

Bart's Insecurity

Written By

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Blackboard: I am not one of the Doctor's companions.

Couch gag: The Simpsons family are at the beginning of a maze. Homer looks at a map revealing that their couch is at the center of the maze. He points out the route so the family follow it straight, left, right at a fork, right around a bend, left again, then right. They are confronted by two doors, red and blue. Homer wants to choose left, but Marge wants to choose right. Bart shows an alternative route on the map. They go through the mazes walls and sit on the couch on the other side. The couch lifts off like a hot air balloon, and Homer falls off towards the couch and Simpsons family shaped maze.

ACT I

DAY 1: On top of a building Clubber-tron fights Flame brain and is winning.

CLUBBER-TRON

I will crush you.

He throws a super punch at Flame brain throwing him off the building. The words "You Win" blinks continuously on screen. It is shown that Bart is in his room playing games and due to his high scores it is clearly shown that he has been playing a lot.

BART

Yes I won again.

ANNOUNCER

New character. New character. New character.

The words "New Character" blinks continuously on screen above a half-fish half-man character named Fishy.

BART

Alright, wait till Milhouse hears about this.

He plugs his head set in and continues playing. Downstairs Marge enters to Homer watching T.V.

ANNOUNCER

Are you ready to race some more.

HOMER

As I'll ever be.

ANNOUNCER

Well then come down to the
Springfield gorge for a one night
only event of Monster Car this
Saturday.

MARGE

Oh, that sounds fun. Maybe you can
take the kids with you when it
comes. Where are Bart and Lisa?

HOMER

Lisa's in her room and Bart asked
if he could play his game (Looks at
Krusty the Klown watch) 2 hours ago
(Groans) I was suppose to join Bart
when he started.

MARGE

Maybe you can play with him a bit
tomorrow. Can you get Bart and Lisa
for dinner? It's pork chop night.

HOMER

(Yelling)

Bart, Lisa, dinner!

Upstairs in Bart's room, he is still playing the game, but
this time with Milhouse online. Lisa walks by his door to go
downstairs and stops when she see Bart lying on his bed
playing.

LISA

Bart, what are you doing?

BART

Playing Free Fighter's Arcade.
Milhouse just joined.

MILHOUSE

Hey Lisa. Want to see me win
against Bart?

LISA

Go punch yourself Milhouse.

MILHOUSE

They have a button for that?

Bart punches Milhouse's character dead. He restarts the
match.

MILHOUSE
 (Dumbfounded)
 Oh, that.

LISA
 Do that again then come down for
 dinner. It's pork chop night.
 Better hurry.

BART
 Kill is my middle name.

He clicks another button and kicks Milhouse's character off the building. Later in the Dining Room, Marge comes in carrying burnt pork chops and puts it on the table. She starts serving the food as Bart plays "Free Fighters Arcade" on his Portable Video Game System.

MARGE
 Sorry for the crisp burnt taste. I
 left them in the oven for to long.
 Hope you don't mind.

HOMER
 (Deviously)
 Of course we wont mind.

He scoops the food under the table where Santas Little Helper licks it up.

MARGE
 Hmm, well if you don't like it I
 made a second batch.

HOMER
 Yoink. Thanks honey.

LISA
 (To Bart)
 Bart, you shouldn't be playing
 that. If mom catches you you'll be-

HOMER
 Did I hear the word playing?

LISA
 No, I said, "Bart, great job
 slaying that pork" He he.

MARGE
 Do I sense a hint of lying with
 that. What are you two not telling
 me? Hmm, hmm?

LISA
Bart is a...hmm. Tell them Bart.

BART
Huh, did someone call my name?
(Dropping his PVGS) Oh no my PVGS
broke...Oh.

Later in the living room, Bart and Lisa are on the sofa.
Homer thinks up a punishment.

HOMER
(In his head)
So Homer, Marge just caught the boy
playing his game at the dinner
table and Lisa was trying to cover
him up. Wu, all this decision
making is making me exhausted so,
what's say friend, shall we go
watch T.V. (Normal voice) Sounds
good to me. He he.

He does so and Marge turns from mad to frustrated.

MARGE
Homer Simpson, you should be
ashamed of yourself! Turn off that
T.V. and give Bart and Lisa a
proper punishment.

HOMER-
(Meek and ashamed)
Yes dear.(He does)(To Bart) Bart no
more video games for a week.

BART
What? I'm just starting to capture
Milhouse's characters.

HOMER
I don't know what that means, but
I'm sticking to your punishment and
Lisa for trying to help your
brother not get caught, I am
grounding you to your room for a
week.

LISA
Yes, I can finish that report in
piece. Thank you.

HOMER

D'oh!

MARGE

Homer!

HOMER

Fine. Lisa no Itchy and Scratchy
for a week.

Later in Bart's room, he is lying miserably on his bed and Lisa paces in front of him.

BART

I'm sorry I got you into this sis.
The games addicting. You should try
it sometime.

LISA

The game is what got us here Bart.
Maybe you should take a hiatus from
it. Maybe if you explore the world
you wont want to play anymore.
There are things more worth living
and doing than playing video games
all the time. Night Bart.

BART

Night Liz.

That night Bart has trouble sleeping. He tosses and turns.

BART(CONT'D)

No, no, no.

Fade to inside a mansions dinning hall.

BART(CONT'D)

No get away from me. (Realizes
where he is) Hello. Am I rich?

His family sit dressed nicely in front of him and the table is littered with goodies.

MARGE 2

Of course you are honey. Now eat
your double chocolaty chip pancake
sandwich and candy. And don't
forget to swallow it down with some
warm maple syrup or you'll choke.
Then once you eat you can play
games all you want.

BART
Is this a dream.

HOMER 2
Of course not boy. Now are you
going to eat that or am I?

BART
Wait you said I was grounded from
games. You should be mad at me.

HOMER 2
Don't be silly boy. We're not mad
at you.

Bart backs away from them. The room disappears consumed by
darkness as Lisa, Homer, Marge, and Maggie move closer to
Bart.

BART
No stay away from me. This isn't
real. No no. No!

He is swallowed by the darkness, falling and twirling, as
Marge, Homer, and Lisa swirl around him laughing.

MARGE 2
It's time to play.

LISA 2
Yes Bart, come play with us.

HOMER 2
Wee.

BART
No, no. Ah!

DAY 2: Bart wakes up in his room screaming when Marge
enters.

MARGE
Bart honey it's time for school.
Oh, you're up. Is everything
alright?

BART
No I had a nightmare. We were rich
and then you wanted me to play with
you. It was horrible.

MARGE

Well it's not real. You're still grounded. Besides I made pancakes. The kind your dad can't live without.

BART

Oh, phew, I'm back.

LISA 2

(As Bart and Marge leave)
See you soon Bart.

Downstairs, Marge says goodbye to the kids.

MARGE

Now kids have a good day at school and Bart you didn't hear any voices. It was only a dream so have a good day at school and forget all about it.

Later at school, Bart is talking to Milhouse about his dream in the hallway.

MILHOUSE

I'm sorry you had a bad dream Bart. I wet my pants too.

BART

I never said I wet my pants.

MILHOUSE

Well forget what I said. You never heard anything. (He cries which quickly dwindles) So you heard voices in your dream? That's creepy. Don't worry, I'm here for you Bart.

They hug.

BART

Thank you Milhouse. You can stop hugging me now.

Nelson walks past them and stops when he sees them hugging.

NELSON

(Making pretty gestures)
Aw how cute, two friends hugging in matrimony.

MILHOUSE

Hey, we aren't married. We're friends.

NELSON

Two friends in love. See ya later love birds.

MILHOUSE

Don't worry about him Bart. I've always got your back.

SKINNER

(Over speaker)

Bart Simpson please report to the principals office. Oh, I'm so agitated I could punch a hole in the wall.

AGNES

Seymour, get off your speaker.

SKINNER

Yes mother. See you at lunch.

AGNES

And don't forget about my foot massage later.

SKINNER

Mother!

Everyone laugh in the hallway.

MILHOUSE-

Sorry Bart I, eh, got to go to class.

Later Miss Hoover talks to Lisa and her class.

MISS HOOVER

Now class as you all know tomorrow we will all be going on a field trip to the power plant with the rest of the school. Principal Skinner has asked us teachers to tell our classes individually as to not bore you kids.

LISA

(In her head)

Ooo, a field trip to the Power Plant. Oh, what a surprise it'll be

(MORE)

LISA (cont'd)
seeing dad at work. Hope Bart
behaves himself.

RALPH
Miss Hoover, I've got pencils in my
ear.

In the principals office, Skinner is twirling a pen in front
of Bart.

BART
So, what did I do this time.

He chuckles which quickly dwindles.

SKINNER
(Agitated)
Bart Simpson, you wrote my name on
the school wall with my butt
painted underneath.

BART
What? I was with Milhouse since we
got off the bus.

SKINNER
Don't play dumb with me Bart. I've
got you on camera.

BART
I'll tell you everything I know,
but I didn't make fun of you. I
swear.

Sometime later in the principals office, Bart, Marge, and
Homer sit in chairs.

MARGE
...So you see, Bart didn't sleep
well last night and he has no
recollection of making fun of your
name on the school wall.

SKINNER
So you're saying that Bart dreamed
about hearing voices asking him to
play video games because you told
him he couldn't.

MARGE
Yes, he would play for hours and I
had to ground him because he was

(MORE)

MARGE (cont'd)
playing during dinner. On pork chop
night.

SKINNER
(Shocked)
Pork chop night! Dear Lord!(Calmly)
Mrs. Simpson, have you considered
giving him freewill?

ACT II

In the Simpson's Living room, Bart, Lisa, and Homer are
sitting. Marge stands pacing back and forth.

MARGE
I gave to consideration what
Principal Skinner said early and I
decided to lift Bart's punishment.

BART
Huh, you mean I'm not grounded?

LISA
What? You'll lift Bart's punishment
but not mine?

BART
No sis, I'm just better than you.

MARGE
Bart be polite. I'm lifting your
punishment and giving you freewill
to do whatever you want. Hopefully
you will grow up and work towards
your future.

HOMER
(Whispering to Marge)
Marge, can I talk to you alone?

MARGE
Whatever you want to talk about you
can say right here.

HOMER
Well, I, ah, he he, wasn't planning
on saying this in front of Bart,
but, eh, (Somewhat whispered to
Marge) I'm not sure he's ready for
this kind of responsibility.

MARGE

(To Homer)

I think he is. He needs to grow up.
(To everyone) I just hope I made
the right decision.

Bart gulps in disbelief. Later in Bart's room he can be seen packing when Lisa walks by. Most of his belongings are radioactive man memorabilia, including, radioactive man t-shirts, shorts, granola bars, and socks which can be seen on top.

LISA

Bart what are you doing?

BART

Packing.

LISA

What? Why? We've got a field trip
tomorrow.

BART

(Packing a Radioactive Man
doll)

I know. I've had sometime to think
about what mom said, and I decided
the best way to get older is to run
away.

LISA

What?! You can't do that! What will
I tell mom? What about school?

BART

Don't worry sis. Mom and dad wont
even notice I'm gone. That's why
I'm going to need your help.

LISA

What? I'm not going to help my
brother run away.

BART

Please sis. I really need to do
this.

LISA

No, I will not.

BART

(Off Screen)

Sorry sis. I'm already outside.

Lisa see's Bart outside by the hammock.

LISA
(Frustrated)
Grr, fine! I'll get Milhouse to
portray you.

BART
Yes. Alright world here I come.

He turns and walks into the tree. Lisa is embarrassed.

BART
Alright world, here I really come.

He runs out of the yard and Lisa groans as she heads back to bed.

DAY 3: Lisa sits in her room patiently. Milhouse enters through the window and slips onto his back.

MILHOUSE
Ow, my back.

LISA
You came. Does that mean you got my message?

MILHOUSE
Yes. I'll do anything to save my friend and win my fair lady's heart.

LISA
Eew. You can't even beat him in a game.

MILHOUSE
(With a weird accent)
Your right Lisa, I didn't have the courage. I was a wimp and I realize that now. I'm dearly sorry.

LISA
What's with the weird accent?

MILHOUSE
I thought it would brighten the mood. But I meant every word. So, what do I have to do?

Later in Lisa's room, Lisa is fixing Milhouse's hair. Milhouse is wearing Bart's clothing yet doesn't look at all like Bart.

BART (MILHOUSE)

You want me to look like Bart and go to school as him?

LISA

Yes, and act like him too. Portray him with a little enthusiasm. Mom and dad can not know Bart ran away.

BART (MILHOUSE)

Bart ran away! He told me he went hiking and didn't tell his parents! (He cries which quickly dwindles)

LISA

Oh brother this is going to be harder than I thought.

Later in the Kitchen, Homer is reading the newspaper and Marge sits across from him. The caption, "Mayor Quimby is banning illegal waste" is the highlight of the newspaper. Underneath is a picture of Mr. Burns surrounded by waste with the caption, "Recycle illegal dumping, don't waste it. Call (555) 682-BURN"

HOMER

Look at here. Mayor Quimby is going to ban illegal waste dumping.

MARGE

Finally, I can tell the town about the waste burning in our basement. Lisa will be very happy to hear that. Speak of the devil. Oh, pardon me.

Lisa and Milhouse stand in the door frame. Milhouse doesn't look at all like Bart, but Marge and Homer don't seem to notice.

LISA

Did I hear illegal waste dumping was banned?

BART (MILHOUSE)

Don't be full of yourself sis- I mean Lis -the law still has to be passed.

MARGE

Bart's right that does have to happen to make it official. Now here's your lunches. Enjoy it you two. Now out the door. Quick quick.

She pushes them out the door and Milhouse bumps the side.

BART (MILHOUSE)
Mo- I'm okay.

LISA
See you at work today dad.

HOMER
What? Oh right. I'll be working.

The kids leave leaving Marge and Homer alone.

MARGE
Bart seems odd today. It could just be stress, but, he bumped into the wall and almost for me. That's very unusual for him.

HOMER
Seemed fine to me Marge. Now I'm off to work.

He leaves hitting his head on top of the door frame.

HOMER
D'oh. I'm okay.

On the School bus Otto drives with his hands off the wheel as Principal Skinner talks to the kids. Otto is playing air guitar as he makes sounds of the notes to "Iron Man".

SKINNER
Now class, as you all may know we are heading to the power plant. (The kids cheer)(Lack of enthusiasm) Mr. Smithers has offered to show us around again and to teach us not to dump illegal waste. (To self) Hmm, Bart hasn't tried to prank me yet. Hope he's not still upset about yesterday.

The bus turns onto the interstate and we see through the woods on the other side. Bart can be seen wandering a path in the woods dehydrated and with his hair rustled.

BART
So thirsty. Haven't drank in (Looks at his Krusty the Clown watch) only six hours.(Groans) Oh man, it felt longer when I was in school. Well mom told me to grow up and I gave
(MORE)

BART (cont'd)
 her my word, (Remorseful) but maybe
 I was wrong to run away. I miss my
 friends and family, and (Kicks a
 stone) I actually miss being
 bullied in school...

In a thought bubble Nelson punches Bart in the chest.

BART(CONT'D)
 Mom's pork chops...

Pork chops float in the air around Bart.

BART(CONT'D)
 ...Lisa's annoying saxophone
 playing...

Lisa's sax appears and plays a tone.

BART(CONT'D)
 ...Dad chocking me. I can still
 feel him choc-ack-king me.
 Ack...ack.

Nelson pops out of a bush near by and it is shown that a
 snake is chocking Bart.

NELSON
 Haw-haw. Bart Simpson? What are you
 doing out here? What ya saying?
 Huh, I can't hear ya?

He rips the snake from Bart's neck and flings it into the
 berry bush he came out from.

BART
 I said, "Aah, Nelson what are you
 doing out here?"

NELSON
 Not even a polite 'thank you?' I'm
 appalled.

BART
 (Rubbing neck)
 Sorry, thank you. So, why are you
 not in school?

He finds himself picking berries and chucks them aside in
 disgust.

NELSON

I was just about to ask you the same question. I'm out picking berries for my dad. Skinner thinks I am sick so if you even think about telling anyone that I pick berries with my dad on Fridays then you'll be seeing me all the time till you pay and I ain't in the mood for that. So, why are you here?

BART

(Regretfully)

I ran away.

NELSON

Bart don't feel down. Come to the camp and relax. You can tell us your story there. And remember, If anyone asks if you saw me, you didn't.

Bart tugs at his collar.

NELSON

Pa, we got a visitor.

In the Power Plant, Mr. Burns is giving a lecture to the class. There is a power point behind him showing his face.

MR. BURNS

...and so I decided to dump the was-

SMITHERS

(To Mr. Burns)

Uh sir, the law that might pass?

MR. BURNS

(To Smithers)

Oh, right. That.(Chuckles)(To class) I have created a policy that will help recycle old waste and energy and keep it from getting dumped illegally.(The class cheer) Excellent!

SMITHERS

(To Mr. Burns)

And what's that sir?

MR. BURNS
 (To Smithers)
 Just go with it. If it keeps those
 damn reporters away then so be it.

There is a flash in his eye and a news reporter runs off
 screaming with joy.

MR. BURNS
 See what I mean?

SMITHERS
 The tour sir.

MR. BURNS
 Right. (To the class) Well class...

His voice is faded away as the camera closes in on Lisa. Her
 look changes to concern as we hear her voice in her head.

LISA
 (Shocked)
 Oh, no, did I hear Mr. Burns right?
 He's planning on dumping illegal
 waste. I need to tell someone but I
 need more proof.

She sneaks towards a door and leaves the room. Milhouse
 spotting this follows her.

ACT 3

Back in the forest, Bart and Nelson are sitting and eating
 blueberries by a tent.

NELSON
 So you're saying that you were
 grounded and the same night you had
 a dream that your parents where
 calling for you to play video games
 with them. That's creepy.

Mr. Muntz comes towards the boys carrying food.

EDDIE MUNTZ
 Hey boys. Ya hungry?

BART
 What ya got?

EDDIE MUNTZ
 Clam soup.

BART

Nah.

NELSON

No thanks Pa. Bart was just telling me about how he was grounded for playing too much video games and his parents told him to grow up so he decided to run away.

EDDIE MUNTZ

Bart, you ran away?!

BART

(Ashamed)

Yes, I thought it would help me grow up quicker and now I'm lonely.

A fire sparks in the fire pit and they fall back in shock. Bart curls into a ball.

BART

Ahh, what's going on with the fire. Wish mom was here to comfort me. Mommy. Mommy. I miss my mommy.

EDDIE MUNTZ

Ever since Mr. Burns has been dumping waste here illegally, it's been polluting the air and starting random fires.

A tree ignites in flames behind him.

NELSON

It's worse than smoking cigars, but with le-

BART

I just remembered there's a trip to the Power Plant today. I can hitch a ride there that way I can return home right after I spoil Mr. Burns plans. He he. Can you guys give me a ride.

EDDIE MUNTZ&NELSON

Sure.

Back at the Power Plant, Lisa enters into Mr. Burns empty room. She walks in quietly and there is a creak behind her. She turns to see Milhouse.

LISA
 Milhouse, I mean Bart, I mean
 Milhouse...ugh...what are you
 doing?

BART (MILHOUSE)
 I should be asking you the same
 thing.

LISA
 (Hearing voices in the
 hallway)
 Quick, close the door and hide.

In the hallway, Lisa peeks through the crack in the door.
 Smithers leads the class.

SMITHERS
 ...and so this concludes our tour
 of the plant. Any questions?

RALPH
 Can I go to the bathroom?

SMITHERS
 (Annoyed)
 Yes you can go to the bathroom.

RALPH
 I just did.

Everyone are disgusted.

SMITHERS
 Anything else?

MARTIN
 Where are Bart and Lisa? They
 haven't been in class since the
 auditorium.

SKINNER
 Dear Lord. He's right. We've got to
 find them.

Lisa is shocked and the door slips closed. Mr. Burns hears
 the click.

MR. BURNS
 (To Smithers)
 Smithers, I'll be in my office.
 Make sure I am not disturbed.

SMITHERS
The kids sir?

MR. BURNS
I'll check over the monitor.

Inside Burn's office, Lisa eyes Milhouse before hiding under Burns desk. The door creaks open and Lisa watches as Mr. Burns enters. She motions Milhouse to hide behind a chair. He hides behind it and the hair on his head shows.

MR. BURNS
I know you're in here. (He moves
towards the middle of the room)

Lisa feels for a drawer on the desk as she continues to watch.

MR. BURNS
(Off screen)
I see you. A-ha! Dang nab it.

Lisa grabs onto a handle of a drawer and pulls it open as she gets on her knees. Seeing Burns isn't looking, she looks inside the dresser.

LISA
No. Not this. Don't need that.
Definitely not that. Oh, this is no
use. (Notices a folder under a
slip) Hello.

MR. BURNS
If you don't come out now, I'll
release the hounds.

BART (MILHOUSE)
(Coming out of his hiding
spot)
I surrender. Just don't release the
hounds.

LISA
(Faint whisper)
Milhouse. No!

MR. BURNS
Which child are you?

BART (MILHOUSE)
Bart Simpson sir.

MR. BURNS
Simpson, eh? Your dad would be very
proud. Come with me.

BART (MILHOUSE)
No can do.

MR. BURNS
(Infuriated)
D'oh. Come back here!

Milhouse runs towards the desk and points to Lisa than down.
Lisa watches Milhouse motion to her.

LISA
What?

BART (MILHOUSE)
(Yelled)
Press the button.

MR. BURNS
(Struggling after Milhouse)
No! Don't press the button.

Lisa sees the red button and pushes it. Nothing happens.

LISA
Nothing happened.

BART (MILHOUSE)
(Running past trap)
Darn it.

He runs into the desk.

MR. BURNS
A-ha. Got you.(He struggles to grab
Milhouse)

BART (MILHOUSE)
(Defeated)
I'll just walk myself out.

Outside in the hallway, Homer, Marge, Smithers, and Skinner
and the class wait. They are relieved when Milhouse exits
the room.

HOMER
(Hugging Milhouse)
Son, you're okay. Where's Lisa?
(Lisa comes out) Lisa. We've missed
you.

MARGE

Oh I've missed you Bart. (Kisses
Milhouse several times)

EVERYONE

(Various greetings)

MILHOUSE

Everyone. I have a confession to
make. (Fixing his hair) I'm not
Bart. (Everyone gasp) I'm Milhouse.

There is a rumble and Mr. Burns "rushes" out of his office.

SKINNER

What's that?

MR. BURNS

Nothing to be alarmed about
everyone. (To Smithers) Close the
gates. Some manic's driving towards
us at an alarming speed.

SMITHERS

(To Mr. Burns)

I've got this sir. (To Class) Class
if you'd follow me please.

Smithers begins to gather the class. There is another rumble
as a truck crashes through the wall to the side. Smoke and
debris billows up. Two small figures can be seen emerging
from the smoke, soon followed by a larger figure. It is
Bart, Nelson and Mr. Muntz.

SKINNER

Good Lord, Bart and Nelson! What's
going on?

BART

I accuse Mr. Burns of dumping waste
illegally in the Springfield
forest. (Regretful) And mom and
dad, I'm sorry I ran away.

MARGE

(Hugging Bart)

Oh, Bart. I'm just glad you're
alright. I was so worried about
you.

HOMER

Son, I'm glad you're alright.

LISA
Bart, what are you doing here?

BART
Well...

Later outside the plant after lots of explaining. Homer, and the family walk with Milhouse towards the sunset. In the background Burns is being interrogated by Chief Wiggum.

HOMER
You know boy, I'm very proud of you. Even though I got fired, again, you still made the right decision.

BART
Thanks dad.

LISA
What? I foiled Mr. Burns plan?

HOMER
Now Lisa, I think it's Bart's time to shine. (To the family) Now who wants Krusty Burger?

BART&LISA
I do. I do.

They walk past the camera towards the sunset. Fade to credits. Otto's silhouette can be seen of him playing air guitar as he sings "Iron Man" After a while his silhouette disappears and he can be heard humming the tune.