

BUSTER'S FARM

Written by

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Based upon the antics of the real animals of Buster's Farm

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FADE IN:

SERIES ONE: MOVING TO THE FARM

INT. A DANK CITY HORSE STALL - DAY

BUSTER, a dark bay, near black, Paso Fino horse, stands in a lonely stall, no windows, just walls. His beautiful long mane and tail hang nearly to the ground. He looks around sadly.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Buster was a lonely horse that lived alone in a stall in the city. All he could do was look at walls all day. He sighed, instead of neighing.

BUSTER

(slow country drawl)

Hum... I wish I had room to run, like a horse is supposed to.

Buster hangs his head in sadness, pawing the ground with his front hoof.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

I just wish I had some friends to play with, and some fresh green grass to eat, instead of this dry, old hay. Living here is nothing to neigh about, that's for sure...

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Time passed so slowly, it seemed freedom would never come his way. Years went by, and one day the BARN MASTER came and told Buster some bad news.

The BARN MASTER, an older man dressed in blue-jean overalls, cowboy boots, and cowboy hat, hangs over the stall door, talking to Buster.

BARN MASTER

Well, Buster, it looks like I'm selling the barn... I'm going to build some houses on the land instead. I can make more money that way.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

It still didn't seem right. As bad as it was, Buster never thought it would get worse...

Buster looks sadly at the barn master.

BUSTER

Where am I gonna go? What am I gonna eat? I just don't know.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The day came to leave.

EXT. A BARN IN THE CITY - DA

The barn master loads Buster into a horse trailer, coaxing Buster with an apple to get in the trailer.

BARN MASTER

I have a surprise for you Buster, I think you'll find moving sometimes to be better than staying where you are.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Buster couldn't understand the barn master's gladness, something seemed wrong.

EXT. DRIVING THROUGH THE CITY INTO THE COUNTRY - DAY

A truck pulling a horse trailer maneuvers through city traffic, car horns blow, exhaust smoke rises. They pass buildings and houses. Buster's head hangs out of the trailer window, his long mane blowing in the breeze.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

As they drove in the traffic, past all of the houses and buildings, Buster wondered where they were going, he had never been this far from home.

The truck and trailer continues, houses get further apart, then there is nothing but beautiful, rolling countryside.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Pretty soon, there was no more city noises, all he could hear was the wind rushing past.

Buster's head is out of the trailer window, his mane blowing in the breeze.

SERIES ONE: MEETING NEW FRIENDS

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - DAY

The truck and trailer drive through a gate, into a farm. Buster looks with great excitement.

Buster sees a gorgeous, lush field of green grass, surrounded by a beautiful wooden fence. Two cats sleep in the sun, a peacock parades around in his finery, and a colt runs and plays.

Six ducks are in the shade, belting out baritone scat, and in the middle of it all is a little red barn. Above the door of the barn a sign reads, "Buster's Farm."

The barn master unloads Buster as other animals start gathering around. Buster is happy and excited, his nuzzles the barn master.

SERIES ONE: SIR PEABODY THE PEACOCK

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

SIR PEABODY the peacock, a brilliant blue, arrogant, self important peacock approaches, his beautiful plumage swaying in the breeze as he struts up, his head is cocked proudly.

PEABODY
(Aristocratic British
accent)

First things first ole-man, just to let you know, I'm in charge around here, so then, welcome aboard.

BUSTER
Well thank you very much. What are you in charge of?

Peabody throws his head back, surprised at his authority being questioned. He looks all around, sniffs at Buster.

PEABODY
Why the farm of course.

Buster looks around at the other animals that have gathered.

BUSTER

What about the others? Why are you in charge?

PEABODY

Obviously because of my beauty. You must be tired from your journey -- too many questions. Do get some rest. Your room is over there.

BUSTER

My room! The sign says Buster's Farm. I assume that all is mine to share, not just a room!

PEABODY

Humph. Yes-yes, minor detail my boy. I must be on my way, things to attend to, we'll chat later.

Hurriedly Peabody folds his feathers and races off around the barn with great urgency. Buster looks confused.

BUSTER

Well he is quite beautiful...

HOOTY OWL (O.S.)

(deep, wise voice)

Yes, for a peacock, but you don't need eyes as big as mine to see that.

Buster looks up at the huge oak tree shading the barn. HOOTY OWL, a large, older, wise owl, looks down from a branch at Buster.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

Hi Buster, I'm ,Hooty Owl. Call me Hooty, and never mind Peabody. Come on and meet everyone else.

Hooty Owl flies down from the tree and lands on Buster's back.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

Go on over to the barn and I'll introduce you to the other animals. I think you're going to be happy here, Buster.

Buster walks toward the barn where the other animals are waiting, Hooty Owl rides on his back.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

As for whooo's in charge, we all work together and watch out for each other. Even though we're all different, we treat each other as brothers, including Peabody.

A palamino Paso Fino pony gallops toward Buster, excited to see another horse.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

This is Cruz the pony, who as you can see loves to run and play, kick up his heels, he fancies himself a dancer.

Cruz runs in excited circles around Buster.

CRUZ

(high pitched, young voice)

Hi-ya-chief, I'll race you around the farm! I bet I can jump higher than you!

Buster and Cruz touch noses, Cruz excitedly runs off. Buster seems eager to go play.

HOOTY OWL

Let him go for today, all the time in the world to run and play. As you can tell, you'll never have to be alone again. You'll have plenty of company here on the farm.

Hooty flies off of Busters back and lands on the fence rail, Buster walks over to Hooty.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

The first thing you need to do is, look real close and see that we all have our own beauty, some of us on the outside, and some of us on the inside.

Hooty rolls his eyes toward Sir Peabody.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

And some of us... well some of us have too much pride. Let's eat and I'll tell you more about us.

SERIES ONE: CAPTAIN HOONY, HELPING OTHERS

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - LARGE COMMON AREA AND DINING AREA - DAY

A large bowl of sweet feed is on a long table, Buster begins to eat, Hooty Owl sits on a chair at the table. CAPTAIN HOONY, a large, long haired, brown, black, and white, Maine Coon is curled up sleeping on the floor.

HOOTY OWL

This is Captain Hoony, the only cat
to have flown like a bird.

Captain Hoony gets up, stretches, saunters toward Buster, jumps on the table by Hooty Owl.

CAPTAIN HOONY

(cool cat pure)
Pleeeased to meet you.

HOOTY OWL

Captain Hoony got his name because
a long time ago as he napped in the
field, a huge eagle swooped down
from the sky and picked him up.

Buster looks up, still chewing food.

BUSTER

No way!

HOOTY OWL

As they soared high above the
field, Hoony was trapped tightly in
the talons of the eagle.

BUSTER

What'd he do?

HOOTY OWL

In a daring move to save himself,
he bit the eagle on the leg,
causing the eagle to let go,
sending Hoony free falling towards
the ground.

Buster's eyes get wide and big.

BUSTER

Like skydiving!

CAPTAIN HOONY

Yes, as the ground grew nearrerrrr
I thought, Puuurfect, this will
cost me one of my lives!

HOOTY OWL

All of a sudden Hoony was caught again in the talons of a bird, but not that of the eagle. I flew up, grabbed him, and brought him gently and safely to the ground. He was ever so thankful.

CAPTAIN HOONY

I asked him, what I could do to repay him for helping me?

HOOTY OWL

I told him, you certainly don't owe me, for sharing goodness with others is free. I only did what I could, and did what was right. For do unto others as you would have them do unto you. If we work together, we can help and protect each day and night.

The animals all eat food at the table.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So from that day on, working together, the animals protected each other day and night from harm, while living together peacefully on the farm.

SERIES ONE: NERMY KITTY

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

NERMY KITTY, a cute little, orange kitten, rolls and tumbles in the field. Nermy is a wound spring of energy. He jumps around, making all of the usual cute kitten moves

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Nermy the cat is cute as a button. He can jump and leap so high and far, he believes one day he'll catch a star.

Nermy is chasing peacock feathers that blow across the pasture. He collects them, neatly putting them in a pile. He admires his collection.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

One of his favorite games is chasing fallen feathers from Sir Peabody. Nermy has quite a collection of toys.

As Sir Peabody struts proudly around, Nermy follows Peabody in awe of his beauty. Nermy picks up a feather as Peabody molts. He puts the feather in his pile.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Nermy was quite the fan of Peabody, or quite the fan for Peabody, sort of a court jester for Peabody's imaginary kingdom.

Nermy plays in the pasture, performing kitten acrobatics, the animals all watch and laugh.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The animals all laugh at Nermy's acrobatic play. But few know of Nermy's true affection for Peabody.

Nermy looks around, makes sure no one is watching him. He sneaks to his pile of Peacock feathers and begins sticking them in his tail, and starts fanning his tail.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

When he thinks no one can see him, he will stick all of his feathers into his tail and parade around fanning, just like Peabody.

As Nermy parades around, imitating Peabody, the feathers start falling out.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And in no time, feathers begin falling out, until Nermy has no feathers left to fan.

Nermy is left with no feathers, he drops his head, walks to the mirror, sadly he looks at himself.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Disappointedly, he realizes he's only a cat. He longed to be like, and share Peabody's brilliance. He can't see his own beautiful soft fur. For in his lack of pride he never sees that you can't be something you're not.

In the mirror, Nermy begins to see how pretty and cute he is. He stands taller. He smiles as he sees himself.

NARRATOR

And the best thing to do, is just
be you.

SERIES ONE: PREJUDICE, THE CROWS

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - POND IN THE PASTURE - DAY

A group of big white ducks are swimming and playing in the pond. A murder of crows lands nearby. They ease their way to the pond, begin drinking water and dipping into the water, refreshing themselves. The BIG DUCK becomes outraged.

BIG DUCK

(deep redneck tone)

Hey! Hey! This is our pond!

The lead CROW looks startled.

CROW

We only wish for a drink and a dip
to cool dow --

BIG DUCK

No, no, no! Crows and such drink
from their own pond -- elsewhere!

CROW

But we --

BIG DUCK

No, no! This is the water for us
ducks. You can see the obvious
difference between us can't you?
This is a private place.

CROW

Where's the crow's pond?

BIG DUCK

I wouldn't know, I'm not a crow.

The other ducks laugh. Hearing the ruckus, the animals gathered to see what was going on. Buster approaches the big duck.

BUSTER

What's the problem?

The big duck looks at all of the farm animals.

BIG DUCK

These crows are invading our pond!

CROW

We only wished for a drink and
would be on our way.

All of the other animals nod in agreement.

BUSTER

That seems to be a reasonable
request.

The big duck is outraged.

BIG DUCK

These crows from who knows where,
want to drink from our pond, and
they want to swim in it too!
They're different from us. We don't
know anything about 'em.

Hooty Owl flies down from his tree and tries to bring reason
to the argument.

HOOTY OWL

With only our eyes we can see
they're animals as we are. Assuming
that, they must have needs and
desires similar to ours.

Hooty Owl glares directly at the big duck.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

And I assume they have feelings
also. Perhaps if you'd share your
time, and our water, you'd get to
know them, and then, you'd know
where they're from.

BIG DUCK

But, but they're black.

HOOTY OWL

And you're white, and I'm brown.

CRUZ

I'm yellow!

PEABODY

And I'm many colors... splendid
colors I might add.

BUSTER

And I'm red, a bay. What's your point on the color? You never saw our colors did you?

BIG DUCK

But they're not one of us, you know a member.

HOOTY OWL

A member of what?

BIG DUCK

The farm!

Young Cruz is completely confused, tilting his head slowly side to side, looking at the big duck. He turns to Buster.

CRUZ

Well this conversation is for the birds.

CAPTAIN HOONY

Indeed it is. I'm in puuurfect agreement.

BUSTER

Let's go.

As they turned to leave, Nermy, quiet all this whole time, raises his paw and gets everyone's attention.

NERMY

(soft purr)

I say we vote on it. All in favorrrr of sharing our water with others, rrrregardless of their color or where they live, say yes.

A resounding yes from the animals echoes across the pond.

NERMY (CONT'D)

All in favorrrr of denying the needs of others because of their color say yes.

There is only silence as the animals look at each other. They all look at the big duck. The big duck drops his head, ashamed. He turns to the crows.

BIG DUCK

(sheepishly)

Well, I'm sorry, I-I was wrong. Please join us.

The crows and ducks all swim and play together in the pond. Some crows stand, talking to the other animals.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And the rest of the afternoon the crows entertained the others with the stories of their journeys.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Stories of barren deserts where only harsh, prickly cactus grow, with their halting upswept arms.

-- Crows flying over desert full of Saguaro cactus.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And stories of lush meadows full of wildflowers of all kinds and colors growing together. From the air they seemed to weave a richly colored tapestry of diversity across the earth.

-- Crows flying over meadows of multi colored flowers that look like a tapestry of color.

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END OF MONTAGE

12

The crows are shaking wings with the animals, preparing to leave. They fly away, the other animals wave goodbye as the crows fade into the distance. The animals are gathered in a group, happy, content.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

When the crows had gone, all of the animals felt so much more enriched having shared, and learned of things and cultures far outside of their farm. They realized how much they would have missed had they chosen to stand in the blindness of prejudice. And how dull a place the world would be if flowers were only one color.

SERIES TWO: WHO IS YOUR NEIGHBOR:

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

The animals are all busy loading up the wagon, Buster is looking at the wagon making sure all the needed supplies are in, a duck checks off a list.

BUSTER

Well, it's that time of year again. We'll have to make that trip to town and get some supplies for the winter. Let's see, we'll need some grain and wheat, and some new blankets as well.

