

## From No Substitutes

By Don Zolidis

MARGIE, *a substitute teacher who is usually a driving instructor.*

*Margie introduces herself to a class of less than enthusiastic students.*

MARGIE

You are guys are in for a treat. All of your other subs are boring, but I am fun with a capital PH. Which stands for funky. Right? Up five. Up top. Who's gonna leave me hanging here?

*Everyone is leaving her hanging.*

This is a tragedy right now. My hand is alone in the air, waiting for high-five, and I got NOTHING from you. Get in the game!

*She high-fives a student against his will.*

All right! Boom. Explosion. My name is Margie. Some of you may know me as your driving instructor, but I am so much more for that. Aries. Which means I am AGGRESSIVE if CORNERED! Ha ha ha I'm just kidding folks I don't bite you don't need to look at me like that! All right: teaching time. Education time. Time to learn the lessons of LIFE. I'm here to blow your minds wide open. Boom.

<ROOK

*We're actually supposed to be doing our tectonic plates project right now. >*

MARGIE

Oh are we?

*(in a whiny, mocking voice)* Well Mr. Goody Two Shoes thinks we should work on our projects while Mommy is gone. WRONG! This is life, friends. You are all my friends now. Anyone on Facebook? Anyone?

Nope. That's fine. We don't need Facebook anyway to connect on a deep, deep level. There's gonna be some uncomfortable truths spoken today. But that's cool, that's hip, that's with it, you are going to be raw and unformed, like a lump of clay, and I am going to take my hands and I am going to mold you into my image – kind of like a famous clay sculptor person. Sculptist? What is it?

*Points at Jefferson*

You. Big head.

<JEFFERSON

*Big head?>*

MARGIE

What's the word?

<JEFFERSON

*Sculp-tor?>*

MARGIE

That can't be it.

*She points at Vanna.*

You. Oyster-face.

<VANNA

*What are we - ?>*

MARGIE

The moment's over. You lost it. Live with that in the future. That's the thing kids, once you lose the moment it's gone forever. Your YOUTH. Cherish it. These are the best moments of your life! All downhill from here.