

Return To McDonaldland  
By Haxcall

Ever since her 35th birthday, Aria had become more than a bit of a health nut. She had seen online photos of how plumped out her old friends from high school had gotten and she realized 'a moment on the lips, a lifetime on the hips' wasn't just an old wives' tale and she had devoted herself to diet and exercise in order to maintain her slender figure as she approached her middle years. She had also gotten herself blocked online by more than a few of her old friends for giving them harsh yet, in her mind, justified criticisms about their weight and lifestyles.

One afternoon, while she was on a midday jog, she took an impulsive turn down a street she had never gone through before and she ended up running by a newly remodeled McDonald's restaurant. She looked at the building in annoyance, not only because of the high fat content of its meals but also because it was a far cry from the fun and creative places she grew up visiting. Aria was old enough to have experienced the McDonaldland era of the restaurant chain, where all the buildings had wacky and cartoonish designs and the play areas were some of the funnest places to go. Now, the restaurants had been gentrified into boring, no frills buildings. This location was lucky enough to still have a play area but its jungle gym was nowhere near as fun looking as the ones she crawled around in during her youth.

Normally, she would have just power walked right past it but it was starting to be around the time she normally ate lunch and her decision to take a new path had taken her out of the way from the fruit stand where she normally got food from. It had been six months since Aria had eaten any kind of fast food and she decided it would be okay for her to slack off on her diet just this once. She entered the McDonald's and waited in line, taking note of how boring the interior was compared to the vibrant set up the chain used to have. She was disappointed to learn that the company had removed salads from their menu and so she just ordered an unsweet tea, a few packs of apple slices and a small order of fries. Despite her relatively tiny

order, there had been more than a few people ahead of her in line, as well as the many people currently getting lunch in the drive-thru, so it would take some time for the understaffed crew to get to her.

As she waited in line, she continued to glimpse about the restaurant and fantasize about the McDonald's of yesteryear and when her eye wandered to the door to the play area, she was startled by what she saw. Ronald McDonald and his various friends such as Birdy and Grimace were playing around the jungle gym! At first, Aria assumed that this was some kind of promotional event or party of some kind, but then she looked at the door to the play area and saw a sign that it was supposed to be closed due to the pandemic and no one else inside the relatively crowded restaurant was taking notice of them, almost as if they were invisible to everyone but her. Ronald and his friends locked eyes with her cheerfully beckoned her to follow them as they ran underneath the jungle gym.

Aria had her reservations about following a mysterious clown into a dark, cramped area but her curiosity had gotten the better of her. She went over to the play area and saw that the door to it was unlocked. The restaurant crew was too busy to notice her entering the off limits area and her fellow diners were too apathetic to care as she walked through the door and began looking around. As she crouched down to look underneath the jungle gym, she was met with an unnaturally dark crawling tube with a dull rainbow light emanating from it. Suddenly, the familiar voice of Ronald McDonald came echoing through.

"Hi Aria!" Ronald said in a warm and cheerful voice. "If you want to spend some time reliving the good old days, come right in!"

The words spoken to her through the tube caused Aria to be awash in a peculiar trusting feeling and so she ventured into the tube and began crawling through it. It was longer than she was expecting with the rainbow light getting brighter and brighter as she moved forward. Eventually she made it to the end and was greeted by a large group of familiar mascot characters surrounded by a huge banquet of McDonalds' food.

“Welcome to McDonaldland!” Every present said in unison.

“We’re so glad you could come by! It’s been so long since we had a visitor!” Ronald said.

“We even set up this huge party feast to celebrate your arrival!”

“Oh, thank you but I really shouldn’t. I’m on a diet.” Aria objected. “At my age, gaining weight is easy but losing it is a nightmare.”

“Oh don’t worry about that. As long as you’re in McDonaldland you can eat as much as you want and your body will stay the same and when you leave, only a moment will have passed.” Ronald explained.

Aria thought about it. This was either just some elaborate dream she was having, meaning she had nothing to lose, or this place was real and Ronald was telling her she wouldn’t gain weight as long as she was here, meaning she might as well cut loose and enjoy herself.

“Well in that case, I have to take you up on the offer. In fact I think I might be for a while!”

The citizens of McDonaldland cheered and swept her up to join the party. That day she ate more than she could ever remember eating before but she barely felt stuffed from all the Big Macs and extra large fries she had eaten, confirming in her mind that Ronald was telling the truth and causing her to push any concerns over her weight to the back of her mind.

Three months later...

Aria sat contently in the house that Ronald had given her to stay in, with the building designed to be as wacky and pleasingly colorful as possible. Surrounding her were all the various games and toys from her childhood that had been out of production for years, many of which she had owned while many others were products she wished she had owned. On the television were all of her old favorite cartoons and shows airing as if they were being broadcast for the first time and she also had access to all the old video games she played during the 1990s and early 2000s. It was like she had traveled back in time to the best and simplest days of her youth.

As she relaxed, a fluffy, blue pom pom-like creature entered the room balancing a Happy Meal box and a soft drink upon his head. It was a Fry Kid, one of Ronald McDonald's friends from the old commercials. Ever since she had arrived, the Fry Kids had been eager to help and please their new guest and brought her food all hours of the day.

"I thought you might be hungry so I brought you another Happy Meal!" The Fry Kid said.

"Why, thank you!" Aria said as she plucked the heavy box and cup off of his head.

The box may have been a kids meal but inside was a super sized serving of fries and a triple decker burger with extra cheese accompanied by a soda that was over twice as large as anything McDonalds was serving now. Aria casually munched on the food while watching TV, not really noticing or caring about the growing mountain of Happy Meal boxes and toys gathering in the living room. It was her twentieth box today and it was just barely past lunch time, but the 35 year old was too caught up in reliving her youth to care.

Three months later...

"Oh I'm so glad you could make it to the Nugget and Shake Soiree!" Birdy said.

"It's been nice to have a new face at our parties." Grimace remarked.

"Oh no, the pleasure is all mine!" Aria responded.

Ever since Aria arrived in McDonaldland half a year ago it seemed like she was being invited to a grand fast food feast every other day. Today's event was a huge party in Birdy's backyard with huge platters of chicken nuggets of both regular and spicy flavoring, giant fountains of various sauces for dipping and multiple milkshake machines set up throughout the area. Throughout the day, Aria must have eaten twice her weight in nuggets and shakes but all she felt was pleasantly full. Perhaps it should have been a cause for alarm but Aria just absentmindedly wrote it all off as just the magic of McDonaldland letting her eat whatever she wanted with what she believed would be no consequences.

Three months later...

Today was Ronald's birthday and the citizens of McDonaldland were going to throw a huge Big Mac Buffet in his honor, but the Hamburglar had absconded with all the burgers for himself. Mayor McCheese has sent everyone to try and find him so the festivities could commence. Aria looked about for nearly an hour before finding a suspicious looking shed that smelled of beef and cheese. She swung open the doors to find the Hamburglar gloating over his illicit goods. The infamous burger thief turned around in shocked surprise when Aria burst her way in.

"Aha! Here you are!" She said victoriously

"Robble Robble!" The Hamburglar said as he comically leapt out the nearest window.

Aria had found the missing Big Mac and had saved Ronald's party! However, she picked up one of the burgers and noticed that it was still warm and fresh despite being stolen hours ago. She could resist and she took a bite, and then another and another until the burger was completely eaten. She then picked up another burger and ate it and did the same to another one. She ate and ate, never feeling full or never tiring of the taste.

Not an hour later, Mayor McCheese walked by the shed and heard the sound of munching. He entered it to find Aria swallowing her last bite, surrounded by empty containers and crumpled wrappers.

"Umm... I think the Hamburglar ate all the burgers before he made his getaway." Aria said, too ashamed to admit her guilt in helping ruining the birthday buffet

"Aw well, we'll just have to fry up some more Big Macs for Ronald's birthday! You'll help won't you?"

"Sure thing!" Aria said excitedly as she sluggishly followed the mayor back into town to prepare more Big Macs. The birthday celebration started off a bit late but it was still a time enjoyed by all and, despite glutting herself before the party, Aria still ate more burgers than anyone else there.

Three months later...

After a full year of living in McDonaldland, Aria had finally grown homesick and decided to return to the real world. The citizens of McDonaldland threw her one last gigantic feast before seeing her off by the magical tube she had first crawled in through. As a farewell present, Ronald gifted her with a yellow jumpsuit just like he had and she decided to wear it as she returned back.

“Goodbye Aria! It’s been fun having you here!” Ronald said.

“And only a moment will have passed .” Aria asked. In her time here, she had not felt and even after eating three times her body weight in fast food daily she had not gained an ounce of weight.

“Yep! Your body was frozen in time the moment you stepped foot here and it will unfreeze the moment you step foot back out.” Ronald confirmed.

“Then I guess this is goodbye.” Aria said to the sad and waving crowd of McDonaldland citizens. “It’s been a great time! I’ll never forget it!” Aria said, not knowing how true her words were.

As she crawled through the tube, back to the real world, Aria felt a strange sensation come over her body. Her breath was becoming ragged and her stomach was becoming more and more queasy by the minute. Most alarming of all, however, was the fact that she was growing at an excessive rate. Despite her muscles becoming increasingly weak and tired, she managed to pick up the pace and squeeze her way to the end of the tube. Unfortunately, when she tried to exit, she found that her paunch and posterior had grown so large that it was stuck in the opening. As she jiggled there helplessly, she continued to bloat with more and more weight until the tube, a structure designed for small children, broke apart and collapsed under her quarter ton of blubber and caused her to fall face down on the padded ground.

As the sound of her breaking the jungle gym caught the attention of everyone in the restaurant. Aria looked at herself in a novelty mirror nearby and got a glimpse of how big she had become. She had become so fat that Grimace almost looked svelte compared to her! Her figure was undefined and every inch of her had grown immensely. Her bloated, nearly spherical belly was big enough that it actually elevated the rest of her body almost half a foot off the ground. Her ass was now an absolute dump truck that was nearly four times as large as it was before and her super sized breasts were so huge and bloated that they contained enough milk to make at least three dozen large shakes. With her midsection pushing her body upwards, her torso constantly tilted back and forth thanks to the weight of her buns and boobs, with her futilely waving and kicking her weakened, pudged out arms and legs in a vain attempt to regain balance and stand up.

As people began to gather in the play area, snickering and taking photos of the obese woman in a clown outfit who was so fat that her wobbly body couldn't get upright, Aria tried to understand what had happened. Ronald had promised her that her body was frozen and wouldn't gain weight as long as she was in McDonaldland. Suddenly, it dawned upon Aria that what Ronald said was true but not in a way she had realized. Her body and metabolism had been frozen inside McDonaldland and the moment she left it a year's worth of calories and body fat that had been frozen within her had come rushing to take form within her body. She had agreed to take the clown up on his offer to spend an indefinite moment bringing joy to her lips now she would likely spend a lifetime carrying the heavy consequences of it on her hips.

Behind her, inside the ruins of the jungle gym, the lights of McDonaldland faded from sight, leaving to appear at a new McDonald's restaurant and to another hungry adult who was nostalgic for the days of yesteryear to offer them the same 'moment' it had Aria.

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