(ALEX pops onstage.)

**ALEX**

Surprise!

**MARTY**

Aaaagh! Alex, don’t interrupt me when I’m daydreaming. When the zebra’s in the zone, leave ‘em alone.

**ALEX**

C’mon, Marty! Can’t a guy drop by to see his best friend? His best buddy? Say hi? Maybe even say, oh I don’t know...

(GLORIA, MELMAN, the LIONESSES and MASON the Chimpanzee enter with a cake.)

**GLORIA, MELMAN, LIONESSES, MASON**

Happy birthday!!!

**MARTY**

Aw, you guys...

(The group recites their clearly planned birthday greeting.)

**GLORIA**

Happy birthday Marty! We made you something sweet.

**ALEX**

It’s covered in frosting and it’s so good to eat.

**MELMAN**

Ooh, it’s your tenth birthday, this party is for you.

**GLORIA, MELMAN, LIONESSES**

Because you act like a monkey and you smell like one too!

**MASON**

Smell like a monkey?! I say! Stop perpetuating that loathsome stereotype! Uncivilized barbarians!

(MASON screeches like a monkey and exits.)
**Audition Sides - Candy Hammernose, Passerby, Cameraman**

**ALEX**
Feel better now? No more crazy “wild” talk?

**MARTY**
Naw, I’m good. Thanks a lot, Alex.

**ALEX**
No problem! G’night, Marty! And happy birthday.

*(ALEX exits. MARTY watches him leave and then looks off toward the exit.)*

**MARTY**
Goodnight Alex! Sorry, buddy ol’ pal... but I got me a train to catch!

*(MARTY runs off to the train in the opposite direction as ALEX re-enters.)*

**ALEX**
Hey, Marty, I was just thinking... Marty? Oh no. Maarrrttyyyyy!

**SCENE TWO – New York City Street/Subway Station**

(*#6 – NEWS UNDERSCORE begins. The streets of New York City come to life as a CAMERAMAN is shooting a live report hosted by CANDY HAMMERNOSE.)*

**CANDY HAMMERNOSE**
This is “The Evening Action News” with Candy Hammernose... the nose for news. We take you live to Times Square where witnesses here say a zebra has been seen roaming the streets. Now it’s time for an eye witness interview. *(to the PASSERBY)*

Ma’am, what did the zebra look like?

**PASSERBY**
Well, it had four legs, and it looked like it was...

*(As the PASSERBY starts to speak, CANDY stops her. Someone is speaking to her through her earpiece.)*

**CANDY HAMMERNOSE**
Wait a minute... this breaking news just in. We are now learning that three more animals have escaped from the Central Park Zoo. Officials say...
(CANDY HAMMERNOSE)
(listens again)
... a hippo, giraffe and a lion are currently on the loose. Is this the end of civilization as we know it? Are animals now in control of the New York City subway system? Tune in at eleven for more on this Subway Zoomageddon.

CAMERAMAN
We’re clear.

(The NEW YORKERS scream and exit, as do CANDY and the CAMERAMAN while GLORIA, ALEX and MELMAN enter. ALEX is carrying a subway map.)

GLORIA
I just mentioned Connecticut! I didn’t think he’d run away!

ALEX
I can’t read this thing. Which one of these trains goes to Connecticut?

MELMAN
You know, maybe we should go back to the zoo and let the people handle it.

GLORIA
Will you stop being such a yellow-bellied scaredypants? C’mon! Alex, let’s go!

MELMAN
Hey, I can’t help being yellow, you know. Unless it’s jaundice...

ALEX
Melman, if we tell the people that Marty’s escaped, they’ll be really mad and transfer him to another zoo for good. You don’t bite the hand that feeds you!

GLORIA
Mm-hm. I know that’s right.

ALEX
We gotta bring him back and stop him from making the biggest mistake of his life. I’m gonna ask for directions.

(ALEX approaches the NEWSPAPER MAN.)

Roar.

NEWSPAPER MAN
Aaagghhhh!
Audition Sides - Gloria, Alex, Melman, Newspaper Man, Old Lady

(CANDY HAMMERNOSE)
(listens again)
... a hippo, giraffe and a lion are currently on the loose. Is this the end of civilization as we know it? Are animals now in control of the New York City subway system? Tune in at eleven for more on this Subway Zoomageddon.

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(ALEX approaches the NEWSPAPER MAN.)

