

NEMO 2

An Original Screenplay by Laurie Craig

Based on Characters Created by
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FIRST DRAFT
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FADE IN:

INT. SMALL UNDERWATER GROTTO - DAY

A bed of ruby red fish eggs are nestled in the rock.

CORAL (V.O.)
Ah, look, they're dreaming...

WE PAN up from the eggs to see two clown fish, CORAL and MARLIN, lovingly watching their baby eggs.

CORAL (CONT'D)
We still have to name them. I like Nemo.

MARLIN
Nemo? Well, we'll name one Nemo, but I'd like most of them to be Marlin Jr.

The camera moves past them and out of the grotto, as their VOICES RECEDE.

CORAL (O.S.)
Just think, in a couple of days, we're gonna be parents...

MARLIN
Yeah... What if they don't like me?

EXT. REEF - DAY

From a distance, we see Coral and Marlin leaving the grotto and playfully entering their anemone home. We hear bits of their MUFFLED LAUGHTER and FLIRTATION, as we move away. Someone is watching them. We keep moving further and further back, until finally, we rest on a BARRACUDA.

Then, the Barracuda makes his move with lethal certainty. We hold on the murky water as he swiftly glides out of sight. There is a ripple in the current that betrays the life and death struggle that is happening off screen.

MARLIN (O.S.)
NO!!

We hear the IMPACT and CUT TO BLACK.

INT. ANEMONE HOME - LATER THAT NIGHT

All is quiet. Marlin comes to, uncertain how long he's been unconscious. He races out of the anemone.

MARLIN

Coral!!!

INT. GROTTO - NIGHT

Marlin looks in. Their rock nest is empty. Their eggs are all gone.

FADE TO:

MARLIN'S FACE

as he swims forlornly. All alone. He looks down and sees--

A SINGLE FISH EGG, lying on a ledge below the grotto. Marlin rushes to it.

MARLIN

There, there, there. It's okay,
daddy's here. Daddy's got you.

Gently he cradles the egg in his fins.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

I've got you... Nemo.

We move away and across the reef Moving further down, we finally come to rest on--

ANOTHER EGG

resting in the silt. Unseen, and all alone, it still quivers with life and possibility. A passing FISH TAIL swishes by overhead, creating just enough turbulence to send the egg drifting with the current. We follow the egg through --

EXT. OCEAN - VARIOUS

A vast landscape of jagged coral and infinite nooks and crannies. The egg comes to rest on the ocean floor again. An empty bottle falls off a passing ship and hits the sand next to it. The impact sends the egg up and into the neck of the bottle, as it gently comes to rest on its side.

A TIGER SHARK chomps down on the bottle and starts swimming away with it. After a while, the tiger shark spits the bottle out. The egg falls free of the bottle and lands on a rocky outcropping. The egg rolls and falls through a crack.

It tumbles down into another grotto, landing in a soft nest of yellow fish eggs, safe, but still alone.

We push in on the one ruby egg, and --

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

THE SUN

a bright orange circle, shining from above the water's undulating surface.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

NEMO, A BRIGHT ORANGE CLOWN FISH

swimming in a circle, doing perfect loop de loops.

NEMO

Yippee!!!

EXT. CORAL REEF - PRESENT DAY

SHELDON, a sea horse kid, PEARL, a flap jack octopus kid, and TAD, a butterfly fish kid, laugh as they watch Nemo showing off.

PEARL

Wow, he's so cool...

Nemo zooms up to them, trying to put on the brakes, but, accidentally knocking into Tad.

NEMO

(laughing)

Sorry!

TAD

That's okay, Nemo.

SHELDON

Um, Nemo? Can you tell us again about your adventure?

NEMO

(playing it cool)

Which adventure is that, Sheldon?

SHELDON

Come on, you know...

TAD

The one where you were taken to Sydney, and your dad went to find you.

SHELDON

And how you fought off all the humans
with one fin tied behind your back...

PEARL

...and saved everybody?

NEMO

(gulp)
Everybody?

PEARL

(swooning)
Yeah, everybody...

Nemo looks around at his eager friends, and sighs. He can't
disappoint his public.

NEMO

Okay, well, ah, it was like this...
I knew I didn't have a second to
waste, so I picked up a hook and I
jabbed it right in the human's nose!

PEARL

Were you scared?

NEMO

Nah. Then, I turned around and I...

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE REEF - DAY

Marlin and some of the other parents are watching their kids
as Nemo starts to draw a crowd. Marlin looks worried.

MARLIN

Ever since we got back from Sydney...

BOB, the sea horse father, shakes his head.

BOB

Don't worry, Marlin. All kids go
through this phase.

PHIL, the butterfly fish father, puts a fin on Marlin's
shoulder.

PHIL

He's just showing off a little.

Just then, Dory, the blue tang, swims up.

DORY

Hey, guys.

BOB AND PHIL

Hey, Dory.

MARLIN

Dory, do you think Nemo's getting a big head?

Dory cocks her head and looks at Nemo.

DORY

Hmm. Head looks okay to me...

BOB

He's fine, Marlin.

MARLIN

Yeah, but he *is* an only child. Maybe I spoiled him. Maybe I was too protective.

PHIL

Marlin...

MARLIN

Yeah, you're right, you're right.
(beat)
Maybe I should have sent him to camp...

BOB AND PHIL

(together)
Marlin!

DORY

(helpfully to Marlin)
Don't forget to breathe.

MARLIN

Right, right. Deep breath.
(exhaling)
Let it in, let it out, and let it go.
(smiling)
There. Total relaxation.

Dory nods. Bob and Phil roll their eyes. Just then, MR. RAY, the manta ray teacher, glides up.

MR. RAY

Hey there, Dory. How are those memory exercises going?

DORY

Hey, hey. What do ya say? It's the amazing Mr. Ray!

MR. RAY

Excellent. Keep up the good work.
Remember, if you can rhyme it, you
can remember it.

Dory nods and smiles. Mr. Ray glides off.

DORY

Who was that?

Marlin opens his mouth, but then just shakes his head.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE REEF - LATER

Dory is out for a little swim, humming her swimming song.

DORY

(singing)
Just keep swimming... Just keep
swimming...What rhymes with swimming?
I don't know...

Suddenly, she spies PERCY, a BOTTLE NOSED DOLPHIN, swimming
aimlessly in a circle.

DORY (CONT'D)

Hello, can I help you?

PERCY

I think I'm lost.

DORY

Oh. Well, this is the reef.
(pointing)
Over there is some ocean.
(pointing)
And over there is some more ocean.

The dolphin keeps looking nervously over his shoulder.

PERCY

Maybe I'm just being paranoid, but I
feel like I'm being followed.

Dory eyes a small transmitter with a blinking red light on
the dolphin's dorsal fin.

DORY

Hmmm. Weird.

PERCY

I got dropped off of a boat a couple
of days ago.

DORY
Really? Wow, a boat. What kind of
a boat?

PERCY
A Planet Blue boat.

DORY
Planet Blue?! Planet Blue?!

PERCY
Yeah, you know it?

DORY
(blank)
No.

PERCY
(sighing)
I wanna go home.

DORY
Well, bottle nosed dolphins do have
well defined home ranges.

The dolphin looks at her, surprised, as she continues.

DORY (CONT'D)
(quoting)
They are highly skilled echo locators,
producing a range of clicking sounds
in different frequencies.

PERCY
How did you know that?

DORY
Know what?

PERCY
(confused)
That.

DORY
What?
(beat)
Oh, I did it again, didn't I? I've
been doing much better since I've
been living here on the reef with my
friends. But I still forget, you
know, little things... nothing
important, really.
(beat)
At least I don't think so.

EXT. REEF - LATER

Someone is watching from behind a rock as Nemo swims along happily. They keep lurking, following, pulling back.

Nemo keeps swimming, the prince of his domain. Up ahead is a large archway in the coral. Just as Nemo swims past it, he happens to glance to the side. What he sees makes him stop short. Another little orange CLOWN FISH has also stopped short on the other side of the archway.

They regard each other without moving. Then Nemo slowly swims backwards. The other clown fish swims backwards as well. Now the archway is empty. Confused, Nemo creeps forward and peers through the arch. The other clown fish peers back at him.

Nemo backs up, the other fish backs up. Nemo goes up, the other fish goes up. They both come down. Nemo makes a face. The other fish makes the same face. Nemo shakes his head, the other fish shakes his head. Nemo looks cross eyed, the other fish looks cross eyed.

Nemo raises one fin, the other fish raises his. Nemo raises his small fin, the other fish raises his normal sized fin.

NEMO

Huh?

Nemo now knows he's not looking in a mirror.

NEMO (CONT'D)

Who are you?

The other clown fish, REMY, cocks his head at him.

REMY

Who are you?

NEMO

My name's Nemo. I live here.

Remy swims through the arch, and comes up to Nemo. Though he's about the same size, he seems older. His cheeks are leaner, his face grown a little more handsome. He has more swagger, more attitude than Nemo.

REMY

Oh, yeah? How long have you lived here?

NEMO

All my life.

REMY

Ever go anywhere?

NEMO

Yeah.

REMY

Anywhere far?

NEMO

Yeah. I went all the way to Sydney once.

REMY

What's your father's name?

NEMO

Marlin.

Remy nods, studying him.

REMY

I've been looking a long time. Are you sure?

NEMO

Of course I'm sure. Why?

REMY

Kid, I think I'm your brother.

NEMO

You're my *what?*!

CUT TO:

EXT. REEF - LATER

Marlin is speechless as his face displays the full range of emotions. Shock, doubt, grief, joy.

NEMO (O.S.)

Dad? Can we keep him?

Nemo and Remy face Marlin. Remy looks hesitant. A crowd of reef fish has gathered around to hear the tale.

NEMO (CONT'D)

What do you think?

Finally--

MARLIN

(tearing, to Remy)

I think you look like your mother...

He hugs Remy as more fish join the crowd around them. Marlin struggles to get a hold of himself.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

I have a son. I have a son. I have another son.

Dory swims up.

DORY

(to Remy)

Hi, I'm Dory, but everybody just calls me Dory.

REMY

My name's Remy.

DORY

Gee, you look awfully familiar.

BOB

It's Nemo's long lost brother!

DORY

Really?

PHIL

He heard about the scattered eggs, and Marlin and Nemo's journey, and came to find them.

DORY

Wow!

Nemo hangs back, smiling, as other fish crowd around.

MARLIN

But how did you ever...?

REMY

Well, I always knew I was different. Then I heard about you guys.

NEMO

(nodding proudly)

It was all over the ocean.

REMY

And I just started looking.

(sighing)

This is the tenth reef I've been to.

PHIL

That's amazing.

MARLIN

But how... Where did you grow up?

REMY

I was raised by a clan of Fighting
Fire Fish.

A murmur of awe goes through the crowd.

NEMO

(impressed)

Really?

TAD

They *never* run from a fight.

SHELDON

Their fins are deadly weapons. They
can defeat an enemy in three moves!

Remy shrugs, modestly.

NEMO

Wow...

PEARL

(swooning)

That is so cool...

PHIL

Alright everybody, let's give these
three some privacy. They've got a
lot of catching up to do.

The crowd starts breaking up as Marlin puts his arm around
Remy and starts leading him to the anemone. Nemo follows.

MARLIN

(to Remy)

You must be tired. Are you hungry?

NEMO

I'm kinda hungry, Dad...

MARLIN

(to Remy)

Tell me everything. I want to hear
everything.

They go inside the anemone.

NEMO

Me too. I want to hear everything
too.

Nemo hurries after them.

EXT. REEF MONTAGE - VARIOUS

Nemo watches Marlin and Remy play catch with a pebble.

MARLIN

Whoa! Good throw!

Nemo watches Marlin and Remy wrestle. Remy is giggling with delight as they slap fins. Nemo sighs wistfully.

Nemo and the other fish kids are playing a game with a pebble after school. Nemo's swimming really fast, about to catch the pebble that is arcing down toward him.

NEMO

I got it! I got it!

Just then, Remy comes out of nowhere, bumps into Nemo, and intercepts the pebble for a "touchdown". The other fish kids cheer. Nemo frowns.

Nemo and Remy are next to each other in class. Mr. Ray has just asked a question. Remy looks stumped. But --

NEMO (CONT'D)

(fin raised)

I know! I know!

Mr. Ray points to him. Nemo gives Remy a smug look. Remy glowers, as Nemo holds forth.

INT. ANEMONE HOME - NIGHT

Marlin, Nemo, and Remy are sleeping in a row. Remy opens one eye and maneuvers in between Marlin and Nemo. After a moment, Nemo opens an eye and glares at the sleeping Remy. He swims up and then settles down between Remy and Marlin. Then Remy comes up from underneath. It's a nightly shuffle. Remy pushes Nemo. Nemo shoves back. Marlin, with bags under his eyes, keeps getting bumped and tries to sleep.

EXT. REEF - ANOTHER DAY

Nemo hangs back near his anemone home, watching Remy show off his cool Fighting Fire Fish moves to the other little fish. Pearl applauds with all of her arms. Nemo looks gloomy, a prince dethroned.

Nearby, Marlin watches with Bob, the sea horse father.

BOB

(regarding Remy)

He's so strong. You must be very proud.

MARLIN

(guilty)

What he must have gone through... I should have looked for more eggs.

BOB

You did your best.

MARLIN

It wasn't enough...

BOB

Looks like he turned out just fine, and then some.

MARLIN

You mean... maybe he did better without me...?

Just then, Remy flips Sheldon, the sea horse kid, over his shoulder. Sheldon yelps. Bob, his father, starts forward.

BOB

You're okay, Sheldon. Shake it off.

Marlin sees Nemo hanging back, and goes over to him.

MARLIN

Why don't you go play with your brother?

NEMO

He doesn't look like he needs my company.

Just then, Remy executes a particularly snazzy kung fu move with his fins. Nemo sighs. Marlin tries to cheer him up.

MARLIN

Don't worry. We can't all be athletic. You're a great student.

This doesn't cheer Nemo up.

NEMO

How do we know he really is my brother, anyway?

MARLIN

Are you kidding? Look at him! He could be your twin. Well... except for the fin.

Oops, that was the wrong thing to say.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Nemo, I didn't mean...

Nemo hangs his head and starts to swim away.

NEMO
You're always playing favorites.

MARLIN
Nemo...

NEMO
(under his breath)
I'm sorry I ever wished for a brother,
anyway...

MARLIN
(following)
Oh, come on Nemo. Don't be that
way.

Nemo keeps swimming.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
Nemo! You're a fish. If things had
worked out differently, you would
have had a hundred brothers.

This is not helping. Marlin catches up to Nemo and puts his
fin around him.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
Come on, cheer up. What day is today,
huh?

Nemo starts to brighten.

NEMO
(grinning)
It's my birthday!

MARLIN
That's right. I don't suppose you
want to have a party or anything
like that...?

NEMO
Yes!

MARLIN
Good! Because everybody's coming.
(hugging him)
Happy birthday, Nemo.

Just then, Remy swims up, looking wistful. Marlin looks at
him and realizes something --

MARLIN (CONT'D)
And happy birthday, Remy.

Remy gets between them, and snuggles up to Marlin.

REMY
Thanks, Dad.

Nemo scowls. But by now all the other fish are gathering around.

DORY
Happy birthday, Remo! I mean, ah...

Nemo grits his teeth. Other kid fish crowd around.

DORY (CONT'D)
Who wants to play party games?

KID FISH
Me, me! I do, I do!

NEMO
I wanna play tag!

REMY
I wanna play hide and seek!

NEMO
(tugging on Marlin)
Dad!

REMY
(tugging on Marlin)
Dad!

MARLIN
(turning back and forth)
What? What?

NEMO
Tag!

REMY
Hide and seek!

MARLIN
Wait! One at a time!

NEMO AND REMY
(together)
Tag! Hide and seek! Tag! Hide and seek!

Marlin looks overwhelmed.

MARLIN
Stop! Okay, first we'll play hide and seek.

NEMO
That's not fair!

Remy looks smug.

MARLIN
And then we'll play...

NEMO
I don't wanna play.

He swims off in a huff.

MARLIN
(calling)
Nemo! Come back here!

REMY
Don't worry. I'll get him.

And he swims after Nemo. Marlin turns to Dory.

MARLIN
I can't handle this. I'm just not
cut out for this.

DORY
You're doing fine.

MARLIN
Really? Because I don't feel like
I'm doing fine. I feel like I need
a drink. Do fish drink?

Dory looks at him blankly, then at all the water surrounding
them.

DORY
Marlin...

MARLIN
Right. Breathe.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE REEF - DAY

Nemo swims along, dejected. Remy catches up to him.

REMY
Hey! Little fin!

NEMO
Don't call me that.

REMY
Who's gonna stop me?

NEMO
 (yelling)
 Leave me alone!

Remy stands his ground.

NEMO (CONT'D)
 (pointing his fin)
 I see what you're doing. You're
 trying to make everybody think you're
 so cool. But just showing up here
 doesn't make you my brother. You
 don't belong here.

REMY
 I do too!

NEMO
 No you don't! There's millions of
 clown fish in the sea! Your father
 could have been any one of them. So
 leave mine alone!

REMY
 But he said...!

NEMO
 Who cares what he said! He probably
 just felt sorry for you.

REMY
 (faltering)
 He's my father.

NEMO
 How do you know? Huh?

REMY
 I... I... just...

NEMO
 How do you know?

REMY
 Shut up!

And he charges. Nemo swats back at him with his good fin.
 Remy grabs him and holds him down, twisting his little fin.

NEMO
 Ow!

MARLIN (O.S.)
 Boys! Stop it!

He races up and tries to pull them apart. They keep swatting
 at each other, and hitting Marlin at the same time.

REMY
He started it!

NEMO
He started it!

Marlin manages to pull them apart.

MARLIN
(pointing to Nemo)
You! Go to your room!
(pointing to Remy)
You! Go to your room!
(beat)
Wait a minute, that's not going to
work. We only have one room.

Remy swats Nemo again. Marlin yanks Remy back. Nemo keeps
pushing.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
(blowing up)
Hey! I can't take this anymore!
Stop it!

REMY
(yelling at Marlin)
You can't tell me what to do!

MARLIN
Yes I can! I'm your father!

But Remy is getting too worked up to argue with.

REMY
(shouting)
Then why did you leave me?

Marlin moves back, stunned. Remy glares at him and starts
swimming away. Marlin is flummoxed.

MARLIN
Remy!

NEMO
Let him go.
(calling after Remy)
I hope he gets lost! And stays lost!
'Cause he's not my brother!

MARLIN
(gasping)
Nemo! I'm ashamed of you...

Hurt and confused, Nemo cringes back.

Suddenly the water above them starts churning. The propeller of a boat blasts by overhead. Marlin and the boys look up in confusion.

Percy, the dolphin with the transmitter, comes barreling past Remy.

PERCY
(yelling)
Look out!

The water is distorted behind the dolphin. Something big is heading toward Remy. Marlin's eyes widen in fear.

MARLIN
(yelling)
Remy!

Remy is frozen. A large drag net is bearing down on him. Marlin races to him.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
Not again!

Marlin bats Remy out of the way. The net slams into Marlin, knocking the wind out of him.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
Oof!

As the boys watch in terror, Marlin is whisked along with the net, and slammed into the back of the swimming dolphin. The net wraps around the dolphin, trapping Marlin inside.

NEMO
(yelling)
Dad!

MARLIN
(yelling)
Stay back, kids!

Nemo and Remy hesitate. The water calms above them. But then the net closes, and before they know it, the net drags the dolphin and Marlin away and up in a swirl of water.

NEMO
(yelling)
Dad!

They stay frozen in confusion. Then Remy starts after Marlin. Nemo follows. Soon they lose sight of the net altogether.

NEMO (CONT'D)
Dad!

EXT. RESEARCH VESSEL - DAY

Stunned, Marlin is hoisted up in a hammock sling along with Percy, the dolphin.

INT. RESEARCH VESSEL BRIDGE - DAY

A hand switches off the high-tech sonar machine.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Hearing the commotion, Dory and the other reef fish come swimming up.

DORY
What happened?! What happened?!

REMY
I don't know!

NEMO
A net, a net, a net took my dad!

DORY
Who's Annette?

NEMO
(still catching his
breath)
Not Annette! A NET! A NET!

DORY
A net! Oh!

Dory finally understands, and zooms to the surface.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - DAY

Dory pops up and looks around. The retreating ship heads off into the horizon.

EXT. BELOW THE SURFACE - DAY

Dory comes back to where Nemo is crying hysterically.

NEMO
Daddy!
(shoving Remy)
This is your fault!

Remy looks like he's about to cry himself.

REMY
It's your fault!

DORY
Stop! It's nobody's fault! We've got to figure this out. Did you get a good look at the net?

REMY
No, there was a dolphin in the way.

Something clicks for Dory.

DORY
A dolphin? Did he have a little thing on his fin? Ah, ah, ah, little red light?

NEMO
I think so.

Dory gets a determined look on her face.

DORY
I think I know where he's going!

NEMO
You do?

REMY
How?

DORY
Wait! Stop talking. I have to remember it.
(struggling)
It's a rhyme. It rhymes with bowling shoe. No! Wandering Jew. No! Oyster stew. It's on the tip of my tongue!
(frustrated)
And it's a color, it's a color. Blue. Cheese fondue. Blue cheese fondue.

REMY
(to Nemo)
What's wrong with her?

DORY
Planet Blue!

The boys look at her, confused.

NEMO
What's that?

Dory tries her best to explain.

DORY
 It's, it's...
 (exhaling)
 Look, I don't know how I know this,
 but I know this.

Remy looks skeptical. Nemo searches her eyes.

NEMO
 (finally)
 Okay.

EXT. OCEAN - LATER

Dory swims in the lead. Nemo follows. Remy brings up the rear.

REMY
 This is silly. How do we even know
 that she knows where she's going?

NEMO
 You don't have to come, you know.

REMY
 He's my dad too.

NEMO
 Stop calling him that!

DORY
 (trying to ignore
 them)
 Just keep swimming, just keep
 swimming.

The three of them swim off into the murky deep.

EXT. BAY OFF THE GOLD COAST OF AUSTRALIA - DAY

A boat pulls past a sign that reads "Planet Blue." The tops of various rides and attractions of a large marine park are visible in the distance.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Marlin and the dolphin splash down into a large tank of water. The transmitter has been removed from his dorsal fin. Percy shakes his head.

PERCY
 Oh, that's better.

Marlin backs up as Percy keeps shaking his head.

MARLIN

Okay so is this the part where you eat me?

Marlin shuts his eyes, hoping it will be quick.

PERCY

(snorting)
I don't *hunt*.

Marlin opens his eyes, surprised. Percy swims off.

PERCY (CONT'D)

I hope that cute trainer is still here. The one with the big buckets of mackerel...

Marlin follows him, tentatively.

MARLIN

Um, okay... so if you're not going to eat me, maybe you can tell me how to get out of here?

PERCY

Yeah, I used to feel like that. I was depressed. I stopped eating. Everybody thought I'd do better out in the ocean.

MARLIN

The ocean? Yes, the ocean! Let's go find the ocean.

PERCY

(shaking his head)
You know what? The ocean really didn't work for me.

MARLIN

What are you talking about?! We were just in the ocean! We were caught by a net! Jeez, I can't believe I'm this unlucky!

PERCY

(shrugging)
Hey. Net's happen.

They swim through a gate into a larger tank

PERCY (CONT'D)

(deep breath)
It's good to be back...

MARLIN
Back? Back where?!

They break the surface.

PERCY
The Big Time...

Marlin's jaw drops open. "On Broadway" is playing loudly as SEVERAL DOLPHINS are jumping through hoops. OTHERS swim backwards on their tails in time to the music. It's an aquatic chorus line, complete with a DIRECTOR DOLPHIN.

DIRECTOR DOLPHIN
(shouting)
Chin up, chin up! Smile!

ANOTHER DOLPHIN is singing some scales on the side.

ANOTHER DOLPHIN
(singing)
Me, me, me, me, me, me, me!

Marlin takes in this wacky cacophony. He's certainly not in the ocean anymore.

EXT. BAY OFF THE GOLD COAST OF AUSTRALIA - DAYS LATER

Dory hums softly as they swim along. Nemo and Remy follow her, exhausted.

REMY
(to Dory)
Could you stop humming?

DORY
Oh, was I humming?

NEMO
(weary)
Yes.

REMY
Are we there yet?

EXT. SURFACE OF THE BAY - DAY

Dory, Nemo, and Remy break the surface, and look across a bay to the mainland. They can see the tops of some of the Planet Blue roller-coaster rides above the tree line.

DORY
There it is.

NEMO

How will we get in there?

DORY

Well... ah... that's a very good question. If we could just get the ocean level to rise... We need some global warming. Anybody got a match?

REMY

There must be some way.

He dives down under the water.

EXT. UNDER THE BAY - DAY

Dory and Nemo follow Remy. Soon he spies a huge three foot diameter intake pipe in the distance.

REMY

Look! Come on.

NEMO AND DORY

Wait!

But Remy just charges ahead, ignoring their cries. They chase after him.

As they draw closer, we see the huge pipe sucking the sea water through its impeller. The three little fish are quickly caught up in the suction, and start getting drawn into the mouth of this huge sucking monster. They desperately try to swim away, but the pull is too strong.

NEMO, REMY, AND DORY

Ahhh!!

Little bits of debris zing past them and into the impeller, getting shredded and devoured. They're almost to the mouth of the thing, when a large branch gets pulled into the pipe. It lodges there temporarily, creating a little bit of a pocket without suction. The three of them manage to grab on to an arm of the branch. They pull themselves along, as the branch keeps getting drawn inexorably into the impeller. Looking back at the mouth of the pipe, they see bits of the branch start to shred. This won't hold.

DORY

Come on!

They frantically start swimming with all of their might.

DORY (CONT'D)

Hurry! Hurry!

The boys catch up to her. She shoves them with all of her strength to the side, out of the stream of the suction. Just then, the branch snaps and gets pulled into the impeller. Dory pours on one last bit of speed, and gets out of the stream. The three fish catch their breath and watch as the last of the branch gets sucked into the intake pipe.

DORY (CONT'D)
 (catching her breath)
 Are you boys okay?

NEMO
 (swatting Remy)
 What's the matter with you? You could have gotten us killed! You can't just rush into things!

REMY
 You got a better idea?

EXT. OUTFLOW PIPE - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory approach a gushing outflow pipe. Water is just spewing out of it.

NEMO
 There.

Dory and Remy look on, skeptically.

DORY
 Ah, Nemo? That water looks like it's going the wrong way.

NEMO
 (studying it)
 We can swim upstream. Come on, you just have to think like a salmon.

Nemo keeps looking at the water, trying to figure it out.

REMY
 You think too much.

NEMO
 I'll show you.

He hunches himself up, and swims determinedly toward the pipe. But the outflow is so strong, he soon finds himself swimming in place. Like a kid going the wrong way on an escalator, he struggles and struggles, until finally the flow spits him out, somersaulting backwards.

NEMO (CONT'D)
 Ahhh!

Remy laughs. Nemo shoots him a look, and starts back again.

DORY

Nemo...!

But, it's no use. Nemo is bound and determined to get in that pipe. He fights his way back toward the opening, but the current is so strong, it knocks him back again.

REMY

Give it up, little fin.

Nemo is getting tired, but he won't let Remy see him bested. He dives back into the gushing water.

Other BAY FISH gather around to watch the foolish spectacle.

BAY FISH

What's going on?

ANOTHER FISH

Some crazy kid...

This time, Nemo manages to progress a couple of inches. But then straining and floundering, he hangs in the current before the jetting water shoots him spiraling out of control.

He lands on the sandy bottom of the bay, winded and dizzy. Dory races to him. Remy comes up from behind her, smirking.

DORY

Nemo!

REMY

Hah!

Nemo shakes his head, still woozy. The other fish gather around.

DORY

Nemo, can you hear me?

From behind, we follow ANOTHER FISH making his way through the crowd.

VOICE

Stand back, give the kid some water.

The other fish move out of the way. Nemo looks up to see GILL looking down at him. Gill is a Moorish Idol fish and veteran from the dentist office tank.

GILL

Hey, Shark Bait...

NEMO

Gill!

GILL
What are you doing here?

CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERWATER JETTY ROCKS - LATER

Gill has been hearing Nemo and Remy out. Dory hovers behind them. The jetty rocks have collected all sorts of debris, paper cups, shoes, the flotsam and jetsam of the bay.

GILL
Now let me get this straight. You want to break in to Planet Blue?

NEMO
He's my dad, Gill.

REMY
Mine too.

Nemo glares at Remy.

GILL
But how do you know he's even in there?

DORY
I just do, Bill.

Gill narrows his eyes at this odd-ball.

DORY (CONT'D)
It's hard to explain, but I think I've been there before.

GILL
No fish has ever come out of there.

NEMO
But maybe she did and she just forgot.

DORY
(nodding)
I forget a lot, Will.

GILL
It's Gill!

She nods agreeably.

DORY
(rapping)
It's Gill not Will. I'm just gonna chill with my man... What's your name?

GILL
 (sighing)
 You better forget it, kids.

NEMO
 Where's the rest of your gang? Maybe
 they can help.

GILL
 (shaking his head)
 We parted company. I do better
 traveling alone.

NEMO
 Help us.

GILL
 It's impossible. And even if it
 wasn't, I'm not going back inside a
 tank, kid. And Planet Blue is nothing
 but tanks.

Nemo's eyes tear.

NEMO
 He's my dad, Gill. He did the same
 for me. You know he did.

Gill doesn't budge. Nemo meets his eyes. Nemo's look of
 disappointment is hard for Gill to bear.

GILL
 Kid...

NEMO
 Fine. I'll do it without your help.

Nemo abruptly turns, and starts off.

GILL
 Nemo, wait!

Nemo keeps going. Gill lets out a GROAN.

GILL (CONT'D)
 (calling)
 Okay! Come back! I might have an
 idea.

Nemo pivots. Remy and Dory look at Gill, expectantly as
 well. Nemo rushes back to him.

Gill turns and starts rifling through some of the debris on
 the jetty rocks. Snorting and grunting with annoyance, he
 starts flinging things over his fin. Nemo and Remy duck as
 shoes and balls come their way.

NEMO

What? What?

Gill finds what he's looking for, and pulls out a torn, laminated tourist map of Planet Blue. He studies it.

GILL

(sighing)

Okay.

(pointing to Remy)

You tried to go in the intake pipe.

(pointing to Nemo)

You tried to go in the outflow pipe.

The two boys nod.

GILL (CONT'D)

So, you can't go in the "in". And you can't go in the "out". You need a third way.

They're hanging on his every word.

GILL (CONT'D)

We have to make the "out" the "in".

NEMO AND REMY

Huh?

CUT TO:

EXT. BAY - NEXT DAY

Ready for action, Gill faces Nemo, Remy, and Dory.

GILL

Okay, are we clear?

They nod. A sleepy looking sea lion, DUDLEY swims up. Dory and the boys back up, afraid.

GILL (CONT'D)

(aside)

Don't worry. The sea lions in this bay have so much human food to eat they're too lazy to catch fish.

DUDLEY

That's right. I don't eat fish. I do eat sushi though. And burgers and fries and...

GILL

Dudley.

DUDLEY

Right.

GILL

Your crew ready?

Dudley scratches his whiskers with his flipper.

DUDLEY

(yawning)

No worries.

GILL

Okay, just... stay awake.

EXT. SURFACE OF THE BAY - DAY

Another gorgeous day on the Gold Coast. Boats crisscross the bay, towing colorful PARASAILS high in the air.

EXT. ROCK JETTY - DAY

Dudley is lying on the rocks in the sun, surrounded by junk food wrappers. He shakes himself awake, as a PARASAILING BOAT pulls past him, heading to the docks. RAGTIME STING MUSIC begins as Dudley wipes his flipper across his nose as a signal.

EXT. SURFACE OF THE BAY - DAY

CLYDE, another sea lion, gets the signal and turns, wiping his own nose with his flipper.

EXT. UNDER A DOCK - DAY

Two more sea lions, EUGENE and BARLOW, receive the signal, and coolly signal back.

EXT. MARINA DOCK - MOMENTS LATER

The parasailing boat bumps against the dock. Ropes are thrown and tied. A bundled parasail THUDS down onto the dock.

EXT. ROCK JETTY - DAY

Dudley squints at the DISTANT HUMAN unloading the parasailing boat at the dock. He sees the human get distracted in conversation with ANOTHER HUMAN. Their backs are to the dock. Dudley gives a thumbs up motion with his flipper.

EXT. MARINA DOCK - DAY

Eugene and Barlow leap up on the dock, quickly grab the parasail, and plunge back into the water. The humans on the boat turn around and see the parasail has disappeared. Huh?

EXT. UNDER THE BAY - DAY

The sea lions bring the billowing nylon parasail down under the water to where Gill, Nemo, Remy, and Dory are waiting.

GILL
Good work, boys.

EUGENE
It was kind of fun.

BARLOW
(yawning)
Yeah... to... actually, you know...
do something.

They keep swimming with the parasail, down to the intake pipe.

GILL
Watch that line. Nemo, Remy, stay
back.

The sea lions draw closer to the intake pipe.

GILL (CONT'D)
Okay, now! Let it go!

The sea lions release the parasail, which quickly gets sucked into the intake pipe. The mass of billowing nylon gets drawn into the impeller, which continues to grind for a little bit, before giving up the ghost. The suction stops, as somewhere deep inside the pipe, the motor grinds feebly. There's just a huge wad of colorful nylon sticking out from the end of the pipe. It looks like it will hold - for now.

Nemo, Remy, and Dory look on, impressed. A small satisfied smile plays on Gill's face.

GILL (CONT'D)
Okay, Dudley, you guys can...

He looks around. The sea lions are long gone.

EXT. ROCK JETTY - DAY

The sea lions are sprawled on the rocks, snoring.

EXT. BAY OUTFLOW PIPE - MOMENTS LATER

Gill, the boys, and Dory are gathered in front of the outflow pipe. What was once a gushing Niagara slows to a trickle.

GILL
(nodding)
That should do it.

They watch the water in the pipe become completely still. Gill directs their attention to the Planet Blue map.

GILL (CONT'D)
Okay, I don't know how long this is gonna last. I'll keep watch. You go in and find...
(pointing to it on the map)
...the dolphin tank, get your father, and get back out here. Pronto.

NEMO
Okay.

REMY
Got it.

GILL
Remember, get in, get out. No sight seeing.

DORY
Right, Phil. No sight seeing. I mean, once you've seen one fish...

GILL
Go!

DORY
Okay, jeez! Come on boys, stay together.

Dory starts shepherding the boys into the outflow pipe.

Gill watches them enter the pipe, and shakes his head, afraid he's made a huge mistake in helping them.

INT. BAY OUTFLOW PIPE - DAY

The three fish come inside and start making their way toward Planet Blue. The inside of the pipe is lined with all kinds of algae and gunk.

NEMO
Whoa...

There's a slight ECHO.

REMY
(yelling)
Whoa!

That ECHOES all the way down the pipe. "WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!"

DORY
Okay, that's enough.

REMY
Why?

DORY
Because, since your father's not here, I'm responsible for you two. And that means I have to be the responsible adult here.

REMY
Oh, come on. It's fun.
(yelling)
Dory!

The ECHO repeats, "DORY, DORY, DORY!"

DORY
Hey, cool.
(yelling)
Woo hoo!

Pretty soon, they are all yelling and laughing. Someone lets out a LOUD BELCH that bounces back at them three times.

DORY (CONT'D)
Who did that?

NEMO
Wasn't me!

REMY
Wasn't me!

DORY
Oh. Excuse me!

Nemo and Remy start competing to see who can burp loudest, their ECHOES a noisy jumble, as they move on down the pipe.

INT. OUTFLOW PIPE - LATER

The further inside they go, the darker it gets. There is just enough bioluminescence for them to find their way.

Nemo, Remy, and Dory arrive at a fork in the pipe. In fact, there are multiple pipes branching off in many directions. They peer through the gloom, confused.

REMY

Well, we might as well just pick one. Come on.

He starts down one.

NEMO

Wait!

Nemo and Dory hurry to catch up with Remy.

NEMO (CONT'D)

How do we know this is the right one?

REMY

How do we know it isn't?

DORY

He's got a point.

REMY

You heard Gill. We don't have much time. Let's go.

And he starts off again. Nemo GROANS in frustration, and hurries after him.

INT. PLANET BLUE AQUARIUM TANK - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory push a screen aside and come through an opening. They look around a dark rocky aquarium tank. The floor of the tank is incongruously strewn with rubber toys.

DORY

(happily)

Oh, look, toys...

She studies the tank. It appears to be empty. Nemo frowns at Remy.

NEMO

(pointedly)

I don't see any dolphins.

Dory swims to the edge of the glass, and looks through to the viewing gallery. She peers out.

A DOCENT is giving a lecture to some TOURISTS. Behind them, we catch just a glimpse of a gift shop window, crowded with orange fish plush toys.

DORY
Hey, this looks kinda familiar...

Remy watches a TOURIST TAPPING on the glass in front of them.

REMY
(low, to Nemo)
It looks like it's trying to get
out...

Over the tourists' heads, Dory sees a Planet Blue map on the wall.

DORY
Oh, look! A map!
(squinting)
There's the dolphin area, so that
means we must be...

Nemo and Remy wait impatiently.

REMY
Come on, let's go.

We catch a little of the DOCENT LECTURE O.S.

DOCENT (O.S.)
These amazing animals have the ability
to change colors, depending on their
moods...

Behind Nemo and Remy, stealthy TENTACLES reach toward them, unseen. Dory keeps looking through the glass at the map.

DORY
Ok, so if the dolphin area is there...

DOCENT (O.S.)
... one of the most intelligent and
curious creatures. Which is why we
have so many enrichment toys in the
tank for the...

DORY
...we must be in with the...

DOCENT (O.S.)
Octopus.

DORY
...Octopus!!!

Two tentacles grab Nemo and Remy simultaneously, as the OCTOPUS rises up from behind the rock. Dory turns and freaks.

DORY (CONT'D)
Ahhh!

Dory doesn't know what to do. The octopus tentacles flail around.

NEMO AND REMY

(yelling)

Help!!

Dory looks down and gets an idea. She zooms to the bottom of the tank and picks up a rubber squeaky toy. She flings one, and then another, right at the tentacles holding the boys. The tentacles drop the boys to grab the toys. SQUEAKY! SQUEAKY! The octopus changes color.

Nemo and Remy dart away, but there are still six arms left. The fish duck through holes in the rocks. The tentacles follow. Nemo and Remy have tentacles coming at them from in front and behind.

They shoot straight up. The tentacles grab each other, shake hands, and shake each other off in frustration. The octopus keeps changing color. This is one pissed off technicolor cephalopod.

Nemo, Remy, and Dory start barreling back to the exit pipe. The tentacles follow.

DORY

Go, go, go, go!

The fish duck into the pipe without slowing down.

INT. PIPE - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory race back down the pipe. Behind them, a tentacle keeps coming after them.

DORY

(looking back)

Don't look back!

They pour on more speed. Finally, they manage to outrun the tentacle, when it can't reach any further into the pipe. Nemo, Remy, and Dory slow and gasp for breath.

NEMO

(to Remy)

Nice pipe you picked, genius.

REMY

I didn't know!

NEMO

You never know anything! You can't be my brother. Any brother I had wouldn't be so dumb.

REMY

Oh yeah? Well I can't believe you're such a wimp.

DORY

(interrupting)

Stop it! Stop fighting! Don't you realize how lucky you are to have each other?

They look at her like she's crazy.

DORY (CONT'D)

Yeah. You are. I have no one.

(throwing up her fins)

Just two kids who aren't even mine, who won't even listen to me.

Nemo and Remy sigh, feeling bad. Dory looks at them.

DORY (CONT'D)

Okay, so the good news is, I got a good look at that map back there. And the dolphin tank is just one tank over.

Both boys brighten.

NEMO

Really?

DORY

(nodding)

Follow me.

She turns and starts going back the wrong way.

NEMO

Ah, Dory?

(motioning)

Octopus.

DORY

(turning)

Right. Right.

They start off the right way down the pipe.

NEMO

I hope Dad's okay...

DORY

Oh, you know your father. Cool in a crisis.

EXT. PERFORMING DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Marlin is looking incredulously at some LEAPING DOLPHINS, REDGRAVE, the Shakespearean, BETTE, the diva, and Percy, who it turns out is an insecure ham.

MARLIN

(yelling)

Listen to me! Listen to me!

BETTE

(singing)

Gotta dance!

MARLIN

No, you don't seem to understand. I gotta get out of here.

PERCY

Why? It's great here.

Percy jumps up, revealing more of the large amphitheater and the bay beyond it. He splashes down again.

PERCY (CONT'D)

Did you like that jump? Because I could do it again.

BETTE

It was perfect, Percy darling. I'm so glad you're back. The matinee just wasn't the same without you.

MARLIN

What's the matter with you guys?! I gotta get out of here!

BETTE

But darling, it's fabulous here. Three squares a day, no one trying to eat you.

(shuddering happily)

And the applause. Delicious.

MARLIN

What's the matter with you? Are you a mammal, or are you a fish?

BETTE

I'm a star!

MARLIN

(pointing)

I have to get back to the ocean.

Redgrave swims over.

REDGRAVE

Ah, the ocean. The tales that come out of it's watery depths. Imagine what the theater would be without it...

MARLIN

Yeah. That's great, but...

REDGRAVE

I remember a time at the Palladium. I was performing with Sir Lawrence. We had a very similar situation to this. A little fish was lost... no wait a minute, that was a sardine. I believe we ate him, poor chap.

MARLIN

My kids are out there.

REDGRAVE

Ah, is there anything more inspiring than a father's devotion? Why, I remember my father when I was just a lad, telling me "son...", that's what he called me, son...

BETTE

(choking up)

This is beautiful. Gets me every time. Right here.

REDGRAVE

There is nothing so small as a tiny pair of fins swimming in your wake. And nothing so large as a father's heart when he gazes upon his child.

Percy's lower lip trembles. Bette sniffs. Off to the side, a HECKLER DOLPHIN rolls his eyes.

HECKLER DOLPHIN

(low, to another)

And nothing so corny as a washed up has been...

REDGRAVE

I heard that.

MARLIN

Listen to me. I'm desperate. My kids need me. I'm afraid they're gonna kill each other without me.

PERCY

Well, I do have one idea.

Everyone looks at Percy.

PERCY (CONT'D)

I could splash you over the fence.
The ocean's just on the other side.

MARLIN

You could do that?

BETTE

Sure, we've all done that splash a
thousand times. Always gets a laugh,
big crowd pleaser.

MARLIN

(uncertain)
Okay...

PERCY

Okay.

REDGRAVE

(directing them)
Here's your mark, dear boy. Right
here. There you go. Break a flipper.

Marlin and Percy get in position.

PERCY

Wait! What's my motivation?

BETTE

Just immerse yourself in the part,
darling.

PERCY

Right.
(to Marlin)
So, goodbye and good luck.

Marlin shuts his eyes as Percy lifts up his tail and brings
it down with a CRASH. Marlin is splashed up --

INTO THE AIR

soaring over the dolphin arena, clearing the cement walkway.
Up ahead is the fence, and beyond that, the bay. Marlin
starts arcing down, and down, and into --

A BUCKET OF WATER

left on the cement next to the fence. He lands with a SPLASH.

MARLIN

Oof!

IN THE DOLPHIN TANK

the dolphins react.

PERCY

Oops! That was a little short.

REDGRAVE

Perhaps you weren't really in the moment.

Just then, a JANITOR, pushing a cart, comes by, picks up the bucket, puts it on his cart, and heads off.

PERCY

Oh no!

BETTE

Pull yourself together, darling.
We've got a three o'clock curtain.

REDGRAVE

The show must go on, eh?

EXT. UNDER THE BAY - DAY

Gill is worriedly swimming back and forth. Dudley comes swimming over to him.

GILL

This is taking too long. They should have been back by now.

DUDLEY

We've got trouble, chief.

EXT. SURFACE OF THE BAY - DAY

A Planet Blue ZODIAC BOAT slows as TWO DIVERS go over the sides.

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - DAY

The divers survey the parasail plugging up the pipe. From a safe distance, Gill and Dudley watch with concern.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory come out the outflow pipe, into the dolphin tank. The dolphins are in the middle of their finale, leaping and jumping through flaming hoops. Dory whistles, impressed.

DORY

Now, see how nice they work together?
That's what I call teamwork.
(watching)
One goes up, one goes down. They
meet in the middle. Amazing!

Nemo and Remy roll their eyes.

REMY

Yeah, whatever.

NEMO

(looking around)
I don't see Dad anywhere.

INT. BUCKET - DAY

Marlin sloshes around in the bucket, as the cart bumps along through the Planet Blue grounds.

MARLIN

Oh, this is bad. This is bad...
this is not good at all.

EXT. PLANET BLUE EXHIBIT AREA - DAY

The janitor opens a door, and pushes the cart inside.

INT. KITCHEN PREP AREA - DAY

The wheels of the cart glide through an industrial kitchen.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin stiffens as he hears KITCHEN WORKERS O.S.

KITCHEN WORKER (O.S.)

Did you take the mackerel out of the
freezer?

ANOTHER KITCHEN WORKER (O.S.)

Yeah, let me just chop up this salmon
first.

MARLIN'S POV

on the wall, near the ceiling, he sees a shadow of a human raising a cleaver and bringing it down. CHOP, CHOP, CHOP.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin starts frantically swimming in circles. The cart keeps moving through another doorway.

EXT. EXHIBIT AREA - DAY

The cart stops in front of a rocky wall by the side of a large pool of water. The janitor takes a mop and turns, accidentally knocking Marlin's bucket off the cart. Marlin spills out, across some gravel, and into the pool.

EXT. POOL - DAY

Marlin hits the water. Through the surface, he sees the janitor picking up the bucket, unaware that Marlin was ever in it. Marlin shakes himself and takes a deep breath. Where is he? TWO MORE PARK WORKERS walk by the janitor. Marlin hears a bit of their conversation.

PARK WORKER

Did you hear about the plugged pipe out in the bay? All the pumps and the chiller units are down.

Marlin starts swimming around, trying to see where he is.

MARLIN

(to himself)

Okay, things could be worse. Deep breath, deep breath.

INT. POOL - LATER

Marlin keeps swimming, looking for a way out.

MARLIN

(deep breaths)

Let it in. Let it out. Let it go.

Suddenly, a huge white POLAR BEAR face arises before him.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Ahhhhhhh!!

The polar bear, BLANCA, bares her teeth and lets out a GROWL. Marlin almost faints, rearing backwards. Blanca lunges, but somehow manages to slip on an underwater rock formation. She ends up banging her nose against the side of the tank. She holds her nose with her paw.

BLANCA

(nasal)

Ow. I'm sorry. But, um, I have to eat you. It's nothing personal. Wait, that didn't sound ferocious enough, did it? Let me try again...

MARLIN
No! Don't do that!

BLANCA
I, I have to.
(whispering)
Or the other bears will laugh at me.

Breaking the surface, Marlin sees TWO POLAR BEARS, BRAD and LOUIE, yucking it up, and egging Blanca on from the other side of the exhibit area.

BRAD
Come on, Blanca! Don't be such a klutz!

LOUIE
How do you mess that up? How do you trip in water?

BLANCA
(low, to Marlin)
They're so mean to me.
(back to business)
Now where were we?

She starts to lunge at Marlin. Marlin dashes away.

MARLIN
Wait, wait! You wouldn't like me.
I'm small but I'm very high in cholesterol.

Marlin hits the side of the pool. Blanca puts her enormous paws on either side, and starts moving her mouth toward him. Marlin is trapped.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
You don't have to do this! Stand up to those guys!

BLANCA
But they'll make fun of me... and I just hate that.

She starts to open wide.

MARLIN
No! Wait! Who cares what they think!
You can't let your life be dictated by fear and anxiety.

BLANCA
Why not?

Marlin takes a deep breath. As long as she's talking to him, she's not eating him.

MARLIN

Well, okay. You can. But it's not a pleasant way to live. Trust me on this. By the way, what is your name?

BLANCA

Blanca.

MARLIN

Blanca, that's a nice name. I'm Marlin.

Blanca looks confused. Should she eat him or shake his fin?

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory are gathered around the dolphins, pressing them for information.

REDGRAVE

Looking for your father, eh? Bravo. Family is the most important thing.

DORY

Have you seen him?

REDGRAVE

Why, I remember my father when I was just a lad. Telling me "son...", that's what he called me, son...

Bette interrupts by making a "cut" motion with her fin.

BETTE

Okay. We got it.

NEMO

Where did he go?!

REDGRAVE

Oh, well I'm afraid we have a bit of bad news.

PERCY

It's all my fault!

BETTE

(to Percy)

You did your best, darling.

REMY

Where is he?!

BETTE

Percy splashed him over the wall, but he didn't quite make it.

PERCY

I'm really sorry. But he *is* in water.

NEMO

Where?

REDGRAVE

Well he landed in... how shall I put it? A plastic receptacle.

BETTE

It's a bucket.

REDGRAVE

Well, that's a bit blunt.

BETTE

Just telling it like it is, darling.

REDGRAVE

And I'm afraid the bucket went on a cart. A cart that goes to... *the polar bears*.

PERCY

At least that's what we heard from the park pigeons. One of them saw your father in there not too long ago.

NEMO

The polar bears?

REDGRAVE

Wild, fierce, creatures, with white fur, big sharp teeth and long pointy claws.

BETTE

But pigeons tend to exaggerate a bit.

REDGRAVE

Oh, no. I believe them. I'm afraid, lads, that your father may have landed in the midst of vicious killers.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

Marlin has edged over to the far side of the tank. Blanca leans on the rim of the tank with her body still in the water.

BLANCA

Let me ask you something. Do you think I'm fat?

Marlin looks at her incredulously.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

What?

MARLIN

No, it's just...

BLANCA

What?

MARLIN

(shaking his head)

Nothing... it's just... I think I finally met someone more neurotic than I am.

BLANCA

(shoulders sagging)

So you do think I'm fat.

MARLIN

No, you're not. You're just... big boned.

BLANCA

(smiling)

Really?

EXT. DOLPHIN AMPHITHEATER - DAY

Tourists are filing in before the start of the next show.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Nemo and Remy react to the news of Marlin's whereabouts. Redgrave shakes his head.

REDGRAVE

I wish I had better news for you, lads.

REMY

Come on, let's go!

He charges off. Nemo swims after him in frustration.

NEMO

Wait a minute! We don't even know which way to go!

(yelling)

You're always racing off without thinking!

REMY
 (turning)
 So? You're always thinking without
 doing anything!

DORY
 Boys...

REMY
 You're just a coward!

NEMO
 I am not! I just want to find out
 how to get there first.

Nemo follows the retreating Redgrave.

NEMO (CONT'D)
 (to Redgrave)
 Excuse me, Sir? Can you tell me...

Dory watches the two boys head off in different directions.

DORY
 Wait! Remy, wait! Nemo!

Dory keeps swimming back and forth between them

DORY (CONT'D)
 Wait! Come back!

EXT. DOLPHIN WALKWAY - DAY

Dory's swimming and attracts the attention of a TRAINER.

TRAINER
 What's this little fish doing here?

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Dory heads after the retreating Remy.

DORY
 Remy, wait!
 (turning back to Nemo)
 We have to stick together.

Just then, a pole net scoops her up. The boys gasp.

NEMO
 (yelling)
 Dory!

Nemo and Remy rush toward the disappearing net. Then, another net splashes down after them.

They race away, and huddle together against the side of the tank.

Redgrave assesses the situation.

REDGRAVE
 (calling the other
 dolphins)
 Places, everyone! It's show time!

EXT. DOLPHIN AMPHITHEATER - DAY

Bette and Percy, and the others, react.

PERCY
 What? Now? What's my line?

BETTE
 It's live theater, darling. Just
 wing it!

Percy starts leaping over the pole net that's reaching for Nemo and Remy. The trainer reacts with surprise. The audience starts to watch, thinking it's part of the pre-show entertainment. More trainers come running. The dolphins reprise their first show, but with wacky changes. Three dolphins do a backwards chorus line, but splash the trainers with water. The audience APPLAUDS.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - DAY

Redgrave waves the boys over to him.

REDGRAVE
 This way! Lively now!

Nemo and Remy swim toward him. The pole net plunges down again. Redgrave clamps onto it with his mouth.

EXT. DOLPHIN AMPHITHEATER - DAY

The trainer is yanked into the tank with a splash. The audience LAUGHS and CHEERS. By now, it's utter chaos above the water.

Bette taps a button with her nose. MUSIC starts playing. Percy gives the park worker an unwanted ride around the tank.

TRAINER
 Ahh!!

Other dolphins leap up, knocking more park workers into the water.

REDGRAVE

(shouting)

Once more into the breach, dear
friends, once more!

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - SAME

The human divers are clearing the intake pipe by pulling the parasail out. Gill and the sea lions watch with growing alarm.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - SAME

As the other dolphins keep up their antics, Redgrave directs Nemo and Remy to the entrance of the outflow pipe. He points his flipper.

REDGRAVE

Hurry! That way to the polar bears.

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - SAME

The divers finish clearing the pipe. The water starts flowing in again.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - SAME

Nemo and Remy enter the pipe and look back at Redgrave. He points his flipper --

REDGRAVE

That way!

They give him a fins up and point "that way" as well. Just then, the water in the system starts flowing again, and they get sucked the opposite direction.

NEMO AND REMY

(together)

Ahhh!!

REDGRAVE

Oh, dear...

INT. PIPE - DAY

Nemo and Remy get pulled along in the rushing water, head over tails.

NEMO AND REMY

Ahhh!!

INT. HUGE "PIRATE COVE" THEME TANK - DAY

Nemo and Remy are spit out into a dramatically lit theme tank. They shake their heads. They both look queasy.

NEMO

Oww...

REMY

Ugh...

He puts his fin to his mouth.

NEMO

I don't feel too good.

REMY

Me neither... I hate it when I get sea sick.

(quickly)

I mean...!

NEMO

You get sea sick too?

REMY

Embarrassing...

NEMO

I thought I was the only one...

Remy shakes his head and finds himself looking at Nemo with new curiosity.

REMY

Wonder if there's anything else we have in common.

NEMO

(shutting him down)

No. Don't worry. There's nothing else.

Remy's hurt, but determined not to show it.

REMY

Good.

NEMO

(back to business)

Where are we?

Nemo and Remy look around, confused. An ersatz sunken pirate ship has split open on the rocks. An animatronic pirate skeleton still clutches the ship's wheel on the deck.

A treasure chest is arranged on the sand with artistically scattered jewels and gold coins.

REMY

Are we back in the ocean?

Remy looks back at the gushing pipe they came from.

NEMO

I don't know, but we can't go back that way.

They start swimming, but soon bang their faces into glass.

NEMO AND REMY

(together)

Oof!

A sign hangs on the outside of the tank. It reads, "Pirate Cove closed for remodeling." Nemo and Remy look out into the empty viewing gallery. They turn back and look around the deserted tank. Other animatronic pirate skeletons slump in the distance, with swords and rusting cannon. But otherwise, the big, creepy aquarium seems devoid of life.

REMY

How do we get out of here?

NEMO

I don't know. This place is huge.

REMY

We're running out of time.

NEMO

Okay, look. Why don't you look for an exit pipe on that side, and I'll check this side and we'll meet back in the middle.

REMY

(nodding)

Okay.

They split up.

EXT. UNDER THE BAY - DAY

Gill watches the water coursing back through the intake pipe. He turns to the sea lions.

GILL

We're gonna have to start all over again.

They sigh and yawn. They don't look at all motivated.

GILL (CONT'D)

Come on. You can't let setbacks
like this get you down.

BARLOW

Why not?

INT. POLAR BEAR KEEPER'S OFFICE - DAY

Video screens show various angles of the polar bear exhibit.
We see the back of the polar bear keeper as he checks a
computer monitor.

POLAR BEAR KEEPER

Chiller's back on line.

ANOTHER POLAR BEAR KEEPER

It'll take a while to chill the tank.
Better order some ice.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

A thermometer mounted on the side of the tank reads the
temperature in both Celsius and Fahrenheit. The water is
nice and warm - for now. Across the water, we find Marlin
and Blanca next to a welded-on screen over an outflow pipe.

BLANCA

(waving a paw)

Phew! Is it hot in here, or is it
just me?

MARLIN

(hypochondriac)

Actually, I feel a draft. Achoo!
Maybe I'm coming down with something.

(gingerly)

So, Blanca... You don't really want
to eat me. Why don't you pull this
grate off? You're so big and strong
and...

BLANCA

(eyes narrowing)

Don't you want to talk to me anymore?

MARLIN

Yes! Yes, sure I want to talk!
It's just that I've got to get back
to my...

Just then, the other two bears come stomping over to the
edge of the tank.

BRAD

Come on, Blanca. If you're not gonna eat him, we will.

BLANCA

No! He's mine!

Brad and Louie reach down into the water and start swiping at Marlin, who ducks in between some submerged fake logs.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

Stop it!

From above, Brad starts shaking the logs, while Louie jabs at Marlin with his paw. In the water, Marlin tries to avoid getting crushed by logs or speared by bear claws.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

Stop!

Blanca climbs out and gets between Brad and Louie.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

Stop it!

Blanca rears up on her hind legs to confront Brad, and tries to GROWL. Brad shoots Louie a look. Louie crouches down. Brad pushes Blanca backwards, over the crouching Louie. She trips backwards and lands with a THUD.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

(crying out)

Ow!

Brad and Louie laugh meanly, and turn back to Marlin.

In the water, Marlin backs up in terror. Just then, the bears hear a door slide open and slam shut quickly. Brad and Louie look across the exhibit area to see buckets of food left for them.

BRAD

Salmon!

Marlin exhales as the two bears head toward their meal. Blanca is still whimpering in a pathetic heap on the ground.

LOUIE

(to Blanca)

Keep your stupid little fish.

BRAD

(chuckling)

Loser!

Blanca cries softly to herself. Marlin swims over to the edge of the tank hesitantly.

He breaks the surface of the water and looks up at her.

MARLIN

Hey...

Blanca sniffs and turns away, embarrassed.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Thanks.

BLANCA

I'm such a loser...

MARLIN

No, you're not.

Blanca sits up and wipes her paw across her face.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Why are they so mean to you?

BLANCA

They're from the Arctic.

MARLIN

Where's that?

BLANCA

I don't know. I'm from Cleveland.
And they never let me forget it...

Blanca looks over her shoulder toward the other bears.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

(after a moment)

When I got here, I tripped and fell,
and broke a claw.

She holds out a huge splayed paw. Marlin backs off a bit.
He can see that one two-inch claw is missing.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

They call me Fumble Foot.

She puts her paw in her lap and looks down. Marlin is
surprised to find himself feeling a pang of sympathy.

INT. "PIRATE COVE" THEME TANK - DAY

Remy is looking high and low for a way out. He comes across
some CLAMS and CRABS on the sand by the treasure chest.

REMY

Hey, you guys know a way out of here?

A THORNY OYSTER, with multiple eyes all around the rim of his shell, winces when he sees Remy coming.

THORNY OYSTER

Ah! We're surrounded! Go away!

THORNY OYSTER POV

A dozen Remy's look down at him, confused.

REMY

What?

AT THE TREASURE CHEST

a CRAB waves his claw dismissively.

CRAB

(to thorny oyster)

Relax, four eyes.

THORNY OYSTER

(defensive)

That's twelve eyes to you, bud!

CRAB

(to Remy)

Ignore him. He's an oyster. Some grain of sand is always irritating him.

The thorny oyster shuts his shell in disgust, then COUGHS out a pearl.

CRAB (CONT'D)

While I, on the other hand, am a crab who's always in a good mood.

(waving a claw)

Welcome to Pirate Cove! Not much going on right now, but in a couple more days, we're gonna have cannons, sword fights, mermaids walking the plank, you name it!

(offering Remy a claw)

Put 'er there.

Remy starts to reach out with his fin. The crab's other claws snap at him.

CRAB (CONT'D)

Hey! Got your nose!

Remy dodges back, uncertain. The crab waves and chuckles.

CRAB (CONT'D)

(calling)

Hey! Come back little fella! Wanna pull my claw?

The crab BLOWS A RASPBERRY. A CLAM pipes up. He has a MELODIOUS, ZEN MASTER VOICE.

CLAM

Leave him alone...

CRAB

I'm just kidding, clammy. Jeez! The trouble with you mollusks is you got no sense of humor.

REMY

(to Clam)

Do you know how I can get out of here? I'm trying to find my father.

CLAM

We are all trying to find our fathers, but it is impossible.

CRAB

(waving off the clam)

I'm just not going to let you bring me down.

(goes off, singing)

I can see clearly now the rain has gone...

CLAM

(gently to Remy)

You would do better to find yourself.

REMY

Huh?

CLAM

You must learn to rely only on yourself, young man.

REMY

But...

CLAM

That is the best way. That is the way of the clam.

REMY

But... I'm not a clam.

CLAM

Not yet.

Remy looks confused.

CLAM (CONT'D)
 Depend on no one, and you will not
 be disappointed.

In spite of himself, Remy finds himself listening.

CLAM (CONT'D)
 Remember, rely on yourself, and no
 one can hurt you.

Remy opens his mouth to say something, but the Clam shuts
 his shell.

CLAM (CONT'D)
 I want to be alone now.

Remy looks around at the closed clam and the closed oyster,
 and thinks on the clam's words.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

The mercury in the thermometer has drifted a tick lower.
 Marlin looks mournfully at the heavily grated outflow pipe.
 Blanca tries to mollify him.

BLANCA
 But it's so nice having someone to
 talk to. You'll get used to it here.
 (gesturing)
 You've got rocks, and logs, and water.

Just then, SPLASH, a watermelon lands nearby.

BLANCA (CONT'D)
 And watermelon...

She swims over to it, and takes it in all four paws as she
 floats on her back in the water.

BLANCA (CONT'D)
 Not everyone knows this about polar
 bears. We love watermelon.

She takes a big bite and grins. Pink watermelon juice runs
 down the corners of her mouth.

BLANCA (CONT'D)
 Want some?

MARLIN
 Well, I don't know, I... I usually
 eat dead sea anemone tentacles and
 bits of debris...

Blanca grimaces, yuck.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

But, ah, sure, I'll try some
watermelon.

She holds out a piece for him to nibble on.

BLANCA

What do you think?

MARLIN

(surprised)
It's good.

Blanca beams.

AGAINST THE BACK WALL

Brad and Louie are loafing and scratching their bellies.

BRAD

What do you get when you cross a
polar bear and a seal?

(beat)

A polar bear.

LOUIE

Good one.

Brad nudges Louie. They look over to --

THE TANK

where Blanca is teaching Marlin how to spit out watermelon
seeds.

BLANCA

(spitting)

Patoowee!

(turning to Marlin)

Come on, you try it!

Marlin looks ridiculous with a watermelon seed practically
plugging up his whole face.

MARLIN

(muffled)

Mrmuphmrph...

Finally, with all his might, he blows it out. It goes sailing
and lands with a little splash.

BLANCA

Yay!

Off to the side, Brad and Louie laugh meanly.

BRAD AND LOUIE

(sing song)

Blanca's got a pet! Blanca's got a
pet!

BLANCA

Mind your own business, Snowball!

(to Marlin)

How was that?

MARLIN

(nodding)

Very... assertive.

Blanca smiles.

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - DAY

Gill looks at some junk they've shoved into the intake pipe. They've managed to slow the flow a little, but they haven't stopped it completely. We can see water coursing through the webbing of a lawn chair.

GILL

(to Dudley)

That's not gonna do it.

DUDLEY

Wind's shifted, Chief.

EXT. SURFACE OF THE BAY - DAY

Gill and Dudley look up at a clear sky.

DUDLEY

There's no parasailers out now.

GILL

We've got to try harder.

Dudley glances over at a heap of sleeping sea lions on some nearby rocks.

DUDLEY

Harder than that?

Gill grits his teeth.

DUDLEY (CONT'D)

Look, Chief. I hope you don't mind me saying this, but maybe you're the one who needs to try harder.

Gill looks at him.

EXT. NEAR THE JETTY - MOMENTS LATER

Gill is digging deep, exhorting the sea lions lying on the jetty rocks.

GILL

Look. I know how you feel. I spent a lot of years looking out for number one myself. But there's more to life than a warm rock in the sun.

They don't look convinced.

GILL (CONT'D)

There's two kids out there who aren't gonna make it without you. This is your chance to have a sense of purpose. Don't you wanna feel part of something that's bigger than yourselves?

BARLOW

I don't know. We're pretty big...

GILL

Please. You can...
(correcting himself)
We can make a difference.

One or two of the sea lions start to look interested.

EUGENE

But how...?

GILL

You just have to stay focused. Do whatever you need to do to stay awake. Move around! Get some exercise! Sing!

EUGENE

Can't sing. But I can bark.

He lets out a distinctive sea lion BARK. A couple of sea lions pick up their heads and BARK BACK. Gill grits his teeth at the noise, but, hey whatever works...

GILL

(grimacing)
Okay!

INT. "PIRATE COVE" THEME TANK - DAY

Nemo is still looking around without success.

ACROSS THE TANK

Remy comes upon a pipe entrance partially covered by a flimsy screen. He tugs on it. It falls away. Warily, Remy looks at the pipe. Because of Gill's efforts out in the bay, the water flow is not as strong now. He looks over his shoulder, doesn't see Nemo. He hesitates, thinking about what the clam said. He's just about to swim inside, when he hears --

NEMO (O.S.)

Remy!

Remy looks around to see Nemo swimming up to him, furious.

NEMO (CONT'D)

We said we were gonna meet in the middle!

REMY

I...

NEMO

You were just gonna sneak off without me!

REMY

(guilty)
No, I wasn't!

NEMO

You were just gonna leave me here so you could have Dad all to yourself!

Nemo jabs him.

NEMO (CONT'D)

Weren't you?!

REMY

Hey, don't mess with me. I'm a fighting fish. You're just a wimp with a little fin.

Nemo sees red. He hauls back and really takes a swing at him. To Nemo's surprise, he connects, and Remy goes back into some rocks.

Remy, stunned, shakes himself out of it. He looks at his side, which is scraped. Nemo is shocked at the role reversal.

NEMO

You're hurt.

Remy's humiliated, and doesn't want Nemo to see him near tears. He turns and flees.

NEMO (CONT'D)

(calling)

Remy!

REMY

Leave me alone!

Remy keeps swimming, dodging around rocks, trying to lose Nemo. He soon finds himself in the middle of a pirate skeleton tableaux.

AROUND A SKULL

Remy runs smack into a black and white striped SEA SNAKE. The sea snake bares its venomous fangs. Remy is paralyzed with fear.

BEHIND A CANNON

Nemo watches for a second.

NEMO

(under his breath)

Come on! Use your three moves! Use your deadly weapons!

As Remy stays frozen, Nemo realizes Remy is just a little clown fish like he is.

