

STEP IN TIME

"The Best Time of Your Life"

Written by

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COLD OPEN

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Sunbeams pour through the windows of a cramped, yet well-decorated, STUDIO APARTMENT. An ALARM rings, and is immediately turned off.

MARY rises from bed. She smiles and looks out of her window, then walks to (what's now) a retro iPod dock and picks up an iPod nano. She scrolls, then plugs it into the dock. Buffy Sainte-Marie's version of "**The Circle Game**" starts.

While the song plays, Mary goes about her morning routine. She showers, gets dressed, makes toast. She passes a calendar in her kitchen that reads **November 2006**. She taps a circled day on the calendar and smiles. It reads: "**Happy Birthday!**"

The song continues to play as she leaves her apartment and gets in her car.

INT. CAR - TRAVELING - MOMENTS LATER

Mary travels down World Drive and sees the Magic Kingdom toll plaza. She cheerfully chats with the attendant and is waved through.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Mary parks and hops out of her car.

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Mary passes through the turnstiles of Magic Kingdom and takes a moment to soak in the atmosphere. She pulls out a small digital camera and snaps a few shots.

EXT. TOMORROWLAND - MOMENTS LATER

Mary looks around at the buildings of Tomorrowland. She sees a long line wind out of *Stitch's Great Escape*. A small child is crying as their parents lead them out of the exit. She turns around to see an empty queue for *The Timekeeper*. She walks in.

INT. TIMEKEEPER THEATER - MOMENTS LATER

Mary is ushered inside by a friendly older CAST MEMBER.

MARY

Have there been any big crowds
since the closure was announced?

CAST MEMBER

You tell me. You've probably seen
this one more than anybody.

MARY

Well, I'm sure a *Monsters Inc.*
comedy club will be just as good.

CAST MEMBER

Oh, sure. Maybe we can finally draw
the crowds away from Bonkerz.

MARY

Anything to show those fat cats at
Bonkerz.

CAST MEMBER

Yeah. Now, I need to make sure
there's no one else out in the
lobby before I start the show. Do
you mind waiting a moment?

MARY

Not at all. Thank you!

The Cast Member leaves. Mary looks around the auditorium,
studying details. She takes a few pictures, then turns her
attention to the TIME PLATFORM. Standing at the platform is
the TIMEKEEPER, whose attention is on a panel to his right.

Mary creeps up and snaps a picture of the setup. She gets
even closer and takes another. She takes one of the main
console before noticing some stray WIRES poking out. She
checks to make sure no one is looking, then reaches out...

The wires ZAP her hand when her fingers brush against them.
She recoils.

MARY (CONT'D)

Yowza!

She shakes the sting off of her hand and steps back to where
she was originally standing, just in time for the Cast Member
to return.

CAST MEMBER

Well, I thought I saw a person, but
it was just Sonny Eclipse.

(SHUDDERS)

Ready for the show?

MARY
I was born ready!

CAST MEMBER
That's the spirit. I'll be right
outside if you want to exit early.

The Cast Member opens a panel in the wall near the exit and hits a button. The lights dim and the show starts.

EXT. TIMEKEEPER THEATER - LATER

Mary leaves the theater and waves to the Cast Member. She looks at her hand, then heads towards Space Mountain with her camera ready.

INT. TIMEKEEPER THEATER - NIGHT

We are now six years in the past, in early **2000**.

Mary is now with BUZZY, SONNY and FIGMENT. They stand in the theater and stare at the time platform. The red LED display blinks and displays the year **1971**.

MARY
This has to be a coincidence,
right? SMRT-1 doesn't know how to
use this.

FIGMENT
I don't know. It seems pretty
fishy.

SONNY
I agree with the dragon.
(OFF FIGMENT)
I'm sorry. I forget names when I'm
nervous.

BUZZY
You're always nervous.

SONNY
Then you're welcome, Buzzy!

The Cast Member, six years younger, appears.

CAST MEMBER
Did you all find your purse?

MARY
Nope!

CAST MEMBER

That's a shame. It sounded pretty neat. A purse that beatboxes...

Everyone stares at Figment. He shrugs.

The group starts to leave, but Mary looks at the panel one last time. She spots the errant WIRES hanging...

SONNY

We should go before the Timekeeper wakes up.

CAST MEMBER

Oh, he'll sleep through anything. Heck, the college grads throw a rave in this theater every May.

EXT. TIMEKEEPER THEATER - MOMENTS LATER

The group exits and finds the Time Platform parked in the center of the Tomorrowland walkway.

BUZZY

So we look for SMRT-1?

FIGMENT

Yeah, but where will we even start?

SONNY

Let's cross that flaming bridge made of bones when we get to it.

They all climb on the platform. Mary looks at the control panel and notices the same WIRES poking out.

CUT TO BLACK.

END COLD OPEN

ACT I**EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - MORNING**

The PLATFORM flashes into view, and the group steps onto the pavement. Sonny eyeballs the LED display.

SONNY

Nineteen eighty? Boo!

MARY

Hey, some pretty good movies came out this year. And McDonalds introduced the McChicken.

SONNY

I'm disappointed that you know that.

MARY

Just try to keep an open mind. We're here to find SMRT-1. Since he technically doesn't exist yet, he should stick out like a sore thumb.

SONNY

I told you, they're sore because I have a condition!

FIGMENT

What should we do? We can't split up, right?

MARY

Actually, we may want to. We're not going to cover as much ground if we all stick together. Figment, you can take the West side of the park. Sonny, you can go East. Buzzy, you and I will go North from here.

SONNY

What do we do if we see him? Scream for help?

Buzzy runs off for a beat, then returns moments later with four WALKIE-TALKIES.

MARY

Where did you get these?

BUZZY

Do you really want to know?

MARY
(THINKS)
I did.

SONNY
(INTO WALKIE-TALKIE)
Perfect.

The group flinches from the feedback.

MARY
Let's wait to use these until we're
not so close together, yeah?

Sonny takes a dramatic step back.

SONNY
(INTO WALKIE-TALKIE)
Okay.

The group flinches again.

EXT. TOMORROWLAND - DAY

Sonny wades through the dense crowds of Tomorrowland.

SONNY
I can't see a thing!

He tugs on a MAN's jacket.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Excuse me. May I ride on your
shoulders?

MAN
(CONSIDERS)
Why?

SONNY
I want to.

MAN
(CONSIDERS FURTHER)
Maybe later.

The Man speed walks away.

SONNY
Ugh! If I was Buzzy I'd be
shoulder-surfing like that kid in
The Mighty.

He glances up and sees the STAR JETS rotating above him.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Of course, the Astro Orbiter! Not
just for yelling at birds.

Above him, a TOURIST riding in one of the Jets is heckling a
passing PALM WARBLER.

TOURIST
Hey, idiot! Nice wings!

The Warbler steals his hat and flies away.

TOURIST (CONT'D)
Wait! I take it back!

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Mary and Buzzy walk past a GIFT CART along Main Street with
some Thanksgiving decorations laid out.

MARY
Huh. Is it really November?

BUZZY
What's November?

Mary approaches CAST MEMBER #2.

MARY
Excuse me, what day is this?

CAST MEMBER #2
It's November sixth, ma'am!

MARY
I'll be. Thank you!

She and Buzzy keep walking.

BUZZY
What's wrong?

MARY
Oh, nothing. It's just weird. Don't
tell Fig or Sonny, but today is
technically my birthday.

BUZZY
(GASPS)
What! Happy birthday!

MARY
Thanks, buddy.

BUZZY
You want me to get you anything?

MARY
(LAUGHS)
Maybe next year. Whenever we get there.

EXT. TOMORROWLAND - DAY

Sonny circles above Tomorrowland in one of the Star Jets, looking at the area through a pair of OPERA GLASSES.

SONNY
Show me something, baby.

He spots an IMAGINEER standing near the entrance to the Carousel of Progress.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Easy as Sunday morning!

The Jet slows and descends. Sonny hops out and hands the opera glasses to a preening ARISTOCRAT guest.

SONNY (CONT'D)
You can have your weird goggles back.

ARISTOCRAT
(FOPPISH)
But now they're sweaty!

EXT. CAROUSEL OF PROGRESS - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny jogs up to the Imagineer, taking a beat to catch his breath.

SONNY
Are you... Do you...

IMAGINEER
May I help you?
(BEAT)
Hey, wait. Are you the alien that helped inspire Space Mountain? You're like a legend around here!

SONNY

Oh, I don't know about "legend."
Maybe more of a "folk hero."

He looks at the theater entrance.

SONNY (CONT'D)

What's going on here?

IMAGINEER

We're just getting ready to bring
the Carousel into the eighties. The
finale's getting a little dated, so
we're rewriting it for the new
decade.

