MOOP

Ву

Danny Higgins

A sea of green blob creatures hover along the sidewalk of Green Gates Village. Extending beyond the tiny metropolis are miles of green jungles in the distance.

The town center is hoppin' with blobs of many shapes and sizes scurrying around - old, young, fat, or skinny - and all the color GREEN. Each of them makes a confused, concerned, or disgusted look as they turn their heads back at MOOP'S FAMILY.

MOOP, (7), cheerfully hops along in front of his family with eyes wide open. He is a tiny, spherical blob who can be spotted from across the globe due to his bright ORANGE color skin.

In contrast, Moop's entire family is as green as the rest of the species. His mother, SHANOOP, (40), runs out of breath as she trails behind, trying to keep up with her three kids. COOP and ZOOP, (9), are Moop's older brother and sister.

Coop is a short and stout firecracker who excels on the baseball field, but not-so-much in the classroom. He needs to look upwards in order to see Zoop's shimmering braces and acne atop her tall and awkward cucumber-esque stature. They both acknowledge the odd looks and gasps they receive from strangers passing by.

COOP

Mom, why does everyone keep looking at us funny?

ZOOP

Why do you think, dingus? It's 'cause Moop is ora--

SHANOOP

(Yanking Zoop by the pigtail) SHHHH!! - Alright kids whattaya say we have some fun?!

Shanoop hands Coop a brand new ball for the three of them to play with.

COOP

SWEET!! Go fetch, dweeb.

Coop tosses the ball far away into large water fountain for his brother to go retrieve. Moop eagerly hops after it.

CONTINUED: 2.

ZOOP

(Rolling her eyes)

Ugh. Sports are for losers.

Moop approaches the FOUNTAIN in the center of the village square. He can't seem to find the ball and climbs up to where his REFLECTION in the water is revealed.

His jaw drops and his eyes are overcome with fear and confusion as he looks at his own orange skin.

MOOP

Huh..?

He whips his eyes around to see the hundreds of green blobs surrounding him, and then quickly back at his own reflection, astonished at what he is seeing.

COOP

Moop! What the heck are you doing over there? Hurry up!!

Moop takes one last deep look at himself in the reflection. His first-ever frown.

He slowly plods back to his family, eyes on the ground.

COOP

C'mon bozo, where's the ball?

MOOP

oh, um... I couldn't find it. Let's just go home.

SHANOOP

Everything okay, honey?

MOOP

(pause) I don't know...

The four continue to mosey on home to their straw-hut abode nearby the village center.

FADE OUT

2 INT. MOOP'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

2

Moop is laying in his tiny bed while his mother tucks him underneath his orange blankets.

SHANOOP

Excited for your first day of school tomorrow, Moop?

CONTINUED: 3.

MOOP

Not really...

SHANOOP

Why not? It'll be fun! You seem sad, sweetie.

MOOP

Mom... (pause)... Is there something wrong with me?

SHANOOP

(Looking around the room

frantically)

No!! Of course not! Why would you think that?

MOOP

I - I look different than everyone else.

SHANOOP

(Long pause to think. Deep Breath.)

Moopy - there's nothing wrong with being different. It's what makes you... special.

MOOP

You promise?

SHANOOP

Of course I promise! Now get some sleep before the big day.

Shanoop stands up and turns the lights off, looking back at Moop as he closes his eyes with a timid smile on his face.

FADE TO BLACK

Title card: THE NEXT DAY

3 EXT. FRONT OF SCHOOLHOUSE - MORNING

3

Shanoop finally releases her firm, loving grip from Moop and walks away as Moop stands alone in front of the entrance.

SHANOOP

(Looking back)

Bye sweetie, have a great day! I love you!

Moop softly looks back and gives a longing wave goodbye.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 4.

He turns around and takes a deep breath in, and slowly opens the door. Immediately - green everywhere.

A endless crowd of young green blobs simultaneously turn around in astonishment at Moop. Previous loud chit-chat all at once amounts to an enormous GASP as they lay their eyes on his never-before-seen orange-ness. Then - silence.

Moop gently takes a couple steps forward, each sticky blob "footstep" echoing as eyes follow his every move.

Quiet murmurs develop among the crowd. Giggles and snickers consume the room. Finally, someone yells out at him.

ANNOYING DWEEB #1 What the heck is wrong with you?!?! Are you really orange?

Moop looks down towards the floor and over at his reflection in the window. He takes a few slow steps backwards as the crowd begins to get rowdy.

ANNOYING DWEEB #2 Yeah, where do you even come from?!

MOST ANNOYING DWEEB I got it guys, he must be a basketball!!!

He runs over to Moop and starts dribbling him like a basketball against the floor. Laughter ERUPTS among the crowd of children. Moop's eyes start to water and his lower lip quivers with fear.

A TEACHER storms around the corner. She, too, is of course a green blob.

