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THE ADVENTURES OF HENRY ADAMS

"Ms. Bolton"

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SHOOTING DRAFT

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THE ADVENTURES OF HENRY ADAMS

TEASER

1 INT. PROFESSOR'S LAB - MORNING

1

HENRY and GARY are mixing a potion in the Time Tracker.

GARY

Any luck?

HENRY

Gary...please stop asking.
Nothing yet.

We get a closer view of the Time Tracker, and realize that Henry and Gary are searching for the missing DARLA.

GARY

Anything yet?

Henry turns and calls...

HENRY

Professor, can you please take
Gary on a walk?

PROFESSOR BECKETT enters frame, wearing a leopard print robe and airplane goggles.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Ah...now, now, Henry. Don't lose
your temper. You'll find her.

GARY

Yeah. Don't lose your temper...
(off Henry's look)
...er, Henry.

Henry abandons the Time Tracker.

HENRY

She's been gone for an entire
week, Professor. It's hard not
to get riled up.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Well, you know what they say. If
you love something, set it free.
If it doesn't return, it wasn't
yours to begin with.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

But she IS ours, Professor.
She's Darla. She has to return
to us.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Henry, remember that Darla is a
mortal. She isn't here for a
specific purpose, like you are.
Sure, she has the capability to
do a lot of good but no
obligation. If she wants to give
up crime-fighting, she has every
right to.

(breaks down and cries)

But I hope she doesn't.

Henry comforts a sobbing Professor Beckett, as Gary gestures for
them to come revisit the Time Tracker.

GARY

Uh, guys...something's coming up.

ANGLE ON: TIME TRACKER. An arrow has landed at a location in
Springs County.

HENRY

Where is she?

GARY

It's not specific. But she
definitely is still in Little
Town.

HENRY

See, Professor, not all hope is
lost.

GARY

But if she's still here, then why
hasn't she contacted us yet?

HENRY

Well, I don't know. But there's
no way she could have moved on
this quickly.

(gulp)

At least, I don't think so.

The three men ponder the thought as we --

CUT TO:

2 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING 2

We dolly through a classroom of young children, all seated politely at their desks, panning towards the front, where a woman has her back to the room as she writes on the chalkboard.

WOMAN

Now, I understand your teacher had to take a sudden leave of absence, but don't worry. I'm a very nice lady and I'll make it seem like she never left.

We now are on a medium shot of the woman, who turns and is clearly DARLA, looking more sophisticated than usual. Behind her, we see she has spelled out **MS. BOLTON** on the board.

DARLA

My name is Ms. Bolton. And I'll be here all year long.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

3 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY 3
ESTABLISH

CUT TO:

4 INT. WILLOW SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY 4
Darla is engaging her third grade class in Reading.

DARLA

And then the mouse knocked on my door. When I opened it up, I didn't even see him. "Down here," he squeaked. I kneeled down and said, "Hello, Mr. Mouse. What can I do for you?" "A cup of milk, pleaseee," he cried. But I had just used the last cup for my morning tea.

Darla holds up the book so the class can see the picture. A chubby girl in glasses raises her hand, a name card on her desk, illustrated with rainbows and unicorns.

DARLA

Yes...what is your name? I can't see your name card.

KARLA

Karla. Okay, I'm lactose intolerant and I wonder, if I am a big human and I can't handle milk, how can a tiny mouse handle an entire cup?

The class snickers. A mean boy, CHARLIE, glares at her.

CHARLIE

Yeah, and when she means a big human, she means a BIG human.

The class erupts in giggles. Darla puts down her book.

DARLA

All right, I think we need to learn a little lesson on respect here. Does anybody know what respect means?

(CONTINUED)

Nobody raises her hand except a boy in the back, a studious looking thin boy with a name card of WALTER.

DARLA

Yes? Walter? You think you know?

WALTER

It's like...I don't know how to put it in words but it's like when you give someone respect. Like, make them feel good or something. Like that song that says "Give me respect. R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Give me respect."

DARLA

Well, I don't think those are the lyrics but, yes, you're on the right track.

Darla pulls out a dictionary and flips through it.

DARLA

Respect. Courteous regard for people's feelings. If we put other people down, we are really putting ourselves down. For how you treat others is a mirror into yourself.

The students look confused. Karla raises her hand and is called on.

KARLA

It doesn't bother me, Ms. Bolton. They're just jealous because I'm smarter than them.

The student snicker.

DARLA

Karla, in complimenting yourself, YOU are also not respecting THEM. There are two different roads towards being kind to others. One of them is not putting others down just because they make the first blow. Okay, everybody, get in a circle.

The students all move their desks around.

(CONTINUED)

DARLA (CONT'D)

Make sure you can see everybody.
Okay? Now we'll go around,
person by person, and everybody
say one nice thing about each
student, one by one. Don't worry
if someone else says the same
thing. The important thing is
just to say something positive.
We'll start with Karla.

Darla encourages the first student on Karla's right to
compliment her. It is CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

She's nice.

WALTER

She shares things like paper and
stuff when I run out.

Another bully, RYAN, grins.

RYAN

She helps supply the cafeteria
with money.

Some students laugh. Karla breaks down in tears and runs out of
the room. Darla has to follow but can't leave the students
unattended.

DARLA

Walter, you're in charge. You're
the temporary teacher. Make sure
everyone remains seated and I'll
be right back.

Darla rushes out of the room. Walter stands up in front of the
classroom and writes his name on the board.

WALTER

Hello, class. My name is Walter.
I'll be your substitute teacher
today.

The students all giggle. Some stand up and dance around. One
opens up the teacher's desk and begins looking inside.

CUT TO:

5 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - DAY

5

Karla is standing outside the classroom, crying. Darla stands in front of her.

DARLA

It's okay. You ARE smarter than them. But since you already know that, why do their comments hurt?

KARLA

They don't. They just embarrassed me. You're a new teacher and you're so pretty and they made me look so stupid.

DARLA

They didn't make you look stupid. They made themselves look stupid. I'm going to talk to Ryan during recess. We were doing a very nice exercise and he made it something unpleasant.

KARLA

No, don't get him in trouble. I like him. He's just trying to impress all the other boys.

DARLA

I'm not getting him in trouble, Karla. He got himself in trouble. Now come inside. I have something to say to the class.

Darla leads Karla back in the room.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

6

Gary is using a metal detector-type device, THE LOCO LOCATOR, on the sidewalk, with Henry following patiently behind.

HENRY

Is that thing giving you a reading?

GARY

Yes. We're going in the right direction.

CLOSE ON: LOCO LOCATOR. It begins spinning like crazy.

