

Willy's World
"Pilot"

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ACT ONE

EXT. ORBITVILLE - DAY

The town of Orbitville, 2536 A.D. PEOPLE whiz around with the help of jetpacks and flying skateboards.

A CONSTRUCTION WORKER points a remote control into an empty lot, and a building is erected instantaneously.

A shop window advertises "Holiday travel specials: Book now and your teleportation is free!"

The residents of Orbitville go about their day. This includes ALIENS, ROBOTS, HOLOGRAMS and HUMANS.

EXT. BACK ALLEY - DAY

A dumpster is labelled "Property of Cosmo's Cosmic Diner. No foraging, please!" In front of the dumpster, a backpack rests on the ground.

WILLY BRADSHAW (8 years old, small for his age, disheveled brown hair), pokes his head out of the dumpster. He jumps out, dusting some spaghetti off of himself. He bends down to the backpack.

WILLY

I found it, Gerblak!

GERBLAK (Willy's pet alien; basically a small blue blob with a face) pops out of the backpack.

GERBLAK

Squeak, squeak-squeak!

Willy reveals what he's holding: a small piece of metal coil.

WILLY

It's the last piece I need...

Willy reaches into the backpack and pulls out a crudely made toy rocket ship.

WILLY (CONT'D)

... for this.

He takes a second to attach the coil to the rocket, then sets it on the ground.

WILLY (CONT'D)

Just watch!

He strikes a match and lights a wick on the bottom of the rocket.

It shakes, smokes, and then takes off -- right through the restaurant window behind him.

Willy cringes.

WILLY (CONT'D)

Well, the good news is... it works.

INT. BRADSHAW LIVING ROOM - DAY

Willy's parents, MR. and MRS. BRADSHAW, sit in matching arm chairs, reading.

Diplomas, awards and pictures hang on the wall showcasing the Bradshaws' careers: "For improving intergalactic relations...", "Establishing trade between solar systems..." and "For longstanding service to the Department of Alien-Human Interstellar Relations (D.A.H.I.R.)"

Mr. Bradshaw reads a holographic newspaper that floats in front of him.

MR. BRADSHAW

It looks like the Milky Way Council is calling for another emergency meeting.

MRS. BRADSHAW

I knew President Lightyear would be impressed with your report.

The doorbell RINGS.

Mr. Bradshaw gets up from his seat to answer it. He opens the door, revealing a frowning Willy being held by the collar by the angry restaurant owner, COSMO.

MR. BRADSHAW

What is it this time, Cosmo?
Exploding toilet paper in the bathroom?

WILLY

They make exploding toilet paper?
Cool!

COSMO

Your kid threw a rock in my window.

WILLY

Rock? That was a handmade B-63 Sonic Rocket! I mean... I didn't do it.

Willy wrestles out of Cosmo's grip and over to his father.

COSMO

This is the last time, Bradshaw.
Your son is a menace. The zoo-keeper
is still trying to calm down his
penguins after that last episode.

WILLY

I thought they'd like hanging out in
the tiger den, Dad! I was trying
to... uh... foster penguin/tiger
relations, just like you.

MR. BRADSHAW

(ignoring this)
Sorry, Cosmo. We'll pay for the
window.

COSMO

Just keep that kid out of my dumpster.
(beat)
And come try our new dessert menu!

Cosmo leaves. Mr. Bradshaw closes the door.

MR. BRADSHAW

Dumpster?

Willy starts to slowly inch away.

MR. BRADSHAW (CONT'D)

Just a minute! What does a dumpster
have to do with a broken window? Or
a rocket ship? Willy!

INT. BRADSHAW LIVING ROOM - DAY

Willy sits on the couch pouting, his parents in mid-lecture.

MRS. BRADSHAW

You're eight years old, Willy. On
some planets, you could run for
president.

WILLY

Aw, Mom, I was just bored.

MR. BRADSHAW

We're not always going to be able to
get you out of a scrape, you know.

WILLY

I bet super-famous rocket racers
don't have to listen to their parents.

MR. BRADSHAW

Super-famous rocket racers clean their rooms, and don't feed penguins to tigers... usually.

MRS. BRADSHAW

(to Mr. Bradshaw)

Honey, it's almost four.

MR. BRADSHAW

Right, the meeting.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy, we've got to go to work, but this discussion isn't over yet.

MR. BRADSHAW

Why don't you go up to your room and think about what happened? We'll call Mrs. Ziffler to come watch you.

WILLY

Ew, Mrs. Ziffler? She smells funny.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy. Upstairs.

Willy stomps away, muttering.

WILLY

Like cats. She smells like cats.

INT. WILLY'S ROOM - DAY

Willy sits on his bed. His bedroom is full of toys, gadgets, and pictures of himself and friends.

He unzips his backpack, and Gerblak hops out onto the bed.

WILLY

Sorry, buddy. You heard them, huh?

GERBLAK

Squeak!

WILLY

They think they're the only ones who can save the galaxy. Just wait until I'm a famous rocket racer, then they'll want my help!

He puts his hands up, like he's steering a car. He pretends to drive.

WILLY (CONT'D)
Commander Willy Bradshaw saving the
world from the clutches of the evil...
um... Mr. Evil!

Willy leans to the left, leans to the right, bounces on the
bed.

WILLY (CONT'D)
Get ready to switch to hyper speed.
Three... two... one... GO!

INT. ROCKET SHIP - NIGHT - DAYDREAM

Willy, in a flashy silver suit and helmet, sits behind the
wheel of a large, expensive rocket ship.

WILLY
Another day, another solar system
that needs our help. Right,
lieutenant?

Willy looks over to the passenger seat, where Gerblak sits
in a mini silver suit and mini helmet.

GERBLAK
Squeak, squeak.

WILLY
There's only one thing to do when
the universe is in danger.

GERBLAK
Squeak?

WILLY
That's right... the Pinball attack.
Prepare for upside-down-ness!

Gerblak salutes, and fastens his seatbelt.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - NIGHT - DAYDREAM

The tiny rocket ship goes haywire, bouncing quickly against
planets and meteors like a pinball machine. It releases
light rays and beeping noises from its jets.

INT. ROCKET SHIP - NIGHT - DAYDREAM

Willy and Gerblak are bouncing around in their seats.

WILLY
Mr. Evil will never be able to cross
my protective field!

GERBLAK

Squeak, squeak squeak!

WILLY

You're right, lieutenant. Ice cream
sundaes would make saving the world
easier. Alert the president!

Willy steers a sharp turn, as...

MRS. ZIFFLER (O.S.)

William! What's going on up there?

INT. WILLY'S ROOM - DAY

The voice of MRS. ZIFFLER brings Willy back to reality. In his excitement, Willy has fallen off the bed.

WILLY

Nothing, Mrs. Ziffler! Just, um,
just doing my homework!

Willy picks himself up off the floor. He digs around in his backpack, and pulls out the rocket, now bent from its trip through Cosmo's window. It looks nothing like Willy's "dream" rocket.

WILLY (CONT'D)

I just know I could get this to fly.
Come on, Gerblak. Let's go fix it.

GERBLAK

(stern)

Squeak squeak...

WILLY

We'll be back before Mom and Dad get
home. They'll never know.

GERBLAK

(shakes a blobby finger)

Squeak!

WILLY

I'll stay away from angry restaurant
owners, promise.

Gerblak, unconvinced, hops into the backpack.

Willy grabs it and climbs out his window.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Willy walks down the sidewalk with his friend, KYLE (8).

WILLY

I swear I almost had it, Kyle. But then, it went left when it should have gone up.

KYLE

So, what do you think you'll get this time? Grounded? Your jet pack taken away?

WILLY

I don't know. They're at one of their big meetings right now. I'm hoping they'll forget about it... but they never forget anything.

KYLE

Hey, what is that?

They see a crowd of SPECTATORS on the sidewalk. Willy and Kyle use their size to their advantage, sneaking between legs to the front of the crowd.

Two ROBOTS are performing tricks.

Robot #1 vibrates. After a few seconds, he opens the hinge on his stomach, and pulls out a balloon-animal giraffe, which he hands to a LITTLE BOY nearby. The crowd applauds.

ROBOT #1

Would anyone like a monkey?

Robot #2 has his hand on a LITTLE GIRL's head.

ROBOT #2

Your brain waves indicate that you want to be a fairy princess, and you hate brussels sprouts.

The little girl giggles and runs off to her MOTHER, standing nearby.

WILLY

(to Kyle)

Let's go. Robots are weird.

KYLE

Yeah. Wait... why?

WILLY

I don't know... they're just not like us.

They sneak back through the crowd.

EXT. SIDEWALK - LATER

As Willy and Kyle continue to walk, they hear a RINGING.

Willy takes off his backpack, and unzips it. Gerblak, inside, grumpily hands him his video phone.

WILLY

Sorry, buddy. Were you sleeping?

Willy hits "view" on the phone. A video of his mother pops up.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy! Where are you? Get back home right now!

WILLY

Oh! Uh... mom! Sorry, see, Kyle... he... we...

MRS. BRADSHAW

Mrs. Ziffler was worried sick. I want you here right away. We have to talk, Willy.

WILLY

Okay.

He hits "end."

KYLE

You're definitely in for a grounding.

Willy picks up his pack, and they start walking.

WILLY

Hey, don't walk so fast.

KYLE

Your mom said you had to get home now.

WILLY

I know, I just want to enjoy my freedom while I still have it.

They slow down.

As they walk, they pass by more HUMANS, ROBOTS, and ALIENS of various types.

INT. WILLY'S HOUSE - DAY

Willy enters through the front door. He hears his parents in the living room.

MR. BRADSHAW (O.S.)
Willy, come in here please.

WILLY
Eep.

He steps into the living room. His parents, sitting in their chairs, look serious.

MRS. BRADSHAW
Sit down, Willy.

WILLY
Look, it was the craziest thing, I swear. I didn't want to go out, but Kyle said...

MRS. BRADSHAW
Honey, just sit. We have to tell you something.

Confused, Willy sits down on the couch.

WILLY
What's going on?

MR. BRADSHAW
We just had a very serious meeting with the D.A.H.I.R. The planet Quarkstar is threatening to declare war on the Milky Way. It looks like we're going to have to go away for a while.

MRS. BRADSHAW
... to prevent intergalactic conflict, dear.

Willy jumps up onto the couch, excited.

WILLY
Cool! I'll fight off a million aliens all by myself! Do I get my own rocket?

He starts shooting with finger guns.

WILLY (CONT'D)
Pow! Take that, and that! Zap!
Zzzaapp!

Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw exchange a look.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy...

WILLY

So, when do we leave?

MR. BRADSHAW

We are leaving next week...

MRS. BRADSHAW

... but you're staying here.

Willy's couch-bouncing comes to a halt.

WILLY

What? Aw... Mom!

MR. BRADSHAW

Son, it's just too dangerous. And you've got school.

WILLY

Well, how long will you be gone?

MRS. BRADSHAW

We're... we're not sure. Until we can reach an agreement.

Willy's not sure how to process this.

WILLY

Well... I'm not staying with Mrs. Ziffler.

MRS. BRADSHAW

We know.

WILLY

Can I stay with Kyle? Like a sleepover?

MR. BRADSHAW

Actually, we've decided you're going to live with the Roebucks.

WILLY

The Roebucks? Who are they?

MRS. BRADSHAW

They're our neighbours, Willy. You're moving next door.

OFF Willy, shocked.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. ROEBUCK HOUSE - DAY

The Bradshaws walk up to the door. Mr. Bradshaw is holding several bags, Mrs. Bradshaw is dragging a grumpy Willy behind her. Willy is wearing his backpack, and Gerblak's head sticks out.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy, stand up straight. You'll like the Roebucks, I promise. They're nice, and friendly, and... properly calibrated.

WILLY

Huh?

Mr. Bradshaw knocks on the door, and it whizzes open automatically. He sticks his head in.

MR. BRADSHAW

Hello? Robert? It's the Bradshaws!

INT. ROEBUCK HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

They step inside.

MRS. BRADSHAW

That's odd. Honey, you told them two o'clock, right?

MR. BRADSHAW

(shouting)

Hello?

A booming voice (ROBERT ROEBUCK'S) comes from nowhere.

ROBERT (O.S.)

Welcome, Bradshaws! Have a seat!

The Bradshaws walk through the house into...

INT. ROEBUCK LIVING ROOM - DAY

The house is very clean, very... metallic. Hard metal chairs and high-tech electronics fill the place.

The three Bradshaws sit down on the cold metal sofa.

WILLY

You're abandoning me in a house that doesn't even have cushions?

MR. BRADSHAW

Young man, the Roebucks are being very kind to look after you. I don't want you making any comments in front of them.

WILLY

No problem. They're not even here.

A hulking, ominous mass of metal (ROBERT) enters the room. He looms imposingly over the Bradshaws.

WILLY (CONT'D)

(freaking out)

Dad, these people have robots!

Mrs. Bradshaw reaches over to smooth Willy's hair.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy, these people are robots.

Willy takes a second to process this. He looks from Robert to his dad, to Robert to his mom.

He slumps back on the sofa.

WILLY

(to himself)

Robots aren't people.

Robert opens his mouth to speak. Instantly friendly, his intimidating appearance doesn't match his personality.

ROBERT

Hello! So sorry, I was just in the backyard. Good thing I have x-ray vision... saw you through the house!

Mr. Bradshaw gets up to shake his hand.

MR. BRADSHAW

Robert, you're looking well.

ROBERT

Thanks, just got my spring tune-up.

Robert opens his chest to show a fine-tuned assortment of lights and wires.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I've never felt younger. And this must be Willy.

Willy jumps back as Robert moves toward him.

WILLY

He's going to crush me!

Robert laughs, heartily.

ROBERT

I haven't heard that one in a while.
I like you, son.

Willy doesn't answer, continuing to stare.

MRS. BRADSHAW

I'm sure Willy would love to meet
Rona.

ROBERT

Of course. Let me call the girls.

Mouth closed, Robert transmits sound waves from an antenna on his head. His voice echoes from a P.A. system.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Rosalie! Rona! Come meet Willy.

Robert's wife, ROSALIE, hurries in. Constantly in motion, she is the perfect hostess.

ROSALIE

Hello! It's so good to see you all!
Are you comfortable? I've been
reading up on what makes humans
comfortable. We've got plenty of
food, and water, and oxygen. I picked
up three tanks just this morning!

RONA (O.S.)

You don't need to buy oxygen, Mother.
It's everywhere.

Their daughter, RONA, sulks in. A pre-teen robot, Rona has multiple bolt piercings, and red paint on her lips.

ROSALIE

Rona, stand up straight and say hello.
(to Willy)
You're just like I pictured you would
be! A human, only little! We'll
take good care of you, don't worry.

Mrs. Bradshaw nudges Willy, who is still in shock.

WILLY

Oh, uh... sure. Why would I possibly
be worried?

The Roebucks are unfamiliar with sarcasm.

ROSALIE

Great! Well, I prepared a few snacks.
This is all so exciting!

She zips out.

LATER:

The Roebucks and the Bradshaws sit in the living room, with a spread in front of them. Rosalie serves what looks like coffee.

Mr. Bradshaw goes to take a sip from his cup.

MRS. BRADSHAW

(whispering)

Honey, that's oil.

Mr. Bradshaw grimaces, and sets the cup down.

MR. BRADSHAW

Right. So, Willy goes to bed at nine, and you may have to push him to do his homework, but other than that, he's a well-behaved--

MRS. BRADSHAW

(interrupting)

Honey...

MR. BRADSHAW

Well, he's a precocious--

MRS. BRADSHAW

Honey.

MR. BRADSHAW

Well, just call us if there's any problem.

Willy looks around the room, noticing the photos of robot relatives throughout the years.

Various tools (pliers, etc.) sit on tables. A spare robot leg is in the corner.

Willy frowns: this is nothing like his home.

MR. BRADSHAW (CONT'D)

Well... if that's everything, I guess we should head to the launch pad.
Don't want to miss our flight.

The Bradshaws get up to go.

ROBERT

Don't worry, we'll take such good
care of Willy, he won't want to leave!

Willy rolls his eyes at this.

Mrs. Bradshaw kneels down in front of Willy. She gives him
a big hug.

MRS. BRADSHAW

We love you, Willy. Be good, and
remember we're just a videophone
call away.

MR. BRADSHAW

Just think of this as your own secret
mission, okay buddy?

WILLY

Sure, Dad.

They leave.

Willy sighs, and turns to the Roebucks.

WILLY (CONT'D)

So... do I get my own room, or does
everybody sleep in the toolshed?

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

Rosalie is fussing over the dinner table, arranging dishes
and trays of food.

Rona slinks in moodily, and sits down.

ROSALIE

Has Willy come out of his room yet?

RONA

I dunno.

ROSALIE

Is he unpacking?

RONA

I dunno.

ROSALIE

Oh, dear. I'm afraid he's not
settling in too well.

Robert walks in to hear the end of this.

ROBERT

Give him time, dear. We're only programmed to feel six emotions, but humans have so many more. I'm sure he's just getting used to us.

Robert looks around.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Mmm! Looks delicious!

He takes a seat at the head of the table.

Willy pokes his head meekly into the dining room.

WILLY

I smelled food.

Rosalie springs to attention.

ROSALIE

Yes! Have a seat! I'm so glad you joined us!

Willy sits down. Rosalie eagerly ties Willy's napkin around his neck, almost choking him.

WILLY

Thanks... gak... I... that's okay...

He loosens the napkin as Rosalie spoons a strange green concoction onto Willy's plate.

ROSALIE

I did some research on what humans like to eat. I think I'm really getting a hang of this cooking.

Willy looks at the mess on his plate.

WILLY

Uh... what is this?

ROSALIE

Broccoli stew with marshmallows.

WILLY

Gross!

Willy looks at Rosalie's smiling face, trying so hard to please him.

WILLY (CONT'D)

Um... gross means "delicious" now.

Satisfied, Rosalie settles down to enjoy her dinner.

Willy watches the Roebucks eat. They alternate between munching on tin foil and metal screws, drinking motor oil, and plugging themselves into the table's centerpiece - a generator.

ROBERT

So, Willy, I'll bet you enjoy watching TV.

WILLY

(shrugging)
It's okay.

ROSALIE

Have you seen "As the Bolt Turns"?
It's my favourite show!

WILLY

A robot can't have a "favourite" anything.

ROBERT

Sure we can. Willy, I think you'll be surprised at just how much we have in common.

WILLY

(under his breath)
I doubt it.

He sticks his fork into the broccoli-marshmallow stew, grimacing.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Willy walks to school with Kyle.

WILLY

They're weird. They eat tin foil. They don't even sleep, they just "power down." What are my parents thinking?

KYLE

I know, you should just unplug them! Or steal a chip out of their head or something! Then, you can stay with me!

WILLY

I think I have a better idea. Their house is just filled with spare parts.

(MORE)

WILLY (CONT'D)

I'm going to find the pieces I need
for my rocket ship. Then I'll run
away.

Willy and Kyle arrive at their schoolyard.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Kids hang around the schoolyard, chatting, playing basketball
or flying remote-controlled cars.

The cliques at this school are apparent. Humans hang out
with humans, robots hang out with robots. Blue aliens are
separated from green aliens. In one corner, a few of the
species interact, but they're clearly the outcasts.

Willy sees Rona hanging out with her robot friends, and she
sees him. They quickly avoid eye contact.

In another corner, the school bully, TURBO (human), holds a
kid upside-down shaking the change out of his pants.

KYLE

At least you don't have Turbo to add
to your problems, huh?

The bell rings, and everyone heads inside.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Lunchtime. The kids, aliens, etc. are eating their different
forms of food.

Willy and Kyle sit with two other human friends, MAX and
QUARK. They play with their food as they talk.

MAX

(in a robotic voice)
Willy. Would. You. Like. To.
Eat. A. Sandwich. Or. A.
Screwdriver?

Willy throws a grape at Max's head.

QUARK

Robots or not, having no parents
around is cool.

WILLY

Yeah? Then you go live with them.

Turbo approaches their table, accompanied by his gang of
followers.

TURBO

Bradshaw.

The boys all look worried.

WILLY

Hey, Turbo. You're looking really...
big. Would you like a grape?

TURBO

I hear you're living with robots.

WILLY

Just, you know, visiting.

TURBO

What kind of freak are you? Your
parents left you with a bucket of
bolts?

The other kids/species in the cafeteria are starting to notice
this scene.

AT RONA'S TABLE:

She whispers to her robot GIRLFRIEND.

RONA

Can you imagine? Living with a human.
That'd be so embarrassing.

AT WILLY'S TABLE:

Willy tries to save face.

WILLY

Well, you know, I was going to go
off and save the world with them,
but that's just so boring I decided
to stay.

TURBO

Is that lip? I don't like it when
people talk back to me.

WILLY

Oh, no Turbo. Really, I--

TURBO

I don't like you, Bradshaw. You and
me. Tomorrow, after school.

Turbo and his group leave.

KYLE

Oh, man! You and Turbo are going to
fight? You're dead!

WILLY

What? I can take him.

But Willy's expression shows he isn't so sure.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Willy and Kyle walk home from school.

WILLY
What am I going to do?

KYLE
What are the chances you can finish
your escape rocket by tonight?

Willy raises his eyebrow at Kyle.

KYLE (CONT'D)
Yeah, you're dead.

WILLY
You're not helping.

They walk in gloomy silence.

WILLY (CONT'D)
Ugh... I don't feel so good.

Willy's face lights up. That's it!

INT. WILLY'S NEW BEDROOM - DAY

The next morning. Willy lies in his bed at the Roebuck's. Mostly metal, this room is much less welcoming than his room at home.

Willy rolls around, moaning.

WILLY
Unnghh...

Rosalie and Robert stand over him, looking concerned. Rosalie is freaking out.

ROSALIE
We broke him! Oh... what's happening?
Robert, fix him.

ROBERT
I've heard of this. It's called a
"fever." He's overheating.

ROSALIE
Well, then let's inject him with
some coolant.

Willy jumps up.

WILLY

No!!

He lays back down.

WILLY (CONT'D)

I'll be fine. Really. Unnnnngghh...

Rona sticks her head in the doorway.

RONA

It's just germs, Mom. Humans are covered in them.

WILLY

(weakly)

I should stay home from school today. That's what my parents would want.

ROSALIE

Well, if that's what they would want...

Robert turns to Rona.

ROBERT

Rona, tell Willy's teacher he won't be in class today.

RONA

Dad! I can't be seen in the human classroom!

ROBERT

Rona.

Rona stomps out of the room.

RONA

My life is so unfair.

ROSALIE

I think I read somewhere you should feed a sick human... the... juice of a chicken. With noodles. I'll go do that.

ROBERT

We'll take good care of you, Willy.

They leave. Gerblak pokes his head out of the covers where he's been hiding.

WILLY

Robots are so gullible.

In unison, Willy and Gerblak fold their hands behind their heads, lay back, and grin.

INT. WILLY'S NEW BEDROOM - DAY

Later. Willy plays a hand-held video game, He throws it down on the bed.

WILLY
I'm bored.

Gerblak looks bored himself.

GERBLAK
Squeak.

WILLY
I know! Let's explore. Maybe we can find the piece I need for my rocket.

GERBLAK
(sternly)
Squuuueak...

WILLY
Relax, we won't get caught. We are top-secret agents on a mission! Besides, Mrs. Roebuck is probably glued to her soap opera.

They hop out of bed.

INT. ROEBUCK'S BASEMENT - DAY

Willy slowly walks down the basement stairs. Gerblak hops behind him.

He starts exploring the darkened room, picking up strange objects and inspecting them.

WILLY
Weird. They're like mad robot scientists.

He notices a robot (GRAMPS) in the corner. Willy approaches it. It's an older model, motionless, it appears to be broken.

Willy looks around the robot, inspecting it. He finds a switch on the back that says "ON/OFF" and switches it to "ON."

The robot shakes and sputters, lights flash, and gears grind.

It flicks its eyes open.

GRAMPS

Hey, I'm napping here!

Willy jumps back, nervous.

WILLY

Oh, sorry... I... I just...

Gramps notices Willy for the first time.

GRAMPS

Hoo, you must be from Rosalie's side of the family. Those new models look almost human.

WILLY

I am human! My name is Willy. The Roebucks are just, ah, watching me for a while.

(beat)

What are you doing down here?

GRAMPS

Hibernating. I'm a collector's item, you know. They don't make parts like this anymore.

He bangs on his stomach, indicating the parts inside.

GRAMPS (CONT'D)

What are you doing down here?

WILLY

Hiding. From a bully.

GRAMPS

Where is he?? I've got a few fights left in me.

Gramps gets riled up, almost falling over. Willy balances him.

WILLY

Not here, at school. I stayed home so I wouldn't get beaten up.

GRAMPS

Nonsense! If you want to beat the bad guy, you just have to outsmart them. Why, in the Aluminum-Tin battle of 2321, I whooped some metal butt by... eh... what was it again?

WILLY

Outsmarting them?

GRAMPS

That's right! Now...

Gramps start coughing violently, an "old man" wheezy cough.

WILLY

Are you okay?

GRAMPS

(coughing)

Just... just a second...

Finally, as though he were a vending machine, a small metal object pops out of Gramps' mouth. It looks like a remote control, but with only one single button on it.

GRAMPS (CONT'D)

A nano-transformer. It's as old as I am, but it should do the trick for you.

WILLY

What does it do?

Gramps looks around the basement. He points to an old vacuum in the corner.

GRAMPS

Watch closely.

Gramps points the transformer at the vacuum, and hits the button. A stream of red light zaps the vacuum, shrinking it to only a few inches.

GERBLAK

Squeak!

Gerblak runs over; it's now just his size. He pretends to do housework.

GRAMPS

Bet your bully doesn't have one of these.

Gramps tosses the transformer to Willy.

WILLY

Will it... will it hurt him?

GRAMPS

Nah, just stun him. And embarrass him a little.

WILLY

And I can take it?

GRAMPS

Sure you can. You're staying here now, so you're practically family!

Willy considers this for a second: family? Then...

WILLY

Thanks. I should get going. Come on, Gerblak.

Willy and Gerblak run up the stairs.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

Willy walks confidently through the schoolyard. Kids whisper as he walks past.

Kyle, Max and Quark notice him and run over.

MAX

Willy, what are you doing here?

KYLE

Turbo's looking for you. He's not happy.

QUARK

You're not going to fight him, are you?

Willy keeps walking, calm and cool.

TURBO (O.S.)

Bradshaw!

The boys stop and turn. Turbo looks at Willy with a sneer on his face. Willy looks back with a sneer. It's a showdown.

KYLE

Well, you won't have to live with the Roebucks if you're dead.

Turbo swaggers closer to Willy.

TURBO

You showed up.

WILLY

That's right.

Turbo cracks his knuckles.

TURBO

Let's do this.

(MORE)

TURBO (CONT'D)

I've got plans to flush someone's
head down the toilet in 10 minutes.

WILLY

Just let me get ready.

Willy takes off his backpack and puts it on the ground. He unzips it, and Gerblak (inside) hands him the transformer.

WILLY (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Thanks, buddy.

GERBLAK

(whispering)

Squeak.

Willy turns to face Turbo, transformer ready.

TURBO

What's that?

WILLY

My secret weapon.

Turbo laughs.

TURBO

What are you gonna do? Change the
channel on me?

Willy hits the button on the remote, and a beam shoots out at Turbo.

Instantly, he is transformed into a poodle wearing a beret.

POODLE TURBO

(confused)

Arf?

The kids/aliens/etc. watching this burst into laughter.

KYLE

What'd you do??

WILLY

Uh, I'm not sure! I'm new at this.

Willy hits the button again. The stream of light turns Turbo into a giant pineapple.

The schoolyard snickers and cheers.

Gerblak cheers Willy on from his backpack.

GERBLAK
Squeak! Squeaaak!

Willy hits the button a few more times: Turbo becomes a bicycle, a duck, an oversized spatula.

Willy fires one more time. Turbo returns to his normal form, sitting on the ground stunned.

TURBO
What the... Who?

He looks up at Willy.

TURBO (CONT'D)
You're crazy, man!

WILLY
Are you going to pick on me--

FROM WILLY'S BACKPACK:

GERBLAK
Squeak!

WILLY
Good point, Gerblak. Are you going to pick on me or my friends anymore? Because I think you look really good as kitchenware.

Turbo scrambles up off the ground.

TURBO
You're as weird as those robots you live with!

He runs off. The kids in the schoolyard cheer.

Willy shouts after Turbo:

WILLY
Thanks!

INT. ROEBUCK'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Willy enters, still excited about his victory.

Robert is fiddling with some type of gadget, parts strewn all over the table.

ROBERT
Well, you look like you're feeling better. Those human illnesses are certainly mysterious.

WILLY

Yeah well, I guess I wasn't as sick
as I thought.

Willy notices what Robert is doing. He slowly moves closer
to the table.

WILLY (CONT'D)

Hey, are you building a rocket?

ROBERT

Oh? Do you like rocket ships?

WILLY

Me? No, well... maybe a little.

ROBERT

I love 'em. I could show my
collection if you'd like.

Willy's eyes sparkle, but he acts nonchalant.

WILLY

Really? That'd be... you know, cool,
I guess.

Robert grins as he and Willy lean over the rocket pieces.

It's a nice moment.

Rosalie enters, agitated.

ROSALIE

Who woke up Gramps???

INT. WILLY'S NEW BEDROOM - DAY

Willy sits on his bed, holding his videophone. His parents
appear on the phone's screen.

MR. BRADSHAW

Are you behaving?

WILLY

Yes.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Are you sure?

WILLY

Aw, Mooommm!

MRS. BRADSHAW

Are you eating properly?

WILLY

I'm trying. Have you ever had
broccoli with marshmallows?

MRS. BRADSHAW

What?

WILLY

Never mind.

MR. BRADSHAW

And how's school? Are you doing
your homework?

WILLY

School is, well... I'm surviving.

MR. BRADSHAW

Do you still think the Roebucks are
weird?

WILLY

Yes. Absolutely.

MRS. BRADSHAW

Willy...

From the corner of his eye, Willy sees the nano-transformer
on his bed. He pushes it out of his parent's view.

WILLY

But, weird is actually kind of cool.

He smiles.

END OF ACT THREE

END OF EPISODE