

Stuck In The Middle

"Pilot"

Written By

Alison Brown

&

Linda Videtti Figueiredo

4th Rev. Shooting Script (GREEN)

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Stuck In The Middle

“Pilot”

4th Rev Shooting Script (GREEN)

CAST

HARLEY.....	JENNA ORTEGA
RENEE.....	CERINA VINCENT
GRANT.....	CULLEN MCCARTHY
DANNY.....	CHRISTIAN DISTEFANO
BEAST.....	MALACHI BARTON
RACHEL.....	RONNI HAWK
GEORGIE.....	KAYLA MAISONET
DAPHNE.....	SOPHIA MEZA
TOM.....	JOE NIEVES
BETHANY PETERS.....	JESSICA GARDNER
ELLIE PETERS.....	ANNA FRY

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SETS

INTERIORS

HARLEY'S HOUSE

KITCHEN – MORNING/NIGHT
BOYS' BEDROOM – MORNING
GIRLS' BEDROOM – MORNING
STAIRWAY – MORNING
LIVING ROOM – MORNING
OUTSIDE BATHROOM – MORNING

NEW WEST HIGH SCHOOL

GYM – MORNING

EXTERIORS

HARLEY'S HOUSE

DRIVEWAY – MORNING
VAN – MORNING

PETERS' HOUSE

FRONT YARD

PARK – MORNING

COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

1 INT. KITCHEN - MORNING - 6:30 AM (D1) 1

RENEE sits at the kitchen counter in her pajamas, sipping coffee. HARLEY enters, excited.

HARLEY

Big day, Mom! We have to--

RENEE

Harley, stop. For the rest of the day, I'm mom to 7 kids. For these 10 minutes, I'm a single woman in Paris sipping coffee in a cafe.

HARLEY

Love it, respect it, can't do it.

Harley spots a glass water bottle. Quickly, she pours Mom's coffee in, pulls an old baby bottle nipple from the drawer and screws it on. She hands Renee the bottle of coffee.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

Now you'll be a single woman sipping coffee in a van full of screaming kids. The whole family has to be at the park by 11, so we gots to get this party started.

(calling out)

DONUTS!

2 INT. BOYS' BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS (D1) 2

GRANT, DANNY and BEAST (in helmet) sit straight up in bed. A beat, then a roller derby-style scramble for the door, bed sheets and elbows flying.

3 INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - SAME TIME (D1) 3

GEORGIE and RACHEL sit straight up in bed.

RACHEL

Chris Hemsworth just shouted, "Donuts" in my dream. In a voice that sounded like Harley.

GEORGIE

Dreams are weird like that, Rachel. Go back to sleep.

Georgie takes off. Rachel springs up and grabs Georgie's hair, stopping her so she can run out first.

RACHEL
You're last, grab Daphne.

GEORGIE
She bites me!

RACHEL
She bites everyone!

REVEAL: DAPHNE who sits on the floor chewing a flip-flop.

4 EXT. HARLEY'S HOUSE - PETERS' FRONT YARD - SAME TIME (D1) 4

Next door neighbor, BETHANY, and her daughter, ELLIE, do a yoga "double boat pose" (soles of feet together, holding hands).

BETHANY
Breathe in love and peace for the
dawn of this day--

SFX: Shouting and stampeding from Harley's house. Excited, Ellie lets go of Bethany's hand, dumping Bethany backwards.

ELLIE
They're up! Can I go over?

BETHANY
Not unless you're helping them pack
a moving truck. Focus, Eleanor.
(from ground, annoyed)
Breathe in love and peace...

5 INT. STAIRWAY - CONTINUOUS (D1)

5

The kids barrel down the stairs like a herd of elephants. Beast leaps from a step, landing on the sofa below. TOM appears behind them at the top of the stairs.

TOM
Hey! No running! Someone's gonna
get hurt!

They barrel on.

TOM (CONT'D)
Well, there goes my shot at getting
a donut.

6 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS (D1)

6

The kids run in followed by Tom. Everyone's out of breath. Grant carries a guinea pig in an exercise ball.

RACHEL
I call jelly. Where's the box?
WHERE'S THE BOX?!

BEAST
(screaming)
Tell meeeeeeee!!!

HARLEY
The donuts are at the park. Where
we need to be at the crack of 11
(then, quickly off
family's reaction)
Yes, I lied. Don't hurt me, we're family.

Renee turns to a big magnetic calendar activity board. Face magnets represent each family member.

RENEE
Soup kitchen, Rachel. Basketball
game Georgie, cooking class Beast
and Danny...
(noticing Tom's magnet)
Tom you put nap here every week.
Not happening.

TOM
You can crush the dream, but not
the dreamer.

RENEE
Harley, honey, your magnet's not
even on here.

HARLEY
What?! It was there yesterday.

Harley drops down, looks under the fridge and gasps. She pulls something out.

CLOSE UP: Harley's dusty face magnet.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
I was under the fridge and no one
even noticed. I have a hair ball
beard -- I look like Aunt Dot!

TOM
Hey, not nice. And Aunt Dot's is a
goatee.

RENEE

I'm sorry, sweetie, but we just
can't squeeze in the park today.

ACTION FREEZE. The noisy family freezes around Harley.
Sound drops out. Dolly pushes in to Harley.

7 ANGLE ON: Harley in the kitchen.

7

HARLEY

(speaking to camera)

This is what happens when there are
seven kids and you're stuck in the
middle. If my family was a week,
I'd be Wednesday.

Camera pans off Harley to find Rachel, Grant and Georgie on
the phone frozen. They UNFREEZE. Sound comes back up.

HARLEY (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Not the beginning of the week where
everyone's full of energy and hope.
That'd be Rachel, Grant and
Georgie...

GRANT

(into phone)

...Yes, officer. She yelled
"Donuts," but there are no donuts.
(listens)

If you can't arrest her, can you at
least scare her straight... Hello?
Hello?

HARLEY (O.C.)

I'm not the end of the week where
they're relieved and happy. That's
Danny, Beast and Daphne...

Danny and Beast pass by Grant dragging Daphne, who grips the
other end of the remote as they try to get it away from her.
The camera follows them and lands on Harley. ACTION FREEZE.
Sound drops out. We see Mom and Dad frozen behind her.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

I'm the day people muddle through
as best they can. Hump Day.

UNFREEZE. Noise resumes. Harley's back in chaos.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

(to herself)

I'm Hump Day Harley.

A sleepy Tom wanders past her with a cup of coffee.

U STA

TOM

No name changes. It's hard enough
to remember the ones we gave you.

Harley looks at her dirty magnet, sighs and tosses it away.
ANGLE ON: Harley's face magnet lands, PLOP, in Daphne's
training potty.

HARLEY

Great. Now I'm gonna smell like
Aunt Dot.

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

STUCK

ACT ONE

8 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS (D1)

8

Renee finishes wiping Harley's magnet and hands it to her.

HARLEY

(to magnet)

You are so lucky Daphne likes to pee
on the carpet next to the potty.

RENEE

Aw, Harls, I'm sorry. I promise we
can go to the park tomorrow.

HARLEY

No, we can't. Something is
happening there today. It's a
surprise and the whole family has
to be there at 11 or we'll miss it.

RENEE

Okay, we're going to make it work.
(re: Beast and Danny's magnets)
Sorry boys. No cooking class today.

HARLEY

Save your money. Yesterday they
ate a hot dog a crow dropped.

Renee moves magnets, making room for Harley's magnet at 11.

RENEE

Okay, if we hit every green light,
we can get from basketball, to the
soup kitchen, to the park with 3
minutes to spare. Now comes the
hard part.

HARLEY/RENEE

Getting 9 people out of the house.

HARLEY

On it.

9

INT. KITCHEN - MINUTES LATER (D1)

9

We follow a pancake through the assembly line: GRANT FLIPS it from the griddle to GEORGIE, who tries to CATCH the pancake in a baseball mitt but fumbles it into BEAST'S hand, who FRISBEEES it to DANNY, who puts it on a plate and SLAPS ON butter, then PUSHES THE PLATE to HARLEY, who uses a syringe from a toy medical kit to INJECT SYRUP into the sausage so it doesn't drip. She holds out the plate to RACHEL (wearing headphones) who nods to music, waving Harley off.

STUCK

RACHEL

Busy.

Harley wraps the sausage in the pancake handing it to Renee.

HARLEY

Pancake burrito, half dose of
syrup. Whoever finds Danny's band-
aid gets a prize.

TOM

(spitting something out)
Not a blueberry.

RENEE

Great job making breakfast, kids.
(to Tom, aside, smug)
We should do a parenting book.

Tom pulls out the pantry shelf.

TOM

We should read a parenting book.

CLOSE UP: Daphne sits on the shelf, covered in jam, trying to
bite the guinea pig ball.

RENEE

Oh, good. She got breakfast.

Grant charges over.

GRANT

That's mine -- I'm guinea pig
sitting for Phoebe Augustine.
(to Daphne)
Gimme the pig, you little thug.

Grant reaches for the pig ball. She snaps at him and he
jumps back. Harley grabs a sugar packet and throws it.

HARLEY

Sugar, Daphne. Fetch!

A blur as Daphne releases the pig ball and tears off.

ANGLE ON: Danny and Beast, who now push 3 tables together to
make a table big enough for all: a 4 seat dining table, a
card table, and one that isn't an eating table.

DANNY

Wish I could find someone to do the
Ninja Challenge.

BEAST
Ninja Challenge? I'll kill it!
I'll bite its head off, step on it
and eat it. I just ate it!
(then)
What's the Ninja Challenge?

DANNY
You have to get around the whole
day without letting your feet touch
the ground.

Beast jumps onto a chair then the table, into a ninja pose.

BEAST
It's on. Ninjaaaaaaaaa!!!!

DANNY
Your foot's in a tub of margarine.
Not a strong start, ninja.

Danny shakes the table to knock him off. Plates rattle as
the family, undaunted, takes their seats.

TOM
(barely looks up)
No table surfing, boys.

Harley crosses in. ACTION FREEZES. SOUND DROPS OUT.

HARLEY
(to camera, re: tables)
This is how my family eats. A real
table, a card table and something I'm
pretty sure used to be a night stand.

10 OMITTED 10

11 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS 11

UNFREEZE. Noisy chaos as the family eats.

HARLEY (O.C.)
Mom bought the real table when they
had two kids. But then they had a
five more and no time for furniture
shopping, so welcome to the bacon-
free zone.

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Harley sits awkwardly at the night stand
table next to Daphne (in high chair.) Harley gets an over-
flowing platter of grapefruit and another almost empty
platter.

HARLEY (V.O) (CONT'D)
Good luck getting anything but
grapefruit if you're sitting here.

Harley manages to find a half piece of bacon, and goes to eat
it. Daphne whacks it out of her hand, to the floor.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
(to Daphne)
Floor bacon. Still eating it.
(then, to group)
Less chatter, more chewing, people.
That's all the time we have for
breakfast.
(standing)
Everybody up. Time to brush, flush
and comb.

The family starts to stand.

12 INT. OUTSIDE BATHROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER (D1)

12

HARLEY (O.C.)
Rachel! 3 minute limit! You've
been in there 20!

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Harley pounding on the door.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
I know you got a D in math, so I'll
explain: 20 is way more than 3.

RACHEL
(opening door a crack)
I'm literally the only one in this
family who consistently looks hot.
So maybe don't hassle the one who's
bringing it on the regular.

HARLEY
You're serving people at a soup
kitchen. The only thing you're
bringing is soup.

RACHEL
Use the sink in the kitchen. You
clearly don't care about a mirror.

Rachel throws an electric toothbrush out at Harley. Rachel
slams the door. Harley yanks it. It's locked.
SFX: Off camera we hear a crash.

BEAST (O.C.)
Landed on my horns! Not my feet!
Ninjaaaaa!!!

Harley takes the electric toothbrush, pulls off the brush part revealing the metal tip.

U.S.T.A.

HARLEY
(re: tip)
It just got real.
(announcing, dramatic)
I'll huff! And I'll puff! And
I'll bruuuuuuuuush your door down!

Harley puts the metal tip of the toothbrush into the door lock, turns on the toothbrush working on the lock.

RACHEL (O.C.)
I was video chatting with Jackie
and she heard you! So.
Embarrassed. For you. And me, as
sister of you. Literally.

Harley gets the door open and finds Rachel, hair clipped up, half wet half dry.

HARLEY
I'm embarrassed that took you 20 minutes.

Rachel steps out defiantly blocking Harley. Harley pulls out an old flip phone attached to the inside of her jacket with a retractable badge clip. She points to it.

RACHEL
I'm not scared of you or Dad's old
flip phone. It doesn't even work.

HARLEY
The clock does. And so does the
camera. Two seconds before I'm all
up in there updating your profile
photo.

RACHEL
This is a violation. Kendall and
Kylie would never do this to Kim!

HARLEY
Really? The list of what the
Kardashians won't do is pretty short.

Harley releases the phone which snaps back into her jacket.

13 INT. BOYS' ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D1) 13

Grant is there with his pig in a ball. Harley bursts in.

HARLEY
Grant! Bathroom time-- what's with the
furry sidekick?

GRANT

He has a name. I don't remember what it is, so I'm going with Germaine, 'cuz it's kinda my nickname.

HARLEY

No it's not.

GRANT

It will be. I'm breaking it in on the pig. Ladies want a man with a cool nickname.

HARLEY

All this lady wants is to make it to the park.

(yanks out flip phone)

Note the janky phone in my hand and the scowl on my face.

GRANT

That's a scowl? I thought you got a whiff of Germaine. Gas just collects in this ball.

SFX: off screen, we hear a CRASH.

BEAST (O.C.)

Landed on my head, not my feet!
Ninjaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!!

HARLEY

Look, I get it, I'm the middle kid. I didn't mind that I had to toilet train myself in a potted fern.

GRANT

The only watering that plant ever got.

HARLEY

Grant, I'm being honored for something at the park at 11 and all I'm asking for is one day where the whole family shows up for me. So could you please help me out?

GRANT

Of course. By informing you this family will never make it to the park on time. Even the pig knows it ain't happening.

HARLEY

You and that stink ball are wrong --
yes, I'm smelling it now.

(phone timer goes off)

Two minute warning. It's about to
go down-- B-ball, soup kitchen,
park by 11. Hold onto your pig,
gonna be a people stampede.

(calling)

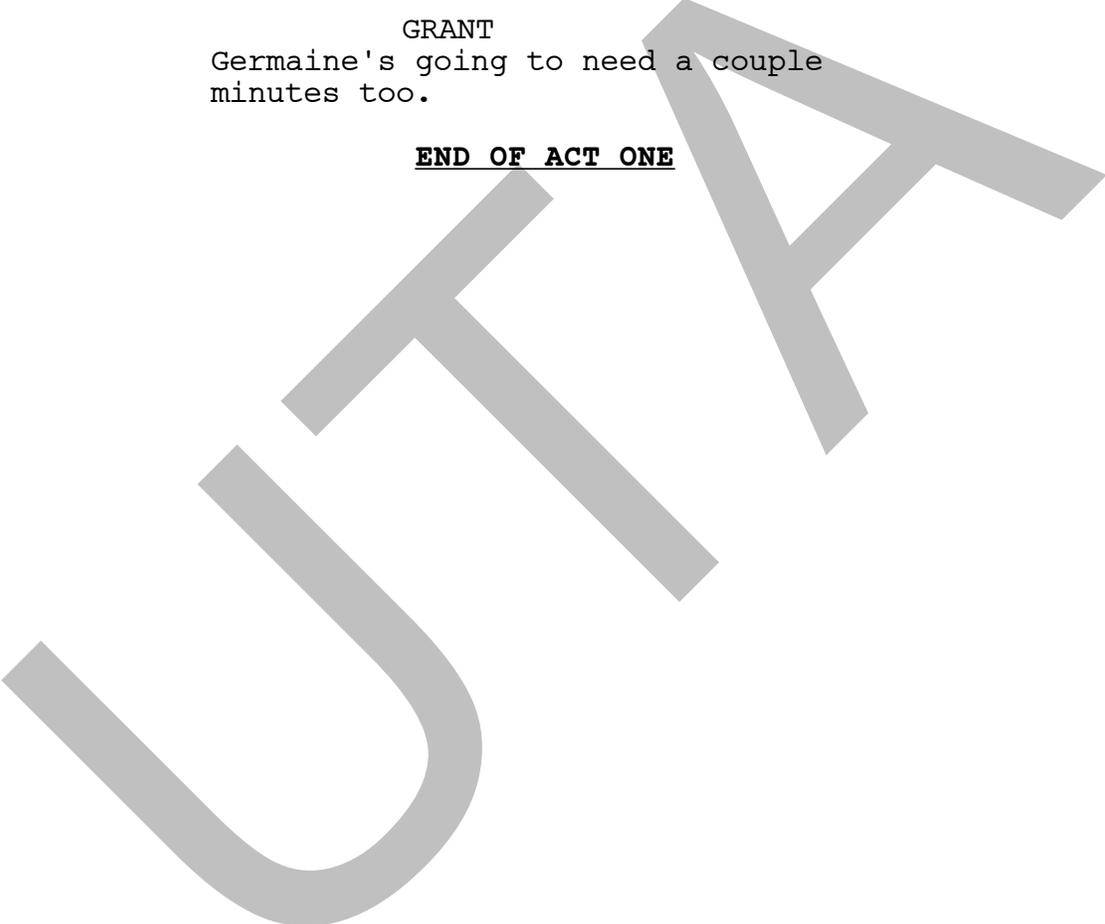
EVERYBODY READY TO GO?

We hear a chorus of "NO!" Harley's face falls.

GRANT

Germaine's going to need a couple
minutes too.

END OF ACT ONE



ACT TWO

14 INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D1)

14

Harley is at the bottom of the stairs putting the final pair of shoes in a line up, ready to go, outside the cubbies. Georgie (in basketball uniform) runs up.

HARLEY

Alright, Georgie. We've gotta be out the door in one minute. Step in, let's go.

GEORGIE

Think, Harley. I need you to think like you've never thought before. Have you seen my lucky sports bra?

HARLEY

Lucky for me, no.

GEORGIE

I need it. It's my mojo. Success isn't given, it's earned.
(to self, like a coach)
Earn it, Georgie. Earn it.

HARLEY

Whoever you're talking to, we don't have time.

GEORGIE

Self talk is a key strategy for enhanced physical performance. Say it with me, Harley. Self talk is a key strategy--

HARLEY

I am not--

GEORGIE

Say it!

HARLEY

Self talk is a key strategy--

GEORGIE (CONT'D)

Self talk is a key strategy--

GEORGIE (CONT'D)

Like you mean it!

GEORGIE (CONT'D)

For enhanced physical performance.

HARLEY

FOR ENHANCED PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE!

HARLEY
Wait, how is this bra lucky? You never win.

GEORGIE
Negativity is loser fuel, my friend.
(starts jumping jacks)
I need to sweat out the negativity you brought into my zone. Jump with me, Harley.

HARLEY
I am not--

GEORGIE
Jump!

Harley joins her. Daphne runs past them, out the door wearing a onesie and a sports bra, carrying the pig.

HARLEY
Was that your--

GEORGIE
I've been bra-jacked!

Georgie runs out after Daphne. Grant runs up. Harley points out the door. He runs out.

BEAST
Coming through. Ninjaaaaaaaa!

Beast comes through on a skateboard, using a crutch to push himself (ala stand up paddle board.) Danny chases after, using the other crutch to try to knock him off. Tom and Renee enter, as Rachel comes down the stairs in a short skirt.

RENEE
No. The soup kitchen will not be serving butt cheek today.

Rachel pouts. ACTION FREEZE.

HARLEY
(to camera)
When you have a sister like Rachel, you can count on at least one outfit your parents will veto every time you try to leave the house.

15 INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK 15

HARLEY (V.O.)
Unless your family is going
clubbing in Vegas.

QUICK POPS: Rachel comes down the stairs in various outfits,
(after each we hear Tom/Renee (O.S) "No!") 1. In bootie
shorts and a belly shirt ("No!"). 2. In a short romper
("No!"). 3. In pants so tight she can't bend her knees and
she topples over like a tree. As she falls all three say
("No!").

HARLEY (V.O.)
Which is why I came prepared...

16 INT. LIVING ROOM - BACK TO PRESENT (D1) 16

ACTION UNFREEZE. Harley hands Rachel leggings.

RACHEL
Uch. I literally just glitter lotioned
my legs. Reece loves the sparkles.

TOM
Reece's going to be there? I don't
trust that kid.

HARLEY
Sorry, Dad, no time for the Papa Bear
routine today. But I love that you
think Reece is the problem.

17 EXT. DRIVEWAY/INT. VAN - A FEW MINUTES LATER (D1) 17

It's bedlam. Rachel kicks people, pulling on leggings.
Grant fights Daphne, who lunges at the pig. Georgie sits
with her legs over the seat, right in Harley's face. Tom
puts the car in reverse, it beeps. CLOSE UP: On Tom. A man
on the verge. SFX: Exaggerated loud beeping.

TOM
What's the point of beeping inside
the van if it's a safety warning
for people outside? It doesn't
make sense it makes no sense is it
me is it just me?!

Bethany approaches holding a baseball, Ellie beside her.

ELLIE
So fun. Wish we had a big family.

BETHANY

Yes, your life is woefully short on trips to the Emergency Room.

(then, to Tom)

I found your ball in my yard. It's one of the few not already stuck in your rain gutter.

ANGLE ON: roof gutter bulging with balls, etc.

TOM

Been meaning to clean that out... five kids ago.

BETHANY

I know you don't have time to read parenting books... or parent, but I a recent study showed children raised in chaos spend their adult lives in jail. Yikes.

(then)

I'm shocked we're leaving for the game at the same time. You'll actually be there before tip-off for once.

RENEE

It's really about organization. With seven kids, you need to be on point. Well, better get going--

DANNY

(running up)

Hey! You forgot me.

ELLIE

Once they forgot Harley at the movies for a whole day. Lucky.

RENEE

It was barely two matinees, Ellie.

BETHANY

Sweet story. So, Renee, what are you bringing for team snack?

Renee stares at her blankly. Nervous, she takes a sip from her coffee bottle. It's a bad moment to look like a baby.

BETHANY (CONT'D)

(tragic wince)

Oooh, you forgot snacks. Again.

(MORE)

BETHANY (CONT'D)

Maybe the players can split the
pancake someone flung into my yard
this morning.

HARLEY

WE'VE GOT SNACKS!

Bethany stalks off. Renee and Tom look at Harley, surprised.

STAY

HARLEY (CONT'D)
Saw this coming, Mom. No offense.

RENEE
I'd be offended if I wasn't so relieved.

HARLEY
(holding up a grocery bag)
I hid granola bars in my closet in case we had another left over left overs night. Now we'll still be at the park by 11, right after Georgie loses in a quick blowout. No offense.

Georgie sighs, "uch", beginning jumping jacks in her seat.

18 INT. GYM - A LITTLE LATER (D1) 18

HARLEY (O.S.)
This is not a blowout. It's almost tied!

CLOSE ON: Scoreboard. Home 38, Away 42. Georgie's team makes a lay up. Score goes to 40. WIDEN TO REVEAL: Renee and Harley. Harley yanks out her flip clock, looks, then angrily releases it. It snaps back into her jacket with a THWACK.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
We don't have time for overtime. It's B-ball, soup kitchen, park by 11!

RENEE
They've been amazing since snack break... Uh, Harls, what were those granola bars you gave them?

HARLEY
(taking out the box)
Just these.

RENEE
"You Go Girl Bars"?! I got those the week you all had strep and I was exhausted. One bar and I was up all night making that activity board that frankly, does not work. I threw those bars away.

HARLEY
Hate to tell you, but it's not the first time one of your kids ate out of the trash.

RENEE

Well, if the other parents ask, I'll
have to be honest and tell them--

Bethany storms toward them.

RENEE (CONT'D)

Hide 'em, hide 'em, hide 'em!

Harley kicks the box of You Go Girl bars to the side where
Daphne, leash dangling, grabs one and eats it. ANGLE ON:
Grant walks through the stands with the pig. He sees Danny
and Beast. Beast is on a climbing rope.

GRANT

What are you doing?

DANNY

He's trying to get snacks from the
concession stand without touching
the ground. I'm trying to swing
him into a post and knock him off.

Danny pushes Beast, who swings out of frame. They watch.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Post! Post! Dang! Missed.

Beast swings back into frame eating a hot dog.

BEAST

(to Grant)

Want anything?

GRANT

I'll take a giant pretzel.

Danny pushes Beast. He swings out of frame. They watch.

DANNY

Post! Post! Dang! I can't catch a
break.

HARLEY (O.C.)

No, Rachel! You need to go back to
the homeless shelter where you
belong! This is not the plan.

ANGLE ON: Harley has Tom's speaker phone in one hand, her
flip watch in the other. Spectators look, dismayed.

TOM
It's her sister. We had a plan.
This isn't it.

JUSTA

18 CONTINUED:

18

They are no less dismayed.

19 INT. LIVING ROOM/INT. GYM - SPLIT SCREEN - SAME TIME (D1) 19

RACHEL

The homeless were super nice and they literally loved my outfit, but we served chili, which made my hair smell like chili. I almost threw up in a bag of gently used clothing donations. Reece took me home. We're getting a snack.

TOM

No ma'am. No snacks. That's a slippery slope and I know the snack slope! I want him out. We'll circle back for you.

HARLEY

Be outside, chili hair!

20 INT. GYM - MOMENTS LATER (D1)

20

CLOSE UP: Harley's face between her hands. Total frustration.

GRANT (V.O)

Thanks to your old lady bars, Georgie's team's doing great.

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Grant sitting next to Harley. Daphne races by covered in Go Girl goo. Renee chases with her leash.

HARLEY

They're tied with thirty seconds left. If this thing goes to overtime, it's bye, bye park.

GRANT

Germaine and I stand by our previous assessment. Park's not happening. Give it up.

Harley considers this for a long moment. Then...

HARLEY

You're right. I give up.

GRANT

You can't give up!

HARLEY

You just told me to!

GRANT

Because I knew you wouldn't. The rest of the family, we're the "giver-uppers." You're the never stopper. Even when you should-er.

HARLEY

I can't rally eight people who aren't interested. It's like when Mom tried to teach us to play bridge and ended up crying in the closet with half a bundt cake.

GRANT

Not her best birthday.

Beast swings in, tosses a giant pretzel at Grant (which hits him in the head), and swings out.

GRANT (CONT'D)

Ouch!

(calling after, to Beast)
Hey, 2 popcorns next swing-by.

BEAST

Popcoooooorn!!!

HARLEY

I just have to accept I don't matter in this family. I'm Wednesday, Grant.

GRANT

Of course you're Wednesday. Middle of the week. Everyone knows that.

HARLEY

Was that supposed to be a pep talk?

GRANT

Yes. Mom needs snacks? You're on it. Rachel needs tights? You're on it. Broken doll headed for the trash? You make it into something cool.

HARLEY

Anyone can make a rag doll into a spray cheese squirt gun.

GRANT

No. They can't. Cheddar Shirley was genius. Snacks, tights, toys...

(MORE)

GRANT (CONT'D)
You're the glue of this family,
just like Wednesday's the glue of
the week. Wednesday holds the week
together.

Harley is completely taken aback. ACTION FREEZES.

HARLEY
(to camera)
All these years I had it twisted.
I'm not the useless middle day.
I'm the one that keeps this family
from being a bunch of snack-less,
naked, dolls with no heads.

UNFREEZE.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
(proud)
I am Hump Day Harley.

GRANT
Maybe don't print the T-shirts just
yet. Okay, Georgie's team needs to
make a basket and win the game.

The whistle blows. Play begins. Georgie gets the ball.

HARLEY
Except they just gave Georgie the ball.
Beast swings by, dropping pop corn all over Harley.

GRANT
Be glad I didn't ask for nachos.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

21 INT. GYM - CONTINUOUS (D1)

21

Everyone is where we left them. Georgie has the ball.

GRANT

The only chance is for Georgie to
have a clear shot.

Grant takes the guinea pig ball off the bleacher.

HARLEY

What are you doing?

As he releases the pig onto the court...

GRANT

Don't worry, Daphne will have him
in her meaty little paws before he
gets too far.

THE PIG RUNS ONTO THE COURT. The girls playing basketball
see the scurrying animal and run screaming off the court.
Georgie stands with the basketball, confused.

FAMILY/TEAM

Shoot it, Georgie!

Georgie shoots.

SFX: The buzzer sounds.

SLO MO: the whole family yells with excitement, "Georgie!"
it's a terrible shot, nowhere near the basket. The faces of
the family go from excitement to dismay. Danny, seeing the
ball veering off course, pushes Beast on the rope toward it,
into the path of Ellie who is running from the pig. She
stops short to avoid Beast and the ball ricochets off her and
into the net. END SLO-MO.

Everyone goes wild. Georgie does a klutzy "in your face"
sack dance, then stops herself.

GEORGIE

(like a coach)

Keep it classy, Georgie.

(then)

Somebody catch me, I'm diving!

She dives. No one catches her. She lands on the ground.

GEORGIE (CONT'D)
My bad, should've given more
warning.

A blur, Daphne, zooms by with the guinea pig in her hands.

22 EXT. DRIVEWAY/INT. VAN - MINUTES LATER (D1) 22

Rachel texts on her phone, head bobbing to music as the van
squeals into the drive. Harley throws open the van door.

HARLEY
Hey, Literally, get in. We have 8
minutes to get to the park.
Literally.

DANNY
Hold up, I have to return some
lemonade.

HARLEY
Gross, and we do not have time for
the bathroom. That's a 20 minute
time suck.

DANNY
Word. I'll use this water bottle.

RENEE
No. No one is peeing in the car. We
are not animals. Use the pee bush.
(then)
Great, now I have to go.

Everyone piles out of the van (Beast pogos off). Grant
follows. Harley pulls out her flip phone and pushes buttons.

HARLEY
They got two minutes.
(shuts phone, with menace)
Flipper and I are done being nice.

Tom's hands are under the dash. Harley sees him.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
Forget it. Mom already ate the
cookies stashed under there.

TOM
That was me, and I'm de-beeping the
beeper. Of all the things shouting at
me in the van, this is the one I can
stop.

He starts the van and backs up. No beeper.

TOM (CONT'D)
Silence! Yes! Beep you, beeper!

Bethany appears just back from the game.

BETHANY
I know you folks are very comfortable cutting corners, but I need to warn you that beeper is an important safety feature.

TOM
I'm not disabling the beeper that warns people outside. And I know I'm in reverse. How? Because I just put it there!

Harley's phone alarm goes off.

HARLEY
Time's up.
(yelling)
DOOOOONUUUUUTS!
(to Tom, re: stampede)
Twice in one day. Even I feel a little bad.

23 EXT. DRIVEWAY/INT. VAN - MOMENTS LATER (D1) 23

Everyone is in the van. Beast and Danny chant "Do-nuts!" It's chaos. Bethany wanders over.

BETHANY
(calling out)
Everything okay? Sounds like the last minutes on the Titanic.

RENEE
You probably don't recognize it, but this is the sound of fun. A big, giant family killing the planet with their big, giant fun.

TOM
We'd love to stay and defend our life choices, but we all have somewhere to be, somewhat on time!

Tom rolls up the window and guns the van. To everyone's surprise, it goes backwards into the porch, knocking off a pillar, which tears off part of the rain gutter.

The detached gutter unleashes everything a family of seven kids has thrown into it: baseballs, tennis balls and a basketball, all of which pour out.

TOM (CONT'D)

Heads up!

Bethany watches with judgement as the balls all bounce out (near, but not on her.)

BETHANY

Who saw that coming? Me, actually.
I wrote down the prediction. I'll
go home and show you.

Suddenly A STREAM OF MUCK and LEAVES (no longer blocked by toys) flows out the remaining broken gutter, soaking Bethany.

BETHANY/TOM/RENEE

NOOOOOOOOOOO!

The family looks on, stunned. Tom and Renee jump to help.

BETHANY

No! Get away! Back!

TOM

(getting back into van)
A car should beep or something in
reverse. How else would you know?

ACTION FREEZE.

HARLEY

(to camera)

You know how they say right before
you die, your life flashes before
your eyes? This is where my hope
for getting to the park died, and
my whole day flashed by.

24 INT. HARLEY'S HOUSE/INT. GYM - FLASHBACK MONTAGE (D1) 24

We see flashbacks of all Harley has done to get to the park: yelling donuts, ejecting Rachel, the ball bouncing off Ellie, etc. ending with Grant, "You're the glue of this family."

HARLEY (V.O.)

And I was totally okay with it.

25 EXT. DRIVEWAY/INT. VAN - PRESENT (D1) 25

ACTION UNFREEZE.

Harley starts to laugh. The kids do too.

JUSTA

TOM

No. We will not sit here and laugh at Ms. Peters.

(beat)

We'll laugh from the park. We promised you, Harley, and we're going.

HARLEY

It's okay, Dad. You don't have to.

TOM

I do. There's only one time I'm not happy to have 7 kids, and that's when I let one of them down. Look out, park here we come! ...Right after I make sure we are not in reverse.

DANNY

(running up)

Hey! You forgot me again!

RENEE

(to Bethany)

I am really sorry this happened. I will get you some new pants... or skirt. Whichever those are. Really cute, by the way.

Bethany sloshes away. Renee turns to the kids, serious.

RENEE (CONT'D)

We are very lucky Ms. Peters was not seriously injured.

(bursting out laughing)

Sorry. I tried to hold my laugh until the park.

26 EXT. PARK - LATER (D1)

26

CLOSE ON HARLEY:

HARLEY

Thank you, McKay Park for choosing my design to build. It's way more awesome than I even imagined.

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Harley on a small stage which is partially disassembled from the earlier ceremony. A banner reads: "McKay Park Community Design Challenge: From Your Dream To Our Park" The family watches. Daphne, covered in powdered sugar, sits in an empty donut box that fell out of the trash, licking her hands. Nearby a big table is on display. Harley's design sketches can be seen next to it.

*

Renee and Tom cross to Harley. (There is a trash can overflowing with donut boxes very close by -- on the table side of the stage.)

*
*
*

USTA

RENEE
(hugging Harley)
So sorry we missed the ceremony.
Dad and I are really proud of you.
This is an amazing surprise.

RACHEL
Wait -- hang on. She jerked us around
all day for a table? A table?!

GRANT
(trying)
A table outside. In a non-
traditional color.

HARLEY
This isn't just a table. It's a
table I designed for big families
like ours. I love you guys, but I
also love bacon. With this table,
everyone gets some.

She pushes a button. A conveyor belt starts moving around
the center of the table. The family ad-libs approval.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
Want chairs where everyone gets a
good seat? A high chair that's
more secure than Fort Knox?

She pushes a button. 9 seats and a sturdy high chair seat
come out from under. The family ooh's again.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
...And room to grow.

She pushes a button and three more seats pop out.

HARLEY (CONT'D)
Not that I recommend it.

TOM/RENEE
Don't worry. / Not a chance.

TOM
Okay, bring it in, folks. Let's
see what this family looks like
sitting at one table.

The kids clamber over, noisy, and sit. Tom, Renee and Harley *
start to join them. Harley notices an almost full box of *
donuts that clearly fell out of the trash can, lid open, on *
the ground. *

HARLEY
(re: donut box)
Hey, look.

*
*
*

Renee, Harley and Tom look at the box, then at each other,
"Should we?"

*
*

TOM
Technically, it's next to the can,
not in it.

*
*
*

RENEE
(smiling,)
And apparently it won't be the
first time our kids ate something
out of the trash.

*
*
*
*
*

Harley smiles and picks up the donut box.

*

HARLEY
Donuts!

*
*

The kids (now seated) cheer as Harley, Renee and Tom join
them at the table. Harley quickly puts donuts (a few per
disk) on the rotating conveyor, sending them down the belt
for each kid to take their favorite as it passes. We hear ad-
libs "Chocolate sprinkles. That's Danny's," "Ohh, Rachel,
here come get your jelly," etc.

*
*
*
*
*
*

Ellie appears, sweaty.

ELLIE
(panting hard)
Hey, guys! Mom's home power-
washing her panties so I decided to
get my jog on.
(noticing)
Cool! A seat for me.
(MORE)



ELLIE (CONT'D)

(sitting)

Ah. It's nice being part of a big family.

Harley looks at her family as they chatter away at her table.

HARLEY

Yeah... Sometimes it's not so bad.

SFX: Tree branch breaking. Then THUD! WIDEN TO REVEAL:
Beast on the ground nearby on his back, feet in the air.

RENEE

Beast!

BEAST

I'm good. Landed on my back, not
my feet! Ninjaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!!

They all laugh...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW