

# Ninfiq & Tiky

By

JACOB S. LEE

"A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...the galaxy being San Francisco."

FADE IN:

EXT. GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA - SUNRISE

The morning sun begins to rise above the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. We hear the voice of a radio announcer.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
 (in a Robin Williams-esque  
 voice)  
*Good mornin', San Francisco! This  
 is Flamin' Hot Freddie reportin'  
 from your local KTMA station.*

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - SUNRISE - MOMENTS LATER

Inside an apartment's bedroom, we pan away from an alarm clock, which reads 6:56, a.m. There are many movie posters (e.g. "The Dark Crystal") taped onto the wall. The familiar announcer continues speaking.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
*First up is your weather forecast.  
 We'll be searchin' for a high 76  
 degrees of summer awesomeness, so  
 be sure to grab your sunscreen and  
 beach towel!*

Soon, the clock begins to blare loudly, and a cat named NINFIA immediately wakes up, whilst rubbing her eyes.

NINFIA  
 (yawns)

She turns to the clock, now reading 6:57, a.m., and smashes it to pieces with a sledgehammer.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Time for me to start the day.

NINFIA gets up from her bed and exits her bedroom.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - SUNRISE - CONTINUOUS

After heading back to the bedroom, NINFIA begins to put on her beauty salon uniform. She reaches the mirror, examining her attire. She does this with a smile on her face.

NINFIA

(in a valley girl voice)

Oh, my gawd, Ninfia, you are, like,  
**sooo** hot.

(in a normal voice)

Why, thank you. Picked out the  
clothes myself.

(valley girl)

Who did your hair, girl?

(normal)

I went to a hair salon.

(valley girl)

No, you didn't, you liar!

(chuckles)

NINFIA presses the "Play" button on a nearby radio and the familiar tune of "Swing Trot" starts up. NINFIA proceeds to sing.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

*You'll adore the step that  
ev'ryone's been waiting for,  
You'll find a crowd on ev'ry  
dancing floor,  
Because of something called the  
Swing Trot, remember Swing Trot.*

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - SUNRISE

NINFIA starts dancing in the kitchen.

NINFIA

(singing)

*It's a deal that's very simple with  
terrif' appeal,  
You grab a partner when you hear a  
band,  
And you're the greatest dancer in  
the land.  
It's bill and coo-y, tea for two-y,  
Just watch your partner's eyes grow  
dewy;  
Entrenous-y, you're slightly  
screwy,  
But irresistible!  
On and on, oh, what a natural  
they've hit upon!  
It gets you going till you're  
really gone,  
And you will never rue the day,  
(MORE)*

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
*The day you realize the Swing Trot  
 is here to stay.*

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - SUNRISE

NINFIA slides down the steps of the apartment complex and hops straight into her vehicle, a 1992 Toyota Supra painted in a dark blue/lavender mixture.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - SUNRISE

Inside, NINFIA adjusts the mirror and puts on a pair of heart-shaped sunglasses. She proceeds to ignite the engine.

NINFIA  
 (purrs)  
 Listen to that purr.

She stomps on the brake pedals.

BACK TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - SUNRISE

The vehicle peels away from the building.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - SUNRISE

NINFIA  
 (singing)  
*You'll adore the step that  
 ev'ryone's been waiting for,  
 You'll find a crowd on ev'ry  
 dancing floor,  
 Because of something called the  
 Swing Trot, remember Swing Trot.  
 It's a deal that's very simple with  
 terrif' appeal,  
 You grab a partner when you hear a  
 band,  
 And you're the greatest dancer in  
 the land.  
 It's bill and coo-y, tea for two-y,  
 (MORE)*

NINFIA (CONT'D)

*Just watch your partner's eyes grow  
dewy;  
Entrenous-y, you're slightly  
screwy,  
But irresistible!  
On and on, oh, what a natural  
they've hit upon!  
It gets you going till you're  
really gone,  
And you will never rue the day,  
The day you realize the Swing Trot  
is here to stay.*

CUT TO:

EXT. SUGAR & SPICE BEAUTY PARLOR - SUNRISE

The car parks in front of the exterior of the Sugar & Spice Beauty Parlor and NINFIA immediately steps out the vehicle.

CUT TO:

INT. SUGAR & SPICE BEAUTY PARLOR - SUNRISE

NINFIA enters inside the building and meets up with her co-workers PATTY and JUDY.

JUDY

Heh! Tardy again, Ninfia?

NINFIA

Not this time, Judy. I finally set up my alarm clock last night.

JUDY

Hey, Patty. Bet ya fifty bucks if Ninfia forgets to set it up again.

NINFIA

Hey!

PATTY

(snickers)

NINFIA

You know I'm gonna set it up again tonight.

PATTY

Sure you will.

NINFIA rolls her eyes. The door's entrance bell rings soon after.

JUDY

Brace yourselves, you two.  
Customers are clamoring in.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUGAR & SPICE BEAUTY PARLOR - DAY - LATER

The three girls are busy sprucing up the customers' new hairdos. The salon itself is much smaller than other beauty salons, but like those aforementioned salons, it functions pretty well. Another customer enters and NINFIA greets her right way.

NINFIA

Hi there! Welcome to the Sugar and Spice Beauty Parlor! Can I help you with anything?

CUSTOMER

Yes, I would like to try the Topsy-Turvy special.

NINFIA

Excellent choice!

After letting her sit down in a barber's chair, NINFIA wraps the customer in a large piece of yellow cloth.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

All righty, here we go!

NINFIA plugs in a hair dryer, but as she plans to start drying the customer's hair, the plug immediately pops back out, thanks to the dryer's short cord.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

What the?

She grabs an extension cord nearby and after plugging the other cord in, she plugs the extension cord back into the outlet. The customer turns to NINFIA.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Oh! Uh...

(chuckles nervously)

...apologies for the delay, ma'mm.  
Just gimme a sec.

She switches the dryer on, but it's not working. She looks at the extension cord and notices that the cord itself has been shorted out.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(growls angrily)

NINFIA turns to the customer.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Be right back.

CUT TO:

INT. STORAGE ROOM - DAY

NINFIA enters the storage room and flicks the lights on. She browses through the area for a bit until she finds an orange extension cord.

NINFIA  
Bingo!

She grabs the cord and untangles it, proceeding to exit the storage room with it. This is immediately backfired when the cord suddenly stops moving. NINFIA sees this and tries to pull.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(strains)

She sees that the cord appears to be buried under a large collection of shelves containing all sorts of cosmetics and equipment.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You've gotta be kidding me.

She pulls on the cord again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(grunts; straining with  
pressure)  
Come...on!

The cord is slowly pulled out from the outlet and pops out as NINFIA falls to the floor. She picks up the other side of the cord.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(chuckles)  
Gotcha!

NINFIA hears some creaking and looks up to see all of the shelves beginning to topple down onto her.

BACK TO:

INT. SUGAR & SPICE BEAUTY PARLOR - DAY

The once busy salon comes to a halt as a thunderous crash and shattering glass echoes from the inside of the storage room.

PATTY

Ninfia?

PATTY races over to the storage room and knocks on the door.

PATTY (CONT'D)

Ninfia, you all right?

The door flies open and reveals NINFIA all covered in gallons and gallons of lip gloss. Small portions are dripping down from her head.

NINFIA

I need a vacation.

The lid of one of the lip glass jars falls on top of NINFIA'S head.

CUT TO:

INT. SUGAR & SPICE BEAUTY PARLOR - SUNSET - MOMENTS LATER

NINFIA, PATTY, and JUDY clock out for the day.

JUDY

Glad that's over.

PATTY

So, girls, any plans for this weekend?

NINFIA

I know what I'm gonna do. I'm gonna quit my job and get myself a vacation.

JUDY

Really?

NINFIA

Yep. I'm tired of coming across stupid mishaps like earlier today, and I feel like quitting. I need some rest and relaxation.

JUDY gives NINFIA a pat on the back.

JUDY

You do it, girlfriend.

NINFIA

Of course I'm gonna do it, Judy! I've been wanting some of that R and R for weeks!

PATTY

I mean, hey, you gotta do what ya gotta do.

NINFIA

Yep. Now, ladies, if you'll excuse me, I have to go home and pack up my stuff for tomorrow. Toodles! Kiss-kiss!

NINFIA exits the salon.

JUDY

Have fun!

NINFIA

And by the way, I will not miss this place.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

In her bedroom, NINFIA is gathering her things together. From the looks of it, it looks like she's got everything she needs.

NINFIA

OK, looks like I got everything I need for tomorrow.

(yawns; sleepy)

Time for me to get some shut-eye.

After stuffing her two suitcases with her clothes, NINFIA gets in bed and flicks the lamp off, turning in for the night. She does this with the biggest smile on her face.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAWN

It is the crack of dawn at a nearby beach. A silhouette of a sleek convertible parks in the far distance. The door opens, and NINFIA steps out of the vehicle.

She proceeds to make her way towards the ocean as she strips down to her swimsuit. NINFIA then leaps straight into the water, making quite a splash. She begins to swim laps around the water, proceeding to hum a happy-sounding tune.

NINFIA  
(hums a portion of "Beauty  
and the Beast")

CUT TO:

INT. WATER - DAWN

A bird's-eye view of the watery surface. NINFIA'S feet are kicking above the water. She proceeds to swim as music that is similar to "Jaws" starts to build up.

BACK TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAWN

NINFIA feels a painful sting underneath the water.

NINFIA  
Ow! Hey!

She feels another sting from below.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(in pain)  
Aah!

NINFIA turns around to see a swarm of jellyfish swimming towards her.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(gasps)  
Aah!

She immediately makes a swim for it, and the jellyfish chase after her.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (panting)  
 Help!

The chase goes on for a quite a bit until NINFIA is bonked on the forehead with a nearby buoy and collapses into the water. Soon, another jellyfish zaps her immediately.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Ow!

BACK TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MIDNIGHT

NINFIA suddenly wakes up.

NINFIA  
 Gah!  
 (pants)

She turns to the clock; the time being 1:26 a.m.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (sighs)  
 Why do I keep having these dreams?  
 I gotta lay off on the coffee.

NINFIA again turns in.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO SKYLINE - SUNRISE - MOMENTS LATER

In a long shot, we enter the San Francisco skyline. The morning sun begins to rise.

BACK TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

NINFIA is busy tying her sneakers. As she does, she turns to the clock, now reading 8:46, a.m. She looks outside the window with the biggest smile on her face as the sun shines through her bedroom window.

She presses the "Play" button on the radio, and begins to sing along to the Willie Nelson song "On the Road Again" as she grabs her suitcases.

NINFIA

(singing)

*On the road again  
Just can't wait to get on the road  
again  
The life I love is making music  
with my friends  
And I can't wait to get on the road  
again  
On the road again  
Goin' places that I've never been  
Seein' things that I may never see  
again  
And I can't wait to get on the road  
again*

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - MORNING

Outside the complex, NINFIA dances her way down the stairs, continuing to sing.

