

RANGO
by
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Story by
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Theatrical Script
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OPENING TITLES

A spotlight fades up revealing a MARIACHI BAND of owls as they finish singing the "Rango" theme song.

The leader of the Mexican/Greek Chorus speaks to CAMERA:

SEÑOR FLAN

We are gathered here today to immortalize in song the life and untimely death of a great legend. So sit back, relax and enjoy your low calorie popcorn and assorted confections, while we tell you the strange and bewildering tale of a hero who has yet to enter his own story.

1 INT. TERRARIUM - DAY

1

RANGO, an aquatic/chameleon-like lizard in a tropical Hawaiian shirt, has his eyes closed.

He stretches and contorts his face in preparation for a theatrical performance.

RANGO

Mmmaa ... Ma ... Ma -- Crunchy, creamy, cookie, candy, cupcake.
(dramatically exhales)
Okay everybody, let's take it from the top.

Rango holds up two palm fronds as a curtain:

RANGO

The stage is set, the night moist with apprehension. Alone in her chamber the princess prepares to take her own life.

Reveal the princess, a headless Barbie-doll torso.

HEADLESS TORSO

It is far better to nourish worms than to live without love.

RANGO (O.C.)

She reaches for the poison chalice.

As Rango pushes a glass toward her hand, we realize it's a play acted out by inanimate objects.

RANGO (O.S.)
Meanwhile...the wicked Malvolio
plots his ascension to the throne.

Malvolio, a wind-up fish resting motionless at the bottom of
a pool, laughs maliciously.

RANGO (O.S.)
While her aging father lies gravely
ill.

DEAD BUG
Yes ... I'm gravely ill.

A plastic palm tree looms tall in front of a painted sky.

PALM TREE
Hark! Who goes there?

Trumpets sound as Rango jumps into frame wielding a plastic
cocktail sword.

RANGO
'Tis I, the much anticipated hero,
returning to rescue his emotionally
unstable maiden.
(charging the pool)
Unhand her you jailors of virtue or
taste the bitter sting of my
vengeance! ... The sting of my ...
(re: dead cricket)
Dr. Marx, I'm not getting anything
from you... People, we've talked
about this! Acting is reacting!
(re: palm tree)
Victor you were wooden. There, I
said it.
(re: wind-up fish)
Mr. Timms ... you were good.
Perhaps a little too good.
(re: palm tree)
What's that Victor? My character is
undefined? That's absurd. I know
who I am. I'm the guy ... the
protagonist, the hero ... every
story needs a hero, I mean who else
is better qualified to bask in the
adulation of his numerous
companions...

His smile fades. Utterly alone.

Rango slowly walks forward and breathes on the terrarium glass, draws a little frame around his face in the fog.

RANGO (V.O.)

The stage is waiting ... The
audience thirsts for adventure...
Who am I? ... I could be anyone...

Rango shifts enthusiastically into different characters...

RANGO

I could be the sea captain
returning from a mighty voyage. To
reclaim his mechanical arm!

(battles his own arm)

Or I could be the rogue
anthropologist, battling pythons
down in the Congo! Down Chongo!
Down!

(battles his own tail)

And if you desire romance ... I
will become the greatest lover the
world has ever known!

He snatches up a guitar and plays a passionate Spanish riff
as he approaches the headless torso... The pick-up artist:

RANGO

Hola. I couldn't help but notice
you noticing me noticing you. You
know the womens find me
uncomfortably good looking. But you
seem remarkably at ease.

Rango playfully moves the doll's hand on and off his knee.

RANGO

Oh, stop it -- No really -- Well,
if you must -- What are you doing?
That tickles -- Are those real?

The doll "slaps" him.

RANGO

(rubs his face, realizing)
That's it -- Conflict! Victor you
were right, I have been undefined.
(raising his glass)
People, I've had an epiphany. The
hero cannot exist in a vacuum. What
our story needs is an ironic
unexpected event that will propel
the hero into conflict--

HONK! HONK!

2 INT. STATION WAGON - DAY 2

We realize his terrarium is in the back of a station wagon as it swerves unsuccessfully to avoid hitting something in the road--

SCREECH! SKID! BAM!

Rango's entire world turns upside down--

Everything goes into slow motion--

3 EXT. STATION WAGON/ROAD - DAY 3

The terrarium goes flying out the back window-- crashes to the road, shattering--

Rango lands, sliding on a shard of the glass--

He finally stops.

4 EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY 4

Rango sees the station wagon zooming away, disappearing down an empty highway in the middle of the hot desert.

He walks over to the windup fish still flapping in a puddle.

RANGO
Mr. Timms?

Rango looks up at the blazing, cruel sun.

ROADKILL (O.S.)
Oye!

Startled, Rango looks around noticing something in the road.

ROADKILL (O.S.)
That's right, you. Don't be shy.
Come. It's okay...

5 EXT. FURTHER DOWN HIGHWAY - DAY 5

The skid marks lead him to... A partially squashed armadillo with tire tracks across his belly. This is ROADKILL.

ROADKILL
That's it, a little closer. Yeah,
good... I won't bite you. I need a
little help here.

RANGO
Uh ... Are you okay?

ROADKILL
I must get to the other side.

RANGO
The other -- the other side? ...
You mean just now? That was you
crossing the road? That's why
the...

(makes doppler, screeches
and crash noises)
WHY DID YOU DO THAT!?

ROADKILL
This is my quest. He waits for me
...

RANGO
Wha-- who?

ROADKILL
The Spirit of the West, amigo. The
one -- they say he rides an
alabaster carriage with golden
guardians to protect him...

RANGO
What are you talking about?

ROADKILL
Enlightenment. We are nothing
without it.

RANGO
Nothing!? Your delusional quest
just ruined my life. I had an
incredibly complex social network
going-- highly sophisticated
friends-- I was very popular.

ROADKILL
Friends? I don't see no friends...

RANGO
Well...uh...

ROADKILL
You are a very lonely lizard.

Rango looks around at the nothingness surrounding them.

ROADKILL

Now, help me up, and I will help
you find what you seek.

RANGO

Uh... you will?

ROADKILL

And perhaps more... Quickly now, I
must get back to my quest!

RANGO

You mean you've done this before?

ROADKILL

Oh yes, many times... Come...

Rango climbs up on Roadkill.

ROADKILL

Come, that's it, pull my finger.

RANGO

Uh...

ROADKILL

The Spirit is waiting for me.

RANGO

Okay. Okay.

Rango pulls Roadkill's hands, trying to pull him off the
tarmac -- struggling to exhaustion.

RANGO

Okay ... that's not going to work.

ROADKILL

I must get to the other side.

RANGO

Why don't you just wait until there
are no cars coming?

ROADKILL

It's not so easy as it looks.

RANGO

The what?

ROADKILL

It's a metaphor.

ZOOM!

A truck passes overhead lifting Rango into the air--

6 EXT. TRAFFIC - DAY

6

A dozen cars fly past at top speed--

Rango flies through the air -- Slams from car to car -- Mud flap to antennae -- he flings off, taking a smiley face ornament with him--

Bounces off the road -- Smack! -- Hits a windshield, startling the driver, LARS.

LARS

Whoa! There's another one. I knew it!

Windshield wipers send Rango flying off the red convertible--

7 EXT. SIDE OF ROAD - DAY

7

Rango lands in a cloud of dust. The shadow of Roadkill looms over him.

ROADKILL

You need a little help, amigo?

RANGO

I think the metaphor broke my spleen.

ROADKILL

The path to knowledge is fraught with consequence.

RANGO

Yeah ... I'm just looking for the path to water.

ROADKILL

If you want to find water, you must first find Dirt.

RANGO

Uh ... dirt?

ROADKILL

Destiny, she is kind to you: tomorrow is Wednesday. The water comes. At noon the townspeople gather for a mysterious ritual...

Rango, suddenly excited, gets up dusting himself off.

RANGO
Whoa, what? a town? ... you mean
like ... with real people and
everything? Where?

ROADKILL
A day's journey.
(he points with his staff)
Follow your shadow.

Rango looks out at the barren desert.

RANGO
You want me to just walk out into
the desert?

ROADKILL
That's the way.

RANGO
Okay. So you're saying there's a
town ... real town ... not a
metaphor town.

ROADKILL
Go on, it's okay.

Rango starts walking hesitantly into the desert.

RANGO
Okay... then I'm going... I am
leaving the road now. I'm walking
into the desert ... alone.

ROADKILL
We all have our journeys to make. I
will see you on the other side.

8 EXT. DESERT - DAY

8

MARIACHIS
(singing)
Welcome Amigo, to the land without
end. The desert and death are the
closest of friends. We sing of his
courage, in magnificent song. But
pay close attention. He won't be
here long... As the birds pluck his
eyes, the sun bleaches his bones.
See his entrails get scattered.
Watch him lose his cajones. Ai yai!

Rango passes the Mariachi Band as they perform ... the Mariachi Lead speaks to CAMERA:

SEÑOR FLAN

Here in the Mojave Desert animals have had millions of years to adapt to the harsh environment. But the lizard ... he is going to die.

9

EXT. CACTUS FIELD - DAY

9

Rango continues on, mumbling in the unbearable heat...

RANGO

Four score and seven years ago our fathers...

ROCK-EYE (O.S.)

Don't move.

Rango freezes.

RANGO

What?

Rango looks around ... nothing but cactus and rocks.

He starts to walk again.

ROCK-EYE (O.S.)

Don't move!

RANGO

(freezes)
Not moving!

ROCK-EYE (O.S.)

Shh.

RANGO

Not moving.

ROCK-EYE

Try to blend in.

RANGO

Huh? Blend in? What do you mean?

The voice seems to be coming from a rock nearby. Suddenly, an eye opens: This is ROCK-EYE.

ROCK-EYE

Blend in!

RANGO
Blend in? What are you saying?

ZOOM! -- A shadow of enormous RED-TAILED HAWK zooms past.

ROCK-EYE
Too late.

RANGO
No, no. It's not too late! I'm
blending. I'm a blender!

ROCK-EYE
Calm down. What are you doing?
Tranquilo!

Rango tries to blend in...

ROCK-EYE
Stop moving! Try not to look
conspicuous.

Rango freezes in the form of a cactus.

The hawk circles overhead. Rango nervously screams -- drops
down right next to Rock-eye.

Rango's skin changes to bright tropical colors.

ROCK-EYE
Hey ... Psst ... What are you
doing?

RANGO
I'm blending.

ROCK-EYE
Well blend somewhere else.

RANGO
Don't distract me.

ROCK-EYE
No room at the inn.

RANGO
It's an art, not a science.

ROCK-EYE
Find your own hiding place.

RANGO
No ... This is good.

ROCK-EYE
Oh, here she comes! You better run,
mojito.

RANGO
What? I thought you said don't
move?

ROCK-EYE
That was before. Now -- you run.

The hawk zooms down... Rango runs ... screaming hysterically.

ROCK-EYE
(laughing)
Adios amigo.

10 SCENE OMITTED 10

11 EXT. CACTUS FIELD - DAY 11

Rango runs for his life momentarily finding shelter in an
empty soda bottle. The hawk approaches the glass.

RANGO
Oh hey ... proboscis.

The hawk pecks and snaps at the glass.

RANGO
Whoa ... tasty.

The hawk grabs the bottle in his talons and starts to fly--

12 EXT. SKY - DAY 12

Rango looks down. Sees the desert far below. Uh oh...

RANGO
No, please no, please! I have
vertigo, my glands are swelling...
no-No-NO--!

The hawk drops the bottle...

13 EXT. CACTUS FIELD - DAY 13

BAM! The bottle hits a rock but doesn't break--

It's Rock-eye.

ROCK-EYE
Ow! Madre de Dios!

Rock-eye stomps to the bottle, ranting angrily:

ROCK-EYE
I'll kill you! You stupid lizard!
Get out of there. I'm going to
strangle your huevos--!

Rango notices the hawk is zooming toward them!

RANGO
Ah! Big bird!

He starts rolling the bottle away. Rock-eye pursues:

ROCK-EYE
No wait, come back! I was just
kidding! Come on, we're friends
right!?

RANGO
I don't know you.

ROCK-EYE
Lizards, frogs, we're practically
related!

RANGO
Find your own hiding place -- No
room at the inn.

ROCK-EYE
Move over!

RANGO
You are not my friend!

ROCK-EYE
I'll let you kiss my sister!

Then Rango's bottle hits a rock, breaks and rolls to a stop.

Rock-eye runs up, laughs at Rango's predicament. Then WHAM! --
Like a bolt of lightning -- The hawk strikes -- Grabbing Rock-
eye and flying off with him--

ROCK-EYE
You sonofab--

The hawk shrieks as he disappears with his meal. Rango hides
inside the half broken bottle.

14 EXT. DESERT-DRAINPIPE - EVENING 14

Rango, utterly exhausted, utterly dehydrated, climbs into a broken drainage pipe...

15 INT. DRAINPIPE - NIGHT 15

Rango sits, huddled against the pipe. Alone.

He drifts into a horrible nightmare:

A looming cactus with glowing eyes -- a field of rattlesnake tails -- the shadow of a hawk looms as Rango runs through the surreal landscape -- A giant Mr. Timms swims through the sky above--

MR. TIMMS

Where are your friends now, amigo?

Rango reaches to Mr. Timms -- he can't breath -- he's drowning--

16 SCENE OMITTED 16

17 EXT. DESERT-DRAINPIPE - MORNING 17

WHOOSH! A tidal wave of water shoots him out of the pipe--

Rango slams to the ground--

He tries to drink some of the water pooled around him, but it instantly evaporates on the parched desert floor--

Suddenly, he finds himself looking at a boot.

Rango follows the boot up -- into the barrels of a shotgun.

Behind the shotgun: BEANS, a pretty lizard with true grit.

BEANS

Get your slimy-webbed phalanges off my boots!

RANGO

Oh ... sorry.

BEANS

I got a bead on you stranger. So get up real slow unless you want to spend the better part of the afternoon puttin' your face back together!

Rango slowly rises with his hands up.

RANGO
No ma'am ... I don't.

BEANS
Who are you?

RANGO
Who am I?

BEANS
(cocking)
I'm asking the questions here!
(shoves the gun to his
face)
Our town is drying up, we're in the
middle of a drought, now someone is
dumping water in the desert. It's a
puzzle of undeterminable size and
dimension, but I 'tend to find out
what role you playin' in all this.

RANGO
Role?

BEANS
What are you involved in?

RANGO
Oh ... well ... I'm glad you
asked... I've got two one acts ...
a mystery ... and a musical I've
been gestating. I got the words,
just working on the melody right
now... it's like--
(humming)
I think it's gonna be a western--
(nervously sings)
A monkey got a cracker ... his
mother was a slapper ... she'll be
coming 'round the mountain ... in
the rain!

BEANS
(dumbfounded)
You ain't from around here, are
you?

She walks to her wagon, loaded with empty bottles.

RANGO
I'm-- I'm still working on it. So
... what's your name?

BEANS
Beans.

RANGO
That's a funny kind of name.

BEANS
What can I say, my Daddy plum loved
baked beans.

RANGO
Well, you're lucky he didn't plum
love asparagus.

BEANS
What are you sayin'?

RANGO
I mean--I enjoy a hearty puttanesca
myself, I'm just not sure a child
would appreciate the moniker.

Rango takes out a glass jar, inspecting it.

BEANS
My Daddy was a great man, even if
he did exhibit a proclivity for
legumes and--

RANGO
(licking his finger)
Hmm, spicy.

BEANS
You are eatin' his ashes!

RANGO
(shocked!)
Whoa! You carry his remains?

BEANS
No, his ashes... He loved to smoke.
They never found the body.

RANGO
Oh, well... I'm sure he had his
reasons.

BEANS
What are you implying?

RANGO
Nothing...I...

BEANS
(charging Rango)
My Daddy was never near that mine shaft. He had been sober for over a month, and for you to imply that he would abandon his parental responsibilities, at a delicate time in my personal development is an affront to my sense of--

She stops abruptly: Absolutely frozen.

RANGO
Beans ... Miss Beans? ... Hello?
(whistles)
Hello?

Rango waves his hand in front of her face. Nothing.

He puts his arm around her shoulder, sharing the moment. She wakes:

BEANS
--and until the people of Andromeda
Five return him safe and sound, I
will not sell my ranch!

Beans notices Rango has his arm around her. Completely confused.

BEANS
What--?

RANGO
What--What are you doing?

BEANS
What are you doing?

RANGO
(caught)
What am I doing? What?

BEANS
You-- cuddlin' me.

RANGO
You were frozen.

BEANS
No, I wasn't.

RANGO
Yes you were, you stopped talking.

BEANS
It's a defense mechanism, actually
lots of lizards have it.

RANGO
You're making that up.

She climbs into the wagon:

BEANS
So, you gonna die out here or you
want a ride into town?

RANGO
No-no-no...yeah, no--yes please.
(climbs up, awkwardly
crossing Beans)
Thank you. Sorry.

BEANS
Today's Wednesday. Wednesday's when
we all get to it.

She flicks the reins and the wagon rumbles off.

BEANS
So, who are you really?

RANGO
Well, I'm a man of many epithets.
There's my stage name, my pen name,
my avatar, had a pseudonym once but
I had it legally changed...

The wagon rolls off into the distance...

The Mariachi Band plays.

SEÑOR FLAN
And so the stranger, seeking
companionship, finds the woman ...
much like the sirens of ancient
times -- luring him to his certain
demise.

18 EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - DAY

18

RANGO
...my nom de plume, I have a CB
handle, I'm actually one of the few
men with a maiden name...

Beans abruptly brings the wagon to a stop.

BEANS
Well, here we are.

Rango sees a town in the distance.

RANGO
Oh ... oh ... right...
(climbs down)
Well, I sure do appreciate this
Miss Beans, and if there's ever
anything I could...

BEANS
Yah! Get on up.

She snaps the reins and the wagon clatters off.

RANGO
Yeah ... okay then... See ya,
Beans...

Rango walks up to an old wooden sign that reads:

"Welcome to Dirt."

19 EXT. DIRT-MAIN STREET - DAY

19

PAPA JOAD is talking to an aged peanut farmer, CREVICE:

CREVICE
You headin' out Jim?

PAPA JOAD
Well we gave it our best shot, but
had to sell out. Can't grow no
crops without no water... Bye now.

Rango approaches smiling. Ahhh. Civilization again.

Then -- BAM!

A rock hits him on the side of the head. He turns.

LUCKY

What is it?

Four SCRUFFY TOWN KIDS are snickering. One has a slingshot. They scatter when Rango looks at them revealing... PRISCILLA, a sweet-looking little rodent girl with huge eyes.

RANGO

OW! What was that for?

PRISCILLA

You're funny looking.

RANGO

Oh yeah? You're funny looking too.

PRISCILLA

That's a funny-looking shirt.

RANGO

That's a funny-looking dress.

PRISCILLA

You got funny-looking eyes.

RANGO

You got a funny-looking face!

PRISCILLA

You're a stranger ... Strangers don't last long here.

Priscilla turns and walks away.

Rango notices Beans down the street at the General Store.

20

EXT. GENERAL STORE - DAY

20

MR. FURGUS is loading supplies onto Beans' wagon.

MR. FURGUS

Here's your beans, Beans.

BEANS

I'm gonna need some more feed too, Willie.

MR. FURGUS

Now Beans, you owe me three quarts already. I can't give you no more credit.

BEANS

But...I'll have what I owe you at noon.

MR. FURGUS

You don't understand. It's Mr. Merrimack down at the bank ... He cut off all credit.

RANGO

(waving)

HEY, BEANS! ... BEANS!

MR. FURGUS

You know that there feller?

RANGO

Hey Beans! ... Miss Beans!

BEANS

Nope.

She gives one last look to Rango and then goes inside.

21 EXT. DIRT-MAIN STREET - DAY

21

RANGO

Ah, Beans? ... Right... Blend in ... blend in...

Rango watches some men move past and copies a couple of "Western" walks: COBB the Cowboy Beetle, and SLIM the Walking Bird. Without success.

Finally he sees MR. SNUGGLES, a Porcupine guy with the classic John Wayne swagger. He copies it exactly. That's it!

22 EXT. SALOON - DAY

22

Rango notices music -- finds himself in front of: The Saloon.

23 INT. THE SALOON - DAY

23

Rango enters...

The piano stops, all heads turn to the newcomer.

He approaches the bar.

RANGO

I'd like a glass of water.

A beat.

Then everyone laughs like it's the funniest thing they ever heard. HAZEL MOATS, a tough looking mole, joins in the fun:

HAZEL MOATS
He wants a glass of water.

DOC, a drunk rabbit, rouses himself at the hubbub:

DOC
(drunkenly)
Make it a double!

Doc collapses again.

HITCH
Give'm the spittoon!

BUFORD, the toad bartender, spits on the bar... polishes:

BUFORD
Cactus juice. That's what we got.

Buford slides a cactus-bottle over to Rango, sticks to his hand.

Rango laughs nervously trying to hid the pain... takes a shot.

Eyeballs rattle. Lips quiver. Farts.

SPOONS, a stinky old mouse with a long white beard, takes notice.

SPOONS
Hey there fruit cup. You're a long
ways from home, ain't ya? ... Who
exactly are you?

Rango looks at himself in the bar mirror: Contemplating.

RANGO (V.O.)
Who am I? ... I could be anyone.

He looks at the bottom of the bottle: Hecho en Durango. His thumb covers the first two letters revealing... R.A.N.G.O.

SPOONS
What's the matter? You missing your
mommy's mangos?

Rango hunches. His eyes narrow. His voice drops.

RANGO

As a matter of fact I am.
(spins on Spoons)
But, not as much as your daddy's
cookin'!

SPOONS

(now nervous)
Exactly ... where did you say you
were from?

RANGO

Me? I'm from the West ... Out there
beyond the horizon ... Past the
sunset ... THE FAR WEST.

Rango struts, working the room.

RANGO

Yeah, that's right, hombres. The
place I come from, we kill a man
before breakfast just to work up an
appetite...

He snatches a toothpick from JEREMIAH's mouth, chews on it--

RANGO

Then we salt him, then we pepper
him, then we braise him in
clarified butter, and then--
(puts on Hazel's Hat)
--we eat him!

HAZEL MOATS

Ya eat him?

RANGO

That's what I said!

Rango circles a nearby poker game.

RANGO

Hell, I seen things make a grown
man lose control of his glandular
functions. You spend three days in
a horse carcass living off your own
juices ... It'll change a man. Oh
yea.

He grabs the deck, shuffles it dramatically, the cards fly
everywhere, oops.

RANGO

Got a few extra aces in this deck,
gents ... Just the way I like it.

Rango makes his way back to Spoons at the bar.

RANGO

So, no, my hirsute little rodent
friend, I am not from around these
parts ... You might say I'm from
everywhere there's trouble brewing
and hell waiting to be raised...
You might say I'm what hell's
already raised up...

He drains a shot. No problem.

RANGO

Name's ... Rango.

The name whips around the room ... whispers ... murmurs ...
gasps ... the legend is born.

ELBOWS

Hey, are you the fella that killed
them Jenkins brothers?

RANGO

Mhmm ... Killed 'em with one
bullet. Don't get no deader.

ELGIN

All seven of them?

Rango's stuck. The bar is watching eagerly.

RANGO

That's right. All seven of them.

WAFFLES, a jittery toad, inquires:

WAFFLES

Exactly how you do that, Mr. Rango?

The bar patrons gather round...

RANGO

You know I'm glad you asked me
that, and I will be happy to tell
you how... But you're gonna have to
listen up! Because this is where it
gets ... complicated.

24 INT. BANK - DAY

24

Cha-ching! A cash register opens. The Bank Teller, PARSONS, hands over some small bottles of water to BONNIE. In Dirt, water is currency.

PARSONS

That'll close out your account Mrs.
Oats, two gulps and a swig.

MORDECAI, Bonnie's son, reaches for a bottle. She smacks it.

BONNIE

Hands off Mordecai! That's what's
left of your college education.

Beans sits across from the banker, MR. MERRIMACK, as he anxiously stirs Alka Seltzer tablets in an empty glass.

MR. MERRIMACK

I don't rightly have no other
choice, Beans. Times being so hard
we just can't give no more credit.

He chews the tablets without water.

BEANS

But this here is a bank. This is
where you keep the water!

Mr. Merrimack laughs nervously then suddenly serious:

MR. MERRIMACK

Beans, you've been like a niece to
me ever since your daddy-- did not
fall drunk down a mine shaft. And
I've tried to protect you and
others from certain ... realities
... oh, and uh ... the weight of
the realities are bearing down--

BEANS

Mr. Merrimack ... are you alright?

MR. MERRIMACK

(calms himself)

Beans, I need to show you
something.

25 INT. BANK VAULT - DAY

25

Mr. Merrimack opens the bank's vault: an old glass washing machine door with a lock attached. Inside is the town's supply of water, a big jug with very little left.

BEANS

That's all that's left!?

MR. MERRIMACK

And this is the reserve! I Don't know if you've noticed but folks just ain't making deposits on a Wednesday no more.

BEANS

(panicked)

Mr. Merrimack, if I don't get some water, I'm going to lose my ranch. And you're telling me this is all that's left in the whole town!? Now that just don't make no sense!

(beat)

Now listen, someone is dumping water in the desert. I seen it with my own eyes.

MR. MERRIMACK

Water in the desert? Was this during one of your "special times?"

BEANS

No!

He ushers her out, closes and locks the vault as:

MR. MERRIMACK

Well, we can all dream, but this is the reality ... Why do you think so many people are selling out? They just can't make it.

BEANS

Well, what am I supposed to do?

MR. MERRIMACK

I suppose we could talk to the Mayor. I hear he's been helping people out in this time of crisis.

BEANS

The Mayor?

MR. MERRIMACK

He may be our only hope.

26 INT. THE SALOON - DAY

26

Rango is now standing on the bar:

RANGO

...bullet hits a shovel, ricochets
back towards number three, and
that's when the roof caved in,
igniting the thermos of pure grain
alcohol, instantly vaporizing his
bodily form, leaving nothing but a
charcoal statue and a high pitched
squeal. Eeeeeeeek...

An appreciative exhalation from the rapt crowd. But then:

AMBROSE

Ho--hold on there! That's only six.
What happened to Number Seven?

RANGO

Number Seven? Hell, he died of
infection.

The bar celebrates!

WAFFLES

(in awe)
Seven men...

HAZEL MOATS

One bullet.

DOC

Drinks all round!

But then-- BANG! BANG! BANG!

Everyone turns.

BAD BILL -- a tough Cockney bully of a Gila Monster -- slams
through the doors with his gang: CHORIZO, a mean looking rat
along with a couple of psychotic, twitchy rabbits named STUMP
and KINSKI.

BANG! BANG! BANG! Laughing as they shoot at the feet of SOD
BUSTER:

BAD BILL

Dance for me Sod Buster...

KINSKI

Dance like a chicken! Dance!

BAD BILL (CONT'D)

You got corn in your ears, mate?!
When you can't pay your mortgage
you don't own the land!

KINSKI

That's basic real estate law, my
friend.

CHORIZO

Quid pro quo!

Bill raises a blade to Sod Buster's face.

BAD BILL

If I see your face in this town
again, I'm gonna slice it off and
use it to wipe my unmentionables.

STUMP

Mind the beak.

They kick Sod Buster out the door.

BAD BILL

And don't come back!

He notices Rango at the bar. A stranger. Starts to approach.

BAD BILL

What are you all gawpin at?

WAFFLES

Hey Bad Bill, there's something I
got t--

Bad Bill pushes Waffles out of the way and continues to the
bar.

Rango gulps.

BAD BILL

What is this?

SPOONS

You know who that is, Bill? That
there is Rango!

WAFFLES

Yeah, he ain't afraid of you.
(The rabbits glare at him)
He ain't afraid of none of you.

Other patrons chime in, emboldened.

LENNY

Killed them Jenkins brothers.

MELONEE

Done it with one bullet Bill.

HITCH

All seven of 'em!

BAD BILL

Is that right?

Rango squirms.

Bad Bill plucks the nasty cigar butt from Buford's mouth.
Takes a deep drag. Blows smoke right in Rango's face. A
challenge.

The crowd oohs.

Rango takes the cigar butt -- looks at it -- swallows it.

The crowd aahs.

Rango's eyes are smoking -- gestures for cactus juice. Buford
pours. Rango takes a shot.

Then accidentally BELCHES FIRE right in Bill's face. WHOOM!
The smoke clears. Bill's eyebrows are still burning.

Rango grabs a bar towel and slaps Bill's face with it, trying
to put the fire out... To no avail.

RANGO

Um...let me get that...yeah... Oh,
I know...here.

Rango splashes Bill's face with cactus juice--

WHOOSH! Flames flare up.

Rango is horrified. Continues to smother the flames...

RANGO

(flames go out)
There ... all better.

Bad Bill's face is black. His eyebrows gone. Glaring.

BAM! -- Bill slams a gun down on the bar and slides it to Rango.

27 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 27

It's the classic Western showdown.

Bad Bill, flanked by Chorizo, Stump and Kinski are at one end of Main Street, Rango is at the other sporting a gun belt.

The townspeople watch eagerly.

Rango nervously opens his gun to check it. All the bullets fall out. Rango signals for time out.

RANGO
Whoa, T.O., T.O. ... Just a second.
(collecting his bullets)
Alright, now listen, I'm gonna give
you fellas one last chance to
reconsider.

Thunk. His gun belt falls around his ankles.

He leans over to pull up his gun belt-- As the shadow of the ferocious Red-Tailed Hawk soars over!

RANGO
And if you don't want to reconsider
I might consider reconsidering
myself.

Rango doesn't see it -- But the others do -- Shutters slam! People hide! Stump and Kinski flee in terror. Bad Bill stands frozen.

Rango straightens up, tightens his gun belt. Oblivious.

Bad Bill runs off in terror.

RANGO
Now that's what I'm talking about.

The hawk lands behind him.

Rango thinks he has done it.

RANGO
Alright now, listen up. Things are
going to be different around here
now that Rango's in town.

RANGO (CONT'D)

Got some new rules! I want my shoes
shined every morning, my coffee hot
with a Danish on the side...

Rango struts down the street pumped up.

RANGO

And whatever you do...don't look me
in the eye. Stay out of my
peripheral vision...

28 INT. GENERAL STORE

28

Townsfolk gather around a window.

RANGO (O.S.)

...which is a wedge-shaped area of
optical visuality in a ninety-
degree arc on either side...

WAFFLES

Hey, it's Rango.

CLINKER

What's he up to?

MR. SNUGGLES

Why he ain't afraid of nobody. He's
telling that bird what's for.

29 EXT. MAIN STREET

29

RANGO

... And when you see me coming,
stand aside, I take large steps and
I don't want none of you hayseeds
getting your bodily fluids on my
boots!

Rango turns and stops. The ferocious hawk looms above him.

RANGO

--Of course there is no need for
violence as long as we stick
together, work as a team. So I want
you all to come outside now and
line up single file while I take a
brief intermission.

He darts into the outhouse. Slams the door.

30 INT. GENERAL STORE 30

PRISCILLA
What's he doing now?

WAFFLES
I--I think it's a number two.

31 EXT. MAIN STREET 31

The hawk slices apart the outhouse with his claws...
Revealing Rango on the toilet.

Hazel Moats runs into the street to reclaim his hat... the
hawk turns.

HAZEL MOATS
Never--nevermind...

Rango takes off -- a trail of toilet paper stuck to his
backside -- The hawk gives chase...

32 INT. SALOON 32

Everyone runs from one window to another, following the
action. They think they see Rango chasing after the hawk.

ELBOWS
Take a look-see over here.

BUFORD
Well look at him now.

HITCH
He's chasing after that hawk!

ELGIN
Give him hell, Rango!

33 INT. LIVERY - DAY 33

The Hawk chases Rango through the Livery--

34 EXT. VENDING MACHINE 34

Rango escapes into an abandoned vending machine. Disguising
himself in a package of licorice. The hawk slams at it in
frustration. Dislodges a coin. Rango is vended--

The hawk reaches in to claim her prize -- An empty wrapper--

35 EXT. WATER TOWER

35

Rango's running for his life down Main Street -- licorice tied around his waist, dragging behind him...

The hawk grabs the licorice--

Rango desperately holds on to the support beams of the Water Tower -- The hawk tugs--

Rango takes out his gun -- aims at the hawk -- then at the licorice connecting them--

BANG!

The single shot ricochets wildly all around the town and happens to sever the cable holding the water tower up...

The water tower falls over and...

Kills the hawk!

The townspeople gradually emerge, peeking out, whispering to each other, just like the Munchkins in the WIZARD OF OZ:

TOWNSPEOPLE

Whoa ... I can't believe it...

MR. FURGUS

Did you see that...?

BUFORD

He killed that thing.

LUCKY

Don't get too close.

BUFORD

What do you think, Doc?

DOC

(examining it)

This hawk ... is dead!

PRISCILLA

(poking it with a stick)

Shoot, I say we cook that right up.

SPOONS

(checks Rango's gun)

He did it with one bullet!

HAZEL MOATS
Just like he said...

The townspeople share a look. Growing excitement.

WAFFLES
About time we had a hero 'round
here.

ELGIN
One who ain't in a pine box.

BUFORD
I think it's time he met the Mayor.

SPOONS
You hear that Rango? You're going
to meet the Mayor.

TOWNSPERSON
Let's hear it for Rango!

TOWNSPEOPLE
WAAHOO! YEE-HAW!

Rango's face transforms. A hero at last!

On a rooftop, the Mariachis strum their instruments:

SEÑOR FLAN
And so the stranger basks in the
adulation of his new friends ...
Sinking deeper into the guacamole
of his own deception.

LUPE
When is he going to die?

SEÑOR FLAN
Soon compadre ... soon.

36 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE-WAITING ROOM - DAY

36

Tick ... tick ... tick... An old watch serves as a clock.

Rango sits across from the Mayor's receptionist, a slinky fox
named ANGELIQUE. Rango takes a swing with a golf club.

BEANS (O.S.)
My land is not for sale!

Startled, Rango knocks a case of golf balls off the wall.

MR. MERRIMACK (O.S.)
Now Beans, he didn't mean to offend
you!

The doors to the Mayor's office fly open and Beans stomps
out, Mr. Merrimack follows.

BEANS
I came here to save my land, not
sell it!

MR. MERRIMACK
I'm sure there is something
reasonable we can work out-- If you
just talk to him.
(slips on the golf balls)
Beans, where are you going!? Beans!

Mr. Merrimack follows her out.

ANGELIQUE
The Mayor will see you now.

37 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

37

Water...

Rango is reflected in a perfect drop of water.

THE MAYOR
Water ... Mr. Rango ... Water...

THE MAYOR, an old tortoise in a wheelchair, carefully lets a
single drop of water fall from an eyedropper into an empty
terrarium.

THE MAYOR
Without it, there's nothing but
dust and decay. But with water ...
there's life.

Little mites appear and scurry, drawn toward the water.

THE MAYOR
Look at them, so desperate to live,
they will follow the water
anywhere. That's the immutable law
of the desert: control the water
and you control everything.

The Mayor unlocks a cabinet and removes a gorgeous cut-glass
decanter...

THE MAYOR

This is from my private stock.
Vintage rainwater, from the great
deluge -- not Noah's deluge, good
heavens I'm not that old.

Rango laughs along weakly.

The Mayor is about to pour water into Rango's glass...

RANGO

I guess power has its privileges.

The Mayor stops--

THE MAYOR

You make a good point, son. But,
with privilege comes
responsibility.

The Mayor rattles across the office in his mechanical
wheelchair to get a beautiful LEATHER BOX:

THE MAYOR

Hell, I was mayor here before there
was a Dirt! And I may just be a
sentimental old turtle, but I think
there's a future for this town ...
and I hope you'll be part of it.

He raises his glass. Toasts:

THE MAYOR

To Dirt!

RANGO

To Dirt.

Rango "drinks" from his empty glass.

38

EXT. MAYOR'S BALCONY - DAY

38

The Mayor and Rango emerge overlooking the whole town.

THE MAYOR

You see them, Mr. Rango? All my
friends and neighbors...

(beat)

It's a hard life here. Very hard.
You know how they make it through
each and every day? They believe.
They believe it's going to be
better.

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)

They believe that the water will come. They believe against all odds and all evidence that tomorrow will be better than today.

He looks at Rango deeply.

THE MAYOR

People have to believe in something ... Right now, they believe in you.

He opens the leather box. It is filled with sheriff stars. The Mayor removes one and sets it on top of the box.

THE MAYOR

Pick it up, Mr. Rango. Your destiny awaits.

Rango picks up the sheriff's star.

THE MAYOR

People have to believe in something.

He smiles broadly, with big tombstone teeth.

39 OMITTED 39

40 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 40

The big clock on Main Street ticks toward noon.

Beans waits with Mr. Merrimack by her wagon outside the General Store, watching the clock.

BEANS

It just don't make no sense... This whole town is drying up and the Mayor is the only one who don't seem to be affected-- Doesn't that make you just a wee bit suspicious-- and what about that water I saw out in the desert? Cause I seen it with my own eyes--

MR. MERRIMACK

Alright... alright... There's no need to incite anxiety. I'll enquire about the Mayor. But, if you really feel there is some conspiracy occurring... I suggest you take it up with the new sheriff.

Mr. Merrimack gestures to the General Store and walks off.

Beans turns to the window and sees Rango inside.

41 INT. GENERAL STORE - DAY

41

Rango's in front of a mirror trying to find the perfect look. Angelique hovers nearby.

Patrons stare and whisper. Rango's a celebrity now.

A black widow spider, MR. BLACK, in a formal black coat and top hat is measuring Rango.

RANGO

Okay ... Yeah ... Oh hey! Watch that needle there ... Not too tight now, I wanna leave a little room for some pucker. A little up in back? You got french cuffs with that?

Rango tries on another hat. Beans interrupts.

BEANS

Excuse me sheriff Rango, I want to talk to--

RANGO

Hey Beans! What do you think of the new duds? I got a ten-gallon hat marked down from fifteen.

BEANS

That's nice...

RANGO

Have you met Angelique?

ANGELIQUE

(disdain)

Hello ... Beans.

BEANS

Hello Angelique.

ANGELIQUE

Tart.

BEANS

Floozy.

ANGELIQUE
Trollop.

A gawking kid rat, LUCKY, gently touches Rango's back.

LUCKY
Excuse me, Mr. Rango.

Rango spins, pulling his gun on Lucky--

RANGO
I'll blow that ugly right off your
face!

The kid's mother, DELILAH -- a Bible-toting matron, is
aghast. Lucky shyly offers Rango his autograph book:

LUCKY
I was just thinking that I...

RANGO
Oh yeah... want the old John
Hancock, do ya?
(hands Lucky his gun)
Here hold this.

Rango signs. Lucky plays with the gun. Delilah is shocked.

BEANS
Sh-- Sheriff this isn't a social
call...

LUCKY
There's a bullet in there!

RANGO
Oh I know, I know about the
ol shindig this afternoon-- I
ordered myself some 'right
fancy duds.

DELILAH
Put that down Lucky!

Rango remains completely oblivious.

BEANS
I'd like to file--

DELILAH
Mr. Rango!

RANGO
(grabs Delilah's book)
Oh you too? No problem -- here let
me just...

Beans wakes up, picks up exactly where she left off--

BEANS

--it's not a rash it's a birthmark!
(takes a deep breath)
I did it again didn't I?

RANGO

Did what?

BEANS

Let me ask you something -- Did
anybody here mention what happened
to our last sheriff?

A hammering sound comes from outside. It's Mr. Black building a new coffin.

Rango realizes: Mr. Black's the undertaker.

42 EXT. MAIN STREET 42

The big clock on Main Street tolls out twelve o'clock...

43 INT. GENERAL STORE 43

Everyone in the General Store slowly begins to leave as if they were hypnotized.

Rango is mystified ... follows them out.

44 EXT. AROUND DIRT-VARIOUS LOCATIONS - DAY 44

We see people responding to the tolling bell...

45 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 45

The townspeople gather, each holding an empty bottle, glass or container of some sort...

RANGO

Um ... excuse me ... may I ask y--?
... the last sheriff? ... Pardon me
... where is everybody go--? What
exactly happened to--?

The entranced townspeople don't respond.

The toll stops... The townsfolk form into a line and begin a dance number to HANK WILLIAMS' legendary song "COOL WATER".

The most bizarre synchronized line dance ever put on celluloid.

46 EXT. DIRT-OUTSIDE TOWN - DAY

46

Rango cuts into line behind a big Indian bird with one leg called WOUNDED BIRD, and in front of little Priscilla.

RANGO

Well ... this is a heck of a
hoedown you got going -- Still
working out those steps. So is this
considered normal civic behavior?

PRISCILLA

Mhm. Every Wednesday ... just like
clockwork.

Wounded Bird, who is laconic in the extreme, speaks to Rango:

WOUNDED BIRD

You kill bird.

RANGO

Yep ... as a matter of fact, I did.

WOUNDED BIRD

Bird dead. Snake come.

RANGO

Snake?!

PRISCILLA

He means Rattlesnake Jake, Mr.
Rango. He never comes into town
'cause he's a scared of that hawk.
But he might come now -- Can I have
your boots when you're dead?

RANGO

No! -- And I got no problem with
this Rattlesnake Jake.

PRISCILLA

That's just what Amos said!

RANGO

Amos?

She points.

47 EXT. GRAVEYARD

47

Rango sees a line of tombstones. One reads:

"HERE LIES AMOS. BELOVED SHERIFF. TUESDAY - FRIDAY."

In fact, there's a whole series of sheriff's graves here.

Rango gulps.

PRISCILLA (O.S.)
You got any gold fillings?

48 EXT. THE FAUCET - DAY

48

Rango sees that the entire mad ritual is gradually leading the people of Dirt to an enormous, human-sized faucet.

The Mayor is atop a piece of scaffolding... addresses the crowd:

THE MAYOR
My fellow Dirtonians ... I welcome
you to our great day of
deliverance. Hallelujah!

TOWNSPEOPLE
Hallelujah!

THE MAYOR
(calls out)
Acolytes, PREPARE THE HOLY SPIGOT!

THE ACOLYTES -- two frogmen in scuba gear and chain mail--
step forward raising the holy spigot toward the sky.

THE MAYOR
We have a newcomer amongst us
today, my friends. A man I think
needs little introduction to you,
so bold has been his entry into our
fair society ... Mr. Rango, would
you step forward?

Rango struggles with Mrs Daisy for the jar back. Rango grabs a tin cup and moves to the front of the line. He can't believe he is finally ... finally ... going to get a drink of water.

Rango waits eagerly, right under the faucet.

The townspeople begin to chant.

THE MAYOR
The time has come, my friends, the
time that was foretold!

TOWNSPEOPLE
Hallelujah!

THE MAYOR
The sacred time!

The Acolytes hoist the spigot into position on the faucet.

TOWNSPEOPLE
Hallelujah!

THE MAYOR
The time of destiny!

TOWNSPEOPLE
Hallelujah!

THE MAYOR
The time of deliverance!

TOWNSPEOPLE
Hallelujah!

THE MAYOR
It is the time of ... HYDRATION!

The chant reaches a crescendo! The Acolytes turn the spigot!

Nothing ... A gasp through the crowd.

Then... GLOOP!

One big glob of mud falls from the spigot. Covering Rango.

SPLAT!

The townspeople are stunned, a few call out:

MISS DAISY
It's his fault!

DELILAH
It's the newcomer! Burn him!

TOWNSPERSON (O.C.)
He's a witch!

PRISCILLA
I get his boots!

THE MAYOR
My friends ... My friends, temper
your frustrations. Times will be
tough from now on.

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)
Sacrifices will have to be made,
but if I can help in any way,
please know that my door is always--

BEANS
Hold it! Hold it! Now this whole
thing stinks three ways to Sunday.
First, the bank's run dry and now
this here spigot...

TOWNSPERSON
Bank's run dry?

CREVICE
What she talkin' about?

BONNIE
She said there's no water in the
bank!

Everyone looks at Beans.

CUT TO--

49 INT. BANK - DAY

49

PANDEMONIUM! A run on the bank!

Mr. Merrimack and Parsons are trying to hold back the tide:

BGHAZELMOATS
Give me my liquid assets! ... Close
my rehydration account!

MR. MERRIMACK
Hold on now! Hold on! This is all
we have! We can't give it all out!

Then -- BANG!

A gunshot. Everyone turns.

Rango is standing at the back of the crowd. He holsters his
gun.

RANGO
None of that civil disobedience in
my town, thank you very much!

He swaggers his way toward the bank teller gate.

MR. MERRIMACK
Thank goodness you're here sheriff.
Things are getting out of hand.

Mr. Merrimack lets Rango inside as the crowd pushes their way through behind him. He struts to the vault door...

RANGO

Ah ... Now let me just take a gander at the source of the societal discontentment here.

(gasps at the sight of water!)

Mercy...

Standing next to the jug of water, Rango addresses the crowd:

RANGO

Alright, listen up ... I've been thinking and I believe I figured something out: you folks have a water problem.

Everyone grumbles in agreement.

RANGO

Now pay attention everybody. I'm trying to make a point here...

(walks over to someone, takes his cup)

Lets say this fella here were to take a drink of water, just one little drink, no harm, no foul, right?

(drinks, spins on someone)

And YOU! Why you're just as dried up and parched as a jackrabbit in July! So you belly up here and you take you a double shot-

(drink, drink)

Stay with me ... What do you think happens then? ... Why, we'd all be drinking!

(drink, drink, drink)

And before you know it there wouldn't be any more water and then where would we be? We'd be thirsty ... real thirsty! We'd turn on each other like a bunch of animals!

The crowd of animals stare back bewildered.

RANGO

Now look here, we've got six days of water...

Air releases in the bottle ... the water line drops below five days.

RANGO
(panicked)
We've got five--fi-- days.
As long as we've got water, we've
got ourselves a town.

The Mayor looks at Rango, an idea sparking:

THE MAYOR
Sheriff Rango is right. So long as
we have this water, we have some
hope.

RANGO
And you can all take it from me, my
one hundred percent full-time
employment from this moment on will
be to protect our precious natural
resource.

He gives a steely look.

RANGO
Ain't no one going to tango with
the Rango.

50 EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

50

Rango struts, wearing his new outlandish sheriff duds.

RANGO
(tipping his hat)
Evening ladies.

FRESCA
Evening Sheriff.

MELONEE
Evening Sheriff.

51 EXT. SALOON - NIGHT

51

Gordy is tossed out of the double doors.

BAR PATRON (O.S.)
Don't you come back!

Rango grabs his hat and spins Gordy back into the saloon:

RANGO
Whoa! Hold on there, Gordy. Now you
get back in there and assert
yourself.

RANGO (CONT'D)
And I think you'll find the people
of this here town to be
surprisingly hospitable.

GORDY
(entering the saloon)
Thank you, Sheriff...

BAR PATRON (O.S.)
What!? Not you again!

Rango continues on as Gordy SMASHES through the window.

RANGO
I stand corrected.

Rango takes notice of something in the middle of the road.

52 SCENE OMITTED 52

53 EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT 53

The ground suddenly erupts from a little hole: Two hillbilly prairie dogs, EZEKIEL and JEDIDIAH, pop their heads out.

JEDIDIAH
(looks around)
This ain't the bank.

EZEKIEL
(slaps his head)
I told you, Jedidiah!

RANGO (O.S.)
Hold it right there!

They spin. Rango approaches with his gun drawn.

EZEKIEL
It's the Sheriff--!

RANGO
Get them hands up where I can see
'em.

Ezekiel and Jedidiah slowly raise their hands.

RANGO
Just as I suspected ... prospectin'
without the authorized equipment.
Don't move a muscle.

Rango walks away...

JEDIDIAH
(to Ezekiel)
Prospectin'?

Rango returns with supplies...

RANGO
Now, you got your shovel, pickaxe,
Benedryl, Loofah, assorted snacks
and puzzle books ... and you're
gonna need a permit.

From below, PAPPY, an old blind prairie dog, whacks both of
his boys over the head with a big walking stick.

PAPPY (O.S.)
Ezekiel! Jedidiah! What the Sam
Hill is going on up there?! I've
had polyps removed smarter than the
two of you!
(sniffing)
Hells fire, this ain't the ba--!

EZEKIEL
(quickly)
Pappy! -- The Sheriff is standing
right here -- helping us out!

JEDIDIAH
Gonna give us a permit for
prospectin'!

RANGO
That's right, sir. Just doing my
duty. The lonely constable on his
rounds, keeping an eagle eye out
for mayhem and malfeasance.

PAPPY
He look like he sounds?

JEDIDIAH
Uh-huh.

PAPPY
Well Sheriff, if we was to hit the
motherload -- being prospectors and
such -- Where would we deposit said
annuity?

RANGO
Well, here in the town of Dirt we
have the finest financial
institution this side of the
Missouri.
(gestures toward the bank)
Protected morning, noon and night
by yours truly.

Rango hands Pappy the permit as he gulps a piece of cactus
fruit.

PAPPY
(smiles)
Much obliged.

CUT TO--

54 EXT. MAIN STREET - MORNING

54

Parsons runs down the street screaming:

PARSONS
THE BANK'S BEEN ROBBED! THE BANK'S
BEEN ROBBED! OH GOOD LORD THE
BANK'S BEEN ROBBED! IT'S ALL GONE!
THE WATER IS ALL GONE!

MR. FURGUS
What's goin' on?

SLIM
What'd he say?

MR. SNUGGLES
He said the bank's been robbed!

55 INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MORNING

55

Rango bolts awake, his eyes covered with cucumber slices.

RANGO
Dr. Marx, I'm on fire! Embrace
me...

The Mariachis sing heartily of Rango's failure...

MARIACHIS
The bank's been robbed, the town is
dry. "We'll die of thirst," the
people cry. He promised to protect
the vault. The water's gone.
It's all his fault!

56 INT. BANK - MORNING

56

Rango forces his way through the crowd to the vault--
The big bottle of reserve water is gone!
There is a hole dug up right in the middle of the floor.

RANGO
All right, folks, stand back, this
is a crime scene now. Clear the
area, secure the perimeter, dust
for prints, check for fibers, scan
for DNA, I want a urine sample from
everyone, and get me a latte, and
don't mix up the two.

PARSONS
(reading a bit of paper)
"Prospecting permit"

RANGO
(snatches it back)
I'll take that. Material evidence.

MR. SNUGGLES
What are we gonna do now, Sheriff?!

SPOONS
We need that water!

BONNIE
We're all gonna die...

The Mayor glides forward smoothly:

THE MAYOR
Well, we all know what we have to
do now.

RANGO
That's right, we all know what we
have to do now! And that would
be...

THE MAYOR
(under his breath)
Form a posse.

RANGO
FARM A OPOSSUM!

Silence.

THE MAYOR
(a little louder)
A posse.

57 EXT. MAIN STREET - MORNING 57

Rango is addressing the assembled townspeople.

RANGO
Now we're gonna be doing this in an
orderly fashion ... First off, does
anybody here know how to use a
firearm of any kind?

BAM -- every single person pulls out a gun.

RANGO
All right then.

MR. FURGUS
What do we do now, sheriff?

RANGO
(eyes narrow)
Now ... WE RIDE!

WHIP CRACK!

58 EXT. DESERT - DAY 58

Rango and his posse are racing over the desert landscape,
hell for leather. They use roadrunners as horses.

The Mariachi band plays the rousing music.

Spoons rides up next to Rango:

SPOONS
Where are we goin'?

RANGO
What?

SPOONS
Where are we going!?

Rango looks at him ... blinks ... he has no idea.

CUT TO--

59 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 59

Rango is pinning a homemade Deputy star on Wounded Bird.

RANGO

Now as my deputy you'll be in charge of all trackin' and findin' of villains. Utilizing your well-developed Injun-uity -- no offense taken. So, which way you think they went? You wanna smell the air or commune with the great buffalo or something?

Wounded Bird points to the big prairie dog hole.

RANGO

Oh ... you're good.

60

INT. VAULT - DAY

60

The posse is in the process of jumping down into the hole left by the bank robbers. Rango has a cheering word for each.

RANGO

Now I'm depending on you, Spoons ... uh, got a little tobaccy in the beard there.

Spoons jumps down the hole.

RANGO

Always good to have a medical man along, Doc.

Doc jumps down the hole.

RANGO

(to Buford)
Reptiles gotta stick together, right my brother?

BUFORD

I'm an amphibian.

RANGO

Ain't no shame in that.

Buford jumps down the hole.

RANGO

(startled)
Oh! ... You sure you're fit for duty there soldier?

SGT. TURLEY, a bird with an arrow lodged in through his eye stands before Rango.

TURLEY
What?

RANGO
Well, you got a little something in
your eye there.

TURLEY
(pointing to his good eye)
Oh that? That there is
conjunctivitis, sir. It's, uh,
hereditary.

RANGO
Oh, well, glad to hear it's not
contagious.

Turley jumps in the hole ... revealing Beans.

RANGO
Now just wait one cotton-pickin'
minute! A posse ain't no place for
a--

Without a word she jumps down the hole, revealing little
Priscilla. Last in line.

She draws two enormous Colt dragoon pistols from her
briefcase.

RANGO
Whoa! Hold on there little sister.
Someone's going to have to look
after the town while I'm gone.

PRISCILLA
Can I gut-shoot someone?

RANGO
Let's put a pin in that.

PRISCILLA
Sheriff ... You are gonna bring
that water back, aren't you?

RANGO
Count on it, little sister.

61 INT. TUNNELS - DAY

61

Rango drops down, joining the posse as they study a series of
subterranean tunnel entrances.

SPOONS
Which way do we go Sheriff?

DOC
There's tunnels everywhere...

BUFORD
Whole town is perforated with 'em.

DOC
How'd them fellers find the bank
anyway?

RANGO
(quickly)
Gentlemen, if we could just stay on-
task here.

AMBROSE (O.S.)
Sheriff, over here!

62 INT. TUNNELS-PIPE - DAY

62

The posse members are awestruck as they look up at an old
water pipe.

BUFORD
Would you look at that?

SPOONS
Like seeing the face of God...

ELGIN
Amen brother.

MR. FURGUS
I remember when it used to flow
every Wednesday.

AMBROSE
Those were the halcyon days.

ELGIN
Must be a reason she quit on us.

BEANS
Whatever the reason, something is
controlling this here water.

WAFFLES
What do you say, sheriff?

RANGO

Clearly the robbers came from this direction. I say we track this pipe back to its hydraulic origin and apprehend the culprits behind this aquatic conundrum.

BUFORD

What did he say?

TURLEY

I think he said follow the pipe.

WAFFLES

He said follow the pipe.

ELGIN

He said follow the pipe.

63 OMITTED

63

64 INT. CAVERN - DAY

64

They enter a large cavern...

RANGO

Whatever you do, do not look down.
(He looks down)
Whoa!

WAFFLES

What is this place?

BEANS

It's an aquifer.

WAFFLES

Ahhh ... What's an aquifer?

BUFORD

Well, it's for aqua.

WAFFLES

Well ... it's empty now.

A GIANT SUBTERRANEAN CREATURE opens it's eye as they pass by.

DOC

That's a big one.

65 INT. END OF PIPE TUNNEL

65

The pipe abruptly disappears into a cave wall.

MR. FURGUS

It's the end of the line.

SPOONS

It don't go no further.

BUFORD

Someone or somethin' is messing with our hydration and that pipe's got something to do with it.

ELGIN

Now, I thought we were following bank robbers!

TURLEY

We are experiencing a paradigm shift.

ELGIN

I'm goin' to shift the features on your face if you don't shut up.

The posse erupts into chaos.

RANGO

Quiet you savages! Stop your babbling! You're affecting my cogitation -- Whoa! I got it! Snuff out them torches.

They do. Rango suffocates his flame with his hat. Pitch-blackness. They become aware of a sliver of light from above. They're in awe.

BUFORD

Sure enough.

SPOONS

Smart thinkin' there feller!

WAFFLES

Start climbin'.

The posse members start climbing up roots toward the light.

MR. FURGUS

Get your foot out of my face!

RANGO
Not bad, huh Beans?

BEANS
You keep thinking like that your
hat's going to catch on fire.

RANGO
(putting his hat on)
Well, you know, you get on a roll
you--

Rango's hat bursts into flames.

RANGO
WHOA! HOT. HOT. BURN. WHOA. OW!

66 EXT. DESERT-CACTUS GRAVEYARD - DAY

66

Rango and posse emerge from the hole. Dozens of the dead
cacti are crowded around.

Beans is particularly saddened by the sight.

BEANS
(touching the cactus)
Poor things. All they wanted was a
little water...

MR. FURGUS
Cactus dying of thirst. That don't
bode well.

WAFFLES
Hey -- Hey, look what I found!

BUFORD
What you got there?

Waffles shows a canteen.

ELGIN
Hey, I saw that first!

Elgin grabs at the canteen along with others. They all start
wrestling for it.

TURLEY
He found some water!

WAFFLES
That's mine!

ELGIN
Hold on! No! Umph! Give me that!

The canteen opens. No water. Only sand pours to the ground.

ELGIN
Aw, it's empty anyway.

TURLEY
I knew that.

RANGO
Hey, where'd you find that?

AMBROSE (O.S.)
Sheriff! You're gonna wanna see
this!

Rango and the others run to where Ambrose is pointing.

BEANS
It's Mr. Merrimack from the bank...

AMBROSE
What's he doing here?

RANGO
Everybody stand back.

DOC
Alright, let me see.

Doc examines the body of the rotund banker.

SPOONS
Looks like them varmints shot him
in the back.

DOC
No ... This man wasn't shot ... He
was drowned!

BUFORD
Drowned...?

WAFFLES
In the middle of the desert?

Doc closes Mr. Merrimack's eyes.

MR. FURGUS
What a way to go!

Elgin notices red-mud boot prints near the body.

ELGIN
Well now, whose boot prints are those?

Rango crouches down, investigates the prints.

RANGO
That's interesting ... the ground's still wet.

BEANS
I suppose we should bury him.

ELGIN
I dunno. Birds have gotta eat too.

WAFFLES
Circle of life.

BUFORD
(points up the hillside)
Hey, what's that dad-gum Indian doin'?

67 EXT. DESERT-CREST OF THE HILL - DAY

67

The posse members approach Wounded Bird, who is pulling out some feathers and tossing them up. Rango nods sagely:

RANGO
Ahh. I see you're consulting with the spirits.

WOUNDED BIRD
No. I'm moulting. Means I'm ready to mate.

RANGO
Oh... I'll keep that in mind.

Wounded Bird raises his crutch revealing a piece of cactus fruit, one of the nuts Pappy likes to eat.

WOUNDED BIRD
Cactus fruit.

RANGO
Ah yes, the ancient cactus fruit. I believe your people use it as seasoning when preparing your native dishes.

Rango takes it and pops it into his mouth.

WOUNDED BIRD
Also natural laxative.

Rango quickly spits it out.

WOUNDED BIRD
Shh- Pick up trail ... Three men,
heading west, one blind, one
with...
(sniffs)
...enlarged prostate, riding
sidesaddle.

WAFFLES
What'd he say?

MR. FURGUS
(whispers)
They're riding sidesaddle.

BUFORD
What?

BEANS
Shh ... we're whisperin'.

SPOONS
What'd he say?

TURLEY
Someone's got a bad valve.

DOC
(snapping a rubber glove)
Alright, which one of you fellers
needs a checkup?

WOUNDED BIRD
Awkward.

WAFFLES
(staring at the glove)
Ah ... What exactly are we gonna do
now?

RANGO
Now ... WE RIDE!

WHIP CRACK!

Then nothing. No music.

Rango turns to the Mariachis: unsure what to do.

RANGO
That means we're riding now ...
this moment.

WHIP CRACK!

They leap into rousing music.

68 EXT. DESERT-MONTAGE - DAY 68

Triumphant music ... spectacular scenery ... the posse rides hell for leather ... past Monument Valley ... through Death Valley ... over mesas ... through slot canyons ... Wounded Bird checks the ground for the trail, points, they're off again... The sun gradually sets ... it is a majestic sunset ... painting the desert crimson and vermillion...

69 EXT. CAMP - NIGHT 69

Rango and the posse sit around a campfire.

WAFFLES
Marshmallows remind me of going camping with my daddy. I could eat 'em all night long. Of course he did make me cough them back up again for breakfast.

Waffles' flaming marshmallow is snatched by Buford's tongue.

BUFORD
(belches)
This one time I coughed up an entire Dalmatian.

ELGIN
That's nothing -- I coughed up an entire tribe of pygmies ... they started looking at me weird.

MR. FURGUS
I remember them -- they was quite friendly.

SPOONS
I found a human spinal column in my fecal matter once.

Everyone is speechless.

TURLEY

You might want to get that looked at.

DOC

Pass the beans, Beans.

BEANS

Sheriff?

RANGO

Uh, no thanks.

SPOONS

Mr. Rango, can you tell us about the Spirit of the West?

DOC

Ohh yeah, tell us about that!

WAFFLES

Is it true what they say?

RANGO

Ah, yes, the Spirit of the West.

Rango takes his glowing campfire branch and begins to draw in the night sky.

RANGO

The eternally unattainable ideal ... They say he rides in an alabaster carriage with golden guardians to protect him. But he only appears to those who have undertaken an epic quest and have made it ... to the other side.

TURLEY

Other side of what?

RANGO

It's a metaphor.

Rango leans on the stick, it bends and bounds away from him.

WAFFLES

Ow! My eye!

RANGO

That's going to heal right up.

AMBROSE
Uh, Sheriff, what are you going to
do about Rattlesnake Jake?

A rattling sound is heard.

RANGO
(startled)
What? Where?

It's Spoons playing the spoons on his knee.

SPOONS
Sorry about that. Word is you come
against him once 'r twice.

RANGO
Oh yeah -- Jake ... You mean my
brother.

TURLEY
Your brother?

RANGO
That's what I said.

BUFORD
But he's a snake and you're a --
you're a lizard.

RANGO
Well -- momma had an active social
life.

POSSE MEMBERS
Ohhh.

MR. FURGUS
Did he ever bite you?

RANGO
Sure enough did.
(lifts up his shirt)
Look at that baby ... Go ahead ...
you can touch it.

DOC
That's interesting. That there's a
bellybutton.

RANGO

Luckily, I'm immune to his venom.
Put some in my coffee just to give
it a little tang.

WAFFLES

Is it true he's only scared of them
hawks?

RANGO

Them's what we call his natural
predator.

Coyote howls. Posse shutters in fear.

TURLEY

All this talk of that serpentine
devil is putting my quills on edge.

BUFORD

I ain't going to sleep tonight, no
sir.

RANGO

Don't you all worry about a thing.
Come tomorrow we'll locate that
water and return to a heroes
welcome.

SPOONS

(stands)

Friends, before we bunk down I'd
like to join hands for a moment.
Say a few words to the Spirit of
the West.

POSSE MEMBERS

(under their breath)

Oh yeah, that's a good idea.

They all stand and join hands for a simple prayer:

SPOONS

Ain't always spoken rightly to you,
Spirit of the West ... But tonight
I want to thank you for bringing
Sheriff Rango into our lives...

Rango looks from face to face. The sincerity and faith he
sees unsettles him. These people really trust him.

SPOONS

It's a hard life we got; sometimes
I don't know how we're going to
make it. But somehow Sheriff Rango
makes me think we will...

Rango finally looks to Beans. She looks back at him. A very complex expression on her face. Does she believe? Does she want to believe?

SPOONS

We needed a brave man, and you sent
us one. Nice to have someone to
believe in again ... Thank you,
Spirit of the West ... Amen.

POSSE MEMBERS

Amen... Amen to that.

70

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT - LATER

70

Rango can't sleep. He notices Beans standing alone on the crest of a hill. He goes to her...

He's not sure if she's frozen or not. He waves his hat in front of her face. She turns to him.

RANGO

Oh ... Just checking. It's a--
little cold tonight.

He places his blanket around her.

BEANS

Thank you.

Rango uncomfortably notices a cactus looming near over him...

RANGO

You ever feel like those things are
looking at you?

BEANS

That's a "Spanish Dagger" ... But
around here we just call them the
"Walking Cactus".

RANGO

Walking?

BEANS

There's an old legend that they actually walk across the desert to find water ... When I was a little girl I'd stay up late watching to see if they'd move. Thought if I could follow them they would lead me to someplace wonderful. Someplace with enough water for everyone ... Night after night I watched them ... I never saw them move.

RANGO

But you're still watching.

BEANS

Who doesn't want to find someplace wonderful?

Beans looks out over the valley in the distance.

RANGO

We'll find the water, Beans. I promise you.

Something new in his tone makes her look up. He's serious.

She holds his gaze... A coyote howls.

BEANS

(shivers)
That's such a lonely sound ... You ever get lonely?

RANGO

Sometimes.

BEANS

I can't imagine it. You're such a charmer and everyone likes you so much ... I never made friends easy like that.

RANGO

No?

BEANS

No, we were pretty isolated out there on the ranch sort of like being sealed up in a little box. Don't really see a lot of folks.

RANGO
(quietly)
I wouldn't know what that's like.

She finally summons up her nerve. Doesn't look at him.

BEANS
Is there someone special in your
life, Rango?

RANGO
Oh, well, there used to be, but she
couldn't keep her head ... Besides,
my life's too dangerous for that
kind of thing ... You know it's an
awful solitary existence out there
on the prairie, riding the ranges
and the suchlike...

He trails to silence. Turns to her. Stops. Waves his hand in
front of her.

She's frozen.

RANGO
Beans? Uh ... Beans?

A beat.

He gently leans over ... kisses her cheek.

He sighs... walks back to camp.

She slowly smiles... She wasn't frozen at all.

71 EXT. PRAIRIE DOG TOWN - DAY

71

We're looking through a spyglass...

We see a bizarre prairie dog town built into a cliff face. It
appears to be deserted except for:

Pappy and Jedidiah are arguing about something. Pappy whacks
him on the head with his big stick, screaming invective.

PAPPY
Ohh--I'm gonna skin you alive boy!

JEDIDIAH
It wasn't my fault pappy!-- I don't
know!

PAPPY
I'm gonna whoop you like a red
headed stepchild.

72 EXT. CREST OF THE HILL 72

Rango lowers the spyglass. He's hidden on the crest of a hill
in the distance with Beans and Wounded Bird.

RANGO
Choleric varmints, ain't they?

WOUNDED BIRD
Dysfunctional family...need
intervention.

BEANS
(sees something)
What's that comin'?

Rango raises the spyglass again.

73 EXT. PRAIRIE DOG TOWN 73

Ezekiel pulls up in a wagon hauling the big bottle of water
from the bank, covered with a tarp.

RANGO
(gasps!)
It's the water...

The rest of the posse members gather around...

74 EXT. CREST OF HILL 74

RANGO
I have a plan, and each and every
one of you has a part to play.

SPOONS
What do I do!?

RANGO
Spoons, you got the most important
job of all ... You stay up here on
the ridge and if anything goes
wrong ... you give the signal.

