

THE PEST INSPECTOR

Written by

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Dedication:

To Ken and Wendell -  
May your life be filled with laughter and love.

Address 3535 SW Coronado Street Portland Oregon 97219  
Phone Number 503-858-4029 WGA Copyright 2192362

FADE IN:

1 EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - FALL - DAY

1

Colorful picturesque scenery. Beautiful trees sporting golden and red leaves ready to fall to the ground. Distant mountains and a small lake serve as the backdrop. Three deer graze in a nearby field.

The SOUND of a CAR as it drives amongst the unending sequence of nature.

REALTOR (O.S.)

You are going to absolutely love this cabin! The previous owner built it to serve as his escape from the city. Ironically, he passed away shortly thereafter and never got out here. It is literally untouched.

EXT. REALTOR'S CAR - DAY - LATER

Two car doors CLOSE.

REALTOR (O.S.)

No descendants, so now it belongs to the city and they wish to sell it quickly - and at a good price.

EXT. LOG CABIN - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

The cabin is large and majestic, with a porch set aside for visiting with friends and neighbors. A hot tub sits off to the right side. The natural wood used to build the home fits in well with the surroundings.

You can see two sets of legs - both slacks, both women. They are staring at the front of the cabin.

MISS THOMAS (O.S.)

Oh my! It's breath-taking. A perfect retreat.

REALTOR (O.S.)

Let's take a look inside, shall we?

INT. LOG CABIN - DAY - LATER

The Realtor stands off to the side as MISS THOMAS marvels at the interior of the cabin.

MISS THOMAS  
Are these walls...?

REALTOR  
Solid oak with a natural stain. The cabin was built by the Lamont Company - leaders in the log cabin industry.

ZOOM IN ON EYE LOOKING THROUGH A SMALL HOLE IN THE WALL.

MISS THOMAS (O.S.)  
It's spacious, gorgeous, everything I've ever dreamed of...

INT. LOG CABIN WALL - SAME TIME

NOTE: All ants wear appropriate clothing for their character. It could be subtle (just a vest or hat) or full dress.

ANT 1 is peering through the hole.

ANT 1  
(to Ant 2)  
Get the Command Ant...

ANT 2 races off as Ant 1 continues peering out the hole...

MISS THOMAS (O.S.)  
The price is right. No neighbors. I love it!

REALTOR (O.S.)  
Are you ready to take the final step?

Ant 2 returns with COMMAND ANT WOODWORK - an impressive, strong, dashing ant. Ant 1 steps off to the side to let the Command Ant peer through the hole.

INT. LOG CABIN - SAME TIME

MISS THOMAS  
Does the hot tub work?

REALTOR  
 We made sure that is clean,  
 functional, and ready to go.

INT. LOG CABIN WALL - SAME TIME

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 We must alert the Queen.  
 (to Ant 2)  
 Make sure that pest sees you.

ANT 2  
 Yes, sir.

Command Ant Woodwork and Ant 2 head off into different directions. Ant 1 resumes peering out of the hole.

INT. QUEEN'S THRONE ROOM - LATER

The QUEEN ANT, regal and dignified, beckons the packed room of ants to quiet down.

An ANT GUARD steps forward.

ANT GUARD  
 (loudly)  
 SILENCE!

Everybody quiets down as the Command Ant steps forward.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 Your highness, the day of infamy is upon us. Pests are seeking refuge in our kingdom.

QUEEN ANT  
 Do we know if this threat is real?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 The pest displays every intention of moving in. I have sent one of my privates to engage with the pest to buy us more time.

INT. LOG CABIN - DAY

As Miss Thomas twirls around in happiness, Ant 2 approaches her.

QUEEN ANT (O.S.)  
 How does exposing ourselves help  
 our situation?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (O.S.)  
 If they see that we are here, they  
 will try to eradicate us before  
 moving in.

NERVOUS MURMURS (O.S.) from the gathered crowd.

Ant 2 does a little dance. Miss Thomas doesn't see it. Ant 2  
 kicks a coin. Miss Thomas doesn't hear it.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 That will take time - hopefully  
 enough time for us to resolve the  
 problem.

Ant 2 then shrugs its shoulders, climbs onto Miss Thomas'  
 foot. Ant 2 opens its jaws, and then CLAMPS down on Miss  
 Thomas' skin - administering a SCREAM as she leaps up on a  
 chair.

INT. LOG CABIN/QUEEN'S THRONE ROOM - SPLIT SCREEN

SPLIT SCREEN displays Miss Thomas and the Queen side by side.

MISS THOMAS  
 ANTS!

QUEEN ANT  
 HUMANS!

MISS THOMAS AND QUEEN ANT  
 (simultaneously)  
 PESTS!  
 (beat)  
 They are dangerous! Dirty! Invaders  
 of my home!  
 (beat)  
 There's only one thing I can do!  
 Get me the local pest inspector!

INT. EARL EARWIG'S HOME - DAY

All is quiet. The home is dark and dank. The artwork and  
 furniture emit a mood of despair.

NOTE: Every employee of Pests R Us wear a vest with the  
 company's name on it.

ANTON - a smart, brave, and serious ant, with a bent antennae - SHINES his flashlight around a corner. He swipes his finger on some trimming on a wall, then rubs with another finger, as he inspects the area..

Anton is wearing a slick hat with holes for his antennae, and has a magnifying glass strapped around his waist.

The SOUND of a BUMP overhead catches Anton's attention.

In another part of the house, CHLOE - a tough, yet caring ant with an unrequited crush on Anton - SHINES her flashlight straight ahead. She has an intense look on her face.

Suddenly, KENNY, a pudgy, out-of-shape potato bug, steps behind Chloe:

KENNY  
(tapping Chloe's shoulder)  
Uh, Chlo---

WHAM! Chloe acts instinctively and flips Kenny over her shoulder and smack onto the floor.

KENNY (CONT'D)  
Ow...

FILBERT, a hyper-active and easily frightened flea, shines his TREMBLING flashlight upon an unusual round object.

FILBERT  
(karate yell)  
Hai - yah!

Filbert punches the round object as a loud OOF is heard. A long noodle-like snout appears in front of Filbert.

FILBERT (CONT'D)  
(karate yell)  
Doi!

Filbert thrusts an uppercut upon the snout. A loud THUD is heard.

WENDELL - a snobbish, highly-educated dung beetle who wears a mask because he is sensitive to bad odors - lies on the floor.

WENDELL  
I must say, young Filbert, your pugilistic virtuosity has greatly been enhanced.

FILBERT

I'm sorry, Wendell, and thank you.  
Actually, that was kar-ant-e. I'm a  
black belt.

Anton comes up behind Filbert, who instinctively whips his  
hand behind him, only to be caught in mid-air by Anton.

ANTON

And I am your sensei.  
(beat)  
Okay, everybody, gather around.

Wendell slowly stands up as Chloe and Kenny join them.

ANTON (CONT'D)

Great training, so far. Chloe and  
Filbert, your reflects are  
magnificent.

(beat)

I'm interested: Filbert, what did  
you think was standing in your way  
before you used your karante?

FILBERT

Oh, okay, I got this - at first I  
thought I was staring at the fat  
tummy of a deranged penguin.

WENDELL

Deranged penguin?

FILBERT

Then some sort of mysterious masked  
giant noodle swatted at me.

WENDELL

Why, I never...

ANTON

So you thought you were being  
attacked by a deranged and masked  
giant noodle-headed penguin.

(beat)

Thank you. Chloe? What did you  
think was behind you?

CHLOE

Kenny.

KENNY

It's true. I was - hey!

ANTON

Did anyone see any signs of a pest?

No sound.

FILBERT

Does this mean we can go now?

ANTON

No. I think I heard something in the attic.

FILBERT

Why'd you have to go and do something like that?

Anton walks over to EARL EARWIG, the homeowner, sitting on a chair, reading a newspaper.

ANTON

We are just about finished, Mr. Earwig. We just need to check out the attic.

EARL EARWIG

(sounding sinister)

Oh, yesss, by all meanssss. Five of you isss just about right, hee hee.

Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell look at each other.

ANTON

We'll make sure every nook and cranny is pest-free, Mr. Earwig, sir.

EARL EARWIG

(sounding sinister)

Hee, hee, I'm counting on it.

(beat)

And pleassse, call me Earl.

(beat)

Can you make sssure to close the hatch once you are up there?

ANTON

Why, of course, Earl -- Earwig.

As the team starts climbing up the ladder to the attic:

EARL EARWIG

(sounding sinister)

My precioussss...



INT. ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

It is dark. Dim light sneaks through when the attic hatch is opened. Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell wear little flashlights around their foreheads as they cautiously step up into the attic.

FILBERT  
Looks good...

He turns to leave but the hatch closes. Chloe huddles closely to Anton.

CHLOE  
What kind of pest problem do you think we'll find up here?

FILBERT  
Oh, you're average living dead, or ghost, or vampire, or politician.

THUMPETY THUMP THUMP! THUMPETY THUMP THUMP!

ANTON  
Ssshhh... I think I hear something...

Anton looks behind him and notices Filbert nervously twitching and thumping his leg.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
Filbert...

FILBERT  
I can't help it. I'm a hyperactive, terrified flea.

The five friends looks around a bit more. Anton's light shows absolutely nothing straight ahead. He takes out a magnifying glass.

ANTON  
(turning to friends)  
A little scary, I admit, but remember: you have nothing to fear but fear itself.

FILBERT  
I fear everything.

Anton turns back looking through his magnifying glass.

CLOSE SHOT OF MIRROR

The words, OBJECTS IN THE MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR, are below the ENORMOUS EIGHT EYEBALLS STARING AT ANTON.

BACK TO SCENE

Anton slowly lowers the mirror and finds a HORRIFYING, DROOLING, GIGANTIC WOLF SPIDER in front of him.

FILBERT (CONT'D)  
WEREWOLF SPIDER! WEREWOLF SPIDER!

Filbert CRASHES through the attic hatch, leaving a perfect outline of his body on it. The outline soon resembles Wendell as he follows Filbert, then it looks like Kenny as he follows Wendell.

Chloe clings to Anton.

ANTON  
(hushed)  
Don't move. It can't see you if you don't move.

CHLOE  
(hushed)  
I think you're thinking of a T-rex. And scientists think that bit of info was false.

ANTON  
(hushed)  
Darn. I think you're right.  
(loudly)  
MOVE!!!

Anton and Chloe race around the attic with the ferocious spider nipping at their heels.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
(to Chloe)  
Grab onto me and hold on tight!

Chloe wraps her arms around Anton just as Anton leaps into the air and grabs onto a lamp dangling down from a cord. As the spider jumps at them, Anton and Chloe swing out of the way.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
(to Chloe)  
Let go when I tell you to!

CHLOE  
I'm not leaving you!

ANTON  
Don't worry! I'm going to let go  
too.

As the lamp swings over the hatch:

ANTON (CONT'D)  
NOW!

Chloe lets go - but Anton does not. As she falls straight  
through the open Kenny hole:

CHLOE  
AN -- TON!

Anton drops from the swinging lamp onto a box as the spider  
bears down on him.

ANTON  
(frantically)  
C'mon, c'mon... there must be  
something that will stop this  
beast...

Just as the spider's huge fangs are about to chomp down on  
Anton - he holds out a ball. The spider stops.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
Oh, um, Lookie at what I got? A  
ball! Does spidey want a ball?

The spider suddenly acts like a playful dog - hopping up and  
down with excitement, it's tongue wagging, it's eyes as big  
as plates.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
And -- fetch!

Anton tosses the ball, the spider races after it, then brings  
it back and lays it at Anton's feet. Once again, it jumps up  
and down with excitement.

INT. EARL EARWIG'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stare up at the attic,  
loud SOUNDS REVERBERATING from above. Earl continues to read  
his paper.

CHLOE  
We've got to get up there to save  
Anton - so I can kill him.

INT. ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

The heads of Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell slowly peek through the Kenny hole on the hatch.

CHLOE  
(cautiously)  
Anton?

The sound of a CRASH makes them leap up onto the attic floor.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
You villainous multi-eyed creature!  
Show yourself so we can exact our  
vengeance!

A red ball bounces past them.

The four of them walk across the floor and find Anton scratching an elated spider's belly.

