

THE BIG BANG THEORY

"Occam's Dull Razor"

Written by

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COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. HALLWAY

PENNY LOOKING A LITTLE SCARED RUSHES OUT OF HER APARTMENT AND CROSSES OVER TO LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT.

INT. LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT

PENNY OPENS THE DOOR AND FINDS...

OUR FOUR BEST FRIENDS DRESSED FROM HEAD TO TOE IN AUTHENTIC STAR WARS WHITE STORMTROOPER ARMOUR. THEIR HELMET COVERED HEADS TURN TOWARDS HER AND AIM THEIR LASER BLASTERS.

PENNY

You know...there was a time when this  
would have surprised me.

(then)

But I'll bite.

PENNY WALKS UP TO A STORMTROOPER.

PENNY (CONT'D)

So, why are you wearing the get up?

NO ANSWER FROM THE STORMTROOPER.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Well?

NOTHING.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Oh...sorry Raj, didn't know it was  
you.

THE STORMTROOPER HANGS HIS HELMET HEAD IN SHAME.

OUR BOYS TAKE OFF THEIR HELMETS REVEALING WALOWITZ,  
KOOHRAPPALI, SHELDON AND LEONARD.

SHELDON

As if it wasn't blatantly obvious Penny,  
I'll have you know these aren't get  
ups. In the very first star wars film,  
which is actually episode four in the  
series.

(to the other boys)

Due to George Lucas's brilliant  
nonlinear story telling philosophy.

THE OTHER BOYS ALL NOD THEIR HEAD IN AGREEMENT.

SHELDON (CONT'D)

The world was introduced to Imperial  
stormtroopers who served as Chancellor  
Palpatine's personal army. These are  
exact replicas of the armour they wore  
down to the most minuscule detail.  
Except for Walowitz's butt plate.

WALOWITZ

I had to have one custom made to fit  
my toushe.

SHELDON

Now that I've added some clarity Penny,  
I'm sure that even you can see these  
are not just get ups. In the world of  
costume play, this is the ultimate  
level of

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

(strikes a pose)

getting down.

PENNY

Oh...cute.

(to Leonard)

So why are you wearing these get ups?

LEONARD

We belong to a club called the 501st Legion. Once a year a whole bunch of us dress like this and we troop down and visit the children's hospital.

WALOWITZ

Because nothing puts a smile on a kid's face more than seeing a group of disguised men descending upon them with laser weapons.

PENNY

Um...yes, I can see how that would help speed their recovery.

LEONARD

Was there...something you wanted Penny?

PENNY

Oh...right.

(a touch of yucky fear)

There's a spider in my apartment!

COMPLETELY NON-PULSED THEY ALL STARE BACK AT HER.

LEONARD

Yeah...?

PENNY

What do you mean yeah? There's a spider  
in my apartment!

SHELDON

We get it. You got an arachnid. You  
should be happy. With all the food  
you leave out your fly problem is  
solved.

PENNY

Guys!?! They can be deadly.

LEONARD

There are a couple that can get you  
pretty sick. But the odds of dying  
from a spider bite are pretty high.

SHELDON

One in seventy four million, eight  
hundred and fifty thousand to be exact.  
You are almost three times more likely  
to die from touching overly hot tap  
water.

KOOTHRAPALI LEANS IN TO WHISPER TO WALOWITZ.

WALOWITZ

Raj says back in India just drinking  
regular tap water can kill you.

KOOTHRAPALI LEANS IN AGAIN TO WHISPER.

WALOWITZ (CONT'D)

But if it doesn't, at least it helps  
keep you slim.

SHELDON

Curiously Penny, what does it resemble?  
Does it have markings on the dorsal  
side of its cephalothorax that mimic a  
violin? If so, I can assure you there  
are no symphonic attributes to be found  
there. That would make it a *Loxosceles*  
*Reclusa*, more commonly known as the  
Brown Recluse whose venom can be quite  
painful and dangerous...or...did it  
have warm plum colored spinnerets with  
a hairless carapace...because then it  
could be the extremely rare and deadly  
*Atrax Robustus*, only to have ever been  
found in Australia.

LEONARD

Then why would you bring it up?

