

West Wing

CHARLIE HAYES_M_20s_SERIES REG

THE WEST WING

"WAYS AND MEANS"

TELEPLAY BY: AARON SORKIN

STORY BY: ELI ATTIE & GENE SPERLING

DIRECTED BY: ALEX GRAVES

Episode 3.04 -- 'Ways and Means'

Original Airdate: October 24, 2001, 9:00 EST

CUT TO: INT. THE OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Bartlet is sitting at his desk, searching for a pen in his jacket's pockets.

BARTLET

Charlie!

CHARLIE [VO]

[comes in] Yes, sir.

BARTLET

Are we out of pens?

Charlie pulls a pen out of the penholder on Bartlet's table and hands it to him.

BARTLET

That's a good pen, I need an everyday pen.

CHARLIE

I've got pens. [starts off to his desk]

BARTLET

You've got crappy pens, with a plastic top. I need a solid pen that feels good in my hand, but it's not so formal I feel like a dandy.

CHARLIE

I'm making some trips to the pen store, aren't I, Mr. President?

BARTLET

I used to have the perfect pens. Every day right here, in my pocket. I loved those pens!

Balance, great action, paper soaked up the ink what the hell happened to those pens? Do they not make them anymore? I kept that company in business.

CHARLIE

Sir, when do you think you might begin interviewing candidates to replace Mrs. Landingham?

BARTLET

You know, I just haven't gotten to it.

CHARLIE

Obviously, the office would set up the meeting...

BARTLET

It's just been busy.

CHARLIE

Maybe we'd bring in somebody like a headhunter to do it...

BARTLET

Is there a rush on this? [stands up]

CHARLIE

You need a secretary, sir.

Charlie follows BARTLET out to the PORTICO.

BARTLET

I have five secretaries, to say nothing of the Secretaries of State, Defense, Treasury, and Education.

CHARLIE

Sir?

BARTLET

Yeah?

CHARLIE

Things are getting missed. It's nobody's fault, and everyone's been trying to cover them, but things are getting missed.

BARTLET

Things have been fine. I'm gonna have dinner and I'll be back in the office after, okay?

CHARLIE

Yes, sir. [stays in his place while Bartlet heads off to the residence]

BARTLET

Are you having dinner?

CHARLIE

Down at the mess.

BARTLET

I'll see you later [walks away]

CHARLIE

Mr President?

BARTLET

[stops and turns] Yeah.

CHARLIE

She put the pen in your pocket every morning. She slipped it in there.

Bartlet turns slowly and walks away.