

What's With Andy?

DON'T EAT THE YELLOW SNOW

First Draft revised, February 22nd, 2003

ACT 1

FADE IN:

1. EXT. ANDY'S HOUSE - DAY

The entire town is in the grip of a cold snap. People walk rapidly, completely swaddled in warm clothes. A car glides noiselessly on the icy road.

ANGLE ON a thermometer outside Andy's bedroom window. The mercury is pooled inside the bulb. The thermometer is SFX:SHIVERING. Inside, a hand wipes a clear spot in the frosted window.

2. INT. ANDY'S HOUSE - DAY

JEN, AL, FREIDA and ANDY are crowded in the window trying to read the thermometer outside.

1. **JEN**
What does it say?
2. **AL**
I can't make it out.
3. **ANDY**
Minus twenty five? All right!
4. **JEN**
You would think that's great, you little freak.
5. **FREIDA**
Is that a real temperature? I didn't think thermometers could go that low.

Everyone steps away from the window.

6. **JEN**
You can't make us go out in that weather. It's parental abuse! There are laws, you know.
7. **AL**
Come on now, we just have to dress warmly. We'll have so much fun at the winter carnival you'll forget all about the cold, you'll see.

3. INT. ANDY'S ROOM - DAY

Andy walks into his room.

8. **JEN (O.S.)**
Mom, tell Dad that I morally object
to frostbite!

9. **FREIDA (O.S.)**
If I have to go to this stupid
carnival, so do you, young lady!

Andy closes the door and takes long underwear out of his dresser.

10. **ANDY**
(to the camera) The winter carnival
is an annual tradition in our
family. Every year, Dad drags the
whole family, kicking and
screaming, to slide on a hill and
take sleigh rides until our toes
turn blue. But I like the winter
carnival.

DOODLEVISION: a five year-old Jen is standing in the snow,
holding a sled by the rope.

11. **FOUR YEAR-OLD ANDY (O.S.)**
Hey Jen!

Five year-old Jen gets pelted by a snowball in the face.

12. **ANDY (V.O.)**
I came up with my own tradition at
the winter carnival.

Eight year-old Jen gets hit in the face by a snowball. CUT TO:
ten year-old Jen getting hit in the face by a snowball. CUT TO:
twelve year-old Jen getting hit in the face by a snowball.

BACK TO REALITY. Andy slips on the long underwear.

13. **ANDY**
(to the camera) If there's a
snowball-in-the-face gag that's not
funny, I've never seen it! It's a
classic. I think I'll try a
variation this year.

DOODLEVISION: Andy sneaks up behind Jen, hoisting a giant
snowball over his head.

4. EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

The winter carnival has set up shop in the city park, across the
road from the paper mill.

Concession stands sell coffee and hot food, colourful banners and pennants hang from pole to pole, a brass band plays in the bandstand (with icicles hanging from their instruments), a horse and sleigh, etc.

Al, Andy, Jen, Freida and Spank enter the park and survey the surroundings. Freida and Jen are huddled together.

14. **JEN**
I think it actually got colder on our way here, if that's possible.

15. **AL**
Call me crazy, but I don't think it's really winter unless you can see your breath.

16. **FREIDA**
I'm sure that's what Sir John Franklin and his men said before they disappeared in the Arctic, dear.

The winter carnival MASCOT, a giant polar bear, pesters Jen.

17. **MASCOT**
(slurred speech) So cold. So very, very cold. Please... help... me...

18. **JEN**
Go away. I don't want to play, okay?

Andy bends over and gathers up an armful of snow. He beats it into a snowball the size of a basketball. He turns around and winds up for the pitch.

19. **ANDY**
Oh, Jen...?

Andy gets SFX:SPLATTERED in the face by a snowball. Jen shakes the snow off her mittens.

20. **JEN**
I've been expecting it this year, you creep.

Freida notices a small café serving hot drinks and SFX:MUSIC. She makes a bee line for it.

21. **FREIDA**
I think I'll go warm up a bit.

22. **JEN**
Save me a place!

Jen follows her mother. The sound of a SFX:CHAINSAW attracts Andy's attention. He turns to see a sculptor working on a block of ice.

23. **ANDY**
All right, ice sculptures!

24. **AL**
Don't forget Andy, you promised you'd behave this year.

25. **ANDY**
(to the camera) I think he's referring to last year's competition.

DOODLEVISION. Judges circulate to look at ice sculptures of castles, swans, mermaids, etc. They arrive in front of Andy. One judge SFX:GASPS in shock. A female judge gasps.

ANGLE ON the ice sculpture from the back. It's a snowman with a butt crack.

26. **ANDY (V.O.)**
You'd think they never saw an anatomically-correct snowman before.

BACK TO REALITY.

Al, Andy and Spank circulate among the ice sculptures of dogs. A banner announces the theme: "Man's best Friend". Some artisans are still working on theirs. While Al talks to the sculptor, Spank sniffs the butt of an ice dog.

27. **ANDY**
Better than real life, uh Spank?

Spanks' nose gets frozen to the butt of a dog. He SFX:GROWLS a bit and pulls free.

28. **MRS. WEEBLES (O.S.)**
Get this smelly mutt away from MY ice sculpture competition!

Mrs. Weebles steps in and shoos Spank away. She displays a judge's ribbon and carries a clipboard.

29. **ANDY**
He's just trying to make friends.

30. **MRS. WEEBLES**
Dogs are no longer allowed in public parks. Not since I helped pass proposition 86 last year.

31. **ANDY**
What about THOSE dogs?!

Andy points to all the ice dogs.

32. **MRS. WEEBLES**
Don't get smart with me, young man.
They don't urinate all over the
place. Now leave before I call the
dog catcher.

Andy and Spank walk away.

33. **ANDY**
Chased out of an exhibit
celebrating man's best friend. I
hope you have a sense for irony,
Spank.

.

5. INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Andy and Danny are walking along in between classes.

34. **DANNY**
You mean you left, just like that?
You didn't even pull a single
prank?

35. **ANDY**
What was I supposed to say?
Besides, everyone would have known
it was me, from last year.

36. **DANNY**
(chuckling) Oh yeah, the
anatomically-correct snowman.

Andy seems dispirited.

37. **ANDY**
I froze, Danny. I couldn't even
think of a comeback. Do you think
I've lost my touch?

38. **DANNY**
No way. You'll come up with
something.

They pass a table where Greenplanet representatives hand out pamphlets to a few gathered students. On the wall is a photo display advertising their numerous projects.

39. **GREENPLANET REPRESENTATIVE**
...and five years ago, we forced
the paper mill to clean up a vacant
lot when its underground waste
storage tanks ruptured. Your
donations help us...

40. **DANNY**
Maybe you've been stretching
yourself too thin. Just give
yourself some time...

Danny realizes that he's walking and talking alone. He turns to
see Andy studying the Greenplanet photo display.

41. **ANDY**
I've got it! ! Do you recognize
this lot?

ANGLE ON the photo of the lot with the paper mill across the
road. The lot is covered with a yellowish liquid.

42. **DANNY**
The city park!

43. **ANDY**
I'll bet you they never dug out
those old storage tanks when the
city bought the lot.

44. **DANNY**
I still don't follow.

45. **ANDY**
I'll betcha Mrs. Weebles doesn't
even know that her ice dogs aren't
toilet-trained.

6. INT. PAPER MILL (PRODUCTION LINE) - DAY

Al is taking Andy on a guided tour of the paper-producing
process.

46. **AL**
...and this is where the paper
comes out of the dryers and is
submitted to quality control.
(beat) Am I right, Frank? Frank
here has been with the mill for
thirty years. He never complains.

Al slaps FRANK, sitting next to the production line, on the back.
Frank SFX:SNORES, unbeknownst to Al.

47. **ANDY**
That's really fascinating, Dad. I'm glad you let me come along today.

48. **AL**
Why wouldn't I? I like that you show interest in my job, it's the least I could do. Next, I want to show you a little film on the commercial uses of paper. It's just a little over three hours long, but it's very hip, even after fifty years.

MR. CROCK, Al's supervisor, pokes his head into the production room.

49. **MR. CROCK**
Larkin! Get over here!

50. **AL**
Ah, er, let's take a rain check. Feel free to chat up Frank if you want. I'll see you at home tonight.

Al walks out of the production line. Andy turns to Frank who's still SFX:SNORING and walks away.

7. INT. PAPER MILL (HALLWAY) - DAY

Andy makes sure the coast is clear, and opens a door marked "EXIT ONLY". Danny is standing outside with a wagon filled with plastic jugs containing a yellow liquid. Several more jugs are sitting on the ground.

51. **DANNY**
What took you so long? I'm freezing out here.

52. **ANDY**
Who knew paper had such a long and complicated history?

Andy helps Danny pull the heavy wagon inside.

8. INT. PAPER MILL (PUMPING ROOM) - DAY

Andy and Danny peek around the corner to make sure the room is empty. They pull the wagon inside and up to a pipe running up through the floor, through a valve and down into the floor again. Danny unscrews a cap on the pipe.

53. **DANNY**
Do you know what you're doing?

54.

ANDY

Relax. There's no way they wasted money on removing the pipes and the storage tanks. They just stopped using them, that's all.

Andy takes one plastic jug and pours it into the pipe. Danny helps him.

55.

ANDY

This is the prank of the century. The lemonade will make its way under the road and into the ruptured underground tanks in the park. It'll leech up to the surface, and tomorrow morning Mrs. Weebles' precious park will look like all those ice dogs took a toilet break!

Danny pauses in awe.

56.

DANNY

Andy, someone had to say this sooner or later: you're a genius. This is the perfect crime!

57.

ANDY

It's a gift. Let's get the rest of the jugs.

9. INT. CAR - DAY

Jen and Freida drive in front of the paper mill. Jen spies Andy and Danny coming out of the mill through a side door with empty jugs in their wagon. She frowns.

