

MILDRED'S



MOTEL

created by Mairenn Doyle
Huminah Huminah productions



Mildred's Motel is an animated comedy series starring a half-rodent half-woman who lives alone in a derelict Victorian fun-house turned motel.

Knock on her door and you'll discover a deranged cross between Roger Rabbit and your Grandma on LSD. She's the result of any number of lab experiments gone terribly wrong and she's on a freaky mission to make friends.... by any means possible.

Half woman, half rodent. All fun and games.



Mildred's sole objective in life is to establish and maintain a relationship with another human being. Unfortunately, her notion of friendship is fundamentally dysfunctional, as she lacks the normal hardwiring and emotional capacity required for human bonding. To make things worse, she has spent her life in solitude and the lives of normal people are a complete mystery to her. So, she has turned her house into a roadside motel in hopes of attracting guests and meeting potential companions. She relies on trickery and deceit to lure unsuspecting travelers into the confines of her motel and forcible confinement to keep them there.

Guests to Mildred's inn find themselves in a psychedelic Narnia on a steady drip of Nurse Ratched. There are trap doors, fun-house mirrors, and backwards ticking cuckoo clocks carefully adjusted by Mildred to induce a state of permanent delirium in their observers. Mildred loves to play and guests are guaranteed a round of hide-and-go-seek or perhaps a turn at musical chairs, but her favorite house game is tag.

'And you're it.'



Series Arc

Mildred's Motel showcases the entertaining antics of an outlandish character who never learns how to conform to social convention.

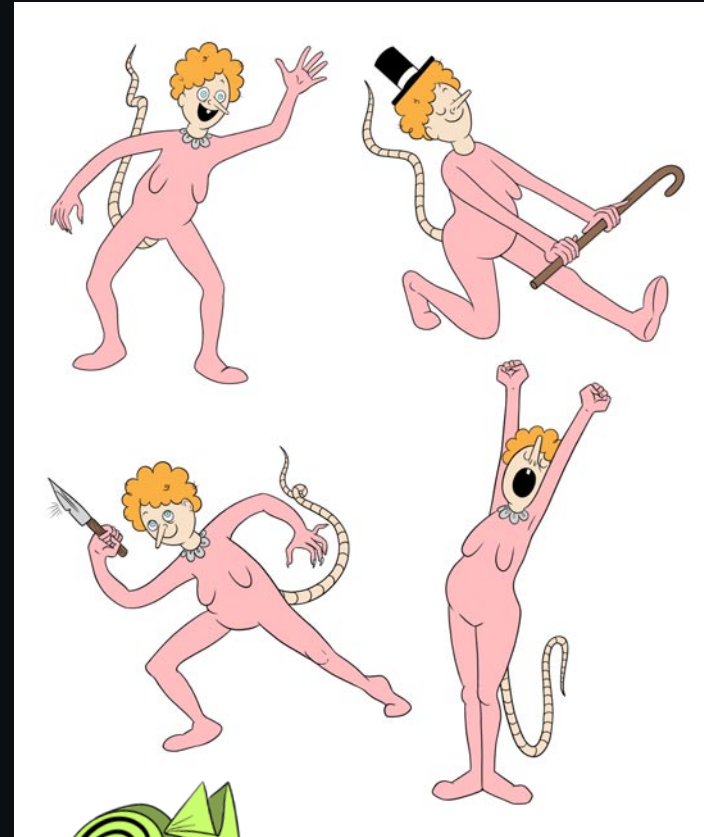
Her dysfunctional understanding of human nature is continually reinforced by her interaction with outsiders, but never transformed.

Rather, it is the surrounding townsfolk who develop a deeper understanding of themselves. Over the season, Trish, Debbie, Dallas and others are forced to react to Mildred's presence in ways that reveal themselves to be as strange as she is.

Ultimately, she acts as a mirror in which people can see a version of themselves as bizarre entities replete with unexplainable foibles and absurd notions.

The goal of the show is to depict the undeniable humour of a world in which convention is forced to adapt to abnormality.

Mildred's Motel promotes a vision that says: everybody is a weird freak... so you might as well embrace it!



The Town

Mildred's Motel is located on the outskirts of a small but growing township somewhere inland of the east coast. The town is home to a cast of both ordinary and colourful characters who live and work nearby.

Here, Mildred is able to meet new folks as well as procure some regulars at her motel such as:

Trish Tam: Mildred's former real estate agent

Mr. Junior: a used bidet repairman and long-term renter

Alysa: part-time cleaner and dedicated teenaged goth

(Not to be forgotten are Sarah, Tim and Mr. Kid. While not members of the town per se, they live with Mildred as her non-human companions.)

There are a variety of businesses, public institutions and personal residences in town. Mildred circulates through all layers of the social strata seeking human connection while creating chaos. The town responds in kind, some accepting her differences, others form committees to rid her from existence.



By far, the most prominent figure in town is Debbie Yeaston.

She is a militant housewife and president and founder of CHOGS: the Community Homogenization and Ongoing Gentrification Society. CHOGS seek to enforce a strict public code designed to keep property values up, undesirables out, and nurture the next generation of yoga enthusiasts, medicated homemakers, and Bed Bath and Beyond executives. If a piece of land isn't subdivided into tidy townhouses with vinyl siding and faux marble countertops then it is unwanted.

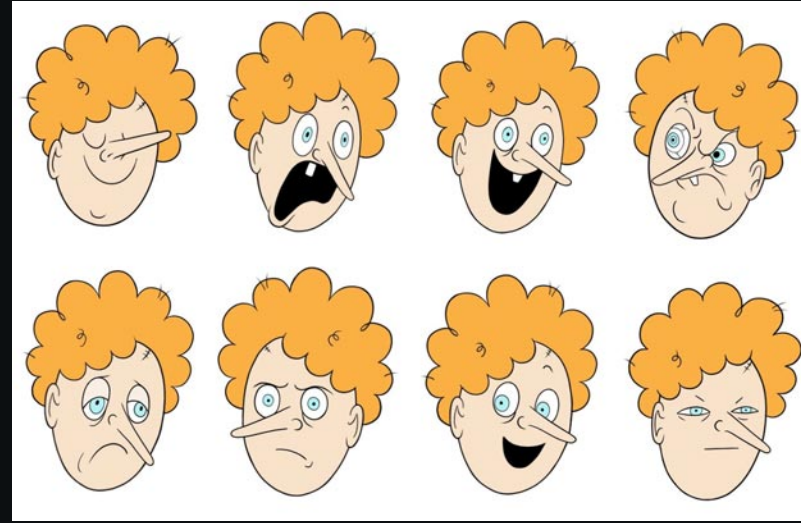


Debbie leads the CHOGS in an effort to eliminate the unsightly presence of Mildred's Motel and establish total ideological dominance over the townsfolk.

Meanwhile, lurking in the background is the Shadow Lab run by two agents who are literally shadows in trench coats and hats. Like Debbie and the CHOGS, they are out to get Mildred, only they believe her mutant genetic code contains the secret to her freak powers, which they will stop at nothing to possess. Little do they know, the doors to Mildred's Motel are always open as she welcomes any opportunity to better know the members of the community, especially if she can dress you up and put a little hat on you.

Central Characters: Mildred

Mildred struggles between the desire to befriend and the impulse to confine. Half human and half rodent, she's a misfit of the highest order. Her greatest ambition in life is to forge a genuine relationship with another human, but she is thwarted time and again by her inner nature...also she has a writhing rat tail, which tends to be disturbing to her friendship targets. Mildred has a playful spirit and a passion for entrapment, trickery and mischief in all forms. She uses her gifts to alternately to charm and terrify her guests. A day spent in Mildred's clutches is truly a dark ride on an unhinged merry-go-round.



Try as she might, Mildred can't figure out what makes people tick, and so she defaults to her more forceful nature. For instance, she kidnaps an unwitting real estate agent named Trish by pushing her into a chair outfitted with buckles and straps. Her aim is to impress Trish with a deluxe tour of the motel manor and thereby gain her camaraderie. But, like a spider, she takes no chances with her prey and requires them to stay put while she runs amok. Mildred can suffer from bouts of suspicion and paranoia, but they often give way to her jollier moods, manifested primarily in song and dance. She isn't self-conscious and flies her freak flag high as they say.

Staying true to herself is no challenge for Mildred. Strange as she is, she just might win your heart.



Trish Tam

Trish is a local real estate agent in her mid-forties. She is the definition of your hardworking, no-bullshit businesswoman.

She wears a matching navy blazer and skirt paired with some heels and a practical, wide-angle haircut. Trish and Mildred first meet when Mildred lures Trish to the motel on the pretense of wanting to list her property.

Desperate to make a sale, Trish pays a visit to Mildred's but the last thing she expects is to be strapped into a chair by an orange-haired freak with a rat tail. Mildred becomes Trish's captor and Trish must play a trick or two of her own to save herself.

After pulling off a daring escape, no one is more surprised than Trish to find herself back at Mildred's as a long-term renter. After she is renovicted by

Debbie and the CHOGS, Trish is forced to shack up at Mildred's for the low, low price of two possum skeletons and a tin of spam.

Throughout her stay, Trish tries to keep Mildred at arm's length but continually join forces with her in an alliance against the tyranny of Debbie, who is the common enemy. Trish sees her failure as a real estate agent reflected in the success of Debbie, who lives in a five-garage mansion in a gated community. She would love nothing more than to topple Debbie from her pedestal, even if that means putting aside her differences with Mildred to make that a reality.



Debbie Yeaston

Much like Mildred, Debbie is an inhuman freak, only she was a test experiment gone wrong in the labs of Ikea.

At 5'2" with a platinum bob, Debbie is Mrs. Farmer from Donnie Darko on steroids. Super dominant and controlling, she is Mildred's blood enemy and ultimate foe. Wielding equal power and strength, if Mildred is throwing rats, Debbie is throwing freshly made orange biscotti for the soccer team. She drives a hybrid SUV fueled with homemade canola oil and a passion for Martha Stewart cookbooks. Director of the Christmas bake sale and head of the local Parent Advisory Committee, she is at the top of every single pyramid of domestic living. Debbie is not to be trifled with...she will bury you in polished silverware.

Debbie's hates the motel because it brings down property values and violates every lawn, garden, noise and sanitation rule in the CHOGS manual. She pretends to seek out Mildred and her allies to "correct their behavior" while really aiming to push them out of town. Her type A personality compels her to constantly recruit townsfolk to join the CHOGS and turn them against Mildred. Her success rate is hit-and-miss, as Mildred is constantly forming shifting alliances and rapports with the people of the town. Debbie's ace up her sleeve is the Shadow Lab, whom she partners with as an informant on Mildred's whereabouts and activities.

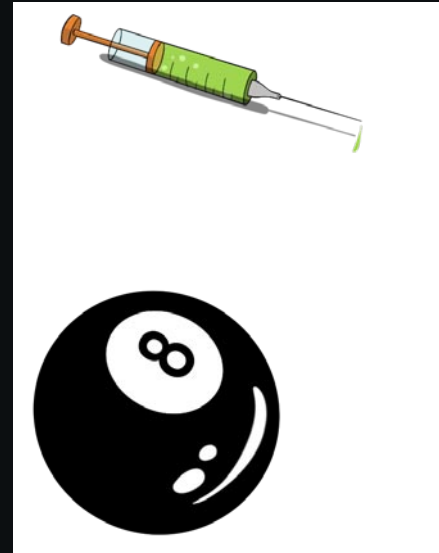


The Shadow People

The Shadow Lab is a dark facility on opposite edge of town run by two agents known as the Shadow People. Actual shadows, these are black silhouettes in trench coats and large hats. They're a teamed-up version of Spy vs. Spy from a different dimension, and they're on an operation to discover and extract the power behind Mildred's trickery. They believe the key to her super freak abilities lies somewhere in the recesses of her body, but they're not quite sure if it's in her rat-tail or buried in her chromosomal make-up. The only way to find out is to capture Mildred and slice her up.

The Shadow People continually re-appear with new theories on the body of their subject. One day they could be trying to strip the colour information from Mildred's flesh suit, and the next conducting a biopsy on her tightly coiled perm. Always attempting to unlock and obtain the source of her freaky magic, they also hope to publish their findings in tell-all entitled "Secrets of the Rat Tail" and release it in their home dimension to critical acclaim.

Their immaterial nature makes them very difficult to defeat, and like an oil stain, they can never be truly banished. Mildred can temporarily detain them by trapping them in shards of a fun house mirror, or locking them in the rainbow prisms of Mr. Kid's eyes, but they will always find another shadow in which to materialize...and Mildred casts a long shadow.



Mr. Junior

Mr. Junior is a third-generation used bidet repairman who came to Mildred's in search of a cheap place to stay after his wife left him for a Costco cashier.

Initially, Mr. Junior pays for his room and board by outfitting every room with a refurbished bidet, but his stay becomes indefinite when Mildred realizes his potential for invention and gadgetry and puts him to work in a shed out back by the chemical swamp.

Using the toxic elixirs from the swamp, Mr. Junior sets about building magical plumbing inventions, such as a bidet with a spray so powerful it can either transport its user to the fourth dimension, or turn their body inside out depending on the nozzle setting. Mildred uses these inventions to antagonize the CHOGS and keep the Shadow People at bay. Meanwhile, Mr. Junior has replaced his own heart with that of a miniature bidet and pledged eternal allegiance to Mildred, having developed a taste for her abuse. His home is the motel and he would rather die than let the Shadow People abduct his mistress and cut off her nose and tail, hoping one day to have them as trophies for himself.

Mr. Junior eventually transforms himself into a bidet cyborg with a hose for a tail (in attempt to emulate Mildred)



Alysa - Teen Goth

Teenage Alysa is the town's resident goth and Mildred's part-time employee. She loves Resident Evil, Insane Clown Posse and her Juggalo boyfriend, Carlos.

Her dad is Jacob the Garbage Man who is up to his ears in her bad attitude and black lipstick, so he sends her to Mildred's to work as a cleaner.

Mildred has a hard time believing Alysa is not a painted puppet from the tickle trunk, but offers her a job on the spot anyways.

Mildred is an enthusiastic, demanding boss who is constantly assigning Alysa demeaning tasks. She can be seen trudging down the hallways of the motel on the way to scrub mold with buckets of bleach in hand, assisted by Sarah and Tim. Alysa resents having to follow rules or work at all, but she secretly finds the motel to be a welcome respite from her imbecile schoolmates.

Mildred is often distracted, allowing Alysa to vibe out and listen to ICP. Plus, the old décor in the rooms serves as perfect inspiration to write her dark poetry in and make out with Carlos while Mr. Kid watches.



Dallas Fairbanks

Tall and handsome with dreamy brown eyes, Dallas is the local travel agent in town. He's a new-age Christian who loves Crossfit, volleyball, acoustic guitar, and above all: his two brown chocolate labs.

On weekends he can be found volunteering with at-risk youth or writing in his prayer journal. He loves to help and has a heart of gold.

Dallas has great appeal and is a target of Mildred, Trish, and Debbie but he doesn't know it because he's not very bright. For Trish it's his chiseled jaw, model partner material, and career-focused ambition. Debbie wants him in a leadership position on board with the CHOGS and Mildred admires him as you would an exotic bird without any real knowledge of what it is. She's not sure what she would do if she actually managed to capture him, but she does know she would like to make a doll out of his hair.

Dallas' aura is irresistible, and he is bounced between the hands of Mildred, Trish and Debbie as they compete to acquire him. He could be in the possession of any one of them at any moment, as his trusting nature often leads him astray.



Sarah and Tim

Sarah and Tim are Mildred's rodent familiars and accomplices in daily business. They live in her house as a married brother and sister rat couple. Born in the sewers, they left the city in search of a better life and appeared on Mildred's doorstep one afternoon. Recognizing their mutual kin (and some shared DNA) it was a natural fit, and the trio has been inseparable since.

Sarah and Tim are both assistants to Mildred's schemes, as well as their occasional victims. More than once she has tried to eat them for breakfast, so they're careful to watch out unless they become incidental targets of her wrath... especially if she's left idle for too long. Despite this, they are often helpful to Mildred's purposes - carrying a motel guest's luggage, cleaning rooms, and swaying the fortunes of Mildred's captives. They can get up to mischief too, like when they smuggled ether-cooking equipment over the border.



Mr. Kid

Mr. Kid is a haunting inter-dimensional puppet that can travel through space and time. He has a limp, doll-like appearance with long ears and a vacant, smiling expression. He communicates to Mildred via telepathy. She discovered him in one of the rooms of the motel, suggesting that he has lived there forever. He is often found in a rocking chair, hanging from a corner in the ceiling, or simply hovering like a balloon in the middle of the hallway. He came from the tickle trunk, where he has lots of other puppet friends.

The Tickle Trunk

The tickle trunk is the portal to the dimensions of Mildred's subconscious: a trippy, dream-like environment filled with surreal characters in the fashion of Midnight Gospel. The laws of reality are able to bend in the motel, but it's not until Mildred and a guest enter the tickle trunk that the true meaning of "psychedelic Narnia" is realized. Upon entry, a guest may find their physical self re-born as a cosmic pinball in the belly diamond-studded leopard playing the xylophone, or perhaps they'll surf the waves of a cotton candy ocean only to be sacrificed at an altar of disembodied pink hands with lips for fingernails.

The tickle trunk is the freaky beating heart of Mildred's Motel. It is sure to scramble the brains of anyone without an imagination, namely Debbie. Mildred would love to take Debbie for a ride on a choo-choo train in the tickle trunk and render her powerless for eternity.



Secondary Characters

Jacob the Garbage Man

Jacob is single dad to Alysa, the town goth. He regularly finds Mildred in the alleyway dumpsters on his morning rounds. At first, she alarmed him, but he has since grown accustomed to her ways. In fact, like Mildred, Jacob was born with a chromosomal abnormality. His body emits a rank odour, which is why he entered the waste disposal industry – to disguise his scent. Jacob is the only person in town with a sense of understanding and empathy for Mildred. It is non-romantic, to be sure. Jacob knows he is not an attractive man, but he would never touch the likes of Mildred. Nonetheless, Mildred is oblivious to his sense of kinship, and is mainly interested in Jacob for the rich bounty of road kill to be found in his garbage truck.

Sindy from the Nail Salon

Mildred gets a job at the local nail salon and meets Sindy, a nail esthetician who works there. Sindy is a simple-minded but pleasant young woman with few ambitions in life beyond her shifts at the salon. She is mainly interested in shellac treatments and get-one-free deals for diet soda at the local gas station. Sindy and Mildred are involved in a nail polish mishap that results in Sindy's death from the inhalation of toxic fumes given off by a mixed batch. Mildred evokes the revenge of a secret society of nail estheticians and is run out of town. She is altered by fumes and fear forever.



Cody, Zak and Tyler

These are three young men who love keg stands, pornhub, 4chan, and monster energy drinks. On their way to a beer pong tournament they stop in at the motel and are disgusted by the sight of their inn-keeper's protuberant eyes, drooping breasts and twitching rat tail. "Is that a chick??" they exclaim in unison. These boys think they're tough, but one by one Cody, Zak, and Tyler are taught a lesson in respect and alternative body shapes by Mildred. As a punishment for their degrading comments, Mildred slips them several horse tranquilizers and casts them in an eel-themed stage play she directs in the tickle trunk. She then puts on a pair of glasses and treats them to a free therapy session in her dungeon. We catch up with Craig, Zak and Tyler 20 years into the future and discover they have spent thousands of dollars on PTSD treatments to no effect.

Thomas and Barbara: Jehovah Witnesses

No matter where Mildred goes, this pair keeps popping up. They appear at her doorstep, outside her bedroom window, while she's fishing in the chemical swamp or selling stolen goods on her front lawn. Completely unfazed by Mildred, Jacob and Barb are her kryptonite. Nothing can distract them from spreading the Good Word, not even when Mildred wraps her rat tail around their necks. "Feels like God's warm embrace around my neck – thank you!" they exclaim. And when they preach the bible to her, her nose shrinks to a normal size.

These two do-gooders don't seek to defeat Mildred - their only purpose is to read the scripture and meet as many people as possible. Their immunity to Mildred's trickery is endlessly frustrating causing her to unleash greater rage and take more severe revenge on the next available victim.



Philip Groinburger the Butcher

Philip is a portly, high-strung man in his late middle ages who runs an artisanal butcher shop in town. Mildred often bursts through his front door hoping to scoop up deals on undesirable cuts of meat and anything gone rancid. Pig's feet, sheep brain, and blood pudding are all primo items she's on the lookout for. Mildred's presence is terrible for business and the butcher's main focus is getting her out of the door. Unfortunately for him, she just whistles around the back and right into his dumpster where she can forage undisturbed for hours, and at times, days on end.

Tammy the Town Psychic

Tammy is a 38 year-old psychic with glasses and a bald spot. Life was grand until Mildred happened upon her shop one afternoon. Searching for answers to her past, but with no real respect for the art of tarot, Mildred demands a palm reading from Tammy. When Tammy is unable to tell her fortune, Mildred flies into a rage and smashes a crystal ball on her head. Tammy now lives in a home, but Mildred has since forgotten about the incident - her motto being "The lord giveth and the lord taketh".

Uncle Donny

Uncle Donny is possible uncle to many, former high school star athlete, disgraced local hockey team coach and active rage-a-holic. These days, you can find him down by the train yard or in the dive bar. His hobbies include smoking a pack a day, making bets on anything that moves, and shouting over people. He met Mildred while shooting dice in the alley and she once threw a cup of boiling water on him while he was passed out in a snow bank.



Carol the Community Engagement Coordinator

Carol is a high-spirited young woman. You can find her at every community event, charity fundraiser, and school soc-hop. Her life's mission is to bring people of the town together and foster local civic pride. Enthusiasm and pep are her main qualities. Her values have some overlap with Debbie's, and so she is often reluctantly strong-armed into her schemes. Carol is generally fearful of Debbie but unable to stand up to her.

Celine and Jean-Paul Lifestyle Coaches

Of no actual French origin, this couple represents everything about the big city Mildred read about that one time in Yacht People magazine. They love argyle, cous cous, and a good spray tan.

Pilot

Trish, a real estate agent from Zonex Realty, is lured to Mildred's house on the pretext of gaining a possible listing. Mildred, who has identified Trish as a possible friendship target has the devised the "selling my house" ruse in order to better get to know Trish. When Trish arrives, Mildred introduces herself and then quickly straps her into a chair to prevent her from escaping. They begin a tour of Mildred's house ending in a song and dance.

Mildred grows frustrated with Trish and threatens to push her out of the window of the observatory. Trish realizes she must act quickly to save her life, and convinces Mildred it would be wrong to kill her as it would leave Trish's many offspring without their mother. Mildred holds court with her rats and grants Trish's release. In a twist at the end, it's revealed the Trish does not in fact have any children, and the scar she used to convince Mildred of her C-section was applied with lipstick.

We follow Trish back to her own home in town and watch as she recovers from her traumatic encounter with Mildred. Seemingly normal, Trish's humdrum routine is as boring as her house. Meanwhile, Mildred has followed the trail of Trish's scent and brings a periscope with which to spy on her from outside. Mildred watches as she heads to the basement and is intrigued to find out that Trish is a bit of a freak herself. In the basement strapped to a chair is Dallas, the handsome local travel agent in town.

Mildred enters Trish's house through the drainpipes to examine Dallas with his lush, wavy hair and full lips. Dallas was lured to Trish's on the promise of a timeshare investment and has been in her basement for a week. He has the brainpower of a golden retriever and is in pleasant spirits when he explains, "she told me to sit and stay". Mildred slithers back through the drainpipes and ponders Trish's captivity of Dallas on the walk back to the motel. She is left to assume that this is what normal people do. Everyone has someone in their basement!

Meanwhile, Mildred's brief stroll through town has caught the attention of Debbie Yeaston, president and founder of CHOGS. Debbie wants to know what Mildred has been up to and re-traces her steps to Trish's house, where she finds Mildred's periscope lying on the ground. Using Mildred's device, Debbie discovers Dallas in the basement and immediately evicts Trish from her rental unit, which the CHOGS own. Debbie takes this opportunity to take possession of Dallas as a new recruit to CHOGS and Trish is forced to return to Mildred's as a long-term renter.

Ep 2: Dinner Party

Mildred takes it upon herself to host a fancy dinner party. The main course is a quiche made from eggs hatched from her own body. She believes this will impress her guests due to her new found knowledge of organic dairy products she acquired while eavesdropping on customers at the butcher. Mildred sends out handmade invitations stamped with her own earwax. Thomas and Barbara the Jehovah Witnesses, Uncle Donny, Philip Groinburger, Sindy from the Nail Salon, Celine and Jean Paul Lifestyle Coaches, and Carol the Community Engagement Coordinator are all on the invite list.

On the night of the party, guests ingest the fruits of her labour and an egg-fueled bacchanalia ensues. Guests trip out, then pass out. This attracts the attention of Debbie and Dallas (who is on a leash) while they are on a door-to-door CHOG check. They walk in on Mildred while she is rummaging through the pockets of her unconscious, post-bacchanalia guests who have started to grow small rat tails of their own.

Mr. Junior releases a bidet spray that allows Mildred to escape to the chemical swamp, while Debbie amputates the tails as evidence of deviant practices and brings them to the Shadow Lab for further examination. Dallas, thinking it's all in the name of fun, mistakenly eats a mini-quiche left out. Trish spirits his body away to her own room while Debbie is preoccupied with collecting the rat tails. Sarah and Tim collect the unconscious bodies of the party-goers and return them to their homes in wheelbarrows. Mildred wanders the chemical swamp and relishes the treasures she has pickpocketed.

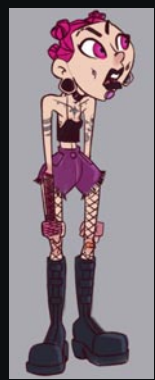
Dallas wakes up the next day with no memory of how he got to be in Trish's bed. Trish has to leave early for a sales call and accidentally left the door to her motel room unlocked, allowing Dallas to leave. He meets with Debbie, who notices he has a grown a small rat-tail of his own and fires him from the CHOGS for possessing such a monstrosity. Mildred watches the meeting from afar and sets to work improving her egg recipe to promote larger tail growth in the bodies of her future specimens. Dallas books an appointment with a cosmetic surgeon to remove the tail, but cancels it at the last minute, having developed a fondness for the little thing. The lesson is: embrace the anomalies of your body as potential advantages over other people.

Ep 3: Mildred Gets Beautiful

Thomas and Barbara, Jehova Witnesses, visit Mildred's Motel one day on a mission to spread the good word. Mildred and Mr. Kid welcome them with a puppet show sing-along on the joys of the alphabet. "A is for apricot, B is for babies (I can't have any) C is for craving" and so on. Thomas and Barbara are completely unfazed, causing Mildred great frustration. She resolves to dump them in the chemical swamp by rigging up a trolley on a set of tracks and baiting it with a copy of Jonathan Livingston Seagull. Sarah and Tim come to the rescue by distracting Mildred with an amethyst pendant she retrieved from the pockets of her guests the night before.

Mildred accidentally hypnotizes herself and has a mystical encounter with the spirit of the crystal, who tells her that the only way to make friends is by making herself beautiful "like a jewel". In a trance, Mildred falls into her own trap, and is dunked in the chemical swamp. Her body is resistant to the toxic effects and in fact undergoes a chemical peel. Mildred emerges feeling beautiful in her radiant skin and heads into town to show off her new look. Meanwhile, Thomas and Barbara have come across Alysa on her cleaning rounds and have started to preach the good word to her. Alysa is pressured into a prayer circle with them.

Mildred bursts in on Celine and Jean-Paul's photo shoot for Yacht People Weekly, thinking it's a beauty pageant. She blinds the cameraman and shatters all reflective surfaces. Mr. Junior is on damage control as usual, and placates Celine and Jean-Paul by handing off the amethyst pendant to them. On the way home, Mr. Junior explains how beauty is dangerous and self-confidence can only come from the joys of hard work, like bidet repair. Mildred releases Alysa from the prayer circle by pushing Thomas and Barbara into the tickle trunk. The episode ends with Mildred, Alysa, Sarah and Tim getting high on the fumes of violet-tinted spray paints while vandalizing Celine and Jean-Paul's yacht.



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