Important Note: The following takes place in a stylized version of Walt Disney World and 'over a century of Magic starring as their collective selves,' and its use at this time is considered satire under the United States Fair Use Laws. The Walt Disney Company has not authorized nor endorsed this work. Its existence on the new is so that said company can contact me in the event that they would want to.

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The pilot starts almost like a traditional Disney Short, only with Mickey and Oswald's faces gracing the initial frame. The introduction panels go through some of the opening credits and stop on a panel with this:

# The New Disney Brothers Mickey Mouse and Oswald the Lucky Rabbit Present this Feature Presentation.

The panel fades out and fades back into

Magic Kingdom—Main Street USA—External Night

The camera starts on the train bridge in front of the park and pans over.

Caption: Thirty Days from Now.

As the camera moves up Main Street a sign of a fight can be heard.

Mickey

Let me go, Oz! That guy's gonna kill him!

Oswald

Can't let you do it, Mick, you're too important.

The camera pans to Oswald holding Mickey back.

Oswald

I've seen a lot of scenes like this. Heck, I've been in a fight like this, and I wished I did it like him.

The camera pans away to see a slender man with a business suit and shades holding a broom.

Oswald

This is Johnny's fight!

The camera rotates around the bis suit and stops over his shoulder, to find Johnny facing him with a keyblade.

Johnny

A broom. How typical. I bet you swat Mickey with that just for kicks.

The bis suit growls and swings with his broom.

Johnny leaps out of the way of the downward swing and backflips three paces back, he then throws his keyblade in a Strike Raid, which connects the suit on the chin. A tooth flies out.

Johnny

Yeah! I bet you didn't expect a cartoon character to do that, don't it? (Catches the Keyblade as it returns to him.)

Bis Suit

You Insubordinate RAT!

(Spits out spittle mixed with blood)
I'll make you regret not showing me respect!

The Bis Suit makes some more wide swings with the broom for Johnny to leap over.

Johnny

How can I respect (leap) someone who just comes out of the blue (leap) and just says that he's the boss of me? (leap)

Johnny bounds to a light pole, wall runs up the pole, springboards off the top and delivers a tornado kick to the Bis Suits head.

Johnny

Especially with your animated record--

The Bis Suit takes one more swing with the broom and connects.

Johnny is sent flying down Main street, rolling at the landing to the concrete and sliding on three point to a stop. A red line accompanies him.

Johnny chuckles as he stands up, blood tricking down one side of his face.

Johnny

Oh, that's all right. I'm not afraid to bleed for my dreams. What about you?

The camera cuts to a close up of Johnny's face, the streak of blood looking like war paint.

What would you bleed for?

Cut to Black

## Title Frame:

# The Disney Bros. Present The Ballad of Johnny Briz.

A pause as the caption cuts out, and a second one fades in and out

Caption: Now

FADE IN

# EXT. Aerial View Day

The Aerial View is of some office buildings 'on property.' On Property being within Walt Disney World. This is part of the corporate headquarters for The Walt Disney Company.

The story starts with Amber Merichello's introduction.

#### AMBER

(v.o.)

My name's Amber Merichello. I've been a Disney fan for most of my life. In fact, to be honest, I've been an avid cartoon fan in general. It's been my dream to be an animator and work on the next blockbuster feature.

(beat)

Been preparing for the animation career as well. Been an art major in High School and got into one of those graphic design and animation tech schools right after I graduated. And since I live in the Orlando area, with all these major studios having branches here, I thought I'd be a shoe in for the major players.

(V.O.)

...but that was before the studios started to put their collective heads up their butts.

Cut to

## Int. Office

Amber is sitting in the office of the bis suit from the previous scene; Ian Flanders--Executive Vice President of Talent Relations. She's pretending to listen to an executive talking long and eloquent about the animation industry. There was some words heard, 'Marketing,' 'Educational Value,' 'Merchandising,' and other business terms, but the rest was just mere drivel to the point where

Simlish is used as the exec's voice.

Finally, Amber could take no more and pounded on the desk.

#### Amber

You're telling me absolutely nothing! Sir, you might know how to run a business, but you know butkis about making a cartoon. It's no wonder why everything on the networks is nothing but utter crap.

Ian Flanders, in his cookie cutter-like businesss suit and tie—almost drab in comparison to Amber's Business Casual attire—almost looks surprised by her reaction.

#### Ian Flanders

Young lady, you by now should know how the industry works. Children love cartoons and everything about them. That's why we make them that cater to our common demographic.

#### Amber

Your common demographic is a bunch of morons so stupid, special ed students are giving them the "Dee Dee Dee." Almost everything you've been putting out are cheap computer graphics that someone would whip up after a crash course in Flash and a triple espresso. They are all bad. They've been bad since the 80s, when people actually had to make decent art.

#### Ian Flanders

Are you aware how much animators cost? And it's not like they're in decent demand.

#### Amber

The public want to see good cartoons! They want to see cartoons that their grandparents seen in the classic time. They want to see wonder and magic and humor. Stuff that your company—of all industries—has founded on!

Ian Flanders actually looks annoyed. The two started to argue. The volume fades as Amber continues her introduction.

#### Amber

(v.o.)

It's almost like I'm talking in a foreign tongue. I just couldn't get to that jerk. What TV Tropes say about this Animation Ghetto is too true for some of those running the animation studios. Not even Disney's immune to such idiots. To people like Ian Flanders, The best one's about a sickly-yellow skinned family that's as dysfunctional as all get out. And don't get me started about that sponge living in the sea.

The audio fades back into the argument.

#### Amber

A Zombie Biker? In a Romance Flick? Excuse me? *That* is your top notch project for the year? Was Twilight too smart for you that you have to make a collage with it and George Romero?

#### Ian Flanders

That series will make the company billions.

Amber's forehead nearly blew a vessel on the word 'series.' As she stood half-stunned half-irate, a squeaky falsetto voice from behind.

Squeaky Falsetto Voice

Something wrong?

#### Ian Flanders

No, nothing's wrong, Mickey. This woman here's leaving anyway. She's just came in here and complained about how our children's line is operating as if she knew how to run a century-old company. Humph. If she could dress less flashy and more business like, she might just get a point across.

(he switched to a whisper but it was still a bit too loud.)

Maybe with a shorter skirt.

Cut to Mickey Mouse in his tuxedo, standing next to Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, in a Blue-panted version.

Amber

(v.o.)

There's the bosses I always wanted to look for. If you don't know who the guy on the right is, go sue your parents. You've been deprived. The rabbit to Mickey's left is Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, Mickey's older brother. I'm glad that Bob Iger got him back.

(beat)

And in about half a second, they're going to see me do something rather unladylike. Now!

There was an audible crunch, and Mickey winces as Amber knees Ian between the legs behind the camera.

Oswald just raises his arms in a field goal football signal.

Oswald

The kick is up, it's good!

Mickey

Oswald!

Amber turned around to see the two and couldn't blush enough. She was literary caught red kneed. While Ian just squeaked on the floor.

Mickey

(Holds out his hand)

Amber Merichello, my up and coming Mousketter! I hope you didn't hurt your knee on his absent cup, huh-ha. Best you get outta there before you do any...real damage.

Mickey takes her by the hand and into the hall. Meanwhile Oswald just humps and looks over to the still-prone Ian. During the next conversation, he pulls out an ice bag and a bottle of Icy Hot (shown in close view) from around the corner. He's pouring the Icy Hot into the ice while Amber and Mickey talk.

Mickey

"Amber, I gotta apologize to you."

AMBER

(surprised)

"You're apologizing? I'm the one who kicked someone between the legs."

Mickey

"If you didn't do it, I would've. What he told me was uncalled for."

(Looks behind him to Oswald)

"And I'm sure that he'll get a much fitting consequence for such a

comment."

Oswald just smiles and tosses the rigged ice bag into the office room.

Amber

"Oh... Mickey, that wasn't your fault. He should be the one apologizing, not you."

Mickey

(sighs)

"Those kinda fellas, like him, they're getting away with more and more these days. I've seen the TV Tropes article on this Animation Age Ghetto, and they're all just mired in it. I can't find another character here who's into that My Little Pony show who's running circles around everyone here, and all they're talking about is this Zombie Twilight wanna be, ugh! How are we going to work that into the parks?"

Suddenly an ear-shattering blood-curdling scream echos through the walls.

Oswald

Heh, maybe we can put that in the parks.

Amber couldn't keep herself from giggling.

Mickey

At least not everyone's like that. Bob Iger, first thing he did was get Oswald back from Universal and put him in a video game. Add the Internet and he finds himself back in the real with with a heart of his own. So my older brother can just punk corporate executives right and left.

Oswald

Humph! You could have done that yourself, Mick. Just because of your squeeky clean image.

Mickey

And mess up all your fun, Big Brother? I'm just glad you're not punking me.

Oswald

All in good time, Mouse.

(Moves over to Amber)

I'll walk you to your car, ma'am. You might need protection from another one of those chauvinistic pencil pushers.

Amber

Thanks, but I take the light rail to Celebration.

Oswald

I'll walk you to the station then, geez.

Mickey just rolled his eyes at his older brother when a tinny version of 'Mickey Mouse March' is heard. It was his cel phone, which he picks up.

Mickey

Huh-ha! Exec Punters. We Punt Execs.

Cut to

The sun has set to the comparatively non-descript (There is a "Walt Disney Comapny-Corporate Headquarters Florida" lit sign on it) building where Amber and Oswald walks up to a nearby light rail station.

[Amber catches up on Oswald, wondering how's life outside of the Wasteland]

Amber

"Yeah."

(she sighs)

How could every one of the major players in animation--especially Disney and Warner—get everything all wacko? If it wasn't the all computerized-and-asinine graphics, it's that talking down bit that thinks all animation is strictly for kids. It's like I was just talking to children myself.

[Oswald responds]

**Amber** 

For some odd reason, I remembered how Uncle Walt found Mickey Mouse, he was on a train...well, a cross country train, not the light rails I'm accustomed to. He had his heart broken by some jerk off lawyer who stole you, Oswald. He probably saw that first star in the evening and wished for something to turn his career...and his life around. He had a flash of insight that he let jump from his brain to a sheet of paper, and that's how Mickey Mouse is created.

(Amber walks up to the rail train, turns around, and looks at Oswald)

I wish there was something like that for me...

And with that, the doors close, and the train rolls away.

Oswald was about to mull over what Amber said when he turned around.

And nearly got bowled over by Mickey.

Oswald

Ow! Mick! What the heck?

Mickey

Sorry, Oz. We've got trouble. There's an incident in Experiment 223, come with me.

Oswald follows Mickey down the parking lot.

Oswald

223, which one is that? Some of those numbers just mush into one to me.

Mickey

It's the grow and shrink ray we're testing on the park's props.

Oswald runs up ahead toward Mickey's iconic red two-seat convertible and slides across the hood, Dukes of Hazard style.

Mickey

Must you do that?

Oswald

Have to. I've got over eighty years of pestering my kid brother to catch up on.

Mickey groans as he slides into the driver's seat.

Oswald

So what happened? One of the scientists shrunk themselves to bit size and got into someone's coffee as another...

#### Mickey

You're close, Oz. From what I heard a little critter got hit by it. Let me get back on the phone.

Mickey takes his iPhone and plugs it into a jack on the car's dashboard. A light pops up on the "MOUSKESTAR" panel under the rear view camera and the scientists are heard.

#### Mickey

I'm back with Ozzy, Leon. What's the situation.

The scientist in question is Leon Merichello, but he's only heard in voice and as such isn't shown yet.

### Scientist #1 (Leon Merichello)

He looks like a common field mouse, but the beam made him about your size, Mickey. And man, is he giving us a run for his money. Come Back Here!

There was plenty of yelling and crashing over the speakers.

#### Oswald

Whoever he is he sure knows how to scamper. Since he's not one of my kids, what does he look like?

#### Scientist #1

From what we could tell: young male, gray fur with random brown patches. I can't really describe it well to you; he looks like something out of a Don Bluth film.

Oswald looks at Mickey.

#### Mickey

I'll explain Don Bluth to ya later. From what I've remember, he's going to tucker out in a bit. Once we get to him, I'm sure I'll be able to...

The crashing grows louder.

The car was following the light rail tracks on the way to the experiment's lab, which is one of the off-to-the-side facilities in the Disney World property. Under first glance, it seems that this is where they put all the used and discarded rides, attractions, props, and what else. It has a melancholic and nostalgic atmosphere, which was not lost on Amber, who was looking at that to get her eyes away from a poster about that Zombie Romance flick.

#### Scientist #1

Hold on, guys. Get him, get him to head over towards the—! No, not that way! Work together, you idiots! Don't disturb the energy vials! Corral that rodent in... crap!

The next crash was loud enough to be heard through the open air. At this time the train pulled at an otherwise empty "Imagineering" Station, which is near not only the salvage yard, but the various buildings like the one Mickey and Oswald was talking to. As a door opens, Amber sees a puff of smoke by one of those buildings.

#### Scientist #1

Sorry Mickey, The mouse got away! One of the lab hands sent him flying out of the building!

A second later, Mickey and Oswald saw something sail over their heads. They both were surprised at what they saw.

Mickey

I think I found him. I'll take it form here.

Mickey pulled the iPhone off the jack and handed it to Oswald. He then peeled over to the train station.

Mickey

Call the paramedics to meet us at the Imagineering station. We might need Fanny on this.

(He shouts out to Amber)

AMBER! Come over here with the guy!

Amber found herself stumbling out of the train and into the platform, where she fell down to her knees.

**Amber** 

Uuugh! That smarted...what the...

Amber looks down in surprise to see who knocked her down. It was Johnny, half naked--The view was from the waist up, showing two of his three spots--one on the left shoulder and one around his right side (The third one is on his left hip, but is unseen)--on a two foot five frame. His eyes were closed and he was gulping in air. He looked exhausted. Drained. He opens his eyes to see who caught him.

The camera switches to Johnny's point of view as he see's Amber's face with two black blurs coming up to him, the rest of the scene begins to blur and then fade to black.

Oswald

(v.o.)

You just *had* to put him in that red pants of yours. The yellow shows too?

Mickey

(v.o.)

Oswald, the poor guy was practically naked! I had to cover him up with something. Though I had to admit, the gloves are a nice touch.

Oswald

(v.o.)

And you always keep a spare set of clothes in the trunk of your car. And don't say...

Mickey

(v.o.)

...you should always have clean underwear in case you ever get into an accident.

Oswald

(v.o., groans)

The camera fades back in and focuses to show...

## Int Nurse Station

The room was a combination of Disney-related posters and important medical signage, not to mention the occasional anti-drug and safety pamphlet.

The mouse finds himself on a cot lined with a sheet of paper with a pillow for his head. He tried to roll over, revealing a pair of red shorts with white buttons, yellow foot covers, and white gloves.

He hears voices from outside of his field of vision.

Amber

. "D-do you think he'll be okay, Mickey?"

mickey

Aw, sure he will, Amber. I'll bet that young fella's got more kick in 'im than he's willing to let on. He'll be back on his feet in no time."

The field mouse sits up, and scratches his head. He found a tube stuck in his other arm and he follows it up to a drip bag Labled "Emergency Plasma—Effective for Universal Transfusions." There was a breather mask over his mouth which he pulls at.

He hears a gasp and he sees the human girl who caught him come into the room and toward him.

amber

Oh, you're awake? Easy there, little fella.

The field mouse saw a shorter black mouse, just about his size, walk up behind this woman.

Mickey

See? What'da'ya tell ya, he's up and about already.

Field Mouse

Wha...where am I?

Amber leans back and blinks.

Amber

He can talk?

The field mouse gave a weak smile.

Field Mouse

So can you, although I doubt that's a surprise. You're not gonna...

Amber

It's okay, it's okay. I'm not gonna hurt you. You had quite a spill there. We took you to...

(she turns to Mickey and whispers)

I don't think I should say 'doctor' to him.

Mickey moves up to the cot.

Mickey

I'll talk to him.

The field mouse's face almost lit up as he saw who wanted to talk to him.

Field mouse

M-Mickey Mouse?

Mickey

As always pal. Huh-hah. Found ya on the train nearly passed out. I was worried about ya, er, I don't think I got your name.

Field mouse (Johnny briz)

Johnny. Johnny Briz. A...Am I in Heaven?"

Mickey

Hmmm. Let's see now.

(Holds Johnny's wrist)

Pulse, check.

(He then gave Johnny's knee a tap and saw the connected foot twitch.)

Reflexes, check.

(He then moved up to Johnny's head and looked into his eyes.)

Eyes, check.

(He sniffed)

Cheese breath, check. Nah, yer pretty much alive. You think ya can tell me what happened to ya?

Johnny closed his eyes, shook his head, and tried to remember.

Johnny briz

Everythin's a blur. I remember falling into some beam, and the next thing I...

Johnny starts feeling dizzy, his head dips a little.

Amber takes a hold of Johnny and sets him back to the cot.

Mickey

(Places an hand on Johnny's shoulder)

Take it easy there, pal. You'll be a bit like that for a while, but with some friends of mine, I'm sure you'll pull through. We'll talk later, when you get your strength back. Okay?

Johnny let out a squeak as he settled back down.

Amber

You think I can stay with him for a while.

Mickey

Sure thing. Fanny might need some help. Ah, here she is.

A female classic (Note: by Classic, I mean an old-school black and white cartoon character. They can be skintoned to denote some modernization. They all have simpler black on white eyes (not the pie-eyed) and wear gloves.) rabbit Toon with shoulder-length hair that creates a tuft between her long rabbit ears. She wears a blouse, skirt, and a doctor's jacket. She is Dr. Francie "Fanny" Cottontail.

Francie

I heard that our little fuzzy face is up. That boy gave me a bit of a scare.

Mickey

He's right here, Doctor.

Francie pats Johnny on the forehead and checks his pulse.

Francie

There, there, cutie. Let me check up something. Johnny, right? Johnny nods.

Francie

I'm Francie, or Fanny to my friends. I've been pulling you through for some time now and from the looks of things I'm doing a good job. For once.

Francie checks Johnny's drip bag and slips the oxygen mask back on him. She then finds an blood oxygen sensor and clips it on his ear.

Mickey

Is he going to be okay?

Francie

(To Mickey)

As long as he doesn't just hop off this bed, do cartwheels in the halls and then do the Boston Marathon.

(To Johnny)

You remember that beam that hit ya, fuzzy face?

Johnny

(nods)

Y..yeah...a little...ev'rything was a fog then.

Francie

Well, when it increased your size to our height, it didn't put into account the number of red blood cells you'll be needing. You were probably running on pure adrenaline for a few minutes giving those moron humans in lab coasts the slip, and then you just plopped down and fainted. Good thing Amber here picked you up.

Johnny looks over to Amber who waves at him. He gives her a wry smile.

Johnny

Those were humans? I thought they shrunk.

Francie chuckles at that as she looks at the device clipped on Johnny's ear. She takes it off.

Francie

I'm glad she found you because you would've been in trouble in that condition. Fortunately we have this synthetic plasma here that works like blood until your bone marrow can pick up the slack. Which it's beginning to do right about now.

(Reaches for the needle in Johnny's arm for the drip bag.)

We won't be needing that anymore. My apologies in advance, this might suck a little.

Francie takes out the needle.

Johnny

Heh, not at bad as I thought with needles. But then they used to be bigger too.

Francie chuckles again. She pats Johnny's head.

Francie

I'm sure you'll have a lot of questions about what happened to you. We'll try our best to answer them, but for now you need to rest, and get yourself used to being this big.

Johnny

Fer how...long

Johnny starts feeling faint again, and seems to fall asleep. Francie makes sure the heart monitor is clipped on his ear.

Francie

I'm sure you'll be fine in the morning. Just get a good night's rest. I'll be back for you.

(She turns to Amber)

I hope he'll be all right in your care. He recognizes you, and I think seeing familiar faces will put him in ease. After all, just this morning, he was a common field mouse. Probably scared of humans.

Amber

He doesn't look too scared of me.

She picks up Johnny's limb sleeping body. In her arms, he even starts to

#### Amber

I'll keep him safe.

# Fade out and fade in to

# Int Amber's Room morning

The morning sun enters Amber's shaded window and shine on Johnny's head. His nose twitches and his eyes blink half awake. He sees a bunch of plush animals all around him. At first his eyes go wide, but then realizes that the small tiger next to him is a plush toy. He moves up on all fours, yarns, and then stretches. He looks around to see a pastel colors of Amber's bedroom with a desk with a computer and plenty of Disney-related posters, most of them antique movie posters from the classic years.

He looks to his left to see Amber asleep on the floor next to him. Johnny sees Amber's head dip a bit as she slept. And he inches up ahead to touch her cheek with his nose. Her eyes snap awake.

Johnny retreats a little bit as she looks at him.

Amber

Morning there, little fella. Johnny, right.

Johnny smiles and nods a bit.

Amber

You sure look a lot better after that nap.

She reaches over to the monitor clipped on Johnny's ear. At first he shrinks. But then she strokes him under his chin, which makes him churr almost cat-like.

Amber

(Giggles)

Aw, that is just too cute. I wouldn't want to hurt ya.

She takes the monitor and finds that the heart rate and blood saturation levels are nominal.

Johnny

Survival Tactic Number One: When in doubt, act cute. It don't always work though.

Amber giggled some more about that.

Amber

I won't argue with you on that. Although I think it's surprising, that you can talk and all.

**JOHNNY** 

(shrugs)

Can't you?

Amber moves up to her knees nearer to Johnny, who stands his ground where he's at. His nose wiggles as he sniffs her. She just smiles bright as she strokes her shoulder.

Amber

I just didn't knew that field mice can talk.

Johnny

I didn't know that you humans could be this nice. When I saw myself in your arms, I thought you'd just either kill me outright, or put me in

a cage. Either as a pet, or as food for a larger pet, or worse.

Amber

Well, I don't see you in a cage, right?

Johnny looks around. Nods his approval, and stands up, placing his hands on Amber's shoulders and his nose up against him.

Amber

My name's Amber. Amber Merichello.

Johnny

Well, it's a pleasure meeting you, Amber. There was a rabbit with Mickey Mouse, where is...

(blinks, gasps and rubs his chin.)

That was Mickey, right?

Amber nods.

Johnny

The. Mickey Mouse. The one I saw in all those cartoons. Dude was my hero, but I never thought I'd see him in person.

"Mickey Mouse March" started playing in a nearby cell phone.

Amber

You'll be seeing him again. That's Mickey calling me.

(Picks up the phone.)

Hello, Mickey. Yes, he's up and about. By all accounts he's fully recovered. He'll be here when you show up. And no, my mother didn't mind him sleeping here, although he'd want to get to know more of him if he needed to stay here. I don't know about Dad though. I haven't seen him since...

Suddenly, the front door opened, and Leon Merichello (Amber's Dad and the scientist from earlier) almost rushes in. He didn't notice Johnny standing in front of him as he talks to his daughter.

#### LEON

Amber, you wouldn't guess what happened yesterday! You know that shrinking experiment I told you about a la "Honey I Shrunk the Kids?" Somehow a field mouse ended up in the expanding beam and blew him up by accident. We spent all night casing him, but the little fella gave us all the slip. I'm sure he's still out and about somewhere...

Leon pauses, looks down, and sees Johnny.

There was a three second pause.

#### **JOHNNY**

Oh great, I just screwed up. I was supposed to flop onto the bed all limp and smiling and not blinkin' and stuff, like a stuffed animal right? Does anyone have a plan B?

Cut to

# int bathroom day

Francie is drawing Johnny's blood. Close-up is up to discretion. Leon stands by.

Francie

I'm surprised that you're taking this so well.

Johnny

It'll take a lot more than that little needle to hurt me. It's much too small.

Francie

You'd probably didn't expect to hold a decent conversation with scientists as well.

Francie pulls the needle out, yanks out the blood vial, and tosses the needle into a "For Sharps" disposal tin. Her plastic gloved hand reaches out for Leon to hand her a band-aid.

Leon

And I didn't expect a cartoon character to be a competent doctor.

Francie

Well, I had to find something to do while I was in the Wasteland.

(She ignores Leon's puzzled expression)

I always wanted to be a doctor anyway. Good thing I managed to get through medical school before Oswald, Ortensia and myself were screwed our of the public eye.

Francie picks up a device that appeared pastel-painted, toon like, but it was elaborate enough to allow the organic blood-filled vial to be slipped in.

francie

At least the gremlins there keep me up with the latest technology. They're quite useful.

There were a couple bleeps, and then a fanfare sound.

She gives a victorious pose as she shows the display to Leon and Johnny.

francie

Blood Cell count, Blood Sugar, and Oxygen levels are normal. You're gonna be okay, Johnny Briz!

Johnny

That's great...so what happens now?

Francie

Now, we eat! The delivery boy just came and that pizza smells delish...

Her nose twitches at the smell and she almost drifts her way out of the room.

Cut to

# Int kitchen day

Mickey and Oswald, in more business casual attire, was relaying almost a dozen pizzas into the kitchen.

Oswald

I think you overdid it again on the order, bro.

Mickey

Aw, come on, Oz. It wasn't as much as I've ordered for our reunion, remember.

Oswald

There was five of us, and three when we've arrived. That's eight people. I doubt we'd pack away all these pies.

Mickey

Your kids can eat the leftovers, can't they? Minnie and Ortesnia sets the pizzas on the kitchen table.

Ortensia

He's got a point, you know, hunny bunny.

Minnie

One thing I learned, not to encourage Mickey.

(Turns to the arriving Francie)

How is he, Doctor.

Francie

(almost sings it out)

Clean bill of health.

(heads to the pizzas on the table)

Now to get myself to a clean bill of health. Dr. Francie Cottontail M.D. can't save lives on caffeine alone.

(looks at all the pizzas on the table)

Mickey! Did you overdo it again?

Mickey

(arrives with the last pizza)

Uh-oh.

Francie

Now we know that Johnny Briz might be a growing boy and all just barely...

(turns to Johnny, who was sniffing at all the pizza)

...sorry about this, JB, but how old are you?

Johnny

(blinks)

About four seasons, I think. I don't know how'd I'd age here.

Francie takes a finger and opens Johnny's mouth, she looks in.

francie

Let me check there.

Minnie gasps.

Ortensia

(Crosses her arms)

Fanny!

Francie

I need to figure out his age!

(Looks further in, counting his teeth.)

Looks like you got all of your baby teeth out. Wisdom teeth might need to be looked after. I think you're in your mid-teens. But I might need to study how you age at this height.

(Turns around showing that she still has her plastic gloves on. She slips them off.)

What? You think I'm going to stick my hand in someone's mouth before I eat...okay I'll wash up.

Francie rolls her eyes and walks off.

Mickey comes up to Johnny and pats him on the shoulder.

Mickey

Glad to see you're feeling better, pal. Uh, I didn't know what pizza you liked, so I pretty much ordered the whole menu. Again.

Johnny

In all honesty, I don't think I know myself.

(Reaches up for a slice or two.)

We don't get pizza joints where I come from.

Mickey

Heh, that's what I was thinking. Oh, I don't think you've been introduced.

(waves Oswald over)

This is Oswald the Lucky Rabbit. You can say he's my partner running all things Disney and all.

Oswald

Pleasure.

Oswald and Johnny shake hands.

Johnny

Nice to know I'm not the only new guy here.

Oswald

New?

(raises an eyebrow, than moves closer to Johnny)

Son, I'm Mickey's older brother.

Johnny's jaw fell as much as possible.

Oswald

It's a long story, I'll fill you in later. But I'd like to know your story right now.

Minnie

I'd be more interested in where he come from, Os. I don't think he was that far from that shrink and grow ray lab.

Johnny munches down a slice with some tea, and then grabs a napkin to wipe his mouth.

Johnny

Was that what you call it? That beam I got hit with.

oswald

That's what Mickey calls it. That story's even longer. I hope your tale's not War and Peace.

johnny

(chuckles and rubs his head.)

Everything was a blur up to when I woke up and saw Mickey.

Thought I was dreaming for a moment. As for where I came from.

(nods)

I think I can. Hopefully I can keep it short and sweet for you...

Johnny clears his throat. As he does, the room darkens and there is a gradual fade to the next scene.

JOHNNY

I should start with the colony I grew up in. It's an out of the way place behind one of the amusement parks known as Reedy Creek.

amber

Reedy Creek. Where did I hear that from?

mickey

Reedy Creek Improvement District. It's what they called this area before it became Walt Disney World...And Celebration as well.

**AMBER** 

Oh, that explains it.

Fade to

# ext. aerial mouse colony day

The Reedy Creek Mouse Colony appears in panoramic view, resembling an assortment of mmodel buildings half-covered or bound by weeds and plants. There are some small screens, such as a Playstation Portable or Laptop, showing various films. Mice and Rats scurry about like four-footed humans going through their day. Even the background music would be a busy fast-paced tune.

Johnny

(V.O.)

Reedy Creek's been around a long time before Disney has ever heard of the place. Rumors say that the place was founded during the WWII area, your calendar, when a bunch of mice broke out of some research lab because the experiments they did to them gave them super smarts, or something.

(beat)

I wouldn't know either or, that's like centuries to us mice. But most of us know about what happened to the world around us...

The scene blurs to signify a backwards jump in time to a Reedy Creek colony that was more agricultural in nature, with miniature farms and plants abounding.

A caption appeared: 50 Years Ago

Johnny

(V.O.)

It happened during the late 60s, when most of us were farming for grain. We found a bunch of humans looking about on the outskirts.

A survey team is seen in the background, while a team of mice overlooked through the tall grass in the foreground. With the team is an elderly man with a mustache and graying hair.

Johnny

(V.O.)

They're still humans, mind you. We've always have our concerns over you guys. We'd stand a better chance going against natural predators than a single human, no lie.

(beat)

But this one guy, he was different.

While the survey crew looked over a patch of land and talk about where would be a best spot for an amusement park, The old man looked off to one side and saw the mice.

Johnny

(V.O.)

It's a rare guy who'll just go up to one of us micefolk and just pet us

and all that. It's either rarer when that guy actually hears what we say.

Old man

You actually live near here?

(He looks off in the distance, sees the wooden logs gathered about, and nods.)

Well, in that case, I'll make sure you're let be.

Another man forty years younger up to him.

Younger man

Mr. Disney, are you talking to barnyard animals again?

The old man turns to the younger man and raises an eyebrow. He snorts.

The others in the group just roll his eyes. A couple of them whisper to each other.

Group Member #1

(whisper)

You wanna tell him that Walt doesn't like people calling him by his last name?

Group Member #2

(whisper)

I'd be doing that for almost everyone who meets him.

The old man, Walt Disney, stands up.

Walt

Let me have my quirks, will ya? I just saw some wildlife habitats nearby and I wanted to make sure we don't bulldoze that over.

He looks at the others in the group.

Walt

So, Don, heard anything from the Survey Team?

The group just point to that young man.

Walt just groans and pulls out a cigarette.

Young Man

They found the perfect spot East of this location, Mr. Disney, if it weren't almost all swampland.

WALT

(Takes out a cigarette and lights up)

We're going to drain that swamp anyway, it's part of the plan from the get go. And don't you bitch to me about me lighting up, we're outside.

Young Man

(Mutters)

Yeah, whatever, it's your lungs.

(He sees Walt's eyebrow and speaks up.)

They don't know about this EPCOT project of yours though. They're still looking around for a more appropriate spot...

Walt hacks and coughs.

Group Member 1

Man, it's getting worse, I'm really concerned for the boss. You think

we should...

Group Member 2

You'd think everything's been tried before. And it ain't like things're all rosy for him.

Walt

(Coughs a little more)

Yeah. I picked a bad week to quit these things. You know, I heard rumors about a mouse cluster around here, about some science lab rats who broke out because they got too smart. Only a rumor.

(he looks back to the colony, and sees the mouse he held earlier scamper into it.)

Well, that mouse I talked too seemed quite intelligent.

Cut to

# INT. LIVING ROOM afternoon

mickey

Waitasec, we're talking about Uncle Walt right? I remember this part.

Oswald

(looks at Mickey)

Really?

Mickey pulls out his iPhone and taps at it.

Mickey

You reminded me of something he told me about a certain colony of mice on Property. He had it cordoned off as protected wilderness what we honor even today.

(turns to Oswald)

He always had an conservationist streak in him.

Oswald nods and turns to Johnny

oswald

You don't want to know what Universal dug over when making Islands of Adventure. You'd be just as mad at them as I am.

Johnny wondered what Oswald was talking about but Mickey held up his iphone in front of Johnny. It showed a bit of a map with the location of the mentioned colony.

Mickey

This the place, pal?

Johnny

Y-Yeah, that's it. What is that thing?

Mickey

A smart phone, I'll tell you about it later, but that's not important right now. So that explains how you came from...and how you look like a cartoon character already.

Oswald

I don't follow, Mick.

Mickey

According to the history, and from what Johnny said, they're founded by a bunch of lab escapees. Even during Walt's time they looked

quite intelligent, and some would say that they've been evolving.

(Johnny)

And look at Johnny Briz here. Heh, he could pass off as one of us, easily.

As Mickey was saying that, Amber was rooting around her DVD collection and pauses at the Don Bluth movies.

Amber

I think I have something that reminds me of what happened to them. Johnny sees the movie she pulled up--"Secret of NIMH" in close up--and groans.

Terri

I take it you've seen the movie.

Johnny

Oh, what these eyes have seen.

Cut to

# int. reedy creek colony night

It is during the late 80s, and a used video tape player was tinkered back to health (more like jury rigged, when the inner workings are shown) and the movie in question was played on a Commodore monitor.

The scene shown is when Ms. Brisby meets Nicodemus and he has the amulet in his hand The mice and rats watching it were busting their guts laughing.

Johnny

(V.O.)

Corniest movie we've ever seen. I almost expect some dude and his two robot pals to be in the corner, talk about missing the point. Or at least that's what the older folks who know the legends say.

(beat)

Not only did they put in all that pomp and circumstances about that magic rock and all, but they've totally got the part about not wanting to steal all wrong.

Cut to

# Ext back alley Night

A rat was near a trash dumpster and sees someone dump some used and broken equipment next to the dumpster.

Johnny

(V.O.)

We rodents figured one thing out a long time ago, humans can be wasteful.

(beat)

You've known to throw away stuff that is perfectly good, or just needs a little fixing in their circuitry, or even a piece of string or take, to get it to work again. And I'm not even going to start on the dropped crumbs of food or other refuse.

The camera zooms closer to a presumably broken laptop where six rats circle around the laptop and pick it up to carry it away.

Johnny

(V.O.)

We have a rule of thumb: If you pitch it away and we pick it up, it don't count as stealing.

(V.O.)

Let's just say that dumpster diving is never a spectator sport for us.

Amber

(V.O.)

Hmmm, talk about our need to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Johnny

(V.O.)

That's what I say, but I'm gettin' away from myself.

Cut to

# ENT. REEDY CREEK COLONY day

The scene is a cinder block that is an orphanage, where there was a basket made out of a cap in front of a door.

Johnny

(V.O.)

In fact, we would've dismissed that movie--and it's gosh awful sequel...

Amber

(V.O.)

I'm really starting to like you, Johnny.

Johnny

(V.O.)

Well, that movie would have been forgotten outright until I showed up in some orphanage.

The door opens to see a mouse with a cape resembling a Square-Enix white mage and glasses, and looks down at the baby; the baby Johnny Briz.

Johnny

(V.O.)

People always said that I look like Jonathan Brisby from that movie, especially when I was a pup.

Cut to

## INT. LIVING ROOM AFTERNOON

Johnny points to his left shoulder and right side. Without a shirt, his brown spots in his otherwise gray fur are visible

Johnny

It's the spots. I also got one on my left leg.

Amber

Well, I think it makes you all the cuter, Johnny. Wait. Did they name you after that character.

Johnny

(nods)

Yeah. They actually snipped it to Johnny Briz because it rolls off the tongue better.

Minnie

I'd consider it to be an honor to be named after one of those characters.

Mickey

Yeah, and I know Don Bluth. He'd be tickled pink at you.

amber

You also look more human then mouse, Johnny. I could tell when I was watching over you. Are all mice in your colony like that?

Johnny

(Points to his head)

I wouldn't know. It kinda depends on the colony. Maybe it's part of the legend behind Reedy Creek or something. Sometimes I wanted to find out.

Terri

Hmm. How was life in your colony like for you?

Cut to

# ext. reedy creek colony day

Back to Modern Day, or at the most, a calendar year ago. A younger Johnny is seen scampering among the alleyways.

Johnny

(V.O.)

As compared to the human world? I wouldn't know. I guess there are some similarities. School and classes and all that. I consider my life to be pretty average if you think about it. I wasn't exceptional in my classes, and I've spent most of my evenings checking out movies that the search crew finds.

The scene fades to the evening, and Johnny is seen reclining on a roof top--actually a slanted roof shingle--watching a video from the laptop from earlier.

Johnny

(V.O.)

It was a lot easier when we discovered the internet. I'd like to see your lawyers try to sue us.

Johnny watches a cartoon from the Mickey Mouse Works/House of Mouse era.

Johnny

(V.O.)

I've been a fan of you almost all my life, Mickey. I even dreamed that I could head over to your world and be a Modern Day version of you. Make people laugh, do some heroics. Shoot off comets. All that fun stuff.

(beat, Mickey hmms in the backyard)

Can't a kid like me dream a little? I've even got some talent to use.

The scene cuts to the next late morning, where Johnny runs through an obstacle course resembling the one in Sasuke/Ninja Warrior. His performance could rival that of one of the

#### Johnny

(V.O.)

Outside of the book knowledge and fundamentals, school also focuses on the physical stuff, which can be fun. We learned something that's called Par Kour, which is an expert kind of running away. I've seen some humans do it, and I think some mouse picked it up and taught us.

Amber

(V.O.)

Par Kour...you mean Parkour? Free Running.

Johnny

(V.O.)

That's what you call it? I know I've butchered that word.

Johnny did a wall run off a milk carton, cat vaulted over a twig, did a spread eagle flying leap over a creek bed and rolled with the landing until he found a large cat. Actually a puppet-like cat done by several rats pulling strings and bars.

Puppeteer mouse 1

You're moving him too far! Move his arms!

Puppeteer mouse 2

This isn't one of the Presidents in the Magic Kingdom, you know!!

Johnny then stands up and assumes a fighting stance.

Johnny

(V.O.)

And when I really have to fight, we have some rat from Korea move over here who was into Tae Kwan Do. He taught me that.

Johnny runs up and does a series of kicks and punches straight up the cat puppet, finalizing with a tornado kick that the puppeteer mouse on top had to duck away from.

Amber

(V.O.)

You could be a great little action star.

Puppeteer Mouse

Dammit, Johnny! We lose more cats that way.

Johnny lands on the ground, letting himself to to all fours to lessen the impact, and stands back up. He shakes his fist at the puppeteer mouse.

Johnny

Then get me a cat who knows how to fight, you dummy.

Johnny

(V.O.)

Yeah, that's what my Tae Kwan Do master always says. He keeps telling me that I need to move on to greater things.

Fade to

# EXT. AERIAL MOUSE COLONY evening

It is the day before Amber would find Johnny. Johnny climbed his way to the top of a tree.

Night is falling, and three of the Disney World parks—Magic Kingdom, Epcot, and Hollywood Studios—are doing their fireworks displays, and they created a panoramic 360-degree fireworks display around and above Johnny.

Johnny

(V.O.)

It's something I've been thinking about a lot as of late. Probably some teenage thing. Some existential angst that I'd better off without, but I've had this nagging feeling that there is more for me than what's in my hometown. That there is more for me then even my dreams of being some living cartoon character. He might be right, but exactly what? I just couldn't figure it out for the life of me, as if something's missing.

Minnie

(V.O.)

It's nice to hear that you grew up with some of our classic cartoons, Johnny. With times changing, not many individuals turn to our older cartoons as a source of entertainment.

(beat)

This is an very interesting story you're telling. I'd love to see you share that.

johnny

I was mulling that over for the upteenth eleventh time when I saw the science crew move by.

Cut to

# ext. building morning

A caption appears: "Day 0"

A plain white fan rolls into a building that was previously abandoned. The door slid open, and humans in white coats were taking out various computers and cabinets into the building, followed by a large beam-like device that looked like something from a science fiction movie. Sharp eyes would recognize the device from "Honey I Shrunk the Kids".

Johnny

(V.O.)

We didn't need any cheesy cartoon movies to tell us all about science labs. We tend to sit around the campfire telling horror stories about what goes on in there. So when we discovered a bunch of scientists setting up shop just on the outskirts of our territory, we were naturally concerned.

Cut to

# Int. Reedy Creek Colony Meeting Room Afternoon

The Council Hall is packed with rodents arguing with each other. There were some mentioning of what scientist are known to do to them in the past and voiced their concern about their lives. Others wanted to know just what kind of experiments they're doing and maybe they'd won't be needing animals. Another group just said that they'll just bulldoze the whole forest down for another one of those parks—and rip up the colony in the process. Or maybe even something worse. Would they need to fight back? How do you fight humans anyway?

Yadda Yadda Yadda, Blah Blah Blah.

Eventually the whole room degraded to a bunch of mice and rats arguing in Simlish.

And all this time, Johnny was in the rafters, leaning against a banister. Getting bored.

Johnny

(v.o.)

Ain't it like a committee? All talk, no action.

Johnny gets up from his banister and starts to leave

johnny

(v.o.)

Somebody's gotta find out what that lab is all about, and the only way you can do that is if you go up there and check it out themselves.

Johnny is stopped by another young mouse.

They look at each other and say something unheard.

After a long pause, Johnny nods.

Johnny

(v.o.)

And at times I feel that the only way things'll ever get done is if I get my paws dirty and do it myself.

Fade to

# ext. reedy creek colony afternoon.

Johnny ran at a good pace from the colony and into the grass toward the lab. The scene pans to Johnny cresting a hill overlooking the colony as a whole in the setting sun. He had on a backpack with various jury-rigged equipment, including a flattened needle for a sword, thick string for rope, and a high-powered LED bulb wired to a button battery.

iohnnv

(v.o.)

If I knew what was going to happen to me, I would have looked back home, gave it one last look goodbye, burned it into my memory. It's the only regret I have in life. Hindsight and all that.

And with that, Johnny jogs his way through the thickets, his pack is light enough for him to still pull off some vaults and move at a fast clip.

Fade out and in to

# ext. research lab late evening.

The building is a featureless concrete and steel construction with wood and plastic piles surrounding it. There were a van parked on a gravel road leading up to it.

Johnny appears out of the tall glass and climbs up a pyramid stack of wood planks.

He stops halfway up when his ears twitch; having heard someone approach. He leans up against the planks, all but unseen under the colossal-like human's eyes.

He then shimmies over around a corner to get a better look at who he's facing.

The two scientist walking past him looked like they came out of the set of Mythbusters, only in coats. They wouldn't be concerned less about rodents but rather the larger animals nearby.

Scientist #1 (Leon)

They keep the borders patrolled over at Animal Kingdom. But

anyway I doubt that any animals would want to break out of there. They've got it better there than in any zoo in the world.

Scientist #2

Just nervous I suppose. It'll take a while for me to get the jitters out.

Scientist #1 (Leon)

Think about the new toy we're going to be playing with, that'll help. An actual matter expanding and compressing ray. Just like in 'Honey I Shrunk the Kids!'

Scientist #2

I'm surprised that Disney actually earned enough to make one of those.

(beat)

But what would they need such a device for, anyway?

Scientist #1 (Leon)

(shrugs)

How would I know? You think I'm an expert in knowing what makes a corporation tick? I just do what I'm told, get my paycheck, and shut the [beep] up.

They pass by Johnny, not even noticing his presence from behind the planks.

Scientist #2

Can't argue with that. What are we going to test this ray on? I don't think it's safe for living people yet.

Scientist #1 (Leon)

(shakes his head)

Probably not. We're just doing inanimate objects right now. We'll need more tests before I feel okay about testing it on somebody.

Scientist #2

I hear you there. I don't want to see...

The two scientists walk around the corner and through a door inside, as their voices fade.

Johnny pulls himself up from his perch and sniffs the air. He picks up a lot of faint scents coming from the Animal Kingdom upwind, but none from the immediate area.

He bounds his way down the pile of planks and rolls on his final landing to the dirt ground. He traverses the distance across the path to the side of the road and into a drainage pipe.

The exit end of the pipe flashes a bright white glow.

cut to

# int drainage pipe

Johnny enters the pipe and turns on the LED bulb, bathing the immediate area in a soft white glow; plenty of light for a mouse to work with.

He examines the material of the drain pipe to see what he's dealing with. PCP Plastic.

He reaches into his pack and grabs a couple push pins with the plastic end scraped into mouse-sized hand holds. He took each one and with a strong thrust, jabs the pins inside the plastic, just enough for it to stick in place. He then pulled his back pack off and took the string, which he looked around each of the pins, and then himself through a harnass that held the LED light in place.

With everything strapped on, he gave his arms a good shake, loosing them up for what's to come.

He grabbed the pins and propped his feet up against the vertical pipe. He then starts climbing the pipe like it was a rock cliff, using the push pins as rock picks to pull himself up.

Johnny manages to pass the camera, which pans up to follow him up the pipe.

Amber

(v.o.)

Whoa. I've seen that building, it's about 20 feet tall. I'm just quessing here, but I think in scale terms, you scaled up El Capitan.

Oswald

(v.o.)

El Capatan doesn't consist of a flat plastic surface. You must've been strong for a mouse to pull that off, kid.

Cut to

# ext Lab Building roof evening

Johnny exists the top of the pipe and pulls up the backpack with the string.

Johnny

(v.o)

Meh. So I made sure I worked out enough to have a decent pair of arms. I also didn't weigh as much too.

There was nobody else around outside the building, so the white light from the LED wasn't even noticed until Johnny made his way to the larger vent grate.

This time he took a washer-shaped magnet and tied it to the string, Once that's in place, he climbed up the grating with the magnet in his teeth.

Once on top, he placed the magnet on the top of the grate until it's good and stuck and turned to the sliding latch. With enough leverage he was able to slide it open.

He caught the string before the grate fell down with a crash, and lowered it down so that it didn't make as much noise when it landed the roof.

Cut to

# <u>int vent shaft</u>

Having looped the string around the latch, he was able to rappel his way back to solid ground, and with the string in hand, he progressed further inside.

With the LED, he was about to see a running fan five feet straight down, with a grate to keep debris, and rodents, from banging into the blades of the fan and killing both fan and themselves.

He sighed his relief about that, and also noticed a horizontal shaft just below it.

The current caused by the turning fan was enough to mess with his hair and fur, but not enough to bother him or the string. He rappelled down to the grating, crossed it to that he would be at the same side as the horizontal shaft, and then used the flattened needle to pry up a panel leading inside the fan.

The fan is deafening this close to it, but Johnny was able to concentrate enough to stay on the corner out of the fan's way and kick out the second paneling leading further down.

And with another magnet to keep the string in place, he was able to move further on foot with just the LED harness.

Cut to

# Int lab ceiling

Johnny made his way to a grating that looked straight down to the room where the two scientists he saw before were at. Johnny turned off the LED bulb and jimmied the grate to give him a better look.

Below him was the mentioned ray device, looking as Sci Fi as ever. Before it, directly down from Johnny's vantage point, was a pedestal where one of the scientist was placing a large orange.

Johnny

(v.o.)

I was so in awe over what those coats were doing, I didn't remember that I was on something that wasn't exactly supporting my weight.

The view SPLIT SCREENS between Johnny's panel slipping down it's place in the ceiling and the humans below. On the Human's screen, everything is ready.

Scientist #1 (Leon)

The device is warmed up and ready to fire.

Scientist #2

All right, let's light this candle.

The ray device starts to hum louder as Scientist #1 taps on a laptop.

Scientist #1 (Leon)

Expanding Ray experiment #1: Ray to fire in three...

In Johnny's screen, the panel starts sliding all the more, being past the point of no return.

SCIENTIST #1 (Leon)

...two...

Johnny

OH [BEEP]!

SCIENTIST #1 (Leon)

...one...

The panel falls away from its perch.

The Split switches back to the Scientist's scene, where the panel, and an unseen Johnny, drops behind the ray device. The panel hits a stacked crate, which spins, hits Johnny, and sends him sailing ahead. The panel continues to fall onto a cord powering the device.

SCIENTIST #1 (Leon)

...FIRE...

The panel hits the cord the instant FIRE was said, the impact moves the device up toward the scientists.

Both scientists

HOLY [BEEP]!

The device fires a beam with a spiraling glow.

The two scientist duck out of the way, allowing the beam to pass over them.

The beam hits a mirror and bounces back into the room...and strikes Johnny in mid fall.

The room is flooded with a blinding flash, and when it ends, Johnny is now two foot five, and falling into the floor where he lands like a cat. Whatever clothes he has on was shredded by his enlarging.

Johnny looks around the room, more startled than anything else, wondering what exactly just happened.

The two scientists look up from where they hid, knowing that the device's beam has been

dissipated and the device was shut off, and saw the now-giant mouse in the room. They too wondered what was going on.

Johnny sees the two lab coats, made a slight chuckle, and then bolted.

Johnny

(v.o.)

I didn't know what those two wanted to do if they caught me, and I pretty much didn't want to find out...

As he talked, the scene FADES TO

## INT. LIVING ROOM EVENING

Back to Amber's house, where Johnny finishes his story.

johnny

They probably had some other folks in there. I wouldn't know. My head was spinning. Next thing I knew I was catapulted by some plank or something...I don't know, I was just airborne...You know the rest.

leon

I think I know what happened. Let me explain the beam that got you. It's an experiment Disney use to store their floats and seasonal equipment so we can use and salvage them later.

Mickey

I always wanted to do that, instead of just putting them into a garbage dump and see them rust.

(he taps Johnny on the shoulder)

You see, pal, you're not the only one recycling.

Leor

But while we got it to work on a cartoon character or two...

Johnny looks over to Mickey

mickey

How else could I make Rescue Rangers?

Leon

I wouldn't use it against organic beings, like a human or yourself. Fanny, I think you might know why.

Francie nods and moves ahead, with a chart showing Johnny's progress.

Francie

The beam can only expand and contract the cells of a person, but not reduce or increase the number. What happened to you Johnny, is that you retained the same number of red blood cells—for the initiated, that's what's bringing energy and oxygen throughout your body—but with your now larger body, the number is woefully inadequate. That's why you fainted once you ran out of adrenaline.

(she looks up to Leon)

I wouldn't want to make him any bigger at that point, he might have died.

(back to her files)

But at his size, with enough rest, he pulled through. I've checked him throughout this time; he's perfectly healthy...for a two foot five sixty pound walking talking mouse that is.

Johnny just rocked on his feet, still in those yellow shoes.

Francie

But at this point, I don't think we can use that beam to reverse what that beam is done. Think of the process in reverse, now he'll have way too much red blood cells. That would just about make him explode.

Johnny gulped for a second.

Amber

So that means, he's stuck here? He can't go home.

Francie

(nods)

I'm afraid so.

Johnny

Meh, and I didn't look back. Tsk, at least I'm glad I lived through that. So what now?

Everyone except Mickey paused.

Mickey

Well, Johnny Briz, I for one am glad you arrived here. Like he said, he wished to be a cartoon star? He might just have his chance. Look at him, Oswald, he's a perfect Mousketeer! He's got his own ears and everything.

Oswald

You've gotta excuse him, kid. He puts his last name on *everything!* He's worse than Batman!

Mickey

Aw, come on, Oz. You always wanted to get back into the screen.

Oswald

Yeah, but getting my ideas trough's was like pulling teeth.

Amber

Join the club, Ozzie.

Minnie was looking out a window.

Minnie

This whole experience must be quite shocking to you, Johnny. Two days isn't a lot of time to adjust to a completely different life. You're a very brave mouse. Reminds me a lot like Mickey.

(She spun around)

You're going to love it here. Every day seems like a new start. You can be whoever you want to be, do whatever you want to do.

(soft laugh)

Within reason, of course. I believe that anyone can do anything if you put your mind to it. If your dream is to become a cartoon star, by all means, follow it through. Dreams are the source of all ambition.

Mickey

Like I said, perfect Mousketeer. This might be an opportunity for me to try something that's been rolling in my head for some time.

Oswald

That wouldn't be that bad acid trip video you showed me once on the

internet, where your whole face...

mickey

Not that, Ozzy. Let me get my thoughts together first, and have you get used to life here, Johnny. Then we'll talk about it.

Francie

(Almost talks with a mouth full of pizza with a slice in each hand)

I'd suggest take things slow with Johnny here. I don't know if he'd get faint again.

(looks toward Johnny)

Like getting up too fast and have all that blood rush down from your head. I don't think you'd want to do that for a couple more days. Just suggesting.

(beat)

And then there's also the need for him to get used to the human world. Don't put him in there all at once.

Everyone agreed, and nodded.

Minnie just looked Johnny up and down, still wearing Mickey's hand-me-downs.

minnie

Is that all you have to wear, Johnny?

(Sees Mickey and Oswald backing away, she frowns. Meanwhile, Ortensia walks out to get something)

What are you two implying?

Oswald

No offense, Mins. But I was a victim of one of your fashion shows. It wasn't pretty

minnie

(humphs)

Well, we can't have him walking around looking like that, can we? He's going to pass himself off as one of us, he needs a better look. And Ortensia agrees with me, doesn't she.

(looks over to Ortensia as she was pushing a steamer trunk three times her size.)

Oh, let me help you with that girl!

Minnie and Ortensia opens the trunk and rummages through the various costumes, as well as a curtain that Ortensia sets in place while Minnie puts a Capt. Jack Sparrow costume on him.

Mickey

Huh-hah, you didn't want him to wear my shorts all the time, but here you are cleaning out my old costume collection.

There was another spin and Johnny reappears as the Sorcerer's Apprentice.

Minnie

Well, when I heard that your shorts fit him, I figured that he's got your size, I didn't need to tailor anything.

Another spin. Johnny's now in Mickey's Band Leader costume from the original Mickey Mouse Club.

Minnie

I always felt that Walt put the most care and devotion into us.

(Gives a sheepish smile.)

I suppose I'm a little biased.

While Johnny reappears as The Brave Tailor, Oswald writes down a note to himself. "Keep Johnny away from Universal."

But when Oswald looks up, she sees Johnny trying to hold Minnie steady.

Johnny

Hold it!

(beat)

No offense, but I don't think I'm ready for Rule 63 right now.

Johnny is dressed in Minnie Mouse's dress. With his hair in the bow and heels! Minnie's wearing a t-shirt and panties.

Minnie

Ooops!

(blushes and covers herself)

Good thing I wear neglige for such an emergency.

Mickey inhales back a nosebleed, while Oswald bonks him on the head.

Minnie humps and smiles at the same time. And there was one more spin.

Minnie has her dress back, but Johnny reappears in an outfit that he actually likes: a striped undershirt and pants, a plain white shirt, a black and white vest, matching black and white bottoms and shoes.

Minnie

(wipes her forehead)

I don't know why but when I came across them in the closet, it just seemed to suit you.

Minnie examined the new outfit from head to toe, making small comments about the fitting every once and a while. Meanwhile, Ortsenia stuffed all the rejected outfits back into the closet.

After a few moments, she tapped her finger on her chin and broke into a large smile.

minnie

Yes, that's it. That's the perfect outfit for you.

(she fixes Johnny's collar and then pushes the corners of his mouth into a smile.)

You look rather handsome, if I do say so myself. I don't know what it is but it looks like it was made for you.

Johnny gave Minnie a tip of an invisible hat, in a gentlemanly bow.

minnie

(She smiled and clapped her hands.)

You look absolutely dashing in that.

Amber

Well, now that's taken care of, there's another thing to deal with.

(she turns to Leon)

He can stay with us, Dad. Can we? He can be like a little brother to me.

Mickey

Ohmigosh, I knew there was something I forgot.

Amber

It ain't like there's anywhere he can go. Most other places would just

put him in a cage or something. I don't think he wants that. Leon looks at Amber, then Johnny.

Johnny

(scratches his head)

I don't want to force you to take me. I don't want to be a bother. There was a pause.

Leon

(clears his throat, moves up to Johnny, and picks him up to set him on his lap)

You're pretty exceptional as a mouse, Johnny. Never saw one with opposable thumbs and can stand on his hind legs. If you don't mind. I'd like to study you for a while. Nothing like cutting you open or injecting stuff into you, I promise. You've probably had the worse parts over with when Fanny was checking you.

Francie

I'll be sure to let you use the blood sample, if you want.

leon

(nods and returns to Johnny)

If you could tolerate with my own poking and prodding, then you can stay with us as long as you want.

amber

(smiles brightly)

Thank you, Daddy. I'll make sure to take good care of him.

Johnny puts his hands together and bows a bit.

johnny

You have my thanks, sir.

Leon

Just call me Leon, Johnny

Johnny

Would Mr. L?

Leon and Terri nod. Johnny smiles at that.

Johnny

Good then, I promise not to be a bother to you.

**LEON** 

Hardly the case, my friend. In fact, I might need to get some extra things to accommodate you.

Mickey

(He stands up and helps Johnny off of Leon's lap.)

While you do that, we have to run him through the usual routine.

(beat)

Well, he's going to be running about in the parks, making friends with the other characters there, acting the role of a freelance castmember, and hopefully making some shorts of his own, as well as some of us.

(looks to Oswald who nods)

That means we'll have to take him through Traditions.

(looks to Johnny)

Standard Procedure, pal. And Ozzy and myself will put you through that personally.

With that, Oswald gives Johnny a firm slap on the back.

Cut to

# int Magic Kingdom evening

Mickey and Oswald walk Johnny along the back ways of the Magic Kingdom, with Amber following along.

Mickey

I'll have one of the greeters say this likes of, "If this is your first time, you get a head start." That's when Amber'll just toss you in, after some introductions, you just run about and see what happens. We'll play it by ear for now. Amber'll be with you as a handler. If you have any problems, she'll be nearby.

Amber

I'm sure he won't be much of a problem, Mickey.

Mickey

It's the same thing I did to my older brother here. It surprised him how many people still remember him.

Johnny

That's something I wanted to ask you about, Mickey.

The three stop near the Partners statue. Johnny points to Oswald.

Johnny

'Older' brother?

Oswald

(nods)

Yeah, I've been drawn up about two years before Mickey here. Pretty much been as famous as he is now. In fact, if the stars were different for me...

(points to the Partners statue)

That would've been me in that statue.

Johnny

What happened?

Oswald

(sighs)

Something I hope you never had to experience. A bunch of idiot humans that ran Universal...

(cringes)

mickey

Best not to mention that company to him.

Oswald

...thought they could do Walt's job and threw him out to the curb. What they did with me bombed almost instantly, and I was left all but forgotten on a dark ally. What happened next I wouldn't wish on anybody.

Oswald actually shivers. Johnny looks concerned and sad over what happened to him.

Mickey

There's two main ways for us toons to get hurt: Paint Thinner and Obscurity. And I'd rather take a swan dive at the leftover Dip from the Roger Rabbit movie...

johnny

Pu

mickey

(chuckles)

Good timing. I'd rather be dipped than be forgotten. You basically become a ghost without dying and then see the world go on without you, not a good way to go.

Oswald

If it weren't for that wizard making a special Wasteland place for us forgotten toons to live in peace, that would've been my fate.

(sighs)

Johnny

Man, that's harsh.

(Looks over to Mickey)

oswald

Now you wanna know if I'm jealous of my brother.

(beat, then shakes his head)

Not anymore. Never was his fault, and when we did meet, he did whatever he could to bring me back to this world. Released all of my older shorts over to this Internet for starters, and to hell with the sharks in the legal department.

Mickey

Drink up me hearties, yo ho! Huh-hah.

Oswald

Heh, and he pushed Bob Iger to get me back to Disney and then that video game you heard about. He's currently trying to get me back into doing shorts but he's hit a snag. Idiot humans.

Amber

Maybe I can help you two out with that.

(points to Oswald and Johnny)

I was thinking of filming Johnny running about with a digital camera, once I edit it I'll put it on Youtube. I'm thinking that it can lead to scripted shorts.

Oswald looks over to Mickey with stars in his eyes.

Mickey

Webisodes, eh? That's what they call them, Os. Sounds doable. Something we can plan together, and I'm sure since we're doing it, everything will be hunky-dory, legalwise.

Oswald

Sounds like a plan to me?

(pats Johnny on the shoulder again)

Stick with us, kid. We won't treat you wrong.

Mickey

You seemed to be agreeing with my plan this time. This is a first.

Oswald

Knowing you, Mouse, you'd probably have him prancing around the parades along with the other Catmember dregs, dolled up in some Mousketeer outfit singing like a sheeple.

Mickey

(crossed his arms)

I was not considering that, Oswald. I thought having him roam around here will be a good way to get him used to humans, and then work from there. See what he can do.

(turns around to face Amber, giving Oswald the chance to razz him from behind his back.)

I don't think Johnny'll be your rank-and-file CM.

(He pulls out a Castmember Handbook and runs through the pages)

About half of the rules they run by won't even apply to him, especially the parts about him being in character. Especially if he's going to be a character all his own, huh-hah.

(snaps it shut and pockets it)

I just want him to be himself while he's in here...He's doing it again, is he?

Mickey turns around only to see Oswald put on an innocent face and whistle. And then he looked up to see Johnny sitting on the statue of Walt's head. As did Mickey. They both looked at each other with a "Why hadn't I thought of it?" expression on their faces.

Amher

Johnny! Are you Owling the Partners Statue?