

**“PARTY”**  
By Tom Basden

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**PRODUCTION DATES: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**AUDITIONS: Thursday 3 October 2019 at 7.30pm.**

**INCLUDED  
IN  
“DOUBLE  
BILL”**

It is 2009. The year after the economic crash. Barack Obama is in the White House, Gordon Brown's time in No 10 is coming to an end, austerity is about to stalk the land. But we don't care about any of that stuff.

Elaine, Jared, Jones, Mel and Phoebe have been meeting in Jared's parents' shed to create a new political party, one to challenge the current status quo. At least, they did all meet, until the unfortunate incident between Elaine and Jared, who “thought it was the door handle” – and now Elaine doesn't come along any more.

Instead, Jones's friend Duncan has been invited to make up the numbers (and because his stepfather's printing company could be useful to them). Unfortunately for Duncan, nobody explained the whole political party thing. He was invited to a party and was expecting more drink and cake and less policy making discussion.

Take five incompetent eighteen year old would-be politicians who can't agree on the name of the party, whether or not Mel's 2CV is better than Jones's bike or how to pronounce “abstention”, never mind coming to a conclusion on what they think about China or Climate Change, throw a visiting politics student in and you'll see that any similarity to what goes on at Westminster is entirely co-incidental. Or is it?

This isn't a play about politics and idealism. This is a play about rubbish 18 year olds.

**Period: September 2009**

**Set: A Garden Shed**

**Props: Table, Chairs, Shelves, Flipchart, Various specific bits and pieces**

**Costumes: Casual (for 2009), except one character in shirt and tie**

**Lighting: General indoor lighting (bright late summer's day outside), no cues.**

**Sound: Blackberry text alert, Woman shouting offstage**

**CHARACTERS AND AUDITION PAGES**

<b>Character</b>	<b>Audition Piece</b>
<b>Jared</b> Thinks he is “God's Gift”, has important opinions on everything, sees himself as the natural leader. Bit of an arrogant slimeball.	Page 10 (Jared “Yes, good, so then we discuss that”) to Page 11 (Jared “Oh right. OK. Duncan. Good”)
<b>Duncan</b> Hasn't a clue what is going on. Wants to party, eat, drink and have a good time.	
<b>Jones (Martin)</b> Jared's wing-man but lacks his arrogance and self-confidence. Can be petty, sulky, sensitive and spoilt.	Page 2 (Jared “What's the next country.....”) to Page 3 (Mel “...and what's proper terrorism”)
<b>Mel</b> Confident, appears a little brighter than the rest of them. Not afraid to stand her feminist ground against the boys.	
<b>Phoebe</b> More feminine, less feminist than Mel, but has her own beliefs and tries to do the right thing.	
<b>Short Coat (Nathan)</b> Slightly older with a little more knowledge and experience, been at university for a year.	Page 24 (Short Coat “Hello? Phoebe?”) to Page 25 (Short Coat “No, that's dogging”)