



The Unicycle Thief

By Simon Knowles

TITLE SEQUENCE

30 Sec, Introduces the premise of the show.

SCENE 1

INT: Pastrami Wasabi's; *Billy Bungus is busy scrubbing dishes, whistling to himself when he hears his name shouted from his boss' (Tony Dourbain) office.*

TONY DOURBAIN

BILLY! Get in here!

Billy sighs and walks into his boss, Tony's, office. TONY is busy fiddling with something hidden from view behind his desk.

BILLY

You bellowed, sir.

TONY DOURBAIN

Sit down (*BILLY SITS DOWN OPPOSITE TONY*). Now what is the one thing that a restaurant can do to improve business...?

BILLY

Um...coupons....??

TONY

COUPONS!??? We are a classy joint, a state of the art fusion cuisine that the Times food critic described as 'not entirely throw-up-able' no, no, not coupons...

BILLY

I don't know then sir...

TONY DOURBAIN

DELIVERIES! Pastrami Wasabi will be the first Italian Sushi bar in this town to deliver...!

BILLY

(INTERRUPTING) But aren't we the only Italian Sushi bar in this town....?

TONY DOURBAIN

(IGNORING BILLY) How would you like to be the first Pastrami Wasabi's delivery boy!?

BILLY

I don't know sir...I kind of have my heart set on becoming a chef...

TONY DOURBAIN

(IGNORING HIS PROTESTS) I knew you'd like it. Now what do WE need to make us stand out from the competition....?

BILLY

Well, like I said, sir, we don't really have any competition....

TONY DOURBAIN

(NOT EVEN HEARING HIS RESPONSE) Exactly, a Gimmick! Ta-Dah!

TONY DOURBAIN LIFTS UP A UNICYCLE FROM BEHIND HIS DESK:

Presenting the Pastrami Wasabi delivery unicycle! It'll be great, all you need to do is take this home tonight, practice, and you start work tomorrow.

BILLY

B-b-but sir....I don't think I can learn how to ride a unicycle in one evening....besides I have plans...

TONY DOURBAIN

(THREATENINGLY)...you want to be a top chef here one day don't ya Billy...?

BILLY

Of course

TONY DOURBAIN

Well you better start practising....take the afternoon off.

Billy takes the unicycle with a down beat expression on his face.

EXT: Alley behind Pastrami Wasabi's. BILLY is unsteadily riding away and TONY DOURBAIN is watching him go. He shouts after him:

TONY DOURBAIN

Oh yeah....and Billy!...

As he yells BILLY's name BILLY crashes into a group of garbage cans. TONY DOUBAIN towers over him:

...be careful with that unicycle...it was kind of expensive and I'd hate to have to deduct it from your salary...

BILLY grimaces with a pained expression on his face.

SCENE 2

EXT: BUNGUS TOWER; BILLY is practising un-successfully to ride the unicycle. He has set up a small obstacle course and is trying to complete it but falling flat on his face every few peddles. AUNT BETTY appears at the window.

AUNT BETTY

BILLY!! Where's my dinner...??? I'm hungry!!! (SHE PAUSES) What are you doing on that thing....??

BILLY looks up at her from the where he has fallen over.

BILLY

Hi Aunt Betty, I've got to learn how to ride it before tomorrow or else I'll be in a lot of trouble at work...don't worry, I'll make dinner soon as I've mastered this...

He attempts the circuit again and almost makes it before crashing down in the dirt;

AUNT BETTY

at this rate I'll have wasted away....! By the way...someone's scribbled something in the bathroom again!!!

Despite being face down in the dirt a smile creeps across BILLY's face as he knows what this means.

SCENE 3

INT: BATHROOM IN BUNGUS TOWER; BILLY is in the bathroom. He looks at the toilet roll and sees a message scribbled on it. He lifts it to read:

Yo Billy!,

Come on down to Bungus town,

We're teaching Sea Cucumber Girl how play Hacky-Sack,

And she definitely ain't too whack, Jack!

Signed Prawn Paul.

BILLY smiles as he steps into the bath-tub about to switch on the shower that will suck him into Bungusland, he shouts out to AUNT BETTY who is in another room;

BILLY

AUNT BETTY!! I am just popping in the shower, I will cook dinner in a bit....

BILLY looks over at the unicycle and grabs it remarking to himself;

...better take this, maybe someone can give me some pointers.

BILLY gets in the bath-tub and turns on the shower. Suddenly he is sucked down the plug hole in a haze of green light. Just as the clouds clear AUNT BETTY appears at the door, snooping... She reads the note on the toilet paper, turns off the water tap and pulls a mobile phone of some description from her hair. She dials the CRAZY PROFESSOR. He answers quite politely. We cut between where he is (in his lab) and AUNT BETTY in the bathroom.

CRAZY PROFESSOR is in his lab, his phone rings;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

Hello mother...

CUT BACK TO AUNT BETTY in the bathroom;

AUNT BETTY

...listen here, that cretinous, sorry excuse for a mayor has just slipped off to Bungusland to visit that hideous slimy little girlfriend of his. He has with him something called a unicycle...

CUT BACK TO CRAZY PROFESSOR in his lab;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

...a Looney-trifle....!?!?

CUT BACK TO AUNT BETTY in the bathroom;

AUNT BETTY

...(FRUSTRATED) A UNICYCLE! You empty headed bag of discarded under garments!!

CUT BACK TO CRAZY PROFESSOR in his lab;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

...sorry mother...

CUT BACK TO AUNT BETTY in the bathroom;

AUNT BETTY

...I want you to steal it...

CUT BACK TO CRAZY PROFESSOR in his lab;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

Will that bring you home and somehow make me mayor of Bungusland...?

CUT BACK TO AUNT BETTY in the bathroom;

AUNT BETTY

Sadly no...but it will get Billy in a lot of trouble...

CUT BACK TO CRAZY PROFESSOR in his lab;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

(SMILING MISCHEVIOUSLY) I'm on it.

CRAZY PROFESSOR snaps the phone shut.

SCENE 3

INT: BUNGUSLAND MAYORS OFFICE; *PRAWN PAUL & EMILY EPIGLOTTIS are playing hacky sack with SEA CUCUMBER GIRL, she is not being hurt, in fact she seems to enjoy it. Suddenly BILLY comes whooshing out of the pipe and lands with a splat in the mayors chair which spins around from impact. They exclaim;*

PRAWN PAUL & EMILY EPIGLOTTIS

BILLY!

Suddenly the unicycle plops out of the pipe and bounces off the back of BILLY's head and lands in the middle of the room. BILLY rubs his head with a grumble. PRAWN PAUL, EMILY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL gather around the strange object, GWRETCHIN (Emily's talking epiglottis pops out);

GWRETCHIN

What the squid nose is that piece of junk....!?

BILLY walks over and picks it up ready to try and ride;

BILLY

This is a Unicycle, and I have got to learn how to ride it somehow before tomorrow...

PRAWN PAUL

A puny-michael.....?...what now...? Well show us what you got.

BILLY rides it unsteadily then falls over catching his chin on the edge of his desk with a painful 'CRACK!' SEA CUCUMBER GIRL nudges over and nestles against him sympathetically, he strokes her head;

EMILY EPIGLOTTIS

You need some help, quickly! Before you seriously hurt yourself. I think I know just the person! He's called the Deli-Llama, he lives at the end of Mount Pleasant rd. He has all kinds of herbal AND gerbil remedies...I bet he can help you...

BILLY looks at SEA CUCUMBER GIRL with a determined expression;

BILLY

Well what are we waiting for...Let's go!

SEA CUCUMBER GIRL nods in agreement.

SCENE 4

EXT: MOUNT PLEASANT Rd. IN BUNGUSLAND: BILLY stands at the end of Mount Pleasant rd. holding a scrap of paper and looking up at what appears to be a pretty normal looking suburban street. SEA CUCUMBER GIRL is sat on his shoulder and the Unicycle is strapped to his back;

BILLY

(READING THE NOTE) I guess this must be the street, number 217. Well, that was way easier than I expected.

BILLY starts walking down the street and suddenly it gets really steep and he falls backwards with a thud.

BILLY

What the.....!?

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL look at each other confused. It is suddenly apparent that the street is an optical illusion and is in fact vertical.

BILLY

Well NOW what do we do...?

SEA CUCUMBER GIRL gestures for BILLY to put his hands out and she squirts them with SEA CUCUMBER JUICE. He rubs them together and starts to climb using the sticky substance with a determined look on his face;

BILLY

That's house number 2...only 215 more to go....

FADE OUT:

FADE BACK IN: BILLY and SEA CUCUMBER GIRL are dressed like mountaineers, with big woolly hats. A couple of Tibetan looking Sherpa's are with them inching slowly up the steep incline. The street, though still looking normal and suburban, is now a blizzard of snow as they slowly climb;

BILLY

(STRAINING) 201...getting there...

Suddenly the two Sherpa's lose their grip and fall into the void. BILLY reaches out a hand as if to try and save them but he knows it is too late

BILLY

Pemba....! Gelu....! They were good, brave men.

