

Scene 4: A High School Hallway

(STUDENTS *hurry on their ways to class.*
ARIEL *enters with RUSTY.*)

REN. (*crosses to them*) Hey! Ariel? Right?

ARIEL. Yeah. So?

REN. I'm Ren. Ren McCormack? We met after church?
Is this a small world or what? I'm your new classmate.

ARIEL. (*after a beat, mimics him*) "Howdy!"

RUSTY. Oh, girl, leave that poor boy alone!

(*They leave. REN, abashed, turns and bumps
into WILLARD HEWITT, a hayseed in a hat.*)

Start

WILLARD. Hey, mister! You bumped me!

REN. Sorry.

WILLARD. Don't you ever look where you're goin'?

REN. I said I was sorry.

WILLARD. Hey! You're that new guy from Chicago, ain'tcha?

REN. Perhaps.

WILLARD. Smart-ass, huh? Listen, fella, around here
you push somebody... they push back. Next thing you
know, you got...

(*gets confused; forges ahead*) ...two people pushing. Get
it?

REN. Got it. Lemme ask you something. They sell men's
clothes where you got that hat?

WILLARD. (*suspicious*) What is that, some kind of stupid
joke?

REN. No. That's a really good joke.

WILLARD. That's it, man. I'm gonna kill you!

End