

ALLEY BOB CAT

Written by

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Based on 'Bob's Burgers'
Created by Loren Bouchard

FADE IN:

INT. BELCHER APARTMENT - KITCHEN - MORNING

BOB, TINA, GENE and LOUISE sit at the kitchen table eating breakfast. LINDA is at the counter chopping kale.

BOB

Lin, do you need to do that right now?

LINDA

Absolutely! It's my turn to cook dinner this weekend and I know how much you all love my kale salad!

LOUISE

Love is a strong word, Mom. Now hate on the other hand is a word I feel isn't used enough.

TINA

Yeah, Mom. It's um... it sure is food?

GENE

Mm, is it?

Linda angrily turns towards the table.

LINDA

You kids are eating my kale, you hear me? It's good for you! That's what all the people are saying!

BOB

What people?

LINDA

You know, all of them!

(BEAT)

You're eating it!

INT. WAGSTAFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Louise is at her locker putting books into her backpack. As she closes her locker door, Gene approaches. Louise is taken aback by the smell he's emanating.

LOUISE

Whoa there, Gene, back it up. You smell like Dad on Taco Tuesday. Glad we put an end to those.

GENE

I'll take that as a compliment, thank you very much.

LOUISE

(SNIFFING)

Ugh, did something die in your pockets?

Gene pulls out handfuls of FISH STICKS.

GENE

Many things died! And then deep fried!

LOUISE

Are those fish sticks?

GENE

I took as many as I could from lunch. I just can't do this kale thing Mom's been doing lately, bless her heart.

LOUISE

I'm gonna need some of those.

GENE

Want some tartar sauce? I'm keeping that warm in the back pockets.

LOUISE

That's all you, buddy.

TINA approaches the two of them with a small WOODEN HOUSE.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

What's with the house, T?

They walk down the hallway.

TINA

Oh, this old thing? Just a little house I made in wood shop. We were supposed to make a clock, but I thought I'd try something a little different, you know? Also I don't know how to make a clock.

GENE

Who needs clocks? Flavor Flav? Your house is much better.

TINA

Thanks, I got an F. You know, since it wasn't a clock.

RUDY closes his locker nearby.

RUDY

Hey guys. Oh, nice house, Tina.

TINA

Thanks, Rudy.

RUDY

(SIGH)

Reminds me of the tree house my dad was gonna build this weekend. But now he's going on a couples therapy retreat.

TINA

Isn't your dad divorced?

RUDY

Yeah, but watching other couples work it out makes him feel better.

(SIGH)

I guess I'll just spend the weekend eating pizza alone in my room. I could've been eating pizza alone in a tree house.

LOUISE

Pizza?

RUDY

Yeah, my dad gave me money to buy pizza all weekend. It's a lot more than I'll need. My stomach is comically small.

Louise turns to Tina and Gene, who's eating one of the fish sticks.

LOUISE

Gene, toss out those fish sticks, tonight we eat like *KINGS*!!

TINA

I was wondering why Gene smelled like Long John Silvers, but I didn't want to be rude.

Louise turns back to Rudy.

LOUISE

Let's cut a deal, Rudes. If you feed us pizza, Tina will build your tree house for you.

Tina pulls Louise back aside.

TINA

Louise, what are you doing? I'm not Tim Allen, I can't actually build anything!

LOUISE

Tina, this is pizza we're talking about here. Dad never orders it cause of his stupid rivalry with Jimmy Pesto, and none of our grades are good enough to get pizza parties! Look, Gene and I will help. With the three of us, how hard can it be?

Gene, still eating fish sticks, pauses.

GENE

We'll do what now?

TINA

But it's dishonest. We'd be pizza swindlers. I'm not ready for that kind of life.

Louise grabs Tina by the shoulders.

LOUISE

Tina! We're talking about kale salad for dinner! The granola of veggies! Is that the future you want? Cause that's what you're gonna get.

Tina MOANS uncomfortably. JIMMY JR. stops in front of Tina.

JIMMY JR.

Hey Tina.

TINA
Oh, hey Jimmy Jr.

JIMMY JR.
Cool house.

TINA
You really think so?

ZOOM ON: Tina as she enters a dream sequence.

EXT. DECK - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)

Tina is wearing a fancy woodworking outfit and is twirling a hammer around in her hand. She walks down a beautiful deck that's being built by HANDSOME MEN in similar outfits. As she walks by each man she checks off a clipboard she's holding. She stops in front of a broken part of the deck, alongside a confused Jimmy Jr.

TINA
No, no, it's like this.

She whips out her hammer and hits the broken part. It magically turns perfect.

JIMMY JR.
Wow, Tina, you're so beautiful and amazing at building things!

TINA
Hehe, knock on wood.

Tina knocks on wood real quick. Tina spreads her arms out and Jimmy Jr. and the handsome men lift her up. She flies upwards being surrounded by planks of wood, tools and handsome men.

TINA (CONT'D)
(SIGHS IN RELIEF)

CUT BACK TO:

INT. WAGSTAFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

ANGLE ON: Tina as she has the same face of relief as the dream sequence. She snaps out of it as we ZOOM OUT.

TINA
So you'd say you're into the idea of a renaissance woman?

JIMMY JR.

(SHRUGS)

Uh, yeah, I guess so.

Jimmy Jr. EXITS. Tina turns back to Louise.

TINA

I'm in.

LOUISE

Hear that, Rudy? She's in.

RUDY

Sounds good to me. Hope you guys don't hate pineapple on pizza.

GENE

We don't discriminate against pizza in this family!

EXT. STREET - LATER

Gene, Louise and Tina walk home from school. Gene is still eating fish sticks.

TINA

You think Mom and Dad will be okay with us using power tools?

LOUISE

Doubt it. Which is exactly why we don't tell them.

TINA

Oh. That does fix that problem.

LOUISE

We go home and play it casual. We tell Mom and Dad we got invited over to Rudy's for dinner.

TINA

But-

LOUISE

That's not a lie, Tina! Rudy *did* invite us over for pizza. What we're doing while we wait for that pizza? Doesn't matter. We could be playing video games, using a buzz saw, who cares!

GENE

Tonight we're getting buzzed!

TINA

(TO HERSELF)

Easy there, Tina. Just remember
it's for Jimmy Jr. And pizza. Jimmy
Jr. and pizza.

Suddenly a MEOW is heard. The three look down to see a BLACK
CAT following Gene.

LOUISE

Whoa, a black cat!

The cat swipes at Gene's pocket full of fish sticks.

GENE

Ack! Hey! No! Bad kitty, these are
mine!

LOUISE

Just give it some, it'll leave you
alone.

GENE

Do you know how hard I worked for
these? I went through the line five
times! Thankfully I had my Groucho
glasses to fool the lunch lady.

Louise grabs the fish stick from Gene's hand and tosses a
piece away. The cat chases after.

LOUISE

There, just saved you from who
knows how many years of bad luck.

TINA

But just to be safe, maybe you
should stay away from the tools
today.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - AFTERNOON

Bob is at the cash register while Linda is cleaning the ice
cream machine. The restaurant is empty.

LINDA (SINGING)

*Cleanin' out all the ice cream
goop, it's nasty and looks a bit
like poop! Kinda weird cause we
don't have chocolate ice creeaaaam!*

ALLEY BOB CAT

Bob counts pennies.

BOB

Wow, we have a *lot* of pennies in here. Most of them from Teddy.

LINDA

Well, you know how he feels about Abe Lincoln.

BOB

Yeah, he pays almost exclusively in fives and pennies.

LINDA

He just feels bad for him. You know, on account of the whole getting shot in the back of the head thing.

Gene, Louise and Tina enter the restaurant. They sit at the counter.

GENE

(TO LINDA)

Mother.

(TO BOB)

Father.

(TO THE PENNIES)

President Lincoln.

Bob sniffs the air and is taken aback.

BOB

Gene, did you bring garbage home again?

GENE

How dare you. The cafeteria staff worked so hard.

LINDA

Alright, on the table, let's see what you got.

Gene stands up and takes out the fish sticks and puts them on the table. He reaches for his back pocket.

GENE

Let me grab the tartar sauce from the back.

BOB

That's... okay, you don't have to do that.

TINA

Give it a bit longer, it should ferment nicely.

LINDA

Gene, why're you bringing home fish sticks? You know I'm making kale salad for dinner.

GENE

Um, well Mother, the thing about that is-

A MEOW is heard once again.

BOB

Did you just meow at your mother?

GENE

Not recently.

The black cat from before hops up on the counter and begins eating the fish sticks. Bob SCREAMS.

LINDA

Aw, a kitty!

BOB

Not "Aw" Linda, there's a cat in our restaurant! G-Get me the broom!

Bob frantically runs around the counter. Linda follows.

BOB (CONT'D)

Argh, where's my broom!

GENE

You know I turned that broom into a makeshift pony weeks ago!

Bob SNEEZES.

BOB

Need I remind you that I'm allergic to cats?

GENE

No need, you just did!

Tina starts petting the cat.

TINA

Looks like it followed the irresistible smell of Gene's pockets all the way here.

LINDA

Aw, he's hungry. Oh, I've always wanted a bodega cat!

Bob SNEEZES again. He wipes his nose with a tissue.

BOB

What do you mean "bodega cat"? We're not keeping it! And this isn't a bodega!

LINDA

Oh, come on Bobby, look at him!

BOB

Please get it off the counter.

Tina picks it up and puts it on the floor. The cat sniffs the air.

BOB (CONT'D)

Oh god, it can sense that we sell meat here, it's all over. It's never going away.

Linda kneels down to pet the cat.

LINDA

You say that like it's a bad thing!

BOB

It's a living animal, Lin! Think of the health code violations!

LINDA

(DISMISSIVE)

Oh, you and your health codes!

(ENTHUSIASTIC)

Well it's fine, it'll just be our alley bodega cat! An alley-dega cat!

While Bob and Linda argue over the cat, Louise turns to Tina and Gene.

LOUISE

I think we've found our distraction for the evening.

Louise turns back to Bob and Linda.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

You know, it's only fair that since we lured the cat here, we should be the ones to get rid of it.

LINDA

Get rid of it? Who's getting rid of the cat?

BOB

We are, Lin!

(TO KIDS)

Yes, please take it out. Not in a mob boss way, that sounded dark.

LOUISE

Too late. These hands were never clean, Dad.

Louise grabs a handful of the fish sticks.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

(WHISTLES)

Come on, here kitty kitty, let's go, let's go.

GENE

Hey! Careful with those, they're very fragile and mushy!

TINA

(QUICKLY)

Bye Mom and Dad, we'll go put the cat back and not do anything else dangerous on the way home, okay love you, bye!

The cat follows the three of them as they leave the restaurant.

LINDA

You never let me have any bodega cats!

BOB

This is not a bodega!!

Bob SNEEZES again.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

The kids lure the cat back to the exact spot they found it.

LOUISE

Okay, you're back where we found you. So... stay!

TINA

Do cats listen to commands like dogs do?

GENE

Absolutely! Watch!

ANGLE ON: Black Cat. It looks aloof.

GENE (CONT'D)

Sit! Stare blankly!

The cat begins to lick its butthole.

GENE (CONT'D)

Lick your butthole.

(BEAT)

See? It'll stay just fine. Now let's go get some pizza! I'm getting kind of sick of fish sticks. But only kind of!

As the kids walk away, the cat notices a TRAIL OF FISH STICK BITS leading back to the restaurant. It tilts its head inquisitively and begins eating the crumbs piece by piece.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - AFTERNOON

Linda is pouring water for a NERVOUS CUSTOMER sitting at the booth near the door. The customer SNEEZES.

CUSTOMER
(SNIFFLING)
Sorry, don't know what came over me. I really only sneeze when there's cats around. It's pretty bad.

LINDA
Well there are no cats here!

Bob SNEEZES from the kitchen.

CUSTOMER
Uh, why did the cook just sneeze?

LINDA
Oh, must be mustache hairs, they're always flying around.

CUSTOMER
So... they could be in the food?

LINDA
Better than cat hairs, right? You don't want to find a hairball in there!

Linda LAUGHS. The customer isn't amused.

LINDA (CONT'D)
Alright.

Linda walks into the kitchen.

BOB
Did he order anything?

LINDA
Not yet. He's looking kinda jumpy. And sneezy.

BOB
We really need his business, he's our first customer today.

ALLEY BOB CAT

Bob SNEEZES again.

BOB (CONT'D)

Ugh, I can still smell that cat in the air. I'm taking the trash out, just keep an eye on the customer, okay?

Bob picks up the bag of garbage and heads towards the back door.

LINDA

I'll watch him like he's a hawk!

BOB

Pretty sure you're the hawk in this situation.

LINDA

(SEDUCTIVE)

Yeah? You like when I'm the hawk?

BOB

I'm going now.

Bob opens the back door. ANGLE ON: Black Cat, who is sitting in front of the door as soon as Bob opens it.

CAT

Meow!

BOB

Ah! No! It's back!! It found its way back!!

Bob has a SNEEZING fit. Linda comes rushing back.

LINDA

What, what happened? I heard screaming and-

Linda sees the cat.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Aww, the little baby is back! Look Bobby, it's the-

CUSTOMER (O.S.)

(SNEEZING)

A SNEEZE is heard from the customer. Bob and Linda run into the dining room. The customer is having a SNEEZING fit. He stands up and quickly leaves the restaurant.

BOB

No!!

Bob looks down at the cat who has walked inside and is now rubbing against his leg. Bob screams upwards.

BOB (CONT'D)
(MIMICKING CAPTAIN KIRK
FROM STAR TREK II)

CAAAAAA-

Bob breaks his scream with a SNEEZE. He resumes.

BOB (CONT'D)

-AAAAAAT!!

LINDA

Aw, he likes you!

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - EVENING

Rudy is sitting on a pile of lumber for the tree house. He takes a swig from his inhaler before Louise, Gene and Tina arrive.

GENE

What's new, pussycat?

RUDY

What did you call me?

LOUISE

We've had a lot of cat problems today.

RUDY

That's okay. You can call me whatever you want, it's just nice to have somebody around. It's gonna be a lonely weekend.

LOUISE

Well soon you'll have a tree house full of empty promises to keep you company. Now, is that the payment?

Louise points at the stack of pizza boxes sitting next to Rudy.

RUDY

That's right. We've got the whole shebang; pineapple, pepperoni, plain.

GENE

My three favorite P's! After pee-pee, poo-poo and Paul Simon!

RUDY

We should probably get started, though, it's gonna get dark soon.

LOUISE

Whoa whoa whoa, Rudy, you can't expect us to work on an empty stomach, can you? We're gonna need that pizza up-front.

RUDY

You construction workers and your appetites. Alright, you can have half now, half later.

LOUISE

You drive a hard bargain, Rudy. You give us no choice but to agree.

Louise and Gene start eating pizza. Tina reluctantly takes a slice.

TINA

Maybe we should get started soon, Louise. Woodworking at night is dangerous. That's one of the fifty things they told us not to do in wood shop. Right after not using a buzz saw as a pizza cutter.

GENE

Argh! They made the rule before I could break it!

LOUISE

We'll be fine, Tina. This is just how these deals work. Now come on, just enjoy the fruits of our labor.

TINA

But Jimmy Jr. likes a woman covered in saw dust, not pizza sauce!

Louise sticks pizza in Tina's face.

LOUISE

Shhhh, shhhh, you're safe now. Eat, my child.

Tina begrudgingly takes the pizza and lets out an uncomfortable moan.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - KITCHEN - EVENING

Linda walks by Bob who's angrily cleaning the grill.

LINDA
Who's my special little Bobby baby!

BOB
Please don't call me that.

REVEAL Linda playing with the cat by the back door.

LINDA
Well jokes on you, Mr. Grumpy Gus,
I'm talking to the cat!

BOB
You named the cat Bobby?

LINDA
Yeah, he's Bob #1 and you're Bob
#2.

BOB
Wait, why does he get to be Bob #1?
I was here first, I want to be Bob
#1.

LINDA
Oh, you've had your time as Bob #1,
let the cat have his turn. Besides,
look at him dance!

Linda is holding the cat by its paws and is dancing it around. It looks unamused.

LINDA (CONT'D)
(SINGING)
*Here comes Dancin' Bobby, tip
tappin' all the way from kitty
town!*

BOB
I don't think he likes that.

LINDA
Oh, what do you know! I've gotta go
get dinner started anyways. Hope
the kids hurry up and put that cat
back, and-

(MORE)

LINDA (CONT'D)

(BEAT)

Wait a minute.

BOB

(SIGH)

Great.

LINDA

(ANGRY)

You watch the cat. I'll call them. Those freakin' kids. They're eating extra kale salad tonight as punishment. Not that it should be a punishment cause my kale salad is delicious.

BOB

Yup.

LINDA

Right?

BOB

Absolutely.

LINDA

Yeah, that's right.

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - EVENING

The kids eat their pizza.

GENE

Ah, there's nothing quite like eating piles of greasy food before doing back-breaking labor!

TINA

Can we get started now? We're losing precious daylight!

LOUISE

Alright, alright, sheesh, hold your horses.

TINA

Horses aren't meant to be held, they're meant to be pet and brushed, but that's besides the point.

Louise feels her phone vibrating and pulls it out of her pocket.

LOUISE

Uh oh. We got a problem.

INTERCUT between Louise and Linda, who's in the restaurant.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

(INTO PHONE)

Hey, Mom! We're just wrapping things up with the cat here! This lovable little scamp is hard to say bye to!

LINDA

(INTO PHONE)

Uh-huh, cut the crap, Louise! We know you're not with the cat, it wandered back to the restaurant!

Louise moves away from the phone.

LOUISE

(TO GENE AND TINA)

Crap! Mom's onto us!

TINA

She knows we're at Rudy's?

LINDA

(INTO PHONE)

I do now! Thanks for talking so loud, Tina, sweetie. Stay put, once I finish making dinner we're coming to get you. I don't want you walking home in the dark.

Linda hangs up.

LOUISE

(TO TINA)

Tina!!

TINA

Oops.

LOUISE

Great, now we need to haul ass. We need the rest of that pizza.

TINA

It's too late, Louise. It's gonna be dark soon, and we'll never be able to finish it on time, and now Jimmy Jr.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

will see me like the fraud I am,
someone who can't even build a
clock right!

Tina enters a dream sequence.

INT. RETIREMENT HOME - DREAM SEQUENCE

An elderly Jimmy Jr. and Tina sit in rocking chairs, holding each others hands.

JIMMY JR.

These rocking chairs you built are
amazing, Tina. They're as sturdy as
our 50 year long marriage.

TINA

Knock on wood.

Tina knocks on Jimmy Jr's rocking chair. It shakes and collapses, with Jimmy Jr. falling on the ground, dying on impact.

TINA (CONT'D)

Jimmy Jr? NOOOOOOOOO!!!

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - EVENING

TINA

NOOOOOOOOO!!

Louise snaps in front of Tina's face.

LOUISE

Tina, snap out of it!

GENE

Mm, maybe we should go home. It's
nearly my 6 'o clock bathroom time.
Trust me, you're gonna want me in
that bathroom with the clock
strikes 6.

Gene pats his stomach.

GENE (CONT'D)

In fact, that pizza might have
pushed it forward to 5:30.

LOUISE

No! We're getting the rest of that pizza!

(BEAT)

I mean, It's the right thing to do! Just look at Rudy!

ANGLE ON Rudy, sitting on some of the wood, peeling the cheese off a slice of pizza.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

So alone. So without a tree house. We *promised* him. And he already gave us half the payment? You wanna just abandon him?

GENE

(FRUSTRATED)

Ugh! Fine! But only because Rudy looks really sad peeling all the cheese off every slice of pizza!

RUDY

It's not that I can't eat dairy, it's just cathartic.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - KITCHEN - EVENING

Bob is shaping hamburger patties. The cat is meowing loudly. Bob does his best to ignore it, but it eventually becomes too much for him to take. He SNEEZES and then lashes out.

BOB

What?! What do you want from me?! You've already driven away my one customer today, you want to drive me crazy too?

The cat stares blankly at him.

BOB (CONT'D)

Ugh!

Bob turns back to making hamburger meat. He feels brushing at his legs. The cat is rubbing up against him.

BOB (CONT'D)

(TAKEN ABACK)

H-Hey! Um... You can't be in here.

The cat begins purring loudly.

BOB (CONT'D)
Hey, that kind of tickles.
(SIGH)
Alright, I'm sorry I yelled at you.
It's just been a rough month.
Business has been kind of iffy, so
I've just been a little on edge.
It's not your fault, it's mine.

The cat MEOWS.

BOB (CONT'D)
Heh, I guess you are kind of cute.
Maybe... maybe just a little pet.

Bob reaches down with slight hesitation to pet the cat.

BOB (CONT'D)
This isn't so bad.

CHYRON: 20 MINUTES LATER

Bob is sitting with the cat at the back door, feeding him a little bit of ground beef. His eyes are visibly puffy.

BOB (CONT'D)
I wish you would have just told me
you were hungry. Wait, can cats eat
ground beef?

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)
Of course! It's not just any ground
beef, it's lovingly cooked ground
beef!

BOB (CONT'D)
You're so right.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)
Mmhmm, cooked to perfection by a
lovingly handsome guy!

BOB (CONT'D)
Whoa, come on Bob #1, we just met.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)
I just wanted to thank you, is all!

BOB (CONT'D)
You're welcome. You know, this has
been really nice. I didn't realize
that cats were so... nice.

Bob's eyes are watering up.

BOB (CONT'D)

I really needed this. Thank you.

(BEAT)

Am I... crying? Oh wait, it's just the allergies.

The cat crawls onto Bob's lap.

BOB (CONT'D)

Whoa, what's happening?

The cat curls up and purrs on Bob's lap. Bob becomes excited.

BOB (CONT'D)

Oh my god, we're bonding!! We're bonding!! Yes!!

The cat begins kneading on his lap with its sharp claws.

BOB (CONT'D)

Ow, ow!! It hurts but it's so cute!

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - EVENING

Tina, Louise and Gene are now up in the tree, hammering planks of wood to the branches.

GENE

Tina, is this a 2x4 or a 4x4?

TINA

Uh, neither. Also I think a 4x4 is a burger.

GENE

I knew something was off!

Louise is carefully placing a large piece of wood in between two and begins hammering nail after nail into it.

LOUISE

Ugh, this is taking so long! We're never going to finish before Mom gets here!

GENE

Maybe it's an incredibly obvious sign that we shouldn't be doing this?

LOUISE

I am *not* leaving without the rest of that pizza!

(MORE)

LOUISE (CONT'D)

We're about to be sentenced to kale jail!! We *need this!!*

TINA

I'm not going to let you rush this, Louise! I need to honor the woodworker's code!

LOUISE

You don't care about the pizza, you only care about what stupid Jimmy Jr. thinks!

GENE

Oookay, getting a little heated up here!

LOUISE

And neither do you! You already filled up on fish sticks, all you needed was half! *I'm* the only one here actually putting in the effort for the whole deal!

Louise eyes a NAIL GUN on the ground.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

We just need to speed things up a little.

TINA

Louise, no! *I'm* the one in wood shop, I should be the one to use it!

GENE

Or maybe neither of us should and we should all get off this sharp dangerous abomination!

Louise grabs the nail gun and is about to use it before Tina takes it out of her hands.

LOUISE

Tina, what are you doing?!

TINA

You're just going to rush the job! Let me do it!

LOUISE

Let go!

TINA

No, you!

Tina pushes Louise away as she tries reaching for the nail gun. Rudy comes out and sees the fight going on.

RUDY

Uh, maybe we should call it quits for tonight, guys. It's getting dark, and

(SOTTO)

Louise is a little unhinged.

LOUISE

Just a little spat, Rudy! You know how us construction workers are

(STRUGGLING)

Keep the pizza warm, we'll be ready to eat soon! As soon as you just give me the freakin' nail gun!

Louise reaches forcefully, causing Tina to stumble and bump into the unsteady tree house structure.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

Crap, crap, crap!

The small janky tree house tips over off the tree and falls down, trapping Rudy in the hollow inside.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

No!!

The three look on in shock. Tina drops the nail gun. It fires a nail and hits the pizza off screen. A SPLAT is heard.

GENE

Ooh, right in the pizza.

FADE OUT.**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

The kids look on in horror at the massive tree house sitting in front of them, believing Rudy to be dead.

TINA

Oh my god, we killed Rudy!

LOUISE

No, no, no!

TINA

This is all my fault, I can't believe I let you talk me into this!!

LOUISE

You're one to point fingers! You jumped on board the second Jimmy Jr. gave your wood shop house the compliment of the century.

TINA

That's different, we have something special! It's a better reason for murder than *pizza*!

RUDY (O.S.)

Um, guys?

ANGLE ON: Rudy, barely visible inside the tree house.

RUDY (CONT'D)

I'm not dead.

TINA

Rudy! You're okay!

RUDY

Well, that's being a bit generous. Kinda traumatized now.

CUT TO Gene pulling his phone away from his ear.

GENE

So you're saying I shouldn't call Mort regarding his funeral costs.

The three rush over and try to lift the tree house off of Rudy. They struggle.

LOUISE

Wow, that's heavy! Why did we double board all the walls?

TINA

I thought it would help with those cold winters.

LOUISE

Rudy, you gotta push up while we're lifting!

RUDY

My doctor told me I'm not supposed to push things anymore, it could cause a hernia down the road when I'm 40.

LOUISE

Well, sorry 40-year old Rudy, but if you want out you've gotta push!

They try lifting once again with Rudy pushing.

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Bob is grinding meat downstairs, with the cat sitting on the table watching.

BOB

It's really easy once you get the hang of it.

The cat licks its chops.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)

Looks good, can I have a taste?

BOB (CONT'D)

I'm sure it's tempting... for cats, but don't eat the raw meat. Bad for business, and bad for your little tummy.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)

Aw, you don't let me have any fun!

BOB (CONT'D)

Well, it's cause I care about you, Bob #1.

(MORE)

ALLEY BOB CAT

BOB (CONT'D)

Heaven forbid if something happens to me, and then Linda, and then the kids, you'll be running this restaurant someday.

Bob SNEEZES.

BOB (CONT'D)

God knows you're gonna force me into an early grave.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)

Here's hoping!

BOB (CONT'D)

Ha, you're such a kidder Bob #1.

(BEAT)

You're kidding, right?

Linda walks down the stairs.

LINDA

Bob, I'm finished making dinner. Come on, let's go pick up the kids.

BOB

Oh, well, why don't I just stay here?

LINDA

Why's the cat on the table?

BOB

It's a teaching moment, Linda, and he's very invested in learning how to grind hamburger meat.

LINDA

Looks like he's just hungry!

BOB

It's more than just about food, we value each others company.

LINDA

Well, I'm glad you're getting along with the cat now, but come on, we'll drop him off at the shelter on the way. I'm sure your sinuses are happy to hear that!

Bob abruptly stops grinding meat.

BOB

What?! The shelter? Why? Why would you do that?

LINDA

Because it's a stray cat and you're allergic?

BOB

But, but what about the alley-dega cat?!

LINDA

Oh, I was just goofin'! This isn't a bodega, Bob! A cat in a restaurant? Talk about a health code violation!

BOB

I don't really get why it wasn't a health code violation when I was saying it.

LINDA

Cause I was goofin'! Now come on, grab the cat, let's go.

Linda walks up the steps. Bob looks towards the cat and huddles in close.

BOB

(SOTTO)

We'll figure something out. This doesn't have to be the end.

LINDA (O.S.)

Bob?

BOB

Yeah, coming!

(TO CAT, SOTTO)

I've got this under control!

Bob picks up the cat awkwardly and starts moving towards the stairs.

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

The kids are still trying to lift the tree house off of Rudy.

LOUISE

Okay, on the count of three. One, two, three!

While struggling, they lift the tree house high enough for a small gap.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

Okay, now!

Gene slides a box of pizza through the gap. The second it's through they drop it.

RUDY

Thanks guys, I was starting to worry I'd starve in here.

Rudy opens the pizza box and begins peeling the pineapple off the slices.

TINA

Why didn't you just ask for plain if you don't like pineapple?

RUDY

Peeling it off makes me feel in control. My therapist says it's good for me.

Louise kicks the tree house out of anger.

LOUISE

God, we're never gonna be able to lift this thing! How are you all so weak?!

RUDY

It's my fault, I got a slip saying I don't even have to take gym... You know, on account of the potential future hernia.

GENE

What if we rub all the pineapple on the wood? I heard the juices can break stuff down!

Gene starts furiously rubbing pineapple on the tree house.

TINA

Gene, no! You might dissolve Rudy!

BUZZING is heard as Louise reaches for their emergency phone.

LOUISE

Shh, everybody be quiet!

She answers. INTERCUT between Louise and Linda, who is in the car.

LOUISE (CONT'D)
(INTO PHONE)
Oh, hey Mom! What's the happenings?

LINDA
(INTO THE PHONE)
Alright, you kids get ready, your father and I will be there to pick you up in fifteen minutes. We just gotta drop the cat off at the shelter first. The cat you *lied* to us about!

LOUISE
(INTO PHONE)
Are you still going on about the cat thing? It's in the past, Mom, come on!

LINDA
(INTO PHONE)
Fifteen minutes!!

Louise hangs up the phone.

TINA
Fifteen minutes?! This is a twenty minute job at least!

Louise starts pacing back and forth.

LOUISE
(TO HERSELF)
Fifteen minutes... Fifteen minutes...

ANGLE ON Louise.

LOUISE (CONT'D)
Ah-HA! Nobody panic, I have an idea!

TINA
What is it?

LOUISE
(TO RUDY)
Rudy, where do you keep the blankets?

RUDY

There should be some in the hall closet, why?

LOUISE

Great! Those should keep you warm, and the pizza should get you through the night!

TINA

Are you serious, Louise? Do you even plan on finishing the tree house?

LOUISE

What? Of course! Just, you know, later! After the heat dies down. Maybe.

TINA

I don't even know who you are anymore! That pizza grease must have seeped into your arteries and turned your heart black! Or maybe like, a really dark shade of brown!

LOUISE

Do you realize how much trouble we'll be in if Mom and Dad find out about this? It won't just be kale salad tonight, it'll be kale salad for *life*! Hope you didn't want a cake at your wedding, Tina, cause it's gonna be an all you can eat kale buffet!

TINA

I don't want to do this anymore, Louise. I want Jimmy Jr. to think I'm all that... but at what cost?

LOUISE

Now I don't know who *you* are!

TINA

What happens when we come back tomorrow and still can't get it off? What if Rudy has to live his entire life like this because of us?!

RUDY

I'd really prefer not to do that.

GENE

Maybe you could grow into it, like a turtle. Then you could have your house on your back and go to the bathroom wherever you want!

SLOW CLOSE-UP on Louise as she starts sweating and panicking.

LOUISE

Everybody QUIET!!

Louise quietly thinks everything over for a moment before the silence is broken.

RUDY

Louise, if you let me out I'll let you have the rest of the pizza, no tree house needed. Please. I don't want to be a turtle.

Louise has "what have I become" look of realization on her face.

LOUISE

(SIGH)

Alright... Alright, let's call Mom.

INT. BELCHER CAR - NIGHT

Linda is driving while Bob sits in the passenger seat, his full attention is on the cat sitting in his lap. Linda is mid-conversation.

LINDA

I mean, come on, everybody is eating kale now! Even my mother asked my last week what a kale was! Turns out she thought it was some sort of ointment.

BOB

Mm.

LINDA

Bob, what's with you? You've gone cuckoo for that cat.

BOB

I'm just trying to enjoy what little time we have left together.

They pull into the parking lot for the animal shelter.

BOB (CONT'D)
Would you give us a minute?

LINDA
(SLIGHT DISBELIEF)
You're goofin' with me, aren't you?

BOB
No goofs, Linda.

BEAT. Linda starts getting out of the car.

LINDA
(IN DISBELIEF, AWKWARD)
Yeah, okay. I'm getting a call
anyway, you, uh... You do what you
need to do.

Linda gets out of the car and closes the door.

BOB
I thought we'd have more time.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)
We always do.

BOB (CONT'D)
All my life I thought I was a fish
person. Maybe a hamster person, but
only if it's somebody else's and I
don't have to smell it. Turn's out
I'm a cat person.

BOB (AS CAT) (CONT'D)
And I'm a Bob cat.

BOB (CONT'D)
Oh man, that was pretty good.
(SIGH)
I'm sorry, buddy, but it looks like
this is the end. Unless some sort
of miracle happens, I-

LINDA (O.S.)
(OUTSIDE CAR)
Oh my god!

Linda opens the car door and frantically gets inside, turning
on the engine.

LINDA (CONT'D)
Forget the shelter, Bob, the kids
trapped Rudy under a big hunk of
wood and can't get it off him!

Linda slams it in reverse and drives out of the animal shelter parking lot. Bob watches the animal shelter fade away in the side mirror. He looks up towards the sky.

BOB
(SOTTO)
Thank you.

CUT TO:

EXT. RUDY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Back in Rudy's Backyard, Bob and Linda have now arrived and are helping the kids lift the tree house off of Rudy. The cat sits off to the side, watching.

LOUISE
Okay, one more time, give it all
you've got!!

They all lift up the tree house, struggling immensely.

LOUISE (CONT'D)
(STRUGGLING)
Lift with your back, people!

BOB
(STRUGGLING)
Definitely don't do that, lift with
your legs!

As they struggle, the tree house begins to lift up slightly, with a gap large enough for Rudy to be able to squeeze through.

LOUISE
(STRUGGLING)
Now! Go, Rudy, go!!

Rudy squeezes through the gap and manages to make it out from underneath the tree house. The second he's out, the family lets go of it.

BOB
(PANTING)
Wow, I am really out of shape.

LINDA
(PANTING)
Yeah, that thing must've weighed
like, two tons! Or like 30 pounds,
hard for me to tell these days.

They catch their breath and turns towards Louise, Gene and Tina.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Okay, you three have got a lot of explaining to do!

TINA

It's all my fault, I-

LOUISE

No, it's my fault. I'm sorry I lied to you guys. Don't punish Gene and Tina, I pushed them into it.

BOB

Well, no, we're gonna punish all of you.

GENE

That's valid.

TINA

Fair.

BOB

But, uh, good on you for speaking up, Louise.

Rudy is laying on the ground, panting. Louise offers him a hand to help him up.

LOUISE

I'm sorry that we got you trapped, Rudy. I went too far, and for what, pizza? That wasn't cool.

RUDY

I appreciate it that, Louise. But you know, now that I'm out I kind of miss being trapped. It felt safe, like a mother's womb.

LOUISE

Wow, that's a lot to unpack. Not sure if we really have the time.

RUDY

That's okay, I've got the weekend to myself.

Louise then turns to Tina.

LOUISE

And Tina, I really shouldn't have pushed you into this. You're not a good woodworker, and that's okay.

TINA

I'm sorry too, Louise. I should have had more faith in my abilities. Maybe then this would have turned out okay.

(BEAT)

Oh, and please don't tell Jimmy Jr. that I'm a sham.

LOUISE

Deal.

LINDA

Aw, that's right, Tina sweetie, you gotta always believe in yourself!

BOB

Um, normally I'd agree, but don't ever do anything like this. Ever again.

A MEOW is heard and everyone looks over to the cat, who is getting into the pizza boxes.

RUDY

Oh, they you are Squeaks! Mrs. Donovan was getting worried about you!

Rudy walks over and picks up the cat, who GROANS loudly.

BOB

Squeaks? What do you mean Squeaks?!

RUDY

Oh, this is my neighbors cat, Squeaks!

GENE

She should have named him Groans!

RUDY

He wanders around and gets into all sorts of trouble when food is involved.

LINDA

Sounds like someone else I know!

LOUISE

I said I was sorry, sheesh!

BOB

What kind of name for a cat is
Squeaks? Look at him! Look at those
eyes! They scream Bob #1!

Bob starts having a SNEEZING FIT as he's ranting.

TINA

Mom, should we be worried about
Dad?

LINDA

No, sweetie. Well, maybe. I think
your father needs a friend. A
friend who doesn't make him sneeze.

BOB

(SIGH)

I should probably say goodbye to
the cat.

LINDA

Yeah, probably.

Bob kneels down in front of the cat.

BOB

This is it. For real this time.
Remember everything I taught you
about burgers. And also remember...
that you'll always be Bob #1 in my
heart.

The cat starts dry heaving.

BOB (CONT'D)

Hey now, only one of us can cry,
alright? And it should be me, on
account of all the allergies.

TINA

It doesn't look like he's gonna
cry. I think he's gonna throw up.

GENE

(WHILE EATING FISH STICKS)

Probably from all the crap we fed
him.

The cat PUKES just off screen.

BOB

Oh god. Okay, yeah, never mind. I'm
not a cat person anymore.

ALLEY BOB CAT

A car door is heard SLAMMING off screen. Rudy's father SYLVESTER arrives.

RUDY

Dad?

SYLVESTER

Rudy! What's with all the commotion?

Rudy runs up to his father.

RUDY

I thought you were at the couples retreat?

SYLVESTER

Nah, I decided to leave early. Those people have some *problems*. Besides, what kind of father would I be to leave my son behind all weekend! Not to mention the \$500 worth of wood I bought. What do you say we build that tree house together?

Everybody gets uncomfortable looks on their faces.

SYLVESTER (CONT'D)

Say, where's the wood, it's not where I left it.

LOUISE

Well, Rudy, it's high time we head home, got a lot of kale salad with our names on it!

TINA

Yep, it's been a real laugh and a half.

Sylvester looks slightly to the right, past Linda, Bob and the kids and sees the absolutely wrecked tree house.

SYLVESTER

OH DEAR GOD, NO!!

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE