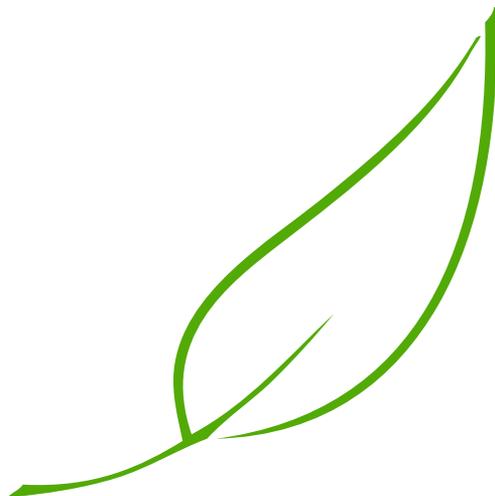


SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ADULT?

by Ken Bradbury



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CAST OF CHARACERS

Bob - the announcer, may be either m or f as long as he/she is obnoxiously cheery.

Rex - the host of the TV game show, "So You Want To Be An Adult?"

P.J - a teenage contestant with an attitude

Sean & Carey – m or f, playing various characters

BOB: Stand by ... in five, four, three, two and one!

REX: *(hurries on with a pasted-on smile which he manages to keep every moment of his waking life) (those offstage hum a peppy game show tune)* Hey! Hello out there and welcome to TV's hottest new game show ... "So You Want to be an Adult?"! What's the show about, Bob?

BOB: *(with the same great smile)* Glad you asked, Rex. The show is ...

REX: Thanks, Bob.

BOB: Don't mention it, Rex! In "So You Want to be an Adult", a contestant gets the chance to ... well ... become an adult!

REX: What's she got to do, Bob?

BOB: Glad you asked, Rex. She's got to pass our series of hilarious challenges and if she wins ...

REX: Yeh, Bob?

BOB: Rex, if she wins, then ... well ... we'll make her an adult!

REX: Thanks, Bob!

BOB: Don't mention it, Rex!

REX: So, who's our contestant today?

BOB: Glad you asked, Rex! Today's lucky contestant is from all way out in Attitude Falls, Nebraska! Please welcome Miss P.J. Sullen! *(Sean and Carey, their backs still to the audience, applaud as P.J. enters. P.J. has "attitude" written all over face. She looks around the set, bored.)*

REX: Hello P.J.! And welcome to So You Want to be an Adult!

P.J.: Yeh. Whatever.

REX: So before we get started, tell us ... Just why do you want to be an adult?

P.J.: Stupid question.

REX: (*still smiling*) Thanks.

P.J.: Because I am an adult.

REX: You are?

P.J.: You got a problem with that?

REX: Certainly not! Do you have a problem with that, Bob?

BOB: No way, Rex! Glad you asked!

P.J.: So when do I get the prize?

REX: Prize?

P.J.: The adult thing. Just give it to me and I'll blow this joint.

REX: Say! Not so fast! We've got to have a little fun first. Are you ready to become an adult?

P.J.: Yeh. My parents treat me like I was kid. They won't let me do what I want. They always gotta ask me questions about where I've been. Can you spell possessive, man?

REX: Gee ... I'm not sure! Can you spell possessive, Bob?

BOB: Sure can, Rex! Glad you asked!

REX: But let's get on with our game. Are you ready for your first challenge?

P.J.: Yeh. Lay it on me. I can handle this stuff. It's easy. I've watched my folks do for years. A no brainer.

REX: Okay, here we go! Bob, what's our first challenge for P.J.?

BOB: Glad you asked, Rex! It's called ... (*Sean and Carey do a drum roll on their thighs, still offstage*) Money!

REX: Yes!

SEAN: (*appearing suddenly*) Miss Sullen?

P.J.: Yeh?

SEAN: You're two months behind on your car payment. I'm afraid we'll have to take it back.

P.J.: You can't take my car!

CAREY: P.J. Sullen?

P.J.: What?

CAREY: I'm from the credit card company. You've maxed out your current card and your interest rate is now 71%.

P.J.: You can't do that!

SEAN: (*as another character*) Miss Sullen, I'm from the I.R.S. We have some questions about your deductions for bubble gum.

P.J.: Wait a minute! Hold it just a darned minute! I can't handle all this! (*Sean and Carey exit*)

REX: Say, it looks like we didn't do very well on our first challenge, did we?

P.J.: That's not being adult. I'm talkin' about makin' my own decisions and stuff.

REX: Very well! Let's see what sort of decisions you make on our next challenge! Bob?

BOB: Thanks, Rex! Challenge number two! (*thigh drum roll is heard offstage*) Children!

CAREY: Hey Mom, I want the car.

P.J.: It's my car.

CAREY: You are one lousy Mom, you know that? All the other kids' parents let them have the car.

P.J.: Well, I'm not the other kids' parents! (*sees Sean entering, sullen*) And what's your problem?

SEAN: I don't want to talk about it.

P.J.: Just where do you think you're going?

SEAN: Nowhere.

P.J.: And what're you going to do?

SEAN: Nothin'.

P.J.: I don't like your attitude.

SEAN: You're always pickin' on me, Mom. You never trust me.

P.J.: How can I trust you when you won't tell me what you're doing?

SEAN: Trust me. I'm adult.

P.J.: You most certainly are not an adult!

SEAN: See? See what I mean?

CAREY: Is the tank full, Mom?

P.J.: It doesn't matter! You can't have the car!



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