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FADE IN.

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A pod of spotted dolphins about a hundred strong are hunting for food in the Indian Ocean. SURGE, a low ranking member of the pod, congratulates ZIGGY on becoming the leader of the pod.

SURGE

Hey, Ziggy, I never got a chance to congratulate you on becoming the new leader of the pod.

ZIGGY

Thanks, Surge.

SURGE

I know you don't need me to tell you what a big deal this is, but now that you can have your pick of any female here, who do you intend to make a move on first?

ZIGGY

I don't know. I haven't given it much thought.

SURGE

Well, if I were you, I wouldn't even bother with Smiley -- she's awful.

ZIGGY

She is, huh?

SURGE

Oh yeah. I'm talkin' uber skanky.

ZIGGY

C'mon, Surge, you're not fooling anybody. Everyone here knows you have a thing for Smiley.

SURGE

Really? Am I that obvious?

ZIGGY

Yep. Now, what kind of leader would I be, if I were to make a move on Smiley, knowing how you feel about her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SURGE

You're right, Ziggy. Everyone here knows you to be a stand up guy. I'm ashamed of myself for even thinking that you would do a brother like that.

ZIGGY

Don't even give it a thought, Surge. Would you excuse me for a minute?

SURGE

Yeah, sure, go ahead.

Ziggy leaves Surge alone to look for GAUCHO.

ZIGGY

There you are, Gaucho, I've been looking all over for you.

GAUCHO

Hey, Ziggy, I was just about to come find you. I know who's going on this hunting expedition with me.

ZIGGY

Oh, good, tell me so I'll know.

GAUCHO

Echo, Swivel, Alley-Oop, Smiley, and Bubbles.

ZIGGY

Oh, you're taking Smiley with you?

GAUCHO

Yeah, she saw that I was recruiting dolphins to go on this expedition, and she stepped right up.

ZIGGY

Can you do something for me?

GAUCHO

Name it.

ZIGGY

Instead of taking Bubbles with you, can you take Surge off my hands?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GAUCHO

You want me to take Surge?

ZIGGY

Yeah, the dude's about to start talking my ear off about Smiley again. I really don't wanna hear all that right now.

GAUCHO

Okay, I can do that for you.

ZIGGY

Great. I owe you one.

GAUCHO

Uh-oh, here comes Surge now.

Surge tracks Ziggy down.

SURGE

There you are, Ziggy. I wanted to talk to you some more about Smiley.

ZIGGY

Not right now, Surge. I want you to go with Gaucho here.

SURGE

Go with Gaucho where?

ZIGGY

I'm breaking the pod up into teams. We'll have much better luck finding food that way. Trust me -- it'll be fun.

SURGE

Okay.

ZIGGY

Round up your group and get going, Gaucho.

GAUCHO

Yes sir.

ZIGGY

Now, you know what to do if you guys happen to come across a school of sardines or something, right?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

GAUCHO

You don't have to worry, Ziggy.
Alley-Oop's somersaults will be
high enough in the air for you to
see from miles away. C'mon,
Surge.

Gaicho and surge leave Ziggy to round up the rest of the
group.

ZIGGY

Be careful, you guys.

CUT TO:

EXT. CRAB ISLAND - NIGHT

The moon is in its first quarter. At low tide, thousands
of sea turtles make land and dig deep holes in the sand
to deposit their eggs.

SEA TURTLE #1

Excuse me, but I'm getting sand in
my face. Do you have to dig your
hole so close to mine?

SEA TURTLE #2

I'm so sorry. I'm all thumbs at
this sort of thing. I'll dig my
hole somewhere else.

SEA TURTLE #1

Thank you.

With the beach being so packed, the turtles have to climb
over each other in order to get around.

SEA TURTLE #1 (CONT'D)

Get your foot off my neck, would
you?!

SEA TURTLE #2

Sorry. Excuse me. Sorry about
that.

ERNESTO, 27, and CARMEN, 27, two biologists/filmmakers,
are conducting a census on the number of sea turtles at
the nesting site.

ERNESTO

Look at all of them, Carmen. What
do you think? How cool is this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CARMEN

Very cool, but I hope I don't step on any of them. How many sea turtles do you suppose are here?

Carmen is doing her best not to step on any of the sea turtles.

ERNESTO

I don't know. Forty thousand, maybe thirty. The numbers get smaller and smaller each year.

CARMEN

Fishermen, and their unregulated hunting, huh? What a shame. We ought to harvest these eggs and take them some place where they can incubate and hatch safely without losing any hatchlings to predation.

ERNESTO

That's not a bad idea. I heard that some of the locals have developed an egg harvesting program to try and take sea turtles off the endangered species list. That's one place we can take them.

CARMEN

Well, there's a lot of eggs to harvest, so we better get started.

ERNESTO

I got a couple of duffel bags in the back of the truck. I'll go get them.

Ernesto leaves Carmen alone with the turtles. Carmen gets too close to a sea turtle digging a hole with her flippers and gets a face full of sand.

CARMEN

Thanks for that.

Carmen wipes her face and spits sand out of her mouth.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHARK BAY - DAY

Six spotted dolphins are hunting for fish in the shallows. ALLEY-OOP, one of the six spotted dolphins, is having no success trying to stun the fish with his tail.

ALLEY-OOP

Hey, Gaucho, am I doing this right? Why isn't this working?!

Gaucho has more hunting experience than the other five.

GAUCHO

What on earth are you doing, Alley-Oop?!

ALLEY-OOP

I'm tail slapping to stun the fish so they don't get away -- isn't that the idea?

GAUCHO

Yeah, but tail slapping won't work in shallow water -- you gotta be out in the open so you could follow through when you swat at the fish with your tail.

ECHO loves the sound of his own voice.

ECHO

Yeah, Alley-Oop, even I know that one. Go ahead, Gaucho, show us how it's done. What are some of your techniques for catching fish in just a few inches of water?

GAUCHO

Okay, Echo, you're gonna like this one -- I think you all will. What I'm about to show you is a technique called hydroplaning -- it's a technique that only a handful of dolphins know how to do, and if it isn't done right, it can be fatal, so watch closely as I demonstrate for you now.

SWIVEL is the fast one of the six.

SWIVEL

Do you want a drum roll or anything, Gaucho?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GAUCHO

No, that's alright, Swivel, just
back up a little.

SWIVEL

Alright, back up, everybody --
give him room, give him room.

Gaicho works his tail to build up enough speed to skid
through inches of water and snatches up a fish, while the
others watch closely.

GAUCHO

Did you guys see that?

SMILEY is the only female in the group.

SMILEY

That was awesome!

Surge is the shy one of the group.

SURGE

It sure was! I'd like to give it
a try. How 'bout it, Gaucho?

SMILEY

Oh, do you wanna go first, Surge?
I was going to ask if I could go
first.

SURGE

Oh, you wanna go first? You could
go first if you want, Smiley.

Echo teases Surge with kissing sounds.

SURGE (CONT'D)

Shut up, Echo.

GAUCHO

Alright, that's enough. Go on,
Smiley.

Smiley pumps her tail and builds up enough speed to skid
through inches of water and snatches up a fish.

SMILEY

I love my streamline body!

GAUCHO

Way to go, Smiley!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SURGE

Yeah, Smiley, that was really great.

GAUCHO

Okay, Surge, it's your turn. Start slowly and pump up your tail to build up enough speed to skid through the water.

SURGE

Yeah, I know. You don't have to walk me through it -- I got this.

Surge skids through inches of water and comes up with a fish.

SMILEY

Nice, Surge!

ECHO

Yeah, yeah, yeah, that's all well and good, Gaucho, but what else you got?!

GAUCHO

Okay, Echo, if hydroplaning isn't for you, maybe you'll like this technique better -- I call it corralling.

ECHO

How does that one go?

GAUCHO

Well, we chase the fish up the sandbar all at once, and then we pick them off as they try to work their way back into the water.

ECHO

Yeah, okay, I could go for that. Let's try it!

GAUCHO

C'mon, everybody! Form a line, going across, right here.

The six spotted dolphins form a horizontal line facing the shoreline.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

We all go at the same time, okay? Ready?! Go!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

The six dolphins chase the fish up the sandbar and get their entire bodies out of the water to catch them.

ECHO

Hey, that was cool! Look at 'em jump!

SURGE

I see you! Where do you think you're going?

Gaicho warns Surge about going too far up the sandbar.

GAUCHO

That's too far up, Surge! Back off!

Surge goes too far up the sandbar to catch a fish and gets stranded.

SURGE

Uh, guys, I think I may be stuck!

GAUCHO

What was that, Surge? Did you say you're stuck?

Surge struggles to work his way back into the water.

SURGE

Yeah, I'm stuck! What do I do, Gaicho? How do I get out of this one?

Gaicho tries to calm Surge down and instructs him on what to do.

GAUCHO

It's nothing to freak out about, Surge, just stay calm! Listen to the sound of my voice, and try etching your way back into the water.

Surge tries to wiggle his way back into the water.

SURGE

It's not happening! I'm really stuck here.

SMILEY

What are we gonna do about this, Gaicho? This is bad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

GAUCHO

Would you back up off me and let
me think?!

Not far from where Surge is stranded, Ernesto and Carmen are loading the truck with the turtle eggs they harvested, when they notice Alley-Oop doing somersaults in the distance.

CARMEN

Ernesto, look at the dolphins over
there! Let's go check 'em out!

ERNESTO

What about the eggs?!

CARMEN

What about them?! The sanctuary
isn't far from here. We could
deliver the eggs to the sanctuary
after we check out the dolphins.

