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THE WEST WING

"Manchester"

Part II

Written by
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Directed by
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PRODUCTION #227 202
Episode Two

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THE WEST WING

"Manchester"

Part II

CAST LIST

PRESIDENT JOSIAH BARTLET
LEO MCGARRY
JOSH LYMAN
SAM SEABORN
TOBY ZIEGLER
C.J. CREGG
CHARLIE YOUNG
DONNA MOSS
ABIGAIL BARTLET

NANCY MCNALLY
JOEY LUCAS
KENNY
OLIVER BABISH
ED
LARRY
GINGER
MARGARET

DOUG WEGLAND
CONNIE TATE
BRUNO GIANELLI
SANDY (FROM TV)
NEWSCASTER (FROM TV)
CIVILIAN
CIVILIAN #2
AGENT
STAFFER

THE WEST WING

"Manchester"

Part II

SET LIST

INTERIORS

BARN

WHITE HOUSE

Bartlet's Bedroom
Oval Office
Roosevelt Room
Corridors
Situation Room
Mrs. Landingham's Office
Communications Bullpen
Leo's Office
Margaret's Office
C.J.'s Office *

BARTLET'S HOUSE

Living Room
Kitchen

*

BARTLET'S LIMO

*

HOTEL

Corridor
Josh's Room *

CLASSROOM

EXTERIORS

BARTLET'S FARM - DAY

WHITE HOUSE - NIGHT

BARTLET'S FARM - DAY

WHITE HOUSE - NIGHT (EST.)

BARTLET'S FARM - DAY (EST.)

HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT *

HIGH SCHOOL - EARLY EVENING

*

BARTLET'S FARM/SECRET SERVICE GUARD
GATE - EARLY MORNING

MANCHESTER SHERATON - NIGHT

STAGE AREA - DAY *

FARM - NIGHT *

MANCHESTER SHERATON - EARLY MORNING
(EST.) *

"Manchester"

Part II

TEASER

From the BLACK we HEAR:

BARTLET (VO)

"We are strong, we are prosperous, we are at peace with the world. We are, as we have ever been, the envy of every civilization."

FADE IN:

2-1 EXT. BARTLET'S FARM - DAY

2-1

It's a beautiful morning as we look at this picturesque sight.

BARTLET (VO)

"We are, as we have ever been, the hope of all mankind."

CUT TO:

2-2 INT. BARN - DAY

2-2

BARTLET's up on a makeshift stage with a podium. TOBY, C.J., JOSH, SAM, DOUG, CONNIE and several STAFFERS are sitting around the empty barn, listening to an early rehearsal.

BARTLET

"But I am not satisfied. Indeed, I am restless. And I come before you not to speak of the America we have, but--"

TOBY

Excuse me, sir.

BARTLET

Yeah.

TOBY

(to DOUG)

We're the envy of every civilization?

DOUG

Yeah.

TOBY

Really?

(CONTINUED)

DOUG

They don't vote in England, Toby.

SAM

Well they do actually.

CONNIE

He meant that--

TOBY

I know what he meant.

SAM

I'm gonna change that, sir.

BARTLET

Okay.

TOBY

And somebody stick some pom-poms in that guy's hand.

BARTLET

"But I am not satisfied. Indeed I am restless. And I come before you not to speak of the America we have, but of the better, stronger, more prosperous America we can create together."

C.J.

There's a snake over here.

SAM

What kind?

C.J.

I don't know and I don't want to ask him, could somebody shoot it please.

SAM

It's probably just a garter snake.

BARTLET

(doesn't need to see it)

It's a garter snake, don't worry about it.

C.J.

Okay.

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

"I seek re-election to the presidency, not because of its glories, but because of its challenges."

DOUG

And I have a problem here.

SAM

I wrote that.

DOUG

I'm happy for you. "Its challenges" sounds like you're overwhelmed by the job and this is exactly the wrong time for that.

SAM

No, it's exactly the right time to raise the stakes of the election.

DOUG

Why?

TOBY

'Cause if it's all a day at the beach then any bozo with a handshake can do it.

DOUG

I'm sorry, but America wants a happy warrior to lead the country and not Dr. Kevorkian.

JOSH

It's true, sir, America does not want Dr. Kevorkian to lead the country, we've got polling data on that.

BARTLET

All right, we'll revisit it.

C.J.

The snake is looking at me now.

BARTLET

"A presidential candidate owes his campaign no less than he owes his country: Everything he has, everything he can give, all his hopes for--"

(CONTINUED)

DOUG

And I'm sorry, sir, but I'm not wild about it being "your" campaign and "your" country.

CONNIE

No, that's okay.

DOUG

People don't hear that well.

SAM

The people who are gonna be there hear fine.

CONNIE

He didn't mean people don't hear that well, he meant people don't hear that well, but I disagree.

JOSH

'Kay I just saw the snake too.

TOBY

Sir, you're perfectly entitled to declare yourself the leader of both the campaign and the country since after all you are.

LEO and BRUNO have come in--

DOUG

Except if it's him and not the voters it'll point the pundits toward the MS.

BRUNO

I think the cat's outa the bag on the MS.

BARTLET

Does somebody here have MS and they haven't said anything?

JOSH

Listen, seriously, it's a pretty big snake.

BARTLET

"But I am not satisfied. Indeed, Leo, I am close to taking my own life with a wheat thresher."

LEO

Bruno?

(CONTINUED)

BRUNO

Yeah, listen up. I've been thinking that it might not be such a bad idea for me to lock you all in here and set the place on fire. We have 48 hours before we kick off this campaign. We will work hard, we will work well and we will work together, or so help me Mary Mother of God, I will stick a pitchfork so far up your asses you will, quite simply, be dead.

BARTLET

(pause)

"And so, with pride and purpose, I hereby announce my candidacy for the presidency of the United States."

SMASH CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2-3 thru 2-4A OMITTED 2-3 thru 2-4A *

2-4B INT. BARN - DAY (FORMERLY SCENE 2-6) 2-4B *

LEO, TOBY, SAM, DOUG and CONNIE are sitting around arguing. *

DOUG
He has to sell the greatness of America. *

SAM
Why? *

DOUG
Because it's an implicit argument to stay the course. *

SAM
I'm already selling the greatness of America. *

DOUG
Not enough. *

SAM
I'm selling it in paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18, 26 and 34. *

JOSH steps in-- *

DOUG
Listen, it's a simple equation. Bartlet rules America, America rocks, therefore Bartlet rocks. *

SAM
America rocks? *

TOBY
Bartlet rocks? *

DOUG
Yes. *

JOSH
He really doesn't that much. Leo can I see you for a second. *

(CONTINUED)

2-4B CONTINUED:

2-4B

LEO

Yeah.

