

# MALCOLM MIDDLE

"Krelboyne Picnic"

Written by

Michael Glouberman  
&  
Andrew Orenstein

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FADE IN:

INT. FAMILY ROOM - DAY

MALCOLM, REESE and DEWEY sit on the floor, PLAYING A GAME.

THE BOARDGAME

Is made up of HALF A "MONOPOLY" BOARD taped to HALF A "LIFE" BOARD. It is covered with MISMATCHED PIECES FROM VARIOUS GAMES. REESE ROLLS A BOGGLE CUBE AND DIE.

REESE

D-4. What's that again?

MALCOLM

(thinks)

Uh, two hundred dollars or a punch.

REESE

Punch.

Reese PUNCHES MALCOLM in the arm.

MALCOLM

No, I'm supposed to punch you!

(to camera, frustrated)

We've wrecked every good board game we've ever had, and mom won't get us new ones til Christmas. So we combined the pieces that weren't lost, burnt, or mutilated, and came up with this.

(indicating board)

We call it Crapopoly.

Dewey ROLLS and moves his LEAD PIPE to ATLANTIC AVENUE.

REESE

Yes! That's mine. With a hotel... Hey, where's my hotel?

DEWEY

(cheeks full)

I dunno.

MALCOLM

This really sucks.

The boys look over and see:

ON A SHELF

Where a PERFECT, SHRINK-WRAPPED "CANDYLAND" GAME sits beckoning.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALCOLM (cont'd)

(to camera)

No.

(back to game)

Okay, new rule. If you land on a space that used to have a hotel, but you ate it, you get a really hard twisty punch.

Reese GRABS THE DICE from Malcolm and ROLLS. THE DICE FLY OFF THE BOARD.

ON HEATING GRATE

As the last dice TUMBLE down. We hear them CLINK around and HIT THE BOTTOM.

Reese and Malcolm look at each other, then at Candyland, then back at Crapopoly. They SNATCH the new game and start UNWRAPPING IT.

REESE

(to Dewey)

If you tell anyone, we'll kill you.

MALCOLM

All right, red squares are wedgies, green are eye pokes...

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

COMPLETE DARKNESS

REESE (V.O.)  
(softly)  
Malcolm...Malcolm...

MALCOLM'S P.O.V.

as he slowly opens his eyes to the sight of REESE'S FAST APPROACHING FIST.

SFX: POW!

COMPLETE DARKNESS

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Reese CLIMBS OFF Malcolm's bed. Malcolm COVERS HIS EYE in pain.

MALCOLM

Ow!

(to camera, holding one eye)  
How was that even remotely fair?

REESE

That's for us all having to go to your stupid Krelboyne picnic today.

MALCOLM

You think I want to go to this thing?  
(to camera)

It's gonna be a giant freak-fest. And of course it's on the weekend Francis picks to come home. I don't want to look like a total idiot in front of somebody as cool as him.

ON FRANCIS

ASLEEP on a mattress on the floor, his HAIR MUSSED, a STRING OF DROOL connecting his mouth and the pillow.

FRANCIS

(smiles, mumbling)  
...look at all the pretty bunnies...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ON MALCOLM

MALCOLM  
 (to camera)  
 I just gotta come up with a brilliant  
 plan to get out of this thing.  
 (brightening)  
 I got it!

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

Malcolm and LOIS stand LOOKING INTO THE TOILET. Malcolm is  
 HOLDING HIS STOMACH.

MALCOLM  
 (groaning)  
 Oohhhhhh.

LOIS  
 Poor baby.

MALCOLM  
 Yeah, I'm sick.

LOIS  
 No...you're grounded - for pouring  
 perfectly good vegetable soup into the  
 toilet.

Malcolm REACTS. Lois holds up the EMPTY SOUP CAN.

LOIS (cont'd)  
 Next time don't leave your evidence on  
 the counter, Dr. Moriarty.

As she FLUSHES the TOILET, we...

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

The FAMILY is eating breakfast.

LOIS  
 I don't understand why you don't want to  
 go to this picnic, Malcolm. I think it  
 sounds like fun.

(CONTINUED)

HAL

There's nothing like a good picnic.  
Sitting out on the grass, having a  
barbecue...

MALCOLM

No, you don't get it. There isn't going  
to be any grass. We're having it on the  
playground, because half the class has  
allergies.

