## The Great Brutish Make-off - Part I: The Signature Make

by Justin Street

**Scripture Reference** — Acts 13:22b NIV: God testified concerning him: "I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do."

A sketch in three parts, for five non-gender-specific characters. The character PERFECTO 3000 doesn't appear until Part III. There are references to items that could all be mimed, or you could have stand-in props. It could be funny for everyone to potentially *try* different British accents, but that would depend largely on the players, and basically no Britons find it amusing. Which is fair.

## CHARACTERS:

CONTESTANT 1 - a confident perfectionist CONTESTANT 2 - a slacker CONTESTANT 3 - an "everyperson", a little insecure HOST - human and accessible, but still a showperson PERFECTO 3000 - an eerily friendly android

LIGHTS UP on CONTESTANTS 1,2, and 3, each behind their own respective tables, or, their "stations". CONTESTANTS 1 & 2 are slightly downstage of CONTESTANT 3, who is in the middle. The HOST begins as the lights come up.

**HOST** 

holding a stopwatch

And that... iiiiiis... time! Hands up, contestants!

CONTESTANT 1 has their hands up immediately, and proudly so. CONTESTANT 3 tries to fiddle last-minute with something on the table, then puts their hands up, and CONTESTANT 2 hasn't really moved.

HOST

Ah, ah! Hands up!

CONTESTANT 2 sarcastically waves their hands out to the side and pulls a face.

To the audience

So, folks at home, we've reached the time limit for the first stage of our competition: The Signature Make. Where each contestant on the Make-off gets to show us something that really represents themselves. Here's where we get to know them, who they are, what they care about. Let's start over here, with Contestant number one. What have you have for us?

**CONTESTANT 1** 

Well I have, a perfect soufflé.

HOST

Oh my. That really is a perfect soufflé.

**CONTESTANT 1** 

I'm not even kidding. It's like, if we needed to take a picture, for an encyclopedia or a cookbook, or a sociological artifact to let civilizations years from now understand exactly what a soufflé is supposed to look like — that would be it! You've given us perfection in a serving dish.

**CONTESTANT 1** 

I know.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Are you even going to taste it?

**HOST** 

You know, I should, for the contest and all, but I don't think I can. Just look at it.

**CONTESTANT 1** 

Look at it.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Yea, I see it. It does... really look... great, you know. Well done.

**CONTESTANT 1** 

I know.

**HOST** 

Well, folks, I suppose we could stop there, but of course we won't. Contestant number one, well done.

**CONTESTANT 1** 

Yes. Thank you.

**HOST** 

Contestant number two! What do you have for us.

CONTESTANT 2 is on their phone, swiping, texting, etc. They have not paid attention to anything that's been happening, and is oblivious now.

Ahem. Contestant number two?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

not looking up

Yep?

**HOST** 

What have do you have to show us for your Signature Make?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

looking up, finally

Huh?

**HOST** 

What do you have to show us?

CONTESTANT 2 looks at the HOST, then the other contestants, out to the audience, back to the host. Then reaches into their back pocket, and pulls out a folded up napkin and sets it on the table.

**CONTESTANT 2** 

There you go.

**HOST** 

Ok. Contestant number two has shown us... a... napkin.

**CONTESTANT 2** 

back on their phone

Yep.

**HOST** 

Would you like to elaborate?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

Not really.

**HOST** 

So your offering for this round is... just a napkin.

**CONTESTANT 2** 

Nope.

**HOST** 

Ok, so there is more. Please, do go on.

**CONTESTANT 2** 

still not looking up

There's a doodle on the napkin.

**HOST** 

pleasantly surprised

Oh, nice! May we see it?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

glances at the napkin, then back to phone

Not really.

**HOST** 

And why is that?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

Because of the gum.

**HOST** 

What gum?

**CONTESTANT 2** 

finally looks up, annoyed

Look, I drew a doodle of a guys face on that napkin, and I happened to be chewing green gum at the time, and I had the idea to take the gum and put it on

the doodle because it looked like a booger, which was awesome, and I wanted to save it for... reasons... but when I folded it up, the gum stuck to the napkin to itself and you can't open it up without ripping.

Do I really need to spell it out for you?

**HOST** 

No. I think that'll do just fine. Thank you.

**CONTESTANT 2** 

back to phone

Whatever.

HOST

And that brings us to contestant number three.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Hi.

HOST

Well, hello. And what do you want to show us for your signature make?

**CONTESTANT 3** 

nervously

I, uh... well. I made pancakes.

**HOST** 

surprised, but not judgmental

Pancakes?

**CONTESTANT 3** 

still nervous

Yea. Well, they're my favorite. I make them sometimes when I'm sad, or if the weather's crappy, or when I have friends over. It's my grandmother's recipe, and they just make me really happy.

**HOST** 

I see.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

It's a stack of three, and of course the first one didn't turn out how I wanted.

HOST

Isn't that always the way.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

But the other two, I feel pretty good about.

**HOST** 

indicating taking a bite

Do you mind?

**CONTESTANT 3** 

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Go right ahead.

HOST mimes taking a bite. Chews and thinks.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Well?

**HOST** 

Not bad. Not bad at all. I see what you mean about the first one.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Yea.

**HOST** 

But I really feel like we got to know you a little bit here.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Oh no.

**HOST** 

No, no. Nothing to worry about. This is good stuff.

**CONTESTANT 3** 

Phew. Thank you.

**HOST** 

to the audience

But will it be enough to win, the Great Brutish Make-off

Lights out