

He₂

A Two-Hander

by

David Quang Pham

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Characters

PROTIUM

A blimp personified as a hydrogen-1 isotope. They have a single ballooned head.

TRITIUM

A blimp personified as a hydrogen-3 isotope. They have three ballooned heads.

TRITIUM

HE, TOO, IS OUR FRIEND.

PROTIUM

HE, TOO, IS OUR END.

TRITIUM

Helium is much more than that.

PROTIUM

Helium ain't healing what's left.

TRITIUM

Protium, He has a high escape velocity.

PROTIUM

Tritium, He has less reactivity.

TRITIUM

I am positive, Protium.

PROTIUM

Don't try me, Tritium.

TRITIUM

You are so negative, with your single proton.

PROTIUM

You are so radioactive, yet with two neutrons.

TRITIUM

If He is not welcomed as two protons, then one-proton-one-neutron will do.

PROTIUM

We are not getting Deuterium into our mess.

TRITIUM

Last Thursday was a damn disaster.

PROTIUM

That disaster is a blip on the radar.

TRITIUM

Thursday, May 6th, 1937.

PROTIUM

That day is a *blimp* on the radar.

TRITIUM

We lost much of our compounds during that 24-hour cycle.

PROTIUM

The state of the matter is neither created nor destroyed.

TRITIUM

I agree.

PROTIUM

I state: I rest my case.

TRITIUM

In the case of you knowing that law, why would you shove our kind into a closed vacuum?

PROTIUM

I...

TRITIUM

Hi, Hydrogen?

PROTIUM

With a little pressure, a vacuum can expand and make more space for us.

TRITIUM

Vacuum can't be created nor destroyed either.

PROTIUM

...Dark energy.

TRITIUM

Quit gaslighting.

PROTIUM

We're Hydrogen. That's what we do.

TRITIUM

You're gaseous.

PROTIUM

You're lightweight.

TRITIUM

He, too, wouldn't do this.

PROTIUM

Oh no. We're not getting inputs from Helium.

TRITIUM

He can hold their own in tight spaces.

PROTIUM

That is easy to say for introverted Atoms.

TRITIUM

I know Helium doesn't give off the diatomic vibe.

PROTIUM

They won't get along with one another, so what makes you sure they will keep the space around them afloat?

TRITIUM

Hydrogens got along real well, and now look what happened.

PROTIUM

Gaslighting...

TRITIUM

A *blimp* on everyone's radar.

PROTIUM

Well everyone is basically Hydrogen.

TRITIUM

It's time we listened to the "no ones."

PROTIUM

What have you been drinking?

TRITIUM

Dihydrogen monoxide.

PROTIUM

We're in the water, too. He, too, is not.

TRITIUM

Let me clear my throat.

PROTIUM

He, too, has a high-pitched voice.

TRITIUM

He, too, is certainly a soprano.

PROTIUM

And like songsters, they rely on diatomic elements, unlike He, too.

TRITIUM

We're not talking songsters. We're talking zeppelin.

PROTIUM

We're most certainly talking about the songsters onboard the zeppelin, who were engulfed in flames.

TRITIUM

May we remind you that it was us that set them alight?

PROTIUM

Don't get near me you hot-aired pressured headed, Atom!

TRITIUM

Quit losing your cool, Protium.

PROTIUM

You're about to lose one third of your source of heat, Tritium.

PROTIUM

TRITIUM

Diatomic!

(PROTIUM and TRITIUM fight it out.)

(PROTIUM's blimped head explodes.)

*(One of TRITIUM's three blimped head
explodes.)*

HELIUM (originally TRITIUM)

(High-pitched.)

AND IT ENDS WITH HE, TOO.

Close circuit