Scene: Sheldon's bedroom. Mrs Cooper is tucking him in.

Mrs Cooper: I'm very proud of you honey, you showed a lot of courage today.

Sheldon: Thanks, mom. Mom?

Mrs Cooper: Mmm-hmm?

Sheldon: Is Dr Gablehouser going to be my new daddy?

Mrs Cooper: We'll see. Sleep tight.

Sheldon turns over to sleep in the glow of a luminous goldfish.

Teleplay: David Litt & Lee Aronsohn

Story: Chuck Lorre & Bill Prady

Series 01 Episode 05 – The Hamburger Postulate

Scene: The Cheesecake Factory

Sheldon: Alright, I'm moving my infantry division, augmented by a battalion of Orcs from Lord of the Rings, we flank the Tennessee Volunteers, and the North once again wins the Battle of Gettysburg.

Howard: Not so fast, remember the South still has

two infantry divisions, plus Superman and Godzilla.

Leonard: No, no, no, no, Orcs are magic, Superman is vulnerable to magic, not to mention, you already lost Godzilla to the Illinois Cavalry and Hulk.

Raj: Why don't you just have Robert E. Lee charge the line with Shiva and Ganesh.

Penny: Hi, you guys ready to order?

Howard: Hang on, honey. Shiva and Ganesh? The Hindu Gods against the entire Union army?

Leonard: And Orcs!

Penny: I'll be back.

Raj: Excuse me, Ganesh is the remover of obstacles, and Shiva is the destroyer. When the smoke clears, Abraham Lincoln will be speaking Hindi and drinking mint juleps.

Penny: Alright, my boss says you either have to order, or leave and never come back.

Howard: What do you recommend for someone who worked up a man-sized appetite from a morning of weight training and cardiofunk?

Penny: A shower.

Howard: I'll take the heart smart platter.

Penny: Alright, thank you, and Sheldon.

Sheldon: We don't eat here, I don't know what's good.

Penny: Well, it's all good.

Sheldon: Statistically unlikely.

Leonard: Just get a hamburger, you like hamburgers.

Sheldon: I like the hamburgers where we usually have hamburgers, you can't make the assumption that I'll like the hamburgers here.

Leonard: I'm sorry. Give him a hamburger.

Penny: Uh, which one, the Classic Burger, the Ranch House Burger, the Barbecue Burger or the Kobe burger?

Sheldon: Can't we just go to Big Boy? They only have one burger. The Big Boy.

Penny: The Barbecue Burger is like the Big Boy.

Sheldon: Excuse me, in a world that already includes

the Big Boy, why would I breasts, stay for the brains. So, actually not that into music. So hey, your friend's really settle for something like a Big I'm glad I ran into you, the Boy? physics department string cute, anything going on with quartet needs a new cellist. you two. Penny: Because you are not at Big Boy! Leonard: What happened to Leonard: Lesley? No, no-oh, Elliot Wong? what are you kidding? Sheldon: Fine, I'll have the Barbecue Burger. Lesley: He switched over to Sheldon: He asked her out high energy radiation once, it was an embarrassing Leonard: Make it two. research, had a little mishap, failure. and now the other guys are Sheldon: Waitresses don't uncomfortable sitting next to Leonard: Thank you Sheldon. yell at you at Big Boy. him. So, are you in? Sheldon: Oh, I'm sorry, was Lesley (entering): Hey Leonard: Yeah, sure, why not. that supposed to be a secret? Leonard, hi guys. Lesley: Great, we rehearse on Penny: Oh, that's too bad, Tuesdays at your place. you guys would make a cute Leonard: Hey Lesley. couple. Leonard: Why at my place? Lesley: I didn't know you ate here. Raj: Oh dear. Lesley: Yeah, the department Sheldon: We don't. This is a of energy said our regular Howard: What's the matter? disturbing aberration. space is kind of a hot zone. Nice meeting you. Raj: She didn't take my order. Leonard: Lesley, this is Penny, she lives across the hall from Howard: How can she take Penny: Yeah, you too. Leonard, I didn't know you Sheldon and me. your order when you're too played the cello? neurotic to talk to her. Howard: And walks in quiet beauty like the night. Leonard: Yeah, my parents Raj: Nevertheless, this will be felt that naming me Leonard reflected in her tip. Penny: Howard, I've asked and putting me in advanced Scene: The stairwell of the you not to do that. placement classes wasn't getting me beaten up enough. apartment building. Leonard: Lesley and I do research together at Howard: If you're into music, Leonard: What did Penny University. I happen to be a human mean, you'd make a cute beatbox. couple? Penny: Oh, wow, a girl scientist. Penny: Really? (Howard Sheldon: Well I assume she performs some of the worst meant that the two of you Lesley: Yep, come for the beatboxing imaginable.) I'm together would constitute a couple that others might consider cute. An alternate, and somewhat less likely interpretation, is that you could manufacture one. As in, oh look, Leonard and Lesley made Mr and Mrs Goldfarb, aren't they adorable.