Reese SNICKERS, and MILK COMES OUT HIS NOSE.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

And there's no meat, either, because my  
stupid class voted not to serve anything  
that's ever had a mother.

DEWEY

Cousin Nancy doesn't have a mother.

LOIS

That's right, Dewey. She has two  
fathers.

Hal, holding a GREASY SAUSAGE, points it at Malcolm.

HAL

You know, there are a lot of proven  
health benefits to the vegetarian  
lifestyle. In fact, I've been seriously  
considering it myself.

He TAKES A BIG JUICY BITE.

FRANCIS

Well, it sure sounds like a blast to me.  
Why do I have to go again?

LOIS

Because it's a family picnic, Francis,  
and you are part of this family.

FRANCIS

Oh, right. I keep forgetting that, being  
forced to live a thousand miles away at  
military school and all.

Lois takes a FLYER decorated with CLOWNS and BALLOONS off the  
REFRIGERATOR.

LOIS

I can't wait to see this "Academic Circus" you're having. I bet it's really cute.

REESE

It's not a circus. It's just a bunch of Krelboynes doing dumb science projects.

LOIS

Oh? What are you going to be doing, Malcolm?

MALCOLM

(alarmed)

Me? Nothing. It's just something stupid.

REESE

(grinning at Malcolm)

You should bring the video camera.

HAL

(mouth full of sausage)

Good idea.

MALCOLM

(to camera)

Now I think I really do have to throw up.

LOIS

Gosh, it'll be nice to meet the other mothers. I'll bet they're a much better class of people than the mothers in Reese's class. What a horrible bunch of people.

HAL

Amen to that.

Malcolm turns to Francis.

MALCOLM

(aside, panicky)

Francis, you got to get me out of there before the circus starts.

FRANCIS

Why? What's the big deal?

MALCOLM

(snapping)

It just is, okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

7.

FRANCIS

Alright, relax. We'll go over the fence after fifteen minutes, like at Grandma's wedding.

Malcolm sighs, relieved.

MALCOLM

(to camera)

That's why I love this guy.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD ENTRANCE - DAY

SFX: CIRCUS MUSIC

The schoolyard has been decorated with BALLOONS and BANNERS touting the ACADEMIC CIRCUS.

CAROLINE.

dressed in BLACK TIGHTS, TOP HAT and FACE PAINT, greets families as they arrive.

CAROLINE

Welcome! Welcome one and all! Run away with us and join the circus! The Academic Circus!

CLOSE ON MALCOLM,

who shakes his head with DISMAY.

MALCOLM

Aw, no.

He and his family approach.

CAROLINE

(to Malcolm, nervous)

Oh, Malcolm, thank Goodness. I was so nervous. I had a dream that you got sick and didn't come, and then I was being chased by something big, but invisible...never mind. You're here, that's all that matters.

Caroline sees DEWEY.

DEWEY'S P.O.V.

A GRINNING, CONTORTED CLOWN FACE LOOMS IN CLOSE.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

CAROLINE  
- (menacing)  
Hello, little guy! Ready to leave your  
family and join the circus?

ON DEWEY

SCARED. He wraps himself around HAL'S LEG.

HAL  
(uncomfortable)  
Little lower there, son.

He READJUSTS Dewey's HANDS.

Behind Caroline stands a RECEIVING LINE of KRELBOYNES,  
awkwardly HIGH-FIVING new arrivals. One of them, LLOYD, a  
goofy kid with BRACES, SPOTS MALCOLM.

LLOYD  
Malcolm's in the house!

KRELBOYNES  
(chanting)  
Mal-colm! Mal-colm!

Reese, eyeing the Krelboynes, CRACKS HIS KNUCKLES.

REESE  
(to himself)  
Oh, man. I'm gonna kick so much  
Krelboyne ass today it's not even funny.

He sees Lloyd happily doing the CABBAGE PATCH DANCE.

REESE (cont'd)  
(to himself)  
Easy. You've got all afternoon.

ON SCHOOLYARD.

The family ENTERS. Krelboyne families sit at PICNIC TABLES.

MALCOLM  
(aside to Francis)  
Fifteen minutes, right?

FRANCIS  
(glancing around)  
Make it ten.

Francis makes EYE CONTACT with JODY, a CUTE GIRL his age.