NINFIA

(singing)

*On the road again  
Like a band of gypsies we go down  
the highway  
We're the best of friends  
Insisting that the world keep  
turning our way  
And our way  
Is on the road again  
I just can't wait to get on the  
road again  
The life I love is makin' music  
with my friends  
And I can't wait to get on the road  
again*

She proceeds to toss her suitcases inside the trunk of her Supra and closes it. She then hops inside the car.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - MORNING

NINFIA straps on her seat belt and puts on her sunglasses. She ignites the engine and stomps onto the brake pedals.

BACK TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - MORNING

The vehicle speeds away from the building.

CUT TO:

EXT. GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE - MORNING

NINFIA finishes off the familiar song as the vehicle passes through the Golden Gate Bridge.

NINFIA (V.O.)

(singing)

*On the road again  
Like a band of gypsies we go down  
the highway  
We're the best of friends  
Insisting that the world keep  
turning our way  
And our way  
Is on the road again  
I just can't wait to get on the  
road again  
The life I love is makin' music  
with my friends  
And I can't wait to get on the road  
again*

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT, NEVADA - AFTERNOON - LATER

Out in the Mojave Desert, the silhouette of an unseen creature appears to be chased by an animal-catching truck in the distance. The creature hides behind a bush as the truck flies past it.

It then turns its attention to various vehicles passing each other on the road and proceeds to wander around the area.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT - SUNSET - MOMENTS LATER

NINFIA'S Supra drives through the Mojave Desert.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - SUNSET

Inside the car, NINFIA is enjoying a jazz song on the radio while snapping her fingers in a rhythmic fashion.

NINFIA  
 (hums along with the jazz  
 song)  
 I love this tune.

A loud growling sound is immediately heard, and NINFIA turns off the radio. She looks down at her stomach as it continues to growl viciously.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Whoa.

She places her left hand on her stomach and rubs it.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 I'm starving.

NINFIA proceeds to look outside the desert.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Wonder if there's a diner around  
 here.

NINFIA hears the blaring horn of a minivan and quickly turns her attention to the aforementioned vehicle.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Aah!

She frantically peels around the minivan as it speeds right by her. An angry NINFIA turns back to the vehicle.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Hey! Watch where you're going,  
 buddy!  
 (brief pause)  
 Sheesh, people are so obnoxious  
 these days--

NINFIA turns her attention to the road, suddenly coming across the very same creature from earlier.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(screaming)

NINFIA violently spins the wheel.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT - SUNSET

The vehicle itself spins around in a 360-degree angle. It abruptly comes to a stop.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - SUNSET/EVENING

NINFIA has her eyes popped wide open, holding her hands very tightly on the steering wheel.

NINFIA  
(panting heavily)

She slowly takes her hands off the wheel.

BACK TO:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT - EVENING

NINFIA steps out of the vehicle, immediately in a panic mode.

NINFIA  
(panicking)  
I hope I didn't hurt it.

As she reaches the front of the Supra, NINFIA is suddenly startled by the sight of the creature, who pops out from underneath the vehicle.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Gah!

The creature stares at the frightened cat and immediately hops back under the car. It begins shaking. NINFIA notices the look on its face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Hey, little guy. I'm not gonna hurt you.

She kneels down and holds out her right hand to the creature, who slowly turns back to the kind-hearted cat.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Come on, give me your hand.

The creature turns away again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Hey-hey, hun. It's gonna be OK. I  
promise I won't hurt you. I'm your  
friend.

Once again, it turns back to NINFIA, who draws a smile. With no other option, the creature reaches his hand out to her and NINFIA grabs it gently. She proceeds to carefully pull him out from underneath the car.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
There you go. You're safe now.

The creature nods his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
I'm glad you're safe, too.

NINFIA takes her time to stare at the creature, stunned.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
What...are you, anyway?

The creature shrugs his shoulders, not wondering what species he is.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You don't know?

The creature shakes his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Huh. Well, that's interesting. Do  
you have a home or a family?

The creature has tears rolling down his eyes.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(sad)  
Oh, don't cry.

NINFIA cradles the creature and wipes the tears off his eyes.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
I didn't know you were homeless.  
(sniffs)  
And worst of all, I hate to see  
such a cute creature like you cry.  
(sniffles)

She takes out a tissue and blows her nose.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 If only there's something I can do  
 to make you feel better.  
 (brief pause)  
 Hmm.

After thinking about possible ideas, NINFIA hatches one.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Hey, why don't you come live with  
 me? You'd like that, wouldn't you?

The creature happily nods his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (chuckles)  
 I'll take that as a yes. Come on.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - EVENING

NINFIA hops back in the car with the creature. She places him  
 down on the other seat.

NINFIA  
 OK, you ready?

The creature nods his head again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 All righty! Let's hit the road!

NINFIA tries to ignite the engine, but it keeps sputtering.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Huh?

She turns the key again. The engine sputters a second time.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (frustrated groan)  
 You've gotta be kidding me!  
 (brief pause; sighs)  
 Well, looks like we're spending the  
 night in this car, little guy.  
 (pause)  
 Hey, I didn't give you a name, did  
 I? Hmm. What to name you?

She turns to the window to see a semi-rig passing by her vehicle. On the side of the truck, it reads "Tiky Moving Co." in bright white letters. NINFIA knows exactly what to name the creature.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Does "Tiky" sound OK to you?

Upon hearing his new name, TIKY immediately nods his head in an excited manner.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(laughs)  
All right, it's official! You're now Tiky!

Both NINFIA and TIKY embrace each other. TIKY proceeds to lick her face playfully.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(laughing)  
OK, OK! Stop it!  
(laughs)

NINFIA'S stomach growls again, which somehow scares TIKY.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(chuckles)  
Don't be scared, Tiky. It's just my tummy growling. That means I'm hungry. Are you hungry?

TIKY nods his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(sighs)  
Yeah, I'm hungry, too. Probably should've gone to a drive-thru.

NINFIA looks at the clock; the time is 9:21, p.m.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Wow, I can't believe how late it is.  
(yawns)  
Been a long day, so we're just gonna hit the hay. We'll get some food in the morning.

NINFIA and TIKY both turn in for the night.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
'Night, Tiky.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT - MORNING - MOMENTS LATER

As the next morning rolls around, a police officer named JONATHAN rides his motorcycle through the desert. He soon reaches NINFIA'S vehicle and comes to a stop. He dismounts the motorcycle.

BACK TO:

INT. SUPRA - MORNING

NINFIA and TIKY are still sleeping in the car. JONATHAN knocks on the glass window, which wakes them both up.

NINFIA  
(half-asleep)  
Huh?

She turns to see JONATHAN and rolls down the window.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Um...problem, Officer?

JONATHAN  
Ma'mm, license and registration,  
please.

She shows JONATHAN her driver's license.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)  
Mm-hmm. Mind explaining to me why  
you're sleeping in your vehicle?

NINFIA  
My car broke down last night, and I  
was wondering if there's a mechanic  
around here. I was planning on  
finding one last night, but I was  
too lazy to do it.

JONATHAN  
Hmm. Well, let me take you down to  
Fairland Village so that the both  
of us can handle the matter.

NINFIA  
Fairland Village? Never been there  
before.

JONATHAN  
Really? You haven't? It's a  
beautiful place, indeed.

NINFIA  
It is, huh?

JONATHAN  
Yeah, sure. Here, hop on my  
motorcycle. I'll take you down  
there so that you can get your car  
fixed.

NINFIA  
Thanks, mister! Appreciate the  
offer.

NINFIA steps out of the vehicle.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
C'mon, Tiky.

She proceeds to take TIKY out the car as well as her  
suitcases. NINFIA, TIKY, and JONATHAN hop back on the  
motorcycle and drive off.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY - A BIT LATER

The three individuals reach Fairland Village on JONATHAN'S  
motorcycle. A tow truck is behind them, dragging NINFIA'S  
car.

JONATHAN  
Here we are, guys. Fairland  
Village.

NINFIA  
(amazed)  
Wow!  
(to TIKY)  
Check this out, Tiky! This place is  
like a real-life Western movie.

JONATHAN  
(chuckles)

CUT TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND HOTEL - DAY - CONTINUOUS

JONATHAN comes to a stop in front of the Fairland Hotel and NINFIA dismounts, still carrying both TIKY and the suitcases. She reads the sign.

NINFIA  
(reading)  
"The Fairland Hotel".

JONATHAN  
Nice place, huh? You've got your usual suites, your swimming pools, your diner...

NINFIA  
(gasps)  
Food?!  
(brief pause)  
Oh! Uh...  
(clears throat)  
...that does sound nice.  
(slight chuckle)  
Anyway, thanks for the ride, sir.  
We appreciate it.

JONATHAN  
Please, we're all friends here.  
Call me Jonathan. Your name is?

NINFIA shakes hands with JONATHAN.

NINFIA  
I'm Ninfia. Nice to meet you, Jonathan. And this down here's my friend Tiky.  
(to TIKY)  
Say hi to the nice man, Tiky.

TIKY waves to JONATHAN.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(chuckles)  
Cute, huh?

JONATHAN  
Sure is. He's a funny-looking fella, isn't he?

NINFIA  
Yeah, he is.

JONATHAN

Well, I'd love to stay and chat,  
Ninfia, but I better go. You just  
go on ahead and get settled in.  
Your car's gonna be in the shop for  
a couple of days so that it can get  
fixed.

NINFIA nods her head.

NINFIA

You got it.

JONATHAN

All right, see you guys later. And  
welcome to Fairland Village.

NINFIA

Thanks, Jonathan. Take care.

JONATHAN

You too.

JONATHAN peels away from the hotel as both NINFIA and TIKY  
wave good-bye.

NINFIA

(sighs)

What a nice guy. Barely have one of  
those back in San Francisco.

A confused TIKY tilts his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(chuckles)

That's where I live, Tiky. All  
right, let's head inside and get  
our room.

NINFIA'S stomach growls.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Oh, right. Forgot about you. C'mon,  
Tiky. Let's get some breakfast.

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY

Both NINFIA and TIKY explore town.

NINFIA

Wow, look at this place, Tiky. I never thought Fairland Village would be crowded. Is there a mall nearby?

TIKY shrugs his shoulders. Far behind them, a group of bikers barge inside the Shuck 'n Duck Diner. The familiar scent of an apple pie soon gets NINFIA'S attention.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(sniffs the pie's scent)

Mmm...

Her stomach growls again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

OK, stomach, you really need to be patient.

It responds by growling a bit louder. TIKY starts growling back at NINFIA'S stomach. She covers it with her hands to keep it quiet.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(frustrated sigh)

Now you listen here--

BARBARA (O.S.)

