



THE THREE FRIENDS (MOTHER GOOSE STORY CHAPTER ONE)

Written by

Johnny Brocco

A scarecrow builds himself a companion out of some old scrap  
mettle laying around the barren fields he calls home.

EXT. SCARECROW FIELDS - DAY

A DIORAMA STYLE SET, PASTEL GREENS and FALL BROWNS, REDS, YELLOWS, AND ORANGES,

CLAYMATION TREES AND BUSHES, CONSTRUCTION PAPER BACKGROUND SKY AND "WIZARD OF OZ" VIBE SOUNDTRACK.

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

Once upon a time there was a scarecrow who lived all alone by himself in a big, barren field.

THE SCARECROW, POINTY CLAY HAT, lumpy look to his whole texture, old fashioned claymation, BIG ROUND BLACK BEEDIE EYES like the coal ones on snowmen, and a BIG POINTY CARROT NOSE too we get to check out as he looks side to side,

scoping out his environment, empty,

like his expression, a BLANK FELT BAR seemingly glued flat horizontally across his face as a somber mouth.

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

The scarecrow could not remember how long the field had been barren for, all he could remember for sure was that it had been barren for a very, very long time.

THE SCARECROW wanders around the empty set. Its just a large EMPTY FIELD and a FOREST OF CARDBOARD TREES surrounding one side and the BIG BLUE CONSTRUCTION PAPER BACKDROP SKY.

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

He could not remember what it was like when the field was not barren, but he knew there must have been a time, because after all, he had been built, and so, he must have been built for some purpose.

CLOSE UPS ON THE SCARECROW WANDERING AROUND,

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

That much, he was sure of.

and then,

THE SCARECROW LOOKS DOWN AT HIS FEET AND WE FIND WITH HIM TO BOTH OF OUR SURPRISES,

A PILE OF CLAYMATION SCRAP METTLE AT THE EDGE OF THE FOREST.

THE SCARECROW'S LITTLE FELT MOUTH BAR CHANGES TO

A WIDE "O" like a surprised mouth and his TWO EYES ARE EVEN LARGER NOW, looking down at the scrap mettle astonished.

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

One day, while wandering the empty field aimlessly, the scarecrow came upon a pile of scrap mettle.

THE SCRAP METTLE.

THE SCARECROW looking around side to side, then

THE SCARECROW BENDS DOWN AND STARTS RUMMAGING THROUGH THE SCRAP METTLE,

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

And so, he decided to build a friend for himself.

TIME LAPSE THE SCACROW AS HE PICKS OUT

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Not so that he could have someone to talk to or anything like that  
...

ARMS and LEGS,

connects them to a TORSO,

and then stands back from his work and admires it a moment, then

SCREWS THE HEAD ON,

and after he steps away

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

... but in order to be able to ask a very, very important question, of course.

AND NOW WE'RE CLOSE UP ON THE TIN-MAN, HIS SIMPLE SILVER CYLINDER SHAPED HEAD AND BODY BEGIN TO SHAKE A LITTLE AS HE TURNS ON, AND THEN HIS TWO SIMPLE LITTLE LED EYEBULBS LIGHT UP BLUE AND HIS SPEAKER MOUTH BUZZES A CORNY CLASSIC ROBOT SOUND FROM 1950'S SCIENCE FICTION.

THE SCARECROW looks at his new friend with WIDE MOUTH and EYES, and

TIN-MAN looks up at the scarecrow and makes another robot sound, then

TIN-MAN stands up and

TIN-MAN and THE SCARECROW take a moment to inspect one another and then

TIN-MAN  
(SILLY ROBOT  
NOISES:ENGLISH SUBTITLE)  
Are you a ... golem?

THE SCARECROW shakes his head "no"

THE TIN-MAN looks up and around analyzing his surroundings, then

TIN-MAN  
(SILLY ROBOT  
NOISES:ENGLISH SUBTITLE)  
Where are we?

THE SCARECROW  
(as he talks, we just  
shoot the different  
mouth expressions  
changing and:ENGLISH  
SUBTITLE)  
I'm not sure myself. Its some kind  
of field, and you're the one who's  
a golem.

TIN-MAN  
(you get it, continue on)  
I'm ... a golem!?

THE SCARECROW  
(and yeah, you get it,  
continue on and  
SUBTITLE)  
That's right, I made you out of a  
pile of scrap mettle I found.

TIN-MAN  
Wow, that sure is something to  
think about. Why did you make me?

THE SCARECROW

Well, its funny you should ask me that, because I made you so that I could ask you the very same question!

