DANTE'S MOUNT PARADISO

Written by

Fred Bigjim 5/13/2025

Fred Bigjim
Fbigjim@Comcast.net
253-221-6838

FADE IN:

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAWN

The sun rises over a towering mountain.

DANTE (V.O.)

Hello! My name is Dante and I am a mouse. Born and raised up here on Mount Paradiso and I wouldn't trade it for the world.

MR. WOODPECKER lands on Dante's tiny cottage and begins pecking on it, shaking the roof.

MR. WOODPECKER

Rise and shine Dante!

INT. DANTE'S COTTAGE - DAY

DANTE, a MOUSE, gets jolted awake in bed by the loud pecking and covers his ears with his straw pillows.

DANTE

Okay, okay, I'm awake already.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante puts fallen hazelnuts in his wagon.

DANTE (V.O.)

Early birds may get the worms, but up here I say the early mouse gets the nuts.

MR. SQUIRREL exits his tree house, stretching and yawning while Dante sneaks off.

MR. SQUIRREL

Hey, where'd all the nuts go?

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante flings his boomerang at a cherry tree, cutting ten cherries down into his wagon.

Ten EARTHWORMS slither out of their holes after him.

EARTHWORMS

Cherries!

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - RIVER - DAY

A BEAVER lodge along a riverbank has a small collapsed tree on it. Dante loops a rope around it.

DANTE (V.O.)

Neighbors look out for one another up here on the mountain.

PAPA BEAVER and JR. BEAVER grip the other end of the rope which runs over a tree branch like a pulley.

DANTE

One, two, three, pull!

The beavers pull hard, hoisting the tree up off of their lodge and thumping their tails.

JR. BEAVER

Yay! Dante did it papa!

PAPA BEAVER

I still don't want him tinkling downstream.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante trims BILLY GOAT'S goatee.

BILLY GOAT

Have you asked Beatrice to the dance yet?

DANTE

I'm still waiting for the right time.

BILLY GOAT

And you call us goats stubborn. Tell her how you feel. After all, you never know what tomorrow might bring. And trim a little off the top.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante plucks petals from a lone white rose on the edge of a cliff.

He reaches for the last petal, accidentally looking down the cliff and freezes up frightened by the high drop off.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante arrives at the charming MOUSE township of FLORENCE.

DANTE (V.O.)

My hometown of Florence.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

Dante pulls his wagon through a lively town festival.

The town clock sports a "Happy Harvest Festival" banner.

DANTE (V.O.)

Every autumn Florence celebrates the gifts of mother nature. Mice come from all over the mountain to buy and sell goods in preparation for winter.

Friends and families barbecue. Children enjoy carnival games, amusement rides and the root beer float garden.

MAYOR MOUSE sits on a dunking booth. MISS FLORENCE throws a ball, missing the target plate.

MAYOR MOUSE

Ha ha! You throw like a cat!

She hurls another ball, nailing it and dropping Mayor Mouse into the water. Women cheer, giving her high fives while Mayor Mouse flounders in the water.

DANTE (V.O.)

Everyone always has a great time at Harvest Festival.

MR. SHERIFF blows his whistle and a dozen kids start a gunny sack race, hopping past a pie eating contest.

Dante passes a variety of fruit and vegetable booths.

DANTE (V.O.)

Miss Baker always has the best cheese.

MISS BAKER trades Dante some cheese for his hazelnuts.

PETE, a prospector, waves Dante over to his booth.

PETE

Dante! You've got to taste this honey!

Dante dips his paw into a jar for a taste.

DANTE

Delicious! Where'd you get all this honey?

PETE

Can you keep a secret?

BEGIN FLASHBACK: EXT. WOODS - DAY

BABBITT, a huge BEAR, shakes a tree knocking off a beehive.

PETE (V.O.)

Babbitt stole a big beehive of honey.

She runs off with it being chased by a swarm of angry BEES.

EXT. CREEK - DAY

Pete pans for gold in a creek.

PETE (V.O.)

So, I'm up yonder when I hear the saddest sound ever.

Crying echoes from a cave. Pete nervously enters it.

PETE

Hello? Are you okay in there?

INT. BABBITT'S CAVE - DAY

Pete plucks bee stingers out of Babbitt's ears and she cuddles and kisses him with appreciation.

PETE (V.O.)

Those bees stung her up really bad.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. PETE'S BOOTH - DAY

Pete gives Dante three jars of honey.

PETE

Babbitt was so grateful she gave me all this honey. I'll trade you some for that old pickaxe of yours.

DANTE

Thanks Pete you're the best!

He gives him his pickaxe and then goes over to SALLY'S booth.

DANTE (V.O.)

Seamstress Sally is a whiz at sewing.

Dante trades her his goat fur trimmings for three blankets.

SALLY

My, my, this fur will make for some mighty fine sweaters.

Sally sneezes. Dante hands her some cinnamon grounds.

DANTE

Here, this will help with your allergies.

She licks the cinnamon and smiles as her sinuses clear up.

The town TROUBADOUR strums his guitar.

TROUBADOUR

(singing)

Lou, Lou, skip to my Lou.
My love's gone missing, what'll I do?
Flies in the junk yard, shoo flies shoo.
Rats in the sewers, boo hoo hoo.
Skip to my Lou my darling.

Dante marches up to the Florence Auditorium.

DANTE

Okay, time to ask Beatrice to the dance.

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

BEATRICE wears a pink scarf and waves a baton, conducting the elementary school BAND. Dante barges in with his wagon.

DANTE

Beatrice there's something I've got to ask you!

The children stop playing.

BEATRICE

Dante, what's so important to interrupt band practice?

Dante gets embarrassed by all of the kids staring at him.

DANTE

Ahh, would the kids like some cherries?

The kids mob him, pushing past the smallest ones: TIMMY, TINA, SKIPPY, and SUSIE. Dante saves some cherry slices for them.

Susie sees Dante's bouquet of white rose petals.

SUSIE

Are those flowers for Miss Beatrice?

The kids "ooh," making kissing sounds and Dante turns red.

DANTE

Ahh, no they're for your parade uniforms.

BEATRICE

Let's talk outside.

The kids make more smoothing sounds.

EXT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

Beatrice talks to Dante outside the auditorium.

BEATRICE

We can't afford uniforms this year.

DANTE

Is there anything I can do to help?

BEATRICE

You have, the children love the cherries.

Big BIFF lifts a mallet at a high striker tower.

BIFF

Hey Dante, bet you can't do this!

He whacks the lever and the puck shoots up ringing the bell.

BEATRICE

Ignore him. He's just a show off.

CARNIVAL MOUSE operates a Ferris wheel.

CARNIVAL MOUSE

Dante, Beatrice, come take a ride.

Dante looks up at how high it goes with anxiety.

DANTE

Sorry, I've got to go help my sisters.

BEATRICE

Come on, one ride. It'll be fun.

Biff runs up grabbing her hand.

BIFF

I'll do it.

They hop into a Ferris wheel pod.

BEATRICE

Dante promise to be back for the dance.

Biff raises his arms whooping it up while the wheel rotates them up. Beatrice waves goodbye to Dante as he mopes off. EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante pulls his wagon up to a reclusive cottage with a "No Trespassing, No Soliciting, and No Christmas Caroling!" sign.

INT. SANDY & PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DAY

Dante presents his gifts to SANDY and PEGGY, his older cynical twin sisters with big hairdos.

DANTE

I've got blankets to keep you warm. Cheese to keep you nourished. Candles to keep the lights on. And surprise, I've even got honey! Can you believe it?

SANDY

No salt?

PEGGY

No pepper?

SANDY

Salt is good on fried pickles.

PEGGY

Pepper is good on grilled green beans.

SANDY

Salt deodorizes your smelly room!

PEGGY

Pepper deodorizes your smelly farts!

DANTE

Okay, okay, I'll get some salt and pepper! Anything else?

SANDY

We need more firewood to roast marshmallows.

PEGGY

Yeah, and it doesn't chop itself you know.

Dante grimaces.

EXT. SANDY & PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DAY

Dante chops twigs into kindling.

DANTE

Of all the bellyaching mice on the mountain my two sisters are the worst.

A beautiful red silk scarf floats above him. He stares at it, mesmerized. The wind carries it away and he chases after it.

EXT. MEADOW - DAY

Dante leaps across a ditch after the scarf.

A breeze blows the scarf up onto a tree branch. Dante steels himself and begins climbing up the tree.

DANTE

One step at a time. And don't look down.

He's just below the scarf when tree sap drips on his nose.

He inadvertently looks down while wiping it off, triggering his fear of heights.

He panics, losing his footing and falls down onto a pile of leaves.

Dante lies inert, staring up at the scarf with despair.

VIRGIL, a DUCK with an Italian accent, quacks in his face.

VIRGIL

That's no way to fly.

DANTE

I wasn't trying to fly bird brain. I was trying to get that scarf.

VIRGIL

So try again.

DANTE

I can't. You wouldn't understand.

Virgil flies up, retrieving the scarf. Dante is elated.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Thank you so much!

VIRGIL

Ciao, my name is Virgil.

Virgil shakes Dante's paw with his wingtip.

DANTE

I'm Dante.

VIRGIL

Can you recommend a safe place to sleep?

DANTE

Those thickets over there make for great shelter against the wind and the rain.

VIRGIL

Molte grazie Signore Dante!

Virgil flies off quacking under the setting sun.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

The auditorium is full of MICE celebrating the big dance with a lively honky-tonk BAND up onstage.

Dante enters and sees Beatrice square dancing with Biff.

MOUSE SINGER

(singing)

Bow to you partner, and I'll bow to mine. Ready, steady, you're doing fine. Swing your partner, and I'll swing mine. Round and round and do-si-do my darling!

Mice "Yee-Haw," tossing their hats as the dance comes to a joyous end. Biff buys cotton candy for him and Beatrice.

Beatrice spots Dante amid the parting crowd.

BEATRICE

Where have you been?

DANTE

Seamstress Sally is going to make uniforms for the kids!

Beatrice grabs his hand and scampers out with him.

Biff sees them leaving and stomps on the cotton candy.

INT. SALLY'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Dante presents the scarf to Beatrice and Sally.

BEATRICE

It's so beautiful and soft.

SALLY

Such precise stitching.

BEATRICE

It's the most radiant shade of red ever.

SALLY

No fabric rips or fraying.

BEATRICE SALLY

It's perfect! It's perfect!

DANTE

I'll start cutting it up into sections.

SALLY

Keep your muddy paws off this glorious silk and go wash your hands.

EXT. SALLY'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Beatrice tends to a scratch on Dante's face.

BEATRICE

Where did you find the scarf? It'll make for the best uniforms ever.

DANTE

It was just floating in the sky.

Three HUMMINGBIRDS flutter above them humming.

BEATRICE

Looks like we get our dance after all.

She takes his hand and they slow dance under the stars.

HUMMINGBIRDS

(singing)

Too-ra-loo-ra-loo-ra-ri,

Too-ra-loo-ra-li,

Too-la-loo-ra-laa,

Beatrice admires the faraway city lights.

BEATRICE

Don't you just love the city lights at night? I bet it's so romantic down there.

DANTE

I don't know, I've heard travelers say that big city is dangerous.

He sees a hint of concern in her eyes.

DANTE (CONT'D)

But what do they know?

Beatrice smiles.

SALLY (O.S.)

Beatrice come help me with the measurements. And bring the rose petals.

Beatrice tucks a white rose petal into Dante's pocket.

DANTE

No, they're for the uniforms.

BEATRICE

Keep this one for good luck. You should go home and get some sleep.

Beatrice kisses him on the cheek and he blushes.

EXT. FLORENCE - NIGHT

Dante sets out a lawn chair on an empty sidewalk.

DANTE (V.O.)

I was pretty pooped out. But, no way I am going to miss seeing Beatrice and the kids in the big parade.

He cuddles his blanket, falling asleep under a full moon.

DREAM SEQUENCE - EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

The Main Street sidewalks are packed with parade spectators.

DANTE (V.O.)

It was a perfect autumn day for a parade.

MICE CLOWNS do cartwheels and toss cheese to children.

Mayor Mouse honks his grand marshal car, exciting the crowd. Miss Florence follows waving on her float.

Beatrice conducts the kid's band to a peppy tune in their lovely red silk uniforms with white rose petal shoulder pads.

Beatrice blows Dante a kiss, reaching for him. He reaches back and she disappears.

DANTE

Beatrice!

END DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

Dante jolts awake the next morning being stuffed into a Ferris wheel pod by Biff and his two BUDDIES.

Biff turns on the wheel laughing.

BIFF

Don't worry I'll say hi to Beatrice for you!

He shuts off the wheel as Dante reaches its apex.

DANTE

Let me down!

Biff and his buddies walk off laughing.

Dante scans the wheel for a way down and freezes up from the height.

Pete strolls up seeing Dante stuck up in the air.

PETE

What're you doing goofing off up there?

DANTE

Get me down!

Pete pulls the lever and the wheel descends, bringing Dante down to its base. He hops out hitting the ground running.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Thanks Pete!

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

The Main Street sidewalks are packed with families enjoying the big parade.

Dante jumps up from behind the crowd and sees Beatrice and the kids marching down the street and chases after them.

A thunderous rumble suddenly shakes the ground like an earthquake.

Everyone looks up in shock as a big black four-wheel ATV roars up crushing the town into flying debris.

BLUTO, a chubby MAN in a tight red outfit drives the quad. RAMBO, a big DOG, rides in his sidecar.

The quad's screaming engine, destructive tires and exhaust smoke overwhelms the terrified mice.

Rambo hops out barking after mice and a mass panic erupts with everyone running for their lives.

The quad is just about to run over Biff when Dante runs up shoving him out of the way.

Mice flee for the woods.

Dante charges through the stampeding mob searching for Beatrice.

DANTE

Beatrice!

Rambo slides in front the trees, blocking the mice. The scared townsfolk pivot, running for the meadow.

Bluto peels up trapping them between him and Rambo. His muffler backfires, booming like a cannon.

Rambo scratches the dirt barking.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Hey you!

Dante dumps out his honey and Rambo gleefully licks it up.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Everyone run!

Everyone sprints for the woods past the distracted dog.

Timmy and Tina trip and fall. Beatrice yanks Tina up. Dante runs up helping Timmy.

Bluto whistles at Rambo to go get them.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Get the kids out of here!

Beatrice hustles Timmy, Tina, Skippy and Susie off.

Dante flags Rambo down.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Come and get me!

Dante blows cinnamon right into Rambo's nostrils. Rambo blinks, shaking his nose and sneezes; slobbering on Dante.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Yuck!

Bluto speeds after Beatrice and the kids. Dante chases him.

Rambo snags Dante by the tail, swinging him around and flinging him into the dirt.

Bluto scoops Beatrice and the kids up in his pole net and drops them into his rear rack cage, locking them inside it.

DANTE (CONT'D)

No!

Rambo hops in his sidecar while Beatrice clutches the bars of the cage.

BEATRICE

Dante!

Bluto peels off doing a wheelie. Dante hurls his boomerang, slicing the cage's strap. The bottom of it flings backwards and he dives onto it.

Dante pulls his way up the strap while being dragged. Rambo gnaws the other end, severing it.

Dante drops, rolling in the dirt. Rambo blows a raspberry.

Bluto jumps his quad into the open doors of a white van.

Dante runs up as Rambo shuts the cargo van's back doors with roses painted on them.

The van speeds off down a dirt road spraying dirt on Dante.

DANT

I'll find you Beatrice! I promise!

Dante drops to his knees exhausted and heartbroken.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

The town of Florence is in ruins. Families embrace loved ones. Others help the injured and sift through the wreckage.

Dante limps up, battered. Sally runs up hugging him.

SALLY

Where's Beatrice and the children?

She sees the sadness in his eyes and tears up.

DANTE

Don't worry I'll find them.

Everyone crowds around him.

DANTE (CONT'D)

That human kidnapped Beatrice, Tina, Timmy, Susie, and Skippy. If we hurry we can catch up and save them!

The distraught PARENTS of the four children sob.

MAYOR MOUSE

Finding them down in that big dangerous city is hopeless.

DANTE

Will no one help?

The townsfolk are too traumatized and scared to volunteer including Mr. Sherrif and Biff.

DANTE (CONT'D)

I guess I'm on my own.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Dante follows the van's tire tracks down a logging road.

Three wicked crones: a WEASEL, a SKUNK and a RACOON huddle around a boiling black cauldron.

DANTE

Hello. Has anyone seen a white van?

RACCOON

Who's this feeble mouse that dares to trespass on the weird sisters' house.

SKUNK

Fair is foul, and foul is fair.

WEASEL

Fillet this fenny mouse and let us feast!

The crones close in on Dante, eager to eat him.

SKUNK/WEASEL/RACCOON

(chanting)

Double, double, toil and trouble. A mouse boils and the cauldron bubbles.

Dante swings his staff, fending them off. The Skunk swipes at him but misses.

Dante swats at the Weasel and the Raccoon.

Dante backs into a ray of sunlight shining through the trees.

The crones shade their eyes from the sun, cackling after him.

The crones flick open their claws and go in for the kill when Virgil suddenly swoops down scooping Dante up.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Virgil flies Dante over the forest.

VIRGIL

Keep your eyes closed Dante.

He can't help peeking and panics by how high he is.

DANTE

Put me down!

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Virgil lands Dante down on the base of the mountain.

VIRGIL

I saw what happened today and I can fly you into the city.

Dante looks up at the daunting sky.

DANTE

Thank you. But I think I'll walk.

VIRGIL

Okay, let's meet up down at the landfill.

Virgil flies off. Dante marches onward against the wind.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

Dark clouds roll in over a sprawling landfill. Dante slips in through a barbed wire fence with a "Keep Out" sign on it.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

Dante walks past a huge pile of garbage.

DANTE

Virgil!

KING FLY, wearing a silly crown, leads his gang of buzzing FLIES down upon Dante.

KING FLY

We are the flies that shout "Nincompoop!"

All of the flies shout "Nincompoop!" at Dante.

KING FLY (CONT'D)

The flies that shout nincompoop demand a gift!

DANTE

Hey, I'm just looking for my friend.

KING FLY

Nincompoop! Nincompoop!

All of the flies shout "Nincompoop!" at Dante.

DANTE

Okay, fine what do you want?

King Fly is stumped for an answer. MINION FLY whispers in his ear and he nods, amused.

KING FLY

The flies that shout nincompoop want tuna!

All of the flies cheer.

KING FLY (CONT'D)

Preferably mercury free. But not too chunky. That gives me gas.

DANTE

And where I am supposed to get that?

King Fly points at a pile of trash with a microwave teetering on top of it. Dante shakes his head.

Dante hikes up the pile and finds a wedged tuna can. The FLIES giggle with anticipation. King Fly shushes them.

Dante dislodges the can triggering a start zone effect; sending garbage and the microwave rolling down at him.

Dante frantically hops down off of the pile, barely outrunning the microwave as it crashes right behind him.

Dante hunches over catching his breath. King Fly and his flunkies laugh.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Ha, ha, very funny.

A hail storm suddenly erupts, battering Dante and the flies.

KING FLY

Fly away!

The flies buzz off while Dante ducks into a dingy caravan.

INT. CARAVAN - DAY

Hail pounds the roof of the caravan.

DANTE

I hope this storm doesn't last too long.

Dante lies down on shabby T-shirt and falls asleep.

Three black widow SPIDERS: DIANA, FLORENCE and MARY spin down and mummify Dante up to his neck with their silk webbings.

Dante jolts awake restrained, bucking and shaking.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Let me qo!

DIANA

I've heard that laughing mice are tasty to eat.

The spiders tickle him.

DIANA/FLORENCE/MARY

Coochy-coochy-coo!

Dante's turns red giggling involuntarily.

DANTE

Stop! Stop it!

FLORENCE

(singing)

Stop! In the name of lunch, Before you break my cobwebs.

MARY

(singing)

Mama said you can't hurry lunch, No, you just have to wait.

The spiders laugh.

DANTE

I don't know what's worse. The smell in here or your singing?

A glob of webbing with glass shards dangles from the ceiling.

Diana shines a flashlight on it creating a disco ball effect.

DIANA

(singing)

Set me free why don't cha mouse.

Florence and Mary sing back-up with booty shakes.

FLORENCE MARY

000h!

Oooh!

DIANA

(singing)

Get out of my house why don't cha mouse,

FLORENCE MARY

Whoa, ooh! Whoa, ooh!

DIANA

(singing)

You don't really want to stay for dinner,

FLORENCE MARY

Whoa, ooh! Whoa, ooh!

DIANA

(singing)

But you keep us hanging on!

Dante loosens his webbing with his staff.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Maybe we should let him go? After all he's messing up our feng shui.

The spiders laugh as the hail storm stops.

Dante breaks free and darts for a hole in the floor.

DIANA (CONT'D)

He's getting away!

The spiders chase after him as he dives down the hole.

Dante hits the ground below with a hard belly flop, moaning.

The spiders look down at him.

DIANA/FLORENCE/MARY

(singing)

We want you back in our webs again, Back where you belong. Oooooh!

DANTE

Oh put a sock in it.

Angry quacking comes from the dump.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Virgil?

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

Virgil swats at ten flies buzzing around him.

VIRGIL

Shoo you vile little cretins!

The flies buzz off laughing.

Dante steps out from under the caravan.

VIRGIL (CONT'D)

Well, look who finally decided to show up.

Dante grimaces.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

Dante brushes himself off outside the dump.

DANTE

I wish people would stop trying to eat me.

VIRGIL

It's only going to get worse down in the city.

DANTE

Why'd you leave the city?

Virgil sadly reminisces at the skyscrapers in the distance.

VIRGIL

I didn't want to.

BEGIN FLASHBACK: EXT. LAKE - DAY

It's a busy summer day at the city lake. Children swim while families enjoy picnics on the lush green lawn.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

As a duck, I didn't exactly fit in with the elegant swans.

MUSIC CUE: Calliope music plays.

Six white SWANS stride out of a boathouse: SIEGRIED, VLADIMIR, YURI, NATASHA, MIKHAIL and ANASTASIA.

ODETTE, a BLACK SWAN, brings up the rear followed by Virgil.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

And Odette was my best friend.

People gather to watch them swim.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

At first we just swam simple routines.

The swans and Virgil swim in a circle and spell out "HI." People cheer and clap, throwing food.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

Eventually things got mundane. So I came up with an idea.

END MUSIC CUE

EXT. LAKESHORE - DAY

The swans all speak with Russian accents.

STEGRRIED

You want us to be ballerinas?

VIRGIL

It's a water ballet. People will love it.

ODETTE

I think it's a great idea!

Siegrried frowns.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Virgil demonstrates synchronized swimming to the swans.

VIRGIL

Artistic impression is important.

Odette and the swans clap and cheer.

Virgil quacks thank you. Siegrried gets jealous.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

Virgil teaches the swans water ballet moves.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

We practiced every day for hours and hours on the lake perfecting our skills.

Virgil teaches the swans twirls and airborne splits.

Virgil teaches the swans advanced high flying acrobatics.

Virgil teaches the swans an aquatic ballet routine.

Virgil and the swans perfect a choreography scene.

Virgil and the swans perform a captivating water ballet for a large audience.

The audience goes wild, tossing them food.

Virgil and the swans take a bow, spraying water.

END MONTAGE

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Virgil and Odette rehearse their Prince and Princess duet, smitten with each other.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

It was the best time of my life. And the best part was Odette.

ODETTE

Was I okay?

VIRGIL

Tu sia fantastica!

Siegrried and the other five swans swim up.

SIEGRRIED

I should be the Prince not Virgil.

ODETTE

If it wasn't for Virgil we'd still be swimming in circles to circus music.

Siegrried cranes out his neck, poking Virgil with his beak.

SIEGRRIED

The Prince should be a handsome swan. Not an ugly duckling.

VIRGIL

It's okay. Siegrried can be the Prince.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

The swans perform an up-tempo and trite performance.

Siegrried plays the Prince with bravado while Virgil resignedly plays Rothbart.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

I didn't care about being the Prince. I was just happy to finally have friends.

Siegrried does a whip kick in Virgil's face, splashing him.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

But, the audience didn't like Siegrried's changes.

People walk off disinterested.

EXT. BOATHOUSE - DAY

Virgil eavesdrops on BRODY and STU sweeping up feathers.

groundskeepers conspiring.

BRODY

Dude, lets go snowboarding this winter.

STU

Awesome! But what about the swans?

BRODY

They'll find food outside. And if we put these electric shock collars on them those dumb birds won't go anywhere.

Virgil's eyes go wide with horror.

INT. BOATHOUSE - NIGHT

Virgil barges inside the boathouse.

VTRGTT

We have to get out of here! Brody and Stu want to leave us outside all winter to freeze and starve to death.

The ashen-faced swans shudder, save for Siegrried.

SIEGRRIED

I think you're just jealous you're not the big star anymore and you're trying to scare us. Come on guys let's go to bed.

The swans walk away with Siegrried, except for Odette.

VIRGIL

I would never do that.

ODETTE

T know.

EXT. BOATHOUSE - NIGHT

Virgil guards the boathouse door.

VIRGIL (V.O.)

They didn't believe me, so I stood guard to protect them.

Brody and Stu charge up. Virgil leaps up attacking them.

Brody and Stu shove him down, storming inside and slamming the door in his face.

Virgil hears the swans inside hissing and honking for help.

He flies up to a closed window helplessly watching Brody and Stu capturing his horrified friends.

Brody and Stu lock shock collars on the frantic wing flapping swans.

White feathers swirl about obstructing Virgil's view.

A frightened Odette flaps up. Virgil pounds on the window.

VIRGIL

Odette!

ODETTE

Run Virgil!

Brody and Stu yank her away leaving a patch of black feathers fluttering in the window.

VTRGTT.

No!

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

A GARBAGE TRUCK pulls up dumping a load of trash.

VIRGIL

They were my only friends and I failed them. Especially Odette. I'm hoping to gather some food so they don't starve.

DANTE

I'm your friend and I'll help you when I get back.

VIRGIL

You sure I can't fly you? You'll have to face your fears sooner or later.

DANTE

I know, but one problem at a time.

The garbage truck pulls out. Dante uses his staff to pole vault onto its back bumper, hitching a ride.

VTRGTT

Arrivederci Dante!

INT. BLUTO'S VAN - DAY

Bluto drives down a city street with Rambo sticking his head out the window.

DJ (OVER RADIO)

Here's a KBOO Halloween oldie but goodie for all you monsters out there. Boo!

A campy Halloween song plays on the radio.

BLUTO

I love this song!
(singing along to the song)
Ghosts and goblins, lots and lots of goblins! Trick-or-treating goblins!

Rambo covers his ears.

EXT. PIPPI'S PUMPKIN PATCH - DAY

Bluto pulls his van into Pippi's Pumpkin Patch.

INT. BLUTO'S VAN - DAY

Beatrice and the kids are in their cage. The quad drips oil.

BLUTO

Guard the mice Rambo.

Bluto hops out. Rambo scoffs and dozes off to nap.

EXT. PIPPI'S PUMPKIN PATCH - DAY

PIPPI is chirpy with red hair and freckles.

PIPPI

Howdy partner! Welcome to Pippi's famous sustainable Pumpkin Patch.

BLUTO

Are your pumpkins organic?

PIPPI

Only the finest organic Eco-friendly GMO free pumpkins on the planet.

Pippi effortlessly lifts up a humongous pumpkin.

BLUTO

It's perfect!

She hands it to him and it instantly drops him to the ground.

PIPPI

Perhaps something smaller.

MACVITY, a big black CAT, leaps up onto the roof of the van.

INT. BLUTO'S VAN - DAY

Beatrice looks up at where Macvity just landed on the roof.

Macvity pokes his face in the windshield looking at the mice.

MACVITY

Meeces.

Macvity sneers at the snoring Rambo and disappears.

Macvity then flips in through the open window and slinks through a puddle of oil up to the cage.

Beatrice herds the kids behind her.

BEATRICE

What do you want?

MACVITY

Why, to save you from that big dumb dog of course. Come a little closer, don't be shy.

He reaches in, swiping off Beatrice's pink scarf. His hind paws then slip on the oil and he flops down into it.

Macvity hops back up, trying to shake open the cage.

Beatrice does a loud two-finger whistle jolting Rambo awake. Rambo barks after Macvity.

EXT. PIPPI'S PUMPKIN PATCH - DAY

Pippi gives Bluto a little pumpkin.

BLUTO

Here's my card with my TwitFace and BoobTube. Send me a friend request.

The van shakes from the raging dog barking and cat howling ruckus inside.

Bluto opens the back doors and Macvity flies out landing on his head hissing.

Bluto wails while Macvity claws him and smears oil on him.

Pippi grabs Macvity.

PIPPI

Macvity, you clever cat. Look how dirty you are. You need a bath!

Macvity freaks out hearing the word "bath."

Pippi dunks him into a bucket of soapy water.

Rambo blows a raspberry at him, laughing.

EXT. CITY - PARKING LOT - DAY

Dante hops off the garbage truck and parts through some bushes coming upon a busy expressway.

He steps forward and almost gets run over before diving back.

FUMIKO, a SQUIRLLE with a Japanese accent, watches him.

FUMIKO

Pierre is your best way across the expressway.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Dante arrives at a graffiti covered culvert with dirty water.

PIERRE, a BULLFROG with a French accent, wears a black beret.

DANTE

Good afternoon Mr. Pierre.

PIERRE

Merci monsieur mouse. Across those deadly streets you seek. What's in it for me?

DANTE

All the flies you can eat.

Dante sketches a map in the dirt to the city dump. Pierre perks up with a smile.

EXT. EXPRESSWAY - DAY

Dante sits on Pierre's back, scared of the fast vehicles.

PIERRE

You should dress up as Super Mouse for Halloween. Everyone loves Super Mouse.

Dante frowns. Pierre's big eyeballs scan the zooming expressway lanes for an opening.

PIERRE (CONT'D)

Hang on Dante!

MUSIC CUE: Uptempo music plays.

Pierre leapfrogs into traffic, dodging vehicles with death defying agility. Dante clutches Pierre's beret for dear life.

Pierre ducks under a speeding SUV. He then zigzags around a MOTORCYCLE GANG.

Pierre hops backwards evading a car.

A MAN in an ALIEN costume drives a convertible eating chocolate truffles.

Pierre jumps into it, snatching a truffle with his tongue.

PIERRE (CONT'D)

Miam!

Pierre hops out into the next lane with Dante.

A MONSTER TRUCK zooms over them.

Dante cringes as Pierre hops them onto the middle divider.

A car speeds by tossing a soda can.

PIERRE (CONT'D)

Litterbug!

Pierre somersaults them up, landing on the roof of a MINIVAN and sticks his arms out like a surfer.

PIERRE (CONT'D)

Surfs up dude!

A SCHOOL BUS passes by with KIDS in costumes snapping photos of him. Pierre gives them a thumbs up.

DANTE Quit messing around!

A LADY dressed as OLD MOTHER HUBBARD drives a SMART CAR, sipping coffee.

Pierre cartwheels onto her windshield, winking at her.

PIERRE

Bonjour madame.

She screams, spitting out coffee. Pierre hops on her roof while she swerves in front of a Whamazon SEMI-TRUCK.

The whiplash sends Dante backwards through the air screaming toward the grill of the oncoming semi.

Pierre flicks out his long tongue; snagging Dante and reeling him back in.

The semi squeals with bursting tires, rear-ending the smart car. Pierre jumps up, soaring him and Dante sky-high.

The semi fishtails, overturning and crashing.

Its rear roll-up door springs open releasing hundreds of consumer products out into traffic, bouncing off of cars.

An ICE CREAM VAN DRIVER hits his breaks, skidding within an inch of the semi.

He breathes a sigh of relief and then gets rear-ended by a flatbed truck hauling CHICKENS.

The chicken coop springs open freeing the chickens.

Pierre deploys a parachute high above the chaos.

Whamazon products fly out of the semi while vehicles from both directions swerve and crash trying to avoid them.

A pickup truck full of paint cans crashes. Paint cans fly out bursting open and splattering vehicles with colorful paint.

A pile-up ensues creating a massive traffic jam.

END MUSIC CUE

The chickens cluck across the expressway.

Angry drivers honk their horns.

Pierre and Dante float over the gridlock landing on the other side.

DANTE

You're a life saver Pierre!

Dante journeys off.

PTERRE

Au revior Dante!

A WOMAN in a GRIM REAPER costume snaps photos of the crashed vehicles while a TURTLE moseys across the expressway.

PIERRE (CONT'D)

This won't be good for business.

EXT. CITY - BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Bluto's charming mixed-use house and Flower Shop sits between Big Al's dreary warehouse and Chucky's dumpy Tow Truck Lot.

Bluto's van is parked in front of his manicured lawn. His porch and yard sport festive Halloween decorations.

CHUCKY, in a trapper hat with pompoms, tows Old Mother Hubbard's smashed up smart car into his lot.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Bluto's cozy shop is replete with a variety of flowers. Beatrice and the kids are in their cage on a countertop.

BLUTO

Say cheese!

Bluto snaps their photo on his tablet.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Get it, cheese? Since you're mice?

Beatrice glares at him.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Gee-whiz, tough crowd.

Bluto points a webcam at them and types on his tablet.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Five nutritious and preservative free mountain mice, highest bid wins.

Bluto uploads their photo to SnakeBay, an auction site for snake enthusiasts.

Rambo strolls in.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Guard these mice with your life Rambo.

Rambo scoffs, going for his dog food.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Hope you like your new all natural vegan dinner. I made it fresh from our garden.

Rambo takes a bite and his face goes sour, spitting it out.

EXT. PIPPI'S PUMPKIN PATCH - DAY

Dante walks up seeing Beatrice's pink scarf in the pumpkin patch. He hustles over grabbing it with hope.

DANTE

I'm getting closer.

Macvity looms above him on a pumpkin.

MACVITY

Trick or treat.

DANTE

Where are they?

MACVITY

They got away. But you won't.

Macvity lunges at him.

Dante darts into a jack-o'-lantern.

Macvity peeks in.

MACVITY (CONT'D)

Boo!

Dante stabs him with his staff. Macvity swipes at him.

Dante darts out of the pumpkin.

Macvity quickly catches Dante, ready to clobber him when Pippi suddenly grabs him.

PIPPI

Macvity there you are.

Pippi, now dressed as DOROTHY, stuffs him into a COWRDLY LION costume, pinching his cheeks.

PIPPI (CONT'D)

You look so handsome.

DANTE

Nice costume. Personally, I think you'd make a better Toto.

Macvity fumes.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Rambo reluctantly tries his dinner again and spits it out.

RAMBO

Yuck!

Bluto sashays in wearing a red spandex DEVIL costume, twirling a plastic pitchfork.

ВТ-ШТО

Ta-da! Don't I look fabulous?

Rambo rolls his eyes.

A loud noise shakes the walls.

Bluto looks out the window at a semi-truck pulling up to Big Al's Warehouse.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

What the heck is going on?

Bluto waddles out in a panic. Rambo swats over his bowl.

Beatrice looks around the room for an escape route.

EXT. BIG AL'S WAREHOUSE - DAY

LITTLE AL, 19, directs his costumed FRIENDS to unload his haunted house supplies out of the semi.

LITTLE AL

OK, strobe lights and loud speakers out here. Fog machines, scary props and everything else goes in the warehouse.

Bluto prances up with his pitchfork.

BLUTO

Excuse me, this is now my warehouse. Slash, soon to be mega flower shop.

LITTLE AL

Big Al is my uncle and this is now my soon to be hip-hop recording studio.

BLUTO

But he gave me until tomorrow to pay him?

LITTLE AL

That's why I'm throwing the best haunted house party ever to buy it first. Now get lost before you scare away all of my customers dressed up all tacky like that.

Little Al and his friends laugh at him. Bluto huffs off.

BLUTO

Stupid hipsters.

Chucky tows the chicken coop truck into his lot.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Bluto web chats with BIG AL.

BLUTO

Big Al I need your warehouse to expand my flower business.

BIG AL

So ante up.

Bluto proudly displays the caged mice.

BLUTO

I will. Snake owners will pay top dollar for germ-free mountain mice.

FLUFFY, Big Al's big CAT, pops up on screen licking her chops at the mice. Big Al shoves her away.

BIG AL

That's your big stupid plan? Selling rodents online.

BLUTO

You can't sell it to Little Al he'll ruin the neighborhood with his loud music.

Fluffy pops back up on screen, salivating at the mice. Big Al shoves her out of the way, hissing.

BIG AL

First come, first serve capisce?

Big Al kills the chat.

Bluto checks his SnakeBay page with no bids and sighs.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Dante sits on a sidewalk below a flickering red neon store sign. Famished, he bites into his last morsel of cheese.

A JEEP playing music parks, covering Dante and his cheese with muffler exhaust. Dante coughs.

A WOMAN dressed as CLEOPATRA steps out, beeping her alarm. Dante brushes off soot and tosses his cheese.

Dante approaches a BISTRO with three round patio tables.

A couple dressed as MARIE ANTOINETTE and TARZAN pig out.

A large MAN dressed as ELVIS pigs out at his table, burping.

CHIP, the WAITER, sets the third table with cheese and crackers, silverware and a glass of water.

TARZAN

Garcon more meatloaf!

MARIE ANTOINETTE

And more cake!

ELVIS

And a peanut butter and banana sandwich!

CHIP

They don't pay me enough to put up with these slobs.

Chip goes back inside. Dante's tummy rumbles.

DANTE

All that food for just three people.

Dante scales up the empty table. He eats the cheese and stuffs a cracker into his pocket.

Chip plops down Elvis's sandwich.

CHTP

Bon appetit.

ELVIS

Thank you very much.

Marie Antoinette gorges on sushi. She sees Dante and starts choking, pointing at him.

Tarzan licks his ice cream cone.

TARZAN

What? You want a lick?

She slaps the cone away, pointing at Dante.

DANTE

(at Marie Antoinette)

I'm sorry; I didn't mean to scare you. I'm just hungry, that's all.

She pounds her abdomen, choking out sushi.

MARIE ANTOINETTE

Rat!

Elvis shrieks hopping up on his table and squashing his food.

Chip swats his broom at Dante, barely missing him. The glass topples over spilling out water.

Dante uses the knife to slide down the water like a surfer and does a mid-air 360 double off of the table.

He hits the ground with skidding sparks.

Chip tosses Tarzan and Marie Antoinette brooms.

Elvis squeals as his table collapses under his weight, dropping him on his butt. Dante trots up over his belly.

MARIE ANTOINETTE (CONT'D)

There he is!

Marie Antoinette, Chip and Tarzan whack the wailing Elvis while Dante scampers off.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

A small figure in a hooded robe moseys through the dump.

King Fly and his flunkies swarm down shouting "Nincompoop!" Pierre flips off his hood, flicking out his tongue at them.

PIERRE

Dante says hello!

KING FLY

Frog! Fly away! Fly away!

Pierre hops after the flies.

INT. BIG AL'S HOUSE - DAY

Fluffy watches Beatrice and the kids on the SnakeBay site on Big Al's laptop and bids \$10,000.

FLUFFY

Yummy.

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DUSK

Three trick-or-treating little girls: PRINCESS, GYPSY and LADYBUG, ring Bluto's doorbell.

Bluto opens the door in his silly devil costume.

PRINCESS/GYPSY/LADYBUG

Trick or treat!

BLUTO

Happy Halloween!

Bluto stuffs health food bars into their candy bags.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

I've got unprocessed Omega-3 walnut bars to boost your brainpower and Chai seed bars to curb your sugar cravings.

Bluto closes the door. The girls frown, stomping on his bars.

Princess bangs the door and Bluto opens it.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Oops, I almost forgot your low-carb calcium enriched yogurt bars.

The girls nail Bluto with eggs and run off laughing.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Ahh!

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Bluto slams the door wiping off egg yokes. Rambo snickers.

ВТ-ШТО

Ungrateful little ruffians.

He sees Fluffy's bid on his SnakeBay page and jumps for joy.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Now that's what I'm talking about!

Beatrice watches Bluto setting down the key to her cage.

EXT. JEWELRY STORE - DAY

A red carpet runs up to a jewelry store with velvet ropes lining off a jovial crowd of hipsters in costumes.

LIZA, a tabloid reporter, is front row.

LIZA

Liza, live here with a mob of half-wits waiting for reality TV star "Heiress."

A pink HELICOPTER lands in the street.

HEIRESS steps out carrying a big pink purse and wearing pink sunglasses, a pink gown and a pink fur coat.

Her FANS cheer, snapping photos.

HEIRESS

Thank you! I love you all!

Heiress takes a selfie with a GIRL in a SOCK HOP costume. The girl holds her phone to her heart and faints.

LIZA sticks her microphone in Heiress's face.

LIZA

Heiress I heard Da-Sham dumped you?

BEGIN MUSIC VIDEO: INT. THE WHITE HOUSE - DAY

DA-SHAM, a silly hip-hop star, struts around the Oval Office.

DA-SHAM

(singing)

Wham! Ka-blam! I am Da-Sham! Breaking up with Heiress cuz she's a phony flimflam! Gonna post this on my AI webcams and be blocking her number like an atomic bam!

Da-Sham presses a red nuke button and the screen explodes.

END MUSIC VIDEO.

EXT. JEWELRY STORE - DAY

Heiress seethes at Liza.

HEIRESS

That's a lie I dumped him!

The store's flamboyant MANAGER intervenes.

MANAGER

Heiress you must see our new selections.

She goes with him waving to her fans.

Dante walks up just as the helicopter lifts off, kicking up a wind gust that sends him flying through the air screaming.

He crashes into Heiress's coat, disappearing into the fur.

INT. JEWELRY STORE - DAY

A tuxedo clad SALESMAN tap-dances down a marble staircase.

He gives Heiress a pair of sparkling diamond earrings.

She does an unimpressed yawn.

The Manager presents four diamond necklaces to her on satin pillows.

MANAGER

Our new platinum diamond pendants.

HEIRESS

Will they make me look fat?

MANAGER

No never.

Something inside of her purse wiggles, wanting out.

The Manager polishes the glamorous diamonds, enticing her.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Simply to die for.

Her eyes go wide. Dante pokes his head out of the fur coat.

HEIRESS

I want that one!

The Manager plops the first necklace over her head, next to Dante on the lapel of her coat.

HEIRESS (CONT'D)

And that one!

The Manager plops the second necklace around her neck.

HEIRESS (CONT'D)

And that one too!

The Manager plops down the third necklace up against Dante.

Dante shoves it, accidentally scratching out a diamond. He smiles, tucking it in his pocket.

HEIRESS (CONT'D)

I want all of them!

The Manager plops the fourth necklace around her head with this one squeezing up against Dante.

DANTE

I think one would have been plenty.

MANAGER

Rat!

The Manager leaps up shrieking into the arms of the Salesman.

Heiress strokes Dante's head.

HEIRESS

What a cute little mouse you are. Not like the smelly sewer rats around here.

Heiress opens her purse and MARGO, her BOA CONSTRICTOR, springs out with a pink collar. Her tongue juts out hissing.

SALESMAN

Snake!

He drops the Manager on his butt and leaps up onto a crystal chandelier, trembling. Heiress flashes an evil grin.

HEIRESS

Dinner time.

Dante jumps to the floor with Margo lunging after him.

Dante trots over the wailing Manager and ducks under a display case.

Margo flashes her fangs in the Manager's face and he faints.

Margo whips her tail in the air, knocking the chandelier and the Salesman crashing down on the display case.

EXT. JEWELRY STORE - DAY

The Manager and the Salesman storm out screaming.

MANAGER

Rat!

SALESMAN

Snake!

Dante bolts out behind them just as the glass door closes. Margo then breaks through it, shattering it.

Margo hisses and the crowd stampedes off screaming.

Dante dodges people's feet with Margo in hot pursuit.

Dante stops at the street curb, trapped between speeding cars and the charging Margo.

Dante takes a deep breath and jumps into a stormwater drain. Margo lunges, barely missing him with her fangs.

MARGO

I'll get you!

INT. SEWER - DAY

Dante plummets down into an underground sewer, screaming.

He crashes into the water and reemerges, spitting out water.

DANTE

Yuck.

Dante climbs onto a floating soda bottle and snags a popsicle stick it, using it to paddle.

Voices echo from a dark tunnel.

PIRATES (O.S.)

(singing)

Five rats on dead cat's chest, Yo ho ho and a whole ton of fun!

DANTE

Well, this just went from bad to worse.

PIRATES (O.S.)

(singing)

Five rats on the pirate ship's list, Swashbuckling and pillaging we do best, Yo ho ho and a whole ton of fun!

A pirate ship made out of car tire with a black skull and crossbones sail floats out. Five cheerful SEWER RAT PIRATES swab the deck.

PIRATES (CONT'D)

(singing)

Yo, ho, yo, ho,

A pirates life for me!

Yo, ho, yo, ho,

It's a pirate's life for me!

RASP, a tall RAT in the crow's nest, spots Dante and rings a bell.

RASP

Sail ho!

CROOK, a small RAT in an oversized Captain's hat, barges out. He has a peg leg and a hook for a left hand.

TINK, his mimicking MOSQUITO, sits perched on his shoulder.

CROOK

All hands on deck!

PIRATES

Aye, aye captain!

CROOK

Heave ho you scallywags!

TINK

Heave ho! Ka-Caw!

The pirates hustle to a mounted slingshot.

CROOK

Ready.

The pirates load a pebble into the slingshot.

CROOK (CONT'D)

Aim.

The pirates stretch the slingshot back.

CROOK (CONT'D)

Fire!

The pebble shoots out sideways ricocheting off a pipe and flies back at the pirate ship bouncing off the tire.

Crook groans.

Dante hurls his boomerang cutting down the mast.

The sail collapses down on top of the five pirates.

CROOK (CONT'D)

Looks like it's up us Tink.

TINK

Ka-Caw!

Tink buzzes off, swooping down and stinging Dante.

DANTE

Ouch!

CROOK

If the landlubber escapes you're all shark bait!

The pirates reel the bottle in with grappling hooks and yank Dante up on board.

CROOK (CONT'D)

Well shiver me timbers! Ye trying to steal me buried treasure ye wee fancy freebooter?

DANTE

Pardon me barnacles, but I don't care about no smelly sewer booty.

CROOK

Ye trying to hornswaggle me? Just like the gator that ate me hand ye are.

TTNK

It was a cat. Ka-Caw!

CROOK

I'm telling ya it was a big razor sharp tooth gator. Not no weak-willy ninny cat.

PIRATES

Walk the plank! Walk the plank!

DANTE

I demand a parley!

CROOK

Talk is cheap.

A pirate tosses Dante a stainless steel nail for a sword.

CROOK (CONT'D)

If ye can best me in swashbuckling ye is as free as a bird.

Crook swings his gold nail sword around, showing off.

CROOK (CONT'D)

If not, it's Davy Jones's locker for ye.

The pirates cheer.

DANTE

How about a friendly clapping and tap dancing contest instead?

Dante does a quick tap dance, clapping his hands.

The pirates laugh. Crook fumes.

CROOK

Why ye smart aleck little dungbie!

Crook attacks Dante.

CROOK (CONT'D)

Yarr!

Dante and Crook duel it out, exchanging fierce parries with sparks flying off their blades.

RASI

Wow the landlubber is pretty good.

Crook kicks Dante with his peg leg, knocking him off balance.

Crook takes the offensive with the pirates cheering him on.

CROOK

First I'm gonna cut off all your ittybitty toes. Then your teeny-weeny tail.

Crook lunges with vicious blows, backing Dante up.

DANTE

There's something I should tell you.

CROOK

Dead men tell no tales so save ye breath.

DANTE

I'm left handed.

Dante switches the sword to his left hand and goes on the offensive, backing Crook out to the end of the plank.

Dante does a circular disarm move knocking out Crook's sword.

The pirates gasp.

Crook is aghast, teetering on his heels.

Dante gives a glib salute and walks back to the bow.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Smell you later.

Crook stomps his peg leg after him, waving his hook.

CROOK

He cheated! Y'all all saw it!

TINK

Sore loser Crook! Sore loser! Ka-Caw!

Rasp accidentally knocks over a sand bag.

RASP

Uh-oh.

The bag nails Dante on the head. He sees spinning stars and wobbles over unconscious.

EXT. SANDY AND PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DAY

Sandy and Peggy sip tea on their porch in rocking chairs. Virgil lands down quacking. Peggy points at their signs.

PEGGY

Hey can't you read?

SANDY

No trespassing!

Virgil bows.

VIRGIL

Hello my ladies, my name is Virgil and I am a friend of your brother Dante.

PEGGY

Bad enough he goes gallivanting about the mountain with scraggly goats and beavers.

SANDY

Now a vagabond duck. Oh the family shame.

VIRGIL

I vowed to look after you while he's in the city rescuing Beatrice and the kids.

PEGGY

That little lout! He's supposed to be getting us salt and pepper for dinner.

SANDY

We've been waiting around all day!

VIRGIL

Is there anything I can do to help?

PEGGY

We need new fluffy pillows.

SANDY

Duck feathers make for nice comfy pillows.

Virgil sighs and yanks out a feather wincing.

VIRGIL

Will this help?

SANDY

We'll need more than that.

PEGGY

Yeah, and they don't pluck themselves you know.

Virgil groans, plucking out more feathers.

INT. SEWER - DAY

Dante struggles to get his tail out of a mouse trap.

Rasp strolls up whistling.

RASP

Ahoy matey!

DANTE

Get me out of this thing.

RASP

No can do. Captain Crook is keeping you for alligator bait. But don't worry there's no gators down here.

Rasp offers him some moldy cheese.

RASP (CONT'D)

Hungry?

DANTE

No thanks.

RASP

Sorry, the cheese is better up there.

DANTE

So why are you down here?

RASP

I used to live up in the city.

Rasp reminisces sadly up at sunshine coming from a storm drain.

BEGIN FLASHBACK: EXT. CITY - DAY

Rasp skips along a city sidewalk, whistling.

RASP (V.O.)

One day I smelled the sweetest scent.

He catches a scent of steaming pizza coming from a busy Pizza Parlor and his nose leads him inside the open door.

INT. PIZZA PARLOR - DAY

Rasp ogles as the COOK pulls a pizza out of the oven.

The WAITRRESS takes it and gives it to a BOY.

He devourers a slice and burps.

BOY

I said a meat lovers deluxe with cheesy stuffed crust. Not olives and anchovies!

He throws the pizza at the wall and it slides down to the floor. Rasp scurries over and takes a delicious bite.

RASP (V.O.)

It was the most yummy cheese ever.

WAITRESS

Rat!

The customers storm out screaming.

Rasp breaks for the door. The Waitress slams it, swatting her broom at him.

Rasp pivots for the kitchen and the Boy throws a chair blocking him.

The Cook runs up snagging Rasp up in his net.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

The Cook flushes Rasp down the toilet. The Waitress and Boy laugh as he gets sucked down, scratching the siphon.

RASP

Help!

END FLASHBACK.

INT. SEWER - DAY

Rasp dolefully sniffles, holding back tears.

RASP

I never did anything to them. I was just hungry, that's all. And they flushed me down into these gloomy sewers. I love fixing things and used to be a handyman.

DANTE

My hometown of Florence could use a good handyman.

RASP

But the pirates are my only friends.

DANTE

I'll be your friend.

Rasp lifts up the mousetrap bar, freeing Dante.

RASP

That pipe will get you back up top.

DANTE

Come with me.

RASP

I'll catch up with you later tonight.

Dante crawls up into the pipe.

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Rambo digs out his stash of dog treats in the yard while Bluto puts a LED candle in his smiley faced jack-o'-lantern.

BLUTO

Rambo come check out our awesome pumpkin.

Rambo is about to eat his treats when Bluto snatches them.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

You got any idea how many preservatives are in these things?

Rambo pouts.

CHUCKY pulls up towing the demolished monster truck.

CHUCKY

That big expressway crash is making me rich. Happy Halloween to me! Who are you supposed to be? Humpty Dumpty in spandex?

BLUTO

Hello? Horns, cape, pitchfork?

Chucky's muffler backfires exhaust on Bluto as he drives into his lot by the chicken truck, smart car and paint truck.

Bluto brushes himself off coughing.

Pippi, as Dorothy, pulls up in her orange pumpkin truck with Macvity sulking in his cowardly lion costume.

PIPPI

Howdy partner.

BLUTO

Hi Pipi! Wanna check out my new tulips?

PIPPI

I'd love to but I've still got some more pumpkin deliveries to finish up.

Little Al, dressed up as THE WOLF MAN, walks up with his friends the WITCH and the MUMMY.

LITTLE AL

Knock knock.

BLUTO

Who's there?

LITTLE AL

How about.

BLUTO

How about who?

LITTLE AL

How about putting diapers on your little baby pumpkin.

Little Al and his friends laugh.

LITTLE AL (CONT'D)

Halloween pumpkins are supposed to be big and scary. Not tiny and wimpy like yours.

Little Al growls, flashing his claws in Bluto's face - scarring him.

Pippi unloads three giant pumpkins.

PIPPI

Okay, three supersized pumpkins for you.

Little Al and his friends grab their giant pumpkins.

LITTLE AL

Hey your fake candle burnt out.

Bluto turns and sees that it's still lit.

LITTLE AL (CONT'D)

Made you look!

Little Al and his friends walk off laughing.

PTPPT

Ignore them. Halloween is about being whoever you want to be and that includes your pumpkins.

Rambo laughs at Macvity in his goofy costume.

Macvity dangles a hamburger at Rambo and tosses it into the street.

Rambo lick his chops, darting after it but Chucky speeds out running it over before he can reach it.

Rambo sighs. Macvity blows a raspberry at him.

INT. AIR DUCT - DAY

Dante crawls out of the pipe into a ventilation shaft.

DANTE

Where am I?

Dante walks up to a fork in the ducts. A big creepy shadow approaches from the left shaft.

MR. ROACH, a large ROACH, steps out just as Dante is about to duck down the right shaft.

MR. ROACH

I wouldn't go that way if I were you. It's full of acidic poison.

DANTE

Why would anyone do that?

MR. ROACH

To keep me out. I was just looking for food. I've got a lot of mouths to feed. I've got my kids and my wife's family. And her mom already hates me.

DANTE

Okay, okay, I get it. Will this help?

Dante gives him his cracker from the cafe.

MR. ROACH

Wow! Thanks! This will last us all week! Go this way and you'll find a way out.

He points to the left shaft and scurries off. Dante walks down the shaft.

He comes upon an air vent and looks down into the laboratory below.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

MISS VON, in a lab coat, conducts experiments on three MICE in her virtual reality lab. They are: RENFRED, SOPHIE and ALBERT.

MONGO, Miss Von's pet BOA CONSTRICTOR, sits on her shoulder.

The mice wear VR headsets and data gloves and are each immersed in their own individual virtual reality simulations.

RENFRED floats in an open water tank on a table.

RENFRED'S VR SIMULATION - EXT. UNDERWATER - NIGHT

Renfred, in scuba gear, repairs a damaged submarine with a blow torch.

A SHARK swims by waving at him.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

A computer displays Renfred's avatar with intense beeps.

MISS VON

Healthy physical reflexes.

Sophie floats in a zero-gravity chamber.

SOPHIE'S VR SIMULATION - EXT. MOON - NIGHT

Sophie is on the moon in a space suit resuscitating an unconscious ALIEN with chest compressions.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

The computer shows Sophie's avatar with focused brain waves.

MISS VON

Positive neurological stimuli.

Albert relaxes on an inactive mini tread mill.

ALBERT'S VR SIMULATION - EXT. BEACH - DAY

Albert lounges on a sunny beach sipping lemonade.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

The computer shows Albert's lazy avatar with soothing brain waves. Miss Von frowns and pushes a button on the computer.

ALBERT'S VR SIMULATION - EXT. BEACH - DAY

A hurricane storm suddenly erupts and Albert panics, running.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

Albert screams sprinting on the now spinning tread mill with loud computer beeping brain waves. Miss Von smirks.

A timer dings, shutting off the virtual reality equipment. Renfred, Sophie, and Albert remove their headsets and gloves.

Mongo lunges at them. Miss Von smacks him.

MISS VON

I told you no eating the test subjects until I finish my research!

She locks the mice in a cage and drops three measly morsels of cheese down at them.

Miss Von goes to her office with Mongo hissing at the mice as the door closes.

The mice chow down on their cheese.

DANTE

I have to help them.

Dante squeezes through the vent - diving down into the water tank. He climbs out of it and unlocks the cage.

The mice step out, speaking with British accents.

RENFRED

Jolly good dive Sir.

DANTE

My name is Dante and I'm here to help you escape.

ALBERT

Rubbish, we can go anywhere we want.

DANTE

How? You're trapped in here.

SOPHIE

With these things we can do anything.

She hands him her virtual reality gear and he tries them on.

DANTE'S VR SIMULATION - INT. BOXING RING - NIGHT

Dante is in a boxing ring facing off against Bluto in front of a rowdy crowd.

DANTE

Give me back my friends!

Bluto rubs his hands over his eyes making a crying motion.

ВТ-ШТО

Boo-hoo-hoo!

Dante charges and a brutal fight begins.

Dante lands a quick combination of punches, side-kicks, and knee strikes.

Bluto knocks Dante down and hops on the ropes.

Bluto pounds his chest and does a flying body slam. Dante rolls out of the way and Bluto belly flops on the mat.

Dante knocks Bluto out with a hard headbutt and the crowd goes wild.

Dante raises his arms but his exhilaration fades, remembering it's just a simulation.

INT. VR LAB - DAY

Dante removes his headgear and gloves.

DANTE

It's a cool illusion. But that snake in there is very real and he will eat you. RENFRED

My oh my that does sound dreadful. But what about those motion alarms?

Six red laser rings hover across the floor.

Albert unscrews two pens and hooks the springs on Dante like pogo stilts.

ALBERT

These will help.

Sophie points at a red button by the door handle.

SOPHIE

Press that button to disable the lasers and open the door.

Dante deftly leaps into the first ring. Sophie, Renfred, and Albert gasp as the laser beam nearly nicks his tail.

Dante nimbly maneuvers in and out of the next five rings with handsprings, tumbles and back flips.

Dante pogo springs up pressing the red button, disabling the lasers and opening the door. Dante kicks off his springs.

INT. MISS VON'S OFFICE - DAY

Miss Von clicks on a pair of gloves on the Whamazon website.

Mongo sees the mice escaping and thumps his tail alerting Miss Von.

INT. RESEARCH CENTER - HALLWAY - DAY

The mice push a cart down a hallway getting it going and hop up on it, speeding toward the elevator.

Dante flings his boomerang at the down button, opening it.

DANTE

Woo-hoo!

Miss Von and Mongo storm out after them.

The cart crashes inside the elevator, knocking over the mice.

Miss Von throws Mongo at them like a flying spear.

MONGO

I'm going to eat you!

The elevator door closes on Mongo and he crashes into it face-first.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Dante, Sophie, Albert and Renfred sigh with relief.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

Rambo morosely poses with flowers in a BUMBLEBEE costume.

BLUTO

Hmm, something's missing here? I got it!

Bluto shoves a flower between Rambo's teeth.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Say cheese!

Bluto snaps a cellphone photo and uploads it to his Twitface page. Rambo spits out the flower.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Bluto's Halloween Twitface special. All flowers half-off! Hashtag spooky savings.

A giant inflatable GORILLA suddenly expands outside the window, blacking it out. Bluto fumes.

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

A giant inflatable gorilla stands next to Bluto's shop.

BLUTO

Get this ugly monstrosity off of my lawn!

TITTTIE AT

Say please.

Bluto grimaces.

BLUTO

Will you please move your giant gorilla.

LITTLE AL

Why of course, just push that button.

Little Al points at his searchlights. Bluto pushes a red button and the lights blast on swirling in his face.

BLUTO

Ahh!

LITTLE AL

Sucker!

Little Al laughs. Bluto grabs his garden hose.

BLUTO

That does it! No more Mr. Nice Guy!

He squeezes the handle, aiming it at Little Al but nothing happens.

Confused, Bluto looks into the spray nozzle not seeing the Witch and the Mummy twisting the hose behind him.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Huh?

The Witch and Mummy release the tubing and water sprays out in Bluto's face.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Ahh!

Little Al and his friends walk off laughing.

A loud speaker blares a playback loop of a roaring gorilla. Bluto slams his hose.

Chucky tows the smashed-up ice cream van onto Bluto's yard.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Don't you dare park that junk heap here!

Chucky cups his hand over his ear, pretending he can't hear him as his lift releases the van.

CHUCKY

What's a monster's favorite dessert on Halloween?

(pointing at the van)

I-Scream! Ha-ha!

Chucky peels off over Bluto's garden, spraying dirt on him.

Bluto looks at the ice cream van with a sly grin.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - DAY

The mice remain in their cage. Rambo sulks in his bumblebee costume.

Bluto waddles in with three tubs of ice cream.

BLUTO

Woo-hoo! We've got dairy-free chocolate, strawberry and vanilla ice cream.

Bluto puts the ice cream in his walk-in cooler and steps back out.

Beatrice watches him locking the glass door's bar latch.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Rambo, be a good little bee and don't go-- (doing a buzzing sound) --buzzing off.

He pats Rambo on the head and skips off smiling leaving his pitchfork behind.

Timmy impersonates Bluto's buzzing, mocking Rambo.

Tina, Susie and Skippy giggle.

Rambo springs up growling.

RAMBO

Hardy-har-har! You won't be laughing tomorrow when you're all snake food!

The four frightened kids begin to cry.

RAMBO (CONT'D)

Oh no, please don't cry.

BEATRICE

Shame on you! Scaring poor innocent little children like that!

RAMBO

I'm sorry. I didn't mean it. Would you kids like some cheese?

The kids calm down nodding. Rambo gives them some cheese from the refrigerator. The kids smile, eating it.

RAMBO (CONT'D)

There's plenty more where that came from so save some room for seconds, okay.

Beatrice watches Rambo squeezing out through his doggie door in his poofy costume.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Dante, Sophie, Renfred and Albert walk down a city sidewalk.

A siren blaring FIRE TRUCK speeds by with flashing lights.

ALBERT

This city is quite loud.

SOPHIE

And this air isn't very fresh.

DANTE

Don't worry there's no cars or pollution up on the mountain.

The mice stop at a crosswalk next to a WOMAN in a RED RIDING HOOD costume on her phone.

RED RIDING HOOD

Burpee, what's the hot spot tonight?

PHONE (BURPEE APP)

Little Al's haunted house is the place to be this Halloween.

The crosswalk switches to walk.

DANTE

Okay lets go.

Pippi stops her truck at a red light singing along to the "Goblin," song on the radio.

PIPPI

(singing)

Ghosts and goblins!

Spooky, spooky, scary, scary Trick-or-treating goblins!

Macvity spots Dante and scratches the windshield snarling.

EXT. CITY LAKE - DUSK

A sad bird whimper comes from the lake.

SOPHIE

Oh that poor swan.

DANTE

You sure it's a swan?

RENFRED

Bioacoustics was integral to our ecological simulation explorations.

DANTE

We have to help them.

Dante bolts toward the lakefront.

EXT. BOATHOUSE - DUSK

Dante, Albert, Renfred, and Sophie search around the dark boarded up boathouse.

DANTE

This has to be the place.

A "Lost Dog" flyer of a German Shepherd is tacked to the door. It reads "If found please return Frieda to Caroline at the City Hospital."

SOPHIE

How horribly sad.

Another whimper comes from the lakeshore.

DANTE

The swans!

EXT. LAKE - DUSK

Yuri, Mikhail, Anastasia, Vladimir, and Natasha - with dirty feathers - forage for food on dead grass.

Siegrried huddles in a patch of dirt, shunned and shivering.

A crumpled potato chip bag blows along the shoreline dropping crumbs.

Vladimir chases after it.

ANASTASIA

Stop! It's out of range!

She chases after him.

Vladimir almost reaches the bag when his shock collar shocks him. He shrieks, flapping his wings and collapsing.

Anastasia, Yuri, Mikhail, and Natasha carry Vladimir back into their shock collar safe zone.

NATASHA

This all Siegrried's fault.

YURI

We should of listened to Virgil.

Dante, Sophie, Renfred, and Albert run up.

DANTE

Hi, we're here to help you.

VLADIMIR

No one cares about us anymore.

DANTE

I do. I'm friends with Virgil.

Odette emerges from under a dilapidated lifeguard tower.

ODETTE

Is Virgil okay?

Dante points up to Mount Paradiso in the distance.

DANTE

He's safe and sound up on Mount Paradiso and soon all of you will be as well.

Dante tries ripping off Odette's collar and gets zapped with a shock, propelling him backwards on his tush.

ALBERT

It's got a tamper proof mechanism.

SHOPIE

I've got an idea.

She runs to the boathouse and yanks the thumb tacks out of Frieda's flyer. The flyer then flies off in the wind.

Sophie runs back, sticking the pinpoint of a tack into the keyhole of Vladimir's collar - popping it open.

VLADIMIR

I'm free!

The swans cheer. Sophie frees Yuri and gives tacks to Renfred, Albert and Dante.

Renfred unlocks Natasha and Mikhail. Dante unlocks Odette.

Albert unlocks Anastasia. She kisses him on the cheek and he blushes, smitten.

Siegrried remains alone. Dante unlocks him.

SIEGRRIED

Thank you for saving us. How can I ever repay you?

DANTE

You can fly my friends here up to Mount Paradiso.

Odette spreads her graceful wings.

ODETTE

We all will.

Renfred hops on Siegrried, Sophie hops on Odette and Albert hops on Anastasia with a big smile.

ODETTE (CONT'D)

What about you?

DANTE

I'll catch up with you tomorrow.

The swans take flight with Odette leading them.

EXT. SANDY AND PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DUSK

Sandy and Peggy roast marshmallows.

Vigil gives them a batch of his feathers.

VIRGIL

Ladies, it's been an honor but I best be going as it's getting dark.

SANDY

Hey we still need blueberries for our world-famous blueberry muffins.

PEGGY

Yeah and they don't pick themselves you know.

Virgil groans, drooping toward a blueberry bush.

EXT. WHAMAZON WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

A fleet of white cargo vans are parked in a fog covered parking lot.

Dante runs up checking the back of a van.

DANTE

No roses.

Dante moves through the thick fog checking the other vans.

An outbound conveyor belt dumps thousands of Whamazon boxes into a Whamazon semi-truck at the shipping dock.

A MAN in a COWBOY costume exits the semi.

Pippi, as Dorothy, pulls up in her truck with Macvity sulking in his lion costume.

PTPPT

Howdy partner. You order a pumpkin?

COWBOY

Yes ma'am!

Pippi hops out handing him a big pumpkin.

Macvity spots Dante and leaps out the window.

Dante walks by the receiving dock.

A box truck unloads hundreds of new products onto an inbound conveyor belt.

MACVITY (O.S.)

Looking for someone?

Dante tenses up, scanning the fog.

Macvity pounces out of the fog knocking Dante down and grabbing him.

DANTE

Ouch!

Dante smacks Macvity in the nose, breaking free and darting off.

Macvity chases after him but his costume gets snagged on a pallet, whiplashing him backwards.

Dante leaps up onto the inbound conveyor belt, riding it into the warehouse.

Macvity howls, ripping off his costume and shredding it.

INT. WHAMAZON WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Dante hops off the conveyor belt onto the floor of a massive automated fulfillment center with a million retail products.

Robotic forklifts transport pallets of products alongside an overloaded network of conveyor belts.

Octopus shaped MACHINES sort everything as chirpy ROBOTS work the floor, digitizing and organizing the merchandise.

TIN MAN, a friendly HUMANOID ROBOT, supervises everything.

TIN MAN

Eight seconds until break time!

The CREW ROBOTS cheer. Tin Man's smart watch beeps an alert.

TIN MAN (CONT'D)

Sorry, we just got eight thousand more new orders.

The crew robots groan.

A SECURITY ROBOT rolls up scanning Dante as defective merchandise, triggering an alarm.

A remote control POLICE CAR with flashing lights and sires, screeches up.

DANTE

It's just one thing after another.

Dante runs down an aisle being chased by the police car and slips on the freshly waxed floor.

The car skids on the wax crashing into a stack of blinking hula hoops, knocking eight of them down around Dante.

Dante hops out of the blinking hoops.

A remote control POLICE HELICOPTER flies up shining a spotlight on him.

Dante bolts down anther aisle.

The chopper shoots out a net, snagging Dante up and flying him up across the warehouse.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Put me down jerk! I hate heights!

ALONSO, a GUINEA PIG with a Latino accent, operates the chopper and lands Dante down by an empty foreman's office.

ALONSO

Hola, I'm Alonso and this here is Tin Man.

TIN MAN

May I interest you in some mango flavored vitamin water?

Dante steps out of the net and chugs the water.

DANTE

Delicious! You guys seem super cool but I need get going to help my friends.

ALONSO

Perhaps we can help? We've got everything you could ever want right here. Food, clothes, computers and my personal favorite, coconut scented bubble wash.

DANTE

No, Beatrice has been kidnapped and I need to find her.

ALONSO

Describe her?

ROBOTS abandon their work stations to watch, leaving products to pile up on the conveyor belts.

DANTE

She beams like the sun, brighter than a torch. Like a jewel sparkling in the night. She's a bright angel among dark clouds, making everything full of light.

Alonso displays a simple stick figure sketch.

ALONSO

Ta-dah!

Dante grimaces.

Tin Man proudly presents his beautifully drawn portrait of Beatrice.

DANTE

That's Beatrice!

The robots cheer with loud beeping.

ALONSO

(at Tin Man)

Show off.

Alonso snaps her photo with his smart phone.

ALONSO (CONT'D)

My AI facial recognition should get a hit.

His phone flashes an agglomeration of mice and Beatrice pops up on Bluto's auction page.

DANTE

It's her!

TIM MAN

I've triangulated the IP address.

Tin Man prints out an illustrated map to Bluto's shop.

TIN MAN

It's only nine blocks away.

DANTE

It's going to be tricky getting in there past that big human.

ALONSO

I've got an idea.

All of the conveyor belt products are now backing up and toppling over onto the floors, setting off alarms.

TTN MAN

Uh-oh.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

Dante walks up a sidewalk with his map, sidestepping a WOMAN dressed up as BO PEEP.

FRIEDA, a GERMAN SHEPHERD with a German accent, is being chased by an ANIMAL CONTROL VAN.

She leaps over Dante, ducking into an alley.

Dante dives out of the way as the van swerves after her.

The van crashes into a trash can spilling out garbage. It then squeals in reverse and drives off.

Dante hears weeping sobs coming from the dark alley.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Frieda weeps in the alley.

DANTE

Are you okay?

Her bleeding back paw has a shard of glass stuck in it.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Here, let me help.

She winces as he yanks it out.

FRIEDA

Danke sehr. I'm Park Ranger Frieda.

Frieda shakes his hand.

DANTE

Why is a park ranger down here in this awful city?

BEGIN FLASHBACK: EXT. STATE PARK - DAY

Frieda darts through the woods, sniffing. Her owner, PARK RANGER CAROLINE, trails behind her down to a river.

FRIEDA (V.O.)

I was tracking a lost girl.

A scared little GIRL is stuck on a boulder in the middle of the river crying.

Frieda dives in to rescue her.

CAROLINE

Frieda you found her! Good girl!

Frieda swims the girl safely back to the riverbank. Caroline slips while pulling her out of the water, breaking her ankle.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Frieda I can't walk. Go get help.

Frieda races off with purpose.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Two PARAMEDICS put the girl and Caroline into an ambulance, shutting the doors on Frieda and driving off with flashing lights.

Frieda desperately barks after it, but can't keep up and watches with heartache as it speeds away.

EXT. STATE PARK - DAY

A dispirited Frieda stares at a dark boarded up cabin.

FRIEDA (V.O.)

They took Caroline away from me and boarded up our home. I've been searching for her ever since.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Dante looks at Frieda with compassion.

DANTE

You're the dog from the flyer. Caroline is at the city hospital and is looking for you.

FRIEDA

I know that place!

DANTE

It's been nice meeting you Frieda. But my friends need my help.

FRIEDA

Well what are we waiting for!

She flings him up onto the back of her neck and gallops off.

EXT. BLUTO'S STREET - NIGHT

Spotlights swirl above the Haunted House. Da-Sham is at the KBOO RADIO VAN tossing hats to a crowd of costumed hipsters.

DA-SHAM

Da-Sham here live on KBOO Radio with my main man Little Al. Yo, this haunted house is off the hook ya'll!

HIPSTERS

Da-Sham! Da-Sham! He's Da Man!

Chucky's lot is now full so he tows the smashed-up Whamazon semi onto Bluto's driveway, blocking Bluto's van.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Bluto calls 911.

911 DISPATCH (O.S.)

Hello, what's your emergency?

BLUTO

Little Al's stupid haunted house is ruining Halloween!

911 DISPATCH (O.S.)

Oh, I hear that place is awesome!

Bluto grimaces, hanging up.

His phone then rings showing it's from Pippi.

BLUTO

Hi Pipi!

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP/INT. WHAMAZON WAREHOUSE/SPLIT SCREN - NIGHT

Tin Man is on his phone impersonating Pippi's voice.

TIN MAN

(as Pippi)

Hi Bluto. I'd like two dozen pink roses and a dozen white orchids. And don't forget the petunias, they're my favorite.

Alonso and the Robots giggle. Tin Man shushes them.

TIN MAN (CONT'D)

(as Pippi)

Oh, and my truck is broken so can you deliver them to me. Pretty please?

BLUTO

You've got it! See you in a jiffy.

Bluto hangs up elated. Tin Man, Alonso, and the Robots laugh.

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Streams of toilet paper cover the porch. Bluto barges out with four dozen flowers and sees the Whamazon semi blocking his van.

BLUTO

Dang you Chucky!

Bluto presses the Goober App on his phone while Rambo naps.

A BOY and GIRL dressed up as ROCK STARS throw eggs at Bluto's shop and run off laughing. Bluto fumes.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Rambo wake up and guard the flower shop!

A GOOBER CAR pulls up and Bluto hops in with his flowers.

Rambo blows a raspberry as the car squeals off.

Frieda trots up with Dante in front of Rambo.

FRIEDA

I've got this.

Dante hops off of her.

FRIEDA (CONT'D)

Hi. That haunted house looks really fun. But, I'm afraid to go in all by myself.

Rambo rips off his costume puffing his chest.

RAMBO

Don't worry, I'll protect you.

Frieda winks at Dante and walks off with Rambo.

Dante scans the house for a way inside. The front door and windows are closed.

He spots the chimney and his eyes shift over to the tall gorilla's head by the roof.

DANTE

Face your fears.

Dante begins his tense climb up the roaring gorilla.

INT. GOOBER CAR - NIGHT

GOOBER DRIVER speeds down the street with Bluto in the back.

BLUTO

Slow down. I can't risk cross-pollinating my rose petals with the petunias.

GOOBER DRIVER

(sneezing)

Ahh choo!

Goober Driver slams his breaks. Bluto whiplashes forward, smashing into the back of the driver's seat.

GOOBER DRIVER (CONT'D)

I'm allergic to petunias!

EXT. GOOBER CAR - NIGHT

Bluto gets tossed out of the car on his butt. His flowers then fly out at him and the Goober Driver speeds off.

BLUTC

Come back I promised Pippi her petunias!

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE - NIGHT

Little Al sells tickets to a long line of people in costumes.

LITTLE AL

This is the best Halloween ever!

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE - NIGHT

Frieda and a scared Rambo enter a dark foggy GRAVE YARD.

MUSIC CUE: Campy Halloween music plays.

A GHOST flies by them and Rambo clutches Frieda.

RAMBO

What was that?

A wacky fang bearing DRACULA leaps out of a coffin.

DRACULA

I want to suck your blood!

RAMBO

Ahh!

Frieda shakes her head.

A ZOMBIE springs up grabbing Rambo.

ZOMBIE

I wanna eat your brain!

Rambo screams, tripping over a gravestone.

Frieda pulls him back up.

FRIEDA

Come on.

Rambo timidly hangs back.

Scratching suddenly comes from the wall and then stops at a PORTRAIT of a sleeping WITCH.

The Witch pops open her eyes hissing at Rambo. He freaks out, chasing after Frieda.

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE - NIGHT

Frieda and Rambo descend a creaking staircase and come upon a fun house mirror.

Rambo looks at his distorted reflection in it and squeals.

RAMBO

Ahh!

FRIEDA

It's just your reflection.

Rambo does a befuddled double take, feeling foolish.

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE - NIGHT

The dogs enter a strobe light room with giant cobwebs made out of silly string.

RAMBO

I don't like spiders.

FRIEDA

Scaredy-cat.

A huge animatronic TARANTULA springs out; scaring Rambo.

He panics, getting tangled up in the cobwebs.

FRIEDA (CONT'D)

It's just a puppet.

Rambo tears off the cobwebs.

He feels a soothing pat on his back, thinking it's Frieda.

RAMBO

Thanks.

Rambo realizes that Frieda is in front of him.

He turns around, coming face to face with a CREEPY CLOWN.

CREEPY CLOWN

Ha! Ha!

RAMBO

I hate clowns!

Rambo runs off screaming.

END MUSIC CUE

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Dante climbs up the Gorilla's nose when his foot slips.

He looks down at the ground on the verge of vertigo.

Dante takes a deep breath and continues up to the top of the gorilla's head.

He looks at the ground, prevailing over his fear of heights.

DANTE

I did it!

The gorilla sways towards the roof and Dante leaps for it.

Dante flies through the air just barely reaching and grabbing the front edge of the gutter.

Dante dangles from the gutter. He pulls himself up and scoots across the roof to the chimney and climbs up it.

Dante peers down into the darkness of the chimney.

He takes out the white rose petal Beatrice gave him.

DANTE (CONT'D)

For good luck.

Dante jumps down into the chimney.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Dante crash lands down into a fireplace.

EXT. CITY - NIGHT

Bluto lugs his flowers down a sidewalk when Pippi suddenly pulls up in her truck.

PIPPI

Bluto have you seen Macvity? I'm so worried. I can't find him anywhere.

BLUTO

No, but look I've got all the flowers you ordered including your favorite petunias! And hey you fixed your truck!

PIPPI

Petunias? My truck? I'm sorry but I don't know what you're talking about.

Pippi drives off leaving Bluto confused and sighing.

A SPORTS CAR pulls up with a MAN and a WOMAN in glow in the dark SKELETONS costumes.

MAN

Hey pops. Which way to Little Al's haunted house?

Bluto frowns, pointing away from the spotlights.

BT.IITC

It's that way.

WOMAN

Awesome!

The car peels off in the wrong direction.

A storm erupts with rain pouring down on Bluto.

Bluto fumes, slamming his now soggy flowers.

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Beatrice peers out of the cage, clinging to hope.

SUSIE

I want to go home.

Beatrice sees the despair in the children.

BEATRICE

We will. But, first let's do the Hokey Pokey.

(singing)

You put your right foot in, You put your left foot out,

SUSIE/SKIPPY/TINA/TIMMY

(singing)

You do the Hokey Pokey, And you shake it all about!

BEATRICE

(singing)

And you turn it all around, That's what it's all about.

DANTE (O.S.)

Beatrice!

BEATRICE

Dante!

Dante rushes in, hurdling over nine snapping Venus flytraps.

DANTE

Are you okay?

BEATRICE

Yes, just get us out of here. That's the key right there.

Dante scales up the table. The kids jump for joy.

SUSIE/SKIPPY/TINA/TIMMY

Yay Dante's here!

INT. BIG AL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Fluffy watches Beatrice and the kids on the laptop via Bluto's live feed, munching on popcorn and licking her chops.

PTJUFFY

Almost dinner time.

Dante suddenly appears on screen unlocking the cage and freeing the mice.

FLUFFY (CONT'D)

No!

Fluffy goes ballistic, smashing the laptop.

BIG AL (O.S.)

Hey, what's going on in there?

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Beatrice wraps her arms around Dante.

BEATRICE

I knew you'd find us! I just knew it!

EXT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Bluto sneers in the rain at Little Al's popular haunted house.

The gorilla sways, roaring at him.

BLUTO

This is the worst Halloween ever.

A dark figure with a pointy hat stands in his yard.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Hey you get off my lawn.

Lightning flashes lighting up a SCARECROW - scaring Bluto.

The Princess, Gypsy and Ladybug pop out behind the scarecrow pelting Bluto with tomatoes.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Ahhh!

INT. BLUTO'S SHOP - NIGHT

Dante places Beatrice's pink scarf on her.

DANTE

I found your scarf.

She kisses him and he blushes.

SUSIE/SKIPPY/TINA/TIMMY

(singing)

Dante and Miss Beatrice, Sitting in a tree, K-i-s-s-i-n-q!

A slamming door reverberates throughout the shop.

BLUTO (O.S.)

Rambo!

DANTE

He's back.

Beatrice eyes the glass walk-in floral cooler.

BEATRICE

I've got an idea.

INT. BLUTO's SHOP - NIGHT

Bluto stomps into the kitchen, not noticing the cooler's door is propped open by his pitchfork.

BLUTO

Talkpod any new bids on my mice?

TALKPOD, his sardonic virtual assistant, replies.

TALKPOD

Miss Fluffy bid ninety thousand.

BLUTO

Woo-hoo!

His face drops at the sight of the empty cage.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

No! Talkpod what happened?

TALKPOD

What does it look like? They got away, duh!

Bluto sees his tubs of ice cream melting on the floor.

BLUTO

My ice cream!

Bluto follows the melted ice cream streams into his cooler.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Hello? Any little mice back here?

Dante yanks out the pitchfork and the kids push the door shut.

Bluto charges at them but slips and falls on the ice cream.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Ouch!

Beatrice is up on the door lock and slides the bolt latch down, locking Bluto inside.

BEATRICE

Say cheese!

Bluto gets up pounding on the door.

ВТДТО

Let me out!

Beatrice turns the thermostat down below freezing and the cooler becomes instantly covered with icy frost.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

No don't do that! Talkpod stop them!

TALKPOD

Sorry that does not compute. How about a super fun Halloween song?

Talkpod lights up, playing the silly "Goblins" song.

TALKPOD (CONT'D)

(singing)

Ghosts and goblins! Spooky and scary! Trick-or-treating goblins! Without them Halloween's no fun!

Bluto shivers as a thick layer of ice forms all over him. Freezing and transforming him into a human ice sculpture.

The kids cheer.

Beatrice free-falls down into Dante's arms, eyeballing the doggie door.

BEATRICE

I know a way out.

INT. WHAMAZON WAREHOUSE/INT. GOOBER CAR/SPLIT SCREEN - NIGHT

Tin Man is on a video call with Goober Driver. Alonso and the crew robots watch, ignoring their work responsibilities.

GOOBER DRIVER

What's shaking Tin Man?

TIN MAN

Your mission, should you choose to accept it is to drive Dante and the mice back home up to Mount Paradiso.

GOOBER DRIVER

What's in it for me?

EXT. CITY - NIGHT

Dante, Beatrice and the kids cross a network of railroad tracks in the rain when a train suddenly charges up.

DANTE

We've got to beat that train!

They break for it, barely clearing the tracks just as the train speeds by.

The train's wind gust sends the mice into the air. They crash land, catching their breaths.

EXT. SHIPYARD - NIGHT

Dante, Beatrice, and the kids walk through an eerie shipyard.

Two dark figures scoot across a ship under construction.

BEATRICE

What was that?

A pipe sprays steam followed by scary footsteps.

DANTE

We need to hide.

Dante, Beatrice and the kids duck under a boat up on blocks.

Macvity emerges from the steam.

Two CATS, WITCHIEPOO and AZRAEL, hop off the ship flanking him.

Macvity scratches his claw along the boat.

MACVITY

(sing-song)

One, two, Macvity's coming for you. Three, four, mice make for yummy hors d'oeuvres.

Dante, Beatrice, and the kids hide under the boat.

DANTE

Get the children someplace safe.

BEATRICE

I'm not leaving you.

DANTE

I'll find you.

Dante bolts out, ducking under another boat up on blocks.

The cats chase after him as Beatrice herds the kids away.

The cats check under the boat but Dante is nowhere in sight.

MACVITY

Find the others.

Witchiepoo and Azrael dart off.

Macvity leaps up onto a fork lift.

MACVITY (CONT'D)

Hickory, dickory, dock.

The mouse ran up the clock.

Macvity jumps up onto the top scaffolding board of a boat.

MACVITY (CONT'D)

The clock strikes two and the mouse becomes cat food!

Dante charges out twirling two screws like katana swords.

Macvity flicks open his deadly claws, unhinged.

INT. WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Beatrice and the kids hide under a workshop table.

Witchiepoo and Azrael strut in.

WITCHIEPOO

Little mice don't be scared. We just want to invite you to dinner.

AZRAEL

You mean for dinner.

The creepy cats cackle.

EXT. SCAFFOLDING - NIGHT

Sparks fly as Dante and Macvity battle it out.

Macvity slams Dante against a guard rail knocking the screws out his hands.

Macvity cocks his claws over the helpless Dante.

Mr. Roach and ninety of his COCKROACH family members charge out blitzing Macvity with grit.

MR. ROACH

We've got your back Dante!

Macvity snarls, smacking and kicking them off.

Dante and the roaches rally. Attacking and overpowering Macvity and shove him off of the scaffolding.

Macvity falls backwards howling, crashing and splashing down into a bucket of green paint.

All of the roaches cheer. Dante high-fives Mr. Roach.

High-pitched buzz sawing comes from the workshop.

DANTE

Beatrice!

INT. WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Witchiepoo and Azrael clumsily wield buzzsaws.

A hot water tank creaks.

The cats spin around accidentally slicing the tank and steam sprays out in their faces.

Beatrice runs up, scorching their tails with a welding torch.

The cats squeal running for two buckets of water and plop their tails into them sighing with relief.

EXT. SHIPYARD - NIGHT

Beatrice and the kids dash out of the workshop into the rain.

Dante whistles for them to follow him.

EXT. SHIPYARD - NIGHT

Dante, Beatrice and the kids sprint across a courtyard.

Macvity, dripping in green paint, leaps out blocking them.

MACVITY

Dinner time.

Macvity swipes at Dante, barely missing him.

Witchiepoo and Azrael run up hissing and trapping the mice.

Dante and Beatrice protect the children. Dante swings his staff but Macvity swats it away.

The cats go in for the kill when Crook and Rasp charge up with ninety rowdy SEWER RAT PIRATES.

CROOK

No mouse left behind!

PIRATE RATS

G'yaaaarrrr!

The rats attack the cats with gusto, hacking at them with their swords and a violent battle erupts.

RASP

Run Dante!

Dante, Beatrice and the kids run away.

Macvity clobbers twenty rats.

Crook stabs Macvity's foot. Macvity howls.

CROOK

Gotcha ye no good gator!

TINK

Not a gator, just a big green cat.

Tink stings Macvity's nose.

MACVITY

Ouch!

TINK

Ka-Caw!

The rats blitz the cats with fierce sword blows sending them cowering off.

The rats celebrate waving their swords.

PIRATE RATS

(singing and dancing)

Yo ho ho and a whole ton of fun! It's a pirate's life for me!

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Dante, Beatrice, and the children rush across the shipyard's parking lot in the rain. Thunder claps.

Macvity leaps out, pinning them all down by their tails.

Lightning flashes, illuminating Macvity's demented face.

MACVITY

Which one of you shall I eat first?

He flicks open his claws. The children tremble.

MACVITY (CONT'D)

(at Beatrice)

Eeny,

(at Timmy and Tina)

Meeny,

(at Skippy and Susie)

Miny,

(snarling at Dante)

Moe!

Frieda charges up barking.

FRIEDA

I don't think so!

Frieda seizes Macvity in her jaws. Thunder claps.

She shakes him around like a rag doll and launches him up against a power transformer. Macvity crashes into it.

Lightning strikes it electrifying the transformer and the wailing cat.

The crispy burnt Macvity limply slides down to the ground.

MACVITY

I'm telling my momma Pippi on you!

Macvity sulks off with his tail smoking between his legs. The mice cheer, hugging Frieda.

DANTE

Frieda you saved us!

FRIEDA

Always protect your friends.

She pecks him on the cheek and walks off wagging her tail.

The Goober Car pulls up flashing its lights. Beatrice and the kids hop in the open back door. Dante sees Rasp slouching in the rain.

RASP

Will I fit in up there on the mountain?

DANTE

Trust me, you're going to love the great outdoors.

INT. GOOBER CAR - NIGHT

Dante and Rasp hop in the car, pulling the door shut.

GOOBER DRIVER

Tin Man says you've got something for me?

Dante gives him the diamond from Heiress's necklace.

GOOBER DRIVER (CONT'D)

Mama Mia!

The silly Goblins song plays on the radio as he zooms off.

GOOBER DRIVER (CONT'D)

I love this song!

(singing)

Ghosts and goblins! Creepy, creepy, goblins! They make Halloween so fun!

Dante glances back at the city with a look of good riddance.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAWN

Florence remains in shambles with the townsfolk sifting through the wreckage, salvaging what is left.

Dante, Beatrice, Rasp, Timmy, Tina, Susie and Skippy hike up under the rising sun. Rasp takes a deep breath.

RASP

Fresh air and sunshine!

Sally runs up hugging Beatrice.

SALLY

Beatrice!

Everyone else rushes up and a joyous homecoming commences. Skippy, Susie, Timmy, and Tina embrace their elated parents.

VIRGIL

(at Dante)

I knew you could do it!

Odette, Vladimir, Natasha, Anastasia, Mikhail, Siegrried, Yuri, Sophie, Albert and Renfred hug Dante with high-fives.

DANTE

I hate to be a party pooper, but we've got a lot of work to do before the humans return.

The townspeople gasp with fear.

MAYOR MOUSE

We've got to hide!

DANTE

No. We've got to work together to stop them.

BEATRICE

There's a gravel pit near by. It'll make for a great trap if we can lure them in.

RASP

We could build a decoy town in the pit.

All eyes turn toward the shy tall sewer rat.

DANTE

Everyone, meet Rasp. He's an expert handyman. Rasp, this is everyone.

Rasp humbly waves to his new friends.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Sally, gather some people and sew together the biggest nets you can.

She nods affirmative. Dante holds up a saw and hammer.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Everyone else follow me.

EXT. CITY DUMP - DAY

MUSIC CUE: A pompous battle score plays.

Bluto, Heiress and Miss Von race their quads through the dump with Rambo, Margo and Mongo riding in their sidecars.

King Fly and his flunkies scatter with Margo and Mongo snatching at them with their forked tongues.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

The Raccoon, Skunk and Weasel stir their brew.

They then dive out of the way screaming as the three quads race up the logging road, running over their cauldron.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

The quads stop at a fork in the road.

A sign pointing down the left reads "Mice Village That Way."

The three humans drive down the narrow trail. Margo and Mongo laugh at Rambo as thorn bushes whip against his face.

Mr. Squirrel shoots a nut up in the sky with his sling shot.

EXT. GRAVEL PIT - DAY

A flimsy plywood replica of Florence is in the pit with silly bobblehead dolls of mice.

Dante and Rasp peek down.

RASP

I could build a nice town square to make it look more authentic.

DANTE

Nonsense, you did great.

Dante sees the nut in the sky signaling the humans are here.

The three quads burst out, tearing up the pit.

Rambo gags on dust as the snakes whoop it up.

The humans do wheelies over the fake town, reducing it to rubble while scooping up fake mice with their pole nets.

They stop and remove their helmets as the dust settles.

END MUSIC CUE

Bluto pulls out a bobblehead of Dante. It bobs, mocking him.

Bluto throws a tantrum stomping on the fake Dante.

Rambo snickers.

MISS VON

Hey, I need real mice for my experiments!

HEIRESS

And my snake is hungry!

BLUTO

Don't worry we'll find them.

Virgil sits in a tree with QUEEN BEE and her BEE ARMY.

VIRGIL

Thanks again Queen Bee.

She winks and leads the bees down attacking the women.

Miss Von and Heiress scream, speeding off out of control.

Carnival Mouse releases the Ferris wheel with peanuts spilling out of the gondolas as it rolls away.

Rambo chases the wheel downhill, gobbling up peanuts.

All seven swans fly over bombing Bluto with rocks, knocking him down.

BLUTO

Ouch!

Beatrice is up above with mice manning smoke bomb catapults.

Susie, Skippy, Timmy, Tina, Albert, Renfred and Sophia spark pebbles together, lighting the smoke bombs.

BEATRICE

Fire!

The mice launch their bombs, covering Bluto in smoke.

Dante and ninety war whooping mice paratroop down from trees with parachutes made out of leaves.

The smoke dissipates revealing Dante and the paratroopers binding Bluto down with strings.

Bluto shrieks as ten EARTHWORMS slither across his face.

Two DRONES with video screens of Alonso and Tin Man fly up.

ALONSO (ON DRONE SCREEN)

Hi Dante!

TIN MAN (ON DRONE SCREEN)

We're here to help.

DANTE

Thanks guys! They went that way.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Mr. Sherrif blows his whistle and Miss Von skids to a stop.

Mr. Sherrif runs into the thickets.

Mongo chasing him.

Ten mice duck down a rabbit hole.

Miss Von gets on all fours, peeking down the hole.

Miss Florence sneaks up, tying a rope around her foot.

Billy Goat holds the rope's other end and gallops off dragging a screaming Miss Von into a patch of wet mud.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Heiress pulls up to a shallow river as one hundred mice dart into the bushes.

Margo springs out of her sidecar after them.

The children's marching band play music across the river.

Heiress drives in after them.

The two drones fly over, popping her tires with shooting darts leaving her stuck in the river.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Papa Beaver and Jr. Beaver release their dam upstream.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A surge of water floods over Heiress, carrying her off downstream screaming.

The marching band plays a loud victory song.

EXT. MEADOW - DAY

Margo and Mongo corner a hundred fleeing mice.

The drones swoop down, transforming into COMBAT ROBOTS.

Margo and Mongo arrogantly attack them, snapping their fangs.

The drone robots snatch the yelping snakes with their steel pincers, smacking and immobilizing them with electric shocks.

Sally and Biff fling nets over the snakes.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

The Ferris wheel crashes into a food court.

Rambo catches up to it.

RAMBO

Finally some real food.

Miss Baker gives him pretzels and he pigs out.

TROUBADOUR

Snow cone?

Rambo slurps down a snow cone, giving him a brain freeze.

A tiny wooden clown car wobbles up. Ten MICE CLOWNS hop out triggering Rambo's fear of clowns.

RAMBO

Clowns!

The clowns clobber Rambo with bowling pins. Rambo steals some pretzels and runs off.

EXT. POND - DAY

The drones fly Margo and Mongo above a pond in their nets and suddenly lose power.

TIN MAN (ON DRONE SCREEN)

Did you charge the batteries?

ALONSO (ON DRONE SCREEN)

Oops.

The drones die out, nosediving into the pond.

EXT. GRAVEL PIT - DAY

Bluto remains tied down with Mr. Woodpecker pecking his face.

BLUTO

Ouch!

Rambo runs by with his pretzels.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Rambo help me!

EXT. POND - DAY

Margo and Mongo slither out of the pond spitting out water.

EXT. SANDY & PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DAY

Sandy and Peggy relax in rocking chairs, eating blueberry muffins.

SANDY

What's all that ruckus coming from town?

PEGGY

Probably another dumb parade.

Margo and Mongo slither up.

MARGO

You thinking what I'm thinking?

MONGO

Breakfast time!

Margo and Mongo flash their fangs, hissing.

SANDY

Can't you read the signs?

PEGGY

No trespassing!

Sandy and Peggy brutally whack them with their brooms.

Mongo and Margo cower off whimpering into the woods.

SANDY

Bad enough we've got to put up with that dumb Harvest Festival but now snakes?

PEGGY

This neighborhood is going down the toilet.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

All of the townsfolk mice convene at a big boulder, cheering.

BEATRICE

We did it!

Their celebration is cut short as the three humans march up with their pole nets.

Bluto has welts on his face, Miss Von is covered in mud and Heiress is soaking wet.

The frightened townsfolk quiver.

Dante defiantly steps forward.

DANTE

Go back to your stinky city! This is our mountain!

His courage inspires everyone to join him against the humans.

Miss Von, Heiress and Bluto close in on the mice, scoffing.

A rising shadow engulfs the humans.

Their faces go wide-eyed with horror as Babbitt emerges up on the boulder, roaring.

Pete sits up on her head waving his pickaxe.

PETE

Yippee-ki-yay!

Babbitt pounces down pounding on the three humans.

She thrashes them around like rag dolls, smacking them against the boulder.

Babbitt then tosses the humans over a cliff.

Their screams taper off as they plummet down the cliff.

The mice celebrate, cheering and hugging Babbitt.

Babbitt returns to her bashful self; embarrassed by all of the attention.

Snow starts to fall.

MAYOR MOUSE

What are we going to do? It's snowing and we've got no place to sleep tonight!

Babbitt whispers into Pete's ear.

PETE

Babbitt says there's plenty of room for everyone in her cave.

Everyone jumps for joy.

EXT. CANYON FLOOR - DAY

Rambo eats his pretzels in the snow while Bluto sobs.

BLUTO

Nothing ever goes right for me.

Rambo licks his face, feeling sorry for him.

Bluto blows his nose and sees a stunning flower.

BLUTO (CONT'D)

Wow, the most rarest of the North American Myosotis indigo magenta! Rambo we're back in business! Woo-hoo!

Bluto jumps for joy. Rambo smiles, happy for him.

EXT. CITY - DAY

A large greenhouse with "Bluto's Flower Emporium" painted on it is next door to Pippi's Pumpkin Patch.

DANTE (V.O.)

And the big dumb human finally got his wish of growing lots of flowers.

Bluto gives Pippi roses.

She smiles, handing him a big pumpkin. It's too heavy for him and drops him down into the snow.

Rambo sniffs his vegan dog food. He takes a bite and spits it out.

Macvity nails Rambo with a snowball.

Rambo charges after him barking.

Macvity leaps the fence and sticks his tongue out, blowing a raspberry at Rambo.

INT. BABBITT'S CAVE - NIGHT

The cave is full of tiny mice campsites with families roasting marshmallows as Babbitt snores.

DANTE (V.O.)

At night we stayed safe and warm inside of Babbitt's cave while she hibernated.

EXT. FLORENCE - DAY

Rasp, Sophie, Albert and Renfred help the townsfolk repair their homes in the snow. Dante and Beatrice distribute berries to the hungry.

DANTE (V.O.)

But everyday, everyone worked together at rebuilding our hometown of Florence.

EXT. SANDY & PEGGY'S COTTAGE - DAY

Rasp raises a tall "No Trespassing" sign in front of Peggy and Sandy's cottage.

DANTE (V.O.)

Rasp even found time to help my grumpy sisters.

Peggy and Sandy clink their tea cups in approval.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DAY

Virgil, Odette, Siegrried, Natasha, Vladimir, Yuri, Anastasia and Mikhail perform a dazzling ice-skating ballet on a frozen lake.

DANTE (V.O.)

Virgil and the swans found a big beautiful lake to call their very own.

ANIMAL CHILDREN from all over the mountain cheer them on with Susie, Skippy, Tina and Timmy sitting front row.

EXT. MOUNT PARADISO - DUSK

A tiny snowman sits in front of a cozy cottage with a white picket fence. A red mailbox has "Dante & Beatrice" on it.

DANTE (V.O.)

And Beatrice and I found a quiet spot outside of town to call home.

Dante and Beatrice sip hot coco in their backyard. The city lights twinkle far off in the distance as snowflakes fall.

DANTE

(into camera)

I must admit I did have a pretty awesome adventure down in the big city. But, I don't ever want to go back there. Not even for all the cheese in the world.