

LITTLE DEUTSCHLAND

"Drew Barrymore Presents: The Pilot"

30-Minute Animation

Written by

Jordan Prescott & Matt Tribble

WGA/w Registered  
Los Angeles, CA  
JordanPrescott0@gmail.com  
(774)526-5494

INT. BEDROOM, COPPER WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

*BRRRRRING.*

An alarm rings out and a hand smashes it quiet.

The light turns on and the room is illuminated. It's a luxurious, gothic style room with ornate detail.

From the king-sized four poster bed, a figure awakens. She kicks her legs to the side of the bed and stands up.

This, of course, is beloved actress, talk show host, and ubiquitous rock star, DREW BARRYMORE, and she's as stunning in her first moments of being awake as she was at the 2003 premiere of Charlie's Angels 2 (very).

She makes her way towards the window and pulls a set of velvet curtains open. It's dark out. Pitch black.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

Fear is just a lack of understanding. What makes us uncomfortable is only that which we cannot see - that which has not yet become clear.

Suddenly, a bat CRASHES against her window and SCREECHES.

She smiles, and opens the window to let it in.

INT. DREW BARRYMORE'S HEAVENLY BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Drew washes her face and looks up into the mirror.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

It only makes sense then that we fear the darkness, but I suppose it depends on who you ask.

The bat joins her familiarly, perching on the sink.

EXT. WOODS, LITTLE DEUTSCHLAND, USA - LATER

Drew exits from a deep forest towards a foggy cobblestone street, and walks beneath a sign for "Das Main Street".

EXT. DAS MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Drew strolls down the quiet road holding an empty bucket, her bat companion close by.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)  
To a bat, the dark is clear as day.

She arrives at a tree where a bug trap hangs, and empties the contents into the bucket.

The bat SCREECHES, she responds with a powerful death glare.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)  
Oh, yes, they can talk. In fact  
they are rarely quiet. With a keen  
enough ear, everything speaks.

She notices a penny on the sidewalk on tails.

She bends down and flips it so it's facing heads, then continues on her way back into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Drew and the bat pass by an entrance to a large cave.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)  
And with a sharp enough eye, the  
darkest caves, and the deepest  
secrets, become illuminated.

Drew keeps her eye on this cave, pausing only for a moment at it's entrance before proceeding onward.

INT. COPPER FACTORY POKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Drew places the bowl of bugs onto a snack table and several hundred bats swarm it.

She STRIKES a match and lights a chandelier hanging above an eight-seater poker table.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)  
I mean, hell, people thought bats  
were blind until 1940. Some things  
just take time.

Drew takes her own seat at the table and shuffles a deck of cards with expert skill.

DREW BARRYMORE  
Who's ready to lose some money to  
Drew Barrymore?

The rest of the seats of the table show to be occupied by seven tiny fruit bats. They SQUEAL in response- game on.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

A powder blue minivan rolls down a one lane road surrounded by trees.

No billboards, no buildings in the distance.

Some birds grace the skyline- or wait, are those bats? Yeah those are bats... Anyway besides that, not much else in view.

We hear some muffled jazz-scattting.

INT. REYNOLDS FAMILY MINIVAN - CONTINUOUS

The Reynolds family sits packed into the van.

The scattting comes from JULIE (50s, lots of necklaces, a perpetual half-smile on her face), her eyes closed in concentration, hands waving along with the scattting until she finally finishes strong...

JULIE

Zaaap-pap a doowap, drrrrrrrop!

She grins out the window.

Driving is the father, JAMIE (50s, grizzled with a mustache, buzzcut, and stiff posture).

JULIE (CONT'D)

You boys excited to see your new home? JJ?

From the way back, JJ (short for Jamie Junior, manchild in a hemp hoodie) lounges across the seats playing a Gameboy.

JJ

Yeah, stoked. Do you know the effects that sudden uprooting can have on social development?

RAY J

You're thirty, I think you're already developed.

Our hero, RAY J (14, messy hair, wearing a hearing aid) sits against a window using a finger skateboard. On his skating hand, his middle and index finger sport some rings which function as knuckle-kneepads.

JJ

Shut your hole, Ray J!

At the other window seat of the middle row, a headstone sits, buckled in, with the name RAECHAEEL engraved across it.

Ray J's finger skateboard grinds on the edge of Raechael's gravestone, while he provides his own sound effects.

Jamie's eyes narrow to slits as he checks the tombstone in his rear view mirror.

JAMIE

Quit grinding on your sister!

JULIE

The important thing is to be loose and open to whatever happens. Go with the flow, like scatology. Did the jazz pioneers think poop would play such an important role? No, but they went with it.

RAY J

That's scattin', Mom.

JULIE

Right. The field of scatology.

RAY J

No, Mom, that's poop.

JULIE

Ray J, I really hope you make some friends in this town.

RAY J

Yeah.

Julie smiles out the window, and we sense she's about to start again with the...

JULIE

Zee-bop-a-doobie-do-wow!

The minivan takes an exit towards LITTLE DEUTSCHLAND.

EXT. LITTLE DEUTSCHLAND, USA - MOMENTS LATER

The minivan proceeds through the tiny town. It's historical and small with a bustling little Main Street. Charming though it is, it's clearly seen better days.

So when they pass a grand, gated entrance to a mansion, this catches Ray J's attention. The letter K is built into the pristine copper entry gates.

He clocks it as they drive by.

EXT. DAS CANDLESHOP ON DAS MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The minivan pulls up to one of the storefronts, outside of which stands the shining mayor of the town, HANS BERGMAN (40s, looks like a politician), directing some laborers to straighten out a sign that reads- DAS CANDLESHOP: Home of the famous Das Candles.

As if on cue, the mayor turns with a plastic smile and waves at the Reynolds as they climb out of the car.

We see now that Ray J has two different length legs, so he wears one shoe with a high platform to even things out.

MAYOR BERGMAN

(bad pronunciation)

Gooten-tag! That's German. The town's not called Little Deutschland for nothing. Anywho, willkommen, Reynolds family!

JULIE

Yes, I'm Julie, this is my husband-

Jamie barks in-

JAMIE

Burt.

Cut to his family, who stare at him, lost.

MAYOR BERGMAN

Well I'll be, Little Deutschland's own Burt Reynolds!

JULIE

His name's Jamie, I don't know... why he said that.

We cut to Jamie and he's now wearing SUNGLASSES- a signal that we're in Burt mode, baby.

JAMIE/BURT

(whispers to Julie)

New town, new me.

(to everyone)

It's Burt. These are my boys, Jamie Junior and Ray J, and that tombstone is Raechael.

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Atta girl, Raechael. Lovely family.

He turns to Ray J, and kneels down to his eye level.

MAYOR BERGMAN (CONT'D)  
I expect great things from you,  
young man. Great, great things.

JJ  
What about me, mayor?

The mayor sizes up JJ, briefly.

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Your aroma, it's troubling.

Julie inspects the sign hung above the entry.

JULIE  
Is that made of real copper?

MAYOR BERGMAN  
No, sadly. Some history for you-  
our town here used to be a world  
leader in the export of copper!  
But, alas, there was a mine  
collapse a few years ago, and we  
haven't quite been able to recover.

The Mayor's face contorts, mischievous and maniacal.

MAYOR BERGMAN (CONT'D)  
But soon!

Somehow Ray J is the only one who notices this.

RAY J  
Suspicious weirdo...

Jamie/Burt lays stomach-down on the sidewalk, one eye closed,  
inspecting the pavement, measuring it.

JAMIE/BURT  
Yes, yes, this sidewalk has optimal  
width and traction for delivering  
mail- AHA!

He spots a penny on heads before his face on the sidewalk.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)  
A hard-work penny! You see what  
strong work ethic brings?

RAY J  
Meritocracy is a myth.

JAMIE/BURT  
That's right Ray J, dividends!  
Fiscal rewards!

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Some luck for our new postman!

JAMIE/BURT  
Yes, MHA number 367759. I am a  
proud employee of the United States  
Postal Service and it will be my  
honor to deliver mail to the  
civilians of this town. I don't  
care if it takes all night-

MAYOR BERGMAN  
And it usually does for you,  
doesn't it? That's why they moved  
you here; smaller town, easier  
route, right?

JAMIE/BURT  
They write songs for postmen like  
me.

Julie begins scattting her way into...

JULIE  
...oooh yes, wait a minute Mr.  
Postman...

The Mayor cuts her off.

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Well, that and the old postman's  
dead. Julie, let's show you around  
your shop. I hope it suits you.

JULIE  
My old shop was ice cream cart, so  
I'm sure this will be fine.

The Mayor pauses, smelling something foul, then leads Julie  
into the shop.

A panicked JJ slips off, waddling towards the woods just  
behind the stores while Jamie further surveys the sidewalk.

Not interested in touring an empty shop or talking about  
dividends, Ray J follows him.



EXT. DAS WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Ray J approaches JJ whose entire body loosens with the sound of a squeaky fart.

RAY J  
When did you become so fart shy?

JJ  
Shut up, I wouldn't fart in front of Mayor Bergman. It was Raechael.

RAY J  
As in, our sister's tombstone?

JJ kicks Ray J and sends him flying.

He tumbles down a hill and as he lands on his butt, he finds himself in front of the entrance to a CAVE.

He wipes leaves off himself and stares in.

A creepy, MUFFLED VOICE echos out from the dark cave.

Ray J steps closer.

The muffled eeriness persists... Still unintelligible.

So Ray J walks in.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Ray J follows the voice, but it's not quite clear what it's saying, so he turns his hearing aid up.

As he presses forward, he sees a distant light, and the shadow of a LARGE FIGURE.

Still not able to hear it well, Ray J adjusts his hearing aid again, and the words become just a bit clearer.

VOICE INSIDE CAVE  
It's over for you...

Ray J turns the hearing aid up ALL THE WAY, until HIGH-PITCHED FEEDBACK issues from it.

Ray J quickly turns it down, but it's too late- a rumbling erupts from the direction of the light, followed by a SCREAM-

VOICE INSIDE CAVE (CONT'D)  
NOOOOOO!!!!!!

The shadowy figure RUNS TOWARDS RAY J, and the cave is quickly filled with THOUSANDS OF BATS.

Ray J dives into a small alcove and can barely see the FIGURE within the thick cloud of tiny fruits bats exiting the cave.

In the sudden calm, Ray J sighs with relief and stands up.

Surprisingly, he HITS HIS HEAD on something-

It's another BAT, though this one is much, much LARGER than the ones Ray J just saw flying around. Human-sized.

They make eye contact and in unison, they scream.

RAY J/ BAT  
AHHHHH!!!!

The bat attempts to fly away but a massive, swirling COPPER-COLORED GUST of wind sweeps the alcove and draws him back in.

It circles Ray J and the Bat, zooming in and out of Ray J's ears, then into the Bat's mouth and out his... behind.

During all of this, we hear DEEP, INCOMPREHENSIBLE CHANTING grow louder and louder.

The gust sweeps once more and with a POP, both Ray J and the Bat's consciousness fade away as a RINGING NOISE echoes out.

Ray J struggles to remain awake to hear what the chants are saying, but he's too weak, and is quickly out cold.

INT. CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

OVER BLACK, a bumbling British voice rambles.

THOROGOOD (O.S.)  
... Any excuse to cause a scene,  
these bats take it, every chance.  
Especially Gerard.

Ray J's eyes slowly OPEN.

In all the commotion, his hearing aid fell onto the ground. He picks it up and starts to wipe it clean.

THOROGOOD (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
And now this one barges in without  
warning, with a tornado no less.  
And who's left to clean up?  
Certainly not Gerard.

RAY J  
You know, I can hear you.

The voice pauses abruptly.

THOROGOOD  
You... you can?

RAY J  
Uh, yeah, when you say things out  
loud, people can...

Ray J notes the hearing aid in his hand, not his ear.

RAY J (CONT'D)  
... Hear you. I can hear you!

THOROGOOD  
You can hear me!

Thorogood steps out of the shadows- he is the BAT from  
earlier. Naturally, Ray J is surprised.

RAY J  
You're a bat.

THOROGOOD  
Yes, that's why it's strange that  
you can hear me.

RAY J  
I'm supposed to be deaf.

THOROGOOD  
And I'm supposed to be blind, but  
here we are.

RAY J  
What happened?

THOROGOOD  
I think there was a tornado.

RAY J  
I don't really remember anything  
except...

THOROGOOD  
The chanting and also a monster?

RAY J  
The monster!

EXT. CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Ray J rushes out of the cave and pauses to look around for any sign of a monster- but it's already gone.

Thorogood suddenly appears over his shoulder.

THOROGOOD

Whatever it is, it's been roaming the cave for weeks now, riling up the bats and causing quite, well, a mess. Boy, I'd love to get my thumbs on him.

JJ (O.S.)

RAY J, GET OVER HERE BEFORE I EAT YOUR SKATEBOARD!

RAY J

I gotta go.

THOROGOOD

So soon- Ray J, was it? I'm Thorogood. Come back anytime. You remember, the only cave in town. You can come by, I can talk, you can understand what I'm saying, or vice versa, or both.

RAY J

I don't think so.

THOROGOOD

What about the monster? And your hearing?

This gives Ray J pause. It's a good point.

JJ (O.S.)

RAY J!!!

RAY J

Maybe. Bye.

Ray J runs up the hill, Thorogood waves him off with a smile.

EXT. DAS CANDLESHOP ON DAS MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Ray J steps out of the woods and JJ waves him over.

The family surrounds the minivan, staring into the back seat. When Ray J arrives they turn towards him, beaming with joy.

Jamie kneels down to Ray J's eyeline.

JAMIE

Son, you remember when Raechael  
went for the long goodbye?

RAY J

When she died?

JJ

Huh?

JAMIE

Yes. Well, I guess it was just a  
short goodbye. She's back, Ray J.  
Your sister is alive and well. Go  
on, say hi!

They clear the way for Ray J to approach the car and look  
inside to see his sister, only now she's-

Well, still a motionless headstone, but trust us she's alive.

RAY J

Sorry, what's different?

JULIE

IT'S A MIRACLE! I just need to...  
scoooooo-

JJ

When was she dead?

The wind picks up more, and Ray J glances up to see that  
familiar GUST fly above the family.

His eyes follow its path across the street towards city hall.

In the window, the Mayor is looking out at them.

He and Ray J make eye-contact.

Mayor Bergman smiles, then walks out of view.

INT. DINING ROOM, REYNOLDS HOUSE - NIGHT

The family sits around the dining room table. The house is  
still filled with moving boxes.

JULIE

So that's what the afterlife is  
like...

JAMIE

Raechael, you haven't touched your pizza. You carried the refrigerator in by yourself, you need to refuel.

JJ

Okay He-Man.

JAMIE

At least He-Man was part of a union!

JJ

The Great Wars completely devastated Eternia and destabilized the ruling class! They didn't have infrastructure, let alone unions, Dad!

This response causes Jamie's mustache to twitch with fury.

JULIE

What time do you start work tomorrow, honey?

JAMIE

I report for duty at oh-five hundred hours

JJ

I could get a job if I wanted to!

JULIE

Sure, hon. Ray J, are you excited for school?

RAY J

Not really.

JULIE

Raechael?

Silence.

JULIE (CONT'D)

(laughs)

Well yes I agree, a resurrection is a very promising start to the school year!

JAMIE

(through a mouthful of food)

(MORE)

JAMIE (CONT'D)

And a great topic for college essays!

JJ rolls his eyes.

RAY J

Speaking of overcoming adversity, I got my hearing back today.

JAMIE

I agree Ray J, I think Ivy League is a given at this point.

JULIE

Look at us, all together. Z, zoo... zoo bop...

She's too overcome with emotion. Jamie pats her back.

JAMIE

Later, honey.

He winks and she giggles. Ray J is grossed out.

JJ

I COULD get a job.

He stuffs his face with food.

INT. RAY-J'S BEDROOM - DAWN

Ray J sleeps soundly in his race-car bed, his longer leg hanging off the side.

A BUGLE SOUNDS- Reveille, the classic military wake up call.

Ray J SPRINGS AWAKE.

EXT. REYNOLDS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jamie stands outside, in full USPS uniform.

The noise has caused an enormous cauldron of bats to scatter and fly away in all directions.

He plays the bugle with one hand, and raises a US Postal Service flag up a full-sized flagpole with his other hand.

Julie stands beside him, in what can only be described as the Rockettes' sparkling take on the USPS uniform, mid-salute, scattling along to her husband's bugling.

INT. RAY-J'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ray J peers out the window at his parents, then turns to his digital clock which reads that it is four A.M.

He collapses back onto his bed.

JJ (O.S.)  
SHUT YOUR HOLE, DAD!

RAY J  
I wish I was deaf again.

He covers his head with his pillow as the tune concludes.

EXT. REYNOLDS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jamie hands Julie his bugle.

JAMIE  
I'll see you for dinner. Things are gonna be different here.

JULIE  
Jamie, you're never back in time for dinner.

JAMIE/BURT  
Maybe Jamie's not... *but Burt is.*

We cut to Julie, who stares at him.

Back to Burt, now with shades on, ready to wrangle the day.

JULIE  
I'll see you tomorrow morning.

JAMIE/BURT  
You'll see Jamie tomorrow morning, you'll see Burt tonight- okay.

Julie is already back at the house, so he turns and leaves.

EXT. POST OFFICE - MORNING

Jamie pulls on the front door and finds it locked.

A note hung on the door. On it, written sloppily in crayon:  
*"Funeral around back".*



EXT. BEHIND POST OFFICE - MORNING

Jamie turns around the building and sees... well, a funeral taking place in the post office parking lot.

There's rows of empty chairs set up, but only one seat is taken by an old woman named OLGA, smiley as always.

There's a HUGE hole dug out in the concrete, with a mail truck lifted above it.

Mayor Bergman speaks while turning a crank, which lowers the mail truck into the hole.

MAYOR BERGMAN

And so, Karl, you were a fine mailman for eighty-eight years- and here's our new one now!

The Mayor calls out to Olga.

MAYOR BERGMAN (CONT'D)

Olga, on your feet, mayor business... come on you know the drill, churn the butter, churn the butter...

Olga grabs hold of the crank.

OLGA

(all smiles)  
...Churn the butter, churn the butter...

She lowers the truck into the ground.

Mayor Bergman greets Jamie/Burt.

MAYOR BERGMAN

Burt Reynolds! Sorry to keep you waiting, that's Karl, the old mail man. Obviously, you've got some big shoes to fill.

JAMIE/BURT

Really?

MAYOR BERGMAN

No, Karl wore like size six kids shoes, and most of them lit up, the man was ninety-eight years old.

Behind them, Olga gives a signal, and a cement truck flies into frame, knocking Olga several hundred yards away.

It piles cement onto the mail truck, completing the burial, and peels away.

MAYOR BERGMAN (CONT'D)

Unfortunately that was our only mail truck, so you're gonna have to use this for now.

He tosses Jamie/Burt a set of keys to a HOT DOG SHAPED TRUCK, with the name "Wurst Wagon" painted slickly onto it.

JAMIE/BURT

This doesn't desecrate the sanctity of the US Postal Service at all.

MAYOR BERGMAN

I agree! Now let's go over your route, I'm an important man with many important places to be.

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

We pan through a classroom of children, Little Deutschland's future leaders...

One kid picks his nose with his bare toe.

Another eats glue.

Another colors his teeth with crayons.

And then there's Ray J, looking around at his new classmates from the back of the room. He takes out a finger skateboard and plays with it on his desk.

MAYOR BERGMAN (V.O.)

Let us remember on this first day of the school year to live life fully, the way our beloved janitor Karl did, for one hundred and two beautiful years. Also, he never finished fixing the swing set so... be careful. This is your mayor, wishing you success!

The intercom CLICKS and the announcement ends.

The teacher, MISS VON SHTUPPE, walks to the chalkboard and picks up a piece of chalk.

MISS VON SHTUPPE  
 Hello children, welcome to a new  
 year, my name is Miss Von Shtuppe-  
 M, I, S... C... U... you know what  
 never mind, let's do attendance.

She abandons that and instead grabs the attendance sheet.

MISS VON SHTUPPE (CONT'D)  
 Let's start with who's NOT here...

She looks around the class.

Ray J has a hard time believing this is where he's supposed  
 to be learning.

He glances at a kid, GEARHARD, next to him, who appears to be  
 sitting normally and not consuming anything he shouldn't be.

Ray J leans over.

RAY J  
 Is every class like this?

Gearhard turns to Ray J slowly- then HOLLERS.

GEARHARD  
 YOU SOUND LIKE BRAIN MAN!

Ray J stares at him, dumbfounded and disappointed.

GEARHARD (CONT'D)  
 BRAIN MAN! BRAIN MAN!

BROOMHILDA (O.S.)  
 For the last time, Gearhard, I'm  
 not a man, I'm a girl, you butt  
 with ears!

Ray J and Gearhard turn to BROOMHILDA- 12, blonde, wearing a  
 lederhosen, spun around in her seat in front of Ray J to set  
 the record straight for what is certainly not the first time.

GEARHARD  
 (still screaming)  
 Gender is a social construct, BRAIN  
 MAN!

BROOMHILDA  
 That is correct, and I'm telling  
 you that I identify as a girl, not  
 a man!

He dives under his desk and gnaws on the leg of his chair.

Ray J and Broomhilda turn from Gearhard to one another. She... seems normal, but Ray J remains cautiously silent.

BROOMHILDA (CONT'D)

(slowly)

My name's *Broomhilda*. Can you say that?

RAY J

... Broomhilda. I'm Ray J.

