

FUZZIES

by

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FADE IN:

Deep in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, a beautiful wintery landscape. Pine trees are everywhere, with branches that hang heavy with deep, powdered snow.

We PAN across the lovely mountain vista and finally SETTLE on a LONG SHOT of a little town that lies right in the middle of the Rockies. A TITLE reads 'MALA VISTA, COLORADO - RECENTLY...'

Center

EXT. MALA VISTA - DAY

Mala Vista is an extremely quaint and charming mountain town, so quaint and charming that it almost makes you want to vomit. Small wooden buildings line a single, unpaved road. A few happy TOWNSPEOPLE walk hither and thither - and even some lovely Christmas decorations add to the merry ambiance.

Suddenly, the peaceful scene is interrupted by a child's loud voice, OFF CAMERA, that is singing a bizarre song.

CHILD'S VOICE (O.S.)

(Singing)

Bacon and Cheese and Carrots and
Peas! And Carrots and Peas and
Bacon and Cheese!

The Camera MOVES as if looking for the source of the voice.

WHIP PAN TO:

EXT. FOREST TRAIL - MALA VISTA

JOE MITCHELL, a VERY strange looking nine year-old boy with thick glasses is walking down a crude path heading into Mala Vista from a large group of trees. The way he walks and talks, it is immediately apparent that he has a mental disability.

Little Joe is wearing a wooden chest plate to act as a crude piece of armor, an old cooking pot on his head as a helmet, and absolutely nothing else. Luckily, his chest plate hangs low enough to cover his privates, but it seems the kid must be FREEZING in the snowy surroundings. But instead of looking cold, Joe proudly swings a wooden sword in his hand back and forth as he continues his powerful song.

JOE

(Singing)

Fight the Blue Horned Fuzzies!
Fight with all your heart!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE (cont'd)
Bacon and cheese and carrots and
Peas! And Cheese and Bacon and
Carrots!

Joe passes one of the quaint Mala Vista homes. A WOMAN has just pulled her car into the driveway of the house and is emerging with a bag of groceries under her arm.

JOE
Hello Mrs. Bacon and Cheese!

WOMAN
(rolling her eyes)
Hello, Joe.

JOE
I been fighting Blue Horned Fuzzies
in the woods behind your house!!

WOMAN
That's nice, Joe.

JOE
Peas and carrots!

WOMAN
Go away, Joe.

JOE
(happily)
Okay!

The woman sighs and shakes her head as Joe prances on down the road.

EXT. PORCH OF A HOUSE - MALA VISTA

From a rocking chair on his wooden porch, a middle-aged, rugged looking man, VANCE, watches as Joe marches by, still singing his fighting song.

VANCE
Hey, put some clothes on you crazy
kid! If your mom catches you naked
again she'll whip your butt!

JOE
Hello Mr. Peas and grapes!

Joe does some flips that resemble cartwheels down the road.

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CONTINUED:

VANCE

Damn, that kid's nuttier than
zucchini bread.

Another man, PAP, very old and VERY senile, is playing
checkers with himself.

PAP

Hah?

VANCE

I say the kid's nuttier than
zucchini bread.

PAP

Aw, to hell with you!

EXT. SNOW BANK - CONTINUOUS

Three ten year old boys, wearing thick winter clothing, sit
in a snowbank talking and making snowballs as if in an
assembly line. GREG, the freckle-faced leader, gathers the
snow, loosely packs it, and hands it to ERIC, a short but
stocky boy, who packs the snow tighter and hands it to
MORGAN, the fat and stupid kid, who finishes the snowballs
off by putting a rock in the middle.

GREG

Aw, you don't know what you're
talking about!

ERIC

No, YOU don't know what you're
talking about! You're totally
wrong!

GREG

Look, my dad could kick your dad's
ass!

ERIC

Dude, my dad has a chainsaw! He
bought it on Saturday and it's THIS
BIG!

Eric holds his small arms apart as wide as they will go.

GREG

That'll do him a lot of good when
my dad uses his forty-four!

The fat kid tries to join the debate.

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CONTINUED:

MORGAN
My dad has a machete'!

GREG & ERIC
Shut up, Morgan!

GREG
My dad has a- HEY! Here he comes!!

The boys quickly gather all their snowballs and stand up, each with about seven snowballs in their arms.

From around the corner, little Joe emerges. He has stopped singing, and is now just swinging his wooden sword about and shouting at nothing.

JOE
Take THAT you BAD OLD FUZZIES!! And THAT!! And THAT!!

GREG
(Calling out)
Hey, Joe!

Joe stops and looks up through his thick glasses at the boys.

GREG
You want us to huck these snow balls at you?

JOE
Sure, okay!

ERIC
Ask us NICE, Handi-boy!

JOE
Please throw snowballs at me!

The boys launch snowballs at Joe. Joe just lets the snowballs hit him and smiles.

ERIC
There you go, you dumbass retard!

JOE
Bacon, cheese and gravy!!!

One snowball hits Joe square in the head, knocks his glasses off, and sends him to the ground. The mean boys run over and stand over Joe menacingly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

MORGAN
HA, HA! Retard fell down!!

GREG
Have you been fighting Blue Horned
Furries, Freak-o?

JOE
FUZZIES.

GREG
Oh, I'm sorry, Blue Horned FUZZIES.
(To the other kids)
How could I have been so stupid?

JOE
I don't know.

Greg angrily nails Joe with another snowball, right between the eyes. Joe jumps up and starts to run away.

GREG
We're not done with you yet, freak!
Get over here!

The boys chase after Joe, ~~Joe runs~~ ^{who's} but ~~he's~~ laughing
insanely.

JOE
They're in hot pursuit!!

EXT. MALA VISTA - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

A group of Mala Vista TOWNSPEOPLE are busy decorating the charming little town square with more Christmas garnishes. Some people are putting up lights, others are decorating a large Christmas tree with ornaments. Two TOWNSMEN are putting up a banner that reads 'Mala Vista's 25th Annual Christmas Pageant: December 22-25'

With a legal pad and pen in her hands, MS. SCHWEINBERG walks through the decorations. She is a miserable, miserable, miserable woman, who is fat, unattractive, mean, and oh so miserable. When she looks up at the banner, a disgusted look crosses her miserable face.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
THAT'S NOT WHERE THE BANNER GOES!!

The two men putting up the banner stop and look down at Ms. Schweinberg.

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CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG

The banner goes at the FRONT of the road so tourists can see it when they drive by! How are any tourists going to see it back there?!

MAN

But we ALWAYS put it back here!

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Well you didn't ALWAYS have ME around to tell you otherwise. My God, how did you people manage all these years without me?

The men start taking the banner back down again. Schweinberg walks over to where two WOMEN are decorating the Christmas tree.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

NO, NO, NO!! You put all the red ornaments on the top!! That'll look ridiculous!

The two woman sigh. Ms. Schweinberg calms down and tries another approach.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Look, I was designated to be in charge of this year's pageant because of my many years of experience in the Theater. I know that I'm new here, but you have to trust my ideas. With me here, this Christmas pageant will be the most refined, classy and -

Panting and wheezing, naked Joe comes bursting past Ms. Schweinberg, yelling as he goes.

JOE

BACON AND GRAPES!!

Joe runs circles around the Christmas tree, flinging his sword around in all directions. Ms. Schweinberg's eyes pop, her face contorts with anger.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

You are NOT to run around and play here, young man! Do I have to drag you home to your mother AGAIN?!

JOE

I'm a goat named April! BAAAAA!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Joe starts slamming his head into a lamp-pole like a goat.

JOE

A-A-April! BA-A-A-A!

The townspeople all look at Joe and shake their heads. Some sigh, some roll their eyes, but all seem to have seen Joe do this on many occasions. Ms. Schweinberg turns to another
RESIDENT WOMAN.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Honestly, I don't know WHY his mother lets him run around like this!

WOMAN

Well, his mother hasn't been well.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

I can see why!

JOE

I'LL GET THEM DUKE BOYS!!

Joe whinnies once more like a goat and charges the Christmas tree headfirst.

WOMAN

Look out!!

The tree falls with a loud CRASH! The tree ornaments smash against the ground. The townspeople all look in shock at their once beautiful, now befallen piece of art.

JOE

(Proud of himself)
Ai-YAAAAA!

A lone ornament spins on the ground at Ms. Schweinberg's feet. Joe quickly runs over and stomps it dead.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

WHY YOU LITTLE- THAT DOES IT!!

Ms. Schweinberg grabs Joe by the arm and angrily leads him away.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

We're going to see your mother!!

JOE

MOMMY!! YEA!!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

As he's being dragged away, Joe turns around and yells at the Christmas tree he's just defeated.

JOE
That'll teach ya, right! Mess with
me, huh tree?!

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

Ms. Schweinberg leads Joe up to the front door of his small, wooden house. Immediately, Schweinberg starts banging on the door.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
(Angry)
Ms. Mitchell?! It's Ms.
Schweinberg! I have your boy
again!!

No answer. Joe picks his nose and pulls out a booger. He smiles and proudly shows it to Ms. Schweinberg.

JOE
Look!

Schweinberg gives a disgusted look, then knocks harder. On her final knock, the door swings open on its own. Schweinberg peeks her head in.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Ms. Mitchell, your son has been
disrupting the town again!

JOE
Yeah, and I'm naked, too!

Ms. Schweinberg pulls Joe inside the house.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Come on!

JOE
(To his finger)
C'mon!

INT. JOE'S HOUSE

Ms. Schweinberg leads Joe through the kitchen, looking for his mother.

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CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Ms. Mitchell?! This is really
becoming a problem-

Ms. Schweinberg looks down at the floor -- what she sees
makes her gasp. She puts one hand to her mouth.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Ms. Mitchell?

Ms. Schweinberg leans down, the camera TILTS down with her
to reveal a woman's body, lying motionless on the floor.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Oh my Goodness...

JOE
What'chya doing on the floor, mom?

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - (SPECIAL EFFECT) - DUSK

The camera LIFTS from the small mountain home, up over the
trees, past the highest peaks, and quickly makes its way
down the mountains, through the foothills, and settles on a
large, thriving city. A TITLE reads: 'Denver - that very
night'.

EXT. CITY STREET - LOWER DOWNTOWN - DENVER - NIGHT

This is the happening part of town. Several clubs line the
street. There is some snow on the ground, but not near as
much as there was up in Mala Vista.

There is a small bar on the corner with some activity...

INT. SMALL STAGE - NIGHT

The face of DAVE GOODMAN, a handsome 26 year old slacker,
fills the frame. He lifts a microphone to his mouth and
begins to sing poorly.

DAVE.
(Singing)
I want to be forrrrrr-ever young. I
want to be FOREvvvver young...

PULL BACK to reveal that Dave is in a Karaoke bar, singing
the crappy hit song 'Forever Young' along with words that
are printed on a screen. Dave's twenty-something friends,
KURT, LYNN and ANN are sitting at a nearby table drinking
and shouting.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KURT
STOP! YOU'RE KILLING US!

Lynn and Ann laugh.

DAVE
Just let me stayyyyy... This
special way.... Forever YOUNGGG!

The song ends. Dave takes a bow and a few BAR PATRONS
applaud.

DAVE
Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

Dave goes back to his table and joins his friends. He grabs
a yard of beer and chugs half of it quickly.

KURT
Dude, Dave, that was some
horrendous singing there.

DAVE
Why thank you, Kurt.

The voice of the drunken, female K.J. (Karaoke Jockie)
blares over the microphone.

K.J.
(Drunk)
Okay that was Dave singing 'Forever
Young'... Don't we ALL want to be?!

Dave and Kurt cheer. Ann and Lynn roll their eyes.

K.J.
Now let's get KURT up here to do...
'Sister Christian'!

DAVE
(jumping up)
Dude! I gotta check my messages and
see if I have any work tomorrow.

Dave and Kurt get up together, but Kurt heads for the tiny
stage and Dave heads for the phone.

BACK OF THE BAR - CONTINUOUS

At the pay phone, Dave plugs up one ear with his finger to
muffle out the HORRIBLE SINGING emerging from Kurt in the
background, and dials in a ridiculous amount of numbers.

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First the message retrieval number, then his calling card number, the password number, his phone number, and then a whole slew of other numbers.

Dave's answering machine comes on.

MACHINE

BEEP. Dave, it's Morgan. We don't need you to work tomorrow. James Humphries is gonna work and he's... well... responsible. YOU'RE probably out getting loaded in a bar somewhere while-

Dave presses a button to erase. BEEP. The next message begins:

MESSAGE VOICE #1

"David Goodman please call Citibank Visa concerning your overdue account at 1-800-

Dave presses a button to delete the message. BEEP.

MESSAGE VOICE #2

"Dave Goodman, please call American Express concerning your past due-

BEEP.

MESSAGE VOICE #3

Mr. Goodman, please call the phone company concerning your overdue-

BEEP.

MESSAGE VOICE #4

You can't hide from us forever, you little bastard-

BEEEEEEEEEEP.

MESSAGE VOICE #5

Hello David, My name is Pam, and I'm a Social Worker from the Denver center. I'm calling to inform you that Carrie Mitchell has passed away.

DAVE

(Wide-Eyed)
Carrie Mitchell?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

Suddenly, all other sounds from the bar disappear, and Dave only hears the voice on the phone.

MESSAGE VOICE #5

I hate to leave this kind of news on a machine, but we obviously need to speak to you right away. Please call me at 287-0201.

BEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEP. Dave erases the message quickly and forcibly. He stares at the phone like it's a big, steaming lump of poo in his hand.

DAVE

Woa...

Kurt's HORRIBLE SINGING fades up in the background-

KURT

(Singing)

SISTER CHRISTIAN WOA YOUR TIME HAS COME...

EXT. DENVER - ESTABLISHING - MORNING

The Denver skyline looms majestically in front of the snowy Rocky Mountains. The sun is rising, telling us that a day has passed.

INT. DENVER HOSPITAL - MORNING

A sad shot of little Joe, sitting motionless in the waiting room. He is holding a small wooden box as if it were his most prized possession. Nearby, a young, sweet NURSE and an odd lady by the name of SOCIAL WORKER PAM are having a quiet conversation.

NURSE

I don't know what to do with him. I think he's too slow to understand what's happened.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well, we have to try and explain it to him, as delicately as possible. Just try to get on his level.

The Nurse walks over to Joe and kneels down with a big smile.

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CONTINUED:

NURSE

Hello there, young man. What have you got there?

Joe looks down at his little wooden box.

JOE

My Poofies.

NURSE

Oh, can I see?

Joe holds the box away.

JOE

Nobody touches my poofies!

NURSE

Okay, I won't touch your poofies.

JOE

I have to get back to Mala Vista and fight the Blue Horned Fuzzies!

NURSE

Oh... Uh, are those you're imaginary friends?

JOE

Fuck no! I'd NEVER befriend a fuzzy!!

The nurse looks to Social Worker Pam for help, but Social Worker Pam just shrugs and smiles.

NURSE

Well, why don't you tell me about them. Are they... Oh... Are they bears?

JOE

Fuzzies are smarter than bears.

NURSE

Oh Fuzzies are smart, huh?!

JOE

Except for Buckie.

NURSE

Buckie?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

JOE

The one with the two BIG front teeth. He looks like this-

Joe sticks his two front teeth out like a beaver.

JOE

He's the dumb one. But he's the one you gotta keep your eye on...

NURSE

You have such a neat imagination, Joe! And that's very special!

JOE

I'm a goat named April. BAAAA!

Joe smacks his head against the wall, HARD. Some plaster falls off. Joe cringes his eyebrows and looks around.

JOE

Where's my mommy?

