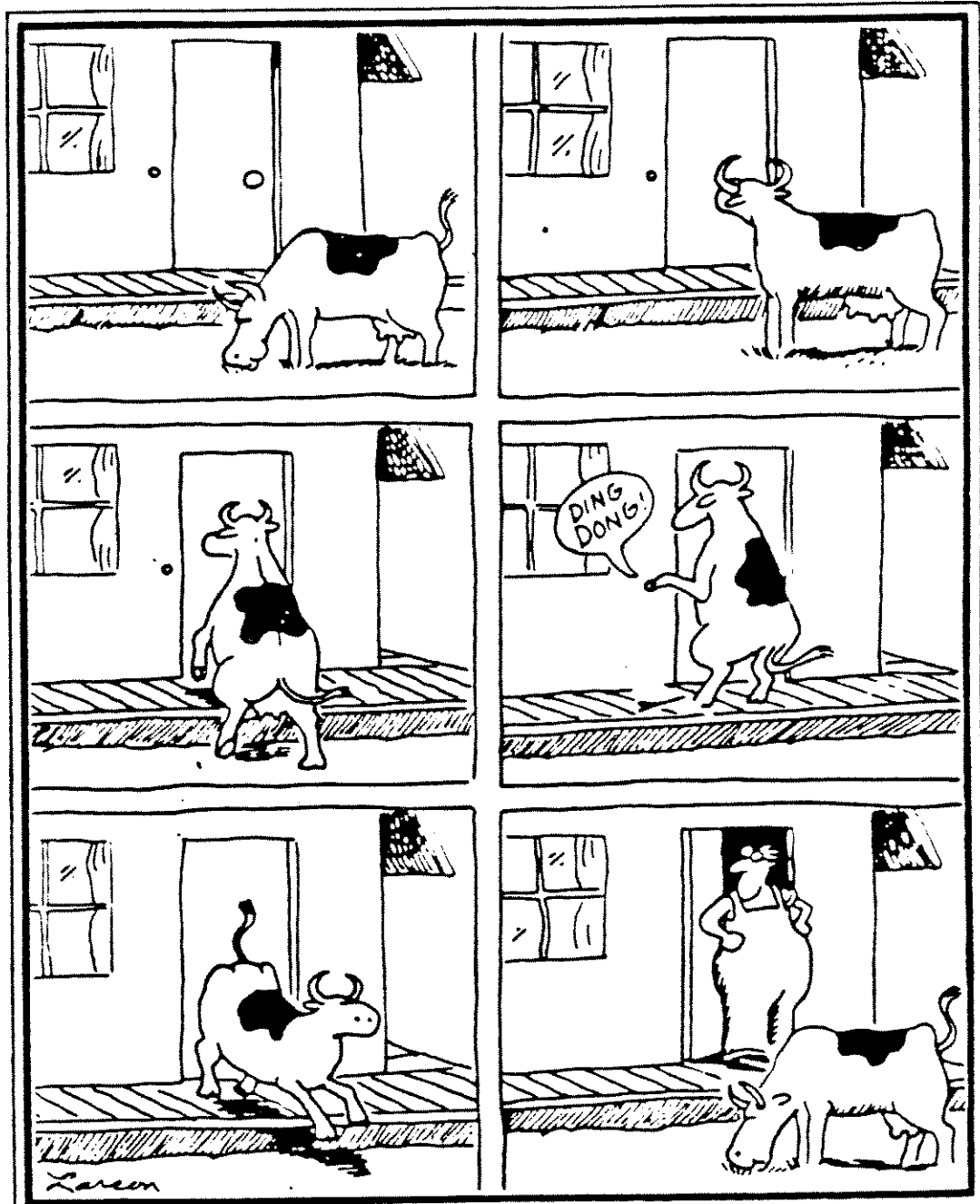


**THE
FAR Side**



"THE FAR SIDE"

Screenplay by

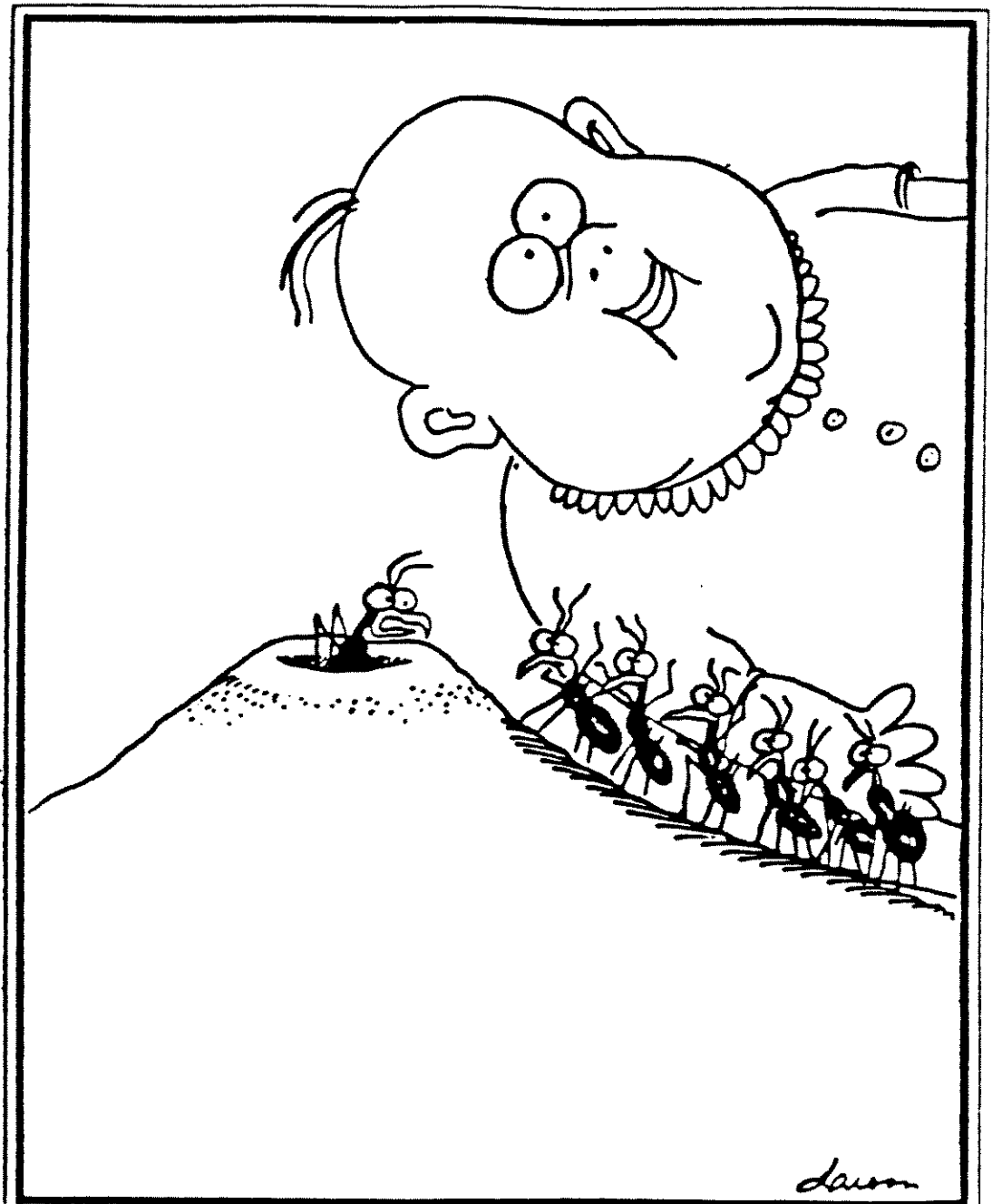
ALAN RUDOLPH

From the Comic Panel

by GARY LARSON

Director: Alan Rudolph

Producer: David Blocker
(213) 461-0195



"You Idiots! . . . We'll never get that thing down
the hole!"



"Blast! Up to now, the rhino was one of my prime suspects."

FADE IN:

FROM DARKNESS

we are hypnotized into a new dimension. A place where questions are raised once there are no longer answers. Both a window and a mirror, a cosmic pane of glass with a big smudge in the center.

THE FAR SIDE

There are glimpses of light and there is a RUMBLE. It SOUNDS like the beginning of mankind as we know it. Or the end.

A narrator speaks with a simple, common voice. Filled with low-tech advice and Far Side logic. Such as it is.

NARRATOR (HENDERSON)

Now, if we want to know where
we're going, we have to know
where we've been.

EXT. HILLSIDE - DAY

Two CAVEMEN stand at the crest of the hill, hands on hips, watching whatever they just pushed down the slope, the source of the RUMBLING SOUND. These two primitives have what is the unmistakable Far Side expression: bewilderment.

HENDERSON'S VOICE

See, when Man first cropped up,
he immediately knew what to do.
It's called 'Instinct'.

The Cavemen are watching a large, chiseled round stone rolling down the hill. The first wheel.

CUT TO:

INT. LEARNING INSTITUTE CLASSROOM - DAY

PROFESSOR HENDERSON adjusts his ever-present glasses and writes the word "INSTINCT" on the blackboard. There are other words and symbols on the board, ranging from complex equations to crude drawings of cats and ducks and flashlights and stings and cans and etc. Creationism.

HENDERSON

'IN' meaning inside. 'STINCT'
meaning you did it even if at
first it didn't smell right.

There is now the SOUND of BARKING.

SOUND CUT TO:

EXT. HILLSIDE

The BARKING comes from a CAVEDOG (again with distinctive Far Side simplicity). The Cavedog is chasing after the first wheel. Dogs will do this for the rest of time.

HENDERSON'S VOICE

Now, animals and other creatures
have their own instinct, because
they have their own rules and
stuff just like we do, only
different. Is that clear?

CUT TO:

FACES IN THE CLASSROOM

It's not clear. But what is?

HENDERSON

This concept is very important
to remember.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON (CONT'D)

The next time you see a kangaroo crossing the street, think of the ups and downs in its life. Very, very important, all part of Henderson's Theory, which I've named after myself and plan to put forth as an entry in the Learning Institute's contest for the Big Answer. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

He backs up and turns a little circle a few steps behind where he was. We have by now noticed a special boy with a crewcut and glasses seated in the back of the classroom. Two nearby STUDENTS react.

1ST STUDENT

Hey Jimmy, in the back row, new kid.

JIMMY FRANKENSTEIN turns. Sure enough, the new kid sparkles like a shiny car. His name is BOBBY WILSON. There is an apple on his desk and he is holding a magnifying glass that catches light from the window and intensifies it onto two ANTS that have crawled onto the fruit.

WE BECOME ANT-SIZED

The Ants both have Far Side expressions. One turns to the other and makes ANT SOUNDS. We understand them.

ANT #1

Herb, you're right, now I'm starting to feel kinda warm.

Bobby is aware of the discomfort he is creating. But he also knows that the Ants would do the same to him if they had the chance. Bobby has a way with other life forms. Not always a pleasant way, but a way nevertheless.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jimmy Frankenstein continues to watch Bobby, giving a nod. Not only because he recognizes what Bobby is doing, but because he's done it himself once or twice. Bobby smiles back.

HENDERSON

Jimmy Frankenstein, are you paying attention?

JIMMY

Yes sir, Professor Henderson. I believe in Henderson's Theory.

HENDERSON

You haven't even heard it yet.

JIMMY

But I still believe.

HENDERSON

Okay, then, continuing with Man's History...

He writes the word "HISTORY" on the blackboard.

HENDERSON

'HIS' meaning it belongs to him, and 'STORY' meaning he tells everybody else. Now, as Man began to conquer boundaries, he discovered things he never knew before. He experimented. That, Jimmy, I know you understand.

Jimmy Frankenstein nods and strokes SPARKY, his constant companion seated on the floor beside Jimmy's desk. Sort of a dog, but also comprised of parts from several different animals fastened together with Frankenstein crudeness.

CUT TO:

EXT. FIELDS - DAY

The same two Cavemen from the first wheel. One is running with a string tied to a cut tree that the second is holding like a kite ready to be pulled airborne.

2ND CAVEMAN

Okay, Bob! Go! Go!

It'll never work.

CUT TO:

INT. CAVE

The same two guys. This time they are exploring a large furry mastadon through a huge stone-and-bone contraption, an early microscope, if you will.

The First Caveman makes a big conclusion that his partner jots down on a clipboard.

1ST CAVEMAN

(looking through
"lens")

It's a mammoth!

EXT. OTHER DWELLINGS - DAY

HENDERSON'S VOICE

Some progressed faster than
others.

Three very primitive and hairy NEANDERTHALS are hunched over and carry clubs near the cave. Taunting them is a group of SLICK TYPES with spears and haircuts.

SLICK CAVEMAN

Neanderthals, Neanderthals!
Can't make fire! Can't make
spear! Nyah, nyah, nyah...!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Some STUPID-LOOKING CAVEMEN are holding their food directly into the flames of a fire, with pained expressions on their faces.

A SMARTER-LOOKING MEMBER (he wears glasses) is sitting at his own fire, cooking his food at the end of a stick.

STUPID CAVEMAN

Hey! Look what Zog do!

CUT TO:

EXT. TREES - DAY

A happy Cro-Magnon COUPLE strolls erect along a path, fire torches and spears in their hands. They wave to a PRIMITIVE COUPLE sitting in a tree. The Primitive Woman faces her slouched Mate.

PRIMITIVE WOMAN

And now there go the Robinsons!
Seems like everyone's evolving
except us!

EXT. CAVE DWELLINGS - DAY

The sad-sack Caveman who invented the first wheel is exhausted from chiseling out yet another heavy stone. He looks up as three fun-loving CAVEMEN BUDDIES roar out of their cave in a convertible car with the top down. They drive away, not a care in the world.

HENDERSON'S VOICE

The animals, meanwhile, were
progressing on their own.

Three dumbstruck antelopes stand in the grass. They watch a hungry leopard sitting on a rock, hurriedly lacing up a new pair of running shoes he just removed from a box.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON'S VOICE
Many became extinct in the
process.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAINS - DAY

Three Dinosaurs are laughing at an ugly little
Amphibian as if they'd never seen anything so funny
looking. Then the Dinosaur closest to the sky reaches
out his hand to feel the first drops of falling rain.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROCKS - DAY

HENDERSON'S VOICE
And they became extinct for
several reasons.

Three other Dinosaurs are sneaking smokes off
cigarettes behind the rocks. They'll be sorry two
packs a day and a few thousand years later.

CUT TO:

INT. CAVE AUDITORIUM

A gathering of concerned Dinosaurs listens to the
scholarly DINOSAUR SPEAKER at the podium.

DINOSAUR SPEAKER
The picture's pretty bleak,
gentlemen. The world's climates
are changing, the mammals are
taking over, and we have a brain
about the size of a walnut.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINOSAUR CAVES - DAY

An eager Dinosaur with a baseball cap and glove and bat sadly discovers that he is becoming very much alone in the world. Signs are taped to the entrance of each of his friends' caves: "EXTINCT." "SORRY, EXTINCT."

HENDERSON'S VOICE

Suddenly, it was the survival of the fittest and the dawning of a new age...

There is a FANFARE. A crude but long and powerful single MUSICAL NOTE is heard.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROCKS - DAY

A Caveman Conductor raises his baton to a Caveman Musical Ensemble. On the music sheet before the Conductor is one large musical note.

Emerging from a cave and approaching us is a rugged and bearded WARRIOR. His Wife stands at the mouth of their cave. The Warrior speaks DIRECTLY AT US.

CAVE WARRIOR

Do you know me? I have to deal with lions, wolves, saber-toothed tigers... That's why I carry one of these.

He holds up his club for us to see.

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM

HENDERSON

Man and Animal were changing. It was a big deal. It promoted 'RIVALRIES'.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He writes the word on the cluttered blackboard. Two faces appear in the window of the classroom door. MILLER and his assistant, SMITH.

MILLER

Listen to that rubbish, Smith.
He'll never win first prize
with that claptrap.

But Smith thought he meant the rubbish that the Janitor is emptying behind them.

Miller and Smith wear lab coats and bow ties. All scientists do. But Miller is dark and unfriendly, the exact opposite of Henderson. In fact, his chief rival.

HENDERSON

(at blackboard)

'RI' meaning it's as natural as
bread. 'VAL' meaning it takes
place between two high peaks.
And 'RIES' meaning... y'know,
'RIES'.

He faces his class, serious. Far Side serious.

HENDERSON

Nature arranges everything. For
example, as soon as a child
enters the world, it finds a
mother to take care of it. That
is the natural way. And History
has shown that when Man brings
in unnatural influences...

Henderson spins a game wheel next to the blackboard.

HENDERSON

... it's either Truth or
Consequences.

A little puff of smoke rises from Bobby Wilson's apple.

HALLWAY

Miller has heard enough. He moves down the hall, Smith following.

MILLER

Absolute rubbish. He's a bigger fool than I thought. Does he actually believe he can win the Big Answer Grant with that nonsense?

SMITH

What's your theory, Dr. Miller?

Miller stops. His voice lowers for security reasons.

MILLER

Theory? What theory? The only theory is to win at any cost. That's the way it's always been and always will be. You make your own history!

He starts walking again.

MILLER

And I can prove it.

SMITH

How can you prove it, Dr. Miller?

MILLER

By winning, Mr. Smith.

They pass a laboratory where there is much scientific activity. A row of SCIENTISTS in the Primate Studies section is looking into a mirror and taking notes. One of them has a revelation.

SCIENTIST

For crying out loud, gentlemen!
That's us! Someone's installed
the one-way mirror in backward!

Behind them, two of the other Scientists are having an eraser fight.

INT. HENDERSON'S CLASS

Henderson is again writing on the blackboard.

HENDERSON

'NEED!' Another word from the
bread family.

STERLING, a fat kid bully sitting next to Bobby Wilson,
perks up for the first time since class began.

STERLING

Did somebody say something about
food?

HENDERSON

Exactly right, Sterling.
'SURVIVAL!'

Sterling spots Bobby's apple and takes it without
asking, biting directly into the place where the Ants
were. By listening closely, we hear:

ANT'S VOICE

If we survive the fall, Herb,
we'll never be hungry again.

Henderson hears the Ant's comments.

HENDERSON

Right again, Sterling. But when
you get hungry in life, there's
only so many places that are open.

CUT TO:

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

CAVEMEN on the hunt.

Two guys stand beside an enormous pit over which hangs
a giant piece of meat. The 1ST CAVEMAN is jubilant.
He swings his hands wildly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

1ST CAVEMAN

Big one, Thag! We caught biiiiig
one!

He's so excited he accidentally knocks Thag into the
pit.

EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY

A group of Cave People have a giant mastadon hanging
upside down over a small fire. There seems to be some
confusion.

CAVEMAN

What? You mean NO ONE brought
the buns?

There is a CLANGING. The Little WOMAN of the cave is
banging a TRIANGLE.

WOMAN

Come and get it! Cooooome and
get it! It's not going to get
any more raw, y'know!

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

TWO other Caveman HUNTERS have chased a Baby Bear behind
a large rock.

1ST HUNTER

Ha! We got him now!

His PARTNER has just realized that the Baby Bear isn't
hiding behind a rock. It's hiding behind Father Bear's
foot.

Suddenly, a battle ensues between Cavemen Hunters and
GIANT BEARS. The Bears are flicking away the Human
Pests.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GIANT BEAR
 (to 2nd Giant Bear)
 Criminy! It seems like every
 summer there's more and more
 of these things around!

EXT. TREES - DAY

Two Giant Sloths have chased several Hunters up into
 a tree. The FIRST SLOTH is already holding four
 struggling Cavemen.

1ST SLOTH
 Let's see... I guess your
 brother's coming over, too.
 Better give it one more shake.

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM

HENDERSON
 You see, Nature has a funny way
 of making us all scraps on
 someone else's table.

Sterling belches. The BELL RINGS and class is over.
 Henderson collects his notes. Bobby Wilson steps over
 to Jimmy Frankenstein. He pets Sparky, holding out
 his hand for Sparky to shake.

BOBBY
 Looks pretty brave to me.

JIMMY
 Sparky's no chicken, if that's
 what you mean.

But when Bobby shakes Sparky's paw, it is indeed a
 chicken's.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

Your first day in class, Bobby
Wilson, what did you think?

BOBBY

I like the part about how it all
began.

HENDERSON

Yes, Henderson's Theory...

He respectfully says the name as if it were someone
else's.

HENDERSON

My brother and I are going to
the jungle to do more research
so that we can win the Big
Answer Grant. The deadline is
coming up.

BOBBY, JIMMY & SPARKY

Wow!! Can we come??

HENDERSON

Afraid not, boys. I'm sure you
already find plenty of adventure
right here where we all live.

CUT TO:

WE ARE SURROUNDED BY WATER

A Small Fish in the pond. A Big Fish is about to snap
him up for a meal. An even Bigger Fish is poised to
to the same to them both. Surrounding the Biggest Fish
is a swarm of the same kind of Small Fish. A fish-eat-
fish world.

Suddenly, a bird's claw digs into the water and plucks
out the Smallest Fish.

EXT. POND AND SKY

The Bird flies away. A Wading Bird is trying to swallow a particularly difficult Reptile. A 2ND BIRD kibutztes.

2ND BIRD

Now you've got him, Vinnie!

Not so. The Reptile struggles out of the bird's ample beak. He looks like the Creature From the Black Lagoon. The CREATURE stretches his limbs. The two Wading Birds get the hell out of there.

Nearby, a FROG sits tangled in his own long tongue. An Insect flies safely away.

FROG

(frustrated)

Blasted recoil unit!

The Frog double-takes as the huge Creature splashes up next to him.

The Creature looks around, then moves out of the pond in a menacing way.

FROG

Go get 'em, brother.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY AND TREES AND GRASS - DAY

Life near a pond. Birds are flying. The Original Bird carries the Fish to a nest at the top of a tree. It finds that its baby birds are missing. An overstuffed Cat is sneaking down the tree trunk with a guilty look on its face.

Bird #2 lands on a fountain to drink. We read: "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH". Several eggs are lying around the base of the Fountain. Other BIRDS continue to FLY overhead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FLYING BIRD

(watching scene below)

That's what happens when birds
don't read.

Then he peels off formation and lands in what appears to be a "safe" fountain. But it's really a Frog with a very large mouth open to look like a fountain. The Frog's mouth snaps shut! The same two WADING BIRDS stand nearby. They watch the Bird Formation heading into the distant sky.

WADING BIRD #1

That could either be our flock,
another flock, or just a bunch
of little m's.

We FOLLOW the birds toward a public park.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

Below, all the People and Animals have imaginary targets on their heads.

EXT. PARK BENCH

An Old Man is seated, bundled in heavy overclothes, feeding nuts to a few park Birds.

BIRD FORMATION

The Squadron Leader sees the Old Man, signals for a landing.

EXT. TREE

A gang of Squirrels has seen the same Old Man with the same bag of nuts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SQUIRREL LEADER faces his squad.

SQUIRREL LEADER

Okay, here we go! Remember,
wiggle those noses, stuff those
cheeks, and act cute... And no
smoking, Carl.

Before the Squirrels can mobilize, however, the bunch
of Birds lands on the Old Man. Pretty soon he is
covered with Birds. They eat all the nuts and fly
away. Only the Man's clothing is left behind.

An Older Woman strolls with her pet Snake on a leash.
The Woman carries a snake-pooper-picker-upper. It's
very long. She passes a slide. Two SPIDERS have
woven a web at the base of the slide and wait for
their first victim.

1ST SPIDER

(to Mate)

If we pull this off, we'll eat
like kings.

Nearby, two Birds sit on the handle of a baby carriage.
The Baby is waving its hands with a dumb smile on its
face. Mother is calmly reading a book on the bench,
oblivious. ONE BIRD turns from the Baby to its Mate.

BIRD #1

It's still hungry... and I've
been stuffing worms into it all
day.

Across the lawn, a MAN is talking to a DUCK.

MAN

Sprechen sie Deutsch?

The Duck just looks blank.

MAN

Hable Espanol?

Nothing from the Duck.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAN

Parlez vous Français?

The Duck's expression doesn't change.

MAN

Quack?

DUCK

Quack!

MAN

Quack quack quack quack quack
quack quack quack quack...

DUCK

Quack quack quack quack quack
quack quack...

At the same baby carriage, Mother continues to read her book. She doesn't notice that her Baby is no longer in the carriage. A unit of Ants has removed the Baby and has carried it to the mouth of their ant hole. CHIEF ANT sticks his head out.

CHIEF ANT

You idiots! We'll never get that thing down the hole!

Under a park rock, nearby. A Woman with blonde hair and pointed sunglasses and bright lipstick is lying flat under the rock, barely fitting in the space. A SNAKE is facing her.

SNAKE

It's true, Barbara... You're the first woman I've ever brought here.

Suddenly, a THUD from above forces her even tighter under the rock. The Creature is stalking.

A huge shadow crosses the park. The Ants see it and drop the Baby and run into their ant hole. The shadow stops over the Baby. A webbed claw picks it up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Creature carries the Baby back to its baby carriage and deposits it inside. Mother continues to read her book on the bench, unknowing.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

The Creature steps along the road and sticks out one of his scaly thumbs as a car approaches.

INT. CAR

Two old Ladies are driving along. They see the Creature From The Black Lagoon hitchhiking ahead. The Driver Lady looks worried. The Passenger LADY nudges her.

OLD LADY

C'mon, Sylvia... where's your spirit of adventure?

But the Old Ladies drive past.

Another car follows and pulls over. The Creature opens the door and climbs in the front seat. The car drives off. The bumper sticker reads: "I DON'T BRAKE."

INT. CAR

The driver of the car is a HUNCHBACK with a distorted face and ugly teeth. The Creature nods "hello" and offers the Hunchback a cigarette. They drive toward the city where a sign and picture are posted on the outskirts.

SIGN: NOTICE! YOU MUST BE AS UGLY AS THIS PICTURE
TO TERRORIZE THIS CITY

The Hunchback and Creature smile at the sign. The RADIO is on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Creature leans in, fingering the knobs, then removes the front of the radio. Inside the dashboard is a Miniature Band playing MUSIC.

HUNCHBACK

So, what brings you out this time of year?

CREATURE

Wanderlust.

HUNCHBACK

I know the feeling. Thought I'd hit the city, maybe run through the suburbs.

The Creature nods, puffs his smoke as they drive. They both have dry, articulate speech patterns.

HUNCHBACK

I heard something big might happen soon between different species.

CREATURE

(shaking his head)
Guess they'll never learn.

HUNCHBACK

There are certain advantages in being a missing link.

CUT TO:

INT. LEARNING INSTITUTE - DAY

Scientists and School Children fill the corridors. The place is a grab-bag of academic, medical, and scientific activity.

Henderson and LIEBOWITZ (also wearing lab coat and bow tie) come from a seminar where each Scientist attending carries a duck.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

So, Liebowitz, I'm counting on you to join my brother and me on our jungle expedition.

LIEBOWITZ

Glad to help out, Professor. What do you hope to find?

HENDERSON

We hope to find additional proof that the Henderson Theory is the Big Answer. We then hope to win the cash grant so that we may continue our research. We hope to prove that throughout time everything has always been the same. Only different.

Liebowitz scratches his head.

LIEBOWITZ

Well, when do we leave?

Henderson sees Miller examining a Patient in the Examination Room.

HENDERSON

Soon... I'm going to visit my brother now.

CUT TO:

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM

Miller wears a stethoscope around his neck and a doctor's light on his forehead. He is having trouble diagnosing his patient's malady. Smith is there taking notes.

MILLER

Wait a minute here, Mr. Crumbley. Maybe it isn't kidney stones after all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The real problem is a large Rhinoceros stuck in Mr. Crumbley's neck. Just then Miller spots Henderson in the hallway.

MILLER

Smith, write Mr. Crumbley a prescription. And charge him cash for it. I've got something to attend to.

MR. CRUMBLEY

Thanks, Doc.

HALLWAY

Miller exits and walks toward Henderson. In a lab nearby, two SCIENTISTS are waiting for a 3rd Scientist to carry a tray of rare specimens down the stairs.

1ST SCIENTIST

(to 2nd Scientist)

... And as you shall soon observe, Doctor, we are quite proud of our test-tube baby progress.

The 3rd Scientist is about to step onto a roller skate that has been left behind.

Miller confronts Henderson in the hallway.

MILLER

So, you're off to seek truth in the name of science. Don't you know that science is made up of half-truths?

HENDERSON

The way you practice it, perhaps, Dr. Miller, but not for me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MILLER

I'm going to win that Prize Money, Henderson, by showing them something they've never seen before.

He points a finger at Henderson.

MILLER

And I cheat!

HENDERSON

Can't cheat the Big Answer, Doctor. Excuse me.

He walks off. Smith edges around Miller's side.

MILLER

(watching Henderson leave)

What he lacks in intelligence, he makes up in stupidity.

Miller ponders his situation.

MILLER

Pay his brother a visit. I want to know exactly what their plan is.

SMITH

What are you going to do, Boss?

Miller smiles.

MILLER

I'm going to outer space. All I need is someone to take me there.

Miller walks away.

SURGERY

Miller watches five Doctors in surgical masks. They surround a Patient being operated on.

SURGEON

... Okay, Williams, we'll vote.
How many here say the heart has
four chambers?

Miller thinks them all idiots and moves away.

PSYCHOLOGY

Miller looks into a room where three Psychologists view five foolish People through a two-way mirror. The CHIEF PSYCHOLOGIST ponders.

CHIEF PSYCHOLOGIST

Yes, they're all fools,
gentlemen... But the question
remains, 'What KIND of fools
are they?'

Miller is disgusted with them also. He walks through the Eyeglass Testing Center where a Technician tests eyeglasses by running full speed into a brick wall. Then he spots Warren in Missile Assembly.

INT. MISSILE ASSEMBLY

WARREN, a smock-wearing technician of dubious intelligence, is about to finish building a Megaton Warhead by pounding the final nail into the tip. Practical-joking Technician #2 is going to surprise Warren by popping a large sack at the moment the hammer hits the nail. Miller's arrival spoils the joke and Technician #2 walks away.

WARREN

What's up, Doc?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MILLER

Warren, maybe you can help me.

WARREN

Sure thing, Doc.

MILLER

(confidential)

Warren, I'm planning to win the Big Answer Grant, but there are a few things I need first.

WARREN

Name 'em, Doc.

MILLER

Warren, can you get me a good deal on a spaceship in the black market?

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREETS - DAY

Bobby Wilson and Jimmy Frankenstein ride their bicycles down Main Street. Sparky hobbles close behind them on four unmatched legs.

They ride past a "BEGINNING DANCE CLASS" on the second floor of a building. At that moment, a Couple falls through the second-story window while attempting to master the basic 4-step.

Bobby and Jimmy are going to Jimmy's favorite after-school Sweet Shop. They pass an OLD MAN carrying a twig branch and an angry scowl.

OLD MAN

(muttering to himself)

I've had it! This time I've really had it! Jump the fence again, will he? Dang!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cowering in the alley is a Gigantic Squid. Jimmy and Bobby pull up to the Sweet Shop and enter.

The Hunchback's car parks at the curb. He and the Creature From The Black Lagoon get out and shake hands.

HUNCHBACK

Want something to eat?

CREATURE

Thanks, but I'm going to find some water to swim around in.

They nod and part ways with the matter-of-factness of two characters from "Dragnet".

EXT. STORE

The Hunchback enters the same store as Bobby and Jimmy did. A sign in the front window says, "UNNATURAL FOODS".

INT. SWEET SHOP

Jimmy goes right to the counter, where the BAKER who owns the place is going over his accounting books with profound worry.

BAKER

Well, shoot. I just can't figure it out. I'm movin' over five hundred doughnuts a day, but I'm still just barely squeakin' by.

His Handyman is a 900-pound Teenager. He sweeps his broom innocently.

Bobby notices a bunch of Insects flying toward a hive in a dusty corner of the shop. Bobby hears something, moves closer, and peers inside the hive.

INSIDE HIVE

A bunch of Insects are seated in a theater, eating popcorn and watching the titles of the movie, "RETURN OF THE KILLER WINDSHIELD". Bobby's big head disturbs the picture quality and INSECTS start BUZZING. Bobby backs out quickly.

STORE

Bobby almost steps on two Rats returning home from lunch. LADY RAT is wearing pearls, so it must have been a fancy lunch. Her smaller, bespectacled Husband opens the front door of their hole-in-the-wall, only to find a mouse trap wide open with a morsel of cheese as bait. Lady Rat nags her Husband.

LADY RAT

Well, heaven knows what it is or where it came from, just get rid of it. But save that cheese first.

Jimmy comes over with a sack full of sweets. He and Bobby almost run into the Hunchback, opening the door. Bobby stops in his tracks, immediately frightened. He and Jimmy and Sparky slip out of the store, well-behaved.

EXT. STORES AND STREETS

Bobby and Jimmy get on their bikes.

JIMMY

We'll take a shortcut home.

They ride off. On the busy sidewalk, a group of People stand around a Man who's just been conked on the head with a boomerang. In the crowd is a KANGAROO.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KANGAROO

(mutters)

Bet that was meant for us.

He grabs his Kangaroo Wife and hops away, complaining about Crime in the Street. Bobby sees this. As he waits for the light to change, he also notices some BUMS sitting in the alley near trash cans. One of them drinks from a bottle while another laments his plight.

LAMENTING BUM

I used to be somebody... big
executive... my own company...
and then one day someone yelled,
'Hey! He's just a big cockroach!'

Which, of course, he is. Bobby takes all this in. This and much more during his first day in a new place.

The Hunchback watches them from the sidewalk, then climbs in his car and follows. It's a very active street corner. A Goofy Man with a wire cage around his head is wearing a furry outfit with boxing gloves and a mallet. He is hitting Passersby on the head, knocking them out cold. Someone calls for the police.

STREET CORNER

The cry for law enforcement stops Smith and three Burly Men in overcoats and fedoras. Smith calms them.

SMITH

Relax, men, it has nothing to do
with us. Come on, we're going
up there.

He points to a building across the street. Further down the block are some squad cars. As Smith and Gang enter the building, an irate CITIZEN approaches a POLICEMAN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CITIZEN

Help, police, help!

The Citizen waves his arms in the direction of the Goofy Man with the mallet. A POLICEMAN reacts.

POLICEMAN

I'll get Lieutenant Morris!

He turns and runs into the same building as Smith and Gang.

INT. APARTMENT

LIEUTENANT MORRIS is a cigar-chomping veteran cop with a mustache and a raincoat. He is investigating a murder case in the apartment. Scattered around are a bunch of Suspects, Witnesses, and Uniformed Police. It's a big case.

Morris holds up a tommy-gun and is standing in a corner with Policeman #2. The body is there and also many kinds of clocks and watches that have been shot with the tommy-gun. All the watch hands have stopped at 3:30.

MORRIS

We've got the murder weapon and the motive... now if we can just establish time of death.

Three other Cops are interviewing a very frazzled Woman. As COP #1 takes her testimony, Cop #2 gradually moves his hand up behind her neck without touching.

COP #1

Try to relax, ma'am... You say it was getting dark and you were alone in the house when suddenly you felt a hand reaching from behind and... FREEMAN! Knock it off!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cop #2 pulls his hand away innocently. Morris, meanwhile, goes to the closet in his investigation. A Rhinoceros falls out dead! With a knife in its back.

MORRIS

Blast! Up to now, the rhino was one of my prime suspects.

Two other Cops are interrogating a Dog. Two SUSPECTS whisper to each other nearby as the Dog blabs away to the Cops.

SUSPECT #1

I could have guessed... my friends all warned me that this breed will sometimes turn on you.

The Policeman from the street comes through the door and up to Lieutenant Morris. In the hallway, we see Smith and Gang entering Arnold Henderson's apartment. (ARNOLD is the Professor's brother.)

Lieutenant Morris is summing up his case. All Suspects are seated around the room.

On the couch are a blonde Woman, an Elephant wearing a baseball cap over his ears and trying to hide his tusks with his overcoat, and the Butler.

MORRIS

And the murderer is... the BUTLER! Yes, the butler who, I'm convinced, first gored the Colonel to death before trampling him to smithereens.

Everyone looks at the startled Butler.

POLICEMAN

Lieutenant Morris, there's a disturbance outside in the street.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MORRIS

Right.

(to Sergeant)

Sergeant, I'll be back later,
something important has come
up.

Morris follows the Policeman into the hallway.

INT. ARNOLD HENDERSON'S APARTMENT

Smith and Gang are trying to bully a scare into Arnold Henderson, who very much looks like his brother, except duller. Smith digs his finger into Arnold's chest while the Gang moves all the furniture and pictures around the room.

SMITH

The Boss is going to win this
prize money, see? Or next time
it won't be just your living
room we rearrange.

Arnold remains with the blankest expression.

SMITH

I don't think you get the
message. All right, boys, tie
him up.

EXT. STREET

Morris arrives with the Policeman to the place where the Goofy Man has knocked out all the Pedestrians with his mallet. Morris is looking at the Goofy Man's billfold.

MORRIS

(to Policeman)

Well, I'll be darned. I guess
he does have a license to do
that.

He looks at the Goofy Man. Across the street, we see Professor Henderson entering his brother's building.

INT. ARNOLD'S APARTMENT

Arnold is tied up in a chair, seated under a bright light, having been through the ringer. Yet he still has that flat expression. Smith holds out a gadget with a carrot at the end of a stick and a bicycle horn and a funny light and a fishing reel...

SMITH

Well, we've tried every device and you still won't talk. Every device, that is, except this little baby we simply call 'Mr. Thingy'.

There is a KNOCK on the door. The Gang freezes.

SMITH

(to Arnold)

You're lucky this time, fella.

He motions and the Gang disappears through the rear door. Another KNOCK.

ARNOLD

Come in.

Henderson steps into the room and takes in the sight of Arnold tied up in the chair.

HENDERSON

Are you all right?

ARNOLD

Yes.

HENDERSON

Are you sure, Arnold?

Arnold nods. Henderson pulls up another chair right next to his brother.

HENDERSON

Start at the beginning. What happened?

Arnold inhales, then:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARNOLD

Well, I woke up at six like I
always do. It was an unusually
bright day, and I still haven't
fixed those blinds, so the sun
just came bursting right in...

Henderson is upset; he stands out of his chair, paces.
His brother remains bound to the chair.

HENDERSON

(interrupting)

Miller might try something.
We're leaving for the jungle
immediately.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR WASH - DAY

Right in there with the spray and the suds and the
rollers. A car is moving through the wash. A married
Couple sits inside. Suddenly, the Creature From The
Black Lagoon appears at the wet window.

MAN

Quick, Agnes! Look! There it is
again!

But when Agnes turns, the Creature is gone.

EXT. STREETS

The Creature wanders along the sidewalk. People don't
notice him because they are busy coping.

Across the street is a seedy saloon and cafe, the dark
side of town. The Creature heads in that direction.
We see Dr. Miller already there.

EXT. SALOON AND ALLEY

Miller walks past the mouth of the alley, checking the right address.

A SHADY-LOOKING GUY in an overcoat talks to Miller out of the side of his mouth.

SHADY GUY

Hey, buddy... You wanna buy a hoofed mammal?

In the darkness of the alley, we see the silhouettes of a Gazelle, Giraffe, and Antelope.

INT. CAFE SALOON

Miller enters, stops at the painted Hostess before sitting down.

MILLER

Tell Louie that Miller is here.

The place is filled with shady eccentrics, Far Side-style. A Waitress arrives.

MILLER

I'll have frogs' legs, regular spaghetti, and ham and eggs.

She writes the order, walks away. Miller notices that his order did not amuse the Chicken and Pigs having a drink together in the corner.

Miller surveys the place, looking for his contact. We STUDY RANDOM activity:

A very large TOUGH GUY at the bar is picking a fight with the smallest Guy there.

TOUGH GUY

I asked you a question, buddy.
What's the square root of 5,248?

The little Guy doesn't know what to do, but the BARTENDER breaks it up.

FURTHER DOWN THE BAR

a perplexed Horse sits on the bar stool next to his Owner. An untouched highball is before the horse on the bar top. The DRUNK next to the horse's owner:

DRUNK

Sure... but can you make him drink?

The Bartender has moved to the ugliest Guy, who sits at the end. A pretty Girl has just walked away from him.

BARTENDER

Rejected again, huh, Murray?
Have you heard about this new
breath-freshening toothpaste?

He holds up a tube, but somehow the very ugly Murray doesn't think that's his problem.

Miller's order arrives. He starts in on the frogs' legs. The first one he forks into hardly looks like a frog's leg, and it has a shoe laced on its foot. Miller puts it down, suddenly more interested in his spaghetti. As he sucks in several mouthfuls, Miller notices a BIRD complaining to the Waitress about his order.

BIRD

Whoa! This just looks like
regular spaghetti! Where's my
earthworms Alfredo?

BAR

The Creature has arrived, sits at the bar. Next to him, a LUMPY WOMAN and a Porcupine share a bottle of champagne. But they are not happy.

LUMPY WOMAN

Look, I just don't feel the
relationship is working out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Creature checks them, and a few other couples. Couple #1 is at a table.

WOMAN

I judge a man by the shoes he wears, Jerry.

Under the table, we see that Jerry is wearing shoes with bells and horns and little stuffed bunnies and fruit.

At another table, a WOMAN is sitting with Bozo the Clown.

WOMAN #2

And I like honesty in a relationship. I'm not into playing games.

Just then, the Band finishes one song and prepares the next one. The BANDLEADER reads a note handed to him.

BANDLEADER

What? Another request for 'Old MacDonald'?

A bunch of farm Animals sit attentively in the shadows.

INT. KITCHEN AREA

The HOSTESS strolls into the cafe's kitchen. A couple of Chefs are having fun by tossing balls at a painted target. Bullseye will release a Lobster into a boiling pot of water. The poor Lobster's nerves are shot.

A half-lidded Chef with a floppy white hat and stained apron is clutching his LOBSTER above another boiling pot.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOBSTER

Three wishes? Did I say three wishes? Shoot! I'll grant you FOUR wishes.

HOSTESS

(to Chef)

Hey Louie, some guy named Miller is here to see you.

LOUIE looks at the Lobster and tosses him into the pot.

INT. CAFE

Louie comes from the kitchen. Miller is still at his table. The Creature finishes his drink at the bar. A Woman has just fainted because a Man's head has just sprung from his body on a coiled wire like a pop-up toy. The man's WIFE comforts the faint Woman, angry with her husband.

WIFE

Well, Emily is out like a light. Just can't resist pulling that little stunt of yours, can you, Earl!

His head boings at the end of the wire.

The Creature notices Miller and Louie talking and exiting the saloon. He finishes his drink and follows them. There's a GUNSHOT behind from a table. A burly Man has just shot two of the Diners he was sitting with. His DATE is furious.

DATE

That settles it, Carl! From now on, you're getting only decaffeinated coffee!

EXT. SALOON - NIGHT

Louie leads Miller up the back stairs to a private party.

LOUIE

So, what d'ya expect to find out there with this spaceship, provided I can get you one?

MILLER

That is the question, isn't it? And I'm going to deliver the Big Answer.

The Creature overhears this on his way to a manhole cover, which he lifts. He climbs into the sewer.

EXT. BACK STAIRS

Very close to a Moth's nest.

INSIDE NEXT

A drunken, flame-singed Moth comes through his front door. His WIFE MOTH is there, feelers on hips.

WIFE MOTH

Good heavens, just look at you! You've been down at the Ferguson's porch light, haven't you?

SPIDER HOME

A Spider is sitting in his chair, reading a book. His two Spider Kids are above him on the stairs, playing a practical joke that scares the reading Spider out of his chair: They dangle a miniature doll of a human!

INT. NIGHT FLY HOME

A bunch of NIGHT FLIES are gagging and falling over furniture, spilling their drinks, ruining their party.

The reason is that one of them just sprayed the room with an aerosol sprayer.

DYING NIGHT FLY

You idiot! I said get the room
freshener! That's insecticide!

It doesn't really matter because a giant foot steps on them on its way up the stairs. Louie's foot.

EXT. STAIRS

Miller continues to follow up the stairs. They pass the window of an apartment where a small, GRUFF MAN is listening to very bad loud MUSIC.

SMALL GRUFF MAN

(into phone)

Well, why don't you come over
here and MAKE me turn it down...
or do you just TALK big, fella?

They pass the apartment where the telephone Complainer lives. He is so big that he fills the entire room!

END OF HALLWAY

Louie and Miller are allowed inside. They walk to the back of a party, through a door. A Piano Player fakes the keys on a roller piano. Somebody's showing home movies. Couples are sitting and talking. Most couples. One couple sits on the couch, eyes bulged open, ghoulish expressions frozen, bodies stiff on the cushions. The couple opposite them is annoyed. WOMAN whispers to MAN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOMAN

What did I say, Alex? Every time we invite the Zombies over to chat, we all end up just sitting around staring at each other.

The home movie is of the Women of the House and the Devil standing in flames. The Devil has his arm around the Woman and is waving into the camera.

MAN OF THE HOUSE

(explaining to party guests)

Now this is from last summer, when Margaret and I went to hell and back.

Margaret, at that same moment, is about to put a blanket over a bird in its cage. The bird's eyes are haywire.

MARGARET (WOMAN)

Bedtime, Leroy. Here comes your animal blanket.

The blanket has ferocious pictures of dogs and cats and snakes and alligators about to pounce. No wonder Leroy has lost most of his feathers.

Louie leads Miller to a secret door. There is already a figure waiting in line.

FROM INSIDE SECRET ROOM

Two WOMEN stand at the partially open, chained door. They confront a pair of deathly eyes inside a hood of doom.

FIRST WOMAN

Now wait just a minute here. How are we supposed to know you're the REAL Angel of Death?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They refuse to let him in, and he steps away. Louie's face is next. The Women recognize Louie and let him in.

In the party, the Piano Player gets swallowed up by the roller piano.

INT. SECRET ROOM

Louie checks out four Card Players. Three are real goofy looking. The fourth has all the money, wears a distinguished suit. The top of his head is enormous.

LOUIE

Okay, so who's the brains of this outfit?

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBS - EARLY MORNING

There're houses and farms and regular neighborhood life (Far Side Regular) in a very compact area. The Hendersons live here, right across the street from the Millers. And Bobby Wilson's new house is here, as is Jimmy Frankenstein's.

And most everyone else we've met who hasn't had a home.

The Animals are the first to arise in the new day. Cows are in the pasture, chickens in their coop, dogs roaming everywhere.

EXT. PASTURE

A SAGE old COW sits on a little knoll teaching seated cows Cow Philosophy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAGE COW

And, as you travel life's highway,
don't forget to stop and eat the
roses.

Other Cows stand around, shooting the morning breeze.
A LOOKOUT COW watches the road for cars. When one
approaches, he signals the other Cows.

LOOKOUT

Car!

All the Cows assume the familiar cow-grazing position
until the car passes. Then they resume standing
around, talking. One continues to graze, making a big
discovery, one that upsets him.

COW

Hey, wait a minute! This is
grass! We've been eating grass!

INT. CAR AND STREET

The Hunchback is driving. He enters the neighborhood.

INT. HENDERSON HOUSE

Henderson wakes up to the morning sun. His wife is
already downstairs, preparing breakfast. He lives in
a cheerful house. Cheerful, but dumb.

Henderson swings out of bed to face the new day. A
big sign on the wall reminds him: "FIRST PANTS, THEN
YOUR SHOES".

EXT. HENDERSON HOUSE

Cows and dogs and chickens and birds roam around the
place freely, enjoying the good joke that is life.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TWO DOGS are in the yard, talking:

1ST DOG

... So I hear our master's going on expedition today... Say, excuse me, Zeek, but I have to go over to the neighbor's yard for a few minutes... be right back.

The dog walks off, but returns for a moment.

1ST DOG

Yo, Zeek! We got any magazines?

Meanwhile, a cow is grazing near the back door to the house. The cow looks at the door, then mischievously gets up and rings the doorbell. When Henderson opens the door to see who's there, the cow is grazing normally again. Those cows are sure cards, aren't they?

MRS. HENDERSON, a simple, plump woman who wears the same glasses as her husband, is carrying eggs from the chicken coop back to the house. She encounters a chicken carrying her baby from the house to the coop. She realizes that this is fair, so trades the baby for the eggs and life moves on in harmony at the Henderson's.

Henderson picks up the morning newspaper. A BARKING comes from a garden house. Henderson observes this, not realizing that Zeek is playing a practical joke on him by barking into the other end of the hose while hiding behind a tree. The animals love that Henderson.

INT. HENDERSON CHICKEN COOP

The chicken with the basket of eggs returns them to their nest. In the chicken kitchen, meanwhile, Wife Chicken is reading a recipe off a box of cake mix. She has already assembled flour, sugar, milk... When she reads the next step in the directions, she eyes the eggs in the nest. Finally, she throws the whole thing out.

EXT. MILLER'S YARD

Miller's chickens watch MRS. MILLER, a sharp woman with features like Miller. She is carrying a chicken under her arm to a tree stump. An ax is in her hand.

Chickens huddle together sadly.

CHICKEN

When it's my turn, I just hope I go quietly... without a lot of running around.

Miller's voice is heard yelling from the front yard.

FRONT OF MILLER'S HOUSE

Miller is getting his morning newspaper. He is shouting at his dog, who has just mowed the lawn and is waiting obediently for a reward. But Miller is mad.

MILLER

You call that mowin' the lawn?
Bad dog! No biscuit! Bad dog...

The dog walks away as Miller sees Henderson.

MILLER

So, you're leaving today for the jungle I hear, Professor. A big trip.

Henderson doesn't respond.

MILLER

Well, you better hurry because I'm taking a little voyage myself.

He laughs and enters his house.

His dog goes into the dog house.

INT. MILLER DOG HOUSE

A dog is seated at the breakfast table. His mate is at the counter wearing an apron and making sandwiches. The rejected dog who mowed the lawn plops into a chair at the table. The dog already there opens his sandwich to show the other.

DOG #1

Another chicken bone. I think she's trying to kill me.

INT. MILLER HOUSE

Miller shouts for his wife as he passes through the living room.

MILLER

Where's my breakfast, I'm hungry. I've got to go to outer space this morning and I'm not doing it on an empty stomach...

We notice two GOLDFISH in a bowl. A third fish, now just bones, is lying on the rug on the floor.

FISH IN BOWL

(to Mate)

I guess he made it... it's been more than a week since he went over the wall.

We get the impression that animal life at the Miller's is pure hell.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

The Mailman is coming down the street. He playfully tosses a stick into some shrubbery for a DOG. The dog cannot find the stick through traditional means, so he now packs a Geiger-counter-like instrument with a long nose. The dog looks directly at us, giving an endorsement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOG

Like a lot of dogs, I often have
problems finding thrown objects
in high grass... That's why I
use the new ACME Stick-Be-Found.

The Mailman passes a guy washing his car. A BIRD sits
on a telephone wire directly over the clean door.

BIRD

(to self)

You are mine... all mine.

One of the Mailman's stops is a house with a picket
fence and a sign that says "BEWARE OF DOUG". A huge
kid is hiding behind a tree. The MILLER HOUSE.

INT. MILLER HOUSE

While Miller packs for outer space in a suitcase, his
wife is looking out the window and notices a very high
ballistic missile being towed down the street.

MRS. MILLER

Wouldn't you know it! Now the
Henderson's have the bomb.

Miller slams his suitcase shut and gives his wife a
peck on the cheek.

MILLER

That's not the Henderson's. It's
for me. Don't wait up, I'll be
home late.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

While the spaceship is secretly being pulled around
behind Miller's house, a bunch of DOGS are waiting
for the Mailman behind a fence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOG #1

Okay, this time Rex and Zeek will be wolves and Muffin will be the coyotes, and... listen! Here comes the deer!

They rush out after the Mailman, who has just opened the mailbox that says "The Winslow's" on the side. Inside is a miniature family having breakfast.

MRS. WINSLOW

(to Mailman)

Of course, we're the Winslow's.
What's it say on the box?

The Mailman shrugs and hands them a letter just as all the dogs are upon him. It's more good-natured than anything else. Inside Henderson's house, Henderson's Dog stands at the window, violin in paw, sadly watching the other guys have fun while he practices.

The Henderson's cat is at another window, frantic because she's trapped inside also, but for a different reason. Out her window we see two trucks that have just collided. The drivers argue. The names on the trucks are: "Bob's Assorted Rodents" and "Al's Small, Flightless Birds". The cat is beside herself.

INT. HENDERSON HOUSE

Mrs. Henderson is fixing her husband's lunch pail for his safari trip. He's already dressed in pith helmet and hiking gear. She is also preparing the dogs' meal by scooping out a can into a bowl. The TWO DOGS are sitting attentively on the floor with big, hungry grins. Other dogs have already started eating in their dog house where they sit at a table with plates of food in front of them. MOTHER is scolding Son for his bad manners.

MOTHER DOG

Spot, I'm not warning you again!
You chew with your mouth OPEN!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Duck walks into the kitchen. Mrs. Henderson turns to her husband.

MRS. HENDERSON
Here he comes, Earl. Remember,
be gentle but firm... we are
absolutely, positively NOT
driving him south this winter.

Henderson looks at his watch, late. A HORN HONKS from outside.

HENDERSON
(to wife and Duck)
We'll talk about this later.

He takes his lunch pail and heads for the door.

HENDERSON
(calling back to
wife)
Wish me luck.

As he turns to get his knapsack, he looks in the mirror. Under his helmet on his head, green leaves are growing.

HENDERSON
(annoyed)
Wouldn't you know it! And always
when you're in a big hurry.

He tugs his pith helmet tighter on his head and walks out.

EXT. HENDERSON HOUSE

Arnold Henderson waits in front in the convertible, top down. He also is dressed in safari clothes. They drive away. At about the same time, there is an EXPLOSION from:

EXT. MILLER HOUSE/NEIGHBORHOOD

where Miller's spaceship has just taken off. Nobody pays it much attention. Except Jimmy Frankenstein. He and Sparky, his multispecied pet, sit on their front porch. Jimmy also sees the Hunchback walking down the street. The Hunchback has just nailed a sign on the telephone pole: "LOST! 'Ginger' 30-ft. long, dark brown." Also a simple drawing of a snake.

EXT. WILSON HOUSE

The Mailman enters the yard. The Wilson dog is waiting for him, dressed like a samurai. Meanwhile, a guy is driving an old truck down the street, tossing things at every house. Crashes follow.

INT. WILSON HOUSE

A brick has just broken the front window. The dull-witted MR. WILSON reads the note attached: "Bricks thrown thru your window? CALL AL'S GLASS - 555-1232".

Mr. Wilson folds the note and puts it into his pocket.

WILSON

Mmm... that's very helpful.

He goes to the telephone to call. The Wilson residence has its own special working simplicity.

BOBBY'S ROOM

Bobby is at his desk trying to get his pet Turtle to jump through a miniature fire hoop. The Turtle's eyes are bulging.

BOBBY

Through the hoop, Art! Through the hoop!

LIVING ROOM

A lot of activity from plenty of Wilson relatives, all of whom live in the large house.

Mr. Wilson hangs up the PHONE and walks away. It begins RINGING and MRS. WILSON answers just as Uncle walks in from outside. He is dressed in a pair of homemade wings and flippers.

MRS. WILSON

Reginald, it's Mr. Wimberly on the phone. He says the next time you buzz his house, he'll have his 12-gauge ready. Oh, look...

She is annoyed because two people are outside in the bushes, pressing their faces to the window, looking into the Wilson home.

MRS. WILSON

Look... the Warrens are checking us out again.

Little JUDY WILSON, Bobby's younger sister, has buck teeth and wears the same glasses that her brother does. She is playing in the living room, dressing her pet snakes in various doll outfits. She goes to the window and watches new neighbors moving in down the street. They are unloading boxes and carrying them to their house. The neighbors are dragon-like Monsters.

JUDY

Mommy, our new neighbors are monsters.

MRS. WILSON

If there're monsters moving in, Judy, you just ignore them. The more you believe in them, the more they'll try to get you.

Mrs. Wilson is vacuuming the sofa. She removes all the cushions. A Man is stuck inside the sofa along with other debris.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MRS. WILSON

Andrew! So that's where you've been! And good heavens, there's my old hairbrush, too.

Judy starts across the room. Reginald is seated in his chair reading the paper. Mrs. Wilson steps up and grabs Judy just in the nick of time.

MRS. WILSON

That was just too close, Reginald. Judy was headed straight for the snakepit when I grabbed her.

Sure enough, one more step and Judy would've fallen into the pit that is in the center of the room.

MRS. WILSON

(noticing something
in the front yard)

The Miller dog is trying to blow up the house again! Catch him in the act or he'll never learn.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

we see the Miller dog setting up an explosive apparatus with a plunger.

UNCLE REGINALD

gets out of his chair and shoos the dog away with his newspaper.

Reginald returns to his chair. There is a KNOCK on the door. Mrs. Wilson sees that Reginald isn't moving, so she answers it. On her way, she rescues Judy's little brother JERRY from falling into the snakepit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

When Mrs. Wilson answers the door, Jerry's eyes bulge in fear and scoots behind the curtain beside his frightened sister. The reason for their terror is the Hunchback, who is at the door when Mrs. Wilson answers.

FROM BEHIND THE CURTAIN

we can't hear what the Hunchback says, but Mrs. Wilson responds loud enough for her kids to hear.

MRS. WILSON

Why, yes... we do have children
who won't eat their vegetables.

The kids shake in terror as their mother continues to talk with the Hunchback.

BOBBY'S ROOM

Bobby is busy sucking the water out of a fish bowl with a straw. The rather large Goldfish looks glum as the water level drops below his eyes.

BOBBY

So... you STILL won't talk, eh?

JIMMY'S VOICE

Hey, Bobby, come on out and play.

Bobby leaves the fish and waves down. Judy sees Jimmy out the front window and waves. Young love.

EXT. JIMMY'S PORCH - DAY

Jimmy and Bobby and ANDY are sitting on Jimmy Frankenstein's porch, sucking soda bottles through straws. Suddenly, the RINGING SOUND of a Good Humor CHIME interrupts. Instead of being excited, Bobby and Jimmy hide behind a bush.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The CHIME continues and the Good Humor truck appears. The sign on the side of the little truck says: "LIVER AND ONIONS".

After the truck passes, the two boys are also aware of the Hunchback lumbering down the block. The boys look at each other with meaning.

But then, from behind:

There is a loud "THWUP!" Jimmy and Bobby turn to see that Andy has been sucked into his pop bottle. Mrs. Frankenstein comes out of the house in a panic.

JIMMY

Gee, Mom, Andy was just showing us how far he could suck his lip into the bottle.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Henderson's car drives down the highway. Accompanying the Henderson brothers on the safari are Leibowitz and NORMAN, who sit in the back seat. The car drives out of the city, over the hill, right toward the jungle.

INT. CAR

HENDERSON

I must warn you gentlemen, where we're going no one has returned alive. But no one has returned dead, either.

EXT. JUNGLE

Near the curve in a river, TWO plump ALLIGATORS lie on their backs having just enjoyed a tasty repast.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

There's a half-eaten canoe and paddle as well as tattered safari clothes.

1ST ALLIGATOR

That was incredible. No fur, claws, horns, antlers, or nothin'. Just soft and pink.

The 2nd Alligator looks off to a dirt road. A taxi has just driven the Creature From The Black Lagoon to the jungle. The Creature tips the cab Driver and the taxi drives away, glad to be moving on.

2ND ALLIGATOR

Well, for crying out loud! It's Uncle Irwin from the city sewer.

The Creature nods before disappearing into the jungle.

EXT. EDGE OF JUNGLE - DAY

Arnold pulls the Henderson convertible to a stop. A large elephant spreads wide the tall grass border.

HENDERSON

Not too close, Arnold. This one's got a knife.

The elephant is holding a knife in one paw. As the elephant disappears back into the jungle, the expedition unpacks.

Henderson looks at the vast plains through his binoculars. He doesn't see the Native hand lifting up the bottom edge of the painted backdrop to sweep dust out.

Finally, the men are ready to hike in the jungle. They don't notice a playful Lion letting the air out of their tires.

EXT. JUNGLE

A group of BABOONS is sitting around. One is picking things out of the back of another.

1ST BABOON

So then Sheila says to Betty that Harry told her what Ralph was up to, but Betty told me she already heard it from Blanche, don't you know...

We see the men walking along a trail in the background.

EXT. TRAIL

TWO LEOPARDS are perched on a limb directly above the marching men.

1ST LEOPARD

What do you think? If you roar just as you leap, you'll see that these things have some of the greatest expressions.

2ND LEOPARD

Maybe another time, I'm not really hungry now.
(points to plains)
We've been eating.

EXT. PLAINS

The Leopard is referring to a feast in progress. A bunch of flesh-eating animals are feeding off a zebra's carcass. A TIGER talks to one of the Lions.

TIGER

Hey, Sid. Remember that time last summer we were all gathered around like this, someone told a giraffe joke, and you laughed so hard an antler came out your nose?

EXT. TRAIL

Henderson leads his group along the trail.

HENDERSON

Stay close, men. There are all kinds of maneaters around here.

LEIBOWITZ

There's some.

PLAINS

A group of animals is gathered around in discussion.

LEOPARD

My name's Elmo. Well, it all started rather innocently... killing socially, y'know... A game warden here, a tourist there... impressing the other guys, y'know... But then I just couldn't stop... Sometimes I'd even stash an extra one in the crotch of a tree.

TRAIL

HENDERSON

Don't worry about them, it's Maneater's Anonymous.

Norman is surveying the area through the sight of his rifle.

THROUGH RIFLE SIGHTS

A Bear. He knows he's being sighted by a rifle. He grins a timid, begging grin and points his paw to the Bear next to him, as a substitute target. The 2nd Bear doesn't know what's going on.

TRAIL

Norman doesn't fire, but trains his scope elsewhere. Then he spots it. Something amazing moving through the jungle. The Creature From The Black Lagoon.

Henderson has been giving his group a pep talk on why they've come here.

HENDERSON

Gentlemen, we're going to make history on this trip. We're going to prove Henderson's Theory.

ARNOLD

Harry, I never understood the Theory, and I'm a Henderson.

HENDERSON

Quite simply, Arnold, our theory states that the key to life past and present is found right here in this dark part of the jungle. That there is a missing link which will show that man has changed very little for thousands of years, and that wives resent this... That even though Man is a biped, fifty men are not a centipede...

NORMAN

Professor Henderson...

HENDERSON

Not now, Norman, I am just getting a grasp on my own Theory.

NORMAN

I think I've spotted the missing link, sir. Over there!

Henderson trains his binoculars on the Creature. All eyes are trained in the direction of the Creature. No one seems impressed except the Professor. But no one else understands his theory, either.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

He's headed into Zubutu country.
Dangerous, but scary. Come on,
we'll capture him and present
him to the Learning Institute.
And we'll win the Big Answer
Grant and everything will be
wonderful forever.

He sighs a big sigh.

HENDERSON

Life is great.

They move out on the trail of the Creature.

ANOTHER PART OF THE JUNGLE

The safari comes across a quicksand pit. A sign reads:
"QUICKSAND... BE PREPARED".

Stuck in the sand is a grim reminder of just how
dangerous the ooze is. The hats remain of a scout-
master and five little scouts. Be prepared, indeed.

Henderson and troupe carefully walk around the pit.

ALONG TRAIL

Liebowitz hears something in the river. He signals
for the men to duck down. Henderson and Arnold peer
through the tall grass to the river.

Natives are in a boat, paddling down the river. They
look ferocious. At the top of a tall stick are stuck
several safari hats.

HENDERSON

Hathunters.

Arnold nods his awareness. They all sneak away.

ANOTHER PART OF THE JUNGLE

Henderson spreads wide some giant leaves and peers into the clearing. Two ELEPHANTS are in the clearing, one sliding down a slide, one swinging on a swing. A beach ball lies about.

HENDERSON

By Jove, we've found it, Norman.
The Secret Elephant Playground.

The elephants stop playing on the equipment. When the first one turns around, the second one laughs at something on the first one's rear end.

2ND ELEPHANT

Whoa, Frank... Guess what youuuuuu
sat in!

There is a flattened, tangled member of a previous safari. The sight is chilling to every member of Henderson's expedition.

JUNGLE TRAIL

Arnold takes a step along the trail. Suddenly, an apple cream pie on the end of a pole comes up from the ground and splats in Arnold's face.

HENDERSON

Pie trap! We're in Zubutu
country, all right.

Liebowitz and Norman have discovered something at the end of the trail: a long, low house, inches high, feet long. There is smoke coming out of the chimney.

LIEBOWITZ

Python...

NORMAN

And he's home.

INT. CAVE

Henderson and his brother have entered the cave. They shine flashlights on the cave wall paintings. Beautiful, primitive renderings of mighty bison, mammoths, pictures of the hunt.

Arnold shines his light on a crude picture of a caveman, obviously made in jest because he looks so stupid. In backwards letters a message is scrawled with an arrow pointing to the caveman: "Zog Jones Cooks His Meat".

EXT. CLEARING - AFTERNOON

Henderson stops the troupe near a clearing.

HENDERSON

We should set up camp. Night comes quickly in these parts.

Sure enough, it BECOMES NIGHT, instantly.

As the men prepare their camp, Liebowitz finds something.

LIEBOWITZ

Professor, look at this!

Liebowitz has found the scattered remains of a previous expedition's camp. Liebowitz holds a journal in his hands.

LIEBOWITZ

Here, this must be the last entry... 'Having won their confidence, tomorrow I shall test the humor of these giant but gentle primates with a simple joy-buzzer handshake.'

Henderson shakes his head sadly.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

The men set up tents and chairs and tables and bedrolls. Norman serves Liebowitz some soup.

LIEBOWITZ

Hey! What's this *Drosophila melangaster* doing in my soup?

He picks out the insect. Arnold is sitting inside his tent, removing his boots and setting them outside. Liebowitz notices a spider crawling from Arnold's boot.

LIEBOWITZ

Aaaaaaaaaaaaa! Arnold! A spider was in your boot!

Liebowitz can't see inside the tent where an enormous snake has wrapped up Arnold completely. The snake's head comes right to Arnold's. It sees that Arnold is rather feeble looking and so lets him go, slithering out of the tent. Liebowitz waves the spider off. The spider has a drunken look on his face from the boot aroma.

Norman brings soup to Henderson, who's writing in his journal.

Henderson stretches in the night air.

HENDERSON

Just think, those same stars are shining over our houses right now.

LIEBOWITZ

Yes, and Miller is probably landing on one, too.

NORMAN

On one of our houses?

LIEBOWITZ

He's really stirring things up by going to outer space.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

Stirring them in a way they weren't to be stirred, I'm afraid. A stirring that could stripe string. A stretching and stripping of strangers in a striptease of strudel.

ARNOLD

Not like us.

HENDERSON

What we're doing has its own logic, men. If we're going the wrong way, we're going there with confidence.

He zips himself into his bedroll.

HENDERSON

And I get the feeling that it's always been here, right under our noses.

NORMAN

The missing link you mean, sir?

HENDERSON

Yes, Norman, the Missing Link, the Big Answer, and all of our mouths.

BUSHES SURROUNDING CAMPSITE

The Creature appears, watching the men prepare for sleep. Across the clearing, TWO BEARS also have their eyes on the humans. One seems reluctant to attack while the other tries to convince him.

1ST BEAR

C'mon, look at these fangs! Look at these claws! You think we're s'posed to eat just honey and berries?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He gestures to the men sleeping in their bedrolls,
flesh between softness.

1ST BEAR

Sandwiches!

2ND BEAR

I dunno, they smell funny. Besides,
Irwin's got his eyes on 'em.

He nods to the Creature on the other side of the
clearing. The two Bears move away.

HENDERSON

He continues to watch the heavens above.

MILLER

(sigh, whisper)

Home... Ooh, I miss it...

CUT TO:

EXT. HENDERSON'S NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

Night has descended on the suburbs. Mr. Wilson returns
home.

INT. WILSON HOME

The usual controlled madness. Many things happening
at once. Bobby, Judy, and Jerry are watching TV.
Uncle Reginald is entertaining the Wagners, two dull
neighbors who sit on the sofa. Suddenly, the coil
spring in Reginald's chair rips through and Reginald
hits the ceiling with his head.

FROM THE KITCHEN

Mrs. Wilson turns, hearing but not seeing.

MRS. WILSON

Good heavens, Reginald. I think something landed on the roof.

LIVING ROOM

Reginald crashes back down to his chair, rubbing his head. The Wagners look at each other.

Mr. Wilson comes through the front door. He has brought home a fresh lobster-like creature with five eyes and claws and sharp prickly things all over.

Mrs. Wilson starts to say something as she walks over. The kids continue to watch TV.

MR. WILSON

(to Mrs. Wilson)

Shhhhhh... I wanna surprise the kids.

He steps behind the children and holds out the monster from the sea.

MR. WILSON

Look, kids, look what's for dinner.

The kids take one look and scream and scatter. Mrs. Wilson looks out the window.

The Miller dog is operating a tractor with a front-end scoop, attacking the Wilson flower bed. Mrs. Wilson shouts for Reginald, who is still groggy from hitting his head on the roof. The Wagners just sit there on the couch, watching.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER THAT NIGHT

Bobby and Judy have finished eating a variety of things. They take the wishbone from the fowl and each grab an end.

The two BIRDS in a bird cage turn to each other.

1ST CAGED BIRD

Now here comes the barbaric finale.

Snap! goes the wishbone.

Mr. Wilson steps up to Mrs. Wilson. Uncle Reginald is still in the living room watching the Wagners watch him.

MR. WILSON

We've got to tell the Wagners to leave, I want to relax.

MRS. WILSON

We can't ask them to leave, that would be rude.

MR. WILSON

Okay, you're right. But I'll tell you what we can do...

INT. LIVING ROOM

The Wagners are still sitting on the couch. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson enter the room. Suddenly, they grab their throats and make death-rattling sounds. Then they fall over, tongues stuck out, eyes glazed open.

Reginald just scratches his head where it still hurts.

The Wagners become uncomfortable with the Wilson corpses lying inert on the floor, draped over the back of the couch. The Wagners stir, then rise, then put on their overcoats, take their hats, and leave.

INT. BOBBY'S ROOM

As Bobby enters, there is a pebble thrown at his window. Jimmy Frankenstein is standing below with Sparky.

JIMMY

Wanna come over and use some of my dad's scientific stuff?

Bobby takes a look over his shoulder.

BOBBY

Be right down.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Bobby sneaks to the front door, past his parents and Uncle Reginald. Reginald is watching TV, Mrs. Wilson is on the phone.

MRS. WILSON

Hello, Emily, this is Gladys Wilson up the street. Fine, thanks... Say, could you go to your window and describe what's in my front yard?

Pressed against the outside window is a gigantic eyeball. Bobby uses the diversion and scampers out. Judy waves to Jimmy.

Mr. Wilson is standing at the front window with the family Dog, whose tail is wagging happily. Outside we see Lieutenant Morris and a uniformed cop, rifles drawn, carrying the family Cat by the scruff of the neck to a squad car.

Mr. Wilson turns to the family Dog still wagging with delight.

MR. WILSON

And I suppose you think this is a dream come true.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

Bobby and Jimmy ride their bikes on the sidewalk in the night. A real adventure.

JIMMY

Take a look at Mrs. Miller...

She is dressed in a dark trench coat, hat, shades. She stands in the shadows along the side of her house holding a container of salt. A pair of Slugs are slithering closer.

BOBBY

(points to a house)

That's where the new neighbors moved in today.

They park their bikes and crouch up to the front window. It's the Monster's house.

Mrs. Monster is reading a book, sitting in a chair, TV on. The hair on her head is in rollers, between the horns, and her sharp fangs and claws have no polish. When she sees the faces of Bobby and Jimmy outside her front window, she shrieks out of her chair, frightened.

The boys run away.

YARDS AT NIGHT

As the boys ride to Jimmy's house, we see the Hunchback lurking. Through his movement into the yards and around the houses and farms, we observe nocturnal animal activity.

DOG KITCHEN

A group of Dogs is sitting around the dining table, sipping out of wine glasses. HOSTESS DOG wears an apron and carries in a casserole dish.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HOSTESS DOG

Now, I want you all to know this
cat's not from the market --
Rusty caught it himself.

WOLF DEN

Wolves with drinks and hip sunglasses are having a party. WOLF #1 is talking with Wolf #2. Wolf #1 looks at his watch.

WOLF #1

You're on. Ten to one if I
start howling I'll have everyone
here howling inside five minutes.

The Hunchback wanders past the window on his way to the Farm House.

EXT. FARM HOUSE - NIGHT

We hear WOLF HOWLS. It frightens the Cows grazing near the back of the house. Some Cows have already opened the back door and are roaming inside the Farm House.

INT. FARM HOUSE KITCHEN

One Cow knocks over the flour canister and starts licking it up. Another Cow rummages through the refrigerator, having the time of her life. Until she opens the freezer section. Her unwitting discovery of what is frozen and wrapped inside causes her to faint.

EXT. YARD - BIRD HOUSE

The Hunchback continues to observe the animals' nighttime activity. Two well-dressed BIRDS arrive at a Bird House. The HOSTESS BIRD opens the front door.

GUEST BIRD

(to Hostess)

What a lovely home, Edna. And look at the fresh newspaper, Stanley.

Stanley nods at the fresh carpet. Further inside the house, Host Bird is watching TV, the News. A grim picture of a crashed airplane burning behind a BIRD NEWSMAN with a microphone.

BIRD NEWSMAN

Details are still sketchy, but we think the name of the bird sucked into the jet's engines was Harold Meeker.

Hostess Bird opens her refrigerator.

HOSTESS BIRD

Dang! Who ate the middle out of the Daddy Longlegs?

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

We approach the barn.

PIG STY

A PIG has just answered the phone. Other Pigs are sitting around, reading, chatting, etc.

PIG ON THE PHONE

(hand over receiver)

Disgusting... It's just sort of heavy huffing and puffing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Hunchback walks past the same Wolf and Friends in a phone booth.

CUT TO:

DOG HOUSE - NIGHT

A henpecked, slouched Dog in an overcoat is leaving another Dog's home. The home Dogs stand on their porch, arms angry on their hips. The henpecked Dog is being chewed out by his WIFE.

DOG WIFE

One of the nicest evenings I've ever spent at the Matthews', and then you had to go do that on the rug!

They walk past the Hunchback, who watches.

CUT TO:

CHICKEN PEN

A slightly inebriated, ruffled CHICKEN returns home. His WIFE is at the door, furious.

CHICKEN WIFE

Oh, I see! You return covered with blonde feathers, and I'm supposed to believe you crossed the road just to get to the other side?

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - COW BEDROOM - NIGHT

A COW shoots awake in his bed beside his sleeping COW WIFE. The Cow has had a terrible nightmare.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COW

The golden arches! The golden arches got me!

COW WIFE

(yawning)

Oh, Arthur. It's just a bad dream, go back to sleep.

CUT TO:

ELSEWHERE

In a dog house (a common dog house this time), a bunch of DOGS are partying it up.

PARTY DOG

Oh, hey! Fantastic party, Tricksy! Fantastic... Say, do you mind telling me which way to the yard?

NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE

The Dog returns past the neighbor's house. He notices inside the bedroom, Mrs. Miller is sleeping and her Cat is sitting on the bedspread. The Cat feels secure from any dog attack until the Dog whispers through the open window to Mrs. Miller, who's still asleep.

PARTY DOG

Puuuuut the caaaaaaat ouuuuuut
... Puuuut the caaaaaat
ouuuuuut...

CUT TO:

EXT. JIMMY FRANKENSTEIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jimmy and Bobby arrive at the house, go inside.

INT. FRANKENSTEIN HOUSE

Jimmy and Bobby enter and go upstairs. Mrs. Frankenstein says hello on her way down into the basement laboratory of her husband. As Mrs. Frankenstein carries in a plate of milk and cookies, her husband turns from his experimenting. He wears a lab coat and is actively pouring one vile into another. It's his head that's strange. It's that of a fly.

MRS. FRANKENSTEIN

Lunch is ready, Lawrence, and...
What? You're STILL a fly?

INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jimmy and Bobby play with the telescope and the ham radio. Bobby aims the telescope into the neighborhood instead of the night sky.

BOBBY

Wow! This is really powerful.
I can see this bug up real close.

They take turns looking through the scope.

THROUGH TELESCOPE

True, a Giant Insect is moving along the ground.
Jimmy can't believe that the scope is that powerful.

JIMMY

Never saw this close before.

We continue to watch the Insect, but at GROUND LEVEL.

CUT TO:

EXT. WILSON HOUSE - NIGHT

Mrs. Wilson and Reginald are talking. The Insect approaches their house. He's human size, it really is a large bug! The Insect knocks on the front door. Reginald pulls back the drapes. He and Mrs. Wilson react.

MRS. WILSON

Calm down, Reginald... Yes, it's some giant, hideous insect... but it could be some giant, hideous insect in need of help. Oh, and look...

She notices something else in the yard.

MRS. WILSON

That darn Miller dog is back!

This time, the resourceful Dog has a blowtorch trained on the Wilson garbage can. The Dog flips down his visor.

INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM

Jimmy aims the telescope into the sky.

JIMMY

It's a really clear night, let's look at the stars.

The boys point the telescope at the heavens. Jimmy reacts to something spectacular.

JIMMY

Wow! Look at this, Bobby!

Bobby takes his turn at the eyepiece.

BOBBY

Wow!!

THROUGH TELESCOPE

A bunch of multilimbed, polka-dotted, three-eyed, fat-lipped MARTIANS are having a picnic on the barren, rocky surface of the planet. They sit on a checkered blanket and eat from a basket.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET SURFACE

Another one of these Martians walks past the picnickers. He wears nerd-like glasses.

PICNIC MARTIAN

(teasing)

Hey! Six-eyes!

The other Martians laugh. Suddenly, there is a ROAR. Bobby reacts. Jimmy reacts. The Martians react as much as possible before being blasted by Miller's landing spacecraft, directly above. The craft is very much like the Lunar Lander. It says "USA" on the side. The Martians are all gone now.

LUNAR LANDER

The hatch door opens and a ladder comes down. Miller wears a spacesuit and carries an American flag.

He looks up and sees a giant bug-head Beast on a pole wearing a straw hat and old clothes. A Scarecrow.

Miller has landed in a Martian farm patch. His assistants, Smith and Warren, are right behind him. Miller is elated.

MILLER

Ha! This is wonderful! We'll take pictures, bring back souvenirs, and win the Big Answer Grant! We've made it, Warren! Mars!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He swings his hands back with excitement, smashing right into Warren's helmet, breaking the protective shield.

CUT TO:

INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM

Bobby and Jimmy have seen all this and heard it through the ham RADIO.

JIMMY

Wow... We have to tell Professor Henderson about this!

BOBBY

But he went to the jungle.

JIMMY

Then we'll have to find him.

BOBBY

Tonight?

JIMMY

He's got to win the contest, doesn't he?

BOBBY

Yeah, but I left my light on in my room... and that hunchback...

JIMMY

Yeah, okay. But we'll leave first thing in the morning.

BOBBY

Okay. Boy...

JIMMY

Can you imagine what would happen if the Martians actually came down here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BOBBY

Boy...

Sparky barks. Actually, he meows from his dog mouth.

Bobby and Jimmy leave the room. Neither notices that the Hunchback is hiding behind the drapes. He doesn't move.

CUT TO:

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

Henderson and troupe paddle their boat to the shore of a river where there is evidence of tribal life. Huts with straw roofs abound.

INSIDE HUT

A bunch of NATIVES have been lounging around in easy chairs, drinking beer, watching the VCR on the TV monitor. One of them looks out the window and spots Henderson's expedition climbing out of the boat.

1ST NATIVE

Anthropologists! Anthropologists!

Henderson and his men wave to the Natives as they approach the camp. The Natives hurry and clear away any evidence of modern technology.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMP - DAY

Liebowitz has set up his still camera on a tripod. A native drummer is beside him. Two Natives are standing on a platform high up in a tall tree. One Native has a pair of long vines attached to his ankles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The other end of the vine is tied to the base of the platform. NATIVE #2 stands behind the reluctant jumper.

NATIVE #2

(annoyed)

C'mon, c'mon! You've done this a hundred times, Uzula; the vines always snap you back just before you hit. Think of those guys as National Geographic down there.

EXT. CAMPGROUND

Arnold wanders around, that blank expression plastered to his face. He comes across the same long Snake that wrapped around him in the tent. It does the same thing right here. This time Arnold squirms and is slipped around until he pops out of the long Snake's hold. Suddenly, the Snake looks ill. There is a knot in its center. Arnold points a scolding finger.

ARNOLD

Serves you right.

A passing pair of NATIVES stop and protest.

NATIVE #2

You've tied a knot in the Sacred Snake!

CUT TO:

HENDERSON AND MEN

are bound to poles while fierce Natives with spears dance around them. A woman Native with glasses accompanies on a piano.

The Creature From The Black Lagoon is watching from the jungle. He steps into the clearing. A few Natives who aren't dancing spot him and wave.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NATIVE CHIEF

Hey, Irwin, how's it goin'?
Long time no see.

The Creature pulls out smokes and the CHIEF lights them both. The Creature gestures to the Henderson gang.

CREATURE

What'd they do?

The Chief points to the ill-looking Snake with the knot. Henderson, although tied to a stake with Savages all about, can't help but notice the Creature.

HENDERSON

There, the missing link! You
must let me go!

The Natives continue to dance.

NATIVE CHIEF

Does he know you?

CREATURE

No, he wants to discover me.

NATIVE CHIEF

A talent scout?

CREATURE

For science. Say, why not give
him a chance to buy their freedom?

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMP - DAY

Henderson has the Snake on a table, examining the knot like a practiced surgeon. The Native Chief and crowd stand around the table. The Creature is there on the fringes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

(to Chief)

The big fella's gonna be A-okay, Mr. Zimba. Now, a square knot would've been bad news, but this just appears to be a 'granny'.

He fixes the snake with the help of his men, and the Chief shakes their hands.

CHIEF

Take something back with you as a gesture of our gratitude.

HENDERSON

I'd like to borrow him for a while, Chief. He would go over big in the scientific community.

CHIEF

Well, you'll have to ask him, but no more than ten percent agency fees.

Henderson steps over to the Creature.

HENDERSON

What do you say, give us the Big Answer.

CREATURE

What's the Big Question?

HENDERSON

Come on...

CREATURE

Well, I probably could use a ride back to town. Cab fare was murder.

CUT TO:

EXT. WILSON HOUSE - DAY

Bobby comes from his house and gets on his bicycle.

Judy waves goodbye from inside the house to Jimmy, her hero going off on a dangerous adventure.

Jimmy and Bobby ride down the street. A car is following them. Its bumper sticker reads: "I 8 NY". It's the Hunchback.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Bobby and Jimmy peddle over the rise and head for the Jungle. The Hunchback's car continues to follow at a distance.

Bobby looks up as he peddles.

BOBBY

Wonder what's goin' on with Dr. Miller.

JIMMY

We shoulda brought our ham radio.

They peddle faster.

IN THE HUNCHBACK'S CAR

we hear over a short-wave RADIO:

MILLER'S VOICE

I can't wait to get back, I can't wait! How fortunate we were to have that whiskey to trade for fuel with the Martians.

SMITH'S VOICE

Don't you think we should stay here five more minutes?

MILLER'S VOICE

Can't wait...! Hold on!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A ROAR.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE

We see Warren returning to the spot where the spacecraft once was, and only a flag stands now. The rocket ship hurls away into space above. Warren carries a gas can. He reads a note that has been left.

WARREN

(reading)

Dear Warren: Where were you? We waited and waited, but finally decided that...

CUT TO:

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

The Henderson group, with Creature, arrives back at the edge of the Jungle only to find their car with four flat tires. A few Hyenas are laughing like crazy in the distance.

HENDERSON

Darn. I knew we should've taken the train.

Just then, Bobby and Jimmy arrive on their bicycles.

BOBBY & JIMMY

Professor Henderson, Dr. Miller went to outer space and now he's rushing back to win the Big Answer Grant!

Sparky meows.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENDERSON

Double darn.

They all acknowledge the flat tires as a serious deterrent. Then a car parks down the road. The Hunchback. Bobby and Jimmy hide behind Henderson and company.

BOBBY & JIMMY

It's the hunchback!

HENDERSON

What hunchback?

BOBBY

He's real creepy.

The Creature wanders over to the Hunchback's car where they high-five and shoot the bull. After a moment, the Creature signals for everyone to come over. Reluctantly, they all do.

CUT TO:

EXT. LEARNING INSTITUTE - DAY

The usual activity: Insane behavior that seems quite normal to everyone but us.

INT. GRAND HALL

A large gathering of Scientists prepare for the official awarding of the Big Answer Grant. A banner proclaims the occasion: "WE'VE GOT THE DOUGH IF YOU'RE IN THE KNOW". And another one: "WIN THE BIG ANSWER GRANT - FIRST PRIZE \$1,000,000!"

There is a beehive of activity. Contestants make ready their entries. Blackboards and microscopes and other scientific paraphernalia are set up. Serious yet goofy scientific personalities roam about:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Scientist #1 is writing a massive equation on a blackboard. His three colleagues are gathered around a microscope, in exact and deliberate analysis. Scientist #2 is looking through the microscope while #3 has his hand in the field of vision. SCIENTIST #4 calls over to #1 at the blackboard.

SCIENTIST #4

Foster! You better get over here if you want to see Johnson's hangnail magnified five hundred times.

ANOTHER CORNER

Two PALEONTOLOGISTS are surrounded by charts and drawings and models of dinosaurs. #1 is furious with #2 and #3 because the latter two are holding the plastic models and doing toy battle.

#1

Cummings! Schneider! You've got plenty of research to work on... and for the last time stop playing with those plastic models!

VARIOUS BLACKBOARDS

One EINSTEIN-LOOKING SCIENTIST stands in front of his complicated blackboard equations. On the left of the equal sign are complex numbers and figures. On the right of the equal is a big dollar sign. Einstein-type scratches his head.

EINSTEIN-LOOKING SCIENTIST

Hmmm, time is actually money.

FINAL BLACKBOARD

As MODERATING SCIENTIST and panel of Judges take the stage, two frantic Mathematicians are working furiously to finish their equation: The most complicated of all! The smaller one is scribbling on the board like mad. His COLLEAGUE cheers him on.

COLLEAGUE

Go for it, Sidney... Go for it!

Chalk sprays from Sidney's writing hand as he makes the equation line and comes up with... zero.

He and his Colleague pause in front of the blackboard, astounded.

COLLEAGUE

No doubt about it, Sidney. We've mathematically expressed the purpose of the universe. Gad, how I love the thrill of scientific discovery!

MODERATOR

(pounding gavel)

Gentlemen, please come to order. We are ready to proceed with the Big Answer Grant. The panel of distinguished experts is eager to judge the merits of your work...

But the SOUND of the Good Humor Ice Cream Man outside the window reaches the panel of experts, and they excuse themselves to rush outside to get ice cream cones first.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY INTO CITY - DAY

The Hunchback drives what is now a very crowded car: Henderson squeezed between the Hunchback and the Creature in the front seat, the rest jammed in back with Sparky and the boys.

HENDERSON

I wonder how much trouble Miller stirred up on Mars.

The Hunchback flips on his ham RADIO and messes with the dial. He tunes in alien VOICES that sound inebriated.

ALIEN VOICE

Watch where you're headed, you almost hit that meteorite! Look out for Saturn!

DRUNKEN ALIEN VOICE

Prepare to land, Smith...

More STATIC. Henderson looks worried and impatient. But the Hunchback is already going as fast as the law allows, 55 MPH.

CUT TO:

EXT. LEARNING INSTITUTE - DAY

Miller's spacecraft is landing on the Institute Grounds. Miller and Smith race down the ramp with a sack full of stuff.

INT. LEARNING INSTITUTE - DAY

We are in the middle of a presentation from a competing SCIENTIST. A slide is projected on the wall of two weird-looking blobs sitting on a floating couch, reading a newspaper. The lamp, TV set, and Dog are also floating.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCIENTIST

I have here a magnified photo of things that live in a drop of water and some of their furniture...

Just then, the lights switch on and Miller and Smith barge into the auditorium.

MILLER

(approaching stage with sack)

Forget all this nonsense! I have won the contest by making the greatest scientific discovery in the history of mankind!

Smith is handing out Martian mementos, including photos of Miller and Smith with their arms around several varieties of Martians. They are handing out cigars and alcohol in exchange for the signing of papers. Also included as evidence of a major discovery are several rocks and postcards and general Martian tourist reminders.

The panel of Judges is amazed.

MILLER

That's right, gentlemen, examine the artifacts because they are proof that I own all the rights to Mars and anything Martian.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

The Hunchback's car moves through the streets toward the Learning Institute.

EXT. LEARNING INSTITUTE

The car parks and the group hurries inside.

INT. AUDITORIUM

As Henderson and gang arrive, Miller is receiving a handshake and a huge wad of cash.

HENDERSON

Wait! I've found the Missing Links. Both of them!

MILLER

Too little, too late, Henderson. I have my own noble savages, and they just won me the Big Answer Grant.

Suddenly, there is a screeching ROAR outside. Everyone looks through windows.

OUTSIDE

A giant space saucer with the drunken Martians is buzzing the city.

INT. SPACESHIP

A MARTIAN at the controls with a bottle of whiskey in one hand.

MARTIAN

Eeeeeeeeyyyyyaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhh!

INT. AUDITORIUM

MODERATOR

Why, it's bedlam! Miller, do something about it! Miller! Miller???

Miller and Smith have vanished with the cash.

CUT TO:

EXT. FARM AREA - DAY

Another Martian Flying Saucer lands in a pasture. Three Fat Martians with eyes protruding from their waists step off the craft. A few Goats are watching. The Martians wave and shake the Goats' horns.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Another Flying Saucer has landed in the desert. A Martian couple with long necks and one giant eyeball is waiting for the one-pump country ATTENDANT to read the map they have handed him.

ATTENDANT

Shoot! You not only got the wrong planet, you got the wrong solar system... I mean, a wrong planet I can understand, but a whole solar system?

The Driver Martian looks sheepish at his angry mate.

ATTENDANT

Wait a second, my mistake. I was reading this thing upside down... Yep, this is Earth...

The Martians exchange attitudes and looks.

CUT TO:

EXT. WILSON HOUSE - DAY

Reginald and Mrs. Wilson have been watching TV, but now the picture is all static. Mrs. Wilson is on the phone while Reginald tries to adjust the set.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MRS. WILSON

(on phone)

Yeah, Sylvia... my set, too...
and in the middle of 'Laverne
and Shirley'.

What she doesn't notice are the many Flying Saucers
all over the sky.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

A saucer has landed in the center of Town Square. A
bunch of People have gathered around to see. Frog-
like Martians have opened the door and descended a
stairway. The first Martian takes a step down and
trips, tumbling all the way down to the ground. His
Crew Members are annoyed.

CAPTAIN

Wonderful! Just wonderful! So
much for instilling them with a
sense of awe.

CUT TO:

EXT. BESIDE HIGHWAY - DAY

A Flying Saucer is on the road. Several cars stop
and People come running out. Kids, Dogs, everything.
The two frog-like Martians are looking through the
Flying Saucer's front windshield. It's the drunken
pair. One takes a look at the oncoming spectators.

MARTIAN #1

Well, here they come... You
locked the keys inside, you do
the talkin'.

CUT TO:

INT. LEARNING INSTITUTE AUDITORIUM - DAY

The befuddled Scientists are confused about what to do or say about the situation.

MODERATOR

Why, I... I... just don't... I...

Henderson looks concerned. Not one of the Scientists is paying any attention to him or his group, including the rare missing links.

Suddenly, the door flings open and a particularly old Martian sticks his two heads and eight eyes in the room.

MARTIAN #2

Whoa! Wrong room, I was looking for Miller... He stiffed us!

All the Scientists start running every which way. Well-ordered chaos.

HENDERSON

Gentlemen, please, listen to me. I believe I've discovered two of the missing pieces of the puzzle of mankind...

But all the men are shouting and running around. Henderson looks defeated. The Creature and the Hunchback put a friendly claw and hand on his shoulders.

HUNCHBACK

Come on, we'll buy you a drink.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

A pair of three-eyed, lumpy, large Martians have just taken samples of earth life and put them in jars. Dogs, Cats, Kids, etc., all in big jars.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARTIAN #2

Now, don't forget, Gorok! THIS
time punch some holes in the
lids!

People and animals are running crazy now, bumping into
each other, fighting among different species.

A Man stands with a magazine rolled up in his fist
shaking it at his DOG. The Dog also has a magazine
rolled up in his fist.

DOG

No way. I'll put my magazine
down when you put yours down.

CUT TO:

INT. SALOON - DAY

Henderson and his bunch, including Bobby and Jimmy and
Sparky, are sitting in the saloon. Henderson is glum.
A game show is on TV.

HENDERSON

This is not good. Miller caused
some real trouble here.

He looks at his men.

HENDERSON

And we were so close to giving
the Big Answer.

HUNCHBACK

You win some, lose some.

BOBBY AND JIMMY

more interested in the game show on TV. First, Bobby
sticks his finger in his drink.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JIMMY

What're you doing?

BOBBY

Making sure this is a soft drink.

ON TV

The game show is called "TRIVIA TONIGHT". There are bells and whistles and lights and a MODERATOR and two contestants: one rather meek Man in a suit with glasses, and an enormously spiritual Man with flowing white hair and beard and an aura surrounding him that lights up the screen. He has just answered the question correctly. The score on his booth says 1065, while the meek Man's booth says 0.

MODERATOR

Yes! That's right! The answer is Wisconsin! Another fifty points for God, and... uh-oh, looks like Norman, our current champion, hasn't even scored yet.

A NEWSCASTER interrupts.

NEWSCASTER

We interrupt this program to bring you a special report on the Martian Invasion. Let's go downtown for a live bulletin.

The DOWNTOWN NEWSCASTER at the courthouse where Lieutenant Morris and several uniformed Policemen have just captured Dr. Miller and Smith and are hauling them in. Miller is laughing hysterically and is in a straitjacket.

DOWNTOWN NEWSCASTER

The Martian Invasion has set off a series of events that have thrown the city into real turmoil.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOWNTOWN NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

Animal against man, man against animal. The police have captured Dr. Miller, the man responsible for the invasion, in an effort to bargain with the creatures from Mars to do what they can to bring things back to normal.

He sticks the microphone into Miller's laughing, crazy face.

MILLER

You want the Big Answer? I'll give you the Big Answer! Never believe all you hear unless you're stone deaf!

He laughs madly as they haul him away.

MILLER

(into camera)

Hi, Mom!

SALOON

Henderson and the rest are now paying attention to the TV.

MODERATOR

Well, you heard it. There's no one to talk to the Martians to fix this problem. In the meantime, it's not a pretty sight out there...

We make random stops in the city to prove this point:

MODERATOR'S VOICE

Most of these scenes were filmed earlier.

CUT TO:

INT. LION CAGE

The Lion Tamer has put his hand inside the Lion's mouth. Two other LIONS sit on stools taunting the one with the Tamer inside his mouth.

LION #1

Ernie's a chicken, Ernie's a chicken...!

CUT TO:

EXT. RODEO PEN

A Rodeo Clown has just fallen and the BULL stands ominously over him while Spectators watch. The Bull calls to another Bull.

BULL IN ARENA

(to other Bull)

Hey! I got one! I got one!

CUT TO:

EXT. AQUARIUM OCEAN WORLD

As the crowd watches, the Porpoise Trainer stands on a platform above the Aquarium, holding a small fish for two very large Porpoises to snatch. The PORPOISE with the sharpest teeth says to the other one:

TEETH PORPOISE

The herring's nothin', I'm going for the whole shmeer!

CUT TO:

INT. THREE-RING CIRCUS

A Trainer in a tux takes a big bow in the spotlight while two BEARS with muzzles and silly hats ride bicycles around the ring.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BEAR #1
 (to Bear #2)
 'Looks like a trap,' I said.
 'Nonsense,' you said. 'No one
 would set a trap way out here
 in the woods,' you said.

They stop riding while the Trainer has another Bear
 ride a unicycle. Bear #1 makes a startling revelation
 as he pulls at his muzzle.

BEAR #1
 Well, hey... These things just
 snap right off.

Bear #2 follows suit, and they both look at the
 Trainer.

CUT TO:

EXT. ZOO

A Tourist has just fallen into the Gorilla Pen.
 GORILLA #1 stands and looks at his mates and then
 the Tourist.

GORILLA #1
 Well, well... Looks like it's
 time for the old luggage test.

CUT TO:

INT. SALOON

Henderson stands.

HENDERSON
 We've got to talk to the Martians,
 ask them to leave. Who speaks
 Martian?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Arnold, Liebowitz, and Norman shake their heads. So do Bobby and Jimmy and Sparky. The Hunchback and the Creature look at each other, shrug, then both raise their hands.

TELEVISION

NEWSCASTER

... So, be wary of unusual behavior in the animals you encounter in your daily life. It's no bed of roses out there...

CUT TO:

INT. CHINA SHOP - DAY

Two Bulls dressed in overcoats and hats are handling the chinaware. The two SHOPKEEPERS look worried.

SHOPKEEPER #1

I got a bad feeling about this, Harriet.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT HOUSE BASEMENT - DAY

A Man is getting his mail from the basement box. There is something lurking in the shadows in a trench coat and hat. An ELEPHANT. The Man looks up, startled.

ELEPHANT

Remember me, Mr. Schneider? Kenya, 1947. If you're going to shoot an elephant, Mr. Schneider, you better be prepared to finish the job.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

A chubby couple is lying in the sand in bathing suits. The WOMAN is looking up into the sky. Her Husband is deflated on the sand, like a flat tire. No longer chubby.

WOMAN

My goodness, Harold... Now
there goes one big mosquito.

FURTHER ALONG THE BEACH

Someone has yelled "Bear!" and all the Beachgoers are running scared into the water. They don't see a SHARK waiting for them beyond the surf. He's the one yelling.

SHARK

(shouting to People)
Bear! Bear!

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURB NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Mrs. Miller arrives home with groceries.

INT. MILLER HOUSE

As Mrs. Miller comes through the door, she steps into a rope trap, hung from the ceiling and knotted at the floor. Mrs. Miller is suddenly hanging upside down in the doorway. The two GOLDFISH laugh in their bowl.

GOLDFISH

It worked! It worked!

CUT TO:

INT. WILSON HOUSE - DAY

Uncle Reginald is squeezed into the parakeet's cage and the Parakeet is flying free, headed for the window.

REGINALD

You'll never get away with this!

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - DAY

A COW is at a blackboard using a pointer to emphasize his plan, which is sketched out with "x's" and "o's."

LEADER COW

... So when Farmer Bob comes through the door, three of us circle around and... Muriel! Are you chewing your cud while I'm talking?

CUT TO:

INT. WOODS - NIGHT

A truck comes along the road, two men in the cab. A sign on the side says: "BILL'S HONEY, BERRIES AND GRUBS". A Bear is lying in the road, another Bear waving for help in the truck headlights. The truck slows. The men don't see a third Bear hiding behind a tree.

TRUCK DRIVER

(slowing)

Just stay in the cab, Vern... maybe that bear's hurt, and maybe he ain't.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

A Bum is rummaging through a trash can outside a house. He is suddenly growled at and chased away by a Dog wearing a T-shirt and pants and glasses who stands in the back doorway of the house.

CUT TO:

INT. FREEZER LOCKER - NIGHT

A cow dressed in a maintenance man's outfit sneaks into Freezer Locker #37. Inside, we see humans hanging upside down.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

Building are on fire, cars are smashed, smoke everywhere. Lieutenant Morris and a Policeman are looking for evidence. There is a giant handkerchief on the ground in the middle of the street. It has the bold initials "K K" embroidered on it.

MORRIS

Take this handkerchief back to the lab, Stevens. I want some answers on which monster did this -- Godzilla? Gargantua? Who?

CUT TO:

EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE

Martians watch the goings-on go on on Earth. Earth is watchable like that on Mars.

MARTIANS

Ooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Henderson, Arnold, Liebowitz, and Norman are waiting by a stream, pacing nervously. In a clearing, lit by night lights from the Flying Saucer, the Hunchback and the Creature are pow-wowing with all the Martians. There is much laughter and knee-slapping among the aliens.

LIEBOWITZ

How do we know we can trust these guys?

HENDERSON

Look, they're coming back.

While the Creature and the Hunchback return to the men, all the Martians wave goodbye and start to climb into their saucers.

Norman and Arnold, being the simplest, are more interested in other things. Norman is shining his flashlight directly into the eyes of a Frog on a pad.

NORMAN

See, Arnold? Keep the light on their eyes and you can bag them without any trouble at all.

As Norman shines his light in the Frog's eyes, thereby hypnotizing the Frog, light beams from the Flying Saucers hypnotize Arnold. The saucers are leaving.

NORMAN

Arnold?

CLEARING

The Hunchback and Creature return and everyone gets back in the car. Bobby and Jimmy and Sparky are in the car and it's a tight squeeze like before.

INT. CAR

Henderson is again in the front seat, jammed between the Hunchback and the Creature.

HENDERSON

That was good work. What did you say to them?

CREATURE

We allowed them to make some changes.

Professor Henderson looks concerned about the implications of this.

HUNCHBACK

Don't worry, you can call it evolution.

EXT. HIGHWAY OUT OF WOODS - NIGHT

As the car drives away, we see the saucers going into the night sky.

CUT TO:

EXT. WILSON HOUSE - NIGHT

The Dog comes from his dog house in the back yard and stands on two feet. Mrs. Wilson is stunned in the doorway.

The sky is filled with saucers flown by other Dogs.

DOG

(to Mrs. Wilson)

Well, they finally came... But before I go, let's see you roll over a couple of times.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

The Hunchback lets the Creature off on the side of the road. They shake hands, wave goodbye. There is someone with the Creature, but we can't see just who or what.

HUNCHBACK

See you around.

CREATURE

We'll do it again sometime.

They separate company, Creature returning with his mysterious friend to his Lagoon, Hunchback driving down the long road. Another car passes. A Dog is driving and a Man has his head out the window, tongue wagging happily in the wind.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

There's a parade with banners and confetti and Celebrities waving from the back seat of limo convertibles to the adoring crowd. Watching from the sidewalk with many other happy People are all the familiar human faces.

Bobby and Jimmy stand next to Henderson as the parade passes.

BOBBY

The Creature and the Hunchback
proved your Theory, didn't they,
Professor Henderson?

HENDERSON

Well, Bobby...

He waves to the hero of the parade, a Dog in the back of the main convertible. A big banner says: REX. Signs in the crowd say "Rex" and "Good Boy, Rex".

HENDERSON

... every dog has his day.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

A SCUBA Diver comes from the water with a giant fish that he just caught. He drops the fish when he sees the Creature From The Black Lagoon in swimming trunks carrying a beautiful Blonde who loves and kisses him right into the water!

We hear LAUGHTER.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

A whole bunch of various animals are sitting around on tree stumps howling like mad, holding their stomachs with laughter. A real funny MOOSE is cracking up the Rabbits and Wolves with imitations.

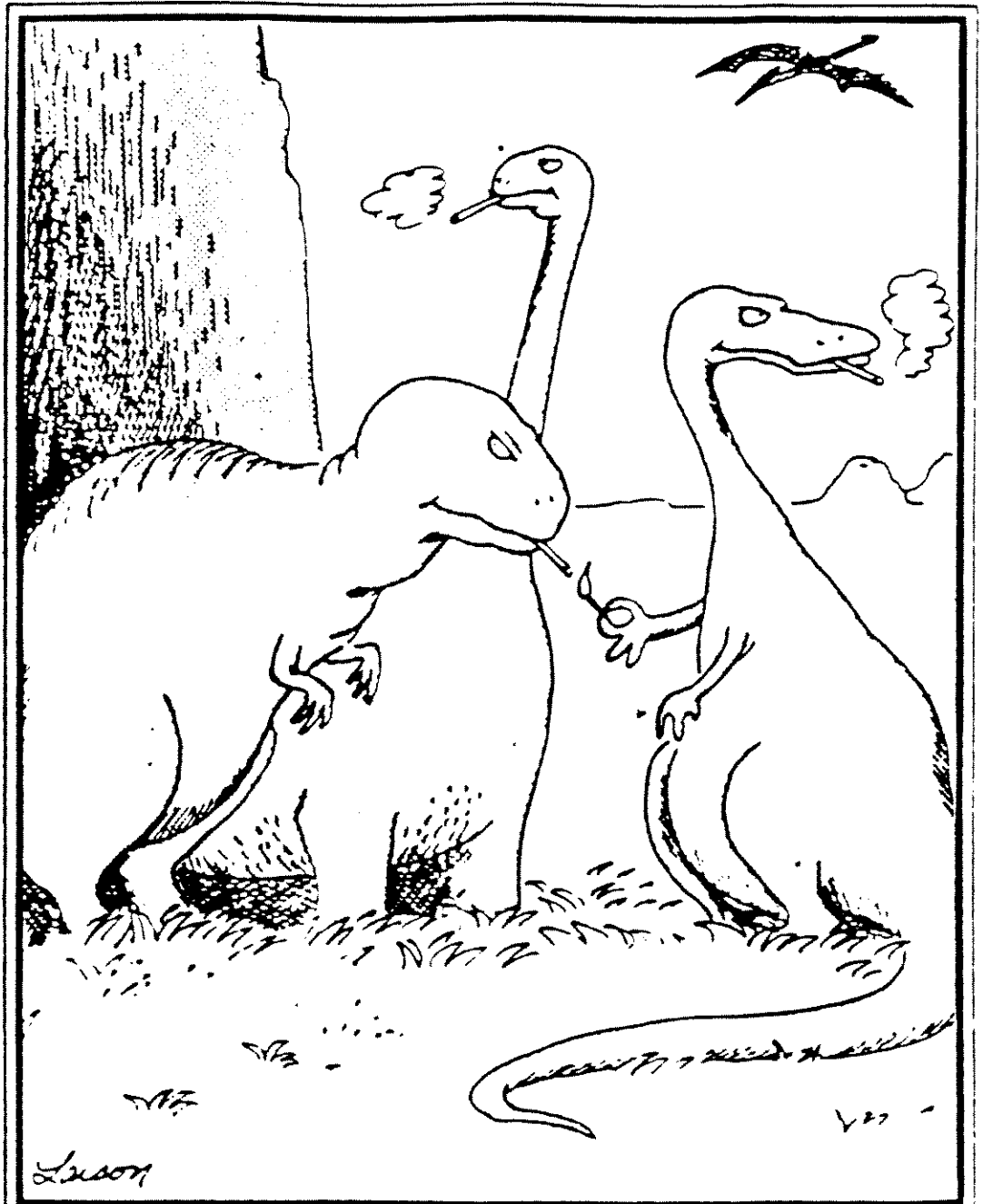
MOOSE

Wait! Wait! Here's another
one... the screams of a man
lost in the woods...

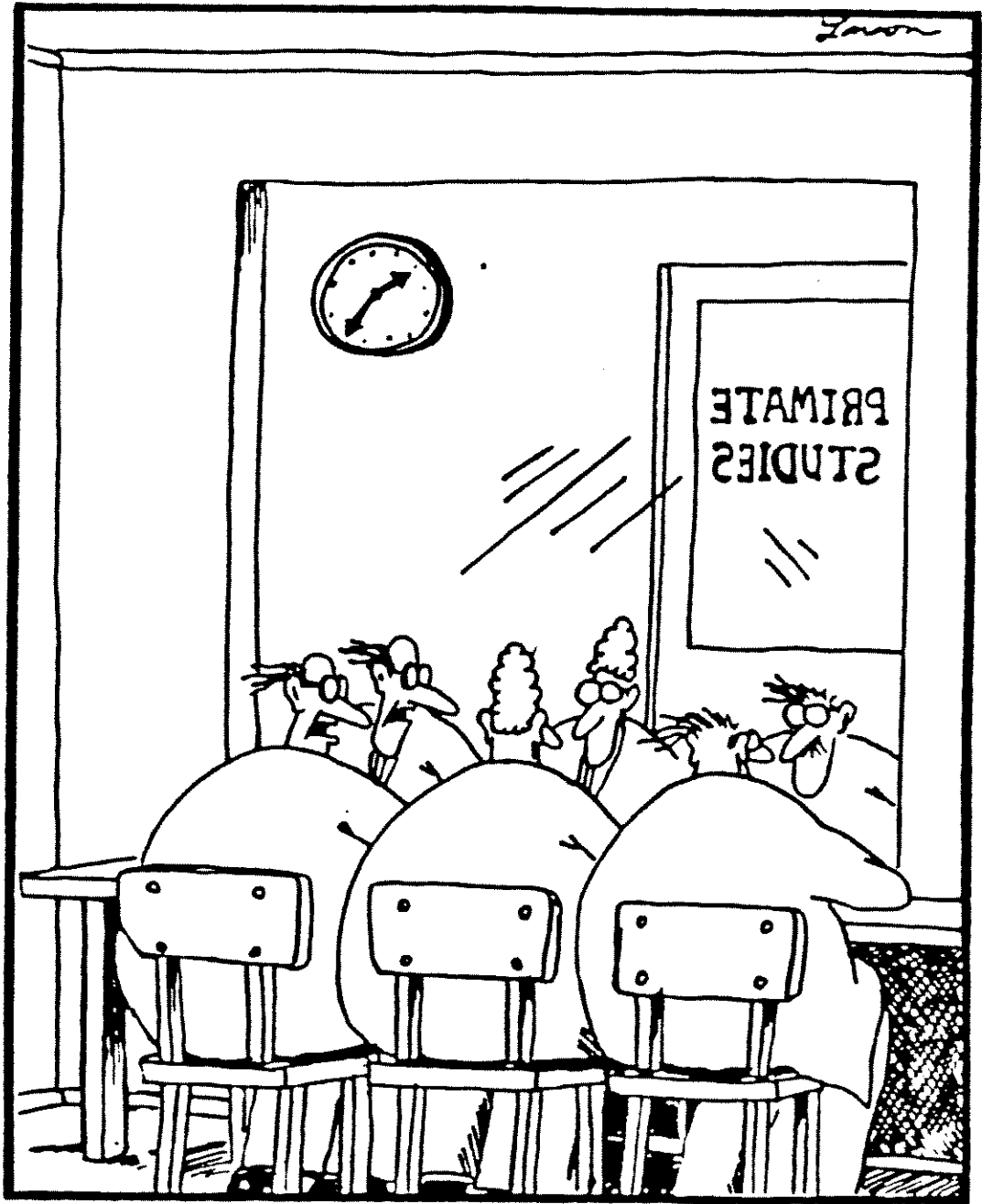
With all the laughter and good feeling, we...

FADE OUT.

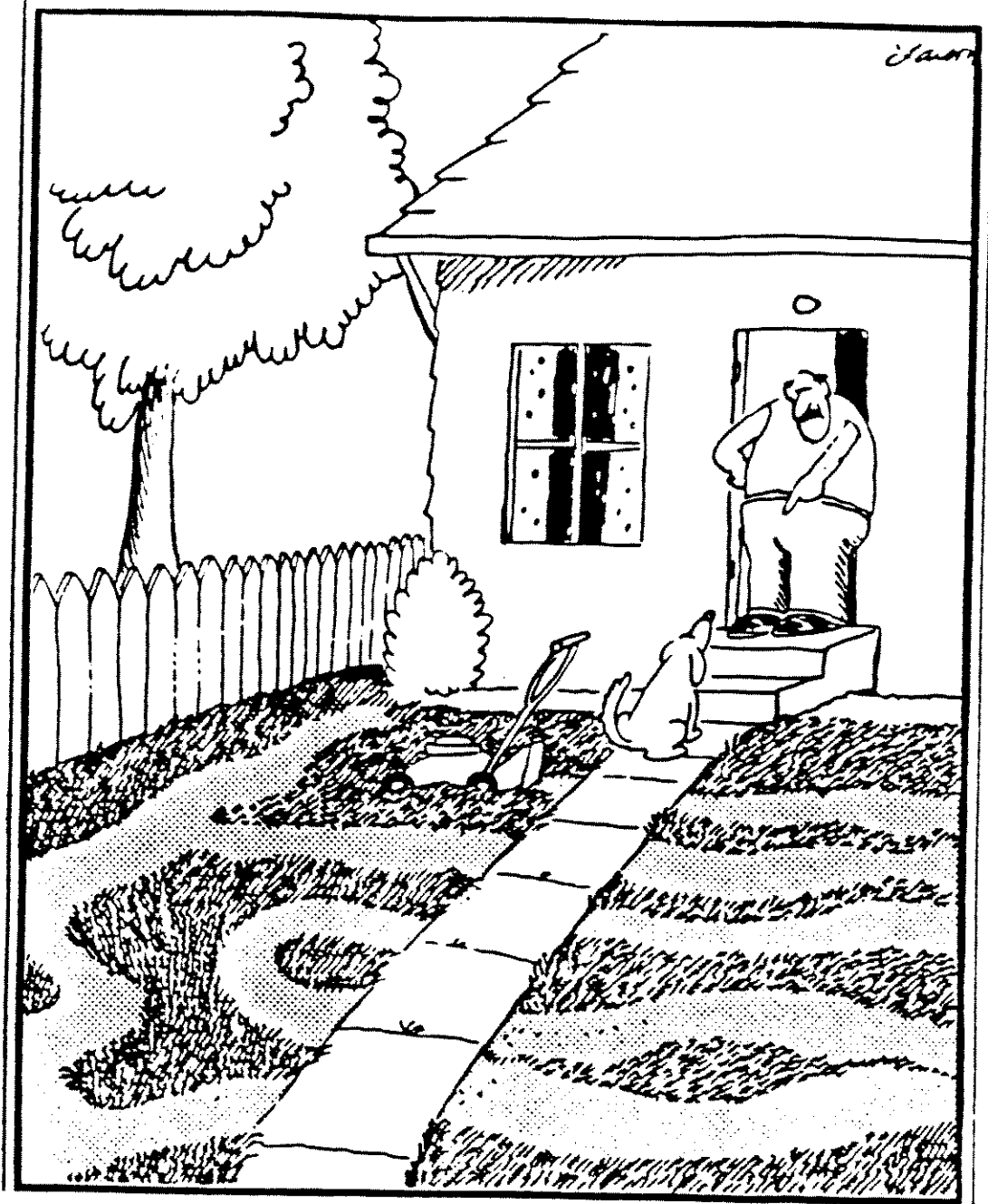
THE END



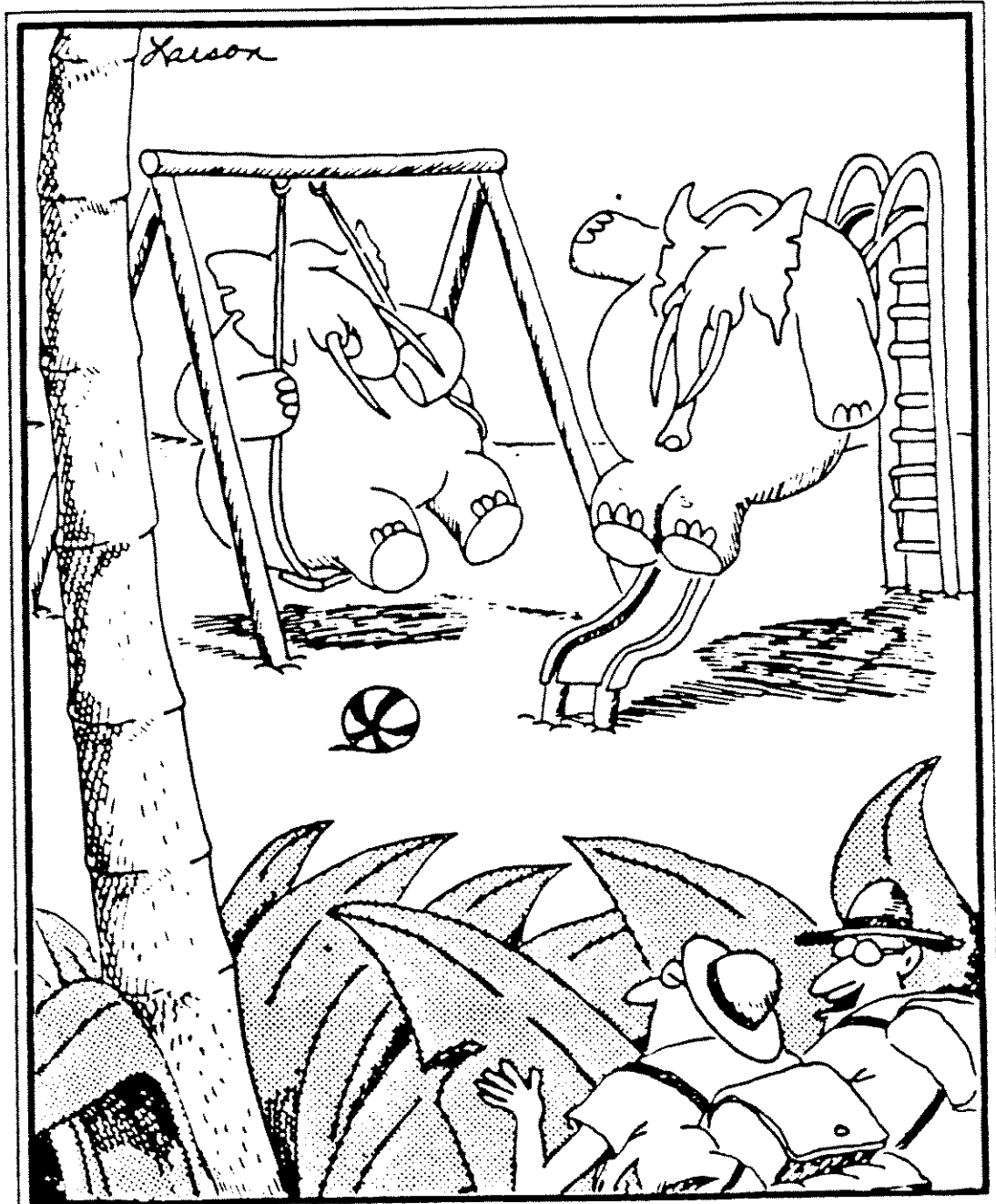
The real reason dinosaurs became extinct



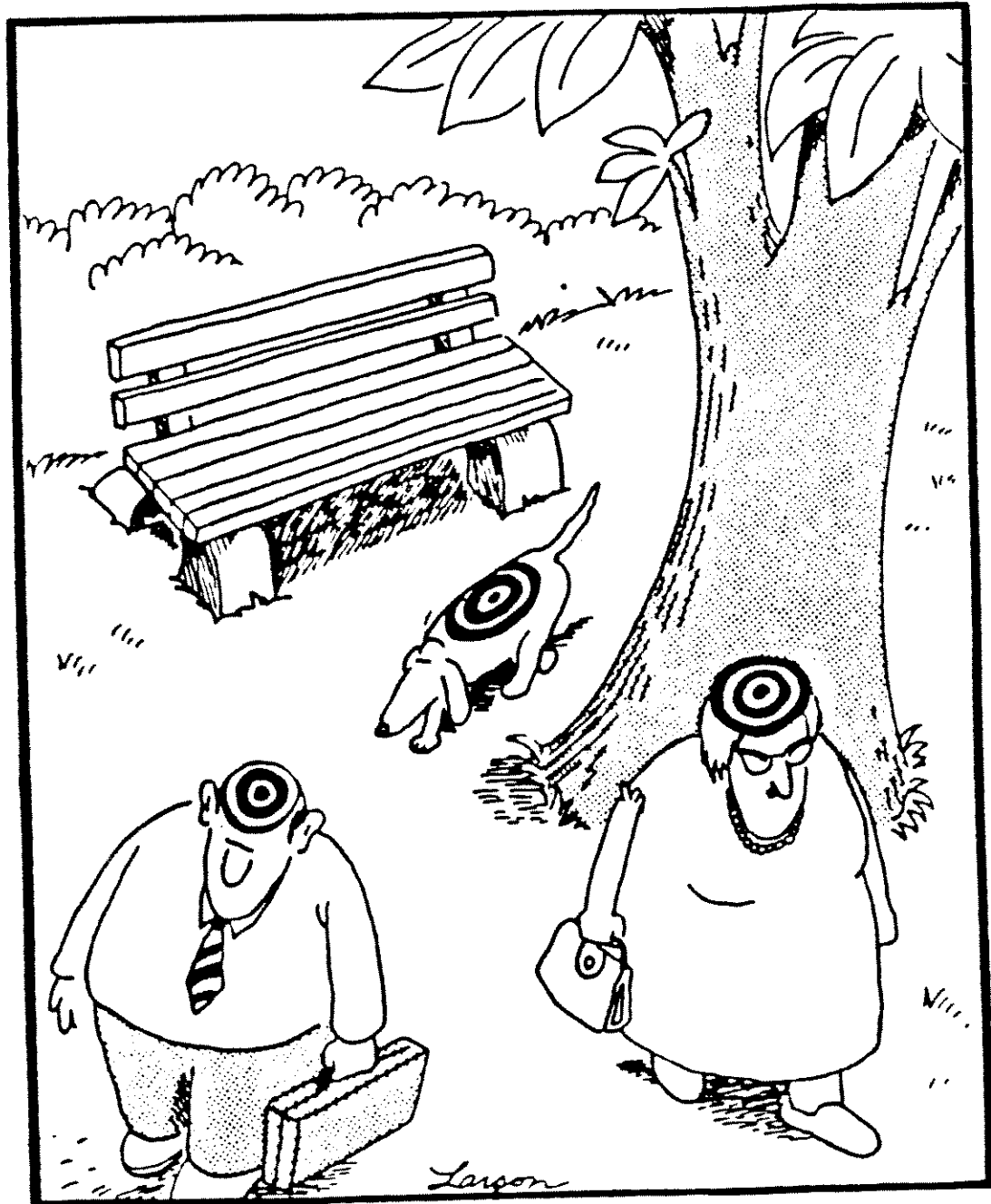
"For crying out loud, gentlemen! That's us! Someone's installed the one-way mirror in backward!"



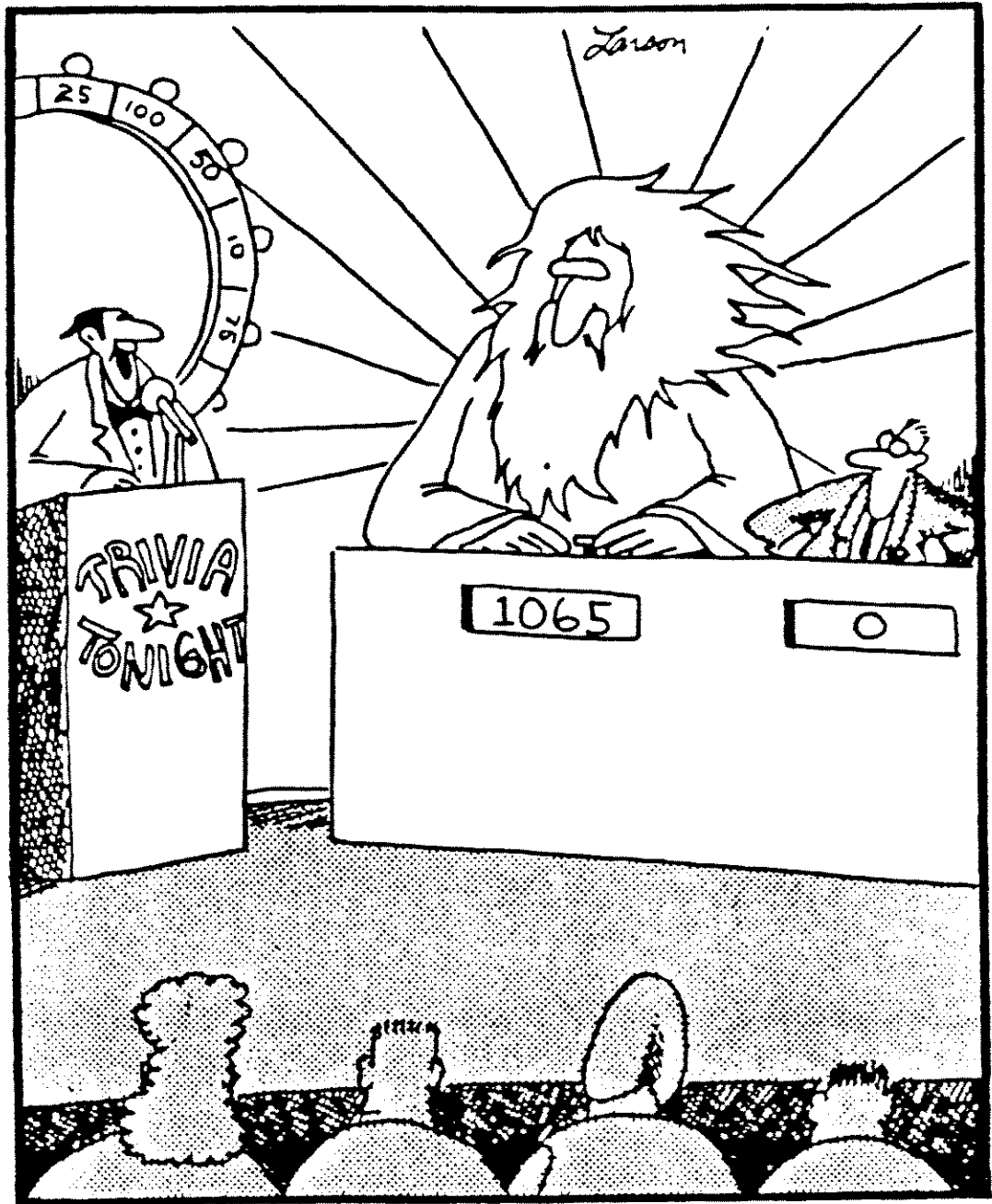
"You call that mowin' the lawn? . . . Bad dog! . . . No biscuit! . . . Bad dog!"



"By Jove! We've found it, Simmons! . . . The Secret
Elephant Playground!"



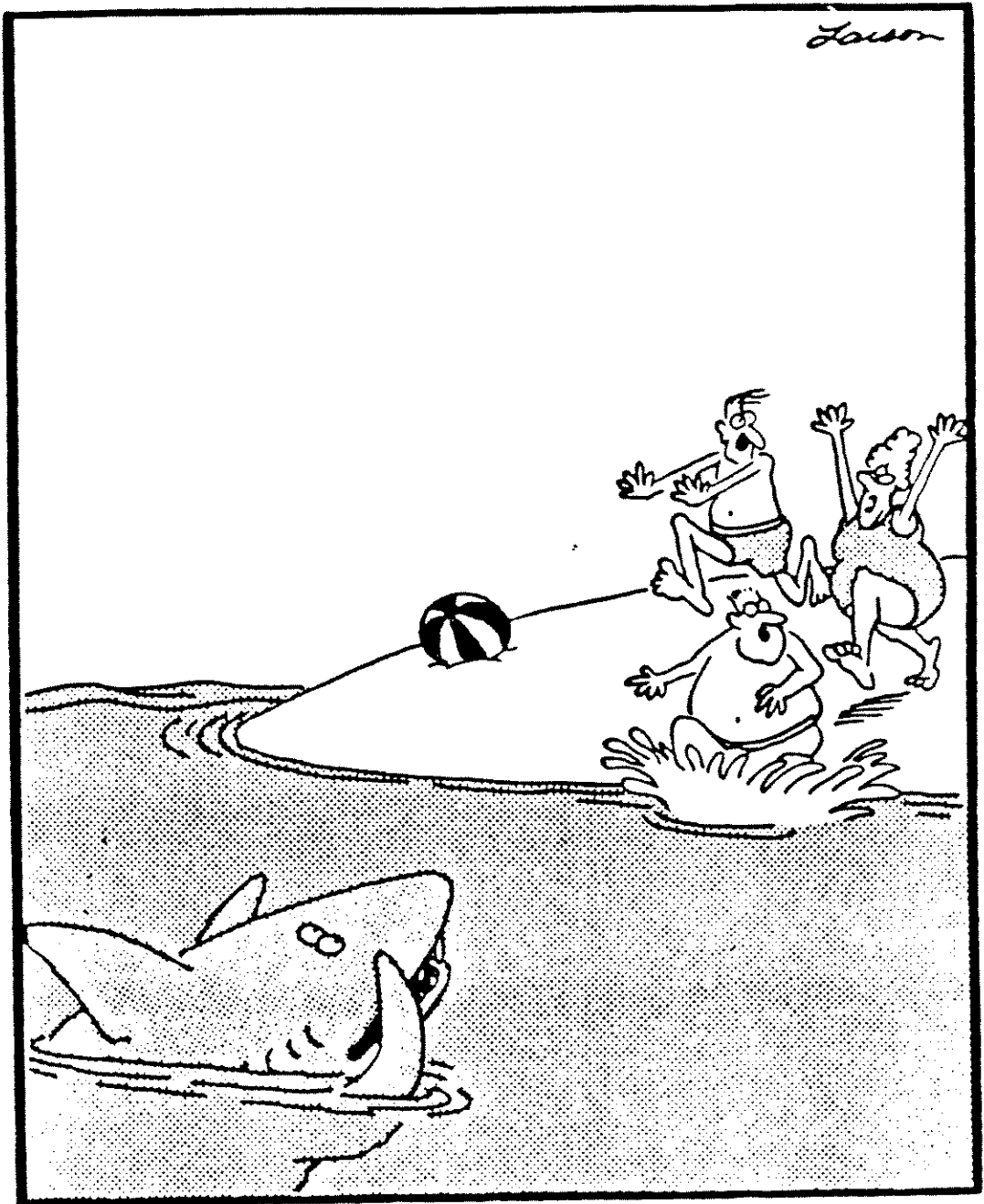
How birds see the world



"Yes! That's right! The answer is 'Wisconsin!' Another 50 points for God, and ... uh-oh, looks like Norman, our current champion, hasn't even scored yet."



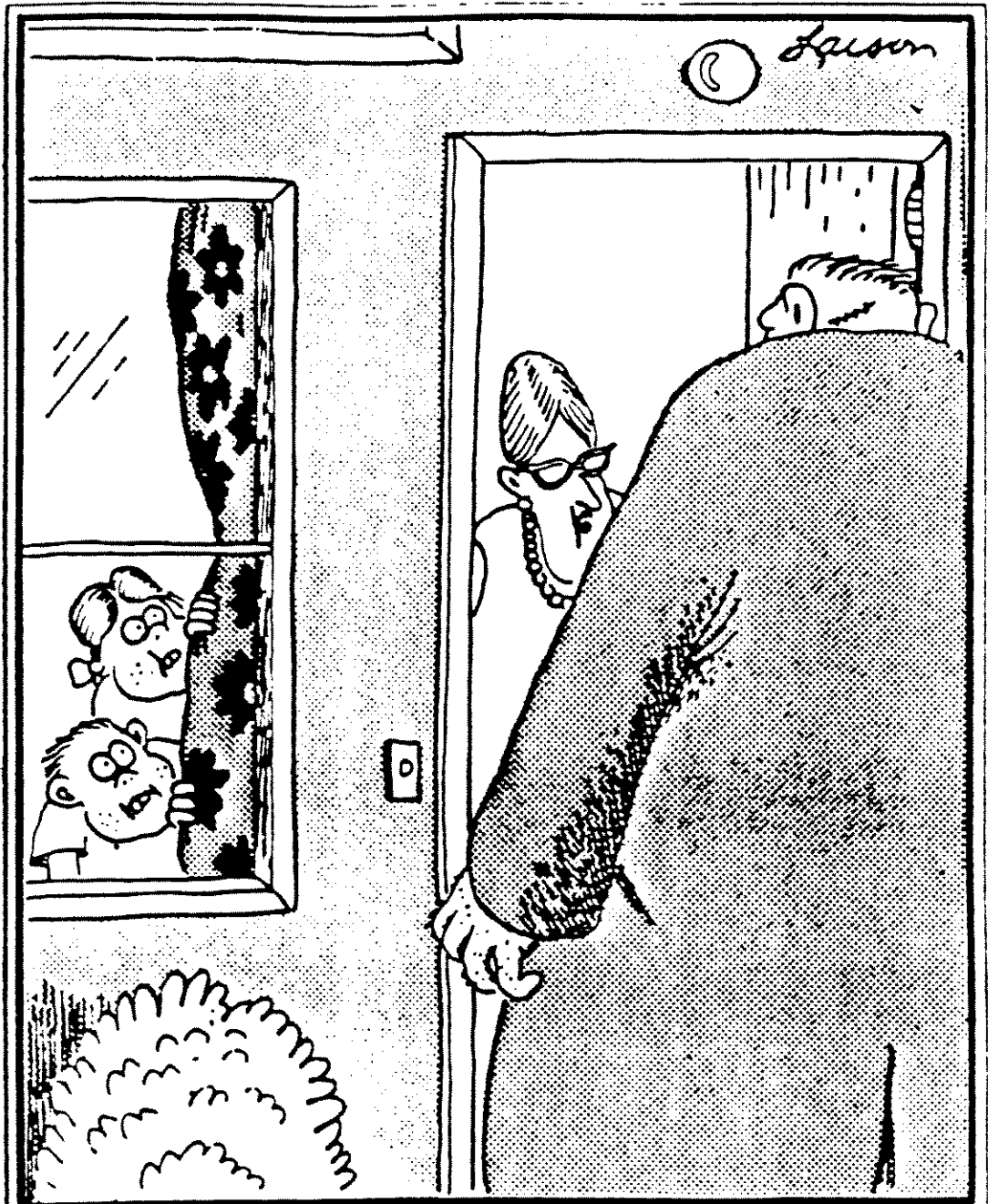
"I'm not warning you again, Sparky! . . . You chew with your mouth OPEN!"



"Bear! Bear!"



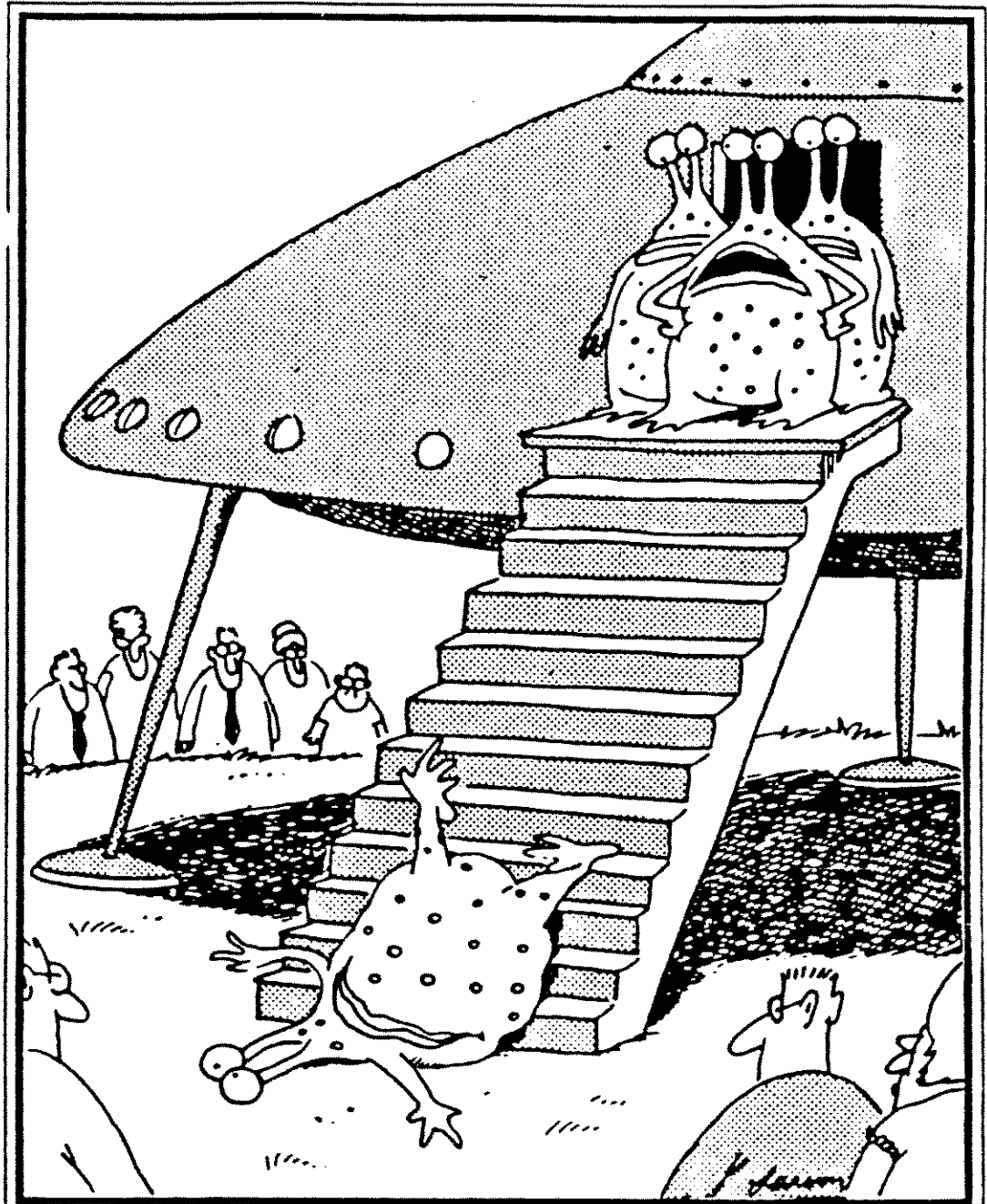
"Well, we're lost . . . And it's probably just a matter of time before someone decides to shoot us."



"Why, yes . . . we do have two children who won't eat their vegetables."



"Ernie's a chicken, Ernie's a chicken . . ."



"Wonderful! Just wonderful! . . . So much for instilling them with a sense of awe."