

WEIRDOS TOGETHER

Pilot

Written by

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1 EXT. THE BOARDING SCHOOL FOR DIFFICULT CHILDREN - DAY 1

A high mountain. On the top are two gray, glum, old, and outdated buildings surrounded by a dark grass garden and tall fences almost touching the sky. Each building has two turrets with a lighthouse (the typical lighthouse used in jails so prisoners won't break out).

It's The Boarding School for Difficult Children. Around the school, there's nothing, just the forest. The sky is dark. It's not a happy place.

2 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, HALL - DAY 2

We enter the building and see a poorly lit hallway with gray and sad walls. Many signs are pinned to the walls (we don't see now what's written).

ELMO (9), a skinny and sickly boy who wears a wristwatch too big for him, holds his **DAD's** hand tightly. His dad seems a humble and tired man. **Something's different about Elmo: unlike everything else, we see him in black and white (it will look like this until indicated otherwise).**

In front of them, the **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**, a towering and skinny woman in her 60s, is talking to them. She seems strict and wears ridiculously tiny glasses on her nose.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

You have made the right choice. At the Boarding School for Difficult Children, we specialize in helping youngsters like yours.

MISS REVE bends down behind the principal with a posture similar to The Hunchback of Notre Dame. She wears an evil smile, and a whistle hangs from her neck; she looks frightening and seems to be the principal's right hand.

Four other children, also in black and white until indicated otherwise, are gathered around the principal:

- **YAGO**, a nine-year-old short kid with messy hair, wildly jumps on a suitcase while furiously breaking school books.

- **TERESA**, a perfectly dressed nine-year-old girl, stands beside an expensive suitcase. She wears pigtails and enormous nerdy glasses and plays with an ant in her hands. She's lost in her own world.

- **CRISTINA**, a ten-year-old strong and tall girl, chews gum with a grim and threatening face. She carries her old, broken backpack slung over one shoulder.

- **AND LIA:** a tiny nine-year-old hiding her face behind her hair. She's sitting in a corner, rocking back and forth. There's a name written on her lapel: "LIA.". **HER NEW ADOPTIVE PARENTS** observe her, worried.

Elmo's dad lowers down to Elmo's height and hugs him. He gives him an action figure holding a spear.

DAD

Here they'll know how to help you.
You'll be ok. Just be a good kid
and study and graduate.

Elmo stands still next to his suitcase, holding the action figure tightly and contemplating his dad leaving. Lia's parents leave too.

A firm whistle is heard once the parents have left: Miss Reve's whistle. The children get startled by this. The principal stares intimidatingly at the children.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

This will be your home from now on.
One little infraction and the
punishment will be immediate.

The principal points at the signs hanging on the walls: "NO RUNNING," "NO PLAYING," "NO LAUGHING."

Elmo gets so nervous that his face turns red, and he can't avoid throwing up on the principal's shoes. Frightened, Elmo looks upwards to see the principal threateningly towering over him.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

Classes start at nine. You had
better not be late.

The principal walks away, marching like a soldier.

Elmo glances at his digital watch: it's 8:43:00.

Miss Reve pushes the kids inside one of the rooms in the hallway. She slams the door closed and walks away while cackling.

3

INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, ROOM - DAY

3

The five kids scrutinize the room: it's small and old and has some bunk beds. At the back, there's a tiny window. It's not very welcoming. Suddenly, the kids hear the sound of keys and children mischievously laughing in the hallway: someone has locked the door from the outside.

The five kids try to open the door, but it's stuck.

CRISTINA
 (shouting at the kids
 outside)
 YOU BETTER RUN!!

YAGO
 Cool! No class today!

ELMO
 B-but we have to go...

Cristina sets eyes on the action figure that Elmo still holds in his hands. She takes it off him.

CRISTINA
 We have a nerd amongst us!

Elmo tries to take his action figure back, but Cristina is taller. Elmo jumps and jumps, anxious. Teresa runs between them, pretending to be an airplane and laughing alone. Lia sits in a corner and hides her face in her hands. Yago jumps on a bed. The situation is a mess.

CRISTINA (CONT'D)
 Ohmygod, I'm surrounded by a bunch
 of weirdos.

YAGO AND ELMO
 I'm not weird!

Yago confronts Cristina.

YAGO
 I know about you, you're Cristina
 the Human Tower, you're here
 because your parents don't love
 you.

Cristina's face turns red, and she jumps on Yago, who falls on top of Elmo. The three of them fight, rolling on the floor.

TERESA
 Fight! Fight!

Teresa gets into the fight as if it were a game. She doesn't seem to understand the seriousness of the matter. She enjoys herself.

Elmo crawls away from the fight, holding his action figure in his hands. He looks thoughtfully at the ceiling and points to the air duct.

ELMO

W-we can go that way.

The kids keep on fighting. Lia keeps her head hidden in her hands. Elmo gets anxious.

ELMO (CONT'D)

WE CAN GO THAT WAY!

Yago, Teresa, and Cristina stop fighting and observe Elmo, surprised by the sudden yell. Lia looks at him too. They all look at the air duct.

CRISTINA

There's no way I'm getting in there.

ELMO

If we make a t-tower, we can reach it.

CRISTINA

I'm not going anywhere with you. I don't like you.

YAGO

I don't like you either.

ELMO

Ok, nobody likes nobody, but...
(he stares at his action figure)
w-we have to go to class... or they'll punish us.

YAGO

The stutterer's right.

Elmo gets on all fours under the air duct. Yago climbs on top of Elmo and also gets on all fours.

ELMO

I'm-I'm Elmo.

YAGO

And I'm Yago, who cares.

Teresa climbs on top of them, hurting them on her way up, and gets on all fours.

TERESA

Off on an adventure!!

ELMO

No... Not an adventure... We have to go to class.

YAGO

You, quiet girl, come up here and open the duct.

Lia climbs atop them and opens the air duct standing on her tiptoes. She enters the duct and offers her hand to Teresa, helping her up.

CUT TO:

4 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, ROOM/AIR DUCT - DAY 4

Yago is now in the duct holding Elmo by the hand, helping him up. Teresa and Lia hold Yago's waist. Elmo swings in the air, hitting his head with the duct. In the end, they manage to help him enter the vent. Elmo hesitates whether or not to offer Cristina his hand.

Cristina, who chews gum aggressively, roll her eyes.

CRISTINA

I don't need your help.

Cristina jumps and grips the air duct, which trembles because of the impact.

5 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, AIR DUCT - DAY 5

They all crawl through the narrow and dirty air duct. Lia goes first, followed by Teresa, Yago, Elmo, and Cristina.

TERESA

My cousin told me this school is haunted. Ghosts and monsters live here, and they kidnap children.

The air duct goes up, and the kids climb up a ladder.

CRISTINA

And you believe it?

YAGO

It's true. There's a legend about a boy who studied here and never left; no one's ever seen him again.

Elmo's face has turned green again; he's so anxious he vomits. Since they're climbing up a ladder, the vomit falls on Cristina's face.

CRISTINA
ARRGHHH!! I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!!

Elmo climbs as fast as possible. Cristina cleans her face and follows him, furious. The air duct is horizontal again. Elmo collides with Yago.

YAGO
Watch out, weirdo!!

ELMO
I'm not a weirdo!!!

Elmo, hurt, grabs Yago and crawls on top of him. Cristina takes advantage of him stopping and manages to stick her gum on his face. They fight. The duct's floor starts to give way; it's going to break!

TERESA
We're gonna fall!

Lia curls up into a ball. The air duct breaks! And they fall!

TODOS
AAAAHH!!!!

6

EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, ROOF - DAY

6

They've fallen on the building's roof on top of each other.

It turns out they were in the part of the air duct that goes over the roof. The five children get up and dust themselves off. Elmo removes the gum from his face and throws it on the floor with disgust.

They are near the edge of the roof. There's another school building not too far from where the kids are: it has a door on the roof that leads into the building. A wooden walkway connects the two roofs. The walkway is old and narrow. It is impossible to access the walkway since a tall fence surrounds it.

Elmo tries to push the fence, but it won't budge. He looks at his watch: it's 8:50:00. He points to the other building.

ELMO
Our classroom is in that building.

Yago, Teresa, Lia, and Cristina look at each other, angry, fed up.

CRISTINA

I've had enough of this nonsense.

ELMO

I'd also prefer to be at home playing alone, but I can't, I'm here and have to go to class. And it's better if we cross together.

Yago lets out a WAR CRY and runs to the gate, jumping past it.

Cristina rolls her eyes, grabs the edge of the fence with one hand (it's not very tall for her), pushes herself up, and jumps past it without much effort.

Teresa scampers towards the gate. She also manages to jump over it without further complication.

Lía is next to the fence, contemplating it paralyzed.

ELMO (CONT'D)

I am also t-terrible at sports.

Elmo clumsily climbs the gate and manages to get past it, only to fall on his ass on the way down. Yago, Cristina, and Teresa burst out laughing. Elmo looks at them angrily, then speaks to Lia, who is still on the other side of the fence.

ELMO (CONT'D)

It's okay. You can do it.

Lia climbs the fence and jumps to the other side. She does it better than Elmo (she doesn't fall on her ass when she goes down).

YAGO

(laughing)

The mute did better than the stutterer.

ELMO

Do n-not call me that!!!

Elmo is about to confront Yago, but Lía grabs his hand and smiles at him, calming him down. Elmo didn't see this coming. He doesn't know what to do. His face turns red, and he smiles, touched. **At this moment, Lía and Elmo go from black and white to color. (From now on, these two characters will be seen in color until otherwise indicated).**

7 EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL, DORMITORY, ROOF, WALKWAY - DAY 7

The five children stand at the beginning of the walkway. It's very high up and narrow; they better not fall...

Cristina looks down, frightened. Yago sees her and laughs at her.

YAGO

Cristina the Human Tower is afraid
of heights.

Cristina's face turns red with anger, and she approaches Yago, clenching her fists.

ELMO

Not here! We c-c-c-could fall!

YAGO

I'm not scared.

Yago begins to cross the walkway, determined. Cristina doesn't follow him; she stays still, too frightened to move.

ELMO

Wait! It's better if we go
together!

Teresa looks at Yago and smiles.

TERESA

(raising her fist)
Off on an adventure!!

And she runs down the walkway. Yago looks back and sees that Teresa is running right towards him. Yago gets scared and runs too.

Elmo is looking at his peers, stressed out. He looks down and swallows hard. He then begins to cross the walkway slowly.

Cristina is still paralyzed at the beginning of the walkway. Suddenly, someone takes her hand: it's Lia. Cristina looks at her, confused, and lets go of her hand.

CRISTINA

What you doing? I don't need your
help!

Lía looks at her disappointedly and begins to cross the walkway.

CUT TO:

8 EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL, WALKWAY/CLASSROOM BUILDING, ROOF - DAY

Cristina moves very slowly along the walkway. Yago, Elmo, Teresa, and Lía have already crossed and are waiting for her on the other roof.

Cristina is about to reach the other roof. Just one more step... But suddenly... She slips! Yago, Elmo, Teresa and Lía get scared. She almost falls over! Now, she's holding on to the walkway with one hand; if she lets go, she falls into the void.

Lia approaches her and offers her hand.

Cristina looks at Lia's hand, and, for the first time, we see guilt and shame reflected on her face.

Elmo approaches Lia and grabs her hand. Teresa holds Elmo's hand. And Yago grabs Teresa's. They thus form a human chain. **Teresa and Yago go from black and white to color too.**

Cristina accepts Lia's hand, feeling embarrassed.

They all pull hard, sweating from the effort, biting their lips. They pull and pull. Cristina is gradually rising, but she is a girl with a big body; it is not an easy task. They pull and pull more. Finally, they manage to get Cristina up and she climbs safely onto the roof.

Yago, Elmo, Teresa, and Lia are jumping, celebrating it.

YAGO, ELMO, TERESA Y LIA

(Cheering)

Yago, Teresa, and Elmo run happily towards the door. Cristina is about to follow them, but she stops. She looks at Lia, embarrassed,

CRISTINA

Umm... Uh... Thanks.

Saying this, **Cristina goes from black and white to color too.** Lia smiles.

9 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, CLASSROOM BUILDING, STAIRS - DAY 9

The five children rush down some spiral stairs that seem endless. The atmosphere is gloomy; it gives off negative vibes.

Suddenly... A SCREAM is heard (from Teresa). They all stop running.

YAGO
What happened?

Teresa is missing.

CRISTINA
The weird girl is missing.

Yago and Elmo are about to shout her name, but they realize something...

ELMO
Uhm... What was her name?

They go up and down the stairs looking for her, but they can't find her.

YAGO
A ghost must have taken her.

CRISTINA
(with a little fear that
she can't hide)
Shut up, ghosts don't exist.

TERESA
I'm here!! And my name is Teresa!

Yago, Cristina, Elmo, and Lia look upwards: Teresa is trapped in a net, hanging from the ceiling. It looks like some kind of animal trap.

The four children approach her.

TERESA (CONT'D)
WATCH OUT!!!

The four have stepped on another net, which closes on them and rises to the ceiling without giving them time to react.

YAGO, CRISTINA, ELMO AND LIA
AAAHHH!!!

They are now trapped, just like Teresa. But being trapped in the same net is even worse: they are tight and uncomfortable, stepping on each another.

YAGO
The ghosts did it!!

CRISTINA
Can you stop being such an idiot?

ELMO

We won't make it on time...

Suddenly, WE HEAR footsteps running in the distance along with CHILDREN'S LAUGHTER.

CRISTINA

There goes your ghost! They're the same kids as before. YOU BETTER RUN!!

YAGO

Do not step on me!

Yago is kicking the air, desperate. But they're so tight that Yago is kicking his schoolmates instead of the air.

At the same time, Teresa is swinging in her net, playing, laughing, having a great time. She crashes into her schoolmates' net each time she swings to the right.

CRISTINA

YOU are stepping on me!!

YAGO

But you are fatter!!!

Cristina gets very angry and jumps on Yago. They fight. Lia stays in a corner, hiding her head and rocking back and forth. Teresa continues laughing and swinging and colliding with her schoolmates' net. IT'S CHAOS.

Cristina, Yago, Lia, and Teresa go from color to black and white.

Elmo looks at his wristwatch: it's 8:58:00. He sighs and hugs his legs. **He goes from color to black and white.**

ELMO

We're not gonna make it...

CRISTINA

Nobody cares about your stupid class!!

ELMO

I do. I need to make my daddy proud.

Cristina and Yago stop fighting, touched by Elmo's words.

Teresa stops rocking and laughing too.

Someone takes Elmo's hand: it's Lia.

ELMO (CONT'D)

I've always been the worst at class, the dumbest. My daddy wants me to have a good job when I grow up.

CRISTINA

I haven't seen my family for 8 years, 5 months, and 2 weeks. And I've been to 27 schools. They kick me out of all of them because they're all afraid of me.

YAGO

I was also kicked out, because I break things and get into fights. But my parents don't care.

TERESA

(to Elmo)

I can help you with homework. All my friends are imaginary, it would be nice to have a real one.

There is a moment of silence, of complicity. In a way, they understand each other, they empathize with each other.

YAGO

Sorry for calling you names. I sometimes can't control myself.

CRISTINA

It's okay. We're
stutterers, (we see Elmo)
restless,
(we see Yago)
mute,
(we see Lia)
a little crazy,
(we see Teresa)
and rude.
(we see Cristina)
We're weirdos. But I think I kinda like it.

Elmo giggles (a sincere, well-meaning giggle). Everyone laughs; they feel good, at ease for the first time. **They all go from black and white to color** (from now on, they will always be seen in color).

Elmo looks at his watch, it's 8:59:00.

ELMO

But we are not going to make it.

Cristina looks at the net, smiling. She has had an idea. She then looks at Elmo, embarrassed.

CRISTINA
I have an idea, but... I'll need
your action figure.

Elmo takes his action figure and hands it to Cristina, who takes it gently.

CRISTINA (CONT'D)
Um... sorry about earlier.

Cristina uses the action figure's spear to cut the net: she's making a hole through which they can jump to the ground!

CUT TO:

10 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, CLASSROOM BUILDING, STAIRS - DAY 10

Teresa jumps to the ground from her net, clutching the action figure. The rest of the children are waiting for her (they've already jumped). Teresa hands the action figure to Elmo. They all run.

11 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, CLASSROOM BUILDING, HALL - DAY 11

The five children run down the hall as if the world is ending. Elmo looks at his watch: 8:59:50. 8:59:51. 8:59:52.

12 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, CLASSROOM BUILDING, ANOTHER HALL/CLASSROOM - DAY 12

They turn a corner. At the end of this hallway is a classroom with an open door. We see the teacher is inside, looking at her watch and smiling wickedly.

Lía stops running. She's exhausted.

CRISTINA
Don't stop!!

There is no time to think. Cristina runs to Lia and picks her up. They are very close to the class. 8:59:57. The teacher gets up and walks over to the door, smiling wickedly. The children inside the class crowd at the door, laughing at their new classmates, some of them high-five each other proudly.

Yago, Teresa, Elmo, and Cristina -with Lia in her arms- run faster. 8:59:58. The teacher grabs the door to close it with a big evil smile. 8:59:59.

But, in one last sprint, the five new kids get into class!
9:00:00. **THE BELL RINGS.**

13 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL, CLASSROOM BUILDING, CLASSROOM - DAY 13

The teacher closes the door, disappointed.

Yago, Cristina, Teresa, Lia, and Elmo catch their breath; they are exhausted. Their classmates sit, disappointed.

All the seats are taken, except the five seats at the back. Yago, Teresa, Cristina, Elmo and Lia head there. They each sit at a desk.

TEACHER

You at the back, you've been lucky
this time. We'll see if you can
survive here 364 more days.

The teacher laughs wickedly.

Yago, Cristina, Teresa, Lia, and Elmo look at each other. They are scared, but they smile. They have found something they didn't have until now: friends.

THE END.