

PLANET POLICE

Characters:

Dana- girl or boy, Robin's sibling
Robin - girl or boy Dana's sibling
Mom - mother of Dana and Robin

Scene:

Dana's bedroom

Props

A pole lamp, a table lamp with a compact florescent bulb, a floodlight bulb, a pair of pliers that can cut wire, a chair, a small table on which to set the table lamp, a waste can, and a book

(Dana sitting at a chair reading a book. Beside him is a table with a lamp on it and a waste can. A pole lamp stands at a far end of stage. Enter Robin. He walks over to the pole lamp and turns it off.)

DANA

Hey! Leave that light alone.

ROBIN

You're not using it. You have more than enough light already.

DANA

(walks over to the pole lamp and turns it on)

This is my lamp. I can leave it on whenever I want.

ROBIN

(turns lamp off)

But you're wasting energy and causing needless carbon go to into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming.

DANA

(turns lamp on)

It's none of your business how much energy I use.

ROBIN

(turns lamp off)

But it is my business how much energy you use because how much energy you use affects me. We all live in the same climate. Your actions make global warming more likely.

DANA

(turns lamp back on)

Buy some extra sun screen.

ROBIN

(turns lamp off)

Polar bears and penguins will drown because of what you are doing. Don't you feel guilty about that?

DANA

(turns lamp on)

It's one light bulb.

ROBIN

(turns lamp off)

It's one light bulb too many.

DANA

(turns lamp on)

I wouldn't care if it was a billion light bulbs too many. I'm not going to let you tell me how to live. Now leave my lamp alone.

DANA (cont'd)
*(Robin turns lamp off; Dana turns lamp back on;
 they repeat this two more times)*

ROBIN
 Mom! He's doing it again.
(Enter Mom)

MOM
 Are you playing planet-policeman again?

ROBIN
 I'm just trying to stop the planet from catastrophic warming.

DANA
 He has to control my lamp. He's a complete control freak.

MOM
(takes off the lamp shade)
 We got rid of the standard light bulb in this lamp and replaced it with a compact fluorescent bulb because you complained so much that we need to save energy. Even though the florescent bulb doesn't go with the decor of our prairie style house, we changed it. It's just ghastly looking. I'm not sure this bulb goes with any decor.

DANA
 It's so ugly it makes me want to book a trip to the vomitorium and puke my guts out!

MOM
 Oh really, isn't that a bit over the top.

DANA
 I'm upset for you mom. You went to all that trouble to change the light bulb and it still doesn't satisfy him.

ROBIN
 The compact florescent bulb helps, but it's not enough. Why should Dana keep it on when he doesn't need it? It's contributing to catastrophic climate change.

MOM
 Because it's his lamp. Now leave it alone or you're grounded. Do you understand?

ROBIN
 Yes, I understand.

MOM
 Now, Dana go empty the trash.

DANA
 Me? He should have to empty the trash if he's so concerned about the planet.

MOM

It's your turn to take out the garbage.

DANA

Oh alright. When I come back, that lamp had better be on.

MOM

The lamp will be on, or he's grounded. And I'll take away his ticket to the Save Endangered Ticks and Flies Concert.

ROBIN

Oh no! Yo Yo Ma is playing the cello at the concert, and the Olson Twins are accompanying him on kazoos.

(Exit Dana and Mom.)

I don't care if I miss the concert. I'll do more to save the earth by turning off unused lights.

(Robin turns lamp off then takes the bulb out.)

Exit Robin. Enter Dana)

DANA

Oh he did it again. He is so grounded.

(Turns lamp switch on.)

What's going on?

(Takes off the shade.)

So he thinks he can stop me. Well, he's wrong. I've been waiting for this.

(Dana pulls out a floodlight and screws it into the lamp)

And Dana said let there be light!

(Dana picks up the waste can. Exit Dana. Enter Robin. Robin walks over to the lamp. Robin takes off the lamp shade. He shakes his head and replaces the shade. From his pocket, he pulls out a pair of pliers. He unplugs the lamp, holds the plug up and cuts the lamp cord just below the plug, and drops the cord on the floor. Exit Robin. Enter Dana.)

DANA

He did it again. If he stole my floodlight, he'll be grounded beyond grounded. He'll never get to see the Olson Twins playing kazoos for the rest of his life.

(Dana turns the lamp switch. When it doesn't work, he takes off the lamp shade. He screws the bulb in to make sure the bulb is tight. He sees the plug on the floor.)

Oh no!

(He picks it up the cord)

Mom! Mom! Robin ruined my lamp!

(Exit Robin running. Enter Dana who goes to the table lamp, turns it off.)

ROBIN
(He raises his fist in the air)
Yes!

(THE END)