

THE BIG BANG THEORY

"The Apocalypse Mandate"

by

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COLD OPEN A

FADE IN:

INT. THE COMIC BOOK STORE - NIGHT

THE SHOP IS QUIET, IT'S CLOSING TIME. STUART IS DOING SOME CASHING UP. KOOTHRAPPALI STANDS IN FRONT OF HIM, SLUMPED, HIS BACK TO CAMERA.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Hey Stuart.

STUART

Hey Raj. Let me get your -

STUART LEANS DOWN TO GET KOOTHRAPPALI'S RESERVED COMICS FROM UNDER THE DESK. WHEN HE COMES BACK UP HE LOOKS AT KOOTHRAPPALI AND IS ASTONISHED.

STUART (CONT'D)

Great Magnum's ghost!

KOOTHRAPPALI SHRUGS, TRYING TO DISGUISE HIS PLEASURE. HE HAS A LARGE LUXURIOUS MOUSTACHE.

KOOTHRAPPALI

You like it?

STUART

It's magnificent! But... where did it come from? You were clean shaven at the weekend!

KOOTHRAPPALI

Hey, I'm Indian. My facial hair comes back quicker than Howard's mom to a buffet table.

STUART

It's so... manly.

KOOTHRAPPALI

That's exactly it - I thought it was time to explore my masculine side.

STUART

It works! Oh hey -

HE PASSES HIM SOME COMICS.

STUART (CONT'D)

- here's this month's Sailor Moon.

KOOTHRAPALI

Oh great, thanks.

STUART

Say, if it's manliness you're after, I had a couple of customers in today talking about this new place, "Macho Macho".

KOOTHRAPALI

Wow. That sounds very manly. Let's go!

STUART

Well, okay, I'm just closing up so...

KOOTHRAPALI

We can spend the whole night studying men!

STUART

But didn't you say Sheldon had some secret thing planned for tonight?

KOOTHRAPALI

That was meant to be secret!

STUART

"Secret thing", that's what I said.

(CONFUSED) Is Sheldon having a party?

KOOTHRAPALI

I don't know, but whatever it is I'm
not going - it's just lovey dovey
couples round there.

CUT TO:

COLD OPEN B

INT. A SMALL TENT - NIGHT

BERNADETTE AND WOLOWITZ LIE IN A SLEEPING BAG IN THEIR PYJAMAS. BERNADETTE LIES STIFF, FURIOUS, WHILE WOLOWITZ IS TRYING TO SNUGGLE UP.

WOLOWITZ

Well this is better than a hotel.

BERNADETTE

It's different to a hotel Howard.
That's not the same thing at all.

WOLOWITZ

Sure but, come on, there's you,
there's me, do we really need a
Jacuzzi and mini-bar?

BERNADETTE

Maybe not the Jacuzzi but I could sure
use the mini-bar.

WOLOWITZ

Look, I'm sorry we didn't get the
hotel - I honestly thought a Romantic
Weekend Kickstarter would raise more.
But what say I make it up to you?

BERNADETTE

No Howard!

WOLOWITZ

Come on, I'm sure there's a few goals
we've not reached yet.

BERNADETTE

Someone might hear us -

WOLOWITZ

Who's gonna hear us, out here in the
countryside?

CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

THE TENT IS PITCHED IN THE LIVING ROOM, TO THE LEFT OF THE
SOFA. AMY SITS ON THE SOFA, EATING A YOGHURT.

AMY

Only us possums.

BERNADETTE

(INSIDE TENT) Howard! You said
everyone had gone out!

WOLOWITZ

(INSIDE TENT) I said they were busy!

AMY

Well they're the only ones getting
busy tonight Mister!

WOLOWITZ IS HURLED FROM THE TENT AND LANDS ON HIS FACE, WITH
HIS REAR HALF STILL INSIDE THE TENT.

WOLOWITZ

Great. (TO AMY) Would it have killed
you to eat your yoghurt in Sheldon's
room?

AMY

It might. I don't know if I could live
through the Yoghurt Safety Video a
third time.

WOLOWITZ

Come on, what's the worst that could
happen?

AN AIR-RAID SIREN BLARES OUT. RED LIGHTING FLASHES ON AND OFF.

SHELDON
(RECORDED, THROUGH PA,
SOUNDING OMINOUS)

This! Is Not A Drill! I repeat, This!
Is Not A Drill!

WOLOWITZ

Oh no.

AMY

What's going on?

SHELDON ENTERS. HE IS WEARING A HAZMAT SUIT, WITHOUT THE HELMET. HE TAKES A REMOTE CONTROL FROM HIS POCKET AND PRESSES A BUTTON. THE NOISES STOP AND THE LIGHTS CEASE FLASHING.

SHELDON

It's the end of the world!

WOLOWITZ

(EXASPERATED) Oy. Not again.

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SCENE A

INT. MACHO MACHO BAR - NIGHT

A BUSY, CLASSY, GAY BAR. EARLY EVENING, WITH GUYS CHATTING AND DRINKING. KOOTHRAPPALI AND STUART ENTER AT THE TOP OF SOME STAIRS, WHERE THEY STAND AND SURVEY THE SCENE.

STUART

Wow. Look at this place.

KOOTHRAPPALI

It's so manly! "Macho Macho" is not misnamed!

STUART

I didn't think I'd feel comfortable here, but it feels sort of familiar?

KOOTHRAPPALI

There are no women and it smells of men. Take out the bar, turn on the lights and it could be your shop.

STUART

Okay. So, let's see how the macho men do it!

THEY WALK DOWN THE STAIRS AND ARE GREETED AT THE BOTTOM BY THE MAITRE D. HE IS IMPOSSIBLY HANDSOME AND WELL GROOMED.

MAITRE D

Good evening Gentlemen.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Good evening.

STUART TRIES TO SPEAK, BUT CAN'T.

MAITRE D

Are you together?

KOOTHRAPPALI

We are, but we're here to check out
other guys.

MAITRE D

I see. In that case, perhaps a seat at
the bar?

KOOTHRAPPALI

Stuart?

STUART STILL CAN'T SPEAK, HE JUST NODS

MAITRE D

This way.

HE GUIDES THEM TO THE BAR.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Dude, what's wrong with you?

STUART

I have Selective Mutism. I don't
expect you to understand.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Oh boy.

CUT TO: