



Grace for President

# synopsis

2024-25 Sensory-friendly programming



## One Act (1 Hour)

It is time for a presidential history lesson in Mrs. Barrington's 3rd grade class. As the class discusses past presidents and their accomplishments, Grace points out that there has never been a female president and declares that she would like to be the first. Mrs. Barrington suggests that they hold an election at their elementary school. Sam wonders if Grace will have an opponent, but no one else in class decides to run against her.

At lunch, Grace reviews her qualifications for president with Sam, including being friendly and turning her homework in on time. She is especially excited that she doesn't have an opponent.

Later, Mrs. Barrington teaches the class about democracy. She also shares that Grace will have an opponent: Thomas from Mr. Waller's class. Thomas tells Mrs. Barrington's class all about his accomplishments, from student council president to tenor in the glee club, and makes campaign promises (promising whatever anyone wants). Grace tells Mrs. Barrington that she's not sure she should run against Thomas, but Mrs. Barrington reminds her about all the things she, too, has done to change things for the better.

Mrs. Barrington and Mr. Waller teach the class about the electoral college. Each student will represent a state in their school election. Grace realizes it will not be easy to win.

In the cafeteria, most of the girls want Grace to win the presidential election while most of the boys want Thomas. After learning about what her classmates want to change at their school, Grace writes her campaign promises on a poster and hangs it in the cafeteria. Thomas hangs a poster promoting his own competing campaign promises in the cafeteria, too.

Thomas adds up the votes he thinks he can count on. As long as all the boys vote for him, he is sure he will win. Thomas and the rest of the boys declare they don't need any girls, and the girls decide they'll make their own girl club in response. On the playground, after Grace considers changes she might make based on her classmates' suggestions, Thomas criticizes her. She points out that he has yet to come up with any ideas of his own.

The class holds a debate and, later, a rally where Grace and Thomas share their competing agendas. They make a final plea for votes as the race is coming to an end. Although Grace worried about running against Thomas in the beginning, she is a passionate opponent. Thomas's confidence begins to wane.

It is finally time to vote! Each of the students make their decisions, and it looks like Thomas is going to win. Sam is the last person to vote, and, although Thomas encourages him to vote with the boys, he chooses Grace. Grace wins the election! When Thomas congratulates her, she asks him to be her vice president.

Notes:

- This show has one act and no intermission.
- This is a musical.

**DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATER**

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