IN THE TANK

the snake prepares to strike. Remy is shaking. He closes his eyes. Just then --

NEMO (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Hey!

The snake looks around and sees Nemo. For a split second, the snake thinks he's seeing double. He shakes his head, giving Remy the chance to dart away.

The snake moves on Nemo. But just then, Remy pops up from behind another skeleton.

REMY

Hey! Over here!

The snake turns, but --

NEMO

No! Over here!

The snake twists around again, weaving in and out of the skeleton's rib cage.

REMY

No! This way!

They're doing such a good job of double teaming the snake, that he ends up tying himself in a confused knot. He fights to free himself and accidentally shakes loose a pirate sword. It bonks the snake on the head, momentarily stunning him.

NEMO

(to Remy)

Come on!

Nemo and Remy race away.

AT THE PIPE

they race in, out of breath.

NEMO (CONT'D)

Hurry!

IN THE TANK

the snake untangles himself and streaks toward them.

INT. PIPE - DAY

Nemo and Remy plunge inside. The flow is sucking them away from the tank. It's not as fast as it was before, still Nemo and Remy can use every bit of speed they can get.

BEHIND THEM

the snake enters the pipe and comes after them like a bullet in a chamber.

INT. PIPE - DAY

Up ahead, the pipe curves dramatically. Nemo and Remy keep swimming with all of their might. They make the turn, and then find themselves shooting straight up, when the pipe bends at a right angle.

INT. SMALL VOID SPACE - DAY

The pipe spits them out into a void space under a different exhibit. It's much brighter in here. Light filters down from the plenum ceiling, which is a screen covered with sand. They look around, as the snake enters the void space and spots them. There's no where else to go. Nemo looks up. There's a tear in the sand screen above them.

NEMO

Come on!

They swim up and bang against the screen. It's like being trapped under an ice shelf.

They bang against the screen repeatedly, trying to enlarge the tear. It starts to rip.

The snake prepares to strike from below.

Nemo and Remy race through the tear and find themselves --

EXT. TIDE POOL EXHIBIT TANK - DAY

It's a shallow outdoor pool with a sandy bottom.

SCHOOL KIDS crowd around low glass walls, reaching in to pet RAYS and STAR FISH.

SEA GULLS wait to grab french fries tossed by TOURISTS.

TWO SEA GULLS land on the ledge, overlooking Nemo and Remy in the shallow water.

SEA GULLS

Mine, mine, mine, mine, mine.

Just then, the sea snake blasts up through the sand, HISSING and SPITTING out bits of gravel.

SEA GULL

(turns to the other)

Yours.

Kids run SCREAMING from the snake.

IN THE TIDE POOL

Nemo and Remy dash around some rocks, trying to find a place to hide.

ABOVE THE TIDE POOL

PARK ATTENDANTS come running with a net to scoop away the snake. The sea gulls scatter. One takes off flying --

OVER THE PARK

revealing the entrance to the polar bear exhibit. It's only a few yards away, tantalizingly close.

INT. TIDE POOL - DAY

Nemo and Remy catch their breath. A HORSESHOE CRAB waves his tail at them.

HORSESHOE CRAB

Welcome to the tide pool, boys.
Watch out for fingers.

Nearby, an URCHIN starts wincing, as HANDS start to grab it.

URCHIN
(yelping)
Oh! Ooh! That tickles! Aah!

Just then, MORE HANDS pick up the horseshoe crab.

HORSESHOE CRAB
(sighing)
Oh no, not again.

After the crab is gone, Nemo turns to Remy.

NEMO
(accusingly)
You really aren't a fighting fish,
are you?

REMY
I don't wanna talk about it.

Nemo looks at Remy's side. His wound looks worse.

NEMO
That looks bad.

REMY
Forget it. Let's just figure out
where we are, okay?

They swim to the glass wall and look out.

ACROSS THE TIDE POOL EXHIBIT AREA

they see another park map. They squint, trying to make out various icons for the different exhibits.

NEMO
Is that a polar bear?

REMY
(shivering)
I don't know...

Nemo looks back at Remy who is really not doing well.

NEMO
Remy...?

Remy's teeth are chattering as he keeps shivering. His wound has gotten infected.

REMY
(snapping)
I'm okay. Just figure out where
we're going, smart guy.

Nemo turns back to look at the map. But, just then, another net comes down and starts to scoop Remy up.

NEMO
(yelling)
Remy!

Without thinking, Nemo jumps in the net with Remy.

REMY
(weak)
Are you crazy?

NEMO
Shut up!

INT. ISOLATION TANK - DAY

Nemo and Remy splash down into a small barren aquarium. There are no fake rocks, no plants, no attempts of any kind to make this seem "natural". Nemo looks around. Remy is out of it, listing to one side, and mumbling incoherently.

A HAND squeezes an eye dropper above them, dispensing fish antibiotic into the water.

Nemo startles and braces for another attack. But the hand disappears. Nemo leaves Remy's side to go look around.

Near the top of the tank, there's a protein skimmer, which is a mesh box, that collects the gunk and slime from the water to clean the tank. Nemo hurries away as the hand reaches in again. This time, the hand unhooks the protein skimmer from the edge of the tank.

Nemo watches as a LAB COATED HUMAN walks past another tank with SICK FISH languishing inside. The human dumps the skimmer into a drain on the floor and heads off.

EXT. DOCKS - VARIOUS

SYNCOATED SEA LION BARKS keep up a snappy rhythm, as Dudley and his narcoleptic gang of thieves get busy. They swipe life vests, barbecue grills, and fishing tackle. They look like they're starting to wake up and move with a new sense of purpose.

Dudley wipes his flipper across his nose and nods to Gill, as another ice chest hits the water. Gill nods back. This just might work after all.

INT. POLAR BEAR KEEPER OFFICE - DAY

The polar bear keeper taps his screen.

POLAR BEAR KEEPER

Huh. The chiller's slowed down again.
Must be another problem with the
flow.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

Marlin watches Blanca swim away, then back toward him.
Swimming under the water, Blanca is incredibly graceful.
She catches Marlin staring at her.

BLANCA

What?

MARLIN

Nothing. You're just... a very nice
swimmer.

BLANCA

(swimming in a circle)
You think so?

Blanca does another under water pirouette.

MARLIN

Yeah. I'm getting over my prejudice
against mammals because of you.

Blanca looks at him and sighs wistfully.

BLANCA

(after a moment)
Marlin...

He looks over at her.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

Nevermind.

MARLIN

What?

BLANCA

Do you ever wonder... do you ever
wonder if maybe we had met in another
place, another time...?

MARLIN

(carefully)
Sure... I don't know where that would
be, exactly.

She's looking at him. Marlin sighs.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Blanca, I... my heart is with my boys.

BLANCA

(looking away)

Can we talk about something else?

MARLIN

No, we have to talk about this. They're out there in the world unprotected... I need to get back to them. I haven't done right by them.

BLANCA

I'm sure you have.

MARLIN

No, I haven't done anything right. I didn't know how to handle two at once. They should have been friends, but they're at each other's throats. Everything I said just made it worse.
(hanging his head)
I'm a terrible father.

BLANCA

No, you're not.

Marlin doesn't look up.

BLANCA (CONT'D)

You're not a terrible father. I mean... You're a good listener, you make me laugh, you help me see my potential. Isn't that what a good father does?

MARLIN

(guilty)

I said I couldn't take it anymore. I told them I couldn't handle them...

He chokes up and can't finish.

BLANCA

Hey, if you can handle an eight hundred pound polar bear, you can handle two little fish...

He looks up at her. Blanca decides. She swims over to the grate covering the outflow pipe. She tries to pry it off with her claws, but it's welded on tight. Marlin swims over and watches her attacking the grate over and over again.

INT. POLAR BEAR KEEPER OFFICE - DAY

The polar bear keeper looks at the video screen that shows Blanca thrashing at the grate.

POLAR BEAR KEEPER
What's up with that bear?

ANOTHER POLAR BEAR KEEPER
Huh. Maybe the heat's getting to her. I'll tell them to hurry up on the ice.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

Exhausted and frustrated, Blanca gives up.

BLANCA
I'm sorry, Marlin. I can't get it off.

INT. ISOLATION TANK - LATER

Remy is fighting a fever and out of his head. Nemo stays by his side.

REMY
(delirious)
No, go away!

NEMO
It's me.

REMY
Nemo?

NEMO
Yeah.

REMY
(bitter)
Everybody thinks you're so smart...
I could never be like you...

Nemo is surprised by his envy.

REMY (CONT'D)
(teeth chattering)
I had to be something...

Remy swats at something only he can see.

REMY (CONT'D)
Ah!! Go away!

NEMO

It's me.

REMY

I'm not... I wasn't raised by fighting fish.

NEMO

Shhh...

REMY

I was raised by weed fish. Hundreds of them. Too many mouths to feed... I never fit in. That's why... I came looking... for...
(shivering)
He's all I have.

Nemo chokes up.

REMY (CONT'D)

...He is my father, isn't he?

Remy shakes violently.

REMY (CONT'D)

I'm scared... Nemo?

Nemo looks scared as well. He huddles closer to Remy.

NEMO

I'm here.

WE PULL BACK TO SEE THE ENTIRE ISOLATION UNIT

Rows and rows of utilitarian tanks, each with its own small filter. It's a cavernous room lit with garish fluorescent light. Industrial generators hum in the background. It's noisy and ugly and there's no way out.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - LATE AFTERNOON

Marlin looks despondent.

BLANCA

I'm sorry, Marlin. I really tried.

MARLIN

I know you did.

After a moment, Marlin looks up and sees snow start to hit the water.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

What's that?

BLANCA
 (chuckling)
 That's snow, silly.

Marlin surfaces to get a better look. It's true. Snow is gently falling from the sky by way of a hidden snow generator. In spite of his plight, Marlin looks up with awe.

MARLIN
 It's beautiful...

Blanca nods.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
 Where does it come from?

BLANCA
 I don't know, but it seems like there's always more when you need it.

More and more flakes hit the water around Marlin. He shivers.

MARLIN
 Chilly...

Blanca glances down at him, concerned.

INT. ISOLATION TANK - NEXT MORNING

Nemo is asleep. He wakes to see Remy doing much better. His side is almost completely healed.

NEMO
 (sleepy)
 Hey...

REMY
 Hey, yourself.

NEMO
 How are you feeling?

REMY
 Fine.
 (after a moment)
 So, ah, listen. About that stuff I said last night...

Nemo looks at Remy, who looks terribly embarrassed.

NEMO
 Forget it.

Remy breathes a sigh of relief.

But just then, a hand comes down and scoops both of them up in a plastic bag.

NEMO AND REMY

Ahhh!!

INT. AUSTRALIAN REEF TANK - DAY

They both land with a splash in a huge coral reef environment. They shake their heads.

REMY

Where are we?

Nemo looks around. The tank is at least two stories tall and filled with all sorts of coral and familiar looking reef fish.

NEMO

Hey, it looks like home...

Just then --

DORY (O.S.)

Oh my goodness! I can't believe it!

They turn to see her rushing up. They are both overjoyed to see her.

NEMO AND REMY

Dory! Dory!

They hug.

NEMO

Where have you been?

DORY

Where've I been? Where've I been?!

(beat)

Wait a minute. Where have I been?

(remembering)

Oh! Here! It's great here! And now you're here! Come on, I want you to meet the family.

NEMO AND REMY

The family?

She leads them over to a mass of about FIFTY BLUE TANG FISH.

DORY

Everybody, this is Nemo and Remy.

(motioning)

These are my brothers and sisters.

BLUE TANGS

(all at once)

Hi. Hi. Nice to meet you. Hello.

Nemo looks confused.

NEMO

Your brothers and sisters?

DORY

(shrugging)

Who knew? This is where I'm from.

(gesturing)

This is where I got my education.

On the other side of the glass, ANOTHER DOCENT is giving a lecture.

DORY (CONT'D)

Learned to read. And, apparently
learned to whistle. Check this out!

She starts to WHISTLE. Nemo and Remy look impressed.

Just then, a HUMAN DIVER approaches. Nemo freaks, and starts to swim away.

NEMO

Ahh!

DORY

Oh, don't worry about him. He's
just cleaning the tank.

True enough, the diver passes without threatening them. Dory cocks her head as she watches the diver go.

DORY (CONT'D)

You get used to them. If you squint,
they kinda look like kelp.

(squinting)

Well, maybe if you close your eyes
and turn upside down.

A TAP TAP TAP makes them turn.

THROUGH THE GLASS

they see a KID with her mouth and cheeks mashed against the side of the aquarium.

IN THE TANK

the fish shudder at the ghastly sight.

DORY (CONT'D)

Although you never do get used to that.

(snapping out of it)

But it's so good to see you!

She looks them over. She notices Remy's side.

DORY (CONT'D)

Remy, what happened to you?

Nemo winces, afraid he's about to be scolded.

REMY

Oh, this? I, ah...

He glances at Nemo.

REMY (CONT'D)

I scraped against a rock. I'm okay.

Nemo is relieved that Remy didn't tell on him. He shoots him a grateful look, but Remy is all business.

REMY (CONT'D)

We still have to find Dad.

NEMO

Right. Dory, how do we get out of here?

DORY

Huh, I don't know.

BLUE TANG SIBLING

You did it before, Dory. Don't you remember?

DORY

I did?

ANOTHER BLUE TANG SIBLING

She was always the wild child, the rebel.

DORY

I was?

THIRD BLUE TANG SIBLING

Come on, Dory. You were crazy for adventure. You said you had to get out to the ocean if it was the last thing you ever did. Don't you remember?

FIRST BLUE TANG SIBLING

Yeah, you found that secret passage way? And that was the last we ever saw of you.

SECOND BLUE TANG SIBLING

Until yesterday.

Nemo's and Remy's hopes rise at the mention of a secret passage way.

NEMO AND REMY

Where is it? Where is it?

BLUE TANGS

Over here!

They lead them to the bottom of the tank and point across to another outflow pipe.

REMY

Nemo!

He points. Behind them, the human diver approaches. They scatter. Then watch as the diver starts sealing the pipe for maintenance.

NEMO AND REMY

Oh, no!

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - DAY

The exhausted sea lions struggle to put life jackets into the intake pipe, but they keep getting spit back out at them.

GILL

Come on! Come on!

DUDLEY

(to Gill)

Gill, they can't take much more!
They've been up for hours! We need more help!

GILL

(nodding grimly)

Okay.

INT. POLAR BEAR TANK - DAY

The mercury in the thermometer has dipped lower and lower.

Marlin is shivering like crazy. Blanca is trying to keep him warm by cradling him on her furry belly.

Her fur is hollow and moves under water like the tentacles of a sea anemone. Marlin is fading in and out, as he slowly freezes to death.

MARLIN'S POV

the waving polar bear fur. It looks like home.

MARLIN

Am I home yet?

BLANCA

Marlin...

MARLIN

I just want to go to sleep...

BLANCA

(urgently)

Marlin!

MARLIN

Sleep...

BLANCA

(tearing)

Stay awake. Please. Stay with me,
Marlin.

INT. REEF AQUARIUM - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory survey the now sealed exit pipe. The diver's flippers retreat.

REMY

There's no way we can get through
that...

Nemo looks around, trying to think of something. Far up at the top of the reef aquarium, he sees a much larger protein skimmer. It's filled with all kinds of gunk and green algae. Nemo swims toward it.

Remy and Dory follow, as do her fifty siblings.

INT. SURFACE OF REEF AQUARIUM - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory poke their heads up out of the water. The scuba diver is climbing up onto the catwalk on the far side of the tank. On the other side of the tank, a PARK WORKER is lifting out one of the four protein skimmers and dumping it into a drain with a label.

NEMO
 (to Dory)
 Can you read that?

DORY
 (reading the label)
 Main outflow pipe.

The park worker sets the protein skimmer back in its place and heads for the next one.

NEMO
 (to Remy)
 Come on, we don't have much time.

INT. REEF AQUARIUM - DAY

Nemo leads them to the nearest protein skimmer.

DORY
 That's disgusting!

NEMO
 We're gonna jump in it.

DORY
 What?

NEMO
 It's our way out. I watched this before. They take this and dump it out. We can get back into the system this way, and find Dad.

REMY
 Let me get this straight. You want us to jump in a lot of green slime?
 (beat)
 Cool.

Nemo and Remy start toward the protein skimmer. Nemo looks back. Dory is not following. Nemo heads back to her.

NEMO
 Dory?

DORY
 Um, I'm not sure I want to go...

REMY
 (turning)
 Come on, we have to hurry.

Nemo looks at Dory, hovering just in front of a wall of blue tangs.

NEMO

But Dory...

DORY

Maybe I belong here, you know? This is my home.

REMY

Come on, Nemo.

Nemo ignores Remy.

NEMO

(to Dory)

I thought your home was with us.

DORY

Yeah, but I fit in here.

Behind her, fifty blue tangs nod in unison.

NEMO

Fit in? But, you don't need to fit in. You're special and different...

The blue tangs behind Dory nod amongst themselves.

BLUE TANGS

(all at once)

That's true. *She is* different... remember that time she tried to juggle a sea monkey? Or, that time...

REMY

Come on, Nemo.

NEMO

(to Dory)

Please.

DORY

(torn)

They're my family.

NEMO

(tearing)

But you're my family.

The park worker approaches the protein skimmer.

REMY

We've got to go, Nemo!

NEMO

Dory?

DORY

I can't...

REMY

We'll be okay. C'mon.

Remy jumps out of the water and into the top of the protein skimmer, landing in slime.

Dory looks back at her siblings, then at Nemo.

DORY

Be careful...

He gives her one last look, then jumps.

DORY (CONT'D)

(calling)

Be careful! Oh my... what if...?

She looks frantically back and forth between the protein skimmer and her siblings.

DORY (CONT'D)

What if they need me to read something or, or?

Through the surface of the water, she can see feet approaching to collect it. Suddenly, she decides.

INT. PROTEIN SKIMMER - DAY

Dory comes arcing up and over, landing in the protein skimmer with a green splash.

DORY

Yech!

The boys grin at her. Just then, the protein skimmer jolts and shifts as the park worker lifts it up, out of the water.

NEMO

Hold your breath!

They slosh around as the water rapidly runs through the mesh. Then everything is suddenly turning, and turning, and upside down. Now they are sliding and falling through the air.

THEIR POV

as they fall toward the outflow grate.

NEMO, REMY, AND DORY

Ahhhh!!!

They manage to clear the holes in the grate and suddenly everything is dark.

INT. POLAR BEAR AREA - DAY

The mercury in the thermometer has moved even lower. Blanca is still holding Marlin, who looks lifeless and pale.

 BLANCA
 (choking up)
 Marlin...

She looks around desperately. Her eyes light on a bucket left by a maintenance worker. Suddenly, Blanca knows what she must do.

 BLANCA (CONT'D)
 Hang on, Marlin. I'll be right back.

She lets him go. He drifts lower in the water. Blanca hoists herself up and races to the bucket. Grabbing the handle in her teeth, she hurries back and dips the bucket in the water, collecting Marlin before he can sink any lower.

ACROSS THE POLAR BEAR AREA

Brad and Louie are dozing. Brad opens one eye, mildly curious.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin sloshes around, unconscious.

IN THE POLAR BEAR AREA

Blanca heads for the back wall of the exhibit area, which is a mass of boulders and logs set out in a realistic looking landscape. Blanca puts the bucket down and pushes a log until it crashes against a boulder, creating a "ladder".

ACROSS THE POLAR BEAR AREA

Brad and Louie raise their heads.

 LOUIE
 What the heck?

AT THE BACK WALL

Blanca picks up the bucket in her teeth and starts to climb the log. Digging her claws into it, she starts scaling the wall.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin opens his eyes.

MARLIN

Wha...?

AT THE BACK WALL

Blanca keeps climbing, her teeth clamped firmly on the bucket handle, trying not to spill Marlin out. Polar bears are excellent climbers. Her missing claw causes her to lose traction for a moment, but Blanca is soon at the top of the two story wall. A catwalk runs around the perimeter on top of the wall.

ACROSS THE POLAR BEAR AREA

Brad and Louie approach.

BRAD

Look at old Fumble Foot go...

LOUIE

Never thought she had it in her...

ON THE CATWALK

Blanca looks around.

INT. POLAR BEAR KEEPER OFFICE - DAY

The polar bear keeper startles as he sees Blanca on the monitor, heading along the catwalk. The polar bear keeper pushes an intercom button.

POLAR BEAR KEEPER

This is not a drill. We have an escape. Repeat, this is not a...

ON THE CATWALK

Blanca heads determinedly for a fire escape type ladder at the end of the walkway.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin sloshes around.

MARLIN

What are you doing?

BLANCA

(gritting her teeth)
Don't worry.

AT THE LADDER

Blanca looks down below to the service area behind the exhibit. She starts backing down the ladder.

She loses her footing for a moment, jostling the bucket.

MARLIN
Careful! Don't trip! Don't spill
me!

BLANCA
(through her teeth)
Stop talking!

Near the bottom of the ladder is a security gate to keep people from climbing up. Blanca loses her balance again. 800 pounds of polar bear butt go crashing right through the gate.

MARLIN
Ahhh!

Blanca lands on her feet, still clutching the bucket in her teeth.

BLANCA
(through her teeth)
I told you I was fat.

She looks over and hurries around a tall fence to find herself --

EXT. PLANET BLUE PARK GROUNDS - DAY

Blanca starts dashing through the beautifully landscaped amusement park. TOURISTS SCREAM and dodge out of the way as Blanca runs down the paths.

EXT. POLAR BEAR CATWALK - DAY

Brad and Louie have climbed to the top of the polar bear exhibit. They wave their paws in a circle and cheer her on.

BRAD AND LOUIE
Go, Blanca!

EXT. FRONT OF POLAR BEAR AREA - DAY

Three polar bear keepers spill out with tranquilizer guns and give chase.

EXT. PLANET BLUE GROUNDS - DAY

Blanca keeps running. MORE TOURISTS flee in panic.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin swings wildly as more and more water splashes out.

BEHIND THEM

the polar bear keepers start gaining on them. TOURISTS dodge out of the way as they raise their guns.

UP AHEAD

Blanca can see a marshy landscaping pond in the center of the park. And far in the distance is the bay.

EXT. PLANET BLUE GROUNDS - DAY

Blanca pours on the speed. Behind her, one of the polar bear keepers fires his rifle.

The dart hits Blanca in the butt. She keeps going, but soon starts weaving woozily.

IN THE BUCKET

Marlin is getting really banged around.

MARLIN

Ahhh!!

EXT. PLANET BLUE GROUNDS - DAY

Blanca has just about made it to the pond, when the second dart hits. The tranquilizer starts rapidly taking effect. Blanca tries to keep going, but she falls, landing with a thud. She lets go of the bucket, which tips, spilling Marlin out onto the grass.

Marlin flops around in front of her nose. Their eyes meet. Marlin is only inches from the edge of the pond. He looks at it, then back at her.

MARLIN

(gasping for breath)

Thank you... I'll never forget you...

BLANCA

(sleepily)

Goodbye, Marlin. I love you.

With all the strength he has left, Marlin turns and flops over the side into the pond. Blanca sees him disappear, and closes her eyes. A slight smile plays on her lips.

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - DAY

We see the intake pipe now completely blocked. All kinds of items stick out crazily, including an antique ship's figure head. Gill and the sea lions nod with satisfaction.

DUDLEY

We did it, Chief! We did it!

Just then, there's a splash as a diver comes down to investigate.

DUDLEY (CONT'D)

Uh oh.

GILL

I've got it covered.

The diver swims up to the blocked pipe for a closer look. Suddenly, BRUCE, the shark, emerges from the murk and gives the diver a big toothy grin.

BRUCE

Hello there...

The diver gets the hell out of there.

EXT. PARK MARSHLAND EXHIBIT AREA - DAY

Nemo, Remy, and Dory emerge from a pipe into murky muddy water. Dory coughs.

REMY

Where are we?

NEMO

I don't know. Is this the way you came before, Dory?

DORY

(shaking her head)

I don't know. I don't remember. I wish I could remember... I can't think of a rhyme. Nothing rhymes with exit!

(frustrated)

Everything's just so...foggy and cloudy and murky and muddy...

REMY

(throwing up his fins)

That's because we're in a swamp!

They startle as a LONG TAIL swishes past them. They can just barely make out shapes moving in the muddy water all around them. Eyes glow, then grow faint.

NEMO

I don't like this.

REMY

Me neither.

Billowing silt makes them turn. Something big and terrible must be coming. Without thinking, Nemo gets into a fighting fish stance. So does Remy.

The water settles a little bit. The silt clears, and suddenly they are face to face with -- Marlin!

NEMO

Dad!!

MARLIN

(shocked)

Nemo!! Oh my goodness! Dory! Remy!

He rushes to Nemo, hugging him. He takes in Nemo's battle hardened expression.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

You look so much older!

(clutching Nemo)

I'm sorry I said I was ashamed of you, Nemo. I'm so proud of you.

How did you get here?

Dory crowds around.

DORY

You wouldn't believe what we've been through. Wait. What have we been through?

OFF TO THE SIDE

Remy watches, feeling left out. His face falls.

IN THE MURK

Marlin releases Nemo and looks around.

MARLIN

Where's Remy?

But Remy is gone. They can just make out his tail as he swims away.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Wait, come back, Remy!

But Remy keeps going. Marlin hurries after him.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Remy!

Marlin catches up to Remy.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Remy, wait!

REMY

The clam was right... It was crazy
to try and find you...

MARLIN

What? No. No, it wasn't...

Nemo and Dory swim up, but hang back. Marlin looks at them,
then back to Remy.

REMY

(looking away)

You two belong together. I can see
that. But... I don't belong with
you guys.

NEMO

(after a moment)

Yeah, you do.

Remy turns to him confused.

REMY

But you said...

NEMO

Forget what I said... He is your
father. You know why? Because I'm
your brother.

Remy's eyes fill. He looks back and forth between them.
His eyes land on Marlin.

REMY

(wiping his eyes)

But how can you love both of us?

MARLIN

(after a moment)

I just do.

Remy looks doubtful.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Look. I may be new at this, and
maybe I'm not very good at it yet.
But I can handle it. Whatever comes
our way. Because I think... love is
like snow...

They look at him confused.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

There's always more when you need
it.

Remy softens a little. Marlin comes closer.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

I should have found you. I'm sorry
I didn't. Come home with us now,
Remy.

Remy's lip trembles. Marlin hugs him. After a moment, Nemo and Dory join the huddle as well.

DORY

(muffled)

Ah, guys? Sorry to interrupt, but I
think I saw a pipe back there.

They break apart and look at her excited.

NEMO AND REMY

Where? Where?

EXT. PLANET BLUE MAINTENANCE YARD - DAY

The winded diver has just finished explaining the situation at the outflow pipe. The CHIEF PARK ENGINEER, a no nonsense old fart, takes off his cap and scratches his head.

CHIEF PARK ENGINEER

Okay. We'll just have to back flush
the intake pipe.

(calling)

Boys! Close the outflow valves!
And fire up the Super Pumper.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE MARSH - DAY

Dory leads the gang through the murk, past gnarled mangrove roots, up to the entrance to an outflow pipe. She points to an embossed metal sign that reads "Outflow to bay".

DORY

(reading)

Outflow to bay.

There's a fine mesh screen in front of the pipe, but it's old and rusting.

MARLIN

Okay. Let's get this off. Everybody
work together.

They all grab onto the screen with their teeth.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Pull!

They manage to peel off the screen.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

Come on!

In they go.

INT. PLANET BLUE CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Hands begin pushing buttons on a large control panel.

INT. OUTFLOW PIPE - DAY

As our gang swims along, they become aware of a RATTLING and BANGING in the pipes up ahead. The backwash has started. In the distance, they can see valves SLAMMING SHUT, like bank vault doors, one after another. The fish stop short. Up ahead, the valves keep shutting in progression.

MARLIN

We've gotta go back!

DORY

Back?

MARLIN

Hurry! Or we'll be trapped!

They turn, and start racing back through the pipe. The doors keep closing behind them. If they don't get out soon, they'll be stuck in the pipe between two shut valves.

Up ahead, they can see the entrance they came in. All they have to do is get through one last valve. Nemo and Remy swim with all their might to keep up with Marlin and Dory.

MARLIN (CONT'D)

(yelling)

Come on!

In front of them, the last valve starts to close.

EXT. MARSH - DAY

Marlin and Dory shoot through the outflow pipe. Dory looks over her shoulder to see Nemo and Remy barely getting out with their tails intact as the metal valve SLAMS into place.

Still swimming, Dory turns too late to see a root right in front of her. She hits it at full speed. CRASH. She's knocked out.

NEMO AND REMY

(yelling)

Dory!

EXT. BAY INTAKE PIPE - DAY

The backwash of water blasts out all the junk that Gill and the sea lions had stuffed into the intake pipe. The ship's figurehead goes pin wheeling off into the silt. Still, the water keeps coursing. Think fire hoses, water canons, geysers. The force of it disrupts all the water around it in the bay, moving Gill and the sea lions back.

From a safe distance, Gill keeps watching the torrent. He hangs his head, as --

DUDLEY

No fish can swim through that.

GILL

(under his breath)

Good luck, Shark Bait...

WE PULL UP AND OUT ACROSS THE BAY TO --

EXT. PLANET BLUE - DAY

From above, we see the whole marine park, and start zeroing in on the outdoor swampy marsh exhibit in the center. We move down into the marsh.

EXT. MANGROVE ROOTS - DAY

Marlin and the boys are huddled despondently around Dory's body. They lightly pat her face.

NEMO

Dory?

MARLIN

Dory?

REMY

Is she okay?

MARLIN

(worried)

I don't know. Dory, can you hear me? Dory?

Dory opens her eyes and shakes her head, disoriented.

DORY

Wha...?

NEMO

Dory, are you okay?

She starts coming to.

DORY
I'm fine... Hey! Wait a minute. I
really am fine.

She looks at them, more alert than they've ever seen her.

DORY (CONT'D)
I know which way to go!

MARLIN
You do?

DORY
Yes! I remember everything! I even
remember why I forgot. I hit my
head when I escaped from here before.

MARLIN
Where was that?

DORY
This way!

NEMO
Really?

DORY
Yes! Come on! I know something for
a change! I even know the boiling
point of kerosene!
(delighted)
My goodness! I have a mind like a
steel trap!

She heads through the mangrove roots. The other three follow
behind her, exchanging dubious looks.

EXT. OTHER SIDE OF MANGROVE ROOTS - DAY

Dory emerges and looks around.

DORY
Okay, come on.

MARLIN
Are you sure you know what you're
doing?

DORY
(impatient)
Yes! I'm sure! Come on, move it.

She turns to Nemo and Remy.

DORY (CONT'D)
Move it, move it!

They find themselves falling into line behind her.

DORY (CONT'D)
Follow me! Nemo and Remy, pay
attention! You understand?

She starts leading them through the swamp.

REMY
(low, to Nemo)
She was way more fun before.

NEMO
Yeah.

DORY
No talking!

EXT. MARSH EXHIBIT - DAY

TOURISTS lean on a fence overlooking a stand of PINK FLAMINGOS in the marsh. They are an elegant Art Deco vista in the sun.

EXT. UNDER THE MARSH - DAY

Dory leads her troops through the murk, like a seasoned drill instructor. Up ahead, Nemo and Remy see the legs of the flamingos.

REMY
(pointing)
Hey, look at the funny pink trees.

MARLIN
(nervous)
I don't think those are trees.

The legs start moving toward them. Strange flamingo BEAKS scoop down into the water, nibbling away, looking for little fish to eat.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
(feeling sick)
Oh, no.

But, Dory takes charge.

DORY
Okay. Don't panic. We can do this
as a team. Nemo, go left.
(MORE)

DORY (CONT'D)
 Remy, go right. Move. Marlin, up
 the middle. Now!

In spite of themselves, they obey her. They streak forward,
 past the flamingo legs.

DORY (CONT'D)
 Now cross!

They really are starting to work as a team as they execute
 some synchronized moves.

EXT. ABOVE THE MARSH - DAY

The flamingos can't keep up with them. They start knocking
 into each other like wacky pink bowling pins. The tourists
 do double takes.

EXT. UNDER THE MARSH - DAY

Our gang clears the flamingo legs and catches their breath.
 Dory nods.

DORY
 Good job, everybody.

Up ahead is a spillway that leads to a brook that meanders
 through the park.

DORY (CONT'D)
 It's this way.

They keep going, becoming aware of DISTANT SCREAMING O.S.

MARLIN
 Are you sure?

DORY
 Yes.
 (listening to the
 screams)
 That's a good sound.

MARLIN
 It is?!

EXT. BROOK - DAY

Nemo, Remy, Marlin, and Dory swim down a gentle brook. The
 SCREAMING is growing louder and louder.

DORY
 This is how I got out before.

They poke their heads up out of the water. A sign reads "Must be 40 inches tall to ride".

MARLIN
What does that say?

DORY
Don't worry about it.

Marlin is starting to look very worried indeed.

EXT. FLUME RIDE - DAY

An old fashioned "saw mill" theme flume ride, complete with revolving water wheel. The track of the flume rises and crests at the top of the water wheel, then drops way down.

Dory waits for them to gather around. They poke their heads up out of the water.

DORY
Now. All we have to do is get to the top. Ride the track to the splash down lagoon. Wait for the right moment. Then ride the giant splash up over the park fence. Into the tidal river. And out to the bay.

They look at her like she's insane.

DORY (CONT'D)
What??!

Marlin looks at her and shakes his head.

MARLIN
You think you know somebody...

DORY
Come on, it's easy. Well, not easy, really. Probably next to impossible, but...
(bellowing)
What choice do we have?! Do you wanna get out of here, or don'tcha?!

At the moment, she looks more dangerous than the flume ride. They reluctantly nod.

DORY (CONT'D)
Well, come on then.

The brook is leading them right to the water mill.

EXT. WATER MILL - DAY

The water mill keeps revolving, each one of its buckets repeatedly filling with water, then rising to the top, before spilling out and lowering back into the brook again.

DORY
(pointing to a bucket)
Everybody in. On my signal.

They watch as the bucket comes around under the water. Just before it breaks the surface --

DORY (CONT'D)
Now!

They all head into the bucket. Dory, Marlin, and Remy clear it easily, but Nemo isn't completely inside before it starts rising up out of the water. He starts to fall back.

NEMO
Ahh!

He's being spilled over the edge, as they rise up into the air. He catches the ledge with his fins, but he has a hard time holding on because of his one small fin. Remy is closest to him. He reaches for him.

REMY
Give me your fin!

Nemo hesitates and meets Remy's eyes.

REMY (CONT'D)
Come on!

Nemo reaches for Remy, who clasps his small fin firmly and pulls him aboard.

INT. WATER BUCKET - DAY

All four are safe in the water, for the moment.

NEMO
(to Remy)
Thanks.

REMY
Sure, bro.

They are coming to the top, where the flume track crests.

DORY
Get ready to jump! Oh, and watch
out for those logs

They can see the hollowed out logs, full of SCREAMING TOURISTS, plunging down the flume track.

MARLIN
 (feeling sick)
 Oh boy... just breathe. Breathe.
 Breathe. Breathe!

DORY
 We're coming to the top! Ready!
 Go! Go! Go!

One by one, like parachuters leaving a plane, they jump out of the water mill bucket and across to the flume track.

EXT. TOP OF FLUME TRACK - DAY

They are treated to the harrowing sight of the track plunging down forty feet into the splashdown lagoon. They don't have time to look at it for long, because they start plunging down themselves. CLANK, CLANK, CLANK. The next log crests the top of the track, and starts coming down after them.

MARLIN
 Ahhh!

NEMO AND REMY
 Ahhh!

DORY
 (nonchalant)
 Dum de dum dum dum...

EXT. SPLASHDOWN LAGOON - DAY

They plunge into the lagoon. Dory collects her disoriented troops.

DORY
 Okay, moving right along.

She moves them to the surface of the lagoon, positioning them just in time to see --

A FLUME LOG

hurtling down the track, right at them.

IN THE LAGOON

Dory nods.

DORY (CONT'D)
 Yep, I remember this. This hurts.

Nemo and Remy reach for Marlin, who hugs them to his chest.

CRASH! The impact of the flume log is tremendous. The splash sends our gang up --

OVER THE PARK RAILING

as a BULB FLASHES for the automatic flume camera, and we --

FREEZE ON THEM

four fish hanging in the air. Nemo, Remy, and Dory look exhilarated. Marlin has his eyes shut tight and his mouth open in a silent scream.

EXT. TIDAL RIVER - DAY

They fly through the air and land in a fast moving river.

EXT. UNDERWATER TIDAL RIVER - DAY

Dory bangs her head on an underground rock. She shakes herself out of it as the others land nearby. The water is moving so swiftly, they don't have a chance to compare notes before they are swept down river.

EXT. RIVER RAPIDS - DAY

They go booming along the roiling water, getting separated and spun in all directions.

NEMO AND REMY

Ahh!

MARLIN

Boys!

DORY

Ahh!

EXT. MOUTH OF THE RIVER - DAY

The water empties into the bay. Marlin is the first to emerge from the rapids. He looks frantically around.

NEMO (O.S.)

(calling)

Dad! Dad!

Marlin races up to him. They hug.

MARLIN

Nemo! Are you okay?

NEMO

I think so...

Just then, Dory barrels into them.

DORY

Who are you?

MARLIN AND NEMO

(freaking out)

Oh no! Not again! Dory, Dory!
Don't you remember us?!

DORY

(chuckling)

Gotcha there.

She's back to her old ditzy self again.

DORY (CONT'D)

What a ride, huh? Who's idea was that?

NEMO

Ah, Dory... Yours.

DORY

(snorting)

Yeah, right.

(looking around)

Hey, where's...

NEMO

(looking around)

Remy! Dad, where's Remy?

MARLIN

(to Dory)

Wasn't he behind you?

DORY

I thought he was with you.

They start looking everywhere, frantic.

NEMO

(near tears)

Remy...

There's no sign of him. Marlin looks grim.

NEMO (CONT'D)

Dad, Dad! We have to find him! We have to! We asked him to come with us! Remember? He wanted to go his own way!

MARLIN
(throat tight)
I know, son. I know.

Nemo starts to cry.

NEMO
I want my brother...

Marlin hugs him.

MARLIN
I know. I know.

Just then --

REMY (O.S.)
Whoo hoo!

He comes swimming up.

REMY (CONT'D)
That was so cool!

NEMO, MARLIN, AND DORY
Remy!

They all rush to him, hugging him.

REMY
(to Nemo)
Did you see me?! Did you see me in
the rapids? I wasn't even sea sick!

NEMO
(beaming)
Hey! Me neither!

They laugh and slap fins.

REMY
Can we do it again, Dad?

MARLIN
Absolutely not!

NEMO
Oh, come on, Dad!

MARLIN
Are you out of your minds?!

They laugh. Dory chuckles too, although she doesn't know why.

MARLIN (CONT'D)
 (after a moment)
 Come on, boys. Let's all go home.

Nemo looks at Remy. Remy looks at Nemo. They nod.

EXT. BAY - LATER

Gill and the sea lions wave as Nemo, Remy, Marlin, and Dory head off for home.

NEMO
 (calling back)
 Thanks for everything, Gill.

GILL
 Good luck, Shark Bait.

MARLIN AND REMY
 Bye!

DORY
 Bye, Bill!

Gill just shakes his head.

DUDLEY
 Bit of a strange agent, that one...
 (pointing to the other
 sea lions)
 Okay. Hit it, fellas!

The sea lions send them off with a BARKING SERENADE. Gill winces. He's created a musical monster.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Marlin and Dory are swimming in the lead. Nemo and Remy swim behind.

NEMO
 I can't wait to get back to the reef
 and tell everybody.

REMY
 Yeah. Me too.

NEMO
 Hey, look at that cool shell.

REMY
 I saw it first.

NEMO
 No, you didn't! I saw it first!

REMY
Did not!

NEMO
Did too!

MARLIN
Boys...

DORY
Ignore them.
(singing)
Just keep swimming, just keep
swimming.

NEMO
Dad, Remy's breathing on me!

MARLIN
Boys! Don't make me turn around!

DORY
(singing)
Just keep swimming, just keep
swimming.

NEMO
Dad!!!

REMY
Dad!!!

And off they go into the deep, a family once and for all and
we--

FADE TO BLACK: