

BOB'S BURGERS

"THE MOTHMAN PROFIT TEASE"

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ACT ONE**INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY**

Bob and Linda work the counter. Teddy eats at his regular stool. Tina enters in a huff.

TINA

I'm fine. School was fine. There's no need to talk about it.

Tina exits.

LINDA

Aww. My little girl is crying out for help while pretending nothing's wrong. She's all grown up.

TEDDY

She was crying out for help? But I thought she said she was just fine.

BOB

You mean when she blew in here talking about how fine she was?

LINDA

Making an angry face?

BOB

And avoiding eye contact. Is that what you're talking about?

TEDDY

Yeah, when she came in here and said that she was fine and there was no need to talk about it.

LINDA

(CONCERNED) Oh, Teddy.

TEDDY

What?

BOB

Actually, this explains a lot.

TEDDY

What am I missing?

LINDA

Yeah, it kinda does.

Louise and Gene enter.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Hey, kids, do you know what's wrong
with your sister?

LOUISE

Pssh, what isn't wrong with her?

BOB

(Scolding) Louise.

GENE

What? It's a fair question.

BOB

(Uneasy) Yeah, I know, but you
probably shouldn't say it. It's rude.

LOUISE

We're rude? Tina's the one who ditched
us. Her own brother and sister.
Ditched. Left behind. Rudely.

GENE

Yeah! She just bolted off in hysterics and tears after school. When's my after school special, dad?!

BOB

So, do you guys know why she ran off in tears and hysterics?

GENE

Hysterics and tears, dad!

BOB

Okay. So do you know why she's in hysterics and tears?

LOUISE

I don't know. You know how Tina is. Her favorite zombie probably had his butt fall off.

GENE

Tony lost his butt and Tina accidentally married the janitor?! No wonder she's so upset!

LOUISE

Shut up!

LINDA

What do you mean she accidentally married the janitor?

BOB

Yeah, how do you accidentally marry someone?

TEDDY

And why wasn't I invited?

LOUISE

Gosh, what's with the third degree?
It's not my fault you can't keep tabs
on your kids.

BOB

(Scolding) Louise.

LOUISE

(Sighs) Fine.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Tina, Louise, and Gene walk through the hall. Tina's eyes cross as she tries to look at something.

GENE

So I said, "Dinner makes you fat?"

LOUISE

Hmm. Yeah, I still think it needs some
setup. You can't just say the word
"so" and a punch line.

GENE

I hear your note, and I'll see what I
can do.

TINA

There's something on my glasses.

Tina takes off her glasses and wipes them with her shirt.

LOUISE

Tina, please. If you can't be
interesting, be silent.

GENE

Did you ever realize that kittens grow
up by turning cat food into
themselves?

LOUISE

See? Gene gets it.

Tina checks her glasses again. Failing inspection she
aggressively shirt-scrubs her lenses. BAM!

Tina's foot is trapped in the janitor's bucket. Jimmy Pesto
Jr. and Zeke take notice. She struggles to remove it, but
it's jammed.

JIMMY JR.

Is that Tina?

ZEKE

Tina stepped in Mr. Branca's bucket!

Students in the hall all stop what they're doing and laugh.

GENE

(To Louise) Should we do the family
thing and help her?

Louise is already gone. She's over by Tina spreading chaos
like a carnival barker.

LOUISE

Tina stepped in a janitor bucket! In
janitor culture that means she's
married to the janitor!

GENE

I hope he pays her dowry in keys which
is janitor money.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY (PRESENT)

Linda looks astonished.

LINDA

My poor baby. You think we can get the marriage annulled?

BOB

They didn't actually get married. It's just something Louise made up.

LINDA

I know. But you know, in kid-logic... Can they just say the marriage was annulled so Tina can get back some dignity?

GENE

Yeesh, I don't know, mom. That might actually be a step down.

LOUISE

I know. It's one thing to be janitor's wife. It's another thing to be the janitor's spurned ex.

BOB

That's enough out of you, Louise.

LINDA

Yeah, you are grounded, you rumoring-Randy.

LOUISE

Your daughter gets married, and you ground the kid who tells you about it?

GENE

She didn't even invite you!

TEDDY

Oh, you guys didn't get invited either. That makes me feel better about being left out.

LINDA

You're still grounded. That includes the comic convention this weekend.

LOUISE

But I have an elaborate revenge plot!

BOB

Then you definitely can't go. Why did you think that would change our minds?

LOUISE

How can I know anything with these mixed messages? You say to be honest, and when I am, you punish me. Is this the moment we start drifting apart? You already lost Tina. Don't lose me too! Let me go to the comic con.

LINDA

Don't give me that. You know what I say about turning people into public spectacles.

LOUISE

Don't do it to family?

LINDA

Don't do it to family.

INT. TINA'S ROOM - DAY

Tina tugs a brush through a My Little Pony's hair, grunting and ripping tufts of purple mane with each stroke.

TINA

Why can't anything go right for me?!

Why is this my life?!

Tina notices the pony is now completely bald.

TINA (CONT'D)

Oh no, Horace, your mane has fallen out. You have the contagion. Now you have to be quarantined with Ars Poetica and the others.

Tina tosses the horse onto a pile of bald toy horses. She picks up another one and continues the self-soothing ritual.