SHELDON

There's no reason not to be thorough.

(to Penny)

So what kind do you think it is?

PENNY

The kind I want somebody to step on!

(MORE)

PENNY (CONT'D)

(then)

You know what? I think you're all just as scared as I am. The big bad stormtroopers don't want to go kill the little itty bitty spider.

LEONARD

What? No...of course not. Sheldon, in his own way, is just trying to ascertain what type of spider it might be so he can help rule them out and alleviate your fears.

LEONARD THROWS SHELDON A STERN LOOK.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Right Sheldon?

NOT HIDING ANY PRETENSE OF GIVING IN...

SHELDON

Sure...let's go with that.

WALOWITZ

Penny...we're scientists. Outside of female rejection, there's very little that we're actually afraid of.

(then)

So what do you say guys...attack formation?

LEONARD

Absolutely.

THEY ALL PLACE THEIR HELMETS BACK ON AND POSITION THEMSELVES IN A SINGLE FILE LINE BEHIND KOOTHRAPPALI. THEY ALL LOOK VERY PROFESSIONAL HOLDING THEIR GUNS AT THE READY.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

(from inside his helmet)

Lead the way Penny!

PENNY

Okay...that's more like it. Follow me!

PENNY LEADS THE WAY WITH OUR BOYS MARCHING BEHIND HER. AS SHE CLEARS THE APARTMENT DOOR, KOOTHRAPPALI SLAMS IT SHUT.

THEY BREAK FORMATION.

FROM INSIDE THEIR HELMETS...

KOOTHRAPPALI

Uch...I hate spiders.

WALOWITZ

Nasty little things.

SHELDON

Disgusting vile creatures.

LEONARD

She'll be fine.

AND WE:

FADE OUT:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONEINT. CALTECH CAFETERIA

KOOTHRAPALI, WALOWITZ AND SHELDON ARE AT THEIR LUNCH TABLE.

KOOTHRAPALI

(to Walowitz)

Dude...I do not care what you say, asking that nurse if she owns a rectal thermometer is no indication of her sexual interests.

WALOWITZ

I took a shot. It couldn't hurt.

KOOTHRAPALI

Oh...I beg to differ.

(then)

As a side note, I believe all rectal thermometers should be kept at room temperature. My mother kept it in our refrigerator. That will stir the curry inside you.

SHELDON

I've never quite understood the practical application of the rectal thermometer. The most accurate way of measuring one's core tempature is to get a reading from the hypothalamus.

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

Short of injecting a mercury based gradient device into the base of your brain...the oral thermometer reaches the closest proximity.

KOOTHRAPALI

Or...you get a rectal one that's really, really long.

SHELDON

I present to you again, the rectal thermometer can never be truly accurate...the rectum doesn't even have any thermoreceptors.

WALOWITZ

Really? I thought that nurse's butt looked pretty hot.

KOOTHRAPALI

Dude...give it a rest.

AN EXCITED LEONARD APPROACHES THEM WITH HIS TRAY OF FOOD.

LEONARD

I have got some great news, you're never going to guess what it is!

SHELDON

You've finally realized that as an experimental physicist, following the

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

disciplines and sub-disciplines of observing physical phenomena will never help you disprove the existence of dark matter and once accepting this folly you can finally move on with your life?

LEONARD

No.

SHELDON

You've given up on your laser research since the only bonified experimental outcome is that you can set things on fire?

LEONARD

No.

SHELDON

Then you are correct sir...I can not guess what it is.

LEONARD JOINS THEM AT THE TABLE.

LEONARD

Sheldon, not even you can ruin this news.

WALOWITZ

What is it?

LEONARD

The Children's Hospital decided to show their appreciation by giving all of us guest passes to the Magic Castle in Hollywood!

KOOTHRAPPALI

That is so cool. I've always wanted to go there.

SHELDON

So why haven't you?

KOOTHRAPPALI

It's a private club and you can only get in by invitation only.

LEONARD

And I've got four golden tickets.

WALOWITZ

I dig magicians...their assistants are always enormous babes.

KOOTHRAPPALI

That's lucky for you, the only women you could have a chance with would be of the enormous variety. They could use your body as a toothpick to clean their teeth.

