



ROADKILL RANGERS

PRODUCTION SCRIPT NO. 01

"Pilot"

Written by
Andrew Gelman

EXT. HIGHWAY — DAWN

Aerial shot of a catastrophic accident on the highway. Overturned cars seem to go on forever, bodies are scattered haphazardly, and people are frozen in cement, impaled, and flattened. There's a gigantic crater where the overpass used to be. A cement truck teeters over the edge; a waterfall of cement pouring down. The trees lining the highway are ablaze. We hear distant sirens. Cut to black.

Closer in, we pan past some of the wrecked cars and bodies. A crow hops around the highway. The sirens are clearer. Cut to black.

Even closer in, we hold on a shot of a raccoon (MAZ) and squirrel (ZOBO) at the epicenter of the accident. The siren gets louder. Maz scratches behind his ear and looks around.

MAZ

Whoops.

A firetruck runs them over. Cut to black.

EST. ANIMAL HEAVEN

A clear blue sky and a bed of fluffy clouds as far as the eye can see. In the distance are large golden gates. The title "ROADKILL RANGERS" is in the sky.

EXT. ANIMAL HEAVEN — DAY

Maz and Zobo enter Animal Heaven through a heavenly portal that disappears once they step out.

Zobo is just a flat mass of grey, mangled fur. He hovers upright. One of his eyeballs has popped out of its socket, attached loosely by a long optic nerve. His furless tail is bent jaggedly. An intestine hangs out from his left side.

Maz is still mostly intact but some of his bones have been displaced and his fur is messy.

They look around. There's nothing but clouds.

MAZ

Hello?

They take a few steps in.

MAZ (CONT'D)

(to Zobo)

What is this place?

(sniffs)

Smells fancy.

ZOBO

Don't you get it, moron? We're dead.

(annoyed groan)

That whole disaster is on YOU, by the way. Seriously, Maz, who sleepwalks onto a highway?!

MAZ

Relaaaaaax. Think about it. If we were responsible for all those deaths, would we really be HERE right now?

ZOBO

I'm more pancake than squirrel because of you! Don't tell me to relax.

MAZ

People love pancakes!

Maz takes Zobo's dangling eyeball and rotates it, flipping his P.O.V.

MAZ (CONT'D)

So just turn that frown upside down and...

He stops and closely observes Zobo's face.

MAZ (CONT'D)

Actually, I think your frown may already be upside down. Your whole face sorta got jumbled around down there.

Maz drops the eye and it swoops back to the clearly annoyed Zobo. Maz notices his hand is sticky and bloody from holding the eye and faintly makes a disgusted noise.

ZOBO

They say when you die you're supposed to feel an overwhelming sense of peace and calm...

Maz shakes some blood off his hand and it hits Zobo in the face.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

They lied.

Zobo wipes his face clean with his tail.

ANIMAL GOD (V.O.)
Or perhaps you're not fully dead.

Maz's ears perk up. Zobo looks around.

ANIMAL GOD (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Take a seat, my sons, and allow me
to explain.

Two cloud-chairs appear under Zobo and Maz. Maz is impressed
and claps.

ANIMAL GOD (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I... am Animal God. Look upon me
and know me!

ANIMAL GOD appears before them. He is a giant monstrosity
composed of parts from every type of animal: buffalo torso,
fish gills, giraffe neck, eagle beak, lion mane, pig ears,
the legs of an elephant, horse, and frog, a tentacle, a pair
of bird wings, a pair of bug wings, a fox tail, one reptilian
eye, one monkey eye, and a horn sticking out of his forehead.
Zobo and Maz are absolutely horrified.

Maz covers behind his cloud chair. Some goop squirts out of
Zobo's intestine.

ANIMAL GOD
You have nothing to fear.

Everything goes dark as a noisy film projector projects a
slide of a ladybug into the sky.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)
From the tiniest insects...

The slide changes to a T-rex.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)
To the mightiest dinosaurs...

The slide changes once more to an incredibly crude crayon
drawing of smiling animals holding hands. Animal God has
signed his name.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)
And everything in between; all
wildlife are created in my perfect
image.

The lights come back as the slide show ends. Some slime drips
off of Animal God's tentacle and onto Maz. Maz is disgusted
and shakes it off.

ZOBO

YOU'RE God? You? Don't take this the wrong way, O mighty... thing, but uh, no way. Nuh-uh.

ANIMAL GOD

It is true, my son. Look around you. Beyond that gate lies Animal Heaven.

MAZ

(to Zobo)

See? What'd I tell ya?

(rubbing his hands)

Animal Heaven, here I come!

Maz starts walking towards the gates.

MAZ (CONT'D)

It's time for this rotting raccoon to finally catch some Z's.

(to Zobo)

Zobo.

(to Animal God)

God.

(walking away)

I'll be in Heaven if anyone needs me.

ANIMAL GOD

Mmmmmmmmm... I don't think so.

The cloud Maz is on lifts up and brings him back. Maz is confused.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

Maz the Raccoon, Zobo the Squirrel; You are directly responsible for the death of 600 lives. I cannot possibly allow either of you to enter Heaven.

ZOBO

(quietly to Maz)

I'll handle this.

(to Animal God)

Look. Clearly there's been some confusion regarding today's... incident. Allow me to explain what REALLY happened...

Zobo sharply points at Maz with his tail.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

He did it!

MAZ

The pancake LIES, your majesty!
Take him away!

ANIMAL GOD

(lion roar)

SILENCE! There's only one simple
rule all animals must follow in
order to reach Heaven: Dooooon't
killlllll peeeeeople.

Zobo and Maz share a look.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, but you're just not
getting in at this time.

ZOBO

At this time?

ANIMAL GOD

Yes. You see, there actually IS a
bit of good news for you both.
Congratulations!

(pause)

You're not banned!

Confetti and streamers rain from the sky.

ZOBO

We're not?? What's the catch?

ANIMAL GOD

No catch. The catastrophic series
of events you triggered was
completely accidental. That means
neither of you had any intent to
hurt anyone and THAT means we can't
mark it against you.

MAZ

So we CAN go to Heaven?

ANIMAL GOD

Don't be ridiculous. You killed
hundreds of people.

ZOBO

So we can't get into Heaven, we
don't deserve to go to Hell. What
exactly are we supposed to do?

ANIMAL GOD

You ended 600 lives today; as penalty, you will live out the rest of your days suffering for all eternity!; wandering the Earth as spoiled flesh and bone!

(sheep bleat)

If even in your decrepit states, you can somehow manage to save 600 new souls from their demise, then and ONLY then, will I grant you access to Animal Heaven and your angelic bodies. ANIMAL GOD HAS SPOKEN!!!

Thunder claps, then Animal God's ears wiggle really quickly. It's super cute.

MAZ

Save 600 lives, hm? That seems harsh... but fair.

Cut to Zobo. He's wide eyed and slack jawed in disbelief. His jaw swings loose and falls off.

ANIMAL GOD

Take it or leave it, my sons. This is the offer of a lifetime. Nay! The offer of an eternity- namely, yours. It's this or Animal Limbo for you two.

MAZ

Animal Limbo?

ANIMAL GOD

Yeeeeeah. It's where we put all the animals who kill their owners after being forced to wear silly costumes.

Animal God tears a hole in the sky with his beak revealing Animal Limbo.

EXT. ANIMAL LIMBO

A bunch of floating dogs, cats, and guinea pigs in costumes are drifting around a trippy dimension. A cat slowly somersaults through the air dressed as the Frankenstein monster. He floats from left to right and then reappears on the left, never breaking direct eye contact with Zobo. They share a painfully awkward moment while a shrill musical note plays.

EXT. ANIMAL HEAVEN – DAY

Animal God snaps the portal shut with his iguana tongue. Maz reattaches Zobo's jaw.

ZOBO

We'll do it. Please. Anything but that.

MAZ

Well, hold on a second. Did you see that dog dressed like a hotdog?! Soooo cute.

Zobo plunges his intestine over Maz's muzzle to shut him up.

ZOBO

We'll DO it.

ANIMAL GOD

Then your fate is sealed!

Zobo and Maz start to dissipate.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

600 lives! When you've saved them all, the gates to Heaven will open. Good luck and God speed.

Zobo and Maz are gone. Animal God finds a cat dressed like Elvis next to him.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

Nice try.

Animal God zaps open Animal Limbo again, picks the Elvis Cat up with his beak, and flings him back in.

EXT. HIGHWAY ACCIDENT – AFTERNOON

Zobo and Maz materialize a few feet away from their rotting bodies.

ZOBO

You inadvertently kill 600 people, I suffer for it. Unbelievable.

They wander over to the their corpses. A crow is pecking at them. Maz shoo's them off.

MAZ

Hey, get outta here!

The crow flies away.

ZOBO

So this is it, huh? God just plops us back on Earth and says "Save 600 lives. See ya when I see ya"?! No instructions? No guidance?

MAZ

Did you see his tiny little bug wings, too? Eeeeew.

ZOBO

I know!!!

MAZ

Still. Nice of him to give us a make-up existence.

ZOBO

Shh. I need to think.
 (to himself)
 He brought us right back to the scene of the accident. Maybe this is his way of telling us that our quest starts here.

Zobo looks down the highway.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

(forming an idea)

Yeaaaah. Look at this mess.

Maz stares at a decapitated head.

MAZ

For how long?

ZOBO

No, seriously. This place is a disaster! It's perfect! There's bound to be people around here that need saving.

MAZ

Oh yeah! Just because we got 600 people killed doesn't mean others weren't just horribly, horribly injured!

ZOBO

Maybe we can find someone who's ALMOST dead but not quite there. That's what we need. That's our golden ticket.

MAZ

Come on, almost dead guy!

MONTAGE

- Maz peeps through a car window. There's a log going through the windshield and the driver's head.

- Zobo sees a car crashed into the side of a bus. He enters the car and tries to free the unconscious driver. He ejects the seatbelt and the driver's severed upper half slides towards Zobo. Zobo backs out in a panic.

- Maz finds an arm reaching out from under a car. After two unsuccessful tugs, he pulls hard and gets the arm out. At the other end is a crow. Maz runs away as the crow pecks him.

- Zobo hovers past a turned over motorcycle and a very long streaky trail of blood ending at the motorcyclist's helmeted head. He has no jaw.

- Maz leans against one of the charred trees on the side of the road. The tree disintegrates and a bird's nest falls on Maz's head. A crow flies out and pecks him.

- Zobo finds a pick up truck with a bunch of raccoon, deer, squirrel, and rabbit carcasses in the trunk. There's a bumpersticker of Admiral Ackbar stuck in a bear trap with the caption "It's a trap!". He looks in the front and sees a bunch of hunting gear. The driver is wearing a raccoon cap. He's dead, impaled by a deer antler. Zobo lights the truck on fire with a lighter he finds and hovers away.

BACK TO SCENE

EXT. HIGHWAY ACCIDENT – EVENING

Zobo reunites with Maz.

ZOBO

Nothing! This is gonna be trickier than I thought.

MAZ

Speak for yourself. Lookie what I found.

Maz takes a few steps and proudly presents his findings.

MAZ (CONT'D)

What about THEM?

At Maz's feet are their own carcasses.

ZOBO

That's us again, moron. We died
this morning. We can't save us.

Zobo hovers over to the dead Maz. It has a really dumb smile.
Maz notices a fly buzzing around it's head and swats at it.

MAZ

Hey! Get out of here, stupid fly!

He smacks the fly and it plummets. The sky darkens.

ZOBO

Crap.

The clouds part. Animal God appears.

ANIMAL GOD

Even in death you continue to take
rather than give. That fly was
going to do great things.

MAZ

(taking a knee)

I'm sorry, m'lord. I didn't mean
to.

ANIMAL GOD

Your combined death count is now at
601. You are now in debt one
additional life. If you'd like, I
can forward your case to Animal
Satan. Perhaps he'd be interested
in taking you, after all.

Zobo and Maz rapidly shake their heads.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

Save lives. Save them. And
remember...

Animal God stretches his giraffe neck all the way down to
them.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

I'm
(frog croak)
watching you.

Animal God's neck retracts and he flies away with his tiny
bug wings. The sky returns to normal. A crow lands behind
them. From the crow's P.O.V., we see Maz and Zobo chatting.
It focuses on Zobo's dangling eye.

MAZ

Okay. THAT one was my bad.

ZOBO

I can't believe he's docking us for a fly. Remind me to never let you out of my sight ever again.

Just then, the crow swoops in and rips off Zobo's loose eye. It flies off the overpass carrying the dangling eye from it's beak. Zobo screams and falls to the ground.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

(pained)

Gahhh! My eye!!! Get my eye!!

MAZ

I read you loud and clear.

Maz backs up and starts running towards Zobo.

ZOBO

Wait! Wha-!?

Maz sprints toward the ledge, nabbing Zobo along the way. He leaps off the overpass. They scream.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

WHY, MAZ!!!!?????

Maz takes a deep breath. A gust of wind makes Zobo's body inflate like a parachute. Maz holds onto Zobo's tail and intestine to steer him as they chase the crow. They glide over a town.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WOULD HAPPEN!?!

MAZ

I DIDN'T!! YEEEEEE-HAWWWWW!

EXT. SKY ABOVE TOWN — DUSK

Maz continues to fiddle with Zobo's tail and intestine to navigate themselves through the air. They speed through the evening sky, dipping and swerving to avoid trees and buildings.

MAZ

I think I'm getting the hang of this!

Maz pulls hard on Zobo's tail and they make a sharp left.

ZOBO
WATCH IT!

