

ZOOTOPIA 2

Written by

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OVER BLACK, TYPEWRITER TYPE: "What happened before..." A beat, then "before" is erased and replaced with: "be-fur..."

HOPPS (V.O.)
Blood, blood, blood and death...

We descend into what seems like a jungle, but is actually... a museum display. This is the ending of the first *Zootopia*.

NICK (O.S.)
Alright, you know you're milking it,
besides I think we got it. We got it
up there! Thank you, yakkity, yak.
You laid it all out beautifully.

Reveal Bellwether, our villain from movie one, above them.

BELLWETHER
I framed Lionheart, I can frame you
too. It's my word against yours.

HOPPS
Actually...

Judy hits a button on her CARROT RECORDER PEN, which plays:

BELLWETHER (V.O. ON PEN)
*"...And I'll dart every predator in
Zootopia to keep it that way."*

HOPPS
...It's *your* word against yours.
It's called a hustle, sweetheart.
(off Bellwether)
Boom.

- BAM! Judy and Nick kick open the FRONT DOOR of the NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM with BELLWETHER in custody. Cameras go nuts.

PETER MOOSEBRIDGE (V.O.)
Unlikely duo, Judy Hopps, the city's
first bunny cop, and Nicholas Wilde,
a smalltime streetfox, uncovered a
conspiracy by Mayor Bellwether today,
using a toy carrot recorder pen.

From the witness box of a COURTROOM, Judy hits the button of her RECORDER PEN to play Bellwether's confession. Bellwether freaks out, scaring the ARMADILLO stenographer, who balls up.

FABIENNE GROWLEY (V.O.)
Wilde later joined the ZPD himself...

We jump to Nick's graduation from the Police Academy. Judy gifts Nick the CARROT RECORDER PEN.

FABIENNE GROWLEY (V.O.)
...Where the pair are now the very
first bunny-fox team in the history
of Zootopia.

Jump to: Nick and Judy's ZPD CLASS PHOTO. They are the small outliers amidst bigger animals who look at them dubiously.

PETER MOOSEBRIDGE
New Mayor - and former actor -
Brian Winddancer, hailed the two
during celebrations for the 100th
anniversary of the invention of
Zootopia's weather walls, that
allowed all environments and all
animals to co-exist in one city.

Mayor Winddancer gives a speech in front of CITY HALL.

MAYOR WINDDANCER
This is our Zootennial! And if a lowly
country bunny and a shifty, likely
criminal fox can ignore their vast,
vast differences and solve bias and
stereotype forever, then maybe we can
all embrace our differences and be
better Zoogether.

As cameras flash, Judy and Nick find themselves in the limelight. Nick looks the slightest bit uncomfortable, while Judy looks proud and ready to seize the day.

HOPPS
We're gonna crack a new case, make
the world a better place and be the
greatest partners of all time!

Judy straightens Nick's tie, takes off his sunglasses and adjusts his posture.

HOPPS
I mean, we're not *that* different.

They are. A camera flashes at their most contrasty pose and we, SMASH TO THE OPENING TITLE:

"ZOOTOPIA 2"

INT. JUDY'S APARTMENT/NICK'S APARTMENT - VARIOUS

We see quick pops of Judy and Nick's wake up. Judy springs out of bed, Nick is slow. Judy flosses her teeth. Nick brushes his fur with a brush... then uses the brush to brush his teeth. Judy grabs her badge, Nick grabs his carrot pen.

CHIEF BOGO (V.O. PRELAP)
At the ZPD, partnership is the
cornerstone of success. You want to
put bad guys away...?

INT. ZPD - BULLPEN - MORNING

CHIEF BOGO
...be on the same page every day.
(smiles, then points to a
photo of a criminal)
Now, today's bad guy is this
customs inspector who's been
smuggling illegal overseas cargo
through the city's shipyard.
(points to pic of shipyard)
Captains Hoggbottom and Truffler
will lead.

Two RAZORBACK HOGS, HOGGBOTTOM and TRUFFLER, nod. Nearby we see other teams: two hippos, two goats, two zebras.

CHIEF BOGO (CONT'D)
Higgins, Bloats, flank left,
Chèvre, Bûcheron, right, and down
the middle... the Zebros.

ZEBROS
(their catchphrase)
Zebros.

CHIEF BOGO
Hopps and Wilde, I know you're eager
to prove yourselves, but as rookies,
you will observe only and watch the
veteran teams show you how it's --

Bogo looks to Nick and Judy, but they are not there.
CLAWHAUSER, jovial as always, pokes his head into the room.

CLAWHAUSER
Chief, hi, if you're looking for
Nick and Judy, they said "they got
it" and they are already on site.
With their baby!

All the cops look at each other, confused. Bogo seethes.

EXT. CITY SHIPYARD - SAME TIME

TIGHT ON: A BABY STROLLER. Judy and Nick are undercover. Judy is yoga-mommed out, with a shirt that says "Don't Worry, Be Hoppy." Nick wears a "FOXY DAD" t-shirt. We don't have a clear look into the stroller, but there's a BABY BUNNY in it.

HOPPS

(sotto)

Are you sure this will work?

NICK

You're the one that said we needed
a bust. Just follow my lead, okay?
Act casual.

ANTONY, the ANTEATER SMUGGLER they want to bust, is receiving money from someone. He notices them and hurries over, pissed.

ANTONY

Hey!

NICK

(sotto, to Judy)

Here we go.

ANTONY

Hello?! This whole area's
restricted, ya can't be here.
(sees they're a fox and
bunny couple)
Whoa. Fox and bunny... okay.

NICK

Yes, but proud parents first,
Mister...

ANTONY

Inspector. Inspector Snootley.

Nick's about to keep talking, when Judy hijacks the convo.

HOPPS

"Inspector?" What do you do? Ensure
that nothing illegal gets smuggled
here in one of these cargo
containers?

Nick looks at Judy like, "that wasn't subtle."

ANTONY

That's a weird way to ask that,
anyway you gotta leave -- you can't
be here!

Before Judy can protest, Nick cuts her off.

NICK

Wait, wait -- he is right gosh darn
it... you are right, sir. I guess
we should've thought this through,
right babe? Before we decided to
come down here to this beautiful
industrial shipyard, to celebrate
the big day of our... birthday boy.

ANTONY

(looking at the stroller)
It's... his... birthday?

NICK

Yeah. First one since... since the
accident.

(really milking it)
And you know the one thing this
little stinker wished for? Aside from
one day getting his tail reattached?
Was to see a choo-choo...

Nick leans down revealing that their "BABY" is FINNICK in a
baby bunny costume. Cute times a million.

NICK (CONT'D)

...And to maybe get a toot-toot
conductor to sign his cast, but I'm
bettin'... a customs inspector
would be even better.

ANTONY

Really...?
(getting emotional)
Alright. For the kid, for the kid.

NICK

Oh, you are a saint, thank you so
much.

(hands him a pen, and
turns him away from the
container Judy needs to
infiltrate)
Here ya go, either leg... or both;
I don't care. Maybe put a doodle on
it. Doesn't need to be perfect,
he's also legally blind.

As Antony starts drawing on Finnick's leg cast. Nick chucks FINNICK'S TOY TRAIN to Hopps, who clicks it revealing... a LOCK PICK SET inside. Judy goes to the GIANT CARGO CONTAINER and tries to pick the lock. Antony keeps drawing on the cast.

ANTONY
(to Finnick)
I put a little train there because
I know you like trains.

Meanwhile, Judy urgently keeps trying to pick the lock.

HOPPS
(sotto)
Come on, come on, come on.

NICK
(sotto)
Just jiggle it. Hurry!

HOPPS
(sotto)
I know, I got this!

NICK
(sotto)
Jiggle it, jiggle it --

Judy finally picks the lock and it clicks open and --

CHIEF BOGO (V.O. ON RADIO)
HOPPS AND WILDE! YOU ARE NOT
AUTHORIZED! STAND DOWN AND WAIT FOR
BACK UP!

Antony hears her com and realizes he's being set up. He looks to the "baby" who gives him an upnod.

FINNICK
Toot toot.

Antony panics, knocks Nick aside and RUNS!

ANTONY
It's the FUZZ!

HOPPS
Stop! Stop in the name of the law!

ANTONY
Everybody run!

Antony spots a VAN with the BLUE CRATE in it, jumps in and peels out. Nick and Judy look at each other.

NICK

Well, can't win 'em all.

Behind them, a PIG in a "hog rod" HONKS aggressively.

FRANTIC PIG

Get outta the road, you dumb bunny!

Hopps looks to the Hog Rod, then smiles at Nick.

HOPPS

Agree to disagree.

HARD CUT: Nick and Judy peel out in the hog rod, leaving the pig (and whoever actually owns that van) behind.

FRANTIC PIG

MY HOG ROD! This is a snoutrage!

EXT. ZOOTOPIA - STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Judy accelerates to close the gap between her and Antony, while Nick holds on tight. They hit a bump and the glove compartment falls open, revealing pig paraphernalia.

HOPPS (INTO WALKIE)

Hopps and Wilde in pursuit of
suspect in a stolen catering van,
heading east--

Nick puts on PIG GLASSES, Hopps swats him.

HOPPS (CONT'D)

Stop it -- heading east through...
Sheepshire.

EXT. SHEEPSHIRE - MOMENTS LATER

We pop to SHEEPSHIRE, a sheep neighborhood, where we find a sheep BARBER SHOP, where sheep are sheared and their wool is transported across the street to... a SWEATER SHOP.

Antony hits a roller basket of wool being wheeled across the street, spinning it into Hopps' vehicle.

HOPPS

Whoa!

Hopps hits the basket and wool explodes everywhere, startling a barber, who sheers his customer's wool into a crazy design. The customer looks at his crazy new "do" and... LOVES IT!

ED SHEARIN
Beautiful!

BAALAKE LAMBKIN
(noticing the new "do")
I'll have what *he's* having.

EXT. HOG ROD - MOMENTS LATER

As Judy races on, Nick now wears a beard of wool.

NICK
Darling, I believe your driving is
giving me some white hairs. Also am
I always gonna be in the passenger
seat? 'Cause if we're establishing
sides--

WHOOH WHOOP! HOGGBOTTOM and TRUFFLER race up next to them in
an intimidating SWAT VEHICLE.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
Back off, rookies! Let the real
teams handle it!

HOPPS
Ma'am, we *are* a real team.

NICK
Shortcut, take the tunnel!

As Judy veers left, Nick's wool beard flies off, hitting
Hoggbottom in the face. Antony spots them in his rear view
mirror and curses under his breath as the chase continues!

EXT. ZOOTOPIA STREET - SAME TIME

We find the HIPPO TEAM lying in wait farther down the road.

BLOATS (INTO WALKIE)
Stand down, nubes! We got him!
Rolling spikes!

HIGGINS
(co-signing)
Rolling spikes!

Higgins nods to a PORCUPINE, who... ROLLS ACROSS THE STREET,
her quills acting as traffic spikes. Antony spots the spikes
and veers across a median, knocking the spikes, which
ricochet ONTO HIGGINS and BLOATS. Ouch!

BLOATS/HIGGINS

Oh no!

As the van bounces, the CRATE in back splits open just a bit -
are those EYES inside?!

As Antony continues up the opposing direction's on-ramp,
MULTI-DECKER BUS SIGHTSEERS snap photos. Hopps follows!

ANTONY

I hate that dumb bunny.

But as Antony looks back at Judy, he doesn't see -- A PARADE
SIGN hit his windshield. Blinded, he leans out his window and
- WHAM AGAIN! He hits his head on a TRAFFIC SIGN! Now he's
UNCONSCIOUS and SPEEDING TOWARD... the GNU JERSEY PARADE!

Judy sees a disaster coming, and hits the hog rod's "NITROUS
OINKXIDE" canister, accelerating them next to the van.

HOPPS

I'm gonna jump!

Judy climbs into the window of the car, about to jump out.
Nick, now actually nervous, scrambles to grab the wheel.

NICK

No, no, no what are you-- Carrots,
hey -- I would like to call a
partner meeting! Carrots?!

Judy goes to leap, but Nick tries to stop her and
accidentally knocks her off-balance as she jumps to the VAN!

NICK (CONT'D)

Judy!

The PARADE is now right in front of her! Judy tries to jam
the brakes, but she's too short to reach the pedal, so she
jumps below the steering wheel and blindly jams the brake,
spinning the van, which flies off the road toward a STATUE OF
EBENEZER LYNXLEY - where Mayor Winddancer is ending a speech.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

Please join me in a moment of
silence for our beloved weather
wall inventor, Ebenezer Lynxley.

As everyone bows their heads -- SMASH! Judy's van decapitates
the statue and Antony falls out, right into the car of... the
ZEBROS, who have just arrived, and celebrate "their" bust.

ZEBROS

ZEBROS!

As Nick arrives in the Hog Rod, Judy, foggy, hears the back door of the van open and looks back to see... the CRATE has fallen open, revealing ZOOTENNIAL PAMPHLETS, LIVING SUPPLIES, MARKERS... and what looks like... a SNAKE SKIN.

HOPPS
Reptile...?

WHAM! The head of the statue smashes down in front of Nick on the Hog Rod, with a weird OINK HORN HONK/CAR ALARM. **JUMP TO:**

INT. ZPD HALLWAY - LATER

Nick and Judy sit outside Bogo's office, like they're waiting for the principal, while Hoggbottom yells within.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM (O.S.)
Those two are out of control! They
made us look like idiots!

Judy is on her phone, watching a podcast of REPTILE FACTS, featuring a weird BEAVER podcaster: NIBBLES MAPLESTICK.

NIBBLES
(on screen)
Zootopia ain't just a "mammal
city," (HITS A BELL) it has a
secret tiny reptile population,
though most live abroad. Of course,
Zootopia does not allow snakes!
Ain't been one of those around here
for at least 100 years!

PAWDCAST ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Scales and Tales of the Weird!

NICK
(looking at podcast)
Yeah, not sure "Nibbles Maplestick"
is our most reliable source.

Before Judy can respond, Bogo yells from his office.

CHIEF BOGO (O.S.)
Bunny! Orange dog! In here now!

Nick and Judy share a look.

INT. BOGO'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

TIGHT ON: BOGO'S FACE. Unhappy. Reveal, the other partner teams behind Nick and Judy, banged up and pissed.

HOPPS

Sir, today may not have been ideal
but the anteater was captured --

CHIEF BOGO

BY THE ZEBROS!

ZEBROS

Zebros!

CHIEF BOGO

Shut it!

ZEBROS

(dap quietly and whisper)

Zebros •

HOPPS

It was us, but more importantly, I
believe we may have made a
significant discovery: the stolen
van contained a smuggled crate from
overseas, pamphlets for the
Zootennial and some type of reptile
skin, I've already sent samples for
testing and --

CHIEF BOGO

What needs testing is you! You two
tore up half the city! Because of
you we had to call in Jumbo Unit to
remove a Dik Dik from a tuba!

Bogo points to a TV screen, where an EMT OTTER is trying to
calm a DIK DIK stuck in a TUBA.

EMT OTTER (ON TV)

You're almost out, you're gonna be--

An ELEPHANT arrives, puts his trunk on the mouthpiece of the
tuba and prepares to blow hard to jettison the dik dik.

STUCK DIK DIK (ON TV)

Please no, please noooooo --

The elephant blows hard and the dik dik goes flying.

EMT OTTER (ON TV)

Who's catching him?

NICK

Sorry, could you show me that clip
again, I wasn't wearing my glasses.

Nick puts on his PIG GLASSES. Bogo ignores him.

CHIEF BOGO

Did you or did you not disobey a direct order to stand down?

HOPPS

Sir, we were in pursuit and article six, paragraph B states if the lead officers--

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM

You are not lead officers! You are one-hit-wonders who should go back to meter-maiding and slinging pawpsicles!

NICK

If I may, I think someone's just jealous that we got to drive the squeal mobile. Or maybe you thought it was your mama?

Hoggbottom is about to go nuclear when --

CHIEF BOGO

Enough!
(falsetto)
Everybody out.

After everyone leaves, Bogo shuts the door and sighs. Without others around, his demeanor changes to more of a mentor.

CHIEF BOGO (CONT'D)

Officer Hopps, despite my best efforts to avoid it, I like you. But this need to over-do it made both of you a headline today. And it reflects badly on me, on the department, and frankly, on any bunny hoping to follow in your footsteps. Not every case is going to save the world.

Judy takes this in quietly, feeling admonished, when...

NICK

Knock-knock? Hi, you know, this kinda sounds a lot like a "just-a-you guys" conversation, so what I'm going to do, is I'm gonna go ahead--

Nick starts to head for the door.

CHIEF BOGO

Is there a reason why you don't
take anything seriously?

NICK

Jokes are a classic defense
mechanism for someone with a
traumatic childhood.

CHIEF BOGO

Would you like a traumatic *adulthood*?

NICK

I would not.

Bogo sizes them up, then looks to a framed NEWSPAPER with the
headline "HOPPS AND WILDE CRACK THE CASE."

CHIEF BOGO

I allowed you to work together
because you did this city a great
service - but today you messed it all
up. And now some are questioning
whether you should've been partners
in the first place.

HOPPS

Sir--

CHIEF BOGO

So instead of chasing "imaginary
reptiles" I am pulling you from the
field --

HOPPS

-- What?! --

CHIEF BOGO

-- and giving you a new assignment
reserved for "special teams" like
yourselves.

(then)

Fail at this and I will have no
choice but to split you up, there
will be no more Hopps and Wilde,
but... if you are as good as you
think you are... this is your
moment to shine.

