STEP IN TIME

"Hometown Holidays"
Written by
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COLD OPEN

INT. MAGIC KINGDOM RAILROAD STATION - MORNING

The interior of the Main Street Railroad Station is decorated with heaps of Christmas ornaments, lights, candles and wreaths. Two IMAGINEERS stand in the station and clink a couple of mugs together as they look over paperwork.

IMAGINEER #1

Okay, let's talk turkey. It's for lunch. Now, what are we going to name engine number five?

IMAGINEER #2

What's on the shortlist again?

IMAGINEER #1

"Jonathan Taylor Thomas" and "Dunston."

IMAGINEER #2

Like the ape?

IMAGINEER #1

That's no way to talk about Jonathan Taylor Thomas.

IMAGINEER #2

It may be better if we named it after someone in the company.

IMAGINEER #1

Fine. The robot has been making a big push for more recognition. What about him?

IMAGINEER #2

We name engine number five "SMRT-1"?

IMAGINEER #1

You're right. It doesn't sound as good as "Dunston."

A FLASH of light outside. Figment can be heard:

FIGMENT

Be on the lookout for anything!

FIGMENT, SONNY, MARY, and BUZZY enter the station.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

Hello!

IMAGINEER #2

Hi! Can we help you? (REALIZING)

Oh, hey! You guys are here to try to help out, right? We've heard stories about your sparks of imagination.

(TO IMAGINEER #1)

These are the ones who landed Herbie the Love Bug in the middle of MGM Studios.

FIGMENT

Yep, that's us! We're here to see if you need help with anything here.

IMAGINEER #1

Great! We're stuck on ideas for the name of the number five engine. What would you recommend?

IMAGINEER #2

Preferably someone in the company.

SONNY

Have you considered Dunston the Orangutan? Technically he becomes part of the company.

IMAGINEER #1

Thank you!

(BEAT)

Wait, what?

MARY

Forget he said that.

She nudges Buzzy.

MARY (CONT'D)

Buzz, what's the number five's name?

BUZZY

Ward Kimball.

IMAGINEER #2

Ooh, that's a good one!

SONNY

How did you know that, Buzz?

MARY

Buzzy's a railroad aficionado. Did you not know?

SONNY

No one told me that! I could have been making fun of him this whole time!

FIGMENT

That's why no one told you.

IMAGINEER #2

I think we have a winner with "Ward Kimball." Thanks, everyone!

MARY

That's it? Is there nothing else you need help with?

IMAGINEER #2

Nope. That's pretty much it.

FIGMENT

Oh. Okay.

They stand in awkward silence, shifting in place. Sonny coughs.

CUT TO BLACK.

END COLD OPEN

ACT I

INT. MAGIC KINGDOM RAILROAD STATION - CONTINUOUS

Sonny, Mary, Buzzy and Figment are still standing in the Railroad station. Buzzy pretends to inspect a nearby string of lights.

IMAGINEER #1

Well, we have to get back to work soon, so...

Excited chatter from the group as they realize they need to leave:

FIGMENT

Oh!

SONNY

Yeah, I guess we should go.

They begin to leave before Mary stops.

MARY

Wait a second. Have either of you seen SMRT-1 the robot anywhere?

SONNY

Oh, yeah. I forgot about that.

IMAGINEER #1

SMRT-1 is mostly behind the scenes, but you may run into him somewhere.

MARY

Interesting. Thanks for that.

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM RAILROAD STATION - CONTINUOUS

The gang leaves the station. There is a huge CROWD outside lining the sides of Main Street. Christmas music plays overhead and merry guests wear Santa hats and festive Mickey ears.

SONNY

So, that's it? We're done?

MARY

Not necessarily. SMRT-1 is still around, and they said he's working behind the scenes. That doesn't line up with history.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

We won't know we're done until the time machine comes back.

The TIME MACHINE comes back and BEEPS pleasantly.

MARY (CONT'D)

Huh.

FIGMENT

Hey, why don't we hang out here for a little while longer? When's the last time we all got to spend a Christmas together?

MARY

Never, for me.

SONNY

Exactly! This can be our first.

MARY

Sonny, you don't even like the holidays!

SONNY

Who told you that?

MARY

No one? I just assumed from your whole...

(GESTURES BROADLY)

...thing.

SONNY

I'm logging that away for a future discussion, but I <u>love</u> the holidays. Not so much when I first moved here, which was... What year is this?

