

PORTAL POTTY
by Dylan Dawson

Characters:

NED NEIDERMEYER
ROBBIE BROWN
BULLY #1/FLAG MONSTER #1
BULLY #2/ FLAG MONSTER #2
MULTIPLE NEDS

SCENE 1

Time: Mid-day.

Place: Summer camp. Specifically, near a Port-a-Potty. Somewhere else onstage is a red flag planted in the ground.

At Rise: Kids can be heard playing Capture the Flag in the distance. Ned enters, carrying a large map and backpack.

NED

Latitude at forty-eight degrees...Longitude at seventy-two...Carry the six...
If my calculations are correct, the opposing team's flag should be right
about...

(looks up from the map, sees the flag)

...there! Ohmygod! I found the flag! Me! Ned Neidermeyer! Human
punching bag and scapegoat for kids who are bigger than me and have
emotional issues!

(grabs flag)

Well! Things are about to change for ol' Neddy here at Camp Kidsaway! Yes
sir indeedy, things are about to get a whoooooole lot -

Music sting. Two bullies appear.

NED

Ahhhh nuts.

BULLY #1

Well well WELL!

BULLY #2

Or should we say, derp derp DERP!

BULLY #1

That's nerd for well well WELL, *nerd!*

NED

You guys! You'll never believe it! I found the flag! If you help me get it back
to our goal, we might actually win this thing!

BULLY #1

We might. But you won't!

Bullies grab Ned.

NED

What are you doing?! We're on the same team!

BULLY #1

A nerd? On our team? I don't think so.

NED

No! Not the Port-a-Potty! I don't think this is a sanctioned capture the flag jail!

They toss him in and slam the door. Bully #1 pushes a large tree stump in front of it so it can't open.

BULLY #1

Heh heh heh. Occupied.

They high five and run off with the flag.

They're gone.

The little window in the set opens. Ned sings.

SONG: "NUMBER TWO"

Like a Kenny Rogers ballad. Bittersweet and simple in melody.

NED

**I SURE WISH I WAS NUMBER ONE
BUT I GUESS I'M NUMBER TWO
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO MATTER WHAT I'VE DONE
OR MATTER WHAT I DO (DO)**

**THESE KIDS JUST KEEP ON MAKIN' FUN
CAUSE I LIKE BOOKS AND GOIN' TO SCHOOL
AND THAT DON'T MAKE YOU NUMBER ONE
ALL IT GETS YOU IS NUMBER TWOOOO**

Simple song ends. Ned sighs, takes out a book from his bag.

NED

Well, good thing I brought this book about interdimensional portals with me.
That should pass the time until someone finds me.

Ned reads his book, "Interdimensional Portals and You!" Music.

Projected: NINE HOURS LATER.

NED *(reading)*

“And that’s everything you need to know about interdimensional portals.
You’re welcome.”

(shuts the book)

Man. I wish I had a portal to get me out of here.

Beep beep beep. A sewage truck backs onstage and stops. A blues-y melody plays as ROBBIE BROWN hops out of the truck, lugging a giant vacuum hose.

SONG: “ROBBIE BROWN”

ROBBIE BROWN
THEY CALL ME ROBBIE BROWN
ROBBIE BROWWWN
I CLEAN UP THE GROSS STUFF
THAT YOU FLUSH DOWWWN
WHAT YOU CALL NUMBER TWO
I CALL A NIGHT ON THE TOWWWN
AND YES IT’S JUST A COINCIDENCE
THAT MY NAME’S ROBBIE BROWN

YEAH, ROBBIE BROWN
ROBBIE BROWWWN
SANITATION’S MY VOCATION
AND I LOVE TO-

(sighs)

Ehh, who am I kidding I hate this job.

NED

Hello? Is somebody out there?

ROBBIE BROWN

Who said that?!

NED

It’s me! Ned Neidermeyer!

ROBBIE BROWN

Say, kid, shouldn’t you be down at the cabins with the rest of them campers?

NED

Apparently not. You mind moving whatever’s obstructing the door, please?

ROBBIE BROWN

Obstructing the- ? *(sees the tree stump)* Say no more, kid. I’ll get you outta there.

Robbie moves the stump, opens the door. Ned stumbles out.

NED

THANK you! Woof!

ROBBIE BROWN

Well it's a good thing I found you when I did! Don't you know there's an electrical storm due in these parts any minute now?

NED

An electrical storm?

ROBBIE BROWN

AI really shouldn't be out here, seeing as this Port-a-Potty sits on the highest spot of land for miles and miles around. But hey, when duty calls.

(beat)

Get it? When *duty* calls? Doodee? Get it? When doodee-

NED

Wait, stop talking.

Ned opens his Portal book, reads from it.

NED *(reading)*

"Most interdimensional portals are formed during electrical storms, often at the highest spot of land for miles and miles around." *(shuts the book)* Oh dear.

Electricity fills the sky! Robbie and Ned both scream!

NED

What do we do?!

ROBBIE

Quick! In there!

They run inside the Port-a-Potty as the electrical storm zaps around them. After a moment.

NED

Wait! No! This is a terrible ideaaaaaggghhhhhhh!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Electricity hits the Port-a-Potty.

Projected: The Port-a-Potty flying through time and space.

After the chaos settles, the door opens. Smoke billows out, followed by Ned and Robbie.

ROBBIE

What just happened?

NED

I don't know. But the electrical storm may have just created a cosmic tear in our universe, causing us to travel into a *parallel dimension*.

ROBBIE

Oh come on. Also, I didn't understand anything you just said.

NED

It's all in this book.

ROBBIE

"Interdimensional Portals and You"? Gee, kid, you must be pretty smart.