CRUZ

I think we'll need some hay as well, Buster.

Cruz starts prancing excitedly.

CRUZ (CONT'D)

Hey Buster! Can I come with you and Mr. Pea, canna-huh-canna?

BUSTER

I think you're still a bit young yet little fella. It's a few day's hard journey, and those roads are rough.

PEABODY

Dangerous as well I might add, rumors of robbers, bandits, and thieves. As though we need any extra worries to worry about.

Peabody fluffs his feathers. Cruz looks at Peabody

CRUZ

But I'm no trouble. I can take care of myself.

PEABODY

My boy if you were half as able as you are willing, I would gladly trade places with you. I'd soon not go out into the world and its dangers!

BUSTER

(mumbling)

You'd just soon not go outta your house.

PEABODY
Say there what ole-man?

BUSTER
I said you got the courage of a
lion, not a mouse.

PEABODY
Not quite what I heard.

Peabody poutingly parades away.

BUSTER
I'm gonna go hitch up the wagon.
Y'all make a list of all the things
you need, and I'll be ready to go
soon.

Buster makes sure the wagon hitches are ready, he puts on his harness. The ducks and chickens load the supplies and water into the wagon.

CAPTAIN HOONY
Ppppleeeese don't forget the
catnip.

HOOTY OWL
Here's the money you'll need for
our supplies, and some for your
overnight stays. Spend wisely,
we're on a tight budget this year.
And be careful of trouble and
tricksters.

The animals hitch the wagon to Buster. Buster and Peabody head to the front gate. Cruz runs in circles around Buster and Peabody all the way to the road.

CRUZ
Come on, Buster, let me go with
you. I'm old enough. I'm big
enough. I can help pull the wagon,
come on Buster.

BUSTER
Maybe next year little Cruz, maybe
next year.

All of the animals wave goodbye as Buster and Peabody leave.

ANIMALS
Goodbye. Be careful. Have a good
trip.

EXT. WAGON - ROAD TO TOWN - DAY - TRAVELING

Buster and Peabody continue down the road. Peabody walks drudgedly beside the wagon. Occasionally they pass other travelers. Buster cheerfully greets all they pass.

BUSTER

Hey! How y'all doing? How's the road ahead?

The passing animals nod and wave.

PEABODY

I say ole-man, must you be so friendly to every stranger that we pass? It's just not necessary that we chit-chat with the bric-a-brac we pass along the path... it could be dangerous!

BUSTER

They won't be strangers if you'll say hello and introduce yourself. If we pass 'em again they won't be strangers at all, because now I know their names and where they come from, heck, they're just like neighbors now.

PEABODY

Neighbors! Humph. More like strangers who now know all of our businesses as well. You're quite the social butterfly ole-boy.

A thought bubble above Peabody shows Buster with butterfly wings, Peabody shakes his head. Buster and Peabody continue, fellow travelers get scarce, the sun gets lower, and Peabody is riding in the wagon, on top of the supplies.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

I say, it's getting a bit late to be out here. How about you pick up the pace a bit, eh?

BUSTER

Yeah, that's easy for you to say.

They hear a whimpering noise ahead. Buster stops. Ahead, a small dog is lying in the ditch, whimpering.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Look up ahead there, on the side of the road, it looks like that little doggy's hurt.

PEABODY

I don't know, it could be a trap, acting like he's hurt, pretending, and when we stop to help him -- zoom, his comrades in crime jump out of the woods to rob us. This road is known for such treacheries. Packs of wild dogs that rob and hurt travelers traveling through these parts. I say we move to the other side of the road and avoid possible trouble.

BUSTER

But he could be hurt.

PEABODY

But it could be a trap my boy. I've seen many of these things in my travels. We don't know who he is. He looks like some mutt left in these parts, a plague among us if you will, these strays.

BUSTER

Well, if he lives in these parts that would make him our neighbor, and we should help him.

Peabody looks at Buster as though he is crazy.

PEABODY

You don't know who he is!

BUSTER

He's our neighbor.

PEABODY

I think not.

BUSTER

Yep, that's right, a neighbor, and we should treat our neighbors as we would ourselves, or as a family member.

PEABODY

Good grief Buster! He's hardly a neighbor!

(MORE)

PEABODY (CONT'D)

We're a days journey from home.
He's a stranger, a mutt, possibly a
nut. I appeal to your senses ole-
boy, don't stop and get involved --
I smell trouble!

BUSTER

You don't get close enough to smell
a rose 'cause all you see is
the thorns.

They approached the LITTLE DOG, a young, sable colored collie
It is obvious the dog is hurt. He is weak and bleeding,
hardly able to speak. He has no collar or food.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Goodness little doggie, what
happened? You look terrible.

LITTLE DOG

(weak)

I was robbed, and beaten, please
help me.

BUSTER

Let me help ya. Help me get him up
Mr. Pea.

PEABODY

Touch him! I think not. There's no
telling what I'll catch! Let's go
on and send help back.

BUSTER

Well, if that's what you want to
do, you go on alone. I'm gonna stay
here and help him.

Peabody begins fanning his feathers, strutting in a circle.

PEABODY

Ga-ga-go on alone? On this road,
with bandits on the loose. Somewhat
like bending me over the barrel,
don't you think? You leave me no
choice.

BUSTER

You've always got a choice Mr. Pea.
Life is full of choices, you
decide.

Peabody unwillingly comes to help Buster.

PEABODY

Humph, if this is something you think we must do. We're already running late, low on water.

They load the dog into the wagon. They give the dog some food and water, clean and bandaged his wounds. The dog tells what happened.

LITTLE DOG

I was headed home and a pack of wild hyenas jumped out and robbed me, they beat me up and left me in the ditch. They were laughing as they left.

PEABODY

The absolute lack of humanity these days, it's appalling!

BUSTER

You're one to talk you pious peacock.

PEABODY

Yes but I did stop and help.

They continue. The sun begins to set, they arrive at an inn. Buster goes inside while Peabody waits with the little dog.

INT. INN ALONG THE WAY - NIGHT

Buster goes to the front desk, the INNKEEPER, a large gorilla, is waiting to help.

BUSTER

Hi, I need two rooms for me and my friends, and the little dog needs to see a doctor, could you please call a veterinarian to check him.

Buster leaves, they go to their rooms.

INT. INN ALONG THE WAY - DAY

Buster is paying the bill for the room, talking to the innkeeper.

BUSTER

Well the little dog is okay, he just needs to rest a few days. Here's enough money for last night.

(MORE)

BUSTER (CONT'D)

And here's some more money for the little doggie to stay another day or so, and some money for his food as well.

The innkeeper takes Buster's money.

INNKEEPER

(deep voice)

Mister, that's mighty kind of you, not many people would do this for a stranger.

BUSTER

Well, I'm just trying to help. If you could see that he's okay until he can travel again, I'd be much obliged.

INNKEEPER

I'll keep an eye on him until he's able to travel.

BUSTER

I appreciate that, and if you need more, I'll pay you when we pass back this way on our way home.

EXT. ROAD TO TOWN - DAY -TRAVELING

Buster and Peabody continue their journey to town, Buster pulls the wagon, Peabody rides in the wagon. Peabody is obviously angry at Buster, he's keeps fluffing his tail and muttering.

PEABODY

Humph.

BUSTER

If you've got something to say, say it.

PEABODY

Humph.

BUSTER

If you've got something on your mind, say it.

Peabody looks away, miffed, his wings folded across his chest.

PEABODY

Humph.

BUSTER

You might as well get it off your chest.

PEABODY

Then I will say a word or two about your behavior.

BUSTER

I knew you would.

PEABODY

Here we are, going to town to get our supplies for the winter, running late, on a financial budget, and you take the chance of being robbed -- or worse, to help a stranger!

BUSTER

A neighbor.

PEABODY

Fine, a neighbor. You feed him. You give him our water, you care for him, you pay for his room, and then spend more of our money on a doctor. We won't be able to purchase all the supplies we came for. We're short of money as it is.

Buster shakes his head, Peabody moves up the front of the wagon as he continues his tirade.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

We're lucky we're not lying in the ditch robbed and mugged ourselves. We'll all starve if you keep acting this way. We'll be the ones depending on the kindness of strangers. You know ole-boy charity starts at home.

BUSTER

You're right, and we have all we need. We've got more than we need and from those who have much, much is expected.

PEABODY

And I know a fool and his money
soon go separate ways.

BUSTER

Hoarding money doesn't help anyone.
If you only give your help and
money expecting to get it back --

PEABODY

With interest!

BUSTER

Then that's your reward, and that's
not caring or sharing. You should
help others with what you have
because you can.

Peabody throws his wings up in exacerbation.

PEABODY

We'll never see that money again!

BUSTER

Helping others like we did may take
a little food from your belly, but
it's nourishing to the soul, Mr.
Pea. If you give to, and help
others, it'll come back to you in
good measure, pressed down. You'll
get back more than you gave.

PEABODY

In case you're unaware, Buster,
they call that interest in the
financial world ole-boy.

BUSTER

Well get'n more isn't so you'll
have even more. It's so you can
share even more. Get'n all you can,
and canning all you get, that's not
right. We should all share.

Peabody shakes his head, folds his wings, and looks off into
the distance.

PEABODY

Humph!

EXT. GENERAL STORE - TOWN - DAY

Buster and Peabody arrive at the general store in the small town. Buster undoes his harness. They go inside.

INT. GENERAL STORE - DAY

Buster and Peabody shop for their supplies.

BUSTER

Well, looks like we'll have to cut back on the grain and hay... we're a little short on money.

PEABODY

Humph, go figure!

They pay the bill at the counter. They exit.

EXT. ROAD HOME - DAY

Buster pulls the loaded wagon. Peabody rides in the wagon, he looks over the supplies they bought, shaking his head in disgust.

PEABODY

Well Buster, thanks to your generosity it'll be slim pickings for us all this winter. Wait till the others hear about this, humph, I certainly wouldn't want to be in your hooves when they do.

Buster pulls the wagon, his sadness is evident. The sun begins to set. They arrive back at the inn.

INT. INN ALONG THE WAY - NIGHT

The innkeeper smiles and greets Buster and Peabody.

INNKEEPER

Hey fella's, how was your trip?

BUSTER

Fine.

PEABODY

Humph.

BUSTER

How is the little dog?

INNKEEPER

He's fine, he rested up and left
this morning. You don't owe me
anything, and your stay here
tonight is on the house!

Buster looks at Peabody, raises an eyebrow. Peabody turns
away.

PEABODY

Humph.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

As Buster and Pea arrived home all of the animals run out to
greet them. Their excitement over something is very obvious.

PEABODY

Well it's seems as though the
others have heard the news and
formed a lynch mob for you ole-man.
Bad news travels fast eh ole-boy?

Peabody snidely laughs. Buster looks worried.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Curiosity may have killed the cat
as they say, but who'd have thought
kindness would kill the horse?

Buster prepares for the worst, he swallows hard. They stop in
front of the barn. Hooty Owl excitedly approaches.

HOOTY OWL

Buster! You won't believe what
happened! You really did this time,
Buster!

Buster looks nervous. Peabody titters.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

This morning two huge wagons showed
up with wheat and corn piled so
high it had to be tied in! I took
two horses to pull each wagon.

Peabody's countenance begins to fade. Buster's begins to
glow.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

I told them they must be at the
wrong farm, but they said it was
sent to Buster's Farm.

(MORE)

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

When I told them we had no money to pay for such supplies they told me it was already paid for... it was a gift!

BUSTER

From who?

HOOTY OWL

Well, it seems that little dog you helped is the pup of a very wealthy and important big dog. He sent the supplies to thank you and Peabody.

BUSTER

Well. I'll be...

HOOTY OWL

The big dog was very touched and grateful that a stranger had sacrificed his own needs for the needs of another. He said that many had passed his pup and none were willing to help, except you.

PEABODY

Of course let's not forget I was there as well.

Hooty Owl rolls his eyes at Peabody.

HOOTY OWL

It seems many others had just ignored the little dog's pleas for help. But, now we have enough supplies to last us a long, long time, because of your generosity.

Buster drops his head down, looking as though he might cry.

CRUZ

And guess what, Buster, the big dog is throwing a party for you and Mr. Pea tonight.

Buster and all of the animals walk up the drive, Buster parks in front of the barn. They unload the supplies.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - NIGHT

Lights are strung from the barn to the tree, the animals are all gathered under the lights, socializing, having a party.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So that night the big dog threw a huge party to thank Buster and Peabody for their gallant giving. It was a fabulous feast filled with fun.

The BIG DOG, a large collie, meticulously groomed gets everyone's attention, clanking a spoon on the side of a glass. He looks at Buster and Peabody.

BIG DOG

I just want to thank you both for your carrying and sharing spirit. While others just passed by, not want'n to help or get involved with my little --

Peabody jumps up and pompously begins speaking.

PEABODY

Yes--yes you know, as soon as I saw the little dog ahead I could tell he needed our help, and helping others is something we should all do -- a sacrifice at times, but let this be a lesson for us all, doing good for others will always come back to you. Now, Buster ole-boy, say a few words if you will.

BUSTER

Ah... yeah... it happened something like that. All of this is overwhelming, we just did what we could to help a neighbor, because as I see it, we all live at the same address, planet earth, and that makes us all neighbors.

All of the animals cheer in agreement.

ANIMALS

Indeed! Here! Here!

SERIES TWO: BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE, THE ANT

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

Buster is walking, nose to the ground, pausing, walking, pausing, occasionally pulling his head back shocked. He is following a big, red velvet ANT.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

One day Buster saw a beautiful ant that wore a red velvet coat upon its back. The ant was steadily, if not slowly, making his way across the field.

