

Episode 1 - The Great Job Debate

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

PRE-LAP: Tapping sound.

TEAL PEN nervously tapping on notebook. LUCAS sits on the couch, staring at a 3D model on his laptop, chewing his lip. In the b.g. (in the kitchen), AMANDA lifts SOPHIA out of a high chair.

LUCAS  
(muttering to himself)  
Corner's not right.

Door bursts open. Enter CRAIG in full pizza delivery regalia, carrying a pizza box. He makes a magnificent sweeping motion with one arm as he says,

CRAIG  
Enter Craig.

All look up, momentarily startled. Craig majestically floats across the room. He pops the lid to the pizza box, showcasing it to Lucas as he passes.

CRAIG (CONT'D)  
Pizza for Lucas.

With a fluid spin, he showcases the box to Amanda.

CRAIG (CONT'D)  
Pizza for Amanda.

He drops the open box onto the kitchen table. Amanda raises her eyebrow, eyes his uniform.

AMANDA  
Shouldn't you be at work, Craig?

CRAIG  
(off-hand)  
I quit.

AMANDA  
Again?

CRAIG  
Well, I start college this month.

Lucas perks up.

LUCAS  
(anxiously)  
You don't want a job to help pay  
for school?

(CONTINUED)

CRAIG  
(jokingly, dismissively)  
Money's for the weak.

Craig turns to Sophia.

CRAIG (CONT'D)  
Sophia, my favorite niece!

He snatches Sophia from Amanda and takes her to the kitchen table to color stuff.

Amanda sits next to Lucas on the couch.

AMANDA  
Are you still worried about getting  
a second job?

The TEAL PEN starts tapping again.

LUCAS  
I don't want debt.

AMANDA  
But if you have a job, you can't  
take full-time classes, so it's  
going to take you another year.

LUCAS  
But without a job, we'll have to  
get a loan.

AMANDA  
It doesn't have to be a big one. We  
can figure out the minimum we need  
and just take that. And the faster  
you graduate, the faster you can  
get into a career.

Sophia sneezes off-screen.

CRAIG (O.S.)  
Nice.

LUCAS  
(to Amanda)  
That would be nice for hospital  
bills.

Off-screen, a distant baby cries. Amanda sighs.

AMANDA

And diapers.

Amanda gets up and disappears off-screen, leaving Lucas contemplating on the couch.

LUCAS

(under his breath)

And diapers.

In the b.g., Craig stands and swings Sophia down from her chair. Sophia giggles.

CRAIG

Diapers are for the weak.

Lucas nods contemplatively, eyebrows raised.

FADE OUT

Episode 2 - Logical Fallacie

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EXT. CITY STREET - MORNING

Craig walks purposefully down the sidewalk, backpack slung over one shoulder. In the distance, he notices a billboard advertising Weight Watchers. (Improper Generalization)

He passes a woman walking in the opposite direction. The woman enters a doctor's office and sits in the waiting room across from Lucas and Amanda and their two children.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Lucas rifles through a magazine and pauses on an ad for PETA, which makes him nervous. He taps with his favorite pen, overcome with the sudden urge to adopt a puppy. (Appeal to Emotion)

Amanda watches a political ad on the TV. (Personal Attacks)

SUIT WOMAN (ON-SCREEN)

Bryce Phillips has been mayor for 5 years, and he's repeatedly shown he doesn't care! During the city flood, Mayor Phillips was "busy" fishing. The new business development plan fell through because Mayor Phillips was more concerned about giving funding to the ski resort. He obviously doesn't care. I'm Debbie Williams, and I care.

("Vote for Debbie Williams" banner)

A man with a newspaper walks out of the doctor's office and gets in his car, dropping the newspaper on the passenger seat. As he drives, we see the front-page headline of the newspaper: "Soda a Day May Lead to Heart Attacks in Men." (Alternative Explanation)

The man's hand reaches for the newspaper, and he opens it with a snap.

FLUID CUT TO

INT. COLLEGE CLASSROOM

The man sets the open newspaper against the blackboard. He writes on the blackboard beside it, "What is wrong with this headline?"

The man turns around to look at the classroom full of students. Craig, seated somewhere in the center of the room, raises his hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

2.

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 3 - Craig on the Street

By Three Kids in a Closet

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EXT. STREET - DAY

Jittery video camera footage of nothing in particular. Some feet.

CAMERAMAN 1 (O.S.)  
Did you figure it out, Craig?

CRAIG (O.S.)  
(behind the camera)  
Yeah, I think so.  
(beat)  
No, I don't think so.

Off-screen, someone sneezes.

CRAIG (O.S.)  
Nice.

CAMERAMAN 1 (O.S.)  
(sternly)  
Craig--

CUT TO

Different camera. A person walks in their direction. Pan to Craig, who's fidgeting with his camera. The camera crew stands behind him. The boom guy gives Cameraman 1 a concerned look.

CAMERAMAN 1 (O.S.)  
(behind the camera)  
Craig, this one's yours. You remember the questions?

