

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF

# BEANS BAXTER

*"A HILL OF BEANS"*

PART ONE  
&  
PART TWO

FEBRUARY 20, 1987

1ST REVISION  
VANCOUVER, B.C.



THE NEW ADVENTURES OF

BEANS BAXTER

A HILL OF BEANS

PART ONE

Written by

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FEBRUARY 20, 1987

A HILL OF BEANS

PART ONE

TEASER

OVER BLACK

Our "Peter Gunn" type THEME MUSIC BEGINS. TITLES BEGIN.

FADE IN

EXT. A DESOLATE KANSAS EXPANSE - DAY 1

A long, dusty back road winds its way through rolling cabbage fields.

NEW ANGLE 2

A cloud of dust billows from behind a rise in the road. A lone mail truck appears over the ridge and ambles down the country road.

CLOSE ON TRUCK 3

The driver, BENJAMIN BAXTER, SR., is an unremarkable-looking, fortyish fellow sporting a dusty rural postman's uniform. He is singing along to Gladys Knight's "Neither One of Us Wants to be the First to Say Good-bye." He brushes a sentimental tear away.

BENJAMIN  
(embarrassed, to  
himself)  
What if someone saw you...

WIDE ANGLE 4

There isn't another soul around for miles.

OUT 5

EXT. HILL - DAY 6

The mail truck appears over another rolling hill. This time something else appears out of the dust behind the truck. A sinister-looking helicopter begins trailing Benjamin.

INTERCUT:

INT. CHOPPER - DAY 7

A sinister-looking woman with a machine gun barks orders into her headset.

CONJU  
All right! We want him alive;  
don't screw this up!

She slams home the bolt on her AK-47. VLODIA, the chopper pilot, nods menacingly.

INT. MAIL TRUCK

8

Benjamin spots the chopper in his rearview mirror. He pounds the steering wheel as if he's been expecting this inconvenience.

BENJAMIN

Oh, come on. I was just starting to like Kansas.

He pulls a hidden Uzi submachine gun out from under the dash.

Suddenly the chopper swoops down on him and then CONJU OPENS FIRE. BULLETS burst around the truck. Ben hammers down the gas pedal.

CUT TO:

CONJU

9

continues to spray the truck with gunfire.

CUT TO:

CLOSEUP - THE TRUCK

9-A

is hit. Smoke billows from the engine. The truck starts to sputter.

CUT TO:

EXT. A BARN - DAY

10

The truck disappears in the barn. The chopper hovers overhead. Conju sees something.

CONJU

Over there!

Ben barrels from the barn, mailbag slung riding a racing horse.

BENJAMIN

The mail always gets through!

He fires at the chopper. Smoke starts to trail it.

OUT 11

ANGLE DOWN THE DIRT ROAD

12

Ben gallops along at breakneck speed. He hurtles a barbed wire fence over a sign.

ANGLE ON SIGN

13

PROPERTY U.S. GOVERNMENT N.O.R.A.D.  
NO TRESPASSING

After a beat of reading the sign, the smoking chopper ROARS low over us past the sign.

CUT TO:



INT. CHOPPER - DAY 14

Conju has Ben in her gunsight. She is about to squeeze the trigger when Vlodia screams.

HER P.O.V. 15

A group of marines are standing across the road with missile launchers.

BACK TO CHOPPER 16

CONJU

Go! Go! Get us outta here!

The chopper makes a hasty retreat.

ANGLE ON BEN 17

Out of breath, he dismounts in front of the troops. He is greeted by a smiling COLONEL, to whom he hands the pouch.

COLONEL

They won't get far.

BENJAMIN

Sure, Jack, but it proves they know who I am.

COLONEL

Of course we'll have to restation you. I'm sorry, Ben. We're gonna miss you.

He shakes Ben's hand.

BENJAMIN

...Thank you, Sir.

COLONEL

How's D.C. sound? I think Beans will love it!

BENJAMIN

You know me, Jack. I go wherever Uncle Sam needs me.

Ben salutes the Colonel.

COLONEL

Good luck, Baxter...

The Soldiers all salute Ben as he mounts his horse and rides into the sunset.

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

OVER BLACK

ILSA

(voice over)

I said I would never leave you.

FADE IN

MOVIE SCREEN

18

Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman are saying good-bye on the runway of Casablanca.

RICK

And you never will.

We hear the FAINT SOUND of SNIFFLING in the theatre.

ANGLE ON THE AUDIENCE

19

A girl is comforting her date as the scene on the screen continues. Sixteen-year-old BEANS (BENJAMIN, JR.) BAXTER has apparently inherited his father's sentimental heart. His girlfriend DARLA wipes a tear from his cheek.

ANGLE ON SCREEN

20

RICK

Look. I'm not good at being noble, but it doesn't take much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world.

ISLA

You're saying this to make me go.

RICK

I'm saying it because it's true.

We hear Beans' distinctive SNIFFLING SOUND as the scene becomes more emotional.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE HOUSE - DAY

21

We are in Witches Creek, Kansas. Wheat and the hidden missile bases are all that keeps this town alive. Beans exits with Darla holding his hand.

Cont.

BEANS

I'm so glad the Bijou finally got that film...

DARLA

It was beautiful.

BEANS

Can you imagine having to give up Ingrid Bergman just because of some nutty war effort? Where does a guy get nobility like that?

DARLA

Oh, Beans. If it were an important cause, you'd do the same thing.

She smiles as Beans goes to hold open the grocer's door for a struggling WOMAN with groceries.

BEANS

Let me help you, Mrs. Honeywell.

MRS. HONEYWELL

Why, thank you, Benjamin.

He opens the door for her.

DARLA

See what I mean. You're the noblest guy in all of Witches Creek High School.

Beans starts kicking around a hacky sack as they walk.

BEANS

That's not too tough considering there's only twenty-two students at Witches Creek High School.

DARLA

You're the top of the heap, Beans. Everyone knows it. The most popular. Class president. Your dad's a very respected postal worker. Your seven-year-old brother's a genius, even if he does watch too much TV.

They laugh...

DARLA

Not to mention you've got the best-looking girl this side of Wichita. C'mere.

She steers him over to her bicycle. She pulls a box from the basket and hands it to Beans.

DARLA

I made this for you.

BEANS

Another one. Golly, Darla. Ya gotta cut this out. People are gonna start to talk.

He cheerfully opens the box and pulls out a knitted sweater. It is the most horrible shade of green imaginable. There is a bright yellow "Happy Face" emblazoning the front. Beans is truly thrilled.

BEANS

Darla, you nut. It's even nicer than the blue one.

DARLA

You like it.

BEANS

I'm cuckoo for Cocoa Puffs about you.

He hugs Darla and they are the happiest couple in Witches Creek. They hop onto their bikes and head off down the road.

CUT TO:

EXT. ANOTHER LONG KANSAS DIRT ROAD - DAY

22

Every time a car passes them, the people wave and admire Beans' sweater. As they pull away, they leave the couple in a huge cloud of dust. Beans and Darla never really notice. They're just too damn happy.

BEANS

Golly. I remember being nervous about going to high school here. Ya know? Being the new kid in town and all. Then everything started going right. I finally started to fit in. And then I met you. And, well, I've never been so happy. I look forward to every day. And you know, I feel like it's never gonna end.

The couple head up a suburban Kansas street...Our view of them is blocked by:

A LARGE "FOR SALE" SIGN

23

Hammered into the f.g., Beans and Darla pull up the driveway, dumbstruck.



THEIR P.O.V. 24

It is Beans' MOTHER who is hammering in the sign. She waves at them, smiling excitedly.

MRS. BAXTER  
 You dad's been transferred to  
 Washington, D.C. We're moving! Isn't  
 it wonderful?

ANGLE ON DARLA'S AND BEANS' SHOCKED REACTION 25

GLADYS KNIGHT'S SAD SONG comes up again and plays OVER:

CUT TO:

INT. BEANS' BEDROOM - DAY 26

An old suitcase is opened. It is packed with a stack of the smiley-face sweaters in every conceivable color. On top of it all Beans throws a framed photo of his beloved.

OUT 27-  
28

CUT TO:

BEANS - MAGIC HOUR 29

With his guinea pig, "Alvin," is saying his final good-byes to Darla. They embrace sadly. She kisses him in a very subdued way. She hands him a box. We know what's in it.

CUT TO:

THE CAR 30

pulls away with Mrs. Baxter driving. Darla is crying as she and the Baxters' neighbors wave them off.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - MAGIC HOUR 31

Beans sadly waves good-bye to the only girl he has ever loved.

CUT TO:

AERIAL SHOT - MAGIC HOUR 32

as Beans' car heads down the long Wichita Highway.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR 33

He opens the box. It is another sweater. Only the front is now emblazoned with an unhappy face. Beans is terribly sad.

CUT TO:

EXT./INT. THE CAR - DAY 34

travelling along various highways heading for Washington, D.C.

BEANS

(voice over)

Why couldn't Dad drive with us?

MRS. BAXTER

Beans...you know how meticulous your father is. He wanted to make sure everything was in order before we arrived.

BEANS

Don't you think it's weird, Mom? I mean, Dad's a mailman. Since when do mailmen get transferred to other cities...what was so bad about his old route?

MRS. BAXTER

Now, Beans. You know our governmental system works in strange ways sometimes. They must have their reasons.

Beans nods, unsure.

CUT TO:

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY 35

CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING - DAY 36

A lone Marine Corps GUARD is standing in front of an ominous looking door at the end of a long, sterile hallway. A man approaches the guard. This is NUMBER TWO.

GUARD

Good morning, Sir. May I see your I.D. please?

Number Two shows some I.D.

GUARD

Thank you, Number Two. Have a nice day.

He salutes and Number Two heads through the now open door.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

37

A sweet old lady, MRS. KINDWATER, is sitting at a reception desk. Number Two enters.

MRS. KINDWATER

Good morning, Number Two. We've been expecting you. Would you like an oatmeal cookie? I made them myself.

NUMBER TWO

Thanks, Mrs. Kindwater --  
(he grabs a  
cookie)  
-- Is he in?

MRS. KINDWATER

Go on in, Sweetie.

She presses a buzzer and another door opens. Number Two enters.

CUT TO:

A SLIDE OF BENJAMIN BAXTER

38

appears on a screen. Across the bottom of the screen computerized data flitters across. WIDEN ANGLE. Number Two is showing the slide to NUMBER ONE, the boss of the Network whom we always only SEE from the back of the big chair he sits in. Number One is working on a model, the hobby that identifies him.

NUMBER TWO

Benjamin Baxter. He starts tomorrow. I think he may be the best courier the Network's ever had.

NUMBER ONE

Stats?

NUMBER TWO

The usual. Expert at all forms of military hardware and counter espionage techniques. Class A at all forms of self-defense. Has an abnormal capacity for storing and assembling numerous top priority uprintable data.

NUMBER ONE

Why didn't we get him sooner?

Cont.

## NUMBER TWO

N.O.R.A.D. scooped him up from Fort Dix. He's been their courier for years at the Witches Creek missile silos. Then he got found out. They think it was the Underground Government Liberation Intergroup or U.G.L.I.

A SLIDE APPEARS showing terrorist U.G.L.I. agents and the readout: "Underground Government Liberation Intergroup."

## NUMBER ONE

Cover?

## NUMBER TWO

Mailman.

## NUMBER ONE

Family?

## NUMBER TWO

Wife, two kids. They don't know a thing.

The slides of U.G.L.I. agents continue. Among the slides we will SEE the nerdy man with the thick glasses, Vlodia, and his sinister female cohort, Conju.

## NUMBER ONE

How can we be sure U.G.L.I. hasn't traced him to D.C. They could do some real damage with the information Baxter's stored over the years.

## NUMBER TWO

He's 100% secure, Sir...

A slide of an evil looking man appears on the screen. The title, MR. SUE, U.G.L.I. LEADER flitters across the bottom.

## NUMBER TWO

Mr. Sue and his devious terror network may be the most dangerous enemies of freedom on the planet Earth, but they are certainly not the brightest...

CUT TO:

A VIDEO SCREEN

39

on which Number Two and Number One are seen continuing...

Cont.



## NUMBER TWO

It'll be a cold day in heck before  
Mr. Sue breaches this network's  
security. And you can take that  
to the bank!

We WIDEN TO REVEAL that it is sweet Mrs. Kindwater who is watching this exchange on a hidden monitor in her top desk drawer. She smiles sinisterly and spits on an oatmeal cookie, then puts it back on her hand-out dish. She breaks into an evil laugh that is very unbecoming.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. BAXTER HOME - CLOSEUP A RURAL MAILBOX - DAY 40

A hand tears open a generic-looking letter. The letter reads:

Fifteenth and M.  
Code name "Silverplate". Brian.

The hand torches the letter. As the flames disappear we SEE Mrs. Baxter's car heading up the street.

WIDER ANGLE 41

Benjamin, Sr. stamps out the charred remains. The dusty car with his family pulls into the driveway. Mrs. Baxter and Beans and Scooter run to hug Ben. Scooter is quick to the point.

SCOOTER  
Cable?

BENJAMIN  
They just put it in.

Scooter runs to the car, grabs the TV and head into the house.

MRS. BAXTER  
It's so beautiful. Oh, Benjamin.

She runs off to start unpacking.

BENJAMIN  
Something not quite peaches,  
Beans?

BEANS  
I dunno, Dad. I was just getting  
used to Witches Creek, and well...  
You know...Darla.

BENJAMIN  
I know, Beans. But Darla can visit.  
We've moved before.

Cont.

BEANS

Yeah, but it's always right when I just get settled in. You're a mailman. They transfer you around like you were in the Air Force or something important like that.

BENJAMIN

You're not embarrassed that your dad's a mailman, are you, Beans?

BEANS

(a little ashamed)

'Course not, Pop. It's just, well. Witches Creek was so small. The dumbest things seemed interesting. Here...I dunno...it's the big city...I'm gonna be so out of place.

BENJAMIN

Now Beans...a man who wittles himself down to suite other people soon wittles himself away. Never deny who you are to fit other people.. be yourself. You're a good smart kid. You're always a hit wherever you go. You'll fit right in, son.

BENJAMIN

That's ridiculous, Beans. You know you're a good, smart kid. You're always a hit wherever you go. You'll fit right in, son.

CUT TO:

EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

42

A row of limousines pull up to the entrance. Instead of diplomats, students appear from the limos. After three such limos drop off their passengers, a mail truck pulls INTO FRAME. Beans, obviously embarrassed, gets out. He looks about, nervously.

BENJAMIN

C'mon, Beans. It's who you are, not what you are. Remember, we're all naked under our clothes.

A beautiful, tall, blonde girl walks by eyeing Beans and his dad's mail truck. She half-smiles and half-laughs at him. Beans smiles.

BENJAMIN

That's not what I meant, Beans.

BEANS

I know what you meant, Dad.