(CONTINUED)

GARY

Uh, I think I'm picking up on something.

He points it at the school.

HENRY

Let's go in.

They walk up the front steps.

CUT TO:

7 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

7

Henry and Gary walk down the empty hallway, the LOCO LOCATOR getting even louder. BEEP-BEEP-BEEP.

A 35-year-old Black woman, REBECCA, stops when she sees them.

REBECCA

May I help you?

Henry and Gary look up at her. They exchange looks and then...

HENRY

Oh, yes, you see, my wife, she's run away from home and I was wondering if...

GARY

My older sister took off running and last I heard, she was pursuing her dream to teach...

REBECCA

Shh... one at a time.

GARY

(finishing his thought)
Oh where, oh where could she be?

HENRY

Uh, do you know if someone named Darla Bolton works here?

REBECCA

I've been here seven years and I can assure you, no.

Rebecca begins to walk off and then pivots.

REBECCA

Oh, wait, there is a new teacher that just started today but she's just here temporarily. I think her name is Vanessa though.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

(a beat)

But I'm really bad at names.

GARY

Okay, describe her to me. Does she have blonde hair?

REBECCA

No.

GARY

Good. Neither did Darla. A big ghetto bootie?

REBECCA

Excuse me?

HENRY

Um, can you please show us where this sub is so we can see if she's our missing friend?

Rebecca makes a face.

REBECCA

Does she want to be found?

She leads them to a doorway.

POV: HENRY. Through the door, we see Darla engaging the class in a math problem.

HENRY

Darla.

Henry opens the door. Before Rebecca can interject, he steps inside.

CUT TO:

8 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS 8

DARLA

(her back to the class)

So one-eighth means you only get one of eight pieces of the pie.

Henry grins as he looks at her, the students now aware of him.

HENRY

Darla!

(CONTINUED)

DARLA

Another...

(turning)

Henry? What are you doing here?

Darla slams the chalk down on the tray.

HENRY

We've been looking all over for you. We need you to come back...

Darla runs to him and pushes him outside.

DARLA

Henry, I'm in the middle of a class.

She shuts the door and turns back to the students.

DARLA

I'm sorry, everyone. He's an old friend with very bad manners.

Ryan raises his hand.

DARLA

Yes, Ryan?

RYAN

Is he your BOYFRIEND?

Some of the students snicker.

DARLA

No, he is most definitely NOT. All right, enough distractions. Who can give me another example of a fraction? Susan, do you...

KNOCK-KNOCK. Darla looks at the window. Gary grins and waves at her. He notices the children. He presses his face against the glass and makes silly faces. They giggle.

Darla is getting furious. She turns to the class.

DARLA

Karla, you're in charge. I'll be right back.

CUT TO:

9 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

9

Darla steps outside and glares at a goofy-faced Gary and a Henry who is oblivious to being a bother. Rebecca passes by.

REBECCA

I tried to keep them away,
Vanessa.

Darla steps closer to the two and hisses...

DARLA

What do you think you're doing?
This is my new job. These are
children. You can't be obnoxious
like this.

GARY

We need you to come home.
(faux crying)
We miss you.

DARLA

We need to talk about this LATER!

Darla steps back towards the classroom, stopped by Henry --

HENRY

Wait, Darla. Don't you care
about us anymore?

DARLA

Don't you care about ME? This is
my decision. My choice, Henry.

HENRY

You're just punishing me because
of the spell. But it was for
your own good.

DARLA

You manipulated my mind. You
made me forget about someone in
my past without me wanting you
to.

HENRY

It was to keep you happy again.
You were in so much pain.

DARLA

I'm not going to be under your
spell anymore, Henry. Gary.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARLA (CONT'D)

Just leave me alone. Never the twain shall meet.

GARY

There's a TRAIN COMING?

Gary ducks for cover.

DARLA

You know, I thought you were my friends and you cared about me. But I couldn't be further from the truth. What a waste of time spent with you.

Darla opens the door a crack, sounds of CALAMITY pouring through. Henry shuts it.

DARLA (CONT'D)

Henry, let go.

HENRY

Darla, how can you throw away our history because of one mistake?

DARLA

Henry, it was more than a mistake.

HENRY

You need to realize that it's not just about us anymore. We're talking about the safety of Little Town here. We can't do this without you.

DARLA

Well, you're going to have to try.

Gary pops up, breaking the serious moment.

GARY

Mommy, I miss you!

The RECESS BELL SOUNDS.

DARLA

I have to get back to the children.

Darla opens the door and steps inside. THE ROOM IS CHAOS. Paper airplanes everywhere. Books knocked over. A broken beaker. Students standing on desks.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

Darla looks at a seated Karla, frowning, ashamed.

KARLA

I tried to stop them but they
wouldn't listen to me.

Darla takes a deep breath.

DARLA

Okay, everybody, recess. But
we're going to have a talk about
this when you're back.

Darla ushers the students outside.

CUT TO:

10 INT. MASTER HIMAS' LAIR

10

We pan through the various things being cooked up in his
laboratory.

MASTER HIMAS

Slither! Slither, come in here
at once!

His eye-patched stringy-haired goon wanders in.

SLITHER

Yes, Master Himas?

MASTER HIMAS

It appears Darla is having second
thoughts about fighting crime.
Before there's another usual
happy ending, we need to take
advantage of her anger.

SLITHER

What do you recommend?

MASTER HIMAS

Well, first, we've got to get
Henry and Gary away. I think
some Chitawogs will do the trick.
And we'll send my new concoction
to seal the deal. SLEEPYHEAD!

In a flash, Sleepyhead, a new villain, appears. He has the
strap of some sort of pouch around his shoulder.

SLEEPYHEAD

You called?

(CONTINUED)

MASTER HIMAS

Demonstrate on my friend here
what you're capable of.

Slither takes off running but before he can take a second step, Sleepyhead pulls some powder from his pouch and blows it at him. It builds and builds to a giant PINK CLOUD and, when it makes contact, Slither drops to the ground, animated Zs appearing above his head.

MASTER HIMAS

Excellent, Sleepyhead. You'll be
a fantastic distraction for Ms.
Bolton.

Master Himas looks into his crystal ball.

ANGLE ON: THE CRYSTAL BALL. Darla is eating a sack lunch at her desk.

MASTER HIMAS

Are you feeling tired, dear?
Pretty soon Sleepy Beauty will be
out of the equation forever.
It's just a matter of time before
Darla turns her hatred for Henry
into something good -- and joins
us on the side of evil!

Master Himas laughs, as Sleepyhead nods behind him.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

11 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON 11

Darla is teaching the class.

DARLA

So name three reasons being
located near a canal would be
helpful to the natives.

Charlie raises his hand.

DARLA

Yes, Charlie?

CHARLIE

I feel sick 'cause Karla's
perfume smells like dish soap.

The class laughs. Karla grimaces.

DARLA

Charlie, was that an appropriate
comment to make?

CHARLIE

(ashamed)

No.

Before Darla can continue her thought, Karla leans over and
smacks him on the arm.

CHARLIE

Ow. Ms. Bolton, Karla hit me.

DARLA

Karla. Why did you do that?

RYAN

'Cause she's meaty enough to hurt
him.

DARLA

Ryan!

Walter leans over and hits Ryan.

DARLA

Walter! You need to stop hitting
each other. Violence is not a
response to an insult.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARLA (CONT'D)

Charlie, Ryan, Karla, and Walter,
you four are going to stay after
class with me.

RYAN

What?

CHARLIE

I can't. I take the bus.

DARLA

Well, I am going to call your
parents and explain the need for
discipline.

Walter raises his hand.

DARLA

All four of you can not go on
continuing to behave in this
manner.

WALTER

(tearing up)

I didn't do anything wrong. I
was just defending myself.

DARLA

There are better ways to defend
yourself. We'll talk about it
after class.

The bell rings.

DARLA

Class, you are dismissed.
Remember your homework
assignment. Ryan, Charlie,
Karla, and Walter, stay here.
I'm going to go to the office and
call your parents.

Karla begins to tear up. The class packs up and exits, except
the four.

KARLA

(in tears)

You're a horrible teacher! Mrs.
Marks would never make us stay!

DARLA

Well, she's not here. I am.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

KARLA

I hate you!

Darla looks saddened at the comment but knows she is doing the right thing. She opens the door.

DARLA

(to the four)

Stay here.

Ryan stands up to exit.

DARLA

Stay here.

Ryan sits back down. Darla exits into the hallway.

CUT TO:

12 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

12

Rebecca walks towards Darla, while the other students walk past her, towards the exit.

DARLA

Excuse me...

REBECCA

Yes? Oh, you're the new teacher.
Vanessa.

DARLA

Darla.

REBECCA

No...I'm pretty sure her name was
Vanessa.

DARLA

Oh...well...it's...no. Okay, I
have to talk to the office
attendant. Will you watch my
classroom until I return?

REBECCA

Miss, school is actually OVER.

DARLA

I'm detaining some of my students
for unruly behavior.

REBECCA

Well, that's something new.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

DARLA
Just, please.

Darla walks off towards the office. Rebecca shakes her head but steps inside the classroom.

CUT TO:

13 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS 13

Rebecca enters, the four students looking distraught.

REBECCA
Okay, who here is taking the bus home?

Ryan and Charlie raise their hand.

WALTER
My mom picks me up.

Rebecca eyes Karla.

REBECCA
And I know Karla walks home.

Karla looks down at the floor.

REBECCA
What's wrong, baby girl?

Karla looks up. It is obvious she is friendly with Rebecca.

KARLA
(gesturing to Charlie)
He made fun of me and when I stood up for myself, Ms. Bolton said I was wrong.

Rebecca shakes her head in disbelief.

REBECCA
These skinny White women come in and their first day, they act like the Messiah of 4th Grade. Y'all can go.

Ryan and Charlie smile and pack up their things. Walter slowly removes a book from his desk.

CUT TO:

14 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

14

Darla exits the office with some phone numbers scribbled on an index card. As she walks down the hallway, slowly, her footsteps reverberating in the empty corridor, the front door slowly opens.

In walks SLEEPYHEAD, dressed like a civilian.

Darla spins around. She looks at him a second and then smiles.

DARLA

Hi. Are you Ryan's dad? You got here quickly.

Sleepyhead approaches and then --

PUNCHES DARLA.

Darla recoils and rolls in the hallway, just as --

THE FOUR KIDS EXIT THE CLASSROOM, REBECCA BEHIND THEM. They gasp when they see Sleepyhead attacking Darla, her defending herself.

DARLA (CONT'D)

Everybody, get back inside! NOW!

Rebecca pushes the three boys back inside. Karla loiters behind, watching.

KARLA

Ms. Bolton. I thought you said not to hit people.

As Darla defends herself, she explains...

DARLA

We'll talk about self-defense in a second. JUST GO BACK INSIDE!

Darla continues her choreographed fight with Sleepyhead. He sticks his hand in his pouch and pulls out some dust. He sprinkles it on his hand and then blows it at Darla.

A PINK CLOUD forms and shifts towards Darla. She panics for a second, watching the cloud as it begins to make contact. She gets sleepy and then --

BACKS UP. She finally leaps onto a locker and begins to climb. She crawls backwards away from the cloud.

CUT TO:

15 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON 15

Karla is watching in the doorway. Rebecca hollers at her...

REBECCA (V.O.)
Shut the door!

Karla slams the door shut and crosses past the seated three boys to the back of the room at the far end.

RYAN
Should we be duck and covering?

CHARLIE
Yeah, is this like a fire drill?

REBECCA
How am I supposed to know?

Walter raises his hand. Rebecca ignores him. He finally speaks.

WALTER
Wouldn't it be safe to evacuate,
maybe through a window, than just
sit in an unlocked classroom?

REBECCA
Just relax. These kind of
attacks happen all over town. No
one ever gets hurt.
(beat)
Why does it smell like dish soap?

Ryan and Charlie laugh. Charlie points at Karla.

CHARLIE
It's her perfume!

Karla wrinkles her nose, hurt.

REBECCA
(to Karla)
Okay. Can I give you a little
tip? If you're going to wear
perfume...

Suddenly, the DOOR SLAMS OPEN. Everyone jumps, startled.

Sleepyhead enters the room, laughing. He walks sideways, taking long strides across the room.

(CONTINUED)

All of the kids and Rebecca **SCREAM**. But before anyone can have a chance to move or speak or make plans, Sleepyhead reaches into his pouch and blows dust towards them.

The dust collects and before it can hit the ground, floats into a HUGE PINK CLOUD. It permeates the room.

REBECCA
(eyeing the cloud)
O-o-o-kay, children. D-d-don't p-panic.

The cloud quickly makes its way to the children. They begin to get a little drowsy and then slowly put their heads on their desks and doze off.

Rebecca, too, starts to yawn and then collapses on the teacher's desk.

In the back of the room, the cloud inches closer and closer to Karla. She gets nervous, tries to think of a way to avoid the inevitable. She looks up at Sleepyhead and realizes --

HE IS WATCHING HER.

Karla swallows hard, tries not to show fear. The cloud finally connects to her. She panics, then makes a face as if discovering something. At first, we think she is safe and then she --

COLLAPSES ON HER DESK, albeit more dramatically than the boys.

Sleepyhead laughs maniacally and exits the classroom. The cloud tries to escape through the door but he quickly shuts it behind him. Through the window, we see the pink cloud, still trapped inside.

CUT TO:

16 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

16

Darla is lying on a heap on the ground, asleep. Sleepyhead almost steps on her as he coolly walks back to the entrance he had arrived from.

Tight on Darla, we see the main door open in the deep background, Sleepyhead obviously leaving the scene of the crime.

Apparently, with him, he took some of the cloud because the air around Darla becomes clear as she OPENS HER EYES.

Darla, groggy, stands to attention after a moment. She remembers the situation.

(CONTINUED)

Gasping, Darla runs to the classroom and looks in the window.

ANGLE ON: WINDOW. The pink cloud has dissipated some, now equally spread throughout the closed space. We see the sleeping boys in front and Rebecca.

DARLA
I'm too late.

Darla reaches for the door knob, cracks the door open.

As part of the pink cloud begins to escape through the crack, Darla runs backwards to escape being contacted. But before she is even 12 inches away, she bumps into

SLEEPYHEAD.

Darla gasps and tries to fight. He throws her to the ground, giving him enough time to cross to the door, BLOW THE CLOUD BACK INTO THE ROOM, and shut the door.

ANGLE ON: DARLA, on the floor.

DARLA
(furious)
They're just CHILDREN! Why
them?!

Sleepyhead says nothing but instead grabs her by the arm. She struggles and kicks. He BLOWS SOME DUST in her face but she manages to do a back handspring out of harm's way. The battle continues and we cut away, mid-punch.

SMASH CUT TO:

17 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS PARK - AFTERNOON

17

The excitement stops abruptly and we are introduced to a soundtrack of birds tweeting.

Gary and Henry are sitting on a bench in a nearly empty park. An ice cream man is parked along the curb, a few kids making purchases. Gary and Henry take a lick of their Popsicles.

GARY
How can Darla leave us for a life
like this?

HENRY
Exactly. She likes adventure.
Nothing exciting ever happens at
an elementary school.

DING-DING. An incoming page from PROFESSOR BECKETT.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

Henry takes one more lick and then answers the page.

HENRY

What's going on, Professor?

CUT TO:

18 INT. PROFESSOR'S LAB - AFTERNOON

18

The professor is eyeing a red siren going off in his lab.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

There is trouble brewing
downtown, Henry. You and Gary
need to get to the Convention
Center to examine the situation.

He finishes his message and lets go of the button, listening for
a response.

CUT TO:

19 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS PARK - AFTERNOON

19

Henry eyes Gary, who nods at him.

GARY

Let's go check it out, Henry.

Henry pushes down the button and responds...

HENRY

We're on our way.

CUT TO:

20 EXT. DOWNTOWN LITTLE TOWN - AFTERNOON

20

Henry and Gary pass a bustling crowd and kiosks.

GARY

See anything suspicious, pal?

HENRY

Not yet. Keep your eyes peeled.

The two arrive at the make their way into the entrance of the
Convention Center.

CUT TO:

21 INT. CONVENTION CENTER - ENTRANCE - AFTERNOON 21

Gary and Henry survey the Convention Center. The only people they see are all headed to the ballroom. There is a sandwich board that spells out the event they are all geared towards.

ANGLE ON: SANDWICH BOARD. It reads: "**Regional Science Fair Today. 4PM. Open to the public.**"

GARY

Science Fair. Could be what we're looking for, Henry.

HENRY

I think you just might be right.

The two follow the crowd.

CUT TO:

22 INT. CONVENTION CENTER - BALLROOM - AFTERNOON 22

Henry and Gary enter the Science Fair. About 20 presentation boards are set up, some with demonstration models in front of them. Nervous children and their parents look around, nervously, waiting for the competition to begin.

HENRY

Looks pretty quiet to me, Gary.

Henry turns and notices he is alone.

HENRY

Gary?

We pan across the room to see --

GARY, playing with a six foot tall electrical fan. His hair blows as the blades spin.

GARY

Whee! This is fun!

Gary realizes his voice is altered by the blade's motion. He begins to ad lib some silly sounds and impressions [*Simon is free to improv here.*]

GARY

Luke, I am your father. To infinity and beyond. [et cetera]

HENRY

Gary...we've got to keep our eyes open.

(CONTINUED)

Before Henry can finish his sentence, his voice trails off as a ten-year-old boy approaches.

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
Do you like my project?

GARY
Why...I think it's hotter than
the cat's pajamas.

Henry gives him a confused look.

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
Thanks. I've been working on it
for months.

HENRY
You MADE this?

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
Yep. It's an electric fan except
it's solar-powered.

The boy demonstrates as he explains.

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
Instead of a current, I installed
solar panels to power it. This
is beneficial to the cost-
concerned consumer because they
won't have a huge fee for
electricity. On hot days, when
the sun is shining, the fan will
run automatically.

GARY
What if you want to turn it off?

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
Uh...you press the "off" switch.

Gary tilts his head, like a confused dog.

SCIENCE FAIR BOY
(laughing)
It runs like a regular fan, only
electricity isn't necessary. It
ventilates up to 1200 square feet
and moves air up to 800 cubic
feet per minute. I installed the
panel where sunlight is most
abundant. The panel is
detachable for easy cleaning.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

Well, it sounds great, young man.
I'm sure you'll do well.

GARY

Yeah, when does this thing start?

SCIENCE FAIR BOY

Four o'clock. And it's so boring
waiting for things to get
rolling.

He spoke too soon. A posse of CHITAWOGS enter the ballroom.

HENRY

GARY! CHITAWOGS!

The Chitawogs enter the floor and begin throwing things around.
The kids protect their dioramas. An 11-year-old girl grimaces.

SCIENCE FAIR GIRL

You almost wrecked my
posterboard!

The kids all turn to the Chitawogs. Out of nowhere, they run
full speed, fighting back.

SCIENCE FAIR MOM

(screaming, amongst the
commotion)
Judges, please don't hold this
against my son! He's usually
very passive!

The Chitawogs take all of the beatings. Henry and Gary jump in
and begin to separate them from the kids.

The three Chitawogs are gathered in the same entrance they had
entered from. They grin at Gary and Henry and then casually
evaporate into thin air.

The room grows to a quiet chatter, everyone trying to make sense
of the pointless attack.

Gary strokes his chin a la Sherlock Holmes.

GARY

I think there's something fishy
going on.

HENRY

Yeah, they weren't even really
trying to do any damage.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (3)

22

GARY

So why even take the time?

Henry starts running towards the exit.

HENRY

To waste ours. It must have been
a distraction!

Gary runs alongside him.

GARY

But for what?

CUT TO:

23 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

23

In the hallway, Darla is on the losing end of a still intense
fight with Sleepyhead.Karate kick. Punch. Block. This is going nowhere. Darla
needs to utilize this time, before she falls asleep. She eyes
the classroom door.

Darla runs to the window and peers inside.

ANGLE ON: WINDOW. We see Rebecca asleep at the desk.

CLOSE ON: DESK. Darla's purse sits on the floor of the desk.

Darla lunges for the doorknob but is thrown backwards by
Sleepyhead. She elbows him in the ribs and then SLIDES TO THE
DOOR.Panicking, Darla turns the knob above her head, then stands up
and enters, slamming the door shut behind her.

CUT TO:

24 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS 24

Darla steps into the room, filled with the pink cloud. She
coughs, delayed a second.Darla turns back around to the door and opens it a crack.
Through the window, we see Sleepyhead smile at her as he SLAMS
IT SHUT, trapping her with the cloud.She shrugs it off and runs to her purse. She opens it up and
begins digging around.As she is searching, the cloud permeates to her head. Her eyes
roll in the back of her head and she begins to doze off.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

For a second, we think she is asleep and then --

SNAP! Back to life. Darla waves away the cloud, blows it across the room with some textbooks.

In a last effort of strength, Darla manages to find her communicator with a sleepy hand. Hands shaking, she pulls the device to her lips, pushes the button, and speaks into it.

DARLA
(into communicator)
PROFESSOR? Professor, it's an
EMERGENCY! Get here NOW! The
children...

CUT TO:

25 INT. PROFESSOR'S LAB - AFTERNOON

25

Professor Beckett has stopped a lab test to answer the call. The communicator bounces in his hands before he has a chance to respond.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
Darla! What are you speaking of?

CUT TO:

26 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

26

Darla is still kneeled down by the desk, below Rebecca, a cloud creeping up on her. She is terrified but tries to remain brave.

DARLA
I don't have time to explain.
I'm about to...

Before she can finish her sentence, the cloud touches her and she collapses face-first on the ground.

We pull back to see --

SLEEPYHEAD, standing above the unconscious Darla.

Sleepyhead picks up Darla and drags her out of the room, making sure the door is slammed tightly shut behind him.

We pan from the door, past Rebecca and the three sleeping students, to the lab closet in the back corner of the room.

We go through the door, to reveal KARLA crouched down low inside, shaking.

BLACK OUT.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

27 INT. DUNGEON - AFTERNOON

27

CLOSE ON: DARLA. She opens her eyes and looks around.

We pull back to reveal she is in a dungeon, trapped behind steel bars.

Darla stands up and looks for an exit. She notices the steel door is not locked. She grabs for it and runs down the hallway...

...colliding with three monsters, grinning eerily at her.

Darla pivots and runs back towards the dungeon pit.

It is a dead end. There is nowhere to escape.

DARLA

Damn...

Darla runs with nowhere in particular to go. The three goons split up and corner her. One picks her up, her arms behind her back, while she kicks at the other two.

DARLA

LET...GO!

She squeals, exasperated:

DARLA

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?!

She SCREAMS, annoyed and defeated.

CUT TO:

28 INT. PUBLIC BUS - AFTERNOON

28

Professor Beckett is riding in the backseat of a public bus. It is nearly empty but a woman in her late 30s and her ten-year-old son are seated two rows up, to the Professor's left.

As the bus trudges along, Professor Beckett smiles to himself, some pleasant thought in his head. The woman finishes talking to her son and the Professor takes this as an opportunity to confirm the destination. He speaks to the woman.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Excuse me? This bus stops at Willow Springs Elementary, doesn't it?

(CONTINUED)

FEMALE BUS RIDER

(rudely)

Uh...yeah.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

(cheerfully)

Oh, great.

Humming, Professor reaches into his duffel bag and pulls out a beaker and begins mixing some potions. It puffs into smoke. He continues humming and pulls out the Loco Locator. He turns it on, points it randomly at the female bus rider. She gives him a look. He ignores her, pats the device a few times, a beam comes out, and he puts it down. Still humming, he pulls out his communicator and sets it on the seat next to the Loco Locator.

The woman turns to her son and holds him close to her.

FEMALE BUS RIDER

Be careful, honey. Some weird people ride buses.

Professor Beckett has not heard this comment and hums so loud that he even stands up and begins doing a little dance, a sort of Limbo without a stick.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Do-do-do-do-do, hey! Do-do-do-do-do...

He is interrupted by his communicator. He looks at its source.

ANGLE ON: COMMUNICATOR. **"Incoming Message from Henry."**

Professor holds it to his lips. He is now completely serious.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Henry...come in. I read you.

CUT TO:

29 EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREETS - AFTERNOON

29

Henry and Gary are striding through the residential streets, back towards Willow Springs.

HENRY

Professor, the science fair trap was just a distraction. It had no purpose.

CUT TO:

30 INT. PUBLIC BUS - AFTERNOON 30

PROFESSOR BECKETT
I thought so. I got an urgent
message from...

The Professor looks out the window. He stands up.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
Uh...hold on. This is my stop.

The Professor pulls the cord. The bus comes to a stop.

CUT TO:

31 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS 31

Professor Beckett steps off the bus, which quickly takes off
after he sets foot on the ground.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
I'm at the Willow Springs
Elementary School.

CUT TO:

32 EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREETS - AFTERNOON 32

Henry and Gary exchange a look.

HENRY
We were just there. Everyone is
gone by now.

CUT TO:

33 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON 33

Professor shakes his head. He stops at the front lawn.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
Darla is still here. She called
me, told me there was some
emergency, and then I guess her
communicator lost service. The
Time Tracker verified her
location.

CUT TO:

34 EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREETS - AFTERNOON

34

GARY
(to Henry)
Hmm...weird.

Henry speaks into the communicator one last time.

HENRY
All right. We'll be there in
five.

Henry breaks into a jog. Gary begins jogging to keep up.

HENRY
Come on, Gary.

DISSOLVE TO:

35 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

35

The Professor is walking down the hallway very slowly,
suspensively.

CLOSE ON: THE WALLS. A very eerie feel to the empty corridor,
previously bustling with happy children.

The Professor gains the courage to call out.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
Uh....hello?
(beat)
Marco? Polo?
(beat)
Mother May I? Red Rover, Red
Rover. Red Light Green Light!
Olly Olly Oxen...

Professor has now made it in front of the classroom the children
and Rebecca are asleep in. The last syllable is replaced by him
screeching...

PROFESSOR BECKETT
EEE!!

The Professor turns around and speaks directly into camera.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
The children are in danger!

He stops a minute, letting this thought sink in.

(CONTINUED)

PROFESSOR BECKETT
(to himself)
THE CHILDREN!

He begins running in circles, waving his arms, walking into rooms and exiting out of lockers. He is frantic. The footage is sped up, even though his voice is *looped in real time*.

PROFESSOR BECKETT
The children! The children! The children!

DISSOLVE TO:

36 EXT. WILLOW SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON 36

Henry and Gary jog onto the scene. They are standing in the same spot Professor Beckett was minutes ago, the main steps of the school in front of them. They stop and look up at the entrance.

GARY
It's after hours. How do we get in?

Before Henry can reply, Sleepyhead evaporates in front of them.

SLEEPYHEAD
Hello, boys. Ready for a nap?

He quickly reaches into his pouch and pulls out some sleeping powder. He blows it at Gary but Henry jets for him and knocks him down at the legs, the cloud floating just above their head.

HENRY
The only one taking a nap anytime soon will be you!

SLEEPYHEAD
Or maybe your friend, Darla.

Henry's face falls. He stands up, infuriated.

HENRY
What did you do to her?

Sleepyhead throws his head back and laughs maniacally.

SLEEPYHEAD
You'll be joining her soon enough.

Sleepyhead gestures at them threateningly and then vanishes.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

GARY

Darla must be somewhere else.

HENRY

Why hasn't the professor given us
an update?

CUT TO:

37 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

37

Professor Beckett takes a huge breath.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

(to himself)

Okay, Professor. One-two-three.

He takes one long breath and slams open the door to the
classroom. He runs inside, dramatically holding his breath.

CUT TO:

38 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS 38

A PALL OF PINK CLOUD is still floating in the air. The three
children and Rebecca remain unconscious at their desks.

Professor Beckett surveys the situation and after turning blue,
exhales dramatically.

He fumbles for his communicator and then frantically speaks...

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Haystacks and fiddlesticks!

Alert! Alert! Henry, can you
read me? It's Professor Beckett.

CUT TO:

39 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

39

Gary sees an open window off to one side of the building. As he
runs to check it out, Henry reaches for his communicator.

HENRY

I read you, Professor. What's
the situation?

CUT TO:

40 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON 40

The floating pink cloud descends on the Professor.

(CONTINUED)

40 CONTINUED:

40

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Oh, gosh golly gee goober
gumdrops, Henry. The children...

The cloud makes contact and the professor collapses.

CUT TO:

41 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

41

Henry reacts, concerned.

HENRY

Right on it, Professor.
Professor?

Gary raises the window...

GARY

(calling)

Hey, I think I found a way in.

...but the window cord is broken and when he lets go to climb
in, the window smashes down shattering the glass.

GARY

It's clear. Watch out for the
broken glass.

Henry walks up the main steps...

HENRY

No thanks.

...enters through an unlocked door.

CUT TO:

42 INT. DUNGEON - AFTERNOON

42

Darla is tied up to a chair, guarded by THREE MONSTERS.

MONSTER #1

So what are you going to do now,
little girl?

The music swells dramatically as Darla surveys the room. She
notices a broom on the wall. The monsters continue to breathe
in her face as she begins to conjure up a plan.

DARLA

(mock helpless victim)

Well... I'm actually not...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARLA (CONT'D)
 (long beat)
 ...a little girl!

On the last comment, Darla breaks free from the ropes. Before the goons can react, she flips to the broom and yanks it off the wall.

The monsters take turns trying to take her down but she stands in ready position, prepared to fight back. Using the broom as a weapon, she ignites combat, easily hurting the goons with whacks to the thighs and heads.

After igniting some Kendo moves and beating each of the goons in the head, all three are on the ground, unconscious.

Darla defiantly lets go of the broom. It clanks on the ground as she brushes her hands clean.

DARLA
 Who needs sleeping dust when
 you've got a broom and a brain?

Darla surveys the room, chuckling. Her eye catches.

CLOSE ON: THE BROOM.

Darla frowns. She thinks a second, then picks up the broom.

Shrugging, Darla cheerfully begins sweeping, enjoying her good deed.

DARLA
 This place is so dirty...

While she has distracted herself, the monsters have gained consciousness and sit up, glaring at her. They begin to creep up on her, as the score swells dramatically...

CUT TO:

43 INT. HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

43

Henry and Gary walk down the corridor towards the classroom. Henry stops in his tracks.

HENRY
 You go ahead in the classroom.
 I'm going to look for Darla.

Henry pivots and steps into the main office. Gary continues on down the hall.

CUT TO:

44 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON 44

Gary steps into the classroom and waves his hand at the cloudy air. He looks around at the three boys asleep at their desks.

Gasping dramatically, Gary runs to the children and looks up at the pink cloud. Gary begins to sob, comically.

GARY
Oh, my goodness! This is
preposterous!

Gary looks up at the Heavens for an answer.

GARY
I can't believe it! Fourth
graders, smoking indoors...to the
point of brain damage?

We pull back to reveal --

PROFESSOR BECKETT, asleep at a desk. He SNORES.

GARY
Professor?

CUT TO:

45 INT. DUNGEON - AFTERNOON

45

CLOSE ON: DARLA'S FACE.

We pull back to see all three goons, TIED TO CHAIRS.

DARLA
That'll teach you not to mess
with Darla Bolton!

The goons struggle in the ropes, cursing under their breath.

DARLA
Now, if you don't mind, I have
some children to get back to. It
is, after all, my first day on
the job.

Darla opens the steel-bar door and runs down the hallway to safety.

CUT TO:

46 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON 46

Henry walks into the classroom, the door wide open.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

No sign of Darla, Gary.

Henry notices Gary asleep on a desk.

HENRY

Gary?

Behind him, the Professor snores. Henry examines the sleeping body.

HENRY

Professor?

A voice from the back of the room speaks. We pan over to reveal Karla, sitting at the desk furthest away from Henry.

KARLA

They're not waking up.

Henry walks over to her, ducking underneath the cloud.

KARLA

It's the cloud. It made all of them sleep.

HENRY

Why didn't it affect you?

Karla holds up her bottle of cheap perfume. Before Henry can inquire, she squirts him with the concoction. Henry coughs.

HENRY

It smells like dish soap.

Footsteps. Henry and Karla turn to the doorway to see DARLA, her mouth opened at the sight of Henry. Before she can think of anything to say, her eye catches on Karla. She gasps and runs to her, ducking under the cloud.

DARLA

Karla!

Darla kneels beside Karla, ignoring Henry.

DARLA

Oh, my gosh. Sweetie, are you okay?

Karla folds her arms and looks in the opposite direction.

DARLA

What's wrong?

(CONTINUED)

Karla refuses to speak.

DARLA

Honey, are you still mad at me?
You still haven't let me explain
my point of view.

Henry interrupts by spraying Darla with the perfume. Darla coughs.

DARLA

(thinking Henry is simply
trying to annoy her)
Excuse me, Henry! Will you grow
up?

KARLA

No! He was spraying you 'cause
it repels the sleeping cloud.

Karla sprays Darla a few more times and then herself.

KARLA

See?

DARLA

Wow. You're very smart to have
figured that out.

Karla smiles at her.

DARLA

May I have a hug?

Karla sighs, but agrees. The two hug.

DARLA

See? It's okay to be mad at
first but, after a while, you
have to see from someone else's
perspective.

KARLA

You shouldn't have kept me here.
I would have been safe if you
just let me go home.

DARLA

You still are safe. Everyone's
just sleeping. And the one
thing...

Before Darla can finish her thought, Sleepyhead MATERIALIZES
BEHIND KARLA AND HER. Darla gasps.

(CONTINUED)

Sleepyhead laughs maniacally and grabs Karla by the hand and runs out of the room, dragging her behind him.

DARLA

No! Don't hurt her!

Darla rushes out of the room, Henry behind her.

CUT TO:

Henry and Darla run down the hallway, but Sleepyhead vanishes with Karla in his arm. Darla screams, about to cry, agitated.

DARLA

NO!!!!!!

Henry reaches to console her but she pushes him away.

HENRY

Darla...

DARLA

Don't touch me.

HENRY

I'm going to help you get that little girl back.

DARLA

Leave me alone.

Darla storms off down the hallway. Henry starts after her.

HENRY

You can't do this by yourself.

She ignores him.

HENRY

We're going to have to work together.

Darla stops in her tracks, thinking. Before she can reply, Henry throws in one last comment, a smirk on his face...

HENRY

It's okay to be mad at first.
But after a while, you have to learn to understand someone's...

Darla spins around and snaps at him.

(CONTINUED)

DARLA
Oh, Henry, shut up. Don't talk
to me like I'm a child.

HENRY
I'm not. I just...

Darla looks him dead in the eye. She speaks in a tone he hasn't
heard from her.

DARLA
Look, neither of us should fight
this guy alone. Not you. Not
me. If one of us gets knocked
out, we need back-up. Gary and
the Professor are already out
like lamps.

She is about to walk off but Henry stops her with an inquiry:

HENRY
(hopeful)
So that means you're going to
join the team again?

Darla rolls her eyes and continues walking.

DARLA
No. I'm going to get rid of this
guy and save my students.

Henry looks crestfallen. Darla leaves him behind as she exits
the building and crosses down the front steps.

HENRY
Wait up!

He pushes the door open and follows.

CUT TO:

48 EXT. WILLOW SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS 48

Henry chases after a speeding Darla. When he catches up to her,
walking at her pace, he gives her a sad look. She ignores him,
stone-faced, irritated at the situation. They walk past camera
as we --

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

34 EXT. DOWNTOWN LITTLE TOWN - EVENING 34

Henry and Darla storm down the street, speechless.

HENRY

So you're not even going to talk
to me?

DARLA

Henry, I don't have anything to
say.

They continue on, in silence. Henry's eye catches on the
CONVENTION CENTER.

HENRY

Wait! Darla, I have an idea!
We've got to get Sleepyhead
inside the Convention Center.

Darla keeps walking.

DARLA

Henry, what's the use? He keeps
disappearing.

HENRY

Trust me. How do we lure him in?

CUT TO:

35 EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - MOMENTS LATER 35

Darla walks, alone, towards the Convention Center. Behind her,
Sleepyhead materializes. He stalks her. She apparently does
not notice him and walks inside.

CUT TO:

36 INT. CONVENTION CENTER - CONTINUOUS 36

Darla walks past the sandwich board announcing the Science Fair
into the ballroom. Sleepyhead sneaks behind.

CUT TO:

37 INT. CONVENTION CENTER - BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS 37

Sleepyhead lunges into the room, laughing maniacally. Darla
gasps and spins around.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

DARLA
Sleepyhead!

SLEEPYHEAD
That's right, my dear. And I
think you may be going to
sleep...right about...now.

Sleepyhead dips into his pouch and blows some sleeping dust at Darla.

Before she can react, Henry appears from under a display table and powers on THE GIANT SOLAR FAN! It blows the sleep cloud back at Sleepyhead.

SLEEPYHEAD
Wait! My dust! No!!!

The dust begins to put Sleepyhead to sleep. He is just about to doze off --

-- when the fan SHUTS OFF. Sleepyhead slowly comes to.

DARLA
(through her teeth)
Henry, what's going on?

HENRY
I don't know. It's...
(suddenly realizing)
It's solar powered! The sun must
be going down.

Sleepyhead is almost back to full attention.

DARLA
Now what?

Boom! The cloud floats back to the two and collides with Darla's head. She falls to the ground.

Henry jumps up and runs to fight Sleepyhead, ducking occasionally to avoid the sleep dust. But Sleepyhead grabs him and throws him DIRECTLY INTO THE CLOUD.

Sleepyhead laughs maniacally. Both Henry and Darla are asleep at his feet.

Suddenly, behind him, Karla pokes up her little head. She tiptoes behind Sleepyhead, armed with her perfume bottle.

(CONTINUED)

Squirt, squirt. She sprays herself a few times. Sleepyhead stands above Darla, giving Karla a window of space to crawl to Henry. She sprays him six or seven times. He groans. She finally SLAPS HIM. His eyes spring open.

KARLA

Psst...you need to spray Ms.
Bolton.

Henry grabs the perfume bottle and looks up at Sleepyhead.

POV: HENRY. Sleepyhead is chuckling as he examines an unconscious Darla.

Henry sits up and tries to spray himself one more time as he stands up. Notices the liquid is not coming out. He shakes the bottle a few times and tries again. Still nothing.

HENRY

It's run out!

His voice has gotten the attention of Sleepyhead, who spins around and then lunges towards Karla and Henry. Karla screams and the two run in opposite directions, confusing Sleepyhead.

Henry slides over to Darla, picks her up and carries her away from the cloud. He looks at her sleeping body. She coughs a little. He realizes the perfume on his clothes are rubbing off on her. Henry picks Darla up and hugs her, touching his hands to her face, et cetera. Darla slowly comes to, groggily.

Henry spins around and calls out to Karla:

HENRY

We need more of this. Where did
you buy it?

KARLA

Mexico!

The monster approaches Henry and engages him in hand-to-hand combat. Karla runs away from the cloud, coughing.

Sleepyhead blows dust on Henry. He falls asleep. Karla runs over to Darla. She shows that her cupped hands are full with dust.

KARLA

I've gathered up his dust that
falls to the floor.

DARLA

What?

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (3)

37

KARLA

I need the perfume bottle.

Karla is unable to pick anything up with her hands full. Darla reaches over and holds up the empty perfume bottle. Karla spills the dust into it, just as Sleepyhead edges to them.

SLEEPYHEAD

Ready to go nighty-night?

POV: SLEEPYHEAD. Darla and Karla glare up at him. Darla holds up the perfume bottle and sprays the nozzle a few times. The contents come out as a pink cloud.

Sleepyhead yawns and then collapses backwards, asleep.

POV: SLEEPYHEAD. Karla and Darla stand over him.

CUT TO:

38 INT. DUNGEON - EVENING

38

CLOSE ON: SLEEPYHEAD'S FACE.

We pull back to reveal him tied up to a chair, along with the three other goons.

DARLA

That ought to hold him!

Karla and Henry slap a high five.

KARLA

All right!

CUT TO:

39 MASTER HIMAS' LAIR - EVENING

39

Master Himas screams, watching the commotion on his crystal ball.

MASTER HIMAS

Damn! Another good plan down the drain. Well, it doesn't matter anyway because what I've got up my sleeve next will put this little adventure to shame.

CUT TO:

40 EXT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - EVENING

40

Darla and Henry are walking back towards the school. Karla has run ahead, bouncing towards the main steps.

HENRY

Darla...

Darla doesn't turn.

HENRY

Darla, I'm sorry.

Out of nowhere, Darla breaks down and cries. She collapses in Henry's arms, sobbing.

DARLA

Oh, Henry. I'm so sorry. I was acting like a child, ignoring you. You saved me, even though I was so cold to you.

HENRY

I'll always save you. No matter what.

Darla wipes her face.

DARLA

This is my life. I can't run away from it. It will always find me.

Karla has been listening in. She jumps up and down, excited.

KARLA

Ms. Bolton, you help fight the bad guys that keep showing up in town?

Darla nods, still teary-eyed.

DARLA

(proudly)
I do.

KARLA

Yea!

Karla stops bouncing and turns to Darla.

(CONTINUED)

KARLA

Hey, wait a minute. Then why did I get in trouble for hitting Charlie?

Darla takes a breath and then kneels down to Karla.

DARLA

There is nothing wrong with a woman knowing how to defend herself. But defending yourself is when someone else throws the punches -- and not one, but several. To the point where you have to protect yourself. What you did is resorted to physical violence towards someone unprepared. Verbal abuse can be dealt with through disciplinary action, but physical abuse has to, as well, no matter what provoked it.

KARLA

I just didn't want him to think I was weak.

DARLA

Calling someone names is weak. Letting someone get under your skin is weak. A strong woman is confident and knows the right things to do at the right times.

Karla looks down on the floor, ashamed she has failed the test.

DARLA

Karla...Karla, look at me.

Karla looks up at her.

DARLA

You're going to be a strong woman when you grow up.

KARLA

I am?

DARLA

Yes. You helped us out today, didn't you?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DARLA (CONT'D)

But, in the meantime, maybe we should talk to your mom about letting you take karate classes. What do you think about that?

KARLA

That would be fun!

Karla demonstrates some amateur karate moves, as Darla and Henry laugh, encouragingly.

CUT TO:

41 INT. WILLOW SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - EVENING 41

Darla, Karla, and Henry enter the classroom. Gary, Professor, Rebecca, and the three boys are still asleep. Karla shakes her head.

KARLA

So what do we do? We're out of perfume.

HENRY

(to Karla)

Maybe you should have cut down a little bit.

DARLA

It's not that specific brand. It's any odor in general. The sleep cloud affects the nose. But it can be diluted by another aroma.

Darla picks up her purse and reaches inside. She pulls out some perfume.

But, before she can spray it, her eyes glass over and she collapses on the ground, asleep. The cloud has made contact.

Henry, too, collapses and sleeps.

Karla smells herself and realizes how strong the scent is. She makes a face, then runs to the perfume on Darla's desk. She sprays all of the sleeping people, then a few squirts in the room. While everyone is waking up, Karla runs to the window, cracks it open, and fans the cloud outside.

Ryan, Charlie, and Walter notice Karla.

RYAN

Hey! You saved us!

(CONTINUED)

KARLA

I just realized how to wake you
guys up. Perfume!

Ryan and Charlie exchange looks.

CHARLIE

Sorry we were mean to you.

Charlie stands up and gives Karla a hug.

RYAN

Sorry.

Walter nods.

WALTER

My mom's probably worried. I've
got to go.

HENRY

She'll understand when you
explain one of the local villains
invaded our school.

Rebecca rubs her eyes.

REBECCA

Man, it's days like this I wish I
grew up in some other city.
These monster attacks get old
quickly.

Rebecca gathers the children together.

REBECCA

Come on, kids. I'll drive you
home.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Be careful, the cloud is still
dissipating outside.

RYAN

Bye, Ms. Bolton.

DARLA

Hey, I hope you guys learned more
today than just how to stay safe
from bad guys.

CHARLIE

We did.

(CONTINUED)

DARLA

I hope so. But we'll talk about that during the next class session.

The children and Rebecca say goodbye and exit the room. Henry, Gary, and Professor stare agape at Darla.

HENRY

Next session?

Darla nods.

DARLA

The kids need me. I'm staying here.

PROFESSOR BECKETT

Darla, WE need you.

DARLA

(shrugging)
So do they.

Professor exchanges a look with Gary. The two walk out of the room. Henry stares at Darla, flabbergasted. Darla is expressionless. He turns around and exits.

Darla takes a deep breath and then packs up her things, putting them into her purse, tidying up the desk.

While tidying, Darla's cell phone rings. She wrinkles her nose. Who could be calling her now? She hadn't been answering Henry's calls before.

She pulls the phone out of her purse and looks at the caller ID.

CLOSE ON: ID. **"RILEY WINTERS."**

Darla smiles to herself. She accepts the call and holds it to her ear.

DARLA

Riley?

She laughs to herself. Listens for a second.

DARLA

I know. It's been so long.
(a beat)
Sure, I'd love to go out with you.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (3)

41

Darla continues the conversation, shocking viewers with the return of her old beau, as we

BLACKOUT.

END OF SHOW