Leonard: If Penny didn't know that Lesley had already turned me down then that would unambiguously mean that she, Penny, thought that I should her, Lesley, out, indicating that she, Penny, had no interest in me asking her, Penny, out. But because she did know that I had asked Lesley out and that she, Lesley, had turned me down then she, Penny, could be offering consolation. That's too bad, you would have made a cute couple. But while thinking, good, Leonard remains available.

Sheldon: You're a lucky man, Leonard.

Leonard: How so?

Sheldon: You're talking to one of the three men in the Western hemisphere capable of following that train of thought.

Leonard: Well, what do you think.

Sheldon: I said I could follow it, I didn't say I cared.

Credit sequence.

Scene: The apartment living room. The string quartet are practising.

Lesley: I admire your fingering.

Leonard: Thank you.

Lesley: Maybe some time you can try that on my instrument.

Time jump

Lesley: Goodnight guys, good job.

Male string quartettist: Thanks.

Female string quartettist: See you next week.

Leonard: That was fun, Lesley, thanks for including me.

Lesley: You're welcome. If you're up for it we could practise that middle section again.

Leonard: Uh, sure, why not.

Lesley: Just so we're clear, you understand that me hanging back to practise with you is a pretext for letting you know that I'm sexually available.

Leonard: Really?

Lesley: Yeah, I'm good to go.

Leonard: I thought you weren't interested in me.

Lesley: That was before I saw you handling that beautiful piece of wood between your legs.

Leonard: You mean my cello?

Lesley: No, I mean the obvious crude double entendre. I'm seducing you.

Leonard: No kidding?

Lesley: What can I say, I'm a passionate and impulsive woman. So how about it?

Leonard: Gee, uh...

Lesley: Is it the waitress?

Leonard: Penny? What about her?

Lesley: Well, I thought I saw your pupils dilate when you looked at her, which, unless you're a heroin addict, points to sexual attraction.

Leonard: Well, I did have a poppy seed bagel for breakfast, which could give a positive urine test for opiates but certainly not dilate my pupils, so I guess there's no point in bringing it up.

Lesley: You and the waitress then?

Leonard: No. No, there's nothing going on between Penny and me.

Lesley: So, you're open to a sexual relationship?

Leonard: Yeah. Yeah, I guess I am.

Lesley: Good.

Leonard: Yeah, yeah it is good. Did you want to start now?

Lesley: Why don't we finish the section first.

Leonard: Oh. Okay. A little musical foreplay. Terrific.

(They play, gradually going faster and faster.)

Leonard: I'm good, I'm good to go.

Lesley: Me too. (Exit in direction of bedrooms.)

Scene: The hallway, Sheldon scuttles out of apartment door and crosses to Penny's. Knocks on it urgently.

Penny (opening door): Oh, hey Sheldon, what's going on?

Sheldon: I need your opinion on a matter of semiotics.

Penny: I'm sorry?

Sheldon: Semiotics. The study of signs and symbols, it's a branch of philosophy related to linguistics.

Penny: Okay, sweetie, I know you think you're explaining yourself, but you're really not.

Sheldon: Just come with me.

Jump to the pair of them standing outside Leonard's bedroom door. Bryan Adams "Have You Ever Loved A Woman" is emerging. There is a tie on the bedroom door.

Sheldon: Well?

Penny: Well what?

Sheldon: What does it mean?

Penny: Oh, come on, you went to college.

Sheldon: Yes, but I was eleven.

Penny: Alright, look, a tie on the doorknob usually means someone doesn't want to be disturbed because they're, you know, getting busy.

Sheldon: So you're saying Leonard has a girl in there.

Penny: Well, either that or he's lost his tie rack and gotten really into Bryan Adams.

Lesley (voice off): Oh Leonard, you magnificent beast.

Penny: We really shouldn't be standing here.

Sheldon (entering living room): This is very awkward.

Penny: Oh, come on, you know, Leonard's had girls over before, right?

Sheldon: Oh, yes, but there's usually planning, courtship and advance notice. Last time I was able to book a cruise to the Arctic to see a solar eclipse.

Penny: Wait, you had to leave the state because your roommate was having sex?

Sheldon: I didn't have to, the dates just happened to coincide.

Penny: So, do you know who's in there?

Sheldon: Well, there's Leonard. (Picking up violin case) And he's either with Lesley Winkle or a 1930's gangster.

Penny: Hmmm. Good for him.

Good for Leonard. Okay, night.

Sheldon: No, no, wait, hold on.

Penny: What's the matter?