BROOMHILDA

Very good, Ray J!

RAY J

Why are you talking like that?

BROOMHILDA

Hang on.

(yelling out)

Who's that handsome chalkboard that's been staring at Miss Von Schtuppe all day?

On the end of the chalkboard, there is a smiley face drawn, with googly eyes glued onto the board.

Miss Von Schtuppe spots him and blushes.

MISS VON SHTUPPE

(quietly, to Mr.  
Chalkboard)

No, you learn how to spell *your* name.

BROOMHILDA

Too easy.

RAY J

What is happening?

Broomhilda hands Ray J a business card which reads:  
*Broomhilda, Matchmaker.*

RAY J (CONT'D)

You're matching the teacher with...

BROOMHILDA

Mr. Chalkboard.

RAY J

I'm barely following but somehow you make more sense than anyone else I've met yet in this town.

BROOMHILDA  
 I'll explain at lunch.  
 (yelling again)  
 I heard Mr. Chalkboard used to be a  
 firefighter!

Miss Von Schtuppe is beside herself.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - MORNING

Raechael lies before an open locker.

A GROUP OF GIRLS in cheerleading outfits approach her. Cheer captain BRITTANY steps forward.

BRITTANY  
 So you're the new girl everyone's  
 talking about. You know, you have  
 the body of a cheerleader. Me and  
 the squad are gonna chew "tabacki"  
 and crush energy drinks under the  
 bleachers later, be there. I love  
 that top by the way. Brittany, out.

The squad turns and walks off together, save for one very  
 boyish lesbian, wearing a leather jacket over her uniform,  
 with combat boots. This is DARNELL. She lingers behind and  
 nods at Raechael.

DARNELL  
 I'm Darnell. I'll save you an  
 energy drink. Cherry's my favorite.  
 Yours too? Ha. I thought so.

The romantic tension between them is palpable. Darnell turns  
 and catches up to the cheer squad.

Raechael has nary a moment before a guy, BRAXON, leans up  
 near her.

BRAXON  
 Hey, sorry to bother you, is it  
 cool if I hang here? I'm Braxon and  
 uh, I just had to say...

He can hardly get the words out, leaning in close to her.

BRAXON (CONT'D)  
 You are like the hottest babe I  
 have ever seen. No way, I love  
 Babe: Pig in the City, too!  
 (MORE)

BRAXON (CONT'D)

Say your favorite line- NO WAY  
THAT'S MINE TOO! Woah. Hey, here's  
my number, call me sometime.

He sticks a post-it onto Raechael.

BRAXON (CONT'D)

Later gator. Or as Babe might  
say... oink oink.

He slinks off, lovestruck.

Raechael remains still, now with a post-it note stuck to her.

A GIRL passes by and cranks her neck to stare at Raechael.

GIRL

Oh my god, I LOVE that top.

INT. LUNCHROOM - DAY

Ray J and Broomhilda sit at a lunch table together eating the  
school's specialty- a mound of sauerkraut.

BROOMHILDA

I'm really good at this matchmaking  
thing. I matched Hailey and Alex,  
Toey Joey with his toe, and- you  
know, if you're gonna skateboard,  
you should do it with your legs and  
not your fingers. You look lame.

RAY J

My legs are two different lengths.

BROOMHILDA

Oh, okay. And then I matched Miss  
Von Schtuppe with Stüfin, although  
I think she'll actually be more  
compatible with Mr. Chalkboard.

Out a large window, the Wurst Wagon loudly CHUG CHUGS by.

RAY J

This town's pretty weird, huh?

BROOMHILDA

Weirder than having two different  
length legs?

RAY J

Uh, brutal.

BROOMHILDA

Sorry. Why do you say that?

RAY J

For starters, we're the only ones in class who can spell our names, including the teacher, who you're setting up with the chalkboard.

BROOMHILDA

It's Mr. Chalkboard, and it's harder for them, we're just advanced. But it is nice to speak to someone who isn't eating glue for lunch. We should hang later.

RAY J

I can't, I'm busy.

BROOMHILDA

With who? You don't know anyone, and if we're going to be friends, you should probably invite me places, unless you want to invite Toey Joey.

They look across the lunchroom to see TOEY JOEY, suckling on his own bare toes. He's a chubby kid, with stupid shorts.

RAY J

I prefer to explore caves alone.

BROOMHILDA

That cave is haunted, for sure. But you know, if we were to see a ghost, that might be helpful. I'm trying to find someone for Bethany, but she grew like two feet over the summer so she might be best matched with someone she can't hurt...

RAY J

I said I'm going alone.

BROOMHILDA

Okay yeah me too, I'll seeya there.

She stands up to dispose of her lunch tray.

She passes by Toey Joey, who pulls his foot in closer, unwilling to share.

EXT. DAS MAIN STREET - DAY

Jamie/Burt drives down the street in his Wurst Wagon.

He passes Das Candleshop and honks the horn and it issues out Mayor Bergman's voice-

MAYOR BERGMAN WURST WAGON (V.O.)  
This guy's the WUUUURST!

Jamie/Burt grunts and Julie waves to him as he passes by.

EXT. CAVE - LATER

Broomhilda is already outside the cave as Ray J arrives.

RAY J  
How did you get here so fast?

BROOMHILDA  
Well it wasn't on a finger  
skateboard, I can tell you that.

She walks towards the cave and stops at the entrance.

BROOMHILDA (CONT'D)  
(calling into the cave)  
Any of you ghosts know Bethany? Any  
interest?  
(silence)  
Eh, it was a long shot.

Ray J steps into the cave.

BROOMHILDA (CONT'D)  
Wait, you can't really go in there.

Ray J senses her fear at the idea.

RAY J  
Wow! What happened? I thought you  
were big and tough, making fun of  
my legs and my passions.

She tries to take another step, but withdraws.

BROOMHILDA  
(voice shakier than usual)  
First of all, finger skateboarding  
is a sad passion. Second, you don't  
get it, bad things happen in there.



RAY J  
Come on! You're so cool and  
insulting, just go in!

BROOMHILDA  
No. And you shouldn't either.

RAY J  
I will give you all of my finger  
skateboards if you take one step.

BROOMHILDA  
I said no, what are you, hard of  
hearing?

RAY J  
Not anymore.

Ray J pulls his hearing aid out of his pocket.

BROOMHILDA  
What is that?

RAY J  
It was my hearing aid. I got  
meningitis and lost my hearing when  
I was five. We tried everything to  
get it back, and nothing worked. I  
thought I'd never hear without one  
of these again and I was probably  
right- until yesterday, when I went  
in that cave. So when you say bad  
things happen in there... I'm  
sorry, but you're wrong. And I'm  
going in.

Ray J walks into the cave as Broomhilda is frozen in place.

A familiar gust of wind begins to ruffle her hair, growing  
stronger and stronger around her.

BROOMHILDA  
Ray J, wait!

Ray J pauses and looks back.

The wind grows stronger still until it circles each of them  
and sucks them both directly into the depths of the cave.

INT. DAS CANDLESHOP - DAY

Julie scats to herself from behind the counter.

The door opens and in place of a bell noise, we hear the sound of a drawn out, wet, throbbing fart.

In walks some lady named BETSY, and she's irritated already.

BETSY

That wasn't me.

JULIE

(smiling)

Oh I know, I'm using a basic psychological marketing trick. You see, if you hear a sopping wet fart, you'll imagine the smell, and then you'll want to buy a candle to cover that smell. What's your name?

BETSY

(very confused)

Betsy.

Julie squints her eyes and sizes up Betsy.

JULIE

Okay, Betsy, I have a knack for this. You're looking for a strong scent... lavender... peaches and cream, no!.. Beef stew.

She slams a brown, beef stew-scented candle on the counter.

BETSY

If I needed the body of a small animal, or a vial of blood, do you have a back room stocked with that kind of thing?

JULIE

No.

BETSY

Then I'm good.

JULIE

Alright, Beef Stew Betsy, try not to fart on your way out.

Betsy exits the shop, and the FART rings out once more.

Julie giggles to herself, and begins to scat again.

INT. CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Ray J and Broomhilda's hair sticks straight up, and their faces grow redder by the second as they come to.

The shot ROTATES and we see that they are hanging from the ceiling by their legs. Ray J's longer leg is tied up, while his shorter leg flails to the side.

THOROGOOD

Oh good, the blood is finally rushing back to your heads!

Broomhilda unties her legs and lands gracefully on her feet, her arms up in a karate-fighting stance.

Ray J attempts to untie his leg.

BROOMHILDA

What's going on here?

THOROGOOD

How rude of me! I'm Ray J's friend, Thorogood. Are you Ray J's friend?

BROOMHILDA

Jeez, this place is a cry for help.

THOROGOOD

Brutal.

BROOMHILDA

Seriously, you need a change- wait do you know Bethany?

Just then, a creepy whisper echoes out.

VOICE INSIDE CAVE (O.S.)

We meet again...

RAY J

Everybody be quiet!

The rope comes loose around Ray J's foot and he crashes to the ground.

We hear the voice again.

VOICE INSIDE CAVE (O.S.)

This time, you're done for.

BROOMHILDA

Well, time to go.

She rushes one way, but Ray J walks in the opposite direction, following the voice.

BROOMHILDA (CONT'D)

(to Ray J)

What are you doing? Stop!

THOROGOOD

Wrong way, old chap.

Ignoring them, Ray J keeps going.

INT. DEEP CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Ray J is in the deep dark cave now.

He notices a trail of muddy footprints on the ground and follows them.

It's getting too dark to see, so he pulls out a flashlight from his backpack and switches it on.

The light shines onto the wall of the cave, revealing a muddy... or perhaps, bloody, handprint.

A single, loud SCREECH rings out.

He points the flashlight to the ceiling, and it illuminates a massive COLONY OF BATS.

RAY J

What the...

Ray J is floored at the sheer number- there's thousands of them, fast asleep hanging upside down.

The flashlight flickers, and then dies. Ray J smacks it a few times, but it's no use. It's pitch black.

Ray J's breath is heavy as he digs around in his pocket.

A small light issues from his phone.

We hear a loud CLANG from deep in the cave.

VOICE INSIDE CAVE (O.S.)

That's right, almost there.

A bright LIGHT shines from where the voice comes from.

The familiar, shadowy FIGURE appears in the light.

The figure the grows larger, gets closer...

VOICE INSIDE CAVE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
This is it. Say goodbye.

Ray J inhales, adjusts his knuckle kneepads, and pulls his pants up high.

He lowers down into a racing position...

He drops his phone on the ground and he's off.

RAY J  
AHHHHH!!!!

He squeals as he CHARGES at the figure and topples it.

VOICE INSIDE CAVE  
WAIT, NO!

There's a stir among the bats- they ROAR to life yet again, flying around WILDLY.

And, they are crapping everywhere- and on everyone.

Ray J and the Figure attempt to wrestle, but instead find themselves swatting bats away.