BENJAMIN

Here, Beans.

Ben hands Beans a set of dogtags.

BENJAMIN

For good luck. They deflected a hunk of metal that woulda pierced my heart.

CLOSEUP THE TAGS

43

have a noticeable indentation. WIDEN ANGLE.

BEANS

(excited)

Wow...you mean shrapnel...during the war?

BENJAMIN

No...actually, it was a file cabinet we were moving over at the office. Lenny couldn't hold up his end...and...well...

BEANS

(disappointed)

Oh...

Beans smiles and puts on the tags.

BEANS

Thanks, Dad. I'll see you at dinner.

BENJAMIN

Good luck, son...

He drives off. Beans heads up into the school, looking as out-of-place as any country bumpkin would at this ritzy high school.

WIDEN ANGLE

44

TO SHOW the mail truck pull out of the high school parking lot. We DOLLY WITH the truck until we SEE it drive by a gaudy ice cream truck.

CUT TO:

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - DAY

45

Vlodia and Conju are in the front seat.

CONJU

I told you he was gonna get transferred here. Can we kill him now?

A mysterious MAN in the back is stroking a large cat on his lap...

Cont.



MR. SUE

He must be taken alive. We must make it appear that he's dead. This will prevent anyone interfering with our interrogation. With the secrets that man holds we will become the most dangerous terrorist organization in the Western hemisphere. This time do not let him slip your grasp.

Vlodia and Conju nod nervously. Suddenly a little girl is there.

GIRL

I want an ice cream!

CUT TO

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

46

Beans is learning the combo to his locker. He gets it the first time. Victorious, he swings it open. The door comes off its hinges and crashes to the floor. He recovers, puts the door back on its hinges and shoves his books in. He is about to shove in one of Darla's sweaters. He looks at it longingly and puts it on. He turns around proudly. All traffic in the hallway come to a complete standstill as all stare at him. Beans quickly pulls off the ridiculous sweater. Traffic begins again.

Beans quickly stuffs it into his locker when suddenly a vision appears. It is the beautiful blonde (CAKE LASE) he noticed at the school entrance.

CAKE

Hi.

BEANS

(looks around, 'me?')

Hi.

CAKE

You're new here, huh?

BEANS

How could you tell?

CAKE

Well, in Washington we don't walk around with our flies open.

Beans freaks and checks his fly. It was a joke and Cake has a wonderful laugh.

CAKE

Actually, that locker's always empty... it's broken, you know. My name's Cake Lase.

Cont.

BEANS

Are you an exchange student?

CAKE

(laughs)

No. My dad's an Ambassador to the U.S.  
So now I go to school here.

Beans doesn't notice the giant student who opens the locker on his other side and eyes the two, a bit P.O.'d.

CAKE

And you?

BEANS

Oh. Hi! Yeah Benjamin Baxter, Jr.  
Well, Beans. My friends call me Beans.

CAKE

How cute, Beans. It's so....so rural.

Beans is entranced by this beauty.

CAKE

And this is Lars. His father's my father's  
bodyguard. (she whispers) I'm sure you'll be  
seeing more of him.

Beans turns around to come face to face with Lar's chest. There is just a low growl emitting from him. Apparently Lars wants to be Cake's bodyguard.

BEANS

There's more...

Beans gathers up his books and slams his locker door, just missing Sven's fingers.

BEANS

Well, Cake. I hope I'll see you  
around soon. Lars I...

The locker falls off its hinges and lands on Lar's foot.

BEANS

I...I'll see you.

He hurries off.

CUT TO:

EXT. MALL - WASHINGTON D.C. - DAY

47

Benjamin, Sr. jauntily carrying his mailbag, makes his way across the mall to a mailbox. He turns the key to empty the mailbox. A pair of eyes blink out at him. From the eyes' level, he can't see Benjamin's face.

BENJAMIN

Code name Silverplate mean anything in here?

VOICE

Welcome aboard, Baxter...I'm Brian. I'll be handling your issuances.

BRIAN hands Benjamin three packages.

BRIAN

Department of Defense. NASA and the D.E.A. In that order.

BENJAMIN

Ten-four. That it?

BRIAN

Negative. I have a verbal for Professor Vankleef at NASA. Ready?

BENJAMIN

Lemme have it.

A video screen rotates out of the opening and a series of mathematical equations sputter across the screen at an alarmingly fast rate, Ben's lips start to move as he memorizes it. His eyes are still on the screen as he hears Brian shuffling around.

BENJAMIN

(still memorizing)

Doesn't it get boring in there?

Brian's hand appears showing Ben a lingerie catalogue, he pulls it back in.

BENJAMIN

(smiles)

Okay, I got it. You can destroy the disc.

A puff of smoke spits out from the bottom of the screen. The monitor swings back into the darkness.

BRIAN

Destruction confirmed. Good luck. You'll receive instructions in the usual way.

Cont.

BENJAMIN

cont'd

Thank you Brian.

BRIAN

Good luck Baxter!

OMIT SC. 48

CUT TO:

EXT. WASHINGTON STREET - A MANHOLE - VLODIA AND CONJU - DAY 49

are letting themselves down into a manhole dressed as DWP workers. Vlodia has a sack over his shoulder. As he crawls into the manhole a skeleton's foot sticks out of the sack.

CUT TO:

INT. SEWER 50

The two struggle to dress the skeleton in a mailman's uniform. Conju holds it up to inspect it. She slaps it on the back.

CONJU

Lookin' kinda thin, Pal.

Vlodia cackles like the idiot he is.

CONJU

Shut up!

Vlodia stops.

CONJU

Let's get goin'. we've got a date with Benjamin Baxter.

They drag the figure o.s.

OMIT SC. 51 - 55

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - EST. SHOT - DAY 55A

INT. CAFETERIA - SCHOOL - DAY 55B

Beans is sitting at the cafeteria table. He is suddenly besieged by two preppy looking students. They politically shake Bean's hand as they sit down.

JOHN JOHN

John John Droxmyer. Senator Droxmyer's son.

TADD KAUFMAN

Tadd Kaufman, as in "Congressman, R-Virginia"

BEANS

Hi. Beans...as in Baxter.



JOHN JOHN

So tell us Baxter Beans. What seat does your old man occupy?

BEANS

Seat?

TADD

Of Government Old Boy. What seat does he occupy?

BEANS

A truck seat I guess.

JOHN JOHN

I don't savvy.

BEANS

My father's a mailman.

The two look at Beans as if he said his father was Lee Harvey Oswald. They excuse themselves and walk away. Beans is bewildered. A student slides over.

WOODSHOP

It's best not to bring up your father in this school unless he's practically the President. Hi. I'm Woodshop. (Chuck Woodshop)

BEANS

Beans.

WOODSHOP

Don't look now Beans. But the hawk is circling for the kill.

BEANS

Huh?

WOODSHOP (nodding to Cake)BEANS

What are you talking about?

Cake plops her tray down right across from Beans, Beans is about to say "Hi."

(Now Listen very Carefully)

WOODSHOP

Ignore her.



BEANS

What?

*Paul*

WOODSHOP

Don't look at her. If you ignore her she'll want you. Just watch.

BEANS

Want me? You mean like...a guy...

OMIT PAGE 21

*Something to declare that  
W. has been trying to crack  
The mystery of Cate Case for  
a while.*





WOODSHOP

No Beans like an exploding frog.  
Of course like a guy. You're the  
new kid. She's waiting for you to  
drool on her. Don't and she'll go  
~~nutty.~~ into a FRENZY.

BEANS

But I have Darla -- why would I want --

WOODSHOP

Shup up and just trust me...

