs. They were  
just rocks. They were painted pretty colors, but you could tell they were  
rocks!

PUMPKIN HEAD: That's weird. I ate both rocks and rotten eggs for  
breakfast.

SANTA CLAUS: Times are tough. None of us have enough money to  
keep the holidays going. But I've contacted the United States  
government, and they're sending a man here.

LUCKY THE LEPRECHAUN: A human is being allowed in the  
Holiday Headquarters?

SANTA CLAUS: He's going to help save the holidays!

EASTER BUNNY: If he tries anything funny, I'll make him into human  
slippers.

PUMPKIN HEAD: I hope he has lice. I'm kind of hungry.

THE APRIL FOOL: I love our meetings.

*(PETER enters through a door stage left. All the holiday characters  
stare at him.)*

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: (*Surprised that all the holidays actually  
exist*) Wow he wasn't kidding. Sorry I'm late! I'm here to talk to you all  
about a government bail out!

SANTA CLAUS: This is Peter Bjorn Roosevelt. Not only is he the great  
great great grandson of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, he's been on my nice  
list ever since he was born.

PETER BJORN ROOSEVELT: You can call me PBR.

SANTA CLAUS: PBR, I'd like you to meet the gang. This is Lucky the  
Leprechaun.

LUCKY THE LEPRECHAUN: Not to be confused with the other Lucky  
the Leprechaun. I don't make cereal. Lucky is a very common name  
amongst the leprechai.

SANTA CLAUS: That's Pumpkin Head.

PUMPKIN HEAD: Pleased to meet you. (*Casually*) I like to eat bugs.  
You know, a bowl of crickets for breakfast.

SANTA CLAUS: I'm sure you recognize the Easter Bunny.

EASTER BUNNY: Suck my eggs.

SANTA CLAUS: And last but not least, The April Fool.

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## **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

Among many others, Chris and Ryan Wilkins' plays include Gotta Get Brad Back, These Things Happen, and Thomas Brady's First Day of Kindergarten. These scripts have grown in popularity over the past two years and continue to deliver forensics students to multiple final round performance opportunities.

The Wilkins brothers competed in high school forensics at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where they were the 2011 National Champions in Duo Interpretation at the National Forensics League (NFL) Tournament. With a combined seven years of speech performance experience and two years of coaching, observing all ranges of performances and scripts, the Wilkins twins have now set their eyes on coaching students and writing scripts for forensics performance. Their hope is to continue to help anyone and everyone they can in the forensics realm.



## **THE BIPARTISAN HOLIDAY BAILOUT**

by Chris and Ryan Wilkins

GENRE: Comedy (One-Act)

CAST: 11 Male

### **SUMMARY:**

The Holidays are in trouble! The recent economic recession has caused them to go bankrupt! But if senator PBR, the great great grandson of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, has anything to say about it, the holidays will get a government bailout! So long as the holidays can pass inspection, the democrats and republicans stop fighting, and Ronald Regan's Evil Ghost doesn't sabotage everything.

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