

Rescue in the Mall

INT. DAY - BOARD ROOM - MALL

All members are sitting at the table. The door opens and the chairman walks in. He is smiling at everyone. He stands next to his chair and is facing the group.

CHAIRMAN
Good morning!

Everyone responds kindly.

CHAIRMAN (cont'd)
We must discontinue the Happy Family
Toy collection. They are not selling.
Send a message over the intercom
before the mall opens today.

He stares at a woman sitting to his right.

SECRETARY LAURA
Yes, sir!

The chairman raises an index finger.

CHAIRMAN
I know we had a full schedule today,
but first we resolve this issue. Back
to work please. Thank you!

The room empties as secretary Laura hurriedly walks to the intercom system.

SECRETARY LAURA
Attention! We will be discontinuing
the Happy Family Toys. Round them up
and place them in storage room C for
disposal. Thank You!

The chairman places papers on the table.

CHAIRMAN
We will save money. Well, what do you
think of my decision?

Laura places his papers in a folder.

SECRETARY LAURA
Of course, sir. But we were selling
some of these toys. It's a shame.

He pats her on the arm. They walk out together.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - MALL STORE - AFTER CLOSING

A bag of candy falls from a shelf and lands in a shopping cart. The bag moves around. Both ends of the bag are bulging and tearing apart.

The seam begins splitting. A little chocolate peeks outside the bag. A few night lights are on.

CHOCO

Whoa! I think I found the world!

The bag opens more as other chocolate pieces peer their heads out in wonder.

EXTRA SWEET

Oh my, is this where humans live?

The last piece gazes around the store.

FUDGIE

I'm afraid! This is the human universe.

Choco pulls himself out of the bag.

CHOCO

Better than living in a bag.

EXTRA SWEET

It's so eerie out here!

CHOCO

Listen guys! We have to help save the Happy Family Toys from a horrible fate.

The other two candies climb out of the bag.

FUDGIE

How do we do that? We are just candy!

Choco shakes his head.

CHOCO

Just candy! This country was founded on bravery from all forms of life. Let's jump down and look around. Maybe we can find someone to help us.

They exit the carriage and begin wandering the aisle.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - HALFWAY DOWN THE STORE

They stop to marvel at the stacks of candy.

EXTRA SWEET

What are these yellow stickers on all
the candy wrappers?

They move in more closer.

CHOCO

Those are price tags!

Extra Sweet is fixated on the stickers.

EXTRA SWEET

We are only worth fifty cents?!?

Fudgie raises a finger to his mouth.

FUDGIE

Be quiet! There may be other life
wandering this store.

They walk on and notice sugar on the floor. They study the
spill. Giant creeping shadows reflect on the sugar. The
chocolates dash behind a table leg.

Four large ants rush in to eat the sugar. The three
chocolates dreadfully stare at the ominous insects.

EXTRA SWEET

(whisper)

Do they eat chocolate too?

The ants finish and move their antennae a few times before
walking away.

CHOCO

Yes! It isn't going to be easy to
save the Happy Family Toys.

FUDGIE

Then why try? I don't want to end up
a snack for some carnivorous ants!

EXTRA SWEET

Neither do I.

CHOCO

We won't! But we have to find help!

CUT TO:

INT. SAME NIGHT - OTHER END OF STORE

The chocolates are moving about the store gazing at all the other packages, and bottles of sweets and candies.

SYRUP BOTTLE
Hey, what are you staring at?

The chocolates quickly hide inside a broom.

SYRUP BOTTLE (cont'd)
Stop playing games. Please help me out of this mess!

The chocolates peek out beyond the bristles.

SYRUP BOTTLE (cont'd)
C'mon guys, I'm stuck in my own syrup! Little wiggle help, please.

The chocolates cautiously exit the broom head.

CHOCO
What happened to you?

SYRUP BOTTLE
I was bounced around during shipping. My name is Monty.

FUDGIE
Monty!

MONTY
Yeah, it's a nickname for Vermont.

The chocolates shrug their shoulders.

MONTY (cont'd)
Now that we are introduced, how about that help, please.

The chocolates are wiggling Monty. They release him. He wipes his bottom against paper towels.

MONTY (cont'd)
Now for a quick rinse under the faucet.

Monty is jumping up trying to turn the faucet handle. It turns slightly and he showers under it.

MONTY (cont'd)
Ah, I love not feeling sticky!

Cont'd

Monty rubs against the towels again.

MONTY (cont'd)
So what part of the forest are you
guys from?

EXTRA SWEET
Forest?!?

SYRUP BOTTLE
Yeah, aren't we all from the forest?

The chocolates scratch their heads.

CHOCO
No, we are not all from the forest!
But we better clean up your leaks so
the ants don't smell you.

MONTY
Ants! Quick, hide me!

Monty is frantically searching about the room.

FUDGIE
Relax, dude. They're gone for now.

Monty tightens his cap.

MONTY
Check me, guys. Am I leaking
anywhere?

They all quickly examine Monty.

FUDGIE
Chill man, you are air tight!

MONTY
I wonder where the syrup came from?

A moaning from behind a rack startles them.

SYRUP BOTTLE TWO
Help, help me!

All four slowly peek around the rack. A broken syrup bottle
is laying on a shelf.

EXTRA SWEET
What happened to you?

Cont'd

SYRUP BOTTLE TWO
I was dropped by the clerks.

Monty is frowning.

MONTY
Here, let me help you up.

SYRUP BOTTLE TWO
No, I have lost too much syrup,
brother. My name is Mape.

Screeching sounds echo the store. They all rapidly turn in
defense posture.

CHOCO
The ants are coming back!

MAPE
Ants! Jeez, cover me up!

The ants shadows' reflect off the walls. They are moving
towards the sweets.

CHOCO
You guys ever been in a rumble?

EXTRA SWEET
Is that the name of a cake?

Choco shakes his fists at Extra Sweet. The ants stop at the
rack and are searching around.

MAPE
You guys go. I'll distract them.

MONTY
You'll be eaten alive.

MAPE
And they will be stuck and you can
escape.

The ants rapidly scale the rack and pandemonium erupts. They
surround the broken syrup bottle and begin eating. Mape
shakes his head and saturates the ants in his syrup.

CHOCO
Run your sugar britches off!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - AT A MALL ENTRANCE WAY

They all stare down the long hallways.

FUDGIE

Poor Mape. He was a brave soul.

Dim lights illuminate the mall. A soda machine makes some noises and startles them.

EXTRA SWEET

Is that a monster?!?

CHOCO

No! It's a pop machine.

The others walk around the pop machine.

FUDGIE

Pop?

CHOCO

Yeah, yeah. It's soft drinks.

They suddenly turn in the direction of noise.

CHOCO (cont'd)

Did you hear that?

FUDGIE

Maybe we should hide. There may be more ants.

They climb through a mail slot into a hardware store.

CHOCO

Well, anyone have a do-it-yourself project? This is the place for help.

Marveling at the tools hanging and resting on shelves they examine every display.

EXTRA SWEET

Some of these things are very shiny.

MAL

Who you calling a thing?!?

They all jump.

MAL (cont'd)

At least I'm not easy to eat!

Cont'd

CHOCO
Who said that?!?

A shuffling of tools upon a shelf reveals a mallet.

MAL
I said that Who else?

They keep a distance.

EXTRA SWEET
Do you eat candy or syrup?

The large mallet is staring at the group.

MAL
Of course not!

CHOCO
You're a mallet! Hey, come with us,
you can help us save some toys from
certain destruction.

Mal raises an eyebrow.

MAL
Well, I did hear a message the other
day about some toys being gathered up
for disposal?

FUDGIE
Yes, that's it! We need to save them.
We already had a run-in with starving
ants.

MAL
Ants? I will smash them flat!

The group smiles.

EXTRA SWEET
Will you please help us, sir?

MAL
The name is Mal. But thanks for the
respect, sweetie.

MONTY
Hey Mal, I'm Monty!

Mal takes a slight bow.

Cont'd

CHOCO

I'm Choco!

EXTRA SWEET

I'm Extra Sweet, no sweetie.

FUDGIE

Fudgie here!

Everyone gives a high five.

MAL

We may need some more help. If we have to travel the entire mall, it could be dangerous.

CHOCO

Where do we get more help?

Mal is turning his head.

MAL

Follow me!

The mail slot is moving slightly and startles them. They remain silent, staring at the door. A pink nose and whiskers opens the flap.

EXTRA SWEET

(Whisper)

What's that?

MAL

(Whisper)

It's a rat.

EXTRA SWEET

Do they eat sweets?

MAL

They eat anything.

Two rats enter the store. Sniffing around they find the group and try to eat them. Running frantically the sweets hide in a can. Mal wallops the rats and they flee.

CHOCO

Awesome Mal! Thanks! Let's find that extra help you were talking about.

Mal leads the way to the end of the store.

Cont'd

MAL
Hey, Flathead, you awake?

The group is staring into a tool drawer.

FLATHEAD
Yeah, who can sleep with all the
racket you guys make.

A screwdriver stands tall before them.

FUDGIE
Wow! You are long and shiny!

Flathead stares down.

FLATHEAD
Thanks, kid! It's all the iron.

CHOCO
We are going to rescue some toys from
certain death. Wanna help?

Flathead stares at everyone.

FLATHEAD
I'm on board!

MONTY
Awesome! We need help to survive the
creatures in the mall.

FLATHEAD
Creatures! What creatures?

CHOCO
Rats, ants, and whatever else lives
here I guess.

FLATHEAD
We need to make a stop over there
before we leave. I have a friend who
can also help us.

The group raises a fist.

MAL
Be careful and quiet. Less noise.
Less battles.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - ANOTHER STORE

The group rushes by the soda machines. The machines are making noises. The noises scare them again.

CHOCO

Huh, what!

Choco turns quickly.

MAL

Relax, candy man. These are soda machines. They make noises to keep the drinks cold.

Extra Sweet is holding her hands to her mouth.

EXTRA SWEET

You mean they are freezing to death?

Mal pets her head a few times.

MAL

No, they are just keeping cold.

Four large cockroaches scurry across the floor. They all find shelter under a leather sofa.

MAL (cont'd)

Shhhh!

The roaches run, stop a few times, search around. Then they run off into another store.

FLATHEAD

We really need to get my friend.

FUDGIE

Who's your friend?

Flathead points to a store. They pass under a night light. The roaches are exiting a store and see them.

FLATHEAD

Quickly, under the door.

FUDGIE

But the bugs can enter too.

FLATHEAD

Hurry!

In the store they scatter in different directions.

Cont'd

FLATHEAD (cont'd)
Everyone, hey guys, over here!

They converge on a bag of mulch.

FUDGIE
Something stinks!

MONTY
No gas in me.

They are staring at the door watching the shadows of the roaches. Slowly the bugs squeeze under the door.

EXTRA SWEET
I'm too sweet to die!

FLATHEAD
Be quiet!

MAL
Where is this friend of yours?

Flathead points to a row of tall canisters.

MAL (cont'd)
A little help would be nice.

Flathead is motioning them to be quiet.

FLATHEAD
Shh! Gotta have some faith, kid.

The roaches carefully search the area. They find the group and there is panic. A large shadow is moving across the store. Battling, they retreat to a pile of soil.

FLATHEAD (cont'd)
B.K.! If you're awake, we sure could use some help, buddy!

A wide fog rapidly covers the roaches. They are wiggling and tossing about. The roaches stop moving and are lying on their backs with legs folded in.

B.K.
Hey Flathead, nice to see! Looks like you owe me one!

Flathead rushes out to greet his friend.

Cont'd

Turning back, Flathead yells.

FLATHEAD
Hey guys, come out and meet my
friend, B.K.

The frightened group is exiting from under the soil.

FLATHEAD (cont'd)
Boy, you guys need a bath!

They are gazing up at the tall canister.

FLATHEAD (cont'd)
This is B.K.

B.K.
Hey everyone!

FUDGIE
B.K.?

B.K.
Yeah. Short for Bug Killer!

They all happily shake B.K.'s hand.

B.K. (cont'd)
I get the job done.

CHOCO
Thanks! We have to move on to get to
the toys and help them.

B.K.
It's a big mall. No people at night,
but a lot of other things that might
trouble us. We have to stay close
together at all times.

A shadow is falling from the ceiling.

FLATHEAD
Spider!

They freak out. B.K. quickly blasts the spider.

MAL
Spider pancakes, coming up!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - DOWN THE MALL HALLS

Cans and bottles being knocked over scare the group.

CHOCO
What's that noise?

They all scan the area.

FLATHEAD
Can't be spiders, unless they are
very big.

MAL
Everyone, up by the register.

They all look down on the floor. A bottle rolls by.

WHISKEY BOTTLE
Help, someone pick me up!

The group watches the bottle roll by.

WHISKEY BOTTLE (cont'd)
Anybody with arms, lil help please!

Flathead yells down.

FLATHEAD
What's your name? Why are you on the
floor?

WHISKEY BOTTLE
My name is Whisk. I am three sheets
to the wind.

MAL
Oh, dear Lord!

They all rush down and help Whisk.

WHISK
Anyone have some strong coffee?

Flathead looks up at the register. He jumps and opens the
cash drawer. He and Mal get a coffee from a machine.

FLATHEAD
Here ya go, kid!

Whisk is wobbling. A few hold him up. He chugs the fresh
coffee down and burps loudly.

Cont'd

WHISK

Pardon me!

FLATHEAD

You had one swig too many, huh, ole pal?

Whisk is tipping the coffee cup.

WHISK

It happens when I get bored.

CHOCO

Well, you don't have to be bored any longer. You can help us save some unwanted toys.

Whisk looks at everyone.

WHISK

Toys! I'm not a kid.

EXTRA SWEET

We are all kids at heart.

WHISK

Oh great, a liberal!

EXTRA SWEET

Did he insult me?

FUDGIE

Kinda sort of.

More bottle and can noises turn everyone's heads swiftly.

WHISK

I was the only tipsy one. Something else is making the noise now.

A large raccoon is foraging for food.

WHISK (cont'd)

He must be tipsy too.

The raccoon stops and stares at the group. He charges. A fight ensues. The raccoon flees with wounds.

MAL

See ya, wimp! Next time your face will look like Flathead's!

Cont'd

FLATHEAD

Hey, what's wrong with my good looks?

MAL

Nothing...if you're not into profiles. Okay?

MONTY

Hitting below the belt, one point!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - GARDEN SHOP

The group is staring up at a window with a metal rake on display. A pair of shears and bucket are next to the rake.

B.K.

Tall skinny dude, huh?

The rake looks down at them.

JAKE THE RAKE

I bet I eat more than you buddy!

FLATHEAD

Whoa, that rake talks!

JAKE THE RAKE

Of course I talk, bug killer!

B.K. smirks at the rake.

B.K.

Hey, let's leave out the flattery.

Jake taps the tools next to him.

JAKE THE RAKE

Wake up! You guys want to sleep your lives away?

The display tools gaze down at the others.

CHOCO

What are you looking at? Never seen candy before?

Jake starts banging his head against the glass until it shatters all over them below.

Cont'd

FLATHEAD

Hey watch it, my medical isn't paid
up to date!

Everyone is ducking to avoid the glass.

CHOCO

That's one way of getting out!

SHERRY

I'm very sharp! I can cut through
metal. Maybe even glass.

Monty hides behind Choco.

MONTY

Hey, now wait a minute. I'm a good
guy here.

SHERRY

Don't worry, I wouldn't hurt you.

BUCK

I can hold a lot of anything.

JAKE THE RAKE

Alright, stop bragging. What's the
game plan here?

They all huddle closely.

CHOCO

We have to save the Happy Family
Toys! Anyone know the way to storage
C? Anyone?

The crowd stares up. All scratching their chin.

EXTRA SWEET

I guess we could just wing it.

All heads are looking about.

FUDGIE

What is that sign over there?

CHOCO

Cool! It's a directory.

They all rush over to see the board.

Cont'd

JAKE THE RAKE
Looks like a jigsaw puzzle.

BUCK
Yeah, my brain hurts just looking at
it. And it's bright.

SHERRY
The writing is too small.

Jake bends over and lifts Sherry up high.

SHERRY (cont'd)
Ah, much better!

CHOCO
Well, where is storage C?

Sherry scratches her blade.

SHERRY
I'm not sure. I got the Spanish
version.

They all rush around the other side.

SHERRY (cont'd)
Ah! It's at the very end of the mall.

FUDGIE
All the way down there?

Fudgie's unstable arm points down the endless mall. Sherry
peers down at them while pointing down the hall.

SHERRY
Yes, way down there! It looks so dark
and spooky.

EXTRA SWEET
Do you mean there are ghosts here?

Jake gently places his hands on Extra Sweet's face.

JAKE THE RAKE
Nah, just looks scary. Let's get
going guys. The toys need our help.

They slowly begin the journey down the mall.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL

They all stop at a rumbling soda machine and marvel at the noises coming from it. A loud rolling sound travels in the machine and out the bottom. They stare at a soda bottle.

POPPY

Well, you guys gonna help me out of here or am I on my own?

They rush to help.

CHOCO

Someone lift up the plastic.

Jake opens the release door.

POPPY

Thanks, kid! Little tight in there.

Everyone looks over Poppy.

POPPY (cont'd)

Okay, I'm a little dusty! It'll come off soon enough.

FUDGIE

What flavor are you?

POPPY

Straight soda, no diet here!

Sherry points at Poppy.

SHERRY

What is your name?

POPPY

Poppy! Did you guys here about the Happy Family Toys?

They all nod their heads.

POPPY (cont'd)

Well, what can we do to help?

Sunlight is coming through the windows.

CHOCO

We are trying to find them. The mall will open soon. Let's get some sleep.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - THAT MORNING - BOARD ROOM

A lot of talking is going on. The chairman rises. There is silence as hands fold.

CHAIRMAN
Have we gathered all the Happy Family
Toys in one storage area?

Everyone looks at his secretary.

SECRETARY LAURA
Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN
Wonderful! Double check everywhere.
We will incinerate them soon.

Everyone looks around to one another.

BOARD MEMBER MIKE
Sir, why do we need to burn them?

The chairman reaches into his pocket and pulls out money.

CHAIRMAN
It's far cheaper! Pass the word
around today. Gather them up!

The chairman rushes around the table and leaves the room.
Secretary Laura approaches the intercom.

SECRETARY LAURA
Attention! Please be sure there are
no Happy Family Toys left. We are to
incinerate them very soon. Thank you!

The door opens quickly. The chairman stares down the room.

CHAIRMAN
That means you guys too! Get out into
every area of the mall and find those
toys so we can destroy them. Now!

He turns and leaves the room again. Laura shrugs.

SECRETARY LAURA
He's the boss! Let's keep in touch
with any new findings of toys. I will
give the boss a briefing daily.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - MALL

The Happy Family Toys are in the storage room fighting.

HAPPY DAD
I cannot believe this treason!

HAPPY MOM
Why do they want to burn us?

HAPPY MINDY
What did we do wrong?

Happy Mindy cries.

HAPPY DAD
I don't know what we did wrong. But
we must find a way out of here, fast!

The family hugs.

HAPPY SONNY
We can do it, Pop! Together as a
family. We won't die.

The father pats the son on his shoulder.

HAPPY DAD
That's my determined boy! Always got
a bright outlook on things.

Mom hugs her son.

HAPPY MOM
I'm so proud of you!

HAPPY MINDY
Mom!

Mom rushes to hug her daughters too.

HAPPY JULIE
It's okay, Mom. I know you meant
well. No headaches here.

The father is studying the inside of the container.

HAPPY DAD
What are we now in? How do we break
out? Where do we go from there?

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - COFFEE SHOP

The group is rushing out into the mall.

JAKE THE RAKE

Did you guys hear all the racket today?

CHOCO

I sniffed enough coffee beans to run around the world.

FUDGIE

I had tea spill on me. I think it was green tea, so it's healthy.

They all stare at Fudgie.

EXTRA SWEET

You'll be fine! All you need is a big hug from me.

FUDGIE

I'm sweet enough. I need healing.

They all stare off in different directions.

SHERRY

Which way do we go tonight? Did you all hear the message today?

FLATHEAD

Yeah, the Family Toys are not just being thrown away ... they are going to be burned alive!

MONTY

Really now, must you invoke drama?

FLATHEAD

Drama! What the heck you call being incinerated?

CHOCO

Guys! We gotta to stay focused here.

They stop arguing.

BUCK

I say we search door by door.

Everyone is silent.

Cont'd

FUDGIE

If we do that, we will waste time.

BUCK

All right, what's rolling around in your head for ideas?

Fudgie looks at the ceiling.

FUDGIE

We need to find a storage room, right?

They all nod.

FUDGIE (cont'd)

So let's look for one.

CHOCO

You nailed it, kid! We don't need to enter any more stores, except during the day to sleep.

Jake puts up his hand.

JAKE THE RAKE

Well, if we are going to have to open doors, and we don't have keys ... we better find more help.

EXTRA SWEET

What kind of help?

JAKE THE RAKE

You just follow me, sweetie.

EXTRA SWEET

That's Extra Sweet.

JAKE THE RAKE

Either way, I'm not a fan.