Buzzy inspects the time machine's LED readout.

BUZZY

Nineteen ninety-six.

SONNY

Two years ago! Boy, I bet I'm a homesick wreck right now.

MARY

Aw, poor guy.

SONNY

Poor guy? I'm right here.

BUZZY

Yeah, but... You're not really the same you. You've said it yourself.

FIGMENT

You <u>have</u> changed, Sonny. We're twenty-four years in the past.

SONNY

Ninety-six. God, that must mean my parents are visiting this year. They came to see me for the first few years that I lived here. They can't get enough of the holidays. We didn't celebrate them on Yew Nork, but we got Earth channels on clear nights.

MARY

So your whole view of the holidays is through the lens of Earth television and movies?

SONNY

Of course not. You can't forget about the commercials.

Sonny pats the time machine.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Whaddya say, pal? Can we have some extra time to enjoy the holidays?

The time machine BEEPS, then disappears in a FLASH.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Alright, it worked! Gingerbread houses for all!

Figment and Buzzy cheer.

FIGMENT

I'll draw up the blueprints!

BUZZY

I want a gingerbread poolhouse!

INT. COSMIC RAY'S - DAY

There is a crowd packed tightly inside of Cosmic Ray's. A YOUNG SONNY ECLIPSE sits behind his insane space piano, performing a lounge-singer cover of "Jingle Bells," except he clearly doesn't know the words:

YOUNG SONNY

Dashing through the snow/Dashing through that snow/Oh, just look at all that snow...
(MUTTERS)

The happy crowd doesn't seem to care if he knows the words or not. Sonny and the gang watch, hidden in the back of the crowd.

SONNY

This guy is trash. He's not even doing my signature move.

FIGMENT

What's that?

SONNY

(PROUD)

I hit the white keys, and I sometimes hit the black keys at the same time.

MARY

Mozart, eat your heart out.

SONNY

Hey, I didn't say it was revolutionary.

He continues to watch as the crowd applauds.

YOUNG SONNY

Thank you. Here's a new one for ya!

Young Sonny begins to sing "Jingle Bells" again.

SONNY

I had no idea what I had back then. I would love to spend time with my family during a Christmas like this.

BUZZY

Why don't you switch places?

SONNY

(MUSING)

Switch places, eh?

MARY

Nope. No, no, no.

SONNY

What!

MARY

Let me be the humbug to "bah" this whole thing right now. It is dangerous to interact with your past self.

SONNY

But Figment did it!

MARY

Past Figment didn't know what was happening. He thought Figment was just another Figment.

SONNY

Well, here's a newsflash for you: everyone on my planet looks the same. I know that doesn't jive with your whole "everyone is unique" worldview, but that could be an asset for me here.

MARY

"Jive with my worldview"? This isn't some hippie commune, this is the space-time continuum. We can't destroy that on Christmas.

SONNY

But we could --

MARY

I mean it, Sonny. No hi-jinx.

SONNY

Ugh. You're the worst!

Sonny says that loud enough for everyone in the café to hear, Young Sonny included.

YOUNG SONNY

Folks, I'd like to take this time to remind you that comment cards are the best way to express constructive criticism. Where was I?

He starts singing "Jingle Bells" again.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

The group shuffles past the throng of guests lined up for the annual Christmas parade.

MARY

Sonny, I'm sorry if I disappointed you. We can do some stuff you like while we're here.

FIGMENT

Yeah, like dinner!

MARY

It's nine in the morning.

BUZZY

She's right, it's too early. We can all have some giant cake instead!

SONNY

Where do you see cake?

Buzzy points at CINDERELLA CASTLE, which has been turned into a massive PINK CAKE, complete with candles and icing.

FIGMENT

Wow! That looks tasty.

MARY

When's the last time any of you ate real food?

BUZZY

I had some pretzel I found on the ground a few days ago.

(BEAT)

At least I think it was a pretzel.

MARY

It's like I'm traveling with a pack of raccoons.

FIGMENT

You mean a "nursery" of raccoons. (TO BUZZY)

I had a book about raccoons, until it was stolen by a nursery of them.

MARY

You know, that castle is pretty impressive. How do you think they did it? Did it take long?

Sonny takes his opportunity to slink away quickly and quietly.

BUZZY

Do you think there's a giant person hiding inside it?

EXT. COSMIC RAY'S - DAY

Young Sonny is leaning against a wall on the backside of Cosmic Ray's. He inhales the morning air, then sighs deeply.

SONNY

Hey, you.

YOUNG SONNY

Gah! Dad?

SONNY

What? No! Gross!

YOUNG SONNY

Oh, sorry.

(BEAT)

Wait, "gross"? Do you know my dad?

SONNY

No, but I know what you were implying just now.

He reaches out to shake his younger self's hand.

SONNY (CONT'D)

I am from Yew Nork, though. Nice to meet you.

YOUNG SONNY

You too. I'm Sonny Eclipse.

SONNY

And I'm... Will Smith.

YOUNG SONNY

Like the rapper?

SONNY

Oh, is he a thing already? Man, I'm bad at history.

YOUNG SONNY

What's history got to do with it?

SONNY

You know... Counting years. I'm bad at math, too.

YOUNG SONNY

That makes three of us. Happy holidays, by the way.

SONNY

You don't seem too happy about them.

YOUNG SONNY

Well, it's a little stressful this year. My family is visiting for the first time since I moved to Earth.

SONNY

You're not excited?

YOUNG SONNY

I'm terrified. I thought I could impress them this year, but I almost wish I had a way out.

SONNY

I used to be like you, kid. I would trade it all now for a second chance with my family.

YOUNG SONNY

You wouldn't want mine, would you?

SONNY

(DEVILISH)

Now how would that even work?

YOUNG SONNY

Hey! Maybe you can show my family a nice time while I lay low!

SONNY

Oh, I don't know. I'm with my friends here...

YOUNG SONNY

No one has to know! We could do it like Flerky Flursday, or the terrible version they did on Earth!

SONNY

It seems pretty risky.

YOUNG SONNY

You'd be doing a fellow alien a solid! What's better than that?

SONNY

(FEIGNING DOUBT)

Okay. Fine.

They exchange identical JACKETS.

YOUNG SONNY

What's your group look like?

SONNY

There's a dragon, a weird boy, and a human female.

YOUNG SONNY

They sound like my friends here. Except the human. Good misdirect.

SONNY

Just pretend to know about whatever they say, no matter how weird it sounds.

YOUNG SONNY

Okay. My family should be here in a few minutes. They're --

SONNY

I'm sure I can figure it out. Let's meet up here in a few hours, yeah?

Young Sonny goes for a hug, but Sonny rebuffs and offers a handshake instead.

YOUNG SONNY

Will Smith, you may have just become my personal lord and savior.

SONNY

This is a perfect day to say that.

Young Sonny runs off while Sonny waves and calls out:

SONNY (CONT'D)

The human's name is Mary!

(TO HIMSELF, SMILING)

And she's gonna be so mad.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT I

ACT II

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Mary and Figment are watching the PARADE pass by as Buzzy reads a MAP. Scores of dancers prance past wearing attire inspired by Babes in Toyland. Young Sonny finds the group and attempts to blend in.

BUZZY

There's a Santa hat on the Earffel Tower! We should go see that!

MARY

That does sound festive. What do you think --

Mary turns around and sees Young Sonny. She can tell something is off, but what?

MARY (CONT'D)

Sonny?

YOUNG SONNY

Sonny? No, I'm your friend Will Smith, remember?

MARY

(SQUINTS)

Uh...huh.

FIGMENT

Are we changing our names? I want to be Sandy Duncan. Don't ask why, I just like the way it sounds.

Young Sonny instantly recognizes his friends:

YOUNG SONNY

Hey, it's Figment! And Buzzy!

Figment and Buzzy look at each other suspiciously.

BUZZY

Yes?

YOUNG SONNY

What are you guys doing here?

BUZZY

Watching a creepy parade?

Mary clears her throat.

MARY

Fig? Buzz? May I have a word?

They form a small huddle, with Young Sonny left out.

FIGMENT

This is weird, right?

MARY

Yeah. He clearly switched places with his old self. After I explicitly said not to!

BUZZY

That's Sonny for you. Always doing his own thing. Sometimes it works out, and sometimes you get RompHims.

MARY

Doing his "own thing" could make you fade into nonexistence any second now.

Buzzy GASPS.

BUZZY

I don't think that castle is really cake!

FIGMENT

We shouldn't panic yet. I don't think past Sonny knows.

They all take a peek at Young Sonny, who's gnawing on the sleeve of his jacket.

MARY

You're right. We should play dumb and just go along with it until they switch back.

They break the huddle and return to Young Sonny.

FIGMENT

So, where to now... Will Smith?

YOUNG SONNY

Let's go see that tower with the hat, or whatever.

BUZZY

Sweet!

MARY

A hat on a tower? Aw, c'mon.

FIGMENT

Mary, I'm starting to wonder if you even like the holidays.

MARY

What? No! That's not true!

BUZZY

Are you sure?

MARY

I love the holidays. It's just weird for me this time of year. I've learned to celebrate my own way, and usually hats on towers aren't involved.

FIGMENT

Well, let's find some new traditions.

YOUNG SONNY

Yeah, Marley. Stop being such a grinch, am I right?

Mary shoots him a death stare, shutting him up.

BUZZY

Hey! Let's help Mary find the true meaning of the holidays!

MARY

No. Please. Can't we do something more worthwhile, like nothing?

Figment, Buzzy and Young Sonny begin to chant:

GANG

Holidays! Holidays! Holidays!

Mary rolls her eyes and chants with them.

INT. COSMIC RAY'S - DAY

Sonny wraps up a smooth, jazzy rendition of "Good King Wenceslas" for the crowd. As he finishes, he gets a huge round of applause.

SONNY

Thank ya, folks. And now a little tune called... Holy crap!

He spots his FAMILY entering the café.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Uh, you guys can sing this one. It's to the tune of "Silent Night."

The confused audience begins singing "holy crap" to the tune of "Silent Night" as Sonny meets up with his estranged family. There's dad PERSHEL, mom LUNA, and sister TUTTLE.

SONNY (CONT'D)

My beautiful family!

Sonny goes for a hug.

PERSHEL

Okay, okay. Not so touchy, yeah? I have a pinched nerve.

SONNY

C'mon, pop!

TUTTLE

What's going on with you?

SONNY

Can a Zorkian not be excited to see his family?

LUNA

(SUSPICIOUS)

He can... If he needs something.

SONNY

This isn't about money.

(BEAT)

Or food.

LUNA

Sure. We'll see.

They leave.

SONNY

"We'll see"?

He runs to catch up.

EXT. DISNEY-MGM STUDIOS - DAY

Mary, Figment, Buzzy and Young Sonny leave the SuperStar Television stage.

MARY

Okay. The spirit of Christmas wasn't in the SuperStar Television studio, but we did find the spirit of grasping at straws. I guess we can call it, right?

FIGMENT

You're not getting your way that easily!

MARY

Look, I think we can all agree that there's not some singular meaning of Christmas, right? It has a different meaning for different people.

YOUNG SONNY

What's it mean to you?

MARY

For me? Being with family.

YOUNG SONNY

Gross.

MARY

What's gross about that?

YOUNG SONNY

It's so schmaltzy and saccharine. Some families don't need that kind of pressure.

BUZZY

What about Christmas pressure?

YOUNG SONNY

What about it?

Buzzy shrugs.

MARY

Why don't you like your family? I'm sure they're nicer than you're giving them credit for.

FIGMENT

Yeah, they can't be that bad!

INT. TOMORROWLAND - DAY

Sonny trudges behind his family as they talk about him.

LUNA

Sonny, you should get a job doing something else. I don't think "lounge singer" is your wheelhouse.

PERSHEL

What's his wheelhouse? Wearing clothes that don't fit?

LUNA

Pershel!

TUTTLE

He's right. You look like you stole that jacket from a beauty pageant for babies.

The family laughs. He looks down meekly at his tiny purple jacket.

SONNY

Could we talk about something else?

PERSHEL

I'm starving. What time is lunch?

SONNY

Lunch?

PERSHEL

Yeah. I know you artist types aren't used to five square meals, but papa's gotta eat.

TUTTLE

Sonny, how are things with that six-eyed girl? Will she be there?

SONNY

We broke up years ago.

LUNA

You were just talking about her the last time we visited!

PERSHEL

What'd you do wrong?

Pershel chuckles to himself as Sonny grimaces. Pershel puts Sonny in a playful headlock.

PERSHEL (CONT'D)

Hey, chin up! At least one of them, anyway.

He laughs again as he tousles Sonny's hair.

INT. MAELSTROM - DAY

Mary, Buzzy, Figment and Young Sonny are on a VIKING SHIP swaying in a lightning storm.

MARY

This seems like a lot of turbulence!

BUZZY

Christmas turbulence!

MARY

You can't just put "Christmas" in front of something to make it jolly.

As they approach a turn, a large TROLL pokes his head out of the ground.

TROLL

What's this? How dare you come this way!

FIGMENT

Excuse me. We're looking for the spirit of Christmas.

TROLL

You mean "Julaften."

FIGMENT

Sure. Any idea where that could be? Like a Santa Claus somewhere?

TROLL

You mean a "julenisse"?

BUZZY

Is he speaking backwards?

TROLL

No, but you're going backwards!

The ship slides in reverse, sending the gang careening towards an open cave mouth.

BUZZY

(SCREAMING)

Herregud!

CUT TO:

EXT. 50'S PRIME TIME CAFE - DAY

Sonny and his family approach the kitschy entrance to the Café. Sonny walks to the HOST at the check-in station.

SONNY

Hi. Do you have any open tables?

HOST

Unfortunately not. Christmas Day is our second-busiest day of the year for eaters.

SONNY

What's the first?

HOST

October tenth. It doesn't make much sense, does it? But it's without fail every year. Weird, right?

SONNY

Sure. Well, thanks for your help.

Sonny walks back to his family.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Uh... They're all booked up.

LUNA

All booked up? I thought you had this planned out.

TUTTLE

Where are your friends supposed to eat?

SONNY

Friends?

PERSHEL

You told us we'd be eating with your friends. The weird one, and the other weird one.

SONNY

That doesn't sound right at all. Are you sure you heard me correctly?

PERSHEL

What's that?

TUTTLE

Yes. We're sure.

SONNY

(SIGHS)

I'll be right back.

He steps away and finds a nearby bank of PAYPHONES. He picks up the receiver on one and dials.

EXT. SPACE MOUNTAIN - DAY

Buzzy is seated next to a payphone by the exit to Space Mountain. The phone RINGS, and he answers.

BUZZY

Talk to me.

SONNY (V.O.)

Buzzy?

BUZZY

Sonny? How'd you know I was here?

SONNY (V.O.)

I didn't. I've just been dialing random numbers. I think I got the President at one point. Where's Fig?

BUZZY

He's in Space Mountain, looking for the spirit of Christmas.

SONNY

What? Never mind. Listen, I made a mistake. I switched places with my younger self.

BUZZY

Yeah, everyone knows. He called me "Muzzy" and asked if I knew French. We haven't told him we know yet.

SONNY

Good. I'll be back soon. I just need to know something. Do you remember having lunch with me on this day in nineteen ninety-six?

BUZZY

No. I was watching movies at the MuppetVision theater. I had an arm wrestling match with Sweetums and beat him silly.

SONNY

I can't tell if you're being serious.

BUZZY

(SLY) Can't you?

EXT. 50'S PRIME TIME CAFE - CONTINUOUS

Sonny squints.

SONNY

No?

He turns around and looks for his family: they're gone.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Crud. I should find my family. Don't tell anyone we talked, okay?

BUZZY (V.O.)

It's our secret. Our <u>Christmas</u> secr-

Sonny hangs up and re-approaches the check-in Host.

SONNY

Excuse me. Did you happen to see where my family went?

HOST

Oh, yes! They went with SMRT-1 to our private dining room. He said he had something special cooked up for you all.

Sonny's eyes widen.

SONNY

Oh, no.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT II

ACT III

INT. 50'S PRIME TIME CAFE - DAY

Sonny rushes past the packed interior of the 50's Prime Time Café, a loving homage to the dining rooms and kitchens of black & white sitcoms. As he runs, a WAITRESS calls out:

WAITRESS

No running in the kitchen, young man!

SONNY

But!

She lowers her glasses and stares at him.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Fine.

He speed-walks through the restaurant. He finally reaches a door towards the back, and hears SCREAMS inside. He takes a step back, then charges the door and kicks it open.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Don't you hurt them!

INT. 50'S PRIME TIME CAFE - PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sonny takes a look around. His family is laughing, seated at a table with YOUNG FIGMENT and YOUNG BUZZY. SMRT-1 is wearing a chef's toque and holding a platter of SUSHI.

SMRT-1

I can't make any promises, Sonny. They're kind of dead already.

One of the pieces of sushi jumps up.

SMRT-1 (CONT'D)

Oops. Except that one.

It jumps off the tray and hops away, out of the dining room.

PERSHEL

Dang. That's the one I wanted.

SONNY

What's going on? What are you doing in here with...him?

SMRT-1

Um, ouch.

YOUNG FIGMENT

You planned this whole thing.

SONNY

I planned nothing! I am not a planner!

YOUNG BUZZY

That outfit seems to agree.

The room laughs.

SONNY

Stop talking about my outfit! Mom, dad, Tuttle, we have to leave. This...thing can't be trusted!

SMRT-1

Sonny, are you okay? I've never seen you this upset.

SONNY

Oh, is that so? Because we're such good friends?

SMRT-1

Well, we have been spending the holidays together as friends for a two years now.

SONNY

Liar!

YOUNG FIGMENT

(SENSING TENSION)

Hey, Eclipse family. Why don't Buzzy and I take you outside while Sonny sorts this out?

They all rise from their seats and shuffle outside, leaving Sonny and SMRT-1 alone.

SONNY

What's your game?

SMRT-1

I don't want to hurt you, Sonny. Or your family. I just need the time machine.

SONNY

Aha!

(BEAT)

Wait, what?

SMRT-1

The time machine is the reason I'm doing any of this. Without it, nothing will work out. I need you to trust me.

SONNY

Why should I trust you?

SMRT-1

Think about it. Why would I save your friends from the Joe Fowler? Do you really think I'm that bad?

SONNY

I...thought I did. Yes! Yes, I do! You want to reshape the future to your own specifications. I can't let that happen!

SMRT-1

Because the future has been so kind to you? I know the old Sonny now. We're actually good friends. The four of us hang out all the time, and every year we watch *The Grinch* together. Your past self wanted to show your family how well-adjusted you've become.

SONNY

Don't talk about me that way!

SMRT-1

Could it occur to you that maybe I know your past self better than you do? You've changed in this time, Eclipse. Why don't you change in yours?

Sonny thinks about this.

SONNY

Maybe when I get back. Stay away from my family and friends.

He kicks the door back open.

WAITRESS

No kicking doors!

Sonny leaves. SMRT-1 sighs. He sets the sushi tray down, and several more pieces jump away.

SMRT-1

What is up with these fish?

EXT. 50'S PRIME TIME CAFE - DAY

Young Figment is showing Sonny's family a BASEBALL CAP.

YOUNG FIGMENT

You wear it on your head!

Figment puts the hat on forwards and backwards. The family "oohs" and "aahs" until Luna spots Sonny.

LUNA

Sonny? Can we go back inside yet?

SONNY

No! Do not go back in there. That robot is a sociopath, and not the fun kind.

YOUNG FIGMENT

Sonny, do we need to talk about this?

SONNY

We will. Just trust me, okay? Don't hang out with him. He's a bad egg.

PERSHEL

(WEAK)

Oh, that makes me so hungry.

YOUNG BUZZY

Sonny, why don't we take your family to a different place?

SONNY

Sure. You guys find something that sounds good, and I'll catch up with you later.

He starts to walk away.

PERSHEL

Yeesh. Someone's jealous.

Sonny stops, and grits his teeth.

SONNY

If you all love that robot so much, why'd you stop coming back?

TUTTLE

Sonny, you're not making sense.

SONNY

I know!

He storms off.

INT. BROWN DERBY - DAY

Sonny sits alone in the Brown Derby, a faithful recreation of the classic Hollywood eatery. Christmas lights twinkle overhead as a piano softly plays "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

SONNY

Bartender? Water on the rocks, please.

BARTENDER

Would you like the top-shelf, sir?

SONNY

I'll stick with the sink stuff, thank you.

He's handed a tall glass of ice water, which he casually sips until Young Sonny sits next to him. Neither look at each other.

SONNY (CONT'D)

How did you find me?

YOUNG SONNY

Buzzy told me you called.

SONNY

Figures. That's probably payback for me spoiling *Empire*.

YOUNG SONNY

You spoiled the best Star Wars?

SONNY

I wasn't talking about Star Wars.

YOUNG SONNY

Well, he didn't tell anyone else. He was just worried about you.

SONNY

Well, at least someone around here is. What have you all been up to?

YOUNG SONNY

Figment wanted to find the spirit of Christmas. I don't know how close they are, but it's looking like they're going to settle for "candy canes."

SONNY

Wonderful.

YOUNG SONNY

How's my family?

SONNY

Mean.

YOUNG SONNY

Yeah, I know.

SONNY

I forgot that the reason they stopped coming was because I told them to. Oh, and you making big lunch plans with them and SMRT-1? Not cool. I hate storming out of restaurants.

YOUNG SONNY

Were our friends mad?

SONNY

If you mean "Figment and Buzzy," then no. The only thing that upsets them is losing at Bop-It.

He takes another sip of water.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Why didn't you tell me you were friends with SMRT-1?

YOUNG SONNY

Was I supposed to?

SONNY

I was never friends with him. He turned out to be a lunatic and he's trying to destroy our lives.

YOUNG SONNY

Well, maybe if I'm friends with him now, he'll change his mind.

SONNY

That's not how time travel works.

YOUNG SONNY

Well, by the standard rules of time travel, we shouldn't be talking to each other either, right?

Sonny thinks about this. Mary sits next to them.

MARY

What's going on, fellas?

YOUNG SONNY

Mary, this is my friend, Sonny Eclipse.

SONNY

You can drop the act.

YOUNG SONNY

Really?

MARY

Yeah, we knew what was going on as soon as we looked at you. You're a pretty good actor, though.

YOUNG SONNY

Like "Will Smith" good?

MARY

Eh.

YOUNG SONNY

You think maybe I have a future in acting?

SONNY

Coming from someone who <u>is</u> your future, I'd say anything is possible.

YOUNG SONNY

(SIGHS)

Maybe. I just wish it was possible to enjoy being with my family.

SONNY

The one who had trouble today was me. But you're carving out something different than my future. I guess we can thank SMRT-1 for that, at least.

YOUNG SONNY

It doesn't seem that bad for you, either. You still have good friends, like Mary.

Mary smiles.

YOUNG SONNY (CONT'D)

And Figment and Buzzy are still around.

They turn around to see Figment and Buzzy having a sword fight with BREADSTICKS.

SONNY

You should go back. Spend the time you have now with our family.

YOUNG SONNY

What about you? Don't you want to say goodbye to them?

SONNY

If I'm going to be with them, it should be in my time. Not when I'm the same age as my own dad. The memories are nice, but I have my own life now.

Young Sonny hops off his stool and offers a handshake to Sonny. Sonny hugs him instead.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Stay off of Twitter, don't trust Michael Iceberg and do not hang out with SMRT-1 anymore. I know it doesn't make much sense now, but just trust me on those, okay?

YOUNG SONNY

Okay.

SONNY

Good. Get out of here. Give our family a hug. Except Tuttle.

Young Sonny leaves. Mary watches Sonny for a moment before patting him on the back.

EXT. OSBORNE FAMILY LIGHTS - NIGHT

Sonny, Mary, Figment and Buzzy walk beneath the millions of LIGHTS lining MGM Studios' Streets of America. Buzzy practices balancing a candy cane on his nose while he walks.

MARY

What you did back there was very mature.

SONNY

I've grown these last few days, Mary. I've had every chance to take credit for the Macarena and I threw it away.

He turns to the group.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Did you all help Mary find the true meaning of Christmas?

MARY

For the last time, I already knew it.

They stop walking and watch from a distance as Young Sonny meets up with his family and hugs them. They walk away together, with Pershel's arm around him.

MARY (CONT'D)

I think the old you found it, though.

Sonny smiles.

SONNY

As much as I miss my folks, it's good to have a family here now. At least I know you all aren't going anywhere.

CUT TO:

INT. MUPPET-VISION THEATER - NIGHT

Sonny, Figment, Mary and Buzzy sit in the otherwise empty Muppet-Vision theater and watch *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* projected onto the screen.

Mary dozes off with her head on Sonny's shoulder. Sonny looks at Figment and Buzzy, who are also asleep, then looks back to Mary, who has vanished into thin air. He sighs, and watches the show alone.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT III

STINGER

EXT. MUPPET-VISION THEATER - NIGHT

Sonny walks a sleepy Figment and Buzzy outside, where the time machine is waiting.

FIGMENT

Where's Mary?

SONNY

She fell asleep. We'll catch up to her wherever the machine takes us next.

He carefully helps Figment and Buzzy onto the platform.

BUZZY

Do you think she had a good Christmas?

SONNY

I definitely think she had a memorable one.

Sonny hops on the platform and pats the control panel.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Thanks for letting us have this one, pal.

After he pats it, he notices some stray WIRES poking out from the interface.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Here. I owe you a favor.

He yanks the wires out, causing a great surge of SOUND AND LIGHT to emanate from the panel. The Time Machine speaks...with the voice of SMRT-1.

TIME MACHINE

It's about time!

Sonny screams.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW

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

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