(CONTINUED)

FRANCIS (cont'd)  
- (to himself)  
Hello.

MALCOLM  
What?

FRANCIS  
Nothing.

LOIS and HAL.

Hal holds a COOLER, Lois a PYREX dish. They approach a group of WOMEN.

LOIS  
Hi. I'm Lois, and this is Hal. We're Malcolm's parents, and we --

DORENE, the self-appointed leader, STEPS FORWARD.

DORENE  
That's very nice. I'm Dorene, and these are the girls.

The other MOTHERS give meek waves.

LOIS  
Nice to meet you.

HAL  
Yeah, it's really...

HAL drifts off, his ATTENTION caught by something over Dorene's SHOULDER.

HAL'S P.O.V.

ZOOM IN on a BARBECUE GRILL, gleaming in the sunlight.

BACK ON HAL

HAL (cont'd)  
(entranced)  
...whatever.

He WALKS OFF, heading toward the barbecue. Lois hands Dorene the DISH.

CONTINUED: (3)

LOIS

I brought along a little dessert. I hope everyone likes brownies.

DORENE

Oh my, that is so thoughtful --  
(glancing at dish)  
Are those nuts?

LOIS

Walnuts.

DORENE

Oh, we can't have that. Some of the children are severely allergic to nuts.

LOIS

Gosh, I had no idea. Who's kid is allergic?

DORENE

Well, no one in this class specifically, but you can never be too careful.

She CLANGS the dish against the side of the TRASH CAN, DUMPING out the BROWNIES, smiles, and hands a stunned Lois back the dish.

ANGLE ON:FRANCIS

stepping behind the CLASSROOM to have a SMOKE. JODY is there, just finishing her cigarette.

FRANCIS

Hi.

JODY

Hi.

FRANCIS

So, you here?

JODY

Yeah. You?

FRANCIS

Yeah.

A beat, then they GO AT IT, MAKING OUT somewhat but not exactly like drunk monkeys.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ANGLE ON:

STEVIE

as he wheels himself UP THE RAMP to the CLASSROOM, a BOX of half full BEAKERS and TEST TUBES on his lap. Malcolm joins him.

MALCOLM

Where are you going?

STEVIE

Gotta get...these chemicals...out of the sun.

MALCOLM

What kind of act are you doing, anyways?

STEVIE

(nervous)

Catalytic...reactions. People will...like that, right?

MALCOLM

What are you so nervous about?

STEVIE

I'm up...after you.

MALCOLM

So?

STEVIE

So...following your act...is like following...Streisand.

Malcolm glances at his watch, and gets up.

MALCOLM

Well, don't worry about it. You won't be following me.

Malcolm Walks off.

STEVIE

(panicked)

Why? Have I...been bumped?

ANGLE ON:

BEHIND CLASSROOM

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Malcolm comes around the wall to find Francis and Jody, still  
MAKING OUT.

MALCOLM

(alarmed)

Francis, what are you -- come on, the  
coast is -- it's been ten minutes and --

(deflated)

--and we're not ditching out, are we?

Francis continues kissing, COMPLETELY OBLIVIOUS to Malcolm.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

FIVE KRELBOYNES sitting at a picnic table, peacefully working on their circus presentations.

ON REESE

peeking at them THROUGH BUSHES.

REESE

(quietly)

A small pack of Krelboynes has ventured out of hiding to bask in the afternoon sun. Their defenses down, they are an easy target for nearby predators.

ON BLUE SKY

A Krelboyne HEAD POPS UP into frame, EYES DARTING, NOSTRILS FLARING. He senses danger. ANOTHER HEAD follows, THEN ANOTHER.

ON KRELBOYNES

They nervously move closer to each other, getting ready to bolt.

ON REESE

REESE (cont'd)

They sense danger, but it is too late. Their hesitation is fatal.

Reese CRASHES THROUGH the BUSHES.

ON KRELBOYNES

Panicking.

SIMON

Aaak!

DIMITRI

Aak! Aak!

They take off, RUNNING IN A TIGHT PACK. They ZIG ZAG back and forth as Reese gives chase.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A RED-HEADED Krelboyne SPLITS away from the others. Reese goes after him, CORNERING HIM BY A FENCE. Grinning, he slowly moves in on RED-HEAD.

REESE

And the circle of life goes on.

