

MAKE BELIEVE

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COLD OPEN

EXT. DIZZY STUDIOS BACKLOT - MORNING

A perky TOUR GUIDE is leading guests on a studio tour by the bay doors of Dizzy Studios.

TOUR GUIDE

(Gesturing toward the
studio behind her)

And we're stopping. This is where
they film Dizzy the Dragon, the
much loved children's show created
by famed puppeteer Jack Chandler.
The cast and crew still film in the
same studio that they started in
almost 30 years ago!

A CHILD ON TOUR, roughly ten-years old, wrinkles his face.

CHILD ON TOUR

That show is still around? Dizzy
the Dragon is for babies.

TOUR GUIDE

(through strained smile)

Of course it's still around! All
the magic of Dizzy the Dragon and
his Imagination Princes and
Princesses happens just beyond
those doors.

A small child actor, SAMIR, rushes out a bay door and VOMITS
EXPLOSIVELY in front of the tour. A CREW MEMBER runs up
behind Samir, patting the boy on the back as he continues to
wretch.

CREW MEMBER

There you go buddy, let it all out.

SAMIR

I think I pooped in my pants a
little.

CREW MEMBER

Ok try to hold that in.

TOUR GUIDE

And we're walking. Follow me!

The studio tour moves on as GRACE, mid to late 20's dressed
in a jean and blazer combo, walks up near the bay doors to
the studio.

She looks at a large faded painting on the side of the studio doors. In the painting stands a young mustached man wearing a large green dragon suit, his arms open in a permanent invitation for a hug. Grace smiles broadly--Dizzy the Dragon is her childhood favorite show. This studio is her holy land.

GRACE

This is where the magic happens.

Grace takes in a deep breath, savoring the moment. The smell of the vomit hits her and she gags a little.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

EXT. DIZZY STUDIOS BACKLOT - DAY

Grace walks to the studio side entrance door. She reaches for the door knob and it comes off in her hand. With a strained but determined smile she struggles to put it back. She claws her hand into the door knob hole and pulls the door open.

INT. DIZZY STUDIOS LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Grace enters an abandoned front reception office.

GRACE

Hello?

Grace attempts to gently place the door knob on the counter, but PIECES ROLL LOUDLY in every direction.

GRACE (CONT'D)

I'll fix that later.

Grace takes in the history around her. Posters and honors from the Dizzy the Dragon Show fill the small room. Black and white behind-the-scenes photos and glossy current cast photos serve as a timeline for the entire run of the show.

Grace looks for a phone or any way to contact someone, but she doesn't have to search long.

RJ, mid to late 30's, enters the room. He's on the hunt.

RJ

Did you see a kid pass through here-

RJ makes a motion with his hand like an explosion is coming out of his mouth. Grace looks confused.

RJ (CONT'D)

Nevermind.

RJ makes to leave but realizes who Grace is.

RJ (CONT'D)

Are you the new PA?

GRACE

My name is Grace.

RJ

That was so close to answering my question, and yet--didn't at all.

GRACE

I don't think-

RJ

I have a new PA--I'm sorry: a *production assistant* starting today, and I need them to help Dizzy. I thought that was you, I'm sorry-

GRACE

(on Dizzy)

Yes that's me! I'm sorry, I'm just nervous. I. Am. So. Excited. To. Help. Dizzy!

RJ

(flatly)

Yay.

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET - MOMENTS LATER

Grace rushes to keep up with RJ but is struggling. She's trying to both listen to what RJ is saying while looking around at the castle themed set. Crew members are pinballing around them as RJ navigates the familiar chaos.

RJ

I'm RJ. I "direct" most of the shows. One more time: your name?

GRACE

Grace.

RJ

I don't know why I said one more time, I'm not going to remember that. I'll introduce you to everyone in just a sec, but I need to make a quick stop.

