

NOAH'S BIG ADVENTURE

Written by

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INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway is empty.

Principal Mueller, (50's) steps out of his office.

He strides forward and stops, abruptly.

He pulls a walkie talkie out of his pocket.

PRINCIPAL MUELLER

Tell Miss Fitz to meet me in the
cafeteria.

He puts the walkie talkie away and moves on - a man on a mission.

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - RESTROOM - DAY

JOEY (15), a peer tutor, presses his forehead to the door of a locked bathroom stall.

JOEY

You're gonna be in trouble.

NOAH (O.S.)

I'm a grown boy.

Joey peers out into the hallway -

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INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

He scans the hallway -

It's still empty.

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - RESTROOM - CONTINUOUS

Joey turns back to the locked stall.

JOEY

The bell gonna ring. We gotta' go
home.

INT. - BATHROOM STALL - CONTINUOUS

Hands grip the straps of a backpack.

Feet jam against a locked bathroom stall.

*

NOAH (O.S.)

I'm a boss. I'm a beast. No matter
how big you are, don't mess with
me.

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - RESTROOM - CONTINUOUS

JOEY

Math is hard for everyone.

Principal Mueller pushes into the bathroom. *

PRINCIPAL MUELLER

Noah....

INT. BATHROOM STALL - CONTINUOUS

The door is pulled open - revealing Noah (15), with Down
syndrome, perched, fully clothed, on a closed toilet lid. He
looks up - defiant. *
*
*

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Students rush toward the pickup line. *

Principal Mueller tugs Noah through the crowded hall.

All eyes turn toward them.

The crowd parts -

NOAH

I'm a boss! I'm a beast!

McKayla (17), a teenage dream doing her best to downplay her
beauty, looks up from emptying her locker.

She shakes her head -

MCKAYLA

Noah...

Noah's eyes cling to McKayla's face. He's in love.

The other students take up McKayla's chant. A murmur rises -

STUDENTS

Noah. Noah. Noah.

Joey hurries alongside Noah.

LOUD SPEAKER (V.O.)
Miss Fitz. Miss Fitz. Report to the
lunch room.

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Students rush past them - obvious. *

Noah slumps down at a lunch table.

JOEY
You'll do better tomorrow, right?

Noah shakes his head, no.

PRINCIPAL MUELLER
I've got this, Joey. *

Joey hands Noah's behavior report to Principal Mueller and dabs Noah up before rushing toward his bus.

Principal Mueller scans the crowd impatiently, looking for -

MISS FITZ, as sweet as they come and frayed to her last
nerve. *

Mueller hands her the report and disappears into the flow of
students. *

MISS FITZ
Oh boy.

She scans the report. *

MISS FITZ (CONT'D)
What's your mom gonna say?

NOAH
Please don't tell my mom!

Miss Fitz nudges Noah toward the buses - Noah won't budge. *

MISS FITZ
Your bus is loading. *

NOAH
I'm not going home.

Noah takes the report and shoves it into his pocket.

MISS FITZ
You can't stay here.

NOAH
I have a High Valley.

MISS FITZ
Where do you think you're going?

*

NOAH
With my friends.

MISS FITZ
If you miss that bus, your mom has
to come.

NOAH
Don't call my mom.

Miss Fitz pulls out her phone.

MISS FITZ
I'm calling her.

Noah bolts.

INT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Noah barrels through students.

Miss Fitz rushes after him.

EXT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Cars choke the pickup lane.

Noah zigzags - diving onto a crowded school bus.

INT. SCHOOL BUS - CONTINUOUS

Noah spins, breathless and slumps into the front seat.

The bus is claustrophobic chaos.

Miss Fitz stands on the sidewalk, staring up through the
dirty bus window - phone limp in her hand.

Noah, frustrated, feels her gaze - then spots the bus driver -
a substitute!

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER
I don't have the route.

Noah leans toward the driver.

NOAH
I'm not on the bus.

The driver rolls her eyes.

BUS DRIVER
Where do you think you are?

NOAH
I'm on a High Valley.

Impatient, the driver turns to Noah.

BUS DRIVER
Then go find your ride.

Noah peers out through a window covered in fingerprints -

Miss Fitz gives Noah an encouraging thumbs up.

Noah waves back - with a knowing smile -

Miss Fitz disappears into the school.

EXT. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Noah leaps triumphantly onto the sidewalk.

Alex (18), a student with Williams syndrome, lowers the window and leans out.

ALEX
Where you goin', Noah?

NOAH
I'm gonna be independent!

8 track and field athletes run past Noah - jostling him.

The bus pulls away.

Noah's phone rings.

Caller ID says MOM.

NOAH (CONT'D)
What?

JODI (O.S.)
Hi Baby, Miss Fitz said you had a
bad day?

Noah hangs up.

NOAH
I'm not a baby!

Mikayla exits the school and approaches the bike rack.

Noah shoves the phone in his pocket and rushes toward her.

NOAH (CONT'D)
I need a ride.

MIKAYLA
Are you in trouble again?

NOAH
PLEASE!

Mikayla mounts the bike and turns toward him.

MIKAYLA
Where do you think you're going?

NOAH
On my big adventure!