NEWSPAPER MAN

Roar.

Aaagghhhh!
Audition Sides - Gloria, Alex, Melman, Newspaper Man, Old Lady

(The NEWSPAPER MAN screams and runs off.)

ALEX
What did I say?

GLORIA
I guess they don’t speak the language.

MELMAN
Tourists.

ALEX
I’ll speak slower.
(ALEX approaches the OLD LADY.)
Rooooo...aaaaaaaarrrrr.

OLD LADY
Take that!
(The OLD LADY stomps on his foot and hits him in the rear with her purse. Just then the PENGUINS enter, sneaking across the stage.)

ALEX
Ow! Ow! Lady, would you please, ow!

OLD LADY
You’re a bad kitty! Bad kitty!

ALEX
Argh! Lady, what is wrong with you?

OLD LADY
You’re a bad kitty! Bad kitty!

(#7 – PENGUIN UNDERSCORE 2 begins.)

(GLORIA and MELMAN cross to protect ALEX.)

(MARTY enters and runs into the PENGUINS, who MARTY mistakes for nuns.)

MARTY
Excuse me, Sister. Where can I catch a train to Connecticut?

SKIPPER
How should I know, horse-face? Now scram!
START

**KING JULIEN**
Welcome, you cavalcade of weirdos! Please feel free to bask in my glow.

**MARTY**
Uh. Okay.

**KING JULIEN**
We thank you for saving the insignificant life of Mort. Don’t be rude, Mort, what do you say?

**MORT**
I just... I just want... I just want to say thank—

**KING JULIEN**
Oh, be quiet, Mort. You are so annoying! We also thank you with enormous gratitude for chasing away the Foosa.

(The LEMURS react in fear.)

Foosa.

(The LEMURS react in fear.)

**GLORIA**
The whoosa?

**KING JULIEN**
The Fo...

(Before the LEMURS react, KING JULIEN stops them with a look.)

...oosa.

**MELMAN**
What exactly is a Foosa?

END
MARTY
Alex, if the boat comes back, we’ll hear it. Meanwhile, can’t you just try to enjoy this place for what it is?

ALEX
Oh sure, easy for you to say! You can eat the stuff they serve around here! I am tired, I am starving, and I just want to go home, okay?

KING JULIEN
You need some sleep. Warm milk. Maybe a cookie.

GLORIA
Well, it has been a long day.

MELMAN
Yeah. My sciatica is acting up.

ALEX
Great. Let’s go back to the beach.

KING JULIEN
Don’t trouble your humongous heads about it. Tonight you will sleep here with us!
(to the LEMURS)
Take Mr. Alex to the comfiest patch of dirt we own! You’re going to like this.
(The LEMURS lead him a few feet away and set him down on the ground.)
There! Luxurious dirt, isn’t it? And to make you comfy-cozy, here’s a little ditty my mommy used to lullabye to me—
(sings a capella)
GO TO SLEEPY SLEEP, SLEEPY BABY.
DON’T YOU CRY, DON’T YOU WHINE.
OR A FOOSA MIGHT HEAR YOU AND TEAR OUT YOUR SPINE.

LEMURS
Ahhh.

KING JULIEN
Nighty night, angel. You other freaks can slumber here too.

MARTY, MELMAN, GLORIA
Yeah, goodnight. Okay, then... See you in the morning... (etc.)
(The LEMURS exit. MARTY, MELMAN and GLORIA curl up on the ground to go to sleep. ALEX reluctantly does the same.)
MARTY
Maybe they’re not fans.

(MORT whimpers.)

MELMAN
Aw, look. You scared the little one.

ALEX
What are you talking about? Children love me. Hiii theeeeeee!

MORT
Waaaaahhh!

MELMAN
Alex, you’re traumatizing her!

GLORIA
Oh, poor little baby. Did that big, bad ol’ puddy tat scare you? Awwww... Aren’t you just the sweetest little thing?

(MORT giggles.)

MELMAN
They are so cute from a reasonable distance.

(The four LEMURS come out from hiding and rejoice around ALEX.)

LEW
You did it! You did it!

LEMURS
You saved us! Saved us!

ALEX
Hi! Yeah, sure. Nice to meet you... squirrels? Are they squirrels?

MELMAN
I think they’re just really full-figured raccoons.

LYNN
You must come with us!

LEE
Meet the king!

MARTY
King of the full-figured raccoons?
LARS

King Julien the 13th!

ALEX

Hey, that sounds really awesome, but you know what? We’re kinda on our way to...

(MAURICE enters.)

LEMURS

Maurice! It’s Maurice!! (etc.)

LEE

(to the ZOOSTERS)

That’s Maurice. He’s King Julien’s adviser and right-hand... lemur!

MELMAN

Oh... they’re lemurs.

MAURICE

Welcome to Madagascar!!

GLORIA

Madagascar?

LEMURS

Madagascar!!

MAURICE

Ahem. Presenting, his royal highness, the illustrious King Julien the 13th... self-proclaimed Lord of the Lemurs, etc., etc., hooray everybody.

(KING JULIEN appears.)

KING JULIEN

Here I am. The King, the head of your honcho. Come out my little lemurs.

(#14 – WELCOME TO ME begins.)
Audition Sides - Marty, Alex

(The FOOSA exit in one direction as MARTY enters from the other.)

MARTY

Alex?! Come out, Alex! Alex, the boat’s here. We can go home!

(ALEX crawls out from behind a rock, where he has been hiding.)

ALEX

Hungry... Alex hungry...

MARTY

Alex! There you are!

ALEX

Marty? Go away, Marty. I don’t want to hurt you.

MARTY

Snap out of it, Alex, the boat came back! We can get out of here. Go back to civilization. And everything will be just like it used to be.

(ALEX growls. #22 – THUNDER begins. MARTY jumps back.)

ALEX

We can’t be friends! Nature doesn’t want us to be friends, Marty. Now get out of here.

(ALEX retreats. We can still see him, however, as he wrestles with his instincts. MARTY starts to leave, then turns back, determined.)

MARTY

Alex. I ain’t leavin’ you.

(#23 – BEST FRIENDS (REPRISE) begins.)

BEST FRIENDS (REPRISE)

Freely

(MARTY:)

Ain’t noth-in’ in the world that could tear us a-part,
Audition Sides - Private, Skipper, Gloria, Melman

(GLORIA and MELMAN head off. MARTY trails behind for a bit, then goes off in the other direction. SKIPPER enters.)

SKIPPER
Penguin Travel Diary, day one. I've just come ashore on a strange and intoxicatingly exotic island. In the spirit of Shackleton, Scott, Attenborough... and Sting, I will make extensive notes on the native flora and fauna. Private! What's your 10-20? Where are you?

(PRIVATE enters.)

PRIVATE
Over here, Skipper!

SKIPPER
Signal Kowalski and Rico and tell them to drop anchor.

PRIVATE
Aye aye, Skipper!

(PRIVATE begins to signal the ship with semaphore flags.)

GLORIA
Wait a minute. You guys were driving the boat? Where are the people?!

SKIPPER
We killed them and ate their livers. (SKIPPER and PRIVATE laugh.)

Just kidding, doll, the people are fine. They're on a slow lifeboat to China. Hey! I know you two. Where's that psychotic lion and our monochromatic friend?

(MELMAN and GLORIA turn to find MARTY gone.)

MELMAN
Marty? Where'd he go? He was right behind us.

GLORIA
Oh no. He went back for Alex! He's gonna get himself killed! What are we gonna do?

MELMAN
What are we gonna do? (beat)
I'll tell you what we're gonna do! We are going after him!
GLORIA
What?! But what about the Foosa?

MELMAN
Foosa, shmoosa! We’re New Yorkers, aren’t we?

SKIPPER
Forgedaboudit!

MELMAN
We can handle anything!

GLORIA, SKIPPER, PRIVATE
Yeah!

MELMAN
And we are not gonna sit around while our friend needs us!

GLORIA
Oh, Melman! You’re acting so brave!

MELMAN
I know. I must be coming down with malaria.

GLORIA
Let’s go after him before you start feeling better!

(GLORIA and MELMAN exit.)

SKIPPER
You hear that? Our monochromatic friend’s in trouble! Looks like we have got a date with danger!

PRIVATE
Aye aye, Skipper!

(They start to exit. SKIPPER turns back to PRIVATE.)

SKIPPER
You... probably won’t survive.

END

SCENE SEVEN – Scary Foosa Territory

(#21 – FOOSA HUNGRY begins.)
(GLORIA)
Are you okay, Melman?

MELMAN
Oh. Yeah, I’m fine. I often doze off while I’m getting a CAT scan.

ALEX
Melman, you’re not getting a CAT scan.

MELMAN
Huh? Where are we?

ALEX
We’re all in crates!

MARTY, MELMAN, GLORIA
Crates?!

ALEX
And why are we in crates, you may ask? Because we’re being transferred, that’s why! It’s a zoo transfer!

MARTY, MELMAN, GLORIA
Zoo transfer?!

MELMAN
Oh, no. No, no, I can’t be transferred. I have a dermatology appointment with Dr. Goldberg at two, acupuncture with Dr. Wu at three, and ear, nose and throat with Dr. Patel from four on!

(#10 – PENGUIN UNDERSCORE 3 begins. Focus switches to the PENGUINS and MASON, also stuck in crates, who are on another part of the stage.)

START
Visuals! Report!

KOWALSKI
We’re in a crate on a ship in the ocean, Skipper.

SKIPPER
Interesting.
(to MASON)
You! Higher mammal. Can you read?

MASON
(reading the shipping label on their crate)
Your crate says ‘SHIP TO KENYA WILDLIFE PRESERVE, AFRICA.’ Congratulations.
**SKIPPER**
Africa? That ain’t gonna fly! Rico! Break that lock.

**RICO**
Hie-ya!

(RICO karate-chops the lock, which falls off. The PENGUINS open the front of the crate and jump out onto the deck of the ship.)

**PENGUINS**
Hye! Hye! Hye! Hye!

**SKIPPER**
We’re taking control of this rust bucket. Let’s move to the bridge.

(The PENGUINS waddle over towards the SHIP’S CAPTAIN.)

**MASON**
Bon voyage, you formal-wearing fowl! Enjoy your little mutiny!

(The PENGUINS sneak up on the SHIP’S CAPTAIN.)

**MELMAN**
Uhhhh, these waves are making me nauseous... I’m allergic to seasick pills. Oh, brother. There’s nothing worse than traveling in a crate. Ow! Splinter!

**SHIP’S CAPTAIN**
Oh, boy, I love the ocean... I really love my boat...

(The PENGUINS form a small pyramid behind the SHIP’S CAPTAIN with RICO on the top. RICO karate-chops the SHIP’S CAPTAIN on the neck.)

**RICO**
Hie-ya!

**SHIP’S CAPTAIN**
Ooff!

(The SHIP’S CAPTAIN falls. The PENGUINS surround him and move him offstage. There is a bit of scuffling around. The PENGUINS create another small pyramid, this time with SKIPPER on top directly behind the ship’s wheel where the SHIP’S CAPTAIN was a moment ago. KOWALSKI opens a map and stands next to SKIPPER.)
Audition Sides - Zookeeper Zeke

(GLORIA:) I'm a hip hip hip-po. Yeah, I'm a hip hip hip-po.

ZOOKEEPERS, ZOO GUESTS:

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

(GLORIA:) Bye babies! hip hip hip-po.

Boom! Boom!

START

ZOOKEEPER ZEKE: Attention patrons. The giraffe exhibit is now closed. (The ZOO GUESTS groan.) Please make sure our giraffe, Melman, feels better by allowing him his privacy.

Reggae

(ZOOKEEPER ZEKE:) We apologize for any inconvenience. (Lights up on MELMAN.)

MELMAN:
PENGUINS: ice, on the ice, on the ice.

ZOO GUESTS: And now, ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, the Central Park Zoo is proud to present... The King of New York City... ALEX THE LION!

ALEX: I'm the King of New York City.

LIONESSES: He's the King.

DOUBLE TIME FEEL

ALEX: Doo doo doo doo doo I got the grace and I got the style. I'm
A tempo

had to call in sick today. I

took a blood test and an x-ray. On my

back I found another spot. I'm not feeling so hot.

ZOOKEEPER ZOE: Stop by and visit our Antarctica exhibit, and say hello to our cute and cuddly penguins.
(The PENGUINS waddle in and stand in line. They are blocking KOWALSKI who is standing behind them.)

SKIPPER: Just smile and wave, boys. Smile and wave.

(SKIPPER:) Kowalski! Progress report!
(KOWALSKI pops his head up.)
KOWALSKI: We're only five hundred feet from the main sewer line.
SKIPPER: And the bad news?
KOWALSKI: I don't think our shovel can take much more.
(He holds up an oversized plastic spoon.)

Mission Impossible