

WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

by

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(Based on, If Any)

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FADE IN.

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A pod of spotted dolphins about a hundred strong are on the hunt for food. ZIGGY, leader of the pod, gives GAUCHO, a low ranking pod member, an opportunity to score big points and move up in the ranks.

GAUCHO

You wanted to see me, Ziggy?

ZIGGY

I got a job for you to do for me, Gaucho. Are you up for it?

GAUCHO

Sure, Ziggy, just name it.

ZIGGY

I'm cutting you loose. I want you to get out there and find enough food for all of us. Do you think you can do that for me?

GAUCHO

I'm your guy, Ziggy.

ZIGGY

Good. Get five pod members to go with you, though. I don't care who they are. I just don't want you goin' alone.

GAUCHO

I'll get right on it.

ZIGGY

Am I forgetting anything, Pivot?

PIVOT, Ziggy's wing man, vouches for Gaucho.

PIVOT

I can't think of anything.

ZIGGY

Then you're all set, Gaucho. You could head out as soon as you assemble your team.

GAUCHO

Thank you, sir. I won't let you down.

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ALLEY-OOP jumps in and out of the water to get the lay of the land.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

How are things looking from up there, Alley-Oop?

ALLEY-OOP

Ominous! I can't believe that we came all this way for the annual sardine banquet, and the sardines are nowhere to be found.

GAUCHO

You've been at this for hours. Why don't you take a break? There's something I want to ask you.

ALLEY-OOP

What's on your mind?

GaUCHO and Alley-Oop find SWIVEL and ECHO together.

GAUCHO

Swivel, Echo, you guys are coming with us.

SWIVEL

Where are you two going?

GAUCHO

We don't know yet. We're just gonna get lost for a while to see what we could find.

ECHO

Does Ziggy know about you two taking off like this?

GAUCHO

Yeah, I already talked to him. He said it was cool.

SWIVEL

Okay, then I guess we're in.

SMILEY, a female who's just like one of the guys, wants to come along.

SMILEY

Hey, wait a minute! I want in, too! You're not gonna leave me alone with all these females.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GAUCHO

Okay, you're in, Smiley. All we need is one more. Any suggestions?

SWIVEL

Well, it ain't gonna be fun without having someone around to mess with, so I suggest we bring Surge along.

SMILEY

Ah, leave Surge alone, Swivel. I think Surge is getting tired of you being the Quint to his Hooper.

SWIVEL

Smiley, it's been long enough. It's time for things to get back to normal around here.

GAUCHO

Where is Surge, anyway? Has anyone seen him?

SURGE, a loner, is deep in thought when Gaucho approaches him.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

Surge, my boy! You're just the one I've been looking for.

SURGE

I am?!

GAUCHO

You are. I need you, buddy.

SURGE

You need me for what?!

GAUCHO

Some of us are heading out for a little adventure and excitement. We want you to join us.

SURGE

Thanks, but I guess I'm in one of those moods again. I wouldn't make good company.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

GAUCHO

I've been meaning to talk to you about that, Surge. I'm sorry about what happened to your girl.

Surge sets the record straight.

SURGE

Bubbles wasn't my girl, okay?! I wanted to make her my girl. I just never got around to it!

GAUCHO

See, let that be a lesson to you -- don't let yourself get too worked up over any female from this pod, because you never know when a herd of bachelors is going to come along and kidnap her.

SURGE

I got it, okay? I'm good now. I just needed some time to get used to Bubbles not being around anymore that's all.

GAUCHO

Are you sure you won't come with us, Surge? I know a lot of guys that would be happy to see you back in the swing of things.

Surge decides to come along.

SURGE

I'll go, okay? If it'll get you to stop talking, I'll go.

GAUCHO

Atta boy, Surge. Welcome aboard.

CUT TO:

EXT. CRAB ISLAND - DAY

At low tide, thousands of sea turtles make land and dig deep holes in the sand to deposit their eggs. ERNESTO, 27, a marine biologist, climbs out of a hole with a bucket full of turtle eggs to check on CARMEN, 27, his colleague, in the next hole over.

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ERNESTO

Well, my bucket's full. I'm gonna load it in the truck.

CARMEN

Good.

ERNESTO

What are you doing down there, Carmen? Your bucket isn't going to fill itself. You gotta put the eggs in it.

Carmen tries not to distract the turtle in the hole with her and answers Ernesto quietly.

CARMEN

I don't wanna disturb her while she's laying her eggs. I thought I'd wait til after she was done.

ERNESTO

She doesn't know you're there. Once these turtles start laying their eggs, they go into some sort of trance.

CARMEN

Oh really? I didn't know that.

Carmen waves her hands in the turtle's face.

ERNESTO

We've got a lot of eggs to harvest. I wanna get them to the sanctuary by five.

CARMEN

Okay, but first give me something to scrape the barnacles off her shell. She's got disgusting fungal growth all over it.

Ernesto is distracted by six spotted dolphins.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

Ernesto, hello?!

ERNESTO

Huh?

CARMEN

What are you looking at?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ERNESTO

It looks like we've got company.
Get out of the hole, and check
this out.

CARMEN

Oh yeah? Who is it?

ERNESTO

Just get up here.

Carmen climbs out of the hole.

CARMEN

What am I looking at?

ERNESTO

Look out there.

Carmen is surprised by the dolphins.

CARMEN

Wow, what are they doing this
close up?

ERNESTO

I think we're about to be
captivated with some death defying
hunting techniques.

Alley-Oop tries to stun the fish with his tail.

ALLEY-OOP

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

Gaucho schools Alley-Oop on the basics of tail slapping.

GAUCHO

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

ALLEY-OOP

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 with your tail.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ECHO

Yeah, Alley-Oop. Go ahead, Gaucho, show us that thing you do, where you skid through inches of water to catch a fish.

GAUCHO

I think the technique you're talking about, Echo, is Hydroplaning. Is that what you mean?

ECHO

Hydroplaning -- is that what it's called?

Gaucho warns Echo of the dangers of hydroplaning.

GAUCHO

Yeah, it's a technique that only a handful of dolphins know how to do, and if it's not done right, it can be fatal.

ECHO

We're not afraid.

GAUCHO

Alright, I'll show you, but watch carefully. I mean it!

Swivel cheers Gaucho on.

SWIVEL

Do you want a drum roll or anything, Gaucho?

GAUCHO

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

SWIVEL

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

Gaucho pumps 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 impressed.

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CONTINUED: (4)

SMILEY

That was awesome!

Surge wants to give hydroplaning a try.

SURGE

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

SMILEY

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

SURGE

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

GAUCHO

Go on, Smiley.

Smiley's first attempt at hydroplaning is successful.

SMILEY

I love my streamline body!

GAUCHO

Way to go, Smiley!

SURGE

Yeah, Smiley, that was really great.

GAUCHO

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

Surge gives himself a pep talk.

SURGE

Come on, Surge, don't mess this up, not in front of Smiley. You can do this.

Surge's first attempt at hydroplaning is successful.

SMILEY

Nice.

Gaucho has another technique to show Surge, Smiley, Swivel, Echo, and Alley-Oop.

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CONTINUED: (5)

GAUCHO

Okay, now that you got this down.
I'm gonna teach you guys how to
catch fish on land.

SURGE

Show us.

GAUCHO

We're going to need a big wave to
come in and help us with this
demonstration.

The dolphins wait for the next big wave to come in, and
the nervous fish brace themselves for what's coming.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

Okay, here it comes!

The dolphins are washed ashore by the huge wave and go
for the fish as they thrash around on the sandbar.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

Get 'em! Get 'em! Get that one
right next to you, Alley-Oop!

Gaicho, Smiley, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop get their
fish and go back into the water.

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 for the 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 rocks his body from side to side.

SURGE

Yeah, I'm stuck! What do I do,
Gaicho? I gotta get off this hot
sand!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

GAUCHO

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

Surge can't wiggle his way out the divot.

SURGE

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

SMILEY

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

GAUCHO

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

Ernesto and Carmen stay put.

CARMEN

He's cooked, unless we do something, Ernesto.

ERNESTO

I know how you feel, Carmen, but we're marine biologists. We're really not supposed to interfere.

CARMEN

Don't give me that crap, Ernesto! I'm going to help him. Are you coming?!

ERNESTO

Yeah, I guess.

CARMEN

Come on, then!

Carmen and Ernesto move in with their buckets.

SWIVEL

Wait a minute, guys. People are coming. Please, God, I hope they're from Lakewood Church or something.

Ernesto and Carmen fill their buckets with water.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

ERNESTO

Don't worry, big guy. You'll be back in the water with your friends in no time.

Ernesto and Carmen pour water over Surge.

SURGE

Why am I not cryin' my eyes out right now?! I should be crying. I feel like crying. Go ahead and cry, you whistling Dixie!

Ernesto can't push Surge back into the water.

ERNESTO

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

SURGE

All I wanted to do was show my friends that I wasn't a stick in a mud, and I couldn't even do that. Ironic, isn't it?

Carmen helps Ernesto push.

CARMEN

Poor guy -- he really must be goin' out of his mind! Listen to him.

The tide comes in.

ERNESTO

That's right, big guy, perk up! Help us out here!

GAUCHO

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

ERNESTO

Come on, Carmen! Don't stop! Keep pushing!

Surge is pushed back into the water.

GAUCHO

Yes, we got him back!

SMILEY

Surge, thank goodness.

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CONTINUED: (8)

Surge doesn't feel worthy of all the fuss over him.

SURGE

Yeah, yeah, yeah, let's just get outta here.

GAUCHO

Okay, I think we've had enough excitement for one day. Let's head back to Ziggy.

Carmen and Ernesto watch the dolphins swim away.

CARMEN

That was a close one.

ERNESTO

Oh, I almost forgot about the turtle eggs! We better get them out of the sun before they fry.

CARMEN

Right.

Ernesto and Carmen get back to work.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A pod of bottlenose dolphins leap in and out of the water in unison. Calves try to get a loner to join them in a game of tag.

BOTTLENOSE CALF #1

Hey, we're about to play a game of tag. C'mon, we gotta do engine, engine number 9 to find out who's gonna be it.

BOTTLENOSE CALF #2

No, count me out.

BOTTLENOSE CALF #1

Why?!

BOTTLENOSE CALF #2

No, I hate playing tag.

BOTTLENOSE CALF #1

What game do you wanna play?!

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BOTTLENOSE CALF #2

Let's see who can skid across the surface of the water on our tails the longest. Do you wanna?

BOTTLENOSE CALF #3

Yeah, okay.

BOTTLENOSE CALF #2

Ready? Go!

CAPRICE, leader of the pod, and PRESTO, his wing man, study the calves as they try to see who can skid across the surface on their tail the longest.

CAPRICE

Do you know how embarrassing it is for me, as the leader of this pod, not to know which of these little tykes I could claim as a dependent?

PRESTO

Well, you could always go outside of the pod and recruit another female, and see to it that no other male in this pod touches her but you.

CAPRICE

That's not a bad idea, but what chance do I have of finding a hot female that isn't spoken for?

PRESTO

We'll just do what we always do when we come across a pod with more than enough females to go around.

CAPRICE

I gotta give it to you, Presto, you do manage to come up with sweet ideas every now and then.

PRESTO

That's why I get paid the big sand dollars.

CAPRICE

Hey, don't you find it funny how being so enthused over an idea can work up an appetite?

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CONTINUED: (2)

PRESTO
 You hungry?

CAPRICE
 I am now.

PRESTO
 Me too.

CAPRICE
 You feel like sardines?

PRESTO
 I could go for some sardines,
 sure.

CAPRICE
 I know a place. Let's go.

PRESTO
 Lead the way, boss.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEAL ISLAND - DAY

A cape fur seal decoy is dragged through the water by a research boat and gets hit from below by WHITE, a great white shark. Two cape fur seal scouts can't bear to look and cover their eyes.

FUR SEAL SCOUT
 Is it over? I couldn't bring
 myself to watch.

FUR SEAL SCOUT #2
 Yeah, it's over. It's okay for
 you to look now.

FUR SEAL SCOUT
 I thought it would be messier than
 this. What happened to all the
 gore?

White regurgitates his stomach to get rid of unwanted content.

FUR SEAL SCOUT #2
 It must have been another one of
 those spy-cams that researchers
 keep leaving out to catch sharks
 on the hunt.

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FUR SEAL SCOUT

Well, it looks like White is gonna be out of commission for a while -- now that he's all gums.

Back at the colony, thousands of fur seals can't wait to dive in and hunt. CINNAMON, a mature male, tells BULL, his friend, that the coast is clear.

CINNAMON

Hey, Bull, the scouts are back from their patrol. It's safe to go in now. Are you coming?

BULL

You go ahead without me, Cinnamon.

CINNAMON

Why?

Cinnamon belts out a loud and long Belch.

BULL

I'm gonna do away with Star's little runt once and for all, so she could get back on her estrous cycle.

CINNAMON

Today's the day, huh?

BULL

Yep, I've been playing this day in my head over and over again for weeks. I can't wait.

Bull Belches.

CINNAMON

Well, it sounds like you got it all worked out. You want me to bring you back something?

BULL

No, I'm good, thanks.

BUSTER, baby fur seal, wants to hunt with his mother, STAR.

STAR

Buster, I'll be fine. I don't know why you're so worried. You heard what the scouts said. There are no sharks around.

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CONTINUED: (2)

BUSTER

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

STAR

Like who?!

Star looks around and Bull waves at her with a big smile on his face.

STAR (CONT'D)

Bull?! Bull is so sweet. He says nothing but the nicest things about you.

