

*Jim Henson's*  
**MUPPET BABIES**

"8 Take Away 1 = Panic!"

by

Jeffrey Scott



**Emmy Award  
Winner**



**Humanitas Prize  
Winner**

FADE IN:

ON THE MUPPETS' NURSERY - DAY

CAMERA SLOWLY PANS one end of the room, HOLDING on Rowlf who is seated on top of his piano, which is precariously perched on top of the TV set. He holds a toy microphone.

ROWLF

This is the control tower calling  
Muppet Airlines Flight 2½.

WIDEN to reveal the other Muppets in the middle of the nursery. They are sitting on two shabby arm chairs. The chairs are situated one in front of the other, like the front and back seat of a car. Scooter, Skeeter and Gonzo (holding his stuffed chicken, Camilla) are in the front chair; Kermit, Piggy and Fozzie are in the rear chair. Scooter's computer keyboard is in his lap. There is an ironing board (set up at a very low height) in between the two chairs in such a way as to look like the wing of a plane. Skeeter wears a pair of Walkman headphones.

SKEETER

This is Captain Skeeter of Flight  
2½. Go ahead tower.

ROWLF

You are cleared for take off.

ANGLE ON GONZO, SCOOTER AND SKEETER

SKEETER

Fasten your seat belts! We're  
taking off.

Scooter fastens a large belt that is wrapped around the three of them, and the chair as well. Skeeter holds her hands out on an imaginary steering wheel. The SFX OF A REAL 747 TAKE OFF BUILDS as we cut to:

A LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT

of a 747 speeding down the runway and lifting off...

GONZO (VO)

Wow! This is the best flyin' chair  
I've even been in.

INSIDE A PHOTO B.G. 747 PASSENGER COMPARTMENT

Kermit, Piggy and Fozzie are seated beside each other.

PIGGY

Isn't this wonderful, Kermit? We  
can go anywhere in our  
imaginations.

FOZZIE

And best of all, you don't get  
airsick.

Fozzie looks out the window.

REVERSE ANGLE - ON PHOTO CUT OUT 747 WINDOW

Fozzie presses his face against the glass, looking down and  
reacting to:

HIS POV: LIVE ACTION STOCK FOOTAGE

of earth from the POV of an orbiting space capsule. We can  
see the United States a hundred miles below.

CLOSE ON FOZZIE

as he jerks away from the window, slaps his hands over his  
mouth, eyes wide.

BACK IN THE NURSERY - ANGLE ON CHAIRS

SKEETER

Hang on! We're climbing up to  
30,000 feet.

Skeeter pulls back on her imaginary control wheel. Suddenly  
the entire nursery tilts to a forty five degree angle. The  
kids hang on tight, and cut to:

LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT

of a 747 climbing through the sky. And cut to:

INSIDE A PHOTO B.G. 747 COCKPIT

looking over our kids' shoulders at the complex  
instrumentation. Skeeter, wearing a captain's hat, is in the  
pilot's seat with Gonzo flyin' co pilot and Scooter behind  
them in navigator's position. Gonzo wears a comical looking  
leather aviator's cap and goggles.

SKEETER

What's our compass reading, Gonzo?

CLOSER ON GONZO

as he stares in amazement at the instrument panel before him. On the panel we see a little compass with a face and arms and legs, seated in a chair and reading a newspaper.

GONZO

I think he's reading the sports section.

Suddenly the compass reacts to Gonzo, picks up his chair and walks o.s. As Gonzo does a take to camera we cut to:

THE NURSERY

where we see the kids in the chairs once again.

SKEETER

Stop goofin' off, Gonzo. Flying is serious business.

CLOSER ANGLE ON SCOOTER

before a photo b.g. of a complex 747 navigation panel.

SCOOTER

Don't worry, Skeeter. I'm the navigator and I've got everything under control...

Suddenly all of the dials start spinning like crazy, several of them pop out of the panel on little springs.

SCOOTER

...I think?

ANGLE ON PHOTO CUT OUT 747 COCKPIT WINDOW

Gonzo peers out his side window, reacting to:

HIS POV: LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT

of a Ray Harryhausen pterodactyl (or if you can't get that how about a shot of an underwater frogman, or Ben-Hur in a chariot). In any event we cut back to:

THE COCKPIT

as Gonzo pulls his face away from the window in surprise.

GONZO

Are you sure we're on the right course?

BACK IN THE NURSERY

Piggy, now walking on the floor, pretends to hold a tray in her hands, stopping beside Kermit and Fozzie.

PIGGY  
Cookies! Milk! Candy!

FOZZIE  
I don't see anything.

PIGGY  
You've got to use your imagination,  
silly.

CLOSER ON FOZZIE

FOZZIE  
Oh. Okay.  
(shuts eyes, straining)  
Uuunnugh!

He pops his eyes open, reacting with a smile. WIDEN to reveal we are back INSIDE THE PHOTO B.G. 747 PASSENGER COMPARTMENT. Piggy stands before Fozzie and Kermit, dressed like a stewardess, holding an overflowing tray of cookies and cakes.

FOZZIE  
Oh, boy! It worked.

Fozzie reaches for some cake. Piggy stops him.

PIGGY  
Uh, uh, uh! That will be one  
dollar.

FOZZIE  
Oh, I get it. Here you are.

Fozzie holds up an imaginary dollar (in other words, nothing) handing it Piggy. She reacts, yanking the tray away as Fozzie reaches for the cake again.

PIGGY  
No way, Fozzie! We don't accept  
imaginary money on this flight!

CLOSER ON KERMIT AND PIGGY

KERMIT  
Uh, excuse me, stewardess, but is  
there a movie on this flight?

PIGGY  
Why cer-tain-ly.

PULL BACK to reveal we are in a photo cut out movie theater with a packed audience watching Piggy and Kermit on the screen from one of the live Muppet Movies. They look down at the audience. SFX: CHEERING AND APPLAUDING AUDIENCE.

KERMIT  
Uh, that's not quite what I had in mind.

BACK IN THE NURSERY - MEDIUM ON TWO CHAIRS

The chairs rock and jerk about. The kids hang on.

SKEETER  
This is your captain speaking. We are flying through some choppy air. Please hold on tight.

WIDEN to reveal Animal under the seats, pounding the bottoms of them like a wild bongo player.

ANIMAL  
CHOP! CHOP! CHOP! HA HA HA!

ANGLE ON SKY

The photo cut out 747 comically shakes as it flies. As it settles down we cut to:

ANGLE ON PHOTO CUT OUT 747 COCKPIT SIDE WINDOW

Gonzo peers out his side window.

GONZO  
Uh oh! I think we're being followed.

GONZO'S POV: LIVE ACTION STOCK FOOTAGE

of an old WWI biplane speeding right into camera, machine guns blazing (something from the film "Wings" perhaps).

BACK TO COCKPIT SIDE WINDOW

Gonzo reacts as a string of pies shoots into shot, smashing onto the fuselage instead of bullets.

CLOSE ON GONZO

GONZO

I'm gettin' outta this crazy plane.

He moves o.s.

ANGLE ON SIDE OF PHOTO CUT OUT 747

as the door opens and Gonzo steps into view, wearing an old WWII style parachute and holding Camilla. He jumps.

GONZO

GERONIMOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO....

LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT

of several planes flying overhead with hundreds of paratroops dropping out, their chutes mushrooming open. A beat, then Gonzo drifts down into shot right before camera, tangled in his chute lines, hanging upside down.

GONZO

WHOOOOAAAAA!!!

ANGLE ON WHITE GROUND

Gonzo lands with a THUD. Camilla lands nearby in her own parachute. Gonzo untangles himself from his chute, stands up. WIDEN to reveal Gonzo is before a photo b.g. of Antarctica with dozens of cute little penguins all around him. The motionless penguins have little parachutes painted on them. Gonzo looks at them, smiles

GONZO

You know what they say. Any jump you can walk away from is a good jump. Right, fellas?

Suddenly all the of the penguins topple over (Monty Python animation). As Gonzo takes to camera we cut:

BACK TO THE NURSERY

where Gonzo is on the floor beside the front chair.

SKEETER

Muppet Airlines Flight 2½ to tower.  
Request permission to land.

ANGLE ON ROWLF

still on piano on the TV.

ROWLF

This is the control tower. You are  
cleared for landing on runway one.

BACK TO THE CHAIRS

Animal stands on the floor before the chairs, holding two  
ping pong paddles. He waves them like a sailor guiding in a  
jet on an aircraft carrier. And cut to:

CLOSER ON FRONT CHAIR

as Skeeter moves her pretend controls.

SKEETER

Hang on! We're comin' in for a  
landing.

PUSH IN on Skeeter's determined expression and cut to:

LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT

of one of those old, silly black and white classic aviation  
clips with a biplane comically crashing into a barn. And cut  
to:

THE NURSERY

where we see the kids in the chairs, all smiles.

KERMIT

Nice landing, Skeeter.

FOZZIE

That was fun. Let's take another  
trip.

PIGGY

Yeah. Let's go to Ha-wai-i!

GONZO

No! Let's go to Mars.

CLOSER ON PIGGY AND KERMIT

as they hear the o.s. TELEPHONE RING.

KERMIT

Someone's calling Nanny.

PIGGY

Let's go listen.

Kermit follows Piggy o.s.

ANGLE ON NURSERY DOOR

where we see all of the kids with their ears comically pressed against the door, listening.

NANNY (VO)  
Hello. Oh, hi, Mr. Jenkins.  
Yes, they're in the nursery.

SCOOTER  
(whisper)  
She's talking about us.

SKEETER  
Shhhhh!

NANNY (VO)  
No, I haven't decided yet. But you  
might as well come over now,  
because I really must get rid of  
one of them.

CLOSER ON MUPPETS

as they suddenly react in shock.

FOZZIE  
Oh, noooo! Nanny is going to get  
rid of one of us!

KERMIT  
Why would she want to that?

CLOSE ON PIGGY

PIGGY  
Maybe we cost her too much money.

Suddenly, in a thought balloon over Piggy's head, we see Nanny's legs up to her ankles in cash, shoveling it into a furnace.

FAVORING ROWLF AND ANIMAL

ROWLF  
Or maybe we're too much trouble!

ANIMAL  
TROU-BLE! HA-HA-HA-HA!

Animal grabs a pillow, tears it up, showering the scene with feathers. Skeeter and Scooter nervously grab Animal, stopping him.

FAVORING FOZZIE

as the feathers continue to drift through shot.

FOZZIE

Or maybe there's one too many of us  
for Nanny to start a bowling team.

OTHER MUPPETS

WHAT??

FOZZIE

Nevermind.

FULL ON KIDS

KERMIT

Who cares why she's doing it. The  
real question is...WHO?

PIGGY

Kermit's right. One of us is going  
to go.

All the kids go silent, looking at one another as if to  
divine the unlucky soul.

ANGLE ON FOZZIE, GONZO AND KERMIT

KERMIT

(worried)

Gosh! I forgot to put my toys away  
yesterday. Maybe she's going to  
get rid of me.

GONZO

You guys got nothin' to worry  
about. Nanny loves frogs. And  
everybody loves dumb bears.

Fozzie smiles.

CLOSE ON GONZO

GONZO

Nope! She's gonna get rid of me,  
'cause she doesn't even know what I  
am.

(MORE)

GONZO (cont'd)  
 (looks into camera)  
 What am I, anyway?

TWO SHOT - FOZZIE AND GONZO

FOZZIE  
 Gee, Gonzo...did you ever think  
 maybe you were a Smurf?

Gonzo does a take, looks at himself, then at camera.

GONZO  
 I am the right color.  
 (shakes his head)  
 Naw!

FAVORING PIGGY

PIGGY  
 (confident)  
 Personally, I know she's not going  
 to get rid of moi. Why, just the  
 other day Nanny said what a perfect  
 little angel I was.

SKEETER  
 That was before she found out you  
 rode your tricycle in the kitchen.

PIGGY  
 (suddenly livid)  
 Yooooo toooold! - Aaaaahhhhh!!

Skeeter races away as Piggy chases after her.

WIDER ANGLE - ALL

KERMIT  
 Come on, guys. This is no joke.  
 One of us is going to get tossed  
 out in the cold.

FOZZIE  
 Ooooh! All alone in the great, big  
 world.

SKEETER  
 I wonder what it would be like.

CLOSER ON ROWLF

ROWLF  
 I don't know about you guys, but  
 for a dog it's got to be awful...

CAMERA PUSHES IN on Rowlf and...

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: ON FRONT DOOR OF HOUSE - DAY

The door opens and an arm sticks out, pointing.

NANNY (VO)

Out!

Rowlf slinks out the door, pulling his piano behind him.

ANGLE ON SIDEWALK

Rowlf walks along, pulling his piano. Suddenly a truck pulls up beside Rowlf, stopping. There is a symbol of a dog in a net on the side. A pair of uniformed male legs enter shot.

DOG CATCHER (VO)

Hey, dog! You got a license?

ROWLF

Sure.

Rowlf finds a little license tag beneath his bib, shows it to the man. He checks it out, points at the piano.

DOG CATCHER

Not a dog license! A piano license!

A surprised Rowlf shakes his head "no".

DOG CATCHER

Tough luck.

Suddenly a net lowers into shot, scooping up the piano.

DOG CATCHER

Come along!

Rowlf follows the man to the truck and...

WIPE TO:

EXTERIOR: THE DOG POUND - DAY

As the CAMERA PUSHES IN on the dog pound we hear a cacophony of HOWLING DOGS. The truck is parked outside.

## CLOSER ON CHAIN-LINK STALLS

where we see a sad looking basset hound with a bass fiddle. CAMERA PANS the stalls, past a collie with a banjo and a female poodle with a saxophone. (Note: Instruments can be changed to facilitate song.) HOLD on Rowlf with his piano. He sadly taps one of the keys.

ROWLF

Boy! I sure miss my friends.

FEMALE POODLE

I know just how you feel, fella.

## WIDER ANGLE

as Rowlf reacts to the poodle in the adjacent stall.

ROWLF

You do?

FEMALE POODLE

Yeah. I had a lead role in "The Puppy's Further Adventures" and when they stopped making new shows they threw me in here.

(starts to cry)

ROWLF

Aw, don't cry, little poodle.  
Here! This oughta cheer you up.

Rowlf starts to play on his piano. The poodle stops sniffing, joins in the music with her sax. CAMERA WIDENS as the other two dogs join in with their instruments. But before they get more than a few bars into the song we see the dog catcher's legs enter shot.

DOG CATCHER (VO)

(shouting over music)

Hey! No music allowed!

The instruments stop with a cacophonous sputter. As the dog catcher's legs exit shot Rowlf and the other dogs exchange sad looks, start to howl/cry.

ROWLF & DOGS

(howling and crying)

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

## THE NURSERY

where Rowlf is seated at his piano, sniffing.

ROWLF  
(sniffing)

KERMIT  
Gosh! Bein' in the dog pound  
sounds awful. I don't think I  
could stand it.

FOZZIE  
You don't have anything to worry  
about, Kermit. There's no such  
thing as the Frog Pound!

CLOSE ON PIGGY AND KERMIT

PIGGY  
If, uh, for some strange reason  
Nanny does decide to get rid of...  
(tiny voice)  
...me...  
(clears throat)  
I'll be able to make it on my  
own...  
(worried look)  
...I think...

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: STREET CORNER - SNOWY NIGHT

Piggy stands on the corner, shivering from the cold. She has a little lemonade stand set up beside her with a pitcher of lemonade and some glasses.

PIGGY  
(sniffing)  
Brrr. I miss my  
friends...especially my Kermie.

Two pair of legs walk through shot (male and female). Piggy steps in front of them.

PIGGY  
Want to buy some lemonade? Only  
five cents a glass.

MALE VOICE  
Are you kidding? It's five degrees  
below zero.

As the legs attempt to move on, Piggy stops them again, turns of her stuff.

PIGGY

(pouting)

But, but I'm so cooold. I was thrown out of my home and I'm all alone and I have no friends and...

MALE VOICE

Okay! Okay! We'll have a glass.

PIGGY

Oh, goodie!

CLOSER ON PIGGY

as she grabs the pitcher, holds a cup out. As she pours, the lemonade falls out in a frozen chunk.

WIPE TO:

EXTERIOR: STOREFRONTS - RAINY DAY

CAMERA PANS the street to reveal PIGGY'S PINK LEMONADE SHOPPE. The whole place is pink with pretty pink striped awning and pink stools. It's bustling with customers (from the waist down, of course). Piggy is behind the counter, pouring lemonade. As a pair of legs walk down the sidewalk past the place Piggy looks up.

PIGGY

Piggy's Pink Lemonade. Only one dollar a glass.

O.S. VOICE

No thanks.

As the legs continue down the sidewalk Piggy stops them with her pleading:

PIGGY

(pouting)

Oh, please! I'm all alone in the world. I haven't seen my friends in months. If you don't buy a glass I'll just...crrrryyyyyyyyy.

(starts to cry)

O.S. VOICE

Okay! Okay! I'll have a glass.

The legs move to the counter beside the others.

CLOSER ON PIGGY

Her tears instantly evaporate, replaced by a smile. She pulls the tap, filling a glass with pink lemonade, hands it to the man, takes his dollar. Piggy rings the register, puts the bill in, smiling at the overflowing cash in the drawer.

PIGGY

Hmmm. Five thousand dollars. Not bad for a morning's work.

WIPE TO:

EXTERIOR: TOWERING SKYLINE - DAY

CAMERA PANS the skyline, finding a building that dwarfs the others. There is a picture of Piggy on the top with a glass of pink lemonade in her hand. PUSH IN on the top of the building and cut:

INSIDE PIGGY'S PENTHOUSE OFFICE

CAMERA PANS the office. It's totally luxurious, fit for a queen. HOLD ON Piggy's enormous desk. She sits behind it, barely able to see over it. There are corporate graphs on the wall, computer terminals, telephones, etc. There is a photo of the Muppets on her desk with a larger shot of Kermit alone. Piggy picks up the photo of Kermit, sighs.

PIGGY

(sweet sigh)

Oh, Kermie. I miss you so.

The telephone RINGS. Piggy drops the photo of Kermit, picks up the phone, her mind on Kermit.

PIGGY

(a tad sad)

Hello?

(suddenly a tyrant)

What!? We've only sold two billion dollars worth of lemonade today?

Who's responsible for that? - The President of the United States??

Well, fire him!

She hangs up. Another PHONE RINGS. She picks it up.

PIGGY

Hello!? - We need more lemons?? So buy California. - What?! - I already own California? So buy Florida!

She hangs up, looks at camera.

PIGGY  
Some people have to be told  
everything!

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

THE NURSERY - FAVORING PIGGY

as she suddenly grabs Kermit, giving him a pig hug (that's her version of a bear hug)! She practically squashes him.

KERMIT  
(crushed)  
Yaaarrrgggghhhh!

PIGGY  
Oh, Kermie. I'm so glad it's only  
my imagination. I don't think I  
could live without you.

KERMIT  
(still squashed)  
You may have to if you don't-let  
go.

PIGGY  
Oh. Sorry.

She releases Kermit, who plops onto the floor.

GONZO  
(to Piggy)  
You didn't do so badly by yourself.

CLOSER ON GONZO

GONZO  
I don't think I'll be so lucky if  
Nanny decides to throw me away...

PUSH IN on Gonzo's wide eyed stare and....

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: CURBSIDE - DAY

The trash cans are out.

NANNY (VO)  
...and stay out!

Suddenly Gonzo sails into shot, right into one of the trash cans. CLANG NG NG! PUSH IN as he pokes his soiled head up, looking back o.s.

GONZO

Don't I even get a good bye kiss?

Gonzo's stuffed chicken sails into shot, clonking him on the nose with a HONK! Gonzo looks into camera.

GONZO

Oh, well...a good bye chicken is better than a good bye kiss.

A moment later a photo cut out trash truck enters, stopping beside the curb.

CLOSER ON TRASH CAN

Two gray-panted legs enter shot. A surprised Gonzo watches as gloved hands reach in and grab the trash can, tossing him and the rest of the trash into the back of the truck.

WIDER ANGLE

as the photo cut out trash truck drives off.

WIPE TO:

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. TRASH DUMP - DAY

Perhaps a junk yard would be more acceptable. The trash truck backs into shot, stopping. It's rear section raises or pushes (depending on the model) and the trash is dumped out, topped off by a blue cherry...Gonzo! As he tumbles down off the top of the heap we cut:

CLOSER ON GONZO

He comes to rest amongst the trash/junk. Gonzo, holding Camilla, looks around, reacting to his new environment.

GONZO

From now on I guess I'll be calling this place home.

Suddenly a little rat pokes his head up, staring at Gonzo with a SQUEAK! Gonzo reaches out, shaking the surprised rat's hand.

GONZO

Hi, neighbor!

PUSH IN on the rat as he looks into camera, shaking his head in disbelief.

WIPE TO:

SOME TIME LATER

Gonzo has the junk set up like home, complete with a cardboard and orange crate shack, a broken TV, tattered umbrella over a stuffing-exposed chair. Gonzo looks like a silly Robinson Crusoe. He sits around a makeshift table where we see the silhouetted figures of the rest of the Muppets. Only Gonzo is in the light.

GONZO

Boy! It sure is good to see my old friends again. Ever since Nanny threw me out I thought you'd never come to visit me.

REVERSE ANGLE

to reveal all the other Muppets are really makeshift imitations: made from stuffed flour sacks, buttons for eyes, mops for hair, whatever it takes to make a given character. They are all in silly, motionless, wide eyed poses. Gonzo acts as if they're all perfectly normal. There is a tomato juice can full of pretty flowers in the center of the table. There are also a couple of rats at the table which can be intercut for reaction shots.

GONZO

How about another piece of pie, Fozzie?

Gonzo places a cream pie on the table before the phony Fozzie, which comically falls face first into the pie.

THE OTHER MUPPETS (VO)

(laugh)

GONZO

He-he! Still a comedian, eh, Foz?

CLOSER ON GONZO AND FAKE PIGGY

The flowers are between them.

GONZO

Come on, Piggy, tell me the truth. You always did like me better than Kermit, didn't you?

Gonzo reaches behind the fake Piggy, grabs the back of her head, nodding it "yes".

GONZO

Ha! I knew it. How's about a  
little kiss for your Gonzi Wonzi.

Gonzo nods the head "yes" again.

GONZO

Oh, boy!  
(points at nose)  
Plant one right there, Piggy my  
sweet.

Gonzo extends his nose before the Piggy. Suddenly the fake Piggy grabs the flowers, pulling them out of the can and "planting" them on Gonzo's nose. HONK!

CLOSE ON GONZO

as he looks into camera in surprise, the flowers comically perched on his nose.

GONZO

I think I've been living alone too  
long!

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. TRASH DUMP - DAY

The only difference from the previous shot of the trash dump is that there is now ten times more trash and junk. CAMERA PANS the junk to reveal Gonzo, before his little cardboard shack. Only now Gonzo has a long, white beard and carries a cane. He doesn't look old. He looks like little Gonzo with a long, white beard. His rat friends are still with him. They have long, white beards and canes as well. Gonzo talks to the rats.

GONZO

Well, fellas, it's been a hundred years since Nanny threw me out. I wonder if I'll ever see my friends again.

The trash truck backs into shot, dumping a load of trash and junk over Gonzo.

CLOSER ON PILE OF JUNK

Some of the pieces (photo cut outs) slide off the pile as Gonzo pokes his head up. He looks into camera.

