

PHILOMENA

"FARMER'S MARKET"

Written by

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In this musical comedy for preschoolers, Philomena, a six-year-old, banjo-playing giraffe, uses her enthusiasm and creativity to solve problems with her bluegrass band of talented animals. But when she tries to write a new song for the weekly farmers' market, she learns that friendship requires compromise.

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Hear the TWANG TWANG TWANG of BANJO.

EXT. TREE-COVERED SIDEWALK - DAY

Eyes closed. Ears perked. Tongue poked out of her mouth.
PHILOMENA (6, Giraffe) is LOCKED IN, playing through a JAUNTY
TUNE on her banjo.

She's walking as she picks the strings. Twang twa--

PHILOMENA

1 Oof! 1

She strolls right into her dad OTTO (30s, Giraffe), who
pushes a STROLLER. Her song ends abruptly.

PHILOMENA

2 Dad! Why are we stopping? 2

Otto smiles as he kneels down to rummage around the stroller.

OTTO

3 J wants his rattle. 3

In the stroller is BABY J (9 months, Giraffe, cutest thing
you've ever seen). He's getting fussy, throwing his hands
(hooves) around wildly.

OTTO

4 It's in here somewhere... 4

Philomena peers down the sidewalk, at the entrance to the
town square. It's decked out with balloons and flowers.

She starts chopping her feet, impatient.

PHILOMENA

5 But we're late! 5

He checks his watch.

OTTO

6 The farmer's market doesn't open 6
for another ten minutes, hon.

He continues rummaging.

OTTO

7 Besides, I might find it faster if 7
we work together.

Philomena's feet-chopping now approximates a potty dance.

PHILOMENA

15 Whoa whoa--oh hi, Lester! 15

Lester plants a foot on the ground to steady himself on his bike as he swings his mando around and plays a quick riff.

LESTER
16 Hey, Philly! 16

Then he reaches out a paw and catches the falling bouquet.

17 Ta-da! LESTER 17

Philomena laughs and applauds.

LESTER
18 Are we going to jam today? 18

PHILOMENA
19 Yes! I wrote a new song for us all. 19

She starts to play it. Lester taps his foot to the beat.

LESTER
20 Have you shown it to Scoop yet? 20

PHILOMENA

21 Not yet--I'm going to find him now. 21

LESTER
22 He'll love it. 22

Philomena beams.

PHILOMENA

23 I hope so. 23

Lester gets back up on his bike.

LESTER

24 I have to bring these flowers to my mom. Come find me later! 24

He pushes off into the market.

At that moment, Otto and Baby J arrive at the entrance.

PHILOMENA
25 Can I go find Scoop now? 25

Otto gestures with a wide, sweeping motion:

OTTO

26 Lead the way. 26

EXT. MARKET - DAY

The market is bustling as animals of all kinds prepare their stands--produce, flowers, crafts, and more.

In the center of the square, there's a stage occupied by a band of older (60s-70s) animals. They're all laughing as they rehearse together.

Philomena takes a moment to watch the banjo player of the band--an otter named OLIVE (60s)--play an impressive riff.

27 PHILOMENA 27

Wow.

She whips her banjo into playing position and starts picking at the strings, playing the same jaunty song from earlier.

Soon, her lone banjo is joined by some GUITAR CHORDS. Her ears flutter in excitement. She turns around--

It's SCOOP (5, Fox)! He's strumming his guitar.

PHILOMENA

Scoop!

He plays a quick run on his guitar.

29 SCOOP What's that you're playing? 29

Philomena smiles wide.

PHILOMENA

30 I wrote it. It goes like this. 30

She starts to play it in earnest. Scoop strums the chords with her. They laugh and dance around to the bouncy tune.

But then...

SCOOOP
(singing)
31 Ohhhhhh red leather yellow leather, 31
I love sunny weather,
Ice cream, and apple pieeeeeee!

Philomena stops playing. She stares in confusion.

32 PHILOMENA 32
 What are you doing?
Scoop smiles broadly.

33 SCOOP 33
 I'm singing!
 (singing and strumming)
34 *Every song needs siiiinging!* 34
Philomena shakes her head emphatically.

35 PHILOMENA 35
 This one doesn't have singing.

36 SCOOP 36
 How do you know?

37 PHILOMENA 37
 Because I wrote it!

38 SCOOP 38
 Maybe we could write it together.
Scoop starts strumming the song again, but slightly faster.

39 SCOOP 39
 We could play it even faster...
Philomena is horrified.

40 PHILOMENA 40
 That's way too fast--

41 SCOOP 41
 And then we could do something like
 this...

Scoop starts playing runs on his guitar.

42 PHILOMENA 42
 No no--

43 SCOOP 43
 And then we start
 (singing)
44 *Siiiiiiingingggggg.* 44

45 PHILOMENA 45
 Scoop, stop!
He does.

46 SCOOP 46
What's wrong?

47 PHILOMENA 47
It's my song! I know how it goes.
Why won't you just do what I say?

Scoop's smile falls.