Soon we are at the top which is just a straight edge. BILLY struggles to climb, he tumbles over and lies a minute catching his breath. He checks SEA CUCUMBER GIRL is okay suddenly they notice a Llama in a robe looking down at them.

BILLY

Are you per chance...the Deli-Llama...?

DELI-LLAMA

That indeed I am, and you are William Bungus. Would you like to step into my Delicatessen...?

SCENE 5

INT: THE DELI-LLAMAS DELICATESSEN; BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL are sat by a hot stove drinking warm beverages, with blankets draped around them.

DELI-LLAMA

I sense you have come a long way to be here, and braved many perils. I sense you seek something that many before you have sought...

BILLY

Do many people seek the ability to ride a unicycle...? (BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL LOOK AT EACHOTHER SURPRISED)

DELI-LLAMA

Knowledge Billy, they come seeking knowledge.

BILLY

So you think you can help me...?

DELI-LLAMA

Sure, take a number.

The DELI-LLAMA steps behind the counter of his delicatessen and BILLY steps up and takes a number from the ticket machine, it says 'YOU ARE CUSTOMER 001'. BILLY looks at the display behind the DELI-LLAMA that says 'NOW SERVING 000' suddenly the sign changes to 'NOW SERVING 001'. The DELI-LLAMA casually looks at it and then shouts as if to a large crowd but it is only BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL;

DELI-LLAMA

Now serving customer number one...

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL look down and checks his number then steps forward...

BILLY

That's me! I'm customer one.

DELI-LLAMA

And what can I get you and your little lady...?

BILLY

I'd like something that can help me ride a unicycle, please.

DELI-LLAMA

(SCRATCHES HIS CHIN) Let me see...? I could give you a slice of skill salami...or maybe perhaps some olives soaked in the oil of a brave eel. (SUDDENLY BRIGHTENS) I know! (HE PICKS UP A SMALL BOTTLE OF SOMETHING) This is a bottle of Self-Belief Serum, just drink this and I am sure you will be riding that unicycle like a pro in no time.

BILLY

Wow, thank you Deli-Llama. How can I repay you...?

DELI-LLAMA

Helping others and spreading enlightenment is all the reward I need. Namaste.

SCENE 6

EXT: THE LEDGE OUTSIDE THE DELI-LLAMA'S DELICATESSEN; BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL are back in the mountaineering gear with the unicycle strapped to their backs and about to start climbing down. The DELI-LLAMA is bidding them farewell.

DELI-LLAMA

Fare the well my new friends. Safe travels...and happy unicycling!

BILLY

Thank you so much, bye.

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL start climbing over the edge. They have barely made it over when the CRAZY PROFESSOR in a bizarre flying contraption swoops over and, with an extendable arm holding THE BIONIC CRAB, swipes the unicycle from the back of BILLY's back pack. CRAZY PROFESSOR shouts at them through a loud speaker;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

I'll be having that, thank you very much HAHAAHAHA...

BILLY

It's that evil Crazy Professor! And he's stolen my unicycle!!!

The DELI-LLAMA is observing from over the edge.

DELI-LLAMA

The divine one teaches us that there is good in all people...but some people are just jerks.

CRAZY PROFESSOR

...By the way, Billy, let me help you and your little girlfriend down.

A big old leather boot comes out on an extendable arm. BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER girl eye it nervously as it revs up and kicks them off the edge and they start falling screaming as they go.

BILLY

...AAAAHHH now what are we going to do!??? If I get splatted falling off this mountain...I'll lose my job!

As they fall SEA CUCUMBER GIRL jumps into action, she wriggles through the ropes hanging off BILLY's backpack, tying a firm knot around her waist. She wriggles into BILLY's hand. He looks surprised and then realises what she is doing and starts spinning her as if about to throw a lasso and suddenly launches it. With SEA CUCUMBER GIRL leading the rope she manages to whip around a lamp post suddenly pulling BILLY out of freefall and spinning them around sending them flying into the air. They reach maximum height at the same level as the CRAZY PROFESSOR is flying, BILLY gives him a cheeky wave and then grabs the unicycle back from the BIONIC CRAB and then starts to fall.

CRAZY PROFESSOR

.....Curses!!!! That's it, I'm coming after you Billy Bungus!!!

BILLY and SEA CUCUMBER GIRL are starting to fall again. Quickly BILLY whips out the SELF BELIEF SERUM, drinks the whole bottle and jumps on the unicycle. With SEA CUCUMBER GIRL on his shoulder, he expertly dodges and ducks down the side of the near vertical mountain while the CRAZY PROFESSOR chases blasting wildly and erratically with his laser eyed flying contraption.

BILLY

Woah...somehow we gotta lose him.

As they near the bottom and BILLY starts pulling back preparing for a sudden stop a net appears just behind them catching the CRAZY PROFESSOR. BILLY skids expertly to a halt and sees the two Sherpa's that fell earlier stood either side of the big net;

BILLY

Pemba! Gelu! You are okay! Thank you.

PEMBA & GELU give him a thumbs up. The DELI-LLAMA appears and climbs up the net, and pours something into the mouth of the trapped and helpless CRAZY PROFESSOR and BIONIC CRAB.

BILLY

What is that...?

DELI-LLAMA

Just a little something that will keep them busy for a while...

CRAZY PROFESSOR

What have you done to me...!!! I feel all warm and fuzzy inside....oh NO!! I feel like being NICE to people...! I want to hug everybody....NOOOOOO

DELI-LLAMA

Don't worry, it'll wear off sooner or later and you'll be back to your mean old ways.

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL walk over to the DELI-LLAMA to thank him;

BILLY

Thank you so much Deli-Llama. Your serum really worked, shame I've already drunk it all.

DELI-LLAMA

Nonsense Billy, the serum was just blackcurrant juice. You already knew how to ride that unicycle...you just had to BELIEVE that you could.

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL look at each other shocked, then turn back to the DELI-LLAMA.

BILLY

Thank you again your holiness, farewell....and farewell Pemba and Gelu.

SCENE 7

INT: BUNGUSLAND MAYORS OFFICE; *BILLY is doing tricks on his unicycle for SEA CUCUMBER GIRL, PRAWN PAUL and EMILY EPIGLOTTIS as they watch and clap. Gwretchin pops out of EMILY's throat;*

GWRETCHIN

Radical Billy! You are real good at that!

BILLY

Thanks Gwretchin! Just took a little encouragement from my new friend, the Deli-Llama.

Suddenly the CRAZY PROFESSOR & THE BIONIC CRAB appear at the window, everyone is shocked.

PRAWN PAUL

YO! IT's that Crazy P and his brainless Bionic Crab!

EMILY EPIGLOTTIS

(FOLDING HER ARMS) And what are you two doing here...?

GWRETCHIN

(POPPING OUT OF EMILY) Yeah...what ARE you two doing here...huh?

CRAZY PROFESSOR

...just wanted to stop by and say hi! Let you know how much I really respect you guys. Have you done something new with your hair Gwretchin...? You look simply ravishing...

CRAZY PROFESSOR & BIONIC CRAB wander off leaving them looking at each other in shock.

PRAWN PAUL

What's got into them...?

BILLY & SEA CUCUMBER GIRL smile knowingly at each other. Suddenly BILLY realises the time;

BILLY

Cripes, I better get to work!

BILLY cycles over to the drainage pipe on his unicycle.

Bye guys, see you soon.

BILLY disappears up the pipe as they all wave him off.

SCENE 8

INT: PASTRAMI WASABI'S, TONY DOURBAINS OFFICE; *TONY DOURBAIN is doing some paperwork, mumbling to himself as he struggles with some hard sums when BILLY bursts through the door astride his unicycle. He does a few quick laps of the office, a somersault and lands on his feet;*

BILLY

Ta dah! What do you think sir...?

TONY DOURBAIN

Wow! I am mighty impressed Billy, how did you get so good!?

BILLY

It was nothing, sir. Just took a little something called self-belief.

TONY DOURBAIN

Self-belief huh? Well whatever you call it, it certainly worked for you! Trouble is...I was thinking about what you said yesterday and I kind of came up with a new idea...

TONY DOURBAIN has a mischievous smile while BILLY looks a little worried.

SCENE 9

EXT: SUBURBAN STREET, DAY TIME; *A normal sunny street, BILLY enters the shot on a pogo-stick, panting heavily and spilling a bag full of food as he goes. He only makes it a couple of jumps before he crashes into some garbage cans.*

CREDITS ROLL

SCENE 10

INT; AUNT BETTY'S BEDROOM; AUNT BETTY is sat in her chair when the phone rings. AUNT BETTY ANGRILY answers it, knowing already that it is her son, the CRAZY PROFESSOR;

AUNT BETTY

...you couldn't even do something simple like steal a unicycle...you useless piece of floppy turkey gizzard...

CUT TO; The CRAZ PROFESSOR in his lab, looking all dreamy, he has his arm around the BIONIC CRAB and they look blissful;

CRAZY PROFESSOR

(NOT HEARING HER TIRADE) ...I know mother...I love you too. Just wanted to give you a call and tell you how special you are and how I just want to give you a nice big hug...

CUT BACK TO: AUNT BETTY sat in her room staring at her phone in disbelief;

AUNT BETTY

What in the blazes has got into him...?

THE END



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