CRAIG  
(looking up)  
Hm? Oh, yeah, I'm ready.

He hoists the camera onto his shoulder and walks off-screen, saying,

CRAIG (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Rolling!

BOOM GUY  
No, wait--

Cameraman 1 runs to catch Craig.

CRAIG (O.S.)  
(aggressively, to off-screen stranger)  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CRAIG (O.S.) (cont'd)

Hey, you! Do you budget?

CUT TO BLACK

[Insert real man-on-the-street segment with some Craigness interspersed occasionally.]

\*Note: Man-on-the-street interviews are most important and should be the majority of the video.

**Questions:** Do you use a budget?

→Yes, then "How has it helped you?" "How is your budget designed?"

→No, then "Why not?" "Have you tried one before?"

→Sort of, then "Can you clarify?" "Do you keep track of your money in any way?"

**Craigness Ideas:** Camera wanders, Cameraman 1 says "Craig!" and the camera snaps back to position.

Camera wanders to interviewee's shoes and makes a witty comment.

Craig plays with the zoom feature, etc.

General camera incompetence.

CUT TO

Camera crew, finished filming, puts equipment away.  
Cameraman 1's camera focuses on Craig, who looks like he's in pain as he sets his camera down.

CRAIG

This was really fun, guys. Thanks  
for helping me out.

(embarrassed chuckle)

I'm thinking . . . business sounds  
fun. I'm gonna change my major.

Beat.

CAMERAMAN 1 (O.S.)

(behind the camera, relieved  
laugh)

You know what, Craig, I think  
you'll do great in business.

Some brief random camera movement.

3.

CUT TO BLACK

Episode 4 - Ring Around the Geysers

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EXT. YELLOWSTONE - DAY - ANIMATED

AMANDA (V.O.)

One day in the winter, Pamela the explorer wanted to go snowmobiling in Yellowstone.

Pamela the explorer on a snowmobile in Yellowstone.

AMANDA (V.O.)(CONT'D)

But she knew the temperature gets really cold in Yellowstone in the winter, so she checked the weather forecast. She found out the minimum temperature--

CUT TO

INT. GIRLS' ROOM - NIGHT

LUCAS (PRE-LAP)

(cutting her off)

Honey, what are you doing?

Sophia tucked into bed. Amanda sitting on the bed with a book, reading. The two look up to see Lucas standing in the bedroom doorway.

AMANDA

I thought I'd spice up the bedtime story with math.

LUCAS

Sounds like the bedtime story could use some spicing up with story too.

Lucas comes in and sits on the bed beside Amanda, glancing at the book.

BACK TO

EXT. YELLOWSTONE - DAY - ANIMATED

LUCAS (V.O.)

Who's Pamela? Our wonderful heroine, Sophia, braves the cold, harsh wilderness of Yellowstone.

Pamela changes to Sophia. She sits on the snowmobile in the cold, harsh wilderness of Yellowstone.

(CONTINUED)

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
Not cold. Summer.

Horizon flips. Landscape has become summery. A bird chirps.  
Sophia in hiking gear (no snowmobile).

AMANDA (V.O.)  
Oo, with a maximum temperature of  
82 degrees in lower elevations.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
And Sophia is on a quest to see...

AMANDA (V.O.)  
Old Faithful!

LUCAS (V.O.)  
A bison.

A sign appears next to Sophia with a drawing of Old Faithful  
with an arrow pointing down. A half-step behind, a sign pops  
up with a bison and an arrow pointing up.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
A bison at Old Faithful.

Both signs combine. The arrow points right.

AMANDA (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
Sophia sets off toward Old Faithful  
with her sister, Emily.

Emily appears.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Emily's here?

AMANDA (V.O.)  
She's been here the whole time.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Okay. But then they're surrounded  
by wolves!

3 wolves appear.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
23 of them.

20 more wolves appear.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
And a beaver!

A beaver appears.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA (V.O.)  
And that beaver was in the 97th  
percentile for jaw size.

The beaver's mouth expands exponentially to twice the size  
of its body.

BEAVER  
Om-nom-nom.

The wolves scatter in fear.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
They escape the beaver by  
pole-vaulting over a hot spring.

It's a beautiful hot spring. The beaver, stranded, chomps  
uselessly.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Then they get to Old Faithful...

They arrive at Old Faithful.

LUCAS (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
...And there's a bison.

A bison appears and moos like a cow. Sophia pats its head.  
It is pleased.

Old Faithful erupts. Majestic. Lovely. Sophia and Emily and  
bison watch in wondering awe.

LUCAS (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
(loudly)  
And suddenly the beaver--!

As the geyser finishes erupting, the beaver is suddenly  
visible from his waiting spot behind--!

BEAVER  
(screaming)  
OM-NOM-!!!!

AMANDA (V.O.)  
(abruptly cuts in)  
Shhhhhhh...

Everything halts.

AMANDA (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
...She's asleep.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS (V.O.)

Oh.

(quietly)

Suddenly the beaver appeared.

BEAVER

(whispering)

Om-nom-nom.

