

## **Act 2**

### **Scene 5**

*(The mother and daughter are back on stage)*

**Daughter:** I can't wait to get back to the Sunnydale library and Miss Read and Rebecca.

**Mother:** Well, perhaps you could wait. It is getting rather late, Munchkin.

**Daughter:** Mom, it's only 8 o'clock. I'm 11 years old and I go to bed every night before the sun goes down.

**Mother:** Well, you young ones need your sleep, your beauty rest.

**Daughter:** Mom, I don't need 13 hours of sleep. And I'm not Sleeping Beauty.

**Mother:** I was so looking forward to some Mommy time tonight. But I did promise you that we'd finish the book. So, okay, honey. As I told my message therapist, being a mother is all about sacrifice. Or was it my personal trainer that I said that to? Chapter 5: I'd Rather Wait for the Movie. Rebecca had a plan. Well, actually Rebecca had a plan to make a plan, a plan to save the library from the greedy Ms. Potter. It was all so confusing. But first she hoped that she could convince some of her classmates that reading was fun. Maybe they could help her make her plan. The next day after school Rebecca met her friends at the library.

*(The bed is again wheeled off the stage and the curtain opens on the library. Rebecca is waiting for her friends to arrive and checking her watch. Miss Read is at the front desk. The friends arrive together and look around the library in surprise for none of them has ever been there before.)*

**Danielle:** Wow! This is the first time I've ever been here.

**Dexter:** Me too, there's a room just like this one in our school.

**Rebecca:** Right, it's called the school library.

**Dexter:** Yeah, and it has a whole bunch of books just like this place does. Cool.

**Dilbert:** *(in rap style):* Reading is so yesterday; so behind the times.

**Dee Dee:** Okay, Rebecca, we are all here so what's the big surprise?

**Desiree:** Yeah and when do you buy us that ice cream you promised us?

**Rebecca:** Look guys, I need your help. This library needs your help. *(She points to the room.)*

**Dexter:** Hey, this place has the same name as the room with all the books at our school.

**Dilbert:** *(in rap style):* Books are just so over; time to turn that page.

**Donny:** What do you mean? The library needs our help? Why does the library need our help?

**Rebecca:** Well, you know the Potter Arcade at the Potter Mall?

**Dwight:** Know it? I practically live there.

**Rebecca:** Ms. Potter wants to close the library.

**Dexter:** Hey, that's pretty sad. Even though I didn't know this place existed before today.

**Doris:** Why does she want to close the library?

**Rebecca:** Ms. Potter wants to buy this building and turn it into another Potter Arcade.

**Dwight:** Really? That's awesome! *(He notices that Rebecca is sad about that.)* What I meant to say is, oh, yeah, that really stinks.

**Dilbert:** *(in rap style):* You can be a bookworm; living in the past; got no time for crawling; we move way too fast.

**Rebecca:** What's going on with Dilbert?

**Delilah:** He's been listening to a lot of rap music lately. Can you tell?

**Dolores:** So why did you ask us to meet you here, Becky?

**Rebecca:** I hoped that you could help me come up with a plan. A plan to save the Sunnydale library. We've got to do something! I know that two heads are better than one and, well, ten heads are way, way better than that so I was hoping that if we put our heads together that we'd figure it out.

*(They all nod their approval. A silence ensues. Dexter and Dwight actually lean into each other with their heads touching. No one says anything for an uncomfortably long time.)*

**Dwight:** Nah, nothing here.

**Dexter:** Can we get that ice cream now?

*(Rebecca is crestfallen.)*

**Dwight:** Hey, cheer up, Bec. The school library will still be open.

**Donny:** Do you think we could get Ms. Potter to put an arcade in there too?

**Dolores:** What's the big deal, anyways? It's just a library. Most kids don't even like to read.

**Daphne:** Reading is like so 17 seconds ago.

**Dolores:** Yeah, and if it closes.....big wow. Get your mom to buy you a Kindle or something.

**Rebecca:** What about you guys? Do you like to read? Am I the only one who thinks keeping this library open is important? Am I the only one who thinks reading is important?

## ***I'd Rather Wait for the Movie***

**Danielle:**

*I wear my soccer cleats*

*8 days a week*

**Dexter:**

*You could read to me*

*But it puts me to sleep*

**Dolores:**

*I once took a look*

*At my mom's facebook*

**Dwight:**

*I'd rather wait for the movie*

**Dee Dee:**

*In one of my classes*

*I left my glasses*

**Donny:**

*A big N-O-T*

*Spells reading for me*

**Desiree:**

*I'm really sorry*

*But books are boring*

**Dwight:**

*We'd rather wait for the movie*

**All:**

*We'd rather wait for the movie*

*We'll just wait for the movie*

**Rebecca:**

*But reading is like breathing*

*Feeding the mind*

**All:**

*Maybe for you*

*We haven't got time*

**Rebecca:**

*A magical journey*

*To places sublime*

**All:**

*We'd rather wait for the movie*

\*

**Dilbert:** *I'm Dilbert.*

*She's Delilah.*

*I rap; she sings.*

*Our words of wisdom*

*Are in these things.*

*Don't you get it, Becky?*

*Can't you read the signs?*

*Reading is so yesterday*

*So behind the times.*

*You can be a bookworm*

*Living in the past*

*Got no time for crawling*

*We move way too fast.*

**Delilah:**

*Books are not our cup of tea*

*We don't roll that way*

*Hyped up technology  
Is the way we play  
Your story it has ended  
A new world it is here  
Action and adventure  
On our screens appear  
Reading is so yesterday  
And we are today  
Your way is too much work  
We'd rather play.*

\*

**Danielle:**

*I wear my soccer cleats  
8 days a week*

**Dexter:**

*You can read to me  
But it puts me to sleep*

**Dolores:**

*I once took a look  
At my mom's facebook*

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**Desiree:**

*I'm really sorry*

*But books are boring*

**Dwight:**

*We'd rather wait for the movie*

**All:**

*We'd rather wait for the movie*

*We'll just wait for the movie*

*Movie.*

*(They all notice how hopelessly sad Rebecca is.)*

**Daphne:** Reading the expression on her face, I don't think our song has lifted her spirits.

**Dexter:** I know just the thing to cheer you up, Becky. Let's all go and get that ice cream!

*(They leave and the room is empty. A few of the books come out from the stacks and look around. Cinderella, Robin Hood, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, The 3 Musketeers, Tom Sawyer, and Oliver Twist come out with careful apprehension into the empty room.)*

**Ichabod Crane:** I don't like this. Ever since I took sight of the Headless Horseman I am easily frightened.

**D'Artagnan:** Do not fear, I have my sword at the ready.

**Athos:** As do I.

**Porthos:** And I!

**Robin Hood:** And I my trusty ye bow!

**Quasimodo:** We've got to find a way to help the poor girl, so low did she look.

**Oliver Twist:** Like a homeless child.

**Tom Sawyer:** Like Aunt Polly found out she played hooky from school.

**Cinderella:** And we must help her before the clock strikes twelve on our library.

**Robin Hood:** And in doing so, we will be helping ourselves as well. *(A sound is heard as someone is coming.)* To the forest!

*(The books hurry back to the stacks. Miss Read comes back to her desk. Rebecca soon enters with tears in her eyes. She speaks out loud to herself.)*

**Rebecca:** Whenever I am lost I find that books help me find my way. Perhaps my favorite book can help me in the dreadful situation and give me hope. *(She goes to the book cases.)* Here it is, Mark Twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer.

*(She sits, sighs and opens the book as the curtain closes on scene 5.)*