

The Simpsons

"BART THE DAREDEVIL"

Written by

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Created by  
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Developed by  
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TABLE DRAFT

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NOTE: FOR TABLE READING ONLY

"BART THE DAREDEVIL"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA  
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER  
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT  
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH  
PRINCIPAL SKINNER.....HARRY SHEARER  
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER  
OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER  
MRS. KRABAPPEL.....MARCIA WALLACE  
BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA  
MOE.....HANK AZARIA  
RICHARD.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT  
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN  
TV ANNOUNCER.....DAN CASTELLANETA  
TV VOICE #1.....HARRY SHEARER  
TV VOICE #2.....DAN CASTELLANETA  
TV VOICE #3.....HANK AZARIA  
JACK SCRAPER.....HARRY SHEARER  
RESCUE WORKER.....HANK AZARIA  
TRACK ANNOUNCER.....HANK AZARIA  
CAPTAIN MURDOCK.....DAN CASTELLANETA

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DR. JULIUS HIBBERT.....HARRY SHEARER

RANGER SMYTHE.....PAMELA HAYDEN

BART THE DAREDEVIL

by

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - DAY

On the television, fabulous graphics and MUSIC plays introducing "World Class Wrestling".

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Live from the Springfield  
Super Dome and Flea Market, to decide  
who will be Intercontinental Federal  
Mountain Time Zone Champion, the  
Wrestling Match of the Century. Today  
Rasputin, The Friendly Russian...

A BEARDED WRESTLER wearing a monk's robe appears on the TV  
screen. The AUDIENCE CHEERS.

MILHOUSE (V.O.)

Hey, didn't he used to be the Mad  
Russian?

BART is sitting in his living room with LEWIS, MILHOUSE and  
RICHARD. They are all sipping soda, munching crunchy snack  
food and watching wrestling on television. LISA sits in a  
chair off to the side, reading a math book.

On the television, Rasputin begins waving Soviet and  
American flags.

LISA

Yes, but I'm afraid that the forces of history have changed wrestling, perhaps forever.

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(FROM TV) And the challenger, from the University of Transylvania, Professor Krumnow.

KRUMNOW is a huge, mad scientist-type wearing a mortarboard and lab coat, which he tears off and discards as he enters. The kids all CHEER except for Bart.

BART

So brilliant, so evil.

RICHARD

But didn't he save Hillbilly Fats with an operation he performed in the ring?

BART

Yes, yes. But just two weeks later, in a cage match --

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - DAY

HOMER, BARNEY, MOE and ASSORTED BARFLIES are watching the match.

HOMER

(TO BARNEY) -- Professor Krumnow hypnotized Trog the Cave Man and forced him to not only pin himself, but to shave his own head.

MOE

What drives a man to such villainy?

(YELLING) Boo.

BARNEY

(TO THE TV) Boo, you dirty no-good

bum. (BURPS)

On the television, Rasputin is twirling Professor Krumnow over his head.

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Things do not look good for the Professor. Oh! And Rasputin has launched him like Sputnik!

Rasputin tosses Krumnow out of the ring and into a group of SPECTATORS.

BART

Now, those are great seats. Hey, Milhouse, turn it up.

Milhouse gets up off the couch to ADJUST the sound, and quickly Bart steals his seat.

MILHOUSE

Hey, I was sitting there.

BART

Right. Now I'm sitting here. Pass the Salt Doodles.

Milhouse hands Bart a box of weird twisty-shaped crackers covered entirely with salt.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Homer, sitting at the bar, is arguing with a Barney.

BARNEY

But I only got up to go to the can.

HOMER

Hey, I don't see your name engraved on  
this bar stool.

BARNEY

But my drink's right in front of you...  
Hey, what happened to my pickled egg?

HOMER

Don't look at me.

Homer gives Barney a guilty smile, which reveals bits of  
egg on his teeth. He BURPS.

On the television, Rasputin has dragged Professor Krumnow  
back into the ring. As Rasputin punches him, the audience  
is COUNTING along with each smash in the face. Rasputin  
also stamps on the ground to the beat of the punches to  
further accent the violence.

AUDIENCE (V.O.)

(FROM TV) ...five... six... seven...

HOMER/MOE/BARFLIES

...eight... nine... ten... eleven...

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - AT THAT MOMENT

Bart and his friends are counting along.

BART & FRIENDS

...twelve... thirteen.. fourteen...

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(FROM TV) The ref is issuing a warning  
to Rasputin.

While Rasputin's back is turned, Professor Krumnow stumbles to his feet and pulls a large wrench from his trunks. Krumnow sneaks up behind Rasputin and smacks him over the head with the wrench. Rasputin falls to the ground, unconscious.

