**Characters:**

Narrator - Kya

Kate (Encoder) - Trenyce

David (Decoder) - Jakari

Guard 1 - Aaron, Guard 2 - Steven

BOE Bot Drivers - Aaron and Alex

**Skit:**

Narrator: In the computer programming world, there are two powerful factions: the Encoders and the Decoders, that control all of the world. Once upon a time, Encoders and Decoders were friends. At the heart of their alliance was the Black Box, the ancient, powerful super weapon that can decode any message, and encode any message so that no other can decode it. To keep its power in check, the Encoders and Decoders both guarded the box together, and each faction kept half of the information on how to use the device.

For generations, both Factions left the Black Box alone, knowing that it was too powerful to use. One day, however, the Encoders stole the Black Box for themselves. This triggered a war between these two clans, where the Encoders have the upper hand.

There is another powerful group in this world, the BOE Bot nation. All of the BOE Bots in the world came together to unite under one flag, and are lead by the Council of BOE’s. With all of their power, however, the BOE Bot nation always chooses to be impartial, and the last time they ever made a military maneuver was years ago.

Our main characters, Kate and David, are cousins who have joined separate sides of the war and began to quarrel. Kate belongs to the Encoders, while David joined the Decoders. Also present is a BOE Bot named Bryan that left the BOE Bot nation to live with the Encoders, and who is a family friend of the cousins.

Kate (Encoder): Why did you do it?

David (Decoder): It just felt right.

Kate: You promised we’d stick together!

David: I'm sorry I just couldn’t take being on this side of the war any longer.

Kate: WHY? We’re winning this war.

David: You know you won’t be winning for long.

Kate: How do you know that.

David: Well if you are any form of representative of the Encoders I know it won’t be difficult.

Kate: \*Begins to fight David\*

Bryan: \*Enters\* Whoa there now what’s going on here?

Kate and David: \*back off\*

Bryan: Now, how did this happen?

Kate: David betrayed me along with everyone else in the Encoder clan.

David: You could never understand my reasons for leaving.

Kate: Try me

David: \*silence\*

Bryan: Go on David

David: The truth is….

David: I can’t even understand how to Encode the different messages that are given to me

Kate: What?! Wait so all those messages that were impossible for anyone to decode but you, it was because …

David: I was just making everything up as i went

Kate: Ohhh David why didn’t you ever tell me

David: Do you know what it’s like to be an outcast like me? How difficult it would be to say that one of the top encoders were just making everything up.

Kate: Well yeah but that shouldn't have lead you to join the Decoders.

David: Oh my gosh, are you even listening?!

Bryan: Hey hey hey. This is getting out of hand. I watched you two grow up. This war is tearing families apart.

Kate: Yes! I agree. So listen. David, come with me back to the Encoders. With my support, they will accept you, in time.

David: No. There is only one way to stop this. We must end this War once and for all. Choosing a side won’t change anything. There is only one solution: we must take the Black Box for ourselves.

Bryan: No. I cannot allow this. You could get yourself killed.

Kate: No, I agree with David. This War can’t be allowed to go on any longer. Bryan, you can help us. If we bring the Black Box to the Council of BOE’s, they can destroy it.

Bryan: You both know that stealing the Black Box would be suicide. And even if we did steal it, the Council of BOE’s would never act on this. With all their power, they haven’t made a real decision in decades.

David: We’ll never know if we don’t try. Kate has high level access into the Encoders’ valut. And we have to convince them. For the sake of the world.

David, Kate, and Bryan: \*Exit\*

Kate: \*Enters into stage, in front of vault\*

Guard 1: Hey, Kate. What are you doing here?

Kate: The President told me to get the Black Box for his inspection. Didn’t say why, and I didn’t ask.

Guard 2: This is highly irregular. Peter never told us about any inspection.

Kate: \*sighs\* Well, I could drive back to him for 2 hours, get his written confirmation, and drive 2 hours back here. And, the president really doesn’t like to wait.

Guard 1: Okay, Kate. But only this once, and only because you’re a high council member.

Guard 2: \*Gets Black Box from pocket and gives it to Kate\*

Kate: Bye.

Guards and Kate: \*leave\*

Kate and David: \*enter\*

David: How’d you manage to get it? There must be so much protection around it, as it’s the most dangerous items on the planet right now.

Kate: Not really. Only 2 guards. It’s as if we’re all in a play with a zero production value, and the creators weren’t able to write in a huge action scene.

David: Hmm. anyway, let’s go to the Council of BOE’s. Only they have the power to destroy this.

David and Kate: \*Exit\*

2 BOEs, Bryan, David, and Kate: \*enter\*

BOE 1: Speak your purpose here, humans.

David: I am sure you know of the War that plagues this land, that of the Encoders and Decoders, the War over the Black Box.

BOE 2: Yes, of course. In our time, we have seen many human wars. So easy aggravated, the species is.

Kate: Yes, well, we have managed to steal the Black Box. It’s the cause of all of this. We know that you can destroy it. Please, if you use your power here, you’ll end all of this suffering! You have to—

BOE 1: Silence! We don’t have to *do* anything. The only reason you are allowed do be here is Bryan has told us that you are among the better of the humans. Now we will decide amongst ourselves on this issue.

BOEs 1 and 2: \*talk to each other for 5-10 seconds\*

BOE 1: We have reached a decision.

BOE 2: We have concluded that humanity is a blemish on this world. They cause too many wars, pollute their environment, and only care about themselves. The best course of action is to terminate your species.

David and Kate: No!

David: We aren’t all that bad!

Bryan: Masters, I beg you to reconsider. While some humans do exhibit some of these negative characteristics, plenty of them, *most* of them, are kind-hearted and loving. They don’t deserve to be destroyed.

BOE 2: Yes, it is unfortunate that these humans must die. But as a whole, humanity causes so much harm, it would be unethical to leave them be.

BOE 1: Yes, we would have done this earlier, but our power was too limited. With the Black Box, however, we have more than enough to accomplish our task.

BOE 2: I am sorry humans. I wish you a good afterlife.

David and Kate: \*die\*

Narrator: And so, this is how humanity dies. All because of a small black box. This is why we must use cyber technology responsibly.

THE END