

Mr Topper's Sides

By

Jonathan Tomhave

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MR. TOPPER

What? 'Uncle Aaron'? You mean  
Adrianna here is another Krumm!  
Just how many Krumms are there? You  
must breed like rabbits!

Aaron interposes himself between Topper and Addy.

AARON KRUMM

You have three, four, five... SIX  
police officers here over what?

MR. TOPPER

Truancy, pure and simple, Krumm, a  
crime in the great State of  
California. And the police  
prosecute all criminals to the full  
extent of the law. Your niece is  
under arrest and just as soon as I  
can find her parents, they will be,  
too.

Addy slinks behind her Uncle's back. Aaron stares at Topper  
while protecting his Niece.

AARON KRUMM

You're a guidance counselor, not a  
Truant Officer, for chrissake.

MR. TOPPER

Ah, no - I am both. Budgetary  
concerns, you see. The joy of  
austerity. So I can both guide  
students down the path of  
righteousness and I can arrest  
students when they stray from it. I  
am a nightmare on two feet.

Mr. Topper turns to Addy.

MR. TOPPER (CONT'D)

Come with me, young lady. Your  
choice of squad car. They all look  
the same to me, but maybe you have  
a preference.

Aaron pulls out his ipad and begins typing furiously. He  
looks up.

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AARON KRUMM

The law says that a sixteen year old in the great state of California may opt out of school.

MR. TOPPER

With parental consent only- which I do not have and have not gotten. Don't argue the law with me, Krumm. It's a losing battle. Your niece is facing the loss of her driver's license and an arrest on her record, something you know ALL about.

AARON KRUMM

I'm sure there are other remedies which have not been exhausted.

MR. TOPPER

Well, let me tell you something, you were a slacker in High School some years ago and your niece is a slacker right now. You never paid the price, but she will, on your behalf. The sins of the Uncle shall be visited up the Niece.