WORDGIRL 11MIN SCRIPT #31 "PRINCESS TRIANA AND THE OGRE OF CASTLEBUM" BY ETHAN BANVILLE / WRITER'S DRAFT

1 EXT. X. LIBRI'S BOOKSTORE

BECKY, BOB and MR. BOTSFORD stand in a long line outside Libri's Book Store. Becky wears a conical princess hat, and Bob wears a court jester's hat with bells. Immediately in front of them are the JEWELRY STORE CLERK, THE MUSEUM CURATOR, and other townspeople, some also dressed in costume as characters from the "Princess Triana" series.

> NARRATOR (V.O.) One evening outside of the local bookstore, Becky Botsford and many of the city's residents eagerly await the midnight release of "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum."

BECKY Oh, this is so exciting! We're finally going to find out what happens to Princess Triana.

MR. BOTSFORD It feels like forever since the last book came out. The wait has been unbearable!

Bob squeaks in agreement.

BECKY (looking around) Hm. There sure are a lot of people in line...I hope there's enough copies...

Bob squeaks.

BECKY (CONT'D) (to Bob) No, I don't think there's a shorter line just for monkeys.

Bob pouts.

BECKY (CONT'D) (to Bob) Well go and look, if you don't believe me. We'll be here.

Bob wanders off, bells jingling.

IN THE PARKING LOT, we see TOBEY walking up with his MOTHER.

TOBEY (seeing the line) What?? This cannot be the line for the Princess Trianna book.

A random guy walks by.

GUY #1 Sure is kid. End's down there.

The guy points waaay down to the end of the line.

TOBEY

Well, I, Theodore McAllister the Third, do not wait in lines!

Tobey's mother starts dragging him toward the back of the line.

We pass Becky, who's talking to Ms. Libri, the owner of the bookstore.

BECKY

Hi Ms. Libri!

MS. LIBRI

Hi Becky! How's my best customer?

BECKY

Anxious to get my hands on "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum"... This "Midnight Release Party" was a great idea.

MS. LIBRI

Thanks! Glad to see your dad doesn't mind you staying up past your bedtime to wait in line.

BECKY What can I say? It's good to be ten.

MR. BOTSFORD Well, Becky is a very **devoted** Princess Triana fan.

BECKY So, Ms. Libri. Do <u>you</u> know what happens in the new book?

MS. LIBRI No, I'm afraid not. And even if I did, I'd be sworn to secrecy. (MORE) MS. LIBRI (CONT'D) The author doesn't want to **reveal** any details about the story until the official release at midnight.

BECKY (sweetly hopeful) Oh, come on. I'm sure you've seen a little bit.

MS. LIBRI Nope. Not a word. They're keeping them under lock and key at the publisher's building until the stroke of midnight.

ANGLE ON: BACK OF THE LINE - Tobey perks up at hearing this.

TOBEY (to himself) Publisher's building, eh? I just may be the first one to read this book after all. (to his mom) Mother, I forgot to change into my, er... waiting-in-line shoes. They're in the car. Back in two shakes.

TOBEY'S MOM

Fine, dear.

Tobey's mom begins flipping through a magazine. Tobey sees his opportunity and sneaks off.

TOBEY I'm coming for you, my princess...

Tobey laughs evilly...

ANGLE ON: ANOTHER PART OF THE LINE

We see Bob, in a small crowd, enjoying the performance of a trio of Midieval minstrels, accompanied by a juggler wearing a knight's helmet. Tobey scampers by, cackling and pushing buttons on his remote to summon his robots.

Bob sees this and squeaks. He rushes back to Becky.

ANGLE ON: BECKY

Bob races in, squeaking and pointing.

BECKY

Tobey's here? Well, that's no surprise. He's just as **devoted** to the Princess Triana books as I am.

Bob squeaks.

BECKY (CONT'D) Devoted? That means when you really really love something or someone so much that you give it a lot of your time. Like the way we're **devoted** to fighting crime. Or to each other!

Bob squeaks a "thanks!"

BECKY (CONT'D) You're welcome. Now- what were we talking about?

Squeak.

BECKY (CONT'D) Oh, right... Tobey. He left? That's strange...why would he leave the line?

Bob squeaks.

BECKY (CONT'D) An evil laugh? He's up to something... (then) Dad, we'll be right back.

MR. BOTSFORD Where ya going?

BECKY Um... I have to ask a girl in line where she got her Princess Triana inflatable jumpsuit.

MR. BOTSFORD Okay. I'll be here.

Becky and Bob rush off. In the b.g., we hear:

BECKY (0.S.)

Word up!

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A couple of security guards sit around a large crate of books with a picture of a Princess on the side. The guards are kicked back drinking coffee and looking at a promo poster.

> SECURITY GUARD #1 I don't know, Mick... this Ogre of Castlebum sure looks like a mean guy. He's so big...

SECURITY GUARD #2 Ahhh...The ogre's a wimp! Princess Triana could take him out with her wand tied behind her back.

SFX: HUGE CRASH - A large hole is smashed through the wall!

SECURITY GUARD #1 Ahh! It's the Ogre!

SECURITY GUARD #2 I'm sorry! I take it back!

Security Guard #2 jumps into #1's arms. We see a giant robot hand come in through the hole and grab the guards, lifting them up and stranding them on a high shelf. Tobey walks in calmly.

TOBEY Well, that was easy. Good work, robot.

Tobey feeds the robot a bolt.

TOBEY (CONT'D) Now then... Princess Triana, where aaare youuu? (seeing the crate) A ha! Come to Theodore...

Tobey reaches into the crate to grab a book, just as World Girl and CHF fly in.

WORD GIRL Drop the book, Tobey!

TOBEY Word Girl! A ha... just couldn't wait until midnight, hmmm? Great minds think alike, I see.

WORD GIRL What's that supposed to mean? 2

TOBEY

Oh please. Admit it! You were sneaking in here so you could be the first to find out what happens to Princess Triana!

WORD GIRL

Uhh...no. That would be unfair to everyone waiting in line. I'm here to stop you. Now put down the book, and back away from the crate!

TOBEY My, Word Girl, you do look lovely when you're angry. (being coy) I wonder what you'd look like if you were furious!

Tobey hits a button on his remote and the robot attacks, swiping at WordGirl and CHF. They dodge the swipe, and WordGirl attacks, clanking the robot in the head, which spins around.

Tobey frowns, presses another button. WordGirl makes another run at the dizzy robot, but it shakes off its dizziness, and picks up a large inflatable Ogre of Castlebum parade balloon.

> SECURITY GUARD #1 Nooo! That's for midnight!!

The robot hurls it straight at them! Huggy jumps on it and takes a bite. The balloon pops and flies around the room.

The robot starts charging at them again, but suddenly, the deflating giant balloon smacks into its head and wraps around. The blindfolded robot starts flailing around. WG zips in and grabs the book from a stunned Tobey.

TOBEY

Hey!

WORD GIRL Face it, Tobey. If you want to read "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum", you're going to have to wait in line like the rest of us.

TOBEY

You may have stopped me this time, Word Girl. But I will get that book before midnight whether you like it or not! I <u>must</u> know what happens in the story before anyone else! Tobey hits a button on his remote that has a picture of a steaming teakettle on it. The robot yanks the balloon from its head. Suddenly, steam comes out of his robot's ears. The steam fills the room... obscuring Tobey.

TOBEY (CONT'D) (singing) I'm a little tea-pot... short and stout!

WORD GIRL Huggy, I can't see!

Huggy fumbles around and finds a switch on the wall. He flips it, activating an exhaust fan. The steam clears. Tobey's gone. We hear him CACKLE as he escapes.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D)

He's gone!

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SECURITY GUARD #2 But at least the books are safe. Thanks, WordGirl.

The guard puts the book back in the crate and locks it, just as CHF reaches for it. CHF Squeaks angrily.

EXT. X. LIBRI'S BOOKSTORE - A LITTLE LATER

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NARRATOR Meanwhile, things are getting back to normal in line...

Tobey is back in line with his mother as the Museum Curator and a young fan begin fighting with toy swords.

> TOBEY As if it isn't bad enough having to wait in line, but I have to do it with the likes of this riff-raff?

JEWELER I know. It's horrible.

TOBEY Um, I was including <u>you</u> in that riffraff.

JEWELER Funny. I was including you.

They "hmmph" at each other.

ANGLE ON - ELSEWHERE IN LINE. Becky and Bob slide back into line next to Mr. Botsford.

MR. BOTSFORD Oh, hi, Becky. So, should I get you that Princess Triana inflatable jumpsuit for your birthday?

BECKY Inflatable jumpsuit?

Bob squeaks.

BECKY (CONT'D) Oh, right. Heh-heh. No... don't bother. It uhh...wasn't that well-made. One little monkey bite and it popped, right Bob?

Becky winks at Bob. Bob winks back.

MR. BOTSFORD What are you two up to?

BECKY Nothing. Right, Bob?

Becky winks at Bob again. Bob gives Becky the "Cut it" hand signal.

Ms. Libri walks up and speaks to the crowd.

MS. LIBRI It won't be long now, everyone. The books are on their way to the store as we speak, in an armored truck.

The crowd cheers. Bob squeaks, seeing Tobey slinking off.

BECKY There he goes again. (starting off) Let's follow him.

MR. BOTSFORD Where you going, Becky? The books are almost here!

BECKY Uh... Bob forgot to apologize to that girl...for eating her jumpsuit... MR. BOTSFORD Well, that's certainly the least you can do. If you owe her any money, young man, it's coming out of your allowance.

Bob gives an "Oh man!" Squeak.

BECKY

C'mon, Bob!

Bob squeaks again.

BECKY (CONT'D) No, I don't think he realizes he pays your allowance in bananas.

INT. ARMORED TRUCK - LITTLE LATER

The same two security guards who were at the warehouse are driving down the street with the crate of books securely in the back of the truck.

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SECURITY GUARD #1 So the big question is, how is she gonna keep this Ogre from taking over all of Castlebum?

SECURITY GUARD #2 I wanna know what happened to Prince VanLandingHam. He disappeared two books ago, and they've never **revealed** where he went.

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EXT. ARMORED TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly, in front of the truck, a robot arm comes down from above and grabs the truck, stopping it dead in its tracks.

GUARD #2 What in the world?

Tobey walks up to the door, holding his remote.

TOBEY Lovely to see you again, gentlemen, but if you wouldn't mind, I'd like a few moments alone with the Princess.

Tobey hits a button on his remote. His robot rips off the back door. Behind him, we see WG and CHF, closing in.

Tobey comes out of the truck holding a copy of the book. WG and CHF land and strike a battle pose.

WORD GIRL Stop right there, Tobey!

TOBEY Oh, hello, Word Girl. Here to stop me, or join me?

He wiggles the book in the air.

WORD GIRL (weakening a little) Stop you.

TOBEY Ugh...so utterly predictable. But no matter. I have **devoted** my entire evening to reading this book before anyone else! And I will!

Tobey hits a button on his remote. His robot goes after Word Girl. She snaps off its antenna and knocking it to the ground. Once it's down, CHF rushes in and gives it a swift kick, for good measure.

WORD GIRL Well that wasn't too hard. (then to Tobey) What, no (imitating Tobey) "My robot?!"

ANGLE ON Tobey - we see that he's been reading. He looks up.

TOBEY (turning to her) What's that now? Oh, I'm sorry, I wasn't paying attention. I've just been doing a bit of reading!

WORD GIRL Hey, no fair! Put that down!

TOBEY

(smug) You know what? I don't think I can put it down, WordGirl! It's just too good! Already there are some very surprising developments. Would you like me to **reveal** some of them?

WORD GIRL (gasps) You wouldn't!

TOBEY

Oh, I would. For example - did you know that Prince VanLandingHam is in fact still <u>alive</u>?

SECURITY GUARD #1 Stop! Stop! Don't tell me!

WORD GIRL Yeah Tobey, don't **reveal** what happens!

SECURITY GUARD #1 Wait a minute, **reveal**? Does that mean what I think it means?

WORDGIRL

Well, **reveal** means to give away a secret or show something that's hidden. Like whether or not Prince VanLandingHam is alive.

TOBEY

He is.

SECURITY GUARD #1

What?!

WORDGIRL Or **revealing** whether or not the Princess falls from the cliff.

TOBEY

She does.

SECURITY GUARD #1

No!

TOBEY But the Bubble Breathing dragon saves her.

SECURITY GUARD #2 Oh, thank goodness...

WORD GIRL Wait Tobey, don't **reveal** any more!

If we already know what happens, it'll spoil the fun!

TOBEY Oh, I'm finished...and so are you!

Tobey points behind WG. WordGirl whips around to find Tobey's robot right behind her.

She jumps, but Tobey hits a button on his remote, and the robot tosses Word Girl inside the truck and welds the back door shut. CHF dives for the book in Tobey's arms, but he misses and falls to the ground. The robot and Tobey take off.

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6 INT. ARMORED TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Word Girl is stuck in the back of the truck. She pushes at the back door, but it won't budge.

WORD GIRL Must... break... free!

She takes a few steps back and is about to charge the door when she notices the crate of Princess books.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (gasps) "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum!"

She grabs a book and is about to open it:

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) No. I can't. (then) But I want to. (then) But I can't. It wouldn't be fair. (then) But if I don't get out of here, and Tobey succeeds, at least I'll have read it before him.

Word Girl goes to open the book, then stops.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (shaking it off) No. I have to at least <u>try</u> to break out of here.

Word Girl charges the back door, then just before she hits it, slows down and gives the door a half-hearted punch. It doesn't open.

> WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (fooling herself) Oh well, I'm stuck. Guess I have no choice!

Word Girl quickly grabs the book and sits down to read. Just then, the front door opens and Huggy comes in.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (hiding book) Oh! Uh, hey, Huggy! (nervous laugh, then) How'd you get in here?

Huggy squeaks a "what are you talking about?" and jiggles the door handle.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (surprised) Huh...it was open...heh...Funny, I guess I should have checked that.

Huggy gives her a dubious look.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) Right, well...time to go after Tobey! (grabbing Huggy) Word U--!

Huggy squeaks. WG still has one of the books in her hands.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) Whoops...heh...must've forgotten...it was in my han--Word Up!

Word Girl drops the book and they take off.

EXT. NIGHT SKY - MOMENTS LATER

WG and CHF are flying around, looking for Tobey.

NARRATOR Moments later....

WORD GIRL (to the Narrator) Hey, we're trying to show people what the word **reveal** means... would you mind helping us out...maybe by revealing where Tobey is?

NARRATOR I don't know...

WORD GIRL Maybe you could slip it into one of your little speeches...

NARRATOR Ooh! Like: Tobey has escaped with a stolen copy of "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum"! (MORE) NARRATOR (CONT'D) Will WordGirl and Captain HuggyFace track him down before midnight? Will Tobey's secret reading spot in the belly of his robot ever be **revealed**? By me? Right now?

WORD GIRL

Nice!

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NARRATOR (under his breath) Not fair that he gets too read it first...

INT. TOBEY'S ROBOT BELLY - A LITTLE LATER

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Tobey sits in the belly of his robot, which is like a makeshift clubhouse. He's reading "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum" by the dim light of a small flashlight. A closer look shows us he's made a significant dent in the seven-hundred page novel.

TOBEY Ah, a book is somehow more enjoyable when you're doing something bad just by reading it.

All of a sudden, there's a loud WRENCHING METAL SOUND, as the belly plate of the robot is pried away, revealing WG and CHF.

WORD GIRL Step away from the book, Tobey!

TOBEY (pouting) But it was just getting good!

WORD GIRL (forgetting herself) Really? What's happening?

Huggy squeaks.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) (re-setting) Right! Put it down Tobey. End of story!

TOBEY

(sensing an opportunity) Are you sure? I mean, wouldn't it interest you to know that Princess Triana has reunited with the handsome knight, Sir Finnvold? WORD GIRL (clenched teeth) No....

NO • • • •

TOBEY

Or how the Ogre of Castlebum may have taken Prince VanLandingHam hostage!

WORD GIRL (freaking out) Ahh!! Stop **revealing** the story! You're spoiling it!

The spoilers are like Kryptonite! They're weakening her... WordGirl has to cover her ears. Tobey senses his chance.

> TOBEY Now, robot! Attack!

EXT. TOBEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The robot reaches into its own belly and snatches up WordGirl. Tobey has relocated to the palm of the robot's other hand, which sits like a platform. He's on a roll now.

> TOBEY (furiously paging through) Let's see now... the Ogre has the upper hand... it looks like the Princess and her friends are helpless to stop him!

ANGLE ON WORD GIRL:

WORD GIRL (fingers in her ears) LA LA LA LA - I CAN'T HEAR YOU I CAN'T--

TOBEY

(reading)
What's this? The princess has turned
the tables on the ogre!! She's
winning! And she's... kissing him on
the CHEEK?!?!

Just then, Huggy makes a desperate leap for Tobey. Tobey looks up from the book just at the right moment. He moves out of the way, and Huggy misses!

> TOBEY (CONT'D) Aha! Missed me! Missed me! Now you have to---(gasp!)

Tobey looks down at his book, then over at Huggy. Huggy is holding up three sheets of paper that look ripped out of a book.

> TOBEY (CONT'D) You ripped out the last pages!

Huggy wasn't going for Tobey! He was going for the last pages of the book! Tobey looks down at his damaged book.

TOBEY (CONT'D) Those pages **reveal** the ending!

Huggy nods. Huggy, with a sly smile on his face, holds up the pages and shakes them.

TOBEY (CONT'D) Nice monkey...

Huggy puts the pages in his mouth and starts chewing.

TOBEY (CONT'D) Nooco!! You are not eating my ending!!!

Tobey hits a button on his remote. The robot hand that he's standing on is suddenly propelled forward. It's heading right for Huggy. Huggy's eyes get wider as he chews the pages! Just as Tobey is about to reach Huggy, the robot hand keeps going, past Huggy and up into the sky.

> TOBEY (CONT'D) No! Grrr--- malfunctioning robot!!

Then, from underneath the robot hand...

WORD GIRL

Psst...

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Tobey looks down to see WG holding the robot hand (which she ripped off the robot) with one hand, and Huggy with the other. She's flying Tobey back to the bookstore.

TOBEY

This is not going to end well...

EXT. LIBRI'S STORE OF BOOKS - LITTLE LATER

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We see Mrs. MacCallister standing in line, still reading her magazine.

WORD GIRL (O.S.) Excuse me. Mrs. MacCallister? Mrs. MacCalister looks up to see her son Tobey, standing on a severed robot hand (that WG is still holding), smiling sheepishly, and holding a copy of the Princess Trianna book. WG flips the hand over, dropping Tobey to the ground at his Mother's feet.

WORD GIRL (CONT'D) Do I even need to say anything?

Mrs. MacCallister grabs Tobey by the ear and leads him off. Tobey drops the book.

TOBEY Ow! Ow! Ow! Ow!

SFX: A Clock chime. Bob squeaks.

WORD GIRL

(gasp) Midnight! The book is on sale! Let's go, Huggy!

We cut to Mr. Botsford who's still in line and is now only a few people away from the front. Becky and Bob zoom up and join Mr. Botsford back in line.

MR. BOTSFORD Oh, there you are. Just in time.

BECKY Uh... Yeah, thanks dad.

Finally, it's Becky and Mr. Botsford's turn in line. As they step up, the employee handing out the books holds the book box upside down and shakes it.

EMPLOYEE Sorry, looks like we're all out.

BECKY What?! No! There has to be more!

MR. BOTSFORD Ohh.. sorry, Becky.

BECKY But we waited in line! We played by the rules like everyone else. (mad) I knew I should have read it when I had the chance. MR. BOTSFORD (confused) What?

BECKY Oh, nothing. Let's go home.

Ms. Libri runs up.

MS. LIBRI Ooo, Becky. I'm glad you're still here. I have something for you.

He holds out a copy of the "Princess Triana and the Ogre of Castlebum."

BECKY Really? For me?

MS. LIBRI Well, I had to save one for my most devoted customer.

Becky jumps up and hugs Ms. Libri. Bob joins in the hug.

MS. LIBRI (CONT'D) You're very welcome.

Bob hugging her excitedly.

MS. LIBRI (CONT'D) Um, would you call off your dog?

Bob hears this and, annoyed, stops hugging her and jumps down. Ms. Libri moves off and Becky sits down on the curb; Bob taking position beside her.

> BECKY Okay, Bob. Ready to find out what happens to the Princess?

Bob nods his head emphatically. Becky opens the book, takes a deep breath, then begins flying through the pages, speed reading. As the pages turn, Bob's jaw drops in disbelief. Becky finishes just as Mr. Botsford pulls up.

> BECKY (CONT'D) Wow... Wow... WOW!!! (to Bob) What'd you think?

Bob looks cross.

BECKY (CONT'D)

What?

Bob snatches the book out of her hands. He sighs, puts on some distinguished-looking reading glasses and gets into the car. Becky follows.

> NARRATOR (V.O.) Well there you have it, **devoted** WordGirl fans. We made it all the way through the episode, and we didn't even **reveal** that when Princess Triana kissed the Ogre of Castlebum, he turned back into the long lost Prince VanLandingHam! Can you believe it?

Bob gives another angry squeak.

NARRATOR (CONT'D) Sorry! Tune in next time to see what gets **revealed** in another exciting adventure of WordGirl!