SONNY

Has there been a little robot
helping out with that, by chance?

IMAGINEER

A robot? You know, I keep hearing
rumors about something like that. I
haven't seen anything myself,
though.

SONNY

What kind of rumors?

IMAGINEER

Oh, just trying to help with
projects here and there. He's had
big ideas, but none of them have
worked out.

SONNY

You're welcome for that.

IMAGINEER

Sure... Anyway, I don't know if
he's passed through here, but
anything's possible. The family
might know more. If not, you can
always try the EPCOT Preview Center
on Main Street.

SONNY

Thanks!

Sonny walks towards the theater entrance. He pulls out his
walkie-talkie.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Sonny to crew. I may have a lead on our friend. I'm going into the "merry-go-round of time," or whatever.

He slips in through the doors to the theater.

INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - CONTINUOUS

Sonny walks into the empty theater. Gathered on stage is the CAROUSEL FAMILY - father JOHN, mother SARAH, children JAMES and PATRICIA, and a GRANDFATHER and GRANDMOTHER. The cast is relaxing on what appears to be their break.

SONNY

Hello?

JOHN

Hello there! Welcome! Our next show isn't starting for a bit, but you're free to relax until then.

SONNY

Thanks. Has anyone here seen a tiny robot rolling around?

SARAH

That weird little vacuum cleaner? He said he would be back with a new draft of his script.

SONNY

He's been here?

PATRICIA

Yup. That was three days ago.

SONNY

That little creep! So he wants to help bring you all into the eighties, eh?

JOHN

Yup! The nineteen eighties.

SONNY

What other...? Never mind. How far along has he gotten?

PATRICIA

Beats me. There are so many writers on this thing now, it feels like a train wreck.

SONNY

Maybe Tyler Perry's onto something. Let's see a copy of this script.

EXT. FRONTIERLAND - DAY

Figment meanders around Frontierland, on the lookout for SMRT-1. Sonny's voice comes in over the walkie.

SONNY (V.O.)

SMRT-1 isn't here, but he's been trying to rewrite the ending of the show.

FIGMENT

That can't be good.

SONNY (V.O.)

Oh, it's not. He has no idea how to format these things. And there are all sorts of lines about how awesome he is. It's like reading a Zodiac letter.

FIGMENT

Try and make something of your own. We just need to make sure we're making sparks!

INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny scoffs.

SONNY

Easier said than done.

(READING SCRIPT)

"Handle with care-ousel"? Is he insane?

EXT. BIG THUNDER MOUNTAIN - DAY

Figment approaches the massive rising buttes of the newly-opened *Big Thunder Mountain*.

FIGMENT

Wow.

A massive LINE extends from the queue and winds along the scenic Rivers of America.

INT. MINING OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Figment slips between the guests in line and finds himself in the rustic head office of the Big Thunder Mining Company.

Tucked away out of sight of the guests, the space allows for founder and president BARNABAS T. BULLION to get some work done in peace. He's an older man of distinguished taste.

FIGMENT

Excuse me.

BARNABAS

(NOT LOOKING UP)

Parcels should be left by the door.

FIGMENT

Have you seen a small robot around here?

Barnabas sets down his pen and stares at Figment.

BARNABAS

Have I seen a what?

FIGMENT

A robot! You know...

(MIMES BEING A ROBOT)

BARNABAS

You mean an automaton? Some sort of science-fictionalization?

FIGMENT

I guess?

Barnabas begins to laugh...slowly at first, then uproariously.

BARNABAS

You parcel packers pack a punch to the pot belly. That's a good laugh there.

He packs up and rises from his seat.

BARNABAS (CONT'D)

So, are you able to mind the place for a bit while I take care of some business?

FIGMENT

What? No!

BARNABAS

Come now. The last parcel boy loved
to keep an eye on the shop. It's
just while I grab a nosh.

FIGMENT

"Nosh"?

BARNABAS

Great! Here's your vest.

He hands Figment a tiny leather VEST.

BARNABAS (CONT'D)

You know how the tags say "warm
water only"? That was a normal-
sized vest once!

He tosses the vest onto Figment's head and brushes past him.

BARNABAS (CONT'D)

Oh. If anyone complains about
ghosts on the tracks, just...
Pretend like you care.

He leaves. Figment picks up his walkie and pushes the button.

FIGMENT

Guys? We have a problem.

MARY (V.O.)

What's wrong?

FIGMENT

I think I just got a job.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT I

ACT II**INT. EPCOT PREVIEW CENTER THEATER - DAY**

Mary and Buzzy are sitting in a large 300-seat theater and watching a film previewing EPCOT Center. On the screen is a model of EPCOT Center; the camera tilts on Spaceship Earth to show the breadth of the park.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

...And so, with EPCOT's foundation already established, the Disney organization is now rapidly moving ahead with the creation of EPCOT Center.

BUZZY

Woo!

Mary leans over.

MARY

(HUSHED)

You don't need to cheer every time they say the name.

BUZZY

I know I don't need to. I want to!

MARY

(SIGHS)

Okay.

The film shows various designers, artists, sculptors and other talents working on every aspect of the park.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

This is WED Enterprises, a unique Disney design organization made up of artists, designers, architects, engineers, and dozens of others, working in a harmonic blend of space-age creativity called "Imagineering."

BUZZY

(SHOUTS)

Yeah!

MARY

Do you just cheer for anything?

A small GIRL sitting in the row ahead of them turns around to face Buzzy. She smiles sweetly. Buzzy gives her a "thumbs up" and smiles back.

BUZZY
(WHISPERS)
It's my friend's birthday!

GIRL
(WHISPERS TO MARY)
Happy birthday!

MARY
Thank you.

Mary glances back at the film: artists work on scale models in a large open space. She squints.

MARY (CONT'D)
Buzzy! I just saw him!

BUZZY
What?

MARY
He was just there! He was helping
build the models.

BUZZY
Well, maybe he'll pop up again.

The shot cuts to an artist's depiction of EPCOT Center.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
EPCOT Center.

Sonny and the little girl both cheer.

INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - DAY

Sonny is sitting, with several empty cups stacked in front of him. He's pinching the bridge of his nose as he sighs.

SONNY
Okay. Let's take it from the top.
Why are you a family?

JOHN
We...just are?

SONNY

Yes, but why? Why stick together?
These are the questions we need to
ask if we're going to tackle this
new ending.

JOHN

I don't think it needs to be that
complicated.

PATRICIA

Come on, dad. This is why you
wanted to get us involved in the
theater to begin with.

JAMES

Yeah, you always wanted to be like
the Carter Family.

SONNY

See, this is what the sponsors mean
when they say "dated." How old are
you kids supposed to be?

James and Patricia look at each other and shrug.

JAMES

Seventy?

JOHN

What? You aren't seventy.

SONNY

No, wait. I like this. Let's make
the kids the adults, and the adults
can be the kids.

SARAH

I don't know --

SONNY

Look, you want me to write a
showstopper, or do you want *Moose
Murders*?

GRANDMOTHER

Oh, that sounds nice.

SONNY

Which part sounds nice to you?

GRANDMOTHER

(ASHAMED)

I wasn't paying attention.

A disembodied voice calls from behind a curtain to the right.

ORVILLE (O.S.)
No privacy at all around this
place!

SONNY
(ALARMED)
What was that?

JOHN
Oh, that's just Uncle Orville. Ever
since the war he likes to bathe a
lot.

SONNY
I don't like that. We'll have to
write him out.

JOHN
But he's part of the family.

SONNY
Don't worry. We'll get him a good
ticket.
(TO HIMSELF)
In the cheap seats.

SARAH
You don't seem to know too much
about this show.

The family looks at one another. Sonny sweats. *She's right.*

SONNY
Excuse me just a moment.

He turns and uses his walkie.

FIGMENT
Mary? Come in, Mary!

INT. EPCOT PREVIEW CENTER THEATER - MOMENTS LATER

Mary has the volume turned down on her walkie.

BUZZY
I think I saw him again!

MARY
What? Where?

BUZZY
Wait, no. Sorry. I have ice cream
in my eye.

He sticks his tongue out and tries to lick his eye.

INT. MINING OFFICE - DAY

Figment adjusts some knick-knacks on Barnabas' desk.

SONNY (V.O.)
Fig! Come in, Fig!

FIGMENT
(INTO WALKIE)
Sonny?

SONNY (V.O.)
Figment! What do you know about
Carousel of Progress?

FIGMENT
Not much. Why?

SONNY (V.O.)
Well, I'm supposed to be writing
the ending. Wouldn't it help if
I've seen it?

FIGMENT
That's a good point. I'll come help
you as soon as Barnabas gets back.

SONNY (V.O.)
Who?

An OLDER GUEST peeks around the corner into the office.

FIGMENT
May I help you?

OLDER GUEST
Yes. What time does the train
leave?

FIGMENT
Which one?

The Older Guest shrugs. Figment stares at them.

EXT. EPCOT PREVIEW CENTER - DAY

Mary and Buzzy exit the theater of the Preview Center. Mary brings out her walkie:

MARY
Sonny, did you need me?

SONNY (V.O.)
Yes. I mean, no. Everything is
under control here.

ORVILLE (V.O.)
Please! Let me at least keep the
bathtub!

Mary kneels down to Buzzy's level.

MARY
What do you think, Buzz?

BUZZY
We can try Fantasyland.

MARY
Fantasyland sounds sensible.

They walk down Main Street.

BUZZY
Can I get a box of popcorn?

MARY
Is it for eating?

BUZZY
It's for your birthday!

MARY
You're sweet.

BUZZY
How come you don't want Fig or
Sonny to know?

MARY
I guess I'm not too big on
birthdays after my little accident.
They tend to lose meaning when
you're somersaulting through time.

BUZZY
That's sad.

MARY
I'm not sad when I'm with you,
champ!

She ruffles his hat, then pulls out her walkie.

MARY (CONT'D)
How's Frontierland, Figment?

INT. MINING OFFICE - DAY

Figment is leaning back in Barnabas' chair.

FIGMENT
No sign of SMRT-1 yet. I don't
really know what I'm supposed to be
doing here.

MARY (V.O.)
Just leave.

FIGMENT
But I have a job! It's not for much
longer, anyway.

MARY (V.O.)
Fine, you can do the job. Just try
to play detective while you're
there.

FIGMENT
No problem. I love playing
detective!

He pulls out a large MAGNIFYING GLASS, which immediately
focuses a sunbeam and causes the desk to catch fire.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)
Whoops.

INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - DAY

Sonny reads an ENCYCLOPEDIA.

JOHN
Is this going to take much longer?

SONNY
I just need to brush up on my
seventies history. Man, this "Pol
Pot" character seems like quite the
rabble-rouser.

GRANDFATHER

I'm tired.

SONNY

You! What's your name?

GRANDFATHER

...Grandfather?

SONNY

From now on, you're "Sonny
Eclipse."

GRANDFATHER

But I don't want to be Sonny
Eclipse!

SONNY

And that's why you earned the part,
my friend.

The Grandfather smiles.

EXT. FANTASYLAND - EVENING

The sun has begun to set. Mary and Buzzy sit on Cinderella's Golden Carousel (now known as the "Prince Charming Regal Carrousel") and ride in circles in the shadow of Cinderella Castle.

Mary glances around, looking for any signs of unusual activity. Buzzy, meanwhile, is having a blast.

MARY

I'm not sure this is the most
efficient way to look for...

She sees Buzzy laughing and cuts herself off. She smiles.

INT. MINING OFFICE - EVENING

Figment is thriving in his new job. He arranges the papers on Barnabas' office in neat stacks. He flits over to a chalkboard with a list of goods and the times they're expected to arrive. He crosses off "Cornmeal" and draws a smiley face.

Another guest - a young GIRL - pokes her head inside.

GIRL

Are you a real dragon?

FIGMENT

Yes, I am!

GIRL

Wow!

FIGMENT

Wanna see something cool?

He opens a DRAWER in Barnabas' desk and grabs a piece of paper. He turns it into an origami Figment and hands it to her.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

Now you can have a dragon with you
all the time!

GIRL

Thank you!

She runs off. Figment sits and relaxes.

FIGMENT

All in a day's work.

He kicks his feet up on the open drawer, then falls backwards. The pages from the drawer scatter everywhere. He pops back up and picks up the sheets. He stacks them neatly and begins to put them back, when he notices...

It's a small PORTRAIT of EIGHT EXPLORERS standing beneath a large banner that reads:

**Society of Explorers and Adventurers
1899**

Figment stares at the portrait. Fifth from the right is BARNABAS. Figment reaches for his walkie.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

Guys?

He focuses on the lower left corner of the portrait. Standing among the Explorers is SMRT-1.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

I think I found something.

EXT. FANTASYLAND - NIGHT

Mary stands outside of *Peter Pan's Flight* with her walkie.

MARY
Fig, what'd you find?

FIGMENT (V.O.)
I don't know. It's some kind of
portrait.

MARY
Describe it to me.

FIGMENT (V.O.)
Hang on, I have a customer.

MARY
Figment!

FIGMENT (V.O.)
You told me to do the job!

MARY
You have more than one job right
now.

(BEAT)
Figment? Fig! Come in, Figment!

She sighs. Buzzy walks up to her.

MARY (CONT'D)
We have a real attention problem in
this group.

BUZZY
I'm sorry.

MARY
I was talking about Figment.
(BEAT)
Wait, what are you talking about?

BUZZY
I, uh... We should go.

MARY
What happened?

BUZZY
Do you know about the *Mickey Mouse*
Revue?

MARY
Yes.

BUZZY
It's gone now.

MARY

It was just there five minutes ago!

BUZZY

I sold it to Tokyo Disneyland,
okay?

MARY

What?

BUZZY

I'm good at business! I don't want
to be!

MARY

Oh, jeez. Okay, let's go. Figment
better be okay.

They rush off together.

INT. MINING OFFICE - NIGHT

Barnabas is tying up a squirming BURLAP SACK.

FIGMENT

Uh...I think you have me mistaken
for a bushel of apples.

BARNABAS

Not this time.

He picks up Figment's walkie and tosses it out of the window.

BARNABAS (CONT'D)

(CHUCKLES)

You fell for my trap. That fortune
cookie hit the nail on the head.

He slings the sack over his shoulder and leaves.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT II

ACT III**INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - NIGHT**

Sonny is onstage, performing for the cast.

SONNY

(VITO CORLEONE IMPRESSION)

What about Polaroid? It went down?
Down what?

(BEAT)

Charlie...Charlie, I told you
before, I don't like it when they
go down. You know, I used to have
another broker, and he bought
stocks for me that went down. And I
got very unpleasant, Charlie. Very
unpleasant.

(BREAKS)

And scene.

Scattered applause from the Family.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Thank you. That's a little taste of
Marlon Brando's iconic character
from *The Freshman*. Now, who thinks
they can top Brando?

No one raises a hand.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Good. Fear is the first step to
becoming an actor.

PATRICIA

Mister Eclipse, we haven't done a
show all day. Do you think we can
squeeze in a dress rehearsal?

SONNY

A dress rehearsal?

(THINKS)

It's just crazy enough to work.
Everyone put on your black
turtlenecks!

The actors look at each other worriedly.

EXT. ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER - NIGHT

Barnabas walks across the dock to the ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER STEAMSHIP, with Figment in tow.

INT. ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER - CONTINUOUS

He descends into the main deck of the boat and sets the burlap sack next to the BOILER.

BARNABAS
Stay put. I'll come back and free
you once I get the good word.

FIGMENT
Good word! Good word!

BARNABAS
Oh.

He begins to untie the sack, until he realizes.

BARNABAS (CONT'D)
Wait a minute. Nice try!

FIGMENT
Why are you doing this?

BARNABAS
Promises have been made. No one
will get hurt. Just keep your pants
on while true progress takes shape.

FIGMENT
But I don't have pants!

BARNABAS
And whose fault is that?

Barnabas leaves Figment and ascends back up to the boiler deck.

INT. MINING OFFICE - NIGHT

Mary and Buzzy search the mining office for Figment.

MARY
Where could he have gone?

BUZZY
Maybe he went to get you a present.

MARY
He doesn't know it's my birthday,
remember?

BUZZY
He could figure it out!

MARY
Hang on.

She pulls out her walkie.

MARY (CONT'D)
Figment?

She hears the FEEDBACK and looks out the window. She tries to search based on the source of the sound.

MARY (CONT'D)
Figment?

She spots his walkie.

MARY (CONT'D)
Oh no.

She looks out towards the RIVERS OF AMERICA and sees Barnabas standing on the dock. She turns around and sees a large portrait of Barnabas above the desk.

MARY (CONT'D)
Big problem.

EXT. ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER - NIGHT

Barnabas approaches a small character in a trench coat, hat and sunglasses. He takes a peek under the hat and realizes it's SMRT-1.

BARNABAS
There you are.

SMRT-1
You don't know me. If anyone asks,
my name is "Deep Mind."

BARNABAS
Sure.

SMRT-1
Where did you put the dragon?

BARNABAS
He's in a safe place. Secure.

SMRT-1
Tell me where.

BARNABAS
Not until you sign the contract.

SMRT-1
You're wasting my time!

The steamship whistle HOWLS. Barnabas turns to look.

SMRT-1 (CONT'D)
Wait... You didn't.

BARNABAS
I told you. He's in a safe place.

SMRT-1
You fool! Do you have any idea what
day this is?

MARY
Don't move a muscle!

Barnabas and SMRT-1 turn to see Mary and Buzzy.

MARY (CONT'D)
Tell us where you put our friend.

SMRT-1 flees.

MARY (CONT'D)
Crud!
(TO BARNABAS)
Where'd he go?

BARNABAS
Probably where your friend is
going. The ship's headed to the dry
dock. Northeast of here.

MARY
I have to try to get to him now.
Buzzy, find Sonny and run to the
dry dock!

Mary runs across the dock and dives in the water.

INT. CAROUSEL THEATER - NIGHT

Sonny and the Imagineer sit and watch a performance of the newly-rewritten "New Year's 1980" finale scene from *Carousel of Progress*.

JOHN

Well, the nineteen seventies
haven't been too kind to us. The
wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, the
oil crisis, Raymond Lee Harvey...

The Imagineer stares in horror.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Uncle Orville was arrested for
violating the Mann Act and was
never seen again.

ORVILLE (O.S.)

Hey!

JOHN

It was terrible, but we still had
hope. DiscoVision, second-wave
feminism, papasan chairs. Time can
feel like a circle, but at least we
keep moving. Right...dad?

He stares at his son James.

JAMES

(WOODEN)

Yes, son. You are right.

Sonny's walkie crackles.

BUZZY

Sonny! Figment's in trouble! You
have to come to the dry dock!

Sonny leans over to the Imagineer.

SONNY

I should go.

IMAGINEER

Yes, you probably should. But
thanks for Space Mountain.

Sonny silently gets out of his chair, collects his things,
and exits as fast as he can.

IMAGINEER (CONT'D)
Okay, let's all forget anything
that was written today.

SARAH
So I don't get to do my rap?

CUT TO:

EXT. BAY LAKE DRY DOCK - NIGHT

Sonny runs to the DRY DOCK, where Buzzy watches the Admiral Joe Fowler being lifted out of the water.

SONNY
What's going on?

BUZZY
Figment and Mary are stuck in that
boat!

Sonny looks at the lift operator's cabin.

SONNY
Come with me!

They run to the cabin and open the door. Inside, the LIFT OPERATOR is pulling levers and pushing buttons.

SONNY (CONT'D)
We need to use this!

LIFT OPERATOR
Are you licensed?

SONNY
No.

LIFT OPERATOR
Okay. I have to ask for some
reason. Enjoy.

He hops out. Sonny and Buzzy both sit and stare at the controls.

SONNY
Buzzy? Any ideas?

BUZZY
Try that lever.

Sonny pulls on a lever, causing the ship to drop a few feet, but remaining suspended.

INT. ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER - CONTINUOUS

Mary shakes off the impact as she tries to untie the sack.

FIGMENT
What just happened?

MARY
We fell a little.

FIGMENT
Can you get me out of here?

MARY
I'm trying, but this knot is ridiculous!

FIGMENT
What kind of knot?

MARY
I don't know! A couple of swoopies, with a loop?

FIGMENT
Sounds like a fisherman's bend. Grab here and pull the other end!

The sack squirms as Mary fiddles with the knot. After a moment, she manages to free him.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)
Thanks, Mary!

They ascend to the boiler deck. Various CABLES securing the ship to the lift mechanism are strained. Each step they take causes the cables to groan.

MARY
This may be it, buddy.

EXT. BAY LAKE DRY DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Sonny and Buzzy stare at the control panel. Sonny slowly reaches for a lever...

BUZZY
That could hurt them!

SONNY
You're gonna give me a heart attack!

A VOICE speaks through the radio embedded in the control panel. It's high-pitched...

SMRT-1
The third lever from the right.

SONNY
Who said that?

SMRT-1
You know who.

SONNY
Zelda Rubenstein?

SMRT-1
It's SMRT-1, you fool.

SONNY
Why should we trust you?

SMRT-1
Just take my advice... Or don't.

SONNY
Ugh! Why can't things just be easy?

Buzzy reaches for the LEVER.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Wait!

Buzzy hesitates.

SONNY (CONT'D)
We do it together.

Sonny and Buzzy both grab the lever, take a deep breath, and PULL. The lift machinery begins to shift.

INT. ADMIRAL JOE FOWLER - CONTINUOUS

Mary and Figment feel the shift, then realize the ship is slowly being lowered back into the lake.

MARY
They did it!

The ship is set back down. Figment flies to shore, and Mary tosses a rope down and climbs down from the ship.

EXT. BAY LAKE DRY DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Sonny and Buzzy climb out of the lift as Mary makes it to shore. She climbs out of the water.

MARY

Gross. Gross, gross, gross. Way warmer than I expected.

SONNY

Are you two okay?

FIGMENT

We're great! Did you see what we just did?

SONNY

Did you see what we just did?

MARY

How did you guys know to work that machine?

A sinister laugh echoes around them.

SMRT-1

November sixth... Happy birthday, Mary.

BUZZY

He's so good at guessing birthdays.

MARY

Oh, no.

FIGMENT

"Oh, no" is right! You didn't tell us today was your birthday!

MARY

Didn't you hear him laugh? What if we just changed something in his favor?

FIGMENT

Well, we can always undo it...right?

They stare out at the lake.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Mary uses a PONCHO to dry herself off.

MARY

I don't know why I'm bothering with this. It was hooked to the bottom of the time platform.

SONNY

Oh, yeah! I pulled that out of the garbage when we were in nineteen eighty-two. I thought maybe I could air it out.

Sonny hands her a towel.

MARY

Thanks, Sonny.

SONNY

Happy birthday, kid.

(BEAT)

May I have the garbage poncho?

They trade.

FIGMENT

I got you something too, Mary!

He hands her an ORIGAMI DRAGON.

MARY

Wow! Thank you!

Buzzy hands her a BOX OF POPCORN.

BUZZY

For you!

MARY

You guys are too sweet.

The four friends stroll down Main Street together.

MARY (CONT'D)

Buzzy, you gave those walkies back, right?

BUZZY

I traded them for the popcorn.

MARY

Well, I guess they'll find their way home one day.

BUZZY

Just like us!

FIGMENT
Happy birthday, Mary.

MARY
Thanks. I think this was my new
favorite.

FIREWORKS explode above them. The time machine FLASHES into
the plaza.

FIGMENT
Hey, there's our ride!

MARY
I guess the search for SMRT-1
continues. I just have the weirdest
feeling about tonight.

FIGMENT
I'm sure it's fine. Sonny, did you
change anything at the Carousel?

SONNY
Trust me. Even for the eighties, it
was too weird.

FIGMENT
See, Mary? If Sonny didn't change
anything, and I didn't change
anything, and you and Buzzy didn't
change anything...

MARY
You're probably right. Let's just
see where the time machine wants us
to go next and take it from there.

They all hop aboard. Sonny sniffs the poncho, winces, and
tosses it into a nearby garbage can.

SONNY
From garbage to garbage... The
circle of life goes on.

The time machine disappears with the group. The poncho sits
inside the trash can; printed on its back is a large
ILLUSTRATION of SMRT-1.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT III

STINGER**EXT. CIRCLEVISION THEATER - NIGHT**

The park sits empty. Quiet. The only sound comes from the SQUEAKY WHEELS on SMRT-1 as he rolls into the CircleVision theater. Posters outside advertise the current show, *Magic Carpet 'Round the World*.

INT. CIRCLEVISION THEATER - CONTINUOUS

SMRT-1 enters the theater. All NINE SCREENS light up, with a member of the Society on each one. They are all Victorian-era explorers of great eccentricity: HARRISON HIGHTOWER III, R. BLAUERHIMMEL, HENRY MYSTIC, J.L. BATERISTA, MARY OCEANEER, CHARLTON TABORET, and VITALE ROBUSTELLI. The 9th screen is for SMRT-1.

SMRT-1

Thank you for meeting me so late.

BARNABAS

We'd like a word with you, robot.

ROBUSTELLI

We heard about today. The Society will not stand for your actions.

SMRT-1

You won't have to much longer. Today, I helped avoid what was supposed to be the destruction of the Admiral Joe Fowler riverboat.

MYSTIC

And this means what to us?

SMRT-1

It means the beginning of a new timeline. Your fortunes have almost been assured. All I need is a few more adjustments.

ROBUSTELLI

What exactly are we supposed to do?

SMRT-1

I'm glad you asked.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW

Thank you to the creators of the following videos and articles that were used for research:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuISom1ANwg>

https://disney.fandom.com/wiki/Society_of_Explorers_and_Adventurers

<https://jungleskipper.com/sea/introduction>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiral_Joe_Fowler_Riverboat

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_C60aaffeg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBNP1-4Vn34>