48 SCOOP 48
I was just trying to help.

They stare at each other, unsure how to continue.

At that moment, Otto catches up. He's out of breath.

49 OTTO 49
 (panting)
Philly...you gotta...wait for me.
No more wild goose chases!

A mother GOOSE walks by, followed by eight goslings. She side-eyes Otto as she passes.

Scoop laughs; Otto grins as he catches his breath.

50 OTTO 50
Anyway, how are you, Scoop? Is the
blueberry stand ready?

Scoop's eyes get wide and he fumbles his guitar.

51 SCOOP 51
I almost forgot! I have to finish
setting up before the gate opens.

He turns to Philomena, who is quietly playing her song, a little slower and sadder than before.

52 SCOOP 52
Can you help me?

Philomena looks up, surprised but delighted.

53 PHILOMENA 53
Of course!

EXT. BLUEBERRY STAND - DAY

Philomena and Scoop stand with Otto at the blueberry stand. The table is decked out with cartons of blueberries and TWO LARGE PITCHERS of blueberry lemonade.

62 PHILOMENA 62
 You can draw on this side, and I'll
 draw on this side.

63 SCOOP 63
 Good idea!

They get to work. Scoop draws a big glass of lemonade.
Philomena draws a big blueberry.

64 PHILOMENA 64
 Nice!

Excited, she draws another blueberry. Then another. Then an--
whoops!

She accidentally draws over the center line, into Scoop's
territory.

65 SCOOP 65
 That's my side!

66 PHILOMENA 66
 Sorry Scoop, I didn't mean to--

67 SCOOP 67
 That's okay, I can just draw
 something on your side.

He starts to draw a pitcher of lemonade that crosses the
center line.

68 PHILOMENA 68
 But that doesn't go with what I
 had!

The two keep drawing back and forth until the whole poster is
covered in a mess of blueberries, lemonades, and scribbles.

Philomena and Scoop step back to look at the banner.

 SCOOP PHILOMENA
It's... It's...
horrible. *Perfect!*

Scoop looks between Philomena and the poster. He squints at
the poster.

69 SCOOP 69
 I guess it looks okay if I do
 this...

He squints so hard that he closes his eyes.

PHILOMENA
70 You just closed your eyes! 70

She looks back at the poster.

PHILOMENA
71 Let's see what Pogo thinks. 71

EXT. BAKERY STAND - DAY

An ENORMOUS tower of donuts, nearly complete.

Suddenly, a black and white blur leaps into view before falling out of sight.

A new donut has joined the tower.

The black-and-white blur appears again. Another donut too.

As Philomena and Scoop approach the table, they see POGO (5, Skunk) jumping up and down, flipping in midair and placing donuts on the tower.

72 PHILOMENA 72
Hi Pogo.

Pogo smiles in excitement and does a double flip.

POGO

73 Philomena! Scoop! What are you 73
 doing here? Are we playing today?

She reaches under the table and procures her UPRIGHT BASS.
She plays a quick walk on it.

PHILOMENA
74 Not yet. We have to finish this. 74

She produces their poster. SFX: JUMPSCARE STINGER. Pogo leaps backwards in fright, hiding behind her bass.

AHHH.

POGO

7575

She gathers herself.

76 POGO You shouldn't startle a skunk like that. 76

She leans in closer to the poster, confused.

77 POGO
What is it? 77

Philomena frowns slightly.

PHILOMENA
78 It's for the blueberry stand. 78

79	POGO What...happened to it?	79
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Philomena and Scoop look at each other.

PHILOMENA
80 What do you mean? 80

SCOOP
81 We tried to work together. 81

Pogo nods--*aha*.

POGO

82 I'm almost done setting up here and 82
then I can come and help. Just need
the finishing touch...

She reaches for a donut to place at the top of her display,
but Philomena stops her.

PHILOMENA
83 Here, I can do it. 83

POGO

84 It's okay-- 84

PHILOMENA

85 I'm taller than you, so I can reach 85
it easier.

SCOOP
86 But Pogo can jump-- 86

Philomena grabs the donut and reaches for the top of the tower.

PHILOMENA
(straining)
87 Almost...got it... 87

She barely sets the donut down. It's unbalanced.

It teeters one way. Then the other way.

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                POGO                                SCOOP
Oh no!                                Look out!

The tower collapses. Donuts roll around on the table.

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PHILOMENA
88 Oh, um, it's ok, see? Now they're 88
easier to reach.

Philomena tries to smile, but Pogo's ears and tail droop low. She reaches below the table for some napkins.

POGO

89 It's okay, I can stack them up 89
 again. I think there's time...

Then she notices something across the market:

POGO
90 Oh no--they're about to open up the gate! 90

Philomena follows Pogo's gesture to the market entrance. Her eyes widen in concern.

PHILOMENA
(to Scoop)
91 We need to finish your booth, or we 91
won't have time to play my song!

EXT. BLUEBERRY STAND - DAY

Back at the blueberry stand, Philomena and Scoop start arranging the blueberry cartons. They're moving quickly.

92 PHILOMENA
Let's put the blueberries here... 92

She moves them to one side of the table.

PHILOMENA
93 And the lemonade here... 93

She pulls the pitchers over to the other side.

PHILOMENA
94 And the poster right in the middle. 94

She hangs the messy poster in the center of the table.

Scoop considers this arrangement.

SCOOP

95 No, the lemonade should go over here... 95

He moves it back.

SCOOP
96 And the blueberries here... 96

He moves them too.

SCOOP

97 And the-- 97

PHILOMENA

98 But then no one can see the 98
 lemonade! It should be here...

She drags the pitchers across the table.

SCOOP

99 But then everyone will think we're 99
 just a lemonade stand!

He starts to pull the pitcher back.

It's a tug of war as the two kids pull the lemonade back and forth and back and forth and--

SCOOP
100 Wait, Philo-- 100

SPLASH.

Both pitchers of lemonade tip over and spill all over Scoop and Philomena.

The poster is ruined. The lemonade is gone. And the kids are sopping wet.

101 Oh no. SCOOP 101

PHILOMENA
102 The lemonade. 102

SCOOP
103 The poster. 103

They look at each other, sticky and wet.

US! PHILOMENA US! SCOOP

Philomena looks to the entrance of the market, where the gate is being opened.

Then she looks around the market.

She sees Otto helping Scoop's family carry cartons of blueberries.

She sees the older musicians laughing with each other as they prepare a song.

Her eyes grow wide and her ears wilt.

	PHILOMENA	
104	First I ruined the poster, then Pogo's tower, and now the whole blueberry stand.	104

She looks at her friend.

	PHILOMENA	
105	I'm so sorry, Scoop. I kept trying to make you do what I wanted to do. But that's not really working together.	105

Scoop smiles and puts a friendly paw on her shoulder.

	SCOOP	
106	Thanks, Philomena. I know you were just trying to help.	106

Lester and Pogo run over to the table.

	LESTER	
107	Are you both okay?	107

	POGO	
108	We saw what happened!	108

Philomena smiles sheepishly (giraffeishly?).

	PHILOMENA	
109	We're okay. I realized I haven't been a very good friend today. I'm sorry.	109

	POGO	
110	That's okay, Philomena! My tower was even better the second time.	110

SCOOP

111 Besides, we can try again next 111
 week. I'm not sure we'll get many
 customers with this.

He holds up the soggy, messy poster. Philomena smiles wryly.

PHILOMENA

112 It did look horrible, didn't it? 112

Everyone laughs as Philomena's eyes suddenly grow big and her ears begin to flutter.

PHILOMENA

113 Hold on. Maybe we don't need a 113
 poster to get customers.

SCOOP

114 What do you mean? 114

She turns to Pogo and Lester.

PHILOMENA

115 Could you two help us make the 115
 stand look nice again?

Lester salutes.

LESTER

116 I'll get some flowers. 116

Pogo is already bouncing up and down.

POGO

117 And I can build a tower with the 117
 blueberry cartons!

PHILOMENA

118 That's perfect! Then all we need-- 118

At that moment, Otto returns with crates of blueberries.

OTTO

119 Hey Philly... 119

He takes in the messy scene.

OTTO

120 What happened here? Looks like a 120
 dog's breakfast.

A refined-looking DOG in a suit and monocle strolls by, turning his nose up at the mess.

Otto waves half-heartedly at him.

PHILOMENA

(quickly)

121	We were having trouble working together, and we accidentally spilled the lemonade, and we're really, really sorry...	121
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Otto has a small smile--he's used to this sort of mischief.

PHILOMENA

122	...but now we have a different way to get people to come!	122
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SCOOP

123	We do?	123
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She swings her banjo around.

PHILOMENA

124	We just need a really good song.	124
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Scoop is intrigued.

PHILOMENA

125	A really good song...with some really good singing.	125
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She smiles at Scoop, who smiles back even bigger.

EXT. BLUEBERRY STAND - LATER

The stand is transformed: decked out in flowers, and with the blueberry cartons stacked into an architectural wonder.

Next to the table, Philomena, Scoop, Lester, and Pogo play the jaunty tune.

Around them, their friends and neighbors at the market cheer, clap, and dance.

Even Baby J shakes his rattle on beat.

Philomena and Scoop make eye contact, smile, and nod.

Scoop takes a deep breath.

SCOOP

(singing)

126	Ohhhhh blueberries, blueberries / No rasp, straw, or blackberries / Don't mind the sticky messssssss!	126
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