



Standing Up, Not Standing By Program Script

ACT ONE

Fade Up

Dieter is center stage and has his nose in a paper bag of fiddle faddle.

Dieter: Mmmmmm, Mmm. My mom makes the best fiddle faddle. Boy, this is good.
Buries his nose into the bag. (Cookie monster-like noises as he eats) Comes up for air and then stares down into the bag.

There has got to be more peanuts in here
Dives back in. More cookie monster noises.

Zazi: *Enters from screen right in an agitated walk, snorting a bit*

Dieter: *(Looks up from bag)* Do you see any peanuts?

Zazi: What?

Dieter: I'm pretty sure I am missing a bunch of peanuts from this *delicious* fiddle faddle. *(Looking around)* See any?

Zazi: *(Steaming)* No Dieter, I do not see any peanuts lying around. But I did see what you did this afternoon.

Dieter: *(Head down, searching, moving left)* This afternoon....when this afternoon?

Zazi: On the playground after school. It was more like what you didn't do.

Dieter: *(Stops short and looks up. Thinks).* Huh. *(Nothing seems to register.)*

Zazi: With Dominic and Peter.... and the little kid?

Dieter: Oh. When they were razzing Davey's little brother...

Zazi: Yeah, when they were calling him squirt and Mini Me. And making fun of his clothes.

Dieter: *(Quoting)* Nice shirt. Get that from Targez!

Zazi: So you do remember. And then they made him carry Dominic's backpack. Looked like he was about to fall over.

Dieter: *(Miming wobbly walk).* Woooooh! Woh, woh! Yeah, that was funny!

Zazi: And you didn't do anything

Dieter: That's right. I *didn't* do anything. What's your problem?

Zazi: You didn't stop it.

Dieter: Come on. That's no big deal. Just some kidding around.

Zazi: Do you think the little kid likes it?

Deiter: Yeah, I think he does. We crack some jokes. We get him to do stuff. He laughs. We do it all the time.

Zazi: He didn't like it yesterday.

Deiter: What do you mean?

Zazi: Right after you left he threw down the bag and started pounding Dominic on the chest!

Deiter: Ooops!

Zazi: Then Dominic lifts him up by the shirt and starts laughing. Tells him tomorrow there's going to be even more books in the backpack.

Dieter: Not good

Zazi: At that point, I couldn't take it anymore and went over and yelled at him to stop.

Deiter: Oh oh!

Zazi: Yeah, I told him to put him down or he'd be REALLY sorry.

Deiter: *Laughing*. And what did Dominic do?

Zazi: He just looked at me like, REALLY, so I kicked him in the shin.

Deiter: Dominic is a big guy. Are you nuts?

Zazi: I don't care. He was scaring the kid

Deiter: *Shaking head*: Then what happened?

Zazi: Some other kids start yelling, "Go get 'em Zazi" And then Dominic put the kid down

Deiter: And then he and Peter left

Zazi: How did you know?

Deiter: Cause he is not going to fight a girl. Aren't you the one who is always saying *use words, not hands*.

Zazi: Yes, I am. But this is different. Dominic was acting like a bully.

Dieter: It's not different, Zazi. Your foot wasn't doing a lot of *conflict resolution* as it came up against his leg.

Zazi: (Sighs) Maybe you're right Dieter.... But gees'. Some friends you have!

Deiter: What do you mean? Things got a little out of hand. Nobody got hurt -- except maybe Dominic.

Zazi: How about the kid? He was totally humiliated. You've got to talk to your friends and get them to stop doing stuff like this.

Deiter: *In a low voice*: I'm not going to do that.

Zazi: Why not?

Deiter: Cause nothing happened. I will check with Davey and see how his brother is doing.

Zazi: Deiter, that's good but not good enough.

Deiter: Why not?

Zazi: Cause the kid is not going to say anything bad about his big brother's best friends. (*In Voice*) Davey, you guys are a bunch of bullies.

Deiter: You are making way too much out of this

Zazi: Dieter, remember when you told me that my friend was a bully?

Deiter: Yes.

Zazi: Well, when your friends tease little kids and make them do stuff, they are bullies too and you need to talk to them.

Dieter: That was different. You just don't get it

Zazi: I do get it and I want you to get it too.

Dieter: And how is that going to happen

Zazi: I think we need to talk to Mike

Dieter: Okay Zazi. I don't get *this*, but I always like talking to Mike

They start to leave screen right, when Dieter stops and looks back at the bag of fiddle faddle

Wait a sec. Can't forget the fiddle faddle! *(More cookie monster noises as Dieter turns and goes back for fiddle faddle)*

Zazi: Dieter!

Fade out



TWO

Fade Up

Michael is screen right. Dieter is center stage just as he puts the bag of fiddle faddle center stage. Zazi enters screen left.

Mike: My two favorite people. What's up Dieter?

Dieter: Do you have any peanuts?

Mike: What?

Zazi: Dieter's got fiddle faddle on the brain.

Dieter: Want some?

Mike: Hmm... Maybe later. What's up guys?

Zazi: Dieter is standing by and letting his friends Dominic and Peter bully innocent, helpless people.

Dieter: That's not true. They were just having some fun with Davey's little brother.

Zazi: And then after Dieter splits the kid goes *ballistic*.

Mike: So it sounds like you two are trying to figure out if this was bullying and what to do about it, if it is.

Dieter and Zazi look at each other and cock their heads. In unison:

Yeah!

Mike: Okay, let's try to figure this out. What do you think bullying is?

Dieter: It's when a big guy beats up a little guy for no reason.

Zazi: It doesn't have to be physical. I read it can be verbal: *(quoting voice)* threatening, taunting or *teasing (glares at Dieter)*

Mike: You are right, Zazi, it doesn't need to be physical. You know that Dieter.

Dieter: Sure I do. Like when Penelope was being mean to Zazi.

Mike: So why don't you think this was bullying?

Dieter: Cause everyone was just having a little fun. Dominic even lets the kid carry his backpack for him.

Mike: How old is Davey's little brother?

Dieter: He's eight

Mike: And you guys are all twelve, right?

Dieter: Yeah

Mike: One of the things about bullies is that they usually have more power than their victims. Do you think Dominic and Peter have more power than Davey's brother?

Dieter: Sure. They are bigger and older. But the kid likes hanging out with us. He has a lot of fun with the razzing and stuff.

Mike: Are you sure? I think he wants to hang out with you bigger kids so much, he will put up with just about anything. Until now anyway.

Dieter: Never thought about it like that.

Mike: And why do you think he hangs out with you so much.

Dieter: Cause he wants to be our friend.

Mike: Do you think Dominic and Peter are being good friends when they make fun of him and make him do stuff?

Dieter: No, I guess not. You know, I never liked it and I never did it myself... But I never thought it was bullying.

Mike: Its okay Dieter, we are learning here.

Zazi: And it wasn't just verbal. Dominic picked the kid right up off the ground and scared the heck out of him.

Dieter: I didn't see that. If I had I would have done something 'cause that's not right.

Mike: I am sure you would have Dieter

Dieter: And I wouldn't have kicked him in the knee, either

Zazi: Shin. *(Looks at Mike)* Shin. I kicked him in the shin.

Mike: Was that a good idea, Zazi?

Zazi: No, I guess that wasn't so good either.

Mike: So we are all learning here. Do you guys know what a bystander is?

Dieter: Like a guy who stands.... by!

Zazi: And doesn't do anything even when he knows he should.

Zazi glares at Dieter. Dieter rolls his head back, open mouthed

Mike: There are a lot of different types of bystanders. Some just don't do anything. Some actually try to instigate bigger fights.

Dieter: *(To Zazi)* Like those kids who were trying to get you and Dominic to go at it.

Zazi: And some try to stop it. Like me!

Mike: And what are some ways to stop it?

Zazi: Duh, say STOP IT, just like I did.

Mike: If you know the people and you feel safe, that is a great thing to do. What else.

Dieter: You could distract them. Try to take attention away from the kid. *(gangster voice)* "Hey, Dominic. Give *me* the pizza. Here. I want the pizza." I do stupid stuff like that all the time.

Mike: Use humor. Great idea.

Zazi: You could get help.

Dieter: Yeah, Zazi could have gone to the playground monitor instead of kicking Dominic in the knee.

Zazi: Shin... shin Sheesh!

Mike: Getting help from an adult is probably the best thing you can do. And if there is no one around, let your teachers know afterwards, so they know what is going on.

Zazi: So Dieter, when are you going to talk to your friends Dominic and Peter?

Dieter: *(softly)* I don't know.

Zazi: Do it soon or I am going to be in their face!

Zazi gets into Dieter's face

Mike: Maybe we should let Dieter figure out how to do this. It is tough to talk to your friends when you think they are doing something wrong.

Dieter: Maybe I could talk to them about how the kid's feelings got hurt and how humiliating the whole thing was.

Mike: Try to get them to think how they would feel if they were him.

Dieter: I could talk to Davey about getting his brother to hang out more with kids his age.

Mike: Great idea.

Dieter: And if I see them doing it again, I could just say, "Hey, that's not cool."

Mike: You don't always have to make a big deal out of it. Just show them you don't like it and you think it should stop. So are you two still friends?

Zazi and Dieter look at each for a moment

Zazi: Of course. Dieter is always going to be Dieter.
Dieter: And Zazi will always be Zazi.
Dieter and Zazi tilt their heads till they touch amid sarcastic but endearing AAHS!
Mike Any fiddle faddle left? *Mike reaches across and grabs the bag.*
Dieter: Fiddle faddle yes. Peanuts no.
Mike: Sure smells good.
Zazi: Dieter's mom makes the best fiddle faddle.
Dieter: But what is *fiddle faddle* without the peanuts!
Mike: Really tasty caramel corn.
Dieter: (Thinks) Hmm. You're right. Give me that stuff.
Mike put the bag down in front of Dieter. Dieter dives in again.
More cookie monster sounds as *popcorn starts to fly out of the bag and around the table.*
Mike and Zazi look at each other and laugh.
Fade to black

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