

THE GREATEST SHOW NEVER

Written by

Joaquin Parada

(415) 686-7558
joaquinparada95@gmail.com

ELROY
You didn't!

GODFREID
I did!

ELROY
(beat)
... Oh no you didn't...

GODFREID
(angry/frustrated)
Yes I did, Elroy! I'm holding the
key right here!

ELROY
... I suppose you're right. Well
either way, we can't, I won't let
you. They said the idol inside the
chamber was cursed...

GODFREID
I'm wearing my anti-curse socks.

ELROY
Anti-curse...? Look forget it,
we're not going in, I'm going to
tell the natives right now I had
nothing to do with this.

Elroy starts back to the door. With a crazed look in his eye,
Godfreid mutters under his breath:

GODFREID
I'm sorry old friend, but I can't
let you do that.

Godfreid throws himself at Elroy, knocking him to the ground.
He kicks him once. Twice. Beat. He realizes what he's done:

GODFREID (CONT'D)
Oh Elroy...

We see Elroy knocked out, with a dumb look on his face.
Godfriend strokes his cheek, full of regret.

GODFREID (CONT'D)
I'll make sure my ghost writer
doesn't bad-talk you in my memoirs.

Godfreid moves to the pedestal and carefully places the
remote into the pedestal dock. There's a deep rumble and
secret passage opens up. A golden glow comes from within.

Godfreid's jaw drops, and he approaches, nerve-wracked.

GODFREID (CONT'D)

The legends were true...

We see it: The GOLDEN TV SET (GTV). An old antenna TV set with knobs & dials, on a rolling stand, all gold lacquered.

GODFREID (CONT'D)

It's... Beautiful...

His trembling hand stretches out to turn it on. The GTV flickers to life as we ANGLE IN on the screen.

TITLES: "The Greatest Show Never".

The screen cuts away to static for a beat, then:

2. INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

WENDELL (M-20/30s), an average joe type, scans over the shelves of products. He grabs insect spray, moves to the checkout. An upbeat hipster Cashier (F-20s), waves him over.

WENDELL

Just this today... Got ants in my kitchen right now, happens every spring.

CASHIER

Right on... Well I don't know if they're gonna like this stuff, it's supposed to kill them.

WENDELL

Yeah, I know. That's what I'm hoping.

CASHIER

Oh my bad, I didn't know. I thought maybe they were helping out.

WENDELL

Helping out with what?

CASHIER

The cooking maybe? You said they were in the kitchen.

WENDELL

They're ants! They want my food! I tried all the sprays I had in the house, none of them are getting rid of the damn things.

CASHIER

Ohhhhh, so you got *bad* ants then.

WENDELL

Are there were good ants?

CASHIER

Don't know man, I've actually never seen an ant, only smelled them.... But if even this stuff doesn't work... I know someone.

The Cashier hands Wendell a business card:

WENDELL

Auntie Antonia's Ant
Antagonists...? Well I'll see how the spray works first.

3. INT. WENDELL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Wendell's holding the spray bottle, there's ants all over the place. He sprays around. Beat. Wendell looks right at us.

WENDELL

It didn't work.

4. INT. WENDELL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Wendell's got the business card in hand, phone to his ear.

WENDELL

Hi, my name's Wendell Anthouse and I've got ants in the house. I've got nowhere left to turn, and I heard you were the one to call.

We hear a gravelly voice on the other end:

ANTONIA

Yeah that's me. Let me guess, Live Antwood Street? North of 17th?

WENDELL

Yeah, how'd you know?

ANTONIA

I been tracking these ants for years. They been pulling jobs from north of 17th all the way down to south of 17th. Tell you more when I see you in the AM.

WENDELL

Wait! I didn't tell you what number my place was.

ANTONIA

I'll find you.

Click. Wendell puts the phone down. Beat. In the window behind him, we see ANTONIA, (F), appear. She taps the glass, motions to the door. Wendell goes to the door, opens it.

WENDELL

Thanks for getting here so fast!

ANTONIA

Don't thank me yet. You still got ants, don't you?

WENDELL

This way.

5. INT. WENDELL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Wendell and Antonia enter, there's ants all over.

ANTONIA

Christ... I haven't seen this many ants since the Wall came down. Look, this is gonna be a tough one. Why don't you go upstairs and rest, I'll figure this out.

Wendell nods, rushes out. We hear the bedroom door close. Suddenly, Antonia drops to a knee and speaks to the ants:

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

(British accent)

Right then, the coast is clear, what have you learned so far.

ANTS

He keeps the mayo was past due. Also, he's a Soviet sleeper cell.