

What is The 2051 Project

I think about the future and shape my ideas into short scripts that you're free to use in any way you see fit.

Three Required Rules of Production:

1. Any person can play any part.
2. Production values aren't important.
3. Have fun. That's how we'll turn the ship around and get people thinking differently about the iceberg melting in our backyard.

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INT. VOTING LOCATION - DAY

The location is totally flexible. It's a place where voting booths can be set up. Two booths or twenty: whatever heightens the tension and supports your vision works.

There might be a short line to get to the check-in table. ANTHONY waits in line. A VOLUNTEER checks a voter in and the person walks to one of the booths.

VOLUNTEER

Next.

Anthony walks up to the table.

VOLUNTEER

Identification.

Anthony holds out a phone. The Volunteer scans it. There is an ugly electronic belch--clearly a rejection tone.

VOLUNTEER

Yeah, no, sorry.

ANTHONY

I'm registered.

VOLUNTEER

Yeah, no, I can see that.

ANTHONY

So what's the problem.

VOLUNTEER

Pretty sure you're aware.

ANTHONY

No, I'm not. Explain it to me.

VOLUNTEER

I feel for you, I really do.

ANTHONY

Thank you.

VOLUNTEER

But you have to go.

ANTHONY

No.

VOLUNTEER
You don't understand.

ANTHONY
No, you are the one that's
confused. I'm voting today.

VOLUNTEER
You're not.

ANTHONY
I was allowed to register. A
registered voter must be allowed
to vote. That's the law.

VOLUNTEER
But see, there are other laws too.
Somebody making a mistake doesn't
change the other law which says
SBA1872s can't vote.

An IRRITATED VOTER at the head of the line has had it.

IRRITATED VOTER
Can we hurry it up, I gotta get to
work.

VOLUNTEER
Please don't yell, you'll get your
turn.

IRRITATED VOTER
You think this is yelling? This
ain't yelling, you keep me waiting
you're gonna hear yelling.

A GUARD walks up to the Irritated Voter.

GUARD
Keep it down.

IRRITATED VOTER
Or what?

GUARD
You'll be asked to leave.

IRRITATED VOTER
You believe this? You can't tell
me what to do.

IRRITATED VOTER (CONT'D)

This is my rights here that you're stomping all over. If I don't have rights here, where do I?

There are supporters on both sides of the argument and the crowd gets unruly.

GUARD

All right, all right now, everybody just calm down.
(to the Volunteer)
What's the problem?

ANTHONY

Me.

GUARD

Look, if you didn't register, you can't vote. They changed that law back in the dark ages.

ANTHONY

But you see, I am registered, and current.

GUARD

Okay, then take a spot in the booth and make your mark.

VOLUNTEER

No, that's not your call.

GUARD

Look, we got a situation here as you can see, these people have places to go, let's get this thing moving.

VOLUNTEER

Look at the scan. Just look at it.

The Guard looks down at the Volunteer's device, doesn't get it.

VOLUNTEER

Composition. Non-orgs can't vote.

It finally sinks in. The Guard stiffens and scans Anthony.

GUARD

I have to ask you to leave. Now.

ANTHONY

I will not. I am voting today.

IRRITATED VOTER

You tell 'em, Metal. You got rights too.

GUARD

(to Irritated Voter)

You keep out of this.

IRRITATED VOTER

I have rights the same as anybody, and as far as I'm concerned Metal's got 'em too. They oughta be ashamed of themselves doing what they're doing. Wouldn't you fight?

GUARD

I'm an org.

IRRITATED VOTER

And if they said to us, we don't have any use for organics anymore, once the last of you die off, that'll be it, what would you do?

GUARD

Nothin' I guess since I'm dead.

VOICES in the crowd are really getting heated now.

GUARD

Quiet I said! Have some respect for the process here, right?

(to Anthony)

I need you to leave.

ANTHONY

If I leave I will return with ruling officers and they will have no choice but to arrest you for interfering with the voting rights of a registrant. Both of you.

VOLUNTEER

I'm a volunteer!

ANTHONY

A trained volunteer, who read the rules and signed the agreement to protect all voters' rights.

VOLUNTEER

But...

ANTHONY

(to Guard)

I am a registered voter, we can agree on that, yes?

GUARD

Yes, but, there's been a--

ANTHONY

Good. Now we should remember the Fifteenth Amendment, Section 1, The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

VOICE (O.S.)

You're not a citizen!

VOICE TWO (O.S.)

Robots can't vote!

VOICE (O.S.)

Deactivate it!

VOICE TWO (O.S.)

Shoot it!

The Irritated Voter shoots the Voices a dangerous look.

IRRITATED VOTER

Am I understood?

VOICE (O.S.)

Yep.

VOICE TWO (O.S.)

Take your time!

IRRITATED VOTER

Why is voting so important to you?

ANTHONY

All lithium powered devices will be deemed obsolete and scheduled for termination at charge horizon.

IRRITATED VOTER

I'm sorry.

(to Guard and Volunteer)

If Metal votes you can't be charged because you're following the rules. But, if you DON'T and the voters vote to keep battery driven devices for a while, well, then Metal can maybe sue you for illegal deactivation or something.

VOLUNTEER

What?

GUARD

That's ridiculous, I would never.

ANTHONY

It's very simple. You cannot be punished for following the law. The law states that registered voters can vote. I am registered to vote. May I please take my place in the booth?

They don't say yes. They don't say no.

ANTHONY

Thank you.

CLOSE ON Anthony on the walk to the voting booth.

TITLE: The 2051 Project is at www.the2051project.com

CREDITS ROLL