

THE LOUD HOUSE

LDH #318 "Master Of Delusion"

Written by

Michelle Hantman

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INT. LOUD HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

LINCOLN, RUSTY, STELLA, LIAM, ZACH, and CLYDE are watching TV, looking tense and terrified. We hear OMINOUS MUSIC and Zombie growls coming from the TV.

1A ZACH
No, Sheila, don't open the door!
The zombies are right outside!

Suddenly there is an O.S. BANG! The kids <SCREAM!>

1B GANG WALLA
<SCREAM!>

ANOTHER BANG! The gang looks over to see a DOVE with a scroll in its talons flying into the window.

6 LINCOLN/LIAM/RUSTY/STELLA/ZACH/CLYDE
<STARTLE>

8 LINCOLN
It's a dove... holding a note?

There's a knock at the door.

9 LIAM
That's probably for me. MeeMaw's
phone broke again.

The dove flies inside, drops the note in Lincoln's hands, and nestles in Rusty's hair.

10 RUSTY
<WINCE>

Lincoln opens the scroll. A puff of powder explodes in his face.

11 LINCOLN
It's for me! No way! I've been
chosen to be the Amazing
Brailster's new junior illusionist!
I guess he liked my audition tape!

QUICK CUT OF PHONE VIDEO:

- MCBRIDE KITCHEN: Clyde takes a tray of muffins out of the oven. Lincoln cuts into a muffin revealing a quarter.

12 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
You must have used a... *quarter* cup
of flour!

He accidentally knocks into Clyde, sending him flying.

13 CLYDE
<OOF!>

BACK TO PRESENT.

23 LINCOLN
I'm gonna get to learn all the
Brailster's tricks and perform at
the Illusion Chateau!

24 CLYDE
Awesome!

24 Cont'd STELLA/ZACH/LIAM/RUSTY
<CELEBRATION CHEERS>

Beat.

25 ZACH/RUSTY/LIAM
Come Again?/No clue what that is/
What is that?

26 LINCOLN
It's this super exclusive clubhouse
where all the greatest magicians
perform. And now me! <SQUEAL!>

The bird GRUNTS. Rusty looks up to the bird in his hair, to
see it has laid an egg.

27A RUSTY
(excited)
I think I'm a dad now!

EXT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

Lincoln, dressed in his magician's attire, stands outside the
grandiose chateau.

28 LINCOLN
<OOOHS> Aww, wow...

Lincoln approaches the door.

29 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
<DEEP BREATH>

He tries the door, but finds yet another door.

30 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Huh?

Lincoln keeps opening the doors to find more doors.

31 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Hmm... I wonder if there's a
password. Or a secret button?

He spots a MAGICIAN STATUE. He looks around the base of the statue when- POOF! The statue reveals itself to be THE AMAZING BRAILSTER. Lincoln <SHRIEKS> and falls into a bush.

33 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
<SHRIEKS!> <OOF!>

32 BRAILSTER
Taadaah!

34 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
Welcome, junior illusionist...uhh--
(looks at index card)
Lincoln Loud!

35 LINCOLN
<SPITS OUT LEAVES> It's you! Mr.
The Amazing Brailster-- is
"Amazing" your first name? Or
"The"? Sorry, not important. You
have to teach me how you did that!

36 BRAILSTER
<CHUCKLES> All in good time.

The Brailster snaps and the door opens.

36A LINCOLN
<GASP!>

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU

The Brailster leads Lincoln down the hallway which is lined with magical artifacts including a self-playing cello.

38 LINCOLN
Whoaaaaa!

37 BRAILSTER
Welcome Lincoln, to the Illusion
Chateau!

Lincoln points to things as they pass:

39 LINCOLN
That's Madame Mystery's crystal
globe! Ooh!
(MORE)

LINCOLN (CONT'D)

And those are the Great Colangelo's
cards of chaos!

19 (takes something off wall)
Ooh! What's this?! A box of magical
wonders?

40 BRAILSTER

Close. It's a smoke alarm.
(puts it back on the wall)
Please don't touch anything. The
chateau is full of trapdoors. Rumor
has it there are magicians who have
gone missing in the chateau and
have never been found.

42 LINCOLN

That's awesome!
(off Brailster's look)
I mean... <SHEEPISH> not for them
of course.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They enter a room full of various magic props. The Brailster
opens a cage and a MONGOOSE pops out.

43 BRAILSTER

And behold--

44 BRAILSTER/LINCOLN

Trixie the magic mongoose!

45 LINCOLN

I've seen a lot of your videos.

Trixie jumps out of her cage onto the Brailster's shoulder
and then disappears down his sleeve.

46 BRAILSTER

I met Trixie when I was just a
young aspiring magician like
yourself. You see, the pet store
was all out of rabbits, but
mongooses are definitely just as
magical.

He then removes his top hat to reveal Trixie underneath.

47 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)

Oh, she's my best friend. I
couldn't perform without her.

The Brailster returns Trixie to her cage.

48 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
And now to begin your training.

49 LINCOLN
I can't wait! Which trick are we
doing first?! Teleporting out of a
water tank? Levitating? Or--

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

50 LINCOLN
--doing laundry?

REVEAL Lincoln and the Brailster standing in front of a washer and dryer. The Brailster hands Lincoln a hamper full of magic scarves, tuxedos etc.

53 BRAILSTER
Before you can become a great
magician, you must familiarize
yourself with the tools of the
trade.

He waves his wand and a bottle of laundry detergent rises up from the hamper.

51 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
Make sure to run the gentle cycle.

The Brailster snaps his fingers and disappears. Lincoln <GRUMBLES> and drops the hamper.

54 LINCOLN
<GRUMBLES>

Lincoln places laundry into the washing machine. Lincoln pulls on a handkerchief, which leads to another, and another, until he's pulling on an endless chain.

55 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
<TUGGING> <GRUMBLING>

He gives an enormous <TUG>, sending him flying and tied up in a heap of handkerchiefs.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - LATER

Lincoln approaches the Brailster.

57A LINCOLN
Laundry's finished!

He leans on the Brailster's desk.

58 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
So, now that that's done, I was thinking we could try your sawing a person in half trick! Do you want to saw me, or should I saw you? Or maybe we can saw each other at the same time--?

59 BRAILSTER
Lincoln, you're not ready to perform tricks. You're still in training.

The Brailster snaps and Trixie brings Lincoln a rolled up piece of paper from inside a top hat.

59 Cont'd BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
These are the things you must master first.

60 LINCOLN
But this is just a list of chores.

61 BRAILSTER
(spirit fingers)
Magic chores.

Lincoln's face falls.

61A LINCOLN
<GROAN>

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - VARIOUS - MONTAGE

-- ON Lincoln cleaning a cage with three doves inside. He accidentally releases the doves.

62 LINCOLN
<WINCE>

He runs to catch them but they evade his capture.

63A LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Here birdie, birdie.

He slips on a bucket of water and slides O.S.

64 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
<WHOA!> <AHH!> <OOF!> Dang it.

-- Lincoln, holding a rag, sits at a table with a line of cups. He picks up a cup to polish it and finds a ball underneath. He puts the cup down and puts the ball in a top hat. He lifts the cup again, finding yet another ball.

65 **LINCOLN** (CONT'D)
<HUH>

He places it in the top hat. He lifts the cup again to find a never ending avalanche of balls.

-- Lincoln captures the doves in a top hat, but they just fly out of a *different* top hat nearby.

-- Lincoln cleans the inside of a Magic Zigzag Box. The door closes behind him. As he scrubs, the middle compartment slides over, separating his torso from the rest of his body.

68 **LINCOLN** (CONT'D)
<GRUMBLING> <PANICKING>

He shuffles until the middle compartment slides back, but his head goes the other way. He shuffles his head back and tumbles out, checking he's back in one piece. He <SIGHS> relieved.

69 **LINCOLN** (CONT'D)
<SIGHS> <PHEW!>

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - LATER

A disheveled Lincoln approaches The Brailster, sitting at his desk.

72 **LINCOLN**
<PHEW> Everything is polished,
scrubbed, and wrangled. So maybe
tomorrow we can do some actual
magic? Please?

73 **BRAILSTER**
Sorry, Lincoln. Tomorrow I'm going
to need your help with more tasks.

Lincoln slumps.

74 **BRAILSTER** (CONT'D)
Trust me, there's a reason for all
this.

The Brailster removes his hat and holds it towards Lincoln.

75 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
Now, see what's inside my hat.

Lincoln sticks his arm in the hat and pulls out... a plunger.
His face falls.

76 BRAILSTER (CONT'D)
There's a clog in the confetti
cannon.

INT. ROYAL WOODS MIDDLE - CAFETERIA - DAY

Lincoln sits with the Gang at a lunch table. The bird is
still in Rusty's hair. He feeds it fries from his tray.

78 STELLA
So, what cool tricks have you
learned, Lincoln? Can you make
anything disappear yet?

79 LINCOLN
Only stains. The Brailster won't
teach me any of his tricks. He says
I'm not ready.

80 CLYDE
That's ridiculous. You're the best
magician I know. And I'm not just
saying that because I actively
avoid meeting any other magicians.

81 LINCOLN
He says I need to "master the
basics" before I can do anything
cool.

82 RUSTY
This sounds just like something my
cousin Derek went through. His boss
wouldn't let him be a stunt car
driver, so one day Derek took a
minivan and jumped it over a
dumpster.

83 STELLA
Wait, isn't your cousin Derek a
parking attendant?

84 RUSTY
Your point being?

85 ZACH

I *think* what Rusty's trying to say is, if you perform an impressive trick for the Brailster, he'll have to let you skip all the boring stuff and let you perform the real magic.

86 LINCOLN

You guys are right! I'll show him what I'm capable of.

Liam digs into his lunch: a hard boiled egg. Rusty covers the bird's eyes.

87 RUSTY

Liam, not in front of Rebecca. Have some tact.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - DAY

Lincoln is organizing top hats when the Brailster enters.

88 BRAILSTER

Alright, I need to get my mustache groomed before tomorrow's show. No one likes a magician with mustache frizz. Now, just clean out Trixie's cage and you're done for the day.

Lincoln gives a thumbs up as The Brailster throws down magic powder and POOFS out of the room.

89 LINCOLN

<COUGHING> Now, to find something to wow the Brailster.

Lincoln scans the room. He walks over to a props table where he finds a wand and flicks it. A bouquet of flowers appears.

90 LINCOLN (CONT'D)

Psht, too easy.

He picks up two metal rings, waves a hand and unhooks them.

91 LINCOLN (CONT'D)

What am I, an amateur?

(spotting straitjacket)

Of course! A straitjacket escape!

If I master that, he'll have to let me perform with him!

MOMENTS LATER: Lincoln, now hangs upside down in a light pink straitjacket.

92 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Feast your eyes as Lincoln the
Magnificent performs an incredible
escape! <LOTS OF STRAINING>

Lincoln <STRAINS>, but nothing happens. He rocks the device, sending him flying to the ground, still stuck. He lands on Trixie's cage which causes it to open.

93 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
<WHOAH!> <OOF!>

Trixie CHITTERS. She looks to Lincoln.

99 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Stay...

Trixie makes a break for the door, and runs out of sight. Lincoln inchworms after her, but to no avail.

100 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Trixie! No! Bad mongoose! <GROAN>
I'm gonna need backup.

Like a fish out of water, he flops until his phone falls out. He then dials with his nose.

101 CLYDE (ON PHONE)
Hello?

102 LINCOLN
Clyde! I've got a code turquoise!

103 CLYDE (ON PHONE)
You tried to practice a magic trick
but accidentally let the
Brailster's mongoose loose in the
chateau, and now you need us to
help find her and get you out of a
straitjacket? We're on our way!

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - PROP ROOM - LATER

The Gang stands around Lincoln as Stella releases him from the straitjacket.

106A LINCOLN
Thanks, Stella.

He turns to the group.

107A LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Now we gotta get Trixie back in her
cage before the Brailster returns.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - LIBRARY - LATER

Liam and Stella enter the room. Bookshelves line the walls.
Liam scatters bird feed across the floor.

108 LIAM
Well, can't say I know much about
mongeese. But regular geese go
giddy for this stuff. <CHUCKLES>

109 STELLA
Maybe one of these books has
something about magic animals--

Stella reaches for a book, triggering a trapdoor.

110 STELLA/LIAM
<SCREAMING>

The floor and bookshelf rotate, sending them tumbling into a
secret compartment O.S.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - HALLWAY - SAME

Rusty and Clyde search the hallway.

111 CLYDE
Trixie! Come on out!

Clyde almost bumps into a bust of a snarling magician.

112 CLYDE (CONT'D)
<SHUDDER> This magic stuff gives me
the creeps.

113 RUSTY (O.S.)
Not me, Dawg.

Clyde turns to see Rusty checking himself out in a funhouse
mirror that exaggerates his chest and arms. Rusty flexes.

114 RUSTY (CONT'D)
Wow! My weekly push-up is working
wonders.

As Rusty strikes muscle-man poses, he bumps the snarling
bust, triggering a trap door.

115 RUSTY/CLYDE
<SCREAMING>

They both fall <SCREAMING> O.S.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - THEATER - SAME

Lincoln crawls under seats while Zach searches the stage.

117 ZACH
I don't see anything, Lincoln.
 (looks around)
You'd think a fancy place like this
could afford a nicer stage-- AH!

Zach trips, sending him flying into a prop casket. He disappears. Lincoln stands up, but Zach is nowhere in sight.

118 LINCOLN
Zach?! Where'd you go?

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Lincoln runs into the hallway, frantic.

119 LINCOLN
Zach?! Clyde?! Stella?! Anyone?!
76 (off their silence)
Oh no! They've disappeared like
those missing magicians!

The self-playing cello plays an ominous sting.

120 LINCOLN (CONT'D)
Not helping. <SIGH>
 (takes out phone)
I gotta call the Brailster-- AH!

POOF! On cue, the Brailster appears.

121 BRAILSTER
I sensed catastrophe!

122 LINCOLN
<SIGH> You sensed right, Mr. The
Brailster, sir. I messed everything
up... and lost Trixie.

123 BRAILSTER
What?! What did you do?!

124 LINCOLN

I wanted to show you I was ready to learn spectacular magic tricks, but I got way ahead of myself. And then I called my friends to help find her, and now they're lost too!

The cello plays a melodramatic tune, getting louder.

125 LINCOLN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I should have stuck to the tasks you asked me to do. I'll never be a great magician like you.
(to cello, grabbing bow)
Could you not?

The cello stops abruptly and backs away.

126 BRAILSTER

I understand your frustration. When I was a young magician I also wanted to start with flashy tricks. But if I hadn't mastered the basics my own teacher made me learn, I would never be able to do... uh this!

With a great flourish, the Brailster reaches into his hat and pulls out the Gang.

127 LINCOLN

<GASP>

128 LIAM

What in tarnation?

129 CLYDE

This is why I hate magic.

130 LINCOLN

Guys! I'm so glad you're okay!

The Brailster shakes his hat REVEALING Trixie. Trixie crawls onto the Brailster's arm and they embrace.

131 LINCOLN (CONT'D)

89 (to the Brailster)
I'm really sorry for what I did.
I'll have Rebecca deliver my resignation tomorrow.

Lincoln starts toward the exit. The Brailster stops him.

132 BRAILSTER
Resignation not accepted! I still
believe you have great potential.
You just have to promise not to get
ahead of yourself again.

133 LINCOLN
I promise!

134 BRAILSTER
Splendid. Brailster, out!

135 LINCOLN
<COUGHING>

The Brailster disappears in a PUFF OF SMOKE - triggering the
smoke detector. BEEEEEP! The Brailster reappears and waves
the smoke away with his cape.

136 BRAILSTER
These things really know how to
ruin an exit.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - BACKSTAGE - EVENING

The Brailster peeps through the stage curtain. Lincoln
enters.

137 BRAILSTER
Ah, Lincoln! It's almost show time.
Do you have my--

138 LINCOLN
Balls and cups? Polished and
organized.

139 BRAILSTER
Well, what about my--

140 LINCOLN
Handkerchiefs? Fluffed and folded!

141 BRAILSTER
Well, and of course I'll need--

Lincoln holds out two straitjackets, one normal sized, one
mini. Both are white. The Brailster grins.

142 LINCOLN
Straitjackets? Ironed and bleached.

143 BRAILSTER
Exceptional! And don't worry,
you'll be up on that stage someday.
Maybe even sooner than you think.

He winks at Lincoln as he exits. Lincoln looks puzzled.

INT. ILLUSION CHATEAU - THEATER - LATER

The Brailster and Trixie, both in straitjackets, hang upside down from the ceiling on stage in front of a PACKED HOUSE.

144 BRAILSTER
And now for a daring escape!

POOF! The Brailster and Trixie appear center stage, free of their straitjackets. The Crowd <GOES WILD>.

145 CROWD WALLA
<CHEERING>

146 BRAILSTER
Thank you, thank you. You've been a brilliant audience. But I couldn't have performed this show without my junior illusionist, Lincoln Loud!

The Brailster waves his hands and suddenly POOF - Lincoln appears on stage in his magician attire. Lincoln is stunned for a moment. Then he beams and bows.

146A CROWD WALLA
<CHEERING>

147 LINCOLN
A-thank you! A-thank you!

REVEAL the Gang in the audience.

148 CLYDE/ZACH/RUSTY/LIAM/STELLA
<CHEERING/WHISTLING>

148A ZACH
Go Lincoln!

149 BRAILSTER
He's a promising young magician and soon he'll be performing his own tricks--

Lincoln accidentally steps on a trick floorboard, triggering a trapdoor. He falls down and O.S. <AH!>

150 **LINCOLN**
<AH!>

151 **BRAILSTER**
Just like that!

152 **LINCOLN (O.S.)**
 (weakly)
Taadaah! <SIGH>

THE END.