(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

## IN THE LAIR OF THE SPIDER QUEEN

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FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST -- AFTERNOON

PINKIE is prancing through the woods. She is carrying a picnic basket, and is sporting a rose-coloured cape with matching knee-highs. It's been a good hike, but now it's getting late, and she's lost the trail.

PINKIE

"Oh dear, I think I'm lost... Maybe I shouldn't have followed that cute cat I saw earlier."

She slows her pace.

PINKIE (cont'd)

"...but it was so soft looking! And looked like it wanted to show me something..."

She shivers, and tightens up the cape around her shoulders. The greenery of the trees have turned to prickly, denser woodland.

PINKIE (cont'd)
"I hope there's nothing spooky in these dark, scary woods...

CUT TO:

Closeup: A sinister looking DEMON looks onward, hidden by shrubbery. It has white-tinted eyes, and a black lace over its eyes. The sounds of its breathing, uneven and raspy, fills the background.

CUT TO:

PINKIE pauses, and frowns slightly, as if a foul scent drifted across her path. She looks in the direction of the DEMON, but does not see it. Raising an eyebrow, she shrugs, and resumes her pace.

CUT TO:

The DEMON continues to watch PINKIE.

CUT TO:

PINKIE, lamenting:

PINKIE

"Oh, I must be lost now! I'm lost, and so hungry... Auntie told me not to follow strange animals, and here I am..." (She seems to call out to the woods, as if daring them) "I hope nothing spooky follows me in the woods!"

PINKIE pouts, and takes a few more steps. She stops again, peering forward.

PINKIE

"Oh, what's... *that?*"

CUT TO:

DRAMATIC ZOOM TO CLOSEUP

There are several gorgeous-looking cupcakes on a platter, arranged neatly on a blanket.

CUT TO:

PINKIE grins. She's weirdly into it, and clearly is excited about this strange situation.

PINKIE

"This... must... be... for me!!!"

CUT TO:

The DEMON continues to stare on.

CUT TO:

PINKIE (cont'd)

"Some... kind person must have left this here!"

PINKIE puts the basket down, rests on her knees, and immediately begins to cram her face. Sloppy mouth noises saturate the air, and crumbs fly everywhere.

PINKIE (cont'd)

"MMmmmm!"

PINKIE enthusiastically begins to drive the last cupcake towards her mouth.

CUT TO:

The DEMON stares on, eyes flickering downrange. Something is about to happen.

CUT TO:

PINKIE yawns, licks her chops, and stretches. Crumbs leap off her clothes.

PINKIE (cont'd)
"Oh, I'm \*so\* sleepy..."

She begins to settle down on the blanket. Heavy lids blink slowly a few times as she clearly begins falling asleep.

PINKIE (cont'd)
"Ohhh-- I'll just rest a little... I
hope nothing... spooky takes
advantage of me!" (She pauses,
stirring for a moment, and then
repeats this out to the woods.) "I
SAID... I HOPE NOBODY TAKES ADVANTAGE
OF ME!"

She immediately falls asleep, snoring.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST -- TRANSITIONAL SHOT: LOOKING UP AT WOODS, SPINNING, CROSS-FADING AS IN A DREAMY TRANCE, FADE TO BLACK

CUT TO:

The spot where the DEMON was is now empty. The leaves stir, as if someone had just moved past them.

CUT TO:

PINKIE is dozing on the blanket. The DEMON, towering over them, raises its claws, and wraps her in the blanket like a burrito. It begins dragging her away, offscreen.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CREEPY DUNGEON, NIGHT

The DEMON drags the burrito'd PINKIE in through a patio door, and proudly presents her to someone offscreen.

SPIDER QUEEN (O.S.)
"Ahhhh, supper! You've done well, my servant. Go fetch the syringe."

We see the SPIDER QUEEN grace into frame. She also has black lace around her eyes, and is wearing a glimmering black-and-red dress. The DEMON scurries offscreen. The SPIDER QUEEN unwraps PINKIE, who slowly begins to stir.

SPIDER QUEEN

"Oh, wretched curse-- which gives me power, at such a terrible cost. Forgive me, young one, for I--"

PINKIE

(Interrupting) "THE SPIDER QUEEN??? In her \*LAIR\*?? Oh wow!!!"

The SPIDER QUEEN frowns, clearly perturbed by this interruption of her prose.

SPIDER QUEEN

"Yes... I'm afraid you have fallen afoul of my servant. You are now within my grasp, and--"

PINKIE

(Interrupting) "And now you're gonna eat me!!! Just like the story! That's SO COOL!!!!"

SPIDER QUEEN

(Bewildered, but keeping her cool) "Young one, that is... nothing to be excited about."

PINKIE

"YEAH IT IS!!! Cause, if you eat \*part\* of me, and leave the rest, I can become like you!! That would be awesome."

The SPIDER QUEEN blinks. She clearly has never had a fan before. She doesn't like it. The DEMON returns, with a syringe. It looks at the SPIDER QUEEN, perplexed.

PINKIE (cont'd)

"Where do you get your clothes?? I want one of those lace masks too!! Blue's gonna be so jealous when she finds out that \*I'm\* gonna be a SPIDER QUEEN!!!"

SPIDER QUEEN
(Attempting to regain composure) "No.
No-- that is not how it works. At
all. It's a curse. It's not...
"cool".

The SPIDER QUEEN turns towards the DEMON, as PINKIE's grin grows wider.

SPIDER QUEEN (cont'd)
"Put her back to sleep, and bring her back to wherever you found her. Get another one-- this time, find a less enthusiastic victim. It's just weird."

PINKIE continues to babble excitedly, as the DEMON administers the syringe. She becomes incoherent and slows down, eventually closing her eyes and laying down. The DEMON re-burrito's her. The SPIDER QUEEN sighs as the DEMON drags PINKIE back out. A "DING" sounds from the kitchen, where we see the SPIDER QUEEN injecting fresh cupcakes with a sparkly, pink liquid. The DEMON nods, taking them, and PINKIE, back outside with him.

FADE TO BLACK.