Suddenly, a LARGE SHADOW engulfs him, and a BIG HAND grabs him by the SHOULDER. Reese turns to see a MUCH BIGGER VERSION OF RED-HEAD, obviously his OLDER BROTHER. He looks from one to the other in disbelief.

RED HEAD

Kafka-esque, isn't it?

REESE

Huh?

RED HEAD

Never mind.  
(to brother)  
Kick his butt.

Reese RUNS FOR HIS LIFE.

ANGLE ON:

HAL

carrying his COOLER, approaches several Krelboyne FATHERS standing around the GRILL, BARBECUING.

HAL

Hiya, fellas.

DAVE

What's your pleasure? Nature dog, health patty, tofu square?

Hal glances down at the grill. Cooking on it are greenish SOY DOGS, grey VEGGIE BURGERS, and QUIVERING CHUNKS of TOFU.

HAL

(recoiling)  
Good God.

BERNIE

Could you brown that chicken leg a little more for me?

He points to a PALE, somewhat chicken-leg-shaped piece of TOFU.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE

You got it.

He takes a SPRAY BOTTLE, and SPRITZES a BROWN COLORING onto the tofu.

HAL

Well, it looks like I got here just in time. Gentlemen...

Hal opens his COOLER TOP to reveal neatly stacked rows of ALL BEEF HOT DOGS and HAMBURGERS. The FATHERS GASP in AWE.

BERNIE

Is that...meat?

HAL

Nothing but.

Just then, DORENE passes by, and Hal quickly SHUTS THE LID. The fathers stand around, LOOKING GUILTY.

ANGLE ON:

THE STAGE

DABNEY stands over a card table, LOOKING INTO a MICROSCOPE.

DABNEY

(excited)

Wait, wait, here it comes...Yes! Right there! I have arrested the cellular mitosis!

He PUMPS HIS FISTS and takes a BOW, but no one is paying attention. CAROLINE jumps up onto the the stage.

CAROLINE

(overly enthusiastic)

Thank you, Dabney. That was riveting! Our next act needs no introduction, having been the buzz of last year's Math Fair. Presenting Flora Mayesh and Fermat's Last Theorem!

FLORA takes the stage, putting a POSTERBOARD with an incredibly complex MATH EQUATION up on an easel.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

FLORA

- (using a pointer)

If we remove the Euler system, we can prove that the properties of certain Hecke algebras are local complete intersections...

ANGLE ON:MALCOLM and STEVIE

watching the act. Malcolm glances over at Francis and Jody, still MAKING OUT.

MALCOLM

(pissed)

Damn.

(to camera)

Loose girl trumps brother every time.

STEVIE

No. This is...good. The worse...they look...the better I do.

Caroline joins them, looking around nervously. No one is paying attention to the acts.

CAROLINE

This is going well, right?

MALCOLM

It's pretty much everything I expected.

CAROLINE

So you're ready, Malcolm? I mean, you're all set for your act, right?

MALCOLM

(to camera)

That's like asking a condemned man if he's all set for the electric chair.

Caroline HURRIES OFF.

STEVIE

I'm...ready. Thanks for...asking.

ANGLE ON:LOIS

is in line for a drink. Dorene JOINS HER.

(CONTINUED)

DORENE

So, I understand Malcolm has quite the vocabulary.

LOIS

He does love to read. He's the only one in the family with a library card.

DORENE

That's not the kind of vocabulary I meant. It seems he taught several of the children the "L" word.

LOIS

The "L" word?

DORENE

I'm sure it's just something he picked up off the street...at least I hope it is.

She walks off.

LOIS

(under her breath)

"L" you, lady.

ANGLE ON:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - LATER

Francis and Jody, all lovey dovey, HOLD HANDS as they walk.

FRANCIS

You know what's so great about our relationship? It still feels so...fresh. You know what I mean?

JODY

Totally.

They KISS as they approach HAL, who is busy at the grill with his contraband meat. He's wearing an APRON as he happily takes orders from other DADS. Dewey is beside him, COVERED IN MEAT.

DAVE

I need two burgers and a dog, Hal.

HAL

Coming up. Dewey?

Dewey hands him some PATTIES from the cooler.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HAL (cont'd)  
What have I told you about raw meat, son?

DEWEY  
(mouth full)  
I'm not.

