A ONE-ACT PLAY BY MARJORIE TURNER

SCENE: Near the campanile

CAST OF CHARACTERS:
  Betsy—the first quarter freshman
  Sally—the old-hand senior

TO SET THE STAGE: Sally, a typical, hurrying senior, is walking full-speed toward Beardshear. Betsy accidentally bumps into her.

_Betsy:_ Excuse me—guess I wasn’t watching where I was going. Thinking too hard, I guess.

_Sally:_ Admittedly that’s a good way to get started in college—all that thinking I mean, but for heaven’s sakes—what were you thinking so much about?

_Betsy:_ How terrible it can feel to be a freshman.

_Sally:_ Oh—I know what you mean. Seems like a long time ago—but I was once too. Believe it or not. What’s the trouble—exams already?

_Betsy:_ No, not yet. I’m just sort of confused. Everyone gave me all kinds of advice on how to be a success in college before I ever got here. I just wish I knew someone who knows what it is really all about. Of course I’m not homesick—just love it here—but golly, how do you start to meet new friends?

_Sally:_ Well, I’ll try not to get into any lengthy lectures on the subject, but, you know, one of the best ways is to be a joiner. There’s a lot of ways to meet people—the YWCA for one. They always have special get-togethers for freshman and older students. They’re usually non-date parties—everything from scavenger hunts to dances and firesides.

_Betsy:_ Anything else?

_Sally:_ Oh, you could join the youth group in your church and if you’ve been a 4-H member you can keep right on being one in the campus 4-H club. Don’t forget about the freshman home economics club, either.

_Betsy:_ I’ve made a few friends in the dormitory—my roommate is perfectly wonderful, but we’re so busy doing things together that I don’t have time to meet other people.

_Sally:_ Whoa! You’ll want to put the brakes on that right now! If you get in the habit of doing everything with a small clique of special pals you may find yourself becoming terribly critical or quite a snob. Try to have a wide circle of friends—and don’t forget your instructors. After all, they are human.

_Betsy:_ I suppose if I got into some outside activities I’d meet more people who have the same interests as I do, but seems like I’ve got so much studying to do.

_Sally:_ Stick to the studying. If you don’t get those basic courses well under control this year, you’re bound to run into trouble later on. After you get into the swing of studying this year, you’ll have a better idea of just how much time you can spend in activities.

_Betsy:_ Sounds logical to me, but when I am ready to start in extra activities, which ones should I choose? I always liked dramatics in high school but I’ve been thinking I’d like to try radio or journalism.

_Sally:_ Look around first. Try several of them—you’ll find one or two that you’ll think are particularly interesting. Then concentrate on those. When I told you to be a joiner—I didn’t mean a double-deluxe joiner. Some students join so many clubs they just spread themselves thin. They don’t have time to get much out of anything and they certainly don’t do anything for the rest of the group.

_Betsy:_ Is it really worth it to spend my free time in activities?

_Sally:_ I think it is—you learn a lot of things you’d never learn in classes—besides meeting new people. I’ve heard that some employers believe extra activities are just as much a sign of what you can do as are your grades.

_Betsy:_ Maybe you’re right. I think maybe I’d better do some concentrating on activities before long—after I’m on to this studying routine. Thanks a lot for the advice.

_Sally:_ I’ll be seeing you. Good luck.

OCTOBER, 1949