DENNIS, a walking ball of anxiety and occasional writer, is walking in RJ's direction holding a loose stack of papers. The moment he sees RJ he lowers his head deeply so as to not be seen. RJ sees him immediately.

RJ (CONT'D)

Dennis! I need to talk to you about the script for today.

DENNIS

(pointing at his ears
while never breaking his
stride)

I can't hear... Yeah, I'm losing
you... I'm going through a
mountain.

RJ

(back to Grace)

Uh... your job... Oh! Dizzy. Dizzy
can be a challenge, the main thing
to remember when talking to Dizzy
is never...

A COSTUME DESIGNER enters with a newly costumed person
following behind. The outfit looks strikingly like a five-
foot-tall dildo.

RJ (CONT'D)

...show anyone that costume.

COSTUME DESIGNER

Whaddaya think?

RJ

I think it looks ribbed for her
pleasure. What's it supposed to be?

COSTUME DESIGNER

A fairy. Obviously.

RJ

I don't think people believe in
dildo fairies.

GRACE

There's a tooth fairy.

RJ

(to Grace)

I can't tell if you're trying to
help right now.

COSTUME DESIGNER

I was worried it would look too
much like Tinkerbell.

RJ

Oh you're safe on that.

COSTUME DESIGNER

(to Grace)

Does it look like a... "dildo" to you?

RJ

No. No, don't talk to her. Don't talk to any women here--OR--women not here.

(a beat)

Don't talk to women.

RJ ushers Grace away as the conversation continues.

RJ (CONT'D)

Always dildo's with you. Everything's a dildo.

COSTUME DESIGNER

I think--

RJ

Set it on fire. If you have time take the person out of it first.

Grace and RJ continue to walk down the hallway until they arrive at the office door of Jack Chandler.

RJ (CONT'D)

So that's a brief tour of hell. Any questions?

GRACE

(gravely serious)

No. I'm ready to teach kids.

RJ has no idea how to reply to her sincerity. He is disarmed. RJ answers with a moment of rare honesty.

RJ

Well... I'm sorry you came to the wrong place.

GRACE

(all smiles)

Oh you...

(referring to Jack's name on the door)

Can I meet him?

RJ opens to the door to Jack's office and peeks his head in.

RJ'S POV

JACK CHANDLER at his desk pouring a bottle of vodka into a coke can. Unsuccessfully.

BACK TO SCENE

RJ
(to Grace)
Now's not a good time. Wait here,
I'll be right back.

INT. JACK CHANDLERS OFFICE

RJ swiftly walks into Jack's office. Jack uses a script to soak up vodka.

JACK
They want to cut the budget.

RJ
More?

JACK
More. They're sending some new
network guy over later today to
"assess loss opportunities."

RJ
The budget's already at nothing. If
they cut more I pay you to be here.

JACK
How do you think I feel? I'm
drinking mid-shelf liquor.

RJ
We all appreciate your sacrifice.

JACK
I know you *think* you're being
sarcastic, but you're welcome.

Jack picks up a framed photo on his desk. It's him as a young man, virtually unrecognizable from the man now holding it. In the photo Jack stands with a young Dizzy the Dragon and another puppeteer.

JACK (CONT'D)
Things are bad. Maybe a farewell
episode isn't far off.

RJ
You always say that.

JACK
It's different this time. I feel
it.

Jack sighs and puts the frame gently back down.

JACK (CONT'D)
Try to keep this between us right
now. I don't need the crew getting
a lower morale.

RJ
That's not possible. Speaking of, I
have the new PA outside--I'm
showing her around. She's...
enthusiastic.

INT. STUDIO HALLWAY - OUTSIDE JACK'S DOOR - SAME TIME

Grace waits with buzzing energy. On sensory overload, she
eagerly takes in her surroundings. A child actor playing a
handheld video game wanders close by. Grace recognizes the
kid from the show and kneels down next to him.

GRACE
Hey I know you! You're one of the
Imagination Princes that helps
Dizzy. Well. I didn't expect to
meet a big TV star so soon. Every
day must be so exciting to work
here!