(to Leonard)

This really is exciting news...I love magic!

SHELDON

(scoffing)

Peh...magic.

KOOTHRAPALI

What's your problem?

SHELDON

There is no such thing as magic. It's all lies predicated on trickery. When I was a young lad my Meemaw told me that the only real magic in the world can be found in a young boys eyes.

(then)

And that summer I contracted blepharitis, a small corneal ulcer and two bad cases of conjunctivitis. Where is the magic in that I ask you?

WALOWITZ

(ignoring Sheldon: to Leonard)

So when are we going?

LEONARD

Lets go tonight.

SHELDON

We most assuredly can not.

WALOWITZ

Here we go.

SHELDON

It's Wednesday night. It's comic book store night. We always go to the comic book store on Wednesday night. If you're looking for magic. Nothing beats the magical stimulous of reading...and it's of the utmost importance that I find out if the justice league of America have escaped from the Black lantern's vortex of cranial horror.

WALOWITZ

That last issue was one heckuva cliff hanger.

SHELDON

It certainly was...so you can plainly see going to the "there's no such thing as magic" castle is out of the question.

LEONARD

Come on Sheldon it will be fun.

SHELDON

Fun. Fun you say. The last time you three convinced me to do something fun I drank Raj's rum and coke by accident and wound up singing karaoke with Japanese tourists while we wore our underwear on our heads.

WALOWITZ

(chuckles)

I thought that night was kind of fun!  
The best rendition of push push in the  
bush I've ever heard.

KOOTHRAPALI

Sometimes I use the photo of Sheldon  
wearing his underwear on top of his  
head as the background on my computer.

SHELDON

You told me you destroyed all evidence  
of that evening.

KOOTHRAPALI LOOKS STRAIGHT AT SHELDON...AND SMILES.

SHELDON (CONT'D)

If you all wish to pilgrimage over to  
the mystical fairy like magic castle,  
go right ahead and pursue that childish  
journey.

(then)

I'll be going to the comic book store.

LEONARD

Really? How you getting there?

INT. HALLWAY

SHELDON IS AT PENNY'S APARTMENT DOOR.

SHELDON

(knocks three times)

Penny.

(knocks three times)

Penny.

(knocks three times)

Penny.

AN APHREHENSIVE PENNY OPENS THE DOOR.

PENNY

Gee...that never gets old.

SHELDON

I know. That's why I continue to do  
it.

PENNY

I'm surprised to see you here. That  
spider might still be in my apartment.

SHELDON

Did you kill it?

PENNY

No.

SHELDON

Then it's probably still there. More  
than likely eating some fallen prey  
caught in its silky web that he injected  
with his venom.

PENNY

Uh huh...thanks for that.

(then)

Fess up Sheldon. You're actually afraid of getting bit by the spider aren't you.

SHELDON

Of course. Unless it was radio-active. Then my super strength, spidey senses and the ability to shoot long lines of web out of my wrists would be a worthwhile upside.

PENNY

Gotcha. Okay, what brings you by Sheldon?

SHELDON

My fair weather friends are abandoning our weekly quest to go visit the Magic Castle. So you have to drive me to the comic book store.

PENNY

You're not going to the Magic Castle? Sheldon...are you crazy?

SHELDON

(sighs)

Do I have to keep reminding everyone that my Mother had me tested and there is no irrefutable proof?

PENNY

Sheldon. This is the Magic Castle...do you know how hard it is to get in there.

SHELDON

Apparently, querying a registered nurse if she possesses a medical device that can measure heat from your rectum is the key to entry.

PENNY

I don't understand why wouldn't you want to go? Who doesn't love magic?

SHELDON

Me.

PENNY

Sweetie. My uncle was an amateur magician. He use to show me magic tricks all the time. He even taught me one. Here, I'll show you.

AS PENNY REACHES INTO HER POCKET.

SHELDON

Penny, I'm sure that you mean well...but I'm certain that in order to pull off convincing legerdemain, you would be required to have an infinitely higher amount of skill than it takes to serve pancakes or to pour lukewarm coffee into a mug.

PENNY

How about we forget what you just said...and I show you a trick anyway.

