

*From Breaking News by Don Zolidis*

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OLIVIA, 17, a reporter

PRINCIPAL WEEMS, a principal, can be male or female

*Olivia is a reporter tracking down a story about corruption in the school.*

*Olivia enters Principal Weems' office.*

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

Hi! I didn't expect you so soon! Um... I just love AV club, you guys are so wonderful.

OLIVIA

Right.

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

Would you like something to drink? Sprite?

OLIVIA

That's a pretty fancy habit for a principal, don't you think? Sprite? How do you afford your Sprite, Mr. Weems?

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

What are you suggesting?

OLIVIA

I'm here about the bobblehead fundraiser.

*(PRINCIPAL WEEMS nervously drops something.)*

Got your attention, didn't I?

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I don't know what you're talking about.

OLIVIA

Don't you?

*(suddenly)*

***DON'T YOU?!***

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

You can't prove anything!

OLIVIA

The heck I can't, Mr. Weems! I've got the goods on you, and I've got enough evidence to put you away for a long time you sick loser. You either confess the truth to me or your crimes are

going to be broadcast on the evening news for everyone who happens to watch our free cable-access program. I know you've got a wife and kids at home – how do you think it's going to look when they haul you away in cuffs to the Big House? You're gonna get real acquainted with an eight by eight prison cell. You understand me?

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I'll never talk!

OLIVIA

I know the truth about the Bobbleheads! WHERE'S THE MONEY?!

*(PRINCIPAL WEEMS breaks down)*

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I didn't have it! I'm so sorry! I meant to pay the nine ninety five for one, but I didn't have any cash and nobody had the square so I just stole one! I just love bobbleheads! Please! Please! My family can't know! My kid looks up to me. He says, "Daddy, I don't care what Mommy says about you, I respect you." You have no idea what that's like! Every day I come home from work and he looks up at me with the big brown eyes and he says, "did you rob anybody today?" And I say, "No, son, Daddy doesn't rob people anymore." But it's a lie! I'm going to get the money for the doll as soon I can, I just... I just forgot about it! Please. Please! Anything you want! An extra study hall! You want a reserved parking spot in the teacher's lot? You can have it! I don't care. Please – just don't tell the story.

*(OLIVIA stops.)*

OLIVIA

You took one bobblehead doll without paying for it?

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I'M A MONSTER!

OLIVIA

Did you leave an I.O.U. or something?

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I didn't have any writing utensils! I'm so ashamed. Please. I'm begging you. Anything you want.

OLIVIA

Um... I'll take that reserved parking spot, thanks.

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

Okay. We'll just kick the art teacher out of her spot, she won't notice. She'll just think she's confused because she's disorganized.

OLIVIA

Great. Oh um... by the way, what was the organization that handled the fundraiser?

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PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I don't know anything, I'm just the Principal. Check with the Student Council.

OLIVIA

You've been a big help, Mr. Weems. I want you to see a counselor.

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I see them every day.

OLIVIA

I mean a therapist. You have some serious issues.

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

I know. Can I have a hug?

OLIVIA

No.

PRINCIPAL WEEMS

You're right.

*(OLIVIA walks out.)*