

Nutty Day

by

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EXT. PARK- DAY

People and animals fill the area. An Australian terrier wiggling his tail in the air walks with his noise pierced to the ground. His name is COOKIE. He flings his head up, darting his eyes back and forth till he stops. A spilled bucket of popcorn lays on the ground next to an overflowing trash can. He dashes towards the popcorn and starts munching away.

SQUIRREL (O.S.)

(In a thick New York
accent)

Ya know, if yer gonna eat garbage
there's a whole dumpster of it
over on fifteenth.

Cookie flings his head up looking for the voice. His eyes land on a SQUIRREL reclined on a tree branch eating an acorn.

COOKIE

This isn't garbage, it's just
leftovers. I have it all the time
at home!

SQUIRREL

Ey, call it filet mignon if you
want. It's on the ground next to a
can, looks like garbage to me.

Cookie, who had already gone back to the popcorn, pulls his head out of the bucket again.

COOKIE

Filet mignon? Whats that? Sounds
tasty!

The squirrel chuckles, standing up and walking along his branch towards Cookie.

SQUIRREL

You ain't from around here are
you?

COOKIE

I don't know... where's here?

SQUIRREL

Why, you're in New York city! The
big acorn! The concrete jungle!

COOKIE

I don't know anything about a jungle... my family and I were only in the car for a little while on the way here though. So we're not too far.

SQUIRREL

So an out of townner eh? Whatcha ya here for?

COOKIE

I don't know. It must be something important, my parents were very nervous coming here. They almost forgot my snacks.

SQUIRREL

Why your parents so nervous? New York is the best nut in town.

COOKIE

I wasn't paying attention. I got distracted by all the delicious food they made. Like pie and cake and...

Cookie starts drooling and flumps his head back into the popcorn.

SQUIRREL

Cake huh? It's pretty good, I guess. It's no nuts though. You ever had nuts?

COOKIE

Oh sure, all the time! We always have delicious food. My dad makes eggs and sausages and steaks...

SQUIRREL

You sure talk about this family of yours alot, why aren't you with them?

COOKIE

Oh, well my parents are off working or something, but Jason is taking me on a walk. He's right over...

Cookie looks around smiling, but his expersion grows worried. JASON is nowhere in sight.

COOKIE (CONT'D)

Oh no. Oh no, oh no no no no...

SQUIRREL

Hoh, cool it dog, what's got your acorns in a bunch?

COOKIE

Jason! I can't find jason! Oh man, I think I'm lost!

The squirrel jumps off his branch. He walks over to cookie with his hand up.

SQUIRREL

Oh, hey, cool it, take a breath. What's yer name bud?

COOKIE

Um, it's Cookie.

SQUIRREL

Alright, well you're in luck Cookie, cuz you got Chip J. Nuttenburg here to assist! With my help you'll be back with your family in no time flat!

COOKIE

Really?! You'd do that for me!

CHIP

Sure thing! I was looking for something to do today anyhow!

Chip hops on to cookies back.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Now lets get movin!

COOKIE

YEAH!

Cookie bounces up and bolts forward directly into a tree. He and Chip sit up, dizzy.

CHIP

Alright there, got a bit overexcited. Let's get you somewhere with less trees...

Cookie bounces back up.

COOKIE

YEAH!

Cookie turns around and runs towards the city.

DISOLVE TO:

EXT. NEW YORK STREETS- DAY

The streets are filled with people. Chip lays relaxed on cookies back as they walk threwh the streets.

CHIP
What about peanuts?

COOKIE
Yep!

CHIP
Walnuts?

COOKIE
Yeah, I've had walnuts.

CHIP
What about cashews?

COOKIE
Um, no. I don't think so.

CHIP
(shocked)
You've never had cashews?!

COOKIE
I mean to be honest with you, I
don't eat that many nuts.

CHIP
Oh man, you should! Cashew- now
that's a good nut. Not like there
really is a bad nut though-

He cuts himself off and sniffs the air. His eyes dart towards a peanut vendor at the end of the street. He grins eagerly, but his smile goes away when he looks down at Cookie. A sliy grin crosses his face.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Hey Cookie, I think I know how we
can find yer family!

COOKIE
What? Really?! How?

CHIP

You see that guy with the cart? Up ahead? There's a map to yer family in there, we just got to get through the door.

COOKIE

How are we gonna do that?

Chip hops off cookies back.

CHIP

You distract the guy and I'll grab the map, got it?

COOKIE

I'm on it!

Cookie bolts up to the vendor and starts barking at him. As the vendor turns to shoo Cookie away, Chip leaps up onto the cart and grabs two bags of peanuts before scrambling away. The vendor pushes Cookie away and returns to his cart. Cookie looks around and spots chip running away. he follows.

COOKIE (CONT'D)

Hey Chip, wait up!

Chip slows down, as cookie catches up to him.

COOKIE (CONT'D)

Where's the map?

CHIP

(mouth full of peanuts)

Hm? Oh yeah, that. Turns out he didn't have it. bummer.

Cookie jumps in front of Chip to stop him.

COOKIE

What do you mean he didn't have it?

CHIP

Oh, well you know, sometimes they don't have them. What a shame. Anyway, I gotta go...

COOKIE

Where did you get those peanuts?

CHIP

Oh, these? Well, uh...

COOKIE

Are those from his cart? Did you steal those?

CHIP

Well it's not quite that simple you see...

COOKIE

You did steal them! How could you do that?!

CHIP

What, its not like he's even gonna notice!

COOKIE

It's still not right.

CHIP

Look, I can still help you find your family if ya want-

COOKIE

I don't want your help. You're a jerk, Chip. I'll find them myself.

Cookie runs off leaving chip alone.

CHIP

Eh, I'm sure he'll be fine.

Cookie runs across the street causing cars to swerve trying to avoid him.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Ah nuts.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEW YORK STREET- DAY

Cookie wanders the streets looking for any sign of his family.

COOKIE

Mom? Dad? Jason?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SHIFTY STREET, DAY

Cookie finds himself in a dark off putting street. Old papers and broken glass lay along the sidewalk. Frayed electrical wires hang off buildings. Cookie shivers.

COOKIE
Mom? Dad? Anybody?

MUTT (O.S)
You lost, kid?

Cookie looks around for the voice. Out of the shadows ahead sneaks a scraggly, dirty MUTT.

COOKIE
Who are you?

The mutt grins.

MUTT
A friend.

Cookie starts to back up cautiously. The mutt circles halfway around him, causing Cookie to back up into a dark alleyway.

COOKIE
Um, I'm sorry- I have to go-

MUTT
Go? You want to leave us all alone?

COOKIE
Us?

The mutt starts to chuckle as two other MUTTS come outside of the shadows.

MUTT TWO
We're so happy to see you.

MUTT THREE
You're just in time for dinner!

MUTT
And I am just about ready to dig in-

Mutt is hit in the face by something thrown from off screen.

MUTT (CONT'D)
Ow! what was that?

He notices something on the ground.

MUTT THREE

Is that a peanut?

Chip comes leaping down from the buildings chucking peanuts.

CHIP

Ahhhhhh!

The mutts back up annoyed by the peanuts.

CHIP (CONT'D)

And take that! And this! And a little pit of this! Yeah, that's right, you back away! Try picking on someone your own size.

The mutts intensely focus on chip.

MUTT TWO

(whisper)

Squirrel.

The mutts then growl towards chip.

CHIP

Oh, ah, not me of course, i'm like half your size, heh heh. And I... uh... uh...

Chip dashes past them out of the alleyway. The mutts chase after him, leaving Cookie by himself.

COOKIE

Chip!

Chip runs through the street with the mutts right on his tail. He dashes down an alley and leaps onto some garbage that he uses as steps to hop over a fence blocking the middle. The mutts follow over the fence, but as they get to the other side chip squeezes back through the fence to the first side. However, the mutts are stuck with nothing on their side to help them over. They bark at Chip as he stands up.

CHIP

Ha! Not so tough now, are you!
Nothing can beat Chip J.
Nuttenburg!

One of the mutts leaps towards the fence, startling Chip. He runs out of the alley way and into Cookie.

COOKIE

Chip, you're alive! You came back for me!

CHIP

Of course I did! I promised I'd help you find your family, and a Nuttenburg never goes back on a promise. Besides, you looked like you were in a pretty *nutty situation*. Eh? eh?

Cookie looks back and forth.

COOKIE

Ha?

CHIP

Alright! Let's get a move on.

Chip hops on to Cookie's back and Cookie starts to turn around.

COOKIE

Okay, we're definitely gonna find-Dad?!

Cookie bounds towards what he thinks is his father, but is stopped short as he slams into the wall that the poster he recognized hangs on.

CHIP

You really need to fix your issues with depth perception.

Cookie stands up shaking his head.

COOKIE

Why is my dad so flat? And motionless? Doesn't he recognize me?

CHIP

Wait, that's your dad?! The guy on all the posters!?

COOKIE

Yeah, that's him! Do you know him?

CHIP

Know him?! I've seen his face on every wall from here to Broadway! These posters are everywhere- how did you not see any of them till now?!

COOKIE
What's a poster?

Chip rubs his eyes.

CHIP
Alright, let's see. Twenty Fourth
and Fifth. Aright, got it! Let's
go, numb-nuts! This way!

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOD FESTIVAL- DAY

Chip and Cookie hurry towards a massive crowd of people and food stands. They make their way into the crowd.

COOKIE
Oh my gosh, what is that smell? No
wait- that smell! Oh my gosh,
there's so many! They're so
delicious!

CHIP
Hey now, focus! Family first,
snacks later.

Chip and Cookie fail to notice Cookie's Dad standing on a stage across the courtyard. He's cooking a dish with another man in a chef's coat when a young boy (Jason) runs up the stairs.

JASON
Dad! Dad! I've can't find Cookie
anywhere! I think he's lost!

Dad looks at the audience then back to Jason. He then turns to the other man on stage with him.

DAD
Sorry, I need to go find my dog.

Dad and Jason walk off stage. Cookie finally looks over just in time to see the empty stage. He sighs.

COOKIE
Oh man... what if we can never
find them?

Chip looks at the stage and narrows his eyes.

CHIP
I'm not gonna let that happen.
this way!

Chip and Cookie charge through the crowd onto the stage. They tackle the mic stand, making it fall to the ground.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Let 'em hear ya!

Cookie barks into the mic repeatedly. The crowd is confused, but Jason and Dad notice the barking and turn around.

JASON
COOKIE!

They hurry back through the crowd onto the stage. Cookie jumps into Jason's arms, licking him and the Dad's faces.

COOKIE
Ohmygosh you guys I'm so happy to see you! I was so worried I'd be lost forever- and I never would've found you if it weren't for my new friend chip! Hey- Chip? Where'd you go?

CHIP (O.S)
Oh, wow!

Cookie looks over and sees chip eating a prize-winning pecan pie.

CHIP
What's up with these nuts?!
They're incredible!

He shoves his face into the pie, and Cookie snuggles up to his family.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOD FESTIVAL- NIGHT

As the festival winds to a close, Cookie and his family make their way to the car.

COOKIE
Oh man, that food was great! Can we do this every day? Well, maybe not the lost and almost dying part. But the food- that was awesome! And I got to meet Chip!

His smile drops.

COOKIE (CONT'D)
But I wish I could've gotten to
say goodbye.

CHIP (O.S)
Psst!

COOKIE
Chip!

Cookie dashes to chip, and his family turns.

DAD
Where's he going now?

JASON
Just barking at a squirrel. I've
got my eye on him.

CHIP
Heya pal! Sorry I disappeared on
ya- the folks here did NOT like me
eating that pie. But those nuts
were WORTH IT.

COOKIE
I'm gonna miss you Chip.

CHIP
I'm gonna miss you too kid. And
I'm sorry I was a bit of a jerk to
you earlier.

COOKIE
You're not a jerk, Chip.

CHIP
Thanks.

COOKIE
But you are a bit of a *nut*.

CHIP
Heh. Take care of yourself,
Cookie. Eat a couple peanuts on
me.

He scampers off, and Cookie joins his family on their way
to the car.

END