SHELDON

It's your fools errand...but it's a waste of time. I have an IQ of 187 and I'm sure that allows me to break down any form of sleight of hand into it's basic procedures allowing me to expose your method.

PENNY PULLS A COIN FROM HER POCKET.

PENNY

Okay...see the coin?

SHELDON

If by coin, you mean the grade rating of very fine, two thousand and eight Hawaiiin quarter with the image of King Kamehameha on the back...then yes.

PENNY

Good.

PENNY REACHES OVER WITH HER OTHER HAND AND TAKES THE COIN. SHE THEN OPENS THAT HAND TO SHOW THAT THE COIN HAS INDEED DISAPPEARED!

SHELDON

Penny...as I've explained to you before, this is a perfect example of occam's razor. Rather than go down the path of competing theories, the solution is more often found in it's simplest most obvious conclusion. If the coin is no longer in that hand, then ergo...it must have been kept hidden in the other hand.

PENNY OPENS HER OTHER HAND...THERE IS NO COIN THERE EITHER.

BEAT

SHELDON (CONT'D)

(completely awestruck)

How did you do that?

PENNY

I guess your razor's kind of dull now isn't it?

PENNY REACHES UP BEHIND SHELDON'S EAR AND PRODUCES THE NOW MATERIALIZED COIN IN HER HAND.

AS SHE SHOWS THE ASTONISHED SHELDON THE COIN...

PENNY (CONT'D)

Bazinga!

INT. LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT -- MOMENTS  
LATER

SHELDON ENTERS THE APARTMENT TO FIND LEONARD,  
WALOWITZ AND KOOTHRAPPALI ALL DRESSED IN JACKET AND  
TIES ABOUT TO LEAVE.

LEONARD

Hey Sheldon, catch you later...sorry  
you're not joining us.

WALOWITZ

More women for us.

KOOTHRAPPALI

(to Walowitz)

Really dude...if you find Sheldon a  
threat you're in far worse shape than  
I thought.

SHELDON

(to Leonard)

Au contraire mon frere...pull the reigns  
back on your coach momentarily for I  
need to go change and join all of you  
on this evening's magical festivities.

OUR BOYS STARE BACK AT SHELDON LOOKING QUITE PUZZLED.

WALOWITZ

(to Koothrappali)

Did you see invasion of the body  
snatchers?

KOOTHRAPPALI

Yeah.

WALOWITZ

We need to look for a pod.

LEONARD

(to Sheldon)

What made you change your mind?

SHELDON

Not a what...but a who. It was Penny.

(then)

The force is strong with that one.

AND WE:

FADE OUT

ACT TWOINT. LEONARD'S CAR

WALOWITZ AND KOOTHRAPPALI ARE IN THE BACK SEAT. LEONARD IS DRIVING AND SHELDON, NOW DECKED OUT IN A JACKET AND TIE, IS RIDING SHOTGUN.

SHELDON

Just because of my recent fascination with the art of prestidigitation, that doesn't allow me to concede that magic is real. What you just said is complete hokum.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Think what you want. But I'm telling you, right there on the street in New Delhi, I saw him bite the head off that hen and spit it back on. To this day I can not have Kentucky fried chicken.

WALOWITZ

You know...if I could saw a woman in half...I'm not sure I would put her back together right away.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Shut up. Nobody wants to hear what you have to say next.

LEONARD

For whatever the reason Sheldon...I'm glad you came along.

SHELDON

Of course you are. I've come to accept that fact that I'm the gravity in our friendship universe. I keep all of you grounded. Without me you would all jettison into space where your body water turns to vapor your blood boils and your lungs expand and rupture.

WALOWITZ

I don't know Sheldon. If there were times I got to pick between having you around and dying a lonely gruesome painful death in space...that might be a hard choice.

SHELDON TURNS AROUND TO LOOK AT WALOWITZ.

SHELDON

That was another example of sarcasm wasn't it?

WALOWITZ

Of course.

SHELDON TURNS BACK AROUND.

WALOWITZ AND KOOTHRAPPALI GLANCE AT EACH OTHER AND SHAKE THEIR HEADS.

LEONARD

We're here...this is going to be great!

INT. MAGIC CASTLE - BAR

AN ELEGANT BRASS AND WOOD BAR SURROUNDED BY HAPPY PATRONS DRINKING AND LAUGHING AS THEY WATCH A NEARBY MAGICIAN DOING TRICKS.

LEONARD IS SITTING AT THE BAR...HE IS NEITHER DRINKING OR LAUGHING OR EVEN SMILING.

WALOWITZ, LOOKING A LITTLE PISSED OFF, COMES UP BEHIND HIM.

WALOWITZ

Here you are.

(noticing Leonard's glumness)

What's got your panties in a bowtie?

LEONARD

(re: the magician nearby)

Mr Mysto over there showed me a new trick he was working on. The cut and restored tie.

WALOWITZ

How did it go?

LEONARD

I don't know. You tell me.

LEONARD SPINS AROUND ON THE BAR STOOL.

HIS TIE HAS BEEN CUT...THE BOTTOM HALF IS MISSING.

WALOWITZ

These damn magicians with their rubber spongy bunnies and silk handkerchiefs and assistants that can slap your face so hard your vision blurs for an hour.

(MORE)

WALOWITZ (CONT'D)

(then)

I told her I was just checking for  
sawing scars.

KOOTHRAPALI ENTERS WITH A DRINK IN HAND AND HIS  
SWERVE COMPLETELY ON!

A BEAUTIFUL GIRL PASSES HIM.

KOOTHRAPALI

Hey sweet cheeks! I think you're making  
some magic happen in my pants right  
now!

(to Walowitz and Leonard)

I'd like to show her my bolly-wood.

SHELDON ENTERS.

LEONARD

Oh good, we're all here, lets go home  
now.

SHELDON

Home...we just got here. I must  
apologize to you all for my earlier  
apprehension, this establishment is  
truly enlightening. I've seen things  
tonight that defy all reason and logic.

(to Leonard)

Have you ever seen something like that?

LEONARD

One thing comes to mind.

(then)

Look Sheldon, it's late, I'm tired and I just want to go home and give my tie a decent burial.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Are you kidding the nights young, my body's young and I haven't found someone yet to mate with.

KOOTHRAPPALI STARTS DANCING AROUND THE BAR LIKE A BOLLYWOOD MUSIC VIDEO.

LEONARD

Why do we let him drink?

WALOWITZ

Because it's fun to watch.

LEONARD

Yeah, that's true.

SHELDON

The main show in the palace theater is starting soon. It must be their best one. No theoretical science is necessary to evaluate the importance of that. Hence calling it the main show.

LEONARD

Sheldon...I need my sleep.

SHELDON

Ah, well played sir. I can't argue that point. As each of us are a structured organism comprised of the cardiovascular, digestive, integumentary, lymphatic, musculoskeletal and nervous systems-

KOOTHRAPALI HAS INCORPORATED DRY HUMPING THE AIR AS HE DANCES AROUND PASSING WOMEN.

KOOTHRAPALI

(spoken in the rhythm of his dance moves)

Don't forget the reproductive system!

WALOWITZ

I bet his parents wishes they forgot.

SHELDON

We all do indeed need our sleep. But allow me to point out that the average person sleeps for eight hours a day. That's one hundred and twenty two days a year. By the time your seventy five you will already have been asleep for twenty five years. That's one third of your live.

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

How can you possibly postulate in the grand scheme of the universe that staying up for a few more hours could have any kind of intrinsic negative affect on you.

LEONARD

Really Sheldon?

SHELDON

Math never lies.

(then)

And don't forget. I am your gravity.

BEAT

LEONARD

Well...I wouldn't want any of our lungs to rupture.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC CASTLE PALACE THEATER

OUR BOYS ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO SPOT FOUR EMPTY SEATS IN THE FRONT ROW. WALOWITZ TAKES THE AISLE SEAT.

SHELDON APPROACHES HIM.

SHELDON

That's my seat.

WALOWITZ

Of course it is.

WALOWITZ GETS UP ALLOWING SHELDON TO SIT DOWN.

THEY ALL MANAGE TO SIT JUST AS THE HOUSE LIGHTS GO DOWN.

SHELDON ON THE AISLE, THEN LEONARD, WALOWITZ AND A STILL BLITZED OUT OF HIS MIND KOOTHRAPPALI.

THE CAMERA'S P.O.V. STAYS FACING OUR SCIENTISTS IN THEIR SEATS.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Good Evening ladies and gentleman!  
Welcome to the main show here at the  
palace theater! The best show we have  
to offer!

SHELDON

(sotto to Leonard)

See.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Garaunteed to be an experience you  
will never forget!

KOOTHRAPPALI

(shouts)

All right! Bring it on!

WALOWITZ

(sotto to Leonard)

I'll bet he'll forget.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

And now, introducing your host of the  
evening, a man just returning from a  
nationwide tour of Hamburger  
Hamlets...the Great Saltini!

THE MUSIC SWELLS. THE LIGHTS GO UP. THE CROWD  
APPLAUDS.

THE GREAT SALTINI (O.S.)

For my first trick...I will need a  
volunteer from the audience.

KOOTHRAPPALI IS ALREADY UP FROM HIS SEAT HEADING  
TOWARDS THE STAGE.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Dude...I am so here for you!

LEONARD

Oh no...I don't think I can bear to  
watch.

WALOWITZ

But you will...it's what seperates us  
from the apes.

THE GREAT SALTINI (O.S.)

Sir...I would like you to take note of  
the completely empty pan I have here  
on the table.

(then)

Sir! Sir! Please don't put your head  
that close to the pan!

WHOOOMP! A BRIGHT FLASH OF RED REFLECTS OVER THE  
CROWD AND HIGHLIGHTS THE LOOK OF HORROR ON LEONARD  
AND WALOWITZ.

CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD'S CAR

A SOMBER DIN FILLS THE CAR. LEONARD'S DRIVING WITH  
HIS HALF CUT TIE, WALOWITZ STILL LOOKS AGGRAVATED  
AND KOOTHRAPPALI'S STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR SINGED  
HAIR FRAMES HIS BLACKENED ASH COVERED FACE.

THE ONLY ONE LOOKING JOYFUL IS SHELDON.

SHELDON

You were right. That was fun.

INT. STAIRWELL

PENNY AND LEONARD CLIMB THE STAIRWAY THAT LEADS UP TO THEIR APARTMENTS.

PENNY

Oh my God it sounded like it was a nightmare.

LEONARD

Worse...we were awake.

PENNY

How's Raj?

LEONARD

Better today. But the way he looked last night, if we had let him run through the woods people would have mistaken him for bigfoot.

(then)

But we were all mostly worried about Sheldon.

PENNY

Why...it sounded like he was the only one that had a good time?

LEONARD

That's just it.

(MORE)

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Whenever there's something new that manages to break through into his vacuum sealed world...he has a tendency to fixate on it. It becomes all encompassing. But today at work he was socially inept, annoying, egotistical...you know, normal.

INT. HALLWAY

ARRIVING ON THE FOURTH FLOOR, THEY STOP BY LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT

LEONARD

So thankfully our fears were unfounded.

LEONARD OPENS THE DOOR TO HIS APARTMENT.

PENNY PEERS IN.

PENNY

Uh oh.

LEONARD LOOKS BACK AT PENNY.

LEONARD

What?

LEONARD FOLLOWS HER GAZE BACK INTO HIS APARTMENT.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Holy crap!

INT. LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

LEONARD AND PENNY ENTER TO FIND...

THE APARTMENT IS COMPLETELY FILLED WITH MAGICAL APPARATUS AND LARGE ILLUSIONS. THERE IS EVEN A SMALL AVIARY FILLED WITH WHITE DOVES.

LEONARD SNAPS OUT OF HIS SHOCK.

LEONARD

(yells)

Sheldon!

FROM THE BACK BEDROOMS SHELDON ENTERS.

HE'S WEARING A LONG BLACK CAPE, A BLACK TOP HAT AND  
IS CARRYING A MAGIC WAND.

HE PAUSES AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE FRONT ROOM.

SHELDON

Sheldon's not here right now. But  
please refer to me as the Great  
Sheldini.

LEONARD

Sheldon...what the-

SHELDON

Sheldini!

LEONARD

I don't have time for your mentally  
challenged games. What's going on?