They seem like they are going to be completely swallowed up by the massive, chaotic cloud of shitting bats, when they suddenly hear a familiar voice.

It's Mayor Bergman delivering a speech.

MAYOR BERGMAN (V.O.)  
Hi, I'm Hans Bergman, Mayor of  
Little Deutschland...

The bats hate it. There appears to be some kind of impenetrable bubble around Ray J, the Figure, and...

Broomhilda. She stands holding her phone above her head, playing a video of Mayor Bergman speaking.

The bats all flock to the ceiling, trying to get away from Mayor Bergman's voice.

Then, Thorogood swoops in and takes Broomhilda's phone.

He flies up and straight towards the bats, chasing them towards the cave's exit until they're all completely gone.

Broomhilda picks up Ray J's phone light and shines it at him.

We see Ray J, panting on the ground, covered in bat crap.

In a similar condition, the Figure next to him rolls over and we see that it's JJ.

RAY J  
 (to JJ)  
 JJ, what the...  
 (to Broomhilda)  
 How did...  
 (to himself)  
 Is this poop?

BROOMHILDA  
 Yeah, it's a lot of poop.

JJ  
 What the hell are you doing here?

RAY J  
 I'm an adventurous child, what are you doing down here?

JJ  
 Killing bats, idiot! And now I'm covered in crap!

Broomhilda chokes back a laugh and JJ turns to her furiously.

JJ (CONT'D)  
 Who the heck are you anyway? I'm the authority here, I'm older than both of you! Respect your elders!

RAY J  
 You don't have to respect him.

BROOMHILDA  
 I don't.

JJ punches Ray J's arm.

In the distance, from outside the cave, we hear bells chime.

BROOMHILDA (CONT'D)  
 We have to go. It's almost curfew, and I hate it here.

EXT. DAS MAIN STREET - DUSK

The three walk alongside one another, spotted and drenched with guano (why bat dung has its own name, I do not know).

RAY J  
 So, why are you killing bats?

JJ  
Cause this is what happens when  
adults have jobs.

BROOMHILDA  
Is it?

JJ  
Who even are you?

BROOMHILDA  
Broomhilda.

JJ  
Very funny.

Broomhilda's a little offended by that.

RAY J  
Since when do you have a job?

JJ  
Since Mayor Bergman made me animal  
controller... *like He-Man*.

BROOMHILDA  
I thought Stü was animal control.

JJ  
The mayor said he likes that I  
don't pay too much attention. He's  
the coolest. Oh, there he is!

They walk past Das City Hall and Mayor Bergman walks out with  
an old man, STÜFIN. He looks out of it, in a daze, with  
chocolate smeared around his mouth.

RAY J  
Who's the other guy?

BROOMHILDA  
That's Stüfin. Stü's short for  
Stüfin.

JJ  
More like Stüpid, Mayor Bergman  
said the job was too much for him.  
Guess it drove him *batty!*

Immediately Mayor Bergman turns to the door and pulls out a  
large ring of keys.

The door is lined top to bottom with at least a dozen  
deadbolts, and one by one, he locks each of them.

With the door secured, he helps the man down the stairs.

JJ waves wildly and calls out.

JJ (CONT'D)  
Gluten ahbed, Mayor Bergman!!

BROOMHILDA  
Hey, Stü.

STÜ  
Bats!

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Stü's tired. Got pretty spooked  
yesterday by the bats.

RAY J  
He was in the cave yesterday?

MAYOR BERGMAN  
Yes, but don't you go getting any  
ideas, that cave needs to stay  
empty until we can mine it for  
copper again. Run along home now.

JJ  
I'm faster than the sun, watch!

JJ sprints full-speed away.

MAYOR BERGMAN  
(to himself)  
Than the sun..?  
(to Ray J and Broomhilda)  
You two should also get going. It's  
almost curfew, you know. Plus,  
you're covered in crap.

He smiles, pulls up his hood, and walks away.

RAY J  
So that was weird, right?

BROOMHILDA  
Yeah, it's clear skies, eighty  
degrees out, who needs a hood, much  
less a whole cloak?

RAY J  
I mean, yeah, but-



THOROGOOD (O.S.)  
I agree, the weather's absolutely perfect.

Thorogood lands next to them and returns Broomhilda's phone.

RAY J  
I mean the door. What is someone with that many locks hiding?

BROOMHILDA  
Hopefully he hides that cloak and never finds it.

THOROGOOD  
Speaking of finding things, what became of the monster?

RAY J  
I guess the monster from yesterday was just the old animal control guy. So not a monster at all. And the one from today was my brother. So kind of a monster. Actually, you're gonna wanna avoid him. But he's also not very smart.

THOROGOOD  
Good idea, I'll live in your closet until it's safe to go home.

RAY J  
I didn't say that.

BROOMHILDA  
Well, that explains that.

RAY J  
But it doesn't explain why I can hear and he can talk.

THOROGOOD  
Some things in life can't be explained. Like miracles. Or love. Or friendship.

RAY J  
Or chanting, or weird lights, or bloody handprints on the walls?

As if on cue, the familiar GUST of wind blows by them, carrying with it the echo of the cave's CHANTING.

The three of them all hear it.

RAY J (CONT'D)

Thanks for coming back or whatever.

BROOMHILDA

Yeah well, you said if I went in  
you'd give me all your skateboards.

RAY J

I did say that.

Ray J sighs, and pulls about a dozen skateboards from his  
fanny pack. He wells up, admiring each one.

Broomhilda notices his emotional reaction.

BROOMHILDA

Just keep them.

RAY J

Are you sure?

BROOMHILDA

Yeah, I don't even know how to  
kickflip. Cause my life isn't sad.

They share a smile.

Thorogood sneaks between them.

THOROGOOD

A blossoming friendship is the  
sweetest flower.

BROOMHILDA

Brutal. I'm outta here.

RAY J

Yup.

They walk in opposite directions.

EXT. SIDEWALK - EVENING

The sun sets as Jamie/Burt walks away from a home and  
triumphantly checks his delivery list.

He crosses off a name, then checks the rest of the list...

There's still dozens of addresses left.

The triumph quickly turns to defeat as he sees how much work  
is left. He pockets the list and grabs another stack of  
envelopes from his bag.

He pulls his hard-work penny from his pocket.

JAMIE/BURT

Well, hard-work penny, looks like  
I'm gonna be needing you more than  
I had hoped.

A bat hovers. In fact, it seems to be... staring at him.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

But man, I'd trade this for a  
little relief.

He flips the penny up and the bat SWOOPS in and catches it.

Jamie is surprised, but more than that, he is annoyed.

He points at the bat with an envelope.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

Now listen here you freeloader-

The bat again swoops in and grabs the envelope.

Quickly, it flies away. Jamie is confounded.

Then, the bat flies back and hovers again.

Jamie stares at it.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

It's illegal for a non-certified  
person to deliver mail for the  
USPS!

The bat is unfazed.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

But, I guess you aren't a person,  
so it does not apply.

He tries to hand the bat another envelope, but it scoffs.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

Hmph! You want money.

He scrounges in his pockets and pulls out a small handful of  
coins. He holds them out to the bat.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

You know, some would consider it an  
honor to deliver mail at all- what  
does this get me?

The bat gets a look at his pile of coins, then SCREECHES into the sky.

Immediately, a swarm of bats have joined in.

Each one swoops in, takes a penny, then takes an envelope and flies away to deliver it, ignoring the silver coins.

Jamie grins.

JAMIE/BURT (CONT'D)

I'm gonna need more pennies.

INT. RAY-J'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ray J demonstrates a finger-skateboarding kickflip for Thorogood, who practices with his own little skateboard.

RAY J

It's not hard, you just...

(does a kickflip)

Like that.

THOROGOOD

Well, you see, it's difficult, as I only have a thumb to work with...

JULIE (O.S.)

Dinner's ready!

RAY J

I have to eat. I'll try to bring something up here for you.

THOROGOOD

Actually, could you just open the window? I eat insects, I'll just go get some dinner myself.

Ray J opens the window and Thorogood climbs through it.

THOROGOOD (CONT'D)

You won't close it before I get back, right?

RAY J

No, dude.

Thorogood smiles.

THOROGOOD

Wonderful. See you soon, my friend.

Ray J grins back.

RAY J

See ya.

Thorogood takes off.

INT. REYNOLDS DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The dining room table is set. Raechael and JJ are already seated and Julie joins them with a large glass of wine.

JULIE

(calling upstairs)

Ray J, come on!

(to Raechael)

Raechael, thank you so much for cooking dinner and setting the table.

Ray J enters and joins them.

JJ

Dad's not eating with us?

JULIE

I know we said he'd have more time to spend with us here but... well, you know how time-consuming it is to deliver mail in small towns.

JAMIE (O.S.)

Do I smell orange chicken?

The family turns and sees Jamie standing in the doorway.

RAY J

It's salmon.

Julie joyously greets him with a kiss.

JULIE

You made it!

JAMIE

I said I would. You see, children, when you work hard, it doesn't just benefit you. It benefits everyone. Now let's eat!

The family is all smiles as they eat dinner together at the table.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

Though bats can hunt and survive in solitude, many prefer to live in groups, called cauldrons. Cool name, right? Collectively, they make something better. I think that's universal.

SHOTS of the family eating, drinking, laughing, and in Raechael's case, sitting perfectly still.

EXT. LITTLE DEUTSCHLAND SKY - NIGHT

Thorogood flies through the sky amongst several smaller bats, a smile on his face.

He passes Broomhilda's house, which isn't actually a house—it's the mansion with the copper K in front.

Through the window, Thorogood sees her sitting at a grand dining room table with her parents.

She spots Thorogood flying by, and grins.

They wave to one another.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

We're social creatures. We thrive on connection. On the ones who bring light to our lives.

INT. REYNOLDS DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The Reynolds are having a time.

JAMIE

That's great, Raechael. You see—first day back from a resurrection and she's a walk on for the cheer team, found a boyfriend, and found a girlfriend.

JJ

I started my first job today. Killed it.

JULIE

And I made a regular! Her name is Beef Stew Betsy and she hasn't bought a candle yet, but maybe someday.

JAMIE

And what about you Ray J? You think  
you can dig up something to like  
about Little Deutschland?

Ray J thinks about it.

RAY J

Yeah. I think I'm gonna dig up a  
lot of things.

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

Thorogood flies over the cave, which sits in darkness.

The chanting starts up again. We enter the cave...

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Deeper into the cave we see a group of hooded figures  
standing before a glowing, COPPER COLORED PORTAL.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

Cause when others want to keep you  
in the dark, it helps to have eyes  
everywhere...

The glow intensifies, the portal quakes.

EXT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Drew Barrymore stands outside the cave with the thousands of  
bats behind her.

The enter the cave.

DREW BARRYMORE (V.O.)

And to know that you can't always  
trust what you're being fed.

The glow grows brighter and brighter, and then-

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT.