

The Robbie Lee “Story”

An Office Comedy

by

Colin McBain

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The Robbie Lee “Story”

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Cast

Stephen / Robbie Lee - M, 20s-30s - Office worker

Jack - M, 20s-30s - Stephen's work colleague to his right

Claire - F, 20s-30s - Stephen's work colleague to his left

Pat - F, 40s-50s - Stephen's boss

Various - M - Voiceover, Shicagow Watsen, Marl Sprickleglinck,
Stratford Schlunkel, male Interviewers, male voice,
Ireland, Jeremy Thickface, Jared

Various - F - Krisanthumaum Terri, female paparazzo, female
Interviewers, speed dating participants, Jessingdale
Slinkerfact, Annie Grey, Agnieszka, Hannah

(The VOICEOVERS can be male or female but should be recorded.)

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Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I scene 1 - *The AmeriTainment Daily* studio

ACT I scene 2 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 3 - *The Marl Sprickleglink Show*
studio

ACT I scene 4 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 5 - *Fame Fatale* studio

ACT I scene 6 - Job interview room

ACT I scene 7 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 8 - Job interview room 2

ACT I scene 9 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 10 - Table at a bar

ACT I scene 11 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 12 - *U-Ask-A* studio

ACT I scene 13 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 14 - Pat's living room

ACT I scene 15 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 16 - *The AmeriTainment Daily* studio

ACT I scene 17 - Stephen's office desk

ACT I scene 18 - Annie Grey's sitting room

ACT I scene 19 - Stephen's office desk

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ACT II scene 1 - Green room of a TV studio

ACT II scene 2 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 3 - Female toilets at Stephen's
workplace

ACT II scene 4 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 5 - *Fame Fatale* studio

ACT II scene 6 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 7 - Job interview room 3

ACT II scene 8 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 9 - *The Marl Sprickleglink Show*
studio

ACT II scene 10 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 11 - *The AmeriTainment Daily* studio

ACT II scene 12 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 13 - Job interview room 4

ACT II scene 14 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 15 - Restaurant

ACT II scene 16 - Stephen's office desk

ACT II scene 17 - *The AmeriTainment Daily* studio

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Time: The present

*Setting: An office building in a generic city (stage R),
and various places around the world (stage L).*

ACT I Scene 1

There are three desks next to each other R with three chairs and three PCs on each desk. These can just be a monitor with a keyboard and a computer mouse for each desk. One desk & two chairs L.

Music: the opening titles of "AmeriTainment Daily", an American celebrity news show. The presenters - KRISANTHUMAUM and SHICAGOW - stand in a pose L.

VOICEOVER: It's "AmeriTainment Daily", with Krisanthumaum Terri, and Shicagow Watsen.

KRISANTHUMAUM: He's tipped to be one of Hollywood's biggest rising stars, according to "Americaleb Magazine". And now, Robbie Lee is about to make it to the big time. Already entertaining viewers with his comedy performances on Nickelodeon's smash hit, "Derek's Got A Brand New Screwdriver", and wowing the crowds with his singing and dance moves in the recently-released made-for-TV movie, "Camp Rock 3: I Got A Bad Boogie About This", Robbie Lee could soon become one of the biggest

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celebrities in America. And all despite the fact that he's Scotch-ish.

SHICAGOW: Yep, you heard it, folks. Robbie Lee is, in fact, from a place called Edin-boo-row - it's the capital city of the northern part of England - but that hasn't stopped him from making big waves in front of US audiences.

KRISANTHUMAUM: So watch out, Billy Connolly. Step aside, Kevin McKidd. And go screw yourself, Gerard Butler, 'cos there's a new Scotch person stealing your foreign thunder.

Scene 2

PAT stands by the desks R as JACK and CLAIRE sit by their computers, working. STEPHEN sits at the middle desk, daydreaming.

PAT: Stephen!

STEPHEN: Uh...! What?!

PAT: Loafing around again, I see?

STEPHEN: Well, no, not really, I was just-

PAT: I have just about had enough of your idleness, Steve, loafing around, not doing your work. It's an affront to decent, hard-working people like Jack and Claire here. (*Motions to JACK and CLAIRE, working at their computers.*)

STEPHEN: Okay, Pat.

PAT: I would have thought that in this day and age, with the jobs market and the economy the way it is, you'd

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care more about your work than to shirk your duties so blatantly. Don't you agree?

STEPHEN: Yes, Pat.

PAT: I thought as much. I want you to think about that while I go and have my lunch. There's a Beef Lasagne Ready Meal residing in my lunchbox and I refuse to let it lose any more freshness than it ought to.

(PAT goes to exit R before turning back.)

(To JACK and CLAIRE:) And no slacking while I'm away!

(PAT exits R. STEPHEN sighs.)

JACK: You got any chewing gum?

STEPHEN: No, I don't eat... (chewing gum.)

JACK: I'm speaking to Claire.

CLAIRE: No, I don't. I'm giving up chewing gum. Says in Tatler magazine it damages your teeth.

JACK: Tatler? What the huck's that?

CLAIRE: It's a magazine for people like me, who strive to better themselves through the aspirations of the upper classes.

JACK: Sounds like a euphemism for your muff.

(STEPHEN and CLAIRE react to his comment. Pause as all three work on their computers.)

What's another word for "interested"?

(Short pause.)

(To STEPHEN:) Oi!

STEPHEN: Oh sorry, Jack. I thought you were speaking to Claire(!)

