

The Campaign Manager

by: Japheth Gordon

INT. HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

We see PRESTON, aggressively shaking a student's hand.

WENDY (14) slightly nerdy in her business attire, comes running over.

PRESTON

Ah, my trusty campaign manager.
What's on the agenda for today?

WENDY

Crisis control. Early numbers show
that you are polling extremely low
in our most valued gender
demographic.

PRESTON

In English please.

WENDY

The female half of the student body
is leaning in the other direction.

Preston is nodding like he gets it.

PRESTON

Uh huh. Uh huh.

WENDY

Do you understand what this means?

PRESTON

All I heard was 'female' and
'body'.

WENDY

The election is in two days
and...how do I put this...
(blunt)
Girls don't like you!

PRESTON

What? Why not?

She reads from her clipboard:

WENDY

According to this survey, they find
you, quote, "Obnoxious, juvenile,
desperate, and insecure."

PRESTON

I'm not insecure. And I definitely don't care what people say about me...

WENDY

Then I guess you don't want to read the comments they wrote about you.

He snatches the clipboard from her!

PRESTON (CONT'D)

Let me see that.

WENDY

The bad news is, you REALLY don't get women. But the good news is, we can fix this.

PRESTON

How?

WENDY

Soften your image. All you need is a strong woman to stand next to you. Every iconic political figure has had one. A 'Jackie O' to your JFK. A 'Michelle' to your Barrack. A 'Kim' to your Kanye.

(beat)

Okay, ignore that last one.

PRESTON

SO you're saying Preston needs a First Lady...

He starts to scan the hallways.

PRESTON (CONT'D)

Someone pretty...

Meanwhile, behind him, Wendy pulls out her bun, and tosses her hair like a shampoo commercial.

PRESTON (CONT'D)

...But also smart.

Wendy pops on some nerdy glasses making a serious, thinking face.

PRESTON (CONT'D)

And she has to know how to dress...

Now Wendy tears off her blazer and glasses. The trendy top underneath with her hair flowing, makes for quite the transformation. Preston finally turns and notices her.

PRESTON

Wendy?

WENDY

(CONFIDENT) Yes?

PRESTON

Are you gonna help me or not?

SHE THROWS HER JACKET AT HIM AND STORMS OFF IN A HUFF!!

PRESTON

Man. I REALLY don't get women.