INT. COUNSELING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

SMASH TO: A SIGN THAT SAYS "PARTNERS IN CRISIS." Nick and
Judy sit paired up.

Other pairs of COPS in the room are all horribly mismatched. Leading the class is the CUTEST, FLUFFIEST QUOKKA ever, DR. FUZZBY.

DR. FUZZBY

Welcome to Partners in Crisis, a workshop for duos heading for disaster. I am your therapy animal, Dr. Fuzzby, and you are here because mismatched pairings often need a little more work to make them... work.

Dr. Fuzzby sees one member of a team grooming his partner's fur and picking out bugs, creeping the other out.

DR. FUZZBY (CONT'D)

Greg, we talked about that. What are we making Marlon? Uncomfortable. Yes.

Marlon IS uncomfortable. Nearby, a nervous ELEPHANT looks at them, then turns to the side to see... A MOUSE and YELPS!

DR. FUZZBY (CONT'D)

And Francine, Clark may be a mouse, but he is your partner first.

(then)

And we have two new "apart-ners."

(all eyes on Nick and Judy)

Can you tell us about your journey to dysfunction junction?

Judy looks around, uncomfortably.

HOPPS

Well, we've been official *partners* for one week, (poking Nick) happy anniversary! And we are not dysfunctional at all, actually. Functioning fine - better than fine! And we *did* sorta save the city, so us being here kinda seems like a huge misunderstanding.

DR. FUZZBY

Notice how she answered first, did not allow her partner to speak, seems to be in a state of denial and taps her foot when she is suppressing discomfort.

WTF? Judy looks down, sees her foot *is* tapping. She stops it. Nick chuckles, Fuzzby notices.

DR. FUZZBY (CONT'D)

And observe the source of her discomfort, represented by the disconnected affectation of her emotionally-insecure partner.

Nick's charismatic smile drops. The other partners in the class look at Nick and Judy like they are charity cases.

DR. FUZZBY (CONT'D)

But with hard work, they'll be on the same page... by year two!

(off Nick and Judy)

But, for now, we begin by greeting our teammate. Who would like to go first? Thank you, Joel.

JOEL, a DEER, turns to his partner, KAREN, a HONEY BADGER. Joel smiles at Karen and she... goes BONKERS.

DR. FUZZBY (CONT'D)

Okay, unfortunately Karen has chosen to see Joel's smile as a sign of aggression.

(sprays Karen with water)

Hackles down, Karen. Karen, hackles down. Joel, the safe word is "coconut."

JOEL

Coconut! COCONUT!

As Fuzzby keeps spraying Karen, we push in on Nick and Judy, staring at this utter disaster of a class and...

INT. ZPD - LOCKER AREA - LATER

We're tight on a VENDING MACHINE selling... COCONUT SODA. Nearby, Hopps heads for her locker, while Nick tosses his partner class name-tag in the trash.

HOPPS

We have to set another meeting with the chief, promise we'll be better, you talk back less, maybe not at all.

Judy opens her locker to find it filled with jokes about the car chase, courtesy of the Zebros, who snicker down the hall.

ZEBROS

Zebros.

Nick buys a drink from the VENDING MACHINE (with a MOUSE WORKING INSIDE.) Nick's soda gets stuck, so Nick motions to the Mouse, who uses a crowbar to pry the soda free.

NICK

Yeah. Or we go with *my* playbook and we just lay low.

HOPPS

We cannot prove ourselves if we are stuck in that room.

NICK

And if we complain to Chief Beef, he'll just make us stay longer.
(then, grabbing soda)
Play it smart, stay off the radar, and don't let it get to you, 'kay?
'Cause we are the dream team!

Nick throws the soda to Judy, but it crashes through a wall.

INT. ZPD - I.T. AREA - SAME TIME

SMASH! The drink smashes into the workstation of an I.T. mole, PAUL MOLEDEBRANDT.

NICK

Sorry, Paul.

As the soda can explodes on Paul, Nick and Judy hurry away.

INT. ZPD - MAIN LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

As Nick and Judy enter the lobby, cops see them and jeer.

ZPD OFFICERS

Look everybody! Roll out the red carpet here's the super cops!
Woo!/Ça marche! Allonzi! / Woo!/
Fox and bunny! / Hey, what does the fox say: "you suck!"

Judy goes to confront them but Nick steers her away.

NICK

Easy partner.

EXT. ZPD - FRONT STEPS - MOMENTS LATER

NICK

Let me ask you something, do you think we're a good team?

HOPPS

Of course. I just wish I knew what we had to do to prove it to everyone else.

NICK

Or... maybe we don't have to prove anything to anybody.

Thunk! On the window behind them, the other teams are mashed against the windows taunting them. Hopps turns back to Nick.

HOPPS

We do. Forever.

Hopps slaps a PARTNERSHIP FOR DUMMIES book into Nick's chest.

HOPPS (CONT'D)

And the sooner everyone sees a fox and a bunny can be great partners, the better. Enjoy it! I got two!

NICK

I'd rather chew off my own arm!

HOPPS

(walking away)
Happy anniversary!

Nick watches Hopps go, then looks at the book and scoffs.

EXT. ZOOTOPIA STREETS - VARIOUS

Their walk home is very different from one another: Judy walks diligently reading from her big stack of books. Nick grabs a "Pig Gulp" from a convenience store and slurps away.

As Nick crosses the street, he sees someone familiar in a car: Joel, the deer from the partner class. Joel waves at Nick, but Joel's partner, Karen, sees this and strangles Joel.

JOEL (O.S.)

Coconut!

Nick continues, grabbing a ride on the back of a trash truck.

INT. SUBWAY - A LITTLE LATER

As Judy sits in the subway reading, a TV shows Judy ruining the "Moment of Silence," with the caption "Bunny and Fox Ruin Tribute." As Judy goes back to studying, the WEATHER OUTSIDE CHANGES as the subway enters a new biome.

EXT./INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Nick hops off the back of the trash truck to find an ELEPHANT GYMNASIUM. He approaches it... and heads down some steps to a basement apartment. He lives BENEATH THAT GYM.

Nick enters and puts his CARROT PEN in its special holder and place of honor.

INT. JUDY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Judy holds HER STACK OF BOOKS as she enters her apartment, talking on the phone with her parents via "MUZZLE-TIME."

BONNIE (VIA MUZZLE-TIME)
So, saw you on TV, you okay?

HOPPS
Everything's fine, Mom.

STU
Uh-oh, everyone knows "fine" is a cry for help. You know who else cried for help, that Dik Dik stuck in that tuba.

BONNIE (O.S.)
Oh, him and that Dik Dik. What does your fox partner say?

HOPPS
Well, Nick's not really a... talker.

INTERCUT: WE SEE NICK IN HIS LITTLE APARTMENT. He looks at his "PARTNERSHIP FOR DUMMIES" book... is he gonna read it? Nope, he uses it to level his coffee table.

INT. JUDY'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME

BONNIE
Well, you two are very different.
Small-town hero raised on a farm --

STU

--big city crook raised on the streets.

GRAM-GRAM

I pray every day that you'll come back home and make babies!

BONNIE

Mom!

STU

Just remember the first rule of partnerships: you can be right or you can be happy.

BONNIE

That's true.

STU

There's nothing wrong with dying a little inside so you can meet in the middle.

HOPPS

Guys--

BONNIE

Okay honey, you're pushing me out.

STU

I want to make sure I can be seen.

BONNIE

Well if she could see both of us--

HOPPS

Okay! Gotta go! Work to do --

BONNIE

Bye Bun-Bun.

STU

Everything's going to be fine. You two just need a new case! Hey maybe try to find that Dik Dik!

HOPPS

Got it--LOVE YOU.-- BYE.

Click, Judy hangs up with an exasperated groan. On her bed is a choice: the reptile case... or her partner book. She debates... but knows what she has to do: partner book it is.

QUICK POPS: Microwave food, highlighter, partner book. She turns on the TV and flips channels:

- "Squeal of Fortune!"
- Footage of Nick and Judy's screw-up.
- The Weather with BOB TIGER, who points to a map of Zootopia, showing ALL of the climates.

BOB TIGER (ON TV)
Tomorrow's weather is... again:
everything.

TIME JUMP AS Judy keeps studying, and the TV keeps playing. Judy's now highlighting a caption that says "ON THE SAME PAGE OR JUST TOO DIFFERENT?" It shows a Farside-style cartoon of a WILDEBEE and a CROCODILE.

GEORGE PURRRNACLEO (ON TV)
...to announce that the long
awaited Tundratown Expansion will
be starting soon. Residents
continue to raise concerns about
the future of their neighborhood.

DENNY HOWLETT (V.O. ON TV)
But tonight we put our differences
aside...

Hearing this, Judy rolls her eyes, and goes to change the channel when the report continues:

DENNY HOWLETT (ON TV) (CONT'D)
...and celebrate at the Zootennial
Gala, where the Lynxley Journal,
will be on display for the first
time in a century, following an
infamous reptile attack.

Judy looks to the TV, we see the LYNXLEY JOURNAL.

DENNY HOWLETT (ON TV) (CONT'D)
The Lynxley Journal containing the
patented weather wall plans was
originally written by Ebenezer
Lynxley--

Judy looks at the screen, something catching her eye. She rewinds and pauses on a CATERING VAN. Her wheels turning, she grabs the SNAKE FILE and opens it to find a PHOTO OF THE STOLEN VAN: its logo matches the vans catering the gala.

HOPPS
Same catering company...

She then opens the Zootennial pamphlet to find an image of the LYNXLEY JOURNAL.

HOPPS (CONT'D)
Lynxley Journal...

Intrigued, Judy zoogles "Lynxley Journal" and finds another weird Nibbles podcast.

NIBBLES (ON SCREEN)
Truth bomb: the 100th anniversary of the weather walls is also the 100th anniversary of Zootopia's only snake attack. The victim? A tortoise, the Lynxley family maid, who was fanged while stopping a venomous snake from stealing the Lynxley Journal. No one has seen a snake in Zootopia since, but I am convinced one *will* return. My only question is: is he gonna be wearing half a pants... or one long sock.

Hearing this, Hopps' eyes go wide and we pop to:

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - A LITTLE LATER

Nick watches a Winddancer movie while eating peanut butter.

WINDDANCER (ON TV)
"You say justice is dead, I say... neigh!"

As Winddancer does his signature "karate chop," Nick's phone rings, it's Judy calling.

NICK
Well, well. Miss me already?

HOPPS (V.O.)
The stolen van with the snake skin is from the same catering company that's working the gala!

NICK
This is you studying your partner book?

HOPPS

Listen to me. *Venomous snakes* tried to steal *the Lynxley Journal* before, what if they're back in town to steal it again?!

NICK

No snake has set foot in Zootopia in forever. Even if they had feet.
(hears a door knock)
Look we're already in the hot seat, Carrots, and the pizza's here, gotta go.

Nick opens his front door to find Judy, looking manic.

HOPPS

If there's a fanging at that Gala and we do nothing to stop it, then we are not doing our jobs--
(sees into his apartment)
Yikes - no wonder you never invite me over.

Nick hides her view of his place with his tail.

NICK

Foxes are solitary. And we go and you're wrong, Chief Beef will split us up.

HOPPS

And if we don't get a win soon and prove we're great partners the chief will split us up anyway.
(off Nick)
Check the perimeter, snoop a little, we find nothing, we bail.
(then)
But if I'm right, no one will question whether you and I belong together again. We need this.

Nick thinks a beat, then:

NICK

Fine.
(off Hopps' grin)
But, we'll still have to get through security and in fancy town a fox and a bunny won't exactly blend in.

Floomp! Judy tosses a PARKING DUTY VEST in Nick's face.

HOPPS (O.S.)
That's why we'll be undercover!

Judy jumps into her old PARKING DUTY CART and revs the engine. Nick rolls his eyes and sits down next to her.

NICK
See you're still in the drivers' seat.

And with that, Hopps hits the gas!

EXT. ZOOTENNIAL GALA - NIGHT

AS OUR MUSIC BUILDS - we JUMP to the ZOOTENNIAL GALA: the glitz, the glamour, it is a who's who of Zootopia!

NICK AND JUDY APPROACH IN THEIR PARKING DUTY CART, building the anticipation as they drive up the HILL toward the fancy venue. Nick looks at Hopps, who is dorkily excited.

GAZELLE (V.O. PRE-LAP)
Here we go! Here we go! Let's go!
Zootopia, let me hear ya!

ON A STAGE IN FRONT OF THE GALA: Gazelle descends to perform with her TIGER DANCERS - all wearing "winter outfits."

GAZELLE (CONT'D)
WE LIVE IN A CRAZY WORLD
CAUGHT UP IN A RAT RACE
CONCRETE JUNGLE LIFE
IS SOMETIMES A MAD PLACE...

- As she continues singing, we find Clawhauser in a PARKING DUTY VEST, directing traffic, dancing like a sign-spinner. But as he waves his WANDS, a CAT driver follows his spotlights like laser pointers, into a snow drift.

CLAWHAUSER
Cats and lights! I know better!

- We see Mr. Big arrive in his limo. A Paparazzi wolf takes his picture but Mr. Big's POLAR BEAR THUGS break his camera. Nearby, Mayor Winddancer arrives in a ridiculous sports car.

REPORTER DEERDRA BAMBINO
And Mayor Winddancer has arrived --
star of the revenge trilogy: The
Neigh-Sayer.

MAYOR WINDDANCER
(doing a karate chop)
No pictures please. HAHA. Come on.
It's me.
(posing)
And that. And that one. And then
this one.

At the mansion - MILTON LYNXLEY, and his twin children:
CATTRICK AND KITTY, are besieged by reporters.

REPORTER CARRIE MEOW
Mr. Lynxley! Mr. Lynxley! When will
you begin the Tundratown Expansion?

KITTY
(ushering him away)
Come on, Dad.

MILTON LYNXLEY
(waving to press)
Have a wonderful time at the party.

OTHER REPORTERS
Mr. Lynxley! Mr. Lynxley!

As Cattrick and Kitty usher Milton away, Judy and Nick drive
past security unnoticed in their parking duty cart.

Judy looks around, determined... and spots a FLEET OF
CATERING VANS... the *same* company as the stolen van. One has
a puddle of water under it, clearly warmer than the others.

HOPPS
This one's warmer. A reptile in
Tundratown might need that to
survive the cold...

Nick cautiously opens the door to the van to discover...

NICK
Oh my god -- a viper!
(off Hopps, pointing)
A vindow viper. Ja?

As Nick holds up a window wiper, Hopps shines her flashlight
in Nick's face to shut him up. But as she does, she spots a
side door to the Gala is suspiciously AJAR.

JUDY
Backdoor ajar.

NICK

Anyone could've left it like that --
and you said "snoop a little" - not
break and enter --

FLOOMP! Judy chucks a TUXEDO into Nick's face.

NICK (CONT'D)

Ah, we were always going inside.
Got it. Same page means *your* page.

HOPPS

It's called a hustle, sweetheart.
You change out here, I get the van.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

As Nick finishes tucking in his dress shirt he catches his reflection. He cleans up okay. Just as Nick allows himself a little proud smile, Judy exits the van. She's in a GORGEOUS DRESS. Ears done up. Nick's like, what the hell? She awkwardly adjusts her dress, not used to being "fancied up."

HOPPS

It's the Zootennial Gala... a bunny
comes prepared.
(then, looks to Gala)
I used to dream of... infiltrating
a place like this.

Nick looks to the Gala, silhouetted by the shimmering lights, enjoying this. Judy puts a flower on Nick's lapel.

NICK

You know, this is not your worst idea.

HOPPS

Wow, that was almost a compliment.

NICK

Your worst idea is what you did
with your ears.
(gets punched by Judy)
Alright.

Nick hobbles after Judy and they enter the door together. But what they don't see is... a ROBED FIGURE arrive behind them.

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - A LITTLE LATER

We come into the Gala in full swing -- animals of all shapes and sizes. We find Judy and Nick taking this all in.

GALA ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Welcome to the Zootennial Gala,
featuring the original Lynxley
Journal.

NICK
Why would a snake wanna steal some
old book anyway?

HOPPS
I don't know, but no one is gonna
steal it, because we are here to
protect it.

Hopps picks up a ZOOTENNIAL GALA PAMPHLET that showcases the
"LYNXLEY JOURNAL." She scans the room looking for it.

HOPPS (CONT'D)
The journal is in... the reserved
section.

Judy pulls out EAR COMS and jams one in Nick's ear.

JUDY
(into ear com)
Okay. Come on.

NICK
Slow down. You want to fit in?
Commando is not gonna cut it. It's
not just the clothes, m'kay? It is
"the vibe."

Nick starts to walk with "a vibe." Hopps stares at him.

NICK (CONT'D)
(to random guests)
Good to see ya! Hey real nice
humps. Oh is that real mink? This
is real fox.

HOPPS
(rolling her eyes)
Get invited to a lot of these?

NICK
Invited? No. But there's other
reasons to hob knob.

Nick swipes jewelry off a passing LADY BEAR. Judy is appalled
until... Nick turns back to the bear.

NICK (CONT'D)
(re: necklace)
Madam, excuse me. Is this yours?

THE BEARONESS
Why yes.

NICK
Well, allow me.

Nick puts the necklace back on the Bearoness as she WALKS INTO THE VIP AREA, which Nick has now gained them access to.

HOPPS
Clever fox.

Nick winks at Judy, but the moment is broken as Judy spots the JOURNAL.

HOPPS (CONT'D)
Ooo - there!

ANGLE ON: the JOURNAL, in an even more secure part of the room. It has three BIG SNOW LEOPARDS guarding it and it's in a thick acrylic case. Impenetrable.

NICK
I don't think it has enough guards.

Nick waits for Judy to appreciate his joke. She doesn't.

HOPPS
I'll get a closer look -- watch my six.

As Nick watches Hopps go, only to see Bogo entering and heading for the stage... where he could run into Judy.

NICK
Uh-oh, Bogo alert.

Judy is at the case with the JOURNAL, noticing the journal has an unusual METAL COVER.

HOPPS
Hmm... cover's made of metal...

It's also open to the "PATENT OF OWNERSHIP" page, which says, "EBENEZER LYNXLEY, INVENTOR." Over this:

NICK (V.O.)
(into ear com)
Gruffalo Buffalo has joined the mix, three o'clock.

Judy ducks to avoid being seen by Bogo, but as she turns back to the journal, she bumps into... a LYNX, this is PAWBERT. He's impossibly awkward, and out of place, just like Judy.

HOPPS PAWBERT
Oh, excuse me. I'm so sorry -- -- Oh, no, sorry...

PAWBERT (CONT'D)
Here let me just --
(Pawbert tries to wipe
Judy, but he uses the
tail of a nearby lion)
Oh nope, that belongs to you. I
apologize, oh gosh he hates me--

HOPPS
(gives him a tissue)
Here.

PAWBERT
Ugh, you are my hero.

HOPPS
Well, just like to be prepared for
any possible scenario.
(then, quickly)
Which is not a weird thing to say
at a party.

PAWBERT
Well, I just mopped a spill with
that guy's tail, so... uh --
(holds out his paw)
Paw.
(then)
Pawbert. I am Pawbert. Hi.

HOPPS
Judy. I'm Judy Hopps.

Nick watches Judy with Pawbert and because he's distracted,
Nick bumps into the pig whose hog rod they stole.

FRANTIC PIG
What the pork?!

Back on Judy and Pawbert.

PAWBERT
Well, 'tis nice to meet you Judy--
wait Judy Hopps -- the Judy Hopps?
(weird laugh)
Are you working this?
(flirting poorly)
(MORE)

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

I mean you clearly, *working* it --
but are you actually working this?

Judy has NO IDEA how to react to someone flirting with her.

HOPPS

Uh, no, I'm actually -- well, it's
just a hunch... protecting *that*.

She points to the journal.

PAWBERT

Good, I don't think it has enough
guards.

As Judy laughs, Nick watches, irritated.

NICK

(into ear com)

Uh, that was my joke and there's
nothing here, let's call it a
night. Hopps -

But Judy turns off her ear piece, so Nick doesn't distract her. As Nick checks his ear com, he accidentally drops it, but when he bends down to pick it up, he sees something on the floor... a SNAKE SKIN. Music starts, speeches will happen soon, it's time for Hopps to move away.

HOPPS

Well, we should-- it was nice to
meet you.

PAWBERT

Um yes, and you. (*Awkward dismount*)
bon appetít- if at any point
tonight you choose to eat. Bon
appetít then.

MILTON LYNXLEY and his entourage pass Judy as they head for the stage, including his kids, Cattrick and Kitty.

CATTRICK

You're supposed to be *off* stage,
Pawbert.

KITTY

Yeah, get off stage, Pawbert.

Judy looks at Pawbert, realizing he's part of their family.

HOPPS

Wait, are you...

PAWBERT

Yeah -- I am a Lynxley...
(then, self-deprecating)
Or you know, I'm trying to be...

CATTRICK

Now, Pawbert.
(to Lynxley)
Come on poppy.

KITTY

I got you pa. Don't you worry.

CATTRICK

No I have him. I have him.

Cattrick helps Milton move past Judy and the JOURNAL.
Meanwhile, Nick follows the snakey trail toward the STAGE
from the OTHER SIDE.

NICK

(into ear-com)
Hey Hopps...I think I might actually-
I think I've got something!

As Nick continues, guests clap as Winddancer takes the stage.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

Welcome to the Zootennial Gala. Look
at you all... Good to see ya! It is
with great pleasure that I introduce
the third generation visionary who
has continued the legacy of our
great city. Milton Lynxley!

NICK

Carrots... can you hear me? I have
a trail! Carrots?

As Milton Lynxley steps up and the rest clear the stage.
Lynxley is old and kind... full of humility.

MILTON LYNXLEY

Thank you... thank you very much...

Nick looks up, realizing that above the JOURNAL is a
CHANDELIER - is SOMEONE UP THERE?! But as Nick tries to get a
better view, he bumps into BOGO, who grabs him by the scruff.

CHIEF BOGO

What are you doing here?

NICK

Chief-- she was right --

CHIEF BOGO
You're done, you're both done--

NICK
Wait-- wait-wait!!

Bogo starts to drag Nick away. Judy hears the clamor across the room and spots Nick struggling.

HOPPS
Nick...?

But before she can act, NICK kicks a SPOTLIGHT, illuminating the chandelier, spotlighting... a ROBED ANIMAL!

MILTON LYNXLEY
(unaware of what's above)
My grandpa had a dream to build a
city for all animals, to truly be
better together --

As the lights hit it, the figure jumps to the stage in a coiled clump, then lifts to reveal... IT'S A SNAKE! As the room freezes, you could hear a pin drop. After a long beat:

MAYOR WINDDANCER
There's a SNAKE!

Panic! As everyone races to escape the Zebros usher Winddancer to safety.

ZEBROS
Snake! Snake! Snake!

ZEBROWSKI
Go Bro! Go!

They rush him away, knocking into GAZELLE, who's like WTF?!

GAZELLE
I will remember you, Zebra!

Meanwhile, the Snake grabs the ENCASED JOURNAL, then COILS MILTON LYNXLEY too, and races off with them both! In the chaos, an ELEPHANT bumps into a giant ice column, knocking it into others like dominoes, and releasing the pulleys holding the chandeliers, which come crashing down, almost crushing Judy, who dodges, racing after the snake!

Nick, extricates himself from Bogo and races to help Judy, knocking into Frantic Pig's date. Frantic Pig chuckles until Bogo knocks into him too.

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - BACK OF HOUSE - SAME TIME

Judy races to stop the snake. Nick tries to keep up, but Hopps is way too fast.

NICK

Judy! Judy!

The Snake smashes through the kitchen, where a fancy chef plates overly-ornate food. Judy knocks the toque off the chef's head, revealing... a RAT puppeting the chef below, a la Ratatouille. The French Sous Chef points.

FRENCH CHEF

I knew it!

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - BACK HALLWAYS

The snake races down a hallway, lined with portraits of every LYNXLEY patriarch. Judy tries to keep up as the Snake reaches the door to a STUDY.

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - STUDY - CONTINUOUS

A huge FIREPLACE is ROARING, like someone was keeping it HOT on purpose. The snake, GARY, we'll get to know him later, sets Lynxley down and puts the ENCASED JOURNAL IN FRONT OF HIM, engaging a large retina scanner to unlock it.

Lynxley's eye is scanned, unlocking the case holding the JOURNAL, but as Gary takes the journal - SMASH! Judy crashes into the room, but her dress is in her face.

HOPPS

Stop! Mmmmph--

Gary, IMMEDIATELY RECOILS, AFRAID, scared like a little kid.

HOPPS (CONT'D)

Please. You don't have to hurt him.

Gary slowly emerges from behind Milton, shaking and afraid.

GARY

Hurt him...? Snakes... never hurt anyone. We aren't the bad guys.

(points to Lynxley)

They are.

Judy clocks this, confused.

GARY (CONT'D)

And this journal holds the secret
that will prove it.

(then, emotional)

I have to prove it. Please, this is
our only chance to set things right.
And when I do, my family will
finally be able to come home...

Gary smiles at Hopps, oddly vulnerable, but just as Hopps
starts to believe him - CLONK! Out of nowhere, Nick arrives,
whacking Gary with a frying pan, knocking him out. Gary
collapses and his coils release Lynxley and the JOURNAL,
which falls to the ground.

NICK

(out of breath)

Woo! I am here!

(to Lynxley, re: Judy)

Hopps and Wilde. Dream team. We got
him. Or her. Reptiles. It's like
who knows.

Hopps looks at Nick like what did you do?! Judy goes to check
on Gary, who is out cold. Kitty and Cattrick barge in.

KITTY

The cops are right behind us.

MILTON LYNXLEY

(taking a dark turn)

Kill the snake, we'll burn the
journal-- if he wants it, it's
dangerous.

(to Judy and Nick)

And you two will file a report that
the he attacked us and you will
keep your mouths shut. Step aside.

Nick looks to Judy, he can see there's no way she's letting
Gary be harmed. Judy looks to Gary, then to Kitty and
Cattrick and right as Nick tries to keep the peace -- Judy
kicks a fire poker, igniting a tapestry! Milton recoils.

MILTON LYNXLEY (CONT'D)

Put out the fire!

Nick knocks open a window to escape.

NICK

Carrots, come on!

HOPPS
(re: the snake)
Help me save him!
(off Nick)
Nick!

Nick knows they are out of time, but also sees Judy won't let Gary die. Reluctantly, Nick grabs the snake's tail with his now icy paws, but as he does... Gary wakes up from the cold.

GARY
Cold!

Gary startles, swinging around, right as... BOGO smashes in and collides with GARY'S FANGS and one lodges in BOGO'S HEAD!!! Bogo immediately passes out.

HOPPS
Chief...?!

GARY
(freaked, fang stuck)
He'll be okay! Anti-venom, he can
be saved with anti-venom --

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM (O.S.)
HOPPS! WHAT DID YOU DO?!

We see HOGGBOTTOM way down the hall, from her angle, it looks like Nick and Judy are working with Gary to kill Bogo.

HOPPS
No--Hoggbottom, wait --

CATTRICK
They're helping the snake! They
tried to kill the chief!

Hoggbottom goes ballistic.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
Back up! I need back up!

HOPPS
Hoggbottom, no!

NICK
(grabbing Judy)
My page, let's go!

They go to chuck Gary out the window to safety.

GARY
(as he's being chucked)
Wait--wait! I need the journal --
and probably a sweater -- aaagh!

As Gary hits the snow below, he shivers, freezing.

GARY (CONT'D)
Cold!!

But Gary is rescued by... a MOTORCYCLE WITH SIDECAR, DRIVEN
BY A MYSTERY MAMMAL, WHO RACES OFF. HUH?

POP POP POP! Tranquilizer darts hit a PORTRAIT OF EBENEZER
LYNXLEY right next to Nick and Judy.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
On the ground!

Nick and Judy trade a quick glance, then look out the window.
More darts strafe the portrait, Nick uses it to shield them.

NICK
Next time we stay home?

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
Oi! Don't you move.

Judy knows they should jump, but sees the journal on the
ground, knows it must be some kind of critical clue. In a
split second, Judy grabs it, and pulls Nick out the window.

MILTON LYNXLEY
No! Stop them!

EXT. LYNXLEY ESTATE - WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Whoosh! Using the portrait as a sled, Nick and Judy race off!
They hit a BUMP and Judy's CARROT PEN activates by accident.

JUDY ON CARROT PEN (V.O.)
"I really am just a dumb bunny."

NICK
(re: pen)
Accident. Your words, not mine.

But before Judy can react, their sled collides with... a
passing LIMO -- BAM! They hit the ground hard and look up as
the window of the limo rolls down to reveal... MR. BIG! Is he
going to welcome them into his car? Nope.

MR. BIG
Put 'em in the trunk.

And with that, Nick and Judy are grabbed by POLAR BEARS and tossed in the trunk, which drives off. But in the shadows, the mystery MOTORCYCLE GUY and GARY watch them go and--

BREAKING NEWS OF THE VENOMOUS SNAKE IN ZOOTOPIA goes viral!

INT. NEWS STUDIO - VARIOUS

GEORGE PURRRNACLEO
Ter-roar in Tundratown!

JAGUAR REPORTER
A fanging at the fiesta!

DENNY HOWLETT
A Howl-a at the Gala, as a venomous snake attacks the founding family!

CUT TO: Stampeding animals race out of the gala.

DENNY HOWLETT (CONT'D)
More shocking, the snake was aided by embattled ZPD officers, Nicholas Wilde and Judy Hopps...

We see an incriminating still from their escape.

PETER MOOSEBRIDGE (V.O.)
All three now suspects in the tragic fanging of Zootopia's chief of police and considered extremely dangerous.

Doctors stab Bogo in the chest with an ANTI-VENOM PEN.

CUT TO: MAYOR WINDDANCER, who gives a press conference.

MAYOR WINDDANCER
Chief Bogo is dead...
(then)
...Those are words I'm glad I don't have to say. I might have to soon, doctors are a little weirded out. But what has happened tonight was more than horseplay--

We freeze frame on that, and pull out to find:

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - PRIVATE RESIDENCE

This is on a TV in the Lynxley's mansion. The Lynxley's have summoned Mayor Winddancer to them, and he looks nervous.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

We're gonna take that snake down.

MILTON LYNXLEY

And the fox and that rabbit.

(off Winddancer)

Do you know how many mayors they've already destroyed?

Winddancer thinks... then slowly tries to count by stomping his hooves like horses do.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

One... two... I got up to two.

MILTON LYNXLEY

Would you like to be three?

Lynxley comes closer to Winddancer.

MILTON LYNXLEY (CONT'D)

I want them gone.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

But aren't there... laws...?

MILTON LYNXLEY

I will say this once, *Brian*. You will retrieve the journal... and bury them.

(then, menacing)

Or maybe I chose the wrong mayor?
Did I choose the wrong mayor?

EXT. ZPD - FRONT STEPS

As Winddancer looks on from the front steps of the ZPD, Hoggbottom, Truffler and the other partner teams peel out to find Nick, Judy and Gary.

INT. CAR TRUNK - PRE-DAWN

We're in DARKNESS -- until a PHONE RINGS and illuminates yellow fabric. We realize the phone belongs to Judy, who tries to get out from under her cumbersome dress. She emerges to see... it's her PARENTS calling. Hopps grits her teeth, knowing they must have seen the news. She hits ignore.

THEN A TEXT COMES IN: "We saw the news." Laugh/cry emoji. Then, "Whoops I meant:" Poop emoji. Then it says "Heavens, I meant:" dancing gnu gif. Then it says "This is Dad." A beat later it says "Mom taking over." "We're worried about you." Judy looks concerned, as does Nick who gives a warm smile.

NICK

Hey... the phone is the first thing they'll track.

Nick grabs Hopps' phone and smashes it with a crowbar.

HOPPS

Sorry, I have never been on the run from the law before.

NICK

Yeah boy, it's almost like we shouldn't've gone to that gala. Huh?
(the limo parks)
Okie doke, we already did it your way, with Mr. Big, we do it mine. This is where having a partner from the underworld is really gonna pay off.

The trunk pops open to reveal two Giant Polar Bears.

NICK (CONT'D)

Raymond! And is that Kev--

Nick and Judy are pulled out and sat down on: A GIANT PINK PURSE... HUH?!

INT. GNUCCI KNOCK-OFF WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

We are in... a WAREHOUSE full of pink everything. It's a knock-off purse factory. Nick and Judy get wheeled through and thrust down at a desk. A polar bear steps up and sets down a CHAIR, which he spins to reveal MR. BIG AND FRU-FRU.

FRU FRU

Welcome to my warehouse!
(then, seeing Judy)
Oh my god, I love your dress.

JUDY

Oh thank you.

Nick, not loving this, looks questioningly to Mr. Big.

MR. BIG

Fru Fru and I are now equal
partners in the family business.
She brings wonderful ideas for
crime and for fashion... while I
get more time to focus on what
matters most: being grand-papa to
my little Judith.

JUDITH, a TODDLER SHREW, walks over and holds out her hand.

LITTLE JUDITH

Kiss my ring!

Nick smiles, thinking she's joking. She's not.

MR. BIG

KISS THE STINKIN' RING right
now! KISS IT!

FRU FRU

KISS IT. YOU KISS IT RIGHT
NOW! KISS IT!

Nick quickly and awkwardly kisses the ring. Judy looks to
Nick like "don't ruin this" and Nick's like "what did I do?"

LITTLE JUDITH

Nonno, you said we were gonna make
cement shoes for Mr. Weaselton.

MR. BIG

That's my girl.

NICK

They grow up so fast.

MR. BIG

You run your mouth too much!

FRU FRU

That's my daughter, you shut
your mouth, fox!

Nick shuts up, Judy again gives him a judgmental look.

MR. BIG (CONT'D)

Anyways, you're in trouble and we
like one of yas, so we're here to
help.

Fru Fru snaps her fingers and polar bears hand Nick and Judy
a DUFFEL BAG.

FRU FRU

New clothes, new identities, truck
outta town leaves in an hour and your
metermaid cart is taken care of.

A POLAR BEAR behind throws their METERMAID CART in a TRASH
COMPACTOR, though Judy's DUFFEL BAG falls off the back of it.

HOPPS

I think you misunderstand... we've been framed, by the lynxes and an innocent snake needs our--

MR. BIG

(as Judith crawls on him)

Judy, the lynxes are killers, and they have no honor. And this Tundratown expansion only makes them more dangerous. Territorial animals will do *anything* for more land. So if whatever you're tangled up in threatens their plans... you're dead. You don't fight the cats, you leave.

HOPPS

Sir, I know you're trying to look out for us, but we took an oath to protect this city... and justice doesn't run.

Judy looks to Nick, who is ALREADY DRESSED IN A MUSTACHE AND NEW OUTFIT from the GO BAG. He reads his fake ID.

NICK

On behalf of myself, (READS ID) Rick Wilde, and... Miss Trudy Cabbagepatch, we thank you for your truck to salvation and -- yow!

Judy pulls off Nick's mustache and turns to Fru and Mr. Big.

HOPPS

We cannot accept your offer. We are helping that snake.

NICK

Boy, you're really tossing that "we" around.

HOPPS

Snakes may have been framed for the fanging of that tortoise. Do you have any idea why? Or how this book could prove it?

Judy shows him the book.

MR. BIG

I wish I did. But if it has to do with snakes... your best bet is talking to a reptile.

HOPPS

Do you know any?

MR. BIG

Almost no one does. They keep to themselves, hide out in Marsh Market.

FRU FRU

But you can still find them, you just need a reptile expert, someone local who knows where to go. Lucky for you, I met someone, she runs a podcast!

Fru Fru hands Judy a business card for... NIBBLES MAPLESTICK!

NICK

No. Trudy Cabbagepatch, Rick Wilde says noooo.

And we... HARD CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERPASS - A LITTLE LATER

Nick and Judy hide in the shadows of an underpass as... a WOODY WAGON SKIDS UP, NIBBLES BEHIND THE WHEEL.

NIBBLES

Oh yeah! If Hopps and Wilde are on the lam, subtle sleuthin' 'tis my jam! Woo!

(kicks door open)

Mind the splinters.

Nick doesn't budge. Hopps tries to pull him.

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

Oh, you called the right beaver - if want to talk to a reptile, I am your gal -- also if you need to talk to a jackalope - which are real -- MOM!

Nick looks back... sees a POLAR BEAR in a TRUCK... the truck they could take to get out of town. Nick pulls Judy away.

NICK

Excuse us. Team meeting. Vetoing the beave, new vote: All in favor of "Truck to Being Alive and Laying Low 'til This Blows Over-ville?"

Nick raises his hand AND tail.

HOPPS

Hopps and Wilde do not bail on a case.

NICK

She's crazy, probably lead poisoning from eating too many pencils.

Nibbles is literally chewing on a PENCIL.

HOPPS

(sotto, re: journal)

Do you know a reptile who can tell us the hidden secret in here, or why the lynxes framed the snakes?

(off Nick)

Twenty-four hours - Sunrise tomorrow, if we strike out, then we go into hiding and Judy Cabbagepatch it is.

She extends her hand, Nick looks to the truck... sighs, and shakes Judy's hand. The truck leaves without them.

NICK

It's *Trudy* Cabbagepatch, (THEN) and the safe word is coconut.

Nick reluctantly follows Judy into Nibbles' car.

NIBBLES

(into a mic, narrating)

In the darkness of a dank underpass, they stepped into the vehicle... not realizing their lives were about to change.

HOPPS

Because we're gonna meet a reptile?

NIBBLES

Because you're about to be best buds with NIBBLES MAPLESTICK! It takes two to tango, but a threesome to be sumpin'! Let's find you a reptile and romp the swamp!

EXT. MARSH MARKETS - DAY

This place is chaotic, bizarre and hilarious, built for marine and semi-aquatic mammals who live on water and land.

NIBBLES

Breathe it in! Woooo!

Judy holds the journal a little tighter. Nick puts on a BUCKET HAT to disguise himself and grabs a cap for Judy.

- We see the elephant seals on conveyor belts.

- Whip pan to a fish shredder.

- MICE painting what seems like a MURAL, but turns out to be... a TOUGH HIPPO getting a lower back tattoo. He gives the mice a thumbs up, then moves off, and the wake of his body sends their boat careening out of control.

- A LINE of semi-aquatic mammals get ready to work and jump through water-slide-esque tubes to take them across town.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)

Now, if any reptile would know the secret of that book and why the snake wants it--

(to hippo)

Hey Johnny!

(back to Judy and Nick)

...it's my old lizard friend, Jesús.

HOPPS

Why would a lizard hide... here?

- We see GROSS POND SCUM SLUDGE get skimmed off of stagnant water and... SLOPPED onto a fine dining table. Where sea lions grossly devour it.

NIBBLES

Well, when Zootopia was founded, the whole neighborhood got cut off from the rest of the town. Kinda on our own here. Yeah, that's probably why reptiles like it, they can just do their thing. Plus it's the only place in town you can get away with wearing a shirt and no pants.

NICK

(to Judy)

Loving tour time with Woodchuckles. Great call.

HOPPS

We need her.

NICK

Oh, yeah. Like a hole in the head.
(off angry dolphin)
Bad timing.

Nick notices his and Judy's mug shots on a TV and ducks away.

NIBBLES

Okay, to get to Jesús's hide-out,
we gotta take a ferry. Just let me
handle the locals, waterfolk tend
to be a little stand-offish around
landies.

NICK

Well, I've been hustlin' the
streets since I was twelve, I think
I can handle a juggling seal.

A nearby JUGGLING SEA LION looks at Nick, pissed.

NIBBLES

Sea *lion*.
(to sea lion, re: Nick)
He's not from around here.

NICK

But a coin's a coin.

Nick flips a coin in the Sea Lion's bucket.

NIBBLES

Oh no, change is a choking hazard.

Nibbles motions to a sign on the BUCKET, which says "NO
CHANGE, ONLY FISH."

NICK

Well, honest mistake.

Nick pats the Sea Lion on the flipper and he FREAKS OUT.

NIBBLES

Do not do that!

Nibbles points to a sign that says, "DO NOT TOUCH."

HOPPS

Let's let Nibbles handle this.

Nibbles ushers them both down the dock, where she rings what
looks like an old schooner bell.

NIBBLES

Thank you, JUDITH. Conversing with these beautiful sea creatures is like talking to anyone a little different. Just takes open and respectful communication.

SLAP! Nibbles dumps a HUGE fish into their arms... and a second later, RUSS, a WALRUS surfaces. A long beat.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)

Heya bub.

RUSS THE WALRUS

Hey bub.

NIBBLES

Heya bub.

RUSS THE WALRUS

Hey bub.

NIBBLES

Heya bub, hey.

RUSS THE WALRUS

Hey, bub, heya.

NIBBLES

Bubba bubba bubba.

RUSS THE WALRUS

Heya bub, bub, bub.

NIBBLES

Bubba heya bub bub. (SQUEAK)

RUSS THE WALRUS

Heya, (SQUEAK), heya, heya, heya bub, bub.

NIBBLES

Heya, (squeak) (fart noise) bubbly bub.

RUSS THE WALRUS

Bubba, bub, (fart noise) bub, bubba.

NIBBLES

Bubba bubba bubba bubba.

RUSS THE WALRUS
Bubba bubba. (BIG WEIRD SMILE, back
to normal) Bub.
(beat)
Bub.

Nick and Judy stare like, what the hell was that?

NIBBLES
Seen Jesús?

RUSS THE WALRUS
Yup.

Russ eats the fish and submerges. Nick looks at Judy like,
Nibbles is a waste of time. Nick drops his DUMB BUCKET HAT.

NICK
And now we leave town.

But... Russ suddenly emerges again on his back, with... seats
on his stomach. HE'S THE FERRY!

EXT. WATER - "RUSS FERRY" - MOMENTS LATER

Russ swims off, maintaining direct eye-contact with Nick and
Judy, creepy.

NICK
(to Judy)
Thank you for this.

HOPPS
Happy anniversary.

RUSS
Oh, it's your anniversary?

Russ clicks a button and LED lights turn on, making their
"walrus belly ride" more "romantic." The Walrus keeps
swimming, to reveal... a HALF SUNK 100-year-old OCEAN LINER,
rusty and derelict, in the middle of the water.

As Nick, Judy and Nibbles approach it, we pull back to
reveal... HOGGBOTTOM arriving at the MARKET. She sniffs along
the dock and eventually finds... NICK'S BUCKET HAT and looks
around, but can't see them.

TRUFFLER
How are we gonna find 'em now?

Someone clears their throat behind them, it's... THE PISSED SEA LION, who points the way. Truffler flips a coin in the Sea Lion's bucket. The Sea Lion's eyes go wide.

TRUFFLER (CONT'D)

Thanks, seal.

As Truffler pats the Sea Lion on the flipper, it goes bonkers!

TRUFFLER (CONT'D)

Agh! Friend! Friend! No! I'm sorry!
I'm sorry!!

As the noise from the scuffle grows, we pull back to find... the motorcycle and sidecar show up... with our mystery mammal and the SNAKE inside!

INT. OCEAN LINER - A LITTLE LATER

Nibbles leads Nick and Judy into the belly of the boat. The whole thing is at a slant. As they descend, Nick and Judy notice that the portholes to the outside are now UNDERWATER.

NIBBLES

Just a little farther. Jesús and
all the answers you'll ever need
are right here at this end of this
very scary, dark hallway.

Nick is NOT loving this. He snarks at Judy.

NICK

Boy, this is so much better than
sittin' on a beach on Outback
Island... sipping *Piña Koalas*.

HOPPS

We are not skipping town when there
is an innocent snake out there who
needs us.

NICK

He's got help. His motorcycle buddy-
(slips)
Gah--

HOPPS

You are acting weird. What is your
problem?

NICK

Well, A) You railroaded me, and B) if you must know... I have an aversion... to reptiles.

HOPPS

What...?

NICK

Oh, is my discomfort hilarious to you?

HOPPS

No, I'm sorry, you're right, we are partners and whenever I'm uncomfortable, you are always very considerate of my feelings--
(points at nothing)
Look out, snake skin!

Nick yelps and Hopps laughs, but then they both slip.

NICK

I'm slipping! I'm slipping!
I'm slipping! Hold the rail!
Hold the rail. Hold the rail!

HOPPS (CONT'D)

I'm holding the rail. Stop pulling my ears, stop pulling my ears! Never pull a bunny's ears, NEVER PULL A BUNNY'S EARS!

They look up to see Nibbles staring at them.

NIBBLES

I think the real mystery... is how you two ever solved anything.
(LAUGHS) Anyhoo, let's see what Jesús has to say about your journal. Oh, and if he offers ya food, accept. Declining is a sign of disrespect... to all of 'em.

NICK

All of them?

Nibbles does a "secret knock" on a giant door, revealing what we THOUGHT was a door, is ACTUALLY a TORTOISE SHELL, attached to a TORTOISE, who moves aside to reveal a REPTILE SPEAKEASY!

INT. REPTILE SPEAK-EASY - MOMENTS LATER

This place is a like a terrarium meets night club. There are "weird" reptiles everywhere. A BARTENDER turns on a light, drawing bugs, which he captures on a honey stick and serves as an appetizer. Nick and Judy look around, stunned.

BARTENDER SLICK DI'GIGUANI
Order up.

A DRUNK LIZARD asks for a drink and burps out of his skin.

SHEDDING LIZARD
Hey another drink!

Nick finds two GECKOS snuggling in his armpit.

ARMPIT PETE
So warm --

Nick flicks the geckos off and keeps walking, only to accidentally step on a LADY LIZARD'S TAIL, which falls off.

NICK
Whoops...

Unsure of what to do, Nick offers it back, but the Lady Lizard simply winks at him.

SULTRY LADY LIZARD
Keep it.

NIBBLES
(calling off)
Jesús!

Reveal: JESÚS is a PLUMED BASILISK, mysterious, with a big HAT shadowing his face as he sits in a BOOTH, where the seats are all STICKS like you see in a terrarium. Nick and Judy try to sit in the uncomfortable chairs.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
Allow me to introduce my friends:
this is Judith and Nicholas. They
are wanted fugitives investigating
a snake mystery and trying not get
murdered. May we sit?

A PLATE of GRUBS is set down in front of Nibbles by a server.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
Oh, I'm good, but these guys look
hungry.

Nick gives Nibbles an irritated look.

HOPPS
(pulls out the journal)
Thank you for meeting with us.
(MORE)

HOPPS (CONT'D)

We believe snakes were framed for something in this journal, perhaps pertaining to --

JESÚS

Eat first, talk second.

Judy and Nick look down to see the GRUBS on the plate are ALIVE. Nick looks at Judy like "please no" - but Judy gives him a look like "suck it up" and pulls a "short worm," Nick pulls the longest worm in history. He's mortified.

Judy chokes hers down. Nick eats it like it's the worst thing in the world. Judy looks at Jesús like, we did it, and...

JESÚS (CONT'D)

Hey, Guys! They ate it! Look at their faces! I don't eat grubs. Hermano- get me a scone!

Nick looks to Judy like "what did you just make us do?"

JESÚS (CONT'D)

(looking at journal)

Okay, okay... Hmm... metal cover...

HOPPS

And what does that mean?

JESÚS

It means... it's fancy...

(puts leg on table, Nick shudders)

It also means the secret you're looking for is probably right on the cover. Somehow vipers can see things in the metal, even under the paint.

HOPPS

This is Ebenezer Lynxley's original journal for the weather walls, why would he hide a secret for a snake?

JESÚS

I don't know. But it must have been big, 'cause a tortoise died for it.

NICK

I am guessing that it was a... slow death?

Jesús is unamused. Judy glares at Nick.

JESÚS

The fanging didn't just change how folks saw snakes. No mammal trusted any reptile after that... that's why we all left... and that's when the Lynxleys expanded Tundratown the *first* time.

(off their looks)

And it's happening again. The expansion is going here, Marsh Market will be buried in snow, we'll all get pushed out, those lynxes will get more land, and there's no way to stop 'em.

Hopps thinks about that and looks to the journal.

HOPPS

What if the secret hidden in here could?

JESÚS

Then I would say holding it... puts the two of you... in grave danger.

THUMP, THUMP, THUMP... they hear a noise and look to the underwater porthole, to see... the HIPPOS COPS!

JESÚS (CONT'D)

They tracked you?!

The HIPPOS hold up the BUCKET HAT that Nick dropped.

NICK

Whoops.

As Nibbles looks to Nick, pissed, Hoggbottom smashes in!

LIZARD BARBACK

It's the ZPD!

JESÚS

(to the trio)

Come on! Follow me!

Jesús zips them up to the top deck to safety.

HOPPS

Wait... Why are you helping us?

JESÚS

You two saved the city once, I reckon you can save it again.

(MORE)

JESÚS (CONT'D)

And when you do, maybe everyone'll
see we ain't that different.

And with that... JESÚS RUNS ACROSS THE F-ING WATER TO SAFETY.
He's a BASILISK LIZARD. As Nick and Judy watch him, stunned --
HIGGINS and BLOATS breach out the water nearby.

HIGGINS/BLOATS

Freeze! / Yeah, freeze!

Before they can react, YOINK, out of nowhere, Gary steals the
JOURNAL from Judy, and retreats away.

GARY

I'm really sorry. But this is my
family's only chance to come home--

Gary floomps off the boat into the water below!

HOPPS

Wait! We want to help you! No!
Wait! Wait! Come back!

Judy wants to follow Gary, but Nick has other plans.

NICK

There's no path. Take the docks!
(SHE'S ALREADY GONE) Carrots?!

HOPPS

(jumps on a passing boat,
calling to Gary)
Come back! We believe you!
(back to Nick)
Nick, come on! Come on!

But the boat is now too far for Nick, so he has to run along
the docks.

EXT. MARSH MARKET - VARIOUS

As Gary zips through the water, Judy sees Nick racing to
catch up with her, but he's about to hit a dead-end at the
dock, so she swings a fish scooper to help him reach her.

HOPPS

Grab it!

As he does, Truffler spots Judy and Nick!

TRUFFLER

I've got eyes on them! They're
heading for the tubes!

Farther back, the two hippo cops, Higgins and Bloats, steam through the water in Nick and Judy's direction.

BLOATS
(into earcom)
In pursuit.

As the Hippos converge, Judy and Nick try to paddle away on a little boat, but can't get it together. Beyond them, Gary races up onto a dock, where we hear more screams as he heads for the TUBE EXIT.

Thinking quick, Judy throws her oar at a DOCK BELL, bringing up a bunch of WALRUSES to use as stepping stones!

WALRUSES
Hey bub / hey bub / etc.

JUDY/NICK
Hey bub / hey bub / hey bub

WALRUSES
Bub-bye / Bub-bye / Bub-bye

Gary reaches a dock and races for the exit tube. Judy jumps for the dock, but Nick is stuck in the water behind and is about to getting mashed by the hippos, when Nibbles races past and knocks Nick up onto the dock, too.

NIBBLES
Woo! Pro tip! If he goes for the
red line, do not follow! You will
run out of air!
(then)
Good luck! I love you!

Nick races after Judy who in turn is racing after Gary, who swallows the journal then jumps into the RED LINE.

GARY
Cannonball!

Hopps goes to jump into the RED LINE after him!

NICK
Hopps, no that's the red line - red
line! Red line!
(then)
You're gonna run out of air!
COCONUT! COCONUT!

But Hopps has already jumped in, so Nick races after her and they are whisked under the water into the tubes!

INT./EXT. WATER TUBE - VARIOUS

Judy and Nick fly through the tube trying to catch Gary. It's a crazy, spinning waterslide -- whooshing them through a number of boroughs.

We pop ahead to a street corner near a tube, where, DUKE, our favorite huckster from the first film, sells bootleg DVDs.

DUKE WEASELTON

Anything you need I got 'em:
sequels, prequels, requels. Who says
the industry's going down the tubes?

IN THE TUBE: Nick, very aware that they will run out of air, spots an EMERGENCY EXIT VALVE, he motions to Hopps that they are going to drown if they don't get out, but Hopps is like "no way" and tries to reach Gary.

Gary sees Judy getting closer and spins to avoid her, Judy, now running out of air, tries to reach Gary, but now she's really struggling, and only succeeds in getting his FANNY PACK LOOSE, before Nick rescues her, allowing Gary to escape!

EXT. COPENHOOFEN PASS - SAME TIME

Judy and Nick blast out at the base of a CLIFF FACE. Both catch their breaths and lie on their backs, recovering.

NICK

Are you... okay...?

HOPPS

Yeah, yes... You?

NICK

Um, well... uh, I feel like some...
some "sorries" may be in order.

HOPPS

(sincere)

Nick... it's okay. I know you
didn't wanna lose him on purpose.

As Nick stares at Judy, incredulous, Judy starts ringing her ears out like a wet bathing suit.

NICK

Oh, not me sorry. No, no, you sorry.

HOPPS

Well... now we kinda have *no* way to find him, or stop the lynxes, so... agree to disagree.

She whips her ears back to get them back in place, but it accidentally flings water on Nick.

NICK

But we are ALIVE. So if we can't find him, that's great, what we *can* find is a truck outta here.

Nick rings out his tail, tries to whap her with it to spray her with water, but instead just gets himself in the FACE. Hopps stares at him, annoyed, but looks past him to the WATER PIPE... WHERE SHE FINDS A CRITICAL CLUE! Gary's FANNY PACK is trapped in the exit pipe.

Hopps looks through Gary's fanny pack. There are markers, some OLD BOX OF WOODEN MATCHES (with a LOGO OF A FLOWER).

NICK (CONT'D)

Box of old matches. Helpful.
(off Judy)
Trudy Cabbagepatch... leaving town!
We're done.

Just as Judy is alllllmost about to consider it.

JÜRGEN (O.S.)

Yodelayhehoo!

Nick and Judy look up to see TWO OLD GOATS hiking down the vertical cliff face, like it's a regular old stroll.

JÜRGEN (CONT'D)

Dis is veird place for you to be.

BERTHOLD

Ja, very veird.

JÜRGEN

Ach, zay fell out of ze tube! Okay, we vill call police to help!

HOPPS

No! No, we're fine.

NICK

Yup, we were just leaving town!

HOPPS

Actually, um -- do you happen to know where this tube goes?

BERTHOLD

Oh Copenhoofen.

JÜRGEN

Ja, ist Copenhoofen-- (COUGHS)

HOPPS

Got it, thank you--

BERTHOLD

Ach, you chew too much, zis is not okay.

Berthold whacks Jürgen on the back, and he heimlichs half chewed flowers all over Nick. Hopps sees this and realizes... they are the same flower that's on the matchbox.

HOPPS

Where did... where did you find these flowers?

Nick stews.

JÜRGEN

Oh ze Liebenflower? Ze Tippy Top of ze mountain. Zis is ze only place zey grow.

They point straight up the cliff. Nick groans.

HOPPS

Is... there anything else up there?

NICK

Nope, there sure isn't--

BERTHOLD

Oh ja, Old Honeymoon Lodge. But is closed for long time... because was hide-out for snakes.

Judy flips the matchbox to see "Honeymoon Lodge."

HOPPS

Honeymoon lodge.

(then)

How do you reach it?

BERTHOLD
Tourists take ze tram from
Copenhoofen, but ze rope is vaster!

Judy looks to Nick like "back on the case." Nick sours.

JÜRGEN
Good luck! Have fun at ze Honeymoon
lodge!

NICK
(pissed)
THANK YOU!

EXT. CLIFFSIDE - LATER

We helicopter up the cliff face, hearing pulleys, clamps, and
Judy's voice as we keep going higher.

HOPPS
(more to herself)
What does the secret have to do with
the reptiles leaving town? How did
it get hidden in the journal in the
first place?

NICK (O.S.)
Will you slow down?!

Judy looks down to see Nick far below her - he's slower
because he's trying to find more sturdy footholds.

HOPPS
How long do you think it'll be before
Hoggbottom and the ZPD figure out
where we are? If anything we should
be going faster. As I always say--

CARROT PEN (V.O.)
"I really am just a dumb bunny."

Judy, irritated and looks down to Nick, who holds up the pen.

HOPPS
Nick...

CARROT PEN (V.O.)
(remix-style)
"I really - re-re-re-really am just
a d-d-d-d-dumb bunny."

Judy zips down to Nick, irritated, but masking it.

HOPPS

This was a gift to symbolize our partnership... and it is not appropriate for this moment.

NICK

Oh no, I was just... hoping to jot down some ideas for what we will put on our tombstones. I'll start: "His partner did it."

HOPPS

What happened to you that you can't just have a normal conversation?

Nick considers this, then...

NICK

I... will save that for my therapy animal.

HOPPS

(tries to snatch pen)
Yeah, you need a therapy animal.

NICK

(snatching it back)
Oh yeah. Well, you need a herd of therapy animals.
(fending her off))
Yeah. You need a whole migration of therapy animals!

Nick pulls the pen away from Judy... but knocks his hand and the carrot pen... FALLS onto a nearby rock. As they both try to save it, they knock hands, and the pen falls all the way down the cliff... and SHATTERS on the ground.

This is awful. They both know it... This symbol of their relationship, broken.

Judy, decides to cover her hurt in action and climbs up and over the outer railing of the lodge and heads through a window. Nick watches, thinking about what just happened and follows, knowing he screwed up.

NICK (CONT'D)

Carrots --

But she's already inside.... and as Nick goes to follow... we cut down to the valley floor... to find the SHARDS OF THE PEN. But... a HOOFED FOOT steps into frame... it's Hoggbottom, who picks up the shards of the pen.

Hoggbottom looks up the towering cliff. Then turns to... the GOAT COP PARTNERS, Chèvre and Bûcheron, who exchange intimidating glances then head for the cliffs.

INT. HONEYMOON LODGE - MOMENTS LATER

We are in the creepy old lodge, abandoned for years. Judy would ordinarily wait for Nick, but she's frustrated and heads down a twisty hallway. Nick enters a beat later, but can't see which way Judy went.

NICK

Carrots?

But Judy doesn't respond, so Nick heads down a different twisty hallway, they've MISSED EACH OTHER.

INT. HONEYMOON LODGE - HALLWAYS - SAME TIME

Judy cautiously looks around, using a flashlight to illuminate the creepy space. She finds weird old-timey goat honeymoon items... and steps in a puddle of "JojoBaaa Oil."

HOPPS

Eech.

As she wipes it off, she spots... a SNAKE SKIN... leading up the stairs to a forgotten attic door... and heads up.

INT. HONEYMOON HOTEL - OTHER HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Nick keeps looking for Judy, now he's frustrated.

NICK

Uh... Carrots?

He pauses as he sees a weird picture of kissing goats. Unamused he keeps walking but -- falls through a rotten FLOORBOARD, which open to the cliff below. But as Nick catches himself... he sees... the GOATS APPROACHING!

NICK (CONT'D)

Carrots!

INT. HONEYMOON SUITE - SAME TIME

Judy enters the attic to find... the personal effects of a snake... including some OLD METAL-BOUND BOOKS. Interesting...

In the center of the room is a table with evidence strung together... old newspaper clippings... one says "REPTILES AND MAMMALS, TOO DIFFERENT FOR ONE CITY?" "EBENEZER LYNXLEY'S PLAN FOR ALL ANIMALS MARRED BY SNAKE ATTACK" "WHY DID THE SNAKE DO IT?" "TUNDRATOWN EXPANDED" another says "TUNDRATOWN EXPANDED" another says "CITY APPROVES MORE TUNDRATOWN" - "NO REPTILES, NO PROBLEM, LET IT SNOW." Judy can see Tundratown has been expanding constantly for decades.

Judy spots an OLD PHOTO of a SNAKE AND HER THREE KIDS. A CLOSE LOOK WOULD REVEAL THE SNAKE HOLDS A WOODEN BOX - BUT WE'LL FORGET THAT QUICKLY. A note on it reads "FIND HOME."

As Judy's wheels start to turn, she looks at the details of the photo... BEHIND THEM IS A CLOCKTOWER, WITH A LIT BEACON (LIKE A LIGHTHOUSE) THAT SAYS "REPTILE RAVINE, ZOOTOPIA."

HOPPS
(to herself)
There was a whole reptile
neighborhood... their home - the
lynxes just erased it...

Judy feels a presence... it's Nick who has entered, he knows the cops are coming, and needs to get them out of there.

NICK
We have to go --

HOPPS
...This is what they do... they
push animals out with... lies, so
they can have more...

NICK
We gotta go-- Carrots--we gotta go--

HOPPS
That's what the snake's trying to
prove.

NICK
The ZPD is here.

HOPPS
What? No one will believe us, not
without proof.

- THE GOATS ARE ALMOST THERE!

NICK
Leave it!
(she doesn't)
(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)
-- they aren't gonna just arrest
us. The lynxes want us dead.

Judy hurries to grab more evidence.

HOPPS
No, we need it to solve the case.

Nick tries to pull Judy away.

NICK
Judy just --

HOPPS
We have to solve the case. Nick--

NICK
I don't care about the case!

That stops Judy in her tracks. She looks at Nick, confused.

NICK (CONT'D)
(please hear me)
Judy, it's not worth dying for.

Judy looks at Nick, realizing how far apart they are.

HOPPS
The world will never be a better
place if no one is brave enough to
do the right thing.

NICK
The world is what it is, Carrots...
and sometimes being a hero... it
just doesn't make a difference.

HOPPS
(heart broken)
I think... I think... maybe...
maybe we are different...

As Nick hears what Hopps is saying... the heartbreak of their
relationship dissolving in real time --

THWAP THWAP THWAP! Tranquilizer darts ring though the room,
strafing the wall between them. They dive OPPOSITE WAYS. The
GOATS smash through the wall into the room, knocking a post,
dropping a WOOD SUPPORT, which falls through the floor,
separating Nick and Judy on opposite sides.

WHAM! Nick is tackled by CHÈVRE and falls through the floor
to a honeymoon room.

At the same time, Judy hurries to grab the evidence off the table before it's lost, but before Judy can, the tilting room shifts and the evidence table falls over the cliff.

Meanwhile, Nick struggles with Chèvre, who emerges, covered in a bed sheet, holding a bouquet and looking like a bride. Nick's like "huh..." But then Chèvre attacks!

- Back with Judy, she her only evidence: the OLD PRESERVED PHOTO - but as she does, Bûcheron is there! Just as he's about to tackle Judy - the window shutter nails him in the face, revealing... the MOTORCYCLE DRIVER. It's... PAWBERT!

PAWBERT

Oh my gosh, I think I just took out a cop.

(stammering, to O.S. cop)

Uh, sorry!

HOPPS

Pawbert...?

PAWBERT

Yeah, it's uh-- we're the good guys!

Gary pops in next to him!

GARY

(to Pawbert)

I told you she's helping!

(to Hopps)

Come with us!

The lodge continues to split apart, Judy almost falls.

CHÈVRE (O.S.)

We have the fox! WE HAVE THE FOX!

- With NICK, who struggles to escape Chèvre, who is about to cuff him.

- BACK TO JUDY, PAWBERT AND GARY

GARY

They already have your partner, they can't get you too.

PAWBERT

Please. We can stop my family.

As Pawbert extends his paw, we cut to Nick, who frees himself and races to reach Judy. Unaware, Judy thinks... then REACHES FOR PAWBERT'S PAW. But right as she does... Nick races into view.

NICK

Judy!

But in that split second, she's distracted, and THWAP! She gets HIT WITH A DART, and KNOCKED OUT, falling.

NICK (CONT'D)

No-no-no!

Judy falls... but Pawbert grabs her, saving her life.

PAWBERT

I got you!

As Judy fades, Pawbert cradles her and together with Gary, they race away. Nick watches, gut-punched. But he doesn't have time to wallow as Chèvre and Bûcheron arrive behind him.

But... so we don't go out on such a bummer... Nick turns to them and rolls up his sleeves, ready to fight.

NICK

Alright, here we go.

And... WHAM! They punch Nick, who goes down hard. Black out.

EXT. PAWBERT'S MOTORCYCLE - DUSK

Judy wakes up, still a little groggy from the tranquilizer. She's in the SIDECAR of a MOTORCYCLE as it moves through the desert dunes. Judy looks down to where she was darted to see a SILLY BAND-AID where the dart wound should be and -- GARY'S FACE POPS UP RIGHT IN FRONT OF HERS!

GARY

You're not dead!

(to Pawbert, giddy)

She's not dead!

Pawbert looks over to Judy and gives her an empathetic smile. But BUH-BUMP! He hits a rock in the road and nearly wrecks.

PAWBERT

Ack -- sorry, sorry-- I just got my motorcycle license.

Pawbert tries to change gears, it sounds like he stripped something. Hopps goes internal.

HOPPS

Nick...?

PAWBERT

They uh... they caught him. But out here... no one's gonna catch us...

Judy looks back to the direction they came from... thinking of Nick, as they head further into the dunes.

EXT. CLIFF TOP - SAME TIME

Cops sift through the wreckage of the destroyed lodge looking for clues. They collect evidence in all scales of bags. As Winddancer looks around, Hoggbottom calls, dragging Nick.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM (O.S.)

Mayor Winddancer.

Winddancer turns to see Nick and leans down to him.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

Where's the bunny?

NICK

I don't know. But, she is a rabbit... so maybe you can pull her out of your hat.

Winddancer looks at Nick, confused.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

I'm not wearing a hat.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM

He's messing with you, sir.

MAYOR WINDDANCER

I knew that! Get him outta here!

INT. ANIMAL CONTROL VEHICLE - MOMENTS LATER

Nick gets thrown into the back of an animal control vehicle, but through its windows stands Milton Lynxley and Cattrick.

MILTON LYNXLEY

Where are they, Mr. Wilde?

(Nick won't talk, to Cattrick)

Begin the expansion, freeze Marsh Market, flush everyone out.

NICK

Wha-- no, you can't --

MILTON LYNXLEY

Waterfolk, like foxes, are lesser mammals. If I say they helped a dangerous snake, no one will care what we do.

(then, gripping his paw)

You're going to a dark cell, Mr. Wilde, just long enough to read the headline of your partner's demise.

(clawing his paw)

You should have left town when you had the chance.

Milton scratches Nick's paw, and the truck rumbles off. But now alone, we see Milton is worried. Kitty approaches holding an EVIDENCE BAG with a tuft of FUR... PAWBERT'S FUR.

KITTY

Dad. Fur... from whoever's helping the bunny and the snake.

Lynxley recognizes it immediately.

MILTON LYNXLEY

(seething)

Find Pawbert.

Pawbert, Gary and Judy crest a DUNE on Pawbert's motorcycle to find a small Bedouin-style camp below.

PAWBERT

(like a pirate)

Almost to me hide-out.

Pawbert drives toward a tent on a small dune a ways off.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

(sotto, to Gary)

Snake in the hole.

GARY

Ooo! (HIDING) Yeah, yeah...

Gary pulls Judy down to duck as Pawbert passes by CAMELS setting up tents. Judy, now on the FLOOR of the sidecar, is surrounded by Gary's COILS, and his fang is NEXT TO HER FACE.

GARY (CONT'D)

We shall succeed, Judy Hopps. We'll stop the lynxes and save your partner.

HOPPS

I'm sorry, you are...?

GARY
Oh, Gary, Gary the snake.

HOPPS
And... your last name?

GARY
De'Snake.
(then)
Everything is going to be okay.

Gary smiles, comforting... until his face changes as he...
REGURGITATES the JOURNAL, it's super disturbing. Now Gary's
jaw is misshapen. Judy's like... uh.....

GARY (CONT'D)
Teaming up with you is very
exciting!
(laughing, then sees she's
nervous about his fang)
And don't worry about my fang. I got
my own anti-venom pen. Stops the
toxin!

Gary presents an epi-pen-like "ANTI-PEN" and clicks it.

ANTI-VENOM PEN (V.O.)
"Stab me straight into the heart!"

Judy looks up to Pawbert, who gives her a thumbs up, then
nearly wrecks again, as he approaches the TENT. And Judy's
like... what have I gotten myself into?

INT. PAWBERT'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER

Pawbert opens the flap of his tent to reveal it's
surprisingly well-appointed with a lot of "cat items."

PAWBERT
Welcome to my oasis... away from my
evil family. I like to come here,
just kinda veg out. Get with all my
cat stuff.

Gary checks out fun, cat-specific objects.

GARY
Wow! Neat! Oooo.... Awesome!

As Gary starts playing with Pawbert's toys, Pawbert panics.

PAWBERT

That's actually vintage. Oh--and if
you could just not--Oh no, no,
please don't--

GARY (O.S.)

Wow! Mammals get the best stuff!
(QUICK TURN) Ooo, what's this do?!

PAWBERT

Wait not that --

Gary turns on CAT TOY that shakes a little puff ball around
that Pawbert can't help but chase.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

Turn it off - turn it off - turn it
off - turn it offffff --

Gary finally turns it off, and Pawbert looks at Judy
embarrassed, but tries to act nonchalant.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

Soooo... we should probably get to
the journal, hmm?

Judy looks at them, like they're weirdos... which they are.

HOPPS

How *did* you become "partners?"

GARY

Oh, when I found out the journal
was going to be on display at the
Gala, I sent his family an
anonymous letter asking to see it.
Luckily they make Pawbert work in
the mailroom, so he read it first.

PAWBERT

I got him smuggled in from overseas.

GARY

Seven days in a crate.
(shivers, then)
But if I fix things for my family,
it'll be worth it. Then we'll fix
things for your partner too.

Pawbert sees Judy is thinking about Nick.

PAWBERT

Hey I know... coming with us was...
hard.

(MORE)

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

But we're gonna help your partner
the same way we're going to help
the city: we stop my family and
show everyone the truth.

(then, to Gary)

Are you ready?

Gary looks to Pawbert, conspiratorial.

GARY

Light... the fire.

EXT. BONFIRE - MOMENTS LATER

WHOOSH! A FIRE LIGHTS! We are now outside, where other
campfires glow. Gary plunks the JOURNAL in front of a
BONFIRE... and just stares at it. Hopps watches, intrigued.

PAWBERT

(to Judy, sotto)

How much do you know...?

HOPPS

Well... that his family was framed
and there's some secret hidden in
the metal cover that only a snake
can see.

PAWBERT

(admiring Gary)

Not just any snake, a heat-sensing
pit viper. All it takes is a little
warmth.

HOPPS

I just... I don't understand. Why
would your great grandfather hide a
secret for a snake?

PAWBERT

He... didn't.

Judy is confused... but looks to Gary... and finally puts it
together: the answer was in front of her the whole time.

HOPPS

It wasn't *his* journal... that's the
secret. Zootopia wasn't created by
a mammal, it was created... by a
snake.

As Pawbert nods, proud of Judy for figuring it out, the WHOLE AESTHETIC OF THE FILM CHANGES, AS HOPPS IS ENVELOPED BY SNAKE VISION, FINDING HERSELF IN 1900s ZOOTOPIA.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
...Gary's great grandmother.

EXT. 1900S ZOOTOPIA - SNAKE VISION - VARIOUS

Hopps is now in a historical fantasy of 1900s Zootopia. These beats will play out like she's in a VR simulation. We find... GARY'S GREAT GRANDMOTHER, AGNES DE'SNAKE, sketching. She sees that some animals aren't comfortable in the city's environment and are in need of help. Agnes returns to her home near a GLOWING CLOCKTOWER and starts sketching ideas.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
She wanted to make the city a place
where *all* animals felt welcome...
so she invented her weather walls
to help *everyone*.

We see Agnes create her plans, inventing the weather walls. She takes her journal to receive a "PATENT" of authorship.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
She just needed an investor, a
partner.

Agnes shows Ebenezer Lynxley her plans and they shake on a new partnership. But as soon as she leaves, he wipes his hand, and his demeanor changes as he studies the journal.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
But when my great grandfather saw
what her idea could be worth, he
plotted to steal her plans for
himself.

We swirl to reveal... Ebenezer ripping Agnes' patent out of the book, and throwing it in the fire.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
So he committed a murder, his own
maid, and framed Gary's great
grandmother... and because she was
a snake everyone believed his lie.

- We see Ebenezer commit the fanging
- The accusation, Agnes RACES AWAY!
- The cops arrive to take her...

- Ebenezer throws a breaker to cut the POWER to REPTILE RAVINE, and the CLOCK TOWER FADES. Reptiles leave town.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
Soon... no reptiles were welcome...
and over time... my great-
grandfather buried the reptile
neighborhood in snow.

- Ebenezer repaints the front of the journal, erasing REPTILE RAVINE. Ebenezer turns on the Tundratown weather walls, and Reptile Ravine is covered in snow.

PAWBERT (V.O.)
And he died believing no one could
ever uncover his crimes... but he
was wrong...

- REWIND TO: AGNES hurrying to the TORTOISE as she dies... and the tortoise hands her... the CRUMPLED PATENT. The Tortoise rescued it from the fire! Agnes barely has time to hide the patent in her house, before cops show up.

HOPPS (V.O.)
(quiet, intrigued)
Her original patent was saved...
she hid it in her home. *That's* what
you're looking for. Find her home,
find her patent.

The "SNAKE VISION" evaporates as we come back to reality...

EXT. BONFIRE - BACK TO REALITY

Hopps, stunned, looks at Pawbert, who's full of emotion and regret, she can see how much he wants to set things right.

GARY
We just didn't know where her home
was buried... until now.

Judy and Pawbert look over to see Gary has finished a MAP... which reveals... the LOCATION OF REPTILE RAVINE. Gary looks at them both, full of pride and emotion. Pawbert compares the old map to one on his phone, he recognizes the location.

PAWBERT
My family's land? But under all that
snow, how are we going to find it?

Judy thinks, then spots the OLD PHOTO... sees the old Reptile Ravine CLOCKTOWER shining bright.

HOPPS

Clock tower... her neighborhood - the reptile neighborhood - it had a clock tower... it lights up like a beacon. If it wasn't fully buried, maybe we could see it, follow it to her home.

PAWBERT

Except my great-grandfather turned off the power.

HOPPS

But we have the plans that show us how to turn it back on! The power switch to her whole neighborhood was in the... original control room.

GARY

Great! And where is that?

Judy looks in the book, and smiles... then they crest the dune... to find... a WEATHER WALL gleaming in the distance.

HOPPS

Inside the first wall they built: the desert/Tundratown weather wall. We get inside, turn on that switch and light the beacon, we find her house...

PAWBERT

We find her patent...

GARY

And my family is finally coming home!

(then)

We shall succeed! WE SHALL SUCCEED!

But as they celebrate... we drift down to see what they don't: PAWBERT'S CELL PHONE... which BLIPS. It's being tracked! MATCH TO:

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - SAME TIME

The same phone screen blips on Kitty's phone.

KITTY

I found him!

Kitty shows her phone to Milton, who sees Pawbert's location and glowers.

MILTON LYNXLEY
Get me Hoggbottom.

INT. JAIL - PRISON CELL HALLWAY - SAME TIME

HOGGBOTTOM escorts Nick through a prison hall, as convicts see Nick and whistle and hoot. Each has their own accommodations: cold air, hamster-drips, litter boxes, etc.

HIPPO INMATE
Oooo, it's Nicholas Wilde! Big time cop, huh?

HAMSTER INMATE
I'll see you at the lunch table.

GIRAFFE INMATE
I'm gonna tie your tail in a knot!

NICK
Hoggbottom --

An INMATE FOX bullies his cellmate, and locks eyes with Nick.

MICHAEL J THE FOX
What are you looking at, butthead?

Hoggbottom reaches a cell and opens it.

NICK
This is a mistake, it's a setup,
it's the lynxes--

Hoggbottom shoves Nick in the cell, but Nick tries to keep her from shutting the door.

NICK (CONT'D)
Listen to me! Please! I know we
have had our differences, but I've
always respected you --

Hoggbottom SLAMS the jail cell in his face.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
You don't respect anyone.

TRUFFLER
(bumbling up)
Phone -- it's Milton Lynxley. He's
got the rabbit's location.

Hoggbottom grins at Nick.

NICK

Whatever he says is a lie -
Hoggbottom! Hoggbottom listen to
me!

But they're gone. Nick shakes the door of his cell, but it
doesn't budge, he's stuck! But... then he hears...

NIBBLES (O.S.)

NICHOLAS WIIIIILDE!

Nick looks up to see Nibbles is in the cell right across from
him. She grins at Nick, happy to see him.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)

What are the chances?
(notices the mop has been
knocked close to her)
Wooo! You know this is my first
time in prison and I gotta say,
their food is on point!

She starts nibbling the nearby mop handle.

NICK

How are you even here?

NIBBLES

Destiny. Plus an arrest. But it
looks like Judith got away. Was
that decision... mutu-al?
(off Nick)
Sensing trouble in paradise. Wanna
talk about it?

NICK

What I want is to get outta here.

Nick starts trying to pick the lock.

NIBBLES

Right, your big plan, lay low on
Outback Island sipping Piña Koalas.
Except you can't trust Koalas, 'cause
they got four thumbs. Did a whole
episode about it on my podcast. It
was called "They Got Four Thumbs."
But, you know what, at least they
ain't platypuses-

NICK

Can you just-- can you please just
let me concentrate?

NIBBLES

Roger that.

(nibbles loudly, then
can't take it)

Just talk to me dude! What's the
last thing she said to you?

Nick cracks another nail, then:

NICK

(sighs, then)

She um... She said "maybe we are
too different."

NIBBLES

Hmm... And what did you say *before*
that?

NICK

(a beat then)

I said the case isn't worth dying
for. (OFF NIBBLES) Like as in it
isn't worth *her* dying for
because... because solitary animals
like me don't have real friends.
And I don't want to lose her.
(BEAT) I just... I don't... know
how to say that.

NIBBLES

(hugging him)

You know what, bud? I think you
just did.

Nick realizes Nibbles is now IN HIS CELL.

NICK

Wait, how'd you do that?

NIBBLES

Well, I opened my arms, put them
around you and then I squeezed.
It's called a hug. Do foxes not
have hugs?

(off Nick)

Oh, the lock, yeah that's Beave
101.

Nibbles holds up the mop she was gnawing on, now shaped into
a KEY. But the nice moment is broken by, Hoggbottom outside.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM (O.S.)

The rabbit's in Desert Dunes! Roll
out!

TRUFFLER (O.S.)
Yeah, roll out!

Nick and Nibbles share a look, they need to hurry.

NIBBLES
Your partner needs you, and Nibbles
Maplestick is gonna get you to her.

But as they step out of the cell to escape, they are
immediately spotted by another inmate: ANTONY, THE SMUGGLER.

ANTONY
Hey! It's the fox dad! And a
woodchuck!

NIBBLES
Woodchuck?! I'm a BEAVER! Call me
that again--

As Nibble yells, GUARDS HEAR HER AND HIT THE ALARM FOR THE
PRISON. Nibbles looks to Nick like "sorry."

NICK
Okay go! We gotta go!

As they run away, other inmates swipe at them. Then, as they
catch their breath near a dark cell, they are surprised by...
BELLWETHER being creepy as the light in her cell turns on.
Everything in her cell is made of WOOL. Even the furniture.

BELLWETHER
Hello Nicholas. I hope you like my
new home, I wove it with my own wool.
(beat)
JUMP SCARE!

Startled, Nick keeps running and finds a SECURE EXIT DOOR
with a big "OPEN" button next to it. Nick hits it!

NICK
(to other inmates)
Haha! Adios!

But instead of opening the door to the exit, it opens ALL OF
THE INMATES' JAIL CELLS! They all emerge, menacing.

PRISONERS
Oo-wee! / Get him!

Hordes of prisoners race at Nick and Nibbles, but their sheer
weight smashes the door of the prison open, freeing everyone.

EXT. PRISON - CONTINUOUS

BOOM! Everyone spills outside, but instead of attacking Nick, all of the prisoners realize they are now free and... escape, leaving Nick and Nibbles free and clear!

PRISONERS

We're free! / Let's get out of here!

NIBBLES

(surprised)

Huh...

NICK

(looking around)

Wheels -- we need wheels.

But the other escapees have taken all the CARS. Dammit!

NICK (CONT'D)

No! No! No! No! No! No!

NIBBLES

I am sorry, I do not think we can get to Judy in time to help... unless... you happen to know the fastest driver in the history of Zootopia.

Nick thinks for a moment, then... lightbulb!

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

A CAR RACES UP -- smoking out its tires, drifting just to look cool. The license plate says "FST NML." The window rolls down slowly to reveal... FLASH THE SLOTH. Nick grins.

NICK

Hey Flash, Flash Hundred Yard Dash! Partner's in trouble, I need to get across town, ignore the laws.

FLASH

No...

(off Nick and Nibbles' worry)

...problem!

NICK

Let's hit it!

Nick and Nibbles jump in. As Flash does the typical key, gear shift, gas trope very, very slowly, Nick turns to Nibbles.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hey, glad you're here.

NIBBLES
I gotta tell ya, I'm not convinced
a sloth is our most reliable--

KA-BOOM! FLASH absolutely hauls ass out of there, mashing
Nick and Nibbles into their seats.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
WHATTHEF-!

As the car peels out of sight we find... a prisoner
escaping... it's Bellwether, who laughs like a lunatic.

EXT. DESERT DUNES - SUNRISE

As Judy, Gary and Pawbert DRIVE THEIR MOTORCYCLE toward the
desert/Turndratown weather wall, Judy looks at the JOURNAL.

HOPPS
(to Gary, pointing at
journal)
To turn on the clock tower and light
the way to your Great Grandma's home
so we can find her patent, we need
to reach the power control room,
through here, but we have to move
quickly or we're never going to-

GARY
(calming her)
We shall succeed, Judy Hopps.

HOPPS
Look, Gary, if we don't over-prepare,
we're underprepared, and I don't --

Gary puts his tail on her shoulder, comforting.

GARY
My family's been trying to prove
we're not what everyone thinks for
100 years... but even this close,
they'd never want me to put the
weight of the world on my shoulders.
(shrugging coils)
Because I don't have any shoulders!
(then, encouraging)
We shall succeed.

Pawbert hears that last part and gives Judy a warm smile, but what they DON'T SEE in the distance behind them... is a SQUADRON of COPS CARS PURSUING THEM, led by HOGGBOTTOM.

INT. HOGGBOTTOM'S TRUCK - SAME TIME

Hoggbottom tracks Judy's position on a tablet.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
(menacing, to herself)
I got you, rabbit.

INT./EXT - FLASH'S CAR - SAME TIME

Nick and Nibbles fly around in the back of Flash's car as he goes a million miles an hour. Nick barks into a phone.

NICK
(into phone)
I cannot help Judy if I don't know where she is, which I why I need you get on Paul's computer and track Hoggbottom.

INT. ZPD - I.T. AREA - SAME TIME

We find... CLAWHAUSER on his cell phone. Sweating.

CLAWHAUSER
(trying to be quiet)
You are an escaped fugitive! I could get fired for even talking to you.

NICK
They are gonna put her to sleep! Do it!

CLAWHAUSER
Okay!!

Clawhauser awkwardly heads to Paul's desk, grabs a box of donuts to butter him up.

PAUL MOLEDEBRANDT
(on phone, to client)
Did you try restarting it? Uhn-huh. Have you tried not being an idiot?

CLAWHAUSER
Hey Paul! I got you some donuts...

Clawhauser trips on a SODA CAN, knocks Paul's desk, and Paul... FALLS into the donut box, landing IN A DONUT HOLE!

CLAWHAUSER (CONT'D)

Oh no!

As Clawhauser stares, panicked -- a passing cop takes the box of donuts and keeps walking.

OFFICER MCHORN

Thanks, Clawhauser!

Clawhauser, mortified, could stop the McHorn or...

NICK (V.O. THRU PHONE)

CLAWHAUSER!! LOCATION!

Clawhauser turns to Paul's tiny computer... which now has... its screensaver on, which requires a PASSWORD. Luckily, there's a Post-it on the monitor with the password, hooray! Except it's 16 characters long!

CLAWHAUSER

AGHHHH!

EXT. DESERT FESTIVAL - SAME TIME

As Pawbert, Judy and Gary crest a hill, Pawbert spots an obstacle that worries him.

PAWBERT

Oh no... I think we're going to have to go through the festival.

HOPPS

Festival?

Hopps looks beyond the dune to find a GIANT FESTIVAL blocking their way to the weather wall. But as she turns to Pawbert, she sees the COPS APPROACHING. WHAT? How did they find them? Then Judy realizes as she sees PAWBERT'S PHONE:

HOPPS (CONT'D)

(frustrated with herself)

The phone's the first thing they track.

Hopps smashes Pawbert's phone and jumps into the motorcycle.

HOPPS (CONT'D)

Go!

As Judy, Gary and Pawbert descend into the festival, Hoggbottom and the other cops race to close the gap.

INT./EXT. FLASH'S CAR - SAME TIME

Nick and Nibbles continue to get thrown around in the back of Flash's car, as Clawhauser hurries to give Nick a location.

NICK
Clawhauser?!

INT. ZPD - PAUL MOLEDEBRANDT'S CUBICLE - SAME TIME

CLAWHAUSER
I am working on it!

-- Clawhauser finally types the password correctly.

CLAWHAUSER (CONT'D)
Got it!

NICK (O.S.)
Great! Now--

But then a "PROVE YOU'RE NOT A ROBOT" page pops up. It says click everything that's cheese. Everything looks like cheese.

CLAWHAUSER
NO!

EXT. FESTIVAL - SAME TIME

WITH JUDY, GARY AND PAWBERT - they make their way through a strange-looking crowd.

GARY
What festival is this?

They see a MOOSE light a sign that says... **BURNING MAMMAL**. Judy trades a look with Pawbert as they run past more Burning Mammal absurdities, like Yax taking off his clothes.

YAX
Oh yeah!!

Behind them, the Zebros are catching up! Thinking fast, Judy, Pawbert and Gary duck into a tent, only to find... GAZELLE and her TIGER DANCERS. Everyone freezes. Judy stares at Gazelle, not knowing what she'll do. Gazelle sees the Zebros approaching and leans down to Judy.

GAZELLE
(after a pregnant pause)
We're with you, Judy Hopps.

Gazelle opens the back flap of the tent, giving Judy a clear shot to the access door to the weather wall.

A second later, the Zebras race in and come face to face with Gazelle. They freeze, too. Gazelle grins, remembering them.

GAZELLE (CONT'D)
We meet again, Zebra.

Before they can respond, Gazelle and her tiger dancers grab them both and beat the crap out of them.

GAZELLE (CONT'D)
Here come the horns!

EXT. BURNING MAMMAL - MOMENTS LATER

Judy, Pawbert and Gary race for the access door, while Hoggbottom tries to intercept, but she's at a distance.

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
She's going for the door! She's
going for the door!

INT. ZPD - PAUL MOLEDEBRANDT'S CUBICLE - SAME TIME

NICK (V.O.)
Clawhauser, we're outta time --

CLAWHAUSER
I'm in!
(location found!)
Desert/Tundratown Weather Wall
access door.

INT./EXT - FLASH'S CAR - SAME TIME

NICK
Desert/Tundratown weather wall
access door! Hurry!

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - OFFICE - SAME TIME

The Lynxley's are hearing this via a screen, other screens show the Tundratown expansion into Marsh Market has begun.

MILTON LYNXLEY
What is in that wall?

CATTRICK
(checks schematics)
Power control room -

KITTY
(checks schematics)
But for like some old part of
Tundratown.

Milton's looks, then his eyes go wide.

MILTON LYNXLEY
I know what they're doing! They'll
ruin us!

EXT. BURNING MAMMAL - MOMENTS LATER

Judy, Gary and Pawbert race towards the access door, but
Hoggbottom and the ZPD are closing in fast.

MILTON LYNXLEY (V.O. ON PHONE)
No more tranquilizers, put them
down!

CAPTAIN HOGGBOTTOM
Sir?

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - OFFICE - SAME TIME

MILTON LYNXLEY
Put them down, now!

EXT. BURNING MAMMAL - SAME TIME

Hoggbottom nervously loads a MENACING "KILL DART."

MILTON LYNXLEY (V.O. ON PHONE)
Take the shot! Take the shot! Do
it! DO IT!

Hoggbottom nervously goes to take the shot. She sees Judy in
her crosshairs... she could take the shot... but Judy looks
right at her... and Hoggbottom knows this isn't right. But
just as she starts to lower her weapon --

WHAM! She's accidentally knocked by HIGGINS - and POP! Her
dart shoots... straight at PAWBERT...

AND EVERYTHING GOES INTO SLOW MO. Hopps has a split second... and SHOVES PAWBERT, BUT NOW THE DART IS ABOUT TO HIT HER. CLOSER... CLOSER... AND-

VROOM! Flash's car races across the sand between them, SIDEWAYS, stopping Hoggbottom's dart and kicking up an insane rooster tail of sand and dust - a perfect dust storm, giving Judy, Pawbert and Gary access to the door!

Judy looks at the car, unaware Nick just saved her life.

PAWBERT (O.S.)

Judy?!

Judy realizes she has to hurry to complete her mission

INT. WEATHER WALL - MOMENTS LATER

Judy, Pawbert and Gary smash inside. The interior of the weather wall is labyrinthian and industrial. Small animals in hard hats see Gary and scramble!

SPOOKED OTTER

Snake!

PAWBERT

(to Judy, looking around)
Power control room?!

HOPPS

(looking at journal)
Uh... five flights up! Hurry!

GARY

Whoa, that is a lot of stairs.

Judy, Gary and Pawbert race up the stairs.

EXT. WEATHER WALL - DESERT SIDE - SAME TIME

Nick and Nibbles exit Flash's car as the HEAT WALLS begin to turn on. Nibbles runs ahead, but Nick looks back to Flash.

NICK

Way to hustle, bud. I love ya, I owe ya!

Flash peels out, giving Nick time to get to the wall, Nibbles is way ahead of him. Higgins and the cops stop their pursuit.

HIGGINS

Whoa, whoa, whoa. It's turning on.
It's turning on!

Nibbles bangs through the door first, which CLOSES just as the wall starts to heat up! Now Nick is stuck outside! Did Nibbles do that on purpose?! The heat walls get hotter!

NICK

No--Nibbles? Nibbles!

INT. WEATHER WALL - UPPER LEVEL - SAME TIME

Judy, Gary and Pawbert reach the control room to find a TOUGH RHINO WHO... SEES GARY AND RUNS, knocking through a door to the TUNDRATOWN side, damaging the hinges so it's stuck open, LETTING IN THE FRIGID COLD AIR.

GARY

Cold!

As Gary shivers, Pawbert tries to shut it, but it's stuck.

PAWBERT

It's jammed!

Judy goes to help Pawbert with the door, but Gary stops her.

GARY

Don't worry about me! Find the switch!

Judy checks the journal and scans the room for the OLD POWER BREAKER, but everything is modern.

HOPPS

No, no, no, not these, the original switch would be older.

Judy spots a rusty old door and races to it, and flings it open to find an old BACK PANEL and a cob-webbed set of switches. ONLY ONE IS IN AN "OFF" POSITION. That's it!

Judy tries to flip the breaker, but can't, it's too heavy. Gary and Pawbert join her and they flip it as a team.

SPARK SPARK SPARK! The power to that breaker turns back on and they race back to the window desperately searching, hoping to see the Reptile Ravine clocktower light.

PAWBERT

Can you see it? Did we turn on the clocktower?

HOPPS
(nothing, then...)
There! It's there!

Just visible in the shadows of the morning sun raking across the mountains, they see a pulsing glow: the top of REPTILE RAVINE's CLOCKTOWER. They've succeeded!

PAWBERT
(overjoyed, emotional)
We did it? We can find the original patent?

Judy smiles... relieved... but then... sees a security cam and realizes, Nick outside, he can't get in... the outer door is locked and the heat walls are about to go full blast.

HOPPS
(panicking)
Nick...? The door... it's locked.
Wait, how did it lock?

- As the heat walls start to grow hotter, Nick is now in big trouble. He bangs on the door, desperate.

NICK
Nibbles! NIBBLES?! OPEN IT!

Holy shit, is Nibbles the twist villain?! But at the last second -- the door opens and Nibbles pulls Nick inside.

INT. WEATHER WALL - CONTINUOUS

NIBBLES
Dang door stuck on me.

INT. WEATHER CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

Seeing Nick safe, Judy sighs a breath of relief, and looks to Pawbert, a little embarrassed.

HOPPS
Sorry... last case there was kind of a... twist.

PAWBERT
(smiles, bittersweet)
I know.

STAB! Just like that... Pawbert INJECTS HOPPS WITH SNAKE VENOM! PAWBERT IS THE VILLAIN! Hopps' eyes go wide. Stunned. Pawbert helps her to the floor.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh -- oh my heart is
pounding! I thought you knew, I
thought you knew.

GARY

No!

Gary tries to strike Pawbert, but since Gary's already cold,
he's also weak, so Pawbert easily grabs Gary by the throat,
stopping him, and marches toward the outer Tundratown door.

PAWBERT

Sorry partner... hate to leave you
out in the cold... but I'm gonna.

Pawbert throws Gary outside into the snow, now Gary is really
in danger and Hopps can't do anything about it. Gary looks to
Pawbert, his world collapsing. Pawbert looks at Judy, meek.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)

Please don't be mad at me.

(off Judy, icky)

But you get it... we've always been
on the same page... me and you.
Underdogs, right? You gotta prove
you're as good as everyone else...
that you belong.

(then, reloading his venom
device)

I know it's messed up, but this is
my chance. I have to take it.
'Cause when I get to his great
grandma's home... and I burn the
original patent - I'll finally be
something in my family. And I'll
finally belong too.

But then...

NICK (O.S.)

Judy?

Pawbert hears Nick's voice outside somewhere and locks eyes
with Judy... knowing what he must do.

PAWBERT

Ruh-roh. No loose ends...

Pawbert returns to Gary, taking his fanny pack. Pawbert
checks to make sure the ANTI-VENOM PEN is inside, Judy's only
hope to survive. He has it... and takes it with him.

PAWBERT (CONT'D)
Bye partner... bye, Judy Hopps.

Pawbert goes to leave, but as he does, Judy holds his foot.

HOPPS
Pawbert please... you *can* be
different than your family...

PAWBERT
(a beat, then)
I don't want to be different.

And with that, Pawbert leaves, shutting the door behind him,
leaving Judy and Gary to die. And Judy... is helpless.

INT. WEATHER WALL - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Pawbert heads to the catwalk, hears Nick upstairs.

NICK (O.S.)
(calling out)
Judy? Judy?! Nibbles? Do you see
her?

NIBBLES
No! Nothing yet!

INT. WEATHER WALL - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

Judy's doing everything in her power to get to the door...
but her body is failing... and the room is getting colder.

HOPPS
Ni-- Nick...

Judy crawls desperately toward the door, but her body gives
out. Realizing, this is as far as she can go, she tears up...

GARY (O.S.)
We shall... succeed... Judy Hopps.

Hopps looks back to see Gary in bad shape, about to freeze.

INT. WEATHER WALL - STAIRWELL - SAME TIME

Pawbert heads up the stairs, he finds... Nibbles. Pawbert
puts his hands up, like 'I'm unarmed.'

PAWBERT

It's okay -- Judy sent me... she
needs to find Nick.

Just as Nibbles lets her guard down -- WHAM! Pawbert jabs
Nibbles with venom, too. Nibbles looks at the wound.

NIBBLES

Yup. Should've seen that coming...

Nibbles hits the deck. Done. Pawbert steps over her,
reloading the venom device as he continues on.

NICK (O.S.)

Judy?

INT. WEATHER WALL - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

Judy is almost completely paralyzed, looking at Nick on the
security monitors, in Pawbert's crosshairs....

HOPPS

Nick...

Judy fights to move forward... can't.

GARY

We shall... succeed...
(then, seeing her in pain)
Judy.

HOPPS

I can't... move... and you're...
too cold... and he's gonna...
Nick's gonna...

EXT. WEATHER WALL ROOF - SAME TIME

Nick makes it to the roof, Judy isn't there. But as he turns
to go back inside... Pawbert is there... holding the venom
device. Without a word, Nick realizes what must have
happened. Pawbert looks at Nick like, sorry, you gotta die.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

Judy can see this on the monitors...

GARY

(tiny, emotional)
Judy, the world... was never meant
to be on one animal's shoulders.
(MORE)

GARY (CONT'D)

That's why my great grandma...
wanted Zootopia to be for everyone.
So we could all help each other.

But Judy is despondent, there's no hope this time... and she knows it's all her fault. She tears up, ashamed.

HOPPS

I didn't... help...

GARY

You did... you chose to help me...
and became my best, warm-blooded
friend... very warm.

Gary looks at Judy... and we realize he is seeing her with snake vision, and she is super warm.

GARY (CONT'D)

We're going to be okay.

Judy realizes... GARY HAS A PLAN! Gary smiles and from his eyes... we see in his heat vision that JUDY IS VERY WARM! WARM ENOUGH TO HEAT HIM UP! They're gonna get outta here!

GARY (CONT'D)

Permission to hug?

Judy, emotional, barely nods. Gary coils around Judy... and suddenly... his eyes become LUCID... He sees... the SCREEN which shows the FANNY PACK on PAWBERT'S BELT UP ON THE ROOF, and the ANTI-VENOM PEN in it that can save Judy's life.

GARY (CONT'D)

We're gonna save you... and save
your friend.

(but just as Judy smiles,
she loses consciousness)

Judy?!

But before Gary can head for the stairs to the roof -- SMASH! The cops break into the control room, to see... GARY COILING JUDY in a way that makes it look like he's going to kill her.

HIGGINS

He's gonna eat that rabbit!

GARY

No! Wait, I'm saving her - I'm
gonna get her the anti-pen!

The Cops all raise their weapons.

EXT. WEATHER WALL ROOFTOP - SAME TIME

Pawbert keeps plodding toward Nick on the rooftop. Nick is backed up, almost to the edge, where it's just an ice shelf.

NICK
Where is she?

PAWBERT
She uh... she didn't make it.
But... with "snake bites" you go
fast. You'll see.

Nick's heart sinks, giving Pawbert a split second to attack.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

As Gary tries to fight off the cops - he looks to Hopps - she's getting worse - she needs help now or she'll die!

EXT. WEATHER WALL - ROOFTOP - SAME TIME

On the roof, Pawbert struggles with Nick on the ground.

PAWBERT
She's gone, Nick. Just -- get it
over with!

Nick struggles, trying to kick free, but can't. As he desperately tries to fend Pawbert off... his foot hits the fanny pack, accidentally knocking a bunch of MARKERS out of it... which fall over the side of the ice ledge.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

As Gary loses his struggle with the cops, the **MARKERS** FROM the FANNY PACK HIT the snow-covered FIRE-ESCAPE outside. Gary sees it and realizes Nick is WAY ABOVE HIM and GETS AN IDEA!

EXT. WEATHER WALL - ROOFTOP - SAME TIME

PAWBERT
(about to stab Nick)
You're done. Know when to quit.

The ICE below them starts cracking. But that's when Nick hears something... way down below... it's... GARY.

GARY
ANTI-VENOM! YOU CAN SAVE HER WITH
THE ANTI-VENOM! THROW ME THE BAG!

Nick catches the tiniest glimpse of Judy, coiled gently by Gary. She's in rough shape... barely alive.

NICK
Judy?!

Nick looks at the FANNY PACK on PAWBERT'S BELT and realizes... the ANTI-VENOM PEN is inside. Holy shit, he can save her! Nick knocks the anti-pen loose, but it skitters to the edge of the ice cliff. He goes for it, but the ice ledge cracks further, about to calve off completely! But getting that anti-venom pen is the only way to save Judy, so Nick moves to get it... when PAWBERT STOPS HIM, panicking!

PAWBERT
Leave it! You're gonna kill us
both!
(then, desperate)
It's not worth dying for.

Nick considers this... an echo of the last thing he said to Judy before their split at the Honeymoon Lodge... and knows... he would give anything to save Judy... even his own life. He looks back to Pawbert, his mind made up.

NICK
Agree... to disagree.

And with that, Nick shoves away from Pawbert and slides to the anti-pen, knowing it's a one way ticket. Right at the edge, he grabs the anti-pen and chucks it down to Judy's balcony, as - CRACK! The ice ledge he's on breaks completely!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME

The anti-pen lands on the OUTER CATWALK, and just as it's about to fall - GARY GRABS the anti-pen and clicks it!

ANTI-VENOM PEN (V.O.)
"STAB ME STRAIGHT INTO THE HEART"

Gary jabs Judy in the heart and she... WAKES UP only to see Nick on the monitor -- CRACK! The ice ledge he's on breaks loose and Nick begins to fall. Realizing he's about to die, Judy goes ABSOLUTELY HAM! Knocking through the cops at a dizzying pace - racing to save Nick in time!

FASTER, FASTER, FASTER and.....

Just when we think Nick is done for -- HOPPS GRABS HIM, mid-air, suspended by... Gary who has coiled around them both... suspended over the side of the weather wall... as Pawbert falls into the swirling snow below.

EXT. WEATHER WALL - ROOF TOP - MOMENTS LATER

Gary pulls Nick and Judy to safety onto the top of the weather wall roof. They stare at one another... then race to hug each other, relief pouring out.

NICK

I thought -- he told me that you...

HOPPS

I was trying to get to you... and I saw you --

Both look at each other... the enormous weight of what almost happened... of their separation... of the mistakes they made. Gary, sensing that they need time for themselves, grabs his anti-pen and leaves to go help Nibbles.

GARY

I'll... help your friend.

We stay with Nick and Judy... and for the first time in his life, Nick tries to find the words to tell Judy how he really feels about her... and how much she means to him.

NICK

Okay... I don't... care that we're different, you know. What I care about is you. I care about you. Okay? And I didn't say it, and I should have said it, but I didn't... because... well, because I *am*... an emotionally-insecure source of your discomfort who is not good at expressing his feelings... probably because I've been on my own my whole life, it's not an excuse it's just, it's why instead of telling you that you're the best thing that ever happened to me, I make jokes about your ears and I tell you you try too hard, when the truth is... I just don't want you to get hurt, because... because no one else in the world matters more to me than you do.

Hopps can't believe it, she's never heard anything like that from Nick in her life. A beat. And she responds right back.

HOPPS

I... do... try too hard because deep down I'm afraid that I am what everyone thinks I am, and I suppress my discomfort because I'm worried it makes me look weak, and I want to be strong, and I think I'm failing all the time, and I only take what you say personally because you're the only one in my life who ever believed in me, even when I don't even believe in myself and I should have told you that. And no one else in the world matters to me more than you do either.

Beat. Whoa. But we aren't done.

NICK

I have unresolved childhood trauma that I refuse to discuss because being vulnerable scares me.

HOPPS

I make dangerous choices because I have an unhealthy bunny hero complex.

NICK

I didn't join the ZPD because I wanted to be a cop, I joined because I always wanted to be part of a pack, and the thought of losing you scares me because... because *you're* my pack.

HOPPS

I... should never have left you, and I do need a herd of therapy animals... and I should have told you that you are the only partner I would ever want because... you're my fluffle.

(then, happy tears)

That's a bunch of rabbits.

A beat, then...

NIBBLES (O.S.)

Now that is what we call, an overshare. I'm alive by the way, I made it.

(MORE)

NIBBLES (O.S.) (CONT'D)
(then, pointing)
Oh, also that guy's still alive.

Nibbles points to... Pawbert, down below -- running away toward the LYNXLEY MANOR. Nick and Judy exchange looks.

HOPPS
He's gonna get to the lost reptile neighborhood, find Gary's Great-Grandma's patent, and destroy it!

Nick thinks, then.

NICK
Yeah, I've got no idea what that means or who Gary is, but LET'S GO!

EXT. BASE OF THE WEATHER WALL - MOMENTS LATER

Nick and Judy hop on a SNOW MOBILE.

NICK
Hopps and Wilde?

HOPPS
Wilde and Hopps!

NIBBLES / GARY
And Nibbles and Gary!

NICK
(re: Gary, realizing)
He's Gary -- WHOA!

They peel off, GRABBING A LONG SCARF FOR GARY from a nearby polar bear, as they race to intercept Pawbert.

NICK (CONT'D)
(to the polar bear)
Thank you! It's for the snake! He's cold. No fur on him! Bye now!

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - MAIN ENTRANCE - A LITTLE LATER

Pawbert, bedraggled, stumbles his way through the front door. But he barely has time to catch his breath, before --

MILTON LYNXLEY
You!

PAWBERT
Dad, wait -- Dad--

Milton grabs Pawbert by the shirt and flings him. It's violent and awful.

MILTON LYNXLEY

You don't belong in this family, you
will never belong in this family!

PAWBERT

Wait! Wait! I WASN'T WORKING WITH
THEM, I WAS HELPING US! I know
where the reptile neighborhood is
buried. Where to find the *real*
patent that proves that snakes
invented the walls. I'm going to
destroy it... for the family... for
you, Daddy.

Milton winces... and we realize... they AREN'T ALONE.
Winddancer is there, and he's like "uh...."

MAYOR WINDDANCER

Uh.....

MILTON LYNXLEY

(to Winddancer)

You want to keep your job, you say
nothing.

(then, to Pawbert)

YOU. (SOFTENING) Maybe you are a
Lynxley. Take me to the patent.

But before they can go... there's a noise. What is that...? A
buzzing... at the door. Kitty and Cattrick nervously move
toward the door when -- TEETH GNAW THROUGH -- it's NIBBLES!
Who pokes her head in, through the hole she nibbled.

NIBBLES

Takes a threesome to be sumpin' -
but a FOURWAY TO BUST YOUR DOORWAY!

CLICK! Nibbles pops the front door lock and SMASH! Judy, Nick
and Gary come crashing through on their SNOWMOBILE. (Gary now
wrapped in the giant scarf.) Milton turns to Pawbert.

MILTON LYNXLEY

Get to the patent, destroy it!

Pawbert makes a break out the back to get to the REPTILE
RAVINE CLOCKTOWER on the other side of a HEDGE MAZE. Nibbles
and Gary buy Nick and Judy time, blocking the lynxes.

NIBBLES

Go! We got this!

As Hopps and Nick race after Pawbert, Nibbles looks to the TV, which shows Marsh Market starting to freeze over. She rolls her sleeves up and faces the Lynxleys, ready to fight.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
Hey whiskers! You're done hurting
muh city.

All three Lynxley's brandish their claws. Whoops.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
Uh-oh. Tides have turned --

As the lynxes attack, Nibbles looks to Winddancer.

NIBBLES (CONT'D)
Hey! Brian Winddancer! You wanna be
a hero... or just play one on TV?

EXT. GIANT SNOWY HEDGE MAZE - MOMENTS LATER

Pawbert turns on the GIANT SNOW CANONS outside and grabs a GAS CAN off of some snowed-over snowmobiles. He lurches on, pulling a box of MATCHES from the HONEYMOON LODGE from his pocket, then limps to a snowy hedge maze, a la, The Shining. He'll be to the entrance of Reptile Ravine clocktower soon.

EXT. GIANT SNOWY HEDGE MAZE - MOMENTS LATER

Judy and Nick run to the hedge maze... but with the snow falling... they can't follow Pawbert's prints. There are two directions to go. They share a look, after everything they've been through, will they have to split up?

NICK
(not wanting this)
Okay... I go left, and you go right?

HOPPS
Uh... yeah...
(spots something O.S.)
Or.....

Judy points to... a GIANT SNOWCAT, near where Pawbert got the gas can. She gives Nick a mischievous look. He grins.

EXT. GIANT SNOWY HEDGE MAZE - MOMENTS LATER

Pawbert limps through the maze... he sees the exit of the maze, the reptile ravine clocktower beyond it. But he hears a noise behind him. What is that? Suddenly -- VROOM!

Behind him, the maze is absolutely demolished by the SNOWCAT. NICK is finally in the drivers seat... LOVING IT.

Hopps blows the horn of the snowcat -- it's a horribly loud ominous sound that scares the shit out of Pawbert. They both laugh as Nick careens through the maze.

HOPPS
You are a horrible driver!

NICK
Yes I am!

They reach the other side of the maze, still pursuing Pawbert, but hit a bump, slamming the ground, knocking open... a CHASM in the SNOW, SEPARATING THEM FROM PAWBERT. Judy looks to Nick, there's only one way to stop Pawbert now!

HOPPS
I'm gonna jump!

Nick sees how dangerous the leap would be. It's just like the opening car chase of the film. Pawbert is almost to the entrance to the Clocktower and Judy is about to jump when... NICK GRABS HER PAW. But not to stop her... to *join* her.

NICK
Zoogetherness!
(off Judy)
No? Never mind. Forget I said it.
Here we go!

Nick and Judy leap for it, and right as Pawbert is almost to the entrance to the CLOCKTOWER -- they tackle him, and he drops the MATCHBOX! His plan about to be foiled.

PAWBERT
(frantically searching)
Matches! Matches! matches!

Pawbert scrambles to find the matchbox in the snow, growing desperate. But just when he finds the matchbox, it disappears under the snow. Something burrowed beneath it. It's HOPPS!

HOPPS
(from under the snow)
Bunnies... we're burrowers. Rabbit
kick!

WHAM! She rabbit-kicks Pawbert, and knocks him toward Nick, who sticks out a leg to trip him (a la our first Zootopia teaser) and Pawbert goes off balance, and falls into a huge bank of snow. Nick and Judy slap paws. Mission accomplished.

Until - BOOM! Pawbert smashes out, turning a new shade of crazy. Pawbert goes on the offensive, and in the snow... he's EVIL! He knocks Nick and Judy back -- and goes for both of their throats, slamming them to the ground.

PAWBERT

I'll destroy the patent, that town
and everything in it! And a dirtbag
fox and a dumb bunny will never
stand in my way.

NICK

She's not a dumb bunny... and
you're forgetting one thing...

PAWBERT

What's that?

NICK

We're friends with a snake.

Pawbert is confused until... he looks up to see... GARY and Nibbles, who have arrived to kick his ass.

GARY

Howdy partner!

Nick throws Nibbles a nearby log.

NICK

Heads up!

Nibbles takes the log and nibbles it into a BASEBALL BAT, which she throws to Gary, who bonks Pawbert in the head. Suddenly losing badly, Pawbert tries to call for help.

PAWBERT

Daddy!

GARY

(smiling)

Daddy's busy!

INT. LYNXLEY MANOR - SAME TIME

Meanwhile, WINDDANCER is living out his TV persona fantasy, BEATING THE CRAP OUT OF THE LYNXLEYS. Milton backs up.

MILTON LYNXLEY

Brian! Brian, wait --

(to Cattrick)

Go!

Milton shoves Cattrick toward Winddancer to fight him, but Winddancer easily punches both Cattrick and Kitty aside.

MAYOR WINDDANCER
(his epic catch-phrase)
You say justice is dead?! I say...
NEIGH!!

Winddancer strikes a pose, then jump-kicks Milton in the face.

EXT. BACK OF THE PROPERTY - SAME TIME

Back outside, Gary grabs Pawbert off of the snow.

GARY
Here kitty, kitty.

Gary plunks Pawbert down in front of Judy, Nick and Nibbles.
Judy smiles at Pawbert.

HOPPS
It's called an arrest, sweetheart.

NICK
Boom.

Gary then throws Pawbert into the air and body slams him into the snow. Fight over. As Judy ties Pawbert up, he pathetically tries to demean them one last time.

PAWBERT
No one will believe you over us.
We've always been better than you.
And we always will be. Nothing you
do matters.

Nick and Judy share a look, then look to Gary.

HOPPS
(re: Gary)
Well... it matters to *him*.

NICK
(motioning to clocktower
entrance)
Shall we?

INT. CLOCK TOWER - MOMENTS LATER

They enter... to discover a COBWEBBED STAIRWELL, which they descend.

INT./EXT. UNKNOWN ICY AREA - MOMENTS LATER

They emerge at the bottom of the stairwell to find... a dark cavernous space, lit only by a blinking streetlight, which flickers dimly. Hopps twists the lamp's bulb into position illuminating... not just that street lamp... but a series of street lamps, revealing... the entire reptile neighborhood, literally frozen in time. Empty... but beautiful.

EXT. REPTILE RAVINE - CONTINUOUS

Gary can't believe it... it's like a time capsule. They descend into the frozen town... looking for Gary's great grandma's house. Every detail pristine and unexpectedly emotional. Nibbles spots "ONE LONG SOCK" frozen on a clothes line, and tears up.

NIBBLES
(emotional)
One long sock...

Hopps smiles and turns to Gary, only to discover he's back behind them.... waiting in front of... the DE'SNAKE RESIDENCE. He found it. Gary looks to Nick and Judy, emotional. He's been hoping to find this his whole life.

As Judy, Nick and Nibbles join him, giving him support, Gary takes a deep breath and pushes the front door open.

INT. DE'SNAKE RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Inside, they find... a perfectly preserved home, full of wonderful relics of a family who loved one another. As they continue through the home... they arrive at... Agnes' DESK, where she first sketched her idea for the weather walls. On it, sits a small WOODEN BOX... it's the same BOX from the PHOTO Judy saved from the Honeymoon Lodge.

Gary gingerly picks up the box and opens it to reveal... it's like a music box with a little scene of a SNAKE and a RABBIT greeting each other. It plays... and then... CLICK... a bottom panel then opens to reveal... a FOLDED PIECE OF PAPER... Agnes' MISSING ORIGINAL PATENT. They've done it!

We sit in this moment... enjoying the beauty of a vision from a century ago... all of the wonderful tiny details. And these four heroes who came together to make this possible.

But -- SMASH! FLAMES ERUPT! It's PAWBERT, who has thrown an oil lamp onto the desk! He looks absolutely out of his mind.

PAWBERT
I'M GOING TO BURN IT ALL TO THE
GROUND! I'M A REAL LYNXLEY!!!
HAHAHAHAHA--

BUT JUST AS PAWBERT REACHES FULL INSANITY - WHAM! He's
knocked out by... HOGGBOTTOM. She holds a FRYING PAN,
breathing heavy. She got there just in time and nods at Nick
and Judy, clearly understanding the truth of what actually
happened. TRUFFLER, by her side, pats her shoulder.

TRUFFLER
That'll do, pig. That'll do.

As MUSIC builds, we jump into...

INT. NEWS ROOM - VARIOUS

PETER MOOSEBRIDGE (ON TV)
Astonishing news today, after
officers Judy Hopps and Nicholas
Wilde, along with a pit viper and a
beaver, foiled *another* major
conspiracy, by revealing the true
inventor of the city's weather walls
was a snake.

- we jump to a different news package, which shows the LYNX
family, being arrested.

LEOPARD NEWS ANCHOR
While the now disgraced Lynxley
family *were revealed to have stolen
the original plans and covered it up*
for decades.

Milton is loaded into a prison van, but tries to hold court.

MILTON LYNXLEY
You have not heard the last of
Milton L--

SLAM! Yes we have. The doors of the prison van are shut in
his face by Nick and Judy, who bump fists.

PETER MOOSEBRIDGE (V.O.)
...Their Tundratown expansion now
officially canceled.

EXT. MARSH MARKET - DAY

Residents hear the news that their neighborhood is saved and cheer. And yes... a DOLPHIN BARTENDER is so excited he snarfs his drink through his blowhole and douses a nearby walrus.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM - DAY

Nick and Judy sit, facing the camera.

DR. FUZZBY (O.S.)
Some are calling you the dream
team... how did you do it?

This time, Judy motions for Nick to speak first.

NICK
Well... there's a lot of different
kinds of animals out there. And
sometimes we start to look at all
the little reasons that we're not
the same... and we worry.

Over the following, we see Reptile Ravine re-open. We see Pawbert and his family in prison. We see Jesús buying a sweater from the sheep sweater store.

NICK (V.O.)
But maybe, if we just talked to
each other... if we just tried to
understand one another, we would
see that our differences don't
really make any difference at all.
Maybe, we'd even see that what
makes me me, and you you, can make
us even stronger.
(then)
And with hard work, you're gonna
get to that... **by year two!**

Reveal... NICK AND JUDY are leading the Partnership Class, which now includes ALL of the partner teams that once chased them. They all nod and clap, pledging to be better teammates.

ZEBROS
Zebros.

ZEBROWSKI
(then, thoughtful)
Actually... my name is Gene.

ZEBRAXTON
(emotional)
My name... is also Gene.

ZEBROS
ZEBROS!

INT. GARY'S HOUSE - DAY

We're TIGHT ON: A JUMBO-POP being carried around by...
CHAOTIC BUNNIES! All of Hopps' 278 siblings... who trip and
accidentally smash the jumbo pop through a wall.

BUNNIES
He did it!

On the other side of the room, we find Stu, carrying more
party supplies.

STU
Kids, get off the snake!

Stu looks over at his MULTIPLE CHILDREN USING GARY LIKE A
SLIDE. But then... Gary hears a knock at the door.

GARY
One sec!

Gary hurries to the door, to find... HIS FAMILY. As they
celebrate, Gary spots Judy and brings his family over to her.

GARY (CONT'D)
(full of pride and
emotion)
This... is my family.
(then)
Permission to hug?
(Judy nods and they hug
her, deeply appreciative)
Thank you.

As the De'Snakes head off, happy, Nick approaches Judy.

NICK
Hey, I uh... I got ya something...

Nick hands Judy a very crappily-wrapped present. Judy expects
it to be a joke, but opens it to find... THE CARROT PEN. NICK
FIXED IT. Judy is clearly touched. Both of them look at each
other, acknowledging the journey they've gone on.

NICK (CONT'D)

Love ya, partner.

(then, caveat)

But I am still me, so I'm only
saying it once a decade.

Hopps smiles at Nick, and puts the carrot pen in her belt,
when... it rewinds and plays the last thing Nick said...

CARROT PEN (V.O.)

"Love ya, partner."

Nick and Judy look at each other.

NICK

Oh, I'm gonna need that back.

Hopps holds the pen away from Nick. A beat, then.

HOPPS

I'll give it back to you... after
our next case.

NICK

(playful)

There's gonna be another case, huh?

HOPPS

(super sweet)

Of course...

(then, "serious")

Because when you broke out of jail,
you also released 200 highly
dangerous prisoners.

Nick thinks, then... shrugs.

NICK

Worth it.

(then)

Any idea where you wanna start?

Judy looks at Nick and grins.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

We're at a ticket counter, where we find a KOALA drinking a
PIÑA KOALA. As a customer approaches, the Koala takes one
last sip and puts it down.

CUSTOMER (O.S.)

One-way ticket to Outback Island,
please. First class.

Reveal... it's Mayor Bellwether, who has completely changed her appearance and is trying to get out of town.

KOALA TICKET TAKER

Very nice. And remember, if you're happy with our service please be sure to leave us... *four* thumbs up.

He gives her four thumbs up! That's right, they really do have four thumbs.

BELLWETHER

Oh, I will.

As Bellwether sits down in the waiting area for her flight, she sips a PIÑA KOALA. But behind her, she doesn't see... a COUPLE, sipping their own PIÑA KOALAS. It's Nick and Judy... in full disguise as Rick Wilde and Trudy Cabbagepatch.

NICK

Hopps and Wilde?

HOPPS

Wilde and... Cabbagepatch!

As they stand to arrest Bellwether once again, they... spill their drink on the Frantic Pig. And, we -- JUMP TO:

END CREDITS

Burning Mammal concert will serve as our end credits! Where Gazelle reprises her song "Zoo," while we do a curtain call of all of our favorite characters from the movie.

GAZELLE (V.O. PRELAP)

Burning Mammal, let's go!

After the song, we fade out... then...

INT. JUDY'S APARTMENT - GOLDEN HOUR

We are tight on... the REPAIRED CARROT PEN, being placed in a holder like Nick had earlier in the movie. A plaque below reads: "To Carrots... from Your Emotional Support Animal."

We see Judy has set this on her DESK near the WINDOW SILL. Judy looks at it and smiles, then looks around conspiratorially and... hits the button, which plays:

NICK (V.O. ON PEN)

"Love ya, partner."

(she clicks it again)

"Love ya, partner."

Judy smiles, about to click it again, when, through the wall:

PRONK (O.S.)
Hey Bunny, you gonna keep playing
that all night?

BUCKY (O.S.)
Leave her alone, she's proud of
herself but still seeks external
validation!

PRONK (O.S.)
Oh, shut up!

BUCKY (O.S.)
You shut up!

PRONK (O.S.)
YOU SHUT UP!

BUCKY (O.S.)
(beat, then)
Hey Bunny, what's next for you two?

HOPPS
We're investigating a rabbit who
strangled her neighbors.

Silence.

BUCKY (O.S.)
You offended her.

PRONK (O.S.)
You offended her.

BUCKY (O.S.)
SHUT UP!

PRONK (O.S.)
YOU SHUT UP!

HOPPS
Good night.

As Judy shakes her head and leaves, we push in on the CARROT
PEN and... suddenly a shadow streaks by overhead, something
gently falling from it... landing on the window sill.

It's... a BIRD FEATHER. Which sits for a moment... then blows
away in the wind. SMASH TO BLACK.

THE END.