

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

White Pages 7/16/99
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Pink Pages 8/13/99

**FOR EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES ONLY**

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5th Draft

CLOSE - HUGE PERFECT SNOWFLAKES

drift down as we begin a slow MOVE into one.

Push in further and further (a la 'Powers of Ten') revealing a planet, a continent, a town...

Somewhere we HEAR faint CAROLING, BELLS JINGLING, a slightly off-key BAND. The usual SOUNDS of Christmas.

Now, the camera FINDS a red, shiny ORNAMENT. In it, we can SEE a comically distorted FACE. We PULL BACK. The ornament is being held in a man's hand. PULL BACK further to REVEAL

ANGLE - A TREE TRIMMER - DANGLING FROM A CRANE

trimming a gigantic Christmas tree. But that was no distortion that we saw in the ornament. That's what this guy REALLY looks like! The upturned nose, the hair sticking up. That's what all WHOS look like. And here comes another one.

A TINSELER SWOOPS by on his sky-hook, unspooling an industrial roller of tinsel. He gives the Trimmer a playful tug on his pant leg, SPROINGING him upwards. Follow him up...up...forty stories up, widening to reveal...

EXT. TOWN SQUARE DAY

Suddenly we're blasted by LIGHTS, CROWDS, MUSIC and NOISE, NOISE, NOISE!!! It's Christmas time in Who-ville!

THE WHO-VILLE BAND - MARCHES BY BLARING

We see the red-faced TUBA PLAYER blow, and another SMALLER HORN PLAYER marches out of the end of his horn! Then another EVEN SMALLER WHO appears out of that horn.

MAIN TITLE: "How The Grinch Stole Christmas!" By Dr. Seuss

The camera SWEEPS past Seussian VEHICLES which clog the streets on the MAIN SQUARE. Everything that isn't nailed down is being bedecked by the cheery WHOS.

Across the square, the camera FINDS two Whos: A Postman, LOU LOU-WHO and his five-year-old daughter CINDY LOU-WHO fight through the crowds.

LOU LOU-WHO

Come on Cindy-Lou, we've got to keep shop-shop-shopping! Oh my, look at the time...

They head off past...

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE - A CHRISTMAS CLOCK/SCOREBOARD - ABOVE THE SQUARE

On a platform beneath is an elderly DOZING WHO. He has a BELL on top of his hat, gets GONGED by a hammer attached to an egg timer. It jolts him awake to PULL a lever which flips a number on the board. It FLASHES: "ONLY 3 DAYS, 17 HOURS, 33 MINUTES 'TIL CHRISTMAS!!"

PAN from the "Time" platform to a "Temperature" platform next to it where a Who shivers in shorts and shirtsleeves.

TEMPERATURE WHO
It's still c-c-cold!

We find the Lou-Whos again, fighting through the crowds.
Lou's sons STU LOU-WHO and DREW LOU-WHO run by.

STU LOU-WHO
Hey dad!

LOU LOU-WHO
Hey boys! Have a good day at school!

DREW LOU-WHO
Whatever!

The boys run off.

LOU LOU-WHO
Yep, early in the morning, best time to shop. This way we beat the rush.

They're caught in a huge rush: Cindy and Lou scurry past a line of Whos carrying packages, the shorter the Who, the taller the stack. Whos carrying towers of packages on their finger tip who bump into each other and switch packages without caring.

LOU LOU-WHO
I'm telling you Cindy Lou this is my favorite day of the year: three days before Christmas! Heads up...

He passes under two TEETER-TOTTER GUYS alternately LAUNCHING to attach a huge garland to a building...Cindy hustles through to avoid getting squashed.

LOU LOU-WHO
Although I do love two days before Christmas. Watch your step...

Two Whos roll by on a push-me/pull-you bike...

BIKER WHO 1/BIKER WHO 2
Home to bake!// Out to shop!

The bike kicks up a SPLASH!

LOU LOU-WHO
Then of course there's Christmas eve,
what with the Whobilation and all. Duck!

Flock SHOOTs by them and covers a window. We see a pompous looking Mayor MAY-WHO and his lackey, WHO-BRIS who carries a large goofy FLOCKING GUN. May-Who directs the placement of flock on a storefront as a NERVOUS SHOPKEEPER looks on.

MAY-WHO
Hmmm, a little flock here. Some here. And here. You know what, you better flock the whole thing. We do want this to be the best Christmas ever! And there.

PHIL HETTEMA

EE-74

(CONTINUED)

Who-Bris blows flock all over the front of the building.

Find Lou and Cindy at a vendor's stand.

LOU LOU-WHO

Then again there's Christmas itself,
that's gotta be up there on any list.

Lou lets go of Cindy's hand to pay for something. Cindy gets swept off in the crowd.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Daddy!

Lou notices, raises his hand. Cindy gets passed back to him. He takes her hand, they start walking again like nothing's happened.

LOU LOU-WHO

Then again there's the day after
Christmas! You know what? They're all
great! Come on!

They dash into the hubbub.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Every ~~who~~ Down in Who-ville, liked
Christmas a lot...

ANGLE: Whoville from a distance. Suddenly, four Who teens (JUNIE, CHRISTINA, STU LOU-WHO and DREW LOU-WHO) come barreling over a ridge into frame. They hike enthusiastically away from town, goofing around, throwing snowballs. Pan with them to reveal...

MT. CRUMPIT, an ominous peak in the distance.

NARRATOR

But the Grinch, Who lived just north of
Who-ville, Did NOT!

ANGLE: as the oblivious teens pass, a strange looking Seussian periscope turns to follow them.

2 OMITTED

3 OMITTED

2

3

EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - THE TEENAGERS

Trudge through the snow.

JUNIE

Where are we going?

STU LOU-WHO

You'll see.

(whispers to Drew)

Where are we going? I don't see any mistletoe.

DREW LOU-WHO

(whispers back)

It's all near the top. Quiet, they'll hear us.

ANGLE: The girls.

JUNIE

I can't believe they're taking us up the mountain for the old "mistletoe surprise."

CHRISTINA

Just humor them, they're kinda cute.

ANGLE: The boys.

DREW LOU-WHO

Hey Stu, I'll bet I can beat you to that tree up there.

STU LOU-WHO

No, I can beat you.

DREW LOU-WHO

You're on!

STU LOU-WHO

No, you're on!

DREW LOU-WHO

Go!

They push each other, start racing up the hill. The Girls follow, past a weathered sign that reads "Old Whoville Dump."

Crosshairs appear on the screen, revealing this is...

GRINCH'S POV - THRU PERISCOPE

(CONTINUED)

Pull out further to reveal

5 INT. GRINCH'S CAVE - A HAIRY SHOULDER 5

is in the f.g... The figure is behind a SEUSSIAN PERISCOPE VIEWFINDER looking at the teenagers below.

He SNICKERS malevolently, watches them intently.

GRINCH

(grumbling)

Well, well, well, something Who-ey this way comes...

6 EXT. MOUNTAIN - AFTERNOON - THE TEENS - CHUGGING 6

over a ridge. The girls look around concerned.

JUNIE

Where are we? I think we should go back.

STU LOU-WHO

(laughs)

Why? Don't tell me you're scared of the Grinch?

JUNIE

(covering)

No.

DREW LOU-WHO

They say he lives up here in a cave, and he only comes out when he's hungry for the taste of Who flesh.

EE214

(CONTINUED)

Stu sneaks behind the girls, picks up a rock. Motions to Drew "check this out." He heaves it into some bushes.

The girls turn, scared of the noise, see the boys laughing.

CHRISTINA

(annoyed)

Yeah, that's really funny.

The girls continue on. The boys laugh to each other when... The rock WHIZZES back. They exchange a concerned look.

A dark figure flashes through the bushes to one side. The boys see it, wheel around.

DREW LOU-WHO

What was that?

The girls turn around.

CHRISTINA

What was what?

Something flashes through another bush.

STU LOU-WHO

Now it's over there! There's something in the bushes!

DREW LOU-WHO

Grinch!!!

Stu and Drew run off. The girls look at the bushes, frightened, then...a squirrel hops out.

JUNIE

Ha-ha! I knew there was no such thing as the Grinch.

As they stand laughing at the squirrel, a periscope passes behind them like a shark's fin under the snow.

FURTHER UP THE MOUNTAIN - STU AND DREW

Stand frightened. The girls catch up to them.

CHRISTINA

Hey you silly poogers, you missed it, your "Grinch" was back there eating some...

The girls realize the guys are staring at...

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE - A BIG, CREEPY CAVE DOOR

CHRISTINA (CONT'D)

...cuts.

7 OMITTED

7

8 OMITTED

8

9 EXT. HIGHER UP MOUNTAIN - THE TEENS

9

Approach the door, cautiously.

STU LOU-WHO

It doesn't look like anyone lives here.

The door creaks open a little. The teens step closer, peer in when...

(CONTINUED)

A FEROCIOUS BEAST!!!

Charges out the door! The horrible monster's jaws are wide open, blasting out bloodcurdling WOIOFFF-WOIOFFFS!!!!

ANGLE - THE TEENAGERS

SCREAMING like banshees, they STUMBLE down the mountain.

10 INT. GRINCH'S CAVE - A HAIRY GREEN ARM 10

Pulls a lever

11 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT TRAIL - THE TEENAGERS' SCREAMING ESCAPE 11

The teenagers run toward camera as SPRINKLERS pop out of the snow.

12 INT. GRINCH'S CAVE - A HAIRY GREEN HAND 12

Turns on a faucet

13 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - THE TEENAGERS 13

Are soaked by the sprinklers. They slip and slide down the mountain, screaming and SNOWBALLING into SNOWMEN.

14 EXT. GRINCH CAVE - THE FEROCIOUS BEAST 14

Snorts angrily. But, the camera swings around the beast to reveal: the monster is really just an adapted megaphone contraption strapped to the back of a scraggly little dog, MAX. It was Max's amplified BARKS we heard.

GRINCH (O.S.)

Now, Max, is that any way to greet our visitors? We get so few.

A green foot steps onto an "UNWELCOME" mat.

GRINCH (O.S.)

(working into a tizzy)

All rosy-cheeked and happy and invading my privacy. Disgusting, despicable Whos, I hate them! I want to smash every bone in their--

The feet are now stomping on the mat. He catches himself.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

But then again...

(CONTINUED)

TILT up to reveal a hairy body, a hairy hand holding an onion.

THE GRINCH (O.S.)

Maybe we should be grateful that they reminded us...

FOLLOW the onion as it travels up to CRAGGY, MOLDY TEETH that takes a huge sloppy bite of the onion.

GRINCH

(ominously, mouth full)

'Tis... the... season...

(CONTINUED)

Max looks up at his master, WHINES at the prospect of what that might mean.

THE GRINCH (CONT'D)

Get my cloak...

He steps out of the shadows. REVEAL the face of THE GRINCH. Long, spiky hairs stick up above his head and seem to have a mind of their own. His yellow eyes crinkle as his mouth spreads open malevolently.

THE GRINCH (CONT'D)

I want to keep this holiday buzz going.

He scampers ultra-quickly up onto the mountain top.

THE GRINCH (cont'd)

It's time to deck the halls!

He laughs maniacally, then is startled by the squirrel.

GRINCH

(girlish)

Aagh! Squirrel! Get that thing out of here!

CUT TO:

14A INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - SHOPPING MADNESS

14A

Huge lines. Whos grabbing every last item, jockeying for position in line. Lou stacks presents in front of Cindy.

LOU LOU-WHO

So we've got a snoozlephone for your brother Drew, and a snoozlephone for your brother Stu, a muncle for your uncle, a fant for your Aunt, and a fanta...for your cousin Leon. Cindy? Cindy?

He looks around, pulls a package out of the middle of the stack, revealing her face.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Dad, doesn't this seem like a bit much?

LOU LOU-WHO

This is what Christmas is all about!

Suddenly -- BELLS RING, LIGHTS FLASH like someone hit a jackpot on a slot machine!

(CONTINUED)

Cindy and Lou turn to see: four frozen snow zombies. The zombies shake off the snow, revealing Stu and Drew and the girls.

LOU LOU-WHO
What happened to you?

STU LOU-WHO
It was... The Grinch!

SCREECH! Cars slam on their brakes. Pedestrians freeze.
ANGLE: The sand in the timekeeper's hourglass freezes.

DREW LOU-WHO
He scared us so bad Stu cried!

STU LOU-WHO
No. Drew cried!

CINDY LOU-WHO
What's a Grinch?

A crowd of alarmed Whos gather around the kids. We hear
WORRIED WHISPERS of "Grinch?" "Did they say Grinch?"

The smallest Horn player jumps out of the tuba and runs away.

SMALLEST HORN PLAYER
Aiiighhh! Grinch!

MAY-WHO
What was that I heard?

The crowd parts to allow Mayor May-Who and Who-Bris through.

MAY-WHO
Did someone just say Grinch?

Another tiny horn player runs out of the tuba.

SMALL HORN PLAYER #2
Aiiighhh! Grinch!

LOU LOU-WHO
Oh, uh, hello Mayor May-Who, sir.

MAY-WHO
Lou, I don't need to remind you that this
Christmas marks the 1000th Who-bilation.

MAY-WHO
(pops out behind May-Who)
Who-ville's most important celebration!

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

And the book of Who says very clearly...

Who-Bris slaps a leatherbound book into May-Who's hand.

MAY-WHO

(reads)

"Every Who, from the largest to the smallest we can measure, knows the Christmas Whobilation is a time we must treasure." Now Lou, please tell me your boys were not up on Mt. Crumpit, provoking the one being within a billion bilometers of here who hates Christmas?

The Who crowd reacts nervously.

STU AND DREW

But he was--

Lou covers their mouths with his hands.

LOU LOU-WHO

No, no, the boys didn't see any Grinch. I'm sure they were just up the mountain playing with matches, or defacing public property...

The boys move around, Lou squirms to keep their mouths covered.

MAY-WHO

(to crowd)

Well, you heard the man, there's no Grinch problem here, and to celebrate I hereby decree all stores will be open an extra hour today.

CRAZY MOSE

But they're already open 24 hours a day.

MAY-WHO

Fine. Then I decree from now on the days will be twenty-five hours long!

Everyone cheers.

ANGLE - The Timekeeper Who up on the clock.

TIME WHO

Now this job stinks 25-7.

(CONTINUED)

BACK ON: The Mayor, shoots Lou a look and heads off. Who-Bris gives a lamer version of the Mayor's look and follows. Lou sighs with relief.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Dad, who's the Grinch?

LOU LOU-WHO
Cindy, we should talk about this later.
I've got to get to work, and you've got
to get to school.

CINDY LOU-WHO
He really doesn't like Chris--?

LOU LOU-WHO
School! Go to school!

Lou spins her on her way. She sighs, heads off.

As the crowd disperses, we find the two Whos with the push-me/pull-you bike. They walk past a STRANGE WHO seen from behind.

BIKER WHO #1
You don't think that Grinch would
actually come down here do you?

STRANGE WHO
Not a chance.

BIKER WHO #2
Oh, good.

They climb onto the bike. The HANDLEBARS come loose and THE WHEELS FALL OFF!

ANGLE - The Strange Who opens a green hand to reveal some nuts and bolts. It's the Grinch!

GRINCH
I Grinched ya!

15 EXT. WHO-VILLE - LATER - A CLOAKED SHADOW AND A DOG SHADOW 15
slink along the Whoville streets...

NARRATOR (OVER)
The Grinch hated Christmas! The whole
Christmas season!

CRAZY MOSE

Hot? But it's cold out.

GRINCH

Yes, I know. I was being sarcastic.

CRAZY MOSE

Oh, that. I don't get that.

GRINCH

Rrr. Have a nice trip.

CRAZY MOSE

But I'm not--

The Grinch rips a large CANDY CANE off a display, hooks Crazy Mose's leg, and YANKS, tripping him. He falls out of frame.

GRINCH

Sarcasm, people. Learn it, live it.

CRAZY MOSE (O.S.)

I'll try!

The Grinch makes a face.

NARRATOR (OVER)

It could be, perhaps, that his shoes were too tight.

CLOSE ON the Grinch's raggedy heavy shoe. His toe POPS out of the front of the shoe, revealing a razor sharp toe nail.

He kicks a car tire, puncturing it with a HISS. HE leans down and smells the foul tire air, smiles.

GRINCH

Mmmmm...stanky.

17 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - HOLIDAY CAROLERS

17

Sing happily, in time to a metronome. A green hand reaches into frame, TURNS the dial on the metronome. The carolers begin to sing faster and faster.

NARRATOR (OVER)

...Maybe his head wasn't screwed on just right.

EXT. WHOVILLE STREET

The Grinch walks along, lifts up his arm, grabs a who and stuffs him into his armpit. The Who goes limp, the Grinch drops him, heads off.

18 INT. WHO-VILLE STORE

18

On the counter of the crowded store, a shopper sets down a box labeled "Swingset." A green hand reaches into the box, steals the directions, scrawls something on another piece of paper and puts that in.

The hand drifts over the "Take a Penny, Leave a Penny" dish, and the pennies have been replaced with thumbtacks.

The Cashier turns to a customer.

(CONTINUED)

CASHIER

Two dollars and one cent please.

The customer reaches and...

CUSTOMER

Ow!

The customer holds up his hand, tacks stuck in every finger.

The shadow slinks out of the store.

GRINCH (O.C.)

Ya' Grinched.

19 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - HOLIDAY CAROLERS

19

Still singing insanely fast, sweating heavily, looking nervous trying to keep up with the metronome.

NARRATOR (OVER)

But I think that the most likely reason of all...

20 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - SHOPPERS

20

Pass, carrying bags of gifts. A green hand discreetly drops SNOWBALLS into the bags.

NARRATOR (OVER)

...May have been that his heart was two sizes too small.

21 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THE CHRISTMAS SCOREBOARD

21

The Grinch approaches, retrieves a PEA SHOOTER from his cloak, lifts his mask and BLOWS A PEA.

GRINCH

It's long enough, it's high enough...

ANGLE - THE DOZING TIMEKEEPER - THE PEA

PINGS on his helmet as if signaling a new hour. He snaps to attention. Panicked, he FLIPS his countdown clock 8 minutes AHEAD which causes...

ANGLE - THE STREET - PANDEMONIUM

All the WHOS FREAK! Shoppers pick up the already frantic pace. But just then everyone's bags BREAK from the SNOWBALLS.

(CONTINUED)

Packages DROP onto the ground, tripping whos carrying tall towers of packages. Packages sprawl everywhere. A HEAVY WHO falls onto the teeter totter launching the guy on the end into the air! He sails up, and down SMASH! into a bucket. He crawls around like a turtle, butt in the bucket.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH
(chuckles to himself)
Ya' Grinched!

22 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - HOLIDAY CAROLERS

22

The metronome clicks even faster. The Whos lie exhausted. Only one remains standing, red faced, eyes bulging and singing as fast as he possibly can.

The green hand reaches into frame, TWEAKS the metronome a notch faster. The lone caroler passes out. The Grinch smiles down at him.

GRINCH (CONT'D)
There's an old wise saying that goes
something like this...
(foreign language)
Gway vu na todai goko rama mooklas.
Which roughly translates to... ya'
Grinched!

He lowers the mask and heads off.

CUT TO:

23 INT. WHO-VILLE SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

23

Behind impossibly THICK GLASSES are the eyes of MISS RUE WHO, a skittish schoolteacher. She holds a long wavy ruler.

MISS RUE WHO
Alright, class, I'd like to hear what
subjects you've chosen for your Who-liday
class projects.

Cindy Lou looks out of the classroom window at Mt. Crumpit as her friend, SOPHIE, stands and addresses the class.

SOPHIE
The Who-liday class project I've chosen
is -- 'The Origins of the Santy Claus.'

A Who Boy stands.

WHO BOY
My topic is: "Searching for Presents -
How I locked myself in the attic for
three days, a survivor's tale."

Miss Rue-Who turns her owlish gaze on Cindy Lou.

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO

I propose to resolve a question no one in
Who-ville seems willing to answer.

WHO BOY

Why do crayons look so good but taste so
bad?

CINDY LOU-WHO

No. Who is the Grinch, and why doesn't
he like Christmas?

Miss Rue Who drops her ruler and simultaneously all the
window SHADES SNAP UP as every KID in class TURNS to look at
Cindy Lou with jaw-dropping ASTONISHMENT.

(CONTINUED)

MISS RUE-WHO
Cindy Lou-Who! We do not discuss that
sort of thing at school.

CINDY LOU-WHO
What? All I said was Gr--

MISS RUE-WHO
Aah!

Cindy sits down, lowers her head.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

24 INT. WHO-VILLE SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - LATER - THE KIDS ARE GONE
EXCEPT

Cindy Lou at her desk. Her head's still down when: Lou Lou-Who enters.

LOU LOU-WHO
Miss Rue-Who, I heard you were keeping my
daughter after school and I--

MISS RUE WHO
Sit down, Lou!

LOU LOU-WHO
(like a school boy)
Yes, Miss Rue-Who.

Lou stuffs himself into a tiny desk, as if wearing it.

MISS RUE WHO
Mr. Lou-Who, your daughter...She, well,
she said...oh my...

CINDY LOU-WHO
All I said was I want to do my Christmas
report on the Grinch.

The shades SNAP up again, startling Lou who almost falls over
in his desk. He tries to stand, but the DESK is STUCK on his
rear end. Undaunted, he hobbles to the teacher's desk.

LOU LOU-WHO
Look Miss Rue-Who, I'm sure we can
straighten this whole thing out.
Remember what a goof-off I was in school
and now look at me.
(proudly)
I'm the Post Master of Who-ville!

(CONTINUED)

MISS RUE WHO
By the way, did you ever find my package?

LOU LOU-WHO
No. No I didn't. Alright then, good-bye
Miss Rue-Who. Cindy, come help your old
man out down at the post office...

Lou turns, but accidentally SWEEPS everything off her big
desk with his little desk. He grabs Cindy Lou and hustles
out the door.

LOU LOU-WHO
Merry Christmas!!!

He trips on the way out...Crash!

DISSOLVE TO:

25 OMITTED

25

26 INT. POST OFFICE - LATER

26

Lou and Cindy are behind the counter. Lou slides back and
forth on a giant ladder taking packages from A LINE of Whos
that stretches forever

WHO #1
I need this there tomorrow!

WHO #2
I need this there today.

WHO #3
I need this there yesterday!

EE-14

(CONTINUED)

LOU LOU-WHO

Alright, we'll send them all heckuvarish.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Daddy, I'm sorry I got you in trouble.

Lou zooms by on the ladder.

LOU LOU-WHO

That's okay honey.

CINDY LOU-WHO

But I don't understand, why won't anyone talk about the Grinch?

Lou zooms back.

LOU LOU-WHO

You see Cindy, the Grinch is a Who who, well he's not really a who, he's more of a...

CINDY LOU-WHO

A what?

LOU LOU-WHO

Exactly. He's a what who just doesn't like Christmas. I mean look at his mailbox.

Lou points at a mail-slot laced with cobwebs.

LOU LOU-WHO

Not a single Christmas card in or out. Ever.

CINDY LOU-WHO

But why?

VOICE

Postmaster Lou-Who!

Reveal: Mayor May-Who and Who-Bris at the counter.

LOU LOU-WHO

Uh-oh. Be right there!

He zooms off to the counter.

MAY-WHO

We've got a bit of a problem with my mail: these letters are addressed to almost everyone in this town except me!

(CONTINUED)

He hands the stack of letters to Lou.

MAY-WHO (cont'd)

The book of Who is very clear about this subject, Lou: "Since Christmas cards are sent my mail, the postal service must never fail." I certainly hope you find every letter.

The Mayor heads out. •

WHO-BRIS

If you'd like to keep your job, you better.

LOU LOU-WHO

(nervous)

Yes, sir.

MAY-WHO

Merry Christmas!

Everyone responding brightly: "Merry Christmas!"

LOU LOU-WHO

Re: May-Who's mail)
But I sorted everything myself ...Sure strange.

HETTERMA

EE214

The Grinch is in the back room switching letters into the wrong boxes and shuffling the mail like a card shark...

GRINCH

...Mrs. Wholihan? How would you like a copy of PentWho?

(holds up a letter)

...College acceptance? I don't think so, welcome to the Navy. Jury duty, jury duty, ooh free shampoo.

(he pockets it)

Alright, shuffle!

He shuffles the big stack of mail like a deck of cards. Holds up his hands like a dealer.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Good luck players.

He starts throwing them into boxes at lightning speed.

Lou's overwhelmed by mail.

BOYS! I need your help. Sort this.

Stu and Drew approach. Lou hands them large stacks of mail.

DREW LOU-WHO

(hands back to Stu)

Stu will do it.

STU LOU-WHO

(hands it back)

Drew will do it.

Beat. They hand all the mail to Cindy.

STU/DREW

All done dad!

They head off. Cindy starts putting the mail into slots. When she passes the Grinch's mail slot, she SEES...

THRU THE MAILSLOT - A REDDISH EYEBALL

Peering at her from the other end! It WINKS. Cindy Lou blinks in disbelief. She heads around the mailslots, past STU AND DREW, who hold court with a group of facinated YOUNGER WHOS.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG WHO
Did you guys really see...the Grinch?

STU LOU-WHO
That's right. Here's what happened, see,
we're up on Mt. Crumpit with four girls.

(CONTINUED)

DREW LOU-WHO

Six girls!

STU LOU-WHO

And I'm kissing Christina...

DREW LOU-WHO

No, I'm kissing Christina!

STU LOU-WHO

No I am!

Cindy slips into...

Apprehensively, she walks around to the OTHER SIDE of the mail slots but relaxes when she SEES a JOLLY WHO in a cloak with his dog at his side. He's doing card tricks with the letters, like Ricky Jay.

Cindy climbs up on the stool, reaches for the cord on a swinging overhead light...

CINDY LOU-WHO
(to Cloaked Figure)
Uh, excuse me...can I help you find something?

She snaps the light ON. Suddenly the Figure turns around. The mask has been on the BACK of his head.

THE GRINCH
My Christmas SPIRIT...MAYBE!!!

CLOSE - THE GRINCH - EXPOSED!

The sight that has been kept from Who-man eyes for 20 years.

STU LOU-WHO (O.C.)
It was totally the Grinch. His skin's all red and leathery...

The Grinch looks down at his own skin, greenish and covered with fur.

GRINCH
Please, it's avocado.

DREW LOU-WHO (O.C.)
...and he was thirty feet tall and he weighed 500 pounds!

GRINCH
All those hours I spent at the gym, wasted!

(to her, concerned)
Do you think I look fat?

DREW LOU-WHO (cont'd)
...and he had big fangs and his breath smelled like a swamp.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH
(checks his breath)
They've got me there.

Cindy Lou GASPS...

CINDY LOU-WHO
You're...him.

She stumbles backwards, topples over the stool, down into...

30 INT. POST OFFICE - THE PACKAGE FUNNEL - CINDY SLIPS DOWN 30

...her feet DANGLING over the CONVEYOR BELT that feeds the lethal "FRAGILE" STAMPER. They inch toward it.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Help!

31 INT. POST OFFICE - AT THE COUNTER - LOU AND THE OTHERS 31

can't hear Cindy's cries over the customers' cacophony. Lou grabs a package, weighs it, throws it in a bin. He grabs another package, weighs it, tosses it. He grabs a small Who holding a package, weighs him, starts to toss him when...

SMALL WHO
Hey!

32 INT. POST OFFICE - PACKAGE FUNNEL AREA - THE GRINCH - 32

Coldly ignores Cindy's cries, takes out a pen, doctors up one last kid's letter to Santa. Crosses out "puppy" and writes in "debilitating illness." Then, turns to leave.

THE GRINCH
Let's go home, Max. I believe our work here is finished.

We stay TIGHT on the Grinch's face as he takes a step. He stops, seems to wince a little.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

Hmm, do I sense...your disapproval?

REVEAL...Max's jaws are CLAMPED TO THE GRINCH'S BUTT.

THE GRINCH

Bad dog! That is not a chew toy!

The Grinch spins 360, FLINGING him into a mail bag. The Grinch rubs his ass.

THE GRINCH

Well, mangy conscience of mine, if you're so concerned, by all means, go help!

The dog runs to the chute, grabs her by the foot and tries to pull her out.

The Grinch watches as Max struggles in vain.

GRINCH

(sighs)

I guess it's all fun and games until someone gets smashed in a giant stamping machine.

The Grinch extends a helping hand to her. Cindy Lou touches it, quickly pulls her back.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Your hand's like an icicle! A hairy icicle!

THE GRINCH

No...

(pulls something out of his jacket)

This is a hairy icicle! And this is a hairy fudgcicle.

(takes a bite)

Hmm...could use more hair.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Thanks for saving me.

THE GRINCH

Saving you!

(laughs hysterically)

Oh that's rich! I saved you!

He laughs and laughs. Starts choking and pulls out an ASTHMA INHALER. Takes a hit, catches his breath.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

Ahhh....

(starts laughing again)

Saved you!

CINDY LOU-WHO

Yes. You saved me.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

Well I only saved you to do this!

Her POV - he lunges at her! The screen goes BLACK.

CUT TO:

SECONDS LATER

Cindy is wrapped up as a package. The Grinch finishes tying the bow.

THE GRINCH

There you are, all wrapped up with no place to go. That is what Christmas is all about for you people, isn't it? Presents.

Suddenly, there's FOOTSTEPS.

LOU LOU-WHO (O.C.)

Cindy Lou, it's time to go home.

ANGLE - LOU COMES AROUND THE CORNER

He stops, the Grinch is gone.

LOU LOU-WHO

Cindy Lou?

A package in the corner shakes and then TWO LITTLE ARMS poke out the sides. They reach up and unwrap the ribbon and Cindy Lou's head pops out.

LOU LOU-WHO (cont'd)

What happened?

CINDY LOU-WHO

Um... I accidentally wrapped myself up.

LOU LOU-WHO

That happens to me almost every day.
Let's go home

33 EXT. THE LOU-WHO'S HOUSE - NIGHT - LOU AND CINDY

33

approach the house, carrying armloads of packages.

LOU LOU-WHO

No lights on in the house, your mom must be out shopping.

(CONTINUED)

BETTY LOU-WHO

Up here, honey!

Now REVEAL his wife up on a ladder in housecoat, scarf and gaiters. BETTY LOU-WHO teeters, seeming to defy gravity, as she rolls out a huge spool of Christmas lights onto the overlighted roof.

(CONTINUED)

LOU LOU-WHO
Have you been up there all day?

BETTY LOU-WHO
I can feel it Lou. This is the year. When the judges read the name of the lighting contest winner, they're going to cry out "Missus Betty Lou Who!!!"

She madly staples more lights to the roof.

BETTY LOU-WHO
Hand me those lights, Lou?

Lou picks up a light fixture, looks at it as he hands it up.

LOU LOU-WHO
Isn't this the chandelier from the dining room?

BETTY LOU-WHO
It's all for the cause, dear. Cindy, want to help mommy rewire the fusebox?

CINDY LOU-WHO
No, I'm going to go inside.

Betty Lou shrugs, scrambles up the roof. Cindy heads for the house.

LOU LOU-WHO
Hey, can you take these presents into the house for me?

CINDY LOU-WHO
(sarcastic)
Sure. Presents. I guess that's what Christmas is all about.

LOU LOU-WHO
(beams)
That-a-girl!

He puts his huge stack of packages on top of the packages Cindy already has. She heads into the house.

Betty reaches for a string of lights, her ladder goes over backwards to about 45°. Lou grabs it at the last second, gets tangled in the string of lights.

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO

(O.S.)

There's no lights in here!

BETTY LOU-WHO

Feel your way around, dear. Oh, and could you be Mommy's little helper and unscrew the bulb from the refrigerator.

Betty begins tugging on the spool, stapling it down, strangling Lou with each tug.

BETTY LOU-WHO (CONT'D)

Every year, Martha May-Whovier wins the contest. Well, not this year. This year I'm going to beat that prim, perfect little--

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER (O.S.)

Betty!

Betty turns to see: MARTHA MAY WHOVIER standing on the front porch of her well-decorated little home across the street.

BETTY LOU-WHO

(sweeetly)

Martha!

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

My, I've never seen so many beautiful Christmas lights, Betty Lou!

BETTY LOU-WHO

Oh, I'd blow every fuse if I tried to keep up with you, Martha May.

(under her breath)

You color-coordinated crag...

(CONTINUED)

Martha takes out a small antique box, removes some tiny lights.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Aren't these antiques darling? They're handcrafted and almost a hundred years old.

She hangs them over her doorway. Then she pulls out a large dangerous looking LIGHTING GUN.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER (CONT'D)

This, however, is new.

She cocks the gun, begins firing lights into the facade of her house. BANG BANG BANG!

Martha blows smoke from the barrel of the gun, smiles at Betty.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER (CONT'D)

Well, good night Betty. Good luck in the contest. And by the way, you're strangling your husband.

Betty Lou notices Lou's tangled in lights.

BETTY LOU-WHO

Lou! Are you okay? Speak to me.

LOU LOU-WHO

(looking up, still strangled)

You're not...wearing...underwear.

Betty gives a look. Oops.

ANGLE - Martha May heads up her stairs, sneaks out a flask of egg-nog.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

(sotto)

It's Christmas somewhere.

MAY-WHO (O.C.)

Why hello, Martha!

walk down the street. May-Who waves at Martha.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER
August. to what do I owe the pleasure?

MAY-WHO
Well, I was...you know...in the
neighborhood...and, um, seeing you...

Who-bris chimes in.

WHO-BRIS
Would do us good!

MAY-WHO
(sotto, to Who-Bris)
You know this is sort of my deal.

WHO-BRIS
I won't be a third wheel.

35 EXT. MARTHA MAY'S HOUSE - THE GRINCH - WATCHING

35

PHILIP
GRINCH
Uch. This guy makes me want to puke.
Wait a second. I love puking. This guy
makes me want to not puke! Euuuch!

Reveal that he's standing behind the body of a SNOWMAN so his
head looks like the top of it. He turns away from the scene,
snorts disgustedly as he topples the rest of it.

Then the hairs on his head stand up straight! An idea!

GRINCH (CONT'D)
I think it's time the Mayor and I had a
little snowball fight!

He picks up a snowball.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Maybe I'll put a rock in it.

ANGLE - the Grinch is trying to cover a large boulder with patches of snow to make it a "snowball."

GRINCH

Yes, the old snowball with a rock in it.

He strains to pick up the rock.

ANGLE - THE MAYOR

still nervously pitching woo to Martha.

MAY-WHO

So, um, what would you say to a night on the town? If you're willing perhaps we could--

The rock sails over him and nails WHO-BRIS. FWAMP!

WHO-BRIS

Man down!

The rock smacks Who-Bris and sends him flying into a Who-ey topiary.

ANGLE - The Grinch grumbles.

GRINCH

Well that didn't work.

Max smirks.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Oh like your ideas are so much better:
It's always pee on this, or pee on that!
(stops thinks)
Actually....

He turns around as the strains of a sweet, sad Christmas SONG pre-lapped...

36 INT. LOU-WHO HOUSE - CINDY LOU'S ROOM - A RECORD

36

is playing on Cindy Lou's funny-looking record player. It's a saccharin Christmas ditty.

The room is lit only by Cindy's flashlight. Cindy looks at the record player skeptically, adjusts the speed on the record player, it SLOWS DOWN and gets somber now.

(CONTINUED)

Cindy SINGS along with the record, a sad lament. As she sings, she accidentally knocks a Christmas decoration off her wall. She starts to put it back up, shakes her head, lowers it again.

She doesn't hear the door open...

ANGLE - DOORWAY - BETTY AND LOU

look in on their daughter. As the song ends, they both instantly affect huge grins and applaud.

LOU LOU-WHO
That's a beautiful song, Cindy. But I
think you're playing it on the wrong
speed.

He adjusts the record player. It spews peppy music again.

LOU LOU-WHO
That's better.

BETTY LOU-WHO
Now hand over the flashlight, sweetie.
Every bulb counts. Maybe you want to help
Mommy lease an arc welder tomorrow?

BETTY LOU-WHO
No thanks. I'm going to be busy. I've
decided to go ahead with my school report
on the Grinch.

