

Play commissioned by Kasey Kopp and Ken Cerniglia - #WrightRightNow

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[Kaseykopp20@gmail.com](mailto:Kaseykopp20@gmail.com)

[Ken.cerniglia@gmail.com](mailto:Ken.cerniglia@gmail.com)

Háblame en my language

By Mar Gómez Glez

In the global office, president JUANA RODRIGUEZ is talking with the new governor of New Territory, the latest territory the US has adhered, JOHN WITT.

JUANA

Muchas gracias por aceptar mi invitación. Realmente necesito toda la ayuda que pueda ofrecerme con nuestros nuevos ciudadanos.

JOHN

Madam, President, it's a real pleasure to meet you.

JUANA

Precisamente necesito ayuda con el idioma.

JOHN

We have so many things to talk about. My citizens are excited to be part of the United States of America, but we are a little concern about how to preserve our own culture.

JUANA

A ver si podemos entendernos.

JOHN

I wish I could understand you.

JUANA

Lamentablemente no hablo inglés.

JOHN

Maybe we need a translator.

JUANA

¿Está usted burlandose de mi?

JOHN

As you know, we are really industrious people, and we respect the ideas of democracy your, I mean our, country represent.

JUANA

Veo que esto de encontrarnos los dos a solas ha sido una mala idea. ¿Es que usted no sabe hablar en español?

JOHN

I don't really understand what you are saying.

*Silence.*

JUANA and JOHN are going to speak at the same time.

JOHN

Please...

JUANA

Supongo que debería llamar a un traductor, ha sido un placer conocerle.

JOHN

Our language is part of our identity. New Territory has been using English for more than four hundred years, and now that we are part of the US we would like to maintain part of this heritage.

JUANA

Un momento, por favor. (JUANA calls). Clarisa, ¿serías tan amable de enviarme un intérprete? Espero (She still at the phone but looking at JOHN. Uncomfortable exchange of smiles. To JOHN) Hay un ovni aparcado en la puerta. (Más sonrisas incómodas) De verdad no me entiende nada nada.

JOHN

It's such a nice day.

JUANA

Y ya que estás en ello. ¿Es posible que alguien me explique como pudimos elegir un gobernador que no hable nuestro idioma?

JOHN

Public education is the key, and that is what I would like to talk about.

Lights