ANTON  
Who's a good boy? Who's a good boy?

EXT. EARL EARWIG'S HOME - LATER

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell exit the home.

EARL EARWIG (O.S.)  
Did you remember to clossse the  
attic hatch? Hello? Guysss?  
(beat)  
Eek! Fluffy! Bad girl! Bad girl!  
Get back in the attic! Fluffy ---  
AAUUGGHH!

WENDELL  
It would have been to one's liking  
for him to acknowledge that he had  
a pet arachnid before we entered  
the blackness above.

Chloe stomps over to Anton and SLAPS him across the face.

CHLOE  
Never lie to me! Never leave me! I  
would have stayed with you 'til the  
end!

ANTON  
I'm sorry. I didn't want you to end  
if I ended when it - ended, I  
think.

(MORE)

ANTON (CONT'D)

(beat)

I mean it, Chloe. I truly am sorry.

Chloe hesitates, then gives Anton a big hug. The others join in on the hug.

EXT. PESTS R US - DAY

ANTS pass by a door with a sign that reads, PESTS R US.

INT. PESTS R US - CONTINUOUS

Chloe, Filbert, Kenny and Wendell sit in a circle. Anton stands by a chalkboard with the word, SPIDER, written on it.

ANTON

So overall, I feel our training inspection was a great success.

(beat)

Except for the large hole we left in Mr. Earwig's attic hatch.

(beat)

Filbert, can you ask Mr. Earwig how much it will cost to fix the door to his attic?

FILBERT

I think he's been reported missing.

GASPS from the team.

ANTON

What about his pet spider?

FILBERT

He's taken over the whole house. Seems it was able to squeeze through a certain hole that was created by a rather large potato bug.

KENNY

They're called love handles.

ANTON

Okay, we'll come back to that later. What other appointments did we handle this week?

FILBERT

The Fletchers problem.

ANTON

The Fletchers wanted us to get rid of their in-laws. It doesn't count.

CHLOE

Kenny, Wendell, and me got that salamander out of the Hudson's bathtub.

ANTON

Excellent and well done!

WENDELL

I immensely enjoy the ones with no talons in which to lacerate me.

KENNY

I still wish I had asked what moisturizer he used.

FILBERT

I wrestled an aggressive worm.

ANTON

Yes, yes, that was a pet.

FILBERT

It was lucky to pin me.

(beat)

I tell you, Anton, it's not so easy for guys like me, Kenny, and Wendell.

ANTON

What do you mean?

FILBERT

Well, you and Chloe can lift fifty times your own weight. I can barely lift myself out of bed.

KENNY

(thinks Filbert is joking)  
Haha, good one, Filbert.

FILBERT

What?

Anton picks up a paperclip.

ANTON

(handing it to Filbert)  
Yes, but when you have friends...

Anton lets go of the paperclip, leaving only Filbert holding it.

After a split-second, Filbert's hands begin to collapse from the weight, only to have Anton grab it again, allowing the two of them to hold it steady.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
 (to Filbert)  
 ...the possibilities are endless.

CHLOE  
 You all have strengths.  
 (beat)  
 Filbert, you can leap 150 times  
 your own height. Kenny can down a  
 plateful of spaghetti like nobody's  
 business.

Kenny smiles proudly.

ANTON  
 And Wendell - dung beetles can roll  
 huge balls of--

WENDELL  
 Don't say it! Don't say it! You  
 know I am extremely sensitive to  
 the mixture of excreted matter from  
 the various members of the kingdom  
 Animalia.

FILBERT  
 Ca-ca?

WENDELL  
 Metabolic waste products.

Dead silence.

FILBERT  
 Doo doo?

WENDELL  
 Defecation. Evacuation of feces.  
 (pause)  
 Yes, ca ca, doo doo.

KNOCK, KNOCK. Anton crosses over and opens the door. CRICKET  
 - a hip-hop enthusiast - hops inside.

CRICKET

Yo! Yo! Yo! Cricket iz in da house!  
I iz to hip hop what Fonzie iz to  
cool. It's in me blood - and legs.  
Nature's natural hip-hopper.

Anton and everyone else looks blankly at Cricket.

CRICKET (CONT'D)

Yah huh, I gotta rizzle dat's da  
bomb! Dudes, it's off the hook.

Anton and everyone else continue to look blankly at Cricket.

CRICKET (CONT'D)

(normal English)

I have a message for you.

ANTON

A message!

CHLOE

Let's hear it!

CRICKET

(reading note)

To Pests R Us: beep, beep, beep  
beep, beep, beep beep beep, beep,  
be -- ep!

Everyone looks confused.

FILBERT

Was that Klingon?

ANTON

It's Morse code.

CHLOE

Did you understand it, Wendell?

WENDELL

Madam, I am fluent in Dung Beetle,  
Ant, Potato Bug, Flea, Tick,  
Butterfly, and honey bee. I am not  
fluent in Beep.

CRICKET

Chillax, my homies. The message is  
printed as well.

ANTON

Why didn't you just start with  
that?



CRICKET

Hey! If there are two things I do hard, it's hip-hop and Morse code. Here's my latest:

(rapping)

Yo, dog, your killing it with dat jeep. But your pretty lady iz all up on me when I beep.

(dancing)

Beep! Beep beep! Beep beep beepity beep beep.

(beat)

Dat's Morse code for "I love ya, woman."

(beat)

My Morse code iz tight!

KENNY

It is. It's just all of that beeping we couldn't understand.

Cricket glares at Kenny as he hands the note to Anton.

ANTON

(reading)

Dear Pests R Us, your presence is urgently needed to rid our kingdom of large pest problem. Sincerely yours, The Queen of the Walla Walla Kingdom.

(beat)

Well, well - Walla Walla.

KENNY

How exciting! How exciting!

FILBERT

Yes! Yes!

CRICKET

Dude! Dude!

WENDELL

When? When?

ANTON

(reading)

I'm looking, I'm looking...

CHLOE

Hurry! Hurry!

Anton lowers the note.

ANTON  
Now.

EVERYBODY ELSE  
Now?

ANTON  
Now.

CRICKET  
Da shizzle!

Everybody looks at him blankly.

CRICKET (CONT'D)  
Don't look at me. I don't even know  
what that means.

EXT. ANTLANDIA - DAY

There are skyscrapers, shopping centers, restaurants, schools  
- everything you would find in a human metropolis, including  
the hustle and bustle. Everything looks extremely impressive.

CARPENTER ANTS 1 and 2 maneuver a plank into place while  
CARPENTER ANT 3 waits with his hammer.

CARPENTER ANT 1  
Easy, easy, gently now...  
(beat)  
There! Right there!

Carpenter Ant 3 hammers away.

Thousands of ants walk in line going different directions  
throughout the city. It is reminiscent of New York, but  
orderly. As the lines march along, ants peel off here and  
there at their destinations.

The city is also home to a variety of other insects (worms,  
beetles, potato bugs, grasshoppers, etc.).

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell, each carrying a  
backpack, walk in a line.

ANTON  
Aww, Antlandia! The melting pot of  
all insect cities.

He waves to an ant going the opposite direction.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
 (pointing at him)  
 Sid Bryant - give me a call. We'll  
 do lunch.

SID BRYANT  
 Sounds good, Anton...

ANTOINETTE  
 Hi, Anton! Hey, Chloe!

Anton and Chloe wave.

CHLOE  
 Hello, Antoinette.

ANTOINETTE  
 How is your business doing?

ANTON  
 You know what they say: there's no  
 business like pest business. Or is  
 that, there's no business in pest  
 business?

ANTOINETTE  
 (giggling)  
 Ohh, Anton...

Anton tosses a coin into a guitar case as he passes a STREET  
 PERFORMER SINGING.

STREET PERFORMER  
 (tune of Viva Las Vegas by  
 Elvis Presley)  
 Viva - Antlandia! Viva - Antlandia!  
 Viva! Viva! Antlandia!

They pass by a Nectarbucks.

FILBERT  
 Ooo! Nectarbucks! I'll catch up!

EXT. NECTARBUCKS - DAY

Filbert is ordering his drink.

FILBERT  
 (spoken quickly)  
 Double restretto venti half-soy  
 nonfat decaf organic chocolate  
 (MORE)

FILBERT (CONT'D)  
 brownie iced vanilla double-shot  
 gingerbread nectar extra hot with  
 foam whipped cream upside down,  
 double-blended, one sweet 'n' low  
 and one nectarsweet with ice.

BARISTA ANT  
 (monotone)  
 Can you repeat that?

EXT. DOWNTOWN ANTLANDIA - CONTINUOUS

Anton, Chloe, Kenny, and Wendell walk by a theater showing  
 two movies: SILENCE OF THE LEECHES and PEST-I-CIDE STORY.

Next they come to a clothing store - ANTS IN THE PANTS,  
 followed by a kitchen store - ANTS IN THE PANTRY. Filbert  
 catches up with them, sipping his espresso.

EXT. OUTSIDE ANTLANDIA - DAY

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell hike in a dense  
 forest (grass).

FILBERT  
 For goodness sake, Anton, how much  
 farther are we going to hike today?

CHLOE  
 We are exactly two feet from our  
 city's boundary.

KENNY  
 I am a little hungry.

ANTON  
 Eat some of the snacks we packed  
 for you.

KENNY  
 I already did.

WENDELL  
 (sniffing the air)  
 Aaahh... Such unspoiled, fresh  
 fragrances. A delight to one's  
 proboscis.  
 (poetically)  
 I'm reminded of the poem: Nymph of  
 the garden where all beauties be.

FILBERT  
That doesn't rhyme.

Pause.

WENDELL  
(deadpan)  
Roses are red, violets are blue.  
Some poems rhyme and some don't.

FILBERT  
That doesn't rhyme either.

CHLOE  
Keep your wits about you. There are  
all types of danger outside of our  
kingdom.

Wendell suddenly stops, making the others do the same. He  
sniffs the air.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
What is it?

WENDELL  
I - smell - danger...

A PIERCING, LOUD, OBNOXIOUS LAUGHTER - much like a hyena -  
surrounds Anton and friends.

KENNY  
Uh oh. Ticks.

Dozens of tough-looking TICKS, wearing leather jackets, step  
out from the tall grass, encircling Anton and his friends.

ARITHMETICK, the leader of the gang, strolls slowly over to  
the nervous group of friends.

ARITHMETICK  
Sooo, guys, what do we have here?

ANTON  
My name is Anton. My friends and I  
are just out on an invigorating  
hike.

ARITHMETICK  
Well, how do you do, An - twan? My  
name is Arith M. Tick.

WENDELL  
Arithmetick?

ARITHMETICK

Say it, don't spray it, bub.  
 (beat)  
 Did you know you are in our  
 territory, An-twan?

ANTON

Actually, it's Anton, not twan, and  
 we apologize for our GPS leading us  
 astray.  
 (to the others)  
 Let's go, friends. We don't want to  
 wear out our welcome...

They take two steps, then each one is grabbed by two members  
 of Arithmetick's gang.

ARITHMETICK

Not so fast. Not so fast. Let me  
 get a good look at all of youse.  
 (to Wendell)  
 Who are you suppose to be? The Lone  
 Ranger? Hahaha!  
 (to gang)  
 Get it? He's wearin' a mask?

The rest of the gang now LAUGHS LOUDLY.

WENDELL

Listen here, young miscreant, it is  
 beyond discourteous for someone of  
 your backwoods ilk to terminate our  
 nature trek.

ARITHMETICK

Mis-creant? Who you callin' a lady?

FILBERT

Don't let the tick get under your  
 skin, Wendell.

Arithmetick approaches Filbert.

ARITHMETICK

As I live and breathe - what are  
 you doing with this group of mulch-  
 eating riff raff? You should be  
 hanging with us blood-suckers.

FILBERT

I don't know what you're talking  
 about. I'm nothing like you. I like  
 hamburgers, steak, chicken, pork,  
 and other fine meats.

(MORE)

FILBERT (CONT'D)

Yes, I like them extremely rare,  
but who doesn't?

WENDELL

Very little pink for me.

CHLOE

Listen, tick boy, you've had your  
fun. Now step aside and let us  
through.

Arithmetick saunters over to Chloe.

ARITHMETICK

Ain't youse the feisty one? Tough,  
cute, just the way I like them.

ANTON

Now, Mr. Arithmetick, I consider  
myself to be a peaceful ant, but if  
you touch her, I will...

ARITHMETICK

(to Anton)

Ahh, struck a nerve, have we? Fond  
of her, are we?

(beat)

Hmmm. Well, An-twan, I've made a  
decision. I'm going to let you all  
continue on your merry way - but  
she stays with me.

The gang of TICKS MURMUR LOUDLY in agreement.

ANTON

We challenge you.

This statement stuns everybody, especially Chloe.

CHLOE

Anton!

ARITHMETICK

Let me get this straight: your  
little group of misfits wants to  
challenge us - a ruthless gang of  
parasitic arachnids - for this gal?

ANTON

Yes, and we challenge you to a game  
of Hide 'n' Seek.

ARITHMETICK

Hide 'n' Seek?

ANTON  
Our group hides while your gang  
shuts their eyes.

ARITHMETICK  
Wez knows how to play the game, An-  
twon.

ANTON  
If you find us, you win. But if you  
can't, we win.

ARITHMETICK  
Okay, okay, we can get behind this.  
Wait a second! What do we count to?

ANTON  
Well, if you are rather stupid and  
beginners at this game, then you  
should only count to ten.  
(beat)  
On the other hand, if you are  
really smart and great players, you  
should count to, umm...  
(beat)  
How high can you guys count?

ARITHMETICK  
(proudly pointing)  
I can count to 350.

ANTON  
Then 400 it is.  
(beat)  
Are you ready?

ARITHMETICK  
We was born ready.

OTHER TICKS  
YEAH!

ANTON  
Okay, then let's begin, shall we?  
(beat)  
Close your eyes...

The ticks all close their eyes.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
And begin to count -- now.

As the ticks begin counting, Anton signals the rest of the  
team to follow him. They run out of the area.



TICKS

1...2...3...4...5...6...7...8...9..

ANTON (O.S.)

3!

TICKS

...4...5...6...7...8...9...10...

EXT. END OF THE ROAD TRAIN DEPOT - DAY

The five friends finally stop running. They are extremely tired.

FILBERT

(to Anton)

Genius, boss. The ticks are probably still counting.

CHLOE

(to Anton)

Tell me. What would you have done if they didn't want to play a game?

ANTON

Doesn't matter. One way or the other, we were never going to leave you.

Chloe smiles. She then suddenly realizes that they are at a depot.

CHLOE

A train, Anton!

FILBERT

(pleading)

Oh, please, Anton, can we ride on it? Can we?

Kenny and Wendell stand behind Filbert, nodding in agreement.

ANTON

Well, I guess that wouldn't hurt.

(looking around)

Where is it?

Just then, a very long CENTIPEDE - with a happy face reminiscent of Spongebob Squarepants - appears, making CHUG-CHUG SOUNDS.

A sign about the length of the Centipede reads, END OF THE ROAD TRAIN - FREE! THE SAFEST RIDE IN THE INSECT KINGDOM (TRRR-UST ME)

CENTIPEDE

All aboard!

FILBERT

Yahoo! Time to hike in style.

Filbert and Kenny and Wendell jump onto the Centipede in an instant. Anton and Chloe look at each other and shrug their shoulders.

ANTON

Okay. Why not?

They climb aboard the Centipede train and relax.

CENTIPEDE

Welcome aboard the End of the Road train - Winner of the Best Trains in town contest sponsored by the Centipede Gazette.

FILBERT

What's a gazette?

KENNY

It's a type of antelope.

FILBERT

What's two ants running off to get married have to do with anything?

CENTIPEDE

You might be interested to know that we have never received a negative review on Yelp.

The Centipede's face suddenly changes from a happy Spongebob look to that of the diabolical Pennymaker, the clown from IT.

CENTIPEDE (CONT'D)

(hushed)

That's because no one has ever survived the trip. Bwahahaha!

CHLOE

What did you say?

CENTIPEDE

(happy face)

Oh, ahem, I said our service is a trip.

KENNY

Think they have peanuts?

The "train" starts moving...

CENTIPEDE

(happy face)

All right - here we go! Everyone say, "Choo-choo!"

ANTON, CHLOE, FILBERT, KENNY, AND  
WENDELL

CHOO-CHOO!

CENTIPEDE

(evil face, hushed)

I'm going to chew, chew on you, all right. Bwahahaha!

EXT. ALONG THE RAILROAD ROUTE - DAY - LATER

The End of the Road train continues CHUG CHUGGING along, its' inhabitants oblivious to any danger ahead.

ANTON

Let this ride be a lesson in insect togetherness. Insects care for other insects just as much on the outside of our kingdom.

KENNY

This is the way to travel.

WENDELL

Filbert, my fine lad, please ask the stewardess to bring me a goose down pillow and a heated spa for my footsies.

The "train" passes by a CHURCH with a PREYING MANTIS (wearing a robe) standing outside. It silently motions for Anton and friends to come to church.

ANTON

Uhh, no thanks!

Next, they pass a NIGHT CLUB named DIRTY DANCING. A BUNCH OF FLIES are doing the TANGO.

The "train" continues for a bit more and then comes to an abrupt stop, jostling its' passengers.

CENTIPEDE  
(happy face)  
We're here.

CHLOE  
Where's here?

The long Centipede stands up on its' last two feet, towering over Anton and his group as they land on the ground.

CENTIPEDE  
(evil face)  
The end of the road - for all of  
you! Bwahaha --

SCREECH! In an instant, a BIRD grabs the Centipede in its' beak and flies off.

Filbert misses the whole thing while checking his pockets:

FILBERT  
Any of you have enough for a tip?

EXT. FOREST TRAIL - DAY - LATER

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell continue on their hike to Walla Walla, with Wendell leading the way.

WENDELL  
(singing opera)  
Freetos completamore - revedulce,  
spaghetti sauce!

ANTON  
Er, Wendell, what are you singing?

WENDELL  
I'll have you know that I was the  
lead tenor of Dung City's latest  
operetta, The Dung Beetle of  
Seville.  
(opera singing)  
Oscar Meyer weiner - linguini,  
alfredo sauce!

FILBERT  
(to Wendell)  
Do you know, "All My Exes Live in  
Texas"?

Wendell suddenly stops, making the others do the same. He sniffs the air.

CHLOE  
What is it?

WENDELL  
I - smell - Grub Hub?

Anton cautiously makes his way through some thick grass. The others follow closely.

ANTON  
We made it.

EXT. THE KINGDOM OF WALLA WALLA - DAY

The five friends stand in awe of the gigantic log cabin. A nearby sign reads, WELCOME WELCOME TO WALLA WALLA.

INT. WALLA WALLA KINGDOM - HALLWAY A - DAY

DAY ONE

Excitement everywhere. Ants make room for Command Ant Woodwork as he races on by. Ant 2 is debriefing him.

ANT 2  
They arrived five minutes earlier than expected, sir.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Where are they now?

ANT 2  
I believe they are receiving a history lesson, sir.

INT. KINGDOM OF WALLA WALLA - NEAR ENTRANCE - SAME TIME

ANT 3 shares some of the history of Walla Walla to Anton and friends:

ANT 3  
So, at first, our kingdom consisted of one wall. That's why we called it, "Walla". Now that we have expanded to two walls, we changed our name to "Walla Walla".

CHLOE

Why "Walla"? Why didn't you just call it, "Wall"? And then, "Wall Wall."

ANT 3

Oh, there's a good explanation for that. Our founding ants did not know how to spell "wall".

KENNY AND FILBERT

(nodding)

Makes sense.

WENDELL

What the what?!

Command Ant Woodwork and Ant 1 arrive.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Pests R Us! My, you are a welcome sight.

(beat)

I am Command Ant Woodwork. I am in charge of security.

ANTON

(to Command Ant)

Not any more.

(beat)

We'll take it from here, Command Ant.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Yes, well, you understand that there is a queen. She is ultimately in charge.

ANTON

Does she have a degree in Pest Control?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

As a matter of fact, she has a Ph.D on the subject.

Pause.

ANTON

Very well. She's in charge.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

She is waiting for you in her throne room.

ANTON  
No time to lose. Take us to her at  
once.

Chloe gives Anton a hint:

CHLOE  
(sweetly)  
Anton?

ANTON  
Yes, yes, I apologize. Please,  
Command Ant Woodwork, we would like  
an audience with the Queen.

The Command Ant takes notice of Chloe and crosses over to  
her.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(bowing)  
It would bring me great honor to  
escort you, Miss ---

CHLOE  
(blushing)  
Chloe. My friends call me "Chloe".

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
And what does your boyfriend call  
you?

CHLOE  
Oh, I don't have a ---

Realizing what the Command Ant wanted to know, Chloe GIGGLES.

Command Ant Woodwork holds out his arm:

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(to Chloe)  
Shall we?

A smiling Chloe takes the Command Ant's arm as they lead  
Anton and the rest of the group to the Queen.

Filbert takes Anton by the arm. Anton shoos him away.

INT. QUEEN'S THRONE ROOM - LATER

The room is awe-inspiring, with gorgeous architecture, fit  
for royalty. Large pillars of carved wood line the outside of  
the room.

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stand before the Queen. Command Ant Woodwork stands next to the Queen, exchanging smiles with Chloe.

A squinting mole wearing a hard hat, MO JOE PETERS, is unnoticed off to the side.

ANTON

(bowing)

Your majesty, we are the P.I.s you sent for.

QUEEN ANT

You are our new Pilate Instructors?

ANTON

No, your royalness, we are Pest Inspectors - from Antlandia.

QUEEN ANT

Oh, gracious me, yes! Welcome. The fate of my kingdom is in your hands. Dark is the threat that we are facing.

(beat)

Hear me, Mr. Anton: we shall not let this kingdom fall, no matter how many pests try to infest this land.

ANTON

I understand, your majesty. That is why our pest control company employs only the finest and most-gifted staff members.

Everyone steps forward when their name is called:

ANTON (CONT'D)

Meet Filbert, able to leap tall obstacles in a single bound.

(beat)

Kenny - our resident blowhard.

QUEEN ANT

That doesn't seem like a very nice name to call him.

ANTON

But that's what he does. He blows hard.

KENNY

I have a big diaphragm.



ANTON  
Wendell, our snoot.

QUEEN ANT  
Uhh...

ANTON  
He has a great sniffer.

QUEEN ANT  
Oh, I thought you were calling him  
a snob.

ANTON  
He's that too.  
(beat)  
And finally, the one that keeps  
everything running like a well-  
oiled machine - Chloe.

Chloe GIGGLES as Command Ant Woodwork continues flirting with  
her.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
I said, Chloe.

Chloe realizes that her name is being called and quickly  
steps out and bows to the Queen.

CHLOE  
Let me introduce our team to you,  
your highness.

ANTON  
(to Chloe)  
Been there. Done that.  
(irritated)  
Step back.

Chloe embarrassingly steps back in line.

QUEEN ANT  
Well, welcome to each and everyone  
of you brave pest inspectors...

The Queen notices Mo Joe Peters.

QUEEN ANT (CONT'D)  
And you are...?

MO JOE PETERS  
Mo's the name. Joe's the middle  
name. I'm an excavator.

QUEEN ANT

Mo Joe -- Mole?

MO JOE PETERS

No. Peters. I am the answer to your problem, your eminence. I suggest a complete excavation of the floor area. Sink the home about three feet into the dirt. Pests don't like their living room to be in the basement.

QUEEN ANT

Yes, well, that sounds like a good plan B, Mr. Mole, I mean, Peters.

MO JOE PETERS

Throw in a dozen nightcrawlers and I'll have it done in three days.

QUEEN ANT

Perhaps some other time.

MO JOE PETERS

Say no more. I'll get started.

Mo Joe Peters wanders off.

QUEEN ANT

(back to Anton)

Oh - kay, where were we? Ah, yes! We will give you a tour of our wonderful kingdom so that you may know it's strengths and vulnerabilities.

(to Command Ant Woodwork)

Keep an eye on that mole.

(beat)

But first, I ask that you seek the wisdom and counsel of our wise gecko. He will be a wonderful asset for you and your team. Listen to his words carefully. He will prepare you for that which is to come. But beware, his claws are sharp.

FILBERT

He might slash us!?

QUEEN ANT

No, he is kind. You just don't want him to step on your feet. Ouch!

ANTON

So let me get this straight: we're  
off to see a lizard?

QUEEN ANT

A wonderful lizard with claws.

WENDELL

(sotto)

Cut.

INT. WISE LIZARD'S CHAMBERS - DAY - LATER

The walls have been honed in a circular fashion. Colorful fabrics hang throughout, creating a magical effect.

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell sit in a half circle. The Lizard, wearing a robe, sits in front of them.

The Lizard pulls out some pieces of wood, fur, grass, pebbles, a feather, and two dice. He places them in his hands, mix them up, then pours the contents onto the ground. The roll of the dice comes up with two ones.

LIZARD

Ooo, snake eyes.

The Lizard pokes and prods the rest of the contents.

LIZARD (CONT'D)

Hmm, the fur is clinging to the wood. The feather covers the grass. Egad! The pebbles rolled out of sight.

KENNY

What's that mean?

LIZARD

I have to find new pebbles.

Suddenly, the Lizard freezes like he's in shock. The group look at him with worried faces. He then shakes his body and SIGHS.

LIZARD (CONT'D)

Sorry. My undies gave me a wedgie.

ANTON

This is getting us nowhere.

LIZARD

(trance-like at contents)

I see the pests. They are gigantic -  
and dumb. Beware of their dumbness!

(beat)

What are they doing now? Ohhh, ugly  
skin... My eyes! My eyes!

Everyone listens intently.

LIZARD (CONT'D)

You will need more power than you  
alone have to defeat them. A new  
power - within the one.

(snaps out of trance)

Oh, and one of you is not going to  
make it.

ANTON AND TEAM

WHAT?!

INT. THE GREAT HALL - DAY - LATER

The gigantic room is magnificent, featuring a large statue of  
the Queen. The floor is smooth - just right for dancing.

Ant 2 serves as a tour guide for Anton, Chloe, and the rest  
of the team. Command Ant Woodwork smiles as he walks next to  
Chloe.

ANT 2

...And this is our Great Hall. This  
is where our Queen entertains her  
many guests. It is also where we  
hold our community events, such as  
dances, concerts, and flea markets.

FILBERT

This is a dream come true.

INT. HALLWAY B - DAY - LATER

Holes running up and down, right and left are throughout the  
hallways.

Ant 2 continues the tour...

ANT 2

As you can see, we have tunnels  
going in every direction - up,  
down, left, right.

(MORE)

ANT 2 (CONT'D)

The maze of tunnels runs throughout the kingdom.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

However, we are extremely careful not to cut too much of the wood and damage the structure. We wouldn't want anything to fall on the beautiful ants that bless our kingdom.

He smiles at Chloe, who blushes.

WENDELL

What about dung beetles?

The group passes by a Nectarbucks.

FILBERT

Ooo! I'll catch up...

INT. ARMED FORCES TRAINING ROOM - DAY - LATER

A large, simplistic room, with a giant sign that reads, ARMED FORCES TRAINING. A row of round targets line one side. ANT ARCHERS, with TOOTHPICKS as arrows, pull their bow strings back, ready to let their arrows fly.

Filbert sucks down his espresso drink.

ANT 2

And these are the Queen's fighting force. They are experts with the bow.

All of the Ant Archers shoot their arrows, with every one of them hitting a bullseye.

A little JINGLE BELL ATTACHED TO A STRING RINGS over and over again.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

(calmly, still smiling)

The pests have arrived.

Everyone FREEZES.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (CONT'D)

(loudly)

The pests have arrived!

INT. HALLWAY B - DAY

Total mayhem as every ant begins running into one another.

Anton calmly begins walking through the crowd giving Filbert directions. Kenny and Wendell follow closely behind. Chloe scrambles to catch up.

ANTON

You take Wendell and Kenny and spread out down the south wall. Have one of the local ants show you where there are holes that you can use to spy on the pests. Do not engage with the enemy. Just take note of what you see.

FILBERT

Got it, Anton.  
(beat)  
Kenny, Wendell - you're with me.

The three of them exit to the right. Chloe draws even with Anton.

ANTON

So nice of you to join us.

CHLOE

I'm sorry, Anton. I'm not use to guys like that.

ANTON

Guys like what?

CHLOE

You know... Strong, distinguished...

(beat)

Not that you're not distinguished...

ANTON

And not strong?

(beat)

Look, I don't care. We have much more important things to worry about.

INT. HALLWAY A - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Anton and Chloe enter another bustling hallway.

CHLOE  
No more flirting, Anton. You have  
my undivided atten--- MOUSE!

TWO WHITE MICE appear with ANT 3 and ANT 4 each riding one.

ANT 3  
This is Snowflake.

ANT 4  
And this is Dust Bunny. They want  
to help.

SNOWFLAKE  
After all, this is our home too.

ANTON  
Interesting... What can you provide  
for us?

DUST BUNNY  
We're both super fast and quiet as,  
um, a --

CHLOE  
Mouse?

SNOWFLAKE AND DUST BUNNY  
Yeah!

ANTON  
Very good, uh, mice. Stay close.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY - LATER

Ant 1 is peering out a hole. Command Ant Woodwork stands next  
to her, in discussion with two other ANTS.

Anton and Chloe enter.

ANTON  
Speak to me.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Two pests entered carrying  
supplies. They have gone back  
outside. Maybe they won't return.

CHLOE  
They'll return. They're bringing in  
all of their equipment.

ANTON

And by equipment she means weapons.

(to Ant 1)

May I?

Ant 1 steps aside to let Anton peer through the hole.

INT. LOG CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

RUSSELL (J.R.) and BILLY BOB, Pest Inspectors from ACME Pest Control, plod in carrying duffel bags and boxes. The company's motto is stitched on their coats: IF WE DON'T KILL IT, WE DON'T BILL IT.

Russell is heavy-set, loud, and obnoxious. Billy Bob is tall and thin. He defers to Russell a majority of the time. The two of them resemble a modern-day Laurel and Hardy.

RUSSELL

Well, paint me green and call me a pickle. What a sweet abode.

(beat)

This is what it's like to have bling bling, Billy Bob. Now aren't you glad I told the boss that it would take a couple of days?

BILLY BOB

You always think ahead, J.R.

(beat)

Aa-Aa-Aa- AA-CHOO!

RUSSELL

I guess we know we're in the right spot. You must be the only pest inspector that is allergic to ants.

Russell walks over to a counter, takes out a business card, and leans it against a box of Kleenex.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Remember to leave your business card whether the person is home or not.

Russell then walks to the side window.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Woo-wee! This hot tub is big enough for the two of us and the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders.

Billy Bob holds up a backpack sprayer.



BILLY BOB  
We're ready to begin, J.R.

RUSSELL  
Change of plans, my lanky friend.  
Let's begin with a dip.

PAN ACROSS BACK WALL SHOWING EYEBALLS PEERING THROUGH FOUR HOLES.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Anton continues to peer out the hole.

CHLOE  
(whispering)  
What do you see? Anton?

Anton steps away from the wall and turns to Chloe and Command Ant Woodwork.

ANTON  
Well, they're big. You've heard the old saying: the bigger they are---

Chloe and Command Ant Woodwork stare at him blankly.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
The more ants it's going to take to bring them down.

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell enter. Kenny is out of breath.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
How's it looking on your end, guys?

FILBERT  
Disgusting!

KENNY  
(panting)  
They - whoo! - started to - Oh, mama - undress...

ANTON  
What?

Anton resumes peering out the hole.

WENDELL  
Anton, trust us. You do not want to subject your optic fibers to such a display of beastly nudity.

(MORE)

WENDELL (CONT'D)  
Oh, and, yes, they offended my  
olfactory nerves as well.

INT. LIVING ROOM - POV ANTON'S HOLE - DAY

Outside the window, Russell and Billy Bob plop into the hot tub like hogs into a mud pit.

Anton zeroes in on Russell and Billy Bob's clothes lying inside on the cabin floor. He then looks over to their equipment bags.

ANTON (O.S.)  
I have an idea. Chloe, round up  
Snowflake and Dust Bunny.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY - LATER

Through the window, Russell and Billy Bob loudly talk (indecipherably) and LAUGH as they relax in the spa.

Suddenly, two objects streak toward the equipment bags, leaving clouds of dust in their wake.

Snowflake - with Anton aboard - and Dust Bunny - with Chloe aboard - stop on a dime by the bags.

Anton and Chloe jump off of the mice and begin to search the bags.

Chloe points to a tube that reads, PEST GEL. Anton shakes his head, "No." Then she lifts up the front end of a packet that reads, HOT FOOT (for birds). A red FIRE symbol dons the packet. Anton smiles and gives a "thumbs up".

The two ants load a packet of Hot Foot in the mouth of Snowflake and Dust Bunny, respectfully. Chloe instructs the mice with hand motions to rip the packets open and then pour. The mice nod in agreement.

As Russell and Billy Bob continue to LAUGH and SNORT, the two mice streak over to their pants, rip open the packets, and squeeze the contents into their pants' private areas.

RUSSELL (O.S.)  
We better get to work. Keep the  
jets on, Billy Bob. That should get  
rid of the pee.

Snowflake and Dust Bunny race over to Anton and Chloe, who jump aboard. The two mice streak away just as Russell and Billy Bob enter, drying themselves with towels.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
That hit the spot. Who said pest  
control didn't have its' perks?

POV FROM LEGS ON DOWN

The two men drop their towels, pick up their pants (with their undies still in the pants), and pull them up one leg at a time.

BACK TO SCENE

Russell and Billy Bob snap their pants in place and stand still - looks of bewilderment and pain formulating on their faces.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)	BILLY BOB
(quietly)	(quietly)
Ooo, arrgghh, ho ho ho...	Eep, oop, sshhh, garsh...

They look at each other. Then SCREAM and SHOOT UP TO THE CEILING LIKE ROCKET SHIPS. They bounce around the room like kangaroos on fire, emanating strange sounds never heard before by mankind:

RUSSELL AND BILLY BOB  
EEYOWABOOMUNCHACORDALLADAOZPUTINCOR  
IWOOWASHLEEBEESCHLOOBAGOOGLER!!!

They desperately try to rip off their pants, then high-tail it back to the hot tub and jump in.

RUSSELL AND BILLY BOB (CONT'D)  
Aaahhh...

Once again, they look at each other, then SHOOT OUT OF THE HOT TUB LIKE ROCKET SHIPS:

RUSSELL AND BILLY BOB (CONT'D)  
EEYOWABOOMUNCHACORDALLADAOZPUTINCOR  
IWOOWASHLEEBEESCHLOOBAGOOGLER!!!

Russell and Billy Bob finally are able to collect their clothes and rush to the door.

BILLY BOB  
Aa-Aa-Aa- AA-CHOO!  
(beat)  
Ow!

After Billy Bob exits, Russell turns to give a warning:

RUSSELL  
 SO IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE THAT,  
 HUH?! WE WERE JUST GOING TO KILL  
 YOU PEACEFULLY, VERMIN, BUT NOW  
 IT'S WAR! WE'LL BE BACK! IF I WERE  
 YOU, I'D BE GONE!

He grimaces and WHINES as he exits.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Ants CHEER and congratulate Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell.

CHLOE  
 Thank you, thank you, but it's not  
 over. We won today. Now we need to  
 prepare for tomorrow.

Anton smiles at Chloe, who smiles back. Then Command Ant Woodwork steps past Anton and up to Chloe.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 You were wonderful today.

CHLOE  
 (blushing)  
 Aw, shucks...

Anton continues to stare at Chloe as Filbert tugs on his arm.

FILBERT  
 Hey, Anton - Kenny, Wendell and me  
 were wondering if we could grab  
 dinner early.

ANTON  
 (staring straight ahead)  
 Sure.

FILBERT  
 Ya wanna come along?

ANTON  
 (snapping out of it)  
 What? No, no, that's okay, Filbert.  
 Enjoy your food.

Anton watches the Command Ant escort Chloe out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Anton dismounts Dust Bunny at the area where the bags and equipment were left.

INT. EQUIPMENT BAG - MOMENTS LATER

Anton enters the bag and starts inspecting it. He comes across a couple of mousetraps, glue boards, and spray cans. He stares at the picture on one of the cans:

CLOSE SHOT OF PICTURE

(1) A stick figure is shown inserting the nozzle of the can into a hole in a wall. (2) The figure squeezes it. (3) A cloud of dust exits the nozzle. (4) Ants in wall fall on their backs, X's replacing their eyes.

BACK TO SCENE

Anton contemplates what the pictures mean.

INT. LUNCH ROOM - EARLY EVENING

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stand at a counter to order dinner from a SERVER. The selection of food is amazing! Hamburgers, pasta, pizza, salad and more.

FILBERT

(to Server)

Wow! Where do you guys get your food? This is awesome!

SERVER

Actually, we order out for delivery. We found a bunch of money in the wall. It was left by a nice pest named D.B. Cooper. We found a hot phone too.

KENNY

A hot phone?

SERVER

Yeah. D.B. referred to it as a burner phone. So every other day, we place an online order for delivery and slide the money through the mail slot.

FILBERT

Well, I'll have a slice of pepperoni pizza and a burger - rare, as in uncooked.

WENDELL

Do you happen to have any truffles?

Chloe is eating dinner with Command Ant Woodwork.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

So tell me - what's it like working with Anton? He seems a little stiff.

CHLOE

Anton is not stiff. He just really cares about his work.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

I'm sorry, I didn't mean anything by it.

(beat)

How does someone like you even get started in pest control?

CHLOE

Anton removed a wasp from my home. I was fascinated that even though it was dangerous, he did everything he could to not harm the wasp.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Did he succeed?

CHLOE

Oh, yes. Why, he still has lunch with the wasp every other Tuesday.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Amazing!

(beat)

And what got Anton into the business?

Pause.

CHLOE

I'm not sure I should tell you that.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

I won't tell anybody. It's just that the more I know about someone, the more I can trust them.

Pause.

INT. KINGDOM OF SANTA ANTA - DAY

Thousands of ANTS walk in lines across an old wood floor. The home is vacant.

CHLOE (O.S.)  
Anton grew up in the Kingdom of Santa Anta. It was a thriving community of hard-working ants. Little did they know what awaited them one peaceful morning...

The front door FLINGS open with a CRASH. Ants of all ages and size look up in horror at the monster (not shown) that has entered.

Ants start SCREAMING and FLEEING in every direction. A MOTHER ANT and FATHER ANT anxiously look around for their child.

MOTHER ANT  
Anton! An--ton!

A SMALL ANT, surrounded by ants racing around him, cries out:

LITTLE ANTON  
Mommy? Daddy?

FATHER ANT  
Anton!  
(pointing)  
There he is!

Mother and Father Ant make their way towards Little Anton. Suddenly, Little Anton's EYES BULGE as he sees a SHOE - WITH THE NUMBER 9.5 ON THE SOLE AND THE NAME, RUSSELL, WRITTEN ON IT WITH INK - slowly coming down on his parents.

LITTLE ANTON  
(horrified)  
NOOOOO!!!

An ADULT ANT picks up the crying little ant...

LITTLE ANTON (CONT'D)  
MOMMY! DADDY!

...and carries him away to safety.

INT. LUNCH ROOM - LATER

Command Ant Woodwork sits silently as Chloe continues:

CHLOE

It was from that moment on that Anton decided that he never wanted anyone to feel the way he did that day.

(beat)

To this day, that shoe size is etched in his memory.

ANTON (O.S.)

9.5.

Chloe and Command Ant Woodwork turn to see Anton looking at them. He slowly walks away.

Chloe leaps up and runs after him.

CHLOE

Anton, I'm sorry. He wanted to know you better. I should have asked you first.

Command Ant Woodwork catches up.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

I'm the one who should apologize, Anton. I shouldn't have been so pushy.

Anton stands in line for some food.

CHLOE

Say something - please!

Long pause.

ANTON

I know what they're going to do tomorrow. We need to talk to Kenny.

The three of them look over at Kenny, who is stuffing marshmallows in his big cheeks.

KENNY

(gurgling)

Chubbly buunny, chusby bunnsy, chumpy bunsly...

Filbert LAUGHS as Wendell just shakes his head.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

That Kenny?



INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

DAY TWO

Chloe, Command Ant Woodwork, and Kenny stand at the ready as Anton peers through the hole. Ant 1 stands at an open door that leads into the hall.

CHLOE  
(to Ant 1)  
Systems check!

Ant 1 YELLS into the hall:

ANT 1  
STATION ONE TO STATION TWO!

INT. STATION TWO - DAY

Ant 2 stands near Filbert while he peers out a hole.

ANT 2  
STATION TWO - CHECK!  
(beat)  
STATION TWO TO STATION THREE!

INT. STATION THREE - DAY

Ant 3 stands near Wendell while he peers out a hole.

ANT 3  
STATION THREE - CHECK!  
(beat)  
STATION THREE TO STATION FOUR!

INT. STATION FOUR - DAY

Ant 4 stands at the entrance.

ANT 4  
STATION FOUR - CHECK!

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

CHLOE  
(to Command Ant Woodwork)  
Ready to transmit messages.

ANTON  
(peering out hole)  
Here they come...

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Russell - with new found focus - leads Billy Bob inside.  
Russell looks like a man on a mission - of revenge.

RUSSELL  
Yo, maggots! We're ba--ack! Time to  
meet your maker, ants, which I  
assume means you're going to hell.

BILLY BOB  
Hah. Good one, J.R.  
(beat)  
Aa-Aa-Aa-- AA-CHOO!

RUSSELL  
Good to know you're still around,  
ants.  
(to Billy Bob)  
Dust the walls! Time to extinguish  
these wood-eaters.

BILLY BOB  
Actually, J.R., the ants don't eat  
the wood. They just make their  
homes out of it.

RUSSELL  
(sarcastically)  
Thank you, Ranger Rick.  
(beat)  
Now dust!

Billy Bob reaches into the equipment bag and pulls out the  
cannister that Anton came upon.

BILLY BOB  
Where should I start, J.R.?

RUSSELL  
Pick a hole, any hole. We ain't  
leavin' 'til the last ant is dead.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Kenny sits on Snowflake.

ANTON  
(to Chloe)  
South wall, far end.

CHLOE  
(to Ant 1)  
SOUTH WALL, FAR END!

ANT 1  
(to Kenny and Snowflake)  
SOUTH WALL, FAR END!

Snowflake races off.

INT. STATION TWO

Filbert peers out a hole. A BLAST OF WIND as Snowflake and Kenny rush by...

FILBERT  
Hello, Kenny...

INT. STATION THREE

Wendell peers out a hole. A BLAST OF WIND as Snowflake and Kenny rush by...

WENDELL  
Next wall, far end...

INT. SOUTH WALL, FAR END

Snowflake zips to a stop. ANT 4 points to a hole as Wendell hops off and runs over to it. He peers out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

POV KENNY'S VIEW OF BILLY BOB WALKING STRAIGHT TO HIM WITH CANNISTER NOZZLE POINTED DIRECTLY AT HOLE.

INT. SOUTH WALL - FAR END

Kenny stands ready at the hole.

SNOWFLAKE  
Patience, patience...

The tip of the nozzle slides into the hole. Kenny takes an EXTREMELY DEEP BREATH, THEN BLOWS - just as the dust is exiting the nozzle.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

The dust is BLOWN BACK right into Billy Bob's face. Billy Bob HACKS over and over again, then SNEEZES.

RUSSELL  
That hole must not go very deep.  
(beat)  
Let me try...

Russell prepares to place his nozzle into another hole.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

ANTON  
(to Chloe)  
Wall two...

CHLOE  
(to Ant 1)  
WALL TWO!

ANT 1  
(to Ant 2)  
WALL TWO!

INT. STATION TWO

ANT 2  
(to Ant 3)  
NEED HIM AT TWO!

INT. STATION THREE

ANT 3  
(to Ant 4)  
WALL TWO!

INT. SOUTH WALL - FAR END

ANT 4  
(to Kenny)  
WALL TWO!

ZOOM! Snowflake and Kenny are on their way.

INT. STATION TWO

POOF! Kenny and Snowflake appear. Ant 2 points to a hole. Just as Kenny gets there, the tip of the nozzle appears through the hole.

Kenny fills his diaphragm with air, then BLOWS as soon as the dust begins to exit from the nozzle.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Russell's head is inside a cloud of dust. He staggers around, HACKING AND COUGHING.

After regaining his senses:

RUSSELL  
There's something strange going on here...

He peers into the wall through the same hole.

POV RUSSELL'S EYE

A large tummy inhales more air, then BLOWS!

BACK TO SCENE

Russell is blown away, landing on his tush.

Russell jumps to his feet in frustration.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
Billy Bob!

BILLY BOB  
Here.

Billy Bob's face is red, his eyes watery from the dust.

BILLY BOB (CONT'D)  
Looks like none of the holes go deep into the wall, J.R.

RUSSELL  
Bull crackers! My hole had a fat critter in it with big lungs.  
(beat)  
Let's start over, shall we, and begin the old fashioned way.

BILLY BOB  
You mean?

RUSSELL  
 (evil grin)  
 Get the swatters.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell are back in the room as Anton continues to peer out the hole.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 (to the trio)  
 Nicely done, you three.

KENNY  
 (to Chloe)  
 Have they given up yet?

CHLOE  
 Anton thinks they are up to something else.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Russell and Billy Bob enter the front door, each brandishing a flyswatter.

RUSSELL  
 Hello, my dear friends. I apologize for getting off on the wrong foot. Allow us to introduce ourselves: I'm J.R. and my friend is named Billy Bob.  
 (beat)  
 We've been charged with exterminating every living pest within these walls--

A FLY slowly floats by Russell. SMACK! Russell SWATS it in mid-air.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
 If you don't mind, we are going to spend the next few minutes cleaning this room.  
 (beat)  
 And by "cleaning" I mean swatting any and everything that we see move.  
 (beat)  
 Billy Bob, let's begin...

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Everybody looks worried.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(to Anton)  
What's going on? What are they  
doing?

ANTON  
A barbaric act known as swatting.  
The swatter crushes whatever it  
hits.

The SOUND of SWATTING emanates from the living room.

CHLOE  
(to Command Ant Woodwork)  
Are everyone of your citizens  
accounted for?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Yes, I believe so.

ANTON  
Except for one...

Anton rushes to the hallway.

CHLOE  
Anton! Anton!

Command Ant Woodwork peers through the hole.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Oh no...

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

As Russell and Billy Bob SWAT anything they see (M&M,  
feather, pebble), a frightened LITTLE ANT hides behind a  
piece of pencil.

Russell's eyes grow big as he spots the tiny ant.

RUSSELL  
Oh, this is going to feel great!  
The only good ant is a dead ant.  
Size don't matter none.

In SLO-MO, Russell starts to bring down his giant swatter  
upon the helpless youngster.

Then, just as the swatter is about to hit it's target, something slides under the swatter and grabs the Little Ant. Russell's swatter lands, hitting nothing. SLO-MO ENDS.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Huh?!

Russell glances over to see Anton racing away with the child in his arms.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

(laughing)

Oh, Billy Bob, get a load of this heroic ant with the busted antennae.

(to Anton)

You be dead soon, son.

Russell continues to try and swat Anton, but Anton zigzags back and forth, frustrating the big man. One time, Anton reverses his tracks and runs back underneath Russell's legs just as Russell is bringing down his swatter. He ends up hitting himself in his sensitive area.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

EEP!

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

The team is discussing how to help Anton.

FILBERT

We've got to get out there and save Anton!

CHLOE

Anton would want us to come up with a plan instead of running out there and getting us all killed.

WENDELL

I can't believe I am going to suggest this but I have a plan.

(to Ant 1)

We need several of your strongest ants and -- gulp!

ANT 1

And what?

WENDELL

Please take us to your lavatory.



COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Lava-tor-y? I'm not familiar with  
that word.

FILBERT  
Where do you go to "enjoy the go"?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Ahhh...

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Billy Bob joins the hunt, swatting over and over again while SNEEZING in his attempt to hit Anton. Finally, his swatter hits his mark - but a hole in the swatter is all it takes for Anton and the Little Ant to survive.

Anton leaps up with the child in his arms and races to a small hole in the wall on the floor level.

It doesn't look good as both Russell and Billy Bob close in on Anton and the child. Just then, something SPLATS on the face of Russell.

RUSSELL  
What the--?

WENDELL (O.S.)  
And FIRE!

Several ants leap onto the curved part of a spoon and send a round blob towards Billy Bob. SPLAT! A direct hit in the face.

Wendell, Kenny, and several ants have set up a catapult on a table. Their ammunition - dung balls. Kenny loads it.

BILLY BOB  
Is it chocolate?

Russell licks it.

RUSSELL  
(gagging)  
It's not chocolate. I think it's,  
it's - insect poo!

PLOP! Another dung ball lands in Russell's open mouth.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
(gagging)  
Og-glog-glog...

WENDELL

FIRE!

SPLAT! SPLAT! Two more direct hits. With intense anger, Russell menacingly turns towards Wendell and his team.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (O.S.)

ARCHERS - NOW!

FFFT, FFFT, FFFT! Dozens of sharp toothpicks fly from various holes in the wall, striking Russell and Billy Bob up and down their bodies.

RUSSELL

Holy Robin Hood! Ye-ow! Ouch!

As Russell and Billy Bob turn to see what is hitting them:

WENDELL

Time for us to vacate the premises.

Wendell and his team run away as fast as they can, knocking the rest of the dung balls off the table.

Russell turns to see Anton and the Little Ant nearing the hole.

Just as two swatters crash down upon the floor, Anton and the Little Ant slide into the hole, a single dung ball following them in.

INT. LIVING ROOM WALL - ON FLOOR LEVEL

Anton, the Little Ant, and the dung ball slide along until a large spider web stops them. Anton and the Little Ant end up upside down.

The vibration sets off an alert. Soon, a LARGE, HUNGRY SPIDER begins to make his way towards the duo.

Anton tries to free himself from the webbing, but to no avail. As the spider closes in, Anton notices the dung ball. He is barely able to reach it, touching it with his fingers.

Finally, the spider is one web line above Anton and the Little Ant. The Little Ant SCREAMS as Anton grabs the dung ball and holds it out for the spider to see.

ANTON

Ball? Does spidey want the ball?

Just like the last spider he ran into, this spider suddenly acts like an excited dog. It jumps off of the web in anticipation of fetching the ball.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
Who's a good spider? Who's a good spider?  
(beat)  
Fetch!

Anton tosses the ball as far as he can. The excited spider races after it.

Suddenly, Filbert enters the hole.

FILBERT  
Hey, boss, need help?

ANTON  
Where'd you come from?

FILBERT  
I leapt down when those guys went to clean their faces.  
(beat)  
Hi, little ant.

LITTLE ANT  
(quietly)  
Hi.

FILBERT  
Why are you two upside down?

ANTON  
It's called a spider web, Filbert. You must have been absent during that training session.

FILBERT  
Wow. Good thing there's no spider around.

ANTON  
He's busy fetching a ball and will be back very, very soon.

FILBERT  
Where did you get a ball--  
(beat)  
Ohhh...

ANTON

He's not going to like it when he finds it. Use your chompers and get us off of here.

FILBERT

Aye, aye, Captain!

Filbert begins CHEWING on the web. A ROAR is heard in the distance.

ANTON

I think it just bit the ball.

FILBERT

I didn't know spiders could roar.

Filbert picks up the speed and CHEWS like a jackhammer.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Everyone APPLAUDS and CHEER as Anton, Filbert, and the Little Ant return. The Little Ant's mom and dad rush to her.

MOM ANT

Our baby!!!

They hug and kiss Little Ant.

DAD ANT

(to Anton)

Thank you.

(to everyone else)

Thank you, everybody.

The three of them walk away.

ANTON

Okay, everyone. We've bought ourselves a little time thanks to Wendell.

WENDELL

Definitely a group effort.

ANTON

We need to be ready--

Chloe suddenly embraces Anton with a long hug.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Well done, Anton.

ANTON  
I'm okay, Chloe, I'm okay.

The hug continues.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
In fact, right now I'm feeling  
pretty invincible.

Chloe stops hugging him and gives him a stern look.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
But I'm not. I'll be careful.

Ant 1 whispers something into Command Ant Woodward's ear.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(to Anton)  
The Queen would like to see us.

INT. QUEEN'S THRONE ROOM - DAY = LATER

Once again, Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stand before the Queen, along with the Command Ant.

QUEEN ANT  
I applaud your team's heroics and  
the defense of our kingdom but the  
pest problem still remains.

ANTON  
You are correct, your majesty. That  
is why I feel it is time to go on  
the offensive. We need a different  
approach.

FILBERT  
We could just eat them like in that  
movie, THE ANTS THAT ATE ATLANTA.

KENNY  
Oh, that was a good one. I can't  
wait for the sequel - THE ANTS THAT  
EAT ATLANTIS.

WENDELL  
(to Filbert)  
Was that the Woody Allen ant film?

FILBERT  
No. Woody Allen's ant was a wimp.

ANTON

That being said, we need to turn the tables. We need to attack them.

FILBERT

Eat them, it is.

ANTON

No, Filbert, we're not going to eat them.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

But how do we attack? They are monstrous in size. It would take a billion ants to force them to leave.

ANTON

That is why we don't use ants. We think of something that these pests fear.

FILBERT

Telemarketers?

KENNY

TV evangelists?

ANTON

Scarier.

WENDELL

Ah! Losing their ticket to the opera!

CHLOE

Believe it or not, even scarier than that.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Ghosts?

FILBERT

Bullies?

KENNY

The Kardashians?

WENDELL

Got it! No caviar at a dinner party!

Silence as they think.

WENDELL (CONT'D)  
 (regarding his idea)  
 Huh? Huh?

CHLOE  
 Sharks?

Anton SNAPS his fingers and points at Chloe.

ANTON  
 That's it!

FILBERT  
 Um, are we talking about a land  
 shark, Anton, because they're not  
 the same thing.

ANTON  
 No, these pests are afraid of  
 certain creatures. We just have to  
 incorporate the help of a few of  
 them.  
 (beat)  
 Chloe, I'm going to need Snowflake  
 and Dust Bunny again.

INT. THE GREAT HALL - DAY

Anton, Chloe, and Command Ant Woodwork huddle together with  
 Snowflake and Dust Bunny.

ANTON  
 So, do you think you can find such  
 friends?

DUST BUNNY  
 If, by "friends", you mean those  
 that would love to eat us - yes,  
 yes - we can find them.

SNOWFLAKE  
 What do we do with them once we  
 find them?

ANTON  
 Just lead them back here and knock  
 on the front door.

DUST BUNNY  
 Ooo! I've always wanted to knock on  
 the front door.

ANTON

Then get out of the way.

SNOWFLAKE

Right, right - knock and run away.

DUST BUNNY

Kinda like going trick-or-treating.

SNOWFLAKE

Without the candy.

ANTON

If you two can pull this off, we'll give you enough candy for a year.

SNOWFLAKE AND DUST BUNNY

BOO-YAH!

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stand behind Anton, who peers out the hole.

Chloe and Command Ant Woodwork enter.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

(to Anton)

Any update?

ANTON

Looks like they're getting serious again. They are arming themselves.

(turns to Chloe)

How'd it go?

CHLOE

Grub Hub will be here any minute.

We left a good tip.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK can be heard. Anton returns to the hole.

ANTON

That's them now.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK. Russell and Billy Bob look confused at one another.

Billy Bob opens the door. A GRUB HUB DELIVERY GUY hands him two large sacks.



GRUB HUB DELIVERY GUY  
Two dozen cheeseburgers with the  
works.

Peeks inside.

GRUB HUB DELIVERY GUY (CONT'D)  
Hmmm, I thought there would be more  
people here.

BILLY BOB  
We didn't order this --

GRUB HUB DELIVERY GUY  
Don't worry. It's paid for.  
(beat)  
Have a great day.

He leaves as Billy Bob shuts the door.

BILLY BOB  
J.R....?

RUSSELL  
Gimme!

He rips a sack away from Billy Bob and looks inside.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
Looks like a dozen for each of us.  
I bet the boss sent this as a thank  
you for being such good employees.

BILLY BOB  
Aa-Aa-Aa-- AA-CHOO!

A lighter KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

RUSSELL  
He probably forgot to give us our  
drinks.

He tosses door open.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
(loudly)  
Hell--  
(quietly)  
Ohhhh noooo...

There, standing in the doorway, are a pack of ravenous,  
snarling WOLVERINES, the drool from their mouths a testament  
to their extreme hunger.

Russell pulls out a hamburger and holds it out as an offering.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
Bur - ger?

ABSOLUTE MAYHEM as the wolverines leap onto Russell and Billy Bob.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Anton reacts to the scene before him as he continues watching through the hole.

ANTON  
Ooo! Ow! Yeesh!

INT. STATION TWO - SAME TIME

Filbert watches the massacre through his hole.

FILBERT  
Gawd! Ugh! Mercy!

INT. STATION THREE - SAME TIME

Wendell has turned away from his hole, unable to keep watching.

WENDELL  
Hack! Hack! Gag!

INT. STATION FOUR - SAME TIME

Kenny happily eats popcorn while watching the demolition.

KENNY  
Hmmm, love extra butter.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY - LATER

The last of the wolverines run out the front door.

The room has been thoroughly trashed. Scraps of hamburger hang from the light fixture above.

Russell's slow, shaking hand reaches up from the floor, grabbing onto a chair to help lift him up from the ground.

He plops into the recliner, his clothes ripped to shreds, scratches all over his body, his toupee shifted to the right.

BILLY BOB (O.S.)  
 (weakly)  
 Help...

Russell struggles to stand up, then makes his way over to the dining room table. He finds Billy Bob - his body interwoven between the gaps in a chair. He continues to hold onto what's left of his burger.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY - SAME TIME

The room is quiet as Anton turns away from the hole.

CHLOE  
 (to Anton)  
 And...?

ANTON  
 Brutal - but necessary. I would  
 have been happy with cranky  
 beavers. Wolverines? Whew...

Wendell enters still HACKING. Filbert and Kenny, still eating popcorn, follow him in.

FILBERT  
 Baby, that was epic! Hard to watch,  
 but epic!

RUSSELL (O.S.)  
 (struggling)  
 HEY! YOU ANTS! YOU WIN!

Anton returns to peering out the hole.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Beaten men - totally thrashed and sapped of all energy - Russell and Billy Bob are only able to stand by supporting themselves with furniture.

Russell is carrying a white towel.

RUSSELL  
 (weaker)  
 You win. We know when we are beat.  
 (waves towel)  
 (MORE)

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

We will tell the new homeowner that she can't have the house - that she paid a lot of money for.

(beat)

Well played. Well played. You are undoubtedly the more superior species. We bow down to you.

They both slowly bow in pain.

RUSSELL AND BILLY BOB

Ow...

RUSSELL

We'll just pack up our things and realize how lucky we are to escape with our lives.

(beat)

Nice touch with the wolverines, by the way.

(beat)

Let's go, Billy Bob...

BILLY BOB

Aa-Aa-Aa-- AA-CHOO! Ow...

The two of them start to slowly collect their equipment.

INT. MAIN LOOK-OUT AREA - DAY

Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, Wendell, Command Ant Woodwork and the rest of the ants, wait with baited breath for an update from Anton.

Anton slowly turns away from the hole.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

What are they doing?

Anton quietly walks over to the other side of the room.

FILBERT

Boss?

ANTON

They're leaving.

CHLOE

For good?

ANTON

I'm not sure. He was waving a white towel.

Everyone immediately stand straight up as they realize what this means.

WENDELL

They waved a white flag...

FILBERT

They give up.

ANTON

Well, we shouldn't jump to any conclusions - and it was a towel...

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

The waving of the white flag or anything like it in order to surrender is a time-honored tradition by every living species on earth.

CHLOE

Spiders use white webs...

KENNY

Rabbits use white flowers...

FILBERT

Coyotes use white rabbits!

Excited silence.

EVERYBODY BUT ANTON

WE WON!!!

Everybody CELEBRATES! Several ants pass the news down the hallway. Ants hug Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell. Command Ant Woodwork is congratulated over and over again.

As everyone continues to celebrate, Anton smiles and nods while quietly thinking about what has just taken place.

CHLOE

(to Anton)

Yes! We won!

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - LATE AFTERNOON

A truck rides along the road...

RUSSELL (O.S.)

(angrily)

NO, they didn't!

INT. COMPANY TRUCK - SAME TIME

Russell drives the large company pick-up truck, with Billy Bob in the passenger seat.

RUSSELL

We're going to come at them with more firepower than they can imagine.

BILLY BOB

You mean?

RUSSELL

Get me Miss Thomas on the phone.

Billy Bob dials the number and puts it on speaker.

MISS THOMAS

(on phone)

Hello?

RUSSELL

Yes, Miss Thomas, J.R. from Acme Pest Control...

MISS THOMAS

(on phone)

Is it done?

RUSSELL

Well, no, ma'am. We've run into more than we anticipated. The cabin is filled with hundreds of thousands ants...

MISS THOMAS

(on phone)

I hired you to get rid of them!

RUSSELL

Yes, ma'am, and we will. We just need your approval to use the most fail-safe and fully guaranteed method known to pest control.

MISS THOMAS

(on phone)

Cost?

RUSSELL

Roughly around \$10,000 - again, fully guaranteed.

Pause.

MISS THOMAS  
(on phone)  
Do it.

CLICK.

RUSSELL  
(grinning)  
With pleasure, ma'am. With great,  
great pleasure.  
(beat)  
Ow...

INT. THE GREAT HALL - NIGHT

The celebratory festivities have begun. Hugs and LAUGHTER are shared throughout the room. Groups gather to toast the big victory.

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell are PERFORMING A SONG on stage:

FILBERT, KENNY, AND WENDELL  
(to the tune of The Candy  
Man from Willy Wonka)

FILBERT  
(singing)  
*The Pest Inspector can 'cause he  
mixes it with love and makes the  
world seem good.*

KENNY AND WENDELL  
(singing)  
*Makes the world seem good.*

FILBERT, KENNY, AND WENDELL  
(singing)  
*The Pest Inspector makes everything  
he vacates - understand there's no  
more mischief. Talk about your come  
true wishes...*

FILBERT  
(singing)  
*You can even eat rotten fishes...*

As the talented trio takes their bows, an ANT EMCEE steps to a microphone.

ANT EMCEE

Thank you, Pests R Us Trio!

(beat)

Now, all you crazy ants, get ready to shake your bootie! When they heard the news, they called us to ask to perform. Fresh off their Amazon Jungle tour -- give it up for Mark, Matt, Miles, and Mickey - ANTTY M!

FOUR HIP LOOKING ANTS take the stage to an AROUSING OVATION. FEMININE SCREAMS can be heard.

A banner unfolds reading, ANTTY M!

They jump right into their first song:

LEAD SINGER

(to the tune of Maneater,  
by Hall and Oates)

Ooo - ooo, here she comes...  
Watch out, ant, she'll suck you up.  
Ooo - ooo, here she comes --  
She's an anteater!

Almost everybody is dancing to the music, while some socialize on the side. Ants join together in joyous line-dances.

As Anton walks along the edge of the dance floor, he is constantly congratulated for what he and his team have accomplished.

As the MUSIC CONTINUES, he notices Chloe and the Command Ant dancing as he makes his way towards Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell, happily feasting on a smorgasbord set in front of them.

KENNY

Anton! Join us!

WENDELL

Yes, there is enough sustenance to feed a regiment of army ants.

FILBERT

Speak for yourself, lightweight. I plan on scarfing all of this down and then having dessert.

Filbert notices that Anton is being quiet.



FILBERT (CONT'D)  
Anything on your mind, Anton?

ANTON  
Oh, I don't know. Something just  
doesn't feel right.

KENNY  
Girls. Am I right? Take it from a  
player, Anton. Don't fall into  
their hero-worshipping trap. We'll  
be leaving in the morning. Best not  
to break their hearts.

ANTON  
No, that's not it. I guess I'm just  
tired.

Chloe and Command Ant Woodwork approach the table.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
What say we grab some honey, take  
this party to my office, and make a  
night out of it?

WENDELL  
Really, Command Ant - these female  
ants have names. Show some dignity.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
What? No, no - "honey" - you know,  
to drink.

FILBERT  
We're up for it but Anton was just  
telling us that he is feeling --

ANTON  
Wide awake and ready to go.

INT. COMMAND ANT WOODWARD'S OFFICE - LATER

An impressive office befitting of a highly-ranked officer.

LAUGHTER from the group congregated in a circle. Everyone but  
Anton holds onto a glass of honey.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
...And then I just looked at him  
and said, "Open your eyes, termite,  
you're eating the wrong wood."

Everyone LAUGHS LOUDLY except Anton, who CHUCKLES.

FILBERT  
Eating the wrong wood! Classic!

WENDELL  
(to Command Ant Woodwork)  
May I have some more of that  
delightful concoction you call  
honey?

Command Ant Woodwork pours Wendell some honey.

WENDELL (CONT'D)  
It's so much sweeter than anything  
I'm use to.

KENNY  
So is stink from a skunk.

More LAUGHTER.

WENDELL  
I'd be mad if it wasn't true.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Would you like some honey, Anton,  
before it's all gone?

ANTON  
Ohh, I don't know...

CHLOE, FILBERT, KENNY, AND WENDELL  
Anton! Anton! Anton!

ANTON  
Okay, just a touch.

Command Ant Woodwork pours a little bit of honey into a  
glass, then hands it to Anton. Anton takes a little sip.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
Hmm, that's good. Forgive me - I  
get a little giddy when I drink  
honey.

FILBERT  
Ha ha! You said, "giddy".

ANTON  
Did I? I meant giddy.  
(raising glass)  
Giddy-up!

Everyone CHUCKLES and take a drink of honey.

CHLOE  
 (to Command Ant)  
 Where did you get that scar, Woody?

ANTON  
 Woody?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 That was just something I picked up  
 while defending the kingdom from a  
 dragonfly. Dangerous critters they  
 are.

Pause. Mood changes to solemn and serious.

ANTON  
 I got that beat.  
 (to Chloe)  
 I got that beat.

Anton lifts up his vest to show a puncture mark.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
 Woodpecker. Stabbed me through half  
 an inch of wood. Hole wasn't big  
 enough to pull me out.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 See my arm. I can't fully  
 straighten it out due to the result  
 of a titanic arm-wrestling contest  
 with a tarantula spider.

Anton pauses, then lifts his leg up and points at a scar.

ANTON  
 My leg. Millipede with its' sharp  
 bristles rubbed against me while I  
 was confronting a fruit bat about  
 being a bad houseguest.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
 See that knob above my left ear?  
 Took a header while jumping out of  
 the way of a crazy horsefly. Nasty  
 beasts.

Pause.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (CONT'D)  
 (to Anton)  
 Shall we drink to our injuries?  
 I'll drink to your leg.

ANTON

I'll drink to your knob.

Everyone CLINKS glasses and drink.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

(to Anton)

So, if I may be so bold - what happened to your antennae?

CHLOE

(gulping)

Woody, that's personal.

FILBERT

Yeah. And personally, we've been wondering about it ever since we met you, Anton.

Anton looks at Chloe, who nods lovingly.

ANTON

If you must know, I got this...  
(pointing at his antennae)  
...at Rockaway Manor.

Dead silence as Command Ant Woodwork, Filbert, and Kenny lower their glasses.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

You were - you were at Rockaway Manor?

WENDELL

(confused)

What happened at Rockaway Manor?

FILBERT

A massacre. The worst loss of life we've ever had around here.

EXT. ROCKAWAY MANOR - DAY

A beautiful, old building on a hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The sun is shining bright.

INT. ROCKAWAY MANOR - DAY

Anton - with two straight antennae - inspects and takes notes on his findings while walking amongst a large crowd of ANTS.

The sunbeams - from several holes leading to the outside - light up the hallway.

ANTON (O.S.)

I was just beginning my career as a pest inspector. I received a call from Rockaway Manor. They had a potential pest problem developing and wanted me to inspect and give my assessment...

Suddenly, the place becomes pitch black. Only Anton's flashlight allows those around him to see as panic strikes the community.

ANTON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I had no idea what was taking place. The only thing I could think of was an eclipse of the sun. How I wish that was true...

Anton makes his way through the hysterical crowd and down to the main floor.

INT. ROCKAWAY MANOR - LIVING ROOM - LATER

PEST CONTROL TECHNICIANS, wearing what resembles a space suit, set up tall cannisters in the middle of the floor.

ANTON (O.S.)

I had never seen anything like it in my life. As far as I could tell, giant pests were preparing weapons of mass destruction. Ants of all sizes and ages ran across the room in different directions...

The windows are covered by an outside tent. The only light shining into the room is through the front door, where the tent has yet to be closed off.

A technician STEPS ON A PEDAL and RELEASES A FINE MIST. Then all of the "pests" exit out the front door and secure the tent down. It is total darkness, except for Anton's flashlight.

ANTON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

With my flashlight, I could see a mist beginning to cover the room from floor to ceiling. Ants that were caught in the mist just silently fell.

The mist flows towards Anton.

ANTON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 There was only one thing I could  
 do: evacuate as many ants as  
 possible.

With his flashlight, Anton is able to lead dozens of ants in the darkness to an exit.

EXT. ROCKAWAY MANOR - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Anton (with a bent antennae) helps the last ant squeeze out from under the tent. The group of surviving ants stand back, trying to comprehend the disaster that had just taken place under the ominous, dark tent that covers the entire manor.

INT. COMMAND ANT WOODWORK'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Everyone listens in silence as Anton finishes his story.

ANTON  
 Nowadays, they call it, The Big F.  
 (beat)  
 I will never understand how one  
 species can do that to another  
 species, pest or not.  
 (beat)  
 Over 100,000 ants lived in that  
 kingdom. 244 made it out.  
 (beat)  
 And I broke my antennae while  
 crawling under the tent.

Long pause.

ANTON (CONT'D)  
 And with that, I bid you goodnight.

Anton stands up to leave. Chloe stands up and gives him a big hug.

FILBERT  
 Goodnight, Anton.

WENDELL  
 Goodnight, my friend.

KENNY  
 Sweet dreams...

Everyone quickly look at Kenny.

KENNY (CONT'D)  
Oh, umm, I mean, peaceful dreams.

ANTON  
Goodnight, all. Command Ant...

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Thank you, Anton. Goodnight.

INT. ANTON'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

DAY THREE

Anton lies on his back in bed, looking at the ceiling. Three sunbeams light up the room, signifying morning.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

Anton gets up to see who it is. Chloe enters as soon as Anton opens the door.

CHLOE  
You and I, Anton, we make a great team, don't we?

ANTON  
Good morning...

CHLOE  
I mean, I love my work, I love my co-workers...

ANTON  
What's going on, Chloe?

CHLOE  
It's Command Ant Woodward...

ANTON  
Woody?

CHLOE  
Yes - Woody. He asked me to stay in Walla Walla with him last night. Stay forever.

Anton is stunned beyond words.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Well, aren't you going to say something, Anton?

Suddenly, the room becomes pitch black. Anton can be heard trying to find his flashlight.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
(terrified)  
What's going on, Anton?

Anton turns on his flashlight and leads Chloe to the door. As they open it, CRIES and SCREAMS fill the dark hallway.

ANTON  
We need to get the rest of our team  
and grab all of our flashlights!  
(beat)  
And then we need to see the Queen!

INT. QUEEN'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell - with their flashlights on - make their way through the crowd to find the Command Ant standing guard in front of the Queen's bedroom doors.

ANTON  
Command Ant, we need to see the  
Queen!

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(stopping them)  
No one is allowed in to see the  
Queen during a power shortage.

ANTON  
Power shortage? You mean, "the  
sun"? The sun is exactly where it  
was yesterday. There is no eclipse.  
We must speak to her!

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
I'm sorry, but with the pests gone,  
the only logical explanation is an  
eclipse.

ANTON  
The pests aren't gone! They're back  
and they're about to use the Big F  
to annihilate us. Fumigation! We  
must evacuate!

A sleepy Queen opens her door.



QUEEN ANT

What is all of the commotion out here?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Your highness, Anton believes that the pests are back...

ANTON

I know they are back! This sort of thing happened at Rockaway Manor, your majesty, right before they killed every living organism under the tent.

QUEEN ANT

I wrote about that catastrophe for my Ph.D paper.

(beat)

Command Ant, what do you think?

Command Ant Woodwork looks around at the pleading faces.

CHLOE

Woody, you know me. And I believe there is no one in the world you can trust more than Anton.

Pause.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

(to Queen)

We must evacuate as Anton says.

QUEEN ANT

Let's make it so! Set off the evacuation alarm!

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

The BELLS ON THE STRING RING over and over again. Fluorescent, glow-in-the-dark tape on the floor forms lines for the ants to follow.

Ant 1, Ant 2, Ant 3, and Ant 4 help direct ants to their evacuation areas.

ANT 1

Ants with a last name beginning with A through F, stay in the left lane.

ANT 2

Ants with a last name beginning  
with a G through M, keep to the  
lane.

Command Ant Woodwork leads Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and  
Wendell down the hallway.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

Everything appears to be running  
smoothly on our main floor.

ANTON

Filbert and Kenny, I need you to  
help the ants on the third level.

(beat)

Chloe and Wendell, secure the level  
two.

CHLOE

What about you?

ANTON

I'm going to clear the floor level.

CHLOE

You can't do it by yourself!

ANTON

You're right.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

That's why I'm going with him.

As the group departs, Chloe grabs Anton and stands face-to-  
face:

CHLOE

I expect to see you outside, Anton.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

(to Chloe)

I'll make sure of it.

She lets Anton go and jumps down a tunnel with Wendell.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (CONT'D)

Shall we?

Command Ant Woodwork, carrying a flashlight, leads Anton  
through the crowd and down a different tunnel.

INT. THIRD LEVEL - LATER

Filbert and Kenny help direct ants toward their evacuation holes.

FILBERT

Stay in lines! Don't push!

KENNY

When you get to the tent, crawl on your bellies to the outdoors!

INT. LEVEL TWO - SAME TIME

Chloe and Wendell shout out instructions to the worried ants:

CHLOE

Younger ants help the older ants!  
Snowflake, Dust Bunny - take groups of ten!

WENDELL

Decorum, my friends! Remember decorum! No time to abandon our manners!

INT. LIVING ROOM WALL - SAME TIME

Anton and Command Ant Woodwork work to secure the area.

ANTON

What about the Queen?

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

I have been informed that she is safely beyond the tent. Reports from the rest of the levels tell me that eighty percent of the kingdom has been evacuated.

(beat)

We just might make it - knock on wood.

A harried MOTHER ANT AND HER THREE CHILDREN stand terrified against the wall.

COMMAND ANT WORK

(pointing)

I'm going to help her out.

ANTON

Go! I've got it here.

As Command Ant Woodward runs over to help the Mother Ant and her children, Anton continues guiding ants toward their evacuation holes.

He stops when he comes to a hole that leads out to the living room. He can hear INDECIPHERABLE WORDS coming from that way.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Anton steps out to find Russell and Billy Bob, dressed in heavy suits and wearing masks with an eye shield, getting ready to begin the fumigation.

The same ray of sun that he saw at Rockaway Manor is beaming through the unsecured front door. Three familiar large cannisters with pedals are set up in various areas within the living room.

RUSSELL

Ready on your end, Billy Bob?

BILLY BOB

Ready, J.R.

Anton realizes what is about to take place. He runs and jumps on the pedal as Russell approaches it.

RUSSELL

Well, well, look who we have here, Billy Bob. It's the hero with the bum antennae.

(beat)

Listen. I've been in pest control for a long time and I've learned a thing or two. Number one: all you pests are ugly. And number two: you ants can lift fifty times your own weight. Very impressive.

Unfortunately, my shoe weighs about one thousand times your own weight.

(beat)

So, I'm going to give you a chance to jump off that pedal. It doesn't matter to me. Either way, you'll be dead.

(beat)

What's your decision?

Anton doesn't move.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

(menacingly)

Good.

In SLO-MO, Russell raises his shoe and starts to bring it down onto Anton.

Anton notices two distinct things about the shoe: (1) It is size 9.5. and (2) The name "Russell" is written on the sole. It is the shoe that killed his parents.

As the shoe closes in on him, a fiercely determined Anton with new-found power, lifts his hands and pushes the shoe with all of his might.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
Huh?

Russell can't believe the strength he feels from Anton. He applies greater pressure, causing Anton to sink lower, even as he pushes as hard as he can.

Suddenly, the shoe stops coming down as Anton is joined by Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell - all pushing with every ounce of their strength.

The team begins pushing Russell's shoe up a little bit...

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
You've got to be kidding me...

Russell grits his teeth and begins to push down even harder. The shoe pushes the team down more and more as it nears the pedal.

Once again, the shoes stops as Command Ant Woodwork and several other ants join Anton and his team. Together, they start lifting Russell's shoe higher and higher.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)  
(frustrated)  
That does it!

Using every pound in his overweight body, Russell applies the most pressure yet. Even with all of the insect resistance, the shoe continues to get lower and lower...

ANTON  
Chloe, I want you to know that I understand if you decided to stay with the Command Ant. He's a fine ant.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
Thank you, Anton.

CHLOE

What? Anton? I told him, "No".

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK

It's true. She did.

ANTON

Well, in that case, I need to tell you something before I die or I'll never forgive myself.

WENDELL

You won't be able to forgive yourself, Anton. You'll already be dead.

ANTON

Thank you for that reminder, Wendell.

(beat)

Chloe, I want you to know that--

Chloe looks at him with eyes longing to hear what he has to say...

CHLOE

Yes? Yes?

The shoe is only a half-inch from crushing all of them. They are no longer able to be seen...

ANTON (O.S.)

I love you.

WHAM! Russell is thrown backwards, landing on his butt. His mask flies off on impact. He is absolutely stunned.

Everyone who had been pushing the shoe stare at Chloe, who proudly swipes her hands together three times in satisfaction. Obviously, after Anton's confession of love, she was the one who tossed Russell for a loop.

Chloe steps closer to Anton and takes him by the hands:

CHLOE

I love you too, Anton. Always and forever.

Anton smiles, then turns his attention to Russell, the one who stepped on his parents.

Anton jumps up on a trembling Russell's knee and glares at him. Russell shudders in fear.

The SOUNDS of that fateful day ring in Anton's ears:

MOTHER ANT (O.S.)  
Anton! An--ton!

FATHER ANT (O.S.)  
Anton!

LITTLE ANTON (O.S.)  
NOOOOO!!!

Anton looks from Russell to the cannister, to the hose, then back to Russell. Russell can tell what Anton is thinking.

Chloe joins Anton and places her hand on his shoulder.

CHLOE  
Anton, this is not who you are.  
Life is precious to you.  
(beat)  
Be the Anton that I love.

Anton pauses, takes Chloe by the hand, and walks off of Russell's knee. They are soon surrounded by all of their friends.

FILBERT  
But what about the Big F? They can  
still set it off after we leave.

RUMBLE! The cabin shakes, then plunges down three feet underground.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK  
(like Seinfeld with  
Neuman)  
Mo Joe!

Billy Bob begins to feel a sneeze coming on:

BILLY BOB  
Aa-aa-aa-aa-

EXT. LOG CABIN - DAY

BILLY BOB (O.S.)  
AA - CHOO!

The tent stays in place for a second, then - POOF! - collapses into the ground, except for the outlines of Russell and Billy Bob's heads.

COMMAND ANT WOODWORK (O.S.)  
I guess we did do a little too much  
structural damage.

EXT. LOG CABIN - DAY

Russell and Billy Bob slowly and somberly pack up their truck with all of their equipment.

With their truck loaded, the two pest inspectors stand and look at the remains: a humongous hole of extremely fine sawdust.

RUSSELL  
We were never here.

He turns and walks to the driver's side of the truck. Billy Bob starts to head to his car door, stops, then runs back to the large sawdust-filled hole and leaves his card in front of it.

He then runs and jumps into the truck as it lurches forward and drives out of sight.

RUSSELL (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Ow...

EXT. OUTSIDE TENT EXIT - DAY

THOUSANDS OF ANTS, Snowflake and Dust Bunny (sitting on and eating a mound of candy), and the Lizard CHEER and APPLAUD as Command Ant Woodwork helps Chloe, Anton, and the rest of the team out of the sawdust-filled hole.

As Chloe walks by the Lizard:

CHLOE  
(to Lizard)  
Hey! You said that one of us  
wouldn't make it, yet we all are  
here safe and sound.

LIZARD  
Oh, that's okay. I was just adding  
to the drama.

The Queen is sitting on her throne (which was also rescued) nearby. Anton and his team approach her and bow.



ANTON

We are sorry, your majesty, that our efforts appear to have been in vain.

QUEEN ANT

On the contrary, Mr. Anton, your work here has been extraordinary. The care that you and your team show to virtual strangers will not go unrewarded.

Dozens of ants carry large bundles of cash and a phone up a hill.

QUEEN ANT (CONT'D)

Besides, our dear D.B. Cooper had another cabin built just over the hill. He felt he needed a second, more secluded house, for some reason.

ANTON

So Walla Walla will rise again.

QUEEN ANT

Thanks to you and your friends, she never left.

(beat)

Care to join us for lunch before you leave? We're ordering Thai food.

ANTON

Thank you but I really think we...

FILBERT

...should take you up on such a generous offer.

(beat)

We deserve this, Anton.

ANTON

Yes, I suppose we all do.

(to Chloe)

Shall we?

CHLOE

In just a minute...

She takes Anton in her arms and plants a big and long kiss on him. Anton does not object. Everyone else (including Command Ant Woodward) CLAP and CHEER once again. Viva Pests R Us!

EXT. SAWDUST-FILLED HOLE - DAY

Segments of sawdust move until Mo Joe Peters pops his head out and looks around.

MO JOE PETERS  
Hello? Hello?  
(beat)  
Stiffed me on the nightcrawlers.

ROLL CREDITS

EPILOGUE ONE

EXT. OUTSIDE ANTLANDIA - DAY

ONE MONTH LATER...

Arithmetick and his gang are still counting with their eyes closed:

ARITHMETICK AND GANG  
...347, 348, 349, 350...

ARITHMETICK  
Umm, uhh, three hundred fifty  
twelveteen?  
(beat)  
Dang it! 1, 2...

GANG GROAN.

ARITHMETICK AND GANG  
...3, 4, 5, 6...

EPILOGUE TWO

EXT. LOS ANGELES - POV: FRONT OF TEAM - DAY

Anton, Chloe, Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell stand and stare straight ahead.

ANTON  
There she is - our new assignment.

CHLOE  
Well, you knew when word got around  
as to how we saved Walla Walla,  
this would be the next step.

ANTON

This Queen says the pests are out of control. Fortunately, the problem seems to happen only one day a week.

Anton looks around at his team.

ANTON (CONT'D)

Everybody ready?

CHLOE

We got this.

Filbert, Kenny, and Wendell take a DEEP BREATH and nod in agreement.

POV: BACK OF TEAM - DAY

The team walks towards SOFI STADIUM...

WENDELL

Tell me, is this where they engage in the sport called fut-ball?

FILBERT

It's pronounced, foot-ball, Wendell, and I hope you're not talking about that stupid game with a round ball that no one in this country cares about.

WENDELL

I beg your pardon. It is a fact that fut-ball with the round ball is the number one sport in the world.

FILBERT

That game doesn't even know when it's going to end. The referee waits until he has to go bathroom then blows a whistle for everyone to stop playing.

(beat)

And don't get me started on those thrilling scoreless ties.

WENDELL

You, sir, are a boo-boo head.

FILBERT

Back me up, Kenny.

KENNY

I just want nachos...

FILBERT

And the Patriots totally cheated in Super Bowl 49. How did they know the Seahawks were going to pass on the goal line when they hadn't ran that play all year? They spied on them, that's how!

(beat)

And don't get me started on the referees throwing the game to the Steelers in Super Bowl 40...

WENDELL

You sound like a disgruntled Seahawk fan who writes screenplays...