



Day 1 Opening Skit



As the skit opens, Gally Gator is pacing back and forth on the stage.

He is obviously worried about something. He is wringing his hands and talking to himself in a low, but loud enough voice for those who are nearby to pick up the occasional word of worry and woe.

Gally Gator: I'll never be able to do it; I'll never be able to make it all the way across. I'll fail, I'll fail, I'll fail. (Gally pauses for a second as though he may be reconsidering his apparent hopeless situation. But then he returns to his original state and continues his worrisome talk.)

Gally Gator: Maybe....., no....., I'll fail, I'll fail, yes, I most certainly will fail. (As Gally continues his pacing and mumbling, his friend and swimming instructor Wanda Whitewater enters the scene.

Wanda Whitewater: Oh Gally, you're here. You decided to come after all?

Gally: Yyyyyyyyyeeessss, I am here, bbbbuuuutttt...

Wanda: But what?

Gally: I don't think I can do it. I don't think I can pass my swimming test.

Wanda: Gally, you're an alligator. (She pauses and looks out to the audience) And, correct me if I am wrong, but swimming is pretty important to alligators. It's one of the things you alligators do on a daily basis.

Gally: I know, I know, and that makes it all the more terrifying.

Wanda: Terrifying? What are you terrified about? The test? The water? What could have you feeling so scared?

Gally: I am afraid to fail. I mean think about it. I am an alligator; and just like you said, swimming is kind of our thing. If I fail, if I can't pass this swimming test today, if I can't become a good swimmer, just imagine what my family and friends will say.

Wanda: Gally? (Gally is once again pacing and mumbling, and he does not appear to hear Wanda.) Gally! (With this, Gally regains his focus and turns back toward Wanda.)

Gally: YYYYYeeees?

Wanda: Haven't you been practicing your swimming every day?

Gally: Yes.

Wanda: Haven't I helped you learn what to do when you face challenging waters?

Gally: Yes.

Wanda: And, haven't you been able to do everything I have asked you to do?

Gally: Yes.

Wanda: Then why are you worried.?

Gally: (Gally pauses for a few seconds as he considers Wanda's question) I just am. I just feel like I will get out in the water and forget everything, and everybody will laugh at me, and I just don't think I can do it.

Wanda: Gally, I don't believe you have anything to worry about.

Gally: You don't?

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Day 1 Opening Skit (Continued)

Wanda: No. You have been a very good student, and you have demonstrated a real talent for swimming.

Gally: I have?

Wanda: Yes, you have!

Gally: Then I just need trust what you have taught me and be confident that I can do it.

Wanda: That is correct Gally. You know, a lot of people feel just like you do.

Gally: You mean when they have to take their swimming test?

Wanda: Well, yes, but also on many other occasions too. People often doubt themselves. They think they are underdogs.

Gally: What's an underdog.

Wanda: An underdog is someone who thinks they are not strong or smart enough to accomplish something. They are also people who feel like everyone and everything is against them. And even worse, they think that nobody will help them.

Gally: I guess I have been acting like an underdog, haven't I?

Wanda: Yes, you have. But like I said, you are not alone. (Wanda pauses for a moment) Gally, have you ever heard of Joseph from the Bible?

Gally: I think so. Was he that guy whose dad gave him a really nice coat, but he lost it because he was always daydreaming?

Wanda: Well, not exactly. Joseph did get a really nice coat from his father. When this happened, Joseph's brothers became jealous of him, and they sold Joseph as a slave to get rid of him.

Gally: That's terrible.

Wanda: Yes, it was. And it did not stop there. Joseph was wrongly accused of something, he spent time in jail, and no matter what he did, it must have seemed to him like he was an underdog.

Gally: Did he ever get out of jail?

Wanda: Yes, he did. And not only that, he became the second in command of an entire kingdom. Eventually, he would help save the lives of many people, including those same brothers who sold him.

Gally: So he wasn't really an underdog after all, was he?

Wanda: No, he wasn't. Joseph had not seen that, despite all the bad things happening to him, God's mighty hand was always with him. God used what some intended for evil to bring about something very good.

Gally: So, just like Joseph should have remembered that God's mighty hand was always with him, I should trust that you have taught me everything I need to know to pass my swimming test?

Wanda: That's right, Gally.

Gally: (Gally appears to be thinking deeply, and then, all of a sudden he starts to run off stage.) I got to goooooooooo! (After Gally leaves the stage, we hear a splash of water.)

Wanda: (Looking in the direction where Gally ran off the stage.) That's it Gally! Your doing it! Wow! He is really doing it!

