DEBATE CLUB

Written by

Liz Zhang

INT. DEBATE CLUB - DAY

HARVARD DEBATOR and YALE DEBATOR are standing behind their respective podiums on a stage. In between them, sit the MODERATOR, behind a table with a stack of papers and a gavel.

MODERATOR

Welcome to the collegiate debate championships. Our schools in our first round are Harvard and Yale. Welcome!

The debaters from Harvard and Yale leave their podiums and meet in the middle to shake hands.

HARVARD YALE

Good luck.

Good luck.

MODERATOR

Our topic for these two schools is: "Should carbon tax credits be able to be traded?". On the "affirmative" side is Yale and on the opposing" side is Harvard. Harvard makes their opening statement first.

The Harvard debater adjusts their tie. They stand up straight, bring back their shoulders, and slightly lean into the microphone.

HARVARD DEBATER

Nu uh. I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Yale can now make their opening statement.

YALE DEBATER

Uh huh. I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Strong openings from both sides. Harvard can now cross examine Yale's argument.

HAVARD

Yale takesies-backsies when we traded deserts a lunch. They would just takesies-backsies a carbon tax credit trade as well! I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Yale's rebuttal?

YALE

My mom said I can't eat nuts and Harvard said their brownies didn't have nuts but they did!

Yale turns to the audience.

YALE (CONT'D)

Isn't that right mom?

MOM

(from the audience)

That's right honey!

Yale turns back to the moderator.

YALE

(smugly)

I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Harvard, you can now cross examine.

YALE

Harvard is a four eyes --

HARVARD

Your a four eyes too! I saw you put in contacts --

YALE

Nu uh --

HARVARD

Uh huh --

YALE

Nu uh --

HARVARD

Uh huh --

YALE

Nu uh --

HARVARD

Hu huh --

YALE

Nu uh --

The Moderator bangs their gavel.

MODERATOR

No interruptions please! Lets keep this debate civil. Yale, continues.

YALE

Harvard is a four eyes nerd. All the cool kids support tradable carbon tax credits. I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Excellent line of attack. Harvard, your rebuttal?

HARVARD

Well if I'm a nerd, then Yale's a nerd too. They got an A on their last test --

YALE

Nu uh

HARVARD

Uh huh

YALE

Nu --

Moderator bangs their gavel again. Yale stops talking and makes a pouty face.

HARVARD

They got an A on Mrs. Bankas's Calc III quiz, Suzie saw it! Only a nerd gets an A in math! I yield my time.

MODERATOR

Brilliant rebuttal. Now for Harvard's constructive argument --

HARVARD

Yale smells bad!

YALE

Nu uh, that's your own B.O. you're smelling --

HARVARD

Nu uh

YALE

Uh huh

HARVARD

I'm rubber and you're glue, everything-bounces-off-me-andsticks to-you. I yield my time.

YALE

(stunned)

Well... well...

MODERATOR

Incredible! Harvard has struck a crippling blow. Yale, now for your constructive argument.

YALE

(pulling it back together)
MY mom is a lawyer and she's going
to sue you?

(to the audience)

Right mom?

MOM

(from the audience) Whatever you say honey!

YAT.F

And your going to be in big trouble when she does! I yield my time.

HARVARD

You can't sue me! That's against the 5th abendment!

YALE

Well my mom is going to repel the 5th abendment and THEN sue you!

HARVARD

You're just making stuff up!

YALE

Nu uh

HARVARD

Hu huh

MODERATOR

What a performance from both schools! Now it is time for our mid debate juice break and nap. We'll reconvene in 3 hours for closing arguments.

BLACKOUT