LEO follows JOSH as they walk out to--

2-4C EXT. FARM - DAY (FORMERLY SCENE 2-7)

2-4C

JOSH

RU-486.

LEO

There's nothing we can do.

JOSH

The last thing we need is to come out of the gate--

LEO

Look--

JOSH

--waving a flag to the American heartland--

LEO

Josh--

JOSH

--that says we don't share your values.

LEO

The President understands all that.

JOSH

And?

LEO

That's the way it goes.

JOSH

Leo--

LEO

The FDA's an independent agency, they can announce when they want.

JOSH

The FDA's a division of HHS and technically not an independent agency.

LEO

Technically?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

I can keep the President away from this,
I can call the FDA chief of staff, I got
him his job, they can--

LEO

No.

JOSH

--wait two weeks.

(beat)

To announce the drug. They don't have to
do it on Monday. I can fix tobacco.

LEO

Tobacco?

JOSH

Not--I mean 486.

LEO

Leave the FDA alone.

LEO heads back into the barn leaving JOSH there as we

CUT TO:

2-5

EXT. BARTLET FARM - DAY

2-5

C.J.

You just get in?

ABBEY

A few hours ago.

C.J.

Ellie and Zoey are here?

ABBEY

And Liz gets in in a while. They're going
for a hike if you want to join them.

C.J.

No thank you, I can't, but I did want to
talk to you about a photo-op.

ABBEY

You want some apple cider?

C.J.

No, I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

ABBEY

We grow the apples down the hill, it's good.

C.J.

Okay. So at any rate--

ABBEY

A photo-op.

C.J.

Yes.

ABBEY

My husband and I together.

C.J.

Yeah.

ABBEY

With the kids.

C.J.

That'd be nice, but if--

ABBEY

Because my husband and I came to the house separately? There were pictures of the President getting on the plane alone?

C.J.

(pause)

Ma'am, this is uncomfortable territory and obviously I'd--the press has sources that say that you and the President--

ABBEY

Do they have names?

C.J.

I'm sorry?

ABBEY

The sources.

C.J.

No these are--

ABBEY

--unnamed sources. Unnamed sources make me crazy, C.J.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

2-5 CONTINUED: (2)

2-5

ABBEY (cont'd)

One time, instead of seeing "according to unnamed sources," I'd like to see "according to some tweaky little ill-informed chicken-ass wannabe--," don't come to me with unnamed sources again, C.J., you don't get any apple cider.

C.J.

Yes ma'am.

CUT TO:

2-6	OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENE 2-4B)	2-6
2-7	OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENE 2-4C)	2-7
2-8 thru 2-12E	OMITTED	2-8 thru 2-12E
2-13	EXT./EST. THE WHITE HOUSE - NIGHT	2-13

CUT TO:

2-14	INT. BARTLET'S BEDROOM - NIGHT	2-14
------	--------------------------------	------

ABBEY sits and reads a book as music plays on the stereo. After a moment, BARTLET comes in. Without seeing her (or noticing her) he walks to the bathroom and we hear him turn on the sink faucet.

ABBEY thinks this kind of odd...

ABBEY

(pause)

Jed...?

BARTLET comes out with a towel.

BARTLET

I didn't see you there.

ABBEY

Yeah.

BARTLET

I didn't see you.

ABBEY

What's going on?

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

Peter thinks sanctions are a waste of time, I agree. In about a half-hour we're buzzing the island with, uh, what they call an Alpha strike formation to show Bazan, you know...

BARTLET goes back into the bathroom...

ABBEY

Will it work?

BARTLET (OS)

I don't know.

ABBEY

(pause)

Jed?

BARTLET (OS)

Yeah.

ABBEY

I said will it work?

BARTLET comes back out of the bathroom.

BARTLET

Sorry, I said I don't know. We'll see.

ABBEY

C.J. got beat up pretty good in the briefing room.

BARTLET

Yeah that was bound to happen.

ABBEY

Maybe you want to think about sitting her down for a few days.

BARTLET's gone into the bathroom--

ABBEY

(shaking her head)

Jed?

BARTLET (OS)

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

ABBEY

I said maybe you want to think about benching C.J. for a few days.

BARTLET (OS)

Yeah.

BARTLET comes back out--

BARTLET

That's Leo's call.

ABBEY

At least on Haiti. You send in Nancy or Peter, someone from State, that way the two stories don't get mixed up.

BARTLET

Yeah, it's Leo's call. Look, I'm sorry, I can't get into our thing tonight.

ABBEY

Two days ago you said you had a lot to say.

BARTLET

I do and that's why I can't get into it. I have to read.

ABBEY

That's all right.

BARTLET

(beat)

All right, I'm gonna go in the study.

ABBEY

Okay.

BARTLET

Abbey, you were lying down when I came in, I didn't see you.

ABBEY

I believe you.

BARTLET exits as we

CUT TO:

2-14A EXT. MANCHESTER SHERATON - NIGHT

2-14A

As LEO and C.J. come out of the hotel and begin heading down the street.

C.J.

I spoke to the First Lady before.

LEO

Hm?

C.J.

I spoke to the First Lady. I thought it might not be a bad idea if there were some opportunities with the two of them together at the house.

LEO

What was her reaction?

C.J.

Well, she denied me cider.

LEO

What else?

C.J.

I'll brief the Sunday papers on what they can expect from the speech on Monday.

LEO

You know it's not written yet.

C.J.

I'm just giving 'em highlights.

LEO

What highlights?

C.J.

I'm making them up.

LEO

Okay.

C.J.

I thought maybe you could talk to her.

LEO

Who?

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
The First Lady.

LEO
Look--

C.J.
Every newspaper today had a picture on the front page of the President boarding Air Force One to go home by himself.

LEO
It's the Saturday paper.

C.J.
There are any number of press questions about--

LEO
We're two private men, C.J., we don't talk about our marriages, what do you want from me?

C.J.
(pause)
I'm not wild about the fact that you told Toby what we discussed.

LEO
He's the Communications Director, you don't think he should know?

C.J.
When I think it's time--

LEO
When I think it's time, I'll tell anybody who works for me anything I damn please. You know what, C.J.? Stop being pissed at me about Haiti.

C.J.
(beat)
Yeah okay.

CUT TO:

2-15 OMITTED (INCORPORATED INTO SCENE 2-14A)

2-15

2-16
thru
2-25 OMITTED

2-16
thru
2-25

*
*
*

2-25A OMITTED

2-25A *

2-25B INT. WHITE HOUSE CORRIDOR - DAY (FORMERLY SC. 2-28)

2-25B

--as BARTLET and LEO make their way to the Situation Room.

LEO

It's a surrender.

BARTLET

It's not a surrender if he has demands.

LEO

It's as close as we come these days.

BARTLET

What does he want?

LEO

Ten-million dollars U.S., a private plane
and a guarantee he won't be prosecuted
for war crimes.

BARTLET

What else?

LEO

Asylum for himself and 60 of his family
members.

BARTLET

Where?

LEO

Here.

BARTLET

Well that's a bit of a dilemma.

They walk into--

2-25C INT. SITUATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY SC. 2-29)

2-25C

--where everybody stands.

BARTLET

Does anybody have room at their place for
Bazan and 60 of his relatives?

(CONTINUED)

CIVILIAN

Sir, any amnesty conditions could be in violation of Hague treaties.

BARTLET

Yeah.

CIVILIAN #2

Do we want to set a precedent that anyone can stage a coup and walk away if it doesn't work?

CIVILIAN

And with ten-million dollars and a private plane?

NANCY

A shoot-out at the Presidential Palace is the worst possible outcome, Bazan's full surrender is the best and that's what we've got on the table.

BARTLET

I want to end this peacefully and right now, Nancy, what do you think of Venezuela?

NANCY

Venezuela would like to be considered a resource for supplying Strategic Petroleum Reserves.

BARTLET

Tell 'em I'll give the SPR strong consideration. Mike, have the Canadians get a message through. We'll unfreeze his U.S. accounts, he can't remove any money from Haiti. Only his wife, children and parents can seek asylum, if he tries to go back he'll be under arrest.

LEO

And he can screw the private plane, we'll fly him on a C-9 from Port-au-Prince to Caracas and if he's very good we won't shoot him in the head on the way.

BARTLET

(standing)

Tell me when it's done.

(CONTINUED)

ALL
Thank you, Mr. President/Thank you, sir/
Thank you/etc.

BARTLET exits.

LEO
Nancy?

NANCY
Yeah.

LEO
Lemme talk to you a second.

NANCY follows LEO out into--

2-25D INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY SC. 2-30)

2-25D

LEO
When this is a done deal I want you to
stick around for a while and brief the
press.

NANCY
(pause--quietly)
She made a mistake, Leo.

LEO
I'm not punishing her.

NANCY
She made--

LEO
I'm not punishing her. You're not the
political face of this administration,
you had no part in the MS thing and you
won't have to answer questions about it.

NANCY
I don't feel right about this.

LEO
I don't care.

LEO heads off as we

CUT TO:

2-25E INT. MARGARET'S OFFICE - DAY

2-25E

SAM comes in.

MARGARET

Hey.

SAM

Can I talk to him?

MARGARET

He's on his way up from the Sit Room.

SAM

Good news about Haiti.

MARGARET

I say we should've gone in there with four tank divisions and turned the place into a casino.

SAM

Manifest destiny.

MARGARET

Bet your ass.

LEO comes in--

LEO

Calls?

MARGARET

On your desk.

SAM

You got a second?

LEO

Yeah.

SAM follows LEO into--

2-25F INT. LEO'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

2-25F

SAM

So listen, I just wanted to apologize about before.

LEO

Don't worry about it.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

You know what I'm talkin' about, right?

LEO

Yeah.

SAM

So I wanted to make you aware of something.

LEO

Yeah.

SAM

Well, I've looked over the transcripts a couple of times and he never apologized.

LEO

What do you mean?

SAM

In the interview, he never apologized. I think it's something we're gonna get hung with later.

LEO

Let's wait a few weeks, see what happens with the numbers and take another look.

SAM

Yeah okay.

LEO

Anything else?

SAM

He wanted a private plane?

LEO

You believe it?

LEO heads into--

2-25G INT. OVAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

2-25G

BARTLET

The State Department's suggesting that we praise the French government for their help in resolving this matter.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET (cont'd)

I would, but I'm worried they'd
surrender.

LEO

You did well, Mr. President.

BARTLET

When do you think C.J. can brief?

LEO

Nancy's gonna brief.

BARTLET

Yeah?

LEO

Don't worry about it, you did well.

FADE TO BLACK *

END OF ACT ONE *

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

2-25H OMITTED 2-25H *

2-25I INT. C.J.'S OFFICE - DAY (NEW SCENE) 2-25I *

C.J.'s at her desk. LEO comes in with a sheaf of polling numbers and puts them down in front of her, then sits in a chair. *

C.J. opens them and reads... *

LEO *

We haven't picked up any ground in Iowa, Kansas, Arkansas and Illinois. *

C.J. *

(still reading) *

It's only been a week. *

LEO *

Yeah, but we struck the agricultural trade deal with Argentina and farm country oughta love that. *

C.J. *

Well that story got a little drowned out. *

LEO *

Yes it did. *

C.J. heard that, tosses the papers on the desk and looks at LEO... *

C.J. *

(pause) *

I could've stood on top of the Sears Tower with a Stratocaster and that story would've gotten drowned out. *

LEO *

I'm not assigning blame. *

C.J. *

Really? *

LEO *

Yes. *

(beat) *

(MORE) *

(CONTINUED)

LEO (cont'd)
We need help. I'm bringing in Bruno Gianelli.

C.J.
It's too early for Bruno.

LEO
No.

C.J.
Toby...Sam and Josh, the guys aren't gonna like it.

LEO
They'll have to live with it.

DOUG (VO)
"I say to you today: I love this country."

CUT TO:

2-26 INT. FARM HOUSE - DAY (FORMERLY BARN) 2-26

TOBY, SAM, DOUG and CONNIE work on the speech with note pads and papers spread in front of them.

DOUG
(reading)
"And I will make sure our military continues to be the best trained, best equipped, best led fighting force in the world."

SAM
Oh my God.

TOBY
I think Sam wants to take this one.

SAM
If you want to substitute testosterone for foreign policy, why not--

DOUG
I'm not--

SAM
--just have the President wade into the crowd and challenge 'em to an arm wrestle.

CONNIE

The problem is the foreign policy section was too long.

DOUG

And there're no votes in foreign policy.

SAM

You just wrote off 98% of the world's population and three-quarters of the President's job description.

TOBY

But it's that kind of thinking that makes us the envy of every civilization.

SAM

Scrap this.

CONNIE

I've got a problem here.

SAM

Where?

CONNIE

"This campaign must not be about the disease God gave me, but the opportunities God has given our country."

DOUG

You're going back to the strategy that failed for two months.

TOBY

What's that.

DOUG

All MS, all the time.

CONNIE

What Doug means--

TOBY

There was a little damage control to be done.

DOUG

You couldn't stop educating the public. You guys are never happier than when you're educating the public.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

Two months ago 74% of them thought MS was fatal.

DOUG

And every time you told them it wasn't there was a story about MS. Just change the subject!

TOBY

Damn, Doug, why the hell didn't I think of that?!

DOUG

I don't know, Toby, but if you had, I probably wouldn't be here!

CUT TO:

2-26A
thru OMITTED
2-36

2-26A
thru
2-36

2-36aA INT. MARGARET'S OFFICE

2-36aA

BRUNO comes in.

MARGARET

Yes?

BRUNO

I'm Bruno Gianelli.

MARGARET

Yes?

BRUNO

I have an appointment.

MARGARET

(beat)

Really.

MARGARET gets up and goes into LEO's office. We stay on BRUNO as we HEAR--

MARGARET (OS)

Who's Bruno Gianelli?

(CONTINUED)

LEO (OS)
A strategist.

MARGARET (OS)
Really?

LEO (OS)
He got five Senators elected, three
governors--

CUT TO:

2-36A INT. LEO'S OFFICE - SAME TIME (FORMERLY PART I, SC. 45) 2-36A

LEO
--he got Hackett elected where they
haven't elected a Democrat in 46 years,
he got the Prime Minister of Israel
elected and it's entirely possible that
he's never voted in his life.

MARGARET
He's here.

LEO
Why didn't you send him in?

MARGARET
He didn't have an appointment.

LEO
I made the--I did it--

MARGARET
You did it yourself.

LEO
Yes.

MARGARET
And you're not supposed to do that, are
you.

LEO
(calling)
Bruno.

BRUNO comes in--

BRUNO
You people can find more ways to blow it.

(CONTINUED)

LEO

We might be running out.

BRUNO

No, I don't think so.

LEO

Look--

BRUNO

Why the hell didn't you call me before the announcement.

LEO

What would you have done?

BRUNO

Tell him not to make the announcement.

LEO

That'd be concealing the truth.

BRUNO

Oh would it now?!

LEO

Can you help us?

BRUNO

I need to see your internals.

LEO

Joey Lucas has been polling every day for two months.

BRUNO

The girl?

LEO

Yeah.

BRUNO

I worked with her in California, she's good.

LEO

What do you want?

BRUNO

15% of the ad buys. You're gonna say 10, so why don't we just say 13.

(CONTINUED)

LEO

Why don't we say 12?

BRUNO

Why don't we say 13. I want hiring and firing prerogatives in my department. For starters I'm bringing in Doug Wegland and Connie Tate.

LEO

Fine.

BRUNO

A room at the Hay-Adams and a car and driver.

LEO

Fine.

BRUNO

And I want unfettered access to the President.

LEO

No.

BRUNO

I need it.

LEO

Can't have it.

BRUNO

Leo, the only races I've ever lost are ones where the candidate didn't listen or the advice didn't get through, that isn't gonna happen this time.

LEO

Can't do it.

BRUNO

This is ego and you know as well as I do I take this request to the President and tell him it's a deal-breaker he's gonna say yes.

LEO

Knock yourself out.

(calling)

Margaret?

(CONTINUED)

BRUNO

What are you doing?

LEO

Take your request to the President.

MARGARET

(entering)

Yes sir.

BRUNO

Look--

LEO

(to MARGARET)

Would you take Mr. Gianelli into the Oval Office, please.

MARGARET

Sure.

BRUNO

You playin' with me?

MARGARET

Mr. Gianelli, would you follow me?

BRUNO

Sure thing.

MARGARET leads BRUNO into--

2-36B INT. THE OVAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY PART I, SC. 46) 2-36B

--BARTLET gets up.

BARTLET

Bruno.

BRUNO

Good morning, Mr. President.

BARTLET

I understand you're gonna be working with us.

BRUNO

Well, sir, obviously I'm pleased to be approached and I believe there's a great deal I can do for you--

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET
--you have one or two demands.

BRUNO
Yes sir.

BARTLET
You want 12% of the ad buys.

BRUNO
Well as a matter of fact...okay, 12, and--

BARTLET
A room, a car and driver, that's no
problem.

BRUNO
Thank you, and I'll also need unfettered
access to you, sir.

BARTLET
No.

BRUNO
Sir, I've found--

BARTLET
I'm sorry, Bruno, Leo runs the show.

BRUNO
Respectfully, sir--

BARTLET
It's a deal breaker.

BRUNO
(pause)
I'll answer to Leo--

BARTLET
And Toby Ziegler in Communications.

BRUNO
I've gotta make an appointment to see
Toby Ziegler?

BARTLET
Pal, I've gotta make an appointment to
see Toby Ziegler.

BRUNO
Okay.

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

Toby'll wanna run speechwriting by Sam Seaborn.

BRUNO

Yes sir, anybody else I need to know about?

BARTLET looks down, then away a moment...

BRUNO

(pause)

I was sorry about Delores Landingham.

BARTLET nods...

BARTLET

Can you help us out?

BRUNO

Yes sir.

CUT TO:

2-36C INT. LEO'S OFFICE - DAY (FORMERLY PART I, SC. 47)

2-36C

MARGARET

Do I need to explain the rules on making appointments again? Are you confused?