Stop! Thieves!

NINFIA

Huh?

NINFIA turns to the diner as the bikers sprint back outside, carrying an entire cash register. A waitress named BARBARA goes after them with a rolling pin.

BARBARA

Get back here! I'm warning you!

NINFIA

C'mon, Tiky. Time for a little action!

Both NINFIA and TIKY chase after the bikers, who race off on their motorcycles with the cash register.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Hey!

The bikers turn around to see NINFIA and TIKY.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 You guys better put that cash  
 register back where it came from or  
 else!

The bikers laugh.

BIKER #1  
 And just what are you gonna do  
 about it?

She spins her purse around like a lasso and tosses it at one  
 of the bikers, who is carrying the register.

BIKER #1 (CONT'D)  
 Oof!

He collapses to the ground and NINFIA catches the register.

NINFIA  
 Gotcha!

The other bikers charge after NINFIA, and after putting the  
 register down, she swings her purse around again and proceeds  
 to whack the second biker on the head with it.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Yah!

She whacks the rest of the bikers on the head with the purse.  
 BARBARA watches as NINFIA fights them off one by one.

BIKER #2  
 Who do you think you are?!

NINFIA  
 Your worst nightmare, pal!  
 (to TIKY)  
 Sic 'em, Tiky!

A growling TIKY chases the bikers out of town, barking at  
 them like a guard dog.

BIKER #2  
 Gah!

BIKER #1  
 Aah!

BIKER #3  
 Retreat! Retreat!

BIKER #4  
 Mommy!

TIKY continues to bark at the retreating bikers. NINFIA reaches him and playfully rubs his blue hair.

NINFIA  
 Good boy, Tiky!  
 (in a playful tone)  
 Who's a good boy? Who's a good boy?  
 Yes, you are! Yes, you are!

BARBARA (O.S.)  
 God bless you two!

The two turn to BARBARA, who races towards them and gives them a hug.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
 Thank you! Thank you so much!

NINFIA  
 Aw, you're welcome.

NINFIA picks up the register and hands it back to BARBARA.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 I believe this is yours.

BARBARA  
 Oh, thank you two so much. Is there anything I can do to repay you?

NINFIA  
 Well...

NINFIA'S stomach growls loudly once again. TIKY growls back at it in a vicious manner. She tries to keep it calm by covering it with both of her hands. NINFIA blushes and draws an embarrassed smile.

BARBARA  
 (chuckles)  
 Sounds like the both of you got talkin' tummies.

NINFIA  
 Yeah, we're really hungry.

BARBARA  
 Well, as a thank you for what you two did, I'ma fix you both a nice big breakfast.

NINFIA  
 Really? Thanks!

BARBARA

Hey, it's the least I can do. Oh, where are my manners? I'm Barbara, proud owner of the Shuck 'N Duck Diner.

NINFIA

My name's Ninfia. Nice to meet you, Barbara.

BARBARA

Same with me, Ninfia. Who's your friend?

NINFIA

Oh, this is Tiky, my...um...dog? I guess?

TIKY sits down and behaves like a dog. BARBARA rubs his forehead.

BARBARA

He's a cute one, isn't he?

NINFIA

Yeah, I can agree with you on that.

BARBARA

Come on in and take a seat. I'll get your food ready.

BARBARA leads both NINFIA and TIKY to the diner.

CUT TO:

INT. SHUCK 'N DUCK DINER - DAY

Inside the diner, which is designed to look like a saloon, both NINFIA and TIKY are enjoying their breakfast. NINFIA takes a bite out of her sausage.

BARBARA

So, how are enjoying your food?

NINFIA

(after swallowing her food)

Oh, this is heaven, Barb. You can cook, girl! Not gonna lie to ya.

BARBARA  
 (chuckles)  
 Well, I do try my best. Sure beats  
 working as a bank teller.

NINFIA  
 You were a bank teller?

BARBARA  
 Yep, I was.

BARBARA sits down with NINFIA and proceeds to begin her story.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
 In my previous lifetime, I was a  
 bank teller for the Fairland  
 National Bank. Three words come to  
 mind when I describe my previous  
 job: Boring as hell.

NINFIA  
 You hated it?

BARBARA  
 Pfft! You kidding?  
 (after sipping on a cup of  
 coffee)  
 Of course I hated it! I was just  
 sitting there behind that podium,  
 doing nothing for eight years.  
 Then, as I turned twenty-one, I  
 decided to quit my job and open up  
 my own restaurant. It's been a  
 dream of mine since I was a kid.

NINFIA  
 Good for you, Barbara. Have you  
 saved up your money for this place?

BARBARA  
 Nah, I stole the money.

A now-concerned NINFIA turns to BARBARA.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
 (laughs)  
 I'm just kidding. I'd never steal.

NINFIA  
 Oh, uh...  
 (chuckles)

BARBARA

Yeah, I put in every single dime  
for this restaurant, and I'm glad  
that I did so.

NINFIA

I'm glad, too.

BARBARA

So tell me, Ninfia, what brings you  
and Tiky to Fairland Village?

NINFIA

Our car broke down last night, so  
Jonathan took us down here to get  
it fixed.

BARBARA

Ah, nice.

Both NINFIA and BARBARA hear some panicking from outside.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

What's going on?

NINFIA

I dunno.

They look outside the window and see people fleeing back to  
their homes and workplaces. They turn back at each other,  
confused. Soon, a purple 1970s Cadillac makes its way through  
town.

BARBARA

Oh, no.

NINFIA turns to BARBARA.

NINFIA

Why "oh, no"?

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY

The door of the Cadillac opens, and ARTEMIS COWL steps out.  
He sniffs the fresh air.

ARTEMIS

(deep breath; exhales)  
Good morning, Fairland Village!  
How's everybody doing today, huh?

The townspeople stare at ARTEMIS as he proceeds to stroll through town. He whips out a baseball bat in the size of a foot-long and swings it around.

CUT TO:

INT. SHUCK 'N DUCK DINER - DAY

NINFIA

Hey, Barbara? Who is that guy?

BARBARA

Artemis Cowl, the meanest man in Fairland Village. He may look like a decent man, but trust me, Ninfia, this guy's always been called the town bully.

TIKY lets out a ferocious snarl, which concerns NINFIA.

NINFIA

(concerned)

Tiky?

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY

ARTEMIS is still swinging his bat around.

ARTEMIS

(whistles)

Tsk, tsk, tsk, my friend.

He reaches City Hall and approaches the mayor of Fairland, STEPHEN.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

You should've known better than to leave this once lovely City Hall in such a critical state.

MAYOR STEPHEN

Well, Mr. Cowl, I'm sorry to disappoint you, but City Hall's been renovated, and it's more beautiful and prettier than ever.

ARTEMIS creates a smirk on his face while swinging his bat.

ARTEMIS

Oh, really?

MAYOR STEPHEN

Yeah.

He takes a brutal swing at the building and the front entrance of City Hall literally collapses on top of STEPHEN. All ARTEMIS can do is laugh.

ARTEMIS  
(laughs)

CUT TO:

INT. SHUCK 'N DUCK DINER - DAY

NINFIA couldn't believe what she saw.

NINFIA  
(horrified gasp)  
Oh, my goodness!

She immediately covers her mouth with her hands. TIKY again growls in a furious fashion.

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY

ARTEMIS comes across a couple of kids standing behind a lemonade stand.

ARTEMIS  
Ooh, what have we here?

He swipes a glass and takes a sip.

CHILD #1  
Hey! You have to pay for that glass first!

ARTEMIS  
Mmm, I'll see what I can do.  
(brief pause)  
OK, I'll pay.

ARTEMIS swings his bat at the stand, knocking it over. The lemonade pitcher and the associated glasses are now smashed into pieces.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
Oops.  
(chuckles)

After ARTEMIS leaves, the two kids start crying.

CHILD #1 (crying) CHILD #2 (crying)

CUT TO:

INT. SHUCK 'N DUCK DINER - DAY

After seeing this, an angry NINFIA'S face literally turns bright red.

NINFIA  
(growls angrily)

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY

NINFIA storms out the diner and confronts ARTEMIS. TIKY remains inside.

NINFIA  
Hey, you!

ARTEMIS turns to the furious cat.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Who gave you the right to cause  
trouble in this cute little town?

ARTEMIS  
(whistles)  
Looks like we got ourselves a cute  
little kitty-cat in here!

NINFIA  
Cut the sweet talk, honey! You  
should be ashamed of yourself! Look  
at this!

She shows ARTEMIS the unconscious STEPHEN underneath the rubble.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You got this man seriously hurt!  
(brief pause)  
And look over there!

NINFIA also shows the two crying children and their destroyed lemonade stand.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

If there's one thing I hate the most is seeing those poor kids cry. Shame on you!

ARTEMIS creates a smirk.

ARTEMIS

(chuckles)

Does it look like I care about these pathetic saps? They're worthless. They mean nothing.

NINFIA clenches her fists, but she doesn't want to fight.

CITIZEN #1

What do you want, Artemis?

ARTEMIS

Glad you asked. You see, there's this experiment on the loose, and I'm looking for it. Has anyone seen it?

NINFIA has an eyebrow raised.

NINFIA

Experiment? What experiment?

ARTEMIS

Oh, ya know, your ordinary, every-day, scientific doo-hickey. Just an experiment. Experiment #2186, to be precise.

NINFIA

Experiment #2186?

ARTEMIS

Let's just it's for...  
(brief pause)  
...something special.

A guilty TIKY watches the conversation, proceeding to crawl back inside the diner.

NINFIA

Well, whatever it is, you better not hurt it.

ARTEMIS

Oh, don't worry, I won't.

ARTEMIS crosses his fingers behind his back.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Welp, since I'm gonna find my guinea pig, I'ma stay here for a couple of days. If somebody doesn't bring me that experiment before sundown this Sunday, this entire town's goin' bye-bye on Tuesday.

The townspeople gasp in horror.

NINFIA

You're gonna tear Fairland Village down?!

ARTEMIS

That's right. As soon as this place is torn down, I'ma convert it into a shopping center, complete with a beauty parlor.

NINFIA is flabbergasted by the news.

NINFIA

I...

(stammers)

Where are these guys gonna live?!

ARTEMIS

Eh, they'll figure it out.

ARTEMIS hears the beeping from his wristwatch.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Ooh, look at the time. I must be on my merry way. I'ma come back here tomorrow to unpack my things and get settled in.

(to BARBARA)

Oh, and Barbara!

BARBARA turns to ARTEMIS.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Those chicken dinners better be ready when I get back!

BARBARA, in response, flips ARTEMIS the bird. He hops back inside the Cadillac and drives off. NINFIA watches as the aforementioned vehicle drives away in the distance. She races over to STEPHEN and tries to pull him out from the rubble.