FRANCIS  
Dad, I want you to meet someone. This is  
Jody.

HAL  
(not looking up)  
Hi.

JODY  
It's so great to finally meet you.  
Francis talks about you all the time.

HAL  
Yeah? You too.

ANGLE ON:THE STAGE

Lloyd fiddles with a MUSHROOM-SHAPED DEVICE. He turns to the crowd.

LLOYD  
Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the  
Nixon Electromagnet!

He FLIPS a SWITCH.

SFX: LOW HUMMING

Lloyd's FACE SMASHES DOWN against the magnet, his BRACES stuck to it.

LLOYD (cont'd)  
Hurn ih hoff! Hlease, hurn ih hoff!

ANGLE ON:STAGE SIDE

Malcolm is dejected. Stevie is SETTING UP the CHEMICALS for his act.

STEVIE  
This is it. You're...almost up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MALCOLM  
Stop reminding me.

STEVIE  
Nervous?

MALCOLM  
No, I just don't want to do this.  
(then)  
Don't you ever get sick of being a  
Krelboyne? Of everyone looking at you  
like you're some kind of freak?

STEVIE  
You are...what you are. Just...accept  
it.

MALCOLM  
Not without a fight.

STEVIE  
You're harshing...my buzz.

He starts to wheel away.

MALCOLM  
Where are you going?

STEVIE  
To get in...the zone. Don't let  
anyone...mess with my stuff.

Stevie leaves. Malcolm SIGHS, then notices Stevie's  
CHEMICALS. He pulls out several of the TEST TUBES and reads  
their LABELS.

MALCOLM  
(to camera)  
You know, in the wrong hands, these  
chemicals could make a powerful stink  
bomb.  
(glancing at his hands)  
These hands look wrong enough.

ANGLE ON:

THE STAGE

where ERASERHEAD has an elaborate RUBE GOLDBERG CONTRAPTION  
set up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ERASERHEAD

- (explaining)  
 ...and if it worked, this would've  
 pressed this lever here, which would've  
 released this thing, causing this part to  
 shoot way up into the air.  
 (then, ruefully)  
 That would've been cool.

ANGLE ON:ON CAROLINE

who SHAKES HER HEAD in dismay.

CAROLINE

This is going dreadfully. Am I wrong?  
 Please tell me I'm wrong.

We see that she is talking to DEWEY, who is SUCKING on a  
 BOTTLE of KETCHUP.

ANGLE ON:DORENE

at a table, addressing some other women.

DORENE

And this field trip that's planned to the  
 historic ghost town? I think we all know  
 what that sort of thing leads to - the  
 occult, devil worship, state  
 colleges...So then, it's agreed the trip  
 will be cancelled.

LOIS, sitting at the next table eating a hamburger, TURNS  
 AROUND.

LOIS

Wait a minute. You can't decide that.  
 You didn't even vote. Stop being such a  
 control freak, lady.

DORENE

(annoyed)

I was just going by the general tone of  
 the group.

LOIS

General tone? I haven't heard a peep out  
 of any of these other women all day.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Lois turns to the other women.

LOIS (cont'd)  
Do you all agree with Dorene here?

WOMAN #1  
(hesitant)  
Well...

DORENE  
Phyllis!

WOMAN #1  
(snapping)  
My name isn't Phyllis! And no, I don't  
feel that way!

With that, the women all start YELLING AT DORENE. Lois turns  
back to her table.

LOIS  
I think I'll try some of that macaroni  
salad.

ANGLE ON:

KRELBOYNE SIMON

eating a HAMBURGER. He glances down at it, his EYES  
WIDENING.

SIMON  
(horrified)  
My soyburger...it's bleeding!

FLORA  
(studying her hot dog)  
It's meat! We're eating meat!

DABNEY  
Oh my god!

A CHAIN REACTION ensues, as Krelboynes start SPITTING,  
GAGGING and COUGHING UP their food.

HAL

at the GRILL, glances around, then nonchalantly SLIPS OFF his  
STAINED APRON and backs away.

ANGLE ON:

CAROLINE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

as she surveys the MAYHEM. WOMEN are FIGHTING, KRELBOYNES are GAGGING and SPITTING, REESE, being chased by BIG RED, runs across a PICNIC TABLE, knocking over FOOD and DRINKS. Then...

SFX: FOOM!