ERNESTO

I guess we could take time out for
dolphins. Okay, let's go before
they swim off somewhere.

Alley-Oop is tuckered out from signaling for help and gives up.

ALLEY-OOP

That's it for me. That's as high
as I could go. We'll know soon
enough if Ziggy and the others saw
me or not.

SMILEY

We're running out of time. The
sun is gonna cook Surge up alive.

SURGE

I could hear you from here, you
know?!

Gaicho comes up with an idea to free Surge.

GAUCHO

What about creating a wake to try
and dislodge Surge from the
sandbar? That might work.

Ernesto and Carmen finally reach the dolphins and jump
out of the truck to help.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

SWIVEL

Wait a minute, guys. People are coming. They're not carrying machetes, so they must be good samaritans.

Ernesto and Carmen move in to examine Surge and help out in any way that they can.

ERNESTO

Well, he's not sick. He seems healthy enough. I wonder what happened here. He was probably hunting for fish in the shallows and got stranded.

CARMEN

We've got to do something. Who knows how long he's been out in the sun.

Ernesto tries to push Surge back into the water.

ERNESTO

He's pretty heavy. He won't budge. Give me a hand, Carmen.

Carmen helps Ernesto try to push Surge back into the water.

CARMEN

It's no use.

ERNESTO

We're gonna need a few extra hands.

CARMEN

Who's going to help us? There's no one else around.

Ernesto looks to the other dolphins and gets an idea.

ERNESTO

There's a rope in the truck. I'll go get it.

Ernesto runs to his truck and comes back with a long rope, making a noose at one end of the rope and looping it around Surge's tail. Ernesto then throws the other end of the rope out to the other dolphins.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

CARMEN

Are you serious? You don't really think they're gonna help us, do you?

ERNESTO

I think they're smart enough to know what kind of spot their friend is in and what will happen if they don't help us. Now, get behind me and grab the rope.

Carmen gets behind Ernesto and starts pulling.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Okay, fellas, help us save your friend's life.

Carmen looks over her shoulder.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Are they pulling the rope?

CARMEN

No.

ERNESTO

Don't worry -- they will, just keep pulling.

Gaicho gets the rope in his mouth and instructs the others to do the same.

GAUCHO

Grab the rope, guys.

The dolphins start to pull the rope with their teeth.

CARMEN

It's working, Ernesto. You were right.

Inch by inch, Surge is being pulled closer to the water.

ERNESTO

We're not there yet! Keep pulling!

The tide comes in and encourages Surge to fight harder to free himself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

That's right, big guy, fight!
Taste that freedom and help us out
here!

Gaicho and the others continue to pull the rope.

GAUCHO

Yeah, fight, Surge! You're almost
home free!

With Surge's body halfway in the water, Ernesto puts down
the rope and asks Carmen to help him push Surge the rest
of the way.

ERNESTO

Come on, Carmen! Help me push him
in the rest of the way.

GAUCHO

Yes, we got him back!

SMILEY

Surge, thank goodness.

Smiley swims to Surge and shows him the kind of love that
only dolphins know how to show each other.

SURGE

Thanks, Smiley. Thanks guys. I
would thank those two people, but
it's not like they'd understand.

SMILEY

Don't worry about it. They look
like a smart couple. I'm sure
they know how appreciative you are
for all their help.

GAUCHO

Okay, I think we've had enough
excitement for one day. Let's get
outta here.

Carmen and Ernesto watch as the dolphins swim out into
the open ocean.

ERNESTO

Well, we still got a lot of turtle
eggs to harvest. We better get
back to it.

CARMEN

Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

Ernesto and Carmen head back to the truck.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEAL ISLAND - DAY

On the look out for great white sharks, thousands of fur seals on the island are chomping at the bit to dive right in and hunt for fish. A baby fur seal tries to persuade his mother into letting him come along on the hunt.

BABY FUR SEAL

Remember, mama, not to enter 'The Ring of Death' from the surface -- enter from the murky bottom and you won't be picked off by sharks.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Baby, I know you're worried, but don't be. I've been doing this a long time. I got it covered.

BABY FUR SEAL

Maybe I should go with you -- it's not safe for me to be left alone here -- I've been getting a lot of dirty looks from some of the mature males.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Like who?!

The female fur seal looks around and sees a bunch of mature males looking in her direction.

FEMALE FUR SEAL (CONT'D)

Those guys?! Those guys are nice. They say nothing but the nicest things about you.

BABY FUR SEAL

Yeah, they say those things to you because I'm your baby, and they know how much you love your baby, but they don't love me!

FEMALE FUR SEAL

You're exaggerating, baby!

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CONTINUED:

BABY FUR SEAL

I don't know why, but they don't like me for some reason, and with you gone hunting for migrating sardines, there will be nothing to stop them from working me over.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

I'm sorry, baby, but what do you want me to do?! I can't take you with me. You know the training wheels are not ready to come off yet. Just don't do anything to draw attention to yourself, while I'm away, and you'll be safe. I won't be gone long -- I promise.

BABY FUR SEAL

Okay.

A great white shark goes for a seal and leaps out of the water, giving away its position to the seals on the island.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Okay, there's the shark. He's a good distance away. I'm going for it. I'll bring back a nice juicy sardine for you.

BABY FUR SEAL

Be careful, Mama.

The female fur seal dives into the water along with the thousands of other fur seals on the island.

CUT TO:

EXT. OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

Gannets circling in the sky are making a large school of migrating sardines very nervous.

GANNET

I don't believe this! What's with all the new faces?! You've been doing a lot of talking about this spot, haven't you?

GANNET #2

Is this fight club?! I didn't we were supposed to be quiet about this spot.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GANNET

Don't you come crying to me, when
you find yourself eating less than
what your used to around here,
okay?

BROOKE, a pregnant sardine, is trying to get her mate's,
GILL, attention, but he's distracted by all the seabirds
hovering over them.

BROOKE (O.S.)

Gill! Gill, hello?!

GILL

What?!

BROOKE

I asked if you think this is a
good place for me to release my
eggs?

GILL

Oh, yeah, go ahead, and be quick
about it!

Gill keeps looking up at the seabirds hovering over them.

BROOKE

What is it with you?! Why do you
keep looking up?!

GILL

Why do I keep looking up?! Don't
you know that if those crazy,
kamikaze seabirds keep hovering
over us the way they are, other
predators are going to come here
and slowly dissolve our bodies
with their stomach acids.

BROOKE

Gill, do you mind? Please, stop
talking.

GILL

Don't let me stop you from doing
your thing.

BROOKE

Okay, but turn around. I don't
want you looking at me while I'm
handling my business.

Gill turns his back on Brooke to give her privacy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GILL

Brooke, you need to hurry.

BROOKE

Are you crazy, boy?! You can't rush a thing like this -- I got about 10,000 eggs to release.

GILL

They're here!

BROOKE

(startled)

Who's here?!

A super pod of spotted dolphins arrive to feast on the migrating sardines. The sardines see the danger approaching and huddle together to form a huge bait ball as a defense mechanism.

GILL

Brooke, get in the center of the bait ball!

BROOKE

Why couldn't you keep your mouth shut, Gill?! Now, we're going to die thanks to all your talking!

GILL

No, we're not going to die, not if we keep our heads and stay in the center of the bait ball.

ZIGGY, the leader of the super pod, is daunted by the size of the shoal.

ZIGGY

(to Pivot)

This shoal is much bigger than I thought it was going to be. We're going to need every able body on this one.

PIVOT, Ziggy's second, knows that not every pod member is accounted for.

PIVOT

Gaicho, and the others still haven't returned from that little solo expedition you sent them out on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ZIGGY

Well, we can't wait for them.
We've got to work fast and drive
this shoal of sardines closer to
the surface to keep them from
escaping to the depths.

The dolphins swim underneath and around the huge shoal, releasing bubbles from their blowholes, corralling the sardines into a tighter bait ball and driving them closer to the surface.

PIVOT

How do you like it, Ziggy? Is
this bait ball tight enough for
you?

ZIGGY

Good work, Pivot. Now, we can't
do anything about those birds
hovering over us, but keep an eye
out for rival pods coming to crash
our party. This is our shoal, and
nobody is taking it from us!

The gannets hovering over the action taking place below the surface see that the shoal is now within their diving range.

GANNET

Okay, that's close enough! I'm
goin' in! AIR RAID!

GANNET #2

AIR RAID!

Like shooting stars, the gannets shoot out of the sky and hit the water at forty miles per hour, leaving trails of bubbles behind each dive. The gannets dive about sixty feet below the surface and snatch up as much fish as they can before resurfacing.

BROOKE

Gill, I don't think I can hang on
much longer! I'm having trouble
breathing!

GILL

I know! We're being deprived of
oxygen, being so close together
like this -- that's why!

Dolphins that are struck by dive-bombing gannets have to be carried out by their buddies.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SPOTTED DOLPHIN #1

I'm hit!

SPOTTED DOLPHIN #2

MEDIC!

CAPRICE, the leader of a pod of bottlenose dolphins, shows up to assist Ziggy and his pod with the bait ball.

ZIGGY

Looks like we've got company,
Pivot.

PIVOT

What do we do?

ZIGGY

Let's see what they want.

With the dolphins distracted, Gill seizes the opportunity to escape to the depths with Brooke.

GILL

C'mon, Brooke! Now's our chance
to get outta here!

Ziggy introduces himself to Caprice and his pod.

ZIGGY

Excuse me, can I help you?

CAPRICE

Yeah, are you in charge here?

ZIGGY

That's right. My name is Ziggy.
The dolphin you see behind me is
my boy Pivot.

Pivot gives Caprice a nod.

ZIGGY (CONT'D)

Now, who might you be?

CAPRICE

I'm Caprice.

Ziggy wants Caprice to cut to the chase and state his business.

ZIGGY

And what can I do you for,
Caprice?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

CAPRICE

First, let me congratulate you -- that's quite a shoal you've got there.

ZIGGY

Thank you, but it won't be there for long if we don't get back to it. I don't wanna be rude, but we're awfully busy here.

CAPRICE

Well, if you need help holding the shoal together...

ZIGGY

No, we've got it covered, really. I don't wanna come off as a bad guy. I know you must have swam for miles just to get here, but I'm sorry for the inconvenience.

Caprice refuses to back down.

CAPRICE

Is that your final say on the matter, Ziggy?

ZIGGY

It is.

CAPRICE

Well, I don't wanna get all territorial on you, but being that we're bottlenose dolphins, we really don't have to ask you. We can just take it from you. Bottlenose dolphins have dominance over all other species of dolphins.

ZIGGY

Well, none of that really matters, since there happens to be more of us spotted dolphins than there are of you right now, so try us if you want, and we'll see who comes out on top.

Caprice takes a minute to think it over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

CAPRICE

Okay, boys, it looks like we've
come a long way for nothing.
Let's get outta here.

Caprice and his pod leave the shoal to Ziggy and his pod.

PIVOT

Something tells me this isn't the
last we're going to see of them.

ZIGGY

I've got that feeling, too.
Whatever. We've got a shoal of
sardines to corral.

Fur seals arrive and swim right through the bait ball,
breaking up in seconds what the dolphins worked so hard
to put together.

PIVOT

Great, now we've got cape fur
seals to deal with!

ZIGGY

Come on! Let's go talk to them.

Ziggy and Pivot confront the fur seals.

PIVOT

Whoa, what are you guys doing?
Why must we have the same talk
with you guys every time? Do you
know how much time it took for us
to put this thing together?

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Why don't you guys just admit that
it would be easier for everybody,
not just us fur seals, to split
big bait balls, like this one,
into manageable sizes?

The fur seals continue to work on the bait ball.

PIVOT

Do you believe this, Ziggy?

ZIGGY

Never mind, Pivot. There's no
talking to these guys. Let's just
make the most of it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

The dolphins rush to repair the damages made by the seals. Ziggy and Pivot are being careful not to get struck by incoming gannets.

ZIGGY (CONT'D)

I got this from an Orca. Check this out.

Ziggy swats the sardines with his tail to knock them out.

PIVOT

Yeah, I like that!

Pivot mimics Ziggy's swatting technique. The water is glimmering from the scales slowly sinking to the depths.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHARK BAY - DAY

Ernesto and Carmen find a spot in Shark Bay, where tourists come for a chance to hand feed rogue dolphins. JACK, the hand-feeding instructor, is supervising the feed closely to make sure everyone follows the proper guidelines.

JACK

(deep Australian
accent)

Okay, people, come closer. We're about to have a feed. If you're lucky enough to be called out for a feed, simply hold the fish by the tail and let the dolphin take the fish out of your hand. Please do not be tempted to pet the dolphins during the feed. That is the easiest way to get bitten. Let's not have any accidents. Now, who wants to be first to feed the dolphins.

Two bottlenose dolphins show up out of nowhere to be fed.

JACK (CONT'D)

Ah, here are two dolphins now. Let's get started. Who wants to be first?! Don't be afraid.

Jack sees Carmen up front and calls on her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACK (CONT'D)

How about you, my dear? What is your name?

Carmen steps out and stands knee deep in water.

CARMEN

My name is Carmen.

Jack has a fish for Carmen to feed to the dolphins.

JACK

Okay, Carmen, don't be afraid. Hold the fish by the tail and let the dolphin come to you and take it out of your hand.

Carmen holds the fish out for the dolphin.

CARMEN

Here you go -- yummy.

The dolphin swims up to Carmen and takes the fish out of her hand.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

Wow, that was so cool. Can I feed the other one?

JACK

Sure, here you go.

Jack gives Carmen another fish to feed the other dolphin.

CARMEN

Here's one for you.

The other dolphin takes the fish and swims away.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

Bye guys.

JACK

Good job, Carmen.

CARMEN

Thank you, Jack. That was a lot of fun.

JACK

Okay, now that you all got to see how it's done -- who wants to go next?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tourists raise the hands for a chance to feed the dolphins.

CARMEN

Wasn't that awesome, Ernesto?!

ERNESTO

Yeah, maybe we can take time out next week to go swimming with them.

Ernesto gives Carmen an idea.

CARMEN

I don't know about you, Ernesto, but I haven't been able to get those dolphins from earlier today out of my mind.

ERNESTO

Yeah, they were pretty cool, weren't they?

CARMEN

Yeah, helping out those dolphins really got me thinking, you know?

ERNESTO

Thinking about what?

Ernesto hears Carmen out.

CARMEN

Well, it's mid-June. The Great Sardine Run is already underway. Our six polka-dot friends are probably on their way to South Africa right now for a banquet. We should go down there, too -- we could document the whole thing?

ERNESTO

You wanna head out to South Africa now? We've been carrying turtle eggs around since late last night. Aren't you the least bit exhausted? I know I am!

CARMEN

No, I'm good. What do you say?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ERNESTO

I don't know. I was kind of hoping to be here for the baby turtles when they hatch.

CARMEN

We won't be gone that long.

ERNESTO

Are you sure?

CARMEN

It takes about 60 days for sea turtle eggs to hatch. We'll be done with the project and back here way before then.

ERNESTO

So, when do we leave?

CARMEN

Yay! This is gonna be fun!

Carmen gives Ernesto a big hug.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

The six spotted dolphins are leaping in and out of the water in unison, rushing to get to South Africa to meet up with Ziggy and the rest of the pod.

SURGE

How 'bout those people back there, huh? How cool was it for them to save my life like that?

ECHO

It's alright.

GAUCHO

That's enough talking, guys! We've got to hurry! We're late enough as it is! Let's speed it up!

SURGE

Okay, I'm gonna shut up now, but before I do, can you guys do me a favor?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GAUCHO

What's that?

SURGE

Can you guys not say anything to Ziggy and the rest of the pod about what happened to me back there?

Gaicho laughs.

GAUCHO

Sure, Surge, I think we can do that for you.

SURGE

You guys rock!

Caprice and his pod are about to come head to head with the Six Spotted Dolphins.

CAPRICE

I'm telling you, Presto, I'll bet you anything that, that spotted freak show is back there right now doing a whole lot of talkin' about how he punked me and sent us on our way. He's lucky I didn't ram my skull into his soft belly and knock the air out of him.

PRESTO, Caprice's go to guy, tries to calm Caprice down.

PRESTO

I wouldn't say he punked us, not necessarily. I think you're being too hard on yourself, Caprice.

CAPRICE

I think you're on to something, Presto. I gotta stop being hard on myself. I got plenty of females in my pod who could help me with that.

PRESTO

Well, that's not exactly what I meant, but okay.

LUCILLE, one of the females in Caprice's pod, won't look Caprice in eye when he comes on to her.

CAPRICE

Hey, Lucille, how 'bout it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCILLE

How 'bout what, Caprice?

CAPRICE

Come on, girl, you know.

LUCILLE

Oh, I can't right now, Caprice!

Caprice can tell she's lying.

CAPRICE

Oh no?! Why not?!

LUCILLE

Have you seen my calf around?

CAPRICE

No.

LUCILLE

Well, I gotta go find him. It's time for his milk. The little bugger is around here somewhere.

Lucille swims away from Caprice, making him feel small.

CAPRICE

Hey, Silky, how 'bout it?

SILKY won't look Caprice in the eye either.

SILKY

How 'bout what?!

CAPRICE

Never mind.

Caprice gives up and finds Presto.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

See, even the females in my own pod won't look me in the eye.

PRESTO

Yeah, I saw that.

CAPRICE

You think I don't know what that's about?

PRESTO

Well, you can't it personally, Caprice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

PRESTO(CONT'D)

Most of the females here are still lactating. They're not in estrous.

CAPRICE

No, that's not it! They're embarrassed by me! They no longer think I'm worthy!

PRESTO

Well, you know what you gotta do now, don't you?

CAPRICE

Yeah, I know. I have to do something major to redeem myself and fast. I wouldn't blame these females one bit, if they never let me get all up on them ever again, not with this nasty taste in my mouth.

PRESTO

Yeah, you gotta do that, but what you should do in the mean time is recruit some new faces into the pod -- females who aren't any of the wiser about your background, your blunders and bloopers.

CAPRICE

That's a good idea, and I think I know just where to begin.

Caprice has the six spotted dolphins in his sights.

PRESTO

Forget it, Caprice. She's not a bottlenose dolphin.

CAPRICE

Hey, it's all the same when the lights go out, right?

PRESTO

Well, you could see she's not alone! What are you gonna do about the males?

CAPRICE

If they know what's good for them, they better stay out of my way. Do you have my back on this or what?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

PRESTO

Yeah, I'm with you.

CAPRICE

Then let's go.

Caprice confronts the six spotted dolphins with his entire pod behind him.

SWIVEL

Hey, not for nothing, but we got about 50 bottlenose dolphins coming our way.

ALLEY-OOP

Not bottlenose dolphins! What are we gonna do, Gaucho?

GAUCHO

Relax, it's probably nothing. Let me do the talking.

SURGE

Yeah, but what if they're looking to take the only female here away from us?

GAUCHO

No way. There are plenty of females in that pod to go around. What would they want with Smiley?

SURGE

Yeah, plenty of females in that pod with nursing calves, so you know that none of the males in that pod are getting any.

GAUCHO

Just let me handle this.

CAPRICE

Where's the fire, guys? What's the hurry?

GAUCHO

No hurry. We're just trying to get back to our pod.

CAPRICE

Oh, you're trying to get back to your pod, are you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

GAUCHO

That's right.

Caprice looks at Presto and smiles.

CAPRICE

Hey, you guys wouldn't happen to be members of Ziggy's pod by any chance, would you?

GAUCHO

Yeah, how do you know Ziggy?

CAPRICE

By reputation. It's too bad you don't know what kind of punk your leader really is.

SURGE

C'mon, Gaucho, let's go.

GAUCHO

Yeah, we really must be going.

The spotted dolphins suddenly find themselves surrounded by a pod of bottlenose dolphins.

CAPRICE

Uh, not until you introduce me to that nice piece of tail you got there.

Surge hides Smiley behind him.

GAUCHO

Look, I don't know what this is all about, but let's not do this, okay?

CAPRICE

Don't look at me! You could thank your precious leader for getting you into this!

SMILEY

Okay, I'll go, just leave my friends alone.

SURGE

What are you talking about, Smiley?! I'm not gonna let you go with them!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

CAPRICE

Step side, son! I'm taking your girl, and you're gonna let me, just like in the movie "Brave Heart," or do you think she wants to see something bad happen to you for trying to be her hero?

Surge gives Smiley up to Caprice.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

Now, you're being smart. Let's go, Darling.

Presto advises Caprice.

PRESTO

Caprice, it wasn't that long ago when we beat the duskies in a war that went on for 3 years. Are you sure you want to start another one? You do realize that's exactly what's going to happen if you go through with this, don't you?

CAPRICE

Does that frighten you, Presto?

PRESTO

I guess not.

CAPRICE

Good, then let's get on with it.

Caprice has one last word of advice for Surge and his friends before he swims off with Smiley.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

And if you know what's good for you, you won't follow us!

Caprice and his pod swim off with Smiley.

SURGE

Okay, what are we gonna do about this? We just can't let Smiley go with those creeps.

ALLEY-OOP

What can the five us do?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

ECHO

Yeah, I'm with Alley-Oop. We gotta get to Ziggy and let him know what happened.

SURGE

Alright, you guys find Ziggy and tell him what happened. I'm going after Smiley.

GAUCHO

Na, I can't let you do that, Surge, not by yourself.

SWIVEL

Yeah, Surge, we should talk about this some more.

GAUCHO

What's there to talk about? It's way too dangerous for you to go after them by yourself, Surge!

SURGE

Look, somebody's got to stay on their trail while it's hot! If it's not going to be all five of us, then I'll go alone!

Surge heads out to go after Smiley alone, only to hear Gaucho call out to him.

GAUCHO

Surge, wait up!

Surge stops in his track to see what Gaucho wants.

SURGE

Don't try to stop me, Gaucho! I'm going!

GAUCHO

Relax. I'm not going to stop you. We're going with you.

SURGE

Then what are we waiting for?!

The five dolphins go after Caprice and his pod.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE ABYSS - NIGHT

There's a full moon out. Deep sea creatures are making their way up to the surface from the abyss to feed, providing the five spotted dolphins with sufficient light to see their way through the darkness without the use of their sonars.

SWIVEL

So, what's the plan, Surge?!

SURGE

What do you mean?!

SWIVEL

I mean, how do you intend on getting Smiley back?! It's not like they're just going to hand Smiley over to us and let us go about our business, you know what I'm saying?

The dolphins are mesmerized by the all the strange deep sea creatures and their lights.

SURGE

I don't know how we're going to get Smiley back. I'm still working on it, Swivel.

Echo is using echo location to feel his way through the darkness.

GAUCHO

What's up with all the clicking, Echo?! You keep clicking like that, and the creeps that we're tailing will see us coming from a mile away.

ECHO

How else are we supposed to navigate through the darkness without our sonars?

SWIVEL

You mean these things coming up from the abyss with their bioluminescent lights aren't enough for you? You must be kidding? It's like Latin Quarters down here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Deep sea jellies coming up from the abyss are flashing their lights to attract potential prey.

ECHO

Good point. Okay, I'll ease up on the sounds.

GAUCHO

Thank you.

ECHO

I'm sorry. It's just that I'm not used to navigating through these waters at night without echo location, okay?

The creatures coming up from the abyss are getting stranger and stranger.

SWIVEL

I know what you mean. I hate the open ocean at night, too. It gives me the creeps.

ALLEY-OOP

Here's a little trivia for you. Did you guys know that some of these deep sea creatures were the inspiration for that "Alien" movie?

ECHO

Real talk?

ALLEY-OOP

Real talk.

ECHO

Well, I know one thing -- it's a lot easier to swallow than Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Aniston.

A vampire squid shines lights from the tip of its tentacles, warning the dolphins to stay away.

SWIVEL

What in the world is that?

ALLEY-OOP

You got me.

SWIVEL

It looks like something out of Comic-Con!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SURGE

That's a vampire squid.

SWIVEL

Why's it called that?

SURGE

Vampyroteuthis Infernalis? What's the matter? Doesn't its obvious characteristics give it away? It's bright red, and when its arms are extended, it resembles the cape of a vampire?

SWIVEL

What's with the flashing lights coming from its tentacles?

SURGE

It's warning us to stay away. It doesn't want us to get too close to it.

ECHO

Maybe if we concentrate really hard, we can wish it away into the corn field.

A large school of aggressive giant squids come up from the abyss and attack the five dolphins.

SURGE

Great! Giant Squids -- that's all we need now! These things are armed with suckers that can scar you for life!

GAUCHO

As long as we don't give them a reason to think that we're some kind of a threat, we'll be alright!

The squids are communicating with each other through flashing colors, making Alley-Oop nervous.

GIANT SQUID

I don't know about you, but I don't like the look of these guys.

GIANT SQUID #2

Do you want to go feel 'em out?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

GIANT SQUID

Yeah, I do. Are you with me?

GIANT SQUID #2

You now it.

The giant squids move in aggressively to get a better feel of the dolphins.

SWIVEL

I don't know what these guys are communicating to each other, but something tells me they're talkin' a whole lot of crap about us.

SURGE

If you don't give them a reason to attack us, we might just make it out this unscathed.

The squids are picking up on Swivel's uneasiness.

SWIVEL

I think this is a mistake. These things can smell the fear all over us. I think we gotta do something to let them know we don't play that!

Swivel talks tough to a squid.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

What you lookin' at?!

The squid attacks Swivel.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

NO!

The squid gets a hold of Swivel and doesn't let go.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

Surge, he's starting to tighten up, and he's not letting go.

Surge tries to get Swivel out of his entanglement using his teeth and incites all the other squids in the school.

SURGE

Gaicho, I need your help over here! Swivel's all tangled up!

Gaicho is having trouble getting out of his own entanglement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

GAUCHO

Well, hey, join the club, huh?!

Swivel is struggling to keep from getting bitten by the squid's parrot-like beak.

SWIVEL

Echo, if you're free, I could use you over here!

Echo is the only one with free hands.

ECHO

I'm here! Hang tight, Swivel!
I'll get you out of this!

Swivel warns Echo about the squid coming up behind him.

SWIVEL

Watch your back, Echo!

The giant squid wraps his arms around Echo's throat and tries to squeeze the life out of him.

ECHO

I think this is it, guys! It's been nice!

Surge is losing his fight with a giant squid.

SURGE

I'm sorry, Smiley, we tried!
Please, forgive us!

A school of sperm whales hunting for giant squids allow the dolphins to escape with their lives.

SPERM WHALE

Mind if we cut in?!

SPERM WHALE #2

Yeah, let's dance, shall we?!

The giant squids release the dolphins to defend themselves from the sperm whales.

SURGE

Let's get outta here!

GAUCHO

GO! GO! GO!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

The dolphins flee the scene and let the sperm whales and giant squids battle it out.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OCTOPUS LAIR - DAY

A female octopus is hiding out in the crevice, squirting water through her siphon to oxygenate all 200,000 of her eggs. A crab scouring for food on the ocean floor tempts the octopus into leaving the safety of the crevice and leaving her eggs unattended.

OCTOPUS (V.O.)

Don't you even think about going after that crab. Forget about it. Turn away. Don't look at it. You need to stay right here and oxygenate your eggs.

Hunger is starting to take its toll on the octopus.

OCTOPUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But I haven't eaten anything, or moved from this spot in weeks. I'm so dizzy. If I don't eat soon, I'm going to wither away to nothing.

The crab is getting out of range of the octopus.

OCTOPUS (CONT'D)

Uh-oh, the crab is on the move again. What's ~~(MORAY)~~ in' to be, girl? Make up your mind!

A moray eel and a grouper fish have formed a cooperative alliance to hunt for prey.

MORAY EEL

So, where is this octopus hiding out?

GROUPEE

We're coming up to it now. Be patient.

MORAY EEL

I don't know how they do it, man. I don't know how an octopus could stay in one spot for weeks at a time without eating anything.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MORAY EEL (CONT'D)

If it were me, I wouldn't last a week.

The moray eel and grouper fish finally reach the octopus lair.

GROUPER

Okay, here we are. The octopus is right in there.

The moray eel removes the rock sealing up the entrance to the crevice and takes a peek inside.

MORAY EEL

Boy, it's dark and creepy in there. I don't think I could go in there by myself.

GROUPER

Well, you're gonna have to, if you wanna eat. You know I'm too big to go in there myself.

MORAY EEL

You ever been bitten by one of these things? I heard they can really pack a wallop.

GROUPER

Look, I'm telling you she's got no strength left in her. You'll be fine. Just scare her out, and I'll be waiting right here to crack her over the head with this rock.

The grouper picks up a rock.

MORAY EEL

Okay, I'm going in.

GROUPER

Good.

The grouper holds the rock over his head and waits for the octopus to come out.

GROUPER (CONT'D)

I gotcha!

The moray eel pops his head out to tell the grouper fish that the lair is empty and gets hit on the head with the rock.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MORAY EEL

OW!

GROUPER

What happened?! Where's the octopus?!

The moray eel's head is spinning.

MORAY EEL

Huh?! Did you hang up on me?!

GROUPER

C'mon, she's gotta be around here somewhere!

The crab finds something to eat on the ocean floor and quickly drops it to defend itself with its claws when he sees the octopus coming.

CRAB

No, you better back up off me!

OCTOPUS

(winded)

Look, I don't want any trouble out of you! You know as well as I do that a crab can't win a fight with an octopus, so take it easy on yourself, and I promise I'll make it quick and painless.

CRAB

(laughs)

Don't make me laugh! You're in no condition to threaten me! I know you've been cooped up in that dark hole with your eggs and nothing to eat for weeks! You probably think there are two of me right now! So, I got a suggestion for you. Get back to your little hole and tend to your eggs, and I'll forget about this misunderstanding, okay?!

OCTOPUS

Please, I may not be 100 percent, but I'm still strong enough to bust you up!

CRAB

Have it your way, but if I'm goin' out, I'm goin' out pinching!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

The grouper fish, and the moray eel catch up to the octopus.

GROUPER

There she is! I told you she was around here somewhere!

CRAB

Now, you're in for it. A grouper fish, and a moray eel together -- that could only mean one thing.

The octopus is too weak to use jet propulsion to escape the grouper fish, and the moray eel.

GROUPER

Get her!

The octopus makes a half hearted attempt to fend off the grouper fish, and the moray eel.

OCTOPUS

Get away from me!

GROUPER

Careful, she's desperate! She's gonna squirt that blue stuff at us any minute!

OCTOPUS

Just back off!

The octopus tries to get away.

GROUPER

Get her now! Get her now!

The grouper fish, and the moray eel catch up to the octopus and make short work of her.

CUT TO:

EXT. OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

With the help of the gannets and a few sharks, Ziggy and his pod have finally reduced the shoal of sardines to a more manageable size.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PIVOT

(to Ziggy)

I hate to say it, but it's actually a good thing that the sharks showed up when they did.

Silky sharks are picking off what's left of the sardines.

PIVOT (CONT'D)

We could've used the extra hands, with those fur seals making more work for everybody.

ZIGGY

Speaking of extra hands, did Gaucho and them get back yet?!

PIVOT

No, still no sign of any of them.

ZIGGY

Something's not right. They should've been back by now.

Ziggy looks out into space.

PIVOT

What are you thinking, Ziggy?

ZIGGY

You don't suppose they might have had a run in with those bottlenose dolphins from before, do you?

Pivot thinks about it for a second.

PIVOT

Oh, yeah, I almost forgot about those jerks. Do you want me to send some of our guys to look for them?

ZIGGY

No, forget it! We're all going to look for them. I want everyone in formation in five minutes.

PIVOT

What about the shoal, Ziggy? We're just about done here.

ZIGGY

Leave the rest to the gannets and sharks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PIVOT

Yes Sir.

Pivot leaves Ziggy to get the other pod members in formation.

CUT TO:

EXT. OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

Ernesto and Carmen are on a small research boat helping each other suit up for some deep sea diving. Before diving in, Ernesto makes one last attempt at contacting the autogiro through the radio.

ERNESTO

Delta-Delta-Whiskey, come in.
This is Delta-Tango-Delta.

Ernesto can't get a signal on the radio.

CARMEN

Still can't get through to the autogiro?

ERNESTO

I'm getting nothing. I don't know what that pilot was talking about. There's nothing out here.

Ernesto gives up trying to make contact with the autogiro and puts down the radio.

CARMEN

Well, I say we suit up and get down there anyway. We're bound to find something worth shooting down there.

Ernesto puts down the binoculars and mounts an oxygen tank on Carmen's back.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A large school of bluefin tuna is pursuing a school of mackerels that have swarmed around a large whale shark to keep them from getting eaten.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TUNA

Those mackerels think they're pretty smart, don't they? I'm telling you they're going to pay for making us follow them around like this.

TUNA #2

Look, maybe we should look for food elsewhere. Those macks know we won't move in for the kill as long as they're joined at the hip to that whale shark.

TUNA

Don't worry about it. I've seen this before. The big guy's gonna get tired of all the attention sooner or later, and when he gives them the boot, that's when we'll pounce.

The whale shark is starting to tire of the attention he is getting from the mackerels.

WHALE SHARK

Are you guys just about done plucking the dead skin off my back?

MACK

Patience. You're a tall drink of water, big guy.

The mack tries to con the whale shark.

WHALE SHARK

It's just that I'm starting to feel a little claustrophobic.

MACK

Well, we figured that the tunas would've given up on us by now, but they're still hangin' in there. Can we at least hang with you for a little while longer?

WHALE SHARK

No can do. I'm diving down to the depths to cool off. The heat from the sun is starting to get to me.

The whale shark sees two scuba divers and offers to escort the mackerels over to them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WHALE SHARK (CONT'D)

Why don't you guys go hide behind those two divers over there and give them the experience of a life time that they're looking for?

MACK

No, that's alright. We have a much better chance at keeping the tunas at bay by rollin' with you.

WHALE SHARK

Okay, but I doubt that you guys are gonna be able to withstand the pressure.

MACK

We'll manage.

The whale shark dives down to the depths and the mackerels follow him down as far as they can.

WHALE SHARK

How are you guys holding up?

The mackerels are able to take the pressure so far.

MACK

We're good.

WHALE SHARK

You're good? Okay, that's good.

The whale shark dives deeper to the depths.

WHALE SHARK (CONT'D)

How 'bout now? Are you guys still good?

The pressure is finally starting to take its toll on the mackerels.

MACK

This is crazy! How far down do you plan on going?!

The whale shark laughs at the mackerels.

WHALE SHARK

What?! Is the pressure getting to you already?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MACK

Do you think you're being funny?!
Forget you, then!

MACK #2

Good, we're goin' back up! My
head's about to bust wide open.

The mackerels abandon the whale shark and head back up to the surface and seek shelter from the two divers.

CARMEN

Hey, Ernesto, look! We've got
company!

Ernesto swats at the mackerels to scare them away.

ERNESTO

Go away! Get out of here!

CARMEN

What's the matter, Ernesto? Why
are you freakin' out?

ERNESTO

Why am I freakin' out?! You don't
wanna be in the middle of feeding
frenzy, do you?

The bluefin tunas move in to feed on the mackerels hiding behind Carmen and Ernesto.

CARMEN

Tunas!

ERNESTO

This is what I was afraid of! I
just hope a school of sail fish
don't show up!

CARMEN

How are we gonna get out of this
one, Ernesto?!

ERNESTO

Back to the boat!

The big tunas bump into Carmen and prevent her from going anywhere.

CARMEN

Where am I going?! I'm getting
banged around by the Roxbury guys
over here!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Caprice and his pod show up and keep a safe distance from the action.

CAPRICE

Well, well, well, what's goin' here?

Smiley gets a close look at the two divers and recognizes them from before.

SMILEY

We've got to help them!

Caprice stops Smiley from helping Ernesto and Carmen.

CAPRICE

Whoa, where do you thin you're going?

SMILEY

What are you doing?! Get out of my way! Can't you see that they need our help?

CAPRICE

Can't you see that we don't give a fluke?! I know you're new here and everything -- you'll get the memo soon enough, but we don't care much for humans.

SMILEY

You don't understand -- I know them! They're good people! Please, let me help them?!

CAPRICE

Would it really mean that much to you?

SMILEY

Yes!

Caprice thinks it over for a minute.

CAPRICE

Okay, we'll help them out, but only if you promise to be nicer to me?!

Smiley agrees to the terms.

SMILEY

Whatever you say!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Caprice leads his team in to help the divers.

CAPRICE

Let's go, guys!

Caprice and his pod chase the tunas away, and Smiley pleads to Carmen for help.

SMILEY

My name is Smiley! I'm being held against my will! I need you to understand me! Please, tell me that you understand me?!

Caprice stops Smiley from saying anymore to Carmen.

CAPRICE

Okay, that will do, Smiley!

(to Carmen)

Don't mind her. She's always clowning around like that.

ERNESTO

C'mon Carmen! Now's our chance!
Back to the boat!

Carmen and Ernesto swim to the surface.

SMILEY

Thank you, Carice. I know that must have been hard for you to do.

CAPRICE

Just as long as you stay true to your word. You might not think much of me now, but the longer I keep you away from your friends, the sooner I'm gonna start to look good to you.

Ernesto and Carmen finally resurface and swim to the boat.

ERNESTO

Boy, it's a good thing those dolphins showed up when they did. I thought we were finished down there.

Ernesto and Carmen climb out of the water and into the boat.

CARMEN

We have to go after them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

ERNESTO

That's a good idea. They might just lead us to the migrating sardines we've been looking for.

CARMEN

Not only that, but what would a single female spotted dolphin be doing mixed up with a pod of bottlenose dolphins?

ERNESTO

Yeah, that was strange, wasn't it?

CARMEN

There's a story in there somewhere. We've got to get that story!

Ernesto starts the boat to go after the dolphins.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCTOPUS LAIR - DAY

The octopus eggs are beginning to hatch. The first baby octopus to break out of his egg is then asked by one of his siblings to give him a hand.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

What?! No grown ups around to greet me?! What kind of welcome into the world is this?

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Hey, my Brother, could you give me a hand over here?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Are you sure that's what you want?

BABY OCTOPUS #2

What do you mean?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

I mean, I'll help you get out of there, if that's what you want, but you really should try to get out of there yourself. It builds character.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BABY OCTOPUS #2

That was deep, but it's just the two us here. No one else has to know about this. Come on. Get me out.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Okay, hold on.

Baby octopus #1 pulls baby octopus #2 out of his egg case.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Thanks Hermano.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

No problem.

Baby octopus #3 is also having trouble getting out of her egg case.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Hey, you guys, help!

Baby octopus #2 comes to her aide.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

I got you, Sis.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Thanks.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Don't worry about it.

Baby octopus #3 looks around for their mother.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Shouldn't there be someone here to greet us?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

I know, right? I was just thinking the same exact thing.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Do we wait for whoever should be here now to show up, or do we venture out on our own?

BABY OCTOPUS #3

What if whoever is supposed to be here now never shows? How long should we wait?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BABY OCTOPUS #1

So, are you saying that we should venture out on our own and fend for ourselves?

BABY OCTOPUS #3

I guess that's what I'm saying?

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Yeah, I'm for that too, but I would feel much safer about it, if there were more of us to go around.

A large school of codfish are swimming along and see thousands of octopus whipper snappers venturing out of their mother's lair.

CODFISH #1

Hey, do you guys see what I see?

CODFISH #2

I sure do!

CODFISH #1

Come on. Follow my lead.

The fishes try to move in without scaring the youngsters away.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Okay, so far, so good, you guys.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Do you even know what it is you're supposed to be looking out for?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

No, but it's a scary world out there. My instincts tell me we ought to be looking out for something.

The babies don't know what to make of the school of codfish coming straight at them.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Is that mom?

BABY OCTOPUS #3

It could be mom.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

I don't know about this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Baby octopus #1 is getting nervous.

CODFISH #1
See, what did I tell you?!
They're totally falling for it.

CODFISH #2
Just keep smiling. Don't do
anything to scare them away.

CODFISH #1
Relax. This is going to be the
easiest meal in a long time. They
won't know what hit them.

CODFISH #2
I love this time of year.

The fishes move in.

BABY OCTOPUS #1
Is anyone else here starting to
freak out, or is it just me?

BABY OCTOPUS #3
Back to the lair?

BABY OCTOPUS #1
Back to the lair.

The babies start making their way back to the lair.

CODFISH #1
Uh-oh, I think they're on to us.

CODFISH #2
Get 'em now! Get 'em now!

The fishes chase after the babies.

BABY OCTOPUS #1
Run! Propel! Jet propel!

The fishes get blind sided by cape fur seals, giving the
octopus whipper snappers a chance to escape.

BABY OCTOPUS #3
What was that?! Those things with
the whiskers just saved us.

BABY OCTOPUS #1
Man, I am so confused right now.
Let's just go home.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The fishes huddle together to form a massive bait ball as a defense mechanism against the fur seals.

SURGE

Excuse me, fellas, stop what you're doing and listen up!

The female fur seal takes offense when the five spotted dolphins show up and interrupt their meal.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

I know what you want to say to us, Polka-dot. You want to tell us how to go about holding this here bait ball together, right? Well, don't bother. We're more than capable of managing this bait ball ourselves.

SURGE

I don't know where all the hostility is coming from. I only came here to warn you...

Female fur seal cuts Surge off.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Warn us?! Warn us about what?! Are you threatening us now?! You polka-dots are all the same. Well, if you think we're just gonna standby and watch you take over this bait ball, you got another thing coming!

SURGE

The only thing coming is the big great white shark that's about to take a bite out of your behind!

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Smile when you say that, Polka-dot!

SURGE

Fine. Don't believe me. I just hope you don't have a little tyke or something waiting for you back at the colony.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Little tyke?! My baby! You were saying something about a shark?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Surge pulls the fur seal out of the way of the shark in the nick of time, and the shark shoots out of the water about seven feet in the air.

FEMALE FUR SEAL (CONT'D)

SHARK!

The female fur seal grabs a codfish before abandoning the bait ball and leaving it to the spotted dolphins.

FEMALE FUR SEAL (CONT'D)

I'm just gonna grab the fish I promised my little tyke, if that's alright?

SURGE

Hey, God speed.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Enjoy.

The great white shark chases the fur seals back to Seal Island, and the spotted dolphins have the bait ball to themselves.

SURGE

Well, that didn't get us very far, did it? I didn't even get a chance to ask them if they've seen any bottlenose dolphins around. Thanks to the squids we ran into last night, we don't even know if we're on the right track anymore.

GAUCHO

Well, as long as we've got this bait ball to ourselves, we might as well take time out to eat. I don't know about you, but I'm starving.

SWIVEL

Yeah, I second that.

ECHO

So do I.

Gaicho, Alley-Oop, Swivel, and Echo help themselves to some codfish.

GAUCHO

What about you, Surge? Don't you want in on this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

ALLEY-OOP

Yeah, Surge, you better get something in your belly. You know chances to eat this good don't come too often.

SURGE

I guess you're right.

Surge joins his friends.

SURGE (CONT'D)

Hey, wait a minute. Let's not finish it all up, guys.

Gaicho has a fish in his mouth.

GAUCHO

Why not?

SURGE

Well, I just thought of something -
- Why don't we use this bait ball as a way of getting Caprice and his pod to come to us?

Gaicho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop stop what they're doing to hear Surge out.

GAUCHO

What do you mean?

SURGE

If we could attract enough seabirds with this bait ball, that will get Caprice's attention, then he with his pod will come running.

SWIVEL

Yeah, but even if your plan does work, you still can't tell us how we're going to get Smiley back. Like I said before, Caprice isn't going to hand Smiley over to the five of us just like that. What's your plan B?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

SURGE

One step at a time, Swivel. We first get caprice and his pod to come to us, and then we'll come up with a way to get Smiley back, okay? How about it?

Gaucho weighs in on Surge's plan.

GAUCHO

I say we go for it! I think it's a good plan.

SWIVEL

Then what are we waiting for?

ECHO

Yeah, let's put this plan into action.

Gaucho, Surge, and Alley-Oop swim circles around the bait ball to hold it in place. Echo and Swivel swim under the bait ball and blow bubbles from their blowholes, raising it closer to the surface. The gannets flying by see the bait ball and move in to investigate.

GANNET

Wow, look down there!

GANNET #2

Hey, get those dolphins a guest spot on Mad Men.

GANNET

They sure do make good ad men, don't they?

GANNET #2

Forget that. We better get down quick, if we're gonna eat.

Soon, hundreds of gannets hover over the bait ball below the surface and wait for it to come within bomb-diving range.

GAUCHO

Well, Surge, it looks like your plan is working. The gannets are starting to gather.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

SURGE

Yeah, I just hope Caprice and them
get here, before these birds go
Kamikaze on us.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEAL ISLAND - DAY

The baby fur seal is looking out at sea from Seal Island
waiting for his mother to return from her hunt.

BABY FUR SEAL

Come on, Ma, what is taking you so
long?! You should've been back by
now!

A mature male sees an opportunity to finish off the baby
fur seal, so that he can mate with the mother when she
returns.

MALE FUR SEAL

Your time has come, little one!
You've kept me from courting your
mother long enough!

BABY FUR SEAL

You'll have to catch me first!

The baby fur seal tries to get away by waddling over the
rough terrain, and the mature male waddles after him.

MALE FUR SEAL

Where do you think you're going?!
You could run, but you won't get
far!

The baby fur seal waddles until he has nowhere else to
go.

MALE FUR SEAL (CONT'D)

I wish it didn't have to come to
this, but there is no getting
around it. As long as your still
breathing, your mother won't give
me the time of day.

The mother fur seal finally shows up to stop the mature
male from harming her baby.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Get away from my baby, halitosis!
Like there was ever a chance of
you hooking up with this!

MALE FUR SEAL

Don't try to stop me! I'm doing
this for the both of us.

The male fur seal makes himself appear even larger to the female fur seal.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Maybe you didn't hear me, so let
me make myself clear!

The male fur seal accepts the challenge, and the female stands her ground.

MALE FUR SEAL

Just remember you brought this on
yourself!

The two go back and forth at each other, and the fight ends with the female driving the male away.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

That creep didn't hurt you, did
he?

BABY FUR SEAL

Where have you been? You had me
goin' out of my mind, Ma!

FEMALE FUR SEAL

I figured that much. I tried to
get here as fast as I can. I'm
sorry I couldn't bring back the
sardine I promised you.

BABY FUR SEAL

That's okay. I'm too upset to eat
anyway.

FEMALE FUR SEAL

Too upset to eat the codfish I got
for you?

The female fur seal regurgitates a whole codfish at her baby's feet.

BABY FUR SEAL

A codfish! Yay!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The baby fur seal claps his flippers and hugs his mom.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

Caprice and his pod finally arrive to an abandoned bait ball of codfish.

PRESTO

Isn't a thing of beauty, Caprice?!
It's like a gift from God!

Caprice finds the whole thing suspicious.

CAPRICE

I don't know about this, Presto.

