

# Big Plans:Scene I

## From Collaborative Writing

3/27 @ 11:00 am

I've got big plans! Marketeer finds new young rube to implement his idea of cat park. The rube has potential. He's got moxy. He's going places. When the rube accepts a car drives up and drops off a load of marketing materials.

Notes from Sarah - Y'all I wrote this real loose so didn't add any tags. The first part is just material, ideas for Jared. Most important is his cat Timber. I also made the marketeer a lady for some reason. She doesn't have to be one. She doesn't even have a real lady name.

Again - this is real loose. I just wanted to get some ideas out and in the mix. Please make changes and add-on as necessary.

### SCENE ONE MATERIALS:

#### CAT PARK

Jared, an earnest young man is promoting the idea of local cat parks. He has literature. He has a petition.

#### OPENING MATERIAL

JARED: Hello? Hello? Did you know there are 12 off leash dog parks in the city of Austin but none for cats? Well, I'm hoping to change that. I'm asking you - do you have a moment - I'm looking for supporters. Do you have a cat?

((if they are NOT PET OWNERS))

You don't have a pet? Oh. Hmm. You know they help you live longer. It's been proven. Take some literature. Read it over. There are some really wonderful cats out there. It's fun just to watch them. It's a meaningful experience. You feel different about life after watching a cat outside. I know I do.

((TO DOG OWNERS))

Oh dogs, okay, that's okay! I have nothing against dogs. I think they're fine. For some people - a lot of people. Do you go to dog parks? Do your dogs enjoy it? I bet they do. I bet it's something nice in their routines. I bet they get excited when you drive up and they know something is going to happen. They start wagging their tails? Timber, that's my cat, she doesn't wag but you can tell when she's excited. She loves being outside. She likes trees. Even a large bush will do. Do you want to see some picture?

((TO CAT OWNERS)) Oh a cat! Great! What's your cat's name? What do they look like? Do they like to chase things? Do you let them outdoors? Well - part of the design is fencing - the ideal cat park is for cats - it's a safe outdoor environment. There's fencing. And the trees are tall but not too tall. It's safe. It just has to be designed right. Don't you think it's strange we can design all these things - we can put a man on the moon but we can't give (their cat's name) a place to play? My cat, Timber, that's her name, she loves to play outside. She likes trees. Even a large bush will do. Do you want to see some picture?

((TO INDOOR CAT OWNERS))

What? They've never been outside? No, I understand your concern - safety is an important thing. The cats have to be safe. But they have to get out too. They have to have those experiences. They are the grandchildren of tigers you know. Big, wild cats! As their owners we have a responsible, a calling to let them be all that they can be.

((IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT TIMBER)):

I live in apartment now. Been having some trouble, personal things, I had a house. I had a house with the perfect sized trees. They were young, I could reach the tops on a ladder. When she was young, she just loved those trees. I'd bring a book outside, maybe some lemonade and just let her climb. I'd like to see her happy. I'm doing this for her - no - not for her, but cats like her. Do want to see some pictures?

She's beautiful. Seven years. Still very healthy. I take her out on a leash but there's no where safe for her to run.

It is sad. She gives me so much. It's with in the city's power. They've got the space. The dogs, the dogs have miles. I'm not thinking miles. And it would be a place for cat owners to come together. In celebration of their cats. Not that they would have to talk to each other. I see it set up with lots of places to sit but to be by yourself. Privacy. I think that's important.

I think it would help Austin's image. I don't know if you ever feel like this living here but ... ((A CONFESSION)) it's such a dog town. Dogs are everywhere! You have to remind people not to bring them into coffee shops. But a lot of places - a lot of places - they have dog biscuits. For the dogs who sit outside. Not once have I seen a cat treat. Not once. What does that say to me? To us? That we're not as welcome. That our choice in pets isn't as socially acceptable?

But this isn't about the dogs. It's about the cats. It has to be about the cats.

((REJECTION/CLOSING))

Oh. Well, thanks for listening. You have a good day.

((IF GUEST IS INTERESTED))

I think it's the kind of crazy that's going to work. We're going to the front runners. We're going to put cat parks on the map! Not just in Texas - in the world!

((From out of nowhere, a well dressed woman (Davis) appears. She has a briefcase.))

DAVIS ((to a guest)) Is he bothering you?

JARED We were just talking about a cat park.

DAVIS Cat park? Sound expensive.

JARED The land is already there - it's just a few adjustments. It'll cost less than most things the city spends its money on.

((She smiles. Reads some literature. Jared keeps talking to guests. She listens.))

JARED Just imagine it. Different cats run together. Pouncing. Maybe there's catnip. Not too much. Just a little.

DAVIS Who's behind this?

JARED It's just me.

DAVIS A one man operation?

JARED So far. I've got some signatures. Oh, will you sign? I'm gathering signatures.

DAVIS Do you have tee shirts?

JARED For cats?

DAVIS Or people.

JARED Not yet. That's a good idea.

DAVIS There's more where that come from.

JARED Are you a cat lover?

DAVIS You know the Chinese are working on something like this. And the Australians. But they don't have it figured out.

JARED I've got it figured out.

DAVIS ((Hopefully asking some of the guests what they think of the idea.)) Do you think this is something people want? Would you use it?

JARED It's really for the cats. People and cats. But we can't forget about the cats.

DAVIS How many people own cats? In Austin?

JARED Lots. Thousands. Hundreds of thousands.

DAVIS All of them being denied.

JARED Those poor cats.

DAVIS What a market.

JARED Do you want to sign the petition?

DAVIS I want to do more than that. I want to help you. You and the cats. I want to see this. I want to see this happen. I like you kid. What's your name?

JARED Jared.

DAVIS You're the right man for this sort of work. But you need some help. You need some resources. Resources make things happen. You want things to happen?

JARED Boy, do I!

DAVIS You better stick with me. When you've got big dreams, you need some one who can...make them even bigger.

((She shows him the briefcase. He tries to reach in.))

DAVIS Not yet.

((She snaps it shut.))

DAVIS You want my help?

((She extends her hand.))

JARED I can't believe this is happening. Usually, no one will even talk to me!

((He shakes her hand.))

((Things progress!))

ADDITIONAL IDEAS for CatPark or People who want their own park:

Guinea Pig Owners

Big Cat Park (for Tigers & things like that)

An Invite Only Park for families looking for something more exclusive

After Dark Park for Stargazing

Park for Lovers with Swans and Poetry

Park for Smokers. Only.

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