

Burr!

By: Shamil Fattakhov/Ian Reed
Place: Russia
Date: 1995
Topic: Values: Real vs. Fake
Message: *Friendships made simply for material gain are not as enriching or as enjoyable as true, sincere friendship.*
Characters: John and Sara; Christina and Paul
Setting: Backyard

John and Sara are sitting in a backyard. Their talk is hardly heard at the beginning.

John: Oh, speaking about being outside! You know what? This summer you should come with me and my family to Big Lake! We can do some fishing, some canoeing and maybe we might even get to swim in the lake! What do you think?

Sara: Burr! Do I have to swim?

John: Sure! It shouldn't be a problem! I mean if you need any help getting into the water, I can give you a little push! Burr!

Both laugh. Christina and Paul enter.

Paul: Oh, what a wonderful surprise. Good to see you my little friends... lady and gentleman... sort of...

John: Hi.

Sara: Good to see you too. Lovely afternoon, isn't it?

Chris: Oh please! So tell us what's so funny. We want to be entertained too.

John: Oh, don't worry about it. I'm sure you wouldn't find it very entertaining.

Paul: Of course not, small talk!

Sara: What do guys want?

Paul: Okay, let's get to the point! Me and Christina here are going to Michael Forman's birthday party and we are bringing gifts!

Sara: What kind of gifts?

Chris: Oh, you know, just goldish, silverish type things!

Paul: But we don't have the main gift!

John: The main gift? What do you mean? Isn't gold and silver enough?

Paul: Well, you see, this main gift is a little different. Michael likes Sara.

John: So what?

Chris: So, we're inviting you to go with us!

Sara: With John?

Paul: Well then it wouldn't really quite work out the same, would it? You see, Mike likes you!

John: I get it.

Sara: So, you're saying John can't come? What kind of fun would that be?

Chris: Sara dear, you don't understand—this is going to be great! Any party held by Mike's family is the talk of the town. It's going to be held at the museum, with caviar from Russia, **champagne** from Paris, and a live band... I'm telling you, it's going to be high class!

Paul: And there's more, Mike is very generous! Before, when he was dating Julie, he gave her fine perfume!

Chris: Salvador Dali!

Paul: ...a gold chain...

Chris: Pure gold 99.9%!

Paul: ...and a diamond ring...

Chris: A small one...

Paul: Okay, let's not waste time, let's go party!

John: Look, Sara, if you really want to go, it's okay.

Sara: I don't know!

Chris: Enough talk—John's convinced, aren't you? Let's go!

Paul goes towards Sara.

FREEZE—DISCUSSION—UNFREEZE!!!

Paul takes Sara by the hand. Sara jerks her hand back.

Sara: No! You know, guys, this is ridiculous! I'm not going.

Paul: Hey, what's the deal? How can you miss out on such a chance?

Chris: Don't be stupid, you don't have to spend your whole life with him! Just have some fun and get what you can for a while. John will be here for you later.

Sara: You know, guys, happiness isn't in wealth. I have another idea of what happiness is. Friendship and honesty are the most valuable things in the world. John and I are going to get to the movie later. We are going to have our own fun!

Paul: Okay then! Your decision, your loss! We'll find another gift.

Chris: You know, Sara, you're not the only one Mike likes.

Sara: Yes, that's another point worth thinking about. Toodle-loo!

Christine and Paul leave.

John: Have a splendid time!

John & Sara: Burr!