Betty and Lou look nervous.

LOU LOU-WHO
Merry Christmas?

Betty takes the flashlight.

37 EXT. WHO-VILLE - NIGHT - THE GRINCH HUSTLING WITH MAX 37

to a cylindrical "Who-ville Dumpster" and opens the lid.

THE GRINCH
Fleas before beauty.

The Grinch gets in, scratching. Max growls, follows.

38 INT. SEUSSIAN DUMPSTER 38

It's a giant steel version of a department store vacuum tube that brings its garbage to Mt. Crumpit. The Grinch presses a SWITCH marked "Dumpit-to-Crumpit."

(CONTINUED)

There's a high-pitched WHINE and WHOOSH!! The Grinch, with Max in his arms, disappear as they ROCKET up the tube.

DISSOLVE TO:

39 OLD MAP

39

As the Grinch shoots through the tube we see the path of his travels as a red line on an old map, like in Indiana Jones.

Bing! Bing! Bing! The red line bounces all around the map between Whoville and Mt. Crumpit.

The line finally takes a straight shot all the way to Mt. Crumpit. But right before it gets there, it falls back down to Whoville and bounces around a lot more.

(CONTINUED)

The line knocks around until BAM! it hits a tree and bounces back a bit. BANG! It tries again. BANG! BANG! again and again. Then at last it goes around.

GRINCH (OVER)

Finally.

BANG! The line hits another tree. Then finally heads to the mountain.

40 INT. MOUNTAIN TUNNEL - THE GRINCH AND MAX - BLASTING THRU 40

Up, up, they go thru the mountain...until the tube spits him out like a cat coughing up a hair ball.

41 EXT. LANDFILL - ADJOINING CAVE - THE GRINCH AND MAX LAND 41

softly with a THUK! THUK! He shakes it off.

GRINCH

You know, a car would have paid for itself by now.

The Grinch extricates himself from the heap of crud.

GRINCH (cont'd)

Why do I bother? Everytime I try to add a little bit of misery to their Who lives, I'm disappointed. Frankly, the only good thing about them is their garbage.

He reaches into a pile of fresh garbage, pulls things out.

GRINCH (cont'd)

Look at these goodies: Dentures, hardly used, a perfectly sharp syringe, almost all of an apple, and look at this: a blendilator, good as new.

He holds up a battered Seussian hand-mixer.

GRINCH (cont'd)

I can use this.

He runs off.

42 INT. THE GRINCH'S DIMLY LIT CAVE - THE GRINCH ENTERS 42

Carrying the blendilator. Wind WHISTLES through, water drops ECHO from within.

THE GRINCH

Ah, the warmth of hearth and home!

(CONTINUED)

He reaches up for a string and PULLS. There's a CRANKING sound, the CRACKLE and then SPARK of electricity. The lights come on, REVEALING...

ANGLE - THE CAVE

(CONTINUED)

turns out to be a Seuss Wonderland. Power is provided by a wild-looking EXTRUDER, which takes Who-ville cast-offs and turns them into electricity.

The Grinch runs to a workbench covered in junk, deftly attaches the blendilator to a partially built contraption made up of other refuse. He winds a crank on the device, it starts playing SPACE AGE BACHELOR PAD music. He dances a few steps.

GRINCH

From junky, to funky.

He dances behind a dressing screen, emerges an instant later wearing a smoking jacket.

GRINCH (cont'd)

The cocktail flag is up.

He crosses to a bar, reaches ice-tongs into a dented ice-bucket, pulls out few batteries and drops them into a dirty glass with a "clink".

GRINCH (cont'd)

Turpentine and tonic...

He pours some shoe polish and some paint remover into the glass, swirls it around, tastes it. He grabs an oily rag, squeezes it into the glass.

GRINCH (cont'd)

...with a twist. I'll tell you, Maxie boy, this is the life.

(sniffs)

Ugh! What is that smell!

He digs through piles of putrid garbage, casting aside rotten food, slime, you name it.

GRINCH

Ah ha!

He's found the culprit. A lone pretty FLOWER growing amongst the waste. The Grinch catches a whiff and dry heaves.

GRINCH (cont'd)

Ogch! Get this out of here.

He yanks it out and tosses it aside. Max grabs it and sneaks it into his DOG HOUSE.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH
That's better.

He strolls through his cave, past a library filled with antlers and stuffed heads on the wall. We make out the heads of a ZAX, a SNEETCH, the LORAX, and even THE CAT IN THE HAT.

GRINCH (cont'd)
I tell you Max, I don't know why I ever leave this place, I've got everything I need: my fungus hedge maze, earwax sculpture garden, everything. Although the stables are in disrepair...

QUICK POP - A RUN DOWN STABLE. A horse's legs stick up into frame. One of the legs breaks and falls over.

BACK TO The Grinch in his cave.

GRINCH (cont'd)
You know, I'm never leaving this place again Max, especially around Christmas. Those Whos are animals.

(CONTINUED)

Max growls.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Are you growling at them or at me?

Max growls again.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

I still can't tell. I've gotta find
someone who can talk...Someone like me...

The Grinch checks himself out in a FUNHOUSE mirror where his
image is hideously distorted. He nods.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

A miserable putrid cur, utterly
contemptible, totally soulless,
completely heartless...

(hairs raise in a question)

Completely heartless!?

He whirls to a CONTRAPTION and flicks ON the X-ray screen,
points the extending nose cone arm (like the dentist's) at
his chest. The screen is a BLANK. The Grinch searches his
chest cavity, finally locates a SHRIVELED HEART.

THE GRINCH

Not quite yet. But we're gettin there!

He GRINS as we SEE his heart ~~SHINK~~ before our very eyes.
Gratified, he snaps OFF the machine, now pats his paunch.

THE GRINCH

I'm feeling a bit...peckish. TABLE FOR
ONE!!!

The Grinch steps on the TOOTH of a GIANT GEAR that carries
him and Max UP to the TOP of a spindly ~~SPALAGMITE~~. He STEPS
OFF and seats himself at his lonely, towering, dining
table.

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE - AN OVEN IS HOISTED UP

to the Grinch table with a junk yard-type electro-magnet.
BING! The door POPS opens, and a BIG PORTERHOUSE STEAK
slides out. The Grinch and Max eye it.

Then a mechanical arm lifts a pan off the stove: a sickening
ground-up concoction obviously intended for the dog.

THE GRINCH

Let's see, Max ole pal, looks like ground
egg shells, gristle, toe nails, used band-
aids and maybe a slug or two.

The Grinch digs in passes the steak to Max!

THE GRINCH

(mouthful)

You don't mind if I start, do you? Oops!
Almost forgot the wine.

He empties a bottle of wine into a large goblet. Then he eats
the bottle.

GRINCH

Hmm. Oakey, but not overpowering. Not
bad for a young bottle.

He pours the wine out of the goblet and eats the glass too.

CUT TO:

45 EXT. OLD BIDDIES' HOUSE - CINDY

45

Knocks on the door. It opens, revealing an old female Who:
CLARNELLA WHO-BIDDIE.

CLARNELLA

Hello there little girl, are you here to
read to us?

CINDY LOU-WHO

No, I hear you know some things about the
Grinch.

Cindy holds up an old yeti-style newspaper photo of the
Grinch. Clarnella looks around nervously, pulls her inside.

tape reels spin squeakily as Cindy begins her interviews.

CLARNELLA (O.S.)
Christmas cookies, dear?

NEW ANGLE - CINDY PROPS THE MIC

in front of Clarnella, and another old Biddie: ROSE. They smile sweetly at Cindy as they offer her a plate of old-looking cookies.

ROSE
Try one.

Cindy holds one up, cobwebs run from the cookie to the plate.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Not while I'm working. I want to ask you about the Grinch.

ROSE
Whoticus Finch? I haven't seen him in years. What a delightful man.

CINDY LOU-WHO
No, the Grinch. Where did he come from?

CLARNELLA
He came the way all babies come...

47 EXT. SKY - FLASHBACK - NIGHT - TINY STRIPED PARACHUTES

47

carrying little baskets with BABIES, drift lazily into FRAME and DOWN toward the lights of Who-ville. We watch as one lands on a Who doorstep.

CLARNELLA (OVER)
...On calm nights, they drift down from the sky on little pumbrasellas.

An EXPECTANT WHO DAD opens the door, calls excitedly inside.

WHO DAD
Hey honey, our baby's here.
(looks, then looks again)
He looks just like your boss.

CLARNELLA

... it was 40 years ago this Christmas
eve...

(CONTINUED)

ROSE
Whoticus's lady friend was out of town
for the weekend, and he was feeling
lonely...

CLARNELLA
Rose!
(to Cindy)
As I was saying, it was Christmas eve,
and a strange wind blew that night...

49 EXT. SKY - FLASHBACK

49

We HEAR a HOWL OF WIND -- a cross between a coyote and a baby
cry -- which sends...

THE LAST LITTLE PARACHUTE - SWINGING WILDLY
like a carnival ride OFF COURSE. FOLLOW it DOWN...

50 EXT./INT. OLD BIDDIES' HOUSE - FLASHBACK

50

...into a TREE next to the Biddies' House. A furry little
face peeks out of the basket, the BABY GRINCH. He looks out,
starts to CRY.

PHILIPETTE
ROSE (OVER)
We were having our annual holiday get-
together...

BABY GRINCH - POV - THRU BIDDIE'S WINDOW - A PARTY

is in full swing. Rowdy Whos down nog and chase each other
around a table. Who couples toss keys into a bowl. Music and
yelling drown out the mini-Grinch's CRIES.

CLARNELLA (OVER)
It was morning before anybody realized he
was out there, the poor dear...

51 EXT. OLD BIDDIES' HOUSE

51

Two hung-over Who males stagger out, switch jackets, stumble
off past the Baby Grinch. His eyebrows curl for the first
time as he gurgles an angry "grrr-inch, grrr-inch!"

52 INT. BIDDIE HOUSE - CINDY LOU - NODS

52

as the Old Biddies, reluctant, stare down at Cindy's feet.

CLARNELLA
We knew right away he was...special.

(CONTINUED)

ROSE

Yes, Whoticus was a strong man, but gentle. He had a tattoo of--

CLARNELLA

Rose! We're talking about the Grinch.

ROSE

Who?

CLARNELLA

Anyway...

53 INT. BIDDIES' HOUSE - FLASHBACK - THE BABY GRINCH 53

Sits on the floor. The Biddies feed him spoonfuls of Christmas-ey baby food. The Biddies smile, when...

BABY GRINCH (O.C.)

BUUUUUUUURRRRRRRPPP!

The Biddies' hair is blown back by the force. They wince from the smell.

CLARNELLA (OVER)

He was a wonderful little...whatever he was...and we raised him like any other Who child.

54 INT. (YOUNG) MISS RUE WHO'S CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK 54

A class room of attentive Who kids. On each kid's desk is a little nameplate with their names hand-drawn.

Miss Rue-Who has her back to us, but we recognize her familiar hair as she writes her name on the board.

MISS RUE-WHO

Hello class! My name is Ms. Rue-Who.

She turns to REVEAL she is a young bombshell, bright-eyed and smiling.

MISS RUE-WHO (CONT'D)

I won't be teaching here long, as I've met a rich man and plan to marry soon. Now, as you all know, tomorrow is our holiday Who-bilation...

The camera FINDS a little HAIRY GRINCH BOY dressed in lederhosen, but he's not listening to Miss Rue-Who, he's staring moonily at...

(CONTINUED)

POV - AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD - MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

sitting at the head of the class, her binder matches her pencils which match her dress. Seated next to her is a YOUNG MAY-WHO, holding the BOOK of WHO.

(CONTINUED)

The Young Grinch GRUMBLES as he watches him give her a candy cane. She accepts it gladly.

Young May-Who feels the Grinch's stare, looks back at him and raises his hand.

YOUNG MAY-WHO
Teacher! The new kid is shedding...

The LITTLE WHO-BRIS laughs, then all the students follow. The Grinch tries to shrink under his desk.

CLARNELLA (OVER)
He just wanted to fit in, but he never really knew how...

55 INT. BIDDIE'S CLOSET - FLASHBACK

55

The little Grinch sits holding a hand mirror. We see an empty bottle of Nair. The Grinch struggles with an Epilady. Discouraged, he throws it down and grabs an electric razor.

He starts to shave as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

56 INT. MISS RUE WHO'S CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK - MISS RUE-WHO
ENTERS the classroom.

56

MISS RUE-WHO
Good news children. Whedicus Finch and I are officially engaged, and unless something goes horribly wrong, we'll be married this weekend and you'll never see me aga-- Why do you have a bag on your head?

REVEAL the Grinch in the back of the class wearing a paper bag over his head with eye holes. The Grinch gives a "who me" expression.

MISS RUE-WHO (CONT'D)
Take it off please.

The Grinch takes the bag off but quickly puts a book up to cover his face.

MISS RUE-WHO (CONT'D)
And put the book down.

The book goes down but he covers his face with his foot.

(CONTINUED)

MISS RUE-WHO (CONT'D)
And your foot.

He slowly puts his foot down.

ANGLE ON: the students horrified.

NEW ANGLE - FROM THE FRONT - THE GRINCH HAS SHAVED

his face in an effort to look like a regular Who.
Unfortunately, he's done a hack job on himself -- his face is
a patchwork of razor burns and toilet paper squares.

Everyone in the class starts LAUGHING. The Grinch puts the
bag back on his head.

57 INT. BIDDIES' HOUSE - CINDY LOU

57

wide-eyed.

CLARNELLA
He never came home that night.

ROSE
I remember because that was the night Who-
ticus' fiancée found out about our secret
love.

QUICK POP - Young Miss Rue-Who opens the door of a shaking
car, looks in, SCREAMS, suddenly morphs into an older Miss
Rue-Who.

CLARNELLA
Rose!

CUT TO:

58 EXT. TOWN HALL - MAY-WHO

58

is being interviewed by Cindy. Who-Bris shines his shoes
throughout.

MAY-WHO
I don't like discussing this...Grinch so
close to Christmas... but, maybe if you
hear the truth, you'll understand why.
(to Who-Bris)
Put your back into it.
(to Cindy)
The Grinch had become...troubled.

59 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - FLASHBACK - CU - THE BACK OF A
DUCKTAIL

59

Hairy hands flip up the collar on a biker jacket. REVEAL the WHO-VENILE DELINQUENT GRINCH perfecting his pompadour with a switchblade comb. He's astride a Seussian motorcycle of his own design.

MAY-WHO (OVER)

I'd have to say he was a who-venile delinquent.

60 EXT. WHO-VILLE - X-MAS EVE - FLASHBACK - IN THE SQUARE

60

Clean-cut Who TEENAGERS led by a TEEN MAY-WHO are holding hands and SINGING a capella when a growing RUMBLE drowns them out. All eyes turn to...

ANGLE - ROOFTOP - THE WHO-VENILE GRINCH

Astride his Who-hog. He GUNS it and rides down a string of Christmas lights into the pack of Whos. They SCREAM and TUMBLE out of his way as the Grinch tilts his head back guzzling a 'Hoppsenbelcher'.

MAY-WHO (O.C.)

He was ~~very~~ loud and rude, and I was forced to ~~deal~~ with him quite severely.

Teen May-Who steps toward the Grinch.

TEEN MAY-WHO

Hey, you can't--

The Who-venile Grinch grabs him, twirls him around over his head and throws him into Teen Who-Bris, who falls into a fountain.

ANGLE - TEEN MARTHA MAY is fascinated by this rebel.

The Grinch SNAPS his fingers, points with his thumb to the back of the bike. Martha May climbs on the back of the bike. The Grinch ROARS OFF.

61 INT. MARTHA-MAY WHO-VIER'S HOUSE - BACK TO PRESENT

61

Martha looks as if she's hiding something.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Well, it was just...horrible. I, I...
screamed for help...

Martha May continues to giggle with delight. The Grinch does a WHEELIE, pulls back into the square. She stares dreamily into the Grinch's eyes. They're about to KISS when..

Teen May-Who approaches, cautiously.

TEEN MAY-WHO

Martha, if your friend here is done
violating our local helmet laws, perhaps
he'd like to join us in a song.

Teen Who-Bris pops in holding an accordion with a drum and a
cymbal attached.

TEEN WHO-BRIS

I brought my Congaccordion, I'll play
along!

(CONTINUED)

TEEN MAY-WHO

Can I see that congaccordion my friend?

He takes it, heaves it as far as he can. Who-Bris runs after it.

WHO-BRIS

Aww, you threw it in the street again.

They head off. Martha looks to The Grinch.

TEEN MARTHA MAY

I've got a Christmas present for you.

She kisses her hand, touches him on the cheek. Teen Grinch melts.

WHO-VENILE GRINCH

Whoah...you're as wontubulous as a bouquet of bloomalillies.

TEEN MARTHA MAY

That's beautiful...

GRINCH'S POV: Behind Martha, a florist shop's sign reads "Nothing says wootubulous like a bouquet of Bloomalillies!"

WHO-VENILE GRINCH

I'll be back with something special for you.

He starts his bike, rides off.

BACK WITH MAY-WHO - PRESENT

MAY-WHO

We didn't see him for awhile. Lord knows what sordid acts of depravity he was up to.

INT. GRINCH CAVE - FLASHBACK

Who-venile Grinch FRANCES around the cave, twirling like a schoolgirl. Romantic music plays, lots of violins.

The Grinch gracefully CARVES a piece of wood, reveal it's an angel. He smiles. The Grinch delicately HANDPAINTS the Angel to look like Martha. He smiles.

The Grinch SEWING lace and frilly cloth into doll clothes. He accidentally pricks his finger, shrieks.

(CONTINUED)

A HAPPY BIRD flies up to him with a ribbon in its mouth. The Grinch takes the ribbon, ties it onto the angel. The Grinch holds his finger out, the bird lands on it.

The bird whistles a jaunty tune, the Grinch whistles it back, then EATS THE BIRD.

He takes a last look at the angel, smiles, skips out of the cave.

EXT. WHOVILLE - TEEN MARTHA MAY

Stands in the square, looking round expectantly.

TEEN MAY-WHO (O.C.)

Martha?

TEEN MARTHA MAY

You're back!

Martha turns to see Teen May-Who.

TEEN MARTHA MAY

(disappointed)

Oh, it's you...

TEEN MAY-WHO

Merry Christmas Martha, this is just a small token of my affection.

He WHISTLES loudly. REVEAL: A ~~Grinch~~ swings a HUGE GIFT-WRAPPED PRESENT toward them. Who-Bris stands atop the present, guiding it in.

TEEN MARTHA MAY

Why August, thank you.

TEEN MAY-WHO

Martha...we're under the mistletoe.

Who-Bris quickly snaps out an antenna-like stick with a piece of mistletoe on the end.

TEEN MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

And the book of Who is very clear on this point:

(he snaps, the book drops into his hand)

"A kiss is required when mistletoe is above."

TEEN WHO-BRIS

So hustle on over and give him some love!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Martha sighs, looks around, and tries to give him a quick kiss. May-Who grabs her and plants a big one on her.

ANGLE: The Grinch happily returning with his gift.

WHOVENILE GRINCH

(singing)

I'm in love I'm in love I'm in--Whu?

GRINCH'S POV: Martha kisses May-Who. The Grinch looks at the huge present. He looks down at his own jerry-rigged angel.

TIGHT SHOTS: The Grinch's face, in shock; May-Who kissing a struggling Martha.

(CONTINUED)

The Grinch boils over in rage and betrayal. He SNAPS!

WHOVENILE GRINCH (cont'd)
Aaaaarrrrrghhh! I hate this! I hate all
you Whos! I hate all your presents! I
hate Christmas! You'll all pay!

The Grinch jumps on his bike. He tries to kick to start it
but it won't start.

WHOVENILE GRINCH (cont'd)
You'll all pay!!

Tries again. Nothing. He slowly pushes the bike out of town.

WHOVENILE GRINCH (cont'd)
(sadly imitating a motor)
Vroom. Vrooom.

63 EXT. TOWN HALL - BACK TO PRESENT - MAY-WHO

63

MAY-WHO
...and that's the last time we saw him.
Oh, except for that odd incident a few
years later.

64 EXT. TOWN SQUARE FLASHBACK

64

Whos file into a building. A Poster tacked to a wall reads:
"The Button-Down Mind of Mister Grinch. One night only!"

INSIDE THE BUILDING - A SMALL STAGE

A brick-wall background. A stool, a glass of water and a
microphone. The Grinch enters wearing a sportjacket with
rolled-up sleeves, a skinny tie.

GRINCH
Hey, hot crowd, hot crowd. Where you
from sir? Who-ville. My hometown. How
about you, sir? Also Who-ville, super.
Hey, what's the deal with egg-nog? You
only see it around Christmas. What are
those guys making the rest of the year?

ANGLE: The crowd is dead silent. The Grinch looks nervous,
starts to sweat through his jacket.

GRINCH
And what about Christmas? Does that suck
or what? Am I right ladies?

Again, deafening silence. We hear a single COUGH.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH
Peace, I'm out!

The Grinch slams down the mic, runs off stage.

MAY-WHO

...and that was the last time we saw him.

Cindy nods sadly. REVEAL: Who-Bris is now giving May-Who a manicure.

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

You know, there are other more suitable role models for a young girl such as yourself. Perhaps someone who holds an elected office. Interesting fact about me, they had to take my consils out twice. You see they...Cindy? Cindy?

He looks around, she's gone. He nods to himself.

MAY-WHO (cont'd)

I think I talked some sense into her.

(to Who-Bris)

Mind the cuticles.

DISSOLVE TO:

66 EXT. CAVE - A SNOWY MORNING - THE GRINCH

66

sits outside his cave, glowering down at Who-ville.

NARRATOR (OVER)

So whatever the reason, his heart or his shoes...He stood outside his cave, hating the Whos...

He reaches over for his old leather jacket. He puts it on, struggles to zip it over his belly.

Now we HEAR a CACOPHONY of CHRISTMAS CHEER echoing up the mountain. The Grinch practically convulses, puts his eye back to the scope.

67 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THRU TELESCOPE - CU A BANNER

67

which reads: "WHO-BILATION WHO-BILEE 1000!" Whos, dressed in costume, are beginning to trickle in.

68 EXT. CAVE - BACK TO THE GRINCH -

68

He shakes his head in disgust.

THE GRINCH

Dreezits! It's their Who-bilation!!!

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR (OVER)
...he snarled with a sneer.

THE GRINCH
Tomorrow is Christmas! It's practically
here!

(CONTINUED)

He looks down at Max, who's bobbing his head to the MUSIC from below. The Grinch shoots Max a look.

THE GRINCH

I can't watch another minute of this.

He walks off. Beat, runs back, looks into scope.

THE GRINCH

What are they doing now? Uch, the marching band again? That's it. I quit. No more.

He walks off. Beat, runs back, looks into scope.

THE GRINCH

That's the same drum major as last year! I thought they were getting rid of him. He's terrible.

He tries to zip up his jacket. Tugs hard on the zipper until RRRRIIPP!

He looks down, there's hair caught all the way up the zipper.

GRINCH

Errrrgh...

He yanks the zipper down. There's a horrible HAIR TEARING noise and his eye go wide with pain.

69 EXT. WHOVILLE STREET - LOU AND CINDY LOU-WHO

69

and the boys walking to the Whobilation.

GRINCH

(O.S. distant)

Aaaaaaaiiiighhhhhh!

Cindy looks up from the Book of Who, distracted by the noise. Lou in his "Eggnogger Cloggers" uniform reads from a notecard.

LOU LOU-WHO (READS)

I...Lou Lou-Who, humble Post Master of Who-ville, hereby spontaneously...

(to self)

Spon-tay-neeusly. Spon-tay-neeusly.

(reading again)

...nominate my employer Mayor August May-Who, for Holiday Cheer-meister...

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO
Dad, I've been thinking about the Who-
Bilation, and I may do something drastic.

LOU LOU-WHO
(not looking up)
Great dear, ask your mother.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Where'd she go?

Betty Lou appears

BETTY LOU-WHO
Sorry, I just found the cutest light for
my Christmas display.

REVEAL it's a traffic light. We hear a SCREEEECH and a CRASH!

(CONTINUED)

BETTY LOU-WHO (CONT'D)
Hurry up, we're going to be late.

They head into the town square, where

70 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THE WHOBILATION IN FULL SWING 70

Everyone in the town is gathered in festive Christmas attire.

AT THE PODIUM - AUGUST MAY-WHO

stands on the steps wearing a plaid sash, an antler hat festooned with moss and holly, and Christmas red puttees.

He holds a hand for quiet to the SEA of WHOS before him.

MAY-WHO
And now, the nominations for that Who among us who best typifies the qualities of Who-dom and Who-dery. The Whoville Holiday Cheermeister!!!

May-Who runs a hand through his pompadour.

MAY-WHO
Do I hear a nomina...

Before he can even finish the sentence, Lou Lou-Who STANDS

LOU LOU-WHO
(reads)
I, Lou Lou-Who, humble 1st Master of Whoville, hold for applause, do hereby, smile, eye contact, make them think this is your own idea--

LITTLE VOICE
I nominate the Grinch!

The Crowd GASPS.

71 INT. SCHOOL ROOM 71

A janitor sweeps up. FWAP! The shades go up again.

72 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THE CROWD - SHOCKED 72

They turn to the source of this anarchy. It's...

POV - AT THE SIDE OF THE STAGE - CINDY LOU

May-Who looks down at her, smile coming off his face. He looks down at Lou and Betty Lou, raises an eyebrow.

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

My, my, what an altruistic daughter you have there, Lou.

LOU LOU-WHO

Thank you.

(whispers to Betty)

Altru-what? That's good right?

MAY-WHO

Well, do I hear a second for...
the....the Grinch?

There is absolute QUIET. Cindy Lou looks around for support. Her father hangs his head. Her mother looks away. Stu and Drew, snicker. The others, just stare piteously.

MAY-WHO

(pedantically)

Cindy, let me quote a verse from our Book of Who...

(Who-bris slaps book into his hand)

The term "Grinchy" will apply, When Christmas spirit is in short supply.

(looks up from book)

I ask you, does that sound like our Holiday Cheermeister?

CINDY-LOU

(undaunted)

True, Mr. May-Who. But the Book of Who says this, too... "No matter how different a Who may appear He'll always be welcomed with Holiday Cheer." Do we really believe this, or is it all a bunch of Who-ey?

The crowd looks to Cindy. The kid's got a good point there. They all turn back to May-who.

MAY-WHO

But the Book also says "The award cannot go to the Grinch..."

(starts flipping, pretends to look it up)

Because sometimes...things get...lead pipe cinch."

CINDY LOU-WHO

You made that up. It doesn't say that.

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

Yes it does.

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO

What page?

MAY-WHO

Uh...

(shuts book)

Oops, lost my place.

CINDY LOU-WHO

But the Book does say "The Cheer Meister is one who deserves a back-slap or a toast. It goes to the soul at Christmas who needs it most!"

She turns starry-eyed to the crowd.

CINDY LOU

And I believe that soul is the Grinch.
And I can't have a merry Christmas
knowing there's one person spending his
holiday in a cave...all alone. And, if
you're the Whos I hope you are, you won't
be able to either.

First there are snuffles, then APPLAUSE. Suddenly...

All the Whos begin chanting GRINCH GRINCH GRINCH! The mayor
quiets them.

MAY-WHO

Fine, fine, we'll nominate that...Grinch
fellow. If you people want to waste a
perfectly good nomination, go ahead, but
he'll never accept, he won't come down.

WHO-BRIS

And when he doesn't, the mayor will wear
the crown.

MAY-WHO

More or less. Now let's just concentrate
on having the best Christmas ever!

The BAND strikes up, PLAYS. May-Who picks up Cindy Lou. Who-
Bris gestures to a photographer, who takes a picture. Who-
Bris jumps into the photo, strikes some poses.

Cindy looks to Mt. Crumpit.

73 INT. GRINCH'S CAVE - CONTINUOUS - THE GRINCH

73

Frowns at the NOISE from Who-ville below.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

...Listen to that racket! I can't hear myself stink. I gotta relax.

He pulls out a large DENTAL DRILL and breathes a sigh of relief as he starts to drill his teeth.

GRINCH

Oooh, that takes the edge off...It's safe...It's safe...

74 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - SMALL FEET

74

Trudge up the hill. REVEAL: It's Cindy Lou. She takes a look back toward Who-ville, looks at the summit, keeps going.

75 INT. GRINCH CAVE - CONTINUOUS

75

Close on a periscope. In the viewfinder we see various celebrations in Who-ville. PULL OUT to find Max bobbing his head to the music, wagging his tail.

The Grinch walks by, notices.

GRINCH

Oh, I see. You want to go down and join them do you? Well go ahead. No one's stopping you.

Max barks, starts to go for the door. He's GRABBED back by the Grinch.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Better yet, we'll have our own party right here! How 'bout a little entertainment? Maestro?

ANGLE - A PIPE ORGAN

The Grinch sliiiiides into frame, CRACKS his knuckles, his toes, his back. He cracks bones you never even knew you could crack.

He plays a triumphant chord. Max covers his ears.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Here's one for the people in the cheap seats.

He LETS LOOSE Jerry Lee Lewis-style. The sound is deafening. He's playing with his hands, his feet, his elbows, his butt.

76 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - CINDY

76

Climbs the mountain. Out here, the Grinch's music is REVERBERATING from the cave. It sounds terrifying. Cindy is a little scared, but keeps going.

INTERCUTTING WITH THE GRINCH PLAYING:

- Cindy walks between two trees. ANGLE - Her foot hits a TRIPWIRE tied to a tree. Two large frighteningly spiky branches swing violently at her but...she's so short they swing over her head and embed in the rock. She keeps going.

- A mechanical hand and a chalkboard SPROING out of the snow on springs. The hand scratches the chalkboard. Cindy adjusts her earmuffs.

- Cindy climbs on, HIGH ANGLE: she stumbles, an avalanche of boulders pours down the mountain just missing her.

77 INT. THE CAVE - THE GRINCH - AT THE ORGAN

77

Still deafening. The Grinch struts like Mick Jagger, howling and whooping along the keys. He lights the keyboard on fire.

THE GRINCH
Drum solo!

He jumps down, pulls a curtain to REVEAL a giant wind-up CYMBAL CRASHING MONKEY.

THE GRINCH (CONT'D)
Play monkey! Play!

Nothing happens. The Grinch remembers something, puts some change in a slot on the monkey, it starts to CRASH away, adding to the DIN.

78 EXT. CAVE DOOR - CINDY

78

Knocks on the door. No response. She knocks harder and the door SWINGS OPEN. The music gets even LOUDER.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Mister Grinch?

Cindy goes inside.

79 INT. THE CAVE - THE GRINCH

79

Is now wearing a MOP on his head, holding a mannequin leg like a guitar, doing Pete Townsend arm windmills and screaming in FALSETTO.

(CONTINUED)

Nothing happens. The Grinch remembers something and pulls out a GIANT QUARTER. He puts it in the monkey and it starts to CRASH away, adding to the DIN.

78 EXT. CAVE DOOR - CINDY

78

Knocks on the door. No response. She knocks harder and the door SWINGS OPEN. The music gets even LOUDER.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Mister Grinch?

Cindy goes inside.

79 INT. THE CAVE - THE GRINCH

79

Is now wearing a MOP on his head, holding a mannequin leg like a guitar, doing Pete Townsend arm windmills and screaming in FALSETTO.

Cindy enters behind him. We see her mouth "Mr. Grinch!" but the noise drowns her out.

She reaches over and hits the off button on the organ. The cave falls silent except for the Grinch's LAME FALSETTO wailing. He turns and sees Cindy, stops, embarrassed.

PHIL HETTEMAN

EE-712

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO
Mr. Grinch, I---

He pulls the wig off and loses the "guitar" and goes into full Grinch mode.

GRINCH
Who dares enter the Grinch's lair?!?
You will rue the day you came here!
You called down the thunder, now get
ready for the Boom. Gaze into the face of
fear!!!!

He gets right in her face. She's nervous but holds her ground.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Mr. Grinch, my name is Cindy Lou-Who.

GRINCH (cont'd)
Ohhhh. Now you're really asking for it!
Raaaaaaaaaah! I'm gonna...Whoooooooo! And
then, hohoooooo! You don't understand the
forces you're dealing with! You'll scream
for mercy, but there will be no mercy!
You'll ghh... And I'll arrrrrr...

He puts on an undershirt.

GRINCH (cont'd)
I'm a psycho!!!

He rips off the undershirt like The Hulk.

GRINCH (cont'd)
Hold me back, Max! Hold me back!

ANGLE: Max licks himself.

The Grinch stands there. Long beat, then he spins around, and now holds a flashlight up to his face like when people tell ghost stories.

GRINCH (cont'd)
Boogah Boogah!

Cindy stands firm.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Mr Grinch, I came to give you something.

GRINCH
No menus.

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO
(hands invite)
I want you to be Holiday Cheermeister.

GRINCH
You want me to go down there? With all of
them? Am I hearing you correctly?

He takes a crooked finger and sticks it in his ear.

THE GRINCH
Wait a minute, something's in there...

The Grinch now sticks his finger ALL THE WAY thru his head.
When it emerges from the OTHER EAR, there's something impaled
on the finger nail. It's squirming.

The Grinch has grossed himself out by this, tries to flick
whatever it is off.

CINDY LOU-WHO
I think I know why you hate Christmas.
But you're wrong. At least, I hope you're
wrong. Christmas isn't just about
presents, it's about opening our hearts
and--

THE GRINCH
Hearts? Got a little problem there.

He steps in front of the X-ray machine. Cindy can't believe
her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO
Your heart's no bigger than a winkle
bean!

THE GRINCH
Been goin' joy-free for years! But the
weight's finally startin' to come off!

CINDY LOU-WHO
Wait, isn't that your dog?

They look at the scope. There's an image of SKELETAL MAX in
the Grinch's chest.

GRINCH
Max! Bad dog! Out of Daddy's chest!

We hear a BARK! The Grinch turns around, sees Max behind him.

GRINCH (cont'd)
(sheepishly)
Honest mistake.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Look, you have to accept the award.

GRINCH
"Award"? You didn't mention it was an
award.

CINDY LOU-WHO
With a trophy and everything.

GRINCH
And I won?

CINDY LOU-WHO
You won.

GRINCH
So that means there were losers.

CINDY LOU-WHO
I guess. So if you come down--

GRINCH (CONT'D)
A town full of losers. I like that. I
need visuals. Any one shattered? In
tears?

CINDY LOU-WHO
The Mayor wasn't happy.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH
(sarcastic)

Awww.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Martha May will be there...

GRINCH
Oh, she will? And she'll see me, the winner. Well sorry sister, you had your chance to ride the G-train, but you dropped the ball. You could have gotten in on the ground floor, but now you're priced out of the market, 'cause I'm a guy with a trophy and you're just some squaw.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Actually, she wins the lighting contest every year, she has a lot of trophies.

GRINCH
Two award winners. Imagine if we were to breed, we could build an empire of genetically engineered trophy winners. And soon all of Whokind would be forced to kneel at our feet, slaving endlessly in our trophy case sweatshops!

CINDY LOU-WHO
So will you come?

GRINCH
I suppose so. You've convinced me. I don't know whether it's the adorable twinkle in your eye, your wisdom beyond your years, or that non-conformist streak that reminds me of a young ~~one~~, but you've done it. Who-bilation here we come!

CINDY LOU-WHO
Alright!

THE GRINCH
Yes. I'm right behind you!

She heads for the front door. He smiles, pulls a lever, and Cindy FALLS THROUGH A TRAP DOOR!

GRINCH
Ya Grinched!
(to Max)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 137

79

GRINCH (cont'd)
Did you see that? I outwitted a little
girl! Yeah!

Max GROWLS. Then the Grinchy grin dissolves as a piece of
paper flutters down: caught on the updraft was...the
invitation.

DISSOLVE TO:

80 OMITTED

80

(CONTINUED)

81 OMITTED

81

82 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - SUBURBS - THE ENTIRE TOWN - GATHERED 82

May-Who mingles while a panel of Who JUDGES gets seated.

A downtrodden Cindy approaches Lou.

LOU LOU-WHO

There you are! The lighting contest's
about to start.

