

# The Testing of Napoleon

By Gregory T. Burns

## NOTES

A male should perform this Humorous Interpretation. This short play is a perfect example of the various stereotypes that exist within the confined walls of an educational institution. The title character, Napoleon, is the classic example of a high school outcast. Napoleon is nice; however, he is the stereotypical nerd or geek. Exaggerating the other high school students in the script will garner immediate audience recognition and add to the overall comedic effect. Sound effects play a significant part in the second scene. Be creative. The remote controlled car's performance abilities can be as exaggerated as the imagination of the actor performing the script. Napoleon's last monologue, however, should be performed with sensitivity. At the end of the performance, the audience should be rooting for Napoleon to find acceptance and a circle of friends, who will truly appreciate his passion for remote controlled cars.

***Time:*** The present

***Locations:*** A high school cafeteria. Napoleon's driveway. An ESL classroom.

***Cast of Characters:***

Napoleon, a high school senior who is obsessed with remote controlled cars

Heather, a popular high school cheerleader

Tiffany, another popular high school cheerleader

Tad, the captain of the high school football team

Chip, a popular high school jock

Li Chin, a foreign exchange student from Japan

Teacher, a high school ESL teacher

Julio, an ESL student from Mexico

*Scene One: A high school cafeteria.*

**Napoleon:** *(Stands up onto a cafeteria table and addresses the entire cafeteria.)* Hey guys! Listen up! Last night, my dad took me to Wal-Mart, and I got this really awesome remote controlled car! You might have seen it the last time you were in Wal-Mart...It's the Traxxas Jato Nitro Stadium Truck with two-wheel drive. It's the most awesome remote controlled car ever made!

**Heather:** Who *is* that?

**Tiffany:** That's Napoleon. He was in my psychology class last year, but I think he thought it was "*psycho*" class or something... He is *really* scary. All he talks about is remote controlled cars.

**Napoleon:** I just wanted everyone to know that my dad and I finished putting it together last night, and I will be giving it its first test run around my neighborhood today after school...So...come by my house, and you can watch it *rip* down the streets... like a *comet*. Does everyone know my address?

**Tad:** Yeah, Dork Drive!

**Napoleon:** No...It's 1414 *Spud* Drive

**Tad:** Hey, here's a "spud" for you! A "spud" rocket! *(Tad throws tater tots at Napoleon.)*

**Napoleon:** *(Trying to dodge the flying tater tots.)* Dude, you are throwing away perfectly good tater tots...Anyway, it's not my fault if every street in my neighborhood is named after something celebrating potatoes!

**Chip:** Celebrate this, Bonaparte! *(He throws more tater tots at Napoleon.)*

**Napoleon:** We live in Idaho, dude! Get a reality check! *(Napoleon tries to compose himself.)* Anyway, to get to my house, you enter Baked Potato Acres, and you take a right on French Fry Fairway. Go through two stop signs until you come to Scalloped Circle, and then take a right. You're going to pass Au Gratin Avenue, then take a left onto Potato Chip Parkway...You're going to come to what looks like a dead-end, but that's where my street begins, Spud Drive. *(Napoleon is hit with one last tater tot. He looks down slowly, and scrapes it off of his shirt.)* Dude, that tater tot had ketchup on it... Which...reminds me...the color of my new Traxxas Jato Nitro Stadium Truck with two-wheel drive...is red. Oh yeah! Oh, and I almost forgot. It comes with a sealed, internal two-speed *and* the TRX 2.5 Racing Engine Trademark, making it the most powerful small block engine available in any RTR car or truck. Together they provide explosive out-of-the-box acceleration and 55 plus miles-per-hour top speeds that simply blow everything else off the road, dude! *(Awkward pause)* Well, enjoy the rest of your lunch, and I hope to see all of you after school today.