MAZ
Now where'd that bird go?!

Zobo shuts his eye. He has a vision. It's the P.O.V. from his other eye hanging from the crow's mouth. He sees a town directly below, then a tree, then themselves in the air.

ZOBO
Ahh! That's us! I see us! He's to our right! SHARP RIGHT!

MAZ
Ooh!

Maz yanks on Zobo's intestine and they make a wide right turn, just barely grazing a water tower. Maz runs along the side of it and kicks off, giving them extra height and momentum.

They rapidly approach the tree. The crow sits perched on a branch with the eye in it's beak. They crash into the crow and the eye goes flying up and lands in the nest. The crow's wing is injured and it can't move.

EXT. TREE BRANCH - DUSK

MAZ
Crap. Did we kill it?

ZOBO
No. It just hurt it's wing, it'll be fine. Go! This is our chance!

The crow tries to fly but can't.

ZOBO (CONT'D)
Please hurry! For once in your life or whatever this is... be useful. Go before they... oh God!

INT. CROWS NEST - DUSK

From the eye's P.O.V., we see two baby birds poking at the eye. Maz pops up next to the nest and watches as the baby crows helplessly try to eat the eye.

MAZ
(saddened)
Aww.

Maz pets them on their heads and picks up the eye.

MAZ (CONT'D)
 I'm sorry. I know you won't
 understand, but we need to do this.

The babies keep chirping.

MAZ (CONT'D)
 Time to win your trust. Here goes.

Maz takes a deep breathe. He holds the eye out in front of
 him. From the eye's P.O.V. we rise up and enter Maz's mouth.

Maz cringingly chews Zobo's eye.

ZOBO (V.O.)
 GAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!

Maz feeds the baby birds the regurgitated eye.

MAZ
 (shouting to Zobo)
 We did it!

Maz wipes his mouth.

MAZ (CONT'D)
 These baby birds would have died if
 we didn't let them take your eye!
 We totally ruined their habitat in
 the crash this morning!

EXT. TREE BRANCH – DUSK

Zobo slinks off the branch and lands on the ground.

MAZ
 (to Zobo)
 Stay there! I'll be right down!
 (to birds)
 Excuse me.

EXT. WOODS – NIGHT

MAZ
 Mission accomplished, buddy. What
 do you think of me NOW?

Zobo groans.

ZOBO
 (dryly sarcastic)
 You really want to know what I
 think of you now?
 (MORE)

ZOBO (CONT'D)

Now that I'm blind?! Well golly, I just think you're about the swellest person I know. Can we be best friends?

Beams of light shine down and lift them both up.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

Oh goody. The absurdity express arrives right on schedule.

MAZ

All aboard! Choo choo!!

Maz motions like he's pulling on a train whistle. His arm falls off.

EXT. ANIMAL HEAVEN – DAY

Zobo and Maz land on the fluffy clouds. Maz reattaches his arm. Animal God is waiting for them. There's a giant scoreboard behind him with a 600 on it.

ANIMAL GOD

Welcome back, my sons, and congratulations on a successful first rescue.

ZOBO

Successful?! My EYE is GONE.

ANIMAL GOD

Indeed. It was an incredibly noble sacrifice.

ZOBO

But I—

ANIMAL GOD

As a reward, I will now relieve you of your wounds.

Animal God snaps with his elephant hand. A golden monkey holding an eyeball quickly descends from above. He dangles upside-down by his tail over Zobo. It forcefully plunges it's arm into Zobo's eye socket. Once the eye is in, it shoots back into the sky.

ZOBO

(excitedly)

Yeah??

The new eye pops out and dangles as it did before.

ZOBO (CONT'D)

Aw.

ANIMAL GOD

When you slaughtered my fly, I
doubted your comprehension of my
punishment.

The scoreboard dings to 601, the sky turns red.

ANIMAL GOD (CONT'D)

But by saving TWO lives tonight,
you actually put a dent in your
goal. This is a huge milestone!
Congratulations to you both! You're
in the 500's!

The scoreboard dings to 600 and then 599. The sky returns to
normal.

MAZ

Just 599 more lives to go!

ZOBO

Yes. Just.

ANIMAL GOD

So I figured, if you could save two
lives on your very first mission...

EXT. PREHISTORIC JUNGLE – DAY

Maz and Zobo appear in a prehistoric jungle. An active
volcano erupts in the background.

ANIMAL GOD (V.O.)

Why not aim for three or four on
your second? Good luck!

Zobo is visibly annoyed.

MAZ

Relaaaax.

An enormous dinosaur foot crushes Zobo and Maz. It lets out a
colossal roar.

END OF EPISODE