

THE MUPPETS
"The Great Muppet Spec Script Gimmick"

Written by

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I am starting to write this spec scrip at 9:55 PM on 9-22-2015, about twenty minutes after I finished watching the pilot episode of "the muppets". This is an exercise in speed writing, an effort to be the FIRST PERSON to write a spec script for the show and it is also a stunt! I don't intend to rewrite or use this as a professional sample. This won't be my best writing sample, but will hopefully have merits considering the speed with which it was written.

COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. WRITER'S ROOM - DAY

GONZO leads the writers room, crammed with a few HUMANS and MORE MUPPETS, including RIZZO, PEPE and anyone else that it turns out needs to be there.

GONZO

The good news is that Late Night
With Piggy is a ratings smash. The
bad news is we've used up my trunk
of ideas.

A MUPPET ELEPHANT trunk enters frame. Gonzo digs inside of it to demonstrate and pulls out a ball of lint. BRRREW - the elephant blows his snout nose, COUGHS, and a cloud of dust flies out.

GONZO (CONT'D)

We need new ideas, and they better
be ON THE NOSE.

Gonzo points to his nose as he emphasized this.

RIZZO TALKING HEAD

Rizzo elsewhere in DIRECT ADDRESS.

RIZZO

Gonzo get to thinkin' he's talking
smart writer talk. Poor guy thinks
"on the nose" is a good thing.

BACK TO SCENE

Gonzo looks around the room pleadingly.

GONZO

Serious guys! Ideas! We need ideas!
Or else I'm going to be fired!

GONZO TALKING HEAD

Gonzo, alone in DIRECT ADDRESS.

GONZO (CONT'D)
I've gotten fired twice already
this week. Basically, if Piggy
doesn't like a bit or a joke... she
turns me into the punchline.

INSERT FLASHBACK

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

MISS PIGGY shoves Gonzo into a CANNON as Gonzo protests.

GONZO
(inside cannon)
Give it a chance. Lemme explain it!

CUT TO

Piggy ignites the cannon and - POW! Gonzo flies across the studio right into the bandstand of DR TEETH AND THE ELECTRIC mayhem. The human and muppet audience CHEERS.

END FLASHBACK

INT. WRITERS ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gonzo looks shell shocked as writers pitch to him.

RIZZO
"Oink vs tweet". Piggy takes a
tweet and tweaks it to fit her
personality...an oink.

Gonzo nods.

FLASH TO STUDIO

On set a TV displays a shot of a graphic TWEET VS OINK, with peoples tweets scrolling underneath.

Piggy turns and looks dissatisfied at the TV - she then turns slowly and looks directly at the camera. Getting angry
HRRRRMMMMMM.

CUT TO - Gonzo flying out of cannon - YARRRRRRR.

BACK TO SCENE

Gonzo trembles fearfully.

PEPE

"What's a Wocka Wocka". Piggy tries to stump Fozzy, setting up jokes, to see if he has a tag to it?"

FLASH TO STUDIO

Piggy at the desk, Fozzy next to her on the couch. She reads reluctantly from a cue card.

PIGGY

(annoyed)

So. Did you read the news Fozzy. It seems Donald Trump was late for a campaign stop.

FOZZY

Yeah. He had to stop to get his HAIR done. His single strand of hair. He just swirls it in a circle. Wocka wocka wocka.

As the AUDIENCE laughs and chants WOCKA WOCKA WOCKA back at the set, Piggy shakes with growing fury at the HAMMY-ness of the joke.

CUT TO - Piggy igniting the cannon and Gonzo flying across the studio - AAAAAHHHHHHHHHH.

BACK TO SCENE

Close on Gonzo frozen in fear. The other present MUPPETS stare at him with concern. He begins to pen his mouth.

GONZO

(whispered)

Will it smash.

Most the Muppets in the crowded room probably didn't hear him.

RIZZO

Huh? Come again?

GONZO

Will. It. Smash.

FLASH TO STUDIO

Piggy ignites cannon - BAM!

Gonzo flies into a WATERMELON mounted on a board with a bull's-eye and SPLOOSH - it explodes.

CUT TO

Cannon ignites - BAM!

Gonzo flies into the bulls-eye with mounted TV displaying "Will It Smash" graphic . - PA-CHEW - It explodes.

CUT TO

Cannon - BAM!

Gonzo flies into a MUPPET BULL mounted on the bulls-eye.

It doesn't smash and Gonzo tumbles to the floor as the bull belts out a loud MRRRREEEEEWWWWWW.

BACK TO SCENE

Gonzo's sad eyes awake and he looks for the rooms response. Slowly, Muppets begin to nod their heads approvingly.

GONZO (CONT'D)
Whatta y'think?

PEPE
Yup. That's on the nose!

All Muppets nod and approve vocally as Gonzo is forlorn.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. KERMIT'S OFFICE - DAY

KERMIT'S seated, legs up on his desk, he twirls a pencil. SCOOTER is seated in the room with pencil and clipboard.

KERMIT
So that's the show for today all
sewn up. Idris Elba--

SCOOTER
(interjecting)
--and the surprise I told you
about?

KERMIT
 (not listening)
 --then the cookoff, with Bobby Flay
 and Swedish Chef--

SCOOTER
 Kermit. My surprise?

KERMIT
 (not listening)
 And with musical guest, Taylor
 Swift, I'd call that a show!

CAMERA SNAP ZOOM to Scooter looking disappointed.

SCOOTER TALKING HEAD

Scooter alone in D.A.

SCOOTER
 Some people get a frog in their
 throat but he gets one between the
 ears!
 (thinking, then)
 A frog that prevents him from
 listening! I've been trying to tell
 the guy all day that a special
 guest has come into town.

Pull back to reveals SKEETER seated next to Scooter. She's
 older, tatted up, CHEWS GUM,, and has a dicey, punkish look
 to her.

SCOOTER (CONT'D)
 My sister!
 (sotto to camera)
 She's still so cool. She's an MMA
 fighter now!

Skeeter snaps her gum and SIGHS towards her brother.

SKEETER
 You're still a total nerd.

BACK TO SCENE

Scooter interjects with Kermit.

SCOOTER
 Dontcha think its maybe a little
 light? Could use another segment,
 maybe with that surprise guest I
keep trying to bring up?

KERMIT

Nah, we just bring Swifty back to the desk. You can't have T-Swizzle in studio without bringing her to the desk. BUT!

(thinking, then)

It just seems too perfect.

SCOOTER

Annoyed.

KERMIT

The shows going great. Super ratings, sponsors rolling in, but is it worth it?

SCOOTER

Hmmm. Yeah. The shows going great?

KERMIT

But we sold ourselves out to a network. The big cheese! We used to be our own bosses and call all the shots.

Kermit gazes off thinking while Scooter grows frustrated.

SCOOTER

Sure, I mean, you called the shots, but I can't even seem to tell you about my sis--

AAARRRGGGHHH -- WHAAAAA --- YERRRPPPP. Outside the office Muppets go crazy, running around screaming and losing it.

Kermit bounds from his seat and leaps to the door, peering through the blinds to see the melee of panicked, flying muppet fur.

The frog flails his arms all around, screaming.

KERMIT

HEY, HEY, HEY!! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!...

The Muppets and few present humans all stop and calmly turn their attention to their boss.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

EVERYONE CALM DOWN. THIS IS A PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT.

Kermit notices the calm in the room - COUGHS and composes.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

Oh. I mean. What seems to be the trouble.

BEAKER

Meep, merp, meep mop moop.

BUNSEN

Yes Beaker, why don't we head out for lunch early. I don't want to be around here, what with the booses coming.

Kermit frightens - retreats back into his office and SLAMS the door.

KERMIT

Suits! The bosses are coming.

KERMIT TALKING HEAD

Kermit alone in D.A.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

It's not that I'm afraid of authority. It's just the slick hair, the smell of wool suits, and well, the ability to fire me at will...kind of put me on edge.

Kermit GULPS.

BACK TO SCENE

Kermit and Scooter are now joined in his office by SAM EAGLE, DENISE, two CORPORATE SUITS (JOHNNY FIAMA and SAL MINELLA), and three HUMAN TEENAGERS. In an act of brand synergy, the actors playing the THREE TEENAGERS would be portrayed by Karan Brar, Skai Jackson, and Peyton List, known from their starring role in the Disney channel original series, "Bunk'd".

SAM EAGLE

You may be wondering why I brought a few extra people to your office today.

KERMIT

Yes, actually I am.

SAM EAGLE

I thought so. Please continue.

KERMIT

Sam, I was wondering...who are all these people you brought into my office?

Sam CLEARS HIS THROAT, then points to the Two Corporate Suits that stand beside him.

SAM EAGLE

These guys are more suits. They back me up when I have to do really important business.

Kermit and Scooter nod their understanding.

KERMIT

Great.

Sam indicates to the line of Teenagers. First point

SAM EAGLE

We have writing interns for you. They come from our diversity fellowship program.

Sam first points to BLAZE (19, Peyton List).

SAM EAGLE (CONT'D)

Blaze. A comedic film prodigy famous on YouTube.

Sam points to CRUZ (22, Karan Brar).

SAM EAGLE (CONT'D)

Then Cruz. A Junior at the AFI film institute.

Sam points to SHYLA (20, Skai Jackson).

SAM EAGLE (CONT'D)

Then, Shyla. She wrote a brilliant spec script.

(turns to address camera)

Not for our show of course. We could never legally read a spec script for our show.

KERMIT

That's great, it's nice to meet you all. But diversity fellowship? We're already such a diverse crew? Heck, even our head writer is an illegal alien!

GONZO

Hey! Ixnay on the don't talk about
that okay, hey?

REVEAL Gonzo clinging to a side wall of the room,
eavesdropping. Everyone present stares at him harshly.

GONZO (CONT'D)

What? You never heard of a fly on
the wall?

Gonzo plops off the wall to join the group as Sam continues.

SAM EAGLE

Diverse group or not. These
fellowship kids come free to you.
The corporation pays their salary.

Kermit and Scooter look to each other and nod approvingly.

KERMIT

Great we can afford free.

SCOOTER

Long as they stay away from craft
services.

Sam Eagle then points to Denise.

SAM EAGLE

You of course are familiar with
Denise. She came along from
upstairs because she wanted to give
you a smooch.

KERMIT

Oh.

Denise hustles over to Kermit and plants a kiss on his cheek.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

Thank you. That's sweet.

A pause in the room then.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

Welp, Gonzo I'm sure can get these
guys settled in and--

JOHNNY FIAMA

(interuppting)

I didn't come just for these kids!
This suit is made of wool.

SAL MINELLA

We have interests of legacy, multi million dollar alliances! New characters to join your gang.

KERMIT

New characters?! But we're a family, a unit, a tight nit crew, we don't need anyone new!

Walter appears.

WALTER

YEAH!

JOHNNY FIAMA

Talk about gratitude! Kid, we're about to present to you two of the most beloved characters of all time.

SAL MINELLA

Yeah! And besides, if the company don't keep using em some how they'se go back into the public domain.

Sam points to the door, then coughs to present...

SAM EAGLE

Everyone, I present the newest members of your team...

We see the reactions of the present Muppets as they look down towards the entrance. Kermit, Scooter, Gonzo, and Walter all GASP with the kind of MEGA, GIGANTIC SURPRISE that is just perfect to cut to commercial break to. But as their mouths gape open, with Kermit SUCKING IN AIR, several awkward moments pass.

GONZO

It's you guys.

Reveal MICKEY and MINNIE MOUSE in the doorway. As Muppets they look kinda sad and not quite as cute.

KERMIT

Um, hi. Big fan.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. STUDIO LOT - DAY

In birds-eye-view Scooter appears to be floating above the cement ground. As he talks he rises towards then recedes from our view.

SCOOTER

Kermit wouldn't even let me get the first word in. He takes me for granted, like I'm not even in the room! Before I could even mention you, those smart kids and famous mice blew in and stole all the attention.

SKEETER

You gotta be more assertive and quit being such a dweeb!

Cutting to a wide shot to reveal Skeeter is laying on her back and doing leg presses using Scooter's body. With a big thrust she throws Scooter off and he tumbles to the pavement. Skeeter stands up and dusts herself off.

SKEETER (CONT'D)

You don't wanna be a frogs punching bag, bro. C'mon he called that big meeting, I can reunite with everyone there.

INT. STUDIO FLOOR - DAY

TOO MANY MUPPETS TO MENTION gather around the large production table of the main studio floor. If they end up talking, their there, and if they don't end up talking their probably there too.

KERMIT

Thanks everyone for meeting a little early today--

Kermit halts - surprised by a light that shines in his face. Kermit looks up to see GAFFER CAT hanging by the lighting grid adjusting a light.

GAFFER CAT

Oh. Sorry Kermit. I just have to get this final light in place then I'll be right with you.

Kermit shrugs it off.

KERMIT

Anyway. If you didn't gather from the commotion this morning, or the murmuring around the water cooler..

SWISH PAN to a watercooler with THREE MUPPET FISH inside of it... MURMURING.

CUT BACK

KERMIT (CONT'D)

We have a few new creative additions to the team. Firstly, our diversity fellowship hires Shyla, Cruz and Blaze.

The energetic teens bound in, throwing waves all around.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

They are really smart phenom's of comedic writing!

GONZO TALKING HEAD

Gonzo alone in D.A.

GONZO

I have years of life experience behind me. Am I threatened by their education, youth and apparent talent? No way. I got to where I am the old fashioned way...nepotism.

BACK TO SCENE

Gaffer is still adjusting the light.

CRUZ

Thanks you guys, we are so excited to be here.

SHYLA

I know, I'll just like learn so much from this professional environment.

Gonzo leans in to Rizzo to whisper.

GONZO

(sotto)

This generation, huh? What do they know about writing that I don't?

There's a loud COMMOTION and CAT YELP and then Gaffer falls from the ceiling! Blaze reaches out and catches Gaffer. The Muppets GASP!

CHIP

Look everyone. She just saved the cat!

Everyone present CHEERS. Gonzo GULPS.

PEPE

Welcome aboard. We love you, welcome.

Pepe turns to the camera.

PEPE (CONT'D)

Hey, less work for me? Am I right?

Kermit quiets the room with a hand gesture.

KERMIT

Well, then the big announcement. Team, we have big stars in our midst--

PIGGY

(vamping)

I know, I know. I don't always come to meetings but please don't make a special ado.

KERMIT

--No, Piggy. I mean we have some new additions.

PIGGY

(serious)

They better be additions bucko, don't think some stars gonna come in here and outshine moi!

KERMIT

Let me just give them a proper introduction.

Kermit tilts his head back, snaps his neck, then throws his arms up and flails them about to give his famous intro.

KERMIT (CONT'D)

Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you stars of the silver screen, Mickey and Minnie Mouse!
YAAAYYYYAAAYYYYAAYYY!

Mickey and Minnie hop up on the writers table and shake their gloves in a jazz hands motion (emphasizing their minstrel show origins).

MINNIE

Well hello there everybody!

MICKEY

Hu Ha! We're so happy to be your new friends.

Piggy turns red with anger. She whips back her purse and - HIYA! Smacks the mice off the table.

KERMIT

Now Piggy, that's no way to say hello.

Bobo the Bear picks up the mice and dusts them off.

BOBO

How's bout it gang? Do we like these old mice after all!

Most the surrounding Muppets CHEER as Bobo hoists them in the air.

Scooter and Skeeter enter the back of the room at this moment, looking to each other cheerfully and misunderstanding the applause. They speak, unheard over the growing CHEERS

SKEETER

Hey guys, it's great to be back!

SCOOTER

I knew they'd be excited sis!

Rizzo looks at the celebratory scene and GULPS.

RIZZO TALKING HEAD

Rizzo is alone in D.A.

RIZZO

I've been toiling in the writers room for how long now?! And a couple upstart showbiz vets just waltz in and take the spotlight?!

INT. WRITER'S ROOM

Gonzo, Rizzo and other writer's sit around the table talking to Mickey and Minnie. Dialogue is unheard at first as Rizzo's speech continues in V.O.

RIZZO (V.O.)

When's a rat like me gonna get a chance? Are they cuter than me? Sure. Have a more palatable like vocal range? Got me there. But all my years of cronyism? What was it all worth.

We start hearing the dialogue in the room.

GONZO

(to Mickey and Minnie)

Okay showbiz veterans, whatta you got? Bits, jokes, how are we gonna use you?

MICKEY

Hu Ha! Guys that's not how we usually work!

MINNIE

That's right! Mickey here's my hero and I usually just get to needing rescue!

The two mice cuddle. Gonzo bites his lip.

GONZO TALKING HEAD

Gonzo alone in D.A.

GONZO

How am I gonna use these two? It's like... I've known these characters forever, yet I can't get a read on them! They are complete blank slates!

(befuddled pause)

I went to Wikiquote! Mickey Mouse has never said a single interesting thing!

BACK TO SCENE

Fed up, Gonzo turns to his writers. He uses his fingers to fire "inspiration bullets" around the room.

GONZO (CONT'D)

Gang. My brain trust. Ideas, I need em! Spit em at me!

Pepe gets up and enthusiastically shouts his idea at Gonzo, with spit flying onto Gonzo's face

PEPE

Zey are like meece. Filthy menacing meece and Miss Peegy has to catch zem!

Gonzo wipes his face.

GONZO

Great! That's on-the-nose, next!

Rizzo gets up and enthusiastically shouts at Gonzo, spitting in his face.

RIZZO

They like jazz a lot, and they scat better than Louie Armstrong and dance better than Fred Astaire, but but then Piggy comes out to do a number with them!

Gonzo wipes his face!

GONZO

Great idea! That's on-the-nose.

Gonzo points to his nose.

MICKEY

Hu ha! We love your help, pals. But we don't really like reminding kids of our rodent heritage.

MINNIE

And I think Jimmy Fallon did do that singing and dancing routine already.

Gonzo grimaces with anger. He starts briming over. Smoke even begins to rise in the room! We start to hear a HISS sound!

GONZO

What's that noise?

RIZZO

What's that smell?

They look under the writers table.

CRAZY HARRY is under the table, smiling and nodding with his crazed expression! He has a bomb!

GONZO
CRAZY HARRY! Not now!

KA- BLEWY!

GONZO TALKING HEAD

Gonzo is alone, covered in soot and addresses the camera.

GONZO (CONT'D)
Crazy Harry has a way of sensing the tension in the room and diffusing things his own way. Goes a bo too far sometimes.

INT. KERMIT'S OFFICE - DAY

Kermit is flailing his arms screaming at Gonzo.

KERMIT
Do you know what those two mice could do to us? They seem sweet, but they got an army of lawyers behind them! Between Piggy's bashing and now this they could ruin us if we don't make it right.

GONZO
I'm...sorry, Kermit.

Kermit softens.

KERMIT
Yeah. I know... They put me on edge too. I got an idea. Let's kill two birds with one stone.

Kermit puts his arm around Gonzo conspiratorially then turns his gaze to the other end of the room.

Cruz, Shyla and Blaze sit on a couch patiently waiting. They give a meek little wave.

GONZO
Ohhhhh. I think I got you.

Gonzo and Kermit smile slyly at one another.

CUT TO-

INT KERMIT'S OFFICE - LATER

Gonzo busts through the door with EMMA STONE, both wearing hunting gear. Emma proudly hold up a sack.

KERMIT
Ack! What's this?!

GONZO
Just like you said! I killed two birds with Emma Stone!

KERMIT
Emma Stone?! I said kill two birds with ONE stone. I meant put those kids in a writers room with the mice and have them work out a routine together?!

Gonzo turns to the camera with horror.

GONZO
What have I done?

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. ROWLF'S TAVERN - NIGHT

**Note - Location and character isn't in pilot, but are mentioned in Comic-Con panel. I am drawn to the idea, but have to intuit how this location will be used in the show.*

Rowlf's bar is the local hang for the Muppets, situated across the street from their studios. ROWLF bangs away at his PIANO behind the bar. Kermit and Gonzo look despondent over their beers. Denise is seated next to Kermit on her phone. Other MUPPETS fill the bar in the hours before show time. Rowlf is playing a SONG.

ROWLF
(singing)
"Sometimes you gotta sell out to buy in, ...new pork is sweeter, the meat is leaner.... FINISH THIS LATER"

KERMIT

ARGH! Rowlf Please stop! That song
is on-the-nose.

GONZO

Yeah. It was really good.

Rowlf pours the guys another round.

ROWLF

Here. This one's on me.

KERMIT

Thanks. Cause we're so depressed?

ROWLF

No. Cause you handed me your wallet
on accounta you ain't got no
pockets. Ha!

Rowlf holds up Kermit's wallet. Gonzo shakes his head.

GONZO

Alright guys. I need some cheering
up. I'm going to go talk to some
chicks.

Gonzo hops off the barstool.

KERMIT

What a pig!

Denise balks and shoots Kermit an angry look.

DENISE

Kermit!

An attractive PIG MUPPET waddles by.

GONZO TALKING HEAD

Gonzo alone in D.A.

GONZO

Hey, I'm as equal rights and
feminist as the next guy. When I
say "chick" it's because I'm
attracted to chickens, it's an
accurate term of respect. But
Kermit never could keep his eyes
off a pig, even when his ladies on
his arm.

Gonzo shakes his head in disbelief.

INT. PIGGY'S DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Piggy and Skeeter SQUEEE with delight. They hug each other tight and then SQUEEE again. Scooter happily watches.

INSERT SUPER - 1 Hour until broadcast

SCOOTER

We're so excited you're back!

SKEETER

Piggy, it's so good to see you again.

Piggy recoils.

PIGGY

Wait. We met before?

SKEETER

Piggy...we go way back.

PIGGY

Hmmm. That's an interesting article of news to me.

SKEETER

Why were you hugging me with such excitement then?

PIGGY

(demure)

It just makes me so happy to see a fans dreams come true, their eyes lighting up upon meeting me.

SCOOTER

(interjecting)

Nevermind, nevermind. Y'know, Piggy. My sis here is a MMA fighter now.

PIGGY

M M E fighter? What's so bad about the Em-em-e's then? I may just be up for one myself next year as the titular starlet of my very own show, Up Late With Moi.

SCOOTER

No, Piggy. Mixed Martial Arts, it's the latest, most violent fad.

(MORE)

SCOOTER (CONT'D)

What with your background in karate, I thought we might have a segment there.

PIGGY

HMPH. Karate! I put that vulgar stuff behind me when I got my own show!

Piggy swivels away and puts the back of her hand upon her forehead in shock.

SKEETER

(slyly, to Scooter)
Behind her, huh?

Skeeter goes to throw an arm around Piggy but instinct kicks in- Piggy pivots back around, dodges the blow and throw her own right back! Skeeter and Piggy throw a volley of shots and blows at each other, matched in strength and guile.

Scooter looks at the camera with concern, but the two women soon stop. They look at each other, smiles break out and they begin to LAUGH.

PIGGY

Oh, Skeeter, I do remember you!

SKEETER

How could you forget my right cross?

PIGGY

I couldn't!

They LAUGH like old friends. Scooter looks back and forth between them and then looks at the camera again, completely confused.

INT. ROWLF'S TAVERN - NIGHT

The Muppets of the writers room sit behind the bar, maybe having had a few too many drinks. Denise looks sadly at Kermit.

DENISE

Kermit. Why is it we always find ourselves here on our downtime? It's a sad little place.

KERMIT

Whatta y'mean, Denise? All my friends are here, and it's right across the street from our show?

DENISE

That's just what I mean. We never seem to get away to find time for ourselves. We're always with your show friends.

KERMIT

They're not my show friends. They're my friend friends.

DENISE

But are we going to make something of us? A life outside of work, outside of the show.

KERMIT

My friends were my life before the show, Denise. And they always will be. They're family.

Denise is a bit forlorn, but understanding.

DENISE

I know just a shame I have to stand in such a beautiful shadow as Miss Piggy's.

KERMIT

Oh, Denise. Nobody could throw shade on you.

The frog and pig snuzzle noses, then-

YUPPIE MAN (O.C.)

Look I told you! It's her!

A YUPPIE COUPLE comes into frame. The YUPPIE WIFE grabbing Denise's shoulder.

YUPPIE WOMAN

Miss Piggy, I'm your biggest fan, can I take a self--

The woman steps back when seeing that Denise isn't Piggy.

YUPPIE MAN

Ew, that's not Miss Piggy!

YUPPIE WOMAN
You're just a basic pig!

The couple retreats. Kermit shakes his head and embraces Denise to comfort her.

YUPPIE MAN (O.C)
Those two creatures didn't even
look famous!

DENISE
Maybe I'm not in her shadow. But my
star sure don't shine as bright as
Miss Piggy's.

KERMIT
Sweet-cheeks, you sure make me
glow.

DENISE
Aw. You are too cute, you sweet
little frog you.

They peck/kiss each other.

The rest of the writers at the bar all take a sip of their
beers in unison.

INT. WRITERS ROOM - SAME

We see the CAMERA POV. The camera spies through the blinds,
viewing Mickey, Minnie, Cruz Shyla and Blaze as they work out
a bit privately in the room. We can't hear their speech.

INSERT SUPER - Meanwhile in the writers room

The camera sneaks, as the group inside is planning something
out. We see Mickey nod excitedly as the teenagers give him
one brilliant idea after another.

The teenagers and mice break out in high fives and begin a
group CHEER that is heard outside the walls.

SWEETUMS
Hey! What's going on? What are you
doing?

The camera operator is startled and we see the camera POV fly
left towards SWEETUMS who snuck up.

SWEETUMS (CONT'D)
I hear cheering are they having fun
in there?

INT. STUDIO FLOOR - NIGHT

THE ELECTRIC MAYHEM are SMASHING AWAY and rocking out on an amazing rock number. ANIMAL is really losing his mind. The opening intro to Up Late With Miss Piggy is crescendoing into a wild frenzy as the AUDIENCE is on their feet cheering.

FOZZY from his podium:

FOZZY

Ladies and gentlemen, your host, a pig with a better set of golden locks than a wealthy locksmiths store... MISS PIGGY! Wocka Wocka Wocka!

FOZZY TALKING HEAD

Fozzy alone in D.A.

FOZZY (CONT'D)

All my comedian friends tried to warn me. You'll dry up, trying to come up with new jokes night after night.

(pause)

I sure showed them.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Scooter is in the wings with a clipboard watching the monitor. Kermit and Gonzo arrive.

SCOOTER

There you are. We already started the show!

KERMIT

Eh. The show was already produced.

GONZO

Yup. It was already written too.

SCOOTER

Really? What about the middle bit. I've been needing to talk to you about it.

KERMIT

We put the teenagers in the writers room with the mice. They musta come up with something golden.

SCOOTER

Yeah they collectively raided the craft service table and took off.

Swedish Chef walks behind them, muttering despondently.

SWEDISH CHEF

Hurdy Gurdy Beegle Murgan.

KERMIT

Took off! Well whatta we gonna do now?! We don't have a middle bit. And the network, corporate goons are gonna kill me.

GONZO

(sad)

I'll go get my helmet. Get everyone ready to wheel out the cannon.

SCOOTER

No guys! Piggy and I ... plus an old friend and family member, worked something out.

KERMIT

Great that'll keep us in spades till the suits kill us after the show! What is it Scooter?

SCOOTER

Just wait. It's coming up right now, you'll see.

Gonzo, Scooter and Kermit turn expectantly towards the stage.

INT. STUDIO FLOOR - SAME

The lights are out. The spotlight appears above Miss Piggy. She is in her Karate Gi and begins to execute and demonstrate karate moves.

HIYA ---YAAA ---EEEEAAAA

MISS PIGGY

My wonderful audience. Thank you for delighting in my athleticism. Now May I introduce an old friend, and mixed martial arts champion, SKEETER!

As Skeeter bounds to the stage the AUDIENCE breaks out in CHEERS and roars.

** RIGHT NOW IT IS 4:13 - I was on page 29, writing my tag bit and final draft crashed! I am going to re-write up through the end of ACT 3 and leave it at that! Where I pick up here was my last save point.*

Muppets around the studio delight to see their old friend.

IN THE AUDIENCE

WALDORF

Her again? I thought we'd finally lost one of them for good!

STATLER

Hey, if we could get rid of these Muppets, that would be for great.

BACK TO SCENE

Fozzy steps out and grabs a mic that descends from the ceiling. He steps between the two opponents.

FOZZY

Thank you! Now I want a clean fight, n funny business and--

Skeetere kicks Fozzy and he flies across the studio - CRASHING to the floor.

FOZZY (CONT'D)

Ow! Okay clean or just fight however you want.

DING DING DING

The bell and then the Electric Mayhem jam out an MMA style rock song. The audience ROARS. Fists and lege immediately begin to fly as the two old friends pummel each other.

We move around the studio to see and hear the happy reactions of other Muppets, glad to see an old friend.

SCOOTER

My sister guys, that's my sister out there!

ANIMAL

Old friend! Old friend! Old Friend!

JANICE

Like wow man, girl power!

WALTER

What's going on? Why's everyone crying happy tears?

BUNSEN

That's a strange sensation... I am feeling both a wave of nostalgia while at the same time feeling the rush of something new and exciting.

BEAKER

Merp Meeep mop moog mah.

BUNSEN

You could say that again old friend.

Swedish Chef stands out from behind a curtain.

SWEDISH CHEF

Merp Meeep mop moog mah.

BUNSEN

A lovely sentiment, but you're really just copying him.

INT. BACKSTAGE- SAME

Kermit looks on watching his old friends battle, e can see them still going at it on the monitor behind Kermit.

KERMIT

Y'know, it's true. No matter how far we could stray from one another, us friends will always be here for each other. A family. A family that always knows what it feels like when they're home.

SAM EAGLE (O.C.)

Hi.

YELP! Kermit frightens and turns to see Sam Eagle behind him with Cruz, Shyla and Blaze present as well.

KERMIT

Eeep! You scared me! And hey you found the interns?

SAM EAGLE

Interns?! No. They are in our Junior Executive program now.

KERMIT
Junior executives?!

SAM EAGLE
That's right. They showed so much promise, they easily skated right in to our Junior Executive program here at the network.

SHYLA
That's right, but we really want to thank you for all we learned on the job.

BLAZE
We really did love working alongside you, Kermit.

KERMIT
Alongside me?!

CRUZ
That's right. But ultimately, we just felt like we didn't see much growth left. There wasn't much left to learn so we had to move on.

KERMIT
Well good for you, congratulations I guess. But what about Mickey and Minnie? Are they okay?

SAM EAGLE
Are you kidding?! They're great. Why our new Junior Executives developed such a great idea for a show with them.

SHYLA
That's right, it kind of snowballed in the room and ultimately wanted to be its own thing, y'know.

CRUZ
Don't worry, Kermit. We promise to give you a real strong lead in.

SAM EAGLE
That's right Kermit. We're giving this exciting new project, Night Night with Mickey and Minnie you timeslot and bumping you an hour back. Congratulations.

KERMIT

What?!

As Kermit flails San Eagle and his Junior Executives begin to depart. Blaze has just one parting line for Kermit.

BLAZE

Oh and Kermit. Interesting segment with your host engaging brutal violence. I should have a few notes for you tomorrow.

Kermit fumes as Gonzo approaches. Kermit loses it.

KERMIT

What in the heck was that?!

GONZO

Unbelievable.

KERMIT

Our interns just became our bosses?

GONZO

Yeah life's pretty funny. That was really on-the-nose.

Gonzo points to his nose as Kermit flails his arm and throws a tantrum.

FADE OUT.

* 4:38 ON 9/23 AND I AM FINISHED. THIS IS WHAT I WOULD CALL A PROPER VOMIT DRAFT. NO PROOFREADING, EDITS OR CORRECTIONS. I WENT A BIT OVER MY ALOTTED TIME, AND HAD A FEW HICCUPS ALONG THE WAY. I HAVE TO GO TO BED TO WAKE UP FOR WORK, BUT WILL UPDATE MY BLOG TOMORROW.