A GIANT CLOUD of BLACK SMOKE erupts from Stevie's CHEMICALS.

ON MALCOLM

backing away from the cloud.

MALCOLM

(to camera, nervous)

Okay, the difference between a stinkbomb and a level three toxic biohazard is apparently two extra drops of sulfur tetra-oxide. I'm totally suing that website.

He BUMPS INTO Hal, who is still backing away from the meat debacle.

MALCOLM/HAL

Didn't do it!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACT THREEFADE IN:EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Malcolm looks on as TWO MEN in FULL YELLOW HAZ MAT SUITS run a GEIGER COUNTER-TYPE DEVICE over a SOBBING Caroline, her FACE PAINT smeared from the tears. Not a pretty sight.

MALCOLM

(to camera)

I'm kind of conflicted. On the one hand, I've ruined Caroline's picnic and very possibly endangered a hundred lives. On the other hand, now I don't have to do my act.

ANGLE ON:CLOSE UP OF REESE

a pained look on his face.

REESE

I love Krelboynes. And I swear, I'm not just saying that. Why would I?

WIDEN

to see that he is HANGING ON A FENCE by his UNDERWEAR. BIG RED, RED HEAD, and two other KRELBOYNES stand around him.

RED HEAD

Say it with verisimilitude.

REESE

(confused)

That's just not fair.

ERASERHEAD

(to Big Red)

Nice hang time.

BIG RED

It's really a simple function of the tensile strength of the elastic in his underpants.

REESE

Oh, I hate you guys.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

ANGLE ON:

FRANCIS

as he walks over and sits down next to Jody.

FRANCIS

Miss me?

JODY

Mm hmm.

(then)

So, who was that girl with her hands all over you?

FRANCIS

What girl? You mean the paramedic? She was checking to make sure I didn't inhale any toxic fumes.

JODY

And I'm sure you loved every minute of it.

FRANCIS

What? God, would you quit nagging me?

JODY

Well, maybe if you paid a little more attention to me --

FRANCIS

More attention? You're smothering me! I need some space.

JODY

Oh, you'll get your space! We're through!

FRANCIS

Fine by me.

She pulls a RING off her finger.

JODY

Here's the school ring you gave me.

They start EXCHANGING THINGS.

FRANCIS

Your teddy bear key chain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JODY

Your sweater, and the book you lent me.

FRANCIS

Your Depeche Mode tape, two poems...Oh,  
and here's your gum.

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The lights are OFF. Caroline, her make-up mostly off, sits at her desk, CRYING. Malcolm comes in, carrying a plate of FOOD.

MALCOLM

I brought you a hamburger.

(to camera)

This should make us about even, right?

CAROLINE

Thank you.

She DIGS INTO the burger, still CRYING.

CAROLINE

(chewing)

Is this meat?

MALCOLM

Uh, it might be.

CAROLINE

(wolfing it down)

Look what I've been reduced to.

Malcolm starts backing out.

MALCOLM

Okay, well, I guess --

CAROLINE

I'm sorry, Malcolm.

MALCOLM

Huh?

CAROLINE

(sniffling)

I'm sorry. I know how much you were looking forward to doing your act, especially with your family here, and I screwed up everything. I've failed you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALCOLM

No, you didn't.

CAROLINE

Yes, I did. And after today, they're going to fire my ass so fast. My parents were right. I should never have left the cannery.

She starts to CRY again.

MALCOLM

(guilt-ridden)

Want another hamburger?

CAROLINE

(wailing)

Yes.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Lois and Hal sit at a picnic table. Dorene APPROACHES them.

HAL

Can you believe it? Meat? I don't know about you, but I am outraged.

Dorene turns to Lois.

DORENE

(menacing)

I want you to know that I will see to it that you never serve on a school committee, hold an office, or even so much as set foot in a PTA meeting as long as I can help it.

LOIS

(pleasantly)

Is that a promise? Because I'm going to hold you to that.

DORENE

I should've expected as much from the mother of a foul-mouthed thug. What he's even doing in this class I don't know.

She storms off.

HAL

I see you made a friend.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOIS

Yeah, we're going shoe shopping tomorrow.

ANGLE ON:

CAROLINE

stands silently as she's being berated by several PARENTS.

PARENT

I have to say that we are extremely disappointed. Nothing here has impressed us in the least, and I guarantee you that the principal will hear about this.

ON MALCOLM

watching. He can't take it any more. He turns to Francis, who is sitting next to him, stewing.

MALCOLM

Can I ask you a question?

FRANCIS

Yes! All women suck!

MALCOLM

You'd still like me, even if you found out I was a freak, right? And the family wouldn't treat me any different, right?

FRANCIS

Who needs her, anyway? Not me, I can tell you that.

Malcolm sighs, steels himself, and MARCHES toward the STAGE.

SIMON

Look! It's Malcolm!

Caroline sees him, and immediately brightens.

CAROLINE

(excited)

Ooh! Everybody! Quiet! He's doing it! Malcolm's doing his act!

Malcolm climbs onto the stage as the picnic quiets down.

MALCOLM

Um, could somebody please hold up a credit card?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TWO FATHERS hold up CREDIT CARDS. Malcolm glances at them for a second.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Okay, the numbers on them are 3424 1804  
1835 3668 and 3699 7412 6823 9140.

DAVE

He's right.

BERNIE

Here too.

There is LIGHT APPLAUSE.

MALCOLM

Wait, that's not the act. Okay, the sums  
of those numbers are 66 and 74. 66 times  
74 is 4884. 4884 squared is 23,853,456.

The crowd MURMURS, impressed.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

The square root of 4884 is 69.885. The  
square root of that is 8.3597.

DORENE

How do we know he's even right?

Eraserhead works his WATCH CALCULATOR.

ERASERHEAD

Oh, he's right!  
(calling to Malcolm)  
Factor it!

MALCOLM

2,2,2, and 73.

DIMITRI

Multiply it by Pi!

MALCOLM

26.261

SIMON

Cube it!

MALCOLM

(concentrating)  
584.214.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ON CROWD

stunned looks.

LLOYD

What's the arc tangent?

MALCOLM

89.90 degrees.

FLORA

Natural log?

MALCOLM

6.3699

ON REESE

still hanging from the fence, watches Malcolm's act. His UNDERWEAR RIPS, and he falls out of frame.

RED HEAD

To the base eight?

MALCOLM

11431

BIG RED

And the reciprocal?

MALCOLM

(eyes fluttering)

.0017

ON LOIS, HAL and FRANCIS

staring in amazement.

DABNEY

What's the capital of Iceland?

MALCOLM

Reykjavik, but that's not math.

The crowd EXPLODES WITH APPLAUSE.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD ENTRANCE - DAY

The families are heading to their cars. Hal and Lois pass Dorene, berating her kid, Lloyd.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DORENE

Why can't you do that? An electromagnet?  
What are we paying your tutor for?

Malcolm and Stevie pass Caroline, who is being CONGRATULATED  
BY PARENTS.

MALCOLM

Well? Was it as bad as I think it was?

STEVIE

Man. You...killed.

MALCOLM

That's what I was afraid of.  
(then)  
Sorry you didn't get to do your act.

STEVIE

(shrugs)  
That's...show biz.

ON FRANCIS

as he bumps into Jody in the crowd.

FRANCIS

Hey.

JODY

Hi.

A beat.

FRANCIS

So, how have you been?

ON REESE

WALKING FUNNY. He finds himself next to KRELBOYNE SIMON.

REESE

You have any brothers?

SIMON

No.

Reese SOCKS him in the arm.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

The family gets into the car. There is an uncomfortable silence, as they all give Malcolm ODD LOOKS.

MALCOLM

(to camera)

See what happens when you try to do a nice thing? This is exactly what I knew would happen. They think I'm a freak.

A beat.

FRANCIS

Hey Malcolm.

MALCOLM

(apprehensive)

Yeah?

Francis holds up a hand, and gives Malcolm THE FINGER behind it.

FRANCIS

How many fingers am I holding up?

The family CRACKS UP. Reese leans over and BURPS in Malcolm's face.

REESE

And what did I have for lunch, Einstein?

LOIS

I don't understand it. You can do that, but you can't remember to brush your teeth?

Malcolm SMILES, realizing nothing has changed.

DEWEY

Is Malcolm a robot?

HAL

Sure, son.

(to others)

All right, who's for Burger Barn?

As they drive off, LAUGHING and JOKING, we...

FADE OUT.



END OF ACT THREE