74A EXT. CREST OF THE HILL - MOMENTS LATER 74A

The posse members load their guns as Rango warms his voice.

RANGO
Mma! ... Mmaaa!
(to Beans)
Hey Beans, what size dress you
wearin'?

75

EXT. PRAIRIE DOG TOWN - DAY

75

Pappy walks toward the wagon, delighted with the water.

JEDIDIAH
Look, he got it! Pappy, he found
the water!

PAPPY
Hallelujah! You did it, son!

EZEKIEL
Well actually...

PAPPY
(whacking Jedidiah)
Why can't you be all brainy like
your brother?

EZEKIEL
Now, Pappy, about that water--
There's somethin' I gots to tell
ya'.

PAPPY
(turns suddenly)
Shhh. Hush up now...there's someone
coming.

Rango, now wearing Beans' dress, sweeps forward with his
traveling troupe of actors. Everyone is in Renaissance
clothing.

RANGO
(theatrical grande dame)
Whoa-oh! Ha-ha. Good, sirs!
Gracious good afternoon to thee and
thee and thee! May I present --
Madame Lupone's Terpsichorean
Troupe of Traveling Thespians!

PAPPY
Wha-- what is that?

EZEKIEL
I think they's thespians.

PAPPY
Thespians?! That's illegal in seven
states.

Again, Rango holds two palm fronds up as curtains...
Addresses CAMERA:

RANGO
The stage is set. The princess
prepares to take her own life.

Reveal the princess, Beans:

BEANS
I yearn for love.

RANGO
Meanwhile, the lone sentry stands
watch at the castle gate!

ELGIN
(bad acting)
Hark. Who goes there?

PAPPY
This plot's highly predictable.

EZEKIEL
(loves the theatre)
Quiet, this is my favorite part!

RANGO
Arriving to great fanfare, 'twas
her aged father...

Mariachi trumpets play. Reveal Sgt. Turley, dressed as the
father but still with an arrow protruding from his eye.

RANGO
(re: Turley)
Strucketh by cupid.

TURLEY
(struggling)
Um ... Prithee unhand my fair
daughter, and reach for the ...
line.

EZEKIEL
Reach for the sky!

The posse members pull their guns surrounding the prairie
dogs.

PAPPY
What was that?

JEDIDIAH
Must be that Immersive Theatre.

RANGO
We got you surrounded. So you and
your entire family get your hands
up where we can see 'em.

PAPPY
(chuckles)
My entire family?

A rumble ... Heads begin to emerge from the soil... Hundreds
of Inbred Rodents...

INBRED RODENTS
(chanting)
Grits 'n spit 'n collard greens ...
Waffle chitlins, monkey brains ...
Refried bones 'n booger blood ...
Pickled eggs 'n flaps of mud!

They all pull assorted weapons -- the posse members spin --
everyone points guns at everyone else. It's an amphitheater
full of inbred rodents...

RANGO
(in awe)
It's a full house.

PAPPY
Looks like we got ourselves a good
old-fashioned stand off.

RANGO
(steely)
I'll have you know, you're not
looking at our entire contingent.

SPOONS (O.S.)
Caw-caw-caw...Caw-Caw...Caw...

On the bluff in the distance -- Spoons is flapping his arms
like crazy...

LASSO RODENT
What's that-- what's that supposed
to be?

ELGIN
That's the signal.

WAFFLES
That's the signal! Something must
have gone wrong.

Spoons is waving two flags over his head, then runs over to a
campfire and starts to create smoke signals.

PAPPY
So, uh ... somethin' supposed to
happen?

RANGO
I'm open to suggestions.

Spoons collapses from exhaustion -- raises his pistol and
fires into the air -- BANG!

The javelina takes off running with the water!

RANGO
RUUUUUNNN!

Rango and the posse members race toward the wagon!

BEANS
Get on the wagon!

Pappy stands back with his sons.

PAPPY
Should we have ourselves some
sport, chill'ens?

JEDIDIAH
(smiles)
I likes it when they run.

They pull aviator goggles into place. We see all the prairie
dogs doing the same thing, getting more and more excited.

PAPPY
Maybelle, give the holler.

MAYBELLE, an inbred rodent with pigtailed and a platform boot
on one foot, raises her head and gives the loudest, most
DELIVERANCE-like scary/funny hog holler imaginable.

All of the rodents respond dropping into their holes. Soon
the entire place is deserted.

- 76 EXT. PRAIRIE DOG CANYON-WAGON - DAY 76
Rango and the others cling to the wagon as it barrels through the narrow slot canyons at top speed--
- WAFFLES
Looks like we made it!
- RANGO
That audience was quite responsive.
- BEANS
Yeah, well I think that chromosome pool is about dried up.
- 77 EXT. PRAIRIE DOG TOWN - DAY 77
Pappy stands alone... then suddenly... a swarm emerges...
A black cloud emanates from the cliff dwellings...
BATS!
THE PRAIRIE DOGS ZOOM INTO SIGHT -- RIDING ON BATS!
Hooting and hollering!
- 78 BAT AND WAGON ACTION SEQUENCE 78
The posse members try to escape as the bats approach.
- WAFFLES
We got bats!
- RANGO
(hands over the reins)
Oh, here ... you drive.
- Beans snaps the reins.
- MAYBELLE
Looks like there's gonna be soup tonight!
- The bats swoop down in formation to attack, the prairie dogs cheer as they fire modified Gatling guns, strafing the wagon.
- INBRED RODENTS
Yee-haw!
- PAPPY
What in tarnation!?

PAPPY (CONT'D)
(smacks Ezekiel with his
stick)
Don't shoot the water! ...
(calls out)
Jedidiah! It's time for the Alabama
squeeze box!

JEDIDIAH
Okay Pa!

The bats dive in toward the wagon!

WAFFLES
I'm sensing hostility.

BUFORD
In coming!

Two bats swoop in to each side of the wagon -- both Inbred Rodents draw their weapons on Rango and Beans.

INBRED RODENT #1
Hello.

INBRED RODENT #2
Goodbye.

Rango pulls the brake -- the rodents fire -- hitting each other -- sending them into the canyon walls.

Another Inbred Rodent slams into the back of the wagon propelling Rango onto the javelina.

PAPPY
Lasso-- that swine!

LASSO RODENT lassos Rango pulling him into the air.

RANGO
WHOOOA----!

Two rodent DYNAMITE KIDS slingshot TNT toward the wagon.

AMBROSE
I suggest we take evasive action.

BEANS
I suggest you shut up and shoot!

ELGIN
What happened to the sheriff?

BEANS
He had a previous engagement.

Pappy commands his squadron:

PAPPY
Boseefus, give 'em some gumbo now!

Another group of Inbred Rodents drop down on ropes.

A thud is heard in the back of the wagon.

BEANS
What was that?
(re: Waffles)
Go check it out!

Waffles peeks over the top of the wagon -- An Inbred Rodent with two knives approaches...

BEANS
What is it? Is there a problem?

WAFFLES
Uh ... You could call it that.

Meanwhile, Rango's lost it -- imagining a fantastic slow motion aerial ballet while being pulled through the chaos.

Two rodent gunners circle around and take fire on Rango-- waking him from his dream--

Action Sequence: Rango panics: Bats collide: Rango lands on another bat: Drops a stick of dynamite... BOOM!

A rock pillar falls creating a low bridge ahead of the wagon.

Beans maneuvers the wagon just under the bridge -- knocking the KNIFE ATTACKER off.

WAFFLES
Headache!

KNIFE ATTACKER
(stands defiantly)
Is that all you got?

The bridge collapses -- crushing him.

Rango drops from a bat and onto Spoons' roadrunner--

Spoons peeks out from beneath Rango's dress:

SPOONS
That wasn't all together unpleasant.

They ride on toward the wagon--

Rodents make there way to the front of the wagon.

BEANS
(To the first rodent)
Here, hold this.

Beans punches a Rodent off the wagon--

BEANS
Get your hands off me!

kicks off another--

Rango grabs hold of the wagon -- swings into the front seat --
SMACK! -- Beans punches him, oops.

They share a smile...

BAM! They hit a large rock sending the wagon out of control--

RANGO
Jump!

Beans and Rango land safely--

The wagon crashes -- sending the water bottle rolling to the
ground ahead.

79

EXT. CRASH SITE

79

It's empty! No water... The battle is over...

They all gather around the broken bottle, winded from the
chase. Mr. Merrimack's glasses are inside.

WAFFLES
It's impossible...

BEANS
It can't be... It's empty.

BOSEEFUS
There's no water...

PAPPY
(surprised)
No water?! What the hell we been
fightin' for?

RANGO

Sir, you have defiled and desecrated the very sustenance of our livelihood.

JEDIDIAH

I think that there fella in the pretty dress is the Sheriff.

PAPPY

Same fella what give us our prospecting permit?

BEANS

A what?

RANGO

Irrelevant! Obfuscation ... You and your kin are under arrest for bank robbery-- and the murder of our beloved financial advisor. Johannes Merrimack III aka Fluffy Joe.

EZEKIEL

Sheriff, we didn't kill nobody. We done tunneled into that vault -- but there weren't nothing in it.

JEDIDIAH

Somebody done robbed the bank before we robbed it!

BEANS

(re: the water bottle)
So where did you get this here jug?

EZEKIEL

That's what I've been trying to tell you, pappy ... I found it in the desert.

PAPPY

Then why in tarnation did you bring it here?!!

Pappy whacks him over the head with his walking stick.

RANGO

Hold on, hold on. You're saying this here jug was empty when you found it?

EZEKIEL

That's right!

ELGIN

I don't believe a word of it.

BUFORD

Let's hang 'em sheriff.

TURLEY

String 'em up!

AMBROSE

Who would dump water in the desert?

BEANS

(looks to Rango)

Wouldn't be the first time.

WAFFLES

It's a puzzle, it's like a big old Mammogram.

MR. FURGUS

What's going on Sheriff?

RANGO

I don't know -- but I'm going to strip away this mystery and expose its private parts.

(to Pappy and his sons)

You and your kin are coming with me.

We hear a bell beginning to toll...

80

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

80

The townspeople are waiting... A shout from a kid raccoon:

CLETUS

They're coming! Here they come!

The posse rides slowly into town. Silent. They are dejected.

CURLIE

Looks like they found the robbers.

PRISCILLA

Where's the water?

BEANS
(slowly riding past)
There weren't no water.

The townspeople are stunned. Anguish and despair.
Rango sees Priscilla. She's looking up at him. Disappointed.
He can't bare to look at her anymore. He finds Beans' eye...
Rango rides ahead.

HITCH
Where's he going?

ELGIN
He's going to see the Mayor.

81 EXT. PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY 81

WHACK! -- A golf ball sails through the sky. Only it's not a golf ball. It's a pill bug, being used as a golf ball.

KINSKI
Oh, he's gotta be pleased with that, yeah?

CHORIZO
That's a good one boss!

They are at a small pre-construction site in the desert.
Bad Bill and his gang are wearing golfing outfits.
Rango is sitting on a bench, pulling on golf shoes. He looks over at a pair of muddy boots, examines.

RANGO
Huh...That's interesting.

The Mayor finishes overlooking plans with a CONSTRUCTION PRAIRIE DOG.

THE MAYOR
I do apologize for the shoes, Mr. Rango, but there's a certain protocol to this game, you understand? I'm a bit of a stickler for protocol.

RANGO

Well, that's good. Cause you've got a few questions to answer and I've got my own protocol.

Rango's clubs fall out of his bag. CRASH!

82

EXT. PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE - LATER

82

BAD BILL

...But why would anyone dump water in the bloomin' desert?

THE MAYOR

(to Rango)

It does seem a bit naive taking the word of admitted bank robbers, Mr. Rango. Besides, once they hang your job is done.

CHORIZO

(laughing maniacally)
Bravo!

KINSKI

Job well done.

Bill and his guys laugh.

RANGO

But what if somebody did rob the bank before they got there?

THE MAYOR

And who would do that, Mr. Rango?

RANGO

I was hoping you could tell me.

Rango is getting ready to hit a drive, teeing up his pill bug. The Mayor slowly turns to face Rango.

THE MAYOR

That sounds marginally near to an accusation.

RANGO

Take it any way you like.

Rango makes his back swing -- the club goes flying -- KONKS Chorizo on the head--

83 EXT. PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE - LATER

83

RANGO

Something you said keeps rattling
around in my frontal lobe.

THE MAYOR

What's that?

RANGO

"Control the water and you control
everything."

THE MAYOR

(smiles)

Come now, Mr. Rango, you attribute
divine power to me. How on earth
could I possibly control the water?

The Mayor putts -- a great putt -- sinks it.

Rango prepares to putt, comically.

RANGO

You've obviously mastered this
game.

THE MAYOR

Well, I've been playing it for a
great many years, sir. I was here
before the highway split this great
valley. I've watched the march of
progress and I learned a thing or
two... Perhaps it's time you
started to take the long view:
begin to appreciate the broad sweep
of history.

He gestures for Rango to look through one of the surveyor's
telescopes. Rango does.

THE MAYOR

Look out there, son ... You can
almost see time passing.

RANGO

What are you building out here?

THE MAYOR

The future, Mr. Rango, the future.
(gestures out)
One day soon all this is going to
fade into myth ...

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)

The Frontier Town, The Lawman, the
Gunslinger ... There's just no
place for them anymore. We're
civilized now.

Bad Bill and his henchmen laugh as they walk by.

BAD BILL

That's right. Civilized.

THE MAYOR

That's what the future holds ...
You can either be a part of it or
you can be left behind.

RANGO

Is that what happened to Mr.
Merrimack ... did he get left
behind?

THE MAYOR

Careful, Mr. Rango. You seem to
forget you're just one little
lizard.

RANGO

You seem to forget ... I'm the law
around these parts.

He's dead serious.

He turns and walks away -- The Mayor's smile fades.

THE MAYOR

Our new sheriff has been playing
the hero for so long he's actually
starting to believe it. Call in
Rattlesnake Jake.

Bad Bill is clearly terrified of Jake.

BAD BILL

What?! --- Jake's the grim reaper.
He never leaves without taking a
blooming soul.

THE MAYOR

Do it!

The Mayor hits one final pill bug over the hill...

We rise over the hill to reveal a massive construction site.

Whatever the Mayor's planning on building here, it's grandiose.

85 INT. JAIL - EVENING

85

Red sky outside. Almost sunset.

Mournful prison music as we pan across the three prairie dogs in the jail cell ... Jedidiah is whittling ... Ezekiel is reading his Bible as Pappy slicks down his hair:

PAPPY

Now be still, you gotta look presentable to meet your maker.

The Mariachi perform somberly while hanging from support beams...

MARIACHIS

La muerte a llegado. Death has arrived. Donde estan tus juevos? How will the hero survive?

We continue on to Rango pacing, while Beans and Wounded Bird study a map.

WOUNDED BIRD

The Mayor has bought up all the land in the valley, except for your ranch Miss Beans.

BEANS

It just don't make no sense, without water that land is useless.

RANGO

Unless he controls the water, like a monkey's bladder, then he could bring it back once he's bought up all the land.

BEANS

But how does he control the water.

Then little Priscilla runs in from outside:

PRISCILLA

Sheriff, we got a problem.

Outside, a lynch mob gathers in front of the jail calling for rodent prisoner blood. Beans pulls a shotgun off the rack but Rango stops her.

RANGO
Hold on Beans, that won't be
necessary.

86

EXT. MAIN STREET - EVENING

86

Wounded Bird and Beans guard the door to the jail as Rango
moves to the front of the crowd.

BONNIE
Hang him 'til his head turns blue!

WAFFLES
Give us them robbers!

ELGIN
String 'em up, Sheriff.

RANGO
Hold on! Calm down, everyone! Let
me talk--!

The crowd roars. Bloodthirsty.

MR. FURGUS
Somebody's got to pay.

BONNIE
Nail 'em to the Courthouse.

BUFORD
That's how we do things here!

RANGO
Calm down everybody, come on now.

Rango sees some familiar faces in the crowd.

SPOONS
Get 'em out here so we can cut off
their giblets.

RANGO
You too, Spoons?

SPOONS
They done taken that water. They
taken everything we got.

RANGO
No one's stringing anyone up. Not
while I'm Sheriff.

HAZEL MOATS

But this is all his fault!

BONNIE

(to Rango)

You said you's gonna bring the water back.

BUFORD

(to Rango)

It's just ... we got no hope without that water.

SPOONS

We got nothing left to believe in.

RANGO

You see that sign up there? As long as that sign says "Sheriff" you can believe that there's law and order in this town ... But without law and order? Ruminant on that! ... Oh yeah. It starts out slow, like a fungus. Somebody says a cross word, accusations start flying, neighbor turns on neighbor, pretty soon we're eating our children, then dogs and cats are getting together to create all sorts of unnatural mutant aberrations!

We see some of the town's lovable mutant aberration children.

RANGO

So you want something to believe in, Spoons? ... Believe in me ... Believe in that there sign. For as long as it hangs there, we got hope.

87

SUDDENLY--

87

BANG!BANG!BANG!BANG!BANG!

Bullets trace across the "Sheriff" sign and it falls.

Everyone spins--

THEN A SOUND -- LIKE A SCREAM-- DEAFENING--

RRRRAAAAAATTTTTLLLLLLLLLEEEEEEEEE!

The crowd steps back in terror -- Revealing--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE.

Bad Bill wasn't exaggerating: Jake is the Grim Reaper. A vision from Hell in the red light of sunset.

His black hat covers his face. He slowly raises his head. Revealing shining black eyes catching the red light of sunset. Burning into Rango.

Jake blows the smoke from the Gatling gun-like weapon on his tail.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
Hello, brother.

He drains some venom into a cup and presents it to Rango.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
Thirsty?

Jake chuckles as he moves forward with the side-winding elegance of a ninja assassin, an unnerving undulating motion.

The Mayor, Bad Bill and his gang stand behind Jake. Amused.

Jake slowly circles around Rango, his head oscillating back and forth.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
Long time, brother ... How you been keeping?

RANGO
Oh, well, you know, I...

HISSSSS! Rango's hat blows off. Rango freezes.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
I hear you been telling about how you killed all them Jenkins brothers ... with one bullet wasn't it? ... Isn't that right?

Rango doesn't move, terrified.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
All these good folks here believe your little stories, don't they? Why, they believe you're just a stone killer, don't they?

He slides over to Priscilla, who's standing with Beans.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Seems these folks trust you ...
They think you're gonna save their
little town ... They think you're
gonna save their little souls. But
we know better, don't we?

He coils himself sensually around Beans. She squirms. He
licks her face with his terrible forked tongue.

Rango doesn't move.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

So why don't you show your friends
here what you're made of? ... Show
'em who you really are ... Why
don't you just pull your gun and
shoot me?

Jake pulls Rango's gun with his tail and opens the chamber,
starts dropping out bullets...

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

But of course you won't need all
these ... Just one, right?

He leaves one bullet left in the chamber. Makes Rango take
the gun. Jake puts the muzzle of Rango's gun right against
his own forehead.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Go ahead, hero ... pull the
trigger.

Rango is shaking. Absolutely terrified.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

You got killer in your eyes, son?
... I don't see it.

Rango drops his head ... holsters his gun.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

You didn't do any of them things
you said, did you? You didn't kill
them Jenkins brothers. You ain't
even from the west, are you? ...
Say it.

RANGO

No.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Oh speak up! I don't think your friends heard you.

RANGO

(louder)

No.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

All you've done is lie to these good people ... You ain't nothing but a fake and a coward, isn't that right?

RANGO

Yes.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Louder!

RANGO

Yes!

Rango is absolutely humiliated. Jake circles him ... coiling.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Listen close, you pathetic fraud, this is my town now ... If I ever see you again I will take your soul straight down to Hell.

Jake unravels pushing Rango on his way with a haunting HISSSS!

The crowd moves away. No one will meet his eye.

Except for Priscilla, she looks up at Rango hopefully. Say it ain't so.

He walks past her.

Rango shuffles to Beans. Stops. Can't look at her.

She's sickened at his deception. And terribly hurt.

BEANS

Who are you?

The question hangs in the air.

He continues on.

Silence.

88 EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - EVENING 88

Rango walks out of town.

He stops next to the graveyard of dead sheriffs.

He removes his sheriff's star. Looks at it.

Drops it in the dust.

Keeps walking ... leaving Dirt behind.

89 EXT. DESERT - SUNSET 89

The sun fully sets as Rango trudges through the lonely desert. An exodus to nowhere.

The Mariachis look at each other, then pack away their instruments. BEGIN MONTAGE.

90 EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT 90

VROOM! A car flashes past. Headlights momentarily illuminating the desert.

Rango wanders to the highway. He stands. Lost.

He sees his little windup fish still on the side of the road.

Rango embraces him.

Then he sees his headless doll torso. He goes to her. Sits. Puts his arm around her.

A long beat.

RANGO (V.O.)
Who am I? ... I am nobody.

Rango sits, arm around the torso. Absolutely forlorn.

Another car ZOOMS past.

91 EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER - NIGHT 91

Rango is walking across the highway. It's a suicide walk.

Cars ZOOM past Rango. Barely missing him. He doesn't care.

He makes it to the other side of the road.

A moment. Can't even commit suicide right.

He collapses ... passes out.

92 EXT. DESERT - NIGHT 92

A lonely wind stirs the desert slightly.

Then... On the ground, pill-bugs begin to uncurl...

And... Rango begins to float. Like a magic carpet, hundreds of pill bugs carry Rango to meet his destiny...

93 EXT. DRY LAKE BED - MORNING 93

Rango wakes -- Squinting in the blinding sun.

He sits up, recoils, realizes he's looking at a golf cart with all sorts of things are stuffed into it ... including four golden Oscar statuettes shining in the sun.

He stops.

RANGO
The Golden Guardians. The Alabaster
Carriage.

He sees the silhouette of a man, with his back to him...

Rango approaches...

RANGO
The Spirit of the West...

The classically western dressed man is scanning the dry desert floor with a metal detector...

Hum ... hum ... hummm...

The man turns... It's the SPIRIT OF THE WEST.

The real Spirit of the West.

RANGO
Um ... excuse me... Mr. Spirit...
Sir ...

The Spirit of the West picks up an old fishing hook.

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
Ahhh ... There's a beaut.
(pockets it)
Sometimes you gotta dig deep to
find what you're looking for ... So
you made it.

RANGO
Is this heaven?

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
If it were we'd be eating Pop-tarts
with Kim Novak.

RANGO
Yeah, no kidding ... What are you
doing out here?

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
Searching. Same as you.

RANGO
I don't even know what I'm looking
for anymore. I don't even know who
I am ... They used to call you "the
man with no name."

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
These days they got a name for just
about everything ... it doesn't
matter what they call you; it's the
deeds make the man.

RANGO
But my deeds just made things
worse. I'm a fraud. I'm a phoney.
My friends believed in me, but they
need some kind of hero.

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
Then be a hero.

RANGO
Ohh...no, no--no... I- you don't
understand. I'm not even supposed
to be here--

SPIRIT OF THE WEST
That's right. You came a long way
to find something that isn't out
here. Don't you see? It's not about
you. It's about them.

RANGO
But I can't go back.

The Spirit of the West climbs into his golf cart.

SPIRIT OF THE WEST

Don't know that you got a choice,
son.

He looks at Rango through the plastic windshield, draws a little box around Rango on the dust of the windshield -- just like the frame from the terrarium at the opening of the story.

SPIRIT OF THE WEST

No man can walk out on his own
story.

Rango watches as the Spirit of the West putts off in his golf cart ... evaporating into the heat ripples.

94 EXT. DESERT

94

ROADKILL (O.S.)

So you made it...

Rango turns. Roadkill is standing there, smiling, truly beatific, at peace.

ROADKILL

That's right, amigo: The other side
of the road.

RANGO

Did you just see that?

ROADKILL

We each see what we need to see.
Beautiful, isn't it?

A quiet moment.

RANGO

Yeah. It is.

ROADKILL

Come, my friend, I want to show you
something.

95 EXT. DRY LAKE BED/BOAT

95

Roadkill leads Rango to a fish skeleton, partially fossilized in the searing heat.

Then Rango becomes aware of an enormous, decaying hull of a boat... Rango gapes.

ROADKILL

Many years ago this entire valley was covered in aqua. Now, only one question remains.

RANGO

Where did it go?

Rango turns noticing some cacti in the distance...

They are moving.

Slowly ... with heroic effort ... the roots reach out ... like stretching fingers ... grasp the ground ... slowly ... millimeters at a time ... crunching along...

RANGO

They follow the water...

(getting excited)

They follow the water! Come on!

Rango follows the line of cacti up a hill.

96 SCENE OMITTED 96

97 EXT. CREST OF THE HILL - DAY 97

They reach the crest of the hill and discover...

A big human-size water pipe running along the hill leading to LAS VEGAS!

The massive casino hotels -- dancing fountains and enormous swimming pools -- water -- golf courses -- more water! -- sprinklers going off on the fairways...

Eureka! The syncopation of the sprinklers continues as Rango puts it all together... The sprinklers slow--

98 EXT. DESERT-DRAIN PIPE - FLASHBACK 98

The water gushes out of the drainpipe.

99 EXT. PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE - FLASHBACK 99

Rango notices the muddy boots.

100 EXT. DESERT-CACTUS GRAVEYARD - FLASHBACK 100

Rango inspects muddy footprint.

BEANS (V.O.)

It just don't make no sense...

101 EXT. CRASH SITE - FLASHBACK 101
Merrimack's glasses in the empty water jug.

102 EXT. DESERT-CACTUS GRAVEYARD - FLASHBACK 102
Doc covers Mr. Merrimack's eyes.

103 INT. JAIL - FLASHBACK 103
Beans, Wounded Bird and Rango look over map.
BEANS (V.O.)
...Without water that land is
useless.

104 EXT. JAIL - FLASHBACK 104
Jake eyes Beans in his grasp and licks her face.

105 EXT. PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE - FLASHBACK 105
Rango observes the construction site.
RANGO
What are you building out here?
THE MAYOR
The future, Mr. Rango, the future.
You can be a part of it or you can
be left behind.

106 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - FLASHBACK 106
The drop of water dangles from the dropper reflecting Rango.
THE MAYOR (V.O.)
I was here before the highway split
this great valley...

107 EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT - FLASHBACK 107
Rango walks across highway with traffic zooming over him.

108 EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE -FLASHBACK 108
Boom up from golf ball to Mayor's construction site.
THE MAYOR (V.O.)
I watched the march of progress and
I've learned a thing or two...

109 EXT. CREST OF THE HILL - PRESENT 109

Rango walks over and puts his hand on the big pipe.

RANGO
"Control the water and you control
everything."

110 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - MULTIPLE FLASHBACKS 110

The Mayor looks at Rango, an idea sparking, sinisterly
laughing.

THE MAYOR (V.O.)
Come now, Mr. Rango, you attribute
divine power to me...

111 EXT. FAUCET - FLASHBACK 111

The holy spigot is brought toward the faucet. The jars of the
townspeople are raised toward the sky. The acolytes turning
the spigot.

THE MAYOR (V.O.)
...How on earth could I possibly
control the water?

112 EXT. CREST OF THE HILL - DAY - PRESENT 112

Rango follows the line of cacti up to a strange Stonehenge-
like circle of cacti.

Discovers they are surrounding ... a water valve!

At the bottom it reads: "Emergency Shut Off Valve 6"

He sees some of Bad Bill's red-mud boot prints here.

A long beat.

Rango looks back toward the highway... toward Dirt.

ROADKILL
What now amigo?

RANGO
No man can walk out on his own
story. I'm going back.

ROADKILL
But, Why?

RANGO

Because that's who I am.

113 EXT. PRAIRIE DOG CLIFF - DAY 113

The wind has picked up. The inbred prairie dogs gather in the canyon, all staring at Rango.

Maybelle totters forward, aiming her gun at Rango.

MAYBELLE

You got a lot of nerve showing up here, lawman. What is it you want?

RANGO

Your Pappy and them boys are about to hang for something they didn't do.

Maybelle's shocked ... lowers her weapon.

RANGO

But I've got a plan.

114 EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - DAY 114

The wind swirls through the graveyard of dead sheriffs.

Rango appears through the dust. Like a figure from myth.

He stops ... leans over ... picks up his sheriff's star.

Raises his head... eyes steely.

115 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY 115

The Mayor pours Beans a glass of water at his desk.

Bad Bill, Chorizo, Stump and Kinski are sprawled on a sofa wearing nicer clothes and hats. More like businessmen.

Rattlesnake Jake is coiled nearby. Threatening.

THE MAYOR

... I appreciate how difficult this is for you, Beans. But you're making a practical decision...

We see there is a property deed on the desk before her.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Decisions ... decisions...

THE MAYOR

There's no need for anymore
suffering.

The Mayor slurps some of his water. Beans, tempted, grabs her glass...

THE MAYOR

Your families ranch is nothing but
a wasteland now. Sign the deed...
(slides her the deed)
And relieve yourself of your
father's burden.

Beans awakens from her trance at the mention of her father.

BEANS

My Daddy ... was not a burden!
(she splashes the mayor)
Keep your blood money, and I'll
keep my land.

Jake STRIKES! -- wrapping himself around her chair -- head
oscillating dangerously-- Bad Bill's Gang laughs--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Do what he says or by all the fires
of the black pit I'll squeeze them
pretty brown eyes out of your skull-

Beans' chair starts to crack and break--

The Mayor and Bad Bill's Gang are no longer laughing--

THE MAYOR

Now hold on, Jake, there's no need
for--

Shockingly -- Jake spins on the Mayor! -- hissing--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Let me do my job! -- You brought me
in and now we're gonna play this
out until the end.

He spins his head back to Beans, still crushing her chair--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Sign the damn paper, woman.

BEANS

Go to hell!

Jake jerks her close -- making her look right into his eyes
as he chokes the life out of her--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
Where do you think I come from?
Look into my eyes ... I wanna see
you die.

Then--

From the street below--

A voice--

RANGO (O.S.)
JAAAAAKE! ... I'M CALLING YOU OUT!
... JAAAAAKE!

Jake spins -- Shocked -- Looks out the window.

116 EXT. MAIN STREET 116

Below on the street... The Western Hero...

Rango.

117 INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE 117

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
(smiles)
This day just got a little more
interesting.

118 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 118

Rango continues walking up the street.

The townspeople gather to catch a glimpse, completely in awe.

Jake slams out of the Mayor's office taking Beans with him.

Beans sees Rango. Can't believe it.

RANGO
Put her down.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
Or what, little man? You gonna kill
me?

RANGO
That's just about the size of it.

There's something about Rango's new firm tone that surprises Jake. He tosses Beans to Bad Bill's Gang.

BEANS
Get your filthy paws off me.

KINSKI
(gagging Beans)
Shut your gob!

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
All right, Sheriff ... Make your
move.

Rango and Rattlesnake Jake move into position to shoot it out.

Jake quickly spins the chambers of his Gatling gun-like tail gun, the chamber clicks into place.

Rango checks his gun too...

One bullet. So be it.

He holsters his gun.

Rango and Jake face off.

The town clock ticks toward high noon...

The wind has died down. The air is dead...

Townpeople are vacating the street. Hiding. Peering through windows, between shutters, around corners...

The clock ticks to high noon...

Starts to toll... BONG!

Rango and Jake slowly start walking toward each other...

Step ... step ... step...

The Mayor leans forward eagerly...

Bad Bill holds Beans. She can barely stand to watch...

BONG! ... BONG!

They step closer and closer...

Jake rattles in the high noon sun...

Rango's eyes narrow... He eats a bug.

119 OMITTED 119

120 OMITTED 120

121 EXT. MAIN STREET 121

Wounded bird heads up toward the top of the Clock Tower with a shotgun...

Rango and Jake... Closer and closer...

BONG! ... BONG!

Rango looks at the clock. It clicks to a minute past.

Silence.

122 EXT. HILL OVERLOOK 122

The sun passes Roadkill's staff.

ROADKILL

Now amigo!

The Cactus Spirits move, turning the valve with ropes.

123 INT. TUNNELS 123

INBRED RODENTS

(chanting)

Heave...Heave...

The Inbred Rodents pull down a section of pipe with ropes.

124 EXT. MAIN STREET 124

Jake and Rango step closer. Jake, failing to notice, almost covers the newly filled hole in front of the bank (the hole the bank robbers dug days earlier).

Wounded Bird takes aim at Jake from atop the Clock Tower.

Jake spins -- fires -- knocking Wounded Bird off the tower -- crashing into the building next door -- Priscilla rushes over.

WOUNDED BIRD

That was a bad idea.

Jake sets his sights back on Rango. Slides over the patched hole.

Rango raises his eyes from the hole Jake just covered...

RANGO
Thirsty, brother?

Rango smiles. Jake's realizes something is not right.

125 INT. TUNNELS 125

Water is heard then seen cascading through the pipe.

RODENT KID
Here it comes!

FOOOOSH!

126 EXT. MAIN STREET 126

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
(feeling vibrations below)
What--? No--!

A GEYSER OF WATER EXPLODES UNDER JAKE -- SENDING HIM SPINNING AND WRITHING INTO THE AIR--

SPOONS
It's a miracle!

A bystander runs by in a panic.

TOWNSPERSON
Look out!

More geysers -- jets of water -- shoot up all over town!

Townpeople are running everywhere.

Pappy, Ezekiel and Jedidiah watch from the Jail.

JEDIDIAH
Look at that!

PAPPY
What is that?!!!

126A INT. JAIL - DAY 126A

A geyser shoots the floor and out the ceiling of the cell holding Pappy and his boys.

EZEKIEL

That's our salvation, Pa!

PAPPY

It's a jail break boys, we're bustin' out!!

They ride the geyser out of the Jail.

126B EXT. MAIN STREET - CONTINUOUS

126B

A water column shoots through the Clock Tower destroying it.

Jake finally lands, shakes the water off himself violently--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

(spins on Rango)

I'm gonna blow so many holes in you
your guts will be leakin' lead!

RANGO

Well then it's a good thing I
brought some back-up.

The silhouette of a huge HAWK swoops through the sky!

Jake recoils in terror -- slinking back quickly--

Then he sees part of the "hawk" break off and then rejoin the rest again -- he realizes--

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

Ain't no hawk ... ain't nothin' but
bats!

He ROARS in fury takes aim ... starts firing his Gatling gun-like tail up at them wildly!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

Maybelle, leading the squadron of bats:

MAYBELLE

Stick to the plan boys -- let's
bleed that devil dry!

Jake laughs... truly enjoying the battle.

The bats swoop away to safety--

Jake's out of bullets! His tail-gun rotates and whirs. Empty.
Click-click-click-click-click.

He turns -- right into the barrel of Rango's gun.

RANGO
It only takes one bullet.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE
You ain't got the nerve.

RANGO
Try me.

Rango's glare is ice cold.

Jake's eyes quiver -- and blinks. Defeated.

But then---

THE MAYOR (O.S.)
Oh, Mr. Rango ... Aren't you
forgetting something?

Rango turns to the Mayor, who has emerged after the deluge.

Bad Bill is standing with his gun to Beans' head. Stump and
Kinski laugh as they promptly take Beans into the Bank.

THE MAYOR
Hand me your gun, Sheriff.

Rango looks at his gun. Checks the chamber to see the one
bullet.

THE MAYOR
Now, Mr. Rango.

A beat.

Rango hands the Mayor his gun on his way into the Bank.

127 INT. VAULT

127

Bad Bill and his guys laugh as they throw Rango and Beans
into the bank vault-- SLAM! TRAPPED!

Water rushes in wildly from the hole in the floor--

The Mayor laughs as Rango and Beans stumble in the water.

RANGO
(reassuring)
Beans, hold on! ... Don't worry, I
got a plan.

He turns to the glass vault door.

RANGO
(panicked)
HELP!
(pounds on the glass)
OPEN THE DOOR!
(that's not going to work)
Okay. Plan B.

Beans attempts to speak through her gag ... to no avail.

RANGO
What? Beans, you're mumbling.

The water continues to rise--

128 INT. BANK

128

The Mayor and his henchmen enjoy the show.

THE MAYOR
All my problems taken care of ...
except for one.

He points Rango's gun at Jake. Jake is shocked.

THE MAYOR
It's a new West, Jake ... There's
no place for gunslingers anymore.
We're businessmen now.

STUMP
We got new hats!

129 INT. VAULT

129

Rango opens his hand to reveal the single bullet.

RANGO
Where I come from we call this...
(mumbling with a bullet in
his teeth)
...improvisation.

He unties Beans' gag... She gasps for air.

BEANS
You came back!

Overjoyed, she gives him a HUGE KISS!
Violins swell -- Rango's eyes roll back into his head.
Beans' eyes shoot wide -- She coughs--
She has inadvertently swallowed the bullet!

BEANS
What was that?

RANGO
No need to panic, but I think you
just swallowed plan B.

BEANS
WHAT!?

She freezes and starts to sink in the rising water.

RANGO
Ah! Okay, panic time.

130 INT. BANK 130

The Mayor has Rango's gun still drawn on Jake as Rango
struggles to save Beans behind the glass behind him.

THE MAYOR
You and the Sheriff are more alike
than you think. You're nothing but
legends... Pretty soon no one will
believe you even existed.

131 INT. VAULT 131

Rango vigorously applies the Heimlich Maneuver--

132 INT. BANK 132

THE MAYOR
One last bullet to kill one last
outlaw.
(chuckles)
How fitting.

He pulls the trigger -- Click -- The gun is empty!

THE MAYOR
Wha--?

The Mayor's eyes grow wide.

133 INT. VAULT 133

Rango continues to squeeze -- squeeze -- squeeze--

Finally -- The bullet shoots from her mouth--

Zooms toward the vault door--

BANG!

A crack spiders across the glass--

134 INT. BANK 134

The Mayor realizes -- spins to Rango inside the vault--

CRASH! WHOOOOOSH!

A TIDAL WAVE OF WATER EXPLODES--

Bad Bill and his guys are slammed aside--

Jake is sent flying through the air -- crashing through the front windows of the bank -- into Main Street--

Rango and Beans spin and twist through the air, gasping for breath, cartwheeling out the window--

The Mayor is tossed from his wheelchair and carried out to Main Street in the deluge--

135 EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY 135

Everyone coughs for air as the flood cascades away.

The Mayor is floating on his shell as Rango helps Beans to her feet. The Mayor instantly starts negotiating:

THE MAYOR

Now, Sheriff, I'm sure if we work together we can reach a mutually beneficial solution to our current unfortunate situation...

But Rango is looking past the Mayor...

RANGO

You better take it up with him.

Rango kicks the Mayor's shell spinning him towards...

Rattlesnake Jake.

His venomous gaze is only distracted by the glinting light of...

The last bullet, floating in the street.

Jake looks at Rango:

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

One bullet ... I tip my hat to you
... One "legend" to another.

Rango tips his cap, acknowledging Jake's respect.

RATTLESNAKE JAKE

(to the Mayor)

What was that you said? ... Pretty
soon no one will believe you even
existed.

FLASH! JAKE STRIKES--!

THE MAYOR

Whoa! Jake, no-noooooOOOO!

He wraps his coils around the Mayor and jerks him away --
dragging him off to Hell--

They evaporate in heat ripples as water falls from geysers.

Everyone in town comes out of hiding -- A joyous celebration!

Priscilla races over, splashing water toward Rango, hugs him--

PRISCILLA

Rango! You brought the water back!
Just like you promised.
(squeezing him tight)
You really are a hero.

Rango chuckles, kneeling down to Priscilla:

RANGO

Well, the thing about heroes is...
whenever you--

Priscilla puts her hand up stopping him.

PRISCILLA

Don't spoil it.

RANGO

Right.

Everyone is laughing and splashing and cheering...

RANGO

Well, I don't know about you all,
but I could sure go for a dip.

He takes Beans by the hand ... and smiles.

The Mariachis, perched on a rooftop, play in celebration as
the lead mariachi speaks to CAMERA:

SEÑOR FLAN

And so the lizard completes his
journey from humble beginnings to
the legend we sing of today, and
although he is certain to die --
perhaps from a household accident,
which account for sixty-five
percent of all unnatural deaths --
the people of the village will
always remember... the name of the
one who saved them.

MARIACHIS

Rango.

THE END