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(BOY ENTERS AND MOVES TO MUSIC STAND C).

**READER 1:** Once upon a time, somewhere in the Northwest Territories, a boy walked into his family's kitchen to get a drink of water.

**READER 2:** The boy opened the door of the drinking glass cupboard to find...

**READER 3:** a strange tiny woman sitting on the edge of his Edmonton Oilers Hockey mug.

**WOMAN:** "It's about time,"

**READER 4:** shouted the tiny woman.

**WOMAN:** "I thought you'd never get here. The darn door blew shut and I was running short of air. Where have you been, anyway?"

(BOY OPENS FOLDER AND LOOKS AROUND WITH A CONFUSED EXPRESSION).

**BOY:** "I was - uh - I was - uh, watching TV,"

**READER 1:** stammered the boy, who was, as you might imagine, quite surprised to find a woman in the glass cupboard.

**BOY:** "Who are you?"

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**WOMAN:** "An elf, obviously! Flew into Yellowknife for a stupid Fairies Frolic Seminar. What a bore! My brother and I decided to skip out of the Elfin Ring workshop to do a little sightseeing and this is where we ended up. Hey, is it always so cold up here?"

**BOY:** "No, not always,"

**READER 2:** answered the boy as he looked cautiously around the room.

(BOY LOOKS AROUND CAUTIOUSLY).

**BOY:** "Is your big brother here too?"

**WOMAN:** "Heavens, no!" He's everywhere, elsewhere, somewhere. He's anywhere I want him to be. He's outside, I suppose."

(WOMAN MIMES FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS FROM BEHIND MUSIC STAND).

**READER 3:** The woman jumped from the counter top and glided noiselessly through the air as if she were flying. She landed on the kitchen table.

**WOMAN:** "I should tell you, though, that he's devoted to me. Big as a mountain and totally devoted. Bad tempered as a blue jay and totally devoted. Mean as a grizzly and totally devoted. Can't stand to see me upset, if you know what I mean. The best advice I can give you about my brother is:

(WOMAN PAUSES AS ALL READERS STAND. READERS STARE DIRECTLY AT AUDIENCE AS WOMAN CHANTS):

Be nice to me  
Or your days are through.  
Big brother will make

(ALL READERS EXCEPT BOY SAY THE FOLLOWING LINE AND DRAMATICALLY POINT TO AUDIENCE ON THE WORD "YOU").

**ALL:** SQUASH STEW – OF YOU!

**READER 1:** The elfin woman paused for a moment, then looked the boy squarely in the eyes. She asked,

**WOMAN:** "Catch my drift?"

**BOY:** "Yep,"

**READER 2:** said the boy. He carefully eyed the room one more time. The woman continued talking.

**WOMAN:** "Now, down to business.

(WOMAN MOTIONS FOR ALL STANDING READERS TO BE SEATED. WHEN ALL ARE SEATED, WOMAN CONTINUES).

What's your name?"

(BOY SCRATCHES HEAD AND MIMES THINKING).

**READER 3:** The boy thought for a few seconds. He remembered something he'd read in a storybook long ago. It had to do with giving specific details to elfin people. The advice was - don't! And so he didn't.

**BOY:** "I'm - uh - ME, MYSELF, AND I!"

**READER 4:** He finally said.

**WOMAN:** "Sounds reasonable. You humans do come up with some weird names but, hey, I can adjust, I can adjust!"

**READER 4:** The boy kept his mouth firmly closed.

(BOY PLACES HAND OVER HIS MOUTH AND LOOKS AT AUDIENCE).

The woman did not.

**WOMAN:** "So, it's time for a little polite conversation. Let's talk about my hair. Just had it done and it cost me a fortune. Talk about escalated prices in the north! But enough complaining. Whadaya think? Whadaya think?"

(WOMAN MIMES FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS).

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**READER 1:** The woman turned around three times, then sat down on top of the salt shaker. She tossed her head and shook her curls.

**WOMAN:** "Attractive, eh?"

**READER 2:** The boy could hardly keep a straight face.

**BOY:** "About as attractive as the thought of eating SPIDER GRAVY,"

**READER 2:** he chuckled.

(WOMAN MIMES FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS, BUT LOOKS DIRECTLY AT AUDIENCE).

**READER 3:** The woman did not chuckle. She put both hands upon her hips, looked at the boy, and squinted.

**WOMAN:** "I've told you before, but I'll tell you again:

(WOMAN PAUSES AS ALL READERS STAND. READERS STARE DIRECTLY AT AUDIENCE AS WOMAN CHANTS):

Be nice to me  
Or your days are through.  
Big brother will make

(ALL READERS EXCEPT BOY SAY THE FOLLOWING LINE AND DRAMATICALLY POINT TO AUDIENCE ON THE WORD "YOU").

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**ALL:** SPIDER GRAVY – OF YOU!

(WOMAN MOTIONS FOR ALL STANDING READERS TO BE SEATED. WHEN ALL ARE SEATED, READING CONTINUES).

**READER 4:** The boy looked over his shoulder and saw no one.

(BOY MIMES ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS, THEN READS FOLLOWING LINES):

**BOY:** "If your brother is outside, how do you think he'll get in?"

(WOMAN SHRUGS SHOULDERS).

**READER 4:** The elfin woman shrugged her shoulders.

**WOMAN:** "How should I know? Through the door, I suppose."

(BOY MIMES FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS FROM BEHIND MUSIC STAND. MIME OPENING OF DOOR AND FACIAL REACTION DIRECTLY TO AUDIENCE).

**READER 1:** The boy walked to the door and opened it. There he saw a giant shoe blocking the way. It was larger than an elephant.

(BOY MIMES CLOSING AND LOCKING OF DOOR AS FOLLOWING LINE IS READ):