

Mal to The Rabbi t Slayer

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FADE IN:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

A delightful, ornamental garden. The statues on a pedestal are classical, the hedges are perfect.

MANDY, a middle aged woman, elegant in her flower pattern, summer dress.

She walks along the garden path, the tree branches above entwine to form a verdant tunnel.

She stops, looks around, searching, seeking . . .

Someone steps out from behind a rose bush. They wear soiled clothes and a mangy wolf mask.

He is the WOLF.

He slinks down the path, follows Mandy.

He closes in on the woman.

Mandy thrusts out her hand at the Wolf. STOP!

He obeys the hand, stops mid step.

With a frown of disapproval, Mandy points at a bench.

Wolf shuffles backwards, takes a seat.

Mandy resumes her search through the garden, looks high and low.

Wolf fidgets on the seat, crosses his legs, uncrosses his legs, crosses them again.

Mandy walks off down the path, disappears around a bend.

Wolf's fidgeting is chronic, he can't take it anymore. He leaps up, scurries after Mandy.

FOUNTAIN

Mandy walks around a grandiose fountain that spurts water with artistic flare.

She stops in front of a large upside down cardboard box.

A pair of eyes gaze through a slit cut into the cardboard box.

The RUSTLE of leaves makes Mandy spin around.

The Wolf has arrived and he is ready to pounce.

MANDY
Sit!

Mandy points at the ground.

Wolf squats down, agitated.

MANDY
Stay,

Wolf shakes his head, rocks back and forth.

Keeping an eye on Wolf, Mandy lifts up the box to reveal . . .

A small boy sits cross-legged on the ground. He is dressed in a cute bunny suit with floppy ears. Whiskers are painted on his cheek with a spot of pink on his nose.

He is the RABBIT.

Wolf bounces on the spot, eager for the Rabbit, but afraid to disobey the woman.

MANDY
Get him boy.

Wolf charges at the Rabbit, snatches up the boy in his furry paws and makes a run for it.

EXT. TREE GROVE - DAY

Six chairs in a circle. A knife is placed on one.

In the centre of the circle, the rabbit sits cross-legged on a red mat.

Wolf dances around the chairs to the song "here we go round the mulberry Bush"

The song stops, Wolf lunges at the closest chair.

The chair is empty. Wolf stamps his foot, gazes at the chair with the knife on it then at the rabbit.

The song resumes. Round and round the wolf dances.

The knife rests on a different chair.

Rabbit rubs his pink nose as he watches the dancing wolf.

The song stops again, Wolf claims the nearest seat, slaps it, puts his paws on his hips as he huffs and puffs.

Wolf misses out on the knife again.

The song resumes. The game continues.

The song stops.

Wolf is ecstatic, jumps about. He has it! The Knife!

Wolf kicks the chair out of his way, leaps at the rabbit.

He grabs the boy by his floppy ears, howls as he raises the knife, stabs the blade at the rabbit.

CUT TO:

INT. SUN ROOM - DAY

Mandy curls up on a sofa, reads a book. She wears an old tracksuit

Something on the floor catches her attention. She is amazed.

A small fluffy dog sleeps in his dog bed. He is MALTO.

Malto's legs twitch, his ears wiggle. Subtle movements as he sleeps.

MANDY

Jeff! Quick, come here.

JEFF, middle aged man, enters the lounge room, coffee cup in hand.

JEFF

What's up?

MANDY

Malto's having a dream.

Jeff looks at Malto. He too is amazed.

JEFF

Wow, he is too.

MANDY

I wonder what dogs dream about?

The window looks out into the backyard. A wooden hutch sits in the middle of the lawn.

EXT. BACKYARD

Behind the wire of the hutch, a placid rabbit munches on a lettuce leaf.

FADE OUT.