

THE CHIP 'N DALE'S RESCUE RANGERS
REBOOT NO ONE ASKED FOR

Written by

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THE MOVIE'S OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE PLAYS OVER...

The classic CHIP 'N DALE RESCUE RANGERS OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE AND THEME SONG. A montage of all the famous moments from the show: the team of CHIP, DALE, MONTEREY JACK, GADGET, and ZIPPER fighting Professor Nimnul, Fat Cat, a gator, and more! Chase sequences! Runaway trains! Flying through a storm! Finding clues and catching criminals! It's all there!

OPENING CREDIT SONG
*Sometimes, some crimes/ go slipping
through the cracks/ but these two
gumshoes/ are picking up the slack...*

THE IMAGES START TO BECOME WARBLLED, THE COLORS FADING, THE EDGES FEATHERING. THE SINGER'S VOICE STARTS TO WARP.

OPENING CREDIT SONG (CONT'D)
*There's no case too big, no case
too small/ when you need help just
call...*

NOW THE VOICE TAKES ON A SLOW, MESSED UP TONE...

OPENING CREDIT SONG (CONT'D)
*CH-CH-CH-CHIP AND DALE. RESCUE
RANGERS. CH-CH-CH-CHIP AND DALE.
RESCUE RANGERS...*

As the logo of the show hits the screen, with CHIP AND DALE smiling their big sweet toothy smiles, THE IMAGE AND SONG WARP BEYOND RECOGNITION, TEARING INTO PIECES...

As we PULL OUT TO:

EXT. FLEA MARKET - DAY

We REVEAL this was a VHS tape of the *Rescue Rangers* being played on an old TV/VCR combo that's stopped working and now gets thrown out. We're in a flea market stall filled with old DVDs and VHS tapes, in the middle of a ramshackle parking lot flea market. THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN hangs in the background.

A gravelly NOIR NARRATOR starts in...

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Hollywood. Tinseltown. Screenland.
Glitzburg. The Big Celluloid. You
know all the names. Everyone in this
town is desperate for something...

INT. STUDIO SOUNDSTAGE

A director calls "CUT!" on a scene as we REVEAL the scene he's directing is an ANIMATED CARTOON (think the show *Pickle & Peanut*).

THE ACTORS ARE ALL CARTOONS, WHO NOW WALK OFF THE ANIMATED BACKDROP AND INTO THE REAL WORLD, AS WE SEE CARTOONS AND REAL-LIFE HUMANS SEAMLESSLY INTERACT (À LA ROGER RABBIT).

NARRATOR (V.O.)
From the newbie actors getting
their shot in the bigs...

PICKLE
I'm just gonna take a soak while
they set up the next shot.

A P.A. brings PICKLE a huge Vlastic pickle jar for his feet.

EXT. INTELLIGENTSIA COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Hipsters and cool, young cartoons (in the styles of very modern cartoons like *Archer*, *Bojack Horseman*, or *Robot and Monster*) sip coffee and struggle on their computers at a trendy coffee spot.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
...to the Silverlake wannabe
screenwriters scrambling to write
the next summer blockbuster.

An animated BEAVER working on a yellow note-pad absent mindedly chews on his pencil until it's all gone.

BEAVER
(realizing)
Dang it.

A bus drives by with a movie poster for *CITIZEN KANE 2: GONE SLEDDING* (an action movie with Charles Kane as a hero snow-boarder).

EXT. SHERMAN OAKS - DAY

Interspersed between human commuters exiting the front doors of nice apartment complexes, we see OAK TREES that serve as apartment complexes for animated MONKEYS, GORILLAS, and CHIMPS, who swing down with their briefcases.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
From the status climbing junior
execs out in burbs dressed up in
their monkey suits...

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

We watch the terrible TRAFFIC OF THE 405. Human drivers jockey through lanes alongside ANIMATED TALKING CARS.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 ...to the road raging commuters on
 the 405...

BENNY THE CAB (FROM ROGER RABBIT)
 We're late for work, ya moron!

ROGER RABBIT honks BENNY'S horn. In the background is a billboard with Cameron Diaz in man makeup. The tagline reads: "CAMERON DIAZ IS... MISTER DOUBTFIRE."

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS - DAY

Old timer Hollywood big shots do lunch alongside old-fashioned Disney style cartoons, many of whom are still in black and white. We land on an animated CAT-FISH in a suit sitting at a table.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 To the big-fish producers lunching
 in Beverly Hills.

CAT-FISH
 I need something to sell upstairs. A
 reboot, a remake, a prequel, a sequel.
 Just nothing new. Whaddya got?

OLD PRODUCER
 It's called "Gone With The Wind...
 And Mummies"!

CAT-FISH
 I like it. I like it a lot.

He buries his head into his plate of pasta and gobbles it up.

INT. DINGY HOLLYWOOD APARTMENT - DAY

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 They're all desperate to squeeze a
 buck out of anything they've got.

A big, intimidating (animated) GOON stands in the doorway of FLOUNDER's apartment (the fish from *The Little Mermaid*).

GOON
 Time to pay up.

Flounder, clearly frightened, holds up a FORK.

FLOUNDER
 (desperate)
 Isn't it neat?

The Goon just shakes his head NO.

FLOUNDER (CONT'D)
Come on! This is a genuine
dinglehopper! It's worth a lot.

GOON
I know how you can pay us back.

The Goon grabs Flounder and drags him off.

INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY

A BOOTLEG VIDEO HAWKER (who is an ANIMATED HAWK) shouts from the station platform selling black market DVDs:

BOOTLEG VIDEO HAWKER
CD! DVD! CD! DVD!

We ANGLE ON a BOOTLEG DVD CASE, an illegal rip-off of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, titled "*THE SMALL FISHLADY.*" Flounder is on the cover, but his appearance has been changed somewhat: new eyes, differently colored stripes, weird lips.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And when you don't got nothing left
to squeeze, they'll squeeze some
more.

The hawker gets cash for one as a COP shouts at him to STOP! The hawker wraps up his wares and escapes onto an exiting train.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Squeeze you till you're nothing but
slime in the sewer. A sweat stain
on a bus seat...

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

The marquee outside a mid-rate convention center reads "AUTOGRAPH AND NOSTALGIA EXPO."

NARRATOR (V.O.)
... Gum on a tire.

A car pulls into the lot and drives over some gum.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

We come in to a sprawling expo; hundreds of booths for paraphernalia dealers and old mid-rate TV and movie stars signing autographs (an equal portion of which are live-action humans and cartoon characters).

ANGLE ON:

A big stage set up in the back, the spotlight hits the center curtain, as an audience of dorky, middle-aged fanboys, stomp their feet and passionately clap with anticipation.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)
ARE YOU READY FOR THE STAR OF THE
DAY?!?!

We CLOSE ON DALE, listening to the announcer, waiting. He wears his trademark Hawaiian shirt from the show. He looks different than he did in the TV series in the early 90s. **HE'S A CGI DIGITAL ANIMATION NOW.** Even though he's clearly aged, he's doing everything in his power to keep fit and tight.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.) (CONT'D)
YOU KNOW HIM FROM THE DISNEY
AFTERNOON!

The crowd goes wild.

BACK TO CLOSE ON DALE taking deep breaths, psyching himself up.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
YOU'VE SEEN HIM IN YOUR LIVING ROOM
SO MUCH HE'S PRACTICALLY PART OF
YOUR FAMILY!

The crowd is apoplectic with excitement.

BACK TO CLOSE ON DALE rehearsing what he's going to say.

DALE
(under his breath,
rehearsing)
It is such an honor that you all
came to see me, I don't just
consider you my fans. I consider
you my friends.

The stage shakes from the stomping and clapping.

ANNOUNCER
PLEASE WELCOME TO THE STAGE...

Dale takes a deep breath...

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)
BALOO!!

BALOO (the new giant CGI BEAR from the rebooted *Jungle Book*) walks through the curtain onto the stage and basks in the applause. He looks 'cool', wearing shades and a leather cuff bracelet.

We REVERSE TO REVEAL that on the other side of convention center floor is Dale, who sits in a lonely little booth, watching the stage from afar, imagining that it was him up on that stage.

In the booth next to him is ERIK ESTRADA (banner reads "Erik Estrada from *Chips*") who leans in.

ESTRADA

You're doing the thing again. Where you get that Ariel, "Part of Your World," look.

DALE

Huh? What? No, I'm not--

We CUT WIDE to see in the booth on the other side of Dale is in fact ARIEL from *The Little Mermaid*. They have THE EXACT SAME LOOK, except Ariel is posing for a picture. The picture snaps, the fan leaves and she lets out a deep breath.

ARIEL

These Spanx are killing me.

Dale snaps out of it, getting up to walk in place, while checking his STEP-TRACKER.

DALE

I don't wanna be Baloo, but you gotta admit that Jungle Book reboot is doing wonders for his career. Remember all those years he was sweatin' it out here with us in the *Tailspin* booth?

ESTRADA

That's the point. It could happen for any of us. Just gotta keep grinding. Did I tell you, A&E approached me about maybe doing a reality show where I work on cases with the FBI.

DALE

(jealous disbelief)

Really? You're getting a show? You? The FBI? A&E? You?

(clearly full of it)

Yeah, well, I actually have a bunch going on too. Lot of heat behind this Rescue Rangers reboot. I'm getting a ton of Facebook likes on the fan page -- with enough momentum, I think we could actually get a Kickstarter.

(MORE)

DALE (CONT'D)

Oh, and the other day I ran into Johnny Galecki at SoulCycle and floated him the idea of being a part of the reboot, and he didn't commit to it, but he *did* let me buy him a juice, soooo post-BBT- that's "Big Bang Theory"- I think he's as good as in. Yup, so I'm doing real good too, this reboot is going to happen fo-sho.

Just then, ALLAN, a pasty middle-aged superfan, approaches Dale, his camera phone already recording. Dale perks up to finally have a fan, getting into performance mode.

ALLAN

Dale! I'm finally getting to meet you. I was sure there was going to be a longer line.

DALE

Well, you missed the rush.

ALLAN

Oh my god, I have so many questions for you, I'm such a big fan.

DALE

Ask away. Anything for a fan.

ALLAN

(rehearsed speech)

Is it true that you back-stabbed Chip to get your own spin-off without him?

DALE

Whoa. Well, it's a lot more complicated than that, uhh, how about instead we take a selfie?

ALLAN

Awesome!

DALE

On three, say "Rescue Rangers!"

ALLAN

...can you say it in the voice?

DALE

OK. But only because I consider my fans my friends.

Dale takes a deep breath, then strains his voice to reach the HIGH-PITCHED CHIPMUNK VOICE we're accustomed to on the show.

DALE (CONT'D)
 (high-pitched)
 Rescue Rang--

ALLAN
 (quickly forgetting Dale)
 Oh my god, is that Baloo?! The king
 of the Disney afternoon!? I gotta
 get a selfie with him!

Allan runs off, immediately forgetting about Dale. Dale
 longingly watches Baloo's circle of admirers grow.

BALOO
 I'm buying everyone here cheesy
 crust pizza!

The crowd around Baloo goes crazy!

DALE
 (calling after Allan)
 Don't forget to join the fan page:
www.facebook.com/RebootCHIPnDALE!

ESTRADA
 (re: Allan leaving)
 Ouch. Fairweather friends, huh?
 (then)
 By the way, I can't come over on
 Friday anymore, something... better
 came up.

Dale sinks.

DALE
 (putting a positive spin)
 It's probably better. I really
 should spend Friday updating the
 fan page.

ESTRADA
 You know you could probably drum up
 a lot more hype for the reboot if
 Chip was involved.

DALE
 Sure. Only problem is Chip hasn't
 returned my call in years. I think
 the guy's got a huge head...

INT. DOWNTOWN BAR - DAY

A raucous group of humans and cartoons squeeze around a small
 table, waving wads of money around, placing bets. CHIP,
 sitting at the table, his cheeks filled to the brim with
 walnuts, his head huge. **HE'S STILL A CLASSIC 2D ANIMATION.**

Sitting across from Chip is a Michael Bay-esque TRANSFORMER, also with a mouth bursting with walnuts. The Transformer sweats as he struggles to push another walnut in his mouth, without letting the rest fall out. It's finally in.

BARTENDER
 (refereeing)
 Ninety eight! That's 98 nuts in the
 Transformer's mouth!

The crowd cheers, and then looks to Chip, his turn again. Even though Chip is a 50th the size of the Transformer, and his mouth is very full, he seems perfectly calm and confident. He speaks clearly through his clenched teeth.

CHIP
 (sarcastic)
 Wow. I don't know about this. I've
 never done ninety-nine before.
 (then, to the crowd)
 What do you guys think?

The crowd cheers him on.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 OK, here goes nothing.

Chip takes a walnut from the table, and puts it in his mouth without a problem. The crowd ERUPTS!

BARTENDER
 Ninety nine! That's 99 nuts for the
 sarcastic chipmunk!

CHIP
 (smiling, clenched teeth)
 Must be my lucky day.

The Transformer looks on in shock. Reluctantly, he brings another walnut to his trembling mouth. He forces it into his mouth and closes his lips tight. But before he can celebrate, he GAGS and ALL THE NUTS COME SHOOTING OUT OF HIS MOUTH, rifling into the head of nearby WEASEL.

BARTENDER
 Disqualified! We have a winner!

The crowd goes nuts, various people slap Chip five, as bets are paid up. Chip calmly removes the walnuts from his mouth, and collects his winnings from the table.

CHIP
 And to think, all my teachers said
 my big mouth would only get me in
 trouble. Well, it's been a
 pleasure, you are all gentleman and
 scholars.

Chip gets up to leave, when the bartender grabs him by the arm.

BARTENDER

Now I remember where I know you from! You're from that Rescue Rangers show, aren't you?

CHIP

(irked by being recognized)
Nope. Wrong guy. I've just got one of those faces I guess. Well, thanks for the hospitality.

Chip gets up, walking through the raucous crowd, past the still dizzy Weasel lying on the ground with TINY ANIMATED YELLOW BIRDS circling his head. Chip EXITS.

YELLOW BIRD 1

(to another bird)

Hey! Ron! I haven't seen you since that Pee Wee hockey tournament.

YELLOW BIRD 2

Oh, that was a good gig. So many dizzy kids.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BAR - DAY

Chip puts his winnings in his inner coat pocket, bundles up against the wind, and starts walking, when suddenly the bar door swings open. The TRANSFORMER comes out, ANGRY.

TRANSFORMER

Hey chipmunk. The bartender just told me you're an actor from some kid's show.

CHIP

Nope, children's TV is stupid. I'm just a guy you lost a bet to, fair and square.

TRANSFORMER

You put on an act and hustled me. I want my money back.

CHIP

You clearly have money management issues, why don't I just hold on to it for you for safe keeping.

TRANSFORMER

(towering over him)

Money. Now. Or else.

CHIP

Well when you put it that way, I
guess I have no choice...

Just as it looks like Chip is going to hand over the money,
he MAKES A RUN FOR IT!

TRANSFORMER

Hey! Get back here!

EXT. DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS - DAY

Chip books it around the corner, bumping past pedestrians,
cartoons and humans alike. It's a real "Ferris Bueller" run.

CHIP

(to angry pedestrians)

Excuse me! Pardon me! Looking good
ladies!

(to a tourist)

Be sure to check out the Bradbury
Building. It's a must!

The Transformer turns the corner FURIOUS, and CHARGES at
Chip, bowling over the same pedestrians.

Chip looks back, the Transformer is gaining on him. As the
chase ensues we notice the BACKGROUND OF THEIR SCENE KEEPS
REPEATING ITSELF- like an old wrap around animation cell. The
stores all have the same couch, chair, and lamp in the
window.

When we PULL WIDE we see a banner hanging over the street
that reads "WELCOME TO THE COUCH, CHAIR, LAMP DISTRICT!"

Chip runs into a store.

INT. HISPANIC BAKERY

Chips bursts in frantically, hoping run out through the back.

CHIP

DO YOU HAVE A BACKDOOR--

Suddenly he stops when he sees something in the pastry case.

CHIP (CONT'D)

(totally calm)

Oooh, is that sopaipilla? You never
see these. I'll take a dozen.

Chip grabs a box full, and drops a twenty. Just then the
Transformer STORMS IN.

TRANSFORMER

Get back here!

CHIP
Keep the change. Gotta run!

Chip runs out the back door.

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - DAY

The Transformer bursts out of the door but doesn't see Chip.

We see Chip is burrowed away in the tailpipe of a car, receding into the distance.

CHIP
(calling back)
Goodbye! So long! Au revoir! Auf
Wiedersehen! Bon Voyagey! Peace
out!

The Transformer watches him go, helpless and infuriated.

EXT. KOREATOWN STREETS - LATER

As the car passes a street corner in Koreatown, the streets filled with Asian immigrants and Anime characters alike, Chip pops out of the tail pipe and shakes off the soot. He looks pleased with himself as he begins to whistle his way towards a crummy old apartment building in front of him.

He walks up the stairs, tipping over a flower pot without breaking stride, that then serves as the last step for him to reach the key hole, which is otherwise too tall for him.

INT. KOREATOWN APARTMENT BUILDING

The elevator DINGS as it reaches the floor. The door does not open, even though we hear Chip still whistling on the other side. Suddenly the door is pried open with a spatula, and Chip emerges, leaving the spatula on the other side of the door for next time.

Chip walks past an open apartment door that has an old Korean lady inside feeding her cats. He holds up the box of pastries.

CHIP
(calling inside)
Brought you some sopaipilla, Mrs.
Kwong.

MRS. KWONG
My favorite! You never see these
anywhere!

CHIP

I know.

(then)

How's the trumpet lessons coming?

MRS. KWONG

Pretty good!

Chip walks past and does an elaborate jiggle of his key to unlock the door to his apartment (a short Chipmunk-sized door inside the regular door), as he ENTERS.

INT. CHIP'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Chip walks into his small studio apartment. He takes a huge sigh of relief, happy to finally be alone in his element again. It's pretty no-frills, a bed, TV and a dresser. He starts his routine; absentmindedly flipping on the hot pot to cook a ramen, flips on the TV, passes a half done puzzle on the table.

CHIP

(re: puzzle piece)

Ooh there's the bottom of the rowboat!

He puts the piece in happily and goes to the dresser.

In the background we hear the TV blare...

TV (O.S.)

Alvinnnnnnn!

Chip sees a commercial for another piece of garbage *Alvin and the Chipmunks* movie.

TV (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Alvin and the Chipmunks are back!
And this time, they're rapping!

We hear Tag Team's "Whoomp! (There It Is)" in the background.

ALVIN (O.S.)

(bad rap)

*Chipmunks, back again. Check it,
rodents, let's begin, party on
party possums--*

CHIP

Ugh. Of course they're rapping.
Always gotta make the cartoons rap.

TV (O.S.)

This Friday, Alvin and the
Chipmunks 18: "Up Chips Creek"!

Chip turns the TV off, and digs in towards the back of the bottom drawer of his dresser. He takes out the wad of money from his jacket, and hides it in there with the rest of his savings.

Next to the money is a METAL POG (one of those early 90s collectible circular game pieces) with CHIP AND DALE on it, looking young and happy. CHIP PICKS IT UP AND STARES AT IT WISTFULLY FOR A MOMENT.

He puts it back, hides it again in clothes, then closes the drawer... When suddenly out of the corner his eye he notices his land-line phone's message button is BLINKING RED.

CHIP
Huh? No one calls here.

He gets up confused, and presses play on the voice-mail.

MONTY (VOICE-MAIL)
G'day Chipper! It's me, your Rescue
Rangers co-star, Monterey Jack!

CHIP
(to himself)
... Monty?

MONTY (VOICE-MAIL)
I know we haven't spoken in...
Well, a long time... but I'm in a
heck of a lot of trouble and I
could use some help. From a friend.
I'd really appreciate if you could
come see me at my place.

Chip is confused, not sure what to do. We hear a moody Noir trumpet blare.

CHIP
(calling off)
Sounding good Mrs. Kwong!

MRS. KWONG (O.S.)
Thank you!

EXT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - MORNING

Chip nervously stands outside Monterey Jack's house, holding the piece of paper with the address on it. He takes a deep breath and knocks on the door.

MONTEREY JACK ("MONTY"), a mouse, Australian, more manic than we remember him from the show, opens the tiny door within the door for Chip, ushers him in and shuts it right behind him.

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - MORNING

Monty looks out a peephole at his eye level.

MONTY
 (paranoid, frazzled)
 Quick, get in while the coast is
 clear. They're always watching me.

His place is a ramshackle mess.

CHIP
 Who is? What's going on?

Monty stops and looks at Chip, then gives him a big hug.

MONTY
 Oh, it's been too long Chip.

CHIP
 Yeah, I sorta disappeared for a
 while, it's just-- I'm sorry what
 is that god awful smell?

Monty whips out an old cologne with Chip and Dale on it.

MONTY
 You don't remember? Rescue Rangers
 Cologne! I wear it every day.

CHIP
 Yeah, it got recalled for causing
 rashes and staying in your skin for
 days.
 (then)
 Monty, what am I doing here besides
 testing my gag reflex for the
 unnatural smell of almond butter and
 Polo Sport? I haven't seen you in
 forever and you call me out of the
 blue, tell me you're in trouble.

Monty puts his head down, ashamed.

MONTY
 I screwed up, Chip. My love of
 cheese got the best of me, and I
 bought more than I could pay for.

CHIP
 Oh no. Cheese? Monty.

MONTY
 I know. But I haven't done it in
 weeks.

Just then, an alluring animated WAFT OF SMELL LINES emanate
 through the kitchen door.

CHIP
Then what is that?

MONTY
Oh crud, it's a real stinky
Gorgonzola, you weren't supposed to
see that...

Monty tries to push the smell lines back into the kitchen,
but it becomes a hand that finds its way into his nose,
sending him into a cheese-induced daze, his mustache twirling
and eyes spinning, that then LIFTS HIM OFF THE GROUND.

MONTY (CONT'D)
(in a daze)
...ch-ch-ch-cheeeese...

CHIP
Monty! You're six feet in the air
and getting higher!

Chip grabs the cheese from the kitchen and tosses it out the
window. Monty falls to the ground, out of his daze.

MONTY
(crying)
I'm sorry, Chipper. I'm so ashamed.

CHIP
It's OK Monty. We'll get you help.

MONTY
It's not just that Chip. I also owe
a ton of money to the Valley Gang
and I don't know what to do.

CHIP
The Valley Gang?! Monty, those guys
are bad. I've seen a lot of
cartoons get in deep with them and
never come out.

MONTY
If I can't pay up, they're gonna
bootleg me. Heard they did it to
that little guy Flounder when he
fell behind on payments for krill
pills.

Monty picks up a stack of bootlegged DVDs for different
editions of *Little Mermaid* knockoffs, each starring Flounder.

MONTY (CONT'D)

They changed him around just enough to skirt by copyright laws, then smuggled him overseas to a black market studio where he'll spend the rest of his life being forced to churn out terrible bootleg movies.

CHIP

I won't let that happen. You were always such a good friend to me. Never let me down. I really missed you, ya big galoot.

MONTY

I missed you too, Chipper.

They share a moment. But just then, there's a BANG on the door. Startled, Monty and Chip hide behind the couch.

MONTY (CONT'D)

AHHH! It's them! They're here!

DALE (O.S.)

Hello?

CHIP

(realizing)

Is that...

Monty opens the door to find Dale, checking his step-tracker.

DALE

That's nineteen steps to get up to your apartment. You do a couple of those a day and you're in good sh--

MONTY

Quick, get in.

Monty ushers Dale in. Dale finally looks up to see Chip. There's a lot of tension. Neither knows what to say.

DALE

Chip...

CHIP

Dale...

DALE

So what's been up... the last twenty years?

CHIP

You know. This. That. Other vague things to fill the space of this conversation.

DALE

Well you look... uncombed.

CHIP

And you look desperate with that ridiculous CGI surgery you had done. I can barely recognize you.

DALE

(defensive)

It's no secret I've had work done. And it's done wonders rejuvenating my career. I'm actually the headliner in a stage revue that opens tonight.

CHIP

(to Monty)

What is he doing here?

MONTY

I called him for help also...

CHIP

Oh, were you looking for someone to stab you in the back? Cause Dale is your man.

DALE

Chip, I've told you before. Many times. I'm sorry. I made a huge mistake taking Double-O-Dale behind your back. Everyone else has accepted my apology, why can't you?

CHIP

You're only sorry because Double-O-Dale was a flop. You put a price on our friendship. And it didn't pay out. If the price was right, you'd sell us out again.

DALE

Hey, I don't just look out for myself. For instance, this Rescue Rangers reboot that everyone's been buzzing about is for *all* of us! Someone even started a Facebook fan page. I hear Johnny Galecki is interested.

MONTY

Crikey! Johnny Galecki! Talk about a career with a second act.

CHIP

He's full of it, Monty. No one's talking about a Rescue Rangers reboot except for him. There's nothing left to reboot. We weren't even the most popular show on the Disney afternoon. We were like 3rd OUT OF 4.

(to Dale)

Look at you, wearing that filthy old shirt, hoping to get recognized. Uch, you're the same guy you always were, Dale.

(then to Monty)

Monty, I'm all for helping you, but I can't be around this guy. You know how to reach me if you wanna talk.

Chip storms out, SLAMMING THE DOOR.

EXT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - CONTINUOUS

Chip begins walking away, furious...

EXT. LOS ANGELES STREET - NIGHT

Chip walks down the lonely streets of Los Angeles, braced against the wind, muttering to himself.

CHIP

Come over to try and help Monty, and Dale ambushes me with talking about a reboot. It's revolting how he thinks he can squeeze a dollar out of essentially nothing.

He looks up and sees a billboard for an animated movie starring a shrimp. The tagline reads, "If you loved the restaurant based on the movie, you'll love the movie based on the restaurant... BUBBA GUMP'S SHRIMP FACTORY."

CHIP (CONT'D)

I've been perfectly fine without them. That's why it's better to just not have friends.

INT. THEATER - DRESSING ROOM

Dale in front of a mirror puts on some makeup and a white lab coat/doctor's costume. He seems lonely. Behind him, another ACTOR in a doctor's costume passes by.

DALE

Hey Mark -- you guys wanna come over to my place after the show tonight? I'll buy everyone cheesy crust pizza.

MARK

Uhhh, I think I'm gonna be busy...

Mark walks off toward the other actors. In the background Dale can hear them start to snicker at him.

MARK (CONT'D)

...Ew, I think the ironic guest performer wants to be friends. He just asked me to a pizza party.

Dale sinks.

INT. BUBBA GUMP SHRIMP COMPANY

Chip sits alone in a booth drinking a coffee. He watches two friends sitting nearby, laughing and eating shrimp. Clearly he wishes that were him. But he catches himself.

CHIP

(to himself)

Whatever. Nice to have all this elbow room to myself.

Just then one of the friends starts choking. The other friend gives him the Heimlich as the shrimp pops out of his mouth. Friendship saved this guy's life!

CHIP (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Whatever. Stiff chair back is just as effective.

The WAITRESS, annoyed, approaches him.

WAITRESS

You can't just keep having the free refills of coffee. You need to order something. We have pineapple shrimp, lemon shrimp, coconut shrimp--

Just then Chip's cell phone RINGS. Chip looks at it quizzically, then picks it up.

CHIP

Hello? Who's this?

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. CHIPPENDALE'S NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Dale stands outside of the Chippendale's night club, wearing the signature bow tie, a doctor's lab coat, and no shirt. The marquee for the club reads: "Special Guest dancer Tonight, Dale (From Chip N' Dale Rescue Rangers)."

DALE

It's Dale, don't hang up.

(then)

I just got a call from the police. Monty's been kidnapped. They're at his place now.

CHIP

(in shock)

What? Are you serious?

DALE

The cops are asking for a statement from us. I'm gonna head over to Monty's. I'll meet you there?

Chip struggles with what to do, as the waitress continues.

WAITRESS

...Shrimp soup, shrimp stew, shrimp and potatoes...

EXT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - LATER

Dale sits on Monty's stoop, as Chip walks up.

DALE

Chip, you actually came. Thank you.

CHIP

I came for Monty.

They head inside.

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - LATER

Chip and Dale enter to find the place ransacked. There's been a bad tussle. Cops fill the place (both human and cartoon), searching for clues.

DALE

Whoa. Be careful where you step, you don't wanna -- OWWWWW!

Dale steps on a knocked over potted cactus.

ANGLE ON: SGT. PUTTY, a no-nonsense, Gumby-esque, STOP-MOTION CLAYMATION detective, finishes dusting for fingerprints -- by delicately laying his clay hand on a surface and then pulling off a perfect replica of the print on his arm. He slices off a sliver of his clay hand and gives it to two underling cops: a MARIO BROS. STYLE MUSHROOM HEADED MAN and a HEAVYSET HUMAN (OFFICER TOAD and OFFICER MORELLI).

SGT. PUTTY
 (to an underling)
 Take this to the lab.
 (noticing Chip and Dale)
 You the friends of the victim? What
 you got for me? Any known enemies
 or threats?

CHIP
 He told us he was in debt to the
 Valley Gang. I feel terrible. I
 should've done something, but...

SGT. PUTTY
 That checks out. We found a note in
 the kitchen about Valley Gang
 debts.

DALE
 He was afraid of being bootlegged
 since he was somewhat of a star in
 the early nineties.

Sgt. Putty has no idea what he's talking about.

DALE (CONT'D)
 He was on the Rescue Rangers...
 (no response)
 We were on the show together...
 (no response)
 Chip and Dale, Rescue Rangers.
 (no response, sings)
When there's danger--

SGT. PUTTY
 Never heard of it. Well, it eats me
 up inside to have to tell you this,
 but if he's been taken by the
 Valley Gang to be bootlegged, I
 doubt we can help you. We've been
 trying for years to track these
 sleaze-bags, but we got nothing.
 Their organization is impenetrable,
 always one step ahead of us.

CHIP
 Wow. That's it? I thought the cops
 were supposed "serve and protect,"
 not "give up and move on."

SGT. PUTTY

Hey! I'd give anything to be able to make a case against those scum. They're getting rich, while we look like fools.

Just then a young, human female cop, ELLIE STAKOWSKI (think Ellie Kemper) approaches. She's eager, excitable, wide-eyed, and clearly the youngest person on the force.

ELLIE

Sir, we're all done in here.

SGT. PUTTY

Good. Also, Officer Stakowski, do I have anything on my back?

He turns around to reveal all sorts of things have stuck to him accidentally.

ELLIE

Yes sir, looks like the Monopoly game piece shaped like an iron.

SGT. PUTTY

Just want ONE DAY where my shirt stays clean.

(shouting to everyone)

Let's pack it up, boys!

He EXITS, as the other cops start packing up, too. Ellie leans in to talk to Chip and Dale privately.

ELLIE

(whispered)

Hey, Ellie Stakowski... I'm a huge fan. I actually became a cop because as a little girl growing up in Albany I wanted to be just like you guys.

CHIP

That was a TV show. Not real.

DALE

Chip! Inspiration is inspiration. And we're honored. Do you want a selfie or want me to sign something?

ELLIE

I shouldn't on the job, but I just want you to know I heard what Sgt. Putty said to you and I don't think it's hopeless. From everything the cops know about the Valley Gang, Monty is being held in their secret bootlegging facility.

(MORE)

ELLIE (CONT'D)

The whole process takes two days max. The problem is no one knows where the bootlegging facility is. If you can find it, I'll bet you find your friend.

CHIP

Why are you helping us?

ELLIE

(in the cadence of the theme song)

Hey, sometimes, some crimes, go slipping through the cracks. But *this* gumshoe is picking up the slack.

DALE

(delighted, a little smitten)

Nice! Like the song. You're funny. (then, to Chip)
She's funny. You see, Chip, she's not letting the case slip through the cracks--

CHIP

I got it, Dale.

ELLIE

If there's anything I can do to help, off the record, I will.

She EXITS with the other cops. Dale looks to Chip expectantly.

CHIP

What's that look?

DALE

You heard her. We should go find Monty ourselves.

CHIP

What? Are you kidding?

DALE

No! Who better to rescue Monty?

CHIP

Uhhh, literally anyone.

DALE

Cause from where I'm standing there's only one crime fighting team that can solve this case!

CHIP

No. Don't be an idiot. I want to find Monty but we're not detectives.

DALE

Look, I know we're not close anymore, but this is about Monty. Monty always loved you, and we're all he has. We can't just let him rot in some overseas studio the rest of his life.

CHIP

Fine, I'll take you downtown. I think know a couple people I could ask about where Monty might be. We'll see what we can find out and pass it along to that officer lady. But that's all I'm gonna do.

DALE

So you're saying the Rescue Rangers are back!

CHIP

I didn't say any of those words. And there is no such thing as Rescue Rangers. Case closed.

DALE

Case!?

CHIP

Didn't mean case! Not a case, because we're not real detectives.

DALE

Buuuuut you did say case.

INT. DALE'S CAR - DAY

Dale drives his beat-up 1991 Mercedes Benz convertible, retrofitted to fit him.

DALE

You were sensing a vibe between me and that officer lady also, right?

CHIP

Nope. Not at all.

(then)

I can't believe you still have this car.

DALE

Why wouldn't I? She still runs like a dream.

WIDEN TO REVEAL the car is barely chugging along, spewing gray smoke.

DALE (CONT'D)
Little work done on her, and she'll be back to her glory days.

CHIP
You realize this awful car is just a very on-the-nose metaphor for yourself, right?

DALE
Chip, can we at least try to be pleasant to one another? If we're gonna solve the case of "The Missing Monty" -- that's just a place holder name, open to any ideas -- we're gonna have to work together.

CHIP
We're not working--

Just then Dale's cell phone RINGS.

DALE
Just a second, Chip, gotta pick this up. Might be my agent, Dave Bugliari.
(into phone, hopefully)
Dale here...
(deflated)
No, I would not like to add Starz to my cable package for an extra \$5.99 a month.

Dale hangs up the phone.

CHIP
How's your agent? Got something big lined up?

They've entered in a shady part of downtown. The walls are plastered over with torn and fading movie posters for "WAZE The Movie: Traffic's Never Been This Fun!"

CHIP (CONT'D)
Park. We're close.
(not looking at Dale)
And leave the top hat and cane in the car.

REVEAL Dale is taking a costume hat and cane with him.

DALE
How'd you know I was...

CHIP
Cause you're you.

DALE
Look, if we're gonna act our way into the confidence of some ne'er-do-wells, we need to look the part of someone they would respect. So, much like the plot of episode 411, "The Great CAT-sby," I'll dress up as an important business magnet--

CHIP
You mean "magnate?"

DALE
I think I know my own character, Chip. And he wears a top hat.

Chip and Dale look around this shady part of downtown. They cross a track bearing a sign that reads "Wrong Side."

DALE (CONT'D)
I've heard this place is pretty shady. You think Monty is being held here?

CHIP
No. I think he *was* here. The cheese guy Monty got his cheese from and owed money to is here...

Chip leads them around the corner to...

EXT. MAIN STREET

AN IDYLIC, CLASSIC-LOOKING MAIN STREET STRAIGHT OUT OF THE DISNEY THEME PARK.

CHIP
(ominously)
...on Main Street.

This place looks delightful -- probably the exact little town set from *The Muppets'* "Life's a Happy Song." Shopkeepers of all stripes; bread bakers, fishmongers, flower girls, etc. poke their heads out SINGING about their products and their wonderful town. Cartoons and puppets alike. They walk in.

DALE
Oh. Wow. It seems kinda nice. It's not what I pictured.

CHIP

It's worse. It's a bunch of cartoons trading on their wholesome public image to keep the cops away and bring you the slimiest backwater bazaar of contraband this side of Guadalajara. Nothing, and I mean nothing, is sacred in this part of town.

BREAD BAKER

(singing)

*Bread for sale, bread for sale/
everybody loves bread for sale!*

CHIP

He sells untraceable weapons.

SHOESHINER

(singing)

A shiny shoe makes the man/ a shiny shoe, now there's a plan!

CHIP

Stolen social security numbers.

FLOWER GIRL

(singing)

Roses are a way to make a girl feel pretty/ You'll get her to kiss you anywhere in the city!

CHIP

Dog fights.

A Muppet-style puppet cheesemonger, BJORNSON, sticks his head out of the window of BJORNSON'S Cheese Shop.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

(singing)

It's sticky & chewy & licky & gooey/ I've got cheese for me-ey & you-ey!

CHIP

(to Dale)

I think this is our guy. Just play it cool, let me do the talking and be careful.

(to cheesemonger)

Hey, Mr. Bjornson, do you have cheese for sale?

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

(jovial)

Of course I have cheese, little fellas! This is a cheese shop, isn't it? We've got muenster, gouda, brie-

CHIP
 (knowing)
 Do you have any... stinky cheese?

The cheesemonger's face turns dark.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER
 (serious)
 You cops?

CHIP
 Nah. We just wanna know if we can
 buy some *stinky* cheese. The
stinkier the better.

The door to the shop opens and the cheesemonger ushers them in, making sure the coast is clear.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER
 Come on. Come on. Get in.

INT. BJORNSON'S CHEESE SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Once inside, we see that we are not in the kind of cheese shop we thought from the outside window.

The room is filled with CARTOON MICE AND RATS. They float in the air, following the smell lines of stinky cheeses, which sit on tables and shelves of various heights.

The smell lines from one piece of cheese fill SPEEDY GONZALES' nose as he floats up toward it.

SPEEDY
 Andale, andale, arribaaaaaaahhh...

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER
 So, you want stinky cheese? I got
 smell lines that will take you
 through the ceiling.

CHIP
 Actually, the truth is, we aren't
 here for cheese. We're interested
 in bootlegging.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER
 (tensing up)
 I don't know what you're talking
 about. Either buy some cheese or
 get out.

Dale shifts his demeanor. He gets into "acting" mode, propping up his top hat on his head.

DALE

(aristocrat voice)
Perhaps we should. With the
disrespectful tone this felted
clodhopper takes, I shan't be doing
business here.

CHIP

(sotto to Dale)
What're you doing?

DALE

I'm an important business magnet! I
shall have no trouble *attracting*
other suitors for my gigantic deal.
Because that's what magnets do.
They *attract*. Business.

Dale gives a cocky side look to Chip: "nailed it."

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

What do you mean?

CHIP

(figuring it out)
What I think my partner is trying to
say is we have personal
relationships with many down-on-
their-luck cartoon celebrities from
yesteryear, and we think they'd be
worth lots of money to a *bootlegger*.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

Oh, yeah? And how do you know all
of these old cartoon actors?

Dale takes off his top hat: "Ta-da!"

DALE

Because we're actors! Ah, ha! It's
been me, Dale, this whole time!

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

Uhhh, who?

DALE

We had one of the biggest kids show
on TV in the nineties...

BJORNSON THE PIEMAKER

Definitely never heard of it...

(then, interested)

A deal this big, I gotta run up the
ladder to my boss.

CHIP

Great. So if you'll just give us
the address, we'll meet you there.

Off the Cheesemonger's incredulous look...

INT. FOOD DELIVERY TRUCK - LATER

Chip and Dale are blindfolded, sitting in a windowless, refrigerated back of a food truck amidst assorted cheeses.

CHIP

I can't believe this. My life was perfectly fine before you dragged me into this mess.

DALE

I had to improvise. Sometimes great actors must do that. And you picked it up and ran with it. Classic "Yes And."

CHIP

This isn't a scene! We're blindfolded on our way to see "the boss!" What do you think is gonna happen to us when he figures out we're full of it? And what is your plan exactly? Just ask him to tell us where he keeps the cartoons he plans to bootleg?

DALE

Yeah, that's pretty much the plan, but replace the word "ask" with "act!"

CHIP

(that doesn't make sense)
"Act" him to tell us where he keeps the cartoons he plans to bootleg?

DALE

Oh, you knew what I meant -- it was a dramatic flourish.

CHIP (CONT'D)

How are we gonna pull this off when you don't even know how verbs work?

They begin SQUABBLING IN THAT FAST OVER-TALKY WAY THAT THEY'RE FAMOUS FOR AS CARTOON CHARACTERS. It's nearly unintelligible.

DALE

HEY, HOLD ON A SECOND!

Chip pauses for him.

DALE (CONT'D)

How adorable are we?! Chemistry like this doesn't just happen. This has reboot written all over it.

CHIP

Uch, I should be home finishing my row boat puzzle right now.

DALE

Look, we don't have many options. Ellie said the Valley Gang bootlegs fast, two days max. That means they're probably bootlegging Monty somewhere, as we speak. And "the boss" knows where he is.

Chip considers this. As the car stops:

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER (O.S.)

We're here.

CHIP

Fine. For Monty, I'll go with your certain-to-fail plan.

The Cheesemonger OPENS the back door to let them out.

EXT. INDUSTRIAL PARK - CONTINUOUS

They get out of the car. The Cheesemonger un-blindfolds them, and they look around, immediately confused.

DALE

Where are we?

CHIP

I think we're in the Valley. The Uncanny Valley.

We're in a sparse part of town. Some people walk by, but they don't exactly look or move like real people. The textures are all too smooth and one-dimensional. We realize they're animated CGI cartoon people. Even the trees, cars, buildings, and a stray cat are animated in an uncomfortable semi-realism.

CHIP (CONT'D)

(sotto to Dale)

Remember that weird animation style of the early 2000s where everything looked "real" but nothing looked quite right?

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER

Come on, this way...

The Cheesemonger leads them toward a huge warehouse. He knocks on a metal gate. It lifts up to reveal a tough looking CGI WARRIOR DWARF named BOB (also in a dated CGI animation style, think Seth Rogen, but slightly animated to be shorter and hairier), with a long red beard, wearing a metal helmet.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
Who are you?

Chip and Dale don't respond.

DALE
(sotto to Chip)
Is he talking to us?

We see, as is the style of old CGI cartoons, that HIS EYES ARE FLOATY AND DON'T REALLY LAND ON ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR.

CHIP
(sotto to Dale)
I can't tell.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
I said, who are you?!

CHIP
I'm sorry, are you talking to us?

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
Who else would I be talking to?

DALE
Honestly, your eyes are looking nowhere near us.

CHIP
(agreeing)
It looked like you were talking to that branch.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
(very sensitive)
Are you saying my eyes look weird?!
Is that what you're saying?! That I'm a "weirdo eyes?"

CHIP
We definitely never used the term "weirdo eyes," so that feels like projecting.

BJORNSON THE CHEESEMONGER
(trying to move on)
We've got some business for Mean Dean. He's expecting them.

CHIP
Oh. His name is "Mean Dean." Sounds like a reasonable guy. Likes rhyming.

This satisfies the Warrior Dwarf enough. He begins patting Chip and Dale down to look for weapons. All clear.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
 (to someone inside)
 OPEN IT UP!

The large gate retracts, REVEALING THE ENTIRETY OF THE WAREHOUSE...

INT. VALLEY GANG WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The Warrior Dwarf guides them in. Several more awkwardly animated CGI goons, like a CGI Polar Bear, look on menacingly, their body movements feeling jagged and unnatural. The Warrior Dwarf escorts them onto the platform of a SCISSOR LIFT and begins slowly driving them through the factory, through what we now see to be rows upon rows of stacked giant boxes.

CHIP
 So is this the bootlegging facility?

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
 No way. Almost no one knows where Mean Dean has that place hidden.

Chip and Dale clock this.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF (CONT'D)
 This is Mean Dean's legit business.
 It's a warehouse for old merchandise that never got sold.

The Warrior Dwarf slowly maneuvers the lift so they just avoid hitting objects, as they turn the corner of an aisle to start seeing the open boxes and what's inside. The boxes are filled with massive amounts branded t-shirts, toys, tchotkes, etc: five hundred *Stitch* dolls, one thousand *Zach & Cody* backpacks, five thousand *Hannah Montana* curling irons.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF (CONT'D)
 A show gets canceled, but they've already made a thousand *The Brothers Flub* shoe horns. Well, somebody has got to take care of that trash.

Dale passes a box filled with toys from the failed *The Emperor's New Groove* TV spin-off. Dale gets face-to-face with the Bucky the squirrel toy, which very clearly resembles him.

DALE
 I mean, I'm sure some kid would like a toy. It's not necessarily all garbage.

As they continue forward a HORRIBLE RHYTHMIC MECHANICAL CLANG starts to become audible.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
 You're right, they're not all
 garbage.

They turn the corner to REVEAL... A FACTORY for disassembling
 the toys and merchandise.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF (CONT'D)
 Mean Dean buys up all this junk for
 pennies on the dollar, then strips
 the useful parts.

The lift travels through the crevasses of the conveyor belt,
 as they watch one of the squirrel toys enter. A machine grabs
 it and violently plucks off its arms, legs, and head. More
 robot hands separate the metal springs and screws into a
 tray. The glass eyes are ripped out and smashed, and the
 remaining plastic body parts are melted into a scorching
 furnace. Dale looks on, mortified.

The melted plastic drains into a mold, and finally out of the
 other side comes... a PORT-O-POTTY with a logo for "MEAN
 DEAN'S LATRINE."

DALE
 (mortified)
 At least some construction worker
 somewhere will get to enjoy it...

CHIP
 You gotta appreciate that irony.

They arrive at an ominous office door.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
 We're here.

The lift lowers to door height and the Warrior Dwarf knocks.
 Chip and Dale look terrified, as it feels like the clang of
 the factory is getting more and more intense... A BOOMING,
 SCARY VOICE shouts from the other side.

MEAN DEAN (O.S.)
 COME IN! NOW!

CHIP
 (whispering to Dale)
 Still think this was a good idea?

DALE
 Uhhhh---

The Warrior Dwarf pushes them inside, against their will...

INT. MEAN DEAN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The door slams shut behind them. Chip and Dale are horrified as Mean Dean's giant chair slowly, menacingly turns toward them until they can finally see him, and he's...

SANTA CLAUS. Not literally Santa Claus, but his rosy red cheeks, flowing white beard and shiny nose are all dead ringers for Santa Claus. He smiles a big Santa smile at them, as he eats some macadamia nuts from a bowl on his desk. Even though **HE'S A CGI CARTOON** in the uncanny valley of animation, he's not intimidating at all (think John Goodman, just slightly animated). The guys are relieved.

DALE

Oh, thank god.

CHIP

Yeah, you are not who I was expecting.

MEAN DEAN

You mind if I walk while we talk?
I'm trying to get my steps in.

Mean Dean rises and indicates the Step-tracker clipped to his belt, then begins pacing.

DALE

Oh, I've got one of those! Wanna link accounts and motivate each other?

MEAN DEAN

(moving on)

So, you got business for me?

DALE

Yeah, we've got the inside track on every old toon desperate for a dollar. Launchpad McQuack, The Tramp, like twenty-seven of the 101 Dalmations.

CHIP

That's right. You name 'em, we can get you 'em.

MEAN DEAN

You wouldn't feel bad about selling out your friends? Your fellow actors?

CHIP

(looking at Dale)

Actors sell each other out all the time for a buck. Everything has a price.

This stings Dale a little. Mean Dean smiles at this.

MEAN DEAN

Exactly. Sequel, prequel, expanded universe. Repackage it, remake it, re-imagine it, reboot it. Nothing's sacred.

CHIP

That's been my experience.

MEAN DEAN

I used to be an actor myself...

As Mean Dean continues, we FLASHBACK TO...

INT. SHOPPING MALL - FLASHBACK

An ADORABLE, INNOCENT 2D SANTA CLAUS (Dean, pre-Mean) stands in front a Toyota Giveaway in a mall, handing out flyers.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)

Mostly seasonal stuff for shopping malls, just struggling to get by. And then I get my big break.

An AGENT DISCOVERS HIM, putting his arm around Dean.

INT. STUDIO BOARDROOM - FLASHBACK

ANG LEE unveils a movie poster to Dean and a room of EXECUTIVES.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)

Ang Lee's directing a CGI Christmas epic about Santa's origin story. Called "Nick." Gonna be real classy. They tell me I'm gonna be a big star.

He unveils a dark, brooding teaser poster for *Nick*, some overwrought Hollywood prequel.

Dean looks so excited, when an EXECUTIVE puts his arm around Dean and begins to lay it out for him...

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)

But first, they say I need to look a little more updated, modern, cool. I trusted them. Which was my first mistake.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Dean nervously breathes in the anesthesia, as an animation operating team closes in on him.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)
 So I go under the digital knife,
 get this new computer-generated
 look everyone's raving about.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - LATER - FLASHBACK

The doctors remove the bandages from his face, to reveal Mean Dean as we know him now: an awkward CGI animation.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)
 But when the surgery is done, they
 say they don't like how I look
 anymore. Say I make everyone
 "uncomfortable."

Everyone in the room's faces scrunch uncomfortably.

EXT. LOS ANGELES STREETS - FLASHBACK

Mean Dean, clearly down on his luck, walks past a movie theater marquee for the movie *Nick*.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)
 They drop me from the movie, retool
 the story, replace me with a
 talking seal, voiced by Seal. And
 suddenly, those people who said
 they were my friends, they didn't
 care about me anymore. I could
 never get work again as an actor.

Mean Dean looks at the poster of the movie, and turns dark.

MEAN DEAN (V.O.)
 But it taught me the most important
 thing I'd ever learn: the only
 thing anyone in this town really
 cares about is how much they can
 squeeze out of you.

CUT TO:

INT. MEAN DEAN'S OFFICE - BACK TO PRESENT

Chip and Dale look on, horrified.

MEAN DEAN

Which brings me back to you two.
What do you want in exchange for
all this "access" to old famous
cartoons?

DALE

We want a finder's fee on everyone
we bring in. And a percentage on
their sale.

MEAN DEAN

5k on my approval. Fifteen percent
minus shipping costs. We got a
deal?

DALE

There's one more thing...

Dale looks at Chip and chip NODS back. He knows what Dale is
doing. This is their chance.

CHIP

We want to have a look at your
bootlegging facility...

There's tense SILENCE.

Then, Mean Dean breaks into a big, sweet, Santa-like LAUGH.

MEAN DEAN

HO HO HO! HO HO HO!

Chip and Dale try are relieved and begin LAUGHING too.

CHIP

Ha! Hahaha. This is nice!

DALE

Everyone's happy! Hahaha!

MEAN DEAN

(in a rage)

WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT? I HO HO
HO when I'm angry. It's an
uncontrollable reflex I have from
my botched CGI surgery.

CHIP

So the more you laugh, the angrier
you are? That must be very
complicated for social situations.

MEAN DEAN

Did you think you were just going
to come in here and ask me to tell
you where my secret bootlegging
facility is?

Chip shoots Dale an "I told you so" look.

MEAN DEAN (CONT'D)

You know how long the cops have
been trying to find that place?
(then, covering)
Not that I'm saying it even exists.
(calling off)
HEY! JIMMY! Flush these two.

A giant CGI POLAR BEAR, JIMMY, enters -- he also has those
hard-to-read CGI eyes.

JIMMY THE POLAR BEAR

You! Come with me.

DALE

(off to the side)
I can't tell. Do you think he means
us?

CHIP

I think he means us.

Jimmy grabs Chip and Dale by the scruff of their necks and
EXITS into Mean Dean's bathroom, where we hear a FLUSH.

INT. DRAIN PIPE - MOMENTS LATER

Chip and Dale shoot down the grimy waste pipe.

CHIP

AAAHHHH!!!

DALE

AAAHHHH!!!

Shards of glass and dangerous debris litter the water, as
they have to duck and shift around it to not be skewered.

Just then, Dale's PHONE RINGS. He has to scream to be heard.

DALE (CONT'D)

I SHOULD GET THIS! IT MIGHT BE MY
AGENT DAVE BUGLIARI!

CHIP

You've gotta be kidding me!

Dale picks up the phone.

DALE

(into phone)

DALE HERE! WHAT?! NO, I'M NOT
INTERESTED IN UPGRADING MY CABLE
PACKAGE TO INCLUDE A LAND LINE!

Chip sees they're approaching something in the distance at
the end of the pipe.

CHIP

Oh no...

We make it out now; it's a build up at the base of the sewer grate. A DAM OF GLASS SHARDS. And they're heading right for it.

DALE
 (to phone)
 I HAVE TO GO NOW I'M ABOUT TO BE
 SLICED IN HALF!

Chip looks around, and gets an idea. He grabs the discarded remnants of a Mister Fantastic toy floating by him.

CHIP
 Dale, grab on to Mister Fantastic's
 butt-slash-arm-and-mouth!

Dale does, and Chip takes the arm of the stretchy toy and tosses it like a lasso onto an opening in the sewer grate, above the glass dam. It wraps around a bar!

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Now JUMP!

They KICK OFF THE WALL, and the tension of the toy shoots them upwards! They FIRE THEMSELVES OVER THE GLASS DAM, JUST BARELY MAKING IT THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE GRATE.

EXT. LA RIVER - MOMENTS LATER

We start on an EMPTYING DRAIN PIPE feeding into the paved-over LA River. Above it on the highway we see a movie billboard for "STAR WARS TOYS: THE PHANTOM MERCHANDISE" a movie about the merchandise of Star Wars coming to life.

Chip and Dale SCREAM as they shoot out of the pipe and into the disgusting river.

When Dale pops up from the water, WE SEE HE IS ACTUALLY BALD.

DALE
 CHIP! That was amazing! You saved
 us!

Chip notices Dale's floating TOUPEE nearby. He picks it up.

CHIP
 Uhhh, I think you lost this?

Dale's eyes go wide in horror as he touches his head.

DALE
 Ahhh!

He grabs the toupee and puts it back on.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Please don't--

CHIP
 (holding back laughter)
 I won't tell anyone. It's a good piece. Is that what they did with your aunt when she passed?

DALE
 Very funny.
 (then)
 Well, that got us like no information other than the fact that Mean Dean wears the same stupid Step-tracker I do.

Chip perks up at Dale's comment.

CHIP
 Uhhh, Dale, do those Step-trackers keep track of everywhere you go?

DALE
 Yeah. I know because I like to map my runs in the shape of a butt.

CHIP
 (realizing)
 We need to talk to Ellie!

DALE
 Please don't tell her about the butt thing? Or the bald thing?

INT. CHIP'S APARTMENT - LATER

Dale is poking around Chip's apartment while Chip and Ellie talk. Chip holds Dale's Step-tracker.

ELLIE
 (realizing)
 ...If the cops could get a hold of Mean Dean's Step-tracker, we could cross reference where he's been with where we know he goes. Whatever doesn't overlap has gotta be the bootlegging facility!

CHIP
 And that's how we find Monty!
 (then)
 Dale, could you please not touch the puzzle. Or the hot pot.

DALE
 (backing away)
 Sorry.

(MORE)

DALE (CONT'D)

It's just interesting to see where you've been living the last 20 years. It's very "Old Hollywood." Very old.

ELLIE

(moving on)

So, when do you guys think you're gonna be able to steal Mean Dean's Step-tracker?

CHIP

What? We got you the info you needed, now it's your job -- the *professional* -- to actually, you know, get the bad guy and save our friend Monty!

Dale starts to poke around the dresser. Chip notices the drawer with his money and pog is ajar and rushes between Dale and the dresser.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Dale, could you just not touch anything in here? I have things just the way I like them.

DALE

You got a real Howard Hughes vibe going.

ELLIE

Look, I'm a cop. We need warrants, we need probable cause, we need a case that'll stick in court.

CHIP

So what are you saying? You want *us* to do it?

DALE

We're in! Right Chip?!

Chip looks in the drawer and catches a glimpse of the POG WITH DALE AND HIS FACE ON IT. It flickers emotion in him.

CHIP

Ok. We're in.

DALE

Yes!

Dale bangs his fist on the table in celebration, accidentally knocking the puzzle onto the ground in hundreds of pieces. Chip stifles a growl.

INT. DALE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

A garage door opens.

DALE
Behold, the crime lab.

Dale turns the lights on to REVEAL a room filled with Rescue Rangers memorabilia. There are costumes, props, fake weapons, pictures, awards, magazines, a huge map of the US divided by national television markets, etc...

ELLIE
Whoa! I wish my twelve year old self could see this!

DALE
Pretty sweet right? All the disguises and gadgets we could ever need.

Ellie bounds off to look at all the cool memorabilia.

CHIP
This isn't so much a "crime lab" as it is a stalker-level shrine to *yourself* in the garage of your dilapidated old mansion. What is this huge map with a bunch of pins in it? Oh no, are those pins where the victims are buried?

DALE
What? No! This map shows Rescue Rangers ratings in every major US Market in 1991, which you'll recall was our most successful year.

Chip gives him a blank unimpressed look.

DALE (CONT'D)
Oh, come on! None of this stuff means anything to you? Like this... Our limited edition Nut & Honey Cereal. "Nut'n Honey... and Acorns." And these are the leftover fireworks from the first time we were invited to the Disney Parade! Ooooh, and this is the limited edition Rescue Rangers pog set. You know this turned into a real collectable... because someone noticed one of the clouds behind Monterey Jack was clearly in the shape of a huge-

CHIP
 (cutting him off)
 Yup! I remember.

Chip, of course, recognizes the pog set framed on the wall. There's a pog of each Rescue Rangers character... except for Chip and Dale.

DALE
 But I only have eleven of the twelve. I'm missing the one of the two of us.

Clearly the pog means something to him, but he pushes through.

CHIP
 I don't see what the big deal is.
 This is all just meaningless junk.

Ellie pops her head in from around a stack of boxes, holding one of Dale's signature Hawaiian shirts.

ELLIE
 IS THIS ORIGINAL MERCH?! CAN I HAVE ONE?!

DALE
 (to Chip)
 "Meaningless junk" huh?
 (then)
 Totes, whatever you want Ellie. But careful with the lawn darts, lots of eye injuries caused by those puppies.

CHIP
 Look, I'm only here to help find Monty. Let's just focus on that.

ELLIE
 Ok, so Mean Dean goes to the Russian bathhouse every Wednesday. How do we sneak you guys into the bath house to steal Mean Dean's Step-tracker without being recognized by all those goons that have already seen you?

Dale thinks for a moment.

DALE
 I got it! What if we did episode #308?!

ELLIE
 Oh yeah that's a good idea!

CHIP

No idea what you're referring to.

Dale holds up a fake rat's nose and shows Chip.

DALE

Nothing? Episode #308: "Rats What I'm Talking About."

CHIP

(remembering)

Ooohhh...

(then)

Nope, still no idea. And do you have any *original* ideas, or are you just constantly recycling old scripts?

DALE

What? It was a great episode...

INTENSE HEIST MUSIC kicks in as Dale narrates the next scene in V.O....

EXT. LITTLE ARMENIA STREETS - DAY

Ellie (now wearing the Hawaiian shirt), Chip and Dale sit in Ellie's surveillance van, watching a Little Armenia street. Old Eastern European humans and cartoons go about their business (animated in the drably colored, fewer frames-per-second style of cheap, old Eastern European cartoons). The side of a building is plastered with foreign language posters for "Batman Vs. E.T."

DALE (V.O.)

In the episode we...

An Escalade pulls up to the Russian bathhouse. The door opens and out comes Bob The Warrior Dwarf, Jimmy The Polar Bear, and several other frightening CGI henchmen, including an enormous CGI ANACONDA, and finally, Mean Dean himself.

EXT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Chip and Dale walk down the street in their DISGUISES (cleaning company jumpsuits), holding cleaning supplies and wearing PROSTHETIC POINTY RAT NOSES and FAKE LONG RAT TAILS.

DALE (V.O.)

... Infiltrated Fat Cat's night club, dressed as New York City sewer rats.

CHIP (V.O.)

Just don't do the bad New York accent.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - ENTRYWAY - MOMENTS LATER

They walk up to the old clerk at the front desk.

DALE
 (bad New York accent)
 YO! We heeeeyah ta clean da pipes.
 Or did ya fuuuhhhhgetaboutit?

Chip gives a sarcastic "thanks for listening" look. The OLD CLERK shrugs and lets them past, makes enough sense to him.

DALE (CONT'D)
 (bad New York accent)
 Go Yanks and pizza!

They excitedly make their way down the hall, toward a door that reads: "LOCKER ROOM, BATHS & SPA."

CHIP
 (sotto excited)
 Whoa, what a rush. I'm honestly amazed that worked.

DALE
 (sotto)
 I'm not. "Rats What I'm Talking About" is our second highest rated episode on IMDB. The first of course being, "Chip and Dale Save M.C. Hammer."

Dale lifts his rat tail to his mouth and speaks into it quietly. IT HAS A CAMERA/ WALKIE-TALKIE INSTALLED IN IT.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Ellie, we're in. Over.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN - CONTINUOUS

Ellie watches the live feed coming from Dale's tail-cam.

ELLIE
 Great! I'll be your eyes and ears.
 Now go find Mean Dean's locker. Over.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - CONTINUOUS

Chip and Dale enter to find a massive old-school Russian bathhouse. It's labyrinthine in its layout of various pools, baths, massage tables, and showers. The place is filled with humans and cartoons alike, in a general state of relaxation.

DALE
 (starting to sweat)
 It's really hot in here.

Chip directs Dale's attention to the other side of the main hall... the LOCKER ROOM.

CHIP

That's Mean Dean's locker. He'll be taking his step-tracker off there. And hopefully not much else, I'd hate to see what's going on underneath that tracksuit.

Just then, they're interrupted:

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF

This water fountain good?

Chip & Dale stand frozen, face-to-face with the Warrior Dwarf.

DALE

Uhhh...

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF

Are the pipes clean to drink from or not?

CHIP

(bad New York accent)

Eyyyy! Clean as a whistle guv'nah.

Due to their disguises, Bob The Warrior Dwarf doesn't recognize them. He goes to take a drink, but then it strikes him that even though they're rats, these two cleaners look kinda familiar. He looks back up... but they're gone.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - CEILING PIPES - MOMENTS LATER

Dale has shot a CROSS-BOW-PLUNGER (a classic gadget from the show) up to ceiling, and it is now LIFTING THEM UPWARDS OUT OF SIGHT TO SAFETY!

DALE

Great New York accent. The words were a little Cockney, but it worked.

CHIP

Yeah, I don't know what happened it was like all of a sudden I was part Danny DeVito part Michael Caine.

DALE

Both great actors.

CHIP

(re: cross bow plunger)

Wow, who would've thought a TV show prop could support our weight like this?

JUST THEN the plunger loses it's grip. Chip & Dale snatch onto an exposed pipes in the ceiling before they fall down.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN - CONTINUOUS

Ellie chimes in over the walkie talkie.

ELLIE

There's too many of them down there. You guys need to stay up on those pipes out of sight. Over.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - CEILING PIPES - CONTINUOUS

The steam from the water is really thick. They both sweat.

DALE

Copy. We'll head right to the locker room from up here. Simple.

They look ahead to the CIRCUITOUS MAZE OF PIPING that hangs in the ceiling and runs through the entire place.

DALE (CONT'D)

Uhhh... this way... I think.

TENSE MUSIC kicks in as the CAMERA TRACKS WITH THEM IN A GOD'S-EYE VIEW. Their small size allows them to travel through this network of pipes, regularly popping out of valves to see from overhead all the rooms they pass through:

--They pass a mud bath room where animated frogs, hippos, and a catfish are happily packed in mud.

--They pass an exfoliating scrub room where several workers help a CGI Anaconda shed his outer layer of skin.

--They pass a sauna where fat cartoon pigs and fat real life men all slouch over sweating.

--They pass a room where two cartoon bears snap a towel at a cartoon otter.

--They pass SCROOGE MCDUCK sitting in a jacuzzi filled with gold coins.

--They pass a recliner lounge where cartoon WOLVES drink from XXX bottles. One hiccups, knocking over and smashing the bottle. A cartoon broom from *Fantasia* quickly comes over and cleans it up for them.

BROOM

Quit making a mess!

WOLF

Hey! Don't get *bristly* with me.

--And finally, they find their way above...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They watch as Mean Dean, **TAKES OFF HIS STEP-TRACKER AND PUTS IT IN HIS LOCKER.** Now in just a towel, he eats a couple more MACADAMIA NUTS, and then closes and locks up his locker.

CHIP
 (re: step tracker)
 Yes! The motherload!
 (re: Mean Dean's body)
 And whoa mother, that's a load.

The heat from the locker room is overwhelming. They wipe their brows, only to realize the PROSTHETIC NOSE AND TAIL ARE COMING UNGLUED... Before they can do anything to stop it, IT GOES FALLING TO THE FLOOR RIGHT TOWARDS MEAN DEAN. They GASP.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN - CONTINUOUS

Ellie watches the feed and tensely holds her breath watching the tail fall towards Mean Deans head...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

But it juuuust misses hitting Mean Dean on the head. Instead, he steps on it, and it gets stuck on the bottom of his sandal without him noticing. He EXITS.

CHIP
 (breathing sigh of relief)
 That was close.

DALE
 We lost contact with Ellie.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN - CONTINUOUS

Ellie watches the tail-cam's new view from Mean Dean's foot.

ELLIE
 This is making me pretty dizzy
 actually.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They scurry down from the pipe and into the locker room.

DALE
Without our disguises we'll get
noticed faster than me at the
Chateau Marmont.

CHIP
Wow, you really had to walk around
the block to drop that gem. Let's
just get into that locker quick!

They hop onto the door of Mean Dean's locker, but suddenly...

VOICE (O.S.)
Hey! I know you.

They freeze.

DALE
(sotto)
Oh no.

CHIP
(sotto)
We're screwed.

They turn around to find a CGI ANACONDA (YONI) staring at them.
He's massive and horrifying and speaks with an Israeli accent.

YONI THE ANACONDA
You're the Rescue Rangers.
(then)
I am HUUUUGE fan, bros!

Huge relief washes over them.

YONI THE ANACONDA (CONT'D)
This is the best. I am major big
time fan of you guys!

CHIP
Oh that's great. Well, we
definitely want you to stay happy,
and calm.

YONI THE ANACONDA
You know what would be maximum
tight? I am DJ on weekends, and I've
got this track, you will love it,
it's the best.

Off the Anaconda's excited smile...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - SAME TIME

The Polar Bear and the Warrior Dwarf sit in a hot tub. The
Warrior Dwarf notices something on the floor.

He leans in to pick it up... It's Dale's prosthetic tail. The Warrior Dwarf studies it before finally realizing it's a costume rat tail.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN - CONTINUOUS

Ellie watches the Warrior Dwarf study the tail, and get up concerned.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

A TECHNO TRACK VERSION OF THE DISNEY AFTERNOON THEME SONG PLAYS from the Anaconda's phone, as he and Dale really get into it.

DALE

Is this a remix of the Disney
afternoon theme song? Whoa. Deep
cut.

YONI THE ANACONDA

Will you rap on it?

CHIP

Give me one second with Dale here?
(then aside to Dale, sotto)
First, stop encouraging this guy.
We need him to leave us alone so we
can get into that locker. And
second, we are not rapping. There
is *nothing* more pathetic than an
old cartoon character trying to be
cool again by rapping. It's
desperate and sad and shows a
complete unwillingness to accept
your own fading relevance.

DALE

Yeah, seriously, it's the worst...

YONI THE ANACONDA

Soooo you rap?

DALE

(turning on a dime)
Aaawww yeah I'm rapping!

YONI THE ANACONDA

...and you do it in the voice?

DALE

(in high-pitched chipmunk
voice)
Pass me the mic, yo!

The Anaconda erupts in excitement and starts recording.

DALE (CONT'D)
 (sotto to Chip)
 I'll distract him, while you break
 into Mean Dean's locker.

Dale turns back to the Anaconda and walks to the other side of the room, so the Anaconda's back is to Mean Dean's locker. He begins rapping...

DALE (CONT'D)
*My name is diggity, diggity,
 diggity Dale/ I'm hardcore from my
 head to my tail!*

YONI THE ANACONDA
 YEAH! This gonna get the disco moving!

Chip almost vomits from these lyrics.

CHIP
 Oh, this is worse than the rapping
 they had in that FBI hamster movie.

Chip pushes through and uses Anaconda's preoccupation to hop up onto Mean Dean's locker. He looks at the keypad of the locker unsure what to do next...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - SAME TIME

The Warrior Dwarf, suspicious now, starts going from room to room, just to check...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - SAME

Dale continues rapping, to the Anaconda's delight.

DALE
*Don't mess with me, I'll kick some
 butts/ Then pass the almonds, cause
 I am into nuts.*

Chip SMELLS the locker's keypad and recognizes something...

CHIP
 Macadamias! And where there's nuts.
 There's oil.

Chip grabs a match from an incense tray nearby and lights it.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - SAME

The Warrior Dwarf is only two doors down from Chip and Dale.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - SAME

Chip holds the lit match to the keypad. The buttons that weren't touched just turn black, while the buttons that were touched by Mean Dean's oily fingers briefly LIGHT WITH A SMALL FLAME, REVEALING THE CODE!

Chip presses the numbers that light up, the door unlocks, and he opens up the locker and grabs the STEP-TRACKER!

Meanwhile, Dale is in the slow breakdown part of his song.

DALE
(slow jam)
*Girl you ain't never felt the funk/
Till you hibernate with this
chipmunk.*

Chip, hiding the Step-tracker behind his back, interrupts them, ending the song.

CHIP
As much as I would love to keep
listening to this, we gotta be
going.

DALE
Oh, yeah, totally. We got a big
meeting about a possible Rescue
Rangers reboot. Which reminds me,
join the fan page:
www.facebook.com/RebootCHIPnDALE!

YONI THE ANACONDA
Oh, a reboot. That's great idea.
You do like an ironic, self-aware
Lego movie type thing. Cause the
joke is, "What is Rescue Rangers
movie even about?" So cool. So now.

DALE
(defensive)
Well I don't think that's the *only*
way to do it...

Chip sticks his head out the door to see...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - SAME

The Warrior Dwarf is approaching the locker room.

INT. SURVEILANCE VAN

Ellie tensely watches the camera feed.

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - LOCKER ROOM - SAME

Chip pops back in and turns to Yoni the Anaconda.

CHIP

We actually really need to be going, but we're hoping not to get spotted by paparazzi. Do you think you could help us with something...

INT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MAIN BATH HALL - SAME

The Warrior Dwarf goes to enter the locker room, when the Anaconda comes slithering out of the room. He nods to the Warrior Dwarf.

The Warrior Dwarf looks into the locker room. IT'S NOW EMPTY.

EXT. RUSSIAN BATHHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

The Anaconda slithers out the front door, and proceeds to REGURGITATE Chip and Dale.

DALE

Thanks, Yoni!

CHIP

(revolted)

And from the feel of it, I think you might be eating too much hummus.

YONI THE ANACONDA

Later, bros!

Ellie pulls up the van, and Chip and Dale rush in.

The Anaconda smiles as they drive off. The Warrior Dwarf walks outside, looking around.

YONI THE ANACONDA (CONT'D)

(squealing with delight)

Oh boy, you are *not* going to believe who I just met!

Off this loaded moment...

INT. ELLIE'S VAN - A LITTLE LATER

Ellie drives the van on the highway. Chip is still wiping off the snake mucus.

CHIP

Ugh, I need a towel. Or a pita.

ELLIE

Hook in the Step-tracker to my computer. I preset it to send the data back to headquarters.

DALE

On it!

ELLIE

Rats what I'm talkin' bout!

DALE

I see what you did there!

Dale plugs it into the computer as we see it LIGHT UP WITH THE TREASURE TROVE OF DATA.

DALE (CONT'D)

Oh man, this is amazing. We're like real detectives!

CHIP

Your terrible rapping was the perfect distraction!

DALE

Don't short change your even more terrible New York cockney accent!

Chip and Dale laugh, when Ellie's police radio buzzes on.

SGT. PUTTY (O.S.)

Officer Stakowski, you did it! You found the facility! We're sending SWAT now by chopper. Meet us there. Riverside docks.

ELLIE

Yes, sir!

Chip and Dale high-five as they celebrate.

CHIP

We might actually save Monty!

DALE

We're gonna be heroes!

CHIP

Dale, I gotta thank you for making me do this. You always had a knack for getting me to step outside my comfort zone.

DALE

And you always had a knack for catching me when I fell over the comfort-ledge.

CHIP

This feels... I feel... good.

This really lands on Dale, it makes him happy to hear.

ELLIE

I think I know what this race to
the docks needs...

Ellie picks up a CASSETTE TAPE OF THE RESCUE RANGERS THEME SONG and throws into the tape player. As the classic RESCUE RANGERS theme song blasts, Ellie throws an attachable siren on the roof. Chip and Dale look excited as she floors it!

EXT. RIVERSIDE DOCKS - NIGHT

It's already night when they arrive at a nondescript yard for thousands of huge shipping containers. As they pull in, they see the area is swarming with cops already. Chip, Dale, and Ellie rush out of the van, met by Sgt. Putty.

SGT. PUTTY

Chip and Dale, great work.
(calling off)
Ready the battering rams!

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - MOMENTS LATER

There's a sudden SMASH, as two animated POLICE RAMS burst through the door. Chip, Dale and the police ENTER the sprawling warehouse floor. Up against one wall is a giant, ominous series of machines connected by a conveyor belt: THE BOOTLEGGING MACHINE.

ELLIE

Wow. So this is where the Valley Gang performs the bootlegging surgeries and smuggles off their victims.

DALE

Monty's gotta be here somewhe--

Dale goes to start WALKING IN--

CHIP

STOP! NO!

Chip GRABS Dale and PULLS HIM BACK, JUST IN TIME AS TWO MASSIVE CRUSHER PANELS COME SHOOTING UP FROM THE FLOOR, SMASHING EXACTLY WHERE DALE WAS.

DALE

Whoa. You saved me Chip. How'd you--

CHIP

Ellie, turn the lights off.

Ellie turns OFF the light, to REVEAL the room is CRISSCROSSED WITH ELABORATE MOTION SENSOR LASER BEAMS. She flips the light back ON.

DALE

I shoulda known. It's like episode #121, *Mission Chipossible*.

Ellie points to a generator on the other side of the floor.

ELLIE

That looks like the power's main-line! If we could turn it off, we could search the place.

SGT. PUTTY

Stakowski, the whole room is a giant smashy death trap. There's no way to get over there.

CHIP

There's one way to get over there. And Dale and I can do it!

DALE

(confused)
We can?

CHIP

Yup. We can go through the machine!

DALE

He's right. They wouldn't booby trap their bootlegging machine.

ELLIE

That's because it's already a death trap. The whole purpose of that machine is to surgically mangle you. We've done some research into what goes on here, and if you were lucky enough to get through the slicing chamber with all your parts still in tact, and then the reshaper didn't crunch your face into a weird new shape, you'd still have to survive the laser printer surgically drawing new parts onto your body.

CHIP

Wow. You really just poured some cold water on what felt like a pretty cool decision on our parts.
(then)

(MORE)

CHIP (CONT'D)

But if Monty's on the other side of that thing, then we gotta at least try.

DALE

Yeah we do! Now help us onto this conveyor of death.

Ellie gives them a lift up to the front of the conveyor belt, and suddenly the automated sensor registers they're there, and the whole MACHINE LIGHTS UP, starting the bootlegging process. As the conveyor belt begins to carry them into the machine Chip & Dale bravely nod goodbye to Ellie.

DALE (CONT'D)

Goodbye Ellie. Always remember me.

CHIP

If I don't make it out of here alive tell my landlord it was me who was clogging the pipes with my hair.

Chip & Dale steel themselves for what's to come...

CHIP (CONT'D)

You ready Dale?

DALE

Ready Chip.

INT. BOOTLEGGING MACHINE - CONTINUOUS

They reach the first chamber of the machine and a GRID OF LIGHT SUDDENLY APPEARS ON THEM...

DALE

ARE WE ABOUT TO GET WAFFLE FRIED?!

CHIP

No... I think it's...

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

From the outside Ellie and the police watch the machine work.

ELLIE

...Scanning them. And rendering what they'd look like in different animation styles.

We see their shapes mapped into the computer. And then the computer extrapolates alternate looks for them: Chip & Dale as Pixar characters; in minimalist modern shapes; as a mid-90s square-jawed WB superheroes; as a *Ren & Stimpy* characters, and more.

INT. BOOTLEGGING MACHINE - CONTINUOUS

The grid of light finishes mapping Chip & Dale as the conveyor belt keeps moving them along.

DALE
That was nothing! This might be
easier than we--

SUDDENLY A ROBOTIC CLAW GRABS DALE BY THE NECK.

CHIP
Dale!

Chip begins pulling at Dale's body, stretching him out, but no luck freeing him. TWO MORE ROBOTIC ARMS COME OUT WIELDING A BONE SAW AND SCALPEL.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Oh, "slicing chamber," now I get
the name.

The bone saw is closing in on Dale's face...

DALE
(struggling to breath)
...in my pocket... my anti-aging
moisturizer...

Chip finds the moisturizer in Dale's pocket. He smears it on Dale's face, and pulls him again... finally FREEING HIM!

DALE (CONT'D)
I owe you for that.

Suddenly 4 MORE BLADES EMERGE, and begin SLICING AND DICING. Chip and Dale duck and jump their way under and over each blade, helping each other along the way.

CHIP
Jump!

DALE (CONT'D)
Duck!

CHIP
Duck!

DALE (CONT'D)
Jump!

They make it past the blades, but A FULL BODY PRESS BEGINS TO SNAP AROUND THEM. They dive out of the way of it just in time.

DALE (CONT'D)
You OK? You in one piece?

CHIP
Uhhh, yeah... but you're not.

Reveal, Dale's TOUPEE wasn't so lucky and got caught in the 'reshape-ulator.' The two sides of the press come apart, and Dale's toupee, now in a mangled, totally different shape falls to the ground.

DALE
Again, I have to ask--

CHIP
Promise I'm not telling anyone.
Really.

Dale grabs his toupee, shakes it back into shape and puts it back on his head. Just as... a LASER BEAM SINGES CHIP'S EAR.

CHIP (CONT'D)
AAHH!!

He looks up to see he's being LASER PRINTED ON... and his ear now looks like SNOOPY'S EAR, with the trademark squiggly drawn lines.

DALE
You got a Snoopy ear!

CHIP
I don't care what it is, it hurts!

Chip painfully RIPS IT OFF his ear, as they move out of the way of many more incoming lasers.

CHIP (CONT'D)
We need to get out of here. NOW!

They begin to RUN as fast as they can to get to the end of the conveyor belt, as the LASER BEAM is hot on their tails.

CHIP SEES JUST UP AHEAD OF THEM IS THE EXIT OF THE BOOTLEGGING MACHINE, AND JUST PAST THAT IS THE MAIN POWER CHORD, A JUMP AWAY FROM THE END OF THE CONVEYOR BELT.

CHIP (CONT'D)
We gotta jump!

As the laser singes the tip of Dale's tail, drawing on it ever so slightly, they JUMP FOR THE EXIT!

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Ellie and the cops hear the screams and tensely watch, not knowing what awful things are going on inside the machine.

Suddenly Chip & Dale hit the end of the conveyor belt and come SHOOTING OUT.

CHIP & DALE
AAAAAHHH!!!!

In SLOW-MO they SOAR chaotically through the air, towards the main power chord. It's a close call... But they STICK THE LANDING, GRABBING HOLD OF THE CHORD AND RIPPING IT OUT OF THE SOCKET IN ONE MOTION. They land on the ground with a thud.

SGT. PUTTY
We're clear. Let's tear this place
up, and find Monterey Jack.

Ellie rushes over to them.

ELLIE
You guys did it!

Chip and Dale look at each other, hopeful, excited.

CHIP
Yeah, I guess we did.

OFFICER MORELLI (O.S.)
Sir, I found what looks like a
holding cell!

Chip and Dale excitedly rush over to them.

DALE
I'll take lead from here.

SGT. PUTTY
That's really not your job--

DALE
(cocky, moving past)
Okay! If our detective work is
correct, officers, Monterey Jack
will be right behind this door!

Dale triumphantly kicks open the door to find...

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - DRAFTING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MONTEREY JACK'S TRADEMARK MUSTACHE AND MOUTH DISEMBODIED,
LYING MOTIONLESS ON THE FLOOR ON TOP OF A HANDKERCHIEF.

DALE
Wait... he's not here?

Chip and Dale are in shock.

CHIP
He's been bootlegged.

Chip picks up the mustache and mouth.

DALE
No, no... it can't be.

ELLIE
I'm so sorry.

DALE

He's supposed to be here!

CHIP

We were too late. Poor Monty.

DALE

No! Monty can't be gone. No!

The room SPINS AROUND CHIP AND DALE, AS THEY STRUGGLE TO DEAL WITH THE SHOCK AND SADNESS. We TIME LAPSE to...

EXT. RIVERSIDE DOCKS - EARLY MORNING

Chip and Dale emerge from the facility shell-shocked, escorted by Ellie and Sgt. Putty. Eager journalists have swarmed the scene, jockeying to get photos and interviews.

3D REPORTER

Chip! Dale! 3D In Your Face News--

From Chip and Dale's perspective, we see the 3D REPORTER's mic go uncomfortably close to their noses (3D movie-style).

3D REPORTER (CONT'D)

How does it feel to be real heroes?
How does it feel to be back in the
spotlight? Everyone's gonna know
who you are again!

Dale is too despondent to even respond.

SGT. PUTTY

No questions at this time.

A female old timey, BLACK AND WHITE REPORTER gets her noodle arm through the crowd with a mic.

BLACK AND WHITE REPORTER

Sgt. Putty, Black and White News.
Why is there an entire roll of
toilet paper on your back?

SGT. Putty turns to see toilet paper on his back.

SGT. PUTTY

Oh come on! I don't even remember
going to the bathroom!

INT. ELLIE'S VAN - MORNING - LATER

Ellie drives a somber Chip and Dale back to LA. Dale, forlorn, holds Monty's mustache & mouth.

DALE

Are you sure every room was checked?

ELLIE

Yeah, I'm sure. Monty wasn't there.
I'm really sorry guys.

DALE

I still can't believe it. We did
everything right. We got the team
back together and everything.

Ellie's van pulls up outside of the convention center. Chip
and Dale get out of the van.

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Ellie calls out to them from her van.

ELLIE

It really was an honor working with
you two gumshoes.

Ellie drives off, leaving Chip and Dale in the parking lot
standing next to a row of Mean Dean's Latrines.

CHIP

Look, it's a longshot, but it's
possible with all the police
attention, Mean Dean might be too
scared to ship anything, and Monty
is still somewhere in town. We
should keep looking for him.

DALE

(defeated)

No. You were right in the first
place. We're not detectives.
Besides I can't today. I have to be
in there signing autographs.

CHIP

(feeling bad for Dale)

You have to sign autographs?

DALE

(depressed)

Yeah, that's just my life, I guess.

Dale starts to walk off. Chip actually feels bad, he pulls
the pog out of his pocket and looks at the picture of him and
Dale happy, ages ago. Chip's gotta say something...

CHIP

You know, maybe when you get off,
me and you could go grab a coffee
or something. Ever had the coffee
at Bubba Gump? Surprisingly good.

Dale turns around, surprised. He's touched.

DALE
Really? You mean it? Like as friends?

CHIP
Sure. I guess.

DALE
(overjoyed)
You "guess"?! That's the nicest thing you've said to me in years! I would love to grab a coffee.

CHIP
Great. Well, I'll see ya later then...

But Dale is nagged by something.

DALE
Hey Chip? For the sake of being really honest with each other, the way that friends are supposed to be, can I tell you something?

CHIP
Yeah. Anything, Dale.

DALE
You promise not to be mad?

CHIP
What is it?

DALE
(deep breath)
Monty and I faked his kidnapping.

Chip is STUNNED.

CHIP
WHAT?

DALE
But something went wrong. I swear nobody was supposed to get hurt or actually go missing--

CHIP
What in god's name are you talking about?

As Dale begins to explain, we FLASHBACK TO...

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - FLASHBACK TO EARLIER

Chip has just slammed the door and left. Now we stay with Monty and Dale instead.

Dale NARRATES in V.O., as we see how the series of events actually unfolded.

DALE (V.O.)
Monty approached me with a plan...

MONTY (IN DALE'S VOICE)
What if there was a way for me to get out of debt to the Valley Gang, and you and Chip to become famous again all at once?

Dale is intrigued.

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - LATER - FLASHBACK

Dale stages the house to look like a kidnapping, tearing things up and throwing things around. He knocks Monty's potted cactus to the ground.

DALE (V.O.)
We would stage Monty's kidnapping.

DALE
Just gotta remember not to step on that...

Monty looks at a Wikihow labeled "HOW TO STAGE A KIDNAPPING."

DALE (V.O.)
And frame Mean Dean's Valley Gang for it.

Monty leaves a note that reads: "Money I owe to Valley Gang."

INT. MOTEL - LATER - FLASHBACK

Monty's clearly been living from a motel room for a couple days, as he watches Olaf from *Frozen* do car karaoke with James Corden on TV as he waits by his cell phone.

DALE (V.O.)
While you and I did some super cool detective work, Monty was hiding out, waiting for me to give him a good place to plant himself...

Monty's phone buzzes with a text. It's the coordinates to the Bootlegging Facility.

EXT. RIVERSIDE DOCKS - LATER - FLASHBACK

Monty gets out of a cab at the shipping docks, follows the coordinates to the disguised shipping containers...

DALE (V.O.)
Then, heroically, we'd go find him.

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - FLASHBACK

As we saw earlier, Dale confidently approaches the door.

DALE
If our detective work is correct,
officers, Monterey Jack will be
right behind this door!

Dale triumphantly kicks open the door...

DALE (V.O.)
And well, somewhere in there
something went terribly wrong. But
this is what was *supposed* to happen--

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - DRAFTING ROOM - IMAGINATION

Dale kicks open the door to find Monty tied to a chair.

MONTY (IN DALE'S VOICE)
You found me!

EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - IMAGINATION

Sgt. Putty addresses the media, Chip and Dale by his side.

SGT. PUTTY (IN DALE'S VOICE)
Mean Dean has been arrested and
charged. Monterey Jack therefore no
longer owes any money and is safe.
All because Chip and Dale are
heroes. They truly are... the
Rescue Rangers.

REPORTER (IN DALE'S VOICE)
Man, what a great story! Someone
should turn this into a movie!

Off Dale's excitement...

EXT. MANN'S CHINESE THEATER - IMAGINATION

Dale pulls up in a new MERCEDES for the star-studded premiere of the Rescue Rangers reboot movie. The marquee reads: "THE CASE OF THE MISSING MONTY." He gets out of the car, basking in the glory and attention. He waves to someone off screen...

DALE
 Mickey, you made it! Minnie, a
 vision as usual. After-party at my
 place, I'm buyin' cheesy crust
 pizza!

Everyone CHEERS, as we go BACK TO REALITY...

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Chip is in complete shock.

DALE
 I don't know, I heard Baloo say
 something about cheesy crust pizza
 and now I keep bringing it up--

CHIP
 You. Are. A. MONSTER.

DALE
 I made a mistake, Chip. A big
 mistake. And I'm sorry.

CHIP
 You're only sorry because your plan
 didn't work. You were so desperate to
 be popular again, that if the price
 was lying to me and putting Monty in
 danger, you were OK with that.

DALE
 You said you wouldn't be mad.

CHIP
 You know what, I'm mad at myself
 more than anything. For believing,
 for even just one second, that you
 could've changed.

Chip reaches into his pocket and PULLS OUT THE POG OF THE TWO
 THEM. Dale is surprised to see that he has the pog.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 I kept this for twenty years for
 some stupid reason. And not cause I
 didn't need the money.
 (then)
 Thanks for reminding me everything
 has a price.

Chip walks into the convention center. Dale watches him go,
 heartbroken.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Ellie drives home, when speeding down the freeway in the opposite direction from her, she spots two BLACK SUV's driven by Jimmy the Polar Bear & Bob the Warrior Dwarf.

ELLIE

That looks like trouble for the guys.

She looks in her rearview mirror and sees the SUV's exiting the freeway towards the sign for the CONVENTION CENTER.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Chip slaps the pog down on the table of a collectibles dealer.

CHIP

How much you give me for this?

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - PARKING LOT - SAME TIME

A sad Dale sits on the curb with his head down, when suddenly the BLACK SUV pulls up. Another SUV pulls up behind him. He's blocked in. Panicked, he looks in the windows and sees Jimmy the Polar Bear and Bob the Warrior Dwarf. They pull out their BIG COLORFUL CARTOON ERASER GUNS and fire at Dale.

DALE

Oh no.

Dale's eyes go wide as he jumps to dodge the erasers flying at him.

The Polar Bear and Warrior Dwarf jump out of the car. Dale runs away into...

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - MAIN ENTRANCE - SAME TIME

Chip pockets a big wad of cash.

CHIP

Enjoy your collectible pog. Hope it fills the void!

Just then...

DALE (O.S.)

Chip!

Chip turns around, annoyed.

DALE (CONT'D)

RUN!

Chip clocks the Polar Bear and Warrior Dwarf coming up behind Dale and realizes they're in danger. Dale grabs two swag hats and puts them on himself and Chip.

DALE (CONT'D)

We can lose them in the crowd, just like we did in episode 417, "The Fur-gitive." Get it, like the Fugitive, but with f--

CHIP

Not now Dale!

Chip and Dale walk in to the crowd, trying not to be seen.

The goons pause when they realize how large and crowded this place is. They conceal their weapons inside their jackets as they begin searching for Chip and Dale.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - AISLES - MOMENTS LATER

Chip and Dale walk briskly past former child stars and old cartoons at signing tables.

JONATHAN LIPNICKI

The human head weighs eight pounds... That'll be forty bucks.

ANGLE ON:

The goons walk through rows of celebrities. They think they spot an animated chipmunk and approach from behind...

POLAR BEAR

(sotto)

There he is...

They grab him and turn him around only to realize he's a LOST BOY (from *Peter Pan*) wearing a full body Chipmunk onesie. The Warrior Dwarf gruffly tosses him aside as they keep looking.

ANGLE BACK:

Chip and Dale continue walking with their heads down, but as they rush through people begin to notice them...

FAN

Can we get a selfie? Can you say something in the voice?

DALE

(high-pitched voice)

Saaaay "Rescue Ra--

CHIP

What? No. No photos!

Chip tries to keep moving, but then they're stopped by...

ERIK ESTRADA

Hey! Look at you two back together.
Saw you on the news! Lots of buzz!
How's it feel to be popular again?
Oh man, have I got an idea for a
reboot crossover for you...

DALE

It's a bad time, Estrada.

ERIK ESTRADA

It's called Chips and Dale. Get
it?! *Chips* and Dale? Already
getting interest from Johnny
Galecki!

CHIP

We gotta go.

ERIK ESTRADA

What? You got something better on
your plate? Will you cast me in it?

They start to walk but Estrada stays with them.

ERIK ESTRADA (CONT'D)

Chip! Dale! Hey, wait up!

DALE

Will you just back off Estrada?!
You're so full of it, you don't
have a show with the FBI.

The guys run OFF, leaving Estrada behind.

ESTRADA

(calling after them)

I totally work with the FBI now!

THE GOONS SPOT THEM as they barrel through the crowd.

POLAR BEAR

There they are!

Chip and Dale pick up the pace. But fans keep trying to stop
them. Until they run into...

BALOO

Whoa! Chip and Dale together! Never
thought I'd see the--

The Polar Bear gets in range and pulls out his eraser gun.

CHIP

DUCK!

REVEAL PERRY (from *Phineas and Ferb*).

PERRY
Uhhh no, I'm a platypus!

BAM! The goon SHOOTs the ERASER and hits Baloo right through the arm, as his hand goes flying off, bouncing on the ground (though waggling around, it's very much still alive).

BALOO
MY HAND! CAN I GET A HAND WITH MY
HAND?!

Now it's BEDLAM. As everyone in the convention center is screaming, Chip and Dale run like crazy for the back...

The goons fire wildly at them, as people jump out of the way. They fire one eraser bullet and it hits JOEY LAWRENCE in the head. It stings a bit, but bounces right off him.

JOEY LAWRENCE
Whoa.

Fans at his booth all cheer for Joey's catchphrase.

DALE
Quick, the elevator, over there!

They run for the elevator as the door is closing.

DALE (CONT'D)
Hold that door, hold that door!

They get in just in time, as the bullets just bounce off the closing elevator door...

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Chip presses the BASEMENT button as they catch their breath. They look up to see who is already on the elevator with them: Allan the superfan. His mouth is agape with excitement.

ALLAN
Oh... my... god... Is the reboot
happening?

DING! The elevator opens...

CHIP
No one wants a reboot!

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - LOADING DOCK - CONTINUOUS

They rush out to the loading dock in the back basement level.

CHIP
There's the door!

But then the GOONS burst out of the stairwell, erasers flying. Chip and Dale are cornered, UNTIL...

A VAN APPEARS AND REVERSES AT FULL SPEED, RUNNING OVER THE GOONS. The van door swings open, to REVEAL ELLIE.

ELLIE
Get in!

Chip & Dale are relieved to see her, as they jump in the van.

DALE
Go! Go!

Ellie speeds OFF.

Allan, wide-eyed, could not be happier.

ALLAN
I wish I had Snapchatted that.

The goons, FLATTENED, slowly pick themselves up off the ground and shake themselves back into 3-D.

INT. ELLIE'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Ellie speeds down the highway.

DALE
Ellie you saved us! Thank you!
You're amazing!

CHIP
I thought you were going to arrest
Mean Dean and his guys?

ELLIE
We have a warrant out. But it's not
safe for you until we actually have
him behind bars. I can arrange for
police protective custody, I just
need a little time. Is there
anywhere you can camp out tonight?
Somewhere a little off the grid
they wouldn't come looking for you?

DALE
I know a place... in Joshua Tree.

Chip gives him an uncertain look.

EXT. JOSHUA TREE DESERT - SUN DOWN

Ellie drives past the rows of Joshua trees scattered throughout the desert. They pull down a winding dirt road and come upon a huge JOSHUA TREE. It's decorated like a home, with a welcome mat out front and cutouts for windows.

As they pull up, GADGET exits the house. She's older now, heavier, but seems happier and wiser.

ELLIE

Is that...

DALE

Gadget, yeah.

GADGET

(calling out)

Well, I'll be. Honey, look who's here!

Just then, ZIPPER opens a window in the tree. He's clearly in the middle of changing baby diapers, when he looks down. Ecstatic, he flies down from the window to greet the them.

ELLIE

And Zipper. Wow. I am geeking out! Would it be weird if asked for a picture?

As Ellie goes over to Zipper, Dale hangs back for Chip.

DALE

Hey Chip, can we talk, please?

CHIP

No. We're done talking.

Chip walks ahead and waves at Zipper and Gadget, sheepishly.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Hi. It's been a while.

EXT. GADGET AND ZIPPER'S TREE HOUSE - BACKYARD - LATER

Dale sits sadly and stares at Chip, who avoids his gaze. We're in Gadget & Zipper's eclectic backyard, the old RANGER WING PLANE rusting off to the side, they sit around a bonfire. Ellie opens a bottle of wine. Gadget and Zipper hold hands as their kids play in the background.

GADGET

(solemnly)

Monty bought us this bottle for our wedding. Seems like the right time to finally drink it.

DALE
 (genuinely sad)
 He would've really liked that.

CHIP
 (sarcastic)
 Oh. Would he have, Dale?

Everyone clocks this tension. Ellie pours glasses of wine.

ELLIE
 (moving on)
 So, how long have you been out here?

GADGET
 Fifteen years now. We figured after the show ended, what were we sticking around LA for? It always felt like a popularity contest there.

ZIPPER
 (in the deepest
 Shakespearean baritone)
 I started teaching at the local community theater. I'm directing Midsummer next week.

CHIP
 Good for you to get out of LA.
 (looking at Dale)
 The place is a cesspool of selfishness, greed, and desperation.

DALE
 (ashamed)
 I'm gonna go for a walk, get some steps in.

Dale gets up to walk, then feels his pocket.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Chip, I think you still have my Step-tracker from before at Ellie's.

Chip gives him a "leave me alone" death stare.

DALE (CONT'D)
 I'll just count the steps in my head. It's fine.

Dale walks OFF.

ELLIE
 I should go make sure he's OK.

Ellie follows him OFF.

CHIP

(back to Gadget and Zipper)
So... how many kids you got? Like
forty? Fifty? Guess that comes from
Zipper's side of the family.

EXT. JOSHUA TREE DESERT - MOMENTS LATER

Dale walks through the desert alone. Ellie runs after him.

ELLIE

Dale, wait!

Dale looks back to her, distraught.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

You can't blame yourself. You're not
the reason Monty was bootlegged.

DALE

What if I am?

ELLIE

Do you know how many other cartoons
you saved today by helping the
police stop Mean Dean from
bootlegging anymore? You're a hero.

DALE

I'm anything but a hero...

EXT. GADGET AND ZIPPER'S TREE HOUSE - BACKYARD - SAME TIME

Chip continues sitting with Zipper and Gadget.

GADGET

You think maybe you're being a
little hard on Dale? You guys were
best friends once. Long before
there even was a Rescue Rangers.

CHIP

I don't think I'm being hard enough
on him. I don't know why you're
defending him. He screwed you over
too when he took Double-O-Dale.

ZIPPER

That doesn't mean all of the other
good times we shared didn't happen.
To err is human; to forgive divine.

GADGET

You guys were always better
together than you were apart. You
should be friends.

CHIP

Suuuure, I could forgive him, and we could be friends again. Until something better comes along. The truth is, *no one* is actually your friend, and believing otherwise will only get you hurt.

ZIPPER

So what's the alternative?

CHIP

Being alone.

GADGET

And how's that working out for you?

This clearly strikes a chord with Chip, and it hurts.

EXT. JOSHUA TREE DESERT - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Ellie and Dale continue walking.

ELLIE

You know, I remember as a ten-year-old in Albany racing home after school to watch the Rescue Rangers. And no matter what -- snow, sleet... mostly just those two things, it's Albany -- I never missed the show. And you were my favorite. Why do you think I wanted this shirt?

Dale is touched. He blushes a big, red-cheeked blush.

DALE

That's sweet of you, Ellie, but the truth is, I think I've been living my life all wrong. All those years I spent putting my career ahead of everything else, trying to be popular again... I don't know if they've left me any happier or any less alone. And I'm scared that it's too late to fix the damage I've done.

ELLIE

It's never too late, and you're not alone.

Just then, they look up at a SHOOTING STAR flying overhead. They look back down and find their eyes locked. The familiar strains of "WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR" begin to play.

It's very romantic. We cut back and forth between CLOSE UPS of them looking into each other's eyes, seemingly drawing closer and closer. We CUT WIDE to REVEAL this is a ludicrous impossibility -- she is five feet taller than him.

Suddenly, Ellie gets a TEXT MESSAGE and the moment is over.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

It's Sergeant Putty. He says they'll be ready for you first thing in the morning. Wanna head back? Tell the others?

DALE

Yeah. That's probably a good idea.

EXT. GADGET AND ZIPPER'S TREE HOUSE - LATER

As night fades to morning... We PAN down to the Tree House as Chip, Dale, and Ellie get into the van and take off. Gadget, Zipper, and their fifty some children all wave goodbye.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Ellie escorts Chip and Dale through the police station to outside of Sergeant Putty's office.

ELLIE

You guys wait out here while I brief Putty on the situation.

Ellie EXITS into Sergeant Putty's office and closes the door behind her.

DALE

I've thought about it. I'm gonna tell the Sergeant about how me and Monty orchestrated this whole thing, but somewhere along the way it all got messed up. If we want to give the cops any chance of figuring out what happened, or maybe, just maybe, actually still finding him, they've gotta know the truth.

Chip can't believe how earnest Dale is being.

CHIP

Wow. Dale, you would really sacrifice yourself like that?

DALE

I've spent the last twenty years trying to get back to how I felt when I was on the Rescue Rangers.

(MORE)

DALE (CONT'D)

But in the last couple days, I realized it wasn't the fame and popularity that made me feel good. I felt good because I had a best friend. Everything you said about me all those years, you were right. I was a turd factory of selfishness. I treated friends like snot rags. I was a clown in a Hawaiian shirt desperate for attention.

CHIP

Did I really say all that? That sounds harsh.

ELLIE (O.S.)

Sarge is ready to talk to you.

DALE

(sad, to Chip)

For once, let me do something that's actually for somebody else.

Chip is amazed by what Dale said. Ellie waves them in.

ELLIE

Come see me before you leave.

Chip and Dale walk into Sergeant Putty's office. Ellie gives them a supportive smile.

INT. POLICE STATION - SERGEANT PUTTY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Sgt. Putty is holding a newspaper.

SGT. PUTTY

You see these headlines!?

He peels his hand off the page to show them the image transferred to his hand.

SGT. PUTTY (CONT'D)

Oh, crud, it's backwards... Well, it says you boys are heroes for helping us make our case against Mean Dean. Must feel good. I've been bouncing off the walls with excitement all morning.

DALE

Listen, Sergeant Putty, there is something I need to tell--

Just then, the PHONE RINGS.

SERGEANT PUTTY

Hold on a second. This is probably
the LA Times, needing *another* quote.
(turns, into phone)
Putty here. And no, I don't think
it's too early to speculate on
who'll win "Policeman of the Year".

As the Sergeant talks in the background, we're on Dale, who's
nose suddenly starts twitching in the air.

DALE

Oh, you smell that? Smells like
Almond butter and Polo Sport.

Chip startles to a realization.

CHIP

Almond butter & Polo Sport...
but... my god... that's the Rescue
Ranger's cologne... you realize
what that means?

DALE

Sergeant Putty is a fan of ours!?

CHIP

(whispering)
We need to get out of here. Now.

DALE

What? But--

They look over at Sergeant Putty who is still on the phone
with his backs to them.

CHIP

Quietly.

Chip and Dale make their bodies like noodles and slide off
their chairs without making any noise.

EXT. POLICE STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Chip and Dale run out of the station and off to the side.

DALE

What's going on?!

CHIP

You did it Dale! You and your big
red nose! Monty was literally the
only person to ever use that
disgusting cologne.

DALE
 Actually, I heard it's still used in
 the Ukraine to strip paint. But of
 course we never see a dime of that.

CHIP
 That's not the point. The point is
 Putty stunk of it.

DALE
 Oh my god that means--
 (then)
 Wait... what does that mean?

CHIP
 It means--

Just then, a BLACK SUV screeches up next to Chip and Dale.

DALE
 Hey, I remember this car--

And before they can even run, Polar Bear and Warrior Dwarf
 come out and toss a sack over the guys.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
 You're coming with us!

They get thrown in the SUV, and it speeds off.

INT. MEAN DEAN'S HIDEOUT - DAY - LATER

Chip and Dale are dumped out of the sack into a strange, very
 long, very thin room with blue plastic walls. They look
 around, panicked and confused.

DALE
 Where are we?

CUT TO OUTSIDE:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - SAME TIME

A row of a dozen "Mean Dean's Latrines" porta-potties sits in
 the back of an empty construction site.

CUT BACK INSIDE:

INT. MEAN DEAN'S HIDEOUT - SAME

We REVEAL the row of porta-potties has been hollowed out and
 connected to make a liveable hideout.

MEAN DEAN (O.S.)

None of your business where we are.

Chip and Dale jump back, scared, when Mean Dean emerges from the shadows.

MEAN DEAN (CONT'D)

You framed me. Now I gotta go into hiding, and you know the only place a guy like me blends in? Friggin' Norway! It's Christmas year round there. Uch.

(to the Polar Bear)

Jimmy, gimme your eraser.

The Polar Bear hands it to Dean, as he starts closing in.

DALE

Do we really need to resort to erasers? We're both actors, aren't we? Can't we just use our greatest weapon: our voices?

MEAN DEAN

I knew that crook, Sergeant Putty, wanted a cut of my business, I just didn't know he'd hire two chipmunks to frame me to get it.

CHIP

(confused)

Wait... What? We're not working for Putty. He wants a cut of your business?

It all fully dawns on Chip...

CHIP (CONT'D)

It all makes sense now!

(then)

Mean, can I call you Mean? M.D.? If you'll allow your throbbing neck vein to settle, I'll explain...

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - FLASHBACK

Chip NARRATES in V.O. as we see how the series of events *actually* unfolded:

Sgt. Putty, Officer Toad, and Officer Morelli arrive on the scene of the "crime" and quickly register something is off about it.

CHIP (V.O.)

Sgt. Putty sniffed out it was a faked kidnapping from the jump.

Sgt. Putty opens Monty's computer and sees the article titled "HOW TO FAKE A KIDNAPPING" is still up on the screen.

SGT. PUTTY (IN CHIP'S VOICE)
Wow, this guy is an idiot.

CHIP (V.O.)
He probably said.

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - LATER - FLASHBACK

Sgt. Putty holds the note from Monty that reads "MONEY I OWE THE VALLEY GANG." He addresses Officer Toad and Officer Morelli.

SGT. PUTTY (IN CHIP'S VOICE)
I run this city. Mean Dean thinks
he can just ignore me?

He hears Dale SCREAM FROM STEPPING ON THE CACTUS. As he sees Dale holding his foot like a idiot, he smiles.

SGT. PUTTY (IN CHIP'S VOICE) (CONT'D)
These two morons might've just
created all the case we need to
take Mean Dean down, and then
instead of just a kickback, we'll
have his whole stinkin' business.

EXT. RIVERSIDE DOCKS/EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - FLASHBACK

Sgt. Putty, Officer Toad & Officer Morelli wait in the distance, watching Monty pull up to the docks in his cab and sneak towards the bootlegging facility.

CHIP (V.O.)
So Putty sits back and lets us put
our lives on the line while we lead
them to Mean Dean's facility...

MOMENTS LATER...

As Monty feels around for a way in to the facility, a shadow comes over him.

CHIP (V.O.)
And then all that's left to do is
make sure the faked crime becomes a
real one so the charges will stick...

He turns to see Putty and the cops. They grab him and hold him down, as Putty takes a grimy old eraser to his face...

We watch as MONTY'S MOUTH AND MOUSTACHE FALL ON THE FLOOR.

CHIP (V.O.)
 But what they didn't think of was
 Monty's cologne...

CLOSE ON Sgt. Putty picking up the mouth and moustache in a handkerchief and pocketing it. Officer Morelli grabs a passed out Monty and throws him in to a police trunk.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER - FLASHBACK

Dale sniffs the air, recognizing the scent.

CHIP (V.O.)
 A putrid, yeasty almond mixed with
 a sickly sweet Polo Sport that
 won't come out for two days minimum
 no matter how hard you scrub.

Chip focuses in on Sgt. Putty as he realizes what's happening.

CHIP (V.O.)
 If Monty was supposed to be
 bootlegged and gone before the
 police ever got there, then *why* did
 Putty smell like Monty's cologne?!

BACK TO REALITY...

INT. MEAN DEAN'S HIDEOUT - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

Dale is in shock.

DALE
 Sgt. Putty did it! That means Monty
 might actually still be in LA!

MEAN DEAN
 I told you, nothing's sacred. The
 cops are bigger criminals than the
 criminals... and we're *really* big
 criminals. Those filthy pigs. And
 cats. And horses. And that mushroom
 head guy. All of them. I'm even
 madder now! You see how mad I am?!

Still, we can't really make out any emotions on his smooth, uncanny face. His eyebrows slowly tilt down into "anger."

CHIP
 (placating)
 Ohhhh, yes, yes, now I do see
 you're upset. So easy to read.
 (then)
 What if we could clear your name?

MEAN DEAN

Really? For all the crimes I've committed over the last decade?

CHIP

Well, no, just this one. If you give us a day I think I know how to prove the cops did this.

MEAN DEAN

HO! HO! HO! HO! So, I should just let you go?

CHIP

What do you have to lose? Either we clear your name or you erase us tomorrow?

MEAN DEAN

(thinking about it)

Hmm. Fine. But if I don't hear from you in twenty-four hours, first I'll erase your friends in Joshua Tree, Zipper and Gadget. Then I'm coming for you.

Chip and Dale look at each other, horrified.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT - LATER

The black SUV pulls up in an empty parking lot. The door swings open and Chip and Dale get TOSSED OUT.

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF

Twenty-four hours!

The van drives off. Chip and Dale stand and dust themselves off, as Chip starts walking with purpose. Dale follows.

DALE

Chip, I can't believe you figured all that stuff out! You sounded like me when I DVR and memorize all of the answers to Jeopardy before I invite a date over.

CHIP

I'm gonna go call Ellie.

DALE

Great. What's our plan?! What're we gonna do now? How are the Rescue Rangers gonna save the day?!

Chip stops. He's gotta do something hard...

CHIP

Dale. I'm gonna do this myself.

DALE

Oh. Right. You still hate me. From before. When you said I was a monster. And you hate me. I get it.

CHIP

(bittersweet)
I don't hate you.

DALE

Then why can't we be friends?

CHIP

Because believing in anything or anybody gets you hurt. Some things are better left forgotten. Bye Dale.

Chip walks off. Dale watches him go, heartbroken...

INT. DALE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - LATER

Dale enters his "crime lab" and looks around sadly.

As we TIME LAPSE TO...

Dale sits among the stacks of old photos and magazines. He pours a bowl of Rescue Rangers Nut & Honey Cereal and eats it.

DALE

(gagging)
Blchhhh, that's old.

He looks down at an old toy figurine of him and Chip together. He gives it a small, wistful smile. Then he pops an eyeball out, like would happen to it in Mean Dean's factory. He tosses it all in the trash.

INT. PHONE BOOTH/INT. ELLIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - INTERCUT

Chip sits in a phone booth, calling Ellie.

CHIP

Ellie?

ELLIE

Chip! Are you OK? What happened to you?! You just disappeared from the police station!

CHIP

Sgt. Putty, he's dirty. You can't trust him. He had Monty bootlegged so he could fabricate a case against Mean Dean and take over his bootlegging business.

ELLIE

Chip, that's a pretty big accusation. Do you have any proof?

CHIP

Sgt. Putty smelled like Monty's cologne. The only way that could happen is if he personally moved Monty's body.

ELLIE

Oh my god. If what you're saying is true, we're gonna need hard evidence. I think I know where to get some. Meet me at the docks.

CHIP

I'll see you there. Be careful.

They hang up the phone and END THE INTERCUT.

Ellie looks up at SOMEONE...

INT. DALE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - SAME TIME

Dale is at the big Rescue Rangers Rating Map. He starts removing pins from it and throwing them out. As his hand passes ALBANY, he notices that it's blank.

DALE

(recalling)

Hmmm... We didn't air in the Albany market. They said it was encouraging children to put clothes on the indigenous chipmunk population...

(putting it together)

But that means...

And suddenly Dale drops his bowl of cereal on the floor in SHOCK. It shatters in SLOW-MO as the realization hits him.

INT. ELLIE'S APARTMENT - SAME

We open on Ellie, then PAN AROUND the room to REVEAL she's with Sgt. Putty and the other dirty cops: Officer Toad and Officer Morelli. Ellie gives them all a conspiratorial nod.

ELLIE

Looks like we're going to the docks.

INT. DALE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - SAME

Dale puts it all together!

DALE

Ellie couldn't have watched Rescue Rangers growing up like she said. That means... She's not a fan!

EXT. RIVERSIDE DOCKS/EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - LATER

Ellie waits for Chip on the docks, past the police tape. The place is empty now. Chip approaches.

ELLIE

Thank god you're safe. I can't believe you figured that all out.

CHIP

I'm pretty good at this. Starting to think I should actually be a cop. Especially considering there's gonna be a whole bunch of job openings in your department pretty soon. Maybe you and I could even be partners...

Once Chip is inside...

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Ellie closes the door and PULLS OUT A CARTOON ERASER GUN.

ELLIE

You were in the clear, but you just had to keep digging, didn't you?

CHIP

(shocked)

Ellie?! What? I don't understand. But you were a fan of ours!

ELLIE

Well, I'll explain...

INT. MONTEREY JACK'S BUNGALOW - FLASHBACK

Ellie NARRATES in V.O., as we see how the series of events *really REALLY* unfolded.

ELLIE turns when she hears Dale SCREAM FROM STEPPING ON THE CACTUS. She smiles with an idea and takes Sgt. Putty aside.

ELLIE (IN ELLIE VOICE)

I think these two morons might've just created all the case we need to take Mean Dean down, and then instead of just a kickback, we'll have his whole stinkin' business. It'll be easy.

(MORE)

ELLIE (IN ELLIE VOICE) (CONT'D)
 I can pretend to be a fan of
 theirs. Do a quick Google of a
 couple episode titles, pick up a
 shirt at the Disney store--

We ABRUPTLY CUT BACK TO...

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY

Chip rolls his eyes.

CHIP
 Okay, I get it. We're morons.

ELLIE
 I was always really more of an
 Alvin and the Chipmunks person. I
 just love when they rap.

CHIP
 You piece of *garbage*.

Just then, Sergeant Putty and the other dirty cops ENTER from
 the other side of the facility. They restrain Chip.

SGT. PUTTY
 Great work, Officer Stakowski.

ELLIE
 I'll deal with Dale tomorrow.

CHIP
 No please, leave him out of this!

ELLIE
 What do you care? You hate him more
 than anybody.

This lands on Chip.

ELLIE (CONT'D)
 Don't worry, Sarge, I've got Dale
 wrapped around my finger like--

SGT. PUTTY
 (jumping to offense)
 Putty? Were you going to say,
 "Putty?!"

ELLIE
 (covering)
 No. Wrapped around my finger like
 a... a... lettuce wrap...
 (changing the subject)
 Let's take this guy to be
 bootlegged! You're gonna be our
 first sale!

INT. DALE'S HOUSE - GARAGE - SAME TIME

Dale with determination picks up the phone.

DALE
Hi. It's Dale. I need your help...

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

Chip is restrained. Putty walks to the bootlegging machine.

CHIP
What are you going to do to me?

ELLIE
We're sending you abroad with a new face and no mouth so you can't talk.

They TURN ON THE GIANT BOOTLEGGING MACHINE.

ELLIE (CONT'D)
Just like your friend here...

They turn to see Monty is there! Except he can't talk... because he's missing his mouth along with his moustache. His eyes seem happy to see Chip though.

CHIP
Monty!

EXT. LOS ANGELES SKY/INT. RANGER WING - MOMENTS LATER

We REVEAL GADGET AND ZIPPER PILOT THE OLD RANGER WING PLANE, WITH DALE FLYING ALONG WITH THEM AS FAST AS THEY CAN!

DALE
I'm amazed this thing actually flies. And you know how to fly it.

GADGET
(smiling, excited)
I've had 20 years to figure it out.

DALE
We're coming, Chippy!

ZIPPER
He just needs to keep that Step-tracker on!

Dale looks down at his phone, and we see he's got the STEP-TRACKER APP open! It has a glowing pin in a map to follow!

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - MOMENTS LATER

CLOSE on Chip's blazer pocket, where Dale's Step-tracker still is. Just then the blazer gets ripped off and thrown to the floor as Officer Toad RESTRAINS CHIP IN A GREEN-SUIT STRAIGHTJACKET. The jacket hooks into the conveyor belt of the bootlegging machine as he gets fed into it...

CHIP
Please don't do this, I won't tell anyone! I have no friends to tell! Mrs. Kwong never leaves the apartment!

Chip enters the rendering chamber of the machine.

CHIP (CONT'D)
(desperate)
How about I just go to a salon, get a more traditional makeover? You can even approve the stylist.

EXT. RANGER WING - SAME TIME

Gadget expertly flies the Rescue Wing towards the location on the Step-tracker... they see the docks on the horizon.

GADGET
There it is.

ZIPPER
Reminiscent of Macbeth's bloody castle.

JUST THEN DALE'S CELL PHONE RINGS. He looks at the number.

DALE
Oh my god. It's actually my agent.

He picks it up, as we INTERCUT WITH...

INT. CAA OFFICES - INTERCUT

A power agent, DAVE BUGLIARI, sits at his desk on speaker.

DALE
Dave Bugliari? Wow, haven't heard from you in a while. You must not have gotten my last *seven years of messages!*

DAVE BUGLIARI
Daley, brother, so sorry, I got a new assistant, and then we were off for Rosh Hashanah.

(MORE)

DAVE BUGLIARI (CONT'D)
 Anyway, things are happening.
 People are talking. We've got heat!
 We've got offers!

DALE
 I can't talk now.

DAVE BUGLIARI
 What do you mean you can't talk
 now? This is the most important
 thing in your life.

DALE
 I think you're wrong about that.
 You're fired, Dave Bugliari.

END INTERCUT. Dale tosses the cell phone over the side of the plane. Zipper and Gadget are proud of him for doing it, as they steel themselves to fly towards the docks.

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME TIME

Chip, through the rendering chamber, is now on the conveyor belt heading toward THE SLICING APPARATUS. His eyes go wide.

CHIP
 I really would like to know where
 this thing got its medical degree!

We ANGLE ON the end of the machine, where Ellie straps Monty in to the laser printer. Monty, still mouthless, can't even scream.

ELLIE
 (re: Monty)
 Time to give your friend crab hands
 and a carrot nose so no one ever
 recognizes him again.
 (then)
 Bootlegging is fun. All this mixing
 and matching, it's like Chipotle.
 (then, to Officer Morelli)
 Fire up the laser printer!

With the printer on, the roller Monty's on begins to slowly turn. A LASER OF COLORED LIGHT SHOOTS OUT, soon to hit Monty. His eyes go wide with terror.

INT. RANGER WING/EXT. SKY ABOVE BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

They approach on the Ranger Wing, Gadget spotting an exhaust pipe in the side of the facility.

GADGET
 Looks like the only way in is
 through that exhaust pipe.

ZIPPER

Are you sure you want to do this?

DALE

As sure as I've ever been.

We REVEAL Dale is STRAPPED TO A DISNEY PARADE FIREWORK. Zipper lights a match and takes it to the wick, as Dale aims himself on the side of the plane towards the exhaust pipe.

DALE (CONT'D)

It's a narrow berth, but if I can aim it juuust--

The FIREWORK LIGHTS, CHAOTICALLY LAUNCHING DALE FORWARD.

DALE (CONT'D)

AAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

Just as Chip's ear is about to be sliced off by the machine, and Monty's face is about to be lasered over...

THERE'S A GIANT CRASH AS DALE AND HIS FIREWORK MISSES THE EXHAUST PIPE AND SMASHES THROUGH THE WALL.

DALE

AAAAAAHHHHH!

THE FIREWORK FLIES INTO THE HEART OF THE BOOTLEGGING MACHINE, CAUSING IT TO MALFUNCTION AND JAM, as Dale comes tumbling to the ground.

Chip opens his eyes, relieved, as the blades have stopped right in front of his face.

Meanwhile, the laser printer stops turning, and Monty is no longer being fed into the path of the still firing laser.

CHIP

You came back to save us!

Dale stumbles over to Chip and unties him. BUT THEN...

ELLIE

STOP!

They turn to see Ellie aiming her eraser gun at Monty's head.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

Or I'll erase him right here.

DALE

Ellie, I thought we had something.

ELLIE
I am literally 119 pounds heavier
than you, dude.

Ellie cocks her eraser gun when...

SUDDENLY THERE'S A GIANT EXPLOSION! DALE'S FIREWORK GOES OFF AGAIN! IT EXPLODES THE ENTIRE MACHINE EVEN MORE, WHILE ITS MIRACULOUS PAYLOAD SHOOTS STRAIGHT INTO THE AIR.

CUT TO OUTSIDE:

EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

We see the firework burst through the roof and shoot into the sky... It explodes in the shape of Mickey's head.

CUT BACK:

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

The EXPLODED MACHINE's debris flies into Sgt. Putty, shards of it stuck in his clay back. He crawls away in pain.

SGT. PUTTY
HOLY LORD, IT'S STUCK EVERYWHERE!

The now toppled LASER PRINTER FIRES WILDLY on the ground and suddenly HITS ELLIE!

ELLIE
AAAhhhh!

Ellie goes flying back into a pile of debris, as the laser printer continues firing at her... Whatever's happening to her in that pile of rubble, it ain't pretty.

Dale and Chip go to untie Monty.

DALE
Well, that worked out well for us.

Then, an ominous shadow appears over them. Monty sees it, but can't say anything because he still doesn't have a mouth.

CHIP
What are you trying to say, Monty?

Finally they turn around to see...

ELLIE HAS BEEN LASER PRINTED ALL OVER, NOW HIDEOUSLY TRANSFORMED INTO A FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER OF VARIOUS CARTOON PARTS: THE FACE OF THE CHESHIRE CAT, THE HORNS OF PUMBAA, ONE ARM IS A SUPER MARIO BROTHERS CANNON, ONE FIST IS OF WRECK-IT RALPH, THE ANTLERS OF BULLWINKLE... AND SHE IS PISSED.

DALE
Ellie, you look good.

She opens her mouth to SCREAM. All that comes out is the classic WOODY WOODPECKER LAUGH.

CHIP
And sound good.

Ellie shoots her HAND CANNON at Chip and Dale wildly. They barely dodge the incoming ANIMATED BULLETS (with faces on them, like in Mario Bros.).

DALE
Run!

They race for cover down the room as Ellie uses her Wreck-It Ralph hand to try and SMASH them into the ground. Ellie forces Chip and Dale into a corner, trapped. Ellie's Cheshire cat face, purrs with evil anticipation.

CHIP
Oh my god! I know how to get out of this! Remember episode #218?

DALE
(duh)
Do I remember how we defeated Fat Cat in the mid-season Christmas special!
(then, touched)
Wait, you remember that?!

CHIP
(surprising himself)
Yeah. I guess some memories are worth holding on to. And I need you to do it to me. Now!

DALE
Are you sure?

CHIP
There's no time! Yes! Do it!

Dale reluctantly picks up a metal pipe from the floor.

DALE
Okaaaaay... here I gooo...

DALE WHACKS CHIP OVER THE HEAD. ELLIE PAUSES, CONFUSED.

DALE (CONT'D)
Now me!

CHIP NOW WHACKS DALE OVER THE HEAD WITH THE PIPE.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

An ANIMATED TINY YELLOW BIRD COUPLE is sleeping in bed, when suddenly a PAGER starts buzzing. The BIRD HUSBAND groggily looks at the pager.

BIRD WIFE

Oh come on Harold, it's the middle of the night. Just ignore it.

BIRD HUSBAND

We've been through this Eileen, it's my job! Do not ruffle me right now!

CUT BACK TO:

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

Chip and Dale continue to whack each other.

DALE

Where are they?!

CHIP

(woozy)

They'll be here. Keep going.

Ellie snaps out of her confusion and cocks her cannon and takes aim at Chip & Dale.

But JUST THEN... AN ARMADA OF TINY YELLOW BIRDS FLY INTO THE FACILITY and start to circle Chip and Dale's dizzy heads.

As soon as Ellie sees the birds, her CAT FACE CAN'T HELP BUT BE COMPLETELY MESMERIZED BY ALL THESE BIRDS.

DALE

It's working!

THE REST OF HER BODY FIGHTS THIS URGE, BUT SHE LOSES HERSELF TO IT. Her face moves away from Chip & Dale and begins to snap wildly at all the birds.

BIRD 1

We been duped! Scatter!

The birds all scatter as Ellie's cat face chases after them, leaving Chip and Dale on the ground woozy.

CHIP

That should keep her busy for a while.

From outside, we hear...

BULLHORN (O.S.)

This is the FBI. You're surrounded.

Ellie stops chasing a bird, suddenly shocked.

EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - HARBOR - SAME

We see FBI boats approaching with FBI agents -- right in the middle of them is Erik Estrada, being filmed by a camera crew!

ERIK ESTRADA
This is gonna be great TV, guys!

INT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - SAME

Dale smiles, relieved. Chip is amazed.

DALE
Turns out Estrada wasn't actually lying about the FBI show.

CHIP
(impressed)
How did you come up with this plan?
What episode is this from?

DALE
It wasn't from an episode. I sort of came up with it myself.

CHIP
You had an original idea Dale!

Ellie panics as the FBI BURSTS IN and surrounds all the cops.

SGT. PUTTY
So you're arresting me, but Mean Dean is free to walk the streets!?

DALE
We thought of that already.

CUT TO:

EXT. NORWEGIAN CHRISTMAS VILLAGE - NIGHT

Mean Dean, Jimmy the Polar Bear and Bob the Warrior Dwarf bundles themselves for warmth in a delightful and snowy Christmas village in the middle of Oslo. Carolers sing, children play, and rosy cheeked Norwegians shop.

MEAN DEAN
(grumbling to himself)
Stupid Norway. It's friggin' July you idiots.

Just then he turns a corner to find himself surrounded by...

INTERPOL AGENT
Interpol! Hands up! Eyes on me!

MEAN DEAN
Ahhh, snot.

INTERPOL
I said, look at me!

JIMMY THE POLAR BEAR
We are looking at you!

BOB THE WARRIOR DWARF
It's just hurting my feelings
at this point.

CUT BACK:

EXT. BOOTLEGGING FACILITY - A LITTLE LATER

The FBI cuffs the dirty cops, Sgt. Putty and Ellie and drags them off. Estrada, with a camera crew taping, turns to camera:

ERIK ESTRADA
(rehearsed catchphrase)
Looks like she just felt the
Estrada arm of the law.
(then, to someone off camera)
Hey Roger, I'm really not loving
that catchphrase.

Chip, Dale and Monty emerge from the warehouse together.

CHIP
How'd you put it together that
Ellie was dirty, too?

DALE
I guess you could say I'm a
stunning narcissist who remembers
every compliment about myself I've
ever heard.

CHIP
So you are saying that?

DALE
Yes, that's what I'm saying.

Just then Zipper and Gadget catch up to them, having landed their plane nearby.

ZIPPER
Thank heavens you're OK!

GADGET
I was so scared.

JUST THEN ELLIE BREAKS FREE FROM THE FBI, she rears back her HAND CANNON and FIRES AN ANIMATED BULLET RIGHT AT CHIP. Dale sees it, and JUMPS INTO THE LINE OF THE BULLET.

DALE

Nooooooo!

In SLOW-MO, we watch as Dale passes by Chip just in time to take the bullet for him.

Chip, panicked that Dale might be dead, runs to him, and turns over his body.

CHIP

Dale?! Dale?!

Dale's eyes open in a haze. Chip, Zipper and Gadget are enormously relieved to see Dale is still alive.

CHIP (CONT'D)

But, how'd you...

Dale reaches into his breast pocket and pulls out a METAL POG. THE ONE OF CHIP AND DALE THAT CHIP SOLD EARLIER. There's a massive bullet indent in it now.

ANGLE ON: The ANIMATED BULLET on the ground, his nose smashed.

ANIMATED BULLET

OOOowwwwww my friggin' nose!

ANGLE BACK:

DALE

(woozy)

This thing is too special for some stranger to have.

CHIP

(moved)

You saved my life.

DALE

Of course I did. You're my friend. Even if you don't want me as yours.

CHIP

You know for years I thought if I forgave you our friendship could only get me hurt. I thought I was safer alone. But safer isn't better. Some things are worth rebooting...

Chip picks Dale up off the ground. They hug. Everyone else joins in. Monty is crying. But no one can hear him.

DALE

Oh! I just remembered!

Dale reaches into his pocket, pulls out Monty's mustache and mouth, and gives it to Monty to slap back on his face.

MONTY
Crikey! That was the sweetest moment I've ever seen. I'd cry if they didn't erase me tear ducts.

AS WE PULL OUT FROM THIS HAPPY MOMENT, CLOSING MONTAGE MUSIC STARTS, AND THE NARRATOR STARTS IN AGAIN...

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Hollywood. Star City.
Movietropolis. Fame Diego. The
Bollywood of the West. You know all
the names. And maybe, just maybe,
it's not so bad after all.

As the Estrada continues, we FLOAT THROUGH THE SNIPPETS OF LOS ANGELES WE STARTED OUR FILM ON...

EXT. STUDIO SOUNDSTAGE - NIGHT

The cast and crew of the animated show from the beginning of the film all laugh and joke around eating together on set.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Maybe behind the lights, camera,
action...

EXT. INTELLIGENTSIA COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

A young, lonely cartoon looks for a place to sit in the packed cafe. Someone pushes out a chair for them, offering them a spot to join. They sit down and start talking, a friendship in the making.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
This is a place all those desperate
lonely souls...

EXT. SHERMAN OAKS - NIGHT

We see the commuting young executives and suited animated monkeys coming home at the end of the night to happily greet their spouses and children with hugs and kisses.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Come to find one another.

As we FADE TO BLACK...

CHYRON: 6 MONTHS LATER

EXT. JOSHUA TREE COMMUNITY CENTER - PARKING LOT - DAY

A SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CRUISER sits in the parking lot of the Joshua Tree Community Center.

In the background, we see a poster for an upcoming film: "HOOK VS BALOO" (Baloo since losing his hand earlier now has a hook for a hand and goes hook to hook with Captain Hook. The tagline reads: "The scariest jungle is... The Ocean"). The cruiser door opens to REVEAL...

CHIP, in a SHERIFF'S UNIFORM, gets out and heads into the community center, tipping his hat at locals outside.

INT. JOSHUA TREE COMMUNITY CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Chip walks down the hall, passing a room with a sign: "CHEESE SNIFFERS SUPPORT GROUP." In the window he sees MONTY sitting talking with people. They make eye contact and smile at each other. Chip continues down the hall and turns into...

INT. JOSHUA TREE COMMUNITY CENTER - AUDITORIUM

A rehearsal for *Julius Caesar* is being put on by the local community theater. Dale is on stage playing Caesar in the famous assassination scene.

DALE
(performing)
Et tu, Brute?

Chip sits down next some of Zipper's kids in the house. At the front of the seats, Zipper is directing. Gadget works nearby building an elaborate Roman column set for the play.

ZIPPER
AAAND SCENE!
(everyone stops)
Splendid. Truly. Let's take a five.

Dale gets off stage, as Chip approaches.

DALE
Chip! What'd you think of that? Was it a good read? Should I deliver it more like "Et tu, Brute?" Or maybe "Et tu, BRUTE!"

CHIP
I just got a strange call...

DALE
Is everything OK?

CHIP

It was Disney. They want to offer us a Rescue Rangers reboot movie. I know it's something you've always wanted to do, so...?

DALE

(no big deal)

Hmm. I dunno. What would it even be about? It seems kinda thin to me.

CHIP

Really? I thought you'd be super excited about it.

DALE

They weren't really that compelling characters to begin with. Better to just leave some things as nostalgia and move on with our lives.

They smile and walk off, as a song by M.C. HAMMER kicks in. It's a rap version of the original Rescue Rangers theme song.

THE END