

SCOOBY DOO -- MYSTERY INCORPORATED

"The Hodag of Horror"

SDMI 805

by

Roger Eschbacher

EXT. MAIN STREET - CRYSTAL COVE - NIGHT

STUNNED PEDESTRIANS watch as an ornate CURIO WAGON (a cross between an 18-wheeler and a circus wagon) rolls into Crystal Cove - its speakers BLARING MUSIC and SALES PATTERN.

GENE SHEPHERD (V.O.)
Hurry, hurry, hurry! Follow me
folks for the one, the only, the
very best collection of curious
curios ever assembled this side of
the turbulent eastern sea!

ON THE CURIO WAGON - stopping in the center of town.

GENE SHEPHERD (V.O., CONT'D)
Come experience the experience of a
thousand lifetimes of experience!

A CROWD gathers, including SHAGGY and SCOOBY.

SHAGGY
A thousand lifetimes? Like, wow!

SCOOBY
Yeah, that's seven thousand dog
lifetimes!

ON THE CURIO WAGON - We hear a loud <THUNK> and much <HISSING> as the wagon unpacks itself, Transformer-style, into a small building, complete with flags and banners.

CURIOUS CITIZENS
Ooooooh!

A small PLATFORM rises out of the top of the wagon. On it stands, GENE SHEPHERD, a slick showman and master huckster.

GENE SHEPHERD
Brought here to your lovely seaside
hamlet at great personal expense, I
give you Shepherd's Traveling
Truckload of Amazing Artifacts!

Fireworks SHOOT skyward and EXPLODE...

CURIOUS CITIZENS
Ooooooh!

GENE SHEPHERD
Step right up and prepare to be
blown away...for a small fee.

The front door swings open and the crowd surges forward, carrying Shaggy and Scooby with them into the curio wagon.

SHAGGY/SCOOBY

Woo hoo!

INT. CURIO WAGON - MOMENTS LATER

Shaggy and Scooby make their way slowly through the exhibits inside. Each item is in a little nook, glass display case, or on a pedestal. They get more nervous by the second as they pass things like scary-looking TRIBAL MASKS, strange DOLLS, and PUZZLE BOXES that seem to open all by themselves.

SHAGGY

Like, I don't know about you, Scooby, but I feel like I'm walking through one of my nightmares. The kind I get after combining meat with frozen dairy products.

SCOOBY

Like your homemade vanilla porksicles? Yummy!

Shaggy and Scooby make their way to the very back of the Curio Wagon where Shepherd stands on a small stage.

GENE SHEPHERD

I must ask those of you who suffer from debilitating fear spasms to leave this very moment. What you're about to see might cause you to drop dead right where you stand!

SCOOBY

(gulps)
See ya!

Scooby turns to leave but is stopped when Shaggy grabs him by the collar. Both tremble with fear.

SHAGGY

Like, don't leave me Scoob! I'd join you but my legs won't move!

GENE SHEPHERD

Straight from the primitive wilds of Wisconsin, that exotic land of lakes and cheese, I give you...

Shepherd pulls open the curtains revealing the HODAG, an obviously fake-looking stuffed "monster" cobbled together from any number of ordinary animals and a plush toy or two.

GENE SHEPHERD

The Hodag of Horror!

The crowd GASPS, Shaggy YELPS, and Scooby faints. Shaggy stops trembling and looks more closely at the Hodag.

SHAGGY

Like, without a doubt, that has to
be the fakest looking monster that
I've ever seen!

(shaking Scooby)

Wake up, Scooby, ya big baby.

Scooby sneaks a peek at the Hodag, then quickly stands up,
trying to act like it's no big deal.

SCOOBY

Yeah, I knew it all the time.

SHAGGY

Oh you did not! Like, the second
the curtain opened you fainted like
a big chicken!

SCOOBY

(indignant)

I am not a chicken, I'm a dog! And,
for your information, chickens
don't talk!

INT. CURIO WAGON - LATER THAT NIGHT

The place is closed down for the night and is mostly dark. We
slowly ZOOM IN on the Hodag. We hear the tinkling of BELLS
and suddenly...the HODAG comes ALIVE and bounds off the
stage.

EXT. DAISY'S CONDO - MOMENTS LATER

The Hodag scales the side of a smooth and extremely tall
CONDO TOWER, climbing into a window at the top.

INT. DAISY'S CONDO - CONTINUOUS

Dressed in a robe, DAISY BLAKE (Daphne's sister) brushes her
hair in front of a vanity mirror. She sees the reflection of
something moving behind her and turns to discover the now
horrible fang-infested face of the savage Hodag.

HODAG

<horrible howling noises>

The Hodag attacks and Daisy SCREAMS as we FADE OUT.

ACT ONE

INT. FRED'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

FRED, DAPHNE, VELMA, SHAGGY are there as well as BRAD CHILES
and JUDY REEVES. SCOOBY snoozes over in the corner. Fred
watches nervously as the others quiz his parents.

DAPHNE

But that's amazing that the both of you are into traps, too! Just like my little Freddie!

She gives Fred a hug, but he kind of shrugs her off.

FRED

Yeah. I'm an expert trap maker, too.

BRAD

Well, I wouldn't say we were experts. Would you, honey?

JUDY

We dabble.

VELMA

I'd hardly call inventing the Wittenaur 3000, "dabbling".

SHAGGY

Like, that's the most famous trap ever! Even I know about it and I think traps are kind of stupid!

(realizing)

Did I just say that out loud?

BRAD

We feel that are trap-making skills are a gift that we need to share.

JUDY

We keep our identities private because we're not in it for the glory. We just want to help mankind by ridding it of things that are hard to catch with ordinary traps.

FRED

(almost to himself)

That is so cool! But I gotta ask, why did you stay away for so long?

JUDY

To protect you and ourselves, Fred. Mayor Jones was too dangerous and there was no telling what he'd do if we tried to take you back. We're so sorry!

FRED

(quietly)

Okay.

BRAD

So Fred, why don't you tell us
about your own trap-making journey?

Fred's eyes bug out.

FRED

My journey? Uh, yeah. Where to
start? Ha ha! Let's see. Well, my
fake father made me live in a
little closet under the stairs.

The rest of Mystery Inc exchange glances. He did?

JUDY

Poor baby!

FRED

And then one day this big guy
showed up and took me away to a
special school for trap-makers,
called Trapwarts Community College.
We rode in a special flying trap
over the streets of Crystal Cove
and then boarded a special train
that only trap-makers can see.

Velma rolls her eyes.

FRED

Then I became the top kid at
Trapwarts, and they called me the
Boy Who Trapped and they all loved
me and I was famous and fought evil
trap-makers...and stuff.

There's an awkward silence.

BRAD

Okay, then.

NOVA, Brad and Judy's cocker spaniel ENTERS and hops up on
the sofa. Scooby's instantly awake and springs to his feet.

JUDY

Ohhh, Nova, look who decided to
wake up, just for you!

Scooby scrambles over near Nova and SIGHS.

SCOOBY

Anyone ever tell you a pup could
get lost in eyes like those?

Nova looks at him briefly before starting to groom herself.

ON DAPHNE - her cell phone <RINGS>.

DAPHNE

Hello? Oh hi, Daisy...what?! You're kidding me! A horrible monster almost killed you? That's wonderful! We'll be right over.

She ends the call.

VELMA

Someone almost getting killed is wonderful?

DAPHNE

That was my sister, Daisy, and she needs help. Can you believe it? One of my perfect sisters actually needs MY help! Come on, we've got a mystery to solve!

INT. DAISY'S CONDO - LATER

Daphne, Velma, and Daisy are in the bedroom.

DAPHNE

So this creature wasn't actually trying to hurt you.

DAISY

Yes, it was merely a thief.

VELMA

What did it take?

DAISY

Two items. An expensive ruby necklace that once graced the sweet guillotined neck of Marie Antoinette. It was given to me by my wealthy neurosurgeon fiancée. Daph, you and your trap-maker really must come over for polo.

DAPHNE

Yes, we must. The other thing?

DAISY

Oh nothing, just a cheap bell bracelet I had laying around.

DAPHNE

The one I gave you for your birthday?

DAISY

That was from you? Oh darling, I miss it already!

ON VELMA as she pulls out an iPad-LIKE DEVICE from her pack.

VELMA

Daisy, can you give us a description of the creature?

DAISY

I certainly can, Thelma.

VELMA

Velma.

DAISY

I don't care.

Out in the living room, Scooby pauses from sniffing around.

SCOOBY

Fred, can I ask you a question?

FRED

You just did. Ha! I love that one. Sure go ahead Scooby Doo.

SCOOBY

Uh, I have this friend and he thinks he might be in love with...

FRED

Wait, is this a love question?

SCOOBY

Uh huh.

FRED

And you're asking me for advice?

Scooby face-palms.

SCOOBY

Yeah, what was I thinking?

Velma ENTERS the living room, still entering data.

SCOOBY

Velma, what would you do if you thought you might be in love?

VELMA

Try to snap out of it and dump the slacker before he had a chance to break my heart and crush what few dreams I had left.

She moves on.

SCOOBY

Gee, Velma, bitter much?

INT. DAISY'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Scooby finds Shaggy assembling a massive SANDWICH.

SCOOBY

Shag, what do you know about love?

SHAGGY

Love? Er, like, love is like a sandwich. It has a lot of layers and sometimes you forget the order of the ingredients and if you drop it you can ruin it and most times you don't know how it's going to turn out until you dive in and chow down. But, like, the bottom line is that love is the best!

Shaggy takes a huge CHOMP out of the sandwich then BURPS.

SHAGGY (CONT'D)

Okay, forget what I just said. A sandwich beats love any day!

INT. SOMETHING CHEESY THIS WAY COMES - LATER

NED FUSSBUSTER, works the counter of his cheese shop as his waiter, ROBERTO, long-limbed, brings CHEESE to CUSTOMERS. Daphne is with Ned, the rest of the gang is at a table.

DAPHNE

Mother would like to have the cheese delivered early so it can acclimate to our ballroom.

Ned makes a note.

NED FUSSBUSTER

Your mother is a true connoisseur of le cheese. Please let her know what an honor it is for me to be catering her party.

At the table, Velma sketches while Fred builds a trap out of FLATWARE. Shaggy and Scooby drool at all the cheese. Roberto arrives with a WHEEL OF CHEESE. Using his feet and a CHEESE KNIFE, he expertly reduces the wheel to a HUGE PILE OF SLICES in front of Scooby and Shaggy who promptly SCARF IT DOWN.

SHAGGY

Like, how's this for the ultimate fantasy?

(MORE)

SHAGGY (cont'd)

An earthquake hits Crystal Cove
while we're sitting here and we
have to EAT our way out!

SCOOBY

Oh yeah. Cheese miners!

Scooby happens to glance at Velma's sketch and YELPS.

FRED

What's wrong, Scooby?

Trembling, Scooby points at Velma's sketch.

SCOOBY

It's that scary monster!

Velma turns the pad around revealing a sketch of the Hodag.

VELMA

That's right. This is the creature
Daisy says she saw in her bedroom.

SHAGGY

Like, that thing really get's
around for a stuffed animal.

VELMA

Stuffed animal?

SHAGGY

Yeah, you're looking at a Hodag,
the number one attraction at
Shepherd's Traveling Truckload of
Amazing Artifacts!

INT. CURIO WAGON - LATER

The gang is staring at the Hodag, looking fake as ever as it
stands on top of a SUPER-SECURITY ENCODED CHEST bolted to the
floor of the wagon. Scooby cowers behind Shaggy.

FRED

That can't be the thing that
attacked Daisy. It's so fake!

VELMA

Fred's right. The box it's standing
on looks more impressive than it
does. I'm not getting any kind of
bad vibe off of this piece of junk.

SCOOBY

That's what it wants you to think!

Gene Shepherd suddenly shows up, startling everyone.

GENE SHEPHERD

The Hodag is a master of deception,
lulling its victims into a false
sense of security with its dull
appearance before attacking!

VELMA

Yeah, right.

FRED

What's in the box, Mr. Shepherd?

GENE SHEPHERD

Something incredibly special!

He shows them an ornate KEY he wears around his neck.

GENE SHEPHERD (CONT'D)

I only open that box once a year.

SHAGGY

Like, why?

GENE SHEPHERD

It needs to breathe, you idiot!

Shepherd kisses the key, then walks over to a nearby exhibit.

DAPHNE

Can you say strange?

VELMA

Can you say suspicious?

SHAGGY

Strange.

SCOOBY

Suspicious.

Just then we hear the tinkling of BELLS and the Hodag moves!

