

**LAVENDER***(beaming)*

Just so you all know, she's my best friend.

**KIDS**

Wow!

**SCENE 7: WORMWOOD MOTORS***(#18 – MECHANICS (PART 1) begins.)**(MR. WORMWOOD enters talking on the phone, a MECHANIC follows.)***MR. WORMWOOD**

Yes sir, completely different cars, sir. Green hair? Yeah, it was um, national green hair day, a celebration of all the wonderful green things in the world, like... lettuce and... snot. Tomorrow at one? Absolutely, sir. Bye-bye sir.

*(hangs up, to the MECHANIC)*

Now that is how you do...

*(MR. WORMWOOD tries to remove his hat, but it's stuck. He pulls his hat again but it's still stuck. He furiously tries to remove the hat. Still stuck. He panics, yanking the hat. Still stuck. The MECHANIC is staring at him.)*

**(MR. WORMWOOD)***(to the MECHANIC)*

I'm gonna leave this on. Looks like rain.

*(#19 – MECHANICS (PART 2) begins.)***SCENE 8: THE WORMWOOD HOUSE***(MISS HONEY is at the Wormwood's door. She gestures to knock, hesitates, and then decides to knock.)***MRS. WORMWOOD**

Who is it?

**MISS HONEY**

Oh, yes, um, hello, my name is Miss Honey. Matilda's teacher?

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Bit busy right now...

**MISS HONEY**

It will only take a moment.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Oh, well, come in if you must.

*(inviting MISS HONEY inside)*

This is Rudolpho, he's my dance partner. We're rehearsing.

**RUDOLPHO**

Ciao *(chow)*.

**MISS HONEY**

Ah, parle Italiano? Bene.

**RUDOLPHO**

*(beat)*

What?

*(to MRS. WORMWOOD)*

Who is this, babe? You know what interruptions do to my energy flow.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

What do you want, Miss Chutney?

**MISS HONEY**

It's Miss Honey. Well, as you know Matilda is in the bottom class and children in the bottom class aren't really expected to read—

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Well stop her reading then. Lord knows we've tried.

**RUDOLPHO**

*(dancing)*

I'm in the zone, doll. I can feel it in my hips. Don't waste this.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

I'm not in favor of girls getting all clever pants, Miss Hussey. Looks are more important than books. Now, look at you, look at me. You chose books, I chose looks. Good day.

*(MRS. WORMWOOD forces MISS HONEY out the door.)*

*(#20 – THIS LITTLE GIRL begins.)*

End  
Scene  
\*

**ESCAPOLOGIST**

Cancelled because my wife is... pregnant.

**MRS. PHELPS**

So it has a happy ending?

**MATILDA**

No!

*(#22 – ACROBAT STORY II (PART 2) begins.)*

**(MATILDA)**

Just then the acrobat's sister stepped forward and produced... a contract.

**TRUNCBULL**

*(offstage)*

I have paid for the posters, publicity, the catering, the toilet facilities. Where is my profit? A contract is a contract. You will perform on this day or off to prison you both shall go!

**MRS. PHELPS**

No, no!

*(MATILDA begins to exit.)*

W – w – what happens next?

**MATILDA**

I don't know, yet. I'll tell you tomorrow.

*(#23 – INTO CLASSROOM begins.)*

*(MATILDA exits.)*

**SCENE 10: MISS HONEY'S CLASSROOM**

*(As the KIDS enter MISS HONEY pulls MATILDA aside.)*

**MISS HONEY**

*(pulling MATILDA aside)*

Matilda, starting tomorrow I shall bring in a selection of very clever books that will challenge your mind. You may sit and read them while I teach the others and if you have any questions, well, I shall do my best to answer them. How does that sound?

*(A beat. MATILDA is overwhelmed and suddenly hugs MISS HONEY.)*

Matilda! Why... that is the biggest hug in the world! You're going to hug all of the air out of me!

*(MATILDA shows no sign of breaking the hug. A beat. MISS HONEY hugs back.)*

*(#24 – THE TRUNCHBULL'S ENTRANCE begins.)*

*(The TRUNCHBULL storms on.)*

**TRUNCHBULL**

Matilda Wormwood! Where is—

**MATILDA**

*(stepping forward)*  
Yes, Miss Trunchbull.

**TRUNCHBULL**

Aha! So you admit it do you?

**MATILDA**

Admit what, Miss Trunchbull?

**TRUNCHBULL**

This morning this foul carbuncle sneaked like a serpent into the kitchen and stole a slice of my private chocolate cake from my tea tray.

**MATILDA**

No I did not!

**MISS HONEY**

Miss Trunchbull, Matilda's been here all morning.

**TRUNCHBULL**

Standing up for the little spitball are you? Well this crime took place before school started. Therefore she is...

*(writing on the board)*  
...guilty!

*(#25 – BURP SEQUENCE (PART 1) begins.)*

**BRUCE**

*(to the audience)*

Okay, look, I stole the cake. And honestly I was really, definitely, sort of almost thinking about owning up... maybe? But I was having a lot of trouble with my belly. The Trunchbull's cake was so good that I'd scooped it down too quick and now it was beginning to fight back.

*(his belly rumbles)*

See?

*(It rumbles again.)*

**MATILDA**

I didn't do anything!

**TRUNCHBULL**

You are a crook, and a thief and I shall crush you!

*(#26 – BURP SEQUENCE (PART 2) begins. BRUCE lets out a really, really enormous burp.)*

*(#27 – BURP SEQUENCE (PART 3) begins.)*

**BRUCE**

*(to the audience)*

A huge cloud of chocolaty gas wafted from my mouth and drifted full into the face of the Trunchbull.

*(The TRUNCHBULL is hit by the burp. Pause.)*

**TRUNCHBULL**

Bruce Bogtrotter...

*(The TRUNCHBULL advances on BRUCE.)*

**BRUCE**

Yes, Miss?

**TRUNCHBULL**

You liked my cake, didn't you, Bruce?

**BRUCE**

Yes, Miss Trunchbull, and I'm very sorry, but—

**TRUNCHBULL**

Oh, as long as you enjoyed the cake, that's the main thing.

**BRUCE**

Is it?

**TRUNCHBULL**

Yes, Bogtrotter, it is.

**BRUCE**

Oh. Well... I did.

*(a beat)*

Thank you.

### TRUNCHBULL

Wonderful. Marvellous. That makes me so happy, it gives me a warm glow in my lower intestine.

*(calling offstage)*

Oh, Coo-ook!

*(#28 – BRUCE (PART 1) begins.)*

## BRUCE (PART 1)

*End scene*

*(The COOK enters, carrying a massive chocolate cake with one slice missing. The COOK plonks the cake in front of BRUCE. He stares at it.)*

TRUNCHBULL: What's the matter, Bogtrotter? Lost your appetite?

BRUCE: Well, yes. I'm full.

Solid & Fast 8

TRUNCHBULL: I will tell you when you are full, and I say that criminals like you are not full until you have eaten the entire cake!

BRUCE: But—

TRUNCHBULL: No buts. Eat!

MISS HONEY: Headmistress, he'll be sick—

TRUNCHBULL: He should have thought of that before he decided to steal my cake!

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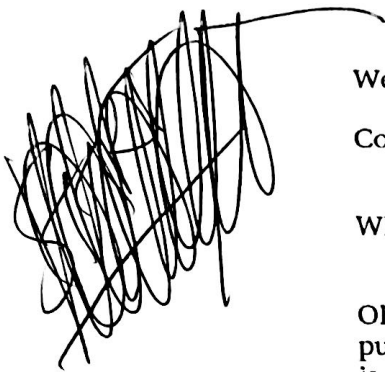
(TRUNCHBULL:)

15

Eat! Eat!

LAVENDER: NIGEL:

He can't. He might ex-plode!



**(TRUNCHBULL)**

Well?  
*(They have no idea what she means.)*  
Come along, Bogtrotter.

**BRUCE**

What? Where?

**TRUNCHBULL**

Oh, did I not mention? That was the first part of your punishment. There's more. The second part. And the second part is... chokey!

**BRUCE**

What?

*(#29 - BRUCE (PART 2) begins.)*

**MISS HONEY**

No, Miss Trunchbull please, you can't!

**TRUNCHBULL**

Do you think I would allow myself to be defeated by these maggots? Did you? Who do you think I am, Miss Honey? A weakling? An idiot? You?

*(The TRUNCHBULL storms back to BRUCE and grabs him by the wrist.)*

**BRUCE**

No, please! Not that! Don't take me to Chokey. Not that! Nooo!

*(The TRUNCHBULL drags BRUCE out.)*

**MATILDA**

That's not right!

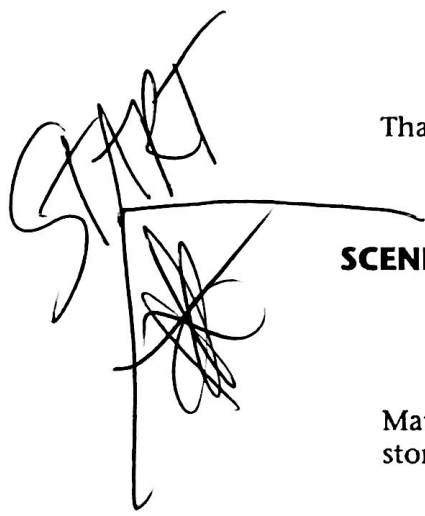
*(#30 - BRUCE (PLAYOFF) begins.)*

**SCENE 11: THE LIBRARY**

*(MRS. PHELPS is in the library. MATILDA enters.)*

**MRS. PHELPS**

Matilda, thank god you're here, I'm dying for the next part of the story! I haven't slept a wink.



**MATILDA**

Mrs. Phelps, where's the revenge section?

**MRS. PHELPS**

What? Is there a child at school who's behaving like a bully?

**MATILDA**

Not a child exactly. Do you want to hear the next part of the story?

(#31 – ACROBAT STORY III (PART 1) begins.)

**MRS. PHELPS**

What are we waiting for?

**MATILDA**

As they prepared themselves for the most dangerous feat that had ever been performed, the acrobat gave her husband a kiss—

**ACROBAT**

Smile – we have done this a thousand times.

**ESCAPOLOGIST**

First I escape from the cage, lean out, catch you with one hand, grab a fire extinguisher with the other, and put out the flames on your specially designed dress before they reached the dynamite and blew your head off!

**MRS. PHELPS**

*(screams)*

Ahhhhhhh!

*(beat)*

Sorry. Go on.

**MATILDA**

The trick started well. The moment the dress was set alight the acrobat swung into the air. She hurled over the sharks and spiky objects – suddenly the padlocks pinged open and the huge chains fell away – the door flung open and the escapologist reached out to catch his wife and the child—

**MRS. PHELPS**

Oh, I can't look!

**MATILDA**

He grabs her hand and suddenly the flames are covered in foam before they can both be blown to pieces.



**MRS. PHELPS**  
Hooray! So the story does have a happy ending!

No. **MATILDA**

No? **MRS. PHELPS**

**MATILDA**  
No. The escapologist used just a touch too much foam and suddenly their hands became slippery... and she fell.

Did she survive? **MRS. PHELPS**

(#32 – ACROBAT STORY III (PART 2) begins.)

**MATILDA**  
She broke every bone in her body except the ones at the ends of her little fingers. She lived long enough to have their child.

**ACROBAT**  
Love our daughter with all your heart. She is all we ever wanted.

**MATILDA**  
And then she died.  
*(MRS. PHELPS blows her nose hugely, devastated.)*  
And then... things got worse.

**MRS. PHELPS**  
Worse? Oh, no, Matilda, they can't get worse!

(#33 – ACROBAT STORY III (PART 3) begins.)

**MATILDA**  
I'm afraid they did. Because the escapologist was so kind that he never blamed the evil sister for what happened. In fact, he asked her to move in and help look after his daughter. She was nothing but cruel to the little girl, beating her if she ever did anything wrong. But always in secret, so that the escapologist never suspected a thing.

**MRS. PHELPS**  
*(jumping up)*  
Let's call the police!

**MATILDA**

Mrs. Phelps, it's... it's just a story.

**MRS. PHELPS**

What?

*(remembering herself)*

Oh, yes, of course.

*(a beat).*

I'd better go.

*(#34 – WHEN I GROW UP TRANSITION begins.)*

**SCENE 12: A PARK**

*(#35 – WHEN I GROW UP begins.)*

**WHEN I GROW UP**

Swung 2 BRUCE:

When I grow up —

I will be tall e - nough to reach

— the bran - ches That I need to reach

— to climb — The trees — you get — to climb