NIGHT OF THE ZOMBIE RACCOON
Rehearsal Script - 21 FEB. 2020., Proofed 23 Feb, 2020
By Roger Gregg.


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Theme Music Intro:

NARRATOR: And now, The Good Humour Radio Hour presents the exciting true story of ‘The Night of the Zombie Raccoon’ !! :

THEME SUNG BY REGGIE AND CHORUS: [TO BE ARRANGED IN REHEARSAL]

[3/4 Time]

Our valley they say is a very strange spot
for zombie attacks sure do happen a lot
So listen and hear how we faced certain doom
by the light of the April full moon

All through the valley came the great throng
A chorus of Creatures who sang a weird song
For These Critters with jitters all trilled out of tune
On the night of the Zombie raccoon

Down to the river
they staggered along
As their leader loudly crooned
Furry Bandits! Nature’s outlaws!
Crunching and munching while washing their paws
Garbage pickin’, dumpster divin’ raccoons
Under the April full moon!

THEME SONG CONTINUES AS INSTRUMENTAL OVER WHICH ENTERS

NARRATOR: Near a very, very strange place called ‘Youngstown’, there is a secret, high security lab, hidden inside an abandoned mill not far from the murky waters of the Mahoning River. Inside, two strange scientists are about to begin an experiment tampering with the fabric of nature …
THEME OUT CROSS FADE TO:

FX LAB AMIENCE/ OMINIOUS HUM TONE IN.

DRAGOVICH - Dr. Spearwrecker! Commence the procedure!!

SPEARWRECKER: But my Dar… er… Dr. Dragovich, shouldn't we first check that the subjects…

DRAGOVICH: Doctor Spearwrecker, who is wearing the white lab coat with the Chief Scientist's Security Clearance Badge pinned right up… here?.

SPEARWRECKER: [GULP] Yes… just above your… your…

DRAGOVICH: [SEDUCTIVELY] Yes … above my …

DRAGOVICH: Oh Doctor… I can’t resist. [FX OF SPEARWRECKER PASSIONATELY EMBRACING AND KISSING DRAGOVICH] You are so ruthless … So callous … so heartless…

DRAGOVICH: Yes… Enough!! Doctor Spearwrecker, compose yourself… [FX GROPING EMBRACING STOP] There will be time enough later for you and I to conduct our 'research'…

SPEARWRECKER: Yes… our ‘research’… Later?

DRAGOVICH: Yes, later. For, now, our ‘Leader’ has ordered us to proceed with Project Rust Revival without delay!!

SPEARWRECKER: Of course my Dar…. Doctor.

DRAGOVICH: Go! Make the final check on the two subjects!

SPEARWRECKER: Yes. Alphonsus? [FX FOOTSTEPS] How you doing there boy?

ALPHONSUS: RACCOON GURGLE, CHIRP, MUNCHING ON CRUNCHING FOOD

SPEARWRECKER: Good. Nice and secure I see. Just keep munching those crunchy cheese-whizz-ohs little guy, they're you're favourite aren’t they?
DRAGOVIĆ: [FROM A SHORT DISTANCE] The Procyon Lotor is in position?

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Yes, the raccoon is ready.

DRAGOVIĆ: Good and what of the human?

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: You mean our young intern, Reggie?

DRAGOVIĆ: Yes ‘Reggie’.

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Reggie, how are you?

REGGE: I’m fine Doctor Spearwrecker.

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Good.

REGGE: But, I hope you don’t mind me asking, but how long am I going to be strapped down on this thing?

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Not much longer Reggie…

REGGE: Oh good ‘coz’ you know, as a typical, highly exploited, unpaid intern, I know I’m supposed to do whatever you Scientists in white Lab Coats want,

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: … and for however long we want,

REGGE: Sure, but I was sort of hoping to get to an audition tonight…

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Audition?

REGGE: Yeah, auditions for YSU Musical Theatre, Remember? I told you?

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: Oh the singing!

REGGE: Yes [SINGS] ‘Some enchanted evening! You may see a stranger…

SPÆRÆWRÆKÆRÆR: [SINGS ALONG WITH REGGE] … Across a crowded room!’ Oh, gosh, I love that song!

REGGE: I know.
SPEARWRECKER: You know, I used to think about being a singer, but science …

DRAGOVICH: [FROM DISTANCE] Dr. Spearwrecker!! Please!!

SPEARWRECKER: Oh Sorry Reggie, we have to start this experiment.

REGGIE: With these high voltage electrodes stuck all over my body?

SPEARWRECKER: Yes.

REGGIE: Is this going to hurt?

SPEARWRECKER: Actually we’ve never…

DRAGOVICH: Cease Communication!

SPEARWRECKER: Sorry. We’ve got to start.

REGGIE: Oh okay. Guess you always have to do what she tells you.

SPEARWRECKER: Yeah, that’s right.

DRAGOVICH: Now at last, we shall begin Project Rust Revival!! Through my patent-pending process of fearsome force fusion, the DNA of both our subjects shall combine to create a hybrid creature.

SPEARWRECKER: One half human,

DRAGOVICH And one half Procyon Lotor.

SPEARWRECKER: Raccoon.

DRAGOVICH: Let us proceed! Activate the Mahoning Valley reality distortion field!

FX DEEP PULSING HUM ENTERS. NOTE: THIS PULSE SETS THE RHYTHM TO WHICH ALL OTHER SOUNDS PLAY ALONG WITH. IT STARTS OUT SLOW AND QUICKENS IN PACE AS MORE ELEMENTS ARE ADDED IN.
SPEARWRECKER: Reality Distortion activated!

DRAGOVIĆ: Induce the DNA flux mutation diodes!

**FX** **WARBLE BOARD ENTERS**

SPEARWRECKER: We have DNA flux!

DRAGOVIĆ: Increase flux to instability factor 9.

SPEARWRECKER: Factor 9? But that’s never…

DRAGOVIĆ: I said Factor 9!!

SPEARWRECKER: Very well… Factor 9!

**FX** **TWIST CRANK THEN HUM AND WARBLE BOARD INCREASE TEMPO.**

DRAGOVIĆ: Inject Mahoning River Stinky Toxic Ooze!

**FX** **BUBBLING MUCK / SQUEEZING OOZE SPONGE**

SPEARWRECKER: Mahoning River Stinky Toxic Ooze Injecting!

DRAGOVIĆ: Amplify Stinky Ooze.

**FX** **SIZZLING HISS BICYCLE PUMP ENTERS AS ALL SOUNDS INCREASE TEMPO.**

SPEARWRECKER: Amplifying Stinky Ooze!

**MORE SOUNDS ENTERING RHYTHMIC COLLAGE.**

DRAGOVIĆ: Excellent! Now, finally, to create the Creature: Initiate Morphing Weld Fusion!!

SPEARWRECKER: Initiating Morphing Fusion!!

**FX:** **BUZZER BOARD HIGH VOLTAGE SPARKING SOUND ENTER AS THE COLLAGE OF ALL SOUND EFFECTS COMMENCE FINAL CRESCENDO IN TEMPO AND VOLUME. CRESCENDO BUILDS TO INTENSE CLIMAX. AT CLIMAX ALL STOP AND FX OF LARGE BALloon SQUEEKING WHEEZE AS AIR IS RELEASED. A BEAT PAUSE AFTER END OF PAGE 5 OF 59 -- ZOMBIE FEB 21
SPEARWRECKER: Wow! That was intense.

DRAGOVIĆ: Yes. But did it work?

SPEARWRECKER: Just look!!!

**MUSIC:** **HORROR DISCHORD.**

DRAGOVIĆ: [A PAUSE] It’s… it’s…. Magnificent!

SPEARWRECKER: We’ve done it!

REGGIE: [NOW HALF RACCOON DEEPER IN VOICE, IS HEARD BREATHING AND SNORTING]

DRAGOVIĆ: Look at the size of the Creature!

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, he must be over 6 feet tall!

DRAGOVIĆ: One half human..

SPEARWRECKER: One Half- raccoon.

DRAGOVIĆ: So huge

SPEARWRECKER: So furry.

DRAGOVIĆ: The Dark rings around his black eyes.

SPEARWRECKER: Pointy ears!

DRAGOVIĆ: Stripey tail.

SPEARWRECKER: Giant paws.

DRAGOVIĆ: Nimble fingers .

SPEARWRECKER: He’s actually kind of cute..

DRAGOVIĆ: Bah! Creature! I command you! Step forward!…[PAUSE] I say Creature!! What’s wrong?

SPEARWRECKER: Let me try…. Reggie? Reggie ? It’s me Dr. Spearwrecker.
REGGIE: [AMID GRUNTS / SNORTS] Huuh?? Spear… Wrecker. …I alive? …

SPEARWRECKER: Yes you’re alive.

REGGIE: Erghh… I hungry… so hungry…

SPEARWRECKER: Oh? Well, here, [FX PLASTIC BAG] try these Cheeze-whizz-ohssss…

REGGIE: [FX. EAGERLY MUNCHING CRUNCHY CHIPS FROM BAG. CONTINUES UNDER]. Me love Cheeze-whizz-ohs.

DRAGOVICH: He eats gross junk food like an animal, …

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, that’s the raccoon in him.

DRAGOVICH: Or American teenager…

REGGIE: Reggie must ... get.... ready..... …

FX WATER SWISHING FOLLOWED BY GARGLING NOISE FROM REGGIE

DRAGOVICH: Now what’s he doing?

SPEARWRECKER: Gargling.


SPEAWRECKER: He’s doing his vocal warmups !

DRAGOVICH: Enough! Stupid Creature!!

REGGIE: No!! Reggie must sing… It fun for Reggie…

DRAGOVICH: Make him stop!!

REGGIE: Feel good to sing. Good!!!

SPEARWRECKER: Look Reggie, you can come back here to your cozy cage in the morning and sing all you want. I will get you music books.
REGGIE: Oh?

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, but you have to go now. Remember, you have your audition nonight?

REGGIE: Audition?... Singing!! Yes... yes YSU Music Theatre...

[SFX OF WASHING STOPS]

SPEARWRECKER: Yeah, that's right! [SINGS] 'Some enchanted evening!' So you go outside for the night. You'll like it. Trust me. You're nocturnal, go on!

REGGIE: Reggie go now... Go now.... [SINGS] 'Me – me—me—me. La-la-la-la.'

[REGGIE CONTINUES SINGING SCALE NOTES. HIS SINGING FADES OUT AS HE PULLS AWAY FROM MICROPHONE]

SPEARWRECKER: Dr. Dragovich, we're alone and now... [PASSION BODY COMMOTION] our 'research'... Oh darl...

DRAGOVICH: Wait! [COMMOTION STOPS] First, I shall contact our Leader with news of progress.

SPEARWRECKER: Oh? [CATCHING BREATH] But you and I, we...you said...

DRAGOVICH: I said nothing can stand in the way of Project Rust Revival!!

TRANSITION. THEME ENTERS.

NARRATOR: And so Reggie, the huge WereRaccoon is released out into the darkness of the Mahoning Valley! But just what is this strange plot called 'Project Rust Revival'? For the next piece of our puzzle, we go to the office of Lu Ann Mangino, the over-worked, under-paid, Youngstown Chief Animal Control Officer, where she is introducing her new trainee Assistant, one Danny Ditzler, to the basic equipment of the A. C. O..

TRANSITION/ THEME MUSIC OUT.

LU ANN:... And finally... never put your hand in the snake bucket.
DANNY: Why?

FX **RATTLE SNAKE FX. FOLLOWED RAPIDLY BY LID OVER BUCKET SOUND.**

LU ANN: That’s why.

DANNY: Right.

LU ANN: Now, tell me what this is.

DANNY: Oh that is a let’s see… [reads] ‘friction lock bay-ton’

LU ANN: Baton.

DANNY: … ‘for controlling dynamic subjects’

LU ANN: Right. What’s a ‘dynamic subject’?

DANNY: Ah… a subject that’s dynamic?

LU ANN: And what’s that?

DANNY: Okay-okay-okay ah… just a second. Let me just type in ‘dynamic sub…

LU ANN: What are you doing?

DANNY: Looking it up

LU ANN: Looking it up?

DANNY: On my phone.

LU ANN: We don’t do that…

DANNY: No it’s no problem, I have a special App..

LU ANN: No app…

DANNY: Yes App.

LU ANN: No App!

DANNY: But the app, it’s on my phone. See? its right…
LU ANN: Put it down. No phone.

DANNY: No phone?

DANNY: But you can just…

LU ANN: Danny… Danny… Look at me..

DANNY: What?

LU ANN: You’re supposed to know all this.

DANNY: ‘Know’ this?

LU ANN: Yeah, in your head.

DANNY: In my head? But… Lu Ann, this App will just…

LU ANN: Danny, Animal Control Officers deal with real life.

DANNY: Real Life?

LU ANN: Yeah, so you can’t be staring down at your phone, it’s not going to…

**FX**

**DOOR OPEN RAPIDLY.**

DITZLER: Okay Okay! Another Day in Y-Town!! Surprise Inspection!!

LU ANN: Hello Commissioner Ditzler.

DITZLER: Mangino, how are you getting on with the new recruit?

DANNY: Hi, Uncle Dennis.

DITZLER: Up-Up! Danny remember what we said!

DANNY: Sorry ‘Commissioner Ditzler’.

DITZLER: That’s better. Let’s keep the Nepotism discrete you know, this isn’t Pennsylvania!

LU ANN: We’re just going over the basics…
DITZLER: Good. Good. The sooner you Dog-catchers are out on patrol, the better.

LU ANN: Animal Control Officers.

DITZLER: What?

LU ANN: Not ‘dog-catchers’. We’re Animal Control Officers.

DITZLER: Well whatever you are, you gotta clean up this Valley!! No more dead skunks n’ raccoons got it?

DANNY: Sure Uncle.

DITZLER: This is top priority!

LU ANN: Right.

DITZLER: She said we have no vision eh? No imagination? Well I’ll show her! She wants something big -- to revive this Valley and put it on the map? Well, Look out! because I, Commissioner Dennis D. D. Ditzler is going to give it to her!!!

LU ANN: To who?

DITZLER: To who? Why only Helga Horkenheimer!

LU ANN: Horken-what?

DITZLER: Horkenheimer! The Director of the The Ohio State Tourist Board! [OMINOUS CHORD STING]

DANNY: The app says: Horkenheimer, Helga J. Ohio dot gov forward slash tourism forward slash director....

DITZLER: [OMINOUS CHORD] Oh yes, I can’t wait to see the look on her face when people start flocking here here from all over: Lisbon! Garretsville! Even Mosquito Creek!

LU ANN: Flocking here for what?

DITZLER: Why only for the North East Ohio Perogie Championships!!
DANNY: Perogies?

DITZLER: Perogies!!

LU ANN: Perogies?

DITZLER: Perogies!!

DANNY: [READING] The app says: ‘Perogie: a small dough dumpling stuffed with a filling such as potato or cheese.’

DITZLER: Everyone knows what a perogie is, Danny. And with the splendour of our perogies we shall show Helga Horkenheimer and the Ohio State Tourist Board!

DANNY: Wow!

LU ANN: Okay.

DITZLER: So get to it! No more squished road kill on Market street! [MOVING AWAY, FX SHOES] ….and do whatever else you Dogcatchers do…

FX DOOR SLAM. [DITZLER EXIT]

LU ANN: ‘Animal Control Officers!

TRANSITION/THEME MUSIC.

NARRATOR: As trainee Animal Control Officer Danny Ditlzer goes out on his first call with Lu Ann, Commissioner Ditzler is on the phone with the Director of the Ohio State Tourist Board!

DITZLER: Ms. Horkenheimer, I got just one word to say to you: Perogies!! … Perogie? It’s like a small dough dumpling thing stuffed with potato… No?

NARRATOR: And that very night, Reggie, the huge, half-raccoon-half human creature, staggers on his way to the YSU Musical Theatre Auditions! But as he tries to make his way across campus to Bliss Hall….

MUSIC THEME OUT/ CROSS FADE SUSPENCE TONE. WHICH BUILDS...

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REGGIE: [GRUNTING SNORTING.] Audition? I audition?? [SINGS] ‘One enchanted evening you shall see a…’

STUDENT: A monster!!

REGGIE: I here to audition! [SINGS] ‘Doh Ray Me..

STUDENT 1: [SCREAM QUEEN SCREAM] Ahhhhhh!!! [HORROR CHORD ENTERS]

REGGIE: No! I sing…

STUDENT 2: Oh – Em – Gee !!!!

STUDENT 3: It’s a giant raccoon!!

REGGIE: Audition!!

STUDENT 1: He’s hideous!!

STUDENT 2: Scare him away!!

STUDENT 3: Bad Raccoon!!

STUDENT 1: Poke him with this sharp stick

FX  POKE.

REGGIE: Yeeeeooow! Reggie hurt!

STUDENTS: [ENSEMBLE] Go On! Shooo!! Get out of here! Go Away!! [ETC.] He must be from Canfield…

[MELEE OF SCREAMING TERRIFIED STUDENTS SCARING ‘MONSTER’ REGGIE AWAY. THIS IS SHORT IMPROVISATION. MONSTER REACTS FRIGHTENED UP CLOSE TO MIC. MELEE OF STUDENTS AWAY FROM MIC. HORROR MUSIC FROM CHORD TO FRANTIC MOTION.]

REGGIE: [UPSET AS HE RACES ALONG.  FX. FAST PACED GRASS] They hate me… Why they hate me? I sing good. …
As Reggie flees through the night, his obsessive compulsion compels him to the wharf along the river just outside the B & O, where he stops to wash his hands! [FX HAND WASHING IN BASIN] And that is when, for the first time, in the light of the full moon, he sees his own reflection!!


With a mask round my eyes and scary sharp teeth
A long stripy tail ... I'm a big hairy beast.
I’m One half raccoon ... And one half a man

I go gorging through garbage though I don’t seem to care
I’d wash any paws of this whole sad affair
But you made me this way … it’s just how I am.

CHORUS: MIGHT STILL WRITE DIFFERENT WORDS FOR 2nd CHORUS
I’m a curious creep in this escapade
I’ve been made such a weird freaky thing
...Oh hear me howl a sad serenade
I’m a monster who just wants to sing!
And sing!

VERSE 2
My mask is real, no it’s not a disguise
And yet I still feel and I can still cry
I can’t find any peace. Oh me! Oh My Oh!

Even you'd be enraged, yes you'd be appalled
To be slammed in a cage or crammed behind walls
And then be released in Youngstown Ohio.
[TO BE ARRANGED. THE CHORUS OF RACCOONS CHANTING “ZOMBIE RACCOONS”]


TRANSITION IS THE CONTINUING VERSE PATTERN OF REGGIE’S SONG

NARRATOR: And so Reggie spent the night with more and more raccoons gathering around him joining his Raccoon Choir, that is, until dawn when Reggie’s instinct brought him back to the coze nest of his cell in the secret lab. Over the next few days Doctors Dragovich and Spearwrecker continued their twisted procedure.

DRAGOVICH: We will now increase the dosage of Raccoon DNA into the mix.

SPEARWRECKER: But he’ll be less human!

DRAGOVICH: Precisely!! Initiate Morphing Fusion!

SPEARWRECKER: Alright, if you say so….

[FX QUICK FUSION BLAST OVER THEME MUSIC WHICH CONTINUES UNDER.]

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, Danny continued his training with Lu Ann. It was out on a call to Mrs. D’Amico’s Candy Store when the puzzle began to fit together…

TRANSITION OF REGGIE VERSE OUT.

EERIE UNEASY MEANDERING SUSPENSE TONES UNDER.

LU ANN: So tell us what happened Mrs. D’Amico.

D’AMICO: I was sitting down with Father Brown.
DANNY: Father Brown?

D'AMICO: Yes, he solves murder mysteries...

DANNY: A murder?!

D'AMICO: Oh yes. Every week.

DANNY: What?!

LU ANN: It's a TV show Danny.

D'AMICO: It's my programme.

DANNY: Right...

D'AMICO: That's when I heard all the ruckus, like singing.

LU ANN: Singing?

MRS. D'AMICO Oh yes. This troupe of Anarchists arrived...

LU ANN: In your candy store?

D'AMICO: No silly in Kembleford, England, they were performing you see, it was very upsetting.

LU ANN: Was it?

D'AMICO: Oh I couldn't look away! And that's when, Sargent Anderson started howling.

LU ANN: Sargent Anderson?

D'AMICO: My dog.

DANNY: The app says: [READING] ‘Father Brown: a British television period drama featuring a crime-solving…’

LU ANN: Put the phone away Danny.

D'AMICO: He was barking and shouting. Some thing was back here ransacking the storeroom.
LU ANN:  Did you see what it was?

D' AMICO:  Oh no!  They were getting murdered off one by one…

DANNY:  Who were?

D'AMICO:  The anarchists!

DANNY:  Here in the storeroom?

D'AMICO:  What? No, on TV.

LU ANN:  Sorry Mrs. D'Amico, I think we're a little confused here.

D'AMICO:  I'm not confused.

LU ANN:  Okay, you were watching TV

D'AMICO:  Yes.

LU ANN:  And then your dog..

D'AMICO:  Sargent..

LU ANN:  Anderson, yes, he starts barking.

D' AMICO:  That's right.

LU ANN:  Because something was out here in the storeroom…

D'AMICO:  Just look at the place. See? [FX WRAPPERS ON FLOOR]

DANNY:  Yeah, the floor is totally covered……

D'AMICO:  Oh yes just look at the mess! [FX OF WRAPPERS AND CRUNCHING THINGS BEING STEPPED ON] Cheeze-whizz-oh bags are everywhere!

LU ANN:  Hmmm… Right. Some kind of animals were out here gorging themselves…

DANNY:  Hey Lu Ann, Look! Do you think this is important?
LU ANN: Huh? I don’t believe it!

D’AMICO: Oh my! [EERIE TONE BUILDS SOFTLY]

LU ANN: Yes. Danny take a photo of this huge track here.

DANNY: A photo?

LU ANN: With your phone.

DANNY: Oh Right. [FX ‘SNAP-SHOT’ PHOTOS BEING TAKEN.]

D’AMICO: And then look what happened? See? [FX CHAIN RATTLE]

LU ANN: Oh my…

D’AMICO: Sargent Anderson was so upset…

LU ANN: He broke his chain.

D' AMICO: Yes, broke loose and just ran off without telling me where he was going … and he’s never ever done that before! That’s why I called you Dog-catchers.

DANNY: Animal Control Officers.

D’ AMICO: What?

LU ANN: Never mind. Okay Mrs. D’Amico, we’ll keep an eye out for Sargent Anderson.

D’ AMICO: I have his picture here see?

LU ANN: Oh yes.

D’AMICO: I took it last Christmas.

DANNY: Nice Elf costume.

D’ AMICO: Yes he loved that red hat with the little white ball, but the jacket not so much. Too tight around his shoulders I think.
As the days went by, rumors of a strange creature leading a pack of raccoons began to circulate around the Valley. And then one night a pair of High School Seniors were sitting in their car at ______ a ‘Make Out Point’.

[ON SMALL SPEARER FX] … while the passenger’s, 2 Vigilantes out searching for the strange creature with a pitch-fork and a large flaming torch, were later found unharmed. Their pickup truck however, continued to burn until late this morning. Meanwhile, Local officials have urged every citizen to remain calm. ‘This is probably just another spate of Zombie Raccoons’ said the Mayor, who cautioned everyone to…

FX CLICK AND RADIO ABRUPTLY OFF. TRY THIS SCENE WITH BOBBY EATING CRUNCHY FOOD LIKE POTATO CHIPS.

DEBBIE: So Bobby I was thinking…

BOBBY: You want some Cheezewhizz-ohs?

DEBBIE: Huh? No thanks.

BOBBY: Very cheesey.

DEBBIE: Yeah I can smell them.

BOBBY: You sure? They’re really good.

DEBBIE: No, I’m okay. Bobby?

BOBBY: What?

DEBBIE: I feel it’s time we we … you know.

BOBBY: Oh? Yeah, yeah right. I know.

DEBBIE: You do?

BOBBY: Yeah.
DEBBIE: I’m like really, really attracted to you.

BOBBY: Yeah you told me already.

DEBBIE: I did?

BOBBY: I’m so handsome. Like super handsome.

DEBBIE: Right. You are super handsome … So maybe we….

BOBBY: So maybe we…? What?

DEBBIE: You know. You and me…

BOBBY: Yeah.

DEBBIE: Typical High School Seniors

BOBBY: From Ohio.

DEBBIE: Right. In my parked car.

BOBBY: All alone.

DEBBIE: Here, put the Cheezewhizzohs down and let’s…

**FX:** CLOTHING BODY COMMOTION, CHIPS BAG SHOVED ASIDE, AS DEBBIE ATTEMPTS TO PULL OFF BOBBY’S T-SHIRT.

BOBBY: Hey! Whadya’ doing?

DEBBIE: Oh I’m sorry. I thought…

BOBBY: What?

DEBBIE: Of course, I should have known, we should first talk about our identities and the consent of our identities in our personal space ‘n stuff …

BOBBY: What? No, It’s just that this is my new T-Shirt.

DEBBIE: Oh Right, your shirt it’s nice. Very soft.
BOBBY: Yeah. It's from the Youngstown Clothing Company.

DEBBIE: Oh! From Youngstown.

BOBBY: See what it says?

DEBBIE: “The Zombie Raccoons’.


[MUSIC: SOFT EERIE TENSION NOTE ENTERS AND VERY GRADUALLY BUILDS]

DEBBIE: So, why don’t we take it off.

BOBBY: What?

DEBBIE: Take your t-shirt off.

BOBBY: But that ….

DEBBIE: Go on.

BOBBY: Oh…right… Yeah, I'll take it off [FX: HE SQUIRMS OUT OF SHIRT]. There. How’s that?

DEBBIE: Oh. Bobby. You're so..

BOBBY: Super handsome.

DEBBIE: Yes. You are.

BOBBY: Yeah. I know.

DEBBIE: Now… what if we just do… this…

FX. SOFT RHYTHMIC METALLIC CREAKING OF CAR SHAKING ENTERS AND BUILDS. TENSION TONE BUILDS MUSIC. ENERGY PULSING VERSE PATTERN OF REGGIE’S SONG.

DEBBIE: [PASSIONATELY] Oh Bobby… Bobby… you're so…
BOBBY: Handsome…. I know… you said that already…

FX: A SEQUENCE OF MORE IMPROVISED PASSION SOUNDS FROM DEBBIE. MUSIC TENSION FURTHER(builds. METALLIC CAR ROCKING FX ESCALATES.

BOBBY: Hey… the car… it’s rocking back and forth…

DEBBIE: Yes… yes…. That happens….It's natural…

BOBBY: But... But... we’re not doing anything.

DEBBIE: What? Hey you’re right! It’s not us…

BOBBY: If it’s not us, then what is it?

DEBBIE: I don't know … it’s….

BIG METALLIC SLAM. MUSIC/TENSION SWELLS. FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY MORE METALLIC SHAKING AS CAR IS ROCKED BACK AND FORTH. USE METAL HINGE? METAL SPRING? RESONANT METAL BOX?

REGGIE: [HUGE INITIAL ROAR WITH FIRST METALLIC SLAM, FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY MORE ROARING AND EFFORT SOUNDS AS REGGIE SHAKES THE CAR. REGGIE’ S HALF-SINGING-HALF-ROARING, LIKE TARZAN- IS MUFFLED AS HE IS OUTSIDE THE CAR. OTHER SMALL RACCOONS ALSO MAKE NOISES. RACCOON CHORUS SINGS ZOMBIE RACCOONS SOFTLY TO BE ARRANGED IN REHEARSALS].

DEBBIE: What the????

BOBBY: Is it the cops?

DEBBIE: No! Look!!

BOBBY: It’s a whole bunch of raccoons!

DEBBIE: And one big giant monster raccoon!
REGGIE: [IN WITH HIS SINGING/ROARS AND EFFORT GRUNTS] Cheeezwhizzohs!!

DEBBIE: I think they want your Cheeezwhizzohs!!

BOBBY: Well they can’t have them!!

DEBBIE & BOBBY: [CLIMAX SCREAMS] Ahhhhhhhhh!!!

REGGIE: BIG ROAR ALONG WITH CLIMAX SCREAMS. ‘Zombie Raccoons! Zombie Raccoons!

MUSIC & FX: AT CLIMAX SCREAM THE MUSIC ALSO SURGES TO INTENSE CLIMAX. CHORUS OF RACCOONS OUT.

TRANSITION OF REGGIE VERSE MUSIC CONTINUES UNDER.

NARRATOR: Night after night, the ever more monstrous Reggie prowled the Valley gathering ever more tuneless Raccoons to his side.

REGGIE: Raccoons all ready? [FX ENSEMBLE AS RACCOON CHORUS.] Okay here we go! Uh - one - a- two – a-three! [REGGIE COACHING AS THEY SING]. Come on! Put your tails into it!

RACCOON CHORUS Zombie Raccoons! Zombie Raccoons! Zombie Raccoons!

REGGIE VERSE MUSIC LOWERS IN VOLUME, CONTINUES UNDER.

NARRATOR: People in the Valley were growing alarmed as strange raccoon encounters were being reported everywhere! Meanwhile, Animal Control Officers Lu Ann and Danny continued to gather more evidence.

LU ANN: Make Out Point [Or name of place] This is where the teenagers were attacked in their car. [SFXGRASS MOVEMENT]

DANNY: Lu Ann, look at all this fur!

LU ANN: Gather it up Danny! We’ll examine it in the Lab.
DANNY: Wow!! Forensics!! We'll be just like CSI… Think of it, ‘CSI: Youngstown’ what a great name for a TV show…

NARRATOR: Finally, Reggie once more found himself snuggled up in his cozy cell in the Secret Lab, where Doctor Dragovich is on the phone with the mysterious leader of Project Rust Revival.

REGGIE VERSE TRANSITION MUSIC OUT.

FX  LAB AMBIENCE & OMINIOUS HUM TONE IN.

REGGIE: [GRUNTS AND SNORTS AND MUNCHES AND HUMS. SINGS IN BACKGROUND, UNDER]. I sing…sing good…

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, you do, Reggie.

REGGIE: But choir need work. Bass section weak. Need more males.

DRAGOVICH: [ON PHONE] Yes Leader! We have the creature ready for the next stage.

LEADER: [HELGA HOKENHEIMER ON SMALL SPEAKER PHONE FX] Good. Nothing must stand in our way.

DRAGOVICH: And nothing shall. I give you my word as a heartless sociopath.

LEADER: That's what I want hear.

SPEARWRECKER: [OFF A BIT]. Oh is that the Leader?

DRAGOVICH: Shhhh I am on the phone!

LEADER: I know you are on the phone.

DRAGOVICH: What? Oh no, sorry Leader, I was speaking to my spineless assistant…

SPEARWRECKER: ‘Assistant’?

REGGIE: She is using you, Spearwrecker!
SPEARWRECKER: You know, sometimes I ...

DRAGOVICH: Silence! Both of you!!

SPEARWRECKER: You should tell the Leader about the complications.

LEADER: What’s that? ‘Complications’?

SPEARWRECKER: All the raccoons that ...

DRAGOVICH: No! No Complications!

REGGIE: I have choir. We sing!!

DRAGOVICH: All is well, my leader. Each night, the creature has been running amuck.

LEADER: Then we need more ‘amuck’!

DRAGOVICH: More amuck?

SPEARWRECKER: More amuck?!!

REGGIE: Muck!!

LEADER: Much More amuck. We want wanton Frenzy, berserk savagery, paranoia, panic, hysteria! You know like Boardman shoppers on Black Friday -- but everywhere! Got me?

DRAGOVICH: Got you.

LEADER: This thing is still only local news. We must make big, BIG headlines!

DRAGOVICH: Very well we shall increase the dosage.

SPEARWRECKER: Increase the dosage?! But we can’t just ...

DRAGOVICH: We can! And we will!!

LEADER: That Mahoning Commissioner bumpkin has that Championship thing-a-ma-jig coming up and it all must be timed perfectly.
DRAGOVICH: It will.

LEADER: Good. Now ‘Go Buckeyes’.

FX. PHONE CLICK. FX OF OLD TYPE OF PHONE SET DOWN.

MUSIC: OMNIOUS TONE HUM ENTERS SOFTLY.

DRAGOVICH: Doctor Spearwrecker ... don’t ever interrupt me when I am on the phone.

SPEARWRECKER: I’m sorry Dar… Doctor. But I…

DRAGOVICH: You what?!

SPEARWRECKER: All the raccoons gathering outside the Lab.

DRAGOVICH: What about them?

REGGIE: My choir sing!!

SPEARWRECKER: They’re waiting for Reggie.

DRAGOVICH: So?

SPEARWRECKER: This wasn’t part of the plan. We can barely control Reggie and now with that swarm of chanting raccoons following him, who knows what ….

DRAGOVICH: So what? The Creature has a legion of fanatical furry followers. They make him all the more terrifying!

SPEARWRECKER: Just let me do some tests first, to see if …

DRAGOVICH: [SEDUCTION MODE] Doctor Spearwrecker [FX OF CLIPBOARD FALLING TO FLOOR] Oh my! Look I have dropped my clipboard down onto the floor. I will just slowly bend over in my tight white lab coat …[EXTRA TENSION TINGLE ENTERS HUM] … and pick it up…

SPEARWRECKER: [GULP] Yes… yes…
DRAGOVICH: There. You were saying?

SPEARWRECKER: I... I...

DRAGOVICH: Its time for the gloves to come off.

SPEARWRECKER: Your rubber gloves? Yes, they’re so sensual.

DRAGOVICH: You fool Spearwrecker! I speak figuratively.

SPEARWRECKER: Oh yes, of course.

DRAGOVICH: What I mean is: Let us increase the dosage.

SPEARWRECKER: Increase?

DRAGOVICH: One part human to 42 parts raccoon.

**TENSION HUM ESCALATES CRESCENDO.**

SPEARWRECKER: 42?

DRAGOVICH: 42!!!! And afterwards, you and I might conduct our ...

SPEARWRECKER: Research?

DRAGOVICH: Yes, research, but first we increase The Dosage.

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, yes, of course. Anything you say. [FX. CLICK] Reggie? Reggie?

REGGIE: Spear...wrek... errrrrr? Don’t ... she ... use you.

SPEARWRECKER: Sorry my furry friend. Research, you know. It’s time for another dose.

DRAGOVICH: Initiate Morphing Fusion!!

**FX QUICK FUSION BLAST. MUSIC: TONE CLIMAX. CROSSFADE TO THEME/TRANSITION MUSIC.**

REGGIE: [HUGE ROAR.] Oh? My Voice??? I sing baritone now?!!

SPEARWRECKER: He gone ‘Full Raccoon’!
DRAGOVICH: We’re going to need a bigger cage!

CROSS FADE TRANSITION THEME

NARRATOR: Once more the Reggie, the scavenging ravenous raccoon, bolts into the night! Leading his ever-growing horde of hairy, nimble-fingered furry followers! Searching everywhere for something, anything, to eat, until finally, in the centre of the woods off of 680 not far from the racetrack, the omnivorous gang come across the secluded compound of former Highway Patrolman Barney Bean Bartberger. But Barney Bean Bartberger is not just one more paranoid white male, seething with resentment, living alone in a remote house in Ohio. Oh no! Barney Bean Bartberger is prepared!

TRANSITION THEME MUSIC RESOLVES. DEEP TENSION THROB OF REGGIES THEME ENTERS SOFTLY.

FX. STEADY HIGH PITCHED ALARM BUZZ. RACCOON ENSEMBLE MURMURS ENTER SOFTLY FROM DISTANCE AND SLOWLY BUILD UNDER.


BARNEY: A ha!!! I knew they’d come back.

ALARM VOICE: Intruder Alert.

BARNEY: I’ve been waiting since 66 for this!! Oh yeah!!

ALARM VOICE: Intruder Alert.

BARNEY: Abduct me eh? Probe me eh? Put yer Implant in me eh?

ALARM VOICE: Activating Anti-personal devices.

BARNEY: Oh I’m ready!

REGGIE AND RACCOON ENSEMBLE RISE IN VOLUME AS THEY APPROACH CHANTING ZOMBIE RACCOON.
ALARM VOICE: Intruder at Outer Perimeter Sector 4.
BARNEY: We’ll see who probes who this time! Stupid Aliens.
ALARM VOICE: Warning Unidentified Target Approaching.
BARNEY: Oh no! You didn’t reckon on ol’ Barney Bean Bartberger!!
ALARM VOICE: Activating Searchlights. [FX: NEW SOUND ENTERS.]
REGGIE: CONFUSED IRRITANT AS LIGHT BEAM HITS HIM. Ahhh Eyes Hurt!
BARNEY: Oh! Aha!! Now I see ya!
REGGIE: THREATENING ROARS. [FX: GRASS AGITATION]
BARNEY: Ha! So you’re wearing a weird shaggy space suit this time eh?
RACCOON ENSEMBLE: RACCOON NOISES AND THE ChANTING.
BARNEY: Oh? And too frightened to come alone? Gotta bring a bunch of garbage-eating raccoons with ya? Well it don’t matter. No gang of raccoons and no furry space suit is gonna protect you from this… Remember this? [FX AREOSOL CAN SHAKE.] That’s right. It’s yer own weapon. I took it from your flying saucer last time. Betcha didn’t know that did ya?! So, Hows’ about a blast of yer own medicine right between your beady black eyes!

FX: AREOSOL SPRAY NOISE WHICH CAUSES REGGIE TO ROAR IN PAIN.

DEEP THROB UP ANOTHER NOTCH AND INCREASES IN TEMPO.
REGGIE: [MIXED WITH PAIN ROARS AND OVER SPRAYING FX] Ow!! Owwwwww!!! My eyes! They Burn!! … Can’t see!! Can’t sing… Run… Run away!!!!

REGGIES ROARS AND AGITATED RACCOON ENSEMBLE GRASS FX FADE AS THEY FLEE. REGGIE VERSE THROB FADES AS THEY MOVE AWAY.
BARNEY: That’s right run away!!! And take all yer’ trash munchin’ raccoons with ya!! [CATCHING HIS BREATH. MUSIC CALMS. ] Oh man… Oh yeah it’s real now! They’re here among us. People gotta believe me this time. Where’s my phone? [FX. CLOTHING RUSTLE] Oh here it is! Now who do I phone? Who’s really in charge round here? The Boardman Spartans Marching Band Booster Club?.. No… The Pubic Library?.. No…first phone the government… yeah…the government should probably know about the alien invasion…[FX CELLPHONE BEEPS] . Hello yeah listen there’s very little time we’re under attack aliens have landed they’re here! and its not like last time these ones are hairy n’ they got raccoons we gotta do something. Hello? Hello?? What? What? Whadya’ mean ‘To report a pot-hole press 3?’ What? No! Wait.. Hey!! You’re not even a human being!!!!

TRANSITION THEME ENTERS.

NARRATOR: And so Bartberger begins a relentless campaign to try and get through to a human being and alert the relevant local authorities. Meanwhile as the encounters continue around town, and rumours of a Zombie Raccoon epidemic spread, Lu Ann and Danny, lay a major piece of the forensic puzzle into place.

THEME TRANSITION THEME OUT.

EERIE UNEASY AMBIENCE IN.

LU ANN: Now let’s examine this strange fur sample under this microscope….

DANNY: Right It says here on the App: “Raccoon: ‘Procy……’

LU ANN: Procyon Lotor.

DANNY: Yeah, that’s right. You really do know your stuff.

LU ANN: Hmmm Hey…wait a minute…. This specimen… it can’t be right…

DANNY: ‘The raccoon is the largest of the Proryonidae family.’
LU ANN: This is way too large..

DANNY: It says ‘The Raccoon averages between 24 to 38 inches in length’

LU ANN: Well, get this Danny: judging by the size of this huge fur follicle, the creature we’re looking for is more like 75 inches…

**SURGE / CRESCEPDO IN EERIE UNEASY AMBIENCE.**

DANNY: 75?!?

LU ANN: Yeah.

DANNY: But that …. Let me check my phone… makes him 6.25 feet tall!

*[MUSIC STING]*

LU ANN: This is no normal raccoon.

DANNY: It’s more like a… a… Monster!

LU ANN: Yes.

**FX DOOR SWINGS RAPIDLY OPEN. MUSIC OUT. FX: TWO SETS OF SHOES ENTER.**

DITZLER: And this is our Office of our Animal people..

HORKENHEIMER: Animal People?

DITZLER: Two of Ohio’s finest dog catchers.

LU ANN: Animal Control Officers.

DITZLER: Lu Ann and Danny.

LU ANN: Hello.

DANNY: Hi Uncle..er Commissioner.

DITZLER: Er Yes… Guys, this is Ms. Helga Horkenheimer.
OMINOUS CHORD STAB.

HORKENHEIMER: That's right. The OHIO State Tourist Board.

OMINOUS CHORD STAB.

DITZLER: Now guys, the North East Perogie Championships are Tonight!

LU ANN: About the Championships, We just got the lab results and there's …

DITZLER: Not now Lu Ann! Ms. Horkenheimer’s a very busy woman and we've still got Perogies to look at.

HORKENHEIMER: Of course. Perogies. Well Animal People, keep up the good animal work. Remember: Ohio needs you. Go Buckeyes!

DITZLER: Go Buckeyes!!

DANNY: Go Buckeyes!

HORKENHEIMER: Go Buckeyes!

DITZLER: Lu Ann?

LU ANN: [half-heartedly sigh] Go Buckeyes.

DITZLER: Yes. That's our team spirit! You see Ms. Horkenheimer?

HORKENHEIMER: That's all that Ohio asks Ditzler: 109% fanatical devotion.

DITZLER: Oh you have that Ms. Horkenheimer!!

HORKENHEIMER: Good.

DITZLER: Now if you'll follow me we'll go and see the Covelli Centre where the Perogie Championships are …

LU ANN: Wait!! You can’t!!
DITZLER: Not now Lu Ann!.

LU ANN: This is important Commissioner! The whole County is in danger!

DITZLER: What?!

LU ANN: You must cancel the Perogie Championship.

DITZLER: Are you crazy Lu Ann? Perogies never hurt anyone!!

LU ANN: It's not the perogies.

DITZLER: Good, Because I won't stand for anyone saying anything bad about perogies!

LU ANN: It's the raccoon!

HORKENHEIMER: Do Raccoons eat perogies?

DANNY: They'll eat anything. In fact, it says here…

LU ANN: Not now Danny.

DITZLER: You're wasting our time Lu Ann. Remember where Ms. Horkenheimer is from?

DANNY: The Ohio State Tourist Board.

OMINIOUS CHORD STAB.

HORKENHEIMER: That's right.

LU ANN: Haven't you been listening to the news?

DITZLER: Enough crazy talk..

LU ANN: There is a monster raccoon on the loose!!

HORKENHEIMER: What?

DITZLER: Great. Now I've heard everything.

HORKENHEIMER: A monster?
LU ANN: Yes Mam. A huge Raccoon. Based on our evidence, it's over 6 feet tall.

DANNY: And he's got a gang with him.

HORKENHEIMER: A gang?

DANNY: Of raccoons Sir. Regular raccoons except they sort of 'sing'.

HORKENHEIMER: Is this some kind of weird Youngstown joke?

DITZLER: No Ms. Horkenheimer! Oh no,no,no. We're loyal Buckeyes! 'Go Buckeyes!!'

HORKENHEIMER: Yes Go Buckeyes!!

DANNY: But Uncle Dennis, we have the facts.

DITZLER: Danny I'm an elected official of the State of Ohio. Don't ever try to confuse me with facts!!

DANNY: But…but…

DITZLER: I answer to the Ohioanians and Ohioanians want perogies!!

HORKENHEIMER: Go Buckeyes!

DITZLER: Right. Go Buckeyes!

LU ANN: But this giant raccoon is running wild out there! Who knows what he's capable of!

DANNY: And the smell of thousands of Perogies..

LU ANN: …Will be irresistible! Don't you see? You're in danger!!

DITZLER: Get a hold of yourselves! This is obviously just another outbreak of 'Zombie Raccoons'…

DANNY: Zombie Raccoons?
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HORKENHEIMER: [HEAVY SIGH] Youngstown.

DITZLER: We can’t allow a bunch of demented Raccoons to damage our good name again.

HORKENHEIMER: What ‘good name’?

LU ANN: It’s called ‘Distemper.’ It’s a virus among the species.

DANNY: Hey Uncle Dennis is right! See here on the internet? Youngstown even made international headlines: Look at them all: [READING] ‘Zombie-Like Raccoons Terrorise Weird Town in Ohio’ ‘Zombie Raccoons befuddle backward Ohio Town’ ‘Zombie Raccoons stagger in stagnant North East Ohio’…

DITZLER: You see?!

DANNY: Oh I get it, that’s why Youngstown Clothing Company made those cool shirts.

LU ANN: Right.

DITZLER: No epidemic of Zombie Raccoons is going to make us a laughing-stock this time round because you’re both going to get rid of them all!

LU ANN: But this is different!!

DANNY: There is a giant creature out there!

DITZLER: A 6 foot raccoon? Six Foot??!!

LU ANN: Well. Yes.

DANNY: On his hind legs.

DITZLER: Are you both insane?!

HORKENHEIMER: ‘Youngstown’.

LU ANN: The evidence is…

DITZLER: I’ll tell you what it is, Mangino: It’s that old crazy
conspiracy guy!

LU ANN: Which old crazy conspiracy guy?

DANNY: The County is full of them.

HORKENHEIMER: ‘Mahoning County’…

DITZLER: Barney Bean Bartberger.

LU ANN: Barney Bean Bartberger?

DITZLER: Yeah! He’s left me like a thousand phone messages ranting on and on about an invasion of aliens led by a giant hairy monster!

LU ANN: He has?

DITZLER: Yes! Obviously it’s him! Bartberger must be going around in a big fur suit trying to stir up trouble!

LU ANN: But the follicle specimen is …

DITZLER: Enough! I order you to get out to Bartberger’s place and put an end to this!!!

LU ANN: You must call off the Perogie Championship until we…

DITZLER: No-no-no-no! I don’t want to hear it! Nothing will stop the Perogies! The people want Perogies and we will give them Perogies and there shall be Perogies!!!

DANNY: Uncle Dennis we’re just…

DITZLER: You too Danny! Go!! Now!!

LU ANN: Alright.

DITZLER: I’m so sorry about this Ms. Horkenheimer.

HORKENHEIMER: Yes well. I suppose these things happen in ‘Youngstown’.

TRANSITION THEME
That very afternoon as the delegates and competitors began setting up for the almost sold out North East Ohio Perogie Championships, Lu Ann and Danny found themselves confronting Barney Bean Bartberger.

TRANSITION THEME OUT.

ERIE SUSPENSE TONES SOFTLY UNDER

BARNEY: [FX: Grass] It figures we’re being invaded by Aliens and the government sends nothin’ but the Dog-Catchers!

LU ANN & DANNY: Animal Control Officers.

BARNEY: Yeah well we ain’t dealing here with no animals. Well maybe all them singing raccoon zombies following the Alien, I guess they’re technically animals. But the Alien - He definitely ain’t no animal!

LU ANN: Right. This Alien he’s covered in fur?

DANNY: And just over six foot tall?

BARNEY: Yeah how’d you know?!

LU ANN: We have evidence.

BARNEY: You do?!

LU ANN: Yes. We believe it’s some kind of giant Raccoon Mutation.

BARNEY: Its an Alien I tell ya!

DANNY: Why do you say that?

BARNEY: Coz’ of that April night in 66’. [EERIE TENSE JINGLE ENTERS AND BUILDS UNDER] I was a Highway Patrolman then.

LU ANN: Actually, we just want to…

BARNEY: Shhh. I’m telling my story. There we was: Dead of night, driving along in our patrol car when all of a sudden, this big glowin’ thing with flashin’ lights slowly rises up out of the
woods making this weird sound like ‘whoooooooooo’ and then BAM! This light shines right down on us bright as day. And we look up and we can’t believe it coz’ we’re looking right at a….

LU ANN: A helicopter?

BARNEY: Ohhh No. It was a saucer…

DANNY: A flying Saucer?

BARNEY: Oh Yeah. Just like in them Close Encounter movies.

LU ANN: Right, but can we…

BARNEY: Suddenly it shoots out ahead of us. Eerie blue light and going ‘whoooooo’ and I’m driving see? So we start chasing it. 70, 80. 90 miles an hour straight down 224 heading towards the state line. N’ the whole time ‘whoooooo’

LU ANN: I see…

BARNEY: And then…just over the state line… we get closer and closer and closer … and we run out of gas. And Zap!! It shoots straight up and is gone. [EERIE TONE OUT]

LU ANN: Right.

BARNEY: But the weird thing is, next thing I know, it’s 3 in the afternoon and I’m sitting at the wheel with this thing in my hand.

LU ANN: What thing?

BARNEY: This thing, here. It’s in my hand. See? [FX SPRAY CAN SHAKE.]

DANNY: What is that?

BARNEY: Alien technology ‘a course. Must have took it from their saucer. ‘Fact I used it the other night on the Alien.

LU ANN: Oh?
BARNEY: Yeah. Sprayed the big one right in the eyes with it and he ran away howlin!. See? [FX SHAKE OF SPRAY CAN]

LU ANN: Funny Mr. Bartberger, but to me, this looks just like a really, really old can of ‘Right Guard’.

BARNEY: Of course! See how clever them aliens are? Disguising their technology?

LU ANN: Sure.

BARNEY: Here, young fella' you better take it.

DANNY: No thanks Mr. Bartberger, I'm a Axe Body Spray kind of guy.

BARNEY: Well, Here you take it then.

LU ANN: Wha?

BARNEY: Believe me Lady. You’re gonna need it.

LU ANN: Alright, if you insist.

BARNEY: I wonder if that Alien is looking down on us right now? You know, like Elvis.

LU ANN: About the Alien attacking the other night Mr. Bartberger,

BARNEY: What about it?

LU ANN: Can you show us any like, real evidence?


DAN: Wow they’re huge!

LU ANN: Yes! And they lead right off into the woods.

BARNEY: Yeah, All ya gotta do is follow em. But you better hurry ... it’s gonna be dark soon.
LU ANN:  
Right. Danny let’s go find this creature..

DANNY:  
Ten Four, Lu Ann!

LU ANN:  
The tracks go this way…

DANNY:  
Wow! This is so cool!...

**FX **

WALKING IN GRASS  THIS FX CONTINUES UNDER.

**TRANSITION / THEME.**

NARRATOR:  
So as the County readies for the Perogie Championships, Lou Ann and Danny follow the huge tracks on through the woods until at last they find themselves standing at the door of what at first, seems to be an abandoned mill near [location?] not far from the Mahoning River.

**TRANSITION / THEME OUT.**

**FX **

WALKING GRASS CONTINUING UNDER. EERIE SPOOKY TONE.

DANNY:  
Wow what is this creepy place?

LU ANN:  
Some kind of derelict industrial facility.

DANNY:  
Oh? But look, through the cracks in the boarded up windows, there are lights on in there!

LU ANN:  
Oh! You’re right Danny. I guess somebody’s home.

DANNY:  
Who?

**FX **

WALKING GRASS STOP.

LU ANN:  
Only one way to find out.

**FX **

KNOCK ON DOOR. DOOR OPENS WITH CREAK.

SPEARWRECKER:  
Yes? Can I help you?

LU ANN:  
Oh hello. I’m Lu Ann Mangino and this is my assistant, Danny Ditzler.
SPEARWRECKER: Yes?

LU ANN: We’re Animal Control Officers.

DANNY: A.C.O.’s.

SPEARWRECKER: Dog Catchers?

LU ANN: We prefer…

DRAGOVICH: [CALLING FROM DISTANCE] Who is it Doctor Spearwrecker?

SPEARWRECKER: [CALLING BACK OVER SHOULDER] It’s a couple of Animal Control Officers.

DRAGOVICH: [CALLING FROM DISTANCE] Animal what?

SPEARWRECKER: Animal Control Officers, ACOs!! You know Dog Catchers!!

DRAGOVICH: Oh Dog Catchers!! [APPROACHING MIC] Oh well, welcome them in Doctor Spearwrecker.

SPEARWRECKER: But we’re still …

DRAGOVICH: Oh Hello! Do come in! Come in! I am Doctor Dragovich and this is Doctor Spearwrecker, my assistant. Close the door Doctor Spearwrecker.

SPEARWRECKER: Oh yes of course, Darl… Doctor.

FX DOOR CLOSE. WEIRD LAB AMBIENCE. BUBBLING & ELECTRO HUM. FOOTSTEPS SHOES A FEW STEPS AND STOP.

LU ANN: I’m A-C-O Lu Ann Mangino

DANNY: And I’m Danny Ditzler.

LU ANN: We’re from the County.
DRAGOВICH: Wonderful! Marvellous! You have obviously come to inspect our top secret, blast-proof facility hidden here in this abandoned ruin.

SPEARWRECER: Doctor Dragovich, perhaps we should not be…

DRAGOВICH: But alas Ms. Mangino! You are too late. We have no more lab animals here.

LU ANN: What?

DRAGOВICH: Yes, our experiments on cute and furry animals in cold steel cages are concluded.

LU ANN: Experiments?

DRAGOВICH: Into viruses.

SPEARWRECER: Of local mammals.

DRAGOВICH: You know like possums,

SPEARWRECER: Chipmunks,

DRAGOВICH: Squirrels and…

DANNY: Raccoons?

DRAGOВICH: Yes. Raccoons. [ERIE TONE ENTERS.]

SPEARWRECER: The Procyon Lotor. But they’re all gone! [NERVOUS LAUGH].

LU ANN: Oh?

DRAGOВICH: Indeed. But do not take our word for it. Look. See? The many, many cages here are empty. This cage [FX METAL BIRDCAGE]

SPREARWRECER: Empty.

DRAGOВICH: This cage [FX METAL BIRDCAGE]

SPREARWRECER: Empty.
DRAGOVINICH: This cage [FX METAL BIRDCAGE]

DANNY: Empty.

DRAGOVINICH: Correct.

SPEARWRECKER: Yes. It was all go here for a while; experiments, tests...

DRAGOVINICH: ‘Research’.

SPEARWRECKER: Not much research.

DRAGOVINICH: But, alas, the ‘research’ is all over with.

SPEARWRECKER: What?

DRAGOVINICH: No more research.

SPEARWRECKER: No more research?

DRAGOVINICH: No. It is over.

SPEARWRECKER: But Darl ... er Doctor, you and I, we ...

DANNY: Wow! [FX: SHOES] What’s this big cage for?

DRAGOVINICH: Ah I see you have found our large armoured comfy cell. Nice, isn’t it?

SPEARWRECKER: We just had it reinforced.

LU ANN: Kind of terrifying.

DRAGOVINICH: Ah no!!

SPEARWRECKER: It’s very cozy. Show them, Doctor Dragovich.

DRAGOVINICH: Right. Go on in! See for yourselves. Go on.

FX FOOTSTEPS. SLIGHT THREAT TONE ENTERS AND SLOWLY BUILDS UNDER.

DAN: Hmmm …it’s got a big easy chair.
SPEARWRECKER: It reclines! Very snuggley.

LU ANN: What about this big chain with the manacles? FX CHAIN RATTLE.

DRAGOVICH: It comes in handy.

LU ANN: Handy for what, your research?

SPEARWRECKER: What? No, we never ...

DAN: Hey Lu Ann! Here's a stack of books... See?

LU ANN: Hmm... FX BOOK PAGES. 'Songs of South Pacific'. That's strange.

DRAGOVICH: Oh?

SPEARWRECKER: It's a musical, very popular.

LU ANN: For a Raccoon?

DAN: Oh Look Lu Ann! here's a box full of ...[FX OPEN CARDBOARD BOX]

SPEARWRECKER: Cheezewhizzohs ... He loves them.

LU ANN: Who loves them?

DAN: Wow!! What is this big gate thing? [THREAT TONE RISES]

SPEARWRECKER: It's the portcullis.

DAN: What does it do?

DRAGOVICH: It does this!!

FX HUGE METAL DOOR SLAM. FOLLOWED BY SHAKING OF DOOR. MUSIC STAB CHORD.

LU ANN: Hey! Let us out of here!

DAN: You've locked us in!
DRAGOVICH: Indeed. Trapped like lab rats.

SPEARWRECKER: Sorry about this, guys.

LU ANN: You’re going to have to answer to the authorities of Youngstown!

DRAGOVICH: Ha! ‘Youngstown’?! Don’t make me laugh.

DAN: Don’t worry Lu Ann. I still have my phone, all I have to do is …Hey!! Oh no! NO!!!

*MUSIC HORROR STING.*

LU ANN: What now?

DAN: My phone. There is no reception here. See? Zero bars!

DRAGOVICH: Yes, Did you not hear me say ‘blast-proof facility’?

SPEARWRECKER: The lab is lead shielded.

DRAGOVICH: I must congratulate you both

LU ANN: For what?

DRAGOVICH: For tracking down Reggie.

DAN: Who’s Reggie?

DRAGOVICH: The huge creature you are searching for!

SPEARWRECKER: He’s 42 parts Raccoon

DRAGOVICH: And one part human.

LU ANN: Human?!

SPEARWRECKER: He wants to be a singer. [SINGS] ‘Some enchanted eve….’

*FX* 3 DOOR KNOCKS.
DRAGOVICH: Again with the visitors?! Doctor Spearwrecker go see who it is…

SPEARWRECKER: Yes Doctor. [FX SHOES AWAY]

LU ANN: You can’t just make a monster and let him loose!

DRAGOVICH: Nonsense! What good is a monster if you don’t set him loose?

DAN: Tampering with the fabric of nature n’ stuff – It’s so wrong!!

DRAGOVICH: Bah! We merely follow orders!

LU ANN: Who’s orders?

**VOICES – FX FOOT STEPS SHOES OF DITZLER, HORKENHEIMER AND SPEARWRECKER APPROACHING.**

SPEARWRECKER: This way. Folloow me. We are so honored to finally have you here.

DITZLER: We should really be at the Perogie Championship

HORKENHEIMER: All in good time..

DITZLER: But Ms. Horkenheimer the Opening Ceremony is starting and …. 

**FOOTSTEPS ABRUPT STOP.**

LU ANN: Commissioner Ditzler!!

DITZLER: Lu Ann??

DAN: Uncle Dennis!

DITZLER: What are you two doing here?

DAN: We’re trapped!

DRAGOVICH: At last! Our leader has arrived!

HORKENHEIMER: Greetings, Doctor Dragovich! Go Buckeyes!
DRAGOVICH: Go Buckeyes!!

SPEARWRECKER: Go Buckeyes!

DITZLER: Go Buckeyes? Hey, what’s going on here?.

LU ANN: These people have made a huge creature!

DAN: A monster.

DRAGOVICH: Technically a Were-raccoon.

LU ANN: And they’ve locked us in this cage!

DITZLER: Well, they’re just going to have to let you out. Here, let me open the….

HORKENHEIMER: Not so fast Ditzler!!!

DITZLER: What?

HORKENHEIMER: You heard me.

DITZLER: But Ms. Horkenheimer, these…

HORKENHEIMER: Who would have thought that the only ones to discover the secret lab of our Project Rust Revival are the Youngstown Dog Catchers…

LU ANN & DAN: Animal Control Officers

HORKENHEIMER: Whatever.

DITZLER: Wha..what project?

HORKENHEIMER: Tsk Tsk Tsk Commissioner Ditzler. Are you really that obtuse?

DITZLER: “Obtuse.” You mean like a triangle?

HORKENHEIMER: [SMIRK] ‘Youngstown’

DRAGOVICH & SPEARWRECKER: ‘Youngstown’.
HORKENHEIMER: I shall outline our plan, the plan of the Ohio State Tourist Board?

OMINIOUS CHORD.

DITZLER: Yes please.

HORKENHEIMER: Alright then. We knew that with enough pressure from the Tourist Board, even you short-sighted, narrow-minded, unimaginative Mahoning County bumpkins could come up with some thing to attract local interest…

DITZLER: The Perogie Championship!

HORKENHEIMER: Yes. The Perogies

DITZLER: Everyone loves perogies!

DAN: Perogies are delicious!

HORKENHEIMER: But Perogies are not enough!!!!

DITZLER: No?

HORKENHEIMER: No, not enough to attract the attention of the entire WORLD!!!

DITZLER: The world?

HORKENHEIMER: Yes, the World! You’ve heard of it haven’t you, Ditzler?

DITZLER: I’ve seen pictures.

HORKENHEIMER: So we developed the Creature.

DRAGOVICH: The ultimate Zombie Raccoon.

SPEARWRECKER: So ultimate, he’s beyond control.

LU ANN: Wait!! You mean?!?

HORKENHEIMER: Precisely..

LU ANN: So the Creature…
HORKENHEIMER: Obviously.
LU ANN: The smell
HORKENHEIMER: Irresistible..
LU ANN: The Championship?
HORKENHEIMER: Starting now.
LU ANN: Oh no! NO!!!
DAN: Holy perogies Lu Ann!!
HORKENHEIMER: Talk about headlines!

**HORKENHEIMER AND DRAGOVICH MANICALLY LAUGH.**

DITZLER: What’s going on? Why are they laughing?
DRAGOVICH: The hungry Creature is going to invade the Perogie Championship and make world headlines.
HORKENHEIMER: Yes, legitimate news, not just Fox!!

**HORKENHEIMER AND DRAGOVICH MANICALLY LAUGH.**

SPEARWRECKER: We hope so that is. Reggie is his own monster now. And he has that horde of singing Raccoons following him.
DAN: You guys are crazy!!
LU ANN: Those poor people!
DITZLER: And the Perogies!
HORKENHEIMER: A small sacrifice.
DITZLER: No! I won’t stand for it…
HORKENHEIMER: Then sit down, Ditzler!
DITZLER: The people of Mahoning County are sick and tired of being made fun of n' pushed around and as Commissioner, I'm not….

HORKENHEIMER: I said sit down! SIT. DOWN.

DITZLER: But the perogie…

HORKENHEIMER: Do you dare disobey The Ohio State Tourist Board?!

**OMINIOUS CHORD.**

DITZLER: No…Mam.

HORKENHEIMER: I thought so. Nothing must stand in our way. For tonight, we shall make world headlines!

LU ANN: And after?

HORKENHEIMER: Simple: The creature will go into Mill Creek Park, and hang out with the local Raccoons raiding the garbage cans in back of the Kravitz’s Garden Café

DITZLER: At the D.D. & Velma Davis Visitor Centre?!

HORKENHEIMER: Exactly! Mahoning County will have its own REAL Big Foot. It will attract more tourists than Area 51!!!!

DAN: And sales of ‘Zombie Raccoon’ T-shirts will sky rocket.

HORKENHEIMER: Yes, that too. The Creature should be arriving at the Perogie Championship right about…. Now. [SHORT BEAT]

**FX DOOR POUNDING SLOW IN PATTERNS OF THREE BEGINS AND CONTINUES. AFTER FIRST GROUP OF 3, SUBTLE TENSION TINGLE ENTERS.**

HORKENHEIMER: What is that?

SPEARWRECKER: Someone’s here.

DRAGOVICH: Doctor Spearwrecker go see who’s at the door.
SPEARWRECKER: Why do I…

DRAGOVICH: Doctor Spearwrecker, do as you are told!!

SPEARWRECKER: Oh alright… [FX SHOES ] Geez… [MUTTERING] Why does she have to boss me around? Come to think of it, why do I always let her boss me around? Reggie’s right. I let her use me. Hello? Who’s there?

REGGIE: [BEHIND CLOSED DOOR] Spear… Wreck … Er!!… Spear… Wreck…Er!!!

SPEARWRECKER: Reggie?! What are you doing here?

REGGIE: We …. belong….here….

SPEARWRECKER: ‘ We’? What ‘We’?

REGGIE: Friends!

SPEARWRECKER: Friends? What Friends?

REGGIE: Reggie bring many Friends! We have big choir!! Hear us sing?

CHORUS: Zombie Raccoon! Zombie Raccoon! [LOUDISH, CONTINUES SOFTLY UNDER]

REGGIE: You see?

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, yes. Very nice. Nice harmony. But please now go away! All of you!!

DRAGOVICH: What is it, Doctor?

SPEARWRECKER: It’s Reggie and hundreds of Raccoons!!

REGGIE: Let us in!! FX 3 DOOR BANGS. BANGS OF 3 CONTINUE UNDER.

**TEMPO PULSE TENSION BEGINS.**

HORKENHEIMER: What is going on?
DRAGOVICE: A slight ‘complication’.

SPEARWRECKER: Reggie is trying to get in!!

HORKENHEIMER: Why isn’t that ‘Thing’ at the Perogie Championship?

SPEARWRECKER: I’ve been trying to tell you. We can’t control him!

DRAGOVICE: Relax. The door has clever security code.

REGGIE: [IN DISTANCE] Let… us… in!!

DITZLER: We’re missing the Perogies!

DRAGOVICE: He will never be able to open it.

LU ANN: Wait a minute, that Creature is just one part human and

DAN: 42 parts Raccoon!

LU ANN: Exactly!

HORKENHEIMER: So?

LU ANN: Don’t you get it?

DAN: Raccoons are remarkably intelligent and exceptionally curious with extremely nimble fingers.

LU ANN: He WILL get that door open.

SPEARWRECKER: She’s right!!

DRAGOVICE: Nonsense!

DAN: A group of Raccoons is called a ‘gaze’.

DRAGOVICE: Boring.

DAN: They are named ‘Procyon Lotor’ because they will wash their food.

DITZLER: The Championship is starting!
HORKENHEIMER:  Sit down Ditzer!!

DAN: ‘ Lotor’ means ‘washer’.

LU ANN: Enough Dan put the phone away.

DAN: It’s not the phone Lu Ann!

LU ANN: Then how did you…

DAN: It’s in my head!! Can you believe it??!! Wow!! This is fantastic!!

**FX 3 HUGE DOOR POUNDS. - TENSION PULSE UP A NOTCH.**

LU ANN: We can celebrate later Dan.

DAN: Oh Right.

SPEARWRECKER: Look! The Door!!

**FX: DOOR HANDLE STEADILY MANIPULATED BACK AND FORTH CONTINUES UNDER.**

SPEARWRECKER: He’s figuring it out!

**TENSION PULSE UP A NOTCH.**

LU ANN: Told you.

HORKENHEIMER: Ditzler?

DITZLER: Yes Mam?

HORKENHEIMER: Stand in front of me.

DITZLER: Mam?

HORKENHEIMER: You must be my ‘Human Shield’.

DITZLER: Oh? But I….

HORKENHEIMER: Ditzler, Go Buckeyes!
DITZLER: Yes Mam, ‘Go Buckeyes’

SPEARWRECKER: Here they come!!

**FX**

**DOOR OPENS. UP HALF STEP. SURGE OF RACCOON ENSEMBLE CHORUS. USE STOMPING ‘TROOP’ BOX AND OUT OF TUNE RACCOON ZOMBIE ‘CHOIR’ MURMURING REPEATEDLY WITH BEAT “Zombie, Raccoon.”**

REGGIE: Here’s… Reggie!!!!

SPEARWRECKER, DITZLER, HORKENHEIMER, DRAGOVICH, SPEARWRECKER, LU ANN, DAN: AAAAAHS

REGGIE: Friends! Friends take humans for …wash! Wash clean in River!

DITZLER: The Mahoning River???

REGGIE: Yes. In … Mah- hone – ning !!!

DITZLER: No! Not the Mahoning!! NOOO!!

HORKENHEIMER: Time to take one for the team Ditzler

DITZLER: Ms. Horkenheimer? Why are you pushing me?

HORKENHEIMER: Here, you animals, take this human!

DITZLER: No! NO!! The Perogies!!!

REGGIE: Me …no… like… Perogies!!

DITZLER: What?!? You don’t like Perogies??

REGGIE: No.

DITZLER: You ARE a monster!! No!! Aaaaah!!!

**FX**

**RACCOON CHORUS SWARMS OVER DITZLER.**

REGGIE: Now… Get this one!

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HORKENHEIMER: Wait! Get back! You can’t take me, I’m from the Ohio State Tourist Board!!

REGGIE: Take her .... She get washed! Use… plenty soap!!

**SURGE OF RACCOON CHORUS.**

HORKENHEIMER: Take your hands off me you dirty Ape.. er Raccoon!! Wait put me down!! Put me down!!! Go Buckeyeeees- aaaaaahhhhh!!!

**SURGE OF RACCOON ENSEMBLE RESOLVE & UP HALF STEP**

REGGIE: Now we take you Doctor!

DRAGOVICH: You must understand, … I had to, I was only following orders!

REGGIE: You belong in Mah-hon- ning !!

DRAGOVICH: No! The Stinky Toxic Ooze! Anything but that!!

SPEARWRECKER: Reggie please !

REGGIE: Huhhh ?

SPEARWRECKER: Please, Reggie, let Doctor Dragovich alone.

REGGIE: We take bad doctor.

SPEARWRECKE: Wait, Reggie! Wait! Look, I know Doctor Dragovich is a heartless sociopath who uses everyone around her, me especially

REGGIE: You let her.

SPEARWRECKER: Right. Because of my low self-esteem. But I need her!

DRAGOVICH: Yes, he needs me !

REGGIE: Spear- wreck-er. You my friend?

SPEARWRECKER: Yes, your friend. I give you Cheesewhizzohs, and music books. We sing together.
REGGIE: We sing!

SPEARWRECKER: Yes! That’s right. You and me... like this: [SINGS ... REGGIE JOINS ALONG] ‘Some enchanted evening you may see a ..’

REGGIE: Raccoon!!

SPEARWRECKER: Whoooah [SURGE OF RACCOONS] No Wait!!! Put us down!!

REGGIE: Take them both!!! They pathetic. Belong together.

FX SURGE OF RACCOON ENSEMBLE. MUSIC UP HALF STEP.


FX SURGE RESOLVES. MUSIC CONTINUES and RACCOON CHORUS SOFTLY CHANTING..

LU ANN: Looks like we’re next.

DAN: For sure, it won’t take him long to figure out how to open this cage.

LU ANN: Dan, I have an idea.

DAN: What?

LU ANN: Open up that big box of Cheez-whizz-ohs.

DAN: Right. [FX CARDBOARD BOX FUMBLING, PACKET NOISES.] Here I got ‘em!

LU ANN: Good, now when he opens the cage door, you wave the junk food at him. And I’ll spray him in the face with this.

DAN: Oh! Bartberger’s ‘alien technology’!

LU ANN: Right, hopefully it’ll give us enough time to run for it. Ready?

DAN: Yeah.
LU ANN: Here he comes!

REGGIE: [APPROACHING] All gone for river wash… now you go Dog Catchers!

DAN: Animal Control Officers.

REGGIE: Reggie open cage…. Nimble fingers … open!! [EFFORT NOISES]

**FX** CAGE RATTLE. METAL CREAK. TENSION PULSE UP A NOTCH.

DAN: He’s got it open!

LU ANN: Now Danny now!!

DAN: Hey! You like Cheezewhizzozhs?

REGGIE: Oh? Reggie love Cheezewhizzozhs!!

LU ANN: How ‘bout some of this?

REGGIE: What?

**FX** SPRAY HISS.

REGGIE: AAAAAAh!! Reggie, eyes burn!!

*[REGGIE PULLS AWAY FROM MIC, CONTINUING TO HOWL IN AGONY]*

**MUSIC CLIMAXES AND BECOMES DISCHORDANT AGONY**

LU ANN: Quick, Danny!! Let’s get out of here!!

DANNY: Right !!

**FX** SHOES RUNNING RAPIDLY.

**CLIMAX ACTION MUSIC RESOLVES. A SHORT PAUSE OF SILENCE.**
NARRATOR: \[OVER RESOLVE\] And so Lu Ann and Danny escaped the swarm of raccoons.

**TRANSITION/ THEME ENTERS.**

Today, Danny is now a fully qualified ACO and continues to work alongside Lu Ann. Ditzler, Horkenheimer, Dragovich and Spearwrecker were dunked in the Mahoning river that night and were released from St. Elizabeth’s 3 weeks later. The Perogie Championship continues to be a high point in the Valley’s cultural calendar. And Reggie? Well, he’s still out there somewhere. Some folks say he’s in Mill Creek Park near the gold fish pond, others say they see him from time to time at the garbage cans in back of the MVR. Who knows. But ask anyone from Youngstown and they’ll tell you, if you listen very close you can hear Reggie’s singing ringing through the Mahoning Valley each April on ‘The Night of the Zombie Raccoon.’

NARRATOR/ANCR: Cast, crew, company website, Etc. END CREDITS.

You have been listening to Night of the Zombie Raccoon, featuring ...

**REPRISE OF THEME SONG. SUNG BY REGGIE AND THE CAST/ ENSEMBLE.**

Our valley they say is a very strange spot
for zombie attacks sure do happen a lot
So listen and hear how we faced certain doom
by the light of the April full moon

All through the valley came the great throng
A chorus of Creatures who sang a weird song
For These Critters with jitters all trilled out of tune
On the night of the Zombie raccoon

Down to the river
they staggered along
As their leader loudly crooned
Furry Bandits! Nature’s outlaws!
Crunching and munching while washing their paws
Garbage pickin’, dumpster divin’ raccoons
Under the April full moon!