



## Dealing with Bullies Program Script

### ACT ONE

#### ***Fade Up***

Zazi is screen left looking dejected and sad with head down.

Zazi: (looks up towards audience) Sighs

Dieter Enters stage from screen right

Dieter: Dum de dum de dum de dum

(Sees Zazi) Hey, hey Zazi! What a great day for a mash up! Whatz ya doing?

Zazi: (looks up) Sighs

Dieter: (To self and towards audience) I get the feeling that something's wrong. I think I'll go cheer her up.... Zazi, did you ever hear my impression of a goat stuck under a fence? Sound effects: Goat sound, thump – goat sound, thump.

Zazi: I am not in the mood

Dieter: *More sound effects, faster and more extreme.*

Zazi: (Angrily) I am really not in the mood

Dieter: Gees, I thought it was pretty good

Zazi: Dieter, I am sorry. I'm just having a terrible, horrible day

Dieter: How come? You were fine yesterday.

Zazi: (Looks at audience, exasperated. To Dieter): That was yesterday. And actually I wasn't fine. You just didn't notice.

Dieter: Sorry!... So what's going on?

Zazi: You know Penelope and how we used to be kinda friendly?

Dieter: Yeah...

Zazi: Well lately she treats me like I'm dirt. Like I don't exist.

Dieter: Like you're a pile of garbage ...

Zazi: Yeah

Dieter: Like you're... a rotting, stinking pile of garbage (excitedly)

Zazi: Uh uh (a bit edgily)

Dieter: Like a rotting, stinking pile of garbage with fish heads and worms and....  
(very excitedly)

Zazi: Dieter, YES!

Dieter: Sorry! I get it.

Zazi: Out of the blue, she just starts ignoring me. Last week we were picking teams for some soccer. When it came to me she just yelled “We have enough. Let’s go play.” I was left standing there looking like the fool.

Dieter: That’s not right.

Zazi: No it’s not, but I thought: no big deal. I have a lot of homework, so I’ll just head home.

Dieter: Homework in the afternoon! (looks terrified)

Zazi: Then in the hallway she and her *friends* walk by whispering to each other. When they see me they started laughing.

Dieter: That’s cold

Zazi: Yeah?...that’s nothing. Today in math I had to go up to the board to answer a problem and they started the snickering again. As I was walking up one of them drops their notebook and tries to trip me. I got so rattled I couldn’t answer the question -- which was *really* easy. And when I got back to my desk, there was a note that said: “You are so stupid”

Dieter: Yeah, like *you’re* stupid!

Zazi: Then at lunch I was eating outside by myself and suddenly a soccer ball comes whizzing by.

Dieter: Zzzzt.

Zazi: Penelope yells out in a completely fake voice: SORRY! It smacked my lunch all over the place. Then the laughing started again. This time, big time

*Zazi slumps in sadness*

Dieter: She is a bully.

Zazi: What?

Dieter: Penelope is a bully. A mean, mean bully, Trying to hurt you on purpose

Zazi: (Surprised) You’re right, Dieter. She is a bully

Dieter: If there is one thing I cannot stand, it’s a bully. (Slowly) They make me so mad (Starts to shake with anger)

Zazi: Calm down, Dieter

Dieter: (Still shaking) So mad... Growls... Let me at ‘em. Let me at ‘em.

Zazi: Dieter. Calm down!

Dieter: I’ll knock the stuffing out of them! POW, POW -- POW, POW POW.

Zazi: Dieter, that is not how you deal with bullies.

Dieter: You are right Zazi, (breathes deeply) I need to calm down.

Zazi: Yes you do. And we need a plan.

Dieter: A plan? Ooh, I hate plans!

Zazi: No, we need a plan. Will you help me figure one out?

Dieter: Oh, yeah, sure. (Pause) Hmmm. (Pause) Turns to his left: Hmmm. Turns back around back to Zazi: I think.... No.....

Hmmm

Zazi: Maybe...

Dieter: (Eyes light up)

Together: We should go see Mike!

***Fade Down***



## ACT TWO

**Fade Up:** *Michael is screen right*

*Dieter then Zazi enter from Left*

Mike: My two favorite people!

Dieter: Hey Mike

Zazi: Hello Michael

Mike: Zazi, have you ever heard my impression of a goat stuck under a fence?  
(Zazi and Dieter exchange glances)

Dieter: (Over to Mike and in a loud whisper) I told her that one. She didn't like it.

Mike: All righty then. What's up guys?

Dieter: Zazi has a problem she wants to talk to you about.

Mike: Is that true Zazi?

Zazi: Yes it is.

Mike: Tell me what is going on?

Dieter: She is being bullied

Mike: Oooh

Dieter: By a mean, mean big bully and her whole crew.

Mike: Dieter, let Zazi tell the story.

Dieter: Sure, Sorry, sorry

Zazi: It's true Michael. Dieter's right. I am being bullied. At first I didn't understand what was going on. I just thought a friend was being really mean, but Dieter nailed it right away.

Mike: Good for you Dieter.

Dieter: No problem

*Dieter takes a small bow*

Mike: Tell me more, Zazi.

Zazi: I used to think Penelope and I were okay friends. But then she started excluding me for no reason, making fun of me in public, insulting me, threatening me.

Dieter: She almost totally smashed her face with a soccer ball. POW!

Mike: Wow! Is that true?

Zazi: Kind of, yeah

Mike: What do you think you should do about this?

Dieter: (Excitedly) I'll tell you what I want to do. I want to go up to Penelope and tell her what I think of her and her friends.

Mike: What do you think might happen if you did that Dieter?

Dieter: They'd back off.

Mike: What else might happen?

Dieter: It could get ugly.

Mike: It could. That is how big fights start

Dieter: I'm sure not afraid of *Penelope*. Or her crew.

Mike: Maybe not, but you never know what might happen. Things can escalate. It starts small. A few harsh words. Then people square off. The crowd starts yelling, "Fight, Fight". And then it is off – (*Series of sound effects: sound of punches, pee shooter, arrow, gun, machine gun, fighter plane, explosion*).

Dieter: Maybe you're right. All I've got is a paper airplane.

Mike: Zazi, what do you think we should do.  
Zazi: I'm not sure  
Mike: How long has this been going on?  
Zazi: A few weeks  
Mike: Have you told anyone?  
Zazi: Just Dieter  
*Dieter looks proud*  
Mike: That a good start. Can you think of anyone else you could talk to?  
Zazi: My parents  
Mike: Good  
Zazi: My best friends  
Mike: Very good. Anyone else?  
Zazi: My teachers, I guess. But I don't want to get anyone in trouble.  
Mike: I understand that. But I think it is really important to talk to people about this and not keep it a secret. Especially at school. How would you like your teachers to handle it?  
Zazi: Maybe Mrs. Lessing could talk to the class about bullying, you know, without mentioning me or anybody else.  
Mike: I think that is a great idea. Do you think she would do that?  
Zazi: I think she might.  
Mike: I bet she would be happy to. And if she can't, I am sure she would find someone who could. What could you do personally?  
Zazi: I don't know, avoid them?  
Mike: Yes, that helps a lot, even though it's hard sometimes at school. Anything else?  
Zazi: Uh  
Mike: Be confident. Ignore them, without bothering them. You are only fun to a bully if they get you riled up, so don't let them get you upset. When you see them, keep your head up high.  
Dieter: (Dieter is demonstrating) And your fists down low  
Mike: And your fists down low. And don't isolate yourself. Stay with friends at lunch and on the playground.  
Zazi: I would like to tell Penelope how much she has hurt my feelings and that I want her to stop.  
Mike: That could be a good idea, but you have to be careful about how you do that. How could you do it in a good way?  
Zazi: Maybe go talk to her with a group of my friends for support  
Mike: Okay  
Zazi: And stay calm and not be threatening.  
Mike: And what if she makes fun of you again?  
Dieter: Then I would punch her right....  
Mike: Dieter!  
Zazi: Maybe I should wait a while to talk to her directly.  
Mike: I am sure someone at the school will be talking to her and, if they think it would be a good idea, they could set up a way for you to talk to her one-on-one with an adult present.

Dieter: And maybe I shouldn't be there.

Mike: The idea Dieter is to get as many people involved as possible. Get the whole school on board to stop bullying.

Zazi: Maybe I could write her a letter.

Mike: That is a great idea. Even if you don't send it, it will give you a way to get your feelings out. You could show it to your parents first and then we could read it together. I could pretend I am Penelope.

Dieter: That will never work.

Zazi: Why not?

Dieter: (To Zazi, in a stage whisper) He doesn't even look like her.

Zazi: That's not the point Dieter.

Dieter: Maybe I could find a really big dress at the thrift store. With big polka dots or bright yellow flowers.

Zazi: Dieter!

*Mike and Zazi start laughing*

Zazi: Oh, Mike. You are the greatest. You always make me feel better.

Mike: It is my pleasure, as always. You know I love you guys.

Dieter: (looking down) I will never find girl's shoes that big!

*More laughing*

***Fade to black.***

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