NINFIA

(grunts)

STEPHEN is pulled out from the debris.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You all right, Mayor?

MAYOR STEPHEN  
(winces)  
Not exactly. Got a bunch of bruises  
in between my legs.

NINFIA  
Oh, dear, that doesn't sound good.  
Lemme take you to a hospital.

NINFIA proceeds to walk the injured STEPHEN over to a nearby hospital.

CUT TO:

INT. CADILLAC - DAY

Inside, ARTEMIS presses a yellow button and a built-in "experiment tracker" switches on. A baby blue dot flashes on and off.

ARTEMIS  
I will find you. That's a promise.

CUT TO:

INT. BARBARA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN/DINING ROOM - EVENING - MUCH LATER

NINFIA and BARBARA are having a conversation at the dining room of her house.

NINFIA  
Can you believe this? Artemis is gonna tear this place down and turn it into a shopping center just because of some experiment.

BARBARA  
(sighs)  
I knew something like this would happen. That's why I'm planning to close down my restaurant, get all my stuff packed, and move out.

NINFIA'S eyes pop wide open and sprays a ton of milk out from her mouth.

NINFIA  
What?! Move out?!

BARBARA nods her head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You can't move out! We've only been  
friends for a few hours!

BARBARA  
I know, Ninfia, and you're very  
sweet, but I'm afraid there's  
nothing I can do at the moment.

NINFIA  
Well, what about your friends and  
family?

BARBARA  
My father died when I was five, and  
my mother abandoned me when I was  
ten. Both of my grandparents took  
me under their wing soon after  
Mom's funeral. I'm all they got.

NINFIA  
(concerned)  
Don't you even enjoy living in  
Fairland Village anymore?

BARBARA  
Of course I do. This is a beautiful  
town, but ever since Artemis came  
into the picture, I don't think I'm  
as happy living here as I used to.

NINFIA couldn't help but feel guilty for BARBARA. As she  
stated, they've only been friends ever since they met at the  
diner. There must be something she can do to cheer BARBARA  
up. After coming up with possible ideas, NINFIA immediately  
hatches a plan and snaps her fingers.

NINFIA  
Barbara, I know just the solution!  
Wait right here.

She zips out the dining room like a Looney Tunes character,  
complete with disappearing bobby pins. BARBARA turns to the  
CAMERA for a bit before NINFIA comes back to entertain her  
with a couple of handmade puppets. Those are a Tsuyu Asui  
puppet and a Millie puppet.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (imitating Tsuyu Asui)  
 Ribbit! I'm Tsuyu Asui. Nice to meet you.

BARBARA  
 (chuckles)

NINFIA  
 (as Tsuyu)  
 Let's talk quirks. I'll go first if you want. We're all still in shock over Bakugo's kidnapping, so we have to think about this calmly.

BARBARA  
 (laughs)  
 Stop it, Ninfia! You're too funny.

NINFIA  
 (normal voice)  
 I bet you'll like this, Barb.  
 (clears throat; starts imitating Millie)  
 Exactly! Humans are full of secret nasties. It's why so many of them end up here. Guilty and innocent aren't our business, Moxx. Killin' who we're paid to is our business.  
 (kisses)  
 Shoot the target.

BARBARA couldn't stop laughing.

BARBARA  
 (laughing)

NINFIA  
 (as Millie)  
 Shall I keep goin'?

BARBARA  
 (while laughing)  
 No, no, that's OK.  
 (slowly stops laughing; brief pause)  
 Thanks for trying to cheer me up, Ninfia.

Both NINFIA and BARBARA embrace.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
 I really needed it.

NINFIA  
 Hey, it's no biggie. We're besties,  
 remember?

BARBARA  
 Of course. Why wouldn't we?

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

TIKY is looking outside the window of a spare bedroom, feeling pretty guilty. He really wants to tell NINFIA something, but doesn't know where to start. Speaking of whom, NINFIA is busy unpacking her things and placing them inside dresser drawers.

NINFIA  
 (yawns)  
 Well, Tiky, it's been a long one,  
 but tomorrow's a new day. Right,  
 buddy?

She turns to the depressed TIKY and immediately gets concerned.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Tiky? You OK there?

TIKY shakes his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 No?  
 (brief pause)  
 Oh, well, is something troubling  
 you? Wanna talk about it?

NINFIA sits down on the bed. TIKY spots a notebook and a pencil and grabs it. NINFIA is stunned.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 You gonna draw?

Without looking, TIKY begins writing something down on the aforementioned notepad. After finishing, he hands it over to NINFIA, who looks over what he wrote.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (reading)  
 "Remember when Artemis mentioned  
 this 'Experiment #2186'?" Yeah, I  
 do. Why do you ask?

She gives it back to TIKY, who writes something else down. He hands it over to her.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (reading)  
 "I...was that experiment"?  
 (brief pause)  
 Tiky, are you saying that...

TIKY nods his head as a response.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Tiky, I...  
 (stammers)  
 How come you never said anything?!

Tears are running down his cheeks. NINFIA couldn't help but feel bad for TIKY, and comforts him.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Oh, Tiky, don't do that.

She proceeds to wipe the tears off his face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 I just didn't know that you're Artemis' experiment. Don't worry, Tiky. Me and Barbara are gonna do everything we can to take care of you. That's a promise we intend to keep.

Both NINFIA and TIKY stare at each other. She smiles at him and proceeds to sing a lullaby.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
*Sleep my child and peace attend  
 thee,  
 All through the night  
 Guardian angels God will send thee,  
 All through the night  
 Soft the drowsy hours are creeping,  
 Hill and dale in slumber sleeping  
 I my loved ones' watch am keeping,  
 All through the night  
 Angels watching, e'er around thee,  
 All through the night  
 Midnight slumber close surround  
 thee,  
 All through the night  
 Soft the drowsy hours are creeping,  
 Hill and dale in slumber sleeping  
 I my loved ones' watch am keeping,*  
 (MORE)

## NINFIA (CONT'D)

All through the night  
 While the moon her watch is keeping  
 All through the night  
 While the weary world is sleeping  
 All through the night  
 O'er thy spirit gently stealing  
 Visions of delight revealing  
 Breathes a pure and holy feeling  
 All through the night  
 Angels watching ever round thee  
 All through the night  
 In thy slumbers close surround thee  
 All through the night  
 They will of all fears disarm thee,  
 No forebodings should alarm thee,  
 They will let no peril harm thee  
 All through the night.  
 Though I roam a minstrel lonely  
 All through the night  
 My true harp shall praise sing only  
 All through the night

NINFIA continues to sing as she tucks TIKY underneath the baby blue blanket. She also slips under the covers.

## NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

Love's young dream, alas, is over  
 Yet my strains of love shall hover  
 Near the presence of my lover  
 All through the night  
 Hark, a solemn bell is ringing  
 Clear through the night  
 Thou, my love, art heavenward  
 winging  
 Home through the night  
 Earthly dust from off thee shaken  
 Soul immortal shalt thou awaken  
 With thy last dim journey taken  
 Home through the night

After finishing the lullaby, NINFIA gives TIKY a kiss.

## NINFIA (CONT'D)

Good night, Tiky.

She turns in for the night right after turning the light off.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - SUNRISE - MUCH LATER

Bluebirds fly past Fairland Village as the morning sun begins to rise.

CUT TO:

INT. PETER'S AUTO REPAIR SHOP - MORNING

Both NINFIA and TIKY are inside PETER'S Auto Repair Shop, where the aforementioned mechanic is fixing her car's engine.

PETER  
OK, that should do it. Give it a go, Ninfia.

NINFIA hops in the car and tries to ignite the engine, but it's still not working.

NINFIA  
(sighs)  
You've gotta be kidding me.

PETER  
Darn it! I was hoping it'll work.

NINFIA  
Eh, it's all right, Pete. You were just trying your best.

PETER  
Yeah, guess you're right.

BARBARA soon enters the garage.

BARBARA  
Any luck?

PETER  
Nope. Engine's still not cooperating. Guess it'll be a couple of days longer till we can get it up and running.

NINFIA  
Sounds fair.

BARBARA  
So, any plans for today, Ninfia?

NINFIA

Well, me and Tiky are gonna take a stroll around Fairland, maybe visit a couple of shops. Just gonna take it easy, y'know?

PETER

Yeah, you do that.

NINFIA'S stomach soon starts growling, and after a couple of minutes, it literally grows panther fangs and proceeds to roar like a tiger. Annoyed, she grabs her tail and ties it around in a knot to keep her stomach quiet.

NINFIA

(sighs)

I hate it when it does that.

BARBARA gives NINFIA a pat on the back.

BARBARA

Maybe some breakfast'll help you get some energy.

CUT TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Both NINFIA and TIKY stroll down Fairland Village. Various cars and trucks pass by. She takes a whiff of the fresh air.

NINFIA

(inhales, exhales)

Nothing like a beautiful day in Fairland Village. Right, Tiky?

TIKY happily nods his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Couldn't agree more.

The two see JONATHAN riding his motorcycle down the street. He turns around to see them and waves.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Hey, look! It's Jonathan!

(to JONATHAN)

Hi, Jonathan!

JONATHAN reaches NINFIA.

JONATHAN

Hey there, Ninfia! How are you and Tiky doing today?

NINFIA

We're doing OK. Just taking a nice little walk.

JONATHAN

Ah, nice. How'd everything go with your car?

NINFIA

Engine's still not working.

JONATHAN

Sorry to hear that.

NINFIA

Eh, it's no big deal. Pete says it's gonna take a couple of days to get it fixed, so it seems fair.

JONATHAN

I see. Oh, by the way, the Fairland Community Center is hosting a 1980s sock hop later tonight, and I was wondering if you'd like to come.

NINFIA

A 1980s sock hop, huh?

JONATHAN

Yeah, you should come. There'll be games, music, a costume contest...

NINFIA

(excited)  
Food, too?

JONATHAN

(chuckles)  
Yes, and there'll be food as well.

NINFIA

(chuckles)  
Sorry, I just get excited when there's food around. But yeah, we'd love to go.

JONATHAN

Great! Well, I'll let you two get back to your walk. Gotta keep the town safe, y'know.

NINFIA  
Yeah, you do that.

JONATHAN  
See ya tonight, Ninfia!

NINFIA  
You, too!

JONATHAN peels away from NINFIA and TIKY as the two wave good-bye. They continue on their walk.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MOTORCYCLE ALLEY - DAY - LATER

NINFIA and TIKY make their way to the downtown section of Fairland Village, known collectively as Motorcycle Alley. They watch as numerous bikers roam the seedy streets.

NINFIA  
Wow! Look at this place, Tiky.

One of the bikers tries to steal the former's motorcycle and immediately get into a fist fight. The opponent strikes a punch to the other biker's jaw.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Oof! That's gotta hurt!

The two turn to hear some rough-housing from the inside of a motorcycle bar. People are getting thrown out the windows and the main entrance. NINFIA snaps her fingers.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Oh, I know where this is going!  
This is one of those cliches where  
the leads walk into a bar and cause  
trouble.  
(scoffs)  
Piece o' cake.

NINFIA and TIKY proceed to step inside the bar. As soon as the door closes, the two are immediately tossed out through another window. NINFIA picks her head up and turns her attention back to the bar.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Who do these guys think they are  
throwing us out like that?! C'mon,  
Tiky! We've got a score to settle!

NINFIA rolls up her sleeves and she, along with TIKY, marches back inside.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTORCYCLE BAR - DAY - CONTINUOUS

NINFIA and TIKY enter the bar and they both look around. The place is clearly a mess thanks to the constant fighting. Everybody is throwing their beer bottles -- and each other -- around.

NINFIA  
My God, look at this, Tiky.  
(brief pause)  
Aah!

NINFIA ducks as another beer bottle is thrown towards a wall and smashed into pieces. She reaches the counter and proceeds to sit down.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Uh, excuse me?

The loud rock music alone makes it complicated for NINFIA to be heard. And to make matters worse, there was no response, not even from the bartender.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Hello?

She immediately gets irritated.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(in a shouting tone)  
**HEY!**

All of the bikers turn to get NINFIA'S attention, even the bartender, who reaches her.

BARTENDER  
What do you want?

NINFIA  
Oh, good, now that I've got your undivided attention, I would like to see the owner of this bar and have a little chat with him. Or her, whatever the case may be.

BIKER #1  
Hey! It's the same sleazeball who stopped us from stealin' the loot!

NINFIA turns to see the four familiar bikers cornering her with all sorts of guns and switchblades.

BIKER #3  
You and your little critter are  
gonna get what's comin'!

BIKER #4  
Yeah!

BIKER #2  
You two are goin' bye-bye!

NINFIA has sweat running down her face as the bikers proceed to surround her. She draws a nervous smile on her face and zips off like a cartoon character. The four bikers chase after her and TIKY until the two find a place to hide; that place being a costume room.

NINFIA  
In here, Tiky! Quick!

CUT TO:

INT. COSTUME ROOM - DAY

NINFIA and TIKY hide inside the aforementioned costume room.

NINFIA  
(pants)  
Think we lost 'em. We need to get  
outta here and fast. This place is  
not for us.

She turns her attention to a set of costumes that are lying around on the floor. This somehow gives NINFIA an idea and turns back to TIKY.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Tiky, this may sound crazy, but I  
do have a plan.

All TIKY could do is raise an eyebrow, stunned. NINFIA grabs two top hats and gives one of them to TIKY.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Follow my lead, OK?

BACK TO:

INT. MOTORCYCLE BAR - DAY

The bikers try to break the door down with various chairs and stools. They stop what they're doing as soon as they suddenly start to hear some jazz music in the b.g.

BIKER #3

What in the?

The bikers turn their attention to a nearby stage. The curtains rise up and is revealed to be both NINFIA and TIKY, donning top hats, tuxedos, canes, and tap-dancing shoes. NINFIA starts singing.

NINFIA

(singing)

*Heaven... I'm in heaven,  
And my heart beats so that I can  
hardly speak.  
And I seem to find the happiness I  
seek,  
When we're out together dancing  
cheek to cheek.*

The stunned bikers turn to each other, confused.

BIKER #2

(softly)

What's goin' on here?

The fourth biker shrugs his shoulders. NINFIA continues singing.

NINFIA

(singing)

*Heaven... I'm in heaven,  
And the cares that hung around me  
through the week,  
Seem to vanish like a gambler's  
lucky streak,  
When we're out together dancing  
cheek to cheek.  
Oh, I love to climb a mountain,  
And to reach the highest peak.  
But it doesn't thrill me half as  
much  
As dancing cheek to cheek.*

For some reason, the bikers seem to enjoy NINFIA'S musical number.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Dance with me, Tiky!

Both NINFIA and TIKY start to tap dance, and the bikers, as well as everyone else in the bar, soon join in. The two tap dance also swing their canes around in a humorous fashion.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Oh, I love to go out fishing  
In a river or a creek.  
But I don't enjoy it half as much  
As dancing cheek to cheek.  
Dance with me! I want my arms about  
you.  
The charms about you  
Will carry me through to...*

BIKER #1 (O.S.)

(enthusiastic)

Sing it, girl! Whoo!

NINFIA

(singing)

*Heaven... I'm in heaven,  
And my heart beats so that I can  
hardly speak.  
And I seem to find the happiness I  
seek,  
When we're out together dancing  
cheek to cheek.*

Both NINFIA and TIKY take a bow as everyone in the room claps and cheers for them. They soon toss roses, burnt cigarettes, and beer bottles at them.

BIKER #3 (O.S.)

Encore!

NINFIA

*Aw, thanks. You're all too kind.  
Now I'm gonna do some impressions.  
(clears throat; imitating  
Bijou)  
Not with my ribbon, you won't!  
Hamtaro did not mean to trick you!  
How could you be so mean? How could  
you be so cruel? Oh Boss, you  
shouldn't have!*

The bikers laugh and applaud.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

I bet you'll like this.

(imitating Chihiro)

Thank you. You're always there to encourage me like this.

(MORE)

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Whenever I get scared and want to stop, you're right there behind me, pushing me forward. So... Until I'm strong enough to be my true self in front of everyone...I hope you'll be there to support me. I shouldn't hide it forever, but it's difficult to tell everyone at this point. So, I understand where you're coming from... Keeping secrets can make you feel guilty.

The bikers clap again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

All right, guys, one more for the road.

(imitating Niffy)

Hi, I'm Niffy! It's nice to meet you! It's been a while since I've made new friends! Why are you all women? Are there any men here?! This place is filthy! It really needs a lady's touch! Which is weird because you're all ladies, no offense.

The bikers once again laugh and cheer for NINFIA.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Thank you and good night!

She and TIKY make their way down the stage. A photographer soon reaches them.

PHOTOGRAPHER

You're in Motorcycle Alley! Smile!

Both NINFIA and TIKY smile in front of the camera as the photographer snaps a picture. He then hands the photo over to NINFIA.

PHOTOGRAPHER (CONT'D)

Here ya go!

NINFIA

Thanks, mister!

They exit.

CUT TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - AFTERNOON - MOMENTS LATER

NINFIA and TIKY make their way back to Fairland Village.

NINFIA

(laughs)

That was something else, Tiky. You and I were singing show tunes and doing impressions and everybody in the bar was enjoying it! They loved us!

TIKY turns to NINFIA, smiling and nodding his head happily.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Know what? We should probably do this more often. You and me traveling across the country, performing show tunes and doing impressions in front of audiences everywhere, getting the both of us a standing ovation, all that good stuff. That sounds like fun, right?

TIKY nods his head again in response. NINFIA soon sees ARTEMIS' vehicle coming to a stop in front of the Shuck 'N Duck Diner.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(sighs)

Oh no. It's Artemis Cowl.

TIKY immediately hides inside NINFIA'S top hat as ARTEMIS steps outside the vehicle and reaches her.

ARTEMIS

Well, howdy there, kitty-cat! You look nice today.

NINFIA

Thank you.

ARTEMIS

So, any luck finding Experiment #2186 yet?

NINFIA

No, didn't get a chance to find it. Had a lot of errands to do.

ARTEMIS

Ah, I see. Well, same rules apply, my friend.

(MORE)

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

If that experiment is not found by Sunday, Fairland's gonna come crashing down. You wouldn't want that, would ya?

NINFIA

No, I wouldn't.

ARTEMIS

OK, good talk. Remember, I want it back by Sunday.

NINFIA

Yes, we get it, Artemis. You don't have to rub it into our faces.

ARTEMIS grabs his briefcases and heads up to the Fairland Hotel.

ARTEMIS

Just wanna remind you. Ta-ta.

NINFIA

(sighs)

This guy's getting on my nerves.

TIKY peeks out from inside NINFIA'S hat.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Don't worry, Tiky, the weird man's gone.

NINFIA pats TIKY on the forehead.

CUT TO:

INT. FAIRLAND HOTEL - ROOM #8 - AFTERNOON

Inside the eighth room of the Fairland Hotel, ARTEMIS places down one of the briefcases on the bed, and after unlocking it, he opens it, revealing a comically large butterfly net. ARTEMIS takes it out the briefcase and holds it tightly.

ARTEMIS

I know that cat has the experiment.  
And I won't rest until I catch it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAIRLAND COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING - LATER

People dressed in various costumes are dancing inside the Fairland Community Center, which is decorated to look like a 1980s diner. The music in question is the Cyndi Lauper single "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun".

Both JONATHAN, dressed as Optimus Prime, and BARBARA, dressed as Jenny Foxworth from "Oliver & Company", are also dancing. Soon, STEPHEN, dressed as RoboCop, reaches them.

MAYOR STEPHEN

You two enjoying the sock hop?

JONATHAN

Heck yeah I'm enjoying it!

BARBARA

I'm in love with this idea, Mayor.  
A 1980s sock hop is perfect!

JONATHAN

Couldn't agree more, Barb.

MAYOR STEPHEN

You two have fun now...  
(as RoboCop)  
...and stay out of trouble.  
(laughs)

JONATHAN

(chuckles)

BARBARA

(laughs)

STEPHEN passes by as both BARBARA and JONATHAN continue to dance.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Hey, is Ninfia gonna be here, too?

JONATHAN

I hope so. She said she loves anything that involves food.

BARBARA

(chuckles)  
Does she really?

JONATHAN

That's what she told me.

NINFIA (O.S.)

Hey, everyone!

Both JONATHAN and BARBARA turn to see NINFIA and TIKY entering the building; NINFIA is dressed as Tina Turner and TIKY is dressed as Gizmo from "Gremlins".

BARBARA  
Oh my God, look at you!

JONATHAN  
You look great, Ninfia!

NINFIA  
Thanks! Gotta look the part, right?  
(chuckles)

BARBARA  
Oh, Tiky, you look so cute!

NINFIA  
Isn't he?  
(to TIKY)  
You look cute, don't ya, Tiky?  
(playful)  
Huh? Huh?

TIKY blushes after NINFIA playfully pinches his right cheek. She turns to the right side of the building and her eyes pop wide open.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(gasps)  
Tiky, look!

NINFIA points directly to the refreshment table, which is filled with all kinds of snacks and desserts. A heavenly light shines above the aforementioned table.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(excited)  
Cookies? Candy? Cakes? Brownies?!  
Mmm-mmm-mmm-mmm!

NINFIA'S stomach growls and tries to keep it quiet.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Shh!  
(softly)  
Not now!

