Comedic Rule of 3

• Two points establish a straight line.

  A → B

  – We then expect the third point to fall on the linear extension of that straight line.

  A → B → C
Comedic Rule of 3

• In the Comedic Rule of 3, point C is not a linear extension of the line established by points A and B, but goes in a different, unexpected direction, to $C'$ instead of C.
Comedic Rule of 3

• The presentation of this new endpoint is called “Exploding the Expectation”
  – It really helps if the new line (with C’ instead of C) makes sense, but in a different way than the original A-B-C line.

• In Billy Crystal’s world: Mr. Saturday Night
  – Buddy Young Jr. keeps pointing out to his brother “See there? I took it the other way.”