BACK TO

INT. GIRLS' ROOM - NIGHT

LUCAS

The end.

Lucas closes the book. Sophia sleeps peacefully. Lucas and Amanda quietly high five.

AMANDA

(whispering)

We should do this again tomorrow night.

FADE TO BLACK



Episode 5 - Craig's Internship Is Falling Down

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM

Seven people sit around a conference table. Craig adjusts his tie, looking confident. Tail end of the meeting. The boss, a woman seated at the head of the table, closest to Craig, speaks.

BOSS

All right. I think we've got a good direction. Good work, everyone.

People get up to leave.

BOSS (CONT'D)

(to Craig)

Craig, could you compile a report on that data? I'll need it on my desk by the end of the day. Thanks.

CRAIG

(calmly but screaming on the inside)

Sure, I'll get right on that.

As he rises from his chair...

IMAGE-TO-IMAGE

INT. OFFICE - CUBICLE

Craig falls into his cubicle chair. His cubicle is warm and friendly (Craigish). There's a small army of bobble-head turtles along the wall of his desk, as well as a TICKING SOLAR DAISY. He drops the papers from the meeting on top of his keyboard. He stares at them for a moment, then fans them out messily. He stares again, dumbfounded and unmoving, for exactly 15 seconds. In the silence, the SOLAR DAISY ticks.

TIME CUT

The papers are now crammed beside the bobble-head turtles. Myriad programs are pulled up on his computer. He continues pulling things up, including Minesweeper, but still no answers.

TIME CUT

Craig plays Minesweeper. At the same moment a mine explodes, his boss sounds off behind him as she walks by.

(CONTINUED)

BOSS  
How's it coming, Craig?

She doesn't even look or stop for an answer. Craig doesn't know that. PANIC MODE. Craig fumbles and bumbles, vocally and physically. He grabs for the papers, knocking over his army of turtles, the ticking solar daisy, and a horde of papers off his desk.

CUT TO

INT. OFFICE - NEIGHBORING CUBICLE

The dull guy in the next cubicle over clicks around on the Internet while he chows on a bag of cool ranch-flavored corn chips. Mid-chow, he hears Craig yell from the other side of the cubicle wall,

CRAIG  
My daisy!

There's a bang against the wall, and he looks down when a single sheet of paper slides into his cubicle from underneath the barrier. He looks at it for a moment. More off-screen sounds of struggle. He picks up the paper as he finishes chowing. He makes the first two folds of a paper airplane.

CUT TO

INT. OFFICE - CUBICLE

Craig has reorganized his turtles, daisy, and papers. The daisy is no worse for wear, and the turtles nod in approval.

Craig attempts Microsoft Word. He draws a table. It's bad. He prints. A text box reads, "Printing 1 of 42 pages." He's like,

CRAIG  
42!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A paper airplane hits him in the head.

CUT TO

INT. OFFICE - PRINTER

Craig stares as page after page prints. One of them shows only half of the graph. Another is a page full of nothing but binary. Et cetera.

CUT TO

INT. OFFICE - CUBICLE

2-second shot: Craig cross-legged on the floor surrounded by incomprehensible papers. He unrolls an unnecessarily long strip of packing tape with a *scheeeeeeew* (that sound packing tape makes).

INT. OFFICE - HALLWAY

TRASH CAN and RECYCLING BIN in hallway. Dull guy exits his cubicle to throw away chip bag. He stops when a smooshed wad of paper flies out of Craig's cubicle, hits the wall, and plops into the trash can.

Beat.

A cascade of smooshed paper wads pours from Craig's cubicle. All of them make it into the trash can.

Beat.

Dull guy picks up one of the wads and drops it in the recycling bin. He reaches for another.

CUT TO

INT. OFFICE - CUBICLE

Craig taps some keys. On the screen, we see Google open, with "BAR GRAPH?????????" typed into the search bar. The question marks continue to appear as we hear furious taps on the keyboard.

TIME CUT

Craig attempts to draw a pie chart on graphing paper. It looks more like a Pac-Man.

TIME CUT

Craig on the phone, speaking in hushed tones.

CRAIG  
(frustrated)  
No, Amanda, that's not...  
(brightens)  
Actually, problem solving is  
always better when there's food.

TIME CUT

(CONTINUED)

Craig picks up his Pac-Man pie chart, examines it for a second, looks at the computer, smashes the paper against the monitor as if trying to transfer his drawing to the computer.

TIME CUT

Craig scoops jigglng Jell-O into his mouth as he stares hatefully at the computer.

TIME CUT

Craig reclines zombie-like in his chair. Faint moaning.

TIME CUT

Craig scoots up to his computer calmly but screaming on the inside. He takes a deep breath and clicks the Start menu. Blue screen of death. The computer begins an incessant obnoxious beeping session. He gives up on life and starts banging his head gently against his desk in time with the beeps.

CRAIG

I'm not gonna quit. I'm not gonna  
quit. I'm not gonna quit.  
(cont.)

The turtles nod to the rhythm of suffering.

TIME CUT

YONG MAN, a well-put-together young man with a professional air about him, drops an empty plastic cup in the recycling bin, which is now full of smooshed-up wads of paper. He notices Craig in his state of not-goodness.

YONG MAN

(hesitantly)

Hey, you're the new intern, right?  
Need help?

Craig's head pops up from his desk. He stares. Contemplates all the socially accepted ways of responding (oh, I'm fine; no, no, I'm good; etc.) and he's like,

CRAIG

Yes, please. I just need to make a  
graph.

YONG MAN

(smiling indulgently)

Have you tried Excel?

(CONTINUED)

Craig gestures vaguely at his computer, which emits faint wafts of smoke. At least the beeping has stopped.

CRAIG  
I can't computer.

Yong Man considers the dilapidated computer.

YONG MAN  
Maybe I should show you on mine.

Craig follows Yong Man as they exit the cubicle.

Beat.

Dull guy pokes his head out of his cubicle.

TRANSITION

Dull guy's hand grabs the plastic cup out of the recycling bin and drops it into the previously empty trash can.

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 6 - Craig Takes a Test Drive

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. OFFICE - CRAIG'S CUBICLE

Craig scrolls through a list of cars for sale on Craigslist. He finds a car he likes for \$700, and he's like,

CRAIG

Ooo.

INT. CHEAP CAR - DAY

Craig sits in the driver's seat, the owner (Raving Richard) in the passenger seat. The car is old and musty. The owner beams.

Craig starts the car and puts it into gear, and it grinds a little bit. Startled, he quickly releases the gear shift. He shoots the owner a concerned glance for confirmation.

RAVING RICHARD

(beaming excitedly)

Oh! Yes-yes-yes-yes-yes!

(waves hands excitedly)

You turn on the radio and you will  
not even hear it, I think! (!!!)

Craig, unconvinced, turns on the radio. Soothing classical music fills the car. Craig puts the car in gear. The grinding is still audible over the radio.

He pulls out onto the road.

CRAIG

Oh, it's not bad. Does it--

RAVING RICHARD

Oh! It does, I think!

The car grinds like a banshee. Coasts to a halt. Pukes smoke from under the hood. Soothing classical music still plays.

Craig watches stupefied through the windshield as a tire rolls past.

Beat.

Close-up on Richard. A vein bulges in his forehead. Wild, excited eyes widen. His smile metaphorically cracks his face in two.

RAVING RICHARD

(too confident to be healthy)

So you WILL LOVE IT, I THINK!!!!



INT. OFFICE - CRAIG'S CUBICLE

Craig scrolls dejectedly through a list of cars for sale on Craigslist. He finds a car he likes for \$5,000. He perks up a little, and he's like,

CRAIG  
Ooo. Better.

INT. CAR - MIDDLE-CLASS DRIVEWAY - DAY

Craig sits in the driver's seat, smiling, the owner (a well-put-together man in a polo, with a heavily defined part in his hair; we'll call him Polo Dave) in the passenger seat.

CRAIG  
Do the tires randomly come off?

Polo Dave gives him a concerned look. Craig fakes a laugh.

CRAIG (CONT'D)  
(turning on the car)  
Of course they don't. What am I saying?

TIME CUT

They pull back into the driveway. Craig turns off the engine, breathes a sigh of relief, and smiles.

CRAIG  
(noting the lack of smoke puke from the car)  
No smoke. I like that.

POLO DAVE  
I don't smoke...

Craig nods, ignoring Polo Dave's comment.

CRAIG  
I'll take it.

INT. POLO DAVE'S HOUSE - LATER

Polo Dave hands Craig a couple of papers.

POLO DAVE  
I'll need you to sign these.

(CONTINUED)

CRAIG  
(taking the papers absently)  
Can we talk about a payment plan? I  
can do, like, \$100 a month.

POLO DAVE  
(incredulously)  
I was thinking payment in full.

CRAIG  
(taken aback)  
But I don't... \$5,000.

POLO DAVE  
What you need is a loan.

Craig mulls this over for a moment.

CRAIG  
Can you make an exception in my  
case?

Beat.

POLO DAVE  
No.

INT. OFFICE - CRAIG'S CUBICLE

Craig, at his computer, types "LOAN?????????????????" into a  
search engine. He scrolls aimlessly, looking dumbfounded.

Giving up, Craig walks to Yong Man's cubicle, the young man  
who helped Craig with his report before. Yong is working on  
something at his desk.

CRAIG  
Psst. Hey, Excel solves all things,  
right?

YONG  
(looking up at Craig)  
Well, in your case...

CRAIG  
Can Excel give me a loan?

YONG  
What do you need a loan for?

CRAIG  
I need a car for some very good  
valid reasons.

(CONTINUED)

YONG  
Mm-kay. Well, it can help you  
create an amortization schedule to  
help you *pay off* a loan.

CRAIG  
Oh, good. Can you show me how to do  
that?

YONG  
(cheerfully)  
Sure.

CRAIG  
Also, can you loan me \$5,000?

