

MELON HEADS

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM- DAY

BRODIE, a lanky and melancholy sixteen year-old girl, sits in a cushion chair with a dead pan face. She is embroidering a watermelon onto a piece of cloth.

MOM (O.S.)

Brodie! Brodie, come here. Your package is here!

Brodie ignores her and continues eating her watermelon.

MOM (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Brodie!

Brodie shrugs her shoulders and rolls her eyes, setting her half watermelon down next to her. She gets up and walks toward her MOM, a middle aged woman with curly brown bed head and smeared makeup from the day before. She has a huge forced smile.

BRODIE

I didn't order anything.

MOM

It's from me!

Her mom reaches into a yellow bubble wrap package and pulls out an odd object in a silicon casing. A smile consumes her face.

MOM (CONT'D)

I bought you a butcher knife on Amazon!

Brodie is bewildered and tilts her head.

MOM (CONT'D)

You said you wanted to be a butcher!

BRODIE

(Under her breath)
Like six years ago.

MOM

Look, it has a pink grip. I know you like pink.

BRODIE

Thanks mom.

Her mom walks away.

Wait Mom! I wan't to talk to you
about...

MOM

Tell me later Brodie. I have work
to do.

Brodie returns to her usual dead pan face and looks down at
her knife before walking away.

CUT TO:

INT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Brodie stands at the front door of her house preparing to go
out for a walk. She yells to her sister, ASHLEY, up stairs.

BRODIE

Ashley! Wanna go on a walk with me?

No Response.

BRODIE (CONT'D)

Ashley!

ASHLEY (O.S.)

What do you want!

Without making an expression or reacting Brodie takes off her
shoes leaving them at the door and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Brodie sits at a nicely set, wooden dinner table. Her mother
reaches over her shoulder to plop a scoop of mashed potatoes
onto her plate.

BRODIE

That's enough.

Across from Brodie sits her father ROBERT, a tall man with a
black scruffy beard that barley hides his seemingly permanent
frown.

Next to him is Brodie's younger sister, ASHLEY, a 13 year old
who also wouldn't be caught dead with a smile. She has two
long black braids.

Brodie's mother continues to make her rounds around the dining table scooping mashed potatoes onto the other family member's plates.

ROBERT

Ashley, get me a diet will you.

Brodie's mother drops the spoon into the bowl of mashed potatoes and sets it down on the table. Her forced smile disappears for the first time and she lets out a huge frustrated breath.

MOTHER

Get your own damn diet!

Mother makes her way around to her seat and joins the family at the table.

Ashley points directly at Brodie across the table.

ASHLEY

She can get you a diet. She never does anything!

Brodie, still bearing a blank face, doesn't respond. She walks into a different room.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Brodie reaches into the fridge grabbing a can of soda.

MOTHER (O.S.)

Brodie no! Sit back down. He can get his own drink.

ASHLEY (O.S.)

Brodie! Get me one too!

Brodie shakes the can of soda vigorously before walking back to her family.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Brodie walks up to the table and hands the soda to Robert. He immediately opens it. The soda spews from the can all over Robert and his mashed potatoes. Turning them a tint of brown.

BRODIE

You're welcome.

She curtsies and exits the room, expressionless.

Ashley looks to Robert.

ASHLEY
She didn't get me one.

MOTHER
Get your own goddamn diet.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Brodie sits with her legs crossed on the floor of her bedroom. Her room resembles that of a girl much younger than her. Toys on the floor and an overpowering pink tint.

She is flipping through an old photo book laden with baby pictures of her and Ashley and cheesy posed photos from family vacations.

She comes across one picture and stops flipping. It is of the entire family. They are in Hawaii. Palm trees line the horizon and each family member is wearing a lei. They are happy.

She pulls the picture out of the book and shuts the album. Brodie looks up, holding the picture out in front of her. Behind it are three melons lined up: A watermelon, a cantaloupe, and a honeydew.

MONTAGE

- Brodie still sits with her legs crossed on the floor. She grabs a paper grocery bag and tips it upside down dumping its belongings out. Miscellaneous pieces of candy, toothpicks, flower leis and the colorful umbrellas used to decorate fruity cocktails fall out.

- Brodie rolls the watermelon so that it sits in front of her. She grabs two pieces of candy pinning them to the melon with toothpicks to resemble eyes.

-Brodie rolls the cantaloupe up so that it sits in front of her. Candy eyes are already pinned to it. She grabs another piece of candy and pins it to resemble a nose.

- Brodie rolls the last and smallest melon in front of her, the honeydew. It has eyes and a nose already pinned to it. She grabs a piece of licorice and pins it below the candy nose to resemble a smile.

END OF MONTAGE

All three melons sit up next to one another with licorice smiles. They now have wigs on and Hawaiian flower crowns. The small honeydew has black braids. The Cantaloupe has a curly brown wig. The watermelon has a black scruffy beard.

Brodie holds up the cheesy family photo next to the melons again. The resemblance is obvious. She nods with a deceitful grin in awe of her creation.

BRODIE
Mom, Dad, Ashley, would you like to
go on a walk with me?

The watermelons don't respond.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
I was hoping you'd say that!

CUT TO:

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Brodie walks down the sidewalk dragging an old red wagon behind her. The wheels squeak with every rotation they make.

Inside the wagon are all three melons. Brodie sings an upbeat song under her breath.

An old man, CARL, walks toward Brodie and her melon family on the sidewalk.

Brodie looks back to the melons.

BRODIE
Smiles on. Act natural.

CARL
Hey Brodie!

They stop on the sidewalk to chat.

BRODIE
Carl! How goes it?

CARL
Pretty grand. How's the family?

Brodie gestures to the melons.

BRODIE
Ask them yourself.

Carl tilts his head in confusion and pauses briefly before breaking into a slight laugh. He continues walking.

CARL
See you later Brodie.

Brodie proceeds in the opposite direction once again. Mumbling under her breath to the melons.

BRODIE
Crazy old man.

She stops at a bench and sits down, parking the wagon in front of her. She grabs the melon resembling the mom and sets in on her lap.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
I miss talking to you Mom.

The melon doesn't respond.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
Yeah, yeah. I've been meaning to show you.

Brodie reaches into her pocket and pulls out a small piece of cloth with melons embroidered on it.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
I've gotten really into embroidery... Yeah, it's us!

Brodie softly smiles and sits in silence with her melon mom still in her lap.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

The melons are lined up in a semi circle. Brodie approaches them with the board game Monopoly in her hands.

BRODIE
You guys have no idea how long I've been waiting for a family game night.

She sets down the game in front of the melons.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
I'll be right back. I'm going to grab us all some diet!

Brodie turns around and begins to exit the room.

BRODIE (CONT'D)
What was that Ashley?

BRODIE (CONT'D)
Yes! Of course you can be banker!
Oh and dibs on being Iron... I'm
always Iron.

She continues out the room. As she exits she slams the door behind her. The slamming of the door shakes the room, tipping over the carefully balanced melons.

The melons fall like dominos knocking one another over.

MONTAGE

- Monopoly money falls and flies through the air like rain.

- The melon that resembles Robert lies on its side, knocked over. One of his eyes is knocked off and his smile droops.

- Monopoly money continues to fly along with little houses and game pieces in chaos.

- The melon head that is the Mother is tipped over missing pieces of its face.

- Miscellaneous Monopoly pieces and cards still fly in chaos.

- The melon head of Ashley is missing its nose and mouth. Its black braids have fallen off and sit next to it in a pile.

- The entire family of melons has fallen apart. Pieces of their faces lie on the ground and around the game board intermixed with piles of the monopoly money and game pieces.

END OF MONTAGE

Brodie reenters the room with four diet sodas. As she approaches her melons and the game her mouth widens and she screams in anger.

She drops the sodas and they spew everywhere.

MOTHER MELON (V.O.)
Later Brodie, I have work to do.

FATHER MELON (V.O.)
Get me a diet!

ASHLEY MELON (V.O.)
She never does anything!

Without hesitation Brodie reaches onto her bedside table and grabs the butcher knife her mother got her. With the knife in hand she stops to examine the chaos.

She squats down and wipes everything off of the game board with her arm. Brodie rolls the melons onto it and begins hacking away at them with the knife using the monopoly board as a cutting board. Screams from the melons flood the room.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Brodie enters the dining room with a large bowl of fruit salad. Her family sits around the table with straight faces already eating and sipping on their diet soda.

MOTHER

I'm glad you could join us.

BRODIE

Sorry I disappeared for awhile. I had a splitting headache.

She takes her seat and sets the bowl of melon on the center of the table.

BRODIE (CONT'D)

I brought you guys some melon.

Her family reaches for the melon and begins eating it. Brodie grins in amusement.

FADE OUT.