

NECTAR

By Alex Wasowicz

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

A FIRE blazes in a FIREPLACE as new LOGS are added.
In the windowsill, a VASE holds a wilted FLOWER.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

A MAN chips ICE off the windows of his TRUCK.
SNOW covers the ground.
A DOG wanders the yard, sniffing.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

A snow-covered BEE HIVE hangs from a snow-covered tree.
TIME SPEEDS UP -- Days pass in seconds.
The snow melts and the hive becomes active.
PUSH IN on the hive...

INT. HIVE - DAY

WORKER BEES make wax combs, feed YOUNG, process and
distribute honey and perform various maintenance.
They move efficiently but mechanically, almost mindlessly.

CLERK
Foraging assignments! Everybody
line up!

DRONES queue in pairs. One bee drags his feet--
BUSBY, looking sad, slowly lines up next to XANDER.

XANDER
Hey Busby!

BUSBY
Hey Xander.

XANDER

Ready to go get that pollen?

Busby groans.

EXT. HIVE - DAY

Bees leave in pairs, heading in various directions--

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Busby and Xander fly along together.

XANDER

I'm telling you. This is going to be a big year for the hive. The Queen isn't messing around. People underestimate her. Honey production will be up seventeen percent the first quarter. You can bet on it.

BUSBY

I still say it's a bunch of beeswax that we have to forage this year like some common drones. I mean, we're skilled workers. We should be making wax, building cones. Not out here in the fields bumbling around with the stupid flowers.

XANDER

Hey. The Queen knows what she's doing. If she wants us to forage, we forage. Besides, flowers aren't so bad. You could even call them attractive.

BUSBY

I guess. It's just, I don't know. I haven't been the biggest fan of some of the her decisions lately.

XANDER

I don't want to talk politics. It hurts my head. We have work to do.

BUSBY

Right. You wanna go tulips or daffodils?

XANDER
Anything but wildflowers.

BUSBY
It's your call.

XANDER
Hm. Daffodils?

BUSBY
Race you there.

They exchange grins, and zip across the field!

EXT. DAFFODIL PATCH - DAY

Busby and Xander wander among the DAFFODILS.

XANDER
Afternoon ma'am. Don't mind us.

DAFFODIL A
Please. Take as much as you like.

The flowers wave their petals encouragingly.

XANDER
Very kind of you.

The bees collect POLLEN.

BUSBY
Appreciate it, ma'am.

DAFFODIL B
Don't mention it.

The bees fly from flower to flower.

BUSBY
Mind if I?

DAFFODIL C
Help yourself. By all means.

BUSBY
Very kind of you.

DAFFODIL C
Oh. The pleasure is ours.

XANDER
You daffodils are always so polite.

DAFFODIL D
And you honeybees are always so
cordial. Not to mention handsome.

Xander blushes as he collects her pollen.

What? Leaving so soon?

XANDER
If I take any more I'll be too
heavy to fly!

DAFFODIL F
Well, come back any time. You're
always welcome.

BUSBY
Bless your hearts.

XANDER
You ladies take care.

DAFFODIL E
Thanks fellas!

Everybody waves goodbye.

The bees fly off, loaded with pollen.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

XANDER
They say the Queen has been
sneaking out of the hive recently.

BUSBY
Why would she do that?

XANDER
Who knows? Maybe she needs an
escape. She's under a lot of
stress, you know.

BUSBY
Maybe she's looking for love?

XANDER

How incredible would it be if we
ran into her?

BUSBY

And you charmed her and swept her
off her feet?

XANDER

Psh. Obviously she would never go
for a loser like me.

BUSBY

Aw. Don't be so hard on yourself.
You might be just her type.

XANDER

Not with this long thorax. Ladies
are not into guys with long
thoraxes.

BUSBY

You never know.

XANDER

Plus, I would be way too nervous.
I would make a fool of myself.

BUSBY

She's just a bee.

XANDER

Just a bee!? The Queen is the most
amazing woman in world!

BUSBY

You've never even met her.

XANDER

I don't have to meet her to know.
She's the Queen! Mating with her
is every bee's dream.

BUSBY

It's not my dream.

XANDER

What is your dream?

BUSBY

I'm not sure yet. I'll tell you
when I figure it out.

XANDER

You are such a weirdo.

BUSBY

Hey. I just spotted a friend of mine. I'm going to go say hi.

XANDER

Anybody I know?

BUSBY

He's a caterpillar named Chester. I'd be glad to introduce you.

XANDER

That's okay. Caterpillars are total weirdos. I'll see you back at the hive.

BUSBY

Cool. See ya.

They part ways.

EXT. TREE BRANCH - DAY

CHESTER the CATERPILLAR chews on a LEAF.

CHESTER

Busby! How you been, brother?

BUSBY

Okay. Got a full load of pollen.

CHESTER

I see.

BUSBY

Although I'd rather be doing a more important job.

CHESTER

Collecting pollen isn't important?

BUSBY

(shrugs)

Looks like you got a pretty juicy leaf there.

CHESTER

Oh it's divine. I've been chewing on this tree all week. I know I'm getting fat.

BUSBY

No. You look good.

CHESTER

(yawns)

I've been so tired recently.
So how's the hive?

A SHADOW passes overhead. They both look up--

Suddenly a BLUE JAY swoops down and lands on the branch!

CHESTER (CONT'D)

Oh no! Help!

Chester cringes as the bird prepares to eat him!

BUSBY

Jay! You're back!

The bird recognizes the bee--

JAY

Busby! Long time, no see!
(wink)

BUSBY

I guess it must be spring?

JAY

Indeed it is. Time to get started building a new nest. But first I need to eat.

Jay eyes Chester, who gulps nervously.

BUSBY

This is my friend Chester. Please don't eat him.

JAY

Fine. I won't. Nice to meet you.

Chester smiles nervously.

BUSBY

So how was the south?

JAY

Nice and warm. I saw my brother
and his family. They're doing
good.

BUSBY

Oh good.

JAY

The bad news is, I fell in love.

BUSBY

You? Love? But you hate love.

JAY

I know.

BUSBY

You're always ranting about how
it's selfish and delusional.

JAY

I know. I know.

BUSBY

Wow. This bird must really be
something.

JAY

She is. Her name's Georgia.

Jay fidgets excitedly. Busby shares his excitement.

BUSBY

I'm happy for you.

JAY

I'm terrified. Pretty soon I'm
gonna be a dad. Yeesh.

BUSBY

So what does Georgia have that the
other girls never did?

JAY

You know, I can't quite put my wing
on it. Yeah, she's beautiful. But
I know beauty fades. Yeah, she's
fascinating. But I know everything
gets tedious. Yeah, she's
impressive. But I know people
change.

BUSBY

Still, somehow she's just perfect?

JAY

Oh, she's far from perfect. She has a million quirks I dislike. But I can't help it. My heart decided she's the bird for me, and there's nothing I can do. It sucks.

BUSBY

Well, congratulations.

JAY

Thanks Busby.

(wink)

How was the winter up here?

BUSBY

Cold. But the hive held up pretty well. We basically just ate honey, you know.

Busby pats his belly.

JAY

Nothing wrong with that.

BUSBY

But now the Queen has me foraging for pollen.

JAY

I thought you were a worker?

BUSBY

So did I.

JAY

(stomach rumbles)

Listen. I need to go find some breakfast.

CHESTER

These leaves are excellent.

JAY

Nah. Never cared much for leaves.

BUSBY

I should go too. I got pollen to deliver.

CHESTER
I ain't going nowhere.

JAY
See you later then, Busby. Nice
meeting you, Chester.

Chester smiles nervously.

BUSBY
Bye guys.

CHESTER
Peace out.

Jay and Busby fly away.

Chester breathes a sigh of relief and chews his leaf.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Wild CORNFLOWERS grow along the tree line, dotting the grass
with various shades of BLUE.

As Busby flies by, he can't help but admire them.

BUSBY
What peculiar flowers.

He wanders among them.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Pardon me? Ma'am? Ma'am?

The cornflowers ignore him.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
I was just wondering if--?

They turn away from him.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Ah. Nevermind.

Dejected, Busby flies away.

The cornflowers snicker.

Something catches his attention--

A cornflower named BLISS sways majestically in the breeze.
She's young and slender, with the brightest, richest blues.

Busby can't help but stare at her...
He forgets to fly, and crashes!
She looks in his direction -- Their eyes meet.
They both look away, shy.
Busby nervously flies off.
He slows, then circles back.
Bliss watches him.
He waves timidly.
She waves back, and giggles.
He flies towards her--
Other cornflowers give him dirty looks.
He hesitates.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Oh, forget it.

He turns and flies away.

BLISS

Hm.

Bliss resumes basking in the sun.

CATHY and MILDRED, two older cornflowers, lean in to block her sunlight--

CATHY

What was that all about?

BLISS

What do you mean?

MILDRED

That bee who just flew by.

CATHY

Do you know him?

BLISS

No.

MILDRED

He seemed awful interested in you.

BLISS

Did he?

CATHY

Don't play dumb with us, young lady.

MILDRED

We saw what we saw.

CATHY

Don't you be getting too friendly with them bees, now.

MILDRED

Them lousy bees no good. They just after one thing.

Cathy and Mildred exchange knowing looks.

CATHY

That's right. They get your pollen and they're gone.

MILDRED

Gone. Never see them again.

CATHY

Trust us, child. We know bees.

MILDRED

They good for nothing.

BLISS

I don't know what you two are so worked up about. All I did was wave hello.

MILDRED

That's how it starts.

CATHY

Next you get to chatting.

MILDRED

Then he's all over your petals, with his dirty feet.

CATHY

All up in your pollen.

MILDRED

Kiss that pollen goodbye.

BLISS

I have more pollen than I know what to do with.

CATHY

Good. Keep it to yourself.

MILDRED

It's yours. Don't let no lousy bees have it.

BLISS

I've seen other flowers give pollen to bees. It doesn't seem so bad.

CATHY

Come on, child. You know we ain't like them other flowers. We don't need no bees. We wild.

MILDRED

That's right. We wild flowers. Don't need bees. Don't need nothin from nobody.

CATHY

Be your own flower.

MILDRED

Stay independent, girl!

CATHY

Tell them bees to buzz off.

MILDRED

Yeah! Buzz off!

BLISS

Geez, you two. In case you didn't notice, he flew away. I'll probably never see him again, so that's the end of it.

CATHY

Oh, he'll be back.

MILDRED

He'll be back for sure.

CATHY

Back before you know it.

MILDRED

Lousy old honey bee.

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby deposits his pollen without enthusiasm.
He sees WORKER BEES working and gets excited.

BUSBY
Good work, guys! Keep it up!

One of the workers looks exhausted--

WORKER
Whew! We're trying, brother.

BUSBY
Y'all need a hand?

WORKER
Absolutely.

Busby zips over--

The FOREMAN cuts him off.

FOREMAN
You a worker?

BUSBY
Um. I used to be.

FOREMAN
So you're not a worker?

BUSBY
Well, no. But--

FOREMAN
Move along then. Workers only.

BUSBY
I just want to help.

FOREMAN
Don't make me call security.

Busby sighs and flies away.

FADE TO:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Busby and Xander fly along together.

BUSBY

Buzz, buzz, buzz. Another day,
same old thing. Same old flowers.
Same old pollen.

XANDER

Cheer up. We're getting better and
better at it.

BUSBY

I don't want to be good at this.
(stops flying)
I want to build things, like when
I was a worker. But not just for
the hive. I want to be a part of
something bigger.

XANDER

Bigger? Like what?

BUSBY

I don't know exactly.

XANDER

Uh huh. Anyway, tulips or
daffodils?

BUSBY

Say Xander? Have you ever wondered
why we don't collect pollen from
wildflowers?

XANDER

They're called wild for a reason.
Those flowers are weirdos. They're
not worth your time. Better to
stick with what you know. What you
understand.

BUSBY

How weird can they be?

XANDER

Trust me. Don't mess with them.
Why are you even thinking about
those crummy weirdos? What's wrong
with you?

BUSBY

Just curious. That's all.

Xander gives Busby an odd look.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 How do we know if we never try?
 We could at least try one
 wildflower. It wouldn't kill us.

XANDER
 You do what you want. It's no
 pollen off my back.
 (points)
 There's a patch of cornflowers
 right there. Those things are wild
 as the wind. Let me know how it
 works out.

BUSBY
 Dude.

XANDER
 I'll be with the tulips. See ya.

Xander flies away.

BUSBY
 Xander! Xander!

Busby starts to follow him, but then stops and considers
 the cornflowers...

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Busby wanders among the cornflowers, intrigued by them.

Most of them give him mean looks.

He sees Bliss, but pretends not to be attracted to her.

She watches him curiously.

They make eye contact several times.

BLISS
 Psst! Hey you! Yeah you! Over
 here!

Busby hesitantly flies over to her.

Cathy and Mildred give him dirty looks.

BLISS (CONT'D)

I've been watching you fly back and forth. I love how you ride the wind.

BUSBY

Uh. Thanks.

BLISS

I spend a lot of time thinking about wind, and watching things fly. Like you. I wish I could fly. Sometimes I dream about it.

BUSBY

You wildflowers really are a whole different thing, aren't you?

CATHY

Mmm hmm.

MILDRED

Whole different thing, buster.

CATHY

You don't even know.

MILDRED

Lousy old bee.

BUSBY

Lousy?

BLISS

(giggles)
Don't mind them.

BUSBY

What's your name?

BLISS

Bliss.

BUSBY

Bliss? Great name. I'm Busby.

BLISS

So, Busby. You want some pollen?

Cathy and Mildred shake their heads.

CATHY

No he don't.

MILDRED
No way. No thanks.

BUSBY
Um. Well.

BLISS
Just say yes.

BUSBY
Yes. Definitely.

BLISS
Help yourself.

She stretches her stamens towards him.

He takes a modest pinch of POLLEN.

BLISS (CONT'D)
Come on. Take more than that.

CATHY
No! That's enough!

MILDRED
Plenty! Lousy bee!

Busby buzzes among Bliss's petals.

BLISS
(giggles)
Oh! It tickles! Keep going!

CATHY
No! Stop!

MILDRED
Too much! Oh Lord!

Busby keeps buzzing and gets a good thick coat of pollen.

BLISS
Ah! Now that's more like it.

BUSBY
This stuff is so sweet! Who knew?

Bliss shakes herself to smother him in a cloud of pollen.

He feels woozy and has trouble flying.

BLISS
Have some nectar while you're at
it.

Cathy and Mildred exchange looks of shock.

BUSBY
Um. I should go.

MILDRED
About time.

CATHY
Punk.

BLISS
Aw. Really?

BUSBY
Yeah. Thanks a lot for this great
pollen. You're the best.

BLISS
See you later then?

BUSBY
Um. Sure.

Busby flies away, tipsy.

Bliss giggles.

MILDRED
Getting way too cozy with the bugs,
ain't she?

CATHY
She must not know bugs carry
diseases.

MILDRED
She don't know nothing. She's a
crazy, reckless, wild flower.

CATHY
She'll learn the hard way.

MILDRED
The harder the better.

They give her mean looks, which she tries to ignore.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Busby finds Jay collecting twigs--

BUSBY

Hey Jay, what do you say?

JAY

Yo! What's buzzin, cousin?
(wink)

BUSBY

How's your nest coming along?

JAY

It's more complicated than I
expected.

BUSBY

I used to be a worker, you know.

(bitter)

Before my reassignment.

(hopeful)

I bet I could give you a few useful
pointers about things like
insulation and waterproofing.

JAY

Cool. I'd welcome any advice you
have. I need this thing to be
solid.

BUSBY

Got to keep those eggs safe and
cozy, right? As we say in the
hive, children are the future.

JAY

(shuffles nervously)

Children. Yeah. Right. Can't
wait to be a dad. Ugh.

Jay frowns. Busby smiles.

JAY (CONT'D)

New coat of pollen, I see. Smells
good.

BUSBY

It's from a wildflower.

JAY

A wildflower?

Busby grins.

Jay peers suspiciously at him.

BUSBY

Why are you looking at me like that?

JAY

I can tell.

BUSBY

What can you tell?

JAY

Since I myself recently found the love of my life, I can tell that you've found yours.

(wink)

BUSBY

Whoa. Whoa. I didn't find the nothing of my nobody.

Jay ruffles his feathers excitedly.

JAY

Tell me about her.

BUSBY

I don't know who or what you're talking about.

JAY

You met a girl.

BUSBY

Um.

JAY

The Queen, of course. How did you meet? Tell me.

BUSBY

It's not the Queen.

JAY

Then who? Who?

BUSBY

Okay. I did meet a girl. But we're completely incompatible. It's silly to even talk about.

Jay gets so excited he almost takes flight!

JAY
Tell me! Tell me!

BUSBY
(sighs)
Okay. I was out foraging. And
I found this patch of wildflowers.

JAY
Yeah? Then?

BUSBY
So there was this one particular
flower. Her name is Bliss.

JAY
Who cares? Get to the part where
you meet the girl.

BUSBY
She is the girl.

JAY
Time out. You're in love with a
flower?

BUSBY
I'm not in love. I didn't say I
was in love.

JAY
I've never heard of a bee in love
with a flower.

BUSBY
Me either. It would never happen.

JAY
I mean. I can't believe it. Do
you honestly love her? Honestly?

Jay looks deep into Busby's eyes.

BUSBY
Golly. I hope not.

JAY
(wink)
Describe her.

BUSBY

Well. She's simple and care-free.
She has this one leaf that kinda
curls around.

Busby gets lost in a thought.

JAY

Petals?

BUSBY

Gorgeous. Deep blue, bluer than
the sky or the sea. The kind of
blue you can only dream about.

JAY

Boy, you are so in love! This is
great. I can't wait to meet her.

BUSBY

Dude. Seriously. It's not love.

JAY

How far away is she?

BUSBY

Like three miles.

JAY

As the bird flies?

BUSBY

As the bee flies.

JAY

I have to meet her.

BUSBY

Get your head out of your
tailfeathers. There's no point.
I don't plan to see her again.

JAY

Listen. Busby. I know it doesn't
make sense. But love never makes
sense. I'm a blue jay in love with
a cardinal. Figure that one out.

BUSBY

Georgia's a cardinal? I thought
you couldn't stand cardinals.

JAY

That's my point. No matter how crazy it seems, love is love, and it's all good.

BUSBY

But it's impossible.

JAY

Impossible, shmim-shmossible.

Jay winks and smiles. Busby frowns.

BUSBY

I need to talk to somebody else about this. You're not helping at all.

JAY

You know I'm right. Loverboy.

Busby flies away shaking his head.

Jay keeps collecting twigs.

EXT. TREE BRANCH - DAY

Chester yawns as he chews a leaf.

Busby lands nearby.

BUSBY

Still eating?

CHESTER

Still hungry. And still tired.
(yawns)
I feel weird, man.

BUSBY

Get some sleep already.

CHESTER

Bah. What are you so happy about?

BUSBY

Do I look happy? I'm actually quite worried.

CHESTER

You have this glow about you. Like you just met the love of your life.

BUSBY
Ugh. Not you too.

CHESTER
What's with this pollen?

BUSBY
It's from a wildflower.

CHESTER
You're in love with a wildflower?

BUSBY
What? No.

CHESTER
I'm happy for you. Love is wonderful.

BUSBY
I'm not in love with anybody.
What's with you people?

CHESTER
You're obviously feeling conflicted about it. That's understandable.

BUSBY
This is hopeless. I'm leaving.

CHESTER
It's not healthy to live in denial.

BUSBY
Bye Chester.

Busby flies away, shaking his head.

CHESTER
(yawns)
Man, I'm so tired.

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby deposits his pollen--

CLERK
Holy honeycombs! Look at this stuff!

Other bees gather around.

CLERK (CONT'D)
 I've never seen it's equal.
 Where did you find such magnificent
 pollen?

BUSBY
 Well. I. Um. Um...

Xander strolls over--

XANDER
 Look who it is. How did you enjoy
 those wildflowers?

The crowd is shocked!

CLERK
 Wi-wi-wildflowers?

RANDOM BEE
 Not wildflowers!

The bees buzz with disapproval.

FOREMAN
 What were you thinking? Bringing
 that filth around here! You
 disrespected the entire hive!

The bees push and shove Busby!

BUSBY
 But I...

FOREMAN
 Quiet!

The crowd nearly pushes him out of the hive--

Suddenly he pushes back!

BUSBY
 Stop!

They stop pushing.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 I never wanted to forage. But I
 did as I was told, and I brought
 back the best pollen you've ever
 seen. You know it is.

Everyone looks to the Clerk, who reluctantly nods.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 It's the best pollen because it
 came from the best flower. She's
 gorgeous, and captivating, and
 I'm in love with her!

The bees are shocked!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 I don't care what any of you think!

Xander pulls Busby aside--

XANDER
 (whispers)
 Do you have any idea how crazy you
 sound?

BUSBY
 I know it's crazy, but I love her.
 I really do.

XANDER
 Busby. Please.

Busby turns and bolts from the hive!

The crowd exchanges uncertain looks.

FADE TO:

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Busby sneaks up to Bliss, surprising her--

BLISS
 Busby!

He buzzes among her petals!

BLISS (CONT'D)
 (giggles)
 Ah! It tickles!

They both laugh. She hugs him.

BUSBY
 I have to say. Of all the flowers
 I've ever known, your petals are by
 far the softest.

He nestles comfortably. She covers him like a blanket.

BLISS

Aw. You're too cute.

BUSBY

If I'm two cute, you must be
at least ten cute.

BLISS

(giggles)

What a darling! I don't know why
I've always been told bees were
good for nothing crooks and liars.

MILDRED

They are!

CATHY

Rotten bums!

BUSBY

Funny. I've always been told
the same thing about wildflowers.
That you're not to be trusted.

BLISS

Actually, that's sound advice.
Wildflowers are generally
untrustworthy.

Mildred and Cathy exchange guilty looks.

BUSBY

Come to think of it, so are
honeybees.

They all laugh. Mildred and Cathy high-five.

BLISS

Hopefully you and I can be the
exceptions?

Busby nods thoughtfully.

BLISS (CONT'D)

I'm glad I met you.

BUSBY

So am I.

CATHY

Not me.

MILDRED

I hate you both.

BLISS

It can get lonely, being a flower.

BUSBY

It can get lonely being a bee.
Even back at the hive, surrounded
by the whole colony, sometimes
I feel like I can never really
connect with any of them.

BLISS

I know what you mean. You just
need somebody honest to talk to.

BUSBY

Exactly. Somebody who's real.

BLISS

Who's interesting.

BUSBY

Who makes you smile.

BLISS

Who you don't have to pretend with.

BUSBY

Who has the softest petals ever.

BLISS

Who appreciates the softness of
your petals.

They share a tender moment.

Cathy and Mildred are jealous.

BUSBY

You're awesome.

BLISS

So are you.

He nestles into her petals. She giggles.

BUSBY

Um. This is gonna sound forward.

BLISS

Say it.

BUSBY

Can I spend the night? My hive
kinda bugged out on me.

CATHY

Nope! You can't and you won't!

MILDRED

Not on your life!

BLISS

Of course. Any time.

Bliss covers Busby like a blanket. They lie in peace.

Cathy and Mildred exchange bitter looks.

FADE TO:

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - MORNING

Busby wakes, yawns and stretches.

BLISS

Morning, sleepyhead.

BUSBY

(yawns)

Morning, angel.

They hug.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

I can't believe how quiet it is without... Without the hive.

BLISS

Do you miss them?

BUSBY

I guess, kinda. Yeah. I wonder if they're still mad at me?

BLISS

Go find out. I'll be here.

BUSBY

Okay. I won't be gone long.

BLISS

A little pollen for the road?

BUSBY

I was hoping you'd say that.

He buzzes through her petals. She giggles.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Ah. It's heaven. Sheer heaven.

BLISS
Try the nectar.

She offers a pistil dripping with golden NECTAR.

BUSBY
Maybe just a taste.

He dips a finger and licks it--

BUSBY (CONT'D)
(almost faints)
Yowzers!

BLISS
You like it?

BUSBY
Baby, I can hardly stand.

He stumbles. She giggles.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
I think I'm in love.

BLISS
I think I know the feeling.

They hug.

BUSBY
I'll return as soon as I can.

BLISS
Farewell, my darling.

Busby smiles and flies away--

Suddenly he becomes stuck in a SPIDER WEB!

BUSBY
Hey! What the heck? I'm stuck!

He struggles to escape!

BLISS
Busby!

Cathy and Mildred snicker.

Bliss glares at them.

A SPIDER approaches Busby!

BLISS (CONT'D)

Look out!

BUSBY

Help! Help!

Busby can't escape!

The spider closes in!

SPIDER

Say your prayers, honeybee!

Bliss takes a deep breath and flexes her muscles--

Some of her PETALS break off! They flutter down and land in the web, ripping holes through it!

Busby gets a wing free and struggles to free the other.

The spider becomes tangled in his own web!

SPIDER (CONT'D)

Aw, crud!

Busby manages to escape!

Cathy and Mildred are disappointed.

The spider struggles helplessly.

A SHADOW passes overhead--

Jay swoops down and lands.

JAY

Well, well. What have we here?

SPIDER

Cruddy crud crud.

BUSBY

You missed it. This guy almost had me for lunch.

JAY

Lunch you say? I was just thinking it was about lunch time.

Jay eyes the nervous spider.

JAY (CONT'D)
Any objections?

BUSBY
Bon appetit.

Jay eats the spider in a flash!

JAY
Mmmm. Crunchy.

Busby brushes off stray pieces of web.

BLISS
Are you okay?

JAY
Hey! This must be that flower
you're in love with! Boy, she's
a knockout!
(wink)

BUSBY
Um. Jay, meet Bliss. Bliss?
This is Jay.

JAY
How do you do?

BLISS
Pleasure.

BUSBY
I owe my life to both of you.

JAY
(shrugs)
Meh. No biggie.

BUSBY
Really. If you hadn't shown up,
and if she hadn't dropped those
petals, I wouldn't be here.

BLISS
You wouldn't have been in that web
in the first place if you hadn't
come to see me. In a way, it's my
fault.

BUSBY
I know who's fault it really is.

He glares at Cathy and Mildred, who look guilty.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
You two set this up, didn't you?

MILDRED
We don't know nothing about
nothing.

CATHY
You ain't got no proof.

BUSBY
If you ladies want to send spiders
after me, I'm going to start
spreading rumors about plump, juicy
worms living under your roots.

JAY
Worms you say? My favorite!

Jay pecks at their roots!

CATHY
Ah! Oh! Ow!

MILDRED
Stop! Make it stop!

BUSBY
That's enough, Jay. I've made my
point. Haven't I?

MILDRED
Yes.

CATHY
Yeah.

BUSBY
Good. Now, I'm leaving. But I'll
be back real soon.

BLISS
I miss you already.

BUSBY
Miss you too, babe.

They share a tender moment.

Jay takes off. Busby follows him.

Mildred and Cathy droop in defeat.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Jay glides through the air. Busby hovers next to him.

JAY
So you've admitted to yourself
you're in love?

BUSBY
(sighs)
Yeah.

JAY
Good. You're perfect for each
other.

BUSBY
This is the worst idea I've ever
had.

JAY
I wish you both the best of luck.

BUSBY
Thanks, I guess. Hey. Is your
nest finished yet?

JAY
Just about. Although Georgia
fusses over every twig and fiber.
If she wasn't right all the time it
might be aggravating.
(wink)

BUSBY
I hear you. Our Queen is a total
slave-driver, but then again the
hive is a masterpiece, so it's hard
to complain.

JAY
Speaking of the nest...

BUSBY
See you around, pal.

JAY
Alright, loverboy.
(wink)

Jay flies away.

Busby wanders among random FLOWERS...