NED

DON'T HIT ME!

ROBBIE

Why would I hit you?

NED

When someone says I'm smart, it usually means they're about to punch me in the face.

ROBBIE

Well not me. I actually think it's pretty cool.

Laughter from offstage.

NED

Someone's coming! Hide!

They duck behind the Port-a-Potty.

NED

If this is a parallel universe, it could be different in ways we don't even understand.

ROBBIE

I already told you I don't understand, so...

NED

Sshh!

The bullies enter.

BULLY #1

Aw man! Who let the nerd out of nerd jail!

BULLY #2

Probably some other nerd!

NED

Yeah okay. This all seems normal to me.

Ned starts to stand, Robbie pulls him back down.

NED

I dunno, kid...Something's not right. I can feel it.

Bully #1 starts itching his backside furiously.

BULLY #2

Hey, what's the matter?

BULLY #1

It's just...my tail...it's botherin' me.

Bully #1 reveals an enormous tail. Ned and Robbie gasp.

BULLY #2

Yeah, mine too.

Bully #2 reveals an enormous tail as well. Ned and Robbie gasp again.

BULLY #1

It's just like, sometimes I wish we lived in a universe where everyone didn't have tails, you know?

BULLY #2

Totally.

NED/ROBBIE

Agggggghhhh!!!!!!

NED

BACK TO THE PORTAL! BACK TO THE PORTAL!

They run back to the Port-a-Potty and THE FOLLOWING HAPPENS IN RAPID SUCCESSION.

Port-a-Potty flies through time and space.

They open the door.

Bullies run by screaming, chased by flying sharks.

Ned and Robbie scream and slam the door.

Port-a-Potty flies through time and space.

They open the door.

A dinosaur roars at them, breathing fire.

Ned and Robbie scream and slam the door.

Port-a-Potty flies through time and space.

They open the door.

A handful of people stand with their backs to the audience.

Ned steps out.

The handful of people turn around, ALL WEARING NED NEIDERMEYER MASKS.

MULTIPLE NEDS

It's meeeee! Ned Neeeeeidermeyerrrrr!

NED

AGGHHHHH-actually, this one isn't so bad.

Robbie grabs Ned, pulls him back in the Port-a-Potty.

Port-a-Potty flies through time and space.

Crazy sequence ends.

They both stumble out.

ROBBIE

Oh god, please tell me this is it, that we're back in our own universe.

NED

Don't you get it! There could be an infinite number of universes! *Infinite*, understand!?

ROBBIE

I TOLD YOU I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS! I'M NOT A BIG NERD LIKE YOU!

NED (*hurt*)

I thought you said I was cool.

ROBBIE

THAT WAS BEFORE YOU AND YOUR BOOK READIN' GOT ME INTO THIS MESS. NO WONDER THOSE KIDS LOCKED YOU IN THERE! I'DA DONE THE SAME!

ROBBIE

WHAT, YOU GONNA BULLY ME NOW? WELL GO AHEAD! HIT ME!

ROBBIE

MAYBE I WILL!

NED
MAYBE YOU SHOULD!

ROBBIE
OKAY, BUT YOU ASKED FOR IT! YOU LITERALLY JUST ASKED
FOR IT!

Robbie goes to hit Ned, but Ned deflects the punch and hits Robbie repeatedly in the face, finally knocking him to the ground.

NED
This must be another dimension. I've never done that before.

ROBBIE
No, I had that coming in any dimension. Look, kid, I gotta confession to
make.

(sings)
**I USED TO ACT LIKE I WAS NUMBER ONE
AND TREAT OTHER KIDS LIKE NUMBER TWO
I BULLIED SMALLER KIDS AND I PUSHED THEM AROUND
LIKE BIGGER KIDS TEND TO DO (DO)**

**I USED TO PRETEND I WAS SUPER TOUGH
BUT REALLY I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU
WELL NOW NOBODY TALKS TO OL' ROBBIE BROWN
CAUSE HE SMELLS LIKE OTHER PEOPLE'S –**

NED
EWW, I get it!

ROBBIE/NED
**YEAH I SURE WISH I WAS NUMBER ONE
BUT I GUESS I'M NUMBERRRRR**

ROBBIE *(harmony)*
NUMBERRRRRR

NED *(harmony)*
NUMBERRRRRR

MULTIPLE NEDS
(poking their heads in, harmonizing)
NUMBERRRRRRRRR

ROBBIE/NED
TWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

Song ends. Multiple Ned's vanish.

NED

Sorry I punched you in the face.

ROBBIE

Sorry I called you a nerd.

NED

It's okay. Nerds are the new cool, anyway. At least in our universe.

ROBBIE

You're cool in any universe kid.

NED (*extends hand*)

You too, Robbie Brown.

Robbie takes Ned's hand and stands.

ROBBIE

You're gonna wanna wash that.

NED

Come on. It'll be a while til the next electrical storm. Let's see what this dimension has in store for us.

ROBBIE

I don't know about you, but so far it's looking pretty alright.

The flag appears.

NED

Hey look! The flag! You know what? I'm gonna win this thing after all.

He grabs the flag. Suddenly there's a deafening rumble. TWO GIANT MONSTERS THAT LOOK WEIRDLY LIKE FLAGS appear (either live or projected).

FLAG MONSTER #1

WHO DARES DISTURB OUR FLAG CHILD??!!

FLAG MONSTER #2

CAPTURE THEM!

FLAG MONSTER #1

WE SHALL EAT THEIR BONES

NED

Ahhhhh nuts.

ROBBIE

Yeah. That's one word for it.

Lights out. End of play.