

GIRLS

Act II, Scene 4

The Headmaster's Office. HERR KNOCHENBRUCH summons FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK.

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

Fraulein Knuppeldick.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Herr Knochenbruch...?

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

We must take immediate and decisive steps, lest we be perceived as one of *those* institutions afflicted by the veritable epidemic of adolescent suicide.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Indeed, sir. But, it will not be an easy war to win. There's not only the moral corruption of our youth, but the creeping sensuality of these liberal-minded times.

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

I couldn't agree more. It's war. Naturally, there must be casualties.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Naturally.

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

Bring the boy in.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Certainly, Herr Knochenbruch.

(FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK beckons MELCHIOR in)

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

It would seem, young man, that all roads end in you. You do know what I mean?

MELCHIOR

("But, you don't understand...")

I'm afraid -

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

(Completing MELCHIOR's sentence for him)

As well one would be. Two days after his father learned of the young, uh...

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

(Supplying the name)

Moritz Stiefel...

ches HERR
son's grave)

E.

3 & BOYS

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

...Moritz Stiefel's death, he searched through the boy's effects and uncovered a certain depraved and atheistic document which made terribly clear -

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Terribly clear...

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

...the utter moral corruption of the young man. A corruption which, no doubt, hastened the boy's end.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Without question, Herr Knochenbruch.

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

I am referring, as you may know, to a ten-page essay, entitled, coyly enough, "The Art of Sleeping With" ... accompanied by - shall we say - life-like illustrations.

MELCHIOR

Herr Knochenbruch, if I could -

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

Behave properly? Yes, that would be another affair entirely.

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Entirely.

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

For our part, we have made a thorough examination of the handwriting of this obscene document, and compared it with that of every single pupil -

MELCHIOR

Sir, if you could show me only one obscenity -

HERR KNOCHENBRUCH

You must now answer *only* the precisely stated questions. With a swift and decisive "Yes" or "No."

(A beat)

Melchior Gabor, did you write this?

#15 - Totally Fucked

(HERR KNOCHENBRUCH and FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK turn and stare at MELCHIOR. Music sounds - a dirty electric guitar chord, seemingly prompting a song. HERR KNOCHENBRUCH and FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK exchange a look, then turn again and stare at MELCHIOR. The guitar chord sounds again)

FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK

Did you write this?