He gets more and more depressed...

BUSBY
It's impossible. Simply
impossible. What are we thinking?

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Bliss sadly watches INSECTS fly around...

BLISS
What are we thinking? It's simply
impossible...

EXT. FIELD - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
I wish I was a flower.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
I wish I was a bee.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
Then we could be together.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
And magical and free.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
But never will I ever.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
Be half enough for he.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
Or half enough for she.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
So never shall we be.

FADE TO:

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby enters the hive--

RANDOM BEE
Not you again!

FOREMAN
He's got more of that wild pollen!
Get out of here with that junk!

The bees start buzzing aggressively.

XANDER
Let me talk to him.

Xander pulls Busby aside--

XANDER (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Snap out of it! You've had your fun. Now let's be serious.

BUSBY

I am serious. I'm in love.

XANDER

What a load of beeswax.

BUSBY

She's all I think about. Ah. That glorious pollen. That nectar.

He pulls a speck of pollen off his back and savors it.

XANDER

You're delusional. This is some kind of phase you're going through.

BUSBY

She's perfect. And we're perfect together.

XANDER

You need help.

BUSBY

I have to see her again. Now.

XANDER

Not right now.

BUSBY

Right now. Or I'll lose my mind.

Busby heads for the exit.

XANDER

You realize you risk banishment from the hive? Banishment!

BUSBY

I don't care. I'd rather be with her.

Busby leaves the hive.

XANDER

Busby! You old honeysuckle!

FADE TO:

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Bliss sways in a pleasant breeze. Busby lies comfortably among her petals.

BLISS
What's it like to fly?

BUSBY
(shrugs)
It's no big deal.

BLISS
Is it scary?

BUSBY
Nah.

BLISS
Is it fun?

BUSBY
(shrugs)
Not really. It's a lot like walking.

BLISS
Walking looks like it might be fun. It must be interesting to move around from place to place, and see different things.

BUSBY
I guess it's interesting. But the world is too big. Most of the stuff out there's a waste of time.

BLISS
When I dream about flying, I see endless fields of blue flowers that remind me of myself. It's beautiful. I wish the world had more beauty in it.

They both reflect.

BUSBY
What's that noise?

A MOTOR hums somewhere nearby.

Busby flies off to investigate--

He sees the Man riding a LAWNMOWER!

BLISS
What is it?

BUSBY
A monster! It's getting closer
too.

The lawnmower gets closer and louder!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
It's coming right for us!

BLISS
I'm scared.

BUSBY
Just hold on. Whatever happens,
happens to both of us.

BLISS
What? No. Get out of here! Go!

BUSBY
I'm not leaving you.

BLISS
You're crazy.

BUSBY
I love you.

They share a moment.

BLISS
I love you too.

They embrace.

The lawnmower bares down on them!

BUSBY
Here it comes!

BLISS
Hang on!

Wind blows! Freshly cut GRASS swirls around them!

Spinning blades approach!

They scream as the lawnmower passes over them!

FADE TO:

Busby slowly regains consciousness...

Xander leans over him.

XANDER
Busby? Oh, thank goodness.

Xander gives Busby a big hug.

XANDER (CONT'D)
You had me worried sick there, pal.

BUSBY
What happened? Where's Bliss?

XANDER
She's fine. That thing didn't miss
by much, but it missed her.

Busby flies unsteadily to the edge of the mowed field.

BUSBY
Bliss!

He zips over to her--

BLISS
Busby!

They embrace.

BLISS (CONT'D)
I've never been so terrified.

BUSBY
Are you hurt?

BLISS
Just a scrape or two.

BUSBY
Same here. We got lucky.

BLISS
Not all of us.

She nods to where Cathy and Mildred used to be.

BLISS (CONT'D)
Are they dead?

BUSBY
Yes.

BLISS
Aw. Death is sad.

BUSBY
Yes.

Bliss slumps, depressed.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
But it happens to everything.

BLISS
Will it happen to us?

BUSBY
Of course. Everything dies.

Bliss slumps further.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
I thought you knew.

BLISS
Wait. If everything dies, then death is really just another part of life. Isn't it?

BUSBY
I think you're right.

BLISS
That's not so sad then.

They exchange smiles. Bliss giggles.

XANDER
We better head back to the hive. Get some pollen and let's go.

BLISS
You heard him. Get some pollen.

BUSBY
Orders are orders.

Busby buzzes and gets a good thick coat of POLLEN. Bliss loves it.

XANDER
I guess I should get some pollen too.

Xander flies over -- Busby cuts him off.

BUSBY

Wait a second. I'm not sure how
I feel about that.

XANDER

What? Now you're the only bee who
gets her pollen?

BUSBY

Something like that. Yeah.

XANDER

Don't be silly. Pollen's pollen.

BUSBY

Then find yourself another flower.

Xander and Busby glare at each other.

A SHADOW passes overhead--

Jay swoops down and lands.

JAY

Wow. What happened here?

XANDER

There was a loud, evil monster.

BUSBY

A human had it by the neck and was
trying to stop it, but the monster
just kept charging back and forth,
chopping up grass and killing
flowers indiscriminately.

BLISS

It was awful!

JAY

I've seen this before. The human
wasn't trying to stop the monster.
It was in control of the monster.

XANDER

I don't understand.

JAY

Humans have all kinds of monsters
to help them destroy the land
around them. They can even wipe
out entire forests. I've seen it.

BLISS
Why would they be so cruel?

BUSBY
What did the forest ever do to them?

JAY
Humans are maniacs. It's that simple.

BLISS
Do you think they'll return?

JAY
You bet. As soon as this poor grass grows back, they'll be out to cut it down again. They're incredibly persistent.

Bliss slumps.

BUSBY
We have to stop them.

JAY
What can be done? The humans are too strong.

BUSBY
I can sting them.

XANDER
Busby. Don't even think about it.

BUSBY
If they hurt Bliss, there's no telling what I might do.

BLISS
Um. What's a sting?

BUSBY
This pointy thing is a stinger.

BLISS
It looks like a thorn.
(giggles)

BUSBY
It is like a thorn, but much more dangerous. It contains poison.

BLISS

Oh my gosh.

BUSBY

A prick from my stinger will hurt even the biggest, toughest creatures.

BLISS

Even humans?

BUSBY

Even humans.

BLISS

Then our problem's solved! Next time that monster comes, use your stinger!

BUSBY

It's not quite that simple. I can only sting once.

BLISS

Just once? Well then you better make it count.

BUSBY

And there's another catch. After I sting, I die.

BLISS

Die?

BUSBY

Yes.

BLISS

As in, die?

BUSBY

Yes.

Bliss slumps.

XANDER

Listen. Do you hear that?

They listen. A CHAINSAW buzzes in the distance.

BLISS

What is it?

BUSBY

It sounds like its coming from--

Xander and Busby exchange worried looks.

TOGETHER

The hive!

They speed away! Jay flies after them.

Bliss is left alone, worried. She looks across the field at an ominous gathering STORM.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

The Man uses a CHAINSAW to cut down a tree!

Busby and Xander find a fresh stump.

BUSBY

Where's our tree? It used to be right here!

XANDER

Where's the Queen? Without her, all is lost!

They search frantically among the debris--

BUSBY

Over here!

The hive lies smashed apart, in ruins. ROACHES, FLIES, MITES and other bugs swarm over it, battling with bees!

Xander and Busby join the fray, trying in vain to stop the onslaught of invaders.

XANDER

Hey! Where's the Queen?

RANDOM BEE

Nobody knows!

Xander kicks a roach, which has no effect.

Busby gets a fly in a headlock--

Suddenly a crack of THUNDER! RAIN pours!

Everyone runs for cover!

Busby gets hit by a RAINDROP and knocked to the ground!
 He crawls along, pelted by the rain. His coat of pollen
 washes away.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY (RAINING)

Bliss sways in the hard wind as the storm rages.
 LIGHTNING makes spooky SHADOWS around her!
 She shudders, traumatized.
 Gusts of wind whip her violently!
 She weeps...

FADE TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Wet trees drip. SUNLIGHT returns as the clouds break.
 Soggy INSECTS and ANIMALS emerge from hiding.
 Busby shakes himself dry.
 A fat bee named ZEKE sees him--

ZEKE
 Hey there! Busby!

They rendezvous.

BUSBY
 How many survived?

ZEKE
 Maybe ten percent.

Busby winces.

ZEKE (CONT'D)
 And the Queen's missing.

Busby shakes his head sadly.

ZEKE (CONT'D)
 Brace yourself. You're not going
 to like what you see.

They fly over to the HIVE RUINS:

Utter devastation. Almost nothing remains.

About A HUNDRED BEES, the meager survivors, wander sadly among the flakes and dust.

Many are badly injured. Some are dying.

Overcome with emotion, Busby lands and weeps.

Other bees weep with him.

Xander finds him--

XANDER

Busby! You're alive!

BUSBY

I don't see a single honeycomb intact.

FOREMAN (O.S.)

There aren't any.

They turn to face the Foreman--

FOREMAN (CONT'D)

The hive is lost. Nothing can be done to salvage it.

The surrounding bees exchange dismal looks.

ZEKE

What do we do?

FOREMAN

We rebuild. Find a new Queen, and start a new hive.

The bees look hopeful.

XANDER

No. We find our Queen and rebuild her hive.

Some bees nod.

FOREMAN

Our Queen's dead.

XANDER

Show me her corpse and we'll bury her. Otherwise, let's assume she's alive and organize a search.

FOREMAN

We'd be wasting time.

XANDER

Wasting time is exactly what we're doing now. Let's get off our stingers and go find her!

The bees get excited.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Who's with me? Long live the hive!

EVERYBODY

Long live the hive!

The bees cheer!

The Foreman looks annoyed.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Xander, Busby and Zeke search for the Queen--

BUSBY

(sings)
Your Majesty?

XANDER

(sings)
We miss you!

ZEKE

(sings)
Your Majesty?

XANDER

(sings)
Hello?

BUSBY

(sings)
Your Majesty?

XANDER
 (sings)
 Where could she be?

ZEKE
 (sings)
 Where ever did she go?

XANDER
 (sings)
 She must be out here somewhere.

BUSBY
 (sings)
 She can't be very far.

ZEKE
 (sings)
 Your Majesty?

BUSBY
 (sings)
 Your Majesty?

XANDER
 (sings)
 Pray tell us where you are!

The bees listen for a response.

They exchange doubtful looks.

QUEEN (O.S.)
 I'm here!

Confused, they look around--

XANDER
 Your? Majesty?

The QUEEN reveals herself!

The bees are thrilled!

QUEEN
 Thank goodness you found me!
 You adorable gentlemen!

She flies right up to Xander--

QUEEN (CONT'D)
 I can't help but notice your
 unusually long thorax.

Xander hangs his head in shame.

QUEEN (CONT'D)
I love a guy with a long thorax.
Mind if I touch it?

XANDER
(petrified)
Go right ahead, your Majesty.
My thorax is your thorax.

QUEEN
I like your attitude.

She gently caresses his thorax.

His eyes roll back.

QUEEN (CONT'D)
Wow. Nice and firm.

Busby and Zeke exchange looks of disbelief.

QUEEN (CONT'D)
What's your name, handsome?

XANDER
(gulps)
Xander.

QUEEN
Xander? I like it. What are you
doing later, Xander?

XANDER
Whatever your Majesty wishes.

QUEEN
Good answer.

BUSBY
(nudges Zeke)
Why don't we buzz off and tell the
rest of the guys the good news?

QUEEN
Take your time.

Busby and Zeke hurry off.

Xander's jaw drops as the Queen takes control...

FADE TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Busby huddles with the Foreman, Zeke and other bees--

FOREMAN

I need a ballpark figure. Does anybody know how many eggs she can lay?

ZEKE

I'm pretty sure it's either a few hundred or a few thousand.

RANDOM BEE

Would it be rude to ask her?

FOREMAN

(points)

Hooray! If it isn't the bee of the hour!

Xander flies over, blushing.

The bees greet him with pats on the back.

RANDOM BEE

Way to go! Long live the hive!

XANDER

Good news, Busby. I put in a word with the Queen, and she decided to make you head architect. You'll be in charge of constructing the new hive!

BUSBY

Really? Me? Sweet!

FOREMAN

Hold on here. I have much more experience.

BUSBY

You can help.

FOREMAN

But I should be in charge.

XANDER

I hope you're not questioning the Queen's orders?

Nearby bees get agitated.

FOREMAN
 (nervous)
 Oh, no. Of course not.

XANDER
 Don't make me call security.

FOREMAN
 It's cool, brother. It's cool.

BUSBY
 He's right though. He does have
 more experience.

FOREMAN
 See? Boom.

Busby offers to shake hands with the Foreman--

BUSBY
 Tell you what. You come up with a
 design and I'll approve it. Deal?

FOREMAN
 I can live with that.

They shake hands.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HIVE - DAY

Bees work hard constructing the new hive.

Busby and the Foreman work next to each other, smiling.

Xander passes by--

XANDER
 Looking good, fellas.

FOREMAN
 Yep. It's coming along well.

BUSBY
 Great exercise too.

XANDER
 Don't work too hard, now.

BUSBY
 No promises.

They exchange smiles.

FOREMAN
How's the Queen?

XANDER
Her Majesty is fine.

BUSBY
Is it still mating season?

XANDER
Shoish! That woman's insatiable!

FOREMAN
What a life.

XANDER
I'm not complaining.

BUSBY
Don't work too hard, now.

XANDER
No promises.

They exchange smiles.

EXT. HIVE - DAY

TIME SPEEDS UP -- Hours pass in seconds.

The hive gets bigger and bigger.

In a week it's complete.

FADE TO:

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

Bliss sways in the breeze. Busby lies among her petals.

The grass around them has grown tall and wild.

A LADYBUG wanders by.

Busby pets it like a dog.

It acts like a dog.

Bliss giggles. Busby laughs.

The ladybug wanders off.

BLISS
You said you loved me.

BUSBY
I do.

BLISS
How do you know? I mean, what even
is love?

BUSBY
You know it when you feel it.

BLISS
I feel it all right. But what is
it?

BUSBY
I'm not sure. It's crazy though.

BLISS
Sure is.

They both reflect.

BLISS (CONT'D)
Have you ever been in love before?

BUSBY
Once. At least I thought so.
But it didn't feel like this.
This just feels...

BLISS
Perfect?

BUSBY
Yeah. Perfect.

They snuggle.

She sprinkles pollen on him. He gets woozy.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
That noise...

A MOTOR hums somewhere nearby.

BLISS
It's the monster!

BUSBY
We'll be okay. Just hold on.

They hold each other tight.

BLISS
What do you mean we'll be okay?
We might die!

BUSBY
No. We'll be okay. Have faith.

BLISS
Faith in what?

BUSBY
I don't know. Love?

The lawnmower gets closer and louder...

BLISS
You don't have to stay with me.

BUSBY
Of course I do.

BLISS
Oh Busby. I love you so much.

BUSBY
Say that again.

BLISS
I'll always love you, Busby.
Even if we die. I'll love you
forever.

The lawnmower bares down on them!

They shut their eyes--

WIND gusts! GRASS flies!

Busby and Bliss scream!

The lawnmower rolls over them!

FADE TO BLACK.

SILENCE...

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODS - EVENING

Busby awakes disoriented, buried in GRASS CLIPPINGS...

He's battered, bruised and missing an antenna. He tries to fly, but one of his wings is TORN and doesn't work.

He stumbles out of the grass clippings--

BUSBY

Bliss? Baby? Baby where are you?

He crawls and limps along...

DISSOLVE TO:

The SUN sets. The MOON rises.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

Busby limps along.

FIREFLIES fill the air.

He stops to watch them...

One named FIONA flies down to him--

FIONA

Evening.

BUSBY

Hello.

FIONA

You look lonely. Come fly with us.

BUSBY

I can't. My wing's broken.

FIONA

Ouch. That's too bad. Well I can walk with you, then. I'll light the way.

She lands next to him.

BUSBY

Um. Okay.

They walk together. Her light blinks and glows.

FIONA
Where you headed?

BUSBY
I have to find my girlfriend.

FIONA
Oh. Of course. All the cute guys
have girlfriends.

BUSBY
We were attacked. She might be
hurt. I don't know. I'm worried.

FIONA
Hope she's alright. I'm sure
you'll find her. In the meantime,
if you need someone to talk to...

She rubs his shoulder.

BUSBY
Thanks.

FIONA
You look like you could use a hug.

He nods.

They hug.

She nuzzles against him. He turns away.

BUSBY
I have to find her.

FIONA
But you found me. This could be
fate.

BUSBY
I'm sorry. My fate lies with her.

Fiona nods, understanding.

They keep walking.

Countless fireflies twinkle above them...

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - NIGHT

Busby hesitantly slows and stops.

BUSBY
We're almost there.

FIONA
Why did we stop?

BUSBY
I don't know. I'm either too
excited or too scared to go on.

FIONA
Can I help? What should I do?

BUSBY
Um.

FIONA
Would you rather be alone?

BUSBY
Um.

An awkward moment passes.

FIONA
I'll go.

She stretches her wings.

BUSBY
Wait.

She waits.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
You've been so helpful. I couldn't
have found my way without you.

FIONA
I had an ulterior motive. But
you're welcome anyway.

BUSBY
Sorry I wasn't more like who you
wanted me to be.

FIONA
I don't know what I want. But I'm
glad you are who you are.

They share a tender moment.

BUSBY
Maybe I'll see you around?

FIONA
Probably not.

BUSBY
Hm. Well. Goodbye then?

She gives him a big hug, and kisses him on the cheek.

FIONA
So long. Whatever your name is.

She flies away.

He thoughtfully watches her go.

The wind blows some fresh grass clippings by.

He continues limping along.

As the knoll gets steeper, he grows weaker.

Suddenly he stops--

BUSBY
No.

He finds a scrap of blue petal.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Bliss!

He hurries along--

BUSBY (CONT'D)
It can't be.

He finds her decapitated stem!

He touches it, lovingly.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
This isn't real. This can't be
real.

More grass clippings blow past.

Busby turns away, weeping.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Not this! Not you! Not this!

He collapses and sobs miserably...

FADE TO:

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

Busby lies motionless, listless.

An ANT walks by...

ANT
Gads. You look beat.

Busby doesn't respond.

ANT (CONT'D)
Need a lift? I can carry you.

Busby doesn't respond.

ANT (CONT'D)
It looks like rain's coming. Might
want to find shelter.

Busby doesn't respond.

ANT (CONT'D)
Nice meeting you. Take care, now.
Stay dry.

The ant walks away.

Busby sighs, depressed.

