

# My High – Story Set-Up

By SP Wright

## **NOTE TO ARTIST:**

“My School” is envisioned as an extremely advanced high school filled with cutting edge technologies, and a group of eclectic individuals roaming the halls. I would request, that the individual panels be drawn to resemble the general shapes of computer chips, DDR chips, Video Cards, etc. to set this piece apart from the fold.

## **The Characters:**

*Randi* – 17, is a junior who is already the Head Cheerleader. She is envisioned with golden skin, bright purple (cybernetic) eyes, and black shoulder length hair worn in two braided tails.

*Betty* – Typical mean girl in high school who has a superiority complex. Give her the most outrageous hair style, make-up, and outfits possible to show her own self-importance.

*Jimmy* – 16, fuse Shia LeBeouf with Zac Efron and have a bit of fun.

*Carson* – 18, the school’s star athlete. Typical dumb jock, with sparkling white teeth, slicked back blonde hair, and seductive, bulging arms and abs.

*Ms. Love* – 24, picture Daisy Duke from any version of *The Dukes of Hazard*, then give her slight muscles and dark skin.

*Waxman* – Age unknown, salt and pepper hair, brilliant white hair, a “Hitler” mustache, gaunt, and a mouth full of rotting and missing teeth.

*Ms. Smithers* – 50’s, unkempt hair, light sickly complexion, no make-up, olive colored owl-rimmed glasses. She is always, always seen in her lab coat.

*Mr. Reed* – 4<sup>th</sup> decade of life, he is lumpy and misshapen, always wear plaid overcoats, prefers bow ties with tails, has a toupee, and thinks that swapping his glasses for goggles makes him seem hipper with the students.

## **PAGE 1 – Splash**

Tech-NO-Prime High hovers majestically amongst the clouds. The school should resemble an expansive, multi-story university complete with separate building connected via glass walkways. The school sits upon a hundred acres of transplanted greenery, laid out in the shape of a metallic web. There will be various play equipment, tennis courts, football and soccer fields, basketball courts, challenge courses, etc., but no vehicles as all students live on campus (include a dorm), and all staff have parking garages beneath the ‘ground level.’

1. CAPTION: It is an average day at Tech-NO-Prime High...

2. CAPTION: Class is about to begin...

**SFX:** RIIINNG!!

3. RANDI (O.S.): I *can't* be late; I *can't* be late.

From whichever building makes most sense to house the gym:

4. BETTY (O.S.): Where the hell *is*, she?

CREDITS:

I imagine the credits floating amongst the clouds in the lower half of the page.

## PAGE 2 – 5 PANELS

This scene takes place in the school's gymnasium and workout arena. Remember that this is the most advanced high school on the planet. It will have the typical basketball court laid out, but super high-tech and modernized. Along the two outer walls are exercising booths that rise up from the floor when needed. In the back of these booths is an electronic, mirrored wall, programmed with a training program personalized for each student's needs (reference MIRROR interactive training systems.)

### **Panel 1**

Randi and her friend Betty, in their gym clothes, are jogging along the perimeter of the room with the rest of their classmates. Jimmy is a few classmates behind chatting up some faceless girl. While Carson is leading the pack around the gym. Betty is talking to Randi, or trying to, while Randi is fixated with Carson's bounding muscles. In the far background Ms. Love stands with a holographic display open before her as she watches the class.

5. BETTY: So, I totally *spent the night* at Jimmies and it was--

6. RANDI: Yeah, Uh huh.

7. BETTY: Anyway, it was *exactly what I expected* from him--

8. RANDI: That sounds great, Betty.

### **Panel 2**

Zoom in onto Randi and Betty as they continue to jog with the group. Betty frowns at Randi.

9. BETTY: So... then Jimmy and I *jumped* into a bath of *onion juice and olives...*

10. RANDI: Oh wow, that sounds so amazing.

11. BETTY: Followed by a *lovely* stroll through the *marshes* in our *parkas!*

12. RANDI: What a great evening.

### **Panel 3**

While still jogging, without missing a step, Betty bats Randi playfully on the head. Behind them Jimmy is still ham hawing with the faceless girl. Slightly ahead Carlos has completed his laps and is casually strolling towards Ms. Love. At this point the exercise booths begin rising from the floors. If possible, it would be great to have the 'THWAP' drawn into the artwork as though it was superimposed behind Randi's head.

SFX: THWAP

13. BETTY: *Hello*, Earth to Randi...
14. RANDI: Huh?
15. RANDI: *What the hell* was that for?
16. BETTY: I just told you that we *bathed in onion juice!*
17. RANDI: *Why* would you do that?
18. BETTY: Uh, *we didn't. Where* is your mind at?

#### Panel 4

Extreme close-up of Randi's eyes (remember the cybernetic implants I mentioned) and reflected within them we see Carlos as he swaggers up to the teacher with the most cliché smile on his face ever.

19. RANDI: I can't take my mind *off of Carlos...*
20. RANDI (T): *...or his glorious glutes.*
21. BETTY: We've been *over this before*, you *know* he's *not* interested,
22. BETTY: In *you!*

#### Panel 5

Betty laughs at her friend and rushes ahead. Randi grimaces as she returns her gaze to Carlos – who is now leaning provocatively against the wall and schmoozing it up with Ms. Love, who is blushing. The exercise booths have now completed their ascent and one-by-one are powering up.

23. RANDI (T): Her?
24. RANDI (T): What *the hell* could he see in *her?*

## PAGE 3 – 4 PANELS

### PANEL 1

Confused and angry, Randi grabs Betty by the shoulder. No background. This scene should center on them specifically.

25. RANDI: What do you **mean?** Not **interested in me.**

Betty smirks and simply points over at Carson.

26. BETTY: Ms. Love caught his eye **the moment** she arrived this year.

27. RANDI: She did?

28. BETTY: He hasn't *noticed* anyone else *since then.*

### PANEL 2

Randi and Betty complete their laps and wait winded with the rest of those who have finished as the stragglers (and Jimmie) catch up. Ms. Love (trying to ignore Carlos) reaches for her holo-display.

29. RANDI: How do you...

30. BETTY: Please!

31. BETTY: Just look at him. Does he look as though he even realizes the rest of us are here?

### PANEL 3

The final stragglers join the group and Ms. Love moves forward to the group. Carlos close behind her. All exercise chambers are now active, save for one in the front corner, which is backlit in red, with a safety bar installed on its entry.

32. MS. LOVE: Good morning class.

33. CLASS: Good Morning, Ms. Love.

34. MS. LOVE: Everyone did well in the opening laps. Some of you even performed better than usual.

#### PANEL 4:

In her booth, waiting for her training program to begin, Randi witnesses the exchange. This panel will be an OTS shot. From her perspective we will see the kiss represented as a flying set of lips as they pass from him to her. He will have his backpack slung lazily over one shoulder.

35. MS. LOVE: Remember everyone to turn on your heart monitors and sync them with the system before you begin today in order to earn credit.

36. RANDI (T): *How* could I not have *seen it*?

37. VIRTUAL TRAINER: Good morning, RANDI. Are you ready to begin your session?

38. RANDI (T): *How* could I have been *so blind*?

39. VIRTUAL TRAINER: Good morning, RANDI. Are you ready to begin your session?

40. RANDI: Huh? Oh right. Yes, *I am ready* to begin.

## **PAGE 4 – 4 PANELS**

### **PANEL 1**

This next panel should be just under half a page in size.

In the carpeted halls (imagine the interiors of *Babylon-5*) Randi, and Betty chat in hushed tones as they pass the flush mounted lockers, classrooms, and flock of other students. Ms. Smithers can be seen at the end of the hallway with her trademarked scowl.

41. BETTY (W): You seriously didn't know?

42. RANDI (W): Of course not!

43. BETTY (W): Well, now that you know...

44. RANDI (W): Isn't it obvious?

45. BETTY (W): Should it be?

### **PANEL 2**

The girls pass Ms. Smithers who scoffs in disdain at Randi. There are now fewer people in the halls as the herd has thinned as they enter their assigned classes.

46. RANDI: Do you remember how I became the head of the tech-league?

47. BETTY: You removed your opponent.

48. RANDI: And how did I become Head Cheerleader?

49. BETTY: You eliminated your competition.

### **PANEL 3**

The girls arrive at their next class, Advanced Trigonometry. Betty stops before entering with a quizzical expression on her face. Randi spins around and head back towards the gym.

50. BETTY: Wait, does that mean...

51. RANDI: It's what I do.

52. BETTY: What about Trig?

53. RANDI: Tell Mr. Vanderhooter that I'm sick...

**PANEL 4**

Randi rushes down the hallway.

54. RANDI (T): Love has a prep period right now...

55.RANDI (T): ... I'll bet theirs something incriminating in her office...



## PAGE 5 – 6 PANELS

### PANEL 1

Ms. Love enters the teachers' lounge. Waxman is reading a virtual comic while reclined. Ms. Smithers is blowing gently on a cup of green tea (be sure to make the tea itself green) from a large mason jar.

56. MS. LOVE: *Good morning*, Martin. How's *this week's* issue?

57. MS. SMITHERS: *Don't* bother, *you know* he won't respond while in *reading mode...*

58. MS. LOVE: I *am* aware, *Victoria!* Good Morning.

59. MS. SMITHERS: What *precisely* is *good* about it? It *can't* be your make-up which is *overpowering as usual*.

### PANEL 2

Randi opens the door to Ms. Love's office, having bypassed the Bio-Lock (which is currently lit in pale green, with the message "Welcome Sally" across the screen. A sliver of light penetrates into the office and we can see a day-planner on the desk, which is built into the wall. A large monitor is mounted above the desk, and framed degrees(?) hang to the right. A pink exercise ball is tucked beneath the desk, with no other chair in sight.

SFX: RIIIIINNNGG

60. RANDI (T): That was easy.

61. RANDI: *Oh god*. She's still using *physical* monitors and *day-planners*? Who *is* this woman?

### PANEL 3

Waxman has not moved or responded to the women as he is too engrossed in his comic. Victoria, tea half gone, growls at Sally – who in turn wears an exaggerated expression of shock. Behind Sally a blender is running, filled with neon pink liquid.

62. MS. LOVE: Why *Victoria*, how could you *ever* imagine I would make light of your mission?

63. MS. SMITHERS: You have *never* taken it seriously. *No one does*. But hiccupoplexy is *very* real, *very* dangerous, and *very* deadly.

64. MS. LOVE: I *know* it's real. My *uncle* hiccupped to death last year, *remember*. I just don't want you to *forget* about the *burping disorder*.

65. MS. SMITHERS: *Is that so?*

66. MS. LOVE: *Of course*, it is. Why *I* bet if *you* can cure *one*, you'll be able to *cure them both...*

#### PANEL 4

Randi sits at the desk and makes her way through the files on Ms. Love's computer, hoping to come across some incriminating evidence to use against her. This will be from behind her as she sits at the desk. On the computer monitor possibly show a couple email programs side-by-side in multi-task mode.

SFX: CLACKITY

SFX: CLICK-CLACK

67. RANDI: *NOTHING!*

68. RANDI: *NADA! ZILCHI*

69. RANDI (T): *Dammit*, she's *smarter* than I thought...

#### PANEL 5

Ms. Love, now with shaker bottle in hand (filled with the neon pink mixture) approaches Ms. Smithers at her table. Smithers for her part is nearly finished with her drink, and Waxman is nearly finished with his comic – still utterly oblivious.

70. MS. LOVE: I *know* you're getting close to a solution.

71. MS. SMITHERS: *Stop patronizing* me Sally!

72. MS. LOVE: *Who's* patronizing anyone? I *certainly* don't want to *die* from *hiccupping uncontrollably for hours*.

73. MS. SMITHERS: OH?

74. MS. LOVE: Who would, *darling?*

#### PANEL 6

This is an inset panel with no text. We want to do an extreme close-up on Ms. Smithers eyes. The panel should extend to show the tips of her glass frames, and her eyebrows. Show me the

angriest 'evil eyes' you can. The reader needs to know exactly how much Ms. Smithers hates being called darling.

## PAGE 6 – 8 PANELS

### PANEL 1

Continuing her snooping Randi notices the day planner lying on the desk. She opens it to today's page, where there is a giant PINK heart. Inside this heart is Carson's name, the word 'weight room', and 19:00.

75. RANDI: *EUREKA!*

76. RANDI: I've *got them!*

### PANEL 2

Ms. Love tired of the exchange heads towards the door and tosses a final comment towards Smithers, who is now rinsing her mason jar at the sink. Waxman now finished with his comic stretches lazily with the book lying open upon his frail frame.

77. MS. LOVE: It was good *talking* with you today, *Victoria*.

SFX: SNORT

78. MS. SMITHERS: If you say so, *harlet!*

79. MS. LOVE: Just *remember* what I said, and keep '*The Burping Death*' in mind, *Darling...*

80. MS. LOVE: See you later Martin.

81. WAXMAN: *HUH?*

### PANEL 3

Randi snaps a photo of the entry in the planner with her transparent phone.

82. RANDI (T): Can't forget to get *evidence...*

### PANEL 4

Ms. Love passes Mr. Frank in the hall as he heads towards the lounge. He has a small pizza box in hand.

83. MR. FRANK: How are you today?

84. MS. LOVE: I'm doing well. Just got done giving Vic *shit* about *her mission*.

85. MR. FRANK: *Really*, what did you *say*?

86. MS. LOVE: I reminded her not to forget about '*The Burping Death*'.

87. MR. FRANK: Oh, my *goodness*, I think that would actually be *worse*.

#### PANEL 5

A small inset panel showing Frank as he enters the teachers' lounge.

88. MR. FRANK: Oh Victoria, I'm *so glad* you're hear. Have you heard about the new *sneezing disorder*?

#### PANEL 6

Randi exits the office and resets the lock.

89. RANDI: I'm going to need *help* to pull this off...

#### PANEL 7

Ms. Love rounds the corner heading to her office just as Randi reaches the junction from the opposite direction. The two bumps into one another...

90. MS. LOVE: *Randi*, dear what are you *doing* way down here?

91. RANDI: I forgot *something important* for next class in my gym bag.

92. MS. LOVE: Very well then. You should *hurry* if you want to make it *on time*.

#### PANEL 8

Ms. Love enters her office slowly and immediately notices the day planner open on the desk...

93. MS. LOVE: What is she up to *now*?

SFX: RIIINNNG