Mean GOP

by Aiden Hahn* Fade In:

INT. A PROTOTYPICAL RALLY LOCATION PACKED WITH A CROWD OF THOUSANDS. NIGHT.

BOOMING MASCULINE ANNOUNCEMENT VOICE (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome the president of the United States: Donald J. Trump.

The crowd's energy reaches a deafening roar.

TRUMP walks slowly into the arena with Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A." playing at a deafening volume. For several minutes, he claps, waves, and generally revels in the crowd's energy.

SLOW MOTION of this rally footage as voice overs fade in.

RON DESANTIS (V.O.)

Evil takes a human form in Donald Trump.

MIKE PENCE (V.O.)

Don't be fooled, because he may seem like your typical selfish, back-stabbing, Republican politician.

BRIAN KEMP (V.O.)

But in reality, he is so much more than that.

Cut To:

EXT. THE U.S. CAPITOL BUILDING. NOON.

Montage of angry TRUMP supporters, many wearing red MAGA hats and no face masks, speaking straight to camera about TRUMP ("Mean Girls" style).

TRUMP SUPPORTER #1

Donald Trump is flawless.

I hear his hair's insured for ten thousand dollars.

SUPPORTER #2

One time, he punched me in the face. It was awesome.

SUPPORTER #3

I saw Trump wearing Army pants and flip-flops, so I bought Army pants and flip-flops.

SUPPORTER #4

How could anyone hate Trump?

Slow Fade To:

INT. GOV KEMP'S OFFICE. AFTERNOON.

Florida Gov. RON DESANTIS sits down with Georgia Gov. BRIAN KEMP and former Vice President MIKE PENCE at a round-table style set up in KEMP's office.

DESANTIS addresses the group.

RON DESANTIS

How many of us have ever felt personally victimized by Donald Trump?

They each raise their hands. KEMP pulls a scrapbook out of a drawer.

MIKE PENCE

It's Trump's 'Burn Book'. He cut politicians' pictures out and wrote mean comments.

He takes the book and flips through it. They read off the comments about themselves with heavy sighs and hurt feelings.

BRIAN KEMP

"Brain Kemp is a turncoat, he's a coward, and he's a complete and total disaster"

DESANTIS

"The problem with Ron
'DeSanctimonious' is that he needs
a personality transplant, and
those are not yet available"

PENCE gossips about TRUMP in the tone of an annoyed teenager.

PENCE

Trump <u>specifically</u> asked me, and his gaggle of crackpot lawyers asked me to <u>literally</u> reject votes and <u>literally</u> chaos would've ensued.

DESANTIS, KEMP and PENCE turn to address the camera.

KEMP

There are two kinds of evil people.

DESANTIS

People who do evil stuff...

PENCE

...and people who see evil stuff
being done and don't try to stop
it.

KEMP

Trump's not going to be the Republican nominee and he's not going to be the President again...

PENCE, DESANTIS, KEMP (IN UNISON) ...because he was mean to us!

*CITATIONS

Screenplay:

entire script outline

- "Mean Girls" by Tina Fey (which is an adaptation of "Queen Bees and Wannabes" by Rosalind Wiseman)

Articles:

"A prototypical rally location"

"a crowd of thousands"

"Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome the president of the United States: Donald J. Trump.' The crowd's energy reaches a deafening roar.

TRUMP walks slowly into the arena with Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A." playing at a deafening volume. For several minutes, he claps, waves, and generally revels in the crowd's energy."

- "The Trump Rally: A Play in Three Acts" by Katie Rogers

The [Governor's] Council generally meets at noon on Wednesdays in the Council Chamber, Room 360 (within the Governor's Office)

- "Governor's Council" from Massachusetts Government website

"the Capitol in Washington, D.C"

"Trump supporters, many wearing red MAGA hats but no face masks" the rhetoric was "angry"

- "Trump Supporters Storm U.S. Capitol, Clash With Police" by Marisa Peñaloza

"Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis sat down with Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp in Atlanta"

"Kemp also met with former Vice President Mike Pence"

- "DeSantis meets with Kemp in Georgia to talk 2024 race and upcoming debate" - Kaitlan Collins

Quotes:

"The problem with Ron 'DeSanctimonious' is that he needs a personality transplant, and those are not yet available"

- Donald Trump in a May 2023 ad campaign

"Brain Kemp is a turncoat, he's a coward, and he's a complete and total disaster"

Donald Trump at a <u>March 2022 rally</u>

"Trump specifically asked me, and his gaggle of crackpot lawyers asked me to literally reject votes and literally chaos would've ensued"

- Mike Pence during an <u>August 2023 interview</u>

"He's not going to be the Republican nominee and he's not going to be the President again"

- Geoff Duncan (Lieutenant Governor and ally to Brian Kemp) in a May 2023 interview

REFLECTION

I began this journey with the idea to remix a pre-existing movie script. I landed on remixing the script for "Mean Girls" because it has a straightforward story that can be recontextualized in many ways, and its widely-known, iconic quotes, actions and props allow for immense creativity in the types of sources I could include. I was laying in my bed, wide awake, anxiously thinking about the insane hypocrisies of American politics- like I often dowhen I had the idea to write about Republican politicians and MAGA fans talking about Trump like he is Regina George. The argument I'm trying to make with this project is that Republicans in power like Pence, Kemp and DeSantis only started publicly pushing back against Trump after he insulted them personally. They were absolutely and completely in support of him when he actively turned America into a blatantly racist, sexist, homophobic, etc. dystopia. They're all very selfish politicians (and their followers are even more oblivious), so I wanted to try to reinterpret the text of "Mean Girls" to try to represent this. I think my metaphor works really well aligned with the script of "Mean Girls" because the film is all about what it means to be selfish as well as the harm that comes with following a leader blindly without developing your own moral backbone or individuality.

My text is original because I don't think anyone has ever combined the sources I have in exactly the same way I have. While I did verbatim copy lines from "Mean Girls" as well as quotes from politicians and political articles, I don't believe this is really plagiarism because every single one of the sources I used is cited, and each source has been altered to a different meaning than its original intention. Additionally, my work is original and not a plagiarism because each of these sources has been infused with some of my personal outlook and experience. This work would be a plagiarism if I tried to pass all of the words in this text off as my own original ideas, but instead I embrace and acknowledge my sources.