He drifts off to sleep...

The WIND picks up. The sky grows DARK.

RAIN falls lightly.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT (RAINING)

A MOUSE wanders by.

MOUSE
Hm.

The mouse sniffs Busby.

MOUSE (CONT'D)

Hm.

It reaches out a paw to touch him...

LIGHTNING flashes! The mouse jumps!

THUNDER BOOMS! The mouse scurries away!

Busby jolts awake!

RAIN pours down!

Busby takes shelter under a dead LEAF.

The storm churns angrily around him.

He closes his eyes.

BUSBY

What's the point any more? There's
no sweetness. No beauty.

He finds a speck of POLLEN on his back and cherishes it.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Oh, Bliss. I miss you so much.

He weeps.

THUNDER and LIGHTNING startle him!

WIND blows away his leaf shelter!

He loses the speck of pollen!

Giant RAINDROPS pelt him!

The wind tosses him helplessly around!

FADE TO:

EXT. FIELD - MORNING

Thick FOG covers the land.

Busby lies shivering, cold and wet.

Suddenly a SHADOW passes overhead--

A CROW lands nearby.

Busby groans.

The crow approaches him...

BUSBY
Fine. Go ahead and eat me.
I don't even care.

The crow shrugs and opens its beak wide.

Busby braces himself.

The crow pecks at the ground!

It finds a WORM!

WORM
What the? Oh no! Agh!

The crow eats the worm!

BUSBY
Yuck.

CROW
Caw! Caw!

The crow flies away.

Busby slowly gets to his feet.

He notices a familiar tree nearby--

EXT. TREE BRANCH - MORNING

Chester, slightly overweight, chews drowsily on a leaf.

Busby crawls over to him.

CHESTER
Oh you poor baby! Let me see.

Chester examines Busby's injured wing.

CHESTER (CONT'D)
(yawns)
I can stitch that right up for you.
No problem.

BUSBY
You can? How?

CHESTER

It turns out I secrete a fine,
smooth, silky thread. I just
discovered this the other day.
Check it out.

Chester produces a SILK STRING!

BUSBY

Wah! Unbelievable!

CHESTER

Right? How cool is that? I've
been learning to sew and weave.
I can fix your wing right now, no
sweat.

BUSBY

That would be fantastic.

CHESTER

Come here. Turn around.

Busby sits patiently as Chester mends his wing.

CHESTER (CONT'D)

I saw this one caterpillar knitting
himself an entire sleeping bag.

(yawns)

It looked so soft and cozy. I'm
gonna make myself one and take
a nice long nap.

BUSBY

I think it's called a cocoon.

CHESTER

There. Good as new. Give it a
flap.

Busby can fly again!

BUSBY

Perfect! That was quick too.

CHESTER

Told you.

BUSBY

Really, Chester. I can't thank you
enough.

CHESTER

(yawns)

Hey. That's what friends are for.

BUSBY

Listen. I have to get going.
Bliss was recently murdered, and
I must avenge her death.

CHESTER

Oh dear. Bliss is dead?

Busby nods grimly.

CHESTER (CONT'D)

Sorry to hear that. By all means,
go do what you have to do.

BUSBY

Thanks again for fixing my wing.
And good luck with your cocoon.

They wave goodbye. Busby flies away.

CHESTER

Cocoon. That has a nice ring to
it. Cocoon.

Chester chews on his leaf.

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby enters the hive. The Foreman sees him--

FOREMAN

Where have you been? What happened
to your wing?

BUSBY

Listen. I know we've had our
differences, but I've got something
important to do, so I'm leaving you
fully in charge of construction.
Indefinitely.

FOREMAN

What the hive are you talking
about?

XANDER
 (flies over)
 Yeah. What the hive are you
 talking about?

BUSBY
 Bliss was killed by a human.
 I must avenge her.

XANDER
 Wait.

BUSBY
 You can't stop me.

XANDER
 I know I can't. But please, don't
 do anything too drastic.

Busby heads for the exit.

FOREMAN
 Hey! Am I really in charge now?

BUSBY
 Yes. You deserve it. Good luck.

FOREMAN
 Gee, thanks Busby! Good luck to
 you too! You're the best!

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Busby flies past a freshly cut tree STUMP.

He nervously follows the path of deforestation...

BUSBY
 Why do they cut down so many trees?

Suddenly he gasps!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 Oh no. Jay? Jay! Please let them
 be alright. Please--

He finds a destroyed BIRD'S NEST and broken EGGS!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 No. Oh no. No. No.

He can't stop shaking his head...

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Curse those humans! All of them!

He grabs his stinger.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
I wish I had a stinger for every
one!

Suddenly a SHADOW passes overhead--

Busby looks up, hopeful.

Jay swoops down and lands.

JAY
There you are! I've been looking
everywhere for you.

BUSBY
I'm so sorry about your nest. The
same thing happened to my hive not
long ago.

JAY
I saw. It's devastating.

They share a moment of silence.

JAY (CONT'D)
I also saw what happened to Bliss.

Busby shakes his head.

JAY (CONT'D)
She's inside the human's house.
In a container of water. I know
it sounds crazy, but she's alive.

Busby reels, shocked and confused.

JAY (CONT'D)
(wink)
I'll show you.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Jay leads Busby to a window--

Bliss waves from inside. Busby is overjoyed!

They reach for each other and touch the glass between them.

BUSBY

I don't understand. How is she still alive?

JAY

She won't live much longer. The water will sustain her for a time. But she's dying.

BUSBY

How do I get inside?

JAY

There's nothing you can do for her.

BUSBY

I have to touch her. I have to smell her.

JAY

(points)

When the human goes in or out that door you can slip inside. But be careful. If it sees you, it will probably try to kill you.

BUSBY

All they ever do is kill.

JAY

Speaking of which, Georgia and I are moving today. As far away from humans as we can get. I don't know when I'll see you again. Or if.

BUSBY

Another big goodbye.

JAY

Yeah, maybe.

They both reflect.

BUSBY

How soon are you leaving?

JAY

At the end of this conversation. I'm actually keeping her waiting.

BUSBY

Uh oh.

JAY
She'll understand.

BUSBY
Well. Best wishes with the new
nest, and family and all that.
Thanks for everything.

JAY
Best wishes to you too, buddy.
Take care.

BUSBY
If I was big enough, I'd give you
a hug.

JAY
We can bump wings.

They bump wings.

Jay winks and flies away.

Busby sadly watches him leave.

Then he turns to see Bliss, and joy fills him again!

He flies to the window. They touch the glass between them.

BUSBY
(sings)
Oh how I long to touch you.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
Oh how I miss your touch.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
And listen to your pretty voice.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
I miss your voice so much.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
I thought for sure I'd lost you.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
I thought us both deceased.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

BUSBY
(sings)
Thank goodness that we're still
alive.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

BLISS
(sings)
Alive for now, at least.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Busby waits by the front door, thoughtfully watching
a line of ANTS march by...

Suddenly the door opens!

The Man steps outside -- Busby flies inside!

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Busby's heart races as he zips around, taking wrong turns and seeing unfamiliar things--

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Busby locates Bliss in the windowsill above the sink!

He darts over to her--

They hold each other tight.

BUSBY

I thought you were dead.

BLISS

I am. My roots are gone. It's only a matter of time.

BUSBY

Are you in pain?

BLISS

No. But I feel weaker and weaker.

BUSBY

I'll make that human pay for what it did to you.

Bliss giggles.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Why laugh?

BLISS

You found me! We're back together!

Busby cheers up. He buzzes among her petals!

BLISS (CONT'D)

Ah! It tickles!

They both laugh.

BLISS (CONT'D)

How crazy is life?

BUSBY

Too crazy.

BLISS

You know, for a moment it was kind of wonderful. I mean, at first there was awful pain and shock. But then I was lifted up, higher and higher. Carried through the air. I flew!

Busby nods thoughtfully.

BLISS (CONT'D)

It was like a dream. Then splash! Cool, fresh, clean water zapped up my stalk and I was reborn into this strange new world. Now you're here, and I'm happy again.

BUSBY

I guess I'm happy too.

He rubs up against her. Pollen coats him.

She wraps her petals tenderly around him.

MAN (O.S.)

A bee! Oh my crap! A bee!

The Man runs around in panic!

BLISS

Uh oh. You better split.

BUSBY

Okay. Love you.

BLISS

Love you too.

Busby darts away.

MAN

You're dead, bee! You're dead!

The Man grabs a FLY SWATTER!

BUSBY

Oh dear.

Busby dodges as the Man tries to swat him!

MAN

Ah ha! Ha! Ha!

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Busby bounces off a window--

BUSBY

How do I escape this evil place?

The Man swats wildly as he gives chase!

The Dog gets involved in the commotion!

They all clamor from room to room--

LAMPS get knocked over and broken!

PICTURE FRAMES get swatted and broken!

PAPERWORK gets scattered everywhere!

Busby bounces off more windows!

CHAIRS are toppled!

CURTAINS are ripped!

HEIRLOOMS are smashed!

A JIGSAW PUZZLE gets destroyed!

FOOD spills on the carpet!

The Dog stops to eat it.

Busby whizzes past the Man's head--

The Man whacks himself in the face with the fly swatter!

MAN

Ack! Grrr!

The Man trips over the Dog--

He stumbles and CRASHES through a COFFEE TABLE!

The Dog barks excitedly!

MAN (CONT'D)

That's it! Time for the bug spray!

BUSBY

Bug spray? That can't be good.

The Man gets the BUG SPRAY!

Busby sees an open window!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Finally!

He darts towards it--

DONK! He slams into a MIRROR!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Huh? Wha dah hah?

Dazed, he can barely fly.

Suddenly the air fills with INSECTICIDE!

Busby drops to the floor, coughing and gasping!

He crawls into a gap between the floorboards--

Another blast of INSECTICIDE!

Busby coughs and crawls deeper into the darkness...

FADE TO:

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Busby crawls weakly out of a crack in the wall, gasping for fresh air.

He finds a small PUDDLE of water and flops into it.

For a while he lays there, motionless.

The oily poison gradually washes off...

His breath returns to normal.

He gets to his feet, and sees a RAINBOW in the sky.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TREE BRANCH - DAY

Busby lands near Chester's cocoon.

Muffled SNORES emanate from within.

BUSBY
Chester? Are you in there? Can
you hear me?

No response.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

I hope you're comfortable and warm. Meanwhile, my one true love will soon be gone forever. Jay is already gone. It feels like you're gone too. I'm almost alone.

Busby wipes away a TEAR.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Bliss doesn't deserve to die in the prime of her youth. It's unbearable. Can you hear me? Chester? If you can hear me, give me a sign.

No response.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Oh well. I'm gonna go check on the hive. See you later. Sleep tight. Sweet dreams.

Busby flies away. The cocoon wiggles.

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby meets Xander at the entrance--

XANDER

Hey! Glad to see you!
How was the vengeance?

BUSBY

The vengeance has been postponed. Bliss isn't quite dead yet. But when she goes, I go.

XANDER

Do you really have to do this?

BUSBY

How would you react if a human murdered your Queen?

XANDER

I would sting it in the eye!

BUSBY

Exactly.

XANDER

(nods)

I just wish there was another way.
We don't want to lose you too.

BUSBY

(shrugs)

Death is just another part of life.

XANDER

Oh Busby. Why did you have to fall
in love with a flower?

BUSBY

That's just how it was meant to be.

The Foreman flies over--

FOREMAN

I been thinking. I want revenge
too. We lost a lot of good bees
when the old hive was destroyed.
Let me know when, and I'll join
you. Two stingers are better than
one.

BUSBY

No. You have to stay and oversee
construction. The hive needs you.

XANDER

The hive needs you both. We all
need each other.

BUSBY

I'm sorry. Life without Bliss
isn't worth living. I will avenge
her.

ZEKE

(yells)

Xander! Come quick! The Queen's
laying her eggs!

Xander and Busby exchange looks of shock!

XANDER

I'm a father?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Busby watches Bliss from a hiding spot.

Some of her petals sag, and her blues are slightly faded.

He sneaks up to surprise her--

BUSBY

My love?

She turns to face him, with joy in her weary eyes.

BLISS

Hey there, stranger.

BUSBY

How do you feel?

BLISS

About as good as I look.

They embrace.

BUSBY

You still smell young, and fresh,
and magnificent.

She offers nectar, which he sips.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Your nectar's still delicious as
ever.

BLISS

You would say that even if it
wasn't.

BUSBY

I might. But honestly, it is.

BLISS

Aw. You're a sweetheart.

Suddenly the Man walks in!

BUSBY

Uh oh.

BLISS

Quick! Hide!

Busby hides behind the flower vase.

The Man approaches the sink...

Busby holds his breath.

The Man picks up the flower vase!

Busby scrambles to hide behind a TOASTER!

The Man pours out all the water!

BLISS (CONT'D)
My water! What's he doing?

Busby gasps!

The Man turns on the sink and refills the vase with new water...

BLISS (CONT'D)
Ah! Fresh water!

Busby nearly faints.

The Man puts the vase back on the windowsill.

He smiles and leaves the room.

Busby creeps out of hiding--

BUSBY
Sheez.

BLISS
That was exciting! I flew! You saw me! I flew!

She giggles. He sighs.

BLISS (CONT'D)
This fresh water is wonderful.
Maybe these humans aren't all bad.

BUSBY
No, they're all bad. Every single one.

BLISS
I think I understand what this one's up to. It thinks I'm pretty. It wants to look at me, so it keeps me here. But it doesn't understand I need my roots to live.

BUSBY

Either it doesn't understand, or
it doesn't care.

BLISS

Out of all the flowers in the
field, it chose me. It wanted me
the most. That's touching, isn't
it?

BUSBY

The human is evil, and some day
I'm gonna sting the bee-Jesus out
of it.

BLISS

No! If you sting, you'll die too!

BUSBY

Then you and I can be together
again, in the infinite paradise
beyond time.

Bliss sighs. Busby grins.

They savor each other's touch.

BLISS

I don't understand revenge. Can't
you simply forgive? Why cause more
pain?

BUSBY

People who do wrong should be
punished.

BLISS

Is it really your duty to judge?

BUSBY

Revenge can't be explained.
It's like love. It just takes
control.

BLISS

I wish there was less pain in the
world.

BUSBY

Jay says pain helps us learn.

They both reflect...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

BLISS
 (sings)
 I'll die for being wild.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

BUSBY
 (sings)
 I'll kill and die for her.

FADE TO:

INT. HIVE - DAY

Hundreds of busy young BEES (with long thoraxes) perform various tasks around the hive.

Xander and Busby proudly watch them.

BUSBY
 They're astonishing. So little,
 but already so skilled.

XANDER
 They've had a good teacher. Thanks
 for all the help, Buzz.

BUSBY
 I should be thanking you. It's
 been a blast.

Busby helps a young bee climb into a honeycomb.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 These kids. This is it. This is
 the future.

XANDER
 Thousands of extra-long thoraxes.

BUSBY
 Seriously. You did it, buddy.
 You've given the world something
 great. I've never done anything
 half as important.

XANDER
 You practically built this hive
 single-handedly. It's the best
 I've ever seen. Be proud of it.

BUSBY
The hive will be gone and forgotten
some day. But your progeny will
live on forever.

XANDER
My what?

BUSBY
Your descendants. And the
descendants of their descendants.
You changed the course of history.

XANDER
Whoa. Don't make it sound all epic
like that.

BUSBY
It is epic.

Xander looks overwhelmed. Busby pats him on the back.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TREE BRANCH - DAY

Busby talks to Chester's cocoon:

BUSBY
I wish you could see the
unbelievable changes taking place.
The hive is thriving and growing,
while Bliss is slowly withering
away. It's all happening so fast.
Life is truly astonishing.

Suddenly the cocoon CRACKS open!

A BUTTERFLY named KATHLEEN emerges!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Chester?

KATHLEEN
Huh? You talking to me? My name
ain't Chester, sugar.

BUSBY
Who are you?

KATHLEEN
Kathleen.

BUSBY
Kathleen? What happened to Chester
the caterpillar?

KATHLEEN
I don't know no Chesters.

BUSBY
Wait a second. I could have sworn.
What the heck?
(looks inside the cocoon)
I do not understand this what so
ever.

KATHLEEN
Me neither, sugar. But I'm too
pretty to hang around and solve
puzzles. I'm outta here.

Kathleen flies away.

Busby puts his hands on his hips.

BUSBY
Well, I do declare.

Suddenly a distant CHAINSAW buzzes to life!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
The human!

Busby races off--

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Busby finds the Man cutting down a TREE!

MAN
Timber!

The tree comes crashing down!

MAN (CONT'D)
One down, eleven to go.

The Man unties a WHITE RIBBON from the trunk of the tree.

Busby looks around and sees eleven other trees marked with
WHITE RIBBONS.

BUSBY
Don't tell me all these trees are
getting cut down!

The Man saws into another marked tree!

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Including ours!

The hive hangs from a marked tree!

INT. HIVE - DAY

Busby darts inside--

BUSBY
Everybody, hurry! The human's
coming to destroy our tree!

RANDOM BEE
The hive will fall? Again?

The bees become agitated.

XANDER
Save the hive! Attack the human!

Drones quickly form ranks.

DRONES
Attack the human!

EXT. WOODS - DAY

The bees SWARM!

MAN
Gah!

The Man drops his chainsaw and runs for his life!

The swarm chases him!

DRONES
Attack the human!

MAN
Yiya who ha ho!

EXT. FIELD - DAY

The bees laugh as they relentlessly pursue the Man!

XANDER

We got him on the run, boys!
That's for messing with the hive!
Long live the hive!

DRONES

Long live the hive!

The bees chase the Man all the way home...

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

The Man fumbles with his KEYS as the swarm thickens around him!

MAN

Aghk!

He swings his arms wildly!

SMACK! Xander gets swatted!

DONK! He crashes to the ground!

The Man howls in pain!

MAN (CONT'D)

Yiyiyiyi! Yowowow!

Dazed, Xander tries to stand.

MAN (CONT'D)

Stupid bee! You stung me!

XANDER

(dazed)
I did what?

Xander notices his missing stinger.

BUSBY

Xander! Look out!

The Man raises his foot--

Xander gulps. KABOOM! The foot crushes him!

FADE TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Busby weeps. Bliss holds him in her dying petals.

BLISS
I'm so sorry about your friend.
He seemed like a really good guy.

BUSBY
Xander was the coolest bee I ever
knew.

BLISS
Once again, death confuses me.

BUSBY
I have no answers.

BLISS
It can be such a bummer.

BUSBY
Such a bummer.

BLISS
But it has to happen, or we would
all be stuck living forever, and
that would be a bummer too.

BUSBY
(nods)
Forever is too long for anything.

BLISS
Except love.

They embrace. Bliss giggles.

BUSBY
I'm really going to miss you.

He weeps.

BLISS
Oh Busby. I never wanted to make
anybody sad. Least of all you.

BUSBY
I can't help it.

She tenderly rubs his back.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Let's stop talking about death.

BLISS
 It's nothing to be afraid of.
 Everything dies. But life goes on.
 That's the key. Life goes on.

Busby stops weeping.

BUSBY
 Aren't you scared?

BLISS
 Not at all. In fact, I think it
 will be incredible. I think it
 will be... like flying.

They both reflect.

BLISS (CONT'D)
 My only worry is, what if I didn't
 accomplish enough during my life?

BUSBY
 That's silly. You found true love.
 What more could you want?

BLISS
 I don't know. Think of all the
 pollen I never got to spread.

BUSBY
 But think of all the pollen you
 did spread.

He buzzes among her petals. She giggles.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
 And think of all the pollen you
 still have. Let's make it count.

INT. HIVE - DAY

Sad bees work to maintain the hive.

Busby finds the Clerk--

BUSBY
 I need to speak to the Queen.
 It's extremely urgent.

CLERK
 Coincidentally, she's been wanting
 to see you. Right this way.

INT. QUEEN'S CHAMBERS - DAY

Busby crawls nervously into the room.

The door slams shut behind him!

The Queen turns to face him--

QUEEN

Busby?

BUSBY

Your Majesty?

QUEEN

I... I need a hug.

They hug.

QUEEN (CONT'D)

Fate is beyond cruel. Why must we endure such hardship? It makes no sense.

The Queen weeps.

BUSBY

Xander wouldn't want your Majesty to cry on his account. He would want us to remember the good times. Like how you first met.

The Queen stops weeping.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

Think how much he gave to the hive. How he sacrificed himself for what he loved. How he made you smile.

The Queen smiles.

BUSBY (CONT'D)

He would want us to be strong.

The Queen nods and composes herself.

QUEEN

I fear for the colony. What if the human returns?

BUSBY

Not if, but when.

The Queen nods gravely.

BUSBY (CONT'D)
Hopefully we can defend ourselves.

QUEEN
For how long? How many lives will
it cost?

BUSBY
What else can we do? Abandon the
hive?

QUEEN
(nervous)
Shhh! Mind your mandibles!
This is how rumors get started.

BUSBY
I don't see many options.

QUEEN
The human must be stopped.

They exchange understanding nods.

BUSBY
Yes. It must be stopped.

The Queen rests a hand on Busby's shoulder.

QUEEN
You were a great friend to Xander.
You've been a great friend to me.
I extend my deepest gratitude.

Busby bows humbly.

QUEEN (CONT'D)
The hive is in your debt. If
there's ever anything you need...

BUSBY
Actually, I do have a favor to ask.

QUEEN
Anything.

BUSBY
It's kindof a big favor.

QUEEN
Consider it done.

INT. HIVE - DAY

HUNDREDS OF YOUNG DRONES buzz anxiously.

FOREMAN

Children? Listen up. Uncle Busby has an important assignment for you.

BUSBY

I don't have much of this pollen, so we need to make it stretch. Spread it far and wide. I mean everywhere. Thanks, kids.

Busby hands out specks of POLLEN.

The bees swiftly depart--

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Bees sprinkle pollen everywhere.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

A SEAGULL watches bees spread POLLEN.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

A GOAT watches bees spread POLLEN.

EXT. SAVANNA - DAY

A LION watches bees spread POLLEN.

EXT. TROPICS - DAY

PARROTS and MONKEYS watch bees spread POLLEN.

FADE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Busby watches Bliss from a hiding spot.

She breathes heavily. Her frail stem is gnarled, her petals are dry and brown. She's completely depressed.

Busby holds back tears. His misery turns to anger.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

The Man sits watching TV and eating a slice of PIZZA.

Busby hovers just above his head, unnoticed.

BUSBY

Don't do it, Busby. It won't bring her back. It won't accomplish anything, except to cause more pain. Don't do it, Busby.

The Man switches the TV channel.

Busby hides behind the pizza box.

The Man finishes his slice and reaches for another--

Busby flies onto the slice and hides behind a TOPPING.

The Man keeps switching channels, distracted.

Busby crawls towards the tip of the slice...

The Man slowly draws the slice into his gaping mouth...

Busby aims his stinger forward and braces himself!

The Man shoves the slice way down his throat!

CHOMP!

FADE TO BLACK.

CHEWING...

COUGH! COUGH!

MAN (V.O.)

Agh! Aaaguh!

CHOKES! COUGH! SPIT! COUGH!

FADE IN:

Busby lands on the floor, gasping for air!

The Man gasps for air!

Busby feels faint.

THUD! The floor shakes!

The Man lies DEAD!

Busby weakly gets to his feet...

He touches where his stinger used to be.

BUSBY

Ouch.

He tries to fly but lacks the strength.

Dazed, he stumbles on...

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Busby crawls weakly up the side of the flower vase...

He rolls over the top and falls into the water below--

SPLASH! He floats on his back, too weak to move.

BLISS

My love?

BUSBY

(sighs)

I'm coming, my love.

Busby paddles to her stem and weakly crawls up it.

BLISS

Your touch gives me chills. Here I thought I might have to die alone.

BUSBY

I lost my stinger. There isn't much time left for either of us.

BLISS

Are you afraid?

BUSBY

Nah. Somebody once told me death
is just another part of life.

Bliss giggles weakly. Her withered stalk droops--

Petals crumble and flake off.

Busby keeps crawling, straining with the effort.

He reaches her delicate blossom, which cracks under his
weight.

BLISS

Is there any nectar left?

A glistening drop of NECTAR hangs from a dead stamen.

Busby tastes it, and has a vision of heaven...

BUSBY

I got the hive to spread your
pollen everywhere they could.
So your legacy will live on.

BLISS

Our legacy.

BUSBY

Yes. Ours.

BLISS

Oh Busby. I love you so much.

She covers him like a blanket -- Her petals crumble as
they touch him.

BUSBY

I love you too Bliss. See you on
the other side.

He smiles and closes his eyes.

They exhale together--

She crumbles to DUST.

He falls lifelessly into the water.

They DIE...

FADE TO:

EXT. FIELD - DAY (RAINING)

Wind ruffles the grass.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT (RAINING)

Hard RAIN whips the trees.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT (RAINING)

LIGHTNING STRIKES the roof!

The house catches on FIRE!

The Dog runs around BARKING madly!

The house burns to the ground...

FADE TO:

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Old burnt RUINS are overgrown with grass and MOSS.

INSECTS and ANIMALS thrive among them...

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

The grass has grown tall and wild.

The Dog wanders around, thin but happy.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

A DEER peacefully eats MUSHROOMS.

INT. HIVE - DAY

The bees are OLDER. The hive operates like clockwork.

The Foreman proudly inspects a honeycomb.

The Queen thoughtfully watches.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

TIME SPEEDS UP -- Days pass in seconds.

The SUN flashes by. Clouds are a blur.

Leaves turn yellow, orange, red.

The days gets shorter. Grass turns brown.

Leaves die, drop and blow away.

Animals disappear.

SMOKE drifts from a distant chimney.

SNOW falls, MELTS, and falls again...

EXT. WOODS - DAY

BLIZZARDS rage!

Icicles hang.

Deep SNOW blankets the world.

Old tree branches break and fall.

Everything seems still and dead.

EXT. GRASSY KNOLL - DAY

The sky is bleak and lifeless.

Suddenly a thin ray of SUNLIGHT shines through!

The days get longer. The snow ends.

RAIN softens the earth.

New GRASS sprouts.

INSECTS and ANIMALS return.

Hundreds of new CORNFLOWERS grow!

The knoll blossoms into a stunning sea of BLUE...

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Hundreds of beautiful blue CORNFLOWERS...

BUSBY (V.O.)

(sings)

Although our lives were far too
short.

BLISS (V.O.)

(sings)

Although our death was tragic.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Hundreds of beautiful blue CORNFLOWERS...

BLISS

(sings)

The mark we left upon the world.

BLISS (V.O.)

(sings)

Is nothing short of magic.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Hundreds of beautiful blue CORNFLOWERS...

BUSBY (V.O.)

(sings)

We smile upon our children.

EXT. SAVANNA - DAY

Hundreds of beautiful blue CORNFLOWERS...

BLISS (V.O.)

(sings)

We watch them from above.

EXT. TROPICAL ISLAND - DAY

Hundreds of beautiful blue CORNFLOWERS...

BUSBY (V.O.)
(sings)
Our story never ended.

BLISS (V.O.)
(sings)
And neither will our love.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Jay glides by with a mouthful of WORMS!

He admires the endless CORNFLOWERS...

EXT. THICK FOREST - DAY

Jay soars over tall trees, up into the CLOUDS--

EXT. MOUNTAINSIDE - DAY

Jay lands on the edge of his new NEST.

GEORGIA the CARDINAL smiles proudly at him. They nuzzle.

BABY BIRDS
Daddy! Daddy! Daddy!

A brood of PURPLE BABY BIRDS eagerly chirps!

Jay feeds them worms.

Everyone's happy.

Georgia puts her wing around Jay.

He turns to the camera and winks!

FADE OUT.

THE END.