TEACHER

HEY! What's going on out her--(Sees Moop for the first time)
Oh my gosh! Are you orange? That's
the funniest thing I've ever seen!

The teacher and all of the other kids continue to crack up and point at poor Moop in the corner.

Moop bursts into tears, bellying out a crushed sob. He sprints out of the schoolhouse with a literal river of tears following behind him.

4 EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOLYARD INTO DOWNTOWN AREA - CONTINUOUS

He scurries away from the wretched schoolyard, still crying, and enters the downtown village area from the first scene.

He slows down, and is now moping his head towards the ground, dragging himself along.

Everywhere he looks: Green.

A billboard portraying a perfect green family reads, "Welcome to Green Gates Village!" He passes a TV store with hundreds of screens, each with green actors, green broadcasters, and green celebrities.

As he continues to mope around, a thought bubble appears over his head. Visuals of an entirely orange little blob community. Everyone is hugging him, and he looks just like all those around him.

EXT. SIDEWALK ALONG THE FOREST EDGE - CONTINUOUS

Moop has walked so far that he is now on the outskirts of town, with the village center behind him.

A narrow, hidden dirt path in the middle of the woods comes into Moop's view. He lifts his head up and peers around the corner.

A speck of ORANGE in the distance within the jungle of crazy green plants. His face lights up.

MOOP

Huh!!!? (indistinguishable
happy gasp)

6 EXT. JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

5

6

He slowly takes his first step into the path and then sprints towards the orange glimmer of hope.

Finally arriving, he sees it up close through a plant. It is just an orange FLOWER.

He rips the flower off its stem, throws it at the ground, and stomps on it with his foot. Angry growls.

Moop bobs along further into the jungle, disappointed.

He sees a yellow bird-like blob flying above him. Confused but wowed facial expression.

A red bug-like blob. Whoa.

CONTINUED: 6.

A blue squirrel-like blob climbing up a green tree trunk.

Nothing orange.

Moop plops down on the ground, giving up. Tears well from his eyes and run down into the dirt beneath him. *Until...*

He hears a bunch of deep, angry voices coming from behind him in the distance.

Moop looks back, terrified. BUT, his eye slam open wide as he sees a huge group of ORANGE creatures down the hill below him.

Jumping up and down with excitement, he scoots closer to the group to get a better look.

The orange creatures are enormous, menacing, monstrous caterpillar-like blobs that are about four times the size of Moop.

The are having some sort of meeting. There is a fire in the middle and they are all looking at a chalkboard covered with drawings and game-plan diagrams.

ANGRY CATERPILLAR LEADER (Pointing at chalkboard)
Green. Gates. Village.

They are the enemies. Their land is about to be ours. MUAH HA HA HA!!

Evil laughs consume the crowd of caterpillars as the flames illuminate their terrifying grins in the dark part of the jungle.

Moop's eyebrows lower and his mouth quivers, his excitement converting to concern.

ANGRY CATERPILLAR LEADER All we have to do - is attack.

Tonight!!!!

(cheers from an angry mob)

The leader of the group points to the chalkboard and draws an X through drawings that look exactly like Moop's mother and siblings.

MOOP

(To himself)
What?! (He looks frantically around). I gotta go.

Moop immediately gets up and runs back down the rail he came from, towards Green Gate Village.

7 INT. MOOP'S FAMILY LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

7

Moop frantically books it inside, slamming the door behind him. His mother is watching the blob edition of Wheel of Fortune.

SHANOOP

Hey honey! You're home early from school - how was the first day?

Moop runs right over to his mom, grabs her and starts shaking her, yelling.

MOOP

MOM!!!!! There's an angry swarm of huge orange scary blobs in the woods and they're coming to take over Green Gates tonight!!!! We need too do something!!!

SHANOOP

Wow! The stories you kids hear at school just keep getting better and better. Such crazy imaginations!

MOOP

No mom, you don't understand - this is serious! I was in the jungle and I overheard them planning to attack all of us!

SHANOOP

Ha! Right, you were in the jungle? You're so silly, Moop.

MOOP

AAARGH. I need to go warn everyone.

Moop runs off, leaving the house. Shanoop stays laughing behind on the couch.

SHANOOP

(To herself)

Kids these days... the things they can come up with!

(Out to Moop through the

window)

Be back for dinner!

Moop rolls his eyes and keeps running into the distance.

A montage of Moop trying to convince everyone about the attack, and no one taking him seriously:

8 EXT. BUSY DOWNTOWN VILLAGE AREA - AFTERNOON

8

Moop is talking vigorously to a hot dog vendor. There is a whole bunch of hustle and bustle going on around them. Moop's exact words cannot be heard, but the vendor cannot hold his laughter in as he hears the story.

HOT DOG VENDOR Ha ha ha! Yeah, right!