In the doorway Louise and Gene peak in through the door.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Louise turns the doorknob, closing the door quietly.

LOUISE

Yeesh.

GENE

You sure did a number on her.

LOUISE

Whoa whoa whoa that's a little harsh. I think before we start labeling who did what to whom and who should feel badly about themselves, it's important that we remember that I didn't put Tina's foot in a bucket. She was stupid enough to do that on her own.

TINA (O.S.)

I can hear you guys.

LOUISE

I just saw an opportunity, and I took it. That's what I do. Asking me to not spread chaos is like asking a fish to not swim or an old person to not die.

TINA (O.S.)

I still would have preferred it if you didn't do it.

LOUISE

What's done is done. There's nothing we can do about it now.

GENE

We can try to cheer her up.

LOUISE

Yeeah, I'm sure she'd rather be alone.

TINA (O.S.)

Actually, I'd like to be cheered up.

LOUISE

Okay. What can we do?

TINA (O.S.)

I don't know. What do you got?

GENE

I have an opera composed out of fart sounds. I call it "Magic Toot: Wind of the Night" or "Classical Assical: The Musical." I still haven't decided.

TINA (O.S.)

Or maybe you can come in here, and we
can talk about our feelings.

Louise has an idea. She slowly smiles like The Grinch.

LOUISE

Wait! I have an idea. Come on, Gene.

Gene and Louise exit.

TINA (O.S.)

Are you guys still there?

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Teddy finishes his food. Bob takes away his plate. Linda
buses tables in the BG.

TEDDY

You know, Bob, I don't want to tell
you how to raise your kids, but I
think you guys really missed out on
one of those teachable moments.

BOB

What are you talking about? I think we
did an excellent job. Louise hurt
Tina's feelings, and we took away
things she likes.

TEDDY

I know. It was like watching the dad
from the Brady Bunch in here. I feel
like all parents should have seen how
you and Linda handled that.

BOB

But...

TEDDY

I just couldn't help but notice that your kids were making fun of the janitor, but you didn't say anything about that.

BOB

Oh, I guess you're right.

TEDDY

It's just that I'm really sensitive to the plight of the working man, Bob.

BOB

So what should I do?

TEDDY

I mean, how would you like it if someone said "Gross. You're marrying some guy with a mustache, who (stutters) who works at a restaurant!"

BOB

Well, Teddy, nobody would say that because working with food is an art form.

TEDDY

What kind of art is that, Bob? Food art? Who ever heard of food art?

BOB

They're the culinary arts.

TEDDY

Oh, right.

BOB

I'm sorry it's not as glamorous as
(searches) as replacing stucco!

TEDDY

Stucco has a one hour fire rating! It
saves lives and property! Which is the
opposite of your fast food!

Linda drops a tub of dishes. Bob glares. Teddy glares back.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

I take it back. I'm sorry, Bob. I
don't know what came over me.

BOB

You're banned!

LINDA

Bob, he's our best customer.

BOB

Out!

TEDDY

Fine. Let's see who you call the next
time you're stuck in a wall or glued
to a toilet!

BOB

Out!

TEDDY

Really? Isn't there some way we can
fix this? Linda? A little help?

LINDA

I'm sorry. I tried. You're on your own.

BOB

Make your last order, Teddy, and make it...

Bob leans forward for dramatic effect.

BOB (CONT'D)

...to go.

TEDDY

Can I have fifty burgers?

BOB

What? No!

LINDA

Bobby, that's almost three hundred dollars.

A beat.

BOB

Okay, fine.

INT. LOUISE'S ROOM - DAY

Louise searches through her room. Gene finds a toy light saber and plays with it.

LOUISE

This is pretty bad, even for Tina.

GENE

It's going to be bad for you when she finally snaps.

Gene slashes the air with the light saber.

LOUISE

You didn't exactly stop me. Besides do you think she's going to stop with me? When she's done with me she's going to rip through everyone around her like they're cheap pony hair!

GENE

Oh God! What do we do?!

Louise finds and dramatically raises a comic book.

LOUISE

We aim her rage in the direction of our enemies.

Snap back to normal.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

I like to throw my problems at each other.

GENE

It's smart and efficient.

INT. TINA'S ROOM - DAY

Tina comb-scalps another pony.

TINA

I feel like life is just a series of humiliating disappointments.

Interrupted by a few nice moments, but mostly humiliating disappointment.

Gene and Louise enter. Tina continues to mumble to herself.

LOUISE

Here, I thought reading my favorite comic book would cheer you up.

She presents a copy of Americaman before Tina.

TINA

A comic book is supposed to make everything you did to me better?!

GENE

Wait, is that this month's Americaman?

(Gasp) This issue is supposed to be filled with a captivating story of good and bad deeds, saucy forbidden romance...

Tina leans in at the sound of romance.

TINA

I'm listening.

GENE

...and in the end--

Louise puts her hand over Gene's mouth.

LOUISE

Shut up!

GENE

I don't know if Tina can take it!

Louise grabs Gene's head and makes him look at the gory pile of bald pony toys. He screams. He flees the room yelling...

GENE (CONT'D)

Let the record show I was acting in self defense! I had no moral choice!

TINA

What happens at the end?

Louise tosses her the comic.

LOUISE

You'll just have to read and find out.

Tina glances at the drawing of spandex stretched across Americaman's butt.

TINA

I could be interested.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS KITCHEN - DAY

A beef patty sizzles on the grill. A spatula comes in and presses it. Bob works the grill. Linda enters.

LINDA

Are you okay? You only press the burgers when you're upset.

BOB

"Fast food," Linda. He said burgers are "fast food." I mean some fast food is hamburgers, but not all burgers are fast food.

LINDA

I know. And definitely not a Bob's burger... But you know, maybe you're being silly about this whole thing, a tiny bit.

BOB

How can you say this is silly?

LINDA

I said it was "a tiny bit" silly.

BOB

Are we paid up on our health insurance premiums? I think I need to see a doctor about this knife in my back!

LINDA

I'm just saying Teddy is a big part of our income. His lunches pretty much pay our utilities.

BOB

We don't need him. Well, at least, we'll figure out a way to go on without him. I'm not listening to this. Work the grill. I need to get at least twenty seven more beef patties.

INT. BELCHER BASEMENT - DAY

Bob turns on a light and heads down stairs.

BOB

We don't need Teddy. I can find another handyman, best customer, best friend.

At the bottom of the stairs, Bob looks to the side seeing some off screen horror. He screams a soprano scream.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. BELCHER BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS**

Bob screams a soprano scream as he curls to the floor. Linda enters.

LINDA

Bobby, are you okay? Did you step on
the missing step?

BOB

Worse!

Louise enters.

LOUISE

What's going on? I heard a woman
scream.

LINDA

That was your father. Sometimes he has
lady screams. That's where Gene gets
it from.

Gene enters.

GENE

I'm proud of my vocal range.

BOB

I do not have lady screams!

LOUISE

Yeah, you do.

GENE

Don't worry, dad, our lady screams are
the manliest lady screams.

BOB

Maybe when I'm fighting for my life is
not the best time to debate about how
I scream!

LOUISE

Fighting for your life from what?

From up stairs, Bob appears to cower from nothing. A harmless
pantry moth flutters.

BOB

Don't you see it?

LOUISE

Pssh. No.

GENE

Is it behind the moth?

BOB

It is the moth, Gene!

The family laughs. The family descends the stairs. Louise
captures the moth in her hands.

BOB (CONT'D)

Gross. How can you touch it?

LOUISE

Wanna see?

BOB

No. I don't.

Louise holds her hands out to Bob. Bob jumps to his feet and
runs up the stairs, pursued by Louise.

BOB (CONT'D)

Get away from me.

LOUISE

Come back here and face your fear!
It's exposure therapy! I'm trying to
help you get rid of your lady screams!

BOB (O.S.)

(Lady screaming) Save me!

LINDA

Louise, take that moth outside.

LOUISE (O.S.)

When I'm done!

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Teddy waits upstairs surrounded by a dozen take out bags.
Linda enters. Outside Louise chases Bob around the street.

TEDDY

What happened to Bob? Did he trip on
that missing step? I can come back on
Wednesday to fix that right up for
you.

LINDA

No, he just saw a baby moth and
freaked out.

TEDDY

You mean larvae?

LINDA

No, just a tiny little adult moth.

Louise trips and the moth floats away.

LOUISE (OUTSIDE)

Nooo! My kryptonite!

BOB (OUTSIDE)

Ha!

TEDDY

Uh oh, I hope you don't have pantry moths. They love to get into food and I'm probably the only guy in town who knows how to get rid of them. Too bad I'm banned or I could help you out.

Bob enters from outside out of breath.

BOB

What are you still doing here?

TEDDY

I'm still waiting on like twenty seven more burgers.

BOB

Oh, right.

INT. TINA'S ROOM - DAY

Tina reads "Americaman."

EXT. RUINED LINCOLN MEMORIAL - NIGHT (COMIC BOOK)

Americaman stands in tattered American flag clothing among the rubble that was the Lincoln Memorial. A long haired man with a metal arm approaches.

AMERICAMAN

Winter Solstice, remember, my brother.

You are my brother, brother.

They embrace.

INTERCUT with Tina's room.

Tina wipes sweat from her forehead.

TINA

Yes, I like where this is going.

Winter Solstice pushes Americaman away.

WINTER SOLSTICE

I remember that you're my enemy.

REVEAL the Canadian Maple Leaf on his robot arm.

AMERICAMAN

No, you must fight the Canadian
brainwashing! You're a freedom loving,
hockey hating American who pays for
his own health care!

WINTER SOLSTICE

(Laughs maniacally) You think I'm the
brainwashed one? You don't know who
you truly are.

AMERICAMAN

What?!

Winter Solstice reads a gibberish code off a piece of paper.

WINTER SOLSTICE

High stick the goalie puck in summer
when the ducks form the flying V.

Hearing the code, Americaman struggles with his hands over
his head. He collapses. He rises up.

AMERICAMAN

Oh, Canada!

TINA

(Screams in horror)

INT. HOME KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Louise and Gene do homework at the table.

TINA (O.S.)

(Screams)

GENE

Did dad find another moth?

Louise is overjoyed.

LOUISE

That sounds too deep for a dad scream!

She exits. Gene follows.

INT. HOME HALLWAY - SOON AFTER

Louise bumps into Tina. Tina throws the comic at her.

TINA

How could you do this to me?! I was emotionally fragile and you throw this at me! Americaman is a secret Canadian?! Once again I open myself to trusting people and in the end it's all lies.

LOUISE

Wow. Who hurt you, Tina?

TINA

You did! You betrayed me! Twice! Today alone!

LOUISE

Whoa, I was just trying to share something with my dear sister.

(MORE)

LOUISE (CONT'D)

I thought it would cheer you up. Like
a sad song when you're feeling blue!

TINA

I'm going to pop!

GENE

No, don't do it! I don't want to be a
bald pony!

Louise scratches Tina's back.

LOUISE

Easy, girl, save that nerd rage for
the people who deserve it.

TINA

(Calming) Okay. So who deserves it?

LOUISE

The people who make Americaman!

GENE

Yeah! How dare they do something new
and exciting with their own character!

TINA

Yeah, they lure us in with their
patriotic and erotic fictions. Then
tear us apart!

LOUISE

If only there was something we could
do.

GENE

We can stop reading Americaman.

LOUISE (SIMULTANEOUS)

No!

TINA (SIMULTANEOUS)

No!

LOUISE

Too bad all the creators are going to be in town at the comic convention tomorrow, and there's nothing we can do about it.

Louise moves to exit.

TINA

Louise, you're good at schemes. Do you think you can come up with something?

LOUISE

Hmmm, I don't know. It is short notice. But maybe we can find the writer's hotel room and steal his laptop and send the publisher our rewrites that will fix everything...

GENE

If anyone knows how to tell a story, it's a couple of middle school kids.

LOUISE

Oh no, but I'm grounded. I can't go.

TINA

If you come up with the plan, I can carry it out.

LOUISE

I don't know. Do you think you're ready? Heists are... kinda big girl stuff.

TINA

I'm older than you.

LOUISE

Well, you're really twisting my arm here, but I guess we can try something...

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Teddy and Bob stare at a pile of take out bags.

TEDDY

Wow. That's a lot of burgers.

BOB

Yeah, that's what fifty hamburgers looks like.

TEDDY

Yeah, but they're all the same, you know?

BOB

You ordered fifty final hamburgers.

TEDDY

I know that's what I ordered, but I don't think I thought it through. I should have asked for the burger of the day for the next fifty days.

BOB

That would have taken me a long, long time.

TEDDY

Yeah, but how long?

BOB

Like fifty days. I don't just magically come up with great tasting burgers with pun-related names.

TEDDY

I would have waited.

BOB

What?

TEDDY

I would have waited fifty days to get those fifty burgers because that's the kind of customer I am. I'm willing to eat kale for you, Bob!

BOB

Wow. I never thought about it like that. Do people not like kale?

TEDDY

Nobody does. But I eat it because I appreciate your craft.

BOB

Really? Were you appreciating my craft when you called it fast food?!

(MORE)

BOB (CONT'D)

I didn't forget, Teddy. Get out of
here! Your ban starts now!

Teddy scrambles to pick up take out bags. Bags slip out of his grasp as he tries to pick up more. He bends over to pick up the ones on the floor, only to drop more bags. Finally,

TEDDY

I think I'm going to have to make more
than one trip.

BOB

Okay, you can come back for the rest
of the order, but then you're banned.

INT. LOUISE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Gene, Louise, and Tina sit in a semi-circle on the floor in the dark. Louise uses toys to explain the plan. Louise picks up her glowing Kuchi Kopi toy.

LOUISE

I am Kuchi Kopi. I will be in command
through walkie-talkie because of my
unfair banishment.

TINA

I think it was pretty fair. You were a
jerk, and you got grounded for it.

LOUISE

Hmph. Let's just say it was a
controversial ruling.

TINA

Hmph.

Louise picks up a Barbie and a bald pony toy.

LOUISE

Gene and Tina, you got to the hotel
hosting the convention.

GENE

Thanks for letting me be Inner City
Calculus Teacher Barbie.

TINA

I thought I was Glistening Starlight.

ANGLE ON: The bald pony

LOUISE

I thought this was a more accurate
representation.

TINA

Grrrrr...

LOUISE

You go to the hotel and wait for me to
call the lobby pretending to be Nick
Powell's wife.

GENE

Nick Powell, the writer of Americaman?

LOUISE

Yup. I ask the hotel to let my
children, you guys, into the room.

TINA

I have a better plan. We sneak in and
steal the maid's key, and then we
don't need you at all.

LOUISE

You need me to call the front desk
because you don't know what room he's
in.

TINA

Oh, okay, I guess we do need you then.

Louise picks up an Etch A Sketch.

LOUISE

When you're in, get the laptop, change
the script and e-mail it.

TINA

What if there's a password?

LOUISE

He's an adult over the age of thirty
five. They can't do passwords.

INT. BOB AND LINDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Bob tries to sleep while Linda reads a book. Linda wears a reading light strapped to her head.

Linda turns the page. Bob wakes with a start.

BOB

What was that?

LINDA

I was just turning the page, you Antsy-
Nancy.

BOB

No, I heard a moth.

LINDA

You can't hear moths.

BOB

(Hushed whisper) You can't hear a moth directly. They don't make sound, Linda. You can hear their little devil wings beat against the night air.

LINDA

You're talking crazy.

BOB

Turn off your light. They're attracted to light!

Bob and Linda struggle over the reading light. Linda slaps him off.

BOB (CONT'D)

Okay, fine. I'm crazy, but we'll see who's crazy when they eat our clothes, and we're naked in the streets.

LINDA

It's not moths. It's the babies.

BOB

What?

LINDA

The baby larvae eat clothes, not the adult moths.

BOB

Oh God! They're laying eggs in our home! Have Louise burn down the house.

LINDA

Listen to yourself.

BOB

You're right. I'm sorry.

Bob tries to sleep. He tosses. He turns. He gets out of bed.

BOB (CONT'D)

I can't sleep. The bed just feels like
moth baby food.

INT. HOME KITCHEN - SOON AFTER

Bob enters. He gets a bowl out of a cabinet. He sets it on the table. He gets a box of cereal. A moth flies out of the cabinet. Bob doesn't notice.

Bob sits down at the table. He opens the cereal box. An army of moths make a beeline for Bob's face.

BOB

Oh dear God! Why?!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**ON BLACK**

LOUISE (V.O.)

Is he dead?

GENE (V.O.)

I'll remember him every time I hear a
lady scream.

FADE IN:**INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY**

Bob wakes up on the restaurant counter. The children poke at him. He lady screams and falls off the counter.

LOUISE

If he wasn't dead before, he is now.

Linda helps him up.

LINDA

Did you sleep out here all night?

BOB

No, just the part after my cereal
exploded with Satan's butterflies!

A moth flutters by. Bob flees to the kitchen. He peaks through the pass-through window.

BOB (CONT'D)

They're down here too!

LINDA

Yeah, you left the door open to the
restaurant. There's probably dozens in
here.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Bob is cowering. He stands up firm. Linda, Gene, and Louise peak through the pass-through window as he speaks.

BOB

You may take over my home. You may
take over my breakfast. You may put
holes in the garments that clothe my
children.

Louise defensively grabs the bunny ears of her hat.

BOB (CONT'D)

But you will not take my restaurant!

LINDA

Oh, Bobby!

BOB

I am going to face my fear... by
hiring someone else to get rid of it
for me.

The family groans in disappointment and disperse.

BOB (CONT'D)

What? Hiring a professional is a
sensible thing to do.

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

People in cosplay with giant oversized bags loiter in front.
Tina and Gene traverse the crowd.

LOUISE (WALKIE-TALKIE)

Are you guys there yet?

Tina answers the walkie-talkie.

TINA

Not yet. There's a lot of people.

INTERCUT with Louise talking from her computer.

LOUISE

Pick up the pace! The first thing someone does after a panel is go back to their room. So let's move it!

TINA

(To walkie-talkie) Roger. (to Gene) Is it me or has Louise gotten mean lately?

GENE

She's always flirted with the fine line between rambunctious and evil.

TINA

I feel like something's pulling her away from me. Like we've always had this sisterly bond, but lately she's just... mean spirited.

GENE

That's the worst kind of spirit!

TINA

It's like something dark has taken hold of her soul. Do you think we can save her?

GENE

I dunno. Probably.

TINA

I'm going to save her.

EXT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

A van pulls up. It reads, "Gnat Licensed Exterminators."

INT. BELCHER BASEMENT - DAY

An exterminator surveys the basement with Linda.

EXTERMINATOR

Looks like you have moths.

LINDA

What kind of moths? Are they a special kind of moth?

EXTERMINATOR

I don't know.

LINDA

Don't you need to know what they are to do your job?

EXTERMINATOR

Not really. Most things die when you poison them.

LINDA

Uh huh.

EXTERMINATOR

Look the work is guaranteed, so we come back and spray again for free. On a job like this, the customers usually call us back a few times.

LINDA

And then the bugs are gone?

EXTERMINATOR

Sure.

LINDA

I need these moths gone as soon as possible. My husband is going crazy.

EXTERMINATOR

Look if you want I can add some moth balls, cedar sticks, and even put some cotton in a few of mouse traps.

LINDA

Does that work?

EXTERMINATOR

On the bigger ones.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS KITCHEN - DAY

Bob works the grill. His eyes dart left to right. He jumps away as if dodging an attack. Linda enters. Bob lady screams.

BOB

I thought you were a moth!

LINDA

Yeah, yeah, that's the seventeenth time today you thought I was a moth. It's starting to get insulting.

Bob spazzes out, slapping the back of his head.

BOB

They're in my hair!

LINDA

They're not in your hair. Look. I don't think this exterminator knows what he's doing.

BOB

Of course he knows what he's doing.
He's expensive. Also an exterminator.
He's good at one thing. That's like if
I owned a burger shop and was bad at
making burgers.

LINDA

Jimmy Pesto owns an Italian
restaurant, and his Italian food is
terrible.

BOB

Yeah, but Jimmy Pesto is an idiot.

LINDA

All I'm saying is that we seem to hire
a new exterminator every week and yet
we managed to get moths. Maybe we
should call Teddy.

BOB

Never speak that name in this
restaurant again!

LINDA

You're really beat up about this.

BOB

Every day, Linda. Every day when I
served him a burger, I served him a
bit of my soul. And he couldn't tell
the difference between that and
franchised junk!

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - SOON AFTER

Tina and Gene follow the concierge down the hallway. Gene speaks into the Walkie-Talkie

GENE

It's working.

Tina jabs him.

TINA

Shut up.

GENE

Sorry. (Into walkie-talkie) I mean,

"It's not working."

Tina rolls her eyes.

They arrive at a door. The concierge raises the key card and almost drops it into the lock. The door opens.

An African American man carrying a laptop opens the door.

CONCIERGE

Nick Powell?

NICK POWELL

Yes?

CONCIERGE

Here are your children.

Tina notices the laptop. Tina hugs him.

TINA

Father! I have missed you. (Whispers)

Play along.

Nick pulls Tina away from him.

NICK POWELL

These are not my children.

CONCIERGE

Are you sure? Because otherwise I would have been letting strangers into your room. And that would be really stupid.

NICK POWELL

I'm gay. If my partner gave birth, you'd have heard it on the news.

GENE

You're gay? That's not what mom says!

TINA

They're not buying it! Run!

Tina and Gene exit, pursued by the concierge.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Mort sits at the diner. Linda leans against the counter, gesturing to Teddy's regular stool. Some moths flutter about.

LINDA

Just look at that. It's like something's missing. Like when you get rid of a big piece of furniture and the whole room feels different.

MORT

Teddy really did tie the room together.

LINDA

I mean he leaves. He doesn't live here, but there's something wrong. It's lunch time and there's no Teddy.

MORT

Mm-hmm.

LINDA

I like you, Mort. You and I never
talk. You're my new lunch time pal.

Mort wipes his mouth and stands up.

MORT

Actually, I really should get back to
the mortuary. I left Mr. Nester's
fluids draining.

LINDA

Gee, that sounds... fun.

Mort's eyes dart to the windows. Linda looks out the window
and sees nothing there.

MORT

Oh, can I get another burger of the
day? To go?

LINDA

Yeah, sure.

Linda goes to the pass through window.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Another "Orega-No You Didn't" to go.

Bob appears in the pass through window in a bee keeper
outfit.

BOB

Wait. (Menacingly) For whom?

LINDA

For Mort.

BOB

Mort wouldn't eat two burgers in a day. Mort has high cholesterol!

MORT

I'm sorry, Bob! He made me do it!

LINDA

Mort, I thought we were lunch time pals.

Bob disappears from the pass through window. He storms in through the side door. He exits.

EXT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Bob kicks his front door open. Looks both ways. He discovers Teddy hiding in front of the mortuary.

BOB

Ah ha!

TEDDY

Bob, fancy seeing you here.

BOB

Why would you send Mort to pick up a burger? You have like fifty at home. You didn't eat them already did you? Jesus, you should see a doctor.

TEDDY

No, I didn't eat fifty burgers in one night. Twenty but not fifty. I'm not an animal, Bob.

BOB

So why are you here?

TEDDY

None of those burgers were the burger of the day! Wait... what are you wearing?

Bob takes off the bee keeper hat.

BOB

A bee keeper outfit. We have pantry moths. We called an exterminator, but we seem to have more of them now. It's like they enjoy poison.

TEDDY

Let me help you. I specialize in pantry moths.

BOB

I thought you specialized in roofing and tile installations.

TEDDY

I specialize in a lot of things.

BOB

Okay. I don't think you know what "specialize" means.

TEDDY

Just give me a chance to make things right by us, Bob. Won't you give us a chance?

BOB

I don't know. You really hurt me.

TEDDY

I know what I said, but think about
all the fun times we've shared.

BOB

I'm sorry, but my broken heart will
only let me think about the last time
we shared.

TEDDY

You mean before this one?

BOB

Yes, of course I mean before this one.

Good bye, Teddy.

Bob puts on his bee keeper hat and returns to the restaurant.
Teddy sheds a single tear.

INT. HOTEL CONVENTION FLOOR - DAY

Tina and Gene catch their breath among a series of
cosplayers.

GENE

That is one dedicated bellhop.

Tina calls Louise on the walkie-talkie.

TINA

Abort mission! He has the laptop with
him!

Gene takes the walkie-talkie.

GENE

He's jaded by a long career in comics
and is blinded to the wonders of a
convention!

INT. LOUISE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Louise shouts back into the walkie-talkie.

LOUISE

Damn it, Tina! You better not screw
this up for me!

INTERCUT between the convention floor and Louise's room.

TINA

You?! I thought this was my mission.
This was supposed to be about me. My V
for Vendetta.

LOUISE

(False calm) Yes, of course it is. I
just really want this for you, so it
feels like it's about me.

Tina figures it out.

TINA

You got grounded. You couldn't do this
plan yourself. So you gave me a comic
to brainwash me into doing your dirty
work.

LOUISE

Tina, Tina, Tina, we're all on the
same side here. Unless you want
Americaman to be Canadian. That's
fine. Let's just throw away decades of
American history for a cheap gimmick.

TINA

No, I will save America and
Americaman, but I'm doing it without
you pulling the strings.

LOUISE

What? Don't you dare go rogue on me!
You need me! You can't do this!

Tina removes the batteries out of walkie-talkie.

GENE

You know you could have just turned it
off.

TINA

It's more dramatic this way.

GENE

But now you have to carry the
batteries.

TINA

Shhh. Let me have this.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY**

Linda watches Teddy moping outside.

LINDA

Teddy's still out there. I kinda feel
sorry for the guy.

Bob sidles in wearing his bee keeper outfit.

BOB

Yeah, he looks pretty ridiculous.

Louise enters wearing a backpack.

LOUISE

That backstabbing, no good, Tina!

LINDA

Where do you think you're going?

LOUISE

I'm going to the comic convention. I
know. I'm grounded. Just double ground
me starting tomorrow, and we'll call
it even.

BOB

No.

LOUISE

What do you mean, "no?"

BOB

No. Just "no." I thought that was
pretty clear. You're not going.

LOUISE

This needs to happen!

BOB

"This" wouldn't happen to be your
revenge plot would it?

LINDA

Awww, are you still upset about that
comic guy?

LOUISE

Ulg! Why do I have parents who take an
interest and listen?! Fine. Triple
ground me, but this is happening!

Louise rushes for the door. Bob grabs her. They struggle.
Bob's bee keeper hat falls off and rolls away. Louise exits.

BOB'S POV

Moths flutter. Tunnel vision sets in. He collapses.

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - DAY

On the stage a monotone Comic Artist sits at a long table
with name cards as he gives a power point presentation. The
bottom of the table is covered by a long curtain.

COMIC ARTIST

On this one I accidentally used a 0.4
millimeter micron instead of a 0.35...

Gene and Tina sit in the front row of a poorly populated
audience.

GENE

So your plan is to attend boring
lectures?

TINA

If you knew the plan, you'd say I was
crazy. So your plan is to shut up and
follow me.

GENE

Yes, ma'am.

COMIC ARTIST

In conclusion, inking is more than just tracing. Now everyone clear the room for the Americaman panel.

GENE

(Gasp) We're pre-paneling.

TINA

Damn right we are, but with a twist.

People start to clear out of the room while cosplayers dressed as Americaman and Winter Solstice enter.

TINA (CONT'D)

Follow me.

Tina rushes the stage. Gene follows. Tina pauses, holding out her hand to stop Gene. He stops.

A convention volunteer switches out name cards. The volunteer places a card that reads, "Nick Powell: Writer for Americaman." The volunteer exits.

With the coast clear, Tina attempts to dive under the presentation table's cloth covering. Her ribs get caught on the stage.

TINA (CONT'D)

(Groans)

Tina drags herself under the table. Gene watches.

TINA (O.S.)(CONT'D)

Get under the table.

GENE

Oh, right.

INT. UNDER THE TABLE - CONTINUOUS

Tina hides on all fours. Gene enters.

GENE

I hate to criticize, but I think we
can see better from our seats.

TINA

No, just wait.

People sit down at the table. Tina and Gene dodge feet.

GENE

Ahh! Feet!

TINA

Quiet. You'll blow our cover.

Tina searches. She sees the laptop.

NICK POWELL (O.S.)

Does anyone like Americaman?

The muffled sounds of a crowd cheering.

Tina creeps around the feet and grabs the laptop, pulls it
towards her.

GENE

Way to go. You're the new Louise.

Tina thinks about this.

TINA

Huh, I don't know if I want to be the
new Louise. But there will be time for
introspection later.

She boots up the laptop. A Windows logo.

EXT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Bob wakes up propped up against the outer wall of Bob's
Burgers. THE WINDOWS BOOT UP SOUND. Linda helps him up.

LINDA

Oh look, Bobby's coming to.

BOB

What happened? How did I get outside?

TEDDY

You had a bit of a fainting spell. I pulled you away from the moths.

BOB

What are you doing here? Did you call Teddy instead of an EMT? Why would you call Teddy instead of an ambulance?

LINDA

He was nearby and wanted to help. I couldn't say no.

BOB

I could have needed serious help.

LINDA

Oh, you were fine. You just got a little scared.

BOB

People don't just faint, Linda. What if I hit my head on the way down? I might have a concussion.

LINDA

Oh, no, do you want to go to the hospital now?

BOB

No, I'm not sure we're paid up on our insurance premiums. I'm probably fine.

TEDDY

Look what these bugs are doing to you.
Let me get rid of them. I know how.

BOB

No. You can't expect me to forgive you
because of something you did for me
when I was unconscious.

TEDDY

This is about something bigger than
you and me, Bob! This is about Bob's
Burgers! How long can you have a class
seven insect infestation before the
health department shuts you down?

LINDA

I assume class seven is bad.

TEDDY

Bob's Burgers may not want me, but
damn it, Bob's Burgers needs me. And
the world needs Bob's Burgers!

Teddy produces a box of bug zappers, glue traps, and those
tennis racquets that electrocute bugs. Teddy grabs a fistful
of weapons and enters the store.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

For Bob's Burgers!

A customer with burger in hand is pushed out the door.

Linda grabs an electric racquet. She puts a hand on Bob's
shoulder.

LINDA

It's okay if you want to sit this one out, honey. (Battle ready) Prepare to die, you Lepidoptera-Larrys!

Linda charges in. SOUNDS OF BATTLE come from the restaurant. Bob looks in the box and sees one last electric racquet.

EXT. OPEN FIELD - DUSK (FLASHBACK)

Little kid Bob plays in the field happy as can be. Suddenly a moth the size of his head lands on his face. He lady screams.

EXT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY (PRESENT)

Bob grabs the racquet. He shakes his head, setting it down.

TEDDY (O.S.)

Oh God! They're everywhere! Help me!

He grabs it again, raising it like a sword.

BOB

I won't lose my restaurant or my best friend to the junior varsity of butterflies!

Bob presses a button on the racquet. It sparks. Bob charges his own store with a fierce lady scream.

INT. UNDER THE TABLE - DAY

Tina pulls up the comic script on the laptop.

TINA

I'm in.

GENE

What are we going to write?

TINA

Oh shoot. We spent so much time planning the heist we didn't think about what to put in the next issue.

GENE

Let's have Americaman go on vacation. He's earned it.

TINA

We're supposed to be making Americaman no longer Canadian.

GENE

What if it was all a dream?

TINA

No.

GENE

What if he has dual citizenship?

TINA

No.

GENE

What if Americaman is mutating into North Americaman?

TINA

Not only would he still be Canadian, he'd also be Mexican.

GENE

It's about time we had a Canadian-Mexican-American super hero. A half Inuit named Jose from Los Angeles.

TINA

I'm just going to read what Nick
Powell wrote and go from there.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - DAY

Bob strikes down moths with his electric racquet. He wields it like a light saber. In the distance Linda jumps on the counter, using the racquet to hold off moths like a musketeer.

BOB

Linda, where's Teddy?

LINDA

He ran for cover in the basement!

BOB

Where it all began...

INT. BELCHER BASEMENT - SOON AFTER

Bob enters.

BOB

Teddy?!

TEDDY

Down here, Bob.

Teddy lies flat on his back at the bottom of the basement. Bob rushes to his aid, slaying moths as he goes. Bob lifts Teddy's head up.

BOB

Dear God! What happened?

TEDDY

I guess I tripped on the missing step.

BOB

(Chuckles) Then I guess you should
really come back sometime and fix it.

TEDDY

Really, Bob? I thought you hated me.

BOB

I never hated you. I just... felt unappreciated by you. Like every day I give you a burger and as far as you care, you might as well be getting it from a drive through.

TEDDY

Do you think I come to your restaurant every single day just because I'm hungry?

BOB

That's generally why people come. Yes.

TEDDY

Your burgers are food art. I don't have the fancy words to describe it, but when I come here I feel like I share part of your life. I see Linda and the kids, and each delicious burger is like... you're giving me part of your soul.

A single tear falls from Bob's eyes.

BOB

Let's kill some bugs, so I can grill you a burger!

TEDDY

I could also go for an ice pack. My
ankle is swelling up pretty good.

BOB

Anything for my best friend!

INT. HOTEL CONVENTION FLOOR - DAY

Louise, covered in sweat and out of breath, searches through
the halls. She sees her door.

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - SOON AFTER

Louise kicks in the door.

LOUISE

You bastards! You ruined him!

Louise tramps through the aisle as audience members turn
towards her.

NICK POWELL

Um... Security?

He looks towards the convention volunteer who shrugs
helplessly.

LOUISE

You change Americaman back now! He is
not nor was he ever a Canadian! He
does not pay extra for his literature!

NICK POWELL

Actually, Canadians and Americans pay
the same amount for books. The
different prices on the back reflect
the different values of currencies.

LOUISE

Don't change the subject on me, pal!

TINA (O.S.)

Louise, you're making a huge mistake.

Tina and Gene emerge from under the table.

TINA (CONT'D)

It turns out Americaman's brainwashing sends him on a soul searching quest to find out who he is.

RANDOM FAN

Hey! Spoilers!

Tina shows Louise the laptop. She starts to read.

TINA

It's actually a complex narrative about the creeping blind spots we all have about our self perceptions.

Nick Powell goes and snatches his laptop back.

NICK POWELL

Give me that.

TINA

Sorry. (To Louise) The story is actually about growing up and coming face to face with the ways you might disappoint yourself.

LOUISE

(False bravado) Maybe for you. I don't know what you're talking about. I'm awesome.

TINA

You're always doing this now. You lie to yourself to avoid any negative feelings. But those feelings are how we grow. You're becoming a bully and don't even realize it.

LOUISE

Look if you think saving Americaman makes me a bully, then I guess that's what I am.

The audience boos.

TINA

I'm not talking about Americaman. I'm talking about me! You hurt me, Louise, and you can't even see that you did anything wrong. I'm used to the kids at school publicly humiliating me, but not Team Belcher.

GENE

You think you're Americaman, but really you're just a Canadian.

LOUISE

(Trying not to cry) So... Is that it? I'm a monster? You guys just hate me now?

TINA

I'll never hate you. I'm just worried you're becoming someone who always hurts the people she loves. That's not the life I want for my sister.

LOUISE

(Bawling) As Americaman would say,
Sister! You're my sister, sister!

Louise and Tina embrace. The audience cheers. Gene joins.

GENE

I'm here too.

LOUISE

I'm so sorry. I've just been so angry about Americaman that I've been taking it out on everyone, and that's no excuse.

GENE

Nerd rage is a hell of a drug.

TINA

I forgive you. Think you can annul my marriage to the janitor?

LOUISE

I think we can start the paperwork.

Nick Powell puts his laptop away.

NICK POWELL

You all take comics way too seriously.

END OF SHOW