

THE BACKYARDIGANS

"THE SEARCH FOR THE GOLDEN FLEECE"

Written by

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OPENING MONTAGE AND THEME

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

UNIQUA runs around the lawn, making wind NOISES. She calls out to an imaginary crew.

UNIQUA

All hands on deck! Hoist the
mainsail! Turn to starboard and
full speed ahead!

A large wave washes her off her feet. She sits up, LAUGHING.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Ahoy. I'm Uniqua the legendary
Greek adventurer. I live in ancient
Greece where I sail to new lands
and save people in danger. I have a
ship...but I don't have a crew, or
an adventure to go on. I've already
been everywhere and done
everything.

She hops on a porch, makes a telescope with her hands, and scans the horizon.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Any new adventures anywhere?

She spots something.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Ah ha! What's that?

Across the yard, she spies PABLO walking with AUSTIN.

PABLO

They say the Golden Fleece will
grant one wish to anyone who can
find it.

AUSTIN

Anyone?

PABLO

Anyone. But it's not easy. No one's
ever done it before.

On the porch, Uniqua listens intently.

AUSTIN
Why not?

PABLO
It's on the other side of the ocean
and there are lots of monsters and
obstacles in the way. It would take
a great adventurer to get past all
that.

Uniqua bursts in front of them.

UNIQUA
Hi!

PABLO/AUSTIN
Aaah!

UNIQUA
I'm Uniqua the legendary Greek
adventurer.

PABLO/AUSTIN
The legendary Greek adventurer?

UNIQUA
Yup.

PABLO
I'm Pablo the Greek sailor.

AUSTIN
And I'm Austin the Greek sailor.

UNIQUA
You're sailors?

PABLO
Yeah. We have an adventure to go
on, but we don't have a ship.

UNIQUA
I have a ship, but I don't have a
crew. Would you like to come with
me on my ship?

PABLO
Would we ever!

AUSTIN
All right!

SONG #1 - THE GREAT ADVENTURER:

PABLO/AUSTIN
 (singing)
**DOO-WOP, SHOOBY DOO. DOO-WOP,
 SHOOBY DOO. DOO-WOP, SHOOBY DOO,
 WAH!**

Pablo and Austin snap their fingers and continue to sing back-up throughout the song. Uniqua begins swaying to the beat.

UNIQUA
 (singing)
**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,
 THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.
 I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD
 FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.
 I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER.**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
 (singing)
AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.

UNIQUA
 (singing)
**IF YOU WANT ADVENTURE
 THEN I'M THE ONE FOR YOU.
 EVERY STORY'S A GUT-WRENCHER
 FOR THIS CAPTAIN...**

PABLO/AUSTIN
 (singing)
...AND THIS CREW.

UNIQUA
 (singing)
**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,
 THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.
 I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD,
 FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.
 I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER.**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
 (singing)
AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.

Uniqua climbs atop the slide, feigning a strong wind.

UNIQUA
 (singing)
**WHEN THE WINDS BLOW,
 AND THE WAVES GROW,
 THEN I FORGE RIGHT ON AHEAD.
 (MORE)**

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
**FOR I NEVER
 STOP FOR BAD WEATHER.**

She slides down to the grass, landing triumphantly.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 (singing)
I MUCH PREFER TO GO ON INSTEAD!

She and the boys dance on the lawn.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 (singing)
**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,
 THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.
 I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD
 FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.
 I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
 (singing)
AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.

They strike a pose.

SONG ENDS.

UNIQUA
 So what's your adventure?

PABLO
 To find the Golden Fleece!

Her eyes widen with delight.

UNIQUA
 The Golden Fleece?

Her face drops.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 Uh, what's a Golden Fleece?

PABLO
 Fleece is the wool from a sheep,
 but this fleece is made of gold.
 Not only that, but it's magic.
 Whoever finds it gets one wish.

UNIQUA
 A wish? For anything? Then we
 should get started.

AUSTIN
But where's your ship?

UNIQUA
Right over here at the dock.

She motions them to follow her.

TRANSITION BEGINS: THE BACKYARD DISSOLVES INTO A GREEK HARBOR, WITH ITEMS APPEARING AS MENTIONED.

PABLO
With boxes and barrels ready to be loaded on ships.

AUSTIN
And mountains rising out of the sea.

UNIQUA
And lots of ships floating in the water.

TRANSITION ENDS.

WE PULL BACK TO REVEAL AN ENTIRE MARINA FILLED WITH GREEK URNS AND SHIPPING PARAPHERNALIA.

The three walk onto the dock. They now wear togas and sandals. Pablo and Austin have woolen sailor's caps while Uniqua has a garland of laurels on her head.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Well, there it is.

A massive ship looms over everything else in the harbor.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
...The Uniquos. What d'you think?

PABLO
Whoa. Cool.

AUSTIN
That's amazing.

Uniqua leads them to the gangplank.

UNIQUA
Last one up's a dragon's egg!

She runs up the plank, with Pablo and Austin trailing behind.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Uniqua is waiting at attention as Pablo and Austin careen aboard, laughing.

UNIQUA
Atten--TION!

Pablo and Austin attempt to stop but tumble over each other. Recovering, they stand up straight and each salute haphazardly.

Uniqua proceeds to give them a formal review.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Welcome to the Uniquos, the
greatest ship in the sea. It is a
great honor to sail under her
banner.

VIEW of the ship's flag--a beaming portrait of Uniqua.

Austin and Pablo give each other a glance.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
As sailors on the Uniquos, you will
be known as the Uniquonots.

They wrinkle their noses.

PABLO
Uniquonots?

UNIQUA
That's right--Uniquonots.

AUSTIN
Wait a minute. How come everyone on
the ship is named after you?

She looks at them as though it's obvious.

UNIQUA
Because I am a great adventurer.

PABLO/AUSTIN
Oh.

Song #1B (REPRISE) - THE GREAT ADVENTURER:

Uniqua ushers them along the deck.

UNIQUA
 (singing)
**IF YOU WANT ADVENTURE
 THE UNIQUOS IS ALL YOU NEED.
 EVERY STORY IS A FIST-CLENCHER
 BUT UNIQUONOTS ALWAYS SUCCEED.**

Pablo and Austin smile and start to wrap up loose rope and prepare the ship for launch.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 (singing)
**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,
 THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.
 I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD
 FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.
 I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,
 AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.**

The ship is ready.

SONG ENDS.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 Is the ship ready?

Pablo and Austin salute.

PABLO/AUSTIN
 Yes, captain!

UNIQUA
 Good. Sailor Austin, raise the anchor.

AUSTIN
 Aye-aye, captain.

He salutes again and scampers off.

UNIQUA
 Sailor Pablo, set a course due west.

PABLO
 Aye-aye, captain.

He salutes two times then runs toward the wheel.

UNIQUA
 We're going to find the Golden Fleece.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The Uniquos sails along an endless sea of blue.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Hot and tired, Pablo and Austin lean over the railing.

PABLO
The Golden Fleece sure is far.

AUSTIN
You can say that again.

PABLO
The Golden Fleece sure is far.

They laugh. Uniqua walks up behind them.

UNIQUA
Sailor Pablo! Sailor Austin!

PABLO/AUSTIN
Aaah!

UNIQUA
Shouldn't we be getting to the
Fleece by now?

PABLO
I don't know. I just know that
there are obstacles and monsters
along the way.

AUSTIN
And we haven't seen any obstacles
or monsters yet.

They sit down.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)
By the way, what are you going to
wish for?

UNIQUA
I haven't decided yet.

PABLO
How about an automatic caramel ice
cream-and-haircut machine?

UNIQUA
A what?

AUSTIN
 No, what about a dual-stereo
 nutcracker with complementary fuzzy
 socks?

UNIQUA
 Huh?

Pablo and Austin are getting really excited.

PABLO
 No, no. An upside-down monkey cage
 with a built-in racetrack.

UNIQUA
 I haven't decided what to wish for
 yet, but I'll know when we get
 there.

In the distance there is a slow but rhythmic CRASHING SOUND,
 growing steadily louder.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 What's that?

They run to the bow. Uniqua whips out her telescope.

POV--TELESCOPE: Two gigantic rocks fill the horizon. They
 slowly move apart, pause, then quickly CRASH together.

Uniqua lowers the telescope.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 Woah! The Smashing Rocks of the Far
 Ocean. I've never seen those
 before.

PABLO
 All right! A new adventure!

He gives Austin five. Uniqua stands erect.

UNIQUA
 Atten-TION! All hands to your
 stations. We're going through.

Pablo and Austin salute randomly and zip off.

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos approaches the Smashing Rocks, which loom as
 large as mountains.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Uniqua's face is set, determined. Pablo yells from the wheel.

PABLO
Our course is set, Captain Uniqua!
Straight through the middle!

UNIQUA
Good! Sailor Austin, full speed
ahead.

Austin salutes and pulls a large rope, raising a sail.

AUSTIN
Aye-aye!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The sails billow and the ship surges toward the rocks.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

UNIQUA
Here we go.

The Uniquos rushes forward, when a giant TYRONE--complete with crown, toga, trident, and fish tail (mostly submerged)--bursts out of the water in front of the ship.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Whoa!

Tyrone holds out his hand.

TYRONE
Halt!

Pablo spins the wheel frantically.

PABLO
Halting!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos lurches to the side and to a stop. Tyrone towers over the highest mast, the Smashing Rocks behind him.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo and Austin inch up behind Uniqua. She puts her hands on her hips--she's not about to let any giant sea god stop her adventure.

UNIQUA

Hey! What's the big idea? You're blocking my ship!

TYRONE

I know. My name is Tyrone, the God of the Sea. The entire ocean is my kingdom, and you're trespassing.

UNIQUA

Well, I'm Uniqua the legendary Greek adventurer, and I'm on my way to find the Golden Fleece.

Tyrone is suddenly not as bombastic anymore.

TYRONE

You want the Fleece? But I won't let anyone find the Fleece.

UNIQUA

Why not?

He thinks.

TYRONE

Um...because! That's why.

Uniqua looks at her crew. They're not so scared any more.

UNIQUA

(to Tyrone)

Look, we're adventurers. We're on an adventure, and we're going to get that Fleece. I don't know who you think you are--

TYRONE

Don't you know who I am?

UNIQUA

Nope.

Tyrone points at Pablo and Austin.

TYRONE

Okay, sailors, back me up!

They shrug.

PABLO
Um, all right.

SONG #2 - THE SMASHING ROCKS SONG

Pablo and Austin start snapping in unison. Tyrone nods to the beat.

PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP-SHOOP

TYRONE
(singing)
I GOT MY TRIDENT
AND MY CROWN.
AND I'M THE COOLEST SEA GOD IN
TOWN.

Uniqua won't be intimidated.

UNIQUA
(singing)
WELL I'M UNIQUA AND I'M BAD TOO.
I ONCE RAD THE RAPIDS OF KATMANDU.
YOU CAN SING YOUR SONG AND STATE
YOUR PEACE
BUT PLEASE MAKE WAY--I WANT THAT
FLEECE.
I GOT MY SHIP HERE
AND MY CREW
AND I'M NOT GONNA BE STOPPING FOR
YOU.

Pablo and Austin jump to center stage to show off their moves.

PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
SHOOP, DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP-SHOOP

Tyrone is impressed.

PABLO
(singing)
**WELL MY NAME'S PABLO. IT'S NOT MY
SONG,
BUT MY IDEA IS WE ALL GET ALONG.**

Tyrone swings over next to Pablo and Austin.

TYRONE
(singing)
**I LIKE YOUR STYLE. THIS MIGHT BE A
SHOCK
BUT I WILL LET YOU GO IF YOU GET
PAST MY ROCKS.**

He indicates the Smashing Rocks, which are swinging together.
Pablo and Austin look pale.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
(singing)
**THEY COME TOGETHER
WITH A CRASH.**

The rocks pound together, sending a wave that rocks the
Uniquos violently. Pablo and Austin hang on while singing.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
(singing)
**AND ANY SHIP THAT'S IN THERE WILL
GET SMASHED.**

Uniqua grabs her crew.

UNIQUA
Come on, we're going through!

Austin and Pablo each grab an oar and start rowing. Uniqua
takes the wheel and aims toward the rocks.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
**SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
ROW, ROW, ROW!
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, GO,
GO, GO!
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
ROW, ROW, ROW!
GO, GO--LET'S GO!**

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

While music plays the Uniquos moves past Tyrone and starts its approach toward the Smashing Rocks.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo and Austin row in time with the music.

UNIQUA
Row! Row! Row!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos moves in between the rocks, which are just reaching their maximum distance.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
ROW, ROW, ROW!
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, GO,
GO, GO!
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY,
ROW, ROW, ROW!
ROW, ROW--

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The rocks close together, and the surging wave pushes the Uniquos clear just as the rocks smash.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
(cheering)
LET'S GO!

END SONG.

On THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROCKS, Tyrone shrinks down to his normal size.

TYRONE
Darn.

He dives under the water.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Onboard, the gang jumps up and down and celebrates.

UNIQUA
We did it!

PABLO
Way to go!

AUSTIN
All right! Yeah.

Uniqua stops and comes to attention.

UNIQUA
Atten-TION!

Pablo and Austin, in mid-high five, try to come to attention but only succeed in falling down. They jump back up and salute.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Well done, men. We've passed our first obstacle, the Smashing Rocks of the Far Ocean. We have now journeyed farther than anyone has ever gone before.

Pablo and Austin are impressed.

PABLO/AUSTIN
Ooooh.

An awkward silence.

PABLO
So what's next?

Uniqua shrugs.

UNIQUA
I don't know. We've got to get to the Fleece sooner or later.

PABLO
Yeah, I'll go set a course!

AUSTIN
And I'll go trim the sails!

They hurry off, then run back, bump into each other, salute, and scurry off again.

INT. OCEAN - DAY

Tyrone swims down toward a beautiful coral garden. Amidst the fish and coral sits a large rock throne on which he glides to a stop.

On a table next to the throne sits an old-fashioned telephone made of coral, with a conical shell for an earpiece and starfish for a rotary dial. Tyrone lifts the receiver and spins the starfish one time.

TYRONE

Hello, ocean operator? Get me Tasha the Mermaid please.

TASHA (O.S.)

Here I am, your majesty.

Tyrone looks up, startled. TASHA, with a toga and mermaid tail, bows before him.

TYRONE

(into the phone)

Wow. What service! Thanks.

He hangs up.

TASHA

What can I do for you, your majesty?

TYRONE

Mermaid Tasha, there's a ship on the surface that's sailing straight toward the Golden Fleece! I need you to go and sing your magical mermaid song.

TASHA

The one that makes people get lost on the ocean forever?

TYRONE

Yup. I need you to make sure they'll never find the Fleece.

She bows in understanding.

TASHA

Yes, my liege.

TYRONE

Thanks.

Tasha turns and swims toward the surface.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo, Austin, and Uniqua, with her telescope, scan the horizon.

AUSTIN
Any sign of the Fleece?

UNIQUA
Not yet.

PABLO
Captain Uniqua, have you thought of what to wish for yet? Because I have a couple ideas.

UNIQUA
Oh really?

PABLO
Yeah. How about a whipped-cream-covered bicycle with a musical microwave?

UNIQUA
A what now?

AUSTIN
No, no! You need an underwater school bus with lemon-scented unicorns.

But Uniqua is not paying attention.

UNIQUA
Hey, look at that!

PABLO
At what?

UNIQUA
Land ho!

She tosses the telescope to Pablo, who flounders with it then gets it to his eye.

PABLO
Wow. We made it!

POV--TELESCOPE: Land lays in the distance. Jagged rocks litter the sea in front of the shore. A giant Austin fills the view.

AUSTIN
Lemme see! Lemme see!

Pablo hands the telescope to Austin, but he doesn't get to look.

UNIQUA
Atten-TION! All hands to your stations! We're going to have to steer the ship between all those rocks.

Austin and Pablo salute then rush toward the places. Tasha's voice, however, fills the air and stops them dead in their tracks.

SONG #3 - LITTLE SAILOR MEN

TASHA
(singing)
OOOH. AAH OOOH-
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

Pablo's and Austin's faces glaze over. They stare dreamily off into space. Uniqua looks at them, puzzled.

UNIQUA
Hey, all hands to your stations.

Pablo and Austin walk past Uniqua without hearing her.

TASHA
(singing)
OOOH. AAH OOOH-
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

Uniqua runs to the rail to see where the singing is coming from. Tasha sits on one of the rocks, the waves breaking around her as she sings.

TASHA (CONT'D)
(singing)
COME TO ME, YOU SAILOR MEN.
YOU WILL HAVE ADVENTURE THEN.
COME AND SEE ME, LITTLE SAILOR MEN.

UNIQUA
You guys? You guys?

Austin and Pablo smile dreamily, then, to Uniqua's surprise, hum along.

TASHA
(singing)
OOOH. AAH OOOH-
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

TASHA
(singing)
DON'T GO THAT WAY ANY MORE.
TURN YOUR SHIP, FORGET THIS SHORE.
STAY OUT OF HERE, LITTLE SAILOR
MEN.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
SHOOBY DOO-WEE, SHOOBY DOO-WEE
SHOOBY, A SHOOBY DOO-WEE

PABLO
(singing)
WE COULD STAY HERE ON THE OCEAN
AND WHILE OUR WHOLE LIVES AWAY.

AUSTIN
(singing)
OR WE COULD JUST
GO ROUND IN CIRCLES.

PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
THAT IS THE WAY WE WOULD LIKE TO
STAY.

Uniqua pulls them away from the railing and waves her hand in their faces.

UNIQUA
(singing)
UNIQUONOTS, WE'RE ON OUR WAY.
AS YOUR CAPTAIN, NOW I SAY,
COME WITH ME, MY LITTLE SAILOR MEN.

They shake their heads in slight recognition.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

Tasha is annoyed.

TASHA
(singing)
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

AUSTIN
(singing)
**SHOULD WE LISTEN TO THE MERMAID
OR SAIL RIGHT PAST?**

PABLO
(singing)
**IF WE GO ON WE WILL FIND THE FLEECE
AT LAST.**

Uniqua smiles. Pablo and Austin turn to Tasha.

PABLO/AUSTIN
(singing)
**SO THOUGH WE LIKE YOUR SONG,
MERMAID,
WE CAN'T STOP OR BE DELAYED.
ADVENTURE CALLS THE LITTLE SAILOR
MEN.**

They strike a tableau.

AUSTIN
(singing)
DOO-WOP, WO, WO, WO, WO!

END SONG.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

Tasha stares up at them, astounded.

TASHA
My magic song didn't work? You're
not going to stay here on the ocean
forever?

INTERCUT: ROCK AND SHIP

Pablo, Austin, and Uniqua lean over the rail.

PABLO
Sorry, but we're on an adventure.

AUSTIN
We're going to find the Golden
Fleece. There are monsters and
obstacles and one wish at the end.

TASHA
That sounds like a pretty big
adventure.

UNIQUA
Yup.

Tasha falls deep in thought.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Well, goodbye!

The crew turns to go.

TASHA
Wait!

They stop.

UNIQUA
What is it?

TASHA
Can I come too?

UNIQUA
Huh? You want to come on our
adventure with us?

The crew is intrigued.

TASHA
Uh-huh. You don't know what it's
like being a mermaid. Always
swimming around, nothing to eat but
seaweed...

Pablo and Austin each make a disgusted face.

TASHA (CONT'D)
...Never anywhere to go or anything
to do. I want to be an adventurer
too!

Uniqua and her crew look at each other, considering.

UNIQUA
Can you hoist an anchor?

TASHA
Nope.

AUSTIN
Batten down a hatch?

TASHA
Nu-uh.

PABLO
Chart a course through perilous
water?

TASHA
No way.

Uniqua, Pablo, and Austin look at each other, then at Tasha.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN
You're hired!

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Tasha is hoisted up the side of the ship by two ropes.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Tyrone watches the Uniquos from afar.

TYRONE
I can't believe it. They got past
my Smashing Rocks and my Singing
Mermaid. Now they're going to find
the Fleece for sure.

He swims toward land.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The Uniquos glides through the waves, gracefully sliding onto the sand. The gangplank plops down in the sand. Uniqua trots to the bottom and waits for Pablo and Austin, who are carrying Tasha on their backs.

UNIQUA
Golden Fleece, here we come.

TASHA
But where is it?

Uniqua glances around then points straight ahead.

UNIQUA
I bet it's straight through there.

The others look: a dense forest adjoins the beach. Scanning upwards, they see a wooded hill rising high into the sky.

PABLO
Um, do you think there's a flatter way to get to the Fleece?

UNIQUA
Nope. This is definitely the way.

Off she marches. Pablo and Austin adjust Tasha on their backs then trudge after her.

EXT. HILL - LATER

The four adventurers puff their way uphill through the trees and grass. Tasha is loving every minute; Uniqua is out ahead.

AUSTIN
This sure <<HUFF>> is a steep hill.
<<PUFF>>

PABLO
You can <<PUFF>> say that again.

AUSTIN
No <<PUFF>> I can't.

UNIQUA (O.S.)
You guys! We're at the top!

PABLO
We are?

They drop Tasha and run to catch up.

TASHA
Hey!

EXT. CLEARING - DAY

Pablo and Austin join Uniqua on the edge of a broad field of grass.

AUSTIN
Where's the Fleece?

Uniqua points.

UNIQUA
There.

Across the field, hanging from a short, gnarled tree, is the Golden Fleece, glimmering in the sun.

PABLO/AUSTIN
Wow.

Tasha comes bouncing up on her tail--the others do a double take.

PABLO
You can bounce?

AUSTIN
We didn't have to carry you?

TASHA
Yeah, why?

Austin covers his face in his hands. Uniqua has more important things to worry about.

UNIQUA
I'm going to go get that Fleece.

She strides confidently toward the tree. Tyrone, however, is standing in her way, with legs replacing his fish tail.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Hey! How'd you get here? Where's your fishy tail?

TYRONE
Sea god powers.

Tasha looks at her tail and frowns.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
You guys found the Golden Fleece all right, but you'll never get it.

UNIQUA
Sure we will--watch.

She strides around Tyrone, not watching where she's going, and walks straight into a large DRAGON (not too scary) sitting between her and the Fleece. The dragon smiles.

TYRONE

Meet my pet dragon. Come here, boy!

The dragon hops up, wags its tail, and, dog-like, bounds over to Tyrone, BARKING.

Tyrone scratches its head. The others look on aghast.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

He's a really good dragon, aren't you boy?

The dragon pants and nods, tail wagging.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

He's a guard-dragon. His job is to protect the Golden Fleece.

Uniqua recovers her explorer's confidence.

UNIQUA

You mean all we have to do is get past your dragon? That's easy.

PABLO

It is?

TYRONE

No, it's not. He's a good guard-dragon. And the best thing is that he never, ever goes to sleep.

UNIQUA

Doesn't he get tired?

TYRONE

Nope.

UNIQUA

How long has he been doing that?

TYRONE

About a thousand years.

ALL

A thousand years?

PABLO

Oh no. We've got to get past a dragon.

Pablo starts to walk in circles, flapping his wings vigorously.

PABLO (CONT'D)
He doesn't sleep, he's always
awake, and he never leaves. What
are we gonna do? What are we gonna
do?

UNIQUA
Pablo.

He moves faster and faster.

PABLO
Oh no, this is terrible!

UNIQUA
Pablo!

PABLO
We'll never get the Fleece! What're
we gonna do?

UNIQUA
Pablo, atten-TION!

Pablo jerks to attention, saluting with his left then right
hands.

PABLO
Yeah?

UNIQUA
We'll get past the dragon. We just
have to think for a moment.

PABLO
Okay.

UNIQUA
The dragon's been guarding the
Fleece for a thousand years, right?

TASHA
Yeah.

UNIQUA
Well, wouldn't you get a little
tired if you'd been up a thousand
years?

AUSTIN
Yeah.

UNIQUA
So then it should be easy to make
him fall asleep.

The group smiles.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Back us up, boys.

SONG #4 - GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON

Uniqua and Tasha amble up to the curious dragon. Tyrone watches with interest.

As Uniqua and Tasha sing, Pablo and Austin back them up with <<Oooooh's>> and <<Aaaaaah's>>.

UNIQUA/TASHA
(singing)
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.
GO TO SLEEP--YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.**

Startled, the dragon jumps to its feet, tail erect, but it listens intently and is immediately charmed by the music.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)
(singing)
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.
GO TO SLEEP--YOUR EYELIDS ARE
SAGGIN'.**

UNIQUA
(singing)
YES, I KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT TIRED

ALL
(singing)
YOU'VE GOT A JOB TO DO.

UNIQUA
(singing)
BUT I THINK IF YOU RETIRED,

ALL
(singing)
YOU WOULD FEEL BRAND NEW.

UNIQUA
(singing)
AND I KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE ONE,

ALL
(singing)
THE ONE WHO COULD GO, GO TO SLEEP.

The dragon, slightly pacified, sits on its haunches, listening intently.

ALL (CONT'D)
(singing)
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.
GO TO SLEEP.**

PABLO
(singing)
YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.

ALL
(singing)
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.
GO TO SLEEP.**

AUSTIN
(singing)
YOUR EYELIDS ARE SAGGIN'.

The dragon's eyes droop slightly before it jerks awake. Tyrone notices and is alarmed.

UNIQUA
(singing)
**I REMEMBER THAT HE TOLD YOU TO
GUARD THE FLEECE.**

PABLO/AUSTIN/TASHA
(singing)
FLEECE, FLEECE, FLEECE.

UNIQUA
(singing)
**AND I KNOW YOU'RE THE MOST FEARSOME
MONSTER IN GREECE.**

PABLO/AUSTIN/TASHA
(singing)
GREECE, GREECE, GREECE.

Uniqua and Tasha step right up to the dragon and wrap their arms around its neck.

UNIQUA/TASHA
(singing)
**BUT LOOK IN YOUR EYES
AND IT'S NO SURPRISE
WHAT I SEE THERE.
YOU'RE FEELING DROWSY,
TIRED, AND LOUSY...**

The dragon nods its sad consent.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)
 (singing)
**SO GO LAY DOWN
 IN YOUR DRAGON LAIR.**

The dragon emits an enormous yawn.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)
 (singing)
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON,
 GO TO SLEEP--YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.
 GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON,
 GO TO SLEEP--YOUR EYELIDS ARE
 SAGGIN'.
 GO TO...**

The dragon can barely keep its eyes open. It turns in a circle and lays down.

The group sings and holds the pitches of a chord.

PABLO
 (singing)
SLEEP

AUSTIN
 (singing)
SLEEP

UNIQUA/TASHA
 (singing)
SLEEP!

They strike a pose around the dragon.

ALL
 Shhhhhhhh...

END SONG.

The dragon is snoring peacefully.

UNIQUA
 (whispering)
 Good job, guys.

She tiptoes over to the tree and gently lifts down the Fleece.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 I got it.

The others run up.

PABLO
A wish! A wish! We get our wish!

AUSTIN
Purple-flavored popcorn!

PABLO
Snowballs for fish!

AUSTIN
Invisible toothbrush!

Uniqua and Tasha can't believe it.

UNIQUA
Atten-TION!

The boys bolt upright. Uniqua holds up the Fleece.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
It is beautiful, but I still don't
know what to wish for. I already
have everything I want.

Tyrone, defeated, saunters up to the group.

TYRONE
You got past my dragon. You got the
Golden Fleece.

UNIQUA
Why's the Fleece so important to
you, anyway?

Tyrone blushes. Tasha takes his hand.

TASHA
It's okay, your majesty. You can
tell us.

He considers, then begins.

TYRONE
A long time ago, when I was just
the god of a little stream, the
Fleece was mine. It was my little
golden teddy-sheep.

PABLO
A teddy-sheep?

TYRONE
Yeah. I used to take it everywhere
and sleep with it every night.

Uniqua unconsciously hands the Fleece to Tyrone.

UNIQUA
What happened?

TYRONE
The other bigger gods took my teddy-
sheep away and turned it into a
magical Fleece that could grant a
wish to anyone who finds it.

TASHA
That's terrible!

TYRONE
Since then I've protected the
Fleece to make sure that nobody
found it and took it away again.
But...you found it, fair and
square, so here it is.

He hands the Fleece to Uniqua, who slowly takes it.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
You really are a great adventurer.

Uniqua doesn't seem to feel like a great adventurer.

UNIQUA
Thanks.

Tyrone strokes the Fleece, then turns and plods away. The others watch him go with long faces, then Uniqua's eyes light up.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
Hey, wait!

Tyrone turns.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
I know what to wish for!

PABLO
You do?

AUSTIN
Really?

UNIQUA
Yeah.

She holds the Fleece up high in the air.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)
 I wish that this Golden Fleece was
 Tyrone's little teddy-sheep again.

Tyrone's jaw drops.

The Fleece starts glowing and floats off of Uniqua's hands.
 In a flash it becomes a small, golden sheep toy.

TYRONE
 My sheep! My sheep! You got my
 sheep!

He runs to the golden teddy-sheep and throws his arms around
 it.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
 Oh, thank you, thank you, thank
 you.

The others are impressed.

PABLO
 That was a good wish.

AUSTIN
 Yeah.

They all gather round to admire the sheep, but are
 interrupted by a loud RUMBLING SOUND.

TASHA
 Uh-oh. Did the dragon wake up?

Pablo looks embarrassed.

PABLO
 No, that was just my tummy
 rumbling.

UNIQUA
 Even great adventurers make time
 for a snack.

TYRONE
 Grapes and cheese at my house?

ALL
 Yeah.

They start walking off.

REVERSE TRANSITION: THE CLEARING DISSOLVES BACK INTO THE
 BACKYARD.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Back in their normal clothes, everyone walks back to the yard, toward Tyrone's house.

TYRONE

That was an excellent ancient Greek adventure, wouldn't you say?

UNIQUA

Yes it was.

AUSTIN

Indeed.

ALL

(singing)

**WE'VE GOT THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD IN
OUR YARD TO EXPLORE.
NOW IT'S TIME FOR US TO HAVE A
SNACK
MEET YOU NEXT TIME WHEN WE'RE BACK
WITH YOUR FRIENDS, THE
BACKYARDIGANS.**

They go inside. The door shuts, then Uniqua pops back out.

UNIQUA

Atten-TION! Tee-hee-hee.

She giggles and goes back in the door, which BANGS shut.

FADE OUT.