

SHEEPISH

Written By

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FADE IN:

We see a huge mass of gum trees on a flat hill. There is brown grass extending every direction down from the trees. Everything is dirty. Everything is brown. We are in Australia.

EXT. FARM - DAY

At the bottom of the hill there is a fence. There is a cattle grid (rectangular hole covered by a metal grid) at the midpoint along the fence. A road runs up from the cattle grid to the top of the hill, parting the trees as it goes. Sheep are massed on either side of the fence.

A lone sheep, SHAUN runs down the road. He runs through the rest of his flock. He kicks up dust behind him. He runs up to the cattle and stops.

On the other side of the cattle grid stands another sheep, MAY.

She stares at Shaun. Shaun stares at her. We linger on the pair for a while.

May makes a gesture with a swish of her head, "Come here." Shaun plucks together all his courage. He takes a step onto the grid and...

Falls.

Shaun is stuck in the cattle grid. May is concerned. Shaun can't get out.

EXT. FARM - DAY (LATER)

Shaun has escaped from the cattle grid. He is pacing back and forth, trying to figure out how to get across the cattle grid.

May stands diligent on the other side of the grid. She could wait forever.

EXT. FARM - DAY (LATER)

It has been quite a while since the pair first met. The sun is beginning to set. However, Shaun has an idea.

Shaun runs at the cattle grid with all his little sheep heart. He reaches the cattle grid.

He leaps.

He falls. All four of Shaun's legs are stuck in the cattle grid. His look says "Bugger." May stands firm.

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

Shaun has fetched some sticks. He puts them across the cattle grid, making a bridge across the empty chasm. He puts one of his hooved feet on the sticks. They are stable. He puts another hoof on the sticks and...

Falls.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Shaun has jammed rocks in between the bars in the cattle grid. He takes his first step onto the stones and...

Falls.

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

Shaun has made a ramp out of sticks atop stones, leading up and over the fence. He steps up onto the ramp. His balance is precarious. He takes more steps. He is nearly at the top. Shaun is almost united with May! He takes the final step towards the top of the fence and...

Falls.

EXT. FARM - DAY

May stands at the cattle grid, no less interested in Shaun than at their first meeting. Her head races back and forth as Shaun collects the tools he needs.

Shaun has finished building. He has constructed a makeshift ladder out of sticks and grass. He places it over the cattle grid. The sticks are very thin. Shaun walks out onto the ladder and tries to cross. He slips and...

Falls.

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

May hasn't moved.

The huge mass of sheep is standing next to the cattle grid, swaying back and forth. Shaun is perched atop the sheep, like a rock star riding the crowd. The sheep are trying to ferry him over to the cattle grid. He is nearly there and...

Falls...

Upside down onto the cattle grid. He is so close. May is exited. Shaun rolls his legs over to May's side of the cattle grid. His feet are on the ground on the other side! He tries to stand up and...

Falls.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Shaun has finally surrendered. May is disappointed. They mope around. Suddenly...

A car drives up the road on May's side of the cattle grid. The car is big and cannot fit over the cattle grid.

Shaun looks up.

A FARMER gets up and walks over to the gate beside the cattle grid. May runs up to him and begins to dance around him.

FARMER

Alright, alright. Bloody sheep.

He opens the gate. May runs through the gate, overjoyed. She tackles Shaun and they roll up into one giant ball of sheepy wool. Happy.

INT. UNKNOWN - DAY

Shaun and May are standing atop a podium at the end of a wooden room. There are sheep making rows, looking up at the happy couple. The situation resembles a wedding.

PAN AWAY

to see that the gathered sheep are inside a truck. There is a MAN checking the back of the truck. He finishes.

MAN

All right. She's good. Close her up.

The door on the back of the truck slams shut. On it is written "Henderson's Abattoir".

The truck drives down the road and off into the distance.

FADE OUT.

THE END