

Buddy and Mitch - 2024 Presidential Debate Edition

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Panel 1

There is static on a TV to show it turning on. The TV is old to showcase the owner's wealth.

Panel 2

The main characters Buddy (the alien) and Mitch (the human) appear, already watching the TV screen.

BUDDY: What's this? Are they deciding a leader of the Milky Way by battle?

Mitch looks tired, unimpressed expression.

MITCH: Sort of. It's a debate—where they argue. And no, it's not the Milky Way, it's America. Same difference to them.

Panel 3

The TV is on and screen appears. It showcases Kamala Harris and Donald Trump. It is the start of the presidential election.

Panel 4

You can see Kamala Harris, with a smile speaking.

TV (HARRIS): I imagine and have a plan to build what I call an opportunity economy.

Panel 5

The panel goes back to Buddy and Mitch. Buddy is intrigued while Mitch still looks uninterested.

BUDDY: An "opportunity economy"? Sounds hopeful.

MITCH: It's politician jargon. Using words like that makes you feel good without saying much.

BUDDY: Like when you told the last girl you're a "culinary specialist" instead of admitting you flip burgers?

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Panel 6

Trump is on the TV, he has an angry/aggressive demeanor as he spits out his statement.

TV (TRUMP): People can't go out and buy cereal or bacon or eggs or anything else. The people of our country are absolutely dying with what they've done. They've destroyed the economy.

Panel 7

Buddy looks confused, glancing at Mitch for clarification.

BUDDY: Wait, people eat bacon and eggs for breakfast? I thought all we ate was reheated fries.

Panel 8

Mitch gestures to the TV, smirking.

MITCH: This debate isn't for broke folks like us. It's for people who actually buy bacon. Funny enough, he's exaggerating too.

Panel 9

As the debate continues, her facial expression grows more serious.

TV (HARRIS): World leaders are laughing at Donald Trump.

Panel 10

Trump smirks on the TV, smiling so hard his eyes are closed.

TV (TRUMP): Viktor Orbán said the most respected, most feared person is Donald Trump. We had no problems when Trump was president.

Panel 11

Buddy looks wide-eyed and interested, while Mitch remains uninterested, sharing his views.

BUDDY: So they want a feared president, but they don't like war? That doesn't add up.

MITCH: Yeah, it's funny. They'll worship the military but complain about the wars they're paying for.

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Panel 12

Close-up of Trump on the TV, looking down/sad/empathetic. Buddy looks puzzled.

TV (TRUMP): I want the war to stop. I want to save lives.

Panel 13

Back to Buddy and Mitch. Mitch responds to Buddy's confusion

MITCH: It's the American way—talk peace, fund war, and hope everyone forgets the difference.

Panel 14

Harris in the TV screen, addressing the audience, with a more serious expression.

TV (HARRIS): I will proudly sign a bill protecting Roe v. Wade.

Panel 15

Trump with a forceful and direct demeanor.

TV (TRUMP): States are voting on it now. The people decide, not the federal government.

Panel 16

Buddy looks surprised by Trump's words. Mitch smirks once again after sharing his opinion.

BUDDY: So people get to vote? That sounds pretty democratic.

MITCH: Yeah, until you realize they're voting on whether a woman can control her own body, based on someone else's religious beliefs. Democracy at its finest.

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Panel 17

Harris smiles confidently on the screen.

TV (HARRIS): It's important to remind the former president—you're not running against Joe Biden. You're running against me.

Panel 18

Buddy looks at Mitch, intrigued. Mitch looks unimpressed and unconvinced.

BUDDY: She's confident. Will that win voters?

MITCH: Depends. Confidence can look like strength—or arrogance. But let's not forget she is a woman of colour.

Panel 19

Buddy frowns and looks confused.

BUDDY: What does her sex and colour have anything to do with that?

Panel 20

Mitch sighs and hesitates before answering.

MITCH: You couldn't imagine how much that has to do with everything.

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Panel 21

Mitch turns off the TV.

Panel 22

BUDDY: So logically speakin'—

Mitch interrupts, wagging his finger at Buddy.

MITCH: Hold up. Rule number one—you never use logic to justify American politics and who is going to win.

Panel 23

Buddy looks skeptical, narrowing his eyes at Mitch.

BUDDY: You seem to like the female candidate a lot more than the male. Is that who you're voting for?

Panel 24

Mitch looks smug, closing his eyes.

MITCH: I don't vote.

Panel 25

Buddy stares at Mitch, silent for a moment while Mitch is still smirking proud of his decision not to vote.

Panel 26

Buddy now seems uninterested and tired, contrasting with Mitch's shock at his statement.

BUDDY: I know we're not supposed to be logical, and I don't get humans that well, but... that's just as idiotic as what we just watched.