Buster continues to follow the ant. The ant is carrying a huge kernel of corn.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

This small ant was carrying a morsel of food twice as big as himself.

Buster is amazed. He speaks to the ant.

BUSTER

You can't carry that food, it's twice as big as you!

The ant pauses, turns to Buster.

ANT

Don't say I can't, for I'm an ant, and there's nothing an ant can't do. If you only believe you can, you'll be amazed at what you can do. So if you'll please move aside, I have no time to play. I must be on my way. I bid you a fair and pleasant day.

The ant hastily continues on his way. Buster looks up and nods his head.

BUSTER

Well, I guess he's right, if you only believe and try, then there's nothing you can't do!

Buster walks away, the ant continues, disappears, the kernel of corn is seen, it fades away.

SERIES THREE: PRIDE

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

Peabody is seen moping around the barn, he has little plumage left.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

When Sir Peabody arrived at the farm, he was in his molting stage, he had no beautiful tail feathers. But, he was still a brilliant blue. None the less, he walked around mumbling.

PEABODY

What'll I do?

Hooty Owl, sitting in his tree, looks down to Peabody.

HOOTY OWL

What will you do about what?

PEABODY

I've lost my beauty.

HOOTY OWL

You've lost your feathers, they'll grow back.

PEABODY

I'll be ugly, you'll see.

HOOTY OWL

Says who?

PEABODY

Says me, you're just an owl, what do you know?

HOOTY OWL

But, I'm wise.

PEABODY

But, I'm beautiful.

HOOTY OWL

But, my beauty never falls out, for my wisdom is my beauty.

PEABODY

I'm doomed, I'm ugly!

Peabody rushes away. As Peabody runs away, more feathers fall out.

HOOTY OWL

You may as well go and hide, for you can't see past your pride.

Peabody disappears into the woods, passing the barren, leafless tree.

The seasons change, the tree is full of leaves. Peabody emerges from the barn strutting proudly, his new plumage swaying in the breeze.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

As usual, Hooty was right,
Peabody's feathers grew back
brilliant and bright. And when they
did, Peabody no longer hid. Each
spring would bring Peabody, with
his head all cocked and reared. And
when his plumes had all grown back
full and bright, a strange music
would greet dawns first light.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY - DAWN

Buster is standing in front of the barn, the sound of bagpipes and drums are heard. Buster's ears are rotating like radar.

BUSTER

What's that noise?

A big DUCK emerges from behind the barn. Marching like a band leader in a parade.

DUCK

All hail! Sir Peabody and his new
spring plumage. New clothes for the
emperor!

Nermy appears from around the barn strutting to the Scottish march. He is wearing a family coded kilt, and playing the bagpipes. The ducks follow, their bumping backsides making drumming noises.

Peabody follows, his tail opening and closing in a surging show of his new many-eyed plumage. His head bobbing in time with the music.

PEABODY

Step aside, step aside, as you can
see, I've beauty that cannot hide.

Peabody follows the parade around the barnyard. He struts like royalty as the other animals watch, shaking their heads and laughing.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And with those words and great pride, Sir Peabody would begin his annual parade of the plumes.

Peabody passes Buster and nods to him, like the Queen of England nods to her royal subjects. He continues his parade.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

His is a grand delusion that he is in charge, because in his own words he is, the most beautiful.

The parade continues, the music plays.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Yes, he's his own king in an imaginary kingdom. Where he worships his beauty and his beauty serves him well. And year after year his plumes fall out each fall, and yet he never learns the lesson that teaches us all, that pride comes before a fall.

SERIES THREE: SHARING CHORES

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

The animals are all working in the garden, the horses tend to the carrots, the cats the catnip, Hooty Owl tends the corn. Peabody is walking around as if he is supervising, not doing any work.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

One beautiful day while everybody was working in the garden tending their crops, Buster and Cruz their carrots, Hooty his corn, the cats their catnip and Peabody... well Peabody generally eats with one of the animals each night. After all he fancies himself in charge, so what an honor he feels it is for them.

Suddenly bees buzz into the garden, flittering from plant to plant. The animals pay them no mind... except Peabody.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Out of nowhere came the bees. They meant no harm, only to gather an armful of pollen that they would use to make their honey, which they share with everyone.

Peabody starts ruffling his feathers, turning in agitated circles.

PEABODY

Humph, we'll their gathering our pollen, from the plants we work so hard to raise. Freeloaders of society, those bees. They're a nuisance, dangerous, possibly spies...

HOOTY OWL

Nonsense you paranoid peacock, they're working for their food, like most of us.

Hooty Owl glares directly at Peabody. Peabody fluffs his tail.

PEABODY

And what do you mean by that?

HOOTY OWL

I mean that they take a portion of ours, and we get a portion of the fruit of their labor, the honey.

PEABODY

Nectar of the gods, which is why I always deserve a larger portion... if only a teeny bit more.

HOOTY OWL

To get that nectar of the gods, we need the bees, and they need our pollen, they mean no harm.

PEABODY

Well yes-yes, but they're still possibly spies you know.

HOOTY OWL

Spies of what?

PEABODY

Why secrets of course!

HOOTY OWL

Oh, you have secrets Peabody?

Peabody throws his head backed, shocked by the question.

PEABODY

I've no time for this, pressing things to do. You're all doing fine here laboring in the gardens, I'll be on my way.

As he agitatedly bristles past the animals, he stops at Nermy.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

I'll see you then at six for dinner, you're looking forward to it I'm sure.

He continues. He brushes past Buster, cocks his head proudly, looks at Buster.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Humph, Buster's farm indeed.

HOOTY OWL

Oh, never mind him, if he could only learn that to share and share alike, is to waste not or to want not.

Cruz quickly lifts his head, his mane flies back.

CRUZ

I think he has learned that... seems he's learned it well!

All of the animals laugh and agree.

ANIMALS

Indeed.

SERIES THREE: STEALING, THE MOUSE

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - FOOD STORAGE ROOM - DAY

Buster and the animals are in the food storage room, taking inventory of the supplies. Buster looks perplexed.

BUSTER

I don't know, I tell ya, it seems
as though there's some food
missing.

He looks at the bottom of the feed bucket, he sees a small
hole.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

A mouse hole! With a trail of
grain!

Buster begins following the trail of grain. He follows it
around the feed storage and behind the haystack. He stops,
throws his head up, surprised. He sees a tiny MOUSE snuggled
up asleep in a nest of hay.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Hey! Are you the mouse that's been
in my house, stealing my food?

The tiny mouse looks up, way up, and in a trembling, squeaky
little voice answers.

MOUSE

Yes, yes, I took some food, I-I was
hungry.

BUSTER

You stole my food. Broke in and
stole it.

The little mouse is trembling in fear.

MOUSE

I-I don't each much, I only took a
little.

Buster's nose is right in the little mouse's face.

BUSTER

Taking without asking is always
stealing. If you'd ask me, I'da
shared.

The mouse looks astonished, begins to calm down, shaking
less.

MOUSE

You mean if I would have asked, you
would have shared?

BUSTER

Why of course, I'm a horse, and when we have, we share with those who need. Gosh little fella, I've got plenty of food, for you and me both. Just what I waste would feed you.

The mouse looks away, embarrassed.

MOUSE

But I was ashamed to ask for help.

Buster backs away, tilts his head, in a soothing voice.

BUSTER

Why you never have to be ashamed to ask for help. There's no shame in being in need. Why heck, we all need help at sometime or the other. And we can all be of help to others somehow.

He lowers his head, the little mouse crawls up Buster's long nose and onto Buster's shoulder. Buster walks back toward the feed storage.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Everyone will think more highly of you if you ask for their help instead of being a thief. Stealing is always wrong -- always!

Buster goes to the table, the little mouse jumps off Buster onto the table.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Remember little fella, a friend in need is a friend indeed.

The little mouse stands erect, crosses his arms, looks up at Buster.

MOUSE

Then let's become friends who meet in need, and be friends without greed.

Buster nods his head, puts some grain on the table.

BUSTER

Okee dokee little fella, that sounds good.

The little mouse lovingly nuzzles against Buster's nose. Buster and the little mouse share some grain together.

SERIES THREE: EVERYONE CAN HELP IN A CRISES

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - NIGHT

Lightning flashes brightly, followed by the BOOM of thunder. The lightning strikes the barn. The roof of the barn is damaged, a gaping hole is letting rain pour into the barn.

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - NIGHT

Rain is pouring into the animals stalls, it pours into the food storage as well. The animals all wake up, afraid, confused. Buster looks up at the gaping hole.

BUSTER

What are we gonna do now?

Hooty flies onto the roof, surveys the damage. He flies back in the barn. He is dripping wet.

HOOTY OWL

We'll have to fix the roof.

PEABODY

Yes-yes marvelous idea, do get to it. I'll stay here inside and watch the food supplies. You all do be caref --

Hooty glares at Peabody and interrupts Peabody's speech.

HOOTY OWL

We'll need money to fix the roof.

Buster lays his ears back, he looks around nervously.

BUSTER

Money! I've heard that word before.

The ducks mumble amongst themselves. Captain Hoony and Nermly silently and intensely stare at the damage, blinking their eyes slowly.

CRUZ

How are we going to get money.

There is silence. Suddenly Peabody begins fanning his feathers excitedly, and in his usual know it all tone begins.

PEABODY

Well, being more educated than most of you, having traveled widely, and having seen many things, as well as having studied music --

ANIMALS

Get to the point!

HOOTY OWL

If there is one.

PEABODY

Well yes-yes, and might I say I was. Anyway, the symphony has instruments that are played with a bow, the violin, cello, and the --

ANIMALS

The point Peabody!

PEABODY

Humph! Well, tactfulness aside then, the bows are made from horse hair --so there! They pay handsomely for fine, long, natural horse tail hair, such as Buster's there.

Buster's eyes get wide. All of the animals, except Buster, lean in close to Peabody, curious.

ANIMALS

Really?

PEABODY

Good day! Do you think I make these things up? Of course they do. We could sell Buster's hair there and fix the roof.

Silence falls among the animals. Buster looks up from the ground and slowly speaks.

BUSTER

I'd loose my tail. It'll take years to grow back, but --

PEABODY

Yes ole-boy, but sacrifices must be made in a crisis.

BUSTER

As I was saying... I was lonely for years. And now I have so many new friends, it's a fair trade... I'll do it!

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

Buster is seen looking back, sadly, at Peabody, who is standing on a soap box, scissors in hand. Peabody cuts off Buster's long tail hair, holding it up like a prize.

A man gives Hooty Owl the money. Hooty shakes his head sadly.

HOOTY OWL

It's still not enough money to fix the roof.

The animals all look up to the roof, a blue tarp covers the damage.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

We need to see what else we can sell to raise the money.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The animals all pitched in to help. The chickens had eggs.

-- Chickens gather eggs putting them in cartons.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The ducks had soft new down feathers, used in making cushions.

-- Ducks gather feathers, stuffing them into bags.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The bees donated gallons of honey.

-- Bees bring gallon of honey.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - DINING AREA - DAY

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Still they were short of money to
fix the roof.

All of the animals are gathered around the table as Hooty Owl counts the money. He slowly shakes his head. The animals all drop their heads sadly.

HOOTY OWL

The only thing of value we have
left to sell is used in many
decorative crafts, and sold in the
city as cat toys. There's only one
problem --

PEABODY

There's no problem ole-man, lets
get to it! What is it?

HOOTY OWL

It's not moulting season --

PEABODY

Who cares, we need money! What is
it?

Hooty Owl looks around at the animals, they look puzzled, Peabody looks ready. Hooty Owl looks at Peabody.

HOOTY OWL

Your feathers, but they'll have to
be plucked out.

PEABODY

Plucked out! I say -- you've all
gone mad! Somewhat like asking the
king for his crown, don't you
think?

Peabody starts pacing in a circle, fluffing his tail, shaking his head.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Pluck them out. I smell pain --
suffering. Ah, what say we wait
till fall on this eh?

HOOTY OWL

We can't wait until fall. We need a
new roof now.

PEABODY
Yes, but pain, suffering!

BUSTER
Sacrifices in a crisis is what you
said.

PEABODY
Yes, but pain -- pain.

HOOTY OWL
Everyone has suffered some pain
through this ordeal. Your feathers
are all that we have left, our only
hope -- you must.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

Peabody looks grieved, scared. Hooty Owl begins plucking
Peabody's feathers out. The animals all look on.

PEABODY
Oooooow! Ow!

The man that bought Buster's tail hair is seen giving Hooty
Owl money. Peabody dejectedly hands the man a bouquet of his
plumage.

I/E. BUSTER'S FARM BARN - STALLS - DAY/NIGHT

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And so the roof was repaired
through the giving of all.

-- The animals are seen repairing the roof.

-- Animals proudly look at the roof, holding tools.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Soundly, if not somewhat sorely for
a while, they all slept knowing the
sacrifices that were made were for
the good. They had all learned that
in a crisis, everyone has help and
value that can be mustered and used
to pull through troublesome times
together.

-- Animals sorely walk into barn, limping, holding backs.

-- Animals safe and asleep in their stalls.

END OF MONTAGE

SERIES FOUR: SEEING BETTER WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

The animals are setting up for the yard sale. Buster approaches Peabody.

PEABODY

My goodness, time sure does fly. I can't believe it's time for the annual yard sale already.

The animals continue setting up. Animals from surrounding farms begin to show up and set up.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Each year all of the animals, as well as those from the nearby farms, would get together and have a three day yard sale. They all sell their crafts, as well as any unused or unwanted items. Each year the sale drew more and more visitors. At times it was a challenge just to help everyone with their questions and purchases.

BUSTER

Well I guess it's time to open up.

Buster opens the front gate, animals begin coming through, shopping. Peabody rushes around, becoming flustered as he helps the crowd.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Many customers like to haggle over the price of items, trying to get the best price, and naturally such an event keeps Peabody's feathers in a ruffle.

Peabody is helping a beatnik looking CHICKEN.

CHICKEN

(cackling voice)

Iiiiiii don't know if this-this-this
is woooorth what yoooor asking,
wiiiiiiil you take-take two dollars
fooor it?

Peabody becomes annoyed.

PEABODY

Humph, here-here chicken, if I had
wanted two dollars for it, I would
have priced it at two dollars. The
tag clearly says three dollars,
obviously that is my price.

Peabody folds his feathers, snidely raises his head, looks
around at the other customers waiting. He turns to the
chicken.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

As you can see, there are plenty of
others here to help. I've no time
for your basement bargaining. You
think about it. I must go help
others who are plainly more
financially fit -- a pecking order
if you will.

Peabody folds his plumage and huffs away.

CHICKEN

Aaaaah don't get yoor feathers in
a rrrruffle!

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

By the end of the first day,
Peabody had gotten to where he was
only helping those customers who
appeared to have money.

-- Peabody helping what looks like a wealthy animal.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

When a fancy wagon would pull up,
or an animal wearing a fancy collar
would come, Pea would rush to help
them, ignoring others who had been
waiting.

-- Peabody rushing out to expensive wagons to greet the animals as they arrive.

-- Peabody ignoring what appears to be poor animal.

END OF MONTAGE

BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

The animals are all setting up again for another day of the yard sale. Peabody approaches Buster. In his snide, arrogance he tells Buster.

PEABODY

I say ole-boy, let me share something with you. Quit wasting your time on those who are obviously poor and only have a little to spend. Spend your time with those who look like they have lots of money to spend.

Buster looks at Peabody, perplexed.

BUSTER

How do you know that the others don't have money to spend? You can't judge others just because of what their wagons and collars may look like. And besides, it's not fair the way you're ignoring and treat'n those who have been wait'n a long time for help.

PEABODY

It's a matter of business my boy.

BUSTER

Well you oughta make it your business to treat everybody equal. You're making too many judgments based upon what you see, or what you think you see.

PEABODY

Certainly not! Conclusive evidence you see.

BUSTER

I don't think so.

Peabody arrogantly cocks his head upward, his beak raised high.

PEABODY

Well there it is! My point exactly.
See ole-boy you're a horse, a
muscle machine, not a thinker.

Buster bristles, he lays his ears back in anger.

BUSTER

Humph! You think so?

PEABODY

Know so! For see, I'm a thinker.

BUSTER

Well let me tell you what I think
about that. Let me give you
something to think about. Close
your eyes.

Peabody rolls his head in boredom.

PEABODY

I hardly think your little
demonstration is at all necessary.

BUSTER

Close your eyes!

Startled, Pea snaps his eyes closed. Buster looks at Peabody.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Now what do you see?

PEABODY

Well obviously nothing, Buster.

BUSTER

Good! Now tell me what color is
that bird over there?

In a sing-song, uppity voice, Peabody replies.

PEABODY

Without sight one can't see, Buster
boy.

BUSTER

And how big is that wagon over
there Mr. Pea?

PEABODY

One can't see with his eyes closed
you know.

BUSTER

Sometimes you can see better with your eyes closed than you can with them open.

Peabody opens his eyes. Smart aleckly Peabody snaps at Buster.

PEABODY

Now that I'd like to see!

Peabody closes his eyes again.

BUSTER

So you're telling me that you can't tell a chicken from a rabbit right now?

PEABODY

Not without seeing them.

BUSTER

So you wouldn't be able to tell what type of wagon they drove up in, or if they looked rich or poor, now would you Mr. Pea?

Peabody drops his head, becoming embarrassed.

PEABODY

Well, no... no, I wouldn't.

BUSTER

And because of that, you wouldn't be making conclusions about them based upon what you saw them as. If you had no sight then you'd not be as judgmental as you are.

Peabody starts to nervously shift about.

PEABODY

Hum...

BUSTER

If you couldn't see their wagons or collars then you'd have to draw your opinions based upon getting to know them, or how they acted, and not upon what they looked like or how big their barn might be, now wouldn't you Mr. Pea?

Peabody approaches Buster, Buster leans down, they are face to face. Peabody nods in defeat.

PEABODY

Well sir, I retract my former statement, for you are a thinker. You have called my hand ole-man. I have been wrong and unfair treating everyone based upon how I thought I saw their social standing.

Buster nods his head at Peabody. Peabody looks around at the animals at the yard sale.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

I can see now that when you strip away the material things of this world we're all the same indeed.

BUSTER

That's right Mr. Pea. Sight is a precious gift that we should use to enjoy the beauty of this world, and it shouldn't be used as a tool to judge others.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Having realized the errors of his ways, Peabody began helping everyone with equal enthusiasm.

-- Peabody happily flits about, helping everyone.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

He stopped treating others special because they appeared more wealthy than others. He could now see that he had been wrong in using his vision to make blind conclusions.

-- Peabody helps poor old animals out of their wagons.

-- Peabody is helping everyone with equal enthusiasm.

END OF MONTAGE

SERIES FOUR: TEASING, TATER'S STORY

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

TATOR, a pop-eyed bulldog, is hyperactively running around the farm. He grabs a feed bucket and tosses, rolls, and chews it to pieces.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Tator, the pop-eyed dog. His enormous bulging eyes make him a target for teasing. His hyper energy always seems to get him in trouble. Tator lets his frustrations out through his energy.

Tator runs out of energy, he sits down by Buster, panting.

BUSTER

Well little Tator, it looks like you tore our new feed bucket to shreds... you sure do let your energy get carried away!

TATOR

My life is rrrrough-rrrough, Buster, everyone's always teasing me. Calling me pop-eyes. Saying it looks like I caught a Mack Truck head on. It hurts when they tease me. All I want to do is please, and all they want to do is tease.

BUSTER

Well little Tator, we don't tease ya, we love you just the way you are.

TATOR

I know all of you don't tease me. But those who don't know me tease me about my looks, and they laugh at me, and point. It makes me not want to meet or play with anyone new. They don't give me a chance.

Peabody eases his way into the conversation.

PEABODY

Yes-yes, but you can't let the opinion others have of you sway the opinion you have of yourself.

TATOR

But what can I think of myself when
others are always rejecting me?

Tator looks up at Peabody, a tear rolls down his face.

TATOR (CONT'D)

They make me feel unwanted. They
make me feel ugly.

Peabody fluffs his tail, ruffled by Tator's statement.

PEABODY

Good day! Get this straight, good
friends -- real friends, will
always love you for who you are.
And you're kind, loving, and fun to
be around.

Peabody stoops down, looking Tator in the eyes.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Those who judge you without knowing
you, let their comments roll off
you like water off of a ducks back.

Peabody cocks his head proudly, confidently.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Don't let them dampen your spirit
my boy. The opinion of a fool means
nothing. Don't waste your time on
them. There are too many good and
interesting animals to meet in this
world, cultivate real friends!

TATOR

You mean ignore them?

PEABODY

Ignore them indeed! Head up, chin
out.

With his wing, Peabody nudges Tator under the chin, lifting
his head high as he raises his own head high. He looks down
at Tator.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Besides, do you really want to
waste your time being around such
animals anyway? They're all bores!

BUSTER

That's right. Remember little Tator, those who make fun of others are just trying to make themselves look better.

Cruz bounces up to the animals, stops in front of Tator.

CRUZ

Look better? They look mean, ugly, and selfish to me.

PEABODY

That's exactly what they are, and that's certainly not the type of friends one needs. Humph, with friends like that one certainly wouldn't need enemies.

Peabody raises his head, puts his wing to his beak thoughtfully. He raises his other wing in exclamation.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

And remember my boy, as a sailor I once meet in Singapore said... or was it Hong Kong -- but none the less, what he told me summed it up quite well. Let's see, he said, uh... no, it went something like... um, everybody's got one.

Buster draws his head back with concern, looks at Peabody, starts shaking his head. Peabody is deep in thought.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

No, no... or was it... Yes! Yes! I remember! Opinions are like as --

Buster hurriedly interrupts Peabody's sailor story.

BUSTER

Ahhhh... Mr. Pea that's not an appropriate analogy for now. Remember this is story for children, not drunken sailors.

Peabody rolls his eyes, turns his head, nods his head.

PEABODY

Yes, your right ole-man. Sorry.

BUSTER

But little Tator, remember, not everybody's made alike.

(MORE)

BUSTER (CONT'D)

There's different kinds of horses,
different kinds of birds, different
kinds of everything. That's what
makes the world so interesting and
everybody special, 'cause
everybody's different.

Peabody and Cruz shakes their heads in agreement.

TATOR

So my looks make me special, not
funny? And those who tease me
aren't really my friends anyway. I
should feel sorry for them -- not
myself!

Peabody pats Tator on the back.

PEABODY

That's the spirit ole-boy!

Hooty Owl flies down and lands on Buster's back.

HOOTY OWL

That's right, your special, I'm
special, we're all special. Our
looks, our personalities and
talents make us all different and
unique. If we were all the same,
the world would not have so many
diverse and wonderful things to
offer and do.

Tator raises his head proud as he looks at Hooty Owl. Hooty Owl flies down next to Tator.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

We should spend our time and energy
loving and sharing with others;
appreciating their uniqueness, and
their individuality. That's what
makes everybody special. Don't
spent time teasing others... or
being around those who do.

BUSTER

You know little Tator, my mamma
taught me a saying when I was a
little colt. And her little saying
says it all.

TATOR

What's that Buster? What did she
say?

BUSTER

She'd tell me, I look different
'cause I am different. I act
different 'cause I am different. I
am different 'cause I'm special!

The animals all nod their heads in agreement. They laugh and continue to talk.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And with that, all of the animals
felt a renewed sense of pride in
themselves. A pride deep within,
one that is not swayed by the
comments of others who don't know
that they're special too.

SERIES FOUR: MISJUDGING OTHERS BY THEIR LOOKS

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

Buster is grazing peacefully in the pasture. He eats, chews, and moves up a few feet. Suddenly he starts rearing, and bucking, his front hooves raking the air. He's bucking like a wild bronco.

BUSTER

Help me! Help me! Somebody help me!
He's trying to kill me!

The other animals all run to help, but they see nothing or no one. Buster stops bucking. He looks at the animals wide eyed.

PEABODY

What's the matter ole-boy?

BUSTER

That snake, he tried to bite me!

The animals look around, they see nothing. Captain Hoony looks at Buster like he's crazy.

CAPTAIN HOONY

Helloooo... sanity check.

Buster looks around, points his nose toward the tree.

BUSTER

Look there, he's hiding now.

Curled up in the hollow of the tree base is a three foot garden snake, scared and hissing for help, his tail sounds like a maraca being shaken. As the others approached him, the snake began pleading his case.

SNAKE

(hissing)

Pleassssse, let me expsssssplain, I wasss passsssing through and he ssstarted yelling and tried to ssstomp me. I ssslithered over here to be sssafe.

The others look at Buster.

BUSTER

Look at him, he looks evil, those eyes and fangs, he could've killed me!

SNAKE

And you hoovesssss could have killed me.

Peabody, already looking bored and anxious to stir the situation, inquires of the snake.

PEABODY

I say! Why were you passing through here, can't you see this is our farm?

SNAKE

I can't ssssee the topsssside of the grassss from here.

Peabody, chagrined, turns his head. Looks down.

PEABODY

Well, yes-yes that's obvious...

BUSTER

Snakes are bad.

CRUZ

Not Mr. Greeny who lives in the hay stack.

BUSTER

Well, some snakes are bad.

Captain Hoony looks at Buster.

CAPTAIN HOONY

And I know of horses that have
stepped on cats.

Peabody fans his tail excitedly.

PEABODY

Yes--yes you know, in the homeland
countries there are cats that can
hurt horses... tigers you know,
which reminds me of a trip I took
there some time ago --

Hooty Owl flies down and lands on Buster's back.

HOOTY OWL

I think we can see that everybody
has the ability to hurt someone,
but the point here is, did he try
to attack you, Buster?

BUSTER

I thought he did.

HOOTY OWL

You thought, or did he?

Buster nervously shifts on his legs.

BUSTER

I was scared, he wasn't supposed to
be there.

HOOTY OWL

Be where?

BUSTER

On the ground there.

HOOTY OWL

Where would you expect him to be,
he can't fly.

BUSTER

But his looks, his noise, They
scared me!

HOOTY OWL

But he didn't do you anything?

Buster drops his head, paws at the ground.

BUSTER

Well... no... I guess not.

HOOTY OWL

Now see, Buster, the little snake thought that you came to hurt him. Your looks and noise scared him as well. Had he bitten you or had you stepped on him, someone would have been hurt, for no reason other than fear and misunderstanding.

Peabody starts fanning his feathers, he jumps into the center of the group.

PEABODY

Here, here! My point exactly, prime time to talk about that ah, new security fence project, most important. I say, stop the music there would you Ed.

The background music stops. Buster looks at Cruz with great confusion. Cruz is looking all around in near fear.

BUSTER

Who's Ed?

CRUZ

I don't know, Buster, but I want the music back on...

The music comes back on. Cruz relaxes.

CRUZ (CONT'D)

There it Buster, the music's back.

BUSTER

Yeah, but I'm going to find out who this Ed is.

Peabody continues his pitch.

PEABODY

Yes, as I see it, with all these passersby's, it's a prime time --

HOOTY OWL

Noooo, no! It's not! It's a prime time to realize we should all be aware of unexpected things to appear in our paths from time to time, and when encountered, we should neither panic nor rush in, but slow down to see what really is there. Reason it out, then react.

All of the animals nod in agreement. The snake shakes his tail in agreement.

SERIES FIVE: TERRORISTS STRIKE THE FARM

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

BUSTER

I don't know, I can't quite figure it out y'all, this is the third day that big ole buzzards been circling overhead, he flies around real slow, then just flies away, for three days now he's been doing that.

PEABODY

Scoundrel! Scoping out the lay of the land, seeing what he can steal! We should send out aerial scouts to check it out, we need to protect our air space, it's not enough that no one will consider my security fence project, and now look, spies in the skies!

HOOTY OWL

Well for all of your paranoia's, I have to admit that circling buzzards are not a good sign.

BUSTER

The mocking birds came around the other day with the latest news, they said some dangerous stuff had been stolen from an army depot, they said rumor had it --

Peabody throws his head back, rolls his eyes at Buster.

PEABODY

Oh Buster! Mockingbirds! Please ole-man, can't you find a more reliable sources for your news? You know that their known for carrying tales. They're gossips, troublemakers, they rearrange the news to fit their fancy... but do go on ole-man, what was their tale de'jour?

BUSTER

Well, they said they thought the buzzards may have something to do with the break-in at the Army depot.

PEABODY

And what Sherlock Holmes figured that out?

BUSTER

They found some feathers in the supply area, buzzard feathers!

Hooty Owl looks at the skies, searchingly.

HOOTY OWL

Hmm.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

Buster and Cruz are grazing in the pasture.

CRUZ

Well, Buster, it's been a week and we haven't seen a buzzard, they must have been looking for a new place to live, or just sightseeing.

BUSTER

You could be right, I suppose we can all relax, it was probably something like that.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY - DAWN

The sun is rising, its rays peak over the trees, making the morning dew sparkle upon the grass as though diamonds had been sprinkled on the lawn.

Everyone is going about doing their normal morning chores. Suddenly, three buzzards swoop out of the sky, each dropping a firebomb onto the farm.

One hits the barn, and in an instantaneous explosion, the barn is ablaze. Another bomb lands in the pond turning the pond into a floating, fiery, inferno. The third lands in the corn patch, turning the ripened corn into a massive popcorn field.

Buster runs toward the barn. The animals are in a panic, the entire farm is ablaze.

BUSTER

Fire! Fire! Run for your lives.
Fire! Everybody outta the barn!

Mayhem is rampant, the rear of the barn collapses; moans and screams for help are heard coming from inside. Buster pulls Cruz out of the debris, he removes a roof rafter on top of Peabody.

Hooty Owl pulls out Nermy. Captain Hoony saves two chickens. The barn fire grows into an inferno. The pond is ablaze, there is no water to fight the fire with. Helplessly, the animals watch as everything is destroyed.

The fires burn themselves out. The animals take an account of the damages. The barn is totally destroyed, reduced to a pile of smoldering ashes. Half of the crops are burned, and the pond water is undrinkable.

A veterinarian arrives, he helps the injured animals. Cruz has many stitches. Peabody has a broken wing, and most of his feathers are singed off. Nermy has two broken legs. Buster has burns on his legs and back, his tail hair and mane are burned off.

Hooty Owl flies up on the fence rail, the others sadly gather around.

HOOTY OWL

Six chickens are unaccounted for,
and four ducks have perished in the
pond fire. We have no water or
shelter, and our food supply is
gone.

The animals are crying.

CRUZ

I just don't understand, why would
they would do this Buster... we-we
didn't do then anything. I just
don't understand.

BUSTER

Well little Cruz, I wish I had the
answer, or something I could tell
you, but I'm just as confused as
you are.

CRUZ

But I'm scared. Why did this
happen?

Peabody angrily declares.

PEABODY

Terrorism! That's what this is, the work of those terrorist buzzards! I've run across the devastation caused by those scoundrels in my travels about the world... but who would have thought it to happen here! To us! I must say I am surprised, but more than that, I'm mad as a hornet! Mad as a hornet! Retaliation is in order -- war comes to mind! If my wing wasn't broken I'd fly over to those --

HOOTY OWL

Calm down Mr. Pea, let's not talk of war, let's all be thankful that we survived with wounds that will heal.

BIG DUCK

I don't know if my wounds will heal, I've lost my friends. My hurt is deep inside.

HOONY

I'm in purrrrrfect agrrreement.

Hooty Owl looks at the animals, he tries to console them.

HOOTY OWL

Well, time will heal wounds and injuries, and having forgiveness will help heal the hurt in your hearts.

CRUZ

What if they come back again... I'm scared.

HOOTY OWL

Well Cruz, don't let your fears overwhelm you, it's normal to be worried and scared, as well as mad, but we must remember that life is filled with surprises, both good and bad. We need to channel our fears and anger into productive energy that we can use to be wiser and more prepared in the future, we must go on with our normal lives.

Angrily, Peabody starts pacing, fanning the sticks of his burnt plumage, waving his wing cast about.

PEABODY

Prepared for the future! I do say,
I hope this has opened all of your
minds to the security projects I've
been pitching for years around
here. Now I hope you'll all listen,
my ideas have been falling on deaf
ears all the while.

The animals all look down, nodding their heads, agreeing with Peabody.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

I say, at this point we need more
than a fence and aerial security,
we need a homeland security team!

BUSTER

I think he's got a point this time
everybody, we need to do all we can
to be prepared against this type of
terrorism every again!

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Over the following weeks, due to
the shortage of food and water,
rationing was put into effect.

-- The animals are eating small rations of food.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Even Peabody dropped his usual
argument for larger portions,
everyone understood sacrifice for
all was the order of the day.

-- Peabody shares his small ration with a chicken.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The animals from surrounding farms
had donated food, water and
supplies.

-- Neighboring animals bring food and water.

-- Neighbors erect tents for Buster's Farm animals.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

They did all of the chores the
injured animals were unable to
perform.

-- Neighboring animals tend the crops on Buster's Farm.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

The neighboring animals, and animals of Buster's Farm are having an Amish-like barn raising.

NARRATOR

All of the animals got together,
and in one day had an old fashioned
barn raising.

The animals all stand in the field, looking at the new barn, patting each other on the back.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - POND IN THE PASTURE - DAY

The animals are seen draining the pond, and refilling it with fresh water.

NARRATOR

The pond was drained and refilled
with fresh water.

All of the animals are seen resting, talking, smiling. They all share food at a long table in the pasture, under the big tree. The sun is setting.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

The tragedy at Buster's Farm
brought all of the animals closer
together, they realized how this
tragedy could have had happened at
any of their farms.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

They became more united in looking
out for their neighbors. They held
meetings and drew up security plans
that were put into effect at all of
the farms.

-- The animals have a meeting inside the new barn.

-- The animals draw up security plans.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

They all kept a sharp lookout and reported any suspicious activity to the security team.

-- Animals are seen on guard duty, on the roof, in the trees.

-- A duck, in a soldier uniform, reports to Peabody.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

As the animals are doing chores some MOCKINGBIRDS arrive.

MOCKINGBIRDS

A nearby farm has captured three buzzards that had been circling their farm; they're holding them for interrogation, and decided a trial should be held at Buster's Farm.

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - LARGE COMMON AREA - DAY

The barn is packed with spectators for the trial. Peabody wears a barrister wig. Three BUZZARDS are led into the barn in handcuffs and shackles. Hooty Owl begins the questioning.

HOOTY OWL

What do you know about the group of buzzards that did these dastardly deeds?

BUZZARD ONE

Nothing!

As the buzzard leaves the witness stand, Buster sees that he is missing a few feathers.

BUSTER

Your honor, I would like to see the evidence found at the Army depot, and call buzzard one back to the stand.

A POLICE DOG brings Buster the feathers found at the Army depot. The buzzard returns to the witness stand.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Where were you the morning that our farm was bombed?

BUZZARD ONE

I was with my friends.

BUSTER

I don't doubt that... please stand up and turn around if you would.

As the buzzard stands, his back to the courtroom, Buster holds up the feathers.

BUSTERS

A perfect match!

A wave of whispers rush through the room. Peabody jumps up, banging his cast on the table.

PEABODY

Guilty! Guilty! Hang him now!
Punish him now!

There is a growing anger amongst the crowd. Hooty is able to subdue their growing vigilante attitude.

HOOTY OWL

Everyone, sit down! Calm down!
Order in the court! Order in the court!

The animals all sit down, murmuring. The other two buzzards look at each other, shaking their heads.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

In light of the evidence, the other two buzzards turned on their friend and told everything.

-The other two buzzards each take the witness stand. They talk rapidly, pointing their wings at buzzard one.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

They explained how they had breached the security at the Army depot disguised as messenger carriers.

-- Buzzards disguised as Army messenger carriers sneaking into the Army depot.

-- Buzzard One sits with his wings folded, angry.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Most frightening were the reasons for the attack, hate and intolerance. They explained how they felt that those who did not believe and live like them should be punished and destroyed.

-- The shock of all of the animal's faces are seen.

END OF MONTAGE

Sobbing is heard, many animals cry. Buster is shaking his head in disbelief. Peabody is visibly angry, he jumps up, turns to the crowd.

PEABODY

No more immigrants! No more foreigners! This is our land.

The crowd begins to get in a frenzy, chanting Peabody's words. Buster gets up, turns to the crowd, in a bellowing voice addresses the crowd.

BUSTER

Hold on! Hold on everybody! Your headed in the wrong direction, just because a few foreigners did some mean and hateful things doesn't mean all foreigners are mean.

The crowd mumbles disagreeably.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

My granddaddy was a foreigner once, we Paso Fino horses come from Columbia and Peru, and Mr. Peas' relatives come from Asia.

The crowd calms down, they become silent, attentively looking at Buster.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

This country was founded on taking in others who were looking for a better life for themselves and their families. That's what makes this country so diverse and great! We can't stop doing what made us great to begin with.

Hooty Owl gets on the podium next to Buster.

HOOTY OWL

Buster is correct. We have all had our lives changed by this terrible tragedy. We have all become more united, more prepared, safer now. Let's grow stronger and better, not weaker and bitter.

The audience in the courtroom, looks around at each other, nodding in agreement with Hooty Owl.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

Let us remember, hatred and prejudice is contagious, let's not become that which we fear the most.

BUSTER

Let's learn from the past, live for today, and prepare for the brighter future that lies ahead for us all!

The courtroom audience erupts into cheers. Buster and Hooty look at each other smiling. The crows look at each other dejectedly.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Oh, by the way, the buzzards were all sent to jail for the rest of their lives, because remember, wrong doing has its consequences, and wrong doers are always punished.

The sun sets on Buster's Farm.

SERIES FIVE: BILLY THE BLUEBIRD, TOO MUCH SUGAR

EXT. BUSTERS'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

Buster is standing in front of the barn. Suddenly, BILLY BLUEBIRD, a small, bright blue bluebird, speeds past Buster in a blur. Flower petals are blown off of the flowers, leaving sticks.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Billy Bluebird blew by blasting bundles of beautiful begonia blossoms beyond unbelievable boundaries! Fallen flowers fell fourteen feet forward from the ferocious force field following his fast flyby!

Buster turns his head, trying to follow as Billy Bluebird flies past and out of sight. Two hummingbirds, HARRY and HARRIET, hover in front of Buster. They are talking to Buster. Buster listens, nodding his head.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Harry and Harriet, the hummingbirds, had noticed Billy the Bluebird had been feeding at their feeder lately... and that was a problem. The hummingbird's diet consist of a lot sugar.

-- The hummingbirds feeding at their feeder.

-- Billy the Bluebird feeding at the hummingbirds feeder.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Billy the Bluebird shouldn't have much sugar in his diet because sugar makes his already high energy level go zooming.

-- Billy Bluebird becoming hyper, flying in fast circles.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - FRONT OF BARN - DAY

Buster is waiting in front of the barn, looking around, Billy Bluebird blows past.

BUSTER

Hey little Billy bird you seem to flying around way above your normal speed limit lately.

Billy Bluebird turns around at high speed and comes to Buster. He lands on the barn railing, out of breath, his chest heaving, his eyes spinning.

BILLY BLUEBIRD

I know, I know, I know, I-I-I-I've been feeding at the Hummingbirds feeder, makes me feel full of energy, lots-of-energy! All that sugar makes me feel good, real good.

BUSTER

But that's not part of your normal diet and little birds like you don't need all that sugar, it's gonna be bad for you in the long run.

BILLY BLUEBIRD

But I feel real good, Buster!

BUSTER

You're feeling good now, but it'll catch up to you. I'm warning you, you better watch the amount of sugar you take in.

BILLY BLUEBIRD

But maaaaaan Buster, sugar sure is a zoom, don't sleep much, wake up tired and groggy, but more sugar and zooom again!

BUSTER

You better watch you don't get addicted, you could set off a chain reaction of too high energy, too low energy, too high energy, too low energy. I'm tell'n ya -- watch it!

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Well, sure enough, one day while speeding through the forest, Billy Bluebird hit a tree. Bam! Knocked silly.

-- Billy Bluebird speeding through the forest, barely missing trees.

-- Billy Bluebird hits a tree, feathers fly.

-- Billy Bluebird lying on the ground, unconscious, small birds circle his head.

END OF MONTAGE

Buster approaches Billy Bluebird, nudges him, Billy wakes up.

BUSTER

Well, I hate to say I told you so, but I told you so!

(MORE)

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Your just lucky it knocked some sense into you, other haven't been so lucky you know.

Billy Bluebird gets up onto Buster's back, still swaying from the impact. They walk towards the barn.

NARRATOR

And so, Billy Bluebird, having banged bundles of brilliance into his brain, returned to his normal diet that kept him safe and healthy... and safe from the crashes of a sugar buzz as well.

SERIES SIX: TALENTS, UNCLE WOO-WOO

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY

The animals are all standing outside the front of the barn, obviously waiting for something. A long limousine like wagon pulls up. A suave looking, Siamese, cool-cat steps out, pulls his sunglasses down, glances over the rim at all the animals.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Nermy's' Uncle Woo-Woo, is a very famous and important artist. His artwork is shown the world over. Having to attend all of the openings at galleries around the globe keeps Woo-Woo traveling most of the time. The times he had to paint are precious and few.

-- Woo-Woo in art gallery at a showing in Paris.

-- Woo-Woo at an art showing in Jackson Square, New Orleans.

-- Woo-Woo at an airport pulling his suitcase.

END OF MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

During one hiatus, he decided to spend some time with his nephew Nermy. He knew inspiration for new work could always be found at the farm. When he arrived he was graciously greeted by everyone.

All of the animals walk out to greet Woo-Woo. They help him with his bags and painting supplies. Woo-Woo is very gracious and appreciative.

WOO-WOO
 (cool, slow, Oriental
 purr)
 I hope I'm not intruding, or won't
 be too much trouble.

BUSTER
 Why heck no. We're happy to have
 you visit with us, Woo-Woo, besides
 it'll be fun and interesting to
 watch how you create.

WOO-WOO
 I thank you for your kind words and
 your hospitality.

Nermy shows uncle Woo-Woo to his quarters, they go to the back of the barn. Peabody cocks his head, watching Woo-Woo walk away.

PEABODY
 Humph, a bit strange don't you
 think, those Bohemian artist
 types, we should be on --

BUSTER
 Oh hush Mr. Pea, really, can it!

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - WOO-WOO'S STUDIO

Nermy is helping Woo-Woo unpack and set up his easel and canvas. Woo-Woo lays out his paints and brushes.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Buster had set up a space in the rear of the barn where uncle Woo-Woo could sleep and paint. Having his own space away from the other animals was important, because sometimes artist become inspired in the middle of the night. Woo-Woo would sometimes be painting to the wee hours of dawn and beyond.

Woo-Woo is seen painting in his studio, it is night, the full moon is seen through his window.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

Woo-Woo is watching Nermy try to paint the landscape. Nermy's picture is a mess. Nermy looks sad and frustrated.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

One afternoon, uncle Woo-Woo was trying to show Nermy how to paint. No matter how hard he tried, Nermy couldn't quite grasp the concept.

NERMY

I just can't do it... I have no talent.

Nermy puts down his brush and dejectedly looks at his painting. Woo-Woo walks over and pats Nermy on the head.

WOO-WOO

Ahhhh, that's not truuue, we all have a talent. You trrrrying too hard, you need to let your creative energy flow naturrrrrally. You need to work with it, not against it, this no produce fruit frrrrrom your labor.

NERMY

But I want to paint like you Uncle Woo-Woo, but I can't paint. I don't know what my talent is.

WOO-WOO

Ahhhh Nermy son, you will find your talent when you least expect it. Keep an open mind, have-ah patience... and remember, sometimes the one you want to be your talent, not your talent. You looking in wrong field.

NERMY

But we only have one field.

WOO-WOO

It's a-like you looking for carrots in the apple orchard, your talent not where you looking Nermy son. Keep looking, try many things, be purrrrsistant, be patient.

BUSTER

Be patient! Did I hear someone say carrots and apples. I'm hungry now!

Peabody looks at the ducks, whispers to them.

PEABODY

Humph. More like nuts I say.

DUCK

More like a quack!

Hooty flies to Peabody, looks at him crossly.

HOOTY OWL

Did you say something Peabody?

PEABODY

Quite! This conversation is quickly getting queer. This talk of looking for talents to those who have none is somewhat like sending the boy on the quest for the Holy Grail if you will. I mean, your either born with them, such as I... shame it is that some of us get multiple doses, you know, the multi-talented, like myself.

HOOTY OWL

And just what are some of your many talents, Peabody?

PEABODY

Well, I say, we do digress! I believe you were helping poor Nermy here... things I must do. I'll be on my way.

Peabody races away.

WOO-WOO

Oh Nermy son, he wrong-wrong-wrong. We all born with a talent, many things we can practice and learn, become very, very good at, but when you find your talent, it come easy. Then practice will make it purrrfect! So keep looking Nermy son, keep trying new things, and don't listen to others who say you have no talent -- not so! We all have talent... it will come to you in time, may be long time, but if you seek your talent, you will find it.

BUSTER

Well, with that said Woo-Woo, what about those carrots and apples you mentioned? I'm hungry as a horse... wait a minute... I am a horse.

SERIES SIX: ADOPTION, PEANUTS STORY

EXT. BACKYARD AT A HOUSE IN THE CITY - DAY

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

PEANUT, the Border Collie, the most loving, loyal dog anyone could want as a companion; she was so full of love, and had such a joy for life, that at times she was absolutely effervescent.

-- Peanut, a black and white Border Collie, plays, chases sticks, cuddles with a child.

-- Peanut leaps with joy, wags her tail, licks the child's face, the child smiles.

She bubbled with joy, she saw beauty in everything, especially sunsets and sunrises, oh how she loved those. The always changing painting in the sky by the great master, she would say.

-- Peanut sits on a hill, wagging her tail, watching the sunset.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Every time she came for a visit at Buster's Farm, the animals would enjoy her humor and playfulness, her zest for life was almost contagious, for you know how everyone likes to be around those who are happy and friendly.

-- Peanut at the farm, rolling, playing, doing tricks, making the animals all laugh.

-- Animals all acting silly with Peanut.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

It was always good to see Peanut, however, at the same time it brought a mixed blessing, one that was spiced with sorrow... you see, when she was visiting it meant she had been thrown out of another home, or abandoned on yet another lonely road.

-- Peanut is dumped out of a car on a lonely road.

-- Peanut arriving at the farm, her stick knapsack over her shoulder, a painful smile on her face.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Several years earlier, Peanut had lost one of her parents. Her other parent couldn't take care of Peanut alone and had given Peanut up for adoption.

-- Peanut and her mom at a funeral, crying.

-- Peanut's mother cries as a family takes Peanut away.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Through the years poor Peanut had run the gambit of foster homes in search of that one family that would love her and take care of her.

-- Peanut wagging her tail, approaching a child, who pushes her away.

-- The family shoves Peanut away to another family.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

She had been placed in some of the most awful, abusive foster homes imaginable. Some of the people who were supposed to love her, would beat her, neglect to feed her, or simply ignore her health and hygiene needs. Many of these foster homes she simply ran away from.

-- Peanut is chained to a pole, standing in the pouring rain.

-- Peanut is skinny, looking down at an empty bowl.

-- Peanut in a cage, looking ratty and motley.

-- Peanut walking down a road with her knapsack on a stick.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Her times on the streets had given her a street savvy way beyond her years, she had every trick in the book tried on her! Through it all, it still had not taken away, let alone dampened her upbeat attitude that one day she would be loved. Peanut still loved everyone!

-- Peanut is dumped out of a car in a bad neighborhood.

-- Packs of dogs chasing Peanut.

-- Peanut sleeping in an abandoned building, rats walking around.

-- Shady looking man in overcoat trying to lure Peanut with candy, she looks at him sideways and runs away.

-- Peanut walking through an idyllic small town, an old lady giving her a meal.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Peanut always attributed her joy to having a forgiving heart. She never held onto her anger, or held grudges towards those who had mistreated her.

-- Peanut walking, wagging her tail.

-- Peanut putting her knapsack down, playing with a child.

-- Peanut leaving her foster home, sad, looks back, shakes her head, smiles and walks on.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

She had learned long ago that being unforgiving was unhealthy and perpetuated the unhappiness on a daily basis -- sort of like living the bad experience over again every day.

-- Peanut walking, a thought bubble above her head that has one of her bad memories showing. Her wagging tail turns to a drooping, sad tail. Her head sinking low.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

She learned forgiveness towards others is essential for having a happy life.

-- Peanut walks down a lonely road, enjoying the beautiful landscape, her tail wagging happily.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Well, this time, Peanut had arrived at a busy time around the farm. Everyone was harvesting their crops and selling the abundance of the leftover's at a little roadside stand in front of the farm. Peanut's help was welcomed, and her joy of life made even work fun.

-- Peanut arrives at the farm, all of the animals greet her.

-- All of the animals are seen picking apples, pulling carrots, Peanut helping.

-- Peanut doing tricks as the animals take a break from work.

-- Peanut and Hooty Owl working at the roadside stand in front of the farm.

-- People waiting in line at the produce stand, the animals all busy helping bag the produce for customers.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

While stocking the freshly picked produce, Peanut was telling Captain Hoony about the latest foster home she had been placed in, and how she was growing weary of going from home to home, she almost cried.

-- Peanut and Captain Hoony talk while stocking the stand shelves.

-- Peanut pauses, looks at Captain Hoony, shakes her head, wipes a tear with her paw.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

But, as always, in a cheerful voice she told Captain Hoony, the next foster home will be the one where she finds love.

-- Peanut begins stocking shelves again, cheerfully wagging her tail.

-- Captain Hoony pats her on the head.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Meanwhile, over the counter, out of sight from Peanut, was a woman who, by accident, overheard Peanut's conversation. She was touched hearing about Peanut's plight in life. She had been looking for a dog for her son, but they were all either too mean or too rough.

-- A woman getting produce on the other side of the shelf is listening to Peanut and Captain Hoony, unseen.

-- The woman wipes a tear from her eye.

-- Woman and her son are looking for a dog at the pet store, one dog tries to bite her son.

END OF MONTAGE

The WOMAN, pretty, wearing colorful sundress is checking out. Buster is running the register.

WOMAN

Who is the new addition to the farm, that cute little Border Collie over there?

BUSTER

Oh, that's just our friend Peanut, she's staying here for a while.

Buster changes the subject.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

How's your family? Heck, you've been coming here long enough now, you seem like family yourself. How's that new house y'all built? I hear it's a beauty.

Buster looks around, leans in close to the woman, he whispers to her.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

I gotta tell ya, you're some of the nicest people that come here every year -- and I'm not just saying that.

WOMAN

Oh thank you, Buster. Everyone is doing well, I just can't seem to find the right dog as a companion for my son...

She looks over toward Peanut.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I didn't mean to overhear their conversation, but I did, and that little collie seems so sweet and lovable, do you think she would like to meet my son?

Buster beams with joy.

BUSTER

I'm sure she would!

The woman brings her son over to Peanut. Peanut and her son are instant friends. He pets her, she wags her tail, licks his face, starts standing on two legs, dancing in a circle around the boy.

All of the animals gather around, smiling, laughing. The woman looks at Buster, nods her head.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Well, you know how this story ends don't you? That's right, she adopted Peanut right then.

-- Peanut gets into the car with the woman and her son. They drive away, Peanut looking out the back of the station wagon window, her face, and the boy's face framed in the rear window, both smiling.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Her new family cared for her, took care of all of her needs, even brought Peanut to the Pooch Parlor every week to get trimmed, bathed and perfumed. They brought Peanut out to the farm occasionally to visit all of her friends.

-- Peanut at home with the woman and her family, playing in the yard with them all.

-- Peanut at the Pooch Parlor, getting bathed and brushed.

-- The woman and her son arriving at the farm, Peanut jumping out of the car, all of the animals running to greet her.

-- All of the animals, the woman's family, surround Peanut, smiling. Peanut jumping for joy, licking the boy's face.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

As well as finding a loving home,
Peanut learned that good things
come to those who wait patiently
and cheerfully, and that if you
believe with all your heart, and
have a cheerful and forgiving
heart, love will find you...
guaranteed!

-- The woman's family all around Peanut, smiling, petting her.

-- Peanut jumping for joy, licking the boy's face.

SERIES SIX: PROCRASTINATION

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Buster and Peabody sit in front of the control board, they are tired, it is early.

BUSTER

(yawning)

Good morning Mr. Pea -- oh, excuse me for yawning, I'm so tired. It sure is early, how ya doing this morning Mr. Pea?

PEABODY

Well, Buster you're right, it sure is early, what's the big deal that we all have to be here so early in the morning?

BUSTER

Ed said this is a long story we gotta do, it's about fifteen minutes long and, and we had to get here early.

PEABODY

Get here early! The sun's hardly up! I mean this is... where's the coffee?

BUSTER

(yawning)

Well.. they -- they haven't...
well...

Peabody looks at Buster and shakes his head.

PEABODY

Look, your already flubbing your
lines and we haven't even gotten
started, and it's so early. It's
such a beautiful day outside
though, that sunrise was just
simply magnificent.

BUSTER

Yeah, it's supposed to be just a
perfect day.

PEABODY

Humph, a perfect day to be inside
working all day.

The studio door opens, Cruz struts in, full of energy.

CRUZ

Hey everybody, how y'all doing? It
sure is early, huh? Boy, even I'm
kinda thinking it's too early this
morning to be here. Why we gotta be
here so early?

BUSTER

Oh, it's a long story.

Cruz looks at Buster, confused.

CRUZ

What?

BUSTER

No, I mean a long story, we have to
record a long story.

CRUZ

Hey Buster, how come I don't hear
any music?

PEABODY

Humph, go figure boy! It's so
early, musicians be here this time
of the morning!

(MORE)

PEABODY (CONT'D)

By the way where's Ed, he's the one that called this early meeting and all this early practice.

BUSTER

Yeah... come to think of it.

CRUZ

Why don't we go outside and play a little while before he gets here, because it sure is pretty, it's a pretty day not to be working huh?

BUSTER

You got a point there.

PEABODY

Yes-yes, I do say... ah, you know... we could put this off to another day, you know there's always tomorrow, we could do this story then.

Buster and Cruz shake their heads in agreement.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Why don't we all do that. I say we go enjoy the day.

BUSTER

Well I'm kinda for that. I wouldn't mind going back to sleep for a little while.

CRUZ

Yeah, and I have some friends that are all off today, we could go play kick ball, I'm all for that! Okay, let's go.

Cruz heads for the door, Buster follows.

BUSTER

Let's go!

Peabody gets out of the chair and heads to the door.

PEABODY

Yes-yes, I do say, we'll do this yet another day. Okay boys, I'll see you.

They all walk out the door.

CRUZ (O.S.)
Bye Mr. Pea.

BUSTER (O.S.)
I'll see you later little Cruz.

The studio door opens, Cruz comes back in to get his ball, as he goes to leave ED comes in.

CRUZ
Oh hi, Mr. Ed, I'll see you later.

ED (O.S.)
Where is everyone?

CRUZ
Buster went back to bed, and Mr. Pea, he's gone... and I'm gonna play kick ball. I'll see you later.

Cruz leaves hurriedly The studio is empty.

ED (O.S.)
Well, I guess that's the story on procrastination. When you put things off, nothing gets done.

SERIES SEVEN: AGING, EL POCO'S STORY

The animals are standing in front of the barn. Cruz sticking his head out, looking down the road.

CRUZ
My uncle, EL POCO should be here soon, I can't wait to see him.

PEABODY
Me too my boy, I do enjoy his stories.

BUSTER
Yep, El POCO sure has lived a long and exciting life.

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)
El-Poco, an uncle of Cruz, is a very old Paso Fino horse that had moved from Peru a long time ago.

-- El POCO in mountains of Peru, wearing colorful, Peruvian blankets.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

El POCO has traveled many places,
and he was once in a World War.

-- El POCO by Eifel Tower.

-- El POCO by Big Ben in London.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

During the war, he pulled the
wagons that carried injured
soldiers. He had been awarded many
medals for his bravery, he was a
true hero.

-- El POCO in the heat of battle, bombs exploding around him.

-- El POCO in uniform pulling wagon with injured soldiers.

-- El POCO getting medals pinned on him.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

El POCO had plenty of stories to
tell, the stories of his
experiences kept everyone
captivated for hours.

-- El POCO telling stories to young animals.

END OF MONTAGE

El POCO arrives at the farm, saddlebags across his back.
Peabody rushes out to greet him. The others follow.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Peabody loves when El POCO comes to
visit, The General, is how he
respectfully refers to El POCO.

Peabody helps El POCO take off his bags, walks with him to
the barn.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY

PEABODY

I say General, do tell me again
about the Battle of the Bulge, and
I'm not talking about Buster's
expanding waistline there.

Buster cuts his eyes at Peabody.

BUSTER

Then you must want to hear the one
about the battle of the bulging
ego, yours!

Cruz runs in circles around El POCO, happy to see him.

CRUZ

Come on Uncle Poke, let's go run
and play kick the ball.

EL POCO

I'll have to take a rain check on
that right now little Cruz, I'm
feeling a little under the weather
and a bit stiff in the joints,
moving slow today... I'll probably
go have a nap for a while, lets see
how I'm feeling later, okay?

CRUZ

Okay, Uncle Poke, but why do you
want to take a nap every day. I had
to do that when I was real little.
I don't have to take naps everyday
now, cause I'm bigger.

EL POCO

Well, it helps me recharge my old
batteries.

El POCO walks slowly into the barn. Cruz walks to Buster.

CRUZ

I don't understand how Uncle Poke
did all those things in the past,
when he's always tired and moving
so slow now?

BUSTER

Well, see little Cruz, as you get
older you get slower and weaker,
and need to rest now and then.

CRUZ

That's just the opposite of what's
happening to me, I'm getting bigger
and faster and stronger every day!

PEABODY

That's right boy, life is like a
flower if you will.

(MORE)

PEABODY (CONT'D)

First a little bud as yourself
there, then you bloom into a
magnificent flower, and if I do
say, at this point in my life, I'm
quite the bed of roses.

BUSTER

Here comes the battle of the
bulging ego.

PEABODY

Humph! Anyway, Cruz my boy, like I
was saying, first a bud, then a
flower, and just as the flower, our
own beauty begins to fade... ah....
aaah...

There is silence... everyone is looking at Peabody, waiting.
Peabody becomes pale, starts looking around nervously. He
throws his wings up in the air and folds his plumage.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Oh my! I'm doooooomed! My beauty
will fade, I'll be old and ugly!

Peabody raises off, his tears streaming in the wind. Hooty
Owl looks at Buster.

HOOTY OWL

And probably none the wiser, thank
goodness he's gone. We've already
done that story in book three.

Hooty turns to Cruz.

HOOTY OWL (CONT'D)

Your body is like a clock, as you
get older, it winds down, runs
slower, napping at Uncle Poco's age
is sort of like winding the clock
again.

CRUZ

I think I understand.

HOOTY OWL

Also when one ages, you slowly
start trading the beauty and energy
of youth for the beauty and wisdom
of age, a new beauty, one that is
crowned with a head of gray hair,
like your Uncle Poco.

CRUZ

Sort of like a sign to say how far you've made it, and how much you've learned through life, huh Mr. Hooty?

HOOTY OWL

Sort of like that little Cruz, so just understand when your Uncle Poke's a little tired and slow, it's just so he can rest up and share more of what he knows about life with his favorite nephew, as well as us all.

CRUZ

But I though owls knew everything Mr. Hooty?

HOOTY OWL

Even I learn from Uncle Poke, he has years of knowledge on me, and teaches me many things. The wise know that there is much to be learned from our elders, and that we should give them the respect and honor they deserve for having lived a long life.

BUSTER

We should spend time with our elders. Remember time is a precious thing to older animals. We should help them whenever we can, and take time to listen and learn from them.

CRUZ

I think I understand a lot better now. As soon as Uncle Poke gets up from his nap, I'm gonna ask him to tell us some more stories of his life, and tell him how much I love him!

PEABODY

Now you're talking my boy, carpe diem.

CRUZ

What's that mean Mr. Pea?

PEABODY

Well, it's Latin for enjoy the present day, which I think is a great place to end this story on aging.

Peabody begins to walk away. The animals look at each other.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

71

Seize the moment, I think that works, what say you go ahead and stop the music there, Ed and call this one a wrap ole man.

71

The background music stops playing. All of the animals look at each other, confused. Buster looks around.

BUSTER

I'm going to find out who this Ed is that keeps stopping the music...

SERIES SEVEN: LAZINESS, CAESAR THE GOAT

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY

Buster and the animals are doing their chores. Cruz's friend, CAESAR THE GOAT, a young white goat, prong horned, and lazy, has come to visit. Caesar sits, watching the animals do chores.

Buster looks at Caesar loafing, he turns to Hooty Owl.

BUSTER

I know Caesar's parents work a lot, and he's home alone most of the time, but he needs to help around the farm and learn a little responsibility.

HOOTY OWL

I agree, he's not too young to learn a work ethic. Plus, it will help him when he returns home to fight the boredom of sitting inside a city apartment all day.

PEABODY

And the boy has an excuse for everything, anything to get out of work.

HOOTY OWL

You should take notes Peabody.

Peabody sneers at Hooty Owl. Buster walks over to Caesar, nudges him gently.

BUSTER

Hey little Caesar, could you please come and help me get some hay out of the loft.

CAESAR

(bleating)

I-I-I-I don't think I-I-I-I'm bi-i-i-ig enough to lift hay.

BUSTER

It's not the whole bale, it's just the little flakes. We need to put them in everyone's stalls for breakfast, I'll meet you over by the hay in a minute or so. Captain Hoony's get'n the grain, and Cruz is fill'n up the water troughs. We'll be ready to eat breakfast soon.

CAESAR

I-i-i-it sure is er-er-early. Y'all sure do g-g-g-et up early around here.

BUSTER

Like the old saying goes, early to bed, early to rise, makes one healthy, wealthy and wise -- now go on, and I'll see you shortly.

Caesar walks about twenty feet and is sidetracked by a butterfly fluttering by, he chases it behind the barn. He stares at the fluffy clouds overhead. He falls asleep.

BUSTER'S FARM - LARGE COMMON AREA AND DINING AREA - DAY

The animals all gather for breakfast, no Caesar.

BUSTER

Has anyone seen little Caesar? I asked him to help me get the hay flakes and he hasn't shown up yet.

Cruz puts down the water pale and bounces over to Buster.

CRUZ

I'll help you get the hay, Buster.

BUSTER

Thank you little Cruz, but I'm worried about Caesar, something could have happened, we better go look for him.

PEABODY

I'm sure the boy is fine, just taking in the country sights and smells, all new to a city boy you know. However; might I take this opportunity to say, we all wouldn't have to be worried one bit if all of you would reconsider my security fence proposal, perhaps you all don't understand the concept quite clearly, let me --

BUSTER

Oh boy, not again. Mr. Pea, we all said no -- twice! We're not going through this with you again. Let's go look for Caesar.

PEABODY

Good idea ole-man, I'll stay here in case he shows up.

The animals all exit the barn.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - DIFFERENT LOCATIONS - DAY

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Captain Hoony and Nermy check the haylofts.

-- Captain Hoony and Nermy check the hay lofts.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Buster asks the ducks if they have seen Caesar.

-- Buster checks with the ducks at the pond.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Cruz looked in all of the stalls. Still, no one found Caesar. The animals began to become worried.

-- Cruz looks in the stalls.

-- The animals look worried, shrug their shoulders.

END OF MONTAGE

Hooty takes to the sky for an aerial view. He soars over the farm, circling around. He sees Caesar asleep behind the barn.

HOOTY OWL

I see him, he's behind the barn!

The animals gather around sleeping Caesar, Buster nudges sleeping Caesar with his cold nose.

BUSTER

Wake up!

Surprised and embarrassed, Caesar jumps up, staggering from sleep.

CAESAR

I-i-i-is it time for br-r-r-breakfast?

BUSTER

It's past time for breakfast, I asked you to come help me, and here you are asleep again!

CAESAR

I-I-I-I'm sor-r-r-ry, I-I-I-I'm not used to getting up so er-r-r-ly.

The animals all roll their eyes, shake their heads.

BUSTER

Let's go eat.

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - DINING AREA - DAY

All of the animals eat at the table.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DAY

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Throughout the day, especially during chore time, Caesar was nowhere to be found, and always had some excuse for his whereabouts, generally sleeping somewhere.

- Animals are all tending the crops.
- Caesar is sleeping under a pile of hay.
- Animals finding Caesar asleep.
- Caesar telling excuses. The animals shaking their heads.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

One day he disappeared for hours, he hadn't told anyone he was going off exploring alone, which they never allowed any of the younger animals of the farm to do.

- Caesar wandering away from the farm.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The animals were very worried that Caesar had wandered off into the woods and gotten lost. Hooty was unable to see through the forest canopy from the air, so his wide-eyed aerial view was of no use.

- Caesar enters the dark woods.
- Caesar looks around, lost.
- Hooty Owl flying over the woods, sees only tree tops.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The animals formed search parties, and went in several directions looking for Caesar. After hours of searching they returned to the barn.

- Animals in different groups search the woods.
- Animals shaking their heads, walking back home.

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - PASTURE - DUSK

NARRATOR (V.O.)

It was getting dark and the animals were worried sick. As they returned to the barn, there was Caesar, standing out in the field staring at the sky.

-- Animals exiting the woods, heads hanging low.

-- Caesar in pasture, staring at the sky.

-- Buster and Peabody looking angry.

-- Caesar sees animals, runs to greet them.

END OF MONTAGE

CAESAR

W-e-e-rrr- have y'a-a-all been? I-I-
I- was scar-r-r-ed you left me!

The animals all look at each other shocked. Buster gets in Caesar's face.

BUSTER

Where have we been? Where the heck have you been? We've looked everywhere for hours, where were you?

CAESAR

I-I-I'de gone swimming in the river.

PEABODY

Swimming in the river! Alone? Are you nuts or just plain crazy! Do you know how dangerous such a thing is?

CAESAR

Bu-u-u-ut I-I-I- swim in the city pool all the ti-i-i-ime.

PEABODY

City pool! This is the woods, a river, not a pool with a lifeguard, a light, and a drain. There are undercurrents that could suck you underwater and carry you miles away! Alligators lurking in the shallows, snakes...

(MORE)

PEABODY (CONT'D)
all sorts of beasts waiting to prey
on you naive attitude.

Peabody starts fanning his plumage, walking in a circle.

PEABODY (CONT'D)
In my day such behavior would have
been rewarded with a swift --

BUSTER
Calm down Mr. Pea. Caesar, we gotta
talk about your behavior. Even
though your a guest, you should be
helping with the chores, you always
seem to get out of helping do
anything.

CAESAR
Bu-u-u-ut you all g-g-g-get it all
done without me.

BUSTER
That's not the point, you should
help, not just sit around watching
others do all the work.

PEABODY
Yes, yes, such behavior left
unbridled will result in you
becoming a watcher of life, not a
doer! The world has enough watchers
-- we need more doer's in this
world.

BUSTER
He's right Caesar, watching others
doesn't do anything to enrich your
own life, and you'll never be
successful at anything in life if
all you do is daydream and sleep.

HOOTY OWL
Daydreaming is fine, the world's
greatest ideas came from dreams,
but hard work is required to make a
dream become a reality. Being lazy
perpetuates lazy, being busy makes
things happen.

PEABODY
Here! Here! He's right, watching
others live their lives is like
watching you own life go by wasted,
unnoticed...

(MORE)

PEABODY (CONT'D)

and this going off on your own must stop! If all your going to be is a burden, I vote that you go back home!

MONTAGE

NARRATOR (V.O.)

All of the stern words had made Caesar realize how he had been acting both selfish and lazy. The remainder of his stay at the farm, Caesar helped with all of the chores.

-- Caesar holding his head low as Peabody lectures to him.

-- Caesar helping Cruz get water.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The more he helped and worked, the better he found that playtime felt, he also found that being active actually gave him more energy.

-- Caesar helps clean stalls.

-- Cruz and Caesar playing kick ball, smiling, laughing.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

By the time his stay was over at the farm, Caesar had learned that being lazy produces nothing in your life. His newfound disciplines helped him in all aspects of his life when he returned home.

-- Caesar telling the animals goodbye, his luggage by him.

-- Caesar gets into a taxi wagon, the wagon pulls away.

-- Caesar gets back to his home, enters apartment.

INT. CAESAR'S APARTMENT IN THE CITY - DAY

NARRATOR (V.O.)

He began helping around the house, cleaning, dusting, picking up, and washing the dishes while his parents were at work.

-- Caesar cleans the house, dusts with his tail.

-- Caesar washing dishes, picking up toys.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

His helping around the house helped created more time for his family to spend together once his parents got home from work.

-- Caesar, his mom, and dad, eat together.

-- Caesar's family plays a game together.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

As well, learning to concentrate and finish the chores at hand had caused his grades in school to go way up! He had found that learning in itself can be exciting and fun.

-- Caesar studying, doing his homework.

-- Caesar showing his mom a straight A report card.

-- Caesar smiling while he reads.

END OF MONTAGE

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY

BUSTER

Remember everybody, when you put your mind and your body in motion, great things can happen in your life!

SERIES EIGHT: ANGER MANAGEMENT

EXT. BUSTER'S FARM - BARN - DAY

The evening shadows grow long. The two cats sleep in the sun. The ducks cool off in the pond. Buster and Peabody enjoy the beauty and serenity of the farm, lying under the towering oak tree.

BUSTER

Well Cruz oughta be back from the barnyard jumping competition soon.
(MORE)

BUSTER (CONT'D)

He sure has spent a lot of time practicing. I sure hope he did well today.

PEABODY

Yes-yes, I'm sure the lad did fine. He'll probably be in high spirits when he gets home.

Just then, Cruz came through the gate, slamming it behind him. He kicks the feed bucket, sending it sailing through the air.

BUSTER

What's the matter Cruz? You seem a bit agitated this afternoon.

PEABODY

Yes my-boy, do tell us what would cause you to be acting so rude, slamming things, kicking things around, anger is no excuse for those types of behavior.

CRUZ

I don't know if I'm mad, sad, glad or scared. I-I-I'm so upset I'm not sure how I feel right now.

BUSTER

Well why don't you calm down and let's talk about it, Cruz. Tell me what happened to cause these feelings.

PEABODY

Yes do tell. Let's hear the problem so that we can all work out a solution. After all, three heads are better than one at solving a problem.

CRUZ

Mr. Pea, I'm so upset I'm shaking. Maybe we could talk later. I've got a knot in my stomach, and I'm breathing so fast I can hardly think, let alone talk.

BUSTER

Well little fella, one things for sure, if you've got all of those symptoms, then your angry. As angry a snorting bull!

(MORE)

BUSTER (CONT'D)

If you're shaking, getting tight jawed, and your hearts racing, those are sure signs that you're angry. Would you like me to show you a little trick that'll calm you down Cruz?

CRUZ

Sure, Buster show me a trick, if it helps me feel better I want to see. Show me, Buster.

BUSTER

Well, okay. First, take a deep breath through your nose.

Cruz filled his lungs with air.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Now slowly let it out through your mouth.

Cruz exhales slowly out of his mouth.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Now do it again.

Cruz takes a deep breath, his eyes bulging, he exhales, panting for breath.

CRUZ

So what's the trick Buster?

BUSTER

Well, Cruz, how ya feeling?

Cruz looks up, rolls his eyes, looks at Buster, full of excitement.

CRUZ

I feel calm now. My stomach is better, and I'm not shaky anymore. That was a good trick, Buster. Thank you.

BUSTER

Your welcome. Remember, you can do that trick any time and any place to keep from becoming angry. If you're already angry, it works to help calm you down as well. Now why don't you tell us what happened today.

CRUZ

Well ah-ah-today at ah --

PEABODY

Calm down boy, start at the beginning, a good place as any to start.

Calmly Cruz continues.

CRUZ

Today at the barnyard competition, when I was doing my second jump, I jumped so high and so far, I could feel I had done well. I was feeling proud of my jump. But-but when I landed, the ground was slippery, and I started sliding, I slowly came to a backwards stop, just barely bumping the pony waiting in line at the water trough.

Peabody giggles.

PEABODY

Sounds harmless enough to me.

CRUZ

You would think so Mr. Pea, but I didn't know my bump into the pony caused him to push the colt in front of him at the drinking trough.

BUSTER

(mumbling)

Oh boy, I smell the trouble brewing.

CRUZ

It caused his head to be pushed all the way under water, past his eyes! All of the others started pointing and laughing. The colt looked at the pony, who looked at me, and that's when the trouble started.

PEABODY

Oh my...

CRUZ

The colt saw me doing my happy dance over my jump -- which he didn't even know I had done.

(MORE)

CRUZ (CONT'D)

He thought I had shoved the pony into him on purpose. I didn't even know anything had happened.

Buster and Peabody look at Cruz, concerned by his story.

CRUZ (CONT'D)

Before I could explain, he started calling me names, all the others were laughing, and edging him on... and then he pushed me. It all happened so fast, I could hardly keep up with what was happening.

PEABODY

Well, yes trouble is quite mercurial by nature.

Buster and Cruz look at Peabody blankly. Peabody rolls his eyes.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

Mercurial -- happens suddenly, changes quickly... continue, Cruz.

CRUZ

I sure wish I would have known your trick to keep calm then, because I was getting angry. Before I knew it he reared up, and I kicked him. It's a good thing the teacher was there to break it up. And I have to see him tomorrow, so I'm nervous about that, but I had a great jump today, so I'm happy too. I just don't know how I feel.

PEABODY

Yes my boy, it's quite natural to have mixed emotions. Several feelings at once you know, but you need to learn to identify your feelings, so that you'll know best how to handle a situation. What to do to keep it from becoming a problem -- sometimes a bad problem. In my vast travels and quest for knowledge --

BUSTER

Oh boy, here he goes -- Mr. Pea!

PEABODY

I have seen every mix of emotions imaginable. Angry and scared. The list goes on and on. I don't know if you're all aware that as well as the vast studies that you know I know --

BUSTER

Painfully aware!

PEABODY

Humph! As well, I have studied behavior and --

Pleadingly Buster asks.

BUSTER

Mr. Pea can you just help us help Cruz with his problem?

PEABODY

Well yes-yes, I was only talking about my experiences in life. As you all seem to think I make these things up!

BUSTER

The point Pea!

PEABODY

Humph! Okay then! In summary, Cruz my boy, one of the most important things you can learn is to be aware of your feelings and emotions. Just like the symptoms that you had earlier, those are signs of anger. And do let me say, you must learn to think ahead. Think of how your actions today will effect your future, as well as the punishments that may come today. Many times in my travels I've seen so many little misunderstandings turn into big trouble! Once in Singapore, I saw a collie dog in a crowded room get pushed into a hog -- a simple accident, but my-my hogs can be hot headed beasts.

Buster's head is nodding, as he nearly falls asleep from boredom. Cruz is looking at Peabody, tilting his head from side to side, semi-confused. Peabody keeps talking.

PEABODY (CONT'D)

The hog took this as a mean action against him from the dog. He completely misread the situation, missing the truth altogether. Then the name calling, shoving, and threatening began. It turned into total chaos. I-I don't want to talk about it... but I will tell you this, they both ended up locked in the pen for ten years! Ten years of their lives wasted because of an over reaction to an accidental bump.

Buster lifts his head suddenly before dozing off, he looks at Peabody.

BUSTER

I reckon you should take a deep breath now...

CRUZ

Ten years! That's longer than I've been here. That's a long time to be taken away from having fun, like playing kick-the-ball and jumping.

BUSTER

That's right, Cruz. You need to learn to stop, think, and then react. When you feel that you're getting angry, you can start deep breathing, and slowly count to ten. You can even use self talk as well.

Confused, Cruz looks at Buster.

CRUZ

Self talk? What's that Buster?

BUSTER

Well, when angry feelings start coming on, tell yourself to chill out and take it easy. Say, I can stay in control, or, this is no big deal -- things like that. Say 'em to yourself, or even say 'em out loud if you want to. It'll help ya keep your cool when a bad situation starts. Remember little Cruz, to be cool you gotta keep your cool.

CRUZ

I understand, Buster. If I think ahead, do deep breathing, and tell myself to stay calm, I can stop things from going the way they did today.

BUSTER

That's right, put out the flame of anger before it becomes a raging wildfire.

PEABODY

We should all take a moment to think about others feelings in a situation, think about how they see things happening, look at it from their hooves. Empathy is the technical term might I add --

BUSTER

No might about it, you did.

CRUZ

I see your point, if I would have looked at what happened today from what the colt saw, I guess I would have understood his reaction better, and if I would have been him, I might have been angry too.

BUSTER

Sometimes a simple, I'm sorry, goes a long way, that'll put out most fires faster than water.

PEABODY

True-true, and way too few say it these days.

BUSTER

Once you start practicing these things you'll see how many things in life can be handled with kind words. And remember, treat everyone as you'd like them to treat you. And when you do well at staying calm, reward yourself.

CRUZ

Reward myself, like get a treat?

BUSTER

No little fella, tell yourself, I did well, I kept my cool, I handled that well -- things like that.

CRUZ

Kind of like giving myself a little pat on the back?

BUSTER

That's right, remind yourself when you do well.

PEABODY

Remember to rethink something that didn't work so well in the past, so that next time a different approach can be used. Learn from your mistakes, and do like Buster said, stop, think, and then react.

BUSTER

Like Peabody suggested, if you can, come home and talk it over with others.

PEABODY

Three heads are better than one at solving a problem -- brainstorming, that's what it's called, most helpful.

CRUZ

Brainstorming? What's that, it sounds painful.

They all laugh.

PEABODY

It's where everyone talks about the problem, and a solution is found. Sometimes in the middle of a bad situation you become so blinded by anger that as the old saying goes, you can't see the forest for the trees.

CRUZ

You know everybody, I'm going to start doing these things today.

BUSTER

Now your thinking. Maybe tomorrow you could bring an extra snack to share, and start by apologizing, say your sorry for the accident and misunderstanding, who knows, y'all could even become friends and share a laugh over it.

PEABODY

Indeed! That's a marvelous idea, Buster. As well Cruz, you can start making assertive statements. It always helps to clear the air. Let people know how you feel, what you expect -- communication, a wonderful thing.

CRUZ

What do you mean Mr. Pea? I don't understand.

PEABODY

Well, from a purely behavioral point of view --

BUSTER

Make it simple, please.

PEABODY

Humph! Certainly, you see, from a layman's view, ask for what you want. Learn to make I statements. Like, I want to solve this problem, or, I feel angry when you call me that name, and, I would like you to stop calling me that name.

CRUZ

I see now.

PEABODY

Equally important is to avoid blaming others. When they feel you're blaming them, they may become angry, which only raises the level of anger in the situation. But better yet, in keeping with Buster's short term thinking, tomorrow you can approach the colt, apologize and say, I'd like to explain what happened; after you do, tell him, I want to be your friend.

BUSTER

And one last thing, take responsibility for your actions, accept the consequences, the good as well as the bad. Always do the right things to make good come from a situation, and that starts by staying calm and cool.

CRUZ

I see what to do now. Tomorrow I'll take some deep breaths, focus on my feelings, and see things from his point of view. I'll talk calmly and tell him what I want.

BUSTER

And what's that, Cruz?

CRUZ

To be friends, and to laugh over the whole thing.

BUSTER

You know, Cruz, I think you have the situation in hand.

PEABODY

Remember what Buster said, stop, think, and then react.

CRUZ

I feel better having talked about it, y'all taught me some good ways to stop from getting angry. Thanks for listening and helping you guys. I say we all have a snack.

PEABODY

Yes indeed! I'm certainly for that.

BUSTER

You know I'm always up for food!

The animals all go into the barn.

INT. BUSTER'S FARM - DINING AREA - DAY

Buster gets some grain for everyone, they all sit down and enjoy a snack together, smiling and laughing.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Having learned valuable lessons on how to keep your cool, and how to put out the fires of anger, all of the animals enjoyed a good, healthy snack together. Once again, important lessons in life had been learned at Buster's Farm.