The child actor stares at her blankly. Grace continues
unfazed with full cheer.

GRACE (CONT'D)
Are you playing a game? Are you
catching all of the... digimen and
then making them fight one another?
Are the digiguys killing their
digifriends because they have no
choice?

The child actor rubs his snotty nose but remains silent.
Grace grabs a tissue from inside her jacket and cleans his
face.

GRACE (CONT'D)
Well that's great. That's just
great--super cool.
(MORE)

GRACE (CONT'D)

You probably won't believe this,
but when I was your age I actually
watched Dizzy the Dragon. This show
helped teach me to read. Now I'm a
grown up and get to share in all of
the fun that you have everyday.
Doesn't that sound great?

The child PROJECTILE VOMITS onto Grace's face. The child
actor starts to CRY and runs off, leaving Grace frozen in
shock, eyes closed.

When she opens them MATTIE is standing over her. Mattie is
both equally weary and sharp. She sits at the cool kids table
anywhere she goes.

MATTIE

I really hope you work here.

GRACE

First day.

INT. JACK CHANDLERS OFFICE

JACK

Why are you here and not anywhere
else?

RJ

We need to shut down production.

JACK

Oh is that all?

RJ

I need to send one of the kids home-
-he's throwing up all over the set.

Jack stares blankly at him.

RJ (CONT'D)

It's a health hazard.

JACK

Did Dizzy see? I don't need a
repeat of last time.

RJ

No, George didn't se-

JACK

Dizzy.

RJ

(rubs eyes)

Dizzy did not see. But the kid has to go. He can barely stand and it's starting to look like the exorcist out there.

JACK

Fine. Handle it. But we're not shutting down production. We're behind schedule and we're finishing this today.

RJ

There's so much child vomit.

JACK

Grab some mops, throw down sawdust, keep Dizzy away until the smell is gone, and get the kid out of here before he makes a bigger mess.

RJ

Got it. I'll tell Samir's parents to take him home.

JACK

Whoa whoa wait, Samir? No he's not leaving.

RJ

He's violently sick.

Jack rummages around his desk looking for the call sheet. The vodka soaked page falls apart but he's able to read what he needs.

JACK

He's also the only Indian child on call today. You take Samir away we're left with four white kids and no diversity. He goes home we might as well put Dizzy in KKK sheets.

RJ

Like a grand dragon.

JACK

Samir stays. Make it work.

RJ

It's not reasonable to keep him here. We shut down production for a day--

JACK

We don't have the budget to shut down for a day! Finish the episode RJ. Tape him to a tree if he looks like he's getting wobbly, tie some air fresheners around his neck, write around it and do your job.

Jack crosses to RJ. The tone darkens.

JACK (CONT'D)

Or someone else will.

Jack pushes RJ to the door.

JACK (CONT'D)

We never had this conversation.

INT. STUDIO HALLWAY

RJ barely clears Jack's doorway before the door slams behind him. RJ looks around for Grace, now gone, but he does see Dennis rushing to leave. Dennis has almost cleared the hallway when RJ sprints to catch him.

RJ

Dennis!

DENNIS

(not turning around)

No.

RJ

Stop.

DENNIS

No! I'm leaving. The script for tomorrow is finished, I've been here since 5, and Julia has the boys--I have to go.

RJ

Did something happen to your kids?

Dennis stops and spins back around to face RJ.

DENNIS

No! That's the point. Julia's took them to... something that they do. I don't really ask. But that means no one's home. For the first time in almost a year I have a beautifully empty, silent home.

(MORE)

DENNIS (CONT'D)

And RJ? I want to take a shit in that home. I need that. You know what happens when I shit here? I get notes through the stall door. I was in my car and one of those little monsters found me to ask for extra lines. And RJ? I swear to God--I thought about backing over him.

RJ

But you didn't.

(a beat)

Right?

DENNIS

He was scratching at my window with his dirty little nails.

RJ

That's not a no. Look, we're in the home stretch today. I've got a puking kid in there and we might need to juggle some things around. I need you on standby.

DENNIS

Did George see the puke?

RJ

No, *Dizzy* did not. I only need you for two hours.

DENNIS

It's never two hours. Two hours means four hours. Four hours means I miss my dad's funeral.

RJ

That was one time.

RJ grabs Dennis' shoulders.

RJ (CONT'D)

Just two hours.

DENNIS

No

Dennis thinks about it. His shoulders slump in defeat, but quickly he rallies.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Paul. Have Paul sit in.

RJ

Paul scheduled a colonoscopy today.

DENNIS

That sounds like a vacation. I will shove two cameras up my ass right now if I can leave.

RJ

You're a better writer than he is anyway.

DENNIS

Don't do that.

RJ

You are.

DENNIS

No I'm not! This takes no skill. You just take, "Row row row your boat," and change it to "Love love love your friend."

RJ

See, that kind of poetry just falls out of your mouth. That's raw talent.

GEORGE, AKA DIZZY THE DRAGON, sharply turns into the hallway. He's in full dragon costume (green fabric head to toe with only a hole for his face) and walking with purpose. Dennis panics at the sight of Dizzy, flattening himself behind a large prop bush. Dizzy misses seeing Dennis by a second, but hones straight in on RJ.

DIZZY

Have you seen Dennis?

RJ Stares at the hidden Dennis. Dennis resigns himself to the non-verbal blackmail. He nods his head yes slowly.

RJ

No I haven't seen him. What can I help you with?

DIZZY

Oh I don't want to bother you.

RJ

Ok, well--

DIZZY

But since you asked, I need to talk to Dennis about changing some of my lines. Make me sound more hip, ya know?

Dennis sinks in anguish to the ground.

RJ

I think he would be excited to do that.

DIZZY

Honestly I'd rather have Paul. That's a guy with an ear for the spoken word.

Dennis fumes but refuses to move.

DIZZY (CONT'D)

Dennis? He's a little... twitchy. He's a twitchy guy. Last week I almost saw him back over one of--

RJ

If I see Dennis I'll send him straight to your room.

DIZZY

Sure RJ. Hey, thanks kid. You look out for me.

Dizzy walks down the hallway. The moment he's turned the corner...

RJ

(to Dennis)

Coast is clear. Start reworking Samir's lines.

DENNIS

I just wanted to take a shit.

RJ pats Dennis on the back.

RJ

We all do man. We all do.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. PRODUCTION SOUNDSTAGE -- LATER SAME DAY

Dennis drags himself towards the writer's room when he hears:

CHILD ACTOR
(crying)
Ow, I fell and hurt my knee. It
really hurts!

Dennis is about to continue on so he can hide. He pauses, not sure what to do.

CHILD ACTOR (CONT'D)
I'm so scared! I want my mommy!

Dennis realizes he's being an awful person and goes to help the child.

DENNIS
Hey big guy what's wrong? I'll help
get this boo boo fixed.

The child stands up promptly and pulls a script out.

CHILD ACTOR
Look dummy we need to go over these
lines I'm being fed. My character
wouldn't say any of this garbage.

DENNIS
What about your mommy?

CHILD ACTOR
My mommy? Pull your head out of
your ass Dennis. I'm 8 years old.

INT. WOMEN'S RESTROOM - SAME TIME

Mattie opens the door for Grace. Mattie gestures toward the sinks.

MATTIE
Clean yourself up.

GRACE
Thanks.

Grace turns on the water and splashes her face with both hands. Mattie grabs a fistful of paper towels and leans on a sink to watch Grace with curiosity.

Grace comes up for air, looking around for towels Mattie is ready to provide.

MATTIE

You'll probably want these.

GRACE

(laughs sardonically)

Yes. Thanks, uh...?

MATTIE

Mattie.