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O. CONT'D)

(FROM TV) Oh, my. Why is the referee permitting this?

Krumnow casually pins Rasputin's shoulders to the mat and is declared champ. The audience in the Super Dome BOOS and throws cups in the ring.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

The crowd in the bar BOOS and throw popcorn at the screen.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - AT THAT MOMENT

The kids are YELLING at the screen and tossing Salt Doodles at the TV.

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O. CONT'D)

(FROM TV) We'll be back with interviews, post-match analysis, and our Duff Lite Wrestler of the Week right after these messages.

A COMMERCIAL comes on the television.

TV VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) This Saturday, for one night only, your life will be changed forever.

In the bar, Homer turns to the screen.

In the Simpson living room, Bart looks at the screen.

TV VOICE #1 (V.O. CONT'D)

(FROM TV) Saturday.



TV VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Saturday.

TV VOICE #3 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) SATURDAY! At the  
Springfield Speedway.

TV VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Speedway.

TV VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) SPEEDWAY!

TV VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Don "Crusher" Woodard...

TV VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Jon "The Skunk" Trumane...

TV VOICE #3 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) And The Team Tomomatsu Dirt  
Riding Dunk Masters in the year's  
biggest...

ALL THREE TV VOICES (V.O.)

(FROM TV) MONSTER TRUCK RALLY!

T.V. VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) One night only.

A strain of OMINOUS MUSIC is heard. We see a giant TRUCK  
that simulates the gaping jaws of a dragon eating a car.  
Periodically, BLASTS of fire shoot out of its nostrils.

T.V. VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Plus the amazing, the  
astounding, the unbelievable... TRUCK-  
A-SAUROUS! Twenty tons and four  
stories of car-crunching, fire-  
breathing prehistoric insanity.

Split screen on Bart and Homer. Both are amazed and  
excited as the glow of the fire on the television reflects  
on their faces.

BART & HOMER

Whoa.

T.V. VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) One night only.

T.V. VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) One night only.

T.V. VOICE #3 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) ONE NIGHT ONLY! At the  
Springfield Speedway. This Saturday.

TV VOICE #1 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) If you miss this, you'd  
better be dead or in jail.

TV VOICE #2 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) And if you're in jail, break  
out!

TV VOICE #3 (V.O.)

(FROM TV) Be there!

The word "there" ECHOES from the television.

Homer throws a buck down on the bar and races out the door.

**EXT. SPRINGFIELD - MOMENTS LATER**

The Simpson car driving down the road approaches camera. Homer, behind the wheel, races through Springfield with great determination. The car drives away from the camera and down the road.

**EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER**

Homer pulls into the driveway very fast and comes to a SCREECHING halt.

**INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - AT THAT MOMENT**

Bart hears the sound of Homer's car in the driveway.

**EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

Homer hurries out of his car. Bart runs out of the house and down the front path. Homer and Bart meet in the center of the path, finally face to face. They look into each others' eyes for a moment then blurt out the news.

**BART & HOMER**

TRUCKASAUROUS!

They hug.

**BART**

Jinx. You owe me a Coke, man.

**HOMER**

Why you little --

**BART**

Two Cokes.

**INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING**

Homer, Bart, Lisa, MAGGIE and MARGE sit around the Simpson dinner table, chewing loudly and scarfing down their meal. SNOWBALL II and SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER gobble food out of their respective dishes. Everyone's food looks the same.

HOMER

I have an announcement to make. As a family growth thing, Bart and I think we should all go to the Monster Truck Rally this Saturday.

BART

Yeah!

LISA

Aren't you forgetting something?

HOMER

Uh... (TO HIMSELF) Monster Truck Rally, growth thing... (TO LISA) No, I don't think so.

MARGE

Homer, Lisa's recital is Saturday night.

LISA

I'll be playing my first solo. If you miss it on Saturday, I'd advise you to start looking for child therapists on Sunday.

BART

But Truckasaurus is one night only!

HOMER

(DISTRAUGHT) Oh, cruel fate. Why do you mock me?

Homer and Bart begin to WEEP openly.

MARGE

Now, come on, you two. Lisa's recital starts at five o'clock and the truck rally starts at eight. We can go to both.

HOMER

But what about the tail gate party and watching them fuel the tractors?

MARGE

(ANGRY) Homer.

LISA

(ANGRY) Dad.

HOMER

I only brought them up as examples of the things I'm happy to miss for my daughter.

INT. AUDITORIUM - EVENING

The auditorium is crowded with PARENTS AND RELATIVES of the children in the orchestra. The Simpsons are seated and happily anticipating the evening. Lisa sits with her saxophone in the second chair of the orchestra. NED FLANDERS and his son ROD are seated close to the Simpsons. MR. LARGO stands in front of the orchestra, and PRINCIPAL SKINNER stands at a microphone on stage trying to quiet the crowd.

SKINNER

(STERNLY) People, quiet down, now. Don't make me flick the lights on and off. (THEN) Ladies, gentlemen, parents and music lovers. Welcome to the first in a series of Saturday evening concerts.

HOMER

Series?! (MOANS)

SKINNER

Tonight Sherbert's... uh, Schubert's  
Unfinished Symphony.

HOMER

Oh, good, unfinished. This shouldn't  
take long.

Largo strikes up the band. Lisa and the orchestra PLAY a  
shaky version of "The Unfinished Symphony" as the Simpsons  
happily watch on.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

Lisa plays a lovely but short SOLO. Homer stands and  
APPLAUDS.

HOMER

That was beautiful. Can we go now?

MARGE

Sit down, Homer.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

The piece ends and Largo brings the orchestra to a stop.  
The audience APPLAUDS. Homer looks at his watch. It's  
6:30.

HOMER

How much longer was this Sherbert  
planning on making this piece of junk?

Flanders leans in to Homer.

FLANDERS

My, Lisa was wonderful. She certainly  
has come a long way with her fingering.

HOMER

Thanks, Flanders. (SOTTO TO MARGE)  
Big know-it-all.

ROD

When is Todd's solo, Dad?

FLANDERS

Shhh. It's coming up, son, it's coming  
up.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

Homer looks at his watch. It's 7:23. Todd Flanders plays  
a particularly beautiful VIOLIN SOLO. Homer sees that  
Flanders is crying.

HOMER

(SYMPATHETIC) Hey, come on, Flanders,  
turn off the faucets. Your kid isn't  
that bad.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

Homer looks at his watch. It's 8:05. The Simpsons writhe  
uncontrollably.

SKINNER

And now, Chopin's Minute Waltz.

HOMER

Great, how long is this gonna take?

The orchestra PLAYS. We INTERCUT Homer, his watch, Marge, Lisa and Bart, building tension as the waltz plays out.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(TO LARGO) Tempo! Tempo!

Largo gives Homer a look. After about a minute, the piece ends. Everyone is out of breath. The audience APPLAUDS.

HOMER

Finally, some honesty.

As Largo and the STUDENTS take a bow, Homer runs up on stage and whisks Lisa away before she can finish her bows.

INT. SIMPSON CAR - NIGHT

Homer is driving like a mad man through the streets of Springfield. He is passing cars on the shoulder, nearly hitting other cars, and being HONKED at all the while.

LISA

Faster, Dad.

BART

Truckasaurus awaits.

MARGE

Homer, be a defensive driver.

HOMER

Sometimes the best defense is a good offense.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD SPEEDWAY - NIGHT

Homer finally pulls into the parking lot of the Springfield Speedway. The marquee reads, "Tonight: Monster Truck Rally featuring Truckasaurus and Special Guest." And in smaller letters below: "Sunday Night: Bear Baiting".

The dirt parking lot is filled to capacity with cars, trucks and vans which all have white trash bumper stickers on them: "Don't come a-knockin' if this van's a-rockin'"; and "Don't laugh, your daughter's in here" are a few examples. Homer can't find a parking space anywhere and is getting mud all over his car from the dirt.



MARGE

There's a space. Next aisle over.

Homer makes a bee-line to the spot, but is cut off by a tough looking GUY in a truck. As the truck swerves, it covers Homer's windshield with mud. Homer drives on.

Homer sees what appears to be open section in the speedway fence where he thinks he can find more parking. He drives through what looks like a service alley until he spins out in a pool of mud, which also coats the windshield. The car is stuck. The wheels of the car just spin as Homer tries to get the car moving.

HOMER

Damn unpaved backwoods general parking.

Lisa looks out the back window to see imposing metal FEET coming toward them.

LISA

Dad?

HOMER

Not now, Lisa.

Homer MUTTERS to himself as he tries to put the car into a gear that will run.

MARGE

(WEAKLY) Homer.

HOMER

What?

A GIANT SHADOW engulfs the car.

BART

Truckasaurus!

HOMER

(EXCITED) Where, where? (LOOKS UP;

SHRIEKS)

**EXT. SPEEDWAY - CONTINUOUS**

We see that the Simpsons' car is being stalked by TRUCKASAUROUS. Homer gets the car to move about two feet, but then it gets caught in more mud. The crowd goes WILD as Truckasaurus moves closer and engulfs the frightened family in flames. Finally, the mammoth metal monster picks up the car in its gaping jaws and begins to crush the car, with the Simpsons in it. Above all the NOISE we hear the Simpsons SCREAM in terror.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SPRINGFIELD SPEEDWAY - NIGHT

An EMERGENCY CREW is using blow torches and the jaws of life to extract Homer from the chewed body of the car. Marge, Lisa, Maggie, and Bart are off to the side watching the action. JACK SCRAPER and his TEAM of insurance adjusters, are walking around the scene of the accident. He is wearing a yellow plastic poncho and yellow hard hat that reads "AllStar Insurance Disaster Team." He walks up to Marge.

MARGE

We really appreciate the insurance company sending you out here like so quickly.

SCRAPER

That's what we're here for, Mrs. Simpson.

He looks down at his clip board.

SCRAPER (CONT'D)

Let's see, cracked windshield, melted bumpers, punctured radiator, teeth marks in the trunk and crushed transmission. On the plus side, there doesn't seem to be any frame damage. How did this thing happen?

HOMER

(FROM INSIDE CAR) It wasn't my fault Truckasaurus jumped right out in front of me.

SCRAPER

Uh huh. Well, this check should take care off everything.

Scraper writes out a check and hands it Marge.

MARGE

Thank you so much.

He and his team walk away in formation.

BART

Mom, do we have to stay here and watch Dad get rescued? Can't we at least see the mud pull?

MARGE

Just hold your horses, Bart.

At the car, rescue workers still try to free Homer. There is a large hole cut in the roof of the car and they try to pull Homer through the hole but he is too fat.

RESCUE WORKER

Mr. Simpson for the last time tell us your waist size.

HOMER

(FROM INSIDE THE CAR) I'm a size thirty-six.

RESCUE WORKER

Mr. Simpson if you were a thirty-six you'd of been out of here a long time ago.

Marge goes over to one of the rescue workers.

MARGE

(WHISPERING) He's a forty-four, but  
don't tell him I told you.

RESCUE WORKER

I understand.

The rescue worker tells the others who immediately cut a  
new hole in the roof.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SPEEDWAY STANDS - LATER

Bart, Marge, Lisa, and Maggie sit in the stands watching  
the last heat of a mud pull. On-lookers AD LIB: "Wow, did  
ya see how far she dragged that cement block through the  
mud." "The Kid's a real talent." " Fine showing." "I  
haven't seen anything like it since MUD FOOT in '85"

MARGE

Wow, a woman mud pull driver.

LISA

Another barrier broken. (Yelling)

Right-on, sister.

Homer appears at the top of the stands carrying lots of hot  
dogs, popcorn, nacho chips and a monster-beer (the size of  
a small trash can) in a souvenir "I survived Truckasaurus"  
mug.

HOMER

Let the destruction begin.

Homer examines his food.

HOMER

(DISAPPOINTED) Hey, they forgot my  
churo.

BART

Gimme some nachos, Homersaurus.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STADIUM - LATER

Homer has finished all the food in front of him, and he is picking his teeth with a ticket stub.

TRACK ANNOUNCER

For our last event of the evening we have a special surprise guest. The world's greatest Daredevil. The man who laughs at danger. The man who tells caution to take a hike: Captain Lance Murdock.

The lights dim and haunting bull fighter MUSIC blares over the PA system. A spotlight hits an empty part of the speedway. There is a massive EXPLOSION revealing CAPTAIN MURDOCK. He runs out from the flames into the open field as the lights come up and people CHEER. It is clear that he is on fire.

CLOSE UP - BART

Bart is captivated by the event. Still on fire, Murdock grabs a mic and begins to speak as several SPEEDWAY WORKERS, with foam shooting fire extinguishers, put the fire out.

MURDOCK

Ladies, and gentlemen, and especially little children, I'm glad you are all here to witness what may very well be my grisly death. I'm sure you remember when I shattered my pelvis attempting to leap over the Trevi Fountain in Rome.

The crowd **APPLAUDS** appreciatively.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

Others may remember my ill-fated attempt to launch myself into orbit and the six years I spent learning how to walk again.

More **APPLAUSE**.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

But tonight, my most dangerous stunt. I will defy both nature and gravity by leaping over this tank of water...

A large steel water tank is revealed.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

... filled with man eating great white sharks, deadly electric eels, starving piranhas, bone crushing alligators, and perhaps most frightening of all, the king of the jungle, one ferocious lion.

A large lion cage is lowered opened and tilted so that a **LION** falls into the tank. The crowd **OOOHS**.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

And, just to make things interesting, I will add to this dangerous brew, one drop of human blood.

Murdock walks up to the tank, pricks his finger with a needle and squeezes a drop of blood in the tank. The **SOUNDS** of snapping jaws, electric current being discharged, bubbling water, and an occasional **ROAR** is heard.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

On the chance that I don't survive, let  
me just say, buckle-up.

The Captain jumps on his tricked out motorcycle and **SCREAMS** off doing a wheelie. From an angle just above the water line inside the tank, we see shark fins circling, an eel slither by, and the lion ominously swims by with only it's eyes and nostrils above the water line.

BART

This is so cool.

The Captain rides back once, doing a wheelie and inspecting the ramp. There is an **OMINOUS DRUM ROLL**. The crowd is hushed. The motorcycle **REVS** and Murdock takes off toward the ramp.

HOMER

I can't watch.

Homer covers his eyes. The camera **PULLS BACK** to see Marge and Lisa put their hands over their eyes. Marge takes one hand and puts it over Maggie's eyes.

**PULL BACK** again to see the entire crowd has their eyes covered. Bart is the only one with his eyes open, and he is in heaven. Just as Murdock's cycle hits the ramp, it flips over. Murdock is flung at high speed up the ramp with the force of the crash. He tries to slow his fall by flinging his arms out and grabbing something, but he continues to roll end over end toward the tank of doom. The audience **GASPS** as he falls into the tank where he is savagely attacked, bitten and shocked by the animals. Through the furiously bubbling water one can only see the flurry of activity and occasional electric flashes. Murdock valiantly fights his way toward the side of the tank and just about pulls himself out when, from out of nowhere, the lion violently grabs Murdock and drags him back in the tank. The Simpsons watch on in horror, all except Bart who sees the beauty in the stunt.

BART

Bitchin'!



We see Murdock being dragged out of the tank by RESCUE WORKERS. Murdock is badly hurt, bitten, and bloody. He still attempts to swagger as the rescue team straps him into the gurney. Murdock gives the crowd a very shaky thumbs up just before he blacks out.

TRACK ANNOUNCER

He's okay, folks.

The crowd CHEERS.

TRACK ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

That concludes the entertainment  
portion of the evening.

The bright white flood lights are turned on throughout the stadium, signaling the end of the evening.

INT. SIMPSONS CAR - NIGHT

Homer and the family are somehow driving slowly home in the badly damaged car. Marge's hair sticks out of the hole in the roof, blowing violently in the wind. Cars HONK and pass The Simpsons as they fondly remember their evening.

MARGE

What a fun-filled evening. What was  
everybody's favorite part?

HOMER

That's easy, the nachos.

LISA

What was your favorite part, Bart?

Bart doesn't answer because he's lost in a daydream. The camera enters Bart's eye and we see:

Bart imagines himself, slightly better built, wearing the exact same outfit as Captain Murdock, and riding around on a skateboard. Bart gives a thumbs up at the end of the ramp and, as the crowd ROARS, races up toward the tank. Bart flies up through the air and drops directly into the tank, where he is bitten ferociously and pulled from the tank by rescue workers. Bart, mauled and bleeding, is put on a stretcher. Bart gathers his strength to wave to the crowd. The crowd CHEERS and gets on their feet CHANTING "Bart, Bart, Bart...." The crowd noise fades in the distance as Marge's voice is heard more clearly saying:

LISA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Bart, Bart, Bart...

As the camera slowly leaves Bart's eye, there is a new expression of determination on Bart's face.

LISA (CONT'D)

Bart, what was your favorite part?

BART

When I found what I was put on this Earth for.

HOMER

Yeah, those were some nachos.

LONG SHOT

The nearly destroyed car slowly rolls down the street.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

Bart is setting up a ramp as Lewis, Milhouse and Richard, stand around in the Simpson driveway. Bart drags the ramp over so that it is just above the grill of Marge's car. He is obviously preparing to jump the car length-wise.

MILHOUSE

You're crazy, Bart.

RICHARD

You're never gonna make it.

BART

Spare me your lectures, ladies.

Bart puts on a football helmet, steps on his skateboard and takes off. He heads toward the ramp with as much speed as he can muster. Bart hits the ramp and the skateboard wobbles off in one direction, Bart flying off the in the other. His head bounces off the windshield.

BART (CONT'D)

Oof!

He winds up in a heap on the driveway.

LEWIS

Oh no! He's hurt!

RICHARD

Bad!

MILHOUSE

Let's get out of here!

They scatter.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL - DAY

The large white building with a large sign saying "Springfield General Hospital" There is a smaller sign underneath it reading, "Cash Only."

INT. EMERGENCY WAITING AREA - DAY

A worried Marge sits with Lisa in the sparsely furnished waiting area along with other people, some of whom are waiting for medical attention. All eyes turn as DOCTOR JULIUS HIBBERT, a black man, every bit a professional, enters the room with Bart. Bart has a small bandage where he hurt himself. Marge runs up to Bart and hugs him.

MARGE

Oh, my little boy, are you all right?

BART

Better than all right, I got stitches.

Bart lifts his patch up so Lisa can peek inside.

LISA

Ewww.

BART

(PROUDLY) Probably have a scar too.

HIBBERT

Mrs. Simpson, Bart tells me he injured himself training for a career in death defiance.

MARGE

Yes, well, we saw a daredevil last night and well, you know, monkey see, monkey do.

HIBBERT

Hmmm. I think I know something that might discourage him from this sort of behavior.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

Doctor Hibbert walks with Bart as Marge and Lisa follow.

HIBBERT

Bart, in this ward are the children who have been hurt by imitating stunts they saw on television, movies and the legitmate stage.

She stops in front of two opaque doors. She swings open the doors.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD - DAY

The room is filled with KIDS in various stages of ill health. Each bed features a child with a different injury.

HIBBERT

This little boy broke both his legs  
when he tried to fly like Superman.

They walk to the next bed.

HIBBERT (CONT'D)

This young girl suffered two scratched  
corneas when her brother poked her in  
the eyes after watching the Three  
Stooges.

They walk on passing a BOY with his head wrapped in  
bandages.

HIBBERT (CONT'D)

And this is her brother who, in the  
same regrettable incident, was hit in  
the head with a shovel.

MARGE

Gee, I never realized TV was such a  
dangerous influence.

DR. HIBBERT

(TO MARGE) Well, actually, it's a two-  
edged sword. Watching years of Marcus  
Welby M.D inspired me to become a  
doctor. (TO BART) Bart, I hope I made  
my point.

BART

You certainly did, Doctor.

They all exit. Bart sticks his head back in the door.

BART

(TO KIDS) So long, dudes. Save me a  
bed.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD STREET - DAY

A Springfield Unified School District bus rolls down the highway filled with raucous KIDS.

INT. BUS - DAY

Kids throw wads of paper, SCREAM, CRY, and generally FROLIC as the bus driven by OTTO rolls down the highway. MRS. KRABAPPEL sits in the front seat thumbing through a magazine. Bart stares out the window, concentrating on the view. Milhouse, sitting in the next seat, watches Bart.

MILHOUSE

Bart, I hope you learned your lesson.

BART

Milhouse, the greatest thrill of my life was banging off that windshield. I'm searching for my next big stunt. It's out there somewhere. I can feel it in my bones.

ZOOM IN on Bart. We are in Bart's world and can no longer hear the kids in the background. Bart stares out the window as the bus passes twenty cars tightly packed together.

BART (V.O.) (CON'T)

Those cars give me an idea, but it's been done.

The bus then passes a gully.

BART (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Gully? Naw, too survivable.

The bus passes a waterfall.

BART (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Too old fashioned.

The SOUND of the bus squeaking to a stop bleeds into Bart's revery. Bart can hear what is going on as he files out of the bus behind all the other kids.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD GORGE - CONTINUOUS

Bart steps off the bus, and there standing in front of a giant picturesque gorge is RANGER SMYTHE, a very burly and outdoorsy female forest ranger, who sweeps her arm indicating the natural wonder. The gorge is deep, wide, and rocky with a raging river that runs through the center.

SMYTHE

Hello children, and welcome to  
Springfield Gorge.

CLOSE UP - BART

His eyes are wide with excitement as he walks closer to the edge. Bart has found the sight of his next stunt.

BART

Destiny, at last we meet.

We hear an ECHO of Bart's words, "we meet, we meet, we meet."

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPRINGFIELD GORGE - DAY

Ranger Smythe shows Mrs. Krabappel's fourth grade class around Springfield Gorge. Bart is excitedly looking for the perfect spot to jump the gorge. Otto walks with Bart.

SMYTHE

Teddy Roosevelt once called Springfield Gorge the third most breathtaking gorge in this part of the state.

Otto and Bart, taking in the gorge, lag behind the group.

OTTO

(IMPRESSED) Man, this thing's pretty gnarly. I bet you could throw a dead body in there and no one'd ever find it.

Ranger Smythe continues her lecture to the kids.

SMYTHE

...And when trail-blazing Jedediah Springfield came upon this glorious chasm, legend has it he spoke his famous words, "We'll never make it across that thing." And, thus, the town of Springfield was born.

Bart raises his hand.



BART

Excuse me, ma'am, how wide is this  
gorge?

SMYTHE

Sixty-three feet.

BART

How much is that in busses?

SMITH

Seven.

MRS. KRABAPPEL

Well, Bart Simpson, it's a pleasure to  
see you finally take an interest in  
academics.

BART

Thank you, ma'am.

SMYTHE

Now, if you'll follow me, I'll show you  
the historic sight of Springfield's  
first snack bar and souvenir shop.

The Ranger leads the class away. Bart stays back with Otto  
as he watches his classmates file past a natural rock  
formation that resembles a large ramp. Bart stares at it  
and comes to a realization.

BART

Otto, I'm gonna leap over Springfield  
Gorge on my skateboard.

OTTO

You know, Bart, as the only adult here  
I feel I should say something.

BART

What?

OTTO

Cool.

INT. SIMPSON KITCHEN - DAY

Marge is HUMMING as she prepares dinner. Lisa enters and crosses to the refrigerator, which is covered with her grade "A" exams.

LISA

Hey, Mom, who took all the stars off of my exam papers?

MARGE

I don't know. Sometimes your brother takes things that don't belong to him.

INT. BART'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bart is posing in front of a mirror. Spelled out in shining stars on his t-shirt is "Born 2 Leap". He also wears Homer's underwear as a cape. Lisa enters.

LISA

Bart, what are you doing?

He turns to her.

BART

Puttin' on my work clothes, Lis.  
Pretty dazzing, huh? How do you think I'll look hurtling over Springfield Gorge in these?

LISA

Springfield Gorge? Bart, you could get killed.

BART

Either way, it's a show.

LISA

Please, before you do anything, there's  
someone I'd like you to talk to.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Lisa and Bart are standing with DR. HIBBERT in front of the  
door to a patient's room.

LISA

Thank you for arranging this, Dr.  
Hibbert.

DR. HIBBERT

Anything I can do to stem the tide of  
entertainment-related injury.

Dr. Hibbert pulls open a hospital curtain revealing LANCE  
MURDOCK, who is completely immobile. His arms and legs are  
in traction and he sports a full body cast. Bart is  
unnerved.

DR. HIBBERT (CONT'D)

Lance, this is Lisa and Bart Simpson.  
Bart is one of your biggest fans.

Lance puts on a brave face for Bart.

BART

It's an honor, Lance. How are you  
feeling?

Lance HUFFS and PUFFS, sweats and strains, as he struggles  
to lift his thumb to the "thumbs-up" position. He finally  
accomplishes this task in obvious agony. A loud CRACK is  
heard.

MURDOCK

Doc. I heard a snap.

Dr. Hibbert checks Murdock's thumb.

DR. HIBBERT

Hmm. I'm afraid the bone's broken.

Well, that's all of them.

Bart is stunned.

MURDOCK

Don't worry, partner. I've broken that  
thumb dozens of times. Hey, I bet  
you'd like an autograph. Nurse.

A NURSE sticks a pen in Murdock's mouth and holds an eight  
by ten picture within reaching distance of the pen.

MURDOCK (CONT'D)

(WITH PEN IN MOUTH) Who should I make  
this out to?

BART

Master Bartholomew J. Simpson, Esquire.

MURDOCK

(WITH PEN IN MOUTH) Gimme a break,  
kid.

BART

Just Bart will be fine.

Murdock begins to scrawl on the picture.

MURDOCK

(WITH PEN IN MOUTH) To Bart, good  
luck. Lance Murdock.

Murdock finishes. The Nurse takes the pen out of Murdock's  
mouth and hands the picture to Bart. Bart takes the  
picture. It is completely unintelligible.

LISA

Mr. Murdock, my brother is thinking about jumping Springfield Gorge on a skateboard.

MURDOCK

Good for him.

LISA

No! Tell him not to do it!

MURDOCK

What? And deny the boy a chance to follow in my footsteps? (TO BART)  
Kid, you remind me of me when I was starting out.

Lisa is shocked but Bart's spirits are lifted.

LISA

At least tell him to wait till he finishes school.

MURDOCK

(SCORNFUL) What? You're still in school? What're you wasting your time there for?

LISA

Lance Murdock, you set a horrible example for the youth of America.

MURDOCK

Sticks and stones can break my bones.

LISA

Bart Simpson, you're not jumping anything.

BART

Am too.

LISA

Am not.

BART

Am too.

LISA

Am not.

BART

Am too.

LISA

Am not. Because I'm telling Mom and Dad.

**INT. SIMPSON KITCHEN - MORNING**

The Simpsons are sitting around the kitchen table eating breakfast. Maggie smears oatmeal on her forehead with a spoon.

HOMER

Springfield Gorge?

MARGE

Out of the question. No son of mine is jumping over any gorge.

BART

(TO LISA) Squealer.

LISA

I'm sorry, Bart. But if you got hurt or died, despite the extra attention I'd receive, I'd miss you.

HOMER

Bart, couldn't you just go around the gorge? Or wait till they build a bridge?

BART

Yeah, but that wouldn't be cool.

HOMER

You're right.

MARGE

Homer...

HOMER

Bart, we forbid you to jump over that gorge.

BART

You can't.

HOMER

We can and do. Go to your room, Bart!

Bart gets up from the table.

BART

Hey, man, you can tell me not to do it,  
but there's no way you can watch me  
twenty-four hours a day. And the  
minute your back is turned, I'm  
grabbing my skateboard and heading for  
the gorge.

Bart storms off to his room.

HOMER

He's got us, Marge. There's nothing we  
can do. He's as good as dead.

Homer puts his head in his hands and begins to SOB.

LISA

Dad, perhaps if you reasoned with him,  
used your parental authority, he might  
be swayed.

HOMER

No. The kid's a goner.

LISA

(EXASPERATED) Dad!

HOMER

Well, if you think it'll help, I'll  
try.

INT. BART'S ROOM - LATER

Homer sits on the bed next to Bart. He is demonstrating  
the folly of Bart's jump using a toy motorcycle.



HOMER

Bart, say this motorcycle is you and the dresser is the other side of the gorge. I'm no scientist, but look what's going to happen.

Homer revs up the toy motorcycle and lets it go. It sails off the bed and lands on the dresser, executing a perfect landing and coming to a smart 90 degree stop.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Okay, bad example.

Marge appears in the doorway.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Listen, son, there are lots of things I like about being a father... (SITS A MOMENT, STUMPED) I think you get a tax deduction. But one of the many things I don't like is punishing you. If you just promise me you won't jump over that gorge, I'll be happy to let you out of this room and play in the yard.

BART

Okay, I promise.

Bart starts to leave his room, but Marge stops him.

MARGE

Now, just wait a second. Son, do you know what a promise is? It's a sacred oath. I know it may seem cool to risk your life, but nothing is cooler than a young man who keeps his word to his parents. Do you understand what I'm saying?

BART

Yes, ma'am.

HOMER

So with that in mind, promise us that you won't try to jump over that gorge.

BART

(SOLEMNLY) I promise.

HOMER

That's my boy.

Marge smiles. Homer and Marge exit. Bart starts to WHISTLE, grabs his costume and skateboard and heads out the window.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD GORGE - DAY

A large GROUP OF KIDS have turned out to see Bart jump over the gorge. Bart arrives wearing his "Born 2 Leap" uniform and carrying his skateboard.

Bart eyes the ramp for a few moments, puts his skateboard in the ready position, and prepares to go. Just then he stops himself, and tests the wind with his finger. He gives the thumbs up and prepares to go when the Simpsons SCREECH up in their car. Homer runs out, followed by the whole family.

HOMER

Don't do it, boy!

BART

I've got to, Dad. I know I can do it.

HOMER

But you promised.

BART

I had my fingers crossed.

HOMER

Damn.

Homer slowly approaches Bart on the ramp.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Son, you can try it. I won't try and stop you, but if you jump, then I want to jump across this Springfield Gorge, too.

BART

But...

Homer walks up the ramp. The rest of the family stands below, filled with fear. Homer takes the skateboard, and nervously puts his foot on it.

HOMER

(NERVOUS) No, Bart, I won't let you do it unless it's safe, so I'll go first.

BART

No, Dad, you'll never make it. It's too windy, and the rocks are slippery, and sixty-three feet is a lot farther than I thought it was.

HOMER

Sounds like you're having second thoughts.

BART

Are you kidding? I'm terrified. The only thing that scares me more than certain death is all my friends calling me chicken.

HOMER

Don't worry, son. I'll tell them I made you do it.

BART

Thanks, Dad. Let's get outta here.

HOMER

Oh, thank God.

Homer still has one foot on the skateboard. His other foot lifts off the ground and he begins to suddenly travel at great speed down the ramp. Homer **SCREAMS** as he hits the lip of the gorge and is hurled into empty space. We see Homer's POV of the far gorge wall getting slightly closer and Homer's view of the long way down into the gorge. Homer continues to speed toward the other edge of the gorge. It looks as if he actually might make it.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(EXCITED) I'm going to make it! I'm going to make it! Bart was right, this is the greatest thrill of my life! I'm king of the world!

Homer begins to descend and doesn't come close to making it, smashing into the far gorge wall. He tumbles down the rock face, smashing into little ledges along the way, until he lands at the bottom in a pile of mud. He tries to raise his head and is hit on the head by the falling skateboard.

An ambulance pulls up. Two MEN grab Homer and put him in the ambulance. The ambulance speeds away, drives ten feet and smashes into a tree.

INT. SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL - DAY.

Homer is lying in traction.

BART

Sorry, Homer.

HOMER

Son, even though I'm in agony, it's worth it if you learned a lesson.

Still want to jump the gorge?

BART

No way. I'd have to be an idiot to try something like that.

PULL BACK to reveal Lance Murdock in the next bed.

HOMER

(TO LANCE) You think you've got guts, try raising my kids.

FADE OUT.

THE END