They proceed down the halls staring into windows.

BUCK

Over there! Army and Navy store.

MAL

Be quiet! Let's walk over there.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - OUTSIDE ARMY NAVY STORE

Mal climbs up Jake and slams his head against the knob a few times. The door wobbles open.

CHOCO

You made enough noise to wake every living thing in this mall.

MAL

Spoils of war, my friend!

They slip into the door opening. Papers fall from a service desk in the mall. They turn back to look out the window.

EXTRA SWEET

What do you think made the paper fall so loudly?

Massive centipedes scurry across the floor towards the doors of the Army and Navy store. The group freaks out and scatters in various places.

B.K.

Hey! You ugly worms with a zillion legs, come over here...I got a gift for you.

The centipedes rush to the area where B.K. is.

B.K. (cont'd)

Smile, you slime!

A huge plume of fog covers the centipedes. They bounce about. Wiggling and fighting off the effects of the spray.

MAL

Taste some lead, scum!

Mal wallops the bugs a few times and they flee choking.

JAKE THE RAKE

Hey B.K., are you registered as a deadly weapon?

B.K.

Of course!

JAKE THE RAKE

I guess they won't be back.

B.K. raises his fists in victory.

Cont'd

B.K.
Maybe I need a refill.

They all cheer for B.K.

B.K. (cont'd)
Next time we may not be so fortunate.

EXTRA SWEET
What do you mean?

B.K. stares down at Extra Sweet.

B.K.
I truly need a refill. A more
powerful spray. No telling what
creeps we may encounter in here.

CHOCO
Okay, okay! Why are we in this store?

BUCK
I have a friend here. Help me with
this door.

Everyone is strenuously trying to pry the door open.

MONTY
Who is in here?

Buck raises a thumb. Moving sounds are coming from within
the large wooden cabinet.

BUCK
Hey, Sledge, is that you?

The doors begin to violently bulge outward.

BUCK (cont'd)
Stand back, guys!

A few more strong bangs and the doors burst open. The group
uncovers their eyes.

SLEDGE
Of course it's me!

A lean wooden body with a wide iron head stands proudly.
Everyone marvels at this sight of strength. Sledge struts
out of the cabinet and scrutinizes everyone.

Cont'd

SLEDGE (cont'd)
Okay, where's the fight? Bring it on,
baby!

EXTRA SWEET
They ran away.

SLEDGE
Thanks, sugar.

EXTRA SWEET
That's Extra Sweet.

Sledge scratches his head.

SLEDGE
Okay, whatever I guess!

BUCK
What she means is there were two
centipedes in here. B.K. sprayed them
and they ran away.

Sledge turns to B.K.

SLEDGE
Good man!

Jake rests a hand on Sledge's shoulder.

JAKE THE RAKE
We are attempting to rescue the Happy
Family Toys. But we keep encountering
obstacles in this mall.

SLEDGE
You want life to be easy? Move to
Washington D.C.

SHERRY
So where do we go from here? The
centipedes may still be out there.

SLEDGE
B.K., let's get you fired up, son!

B.K. steps over to a circular container. Sledge hooks up a
shiny hose to his head. B.K. begins to smile. He flexes his
muscles for everyone. Sledge unhooks the hose.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - STORAGE CONTAINER

The Happy Family Toys are restless.

HAPPY DAD

There has to be a way out, they put us in here.

HAPPY MOM

Who's they?

HAPPY DAD

Sorry dear, I have to blame someone.

The girls are crying again.

HAPPY MINDY

I at least want a home before I die!

Mom rushes to hug Mindy.

HAPPY MOM

Now there, sweetie ... your dad will get us out of here.

HAPPY DAD

Nothing like intense pressure.

The son jumps up to the lid and hangs from a piece of metal.

HAPPY SONNY

Hey dad, I think this is a latch of some sort. Maybe it opens the container we are in.

Everyone is focused on Happy Sonny.

HAPPY DAD

Good work, kid! See if you can move things around.

Happy Sonny exerts himself.

HAPPY SONNY

Nothing is moving yet.

Happy Sonny stops.

HAPPY SONNY (cont'd)

Dad, there is something moving outside the container. Sounds like multiple feet ... and fast.

Cont'd

The family embraces.

HAPPY MOM
What could it be? Should we scream
for help?

Happy Dad raises a hand to silence them.

HAPPY DAD
Shhh! We do not know what is out
there. Could be an animal or insects.

The girls all quiver.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Relax, now. I'm playing out the worst
scenario.

The noises continue and all stare at the lid. The latch
begins to slowly open.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Quick, hide under these papers!

Happy Sonny drops down and joins the family. They peek out
to see the latch slowly open and lower.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
(Whisper)
Well, now we know it opens.

A pointed head hangs into the opening and peers around. A
giant ant lowers itself into the container, then a few more
slowly enter.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
(Whisper)
Jeez, I hope they are allergic to
synthetic fibers and plastics.

The ants search the top of the papers and do not discover
the Happy Family Toys.

HAPPY JULIE
(Whisper)
I hope they bathed. I don't want to
be covered in ant germs.

The ants scale the walls then exit the container.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - OUTSIDE CONTAINER

The ants scurry around the floor and climb over everything.
The latch to the container opens fully. Happy Dad looks out.

HAPPY DAD
Wow, this room is huge!

The ants begin climbing the container.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Ant trouble!

The ants dart towards the latch as Happy Dad slides inside.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - INSIDE CONTAINER.

A battle ensues. The girls are screaming.

HAPPY DAD
Break their antenna. They will flee!

Whatever can be used as weapons of defense are deployed
against the quick and strong insects.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Hit them with these wires!

The ants are chased out of the container. Happy Dad and
Happy Sonny watch them scatter away.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Family, I am proud of you all!

Everyone rests against the walls.

HAPPY SONNY
Ah, it was instincts, Dad.

HAPPY DAD
Okay, don't get carried away.

HAPPY MINDY
The latch is open. We need to escape.

HAPPY MOM
Yes, if we want to survive, we have
to get out now!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - NEXT DAY - BOARD ROOM - MALL

The hands on the clock are moving towards noon.

CHAIRMAN
Why is it taking so long to gather up
these helpless toys?

Everyone sitting at the table is silent.

SECRETARY LAURA
My reports show we are working hard
to gather them together, sir.

The chairman pounds his hand on the table.

SECRETARY LAURA (cont'd)
I will send out another message
today.

CHAIRMAN
I want those toys rounded up and
thrown into the fire!

Everyone reaches for water.

SECRETARY LAURA
Yes, sir!

The chairman storms out of the board room.

SECRETARY LAURA (cont'd)
Good day, everyone.

Secretary Laura repeats the alert then departs the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - OUTSIDE THE MALL

A truck pulls up to a loading dock. A few men exit the
vehicle and walk towards the back of the truck. They open
the noisy doors.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
There ya go, son. Toy sniffing
hounds!

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Dogs can be trained to find anything!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - INSIDE MALL

The group are watching a few spiders cross the floor.

B.K.
(Whisper)
Should I spray them?

Everyone shakes their heads.

B.K. (cont'd)
(Whisper)
You guys won't let me have any fun.

CHOCO
(Whisper)
If we let them pass unchallenged, we
save time and energy. Finding the
Happy Family Toys is paramount now.

SLEDGE
Yeah, did you hear that announcement
today? Very scary!

EXTRA SWEET
I feel so sad for the Toys.

JAKE THE RAKE
Extra Sweet, how are you registered
to vote?

FUDGIE
Leave her alone. She's blue.

The spiders quickly crawl away.

MONTY
What direction now?

CHOCO
Stay together now. Follow me.

Choco leads them down a dimly lit hallway .

POPPY
Anyone got a flashlight?

CHOCO
No! We don't want to attract
attention. Shh!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - DOWN THE END OF THE HALL

The group stares at a television in a display window.

MAL
Humans are really strange.

No one says a word.

MAL (cont'd)
I mean just look at that, would ya?

They are focused on the television.

CHOCO
I think that is what they call a
romantic movie.

FUDGIE
What if they've eaten spicy foods?
They still do all that stuff?

CHOCO
Yep! Kissing. It's called, kissing.

EXTRA SWEET
Yuk!

A coffee cup across the way from them begins moving. They
turn suddenly and gaze at the cup.

SLEDGE
Maybe I should give it a wallop.

Choco silently disagrees.

B.K.
Maybe this is a job for me. I am all
charged up now.

The cup twirls around. Out from the cup runs a large coffee
bean. It stops and stares at the group.

JAVA
What are you looking at?

The group is silent.

JAVA (cont'd)
I escaped being ground up. My name is
Java. Don't get too close. I'm from a
strong Brazilian blend.

Cont'd

EXTRA SWEET
So what are you saying?

CHOCO
He's saying he stinks!

JAVA
Now wait a minute, buddy.

Sledge steps in.

SLEDGE
Okay, guys, knock it off. Java, come with us. We are trying to rescue the Happy Family Toys.

JAVA
Oh dear Lord! I heard about that.
There is only one problem.

The group waits for his explanation.

JAVA (cont'd)
I carry a strong aroma.

CHOCO
You mean odor.

JAVA
Hey wise guy, you watch it now.

SLEDGE
Why is your aroma a problem?

JAVA
I attract bugs and rodents.

B.K. walks over to Java.

B.K.
Close your eyes and hold your nose.

JAVA
What are you gonna do?

B.K.
Help us all. Now do as I say!

Java squeezes his eyes shut and blocks his nose. B.K. sprays him with a coat of bug spray. Java coughs a few times.

Cont'd

JAVA

I bet you don't get a lot of dates.

B.K. and the others welcome Java.

CHOCO

Here comes bright lights, hide
somewhere!

They all scatter and look out the window. A security officer
shines his flashlight in the mall. He looks around and
leaves. They meet up again.

CHOCO (cont'd)

Just a cop.

EXTRA SWEET

What's a cop?

JAVA

Is she for real? Are you blue?

They all laugh.

CHOCO

Okay. We know the storage unit isn't
here at this end. So where to now?

Loud clattering noises are heard from down the hall

B.K.

Everyone, under the counter here.

They scurry over to hide. They peer down the hall. Three
large rats start down the hallway towards them.

CHOCO

(Whisper)

I hate rats!

Sledge and Mal quietly step in front of the others.

MAL

If they come near us, we squash them!

SLEDGE

I'm craving it, buddy!

The rats search around. They find the group. A few screams
of terror. Sledge and Mal chase the rats. Some good hits,
and the rats run off. The rats bite Sledge and Mal.

Cont'd

SLEDGE (cont'd)
We're bit. Spoils of war. We'll live.

MAL
Of course. Makes me look like a hero.

CHOCO
The sun is rising. Lets hunker down
for the day and regroup tonight.

B.K.
Yeah, find a place to sleep.

MONTY
Here is a little syrup for you two
heroes. It's a sweet treat.

They bow their heads.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - BOARD ROOM

Everyone waits outside the boardroom. The chairman walks
down the hall and approaches the crowd.

CHAIRMAN
Time for work.

The chairman opens the doors. Everyone rushes to a seat.
Laura pulls out the chairman's seat.

CHAIRMAN (cont'd)
Thank you!

She nods her head and sits down.

CHAIRMAN (cont'd)
My reports show we are still
struggling to locate all the Happy
Family Toys.

He stares over at Laura.

SECRETARY LAURA
We are trying, sir. Every employee in
every store is rearranging their
merchandise to be sure they are not
missing anything. We are all working
to meet your goals, sir.

Cont'd

The chairman gazes around the table. People look down.

CHAIRMAN

If we don't have all them toys
rounded up by next week ... all you
folks will go into the fire instead!

The chairman casually departs the office while peering into many eyes as they turn away. He leaves the door open. Laura rushes to close the door and leans against the closed door.

SECRETARY LAURA

Okay, you guys. I think he's reached
a boiling point. We need to
personally inspect each store and get
back to me with a detailed report.
That's all for now. Thanks!

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - MALL - LOADING DOCK

A large truck backs up against the dock. Men and dogs get out of the back and walk into the mall.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

We were just here the other night.

Leroy and the dogs look around.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Yeah, and we found nothing. So why
bother coming back tonight?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Because we are getting paid a lot of
money to come back and find those
missing toys.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Do you hear what you are saying?
Missing toys! Toys aren't alive, man.

Mike holds back laughter.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

I never said they were alive. I
simply said we are being paid. I
don't care what we find. We only need
to be here and look busy.

Cont'd

The dogs watch something closely. The break away from the men and run down the hall.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Stop, stop!

Mike shakes his head.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Don't overexert yourself kid. The mall is closed. They aren't running far from us.

The two men walk down the hallway. They reach the dogs. The dogs are sniffing under a pallet.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)

Let me shed some light here.

A bright flashlight reveals two mice. The dogs circle the pallet barking.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Quiet, quiet! Sit!

The dogs obey.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Well, no toys. Just mice. Let's be on our way. Make sure you got a grip on them now.

Leroy smirks.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

All set, boss.

Choco and the group watch as the men and dogs pass by.

EXTRA SWEET

I don't want to be a meal for a wolf.

CHOCO

They are not wolves, they are dogs.

EXTRA SWEET

Either way, I'm too sweet to die.

MAL

We know the Happy Family Toys are not down this end. Let's go this way.

Cont'd

The group stay close to the wall and doors.

SHERRY

We don't have much time left to find them. What do we do if we fail?

The groups stops. They all ponder.

FUDGIE

I never thought of that.

They all stare at one another.

CHOCO

Me either. I guess I have just been focused on saving them from a fire.

Sledge raises a hand.

SLEDGE

We didn't come this far to fail.

A loud noise rumbles across the mall. They are startled.

MONTY

(Whisper)

Shhh! Something over there by the plants.

They huddle closely.

B.K.

I see, I see.

MONTY

What do we do?

They wonder.

JAKE THE RAKE

We need to be prepared for a battle ... look!

Four large rats race around the plants and head towards the frightened group. A fight begins. Everyone is involved. The rats try to bite. They are hit and sprayed. They retreat.

B.K.

How do you like bug spray in your eyes, you grungy rodents! Yes!

Cont'd

They look around at one another.

CHOCO
Everyone okay?

They respond with a thumbs up.

CHOCO (cont'd)
Wait a minute! Where is Fudgie?

They panic and search around. Fudgie is nowhere to be found.

EXTRA SWEET
Oh no! Where is Fudgie?

All continue to search.

JAKE THE RAKE
Wait a minute. Did we all fight right here? In this area?

CHOCO
Yes, none of us left this area.

EXTRA SWEET
Oh look! There is Fudgie's, wrapper.

Extra Sweet begins to cry heavily. Choco and other console her. She hugs Fudgie's wrapper.

BUCK
We need a moment of silence.

They all bow their heads.

MONTY
This is war now! No longer just a quest for lost toys.

The others confirm with determined expressions.

CHOCO
He was a good friend.

They move on down the hallway.

CHOCO (cont'd)
What's that?

The crowd finds a dead rat. Fudge is dripping from his nose and mouth.

Cont'd

They stare at the dead rat.

B.K.
Good ole, Fudgie. He took down one of
them. He helped us out. Rest in
peace, kid!

Extra Sweet places Fudgie's wrapper next to the dead rat.

EXTRA SWEET
I'll miss you my friend.

They move on from the rat.

CHOCO
Here is a new hallway. Stay close
together and be on guard.

A loud screech surrounds them.

CHOCO (cont'd)
RATS!

EXTRA SWEET
Oh my!

Mal and Sledge fight them fiercely. B.K. sprays them. The
rats nip at everyone. Sherry cuts off a rat's nose. The rats
flee squealing.

BUCK
Throw that nose in me. We may need it
later for defense.

Jake picks it up and places it in Buck.

SLEDGE
Don't step in the blood. It may have
rat germs.

Extra Sweet quivers.

FLATHEAD
If they come back, I will stab at
them again, only harder.

Jake pats Flathead on the back as spiders descend from the
ceiling. Everyone battles. A few spider legs fall off. B.K.
sprays as Flathead jabs them. The wounded spiders flee.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - OTHER SIDE OF MALL

The men and dogs are sitting by a soda machine.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We searched all over this end.

Leroy nods.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I haven't seen any toys.

The dogs lie next to them.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's come back another night. We
have been here long enough.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Good idea. Anyway, it's not like toys
are going to get up and walk away.

Mike chuckles.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Exactly!

Noises in a nearby store alert the dogs. They pull Leroy
over to the doors.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Whoa, dogs, whoa!

They all peer through the glass. The dogs are scratching at
the doorknobs.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
Do you see something, boys?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
What do you see now?

The dogs sniff under the doors.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
We can't get in there tonight. We can
write the name of the store and begin
here tomorrow.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
By then whatever they heard will be
gone.

Cont'd

Mike closes his hands around his eyes as he looks into the store.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We have to take that chance. There is
little light in there. Plus we are
not permitted to enter the locked
stores.

Another loud noise is heard near the mall door where they entered in. They all rush down the hall.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Stop! What do you dogs think you are,
reindeer?

Mike is laughing.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
The dogs leap when they run.

The noise happens again.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
Hear that?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yeah. Came from right over there next
to the sub shop.

Across the hall, directly in front of the men and dogs, runs the entire group who are trying to save the toys. The two men and dogs just watch them run by and through a crack.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Did we drink before working tonight?

Leroy slowly gazes over to Mike.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Nope!

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Then why did I just see a bunch of
little things run by us?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Not sure. I saw the same things.
Maybe we have been working too much.
The dogs didn't even move they were
so shocked.

Cont'd

Both men scratch their heads.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I saw a few pieces of candy, a rake,
a bottle, a bucket, a screwdriver,
mallet, hammer, and some other things
run by us, and into the wall.

Mike turns to Leroy.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
I, is, tha, that what you saw?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
My eyes saw that ... but my brain
isn't convinced yet.

They all walk over to the crack in the wall. They shine a
light in it.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I can't see anything.

Leroy takes the light.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Here, let me see.

Leroy looks, then shakes his head.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
Nothing but wood in there.

The men sit on a nearby bench.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Oh boy, oh boy!

Leroy stares at Mike.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
What's wrong?

Mike looks forward.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We just saw living things that should
not be living. I think it's time for
that drink now.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - THAT DAY - BOARD ROOM

The board room is empty. Laura and the chairman enter the room and sit down.

CHAIRMAN
I'm aggravated by the lack of success
with regards to finding these toys.

Laura looks down at the table.

SECRETARY LAURA
We are trying very hard, sir.

CHAIRMAN
Well try harder, Laura. It's your job
if we don't find them.

The chairman slams the papers down and leaves the room.
Laura is crying.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - TRUCKING YARD.

The men and dogs are climbing into the truck.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Do you remember what we saw last
night?

Leroy stirs his coffee.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Maybe. It all depends if we see it
again tonight.

Mike nods.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
The dogs are secure, let's go!

The truck pulls out of the yard and drives down the road.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL PARKING LOT

The trucks backs into the loading dock.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - INSIDE MALL

The rescue team is together by the escalator.

CHOCO
I would love to ride this thing.

JAKE THE RAKE
Why don't you? It's moving.

Choco shrugs.

CHOCO
I'm so tiny. I won't make it to the top. I'll be crushed.

Jake leans down.

JAKE THE RAKE
Alright, everyone who wants to go for a ride ... climb aboard.

The entire team is riding the escalator. As they approach the top, they notice it is very dark up there.

MAL
We better be careful up here. It's very dark, and we may run into something. Stay close together.

EXTRA SWEET
What kind of something?

Mal peers down on her.

MAL
The kind of something that can eat you alive!

Extra Sweet covers her open mouth.

EXTRA SWEET
Then let's go back downstairs.

They look down the escalator to see roaches riding up.

EXTRA SWEET (cont'd)
Quick, everyone run!

Mal and Sledge begin battling the roaches. Sherry joins in. Buck and B.K. also help. The roaches quickly escape.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - LOWER LEVEL.

The men and dogs inspect the area.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Well, where do you want to start
tonight?

Leroy surveys the area again.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Upper level tonight.

They all ride the escalator to the upper level.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
What happened here?

The men both examine the floor next to the escalator.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
What are those things?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Looks like bug legs of some kind.

The dogs are sniffing the mess.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
No! Get away from that stuff.

Mike flashes a light in a corner.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
There is a room over there. Let's go
see if it has anything in it.

They all walk over. Mike slowly opens the door while aiming
his light inside.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
This room is completely empty.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Okay, let's go home!

Mike stares at Leroy.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We've only been here awhile. No,
let's look around.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - DOWN THE HALL

The rescue team is in a doll store.

MONTY

Boy, these things are scary.

They all peer around cautiously.

FLATHEAD

Even I'm a little jittery.

WHISKEY BOTTLE

I'm sober and I'm scared.

B.K.

Look at all those dead faces.

BOTTLE

They seem so empty and evil.

JAVA

Yeah, I'm glad I won't have to marry one of them.

DOLLY

Who you guys calling ugly and evil?

The team freezes. A doll with blonde hair jumps down.

BUCK

Ah! This thing is alive!

DOLLY

I'm not a thing, bucket!

FLATHEAD

Okay, what are you?

Everyone waits for an answer from Dolly.

DOLLY

I'm a beautiful girl! Did you guys hear about the Family Toys?

CHOCO

That's who were looking for! You wanna join the journey? Do you know anything about the mall?

DOLLY

Yes, I want to join. Sorry, I don't know anything about the mall.

Cont'd

A light from down the hall flashes on the team.

FLATHEAD
Someone is coming! Run and hide!

They scatter.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I saw things moving down here.

They men and dogs are now in the same area.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I saw it too.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hey, who's here? We saw you!

No reply.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Come on boys, sniff around.

The dogs cover the area and return.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Well, they can't find anything here.

Mike and Leroy survey again.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Let's keep moving down the hall.

Once the men and dogs are gone, the team returns.

DOLLY
They have hounds on our tails.

EXTRA SWEET
I don't have a tail.

Dolly stares at Extra Sweet.

FLATHEAD
She's blue.

DOLLY
Oh!

EXTRA SWEET
I'm not a coward!

Cont'd

FLATHEAD
That's yellow.

Extra Sweet is puzzled.

DOLLY
Either way, it's a losing combo.

The men and dogs rush back.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hey, stop! We see you!

The men and dogs are just feet away. They watch the team disappear in different directions.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Alright, I saw them tonight!

Mike is pointing in many directions.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I saw a doll, a rake, a screwdriver and more. What did you see?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I saw a few bottles, a bucket, a few hammers, and more.

They scratch their heads.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
This is weird!

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
All the things we named are not living, boss. How can they move?

Mike shakes a finger at different locations.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Well, we saw them move!

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
So what do we do now?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Keep searching for the Family Toys.
We make our report tomorrow.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - LATER - MALL

The team is hiding inside a sofa in the mall.

CHOCO

Did you hear those guys? They saw us.

FLATHEAD

Yeah, and they are still out there.
And, they are also looking for the
Happy Family Toys.

CHOCO

We have to find the Toys soon! They
want to destroy them too.

EXTRA SWEET

What do we do?

MAL

We keep searching til we find them.

The team crawls out of the sofa and looks around.

B.K.

I don't see anyone.

BUCK

Me either.

They run down the hall.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - OPPOSITE END

The men and dogs are searching another room.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Nothing here but brooms and mops.

Leroy peeks in the room.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Okay! Let's keep searching for Toys.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Those things we saw running? They
changed sizes in order to hide.

Leroy stares at Mike.

Cont'd

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
You mean they are like, magic or something?

Mike shines the light around.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I don't know. I just know they changed sizes to slip away.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
So how do we explain that to the boss?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We don't! I like my job. I don't want us to be fired because they think we are both crazy.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
You think we would be fired?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We are here to look for Toys. Let's do that job and forget everything else in here.

They suddenly turn toward noises. They run with the dogs down the hallway.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
I don't see anything.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Same here. Must have been a mouse or something.

They shine their lights around.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's keep searching down here.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - LOWER LEVEL - MALL

The Happy Family Toys are fighting with centipedes. The Toys are covered with slime. The girls are screaming. The men manage to break free and strike the bugs with wood and force them to run away.

Cont'd

The family hugs one another.

HAPPY MOM

How are we going to survive if we
have to keep battling these bugs?

Happy Dad consoles Mom.

HAPPY DAD

It's okay, dear. We will triumph some
how. Don't give up hope.

Happy Brother and Sisters support mom too.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)

Let's try moving upstairs. There may
be a way out from up there.

The family heads for the escalator.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - LOADING DOCK - OUTSIDE

The men are standing outside the truck. The dogs are inside.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

We can come back tomorrow night, and
see what we find then.

Leroy drinks his soda.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Okay. Another night of not finding
any toys. Maybe they are alive too.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Who is alive?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

The toys we are after. Those other
things are alive, and magical.

Mike raises an index finger to his mouth.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)

Okay!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - FOLLOWING MORNING - MALL

The maintenance crew is washing the floors as customers shop. Barrels are being emptied.

MAINTENANCE GERALD
So I guess these Happy Family Toys
are causing the big guy a headache.

His assistant listens.

MAINTENANCE GERALD (cont'd)
I overheard the other day that Laura
would lose her job if the toys aren't
found, and very soon.

MAINTENANCE TOM
Laura! Why should she be responsible
if the toys cannot be found?

MAINTENANCE GERALD
I don't make the rules, kid.

They continue cleaning the mall.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - MALL - MAIL ROOM

A slot on the wall in the mail room opens. Happy Dad peeks into the room.

HAPPY DAD
No one is here.

Happy Son peeks his head out.

HAPPY SON
So this is a mail room, huh?

The entire family peeks out.

HAPPY MOM
Why are we here?

HAPPY DAD
Well, honey, the mail always has to
go out, right?

HAPPY MOM
Yes! So what do you mean?

Cont'd

HAPPY DAD

I mean, we go with the mail. We get out of here.

The doorknob starts to turn. They duck back into the slot.

MAIL ROOM BOB

I guess the whole building is up in arms over those missing toys.

MAIL ROOM SAM

Yeah. I haven't seen anything, have you, Bob?

Bob shakes his head.

MAIL ROOM SAM (cont'd)

Well, I guess we just keep on working.

MAIL ROOM BOB

Exactly. But if we find those toys, we gather them up and bring them right to the boss in the board room.

Sam seems surprised.

MAIL ROOM SAM

We can do that? Go right into the top brass office ... us?

Bob nods with a smile.

MAIL ROOM BOB

Yes, because when we do, we get a fat raise and maybe some other perks for helping the boss.

Sam raises an eyebrow.

MAIL ROOM SAM

Never thought of that.

MAIL ROOM BOB

Plus we can ask if we can throw the toys into the fire and watch them burn. Sounds like fun!

Sam smirks and grins.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - MALL - SECRETARY POOL

All the ladies are typing very fast. Laura quietly leaves the office.

JILL
I heard Laura will be fired if those toys aren't found soon.

The ladies stop.

BETTY
That's awful! Should we help?

Some ladies continue typing.

JILL
I don't know. We may be fired too, if we try to help and the toys are never found. Maybe we should just type.

Betty rests her chin on her hand and looks around.

BETTY
Well, if you think that is best.

They all start typing again.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - MALL - MAIL ROOM SLOT

The Happy Family Toys are in the wall slot.

HAPPY DAD
Did you hear what that mail guy wants to do to us?

They all nod.

HAPPY MOM
He wants to throw us in the fire!

Happy son hugs his mom.

HAPPY SON
He will never get us.

HAPPY DAD
I think we can get out of here tonight through the mail room.

Cont'd

HAPPY MOM
How are we to do that?

Happy Dad opens the slot and looks out. The lights are off.

HAPPY DAD
Its very dark in there.

HAPPY SON
That can't be good.

HAPPY DAD
Listen, if we can get into a package
somehow ... we can go out with the
mail tomorrow morning.

They all peek into the room.

HAPPY MOM
But how do we know where we will be
going? What happens when we get
there?

HAPPY SON
If we get there.

Happy Dad is frustrated.

HAPPY DAD
Well, we know what happens to us if
we stay here and are found!

A few envelopes fall on the floor. They dart back inside the
slot in the wall.

HAPPY SON
(Whisper)
What was it?

HAPPY DAD
(Whisper)
I thought I saw something big and
hairy.

HAPPY MOM
Oh no, not a spider!

The girls shiver next to Mom.

HAPPY DAD
Stay calm!

Cont'd

The latch opens from the outside. They all cuddle closely in a corner. A big fat hairy spider enters the slot.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)

Kill it!

A battle ensues.

HAPPY SON

It bit me, help!

Happy Dad hits the spider with a rock.

HAPPY MOM

Girls, throw rocks from the wall!

The girls hit the spider a few times.

HAPPY SON

My arm is swelling.

Happy Son also throws rocks at the spider.

HAPPY DAD

Watch out for its fangs!

The spider escapes out the slot.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)

We are so, bad! Yahoo!

Happy Son falls to the ground. His whole body is now puffed up. His face is red and blue.

HAPPY MINDY

Dad, help him! We have to save my brother.

HAPPY JULIE

Oh, Mom! What can we do for him?

Happy Son shakes and quivers badly. He is sweating and has difficulty speaking.

HAPPY DAD

Hang in there, son. We have to get to the drug store in here. We can give him medicine there. Hurry!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL

The rescue team is studying the mall directory.

MAL
Where shall we go from here?

MONTY
How about to the pharmacy?

CHOCO
Yeah! We haven't been there yet.

They all begin walking.

SLEDGE
Keep an eye out for trouble.

EXTRA SWEET
You're scaring me.

The group stops.

JAKE THE RAKE
No one is trying to scare you!

EXTRA SWEET
Shhh!

They all hold a finger to their mouths.

B.K.
Trouble can come at any time.

EXTRA SWEET
You're scaring me, too.

The group keeps walking.

SYRUP BOTTLE
Extra Sweet, don't worry ... we will be fine.

They approach an escalator.

EXTRA SWEET
Last time we saw one of these things, bugs attacked us.

SLEDGE
Yeah. But now we are looking down. I don't see anything on the escalator.

Cont'd

The entire group carefully peers down.

CHOCO
Let's make a break for it.

Everyone climbs on Jake and Sledge. They ride down.

SYRUP BOTTLE
We made it.

They look around.

B.K.
The pharmacy is this way.

B.K. walks ahead of them.

SLEDGE
Don't get too far ahead of us.

B.K. gazes back at them. Then he suddenly stops.

MONTY
(Whisper)
What do you see, B.K.?

He shrugs, then walks closer to them.

B.K.
There are long wiry shadows on the
wall over by the ATM machine.

EXTRA SWEET
Does that somehow stand for ants?

They all shake their heads.

EXTRA SWEET (cont'd)
What?

B.K.
It's where people get money.

EXTRA SWEET
I thought they worked for money.

CHOCO
Let it go, guys.

The shadows continue to move.

Cont'd

FLATHEAD
Do you think it's some bugs?

B.K.
Not sure, yet. But we have to be ready.

FLATHEAD
And we have to move forward to the pharmacy. It is close to a storage room we need to inspect.

The shadows are on the floor and moving outwards.

FLATHEAD (cont'd)
Okay, everyone come together.

The group unites.

MONTY
We can hide between the barrels and the wall.

The shadows are getting closer to them.

EXTRA SWEET
I'm having an upset tummy.

The shadows are now where they are, but nothing is there.

CHOCO
Something is weird.

They all look up.

MONTY
Yup, too good to be true.

Four large ants are above them on a glass roof.

B.K.
It's okay for now. We are down in here, they are up out there.

The group hurries towards the pharmacy store. The ants find a way in and attack the group. Everyone is fighting the ants. Buck throws the rat nose down the hall and the ants chase after it. Flathead gets them into the pharmacy.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL WALLS

The Happy Family Toys are running through the interoffice mail vacuum pipes.

HAPPY DAD
I hope we are getting closer!

Happy Son is weak.

HAPPY MOM
Hurry, Dad...we need to save our only son.

Everyone is close together.

HAPPY MINDY
We've been running for awhile.

HAPPY JULIE
Hold on, brother!

They hear a loud screech. They stop.

HAPPY DAD
(Whisper)
Oh, no.

A few more screeches are heard.

HAPPY MOM
(Whisper)
What do you think it is?

HAPPY DAD
Not sure.

A crack in the pipes is letting in some light. Many shadows of legs and fat bodies are moving their way.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Looks like more spiders.

Happy Son struggles to lift himself up. He falls back into his father's arms.

HAPPY SONNY
Go on without me!

Everyone shakes their heads. The shadows turn the corner, stop, and move slowly towards the Happy Family.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL

The men and dogs turn a corner by the ice cream parlor.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I wouldn't mind a sundae now.

Leroy is staring at the posters.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
My stomach agrees with you.

Leroy turns to see the dogs also staring at the photo.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
I guess dogs like ice cream too.

Mike points in a direction.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
The pharmacy is down there.

Leroy looks.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
There is a storage room there.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yes, sir, there is.

They all move towards the pharmacy.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL WALLS

The spiders are close enough to strike. A few centipedes come in from the other end.

HAPPY MOM
I love you all!

They are all watching in both directions.

HAPPY DAD
I'm so proud of you all!

Happy Sonny leans against the wall.

HAPPY SON
Not without a fight!

Cont'd

A loud bang on the wall is felt. It shakes everything. The insects move closer.

HAPPY SON (cont'd)
Use whatever weapons you have. Fight
to the death.

The girls are facing the insects, and crying.

HAPPY MINDY
I've never been married!

Another loud crash rattles the wall. Then another. More light is streaming through.

HAPPY DAD
Must be an earthquake.

The insects are surrounding the Toys.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Form a circle. Stab them, poke them!

Another loud crashing sound is heard. Lots of light breaks into the wall.

SLEDGE
Rahhh! Growlll! Sledge is here!

The Family toys are surprised, as are the insects. A hand pushes Sledge aside.

B.K.
Hi, bugs! Nice to meet ya!

A powerful blast of bug spray lands on the spiders. Then B.K. sprays the centipedes.

B.K. (cont'd)
Attack, attack!

The group flows into the walls and battles the insects.

SHERRY
How about a few less legs, centipede?

Sherry cuts off many of its legs.

BUCK
Like being slammed with a metal rod!

Cont'd

Buck catches the spiders and squeezes them.

FLATHEAD

I'll jab you till your dizzy, bug!

BOTTLE

Have a crack in the head, spider!

MONTY

Here ya go, centipede. Overdose on this sweet stuff.

All the group engages in battle as the Happy Family Toys hold Sonny.

JAKE THE RAKE

I'll rake these critters out!

MAL

Here's a headache for ya, bugs!

Wallops, sprays, cuts, and squeezes, send the insects running down the passages.

SLEDGE

We are the champions here!

The Happy Family Toys are relieved.

EXTRA SWEET

We are here to help you!

The family rejoices.

HAPPY DAD

We need to get to the pharmacy. A spider bit my son. He needs medicine!

They all slide down Jake and onto the floor.

SLEDGE

Quickly, the pharmacy is over here.

Buck carries Happy Sonny to the pharmacy.

FLATHEAD

I think I can jiggle the lock.

Flathead tries to open the doors.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - NEAR PHARMACY.

The men and dogs approach the pharmacy.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Look!

Leroy and Mike stop and focus on the pharmacy doors.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

I don't believe what I am seeing.

The group stares back at them.

CHOCO

What are you guys staring at ...
haven't ever needed to get medicine
before?

Leroy is struggling to hold back the dogs.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY

Hey boss, these things are talking to
us, man.

Mike takes a few steps closer.

FLATHEAD

We have to get in here. The young boy
in the bucket was bitten by a spider.

Extra Sweet rushes to the front of the crowd.

EXTRA SWEET

Please help us!

Her watery eyes soak her wrapper.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

How can you things be alive?

Mike bends in amazement.

MAL

Things! Now wait a minute, buddy!

Mike picks up Extra Sweet.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

You are a living candy.

Leroy ties the dogs to a pole.

Cont'd

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Are you a screwdriver?

FLATHEAD
You bet I am, kid.

Mike and Leroy stare at an exhausted Sonny.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
You mean a spider bit a toy, and now
the toy may die?

HAPPY DAD
Please, sir. Please, help my son.

Mike and Leroy stare at one another.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
What do we do? We were hired to find
these toys ... and now that we have,
we have to save this little guy's
life.

Mike picks up Sonny and holds him. Sonny can barely look
back at Mike.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I'll put you back.

The group watches Mike gently lower Sonny back into Buck.

BOTTLE
We sure can use some help, guys.

Mike sits in a block.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Are we dreaming?

Mike gazes at Leroy.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Is this a dream?

SHERRY
No! It's real, and the boy is dying.

The men walk back to the dogs and untie them.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - DOWN THE HALL

Bright lights shine into the mall. The men and dogs run to see who it is, as the group tries entering the pharmacy.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Don't say a word to these security guards. We don't want them to think we are crazy.

Leroy smiles.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I'm not mentioning talking toys!

Mike and Leroy open the doors for the security officers.

SECURITY PAUL
Hey guys, thanks a lot! Everything okay here tonight?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Sure, all is well.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
No problems here.

SECURITY PAUL
We saw you standing down the hall with the dogs. Just wanted to make sure all is well.

Mike and Leroy give the thumbs up.

SECURITY JAMES
Hey, why don't we take a walk down the other end before we leave?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
No need to do that, guys.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yeah, yeah. Nothing down there but the pharmacy.

The guards begin walking towards the pharmacy. The men and dogs follow closely behind. Mike and Leroy are sweating.

SECURITY JAMES
Let's make sure these doors are locked.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - OUTSIDE MALL DOORS

Another security vehicle drives by the mall doors. The officers look into the mall and shine a light in through the large glass as they continue on.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - PHARMACY

The guards on the inside are searching around the pharmacy doors.

SECURITY PAUL
I think everything is secure here.

James puts his flashlight away.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
See, fellas, all is well.

Leroy is petting the dogs.

SECURITY PAUL
Okay. We have to be getting back to our work around the mall.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Sure thing, thanks for stopping in.

Security Paul turns back to the pharmacy.

SECURITY PAUL
I just feel something is not right here. Not sure, though.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hey, buddy...we have clearance!

Paul waves his hand at Mike.

SECURITY PAUL
No, no! Easy there, kid. I'm not referring to you guys.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Thank you!

They all walk to the mall doors and the guards leave.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - MALL - RIGHT OUTSIDE DOORS.

Security Paul and James approach the other truck. The driver rolls down the window.

SECURITY PAUL
Hey guys, thanks for stopping by and waiting for us.

SECURITY DAVID
Anything strange happening tonight?

Paul and James smile.

SECURITY PAUL
All seems well here.

Paul and James walk back to their truck as the other vehicle drives away.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - SAME NIGHT - PHARMACY

Mike and Leroy rush back to the group.

HAPPY DAD
Hey, thanks guys, that was close. But I'm afraid my Sonny is unconscious.

Mike quickly presses the keypad to the pharmacy. The doors open widely. They all rush in down various aisles.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Where is the insect venom medicine?

Everyone is searching frantically.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I found something!

They all rush over to Leroy.

FLATHEAD
What ya got there, buddy?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
The label reads ... This medicine will counteract spider venom.

The group celebrates.

Cont'd

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Here, let me see the medicine. Open
Sonny's mouth.

HAPPY DAD
We don't know how much to give him!

Mike moves Happy Dad aside.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Open up, kid!

They force Sonny's mouth open and pour in some medicine.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Sit him up some more. Move his arms.

HAPPY DAD
Okay!

Everyone is waiting for a reaction from Sonny.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Give him a little more. Move him
around, his limbs too. Get the
medicine flowing through him.

Sonny begins to cough.

HAPPY DAD
Great sign!

Sonny chokes a bit.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
How ya doing, kid?

Sonny opens his eyes. His Mom and sister are weeping.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Can you speak?

Sonny stares at Leroy.

HAPPY SONNY
Yeah, I, I, can speak!

Everyone cheers.

HAPPY SONNY (cont'd)
That stuff tastes like mud.

Cont'd

Happy Dad leans into his son.

HAPPY DAD
Well, you'll have to live with a bad
taste for awhile, kid.

Sonny moves more on his own.

HAPPY SONNY
Dad, I have a fever. This medicine
isn't enough. I need a doctor.

The others look to Mike and Leroy for help. Both men stand
back and stare back at them.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Wait a minute!

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We helped ya the best we could. No
way we can bring a living toy to a
doctor. That's crazy!

Sonny shivers.

HAPPY MOM
Please, please! Help my son!

Mike throws his arms up.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We are not miracle workers! Leroy and
I did our best for you, I'm sorry.

The entire group hangs their heads in despair.

Extra Sweet stares up at the men.

EXTRA SWEET
We would fight for you!

Guilt overcomes the men.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We need to leave!

Hopelessness settles in.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
To the hospital that is!

Cont'd

Leroy grabs Mike's arm.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Are we heroes...or fools?

Mike pauses.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Don't ask me how they are alive, but
they are. I would want someone to
fight for my life.

Leroy agrees.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Everyone in the the truck!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - FOLLOWING MORNING - BOARD ROOM

All heads in the boardroom turn as loud angry voices in the hallway approach. The door bursts open.

CHAIRMAN
What the heck is going on here? I
want answers, now!

Everyone at the table looks to Laura.

SECRETARY LAURA
Fine.

Laura slowly stands before everyone.

SECRETARY LAURA (cont'd)
I don't know what the heck is going
on, sir! You want to run this mall by
yourself ... you've got it!

Laura storms out of the board room.

CHAIRMAN
Well, anyone have answers for me?

Everyone shakes their heads. A sign reads..."Trim the fat in this mall budget...starting with this room!"

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - AFTERNOON - HOSPITAL.

Mike and Leroy shake as they walk down the hallway.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I'd really like to wake from this
nightmare now.

Leroy pinches Mike's arm. Mike extends an angry grin.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
See, you're not dreaming, man.

They arrive at the nurses' station.

NURSE BEVERLY
Good afternoon, may I help you?

A pause from the men.

NURSE BEVERLY (cont'd)
I am Beverly. Is there something I
can do for you gentlemen?

The men just look around the office.

NURSE BEVERLY (cont'd)
I can't help you if you don't work
with me, guys.

Mike and Leroy lean in close to the nurse.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We have this sensitive issue, ya
know. Very delicate.

Leroy nods.

NURSE BEVERLY
Oh ... yes, I see. You need a male
doctor.

The men smile.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Oh ya, sure, sure. That would be
great, please.

Leroy is carrying Buck in his hands.

NURSE BEVERLY
Are you both seeing the doctor?

Cont'd

She waits for an answer.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yes, please. Thank you.

She stares at the bucket, then at the men.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
We really need to take this with us
into see the doctor.

She sits back.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Thanks a lot. I'm Mike, he is Leroy,
nice to meet you.

The men sit down. Voices are coming from inside Buck.
Patients are staring at the men.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Ah, ah ... my friend here likes to do
his ventriloquist acts in public.

Leroy bows his head to the others. They look away. The
voices still carry.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
He's so good, you can't see him move
his lips at all.

Leroy slightly wiggles his lips.

NURSE BEVERLY
Mike and Leroy, the doctor will see
you both now.

The men get up and run into the office and slam the door
hard. They turn to the doctor.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Good day, gentlemen. How can I help
you today?

Leroy gently rests Buck on the floor.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Doc, do you have sedatives?

The doctor is stunned.

Cont'd

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Why of course I can give you some.
But first I need to examine you, or
both of you.

The doctor waits.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I think I may be confusing you,
doctor. Let me explain.

The doctor sits, and motions them to sit.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
You see, doc...the sedatives aren't
for us...they're for you.

The doctor appears puzzled.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Gentlemen, is this a prank?

They shake their heads.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Then please explain.

They reach for Buck. They rest Buck before the doctor.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Yes.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Lift the cover doctor.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Oh, and please remain professional.

The doctor is hesitant to unveil Buck.

BUCK
Hey doc, come on ... these guys are
getting heavy in here.

The doctor is startled, and stares at Buck.

BUCK (cont'd)
Little help, doc!

The doctor reaches down for Buck.

Cont'd

DOCTOR STEINBECK
I think I may need my nurse.

The men wave off the doctor's suggestion.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Just us three, doc.

The doctor wipes his forehead.

CHOCO
Come on already, doc ... it's dark in
here. Let us out, dude.

HAPPY DAD
Yes, hurry ... my son needs help from
you. He was bitten by a spider!

The doctor cautiously lifts the cloth and looks in.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Well, doc, what do ya think?

The doctor faints.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Oh that's just great! Now the doctor
needs a doctor.

Mike waves some papers in his face.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Snap out of it, doc.

There is a knock at the door.

NURSE BEVERLY
Hello, doctor. Everything okay?

The doctor regains awareness.

NURSE BEVERLY (cont'd)
Doctor, are you okay?

The doctor unlocks the door and reassures Beverly.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
May as well have a seat, doc.

The doctor agrees.

Cont'd

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I'm still in shock, doctor.

Happy Dad jumps up and down.

HAPPY DAD
Doctor, my son needs help!

The doctor feels his forehead and pulse. He then peers over at the two men.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
These objects are, are...alive!

The two men reluctantly nod.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yes, doc...they are alive.

The doctor studies the group.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
But how? What brought life to them?

HAPPY DAD
Can we please have this conversation later. My son needs help.

The doctor leaves the room. He returns with a bottle in his hands. He unwraps a syringe.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Please, lock the door.

Leroy locks the door.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Okay, little fella, this won't hurt a bit. Your secret is safe with me.

The doctor administers medicine to Sonny, his family and friends begin to grow, and exit, Buck.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
My goodness! Where did you learn to do that? This is a violation of all medicine and science.

The two men simply shrug. Sonny is resting in the doctor's arms. He begins moving.

Cont'd

HAPPY SONNY
Dad, you there?

Happy Dad leans over.

HAPPY DAD
I'm here, son.

Happy Dad feels Sonny's forehead.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Low fever, that's a good sign. The
medicine is working quickly.

Leroy raises a hand.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Yes.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Doc, I could use some medicine too.
Something to make me relax and feel
good. Ya, know.

The doctor reaches for a small bottle and removes one pill
and gives it to Leroy.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
This is a small dose. Let Mike drive
for today, though.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Sure thing, boss!

The doctor marvels at the group before him.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
I feel as though I am a child.

Happy Sonny sits up. The group cheers.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Shhh! My nurse will want to come in.

They quiet down. A knock at the door.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
I'm fine, Nurse Beverly...thank you!
All is well.

Sonny begins walking around the office.

Cont'd

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Well, you should be totally healed in
a matter of hours, my friend.

Sonny hugs the doctor. Everyone gleams.

HAPPY SONNY
You saved my life, doctor.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
No ... the medicine did.

Happy Mom and Dad and the girls are celebrating.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Tell me...how are you, alive?

The group stares at him.

FLATHEAD
What do you mean, doctor?

DOCTOR STEINBECK
In our world, you are merely objects.
You do not have life in you.

The group is silent.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
In any event, Sonny will be well.

Happy Dad starts rejoicing.

HAPPY MOM
Okay dear. We are all happy for
Sonny. Calm down, now.

Happy Dad holds his wife's face.

HAPPY DAD
I just realized something!

Everyone is silent.

HAPPY MOM
Yes.

HAPPY DAD
We were so focused on helping Sonny,
we forgot that we are now out of
danger from the mall incinerator.

Cont'd

The girls stand up.

HAPPY MINDY

That's right! They can't throw us in the incinerator now.

HAPPY SONNY

Dad, you're right!

HAPPY MOM

Oh, darling...it's wonderful news.

The doctor looks towards the two men.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

The mall was looking for these guys in order to burn them. I guess they didn't sell that well.

Mindy and Julie are crying.

HAPPY JULIE

How come no one wanted to give us a home where we could be loved?

The doctor gently picks them up in his strong hands.

DOCTOR STEINBECK

I don't know. I'll keep your secret.

HAPPY JULIE

Really?

DOCTOR STEINBECK

Yes! Very happy. Now I know there are different talking life forms.

HAPPY DAD

Where do we go from here?

Everyone looks at the two men.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Hey now. We have done our noble deeds. Now we have to get back to work. We have jobs, ya know.

The doctor places them back in Buck and covers them up.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - HALL - MOMENTS LATER - HOSPITAL

Mike walks over to a vending machine.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hey, let me buy you a soda.

Leroy places Buck down.

POPPY
I heard that! Careful you don't drink
one of my relatives.

Mike lifts the cover and looks in Buck.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
What flavors are you not related to?

Poppy raises an eyebrow.

POPPY
Anything orange or lime. The rest
could be my cousins.

The men select soda and ginger ale, as Poppy and the group
watch from within Buck.

POPPY (cont'd)
Thank you!

The men raise their cans.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's go.

Leroy picks up Buck as he and Mike leave.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
The doctor was shocked, huh?

Leroy places Buck next to a maintenance wagon.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
He turned sugar white! Hahaha!

They open the back of the truck. A maintenance man walks by
the men as they make room and adjust things. Mike and Leroy
go back to get Buck.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Where are they? They were right here!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - LATER - HOSPITAL MAINT. DEPT

The gray haired maintenance worker is staring into Buck.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
I was watching from the closet in the
exam room. I am going to be wealthy!

The group listens with concern.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
I can sell you all to a zoo, a
television or film studio, a research
lab, and more.

Pat relishes in his capture.

HAPPY DAD
Hey buddy, let us go. My son needs to
rest. Bring us back to the other men.

Pat ignores Happy Dad.

JAKE THE RAKE
Hey man, we are a family. We are not
for sale. Bring us back, now!

Pat covers Buck.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
(Whisper)
How do I get home with these things?

Pat searches around the office and finds a box.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
Perfect!

Pat carefully loads Buck and everyone into the box.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
Now you just remain calm. We will be
home soon enough.

Choco leaps up.

CHOCO
Bring us back to Mike and Leroy. They
are our home.

Pat gets ready to leave the office for the day.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - DOCTORS OFFICE

Mike and Leroy rush into the waiting room.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hi, we need to see the doctor, now
please.

NURSE BEVERLY
What's wrong?

Leroy sees the doctor's door open and he taps Mike and they
both rush over to the doctor.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hey doc, we need a few minutes,
please. It's an emergency!

The doctor shows them into his office.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Yes, what is it?

Mike and Leroy seem embarrassed.

DOCTOR STEINBECK (cont'd)
Gentlemen, I do have other patients.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Doc, we lost the bucket, and
everything in it.

The doctor turns pale. He opens the door and asks Beverly to
hold his next patient exam for ten minutes, then he closes
the door.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
What happened?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
We were making room in the back of
the truck. We put Buck down for a few
minutes. When we went back, they were
all gone.

The doctor holds his head.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
You gentlemen just lost a scientific
marvel. How could you be so careless?

They all sit down.

Cont'd

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Doctor, we goofed big time!

DOCTOR STEINBECK
You far more than goofed big time.
You men lost maybe the single most
scientific proof that life forms of
all kinds can speak and function.

Mike slumps.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Doc, we already feel bad.

The doctor sits and releases a strong sigh.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
So how can I help?

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Any idea what could have happened?

The doctor shakes his head.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
I wasn't there outside with you.

Mike sits up straight and raises a finger.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
The maintenance guy!

Mike and Leroy rush back outside.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - SAME DAY - PARKING LOT.

Mike and Leroy search the lot.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
He's not here.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
It must have been him. He was the
only one that walked by us.

The men rush back into the hospital.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - RECEPTION AREA.

Mike and Leroy burst through the doors.

NURSE BEVERLY
Back again!

Mike leans over Beverly.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
We need the contact and home
information for the maintenance man
who works here.

NURSE BEVERLY
You mean Pat?

Mike shrugs.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Whatever, honey. Please.

Beverly turns away and starts typing again.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
This is serious!

She stares at Mike.

NURSE BEVERLY
I cannot give out that information.

Mike and Leroy are frustrated.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Fine. Call him. Tell him to come back
to work, now.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
And to bring the bucket.

Beverly gets up and walks to the door.

NURSE BEVERLY
It's only a bucket. You can buy
another down the street at the
hardware store.

She leaves the office. Mike gazes at a folder on her desk.
He looks at Leroy and raises the folder. He puts it under
his arm and they leave.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - THAT NIGHT - PAT'S HOUSE

Pat is writing on a pad of paper.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
This is great! So many ways I can
become a wealthy man.

There are protests from inside Buck.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
Whom do I call first? Maybe a circus,
or the news station.

Something makes a noise and causes Pat to turn. All the
group are as tall as him.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
My, goodness! Such wonderful feats.

They all approach him.

JAKE THE RAKE
Back off, we are leaving now.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
I'm afraid you are not.

They walk right up to him.

SLEDGE
Yes we are, or you get a very bad
headache, for a day or so.

Pat runs to the door and blocks it. Sledge moves in close to
Pat. Jake walks up to Pat.

JAKE THE RAKE
You have this home, a job, a car ...
you don't need to be wealthy. And not
at our expense.

Pat grabs the doorknob.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
The young toy needs to recover. I
have more anti-venom, should he need
it. And he will.

They look at Sonny.

SLEDGE
How do you feel, kid?

Cont'd

They wait for an answer.

HAPPY SONNY

Not my best.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

You see, I have been around the doctor's office long enough to know he will need more care.

The Happy Family hugs Sonny.

CHOCO

Well then, why don't you bring us back to the doctor?

Pat walks away from the door.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

It's nighttime. The office is closed now. I think we should wait.

EXTRA SWEET

Wait? But you have keys to get in.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

Only my office. Not the medicine cabinet.

FLATHEAD

Then how can you help with more anti-venom?

They all stare at Pat.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

You will have to trust me. But if you leave tonight, the boy will die!

All hang their heads.

HAPPY SONNY

Hey, I don't want to die.

Happy Sonny turns to Pat.

HAPPY SONNY (cont'd)

You can call the office and they will get the doctor. He will help me.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - NEXT DAY - TRUCK

Mike and Leroy are discussing the situation.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I know the maintenance guy has our
friends. But what are his plans?

Leroy is counting his money.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
That's it!

Leroy stares at Mike.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Huh?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
The reason the maintenance man is
hiding our friends.

Leroy shrugs.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
And that is?

Mike points to the money in Leroy's hand.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY (cont'd)
Oh ... He wants to get rich and
famous by selling them.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's get over to the doctor's
office, quickly.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - PAT'S HOUSE

Pat and the group are fighting. They are all his size and
they are overpowering him.

CHOCO
Tie him up!

SLEDGE
Let me hit him a few times.

Pat breaks away and grabs a gun.

Cont'd

FLATHEAD
Now wait a minute there, friend.

Pat is shaking the gun at them.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
I'm not your friend.

EXTRA SWEET
You are a very sour man! Our friend
Sonny needs help. All you can focus
on is money.

Pat is breathing more slowly.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Money pays the bills, sweetie.

EXTRA SWEET
That's...Extra Sweet.

JAKE THE RAKE
Okay. Take Sonny to the doctor. We
will wait here. If you help him to
get better...we will help you.

Pat sits down.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
How...will you help me?

Jake walks the room.

JAKE THE RAKE
We will help you earn money.

Pat points the gun at Jake. They all huddle close to Jake.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
I point a gun at the rake and you all
move in closer to him? What if I miss
him, and I shoot one of you?

Then closely embrace.

WHISKEY BOTTLE
We are willing to die for our
friends, because we love each other.
It's not our wish to die...but if we
must, we will.

Cont'd

Pat listens.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Well, I can't call you foolish humans
...but foolish you are.

B.K.
Is money so important you are willing
to risk all our lives for it?

Pat waves his hands downward. He repeats.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Obey me, now!

The groups stares in confusion.

BUCK
Obey you how?

Pay waves his hand down again.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Become smaller, now.

MAL
Why?

MONTY
Because when we are small, he is not
afraid of us and we present no danger
to him. Isn't that right, you
despicable man?

Pat gazes into Monty's eye, frighteningly aims the gun at
his body. Pat's finger twitches, a shot is fired. Instantly
Monty shatters. He leaks upon everyone.

CHOCO
Monty...! Help!

His syrup is nearly out of him.

MONTY
Heellpp meeee!

Monty's head drops. They weep and gather around him.
Everyone holds a piece of his shattered life.

EXTRA SWEET
You murdered him.

Cont'd

Pat laughs.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Murder only applies to humans.

SLEDGE
We are human in many ways.

SHERRY
We will never help you now.

Pat stands and points the gun at sherry.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
You will do as I say, or you will all
die a horrible death.

Pat steps back and waves his hand downwards.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)
Shrink back into the bucket, and stay
there. Now!

They all obey. Pat cleans up Monty and discards him.

BUCK
How about a decent funeral for our
loved one.

Pat kicks Buck and makes a dent in him.

BUCK (cont'd)
Ouch! Aah!

Pat scraps the gun barrel against Buck.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Shut up!

Pat places them in a wooden box and seals it.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - HOSPITAL

Mike and Leroy are disturbing nurse Beverly greatly.

NURSE BEVERLY
That is privileged information.

Cont'd

The doctor enters the waiting room.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Gentlemen, what are you doing to my
office and why so loud?

The men rush the doctor back into his exam room.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
Doctor, we know the maintenance man
here has the bucket and its contents.
We need to get to him.

The doctor walks into the waiting room, opens a desk drawer,
reaches for a paper, then hands it to Mike.

DOCTOR STEINBECK
Good day, gentlemen.

The doctor returns to his exam room. The men read the paper.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - SAME DAY - PAT'S PROPERTY

Mike and Leroy whip into the driveway. They see the curtains
move and the shades drop.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's go!

The men burst out of the truck and begin banging on the
door. Neighbors look on.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Open this door, now!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - SAME DAY - PAT'S HOUSE

Pat is trying to pack up Buck and the group.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT
Looks like your friends are here to
save you. Or try to.

Yells and screams come from Buck. Heavy pounding on the door
leads to the door collapsing.

Cont'd

A ferocious battle begins. Leroy is shot in the leg. Pat has Mike down and is trying to aim the gun in his face.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)

Aah, ouch!

Pat drops off Mike and rolls over. Sledge smiles at Mike.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

I like that growing big, trick.

SLEDGE

Yeah, it's useful at times.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

Leroy is shot.

Everyone attends to Leroy.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

Back off him. Now!

Everyone turns to see Pat with the gun.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)

I'm leaving with them. They are worth a lot of money.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE

My friend needs help.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT

Too late. Time for him to die.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)

Don't move!

Everyone is still.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)

You humans stand in my way of becoming rich and famous.

Quiet.

HOSPITAL MAINT. PAT (cont'd)

Say your prayers, humans.

A clicking noise makes Pat turn. B.K. releases a huge cloud in his face and he chokes.

Cont'd

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Now I got the gun. Call the police!

Sherry sits on Pat's neck with her sharp blades around him.

SHERRY
Don't move, or you can say your
prayers, Mr. Bad guy.

The police arrive and take Pat away. Leroy is taken to the hospital. Mike is standing alone. He drives off in his truck.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Not sure where I'm going. I'll stop
soon, don't be alarmed.

He pulls over on a lonely road. He rushes around the back of the truck and places Buck on the ground.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Okay guys, grow big.

Mike stands back and watches.

DOLLY
And you guys thought I was scary.

Everyone laughs.

JAVA
What do we do now? Where is our home?

Mike sits on the side of the truck.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
I'm not sure. But I won't bring you
guys back to the mall. Oh, and by the
way, where is, Sonny?

HAPPY SONNY
Here I am, Mike. I'm still sick.

Mike removes two bottles from his coat.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Take these pills now. And then drink
this medicine.

Sonny does as Mike instructs.

Cont'd

They all read the bottles then look at Mike.

HAPPY DAD
How did you do it?

Mike pauses.

HAPPY DAD (cont'd)
Well, it's not a secret. Not like we
are anyway.

Mike smiles.

HAPPY SONNY
Dad, as long as I get well.

They all agree.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Come on, let's go.

HAPPY SONNY
I feel better already.

Mike points to the bottles.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Take the medicine just as stated on
the bottles and you will be healed in
a few days, Sonny.

EXTRA SWEET
Mike, are you a doctor?

He shakes his head.

EXTRA SWEET (cont'd)
Then how...

HAPPY MOM
Nevermind, sweetie. As long as my son
is well.

EXTRA SWEET
That's Extra Sweet.

They all get in the truck and drive.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - SAME DAY - PARKING LOT

Mike enters a building then returns.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Here is your new home.

They marvel at the huge brick building.

JAVA
It's not a coffee plant I hope.

FLATHEAD
Or a tool factory of some sort.

SHERRY
Echo dat.

DOLLY
Or a doll factory.

POPPY
Or a soda plant.

B.K.
Or a pesticide lab.

WHISKEY BOTTLE
Or a still.

Mike can't stop laughing.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
No guys. It's a home for unwanted
children. Kids who need love.

They are all humbled and move in closer together for a group hug. They are all crying.

CHOCO
How do we stay safe here?

SLEDGE
Yeah, what if someone finds out about
us, and what we can do?

Mike joins the group hug.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Leroy and I know these people here. I
have paid my friends inside some
money, to keep quiet and allow you to
be a family with the children here.

EXTRA SWEET
What bout Leroy?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
He will be fine. He sends his love to
all of you.

They all stare at the building one more time. They shrink
and get into Buck. Mike carries them inside. The private
ward of kids erupts with joy and laughter.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ONE WEEK LATER - BOARD ROOM

The chairman slams down his morning paper.

CHAIRMAN
It appears we don't have to worry
about the Happy Family Toys any
longer. They somehow have been
removed from this mall.

Silence.

CHAIRMAN (cont'd)
This is just awful!

BOARD MEMBER MIKE
Excuse me, sir. Shouldn't you be
happy the toys are gone?

He slams his hand down.

CHAIRMAN
Yes, I am happy! But this is awful.

BOARD MEMBER MIKE
I'm confused sir.

He slams his pen down now.

CHAIRMAN
Don't be confused! Now we have two
new crises on our hands.

The chairman pours water and swallows an aspirin.

CHAIRMAN (cont'd)
An entire clothing brand not selling,
has disappeared! And, I don't have
Laura here helping me. Find them now!

Cont'd

BOARD MEMBER MIKE
Which do we look for first?

The chairman gives the aspirin bottle to board member Mike.

CHAIRMAN
Both, and immediately!

BOARD MEMBER MIKE
Yes sir!

The chairman leaves. Mike makes the announcement over the intercom to locate the missing clothing and secure them.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - TRUCKING COMPANY

The phone rings.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Hello, Mike speaking.

He listens.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE (cont'd)
Sure we can. We'll be there middle of next week for certain.

He hangs up the phone.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
More work?

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Yes, back to the mall to help locate an entire line of clothing.

Leroy stands up and faces Mike.

TRUCK HELPER LEROY
I hope this missing clothing line isn't alive like out new friends.

Mike scratches his head.

TRUCK DRIVER MIKE
Let's go talk to our friends.

-THE END