

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

PRESIDENT STANTON presses a buzzer.

STANTON

Dolly, send in my jester

FINNLER, a timid guy in a jester outfit holding a newspaper, enters.

STANTON

Finnler you look ridiculous, thank you

FINNLER

Of course your highness, here's a newspaper while I warm up

STANTON

Please, just call me Stan.
AGGAHHHAHHHA! Garfield you silly cat!
Wait a minute, this newspaper is from June

FINNLER

I keep bringing it and you keep liking it, plus I haven't been able to afford the weekly newspaper

STANTON

I guess we both have problems than sigh Finnler, do you know why I called you here today?

FINNLER

To make you laugh, My liege?

STANTON

I told you to call me Stan, and no, you've consistently proven to not be funny

FINNLER

D'oh-

STANTON

I called you because you're my friend
and I wanted to complain about stuff,
Finnler I'm so sad. Did you know that
I'm the first single president since
James Buchanan in 1861, do you have any
idea how lonely it feels to live alone
in a mansion?

FINNLER

No sire, I live in your shed with those
rats

Stanton gets up to pace the room

STANTON

Mhm. And this morning I had to eat
pancakes without maple syrup because
Canada has boycotted all their exports
to America because we "keep going to
pointless wars" and it's like, yea,
are there any other kinds of wars?

FINNLER

President Stan-

STANTON

Ooh so close. But again, it's just Stan

FINNLER

Right, that thing you just said; you
can't go to war with Canada, they made
Ryan Reynolds

STANTON

I know, war is a bad idea, I'll just
nuke Toronto

FINNLER

No that's even worse, they're right
next us

STANTON

Oh they're next to Detroit, I can't
make that place any worse, besides I
already sorted everything

Stanton points to a quark board with three pictures in this order: the Canadian flag, an equals sign, and the word "BAD"

FINNLER

Sir with all due respect I came here to be funny and that's what I'm gonna do-
mhm "knock knock"

STANTON

Who's there?

FINNLER

Interrupting cow

STANTON

Interrupting cow who?

FINNLER

(beat)

Moo

STANTON

That's not how you- nevermind

FINNLER

Sorry sire, I got it from a joke book

STANTON

That's so sad, you can't even steal jokes properly. That's so depressing that I really am going to nuke Canada now

Stanton reaches for the button on his desk with the words "send nukes" written on it, but Finnler tackles him to the floor

FINNLER

Stan, stop! Ever since I was brought back to life from the medieval ages by that magic dragon-

STANTON

It was a magic dragon shaped alien, and I've done a lot to keep it under wraps thank you very much

FINNLER

Shut up, I don't care and you know it. And another thing Stan, you're a terrible person just like every other president except Lincoln. I can't believe I've been so scared of someone who isn't even a real king. Of course I'm not funny, all of my good material is from the medieval era, how funny would you be if you were thrown 600 years in the future?

Pause, Stanton laughs

STANTON

You- you called me Stan, hehe, and you made me laugh

FINNLER

Yea, I guess I did

STANTON

You know I have a first name too

FINNLER

One step at a time okay. And by the way, you keep forgetting to pay me, I've finally built the confidence to say it.

STANTON

I would never forget something as important as your payment, I just purposely haven't been giving you money so I could afford my youth serum

FINNLER

That would explain why you look so young

Stanton chuckles, he leans in for a kiss

FINNLER

Woah no, that's not what this is, I'm like a hundred years older than you

STANTON

Sorry I must've misread the room

FINNLER

So are you gonna pay me or...

STANTON

I already told you, I need my money for my youth serum

Finnler dismounts Stanton, the two sit next to each other on the wall

STANTON

You're lucky I don't hate Mondays as much as Garfield or you'd be fired for tackling me, and also you hurt my feelings. And y'know what, I'll add Jester's privilege to the national privilege list

FINNLER

Thanks I think

Finnler puts a picture of Ryan Reynolds' face over the word "BAD" on the quark board

FINNLER

I keep this with me all the time, he's the reason I'm so passionate for Canada, but I think you need this as a reminder for when I'm not here

STANTON

You're right, Ryan Reynolds would never date me if I nuked his homeland

FINNLER

I've watched all of his movies, that's how I learned about today's culture

(beat)

Well I am out of material so I'll head out

STANTON

Finnler, before you go I have something for you. Here's a trophy for saving

Canada and my Chances with Ryan
Reynolds

FINNLER

He's mine don't you dare, but thank you

STANTON

I used to use it for doing sick golf
trick-shots but I think you deserve it
more

Stanton and Finnler do that thing where they can't quite decide whether to fist-bump or high-five. Eventually Stanton goes in for a hug as Finnler walks away, Finnler pats Stanton's hands that are around his abdomen and walks off