The nurse takes in a DEEP breath and puts her hand on Joe's shoulder.

NURSE

Joe... Your mommy is in a very special place... She's looking over us right now.

The nurse looks up to heaven with a smile. Joe looks up too.

JOE

She's upstairs?

NURSE

No, no... She's further away than that... Somewhere she can rest for a long time.

JOE

She's in the bathroom?

NURSE

No!

The nurse bites her nail and then comes up with a better one.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

NURSE

She's in a place where it's very colorful and everybody is happy, and they sing and dance all the time.

JOE

She's in Oklahoma?!

NURSE

No, dammit, she's DEAD!

The Nurse stops herself, but it's too late. Social Worker Pam almost screams.

NURSE

Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

Joe goes into a small fit. Making loud goat noises and banging his head repeatedly into the wall

JOE

BAAAAAAAAAAA!

The nurse sighs and walks back over to Social Worker Pam.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well, that didn't go very well.

NURSE

I'm sorry, I just panicked.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

I don't know what to do. I can't locate any other family, and the father hasn't called back.

NURSE

This 'father' sounds like some kind of deadbeat. It just makes me sick how some fathers can abandon their children!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Don't worry, he'll show up... I bet his conscience is getting the better of him RIGHT NOW.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. LOVELAND SKI SLOPE - NEAR DENVER - DAY

Dave gives a loud, happy 'YAHOO!' as he skis through fresh powder moguls. Kurt is skiing next to him. Loud THRASH MUSIC plays as the two expert skiers race down the slope.

Dave takes a jump, does a flip in the air, and lands perfectly. Kurt tries to do the same thing, but misses the landing and falls violently on his ass. Dave laughs and skis up to him.

DAVE

Dude, you okay?

KURT

That was a hell of a move, Dave!

Dave helps Kurt up. The two brush themselves off and then stare out at the beautiful snow covered peaks.

DAVE

I didn't win the Oberwitz ski challenge for nothing!!

KURT

Yeah, too bad you lost the trophy.

Kurt adjusts his bindings and then gets ready to go again.

KURT

Alright, ace, let's go! I swear I'm gonna beat you down this mountain-

Kurt stops when he notices that Dave isn't listening. He's just staring off into the mountains with an extremely blank face.

KURT

Dave?

Dave's heavy in thought.

KURT

Dave!

DAVE

(Snapping out)
Huh?

KURT

Woa, dude, you were on like planet Zandor or something.

DAVE

Oh, sorry... I just keep thinking about Carrie.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KURT

Yeah, it's weird alright. Death...
Go figure. It just goes to show
you, you gotta party while you can!

DAVE

Damn right!

KURT

Did you talk to that Social Worker
that called you?

DAVE

Nah, I don't want to deal with any
of that crap. They probably just
want to give me counseling to deal
with her death or something.

KURT

Dude, aren't you forgetting
something?

DAVE

What?

KURT

That MAYBE she left you some cool
stuff! I mean she moved up into the
mountains and all, maybe she left
some killer mountain home to you!

DAVE

Oh, come on! I haven't even talked
to her in nine years! Why would she
leave anything to me?

KURT

I'm telling you, dude, stranger
things have happened. You should
check it out.

DAVE

Okay, I will... But if she left me
anything I'll be pretty surprised.

INT. SOCIAL WORKER'S OFFICE - DENVER HOSPITAL - DAY

Dave walks into a brightly lit office, filled with happy
pictures and comfy furniture. Social Worker Pam sits at her
desk with her hands folded.

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CONTINUED:

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Hello, Mr. Goodman, it's SO nice of
you to FINALLY stop by. I'm the
social worker in charge of your
case.

DAVE
Hey.
(Then Confused)
MY case?

Social Worker Pam flips through some papers.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Now, as you probably know, Carrie
Mitchell has passed away, due to
unforseen complications with
stomach cancer. You were her...
boyfriend, I understand?

This sort of makes Dave laugh.

DAVE
Well, a LONG time ago, yes.

Social Worker Pam flips through some papers. Dave tries to
peer over to them to see if there are any great prizes he's
inherited. Pam turns the papers over and gives Dave a dirty
look.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Per her instructions in the will, I
am supposed to turn over her
residence in Mala Vista to you.

Dave's eyes light up.

DAVE
Really?! Woa, Kurt was right!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
You are also to take immediate
custody of Joe.

Dave is still smiling - but he seems a bit perplexed.

DAVE
Joe? What's Joe? Is that like her
dog or something?

Now the Social Worker is really pissed off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
MR. GOODMAN, YOU HAVE GOT A LOT OF
NERVE! JOE is your SON!

DAVE
WHAT?! I don't have a son!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
(Looking at the will)
Nine years ago you and Carrie
Mitchell dated and conceived a
child who is now nine years old and
parentless.

Dave jumps up out of his chair.

DAVE
(Absolutely freaking out)
Woa, woa, woa - Woa - woa!!

Dave tries to catch a breath.

DAVE
Look lady, Carrie Mitchell got
pregnant when we were dating, but
she didn't keep it!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Are you actually trying to tell me
that you had NO IDEA this child
existed?

DAVE
It CAN'T be mine - There's been
some kind of mistake!

The Social Worker takes a deep breath and shuffles her
papers.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Maybe you'd better start from the
beginning, Mr. Goodman.

Dave sits back down.

DAVE
We were only seventeen... In high
school... We'd only been going out
a few months when she got pregnant,
and we were both like... Oops.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Oops?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Oops. I totally did NOT want to have a baby, I mean, I was SEVENTEEN! And so she SAID she'd get a- you know...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

(Loudly)
ABORTION?

Dave cringes.

DAVE

Yeah... And I even paid for it! And then all of a sudden she moved away.

(amazed)

I was sure she'd done it...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well obviously she had the child, Mr. Goodman. Whether you knew it or not, you're a father -- Congratulations.

DAVE

CONGRATULATIONS?!?!

Dave runs his fingers through his hair.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

You are to take immediate custody. You can finally get to know your son.

DAVE

Hey, look, I'm just a ski bum. I don't have any parental skills!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well there is a little boy all alone right now who needs someone to look after him.

DAVE

Oh man, this is HEAVY shit right here...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

YOU are the child's father and YOU have to take care of him. It's time you grew up and handle your responsibilities!

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Don't you see? I'm a loser! I would mess that poor kid up so bad! He would be way better off if we could find a REAL family to adopt him.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

We can try, but I'm afraid that it isn't going to be easy.

DAVE

Why? I thought there were huge waiting lists of people who wanted to adopt.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Mr. Goodman, YOUR son Joe is a unique child... He's, how should I say... Special.

DAVE

Special how?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well, he has to take a special bus that goes to a special school-

DAVE

(Shocked)

You mean he's retarded?!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

No! I mean he's SPECIAL!

DAVE

Oh my God!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

There are certain things you will have to cater to that you wouldn't have with a normal child.

DAVE

Don't you get it?! I don't even know how to cater to a NORMAL child. I can't raise it. I don't know anything about changing diapers or any of that stuff.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Mr. Goodman, your son is nine years old.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 5

DAVE

Yeah...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Nine year olds don't wear diapers.

DAVE

Oh.

Dave thinks long and hard.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Fine, we'll say it will be temporary, just until we decide that you're truly qualified or we find some REAL people to adopt him. Think of it this way, you'll have a beautiful house in the mountains for a while.

DAVE

Why do I have to take him up there?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

He has a HOUSE there. Everything is in Mala Vista for Joe, his school, his friends, we can't take that all away from him right now.

DAVE

Where is this kid? I want to see it.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Him.

DAVE

Right.

INT. MEETING ROOM - DENVER HOSPITAL - DAY

Dave is pacing nervously in a bright, happy room decorated with smiling suns and rainbows. A bored RECEPTIONIST taps his pencil on his desk. A clock ticks.

DAVE

(To himself)

I can't believe this... This is a bad, bad dream... Wake up, Dave.
Wake up-

A few NURSES enter the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mr. Goodman? NURSE

Yes? DAVE

Dave turns around as sees the attractive nurse from the previous scene.

This is Joe. NURSE

Dave looks down and sees little Joe step in from behind the nurse. He is wearing bright green lederhosen, and crossing his eyes behind his thick glasses.

JOE
(like a goat)
Baaa! Baaa!

Joe runs head first into the wall, putting his head right through the plaster. After that, Joe doesn't move. He just sits there with his head in the wall.

JOE
(Muffled)
It's dark in here!

The nurses all turn to Dave. Dave glances around the room and tries desperately to smile.

Faaantastic. DAVE

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Dave's small pickup bounces onto a small, winding dirt road that twists through the snowy mountains. It looks like a large blizzard has just passed through.

INT. PICKUP

Dave is looking at a map and trying to drive at the same time. Joe is sitting quietly in the passenger seat, trying to see over the dashboard.

Dave is obviously uncomfortable. He keeps looking at Joe - up and down - then back to the road - then back to Joe -

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Hey, uh... Dude... do you know
where your house is? Is this the
right way?

JOE

What are you running from, man?!

DAVE

Huh?

JOE

I'll get them Duke boys if it's the
last thing I do!!

DAVE

Right.

Dave jerks the wheel, as the truck slips on a patch of ice.

JOE

Looks like FUZZIES HAVE BEEN HERE!
Good thing I'm coming back when I
am. I'll just make it in time to
fight today!

DAVE

Fight what?

JOE

Beef and gravy!

Dave doesn't know how to continue.

DAVE

Uhh... Did anybody tell you, you
know, who I am?

Joe looks at Dave through his thick glasses.

JOE

They said you're-
(Heavy southern accent)

DAVE.

DAVE

That's all they told you?

JOE

You aren't-
(heavy Southern accent)
Dave?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

DAVE

No! I mean, Yes! I'm just Dave...
That's all... Just DAVE... I'm
just gonna be looking out for you
for a FEW DAYS, okay?

JOE

Sure's shootin'.

EXT. TOWN CENTER - MALA VISTA

A small stage is being built in the town's square for the Christmas pageant. Several CONSTRUCTION WORKERS work to Ms. Schweinberg's miserable commands.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Now don't make the front uneven
like you did last year! Larry
almost broke his leg in the dance
number!

Dave's truck passes by. Joe rolls down his window and yells to Mrs. Schweinberg.

JOE

Hey, Mrs. Cheese and Gravy!

Schweinberg turns and sees Joe. Her jaw drops.

JOE

Don't worry, I'm back to fight the
fuzzies!

Schweinberg drops her note pad onto the ground and watches the truck head to Joe's house.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Oh no... No, no... What's he doing
back?!

INT. JOE'S TRUCK

JOE

Here's my house!

Dave turns into a small driveway filled with snow.

EXT. VANCE'S HOUSE - DAY

Vance is on his porch smoking a pipe. He sees the pickup truck pull into the next door driveway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VANCE

Looky there, Pap, somebody's
bringing little Joe Mitchell
back...

In the distance, Dave and Joe get out of the truck and head
for the house.

VANCE

Shoot, I thought they hauled off
that nutty kid for good.

PAP

HAH?

VANCE

I say the little handicapped boy's
back.

PAP

Aw, to hell with you!

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - MALA VISTA - DAY

Dave walks into the house and looks around. Though the house
is small, Dave appears impressed.

DAVE

Jesus, it's freezing in here!

Suddenly, a little white CAT steps out of a cupboard and
runs up to Joe.

JOE

DUCK!!!

Joe picks the cat up and shows it to Dave.

JOE

This is my duck!

DAVE

That's a cat.

JOE

Quack, quack!

The two make their way into the cozy living room. Dave hits
a light switch, and the lights come on.

DAVE

Did Carrie BUY this house?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE
Who's Carrie?

DAVE
Your mom.

Joe stops and stares at the ground.

JOE
Mom? Mom...

Suddenly, Joe breaks into tears. He drops Duck, who runs off.

JOE
AAAGH! Mommy! I want my mommy!

DAVE
Oh, shit! I'm sorry~

Joe cries louder.

JOE
Mommy!! Where's my mommy?! Aggh!

Dave panics, he has no idea how to make Joe stop crying.

DAVE
Um, stop crying... You.

Joe bawls even louder.

DAVE
Your mom isn't... I mean...
(Desperate)
Your mom will be back!

Joe stops crying.

JOE
Really? She will?

DAVE
Well... No.

JOE
(Crying again)
AGH!! Mommy!! I want my mommy!!

DAVE
No! Stop! I'm sorry!

Not knowing what else to do, Dave runs to the television and snaps it on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

DAVE

Here, look at this!

In an instant, Joe stops crying and sits down in front of the television, entranced like a zombie. Dave sighs relief.

ANGLE - TELEVISION

Which is playing 'The Drunken Master II' with Jackie Chan. Jackie is taking out some bad guys with his Martial Art skill.

ANGLE - JOE

He's back to his old happy self. He watches Jackie Chan on the T.V. and tries to imitate his moves.

JOE

JACKIE CHAN!!! AIEEE-YA!!! BEEF AND GRAVY!!

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - RESUME

Dave watches with dumbfounded fascination as his son does some silly makeshift martial arts moves. Suddenly, a cold wind makes Dave shiver. Dave looks over and sees that a window has completely blown in - a small pile of snow lies on the carpeting below it. Joe also notices the broken window and gasps-

JOE

Fuzzies!!! I better get going!

Joe gets up and dashes off to his room.

DAVE

What?! Get going where?

But Joe doesn't answer. Dave sighs and tries to cover up the broken window so that more cold air can't get in. He takes the wooden coffee table off the floor and leans it up against the window.

DAVE

I need a hammer...

(calling to Joe)

Do you know the neighbors across the street? ...Joe?

With incredible energy, Joe jumps out of his room wearing wooden armor and a metal pot on his head and nothing else.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE

Du-du DAAAA!! Fuzzy fighting Time!

Joe shakes his little body in a bizarre dance.

DAVE

Oh, boy.

EXT. VANCE'S FRONT PORCH - DAY

Dave walks up to the old, rickety house, where Vance and Pap are sitting quietly.

DAVE

Uh, hello... Do you have a hammer?

VANCE

Oh, you must be the guy living in the Mitchell house now.

DAVE

I'm Dave Goodman. I'm just... passing through.

VANCE

I'm Vance and this here's Pap.

DAVE

Nice to meet you.

PAP

Aw, to hell with you!

Dave turns his head in confusion.

VANCE

Where you from?

DAVE

Denver.

VANCE

Oh, flatlander, huh? What are you doing up in these parts?

DAVE

Just taking care of the kid for a little while... I'm his-

Dave stops himself.

DAVE

-His GUARDIAN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VANCE

What do you do?

DAVE

I... Ski a lot. Is there any good skiing around here?

VANCE

Oh hell no, there ain't jack all mouse fart to do here in the winter.

Dave sighs and rolls a cigarette.

DAVE

That's just great.

VANCE

Except of course for our annual Christmas Pageant. I'm sure you've heard of the Mala Vista Christmas pageant.

DAVE

No.

VANCE

(A bit offended)

It's only the biggest tourist attraction this side of Disneyland! All the flatlanders come up to see it. Parade, then a chorus and stage show, and finally a candlelight vigil.

DAVE

Sounds great. Do you have a hammer?

VANCE

So you're taking care of the little freak boy, huh?

Dave gives Vance a look.

DAVE

Just until they find somebody else to take care of him.

VANCE

Oh.

Dave gets an idea.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

DAVE

You know... he's a REALLY great kid, and he's nice to have around if-

VANCE

I don't want him.

DAVE

Oh.

Dave drops the subject and lights his cigarette.

VANCE

Don't get me wrong, Joe can be a nice boy, but he's nuttier than Rocky Road Ice cream.

DAVE

Yeah, I kind of sensed that.

VANCE

(Laughing)

You know that everyday at four o'clock sharp that youngin' heads up into the hills dressed with armor and carrying a little sword? All by himself, too. Everyday I yell, 'where you off to Joe?' and he yells, 'Gonna go fight blue horned fuzzies'.

PAP

Yepper. Blue horned fuzzies.

DAVE

Blue horned fuzzies?

VANCE

Everyday at four. I can set my watch by it.

Vance holds up his watch. Ironically, The minute hand snaps to four o'clock and in the distance, a figure appears. It is little Joe, wearing the wooden armor breastplate and a steel pot on his head. In his left hand is a tiny sword, also made of wood. Vance calls out to him.

VANCE

Where are you off to, Joe?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

JOE

(Calling back)

Gonna go fight the fuzzies. The
blue horned ones.

Joe continues on and disappears over the hill.

VANCE

Yessir, that boy's nuttier than a
pecan pie.

DAVE

He does this everyday? Where's he
going? Is it safe?

VANCE

Oh, don't worry, he'll come back at
five thirty, sharp. Yessir, boy's
nuttier than an almond joy... And I
know the reason, too.

DAVE

You do?

VANCE

Sure, everybody in Mala Vista knows
about it. Don't you?

Dave looks down, slightly embarrassed.

DAVE

No, I don't... know him at all.

DAVE

Well you see, when he was four
years old he tripped on a lincoln
log-

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - FLASHBACK - DAY

A four year old Joe trips on a lincoln log.

VANCE (V.O.)

Fell down a flight of stairs-

The boy falls down the stairs.

VANCE (V.O.)

And smashed his head through the
T.V. set.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Joe's head crashes through the screen. The T.V. sparks and pops.

VANCE (V.O.)

And do you know what was on that T.V. when that youngin's head went through it?

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. PORCH - DAY

DAVE

No, what?

Vance leans in to Dave. His voice takes on a mysterious tone.

VANCE

The... Incredible... Hulk.

Vance leans back in his chair and takes a drag on his pipe. His look is very serious.

VANCE

That's why that youngin's so screwed up in the head.

DAVE

Uh-huh...

VANCE

You ever see that show? A normal, wimpy scientist turned into a big green monster every week. His eyes turned yellow, then he burst out through his pants.

DAVE

Right.

VANCE

He even fought Thor in one episode. Now you tell me that ain't a crazy ass show.

DAVE

Right.

VANCE

And that kid's head went right through it. Ain't no wonder he's nuttier than a snickers bar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Right.

VANCE

You sure you ain't never heard of
the Mala Vista Christmas Pageant?

Suddenly, Pap pipes in to the conversation.

PAP

No, no! You got it all wrong again!

VANCE

Huh?

PAP

He was THREE years old. And he
tripped on a TINKER TOY-

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - FLASHBACK - DAY

A three year old Joe trips on a tinker toy.

PAP (V.O.)

Fell down the flight of stairs-

The child tumbles down the stairs.

PAP (V.O.)

And put his head through the T.V.
screen.

Joe's little head smashes through the glass.

PAP (V.O.)

While it was playing 'The Dukes of
Hazard' -

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. VANCE'S PORCH - DAY

PAP

-That show with Cathy Lee Crosby
and John Davidson. THAT'S what was
on when little Joe's head went
through the T.V. and THAT's why
he's nuttier than... Chinese
chicken salad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VANCE

What the hell are you talking about, Pap?! Cathy Lee Crosby was nowhere near the Dukes of Hazard!

(To Dave)

Don't mind pap, he's older than Bob Hope and just as senile.

DAVE

Could I borrow a hammer?

PAP

His head went through the Dukes of Hazard and it was the episode with Gil Gerard guest star.

VANCE

Dammit, Pap! Buck Rogers never guest starred on Dukes of Hazard!

DAVE

Could I borrow a hammer?

VANCE

It was The Incredible Hulk!

PAP

Aw, to hell with you!

Dave stands up and looks in the direction that Joe went. Vance and Pap continue to argue and Dave realizes nobody would notice if he left. So he does.

VANCE

Where'd he go?

EXT. FOREST - MALA VISTA - DAY

Greg, Eric and Morgan are sitting around in the snow, completely bored.

GREG

Man, I'm glad that freak kid is gone, but it sure is boring around here now.

ERIC

Yeah... What is there to do?

The kids look down the road...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GREG
Guess we'll have to start picking
on Morgan again.

Morgan's eyes grow wide.

MORGAN
Oh, no!

ERIC
Yeah, come here, fat boy!!

Morgan yelps as Greg and Eric start pounding the crap out of him.

Suddenly, Morgan's eyes light up, and he stands.

MORGAN
Hey!! THERE HE IS!!!

The kids look up ahead and see Joe on his way up the hill.

ERIC
No way! Handi-boy's back!!

MORGAN
(Extremely relieved)
Thank God!

The kids all get up and run towards Joe.

GREG
Where you been Handi-Boy?

JOE
Yeah! Where've I been?! I gotta go
fight fuzzies!

GREG
We're gonna beat you up first,
how's that sound?

JOE
Okay!

The kids start pounding on Joe. Morgan enthusiastically hits Joe harder than anybody.

MORGAN
(punching Joe)
How do you like THAT, you geek!

GREG
Hold him! I wanna tie up his hair!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Eric and Morgan hold poor Joe down while Greg puts rubber bands in his hair.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

Dave is on the phone.

DAVE

-And then all of a sudden I'm supposed to look after him! It's insane!

INT. KURT'S HOUSE - DENVER

Kurt is on the other end in his rundown, twenty-something apartment listening to Dave's incredible story.

KURT

Dude... I always knew Carrie was a freaky chick, but this is Twilight Zone. Why don't you bring the kid down here?

ANGLE - DAVE

DAVE

He's retarded! He has to go to a 'special school' which is in THIS piss ant, podunk town-

The microwave BEEPS. Dave takes out a steaming cup of coffee. He then takes a flask of buttershots schnapps from his pants and starts to pour in a shot.

DAVE

So I came up here, but it's ONLY TEMPORARY until I figure out what to do.

KURT

- Are you like, sleeping in her bed?

DAVE

No way, dude! I'm just gonna sleep on the couch. I can't even go in her room. Man, this is all so crazy.

KURT

Well what's it like?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE
What's what like?

KURT
Being a father?

DAVE
IT SUCKS THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE!!!

Dave throws the coffee out and just starts taking huge swigs form the Schnapps bottle.

ANGLE - KURT

KURT
So does this mean you're gonna have to get a J-O-B?

ANGLE - DAVE

Dave gulps down another shot.

DAVE
Huh?

KURT
Having a kid is expensive. How do they expect you to support him?

DAVE
I'm not going to support him! This is only temporary!

KURT
Sure thing, Ace.

DAVE
I can't ruin this kid's life.

KURT
Hey, who knows man, you might make a great father.

DAVE
Kurt, remember that hamster I had last year?

KURT
Hey yeah... What ever happened to that hamster?

DAVE
I HAVE NO IDEA!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

KURT

Oh, good point.

DAVE

I gotta go, dude. I have to find somebody to take this kid.

KURT

Good luck.

EXT. MALA VISTA - FOREST CLEARING - DAY

Joe steps out from a dense forest into a large clearing amongst GIANT snow covered trees. Everything in this area is unusually big. It's apparent that nobody else frequents this part of Mala Vista. Joe looks like Pippi Longstockings, thanks to the mean kids' rubber bands, but Joe doesn't seem to care.

JOE

Okay Fuzzies! Any Fuzzies feeling lucky today?! Any Fuzzies feeling tough?!

There is only stillness and silence.

JOE

I didn't THINK so!!

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

Dave is holding a newspaper in his hands and dialing a number on the phone.

DAVE

Yes, I'm calling about your add for wanting to adopt... Yes... Well, no actually we've already had it - -HIM. Right... No, he's about nine... Okay, thanks anyway. Bye.

WIPE TO:

Another call.

DAVE

No, no, he's perfectly normal - for a retarded kid.

(Pause)

I realize that, but a grown child can give great satisfaction too.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE (cont'd)
Didn't you ever see that one Brady
Bunch Episode where- Hello? Hello?

CUT TO:

Another call.

DAVE
I know, mom, I just thought you'd
LIKE to take care of him. I mean,
he IS your grandson...

(PAUSE)

Don't yell at me mom-

(PAUSE)

Mom, stop yelling... Mom-

Dave hangs up the phone and rolls his eyes.

EXT. TOWN CENTER - MALA VISTA - DUSK

The town is looking almost ready for the Christmas Pageant. Lovely decorations fill the town square, and the Christmas Stage is almost complete. Ms. Schweinberg is showing off the town to two PRESS PEOPLE from the Denver Post. One is taking notes and the other is taking pictures.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
And here is the stage where the
actual show will be.

PRESS PERSON
Will it be the same kind of show as
last year?..

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Well, I'd like to think that it
will be a little better with ME in
charge.

PRESS PERSON
You just moved up from Denver,
right?

MS. SCHWEINBERG
This past summer, yes.

PRESS PERSON
Well, I can sure see why... I'd
think I'd like to move up here
someday myself. It's just so NORMAL
and PEACEFUL.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Oh yes, it's heaven.
(Calling out)
Everyone!

The townspeople stop their work and look at Ms. Schweinberg.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

These gentlemen are reporters from
the Denver Post, here to do a story
about our 20th anniversary show!

The townspeople all AD LIB 'hello's and 'Howdy's.

PRESS PERSON

That's right we're doing the COVER
of the Living and Arts section this
Sunday! It'll be great publicity -
Should draw you all a HUGE crowd!

Now the townspeople all AD LIB 'Thank you's and
'Wonderful's.

PRESS PERSON

I'd like to interview some of you
if that's alright. We really want
to feature the PEOPLE of Mala Vista
in this story.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Well, I think perhaps you should
start with Charley here-

Suddenly, a loud voice bellows.

JOE

BACON AND GRAPES!!!!!!

PRESS PERSON

What was that?

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Nothing! Charley here has been a
resident for-

Joe bursts onto the scene, looking like Pippi Longstockings
and ranting as usual.

JOE

THERE'S SHUFFLEBOARD ON THE ALOHA
DECK!!

When Joe sees the men from the paper, he starts to yodel
horribly while dancing a bizarre little dance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

What is THAT? PRESS PERSON

It's a little boy. MS. SCHWEINBERG

Oh. PRESS PERSON

The photographer mindlessly snaps a picture of Joe. Schweinberg sees him do this and panics. The Press Person bends down to Joe with his note pad.

Well, what's your name, little boy? PRESS PERSON

April. JOE

(Writing) PRESS PERSON
April...

Schweinberg is in an absolute sweat.

(Trying to divert them)
You know, Sheriff Pinkerton would be an interesting person to interview- MS. SCHWEINBERG

(To Joe) PRESS PERSON
And what do you do in the Christmas Pageant, young man?

I fight Blue Horned Fuzzies. JOE

The two Press People look at each other and let out a little laugh.

And what are Blue Horned Fuzzies? PRESS PERSON

LIKE THAT ONE OVER THERE!!! JOE

Joe points and draws his sword. The Press People turn around just in time to see a quick movement and some branches rustling... Something just ran away.

GET OUT OF HERE, FUZZY! GO ON!! JOE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

PRESS PERSON

What was that?

PHOTOGRAPHER

Just a deer, I guess.

The Press People shrug, and then go back to having fun with Joe.

PRESS PERSON

So, why do you have to FIGHT Blue Horned Fuzzies?

JOE

Cause all the people from Denver keep coming up here, right. Keep moving up to Mala Vista and making the mountains all dirty, yeah.

Joe looks at Ms. Schweinberg who scowls back at him.

JOE

That pisses Fuzzies off!! More flatlanders moving up and wrecking the mountains!

Being from Denver, the press guys are a little offended.

JOE

If Fuzzies could have it their way, they'd rip you all to shreds! Tear your arms off and hang you upside-down from trees! Right.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Okay, Joe that's enough-

JOE

If Fuzzies could have it their way, they'd grab you all by the shoulders and twist your heads off! Then they'd drink the blood from your necks. Yeah.

After finishing this bleak statement, Joe starts to yodel and dance again. The Press People are visibly disturbed.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

(Happily)

Egg nog, anyone?

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Joe walks into his house and sets down his sword. Dave is pouring himself a Guinness. The house is already a mess. Dave obviously doesn't pick up after himself. Duck the cat runs towards Joe, apparently hungry. Joe bends down to pet the cat.

JOE
DUCK! Quack, quack!

DAVE
(Horrified)
What happened to your hair?

JOE
Blue Horned Fuzzies!

Dave walks over to Joe and kneels down. He tries to pull out the rubber bands.

JOE
EEEEEOOWW!!

Dave gets the rubber bands out and tosses them on the floor.

DAVE
There.

Joe smiles up at Dave. Dave just looks around with a 'what do we do now' look on his face.

Joe responds with a sigh and a 'I don't know, YOU'RE supposed to think of something' look. Dave bites his lip. Joe makes a small goat noise. The two just stand there ridiculously, for a LONG period of time with nothing to say. Finally Dave tries to break the ice.

DAVE
So...

Joe puckers his lips.

JOE
So...

DAVE
Uh... How was your day?

JOE
Good.

DAVE
Good.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE

Good.

Another long, uncomfortable pause.

DAVE

Uhh... What's new?

JOE

Not much.

A final long, uncomfortable pause.

DAVE

How're ya feeling?

JOE

Good...

DAVE

Good...

(Giving up)

Let's see what's on T.V.

JOE

GRAPES!!

INT. LIVING ROOM - JOE'S HOUSE

Dave and Joe sit on a couch watching some horrible sitcom and eating potato chips. They are both entranced. Suddenly, Joe's stomach growls.

JOE

What's for dinner?

Dave looks puzzled.

DAVE

Dinner? Oh... You want dinner?

JOE

I want beef and gravy! And carrots and peas!

Dave looks worried.

DAVE

Uh... I can't make anything. I always eat Taco Bell or KFC.

JOE

What's that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Dave looks out the window and realizes that there are no fast food restrants within miles of Mala Vista.

DAVE

Oh BOY are we in trouble.

Suddenly, a loud, horrible MOAN bellows through the house. The house rocks and creaks hauntingly. Then there is a loud SNAP! and the power cuts out, then comes back on - Followed by another MOAN - Or was it a growl?

DAVE

What was that?

Dave jumps up and looks out the window. Joe stands next to him, looking out at the fresh fallen snow... But there is nothing to see. Joe squats down below the window.

JOE

You better get down, Dave.

DAVE

What?

JOE

You better get down, Dave.

DAVE

Why?

CRASH!! The window explodes open! Glass and snow blow in violently and Dave quickly takes cover on the floor. The HOWL of the blizzard echoes through the house.

DAVE

HOLY SHIT!!!!

Snow begins to pile up on the floor. Dave protects himself, then realizes his error and tries to protect Joe as more snow swirls around the living room like a small tornado.

As quickly as it started, the blizzard stops -- the moaning wind TRAILS OFF, leaving Dave and Joe in extreme silence. Dave looks around as sees that the only real damage is the broken window and a heap of snow on the floor.

DAVE

Wow...

Joe stands up and sticks his head out the broken window.

JOE

WE'RE NOT SCARED OF YOU, FUZZIES!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Dave looks at Joe, incredulous. Suddenly, a KNOCKING at the door makes Dave jump again. Dave nervously goes to the door, but opens it only to find Ms. Schweinberg in her scowling misery.

DAVE

Oh, hello.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

My name is MS. Schweinberg. I need to talk to you about your son, Joe.

Dave's eyes light up, he's thinking perhaps he finally has a taker.

DAVE

Yeah?

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Mr. Goodman, I have five children. Five nice, NORMAL, children. I spent a lot of pain and a lot of money to make sure they're well educated and well mannered. I even moved up here in the mountains to get them away from all the bad stuff in the city.

DAVE

That sounds good!

Dave waits for Schweinberg to ask if she can adopt Joe.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

To be frank, Mr. Goodman, I don't like the thought of a crazy child near my normal children. I try to keep them away from him, but it's very hard in a small town like this.

Dave's smile drops.

DAVE

Oh... So you don't... WANT him, then?

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Want who? Joe?! Of course I don't want him!

DAVE

Oh... Crap.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

MS. SCHWEINBERG

That child is dangerous, to himself and to my little ones! I thought that when his mother... passed on... that it would be the end, but then you showed up and the problem is still here.

DAVE

Yeah, well, I didn't exactly have a choice.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Mr. Goodman, your child belongs in a home for mentally challenged kids. The only homes like that are down in Denver.

DAVE

You mean an institution? I don't think I could do that.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Sure you can. They could take better care of him there.

DAVE

Look, Joe's a little strange but he doesn't need to be put in a padded cell.

Just then, Joe runs by carrying his little wooden box.

JOE

MY POOFIES! MY POOFIES! HOORAY FOR MY POOFIES!!

Joe prances away. Dave clicks his tongue.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

You know why he's so strange, don't you?

DAVE

Yeah, I know... When he was four he tripped down a flight of stairs and smashed his head through a T.V. set that was playing 'Dukes of Hazard'.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Where did you hear that nonsense?!

(CONTINUED)

DAVE
(gesturing to Vance and
Pap's house)
From those old dudes over there.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Those old geezers are almost as
crazy as your son!

DAVE
Then it's not true?

MS. SCHWEINBERG
NO!

(Pause)
It was Knight Rider. That show with
the talking car, THAT's what was
on.

DAVE
Oh.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Look, kid, I can assure you that
I'm NOT the only person in Mala
Vista who feels this way. To be
honest, the whole community is
distraught about him...

DAVE
Believe me, I wish I could help
you, but-

MS. SCHWEINBERG
You know he killed his mother?

DAVE
What?

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Yes, I'm afraid it's what's bound
to happen when a child like that is
allowed to run free. He's a little
monster, and he has to be stopped
before-

DAVE
I think you better leave now.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
(Yelling)
Mr. Goodman, I moved up here for
some peace and quiet-

Dave walks into his house and slams the door. Ms.
Schweinberg fumes with anger.

EXT. MALA VISTA - MORNING

The sun rises. Another day begins.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - MORNING

The next morning, Dave awakes on the couch in the living room. He is surrounded by potato chip bags. Dave looks around and then sees that the clock on the wall reads '9:14'. Dave jumps up.

DAVE

Joe... You're gonna be late for the bus!

No answer. Dave walks over to Joe's door.

DAVE

Joe?

Dave opens Joe's door and looks inside.

ANGLE - JOE'S ROOM

Nothing. No Joe. But also no posters on the walls, no toys, not even any furniture except for Joe's bed. The only thing there is, is a small 5x7 framed picture of Abe Vagoda.

Dave shakes his head in disbelief and then walks into the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dave flips on the bathroom light and immediately notices, in his reflection in the mirror, that a Post-it note is stuck to his forehead. Dave pulls the Post-it note off and reads it.

'Went to skool - fight fuzzys later'

INT. MORGAN'S HOUSE - LATER THAT DAY

Morgan is sitting on a sofa watching television and eating chips out of three different bags.

MORGAN'S FATHER, a middle aged, middle class, slightly overweight man, walks into the room.

MR. MORGAN

How was school today, son?

MORGAN

Okay, dad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Morgan reaches into the bags and stuffs his mouth full of more chips. Mr. Morgan grabs a handful of chips and gobbles them down as well. Just then, a child's singing emerges from outside. Then a very loud, very STRANGE SOUND, something between a roar and a moaning wind bellows from outside.

MR. MORGAN

What the-

Mr. Morgan walks outside, little Morgan follows.

EXT. MORGAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Mr. Morgan and little Morgan walk outside and see Joe, naked except for his white underwear, prancing in the driveway.

MORGAN

It's that retarded kid, Joe Mitchell.

MR. MORGAN

HEY! Go on home!

Joe looks up.

MORGAN

Yeah, get outta my driveway else my dad'll shoot you with his twenty-two!

MR. MORGAN

Now son, that's no way to talk to retards.

..(To Joe)

Go on home there, boy!

JOE

I seen blue horned fuzzies near your house, yeah!

MR. MORGAN

That's nice. Now get outta here, go on, SHOO.

Joe walks away.

MR. MORGAN

Son, I don't want you hangin' round that boy, you understand?

MORGAN

Sure thing, dad.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Suddenly, the very STRANGE SOUND bellows again from nearby.
AWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

MR. MORGAN

What the hell-

But before he can finish, a HUGE gust of wind blows through, throwing snow in all directions.

The frame goes completely white from the mini blizzard, and when it settles, both Mr. Morgan and his son are standing in a snowdrift.

MR. MORGAN

Well... You don't see that everyday.

EXT. MALA VISTA - NIGHT

Huge flakes of snow fall from the moonlit sky.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Dave and Joe are sitting at the dinner table. Dave puts a piece of toast on Joe's plate and then heaps some white crap on top of it.

JOE

What is it?

DAVE

It's shit on a - er - cream chipped beef on toast.

JOE

Oh...

DAVE

Didn't Carrie ever make this?

JOE

Who's Carrie?

DAVE

Your --

Dave catches himself.

DAVE

Nobody... never mind.

Joe takes a big bite of the shit on a shingle.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mmmm! Yum! JOE

(Surprised) DAVE
You like it?

It's good! JOE

Yeah! It is, huh?! DAVE

Dave digs in too. Joe gobbles down his entire plate then holds it out for more. Dave smiles and spoons more of the crap onto Joe's plate.

Guess I'm not such a bad cook after all! DAVE

Beef and toast! JOE

The two guys eat away ravenously at the cream chipped beef on toast. Dave watches his son with a fixed fascination.

Joe... DAVE

Joe looks up. Dave searches very hard for the right way to put what he's about to say. He starts the sentence a few times, moves his lips to form a different word - and finally gets it out:

Did you ever -- I mean... Do you know your dad? DAVE

Sure! JOE

(Surprised) DAVE
You do?

Yeah. JOE

Do you know his name? DAVE

Yup. JOE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Joe takes a big bite of cream chipped beef.

DAVE

What is it?

JOE

(With his mouth full)
'No Good Loser Ass Bastard'.

Dave's jaw drops a little. Joe finishes his last bite of cream chipped beef on toast.

JOE

Grapes, that was good! Too bad I ate it, though... Too bad...

DAVE

What do you mean too bad you ate it?

Joe suddenly and forcefully vomits cream chipped beef on toast all over the table.

DAVE

Agh!

Dave jumps up from the table to avoid being splattered.

JOE

(Pointing to the vomit)
Hey, it looks exactly the same!

Joe barfs again. Dave tries to rush him to the toilet.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Dave sits on the floor with his head against the wall, as Joe vomits more into the toilet. Finally, Joe walks out of the bathroom and faces Dave.

JOE

Well, I think that's all, yup. Can I go to bed now?

DAVE

Well... We have to clean all that up in the dining room.

JOE

Not me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE
You mean your MOM always cleans up
YOUR puke?

JOE
Mom? Mom...

Dave realizes his mistake, but it is too late. Joe starts crying horrifically.

JOE
MOMMY!! I WANT MY MOMMY!!

DAVE
OH SHIT! I'm sorry! I'm sorry!
SHHHH!

Joe sobs and pukes and sobs and pukes. Dave can only fold his arms around his head.

INT. MS. SCHWEINBERG'S HOUSE - MALA VISTA - NIGHT

MS. Schweinberg is having a town meeting, including Vance, Pap, Mr. Morgan and about twenty-five other TOWNSPEOPLE. Everyone is seated in fold-up chairs and eating snacks. Ms. Schweinberg is at the head of her living room, standing behind a card table.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Well, I think most of you are aware
as to what this meeting is about.

The townspeople nod comically in unison.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Our lives have ALL been made
extremely difficult with this
insane child running around, and I
think we're fed up.

A few MURMURS run through the crowd. Everyone seems to agree. Finally, a TOWNSPERSON stands up.

TOWNSPERSON #1
He keeps running naked through my
backyard with that wooden sword!

Another TOWNSPERSON stands.

TOWNSPERSON #2
He's still swimming in my septic
tank on Sundays!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MR. MORGAN

He knocks over everything
pretending to fight those blue
thingies.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Well I'm glad you all agree with
me, because Sheriff Pinkerton is
here, FINALLY, to listen to our
woes. Sherrif?

A very unenthusiastic SHERIFF PINKERTON stands up and
immediately has to hold his hands up to hush the plethora of
random SHOUTS and COMPLAINTS that emerge from the
Townspeople. The Sheriff is an overweight man who never has
to deal with much more than hunting violations.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Now, now, people... I know the
Mitchell boy is a problem. Lord
knows I'VE had to deal with him
SEVERAL times over the years...
ever since he put his head through
that television set that was
playing 'The Love Boat'.

The townspeople look at each other, confused.

MR. MORGAN

No, no, Sheriff. It was 'Fantasy
Island'.

PAP

Naw, it was 'Dukes of Hazard'!

The townspeople ERUPT into argument about which show it was.
AD LIBBING names.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

It was "Knight Rider"!

VANCE

It was "The Incredible Hulk"!

Finally, Sheriff Pinkerton puts his hands up to quiet the
crowd.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

(Incredulous)

Look, it doesn't much matter!

Everybody calms down. The Sheriff rolls his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

SHERIFF PINKERTON
It WAS Love Boat --But the fact of the matter is I can't do anything about him. The boy hasn't broken any laws, and neither has his new guardian.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
But our children's lives are being upset by this freak! He scares all the other kids to death.

Suddenly, Greg emerges from the corner.

GREG
I'm not scared of him, ma.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Young man, you go watch television RIGHT NOW!

Greg looks down at the floor and walks away. Schweinberg turns back to the Sheriff.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Sheriff, we don't want our nice NORMAL children to end up traumatized by Joe Mitchell!

The crowd AD LIBS agreement.

MR. MORGAN
Yeah! What about the children?!

Again the Sheriff has to calm the crowd.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
I'm sorry folks, we had the Mitchell boy removed from the normal school and that's just the best we can do for now.

Ms. Schweinberg stands up again.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Sheriff we have TEN DAYS until the Christmas pageant begins. I don't need to remind you how important the pageant is to Mala Vista's economy.

VANCE
It's pretty much all we got.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

MS. SCHWEINBERG

I'm doing my best to make the pageant good again, but I'm TELLING you that boy is going to ruin it somehow! He's already destroyed any publicity that we might have.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

There simply isn't anything I can do.

The townspeople sigh.

PAP

It was 'Dukes of Hazard'!

MS. SCHWEINBERG

SHUT UP, VANCE!

WIPE TO:

INT. SOCIAL WORKER PAM'S OFFICE - DENVER - THE NEXT DAY

Dave walks into Social Worker Pam's office.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Yes, Mr. Goodman, what can I do for you?

DAVE

We need to do something with Joe, I can't take care of him. He's thinks he's a goat, he's infatuated with food names and he believes he has a life long battle with eight foot tall furry creatures.

The Social Worker looks at Dave as if to say 'What's the problem?'

DAVE

He's insane!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

No, no, noooo. We say he's REALITY CHALLENGED.

DAVE

Don't you understand? I can't take care of him! I'm a loser! He'll wind up more screwed up than he already is!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE (cont'd)

You have to find somebody else to look after him until he gets adopted.

Social Worker Pam taps her pen on the desk.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

He IS your responsibility. You DID decide to have him.

DAVE

I didn't decide to have him! I wanted her to have a... You know-

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

ABORRRRRTION?!

Dave cringes.

DAVE

Look, I just... I'm having a lot of PERSONAL PROBLEMS right now.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

PERSONAL PROBLEMS? Oh! I see...

Social Worker Pam presses a button on her phone.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Stanly, could you prepare our 'PERSONAL PROBLEMS' slide show for Mr. Goodman?

VOICE (O.S.)

Sure.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Thank you... Sit down, Mr. Goodman I'd like to show you something that might be good for you.

Dave sighs and sits down. Social Worker Pam turns down the lights and picks up a remote. With the press of a button, the first slide appears on the wall.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Do you know what this is?

Dave looks at the image. Lots of red... Some yellow...

DAVE

No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
This is a woman in Cheyenne, who
was bitten by a brown recluse
spider. That used to be her face.

DAVE
Agh!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
She can't go anywhere without
scaring children, and horrifying
adults.

The next slide. Starving people in Africa.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
These people have nothing to eat.
They would give anything just to
die and end their suffering...
They'll get their wish soon.

The next slide. Blackened, pus strewn bodies.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Here we see people who are serious
burn victims. Everyday is a
grotesquely painful fight for
survival.

The next slide. We don't see it, but Dave is appalled.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
These people have no lips-

DAVE
Okay! That's enough!

The Social Worker hits the remote. Lights come up.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Now... What are YOUR 'problems'
again?

DAVE
Uhh... Never mind.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
I thought so. Have a nice day.

EXT. RECEPTION ROOM - SECONDS LATER

Dave walks out of the Social Worker Pam's office and into
the reception room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: .

He lays his head against the door and breathes deeply to try and forget the images he just saw.

A small IMAGE of Ms. Schweinberg appears, repeating the words she said to Dave before.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
...The child belongs in an
institution! Nobody else can take
care of him the right way!

The image FADES AWAY, and Dave is left to ponder.

FADE OUT.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - MALA VISTA - LATER THAT DAY

Dave is sitting on the couch, solemnly watching the alpine ski finals on television and drinking a twelve pack of beer that he picked up in Denver. Dave sighs and pouts as the racers on T.V. have fun in the snow.

Suddenly, A loud THUMP sounds from outside. Dave looks around, but then just eats some potato chips and goes back to his show.

DAVE
(To the Television)
Look out for the ice, dumbass!!

Another loud THUMP, this time causing the house to shake ever so slightly. Dave gets up and walks curiously to the front door.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Outside, Dave looks around to see where the thump came from. He sees nothing.

Suddenly, Joe appears in the background. He is sliding down a monkey slide. A rope from the top of a tall tree, down to the side of the house, with bicycle handle bars to hold onto.

Joe SLAMS into the side of the house with a dull, but loud THUMP, then falls violently to the ground.

Dave spins around in time to see Joe dizzily pick himself up off the ground, shake the stars out of his head, and then climb back up to the top of the slide.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Dave watches as Joe gets to the top of the tree, puts the bicycle bars on the rope, slides down and smashes again into the side of the house with another loud THUMP, and again falls to the ground, this time with a painful moan.

Joe gets up to repeat the process yet again, but Dave grabs him.

DAVE

Woa, woa, doesn't that hurt?

Joe thinks a moment.

JOE

Only the end part.

Dave surveys the monkey slide.

DAVE

You know, if you put that end up higher and gave it some more slack, you wouldn't crash into the house.

Joe just looks confused.

DAVE

C'mon, I'll show you.

FADE TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP - JOE'S HOUSE

Dave hammers the end of the rope up on the roof. Joe is at his side, handing him nails.

FADE TO:

EXT. TREE - JOE'S HOUSE

Now Dave is up in the tall tree with Joe. Joe helps as Dave unwraps the rope from the tree, then wraps it again with more slack. For the first time, Dave appears to be having some fun.

DAVE

See? Now THAT'S a monkey slide!

JOE

CHEESE AND BACON!!

DAVE

Give her a try!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Joe puts the handle bars on the rope. Some EXCITED MUSIC begins as Joe steps off from the tree AND - -

-- Smashes into the house just as hard, if not harder than before, and falls FURTHER to the ground with a huge crash. Dave's smile drops. Joe picks himself up, shakes his head and tries not to pass out. Dave looks concerned.

DAVE
OH SHIT, ARE YOU OKAY?!

JOE
Yeah...
(Smiling)
Yeah! That's WAY better!

Dave laughs. Joe throws the handle bars up to him.

JOE
You try now, Dave Bacon!

Dave catches the handle bars and looks at them with a boyish grin. Should I??

With a small giggle, Dave sets the handle bars on the rope, and slides down with a fun cry! And -- smashes into the side of the house and falls to the ground with a horrible thud. Joe laughs.

DAVE
Wow!

Dave gets up off the ground and limps back towards the tree.

JOE
Peas and carrots!

DAVE
Bacon and Cheese!

Dave and Joe run back to the tree for another ride.

EXT. VANCE AND PAP'S PORCH - DAY

Vance and Pap watch expressionless as Dave and Joe repeatedly smash their bodies into the side of their house and yell out food names.

VANCE
Boy, you'd almost think they were related...

PAP
Aw, to hell with you!

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - DAY

Joe is lying on the ground. Dave crashes into the house and falls next to him. They both laugh.

JOE
Good one, Uncle Dave!

Dave stops laughing and looks closely at Joe's face. For a moment he is entranced. Dave seems to suddenly be filled with wonder... Perhaps wonder that this little person he is looking at is his son.

Joe looks at the snow around him and starts to play with it. Dave smiles and just watches his son for a moment. As Joe starts eating the snow, Dave seems to want to say something. Finally:

DAVE
Joe...

JOE
(Mouth full of snow)
Mph?

DAVE
I'm not your Uncle.

JOE
Mph?

DAVE
I'm your...

Dave takes another gulp of air and tries again.

DAVE
Well, you see, when I was
seventeen...

But Dave realizes there is no way he can explain himself. He slumps back, with all the magic of the moment gone.

DAVE
I'm just a loser, that's all.

JOE
Oh-oh!! It's almost four thirty!

Joe jumps up and heads into the house. Dave sighs deeply.

EXT. FOREST - MALA VISTA - AFTERNOON

Once again, Joe is walking up the road towards the large trees dressed in battle gear and singing his Fuzzy Fighting Song.

JOE
(Singing)
Fight the blue horned Fuzzies!
Fight with all your heart!
Bacon and Cheese and Carrots and-

Suddenly, the three mean boys jump into frame.

GREG
Hey look! It's Retardo Montalban!

JOE
Hi guys!

GREG
We're gonna kick your ass some more!

JOE
Right!

Apparently for the first time, Eric notices the box hanging from Joe's shoulder.

ERIC
Hey, what's in the box, Retardo?

JOE
It's my Poofies!

Greg snaps his gum and glances at Eric.

MORGAN
Are those like Twinkies or something?

GREG
Give 'em to me.

JOE
I can't. Nobody touches my Poofies.

GREG
I SAID GIVE 'EM TO ME!!

Joe wraps his arms around the box.

JOE
Uh-uh. I can't.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GREG

Don't make me kick your ass,
Retardo!

JOE

Anything but my Poofies!

Joe quickly starts to walk away. Greg, Eric and Morgan are shocked at Joe's insolence.

GREG

Hey!

Joe walks faster. The boys run up to him. Now Joe runs, but the three boys are already on him. Eric trips him, and Joe falls to the ground. Greg jumps on top of Joe and wrestles the wooden box free.

JOE

No!!

Greg stands up with the box in his hands and examines it. He tries to open it, but it won't open.

ERIC

How do you open this stupid thing?

Joe jumps up and tries to grab the box, but Greg holds it up high over his head - out of Joe's reach. Joe again tries to jump for it, but Greg throws it to Eric.

Now Eric examines the box and Joe runs to him.

ERIC

What's inside?!

JOE

PLEASE gimme my Poofies!!!

Finally, Eric gives up and throws the box on the ground. Joe makes a dash for it, but Greg grabs him from behind and keeps him from grabbing the box.

GREG

We gotta bust it open!

MORGAN

Yeah...

Eric grabs a large tree branch and holds it up over his head, about to break the box apart.

JOE

NO!!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

GREG

That's right, freak-o! We's gonna
break your Poofies!

The boys break out in laughter. Eric brings the branch down-

But Joe breaks free! To Greg's amazement, Joe spins around,
does a sloppy but still impressive back flip and kicks Greg
in the mouth. Greg flies to the ground with a hard thud!

Eric stares in absolute shock as Joe jumps HIGH in the air
and lands in front of him.

JOE

BACON AND CHEESE!

ERIC

AAAGH!!

Joe does a little spinning kick and sends Eric reeling
backwards. Before Eric can hit the ground, however, Joe
punches him in the chest and chops him in the jaw. Eric
finally falls with a brutal crunch.

Now its Morgan's turn. Morgan is absolutely terrified.

MORGAN

H-Hey... Take it easy retard - I
mean - Joe...

Joe lunges at Morgan, Morgan tries to dodge, but Joe is
incredibly quick. He sweeps Morgan's back leg and doubles
back to kick him in the back of the head.

Morgan yelps and runs away as fast as his fat little body
will carry him.

Joe brings his arms up in his best impersonation of Jackie
Chan.

JOE

Cheese and grapes and ham and
grapes!

Greg ominously gets up and wipes some blood from his nose.
He charges at Joe's back -

-but Joe sees him coming and does a quick spinning back kick
into Greg's balls. Greg gropes at the air and slowly falls
to his knees. Greg holds himself up off the ground with his
arm and looks up at Joe.

JOE

Don't... Touch... My... POOFIES!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3

Joe sweeps Greg's arm and Greg crashes to the ground. The scene settles down. Joe has thoroughly kicked ass.

JOE

Okay, I'll see you guys later!
Cheese and grapes!

Eric and Greg roll around on the ground in incredible pain. Joe picks up his Poofies and walks away, whistling as if nothing happened.

EXT. MALA VISTA - TOWN CENTER

Little fat Morgan runs panting out of breath into the town square and finds Ms. Schweinberg.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Hey! There is NO RUNNING in the square!

Morgan stops and tries to talk through his thick panting.

MORGAN

Come quick! Greg - Joe - Kicked -

MS. SCHWEINBERG

What the hell are you talking about?

MORGAN

Come on!

Morgan runs back toward where he left his friends. The adults look at each other curiously and follow Morgan.

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - DUSK

Answering some POUNDING knocks, Dave opens the door. Ms. Schweinberg stands before him, accompanied by Sheriff Pinkerton and HALF THE TOWN. Everybody looks pissed off.

DAVE

(Confused)
Oh, hello... EVERYbody.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Mr. Goodman, we've got a big problem.

DAVE

(Sarcastically)
Oh good.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Greg Schweinberg and Eric Stough
were found up the road a few hours
ago unconscious. Apparently Joe was
responsible.

DAVE
Are they okay?

Ms. Schweinberg steps forward, INCREDIBLY pissed off.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
My Greg is in bed with a SERIOUS
concussion. His arm might be
broken!

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Would you let ME handle this, Ms.
Schweinberg?

MS. SCHWEINBERG
(Ignoring the Sheriff)
Luckily he was found when he was.
They THINK he'll be okay, but
there's a chance that he'll never
play the guitar again.

VANCE
Your boy played the guitar?

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Well... no, but now there's a
chance he'll never be able to play
one again - Shut up, Vance!

Sheriff Pinkerton rolls his eyes and steps in front of Ms.
Schweinberg.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Where is Joe now, Mr. Goodman?

DAVE
Uh... He's off fighting-

Ms. Schweinberg jumps yet again in front of the Sheriff.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Blue Horned Fuzzies?! Well, as you
can see the town is fed up! We
DEMAND that Joe is sent away to the
Center in Denver before he hurts
anybody else. He's insane!

The mob concurs.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

He's not insane, he's REALITY
CHALLENGED.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

He's a little monster! YOU better
face up to that.

VANCE

He needs help... For his own good!

MS. SCHWEINBERG

What are you waiting for? For him
to KILL a child? WE aren't waiting
for that!

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Will you PLEASE let me handle this
Ms. Schweinberg?!

MS. SCHWEINBERG

YOU couldn't handle a jaywalking
turtle!

The mob agrees. Suddenly and quietly, Joe walks up. He is
dressed in his armor and winded. The crowd grows very
silent. Joe has a large tear in his jacket.

JOE

Fucking Fuzzies ripped my coat!

Sheriff Pinkerton kneels down to him.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Young man, wouldn't you like to go
live in Denver with lots of other
'special' children?

JOE

You got lots of hairs up your nose!

Joe merrily prances into the house. Dave takes a deep
breath.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

YOU'RE the one responsible, Mr.
Goodman!! YOU weren't looking out
for him!! Now two children are
injured! HE MUST GO SOMEWHERE WHERE
SOMEBODY CAN TAKE CARE OF HIM!!

Schweinberg turns around and heads back. The townspeople
slowly start to leave too, giving Dave pissed off looks as
they turn to go.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF PINKERTON

We can't have a psycho running around here no more. Child or otherwise.

MR. MORGAN

If you don't do it peacefully, we'll have to involve the authorities.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Dammit, Morgan! I'M the authorities!

MR. MORGAN

Well, we'll involve MORE authorities.

Everybody heads out of the driveway and back to their respective homes. Dave waves sarcastically.

DAVE

Thank you.

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - DUSK

Joe finds his son taking off his battle gear.

JOE

Did you have a party? How come you're having a party on Thursday? Was there cheese? Was there beef and gravy?

DAVE

Joe, we need to talk.

JOE

Fuzzies were tough today! I think they're gonna start coming further into town soon!

Dave sits down.

DAVE

Did you get in a fight today?

JOE

Sure I fought Blue Horned Fuzzies!

DAVE

No, before that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Joe thinks. Finally he looks down at his wooden box and seems to have a realization.

JOE
NOBODY touches my Poofies!!!

Dave sighs, and uncomfortably puts his arm around his son.

DAVE
Joe... You're going to go on a vacation. You get to go to the city.

Joe thinks for a second.

JOE
Can't.

DAVE
You're going to be with a lot of other kids, and draw, and paint...and draw...

JOE
Can't. I can't go anywhere. Who's gonna fight the Blue Horned Fuzzies?

Dave kneels down to Joe and takes a deep breath.

DAVE
Joe, I want to tell you this so that someday, maybe, you'll understand. I think you're a good guy. I have nothing against you personally. I just obviously can't have any responsibilities. I can't even take care of a cat.

Just then, a pitiful moaning MEOW emerges from outside. Dave looks out the window and sees DUCK, who is now filthy, malnourished and pissed off.

DAVE
Joe... You need someone who can really look out for you. And I'm just no good. Do you understand?

JOE
I have seven nipples.

DAVE
I didn't think so.

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Several people have gathered to watch Joe be picked up and sent away. Ms. Schweinberg stands in the road with her arms folded, watching smugly as Sheriff Pinkerton puts Joe in the back seat of a large Oldsmobile. The Oldsmobile belongs to Social Worker Pam, who stands next to Dave with her arms folded.

DAVE

Poor kid...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

(Sarcastically)

Well... I guess you gave it your best shot, huh Mr. Goodman?

DAVE

Look, I told you I would fail and I did. Now two kids are hurt and Joe's worse off than before.

Joe clings to the side of the car. Vance looks too see if anybody is watching him, and then gives Joe a little kick to force him in the car.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

You still don't get it.

Dave looks confused.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Knowing where your child is and cooking meals and all that isn't what makes somebody a good parent. It's something else.

DAVE

Yeah, well whatever it is, I sure as hell don't have it.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

It's too bad you think that way.

Social Worker Pam walks over to her car and gets in the driver's seat. The Nurse from earlier sits in the passenger seat trying to calm Joe down.

JOE

WAIT!! I DON'T HAVE MY POOFIES!! I HAVE TO GET MY POOFIES!!!

The townspeople look at each other.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG
What the hell is he talking about
now?

MR. MORGAN
God only knows.

JOE
THE WONDERFUL THING ABOUT TIGGERS
ARE THAT TIGGERS ARE WONDERFUL
THINGS!!!!

The car revs to life and pulls out of the driveway. Social Worker Pam gives Dave one final crusty look and then drives away.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
(Under her breath)
Gooooooooood riddance.

MR. MORGAN
Finally, we can have some peace and
quiet in this town.

The townspeople concur, and then start to walk away. The three boys Greg, Eric and Morgan, watch as the car with Joe inside passes them by.

Dave picks up a cardboard box with all his belongings and walks over to his truck.

VANCE
Well, you must be relieved to
finally have someone take him out
of your hands.

DAVE
Yeah...

MR. MORGAN
Now you can go back to Denver and
all those crazy shenanigans down
there.

DAVE
Yeah...

Dave walks away solemnly.

VANCE
(To Mr. Morgan)
Huh... Flatlanders.

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Dave's crappy pickup drives through the center of town, where residents have already gone back to decorating for the Christmas pageant. The truck throws up a cloud of dust as it peels out of town like a bat out of hell.

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY TRUCK - DAY

As Dave drives hurriedly down the mountain, he rolls a cigarette. Dave looks out at a sign that he's passing.

ANGLE - SIGN

Which reads 'Thanks For Visiting Mala Vista! - Christmas Pageant Dec. 22-24'

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY TRUCK

Dave rolls his eyes and lights his cigarette.

DAVE

Man... What a week.

Dave tries to forget everything by snapping on the radio. But the SONG that plays is 'Like Father Like Son'

DAVE

Oh brother-

Dave flips the dial to another station -- which is playing 'Cat's In The Cradle' Dave rolls his eyes.

DAVE

Gimme a break!

Dave searches through all the stations, but EVERY SINGLE STATION is playing a song which has to do with abandonment and/or Father-Son love. Dave can't believe it. Finally, Dave stops on a station playing an UPBEAT SONG in which the lyrics go - 'You had a son but you abandoned him, and now his mother's dead and you're abandoning him again - you're a shmuck, yeah yeah yeah.'

DAVE

Woa.

INT. SOCIAL WORKER PAM'S CAR - SAME TIME

Joe is spazzing out in the back of Social Worker Pam's car. The Nurse tries to calm him down from the passenger seat. Joe is smacking his head against the window glass to try and get out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE
BAAAA! BAAAA!

NURSE
Joe... Joe...

JOE
(Like a goat baaaa)
Gr-a-a-a-a-a-pes.

NURSE
You want grapes?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
No he doesn't want grapes, he has a
redundant efortrauma with food
names. The words make him feel
comfortable.

NURSE
Oh.
(To Joe)
Tomatoes and Cabbage!

Joe suddenly stops smacking his head against the glass. He
looks at the Nurse like SHE'S the crazy one.

JOE
What?

Joe looks around himself and then starts rubbing his hair.
Joe sticks his lips out the window, which is just barely
open.

JOE
I'LL BE BACK YOU FUZZIES!! DON'T
THINK I WON'T!! DON'T YOU TRY
NOTHING FUNNY!!!
(to the dashboard)
Kitt! Turn the car around!! KITT?!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
It's gonna be a LONG drive...

In a LONG SHOT The car heads down the snowy mountain road as
the sun sets in the background. The camera PANS over to the
forest area where Joe used to go to fight.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - AFTERNOON

The area where Joe used to fight is quiet and still...
A few small snowflakes drift down from the sky.

Suddenly, a large, fur covered foot emerges from the trees.
It holds there... Then an entire furry leg emerges. Camera
BOOMS UP to reveal a huge, eight foot tall fuzzy creature,
with two very large front teeth. It has big round eyes, and
two bluish Elk-like horns.

The creature looks around cautiously. It appears fearful
that something might come kick its ass at any moment (a
little retarded boy, for instance). But it slowly starts to
realize that there is nothing in the woods but it. It takes
a step further towards the town... then another step...
Gaining confidence as it goes.

INT. KARAOKE BAR - DENVER - NIGHT

Dave walks into his old stomping ground, where Kurt, Lynn
and Ann are partying as usual. They look up when Dave walks
in and absolutely light up.

DAVE!!

KURT

Hey guys.

DAVE

Lynn and Ann give Dave hugs and then Dave sits down.

KURT

Man, I thought we'd never see you
again.

DAVE

Yeah, me too. Everything just sort
of... worked itself out.

ANN

Kurt told us all about Sri Lanka.

DAVE

Sri Lanka?

Kurt gives Dave an uncomfortable look.

LYNN

Yeah, I can't believe somebody
would risk their own life to save
sperm whales in a foreign country.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Kurt, what the hell have you been telling them?

KURT

Look, does it matter? The point is you're back and ready to sing...
(Calling out to the K.J.)
Joy - Dave's back!!

JOY

(Drunk as usual)
Oh... Was Dave gone?

EXT. MALA VISTA - NIGHT

The stars are out, filling the Mala Vista sky. A cold, winter fog blows over the town.

INT. MS. SCHWEINBERG'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ms. Schweinberg sits in her big, fat chair eating Crunch & Munch and watching sitcoms. Her miserable face is lit only by the bluish light coming from the television. The VOICES from the television sound like 'Seinfeld'.

SEINFELD

What? Why would I do that? Why would I stick a cat up my butt?

The laugh track LAUGHS. Ms. Schweinberg laughs.

SEINFELD

Why would I do it? That could be a CATastrophe!

The laugh track LAUGHS. Ms. Schweinberg laughs.

T.V.

My butt is not a place for cats!

The laugh track LAUGHS. Ms. Schweinberg laughs. But Suddenly, there is a very loud and jolting BOOM!! MS. Schweinberg looks around. Was it a small earthquake?

Greg appears from his room. His arm is in a cast, his eye is still black and blue, but he looks okay.

GREG

What was that, ma?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG
You get back to bed!! It wasn't anything!

But again the jolt rocks the house. Now Greg looks extremely nervous. It seems someone is KNOCKING HEAVILY at the door. Frightened but annoyed, Ms. Schweinberg gets up and walks to the door. The heavy POUNDING continues.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Just a minute! I'm coming, I'm come-

In mid knock, Ms. Schweinberg opens the door. What she sees causes all the blood to run out of her face and her jaw to drop open.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
-ming.

ANGLE - TELEVISION

Sure enough, it's a Seinfeld look alike on T.V.

SEINFELD
What would I possibly have to gain by sticking that little lioness in my rectal cavity?

The laugh track LAUGHS.

EXT. DOORSTEP - NIGHT

Greg tries to see past his frozen mother.

GREG
(Scared)
Who is it, ma?

Ms. Schweinberg stares at the thing on her doorstep. We don't see it, but we hear a strange, low PURRING/CLICKING sound. Ms. Schweinberg stares blankly as her mind races to comprehend. She is in deep shock.

On the doorstep, dark in shadow, is the eight foot tall fat furry creature with shining eyes and a HUGE mouth. Its two front teeth are very large. Its pupils dilate and the creature stretches its smile even wider across it's sinister face making it look somewhat like a gigantic Cheshire Cat. Schweinberg tries to calm herself. She swallows hard and brings her head up to look unconvincingly powerful. She tries to be her normal bitchy self.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Well? What do YOU want-

KWWWWWWWWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Suddenly, the large gray creature breathes in, and with a horrible cry blows air and snow through the house, knocking over everything like a mighty typhoon blizzard. As the incredible amount of air rushes out the beast's mouth, it actually appears to be having a good time.
KWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ms. Schweinberg snaps out of her bitchiness and screams loudly. Greg screams along with her. His scream, her scream and the roar of the creature race through the night air as the creature's amazing breath blows snow in all directions.

INT. MR. MORGAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mr. Morgan is sitting in his chair watching television. Little Morgan is with him; both are eating ice cream.

T.V.
Let me make this completely clear.
My butt is and shall remain VOID of cats!

The laugh track LAUGHS. Both Morgans laugh. Suddenly, in the distance, there is a loud MOANING.

MORGAN
What was that, Dad?

MR. MORGAN
Blizzard.

MORGAN
Oh.

But then the moaning is accompanied by something else; A woman and a young boy SCREAMING. Mr. Morgan looks puzzled, but his son smiles.

MORGAN
You know, I never really realized it before, but blizzards sound kind of like my friend Greg and his mom screaming at the top of their lungs.

Mr. Morgan gets up and looks out the window.

INT. VANCE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Vance is playing checkers with Pap. They look at each other curiously when a loud roar and a woman's screaming echo in the distance. Their T.V. is on.

T.V.
So I guess the dog can't stay there either.

The laugh track roars with LAUGHTER. A BASS LINE hits.

INT. MS. SCHWEINBERG'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Though almost completely out of breath, Ms. Schweinberg continues to scream. The fuzzy continues to bellow a blizzard through her house. Greg is being blown against the back wall, his screaming mixed with loud sobs.

GREG
MOMMY! MOMMY! MAKE IT GO AWAY!!!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HOUSE - DENVER - NIGHT

Quiet... Peaceful... White walls with a few rainbows and elves painted on them.

Joe is sitting in a circle with several other mentally challenged KIDS. All the kids seem to have some kind of nervous twitch or another. Social Worker Pam sits at one edge of the circle.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Children, I would like you to meet Joe. He's going to live with us.

The kids all make RANDOM WEIRD SOUNDS to welcome Joe.

JOE
I have to go home!! I left my poofies!!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
All your belongings are being packed up and brought down for you, Joe. Isn't that nice?

Joe broods. A VERY hyperactive child named CINDY (so spastic she has to be tied to her chair) pipes up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CINDY

(Quickly)

What are poofies? You have poofies?
How come I don't have any poofies?
I wanna see your poofies, can I?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Let's give JOE a chance to talk,
okay Cindy? Now, why don't you tell
the other children where you're
from, Joe.

JOE

I'm from Mala Vista. It's in the
mountains where the Blue Horned
Fuzzies live, and it's the place
where I LEFT MY POOFIES!!

The kids all AD LIB 'Ooh, fuzzies'; etc.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Fuzzies are Joe's imaginary
friends... Remember when we talked
about make believe?

CINDY interrupts.

CINDY

My grand daddy used to tell me
about Blue Horned Fuzzies. He said
they're what make blizzards blow
and icicles crack... And they're
MEAAANN!

JOE

Toots, you don't know mean 'til you
fight a fuzzy.

The children all ad lib 'Toots' and 'Fuzzy'.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Alright then, Joe. Why don't you
tell us all about them.

TRACK IN to Joe as he begins to tell the story.

JOE

All I know, is that fuzzies lived
in the mountains way before people
did, yeah...

The lights dim... Joe's face is illuminated from the bottom
with an eerie blue light. Social Worker Pam looks around,
confused about where this is lighting change is coming from.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

JOE

When PEOPLE moved up in mountains,
the fuzzies got MAD! GOT ANGRY!!!
BACON and GRAPES! But instead of
going away, Fuzzies stayed.. and
watched... and waited...

The other children start to grow frightened. Their eyes are wide, their mouths open. Social Worker Pam realizes that Joe is scaring the hell out of the other kids.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Okay, Joe, I think that's enough
of-

JOE

They hibernate all summer long
building up their strength so they
can make the winters terrible for
people... They blow the air with
their big, fuzzy mouths! And make
the snow crash into windows!!

The kids are petrified. One LITTLE BOY wets his pants.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

You can stop now, Joe-

JOE

People don't usually see 'em, but
they're ALWAYS there!! Making cars
slide off the road!!

CINDY

What do they sound like?!

JOE

They can imitate voices! Sound like
a dog... Or a cat... Or even a
person! They can even sound like
the wind. KWAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!

The lights go off and lightning strikes. The kids all SCREAM with horror and run into each other and into the walls.

Just as quickly, the lights come back on. The children are all scared absolutely shitless.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Well, that wasn't the best idea...

EXT. MALA VISTA STREET - NIGHT

Several Mala Vista townsfolk, including Vance, Pap and Sheriff Pinkerton, trot down the snow covered street in their pajamas.

VANCE
What's goin' on, Sheriff?

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Hell if I know!

A loud CRASHING sounds through the hills.

VANCE
Sounds like it's coming from Ms. Schweinberg's house!

The people all run quickly towards the Schweinberg residence.

INT. MS. SCHWEINBERG'S HOUSE - NIGHT

CLOSE UP on Ms. Schweinberg's hand, which is holding a doorknob and shaking violently.

PULL BACK to reveal that the door knob isn't attached to anything. The door has been blown down, along with most of the windows of the house. Ms. Schweinberg is in shock, standing with the doorknob in her trembling hand, and her hair blown back ridiculously. The creature is gone. Sheriff Pinkerton and the rest of the townsfolk run up to Ms. Schweinberg, looking around in amazement at the devastation.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Ms. Schweinberg! What the hell happened?!

MS. SCHWEINBERG
I.... I.... I....

A loud ROAR bellows nearby. Everybody turns towards the horrible sound, extremely frightened.

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY APARTMENT - DENVER - NIGHT

A dark room. There is CLICK CLACK of a door being unlocked. The door swings open, and the lights are turned on revealing Dave's crappy Denver apartment. It looks just like you'd think it would. Clothes strewn about, ski posters everywhere. Dave appears to be a bit intoxicated at this late hour. He throws a big brown box from the Mala Vista house on the floor and plops down on a bean bag chair next to it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Dave sighs and belches, then fumbles at his answering machine until it goes off. BEEP!

MACHINE
Dave Goodman, I STRONGLY suggest that you call American Express in regards to your delinquent-

Dave grabs the answering machine, tears it out from the wall and throws it out his fourth story window. CRASH! Dave looks over at the brown cardboard box. He opens it, and takes out a picture.

ANGLE - PICTURE

It's of Joe when he was a couple years younger. He is with his mother, Carrie, who sits happily on a park swing while Joe tries to eat the wood.

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY APARTMENT - RESUME

Dave smiles at the picture and has a quick flashback-

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - DAY - FLASHBACK

Joe and Dave slide down the monkey slide together, laughing as they go - then slam into the side of the house.

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY APARTMENT - RESUME

Dave laughs a little, and then promptly passes out.

EXT. MALA VISTA - MORNING

CLOSE UP on Ms. Schweinberg's face.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
AND ONE AND TWO AND TURN AND TWO
AND - NO! NO! NO!

PULL BACK to reveal that Ms. Schweinberg is in the town square, preparing the Christmas Pageant like nothing happened. She turns off the tape player and walks up to the Christmas stage where several Mala Vista Residents are dressed as Christmas Trees.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
You turn to the LEFT on that count!
Half of you are turning right and
it looks ridiculous!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The residents try the dance move again.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Do you people even know which way is left?!?!

A large pickup drives up. Mr. Morgan, Vance and Pap get out of the truck. They are all three wearing camouflaged hunting gear and carrying large rifles.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Did you find it yet?!

VANCE

Naw, we ain't seen it. Did you say it was gray?

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Yes it was gray! And it was also about eight feet tall! Christ, how can you not find a bear that's eight feet tall?!

SHERIFF PINKERTON

We're doing the best we can.

VANCE

Maybe you scared the bear away, Ms. Schweinberg, god knows you scare the hell out of me.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

How DARE you!

WHAM!!! A huge, jolting sound causes everybody to look on stage, where the same large fuzzy creature has just dropped down! It raises its huge head and grins, while making its terrifying purr/click sounds.

A few townspeople SCREAM, others just stand wide-eyed in disbelief.

Ms. Schweinberg nervously backs in to the Sheriff.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

(Terrified)
Th-that's it!

SHERIFF PINKERTON

(In shock)
Weirdest looking bear I ever saw...

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Don't just stand there! Shoot it!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Vance, Sheriff Pinkerton and Morgan raise their guns and fire. But the Fuzzy creature is INCREDIBLY fast - it jumps out of the bullets way like an amazingly agile cat.

VANCE

Holy crow, you see that bastard jump?!

The Fuzzy creature jumps back down and approaches the townspeople stalkingly.

MR. MORGAN

Well, there's only one of it and ten of us - let's surround it.

But just then, two other Fuzzy creatures jump next to the first one. They are equally big, but a little different in shading. They also don't have the same two buck teeth that the first one has. The three fuzzies let out a horrible moan, that sounds like the end of the world.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

(Knowing what's coming)

Oh no.

Like a tornado the snow all around picks up and blows through the town square. The townspeople run screaming in all directions.

Within seconds the quaint town square is obliterated.

INT. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HOUSE - JOE'S ROOM - DENVER - DAY

Social Worker Pam is helping Joe unpack his belongings from large cardboard boxes. Joe is frantically going through the boxes.

JOE

I can't find them! I can't find my Poofies!!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

We'll get you NEW poofies.

Joe looks at the Social Worker like she's insane.

JOE

I have to get back home to Mala Vista and fight the blue horned fuzzies and find my poofies!!

Joe runs to the door, tries to open it, but its locked. Joe pulls and pulls at the door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Social Worker Pam feels sad for the kid.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Joe... Your home is HERE now, not
in Mala Vista. The people who love
you and care about you are HERE. Do
you understand?

Joe just keeps pulling at the locked door.

JOE
THAT'S BETTER 'CAUSE IT'S
CORN-NUTTIER!!!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
I didn't think so.

EXT. MALA VISTA - TOWN SQUARE - AFTERNOON

The center of Mala Vista looks like a war zone. An OLD war zone, since the heaps of snow and broken glass make it appear as if nobody has lived in Mala Vista for years. Greg, Eric and Morgan, still a bit bruised from their run in with Joe days ago, sadly sit in the snow looking out over their wrecked town.

GREG
Man... This sucks. We can't even
play anywhere!

ERIC
My dad says he's thinking about
moving away to the city or
something.

MORGAN
My dad says we're gonna move away
to California.

GREG
I don't want to move! This is so
lame! I like it here!

ERIC
If only we could fight like Joe, we
could just take 'em out like-

Greg jumps up with a start.

GREG
Oh my God.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERIC
What?

GREG
That's it -- Joe!! What did Joe
always say he was going off to
fight? Blue horned furrries!

MORGAN
Fuzzies.

GREG
I could SWEAR the thing I saw the
other night had blue horns.

ERIC
Right! And it showed up right after
Joe left!

GREG
Gentlemen... We have got to get Joe
back.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - JUST A FEW YARDS OFF - CONTINUOUS

The townspeople all stare at their wrecked town with heavy
hearts.

VANCE
What do you think, Sheriff?

SHERIFF PINKERTON
I think these bears are slowly but
systematically going to destroy our
town.

MS. SCHWEINBERG
Well, thanks for the news bulletin,
Ted Koppel!! What are you gonna DO
about it?!

The townspeople break out into AD LIB SHOUTS.

MR. MORGAN
Yeah!! We need to call the FBI and
the CIA and the YMCA and the-

VANCE
Dammit, Morgan! YMCA ain't gonna do
nothing!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

In the background, though it must be VERY clear to see -- Greg, Eric and Morgan, hop into the back of a commercial truck, which then revs up and heads down the road. Of course, nobody in the town sees any of this.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Oh sure, we could get help, maybe they'd even bring a swat team. Be all over the papers and even in nation wide television. But when all was said and done, you think we'd EVER see our tourists up for the Christmas Festival?

The townsfolk think. Even Ms. Schweinberg can't argue with that.

PAP

HEY YOU DUMB SONS A BITCHES!!!

Everybody turns around and looks at Pap who is sitting on his porch in the distance, playing checkers with himself as usual.

PAP

They ain't bears... They're Blue Horned Fuzzies!

Silence... Finally, Ms. Schweinberg lets out a cynical laugh.

MS. SCHWEINBERG

Would somebody PLEASE take him out to pasture?

Sheriff Pinkerton and Vance exchange glances. It appears they both have thought about these things being Joe's blue horned Fuzzies before.

Everyone starts to move, but come to an abrupt halt when they hear a familiar sound. AWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

The wind picks up, and some snow starts to slowly blow around.

MR. MORGAN

Uh-oh...

WOMAN

Look!

Not one, not three but TEN tall furry creatures emerge from a dense fog of snow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

VANCE

Holy crow there's a whole flock of
'em.

The ten creatures are walking on all fours, but quickly stand on their hind legs and let out a new, but equally horrific cry. At the sound of this, yet another fuzzy, this one gray and even bigger than any of the others jumps into the middle of the group.

It appears that the gray is the leader. It looks to the fuzzy with the buck teeth and grins. Buckie grins back.

The fuzzies all charge the townspeople, who are frozen in panic. The large Gray takes a YOUNG MALE TOWNSPERSON in its immense claws and examines its body. The townspeople just kicks and writhes and screams in terror.

The Gray jumps incredibly to the top of the highest tree and hangs the poor man upside-down from the branches.

Now the townspeople are REALLY scared as a couple more fuzzies follow suit with the Gray by scooping up two other townspeople - and putting them up in the tall trees as well.

Everybody scatters and tries to take cover as the Fuzzies all breath in deeply -- and then let out their immense breath in all directions causing an absolute MONSTER of a blizzard.

A Ford pickup gets picked up in the incredible winds and tossed into a heap of snow like a toy. Sheriff Pinkerton takes cover behind the truck, where Vance is already ducking. As the raging storm continues, Sheriff tries to talk to Vance.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
YOU KNOW SOMETHING VANCE?!

VANCE
WHAT'S THAT SHERIFF?!

SHERIFF PINKERTON
I THINK WE BETTER GET JOE MITCHELL
BACK UP HERE BEFORE WE'RE ALL
KILLED!!!

INT. KARAOKE BAR - DENVER - NIGHT

Dave is ass-blistering drunk and lamenting to Kurt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

I mean... I can't handle that kind of responsibility, you know?

KURT

Totally.

DAVE

But I really feel attached to the kid somehow... It's almost like I miss him.

KURT

Yeah, totally.

DAVE

But what do I have to offer? I don't have any money, I don't have a regular job...

KURT

Totally.

DAVE

But to have another person who, like, is part of yourself. That's pretty amazing.

KURT

Oh yeah, dude, totally.

DAVE

But he doesn't even know he HAS a father. Doesn't give a rat's ass about his father and I don't blame him...

KURT

I know what you mean, totally.

DAVE

Look at me... The only thing I ever accomplished was winning the Oberwitz ski race when I was seventeen...

KURT

Yeah, totally.

Dave takes a big swig of beer. He looks at Kurt suspiciously.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

DAVE
You're not listening to a word I'm
saying, are you?

KURT
Oh yeah, I know what you mean,
totally...

Dave rolls his eyes.

DAVE
Thousand Island dressing is great
for rubbing all over your body.

KURT
Totally.

INT. CHILDREN'S MENTAL WARD - NIGHT

Joe is standing in front of all the other mentally
challenged kids as if teaching a class.

JOE
And then you say 'BACON and
GRAPES!'

CHILDREN
Bacon and Grapes!

JOE
And then you hit 'em in the knees!

Joe swings his little wooden sword. The children mimic Joe
with makeshift swords (Some are plastic tubes other are
plastic toys, etc.)

JOE
And then you kick 'em like Drunken
Master!

Joe does a little kick, the kids all try to copy him.

ANGLE - FRONT OF THE ROOM

Social Worker Pam and then Nurse are looking on as Joe
continues to teach the other children how to fight fuzzies.

NURSE
Do you really think we should let
them do this?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
(Shrugging)
Hell, I've never seen them all so
disciplined.

EXT. PHIL'S HOUSE - DAY

Sheriff Pinkerton and Vance walk cautiously up to Mr. Morgan's door and knock. Mr. Morgan's scared voice emerges from inside.

MR. MORGAN (O.S.)
Go away you bastards!! Blow down
somebody ELSE'S house!!

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Morgan, it's Sheriff Pinkerton and
Vance Crowley!

There is a pause.

MR. MORGAN (O.S.)
How do I know it's you?

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Oh for crying out loud, Morgan,
they can't imitate voices!

Mr. Morgan opens the door and sees that it is indeed Sheriff Pinkerton and Vance.

VANCE
You dumbass, Morgan, they ain't
'The Thing' you know!

Morgan gives an embarrassed look.

MR. MORGAN
What's going on? You shouldn't be
outside!

SHERIFF PINKERTON
We're getting a group together to
head down to Denver. The only way
to get Joe back is through that
Dave Goodman guy, and we need as
many people as possible to show
support.

MR. MORGAN.
You guys HAVE gone nuts! What we
need is some napalm, not a nine
year old kid!

VANCE
Joe's the only chance we got,
Morgan! Are you coming or not?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MR. MORGAN

Not!
(Closing the door)
You guys better get in, it's
getting dark.

The door slams shut. Vance and the sheriff walk away.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Damn, now I remember why I kicked
that guy's ass all the time when I
was younger.

INT. MORGAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Just as Mr. Morgan is about to sit down, the knocking comes
back. Mr. Morgan gets back up, and goes to the door.

MR. MORGAN

Who's there?

A muffled voice sounds from the other side of the door. It
sounds vaguely like Sheriff Pinkerton.

SHERIFF PINKERTON (O.S.)

It -- sheriff. Open... Open door.

Mr. Morgan thinks a second, then opens the door.

MR. MORGAN

What? Did you forget to-

But it isn't the sheriff or Vance, it's five blue horned
fuzzies. The one in front is the large gray.

LARGE GREY

It Sheriff! Open door!!

The other fuzzies belch out the expressions 'Sheriff' and
'Open door' repeatedly. Mr. Morgan is thunderstruck.

MR. MORGAN

AAGHH!!

LARGE GREY

AAAGHH!!

The fuzzies all grin and take in deep breaths.

MR. MORGAN

NO! NO, PLEASE!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The fuzzies let loose with their incredible, devastating air, blowing a blizzard through Mr. Morgan's house.

MR. MORGAN

AAAAGHHH!!!

EXT. DAVE'S CRAPPY APARTMENT - DENVER - DAY

Dave is sitting on his crappy couch in his crappy apartment, playing 'Three Blind Mice' on an old electric bass. Dave takes a deep sigh.

DAVE

Bacon and gravy...

Dave acquires a puzzled 'Where did THAT come from' look. When suddenly the phone rings.

DAVE

Hello?

VOICE

David Goodman?

Dave suddenly changes his voice.

DAVE

Uh, he's not here right now, can I take a-

VOICE

Don't play that game, Mr. Goodman. This is the Welton Collection Agency.

DAVE

Uh... Who are you trying to reach?

VOICE

You owe us two thousand dollars. When do you plan to mail it?

Dave gives up, and goes back to his normal voice.

DAVE

Oh, that. Hey... I thought I told you I no longer wish to be contacted by phone. By LAW you have to respect that!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VOICE

If you don't pay the collection agency, we're going to have to start breaking your fingers.

Dave laughs.

DAVE

Ha, ha. Yeah, right. You can't do that!

The phone goes dead. Dave hangs up and laughs some more. There is a KNOCK. Dave walks to the door and opens it.

A large MAN grabs Dave's arm and snaps his pinkie.

DAVE

AAAGH!

The man disappears. Dave's eyes water as he examines his broken finger. Dave slams the door shut and sits down.

DAVE

Damn, I don't BELIEVE those guys!

Suddenly there is another loud KNOCK at Dave's door. This time Dave is visibly frightened.

DAVE

GO AWAY!!

But the voice on the other side of the door is a familiar one.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Mr. Goodman, it's Sheriff Pinkerton from Mala Vista.

DAVE

Sheriff Pinkerton?

Dave opens the door and sees that it is not only Sheriff Pinkerton, but about Eighteen RESIDENTS of Mala Vista as well.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Hello, Mr. Goodman!

Dave is stunned at all the people at his door.

DAVE

Uh, hello... EVERYBODY.

All the townspeople warmly AD LIB greetings to Dave.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

VANCE

How have you been Dave ol' buddy?

MR. MORGAN

Nice place you got here!

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Hi there Mr. Goodman, we was just passing through and thought we'd say howdy.

DAVE

ALL of you?

VANCE

How are you doing? Denver treating you okay?

Dave looks at his broken finger.

DAVE

Not really.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Must be awful lonely living here all by yourself. We sure enough miss you in Mala Vista.

DAVE

You MISS me?

VANCE

We would love it if Joe - er - YOU and Joe would move back.

DAVE

What? Why?

MR. MORGAN

Because they're destroying our-

VANCE

Shut up, Morgan! Uh... What he's saying is - Mala Vista ain't the same without ol' Joe around.

MR. MORGAN

No, it sure ain't.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

We'd like fer you to come back.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Look, you all had Joe sent away to I don't even know where. I can't do anything about it.

VANCE

We were wrong. Those boys Joe beat up had it coming to them. Hell, they beat up Joe every day. We know he probably only did it in self defense.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

So you see? All is well. Now why don't we help you get moved?

The townspeople head in to Dave's apartment and start picking up his belongings.

DAVE

Hey, woa, woa! Hold on a minute!
(Pause)

Look, wherever Joe is now, he's a lot better off than he would be with ME. PUT MY LAMP DOWN!!

A random TOWNSPERSON, who was trying to pack up Dave's lamp, puts it down.

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Mr. Goodman... DAVE... The truth of the matter is, Joe needs you. A child can't live in a place like where he's at. He needs a home town, and a grown up, somebody he can relate to. That person is obviously you.

Dave seems to think a moment, then catches himself.

DAVE

Why do you people care so much about Joe all of a sudden?

VANCE

He's one of God's children!

MR. MORGAN

YES! Now let's pack!

Again the townspeople start picking up all of Dave's things.

DAVE

WOULD YOU STOP THAT?!?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 4

Everybody stops.

DAVE

Look, if you think Joe needs to be in Mala Vista, maybe one of you ought to adopt him-

MR. MORGAN

We already tried that.

DAVE

What?

SHERIFF PINKERTON

SHUT UP, MORGAN!!!

DAVE

Look, I would like to be with Joe, but if I do, he'll end up like me. I'm doing him a BIG favor by staying out of his life.

MR. MORGAN

Mr. Goodman, what makes a good parent is not responsibility, or cleanliness, it's just love. It's as simple as that.

Dave opens his door.

DAVE

So thank you all for stopping by, but I have to get back to... whatever I was doing. GOODBYE!

Dave shuffles everybody out his front door, and when the last person is out, Dave closes it and takes a deep breath.

DAVE

Man, what a bunch of freaks.

EXT. DAVE'S PORCH - MOMENTS LATER

MR. MORGAN

Well what the hell do we do now?

SHERIFF PINKERTON

Guess we'll have to go with plan B.

VANCE

Yepper, Plan B.

INT. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HOSPITAL - DAY

Joe is sitting in his little white room, digging at the wall with a spoon. At this pace, he should be able to tunnel through within a few years. Suddenly, he hears a muffled CLANG from up above. Joe looks up and turns his head. More CLANGING.

JOE

Hey there, got bats in the belfry.

Joe goes back to tunneling, but the CLANGING gets louder. Finally, the grating from an air vent up above CRASHES to the floor. Joe looks up at the vent, where Greg, Eric and Morgan are peering out.

GREG

(Quietly)
There he is!

ERIC

Hey Joe!

Joe stands up, delighted.

JOE

Hi guys! You come to throw snowballs at me?!

GREG

(Whispering)
SHHH! No, no! We're here to take you back to Mala Vista!

ERIC

C'mon Joe, before they catch us!

JOE

Cheese and Bacon!

Joe makes his way toward the boys.

MORGAN

Hurry up, Handi-boy!

Greg punches Morgan in the arm.

GREG

Shut up, Morgan!

MORGAN

Ow!

INT. DAVE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Dave is sitting on his couch contemplating all the words that were said to him by the Mala Vista townspeople.

SHERIFF PINKERTON (V.O.)

...The truth of the matter is, Joe needs you. A child can't live in a place like where he's at. He needs a home town, and a grown up, somebody he can relate to. That person is obviously you.

Dave holds his head up.

MR. MORGAN (V.O.)

...What makes a good parent is not responsibility, or cleanliness, it's just love. It's as simple as that.

Suddenly Dave stands up.

DAVE

They're right!

INT. SOCIAL WORKER PAM'S OFFICE - DAY

Dave strides into Social Worker Pam's office.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Oh, Mr. Goodman. How are you doing?

DAVE

Lousy.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Oh, do you need to see our slide show again?

Social Worker Pam bends over to press a button, but Dave stops her.

DAVE

NO! I mean, I'm doing fine!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

(Sitting back)

Well, that's good to hear.

Dave takes a deep breath.

DAVE

I want Joe back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Whose-a huh huh?

DAVE
Apparently, he wasn't responsible
for those boys being hurt.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Oh, I know... Several people from
the town have called me to tell me
they were wrong. They seem to
really want Joe back.

DAVE
They talked to YOU?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Yes, they ALL tried to adopt him.
But I explained that unless they
were blood related, it would be a
long process.

Now Dave is really confused.

DAVE
They ALL tried to adopt him? Wow, I
guess they really do feel bad...

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
And you?

DAVE
Huh?

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Do YOU feel bad?

DAVE
I don't know, but I want him back.
I feel like I owe it to him to try
again.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
That isn't so easy, Mr. Goodman.
You gave your son up. You can't
just waltz back and take him.

DAVE
Who's waltzing? I just want to take
my kid and move back to Mala Vista.

Social Worker Pam leans back in her chair and puts her
fingers to her chin in a contemplative look.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
Mr. Goodman... I was hoping I
wouldn't have to let this out quite
yet, but there is a little problem
here. Joe is... How should I say...
GONE.

Dave's eyes widen.

INT. CHILDREN'S MENTAL WARD - DAY

Again the air duct grating falls to the floor. The children
at the mental ward look up at the ceiling with fascination.

MORGAN
That was easy.

GREG
Shh!

Sheriff Pinkerton, Vance and Mr. Morgan peek their heads in
through the air duct and look into room.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Joe? Are you down there?

The children all raise their wooden swords and yell out.

CHILDREN
BEEF AND GRAVY!!

MR. MORGAN
Holy crap. They're ALL Joe!

VANCE
Maybe he's in another building.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
Well we got to do something quick
or there ain't gonna be a Mala
Vista to return to!

Suddenly, the children start singing.

CHILDREN
Fight the blue horned Fuzzies!
Fight with all your heart!

Sheriff Pinkerton, Vance and Mr. Morgan exchange glances.

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Dave is in his truck driving up the mountain roads looking
for Joe. He passes a sign that reads 'Mala Vista 30 miles'.

INT. DAVE'S TRUCK

Dave has a deep look of concern on his face.

DAVE
If he's not up here I'll never
forgive myself...

Dave has to turn on his wipers, because snow has started to fall.

DAVE
He ran away because of me... I just
know it... I AM a loser father!

Just then, Dave notices some hitchhikers.

ANGLE - BOYS

Joe, Greg, Eric and Morgan are holding their thumbs out. Dave's loud truck pulls up next to them, throwing some mud in little Morgan's face.

MORGAN
Agh!

Dave hops out of the truck and runs to Joe. He is incredibly relieved to see his son.

DAVE
Joe! Are you okay?

Joe panics and tries to run away.

JOE
No! No! I don't wanna go back!!

DAVE
Woa! Wait up, Joe! I'm not gonna
take you back down there!

But Joe keeps running. Dave slips on the ice, picks himself up and easily catches up to Joe.

JOE
I HAVE TO GET MY POOFIES!!!

Dave grabs Joe and tries to calm him down.

DAVE
Joe! Joe! I'm taking you back home.
We're BOTH gonna go stay at your
house, okay?

Joe looks suspicious. Dave kneels down and looks at his son in the eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Joe, I'm sorry I let them take you before. I'm sorry I abandoned you.

Joe stops struggling.

DAVE

I'm sorry for BOTH times I abandoned you...

JOE

Huh?

Dave pats Joe on the shoulder, it's as close as he's ever come to a hug.

JOE

Can we go get my poofies now, Dave?

DAVE

Sure thing, let's go get your poofies.

INT. DAVE'S CRAPPY TRUCK - DAY

Dave drives on through the heavy snow, with Joe and the other kids next to him. Joe looks around curiously.

DAVE

Did they feed you down there?

JOE

Health food.

DAVE

Yghick... Woa, what happened here?

Dave and Joe look ahead and see - One side of a wooden house is knocked down. Snow fills the inside. The owners have built a fire out of the destroyed wood to keep warm.

Then another house, this one crushed by a large tree, that has fallen over on top of it.

DAVE

Man, there must have been crazy ass blizzards blow through here!

GREG

Yeah, we've been having some problems.

Joe doesn't respond. His eyes tighten to slits.

EXT. JOE'S HOUSE - MALA VISTA - CONTINUOUS

The truck pulls into the driveway. Dave and Joe get a look at their wrecked home.

DAVE

Oh, shit!

Dave and Joe get out of the truck and walk towards their house. Eric, Greg and Morgan jump out and watch as Dave and Joe go inside.

ERIC

Now what?

GREG

Now I guess we go home and wait.

INT. JOE AND DAVE'S HOUSE

Windows are broken out. Underneath them, mounds of snow lay on the carpet.

DAVE

My God, look at this place! I've never seen such a storm!

Joe looks around suspiciously. HE knows what really did this damage.

DAVE

This is just great. We'll be fixing this place for a year.

Joe sees that the framed picture of his mother lies broken on the floor. Joe's eyes harden. Dave continues to AD LIB rant and rave, but Joe ignores him, for something else has caught his eye... His wooden box lies broken on the floor.

JOE

NO! NO! NO! NO! NO!

DAVE

What?! What?! What?! What?!

JOE

My poofies! They broke my poofies!

Joe starts to bawl as he picks up the broken box. His crying is horrendous.

DAVE

Hey, hey, it's alright... It's-

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Dave stops. He is absolutely struck by what he sees. A trophy is inside the box. It's the trophy Dave won skiing nine years ago.

DAVE

Joe... Where did you get this?!

JOE

(Still crying)

It's my dad's. He WON it, 'cause he's the best skier in the world. And the Fuzzies BROKE it!

Dave has to sit down. He is completely choked up.

DAVE

THAT'S what you've been carrying around with you in this box?

JOE

They didn't wreck this, though.

Joe pulls a polaroid picture from the box. It is a picture of Dave when he was seventeen, though you could never tell, since he is covered with ski goggles, scarfs and mufflers.

JOE

This is my dad. He's the greatest skier that ever lived.

Dave is speechless.

JOE

Someday, I'm gonna ski with him.

DAVE

Joe, I... I have to tell you something.

JOE

Okay, but I have to go fight blue horned fuzzies first.

Joe starts to leave, but Dave grabs him.

DAVE

Joe... I am your father.

JOE

Give in to the dark side.

Joe makes DARTH VADER BREATHING SOUNDS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

DAVE

No, no, Joe. I'm your dad. I won this trophy right before you were born.

JOE

Nu-uh.

(Referring to the picture)

My dad has big yellow eyes, a pink face and HUGE muscles.

DAVE

That's just my ski gear! Here, I'll show you!

Excited, Dave runs upstairs, but Joe dashes to his room.

INT. JOE'S ROOM - DUSK

Rockyish music begins as Joe pulls the little wooden breastplate over his chest. He ties the strings securely. Joe puts on his helmet and takes the wooden sword in his hand. He holds the sword up over his head, and looks majestic.

JOE

Baaaaaa!

EXT. VANCE AND PAP'S DESTROYED PORCH - DUSK

Pap sits on his wrecked porch, depressed. Suddenly, he stands up and smiles when he sees Joe walk out of his driveway dressed in his battle gear. Pap calls out to him.

PAP

Where you going, Joe?

JOE

Gonna fight the blue horned fuzzies!

Pap jumps up and down with excitement.

PAP

Go get 'em, Joe!!

INT. JOE'S HOUSE - DUSK

Dave jumps down the stairway wearing his ski gear.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE

Ta daaaa! You see, Joe? I'm your...
Where'd he go?

EXT. MALA VISTA - ROAD - DUSK

Joe walks down the street holding his sword defensively. He stops... Smells the air... And turns around.

JOE

Arrrrr, thar be fuzzies heeere.

Joe readies his tiny sword, turns toward the town square and marches onward. He passes a large tree, where a TOWNSPERSON is hanging helplessly upside down.

ANGLE - TREE

The guy hanging upside notices Joe and suddenly his eyes light up.

TOWNSPERSON

Atta boy, Joe!! You can do it!!

EXT. VANCE'S PORCH - DUSK

Pap watches as Dave bursts from his house and heads down the road after Joe wearing all his ridiculous ski apparel.

DAVE

Joe!! Joe!!

PAP

Boy, you'd almost think they were related.

EXT. TOWN CENTER - DUSK

In the town square, twelve of the large, furry monsters are busy tearing up the town.

Three Fuzzies are eating plaster off the walls of a blown down building.

Two others are blowing snow through the few remaining windows.

Buckie is having fun jumping up and down on the destroyed stage, and the large Gray is holding three townspeople at bay, pinned up against a store front. A few residents are hanging upside-down from trees, one of whom is Ms.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Schweinberg:

It's a regular Fuzzy party.

JOE

Hello there, Fuzzies! Having a good time, are we?

All action comes to an abrupt halt. The Fuzzies stop what they're doing and look over to see little Joe, standing proudly in his battle gear.

The fuzzies all look absolutely petrified.

JOE

You've been VERY BAD FUZZIES! And I'd say you're all in a HEAP a trouble!!

Two of the smaller fuzzies dash off into the trees, scared for their lives. But the big gray turns its look of terror into one of anger, and then lets out a cry. With that, three of the larger Fuzzies charge Joe.

EXT. MALA VISTA HOME - DUSK

Dave walks by the same house from the very first scene. The woman is peering out her door.

DAVE

Hey there, have you seen my son?

WOMAN

Who's that?

Dave pulls down his ski mask to show his face.

DAVE

It's Dave Goodman, have you seen my son?

WOMAN

Who's your son??

DAVE

JOE!! JOE IS MY SON! Have you seen him.

WOMAN

Ohh! Yes, he's fighting the blue horned fuzzies!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAVE
(Sarcastically)
Oh gee, thanks a lot.

Dave rolls his eyes and walks on.

DAVE
Jesus, this whole TOWN'S gone nuts.

EXT. TOWN CENTER - DUSK

The first fuzzy comes at Joe, but Joe stands where he is. Just before the creature reaches him, Joe ducks under it, then stands up and buries his wooden sword into the fuzzy's leg.

The beast howls with pain. The two other fuzzies approach Joe, but Joe sidesteps and knocks both of them to the ground with sequential blows to the bottox. Joe looks like an expert fencer and martial artist as he systematically puts the fuzzies to the ground. The townspeople watch on in awe.

It seems that Joe will have no trouble with the fuzzies, but just then, the large Gray holds up his head and lets out a terrible cry.

Within seconds, the ground starts to shake...

EXT. MALA VISTA - DUSK

Dave is still wandering around looking for his son, when he hears several very strange HOWLS in the far off distance.

DAVE
(To himself)
What the hell is that?

Dave cocks his head back and heads toward the odd noises, and feels a rumbling in the ground.

EXT. MALA VISTA - DAY

Greg and Eric stand behind Joe, who looks a bit concerned.

GREG
Oh my God...

ANGLE - WOODS

From the nearby trees, an absolute HORDE of Blue Horned Fuzzies stream into the town.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

There's at least fifty of them, maybe more.

TOWN SQUARE - RESUME

The blue horned Fuzzies line up behind the gray leader.

ERIC
Look at all of 'em!

JOE
Bacon and grapes! We've got a big
problem...

The Fuzzies menacingly approach Joe and the boys. It appears that all is lost...

When suddenly a loud collective SHOUT is heard! Joe turns around to see - All the children from the mental Ward running up over the hill. Triumphant MUSIC swells up as they charge like a refined army and line up behind Joe.

The Fuzzies are scared once again.

JOE
BEEF AND GRAVY!!

CHILDREN
BEEF AND GRAVY!!

Joe charges at the Fuzzies with the army of handicapped children faithfully behind him. The two forces meet - a clashing of children and Fuzzies. Townspeople watch in awe as Joe brilliantly leads the attack. Joe himself takes out four fuzzies with whacks to the knees.

ANGLE - VANCE, SHERIFF PINKERTON AND MR. MORGAN

Who are watching the incredible battle from nearby.

SHERIFF PINKERTON
It's working!

VANCE
Give 'em hell, Joe!!

Suddenly, a car pulls up, and Social Worker Pam steps out.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM
What the hell is going on here?!
Why did you bring these children-

A fuzzy runs through frame chased by a child. Social Worker Pam drops her jaw, then looks behind her to see the Fuzzies all being chased away by the children.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

Social Worker Pam is absolutely in shock.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Oh boy, I'm going to have to
rethink my perception of reality
again.

A fuzzy runs right in front of Pam with a small boy on its
back.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Okay... So monsters are real...
Okay... That's fine...

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - RESUME

The fighting dies down, the last of the Fuzzies runs away.
Now only Buckie is left. Joe flips in front of Buckie.

JOE

Carrots and peas!

BUCKIE

Meef an Gavy!

Joe nails Buckie in the knees with his wooden sword. Buckie
howls and runs back up into the woods along with the rest of
his kind.

JOE

And you STAY out!! Frigging
fuzzies!! You come back into town
and you're gonna have HELL to pay!!

Joe stops and catches his breath. Satisfied, he puts his
little sword back in its sleeve, and smiles as old spaghetti
western music kicks in.

JOE

I'll see you again tomorrow!

The townspeople rejoice. They converge on Joe immediately
and start patting him on the back, ruffling his hair, and AD
LIBBING compliments.

DAVE

Joe!!

Joe spins around and sees an incredible sight; His father,
the odd looking ski man from the photo stands before him.
Joe's eyes grow wide.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

VANCE

Yeah, let's leave her up there for
a while.

The other children gather around Social Worker Pam. Dave
notices her and walks up with Dave under his arm.

DAVE

Look, I found Joe!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

(Catatonic)
Uh-huh...

DAVE

Well, thanks for all your help. You
really are good at what you do.

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Uh-huh.

DAVE

Being a dad isn't gonna be easy...
But I think it's gonna be fun!

SOCIAL WORKER PAM

Uh-huh.

Dave shrugs and walks away with the townspeople all merrily
walking behind him shouting 'hip-hip hooray!!' and patting
both Dave and Joe on the shoulders.

DAVE

Wow, I can't believe how happy
everybody is for us!

The townspeople break out into 'For he's a Jolly Good
Fellow'.

DAVE

What a great town!

FADE OUT.

EXT. BUSSTOP - DAY

The large, bright yellow school bus comes to a stop and
drops off Greg, Eric, Morgan and Rebecca.

GREG

Where is he?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERIC

There he is!!

The little special bus stops down the hill. Joe gets out and looks around.

GREG

Joe!!

The kids all run down to Joe and pat him on the back.

GREG

How ya doin', Joe?

ERIC

You wanna go watch T.V. at my house?

MORGAN

You want some of my chocolate?

GREG

Shut up, Morgan!

Greg pushes Morgan, who falls down.

ERIC

Ha, ha, fatboy fell on his ass!

GREG

(To Joe)

You wanna beat up on Morgan with us?

JOE

No, I'm gonna go hang out with my dad. He's gonna teach me how to ski like bacon!

Joe heads off towards his house. Greg and Eric watch Joe go with admiration.

GREG

Joe's my best friend.

ERIC

No! He's MY best friend!

MORGAN

He was my best friend first!!

GREG & ERIC

Shut up, Morgan!

MORGAN

Right.

EXT. JOE AND DAVE'S HOUSE - DAY

The snow has melted to small and scattered patches. Joe and Dave's house looks cozy in the thawing surroundings. As Joe heads into his driveway, Vance and Pap call to him from their porch.

VANCE
HIYA, JOE!

PAP
HELLO, JOE!

JOE
Sour grapes!!!

Vance runs out to Joe and hands him a huge box.

VANCE
We made you a big bag of homemade jerky! And there's a pie in there from Mrs. Marsh down the way.

Joe takes the care package.

JOE
BAAA!! I'm a goat.

VANCE
You certainly are!

INT. JOE AND DAVE'S HOUSE - DAY

Joe and Dave are sitting on the couch watching television and drinking chocolate milk.

DAVE
See? Now he turns into the mogul!

JOE
Just like cheese!

DAVE
Bacon and grapes!

Looking relatively healthy, Duck the Cat jumps up onto the coffee table. Dave pours some of the chocolate milk into a saucer and Duck laps it up happily.

Dave looks up at the clock.

DAVE
Hey, it's four-thirty, don't you have to go fight the Blue Horned Fuzzies?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOE
Of course not. Fuzzies hibernate in
the spring.

Dave looks at his son with a very genuine smile.

DAVE
Oh... Of course.

Joe reaches onto the coffee table-

DAVE
Wait a minute, that's MY pop-tart!

JOE
No, it's mine.

DAVE
How many have you had?

JOE
Seven.

DAVE
I only had six! The last one is
mine!

Suddenly the house shakes a little.

DAVE
What was that?

JOE
Oh, oh...

DAVE
What?

JOE
It's spring.

DAVE
So?

Joe suddenly gets up and walks into his bedroom.

DAVE
You're gonna miss when the dude
runs falls off the ski jump!!

A CRASHING sounds from the television. Dave laughs and eats
the last pop-tart. Joe reappears wearing a completely
different set of armor. He has a plastic shield made of
giant tinker toys and a nerf bow and arrow.

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DAVE
What are you doing?

JOE
Have to go fight the Duck Billed
Gorillas. They come in the spring.
Have to go fight 'em else they'll
walk all over us.

DAVE
Right...

Joe walks out the door.

Dave takes a swig of chocolate milk, puts his hands behind
his head, and laughs like a child.

FADE OUT.