58.

FREIDA

What's wrong, dear?

59.

JEN

I don't know... yet.

10. EXT. CITY PARK (MAIN ENTRANCE) - NIGHT

STEVE ROWGEE JR. is mounting guard in the park, carrying a flashlight. He walks with his thumbs in his belt, and suddenly spins around, brandishing his flashlight at an imaginary adversary.

60.

STEVE ROWGEE JR.

FREEZE! You thought you could sneak up behind me, didn't you? Didn't you... punk? Well, what have you got to say for yourself?

61. **STEVE ROWGEE SR. (FILTER)**
 (crackling) What the heck are you
 up to?

Steve jr. fumbles his flashlight and drops it to the ground. He takes his radio.

62. **STEVE ROWGEE JR.**
 Nothing, dad. Just patrolling the
 park, like we said.

11.EXT. CITY PARK (ICE SCULPTURE AREA) - NIGHT

Steve Rowgee sr. speaks into his radio.

63. **STEVE ROWGEE SR.**
 Well stop goofing off, I can hear
 you all the way on the other side.
 Keep an eye out for that prankster,
 Andy Larkin! I don't want a repeat
 of last year's nude snowman.

64. **STEVE ROWGEE JR. (FILTER)**
 (crackling) Roger Dodger! I mean,
 Roger Wilco!

65. **STEVE ROWGEE SR.**
 It's roger and out!

Steve Rowgee sr. holsters his radio and continues his patrol past the ice dog sculptures. On the ground, a yellow liquid SFX:BUBBLES up between the paws of the ice dogs and spreads through the snow.

12.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

It's early morning. Andy and Danny wait in front of the closed gates, along with a few other visitors. Mrs Weebles arrives.

66. **MRS. WEEBLES**
 Oh, it's you. I hope you left that
 smelly mutt of yours at home this
 time. I will not tolerate the
 soiling of this park!

67. **ANDY**
 Yes mam! I mean, no mam! No dog
 here. Just came with my buddy to
 see this wonderful winter carnival
 you've organized.

Mrs. Weebles eyes Andy suspiciously. She unlocks the gates and the visitors file in.

68.

DANNY

Don't you think you're laying it on
a little thick? You'll give
yourself away?

69.

ANDY

How could I ever do that? We
weren't anywhere near this place,
remember?

They walk past the poor hapless mascot, who's in the same place
Andy left him the previous day. He's frozen in place covered with
icicles. His leg is stained yellow.

70.

MRS. WEEBLES (O.S.)

AAAAAAHHHHHHH!

71.

ANDY

I believe that's for us.

Andy and Danny make their way to the ice sculpture area, where a
small crowd has gathered. Mrs. Weebles is wading in a pool of
yellow slush.

72.

MRS. WEEBLES

What is this? What happened? I
expressly said no dogs! This is a
disaster. Get the police! Get the
mayor! Get the army reserve!

ACT 2

13.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

A slightly larger crowd has gathered. Steve Rowgee jr. and sr. are investigating the site, perplexed. Mrs. Weebles points angrily towards Andy and Danny.

73.

MRS. WEEBLES

It's those... those... BOYS who are responsible for this! I just know it! What are you waiting for to arrest them?

Danny suddenly panics.

74.

DANNY

Arrest? Wait a minute, I...

75.

STEVE ROWGEE SR.

We can't arrest him, no one saw him do anything. In fact, we patrolled this park all night, and no one came in.

76.

ANDY

Maybe someone forgot to tell the ice dogs there's a city ordinance against peeing on the lawn.

The crowd SFX:TITTERS. Mrs. Weebles comes closer to Andy.

77.

MRS WEEBLES

I don't know how you did it, young man, but I'll find out. And when I do, you'll regret the day you pulled this little prank!

Mrs. Weebles stomps furiously away. Steve Rowgee jr. does a little crowd control.

78.

STEVE ROWGEE JR.

Okay, move along folks. Nothing to see here. Please circulate, sir.

He gently pushes the mascot, who tips over and falls into the snow, unnoticed by anyone. Andy and Danny walk out of the park with everyone else.

79.

DANNY

Mrs. Weebles looked pretty mad. Maybe we should confess before we get in too deep.

80. **ANDY**
And lose out on the notoriety for the greatest prank ever? You heard what they said, they have no proof we did it. We get the satisfaction of a job well done, without any of the reprisals.

81. **DANNY**
But what if someone saw us do it?

82. **ANDY**
No one saw us do anything. Trust me.

14.INT. ANDY'S ROOM - DAY

CLOSE UP on one an empty plastic lemonade jug twirling by its handle around an index finger.

Andy and Danny come in. Jen is leaning against the wall next to the open closet where the other jugs have been stashed. She has a very pleased look on her face.

83. **ANDY**
Jen? What are you doing here?

84. **JEN**
You really should be more careful when covering your tracks, creep.

85. **ANDY**
I don't know what you're talking about.

She walks up to him and holds up the jug.

