JUBI

VILLAINS INTRODUCTION (KID'S ANIMATION SHOW)

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First Draft

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Hey wait!

Taz runs after Jubi without hesitation, entering the forest. The thick leaves and ferns wrap around his body, pulling him into the unknown.

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY

Taz's FOOTSTEPS are loud as he runs through the forest. He ducks beneath large leaves sagging towards the ground and jumps over low bearing branches. His BREATHS are quick and rapid, his eyes set on Jubi, who slowly shrinks in the distance.

TAZ

TA7

Stop! I want to help you!

Taz jumps over a FALLEN TREE TRUNK, but as he lands his foot gets caught under a tree root. He gives a SHRIEK and collapses, hitting the ground with a GRUNT.

In a momentary daze, Taz gets to his feet and looks ahead. Jubi is gone. He looks around curiously, the SOUNDS of the forest creeping up on him. BIRD CALLS, WHISTLING, the TAPPING of small creatures scurrying up the trees into the CANOPIES.

Taz looks up and sees small SHADOWS jump from branch to branch. He shrugs his shoulders, turning to leave.

LAUGHER stops him. It is menacing, sinister, and close. Taz narrows his eyes, hunches forward and creeps through the shrubbery towards the sound.

Taz pushes through the leaves and bushes until he comes to the backside of a large ROCK FORMATION. He peers over the edge.

Jubi stands in a CLEARING, shrinking to the ground as a tall SHADOW looms over him.

REVEAL: VINETTE THISTLEWOOD (30s), scrawny, dark skin, and blue hair, lifts a CROSSBOW and takes aim.

EXT. WOODS CLEARING - DAY

Vinette centers her ARROW on Jubi's forehead JEWEL. A wide smile stretches across her lips. She wears explorer's clothes: a beige blouse, and long khaki trousers. VINETTE No where left to run, Jubi. You're mine.

Her words slither out of her lips in the form of a sly, ENGLISH-LIKE accent. Jubi shivers in her presence.

The shrubbery behind Vinette SHAKES.

REVEAL: The ROUND FIGURE of BORIS (30s), plump, caring, and foolish, barrel rolls out of hiding. He STRIKES Vinette between her TOOTHPICK-LIKE legs, sending her crumpling to the ground as she fires an ARROW into the air.

Boris kicks out his legs and launches himself towards Jubi, scooping him up in a LARGE BAG.

BORIS

Gotcha!

He proudly holds up his catch. His clothes mirror Vinette's: a beige button shirt with brown trousers an inch to short. As he CACKLES, Jubi's body squirms in the bag.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Taz GASPS from behind the ROCK FORMATION. He covers his mouth, attempting to stay quiet. A quick RUSTLE in the bushes alerts him, but he finds nothing.

His eyes return to the clearing, his back facing the source of the noise. Peering through the bush at him lies a creature in waiting. A low GROWL emerges, but Taz remains unaware.

EXT. WOODS CLEARING - DAY

Vinette crawls back onto her feet, picks up her fallen CROSSBOW and storms over to Boris, who remains standing and gloating in his victory.

> VINETTE Boris, you idiot!

Boris looks away from the bag and for the first time, we see fear overtake his eyes as Vinette appears. She SLAPS him across the face, leaving a RED MARK.

> BORIS Ow! What was that for?!

BORIS Come on, Vinette. I still caught him, didn't I?

Boris shakes the BAG containing Jubi. There is a small WHINE from inside. Boris reacts to this and starts to open the top--

--When Vinette suddenly grabs the collar of his shirt, pulling him close.

VINETTE (through clenched teeth) Don't ever do that again.

Her words are venomous. Boris quickly nods his head and wrinkles the thick mustache on his upper lip. The brown cap on his head shifts down over his eyes.

BORIS

(mumbling) Understood.

Vinette releases him. Boris stumbles backwards, and lifts a hand to re-adjust his collar and cap. As Vinette turns away, he tosses her a dirty glare.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

CLOSE-UP: on Taz's eyes as they squint. A flame of determination flickers in his irises as his eyebrows lower and arc up in anger.

He sees a SMALL ROCK nearby and picks it up, clenching it tightly in his hand. Taz swings his arm back, preparing to throw, then stops.

His eyes grow, and a BEAD OF SWEAT forms on his forehead as a HISS slips into his ears. Another RUSTLE shakes the bush behind him.

As Taz turns around, CLARICE (komodo dragon/tree goanna), jumps out of the bush at him, extending her CLAWS.

TAZ

Aaahhh!

Taz flops onto his back and kicks out his legs, his feet digging into Clarice's soft stomach as she is thrown over his head and out into the clearing. A YELP escapes her open mouth.

EXT. WOODS CLEARING - DAY

Clarice thumps on the ground, stabilizing herself as she rubs her head. She looks back at Taz's position and quickly scampers towards Vinette, tugging at her pant legs and pointing in the direction of the ROCK FORMATION.

VINETTE

Not now, Clarice.

Clarice tugs at Vinette's trousers harder, desperately pointing a skinny crooked claw at the ROCK FORMATION. She tries to mouth words but cannot speak, her lips salivating.

VINETTE (CONT'D)

Stop it!

Vinette kicks her foot out, striking Clarice in the chest. She does a BACKWARDS SOMERSAULT and falls flat on her face. As her fork tongue flickers, Clarice GROANS and looks back a the ROCK FORMATION.

Taz is gone. She SCOWLS and forms a fist, hitting the ground.

VINETTE (CONT'D) Come on my pet, let's not get distracted. I have my prize.

Clarice looks at the BAG in Boris's hand and SNICKERS.

Boris scratches the top of his balding head.

BORIS (to himself) Our prize...

VINETTE Let's get Jubi back to camp before nightfall. The woods can be a dangerous place in the dark.

Clarice nestles herself next to Vinette and Boris trudges after them, throwing the BAG over his shoulder. They walk into the shrubbery.