Cindy looks back hopefully at Mt. Crumpit. Lou hauls her off.

LOU LOU-WHO (cont'd)

Come on!

ANGLE: May-Who holding a microphone.

MAY-WHO

On this 1000th Who-biliation, where would
we be without the magic and gaiety of
Christmas lights? Let's hear it for the
finalists for Most Brilliant Home
Lighting!

He points across the street to Betty Lou-Who, who stands
nervously twitching next to a witchbox.

MAY-WHO (ON P.A.)

(flat)

Betty Lou-Who. Mother of the girl who
invited the Grinch. Hit it, Betty.

She takes a deep breath, pulls her switch, and the entire LOU
HOUSE lights up in a spectacular display, including a few
pilfered signs ("No Vacancy," "\$1 Chinese Food," etc.). A
decent round of APPLAUSE.

MAY-WHO (ON P.A.)

How nice.

("Ready to Rumble")

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO (cont'd)

And now...put your who-hands together for
...your...Martha May Who-Vier!

The band ROCKS OUT. May-who points across the street where a cool and confident Martha May waves her hand at her house like Vanna White.

Now, Martha May pulls the POWER SWITCH on her house. It's a spectacular lighting extravaganza. Clearly superior to Betty Lou's. The CROWD digs it.

Martha glows. Betty Lou looks dejected.

BETTY LOU-WHO

Well Martha, it looks like you beat me again...

(suddenly energized)

Except this old gal's got a lot more lights left in her, Lady!

She throws another switch, then another.

BETTY LOU-WHO (CONT'D)

Alright boys!

REVEAL: Stu and Drew on bikes hooked to a generator.

BETTY LOU-WHO

I bet one of you can pedal faster than the other.

STU LOU-WHO

Me!

DREW LOU-WHO

No, me!

They pedal like crazy!

Betty Lou's really in a frenzy now. She pulls the starter cord on a gas generator, flips more levers, pulls a big switch.

ANGLE - THE LOU HOUSE

Explodes with light. Banks of lights go on like in a stadium. Traffic lights and neon abound. Huge pilfered signs everywhere ("Hospital Emergency Entrance," "Exit Only," "All Who, All Nude!").

83 EXT. WHO-VILLE - FROM A DISTANCE

83

The lights of the town dim, and a bright beam BLASTS from the Lou-Who house like the Luxor and shoots into space.

84 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - SUBURBS - MAYOR MAY AND THE CROWD - 84
SHADING THEIR EYES

From the awesome spectacle. Betty Lou beams. Huge APPLAUSE.

CLOSE - MAY-WHO - CONFLICTED

He looks at a disappointed Martha May. She looks at him, beseechingly. He turns to the committee of Judges. They hand him an envelope.

MAY-WHO
And the winner is...
(we read: BETTY LOU- WHO)
...Martha May Who-vier!

There's confused APPLAUSE led by May-Who.

ANGLE - BETTY LOU-WHO - SHOCKED

Martha steps forward, takes the trophy from May-Who

MARTHA MAY
Thank you so much. I'll display this trophy very proudly in my living room. Of course, the gold will throw off the whole color scheme, but I am willing to redecorate. Thank you.

May-Who claps like crazy. Lou's CLAPPING for Martha May too, Cindy shoots him a look..

85 INT. THE CAVE - THE GRINCH

85

(CONTINUED)

as he's undressing.

GRINCH

Who needs their stupid Whobilation? Get it Max? "Who"? Ah, forget it.

He peels off his socks, which he's been wearing for so long, the hair has grown through them. He drops them on the floor. They CRAWL away.

GRINCH (cont'd)

Why the very idea that I'd go down there, it's below me! It's beneath me! Feh!

Naked, he stands before a white wall. Max gives him a look.

GRINCH (cont'd)

What? So I'm cleaning up a little. It's that time of the decade.

He flicks a switch. The sound of TURBINES cranking send a 200 mph gale of air rushing at him.

GRINCH (cont'd)

Over torrent of air)
I'm not going!

Dark-colored DEBRIS AND PESTS fly off him and smash against the wall like ink splatters on a Rorschach.

GRINCH (cont'd)

And even if I did go, what would I wear?

He crosses to a table, yanks the table cloth off without disturbing a thing. Beat, he kicks the table over.

-He turns the tablecloth into a BAD PLAID JACKET.

GRINCH (cont'd)

(southern rube)

How y'all doin'? I know this is my first Ex-mas in this here Whotown but uh...y'all got daughters?

-He puts the tablecloth on like a dress, admires it.

GRINCH (cont'd)

(womanly)

Oooh, I like this. Who designed it? It's a Grinch original? Very nice...

(CONTINUED)

-He turns the tablecloth into a head-dress, grabs some severely rotten fruit, sticks it on like CARMEN MIRANDA. Flies buzz around his head.

GRINCH (cont'd)
Aiyiyiyiyiyiyi!

-He puts the tablecloth on like an evening gown, holds a broken pair of glasses up like fancy lady glasses.

GRINCH (cont'd)
(lockjaw blue blood)
Bloobedy blah-blah, Yuletide Ball,
bloobedy blah, high society, bloobedy
blah, in bred, bloobedy blah blah
hemophelia.

-He wears the tablecloth like a dress again.

GRINCH (cont'd)
I really think this is working for me.
(Max BARKS)
What? I do not keep making dresses.

-He has cups and saucers stuck all over his body, and spoons stuck to every finger. He plays all the cups and saucers with the spoons.

-He stands in the center of the broken table, a leaf is missing from the middle so he can wear it like a hoop skirt.

GRINCH (cont'd)
One two cha cha cha. Three four...

The table drags around with him, making a horrible noise.

- He pops into frame wearing a rainbow wig and holding a sign that reads "Grinch 3:16"

GRINCH (contid)
Whooooo! Christmas number one!!!!!!!

-He's wearing the tablecloth as a skirt

GRINCH (contid)
(to Max)
It's a kilt! A very manly kilt! Ah, forget it.

He throws down the tablecloth, hears something. It sounds like...

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH (cont'd)
Yodeling?

EXT. MOUNTAIN PEAK - A YODELER

wearing leiderhosen and a feathered hat stands with his Ricola horn, yodels like crazy. A LARGE HOOK reaches out and GRABS HIM!

INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE GRINCH

Adjusts his new leiderhosen and hat.

GRINCH
This seems pretty good.

The Grinch hears something...More YODELING.

EXT. MOUNTAIN PEAK - THE YODELER

is now yodeling completely naked, the horn covering his Who privates.

INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE GRINCH

Looks at the leiderhosen skeptically.

GRINCH
Maybe not.

He thinks a beat, slyly picks up the tablecloth, feels the cloth. Max BARKS.

GRINCH (cont'd)
It's a kilt!

CUT TO:

87 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - AT THE DAIS - MARTHA MAY AND MAY-WHO 87

May-who leans down to a worried Cindy Lou.

MAY-WHO
Well surprise surprise, Cindy. Your Holiday Cheer Meister is a no-show.

CINDY LOU-WHO
He'll be here. I know he will.

MAY-WHO
Well, we can't wait forever if were to have...

(CONTINUED)

May-Who cups an ear to the crowd of Whos -- and they respond.

WHO CROWD
THE BEST CHRISTMAS EVER!!!

The crowd, a la "The Arsenio Hall Show" starts pumping fists, whooping "Who! Who! Who!" Cindy looks up to Mt. Crumpit anxiously...

Now wears his going out clothes.

THE GRINCH

Alright, I'll pop in for a minute, tell them I have to be up very early in the morning for an important conference call, and I'll leave. This'll be good.

(turns to go, stops)

You know what, I'm not going. We'll stay in and do a movie night. I have cheese.

(turns again)

No, I'll go, but I'll be fashionably late, maybe in a few hours.

Max has had enough of this. His paw pushes a BUTTON and the Grinch drops through the trap door.

down the tunnel at breakneck speed.

THE GRINCH

WHOAAAAA!!!

speaks into the microphone

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

Well, it's time to present the Holiday
Cheermeister of the Year award.
Congratulations Mister Grinch.

He gestures to the empty space next to him.

MAY-WHO (cont'd)

(mock surprise)

He's not here? He didn't show? Whatever
will we do? (BEAT) Wait, I know.

May-who snaps. Who-bris steps up to the mike.

WHO-BRIS

The award goes to the runner-up: a man
for whom Christmas comes not once a year,
but every minute of every day...a
handsome, noble man, a man who has had
his tonsils removed twice...

MAY-WHO

(grabs mic)

Interesting story, you see they--

91 EXT. TOWN SQUARE STREET - THE GRINCH - BLASTS OUT OF A DUMPSTER 91

FLIES thru the air and lands ON STAGE in a pile of presents.

He tries to stand, but steps on a present. His foot's stuck
in it, he tries to shake it off, loses his balance, falls
into the CURTAINS, spins until he's WOUND UP inside like a
rubber band.

He smiles sheepishly...and the curtains suddenly UNWIND and
send him SPINNING out into a BASS DRUM of a band member. He
BOUNCES off and flies into MARTHA MAY.

He knocks her down, lands on top of her, his nose buried
deeply into her décolletage.

CINDY LOU-WHO

He made it!

Everyone is stunned. The Grinch pulls his head out, but
doesn't look up at her face.

GRINCH

(re: cleavage)

Martha!

(CONTINUED)

The Grinch gets up off of Martha May who's blushing all over. He stands and regards the Who-Crowd. The crowd has gone completely SILENT.

There's a very awkward pause. What's he going to do?

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH
(to crowd, casual)
'Sup.

More uncomfortable silence

CINDY LOU-WHO
(whispers)
Say something.

GRINCH
Oh, um...Uh...Okay, a Sneetch, a Lorax
and a priest walk into a bar--

May-Who grabs the mic.

MAY-WHO
The Grinch, ladies and gentlemen!
(sotto, to Martha)
Just as charming and hairy as ever.

The Crowd APPLAUDS.

GRINCH
So do I get that award now? And the
little girl mentioned a check.

CINDY LOU-WHO
No I didn't.

GRINCH
Just the award then.

MAY-WHO
Don't you worry, Holiday Cheermeister,
you'll get your award, but first: to your
duties!!!

Who-bilation helps push him into a wooden chair, jam a
holly wreath onto the Grinch's head, lift up the chair and
carry him away.

GRINCH
Duties? Nobody mentioned any duties. I
think you got the wrong Grinch. See, the
Grinch you're looking for is named
Silvio, he lives in the cave right next
to mine, people are always mixing us up--

92 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - THE GRINCH PARADED ALONG
as May-Who MC's like a game show host.

92

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

We'll begin, but first, some very special guests: They nursed you with eggnog, they housebroke you on wrapping paper, let's have a warm Who-ville welcome for...your old Biddies!

ANGLE - CROWD PARTS - REVEAL - THE TWO OLD BIDDIES

advance on the Grinch. He squirms as they HUG him.

CLARNELLA

My, haven't you turned out to be a handsome odd-looking whatever-you-are!

ROSE

We've missed you!

She mistakenly hugs a Who standing next to the Grinch.

CLARNELLA

Rose!

Suddenly, the Biddies wrestle a SWEATER over his head.

When they step back - REVEAL the Grinch in a hideous knit sweater with blinking Christmas lights SO SMALL - his arms stick straight out like a scarecrow.

GRINCH

You know what I think of this sweater?
It's...

He makes a move to rip it off, but May-Who shoves the microphone in his face. CINDY gives him a look and the Grinch forces a smile.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

...just what I always wanted. Don't worry, I'll grow into it.

Cindy gives him a thumbs up.

MAY-WHO

Now Holiday Cheermeister, you'll put your taste buds to the test as you judge...

A sign flips down reading "PUDDING COOK-OFF!"

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

...the Who-pudding Cook Off!

CUT TO:

93 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - GRINCH POV

93

One Who cook after another comes at him with huge spoons of giggling, weirdly colored pudding. He GULPS some down.

WHO COOK #1
Chocolate!

Another Who approaches. GULP!

WHO COOK #2.
Butterscotch!

A Scientist Who in a white lab coat approaches. GULP!

SCIENTIST WHO
(accent)
Zis is not pudding.

The Grinch chokes it down.

MAY-WHO STANDS BY THE SIGN - FLIPS A NEW SIGN DOWN

It reads "FUDGE JUDGE!"

MAY-WHO
On to the Fudge Judge!

94 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - FUDGE JUDGE

94

GRINCH'S POV - another long line of Who's bringing him fudge.

Quick shots of the Grinch being force-fed fudge. He turns his head to the side, is about to vomit when...

CINDY APPEARS, puts her finger to his lips. The Grinch frowns, chokes down the fudge.

ANGLE - the sign - flips down again

It now reads "CONGA!"

95 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - CLOSE - THE GRINCH'S BELLY

95

Is sticking out like a watermelon under the tiny sweater.
PULL BACK to see the nauseated Grinch leading a long CONGA LINE. May-Who is behind him in line, forcing him along.

angle - the sign - FLIPS DOWN AGAIN

It reads "FUDGE JUDGE"

96 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - THE GRINCH

96

GRINCH
We already did that!

ANGLE - THE SIGN - FLIPS DOWN AGAIN

It reads "ROUND 2"

EXTREME CLOSE-UPS of food being wedged into the Grinch's struggling mouth.

PROCESS SHOT - The Grinch's grimacing head floats in limbo surrounded by floating images of various desserts.

GRINCH
No mas...

ANGLE - THE SIGN - FLIPS DOWN AGAIN

It reads "VIGOROUS EXERCISE!"

97 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - A SACK RACE

97

in progress. The Grinch hops along, belly SHAKING like crazy. He is about to hop in the sack when Cindy hops by. "Don't do it." The Grinch takes a deep breath, hops after her.

ANGLE - THE SIGN - FLIPS DOWN AGAIN

It reads "BLESS THE CHILDREN!"

98 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THE GRINCH - SWARMED BY CHILDREN

98

They put ribbons in his hair, and pull at his lips and gums. They jump on his belly and one tiny Who PUMMELS his distended belly with his fists.

TIGHT SHOTS IN B&W, OVERCRANKED - a la "Raging Bull": Fists pummeling his belly; flashbulbs popping; The Grinch's grimacing face snapping back as pudding sprays from his mouth; the crowd holding up newspapers to shield themselves from the pudding, etc...

ANGLE - THE SIGN - FLIPS DOWN AGAIN

It reads "NOG!"

99 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - A CROWD OF WHOS

99

are lined up chanting "Nog! Nog! Nog!" PAN to a huge funnel. Who's pour industrial drums of egg nog into the funnel.

PAN DOWN the funnel, it curves and twists like a crazy straw, before ending in the Grinch's mouth.

ANGLE: MARTHA MAY pouring nog into the funnel, sneaks a sip herself, keeps pouring.

The Grinch looks pained as his belly fills from the liquid. He swallows it all down and staggers up.

CRAZY MOSE
(holding a stop watch)
A new Who record!!!

The Grinch's stomach GROWLS and CHURNS. The Who's look nervous. It sounds like he's going to explode when...

The Grinch let's out a tiny little BURP.

GRINCH
Erp! (embarrassed) Pardon me.

The Grinch smiles. The Who's are relieved. They mob him with CONGRATULATIONS.

CROWD
Congrats! Great job! You beat my old record!

GRINCH
Excuse me one second.

He runs over to a tuba and VOICES into it. Then rushes back to further congratulations. Cindy hands the Grinch THE TROPHY. The Grinch holds the trophy aloft like he's just won the World Cup. Then...

FROM OUT OF THE TUBA

A SMALL TUBA PLAYER crawls out covered in egg nog vomit.

SMALL TUBA PLAYER
I gotta get a new apartment.

May-who holds up his hands to QUIET the crowd.

MAY-WHO
Now it's time for the moment we've all been waiting for...

GRINCH
Ah, yes. My award and the check.

MAY-WHO
There's no check.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH

Are you sure, because I really thought I
heard someone mention--

MAY-WHO

No. And now it's time for Present Pass-it-
On...

(turns to her)

Martha May?

(CONTINUED)

Martha May hands a beautifully wrapped gift to Who-lihan. Who-lihan turns and hands one to the next person and so on...It DOMINOES through the Town Square in seconds, until it gets to May-Who. He turns to the Grinch. Holds out a gift-wrapped box.

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

Something for you, Mister Grinch. I know you've spent a lot of time alone in that cave...

WHO-BRIS

So we got you the gift of a Christmas shave!

May-Who opens the box REVEALING an ELECTRIC RAZOR like the one the Grinch butchered himself with. PUSH IN on his face as his Grinch's eyes narrow...

QUICK CUT TO:

100 INT. CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK - THE 8-YEAR-OLD GRINCH 100

Gets the bag pulled off to reveal his face covered in band-aids, the kids LAUGHING.

101 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - BACK TO SCENE - CU THE GRINCH 101

He's shaken by the memory.

MARTHA MAY (V.O.)

Are you alright?

The Grinch turns, startled. Martha May smiles at him.

GRINCH

Huh? Oh, yeah. I'm fine. Just allergies. All this clean air.

MAY-WHO

Well Mister Grinch? It is your turn. Do you have a gift for the lovely Martha May?

The Grinch searches his pockets like a guy who forgot his wallet.

THE GRINCH

Oh yeah, forgot about ole Present Pass-it-on... Hold the phone, I might have something.

(CONTINUED)

He digs in his pockets, pulls out the remnants of an old sandwich. May-Who peers at it.

MAY-WHO

What is that?

THE GRINCH

(shrugs)

Sandwich. Green eggs and ham.

The Grinch drops the sandwich, turns to Martha-May, shrugs. He's got nothing.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

(trying to help)

Oh that's quite al--

MAY-WHO

Well, it appears the Grinch has come empty handed, on his first trip back.

WHO-BRIS

But don't worry, the Mayor will pick up the slack.

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

I have a gift for you, Martha May...

May-Who hands Martha a tiny wrapped box. She opens it, revealing a HUGE DIAMOND RING. Then smaller diamonds pop up on it, like a wedding cake.

MAY-WHO

(down on one knee)

Please become Mrs. August May-Who!

The Crowd AWWWS, CLAPS when they realize they're watching a proposal. Everyone is impressed except...

ANGLE - IN THE AUDIENCE - CINDY LOU

(CONTINUED)

CINDY LOU-WHO

Oh no.

Cindy looks to the Grinch and sees his face twitching, his breathing labored...something is BUILDING inside him.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Uh, August, I'm overwhelmed...

MAY-WHO

But that's not all! If you agree to become Mrs. May-who, along with a life-time supply of happiness, you'll also receive this!!!

Reveal a washer and dryer. Whobris sits on top like a spokesmodel.

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

It's a brand new washer-dryer! You'll wash your new husband's clothes in style, from Who-manna. But wait there's more...

A gorgeous car. Again Who-bris acts as the spokesmodel.

MAY-WHO (CONT'D)

It's a new car! Generously provided by the tax payers of Who-ville! So what do you say Martha? You have 20 seconds on the clock. And go!

Game show clock music. Martha doesn't know what to say.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Well... I... uh...

The Grinch can't take anymore. His eyeballs are SPINNING around in his head. He grabs the microphone.

THE GRINCH

Well I admit it. You grinched me. Bra-vo. I did things today I swore I would never do again, like the sack race. Because I thought things had changed, but no... It's still all about the gifts! Gifts, gifts gifts! But I know what you do with your gifts! How do I know? Because I'm in your garbage! A bunch of you Whos got nakedlady ties for Christmas last year. Boy they were special. So special they all ended up in my house!

ANGLE - A WHO in a nakedlady tie looks upset.

(CONTINUED)

WHO IN THE
(brokenhearted)
I thought people liked them.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH (contid)

And I noticed a certain Who's wife got a fryolator this year, while his secretary got a mink muzzle-nuzzle!

ANGLE - A WOMAN WHO slaps her husband.

WOMAN WHO

(to husband)

How could you? Your secretary is my sister!

GRINCH (contid)

That I didn't know. But I do know this: that Who bought Who-bie dolls for his daughters; he doesn't have any daughters! That Who licks candy canes and puts them back! That Who steals!

GRINCH

That Who gets drunk every Christmas eve and fights with the cops...

REVEAL: A tiny Who, who breaks off the neck of an airplane liquor bottle

TINY WHO

Merry Christmas, pigs.

GRINCH (contid)

And there's one guy here who doesn't buy Christmas gifts for anyone!

The whole crowd is terrified. "Oooooohhh!"

WHO IN CROWD

Wait. That's you.

GRINCH (contid)

That's right! Because it's stupid! You're all stupid hypocrites, and this time you will paaaaay!!! Especially for the sack race!

The Grinch flicks the razor ON, and in a blink, BUZZES a reverse mohawk thru May-Who's pompadour! There's a collective GASP from the audience as...

ANGLE - THE GRINCH - JUMPS OFF THE STAGE

and tears the sweater off.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH

Get this thing off me! And for future reference I'm an extra long!

The Grinch bolts. Cindy Lou tries to stop him.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Mr. Grinch, wait! I don't know what went wrong, but please don't go yet!

THE GRINCH

Oh, that's right...

As he races by the huge Christmas tree, the Grinch puts on the brakes. He turns, eyebrows curling down.

THE GRINCH

...we haven't lit the tree!

He grabs a large stick of licorice, bites the ends off, sticks it into the gas tank of a Seussian car, SUCKS OUT THE GAS. From behind, his body SWELLS UP full.

THE GRINCH

(holding it in)
92 octane...this is the good stuff.

He flicks open a Zippo and BELCHES FLAMES 20 feet long. WHOOSH! The tree is ablaze!

GRINCH

Flame on!

The crowd is horrified. Lou Lou-Who, as always, tries to put the best face on it.

LOU LOU-WHO

Best Yule bonfire ever!

The charred tree disintegrates, the star at the top floats in mid-air for a second, then CRASHES to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

This snaps May-Who out of his shock. He turns to Who-bris.

MAY-WHO

Are you going to do something or just stand and stare?!

Suddenly Who-bris springs into action! He grabs the razor and SHAVES a stripe on HIS OWN HEAD.

WHO-BRIS

There you go, I shaved my hair.

MAY-WHO

No. To him!

He points at the fleeing Grinch. Who-Bris runs after him.

102 EXT. TOWN SQUARE STREET - THE GRINCH - RACING TOWARD A DUMPSTER

102

Suddenly Who-bris steps in front of him, levels the Seussian flocking SPRAYER at him like a weapon.

WHO-BRIS

Hold it!

GRINCH

Gladly.

The Grinch does an acrobatic FLIP, grabs the sprayer out of his hands.

THE GRINCH

Oh, FLOCK YOU!

He sticks the gun into Who-Bris's pants and FOOM! they're full of flock.

ANGLE - STU AND DREW

advance on the Grinch. He flips the gun behind his back, and flocks them Bronco Billy style, just as they were about to grab him. They're frozen in flock.

STU LOU-WHO

(muffled by flock)

Ummmm mmmff mfff ummm.

DREW LOU-WHO

(one upping him)

Ummmm Mmmffff mmmmm.

The Grinch drops the gun and runs. WHO POLICE follow.

(CONTINUED)

The Grinch drops the gun and runs. WHO POLICE follow. One of them is suddenly jumped on by the Tiny Who.

(CONTINUED)

Who-Bris picks up the gun, looks around, sneaks the gun into his pants and shoots in some more flock. He smiles.

103 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - CONTINUOUS

103

The Grinch runs into the street, sees a CAR coming. He stands right in it's path. It skids to a stop.

GRINCH

Get out of the car!

REVEAL: It is a TINY CAR with TINY OCCUPANTS. They run away, the Grinch crams himself inside and FISHTAILS off.

DRIVING FAST, he comes over a hill and gets airborne, a la "Streets of San Francisco."

He skids into a fire hydrant, suddenly LEAPS OUT...runs away from the car, dives past camera just as the car BLOWS UP.

Who-lihan approaches. The other cops examine the accident.

WHO COP

We haven't found a body yet sir.

WHO-LIHAN

Keep looking.

104 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CINDY LOU STARES

104

at the spectacle mouth agape: Under a moldering tree, her brothers are flocked, Who-Bris shoots more flock into his pants. And it's all her fault. Lou, Betty and the flocked boys approach.

CINDY LOU-WHO

I just wanted everyone to be together for Christmas.

May-Who approaches the Lou-Whos.

MAY-WHO

Well...if you Lou-Whos have finished violating the most important day of the year, maybe now we can all get back to Christmas the way it should be, Grinchless.

He picks up the Who-manitarian trophy, no longer gold but flocked silver, walks off.

He pulls up at the dumpster, takes one last scornful look back. Does a double take as...

POV - A BRAND NEW TREE

(CONTINUED)

is lowered into the hole by a crane. The ash-covered old Who on the clock/scoreboard flips over "Only 4 hours to Christmas!" Everybody in Who-ville regains their Christmas spirit on a dime.

106 INT. DUMPSTER - CLOSE - THE GRINCH

106

sneers, hits the button and WHOOSH! He's gone.

107 EXT. GRINCH CAVE - SECONDS LATER - THE GRINCH

107

SPLATS into the garbage pile. As he STOMPS up to the ledge outside his cave, he HOWLS.

THE GRINCH

Oooohhh, I am so MAADD!

NARRATOR (OVER)

For the Grinch knew tomorrow, all the Who girls and boys, would wake bright and early and rush for their toys.

THE GRINCH

And then oh the noise... Oh the NOISE
NOISE NOISE NOISE!

As the Grinch rants, INTERCUT images of what he's describing.

THE GRINCH

They'll bang on tins-jinglers and whack on their clackets, they'll crash their jing-jinglers, they'll smack on their...

(can't think of the word)

what do you call those things...they're round...they've got a...that you kind of ... A Smack-smackit? No. A Crack-whackit? Oh, got it: a snare drum! Then they'll bangle the bing-bells that I like the least, then they'll sit down to dinner and carve their roast beast.

THE NARRATOR (OVER)

And the more the Grinch thought of what Christmas would bring, The more the Grinch thought...

BACK TO GRINCH

in a cold sweat, like waking out of a nightmare.

THE GRINCH

I must STOP this whole thing!

(CONTINUED)

He stomps toward the cave door, eyebrows curling.

THE GRINCH

Why for year after year I've put up with
it now! I MUST stop this Christmas from
coming! But HOW?

As he opens the cave door REVEAL...

108 INT. CAVE - CLOSE - MAX - UP ON HIS HIND LEGS

108

dancing to CHRISTMAS MUSIC. A banner reads "Merry Christmas
Grinch!" and Max has redone his DOG HOUSE in a Christmas
motif - betraying himself to...

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE - THE DOORWAY - THE GRINCH WATCHING DEADPAN

Suddenly Max SEES him, YELPS. Rolls over on his back, legs up in submission. The Grinch looks at his wreathed and flocked doghouse, smiles sweetly.

THE GRINCH

Hello Max. Daddy's home...

(snaps)

And he had a rough day at the office!

109 EXT. THE GRINCH'S FRONT DOOR - THE DOGHOUSE

109

Flies out into the snow, followed by MAX. The Grinch stomps out after him.

THE GRINCH

Thought I'd come home with a new world view? Sorry to disappoint!

Max pokes his head up out of the snow, which has provided Max with a little WHITE BEARD. The Grinch imagines him as SANTA.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he got an idea! An awful idea!

CLOSE - THE GRINCH

his Grinch hairs form the shape of a light bulb over his head. And he actually PATS Max.

NARRATOR (OVER)

The Grinch got a wonderful, awful idea!

THE GRINCH

I know just what to do!

110 INT. GRINCH CAVE

110

FULL SCREEN: THE COLOR RED. Scissors slash through frame REVEALING: The Grinch cutting some red cloth. He feeds it into a Seussian sewing machine.

NARRATOR (OVER)

The Grinch laughed in his throat. And he made a quick Santy Claus hat and a coat. And he chuckled, and clucked... At this great Grinchy trick!

Out they come -- a goofy red jacket and hat. The Grinch tries them on, stands in front of his funhouse mirror.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

With this coat and this hat, I look just
like Saint Nick!

The Grinch LAUGHS like a madman, turns and regards himself in
the FUNHOUSE MIRROR as he starts SINGING.

THE GRINCH (SINGS)

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch...

He CONTINUES TO SING through the following MUSICAL MONTAGE:

VERSE 1

111 INT. GRINCH CAVE - SLEIGH BUILDING MONTAGE

111

The Grinch rifles through his bins of collected junk,
throwing odd items over his shoulder. Max dodges out of the
way as a couple of OLD GUTTERS clatter down -- then some
busted FANS, a mile of HOSE, etc...

The junk is hurled at camera and the SCREEN goes to BLACK --

BLACK FLARES TO WHITE

as the Grinch picks up a BLOW TORCH. Tests it with his hand,
yes it's hot.

He's oiling a rusty wheel with a little oil can. Then he uses
the oil like eye drops.

GRINCH

(singing verse 2)

You're a monster, Mr. Grinch...

112 INT. GRINCH CAVE - ON THE CAVE WALL

112

A huge scary shadow of the Grinch appears a la FRANKENSTEIN
He LAUGHS maniacally...REVEAL the sleigh.

ANGLE - HIS SLEIGH

It's a ramshackle Seussian marvel with gutters for runners
and old fans pointing down, a winch on the back, and a huge
coil of hose on the deck.

The Grinch sighs with pride. Pats it. CRASH! The engine falls
out the bottom.

THE GRINCH

Max! What did you do?

GRINCH

You're a vile one, Mr. Grinch...

THE GRINCH'S HANDS

wrap around a pole. On his knuckles we see the words "hate" and "X-mas" TATTOOED a la Deniro in "Cape Fear." The Grinch pulls his head into frame, he's doing PULL-UPS.

Reveal the Grinch is standing on the ground pretending to do the pull ups.

114 INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE SLEIGH

114

Finished again. He stands by his work proudly as Max takes picture.

FLASH! The engine falls out.

115 INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE GRINCH IN TRAINING

115

Chasing after a chicken like Rocky.

115A THEN LIFTING CORY SEUSSIAN BARBELLS.

115A

115B FINALLY, HE ARM WRESTLES WITH MAX AND LOSES.

115B

116 INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE SLEIGH COMPLETED AGAIN

116

The Grinch shakes it, and no engine parts fall out. He jumps on it, kicks it, rocks it, but it's stable.

THE GRINCH (CONT'D)

Yes!

Now everything falls apart but the engine, which FIRES UP and rockets away.

117 INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE GRINCH

117

is now wearing a helmet. He holds a lightsaber and follows around a floating probe.

The probe shoots the Grinch in the leg.

118 INT. GRINCH CAVE - THE GRINCH

118

pounding away like a blacksmith. Then drilling. He turns the drill on his teeth, enjoys it.

(CONTINUED)

More welding, with sparks flying everywhere. And then the Grinch holds up a LICENSE PLATE, it reads "MEAN 1."

The Grinch attaches the license plate to the sled. He stands back to admire his work and yes, the engine falls out.

CUT TO:

119 INT. LOU-WHO HOUSE - NIGHT - PAN FROM SCENE TO SCENE 119

The boys in bed.

STU LOU-WHO
I can go to sleep first.

DREW LOU-WHO
No I can.

They both close their eyes really hard.

120 INT. GARAGE - SAME TIME - LOU 120

assembles a Seussian swing set. He struggles with the directions. We see they're the ones the Grinch scrawled earlier.

LOU LOU-WHO
(reading)
Step three: Take metal pole A, stick
sharp end in eye, repeat?

He looks puzzled.

121 INT. KITCHEN - BETTY LOU 121

sits on top of a big PILE of presents, wrapping at warp speed and MUTTERING to herself

BETTY LOU-WHO
I was soft. I didn't want it enough.
Next year I train harder, start earlier,
the day after Christmas...

Reflexively, she looks across the street to Martha May's.

POV - THRU WINDOW - MARTHA MAY'S HOUSE - THE LIGHTS

of the champion go OUT. One turns back ON: a light illuminating a trophy case with the new prize. In the window, a perfectly coiffed Martha May is in little elf pajamas, readies for bed and throws back a nightcap of nog.

INT. GARAGE - SAME TIME - A TIRED, FRUSTRATED LOU

is in the final stretch of building the swing set. He worms his upper body through the structure at an odd angle and ratchets the last bolt.

LOU LOU-WHO

Didn't need those directions after all.

He stands to admire his work, but he can't. He's bolted the beams and pipes of the structure AROUND HIS NECK like a pillory. He strains to get out, drops the wrench. He strains to pick it up, but can't bend down that far. He struggles to free himself, making the whole contraption hop up and down.

Cindy looks out to Mt. Crumpit, holding the old Yeti-style newspaper clipping of the Grinch.

CINDY LOU-WHO

I hope you get everything you want for
Christmas, Mr. Grinch.

123 EXT. WHOVILLE - THE LAST LIGHTS GOING OUT

123

124 EXT. GRINCH'S CAVE - THE GRINCH - IN COSTUME

124

stands by the finished sleigh, checking his watch and peering
through a telescope.

THE GRINCH

Fat boy should be finishing up any time
now.

GRINCH POV - THROUGH THE TELESCOPE -

A red outfit getting into a sleigh. Taking off.

BACK TO THE GRINCH

THE GRINCH

Perfect.

(darkly)

All I need now is a reindeer...

NARRATOR (OVER)

The Grinch looked around. But, since
reindeer are scarce, there were none to
be found.

Max tries to run, but he grabs him.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Did that stop the old Grinch...? No! The
Grinch simply said...

THE GRINCH

If I can't find a reindeer, I'll make one
instead!

The Grinch breaks the antler off a stuffed head on the wall.
He busts off some of the extra branches and ties the lone
horn on Max.

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR (OVER)

So he called his dog, Max. Then he took some red thread. And he tied a big horn on the top of his head.

Voila! There's Max, the canine reindeer. He outfits Max with a little RED NOSE on an elastic band.

THE GRINCH

(like a director)

Alright! You're a reindeer. Here's your motivation: You're Rudolph, you're different, you can't play any reindeer games. Then Santa picks you and you save Christmas -- wait, no you don't, forget that part. You hate Christmas, you're going to steal it, saving Christmas was a lousy ending, totally unrealistic. And...Action!

The nose falls off Max and he eats it as the Grinch harnesses the hound to the sleigh.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he loaded some bags And some old empty sacks

Then the Grinch dumps inside laundry out of his yellowed hamper bag, throws it on the sleigh.

NARRATOR (OVER)

On a ramshackle sleigh and he hitched up old Max.

THE GRINCH - JUMPS ON HIS SLEIGH

and REVS up the ENGINES. Max looks behind him, scared witless.

THE GRINCH

No matter what happens out there, I want you to know I'll never forget the way you looked tonight...

He CACKLES like a mad man and cracks his whip.

THE GRINCH (cont'd)

Giddap!

The sleigh lurches forward.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH
On Basher and Crasher and Vomit and
Blitzkrieg...

125 EXT. CAVE - THE GRINCH'S SLEIGH

125

The Grinch starts singing his SONG again. His sleigh rides off the ledge and falls like a lead balloon. As the Grinch frantically punches buttons, as the sleigh FREE FALLS...

GRINCH
Oh god we're gonna die! We're gonna die!

Finally, the engines kick in and the damn thing actually FLIES! The Grinch coolly SINGS again, as if nothing ever happened.

GRINCH
(singing)
You're a foul one, Mr. Grinch...

The Grinch strikes a triumphant Charles Lindbergh pose as Max dangles haplessly beneath.

126 EXT. NIGHT SKY E.T. MOON SILHOUTTE - FROM A DISTANCE

126

We see the Grinch's sleigh sail in front of the moon. Suddenly ANOTHER SLEIGH enters frame heading right at the Grinch, they SKID and SWERVE and narrowly avoid hitting each other.

SANTA
Ho-ho-ho... HEY!!!

GRINCH
Out of the way, Fat Boy!

SANTA
Amateur!

The Grinch sings some more as...

Powered by his pest-blowing AIR TURBINE, the Grinch LOOKS DOWN to the roof of his first sortie.

As he hits the roof, the SONG ENDS.

127 EXT. WHO-VILLE - NIGHT - THE GRINCH'S SLEIGH - DESCENDS

127

onto the icy roof. The Grinch smiles - a perfect landing! But his expression changes when the sleigh just keeps SLIDING OFF the other end of the roof and CRASHES off camera.

in the snow. The Grinch, pulls himself out of the face-plant. He turns to Max, WHEEZING with laughter.

THE GRINCH

Don't laugh. Any landing you can walk away from is a good laabhh---

He TRIPS over a shrub and falls on his face.

GRINCH

(face in snow)

Ow! My ankle.

He POPS back up.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

Don't worry, I came prepared.

He whips open his Santa Claus jacket REVEALING a Home Depot assortment of TOOLS. He selects a HARPOON-GRAPPLING HOOK and rams it into the AIR CANNON mounted on the back of the sleigh, POOM!!!

POV - THE GRINCH'S GRAPPLING HOOK

has wrapped around the chimney.

THE GRINCH

This is stop number one.

NARRATOR (OVER)

...the old Grinchy Claus hissed...

And he climbed to the roof, empty bags in his fist...

129 EXT. FIRST HOUSE ROOF - NIGHT - THE GRINCH PULLS HIMSELF

129

to the chimney where smoke drifts lazily up. He takes a water balloon like it was a hand grenade, dumps it down the chimney...

THE GRINCH

Fire in the hole!

He ducks, squashing Max. We HEAR an O.S. SPLOOSH and a HISS.

The Grinch wraps a bungee cord around his ankles.

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR (OVER)

He'd slide down the chimney. A rather tight pinch. But, if Santa could do it, then so could the Grinch.

He climbs up on the chimney, stands like he's on the ten meter board.

GRINCH

(announcer whisper)

Half gainer, triple back, triple twist. High degree of difficulty, low level of ability, a very dangerous combination. Here he goes.

But when he comes down, his dive is abruptly stopped by his girth. The Grinch is stuck headfirst like a cork in a bottle. Garbled EPITHETS echo up.

NARRATOR (OVER)

He got stuck only once, for a moment or two.

He wriggles, and twists, and finally disappears.

130 INT. WHO HOUSE *PHIL HETTER VIA* ANGLE ON THE FIREPLACE

130

The Grinch's head comes rocketing out, SMACKS into the logs. Ow! He springs up again, then back down, smack! He grabs onto the fire grill, looks around.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he stuck his head out of the fireplace flue... Where the little Who stockings all hung in a row.

GRINCH

These stockings...

NARRATOR (OVER)

...he grinned...

GRINCH

...are the first thing to go!

The Grinch lets go of the grill, SPROINGS up the chimney.

131 EXT. WHO ROOF - THE GRINCH

131

Pops out of the chimney, goes to the sleigh, grabs the Who-ver hose and snakes it down the chimney, switches the contraption ON.

(CONTINUED)

Christmas ITEMS start rattling through the tube and spewing out the machine. The Grinch holds the hamper bag open as he surveys the take. Max whimpers.

CUT TO:

132 INT. WHO HOUSE - LATER - CLOSE - A SAW BLADE

132

SLICES up thru the floor boards inscribing a circle around a Christmas tree. After a beat, the tree DISAPPEARS thru the floor - all the presents with it. In its place, the grinning Grinch APPEARS...

GRINCH

Clearance sale. Everything must go!

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he slithered and slunk, with a smile most unpleasant, around each Who home, and he took every present!

BEGIN HEIST MONTAGE:

133A 1) EXT. WHO HOUSE FRONT DOOR

133A

The Grinch wires it with plastic explosives. Max comes up, paws at the door, it opens.

GRINCH

Well bully for you

The Grinch SLAMS it shut again, blows it up.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

There, I got it open!

133B 2.) INT. WHO HOUSE

133B

The Grinch has a sack full of presents. He runs to the chimney. Jumps onto a SPRING and vaults up the chimney. We hear a loud WHAM! and the Grinch falls back down.

GRINCH

Note to self: open flue.

133C 3.) EXT. WHO-VILLE

133C

The Grinch creeps over one a bridge in the square. As soon he leaves frame, he appears somewhere else, creeping along.

133D 4.) INT. WHO HOUSE #2

133D

The Grinch is stealing presents. He sees a VIDEO GAME.

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH

Never understood the appeal of these.

133E LATER

133E

The Grinch plays the hell out of the video game. It makes the classic Game over noise

GRINCH

(yelling at the monitor)

What? No! I jumped over the barrel! New game!

133F 5) INT. MISS RUE-WHO'S HOUSE - CLOSE - THE OLD TEACHER 133F

sleeping next to her CAT. A Grinchy hand ENTERS FRAME and plucks the lenses out of her glasses on the night table.

PAN to see the Grinch wielding the Who-ver like a malevolent maid, vacuuming up her stocking and presents. Her matronly school clothes are sucked off a sewing mannequin -- revealing sexy lingere underneath. Then even that is sucked off -- revealing even smaller pasties beneath. Finally even her CAT is SUCKED out of the room...

133G EXT. MISS RUE-WHO'S ROOF - SAME TIME - MAX SEES THE CAT 133G

come bulging through the vacuum hose, HISSING and YEOWLING. Max considers for a moment, clicks a switch and reverses the vacuum.

133H INT. MISS RUE-WHO'S BEDROOM - AGAIN - THE GRINCH 133H

looks baffled as suddenly the hose LOSES SUCTION.

Puzzled, he shakes it, then LOOKS INSIDE - checking for an obstruction when...REOWWW!!! The pissed-off cat pops out, claws extended and attaches to The Grinch's face.

He struggles for a beat, picks up a glass bottle, tries to bash the cat and conks HIMSELF on the head. He's out cold. The cat calmly walks off.

(CONTINUED)

133J 6) INT. WHO HOUSE #3 - CHILDREN'S BEDROOM - WHO CHILDREN SLEEP 133J

THOUGHT BALLOONS above them show visions of Sugar Plums dancing in their head.

The Grinch sneaks in, and from their dream balloons, snatches the Sugar Plums.

133K 7) INT. WHO HOUSE #3 - A CURTAINED WINDOW 133K

PULL BACK to reveal a GIANT GRINCH peering inside.

PULL BACK further to reveal the Grinch is not giant, the house is tiny.

The Grinch opens the tiny gate and tip toes up the tiny walk way. Then rolls up his sleeve and sticks his hand down the chimney.

133L 8) INT. WHO HOUSE #3 - BACK TO THE VIDEO GAME 133L

The Grinch and Max now play.

GRINCH
Jump Q-bert! You magnificent freak!

END HEIST MONTAGE

134 EXT. MAY-WHO'S HOUSE - THE GRINCH 134

Approaches the front door. A sign reads: "Caution, burglar alarm!" The Grinch smiles, points a finger, and a claw SPROINGS out. He steps to the window, CUTS A CIRCULAR HOLE in the glass.

He presses his lips to the glass, PULLS OUT the circular piece. He turns to camera, fish-faced.

135 INT. MAY WHO-HOUSE - CONTINUOUS - THE GRINCH 135

And Max come in through the window, start to walk into the room, the Grinch stops them short.

GRINCH
No. Too easy.

(CONTINUED)

He takes a deep breath and breathes out A GREEN CLOUD of smelly Grinch-breath, which reveals a SERIES of CRISS-CROSSING SECURITY BEAMS.

The Grinch weaves through the beams like Catherine Zeta-Jones in "Entrapement".

136 INT. MAY-WHO HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT - THE GRINCH

136

Still crawling, opens the door, peeks in. He starts to GUFFAW, has to slap a hairy hand over his mouth.

POV - MAY-WHO - IN BED

His hair is in curlers, chin strapped to stave off middle-age, on the bedpost hangs his trusty girdle. He holds the Cheermeister award like it's a teddy bear.

The Grinch takes the award, then steals the girdle with delight. But the eyebrows curl when he sees Martha May's picture on the bedside table.

MAY-WHO

(in his sleep)

Please Martha, I've had enough cookies.
I want a kissie!

The Grinch considers this, picks up Max, starts to hold his muzzle up to May-Who's puckered lips. At the last second, the Grinch TURNS MAX AROUND FOR May-Who to kiss his other end. May-Who SMOOCHES away as MAX'S EYES BUG OUT.

MAY-WHO

(in his sleep)

What is that lipstick you're wearing? It sends me to distraction.

The Grinch puts Max down. As Max scoots his rear end along the carpet disgustedly, the Grinch goes to the bathroom, runs the tap, and returns with a BOWL of WARM WATER. He puts May-Who's wrist in it and before leaving, he opens up his Santa coat and removes a large COIL of TINSEL. He TIES both BEDPOSTS and throws the rest of the rope out the window.

As he and Max EXIT...

137 INT. MARTHA MAY'S HOUSE - THE GRINCH

137

creeps through the immaculately decorated house. He peers into Martha's bedroom.

GRINCH'S POV - MARTHA MAY

Asleep in a roomful of candles, looking beautiful.

The Grinch stares for a beat, lost in reverie. He snaps out of it, shakes his head. Begins the task of stealing Martha's Christmas layout: thousands of gew-gaws, each wrapped with painfully anal-compulsive attention.

Finally, the Grinch grabs May-Who's RING box off her dresser, pockets it, heads out.

REVERSE ANGLE - MARTHA LYING IN BED

Asleep, happily clutching something. REVEAL: it's the angel that the Grinch made as a who-verile and dropped on the ground.

CUT TO:

139 INT. LOU-WHO HOUSE - NIGHT - CINDY LOU

139

is sound asleep in her room. We hear a CLATTER NOISE that makes Cindy Lou's eyes flutter.

140 INT. LOU-WHO LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

140

CLOSE ON the tag on a gift. It reads "To Cindy, Merry Christmas!" Pull out to reveal it's attached to the swingset Lou was building. Lou's torn LONGSHNS are still bolted into the framework. The Grinch drags it across the floor.

GRINCH

(re:swingset)

Who built this thing?

He stuffs the swingset up the chimney. The living-room is now barren.

GRINCH (CONT'D)

And now, to the fridge!

141 INT. LOU-WHO KITCHEN - THE GRINCH

141

opens the door of the refrigerator, tilts it, things fall into the bag.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he slunk to the icebox. He took the Who's feast! He took the Who-pudding! He took the roast beast!

(CONTINUED)

He looks into the fridge, pulls out a rancid looking sardine.

GRINCH

Mmmmm sushi!

He swallows it like a seal. He takes the ice-cube tray out of the freezer, cracks it into the bag.

NARRATOR (OVER)

He cleaned out that icebox as quick as a flash. Why, that Grinch even took their last can of Who-hash!

He looks at the can of hash.

GRINCH

(reads)

"Now with thirty percent more organ meat." Yum!

He drops it in the bag, rips open the cupboards, runs his arm along the inside -- cleaning out every last jar and can.

142 INT. 'LOU-WHO - THE STAIRCASE - TINY FUZZY SLIPPERS 142

pad down the winding stairs while...

143 INT. LIVING ROOM AGAIN - THE GRINCH 143

is hoisting the Lou-Who feast up the chimney.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he stuffed all the food up the chimney with glee.

THE GRINCH

And NOW!

NARRATOR (OVER)

...grinned the Grinch...

THE GRINCH

I will stuff up the tree!

He lifts the tree. We hear a CRACK!

GRINCH

My back! Lift with the legs, stupid, the legs.

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR (OVER)

And the Grinch grabbed the tree, and he started to shove when he heard a small sound like the coo of a dove.

CINDY LOU-WHO (OS)

Uh, excuse me...?

The Grinch's jaundiced eyes POP. He turns to see Cindy Lou. He sheepishly tries to hide his face using a branch of the tree jammed in the hearth.

NARRATOR (OVER)

The Grinch had been caught by this tiny who daughter, who'd got out of bed for a cup of cold water.

CINDY LOU-WHO

(half asleep)

Santa Claus, what are you doing with our tree?

NARRATOR (OVER)

But, you know, that old Grinch was so smart, and so slick He thought up a lie, and he thought it up quick!

THE GRINCH

(affects Santa's voice)

Why, my sweet little girl...

NARRATOR (OVER)

...the fake Santy Claus lied...

THE GRINCH

There's a light on this tree that won't light on one side.

(quickly unscrews the bulb)

So I'm taking it home to my workshop, my dear. I'll fix it up there. Then I'll bring it back... here.

As Cindy Lou blinks.

CINDY LOU-WHO

I can't believe I'm actually looking at Santa Claus.

GRINCH

(nervous)

Well, here I am. Santa. I'm certainly not the Grinch if that's what you were thinking.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GRINCH (cont'd)

(he winces)

Okay, off to the South Pole.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Don't you mean North Pole?

GRINCH

Right...See, the North Pole's being renovated. So I'm working out of the South Pole this year. Got a little timeshare with the Tooth Fairy and, you know, Sasquatch. Good guy. I gotta go.

He turns to leave.

CINDY LOU

Before you leave, tell me one thing. What's Christmas really about?

THE GRINCH

Vengeance!

(catches himself)

Oh, and presents, of course, obviously.

CINDY LOU

(sighs sadly)
I was afraid of that.

NARRATOR (OVER)

And his fib fooled the child. Then he patted her head and he got her a drink and he sent her to bed.

Into the kitchen, glass of water -- then as he's herding Cindy Lou back to bed, she stops, looks up at him.

CINDY LOU-WHO

Santa? Don't forget the Grinch. I know he's mean and hairy and smelly. His hands may be cold and clammy, but don't hold that against him. He's got this little itty-bitty heart. I think he's actually kinda...sweet.

THE GRINCH

Sweet? You think he's sweet?

The Grinch swallows. Cindy Lou smiles and nods - pads back upstairs. Has the kid gotten to him?

GRINCH

Nice kid.

(shakes his head)

But not a very good judge of character.

(CONTINUED)

He grabs a stray glass ornament, takes a BITE out of it.

NARRATOR (OVER)

And when Cindy-Lou went up with her cup.
HE went to the chimney and stuffed the
tree up!

The tree disappears. The Grinch hangs one of his cave-
ripened socks on the mantle. Then he ties the winch cord
around his waist and gives a tug. As he disappears up the
chimney...

NARRATOR (OVER)

And the last thing he took was the log
for their fire!

Hands reach down, grab the log.

GRINCH (O.S.)

Oooh, hot plate! Hot plate!

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he went up the chimney himself, the
old liar.

PAN: the empty room. Everything stolen.

NARRATOR (OVER)

On their walls he left nothing but hooks
and some wire. And the one speck of food
That he left in the house was a crumb
that was even too small for a mouse.

A mouse approaches a tiny crumb.

MOUSE

Feh.

A green hand reaches in, takes the mouse.

144 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - LATER - THE GRINCH

144

moves the sleigh down the street, connecting one string of
lights to another, creating an endless series. He finally
connects the plug to the town tree.

The Grinch unscrews a single bulb, licks his finger and
sticks it into the socket to test it.

GRINCH

(electrified)

YeeeoWWW that's good!

(CONTINUED)

The Grinch reaches into his pocket and takes out a single DEAD CHRISTMAS bulb and screws it in. POP! All the LIGHTS IN WHO-VILLE go OUT. He smiles a big smile.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Then he packed up his sled. Packed it up with their presents! The ribbons! The wrappings! The tags! And the tinsel! The trimmings! The trappings!

GRINCH

That was too easy.

He FIRES UP his turbines to make his escape, but the sleigh SPUTTERS and stalls.

He TAPS the fuel gauge. It's on the other side of E. The Grinch growls, Max laughs.

GRINCH (cont'd)

I don't know why you're laughing...

145 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - PRE-DAWN - MAX - PULLS THE SLEIGH 145

up the snow-covered, practically vertical slopes.

NARRATOR (OVER)

Three thousand feet up! Up the side of Mt. Crumpit, He rode with his load to the tiptop to dump it!

GRINCH

Work it, Max. Feel the burn. All you!

146 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT PEAK - DAWN - THE GRINCH 146

parks the sleigh loaded with the Whos' entire Christmas on a PINNACLE of rock. It teeters there... 3000 feet down in any direction.

Then, as the sun just peaks over the horizon, he turns his gaze down toward Who-ville, chuckles.

THE GRINCH

They're just waking up! I know just what they'll do!

147 INT. THE GRINCH'S CAVE - DAWN - THE GRINCH 147

pulls down the handles of his PERISCOPE and PANS the Whos' houses for shots of X-mas morning shock.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH
Their mouths will hang open a minute or
two...

The Grinch imitates slack-jawed, bovine shock to Max.

THE GRINCH
Then the Whos down in Who-ville will all
cry...

He looks back into the periscope and SEES...

ANGLE - THRU THE PERISCOPE - MISS RUE WHO

stands bald-headed in her empty living room and SQUINTS.
This can't be right. She puts on her glasses, STILL can't
see anything.

MISS RUE WHO
(the Grinch, lipsynching)
Boo-hoo!

ANGLE - THRU THE PERISCOPE - MARTHA MAY'S HOUSE

She wakes up, and sees...All her X-mas preparations - GONE.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER
I had a little too much nog. Did I sleep
in the wrong house again?

She looks around. Realizes no, this is her place - she BAWLS
with the horror of it all...

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER
Boo-hoo!

And takes a big pull of nog.

INT. THE LOU-WHO'S HOUSE - MORNING

Lou frantically searching the house.

LOU LOU-WHO
They took everything!

BETTY LOU-WHO
So they took a few things, we'll be
alright.
(realizes)
My lights!!! Boo-hoo!!!

148 EXT. WHO-LIHAN'S HOUSE - MORNING

148

He bursts from his house, runs to his squad car. We stay with him as he SQUEALS OFF. It is then we see a COIL of ROPE quickly unspooling at the curb.

149 INT. MAY-WHO'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME - MAY-WHO

149

wakes up and senses something odd, looks under the sheets. Makes a face. Suddenly, the bed is YANKED, with a crashing of glass and wood, OUT THROUGH the window.

150 EXT. WHO-VILLE STREET - WHO-LIHAN - DRIVING

150

Red and green LIGHTS flashing, siren BLARING. Completely unaware that he is DRAGGING May-Who in his bed behind him.

151 INT. CAVE - BACK TO THE GRINCH - ROARS WITH LAUGHTER

151

as he watches the scene on his periscope.

THE GRINCH

I love a parade!

152 EXT. WHO-VILLE - NEAR CHRISTMAS TREE - X-MAS MORNING -

152

DOZENS OF WHOS attired in bathrobes and pajamas are all standing numbly in the street. There's Miss Rue-Who, Martha May, the Who Fireman, et al.

Suddenly, Who-lihan's SQUAD CAR comes to a screeching halt. He gets out, but no one is looking at him. They, especially Martha May, are staring slack-jawed at...

ANGLE - MAYOR MAY-WHO

for all the world to see - girdleless, in his curlers and chin strap - a suspicious wet mark on his sheets. He pathetically removes his curlers and chin strap. He stands on his bed, trying to hold his head high.

MAY-WHO

Look what happened! Someone strapped this ridiculous thing to my face, made me strangely damp and added thirty pounds to my hips and thighs!

WHO-BRIS

I'd say more like forty-five.

MAY-WHO

Shut up!

(to crowd)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO (cont'd)
If you're looking to point the finger,
the fiend who did this to me, and to all
of us, is up THERE!!!

He points A FINGER at Mt. Crumpit. From the sound of the
GRUMBLING, there seems to be a consensus.

Cindy Lou pipes up from the back of the Crowd.

CINDY LOU-WHO
You've got it all wrong! It wasn't the
Grinch who took the presents...It was
Santa.

An audible GASP. Everyone turns to the little Who.

CINDY LOU-WHO
I saw him. He took our tree to fix it.
He has a timeshare in the
Southpole...with the Sasquatch.

There is derisive LAUGHTER. Lou looks pained by it.

153 INT. THE CAVE - THE GRINCH - WATCHING THRU PERISCOPE 153

THE GRINCH
Silly child, no one has timeshares any
more.

The Grinch CACKLES, races over to the X-ray machine, flicks
it ON. It shows a tiny speck of a heart.

THE GRINCH
Look, it's the size of a pea!
(Max BARKS)
Right! A baby pea! I'm down to fighting
weight!

He chuckles, heads outside to the sleigh.

THE GRINCH
You talk about getting everything you
want for Christmas!

154 EXT. DOWNTOWN WHO-VILLE - AGAIN - MAY-WHO 154

addresses the crowd.

MAY-WHO
Christmas is ruined!

He stares down at Cindy Lou. Everyone takes a step away.

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

All because this little girl had the
nerve to use the sacred Book of Who...

(holds it up)

...to tell us how to behave toward a
social miscreant!

(in Cindy Lou's face)

I hope you're very proud of yourself!

Cindy Lou-Who shrinks under his gaze. A little TEAR starts
to drop from her eye, when...

LOU LOU-WHO

Well, if she isn't....I am.

Lou steps between his boss and Cindy Lou, protectively.

LOU LOU-WHO

I'm glad he took our presents.

The crowd is puzzled.

LOU LOU-WHO (cont'd)

Because that's not what Christmas is
really all about, gifts and contests and
fancy lights...

(turns to Betty)

Sorry dear.

The crowd's nodding now. He's right. May-Who looks concerned.

LOU LOU-WHO (cont'd)

And I guess that's what Cindy's been
trying to tell everyone. And me! She was
trying to tell me. Christmas is about
being together with our families and
loved ones! And that's all. Everything
else is...superfluous. And that means
unnecessary.

(sotto to Cindy)

Doesn't it?

Cindy nods and smiles. Lou puts his arm around her.

CINDY LOU-WHO

(eyes shining with love)

Merry Christmas, Dad.

She gives Lou a tight SQUEEZE and a KISS. A big smile
spreads over his face.

(CONTINUED)

LOU LOU-WHO

I don't need presents. What more could I
want for Christmas than this?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LOU LOU-WHO (cont'd)
 (turns to Betty Lou)
 Merry Christmas Betty Lou, I have
 absolutely nothing more to give you!

She smiles as he hugs and kisses her. Betty Lou looks into his eyes.

BETTY LOU-WHO
 Merry Christmas you hunks of burning Who!
 I have absolutely nothing more to give
 you.

They kiss. Betty DIPS Lou. The ball is rolling, each Who turns to the next.

After the family, Stu and Drew race over to Junie and Christina.

STU/DREW
 (together)
 Merry Christmas you two, we have
 absolutely nothing more for you.

CHRISTINA
 We've got a little something for both of
 you.

The girls wrap their arms around them and give them a kiss.

STU LOU-WHO
 I got some!

DREW LOU-WHO
 I got more!

ANGLE - MARTHA MAY

She walks over to an uncomfortable Betty Lou.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER
 I know you don't like me, Betty. But I
 just wanted to tell you... You had the
 nicer lights.

BETTY LOU-WHO
 And I should tell you, I stole one of the
 headlights off your car.

The two women hug and wish one another a "Merry Christmas".

ANGLE - MAY-WHO AND WHO-BRIS

(CONTINUED)

154 CONTINUED: (3) 154

watch the scene with amazement. Finally, Who-bris turns to May-who, opens his arms to hug him.

WHO-BRIS
Merry Christmas, Mr. May-Who, I have
nothing to give you, except my eternal
love.

MAY-WHO
What?

WHO-BRIS
(covering)
I mean respect...Merry Christmas, sir.

155 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - THE GRINCH - AT THE SLEIGH 155

unaware of the transformation taking place below, he starts
to push the sleigh full of all the Whos' X-mas goodies toward
the cliff.

THE GRINCH
(imitating)
Boo Hoo...Let the waterworks begin!!!

NARRATOR (OVER)
And he ~~did~~ hear a sound rising over the
snow. It started in low... Then it
started to grow.

The Grinch, with his hand to his ear, HEARS something echoing
up from Who-ville. It causes his ~~eyebrows~~ brows to knit.

NARRATOR (OVER)
But the sound wasn't sad! Why this
sounded merry! It couldn't be so! But it
WAS merry. VERY!

It sounds like...SINGING! Baffled, he ~~runs~~ runs back to the cave.

156 INT. THE GRINCH'S CAVE - THE GRINCH 156

puts his eye to the periscope.

NARRATOR (OVER)
He stared down at Who-ville! The Grinch
popped his eyes! Then he shook! What he
saw was a shocking surprise!

POV - THRU SCOPE - THE WHOS
are euphoric as they all SING their merry SONG.

(CONTINUED)

WHOS (SINGING)
 Welcome Christmas...Fa-Who-Ra- Mus...!
 Christmas day is in our grasp... As long
 as we have hands to clasp...

At the edge of the group, WE SEE Cindy Lou slip away.

NARRATOR (OVER)
 Every Who down in Who-ville, the tall and
 the small, Was singing! Without any
 presents at all!

CLOSE - THE GRINCH

He turns to Max who gives him a "What've I been tellin ya?"
 look as he bobs his head to the music.

NARRATOR (OVER)
 He HADN'T stopped Christmas from coming!
 IT CAME! Somehow or other, it came just
 the same!

Agitated, the Grinch takes another look in the periscope,
 SEARCHING the WHOS below.

THE GRINCH
 Alright, that's it! Next year I blow
 Christmas up.

157 EXT. CAVE - SAME TIME - CINDY LOU

157

appears out of breath. She looks around.

CINDY LOU-WHO
 Mr. Grinch...?

No answer. She sees the SLEIGH, climbs up toward the summit
 looking for him.

158 EXT. CAVE LEDGE - THE GRINCH - WALKS OUTSIDE

158

just missing Cindy. He paces back and forth in the snow.

NARRATOR (OVER)
 And the Grinch, with his grinch-feet ice-
 cold in the snow, Stood puzzling and
 puzzling:

THE GRINCH
 How could it be so? It came without
 ribbons! It came without tags! It came
 without packages, boxes or bags!

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR (OVER)
And he puzzled and puzzled, till his
puzzler was sore...

Under this we see various shots of the Grinch puzzling:

-- Sitting on a rock, like Rodin's "The Thinker"

158A INT. GRINCH CAVE

158A

-- At a chalk board doing complex calculations, but still no
answer.

158B INT. GRINCH CAVE - BATHROOM

158B

-- Sitting on the toilet, like Rodin's "The Thinker"

NARRATOR (CONT'D)
...Then the Grinch thought of something
he hadn't before!

THE GRINCH
Maybe Christmas...

NARRATOR (OVER)
...he thought...

THE GRINCH
...doesn't come from a store. Maybe
Christmas...perhaps means a little bit
more!

CLOSE GRINCH - HIS EYES SUDDENLY WIDEN IN SHOCK

He DISAPPEARS from frame.

ANGLE - THE GRINCH - WRITHING

like he's having a grand mal seizure. His hand clutches his
heart. He chokes, he gags, he looks to Max for help. Max
scratches himself disdainfully.

THE GRINCH
Unbelievable, you take care of yourself,
eat right...and then you have a heart
attack!

ZOOM IN on his chest as we see something inside BEATING.
Getting BIGGER and BIGGER. Max BARKS at him.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

What? I'm not having a heart attack.
I'm...I'm having a heart!

NARRATOR (OVER)

And what happened then...? Well in Who-ville they say That the Grinch's small heart Grew three sizes that day!

The Grinch looks at his hands. They're turning from blue to red. As he sits up...

THE GRINCH

Maybe it's all the extra blood in my head, but a little voice is telling me to return those presents!

Max, so taken with the Grinch's breakthrough, runs over to him and licks the Grinch's lips. Yecchhh!

THE GRINCH (CONT'D)

I don't care if it is Christmas, that's disgusting.

He and Max race up toward the sleigh.

159 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT AT THE SLEIGH

159

As the Grinch and Max run up, the sleigh starts to slide.

THE GRINCH

Oh, no! The sled! The presents! My commuter mug!

The Grinch RUNS for the sled, grabs ahold of the back rails. He digs in his heels trying to stop it. But he's slipping. Just then...

CINDY LOU-WHO (O.S.)

Mr. Grinch?

The Grinch looks up, sees her sitting on top of the sled holding a commuter mug.

THE GRINCH

(straining)

Cindy? What are you doing here?

CINDY LOU-WHO

Mr. Grinch, I just wanted to tell you it is all worth it.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH

What...is?

CINDY LOU-WHO

Christmas.

When he hears this, something happens to him. Something magical. He fills with strength. Not only does he stop the sleigh from going over, he LIFTS it OVER HIS HEAD in the dawn light.

(CONTINUED)

He sets it down again atop the peak.

CINDY LOU-WHO (cont'd)

You saved me!

THE GRINCH

Well, I lifted with my legs, it made all the difference.

All of the sudden the sleigh falls back the other way!

NARRATOR (OVER)

And the minute his heart didn't feel quite so tight...

160 EXT. MT. CRUMPIT - VARIOUS SHOTS - THE RUNAWAY SLEIGH 160

careens 3000 vertical feet straight down. The Grinch, Cindy and Max hold on for dear life!

NARRATOR (OVER)

He whizzed with his load through the bright morning light...

The Grinch is ~~being~~ DRAGGED BEHIND THE SLEIGH...

He manages to stand so he's skiing behind the sleigh.

Finally, he pulls himself up to the front, gets hold of the CONTROLS. He's just about to apply the BRAKE when the sleigh hits a ROCK sending him UP IN THE AIR. He lands IN FRONT of the sleigh RUNNING for his life.

THE GRINCH

The brake, Cindy! The...

Too late. The Grinch is cut off mid-sentence as a TREE LIMB catches him by the throat, FLEXES and WHIPS him backwards. Miraculously, he lands BACK IN THE SLEIGH. He hangs onto Cindy who hangs on to Max...all for dear life.

THE GRINCH

I suppose I could have mailed the stuff back, huh?

Max puts his paws over his eyes as they HIT a SKI JUMP and go AIRBORNE.

161 EXT. WHO-VILLE - TOWN SQUARE - THE WHOS 161

are all gathering in the town square SINGING. They all look up just as...

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE - THE GRINCH, CINDY AND THE RUNAWAY SLEIGH - MID-AIR

As the sleigh CAREENS thru the streets.

GRINCH
(high-pitched feminine scream)
Ahhhhhhhh!

Cindy gives him a look.

GRINCH (CONT'D)
I mean (lower masculine scream) Ahhhh!

Martha and Betty spot the sleigh.

MARTHA MAY
Grinch?

BETTY LOU-WHO
Cindy! My baby!

Martha and Betty spring into action. Betty grabs a string of lights.

BETTY LOU-WHO
Grab an end.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER
Take the red ones. The blue ones clash
with your blouse.

They stretch the string across the street, catching the sleigh in the nick of time.

ANGLE - THE SLEIGH

Despite the rough ride, not a person, present, or a tree ornament is lost. The Whos slowly enter back into frame, Lou and Betty rush to their daughter

The Grinch looks at the Crowd staring at him. For some reason, they don't seem mad. They're SMILING. Martha May, even a little more.

THE GRINCH
Stop all that smiling, you're creeping me
out...All right, I admit it. I waive my
right to remain silent. I'm sorry,
but...

The Grinch opens his arms wide.

(CONTINUED)

THE GRINCH
I AM THE GRINCH THAT STOLE CHRISTMAS!

He picks up Max, talks to him CUTESY.

THE GRINCH
C'mon Max. Good boy! Time to go to
prison! Yes! That's right! We're going
to prison! Yes, we are!

(CONTINUED)

He holds out his wrists for Who-lihan to cuff. But Who-lihan just stands there, smiling.

MAY-WHO

Well, Officer, he admitted it. You heard him.

OFFICER WHO-LIHAN

I heard him, all right.

(eyes twinkling)

He said he was sorry.

May-Who can't believe his ears.

MAY-WHO

But look what he did to our Christmas!

OFFICER WHO-LIHAN

(inspecting the sleigh)

Everything seems to be here.

MAY-WHO

He came into our houses! He made us wear curlers! Back me up people. Martha?

He looks around. **CUT** ANGLE: Martha's on top of the sleigh, digging in the sack of presents. She emerges with a small box.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Merry Christmas, August May-Who. I'm afraid I do have something for you.

She slides down the sack to the ground.

MARTHA MAY WHO-VIER

Your ring back. Sorry.

Martha May goes over and takes the Grinch's arm. May-Who is in shock. He looks at the ring, he looks at what's left of his house.

MAY-WHO

This is not how I planned to spend the best Christmas ever.

WHO-BRIS

Never!

The BIDDIES push through the Crowd and take May-Who by the elbows.

(CONTINUED)

CLARNELLA

There, there, dear. You come home with
us. Everyday is Christmas at our house.

(CONTINUED)

ROSE
(shocked)
Whoticus! You've returned!

She plants a huge kiss on him.

CUT TO:

ANGLE - THE GRINCH - SMILES SHEEPISHLY

takes a tiny BULB out of his pocket, licks the end and replaces the BAD ONE in the city-wide series of Christmas lights.

Suddenly the tree LIGHTS ALL BLINK ON! Not just the tree, but CHRISTMAS LIGHTS everywhere around town.

Now Officer Who-lihan approaches, but instead of cuffing him, the cop HOLDS HIS HAND. Cindy Lou-Who takes the other HAND.

CINDY LOU-WHO
Merry Christmas, Mr. Grinch.

She gives him a KISS on the cheek. She flinches back, surprised.

PHIL
CINDY LOU-WHO
Your cheek's so...
THE GRINCH
Yeah, yeah, I know...dirty.

CINDY LOU-WHO
No.

THE GRINCH
Dirty? Oily? Do I have a pimple?

CINDY LOU-WHO
No...warm.

He likes that. He's almost feeling Who-man.

THE GRINCH
Merry Christmas, Cindy Lou.

(CONTINUED)

Then all the Whos form a hand-holding CIRCLE around the tree. And they ALL start to SING. The Grinch is really BELTING IT OUT.

WHOS\GRINCH SINGING
Welcome Christmas Fa-Who-Ra-Mus...
Welcome, welcome Da-Who-Da-Mus...

DISSOLVE TO:

162 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - THE CHRISTMAS BANQUET

162

is in full swing. Every Who in Who-ville is gathered at the famous S-shaped table, piled high with Christmas treats. The kids are all playing with their toys and the square echoes with the NOISE, NOISE NOISE!!!

As the roast beast is placed on the table by the Butcher...

ANGLE - AT THE HEAD OF THE TABLE - THE GRINCH

seems slightly overwhelmed by it all. Martha leans in, snuggles against his arm. His other dinner partner, Cindy Lou, smiles. and amid the CHEERS of the Whos...The Grinch CARVES that ROAST BEAST.

The first piece gets passed down to Max who has his own spot at the table, and wears a bib. He digs in.

NARRATOR (OVER)

So he brought back the toys! and the food for the feast! And he...HE HIMSELF...!
The Grinch carved the roast beast!

Martha May and Betty take over, passing out the heaping plates of food. Even Max gets one.

Mayor May-Who's there, too. He takes a bite, looks concerned.

MAY-WHO

Ow, my throat.

The Scientist Who from Whobilation leans over, peers into May-Who's mouth.

SCIENTIST WHO

I don't believe it! Your tonsils have grown back, and zey need to be removed. Again!

(CONTINUED)

MAY-WHO

Really. Now that is interesting. You see
the last time they...Doctor?

The Scientist is gone.

We find: The Grinch pouring a glass of wine. He makes sure
no one is looking, and sneaks a bite of the bottle.

Martha May leans over.

MARTHA MAY

Grinchy darling, I have a fabric that
matches the fungus on your cave walls
exactly!

GRINCH

What's that now?

(CONTINUED)

MARTHA MAY

Well, we're going to have to redecorate if we're doing all that entertaining. You know starting tomorrow, we've got to get ready for Easter.

GRINCH

Easter?! I hate Easter! Everyone's got to have a bonnet, we're all just big babies in our bonnets, going on a treasure hunt. For what, a stupid egg? I might crawl through the bushes for a bucket of wings, but an egg? No thank you. And what bunny's laying eggs? I had a bunny once, all he did was eat and go to the bathroom, eat and go to the bathroom, and when I tried to pet him, he bit me. Twelve rabies shots in the gut. Happy Easter! And another thing...

CRANE UP, REVEALING THE ENTIRE TOWN IN THE MIDST OF JOYFUL NOISE, NOISE, NOISE!!!!...

END CREDITS ROLL as we...

FADE OUT:

THE END

ANGLE - THE GRINCH, CINDY AND THE RUNAWAY SLEIGH - MID-AIR

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