LEO

Get out.

MARGARET

I'll jot them down.

BRUNO comes in from the Oval Office door--

LEO

How'd it go?

BRUNO

Shut up.

LEO

What's first?

BRUNO

We get together in a room.

LEO

After that?

(CONTINUED)

BRUNO
An event.

LEO
How's two weeks from Monday?

BRUNO
That's the soonest we can do it?

LEO
Yeah.

BRUNO
We'll scout locations in New Hampshire.
Maybe a high school.

CUT TO:

2-36D EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - EARLY EVENING

2-36D

The place is being set up for the rally the next morning. A stage, a podium, about twelve hundred seats. Bunting, signs, "Bartlet for America," "New Hampshire Loves Bartlet," etc.

A high school band is practicing in the distance as BRUNO comes over to SAM--

BRUNO
Sam.

SAM
Yeah.

BRUNO
"Columbia Gem of the Ocean"? Is he christening a minesweeper?

SAM
It was part of the deal.

BRUNO
What deal?

SAM
They're the Columbia High School Marching Band, they get to play their song.

BRUNO
We had to negotiate with the band?

SAM
Look--

(CONTINUED)

BRUNO

They're gonna be live on four networks
and they'll play what we want to hear.

TOBY

(shouting)

Bruno!

TOBY's got a sign on a 2-by-4 that reads "Bartlet for
President." He makes his way over to BRUNO--

BRUNO

How ya doin'.

TOBY

Good, whose throat do I shove this down,
whose skull do I break with this sign?

BRUNO

Don't worry about it.

TOBY

"Bartlet for President."

BRUNO

We're getting rid of 'em.

TOBY

Good, 'cause I was there when he won,
Bruno, I saw him get sworn in, I've
ridden in the limo.

BRUNO

Write me a speech, would you. One that
doesn't make me think I'm sittin' shiva
someplace, black curtains on the mirrors.

CUT TO:

2-36E INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

2-36E

--as JOSH and C.J. walk in.

C.J.

We'll be using this as the green room. He
can walk right out the door and up on the
stage.

JOSH

What's this room usually used for?

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
I don't know. Desks, a blackboard. Could
be some kind of classroom.

JOSH
C.J.

C.J.
Yeah.

JOSH
What's goin' on?

C.J.
What do you mean?

JOSH doesn't say anything.

C.J.
Nothing.

JOSH
You sure?

C.J.
Yeah, what's happening with RU-486?

C.J. and JOSH head out into--

2-36EA EXT. STAGE AREA - CONTINUOUS

2-36EA

JOSH
Leo won't let me wave off the FDA.

C.J.
It's against the law.

JOSH
I'm not talking about sticking up a fruit
stand, I'm talking about a phone call. A
favor from a friend. I know the Chief of
Staff for the sub-committee, I got him
his job.

C.J.
You mean the FDA.

JOSH
(pause)
That is the second time this weekend I've
done that.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY comes up to them with the sign that says "Bartlet for President"--

TOBY
You see this?

TOBY takes a magic marker and crosses out "for" and replaces it with "is the"--

TOBY
This is why I didn't want to do an announcement.

C.J.
We're taking care of it.

CUT TO:

2-36F INT. ROOSEVELT ROOM - DAY (FORMERLY PART I, SCENE 56) 2-36F

TOBY, JOSH, SAM, BRUNO, DOUG, CONNIE, JOEY, KENNY, ED, LARRY--

TOBY
I want to say for maybe the 18th time that I don't think we should be doing an announcement event at all.

DOUG
If he's gonna run for re-election he's gotta announce that he's gonna run for re-election.

TOBY
He did that nine weeks ago.

BRUNO
He's not gaining enough ground which means he's bleeding.

JOSH
If we put him up there like any other candidate we're gonna trade away the one big advantage we've got.

DOUG
What's that?

TOBY
He's the President already!

(CONTINUED)

DOUG

Signing Executive Orders and decorating
the tree isn't gonna do it.

SAM

What tree?

CONNIE

He means the Christmas tree.

BRUNO

Fellas, I'm gettin' old over here, this
subject was closed last Tuesday.

DOUG

He's gotta stand up, he's gotta declare
and he's gotta apologize.

TOBY

He's not gonna apologize.

DOUG

Why not?

TOBY

For what?

DOUG

For your campaign and your White House
perpetrating a fraud. I'm from Oregon and
in Oregon we like to see a man stand up
and say he's sorry, where are you from?

TOBY

Me?

DOUG

Yeah.

TOBY

I'm from the United States of suck my--

JOSH

All right.

(beat)

Let's take lunch.

DOUG

(gathering up his things)
Republicans talk about how arrogant you
guys are.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DOUG (cont'd)

I've always thought it was the natural reaction that comes from not getting the girl. I can't believe how much they've been low-balling it.

BRUNO

Josh, wait up, lemme walk you to your office.

JOSH

Yeah.

JOSH and BRUNO walk out into--

2-36G INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY SCENE 2-17) 2-36G

BRUNO

He had a point.

JOSH

Who?

BRUNO

Doug.

JOSH

That we're arrogant?

BRUNO

Yeah.

JOSH

Well I guess that means Doug won't be coming to my Sweet 16 then.

BRUNO

You were the one who sent 'em the press release, right?

JOSH

What press release?

BRUNO

The sub-committee. About tobaccc.

JOSH

Yes I was.

They walk into--

2-36H INT. ANOTHER CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY SCENE 2-18) 2-36H

BRUNO

That was stupid.

JOSH

You think?

BRUNO

I know.

JOSH

I've got two years as legislative aide in the House, two years as floor director in the Senate and 30 months as Deputy Chief of Staff, what do you have.

BRUNO

Josh--

JOSH

Kalmbach's a fat-ass Rotarian gas-bag and I knew once I sent the thing he'd raise the profile and give us the press we needed.

BRUNO

Kalmbach's vulnerable in his home state, he's got an influx of tech and other clean industries along his Route 9 corridor and the suburban voters that go with it. Affluent parents who don't want their kids smoking.

JOSH

We got the money, Bruno.

BRUNO

You don't want the money, you want the issue. You should've waited until the fall when the bell rings, then we hammer 'em with it, and Kalmbach, Leeder, Ross, Roark, Stevens, whoever gets the nomination has it hanging around their neck they're a nicotine pusher, plus you get the money.

(beat)

The sooner you get I know what I'm talkin' about and I'm on your side, the sooner your world gets better. Of course you got the money, I'm amazed he didn't send it to you with candy and a stripper.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRUNO (cont'd)
Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio. Three swing
states you could've brought over with
that. That's an election.

JOSH watches BRUNO walk away as we

FADE OUT: *

END OF ACT TWO *

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

2-36I EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

2-36I

The crowd of workers are gone but the place is flood-lit with SECRET SERVICE around. BARTLET and LEO get out of the limo and look around.

LEO

You still get nervous talking in front of big crowds?

BARTLET

I've never been nervous talking in front of big crowds. It's talking to one person.

BARTLET sees ABBEY up at the podium...

BARTLET

I didn't know she was gonna be here.

BARTLET walks up on stage and joins ABBEY...

BARTLET

I didn't know you were gonna be here.

ABBEY

I'm introducing you.

BARTLET

I thought Leyland was doing it.

ABBEY

C.J. thought it might be good if--

BARTLET

Okay.

ABBEY

(beat)

I can tell 'em--

BARTLET

No, I think it's a good idea.

ABBEY

Okay.

(pause)

You need to reach out to the staff.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ABBEY (cont'd)

(pause)

You need--once you do that they'll feel better. And then so will you. I'm going back to the house.

BARTLET watches ABBEY walk off. LEO comes up.

LEO

You feel all right?

BARTLET

Yeah. C.J. wants her to introduce me?

LEO

Yeah, I thought it was a good idea too.

BARTLET

I wouldn't mind a little, you know...

(beat)

Abbey said I should reach out to the staff.

LEO

Yeah?

BARTLET

Honest to God, I never know what the hell she means when she says things like that.

CUT TO:

2-37 INT. BARTLET'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

2-37

BARTLET sits with a large briefing book. ABBEY's sitting some distance away with a novel.

ABBEY

What are you reading?

BARTLET

I don't know enough about agriculture.

ABBEY

Well agriculture isn't really your field, I wouldn't worry about it.

BARTLET

Yeah, well...agriculture is responsible for 1 in 5 American jobs so it's a little bit my field.

ABBEY

You know--

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

15% of the world's cotton, 25% of the world's beef and 50% of the world's soybeans are grown in my field. Farmers and ranchers pay taxes in my field, their kids go to school in my field, they go to jail in my field, from time to time they go to war in my field--

ABBEY

Jed--

BARTLET

So when I say it's not my field, I'm not saying something, I'm trying to learn so I can--

ABBEY

Why won't you talk to me?

BARTLET

Why aren't you with me?

ABBEY

How do you know I'm not?

BARTLET

You're not.

ABBEY

You're pissed at me?

BARTLET

I'm trying to read about--

ABBEY

You're pissed at me, I don't believe it. I don't believe you.

BARTLET

Abbey--

ABBEY

I don't believe you, you've gone from I have a lot to say, to I can't say it right now 'cause I have so much to say, to I have to read about agriculture and you're not with me and go to hell.

BARTLET

Look--

(CONTINUED)

ABBEY

That's an extraordinary evolution.

BARTLET

Can I go a week without explaining myself?

ABBEY

You can go as long as you want without explaining yourself, read your book.

BARTLET

Siddown, we'll talk about it now.

ABBEY

I'm not in the mood, jackass.

BARTLET

Isn't there any way I could change your mind, 'cause I really had my heart set on it.

ABBEY

Go to hell.

And ABBEY leaves the room as we

CUT TO:

2-38 EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

2-38 *

LEO and BARTLET are standing at the podium...

BARTLET *

There's gonna be a big crowd here tomorrow. *

LEO *

Well that's your kinda crowd. *

BARTLET *

I need to finish the speech. *

LEO *

Let's go back to house. *

The walk off and we *

CUT TO: *

2-38A OMITTED

2-38A *

2-39 OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENE 2-46A) 2-39 *

2-40 EXT. FARM - NIGHT 2-40 *

SAM is walking along a dirt road leading to the house. He's talking to himself, possibly going over lines from tomorrow's speech. *

CONNIE pulls up alongside in her rental car... *

CONNIE *

Hey. *

SAM *

Hey. *

CONNIE *

What are you doing? *

SAM *

I'm talking to myself. *

CONNIE *

I'll join you.. *

She turns off the car and gets out-- *

SAM *

Feel free. *

CONNIE *

I thought the speech was locked, but they're still up at the house arguing. *

SAM *

It's not locked 'till the President says it's locked. *

CONNIE *

I was out looking for a Starbucks. A guy in a gas station said 'round here we don't pay four dollars for a cup of coffee. *

SAM *

New Hampshire: Live Free or Cheap. *

CONNIE *

Doug means well, you know, and he's smart. *

(CONTINUED)

SAM

Connie, it seems to me your job is to wait until Doug leaves the room and then say, "What Doug really meant was," how much do you get paid for that?

CONNIE

Sometimes my job is to say it when he's in the room.

SAM

Yeah?

CONNIE

We're making a mistake by not including an apology.

SAM

Is this what you mean or is this what Doug means?

CONNIE

Both.

SAM

It's not gonna happen.

CONNIE

Why not.

SAM

'Cause Jed Bartlet's Jed Bartlet and that's the way it goes.

CONNIE

Is this what you mean or is this what Toby means.

SAM smiles...

SAM

I don't like this culture of contrition. He apologizes and it gets picked apart for the wording. He didn't seem sorry enough, he didn't seem really sorry, he forgot to say Mother, May I.

CONNIE

Well I think you're saying that and it makes sense, but you know what?

(CONTINUED)

SAM

What.

CONNIE

I think you want him to apologize. And not just for political reasons.

SAM

I haven't really thought about it that--

CONNIE

Sam--

SAM

There's been a lot to do. I haven't really thought about it that much.

CUT TO:

2-41
thru
2-44

OMITTED

2-41
thru
2-44

2-45

INT. COMMUNICATIONS BULLPEN/SAM'S OFFICE - NIGHT

2-45

The lights are off except for Sam's office. TOBY walks by outside, see this, steps in the open door.

TOBY

What are you doing?

SAM

(looking up)

Hm?

TOBY

What are you doing?

SAM

I'm--

TOBY

You're going over the transcript.

SAM

He needs to apologize.

TOBY

Don't worry about it.

SAM

He lied.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

He didn't lie, it's what your people call a sin of omission.

SAM

I'm not Catholic and it's what everybody calls a sin of omission. Bartlet lied to us.

TOBY

President Bartlet, Sam, come on.

(pause)

Did you know that many Multiple Sclerosis advocates actually instruct victims to hide the illness because it's so misunderstood?

SAM

You think they advise presidential candidates to do that?

TOBY

I don't.

SAM

That night he told you.

TOBY

Yeah.

SAM

You didn't feel like--

TOBY

I went crazy.

(beat)

I whaled on him in the Oval Office.

SAM

None of us had a chance to do that.

TOBY

I know.

SAM

We could've gotten it done. If he had told us at the beginning, this would've been a whole different--

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

Yeah.
(beat)
Go home.

SAM

All right.

TOBY heads off--

CONNIE (VO)

You were with him at the beginning.

CUT TO:

2-46 EXT. FARM - NIGHT

2-46

CONNIE

You got him elected. You got him elected.
You work for Bartlet 18 hours a day. You
never felt--

SAM

Connie, please, it's President Bartlet,
okay?

CONNIE

Yeah.

SAM

We should get back in there.

CUT TO:

2-46A INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (FORMERLY SCENE 2-39)

2-46A

TOBY, BRUNO, DOUG and CONNIE have their stuff spread out
across a couple of tables. SAM's sitting apart from them and
making notes.

DOUG

If we don't mention values, we're gonna
spend every day of the next 15 months
trying to convince people that we did
mention values.

TOBY

(reading off a note pad)
"My values are New Hampshire's values:
Hard work and responsibility. Strong
families and strong communities.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TOBY (cont'd)

A boundless faith in the American ideal
of self-reliance. And poor people can go
screw themselves."

BRUNO

This is a speech to America, can we cut
the New Hampshire reference.

DOUG

It's 1200 people who remember Bartlet
when he was a kid, we can't just use 'em
as props.

BRUNO

I'm saying we're not trying to get him
elected President of New Hampshire.

TOBY

And I'm saying who doesn't believe in
families and communities?

BRUNO

My point is that for 30 years Democrats
have been labeled tax-and-spend as if
they don't believe in getting up and
going to work every day and that's why we
have to say it.

TOBY

Well if that's your point then nobody's
gonna understand it.

DOUG

Which is exactly why I wanted to cut the
three paragraphs on the problems with--

TOBY

Are there any problems you're interested
in solving or are you helping us run for
Grand Marshall of the Rose Bowl Parade.

DOUG

Look--

TOBY

I'm stretching my legs.

TOBY gets up and we

CUT TO:

2-46B INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT (FORMERLY SCENE 2-39A)

2-46B *

--as TOBY comes in and heads for the refrigerator. He opens it, looks for something he might want, then SLAMS it closed again and again.- *

DOUG (OS) *

Is that something you run for? *

TOBY turns around and sees DOUG standing in the doorway... *

TOBY *

(beat) *

Hm? *

DOUG *

The Rose Bowl Parade. Don't you just get...picked? *

TOBY *

I don't...I don't know. *

DOUG *

You guys are so pissed at him you don't even know it. You're more pissed at him than the press is. You're more pissed at him than the party is. You're so pissed at him you're pissed at me. 'Cause if he hadn't lied then you could've run the campaign you always wanted to run instead of a bunch of people coming in here and teaching you how not to bother anybody. I never drank the Kool-Aid, Toby, I came to win. And you're so pissed at him that you can't even admit that for the last two weeks you've gone to sleep at night thanking God that I did. *

TOBY *

(pause) *

Yeah? *

DOUG *

Bruno just got off with Leo. The speech is locked. *

DOUG exits. TOBY stands there alone and we *

FADE TO BLACK. *

END OF ACT THREE *

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

2-46C EXT./EST MANCHESTER SHERATON - EARLY MORNING 2-46C

CUT TO:

2-47 INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - EARLY MORNING 2-47

DONNA comes down the corridor and KNOCKS on the door.

CUT TO:

2-48 INT. HOTEL ROOM - EARLY MORNING 2-48

JOSH is in boxer shorts and a tee-shirt. He's unshaven, hasn't slept much, and is sitting on the radiator staring out of the window.

There's another KNOCK on the door--

JOSH

Come in.

DONNA opens the door.

DONNA

You're supposed to be downstairs.

JOSH

Yeah.

DONNA

You're not ready yet?

JOSH

We're blowing this RU-486 thing.

DONNA

You gotta get in the shower.

DONNA begins laying out a suit, shirt and tie from the closet. She'll be going in and out of the bathroom.

JOSH

Among everything else, it's gonna look like we're kicking off the campaign by pandering to women's groups.

DONNA

Josh--

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

Yeah, no question about it, most voters are pro-choice, but the ones that aren't devote their lives and their money to beating you. Guns don't kill people, Bartlet does. It'll look like we screwed up the timing so the press'll write about process and not issues and getting political reporters to write about issues in the first place is like getting kids to eat their vegetables.

DONNA

You've gotta shave.

JOSH

Don't you want to know how it's like getting kids to eat their vegetables?

DONNA

Shave and shower.

JOSH

It helps if there's nothing else on their plate.

DONNA

You couldn't sleep?

JOSH

I know I could stop this thing. One call to the FDA. The President's not even involved. Could you do us a favor. Could you hold off. Two weeks. We love your drug but we don't want it folded into our news cycle. I could've picked up the phone, I could've picked up the phone, I could've--

DONNA

Josh--

JOSH

God!

DONNA

What's this about?

JOSH

(pause)

I blew the tobacco thing. That could've helped us. That was...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOSH (cont'd)

This is gonna be a very close election.

(beat)

I should take a shower.

JOSH walks into the bathroom and we

CUT TO:

2-49

EXT. BARTLET FARM/SECRET SERVICE GATE - EARLY MORNING

2-49

C.J.'s rental car pulls up to the gate and she rolls down the window.

C.J.

Good morning.

AGENT:

You can go on up.

C.J.'s car heads up the driveway as we

CUT TO:

2-50

INT. BARN - EARLY MORNING (FORMERLY DEN)

2-50

BARTLET, in a shirt and tie, is at the make-shift podium. He mouths some words to himself and then makes a note in the margin. The door creaks open and some light breaks through and C.J. comes in. There's some physical distance between them.

C.J.

Mr. President?

He sees her--

BARTLET

Come in.

C.J.

I was told you wanted to see me.

BARTLET

Yeah. Don't be a marriage counselor, it pisses me off, okay?

C.J.

I'm sorry, sir?

BARTLET

You know what I'm talking about.

C.J.

Sir--

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

That part of my life is not for you.

C.J.

Sir, I was simply putting together what I thought was the best press event. The First Lady's an excellent speaker and--

BARTLET

All right. That's all, I'll see you over there.

BARTLET goes back to making notes in the margins.

C.J.

Sir, I think if you get a bump in the polls after today's speech, as we expect you will, I think it'd be a good time for me to resign.

BARTLET

(pause)

Yeah?

C.J.

Well to leave earlier would've been strategically--

BARTLET

Yeah.

(pause)

Okay.

C.J.

(pause)

Look, the press--

BARTLET

That's nonsense to me and I don't care.

C.J.

(beat)

Well, you might not care, but--

BARTLET

For all the new jobs we've created there are single mothers working two of 'em at minimum wage. There are seniors who have to choose between medicine and food.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET (cont'd)

There are school districts where less than half the students graduate and a kid born in Harlem is more likely to go to prison than a four year college, they're bringing guns to school, C.J.!

C.J.

Don't you dare lecture me, Mr. President, don't you dare do it!

The force of C.J.'s rebuke catches them both a little off guard but neither really shows it.

BARTLET comes to her and sits...

BARTLET

(quietly)

I was never supposed to win. I got in it polling in the single digits, Hoynes had it locked up. I got in it to give some speeches and keep him honest.

(beat)

Then you guys came along and all of a sudden I got 22% in Iowa. And then South Carolina and Michigan. And then Illinois.

(beat)

You've gotten pounded for three months. And you've stood in there, you've stood in there. It was a mistake benching you for that last press conference on--

C.J.

(lovingly)

No, it wasn't. You'd brokered that beautifully, you restored Dessaline, no Americans were killed, Nancy was the right messenger.

BARTLET

(beat)

You stood in there. I couldn't be prouder of you.

There's a KNOCK and CHARLIE steps in--

CHARLIE

Excuse me. C.J., they need you.

BARTLET and C.J. look at each other--

BARTLET

(to C.J.)

I need you, too.

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
Thank you, Mr. President.

CUT TO:

2-51 INT. BARTLET'S LIMO - MORNING

2-51

BARTLET and ABBEY are riding silently. BARTLET's looking over the speech.

After a moment...

BARTLET

(pause)

Did you know that hardly any of the guys who landed on the moon are married to the same person they were married to before they went there?

ABBEY

(beat)

What?

BARTLET

I'm saying it could be worse. I could've been an astronaut.

ABBEY

You could not have been an astronaut.

BARTLET

I would've been a great astronaut.

ABBEY

You're afraid of heights, speed, fire and small spaces.

BARTLET

I'd have overcome it to go to the moon.

ABBEY

I know you would've.

BARTLET

I'm really happy you're introducing me, I'm really happy about that.

ABBEY

There's something important I have to say.

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

Say it.

ABBEY

I haven't really made up my mind yet but
at the moment I'm leaning toward voting
for you.

BARTLET looks out the window...then can't help smiling.

CUT TO:

2-52 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

2-52

LEO, TOBY, JOSH, SAM, DONNA, CHARLIE, BRUNO, DOUG, CONNIE...

Outside we HEAR the sounds of a huge rally. Music from a high
school band, chants of "FOUR MORE YEARS!", the muffled sound
of a speaker at the podium.

The group is sitting around silently and nervously.

After a moment...

DOUG

"...to fall victim to torpor and
timidity."

(beat)

"Torpor"...is not a word a lot of people
know.

SAM

It means apathy.

TOBY

And dullness.

DOUG

I know what it means.

CONNIE

Doug means--

DOUG

They know what I mean.

C.J. comes in--

C.J.

Hey.

Then another long pause before...

(CONTINUED)

DOUG

If they don't know what the word means--

C.J.

What word?

JOSH

"Torpor."

C.J.

It means apathy.

TOBY

And dullness.

DOUG

I know what the word means, I'm saying if people don't know what the word means--

BARTLET

They can look it up.

BARTLET's come in. Anyone who's sitting stands.

ALL

Good morning, Mr. President/Good morning, sir.

BARTLET

It's not our job to appeal to the lowest common denominator, Doug, it's our job to raise it. If you're gonna be the education President it'd be nice not to hide that you have an education. Bruno, would you mind?

BRUNO

No sir.

BRUNO nods to DOUG and CONNIE that they should exit with him and they do.

BARTLET

Churchill and FDR. Serious men using big words for big purpose. It occurs to me I never said I'm sorry. I am. For the lawyers, for the press, for the mess...for the fear.

(pause--pointing to the door)

Bruno, Doug, Connie, these guys are good and they want to win. So do we.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET (cont'd)

The only thing we want more is to be right. I wonder if you can't do both.

He looks down...then back up--

BARTLET

There's gonna be a new book and we're gonna write it. You can win if you run a smart disciplined campaign, if you studiously say nothing, nothing that causes you trouble, nothing that's a gaffe, nothing that shows you might think the wrong thing, nothing that shows you think, but it just isn't worthy of us, is it Toby?

TOBY

No sir.

BARTLET

It isn't worthy of us, it isn't worthy of America, it isn't worthy of a great nation, we're gonna write a new book, right here, right now, this moment today.

A STAFFER opens the door from the outside.

STAFFER

Sir?

With the opening of the door, we can HEAR the sounds of the rally much louder.

ABBEY has to shout over what will be building crowd noise--

ABBEY (OS)

...And so my friends, it is my pleasure and my great fortune to introduce my husband, our friend, New Hampshire's greatest son, and the President of the United States, Josiah Bartlet!

BARTLET

You know what?

(beat)

Break's over.

And BARTLET heads out. Everyone stays still for a moment, looks at each and smiles. And off the cheering, the music and the classroom, we

FADE TO BLACK

END OF SHOW