GRACE

Grace.

MATTIE

Little advice. When someone looks like they're about to throw up-- feel free to move out of the way. You can use that advice anywhere, not just here.

GRACE

It was an accident.

MATTIE

Of course, happens all the time. Second piece of advice: You said this was your first day?

GRACE

Yeah...

MATTIE

Quit.

GRACE

But this is the Dizzy the Dragon show! You teach little minds how to be anything they can imagine.

MATTIE

We allow parents and daycare employees to sleep sitting up for 20 minutes at a time. Here, you have a piece in your...

Grace pulls a clump of vomit out of her hair.

MATTIE (CONT'D)
Yeah, you got it.

Grace presents herself for inspection. Wet hair, streaked makeup and stained shirt, but ready to keep going.

GRACE
Look ok?

MATTIE
(sighs)
Hop up on the sink. I'll fix you up.

Grace does as she's told while Mattie rummages in her makeup pouch. Finding what she needs Mattie goes to work.

MATTIE (CONT'D)
Don't flinch. Look. It's sweet that you're excited to be here, but you could have just done a studio tour.

GRACE
Oh I have!

MATTIE
(flatly)
I believe you. We have a few episodes left and we're probably done here. Each day is a new budget cut, so I don't think the network is a fig fan of our show.

GRACE
Well they're wrong!

MATTIE
Yeah... maybe? I don't know. We're not the cool kids anymore. You're one of the few people that actually showed up for their first day. Most new people don't show after they get a better offer--like being a Starbuck's barista. I was hired as a set designer and now I'm also doing makeup. We're all overworked doing multiple jobs, hoping to find something better. I hate to tell you, but you're rowing a lifeboat toward the Titanic right now.

Mattie steps back. Grace looks much better. Even still Mattie feels for the innocence across from her.

MATTIE (CONT'D)

You seem really sweet, and this place is bad for sweet people. Hey, I'll tell the guys you showed up to the wrong lot, and it was all a misunderstanding. You can do so much better than this.

GRACE

(smiling broadly)

Thank you for being so nice to me.

MATTIE

...are you part of a cult?

GRACE

Nope.

Dennis jumps into the restroom, slamming the door behind him. He flattens his back to the door as if to reinforce it.

MATTIE

Dennis I'll cut your balls off if you don't get out.

DENNIS

If you cut them off can I stay in here?

INT. STUDIO HALLWAY

Dennis is forcibly pushed out of the women's restroom, regaining his balance against the opposite wall. He's barely regained his footing when Dizzy lunges behind him to talk. Dennis rapidly walks to escape script feedback, but Dizzy matches step for step.

DIZZY

Hey buddy I've been looking for you everywhere.

DENNIS

Sorry I was--

DIZZY

No, don't apologize! You're the artist, you're the busy man. I'm just happy to run into you. How are the kids?

DENNIS

...good.

DIZZY

Oh that's good to hear. God's gifts. That's fantastic, just fantastic.

DENNIS

My oldest just...

DIZZY

So my issue with the script is I notice a few things that pop right now--they pop--but they could sizzle if we massaged them a little.

DENNIS

Uh huh.

DIZZY

And the thing is I'm reading this and I immediately go, oh this is something Paul wrote. It's good, but it's not the great it could be. My first thought is--hey let's go find my man Dennis. He'll be able to put the Dizzy stamp on this.

As they walk down the hallway Dennis tries for a door. It's locked. He continues at a quick pace looking for a literal exit to this conversation.

DENNIS

Well I definitely want to make sure the script snaps and pops and sizzles with a stamp.

DIZZY

I knew you would. That's why I tell people, I say, "We need to get this kid Dennis on lockdown before Warner Bros snatches him away."

DENNIS

You say that.

DIZZY

I do. You're an unsung hero.

Dennis shoulder checks a door as he tries the handle. No luck.

DENNIS

It's all the magic of your delivery Dizzy.

DIZZY

Ah you don't need to say that.

(a beat)

What part of my delivery do you like the best? Is it my... actually we can talk about that later.

DENNIS

Ok that's perfect. It was great talking to you.

Dizzy steps in front of Dennis, blocking him from walking.

DIZZY

I haven't even told you my thoughts about the script yet. This is important. This is our game changer.

(pause for dramatic effect)

Dizzy should rap.

DENNIS

We should have a rapping dragon.

DIZZY

Exactly! I've tried talking to RJ about this, but he doesn't get it. He's not an artist type like you or me. He doesn't understand our need to create and mold. I love RJ, you know that, but between you and me I think it's time we get some fresh blood in here. New set of eyes.

DENNIS

I will definitely promise to approach workshopping this idea for the future.

DIZZY

That's what RJ said and I'm tired of being ignored! This place can't run without Dizzy.

DENNIS

I think you're right and it's completely reasonable. I just have to go into this meeting right now and we'll talk about it later.

DIZZY

I'm not done!

DENNIS
Absolutely, an artist's work is
never done. I think this has been
great.

Dennis goes for the closest door and flings himself to the
other side.

INT. JACK CHANDLERS OFFICE

Dennis slams the door behind him, facing Jack's desk. Jack
appears dead, eyes closed, feet up on his desk, mouth slack.
Without opening his eyes Jack speaks.

JACK
Dizzy on the other side of that
door?

Dennis nods his head.

JACK (CONT'D)
You can stay in here for two
minutes if you don't say anything.

Dennis nods his head again.

INT. STUDIO BACKLOT - MOMENTS LATER

Mattie and Grace are rushing to the set. Mattie taking the
lead and Grace struggles both to keep up and predict which
way Mattie will turn as they walk.

MATTIE
We need to get this puking kid off
set as soon as possible.

GRACE
Right. So we can make sure he feels
better.

MATTIE
No, no one gives a shit about that.
These kids are germ farms--there's
always some problem or allergy.

GRACE
Germ farms. Got it.

MATTIE

Stop repeating me. The last time we had a kid puke on set George wouldn't come back to film until we deep cleaned the entire lot.

GRACE

So we're going to lie to George?

Mattie turns to face Grace and continues to talk while walking backwards. She ducks and weaves under set pieces littered in her path as she knows every inch of the workplace.

MATTIE

We always lie to George. That's the job. 90% lie to George and 10% make a show no one watches.

Mattie stops abruptly. This instruction must be clear.

MATTIE (CONT'D)

And never call him George. He only answers to Dizzy and won't respond to anything else.

Matt whirls around, resuming her determined pace.

MATTIE (CONT'D)

He has to be weird in bed.

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET

Mattie and Grace come to RJ as he finishes talking to a crew member.

MATTIE

Grace, this is RJ.

RJ

We've met.

(to Grace)

I thought maybe you quit.

(to Mattie)

Why is she smiling? She's smiling at me. I don't like it.

MATTIE

I don't know. I can't get her to stop.

RJ snaps his fingers at Grace, but she remains smiling and unfazed.

RJ
Creepy.

MATTIE
We have a problem.

RJ
When don't we? Do you smell
something? Like a sour something?

MATTIE
That's what I'm trying to tell you.
One of the little monsters puked
their happy meal on this one.

RJ
Oh Samir. Yeah I know, but Jack
said we need to keep him on set. I
have it under control.

CUT TO:

INT. DIZZY DRESSING ROOM

Samir sits in a pancho with a bucket duct taped to his chest.

BACK TO:

RJ
You barely notice.

Grace sees the child that vomited on her and points him out.

GRACE
That's him.

RJ
(off child)
That's not Samir.

GRACE
But that's the boy who got sick on
me.

RJ
Are you sure?

MATTIE
If a kid threw up on you wouldn't
you remember?

RJ
I really hope so.

MATTIE

So we have more than one sick kid?

RJ

This is bad. Ok new plan: we shoot everything we can right now before another kid erupts. Anything we don't film I can edit in with stock footage.

(to Mattie)

You, go get Dizzy. I need him here five minutes ago.

(to Grace)

You, find anyone under three feet tall and have them stand over there.

Grace immediately rushes off. RJ and Mattie watch her in wonder.

RJ (CONT'D)

Do you remember what it was like to be excited here?

MATTIE

(lies)

No.

RJ is disappointed at the response. He's not sure why though.

RJ

(lies too)

Yeah. Yeah, me neither.

Mattie looks at RJ for a moment. She knows that face. She touches his hand briefly and leaves before more words.

EXT. STUDIO BACKLOT

Grace is corralling the child actors along in a chain where they're holding each other's hands.

GRACE

Ok dream makers, make sure you're holding your buddy's hand. Ooh! That's not a hand. That's... my butt.

INT. STUDIO HALLWAY

Mattie is escorting Dizzy toward the set while humoring him.

DIZZY

And people are surprised when they see me dance. Catch em off guard with a few of my moves... Don't count this old dragon out is what I say. People know me as this, but they forget I was a classically trained dancer.

MATTIE

Where did you train?

DIZZY

Well not... classically trained in the sense of... going to a class, but... I can't answer a bunch of questions right now. I need to focus on my lines.

EXT. STUDIO PARKING LOT

RJ runs to Dennis' car. No one appears to be inside, but RJ knocks on the driver's side window. Dennis rises into view as he adjust his chair from laying to upright. RJ motions to roll down the window.

DENNIS

I wasn't looking for another job.

RJ

You move around Samir's lines?

DENNIS

Haven't even started.

RJ

Close enough. Come on.

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET - MINUTES LATER

All parties converge into the set at the same time, ready to work.

DIZZY

RJ buddy where do you want me?

RJ

Literally anywhere in front of the camera.

DIZZY

You're the boss captain.

RJ quickly addresses each person and takes control of the chaos.

RJ

Great. Dennis, be ready when I need you. Anytime there's a lull you yell a line and I'll put it in the right mouth. Mattie, adjust the light on Dizzy. Grace, untape the bucket from Samir.

DIZZY

Why the bucket?

RJ

He's a method actor and it's his process.

RJ hops into his chair and looks over the script.

RJ (CONT'D)

We're going to pick up right after the sharing is caring song. Clear the set, start rolling, everyone smile like you get paid enough to be here, annnnd action.

Silence. Dizzy does not move or start talking.

RJ (CONT'D)

And action.

Dizzy puts his hands on his hips to signal he's not starting.

DIZZY

Do I have your attention now RJ?
Good. I quit!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET - SECONDS LATER

RJ jumps from his chair, closing the distance between him and Dizzy. RJ hooks Dizzy by the arm and drags him away from the other actors.

DIZZY
Farewell Dragonteers. Dizzy will miss you.

RJ
What's the problem?

DIZZY
I don't feel like my talents are being showcased.

RJ
Are we doing this right now?

DIZZY
Yes right now! I talked to Dennis, who--by the way--I found in the women's restroom, and a lot of good that did. I asked you to speak with Jack last week and I don't think you even tried.

RJ
Of course I did.
(a beat)
About what specifically?

DIZZY
Rapping.

RJ nods his head but doesn't understand what Dizzy is saying.

DIZZY (CONT'D)
See, I knew you didn't talk to him!
(gathers himself)
I'm sorry. I shouldn't have yelled.

Dizzy smiles back at the kids on set. He pulls RJ further away.

DIZZY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. I'm just talking about changing things up a little.
(MORE)

DIZZY (CONT'D)

I can do more than spin around and fall down.

RJ

You're Dizzy the Dragon.

DIZZY

But maybe I do a rap in the front?
"Throw down some beats" about
respecting your mom and dad.

RJ

Maybe there could be one about how
parents just don't understand.

DIZZY

Ooh that's good. Mmm... that. Is.
Good.

RJ

You inspire me. You're right, of
course. Why don't we finish this
scene and I'll talk to Jack about
it right after?

DIZZY

No, that's what you said last time.
Jack's right there. This needs to
be done now.

Dizzy motions over to Jack grazing off the craft service
table. Jack takes a bite of something, doesn't like it, puts
it back in with the rest.

RJ

Ok, he's right there. You go talk
to him then.

DIZZY

No.

RJ

Why?

Dizzy looks at the floor.

DIZZY

(muttering)

I don't know.

RJ

Why?

DIZZY
(slightly louder)
I don't know.

RJ
Because you're scared of him.

DIZZY
No I'm not.

RJ nods his head, trying to make eye contact with Dizzy who avoids it.

RJ
Yeah, you remember this.

INT. CRAFT SERVICE AREA

RJ walks over to Jack. RJ makes a point to position his back to Dizzy while talking to Jack.

RJ
Hey.

JACK
Has the network guy showed up yet?

RJ
Not that I've seen.

JACK
They can't even show up on time to slit my throat.

RJ
Yeah totally. How would you feel about Dizzy rapping before each episode?

JACK
I think that if I could fill the costume up with sand and make the kids talk to it I would. Problem is, quality sand would be more expensive than George.

RJ
I'll tell him you'll think about it.

JACK
Jesus, is he looking at me?

RJ turns around to see Dizzy staring intently at the pair.

RJ
Staring right at us.

Jack turns around and waves at Dizzy. Jack speaks through a gritted smile.

JACK
My biggest regret is cutting out a
face hole in the costume.

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET

Grace leans in next to Dizzy. She is staring at her God.

GRACE
I love your suit. It looks so
amazing in real life.

DIZZY
(confiding tone)
You don't know the half of it.

GRACE
Really?

DIZZY
Oh you betcha. Fan mail comes in
and it's always about the suit.
Naked pictures, underwear, and you
know, drawings from kids.

GRACE
That must be... so impactful.

DIZZY
Just gotta remember Moms are people
too. Sexual people.

RJ walks toward Dizzy.

DIZZY (CONT'D)
Ok clear out kid.
(to RJ)
What did he say? He loved it right?

RJ
He said he definitely wants to
workshop it in front of some focus
groups.

DIZZY
Oh that's great!

RJ
You know the drill.

DIZZY
Sure, sure. It's gonna be huge. I'm telling you. I see Dancing Dragon videos. A Dizzy Rap Album.

RJ
We can sell CDs.

DIZZY
You're in my head. And the kids! Watch this. Hey Dragonteers, check out some of Dizzy's hip new dance moves!

Dizzy does a few "dance" moves for the kids.

Multiple children vomit at once.

INT. PRODUCTION OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

Grace and RJ enter looking beat from the day.

RJ
You did really good today. We'll work on the smiling, but I'm glad you're here.

The large dildo fairy walks by the doorway as a phone in the office begins to ring.

RJ (CONT'D)
I will light that dildo on fire myself!
(to Grace re phone)
Can you get that?

RJ leaves to chase after the dildo as Grace answers the phone.

GRACE
Dizzy Productions.

CALLER (O.S.)
Hi, this is Jennifer. I was supposed to start as the new PA today, but I just wanted to let you know I took a different job.

GRACE

Great. Thanks for letting us know.

Grace hangs up. She thinks for a moment and pulls out her phone. The most recent notification is a text, "When can we expect a report on budget cuts?" She quickly shoves the phone back in her pocket as RJ, now holding a piece of fairy dildo costume, re-enters.

RJ

Who called?

GRACE

(cheerily)

Wrong number.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. DIZZY CASTLE SET - HOURS LATER

One solitary JANITOR mops up the wreckage left behind from the sick child actors. The janitor is not enjoying himself.

JANITOR
I hate this show.

END OF SHOW