Cake has become a little distressed that Beans hasn't looked at her. She unwraps a straw and aims it at him.

BEANS

This is silly.

Cake blows the wrapper.

CUT TO:

BEANS

55-C

"Wap!" It sticks in Beans' eye.

CAKE

Oh Beans. I didn't see you. How are  
you? Enjoying your first day of  
school?

BEANS

Very nice. I like it a lot Cake.  
Thank you.

CAKE

So I hear your father is in the postal  
business of some kind. He's a mailman.  
Yes?

Woodshop nudges Beans.

WOODSHOP

(whispers)

Bigger! Something bigger.

BEANS

Mailman? Oh no. No.

CAKE

I saw him drop you off this morning  
right? In a little mail truck.

Cont.



BEANS

That...oh him...no. He's a friend of the families...That guy. My Dad runs the postal service and uh...

WOODSHOP

(whispers)

Limo broke...limo...

BEANS

His limo broke down and he had one of his uh...employees drop me off. Just an employee.

Cake and the other students appear relieved and seem to accept Beans more. Woodshop grins. Beans appears to be a little ashamed of himself. Suddenly a large figure looms over him. It is Lars.

LARS

You're in my seat.

BEANS

I am...

LARS

Unquestionably.

He towers over Beans.

WOODSHOP

Of course you are Beans.

*(You have a head, you were in his cafe/room seat)*

Woodshop lifts Beans out of his seat and turns the seat over to Sven making a scene out of dusting it off.

WOODSHOP

(to Lars)

He's new. He didn't know the seats were assigned.

Woodshop drags Beans away. Lars watches them with an evil smirk.

BEANS

Assigned seats?

WOODSHOP

His father's Cake's father's Bodyguard. Lars wants to be Cake's Bodyguard. We have to move fast before he breaks us into little pieces.

*Must move quickly.*

BEANS

Why? would he do that?

?

Cont.



## WOODSHOP

I put a pile of mashed potatoes on his seat.

e HERBY Cobler?

They leave o.s. as Lars sits down with a terrible look on his face.

CUT TO:

EXT. NASA BUILDING - DAY

55-D

Benjamin's truck pulls up in front. Ben grabs his mailbag, locks the truck and heads into the building.

INT. NASA BUILDING - DAY

56

Ben, Sr. enters an office and drops off a pile of mail in the mail bin. A beautiful looking red-headed WOMAN in a lab coat approaches Ben.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Hello. Mr. Baxter? A mutual friend of ours, Brian, said you had a message for me. Something about 'Silverplate'?

BENJAMIN

As a matter of fact, I did run into Brian. I had no idea he had such pretty friends.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Why, thank you...

The Professor leads Ben into an office marked "S.D.I.", CAMERA FOLLOWING. She leads him over to a computer terminal. Benjamin sits down at the terminal. As the Professor watches in awe Benjamin hits the keys with machine gun speed, recreating all he memorized from Brian's computer.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

So how do you like D.C. so far Mr. Baxter?

BEN

Oh it's great. I'm more worried about my son, Beans...you know how kids are.

She smiles, suddenly the screen comes to life with a vast array of scientific data and three-dimensional satellite blueprints. The Professor smiles a lovely smile. She's quite impressed.

Cont.



PROFESSOR VANKLEEF  
 Incredible. You couriers never cease  
 to amaze me. Well I hope all works  
 out with your son. If only he knew  
 what you really do huh?

Ben smiles.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF  
 Give my best to Brian, Mr. Baxter.

BENJAMIN  
 Of course Dr. Vankleef. Oh, yes...  
 your package from Brian will be  
 arriving shortly...I'll be delivering  
 it to you personally.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF  
 I look forward to it Ben.  
 (whispers)  
 Welcome aboard.

The two wink and Benjamin leaves the Professor to her computer information.

CUT TO:

EXT. NASA BUILDING - DAY

57

The mail truck is parked out front.

CUT TO:

INT. MAIL TRUCK - DAY

58

The floor of the truck blasts open like a hatchway. The bag carrying the skeleton appears through the hole dressed in a mailman's uniform. It is followed by Vlodia and Conju.

CUT TO:

INT. ECONOMICS CLASS - DAY

58-A

MR. LUCAS, a serious-looking man, is teaching the class. The attentive students are spellbound by him. Except for Cake Lase. She appears to be very curious about Beans.

MR. LUCAS  
 Since there's been a lot of cheating  
 going on in this class, each of you  
 will be given his final assignment  
 through the mail in two weeks.

CUT TO:

CLOSEUP CAKE'S HAND

58-B

writing a note. It reads: "Hi Beans, will you walk me home?" She folds the note into a paper airplane. She looks around.

HER P.O.V.

58-C

Lars is not looking as he copies another student's homework.

MR. LUCAS

You will each be given a different assignment. This will assure me that the work is your own. You'll not know what your assignment is until you have received it.

Cake throws the noteplane to Beans. Plane P.O.V. It sails past Lars and lands on Bean's desk. He pulls out the note and reads it. Beans turns to her and mimes the words: "Me?"

Cake nods and smiles until she notices that Lars looks up and notices her.

CLOSE ON LARS

58-D

he is not happy.

CUT TO:

EXT. NASA - DAY

58-E

Ben Sr. exits NASA. He opens the door to his truck and is greeted by Conju's powerful arm around his throat.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRUCK - DAY

59

We SEE Ben's feet dragged into the truck and the doors close behind him.

DOWN THE STREET FROM NASA - DAY

60

Beans is walking Cake home. They both appear to be having a great time.

BEANS

Boy, that Mr. Lucas doesn't show too much faith in his students, huh? I mean homework by mail...?

Cake laughs.

CAKE

Next we will have pop quizzes by phone, no?

BEANS

And finals by candy gram?

They both chuckle.

CUT TO:

P.O.V. SHOT

60-A

Cake and Beans as seen at a distance.

LARS AND SOME OF HIS BUDDIES

60-B

spot Cake and Beans.

CUT TO:

CAKE AND BEANS

60-C

Cake spots something.

CAKE

Oh, look Beans...there's your friend.

CUT TO:

THEIR P.O.V.

60-D

The mail truck parked in front of NASA. Ben appears to be in the front seat.

BACK TO SCENE

60-E

CAKE

The one who dropped you off. Don't you want to introduce me to him? I'm sure he'd be most impressed.

Cont.

BEANS

(feeling a little  
ashamed)

Uh, gee, Cake. He's probably real  
busy.

(changes subject)

I can't believe this, Cake. You  
know I was nervous about movin' here...  
bein' the new kid and everything.  
You've been really nice to me, Cake.  
I just feel like D.C. and Beans Baxter  
are gonna hit it off just fine.

He is cut short as they come face to face with Lars and three of  
his large buddies carrying LaCrosse sticks. They block his way.

LARS

You picked the wrong girl to play  
with country bumpkin.

BEANS

Bumpkin.

LARS

What?

BEANS

Bumpkin. The term is country bumpkin.

LARS

(leans in menacingly)

Are you saying I don't speak English  
good?

BEANS

Well. You speak English 'well.' Very  
well, though...I...uh.

Beans realizes he's about to get his lights punched out. He  
doesn't want it to happen in front of his dad.

BEANS

Do you think we can talk about  
this somewhere else?

LARS

No. I think we talk about it right  
here. In front of your father. The  
mailman.

He points to the mail truck.

BEANS

My Dad? A mailman...Don't be  
ridiculous.

CUT TO:



THE MAIL TRUCK

EXPLODES, sending them all to the ground.

BEANS

Dad! Nooooooooooooo!

Beans runs to the truck, but the flames are so intense he can't get near it. SIRENS WAIL in the distance as Beans sits down in the street and cries.

BEANS

Dad, I'm so sorry...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO



- TAG -  
Benjamin Baxter in dragged INTO FRAME. VLODIA and CONJU are pulling him down a dreary dungeon-like hallway.

30  
61A

CUT TO:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

61B

The terrorists pull Benjamin into a scary-looking room with one chair under a spotlight. They strap him in the chair. A shadow goes across him.

VOICE

You look quite chipper for a dead man, Mr. Baxter.

BENJAMIN

You...

It is MR. SUE standing before Ben. He is holding his pet cat.

MR. SUE

Or should I say, dead spy -- your mailman front was very clever...But not clever enough, I'm afraid.

BENJAMIN

I'll hit you so hard I'll kill your neighbors, pal.

MR. SUE

Not until we've had a nice chat about certain secrets you may wish to share with us.

BENJAMIN

Don't count on it, Sue.

Ben strains against the binds.

MR. SUE

You are quite harmless in that chair, Mr. Baxter, I assure you.

BENJAMIN

Oh, yeah?

Ben makes loud barking noises toward the cat. The cat freaks and tries to squirm away tearing at Sue's face in the process.

Ben cracks up. So do Vlodia and Conju. Sue is pissed.

Cont.

MR. SUE  
You find that funny?

Ben nods. The other two cool out and shake their heads...

MR. SUE  
We will see how funny you are,  
Mr. Baxter.

The big dungeon door slams.

FADE OUT

END OF " HILL OF BEANS' Part One



" THE NEW ADVENTURES OF  
BEANS BAXTER"

A HILL OF BEANS

PART TWO

Written by

Savage Steve Holland

FEBRUARY 20, 1987

A HILL OF BEANS

PART TWO

TEASER

FADE IN

EXT. BAXTER HOME - ESTABLISHING - EVENING 62

CUT TO:

INT. HOME - EVENING 63

We PAN PAST photos of BENJAMIN BAXTER and his family on a dresser as we hear the sound of a newscast:

COMMENTATOR

(voice over)

There are no leads in finding the terrorists who have claimed responsibility for the bombing death of civilian postal worker, Benjamin Baxter. Mr. Baxter, you'll recall, was the mail carrier killed in the explosion the first day he had begun work in Washington over a month ago. Why Mr. Baxter was chosen as a civilian target remains a mystery.

Our PAN ENDS on BEANS, sadly sitting in front of the TV with his Guinea pig Alvin. His Mom sits down next to him.

BEANS

I never had a chance to tell him how proud I was of him...

MRS. BAXTER

I'm sure he knows, Beans.

BEANS

If I only had another chance...to tell him.

Mom puts an arm around Beans.

Omitted - Pages 2 & 3

Note: These pages used as TAG on "Hill of Beans" Part One.

63 cont'd

MRS. BAXTER

Beans. Your Dad was very proud of you.

BEANS

I'll never be half the guy Dad was.

MRS. BAXTER

Now Benjamin Jr! If your Dad heard you talking like that he'd clock you.

BEANS

I wish he was here to clock me.

MRS. BAXTER

How about I'll clock you for him?  
I'll even clock Alvin.

She makes a fist at the guinea pig. Beans laughs.

MRS. BAXTER

We gotta go on, Beans. Your Dad would want it that way. You're the man of the house now, and neither me or your brother are gonna take orders from you 'til you finish high school. Okay?

BEANS

O.K.

He hugs his Mom.

BEANS

But I'd give anything for a second chance.

Omit Sc. 64,64A,65,66

CUT TO

EXT. NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

66A

#2 heads down the big hallway.

CUT TO:

INT.

He bursts into #1's office. He flashes a teletype reader.

# 1

You wanted to see me # 2?

#2

(out of breath)

I know it seems crazy and I don't know how they did it, but U.G.L.I.'s kidnapped him.

Kidnapped who? #1

Benjamin Baxter!  
He's alive. #2

END OF TEASER

FADE OUT





FADE UP ON:

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

67

Beans solemnly arrives on his bike and is walking up the steps of the school. WOODSHOP runs up to meet him.

WOODSHOP

Hey, buddy, welcome back... Listen, if there's anything I can do for you, you let me know, okay? As long as it isn't expensive.

(As long as it's under  
A Dollar 16 and a  
Token)

BEANS

Thanks, Woodshop.

CAKE appears next:

CAKE

Beans. Hello, Beans. Welcome back!

He seems semi-happy to see her and slightly embarrassed in a way.

WOODSHOP

*OH OH.*  
(to Beans)

Things are shaping up already. *(And what a shape)*

Woodshop winks at Beans and leaves the two of them alone.

CAKE

(sincere)

I wanted to tell you, Beans, how sorry I am about your father. It must be awful for you.

BEANS

I feel like such a jerk. Ya know, about everything.

CAKE

I understand, Beans. There's a lot of pressure here to be someone.

Cont.



BEANS

That's just it, ya know. My Dad was someone and I acted like he wasn't. I feel like I let him down somehow... but my Mom's right. I know he'd want me to just go on and be the best I can. You know, bounce back.

CAKE

Well, look, how about this to help you bounce back!

(laughs)

Dinner with the most popular person at this school.

WOODSHOP

I dunno Cake...I'm pretty busy tonight.

CAKE

I meant moi. (to Beans) I could make you dinner or we could go out.

BEANS

O.K. Cake. I'd love to. Except I'll take you.

The two walk off.

WOODSHOP

Beans? Hello? Will you bring me something back?

CUT TO:

68

INT. THE NETWORK'S OFFICE - DAY

Number Two is pacing in front of Number one's desk. Something is really bothering him.

NUMBER ONE

Good God. They have Baxter?! Do you know the damage they could do with his information?

NUMBER TWO

I don't know how U.G.L.I. even discovered him. There's a leak here somewhere. It's perplexing. I've had everyone checked out. Anyway, Baxter will never talk. He's a soldier first, a courier second.

NUMBER ONE

Fine but we'd better find the leak before the plutonium cap for the S.D.I. system is delivered. If terrorists got their hands on that tiny component... Well, I don't need to tell you. If they get the I.D. on Baxter's route, we're dead. Has another courier been instructed until Baxter can be rescued?

NUMBER TWO

Uh, no Sir.

NUMBER ONE

Will Brian be delivering the cap to Professor Vankleef?

NUMBER TWO

Not exactly, Sir. See, we can't find Brian. We haven't been able to contact him to tell him about Agent Baxter's disappearance. He's been on vacation.

He holds up a postcard. C.U. Card. It's a picture of a mailbox in Hawaii with a Lei strung over it. Tropical drinks are on the sand.

NUMBER ONE

What? Brian doesn't know his best courier has been abducted?

NUMBER TWO

We won't be able to tell him until Monday. I just hope he doesn't mail his issuances before that. Who knows who might receive them...

OMIT SC. 68A, 68B

OMIT PAGE 8

CUT TO:

EXT. BAXTER HOUSE - DAY

69

Beans arrives on his bike and opens the mailbox. He pulls out a pile of mail and heads into the house. One envelope is the network kind.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

70

Scooter is watching an Ozzie Osborne video. He is working on some wirings and such at the same time at the kitchen table.

BEANS

Hi, Scooter.

SCOOTER

Hi, Beans.

BEANS

Whatcha workin' on?

SCOOTER

Welcome to my nightmare, dude.

Scooter hits a switch and all kinds of pyrotechnics go off around himself and the TV, in time to the video on the TV.

SCOOTER

MTV Sensurround. It makes stereo simulcasts obsolete.

Beans is still shaking from the awesome display.

BEANS

Wouldn't it be better to find a more positive outlet for all of your ingenious inventions, Scooter?

SCOOTER

There is no greater cause on earth, than heavy metal, my man.

He goes back to what he was doing.

BEANS

You're scary, Scooter.

SCOOTER

Thank you.

CLOSEUP

as Beans rifles through the pile. They are all letters and such for Mrs. Baxter. Then there is one for Benjamin Baxter. He opens it up. It reads:

"Lincoln and Rosewood.  
Codename: 'Homework'" Brian.

WIDER ANGLE

BEANS

Huh? Brian?

(then he remembers)

Ohhh. My economics assignment. Boy, Mr. Lucas sure takes this junk seriously. \*

SCOOTER

Huh?

BEANS

Nothing. Just homework by mail from my economics teacher. Tell Mom I'll be home later. \*

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - BEANS - DAY

walks up the street with the paper. He goes up to the cigarette machine on the corner. He stands by it waiting for his economics teacher. Then he notices a puff of smoke emitting from the machine.

He goes over to investigate when a pair of eyes appear from the dispenser slot at the bottom. Brian has obviously helped himself to the cigarettes.

BEANS

Uh...Mr. Lucas?

BRIAN

Baxter? Is that you? What's the code word?

BEANS

Huh? I'm here about the 'homework'.

BRIAN

Baxter, where the hell have you been...? The network's gonna be all over my butt on Monday...

Cont.

BEANS

You won't believe this, but Cake Lase asked me to dinner tonight! You know, from class? She's like the most popular, beautiful girl in all of Upper Georgetown High School.

\*

BRIAN

Hey, look, Baxter, if you're into dating high school chicks that's your business. I just hand out the assignments.

BEANS

Well, to be perfectly honest, she's a lot older and more sophisticated than the girls I'm used to. Why, just last year I met Darla in junior high school and she's one of the best gi --

BRIAN

That's enough. Baxter. This is sickening. Here.

He hands Beans a small package in a brown wrapper.

BRIAN

This is your only assignment for the week and it's your most imperative. It's Code E-25, Baxter. Get it to Professor Vankleef at NASA.

BEANS

That's it? You want me to deliver this package to a Professor Vankleef at NASA?

BRIAN

Are you kidding? There's people that would kill you for this package.

BEANS

Oh, you mean like 'cuz it's such a plush assignment. Yeah, I guess you're right. Thanks a lot. I'll take care of it.

BRIAN

Yeah, well, steer clear of the elementary schools on your way.

BEANS

Yes, Sir.

Beans walks away, a bit confused.

BRIAN

Sheesh. Don't they screen these people?

CUT TO:

INT. BAXTER HOME - DAY

73-A

The DOORBELL RINGS. Mrs. Baxter answers the door. It is Number Two and another Fed.

MRS. BAXTER

Yes, may I help you?

NUMBER TWO

Mrs. Baxter, we're from the um... umm...the school system. You have a son. A Benjamin Baxter?

MRS. BAXTER

Ben Jr. Yes. Is he in some kind of trouble?

NUMBER TWO

I hope not, Ma'am. If he was you'd see the mushroom cloud all the way from Cleveland.

The Feds can't help but laugh. Mom doesn't get it.

NUMBER TWO

May we come in, please?

Mom lets the two men inside.

CUT TO:

THE BEAUTIFUL PROFESSOR VANKLEEF - DAY

74

at the pickup point steps out of NASA and checks her watch.

PULL FOCUS

75

as an ice cream truck PULLS INTO FRAME. Driving it is Vlodia.

CONJU

That's the tramp there. Let's take her out.

Cont.



Vlodia smiles when, suddenly the same kid appears at the window. This \*  
time she has a group of friends.

KID

Excuse me, Mister. Could I...

Vlodia screams, scaring her away.

ANGLE ON BEANS

76

He comes up the street on his bicycle. He looks across the street and sees the pretty lady on the corner. He calls across the traffic to her.

BEANS

Excuse me! Are you Professor Vankleef?

She looks around, stunned.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Who are you?!

BEANS

I'm Benjamin Baxter from school. I've got my homework assignment.

(holds up the parcel)

I guess you're supposed to grade me on it or --

She sees the parcel and freaks.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Stay right there! Don't move. I'll --

Suddenly the ice cream truck pulls up in front of her. Then it tears away and she's gone.

BEANS

Couldn't she get an ice cream cone some other time?! Mrs. Vankleef!!

He pedals his bike through traffic after the ice cream truck. A large group of hungry children do the same on foot.

OMIT SC. 77

\*

CUT TO:

NETWORK OFFICE - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY

77-A

INT. NUMBER ONE'S OFFICE - DAY

78

Number One is talking on the phone, angered.

NUMBER ONE

What?! You're telling me that there's a sixteen-year-old kid running around downtown Washington D.C. with a twelve megaton plutonium Star Wars firing cap and we gave it to him?!

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET CORNER - NUMBER TWO ON REMOTE PHONE - DAY 79

is at the corner where Brian's cigarette machine is.

The other agent is taking notes as the cigarette machine appears to be truly sorry.

NUMBER TWO

(trying to make light)

It's an innocent enough mistake. He thinks it's a school project. As long as he doesn't drop it or get it wet, we're fine.

CUT TO:

BEANS

80

chasing the ice cream truck, crosses under the sprinklers watering a park.

CUT TO:

INT. NETWORK OFFICE - DAY

80-A

NUMBER ONE

That kid holds the fate of the world in his hands! Find Beans Baxter!!!

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

CUT TO:

14-A

ACT TWO

FADE UPON

THE ICE CREAM TRUCK - DAY

81

tears into a garage on an N.D. street. The garage door slams closed behind it.

CUT TO:

BEANS

82

pedaling his bike after the truck, continues down the alley to find the door. Beans knocks on the door. An eye-hole opens up. A pair of eyes peek out.

EYES/CONJU

Whadda you want?



82 cont'd



BEANS

Look, I've got a package. My homework assignment. I thought this was gonna be easy!

EYES/CONJU

Get a job ya doped up punk.

The eye-hole slams shut. Beans inspects the fortress-like building. Suddenly Mr. Sue's big white cat appears from across the street and runs between Beans' legs through a cat door in the garage door. Beans is about to angrily throw the package to the ground in frustration when an idea stops him in mid-motion.

CUT TO:

INT WAREHOUSE DAY

83

CONJU

Don't worry sister. We're not gonna hurt you...much.

Professor Vankleef is led down the hallway by the two thugs. She breaks away for a second and tries to run for it. She reaches the last door at the dead end hall and looks through the barred windows.

HER P.O.V. - BENJAMIN BAXTER, SR.

84

still chained to the interrogation chair. He looks terrible, but he manages a brave smile, just as she is pulled away.

CONJU

Friend of yours, sweetie? We got more friends for ya in here.

WIDEN ANGLE

85

The two thugs lead her into another interrogation room. There she is greeted by a sinisterly smiling Mr. Sue and an even worse surprise.

WOMAN

Hello, Mrs. Vankleef. I'll trade you an oatmeal cookie for your plutonium firing cap...

Yes, it's the evil Mrs. Kindwater.

CUT TO:

INT. SCOOTER'S ROOM - DAY

86

Beans runs in with Woodshop out of breath.

WOODSHOP

What's going on? What's the emergency?

BEANS

(to Scooter)

Scooter, I need your superior intellect and handiwork for the good of my economics class.

SCOOTER

(nods to TV)

It's Twisted Sister Live in Trenton, Beans. It'd have to be real important.

BEANS

(thinking fast)

What if I told you I know a way to sabotage the Congressional Mothers Against Rock Lyrics Committee?

Scooter's eyes light up.

SCOOTER

That's real important.

BEANS

(to Woodshop)

I need your help to pass class, Woodshop.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF - DAY

87

is being held in a torture type chair. She is strapped up like Malcolm McDowell in "A Clockwork Orange" is forced to watch tortuous images. Obviously Professor Vankleef is at the end of her rope.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Please. Please. I've told you everything. Stop it. No more.

ANGLE - WHAT SHE IS BEING TORTURED WITH

88

It's slides of Mrs. Kindwater's grandchildren doing every conceivable cute thing that only their grandmother loves.

MRS. KINDWATER

Oh, look. Timtim fall down go boom get bandaid from Grandma.

(new voice)

Everything, Ms. Vankleef?

Next slide. It's a kid with a pot over his head.

MRS. KINDWATER

Timtim play soldier.

Cont.



PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Nooo! Please, I can't take it! I don't have the component, I told you! Please stop.

Next slide. It's a kid with his pants falling down.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Nooo...

MRS. KINDWATER

Uh oh, Timtim has no belt.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Ahhhh.

Mr. Sue turns on the lights.

SUE

That's enough. Obviously, she knows nothing. No one can take that much.

MRS. KINDWATER

What do we do with her?

SUE

Tonight, when you and I move Baxter, Professor Vankleef will mysteriously disappear.

Another slide comes on. It's the baby waving.

MRS. KINDWATER

(over slide)

Vankleef go bye-bye!

We hear Vankleef MOAN.

CUT TO:

INT. SCOOTER'S ROOM - DAY

89

Woodshop is inspecting the heavy metal posters plastering the room.

WOODSHOP

So you like music, huh Scooter?  
David Soul put out an album. You  
know, Starsky and Hutch? It's  
pretty good.

Cont.

*Don't Give Up  
on us Babyn*



Scooter and Beans are amongst a pile of electronic debris. Scooter looks up long enough to give Woodshop an icy stare. Woodshop changes the subject.

WOODSHOP

Isn't your mom gonna kill you when she sees what you did to her video camera?

BEANS

It's okay. It's for a good cause. Besides, Scooter can put it back together when we're done, right, Scooter?

Scooter gives him a give-me-a-break look.

BEANS

All right. Show me what you got.

Scooter shows us a miniature camera system about the size of a wristwatch. A pole extends in front of the lens.

WOODSHOP

It's ingenious. How do you steer it?

Scooter holds up a remote-controlled car type hand unit. He pushes a few switches and the extension piece waves back and forth.

SCOOTER

(points to the end  
of the piece)  
This is where you put the  
cheese.

He puts the thing on Alvin the guinea pig.

BEANS

Voila. The world's first guinea  
cam.

DISSOLVE TO:



EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

A truck is parked across the street from the warehouse. It is a van with the legend, "BLAMMO" NOVELTIES AND WHOOPEE CUSHIONS -- Our Products Speak For Themselves" emblazoned on the side.

BEANS

(voice over)

It was great of you to get your dad's car like this.

WOODSHOP

\*

(voice over)

Are you kidding? You think I'd miss a chance to manipulate a guinea pig. It's been a lifes ambition.

BEANS

I hope this works. I'm in kind of a hurry...I hope Cake isn't one of those punctual types. I'm supposed to meet her at 8:00.

WOODSHOP

At 8:00? That means she'll show up at nine-thirty. Trust me.

OUT 91

CUT TO:

EXT. EXPENSIVE LOOKING RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Cake, looking like a zillion dollars, looks over at a clock in the window. It strikes eight p.m.

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

BEANS

Here goes!

CUT TO:

Beans runs to the cat door and drops the guineacam inside. He runs back to the van.

OMIT SC. 94, 95, 96

CUT TO:



INT. VAN - NIGHT

97

Beans checks his controls. He turns on a monitor in the van.

BEANS

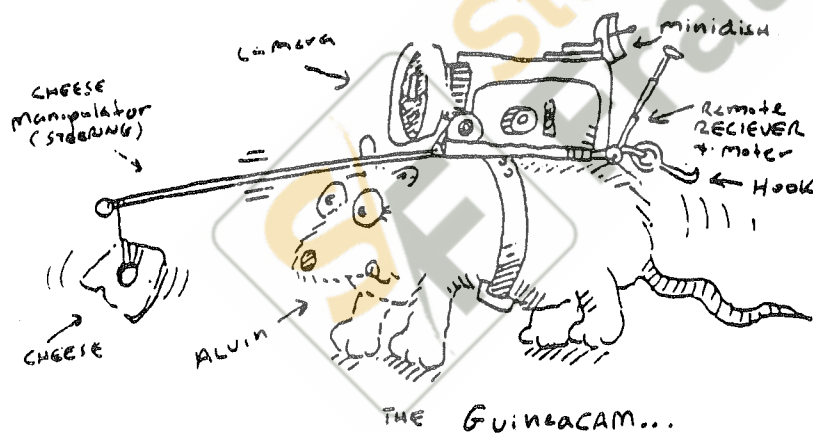
Okay. This is it.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - ANGLE ON ALVIN - NIGHT

98

The guinea pig appears with the camera apparatus on his back. At an electronic WHIRRING SOUND the cheese before him changes directions. He follows the cheese and is, therefore, being steered.



CUT TO:



21

INT. VAN - NIGHT

99

On the video screen we SEE the GUINEA PIG'S P.O.V. as it runs around the warehouse.

BEANS

We gotta find some keys.

CUT TO:

THE GUINEA PIG IN THE WAREHOUSE

100

runs by: Ben, Sr. as he is dragged out by Vlodia and Conju. He is followed by Mr. Sue and Mrs. Kindwater.

MR. SUE

When we've gotten Mr. Baxter to a more secure interrogation center, I will call you. Give me an hour. Then do what you wish with the girl.

Vlodia and Conju smile menacingly.

CUT TO:

THE VIEW ON THE TV SCREEN

101

The Guineacam sees two men dragging third man between them down a hall.

WOODSHOP

Wow. Looks like it's some wild party. What kind of assignment is this?

Beans has a moment of recognition.

BEANS

I dunno, Woodshop. Something's going on. Something bad. I gotta get in there.

CUT TO:

THE GUINEA PIG

102

is on top of the guard's desk. It scampers towards a set of keys.

CUT TO:

VIDEO VIEW

103

BEANS

All right, drop hook.

He hits a switch on his remote and:



INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

104

A hook falls off of the video unit with a small piece of fishing line. The hook catches the keys as Alvin crosses the desktop in pursuit of his unattainable cheese.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

105

BEANS

Okay. Bring him out, and wait here.

Beans runs over to the cat door. Sure enough, Alvin appears, dragging the keys. Beans gives Alvin the piece of cheese and tries the first key in the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

106

Cake is now sitting on a bench in front of the restaurant looking miffed.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

107

Beans inspects the dreary location and sneaks in. He notices the excess of automatic weapons on the walls.

CUT TO:

NEW HALLWAY

108

Beans comes upon the cell with Professor Vankleef. He sees her and knocks shyly.

BEANS

(whispers)

Excuse me, Mrs. Vankleef, Ma'am, are you okay?

She is, of course, shocked as he unlocks her cell door.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

You. You're the kid from the street today. How did you get in here?

BEANS

(holds up Alvin)

The old remote-controlled Alvin trick. They used something like it to find the Titanic.

Cont.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Who are you?!

BEANS

(ala James Bond)

The name's Baxter, Beans Baxter.  
I was given this assignment. Ya  
know, to deliver this to you.

He hands her the parcel.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

How did you get this?!

BEANS

Mr. Lucas, I guess. I mean...well...  
someone in this cigarette machine  
and well, I wish you would tell me  
what's going on...I'm missing the  
date of a lifetime.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Baxter. Benjamin Baxter?

BEANS

Everyone just calls me Beans.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Ben. Beans! Listen. We gotta get  
out of here. There's been an  
incredible bureaucratic screw-up.  
You're in grave danger!

Beans is really starting to grasp that something's not right.

BEANS

So I'm correct in assuming you're  
not from school...

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Very! There's no time to explain  
now. We've gotta run for it.

And, as they do, Vlodia and Conju appear from around the corner.

CONJU

Stop them!

Beans leads her out the front door as the terrorists chase them  
out of the warehouse.

BEANS

Woodshop! Punch it!

Beans and Professor Vankleef dive into the van and Woodshop tears  
off as the bad guys FIRE AK-47's at them.

INT. VAN

109

WOODSHOP

Where to?!

Beans and Vankleef are rolling around in the back.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

National Airport. The heliport.

WOODSHOP

You got it!

BEANS

Look, lady. What's going on?!  
 You gotta explain! What's in that  
 package?

CUT TO:

THE ICE CREAM TRUCK

110

tears out in hot pursuit.

CUT TO:

THE CROWD OF KIDS

111

who chased the truck before, had all but given up, when the  
 truck once again zooms by them. They CHEER.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - NIGHT

112

Professor Vankleef is slapping Beans awake.

BEANS

I'm okay...I thought you said I  
 was carrying plutonium around.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Look. I don't have much time to  
 explain all this. Somehow you got  
 your father's assignment to deliver  
 this to me. Your dad's a courier  
 for the Network. He's one of the  
 top operatives in the world. He's  
 a spy! A terrorist group made it  
 look like he died, but he didn't.  
 They're trying to get secrets out  
 of him. He's one of the most valuable  
 men to our nation's security.

BEANS

My father's alive?

Cont.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

I saw him. Tonight. But they took him! They may kill him soon. I wish we could help him, but they know me here in Washington now. I can never come back. They know you too, Beans. You'll have to come with me.

Beans isn't listening. He's fondling his dad's dogtags.

BEANS

My father's alive.

The Blammo van tears into the airport helipad. Down the road the ice cream truck tears by. More kids hold out money as it zooms by them and doesn't stop. They join the crowd running after it.

CUT TO:

THE VAN - NIGHT

113

SCREECHES to a halt by an Army helicopter. And now we are somewhat in a similar scene like the one in "Casablanca."

Vankleef drags Beans onto the runway as the chopper FIRES UP.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

You've gotta come with me, Beans. They'll kill you; you'll never have a normal high school life.

BEANS

Normal high school life? Listen, I don't know much about bein' noble... but I know the problems of one high school kid don't add up to a hill of beans in this crazy world. It was high school life that made me deny my father. Now I've got a chance to make it up to him. I'm gonna find him.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

You're saying this to make me go.

The chopper's back rotor FIRES UP.

BEANS

I'm saying it 'cuz it's true...Now go on or you'll regret it. Maybe not tomorrow, but --

Cont.



Luckily, Vankleef cuts him off by planting a wet kiss on his lips. It's the kind of kiss Darla never gave him and he almost faints.

PROFESSOR VANKLEEF

Good luck, Beans.

She runs to the chopper which tears off into the night sky, just as the ice cream truck BLASTS through the gates. The bad guys exit, guns drawn on Beans and Woodshop. Suddenly, the area is ablaze with lights and a throng of Marines.

NUMBER TWO'S VOICE

(booming)

Drop your weapons and hit the ground!

CONJU

You'll never take us alive!

Vlodia and Conju turn to make a run for it. They scream as they run right into the stampede of hungry children rushing the truck.

CUT TO:

ANGLE - NUMBER TWO AND BEANS

114

can't look. Woodshop looks.

WOODSHOP

Uggh...

Number Two looks over at Beans.

NUMBER TWO

Nice work, kid.

Beans touches the remains of Vankleef's lipstick on his lips and smiles. He puts his arm around Woodshop and walks him back to the van.

BEANS

You know, Woodshop, I think this is the beginning of a wonderful relationship.

WOODSHOP

(nervous)

You're into guys now?

BEANS

Forget it, Woodshop.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO



TAG

FADE IN

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT 115

Cake Lase is still on the bench outside the restaurant. In the window a man puts the "CLOSED" sign out.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE NETWORK BUILDING - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT 116

CUT TO:

INT. NUMBER ONE'S OFFICE - NIGHT 117

Beans is standing before Number One and Number Two.

## NUMBER ONE

Well...Benjamin...er...Beans. We've got an interesting situation here...Your help in saving this country's national security has not gone unnoticed. Since your experience was so highly classified, I cannot give you this Presidential Medal of Valor, our country's highest commendation...

(holds up the medal)

...however, I can show you what it would look like if I could give it to you. Well...this is it.

He shows Beans the medal, then puts it away.

## BEANS

Thank you, Sir. I'm honored to not receive your commendation.

## NUMBER TWO

If there is anything we can do to repay you, Beans, for your help... please ask.

## BEANS

There is one thing, Mr. Two. I wonder if I could stay on. I mean... help out with the Network. Now that we know my father's still alive, I want desperately to find him, to tell him how proud I am of him and to make him proud of me. I want to take over his business, Sir, so I can help him.

Number One thinks about it.

Cont.

NUMBER ONE

I don't think so...No, no. It's ridiculous.

NUMBER TWO

I think you're overlooking something, Number One. I mean he does have the perfect cover. He's just a kid. No one would suspect him...Besides, he knows too much about the Network already, and our only other option other than hiring him would be to terminate him.

Beans gulps. Number One thinks about it.

NUMBER ONE

All right, Baxter. But only until we get your father back.

NUMBER TWO

Welcome aboard, Baxter. Your father would be proud.

BEANS

'Will' be proud! Thank you, Number Two, Number One.

NUMBER ONE

And I don't want this spying business to interfere with your schooling!

BEANS

You can count on it, Sir.  
(remembers something)  
My schooling. Holy criminy. Thank you, Sir. I just remembered something. Call me!

Beans salutes and hurries from the office, leaving all miffed.

CUT TO:

OUTER OFFICE

118

Beans rushes through. Mrs. Kindwater offers him a cookie. He grabs it and runs.

BEANS

Thanks.

She smiles her evil smile AT US.

MRS. KINDWATER

Welcome aboard, Beans.

CUT TO:



EPILOGUE BEGINS OVER:

OVERHEAD SHOT - CAKE - NIGHT

119

is still outside the restaurant, lying on the bench amongst a pair of winos. She wakes up, looks around, checks her watch, and, depressed, shuffles away. She is around the corner when Beans shows up and finds her not there.

EPILOGUE

(voice over)

And so Beans joined the Network and began the quest for his father. The fact that Beans stood Cake up at their dinner date only made her vow to win him over more. Beans, in all his excitement, forgot about his economics assignment and was accused of being a dolt. He was reduced to a tenth-grade level class and seated next to Lars.

FADE OUT

THE END





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