GONZO

One good thing about living in a trash dump...you don't have to worry about cleaning up your room.

Suddenly Kermit and the other Muppets poke their heads up out of the junk. They all have long, white beards as well- including Piggy. Gonzo reacts in surprise.

GONZO

Kermit! Piggy! You've finally come to visit me after all these years.

KERMIT

We didn't come to visit, Gonzo. We came to live here.

PIGGY

After a hundred years Nanny got tired of us, too.

CLOSER ON PIGGY AND GONZO

GONZO  
 Uh, Piggy, there's something I've  
 been meaning to ask you all this  
 time.

PIGGY  
 Yes, Gonzo?

GONZO  
 Now that we're old and gray...well,  
 blue-gray, anyway...you think maybe  
 I could give you one little kiss?

PIGGY  
 Why cer tain ly, Gonzo.

GONZO  
 Oh, boy!

Gonzo leans over to give her the kiss. He's almost there  
 when he starts to teeter, falling o.s. with a CRASH.

CLOSER ON GONZO

face first in the junk. He has a can of beans on his nose,  
 looks up into camera with a shrug.

GONZO  
 Boy! Can she kiss!

DISSOLVE TO:

THE NURSERY

where we see Gonzo is face down in the window seat toy drawer  
 with Piggy and the others standing around him.

PIGGY  
 Get out of there, Gonzo!

CLOSER ANGLE  
 Kermit helps Gonzo out of the toys.

GONZO  
 Gosh! I never realized how awful  
 living all alone can be.

KERMIT  
 Yeah. We've been living together  
 all our lives.

FULL SHOT - MUPPETS

KERMIT

It's going to be rough losing one  
of you guys...

(his eyes widen)

...or all of you guys.

(gulp)

SCOOTER

Yeah. It could be any of us.

SKEETER

I hope it's not me.

ROWLF

I sure don't want to go.

GONZO

Me neither.

ANIMAL

NOT MEEEEEEE!

FAVORING PIGGY

chewing her nails. She yanks her hand out of her mouth.

PIGGY

Oh! I can't stand it any longer.  
If Nanny can't decide which one of  
us she wants to get rid of we'll  
just have to decide for her.

ROWLF

Right.

CLOSER ON ANIMAL

ANIMAL

RIIIIIIIIGHT!

(uncertain take)

Huh?

WIDER ANGLE

Piggy holds a bag of marbles in one hand, a black marble in  
her other hand.

PIGGY

We'll pick marbles to see which one  
of us goes. There are seven red  
marbles in this bag.

(MORE)

PIGGY (cont'd)

I'll put one black marble in and  
shake it up.

(she does so)

Now, whoever draws the black marble  
is the loser.

(holds bag to Gonzo)

You go first, Gonzo.

GONZO

(nervous)

Do I have to?

Piggy nods yes.

CLOSER ON GONZO

as he reaches into the bag, fishes around. His hand stops  
moving as if he's got a marble, his eyebrows go up, then his  
hand moves around again, stops. His eyes widen, then he  
shakes his head "no", moves his hand again.

PIGGY

WILL YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND!!

GONZO

Sorry.

He stops, pulls his hand out of the bag. He holds it out  
before him, opens it. It's BLACK! Gonzo's jaw drops.

GONZO

Oh, no! I got the black one!

WIDER ANGLE

ANIMAL

(waves with a smile)

BYE BYE!!

The other Muppets react with various shades of concern.  
Piggy pats Gonzo the back sympathetically.

PIGGY

Oh, poor Gonzi, I know how awful  
you must feel. We'd better tell  
Nanny the good, er, I mean bad  
news.

Piggy escorts a stunned Gonzo toward the nursery door.

PIGGY

Don't forget to write to us, Gonzo.

ANGLE ON SCOOTER AND SKEETER

Skeeter picks up the marble bag, pours the marbles out into her hand, reacting to see that they are all black.

SKEETER  
Not so fast, Piggy! These marbles  
are all black!

WIDER ANGLE

as Gonzo stops just as Piggy is opening the door. He looks at the black marble in his hand, then at Piggy.

PIGGY  
(innocently)  
Why...there must be some mistake.

GONZO  
Piggy! How could you? After all  
we've meant to each other.

PIGGY  
What!?

KERMIT  
Gosh, Piggy. That wasn't a very  
nice thing to do.

Piggy suddenly starts to cry on Kermit's shoulder.

PIGGY  
(crying)  
I'm sorry. I couldn't bear to  
think of losing my little Kermie.

BACK TO SCENE

KERMIT  
Come on, you guys. We can't let  
this ruin our friendships. There  
must be something we can do.

SCOOTER  
Right. We gotta do some thinking.

SCOOTER AND SKEETER

plop their buns on the floor, drop their chins into their hands, start to think. ROWLF is at his piano, fiddling with a key as he too thinks.

GONZO AND PIGGY

are on the window seat. As Piggy thinks, Gonzo nonchalantly slides closer to her.

PIGGY  
What are you doing!?

Gonzo stops short. Caught!

GONZO  
I'm thinking! I'm thinking!

He goes into a funny pose like Rodin's "Thinker," only with his fist under his nose instead of his chin.

ANIMAL

is on his head on the floor.

ANIMAL  
ME THINK! ME THINK! HA-HA-HA-HA!

As Animal starts to spin around we cut to:

KERMIT AND FOZZIE

seated in the two shabby chairs, which are now side by side as opposed to one in front of the other. Fozzie has one finger in his mouth, the other spins the propeller on his beanie.

FOZZIE  
You got any good ideas, Kermit?

KERMIT  
Nope. You got any, Fozzie?

FOZZIE  
Not really. I forgot what we were thinking about.

WIDER ON NURSERY

as the door opens and Nanny's legs enter with a pair of male legs in gray pants and work shoes. They stop on the landing. The kids react in wide eyed panic.

NANNY (VO)  
There they are, Mr. Jenkins.

CLOSER ON MUPPETS

KERMIT

(sotto)

Oh, no! They're getting ready to choose which one of us goes.

ANGLE ON NANNY'S AND MR. JENKINS' LEGS

Piggy rushes into shot.

PIGGY

(sweet as sugar)

Uh, hello, Nanny. You're looking very well today. Can I do the dishes for you? Or maybe you'd like a foot massage. Piggy leans over, starts to rub Nanny's tennies.

NANNY (VO)

That's sweet of you, Piggy. But I don't think so.

FAVORING ROWLF

at his piano. As Nanny's and Mr. Jenkins' legs enter shot Rowlf starts to play.

ROWLF

Sure is nice to have music around the house, eh, Nanny?

(suddenly stops, worried)

You do like music, don't you?

NANNY (VO)

Of course I do, Rowlf, especially yours.

Rowlf reacts with a relieved smile. Nanny and Mr. Jenkins move o.s.

SCOOTER AND SKEETER

move to Nanny's legs. Mr. Jenkins' legs stop nearby.

SKEETER

You wouldn't separate us, would you Nanny?

SCOOTER

Yeah. Brothers and sisters should always be together.

NANNY (VO)  
 You're absolutely right, Scooter.  
 I'd never let anyone separate the  
 two of you.

Scooter and Skeeter smile, hugging each other. As Nanny's  
 and Mr. Jenkins' legs move o.s...

ANIMAL

crawls to Nanny's legs, stopping her.

ANIMAL  
 (a tad worried)  
 Animal no go bye bye??

NANNY (VO)  
 (pats him on head)  
 No! Animal stay right here here!

Animal smiles, sighs with relief.

ANGLE ON GONZO

GONZO  
 She's not throwing me in the trash.  
 No way! No how!

He runs o.s.

ANGLE ON CLOSET

Gonzo runs into shot, stopping by the door.

GONZO  
 I'll hide in here until they're  
 gone.

Gonzo opens the door to reveal a LIVE ACTION STOCK SHOT of a  
 crane dropping a junked auto onto a heap of dead cars. Gonzo  
 slams the door, looks into camera.

GONZO  
 I never realized how much junk I  
 kept in the closet.

CLOSER ON FOZZIE AND KERMIT

in the two dilapidated chairs. They react in wide eyed fear  
 as Nanny's and Mr. Jenkins' legs enter shot, stopping before  
 them.

NANNY (VO)  
I've narrowed it down to one of  
these two.

MR. JENKINS (VO)  
Yeah, I see whatcha mean. Both of  
'em are lookin' pretty shabby.

PUSH IN on Kermit and Fozzie.

KERMIT  
(gulp)

FOZZIE  
Ooooh, nooooo!

WIDER ANGLE

Piggy rushes to Kermit, putting her arms around him. Nanny's legs are in the shot.

PIGGY  
No! Please! Not this one, Nanny!

CLOSER ON GONZO

GONZO  
(to himself)  
Wait a minute! If Nanny gets rid  
of Kermit I'll have Piggy all to  
myself.

He runs o.s.

BACK TO SCENE

as Gonzo rushes into shot, pointing at Kermit.

GONZO  
That one! That one! Take that  
one, Nanny.

Piggy shoots Gonzo a steaming glance.

NANNY (VO)  
Thanks for your help, kids. I've  
finally made up my mind.

The Muppets all wait with anxious expressions, holding their breaths...

CLOSER ON FOZZIE IN CHAIR

Nanny's legs enter. She points at Fozzie.

NANNY (VO)  
Let's get rid of that one!

CAMERA PUSHES IN on Fozzie's shocked expression.

FOZZIE  
Keeeeerrrrrrrmiiiiiiiiiiiiitt!?

Nanny's hand enters, pats him on the head.

NANNY (VO)  
I know how you must feel, Fozzie,  
but I had to pick one. There  
simply isn't enough room in the  
nursery.

WIDER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE MR. JENKINS' LEGS

MR. JENKINS (VO)  
I'll pull my truck up and get the  
papers ready.

Nanny's and Mr. Jenkins' legs exit the nursery.

ON SCOOTER AND SKEETER

SCOOTER  
Boy! Am I glad it wasn't one of  
us.

PIGGY

gives Kermit a squeeze.

PIGGY  
Oh, Kermie. I was so worried for a  
minute.

KERMIT  
(gulp)  
So was I.

FULL ON KIDS

as they suddenly all go silent and turn to face a frightened  
Fozzie who is chewing on both paws.

KERMIT

Wait a minute! What have we got to feel good about? We're about to lose one of our friends.

FAVORING FOZZIE

FOZZIE

Oooh! I'm gonna be all alone, in the cold. I'll freeze! I'll starve!

The others crowd around Fozzie, who is still seated in the old chair.

SKEETER

Cheer up, Fozzie. It won't be that bad.

SCOOTER

Yeah. Maybe you can move in with Smoky the Bear.

CLOSER ON FOZZIE

as a Smoky the Bear hat dissolves onto his head, a shovel in his hand. He shoots a dumb look to camera.

GONZO (VO)

Or better yet, if you brush up on your football you might be able to join the UCLA bruins.

The Smoky hat fades away, replaced by a gold football helmet; the shovel dissolves into a football.

ROWLF (VO)

At least they won't throw you in the dog pound. 'Course, they might throw ya into the zoo!

Fozzie's helmet and ball fade away, replaced by bars. CAMERA WIDENS to reveal Fozzie in a bear cage with several other large, black bears. The Muppets are on the other side of the bars, looking at Fozzie like a troop of zoo visitors.

KERMIT

We'll always come to visit you, Fozzie.

PIGGY

And we'll bring plenty of peanuts.

Suddenly the kids throw peanuts at Fozzie.

CLOSER ON FOZZIE

FOZZIE  
Ooooooohhh!!

As the bars fade away we WIDEN to reveal we are back in the nursery. The kids are still gathered around Fozzie.

ROWLF  
Don't worry, Fozzie. Being by  
yourself can be fun, isn't that  
right guys?

OTHER MUPPETS  
Sure.

KERMIT  
Come on. Let's show him how great  
it can be.

MUSICAL SEQUENCE:

Kermit leads into a song, the theme of which is "life can be fun when you're by yourself". The song will include famous things done alone and famous people that did things alone (including some comical ones). Lindbergh crossed the Atlantic alone...John Glenn circled the earth alone...Issac Newton discovered gravity alone...Tarzan swung through the jungle alone...Superman changes into his super suit alone...E.T. was alone...but they all made friends! By the time the song is over the kids are gathered around Fozzie.

SKEETER  
There! Wasn't that fun?

PIGGY  
How do you feel about being alone  
now, Fozzie?

FOZZIE  
(almost in tears)  
It's gonna be horrible. You guys  
are just trying to make me feel  
better, aren't you?

THE OTHER MUPPETS  
(nod yes)  
Uh-huh!

CLOSE ON FOZZIE

FOZZIE  
 Aaaaahh! I don't know if I can  
 take it, living all alone in the  
 grown up world...without my  
 friends.

RIPPLE DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - EMPTY BALL PARK - DAY

Fozzie enters shot, all alone, looks about.

FOZZIE  
 (heavy echo)  
 Hello? Anybody home?

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - EMPTY WHEAT FIELD - DAY

Fozzie pokes his head up out of the wheat, looks about.

FOZZIE  
 Hello?

He ducks back down o.s.

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - SNOW COVERED PEAK - DAY

Fozzie climbs into shot, looks about. He cups his hand over  
 his mouth.

FOZZIE  
 (distant echoing)  
 Kerrrrrrrrrmiiiiiiiiittt...?

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal he is on the tip of the Matterhorn in  
 Switzerland.

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - EMPTY CITY STREET - DAY

Fozzie walks along, looking about.

FOZZIE  
 There must be somebody around here  
 I can make friends with.

Fozzie stops, reacting with a smile to something he sees.

FOZZIE  
 Oh, gosh! Just what I've been  
 looking for.

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal a theater. As Fozzie rushes inside we cut to:

INTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - THEATER

Fozzie walks out onto the stage, stopping, looking at the empty seats.

FOZZIE

(echo)

Uh, I got a great joke for you.  
Why did the rhinoceros play trumpet  
by himself? Give up?

CLOSER ON FOZZIE

FOZZIE

He only had one horn.

Fozzie reacts to the thunder of O.S. BOOING. He ducks as several tomatoes and eggs fly into shot, smashing on him and the curtain behind him.

REVERSE ANGLE

as Fozzie looks out at the silent and empty seats, reacting in surprise.

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - ROW OF TELEVISION SETS

Fozzie enters shot, stopping before the sets.

FOZZIE

Maybe there's someone on TV I can  
watch.

Fozzie switches on a set. Nothing but snow. He changes the channels. Still nothing!

CLOSE ON FOZZIE

as he looks right at us as if he were looking into the TV set. He raps his knuckles on the tube. THUNK-THUNK!

FOZZIE

(filtered)

Isn't there anybody out there at  
all?

HOLD for a beat as his expression sinks. He turns from the camera and cut to:

EXTERIOR: PHOTO B.G. - EMPTY FOOTBALL STADIUM

Fozzie walks into shot, stopping mid field.

FOZZIE  
(more echo)  
Oh, well...I guess I can always  
play games with myself.

CLOSER ON FOZZIE

He picks up a football, bends down into center position.

FOZZIE  
22...35...47...Hike!

Fozzie hikes the ball o.s. He does a take, looking into camera, then behind him.

FOZZIE  
(moping)  
Oh, it's no use. I'll never be  
able to play with my friends again.

KERMIT (VO)  
Don't say that, Fozzie?

Fozzie suddenly brightens, looking about.

FOZZIE  
Kermit? Where are you?

KERMIT (VO)  
Up here.

Fozzie looks up and cut to:

WIDER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE KERMIT

seated on the goal post, holding the ball, wearing an oversized football helmet.

FOZZIE  
What are you doing here? I've got  
to get used to being all alone.

KERMIT  
No you don't.

He leaps down, landing beside Fozzie. PUSH IN.

FOZZIE  
But Nanny is getting rid of me.

KERMIT  
Right! And I'm comin' with ya.

CLOSER ON KERMIT AND FOZZIE

FOZZIE  
You are?

KERMIT  
Sure. I could never leave my best friend.

FOZZIE  
Gosh! You're a swell guy, Kermit.

KERMIT  
Come on! Let's play some football.

Kermit moves o.s.

WIDER ON FIELD

Kermit comically passes a wobbly pass to Fozzie. Fozzie tries to catch it, but it bounces on his head.

FOZZIE  
But there aren't enough guys to play a game.

SKEETER (VO)  
Sure there are.

As Fozzie reacts we cut to:

THE BENCH

where we see the rest of the Muppets putting on their large helmets and jerseys.

PIGGY  
You didn't think we'd leave you!

SCOOTER  
Yeah! We're your friends too, Fozzie.

CLOSER ON GONZO

as he stands up, holding two pompoms.

GONZO  
Come on! Let's give our good friend Fozzie a cheer.  
(MORE)

GONZO (cont'd)  
 (shaking pompoms)  
 Give me an F...

OTHER MUPPETS (VO)  
 F!

Suddenly a giant "F" drops into shot beside Gonzo, shaking the scene. He reacts in amazement.

GONZO  
 (a little hesitant)  
 Give me an O...

OTHER MUPPETS (VO)  
 O!

A giant "O" drops into shot around Gonzo (with him in the center) shaking the scene again. He looks into camera.

GONZO  
 This is dangerous.  
 (looks o.s., softer)  
 Uh, give me two little z's...

OTHER MUPPETS (VO)  
 (softly)  
 z, z.

Two little z's drop into shot, plunking on Gonzo's nose. He wipes his brow.

GONZO  
 Phew!  
 (shouting again)  
 Give me an I...

OTHER MUPPETS (VO)  
 (a scream)  
 I!

A tremendous steel I beam (in the shape of an I) drops into shot, piercing the ground beside Gonzo, who leaps out of the way. Gonzo looks about nervously, then climbs under the letters for protection.

GONZO  
 (softer)  
 Give me an "e"...

OTHER MUPPETS (VO)  
 E!

Nothing happens. Gonzo peaks out as a little "e" flies into shot with wings, perching on his nose. He looks into camera.

GONZO  
What does it spell?

ANIMAL

jumps up and down on his butt, bouncing on the football.

ANIMAL  
FOZZIIIIIEEE!! A-HA-HA-HA!

Animal eats the ball.

FULL ON FOOTBALL FIELD

where all the Muppets are gathered around Fozzie.

FOZZIE  
(sniffling)  
Gee! You guys are real friends.

MATCHED DISSOLVE TO:

THE SAME SHOT OF THE MUPPETS

only now they are in the nursery.

ROWLF  
You can always count on us, Fozzie.

KERMIT  
You said it, Rowlf. If Fozzie's  
going, we're all going. Right  
guys?

OTHER MUPPETS  
Right!

SCOOTER  
Come on! Let's pack our stuff and  
get ready to go.

Scooter and Skeeter rush o.s.

ANGLE ON DRESSER

where Kermit, Rowlf, Gonzo and Fozzie stuff their little  
suitcases full of toys and messy clothes.

ANGLE ON CLOSET

where Piggy, Scooter and Skeeter do the same.

CLOSE ANGLE ON KERMIT

standing with a little suitcase.

KERMIT

Are we all packed and ready?

ANGLE ON WINDOW SEAT DRAWER

as Animal opens it up, gobbling down his clothes.

ANIMAL

(loud gulp)

REEEEAAAADY! HA-HA-HA-HA!

FULL ON NURSERY

The Muppets stand together with their little suitcases and knapsacks.

KERMIT

Okay, let's go tell Nanny!

As they march toward the nursery door we cut to:

UP ANGLE ON DOOR

It opens to reveal Mr. Jenkins' legs.

MR. JENKINS (VO)

(calling o.s.)

Don't worry! I'll take care of everything.

DOWN ANGLE ON MUPPETS

The kids stop dead. The MUSIC STINGS. Fozzie drops his suitcase in panic.

SKEETER

It's Mr. Jenkins!

FOZZIE

Oooh, nooo! He's coming to get me.

Fozzie rushes o.s.

ANGLE ON TWO SHABBY CHAIRS

Fozzie hides behind the one he was sitting in before. PUSH IN as he peeks out of the shadow, reacting to:

HIS POV: MR. JENKINS' LEGS

as they move right toward camera.

ANGLE ON OTHER MUPPETS

as they react in shock.

OTHER MUPPETS

(screams)

No! Stop! Don't do it!

ANGLE ON CHAIR

Mr. Jenkins' legs enter shot, grabbing the chair, pulling it away to reveal Fozzie. He cringes in fear.

FOZZIE

No! Please! I don't wanna goooo!

ANGLE ON NURSERY DOOR

as Nanny's legs enter, stopping on the landing.

NANNY (VO)

What's all the screaming about?

DOWN ANGLE - PAST NANNY'S LEGS - ON MUPPETS

They are all holding their suitcases and knapsacks.

NANNY (VO)

And where on earth do you think you're going?

KERMIT

Uh, we've decided that if you're going to get rid of Fozzie then you're going to have to get rid of all of us.

CLOSER ON PIGGY

PIGGY

That's right. If you don't love Fozzie anymore it probably won't be long before you stop loving the rest of us.

WIDER ANGLE

NANNY (VO)  
 What are you talking about? I'll  
 never stop loving any of you,  
 including Fozzie.

ANGLE ON FOZZIE

FOZZIE  
 Huh?

FULL ON MUPPETS

SKEETER  
 But you said you had to get rid of  
 one of us.

SCOOTER  
 And then you picked Fozzie.

PIGGY  
 And then that man came to get him.

MUPPETS  
 Yeah!

Piggy points o.s. at:

MR. JENKINS

whose legs stand beside the chair. Fozzie cringes against  
 the wall beside him.

FULL SHOT ALL

NANNY (VO)  
 Mr. Jenkins didn't come to get  
 Fozzie!

MUPPETS  
 He didn't??

NANNY (VO)  
 (light chuckle)  
 No! He came to get that old chair!

MUPPETS  
 He did??

MR. JENKINS (VO)  
That's right. I'm with the  
Salvation Army. You know...  
charity.

Mr. Jenkins takes the chair o.s.

FAVORING NANNY'S LEGS AND MUPPETS

NANNY (VO)  
Next time you should try asking  
instead of jumping to the wrong  
conclusions.

KERMIT  
Uh, sorry, Nanny.

Nanny's legs exit. SFX: DOOR CLOSING.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as Fozzie joins the others.

KERMIT  
(gulp)  
Sheesh! I'm sure glad that's over.

FOZZIE  
Yeah. I thought I was a gonner.

FAVORING GONZO

GONZO  
Boy, you guys aren't very smart.  
Personally, I knew Nanny was  
talking about the chair all along.

FOZZIE  
You did?

GONZO  
Sure.

NANNY (VO)  
(distant)  
Oh, Mr. Jenkins. Before you leave,  
why don't you go back into the  
nursery and take the little blue  
one, too.

GONZO  
(freaks out)  
Omigosh! It's me! I knew she  
wanted to get rid of me.

The kids react to:

THE DOOR

as it opens and Mr. Jenkins' legs enter.

GONZO

reacts in wide eyed panic, clutching his chicken.

GONZO  
No! Keep away! You can't take me!  
I've got a chicken to support.

Gonzo jumps onto the couch, hiding amongst the cushions. Mr. Jenkins' legs enter, grabbing for what appears to be Gonzo, but turns out to be a shabby blue cushion. Gonzo peaks out as Mr. Jenkins exits. PUSH IN as Gonzo looks RIGHT INTO CAMERA...

GONZO  
Heh, heh. I knew he wasn't coming  
for me all along.  
(on second thought)  
But, uh, just in case he is...maybe  
I could come live with you?

FADE OUT

THE END