FADE IN

EXT. A TROPICAL ISLAND - DAY

Blinky, a teen in tattered clothes, green skin and purple hair, runs for his life toward a volcano covered with vines, rocks, bugs and danger.

Blinky hears a roar of threat from behind; he runs faster, pants hard, looks dead ahead.

Blinky slips into a mud puddle, exhausted he hears the monster gain.

Behind a thrush of trees a giant dragon appears, the PUFFMONSTER—a slimy, oversized dragon with large feet, nasty teeth and bad breath.

Blinky scurries behind a log and loads his Puffblaster—a long tube-like weapon he's never without. He lays low and hears the Puffmonster step into the puddle. He squints one eye, takes aim.

Puffmonster is closer now. Blinky fires—it's a miss. Blinky fires again, this time he catches the monster's nose with a hard force of water. The monster reacts as if burned; water drips from its nose to the ground. The sound is like fire going out, the water stalls the Puffmonster, but only for an instant.

Blinky slings his weapon behind him; he runs up the side of the steaming volcano. He reaches a rocky plateau at the top. Bamboo sticks form a cross. Tied to the cross with thick vines is Princess Winkala, a beautiful girl with pinkish skin and a crown of flowers in her lavender hair.

Blinky unties her even as the Puffmonster's thunderous footsteps get louder.

PRINCESS WINKALA

Hurry!

Blinky fumbles with the vines some more, but it's too late—the Puffmonster is on top of them. Blinky slings his Puffblaster on his shoulder and takes one shot which hits the Puffmonster on the chest. The Puffmonster screams in agony and falls backward, doing one flip then another as it falls back down the volcano.

Winkala runs down the hill. Blinky follows her to the sandy shore at the bottom of the volcano. The aquamarine water glistens like jewels. Winkala runs out onto a rocky peninsula jutting out into the water.
BLINKY
Princess, stop!

The princess stops and Blinky joins her on the peninsula. She points to something in the water—a huge swirling whirlpool amid the ocean waves.

WINKALA
We can escape—

In the distance, the monster awakens with a roar. Blinky looks toward the sound, his jaw tightening.

WINKALA
He'll come back for you, Blinky, he always does. He'll come back for me, too.

BLINKY (NODDING TOWARD WHIRLPOLL)
You'll drown in there.

WINKALA
No, I won't. It came to me in a dream. It's the portal to another world, a better place—

BLINKY
You're willing to risk your life for a dream?

WINKALA
Nod told me...he was in my dream.

Blinky's face clouds over.

BLINKY
My brother? He came to you in a dream? He's dead and you will be too if you listen to him.

Blinky stomps off angrily.

WINKALA
Blinky!

Blinky ignores her and starts to jog toward the volcano and the roars of the Puffmonster.

WINKALA (STIFLING A SOB)
Oh, Blinky.

Winkala looks after him with a tear in her eye then dives
into the whirlpool. She lays back as the water gently moves her in circles. She smiles as she starts to sink under.

EXT. ORANGEVALE DUMP - DAY

A metal box lays on top of a 20 foot mound of garbage. On the face of the box are chipped, faded letters Blinky's Island. The box starts to glow and shake. A small light beams from the box. Slowly, it gets larger and a form emerges—Winkala. She takes a step and looks around, nose wrinkling in disgust. Then she notices something in the distance—a series of tall buildings. On the face of one building the words Nordstrom's.

Winkala inhales sharply.

WINKALA

Beautiful!

Winkala takes a step backwards and tumbles down the mountain of garbage.

INT. BEDROOM OF LUCAS LEMON - DAY

LUCAS LEMON, a slightly pudgy 11-year-old, wakes up in his race car bed wearing his train pajamas. He looks around at his stuffed animals and cloud mural. He gets up and goes to a calendar pegged to the wall with a thumbtack. The date, Sept. 19th, is circled with the words "my 12th birthday" written on it.

LUCAS

Yes!

Lucas goes over and fingers a thumbtaclked newspaper ad for the Gamestar 3000 video game system and two video games: "Commando" featuring CAPTAIN KILGORE, a gritty-faced soldier who holds the BAD GUY terrorist-type by the scruff of the neck and "Formula One" showing a race car with the helmeted driver, DANTE RAPIDO, inside. Lucas begins to act out the "Commando" game, aiming his imaginary rifle at the bad guy. UH-UH-UH he makes his own semi-automatic sounds complete with the SSSSSHHHCCCHHHH! explosion when the bad guy gets blown up.

MRS. LEMON (OFFSCREEN)

Lucas, are you awake? Time to get ready for your party!

EXT. LEMON BACKYARD - LATER, DAY

Lucas sits with a party hat on his head in a small chair surrounded by little kids. Nearby, a clown makes balloon
animals. Kids hit their balloons and each other. A LITTLE KID sits by Lucas and smiles up at him. Lucas smiles back half-heartedly. Then Lucas sniffs the air and makes a face. Little Kid giggles.

LITTLE KID
I made a poo poo.

Little Kid runs off. The table is piled high with gifts. Lucas opens a gift: a fire truck. He looks disappointed. MRS. LEMON, a pudgy woman in her 40's who is overdone in her hair, dress and make-up, walks over.

MRS. LEMON
Remember to say thank you, Lucas.

LUCAS
Thank you, Aunt Betty.

AUNT BETTY, an older woman, smiles. Younger AUNT MARGE whispers something to Aunt Betty. Mrs. Lemon hands him another gift off the stack.

AUNT MARGE
That's from me.

Lucas opens the gift: the Commando game.

LUCAS
Cool! Thanks Aunt Marge! This is the coolest gift ever!

Lucas jumps around happily holding the game up in the air.

LUCAS
Yes! Yes! Yes!!

Mrs. Lemon snatches the game and hands it back to Marge.

MRS. LEMON
You know we don't allow him to have video games yet.

AUNT MARGE
What 'yet'? He's 12 years old, Lois.

Lucas stomps off.

Lucas' father LOUIS LEMON, a bald guy in his 40's with glasses, saunters up.

MRS. LEMON
Louis, go see where Lucas went.
MR. LEMON
Oh, I'm sure he's fine.

MRS. LEMON
He went toward the front yard. You know I don't like him out there by himself.

MR. LEMON
Oh, alright.

EXT. LEMON FRONT YARD - DAY

Lucas stands on the driveway, arms folded. Lucas' father, MR. LEMON, a balding guy with glasses, walks slowly up.

MR. LEMON
What are you doing out here, sport? You're missing all the fun.

Lucas scowls silently.

MR. LEMON
Your mother means well, Lucas.

LUCAS
Really? Then why wouldn't she let me keep Commando?

MR. LEMON
Some things are more important than video games, son.

LUCAS
Yeah? Like what?

MR. LEMON
Like friends.

LUCAS
I don't have any friends.

MR. LEMON
What about that kid across the street. What's her name--?

LUCAS
Erica? She thinks I'm a dork.

POV Lucas of ERICA across the street on her porch as she plays a handheld video game. Erica is tall and sturdy—a tomboy down to her board shorts and high tops. She could be
cute or even beautiful if not for her backwards baseball
cap, unkempt hair and scowling expression. Lucas has had a
 crush on her since the second grade but she also scares the
heck out of him.

MR. LEMON
Well, you know the old saying, if
you want to make a friend, you've
got to be a friend.

Mr. Lemon starts to saunter away.

MR. LEMON
Don't stay out here too long, sport.
Don't want to worry your mom.

Mr. Lemon goes to the back yard.

Lucas looks across the street as Erica continues playing her
video game. Lucas gives a friendly nod. Erica glares at him
and continues her game.

Lucas slowly walks over to the curb and puts one foot in the
street. He has never crossed the street by himself before
but he looks both ways two times just to be careful. He
heads out into the street and immediately a dingy old truck
comes bearing down on him.

Lucas screams, ducks and covers his head as SQUEAK, rusty
old brakes grind to a halt. Lucas uncovers his head to see
the truck bumper inches from his face. He stands up. POV
Lucas of two scary men in the cab of the truck. MR. MUDGE,
is old and grizzled with a bald forehead and tufts of wild
gray hair everywhere else. He has wild eyes. Next to him is
NOD, a younger man whose hair, nevertheless, is completely
white as is his face—all except for piercing green eyes.

LUCAS
Aaah!

Mudge gets out of the car and slams the door behind him. Nod
gets out on the other side. Lucas cowers with his knees
knocking. Nod walks up and crosses his arms and stares at
Lucas while the short Mr. Mudge walks up and puts his face
directly in Lucas' face.

MR. MUDGE
Didn't your mama teach you how to
cross the street, boy?

LUCAS
Actually, this was my first time--
MR. MUDGE
I stopped this time but next
time...you might not be so lucky.

LUCAS
Yes sir, thank you, sir.

Mudge turns on his heel and gets back into the truck. Nod
stays an extra second to give Lucas one more menacing stare
then joins Mudge in the truck. Lucas follows him with his
eyes, jaw dropped, choking on some response. Mudge cranks
the motor with a roar, jolting Lucas out of his stupor.
Lucas runs for the other side of the street as the truck
roars off in a cloud of exhaust.

Lucas trips and lands at the feet of Erica who has barely
glanced up from her game to regard Lucas' harrowing
encounter.

LUCAS
Boy--who were those guys?

ERIC
Don't know.

LUCAS
I'm lucky I didn't get killed.

ERIC
Yeah.

Erica's thumbs fly across the buttons of the game. Lucas
studies her for a moment.

LUCAS
Whatya playing?

ERIC
World Warrior.

LUCAS
Oh. Can I play?

ERIC
No.

LUCAS
Oh.

ERIC
I'm at level 20 and if I let you
play you'd send me back to zero.
LUCAS
No, I wouldn't.

ERICA
Here, this might be more your speed.

Erica inserts a new cartridge into the game player and hands the game over to Lucas.

LUCAS
Thanks.

On the game screen, a giant smiley face bubble slowly moves up the screen, surrounded by smaller bubbles.

LUCAS
Ok, what do I do?

Lucas pushes some buttons.

ERICA
Eat the bubbles.

LUCAS
What? Oh no.

On game screen, smiley face floats down to the ground where it disappears. Erica grabs her game back.

ERICA
That's why dorks shouldn't play video games.

EXT. ORANGEVALE SCHOOL - MORNING

Kids spill out of cars and buses. Lucas walks with his mother, looking like he wishes he is dead. He sees Erica and stops.

LUCAS
I can find my way from here, Mom, bye.

MRS. LEMON
I guess I should be going. Well, goodbye Lucas.

Mrs. Lemon tries to kiss the top of Lucas' head but he pulls away. She sniffs like she's about to cry, then walks away. Lucas gives a sideways glance toward Erica then walks over to the drinking fountain. Erica pushes the drinking fountain handle down and water goes in Lucas' face.
LUCAS
What'd you do that for?

The bell rings. Erica runs off with a smirk as Lucas wipes his face.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCHTIME

Dressed in white paper apron and hat, Lucas serves mashed potatoes. Erica comes through his line.

ERICA
Hey, they're letting the Pillsbury doughboy dish out the spuds.

Lucas spoons mashed potatoes onto Erica's plate.

ERICA
Come on, you can give me more than that, doughboy.

Lucas gives her another spoonful with an extra hard shake that sends potatoes flying onto Erica's face. Erica grabs Lucas by the apron.

ERICA
You're dead, Lemonhead!

A Cafeteria Lady gives Erica the evil eye. Erica lets go of Lucas' shirt.

EXT. ORANGEVALE SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Lucas comes out of the school, sees his mother and heads in the other direction. He bumps into Erica. In the collision, he drops his backpack. Erica picks it up and backs away from him laughing. Lucas reaches for it.

LUCAS
Come on, give it back.

Erica holds it out then jerks it away just as Lucas is about to grab it.

ERICA
I'm not gonna make it that easy for you, Lemonhead.

Erica takes off. Lucas looks after her and throws his arms up in despair.

LUCAS
Come on, my homework's in there...
Lucas glances at his mother who has not yet noticed him, then takes off after Erica.

EXT. ORANGEVALE STREET - MINUTES LATER

Lucas runs after Erica. She makes a detour onto a side street, Lucas follows.

CUT TO:

EXT. ANOTHER STREET

Erica runs, still clutching the backpack. Lucas limps after her, panting and sweating. They are in another neighborhood now--warehouses and ugly buildings. Erica ducks into a driveway posted with the sign "County Landfill."

Lucas follows her as she veers off the paved path into the garbage and heads toward a steep mountain. She climbs it easily, but Lucas stops and stares up it.

Erica stands at the top of the hill, dangling the backpack.

ERICA
Come on, Lemonhead, you don't want to lose all your homework.

Lucas swallows. He climbs a little way up the hill of garbage then looks down and gulps as vertigo grips him. Erica swings the backpack in circles over her head.

Lucas takes a few more steps through rotten banana peels and baby diapers then freezes.

LUCAS
Just give it to me...

ERICA
Ok.

Erica slides down the hill right toward him sending an avalanche of garbage his way. He stumbles then clings to Erica, reaching for his backpack.

ERICA
Man, get off me!

Erica lets go of Lucas and his backpack, sending him tumbling the rest of the way down the hill. Satisfied, Erica stomps off. Lucas lays on the ground and moans. He has hit his head on something. He turns to see what it is--a dusty black metal box with green letters that say "Blinky's
EXT. LEMON HOUSE - LATER, DAY

Lucas rushes down the sidewalk. He hides the game under his shirt. Erica suddenly appears in front of him, blocking his way. The fact that she is a head taller than him is suddenly very apparent. Lucas glares at her.

ERICA
Whatya got under your shirt, Lemonhead?

LUCAS
Nothing.

Lucas steps to the side to go around Erica. Erica blocks him.

LUCAS
Get out of my way.

ERICA
You gonna make me?

Lucas tries to push by her but she shoves back with her shoulder, causing the box to fall. Erica bends down and picks it up.

ERICA
Well, well, what have we here, "Blinky's Island?" That sounds like a good place for you Lemonhead. Is that where the Teletubbies live?

LUCAS
Give it back!

ERICA
Whatya gonna give me?

LUCAS
Give it back or else.

ERICA
Or else what?