PRESTO

What don't you know, Caprice?
It's codfish. You like codfish,
don't you?!

CAPRICE

That's besides the point. This
bait ball didn't just happen all
by itself. A lot of work went
into putting this thing together,
but I don't see anyone else
around, do you?

Presto looks around.

PRESTO

No.

CAPRICE

Now, who in their right mind goes
through all that trouble just to
abandon a perfectly formed bait
ball like this? It doesn't make
sense.

Presto isn't sure what Caprice is trying to tell him.

PRESTO

So, what are you saying? Do you
think this is a set up?

CAPRICE

Don't you?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PRESTO

All I know is that I'm very glad to be here right now. I guess that's why you're the leader of this pod, and I'm not.

CAPRICE

Well, we've got a long journey ahead of us, so we've got to eat something, but make sure you keep your eyes open for anything out of the ordinary, anything other than this huge bait ball we have here before us.

PRESTO

You got it, Caprice.

CAPRICE

I'll eat first, and you can keep an eye on my spotted girlfriend here.

PRESTO

Sure thing, boss.

CAPRICE

As soon as I get my fill, I'll come and relieve you.

Caprice then turns to Smiley.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

You know we've been swimming together all this time, and I still don't know your name.

SMILEY

Yeah, and if it's all the same to you, I'd like to keep it that way.

CAPRICE

Remember, you promised to be nice to me for helping your human peeps out. We're you crossing your fingers behind your back or something?

PRESTO

Don't worry about it, Caprice. Go eat something. I'll straighten this one out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CAPRICE

Right.

Caprice leaves Smiley with Presto to chase after codfish, and Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop are surveying his moves from their hiding place behind the sea plants.

SURGE

I don't see Smiley anywhere. What about you guys?

GAUCHO

I don't see her either. I see Caprice, but no Smiley.

SURGE

You don't think she somehow managed to give them the slip, do you?

SWIVEL

No, there goes Smiley! There's only one dude guarding her. You see her?

Swivel points Smiley out.

SURGE

Smiley!

SWIVEL

Okay, Surge, we've found her. Now what?

SURGE

I got something. You think I don't got something? I got something. Listen up. I think you guys are gonna like this.

The bait ball is finally within the gannet's diving range.

GANNET

What do you think? Is it within our diving range?

GANNET #2

I guess we'll find out. Let's go.

The gannets hit the water at 40mph and dive 60 feet below the surface to catch the fish.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CAPRICE

Watch it, crazy birds! You almost took my eye out?

Ernesto stops the boat just above the feeding frenzy taking place below the surface.

CARMEN

Check it out, Ernesto! Look at all the activity.

ERNESTO

I know. It's amazing how these birds could hit the water so hard without ever breaking anything!

CARMEN

We better hurry up and get down there!

ERNESTO

I'll drop anchor.

The anchor drops and lands on Presto's head, knocking him out.

SMILEY

What in the world?

Smiley looks up and seizes the opportunity to escape.

SURGE

Okay, now's our chance!

Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop come out of hiding to catch up to Smiley.

SURGE (CONT'D)

Smiley, wait up! It's us!

Smiley stops for her friends.

SMILEY

Where did you guys come from?

SURGE

Never mind that. Let's get out of here!

Caprice catches Smiley escaping.

CAPRICE

Stop them! They're getting away!
Stop them!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SURGE

Uh-oh, we've been made! Swim for
it!

Caprice rounds up the rest of his pod to go after the six spotted dolphins.

CAPRICE

Presto, are you all right?!

Presto's head is spinning.

PRESTO

That all depends. Did you
remember to turn off the stove
before we left the house this
morning?

CAPRICE

Presto, you clumsy dope, this
could only happen to you. Now,
pull yourself together. We have
to go after them.

Carmen and Ernesto are suited up and go over the side of the boat, landing on Caprice's head.

CARMEN

Oh, I'm sorry about that! I
didn't see you there.

PRESTO

Are you okay, Caprice?!

Caprice's head is spinning.

CAPRICE

Hey, Caprice, why do you hate
people so much?! Stupid divers --
I saved their puny necks, and this
is the thanks I get!

PRESTO

Never mind, Caprice! Smiley's
getting away!

CAPRICE

You're right! After them!

The six spotted dolphins feel that they've put enough distance between them and the bottlenose dolphins.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

SMILEY

Guys, hold on. Let's rest up for a minute.

ECHO

Yeah, I'm for that. I think we're safe from those jerks here.

SURGE

Okay, but only for a minute.

The dolphins come up for air.

SMILEY

Gee whiz, Surge! What happened to you?!

Smiley feels Surge's scars with her fin.

SURGE

What do you mean?

SMILEY

Where did you get all these scars?

SURGE

Oh, yeah, the scars. We had a run in with a school of giant squids last night. Those things have suckers with teeth that can scar you for life, as you can see.

ALLEY-OOP

Yeah, they would've left us alone, if Swivel hadn't mouthed off to one of them.

SWIVEL

Hey, I thought it was a good idea at the time, okay?! Get off my back already!

SMILEY

Did you get any scars, Gaucho?

GAUCHO

Yeah, a few on my back and on my belly.

Smiley checks Gaucho's belly for scars.

SMILEY

Wow, they got you good. That's kind of a turn on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

SURGE

Don't you think that mine are
sexier, though?

GAUCHO

Get outta here!

SURGE

Smiley? What say you?

SMILEY

Hey, look at the time! We really
should start moving again.

Caprice and his pod catch up to the six spotted dolphins.

CAPRICE

You're goin' nowhere!

GAUCHO

See, let this be a lesson to all
of you -- never let your guard
down, especially when there's a
bunch of bottlenose dolphins
lookin' to beat you down.

SMILEY

Save it, Gaucho!

Smiley, Gaucho, Surge, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop take
off with Caprice and his pod on their tail.

SURGE

Hurry up, Smiley! They're gaining
on you!

Smiley lags behind the other spotted dolphins and gets
caught by Caprice and his pod.

PRESTO

I got her, Caprice!

CAPRICE

Hold on to her! The others will
come back for her, and then we'll
finish them off once and for all.

PRESTO

The female, too?!

CAPRICE

The female, too. She's more
trouble than she's worth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop are trying to decide on what to do about Smiley.

SWIVEL

I know how you feel, Surge, but we had our shot, and we blew it!

ALLEY-OOP

Yeah, Surge, if we go back for Smiley now, they kill us for sure!

Without saying word, Surge goes back for Smiley on his own.

ECHO

Where are you going, Surge?!

SURGE

I'm going back for Smiley! You guys can do whatever you want!

Not knowing what to do, Gaucho, Swivel, Echo, and Alley-Oop stand around and look at each other.

CAPRICE

I wish it didn't have to come down to this, but you've forced my hand!

PRESTO

Caprice, behind you.

Caprice turns around and see that Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop have come back for Smiley.

CAPRICE

Ah, I knew you spotted weaklings wouldn't be able to stay away. Come to me, all of you, and join your little girlfriend here in death!

Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop join Smiley to be put to death.

SMILEY

(to Surge)

You guys were in the clear! Why did you come back for me, Surge?!

SURGE

What kind of a question is that? If you go, then we're going with you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

CAPRICE

Oh, man, is this going to be fun!

Surge, Smiley, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop find themselves surrounded by Caprice's pod.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

Do your worst, boys!

Ziggy finally arrives just in time with the rest of his pod.

ZIGGY

I don't think so, Caprice! Your beef is with me! Let them go!

CAPRICE

Not so fast, Ziggy! If you don't want to see any harm come to your six soldiers here, you'll submit to me at once!

Smiley takes Caprice's attention away from Ziggy.

SMILEY

Hey, Caprice, I'm ready to give you that kiss you've been dying to get from me!

Smiley bites Caprice on the nose.

CAPRICE

OW!

Smiley, Surge, Echo, Swivel, Alley-Oop, and Gaucho make a break for it.

SMILEY

We're clear, Ziggy!

Ziggy and his pod move in to attack.

PRESTO

What happens now, Caprice?! Do we retreat?!

CAPRICE

He's not chasing us away this time! This time we stay and fight!

Presto tries to talk some sense into Caprice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

PRESTO

Come on, Caprice! There are too many of them! It's over!

CAPRICE

Presto, don't even think about leaving me hanging, or your life won't mean squat!

PRESTO

Caprice!

CAPRICE

(sings)

Na, na, na, na, na, na, na, I don't want to hear it, Presto! I got my rock move, you got your rock move, so we're gonna get in this fight and show it to them! Now, let's go!

The two rivals charge at each other and collide into one huge battle.

ZIGGY

It's you and me, Caprice! Let's finish this!

Caprice and Presto team up to take on Ziggy.

PIVOT

Hey, Presto!

PRESTO

You want some of this, Spotty?

PIVOT

I want a lot that!

Pivot swings around to smack Presto in the face with his tail.

PIVOT (CONT'D)

He's all yours, Ziggy!

Presto backs off, letting Caprice and Ziggy battle it out for themselves.

CAPRICE

I've been waiting a long time for this, Ziggy!

Caprice rams his head into Ziggy's side, spinning him around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

ZIGGY

You're gonna need a bigger boat,
if that's all you got!

Ziggy retaliates by slapping Caprice in the face with his tail.

LUCILLE

I'm about to put you in your
place, Ms. Thing!

Lucille and Smiley are squaring off against each other.

SMILEY

Hater, huh?! I love it!

Smiley rams her head into Lucille's rib cage, spinning her around and out of the water.

Surge and Presto are having a scrap of their own.

SURGE

This is for all the crap you put
us through.

Surge swings his tail around and smacks Presto in the face.

SURGE (CONT'D)

This is for getting us scared for
life by a bunch of squids!

Surge swings his tail around again and smacks Presto in the face.

SURGE (CONT'D)

And this is for making sure that
you think twice about putting any
of us through this again!

Surge rams his skull into Presto's side and blows him out of the water.

CAPRICE

I hate to burst your bubble like
this, Ziggy, but you will never be
the man, and the only reason why
you and your pod got to keep the
shoal of sardines was because I
let you keep it.

Caprice is getting the upper hand in his fight with Ziggy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (11)

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

It might be hard for you to
accept, but it's true! I mean,
look at you now!

Ziggy cocks his tail back and swings it around, smacking
Caprice in the face.

ZIGGY

Yeah, look at me now -- all six or
seven of me!

Caprice's head is spinning.

CAPRICE

This isn't over yet, Ziggy!
You'll be seeing me again soon!

ZIGGY

Well, have your people call my
people!

Caprice retreats with his pod, leaving Ziggy alone with
his pod.

SURGE

Boy, it's a good thing you came
when you did, Ziggy.

ZIGGY

Are you guys okay?!

SURGE

Yeah, were fine.

Ziggy takes a look at Surge's scars.

ZIGGY

You guys gave us quite a scare,
but I'm just glad to see that
you're still in one piece. Come
on. Let's go. You could tell me
about your scars some other time.

Ziggy then notices Gaucho's scars.

SURGE

Thanks, Ziggy. We're sorry for
everything that we've put you
through. At least let us make it
up to you guys.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (12)

ZIGGY

No, we're family. You don't have to make it up to us!

SURGE

Okay, but it would be a shame to let a huge bait ball of codfish like the one we've found not too far from here go to waste.

Surge gets Ziggy's attention.

ZIGGY

Codfish, huh?

The cod fish are still being bombarded by the dive-bombing gannets. Surge returns with the rest of the pod to regain control of the shoal, with Carmen and Ernesto filming all the action from a safe distance.

ERNESTO

Hey, Carmen, the dolphins are back!

The spotted dolphins work fast to get the codfish bunched up together into one big bait ball. The dolphins swim around the bait ball, blowing bubbles from their blowholes to hold the codfish in place.

CARMEN

Did you see that, Ernesto? That dolphin almost got clipped by a gannet.

Ernesto is capturing everything on film.

ERNESTO

Yeah, I saw it!

CARMEN

This is so cool!

Alley-Oop circles the codfish from the surface, leaping in and out of the water, creating violent splashes to keep the codfish in place. Some dolphins swim underneath the bait ball to keep the codfish from descending to the depths to escaping. The dolphins are being careful not to get struck by the dive-bombing gannets.

ZIGGY

It doesn't get any tighter than this! Let's dig in!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (13)

The codfish unfortunate enough to be on the outside of the bait ball are the first ones to be picked off by the dolphins. The codfish lose their scales as the dolphins zip right through them.

PIVOT

Ziggy, I think I'm getting the hang of this tail slapping thing. Check me out!

Pivot stuns the fish by slapping them with his tail.

ZIGGY

Way to go, Pivot!

Surge and Smiley try a little tail slapping of their own, making the codfish much easier to catch.

SMILEY

This is fun!

The codfish are left stunned, and Surge swims along to snatch them up.

PIVOT

Silky sharks are here!

Just when the frenzy is winding down, a school of silky sharks show up to finish the job.

SILKY SHARK

Did you leave anything for us?!

ZIGGY

Yeah, we're just about done here. I guess you guys can finish it up.

SILKY SHARK

Okay, fellas, you heard the man! Let's do it!

The silky sharks move in to finish up what is left of the bait ball.

ZIGGY

We're out of here, boys! On to the next one.

Ziggy leads his pod away from the frenzy, and they all swim off in search of new feeding opportunities elsewhere.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SHARK BAY FILMS - DAY

Carmen and Ernesto are sitting in the editing room of Shark Bay Films, editing their film.

CARMEN

So, how's the editing coming along?

ERNESTO

Well, I know how much you loved filming those sea otters resting on the kelp, but I'm afraid we're not going to be able to use it.

CARMEN

Awe, I was afraid of that. That's too bad.

ERNESTO

Yeah, there's just no way of keeping the otters in without the documentary running over an hour long.

CARMEN

Well, do what you gotta do. You know I trust your judgement.

Carmen answers her ringing cell phone.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

(on the phone)

Carmen Charlesworth.

(listens)

They are? That's great!

(listens)

Okay, we're on our way!

(listens)

Okay, bye.

Carmen gets off the phone.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

Ernesto, the turtle eggs are hatching! We've got to get to the sanctuary!

CUT TO:

EXT. CRAB ISLAND - DAY

Hundreds of Ghost crabs are combing the beach for the hatchlings they normally would be preying on around this time of year.

GHOST CRAB

Did you find any?!

GHOST CRAB #2

There's nothing over here!

Ghost crab #2 is climbing out of a hole he dug up on the beach.

GHOST CRAB

What about you?! Did you find anything?!

GHOST CRAB #3

I got nothing!

Ghost crab #3 is digging through the sand for any sign of hatchlings.

GHOST CRAB

I don't understand this!

GHOST CRAB #3

All the other ghosts crabs are coming up empty, too.

GHOST CRAB #2

Maybe the sea turtles found a nesting site that was more to their liking than this one.

GHOST CRAB

I just don't get it! The beach should be crawling with sea turtle hatchlings this time of year!

GHOST CRAB #3

I think I got it!

GHOST CRAB

You think you got what?!

Ghost crab #3 has a theory he can't wait to share.

GHOST CRAB #3

I think I know what happened to the hatchlings!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GHOST CRAB

Okay, what?!

Ghost crab is getting frustrated with ghost crab #3.

GHOST CRAB #3

Just hear me out on this!

GHOST CRAB

Would you go ahead already?! At this point, I'm willing to entertain all notions!

GHOST CRAB #3

Okay, you know how sea turtle eggs usually hatch at night, and the hatchlings sometimes use the moon to direct them to the water?

Ghost #3 is going slowly with his explanation.

GHOST CRAB

Yeah, so what are you getting at?!

GHOST CRAB #3

Well, I'm thinking that the hatchlings got confused with the street lights and got ran over by the passing cars while crossing the street. That's it! That's why we're not eating now. Our food got ran over trying to cross the street.

Carmen and Ernesto set foot on the beach with buckets full of sea turtle hatchlings.

CARMEN

What do you think? Is this a good place to release them?

ERNESTO

No, I think we should be closer to the water.

Ernesto and Carmen get closer to the water before releasing the hatchlings.

CARMEN

Okay, now for the moment we've all been waiting for.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ERNESTO

Wait a minute!

Ernesto makes sure that predators are not around to snatch up the babies.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Okay, let's release them.

Ernesto and Carmen pick the hatchlings out of the buckets and set them down on the sand. Once they're set on the sand, the hatchlings immediately make their way towards the water.

CARMEN

That's it, babies! Head straight for the water!

The ghost crabs wonder what Carmen and Ernesto are up to.

GHOST CRAB

What are those two doing over there? What's in the buckets?

The ghost crabs see hatchlings running towards the water.

GHOST CRAB (CONT'D)

Baby sea turtles! The humans were holding on to them the whole time!

GHOST CRAB #2

They're going to get away!

GHOST CRAB

Come on! We could still catch them!

The ghost crabs go after the baby sea turtles.

ERNESTO

Great! Here comes the ghost crabs!

CARMEN

Hurry up! You gotta go!

ERNESTO

Come on, guys, move it!

Carmen and Ernesto are still picking babies out of the buckets and setting them down on the sand.

GHOST CRAB

I got one!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

The ghost crab claps down on the baby turtle with its claws and tries to drag him down a hole in the sand.

CARMEN

No! Come on, Ernesto! We can't
let the crabs get to the baby
turtles!

Ernesto stops Carmen from going in to help the baby turtles.

ERNESTO

Wait, Carmen, it's too late!
There's nothing we can do!

The baby turtle is putting up a good fight against the ghost crab trying to take him down the hole.

GHOST CRAB

Not so fast, little dude! Where
do you think you're going, huh?

BABY SEA TURTLE

No, let me go!

GHOST CRAB

He's too heavy! Help me drag him
down the hole!

Ghost crab #2 is struggling with a baby turtle on his own.

GHOST CRAB #2

Why don't you let yours go, and
help me with mine?!

Ghost crab lets his prize go to help ghost crab #2 with his.

GHOST CRAB #2 (CONT'D)

Yeah, we got him now!

BABY SEA TURTLE #2

Leave me alone! Leave me alone!

GHOST CRAB

Don't fight us, little guy! It is
written! You gotta come with us!

Baby sea turtle #2 puts up a fight and drags the ghost crabs towards the water.

GHOST CRAB #2

This little guy is tough.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The tide comes in and causes the ghost crabs to lose their catch.

GHOST CRAB

Where did our little guy go?!

GHOST CRAB #2

I don't see him!

Baby sea turtle #2 is making his way to the water.

GHOST CRAB #2 (CONT'D)

There he is! ~~Here~~ ^{More} about to make it into the water!

GHOST CRAB

Don't let him get away!

The tide comes in and pulls the baby sea turtle into the ocean, and the ghost crabs miss their chance.

CARMEN

Yes, they made it!

ERNESTO

Good luck, guys! Go get 'em.

Carmen and Ernesto stick around and watch the baby sea turtles swim out into the open ocean.

FADE OUT.