

THE LOUD HOUSE SPEC: "MAKE NO MESSTAKES"

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"The Loud House"

INT. ROYAL WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

LINCOLN LOUD marches down the hall carrying a model volcano and looking smug. His normal clothes have been drawn over with marker to look like he's wearing one of those tuxedo t-shirts and black tuxedo pants. He uses paint from the volcano to gel back his hair.

LINCOLN

(to AUDIENCE)

Ah, Superlative Day, the day your peers recognize your social contributions and memorialize it forever in the school yearbook. As you can see by my outfit, I expect to win big this year.

Lincoln pulls out an old yearbook and opens it to the superlative page winners. Loose polaroids of Lincoln doing various community service events, poorly, stick in the crease. He points at one of the boxes: "MOST HELPFUL."

LINCOLN (CONT'D)

"Most Helpful." I've spent all year cleaning up after the class pet, dusting off erasers, sharpening pencils, and making Liam smell less like Liam. If I get it, I'll have finally made my mark on Royal Woods Elementary School like my sisters.

Lincoln flips to a page of his eldest sisters, LORI, LENI, LUNA, LUAN, and LYNN LOUD, all with superlatives: MOST LIKELY TO GAB, MOST LIKELY TO TRIP ON AIR, MOST LIKELY TO BECOME A ROCK STAR, MOST LIKELY TO STEAL A PUNCHLINE, and MOST LIKELY TO DUNK.

Lincoln shoots thumbs-ups and finger-guns at classmates as he approaches his classroom.

LINCOLN (CONT'D)

How's it going Girl Jordan? That mustard stain looks amazing on you. Liam my man, back so soon after your tetanus shot?

LIAM

Psshaw, this ain't my first rodeo!

CLYDE MCBRIDE also wears a suit and carries his volcano project. The two do a secret-handshake.

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LINCOLN

Are you ready for this?

CLYDE

According to my natal birth chart,
I was born ready. "Most Likely to
End World Hunger," here I come.

They pull out menthos containers, tap them together like they're clinking champagne glasses, and pop menthoses.

Lincoln does the spin-twirl-finger-funs like Toby MacGuire in Spiderman 2 as he enters...

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

MRS. JOHNSON stands in front of makeshift voting polls decorated with the candidates stand at the front of the classroom. Lincoln sets his volcano model at the back of the classroom.

MRS. JOHNSON

Lincoln, the model volcano projects aren't due until Friday.

LINCOLN

I know, but I wanted to *help* you get a head-start on grading by turning mine in early. Teachers deserve to enjoy their weekends too.

MRS. JOHNSON

Oh, how helpful.

(to CLASS)

Good morning students, the class superlative votes are in!

Lincoln and Clyde shift eagerly at their desks.

MRS. JOHNSON (CONT'D)

Stella, "Most Supportive." Zach, "Most Eccentric." Rusty, "Class Clown." Clyde McBride, "Most Likely to Succeed."

CLYDE

Aw. Maybe next time, world hunger.

MRS. JOHNSON

And finally, as our classroom's "Most Helpful"...

"Make No Messtake"

"The Loud House"

Lincoln cockily straightens his non-existent tie, sprays on cologne, and slicks back his hair as he confidently strides forward.

LINCOLN
Oh, you shouldn't have.

MRS. JOHNSON
(interrupting)
Liam!

The class CHEERS.

LINCOLN
You *really* shouldn't have. Liam?!

Clyde spit-takes on Lincoln, washing away Lincoln's gel and making the sharpie on Lincoln's self-drawn tuxedo shirt drip onto the floor.

LINCOLN (CONT'D)
That took all night to draw!

A mud-covered Liam dances in the middle of the classroom.

LIAM
Whooo wee, I'm happier than a hog in a mudbath!

STELLA
You *are* covered in it.

The RECESS BELL RINGS. Liam runs outside, followed by his peers aside from Lincoln and Clyde.

LIAM
Let me *help* get this party started!

LINCOLN
MRS. JOHNSON, there must be some mistake.

MRS. JOHNSON
Sorry Lincoln, the class chose Liam.

LINCOLN
I need that superlative!

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MRS. JOHNSON

Unless your peers elect to put someone in the Student's Choice category, I'm afraid there are no more superlatives to give out. Now if you excuse me, I have a liter of cola, and a cup of lemon yogurt in the teacher's lounge that requires my immediate attention.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON - LATER

Lincoln and Clyde walk home after school. Lincoln fumes.

LINCOLN

I can't believe Liam won "Most Reliable" over me. I'm the one who's been staying late after school and peeling ABC gum off the desks and organizing Frances the tarantula's poops by size for over a year.

CLYDE

Did someone ask you to do that? No one should ask you to do that. Legally.

LINCOLN

So this is what they mean by "no good deed goes unpunished." I've been robbed! I'm the only Loud in history not to get a superlative.

CLYDE

It was a surprise upset. I'm surprised, and you're upset. It's not such a big deal.

LINCOLN

Says you! You were voted "Most Likely to Succeed." When we go off to middle school no one will remember me.

CLYDE

My dads always say it doesn't matter what other people think about you. But if it helps, I think you're the most reliable friend I have.

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A car pulls up beside them and rolls the windows down. HOWARD and HAROLD MCBRIDE sit in the backseat with a BUSINESSMAN holding a briefcase.

HOWARD MCBRIDE
There you are Clyde, get in.

HAROLD MCBRIDE
This businessman heard you were nominated "Most Likely to Succeed." He's taking us to his timeshare for the week to discuss your bright future.

The businessman flips open his briefcase, revealing oodles of hundred dollar bills.

BUSINESSMAN
Clyde McBride, let's talk.

The McBrides pull Clyde inside and the car races off down the street, knocking over a mailbox. Clyde waves from the sun roof.

CLYDE
Don't do anything crazy!

Lincoln scowls and straightens the mailbox with a ruler.

INT. THE LOUD HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Leni and LANA scrapbook together, Lana chewing up paper and glue and spitting it out for Leni to use decoration. The living room is a soggy, papery mess. LILY toddles around in a dirty diaper.

Lincoln enters and sets the girls aright, tidies the mess with some cleaning gear nearby, cleans Lily's diaper.

LENI
Wow thanks Lincoln. When things are about to go wrong, you're right there to fix it.

Lincoln crosses to the Loud Sibling Trophy-case. Every sister's superlative page is laminated and posted with the trophies, while Lincoln's cubby features one dinky trophy and some cobwebs. He sighs.

LINCOLN
Uh huh.

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LANA

Yeah dude, I hardly noticed you there.

Lincoln perks.

LINCOLN

Hardly noticed me, huh?
(to AUDIENCE)
That gives me an idea.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - NEXT DAY

Mrs. Johnson takes attendance. Liam stands at the front of the class. He tries and fails to sharpen his pencil at the pencil sharpener.

MRS. JOHNSON

Lincoln Loud?

Lincoln dramatically kicks in the door, armed with the cleaning gear strapped in diaper-bag bandoleer across his chest. He Wolverine's freshly sharpened pencils between his knuckles and hurls them into the classroom, knocking BOY JORDAN's stubby pencil into the garbage and replacing all of the worn pencils on Mrs. Johnson's desk with new ones.

LINCOLN

Most Helpful Student, present. Here to help my classmates get the most out of this educational environment.

Liam claps.

LIAM

Woo, Lincoln!

MRS. JOHNSON

Liam, we can always rely on you to support your peers. Give Liam a round of applause!

The CLASS ERUPTS WITH APPLAUSE. Lincoln grits his teeth.

LIAM

Lincoln, I am so glad you're my friend.

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LINCOLN

(sotto voce)

So that's how you want to play. I
AM going to out-rely you, Liam.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Lincoln runs around straightening desks, grading homework, shaking out rugs, and sprucing up the room while the other kids are at recess.

Lincoln looks out the window, sees Liam being carried on people's backs, and throttles a rug in jealousy.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

GIRL JORDAN knocks her pencil to the ground, to her embarrassment and the class' annoyance. Lincoln sticks his gum on her desk to keep the pencil from moving.

GIRL JORDAN

Uh...thanks? That's really helpful.

LINCOLN

You're welcome. Really Helpful is
my middle name.

GIRL JORDAN

Really?

LINCOLN

Haha, no. It's Marie.

He moves away. The girl gets her hair stuck to the gum. Liam puts peanut butter in her hair to get it out. Girl Jordan nibbles her hair.

GIRL JORDAN

Thanks for the save and the snack!

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - NEXT DAY

ARTIE DOMBROWSKI kicks the back of ANDREW's desk. Lincoln sticks his foot in the way, letting the boy kick him.

ANDREW

Thanks Lincoln.

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LINCOLN
 (through pain)
 I love...being...helpful!

EXT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Outside the window Lincoln claps erasers to clear the dust. The cloud is so huge it chokes him but he keeps clapping, sending the dust into the classroom.

His classmates cough through a fresh coating of chalk dust.

MRS. JOHNSON
 ...Thank you, Lincoln.

LINCOLN
 You're welcome! ...to vote for me
 as a write-in!

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Stella reads a book while Lincoln flips the pages for her.

STELLA
 You don't have to do that.

LINCOLN
 It would be my honor to help you
 out. Maybe you can help me out on
 Friday by voting for me?

STELLA
 Uh, sure.

Lincoln flips the pages too quickly and knocks the book into Stella's face. Stella snaps her pencil in frustration. Liam hands her a new pencil.

EXT. ROYAL WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RECESS YARD - LATER

Lincoln sits on PAPA WHEELIE's back while they do push-ups.

PAPA WHEELIE
 Lincoln, what are you doing?

LINCOLN
 Helping you build a strong core!
 You can rely on me to help out a
 student in need.

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Papa Wheelie collapses. Liam walks by riding a pig and hands them an ice pack.

PAPA WHEELIE

Thanks Liam!

LIAM

No problem! I found it in the teacher's lounge refrigerator. That's where Reginald likes to go rest his hooves.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

The class cowers as a bee darts around the classroom.

CLOSE UP ON THE BEE- gruff, sweaty, manic as a bankrobber.

BEE

Nobody move! I gots one stinger and I aints afraid to use it!

TRUCK OUT- it's just a normal bee. LIAM starts covering it with a paper cup.

LIAM

It's okay guys, I'll take it outside.

Lincoln shoves him out of the way.

LINCOLN

I got it!

He flicks the bee out the window -

EXT. ROYAL WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - YARD

And knocking the bee straight into a BEEHIVE. A SWARM FLOODS OUT AROUND THE INJURED BEE.

CLOSE ON THE INJURED BEE- held in another bee's arms as it points RIGHT AT LINCOLN.

BEE

That's the guy that done me in.

LINCOLN

Oops.

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The bees swarm into the classroom and sting the students, then fly away, leaving behind a swollen, angry classroom.

STUDENT

Thanks for nothing Lincoln!

LINCOLN

You're welcome!

Liam shakes himself clean, splattering everyone with mud.

LIAM

The mud acts as an anti-inflammatory. Should help the stings.

RUSTY

Ooh, soothing.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - FRIDAY

Lincoln, wearing the tux again, sits eagerly at his desk watching the last student vote. The rest of the class, including the teacher, is banged up, swollen from yesterday, and glaring right at him -- except for Liam and Clyde.

LINCOLN

(to AUDIENCE)

I've spent the entire week being helpful. They have no choice but to vote for me. Finally, my moment. Cue cards, polaroid, makeup, all systems go.

MRS. JOHNSON

And the final winners for this year's superlatives are...

Lincoln starts a one-man drum roll. The rest of the class growls.

MRS. JOHNSON (CONT'D)

Thank you, Lincoln.

LINCOLN

I love to help!

"The Loud House"

MRS. JOHNSON

The votes are in. Rusty, Liam, Stella, "Most Supportive." Zach, "Most Eccentric." Rusty, "Class Clown." Clyde McBride, "Most Likely to Succeed." Liam, "Most Reliable." No changes there. And finally... Lincoln Loud, "Most Annoying."

The class cheers and lifts up the winners and carries them to the front - except for Lincoln. He shoves his way to the front.

LINCOLN

"Most Annoying"?! This can't be right. What about everything I've done for this classroom?

ANDREW

Believe me, we did not ask for your "help."

LINCOLN

You people don't appreciate me. I am the most helpful, most reliable person ever!

PAPA WHEELIE

Yeah, we can rely on you to get on our nerves.

The bell rings. MRS. JOHNSON USHERS STUDENT OUT.

LIAM

I'll hold the door.

OTHER STUDENTS

LIAM! LIAM! LIAM!

MRS. JOHNSON

Well now that this domestic terror is over, we will present your volcano experiments after your snack break and my liquid lunch.

Mrs. Johnson eagerly sets a liter of cola on her desk before ushering students out.

Everyone files out, leaving Lincoln alone. He paces like a madman, clearly undone by this turn of events.

"The Loud House"

LINCOLN

I am the most helpful, I am! They just can't see that. I have to make them see that I am the most reliable, NOT LIAM!

INT. THE LOUD HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK - EARLIER

Lincoln has just finished cleaning up the sisters' mess/potentially saving Lily from disaster.

LENI

Wow thanks Lincoln. It's like when things are about to go wrong, you're right there to fix it.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - PRESENT

Lincoln notices the model volcanoes stacked at the back of the classroom. Then the cola liter.

He laughs maniacally, pulls the menthos from his pocket, and starts putting menthos in the volcanoes.

LINCOLN

You'll see...you'll ALL see...
(to AUDIENCE)
What?

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Mrs. Johnson and the students sit in class with their volcanoes on their desk. Each student has a beaker full of brown liquid.

Lincoln hides Mrs. Johnson's empty liter of cola and an empty menthos wrapper beneath his desk.

MRS. JOHNSON

Alright class, pour the dissolving agent into your volcanoes on three. One, two, three!

The students pour the beakers in as one. THE VOLCANOS ERUPT AND FLOOD THE CLASSROOM.

ZACH

Science is cool.

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RUSTY

And sticky.

Students frantically try to swim in the cola sea. Some cling to desk-tops like rafts, others surfing on school supplies.

LINCOLN

Oh no, this wasn't supposed to happen! It was supposed to be a little mess so I could clean it up!

STELLA

You did this on purpose?!

LINCOLN

I just wanted you to appreciate what I do around here so I could have a school legacy too.

PAPA WHEELIE

No one asked you to do those things. You decided to help us, then got mad when we didn't thank you.

ZACH

You weren't trying to help us, you were trying to help your popularity.

STELLA

This is why we voted for Liam. He helps us out with our problems instead of causing them.

LINCOLN

I wanted to prove I was helpful and win the superlative, but I just made everything worse. I'm sorry everyone, but especially you Liam. You were the right choice.

LIAM

Apology accepted Lincoln. Now how about you help me clean up this mess?

The class teams up to help Lincoln and Liam clean up.

QUICK CUTS:

-- Liam clogging volcanoes with mud while Lincoln clogs them with pencils.

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-- Lincoln leads students in clapping the erasers so chalk dust falls onto the foam and turns it into flat liquid.

-- Lincoln swaddles several volcanoes using bandoleer diapers, absorbing the liquid.

-- Liam's pig licks away the sticky mess on the floor.

INT. MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Mrs. Johnson angrily wrings cola out of her hair and approaches Lincoln with a paper slip.

MRS. JOHNSON

Lincoln Loud, what do you have to say for yourself?

LINCOLN

I'm sorry. I was so focused on winning the superlative that I forgot that I'm supposed to be helping people. Respect can't be forced, it has to be earned.

MRS. JOHNSON

Correct. I'd say you've earned yourself a trip to the principal's office, wouldn't you?

LINCOLN

Yes, Mrs. Johnson.

MRS. JOHNSON

But your classmates disagree.

She hands him the paper. It reads, "MOST IMPROVED, LINCOLN LOUD."

Lincoln looks up. The entire class stands behind Mrs. Johnson. Liam gives him a thumbs up.

LIAM

You earned it.

LINCOLN

Thanks, everyone.

"The Loud House"

EXT. ROYAL WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY OUTSIDE MRS. JOHNSON'S CLASSROOM - SIMULTANEOUS

Clyde rushes toward the door, wearing giant sunglasses and a feather boa and some other silly things.

CLYDE

Lincoln, you'll never believe what success feels like!

Thick brown cola foam spurts under the door and floods over Clyde. Clyde blinks through the aftermath, then about-faces and walks away.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Not today.

INT. THE LOUD HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

Lincoln brushes the cobwebs from his cubby and places the superlative paper inside.

LINCOLN

(to AUDIENCE)

I didn't get the superlative I wanted, but I did get the one I deserved. Maybe it's not as impressive as "Most Likely to be a Rock Star," or "Most Likely to Solve World Hunger," but it's mine, and I'm getting better every day. It's nice to be appreciated.

WHUMPF! Lily's dirty diaper hits Lincoln in the face.

LENI (O.S.)

Lincoln, diaper change!

END OF SHOW

"Make No Messtake"