

community

"The Fundamentals of Flight"

Episode #204

Written by

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COMMUNITY

EPISODE #204

SET LIST

INTERIORS

ADMIN BUILDING HALLWAY
ADMIN MEETING ROOM
CLASSROOM
SPACE BUS
STUDY ROOM

EXTERIORS

PARKING LOT
ROAD
FIELD
COUNTRY ROAD
QUAD
OUTER SPACE (GREEN SCREEN)

COMMUNITY
EPISODE #204
CAST LIST

JEFF.....JOEL MCHALE
PIERCE.....CHEVY CHASE
BRITTA.....GILLIAN JACOBS
SHIRLEY.....YVETTE NICOLE BROWN
ABED.....DANNY PUDI
ANNIE.....ALISON BRIE
TROY.....DONALD GLOVER
CHANG.....KEN JEONG
DEAN PELTON.....JIM RASH
LEONARD.....RICHARD ERDMAN
RUNNER.....TBD
FACULTY 1.....TBD
FACULTY 2.....TBD
*
SANDERS.....TBD
*DEAN SPRECK.....JORDAN BLACK

COLD OPEN

1 INT. ADMIN BUILDING HALLWAY - DAY (DAY 1) 1

CLOSE ON a pair of shoes stomping frantically down Greendale's hallway.

2 INT. ADMIN MEETING ROOM - DAY 2

The RUNNER opens a door into this dark room.

RUNNER

(urgent)

City College has a space simulator. *

The silhouetted figures of DEAN PELTON and FACULTY are seated at a table, lit only by a projector hooked up to a laptop.

FACULTY 1

We know.

FACULTY 2

Close the door.

The Runner closes the door and moves around the table to the back of the room while the meeting continues.

DEAN PELTON

As I was saying. On Monday, City College will be unveiling the City College Cosmic Pioneer, their very own orbital launch simulator.

The Dean brings up photos of the CCCP, City College's bare-bones, two-seat space flight simulator. City College's DEAN SPRECK can be seen in some of the photos, proud.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

It won't be long before City College is offering associate degrees in aeronautics. City College students will be getting jobs at NASA. Pretty soon, they'll have an *astronaut* on their brochure, and we'll still be bragging about our Foosball table!

He brings up an example of a Greendale brochure boasting "Foosball!"

(CONTINUED)

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

What do you think happens to our enrollment then?

The Dean brings up a powerpoint animation he's prepared of a city map, on which City College's campus, drawn in red, begins growing, eventually overtaking the green dot representing Greendale.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

I don't know about you gentlemen, but I'm proud of my campus. I don't want to watch it become a City College parking lot.

Murmurs of fear throughout the room.

FACULTY 1

Well, what can we do?

DEAN PELTON

We can beat them to the punch. We can launch our own space simulator. Before they simulate their launch Monday, we simulate a launch *this weekend*. We make Greendale, not City College, the first community college to pretend to put a man in space.

*
*

FACULTY 1

Do we even have a simulator?

*

DEAN PELTON

We can get one. For six hundred dollars plus towing costs.

The Dean brings up a site for the local museum. Then promo photos, circa 1981, of families seated at space-age consoles.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

In 1980, the county museum had a state of the art space mission simulator sponsored by Kentucky Fried Chicken, called The Kentucky Fried Chicken Eleven Herbs and Space Experience. It's been in storage since '99, and they're looking to unload it because teenagers keep sneaking in and smoking pot in it.

2

CONTINUED: (2)

2

We see the side of a Winnebago customized to look like a rocket. The room marvels at it.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

Gentlemen, Greendale's future.
Actually, that photo's from the
past. Here's one more current.

He switches to an unceremonious photo of the Winnebago in a parking lot. It's run down and covered in filth. The room unmarvels.

FACULTY 2

It's seen better days.

DEAN PELTON

I admit, it could use a good wash.
(dramatic)
And I've got just the crew to wash
it.

3

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY (DAY 2)

3

HEROIC MUSIC plays as JEFF, ANNIE, SHIRLEY, BRITTA, TROY, ABED and PIERCE all walk towards camera in slow motion, wearing painter coveralls and carrying buckets and brushes. They're not actually shot in slo-mo, they're just moving slowly, and everyone but Abed looks irritated at having to do it.

JEFF

Can we stop walking in slo-mo now?

ABED

Twenty more yards.

PIERCE

You guys are walking in slo-mo?

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

4 EXT. PARKING LOT - MORNING (DAY 2) 4

The space bus is parked. Dean Pelton addresses the gang.

DEAN PELTON
(checking his watch)
You guys are an hour late.

ANNIE
(frustrated)
Abed kept making us redo our walk.

DEAN PELTON
I think you know the reason this
group has been chosen for this job. *
To atone for the obscene entry you *
submitted to the Greendale school
flag contest.

He holds up a color printout of a simple flag design, a blue field behind a pink circle with arrows pointing outward.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)
That's right, I know this isn't a *
symbol for the crossroads of ideas, *
I now know it's a butt.

The group (minus Annie) stifles snickers.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)
Keep snickering. Pack yourselves
with peanuts and really be
satisfied, because guess what?
This won. This is now our school *
flag *forever*. Proud of yourselves? *

The group is not displeased to hear that.

TROY
How do you know it's our design?
We submitted it anonymously.
(realizing)
Oops.

DEAN PELTON
Wrong. One of you actually came
forward.

Everyone looks at Annie.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

ANNIE
(defensive)
What?

DEAN PELTON
Now, somewhere beneath this dirt is
Greendale's newest pride. My hope
is that while you scrub it, you'll
find the school pride in your
hearts.

*
*
*

ABED
When we finish cleaning it, do we
get to go inside?

*

DEAN PELTON
No. That's a job for a group of
upstanding students, who are
training right now in the Simulator
Simulator.

*
*
*

5 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

5

LEONARD sits in a cardboard box with buttons drawn in magic
marker. A SCIENCE STUDENT stands nearby with a clipboard.

LEONARD
Great job on this, it's hard to
believe I'm not really not really
in space.

6 EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

6

As before.

DEAN PELTON
I will be back to check on your
progress. I expect this craft to
be spic and span...
(catching himself)
Owe myself a quarter.
(correcting)
Squeaky clean in time for the
pretend launch in front of the
press at three o'clock.

Dean exits. The seven begrudgingly grab supplies and move
toward the bus.

*
*

BRITTA
(re: bus, to Jeff)
I remember this old thing.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

BRITTA (CONT'D)
During high school field trips,
we'd sneak into it and get
(conscious of Shirley)
to prayin'.

ANNIE
(checking her watch)
We should take a coffee break.
Let's all get coffee, okay? Where
are Troy and Abed?

JEFF
I'm pretty sure they were finding
their way into this thing five
seconds after the Dean left.

ANNIE
What? We can't do that.

Annie walks off towards the bus in search of the boys. *

7 INT. SPACE BUS

7

It's made to look like a spaceship, with a lot of 80's
videogame technology and some subtle Kentucky Fried Chicken
branding. The cabin door opens. Troy and Abed enter. *
Shirley follows. *

ABED
It's more beautiful than I
imagined.

TROY
You've never been in it?

ABED
My dad never let me. He always had
a grudge against fast food *
restaurants, they almost wiped out *
his falafel stand. But I've *
memorized every detail of this old *
girl on the internet. *

Annie enters.

ANNIE
Guys, we can't be in here.

TROY
Then get out.

Jeff and Pierce enter. *

(CONTINUED)

JEFF

(looking around)

It's pretty well preserved for
something that survived the 80's
and, apparently, a local transient
who liked to collect doll heads.

REVEAL a bunch of dirty doll heads on a nearby shelf.

PIERCE

Ah, the 80's. Teen years, right
everybody? A truly rebellious
time.

ABED

I feel like I'm under-dressed for
this. I'm going to get something
from the dorm.

Abed runs out. Britta and Shirley enter.

ANNIE

Guys, seriously, I have to ask that
we all step out of here.

BRITTA

Or what, are you gonna tattle on us
like you did with the flag?

ANNIE

I didn't tattle about the flag.
But, you shouldn't have made it in
the first place.

PIERCE

Hey, if you love Greendale so much,
why don't you marry it?

SHIRLEY

Pierce, don't be cranky!

Pierce heads for the door.

PIERCE

(near door)

Sorry, I get a little
claustrophobic.

(off their concern)

No big deal as long as I'm near the
door. In closed spaces, I can get
a little, you know,

(imitating crazy person)

Agggghhh!

He gestures wildly, accidentally striking a large button next to the door. The door beeps and swings shut. We hear it latch. The space simulator springs to life. Buttons light up, computer screens turn on featuring an 80's era, Atari style rendering of a white haired man - S.A.N.D.E.R.S. - whose rectangle mouth blinks with a pre-recorded audio track.

SANDERS

Greetings. I am Systematic Android Network Diode Energy Rocket System, but you may call me SANDERS.

Pierce tries to play it cool but is mashing at the door button repeatedly.

PIERCE

I need this door open, okay? Can we get this open?

BRITTA

Just find the handle. There's gotta be a handle on the door.

SHIRLEY

We don't know that. It was the 80's. All the people who made this were on cocaine.

ANNIE

We... can't be in here.

SANDERS

Just as Kentucky Fried Chicken's secret process seals in the flavor, I'm sealing the cabin's air so you don't explode on your journey.

PIERCE

What?!

TROY

What does *that* mean?!

SANDERS

Please find a seat, strap yourself in and wait for Mission Control.

BRITTA

Everyone look for a handle to open this DOOR!

JEFF

Can we just take a mental step
back, guys, and realize that we are
simply in a Winnebago, and will be
fine?

There's a small jolt to the cabin. Everyone freezes. The
muffled sound of servos as the cabin starts tilting upward.

TROY

What the hell.

ANNIE

Oh God.

SANDERS

Please find a seat, strap yourself
in and wait for Mission Control.

JEFF

Okay, we might want to actually
find a seat and strap ourselves in.

Everyone starts doing so except Pierce.

PIERCE

No! I'm not strapping into a
coffin! We have to get out!

The servo sounds stop.

SANDERS

I hope you've found a seat. I want
you to be safe.

PIERCE

(taken aback)

Did you just threaten me?

JEFF

Pierce, you're talking to an Atari
cartridge. Please sit down.

The bus lurches forward. Pierce stumbles down the aisle,
screaming while trying unsuccessfully to hold onto things.
We hear him hit the back wall with a thud.

TROY

We're moving!

Britta looks at Jeff.

7

CONTINUED: (4)

7

BRITTA

This is all just part of the
simulation, right?

JEFF

I don't think this is a simulation.

The camera pushes on him.

JEFF (CONT'D)

I think we're being towed.

8

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

8

The front end of the bus has been hitched and raised by a large tow truck, which now pulls it out of the lot. We watch it go, then pan back to look at a row of handicapped parking spaces, across which the bus had been parked.

After a moment, Abed approaches, dressed in a flight suit. He stops where the bus was. He looks around. Finally, and slowly... He looks up.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

9 EXT. ROAD - DAY (DAY 2) 9

We're tight on the space bus "flying" down the road. Pull out to reveal the tow truck, cruising along.

10 INT. SPACE BUS - CONTINUOUS 10

Troy and Annie are pounding on the front wall of the bus, shouting "Hey!" "Can you hear us?" etc. Jeff is holding his cell phone near the edge of the single large covered window.

JEFF

Forget it. Whoever's towing us can't hear us. Can anyone get a phone signal?

Everyone adlibs "no signal here," "not me," etc. Pierce is in the back being tended to by Britta and Shirley. He listens to his iPod.

PIERCE

Mine's working, but it's that black guy with the wrong number again.

BRITTA

Pierce, we keep telling you, that's an iPod and you're listening to Wesley Snipes' audio book.

PIERCE

Well, he sure hates the government.

Troy gets in the Captain's chair, and studies the big monitor at the front of the bus. On it is a five-way video display.

TROY

It's a long shot, but maybe... if I do this... it will solve everything.
(moves controls around)
Damn.

Annie keeps trying her phone, then throws it in frustration.

ANNIE

This is all my fault.

JEFF

Very much so.
(off her frown)
Hey, when you go fishing, sometimes you catch a boot.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: 10

There's a beeping sound coming from a futuristic looking CB RADIO. Troy puts on a headset and hits a button.

TROY

Hello?

Intercut with:

11 INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 11

Dean Pelton talks into a futuristic CB RADIO that matches the one onboard. We hear Troy's voice over a speaker.

DEAN PELTON

Where are you hoodlums?! Bring my spaceship back!

TROY

I think we are about
(consults panel)
forty light years west of the
Buttermilk Nebula, although it's
possible --
(peels it off)
Yeah, this is a sticker.

Jeff gives up finding a signal and puts on another headset.

JEFF

Hey. Terrible Dean. This thing is being towed. With us in it.

DEAN PELTON

Ah. Ah. Okay, wait. So handicap spots count on Saturdays?

JEFF

Assuming we don't end up in a compactor, when we get back, I am going to step on you.

DEAN PELTON

As much as I might enjoy that, Jeff, if you don't get back in time for the launch, City College wins, and Greendale becomes just another school on my resume that no one can call because it doesn't exist. Now tell me where you are.

(CONTINUED)

11

CONTINUED:

11

JEFF

In a moving cannister with no phone
and no GPS, because the only window
is sealed shut, so *you tell us*
something or stop wasting our time!

Jeff removes his headset and throws it down.

DEAN PELTON

Hello? Jeffrey? Damn it!

Abed is seated on the study room table, despondent.

ABED

It isn't sealed shut.

DEAN PELTON

Hm?

ABED

The window isn't sealed shut, it
slides open when you complete the
simulation.

DEAN PELTON

Well, can you talk them through it?
(moving to Abed)
Abed, if they can open that window
they can tell us where they are and
we can find them.

Abed looks into the Dean's eyes.

ABED

I was supposed to be on that thing.
I know how she works.

*
*

DEAN PELTON

Hey. That's why they need you to
bring her home. Okay?

Dean offers Abed the microphone. He takes it, nodding.

DEAN PELTON (CONT'D)

I'll get us some coffee.
(to self, sing song)
Psychooooooooo.

12

INT. SPACE BUS - CONTINUOUS

12

Troy is trying to keep two arrows -- marked "Herbs" and
"Spices" -- inside two erratically moving blocks of color.
The blocks are very small, so it's nearly impossible.

(CONTINUED)

ABED

Troy.

TROY

Abed?

ABED

You can get that window open by doing the simulation. Look at the panel on your left and tell me your recipe.

TROY

Original.

ABED

How many pieces?

TROY

Six.

ABED

Flavor heading?

TROY

Tasty.

ABED

We need to get that up to delicious.

TROY

That makes sense.

Troy flips a dial from "Tasty" to "Delicious." The blocks of color instantly grow to make the task slightly easier.

SANDERS

Excellent work, Captain. Now, keep your herbs and spices balanced, while the crew helps you with teamwork.

*

TROY

(looks back at crew)

Guys, we can get the window open if you man your terminals and we complete the simulation.

Jeff has a fire extinguisher.

JEFF

Hey, I've got a better idea.

(CONTINUED)

He starts ramming the Plexiglas window with the extinguisher. In the back, Shirley and Britta tend to Pierce. He's claustrophobic, rocking, freaking out. *

PIERCE

Gooby dooby gooby dooby gooby!
We're all dying, we're all going to die! We're dying!

Troy sweats, working the controls. On screen, his blocks of color narrow. He can't keep the arrows inside the margins.

SANDERS

My readings indicate the need for cooperation.

TROY

I can't do this by myself! *

JEFF

Well, I've got great news. You're playing a video game.

SANDERS' voice seems to change slightly.

SANDERS

My readings indicate Pierce.

PIERCE

Huh? What?

SANDERS

Pierce. My readings indicate you're *going to die alone*.

PIERCE

Why is he saying that?! Why is he saying that to me?!

SHIRLEY

He's getting worse.

Troy struggles with his controls.

TROY

I've almost got it.

PIERCE

Stop talking to me, old man!

Pierce stands up.

12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

SANDERS

You can't make me stop, Pierce,
because Troy is giving me life
force.

PIERCE

I knew it!

Pierce attacks Troy. Troy loses control of the game again.

13 INT. STUDY ROOM

13 *

A little later. Now it looks like Mission Control, with several STUDENTS manning computers, pouring through printouts. A STUDENT enters with a laptop and a "special drink" with a straw. Abed takes the drink and wordlessly directs him to put the laptop down in front of him, all while he talks on the microphone, checking in on Troy's progress. *

ABED

Kentucky One? Kentucky, do you
read me?

CHANG comes up to Abed holding a strange contraption.

CHANG

I've worked out a way for them to
reroute the power from the
auxiliary battery.

ABED

To what?

Chang slowly backs away, bluff called. The Dean enters holding a map. He spreads it on the table.

DEAN PELTON

Everybody! Here is the situation!
This is Greendale.

(draws a dot)

This is the maximum distance from
Greendale we can drive, to haul
them back up in time for the
simulated launch. *

(draws a large circle)

And these are city impound lots,
(draws dots within circle)
any of which might be their
destination.

ABED

(studying map)

What are these other circles?

(CONTINUED)

DEAN PELTON

What other circles?

ABED

It looks like you've circled public restrooms and truck stops.

DEAN PELTON

Okay, that's a different side of the map and that is... for a different project, so...

ABED

Why do they have star ratings?

DEAN PELTON

Let's GET TO WORK, PEOPLE!

ABED

(into microphone)

Talk to me, buddy.

The bus is now level.

*

TROY

Well, we've stopped moving. And Pierce has space madness, or he's just old or something, they're locking him up in the back!

Indeed, Jeff and Britta are wrestling a frenzied Pierce into a storage cage in back and locking the door shut.

PIERCE

You can't do this to me!

BRITTA

We just did!

ANNIE

Guys, please! You're becoming animals!

BRITTA

Oh, shut up, Annie, we wouldn't even be here if it weren't for you.

The others agree.

ANNIE

That's not true, we weren't supposed to be in here when it happened!

Silence. All eyes on her.

JEFF

When what happened?
(offering)
When we got towed?

SHIRLEY

How did you know it was going to
get towed?

ANNIE

I set it up! I called City College
about transferring and the dean
said he'd let me in if I helped
sabotage Greendale's launch. I was
supposed to make sure no one was
around so they could steal it. And
then you guys were late, and
then...

*
*
*
*

BRITTA

You're transferring?

PIERCE

(foreign-sounding gibberish)
Shabba dabba dabba!

ANNIE

You all thought that butt hole flag
was so funny ... but... I need to
be proud of the school I go to.

SHIRLEY

...Why?

*
*

ANNIE

What do you mean, why? There is no
why, I need to be proud of the
school I go to. That's the
because. The "why" is why am I
leaving Greendale. The "because"
is because I need to be proud of my
school. What kind of question is
"why?" What more information do
you need? Is there something wrong
with your brain?

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

JEFF

Hold it hold it. City College was
behind this?
(deciding)
(MORE)

JEFF (CONT'D)

We have to get back in time for that launch.

BRITTA

Why?

JEFF

Because we *earn* the right to pick on Greendale, every day, by *going there*. Our school may be a toilet, but it's our toilet, nobody craps in it but us.

BRITTA

He's right. When it comes to me versus Greendale, I'm on my side, but Greendale versus City College?

SHIRLEY

Yeah. How evil does a school have to be to bother picking on *Greendale*?

JEFF

(to Troy)
Captain?

TROY

Get to your stations.
(calling out)
Thrusters!

Single shot of each person taking their station.

*

BRITTA

Full!

*

TROY

Thermal shields!

ANNIE

On!

*

TROY

Navigation!

SHIRLEY

Three!

*

TROY

Chicken!

JEFF

Yes!

*

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (3) 14

We go to a five way split screen with Troy in the center.

TROY

Ready?

EVERYONE

Ready!

TROY

Suppertime.

15 INT. STUDY ROOM 15

Abed perks up when he hears Troy's voice on the speaker. It's crackling, and Abed can't hear.

ABED

Everybody be quiet!

(to Troy)

Say again?

TROY

Greendale, standby for location!

16 INT. SPACE BUS 16

The crew works together from their terminals. On the main screen, we watch Troy's colored bars grow wider and wider.

TROY

Hold it! Hold it!

Suddenly, the main screen clears to display 8-bit fireworks.

SANDERS

Congratulations, crew. You've worked together! Now, feast your eyes on the wonders of the cosmos.

*
*

Our gang jumps up and stands at the window. An exterior window shade lowers. Golden sunlight comes streaming in.

17 INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 17

Abed and everyone in Mission Control wait tensely.

ABED

What do you see, gang?

18 INT. SPACE BUS - CONTINUOUS 18

Jeff looks out the window. His POV: a wide-open pasture with a cow in it. He holds his phone to the window, gets a signal.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: 18

JEFF
(reading cell phone)
We are in...

19 EXT. FIELD - DAY 19

The space bus has been unhitched and is parked by itself in the middle of a rural field, surrounded by cows.

JEFF (O.S.)
Coldwater.

20 INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 20

Abed looks at the Dean. He locates Coldwater on the map, and draws a line to it from Greendale. The line goes way up past all the checkpoints he circled earlier.

ABED
Here. Next to the truck stop with
three thumbs up.

The Dean turns away from Abed, speaks to nobody. All is lost.

DEAN PELTON
(dramatic)
Those aren't thumbs.

JEFF (O.S.)
(over CB)
Greendale, do you copy? Greendale?

Abed takes a breath.

ABED
I'm sorry, Jeff.

21 INT. SPACE BUS 21

The group stands in silence as Abed finishes his thought.

ABED
I'm afraid you're out of town.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

22 INT. SPACE BUS - DAY

22

The gang sits huddled together, dejected. Pierce is still in the cage.

SHIRLEY

I guess someone will come get us eventually.

TROY

I really miss Greendale. How many schools would let you make a "butt flag" and then actually fly it?

BRITTA

How many schools would let you get a degree in Theoretical Phys-Ed?

SHIRLEY

Annie, we owe you an apology. You should never have to choose between your friends and your school.

ANNIE

Thanks.

BRITTA

But you really shouldn't have tattled for the flag thing.

*
*
*

Beat.

JEFF

I tattled. I told the dean it was our design. And I told him it was a butt, too.

Everyone adlibs: "What?" "Why?"

*

JEFF (CONT'D)

He kept not seeing it! It was driving me crazy. I mean it says "E Pluribus Anus" on it. I had to point it out to him or it was all for nothing.

*

TROY

I told you guys we should've put cheeks on it. There's a time and place for subtlety, and that time was before they made "Scary Movie."

(CONTINUED)

PIERCE
(calmly, sanely)
Guys. I'm really feeling a lot
better now.

*

SHIRLEY
Oh. You sound good.

PIERCE
Yeah. In a weird way, I think
being in this smaller space helped
me work through some stuff. Can
you let me out?

*

*

They look at each other. Britta gets up and unlocks the door
to the cage. Pierce gets out, centers himself, then:

PIERCE (CONT'D)
I'll kill you!

Pierce runs wildly at the monitor. We see Sanders' 8-bit
mouth open as if in fear. Pierce attacks the monitor,
ripping it off the wall and throwing it to the ground. He
starts stomping on it.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Get off my mommy! I'm her man!

*

SHIRLEY
Pierce!

The others rush to stop him, except for Jeff, who sees
sunlight shining through a hole where the monitor was. He
looks into the hole.

Jeff's POV: we can see the interior of the Winnebago's cab on
the other side. Jeff turns to the others.

JEFF
Hey. Who's feeling skinny?

Troy and Annie raise their hands.

Abed sits at the table alone. The Dean finishes putting on a
bow tie.

CHANG
(holding Doublicious
sandwiches)
Dean, the press is here.
(MORE)

CHANG (CONT'D)

I tried to buy us some time with these Doublicious sandwiches, but they thought I was doing product integration for KFC.

*
*

(takes a bite, walking off)

This Hawaiian bread. So good, though.

*

DEAN PELTON

Time to face the music.

He turns to leave and bumps into DEAN SPRECK.

DEAN SPRECK

Craig.

DEAN PELTON

Stephen. Surprised to see you here.

DEAN SPRECK

You don't think I'd miss your moment of triumph, do you? Greendale beating City College into simulated space. Unless... you're having trouble locating your ship.

*
*

DEAN PELTON

You?! You're behind this?

Spreck leans in, close to Dean Pelton's ear. He whispers softly, and Pelton reacts with a mix of horror and arousal.

*
*

DEAN SPRECK

Next time you provoke City College, you'll lose more than a Winnebago.

*
*
*

He walks out. Dean Pelton runs after him.

*

DEAN PELTON

Stephen, wait!

*
*

JEFF

(over CB)

Greendale, come in Greendale?

*
*

Everyone rushes over to the radio.

ABED

(jolted)

Go ahead, Kentucky.

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23 CONTINUED: (2) 23

Pause. *

JEFF
(over CB) *
Call off the rescue mission. We're
coming to save you.

Cheers. *

24 EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - CONTINUOUS 24
A triumphant shot of the space bus speeding down the road.

25 INT. SPACE BUS - CAB 25
Annie intently grips the steering wheel.

ANNIE
Come on, you family sized bucket of
bolts!

26 EXT. QUAD - A LITTLE LATER 26
The Greendale quad is decorated for a ribbon-cutting
ceremony, with a podium in front of a ribbon. A large crowd
has gathered. Reporters are looking at their watches.

27 INT. SPACE BUS - CONTINUOUS 27
Jeff looks out the window. He speaks into the microphone.

JEFF
Abed, construction on Spring Road. *

28 INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 28
Abed looks at a computer screen.

ABED
I see it! Left on Apple Valley. *

29 INT. SPACE BUS - CAB 29
We see Jeff through the hole, yelling to Annie.

JEFF
Annie, Left on Apple! *

ANNIE
Hold tight!

30 EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - CONTINUOUS 30

The space bus makes a hard turn.

31 INT. SPACE BUS 31

The crew tumbles. Britta falls on top of Troy. Their faces get romantically close.

The same thing happens with Pierce and Jeff.

PIERCE

Hi.

JEFF

Will you get off me.

32 EXT. QUAD 32

Dean Pelton walks slowly across the quad, stalling for time. Dean Spreck follows him, taunting.

DEAN SPRECK

They'll never make it back, Craig.
That thing might as well be on a
simulation of the moon.

The Space Bus barrels onto the quad. *

It knocks over a couple easels and tables stacked with
flyers. It almost hits a guy who dives out of the way at the
last second. (other physical bits?) Also, maybe Dean sees it
coming and takes the podium here? *

The bus screeches to a tire-smoking stop behind the ribbon. *

CHILDREN from around the neighborhood come running after it,
cheering.

PHOTOGRAPHERS snap pictures and roll video as Annie climbs
down from the cab, walks over to the main cabin door and
opens it. *

Pierce runs out first, straight through the crowd, screaming,
and into the distance, never looking back.

One by one, the rest of the study group exits the Winnebago,
waving to photographers and high-fiving the crowd.

The Dean runs up to the podium.

DEAN PELTON

Ladies and gentlemen, returning
from their maiden simulation, the
fabulous Greendale Green-stronauts!

(CONTINUED)

Annie is receiving congratulations from strangers when Dean Spreck approaches her.

DEAN SPRECK

Well, Annie. I guess you're not City College material after all.

ANNIE

Thank you.

ANGLE ON Troy wading through the admiring crowd when he sees Jeff. They shake hands and pull into an embrace.

JEFF

Hey. Great job up there, captain.

TROY

Really? You think I could be an astronaut some day?

JEFF

If NASA ever needs someone to keep an arrow inside a moving rectangle, I know who I'd recommend.

Troy smiles, genuinely touched. Abed approaches.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Abed. Want to take a seat in the captain's chair? I think you've earned it.

Abed gives the space bus a long hard look.

ABED

No thanks. I can't imagine anything could be cooler than what I've already done today.

Troy, Jeff, and Abed look at the ship a while. *

It bursts into flames. The crowd screams and scatters. *

ABED (CONT'D)

Ok, that was cooler.

We pan up to the new Greendale butt flag, flying proudly over the smouldering bus and the rest of the Greendale campus.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

33 EXT. OUTER SPACE (GREEN SCREEN) 33

Abed sits in the cockpit of a cardboard space ship, flying through space. It's NOT a cheesy green-screen effect, it's a professional green-screen effect because we're in their imaginations. This is not a video Abed is making. The ships are cardboard and home-made. *

ABED
I've got the target. Going in. *

Troy "flies" up right next to Abed. *

TROY
I'm not letting you do this alone. *

ABED
Damn you to hell, Troy, we both know this is a one-way mission. *

TROY
Damn YOU! You think you're the only one with demons? I lost my father this way. And my wife. *

ABED
Damn you! Fine, we go in together. *

TROY
Together!

They high-five, then peel off, firing ping-pong ball cannons mounted on their space ships.

END GREEN SCREEN: Reveal they are sitting side-by-side in their cardboard space ships in study room. Chang sits in a much crappier cardboard space ship, getting pelted by ping pong balls. *

CHANG
Ow! Ow! After this I get a gun, right? *

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW *