

T.I.B.S [THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER]

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO - DAY

A beautiful panoramic view of the Albuquerque landscape.

INT. MUSEUM, SPIDER EXHIBIT - DAY

ABIGAIL GARZA (mid-20's), conducts a tour of the spider exhibit to a group of ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN. Some are fascinated by the spiders, some are completely grossed out as they look at different species of spiders from around the world.

ABIGAIL

And here we come to the Solifugae.

VICTOR

A solifu-what?

Abigail laughs as some of the children take an interest in the cased spider.

ABIGAIL

A Solifuge, better known as a camel spider.

CHELSEA

They're huge! Why are they called camel spiders?

ABIGAIL

Good question. Its because they live in the desert, mainly in the middle east but can also be found in the southwest U.S. and Mexico.

CARLOS

(mesmerized)

Cool.

The teacher, MS. FERNANDEZ (early-40's), frazzled, joins her students with fraternal twins, ALONZO and ALANZA, in tow.

MS. FERNANDEZ

This time, stick with the group you two.

The twins stare at Ms. Fernandez then smirk as she walks away.

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MS. FERNANDEZ (CONT'D)

You have a few minutes to look
around children, we'll be moving on
to the next exhibit shortly.

KEVIN (9), a mischievous, bratty student, decides to pull a
prank on CHELSEA(9), a prissy, "girly-girl".

As Chelsea and three of her friends, SAMANTHA, AUDREY, and
MIMI, cautiously approach one of the larger cased spiders,
Kevin, in a huddle of FOUR OF HIS FRIENDS, takes an item from
his bookbag.

The boys snicker as Kevin walks away from the group and
approaches the girls. Chelsea and her friends are grossed out,
they talk as they look at the cased spider.

CHELSEA

Ew, his eyes are so beady.

SAMANTHA

How do you know its a boy?

MIMI

They're all boys, look at how
creepy they are.

AUDREY

Ew, yeah, gross.

The spider, completely still, stares back at them blinking
with multiple eyes. Kevin sneaks up from behind and tosses a
fake spider on the case, the girls start screaming and
running around frantically.

Abigail and Ms. Fernandez walk over to the group of children.
Kevin and his friends are laughing, Chelsea and her friends
are not amused.

MS. FERNANDEZ

Kevin! Boys! Get over here. What
is going on?

Kevin and his friends snicker as they walk over to Ms.
Fernandez to be disciplined. Abigail tends to Chelsea and
the group of girls.

CHELSEA

Silly boys.

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ABIGAIL

Yeah, they can be a hand full. I see he went with the old fake spider trick.

Abigail picks up the rubber spider and wiggles it, the group of girls squirm and frown.

SAMANTHA

Why aren't you afraid of spiders?

ABIGAIL

I realized at an early age that, there's really nothing to be afraid of.

AUDREY

But they're soooo creepy.

Abigail laughs a little.

ABIGAIL

I find them rather interesting, you'd be surprised at how much you can learn from spiders and they way they live.

The other students slowly gather around Abigail.

CARLOS

Is that why you wear that pin?

Abigail lovingly looks a pendant on her blouse, it is a beautiful turquoise and gold, silk spider pendant.

ABIGAIL

Yes. This was a gift from my grandmother, it has been in my family for many years.

She recalls her childhood.

FLASHBACK

INT. ABIGAIL'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

It's early morning, a FEMALE voice echoes in the background.

FEMALE (O.S.)

Abby! The school bus will be here any minute.

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YOUNG ABIGAIL (12), bright-eyed, intelligent, curious, and quirky, sticks her head out of the bedroom door.

ABIGAIL

On my way!

She pops back in her room.

INT. ABIGAIL'S BEDROOM

Abigail's room is decorated with shadowboxes, pictures, and posters of arachnoids.

Music plays in her room as Abigail prepares to head out to catch the bus. She practices her English presentation in the mirror.

ABIGAIL

Good day! Mi Llamó es Abigail Garza, and I want share...and I want to tell you about...and this is my...

Unable to figure out how to present herself to the class, she drops her arms to her side and flops down onto her bed dangling her feet over the side.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

(groans)

Abigail grabs her pillow and places it over her face.

INT. ABIGAIL'S HOUSE, HALLWAY

Out for his morning stroll is, DIEGO, a fun-loving, adventurous, energetic spider. He sticks his head out from bedside the staircase to make sure the coast is clear before heading towards Abby's room. The hallway is massive in comparison to Diego.

The coast is clear, Diego take a deep breath and starts on his journey down the hallway whistling as he scurries about towards Abby's room. Music from Abby's room, and sounds from breakfast being prepared in the kitchen, are in the distance. Diego takes few steps, the hallway walls tower over him like skyscrapers.

Diego takes a few more steps but stops when he feels the floor beneath him start to rumble. He looks around and sees nothing or no one in sight, he continues on. Seconds later, another rumble, Diego stops, he looks around again and sees nothing.

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The rumble becomes more frequent, Diego turns around and notices a dark figure heading his way. The shadow covers him completely. He quickly attempts to scurry to the wall narrowly escaping being squashed by ALEJANDRO's (late 30's) feet, Abigail's father.

DIEGO

Whoa. Whoa!

Diego dips and dives safety then takes a few deep breaths, he notices a small dead ROACH beside him.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Another one bites the dust.

INT. ABIGAIL'S BEDROOM - DAY

Alejandro sticks his head in Abigail's bedroom.

ALEJANDRO

You have about ten minutes young lady.

Abigail is still laying on the bed staring straight up at the ceiling.

ABIGAIL

You know Dad, I've been thinking, maybe I can help out at the office today.

She sits up on her bed then turns to speak to her father.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

I'm sure you could use an extra pair of hands, yes.

Abigail smiles big and holds up both of her hands. Alejandro smiles.

ALEJANDRO

Ten minutes, and don't forget your presentation. We've been working on that all week.

Abigail drops her hands and flops back down on the bed as she starts humming to the music.

INT. ABIGAIL'S HOUSE, HALLWAY

Diego peaks around the corner of doorway into Abigail's room, he thinks to himself.

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DIEGO

Ok, just make it to the wall. Just
make it to the wall.

Abigail hops off the bed and begins to practice in the mirror
again.

INT. ABIGAIL'S BEDROOM

Diego sneaks in Abigail's room. He crawls for a bit then
freezes, crawls for a bit then freezes.

DIEGO

Almost there.

Diego proceeds towards the crack in the wall. Still in the
mirror, Abigail notices something crawling on the floor. She
stoops over to take a closer look. Diego gets paranoid.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Whoa boy. She spotted me, she
spotted me! Ok, just be cool.

He stops crawling. Abigail reaches down to pick up Diego.

ABIGAIL

Hey, little fella.

She reaches down to scoop him up in her hand. As Abigail's
massive hands come towards Diego, he trembles with fear and
attempts to escape but its too late.

Gently cupped inside Abigail's hands, the unlikely pair are
now face to face. Abigail's eyes are three times as big as
Diego's tiny body.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

You can't crawl around here like
that, you're gonna get yourself
hurt.

She walks toward her closet on the other side of her room
then places him in the corner near a small crack in the wall.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Go on now.

Abigail smiles then continues to get ready for school. Diego
stands at the opening of the wall crack, then scurries off
into the wall. The female voice calls for Abigail again.

FEMALE (O.S.)

Abby! Time to go!

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ABIGAIL
Coming down now!

Abigail grabs her backpack and English project then exits her room.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MARICRUZ (mid-30's), Abigail's mother, beautiful and nurturing, places a juice in Abigail's lunch box then closes it. Abigail enters the kitchen, her mother hands her breakfast, waffles wrapped in wax paper, and lunch, in her lunch box.

MARICRUZ
Breakfast. Lunch.

The bus driver honks horn.

Abigail kisses her mother on the cheek and rushes out the door to catch the bus to school. Maricruz stands in the door waving "good-bye".

EXT. SCHOOL BUS - DAY

Abigail boards the crowded school bus and makes her way to usual seat next to her best friend, DALIA (12), free-spirited, eccentric, original sense of style.

ABIGAIL
Hola, Dalia.

DALIA
Hola, Abigail

The bus pulls off.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Maricruz closes the door and prepares to clean up the kitchen humming a tune to herself. In the corner of the kitchen, a spider, NORMAN, wearing a hat and carrying a small suitcase, hangs from the ceiling, lowering himself to start weaving a tiny web. Maricruz, completely unaware, continues to clean up the kitchen.

Norman finds a good spot to start weaving. He too, hums a tune. Little do they know, both Maricruz and Norman are humming a lovely little tune harmonizing perfectly which creates a beautiful melody.

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Norman opens his suitcase, there's a record player inside. He gets comfortable in his corner, he takes off his hat, gently places the needle on the record as he starts to weave his web.

The music commences, Maricruz and Norman are in perfect harmony Maricruz cleans and Norman weaves.

A few moments pass before Maricruz turns around to place some cups in the sink, she notices Norman.

MARICRUZ
ALEJANDRO!

The screaming startles Norman, he stops singing and weaving as he bumps the record player which makes the needle scratch the record. He realizes Maricruz has spotted him.

NORMAN
Ut oh.

Alejandro enters the kitchen dressed for work.

ALEJANDRO
Mari?

MARICRUZ
Alejandro, a spider. A SPIDER!!!

Maricruz points to the corner covering her eyes, Norman starts to panic.

NORMAN
Oh no, oh no, I gotta get outta here.

ALEJANDRO
Ok, Mari. Calm down, I'll take care of it.

He grabs a plastic cup from the sink. Norman quickly packs up his suitcase and grabs his hat but its too late, the cup is coming towards him. Alejandro places the cup over Norman and slides a piece of paper over the opening preventing Norman from getting out.

Inside the cup, Norman is confused. Norman, his hat, suitcase, and record player are tossed around from the movement of Alejandro walking to the back door.

NORMAN
What's going on?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Alejandro sets Norman free outside the back door then closes the door. Relieved, but shocked, Norman with his suitcase and hat in hand, takes a few steps from the back door.

EXT. BACK DOORSTEP - DAY

NORMAN

Wow. What a nice guy.

Norman puts his hat on, brushes himself off, and proudly begins to walk away.

NORMAN (CONT'D)

I can't believe I-

Seconds later Norman gets grabbed by a PRAYING MANTIS.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Maricruz is very uneasy about seeing a spider in the kitchen.

MARICRUZ

We have to call the exterminator.

Visibly shaken, she picks up the phone to dial a number. Alejandro takes the phone from her and attempts to calm her down.

ALEJANDRO

Mari, I will take care of it.

Alejandro comforts her and assures her that he will take care of the issue.

ALEJANDRO (CONT'D)

Do whatever you have to do today
and let me take care of our little
pest issue.

Maricruz smiles, relieved that her husband will contact the exterminator.

MARICRUZ

OK.

A GNAT flies past the couple which motivates the camera to move. Alejandro kisses Maricruz on the forehead, and they continue talking. Their voices get lower and muffled as the Gnat flies into the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY TO ABIGAIL'S ROOM - DAY

We travel with the Gnat down the hallway into Abigail's room. Voices from the kitchen trail off. The Gnat is having a great time, he flies into Abigail's room.

INT. ABIGAIL'S BEDROOM

He dips, and flies in circles, and swoops then unknowingly flies into a small web.

GNAT

Oh shucks.

He attempts to free himself from the web. Moments later a spider, NIGEL, crawls down beside him and starts to give him instructions on how to get out.

NIGEL

Try wiggling a little bit.

The Gnat, thinking its a friendly helper, doesn't look up, he simply repeats the instructions and acts accordingly.

GNAT

(struggling)

Wiggle.

NIGEL

Try doing that while flapping your wings.

GNAT

Ah, yes. Flap.

This tangles the Gnat more.

NAT

(Annoyed)

This isn't working.

The Gnat looks up and realizes its a spider. He takes a nervous gulp.

GNAT

O' boy.

The Spider smiles.

INT. INSIDE THE WALLS, SPIDER CITY - DAY

Its a busy morning in Spider City.

INT. SPIDER SALON

At the salon, FEMALE SPIDERS are getting their eyes-lashes done.

INT. SPIDER GYM

In the gym, MALE SPIDERS are punching the eight-legged punching bags, other SPIDERS are running on treadmills and doing yoga.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - "STARBUGS"

Several early morning commuters place their order with the BARISTA all at once. The Barista happily turns around, quickly prepares their order, and hands morning commuters their coffee cups, all done with a smile.

BARISTA

Next.

Not too far from the coffee shop, at the local Spider's Market, is Diego.

INT. SPIDER MARKET

In the cereal aisle, Diego is surrounded by a CROWD of other spiders from the city. They watch and listen with full attention as Diego explains what took place earlier that morning.

DIEGO

So I'm out for a morning stroll,
minding my own business, when I see
her--

The crowd is in shock, most of all, HERBERT, one of the most fearful spiders in the city, He is so fearful that just the thought of humans makes him weak.

HERBERT

A human!?!

Herbert passes out.

DIEGO

Yes, Herbert, a human. Someone
pick him up.

The crowd helps Herbert up off the ground, he regains consciousness.

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CONTINUED:

DIEGO (CONT'D)
I said to myself "This is it, I'm
cornered, I have to get outta
here!!"

The crowd is enthralled by Diego's story, some of the SPIDERS
are biting their nails on six of their eight legs.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
I didn't know what to do. I fake
left. I go right. I'm out of
options!! And then, it happened--

Herbert screams and passes out again. OSCAR, one of Diego's
best friends, helps Herbert stand up, again.

HERBERT
I can't take it. I can't take it!

The other spiders are still very much into Diego's story.

DIEGO
The human starts to come toward me,
I was getting ready to give her the
ol' 1-2 until-

All of the spiders gasp and their 8 eyes widen, Herbert is
trembling with fear.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
She picked me up and put me in the
corner.

The spiders relax. Herbert calms down as he rocks from side
to side a bit.

HERBERT
She rescued you?

DIEGO
Yep, she rescued me. Put me out of
harms way.

Herbert passes out yet again. The crowd is amazed.

CROWD
Wooooow.

Herbert gets up without help this time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DIEGO

So this proves my theory, there IS
a such thing as a kind human. I
say unto you my fellow spiders-

Diego's imagination runs away with him.

DIEGO'S
IMAGINATION

EXT. SPIDER CITY HALL

Diego stands behind a podium in front of the entire Spider City. Posters with Diego's picture on it and banners of Diego with "President Diego" along the bottom line either side of the audience. All the spiders cheer as Diego speaks.

DIEGO

Go out amongst the humans, befriend
them for THEY are our friends!

The crowd goes wild, fireworks goes off in the background, streamers and confetti fall from above, spiders in the crowd hi-five each other and begin to chant.

CROWD

Diego! Diego! Diego!

Diego smiles and welcomes the chants of his fellow spiders. His daydream comes to an abrupt end.

PRESENT DAY

INT. SPIDER MARKET

MR. CRAYTON

Diego!

Diego's mean boss, MR. CRAYTON, calls across the crowd from the front of the aisle. Mr. Crayton looks at all four of his watches.

MR. CRAYTON (CONT'D)

BACK TO WORK!

The crowd quickly scatters.

MR. CRAYTON (CONT'D)

You can daydream on your own time,
but this is my time, and my time is
money.

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CONTINUED:

Deflated, Diego stands alone in the cereal aisle in front of a box of Bug Berry cereal ready to be stocked on the shelf.

DIEGO

Yes sir, Mr. Crayton, sir.

Diego starts to place the boxes on the shelf.

MR. CRAYTON

And when you finish with that, Lori needs help in produce.

Diego's mood lifts, his face lights up.

DIEGO

Sure thing!

Diego happily and quickly stocks the boxes of cereal on the shelf. Mr. Crayton grunts then walks away. Diego starts to sing.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Oh what a beautiful morning-