



Sample Pages from
Arctic Adventure Theatre: The Case of the
Crazy Crashers

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ARCTIC ADVENTURE
THEATRE:
THE CASE OF THE
CRAZED CRASHERS

A RADIO PLAY IN ONE ACT BY
Matt Webster



Arctic Adventure Theatre: The Case of the Crazy Crashers
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Printed in the USA

Cast

4F 3M + 13 Any Gender

Announcer: Any Gender.

Zippy: The Wonder Penguin. Male.

Scooter: His Puffin sidekick. Any Gender.

Commander Rakovan: A maniacal Polar Bear. Female.

Whiskers: Rakovan's evil Seal henchman. Any Gender.

Fang: Rakovan's evil Seal henchman. Male.

Colonel Lemming: Any Gender.

President Lepus: Female.

Alphonso: Presidential assistant. Male.

Florist 1: Any Gender.

Florist 2: Any Gender.

Advertiser: Any Gender.

Kid 1: Any Gender.

Kid 2: Any Gender.

Mom: Female.

Adventure Kid 1: Any Gender.

Adventure Kid 2: Female.

Teacher: Any Gender.

Terry: Any Gender.

Jerri: Any Gender.

The characters are all non-realistic and based on either animals or advertising tropes and they can be performed by actors of any gender. Feel free to adjust the pronouns as your casting dictates.

On Performing

The featured radio play – *The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin* – is written in the style of a serial radio show. As such, the characters are broad – nearly to the point of melodrama – and should be performed as such. However; there is a fine line between earnest and campy, and the show works best when the performers ride that line – this includes the Announcer!

Ultimately, the characters should be played as seriously as possible, while still enjoying the word play and non-realistic nature of the story. In the end, the actors should strive to create big, vocal, characters: Accents and cartoonish voices are exactly what this script calls for! The bigger the choices, the better!

Advertisements

It is the intention of the playwright that the company performing this show has the opportunity to create their own “advertisements” during the show. There are three built-in ad breaks and the performing company is encouraged to create original radio ads for any or all of these ad breaks. The playwright has provided advertisements if the company doesn’t wish to create their own ads but the opportunity has been provided if the company would like to try their hands at writing ads and jingles.

The playwright has created ads based on a fictional business called FishCo, and the performing company has the options of:

1. Using one, two, or all three of the provided FishCo ads, in any combination of existing and original ads,
2. Creating new FishCo ads for the same products,
3. Creating FishCo ads for new products, or
4. Creating both the sponsoring business(es) and their advertisements from scratch.

The playwright suggests following the provided format for advertisements: The Announcer sets the scene, 2-3 characters play out the scene to a successful resolution by utilizing the advertised product, and there is a jingle set to a simple melody.

The Jingles

The jingles were created in the style of classic jingles from the past. The jingles as written have no music or melody assigned to them. The performing company is free to create any music or melody they wish in order to sing the jingles. For an example of what the jingles can sound like, Google classic jingles from TV, specifically “Roto Rooter,” “Slinky,” and “Alka Seltzer.”

The jingles can be sung in a number of ways:

1. The performers in each of the ads (but not the advertiser) can sing the jingles.
2. The jingles can be sung by specifically cast “jingle singers.”
3. The jingles can be sung by other members of the cast as appropriate.

If the company wants to follow a different format that works better for them, they have permission to do so.

Music and Sound Effects

The music and sound effects for this show can be created live by the company using common objects and simple instruments (eg. kazoos, recorders, keyboard, etc.) taken from existing sounds and music, or any combination of live and existing sounds and music that works for your production. There are a variety of options for open source sounds and music you can use for your production. However, if you choose to use existing music or sound that is not open source or public domain, please obtain proper permission from the copyright holder.

The notation SFX stands for sound effects. You are encouraged to add any additional sound effects you feel will enhance your production.

Original Production

This script was originally produced in Davidson North Carolina by Davidson Community Players - The Connie Company, under the title of *The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin*. It was directed by Matt Webster.

MUSIC – Instrumental Arctic Adventure theme music.

ADVERTISER: Welcome to Arctic Adventure Theatre! ... Sponsored by FishCo. Every week at this time we bring you thrilling adventures from the frozen north featuring the greatest heroes the arctic circle has to offer. This week, Arctic Adventure Theatre and FishCo proudly present Zippy the Wonder Penguin in a story we are calling: 'The Case of the Crazy Crashers!' The Arctic Acting Company is all warmed up and ready to go, so without further ado, let the Arctic Adventures begin...!

MUSIC – Theme music fades out.

SFX – Wintery wind blowing.

MUSIC – Upbeat, intro heroic music begins.

ANNOUNCER: Greetings arctic heroes! It's time to put on your warmest cape and feathered cap. It's time to put on your mask of mystery and polish your rapier of justice. It's time to thwart evil and protect the arctic. It's time for *The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin!*

SFX – Kids cheering.

MUSIC – Fades out.

Yes, Zippy the Wonder Penguin, Protector of the Arctic, brought to you by the good people at FishCo, makers of Fish Chunks.

ADVERTISEMENT #1

MUSIC – Light, jingle-style music.

ADVERTISER: Moms, are you having trouble getting your little heroes to eat their dinner?

KID 1 & KID 2: Hey Mom! What's for dinner?

MOM: Hamburgers and French fries!

KID 1 & KID 2: Ugh! Not again!

MOM: Well what do YOU guys want?

KID 1 & KID 2: Fish Chunks!

MOM: Fish Chunks? O-KAY!!

ADVERTISER: Yes, Fish Chunks, that wholesome dinner from the sea that everyone loves. Made from real fish, and flash frozen to seal

in the flavor, Fish Chunks are the dinner treat that kids love to eat!

MOM: Here you go, kids!

KID 1 & KID 2: Fish Chunks?! Oh, boy!!

ADVERTISER: So pick up a bag of Fish Chunks at your local fish market, or wherever fine fish products are sold, and YOU will be the hero at dinnertime!

KID 1 & KID 2: Thanks Mom!

MOM: Thanks FishCo!

JINGLE: Try FishCo Fish Chunks.

The tasty treat.

That all Arctic Heroes.

Love to eat.

Fish Chunks.

Fish Chunks.

Can't be beat.

...Fish Chunks!.

ADVERTISER: And now – The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin...!

MUSIC – Upbeat, heroic music.

ANNOUNCER: Born in the Antarctic but raised in a zoo, Zippy was a normal, everyday penguin. Until the day well-meaning environmental activists freed him... and mistakenly returned him to the North Pole. On that fateful day, Zippy the Wonder Penguin was born! Under the mystical powers of the Northern Lights, Zippy's penguin DNA magically mutated – giving him super-penguin-powers! From that day forward he was changed from an average, ordinary penguin into the incredible – Zippy the Wonder Penguin! Smarter than a Snowy Owl! More powerful than a charging Orca! With his faithful Puffin sidekick, Scooter, by his side, Zippy has sworn to protect the arctic from whatever evil threatens it.

MUSIC – Fades out.

ANNOUNCER: As our story begins, we find Zippy and Scooter in their secret headquarters, finishing up some last minute spring-cleaning...

SFX – Sweeping and cleaning sounds.

ZIPPY: Almost done there little buddy?

SCOOTER: You bet, Zippy! This place is going to be springtime fresh in no time.

ZIPPY: Great work, Scooter! We can't protect the arctic with a messy headquarters, now can we?

SCOOTER: No way!

ZIPPY: That's the spirit! You keep sweeping and I will give these monitors a good polish. After all, you never know when evil will wake from its hibernation...

ANNOUNCER: Meanwhile, in another part of the arctic, evil was waking from its hibernation!

SFX – A table being set. Dishes, glasses and utensils clanging.

WHISKERS: Hey Fang, I can never remember... does the pickle fork go on the left or the right?

FANG: AArgh! Whiskers, you clod! How many times do I have to tell you? You set the silverware vertically between the plates and napkins in the order that the meal is served, outside to inside – forks on the left, knives and spoons on the right, except for pickle forks and sugar spoons which are placed horizontally across the top of the setting between the water glass and the bread dish, which has the butter knife placed at a 37 degree angle, on the dish, facing away from the diner! Simple! What is wrong with you?

WHISKERS: Oooo! Good question... Let's see... My eyes are two different colors. There is a weird bald patch on my head just above my ear. I have TERRIBLE breath...

FANG: Just finish setting the table blubber-butt! If she wakes up and everything's not perfect, we're going to be the main course.

WHISKERS: I can't wait to tell her the bad news!

FANG: You mean the good news!

WHISKERS: Oh, yeah! Good for us, bad for everyone else...

SFX – A loud growling yawn.

FANG: Never mind that! We're almost out of time! Arrange the flowers! ARRANGE THE FLOWERS!!

WHISKERS: But I haven't finished fluffing up the cushions yet!

FANG: Forget the cushions! Light the candles! Put on the dinner music!

WHISKERS: Calming New Age or Classical Concerto?

FANG: Are you out of your mind?? It's a Springtime Brunch, you dolt!
Smooth Jazz! Smooth Jazz!!

SFX – Heavy footsteps echo, coming closer.

WHISKERS: Right! Let me just check the ol' playlist...

FANG: HURRY UP!!

SFX – Loud footsteps and a louder crash (like a door being knocked in).

FANG: (scream of terror) AAAAAAAA!

MUSIC – Smooth Jazz starts to play for a few seconds then fades out.

ANNOUNCER: We don't know what all that jazz was about, but we do know that at Zippy's high-tech secret HQ, things are about to become alarming...

ZIPPY: Looking good, little buddy. All I have to do now is polish the... wait a second. The Arctic Alarm Alert System has been unplugged!

SCOOTER: Oh, no! It must have gotten unplugged when I was dusting the central console!

ZIPPY: Let's hope we haven't missed an important alert. I'll just plug this back in and...

SFX – Alarm going off.

ZIPPY: Good heavens! It's the Polar Peril Proximity Alert! Check to see if there is a message from Colonel Lemming.

SCOOTER: On it Zippy! It's just coming in now...

SFX – Alarm stops. Radio static.

COL. LEMMING: (words broken up by static) ... Kern ... Lemm ... ling
Zipp ... Penguin. I repeat: Colonel Lemming calling Zippy the
Wonder Penguin... Come in, Zippy!

ZIPPY: Go ahead Colonel, I read you loud and clear.

COL. LEMMING: Ah, Zippy! Thank goodness! We've never had to call you twice before. We came this close to issuing a danger code: "orange"!

ZIPPY: Sorry Colonel, we had a bit of a technical "dust-up" here, but everything is back to green light status. Now, what seems to be the problem? I presume this has something to do with the Polar Peril Proximity Alert that has been issued?

COL. LEMMING: You already know about the Polar Proximity...? Oh Zippy, you and your high tech gadgets! No wonder evil is always a step behind you...

ZIPPY: Indeed. Now Colonel, what has triggered the alarm?

COL. LEMMING: Well, as you know Zippy, the Spring Thaw Extravaganza is tomorrow and President Lepus has already invited all of the most important dignitaries north of the Arctic Circle. Many of them are here already...

ZIPPY: Of course, Colonel. I'm quite familiar with the event. It is going to be the highlight of the arctic social season.

SCOOTER: Yeah! I did a little victory dance when we got our invitations.

COL. LEMMING: Me too! I can't wait. I hear they have a new flavor of pie this year.

SCOOTER: Bearberry! And The Flightless Four are playing! They're my favorite band...

ZIPPY: Scooter...

COL. LEMMING: Oooo! Mine too! Have you heard their new song?

ZIPPY: COLONEL! Focus! What is the situation?

COL. LEMMING: Right. Sorry. Got a little excited there for a second. Going to be a great party. Ahem... Well there's no easy way to put this, so I'll get right to it. We have a situation, Zippy. The extravaganza is in imminent danger.

ZIPPY: Danger? What kind of danger? Are the Wolf Brothers gathering for a midnight raid?

COL. LEMMING: No.

SCOOTER: Is Foxy Le Blanc up to her crazy, no good tricks?

COL. LEMMING: Not quite.

ZIPPY: Don't tell me that the Eagle Squadron has migrated early!

COL. LEMMING: No, no, worse than that.

ZIPPY: Worse than the Eagle Squadron? What can be worse than that? Unless...! Not her!!

COL. LEMMING: I'm afraid so, Zippy. We have just received word that Commander Rakovan has awoken from her long winter's sleep.

SCOOTER: Oh, no!

COL. LEMMING: And, of course, she wasn't invited to the extravaganza.

ZIPPY: Great Scott!

COL. LEMMING: You know what that means...

SCOOTER: It means terror!

COL. LEMMING: And destruction!

SCOOTER & COL. LEMMING: And perfectly planned parties plunged into peril!

ZIPPY: It means evil is coming out of hibernation...

MUSIC – Sinister chords.

ANNOUNCER: Yes, Josefiend Rakovan: The Determined Destroyer of Dapper Dinner Parties. The Malevolent Monster who Mutilates Merriment. The Predictable and Pernicious Party Crashing Polar Bear Plague of the Great White North! With her two treacherous henchmen – Whiskers and Fang – by her side, she won't stop until she mauls her way into high society notoriety. Better known as The Criminal Commander of the Council of Crashers – she will crash any party she is not invited to... To Death!

COL. LEMMING: As you can see Zippy, we have a desperate situation on our hands.

ZIPPY: I agree, Colonel. What I don't understand is how you got into this situation in the first place? Surely President Lepus knows the danger of throwing a party when Rakovan is around.

COL. LEMMING: Of course. Even though polar bears don't technically "hibernate," we were hoping Rakovan would just sleep through it. Unfortunately the spring thaw came late this year and President

Lepus had to push back the start of the extravaganza. And, well, here we are.

ZIPPY: Yes. A high class celebration threatened by a low class crasher.

COL. LEMMING: Well you've really hit the nail on the head there, old bean. This is just terrible!

ZIPPY: Terrible doesn't begin to describe the pandemonium we are facing Colonel. This is a dangerous situation indeed. If Rakovan shows up...

SCOOTER: The party's over!

ZIPPY: Well said, Scooter.

COL. LEMMING: That's why I've called you, Zippy. You're the only one who can stop her!

ZIPPY: Don't worry Colonel, you can count on me.

SCOOTER: And me!

COL. LEMMING: Splendid! I can't tell you what a relief it is to hear you say that. You know, this reminds me of that time back in '06...

ZIPPY: Colonel...

COL. LEMMING: ...or was it '07? It was that time with the walrus...

ZIPPY: Colonel...

COL. LEMMING: ...No! It was two walruses! Walrusai...? What is the plural of walrus? I can never remember...

ZIPPY: Thank you, Colonel. Zippy out!

SFX – Static and button clicking off.

ZIPPY: Well Scooter, it looks like the rest of our spring cleaning is going to have to wait, we have an extravaganza to save.

SCOOTER: Golly Zippy! How are we going to stop Commander Rakovan? When she finds out she's not on the guest list...

ZIPPY: It's lights out! Come on chum, there's no time to lose!

MUSIC – Transitional music.

ANNOUNCER: As our heroes leap into action, over in Commander Rakovan's evil lair, the world's most dangerous brunch is just finishing up...

MUSIC – Fades out.

SFX – Plates and silverware being moved around.

WHISKERS: ...and for desert, we have prepared a delicate collection of confections just for you.

FANG: With your refined palette in mind, of course.

RAKOVAN: Well, well, well... I'm intrigued. Hmm... What do we have here? Ah... what delightful little sample of petit four!

SFX – Tasting/smacking sounds.

Mmm... coconut fondant... lavender cream... and do I detect just a hint of... bearberry?

FANG: Oh, yeah... the, uh, berries. Well of course we used...

WHISKERS: It's actually loganberry...!

FANG: Shut up, you fool!

RAKOVAN: Loganberry? LOGANBERRY!!! (*she spits out the cake*)

SFX – Dishes and silverware being thrown around during the next lines.

You said you threw this party just for ME! You went through all the trouble of catering a six-course brunch, complete with sage butter and pickled herrings, but couldn't be bothered to flavor the petit fours with the ONE berry I INSIST on having TO COMPLETE MY MEALS!?

WHISKERS: Sorry boss!

FANG: It's not our fault!

WHISKERS: We couldn't find any bearberries!

RAKOVAN: What do you mean you couldn't find any bearberries?
WHERE ARE ALL THE BEARBERRIES!?

FANG: They all got picked!

WHISKERS: There aren't none left!

RAKOVAN: There aren't ANY left.

WHISKERS: That too!

RAKOVAN: WHO PICKED MY BERRIES!!!

FANG: They all got picked for the party!

RAKOVAN: Party? What party? Who's throwing a party?

FANG: President Lepus.

WHISKERS: She's throwing a Spring Extravaganza. A real blowout!

FANG: Invitation only.

WHISKERS: Everyone who's anyone is going.

RAKOVAN: I see. And where is MY invitation...?

FANG: Oh, your invitation. Hmm. Right. Well you see, what had happened was...

WHISKERS: You didn't get one.

RAKOVAN: WHAT?!?!

FANG: (to WHISKERS) You big lummoX! I was going to tell her!

WHISKERS: Well we didn't either!

RAKOVAN: Are you telling me that there is an invitation only, socially important, berry intensive extravaganza... AND I WASN'T INVITED?!?

WHISKERS: You got it! Wow! First try, too. It took me weeks...

RAKOVAN: You knew?! You knew I wasn't invited... and YOU DIDN'T TELL ME!!!

FANG: We were going to tell you right after brunch!

WHISKERS: Yeah! We didn't want you to go on a maniacal rampage on an empty stomach...

RAKOVAN: How dare they?! How DARE they!!! This is an INSULT!!

FANG: An insult!

RAKOVAN: This is an OUTRAGE!!

WHISKERS: An outrage!

RAKOVAN: They have the nerve to throw an extravaganza and not invite ME? ME!!! I am the Queen of Arctic Elegance!

FANG: The High Queen!

RAKOVAN: I am the toast of Icy High Society!

WHISKERS: The frozen toast!

RAKOVAN: They will pay for this! They will ALL pay for this!

FANG: Now we're talking! What's the plan, boss?

RAKOVAN: What's the plan? I'll tell you what the plan is. We're going to crash that party! We're going to crash it into a million pieces! And then I am going to eat President Lepus as an amuse bouche! (*evil laugh*) Bwaa... BWaaHa... .. BwaaHaaHAAAA!!

SFX – Lightning/Thunder. Dramatic chord.

MUSIC – Transitional music.

ANNOUNCER: It looks like President Lepus' party plans are about to come crashing down! Will Zippy find a way to stop Commander Rakovan, or will the guest list become the bill of fare! And what in the world is an amuse-bouche anyway?!? Find out when we return to The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin, right after this important message...

MUSIC – Fades out.

ADVERTISEMENT #2

ADVERTISER: Greetings Arctic Adventurers! Are you wanting to protect the north pole, but your snacks are letting you down?

ADVENTURE KID 1: Hey Janet! Are you ready to fight frozen injustice?

ADVENTURE KID 2: Oh, I don't know.

ADVENTURE KID 1: Golly! What's wrong, Janet?

ADVENTURE KID 2: It's these darn snacks. They just don't give me the energy I need to defeat evil.

ADVENTURE KID 1: Let me see those.

ADVENTURE KID 2: Here you go.

ADVENTURE KID 1: Well no wonder! These aren't FishCo Scale Snacks! That's why you don't have the energy you need.

ADVENTURE KID 2: Of course! FishCo Snacks. That's what I need!

ADVERTISER: That's right, Janet, FishCo Scale Snacks are the snacks you need. Other scale based snacks are made from artificial scales and are loaded with high fructose kelp syrup and preservatives. But FishCo Scale Snacks are made from real

scales, 100% natural, and responsibly harvested from happy fish. FishCo Scale Snacks have zero high fructose kelp syrup and no preservatives, and give adventurers all the energy they need to make it to the north pole, and beyond!

ADVENTURE KID 1: Here Janet, eat some FishCo Scale Snacks and see how you feel...

SFX – Eating crunchy chips.

ADVENTURE KID 2: Wow! These snacks are fish-tastic!

ADVENTURE KID 1: They sure are! Are you ready for adventure?

ADVENTURE KID 2: NOW I am!

ADVERTISER: Remember adventurers, you can't fight evildoers with second rate snacks! So ask for FishCo Scale Snacks before your next adventure, and take a bite out of villainy!

ADVENTURE KID 1: To the North Pole!

ADVENTURE KID 2: Watch out bad guys!

ADVERTISER: Go get 'em, adventurers!

ADVENTURE KID 1 & ADVENTURE KID 2: Thanks FishCo!

JINGLE: FishCo Fish Scales.

The super snack that never fails.

Puts the bad guys right in jail.

FishCo Fish Scales.

Yay!

ADVERTISER: And now back to our story...

MUSIC – Transitional music comes up and fades out after a few seconds.

SFX – Party preparations. Background conversations.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: (*calling out*) Alphonso...? Alphonso!

ALPHONSO: Yes, President Lepus?

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Ah, there you are. I would like a status report please. Can you tell me how close we are to opening the extravaganza?

ALPHONSO: Of course! We are nearly right on schedule. The food tent is operating at full speed, the musicians are warming up behind the main stage, and the dignitaries and VIP's are checking

in at the registration table. Almost everything is set up and ready to go.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Good, good... Wait... Almost everything...? What isn't ready?

ALPHONSO: Well, we have had a slight problem with the centerpieces on the tables.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Problem, what kind problem?

ALPHONSO: They're not finished.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Not finished? What do you mean they are not finished??

ALPHONSO: None of them have flowers. Every single centerpiece is missing its flowers.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: No flowers? How is that possible?! Where in the world are the flowers!? The extravaganza is scheduled to start in two hours. Two hours! This is unacceptable. What happened to all the flowers?

ALPHONSO: I don't know! Every time I try to talk to the decorator he mumbles something rude and walks away.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: He does what?! Well we shall see about that! Where is this "decorator" you are talking about? He and I are going to have words...

ALPHONSO: He's walking around in a big floppy hat and he's wearing a long coat with some kind of bear logo on it. You can't miss... Oh! Look! There he is right now, walking away from the food tent...

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Thank you, Alphonso. You keep working on getting the final preparations ready, I will get to the bottom of this egregious breach of contract.

ALPHONSO: Of course, right away.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: ...Excuse me, you! You there in the flowered hat...

FANG: (As DECORATOR, rudely) What do you want...? President Lepus...? (changes tone) Oh, President Lepus, I didn't expect to run into you!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Obviously! And I did not expect that I would need to reprimand you about unfinished work! But here we are. Now take off that hat so I can see your face.

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Oh, no, no. Sorry. No can do! I am very sensitive to bright lights after this long cold winter. Without this hat I would be practically blind, and there would be no way I could finish all these decorations. You wouldn't want that would you? Now, to what do I owe this pleasant surprise, your President-ness?

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Don't give me that "pleasant surprise" bunk! This surprise is most unpleasant! I have just been told that you have not finished assembling the table centerpieces. They are all missing key, essential elements.

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Elements? What kind of elements?

PRESIDENT LEPUS: The flowers! There's no Lupine, Purple Saxifrage, Diamond-leaf Willow or any of the flowers I ordered for these centerpieces!

FANG: (as DECORATOR) There isn't?! Huh. That's weird.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: They were supposed to be finished this morning. This morning!

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Yeah, well, I'm pretty sure the flower people got tied up. Sorry about that...

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Sorry doesn't complete a centerpiece, my friend, flowers do!

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Right. That's a good one, I'll have to remember that... Oh, look! There's the flower van just pulling into the staging tent now. Perfect timing. I'm just gonna go over there and help them unload so we can finish those darn centerpieces just as quick as possible. (starts to exit) Yep, everything's under control. Thanks for checking in. Don't you worry about a thing, everything's going according to plan... (exits)

PRESIDENT LEPUS: ...Hmmm.

ANNOUNCER: As President Lepus ponders this strange hat-wearing decorator, something even stranger is happening at the staging tent!

SFX – Engine running – Backup beeping.

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Okay, back up... a little more... that's good! Kill the engine.

SFX – Beeping stops – Engine turns off.

WHISKERS: Thanks lady!

FANG: It's me, you ninny!

WHISKERS: Me who? GASP!! FANG?!!

FANG: Quiet you fool! Of course it's me, who did you think it was?!

WHISKERS: I don't know. You could have been anybody... YOU WERE WEARING A HAT!!

FANG: Pipe down! Where's the boss?

WHISKERS: In the back of the van. She's getting ready for the big surprise. Ooo... this is her best party crash yet!

FANG: Don't get ahead of yourself. We still have to get her in position.

WHISKERS: Yeah, yeah. But once she's in place and the trap is sprung...

FANG: Nobody can stop us! (*evil laugh*) MwaaHaaHAAA...!!

WHISKERS: YEAH! Nobody! HaHAHAHAHAHAAA...! Ooo... Wait. What about Zippy the Wonder Penguin?

FANG: ...HAAA... (*angry growl*) Hrmrmmmm!

ANNOUNCER: What about Zippy the Wonder Penguin, you ask? Well, don't you worry Arctic Adventurers, our intrepid hero is on the job! At that very moment Zippy and Scooter were informing President Lepus about the impending polar peril...!

SFX – Noises of people setting up the party in the background.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Are you saying this peril is right on our doorstep, Zippy?

ZIPPY: It's impending, President Lepus... it's impending...!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: You've got to stop it, Zippy! If word gets out about this, there will be panic!

SCOOTER: And terror!

PRESIDENT LEPUS & SCOOTER: And VIP's swallowed whole!

ZIPPY: That's not the half of it. Based on schemes she's tried in the past, I believe if Rakovan succeeds, she will diabolically demand that all the remaining VIP's invite her to every last exclusive

high-society event from now through the rest of the spring and summer, or she will do the same to them!

SCOOTER: It's a Beach Blanket Blackmail!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: This is terrible! I did not invite the most important people in the arctic to this extravaganza just to have them bullied and bothered by a belligerent "B" lister! What can we do, Zippy?

ZIPPY: Stay calm, and keep everyone else calm. Don't let anyone know what is going on, and keep the preparations moving forward. In the meantime, Scooter and I will search for Commander Rakovan and try to stop her before she can launch her evil plan.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: You've got to stop her, Zippy! You just have to! Too much time and planning has gone into this event just to have it ruined at the last minute by some psychopathic ursine social climber.

ZIPPY: Don't worry, President Lepus, Scooter and I are on the case. It's bear or bust, and that's no bull. Come on, Scooter...!

SCOOTER: Right behind you, Zippy!

MUSIC – Dramatic music.

ANNOUNCER: Will Zippy and Scooter stop Commander Rakovan in time to save the extravaganza? Can President Lepus keep the crowds calm in the face of looming apex predator chaos? Will Whiskers and Fang continue to wear hats?! And what horrible scheme will Commander Rakovan pursue in her never-ending quest to defeat and eat the polar elite? Find out right after this important message from FishCo...

MUSIC – Fades out.

ADVERTISEMENT #3

ADVERTISER: Kids, has this ever happened to you?

SFX – Noisy classroom talking.

TEACHER: All right, children, settle down. I hope you are ready for a test.

KIDS: (*various positive answers*) "You bet!" "All right!" "Ready!" etc.

TERRY: Oh, No!

JERRI: What's wrong, Terry?

TERRY: I'm not ready for a test, Jerri.

JERRI: You're not?

TERRY: No! I didn't have a complete breakfast.

JERRI: Oh, dear! What did you have?

TERRY: Just bacon and eggs and toast!

JERRI: What?! You didn't have Frosted Fish Flakes? On a test day?

TERRY: I know! What was I thinking?!

ADVERTISER: That's right kids, no breakfast is complete without Frosted Fish Flakes, the healthy way to start your day from the good people at FishCo. Frosted Fish Flakes is the lightly sweetened, good tasting cereal, made from wholesome fish and chock full of vitamins and minerals, that gets you ready for whatever your day may bring. Even a surprise test!

TERRY: What am I going to do?

JERRI: Don't worry, I always keep some Frosted Fish Flakes with me, just in case. Here, have some.

TERRY: Wow, thanks!

SFX – Eating crunchy chips.

Mmmm... that hits the spot.

TEACHER: All right, kids. Books away, pencils out. It's test time!

JERRI: Ready?

TERRY: I am now! Thanks to Frosted Fish Flakes!

JERRI: All right!

TERRY & JERRI: Thanks FishCo!

JINGLE: Start your day the Fish Flakes way.

Gives you strength to learn and play.

Have a bowl, you'll shout "Hooray!"

Fish Flakes make it all okay.

Fish Flakes.

Fish Flakes.

Fish Flakes.

YAY!

ADVERTISER: And now back to Zippy...

MUSIC – Transitional music comes up and fades out after a few seconds.

ANNOUNCER: Welcome back faithful listeners! Can you believe the mess we find ourselves in? Alphonso is still finishing centerpieces. Whiskers and Fang are still wearing disguises. Commander Rakovan is still a deranged threat to the extravaganza... And Zippy and Scooter are still hot on her trail! And if that's not enough, President Lepus is just minutes away from opening the extravaganza and potentially unleashing unspeakable chaos! I don't know about you Arctic Adventurers, but I am more nervous than a Snowy Goose in a pillow factory! Tighten your capes and hold on to your hats... It's time for the thrilling conclusion of The Adventures of Zippy the Wonder Penguin!

SFX – Background noise – Festival sounds.

SCOOTER: This is terrible, Zippy! We checked the VIP tent, food tent and concert stage and so far we have nothing!

ZIPPY: Nothing?

SCOOTER: Well, I did get an autograph from The Flightless Four...

ZIPPY: That only leaves the staging tent. Come on, Scooter, we're running out of time!

SCOOTER: Wait for me, Zippy!

SFX – Crowd noise fades up and then down and out.

ALPHONSO: *(calling from distance)* President Lepus...! *(coming closer)* President Lepus!!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Over here, Alphonso.

ALPHONSO: I'm so glad I found you, I have been looking everywhere...

FANG: *(as DECORATOR)* ...WE'VE been looking everywhere! I'm the one who needs to talk to her.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Is everything okay, Alphonso? Why is he with you? And why is he still wearing that hideous hat?

ALPHONSO: Yes, ma'am. Everything's fine. The food and entertainment is all ready to go, and I think I got the centerpieces sorted out.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: You did? Excellent. So why is he still here?

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Well, like I said, I'm real sorry about them centerpieces.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Yes. So you said. Now if you will excuse me, I have some very important people to welcome...

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Hold on now, let me finish. I'm so sorry about those centerpieces that I wanted to make up for it by giving you a special gift.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: A... what?

FANG: (as DECORATOR) A display! A big decorative display. Very fancy! It doesn't have flowers, true, but it's got plants and balloons and streamers all arranged in a giant decorative pot. It's very pretty and very festive, and I'll put it right up there on the stage, just behind you and the other VIP's. You guys will look great! It will really tie the whole extravaganza together. In fact, it's our most expensive display! But for you, it's free, as a way to say I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Free?

FANG: (as DECORATOR) It's the least I can do.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Have you seen this "display" Alphonso?

ALPHONSO: I tried, but it's under a big tarp and he wouldn't let me take it off.

FANG: (as DECORATOR) That's because the plants aren't used to all this spring sunshine yet, you know, just like me with this hat. You wouldn't want them wilting before your guests have a chance to enjoy them, would you? I'm telling you, your president-ship, this display is gonna knock those VIP's right off their feet!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: How long will it take to set up this "display?"

FANG: (as DECORATOR) It won't take no time at all, I promise! Come on, let me make it up to you. Whaddya say? Please? Pretty please...?

PRESIDENT LEPUS: (sighs) All right. You can set it up. Alphonso, please go with him and help...

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Oh, that won't be necessary! I have an assistant. A very tubby assistant. And besides, Alphonso here has got a million things to do, ain't that right AI? I mean, the start of the extravaganza is less than an hour away...

ALPHONSO: I'm afraid he's right, Ma'am. I was only halfway through the final checklist when he insisted we find you.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Fine. Alphonso you go and get your checklist completed.

ALPHONSO: Yes, Ma'am.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: And you, mister decorator man, have 15 minutes to set up your display and get back to the staging tent. Understand? I don't want any more unpleasant surprises from you today.

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Surprises? From me? Perish the thought!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Now if you will excuse me, I have VIP's to greet...

FANG: (as DECORATOR) Of course! You go right ahead and greet those VIP's. I'll just be over here setting the stage for the big surpr... uh... special moment...

SFX – Crowd sounds.

MUSIC – Transitional music comes up and fades out after a few seconds.

ZIPPY: Alright, chum. Eyes and ears open, there has to be a clue somewhere here in the staging tent...

SCOOTER: You got it!

SFX – Banging on metal.

SCOOTER: What was that?

ZIPPY: It sounded like it came from that florist van.

SFX – Banging on metal.

SCOOTER: There it is again!

ZIPPY: Stand back, Scooter. I am going to draw my rapier...

SFX – Rapier slowly being pulled out of scabbard. Banging on metal.

SCOOTER: Be careful, Zippy!

SFX – Van door opening (squeaky opening). Muffled yelling/talking.

ZIPPY: Great Scott!

SCOOTER: What is it, Zippy?

ZIPPY: There are two florists tied up back here! Quick Scooter, help me untie them...

SCOOTER: Right away, Zippy! *(to FLORIST)* Don't worry, friend. We'll have you out of here in no time.

SFX – Muffled excited talking.

ZIPPY: What happened, citizen? Who did this?

FLORIST 1: *(spitting out the gag)* Tew! Ptew! ... It was a bear! A big bear!

ZIPPY: What kind of bear?

FLORIST 2: *(coughing)* A polar bear! A big crazy polar bear!

SCOOTER: Rakovan!

FLORIST 1: And she had two goons with her. One has a real long tooth...

FLORIST 2: ...and the other one is stupid!

SCOOTER: Whiskers and Fang...!

ZIPPY: Did she say where she was going? Did she say what she was going to do?

FLORIST 1: She said she's going to eat President Lepus...

FLORIST 2: ...as an amuse bouche!

SCOOTER: Amuse wha...?

ZIPPY: A fancy appetizer. *(to FLORISTS)* Go on!

FLORIST 1: And then she's going to demand an invitation to every important party in the arctic...

FLORIST 2: ...from now until the first snowfall...

FLORIST 1: ...or she will eat everyone on the guest list!

SCOOTER: The fiend!

ZIPPY: Where did she go?!

FLORIST 1: She is hiding in a giant flower pot that they are setting up in the VIP section...

FLORIST 2: ...and she is going to pop out of it right after President Lepus officially kicks off the extravaganza!

FLORIST 1: It'll be the worst spring surprise ever!

FLORIST 2: The extravaganza is starting at any second!

FLORIST 1 & FLORIST 2: You've got to stop her!

ZIPPY: We will! Come on, Scooter! We don't have a moment to lose!

MUSIC – Exciting, high energy music. MUSIC fades to...

SFX – ...continuous background conversations. Glass tapping to get crowd's attention.

ALPHONSO: Can I have your attention please..?! (*crowd quiets down*)
Thank you. I would like to welcome you all to the event of the season, the Spring Thaw Extravaganza!

SFX – Applause.

Thank you! And here to officially open the extravaganza is our distinguished host... please join me in giving a warm round of applause to our very own President Kit Lepus!

SFX – Applause.

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Thank you. So wonderful to have you all here. I am looking forward to a glorious afternoon of sparkling conversations, great food, and the timeless music of The Flightless Four!

SFX – Applause.

So without any further ado, I hereby declare the Spring Thaw Extravaganza officially op...

SFX – Huge crashing explosion / Terrifying growl / Screams of terror.

RAKOVAN: Surprise Lepus!! Consider your party crashed!

PRESIDENT LEPUS: Put me down, you monster!

RAKOVAN: Oh, I'll put you down alright. Right down my throat!

SFX – Screams of terror from the crowd.

ZIPPY: NOT SO FAST, RAKOVAN!

RAKOVAN: Zippy the Wonder Penguin!

ZIPPY: That's right, Rakovan! I've crashed your crash and now your crash is crushed!

SCOOTER: Yeah! Consider your crash smashed, you crazed crook!

RAKOVAN: Well, well, well... if it isn't Scooter the pathetic Puffin. I'll tell you what, birdbrain, I'll consider my crash smashed, right after you consider yourself a hostage! Whiskers! Fang! NOW!

WHISKERS & FANG: Surprise!!

ZIPPY: Scooter, look out!!

FANG: Whiskers, grab them wings!

SFX – Crashing and thumping.

WHISKERS: Come here you little... HEY!! You bit me!

FANG: Whiskers! What are you doing!? I said hold the wings, numbskull! The wings!

WHISKERS: I'm trying to! But every time I do...! OW!! You bit me again!

FANG: Do I gotta do everything around here? Come here you little feathered twerp...!

SFX - More crashing and thumping.

WHISKERS: You didn't need to BITE me... That really hurt!

FANG: There we go! Gotcha!

WHISKERS: Wait a minute... How did you bite me? You ain't got no teeth...!?

FANG: We bagged the baby bird, boss!

SCOOTER: Zippy, help!

ZIPPY: Unhand Scooter you scoundrels, or so help me I'll...

RAKOVAN: Or you'll what, Penguin Protector!? Look around you. I've won! I am the picture of high society with the whitest fur and the sharpest claws! I have the attention of the most important people in the arctic, and I WILL be invited to every glamorous party this season, OR ELSE! I have Lepus, AND your sorry sidekick. I hold all the cards!! What do you have?!



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