

GRU
Okay, girls, go play.

The girls run off with their goodies. Gru turns back to Dr. Nefario. Attempts a smile.

GRU
I got the Shrink Ray.
(holds out a treat)
Cotton candy?

DR. NEFARIO
We have twelve days until the moon is in optimum position. We can't afford any distractions.

Gru nods.

GRU
Get me Perkins.

INT: CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Two minions carry a presentation stand to Gru.

A Large Screen TV turns on revealing Perkins at his desk.

GRU
Sorry to bother you Mr. Perkins,
but I figured that you would want
to see this.

MR. PERKINS
What?

Gru aims the Shrink Ray at a minion on his sofa and fires it. The minion shrinks to a tiny size.

Another minion comes up from behind the couch and flicks the shrunken minion through the air. Gru catches the SCREAMING minion midair and squeezes it like a squeaky toy.

Mr. Perkins looks surprised.

MR. PERKINS
Well done, Gru. Rather impressive.

Gru smiles. Everything's going his way. He reaches for a set of slick art cards on an easel.

GRU
Now the rest of the plan is simple.
(first card)
(MORE)

GRU (CONT'D)

I fly to the moon.
 (second card)
 I shrink the moon.
 (third card)
 I grab the moon.
 (fourth card)
 I sit on the toilet. What?

The fourth card is a child's drawing of Gru sitting on the toilet. It is crudely signed EDITH.

He shoots an angry look off to the side, then turns back to the camera.

GRU

Sorry, sorry, would you excuse me
 for just one second?

Gru smiles then slips out of frame. Mr. Perkins furrows his brow. Gru storms over to the giggling girls, who stand in the doorway. He whisper-yells.

GRU

I told you not to touch my things.
 I told you, I told you, I told you
 a thousand times!

MARGO

(not really paying
 attention)
 Can we order pizza?

GRU

Pizza? You just had lunch!

EDITH

Not now--for dinner.

GRU

(gritting his teeth)
 Dinner?! Just fine, fine, fine,
 whatever! Just get back in there.

MARGO

Can we get stuffed crust?

EDITH AND AGNES AND MINION

(with wonderment)
 Ooooh, stuffed crust!

Gru does his best to keep it together.

GRU

I'll stuff you all in the crust!

AGNES
(giggles)
You're funny.

GRU
Just don't come out of that room
again!

Gru shoves them back out of the room, shuts the door and
rushes back to the podium.

Gru races back to the video monitor and smiles.

GRU
Alright, sorry about that. Where
were we?

MR. PERKINS
(irritated)
You were sitting on the toilet.

GRU
No, no, no! No, I'm sorry. That
was a little attempt at humor. I
know how much you like to laugh...
(off Perkins' grim face)
...inside. Now I was saying--

Suddenly a sound comes from offscreen. Gru glances over to
the door. It's open again. Where are they?

MR. PERKINS
You don't seem terribly focused,
Gru.

GRU
Believe me, I am completely
focused. I--

Just then, the girls' faces pop up in the TV's frame.

EDITH
Hello? Woah! That guy is huge!

AGNES
Are we on TV?

MR. PERKINS
What are those? Children?!

Gru rushes after the girls. Shouting in hushed tones.

GRU
 (to girls)
 What are you doing?? I told you to
 stay out of here!

MR. PERKINS
 Gru! Stop...

The girls enter with a freeze ray and ZAP Gru!

GRU
 No, no...

EDITH
 Freeze ray.

MR. PERKINS
 Mr. Gru,

GRU
 Yeehaha, ho!

Gru is frozen in a block of ice. He GRUNTS as he waddles
 back to Mr. Perkins.

GRU
 As I was saying...

MR. PERKINS
 No need to continue. I've seen
 quite enough.

GRU
 But my plan was--

MR. PERKINS
 Is a great plan. I love everything
 about your plan. Except for one
 thing: You.

Gru is stung by this. We ZOOM into his face.

EXT: BACKYARD - FLASHBACK

Little Gru approaches his mom, who is watering her flowers.
 He holds out a picture.

LITTLE GRU
 Look, Mom! I drew a picture of me
 landing on the moon!

She looks at it. Unimpressed.

GRU'S MOM

Eh.

Little Gru then produces a SCALE MODEL of the rocket in the picture.

LITTLE GRU

Look mom! I made a prototype of the rocket out of macaroni!

She looks at it. Still unimpressed.

GRU'S MOM

Eh.

Little Gru then points to an ACTUAL ROCKET he's built in his backyard.

LITTLE GRU

Look mom! I made a real rocket based on the macaroni prototype!

He presses a button and the rocket takes off into the sky. Gru's Mom watches it go.

GRU'S MOM

Eh.

Little Gru is crushed.

END FLASHBACK.

INT.- CONFERENCE ROOM

He falls back breaking the block of ice that had encased him. He gets up and stares at Mr. Perkins, confused.

GRU

I...don't understand.

MR. PERKINS

Let's face reality, Gru. You've been at this for far too long, with far too little success. We're gonna put our faith, our money, into a...well, a younger villain.

GRU

But, I...

Mr. Perkins smirks.