

DISAGREE TO AGREE

A one-minute play

By Jake Lewis

Lights rise on THEO and VANESSA. THEO is scrolling through his phone, while VANESSA is reading The Atlantic, or some other progressive-leaning magazine.

THEO: Damn, the president is doing a terrible job, right?

VANESSA: He's actually accomplished a lot of important things. They're just not being reported by the news.

THEO: That makes no sense. If he's getting things done, then why wouldn't the news tell us?

VANESSA: Oh, I don't know, Theo, would you believe them if they did?

THEO: Who do you think I am? Some right-wing nutjob? I consider all news sources.

VANESSA: Well, let's agree to disagree.

THEO: What? Agree to disagree? Why do I have to agree with you if you're wrong?

VANESSA: But I'm not wrong. You are. I just don't want to fight with you over this because you won't ever see it my way.

THEO: I don't want to fight either, but I disagree that we have to agree to disagree. It's a stupid saying to weasel out of a discussion.

VANESSA: You mean an argument.

THEO: A debate.

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VANESSA: Well, then what do you propose we say instead?

THEO: How about “We disagree but I don’t want to get into a debate with you about it because I honestly don’t have the time or energy and I don’t enjoy creating conflict over issues that are likely much bigger than what both of us think we know?”

VANESSA processes this.

VANESSA: Yeah. Let’s go with that.

They both smile warmly at each other, and return to their previous reading activity.

Lights fade to black.

The End