

# Logline

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TITLE: Prairie Sounds

LOGLINE: When a new professor starts a new data science podcast in a small university town in South Dakota, he must survive a cut-throat competition with a rival podcast and high school clique-like department culture in order to keep his job and get his NIH research grant.

TONE: a workplace dramedy. The Office meets Mean Girls.

COMPS: The Office, Parks and Rec, Mean Girls

MAIN / SUPPORTING CHARACTERS:

James: 40-something professor of data science. Just wants to get along with colleagues and get his research funding.

Jonathan: 30-something professor of mathematics. Wants to be the best and will do anything to get there.

Tushar: 30-something professor of computer science. Accomplice to Jonathan.

Linda: 20-something statistics graduate student. Befriends James and tries to help him navigate the department culture, with limited success.

THE WORLD: Much like our current world, but set in a small, close-knit, outsider-fearing university in South Dakota.

EVENTS:

- James starts a podcast to help his students and get his research grant.
- A rival podcast - “Data science cheats in South Dakota” already exists - the showrunners are unknown and secretive about their identities.

- James encounters the department culture - a high school clique-like environment, straight out of Mean Girls - that was hidden from him during his job interview.
- Bullying and social sabotage of James reminds him of his high school days.

WHY AUDIO?: The medium is perfect for this dynamic series because of the grounded main characters and dynamically scripted (and, hopefully, funny!) episodes.