

EPS GOLD UNIT 5

INT. A NEUTRAL CANVAS -- NIGHT

Melissa, a tween/teen girl, appears in one long medium shot. She wears whatever she wears to bed - a large t-shirt, perhaps. She is telling the camera about her day, as if confiding to a diary. To her left and right we see images, animations, photos, doodles, notes to herself -- the space around her should have the look and feel of the diary or scrap book of a very creative girl.

Open on Melissa. GRAPHIC: the words "Tuesday October 14" are scrawled across the screen, then fade out.

MELISSA

(rolling her
eyes)

What. A. Day. You will not believe the day I had. I'm telling you, no teenage girl should have to deal with the **issues** that this girl had to deal with today.

An animated alarm clock slides on and rings.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

I woke up late. Of course. I had to rush to get ready.

Animation of a cartoon Melissa very rapidly getting ready and running offscreen.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

And I'm walking to school and I see myself in the window of the diner -- GASP.

A doodle of Melissa with a some really freaky hair.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

You think you've had bad hair days?! You. Have. No. Idea. Normally I'm a who-cares-about-what-your-hair-looks-like-don't-be-so-shallow kind of girl, but this? Well, even my dog Chelsea wouldn't be seen with this hair.

A doodle of a long haired dog but with Melissa's hair. The dog puts its tail between its legs and slinks offscreen.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Plus there was a spaghetti stain on my shirt that I didn't see when I put it on.

Back to an image of Melissa with a stain on her shirt. A giant neon arrow appears, pointing to and drawing attention to the stain.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

So I'm frantically trying to comb my hair down and wash out the stain in the bathroom before class when Alisa comes bursting in...

A Polaroid of her friend Alisa appears to one side.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

And she's all mad and says "Everybody's saying you you like Derek Mars. Why didn't you tell me you like Derek Mars?"

An Polaroid of a cute but cocky-looking teenage boy appears on the other side.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

"Are you kidding?" I said. "He's only like the most arrogant, selfish, cocky, irritating imitation of a human being to ever walk the planet."

As she berates him, doodles appear on Derek's photo making him look like an animal or a devil.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

But she doesn't believe me and gets all huffy and leaves.

The images of Arisa and Derek fade away.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Sigh. What ever happened to the kind of [friendship](#) where

you support each other and take each other's side instead of quarreling and arguing about who you like and don't like? So anyway school hadn't even started and already I had to deal with a rat's nest of hair on my head, a spaghetti stain on my shirt and a vicious rumor about me floating around school.

As she lists these things, a little checklist appears itemizing each one ("Rat's nest hair. Spaghetti stain. Vicious rumor.") and a box next to each gets checked.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

The school day went fine but then as I was leaving school that bully Amelia Beech shows up.

Photo of a really mean looking Queen Bee appears.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

And she tells me that she's the one that started the rumor about Derek Mars and that she's going to start another rumor that I never wash my hair or my clothes 'cause I never did get the rat's nest sorted out and she saw my spaghetti stain in gym class. And I had just had it. So I reached into my backpack and pulled out my emergency coconut cream pie and I let her have -- right in her overly made up face.

An animated pie flies in and lands on the photo of Amelia.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Well, actually, I did the mature thing and I just walked away.

Image of Amelia fades away.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Actually I ran 'cause I was

late for my after school job at
the diner.

A cartoon image of Melissa appears. One by one the
elements of her retro waitress uniform adorn her - an
apron, a funny hat, a pair of black rimmed glasses, an
order pad and pen.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

And wouldn't you know it, who
walks in the door and sits at
my counter? The World's.
Worst. Customer.

Animation or photo of a cranky looking middle-aged man
appears.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Normally I like my job. I like
to earn my own money. I like
to be independent and I like
the responsibility. But when
Mr. Four Times sits in your
section, you know you're having
a bad day.

The image of the customer takes on a horror film aura.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

When this guy places an order,
he always changes it. FOUR
TIMES.

Image of an order pad with the order continually being
written and scratched out.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

When he gets his food, he
always complains and sends it
back. FOUR TIMES.

Doodles of food fly on and off the screen.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Well, today, when his hamburger
went back to the kitchen for
the fourth time, I had had it.

An image or cartoon of Melissa turns into a ferocious
version of her.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

"Listen!" I said. "Let's have a little compromise here. If you're going to change your order FOUR TIMES and send your food back FOUR TIMES then you're going to leave me FOUR TIMES the tip. Got it?"

Animation of Melissa surrounded by applauding hands, people tossing flowers, she's bowing like at the end of an opera.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

And everybody in the diner started applauding and that's when the day kind of took a turn for the better.

Images of Arisa, Derek and Amelia appear in order.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Arisa stopped by to apologize for not believing me, Derek Mars came in to ask me to go to the movies - I said no but he actually did look kind of cute - and Amelia Beech slipped and somehow ended up face down in her order of coconut cream pie. And Mr. Four Times left me the biggest tip in the history of Angie's Diner.

Images disappear.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

So like I said. What. A. Day. But in the end, not the worst day a girl could have.

She smiles at the camera. Reaches off screen and turns out a lamp. Screen goes to dark.