

FOUR SAMPLE PAGES

TP-7 The Potato Conspiracy!

Cast: 23 Characters
(plus extras as people walking on street)

Bodyguards 1, 2, & 3
Jazz
Gemini 1 & 2
Fractal
Singe
Verity
Enigma
Velma
People walking on the street
Quentin
Jeopardy
Assistant
Barnaby
Vogue
Rep
Agents 1 & 2
Mother
Chef
Farmer
Scientist

(Bodyguards enter and address the audience.)

Bodyguard # 1: Okay, nobody move. Operation "seize dangerous devices from audience" is now in effect.

Bodyguard # 2: Please stay calm, and remain in your seats.

Bodyguard # 3: Do not be alarmed. This will only take a few minutes.

Bodyguard # 2: I'm sure that in today's climate, you understand the necessity of these precautions.

Bodyguard # 3: Above all else, we are concerned about your safety and the safety of the people that we represent.

Bodyguard # 1: Do you have the checklist?

Bodyguard # 3: *(checks the checklist)* Check.

(Each time one of the bodyguards says, "check," bodyguard # 3 checks his/her checklist.)

Bodyguard # 1: Excellent. Now we are going to ask a few very important questions. Raise your hand if you have an affirmative response. Are you ready? *(Bodyguard # 1 looks around to see if people are putting up their hands.)* I said, are you ready?

Bodyguard # 2: If you are ready, simply put up your hand.

(All three bodyguards prompt the audience to raise their hands. The bodyguards should wait for the audience to comply before continuing.)

Bodyguard # 3: Very good. You may now put down your hands.

Bodyguard # 1: Do you have any hidden microscopic recording devices? Be especially certain to inspect among your nose hairs and between your toes. Nobody? Check.

Bodyguard # 2: Are you in possession of belt buckle bombs, radioactive contact lenses, nail polish rifles, or any other chemical or biological weapons? Nobody? Check.

Bodyguard # 3: On the way here, were any of you followed by strange men in fuchsia suits driving turquoise sedans? Nobody? Check.

Bodyguard # 1: Are any of you carrying purses, wearing eyeglasses, using dentures, or sporting hair extensions that were manufactured in Greenland? No? Check.

Bodyguard # 2: Have you been exposed to any deadly strains of crocodile dung? Nobody? Wow! This is a statistical anomaly. *(The bodyguards look suspiciously at the crowd.)* Interesting. Uh, check.

Bodyguard # 1: Have you examined your phone and other personal belongings for wire taps and tracing devices? No? Please do so at the first opportunity. We must be very careful.

Bodyguard # 3: Have you, or any member of your family, been in contact with a television within the last forty-eight hours? *(Several audience members should put up their hands to affirm that they have been in contact with a television. If they do not, then prompt them to do so. Say things like, "I find it hard to believe that none of you have watched the television recently. Come on, and fess up." When the audience members do admit that they have watched television by raising their hands, the bodyguards looked shocked.)* What, so many of you?

Bodyguard # 1: This is very serious. We will have to do a more thorough investigation of this group.

Bodyguard # 2: Yes, I agree. You take the right, and I'll take the left.

(The three bodyguards begin to investigate the audience.)

Bodyguard # 3: *(pointing to an audience member's watch)* Attention! Attention! We have a code aquamarine with a purplish pink border here.

Bodyguard # 2: *(concerned)* What is it?

Bodyguard # 3: *(pointing to an audience member who is wearing a watch)* A mysterious-looking watch.

Bodyguard # 2: Does it smell of tangerines or baby powder?

Bodyguard # 3: *(smells the audience member's watch, cautiously)* No.

Bodyguard # 2: Then it is admissible. *(Bodyguard # 2 targets an audience member who is wearing jewelry.)* Whoa! What do we have here? Procedure two thousand five hundred sixty-two decimal nine strictly prohibits any suspicious looking jewelry on the premise.

Bodyguard # 1: No, we repealed that rule yesterday.

Bodyguard # 2: Right, I forgot. Sorry about that, ma'am. *(This reference may be changed to "sir".)* I guess I'll have to study our manual more regularly.

Bodyguard # 1: *(pointing to an audience member who is wearing socks)* Where did you get those socks? *(Bodyguard # 1 pauses and stares suspiciously at the audience member.)* I like them.

Bodyguard # 3: Oh, no. We simply can't allow anymore sock confiscations.

Bodyguard # 1: Shucks.

Bodyguard # 3: This place looks secure. Let's notify the gang.

Bodyguard # 1: *(speaking into a walkie-talkie)* It's clear. I repeat, it is clear.

(The Rogue Cortex enters. The Rogue Cortex consists of Jazz, Gemini 1 & 2, Singe, Fractal, and Verity. Verity is wearing a box on his/her head with holes cut out for his/her eyes, mouth, and hands. Jazz assumes a karate stance. Gemini 1 & 2 have synchronized movements. Fractal is carrying several high-tech gadgets, and Singe is playing with a barbeque lighter.)

Jazz: *(taking a protective karate stance and pointing at one of the audience members)* That one! She's going to take us all down! She'll be our doom! Just look at her. She has twitchy eyelids! I'll take care of her. Hiii-yah! Hiii-yah!

Bodyguard # 3: No, no. We've been paying special attention to that one, and she seems to be contained for the moment. Stay calm, Jazz.

Jazz: Okay, we're cool for now, but I'll remember your face until they burn it from my memory. *(Jazz seems to hear something coming from a chair.)* Hey. I think that chair is tapped. I heard it snicker! *(Jazz attacks the chair.)*

Gemini # 1: Jazz, restrain yourself.

Gemini # 2: Fractal, have your binary combustion obfuscator ready, just in case.