

Eddie, The Collegiate Senior

Kathy and Paula at Graduation

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The valedictorian begins her address, and Kathy whispers to Paula, “can’t they drag this on a little longer?” Paula replies, “you’d better watch what you say, girl. They just might.” Kathy, looking forward to the graduation party later today, would be happier with an abbreviated graduation ceremony. But, the administrators, who like to be seated and seen on stage, seem to prefer a ceremony that takes up the majority of the morning. Eddie, in fact, would rather have had his diploma mailed to him, but the tribe nixed that idea.

Addressing a common subject, the valedictorian’s subject matter causes Kathy to giggle. Kathy asks Paula, “did you just hear that?” Paula replies, “yeah! Here it comes, another speech on world peace. You’d think she was vying for the Miss America title or something.” Paula then starts singing *Kum By Yah*, albeit very quietly. Trying hard to compose herself, Kathy starts laughing, causing those around her to wonder what could possibly be so funny. Kathy whispers to Paula, “stop that! People are looking at you.” Paula ignores Kathy, and keeps singing. Kathy again whispers, “stop it, girl! This is graduation.” Paula again ignores Kathy, and continues to sing *Kum By Yah*.

Calming down a bit, and mimicking the valedictorian’s tone, Kathy whispers to Paula, “after the graduation ceremony today, the peace train will stop at the West end of the stadium. If you are for world peace, please jump on the peace train and work for world peace. You owe it to

yourself and to your loved ones.” Kathy then starts singing the song *Peace Train*. Paula starts laughing, and tells Kathy, “stop it, girl! Everyone’s looking at us!” Kathy smiles and replies, “hey! You started it.” Kathy continues to sing, as Paula tries to ignore her.

Seeing she found Paula’s funny bone for today, Kathy whispers to Paula, “I want whirled peas. I want whirled broccoli and whirled potatoes too.” Paula again whispers to Kathy, “stop it, girl!” Putting on a sad face, Kathy replies, “hmm. I see you’re not for whirled peas. That makes me very sad.” Paula tells Kathy, “that’s right. I’m for whirled war. That’s why I bought a blender. I put grapes, oranges, and apples into my blender, turn it on, and let them fight it out for the dominant flavor. Grapes always win.” Kathy ignores Paula for the moment, trying to think of a comeback as she listens to the remainder of the valedictorian’s speech.

The valedictorian moves on to the topic of world hunger, and how it is everyone’s responsibility to solve that problem. Paula whispers to Kathy, “yeah. She’s right. We need to solve world hunger. I’m going to quit my job, and sell flowers on a street corner from now on. Then, I can donate the money to world hunger.” In a childish tone, Kathy replies, “I want to help!” Paula tells Kathy, “good. You can grow the flowers, and I’ll sell them. And then, there will be no more world hunger.” In a serious tone, Kathy replies, “now, I’m hungry. My stomach is growling. My stomach sounds like whirled hunger. I should eat some whirled peas.” Paula laughs, telling Kathy, “stop it, girl.” Kathy reminds Paula, “hey, girl! You started the whole thing!”

As the valedictorian’s speech drags on, Paula tells Kathy, “all that baby food you’ll be buying soon is nothing more than whirled food. Whirled food can solve whirled hunger.” Kathy laughs, and informs Paula, “then, send whirled baby food to all the starving people in China. And, by the way, we’re not buying grocery store baby food. I’m going to make my own baby food with my food processor and my NutriBullet.” Paula whispers to Kathy, “as I said, whirled food.” Kathy tells Paula, “we’d better stop this

whirled shit. Everyone is looking at us.” Paula tells Kathy, “whirled shit would be called diarrhea.” Kathy laughs, whispering to Paula, “stop it!” Paula asks, “why? Everyone around here is listening to us instead of the valedictorian’s speech.” Kathy replies, “that’s because watching the grass grow in the red zone is more exciting than listening to her whirled peas speech.”