Lucas stomps on Erica's foot. Erica drops the game. Lucas catches it by a cord that comes flying out. He runs toward his door. Erica grabs for him but only gets his shirt. It tears as he gets away from her. He bolts to his front door, opens it and slams it shut.
INT. LEMON ENTRYWAY - CONTINUOUS

Lucas leans against the door his chest heaving, holding the black box in front of him.

MRS. LEMON (OFF-SCREEN)
Lucas, is that you?

LUCAS
Yes, mom.

Lucas hides the box behind his back. Mrs. Lemon comes into the entryway. She wears a dress that is only slightly different from the one she wore at the party. Her hair is still coiffed.

MRS. LEMON
Where have you been. I've been worried sick about you--

LUCAS
I--I had to stay after school.

MRS. LEMON
I went to the office and they said they didn't know where you were...I was about to call the police.

LUCAS
I was outside...LaCrosse tryouts.

MRS. LEMON
You didn't mention anything about LaCrosse tryouts--what is LaCrosse, anyway, is it dangerous?

LUCAS
It doesn't matter, Mom, I didn't make the team. Can I go change my clothes?

MRS. LEMON
Yes, you look awful.

Mrs. Lemon comes toward him to straighten his shirt. Lucas does an evasive dodge, juggling the heavy black box behind him. He back away from her.

MRS. LEMON
Lucas what's the matter with you?

LUCAS
Nothing, Mom, geez, don't you ever
leave me alone?

Lucas zips into the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY

Lucas runs into his room and slams the door.

INT. LUCAS' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lucas sets the game down on the floor. He looks to his unlocked door. He drags a chair over to it and wedges it under the doorknob. He sits down on the floor and stares at the black box. He touches it gingerly.

A small screen springs open and a joystick pops out. He smiles in delight. He searches for the cord, finds it, then drags it over to a wall socket. Shoving away stuffed animals and toy trains, he plugs in the cord. Carnival music erupts out of the box.

LUCAS

No, sssh!

He tries to muffle the source of the sound with his hands, then a stuffed animal. It's still audible. He lights on a toy train and turns it on to drown out the music. By now the Blinky's Island logo has appeared on the screen along with the instruction "Press A to start."

Lucas picks up the joystick, finds the A button then the logo gives way to a low-tech graphics scene of a desert island with a volcano in its center. The volcano is made up of squares that rise like steps to a single cylinder at the top. Blinky, who is little more than some green and purple geometric shapes, blinks like a cursor at the edge of the island. Lucas moves the joystick and Blinky starts to move.

LUCAS

Alright!

He laughs in glee as Blinky moves along. But soon Blinky runs into the first step. Lucas is puzzled, then realizes he has to push a button to get Blinky to hop. He pushes another button and Blinky spins and jumps at the same time.

Blinky hits his head on a branch sticking out of the volcano. The branch sprouts an oval, purple fruit. Blinky's jaws open wide. He swallows the oval whole and grows twice his size.

LUCAS

Cool.
A large dragon appears. Lucas pushes another button and the Puffblaster appears in Blinky's hands. With another push of a button, Blinky fires the Puffblaster and shrinks the monster.

LUCAS
Ha, ha, good one!

A knock at the door, jolts Lucas out of his enchantment.

MRS. LEMON (O.S.)
Lucas!

The doorknob twists.

LUCAS (THROWING A BLANKET OVER GAME)
What?

MRS. LEMON (O.S.)
Open this door this instant!

Lucas opens the door six inches.

LUCAS
What?

MRS. LEMON
What is with this attitude, young man?

LUCAS
What do you mean?

Mrs. Lemon inserts herself in the doorspace and comes inside.

MRS. LEMON
You haven't changed your clothes and look at this room--toys and bedclothes, everywhere!

LUCAS
Does this mean I get time-out, Mom?

MRS. LEMON
Yes, yes it does. I want you to stay in here until you get this mess cleaned up and change that shirt, its filthy...it smells like you wore it to the dump.

MRS. LEMON exits. Lucas closes the door behind her and pumps
his fist.

LUCAS

Yes!

CUT TO:

INT. LUCAS' ROOM - NIGHT

Lucas is asleep on his floor with the joystick still in his hand. Blinky is standing at the edge of the island next to the flat green sea. A circle of white spins just inside the rectangle that is the ocean. A sparkling tear appears on Blinky's face and rolls into the sea where it splashes and divides into a dozen tiny, sparkling drops.

CUT TO:

INT. LUCAS ROOM - MORNING

Lucas is still asleep on his floor. Blinky, in the flesh, is squatting down, staring at Lucas. Lucas' chest rises and falls a few times as Blinky stares with fright and fascination. Suddenly, Lucas' eyes pop open. Blinky keeps staring. Lucas gasps then...

LUCAS

Aahhh!

Lucas hops up and backs away from Blinky who has taken out his Puffblaster.

LUCAS

No! Don't shoot me! Please!

As Blinky stares at Lucas, still aiming his blaster, Lucas glances at the Blinky's Island game. There is no pixelated Blinky and the Puffmonster is sleeping.

Lucas looks back at Blinky--his eyes growing wide as he realizes what has happened.

LUCAS

Blinky?

Blinky sprays Lucas' hand with water which evaporates as soon as it touches his skin.

Lucas gasps.

MRS. LEMON(O.S.)

Lucas, what's going on in there?
Blinky freezes and looks around for the source of the voice.

    LUCAS
    Nothing, mom, just having a bad dream.

    MRS. LEMON(O.S.)
    Well hurry up and get ready for school, you're going to be late.

    LUCAS
    Oh, yeah. (to Blinky) I have to go to school. You can't stay here, my mom will freak...Wait, I know...

Lucas rushes over to his dresser and starts pulling out clothes. He digs through his drawers and pulls out a large sweatshirt with the words Lemon on it. He hands it to Blinky.

    LUCAS
    Here, put this on.

Blinky holds the sweatshirt and stares blankly at it.

    LUCAS
    Hurry up--don't you know how to get dressed? Like this.

Lucas puts the sweatshirt on backwards over Blinky's head and tries to pull it down but Blinky already has his Puffblaster out.

    LUCAS
    No, don't do that.

Blinded by the sweatshirt, Blinky shoots wildly then begins to spin and jump. Soon he is bumping his head up against the ceiling. He passes through the ceiling and disappears.

EXT. LEMON ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Blinky stands on the roof with the sweatshirt still on his head.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

MRS. LEMON standing outside Lucas' door hears sound and stops.

    MRS. LEMON
    Lucas? What's going on in there?
EXT. LEMON ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Head still covered by the sweatshirt, Blinky paces back and forth.

EXT. ERICA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Erica parts the curtains and stares out the window at Blinky, her jaw open.

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas bolts out of his room, fully dressed.

LUCAS
Oh hi Mom.

MRS. LEMON
You owe me an inspection young man.

LUCAS
Inspection?

MRS. LEMON
Remember? You promised to clean your room last night? I assume you did since I didn't hear a peep out of you all night.

LUCAS
Oh yeah, inspect away.

Lucas throws open the door nervously. Mrs. Lemon peeks inside.

POV Mrs. Lemon on Lucas' room. Everything has been put away including the Blinky's Island game.

MRS. LEMON
Ship shape. I'm proud of you, son.

She hears muffled BOOM, CREAK, BOOM coming from overhead.

EXT. ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Blinky falls off the roof.

INT. LUCAS ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MRS. LEMON
Do you hear that?
LUCAS
No. Mom, since I'm 12 now, do you think I could walk to school by myself?

Hugs him.

MRS. LEMON
I guess my little baby is finally growing up.

LUCAS
Thanks.

Lucas races down the hallway. Mrs. Lemon shuts the door and follows after him.

EXT. LEMON HOUSE - MORNING, MOMENTS LATER

Lucas runs out of his house and down the driveway, then turns around searching his roof for Blinky. But Blinky is down below in the side yard, butting his head against the fence. Lucas pulls the sweatshirt down so Blinky's head pops through.

LUCAS
Come on, come with me, hurry, it's OK...my name's Lucas.

EXT. LEMON'S STRET - CONTINUOUS

Lucas leads Blinky by the arm down the street. He looks around nervously, notices a car his following beside him. It's his father. Mr. Lemon rolls his window down.

MR. LEMON
Your mother made me follow you.

Mr. Lemon notices Blinky and frowns.

MR. LEMON
Who's that uh, kid?

Lucas tries to block his father's view of Blinky. But Blinky sees Mr. Lemon and his car and a look of terror comes over his face. Blinky reaches back for his Puffblaster but it is covered by his new sweatshirt. He rips at his own back in a dance that resembles some kind of fit.

LUCAS
He's a new kid.
MR. LEMON

Oh?

LUCAS

See ya!

Lucas takes off running, dragging Blinky with him.

LUCAS

Thank God my dad is nearsighted.

EXT. ORANGEVALE SCHOOL - DAY, MINUTES LATER

The school is devoid of all but a few straggling students. Lucas runs up breathlessly dragging Blinky.

LUCAS

Darn. Late, gotta get a pass.

Lucas turns to Blinky.

LUCAS

Look, stay here and don't say anything, no I mean don't do anything, OK? I'll be right back.

Blinky looks at Lucas uncomprehendingly.

Lucas ducks in a door marked "OFFICE."

Blinky eyes the drinking fountain which has a small pool of standing water. He reaches into the neck of his sweatshirt and manages to pull out his Puffblaster. He sticks the blaster in the water and draws it into the chamber. He holds the gun down at his side, as he notices the fountain handle and pushes it. He jumps back when water comes out. He pushes it again and this time leans down to feel the water splash on his face.

Erica walks up and sees Blinky's "Lemon" sweatshirt and thinking it is Lucas, gets a smile on her face as she gets ready to douse his face.

On Lucas coming out of the office with his late pass just in time to hear Erica scream.
On Erica drenched with water.

Lucas laughs. Lucas walks over to Blinky and gently tries to take the Puffblaster away from him, but Blinky aims it back at Erica.

ERICA
Shoot me again and you're dead freak.

LUCAS
Say something nice to him.

ERICA
I'm not saying anything nice to this freak, get him away from me.

Lucas steps over to Erica and puts his arm around her.

LUCAS
See? Nice girl.

Erica shrugs off his arm.

ERICA
Get lost.

Lucas takes Blinky's hand and forces him to touch Erica.

LUCAS

Erica looks as if someone is rubbing her with dead frogs. Blinky smiles at her.

LUCAS
Put the gun away, Blinky...that's it...I don't want to get expelled.

Blinky puts the gun in the neck of his sweatshirt and slips it back into the sling on his back.

ERICA
Wait a minute, did you say, Blinky?...He's not, I mean you didn't...

LUCAS
Go home and change your clothes,
you're a mess.

Lucas and Blinky walk off as Erica stands there still trying to comprehend what just happened.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The teacher, MRS. BOBBLER, solves a mammoth division problem at the whiteboard as bored students sit at their desks. Lucas walks in with Blinky and all eyes turn on them. Mrs. Bobbler, with her back to the class, continues solving the problem. Lucas walks up to her and hands his late pass to her. Barely glancing up she sticks it in her pocket and continues with her calculations.

Lucas leads Blinky to an empty seat.

    LUCAS (WHISPERING)
    Sit down.

Blinky sits on the floor. Students laugh. Mrs. Bobbler turns around sharply.

    MRS. BOBBLER
    What's going on? (Notices Blinky)
    Who on earth are you?

    LUCAS
    It's on the late pass, Mrs. Bobbler.

Mrs. Bobbler takes out late pass.

On late pass written in Lucas' best handwriting: "Please excuse Lucas Lemon for being late. He was showing around your new student assistant Bill Island from Orangevale High. Bill has a rare skin condition as you can see, so please don't embarrass him. Because of all the medical bills, Bill's family cannot afford to buy him many clothes so please excuse his bare feet.--Office"

Mrs. Bobbler's shocked expression turns to one of sympathy as she looks at Blinky.

    MRS. BOBBLER
    Class, it's not polite to laugh. This is our new student assistant Bill. Bill don't you think you'd be more comfortable in a chair?

Students laugh again.

    MRS. BOBBLER
    That's enough, class. (to Blinky)
Well, I wasn't really expecting you today, but I have some papers over there on that table for you to grade if you'd like.

Blinky stands staring at her for a moment.

**BLINKY**
Have you seen the princess?

**MRS. BOBBLER**
What?

**BLINKY**
The princess--

Lucas looks shocked.

**LUCAS**
You can talk!

**MRS. BOBBLER**
I don't know anything about any princess...

**LUCAS**
It's his favorite band--come on Billy, Mrs. Bobbler doesn't want to hear about that--just go over to that table and act like you're--I mean correct our math papers.

Lucas pushes Blinky over to a table piled high with papers, then takes his seat.

**MRS. BOBBLER**
Thank you, Lucas, you've been very helpful.

**LUCAS**
You're welcome Mrs. Bobbler.

Mrs. Bobbler turns back to the board and continues solving the math problem. Blinky stares at the table full of math papers. He picks one up and stares at it. He picks up a pencil and notices its point. He begins stabbing the table with the pencil. Mrs. Bobbler turns around, catching Blinky with the pencil raised in mid-air.

**MRS. BOBBLER**
Is everything alright, Billy?

Lucas jumps out of his seat and dashes over to Blinky,
taking the pencil from him.

LUCAS
Do you want me to give Blink-uh
Billy a red pencil, Mrs. Bobbler?

MRS. BOBBLER
Yes, that would probably be
best...thank you Lucas.

Mrs. Bobbler turns back to her problem. Lucas finds a red pencil and hands it to Blinky.

LUCAS (WHISPERING)
Take this pencil and do this.

On paper as Lucas writes "100%".

Lucas hands pencil to Blinky, who clumsily makes some random marks.

LUCAS
Good. Now sit down.

Blinky sits on the floor.

LUCAS
No, in the chair.

Lucas pulls out a chair and pushes Blinky into it. Blinky, who has never sat in a chair before, seems alarmed at first, then wiggles his bottom and smiles as he gets accustomed to it.

LUCAS (WHISPERING)
Don't move. Keep doing that until the bell rings.

Lucas goes back to his seat.

Blinky dutifully moves the pencil around on the paper, then he discovers the eraser on the other end of the pencil. He gets carried away and the sound of his furtive scratching attracts the attention of Mrs. Bobbler.

Blinky looks up and sees her staring at him. He has rubbed a hole in the paper. Blinky smiles weakly and the bell rings.

Alarmed, Blinky jumps out of his seat and whips out his Puffblaster. Lucas leaps over to Blinky and stands in front of him before Mrs. Bobbler can see the weapon.

MRS. BOBBLER
Class dismissed.

Blinky spies a display of the human body on a counter, specifically a large oval gelatinous object which represents a vital organ. Blinky's eyes light up.

BLINKY
Puff-fruit!

Blinky grabs the jelly organ and stuffs it in his mouth. He tries to swallow it, then starts to cough and choke. Lucas darts over to him and pounds his back.

Mrs. Bobbler peers at him from behind her desk.

MRS. BOBBLER
Everything Ok over there, boys?

LUCAS
Yes, Mrs. Bobbler. Bill was just taking his medicine for his, uh, condition. Come on, Bill, don't you know all volunteers have to sign out in the office?

Lucas pulls Blinky out the door. Blinky spits the plastic organ on the floor.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

A row of kids do jumping jacks while the very pregnant P.E. teacher, MRS. DINSMORE, sits in a folding chair and counts. Lucas walks up with Blinky and hands her the same late pass he gave Mrs. Bobbler. Mrs. Dinsmore looks at the note.

MRS. DINSMORE
Student assistant? Thank the Lord.

She hoists herself off the chair.

MRS. DINSMORE
Have them take 10 laps. If you need me I'll be in the lounge putting my feet up.

Mrs. Dinsmore walks off. P.E. kids stare at Blinky.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Blinky and Lucas run on the field as the P.E. kids follow behind. Blinky arrives at the monkey bars. Blinky climbs up
the ladder and walks across the top of the bars. When he gets to the end he turns right around and heads back in the same direction. This time he jumps from the ground up to the top of the monkey bars. As he walks across he does a series of jumps and twists. When he gets to the end he spirals down to the ground and keeps spiralling, digging a hole in the ground. The kids circle around the monkey bars and stare at Blinky's performance.

KID #1
Cool!

Lucas looks around nervously as Blinky pops up from the hole he just made in the wood chips and starts the whole exercise over again.

LUCAS
Uh, Blinky, I think Mrs. Dinsmore just wanted us to do laps...

Erica walks up beside Lucas and watches Blinky. Kids are starting to follow him across the top of the monkey bars.

ERICA
Your friend is something else. Where did you say he lives?

LUCAS
I didn't.

ERICA
He wouldn't have anything to do with that video game you brought home from the dump, would he?

LUCAS
Mind your own business, Erica.

Behind them, Blinky has discovered the swings and is now doing a 360 around them, whooping with glee.

Lucas turns and sees Blinky. For a moment Lucas smiles in appreciation, then realizes how much trouble he could get in and runs toward Blinky.

LUCAS
Stop!

Startled Blinky drops from the very top of his arc down to the bottom. He falls out of the swing onto the ground. Lucas rushes over to help him.

LUCAS
Sorry about that but we aren't supposed to do 360's on the swings here.

BLINKY
Three...sixty? Is this some new language?

LUCAS
They're numbers, like the ones in class today...oh, nevermind. Look, I think you're way cool and all but you'd better go home now because you're gonna get me in so much trouble...

BLINKY
But I can't go home.

LUCAS
You can't?

BLINKY
Not until I find the princess.

Erica has walked over.

ERICA
What princess?

BLINKY
Princess Winkala.

ERICA
What does she look like?

BLINKY
She is beautiful.

ERICA (ROLLING HER EYES)
Yeah, aren't they all.

BLINKY
Can you help me find her?

LUCAS
Sure, Blinky, right after school...

BLINKY
No, I must leave now, thank you for your kindness.

Blinky gets off the swing and starts to walk off the school
grounds.

LUCAS
Blinky, come back!

But Blinky is already past the parking lot.

ERICA
Why don't you go after him?

LUCAS
I can't, I'll get in trouble for ditching school.

ERICA
I do it all the time.

Erica walks toward the front school gates.

Lucas stands staring after her, trying to decide if he should follow. Finally, he takes off after her.

LUCAS
Hey, wait for me!

EXT. ORANGEVALE STREET -DAY

Blinky walks down the sidewalk looking around curiously at houses, cars, rosebushes and mailboxes. He opens a mailbox and sticks his head in when Erica comes running up to him, followed by Lucas who is extremely out of breath.

ERICA
There you are.

BLINKY(STOPS)
Hello.

ERICA
Where are you going?

Lucas has caught up and is panting with his head between his knees.

BLINKY
To find the princess.

ERICA
Oh yeah, right.

BLINKY
Ah!
POV Blinky on a purplish pile of dog poop on the sidewalk. Mistaking it for Puff-fruit, he is about to bend down and pick it up. Lucas realizes what he's about to do.

LUCAS
No, don't do that!

Blinky stands up.

BLINKY
I am so hungry. Doesn't this land have any Puff-fruit?

ERICA
What's Puff-fruit?

LUCAS
I think it's these pills he finds in his game. He eats them and it makes him grow.

ERICA
My dad just bought some strawberries.

LUCAS
No, if my mom saw me over at your house I'd be dead.

ERICA
Well, maybe we should just go where all the kids go when they ditch school.

LUCAS
Where's that?

ERICA
Just follow me.

EXT. CORKY'S CASTLE - DAY

Corky's castle is a cheesy stucco castle complete with cupolas and flags. As Erica and Lucas walk up to the front door, Blinky stands back and stares. It is unlike anything he has ever seen.

BLINKY
Can we penetrate this fortress?

Erica yanks open the door and holds it open.

ERICA
INT. CORKY'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

The arcade is filled with rows and rows of video games, all blinking and blaring their particular diversion. Blinky does a 360 turn, staring at all the machines. Part of him is overwhelmed with all the sights and sounds, but on another level the mindlessly pacing and jumping characters seem somehow familiar to him.

Lucas pulls Erica aside.

LUCAS
What are we doing here? This place is freaking him out.

ERICA
There's probably a princess in one of these games...you've seen one, you've seen 'em all, right?

LUCAS
But he doesn't just want any princess, he wants Princess Winkala...

As Lucas and Erica talk, Blinky stares at a game called "Fetch", where a NEWSPAPER BOY delivers papers while dogs and other obstacles get in his way. What has caught Blinky's attention is a tree with shiny red apples. Blinky reaches out his hand to touch one of them and he is sucked into the game.

On game screen, Blinky plucks an apple from a tree and bites into it. The Delivery Boy drives by and hits him in the head with a newspaper. Blinky falls down.

LUCAS
Well, let's just ask him. Blinky?

Lucas turns around and realizes Blinky is gone.

LUCAS
Oh, no...Blinky?

ERICA(POINTING AT FETCH GAME)
There!

On the game screen Blinky runs from a SHEEPDOG. Terrified Blinky runs toward the screen. The dog follows him. Soon, the two of them burst out of the screen. Blinky, keeps right on going, he wants to get away from that dog, who is now
barking and nipping at his heels.

Blinky runs into another machine with the dog still chasing him.

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

Blinky has wandered into the Commando game. The Bad Guy, who wears a bushy mustache and tattered yet non-descript uniform, is fleeing from Captain Kilgore. Bad Guy knocks Blinky down in his haste to get away from Kilgore. Meanwhile, the dog runs up and licks Blinky on the face. The dog's tongue is too much for Blinky who bolts up and runs toward the screen again. The dog follows Blinky.

Kilgore and Bad Guy stare at the gaping, jagged black hole in front of them left in Blinky's wake.

    KILGORE
    Where did that guy come from?

    BAD GUY
    I don't know, but it's gotta beat this hell-hole.

Bad Guy heads out the hole. Kilgore stays put for a second then dashes out after Bad Guy.

    KILGORE
    Where do you think you're going???

INT. ARCADE - CONTINUOUS

The dog chases Blinky around the arcade as Bad Guy and Kilgore bolt out of the video game. Bad Guy runs out of the place, trying to get away from Kilgore who follows right behind, weapon at the ready.

Lucas and Erica try to catch the dog who keeps slipping through their fingers. Arcade Manager walks up angrily.

    ARCADE MANAGER
    Get that dog out of here!

    LUCAS
    We're trying, mister, we're trying!

As the dog continues to lead Lucas and Erica in circles, Blinky leaps into yet another game.

EXT. RACE STARTING LINE - DAY

Blinky jogs in front of two hot rods just as the checkered
flag goes down. They slow to avoid him. Dante Rapido, sticks his head out of his side window.

DANTE
Hey, get out of the way you meatball head!

INT. ARCADE - CONTINUOUS

On the game screen, Blinky runs toward the screen and bursts through it, as does Dante Rapido in his hot rod. Lucas, Erica, and Arcade Manager scurry to avoid being hit.

Rapido guns his car and drives out of the arcade, passing through the wall like a shadow.

EXT. ARCADE - CONTINUOUS

Race Car emerges from the arcade out into the street. A SECURITY GUARD on his way to work drives along drinking out of a coffee cup. He barely sees the hot rod before he is about to hit it. But instead of wrecking, his car passes through the digital race car.

Guard checks his mirrors and looks behind him, checks in his cup, then pours it out the window.

INT. ARCADE - CONTINUOUS

The Arcade Manager, Lucas, Erica, Blinky and even the dog are all motionless except for gasps of air as they all try to make sense of what just happened. Arcade Manager is the first one to break the silence with a quiet voice on the edge of a nervous breakdown.

ARCADE MANAGER
I don't know what you kids did to my machines, but you have about two seconds to get your butts out of here...

EXT. STREET - DAY

Blinky, Lucas and Winkala walk along together.

ERICA
That was so cool! When that race car came out of the screen I was like whoa!

The Dog comes bounding up to them.

LUCAS
Come here, boy!

As the dog runs toward Lucas, Blinky sidesteps to a tree. Shaking with fear, Blinky takes out his Puffblaster.

LUCAS
No, Blinky, the dog's nice, see?

Lucas pets the Dog but his hand passes right through the dog's shadow-body. Blinky eyes the wagging tail and sloppy tongue and puts his Puffblaster away. He comes out from behind the tree.

ERICA
Jeesh, haven't you ever seen a dog before?

BLINKY
They do not have these "dogs" on Blinky's Island. What is it's purpose?

LUCAS
I don't know, to have fun with, you know, man's best friend and all that.

BLINKY
Friend?

LUCAS
Don't tell me you don't know what a friend is...okay, let me see, a friend cares about you, listens to you, helps you--

Blinky gingerly places his hand on the dog's back. The dog wags its tail and nuzzles Blinky's hand with its nose. Blinky smiles.

ERICA
Hey, it likes you!

BLINKY
You are my friend, Lucas?

LUCAS
Sure and so is this dog now.

Lucas lays his hand on the dog next to Blinky's.
ERICA
Hey, don't forget about me!

Erica puts her hand in and they all pet the dog together.

Suddenly, Mr. Mudge's truck comes screaming around the corner. Lucas turns his head and sees it.

LUCAS
Run!

Lucas takes off in a sprint. Erica glances behind, sees the truck and follows after Lucas. The truck drives wildly behind them, wheels jumping onto the curb and sidewalk. From within the cab, Nod reaches out and grabs onto Lucas. Nod tries to drag Lucas into the truck even as Mr. Mudge careens down the sidewalk.

LUCAS
Blinky, help!

Blinky sees what's happening and stares stunned for a moment, seeing his brother whom he took for dead. Then, he takes out his Puffblaster and runs after the truck. He shoots at Nod.

Nod drops Lucas who tumbles away. The truck makes a sharp right turn and goes skidding out of sight.

Erica stops running and takes a moment to take in the action that has just happened before her eyes.

ERICA
Sweet.

Blinky runs to Lucas who is lying near the curb clutching his shoulder.

BLINKY
Are you hurt?

Lucas staggers onto one knee, rubbing his shoulder.

LUCAS
Not really.

Lucas gets up and starts to walk. Blinky follows after him.

BLINKY
The princess? You promised to help me...

LUCAS
I have no idea where she is, Blinky.

ERICA
I do. You found the game at the dump, right? So this princess chick's at the dump.

LUCAS
If you knew that, why'd you drag us to the stupid arcade?

ERICA
I wanted to play Commando...

EXT. ORANGEVALE MALL- DAY

Winkala limps along the sidewalk. Suddenly she sees the obtuse sculptures, fountains, huge glass buildings and art deco Orangevale Mall sign just ahead of her. She breaks into a gleeful smile and begins to run.

INT. MALL - DAY

Princess Winkala walks through the mall. She looks from one window display to another.

POV Winkala on a mannequin with no head sporting a scanty bathing suit.

CUT TO:

A CANDY KIOSK

Winkala gazes with childish delight at hundreds of different candies in see-through containers.

CUT TO:

A HAIR ATTACHMENT KIOSK

Winkala fingers the different hairpieces with fascination.

Winkala stands in the middle of the mall awkwardly. Winkala sees a tough PINK HAİRED TEEN pass by. Winkala smiles and reaches out as if she's seen her sister.

WINKALA
Excuse me--

PINK HAİRED TEEN
Do I know you? Step off chick.
Winkala shrinks back. An Old Lady passes by next. Winkala steps forward, maybe this Old Lady is kind. But the Old Lady clutches her purse and gives Winkala a dirty look.

Winkala walks away from the hair display.

EXT. PRINCESS PARADISE STORE

Winkala stops in front of the store which is filled with tiaras, gowns, wings, wands, dolls. etc.

Winkala walks inside

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE STORE

Winkala walks around staring in wonderment at the merchandise. An snippy young SALECLERK eyes her suspiciously.

SALECLERK(FAKE NICE)
Can I help you, ma'am?

Winkala rushes over to the salesdesk in breathless relief.

WINKALA
Oh yes! I think I've made a horrible mistake. I left my island today because I thought this world would be better but now that I'm here it's just strange and puzzling and mean...

Winkala stops herself and sees the Salesclerk's dumbfounded expression. Salesclerk stares at her for an uncomfortable moment then lets out a loud guffaw.

SALECLERK
You!...You had me going. I was about to call the funny farm, but now I get it, you're supposed to be Winkala, right?

WINKALA
Yes, that's my name. How did you know?

Salesclerk bends down and picks up a heavy cardboard box. She slams it on the counter. She takes a pair of scissors and stabs it open then pulls out a pink box. Inside is a Princess Winkala doll.

SALECLERK
I was going to put out the display this afternoon, I promise. We were just swamped about fifteen minutes ago...

Winkala takes the doll and gasps.

**WINKALA**

She is me?

**SALESCLERK**

Ok, you can drop the act. You people from promotions go a little far, don't you?

**EXT. ALLEY - DAY**

Bad Guy, drenched in sweat and panting, staggers, trips, then sprints away from Kilgore. Bad Guy dumps trash cans in his wake, but its no use, Kilgore is gaining. When he can go no more, Bad Guy doubles over. Kilgore approaches, gun drawn.

**KILGORE**

Hold it right there, mister.

Bad guy snaps upright.

**BAD GUY**

WHAT??!! What do you want from me???

Bad Guy grabs Kilgore by the collar and shakes him.

**BAD GUY**

You've been following me my whole life...what are you going to do now that you've finally caught me???

Kilgore is dumbfounded.

**KILGORE**

I--I don't know...take you to the brig I suppose...

**BAD GUY**

What brig??!! Are you gonna lock me inside a trash can??

Bad Guy kicks one over for emphasis.

**BAD GUY**

Do you even know where we are?
KILGORE
Well, I--

BAD GUY
No, didn't think so. Tell you what...you go your way and I'll go mine and we'll both try to make our way in this strange new world, huh?

Bad Guy walks off down the alley. Kilgore lets him get almost to the end.

KILGORE
Hey, come back here!

Kilgore takes off running after Bad Guy. As Kilgore comes out of the alley he runs into a YOUNG WOMAN carrying groceries. Her food sprawls all over the sidewalk. Kilgore stoops to help her. Kilgore's eyes lock with the Young Woman's in love at first sight.

KILGORE (LAUGHING AWKWARDLY)
Let me pick those up for you.

EXT. ORANGEVALE DUMP - DAY, LATER

Blinky and Erica hike up a tall mound of trash. Lucas walks along the bottom of the mound as the Dog noses about behind him.

BLINKY
And this is where your people hide their most valued treasures?

ERICA
Ha! This is the dump, dude. All this stuff is what my people threw away.

Down below Lucas looks up at Erica and Blinky.

LUCAS (CALLING UP)
Hey guys, we've been all over this place--not a princess in sight!

Blinky and Erica continue, oblivious to Lucas.

BLINKY
Who would throw away such a beautiful thing?

Blinky bends down and picks up an old rhinestone cowboy hat. Erica takes it from him and places it on his head.
ERICA
There.

From down below, Lucas sees this interchange and a look of jealousy comes over him. He takes a deep breath.

LUCAS (TO DOG)
Come on boy, I guess we're going to have to (gulp) climb this mountain.

Meanwhile, up top, Erica stands back and looks at Blinky. She is developing a little crush on him.

ERICA
So tell me about this princess, chick. What's she into?

BLINKY
She had grown tired of our island--running from the Puffmonster, she did not love her bamboo post or the vines that kept her roped to it.

On Lucas panting and struggling to climb up to the top. He looks down, sees how high he is with a sickening swallow, then turns back to continue the climb.

ERICA
I'd love to go to your island and help you fight the Puffmonster.

Blinky looks at her, surprised.

BLINKY
You would?

He stares at her, feeling a tiny bit of crush himself, then he shakes his head and laughs.

ERICA
What's so funny?

BLINKY
You Orangevalians. You are so full of surprises.

ERICA
Oh, I get it, you go more for the princess-y type. Someone who just likes to do her hair and go shop for tiaras at the--
POV Erica on the perfect view of the mall.

ERICA
That's it!

Lucas has made it all the way up the side of the mountain.

LUCAS
That's what?

ERICA
Come on guys, we gotta get off this pile of trash and find us a princess!

Erica darts down the hill, Blinky follows.

LUCAS (GASPING)
But, guys, I just got up here, come on!

INT. RACE CAR - DAY

Dante is driving along looking at all the sights of Orangevale. He barely pays attention to his driving he is so mesmerized by signs, stores and people. Something in particular catches his eye and he slams on his brakes.

EXT. GO-CART TRACK

Race car is stopped in the middle of the street in front of the go-cart track. Cars honk and try to go around him as Dante stares out the window a giddy smile on his face.

Dante pulls into the Go-Cart driveway, drives through the parking lot, the barriers (his digital car goes right through them) and onto the track. He pulls alongside the go-carts to the amazement of the kid drivers. Dante does a few laps, edging the kids out of his way. Some of them lose control and crash into the sidewalls. GO-CART MANAGER, who has been eating a donut and reading the paper on the sidelines, hears the crash and cries of kids. He puts down his paper, sees what's going on and runs out onto the track, chasing after Dante.

GO-CART MANAGER
Hey, get off my track, you maniac!
As angry parents also stream in front of him, Dante swerves and drives back through the foliage again until he's on the regular street. Something else catches his eye and he slams on the brakes.

POV Dante on the Orangevale Mall sign.

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE STORE - day

Princess Winkala stands next to a table piled with boxes of Princess Winkala dolls.

A LITTLE GIRL tugs her MOTHER over to Winkala's display.

LITTLE GIRL  
Mommy, look, it's Princess Winkala.

MOTHER  
Oh, yes it is.

LITTLE GIRL  
Can I have your autograph, Princess Winkala?

WINKALA  
What is an autograph?

Mother picks up box and shoves it at Winkala.

MOTHER  
Just sign it.

Princess stares uncomprehendingly at Mother.

INT. MALL - CONTINUOUS

Dante walks through the mall holding his helmet. He stares in fascination at bathing suit displays, hair extensions and cotton candy. He comes to the Princess Paradise store and stops, transfixed.

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE STORE - CONTINUOUS

MOTHER  
Oh, forget it, I'll get you a Betsy Wetsy instead.

Mother drags Little Girl out of the store. Salesgirl notices Winkala and walks over.
SALES GIRL
I'm paying you to sell. If some little brat wants you to autograph a box, you do it, understand?

WINKALA
But--

SALES GIRL
No buts. Another stunt like that and you're fired.

Salesgirl walks away. Dante walks into the store. He looks at Winkala with fascination and lovestruck concern. After a few seconds he gets up the courage and walks over to Winkala.

DANTE
Hello

WINKALA
Hello. Would you like to buy a doll?

DANTE (STILL STARING AT WINKALA)
No.

Winkala glances worriedly toward the Salesgirl.

DANTE
What's a bella like you doing in a place like this?

Princess smiles.

EXT. STREET NEAR THE DUMP - DAY LATER

Blinky strides down the street with robotic relentlessness, jumping high over fire hydrants and spinning himself over bushes. The dog runs after him as Erica and Lucas jog to catch up. Lucas is almost to the point of exhaustion.

LUCAS
Blinky! Come on, slow down!

ERICA
Hang on, I got an idea. But you're going to have to keep up.
Erica sprints close to Blinky. When he jumps in the air, she tries to grab onto his foot and hitch a ride. But her hand passes through his appendage as if it's a beam from a flashlight.

LUCAS
Let me try.

Lucas gives it all he's got, catches up to Blinky and grabs Blinky's foot. For a split second Lucas' hand making contact with Blinky's foot glows then he is able to grab tight and sail up into the air as Blinky bounds over a sleeping cat.

ERICA
Oh, you lucky!

Lucas reaches out his hand to her.

LUCAS
Here, grab onto me.

Erica grabs his hand and together they sail up into the sky as Blinky jumps up onto a rooftop. At the last minute, the Dog, latches onto Erica's shirt with his teeth and together the four of them go sailing from rooftop to rooftop.

INT. ORANGEVALE MALL SECURITY GUARD'S CAR - DAY, LATER

Security Guard from earlier is now eating a donut as he drives through the parking lot. He sees Lucas, Erica, et.al. then pounds on the brakes.

POV Guard on Blinky, Lucas, Erica and the Dog coming in for a landing.

The guard blinks his eyes hard as another car crashes into him from behind.

Guard glances behind to see who has hit him then glances back through his front windshield and Blinky, Lucas, Erica and the dog are gone.

Guard looks at his donut and throws it out the window.

INT. MALL - CONTINUOUS

Blinky, Lucas and Erica walk through the mall. The dog trails behind them. Shoppers stare at Blinky with his bare green feet and rhinestone cowboy hat. Blinky is oblivious to them as he cranes his neck at store displays.
BLINKY
What is this place?

LUCAS
A mall, it's where people come to buy stuff.

BLINKY
Buy?

LUCAS
It means--

ERICA
It means you give people what they want so they give you what you want.

BLINKY
And I can get anything I want at this "mall"?

LUCAS
Well, not anything...

Blinky walks toward a bubble machine. He sticks his finger in the bubble. It does not pop. Fascinated, he sticks his arm inside it, then his whole body. Soon he is floating in a huge bubble.

Shoppers stop to stare.

ERICA
Cool!

Lucas pops the bubble and Blinky falls to the floor.

LUCAS
Come on, guys we don't want to attract too much attention to ourselves, remember?

Mr. Mudge and Nod step out from behind a display and start to follow Lucas.

INT. GUITAR STORE - DAY

Erica walks in and Blinky follows. Lucas tags behind followed by the Dog.

LUCAS
I don't think we're going to find the princess in here.
Erica picks up a guitar and makes a feeble attempt at playing. Meanwhile a GUITAR STORE EMPLOYEE in the corner of the store rocks out on a solo. Blinky goes over and listens. Lucas follows.

**BLINKY**
I think he's hurting that animal.

**LUCAS**
It's not an animal, it's a guitar. He's making music.

Blinky taps his foot, then his whole leg begins to move in time to the music and soon he does a jerky, spasmodic dance to the overblown guitar solo. As Employee hits a really high note, the Dog begins to howl.

**GUITAR STORE EMPLOYEE**
Hey, no dogs in the store!

**LUCAS**
Come on, guys.

But Blinky continues dancing and Erica stays put and laughs.

**LUCAS**
Come on boy, let's go.

The Dog ignores Lucas. Lucas goes over to Blinky and puts his hand on Blinky's shoulder.

**LUCAS**
Let's go, we're going to get into trouble.

**GUITAR CLERK**
You guys have about two seconds to get out of here before I call security.

**ERICA**
Come on, guys. I'm gonna tell my dad not to buy anything from this store.

Erica heads for the exit. Blinky follows, as do the Dog and Lucas.

**INT. MALL - DAY**

Blinky, Lucas, Erica and the Dog emerge from the guitar store. Blinky bolts to the front, again doing his relentless video game walk.
LUCAS
Man, doesn't this guy ever slow down?

ERICA
Relax, I think I know where he's going.

Erica nods toward the Princess Paradise storefront. Blinky rushes inside.

LUCAS
Slow down, Blinky!

ERICA
I'll deal with him. You deal with the dog.

Erica rushes off leaving Lucas alone with the dog. Lucas rolls his eyes and bends down to dog-level.

LUCAS
Sit.

The Dog sits.

LUCAS
Now stay there til we come out.

The Dog wags its tail and Lucas enters the store.

Dog hears a popping sound. Dog turns its head.

POV Dog: a popcorn machine. Dog bounds toward it.

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE WINKALA DISPLAY - CONTINUOUS

Blinky is transfixed by the Princess Winkala Doll display. He goes up to a doll and touches it.

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE FRONT COUNTER

Erica goes to the register. Lucas follows.

LUCAS
We're looking for a girl.

SALESCLERK
Aren't you a little young for girls?
ERICA
He means a girl that looks like that.

Lucas points at the Winkala display.

SALESCLERK
Oh, that girl! Yeah, you just missed her. She left.

LUCAS
Where did she go?

Erica notices something and walks off.

SALESCLERK
How should I know? But if you see her, tell her I already called the promotions department and she's fired.

Erica walks back up to Lucas.

ERICA
Uh, Lucas, I think you need to come here.

Lucas walks over to Erica who is near the store's entrance. Erica points.

POV Erica and Lucas: the Dog is inside the popcorn machine. He tries to eat the popcorn while the POPCORN VENDOR yells and tries in vain to lift the Dog out.

LUCAS
Oh no!

INT. MALL - DAY

Lucas and Erica rush over to the popcorn stand just as the Security Guard walks up.

SECURITY GUARD
So you guys were dumb enough to bring your dog inside the mall. Get it out now before I call your parents.

LUCAS
No, please don't call my parents. Here, Doggy, come here Boy...

The Dog ignores him and continues to snap at the popcorn.
LUCAS (O.S.)
Blinky, help!

Blinky takes off after Lucas.

INT. MALL - CONTINUOUS

Blinky and Lucas rush over to where the dog is trapped.

BLINKY
What can I do?

LUCAS
Use your jumping power and get him out!

Blinky floats up into the air and over the popcorn machine, sticks his hands through the glass and lifts the Dog out. He floats down to the ground with the Dog in his arms. A crowd has gathered. Oooh's and aaahhh's erupt over Blinky's feat. Security Guard and Popcorn Vendor stare flabbergasted. A KID rushes over and tries to touch Blinky. Blinky flinches away.

LUCAS
No, don't touch him.

A tight circle of kids forms around Blinky, Lucas and the Dog. Kids try to touch Blinky or the Dog.

Mr. Mudge and Nod come out from behind a kiosk and see the commotion. They start toward Blinky. The Dog jumps out of Blinky's arms and runs. Blinky also bolts.

LUCAS
Blinky, stop!

ERICA
Come on, here we go again.

As Lucas and Erica take off after Blinky, Security Guard speaks into his walkie-talkie.

SECURITY GUARD
Maverick to headquarters. I've got a situation here by the popcorn stand and I'm going to need some backup. ..
INT. MALL - DAY

Dog runs through mall as Blinky flies after him. Dog skids into a display of hairpieces and looks silly as he sits underneath a mop of blonde hair. He runs toward a Fat Guy with a triple-decker ice cream. Fat Guy's eyes widen as dog and Blinky come towards him. He stumbles and dumps his cone as Dog and Blinky pass right through him. They pass by a video game kiosk. A Kid is playing a virtual fishing game. Dog and Blinky jump into the game, swim across the pond. Boy hooks Dog, who swims out of the game, spits the hook out, shakes himself off and continues running. Blinky jumps out of the game, also soaked and continues to run after Dog.

EXT. MALL

Skateboarders are doing tricks around the fountain. Dog bursts soundlessly through the glass with Blinky behind him. Dog runs into a SKATEBOARDER who jumps off his board. Dog skates off down the pavement. Blinky also lands on a skateboard.

The startled skateboarder falls off and the skateboard sails through the air with Blinky still on it. The skateboard lands on the lip of the fountain. Blinky stays on as the skateboard slides around the fountain. PEOPLE outside stare. Lucas and Erica rush out the doors just as the scene is ending. Seconds later, the Security Guard comes out the door. He blocks Mudge and Nod just as they try to emerge.

MUDGE
Let us through!

SECURITY GUARD
Um, sorry sir, we've got a situation here and I'm going to have to cordon off the area.

Security Guard locks the doors, leaving Mudge and Nod inside.

EXT. FOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

Lucas runs up to Blinky who tries to cling to the statue in the middle of the fountain.

LUCAS
Blinky, get down from there. We're in enough trouble.

BLINKY
Princess!
POV Blinky

Princess Winkala is seated across from Dante Rapido at a table. She smiles and laughs. Blinky climbs down from the statue and runs over to her.

EXT. PATIO TABLES - CONTINUOUS

Blinky comes up from behind her and puts his hand on her shoulder.

BLINKY
Winkala, at last I've found you!

DANTE
Who's-a this guy?

Winkala turns around and sees Blinky. She is not overjoyed at seeing him.

WINKALA
What are you doing here?

BLINKY
I traveled half a world to find you. The question is, what are you doing here?

DANTE (EXTENDING HIS HAND)
Permit me to introduce myself. My name is Rapido, Dante Rapido.

Blinky stares contemptuously at Dante's hand.

EXT. FOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

Security Guard walks up and grabs Erica and Lucas.

ERICA
Hey, let me go!

EXT. PATIO TABLES - CONTINUOUS

BLINKY
It's time we go and return to our land, Princess.

PRINCESS
I don't want to go back to our land. I like it here.

BLINKY
This place is dangerous (looks at
Dante) and strange.

PRINCESS
At least I don't spend all my time tied up to a stake waiting for you to rescue me.

Dante stands up.

DANTE
I am a wild and passionate man, but even I would never tie a woman to a stick! That is just... just sick.

Dante swings at Blinky, but Blinky ducks, then aims a kick at Dante's stomach. Security Guard walks up with Eric and Lucas in tow.

SECURITY GUARD
Alright break it up, time to join your pals in the room with the two-way mirror.

BLINKY
Winkala, I can't bear for us to be apart.

Security Guard makes a grab for Blinky but his hand passes right through.

SECURITY GUARD
What the--

WINKALA
What's happening to you, Blinky? Your eye...

LUCAS
It's just a teardrop. It happens to everyone at one time or another.

Suddenly Nod runs up aiming his Puffblaster at Blinky. Blinky takes his own weapon out and aims it at his brother. Seeing the stand-off, nearby patrons scream and scatter.

The Security Guard takes some mace out of his belt and sprays Blinky who doesn't move. He sprays Nod who shoots him with his Puffblaster. Security Guard screams like he's been doused with acid even though he is completely dry and unharmed. Guard runs away, throwing down his mace, hat and badge.

SECURITY GUARD
They don't pay me enough to put up with this!

ERICA (NODDING TOWARD NOD)
Who the heck is this guy?

BLINKY
My brother, Nod.

Mudge runs up.

LUCAS
Hey, you're the guy who almost ran me over yesterday...

Mudge grabs Lucas by the collar.

MUDGE
Where's the game?

LUCAS
Game? You mean Blinky's Island?

MUDGE
No, I mean Tiddly winks! Of course, I mean Blinky's Island, now what did you do with it?

LUCAS
I found it at the dump--it's mine fair and square...

MUDGE
No one was ever supposed to find that game...

As Blinky and Nod glare at each other and Mudge talks, Dante pulls Winkala away from the table.

DANTE
Let's find some place where we can be alone, Bella.

Blinky notices and shoots Dante in the hand. Dante screams and his hand shrinks to the size of a doll's hand.

DANTE
My hand! What did you do to my hand?!

Erica grabs Lucas by the shirt.

ERICA
Let's get out of here.

Erica tries to dart away but Lucas pulls back.

LUCAS
But what about Blinky?

Lucas' face suddenly contorts in agony. Mudge has him by the scruff of the neck.

MUDGE
I better get that game or we're all gonna be toast, boy!

LUCAS
What are you talking about?

MUDGE
The monster—he's big and he's dumb but it's only a matter of time before he figures out how to escape like these three...

EXT. SHORE OF BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY

Puffmonster roars and swings his tail. He hasn't chased anyone in days and he's feeling angry and frustrated. A bug flies by. He lunges for it, trips and falls. He gives a monster sigh. He pulls himself up and looks out over the ocean. He sees the whirlpool and blinks. Wheels are turning in the dumb monster brain. He lumbers toward the water's edge.

INT. LEMON KITCHEN - DAY

Mrs. Lemon paces back and forth with the cordless phone in one hand and a tissue in the other. She dabs at her eyes as she talks.

MRS. LEMON
Of course I called the police. It's been two hours and he's still not back from school yet. They told me they can't file a missing person's report until he's been missing 24 hours...oh Louis what are we going to do?

INT. LUCAS ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Blinky's Island game is still on the floor. A gigantic
green leg slowly pokes out of the screen.

INT. LEMON KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

MRS. LEMON
Of course I called the school. They said he ditched class, Louis, right after fifth period P.E. Now I know he doesn't like gym class, but this just isn't like him.

INT. LUCAS' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Puffmonster is now standing in Lucas' room. Its head touches the ceiling and the rest of its body is curled into a cramped ball. It breathes heavily with a raspy growl. It gives a snort of discomfort.

INT. LEMON KITCHEN

MRS. LEMON
Well I know...

Mrs. Lemon hears the snort.

MRS. LEMON
What on earth?

Another snort accompanied by a short roar. Mrs. Lemon looks afraid and astonished.

MRS. LEMON
I'll call you back, Louis.

She drops the phone not bothering to hang it up. She exits the kitchen.

INT. LEMON LIVINGROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mrs. Lemon comes into the livingroom and sees the Puffmonster pawing at her plastic fruit bowl. Mrs. Lemon gasps. Monster turns toward her and roars impressively. Mrs. Lemon screams and faints.

EXT. MALL PARKING LOT - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Mr. Mudge is behind the wheel of his truck. Nod is next to him. Lucas, Erica and the dog remain on the pavement.

MUDGE
Come on kid, we've got to get to your house and get that game--
LUCAS
But what about Blinky, I can't just leave him here.

NOD
If he is too cowardly to defeat the monster, I will take his place.

EXT. MALL PATIO AREA - DAY, CONTINUOUS
Dante is still grasping his shrunken hand. Blinky stands there with his Puffblaster pleading with Winkala.

BLINKY
So this is your choice? You pick the man with the curly hair and the tiny hand over me?

A siren sounds.

WINKALA
No, I don't want to have to pick anyone, Blinky--

Two COPS run up, guns drawn at Blinky.

COP #1
Freeze, mister, drop the uh, gun!

Frightened, Blinky fires the Puffblaster. The cops are stunned by the splash of digital water that flows over them. Blinky runs away.

WINKALA
Blinky!

Cop #1 is about to shoot but Cop #2 pushes his arm down.

COP #2
Forget it, a weirdo with a water gun isn't worth it.

INT. MR. MUDGE'S TRUCK - DAY
Mr. Mudge, Lucas, Erica, and Nod all ride in the cab of Mr. Mudge's truck. The dog is visible through the back window riding in the bed.

MR. MUDGE
I just hope we're not too late.
There's no telling what damage that beast can do if it escapes.

LUCAS
I still don't get it. If this game is so dangerous, why did you take it to the dump? Why not destroy it?

MR. MUDGE
Nod here convinced me not to. He said if I burned it his brother and the princess would die.

EXT. LEMON HOUSE - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Mudge's truck pulls up in front of Lemon house with a squeal of its brakes. Lucas jumps out first, followed by Mudge, Erica, with Nod and Blinky bringing up the rear. Lucas runs into the house.

INT. LEMON LIVINGROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lucas enters and looks around.

LUCAS
Mom?

Lucas sees her still unconscious on the floor and runs over to her. He rouses her and she sits up groggily. Mudge and Erica run in.

LUCAS
Mom, are you OK?

MRS. LEMON
Big...teeth...slimy...green

Mrs. Lemon leans back in another faint.

MR. MUDGE
Drat, we're too late. If only we knew which way it was headed.

EXT. ORANGEVALE STREET - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Puffmonster lopes along sniffing garbage cans. A Lady kneels in her front yard pulling weeds. She freezes when she sees the Puffmonster peering at her from between the bushes. She screams and runs into the house.

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - DAY, MINUTES LATER

Puffmonster stands on the corner. The pedestrian signal
comes on and Puffmonster stares at the blinking white man on it. He heads toward it.

Cop #1 and Cop #2 who had been waiting at the signal stare as the Puffmonster crosses the street.

    COP #1
    Man, this day just keeps getting weirder and weirder.

EXT. LEMON HOUSE - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Mudge, Blinky and Nod head out toward the truck. Lucas and Erica trail behind.

Mrs. Lemon runs after Lucas.

    MRS. LEMON
    Lucas, where do you think you're going?

    LUCAS
    Mom, they need my help...

    MRS. LEMON
    Over my dead body...

Mr. Mudge comes back toward Lucas.

    MUDGE
    Ma'am, I'm sorry for keeping your son here out past his curfew, but if we're going to defeat this here monster, well, we're going to need the game.

    MRS. LEMON
    The game?

    LUCAS
    I'll get it...it's in my room.

INT. LUCAS BEDROOM - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Lucas bursts into his room, sees the game on the floor and starts disconnecting it from the wall. As he's wrapping up the cord, he glances toward his window, he starts thinking.

EXT. LEMON HOUSE - DAY, MINUTES LATER

Nod, Erica and Mudge are standing in a line, each of them
fidgeting in some way or another. The dog has lain down for
a nap. Mrs. Lemon is looking from the strange Mudge back to
the even weirder Nod with growing anxiety on her face.

MRS. LEMON
Can I get anyone some lemonade?

MUDGE
Ma'am, I think we need to check on
your boy...

Erica is the first one to fling open the door and rush
inside the Lemon house.

INT. LUCAS’ ROOM –CONTINUOUS

Lucas is trying to climb out the window with the Blinky's
Island game console under one arm. Erica rushes over to him.

ERICA
What are you doing?

LUCAS
My mom'll never let me go with you
guys. Stall'em, Ok? And tell Mudge
to meet me down on the corner.

ERICA
Ok.

INT. LEMON LIVING ROOM –CONTINUOUS

Mudge, Nod, and Mrs. Lemon have just entered the house.
Erica enters from the hallway and blocks the way to the
bedrooms with her body.

MUDGE
What the devil's taking that boy? We
need to get that game and find that
monster...

ERICA
Uh...he's having some trouble
getting it disconnected from the
wall. You see, it had a two pronged
plug and he tried to put in a three
pronged--

As she talks, Erica points and gestures trying to make Mudge
understand Lucas has already lit out. But Mudge pushes Erica
aside.

MUDGE
Out of my way, Missy.

INT. LUCAS' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mudge flings open the door. Mrs. Lemon is right behind him.

MRS. LEMON
Lucas, where are you?

MUDGE
He's ditched us! (to Erica) Do you have any idea where he's gone?

ERICA
Not a clue. But he can't be far. Let's get in your truck and go look for him.

Mudge and Erica dash out of the room. Mrs. Lemon stays and looks around for a moment.

MRS. LEMON
But--but--

EXT. CORNER OF LEMON'S STREET - CONTINUOUS

Lucas stands on the street corner holding the game console. Mudge's truck stops next to him with a screech. The door opens and Lucas hands the console to Erica then climbs inside.

INT. MUDGE'S TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

LUCAS
So where are we headed?

ERICA
Back to the mall. Nod thinks the Puffmonster will be on the hunt for Winkala.

EXT. MALL PARKING LOT - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Dante opens his car door for Winkala. She hesitantly gets in. Dante stands with the door open.

DANTE
Now that we're done with that pesky purple-haired fellow, I'll take you anywhere you want to go, Bella. What'll it be? Paris, Rome or maybe you just want to motor to Hollywood...
WINKALA
Actually, I've been thinking, Dante.
Maybe I should just go back to the island...

DANTE
What? And miss out on all this freedom--

Dante takes her hand in his. The Puffmonster steps into view behind him. Cars crash and people scream and scatter.

DANTE
And romance?

WINKALA
I don't know...the people here don't really seem that friendly...

Winkala notices the monster behind Dante and her eyes grow wide.

WINKALA
Watch out!

Dante turns and stares in terror at the huge Puffmonster. The Puffmonster gnashes its jaws and roars. It reaches into the car and grabs Winkala with its claw.

DANTE
No!

Dante picks up his helmet off the floor of the car and bashes Puffmonster with it, but the monster just backhands him and sends him sprawling onto the pavement.

Just as Puffmonster turns to walk off with Winkala, Mudge et. al. drive up. Nod hops out with his Puffblaster ready, but it's too late. The Puffmonster has already made it to the main highway.

Nod, Mudge, Erica and Lucas hop back into the truck. The Dog, who had been hiding in the truck bed, barks and they head out of the parking lot. Not to be outdone, Dante jumps in his car and peels out of the parking lot.

INT. BURGER JOINT - MOMENTS LATER, DAY

Captain Kilgore and Bad Guy sit across from Young Woman.

CAPTAIN KILGORE
Thank you for your kindness, my
dear.

YOUNG WOMAN
Well, when I think about all the
sacrifices you've made for our
country--

Through the window they stare as the Puffmonster runs by with the screaming Winkala.

Kilgore gets up from the table.

INT. MUDGE'S TRUCK - MOMENTS LATER, DAY

MUDGE
I wonder where the devil that thing
is headed...

LUCAS
He's probably just looking for the
closest volcano.

MUDGE
There isn't an active volcano for
thousands of miles!