9 EXT. PLAYGROUND - AFTERNOON

9

Moop is surrounded by a group of green blobs his own age. They all are punching each other, laughing in disbelief at his story.

MOST ANNOYING DWEEB Pffft. Are you kidding? Big orange caterpillars? You're the only orange freak show that actually exists. Now go run back and cry to your mom again!

10 INT. MAYOR OF GREEN GATES' OFFICE - AFTERNOON

10

Moop sits in a chair across from Mayor Green's desk. Fed up, he is standing on top of his chair, screaming.

MOOP

You need to believe me!!!

MAYOR GREEN

Now, Moop. It is wonderful that you are so concerned with the safety of the Green Gates community. However, sonny, I think we are going to be quite alright. You are the first orange blob I have ever seen, so I don't we're in any real danger from some crazy nightmare of yours! Why don't you head on home to your family? Your mother's probably worried sick!

CUT TO

11

All four family members sit around a table. Shanoop, Coop, and Zoop are feasting away at their hot dog supper. Moop doesn't take a single bite, and just stares out the window.

SHANOOP

So, what did everyone do today?!

ZOOP

Everyone at school was talking about how Moop ran out crying before class even started! Nice one, dingus (directed at Moop). My reputation is ruined!

COOP

Har har har (laughing with stuffed face). And then he ran around town trying to convince everyone about some crazy bug creatures attacking Green Gates tonight! (Looks at clock) So, Moop, when are they coming???

Coop and Zoop crack up at each other's roasting of Moop.

MOOP

I'm not lying - I heard them! They
are coming!!!

SHANOOP

It's okay, honey. I believe you... (She tries to hold laughter in, but I little snort squeaks out).

The TV in the background interrupts the dinner conversation.

BROADCASTER

BREAKING NEWS!!! The city of Green Gates is under attack!

Behind the broadcaster, the village center is partially in flames. The caterpillars are crawling up the sides of buildings. The hot dog vendor runs by in the background, panicking. Mayor Green scurries behind, arms flailing in the air. His butt is on fire.

MAYOR GREEN

Help, HEEELP! What do we doooo?!

Shanoop, Coop, and Zoop sit speechless at the table, their jaws dropping as they look over at Moop.

CONTINUED: 10.

MOOP

I have an idea. Come with me.

Moop grabs his ORANGE BLANKET from his bed, and Zoop's dress up CROWN.

ZOOP

What the heck do you think you're doing?!

MOOP

Just follow me!

Moop rushes out through the front door, his older family members huddling along after him.

12 EXT. VILLAGE CENTER IN CHAOS - NIGHT

12

Moop leads his family members over to the water fountain from the opening scene, where he saw his own reflection for the first time. Everyone around them is in panic. Not even Black Friday caused this much chaos in the village center.

Moop climbs up atop the fountain, and waves for the other three to follow.

SHANOOP

Are you sure about this honey?

MOOP

Positive. I know what we need to do. You guys just get behind me in a line, and hide underneath this orange blanket. Don't say a word.

Moop tosses the blanket over the three behind him, and places the crown on his own head. They are standing at the tallest point in the village center, the fountain, and the fire from below creates a powerful glow.

The four of them now appear as if they are an enormous version of the caterpillar creatures attacking the village. Moop's actual orange body is the face of the "caterpillar."

Moop clears his throat, and yells down at the entire center.

MOOP

HALT!

The one word was so loud that the entire village below stops what they are doing. Green blobs and orange caterpillars both hush to a silence and look up to Moop and his family with fear and confusion.

CONTINUED: 11.

Soft murmurs develop between the attackers, dumbfounded like stereotypical jock meatheads.

ANGRY CATERPILLAR LEADER Who are you?!

MOOP

I... I am KING MOOP! I am the national leader of your species and I have been summoned here to demand that this attack stop IMMEDIATELY! The Green Gates Village comes in peace, and is a community that has done nothing wrong to deserve this. Go back to your home. NOW. Or your village will look just like this.

A huge flame from behind gives Moop's contraption a powerful , terrifying silhouette right as he finishes talking.

All at once, every single caterpillar hurries away and back towards the jungle where they came from.

The flames die down, and everything is absolutely silent.

All eyes on Moop, still atop the fountain.

A huge celebration erupts from beneath him. Green blobs are jumping up and down with excitement.

CROWD MEMBERS
WOW! That was incredible!
(Chanting) Moop! Moop! Moop!

COOP

Bro, that was awesome!

ZOOP

Okay, that was pretty cool.

SHANOOP

I told you you were special.

The kids who tormented him at school are now chanting his name. Moop looks down at the same blobs who were passing by with disgusted looks in the opening image, now with eyes full of admiration.

Moop is beaming, still holding the powerful stance atop the fountain.

He looks down and sees his own reflection in the same place he saw it during the first scene. CONTINUED: 12.

This time, he takes a deep breath in, and smiles.

FADE TO BLACK