

BIG NATE

Ep. 210 "THE BALLAD OF BIG NATE"

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Characters

NATE
FRANCIS
DEE DEE
CHAD
TEDDY
FISH
MOOSE
MR. ROSA
KA'BRETT
LARGE GNOME LEADER
GINA
CLAUDE THE STUPID IDEAS FAIRY
BUTT GURU
MARTIN
CHARACTERS
KA'BRETT BEAST
PRINCIPAL NICHOLS
ULTRA-NATE
DR. CESSPOOL
CROWD
GODFREY-ZILLA
UNCLE PEDRO
CLOWN
ART CRITIC
SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOME
GIANT MOLLUSK
GREEN HAT GNOMES

COLD OPEN

INT. MR. ROSA'S ART CLASS - DAY

Mr. Rosa addresses his art class.

9

MR. ROSA

9

Children, my brother KA'BRETT, a famous art critic from New York, has come all the way to Rackleff to give us some "pointers". Who knows, maybe one of you will be discovered.

ZIP PAN TO-- Nate toward the back by his easel. Turns TO CAMERA...

10

NATE

10

He means me. It's no secret. I'm a ridiculously talented cartoonist. Kind of my awesome superpower. Check out some of my characters! Dan Cupid: Love Consultant... Moe-Mentum: Hollywood Stunt Man... Luke Warm: Private Investigator... And I'm only 11! Picasso was at least 15 before he was this awesome.

11

MR. ROSA

11

Let's give my brother a warm P.S. 38 welcome.

A couple of kids CLAP. One kid <COUGHS>.

NEW ANGLE ON-- The class door opens and KA'BRETT steps in. Looks exactly like Rosa except for a HUGE MOLE on his cheek, MAN BUN, and long DALI MUSTACHE. He reeks of pretension.

12

KA'BRETT

12

Thank you, Ken.

13

MR. ROSA

13

<whispers> In front of the children please call me Mr. Rosa.

14

KA'BRETT

14

<beat> No.

14A

MR. ROSA

14A

<GROANS>

Rosa's face pinches at the insults.

17 **KA'BRETT** 17
Let's see what I'm working with.

Ka'Brett begins walking among the students (made up of our regular characters) looking at their work. Rolls his eyes and snorts with derision at what he sees.

18 **KA'BRETT** 18
(to student) Oh uh absolutely not.
(to Randy) Did you use a brush or
your feet? (to Chad) That's not
paint. What is it?

19 **CHAD** 19
No idea--

18A **PAINTING** 18A
<GROWLS>

19 **CHAD** 19
--but it grows under my house. I
know that you can feed it.

A BLOB on the canvas <SNAPS> at Ka'Brett.

19A **CHAD** 19A
<GIGGLES> It tickles.

ON NATE-- vibrating with excitement. TO CAMERA:

20 **NATE** 20
Wait till he sees what I can do
compared to these hacks.

Finally Ka'Brett steps up to Nate's easel on which sits the drawing of his 2D CHARACTERS. Rosa comes over beaming...

21 **MR. ROSA** 21
Nate here is an extremely talented
artist. I know advice from a
professional would mean the world.

21A **KA'BRETT** 21A
Hmmm...

21B **NATE** 21B
<LAUGHS CONFIDENTLY>

Ka'Brett studies the cartoon. Rosa pats Nate on the shoulder, excited for him. Finally Ka'Brett steps back and smiles--

22 **KA'BRETT** 22
Here's some advice; give up now.

<MUFFLED CHUCKLES> erupt from the room. Nate's face falls.

22A **NATE** 22A
<GASPS>

As Ka'Brett moves away, Rosa leans in to comfort him.

23 **MR. ROSA** 23
Don't be discouraged. It's just one
person's opinion, Nate.

24 **NATE** 24
Right. I mean hey, I know I'm good.
Don't worry Mr. Rosa, I'm fine.

Rosa gives Nate a comforting pat moving away. We HOLD ON
NATE. Clear from the look of hurt on his face he isn't fine
at all. SLAM TO TITLES.

ACT ONE**INT. P.S. 38 - MR. ROSA'S CLASS - DAY**

The class is buzzing with activity. On the chalkboard is written "YEARBOOK CLUB". We see Francis, moving about the room giving instructions to various STUDENTS working away. Francis eyes dart around. Spot Nate in the corner hunched over a piece of paper looking glum.

33A **NATE/HILLARY/STUDENT** 33A
<NERVOUS LAUGHTER>

Francis rushes over.

34 **FRANCIS** 34
Nate! There you are. How's the Cesspool comic coming along for the yearbook-- Oh my g---!

35 **NATE** 35
<somber> Sorry. I'll have it soon.

36 **FRANCIS** 36
Cool. No worries. You know if there's anything going on you want to talk about. Some of us have noticed you're not your usual "I'm awesome" self...

Nate leaps up. Slaps a hand over Francis's mouth.

37 **NATE** 37
My "awesome" is FINE, Francis. I'm just having a touch of "artist's block" - which nobody's gonna find out about, because you're going to keep your mouth shut!

38 **FRANCIS** 38
Sure. Of course.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. P.S. 38 - CAFETERIA - DAY

39 **FRANCIS** 39
Nate lost his awesomeness!

39A **NATE** 39A
Urgh.
40 **DEE DEE, TEDDY, CHAD** 40
GASP!

INT. PRINCIPAL NICHOLS' OFFICE - DAY

Rosa pops his head inside...

48 **MR. ROSA** 48
You wanted to see me, chief--
49 **PRINCIPAL NICHOLS** 49
Ken, come in, come in.

Rosa steps in happily, but stiffens when he sees Ka'Brett already sitting in the office.

50 **MR. ROSA** 50
Ka'Brett? I thought you'd gone back
to New York?

51 **KA'BRETT** 51
Change of plans. Right, Big P?

52 **PRINCIPAL NICHOLS** 52
Big P! Ha-ha! That is so clever.
The "P" stands for "principal".

53 **MR. ROSA** 53
Yeah, got that. So what are you
doing here?

54 **KA'BRETT** 54
I've been telling this astute
academic that your art department
is a virtual goldmine.

55 **MR. ROSA** 55
Not following.

57 **PRINCIPAL NICHOLS** 57
Your wonderful brother says he can
teach the students to make art that
actually SELLS! And because they'll
be creating it on school property,
WE'LL get all the profits! Cha-
ching!!

58 **MR. ROSA** 58
Is that... legal?

58A

KA'BRETT/NICHOLS
<LAUGH CONSPIRATORILY>

58A

INT. NATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nate sits at his desk trying to come up with ideas for a new Cesspool comic. ON THE PAGE-- he's drawn Cesspool with his chainsaw standing before a MAN whose lower body has been replaced by a PILLOW. BACK TO NATE-- keeps fiddling until...

59

NATE
Arrgh! It's useless!

59

Nate tosses the drawing. Martin pops his head in.

60

MARTIN
Everything okay, champ?

60

61

NATE
Hey Dad, have you ever felt-- off?
Like you lost your awesome?

61

62

MARTIN
Lots of times, except in my day we
called it MOJO. Or sometimes MAN
SPARKLE. But I always got it back.

62

65

NATE
So you've still got your man
sparkle?

65

66

MARTIN
Oh heck no. If I did, I wouldn't be
selling my old socks as bespoke
oven mitts.

66

A RAT crawls to the opening <GASPING FOR AIR>.

66A

NATE
<GROSSED OUT WALLA>

66A

66

MARTIN
But I don't see you having that
problem, Nate. You've got a gift,
and no one can take that away
unless you let them.

66

Martin ducks out. Nate, frustrated, looks up.

67 **NATE** 67
What's going on in my head? Why
can't I draw you?!

CUT TO:

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - THE BUTT FOREST - TIME UNKNOWN

What look like TREE TRUNKS whip past. Gradually we realizes these are not tree trunks at all, but huge and hairy CUT'N'PASTE LEGS. 2D FEET appear running between them.

68 **DR. CESSPOOL (O.S.)** 68
<panting> I'm tellin' yah you've
got the wrong doctor!

WIDEN TO REVEAL-- a 2D DR. CESSPOOL running for his life. Behind him something HUGE is CRASHING through the legs. The legs are attached to GIANT BUTTS. One butt EXPLODES the ground beside Cesspool, toppling him onto his back.

69 **DR. CESSPOOL** 69
<fearful> Maybe I could offer you a
second opinion?

70 **BEAST (O.S.)** 70
ROOOOAAAARRRR!

A MASSIVE SHADOW appears. Huge MAW OF RAGGED TEETH opens in the shadow coming right for him.

71 **DR. CESSPOOL** 71
AHHHHHH!

BLACK OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. P.S. 38 - MR. ROSA'S CLASS - DAY**

Ka'Brett stands before the class of art students explaining his methodology. Mr. Rosa sits behind his desk, arms crossed, not looking happy.

75 **KA'BRETT** 75
Don't waste your time trying to
"find your voice and style".
Instead, figure out what everyone
likes and draw that.

77 **KA'BRETT** 77
KEN!

Rosa **<SIGHS>**. Stands, then picks up a STACK OF TEXTBOOKS on his desk and begins handing them out.

78 **KA'BRETT** 78
Each of you will receive my soon to
be best selling, self published
workbook "JUST DRAW, MONKEY" which
will have you on your way to your
first art sale in no time.

79 **MR. ROSA** 79
"Workbooks" are not generally part---

80 **KA'BRETT** 80
<dismissive wave> Fut-tut-tut-TUT-
TUT-TUT! <beat> Tut!

Rosa rolls his eyes and continues passing out workbooks.

80A **MR. ROSA** 80A
<SIGHS>

AT THE BACK OF THE ROOM

Francis, Dee Dee, Teddy, and Chad lean into each other.

81 **DEE DEE** 81
<sotto> Where is Nate? Art is his
favorite class.

82 **TEDDY** 82
Maybe my man pulled an all-nighter
finishing his Dr. Cesspool comic
for the yearbook.

83 **FRANCIS** 83
I hope you're right. I'm really
worried about him you guys.

PRE-LAP CLASS BELL RING as we...

INT. P.S. 38 - LOCKERS - DAY

Nate leans against his locker sleeping--

84 **NATE** 84
<horrible snoring sounds>

85 **FRANCIS (O.S.)** 85
NATE!

Nate JERKS awake and SMASHES his head on his locker.

86 **NATE** 86
Huh?

Nate rubs his sore head looking haggard. The gang comes over
to his side.

87 **TEDDY** 87
See! He looks awful. Classic case
of an all-nighter. How'd the
Cesspool comic come out, bro?

88 **NATE** 88
<rubbing head> Huh? What's a
Cesspool?

88A **TEDDY** 88A
Huh?

The gang all look at each other. Not the response they were
expecting.

89 **DEE DEE** 89
Nate, he's one of your characters.
One of your BEST characters.

They drop Nate to the floor as Dee Dee grabs Nate's comic
book from his locker.

89A **NATE** 89A
<OOF>

89B **DEE DEE** 89B
Look.

90 **NATE** 90
Okay, ha-ha.

Teddy pulls out his binder and shows Nate the cover. There is a big DR. CESSPOOL holding a CHAINSAW on it.

91 **NATE** 91
Yeah that's a cool drawing, but that's not mine.

92 **FRANCIS** 92
I knew I was worried for a reason!
Nate I think you really are losing your AWESOMENESS!

93 **CHAD** 93
NOOOOO!!! IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!

Dee Dee SHOVES Chad in a LOCKER. SLAM! To shut him up.

94 **NATE** 94
Guys, I have never had a character named Dr... What was his it? Cesspool?

93 **CHAD** 93
AHHHHHH!!!

Chad runs screaming into a locker. The trio look at each other. Worried.

94A **DEE DEE** 94A
What if Cesspool's not his first?

2D ROLL CALL

Each character Dee Dee reads off APPEARS as Nate tells her whether he remembers them or not. (note: SFX: DING equals GREEN CHECK MARK, SFX: GACK equals RED X next to character).

94C **DEE DEE (V.O.)** 94C
Do you remember-- Moe Mentum, Hollywood Stunt Man?

94D **NATE (V.O.)** 94D
Yes.

<SFX: DING>

94E **DEE DEE (V.O.)** 94E
Luke Warm, Private Investigator?

94F **NATE (V.O.)** 94F
Of course yes.

<SFX: DING>

94G **DEE DEE (V.O.)** 94G
Ultra Nate?

94H **NATE** 94H
Duh. He's basically me. Yes.

<SFX: DING>

94I **DEE DEE** 94I
Dan Cupid, love consultant?

94J **NATE** 94J
Ha ha, trick question, BARF! No!

94K **DAN CUPID** 94K
<SCREAMS>

<SFX: POOF!>

The trio stare at Nate. Nate stares back.

94K **NATE** 94K
<getting worried> Should I have
heard of him?

All three kids nod their head YES.

ON NATE-- starting to freak out.

94L **NATE** 94L
Maybe something really is
happening to my awesomeness!? How
can I be losing my characters!?

Chad pops out of his locker--

94M **CHAD** 94M
WE'RE ALL DOOMED!

SLAM! Dee Dee seals him back inside.

109 **TEDDY** 109
Okay, just throwing this out there:
Aliens might be abducting you while
you sleep and erasing your memory.

112 **DEE DEE** 112
<rolls her eyes> Nate, go home.
Lock yourself in your bedroom. And
what ever you do... don't fall
asleep!

112A **NATE** 112A
<WHIMPERS>

INT. NATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nate anxiously waits in bed with a FLASHLIGHT, squirting
WATER in his face to stay awake.

113 **NATE** 113
Okay, aliens, or what ever you are,
you're not getting past me tonight.

Nate's flashlight strafes the room. Searches the darkness.
Nothing seems off. It's a mess like usual. Then-- SFX:
RUMBLING O.S. Nate whips the flashlight toward the sound.
Nothing. SFX: RUMBLING O.S. again, now from the other side of
the room. Nate whips the light around-- nothing.

Something catches his eye. Flashlight lands in the CENTER OF
HIS room revealing-- A TALL, TWO DOOR WARDROBE/DRESSER. Nate
stiffens...

114 **NATE** 114
<SCREAMS> That-- was not there
before.

The Bureau begins to RATTLE. Nate cuts the flashlight and
ducks under his covers so only his eyes are showing. Watches
as a MAN IN A DARK SUIT with a MOOSE HEAD and a MAN IN A DARK
SUIT with a FISH HEAD step out. They look around.

115 **FISH** 115
You sure this is the right bureau?

116 **MOOSE** 116
It's the only bureau. Eyes open,
Mr. Fish. Both sides.

Fish nods, head flipping back and forth so both eyes take in
the scene. He's definitely the anxious/cautious one. Think
MATT LILLARD. Moose is the alpha. Deep baritone. Confident.
British. Think J.B. BLANC.

FWASH! Nate's FLASHLIGHT blasts them both with a bolt of
light. Moose and Fish begin SMASHING around the room.

117 **FISH** 117
It's THE BEAST! HE FOUND US!

They jump and run around screaming.

117A **FISH/MOOSE** 117A
<SCREAM><WAILING WALLA>

118 **NATE** 118
Who are you!? And why are you
trying to steal my awesomeness!?

119 **MOOSE** 119
That-- doesn't sound like the
Beast. <beat> Nate? Is that you
lad?

120 **NATE** 120
Ha-how do you know my name?

121 **MOOSE** 121
Because you created us.

Beat. Flashlight clicks off, then Nate turns on his room
light. Now he can see all of Moose and Fish.

122 **FISH** 122
You remember? The summer between
3rd and 4th grade. Your friends
were all on vacation. You needed a
project, so you created a comic
book detective story, starring US!

123 **MOOSE** 123
We were supposed to solve the
mystery of how Ellen could possibly
be your sister when she is so lame.

124 **FISH** 124
That case remains open.

Nate leaps off his bed. Gapes at the pair.

125 **NATE** 125
Moose! Fish! Yeah I DO remember
you! But...this is insane. How can
you be here?

126 **MOOSE** 126
We came because the very thing that
makes you awesome -- your art, your
creativity -- well... it's in
danger, son.

Fish steps forward and drops a 2D BOW & ARROW at Nate's feet.

127 **FISH** 127
This bow and arrow belonged to a friend of ours - DAN CUPID. You created him, Nate. But you don't remember him. Because there's a BEAST, living in your imagination, and he's taking your characters.

128 **MOOSE** 128
We need you to help us solve the mystery of why?

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - TIME UNKNOWN

Nate, Moose, and Fish appear from an exact copy of THE BUREAU. Fish locks it with a REMOTE CAR LOCK. SFX: BEEP-BOOP! They have arrived on THE RED CARPET that leads to THE BUTT BOWL (from THE BUTT CHEEKS SONG SHORT). THE MARQUEE reads "WELCOME TO YOUR IMAGINATION". Nate goes wide-eyed.

129 **NATE** 129
Woah.

INT. BUTT BOWL - CONTINUOUS

Stepping through the doors of the BUTT BOWL, Nate is astonished. Multitudes of CHARACTERS he has created since he could draw mill about (note: for a list off all CHARACTERS in this scene, please see addendum at the end of the script).

129A **CHARACTERS** 129A
<VARIOUS WALLA CHATTER, GROWLS, LAUGHTER>

130 **NATE** 130
Wait a minute... these all came from my imagination?

131 **MOOSE** 131
These and more.

132 **FISH** 132
We should get going, it's a long walk to the Butt Forest.

133 **NATE** 133
There's a Butt Forest?

INT./EXT. THE BUTT FORREST - SOMETIME LATER

Nate, Moose, and Fish stand on the edge of a FOREST OF LEGS topped by BUTTS. Nate can not believe it.

134 **NATE** 134
There IS a Butt Forest! I remember
now! I made this up as a joke for
Teddy and Francis back in like
third grade!

The trio take uneasy strides into the forest.

135 **FISH** 135
We found Dan Cupid's bow & arrow
not far from here. <sniffles, wipes
a tear> But no Dan.

136	MOOSE	136
	Save the fluids Mr. Fish, your scales will dry out. We need to be careful, Nate. This is GREEN HAT GNOME territory.	

137 **NATE** 137
Wow. I drew comics about Green Hat
Gnomes?

138

MOOSE

138

No, that's the problem. You've NEVER drawn comics about Green Hat Gnomes, and they're not happy. They've declared war on your imagination. So stay on your toes, they could sneak up on us if we aren't careful.

They push farther into the forest. Nate looks around taking it all in.

138A **NATE** 138A
All this is from my imagination?
Wow, I'm so creative. Cool!

139 **FISH** 139
Do you see anything at all that
could help us? Any clues?

140	NATE		140
	No, but-- Hey wait, when I created the Butt Forest, I also created a Butt Guru to watch over it.		

141 **MOOSE** 141
We've heard tale of the Butt Guru,
but we've never seen him.

142 **BUTT GURU (O.S.)** 142
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T WORTHY!

The ancient, high-pitched voice catches them off guard. Moose and Fish take defensive positions beside Nate as a BUTT with EYES, MOUTH, and LONG WHITE BEARD lowers on a PUFFY CLOUD.

143 **BUTT GURU** 143
I am here, Nate Wright! I-- THE
WISE OLD BUTT GURU. I would have
preferred just wise and old and NO
butt-- BUT, what should I expect
from an 11 year-old boy.

144 **NATE** 144
You know technically I was actually
8 at the time, very advanced for my
age.

145 **BUTT GURU** 145
That does not make being a butt any
easier! <calms> Speak your
question.

146 **NATE** 146
Something is trespassing in my
imagination and stealing my
characters. We want to know WHY?

The crotchety old Butt closes his eyes in thought.

147 **BUTT GURU** 147
I sense a DARK PRESENCE. One my
"butt wisdom" has never felt
before.

148 **FISH** 148
<realizing> The Beast!

149 **BUTT GURU** 149
A Dark Presence that was brought
here... BY YOU NATE WRIGHT!

150 **NATE** 150
Me? But why would I hurt my own
characters!?

151 **BUTT GURU** 151
You have been given awesomeness
Nate Wright, and yet you squander
it. That is why the Dark Presence
is here.

CRASH! Heads turn toward the edge of the forest. CRASH-CRASH!
Legs and butts are toppling. Something is coming.

152 **BEAST** 152
ROOOOARRR!

153 **FISH** 153
It's here-- THE BEAST!

The Butt Guru BLASTS OFF on a cloud of FART GAS. FRAAAP!

154 **BUTT GURU** 154
Heed my warning Nate Wright! And
draw me some arms next time!

Disappears. Beat later, a MONSTROUS SHADOW appears SMASHING
more legs and butt's aside. Nate looks up. Sees the Beasts
HIDEOUS JAWS and something else...

2D ULTRA-NATE trapped in the Beasts maw!

154A **ULTRA-NATE** 154A
Stop there, evil-doer! <STRAINING>

155 **NATE** 155
ULTRA-NATE!?!

156 **ULTRA-NATE** 156
Never fear, citizens! Ultra-Nate is
here to vanquish <screams> ARGH!
IT'S EATING ME ALIVE!!! Not my
elbows! NOT MY ELBOWS! NOOOOOO!!!

CHOMP! The jaws close tight on Ultra-Nate with a CRUNCH!

157 **NATE** 157
NOOOOO!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. NATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nate bolts upright in bed. Chest heaving. Bathed in sweat.
Hands find the FLASHLIGHT. Blasts on. The Bureau is gone.

158 **NATE** 158
Was it... was it just a dream?

Something clutched in his other hand, DAN CUPID'S ARROW.

158A **NATE** 158A
<PANICKED GROAN>

INT. MR. ROSA'S ART CLASS - DAY

Ka'Brett walks among the students admiring their work. We see that every painting the students are making is an identical BOB ROSS LANDSCAPE KNOCK OFF. He stops at Gina's painting.

164 **KA'BRETT** 164
(high energy, mean)
No Gina, the green is not green
enough. Reread Chapter 8, clean
your brush, start over. KEN!

Rosa gets up and walks over to Gina's desk. Ka'Brett looks at Gina and points at Rosa...

164A **MR. ROSA** 164A
<GROANS> <WHIMPERS>

165 **KA'BRETT** 165
Go ahead, clean your brush.

Gina hesitates, then begins wiping the green paint on her brush off on Rosa's clean shirt. Rosa fights tears.

AT THE BACK-- Francis, Dee Dee, Teddy, and Chad sluggishly go through the motions of painting their landscapes. Then--

165A **KA'BRETT** 165A
That's it Gina, really get in
there. Yeah, get that green off.
That dirty, dirty green.

166 **NATE (O.S.)** 166
<sotto> Guys. GUYS!

Four look up. REVERSE ON-- Nate, peering through a crack in the door, waving for them to come outside.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

PAN ACROSS the playground. A TENTACLE plays TUG'O'WAR with a group of boys. Finally we STOP ON Nate recounting his tale--

167 **NATE** 167
 ...and then I woke up. But I know I
 wasn't dreaming. I saw this "Beast"
 or whatever it is eat Ultra-Nate.

168 **DEE DEE** 168
 But this time you remembered
 because you were there.

169 **FRANCIS** 169
 Then we need to be there too.

INT. NATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gang is there with sleeping bags, flashlights, and WEIRD
CONTRAPTIONS. Like Frankenstein's lab. THERAMIN MUSIC plays.

170 **TEDDY** 170
 Since we don't know what we're
 dealing with, I had Uncle Pedro
 give me a grab bag of his best and
 most ridiculous Alien catching
 devices. Not sure what they all do,
 but they definitely do something.

Dee Dee gently touches a PLASMA BALL and is SHOCKED/BLASTED
across the room. Shakes her head, hair sizzling.

171 **DEE DEE** 171
 Good to know.

172 **FRANCIS** 172
 Chad, could you please stop playing
 that Theremin.

WHIP PAN TO-- Chad playing a THEREMIN. He stops.

173 **DEE DEE** 173
 So what's the plan? We just wait?

174 **NATE** 174
 Yeah pretty much. But stay alert.
 And whatever you do...DON'T FALL
 ASLEEP!

SMASH TO-- Everyone FAST ASLEEP. A loud RUMBLING wakes Nate.
He looks out and sees that THE BUREAU has reappeared.

175 **NATE** 175
 Guys, g-g-guys, guys it's happening
 again! Guys!?

Nate looks around the room. Sighs. Everyone is passed out. The Bureau doors creak open. Nate steels himself, but when Moose and Fish appear he exhales with relief.

175A **MOOSE** 175A
Hey lad!

176 **NATE** 176
Moose, Fish, you're okay!

177 **FISH** 177
<teary> He cares about us.

178 **MOOSE** 178
No crying! Nate lad, a lot has happened. Word of the Beast has spread throughout your imagination.

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - THE BUTT BOWL - TIME UNKNOWN

Moose, Fish, and Nate step out of The Bureau. Fish locks it with the remote SFX: BLEEP-BLOOP. Nate looks out. Shock.

The BUTT BOWL has fallen into wreckage. Characters running around frantically SCREAMING.

179 **CHARACTERS** 179
AHHHH! / THE BEAST IS COMING! /
SAVE YOURSELVES!

180 **NATE** 180
Oh man, this is bad.

181 **MOOSE** 181
Nate, there's one other thing...

Before Moose can finish, SPEARS jerk into frame. WIDEN TO REVEAL-- Nate, Moose, and Fish are surrounded by spear wielding GREEN HAT GNOMES. They put their hands up.

181A **LARGE GNOME LEADER** 181A
Attack!

182 **MOOSE** 182
...the GREEN HAT GNOMES have vowed to start a CIVIL WAR unless you give them a storyline.

183 **LARGE GNOME LEADER** 183
With real plots, not just gags and screaming. AND a cool theme song.

183A **SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOME (PATCH)** 183A

YEAH!

Fish shoots a quick look at Moose. Both nod. Fish starts
<WEEPING LOUDLY>, drawing the gnome's attention--

184 **FISH** 184

I don't wanna go this way!

184A **MOOSE** 184A

<FIGHTING EFFORTS>

184B **SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOMES** 184B

AHHH! <IMPACTS> <FIGHTING EFFORTS>

WHAM! The Gnome Leader, distracted by Fish, is SMACKED aside
by Moose. Wheels toward Nate...

186 **MOOSE** 186

Now lad, RUN!

Moose SHOVES Nate toward the Bureau. Fish stops crying and
leaps up. Together they take on the gnomes, fists flying.
Nate reaches the Bureau but the gnomes have knocked it down.

186A **NATE** 186A

<GULP>

Nate turns. Spears jam in his face. Caught. SFX: BLEEP-BLOOP.

INT. NATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dee Dee, lying on a beanbag, groggily opens her eyes.
Immediately realizes everyone has fallen asleep.

188 **DEE DEE** 188

Oh no! Oh no!! WAKE UP! WAKE UP!
WAKE UP YOU GUYS!

Leaps to her feet. Kicks the boys awake.

190 **DEE DEE** 190

<shaking Nate> Nate won't wake up!

191 **TEDDY** 191

I got this. Nate has extremely
sensitive pits. <tickles Nates'
armpits. Nothing.> The Teddy Tickle
Torture didn't work! ¡Dios mío!

192

FRANCIS

192

Which can only mean one thing.
Guys, I think Nate is trapped
inside his own imagination.

END ACT TWO

202 **UNCLE PEDRO** 202
I used it many times during my
career as a HAMSTER THERAPIST with
100% success...except for Mr.
Wiggles. Poor, tormented soul.
Just couldn't get him off the
wheel.

203 **FRANCIS** 203
Er...Okay, but how does this work
on PEOPLE?

204 **UNCLE PEDRO** 204
Let's find out!

BZZZT! Pedro hits the POWER SWITCH and the world explodes to
WHITE. The clown gets zapped. Bird <SCREAMS>.

204A **CLOWN** 204A
<ELECTRIFIED WALLA/SCREAM>

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - THE BUTT BOWL - TIME UNKNOWN

Dee Dee, Francis, Teddy, and Chad MATERIALIZE into the scene
(think old school STAR TREK including the TRANSPORTER SFX).
After checking that their bodies are whole, the gang looks
around in awe at the chaos unfolding before them.

205 **TEDDY** 205
Huh? You know, weirdly, this is
exactly what I pictured Nate's
imagination looking like.

206 **FRANCIS** 206
Teddy look-- It's GODFREY-ZILLA!

207 **CHAD** 207
<points> GIANT ELTON! Can we stay
here forever?

Dee Dee notices a tiny 2D CREATURE flying in a circle and
plucks it out of the air.

208 **DEE DEE** 208
Huh? I know you; CLAUDE THE STUPID
IDEAS FAIRY!

209 **CLAUDE** 209
AHHH! Please, let me go! I need to
get away! I've been flying for
hours.

210	DEE DEE	210
	You were flying in a circle.	
211	CLAUDE	211
	I was?	
212	DEE DEE	212
	Where's Nate?	
213	CLAUDE	213
	The Green Hat Gnomes have taken the Great Creator to the Butt Forest.	
214	TEDDY	214
	There's a Butt Forest? Sweet!	
215	DEE DEE	215
	Take us there Claude!	

EXT. THE BUTT FOREST - TIME UNKNOWN

The Green Hat Gnomes have Nate, Moose, and Fish tied to LEG TREES. The LARGE GNOME LEADER marches back and forth, listing off his demands for future cartoon storylines...

216	LARGE GNOME LEADER	216
	...what about a western storyline called "GNOME ON THE RANGE"...	
217	SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOME (PATCH)	217
	...or a comedy: "AMERICA'S FUNNIEST GNOME VIDEOS"!	
218	LARGE GNOME LEADER	218
	Ooo, that's catchy--	
219	GIANT MOLLUSK (O.S.)	219
	ROOOOAAAARRR!	

The Gnomes spins around. Gape in horror! A GIANT MOLLUSK with BUCK TEETH, body covered in chains, thunders toward them.

220	GIANT MOLLUSK	220
	ROOOAAARRR!	
221	GREEN HAT GNOMES (ALL)	221
	AHHHHHH! RUN AWAY!!!	

The Gnomes throw up their spears and race for cover into the Butt Forest. Nate, Moose, and Fish turn toward the mollusk.

222 **FISH** 222
It's the BEAST! THE BEAST IS A
GIANT SNAIL!

223 **NATE** 223
No-- no-n-n-no! I think-- that's my
BAND LOGO... And my FRIENDS!

As the Giant Mollusk fully comes into view, we see Dee Dee,
Francis, Teddy, Chad, and Claude riding on its back. Francis
holds up his hand that drips SNAIL GOO.

224 **FRANCIS** 224
This is so unsanitary.

The gang leaps off the mollusk. Races to Nate, Claude flying
behind them. The gang meanwhile frees Nate, Moose, and Fish.

227 **NATE** 227
I can't believe you guys are in my
brain!

The gang hugs and <LAUGHS>. Reunited. But it is short lived
as--

230 **GREEN HAT GNOMES (O.S.)** 230
AHHHHH!

231 **MOOSE** 231
The gnomes are coming back!

Everyone leaps on the mollusk. Sound of TINY THUNDERING FEET.
The Gnomes burst from the forest. Leg trees crash down behind
them. That's when we realize they are being chased.

232 **LARGE GNOME LEADER** 232
THE BEAST!

The Gnomes blow past the mollusk terrified. Nate and the
others watch from atop the mollusk as the Beast's shadow
rises, horrible mouth gaping wide.

233 **GIANT MOLLUSK** 233
<terrified> RAAAAHHHH!

234 **NATE/FRANCIS/TEDDY/DEE** 234
DEE/CHAD/CLAUDE/MOOSE/FISH
WHAAAAA!

The Snail <YOWLS> in terror, bucking everyone off. Nate looks
up in terror. The Beast BURSTS from the Butt Forest into the
open. No longer in shadow. Horror. They recognize it--

Nate looks closer. Sees a MOLE on the Beast's face.

237 **NATE** 237
I've seen that mole before, that's
Ka'Brett! <SCREAMS>

The Ka'Brett Beast picks Nate up to eat him.

237A **KA'BRETT BEAST** 237A
<ROARS>

237B **NATE** 237B
Why are you doing this? Why are you
destroying everything I care about?

237C **DEE DEE** 237C
This is your world Nate. Fight
back! Don't doubt yourself!

237D **NATE** 237D
Don't doubt myself?

A 2D KEY appears and slots into the top of Nate's head.
Turns. SFX: LOCK OPENING. Nate's skull opens. A LIGHTBULB
rises from Nate's exposed brain then EXPLODES THE PICTURE TO
WHITE just as the Beast's jaws are about to devour Nate.

INT. UNCLE PEDRO'S HOUSE - DAY

WHOOSH! Nate snaps awake. Beat later so does the rest of the
gang. They look at each other, unsure--

237E **NATE** 237E
That's it! Guys, I know how to get
my characters back.

INT. P.S. 38 - MR. ROSA'S CLASS - DAY

Empty, save for Mr. Rosa who is sadly packing his things into
boxes. Nate and the gang burst in, surprised...

239 **CHAD** 239
Mr. Rosa, you going somewhere?

240 **MR. ROSA** 240
Yup. I'm taking a trip to
Loserville to reassess my life
choices. And do a lot of crying.

Nate looks around the room and sees that PRICE TAGS have been
put on all the student art work.

241 **NATE** 241
Mr. Rosa, I know your leaving
because of your brother Ka'Brett,
but you can't.

242 **MR. ROSA** 242
Not that simple, Nate. <beat> Okay,
it is that simple. I can't look at
his man bun one more day.

243 **TEDDY** 243
Amen, bro. A man bun is just one
step away from a mullet.

247 **NATE** 247
A Beast invaded my imagination and
started eating my characters...and
that Beast is your BROTHER! Don't
you see? It all makes sense now.
He's DOUBT! He makes me doubt
myself as a cartoonist! He's
chipping away at my awesomeness!
And I can't stop him alone. I need
your help.

Something in Nate's words gives Rosa pause. He sets down a
box, turning away from the Nate and the gang.

248 **FRANCIS** 248
Mr. Rosa, you okay?

249 **MR. ROSA** 249
You know, I became a teacher
because I love seeing kids
transformed by art. That's what art
does. Changes us. It changed ME,
when I was your age. But Ka'Brett
never understood that. To him, art
isn't worth anything unless there's
a price tag on it. He came here -
to MY school, filled with MY
students - and tried to ruin my
dream. To make me doubt MY art.

Rosa turns back. Looks directly at Nate. Steely--

250 **MR. ROSA** 250
I won't let him do that to you,
Nate... or anyone else ever again.
Tell me what you need me to do.

250A **NATE/DEE DEE/TEDDY** 250A
Yeah!/Woohoo!/<LAUGHING/CHEERING
WALLA>

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - THE BUTT BOWL - TIME UNKNOWN

Pandemonium. Even worse than the last time. Characters are fighting. Blue Hat Gnomes are battling Green Hat Gnomes. Moose and Fish trying to get things under control.

250B **SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOME** 250B
<CRYING>

251 **CHARACTERS** 251
WHAAAAA!

253 **NATE (O.S.)** 253
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

Characters freeze. Some mid-punch. Moose and Fish turn.

254 **FISH** 254
<teary> He came back.

NEW ANGLE-- On Nate, Rosa, and the rest of the gang. Whispers whip through the characters...

256 **CHARACTERS** 256
It's him. / The Creator. / I had no idea he was so short.

257 **NATE** 257
Yes, it is I-- Nate Wright! Hold your applause please.

258 **DEE DEE** 258
They weren't applauding.

259 **NATE** 259
<waves her off> Ok whatever... Your world - that I created, thank you so much - is under threat from a Beast that feeds on doubt. This Beast...

260 **MR. ROSA** 260
His name is Ka'Brett. <beat> Actually, that's not true. His real name's Brian. Then he changed it to Brett. Then he added the "Ka" because he thought it sounded more artsy. And then...

261 **NATE** 261
Ok, Mr. Rosa, please! I'm trying to sound inspiring here.

261A **MR. ROSA** 261A
Oh right...

261 **NATE** 261
<to crowd> The Ka'Brett Beast wants
us scared and unfocused, creating
more doubt for him to feed on.

261B **FIELD MARSHALL POTATO** 261B
But I'm scared!

261C **MEGAPHONE CHARACTER** 261C
And I'm unfocused!

261 **NATE** 261
We need to cut off his food source
and fight back.

The crowd <CHEERS>.

SFX: LONG O.S. FART as the Butt Guru lowers into view.

262 **BUTT GURU** 262
BUT Do you have a plan?

263 **NATE** 263
Ah yeah... duh. I just need a
volunteer.

EXT. BUTT FOREST - TIME UNKNOWN

Claude the Stupid Ideas Fairy meanders nervously talking to
himself in a CLEARING at the edge of the forest.

264 **CLAUDE** 264
Okay Claude, remember, you're the
bait. Is bait same as birthday?
<happy> Is it my birthday!?

CRASH! CRASH! Leg trees and butts burst wide revealing THE
KA'BRETT BEAST. Ka'Brett sees Claude and salivates--

265 **KA'BRETT BEAST** 265
Well hello there.

266 **CLAUDE** 266
<terrified stutter> Are you my
birthday present? AHHHHHH!

Claude spins in a circle several times then passes out.
Ka'Brett <CHUCKLES>. Jaws open to consume Claude-- A HORN
BLAST splits the air. Ka'Brett freezes. Looks up. REVERSE ON--

Nate, riding on the back of a CUT'N'PASTE SPITSY holding a TOY LASER GUN. Teddy and Francis ride on top of the SNAIL, the mollusk now outfitted with TANK TURRETS. Chad is strapped in a BABY BJORN to the chest of ELTON THE GIANT HAMSTER. Dee Dee bobs in the air, held aloft by CHERUBS, wielding a sword like a Valkyrie. Rosa drives an ICE CREAM TRUCK loaded up with angry GREEN AND BLUE HAT GNOMES (they've put their issues aside for greater good).

267 **NATE** 267

Hey, Ka'Brett! I mean, hey BRIAN!
You're trespassing in my
imagination! I want my characters
AND my awesomeness back! ATTACK!

267A **MOLLUSK** 267A
<ROARS>

267B **CHAD/DEE DEE** 267B
<BATTLE WALLA>

270 **KA'BRETT BEAST** 270
You don't have the talent to defeat
me.

271 **NATE** 271
We'll see about that. BATTLE CRY!

The battle begins, playing out in MULTIPLE SCENES:

-- Fish runs into battle carrying Moose on his back, Nate riding on Spitsy, firing his laser pistol. Ka'Brett snaps his mouth at them, slashing at the four with his pretentious mustache.

271A **DEE DEE** 271A
<BATTLE WALLA> Huh? Woahhh!

-- The MOLE on the Ka'Brett Beast's face COMES ALIVE. A single EYE pops open along with a mouth full of jagged TEETH. Hairs grow out of the mole, and it leaps into the battle fighting Teddy, Francis, and the mollusk.

-- BACK PLATES along the Ka'Brett Beasts back FLY OFF and attack Dee Dee and the cherubs in an amazing sky battle where they are joined by SPACE CHIMP, ONE EYED ALIEN, THE FLYING SAUCER, and the Butt Guru.

-- Chad, Elton the Hamster, Mr. Rosa driving the ice-cream truck, and the Gnomes attack the Ka-Brett Beast's tiny centipede legs. Gnomes leap onto the legs, gnawing on the ankles while Elton (Chad strapped to his chest) fires Butt Hamsters and Mr. Rosa rams his ice cream cone into the Ka-Brett Beast's backside.

271B **KA'BRETT BEAST** 271B
Huh?!

271C **FRANCIS/TEDDY** 271C
<GIGGLING>

The Ka'Brett monster's MOLE pops off his face and attacks the mollusk.

271D **KA'BRETT BEAST / MOLE** 271D
<MANIACAL GIGGLING>

271E **TEDDY/FRANCIS** 271E
<SCREAMING>

The gnomes begin to <GNAW> on the beast's feet.

271F **KA'BRETT BEAST** 271F
<GIGGLING> Huh? GET OFF!

271G **GREEN HAT GNOMES** 271G
<GNAWING> AHHHH!

271H **KA'BRETT BEAST** 271H
<TWISTED LAUGHING>

Despite all of this, the Ka'Brett Beast is still able to hold them off. A MONSTER MOUTH opens in its belly, the Ka'Brett Beast consuming more and more characters. Suddenly--

272 **GODFREY-ZILLA (O.S.)** 272
ROOOOAAARRR!

2D GODFREY-ZILLA lumbers toward the Ka'Brett Beast breathing FIRE. Godfrey-zilla and the Ka'Brett Beast smash at each other like a kaiju battle. Nate turns TO CAMERA:

273 **NATE (TO CAM)** 273
Y'know I am no fan of Godfrey but
in this case, GO GODFREY--

Nate turns back just in time to see Godfrey-zilla eaten. Ugh.

273A **KA'BRETT BEAST** 273A
<BURPS> <SNICKERS>

Nate, riding atop Spitsy, slashes at the Ka'Brett Beast with a sword, but the blows just glance off.

275A **NATE** 275A
AHHHHH!! (falls) <GASP> No.

Then MARTIN'S VOICE fills his head, repeating something he said earlier...

276 **MARTIN (V.O.)** 276
 You've got a gift, and no one can
 take that away unless you let them.

Nate **<GASPS>**! That's it! Nate gallops Spitsy over to a fallen
 BUTT TREE. He stands on the cheeks, proclaiming--

277 **NATE** 277
 Everyone! Stop fighting! Lay your
 weapons down!

277A **LARGE GNOME LEADER** 277A
 Huh?

277B **SMALLER GREEN HAT GNOME (PATCH)** 277B
 What did he say?

278 **TEDDY** 278
 What!? Bro you lost your dang mind?

279 **NATE** 279
 Trust me! We need to stop
 fighting... And walk away.

One-by-one, they stop fighting, turn their backs and walk
 away. Ka'Brett stops eating characters. Looks at Nate--

280 **KA'BRETT BEAST** 280
 Giving up already?

281 **NATE** 281
 No. See, you're my doubt, and
 acknowledging you just makes you
 stronger. So you know what we're
 gonna ignore you.

282 **KA'BRETT BEAST** 282
 That won't work! I'm too powerful
 to resist! Come back and fight me!

But Nate and the others don't listen. Instead they turn and
 walk away. Ka'Brett **<SNARLS>**. Takes a step toward them, but
 his centipede legs give out. Confused, Ka'Brett tries to get
 up, but his body quakes.

282A **KA'BRETT BEAST** 282A
 Ooof! Ahh! Oh my! What's happening?
 AHHHH! **<STRUGGLES>**

The Ka'Brett Creature lets out a massive ROAR as CHARACTERS
 pour first out of its MOUTH, then out of its BUTT, and
 finally out of EVERY INCH OF ITS BODY. There's a BLINDING
 LIGHT- SMASH TO:

283 **KA'BRETT BEAST** 283
 You're not talented enough to
 succeed!
 (breaking down)
 To succeed! To succeeeeeeeed!

Fish and Moose pound the ground to make sure he's gone for
 good.

283A **FISH/MOOSE** 283A
 <POUNDING THE GROUND> <HEAVY
 BREATHING>

285 **DEE DEE** 285
 How do you feel, Nate?

286 **NATE** 286
 I feel <to camera> AWESOME!

One of Nate's characters, Mayhem pops up, clacking his drum
 sticks.

286A **MAYHEM** 286A
 1, 2, 3, 4.

PRE-LAP MUSIC: "THE BALLAD OF BIG NATE".

INT. NATE'S IMAGINATION - THE BUTT BOWL - CODA

The Butt Bowl has been restored. BLUE AND GREEN HAT GNOMES,
 as well as NATE'S CHARACTERS, have gathered under the marquee
 which now reads "THE BALLAD OF BIG NATE". The Large Gnome
 Leader - backed by a GNOME BAND, with the BUTT GURU and his
 BRAND NEW ARMS on DRUMS - steps up to a MIC.

287 **LARGE GNOME LEADER (SINGS)** 287
 Armed only with a pencil
 And 8x10 lined paper
 He leads a life that's awesome
 That's why they call him Big Nate.

As the band kicks into gear, NEW ANGLE ON-- Moose and Fish
 watching the celebration from the back beside their BUREAU.
 Fish stamps CASE CLOSED on a file folder labelled "THE CASE
 OF THE LOST CONFIDENCE". Hands it to Moose, who places it in
 the Bureau. The pair join the party as the song continues,
 taking us through the END CREDITS.

288 **LARGE GNOME LEADER (SINGS)** 288
 If you need a toilet
 To detonate by lunch time
 Or perhaps a burrito
 In your teacher's pants.
 (MORE)

LARGE GNOME LEADER (SINGS) (CONT'D)

He'll be the one
To make sure Middle School is fun
With his trusted friends along
And semi-conscious dog.

His destiny
As a god of awesomeness
Is to ride a mighty llama
That probably breathes fire oooh.

And take his place
Among the legendary pranksters of
yore
Who will welcome him into Valhalla
And make him leader of their band.

This is the BALLAD OF BIG NATE.

END OF EPISODE

**ADDENDUM OF REUSE CUT'N'PASTE CHARACTERS TO USE IN BUTT BOWL
SCENE**

SCANTRON MONSTER (pilot)

FREE AGENT BANANA ON SNOWMOBILE (902)

SPACE CHIMP, LOBSTER GUY, FANBOY (904)

TOOTHY CAPTAIN, FLAPPER GIRL, SEA MONSTER, GNOME PARACHUTIST,
BIPLANE PILOT, ICE CREAM SPIES, DREAM SPITSY (905)

GIANT ELTON HAMSTER, HAMSTER BABY "HAMLETS" (909)

PUFFINS, CHERUBS, HIPPIE GAL, GODFREEY-ZILLA (101)

FINGER DANCERS, GRANDPA EBENEZER, UFO ALIEN, CTHULHU, BEAR
(102)

GIANT LIZARD "GOBNOBBLER", DREAM DOCTOR (105)

GUITAR BOY, ROWBOAT GIRL, HAPPY CAMPER (109)

BEAR-OX (110)

AZDAYA (112)

ASSORTED BLUE HAT GNOMES (various episodes).