

**NOTES FROM THE  
[REDACTED] LIFE OF A  
TOTAL GENIUS**

**by Stacey Matson**

illustrations by Simon Kwan

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From: Von Ipo (thenexteastwood@hotmail.com)  
To: Arthur Bean (arthuraaronbean@gmail.com)  
Sent: February 8, 11:07

Hey, Arthur!

Bummer about yesterday, hey? I hope we get to start up again soon! You seemed really mad, which I get. But I guess she's kind of got a point. The school basically has a no-gun policy, so it probably counts for the theatre department too. But still, what a crappy thing to have happen.

I was thinking that if we can't do our plays as plays, you and I could make them into movies! Bet Hark would let us do that if we asked. Especially if you're involved. I think you're like his fave student!

Von

The new principal definitely hates me!

ya we new that

wat did she do this time?

She basically cancelled our play festival because of my play!

it was that bad?

NO. It was that good.

so . . . no play festival?

She's reading all the plays to decide if we can do them. She's a dictator!

u should quit and move to lethbridge.  
my school is pretty chill

But then I would have to see your face every day.

more like u would have 2 live with caleb and my mom.

Yeah, that's not going to happen.



### **Assignment: Superstitions**

We're starting *Macbeth* this week! I think you'll enjoy the elements of the supernatural, the bloody battles and treasonous acts found in this Shakespearean tragedy. We're going to take our time reading this play, and studying different aspects of Shakespeare, and the unit will culminate with a field trip; we'll get the chance to see *Macbeth* at Theatre Calgary later this year!

A main theme in *Macbeth* is one of superstition. In fact, in the acting community, saying the word "Macbeth" is considered unlucky, so you'll often hear it referred to as "The Scottish Play." Write a one-page reflective essay on superstitions. What are some superstitions that you have heard about? Provide examples of superstitions people you know believe. Do *you* believe in superstitions? Why or why not?

**Due: February 17**



February 11th

Dear RJ,

I stopped in to talk to Hark today at lunch and see what was happening with our Leg Breakers plays. He seemed so stressed out! He said that we would just have to wait and see. He felt so bad that this was happening. He said that he should have known better and that he screwed up because he told us to push the envelope with our pieces. But that's not true, and I told him so! He's been the best teacher I've ever had, and I think that he's awesome. He smiled and thanked me for saying so, but said that we would see what the future holds, and that, even if we couldn't do our plays, we would find something equally great to do.

But I'm going to do my play. We're going to make it happen, even if it's without Hark. I don't plan to be stopped by just a lowly principal!

Yours truly,  
Arthur Bean



i got a date for valentines day!

Yeah right. Who would go out with you?

hayley would

Yeah right.

no its true i asked her if she was dating dominic and she said def not. then she asked if i wanted to go w them 4 pizza friday nite.

That's not a date, Robbie.

well it is after i asked her if dominic had 2 come, or if maybe it could be just her + i

And she laughed in your face.

AND SHE SAID YES

SO WHAT R U DOING?! A date with ur cat?? HAHAAHAHA