BUSTER

Yeah, he says those things to you because he knows how much you love your baby, but he wouldn't spit on me if my hair was on fire!

STAR

You're exaggerating, Buster!

Buster looks over at Bull and gets bad vibes from him.

BUSTER

No, Ma'am. I don't know why, but he doesn't like me for some reason, and with you gone hunting, there will be nothing to stop him from working me over.

STAR

I'm sorry, baby, but you're just not ready to go hunting with me. Now, don't do anything to draw attention to yourself, and you'll be safe. I won't be gone long -- I promise.

BUSTER

Yes, Ma'am.

Star kisses Buster on the nose.

STAR

I'll bring back a nice juicy sardine for you.

Star dives into the water along with the other moms.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BUSTER

Be careful!

Buster waves at Bull and gets a dirty look in return.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

I'm dead.

CUT TO:

EXT. OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A pod of sperm whales surface to fill their lungs with enough air in preparation for a two mile dive. CALFY, a calf too young to hunt, is worried about his mother, who has scars all over her body.

CALFY

Ma, can we talk now, or are you still in the middle of your yoga?

CALFY'S MOTHER

I told you I don't do yoga, Calfy!

CALFY

Well, it looks like yoga breathing exercises to me -- with all that huffing and puffing.

Calfy and his mother spout water from their blowholes.

CALFY'S MOTHER

I'm just filling my lungs with enough air for the two mile dive I got ahead of me. Now, what is it that you want to talk to me about?

CALFY

Would you think less of me if I choose not hunt giant squids when the time comes?

CALFY'S MOTHER

Not at all, baby! I'll leave that up to you.

CALFY

That's good, because there has to be something for me to hunt that won't leave marks all over my body.

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CONTINUED:

CALFY'S MOTHER

I know my scars aren't pretty to look at, Calfy, but when you're mixing it up with a giant squid, and the adrenaline rush kicks in, you don't even feel a thing.

Calfy doesn't feel any better.

CALFY

But still -- why go for something that could leave permanent laceration scars on your body, when you could hunt for simpler prey, like a walrus or something?

CUT TO:

EXT. OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

Gannets hover over a large school of nervous sardines. Two of the gannets, RUFFIAN and FLAP, get to know each other, while they wait for the sardines to come within their diving range.

RUFFIAN

I love how sardines get all tense and nervous, just before the dive-bombings, don't you?

FLAP

Yeah, I like that look in their eyes, too.

RUFFIAN

That's what it's all about.

Ruffian and Flap shoot the breeze, while they wait for the dolphins, seals, and sharks to show up.

FLAP

What do you think? Do you think they're close enough?

RUFFIAN

No, not yet, but I'm sure that the dolphins and fur seals have spotted us by now. Those sardines down there will be within our diving range soon enough.

Flap and Ruffian introduce themselves to each other.

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FLAP

I like that attitude.

RUFFIAN

Thanks.

FLAP

I'm Flap.

RUFFIAN

Ruffian.

FLAP

Glad to know ya, Ruffian, glad to know ya.

BROOKE, a pregnant sardine, is about to release thousands of eggs. GILL, Brooke's nerdy mate, a Cornelius type, is distracted by all the seabirds.

BROOKE (O.S.)

Gill, hello?!

GILL

What?!

BROOKE

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

GILL

You haven't started yet?! What are you waitin' for, girl? Get to it!

Gill won't take his eyes off the seabirds.

BROOKE

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

GILL

Why do I keep looking up?! Don't you know what it means for those crazy, kamikaze seabirds to be hovering over us like this?!

BROOKE

Yes, Gill, I know what it means, but I don't need that image in my head right now. Please, stop talking.

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CONTINUED: (2)

GILL

Come on, come on, come on -- get going.

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.

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

Who's here?!

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

GILL

Brooke, get in the center of the bait ball!

BROOKE

You see, Gill! Now we're going to die, thanks to you and your bad feelings!

GILL

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

Ziggy is daunted by the size of the shoal.

ZIGGY

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

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CONTINUED: (3)

PIVOT

Gaicho, and the others still haven't returned from that little solo expedition.

ZIGGY

Well, we can't wait for them. We've got to work fast.

The dolphins swim underneath the huge shoal, release bubbles from their blowholes to corral the sardines into a tighter bait ball, and drive 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 the seals, or those birds up there, but keep an eye out for rival pods coming to crash our party. Let them eat cake!

The shoal is now within the gannets diving rage.

RUFFIAN

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

FLAP

AIR RAID!

The gannets shoot out of the sky and hit the water at forty miles per hour. The gannets dive about sixty feet below the surface and snatch up as much fish as they can.

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!

Star is struck by an incoming gannet and is carried away have to be carried away from the frenzy by a friend.

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CONTINUED: (4)

STAR

I'm hit!

STAR'S FRIEND

MEDIC!

Caprice 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,
and this is Pivot.

Pivot gives Caprice a nod.

ZIGGY (CONT'D)

Now, who might you be?

CAPRICE

I'm Caprice.

ZIGGY

And what can I do you for,
Caprice?

CAPRICE

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

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.

Ziggy makes Caprice look bad in front of his pod.

CAPRICE

Is that your final say on the matter, Ziggy? You don't want to take a few minutes to think about it at least?

ZIGGY

I'm sorry for the inconvenience.

CAPRICE

Well, it's good to know that you're sorry for the inconvenience, but hierarchically speaking, we really don't have to ask you. We can just take it from you.

ZIGGY

Well, I really don't see that happening, since there happens to be more of us than there are of you.

Caprice pauses and sizes up the opposition.

CAPRICE

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

The bottlenose dolphins leave the shoal to Ziggy and his pod.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

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.

The dolphins rush to repair the damages and put the bait ball back together again. Ziggy and Pivot are careful not to get struck by incoming gannets.

ZIGGY (CONT'D)

I got this from an Orca. Check it out.

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

PIVOT

Yeah, I like that!

The scales fly off the sardines and slowly sink to the ocean floor.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHARK BAY - DAY

Ernesto and Carmen are at a tourist attraction, where people get a chance to hand feed rogue dolphins. JACK, the hand-feeding instructor, supervises the feed closely to make sure everyone follows the proper guidelines.

JACK

(thick Australian accent)

Okay, people, gather around. If you're lucky enough to be called out for a feed, please do not be tempted to pet 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?!

Tourists raise their hands at once.

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CONTINUED:

CARMEN

What about you, Ernesto? Don't you want to feed the dolphins?

ERNESTO

Not me.

CARMEN

But it's so awesome.

ERNESTO

I know. I just don't like the feel of slimy, slippery fish.

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

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

Ernesto is distracted by the hand-feeding attraction.

ERNESTO

Thinking about what?

CARMEN

Well, it's mid-June. The annual sardine run is already underway. Our six polka-dot friends are probably on their way to South Africa right now. We should go, too.

ERNESTO

To do what?!

CARMEN

To shoot a documentary about the sardine run -- what do you think?!

ERNESTO

I don't know. Shooting a documentary like that would take some time. I was kind of hoping to be here for the baby turtles when they hatch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CARMEN

We won't be gone that long.

ERNESTO

Are you sure?

CARMEN

We'll shoot the documentary and be back here long before the eggs hatch.

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

Gaicho, Echo, Swivel, Alley-Oop, Smiley, and Surge have a long way back to their pod.

SWIVEL

There's never a dull moment with Surge around. I knew he would be the one to get himself stranded on the sandbar -- what a crack up.

SURGE

That's alright, Swivel, go ahead -- talk about me as if I'm not even here.

SWIVEL

You gotta admit it was kind of funny, Surge. Was that sand hot enough for you, or what?

Smiley sticks up for Surge.

SMILEY

Lay off him already, Swivel! You've been in lots of uncompromising positions yourself, you know!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SWIVEL

What uncompromising positions?! I think you got me confused with someone else.

SMILEY

Ooooooh, I swear Swivel reminds me more and more of "The Scenerio" every day.

SURGE

I think it's "The Situation," not "The Scenerio."

SMILEY

I know it is, but that Guido ruined that word for me forever. I gotta use alternative words now, like circumstance, or scenario.

SURGE

Thanks for sticking up for me, Smiley, but I can't help to think that maybe he's right about me. I mean, let's face it -- I can't go anywhere without getting myself into a jam.

SMILEY

You know, Surge, I get the feeling that you think you deserve it when the guys give you a hard time because you blame yourself for what happened to Bubbles.

SURGE

Yeah, something like that.

SMILEY

Well, what kind of thinking is that?

SURGE

I don't know. I guess I'm thinking that if I beat myself up badly enough God will have pity on me and bring Bubbles back.

SMILEY

You know that beating yourself up like this is not going to bring Bubbles back, Surge.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SURGE

I know it's probably stupid of me to think that way, but that guilt thing is something else.

Gaicho interrupts.

GAUCHO

That's enough talking, you two! We've got to hurry! We're late enough as it is!

SURGE

Okay, but can you guys do me a favor?

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!

The six spotted dolphins pick up the pace.

CAPRICE

I'm telling you, Presto, I'll bet you anything that, that spotted freak show is doing a whole lot of talkin' about how he punked me back there.

PRESTO

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

The females avoid eye contact with Caprice.

CAPRICE

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

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

PRESTO

It's all in your head.

CAPRICE

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

PRESTO

What you need now is a female with no prior knowledge of your past to make you feel like your old self again.

CAPRICE

Yeah, you think that will help to get rid of the nasty taste in my mouth?

PRESTO

There's only one way to find out. Look over there.

Caprice sees the six spotted dolphins.

CAPRICE

Six spotted dolphins, and one of them is a female.

PRESTO

In second thought, if we take our time, I'm sure you could find one that isn't covered in spots.

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 her friends?

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?

PRESTO

Yeah, I'm with you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

CAPRICE

Then let's go.

Caprice and his pod confront Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, Alley-Oop, Smiley, and Surge.

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 is protective of Smiley.

SURGE

Yeah, but what if they're coming for Smiley?!

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 are getting any.

GAUCHO

Just let me handle this.

Caprice and his pod stop the six spotted dolphins.

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 and Presto look at each other and smile.

CAPRICE

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

GAUCHO

Yeah, you know Ziggy?

CAPRICE

Oh, I know Ziggy. It's too bad you don't know what kind of punk your leader really is.

SURGE

C'mon, Gaucho, let's go.

GAUCHO

Well, we've taken up enough of your time, so we're gonna get going.

The spotted dolphins find themselves surrounded.

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 smacks Gaucho across the face with his tail.

CAPRICE

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

Smiley is afraid for her friends.

SMILEY

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

SURGE

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

SMILEY

It's better this way, Surge. I'll
be alright.

CAPRICE

Step aside, 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 backs off.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

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

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?

CAPRICE

Hey, this was your idea in the
first place, remember?

PRESTO

I know, I know it was.

CAPRICE

So, what are you talkin' about,
Presto?! You're not gonna back
out on me now, are you?

PRESTO

I guess not.

CAPRICE

Good, then let's get on with it.

Caprice has one last word for Smiley's friends.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

SMILEY

I'll be alright, guys.

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 of us do?

ECHO

Yeah, I'm with Oops. 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 gets in Surge's way.

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

Hey, I already lost one female on my watch! I'm not about to lose another one!

Surge goes after Smiley alone.

GAUCHO

Surge, wait up!

Gaucho, Swivel, Echo, and Alley-oop catch up to Surge.

SURGE

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

GAUCHO

Relax. I'm not gonna 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 ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY - FLASHBACK

Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, Alley-ooop, and five female members of Ziggy's pod form a circle around a lone sea turtle.

LONE SEA TURTLE

What is this -- a jack move?! I
hate that I can't fit my whole
body into this little shell!

The lone sea turtle tries to tuck in his limbs.

SURGE

Okay, Gaucho, what are the rules
to this game, before this poor sea
turtle has a heart attack?

GAUCHO

It's simple. Whichever male and
female the turtle swims into first
gets to go into that air-filled
cave and make out for seven
minutes.

SURGE

What an awesome game!

GAUCHO

It is an awesome game. It's too
bad I can't take credit for it,
though.

The sea turtle makes a break for it.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

Okay, the turtle's on the move.
Let's see who he swims into first.

The sea turtle tries to get past Surge.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

It looks like you're going in first, Surge.

Swivel hates on Surge.

SWIVEL

That lucky cornball -- why does he get to go first?

The sea turtle is pushed back to the center of the circle.

GAUCHO

Now, we gotta wait and see who you're goin' in there with.

The sea turtle tries to get past Swivel.

SURGE

If I have to go in there with him, I'm not playing!

The sea turtle then tries to get past BUBBLES.

GAUCHO

You could relax now, Surge. You're goin' in with Bubbles.

GaUCHO releases the sea turtle.

GAUCHO (CONT'D)

Thanks, little guy. You could breathe again.

SWIVEL

Alright, you two, you got seven minutes. Get in there, and don't waste them.

Surge and Bubbles make their way towards the cave.

SURGE

Are you okay with this, Bubbles?

BUBBLES

I was just about to ask you the same thing.

A bachelor herd of bottlenose dolphins appear out of nowhere.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SURGE

Don't look now, Bubbles, but we've got trouble.

A bachelor makes a cat call to Bubbles.

BOTTLENOSE BACHELOR

What's up, shorty? It's my birthday!

The rogue males move in and separate Surge and Bubbles from the others.

BUBBLES

Swim for it, Surge!

With the rogue males on their tail, Surge and Bubbles lose each other when a sperm whale resurfaces from the depths, like a freight train, and comes between them.

SURGE

Bubbles!

(beat)

Get out of the way, stupid sperm whale!

Surge loses his mind as the huge sperm whale continues to slowly make his way up to the surface.

SURGE (CONT'D)

I don't believe this! Can you move any slower?!

(beat)

Bubbles!

His path finally clear, Surge immediately looks for Bubbles.

SURGE (CONT'D)

Bubbles! Bubbles!

Bubbles and the bachelors are nowhere in sight.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE ABYSS - NIGHT - PRESENT

There's a full moon out. Deep sea creatures make their way up to the surface to feed and provide the five spotted dolphins with sufficient light to see their way through the darkness without the use of their sonars.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SWIVEL

Earth to Surge! Come in, Surge!

Surge snaps out of it.

SURGE

Huh? What?!

SWIVEL

I asked you if you had a 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 her over to us, you know what I'm saying?

SURGE

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

Echo's sonar is way too loud.

GAUCHO

What's up with all the clicking sounds, Echo?! Do you want Caprice and his constituents to know that we're coming?

ECHO

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

SWIVEL

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

Deep sea jellies flash their lights to attract potential prey.

ECHO

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

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 five dolphins look just as strange to the deep sea creatures.

SWIVEL

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

SURGE

That's understandable. Our domain is a road less traveled. More is known about the goings-on in outer space.

ALLEY-OOP

Speaking of outer space, did you guys know that some of these deep sea creatures were the inspiration for that "Alien" movie?

ECHO

That's goin' back quite a few years, Alley-Oop. How old are you anyway?

Aggressive giant squids come up from below.

SURGE

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

GAUCHO

We're good, as long as we don't give them a reason to think that we're some kind of a threat.

The squids communicate with each other through flashing colors.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SWIVEL

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

SURGE

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

The squids pick up on Swivel's uneasiness.

SWIVEL

I think this is a mistake.

SURGE

You think what is a mistake?

SWIVEL

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 accepts the challenge.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

NO!

The squid wraps his arms around Swivel's throat.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

Surge, get me out of this rear naked choke hold before I tap out!

Surge bites off a tentacle to try and free Swivel.

SWIVEL (CONT'D)

OW! Wait, easy, easy! Don't pull so hard! The squid's got his suckers hooked into me!

SURGE

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

Gaucho is tied up himself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

GAUCHO

Well, hey, join the club, huh?!

Swivel is afraid of the squid's beak.

SWIVEL

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

ECHO

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

Swivel warns Echo about the squid behind him.

SWIVEL

Watch your back, Echo!

The giant squid tries to squeeze the life out of Echo.

ECHO

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

Surge submits to a giant squid.

SURGE

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

A school of sperm whales come to the rescue.

CALFY'S MOTHER

Mind if we cut in?!

The giant squids release the dolphins.

SURGE

Deja!

GAUCHO

GO! GO! GO!

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 hides out in a crevice and squirts water through her siphon to oxygenate all 200,000 of her eggs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A crab scours for food on the ocean floor and tempts the octopus to leave the safety of the crevice.

OCTOPUS (V.O.)

Don't you even think about going after that crab. You need to stay right here and oxygenate your eggs.

Hunger starts 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.

The crab starts to move further away from the octopus.

OCTOPUS (CONT'D)

Uh-oh, the crab is on the move again. What's it goin' to be, girl? Make up your mind!

GROUPEE, a grouper fish, and RAY, a moray eel, are on their way to the octopus lair together.

GROUPEE

Can you at least look like you're happy about the truce we've made, Ray?

RAY

I guess I'm still trying to get my mind around it.

GROUPEE

Get your mind around what?!

RAY

I don't know any moray eel that would be okay with the two of us breaking bread together.

GROUPEE

I think you'll feel better about it once we get our first kill together out of the way.

RAY

So, where is this octopus hiding out?

GROUPEE

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RAY

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. I
wouldn't last two days.

Ray and Grouper finally reach the octopus lair.

GROUPER

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

Ray removes the rock that the octopus put in place to
seal the crevice and takes a peek inside.

RAY

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

GROUPER

Why do you think I brought you
along? You know I'm too big to go
in there myself.

RAY

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

GROUPER

I'm telling you she's got no
strength left in her. You'll be
fine.

RAY

Okay, I'm going in.

GROUPER

Good.

Ray goes in and comes right back out when he finds the
lair empty, getting hit on the head with a rock.

GROUPER (CONT'D)

I gotcha!

RAY

OW!

GROUPER

What happened?! Where's the
octopus?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Ray sees stars.

RAY

Huh?! What octopus, man?!
There's nothing in there but a
bunch of eggs! I'm just glad the
dude from Dateline wasn't in there
with all the cameras!

GROUPER

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

The crab stands up to the octopus.

CRAB

No, don't even try it!

The crab keeps the octopus at bay with his claws.

OCTOPUS

Look, I don't want any trouble out
of you! You know how this is
going to turn out, so don't make
this harder than it has to be.

The octopus looks for a way past the crab's claws.

CRAB

Don't make me laugh! You probably
think there's about eight or ten
of me, don't you, Dizzy
Gillespie?!

OCTOPUS

Please, I may not be 100 percent,
but, on paper, I'm still the
meanest thing around with eight
guns!

CRAB

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

Grouper and Ray 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.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The octopus is too weak to use jet propulsion to escape.

GROUPER

Get her!

The octopus makes a half hearted attempt to fend off her attackers.

OCTOPUS

Get away from me!

GROUPER

Careful, she's desperate! She's about to squirt that cloudy stuff at us!

OCTOPUS

Just back off!

The octopus tries to get away and leaves herself open for attack.

GROUPER

Get her now! Get her now!

Grouper and Ray 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 reduce the shoal of sardines to a more manageable size.

PIVOT

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

Silky sharks pick off what's left of the sardines.

PIVOT (CONT'D)

We could've used the extra hands.

ZIGGY

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

PIVOT

No, still no sign of any of them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZIGGY

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

Ziggy looks worried.

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

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.
I want everyone in formation and
ready to go in five minutes.

PIVOT

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

ZIGGY

Leave the rest to the gannets and
sharks.

PIVOT

Yes Sir.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEAL ISLAND - DAY

Buster looks out at the open ocean from the edge of a
cliff.

BUSTER

Come on, mama, where are you?

Bull talks to the back of Buster's head from a distance.

BULL

Nice view, isn't it?

Startled, Buster turns around to face Bull.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BUSTER

You scared me!

(beat)

Yeah, it is a nice view.

BULL

Well, make sure you enjoy it
because it's the last thing you're
ever going to see.

BUSTER

I was right! You are going to
kill me, aren't you?

BULL

I'm sorry, little dude, but
there's no other way around this.

BUSTER

You're an idiot, you know that?!

BULL

It's been brought to my attention
once, or twice!

BUSTER

Who do you think my mother will
suspect first, if anything happens
to me? I already told her that
you might try to pull something
like this.

BULL

You did, huh? See, and I thought
I was going to hate myself for
what I'm about to do to you.

Bull backs Buster into a corner.

BUSTER

If you take one more step, I'll do
a swan dive off of these rocks.

BULL

Go ahead! Even if you do survive
the plunge, I really don't think
you know enough to take on the big
open ocean all by yourself, do
you?

Bull takes another step. Buster panics and dives off the rocks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BULL (CONT'D)

That poor little runt. That's one
dive he's going to wish he could
have back.

Bull scans the surface for Buster's body. Buster
resurfaces and taunts Bull!

BUSTER

Na, na, na, na, na! You missed
me, you missed me!

(beat)

Well, Buster, there's no going
back now. Let's hit it.

Buster swims away from the island.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHARK BAY - DAY

Ernesto and Carmen head for South Africa on a motor boat.
Carmen looks through her binoculars and spots a whale
shark at the surface.

CARMEN

Stop the boat, Ernesto!

ERNESTO

What do you see?

Ernesto stops the boat.

CARMEN

Look to your left. I think it's a
whale shark!

Ernesto looks through his binoculars.

ERNESTO

I think it is a whale shark.

CARMEN

We should get it on film.

ERNESTO

Okay, hold on.

Ernesto starts the boat to go after the whale shark.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A school of Yellowfin tuna is in pursuit of a school of mackerels that have swarmed around a large whale shark.

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

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 of that whale shark.

TUNA

Don't worry. It won't be long before the big guy gives them the boot, and that's when we'll make our move.

The whale shark isn't happy with his spa treatment.

WHALE SHARK

Are you guys almost done? This cleaning job is taking way too long.

MACK

What can I say? You're a tall drink of water, big sir.

WHALE SHARK

Just tell your guys not to make little oily grease balls out of the dead skin they pluck off my back.

MACK

What's the matter, big guy? You seem agitated.

WHALE SHARK

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

The mackerels are too scared to leave the whale shark's side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MACK

I'm sorry about that. I figured that the tunas would've given up on us by now, but they're still hangin' in there.

WHALE SHARK

Well, it's getting kind of toasty here at the surface. I'm diving down to the depths to cool off.

The whale shark sees two scuba divers.

WHALE SHARK (CONT'D)

Look at those two divers over there. Why don't you guys go and hide behind them?

MACK

No, 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 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 mackerel's head starts to shrink.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MACK

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

The whale shark laughs.

WHALE SHARK

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

MACK

Do you think this is funny?!
Forget you, then!

The mackerels abandon the whale shark and seek refuge
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

You're about to find out right
now.

The yellowfin tunas move in to feed on the mackerels.

CARMEN

Tunas!

ERNESTO

This is what I was afraid of! I
just hope we don't attract any
marlins!

CARMEN

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

ERNESTO

Back to the boat!

The big tunas bump Carmen around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CARMEN

I can't go anywhere! I'm getting
banged around by the Roxbury guys
over here!

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

CAPRICE

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

Smiley recognizes the two divers.

SMILEY

We've got to help them!

Caprice won't let Smiley help Ernesto and Carmen.

CAPRICE

Whoa, where do you think you're
going?

SMILEY

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

Smiley tries to swim around Caprice.

CAPRICE

I know you're new here and
everything, but we don't care much
for humans.

SMILEY

No, you'll like these people! They
care more about wildlife than
their own kind! Please, let me
help them?!

CAPRICE

I said forget it! We're leaving!

SMILEY

Bite me!

Smiley does a spin move to go around Caprice.

CAPRICE

Get back here, you female! You're
gonna pay for that!

Smiley gets Carmen and Ernesto out of danger.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SMILEY

Grab on to me!

Ernesto and Carmen hitch a ride on Smiley's back.

ERNESTO

Hold on, Carmen!

Ernesto and Carmen ride Smiley back to the boat.

CARMEN

Good girl! You saved our lives.

SMILEY

Listen to me! My name is Smiley!
I'm being held against my will!
Please, find my friends for me!

Caprice and his pod catch up to Smiley.

CAPRICE

I'll teach you to defy me!

Smiley is chased into a school of box jellyfish and gets tasered.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL IN UNDERWATER CAVE - DAY

Star checks out with a clean bill of health from a Surgeonfish.

STAR

This is a nice set up you've got here, Doc, but I'm glad I'm finally checking out of this place.

SURGEONFISH

I'm glad you like it, Star. Now, I want you to give me your word that you won't partake in any feeding frenzies for at least a week.

STAR

I promise, Doc.

SURGEONFISH

And remember to come back in two weeks for your follow-up visit, okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAR

Don't worry, Doc, I'll be here.

Star makes eye contact with Caprice as they pass each other in the waiting room.

CAPRICE

Hey, Doc, we've been waiting here for a long time. What's the story on the female we brought in?

SURGEONFISH

Yes, the jellyfish sting, right?

Surgeonfish flips through the pages on his clipboard and finds Smiley's chart.

SURGEONFISH (CONT'D)

Well, she's still in shock. The amount of venom that was injected into her bloodstream really did a number on her nervous system, but we're doing everything we can for her.

PRESTO

Just give it to us straight, Doc! Is she going to make it, or what?!

SURGEONFISH

Is she a fighter?

CAPRICE

She's a fighter.

SURGEONFISH

Then that's the best that we've got. Now, excuse me, but I've got other patients waiting.

The Surgeonfish walks away from Caprice and Presto.

CAPRICE

How awesome is this chick, Presto? She was like Han Solo when he flew the Millennium Falcon into the astroid field to get away from imperial fighters.

PRESTO

I just think she couldn't see 'em until it was too late. Jellies are hard to see from a distance because they're so transparent.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CAPRICE

I don't know, but I hope that she pulls through.

PRESTO

Come on, Caprice, let's get lost for a while. She'll still be here when we get back.

CAPRICE

Maybe you're right. Let's go.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCTOPUS LAIR - DAY

The eggs hatch.

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 swims over to Baby octopus #2.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Are you sure that's what you want?

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Uh, yeah.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

I mean, I wouldn't be doing you a favor by helping you out of your egg case. You really should try to get out of there yourself. It builds character.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

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.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BABY OCTOPUS #1

No problem.

Baby octopus #3 also wants someone to help her get out of the 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 her mother.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Shouldn't there be someone here to greet us?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

I don't know. I guess we're supposed to venture out on our own and fend for ourselves.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

I'm all for that, but if there's anything to that whole "Safety in numbers" thing, I think we should wait until there's more of us to go around.

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Okay, we'll wait for the rest of our brothers and sisters.

Baby octopus #3 wants to swim backwards like Baby octopus #1.

BABY OCTOPUS #3

Hey, how is it that you could move backwards like that, but I can't?

BABY OCTOPUS #1

Well, what do you know? I am moving backwards! Look at that.

Baby octopus #3 tries to move backwards herself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BABY OCTOPUS #3
It's not fair. I can't do it.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEAL ISLAND - DAY

Star returns to her colony, but Buster is nowhere to be found.

STAR
Buster! Mama's back!

Star waits for Buster to come running.

STAR (CONT'D)
How do you like that? I'm gone
all this time, and he isn't even
here to greet me.

Star tracks down Bull.

STAR (CONT'D)
Bull!

Bull turns around to face Star.

BULL
You startled me, darling. That's
alright. I'm just glad you're
back. I've been waiting for you.

STAR
Where's Buster?!

BULL
Buster?! You won't have to worry
about him anymore.

STAR
What do you mean? Did you do
something to him?

BULL
I never touched him.

STAR
Tell me where my son is!

Star scares Bull into telling her everything.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BULL

Okay, okay, here it is! I was going to finish Buster off in your absence, so you could get back on your estrous cycle, but he dove in before I could even get to him.

STAR

I'll deal with you later, Bull.

BULL

You're not thinking about going in after him, are you?! I'm sure he's been snatched up by a shark by now.

STAR

My son is alive, and when I bring him back here, you better stay far away from him, or I'll hand feed you to White myself.

Star dives into the water to look for Buster.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCTOPUS LAIR - DAY

A large school of codfish see thousands of octopus larvae out in the open.

CODFISH #1

Hey, do you guys see what I see?

CODFISH #2

I sure do!

CODFISH #1

Come on. Follow my lead.

The fish move in and try not to give themselves 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 my instincts tell me we ought to be looking out for something.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The babies don't know what to make of the school of codfish.

BABY OCTOPUS #2
Is that mom?

BABY OCTOPUS #3
It could be mom.

BABY OCTOPUS #1
I don't know about this.

Baby octopus #1 is 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 fish close 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 make 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 fish chase after the babies.

BABY OCTOPUS #1
Run! Propel! Jet propel!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BABY OCTOPUS #2

Jet propel how?!

BABY OCTOPUS #1

You just suck in water through
your mantle cavity -- that's this
thing here...

Baby octopus #1 shows Baby Octopus #2 where his mantle
cavity is.

BABY OCTOPUS #2

OW! That's my head!

BABY OCTOPUS #1

And blow it out your siphon like
you're farting!

The fish get blindsided by Buster, giving the octopus
larvas a chance to escape.

BUSTER

Why couldn't my mother be here to
see me now?

The fish huddle together to form a massive bait ball.
Gaucho, Surge, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop swim by and
watch Buster take on the massive bait ball all by himself
from a distance.

ALLEY-OOP

Hey, look at the little dude go!
He reminds me of me when I was a
little tyke.

With Buster in his sights, White moves in for the kill.

WHITE

I'm telling you, if there's a
camera hidden inside of this
little squirt, I'm going to be
steamed.

Surge spots White.

SURGE

Uh-oh, here comes White.

GAUCHO

The kid doesn't even see him.

ECHO

This is going to get ugly real
fast.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Surge moves Buster out of White's way.

BUSTER

Hey, who are you guys?

SURGE

Never mind who we are. What are you doing out here alone? Does your mother always let you wander off by yourself like this?

BUSTER

My mother's missing. I'm trying to find her. I was hungry, so I stopped to get something to eat.

SURGE

Well, we're taking you back to your colony right now. White may be getting a little long in the tooth, but still...

Star calls out to Buster from a distance.

STAR

Buster!

Buster hears his mother and goes to her.

BUSTER

Ma!

Star and Buster embrace each other.

STAR

Thank goodness. I was so worried. I thought I lost you forever.

BUSTER

You almost did. White came this close to making a meal out of me, but these guys showed up and saved me just in time.

STAR

White was just here? We better go.

Star looks around.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SURGE

Don't worry. We're alright. Now, that White's lost the element of surprise, he won't bother with us anymore.

STAR

Well, thank you for saving my calf's life. I'm forever in your debt. If you ever need anything, you know where to find me. Let's go, Buster.

Buster doesn't want to leave.

BUSTER

Can't we stay a little longer and finish off this bait ball with our new friends here.

SURGE

I'm sorry, Buster, but I'm afraid we can't stay. We're looking for a friend of ours.

STAR

Hey, are you guys looking for a female spotted dolphin?

SURGE

Yeah, how did you know that?

STAR

I just checked out of an underwater hospital not too far from here. There was a female spotted dolphin in the room with me.

SURGE

Hospital?! What happened to her?!

STAR

I'm not really sure. All I know is that she was checked in by a pod of bottlenose dolphins.

SWIVEL

Those creeps put her in the hospital?! I'm gonna kill 'em!

SURGE

Where is this hospital? Can you tell us how to get there?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

STAR

I could do better than that. I'll show you the way. It's the least I can do.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL IN UNDERWATER CAVE - DAY

Surge, Gaucho, Echo, Swivel, and Alley-Oop speak to Smiley's Surgeonfish.

SURGE

Excuse me, we'd like to speak to the Surgeonfish treating Smiley.

SURGEONFISH

You're speaking to him.

SURGE

How is she doing?

SURGEONFISH

It looks like she's going to pull through. She's doing much better now.

SURGE

That's good because she has to come with us.

SURGEONFISH

I can't let you do that. I said that your friend was feeling better, I didn't say was in any condition to leave here.

SURGE

Look, Doc, we don't have time to explain, but it's imperative that we get Smiley outta here before the creeps that checked her in return.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE OPEN OCEAN - DAY

Caprice and his pod corral a shoal of migrating sardines into a bait ball.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PRESTO

Isn't it a thing of beauty,
Caprice? I'll bet those spotted
freaks couldn't beat our timing.

CAPRICE

Let's just bring this thing closer
to the surface.

The bait ball of sardines is within the gannets diving
range.

FLAP

Didn't I tell you that dolphins
were the Don Drapers of the animal
world?

RUFFIAN

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

RUFFIAN (CONT'D)

So what are we still doing up
here? The bait ball is finally
within diving range. We should be
down there.

FLAP

Then let's get down there and tear
stuff up.

Like comets, the gannets shoot out of the sky and hit the
water at 40mph.

CAPRICE

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

Ernesto pulls the boat up a safe distance away from the
frenzy.

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! (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CARMEN(CONT'D)

I wanna get a shot of the gannets
as they hit the water from down
below.

Carmen and Ernesto go over the side of the boat.

CAPRICE

Great! First, these gannets come
crashing down on us, and now these
wildlife filmmakers show up with
their cameras. I don't want the
whole world knowing my life story.

PRESTO

Maybe we should go back to the
hospital and check on your chick.

CAPRICE

Good idea. Let's go.

Caprice and his pod leave the bait ball to the gannets.

ERNESTO

Hey, where are the dolphins
going?! We just got here!

CARMEN

I guess things were getting a bit
too dicey for them.

ERNESTO

Stick around, guys! Don't let
these birds run you off! We've
come along way for this! Come
back!

CUT TO:

EXT. HOSPITAL IN UNDERWATER CAVE - DAY

Caprice and his pod show up to collect Smiley.

CAPRICE

How's my girl doing, Doc?

SURGEONFISH

Fine. She's doing just fine.

CAPRICE

I'm glad to hear it. So, I guess
I'll just take her off your hands.

SURGEONFISH

No, you can't do that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CAPRICE

I thought you said she was good to go?

SURGEONFISH

And she is, she is!

CAPRICE

Then why can't I check her out of this place?

SURGEONFISH

Well, because five of her friends already beat you to it.

Caprice finds Smiley's bed empty.

SURGEONFISH (CONT'D)

If you're thinking about going after them, don't. They're long gone by now. You'll never catch them.

CAPRICE

Well, we'll just see about that, Doc.

CUT TO:

EXT. OPEN OCEAN - DAY

Alley-Oop leaps in and out of the water to send out a distress call to Ziggy and rest of the pod. Smiley finally comes out of her coma and finds herself amongst her friends.

SMILEY

Surge?

SURGE

Smiley, you're awake!

SMILEY

Yeah, What are you doing? Where are we? Why are you carrying me?

SURGE

It's a long story. I'll tell you all about it later. Right now, what I need you to do is swim. Can you swim for me?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SMILEY

I don't think so. I'm still in a lot of pain.

SURGE

That's okay. I'll just carry you the rest of the way.

SMILEY

Who are we running from?

SURGE

Caprice and them.

SMILEY

Yeah, Caprice, leader of a pod of bottlenose dolphins, right? Now I remember. Oh, please, don't let him take me again, Surge. He was awful!

SURGE

I won't let that happen again, Smiley. I promise you.

Smiley can hear clicking sounds close by.

SMILEY

Wait! Do you hear that? What's that clicking sound?!

SURGE

It's Caprice and them. They're getting closer. We've got to move faster.

SMILEY

Just leave me here, Surge! I'm only gonna slow you guys down.

SURGE

Don't talk like that, Smiley. Don't talk like that.

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

CAPRICE

We're gaining on them, fellas! They're not gonna get away from us this time!

PRESTO

Caprice, Look!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

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

ZIGGY

Your beef is with me, Caprice!
Let them go!

Surge is elated to see Ziggy and the rest of the pod.

SURGE

Ziggy's here, alright!

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

Come on, Caprice! There are too
many of them!

Caprice breaks into song.

CAPRICE

So what! I'm still a rock star.
I got my rock move. You got your
rock move! I'm gonna show you
tonight, Ziggy!

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 of that!

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

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

PIVOT (CONT'D)

He's all yours, Ziggy!

Presto backs off and lets 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 and spins him around.

ZIGGY

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

Surge gets the better of his fight with Presto.

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!

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 into Presto's side and blows him out of the water.

SWIVEL

Way to handle yourself, Surge! I hope you weren't thinking about me, while you were whipping on him.

Caprice smacks Ziggy around with his tail.

CAPRICE

This is the end for you, Ziggy, but I'm sorry for the inconvenience.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Ziggy shakes it off.

CAPRICE (CONT'D)

Isn't that what you said to my
face in front of my whole pod?
I'll just bet you thought you were
the man after you turned us all
away from that bait ball, didn't
you? Well, look at you now!

Ziggy retaliates.

ZIGGY

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

Caprice admits defeat.

CAPRICE

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

Caprice retreats with his pod.

ERNESTO

Hey, Carmen, the dolphins are
back!

The spotted dolphins return for the bait ball.

CARMEN

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

Ernesto captures everything on film.

ERNESTO

Yeah, I saw it!

CARMEN

This is so cool!

The dolphins are careful not to get struck by the
incoming gannets.

ZIGGY

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

Fish scales come off as the dolphins zip right through
them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

ALLEY-OOP

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

Alley-Oop stuns the fish with a swat from his tail.

GAUCHO

Way to go, Alley-Oop!

Surge and Smiley also slap the fish with their tail.

SMILEY

This is fun!

Surge steals a kiss from Smiley.

SURGE

I'm sorry. I don't know what came
over me. I guess I'm just happy
to have you back.

Smiley kisses Surge back.

PIVOT

Silky sharks are here!

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.

SILKY SHARK

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

The silky sharks clean up what is left of the bait ball.

ZIGGY

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

Ziggy and his pod swim off in search of new feeding
opportunities elsewhere.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SHARK BAY FILMS - DAY

Ernesto is at work in the editing room. Carmen enters with news about the sea turtle eggs.

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

I know. 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.

ERNESTO

Okay.

Ernesto gets back to work.

CARMEN

Guess what?

ERNESTO

Tell me.

CARMEN

I just got a call from the sanctuary. The eggs are hatching.

ERNESTO

Hey, that's great.

CARMEN

We better get down there right away.

CUT TO:

EXT. CRAB ISLAND - DAY

Ernesto and Carmen make the beach safe for the sea turtle hatchlings they're about to release.

CARMEN

What a mess, Ernesto. I don't know why people insist on using the beach as their own personal toilet.

ERNESTO

We better clean some of this stuff up before we release them. I'd hate for one of these guys to get tangled up in a six pack plastic ring or something.

Ernesto and Carmen clean up.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

I think they'll be alright now. Let's release them.

CARMEN

It's time to go, guys.

Ernesto and Carmen set the hatchlings down on the sand and watch them make their way towards the water.

ERNESTO

That's it. Keep it moving.

Ghost crabs emerge from their burrows under the sand.

GHOST CRAB

Hey, you, come here! I thought you said there were no eggs to be found on the beach?! How do you explain this?!

GHOST CRAB #2

I searched every inch of this place. I don't know where all these hatchlings are coming from.

GHOST CRAB

Never mind. I wanna eat before my food gets cold.

The ghost crabs go after the baby sea turtles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERNESTO

Great! Here comes the ghost crabs!

CARMEN

Hurry up! You gotta go!

ERNESTO

Come on, guys, move it!

Carmen and Ernesto continue to set the babies down on the sand.

GHOST CRAB

I got one!

The ghost crab claps down on a 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 them!

Ernesto stops Carmen from going in to help the hatchlings.

ERNESTO

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

Carmen picks up a baby turtle to toss it out to sea.

CARMEN

Let's start chuckin' them!

Ernesto stops Carmen.

ERNESTO

They won't stand a chance, if you start tossing them out to sea one by one.

A baby turtle puts up a good fight against the ghost crab as he tries 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!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

GHOST CRAB

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

Ghost crab #2 struggles with a baby turtle of 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! 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.

The tide 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 makes his way to the water.

GHOST CRAB #2 (CONT'D)

There he is!

GHOST CRAB

Don't let him get away!

The tide pulls the baby sea turtle out to sea, and the
ghost crabs miss their chance.

CARMEN

Yes, they made it!

ERNESTO

Good luck, guys! Go get 'em.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

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

(MORE)

FADE OUT.