86. **JEN**
I saw you two coming out of the paper mill with these empty jugs. I don't know HOW you did it, Andy Larkin, but I've seen enough of your pranks to recognize the park as your handiwork.

87. **ANDY**
That's a pretty long stretch. You'll never prove it was me.

88. **JEN**
I don't have to prove anything. All Mrs. Weebles has to do is test the snow for lemonade. Now who do you think should suggest it to her?

Jen swings the jug pensively.

89. **DANNY**
I told you we should have thrown those jugs away! But no, you had to save them for recycling day!

Jen heads towards the door with the jug.

90. **ANDY**
Go ahead, tell. I don't care.

Andy shrugs and lies on his bed. He begins to read a comic book. Jen and Danny both look perplexed.

91. **JEN**
I'll tell her, you know. I'm not bluffing.

Andy's face remains hidden behind the comic book.

92. **ANDY**
You gotta do what you gotta do. I still get credit for committing the perfect prank, though.

93. **JEN**
What are you talking about?

Jen comes back into the room. Andy sits up.

94. **ANDY**
If you tell Mrs. Weebles, you're admitting that no one could figure it out by themselves. My reputation as master prankster is intact.

Andy returns to his reading. Jen becomes flustered.

95. **JEN**
Your prank isn't so clever. I'll bet you \$50 that someone can figure it out.

96. **ANDY**
Why not make it \$100? I could use the extra cash.

97. **JEN**
\$100, you're on. By the end of the week, you'll be busted.

Jen storms out of the room.

98. **DANNY**
A hundred dollars... I don't think
I can cover my half, Andy.

99. **ANDY**
Don't worry. She said she won't
tell on us. We're covered. What is
she going to do?

15.INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Andy and Danny Are eating in the cafeteria. The intercom
SFX:SCREECHES to life.

100. **JEN (FILTER)**
This button here? Oh... ahem.
Attention all students!

Andy SFX:SPITS out his milk.

101. **ANDY**
Jen?

102. **JEN (FILTER)**
You've all heard about the incident
in the park yesterday, now referred
to as the "pee-wee pool".

Some students SFX:SNICKER.

103. **JEN (FILTER)**
I think we all know who is
responsible for that particular
prank is, and I'm here to tell you
today...

104. **DANNY**
She promised she wouldn't tell!

105. **JEN (FILTER)**
...that I'm offering a \$100 reward
to the first person who can
replicate the prank and expose the
author for the little creep that he
is. That's all. (beat) Was that
okay?

106. **MR. DEROSA (FILTER)**
That's fine. Anything I can do to
see that little hellion get what's
coming to him.

The intercom shuts off with a SFX:CLICK. A commotion goes through
the cafeteria, with students running out. PETER LIK and ANDREW
LEECH come up to Andy.

107. **PETER LIK**

You're busted, dude.

108. **ANDREW LEECH**

Yeah. We're gonna win that \$100,
and then we're still going to take
your lunch money for a month. Three
bucks a day for thirty days,
that's...

Andrew Leech thinks hard. Peter Lik punches him in the arm.

109. **PETER LIK**

Hey man, why are you doing
multiplications on my time? That's
homework stuff.

They walk away.

110. **ANDREW LEECH**

How else can I figure it out? I
only have five fingers on each
hand. That's two times five...

Peter punches him again.

111. **PETER LIK**

Stop that!

112. **DANNY**

I gotta hand it to your sister,
she's smart. If someone figures out
the prank, we get caught and pay
out a hundred bucks. We end up
financing the reward against
ourselves!

113. **ANDY**

Don't cash in your savings bonds
yet.

16.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Peter Lik is up on a ladder leaning against the park fence while
Andrew Leech holds it stable. A small group of onlookers watch.
Among them are Jen, Steve Rowgee jr. and sr., Mrs. Weebles and,
of course, Andy and Danny.

114. **PETER LIK**

The way I see it, this is how the
"alleged" prankster did it. He just
went up the ladder, and while
officers Ren and Stimp were turned
away...

115. **STEVE ROWGEE JR.**

Hey!

116. **PETER LIK**

...he did the deed.

Peter takes a doll out of his jacket (SFX:MAMA). He lowers its diaper and squeezes it. The doll pees water into the air. The wind picks up and throws it back into Andrew's face.

117. **ANDREW LEECH**

Oh, yuck!

Andrew lets go of the ladder to wipe his face.

118. **PETER LIK**

The ladder, you idiot!

The ladder teeters and Peter Lik SFX:CRASHES on top of Andrew Leech. Jen shakes her head. Andy turns to Danny.

119. **ANDY**

See? Nothing to worry about.

17.EXT. CITY PARK - CONT.

The same people as before are present. JERVIS is preparing a WWI radio-controlled plane.

120. **JERVIS**

Contrary to some others, I think the prank requires some stealth and finesse. I believe the culprit resorted to advanced methods.

He attaches a water balloon to the plane.

121. **JERVIS**

I think the attack came at night, like the Jagdstaffel during the first great war, and the bombing was accurate and definitive.

Jervis starts the plane, which SFX:PUTTERS and SFX:BUZZES like an angry mosquito. People cover their ears.

The small plane takes off and zigzags in the air as Jervis works the control. Steve Rowgee jr. turns to his father.

122. **STEVE ROWGEE JR.**

(shouting) I think we would have heard something like that!

The plane turns back and storms the people, who duck. The plane turns around and storms the crowd again. Jervis works the control frantically.

123.

JERVIS

Why won't this thing behave!

The radio-controlled plane (SFX:BUZZ) dives into the café (SFX:BUZZING ECHO) and exits on the other side, does a barrel roll, clips the ear off an ice dog, and crashes into a snow bank. The water balloon SFX:SLOSHES about, intact.

Andy leans towards Danny.

124.

ANDY

Andy two, Jen zero.

18.EXT. CITY PARK - CONT.

Still the same crowd. MARTIN BONWICK is setting up a junior chemist set. He's boiling a yellow liquid in a beaker over a Bunsen burner.

125.

MARTIN

I think people have been approaching this from the wrong direction. We have to simplify and let nature do all the work, efficiently and noiselessly.

The liquid begins to SFX:BOIL furiously. Martin takes a block of dry ice (with gloves on) out of a Styrofoam cooler. He drops it in the beaker.

126.

MARTIN

By boiling the liquid over a hot flame, and adding a little dry ice, we create a cloud of vapour.

A cloud forms and lifts up in the air. It floats over the fence.

127.

MARTIN

With a clement wind, the vapour cloud floats right into the park, unnoticed. As we all know, when vapour cools, it forms condensation - in other words, rain.

The cloud floats over the ice sculptures. It quivers.

128.

ANDY

Wait a minute, that cloud is hot, isn't it? What happens when a warm front and a cold front meet?

129. **MARTIN**
Why, you get a tornado.

The cloud begins to spin and forms a funnel. The small tornado picks up an ice dog, carries it away and drops it through the roof of a concession booth. Jen covers her eyes in despair. Andy turns to Danny.

130. **ANDY**
So, what are you going to do with your half of the bet money we're going to win?

19.INT. JEN'S ROOM - DAY

Jen is listening to some CD's with her headset. Andy comes in and begins to examine her things on desks, shelves, etc. Jen takes off her headphones.

131. **JEN**
Excuse me, what do you think you're doing?

Andy replies without stopping his inventory.

132. **ANDY**
I'm just doing an inventory of your personal possessions. Seeing how you don't have a hundred dollars to pay off your bet, I was going to take the equivalent in valuables.

Andy holds up a trophy. Jen gets up and snatches it out of his hands.

133. **JEN**
There's still a day left. I could still win.

134. **ANDY**
Right, and how would you manage that? We've gone through twenty people. Not a single one managed to prove how I ALLEGEDLY pulled off the prank.

135. **JEN**
I haven't said my last word.

Jen returns to her bed.

136. **ANDY**
Don't you dare! You promised you wouldn't tell on me. You lose automatically if you do.

137.

JEN

Who said anything about telling? As long as I don't actually speak, I'm true to my word. I still have that jug, remember?

Andy's expression changes to panic.

20.EXT. ANDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Andy and Danny are hiding behind a tree outside. Jen comes out with a paper bag and walks away.

138.

ANDY

I knew it! She's probably on her way to sell us out. That little cheat, I ought to make her pay me \$200 for that!

139.

DANNY

How about we let her keep her money and no one tells on anyone?

Andy follows Jen. Danny hesitates, then goes after him.

21.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Jen enters the park, still carrying her brown paper bag. She walks up to Mrs. Weebles and Steve Rowgee jr. who overlook workmen shovelling yellow slush into containers. She talks to them and shows them the paper bag. Andy and Danny peer from around the corner.

140.

DANNY

She's going to show them the empty jug! They'll know how we pulled the prank!

141.

ANDY

Don't worry, I'll take the fall. She can't win the bet if I confess first!

Andy runs up to, Mrs. Weebles and Steve Rowgee jr., interrupting them.

142.

ANDY

(rapid-fire) I did it! I ran lemonade through the old overflow pipes in the paper mill and they flowed into the underground storage tanks which ruptured years ago but were never taken out of the ground, so the lemonade leached up overnight and made it look like the ice dogs took a leak in your precious park.

Everyone stares at Andy speechlessly.

143.

ANDY

Pretty clever, uh? Oh, and Jen, since I just confessed, they did not technically solve the mystery, so you owe me \$100.

144.

JEN

That's fine, but I was just here to offer Officer Rowgee some coffee and homemade donuts.

Jen takes a thermos and a donut out of the brown paper bag. Andy is astonished.

145.

ANDY

You mean... you weren't going to show them the empty jug?

146.

JEN

I said I wouldn't, didn't I? I knew you were going to crack.

147.

MRS. WEEBLES

Andy Larkin! I was sure all along it was you!

Steve Rowgee jr. puts his hand on Andy's shoulder.

148.

STEVE ROWGEE JR.

So, contaminating the grounds of city property, uh? I hope you like community service, young man.

Andy's face drops.

149.

JEN

The look on your face right now is priceless. And it only cost me \$100!

22.INT. ANDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Andy comes in wearing city overalls, exhausted and filthy. He crashes on the couch, face down. Jen comes into the living room.

150. **JEN**
Oh look, it's the master prankster who tattletaled on himself. How's digging in the mud agreeing with you?

151. **ANDY**
(muffled) Four more days until the soil is cleaned and the tank is removed. I don't think I can last that long.

152. **JEN**
Shoulda thought of that earlier.

Al comes in through the front door.

153. **AL**
Honey, I'm home.

Freida comes in from the kitchen.

154. **FREIDA**
So early? Did you get the rest of the day off?

155. **AL**
Yes I did. And tomorrow, and the next day, and so on indefinitely. I got fired.

Andy sits up.

156. **FREIDA**
They fired you?

157. **JAN**
I hope you're happy, creep.

158. **AL**
Now, let's not make a big deal of this. I'm sure it's all for the better. You know what they say: close a door, open a window!

Andy lets his head drop back into the cushion.

159. **ANDY**
The whole family is destitute, and it's all my fault.

160.

AL

Come on, it's not that bad. Hey,
you know what would be really good
for dinner tonight? Fried baloney
sandwiches. What do you say, kids?

Al rubs his hands together in preparation for the feast.

ACT 3

23.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

A construction crew of large, burly men is digging up the site. The ice dogs have been reduced to half-melted blobs. A backhoe is scooping up the mud. The top of the storage tank is uncovered, its lid twisted (hence the source of the leak).

Andy, dwarfed by the large men, is also working, dressed with an orange vest four sizes too large. He stops to wipe his brow. He looks at the lid and tries to peer in through the gap.

161. **MR. CROCK (O.S.)**
Hey kid, get away from there!

Andy turns to see Mr. Crock climbing down from a pick-up truck bearing the paper mill logo. He covers his mouth and nose with a handkerchief.

162. **MR. CROCK**
You wanna get sick so you can get out of work, is that it?

Mister Crock bolts the lid shut with a monkey wrench.

163. **ANDY**
Sick? Mister, that's just lemonade in there.

Mr. Crock jabs Andy with his index finger.

164. **MR. CROCK**
Yeah, and don't you tell anyone otherwise.

He pockets his handkerchief and gets back in his truck, leaving Andy to ponder what just happened. Danny comes to visit, carrying a brown paper bag.

165. **DANNY**
Andy! Want company for lunch?

166. **ANDY**
Thanks, but it isn't for another five...

A SFX:BELL rings. Andy turns around. The backhoe is still SFX:IDLING, scoop in mid-air with mud SFX:PLOPPING out of it. The men's shovels are still balanced in the mud and fall over. The men are already leaning against the equipment, eating.

167. **ANDY**
Okay, lunch, you got it.

He and Danny sit on a bench after dusting off the snow.

168. **DANNY**
So, how's the shovelling coming along?

169. **ANDY**
My prank has completely backfired. Instead of being acclaimed as a genius, everyone is mad at me.

170. **DANNY**
Jen's not mad, if it'll make you feel any better. She keeps laughing whenever anyone mentions you.

171. **ANDY**
Well, only two more days of this, then the cleanup crews take over. On the upside, I'm getting a lot of fresh air. That's gotta be good for me, right?

24.INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Danny is eating lunch with Andy, who seems to be snoozing. Danny is going over his homework.

172. **DANNY**
And what did you get for question thirteen?

173. **ANDY**
(mumbling) Nine...

174. **DANNY**
Wow, really? I was way off. Okay, how about question twenty?

175. **ANDY**
(mumbling) Nine... let me sleep until nine, mom.

Danny lifts one Andy's eyelids.

176. **DANNY**
Hey, wake up! Did you even do your homework?

Andy comes fully awake.

177. **ANDY**
Who has time for homework? Between school and the community service at the park, I haven't got any time left to myself.

Andy slouches.

178. **DANNY**
You're taking this pretty hard. You need to get right back on the horse.

179. **ANDY**
Oh no, not me, not ever again. I'm swearing off pranks for good. I've done too much damage.

Danny is astounded.

180. **DANNY**
Shut up! You're talking trash. You can't give up, you're the king of pranks! It's your gift, what else are you going to do in life?

181. **ANDY**
I dunno, I'm getting pretty good with a shovel. Maybe I can join the peace corps and dig ditches in the third world. At least that way I won't get my dad fired.

182. **DANNY**
What is your dad doing now, anyway?

Andy thinks.

183. **ANDY**
Let's see, Monday he sold magazine subscriptions, yesterday he collected empty cans for recycling, and today...

184. **AL**
Hello kids!

Al is dressed in a Greenearth t-shirt and distributing pamphlets.

185. **ANDY**
Dad?

186. **AL**
How do you like my t-shirt? My new boss says that after a couple of years, I can move up to minimum wage. He's about your age, Andy.

Andy lets his head drop to the table.

187. **AL**
Anyway, gotta get back to handing out flyers. Did you know that belugas eat a thousand acres of rain forest every day? Someone ought to do something!

Al steps away.

188. **DANNY**
He's not very good at this, is he?

189. **ANDY**
He's not very good at anything, except his old job at the paper mill.

25.INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Freida and Andy are doing the groceries. SFX:MUSAK pipes in over the speakers. Andy is pushing the cart. Freida picks a can from the shelf and puts it back. Andy takes the can.

190. **ANDY**
Creamed corn? We can't even afford creamed corn?

191. **FREIDA**
Sure we can. As long as we get the dented cans that are marked down.

Freida takes a can and SFX:BANGS it against a shelf to dent it. She drops it into the cart.

192. **FREIDA**
There.

Andy takes a fifty-dollar bill out of his pocket and examines it: his winnings.

193. **ANDY**
(to camera) I know I should have given this money to her before, but she won't even take it.

DOODLEVISION: Al, Freida and Jen, dressed in rags, are begging in the street in a very Dickensian fashion.

194.

ANDY (V.O.)

I can't keep this money now! It's
blood money!

Andy passes by on a fancy carriage, wearing a top hat. He
SFX:SPLASHES his family without even looking at them.

BACK TO REALITY.

Andy slips the bill into his mother's purse.

26.INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - DAY

The alarm clock shows six o'clock. It SFX:RINGS. Andy extends his
hand from underneath the covers and turns it off. He sits on the
edge of the bed, bleary-eyed and dishevelled.

27.INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Freida comes out of the bathroom. Andy goes in.

195.

FREIDA

Oh by the way Andy, new money-
saving measure. We only get two
minutes of hot water per shower
each. Jan's in charge of keeping
track.

28.INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Andy is in the shower, surrounded by steam. Suddenly, the steam
disappears. Andy's eyes bulge out and he retreats to the corner.

196.

ANDY

Cold! That's cold! Ooh! Aah! Ouch!

29.INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Andy comes out of the bathroom in a bathrobe. His skin is bluish
and he's shivering. Jan is leaning against the wall, holding a
monkey wrench. She smirks.

197.

JAN

Sorry, your two minutes were up.
Rules are rules.

198.

ANDY

(to the camera) These are supposed
to be my golden years. I'm too
fragile for the cold harsh world!

30.INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Andy is eating breakfast, still bleary-eyed. Al is also eating
breakfast, dressed in a fried chicken joint uniform.

199. **AL**
So, last day digging in the mud,
uh?

200. **ANDY**
Yep, tomorrow the other crew takes
over to lift the tank out of the
ground. You?

201. **AL**
My boss and fellow employees keep
calling me "mister", and I'm only
the guy with the mop!

202. **ANDY**
I'm sorry to hear that.

203. **AL**
Bah, things will get better soon. I
can feel it.

31.EXT. CITY PARK - EVENING

The workers and backhoe are digging in the mud. The tank is almost completely free now. Andy notices Mr. Crock, parked outside the park with a tanker truck, observing them. The quitting bell SFX:RINGS. A LARGE WORKER slaps him on the back affably.

204. **LARGE WORKER**
You done good kid, even though you
made us all dig a hole in the
frozen ground in the middle of
winter. This tank is someone else's
problem now. Go home.

The workers go home. Andy examines the tank. He SFX:TAPS the metallic tank, which sounds like it's full.

205. **ANDY**
Someone else's problem...

Andy looks once again at Mr. Crock parked on the street. A SFX:HORN attracts his attention. Al, in his fried chicken outfit, is waving at him from the car.

206. **AL**
Need a lift?

32.INT. CAR - EVENING

Andy climbs in. Silly, goofy SFX:MUSIC is playing on a small portable radio cassette. Al hands him a fried chicken meal.

207. **AL**
Would you believe customers won't
touch the three-legged chickens?
Our gain, right?

Al digs in but Andy grimaces.

208. **ANDY**
Dad, who was it that was in charge
of condemning the storage tank five
years ago?

209. **AL**
(eating) Oh, let's see... that'd be
old Mr. Crock. Said he had to use
up our bonuses that year to empty
the tank, or the government would
fine the plant.

210. **ANDY**
So once it's empty, ten gallons of
lemonade would barely make a puddle
at the bottom, right?

211. **AL**
You betcha.

Al's face lights up.

212. **AL**
In fact, you'd need about a hundred
thousand gallons of lemonade to
overflow the tank! unless that
is...

213. **ANDY**
Unless someone got a little behind
on their obligations.

Andy turns to Mr. Crock in his tanker truck.

33.EXT. CITY PARK - NIGHT

A truck, lights out, silently rolls into the park up to the tank.
Mr. Crock climbs out of the driver's side. JERRY, a mill worker,
climbs out of the passenger's side and SFX:SLAMS the door.

214. **MR. CROCK**
Be quiet, you idiot! You want
everyone to hear us?

They turn to the site of the dig. A low-lying fog covers the
ground.

215. **JERRY**

Creepy.

216. **MR. CROCK**

More's the reason to hurry up. Get to work!

Jerry unwinds a hose from the truck as Mr. Crock walks to the tank. He climbs the ladder leading to the top with a monkey wrench in his hand. Somewhere, something SFX:GROWLS.

217. **JERRY**

What was that!

218. **MR. CROCK**

I didn't hear anything. Move it! We gotta empty the tank before the removal crew comes in the morning

Mr. Crock unbolts the lid. Jerry hands him the hose, which he slips inside the tank. Jerry walks to the truck and starts the SFX:PUMP. There is another SFX:GROWL. Jerry stops the pump.

219. **JERRY**

I know I didn't imagine it this time! Something growled.

He takes a flashlight and sweeps the beam over the deformed ice dogs.

220. **MR. CROCK**

You're afraid of bad ice sculptures now?

221. **JERRY**

I saw this movie once where a snowman came to life because of radioactive waste. He made snowballs from his head and pelted people at night!

222. **MR. CROCK**

Oh, for crying out loud. If you want something done, gotta do it yourself.

Mr. Crock climbs down from the ladder and walks towards the tanker truck. Another SFX:GROWL, this time longer and louder. Mr. Crock turns towards the sound.

223. **JERRY**

Th... th... there!

A dark shape rises from among the ice dogs, its eyes aglow. It rises on its hind legs and walks towards the two men. Jerry climbs in the truck and SFX:SCREECHES away, dragging the hose behind him. Mr. Crock is livid.

224.

MR. CROCK

(without conviction) This is a joke, right? You don't scare me.

Flames shoot out of the dark shape's extended paws. Mr. Crock breaks down.

225.

MR. CROCK

(blubbering) Sweet mercy, please don't hurt me! I gambled away the employee bonuses, I couldn't afford to have the tank emptied! No one had to know, not until that dumb kid came along! Go get him, he's responsible!

The scene is illuminated by car headlights. Al is standing next to the car, concealed behind the bushes. He holds the portable radio cassette.

The dark shape is in fact Andy wearing the costume of the winter carnival mascot and holding two road flares. He removes the head and throws the flares in the snow.

226.

ANDY

Got everything dad?

Al SFX:REWINDS the cassette and plays it back. The silly goofy SFX:MUSIC comes on.

227.

AL

Oops, too far back.

He SFX:FAST FORWARDS the tape and plays it.

228.

MR. CROCK (FILTER)

I gambled away the employee bonuses, I couldn't afford to have the tank emptied!

Mr. Crock throws his hat in the snow.

34.INT. CITY HALL - DAY

The MAYOR has set up a press conference in the main lobby. Andy and Al are standing next to him at the podium. Camera flashes SFX:POP here and there. The mayor speaks into the microphone.

229.

MAYOR

We owe a great debt to Andy Larkin who, through his dedication and persistence, unveiled a scandal that threatened our city park and could have eventually resulted in disaster.

The crowd SFX:APPLAUDS.

230.

MAYOR

Following the firing of Mr. Crock, the paper mill has offered to completely remodel the park, under the supervision of their newly re-instated employee, Mr. Larkin.

The crowd SFX:APPLAUDS some more. Al steps up to the mike.

231.

AL

Thank you. I couldn't have done it without my son Andy.

232.

MAYOR

Neither could we. Anything we can do to thank you, Andy?

233.

ANDY

Well, now that you mention it...

Andy leans in and whispers into the mayor's ear.

234.

MAYOR

I'm sure that can be arranged!

Andy waves as people SFX:APPLAUD. Photo flashes SFX:POP. FREEZE FRAME on Andy waving to the crowd with Al's arm around his shoulders, and the mayor next to them. MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

35.EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

The newspaper headlines show the photo with Andy right underneath the headline: "ANDY SAVES TOWN". Further below, another title reads "Bill 6 repealed - dogs wag tails in joy!".

Andy is reading the paper. Freida and Al are reading over his shoulder. Jen stands off to the side, vexed.

235.

ANDY

Listen to this, they're calling me a hero.

236.

AL

A real chip off the old block.

237.

JEN

Oh please, don't encourage him, his head is fat enough as it is.

238.

ANDY

You're only jealous because in the end, I used my gift for the greater good.

239.

JEN

Your prank blew up in your face and you got lucky, as usual.

Andy rolls up the paper.

240.

ANDY

You call it luck, I call it kismet. And you still lost the bet. No refunds.

241.

AL

Enough bickering you two. Wanna see where the paper mill is going to put in the in-ground swimming pool?

Al points to the spot where the tank used to be, now filled in. A bulldozer sits off to the side. They wander off. Andy has Spank on a leash.

Other visitors to the park are also walking their dogs, now unhampered by bill 86. Mrs. Weebles appears, carrying a broom and dustpan, evidently on pooper scooper duty. She scoops something up and grimaces.

242.

MRS. WEEBLES

(muttering) Filthy no good mutts...

FADE OUT: