

MOONTOWN

"One Small Step Forward, Two Small Steps Back"  
Written by

Toby Arguello

EXT. MARS - PARK - DAY

The wealthy, thriving colonies of Mars in the year 2121. Bright healthy grass against the crisp red backdrop of Mars. Under a dome, people in spacesuits walk their dogs through a park filled with giant, sci-fi plants. Kids on hoverboards zoom past them and lead us to

EXT. MARS - NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

A happy suburban neighborhood, with nearly identical retro futuristic houses. A woman walks past them while a FaceTime-like CONVERSATION is projected in front of her. She leads us to

EXT. MARS - FANCY BUILDING - DAY

A classy building behind a beautiful courtyard, complete with ornate fountain. A sign reads "Martian Academy for Prodigious Children".

CORBEAU (V.O.)

(cold)

Let's get this over with, Rowdy.

Across the street from this gorgeous plaza is a markedly worse-looking building, covered in graffiti and toilet paper. The sign on this one reads "Mars School For Troubled Youth".

INT. CORBEAU'S OFFICE - DAY

A dark dean's office with decor that says "I'm a professional and I hate fun". ROWDY, 16, carefree and mischievous, walks in and jumps into a seat in front of a desk. STEVE, 30s, tiptoes in as if the floor is a minefield, and sits next to Rowdy. Behind the desk is MISTRESS CORBEAU, 40s, cold, calculating, absolutely terrifying.

ROWDY

Howdy, Miss Corbeau!

CORBEAU

I'll be brave and assume you both know why you're here.

ROWDY

Awe, did Steve get in trouble again?

CORBEAU

Normally I wouldn't waste my time dealing with someone like you, Rowdy, or even you, Steven, but this occasion was too good to miss.

ROWDY

Great, I love big events. Remember your birthday?

CORBEAU

Yes, I still have the scars. Contrastingly, today is a happy occasion for me, as you are leaving Mars forever.

Rowdy's confident smile fades. This wasn't part of the plan.

ROWDY

I have to leave Mars? Why?

STEVE

You're pushing me over the edge, that's why!

FLASHBACK  
SEQUENCE:

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

With a swoosh, we see Rowdy holding a glue-covered brush. Steve is on the toilet, struggling to get up, but it's hopeless.

STEVE (V.O.)

You superglued all the toilet seats!

ROWDY (V.O.)

That was a one-time thing, no big deal.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Another swoosh. Rowdy is in the same position, still holding the glue brush, but now we're in a sci-fi playground. Two kids are stuck on a spinner, looking extremely queasy.

CORBEAU (V.O.)

I seem to recall a history of glue-based pranks, Rowdy.

ROWDY (V.O.)  
I have respect for tradition, is  
that such a crime?

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Swoosh! Again, Rowdy stays the same as the background shifts to Steve's bedroom. Steve is on the floor desperately trying to get his pants off, but they won't budge.

STEVE'S VOICE  
I'm too traumatized to wear pants  
now!

END FLASHBACK  
SEQUENCE

INT. CORBEAU'S OFFICE - DAY

Poof! We're back in real time at Corbeau's office. Steve is pointing to his pants.

STEVE  
I had to buy these on the way here.  
It's the first time I've worn pants  
in two months!

ROWDY  
Okay shouldn't he be the one in  
trouble here?

CORBEAU  
In due time, maybe, but since Steve  
is relinquishing foster care of  
you, you have two options. You can  
relocate to Moontown with a distant  
relative--

ROWDY  
Pass.

CORBEAU  
--Or you'll be sent to Space Juvy.

ROWDY  
Space Juvy? That's the name they  
settled on?

STEVE  
Can you hurry up and pick already?  
I forgot how much I liked not  
wearing pants.

Rowdy gets up.

ROWDY

Well, Mars kinda sucks a teeny bit.  
So Moontown it is.

CORBEAU

I'll escort you to the Child  
Services office. I won't let you go  
by yourself again.

ROWDY

Hey, I uncovered a lot of shady  
practices at the zoo that day.

Rowdy and Corbeau walk out. Steve tries to get up to join  
them, but discovers that his seat has been glued. He SCREAMS.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. MOONTOWN - DAY

The glitz and glamor of the Martian colonies is gone. Moontown isn't a total dump, but it's not well-loved either. It's dull and colorless, with brutalist architecture that's more industrial than sci-fi. Rowdy looks on from the window of a spaceship. For the first time, he has a look of genuine concern.

EXT. MOONTOWN - ELM STREET - DAY

Rowdy walks down Elm Street, following holographic directions from a little contraption on his wrist. No one is out on the streets. He notices the street sign.

ROWDY

We're in outer space and they still  
name stuff after trees?

He keeps walking, disgruntled.

EXT. SUZIE'S HOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Of the cookie-cutter Moontown houses, this one stands out a bit. Some parts are in disrepair, and one section is bright yellow as if someone started to paint and just stopped. A CAT on the stoop MEOWS at Rowdy as he approaches.

ROWDY

Oh great, one of these.

INT. SUZIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Rowdy lets himself in. It's messy. The floor is absolutely covered in cats. Rowdy SNEEZES. He looks around. No sign of non-feline life anywhere.

ROWDY

Uh. Hello? Suzie?

Rowdy trudges through the sea of cats like walking through thick snow. On an armchair, SUZIE'S head pokes out from a pile of cats. She's ancient but lively.

SUZIE

I told you people I can't go back  
to prison!

She stops as she realizes Rowdy isn't who she thinks he is.

SUZIE (CONT'D)

Who are you? Lemme get a closer look.

She gets up, still covered in cats, and waddles over to Rowdy and leans in until their noses touch.

ROWDY

Apparently, I'm your great-great-nephew, Rowdy. Give or take a few greats.

She scrunches her face in thought. Then, light bulb!

SUZIE

Jeremy! After all these years my husband comes back to me!

ROWDY

Oh great, one of these.

SUZIE

Boy I oughta smack you for what you did to me, but I can't say no to a face like that. You've aged well.

ROWDY

I have to go to school, Suze. Just dropping off my things.

Rowdy SNEEZES.

SUZIE

Don't get ahead of yourself, you don't look that young.

ROWDY

Ok, fine, I'm going to work at the, uh, business store.

SUZIE

You leave for twenty-five years and you come back for a minute, just to go run off again with that secretary of yours? I don't think so, mister! You're staying with me.

Some cats have started to climb up Rowdy, one nesting in his hair. His face is flushed and he SNEEZES again.

ROWDY  
 (stuffy nose)  
 Do we really have to talk about  
 this now?

SUZIE  
 Yes, Jeremy!

ROWDY  
 You sound just like your mother!

Rowdy SNEEZES again. He picks up a nearby cat and blows his nose with it. The cat responds with an ANGRY MEOW as Rowdy puts it down.

ROWDY (CONT'D)  
 (nose clear)  
 Alright, how's about I take you out  
 to lunch later? Only the finest  
 Moontown has to offer.

Suzie crosses her arms.

SUZIE  
 I've heard that line before. But  
 fine. Maybe this time you'll learn  
 to treat a girl right.

Rowdy walks over to some cabinets and opens it. A few cats tumble out, and he puts his suitcase in.

ROWDY  
 I hope so, Suze. I gotta get my  
 business-ing on. Stay beautiful,  
 honey.

He waves as he walks out.

SUZIE  
 I hate to see him go but I love to  
 watch him walk away.

A cat MEOWS as if to say "gross".

EXT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

An alarmingly quiet public high school. Kids are walking in with little conversation and no hijinks in sight. Rowdy walks up and his face says it all: hell.



INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY

It's not much better on the inside. Everyone wears the school's uniform, grey metallic jumpsuits. A few students glare at Rowdy as he walks into

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Rowdy walks in as PRINCIPAL SMALLBLATTER, 40s but probably still lives with his mom, adjusts his hairpiece. Next to him is IVY, 16, fiery overachiever. She holds a sci-fi clipboard, kind of like a tablet with holograms. As Rowdy enters, Smallblatter YELPS and falls off his chair, his toupee fluttering in the air.

SMALLBLATTER

What? Who? Ivy, who is that? Is that a kid? Doesn't he know I hate kids?

IVY

I think that's our new student, Principal Smallblatter.

SMALLBLATTER

He's--don't--didn't your parents ever teach you to knock?

Rowdy seizes the opportunity and puts on the puppy-dog eyes as Smallblatter puts his hairpiece back on.

ROWDY

I'm sure they would, sir, but--I never knew my parents.

SMALLBLATTER

Oh. What? I'm sorry. Take a seat.

Smallblatter takes his toupee off as a sign of a respect, then hurriedly puts it on when he realizes what he's doing. Ivy taps on her clipboard, and brings up a holographic file.

IVY

Rowdy Reynolds. Age 16. Lived in 4 different colonies on Mars with 5 different foster families. His disciplinary record is...

Her holographic file pulls up a document that reads "R. REYNOLDS DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS". It fills up the page and scrolls down. And keeps scrolling.

IVY (CONT'D)  
 ...significant.

SMALLBLATTER  
 So, I hear your disciplinary record  
 is significant. Well, you should  
 stop that now.

He looks at Ivy with a smile and nod, as if to say "did you see that Dad? I'm doing great."

ROWDY  
 It's probably because I haven't  
 been under a great administration,  
 like yours, sir!

SMALLBLATTER  
 That's some quality butt-kissin',  
 kid. Ivy. Schedule Rowdy here for a  
 tour with some nerd to show him  
 around Neil Armstrong High, please.

IVY  
 I already did. With me. Also, you  
 have three missed calls from your  
 mother and one from your urologist  
 who asked if it "happened again".

Smallblatter looks at Rowdy, then back at Ivy, and nods sadly. Ivy makes a note.

SMALLBLATTER  
 I should let you know that we here  
 at Neil Armstrong High have a zero-  
 tolerance policy against any  
 misbehavior, antics, or  
 (air quotes)  
 "Fun". Am I clear?

ROWDY  
 Crystal, sir!

SMALLBLATTER  
 Great. Now get out of my office.  
 And close the door. And please, no  
 interruptions, it's time for my  
 mineral bath.

Rowdy follows Ivy out into

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Ivy doesn't look up from her clipboard as she walks.

ROWDY

So you seem pretty young to be a secretary.

IVY

I'm not his secretary. Ivy Thorne. Two term Student Body President. I'm the glue that keeps this school running.

ROWDY

I don't think glue would help you run.

IVY

It does when it's my glue.

Rowdy looks around at all the other students who wander the hall like zombies. Ivy continues her power-walk pace, and Rowdy jogs to catch up.

ROWDY

If you're like the actual principal, then you can be my guy on the inside. I've got some big plans for that dude. Do you know anyone that could get me a horse, no questions asked?

IVY

Don't mess with him. He's sensitive. And if the board figures out how pathetic he actually is, they'll hire someone competent and then I won't get to do my job any more.

They pass a cafeteria. Rowdy notices a bunch of posters, with inspiring slogans like "Remember, You Have to Be Here" and "School: Just Accept It".

IVY (CONT'D)

Life's only as difficult as you make it here. Blend in with the wallpaper and you'll be fine.

Ivy and Rowdy stop near a strip of lockers. Ivy's grey uniform blends perfectly with the grey wallpaper. Rowdy's sharp orange Martian outfit does not. Rowdy points to something off-screen.

ROWDY

So, don't be like that loser?

Packed into a locker is THIRD, 14, wearing a uniform two sizes too big and glasses bigger than his head. He's reading a book.

IVY  
 (defensive)  
 That's my best friend.  
 (a beat, softer)  
 Yes, don't be like him.

Ivy and Rowdy approach Third, who puts his book down and waves.

THIRD  
 Hey Ivy!  
 (re: Rowdy)  
 You're new!

ROWDY  
 Hey man. I'm Rowdy. Do you know where I can get a horse, per chance? It's an emergency.

THIRD  
 Nope! I'm Douglas Niels Haversham III, but everyone just calls me Third. I think it's because it's shorter!

ROWDY  
 Wow, I didn't know you were a detective.

THIRD  
 No, I'm too young to be a detective. I'm just a high school student!

ROWDY  
 Yikes. Okay, what do you do for fun around here Third? I want to mess with Smallblatter, but apparently that's a no-no.

Ivy and Third look at him confused and slightly concerned.

IVY  
 We don't do that kind of stuff around here.

ROWDY  
 You don't do what? Fun?

THIRD

The real fun is learning.

ROWDY

Ok, so school's hopeless. Not really a shocker there. What about around town?

Ivy starts to help Third get out of the locker.

IVY

Um. There's a particularly nice crater, if that's your thing.

ROWDY

No one's "thing" is craters. What about augmented reality arcades? Zero gravity parks?

IVY

We have an empty lot not too far from here.

THIRD

One day, there was a can we could kick around! Good times.

Rowdy looks distraught, but then the ground shakes. SLOANE, 18, a behemoth of a senior, enters and swipes the book out of Third's hand.

THIRD (CONT'D)

Hi, Sloane!

SLOANE

What's this?

THIRD

A book.

SLOANE

What, can you read or something? What a nerd!

She takes a bite out of the cover and chews it, then laughs with her mouth full. She walks down the hallway, laughing as she takes another bite from the book, and punches a dent in a random locker.

ROWDY

She seems nice.

Multiple screens on the wall flicker on, showing Smallblatter's face.

SMALLBLATTER

Alright kids, get to class. Go on.  
Shoo.

He flickers out. Rowdy walks away from Ivy and Third.

ROWDY

Well, if you want some turmoil, you  
gotta provoke it yourself. Just  
like Gandhi said. Bye guys!

IVY

Turmoil?

THIRD

Bye!

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - MATH CLASSROOM - DAY

Ivy and Third are sitting attentively in math class. A few kids are sleeping, along with the teacher. The kids are facing a wall that is automatically generating, solving, and explaining math equations. Third leans over to Ivy.

THIRD

I have a plan to fix my bullying  
problem, but it needs your help.

IVY

We've been over this, Third, no  
one's going to believe I'm your  
Mom.

THIRD

Different one this time. You know  
Old Man Oldman?

IVY

The dirt farmer? Yeah, why?

THIRD

He got a force field put in to help  
keep birds out of his crop.

EXT. MOON FARM - DAY

A patch of soil among the moon rocks, with a chrome barn in the background. A bird flies in and smacks into an invisible wall.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - MATH CLASSROOM - DAY

IVY

I thought he got that for Sloane.

EXT. MOON FARM - DAY

The same scene as before. Sloane comes barging in, LAUGHING, but crashes into the invisible wall.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - MATH CLASSROOM - DAY

THIRD

If I can get that force field transmitter, do you think you could help me rewire it? Then I'd have a personal force field.

IVY

I'm not sure, I haven't dealt with transmitters like that. Also, your plan is crazy and dumb and bad.

THIRD

It's one of those things, tops!

MATH TEACHER (O.S.)

Shh!

The math teacher gives them a stern look and has his finger over his lips. He lays his head back on his pillow and falls back asleep.

THIRD

Help me fix up the force field and I'll let you wear it to parties. You wouldn't have to talk to anyone!

Ivy ponders this.

IVY

Deal. But I'm not responsible if this gets all Third-y.

MATH TEACHER

Ivy! Stop talking! Do you have any idea what this lesson is about?

IVY

Polynomial long division?

MATH TEACHER

Good. Can you explain it to me? I'm totally lost.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY

Third and Ivy walk down the hallway past the cafeteria. Rowdy pokes his head out the door.

ROWDY

Hey party people! You know, I was wrong about this place. If you look hard enough, you can find ways to have fun.

THIRD

My dad told me about fun once. He said people back on Earth used to have it. Sounds pretty over-rated.

IVY

What did you do?

ROWDY

Noothing. But I wouldn't come in here.

Ivy storms in.

IVY

If you messed around with the food I hope you've had a tetanus shot recently.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY -  
CONTINUOUS

Ivy walks in. And abruptly stops. The walls are covered in posters of Smallblatter. Some made to look like mugshots. Some have crude, unflattering drawings of him. Some read "Principal Smallblatter likes to eat babies and wear their diapers. Do you think this is okay?"

Rowdy admires his handiwork.

IVY

How could you? You'll ruin him!



ROWDY

You really think so? This was all just off the top of the dome, you know, if I had more time I could really dig deep, shake him to the core.

Ivy walks over to a wall, and her shocked expression suddenly fades. She flips a switch, and all the walls flip over to a clean, completely poster-free side. Now it's Rowdy's turn to look shocked.

IVY

This isn't Mars, buddy.

She walks away as Rowdy looks out at the barren walls.

THIRD (O.S.)

You're right, it's the Moon. Why would it be Mars?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY

Ivy and Third are at their lockers. Third is tinkering with a weird, backpack-like electronic device. This is the force field generator.

IVY

Rowdy's just going to keep trying to mess with Smallblatter until the poor guy is crying home to Mommy. You know I just got him to stop sucking his thumb when he's nervous?

THIRD

Do you think you can help me with this?

IVY

What's his goal? He's just bored, right? I know this place might seem boring if you come from fancy-pants Mars, but it's home for all of us.

THIRD

Just not sure about this setting here, I think it changes the actual shape of the field but I can't tell how.

IVY

I'm not letting Smallblatter lose his job as fake principal or else I'll lose my job as actual principal!

THIRD

You did say you'd help me.

Smallblatter pokes his head out of a nearby door.

SMALLBLATTER

Ivy! I need your help with that new kid. Jumpy? Frowny? Sleepy? You know.

IVY

Why are you waiting in a broom closet?

SMALLBLATTER

This is my favorite place to cry.

Ivy sighs and walks over to Smallblatter, abandoning Third who doesn't look up from his tinkering as he talks.

THIRD

Okay, I think I got it. There should be some buttons on the other side, could you press the green one please? Ivy?

He waits a beat, still messing with the electronics.

THIRD (CONT'D)

(genuine)

Okay, if you're busy abandoning me that's fine. Anyone then? Just push this button.

Someone pushes the button. Third looks up with a smile.

THIRD (CONT'D)

Thanks! Oh.

It's Sloane, with a twisted smile that says "I'm about to hurt you". Third tries to run away, but immediately runs into the force field. He looks back at Sloane with a shy smile.

THIRD (CONT'D)

Well done! Top drawer bullying, Sloane.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - ENGLISH CLASSROOM - DAY

Rowdy and Ivy are leaving the classroom.

ROWDY

Back on Mars, the students were the ones that got sent to detention.

IVY

Miss Robbins has been acting out lately, but we're all rooting for her.

A RANDOM STUDENT walks by them. Rowdy suddenly looks concerned and leans over to talk to him.

ROWDY

Hey man, no talking about the thing in front of her.

Rowdy points his head in Ivy's direction.

RANDOM STUDENT

What thing? Who told you about that? My doctor said no one would notice!

He runs away. Rowdy looks a little confused, but Ivy is tapping her foot.

IVY

What "thing", Rowdy?

ROWDY

Nothing. But hey, does Smallblatter do lunch duty? Out of curiosity.

IVY

Sometimes. He's lactose intolerant, so he doesn't like being near the milk fumes.

Ivy's face scrunches as she starts to realize what's happening.

IVY (CONT'D)

So the "thing" is related to lunch, huh?

Rowdy shrugs with a smile. Ivy sprints towards the cafeteria.

On her way, she sees Third, who has three or four students stuck on him.

THIRD

Hey Ivy! I think I accidentally put it on "attract". Technology, am I right? So if I could get that help now, it would really be--

IVY

(running past him)  
Can't help now, sorry!

She pushes the doors into

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Kids are trickling into the cafeteria but it's mostly empty. Ivy runs towards the kitchen area.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - KITCHEN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Two lunch workers are busy fencing with soup ladles. There are two giant vats labeled "PINK GOOP" and "BLUE GOOP". Ivy hurriedly moves them.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

The cafeteria is full now, and the kids are RUMBLING as rumors spread that the goop is missing.

SLOANE

Hey, where's our goop? We're hungry!

KIDS

Yeah!

The students grow more restless. Smallblatter enters, pushing his way through the crowd of kids.

SMALLBLATTER

Gross, stay away from me! Who are you? Shut up! I hate kids. Has anyone seen the new guy? Foggy, Cloudy, Sneezy, you know.

Rowdy bursts through the double doors, and jumps on top of one of the tables.

ROWDY

(screams)  
Food fight!

Silence. Everyone is looking at him, in angry confusion.

SLOANE

How can we have a food fight, when there's no food!?

Rowdy, embarrassed slowly steps off his table. Kids start LAUGHING at him. Smallblatter approaches him.

SMALLBLATTER

Wow, that's embarrassing. You must be having a terrible first day. Like the worst. Anyway, someone's here to see you in my office.

Rowdy, visibly crushed, actually complies and follows Smallblatter.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Rowdy and Smallblatter enter the office. Suzie, now dolled up, is sitting in a chair, putting on makeup while looking into a holographic vanity mirror. A couple of cats are with her.

ROWDY

Suzie?

SUZIE

You said you'd take me out to lunch, Jeremy. But then I find you here, hanging out with high school girls!

SMALLBLATTER

Who's this?

ROWDY

(casually)

My wife.

(to Suzie)

Suze, I'm sorry, I don't think I'm cut out for all this. Maybe I should just go back to Mars.

SUZIE

Oh no you don't. For the past twenty-five years, I've had nothing to do, a beautiful princess trapped in her castle. When I get bored, I adopt a cat. That's it, that's my life. But now you're here, and I can go out to dinner. I can start to look fancy. I wanna explore Moontown. You've made this place exciting again.

ROWDY

"Exciting" is a strong word.

SUZIE

I can't go back to my old life, Jer. I can't adopt any more cats. Legally, I can't adopt any more cats. I don't know what else to do.

Rowdy thinks about this for a while. He wasn't expecting all this.

ROWDY

I don't know if I can do lunch today, Suzie.

She looks disappointed, and turns off her holographic mirror.

ROWDY (CONT'D)  
But how about dinner?

She looks up with a smile. She puts her hologram device in her purse, where another cat sticks its head out.

SMALLBLATTER  
I'm sorry, wife?

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY

Rowdy steps out of the office and turns, and almost immediately smacks into a force field. He looks and sees Third way down the hall.

THIRD  
Hey, Rowdy.

ROWDY  
Hey. How's that force field going?

THIRD  
I think I almost got the hang of it. How's your first day living in Moontown?

ROWDY  
Well I humiliated myself in front of all the kids, the principal hates me, and I disappointed my wife. So not great. As much as I hate to say it, I think I had it better on Mars.

THIRD  
Everyone would have it better on Mars. It'd take something special to make Moontown the better place. But it's already more interesting. I'll actually get to add an entry to my diary.

ROWDY  
How many entries do you have?

THIRD  
Just one. "Bought a diary."

Rowdy smiles.

ROWDY

Hey, do you want some help with  
that force field?

END OF ACT TWO



ACT THREE

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Ivy and Smallblatter shake hands in the office.

SMALLBLATTER

Really good job keeping Rowdy under wraps today.

Smallblatter washes his hands.

IVY

Um, yeah. Sure thing.

SMALLBLATTER

I looked over his file. He was trouble. Parents disappear as a kid, passed around from family to family. The sob story kids are always the worst.

IVY

(beat)

Yeah.

SMALLBLATTER

Did you know he put firecrackers into a tub of caviar at some big rich person event, just because the organization was stealing money from local orphanages to buy like, lots of caviar? What a dweeb.

IVY

Mhm.

SMALLBLATTER

I'm just glad he's ready to go to Space Juvy and everything will be peaceful again.

Slam! Sloane kicks the door open, with an angry mob of students behind her. She ROARS.

SLOANE

Where's our food?!

SMALLBLATTER

How'd you kick that door in? It slides?

SLOANE

No one can find the goop. Where's the goop? We're hungry!

SMALLBLATTER

I didn't touch the goop! Man, if I had a dollar for every time I've had to say that sentence.

Sloane approaches Smallblatter, fist raised, who immediately SCREAMS.

IVY

Stop. I moved it. To the one place no one would look.

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - LIBRARY - DAY

Neil Armstrong High's cobweb-coated library. The kids are happily eating their goop around the tables. Smallblatter looks pleased with himself.

SMALLBLATTER

(dreamily)

Look at this picture. I'm so good at this. No food fight.

RANDOM STUDENT

There was gonna be a food fight?

SMALLBLATTER

No one thinks I eat babies.

RANDOM STUDENT 2

You eat babies?

Rowdy reveals himself to be in the audience.

ROWDY

Hey, everyone! Smallblatter just admitted to eating babies so he can wear their diapers!

RANDOM STUDENT 2

I don't like that!

The students start to corner Smallblatter.

SMALLBLATTER

What? That's crazy! I don't eat babies! Why would I wear their diapers? They wouldn't fit. I can afford my own diapers anyway!

RANDOM STUDENT

This guy knows how much diapers  
cost!

SLOANE

And he shut down a food fight!

Third enters the library and walks between Smallblatter and the angry crowd, oblivious to the bubbling conflict.

THIRD

Hey Rowdy, I think you made a  
mistake, you set this back to  
"attract".

ROWDY

Let's give our baby-eating  
principal what he deserves! Food  
fight!

Everyone throws their goop towards Smallblatter, who screams and covers his face. However, no goop hits him. He looks up and sees that Third is now a giant goop monster. The now terrifying Third turns to face Sloane. Smallblatter SCREAMS. Sloane SCREAMS.

THIRD

My diary is going to be so cool!

Third flings a giant goop fist toward Sloane and Smallblatter, who dive out of the way. They run out of the library, with Third in hot pursuit.

THIRD (CONT'D)

(as he runs out)

Goop Monsteeeeeer!

Everyone cheers as they're chased out, and the students revel in the anarchy, climbing bookshelves and chugging goop. Ivy walks up to Rowdy.

IVY

Hey. Sorry about embarrassing you  
on your first day.

ROWDY

Don't sweat it, I have the rest of  
high school to embarrass myself on  
my own. Sorry about losing your  
job. I guess? Is that what we're  
calling it?

IVY

I'll find something to micro-manage. I'm just glad I actually had...What's that thing? Where you enjoyed the experience?

ROWDY

Fun?

IVY

That one, yeah.

A bookshelf crashes down in front of them.

IVY (CONT'D)

Are you going back to Mars?

ROWDY

Who knows. Do you think Smallblatter is staying?

IVY

Who knows.

They placidly watch the destruction of the library for a beat, until a blob of goop splashes against Ivy's face. Rowdy LAUGHS. Ivy sternly wipes it off, but can't stifle a GIGGLE.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Rowdy and Suzie are having a candle-lit dinner.

ROWDY

You should check out the food on Mars. Everything has a weird unpronounceable name and they draw little cartoons with the sauce.

SUZIE

Really?

ROWDY

Well at least I did.

SUZIE

Do you miss it?

ROWDY

Sure, I guess. But now there's a whole new crew of people to mess around with. Plus, I actually have someone who wants me around.

Suzie blushes. They clink drinks.

SUZIE  
You're a charmer.

ROWDY  
I would love it if we could lose  
like, maybe three cats though.

SUZIE  
You're out on the street before I  
lose one damn cat.

Rowdy CLEARS HIS THROAT. Point taken.

EXT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Some construction workers are cleaning up the damage in the library, but otherwise things seem to have strangely calmed down. Ivy and Third approach the main doors.

THIRD  
Guess it's just another boring day  
of school.

IVY  
Boring, maybe. But that's a small  
price to pay for a stable learning  
environment.

ROWDY (O.S.)  
Possibly the dumbest thing ever  
said.

	IVY		THIRD
Rowdy?		Rowdy!	

Rowdy smiles.

ROWDY  
C'mon, Madame Student  
Whatchamacallit, let's get this  
school back into party mode. Or at  
least paint it a different color, I  
dunno.

He triumphantly opens the doors and steps into

INT. NEIL ARMSTRONG HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAYS - DAY

He beams, and opens his eyes. Immediately his bright smile fades. Everyone is giving him the stink eye. Everyone.

He walks through the hallways confused. He approaches Sloane, who punches her locker shut.

ROWDY

Hey, Sloane. I hope there's no hard feelings.

SLOANE

All my feelings are hard!  
Smallblatter's in the hospital  
because he was eating diapers! So  
he had to quit!

ROWDY

That's a win, I knew I wasn't far  
off with the baby-eating on that  
guy.

SLOANE

Now they hired a new principal,  
who's way more strict than  
Smallblatter! She says the school  
is now a dictatorship after how we  
behaved! And it's all your fault!

Now there's a crowd around Rowdy, a few pitchforks away from an angry mob. Rowdy sweats but tries to keep his cool.

ROWDY

Hey, if this one sucks I'll just  
get rid of her like I did  
Smallblatter. Trust me I'm at like  
an Olympic level for making  
authority figures quit.

CORBEAU (O.S.)

Now isn't that a bold claim?

Rowdy freezes. No. It can't be! He slowly turns around. It's Corbeau, smiling an evil smile.

CORBEAU (CONT'D)

Won't this be fun?

END OF EPISODE