Sheldon: I don't know what the protocol is here. Do I stay, do I leave? Do I wait to greet them with a refreshing beverage?

Penny: Gee, Sheldon, you're asking the wrong girl. I'm usually on the other side of the tie.

(Sheldon looks lost for a moment. The pulls out his mobile phone and dials.)

Sheldon: Hi, Leonard. It's me, Sheldon. In the living room. I just, I wanted you to know I saw the tie. Message received. You're welcome. You carry on. Give my best to Lesley.

Scene: In Leonard's Bedroom. Leonard wakes up next to Lesley, puts on glasses and grins.

Scene: Living room, Sheldon is sleeping on the sofa, with his head on Lesley's Violin case.

Sheldon: Big boy! (Wakes up, looks at watch, wraps self in blanket, walks towards kitchen) Someone touched

my board. Oh God, my board. Leonard! Leonard!

Leonard (entering): Hey, what's the matter?

Sheldon: My equations, someone's tampered with my equations.

Leonard: Are you sure?

Sheldon: Of course I'm sure. Look at the beta-function of quantum chrono-dynamics, the sign's been changed.

Leonard: Oh yeah. But doesn't that fix the problem you've been having?

Sheldon: Are you insane? Are you out of your mind? Are you.... hey look, that fixes the problem I've been having.

Lesley (entering): You're welcome.

Sheldon: You did this?

Lesley: Yeah, I noticed it when I got up to get a glass of water, so I fixed it, now you can show that quarks are asymptotically free at high energies. Pretty cool, huh?

Sheldon: Cool?

Lesley: Listen, I got to hit the lab. Thanks for a great night.

Leonard: Thank you, I'll see

you at work.

Sheldon: Uh-duh, hold on, hold on!

Lesley: What?

Sheldon: Who told you you could touch my board?

Lesley: No-one.

Sheldon: I don't come into your house and touch your board.

Lesley: There are no incorrect equations on my board.

Sheldon: Oh, that is so...

Lesley: I'm sorry, I've got to run, if you come up with an adjective, text me. (Leaves).

Sheldon: Inconsiderate, that is the adjective, inconsiderate.

Scene: The hallway.

Leonard (exiting the apartment): You can stare at your board all day Sheldon, she's still going to be right.

Sheldon (inside): I'm not staring, I'm mulling.

Penny: Oh, hey Leonard.

Leonard: Oh, hi.

Penny: So, how's it going?

Leonard: Pretty good.

Penny: Just pretty good, I'd think you were doing very good.

Leonard: Pretty, very, there's really no objective scale for delineating variations of good, why do you ask?

Penny: Well, a little bird told me that you and Lesley hooked up last night.

Leonard: Sheldon!

Sheldon: I'm coming.

Penny: So, is it serious, do you like her?

Leonard: Wuh, I don't.... thth-th-that's really two different questions, uh, I'm not.... Sheldon, we have to go!

Sheldon: Boy, you're wound awfully tight for a man who just had sexual intercourse.

Penny: Alright, well, I'll talk to you later, but, I am so happy for you Leonard.

Leonard: Thank you. What did she mean, she's happy for me? Is she happy because I'm seeing someone, or is she happy because she thinks that I'm happy, because anyone who cared for someone would want them to be happy,

even if the reason for their happiness made the first person unhappy. You know, because the second person, though happy, is now romantically unavailable to the first person.

Sheldon: Do you realise I may have to share a Nobel Prize with your booty call?

Leonard: You know what, I'm being ridiculous. But who cares what Penny thinks, Lesley is a terrific girl, she's attractive, we like each other, she's extremely intelligent.

Sheldon: She's not that intelligent.

Leonard: She fixed your equation.

Sheldon: She got lucky.

Leonard: You don't believe in luck.

Sheldon: I don't have to believe in it for her to be lucky.

Leonard: Regardless, I have a chance at a real relationship with Lesley, I'm not going to pass that up for some hypothetical future happiness with a woman who may or may not want me to be happy with a woman who is currently making me happy.

Sheldon: Leonard?

Leonard: Yeah.

Sheldon: I still don't care.

Scene: Leonard and Lesley's lab.

Leonard: Hey, Lesley.

Lesley: Careful Leonard, liquid nitrogen, 320 degrees below zero.

Leonard: Brrrr. Why are you smashing a flash frozen banana.

Lesley: Because I've got a bowl of Cheerios and I couldn't find a knife.

Leonard: So anyway (puts arms around her) Hello.

Lesley: Uh, what are you doing?

Leonard: Just extending the intimacy. Do you want to slip over to the radiation lab and share a decontamination shower?

Lesley: Okay, uh, what exactly do you think's going on between us?

Leonard: I'm not sure, but I think I'm about to discover how the banana felt.

Lesley: Listen, Leonard,

neither of us are neuroscientists but we both understand the biochemistry of sex, I mean, dopamine in our brains is released across synapses causing pleasure. You stick electrodes in a rat's brain, give him an orgasm button, he'll push that thing until he starves to death.

Leonard: Who wouldn't?

Lesley: Well, the only difference between us and a rat is that you can't stick an electrode in our hypothalamus. That's where you come in.

Leonard: Yeah, well, I'm just glad to be a part of it. So what happens now?

Lesley: Well, I don't know about your sex drive, but I'm probably good till New Years.

Leonard: Oh. Okay. Thank you.

Lesley: Thank you!

Leonard: You want to make plans for New Years.

Lesley: Woah, Leonard, please, you're smothering me.

Leonard (leaving): Sorry.

Howard: Hey, look, it's Doctor Stud!

Leonard: Doctor what?

Howard: The blogosphere is a-buzzing with news of you and Lesley Winkle making eine kleine bang-bang music.

Leonard: Wha... how did it get on the internet?

Howard: I put it there.

Leonard: Well, how did you know about it?

Raj: A little bird told us. Apparently you are a magnificent beast.

Leonard: Well, that part's true!

Scene: The Cheesecake Factory.

Sheldon: You know, I think I may have misjudged this restaurant.

Leonard: No kidding.

Sheldon: I won't go out on a limb, but I think we may be looking at my new Tuesday hamburger.

Leonard: Your old Tuesday hamburger will be so broken hearted.

Sheldon: Way ahead of you. I was thinking of moving Big Boy to Thursdays, and just dropping Soup Plantation.

Leonard: Really?

Sheldon: Yeah, the name always confused me anyway, Soup Plantation. You can't grow soup.

Penny: So, how's everything.

Sheldon: Terrific, you'll be happy to know that I plan to come here every Tuesday night for the foreseeable future.

Penny: Really, oh yay!

Sheldon: Who do I speak to about permanently reserving this table?

Penny: Um, I don't know, a psychiatrist? So hey, how are things with you and Lesley?

Leonard: Oh, to be honest, I don't think it's going to work out.

Penny: Oh, oh that's too bad. Well hey, don't worry, I'm sure there is someone out there who is just right for you. (Walks away smiling).

Leonard: Well what did she mean by that? Was that just a generic platitude or was that a subtle bid for attention?

Sheldon: You know why this hamburger surpasses the Big Boy? This is a single decker hamburger whereas the Big Boy is a double decker. This has a much more satisfying meat to bun to condiment ratio.

Leonard: Are you even listening to me?

Sheldon: Of course I'm listening. Blah blah, hopeless Penny delusion, blah blah blah.

Leonard: Okay then. You know, you can grow the ingredients for soup. (Sheldon nods).

Series 01 Episode 06 – The Middle Earth Paradigm

Scene: Lobby of the apartment building, Howard, Raj, Sheldon and Leonard enter in combat gear, covered in blue paint.

Raj: Okay, if no-one else will say it, I will. We really suck at paintball.

Howard: That was absolutely humiliating.

Leonard: Oh, come on, some battles you win, some battles you lose.

Howard: Yes, but you don't have to lose to Kyle Bernstein's Bar-Mitzvah party.

Leonard: I think we have to acknowledge, those were

some fairly savage preadolescent Jews.

Sheldon: You know, we were annihilated by our own incompetence and the inability of some people to follow the chain of command.

Leonard: Sheldon, let it go.

Sheldon: No, I want to talk about the fact that Wolowitz shot me in the back.

Howard: I shot you for good reason, you were leading us into disaster.

Sheldon: I was giving clear, concise orders.

Leonard: You hid behind a tree yelling "get the kid in the yarmulkah, get the kid in the yarmulkah."

Penny (arriving): Oh, hey guys.

Leonard: Hello Penny.

Howard: Morning ma'am.

Penny: So, how was paintball, did you have fun?

Sheldon: Sure, if you consider being fragged by your own troops fun. (To Howard) You clear space on your calendar, there will be an enquiry.

Penny: Okay, um, oh hey, I'm having a party on Saturday so if you guys are around you should come by.

Leonard: A party?

Penny: Yeah.

Howard: A boy-girl party?

Penny: Well, there will be boys, and there will be girls, and it is a party. So, it'll just be a bunch of my friends, we'll have some beer, do a little dancing...

Sheldon: Dancing?

Leonard: Yeah, I don't know, Penny...

Sheldon: The thing is, we're not....

Leonard: We're really more....

Sheldon: No.

Leonard: But thanks, thanks for thinking of us.

Penny: Are you sure? Come on, it's Halloween.

Sheldon: A Halloween party?

Howard: As in, costumes?

Penny: Well, yeah.

Leonard: Is there a theme?