As "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" comes to a close, another song, "Weird Al" Yankovic's "Dare To Be Stupid", starts up.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(excited gasp)  
I love this song!  
(MORE)

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (to TIKY)  
 C'mon, Tiky, let's dance!

Both NINFIA and TIKY hop onto the dance floor and immediately start dancing to the music. BARBARA and JONATHAN soon join in.

BARBARA  
 Having fun yet?

NINFIA  
 You kidding? We're having the time  
 of our lives!

JONATHAN  
 That's what we like to hear!

CUT TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING

Outside, ARTEMIS' vehicle pulls up in front of the building and steps out with the butterfly net in hand. He looks over to the window, where he spots NINFIA dancing with TIKY. ARTEMIS draws a menacing smile on his face.

ARTEMIS  
 Pack your bags, Experiment #2186.  
 You're coming home with Daddy.

BACK TO:

INT. FAIRLAND COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING

The four friends are still dancing, as well as singing along.

NINFIA  
 (singing)  
*Talk with your mouth full  
 Bite the hand that feeds you  
 Bite off more than you chew  
 What can you do?  
 Dare to be stupid*

BARBARA  
*Dare to be stupid*

JONATHAN  
*Dare to be stupid*

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
*Take some wooden nickels  
 Look for Mr. Goodbar  
 Get your mojo working now  
 (MORE)*



JONATHAN

What?!

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN follow NINFIA outside.

BACK TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING

ARTEMIS hurries over to his purple Cadillac, carrying TIKY inside the net; TIKY struggles to break it apart.

ARTEMIS

(laughs)

I've got you, Experiment #2186! You are coming back home with me!

TIKY starts growling at ARTEMIS.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Don't you snarl at me like! You've got some nerve running away from me and being friends with that cat of yours!

NINFIA (O.S.)

Artemis!

ARTEMIS turns to see NINFIA reaching him outside.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

Let Tiky go!

ARTEMIS

Tiky? You named this experiment Tiky?

(laughs)

That is the stupidest name I've ever heard.

As a response, an offended TIKY bites ARTEMIS' left hand.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Ow! Oh, you mangy freak-show!

NINFIA

Tiky is not a freak-show, Artemis! He's my friend.

ARTEMIS

Your friend? Ha! Friends come and go.

(MORE)

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

And experiments like this one right here is forbidden to make friends.

NINFIA is confused.

NINFIA

That doesn't make any sense!

JONATHAN

Give Tiky back to Ninfia, Artemis!

ARTEMIS

Sorry, Officer, not gonna happen. Now you put Ninfia here behind bars for kidnapping this creature and holding it hostage immediately.

JONATHAN

What?! Artemis, stop being ridiculous. I can't just arrest Ninfia just because she was taking care of Tiky.

NINFIA

Are you saying that I'm a thief? That's not true at all, Artemis! I found Tiky in the middle of the road and I was trying to take care of him.

TIKY nods his head in agreement.

ARTEMIS

Wow, great story you got there. I'll be sure to get my kids the book-on-tape.

(to JONATHAN)

And if you can't do your job, Officer, then I'll just have to do it for you.

ARTEMIS swipes a pair of handcuffs away from JONATHAN.

JONATHAN

Hey! Give those back!

He proceeds to handcuff NINFIA.

NINFIA

Artemis, let go of me!

NINFIA struggles to remove her hand away from ARTEMIS' own, but the handcuffs hold them tight.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(grunts)

BARBARA  
You can't do this, Artemis!

ARTEMIS  
I can, and I just did. Now, if  
you'll excuse me, I believe that me  
and the creature are gonna be  
heading back home.

ARTEMIS begins to head back to his vehicle, but TIKY refuses to go. He growls and bites his hand again.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
(in pain)  
Gah!  
(growls angrily)  
Get in there!

The furious ARTEMIS violently throws TIKY in the back of an animal-catching truck, which is parked next to ARTEMIS' Cadillac.

NINFIA  
Tiky! Tiky, please don't go!  
(to ARTEMIS)  
Don't you dare hurt him, Artemis!  
Ya hear me?!

A tearful TIKY tries to escape, but ARTEMIS zaps him with a high-voltage taser, knocking him unconscious.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(in a shrieking tone)  
**NO!!**

NINFIA'S eyes are filled with tears and her face literally turns red.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(growls angrily;  
screaming)

Furious and horrified, she proceeds to chase after the truck, despite both of her hands being cuffed tightly. Both the truck and ARTEMIS' vehicle peel away from the Community Center after NINFIA suddenly comes to a stop.

She then collapses on her knees, distraught, hurt, and heartbroken. Tears are still running down her face.

CUT TO:

INT. SHUCK 'N DUCK DINER - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Inside the Shuck 'N Duck Diner, BARBARA pours the heartbroken NINFIA a cup of coffee while JONATHAN detaches the handcuffs off her hands.

BARBARA

I'm really sorry about what happened to Tiky, Ninfia. You were just trying to protect him.

JONATHAN

We both are.

JONATHAN pats NINFIA on the back.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

But don't worry, Ninfia, we'll figure out a way to rescue him.

NINFIA

Thank you, Jonathan.

(to BARBARA)

You too, Barbara. You're both very sweet.

NINFIA'S eyes are filled with tears again.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(sniffling)

Tiky means everything to me. Even if the both of us have known each other for a short time, he was still such an adorable creature.

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN couldn't help but feel bad for NINFIA as she continues to talk about how much she misses TIKY.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(cries)

And Artemis just had to take him away.

She wipes the tears from her eyes.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

It felt like losing Tiky...

(sniffles; brief pause)

...was like losing a part of me. He made me whole.

(pause)

Now I'm nobody.

NINFIA gets up from her seat and exits the diner. BARBARA and JONATHAN watch as the heartbroken cat proceeds to wander around Fairland Village.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

NINFIA is sitting on the bed, looking outside the bedroom window as it starts to rain. She starts raining.

NINFIA

(singing)

*Gee I'm glad it's raining  
There's always something  
to be thankful for  
I'm awfully glad it's raining  
'Cause no one sees the  
tear drops when it pours*

A short collection of memories featuring both NINFIA and TIKY fade in on-screen. These include the very first time they met, their first encounter with bikers, and dancing together at the bar. NINFIA continues singing.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

*And no one knows the thunder  
As your heart breaks in the sky,  
And they think those rainy nights  
'Cause that sad look in your eye  
Sure am glad it's raining  
The gentle river soothes  
the pain inside.  
I'm glad the stars aren't shining.  
This wounded warrior  
needs a place to hide*

The cloud that contains the aforementioned memories slowly begins to disappear.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

*I thought I had found someone  
I could count til the end.  
What they wanted was a hero,  
All I needed was a friend  
Gee I'm glad it's raining  
I hope the morning sun  
won't come up soon.  
As long as it keeps raining,  
No one knows my heart  
broke right in two*

NINFIA looks at the same photo from earlier. She has tears running down her face as she proceeds to finish the song.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(singing)

*I thought I had found someone  
I could count til the end.  
What they wanted was a hero,  
All I needed was a friend  
Sure am glad it's raining  
I'm awfully glad it's raining*

NINFIA'S eyes flow more tears as she stares at the photo. Teardrops fall directly on it. Then, after dropping the photo onto the floor, she starts crying after laying her face down onto the pillow.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(crying)

Tiky...

(sobs)

CUT TO:

INT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

ARTEMIS enters inside the Cowl Animal Experimentation Shelter, carrying the unconscious TIKY with him.

ARTEMIS

Welcome home, Experiment #2186.

TIKY wakes up and turns to ARTEMIS, proceeding to start growling in a furious manner.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Growl at me all you want, pal. That cat's not coming for you. Now get in there!

ARTEMIS violently tosses TIKY inside an animal cage and slams it shut, locking it. TIKY tries to bend the bars, but it's no use. He continues to growl at ARTEMIS as he reaches the aforementioned cage.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Oh, and as punishment for running away from me, I've got something special planned for you.

TIKY frowns and starts sweating as ARTEMIS draws a smile that's quite sinister.

CUT TO:

INT. FAIRLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT - JONATHAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Inside his office of the Fairland Police Department, JONATHAN is going over numerous files on various suspects. Another officer, DANIEL, passes by.

DANIEL  
Overnight shift again, Jonathan?

JONATHAN  
Yeah, you know how it goes.

DANIEL  
(chuckles)  
Good night.

DANIEL exits. JONATHAN continues to look through the files until he discovers a file related to ARTEMIS. This immediately catches his eye. He flips the file open and begins to go over his various records carefully. One record in particular quickly got JONATHAN'S attention and his eyes pop wide open.

CUT TO:

INT. BARBARA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

BARBARA is fast asleep in her bedroom. The phone soon rings, causing her to wake up. She answers the phone afterwards.

BARBARA  
(half-asleep)  
Hello?  
(pause)

A now-surprised BARBARA jumps out of bed.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
What did Artemis do?!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A sleeping NINFIA hears some knocking on the door.

BARBARA (O.S.)  
Ninfia? Ninfia!

BARBARA knocks on the door again. NINFIA soon comes around.

NINFIA  
Barbara?

She opens the door, and BARBARA enters. NINFIA rubs her eyes.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(yawns)  
Barb, you do realize that it's  
eleven o'clock, right?

BARBARA  
Ninfia, I need to tell you  
something.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN are all in the dining room.

NINFIA  
What's going on?

JONATHAN shows NINFIA ARTEMIS' record file.

JONATHAN  
Artemis is what's going on, Ninfia.  
We've found something quite  
horrifying about him that I think  
you'd like to check out.

She flips the file open and goes over it. After a bit of reading, NINFIA'S eyes soon pop wide open.

NINFIA  
(horrified gasp)

BARBARA  
What is it?

NINFIA slowly lowers the file down, with her eyes still popped open.

NINFIA  
Tiky. That unfinished vaccine of  
his.  
(brief pause)  
He's gonna kill him.

JONATHAN

What are we gonna do?

NINFIA

We need to rescue Tiky as well as the other animals Artemis has kidnapped.

BARBARA

How are we gonna do that?

NINFIA

Simple. We get the whole town involved. Spread the news. Let everyone know what's going on. We can't let Artemis hurt those poor animals with that vaccine. You guys with me or what?

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN turn to each other for a little bit. They soon come to a decision.

JONATHAN

I'm with you, Ninfia.

BARBARA

Same with me. We're not just gonna sit here and watch Artemis get these animals hurt.

NINFIA nods her head in agreement.

NINFIA

Absolutely! All righty, then! Let's do this!

CUT TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - CITY HALL - NIGHT - A BIT LATER

The townspeople has surrounded the outside of City Hall. STEPHEN steps behind the podium and begins speaking.

MAYOR STEPHEN

(clears throat)

Fellow citizens of Fairland Village, I've summoned all of you here for an important announcement.

(MORE)

MAYOR STEPHEN (CONT'D)

A couple of good friends of mine gave me some disturbing news involving Artemis Cowl just moments ago, and one of them has decided to step forward to give that same news to us.

(to NINFIA)

Ninfia, you may now step up and say a few words about this matter.

NINFIA

Thank you, Mayor.

NINFIA walks up to the podium.

NINFIA (CONT'D)

(clears throat)

Ladies and gentlemen, as your mayor just mentioned, we've discovered something very disturbing about Artemis Cowl. It turns out that he's been trying to create this vaccine that will be capable of healing various animals as well as other types of creatures. As it turns out, he actually stole the documents for it from the government and got the go-ahead to make it thanks to some foreign pediatrician without their approval. He's also putting a close friend of mine in danger, and we need your help to stop Artemis before he make this whole thing even worse. We can't just sit around and watch as Artemis harm those poor animals. What we need to do is to take action. So I ask you, can you help us rescue those animals?

The townspeople immediately cheer and applaud as NINFIA draws a smile. STEPHEN gives her a pat on the back.

MAYOR STEPHEN

Well said, Ninfia.

(to the townspeople)

You heard the cat! We need to help her rescue those animals! And fast!

NINFIA meets up with both BARBARA and JONATHAN down the steps of City Hall.

NINFIA  
 Barb, Jonathan, you're coming with  
 me.

BARBARA and JONATHAN follow NINFIA after she leaves the  
 premises.

CUT TO:

INT. PETER'S AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NIGHT

PETER lets the three friends inside after NINFIA knocks on  
 the door.

PETER  
 Ninfia? What are you guys doing  
 here?

NINFIA  
 Is my car finished?

PETER  
 Well, luckily, I did get it up and  
 running.

NINFIA  
 Good enough. Let's go, guys!

NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN hop inside the Supra.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - NIGHT

NINFIA ignites the engine.

JONATHAN  
 Where are we going?

NINFIA  
 We're gonna rescue Tiky.

She stomps onto the brake pedals.

CUT TO:

EXT. PETER'S AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NIGHT

NINFIA'S vehicle busts through the garage door, proceeding to  
 peel away from the shop.

NINFIA

Don't worry, Tiky! We're coming for ya!

CUT TO:

INT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

TIKY is still trying to get the cage open. ARTEMIS notices this and puts a stop to it.

ARTEMIS

Ah-ah-ah! I can't allow you to leave, Experiment #2186. Not until you be a good little creature and be a test subject for my vaccine.

He shows TIKY the needle. TIKY immediately shakes his head.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Still don't wanna do it, huh?

(brief pause)

Well then, since you refuse to be my guinea pig...

ARTEMIS opens up a nearby drawer and takes out a pistol.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

...I'm afraid I'm gonna have to put you to sleep.

He draws a menacing smile on his face. Poor TIKY couldn't help but feel frightened and sweat starts running down his face.

CUT TO:

EXT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

NINFIA and the gang arrive outside the shelter. She, BARBARA, and JONATHAN step out the vehicle.

NINFIA

This must be the place.

JONATHAN

Yeah, it is. Good thing I remember the directions.

BARBARA

So, what's the plan, Ninfia?

NINFIA

To keep this as simple as possible,  
the three of us'll wait until  
Artemis leaves. Then, when the  
coast is clear, we grab Tiky as  
well as the other animals and get  
our tails outta here.

JONATHAN

What about Artemis?

NINFIA

Well, Jonathan, that's where you  
come in. You just do your thing.

JONATHAN

Hmm. I guess that makes sense.

NINFIA

Great! Now, let's find our way in.

The three individuals zip over to the back of the shelter.  
BARBARA spots a door right next to a garbage can.

BARBARA

(softly)

In here.

BARBARA leads NINFIA and JONATHAN inside the shelter.

BACK TO:

INT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN all tip-toe through the halls  
of the shelter. Peeking through a nearby door, they soon find  
ARTEMIS polishing his pistol.

ARTEMIS

(humming the theme of "Get  
Smart")

NINFIA has her eyes popped wide open after seeing the pistol  
and turns to both BARBARA and JONATHAN.

NINFIA

(softly)

That gun! Artemis is gonna shoot  
Tiky!

BARBARA

(softly)

No!

ARTEMIS hears his cell phone ring and answers it. He proceeds to leave the room. Soon after, NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN quickly enter and come across the cages.

NINFIA  
(softly)  
Tiky!

TIKY yaps happily and flips with joy.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(softly)  
Shh! Quiet, before Artemis comes back.

He gives NINFIA a thumbs up. NINFIA turns to JONATHAN.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(softly)  
Jonathan, do you have a set of keys on you?

JONATHAN  
(softly)  
I think I do. Just gimme a sec.

JONATHAN digs through his pants pockets and somehow finds a large paper clip.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)  
(sighs)  
Crap! All I got is this paper clip.

NINFIA  
(softly)  
That could work. Lemme see it.

JONATHAN hands the paper clip over to NINFIA, who proceeds to pick the lock off of TIKY'S cage. After the lock falls to the floor, she opens up the cage and embraces TIKY. Tears are running down her face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(while crying)  
Oh, Tiky, I'm so happy to see you again!  
(cries)

TIKY playfully licks NINFIA'S face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(laughs)  
All right, Tiky. Stop it!  
(laughing)

ARTEMIS (O.S.)  
Well, well, well!

NINFIA and the others turn to see ARTEMIS reaching back to the room.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
I wasn't expecting company.

TIKY growls at ARTEMIS. An angry NINFIA stays silent.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
You're lucky I didn't call the cops. What brings you all here?

NINFIA  
We're getting these poor animals out, whether you like it or not.

ARTEMIS  
Oh, really? All three of you are risking your pathetic lives to rescue those worthless animals? How sweet. You're even bigger idiots than I thought you were.

JONATHAN  
Artemis, I'm placing you under arrest for fraud, disturbing the peace, and kidnapping.

ARTEMIS  
Big whoop, Officer.  
(to NINFIA)  
You just don't give up, do ya, Ninfia?

NINFIA  
I don't, Artemis. Not on Tiky, not on my friends, and not on Fairland Village.

TIKY nods his head in agreement.

ARTEMIS  
Wow, that line was weak. You need to work on your material. Now, hand Experiment #2186 over to me and you can go on your merry way.

NINFIA  
Never!

ARTEMIS whips out his pistol and aims it at NINFIA.

ARTEMIS  
Oh, well. Your funeral.

A growling TIKY leaps onto ARTEMIS, proceeding to bite his arm.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
Aah!

The pistol fires at the ceiling. TIKY jumps down and NINFIA rubs his head.

BARBARA  
Atta-boy, Tiky!

NINFIA  
Quick, guys! Get the other animals out before--

ARTEMIS  
(screaming in a fit of rage)

ARTEMIS tackles NINFIA to the floor.

NINFIA  
Aah!

He proceeds to wrestle her. NINFIA tries to push him off.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
(grunts)  
Get off me!

ARTEMIS  
Never!

TIKY charges behind ARTEMIS and proceeds to chomp his khakis, dragging him to the floor.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)  
Hey! Who's pulling me?!

This allows NINFIA to roll off the floor and get back up.

NINFIA  
(sighs)  
Thanks, Tiky!

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN unlock the cages and flip them all open.

JONATHAN

All right, guys! Hop on outta there!

BARBARA

C'mon, everyone! Let's get outta here!

All of the once captured pets and other animals leap out their respective cages and proceed to make their way to the door. NINFIA and TIKY soon join BARBARA and JONATHAN as they continue to open more cages.

NINFIA

Good work, guys! We're making progress!

JONATHAN

C'mon, guys! Pick your feet up! Keep it movin'!

NINFIA

You guys'll be outta this place in no time!

ARTEMIS (O.S.)

No, they won't!

ARTEMIS grabs NINFIA by her light purple sweater and drags both her and TIKY away.

NINFIA

Aah!

BARBARA

Ninfia! Tiky!

He pins NINFIA down to a wall, getting a grip on her neck. She tries to remove his hands.

NINFIA

(straining; grunting)

ARTEMIS

You shouldn't have done that, Ninfia. Those animals are for experiments only, not for their petty escapes!

NINFIA

These animals deserve a home, Artemis. Besides, if you care about what other people think, then you're never gonna do anything.

ARTEMIS

That's such a terrible line and it  
doesn't sound convincing.

ARTEMIS takes out his pistol. TIKY watches this from behind.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Oh, and do me a favor, Ninfia.

The pistol clicks, and is aimed directly at NINFIA.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

When you get to Heaven, say hello  
to God for me.

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN turn to see this. NINFIA has sweat  
running down her face.

JONATHAN

No!

BARBARA

(horrified gasp)  
Ninfia!

The angry TIKY'S yellow halo glows a red color, and so does  
the pistol.

ARTEMIS

What in the...?!

TIKY tosses the pistol to the floor. ARTEMIS turns to see  
him.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

You!

He starts to charge after TIKY, but his halo glows again,  
immediately putting ARTEMIS to a stop.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Huh?

He then proceeds to lift him off the ground.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Hey! Put me down!

TIKY throws ARTEMIS over to the other side of the room.

ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Aah!

He crashes into a cabinet full of medical supplies, which collapses. NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN all turn to see TIKY.

NINFIA  
Tiky, you...saved my life?

TIKY smiles and nods his head once. NINFIA also smiles and embraces TIKY, with tears running down her face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Thank you.

They hear all of the puppies barking at the front door of the shelter and turn their attention to it. TIKY'S halo glows again.

BARBARA  
Stand back!

JONATHAN  
Whoa!

The halo blasts a giant laser at the aforementioned door.

CUT TO:

EXT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

The door, as well as parts of the entrance, explodes from inside the shelter.

BACK TO:

INT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

BARBARA  
Tiky has powers now?!

NINFIA  
I dunno where these powers came from, Tiky, but that was awesome! Now let's get all these animals outta here!

JONATHAN  
C'mon, guys! Move those tails!

JONATHAN leads the animals outside, and BARBARA, NINFIA, and TIKY follow suit.

As more of the puppies make their escape, the once unconscious ARTEMIS wakes up and spots another puppy planning to make an escape. He quickly grabs his pistol and points it directly at the aforementioned puppy.

ARTEMIS

You're not going anywhere!

The puppy sees this and hops away as ARTEMIS starts to shoot. The bullets miss the puppy and hits a nearby gasoline pump.

CUT TO:

EXT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

Back outside the shelter, the townspeople charge towards the building with pitchforks and baseball bats. STEPHEN sees all of the animals racing towards them.

MAYOR STEPHEN

Look!

PETER

The animals are free!

Everybody drops their weapons and begins to embrace their respective pets. NINFIA, BARBARA, and JONATHAN all come to a stop.

CHILD #1

Oh, how can we ever repay you?

The reunion immediately grinds to a halt as parts of the shelter is blown into smithereens. Everybody turns to witness this.

MAYOR STEPHEN

What the?!

A sea of flames grow from the inside of the shelter and black smoke starts to rise. The townspeople murmur and panic. NINFIA couldn't help but watch.

JONATHAN

Great! What're we gonna do now?

BARBARA

I'll get the fire department!

Without saying a word, a determined NINFIA starts racing back to the shelter. BARBARA sees this and tries to get NINFIA'S attention.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
Ninfia! What're you doing?!

NINFIA  
I've gotta help Artemis!

BARBARA  
Artemis?! But he tried to kill  
Tiky. He tried to kill the other  
animals! He also tried to kill you  
as well!

NINFIA  
I know that, Barb. But even though  
he did do all those things, I can't  
just sit here and watch this place  
burn to the ground with him inside  
it.  
(to TIKY)  
C'mon, Tiky!

TIKY nods his head and both he and NINFIA head back to the  
burning shelter.

JONATHAN  
What the heck's Ninfia doing?!

BARBARA  
Dong what she thinks is right.

BACK TO:

INT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

Both NINFIA and TIKY enter the shelter, which slowly begins  
to collapse.

NINFIA  
Artemis?

Small pieces of wood begin to sprinkle down to the floor.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Artemis! Where are you?  
(brief pause)  
Aah!

A large chunk of wood immediately falls apart. NINFIA holds  
TIKY tight in her arms.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Stay close to me, Tiky.

NINFIA looks around the shelter for a bit as flames begin to grow worse. She turns to the other side of the room and comes across ARTEMIS, who is once again unconscious.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (gasps)  
 Artemis!

She races towards ARTEMIS, who is laying underneath a large bookshelf. NINFIA proceeds to lift up the bookshelf.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (straining; panting)

Unfortunately for her, it's too heavy.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (sighs)  
 Great! This thing won't budge.

TIKY'S halo once again glows, this time in a blue color. He uses it to carefully lift up the bookshelf. NINFIA watches this and turns to TIKY with a smile on her face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 There ya go, Tiky!

She rubs his forehead playfully, then turns her attention back to ARTEMIS.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 All right, buddy. We're gonna need  
 all the manpower we got.  
 (brief pause)  
 OK, ready? One...two...three!  
 (grunts)

Both NINFIA and TIKY immediately begin to lift the unconscious ARTEMIS up off the ground and proceed to slowly head back outside. Soon, more pieces of wood start to fall from the ceiling, startling NINFIA.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (frightened)  
 Gah!

The wood starts to block the door.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 No!

Using his halo again, TIKY takes it upon himself to lift the wood back up. Sweat is running down his face.

CUT TO:

EXT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - NIGHT

Everybody watches as the shelter continues to collapse, worried for NINFIA. Both BARBARA and JONATHAN watch as well.

BARBARA  
(scared)  
C'mon, Ninfia.

Without looking, JONATHAN holds BARBARA'S hand tight.

CHILD #2  
Hey, look!

The townspeople as well as BARBARA and JONATHAN turn to see what's going on. NINFIA and TIKY make it outside the shelter, still carrying the unconscious ARTEMIS. The townspeople rejoice.

BARBARA  
Ninfia! Tiky!

BARBARA races over to NINFIA and gives her a hug, squeezing her tightly.

BARBARA (CONT'D)  
(while crying)  
I'm so glad you two are all right!

NINFIA  
(straining)  
Glad to see you, too, Barb.

JONATHAN  
Ninfia! You're OK!

NINFIA  
Yeah, I am. Not so sure about Artemis, though. Is there a doctor around here?

DR. MAZA (O.S.)  
I'm a doctor.

NINFIA turns to see DR. MAZA reaching her.

DR. MAZA (CONT'D)  
 Can I help you with anything,  
 ma'mm?

NINFIA  
 Yeah, this man is unconscious. Mind  
 if you check his pulse?

DR. MAZA kneels down and presses her two fingers onto  
 ARTEMIS' wrist. This goes on for a few seconds.

DR. MAZA  
 Mm-hmm. He's probably paralyzed by  
 the explosion, so I think I'm gonna  
 have to take him to a hospital.

NINFIA  
 Sounds like a plan.

CUT TO:

EXT. COWL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION SHELTER - MIDNIGHT - A BIT  
 LATER

NINFIA and DR. MAZA lift up ARTEMIS to the back of an  
 ambulance, and after TIKY shuts the doors tight, DR. MAZA  
 give the aforementioned vehicle a couple of taps, allowing it  
 to drive off. BARBARA wraps NINFIA up in a blanket.

NINFIA  
 (sighs)  
 Thanks, Barb. Glad everybody turned  
 out OK.

MAYOR STEPHEN  
 I couldn't agree more.

NINFIA  
 Do you guys think that Artemis is  
 gonna be OK, too?

JONATHAN  
 Well, let's hope so. 'Cause if he  
 is, he's getting a one-way ticket  
 to prison for his actions.

NINFIA  
 Mm-hmm. But, to be honest, I do  
 kinda feel bad for him. I mean,  
 there are other ways to create a  
 cure for animal-related diseases.

(MORE)

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Stealing the government's vaccine  
 and finishing it with some foreign  
 dude just wasn't it.

Both BARBARA and JONATHAN nod their heads in agreement.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Who knows? Maybe one day,  
 Artemis'll change his ways and see  
 animals in a different light. Only  
 time'll tell, though.

TIKY hops onto NINFIA and proceeds to lick her face.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 (chuckles)  
 OK, Tiky.  
 (laughs)  
 Stop it!  
 (laughing)

Soon, everyone else starts laughing.

PETER  
 Why are we laughing again?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FAIRLAND VILLAGE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

The next day, NINFIA and TIKY are busy loading their  
 suitcases in the trunk of her Supra. Everybody else,  
 including STEPHEN, is behind her.

NINFIA  
 (relieved sigh)  
 That should do it.

NINFIA closes the trunk. She then takes out her wallet and  
 gives PETER \$60 dollars as a "thank you" for his work.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
 Figured I'd give you this as a  
 little thank you.

PETER  
 (chuckles)  
 You don't have to give me anything,  
 Ninfia.

NINFIA  
 Well, you did do a great job on my  
 car, so it's the least I can do.

PETER smiles and gives NINFIA a hug.

PETER  
Thank you.

NINFIA  
(longingly)  
Aw.

PETER  
Hey, come back soon, ya hear?

NINFIA  
Oh, you know it!

Both NINFIA and PETER give each other a fist bump.

BARBARA  
Hey, Ninfia? I know it's been a few days, but are you leaving so soon? We were wondering if you and Tiky would like to stay.

NINFIA  
I'd love to, Barbara, and I appreciate the offer. But right now, me and Tiky have other plans in our agenda. I promise you all this, we'll come right back here and visit you guys sometime, because even though San Francisco's where I live, Fairland Village will always be our home sweet home.

The townspeople soon cheers.

BARBARA  
Guess that makes sense.  
(chuckles)

NINFIA  
I really am gonna miss you guys.  
Tiky's gonna miss you guys, too.

TIKY nods his head happily. BARBARA gives NINFIA a hug.

BARBARA  
Take care of yourselves, OK?

NINFIA  
We will.

JONATHAN (O.S.)  
Hey, Ninfia!

NINFIA turns to see JONATHAN reaching her. He then proceeds to shake her paw.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)  
Feel free to visit Fairland  
anytime.

NINFIA  
Don't worry, Jonathan. We'll do  
just that. Maybe during Christmas.

JONATHAN  
We'll save you a cup of hot cocoa.

NINFIA  
Don't pressure me. Sugar's not  
really that kind.  
(chuckles)

JONATHAN  
(chuckles)

NINFIA  
Well, we'd better get going. So  
long!

BARBARA  
We're gonna miss you!

JONATHAN  
Safe travels!

NINFIA and TIKY both proceed to hop inside the car as the townspeople wave good-bye.

MAYOR STEPHEN  
Come back soon, Ninfia!

CHILD #1  
Bye-bye, Ninfia!

CHILD #2  
Don't forget to write!

DR. MAZA  
We love you!

DANIEL  
Please come again!

The Supra then drives off.

PETER  
Farewell!

CUT TO:

INT. SUPRA - DAY

NINFIA continues to drive through the countryside in the Supra.

NINFIA  
(sighs)  
Nothing like a beautiful day  
outside.  
(to TIKY)  
Right, Tiky?

TIKY nods his head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Hmm. I wonder what's next for the  
both of us. Now that I've quit my  
boring hairdressing job back in San  
Francisco, what else is on my  
agenda?

TIKY has a light bulb popped out of his head and proceeds to tap NINFIA'S shoulder.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Yeah, Tiky? What is it?

TIKY leans closer to NINFIA'S left ear and whispers something.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Yes, of course! Why didn't I think  
of this before?

NINFIA rubs TIKY'S head.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
You are a genius, my friend!

She proceeds to put on her heart-shaped sunglasses.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Let's get the show on the road,  
buckaroo!

NINFIA stomps her foot onto the gas pedals.

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

The Supra begins to speed off through the countryside.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL, NEW YORK CITY - AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSED: "Three Months Later"

Inside the auditorium of the Radio City Music Hall, we meet up with NINFIA and TIKY, who are both wearing different outfits. She plays the guitar while beginning to sing "Johnny B. Goode" in front of a large crowd.

NINFIA

(singing)

*Deep down in Louisiana close to New Orleans*

*Way back up in the woods among the evergreens*

*There stood a log cabin made of earth and wood*

*Where lived a country boy named Johnny B. Goode*

*Who never ever learned to read or write so well*

*But he could play a guitar just like a-ringin' a bell*

*Go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Johnny B. Goode*

*He used to carry his guitar in a gunny sack*

*Go sit beneath the tree by the railroad track*

*Oh, the engineers would see him sitting in the shade*

*Strumming with the rhythm that the drivers made*

*The people passing by they would stop and say*

*"Oh my what that little country boy could play"*

*Go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

*Go Johnny, go, go*

(MORE)

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
*Go Johnny, go, go*  
*Johnny B. Goode*

CUT TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Backstage, music producer VIXENI FOX is calling one of her clients on her cellphone.

VIXENI  
(ecstatic)  
Zeon! Zeon, it's me, Vixeni! Ya  
know that new sound you're looking  
for? Well, listen to this!

VIXENI holds her cellphone out.

BACK TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

NINFIA  
(singing)  
*Go, go*  
*Go Johnny, go*  
*Go, go, go Johnny, go*  
*Go, go, go Johnny, go*  
*Go, go, go Johnny, go*  
*Go*  
*Johnny B. Goode*

After the song finishes, the crowd cheers and applauds.  
NINFIA and TIKY wave at the audience.

NINFIA (CONT'D)  
Toodles! Kiss-kiss!

FADE OUT.

THE END