

THE PHOTO JUDGE

By David J. LeMaster

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SYNOPSIS: Following a photography event, a contestant asks a judge about the score he received. The judge insist the event is not a competition, yet he can't explain why the contestant lost the...um...competition.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(2 EITHER)

1- Photo Contestant

2- Photo Judge

(1 and 2 may be either sex. 2 is older than one)

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AT RISE:

Enter 1, approaching 2.

1: I'm just wondering if you would critique my work.

2: Of course.

1: Since you're a judge and all.

2: Yes.

1: And since I got a silver medal and not a gold.

2: This is not a competition.

1: But you give medals.

2: True.

1: Gold, silver and bronze.

2: We do.

1: And no award.

2: Humiliating, that.

1: Exactly.

2: Exactly.

1: Then why didn't I get a gold?

2: It's not a competition.

1: But you give medals.

2: We established that.

1: We compete for medals.

2: Not compete, really. Participate.

1: Like kids in flag football.

2: No.

1: No?

2: That's more competitive.

1: But they give a trophy to every kid on the team in flag football.

2: Oh.

1: How is that competitive?

2: Is it the same sized trophy?

1: I don't know.

2: Then they're competing for the bigger trophy.

1: I suppose they are.

2: That makes them competitive. While we're not.

1: Bronze and silver medals are not the same as gold.

2: Why not?

1: Because gold means first.

- 2: How do you know? Maybe gold means second.
1: It universally means first.
2: Not universally.
1: Name one place where it doesn't.
2: Our club.
1: Besides our club.
2: There must be countless others.
1: Name them.
2: I don't know their names.
1: Then how do you know there are?
2: How do you know there aren't? We'll agree to disagree.
1: Whatever. Will you criticize my photos. I want to do better in the competition.
2: It's not a competition.
1: In the showing. The contest.
2: Call it a lesson. We're teaching you.
1: Okay.
2: Now what do you want to know.
1: What is your reaction to this photo? (*Shows photo.*)
2: It's brilliant.
1: You like the lighting?
2: It's perfect.
1: Do you like the composition?
2: It's magnificent?
1: Any other comments?
2: It's one of the best shots ever taken.
1: So on your judging scale from one to ten?
2: It's a four. Bronze award.
1: Why is it Bronze?! You gave it a glowing review and then gave it one of the worst scores!
2: This is not a competition.
1: But why did it get a bad score?
2: What was your title?
1: Film Noir.
2: I took a point off for your title.
1: Why?
2: I don't like it.
1: Why?

2: Because I don't.

1: Why?

2: Because it's stupid.

1: Why?

2: Because it is.

1: So it went from a five to a four because of the title.

2: Yes.

1: It says in the rules that you don't get to see my title until the awards are given.

2: Oh, yeah. Okay.

1: Okay what?

2: Okay, I didn't take a point off for the title.

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