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- JACK:** Stop being a prick, Steve. I said, what's another word for "interested"?
- STEPHEN:** First of all, it's "Stephen", not "Steve". I've been working here for almost a year, I've told you several times I don't like being called "Steve", and secondly-
- JACK:** Yeah, yeah, and I'm huckin' inconsolable. What's another word for "interested"?
- STEPHEN:** *(Sighs.)* What's it for?
- JACK:** I'm just filling in a form, that's all.
(STEPHEN looks at JACK's computer screen.)
- STEPHEN:** That's a dating website!
- JACK:** Aye. And?
- STEPHEN:** But... aren't you supposed to be doing your work?
- JACK:** Yeah, I am. I'm trying to think of a word that's better than "interested". That's work, isn't it?
- STEPHEN:** Well, no, not really.
- JACK:** Look, I can't exactly put in "gaggin' for a shag", can I?
- STEPHEN:** Oh, god.
- JACK:** What's another word for "interested"?
- STEPHEN:** How about something like... (keen?)
- JACK:** *I'm speaking to Claire!*
- CLAIRE:** You shouldn't be wasting time on these kind of sites. You're better off getting out there and meeting people instead of hiding behind a computer screen. It's creepy.
- JACK:** I said, what's another word for... ("interested"?)

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CLAIRE: Oh, for goodness' sake, Jack. You're like a broken record. I'd say, maybe, "hoping to find my true love" or, "open to new experiences". Something like that.

JACK: Hmm. Okay.

(Pause as all three work on their computers.)

CLAIRE: You do you spell "disembowel"? Is it "dis-IM-bowel" or "dis-EM-bowel"?

STEPHEN: It's "dis-EM-bowel".

CLAIRE: Right, okay.

STEPHEN: Why would you want to know something like that? What exactly are you typing?

CLAIRE: It's just something I'm putting together, it's not your concern.

STEPHEN: Yeah, but this is the admin department of a pensions company. What are you working on that requires the word "disembowel"?

CLAIRE: Look, I'm writing something personal that has nothing to do with you or anybody else.

(STEPHEN looks at CLAIRE's computer screen.)

STEPHEN: Is that a story you're writing?

CLAIRE: No. It's just... something I like to do, that's all.

STEPHEN: That *is* a story. I recognise some of the characters from that show. Y'know, the one with the people in it.

CLAIRE: Fine! I'm writing some fan fiction. Satisfied?

STEPHEN: No, I'm not. You're meant to be working, not writing stories.

(PAT enters R.)

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What if Pat found you "loafing around", as she calls it?

PAT: *Stephen!*

(STEPHEN gets a fright.)

Loafing around again, are you? Chatting away to your colleague, causing a distraction when she is trying to get on with her work?

STEPHEN: No, absolutely not, Pat. It's just-

PAT: I do not wish to hear excuses from you, Steve. I've had it up to the eyeballs with your attitude.

STEPHEN: No, it's not that, it's just... they're not working either. He's on a dating website and she's writing fan fiction. That doesn't sound like working to me.

PAT: Really? *(Turns to JACK.)*

JACK: **Me?** I'm just doing some data entry.

(PAT looks at JACK'S computer screen.)

PAT: I see. Well, recording the ethnic origins of our clients for statistical purposes won't be done by itself. Very good. What about you, Claire? Are you shirking your duties?

CLAIRE: No, Pat. As you can see, I'm filing correspondences electronically, then I'm going to help Jack out with his data entry.

PAT: Fine. Very good. You know, Steve, it's very worrying that you would think to evade responsibility for your faults and shift the blame onto other people. Those in glass houses should not throw stones.

STEPHEN: No... I mean... well... I thought-

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"Celebrity Date Rape", a new reality show that allegedly boasts contestants such as David Hasselhoff, Joan Rivers and some guy called... (*consults his notes*) Dean Gaffney, whoever the hell he is. But whatever, Mr Springer's on the show to help lower the levels of taste, morals and decency in American society just that little bit more. But before that, I've great pleasure in welcoming onto the Marl Sprickleglinck show the newest upcoming rising star of American TV, all the way from Edin-boo-row, England, Mr Robbie Lee, folks! C'mon, get in here, ya big lunk!

(ROBBIE enters L wearing sunglasses with the most ridiculously massive lenses possible. He sits to the right of MARL, a little distance away.)

Hey there, Robbie. I must say, it's an absolute pleasure to... (meet you for the first time.)

ROBBIE: Wait a minute, Marl. Can I just interrupt you for a moment?

MARL: Uh, sure.

ROBBIE: Thanks. I just wanna say, it's Edin-*burgh!* Not Edin-*boo-row*. I don't go around calling Pittsburgh "Pitts-*buh-ruh*". Also, Edinburgh is in *Scotland*, not *England*. It's like saying that New York's a province in Canada. I'm a proud Scotsman... in that my mother's Scottish... but that's not the point.

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MARL: Uh, okay. Great. So, uh, tell me, you're one of the biggest stars on kids TV right now, aren't you?

ROBBIE: I know. And can I just say how lucky I am to be in this position? I'm *so* lucky to be able to entertain millions of kids all over the country.

MARL: I bet. I bet. And you've just completed filming the first season of your latest show, right?

ROBBIE: Yep, that's another programme I've wrapped up. It's called "Zombie Zombie, Dance Dance, Girls Girls". It's about a young guy - played by me - who's shy and not very academic, so he takes part in school shows in order to get over his coyness. But what everyone doesn't know is that he's actually a zombie, who tries to eat his teachers. Well, the ones he doesn't like, anyway.

MARL: Wow. Sounds like a real laugh-a-minute, huh? Especially for the kids.

ROBBIE: I suppose. It's just another regular US kids show, along with the many regular shows I've done. They're nothing special. But they've all been successful, so why change a winning formula?

MARL: Great. Well, I hope you enjoy great success with that, Robbie.

ROBBIE: Thank you so much, Marl. I can't tell you how lucky I am to be in... (this position.)

PAT: (*Standing R carrying a stack of papers, next to JACK.*) STEPHEN!

ROBBIE: Aw, shit!