BEAT

SHELDON

Sheldini.

LEONARD

Fine! Oh great Sheldini...when did  
your cranium make a u-turn to crazy  
ville!

SHELDON

What do you mean? I'm finding it confusing to clarify the clarity of your point.

LEONARD

My point!? Sheldon my-

SHELDON

Sheldini.

LEONARD

Aggh...my point is this!

LEONARD GESTURES AROUND THE ROOM.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

This Sheldini! What is all this!

SHELDON

Last night I decided I wanted to become a member of the Magic Castle...but in order to do so, I first needed to learn how to perform a magic trick for my initiation. After doing some research online, I've come to find out there are many different branches on the artistic tree of magic for me to choose from. There's close up magic, parlour, stage magic, Illusions, escapology and mentalism.

PENNY

(sotto to Leonard)

I bet he wont be chosing that last one.

SHELDON

Therefore in order to choose which art form best suits my personal style, I went to a local magic emporium to procure a few samplings of items.

LEONARD

A few!?! It looks like David Copperfied threw up in my living room! I don't know how, and frankly I don't care how, but I want you to get all of this stuff out of here!

SHELDON

If you give me enough time to study, I'm sure eventually I will have the capacity to make all of this disappear with the wave of my wand.

LEONARD

Tonight Sheldini...I want it all out tonight!

LEONARD STORMS OUT OF THE APARTMENT.

SHELDON

I'm a quick study, but even I don't think I can learn that much in time.

PENNY

(to Sheldon)

I like your outfit. It's adorable.

SHELDON

Thank you Penny.

PENNY GLANCES AROUND THE PROP FILLED ROOM.

PENNY

(to herself)

Your mom really needs to have you tested  
again.

CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT

WALOWITZ AND PENNY ARE SITTING ON THE COUCH.

WALOWITZ

When it comes to Sheldon, nothing  
surprises me, but this one's hard to  
believe.

PENNY

Tell me about it. You couldn't even  
see the furniture. But somehow he got  
it all out in one night.

LEONARD (O.S.)

He's ready!

KOOTHRAPALI AND LEONARD ENTER FROM THE BACK  
BEDROOMS. LEONARD PAUSES AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE  
ROOM AND KOOTHRAPALI JOINS PENNY AND WALOWITZ ON  
THE COUCH.

KOOTHRAPALI LEANS IN TO WHISPER TO WALOWITZ.

WALOWITZ

You're kidding?

PENNY

What?

WALOWITZ

You'll see.

LEONARD

Lady...and gentlemen. I'd like to  
introduce the Great Sheldini!

LEONARD JOINS THEM ON THE COUCH AS THEY ALL APPLAUD.

SHELDON STEPS OUT FROM THE BACK BEDROOMS INTO THE  
LIVING ROOM.

HE IS WEARING A STRAIGHT JACKET.

WALOWITZ

I always knew I would see him like  
this someday.

SHELDON

First of all I would like to thank all  
of you for coming tonight. Especially  
you Penny. If it had not been for you  
showing me your trick the magic bug  
may not have bit me.

PENNY

Aw Sheldini...that was so sweet of  
you.

SHELDON

I kept thinking if you could do it,  
imagine what someone with my intellect  
could bring to the art.

PENNY

(to herself)

And the sweetness fades away and dies.

SHELDON

And secondly I would like to apologize  
to my dear friend Leonard. I believe  
your prognosis was that I took things  
a little to far?

LEONARD

Yeah...a little.

SHELDON

And for that, again, I humbly apologize.  
As you can see, I stand before you a  
much saner man.

KOOTHRAPALLI TRIES UNSUCCESSFULLY TO STIFLE A LAUGH.

HE THEN LEANS IN TO WALOWITZ AND WHISPERS.

WALOWITZ

(chucking)

No...it's not just you.

SHELDON

Needless to say the magical artform I  
choose to best fit my style is

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

escapology. The restraint that Leonard and Raj most diligently fastened to my body is not gimmicked in any way. It is an actual straight jacket from a mental facility.

WALOWITZ

(to Sheldon)

How much did that cost?

SHELDON

I don't know. It was given to me years ago.

LEONARD

(to everyone on the couch)

Don't ask.

SHELDON

The volumes of books I've read last night on this subject informed me that I should wait years before attempting this. But due to my level of cerebral retention, I was able to grasp all the necessary methodologies in just a few hours.

LEONARD

Oh...this is going to be good.

SHELDON

Houdini's record for escaping from a  
straight jacket is five minutes.  
Tonight you'll see that record broken  
by the Great Sheldini!

(to Leonard)

Time me Leonard!

LEONARD KEEPS AN EYE ON HIS WATCH.

LEONARD

Okay...go!

SHELDON SUDDENLY APPEARS TO GO INTO A SELF INDUCED  
TRANCE. HE STARTS TO HUM AS IF MEDITATING.

SHELDON

Ohmmmmmmmmmm.

EVERYONE ON THE COUCH SHARES A GLANCE OF TRYING NOT  
TO CRACK UP.

SHELDON'S ARMS CAN BE SEEN STRETCHING AGAINST THE  
TIGHT FABRIC. THEY STRETCH AGAIN...AND AGAIN...AND  
AGAIN...UNTIL...

SHELDON (CONT'D)

(snaps out of it)

What the hey?

SHELDON CONTINUES TO TRY TO ESCAPE...MORE PHYSICALLY  
THIS TIME...BUT STILL TO NO AVAIL.

SHELDON'S BODY BEGINS TO MOVE WILDLY BUT THE JACKET  
HOLDS TRUE.

PENNY

Come on Sheldini! You can do it!

SHELDON'S WILD MOVES NOW DROPS HIM TO HIS KNEES.  
HIS ERRATIC MOVEMENT THEN DROPS HIM TO THE FLOOR.

HE STARTS ROLLING ON THE FLOOR BUMPING INTO FURNITURE  
AND KNOCKING OVER A LAMP.

EVERYONE IS NO LONGER ABLE TO HOLD IT IN. THEY ALL  
START LAUGHING.

AS THE COCOON WRAPPED SHELDON ROLLS MADLY ON THE  
FLOOR...

LEONARD

It's the simple things in life that  
brings the most joy.

AND WE:

FADE OUT:

TAG

FADE IN:

INT. LEONARD'S AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - MORNING

LEONARD, IN HIS PAJAMAS, SLOWLY ENTERS FROM THE BACK BEDROOMS AND CROSSES OVER TO THE KITCHEN.

HE TAKES A CEREAL BOWL FROM OUT OF A CABINET AND PLACES IT ON THE COUNTER.

HE THEN GRABS A BOX OF CEREAL FROM THE TOP OF THE REFRIGERATOR, OPENS IT AND FILLS THE CEREAL BOWL.

HE THEN OPENS THE FRIG, TAKES OUT THE MILK AND ADDS IT TO HIS MORNING BREAKFAST.

SHELDON (O.S.)

Time!?

A SLEEPY EYED LEONARD TRIES TO FOCUS ON HIS WATCH.

LEONARD

Thirteen hours, twenty-two minutes and  
thirty-six seconds.

LEONARD STROLLS OVER THE LIVING ROOM AND WE SEE SHELDON, STILL TIGHTLY SECURED IN THE STRAIGHT JACKET, LYING ON THE FLOOR.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Are you sure you don't want some help  
getting that off...I'm pretty sure  
Houdini's record is safe.

SHELDON

Now what kind of magician would I be  
if I gave into a momentary lapse of  
non-commitment.

LEONARD

I don't know...one that would have the  
ability to grab something with his  
hands?

LEONARD CROSSES OVER TO THE KITCHEN TO GET HIS CEREAL  
BOWL. AS HE WALKS BACK TOWARDS SHELDON...

LEONARD (CONT'D)

It's funny, this is actually kind of  
ironic.

SHELDON

What is?

LEONARD

You, wrapped up like a cocooned insect  
caught in a web.

SHELDON

How is that ironic?

LEONARD STARTS TO EXIT TOWARDS THE BACK BEDROOMS.

LEONARD

Because there's a spider on your  
straight jacket.

AND WE:

BLACK OUT

SHELDON (O.S.)

AGGGH! Leonard!?

END OF SHOW