HODAG

<horrible screeching noises>

Scooby faints again and the gang panics as we FADE TO BLACK.

ACT TWO

INT. CURIO WAGON - CONTINUOUS

We pick up where we left off with the Hodag GROWLING at the Gang. The creature spots Shepherd and tears out after him.

GENE SHEPHERD

Help me!

Velma grabs an old SHIELD and blocks the Hodag. Fred spots an old time FLASH-POT CAMERA and points it at the creature.

FRED
Cover your eyes!

Everyone except the Hodag and Scooby (who just woke up from his fainting spell) closes their eyes as Fred triggers the camera, filling the area with a BLINDING FLASH.

SCOOBY
My eyes!

The Hodag is knocked out of commission, too, but clumsily manages to run away.

EXT. CURIO WAGON - LATER

EMERGENCY VEHICLES surround the Curio Wagon. SHERIFF STONE is questioning Shepherd who sits on the wagon's front steps with a blanket around him. The gang is there, too.

Scooby, still blinded from the flash, stumbles around in the background. Shaggy trails behind his pal, trying to help. Scooby trips over a fire hydrant.

SCOOBY
<impact bleat>

SHAGGY
Like, maybe you should sit still for a while Scooby.

SCOOBY
That'll make me a sitting duck for the Hodag. Gotta keep moving.

With that, he SLAMS into a tree.

ON DAPHNE, FRED, AND SHERIFF STONE.

DAPHNE
...and thanks to Freddie's quick thinking, we were able to scare the Hodag away and save Mr. Shepherd!

FRED
Thanks, Daph! I don't often get credit for quick thinking.

The Sheriff scratches his head.

SHERIFF STONE
Well, I'm not exactly sure what I should do about this little escapade.

(MORE)

SHERIFF STONE (cont'd)

As far as I know there's no law on the books against a curio coming to life and going crazy.

(to Shepherd)

What's this Hodag thing supposed to do anyway?

GENE SHEPHERD

Let's see...straight from the primitive wilds of Wisconsin, blah blah blah. Basically, it's dangerous creature that tried to attack me. Oh, and it eats dogs.

Scooby's ears perk up.

SCOOBY

Huh?

SHAGGY

Why didn't you tell us that before?

Scooby SLAMS into a STREET LIGHT and drops.

SHERIFF STONE

Eats dogs, you say? Any chance it's particularly fond of *talking* dogs?

The Sheriff turns to Scooby, as Shaggy helps him to his feet.

SHERIFF STONE (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'd be plenty scared with this Hodag thing running around. Maybe you should leave town.

Scooby, now able to see better, squares off with Sheriff Stone, the two GROWLING at each other.

VELMA

All right, knock it off you two.

SHERIFF STONE

He started it.

SCOOBY

I did not!

Sheriff Stone pulls Daphne aside.

SHERIFF STONE

Say, what are the chances of me wrangling an invitation to the big cheese-fest at your folks place?

DAPHNE

Slim to none.

Daphne EXITS, nose in the air.

SHERIFF STONE
But I really like cheese!

DAPHNE (O.S.)
But I really don't care!

Shaggy and Scooby pass by.

SHAGGY
Like, that's what you get for being
mean to Scooby.

SCOOBY
Hmpf!

Sheriff Stone SIGHS and slumps.

SHERIFF STONE
Curse my caustic wit.

INT. BLAKE MANSION - BALLROOM - LATER

A BANNER reading "Welcome Home Brad and Judy" stretches across a wall. All of the town's ELITES are there. Ned Fussbuster has set out a fancy cheesy feast. Roberto circulates through the room astounding and appalling guests with his feet-first cheese-serving techniques.

OFF TO THE SIDE, Fred and Daphne stand with Brad and Judy.

BRAD
Your parents have gone to a lot of
trouble with all this, Daphne.

DAPHNE
Well, it's just their way of saying
they're glad your back.

JUDY
(sotto to Brad)
Never thought we'd hear those words
coming out of their mouths.

BRAD
Shush. Let's enjoy our "reunion".

NAN and BARTY Blake spot them from across the room.

BARTY
Brad! Judy!

Barty and Brad shake hands. When Barty pulls away, both his hand are caught in a fancy version of a CHINESE FINGER TRAP.

BARTY
(struggling furiously)
Ah yes, your famous Gregorian
Calendar finger traps. Should've
seen that one coming, I suppose.

Everyone LAUGHS as Barty struggles for another beat before giving up and extending his hands. Brad touches a few key points on the finger traps and they FALL TO THE GROUND.

Much to Judy's displeasure, Nan sidles up to Brad.

NAN
(smitten)
Brad, you're still the same virile
prankster that you always were.

Judy inserts herself between them.

JUDY
Back off you vamp!

NAN
I'd rather be a vamp than a tramp!

JUDY
What did you just call me?

Judy and Nan square off. Now it's Daphne's turn to jump in.

DAPHNE
Fred, isn't great how two old
friends can pick up right where
they left off all those years ago?

FRED
It sure is! Isn't it, Mr. Blake?

BARTY
Fred, I never liked you. But now
that I know who your real parents
are, I never liked you even more!

ON SCOOBY AND NOVA -- at the cheese buffet. Nova's wearing her collar with a little BELL on it. They sample various cheese dishes while a QUARTET plays romantic music.

They share some STRING CHEESE which brings them closer (ala Lady and the Tramp) for a kiss. But Nova, a real dog, chucks the kiss in favor of licking cheese debris off Scooby's face.

SCOOBY
<fit of giggling>

INT. CURIO WAGON - CONTINUOUS

Shepherd kneels near the security trunk and pulls out the special key. He turns the lock and the trunk POPS open. We can't see what's inside, but the obsessed/possessed look on his face tells us that he is entranced.

INT. BLAKE MANSION - BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

Back at the party, Shaggy sits alone at a table, moping. Velma sits down next to him.

VELMA

What's wrong with you?

SHAGGY

Like, I'm bummed because there's all of this free chow and my best chowing buddy is more interested in some female than doing a smackdown on the cheese buffet.

VELMA

You so deserve this after what you did to me, Shaggy. Dumping me for Scooby. Payback, thy name is Nova.

Shaggy SIGHS.

SHAGGY

Touche!

Velma glances across the room and sees HER FATHER and HOTDOG WATER exchanging tense words. On her reaction we CUT TO:

CLOSE ON NED FUSSBUSTER - he GASPS when he sees that one of the cheese platters is empty.

NED FUSSBUSTER

Roberto!

Roberto appears almost instantly.

NED FUSSBUSTER (CONT'D)

What am I not seeing when I look at that empty platter?

Roberto shrugs.

NED FUSSBUSTER (CONT'D)

Cheese! Specifically, Nakladany Hermelin! Fetch some more before the Blakes discover that we've made such an egregious error!

Roberto SIGHS and heads out for more cheese.

ON THE SHERIFF, outside, staring longingly at the cheese.

SHERIFF STONE

Look at all that gorgeous cheese!

He SIGHS repeatedly, each time fogging up the window pane. As he wipes it away, we hear the tinkling of BELLS.

WIDEN TO REVEAL the Hodag is right behind him! The Sheriff SCREAMS, but instead of attacking him, the Hodag LEAPS over him and CRASHES through the window into the ballroom.

INT. BLAKE MANSION - BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

The guests panic as the Hodag prowls, SNAPPING and GROWLING. It grabs WALLETS AND JEWELRY and tosses them into its mouth. Meanwhile, Scooby tries to keep up with Nova but is quickly separated from her by the panicking crowd.

SCOOBY

Nova! Where are you? Nova?

Scooby stops. He can hear the tinkling BELL on her collar.

ON THE HODAG -- who hears it, too!

Scooby can only look on in horror as the Hodag races to the far side of the ballroom and GRABS Nova, leaping back out of the window. Scooby sinks to his knees and covers his face.

SCOOBY

Nova! Nova! Noooooooo!

The gang quickly gathers around their distraught pal.

FRED

I've had just about enough of that stupid Hodag!

VELMA

Right! Let's roll!

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. CURIO WAGON - MOMENTS LATER

The MYSTERY MACHINE SCREECHES to a stop near the front entrance. The gang piles out and runs to the door.

ON VELMA as she pulls a pair of LOCK PICKS out of her pocket.

VELMA

This is illegal. None of you are seeing me do this.

SCOOBY
(getting it)
See what? I don't see anything.

The rest agree. Velma opens the door and they slip inside.

INT. CURIO WAGON - CONTINUOUS

The place is dark and spooky. They make their way past the creepy exhibits, ending up at the stage in the back. There, they find all of the STOLEN LOOT -- but no Nova.

SHAGGY
Like, look at all that loot!

DAPHNE
There's Daisy's necklace!

FRED
I think we've found our bad guy.

VELMA
Yup, with all of this evidence it has to be Gene Shepherd.

Just then, the WORK LIGHTS turn on and we see a very angry Shepherd glaring at the gang.

GENE SHEPHERD
What are you kids doing here?!

On the gang's reaction we, FADE OUT.

ACT THREE

INT. CRYSTAL COVE JAIL - LATER

Sheriff Stone SLAMS the cell door shut on Shepherd.

GENE SHEPHERD
Sheriff, I'm innocent!

SHERIFF STONE
Yeah, right! Like with all of that stolen loot at your place, I'm gonna buy your load of malarkey!

The Sheriff yanks the key from around Shepherd's neck.

GENE SHEPHERD
Sheriff...!

SHERIFF STONE
Save it Shepherd! I've impounded it all. One of the perks of my job!

The Sheriff steps out into his office which is piled high with impounded oddities from the curio wagon. The gang is there, examining the curios.

SHERIFF STONE (CONT'D)
This is how it works; I impound and
after thirty days, I keep.

VELMA
It's supposed to be evidence.

SHERIFF STONE
(mocking)
It's supposed to be evidence!

The Sheriff sits down behind his desk and picks up a Hellraiser-style puzzle box.

SHERIFF STONE (CONT'D)
Listen here, Miss Fancy Nancy Goody-
pants. I can do anything I want
because I'm Sheriff Bronson Stone
and this is all my stuff! Even this
stupid puzzle box which doesn't
seem to have any use whatsoever.
Boring!

He tosses the box onto his desk. It starts to shift and change. There's a KNOCK on his door.

SHERIFF STONE (CONT'D)
Who the heck can that be?

Stone OPENS it and is hit by BRIGHT LIGHT and <nasty noises>.

CREEPY VOICE (O.S.)
Oh, such sights...

The Sheriff frowns, the SLAMS the door.

SHERIFF STONE
Weirdo.

He turns to the gang.

SHERIFF STONE (CONT'D)
All right, get out of here. I've
got to auction this stuff online!

INT. CITY HALL - BASEMENT - THE NEXT DAY

MAYOR NETTLES leads the gang down a poorly lit hallway.

MAYOR NETTLES
I'd like to thank you for solving
the Hodag mystery by giving you a
room.

They stop at a door with "Junk Room" stenciled on it.

MAYOR NETTLES (CONT'D)

It has its own separate entrance.
If discovered, you will have the
good sense to say you're just
squatting here and I have nothing
to do with it, right?

FRED

Sure.

She opens the door and hits the light. The room is a mess.

MAYOR NETTLES

Knock yourselves out.

On the gang's reaction we, CUT TO:

INT. INVESTIGATION ROOM - LATER

They've managed to clean it up and set up a table and chairs.
Scooby and Shaggy pace. Fred sketches traps while Daphne
stares at him adoringly. Velma's working her laptop.

SCOOBY

It doesn't make sense!

SHAGGY

Like, right!

SCOOBY

How come we didn't find Nova or the
Hodag in the Curio Wagon?

SHAGGY

Like, how come?

SCOOBY

We didn't even find her collar.

SHAGGY

Like, not even her collar!

Scooby STOPS and faces Shaggy.

SCOOBY

Will you stop that!

SHAGGY

Like I'm just trying to be
supportive, Scooby old pal.

Scooby SIGHS.

SCOOBY

I know. Good boy, Shaggy.

Scooby tosses a SNACK into Shaggy's mouth and pats him.

DAPHNE

Scooby's right. There's something very wrong with this picture!

ON VELMA, nodding.

VELMA

Yup, and I have a hunch it has something to do with the bells that rang before the Hodag attacked.

SCOOBY

Hey, that's right! I heard bells right before that creepy creature snagged my poor little Nova!

VELMA

There's a history of using bells to train animals so I looked into it.
(gesturing at the screen)
Check it out.

The gang gathers around Velma's laptop. A look of realization spreads across their faces.

FRED

Gang, I believe this mystery is starting to come together!

INT. SHERIFF STONE'S OFFICE - NIGHT

CLOSE ON his desk where Gene Shepherd's key sits.

ON STONE AND VELMA, hiding behind some boxes.

SHERIFF STONE

(whispering)
This better work. I could get twenty bucks for that key on ebay.

They hear TINKLING BELLS.

VELMA

Sssh!

The Hodag SPRINGS into the room and grabs the key before bolting. Velma lifts her walkie-talkie.

VELMA (CONT'D)

Smart Chick to Scarf Boy, the Hodag took the bait.

EXT. SOMETHING CHEESY THIS WAY COMES - CONTINUOUS

Fred, Shaggy, and Scooby are hiding nearby, they've rigged a huge bell-laden trap in front of the place.

FRED

Roger, that, Smart Girl. Scarf Boy out.

(frowns)

Next time I get to pick the code names.

INT. CURIO WAGON - MOMENTS LATER

The Hodag slinks through the displays until it reaches the special high-security chest. Using the key, it opens the chest and removes a WHEEL-SHAPED OBJECT before leaving.

ON DAPHNE, peeking out from behind some curtains.

DAPHNE

(into walkie-talkie)

Smoking Hottie to Scarf Boy.

EXT. SOMETHING CHEESY THIS WAY COMES - CONTINUOUS

Fred, Shaggy, and Scooby listen to Daphne's report.

DAPHNE (V.O.)

The Hodag took whatever was in the chest. Should be coming your way!

Shaggy pats Fred on the shoulder.

SHAGGY

Like, I *definitely* think you should call code-namer next time.

Scooby's focused on the trap.

SCOOBY

Let's get ready!

Fred picks up a STRING and begins to gently pull on it. The sound of a HUNDRED TINKLING BELLS fills the air.

ON THE TRAP, as the Hodag suddenly appears, obviously drawn by the sound of the bells. Once it reaches a big "X" painted on the ground, Fred turns to Shaggy and Scooby.

FRED

Now!

Scooby and Shaggy yank hard on ANOTHER ROPE. There's a loud GONG NOISE and the Hodag is swept up by a net. The Hodag has been captured!

FRED

Ha! Got it!

Fred, Shaggy and Scooby run toward the net. Daphne, Velma, and Sheriff Stone join them.

ON THE HODAG, dangling in the net. Scooby reaches in and unmasks the creature revealing Roberto.

SCOOBY

Roberto! All right, where's Nova?!

Roberto is silent. Fred grabs the round object from him.

FRED

It's a wheel of cheese!

Velma leans closer, something's not right.

VELMA

Hold on...

She pulls off the Roberto mask to reveal a MONKEY!

EVERYONE

A monkey?!

NED FUSSBUSTER (O.S.)

That's right! My monkey!

They look up to see Ned Fussbuster on the roof of his cheese shop. Scooby GASPS when he sees Ned is holding Nova as a hostage.

NOVA

<plaintive whimpering>

NED FUSSBUSTER (CONT'D)

Nobody moves or the dog gets it!

SCOOBY

Nova!

ON SHERIFF STONE, cupping his hands around his mouth.

SHERIFF STONE

Hey Fussbuster! Any chance of you getting your villain's monologue out of the way? I've got an online evidence auction that's about to expire.

NED FUSSBUSTER

If you insist...

BEGIN FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

ON FUSSBUSTER AND ROBERTO, Fussbuster uses BELLS to train Roberto to perform tasks like pick-pocketing a wallet from a mannequin, stealing silverware from a chest, etc.

NED FUSSBUSTER (V.O.)
I trained Roberto to steal using bells and slowly began building my fortune. When I rang a bell, he would know it was time to start taking objects of value...

ON ROBERTO, stealing real stuff and also taking actual bells of all types.

NED FUSSBUSTER (V.O.)
But he became bell-crazy and started bringing them back too!

ON ROBERTO, with a sack of loot. He hands over some jewelry, then dumps out the sack full of bells. Fussbuster face-palms.

NED FUSSBUSTER (V.O.)
It drove me insane! All of those bells! Then he not only brought home the bells...

QUICK SEQUENCE OF Roberto not only bringing home bells but things/animals/people attached to bells. We see Roberto drop off cats, cows, bicycles, and even a Salvation Army Santa Claus with his donation pot and hand bell.

NED FUSSBUSTER (V.O.)
...but whatever and whomever were attached to them!

END OF FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

ON FUSSBUSTER, a crazed look in his eyes.

NED FUSSBUSTER (CONT'D)
But it was all worth it as it trained him to the point where he could steal the five hundred year old cheese you have in your hand!

ON FRED, looking with amazement at the cheese wheel.

FRED
Five hundred years old!

WIDE ON SCENE, including Fussbuster and the gang.

NED FUSSBUSTER
It was made right here in Crystal Cove by a master Spanish cheese maker.

(MORE)

NED FUSSBUSTER (cont'd)

It's priceless and with it's theft
I can finally retire and leave this
low class dump!

VELMA

But why did you have your monkey
disguise himself as a human waiter
and the Hodag?

NED FUSSBUSTER

(shrugs)

Artistic license. A proper master
villain has a flair for that sort
of thing. Now toss the cheese up
here and no animal will be harmed
in the commission of this crime!

Scooby's eyes narrow. He grabs the cheese wheel from Fred and
FLINGS it hard at Fussbuster.

SCOOBY

How about cutting a little cheese
with your face, Fussbuster!

The cheese SMACKS Fussbuster, knocking him over and causing
him to DROP NOVA! Scooby ZOOMS forward and catches her just
in time.

SCOOBY

Nova, you're safe!

Nova rewards Scooby by licking his face like an ordinary dog
would. Scooby GIGGLES happily.

EXT. SOMETHING CHEESY THIS WAY COMES - LATER

ON FUSSBUSTER AND ROBERTO, cuffed and sitting next to each
other in the back of a SQUAD CAR. Roberto has a little bell
and happily <tinkles> it.

NED FUSSBUSTER

(he's clearly lost it)

There they are again! Those bells,
bells, bells, bells...

Another squad car drops off Shepherd. Fred offers him the
cheese wheel which now has a HUGE CRACK in it.

FRED

Here's your cheese, Mr. Shepherd.

GENE SHEPHERD

No thank you. It's worthless now
that it has a crack in it.

DAPHNE

Sorry you got put in jail. I bet
you wish you'd never stopped here!

VELMA

Yes, why did you come to Crystal
Cove, Mr. Shepherd? We don't get
many attractions like yours here.

Shepherd SIGHS and shuts his eyes.

GENE SHEPHERD

(cryptic/strange/worn out)
It was the cheese. The cheese
commanded that I come here.

Shepherd climbs into the Curio Wagon and closes the door. We
hear a loud <THUNK> and much <HISSING>. The wagon REPACKS
itself, transforming into a very ornate 18-wheeler.

As Shepherd drives off, Scooby notices something GLOWING in
the cheese wheel's crack.

SCOOBY

Hey! What's that?

Fred breaks open the cheese wheel and Daphne pulls out what
can only be another piece of the PLANISPHERIC DISC!!! On the
gang's stunned reactions we CUT TO:

EPILOGUE

EXT. HAUNTED FOREST - LATER

Several figures, MR. E, CASSIDY, Brad and Judy, emerge from
the shadows into a clearing. They eye each other warily.

CASSIDY

(to the Mr. E)
Well, what do you want?

MR. E

What? I don't want anything.

CASSIDY

Then why did you set up a meeting?

MR. E

It wasn't me.
(to Brad and Judy)
Was it you two?

They shake their heads.

BRAD/JUDY

Nope. Nuh uh.

CASSIDY
Then who did?

PROFESSOR PERICLES (O.S.)
I did.

Startled, Cassidy and the others look up to see PROFESSOR PERICLES perched on a branch overhead.

MR. E
What do you want, Pericles?

ON PERICLES, eyeing them with disdain.

PROFESSOR PERICLES
I felt we should all discuss a
matter of great importance.

ON CASSIDY, crossing her arms.

CASSIDY
Newspaper on the bottom of your
cage need changing again?

PROFESSOR PERICLES
(ignoring her)
It would appear the younger, kinder
Mystery Inc has obtained the third
and now fourth piece of the
Planispheric Disc.

They all look at each other, astounded.

JUDY
No way!

PROFESSOR PERICLES
Way. This state of events cannot
continue. As such, I have a little
proposition for you...

CLOSE ON PERICLES

PROFESSOR PERICLES
One that is sure to benefit us all!

ON THEIR REACTION as we FADE TO BLACK!