ERICA
The dump! I bet he's going to the
volcano of trash at the dump!

EXT. DUMP - DAY, MINUTES LATER

Puffmonster carries Winkala up the hill of garbage.

WINKALA
Put me down!

The Puffmonster gives a roar and continues up the hill. He gets to the top and holds Winkala above his head and bellows in triumph. Puffmonster looks down the other side. When he sees only trash instead of lava he gives a puzzled snort. He stands staring for a few seconds, befuddled.

WINKALA
Ha! It isn't a volcano, so you can't
throw me in!

Puffmonster snarls in fury and takes a step forward as if to pitch Winkala, but Blinky suddenly comes flying down and socks Puffmonster in the nose. This throws Puffmonster off his balance. Puffmonster falls back and loosens his grip on Winkala.
BLINKY
Winkala, run!

WINKALA
What about you? You don't have your Puffblaster!

BLINKY
I'll be fine!

Puffmonster regains his balance and takes a swipe at Blinky that knocks him to the ground. Puffmonster tightens his grip on Winkala but she sinks her teeth into his scaly skin and bites down hard. Puffmonster releases her and she falls to the ground. Blinky is back in the air and manages to land a punch to Puffmonster's head.

BLINKY
Winkala, go!

WINKALA
Alright, I'll bring back help.

But a strong hand is already helping Winkala to her feet. It's Nod.

NOD
Help is already here.

Blinky looks away from the monster a moment and spies Nod. Rage clouds his face. But in the split second he has looked away, it gives the monster time to breath fire in Blinky's direction. Blinky falls to the ground next to Nod who fires a volley from his Puffblaster.

Blinky lifts his head weakly.

BLINKY
I don't need your help, Nod.

NOD
(to Winkala)
Help him up--take cover.

EXT. ANOTHER ORANGEVALE STREET - DAY, MINUTES LATER

Kilgore runs down the sidewalk, weapon at the ready as he looks for the Puffmonster. Bad Guy comes from the opposite direction and smacks right into him. Bad Guy tries to run but Kilgore grabs on.

BAD GUY (PUNCHING KILGORE)
I don't understand why you keep chasing me.

KILGORE (KICKING BAD GUY)
Don't you understand? There is a clear and present danger. It is my duty to defend this country.

BAD GUY (SHOVES KILGORE INTO THE STREET)
This country? Do you even know where we are?

Race Car comes speeding up.

Dante slams on his brakes, but he is already on top of Kilgore.

Kilgore rolls out of the away just as Race Car zooms by and comes to a stop. Kilgore lays on the ground as Dante hops out of the car.

DANTE
What do you think you are doing, walking in front of my car like that?

Kilgore stands up slowly with murder on his face. He marches angrily up to Dante.

KILGORE
Do realize you almost ran over a member of the Special Forces Elite Squadron?

Dante stares at Bad Guy.

DANTE
Don't I know you from somewhere?

BAD GUY
I don't think so...

DANTE
Yes...your name is Gianni and you used to drive the black car in lane three! Gianni... ciao bello... get in the car!

BAD GUY
Ok...

Bad Guy gets in the race car. Dante notices Kilgore who
stands there stupidly.

DANTE
Hey, I notice you have a weapon there, would you like a ride, I have a very fast car...

Kilgore stands speechless.

DANTE
Oh, well suit yourself...

Dante gets in and starts to speed off, but Kilgore runs after.

KILGORE
Hey, wait for me!!!

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

Mr. Mudge, Erica and Lucas drive up in the truck. Nod is holding off the Puffmonster with volleys from his 'blaster, while Winkala and a spent Blinky take refuge behind a pile of trash.

Lucas and Erica jump out of the truck and run to Blinky. Mudge stays behind and pulls the Blinky's Island console out of the cab plus a tangle of cords.

LUCAS
Blinky, what's the matter?

WINKALA
The firebreath--

Race car roars up with Dante, Kilgore and Bad Guy inside. They pile out and walk over to Blinky and Winkala.

KILGORE(TO WINKALA)
Hey there, little lady.

Dante snorts at Blinky who kneels on the ground.

DANTE
Your boyfriend doesn't look so tough now, does he?

Blinky stands up painfully and walks toward where Nod is battling the monster.

WINKALA
Blinky, don't go!

BLINKY
I have to, I can't let my brother battle alone.

A news van roars up.

INT. LEMON LIVINGROOM - DAY, SIMULTANEOUS

Mrs. Lemon watches TV.

On TV Screen there is an ANCHORWOMAN at the Quarry.

ANCHORWOMAN
Dave, I'm hear at the Orangevale Refuse Center where neighbors have reported a 20-foot monster who seems to be...

Puffmonster appears behind Anchorwoman and she drops the microphone and runs off.

Mr. Lemon walks into the room, just home from work.

MR. LEMON
Good, God, what is that thing?

The camera pans and Lucas, Erica, and Mr. Mudge are visible running from the Puffmonster.

MRS. LEMON
Louis, it's Lucas!

Mr. Lemon makes for the door.

MRS. LEMON
Where are you going?

MR. LEMON
I'm not just going to stand here and watch my son killed by that...that thing!

EXT. DUMP - MINUTES LATER

Erica and Lucas hide behind a large trash mound as Puffmonster rages about. Anchorwoman spots Blinky and darts over to his hiding spot.

ANCHORWOMAN
Excuse me, do you have any
information about the monster?

    ERICA (WHISPERING)
    Be quiet, it'll hear you!

Puffmonster hears them and thunders toward them. Puffmonster takes a swipe at Anchorwoman who screams, but his claw passes right through her.

    ANCHORWOMAN (SPEAKING INTO HER MIKE)
    And this is Andrea Andrews signing off for Channel 12 news. Come on, Bob, let's get the heck out of here.

Anchorwoman runs away with her Cameraman. Lucas and Erica are still rooted to the spot.

Race car pulls up onto the gravel. Kilgore hops out.

    KILGORE (TO KIDS)
    Get in the car!

Lucas stares awestruck at Kilgore

    LUCAS
    Captain Kilgore?

Kilgore shoots at Puffmonster.

    KILGORE
    Get in the car, kid!

Lucas turns to Erica.

    LUCAS
    Run away, now, while you still can--

    ERICA
    What? I'm going with you...

    LUCAS
    No, this may get dangerous--

Impetuously, he stands on tip-toe, takes her face in his hands and kisses her.

    LUCAS
    That's for if I don't make it back alive--run away!

Lucas ducks into the car as Erica runs away. Kilgore has been trying to hold Puffmonster off, but it volleys
The Puffmonster scoops the race car up in his claw while Blinky and Nod come running up. Kilgore and Nod are poised to shoot.

BLINKY
No, don't!

KILGORE
You're right, we don't want him to drop the car.

Mr. Lemon pulls up and he and Mrs. Lemon hop out. Lucas sticks his head out of the car window.

LUCAS
Mom!

Mrs. Lemon runs toward Puffmonster.

MRS. LEMON
Lucas!

Mr. Lemon grabs her.

MR. LEMON
Lois, get back.

Puffmonster roars and shakes car. Lucas, Bad Guy, and Dante are tossed about inside.

MRS. LEMON
Louis, do something!

Mr. Mudge runs up holding the Blinky's Island console. He aims the screen at the Puffmonster. The Puffmonster responds by breathing fire breath.

MUDGE (TO BLINKY)
You need to go back—step inside.

BLINKY
No!

Winkala walks up.

WINKALA
I'll do it.

Winkala sticks her arm toward the screen. It disappears. She leans forward and more of her is sucked into the game.
BLINKY
Winkala, no!

But Winkala has already disappeared into the game.

On game screen, she is running on the beach of Blinky's Island.

Blinky thrusts his arm into the screen and is also sucked inside.

The monster notices this and steps toward Mudge. Mudge trembles as the monster sticks his giant snout into the tiny game screen. The monster, still carrying the car, deflates, shrinks then is sucked into the game.

MRS. LEMON
Oh, no!

POV Mrs. Lemon as she looks at the game screen and sees Blinky and Winkala running across the beach followed by the Puffmonster, still carrying Dante's race car in his claw.

MRS. LEMON
Oh no, don't tell me he's inside the--oh, Louis, I feel faint.

Mrs. Lemon swoons as Mr. Lemon steps into catch her.

Kilgore, who watched this unfold from the sidelines, steps forward.

Kilgore starts to stick his gun into the screen.

Mrs. Lemon, who has come to, stops him.

MRS. LEMON
Wait--bring my son back to me, will you?

KILGORE
I'll do my best ma'am.

Kilgore sticks his gun and then his head into the screen and is immediately sucked into the scene.

NOD
Well, that's that, then.

MUDGE
Aren't you going in, too?
NOD
My brother would enjoy nothing more than killing the monster himself.

Nod walks off.

MUDGE
Where are you going? It's your brother we're talking about for heaven's sake!

Mr. Mudge looks to the Blinky's Island screen. POV Mudge as the monster still holds the race car in its claw. Kilgore tries to hold it off with gunfire. Winkala stands behind Kilgore, horrified. Blinky is no where to be found.

Suddenly the screen goes black. Mrs. Lemon screams.

MRS. LEMON
What happened?

Mudge looks to the cord connecting the game to his car battery.

MUDGE
I think my battery just died.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY

Puffmonster shakes the car.

INT. RACE CAR - DAY, SIMULTANEOUS

Dante and Bad Guy shriek at the top of their lungs.

LUCAS
Shut up you guys! (Calling out the window) Winkala, tell the dragon to put us down.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY, SIMULTANEOUS

From the shore, Winkala calls to Puffmonster who stops its own roaring long enough to listen to her. Puffmonster cocks its head to one side and slowly starts to lower the car down when a bullet races by its head. Puffmonster stands up to full height and angrily bellows.

Kilgore runs toward the monster and fires rapidly as Puffmonster swats away the bullets like flies. The Puffmonster still holds the car in one hand and carelessly shakes it while it swats the bullets.
INT. RACE CAR - DAY

Lucas, Bad Guy and Dante scream as they toss about inside the shaking car, then screams stop as Puffmonster momentarily stops shaking the vehicle.

BAD GUY
Well, I've had enough of this.

Bad Guy wriggles out the window.

LUCAS
Hey, what are you doing?

Bad Guy jumps out the window down into the ocean below. Lucas watches him go, horrified.

LUCAS
Hey!!!

POV Lucas as Bad Guy drops into the drink then resurfaces a good 30 seconds later, spitting water out of this mouth.

BAD GUY
So long, you American dogs!

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND SHORE - DAY

Kilgore has watched this through his binoculars.

KILGORE
Drat, he's not going to get away that easy!

Kilgore runs off in pursuit of Bad Guy.

INT. RACE CAR - DAY, SIMULTANEOUS

LUCAS
Hey, you got a lot of neat buttons in this thing. Doesn't it have jet propulsion or amphibian mode or something?

DANTE
No.

LUCAS
Well then how do you get across all those canyons?
DANTE
No canyons at the Raceopolis, just miles and miles of track.

LUCAS
Can't this thing even jump a little bit?

DANTE
Oh sure, jump, why didn't you say so?

Dante guns the engine.

LUCAS
Wait, not here! Let's get a little closer to land first...(calling out window) Winkala make the monster walk closer to the sand.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND SHORE - CONTINUOUS

WINKALA
How?

INT. RACE CAR - CONTINOUS

LUCAS
I don't know, tell him there's a pretty dragon waiting for him.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND BEACH - CONTINUOUS

Winkala nods, then cups her hands around her mouth. Winkala gives an earth-shaking yell. Puffmonster takes one step, then another.

INT. RACE CAR - DAY

LUCAS
Now!

Dante guns the engine.

Race car accelerates off Puffmonster's claw and into the air. It sails through the air.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND SHORE - SECONDS LATER

Race car comes in for a landing just shy of the sand and lands with a splash in the water. The car immediately begins to fill up. Lucas manages to get out the window and swim to shore, then realizes Dante is still inside. He flags down
Winkala who swims back and dives under. Lucas looks on worriedly from the shore as neither of them comes up.

Finally, Winkala pops up, pulling Dante alongside.

Lucas wades in to help. All three of them manage to make it to shore, but Dante is still unconscious. Winkala holds his head in her hands tenderly.

WINKALA
He won't wake up.

LUCAS
Wait a minute, I saw this in a movie once.

Lucas pushes both his hands firmly just below Dante's rib cage. Dante spits out water and comes to. He opens his eyes and sees Winkala and smiles.

DANTE
Where am I? Did I die and go to heaven?

WINKALA
No, silly.

Blinky has just walked up with his Puffblaster.

BLINKY
(To Dante)
Unhand my woman!

DANTE
What, you again?

WINKALA
Blinky, put your weapon down this instant, this man almost drowned!

LUCAS
Uh, you may not want him to put it down just yet--

The Puffmonster is just a few yards away from them.

Blinky fires at the Puffmonster as Lucas, Dante and Winkala stumble up and start to run.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY
Lucas, Dante and Winkala hide behind a palm tree. Blinky shoots at the Puffmonster. He gets one good shot in and the monster shrinks about 25 percent.

LUCAS
What happened?

WINKALA
Blinky's Puffblaster shrinks the monster.

LUCAS
You mean he can never kill it?

WINKALA
No.

LUCAS
So we could end up doing this forever!

DANTE
Forever? I have to be at Raceopolis by sundown or I forfeit the race!

WINKALA
Blinky didn't understand why I wanted to leave, why I wanted to find another world. He lives to fight the Puffmonster. But he wasn't the one who had to stay tied up by that stupid volcano.

LUCAS
Look!

Lucas points.

POV Lucas as Blinky fires at Puffmonster but nothing comes out of his weapon.

LUCAS
He ran out of ammo!

WINKALA
The magical waters of the pool of Sirunik. It's the only thing that will shrink the Puffmonster.

LUCAS
Oh no!

POV Lucas as the Puffmonster picks up Blinky in his claw and
walks off with him in the direction of the volcano.

WINKALA

No!

Winkala starts to come out from their hiding place but Lucas grabs her by the shoulder.

LUCAS

Where are you going?

WINKALA

To help Blinky! It should be me that thing is carrying, not him!

LUCAS

But what good can you do? You already said we need the waters of Seerneck.

WINKALA

Sirunik.

LUCAS

Whatever. Let's get some of this water and then take it to Blinky.

DANTE

You should listen to the kid, sounds like a good plan to me.

WINKALA

Very well, then.

Winkala comes out from behind the boulder and walks toward the volcano.

LUCAS

Uh, I thought you said we were gonna get the magical waters.

WINKALA

We are. The pool is located right beside the volcano.

LUCAS

Oh...me and my big mouth.

DANTE

Maybe if we stay far behind, that thing won't see us.

LUCAS
Yeah, and maybe I know what the capital of Zimbabwe is.

DANTE

Huh?

Winkala has already walked ahead of them.

LUCAS

Nevermind, let's catch up to her.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND INLAND JUNGLE - DAY

Bad Guy runs, and furtively glances behind. He jumps over vines and bushes and trips over a few. Kilgore is close on his heels. Bad Guy runs faster but Kilgore almost catches up to him.

KILGORE

I'm warning you--stop!

Bad Guy, panting from exhaustion, bursts forward in one last sprint, then trips grandly over a tree root and lands flat on his face. Kilgore runs up and places his boot on Bad Guy's back.

KILGORE

Freeze!

BAD GUY

Where would I go?

EXT. MOUTH OF THE VOLCANO - DAY

Puffmonster sets Blinky down by the stake and ropes.

BLINKY

Ha! You're done for, now, you can't tie me up with those big clunky claws.

By themselves the ropes rise up into the air and wrap themselves around Blinky's wrists. They pull him back toward the stake and then twine themselves in knots tightly around the wooden pole.

Blinky strains against the vines as the Puffmonster roars menacingly.

BLINKY

Oh be quiet. I know your game, you couldn't get her, so you got me instead. I bet you're thinking
she'll try to rescue me. Well you're wrong. She cares more about the one who drives that strange machine than she does about me.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND INLAND JUNGLE - DAY

Winkala marches steadily up a vine-covered slope. Dante almost matches her pace, but Lucas straggles behind.

DANTE
Say, maybe when this is all over we could--

WINKALA
I have to help Blinky. I was wrong to leave him.

DANTE
But he tied you up to a stake and--

Winkala stops and turns toward Dante

WINKALA
He didn't tie me up, the Puffmonster does it with his powers. Blinky has spent his whole life trying to rescue me and now I repay him by--

Winkala bursts out in a sob and covers her face with her hands.

Dante walks up to her, alarmed.

DANTE
Hey, Bella, are you OK? What are you doing? What's that stuff coming out of your eyes?

WINKALA
They're called tears.

DANTE
Oh. I don't see many women in my line of work. Just the girl that raises and lowers the checkered flag and she barely talks to me.

WINKALA
It is not only women that get tears.
EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND DAY

Lucas, Dante and Winkala hike along the tangled vines. The ground is flatter.

    LUCAS
    Hey, how come we're not going uphill anymore.

    WINKALA
    I'm not sure...

    DANTE
    Oh magnifico, now we're lost!

    WINKALA
    No, we're not. This is the way to the waters of Sirunik, I'm sure of it.

A low growl.

    LUCAS
    What was that?

    WINKALA
    Nothing, keep walking.

Another growl, distinctly feline.

    DANTE
    No, now I heard it, too.

    WINKALA
    There are creatures in this jungle...I'm sure it is harmless...

A tiger leaps out and blocks their path. All three of them scream and head in the other direction. There is a turn in the path. Lucas spots it first and grabs onto Winkala's hand just before making it.

    LUCAS
    This way!

Dante heads up the rear as the three head down the new path. But suddenly another tiger springs out of the bushes.

    LUCAS
    These creatures definitely aren't harmless.
Lucas, Winkala and Dante head back the way they came.

DANTE
We have to get off this path. Quick in here.

Dante parts some branches and motions for them to duck into the foliage.

LUCAS
Are you kidding? Those bushes are probably crawling with tigers.

DANTE
We can't stay out here, we're like sitting ducks.

Two tigers bear down the path from opposite directions.

DANTE
Come on!

Dante enters bushes first, followed by Lucas and Winkala. They crouch in the bushes as the tigers come thundering toward them.

INT. BUSHES

The three sit huddled together listening to the sounds of the tigers as they growl at each other.

LUCAS
I think they're gonna fight.

DANTE
Ssssh!

The growling stops and there is dead silence.

LUCAS
They went away.

DANTE
Sssh!

Another moment of silence as Dante, Lucas and Winkala sit listening.

LUCAS
Man, how long do we have to--

Suddenly a tiger springs through the bushes and lunges at them. The three of them scream in terror. There is a shot
and the tiger lands face first on the jungle floor, a trickle of blood coming out of its side. Kilgore parts the bushes.

KILGORE
What the Sam Hill are you guys doing in there?

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY, LATER

Bad Guy trudges uphill followed by Kilgore who has a gun pointed in Bad Guy's back. Lucas is next. Behind him are Winkala and Dante. They are all exhausted.

KILGORE
Well, looks like I saved your butts once again.

LUCAS
What are you talking about 'again'? Because of you, we almost drowned...

WINKALA
It does no good arguing.

KILGORE
Yeah, son, didn't your parents teach you not to talk back to your elders?

LUCAS
My parents haven't taught me squat.

Kilgore stops walking and turns to look at Lucas.

KILGORE
Don't ever let me hear you say that again, private! Your parents gave you a life and made sure you didn't get killed for the last 12 years or so, so don't you think you owe them a little respect???

LUCAS
(surprised)
Yeah, I guess I do.

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

Mr. Mudge is fiddling with the Blinky's Island Console. Mr. Lemon is pacing. Mrs. Lemon is crying and Erica looks on trying to make sense of it all. Mr. Lemon stops and walks over to Mr. Mudge
MR. LEMON
While you're fiddling with that
thing my boy is God knows where
doing God knows what...

Mr. Mudge looks up from the game sorrowfully.

MR. MUDGE
I know. I'm sorry this happened,
mister, honest, I tried to destroy
this thing but that white-haired
fellow wouldn't let me.

MR. LEMON
Well, what are we going to do?

MR. MUDGE
I don't know, but could you give me
a jump?

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY

Lucas, Winkala, Dante, Kilgore and Bad Guy are still
trudging through endless vines. Winkala spots a lone flower
growing amid the overgrowth.

WINKALA
Look! We must be close. This is the
Sirunik Lily!

LUCAS
We're here? Thank God, I didn't
think I could take another step.

Winkala runs ahead of them through the jungle. They hear a
scream.

DANTE
Oh no, what happened? She's in
trouble!

Dante and Lucas take off running. Kilgore and Bad Guy follow
behind.

EXT. DRY LAKE BED - SECONDS LATER

They all reach the lake bed where Winkala is yelling and
clutching her hair.

WINKALA
It's gone, it's all gone! No, no, no!

Kilgore and Dante stand and watch Winkala in her grief.
Kilgore looks over at Dante.

    KILGORE
    Uh, what's gone?

    DANTE
    The magical waters, they're what goes in the Puffblaster.

    KILGORE
    Oh. What's a Puffblaster?

    DANTE
    A thing her ex-boyfriend uses to shoot the dragon with.

    KILGORE
    You're trying to kill a dragon with a water gun? You've gotta be kidding me!

POV Dante as Kilgore walks over to Winkala who kneels and sobs. Kilgore bends down and whispers something to Winkala. Winkala stands up and wipes her eyes. Kilgore stands up and smiles. Winkala slaps him across the face and walks off.

    DANTE
    That guy has a real way with words.

Bad Guy comes walking up with what looks like a huge jellybean. He has already taken a sizeable bite out of it and is munching away.

    DANTE
    What are you eating?

    BAD GUY
    I don't know but it tastes delicious. Want a bite?

    DANTE
    Sure.

    LUCAS
    Wait, don't.

    DANTE
    Why not?

Bad Guy suddenly grows six feet taller.

    LUCAS
    That's why not.
DANTE
Well this is wonderful! If he's this size he can go beat that dragon up in no time.

LUCAS
I don't think he's going to beat up the dragon.

Bad Guy walks over to Kilgore who stands about six feet away from the sobbing Winkala. Bad Guy looks down on Kilgore with his hands on his hips.

BAD GUY
Hey short stuff.

Kilgore looks up at Bad Guy

KILGORE
What the--

Bad Guy takes a step toward Kilgore.

BAD GUY
It's payback time.

KILGORE
No!

Kilgore takes off running as Bad Guy follows. Bad Guy easily picks up Kilgore and carries him off.

LUCAS
Great, now we've lost the only one of us with a gun.

Lucas picks the jellybean off the ground.

LUCAS
If we can get this to Blinky, maybe he won't need a gun. Winkala, come on, there's no time to lose.

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

The hood of Mr. Mudge's truck and Mr. Lemon's sedan are up. Jumper cables connect them. Mr. Lemon leans over his engine as Mr. Mudge sits in his truck and twists the key. Finally, the truck's engine turns over. Mr. Mudge gives a hoot and Mr. Lemon smiles. Mrs. Lemon runs up.

MRS. LEMON
What happened? Can you bring Lucas back now.

MR. LEMON
I don't know, Lois, go look on that screen.

The Blinky's Island Console is perched on a small mound of garbage. It lights up and Blinky is visible tied up to the bamboo cross.

Mr. Mudge approaches.

MR. MUDGE
Hot diggity dog, it worked!

MR. LEMON
Yeah, but where's my son?

Erica walks up, eyes glued to the screen.

ERICA
Let me play the game. I can get beat the Puffmonster, I know I can.

EXT. MOUTH OF VOLCANO - DAY

Blinky is still tied up. The monster sleeps a few yards away. Blinky struggles to free himself from his vine shackles to no avail. Suddenly Blinky notices his Puffblaster laying a few feet away. He tries to reach blaster with his foot, but he can't. Suddenly, the blaster rises up into the air and floats over to his hand.

Blinky's eyes widen in amazement, then he notices that the water chamber on the Puffblaster is filling up.

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

Erica pulls the joystick in the game console. She smiles as she realizes she has helped Blinky.

ERICA
Yes!

EXT. MOUTH OF VOLCANO - DAY

Staring at his Puffblaster, Blinky gives a yelp of joy. The yelp awakens the sleeping Puffmonster who jerks up with a start. When he sees Blinky looking at the Puffblaster his eyes narrow in anger. He grabs Blinky by the waist and jerks him out of his vines. Blinky cries out in pain.
EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND JUNGLE - DAY

Lucas runs with the jellybean. Dante follows with Winkala stumbling behind. Winkala falls. Dante stops to help her. Lucas looks back and notices them.

LUCAS
Come on guys!

Winkala pants and leans against Dante.

WINKALA (TO DANTE)
I can't go on...I'm not accustomed...to so much...running...

LUCAS
I'm doing this without you!

Lucas darts through the overgrowth. Dante heaves Winkala up onto his shoulder.

DANTE
For this, you owe me one romantic night of passion.

WINKALA
Hey, I already saved your life.

DANTE
Okay, we meet one time for capuccino at least.

EXT. MOUTH OF VOLCANO - DAY

Puffmonster dangles Blinky up in the air over the edge of the volcano with a half-roar, half-laugh.

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

Erica pushes and pulls the joystick furtively as Mr. Mudge looks on behind her.

MUDGE
What's happening?

ERICA
It's no use. Nothing I'm doing will work.

EXT. MOUTH OF VOLCANO - DAY
Lucas runs up to the bamboo cross with the jellybean. He looks up and sees Blinky in the Puffmonster's clutches.

**LUCAS**
Blinky! Down here! Catch!

Lucas throws the jellybean up to Blinky who is unprepared and can't catch it in time. The jellybean falls into the volcano. Puffmonster notices Lucas and swats him with his tail. This sends Lucas flying. Lucas lays motionless for a moment.

**BLINKY**
Lucas!

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

**ERICA**
Oh, no!

Mr. and Mrs. Lemon run over.

**MRS. LEMON**
My baby! Did you find him?

Erica covers the screen with her hand.

**ERICA**
Mrs. Lemon, you may not want to look...

EXT. MOUTH OF THE VOLCANO - DAY

Blinky, still dangling, shouts down to Lucas.

**BLINKY**
Lucas, the Pufffruit, it fell on a rock, just down there I can see it.

**LUCAS**
(groggily) What's a Pufffruit?

**BLINKY**
The candy, Lucas, get the candy, down there!

EXT. DUMP - AFTERNOON

The Lemons, Mudge and Erica all look anxiously at the screen of the game console.

**ERICA**
Come on Lucas, get the Puff-fruit!
Mrs. Lemon covers her eyes and leans on her husband. From out of nowhere, the Dog appears, barks and jumps into the game screen.

EXT. VOLCANO - CONTINUOUS

Dog bursts into the picture and nudges Lucas who comes fully to and scrambles over to the edge of the volcano. The Puffmonster notices him again and takes a step toward him. The Puffmonster lowers the arm with Blinky in it. Dog comes up and bites Puffmonster who loosens his grip on Blinky. Blinky struggles free and joins Lucas on the edge of the cliff.

LUCAS (looking down)
I don't see it.

BLINKY
Down there on that ledge.

The Puffmonster reaches his claw toward them.

BLINKY
Come on jump!

Blinky jumps down onto the ledge.

LUCAS
I can't. I'm afraid of heights.

The Puffmonster encircles Lucas in his claw.

BLINKY
You're not afraid of anything, Lucas!

Lucas thinks for a moment, then realizes he is being lifted in the air. He bites down hard on the Puffmonster's claw. Puffmonster lets him go and Lucas tumbles into the volcano.

Blinky rises up out of the volcano. He is now taller than the Puffmonster.

Blinky reaches down and scoops Lucas in his palm. Lucas eats some of the Puff-fruit. Lucas whistles.

LUCAS
Here, boy!

Dog, who had been hiding from Puffmonster, trots out, sniffs fruit and eats the rest of the Puff-fruit. Blinky sets Lucas down next to Dog.
Puffmonster takes a step back. Lucas grows, becoming as tall as Blinky. The Dog quadruples in size. Blinky looks over at Lucas.

BLINKY
Are you ready, friend?

LUCAS
Bring it on.

Blinky steps forward and punches Puffmonster in the jaw. Puffmonster is momentarily off his balance then comes back toward Lucas who punches him three times in the stomach.

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

ERICA
Good punch, Lemonhead.

EXT. MOUTH OF THE VOLCANO

Dante with Winkala still over his shoulder walks up and smiles as he sees Blinky stomping on Puffmonster's foot as Lucas karate chops him on the back of the neck. Dog bites Puffmonster on the knee. Dante sets Winkala down. She smiles proudly.

WINKALA
Blinky, yes!

Blinky has Puffmonster across his shoulders. He spins around, pro wrestler-style. He throws Puffmonster toward the volcano's vent but just before Puffmonster goes over the edge he snags Lucas around the neck with his tail. The Puffmonster and Lucas are about to go over the edge together.

Blinky grabs for Lucas' foot and catches it. The Puffmonster slides over the edge. Lucas is stuck in the middle with the tail around his throat. He starts to choke as Blinky struggles to hang onto Lucas' foot. Lucas' foot starts to come out of his shoe.

BLINKY
This is why I don't wear shoes...

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

Mudge, Erica and the Lemons are all transfixed staring at the screen. Nod comes up behind them. Erica notices him and turns around.
ERICA
Don't just stand there, do something!

Nod leaps into the screen and blasts the monster's tail. It uncurls from around Lucas neck, but Lucas is still sliding over the edge of the volcano. Nod tries to grab him, but he's too small to keep hold of Lucas who is still giant-size.

Suddenly a huge hand grabs Lucas by the arm. The owner of the hand is Bad Guy who is even bigger than when he first ate the Puff-fruit. Bad Guy lifts Lucas out of the volcano and sets him down near the edge. Then he takes Kilgore out of his pocket and holds him up to his face.

BAD GUY
Now, let's see, dragon or you? Who should burn? Oh, I know! Why don't I throw you both in.

KILGORE
No, don't do that. I swear I won't come after you. If you let me go, I'll go to my commander and guarantee you diplomatic immunity or whatever you call it--

BAD GUY
Who needs immunity? I'm 30 feet tall!

Bad Guy releases the dragon's tail from under his foot. The Puffmonster falls completely into the volcano. He releases Kilgore who falls then pulls his parachute cord. Kilgore lands inches from the edge of the volcano and runs off.

LUCAS (TO BAD GUY)
Thanks for saving my life.

BAD GUY
Hey, I'm not such a bad guy.

Blinky walks over to Nod who comes up to his knee.

NOD
I never thought I'd say this, brother, but you are truly the bigger man.

Blinky leans down to his brother and laughs.

BLINKY
No, you are.

Winkala runs up and hugs Blinky's leg. Blinky begins to shrink. He is still tall but Winkala can stand on tiptoe and look into his eyes.

WINKALA
I'm sorry I left you.

BLINKY
No, it was I who left you, remember?

Blinky looks out over the horizon.

Lucas shrinks a few feet as he shades his eyes and looks out toward the horizon.

POV Blinky the view of the ocean with a giant whirlpool just offshore.

BLINKY
Lucas, I see the way back to your land.

Blinky points toward the whirlpool.

LUCAS
I don't see anything.

BLINKY
Come, I will show you.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - SHORE

Blinky and Lucas (now normal sized) walk toward the peninsula near the whirlpool. Winkala, Dante and Kilgore take up the rear. Blinky points at the whirlpool.

BLINKY
You just jump in there and it will take you back to Orangevale, USA.

LUCAS
Aren't you coming, Blinky?

BLINKY
My place is here. I don't belong in your world.

Winkala walks up to him.
WINKALA
You've defeated the Puffmonster before and he always comes back to hunt you. This time will be no different.

BLINKY
That is a fate I accept. I am a jungle warrior.

WINKALA
Very well, then, as your princess, I must remain at your side.

Dante walks up to them.

DANTE
Whoa, bella, what about that capuccino you promised me?

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

Mr. Mudge stares at the screen and smiles with glee.

MR. MUDGE
See that whirlpool there? That's how they get back, Nod told me. Now all your son has to do is jump in and he'll be home free!

Mudge lifts his arms exuberantly and accidentally knocks the game off its trash pedestal.

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - SHORE

As Lucas, Blinky, Nod, Winkala and Dante stand on the shore the ground beneath them jolts. They are knocked against each other and Blinky and Nod both latch onto Winkala before she falls.

LUCAS
What was that?

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

Mr. Mudge quickly picks up the game and plops it back on the trash table.

MR. MUDGE
Sorry about that, guess I got a little carried away...
EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - SHORE

Kilgore walks up to the group that is still reeling from the earthquake.

KILGORE
I think you recruits should jump in the aqua pronto. Look over there!

Kilgore points toward a huge tidal wave as it swells toward them.

DANTE
Ciaou, I'm outta here.

Dante dives in followed by Kilgore.

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

Dante and Kilgore burst through the computer screen in a torrent of water, knocking Erica over. Erica sits up and spits water out of her mouth.

ERIC
Cool!

MR. LEMON
Who are these people?

MRS. LEMON
Where's Lucas???

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND SHORE - DAY

Lucas carrying the Dog in his arms gets ready to jump into the whirlpool. He glances back at Blinky who lingers behind with Winkala and Nod. The sound of the rushing wave thunders in the air.

LUCAS
Come on Blinky, there's a tidal wave coming! Do you want to drown?

BLINKY
What's a tidal wave when you've defeated the Puffmonster?

LUCAS
Good-bye Blinky.

Lucas reaches out and embraces Blinky who looks like he might cry. Lucas releases Blinky and looks toward Winkala.
LUCAS
Good-bye, princess. (to Nod) Aren't you coming?

NOD
I'll stay where my brother is.

LUCAS
I can't believe you two ever hated each other--what was the big fight about anyway?

NOD
He was jealous of my big gun.

BLINKY
But I was a better shot.

As the tidal wave thunder crescendoes Lucas must yell to be heard.

LUCAS
I'd love to stay and work this out but I gotta jet, see ya!

As Lucas and dog leap in the air the tidal wave rises above them. Winkala takes one terrorized look at it and grabs Lucas' hand. Together, dog, princess and boy land in the whirlpool and are sucked down into its foggy depths. Winkala's voice echoes up:

WINKALA
Sorry, Blinky!

Blinky casts a sorrowful look at Nod, then the brothers stare up at the mammoth wave about to crash down on them.

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

Lucas, Winkala and the dog tumble out of the screen, also in a stream of water. Mrs. Lemon rushes over to Lucas.

MRS. LEMON
Oh, Lucas, I'm so glad you're OK!

LUCAS
You're not mad?
MR. LEMON
We'll talk about that later.

Erica notices Winkala's hand in Lucas' and gives a jealous glare. Lucas quickly snatches his hand away from Winkala, who is looking around confusedly.

LUCAS
Uh, mom, dad, this is Princess Winkala. Winkala, this is my mom and dad Mr. and Mrs. Lemon.

MRS. LEMON
Nice to meet you dear. Can we get you a towel, (looks at her dress) some new clothes perhaps?

LUCAS
Blinky! He's still on the island...

Erica points to the screen.

ERIC
There he is.

Blinky and Nod have their arms swung about each other's shoulders girding for the wave's onslaught as it ripples through the whirlpool.

MR. MUDGE
The whirlpool, it's disappearing!

LUCAS AND WINKALA
Jump, Blinky!

EXT. BLINKY'S ISLAND - DAY

The huge wave crashes down on Blinky and Nod.

POV underwater as the wave churns, there is still a twisting vortex of water off to the side. Nod seems to be unconscious, but Blinky spies the vortex and tugs his brother toward it. Together, they spin and sink down further into the dark water.

EXT. DUMP - EARLY EVENING

The game screen shatters as a flood of water comes through it carrying Blinky and Nod. The Lemon's, Mr. Mudge, Erica, Lucas, Winkala, Kilgore and Dante are all swept off their feet as the tremendous wave cuts through the piles of trash. When it stops, the game console floats in a garbage-choked sea and everyone is chest high or better in water. Winkala
looks around at the chaos panicked.

WINKALA
Blinky?

Blinky's head pops out of the water as does Nod's. Blinky tugs Nod with him as he swims over to Winkala. Blinky lets go of the barely conscious Nod and takes Winkala in his arms and kisses her passionately.

BLINKY
It is I who shall remain by your side.

WINKALA
Oh, Blinky.

NOD
Oh, Brother.

EXT. LEMON KITCHEN - MORNING

Lucas and Blinky are seated at the table. Mrs. Lemon cooks pancakes at the stove while Mr. Lemon reads the paper. The Dog sits nearby begging for food. Mr. Lemon throws him a piece of pancake which goes right through his body and lands on the floor.

MRS. LEMON
I wish you wouldn't do that, Louis. Are sure you don't want any pancakes, Blinky?

BLINKY
No thank you.

Lucas stands up and picks up his backpack.

LUCAS
Come on, we have to pick up Winkala.

MRS. LEMON
And tell Aunt Marge she and Winkala are invited to the party tonight.

LUCAS
She knows.

Lucas and Blinky leave.

EXT. MUDGE'S HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

Blinky, Winkala and Lucas walk by on their way to school.
Nod washes Mudge's truck with his Puffblaster.

    LUCAS
    Hi, Nod.

    NOD
    Hello there, Lucas...(flashes a stunning grin at Winkala)
    Princess...(nods tersely at Blinky)brother...

As they get out of earshot Lucas turns to Blinky.

    LUCAS
    I guess he's probably still jealous
    you ended up with the princess and
    he has to live with creepy old Mr.
    Mudge...

    BLINKY
    Not at all, I think he likes his new
    job.

    WINKALA
    Something tells me he even has his
    eye on a girl there...

CUT TO:

INT. ORANGEVALE MALL - DAY

Nod walks through the mall dressed in a security guard uniform, Puffblaster on his belt. He passes by the Princess Paradise store and smiles.

INT. PRINCESS PARADISE STORE - CONTINUOUS

Salesclerk smiles back at Nod with a dreamy look on her face.

EXT. ORANGEVALE SCHOOL - LATER

Lucas, Blinky and Winkala walk in the hallway. Erica comes up to them. Instead of her usual grungy look she wears a cute dress and has her hair in a ponytail.

    ERICA
    Hey, Blinky, Winkala. Hey Lucas.

    LUCAS(CHECKING OUT HER NEW LOOK)
    Erica??
Boy #1 comes up and points at Blinky.

    BOY #1
    Nice hair, loser.

Erica socks Boy #1 in the arm.

    ERICA
    Hey, leave him alone.

    BOY #1
    Geez, okay!

Boy #1 walks off rubbing his arm.

    LUCAS (TO ERICA)
    Oh, yeah, I forgot to tell you, you're invited to my party tonight.

    ERICA
    Really? I thought you already had a birthday party.

    LUCAS
    It's not a birthday party. My mom's throwing me this welcome home party. She'll probably hire two clowns instead of one.

    ERICA
    Well, your party sounds cool, (looks down shyly) especially if you're going to be there.

    LUCAS
    Are you sure you're feeling okay?

    ERICA
    Yeah.

Erica suddenly kisses Lucas on the cheek. Lucas' jaw drops in amazement.

    ERICA (GIGGLING)
    See you around.

Erica runs off.

    WINKALA
    She seems kind.

    BLINKY
    Yes, she's what you would call 'a
LUCAS
Yeah, I sure hope so.

EXT. ORANGEVALE SCHOOL BLACKTOP - LATER

Kilgore stands before a group of students dressed in PE uniforms.

ARMY GUY
I am Corporal Max Kilgore. I'll be your commanding officer while your teacher is out on maternity leave. Now I don't know how she did things, but you will stand at attention when I talk to you!

Kilgore walks over to a slouching student.

KILGORE
Do I make myself clear? Now drop and give me 20!

EXT. GO CAR TRACK - DAY

Dante lifts the checkered flag as kids in go-carts rev their engines. He brings the flag down and kids take off. He looks after them, smiling.

INT. CLASSROOM

Winkala, Blinky and Lucas are seated at desks. Blinky wiggles and looks uncomfortable as Mrs. Bobbler stands at the front of the room.

MRS. BOBBLER
Now to get the common denominator you divide each divisor by--

BLINKY (WHISPERING)
At least on Blinky's Island we didn't have to sit on uncomfortable chairs.

WINKALA
Yes, and on Blinky's Island we never learned anything, either. SSSSh!

EXT. LEMON BACKYARD - DAY

The backyard has been transformed into a tweener paradise.
with a trampoline, karaoke area, skateboard ramp and cool music. The Clown has returned but gives airbrush tatoos instead of balloons. Blinky entertains kids with aerial stunts on the trampoline. Winkala, Erica and some lavender-haired girls groove at the karaoke area. Captain Kilgore holds court with a group of ladies including Mrs. Lemon and Aunt Marge. Dante gives Mr. Lemon car tips in the garage.

Lucas sits at a table and opens presents: ipods, video games and other electronic devices.

Mrs. Lemon steps over to the table.

MRS. LEMON
Lucas, you have one more gift inside the house. It's from your father and me.

LUCAS
Thanks mom. You didn't have to do that, this party is great enough.

MRS. LEMON
We wanted to make up for all the years of...you know...I guess since you're my only child I just wanted to keep you little as long as I could.

LUCAS
It's Ok, Mom, I know.

Lucas goes in the house followed by his mom.

INT. LEMON LIVINGROOM

A Gamestar 3000 console is hooked up to the ribbon-adorned TV. The words Gamestar 3000 fill the screen. Lucas runs over to the game.

LUCAS
Wow! This is great! Thanks! I'll go out back and get one of the new games I got--

MRS. LEMON
No, there's already a game inside. We picked it out especially for you.

LUCAS
Really? Cool.
Lucas takes the controls and pushes a button.

On the TV screen the Puffmonster roars furiously. The Bad Guy rides on his back and laughs maniacally. Lucas backs away from the TV.

    LUCAS
    No, anything but that, no...

Lucas makes for the door and bumps into Mr. Lemon.

    MR. LEMON
    See Lois? I told you this whole video game thing was just a phase.

Lucas pushes past his father to go outside while Mr. Lemon shakes his head and smiles.

On the TV screen the Puffmonster and Bad Guy get closer and closer. Mrs. Lemon gets a worried look on her face.

FADE TO BLACK