Beat.

YONG  
(blank-faced)  
No.

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 7 - See How They Run

By Three Kids in a Closet

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LUCAS (PRE-LAP)  
Our wonderful heroines, Sophia and  
Emily, trek through the Indian  
forest.

EXT. TAMIL NADU, INDIA, FOREST - DAY

Sophia and Emily trek through the Indian forest.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
And they come across a sloth bear.

Sloth bear. The sloth bear yawns and scratches its chin.  
Emily giggles.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
Oh, and then out of the trees pops  
a hat vendor.

A hat vendor literally pops out of the trees with a  
*bloop* (he's fat). He pulls out a small wooden cart covered  
in hats. He tips his tiny hat to them politely, but he  
doesn't say anything.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
What?

AMANDA (V.O.)  
(excitedly)  
In India, you have to convert  
money, and they use rupees. 1 rupee  
is 1.5 percent of a dollar. So a  
hat that costs 854 rupees sounds  
like a lot, but it's only 12  
dollars and 50 cents.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
Do I have enough money?

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Adventurers always have enough.

Sophia and Emily break pots on the ground and suddenly have  
rupees, which they hand over to the fat hat vendor. In  
return, he gives them each an Indiana Jones-style fedora.  
Rejoicing. The fat hat vendor pops back into the forest with  
a *bloop*. The sloth bear has fallen asleep.

LUCAS (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Suddenly, from behind the sloth  
bear, the beaver with  
97th-percentile jaws appears!

The beaver appears.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY (V.O.)/BEAVER  
Om-nom-nom!

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
And it chases them!

It chases them.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
They run up a big hill and jump off  
a rock ledge to get away.

They jump off the ledge, leaving the beaver snarling behind  
them. They fall.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Then they activate their parachutes  
in their explorer backpacks.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
And they float gently down to the  
trees.

They activate their parachutes and float gently for a bit.  
Emily giggles.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
As they come down to land, Sophia's  
parachute snags on a tree branch,  
and she gets stuck.

Sophia gets caught in the tree while Emily floats safely to  
the ground. Sophia's feet dangle and kick a mere six inches  
from the ground.

AMANDA (V.O.)  
Emily goes to get help.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
She finds a friendly water buffalo.

Emily goes for help.

Beat.

She comes back riding a friendly-looking water buffalo. It  
chomps through Sophia's parachute cords, and Sophia drops  
lightly to the ground and brushes herself off.

They all notice something amazing.

LUCAS (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Suddenly they notice a nest of...

LUCAS (V.O.)  
(CONT'D)  
...Dragon eggs!

AMANDA (V.O.)  
(excitedly)  
...Dinosaur eggs and they  
could carbon-14 date them!

Beat.

LUCAS (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
(slowly)  
Dinosaur eggs. But suddenly they're  
surrounded by ravenous  
archaeologists!

3 ravenous-looking archaeologists appear, brandishing  
brushes and picks.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
23 of them!

20 more ravenous-looking archaeologists appear, brandishing  
brushes and picks. One of the dinosaur eggs begins to crack.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
Suddenly the beaver!

The egg bursts, and out comes the beaver, arms raised in  
victory.

BEAVER  
OM-NOM-NOM! (!!!)

The archaeologists' eyes widen in terror, and they scatter.  
Emily points scoldingly at the beaver, and the beaver slowly  
lowers its arms, sufficiently chastised.

BEAVER  
(whispering)  
Om-nom-nom.

LUCAS (V.O.)  
The end.

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 8 - Amadi

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. CRAIG'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Craig's Ghanaian roommate, Amadi, sits on the couch working on a savings plan in Excel. Craig comes in the front door, loaded with luggage, and drops his bags on the floor. Amadi looks up.

AMADI

Hey, welcome back! How was your internship?

CRAIG

(like a Sprite commercial)

Ahhh, so good!

He walks over and sits on the other side of the room, facing Amadi.

CRAIG (CONT'D)

(sighing)

You want some advice? Learn the ins and outs of Excel before you graduate.

Amadi looks down at Excel open on his computer and nods.

CRAIG (CONT'D)

What are your plans, anyway?

Amadi looks at him and grins intensely.

AMADI

Well, I graduate this semester.

AMADI'S GRADUATION CEREMONY - IN HIS MIND

Amadi, in cap and gown, grinning intensely, receives his diploma and triumphantly raises it in the air.

AMADI (V.O.)

Then I go back to Ghana...

AMADI'S FLIGHT HOME - IN HIS MIND

Sketchy graphic of plane following dotted line from one end of the earth to a sketchy drawing of Ghana.

AMADI'S HOME - IN HIS MIND

Amadi with his family, all smiling at us.

AMADI (V.O.)  
...Where I'll help run my family's  
small business.

During voiceover, we see Amadi fishing at the ocean. There's a tug on his pole, and he reels in the line to reveal the can of tuna he has caught.

Zooming out, recently caught tuna cans float in a tank full of water on the shore behind him. Amadi's family dumps more recently caught tuna cans into the tank.

AMADI (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
My New Year's Resolution is to buy  
my own home within 10 years of  
returning to Ghana.

BACK TO

INT. CRAIG'S APARTMENT

CRAIG  
You could take out a loan. I just  
did...for some very good valid  
reasons.

AMADI  
Actually, people can't get loans in  
my country. I have to save money  
and pay for a house all at once.

CRAIG  
Oh.  
(thinks for a moment)  
Can they make an exception in your  
case?

Beat.

AMADI  
(not grinning intensely)  
No.

INT. AMADI'S FAMILY'S HOME - IN HIS MIND

Amadi writing on a piece of paper at his desk.

AMADI (V.O.)  
I've done calculations to figure  
out how much I need to save every  
month.

During the voiceover, Amadi writes "4+6=" on the piece of paper. He examines it a moment, then scratches it out and writes underneath it " $A=P(1+r/100n)^{(nt)}$ ." He grins intensely and nods.

BACK TO

INT. CRAIG'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Amadi turns his computer around to show Craig what he's doing on Excel.

AMADI  
I'm making a savings plan with  
Excel's math tools right now.

CRAIG  
(in awe)  
Excel. It solves all things. Can  
you show me how to do that?

AMADI  
(grinning intensely)  
Of course!

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 9 - A Good Trip is Hard to Find

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. 2011 MERCURY MARINER CAR - DAY

Plastic cup of Cheerios clasped by tiny, sticky hands. Lucas, Amanda, Sophia, and Emily crammed in a car. Emily and Sophia in car/booster seats. Amanda's looking down at and talking about a Yellowstone pamphlet. Lucas has his TEAL PEN tucked behind his ear. Sophia, having fun, throws a Cheerio at Emily. Emily giggles and eats the Cheerio.

AMANDA

(to Lucas)

And the math here is so interesting. Like, if it erupts for 4 minutes, then...

(she gestures with her fingers as if using them to count)

... $y=33.74+10.73X(4)$ ...

Sophia throws another Cheerio at Emily. Emily giggles and eats the Cheerio.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

That's 76.66 minutes. You'd know Old Faithful would erupt again in 76 minutes. With a margin of error.

LUCAS

Isn't the margin, like, an hour?

AMANDA

More like half.

LUCAS

Not a very exact science.

Sophia throws another Cheerio at Emily. Emily giggles and eats the Cheerio.

AMANDA

We'll get there with plenty of time. Don't worry.

A light comes on on the dashboard, there's an uncomfortable noise, and smoke billows from under the hood. Lucas and Amanda react appropriately. Emily giggles in the back seat.

INT. MECHANIC'S OFFICE - LATER

TEAL PEN tapping nervously. Lucas and Amanda sit beside each other in the waiting area while Sophia and Emily play with the toys in the corner, lost in make-believe. Amanda rubs his arm comfortingly. Lucas doesn't say anything, just taps ever faster. Amanda gently lays her hand on his pen hand, and the tapping slows.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

(gently)

Math's not always an exact science,  
but...we do know the park's open  
all day, Old Faithful's going to  
erupt at least 4 to 6 more times  
before dark, and it's only going to  
take about an hour to fix the car.

Lucas takes a breath.

LUCAS

You calculated our car repair time?

AMANDA

No, I asked the mechanic while you  
were helping Sophia with her  
Cheerios.

The tapping slows to a stop.

LUCAS

(sighing)

It's just... This is our first real  
vacation. I want the girls to have  
fun.

They look at the girls. Emily grins like a cute psycho while  
Sophia stacks blocks on her head. There's a knocked-over cup  
of Cheerios on the floor beside them. They giggle in  
careless abandon.

AMANDA

(cheerfully)

They're fine.

Lucas leaves his TEAL PEN in his lap. They watch their girls  
play.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

The only variable I'm worried about  
is the cost.

LUCAS

(relaxed)

Perks of having a career.

Sophia sticks an empty cup in their faces. She and Emily  
look up at them in supplication.

SOPHIA

Adventurers always have enough  
money.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

3.

Lucas grabs a box of Cheerios from a bag beside his chair.

LUCAS  
That's my girl.

He pours Cheerios into her cup.

FADE TO BLACK

Episode 10 - Boat Be Nimble, Truck Be Quick

By Three Kids in a Closet

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EXT. AMAZON - DAY

CRAIG (V.O.)  
(bored)  
Pamela sees the toucan.

Pamela looks up at a toucan on a branch. The scene is sterile and bland, like a poorly written children's book.

CRAIG (V.O.)(CONT'D)  
(flatly)  
"Hello, toucan." The toucan smiles back.  
(sighs)  
"Nevermore."

The colors fade, the characters wilt.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
You're telling it wrong.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
I mean, "Hello, Pamela."

The toucan jerks upright and regains some color.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
No, it's wrong. It's about the brave adventurers Sophia and Emily.

Everything changes. Sophia and Emily on a tour boat floating the Amazon. Vibrant, colorful, lively, energized, like a Skittles commercial.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
Self-insert. Nice. Okay, Sophia, Emily, and their favorite uncle, Craig.

Craig appears beside them, smiling.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
No Craig.

Craig disappears.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
Yes Craig.

Craig reappears, looking flustered.

(CONTINUED)

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
You can be the bird.

Craig turns into a toucan.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
Hmm, fine, but with a monocle.

A posh monocle appears on the toucan.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
(ominously)  
And they're being followed by...a  
surprise.

We see the 97th-percentile-jawed beaver following them in  
the water.

Craig's like,

CRAIG (V.O.)  
What?

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
With big teeth.

The beaver chomps soundlessly in anticipation.

EMILY (V.O.)  
(giggles)

CRAIG (V.O.)  
Big teeth.  
(suddenly excited)  
Oh, like a caiman!

The beaver looks surprised, turns abruptly into a black  
caiman.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
And they're running!

They run along the tour boat, which never ends.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
(heroically)  
Yeah, they run from the caiman. But  
brave uncle Craig, the toucan,  
stands his ground to defend them.

The toucan halts in midair to confront the caiman. Tension  
is high. Bravery radiates in the toucan's eyes. His nieces  
will not be eaten. Not today.

(CONTINUED)

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
And he gets eaten!

The caiman launches out of the water and swallows Craig the toucan whole.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
Wait, but--

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
And now they have to choose between  
a boat or a monster truck!

They're suddenly not on a boat anymore. They stand in front of a rental agency in the forest. Craig the toucan is there (no explanation, because that's how Sophia's mind works). There are TWO SIGNS: one with a picture of a motorboat that says "\$60 per day plus \$.19 per kilometer fuel fee," one with a picture of a monster truck that says "\$37.50 per day plus \$.88 per kilometer fuel fee."

SOPHIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
(suspensefully)  
But which one has the best math?

Craig's like,

CRAIG (V.O.)  
(totally lost)  
Wait, what am I solving??

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
(emphatically)  
Truck or boat? Truck or boat?!!  
TRUCK OR BOAT!!??!?

CRAIG (V.O.)  
(getting frantic)  
I don't know! I didn't sign up for  
this!

EMILY (V.O.)  
(quietly)  
Om-nom-nom.

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
(tragically)  
We're too late.

CRAIG (V.O.)  
What do you mean too late?!

SOPHIA (V.O.)  
Suddenly the beaver with  
97th-percentile jaws--!!!!!!!!!!!!

CRAIG (V.O.)  
WHY??? (!!!)

The beaver with 97th-percentile jaws crashes through the  
trees in a giant monster truck.

BEAVER  
OM-NOM-NOM!

INT. SOPHIA AND EMILY'S ROOM - NIGHT

SOPHIA  
The...end.

Sophia closes the book with a snap. Emily giggles. Craig  
stares into space, disheveled, frightened, and a little  
impressed.

FADE TO BLACK

CRAIG (O.S.)  
Let's do another one.

Episode 11 - The Game

By Three Kids in a Closet

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INT. LUCAS AND AMANDA'S NEW HOUSE - DAY

Lucas and Amanda sit on the floor around a cardboard box, upon which sits a Jenga tower. Other boxes are piled around the otherwise empty room. No furniture. It's a nice but modest house. The TEAL PEN rests on the floor beside Amanda. Amanda is hyperfocused on the Jenga game as she contemplates her next move while Lucas scrolls around on his phone.

LUCAS  
(still scrolling)  
It's nice to be in a new house.

AMANDA  
(still focused on the game)  
Yep.

Beat.

LUCAS  
(distractedly)  
It'll be nice when the furniture catches up.

AMANDA  
Shh.

Tension builds as Amanda attempts to not knock the tower over. Lucas is still distracted on his phone. Amanda successfully removes a block.

LUCAS  
This one says kids who use electronics learn faster. It's a blog post, but it cites some scientific studies.

As he speaks, he confidently removes a block from the tower.

AMANDA  
Let's just look at the studies they cited.

They fall silent. Amanda carefully takes her turn. Lucas continues searching on his phone.

LUCAS  
It looks reliable, but I'm no expert. What do you think?

He hands the phone to Amanda and swiftly takes his turn. Amanda examines the study.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

They have evidence, but I don't think it's very reliable. See, the p-value suggests the evidence isn't very strong.

LUCAS

What is the thing that you just said?

AMANDA

The p-value.

(pointing at the screen)

See, it says  $p=0.4928$ . That means it's not looking so good for their alternative hypothesis. Let's look at another one.

Amanda hands the phone back to Lucas.

LUCAS

(scrolling distractedly)

All the new things I learn...

Amanda contemplates her next move.

AMANDA

(distractedly)

And it's always good to look at more than one source.

She takes forever while Lucas looks for more sources. Finally, she removes a block.

LUCAS

What about this one? This is an academic journal with confusing words and everything. And it has a good p-value--I think.

Lucas passes the phone back to Amanda. She looks at the article for a moment.

AMANDA

Yeah, this one looks good. Save that. We should look for evidence for the other side too.

LUCAS

Is it my turn?

(CONTINUED)

Without waiting for a response, he jabs a block out of its place and puts it on top. Both fall silent. Amanda sets the phone down and carefully takes her turn, looking as if she's trying to avoid even breathing on the tower. Lucas continues researching.

AMANDA

Your turn, babe.

Lucas quickly removes a block. The tower sways precariously, but doesn't fall. It is now balanced on a single brick. Amanda reaches forward slowly. She pokes a block. The tower sways. She tenses.

LUCAS

(grinning)

Just rip it out. It's like a  
band-aid.

Amanda switches to a different block, tests it, then carefully begins to slide it out.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

So if the p-value is good, does  
that mean the study is definitely  
right?

The tower collapses with a crash. Amanda clenches her fist and adopts the "dang-it" face. Lucas bursts into laughter.

INSTANT TO BLACK



Episode 12 - Mathematical Family

By Three Kids in a Closet

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EXT. TACO BUS - DAY

Craig stands dejectedly in front of a taco bus. The sign says CLOSED in bright, disheartening red. He is saddened at the loss of tacos. A mournful wind blows.

INT. LUCAS AND AMANDA'S NEW HOUSE - KITCHEN

Lucas sits at the kitchen table on his laptop. He searches Amazon, brow furrowed in concentration. Beside him, Sophia and Emily munch away sloppily at homemade hamburgers. A cup full of pens and pencils stands on the table, and among the writing utensils is Lucas's TEAL PEN, in its place in the cup. Amanda stands in the kitchen, cooking more hamburgers.

As Lucas scrolls on his laptop, Emily reaches, starry-eyed, for the bottle of ketchup, spurred by her budding sense of independence.

LUCAS  
(casually, without looking  
away from his computer)  
No more ketchup for you, thanks.

As he speaks, he reaches out and moves the ketchup out of Emily's reach.

Unfazed, Emily picks up her burger and bites it.

LUCAS  
(to Amanda)  
Still looking at headphones for  
your brother. These black ones have  
4.3 stars and they're 20% off.

AMANDA  
(flipping a hamburger)  
Craig likes black.

LUCAS  
But then there're these white ones.  
They're not on sale, but they're  
higher rated.

AMANDA  
They're 5 stars?

LUCAS  
4.6.

AMANDA  
(amused)  
So they're both 4 stars.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Hey, it makes a difference. Oh,  
wait! These red ones are 40% off  
and 4.7 stars. We have a winner.

Craig suddenly bursts into the kitchen unannounced. Lucas  
snaps his laptop shut, trying to look innocent. Craig grins  
intensely.

CRAIG

The gypsy woman said there would be  
tacos.

AMANDA

(rolling her eyes)

You know we only make tacos on  
Tuesdays.

At the table, Sophia looks up urgently from her hamburger.

SOPHIA

And my birthday!

AMANDA

(conceding)

And Sophia's birthday.

Beat.

CRAIG

Can you make an exception in my  
case?

Hamburger's sizzle on the stove top.

Beat.

AMANDA

No.

SOPHIA

No.

Lucas inconspicuously slides his laptop to the side of the  
table. He gets up to help Amanda, getting out plates and  
silverware to set the table.

LUCAS

So, Craig, how'd that job interview  
go?

CRAIG

I think it went well. There  
were six other people, though, so  
I've got my fingers crossed.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS  
(setting the table)  
When are you supposed to hear back?

Amanda's phone dings, and she looks at it.

CRAIG  
Probably not for another four days,  
at least. They said I'd hear back  
in about a week.

Amanda pipes up.

AMANDA  
Hey, do you guys ever get texts  
from local government? This is,  
like, the third text I've gotten  
from Ryan Andrews.

Craig's like,

CRAIG  
Who?

LUCAS  
(excitedly)  
He's running for governor. I heard  
he's actually in the lead. I saw an  
article...

Lucas pulls out his phone and taps around for a few seconds.  
Craig comes over to see.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Yeah, here. It says 51% of voters  
are going for Andrews and only 49%  
are for Garcia.

Amanda glances over her shoulder at them.

AMANDA  
But what's the margin of error?

Lucas looks uncertain and searches through the article for a  
moment.

LUCAS  
...The article says it's 3%. Does  
that make a difference?

CRAIG  
Well, with a margin of error of 3%,  
that just means anywhere between 48  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CRAIG (cont'd)  
and 54% of voters will choose  
Andrews and 46 to 52% will go with  
Garcia. So really it's anyone's  
game.

LUCAS  
(impressed)  
You know, I really think you'll get  
that statistician job.

CRAIG  
(teasingly flattered)  
Oh, stop...

AMANDA  
Food's ready.

Craig look up, excited.

CRAIG  
Nice.

Amanda brings the plate of hamburgers to the table, and  
Lucas gets up to help. As the whole family sits at the  
table, they continue chatting amicably. Muted dialogue.

Emily reaches for the mustard but is intercepted by Amanda.

It's happy. It's peaceful.

FADE TO BLACK