

Vodka for Life

by Tami CanadaY

At rise: *A graduation ceremony. CALEB at an imaginary podium. LAUREL sitting behind him to the left. CHUCK and SUMMER sitting in the audience. CALEB is finishing his graduation speech.*

CALEB

. . . And there you have it. I'm sure you were expecting more, maybe. Or less. Depending. And that's the point. How you manage the next years of your life after graduation are tied to this one word: (*a beat*) choice. Either give of yourself tirelessly without complaint to the big issues of life and to the minor, invisibly ones that matter to others, but, perhaps, not to you. Or, don't. But choose. So, class of 2021* go forth! Now!

LAUREL jumps up and enthusiastically applauds. CHUCK and SUMMER politely applaud. CALEB waves to the crowd and shakes LAUREL's hand enthusiastically before sitting.

LAUREL

Thank you Dr. Fillmore (*turns to CALEB*) for that inspiring, rousing commencement speech. (*turns to audience*) Am I right class of 2021*?

CHUCK and SUMMER *politely applaud.*

LAUREL (cont'd)

Yes, choice is the answer to our modern world in all its complexity. Choice provides us with a map into the future. Choice is the potential baseline for everything we do. Now, one of the choices you should make, as future alumni, is to become a part of our significant network of donating alums. All right, it's time. (*smiles*) In holding a commencement, you the audience recognize the individual achievement of each candidate. Please hold your applause until each candidate has been recognized. Will the candidates for the Bachelorette Degree please rise.

CHUCK and SUMMER stand and move to the isle.

LAUREL (cont'd)

Summer Jill Alamore.

*use appropriate year.

SUMMER walks to stage and receives a degree from LAUREL. She shakes LAUREL's hand and walks across

the stage and back to her seat.

LAUREL (cont'd)

Chuck Bob Amass.

CHUCK walks to stage and receives a bottle of wedding cake vodka from LAUREL.

CHUCK

Ah, what?

LAUREL

Yes?

CHUCK

You just handed me a bottle of vodka.

LAUREL

Your future now looks much brighter.

CHUCK

Where's my degree?

In an exaggerated form, LAUREL points to the vodka. Next, LAUREL indicates that CHUCK should continue walking across the stage. Meanwhile, SUMMER and CALEB step to stage right.

CHUCK

But . . .? My degree...?

LAUREL turns away from CHUCK.

LAUREL

Next. Harley Lewis Anon.

CHUCK reluctantly walks across the stage. At the end, he dances and holds up the vodka like a degree.
(continued . . .)