THE SCARECROW (CONT'D)

(pondering to himself)  
Or, a similar one anyone.

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

The scarecrow, he so badly wanted to know, you see ...

THE SCARECROW

Why was I built?

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

(CONT'D)

... why he existed.

TIN-MAN

Why were you built? How should I know? You built me, after all! Its me who should be asking you that question!

TIN-MAN (CONT'D)

Say, are you dense or somethin'?

THE SCARECROW

Am I ... dense?

TIN-MAN

You've got a good point though, I don't see any crows around, I don't know why a scarecrow would be in a field with no crows.

THE SCARECROW

A scarecrow? I'm a scarecrow? I thought this whole time that I was a snowman!

TIN-MAN

A snowman!?

THE SCARECROW

Yeah!

TIN-MAN

Why would you think you're a snowman!? Snowmen need snow and cold weather around or they'll melt! Do you see any snow around?

THE SCARECROW  
Well, like you said, there aren't  
any crows around either ...

THE SCARECROW (CONT'D)  
... and I have this pointy carrot  
nose, so, I just figured ...

THE SCARECROW (CONT'D)  
I must be a snowman!

TIN-MAN  
You're not a snowman.

THE SCARECROW  
You're making more questions for me  
than answers.

THE SCARECROW (CONT'D)  
I think I'm starting to regret  
building you now.

TIN-MAN takes a few paces away from THE SCARECROW,

TIN-MAN  
Hey now, easy there!

TIN-MAN, backing away scared and then

A RUSTLING SOUND COMES FROM THE WOODS BEHIND THE TIN MAN!

TIN-MAN stops backing away and jumps a one eighty leaving  
his back to THE SCARECROW, putting the focus of all of his  
fear now on the woods

TIN-MAN  
Did ... you hear that?

THE SCARECROW, furrowed brow mouth agape face,

TIN-MAN and THE SCARECROW standing together peering into the  
woods and we hear more RUSTLING SOUNDS. And then

A LOW GROWL JOINS THE RUSTLING, AND THE RUSTLING IS GETTING  
CLOSER!

THE SCARECROW  
I ... hear it.

TIN-MAN  
Is there someone else here besides  
us?

THE SCARECROW

I ... didn't think there was.

TIN-MAN and THE SCARECROW, backing away from the woods slowly now as they continue to keep their eyes faced toward the RUSTLING AND GROWLING SOUNDS, and then

A CLAYMATION LION CHARGES OUT OF THE WOODS AND

THE SCARECROW and TIN-MAN scream and

they turn to run BUT THE LION LEAPS ONTO TIN-MAN'S BACK!

Takes him to the ground, chomps into him! Tin-man screaming!

THE SCARECROW only looks back a moment WITH BIG SHOCKED WHEEPLY EYES AND A BIG SCOWL OF A WIDE MOUTH!

but he keeps running!

THE SCARECROW

Oh god! Oh god!

LOW ANGLE SHOT, SCARECROW RUNNING, AND THEN THE LION LEAPS UP, HES COMING RIGHT AT US HE LANDS ON THE SCARECROW'S BACK AND THEY FALL FORWARD TOGETHER TOWARD THE CAMERA AND THEN

HARD CUT TO BLACK:

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

Sometimes the answers we seek, only lead to more questions.

EXT. SCARECROW FIELDS - MOMENTS LATER

FROM BEHIND THE LION, DEVOURING THE STRAW FROM THE OPEN BACK OF THE SCARECROW,

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

Sometimes, the way things really are, and what they're all about, aren't exactly what we would have guessed them to be off the bat.

NOW RIGHT OVER TOP OF THEM, AND THEN

IN FRONT OF THEM LOOKING DOWN AT THE CLAYMATION STRAW GUTS  
AND WATCHING THE LION EAT AND TEAR INTO THE SCARECROW'S BACK

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

The scarecrow never got an answer  
to his question ...

CLOSE UP THE SCARECROW, HIS EYES AND MOUTH, DEAD X'S, AND

CLOSE UP THE LION, EATING THE STRAW FROM THE SCARECROW'S  
BACK, AND THEN

SHOW THE TIN-MAN'S SHREDDED CLAYMATION METTLE CORPSE ON THE  
GROUND WHERE IT LAY, DEAD, AND

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

... and the Tin-man never got much  
of anything at all, and lived a  
short, pointless existence.

then

BROAD SHOT, ON THE LION EATING THE SCARECROW AND SLOW ZOOM  
OUT, AS

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.)

But the Lion, at least ...

MOTHER GOOSE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

... got dinner.

END.