

Student of the week: Synopsis

Zoe is pressured to choose Sam as the subject of her regular “Student of the Week” column. Sam attempts to control what she writes and presents a distorted view of himself. Ultimately Zoe’s story plays more like an exposé on Sam’s dobber-like behaviour, and puts him back in his place.

Scene 3 (Sam, Zoe)

SAM SITS BEHIND A LARGE DESK. ZOE SITS ACROSS, WITH HER NOTEBOOK AND PEN. SAM LEANS BACK AND PUTS HIS FEET UP ON THE DESK.

Sam

Read back what you’ve got so far.

Zoe

Just the title. Student of the Week – Sam Tippin.

Sam

Change it to Student of the Year, it sounds better.

Zoe

But you’re not Student of the Year —

Sam

— Just change it. Okay get this down. ‘Sam leans back and surveys his corridor, and it truly is his corridor. Isn’t it Sam who upholds the rules, making Patterson High one of the safest schools in the district?’

Zoe

Maybe I should just ask you some questions and you can answer them.

Sam

Sure, go for it. But don’t take too long, I’ve got a one-on-one with the principal after lunch. I think he’s gone a bit soft on yo-yos. I’m going to remind him just how dangerous they can be with a little... (HE PULLS OUT A YOYO AND PULLS THE STRING TAUT FROM THE WHEEL) demonstration.

Zoe

Okay Sam, in only a few words, describe yourself.

'Would it be fair to say that Sam Tippin is the greatest student who ever lived?'

Yes, it would. (TWO YEAR 7 STUDENTS WALK THROUGH THE CORRIDOR. ONE HAS A FOOTBALL AND THE OTHER ONE A TENNIS BALL. SAM GETS UP AND BLOWS A WHISTLE. THE TWO BOYS FREEZE) You two, no ball games in the corridor!

ZOE TAKES NOTES OF THIS ENCOUNTER. SHE ALSO SNAPS A QUICK PHOTO AS SAM IS YELLING AT THE BOYS.

Sam

No more excuses! Explain it to the principal on detention. (BACK TO ZOE) Now where were we, oh

yes, the greatest student who ever lived. Are you getting all this down?

Zoe

(STILL WRITING NOTES) Oh I'm getting all of this down, Sam, don't you worry about that