

The Great Pongadron Rescue.

2 Blast Off!

Characters

Barney Cloud Hopper (Bar) - Heroic saviour of the universe and Jedi warrior.

Polo Solo (Pol) - A Jedi warrior.

C3PO (C3P) A rather tired and tattered and arthritic humanoid protocol robot.

R2D2 - A rather rusty silver dustbin on wheels.

Bath-Evada (Vad) - Evil villain who never washes.

Princess Clean & Clear (C&C) - Young princess.

Emperor Sergiotine (Ser) - The absent minded, elderly, persuadable Emperor of Pongadron.

Scene: On the Bridge of Barney Cloud Hopper's spaceship.

(Bar is centre stage, Pol is standing at a control panel holding a clip board pressing buttons and making adjustments)

Bar: Oh its great to get the old crew back together again isn't it Polo. I mean, you wouldn't believe all they've been through. They look as good as ever.

(Enter C3P pulling R2D, a small dustbin on wheels)

C3P: Oh dear, Oh dear. this is just not fair, not fair at all.

Bar: What's up C3PO you don't sound so happy?

C3P: Happy! Happy! You're dead right I'm not happy. I mean R2 and I had just settled into Silicon Lawns, the home for retired robots, when all of a sudden you call us up again. It's just not fair you know. I mean we're both seven hundred and ten years old. We've been in one hundred and twenty seven battles! We've flown a thousand, million, trillion light years across the universe, and quite honestly, we're worn out, we've had enough. All we want to do is to put our feet up and have a long afternoon nap!

Bar: Oh C3PO I'm sure you don't mean it. Just remember all the fun we've had in the past.

C3P: Oh yes! If you call being shot into space, dropped from great heights, being fired at by laser cannons, and having to iron YOUR (points at Bar) socks - fun! Then I suppose it was. But right now I've had enough fun for all two hundred of my lifetimes.

Bar: Well I'm sorry C3P but this is an important mission. You are needed, and you're needed by one really important person.

C3P: Oh yes. Who?

Bar: Just open your human thought wave communication channel and listen very carefully.

C3P: Tuts and sighs, Oh what next?

(C3P looks very concentrated and attentive for a few seconds)

C&C: (Off stage in quiet shout) Help me Barney Cloud Hopper, Help me, I'm a prisoner of Bath-Evada on Pongadron, and the smell is killing me, Help me, Help me!

C3P: Why it's, ... it's ... it's....

Bar: It's princess Clean and Clear. She's being held captive by the Evil Bath-Evada on Pongadron, and we are the only ones who can save her.

C3P: (Perking up and looking enthusiastic) Well in that case, retirement will have to wait. For Princess Clean and Clear, I would fly to the end of the Universe and back twenty times. So come on Colonel Cloud Hopper, what are we waiting for?

Pol: (Coming away from control panel) Everything is ready, we're clear for blast off.

Bar: Well let's get going then.

(They take their seats as count down and rocket blast off sound effects play. All shake as rocket blasts off)

Bar: Ok Polo, set course for Pongadron and full speed ahead.

Pol: Aye aye cap'n. It'll take us about fifteen days to reach Pongadron at full speed.

Voice over mic: Fifteen days later.

Bar: (Singing) Here am I sitting in my tin can, Far, far away....

Pol: (Sniffing) What's that Pugh! What's that smell!

Bar: Pugh! Yuck ... Its horrible, it smells like sweaty armpits, cheesy feet, bad eggs, rotten fish, and ... and (sniffs) Dog Poo!

C3P: That smell as you call it is the combination of Hydrogen Sulphide and acidic gasses that make up the atmosphere on Pongadron.

Pol: It smells disgusting.

Bar: Its smells pukie.

Pol: Its no good, I'm going to have to (gets out clothes peg and puts it on his nose) Ah.... that's better. (hands one to bar) I brought one for you as well.

Bar: (Puts peg on nose) Good thinking Polo. Now lets prepare for landing.

(All sit: as sound effect of landing is played. Suitable shaking etc)

Bar: Well we're here, now the adventure begins. Come on lets see what we can find.

(All exit)

(Scene is cleared and a throne is place back centre stage)

(Ser enters from opposite side and sits on the throne. Vad and C&C enter once he is seated. Vad is holding C&C's arm, she is struggling)

C&C: Let go of me you great smelly lump! You're hurting my arm, and my nose! Cor... you stink!

Vad: Oh great Emperor Sergiotine. I thought I would introduce you to my guest here on Pongadron. This is the Princess Clean and Clear,. She's come to spend a little holiday with us on our wonderful little planet, a little holiday that will last for ... THE REST OF HER LIFE!!!! (Laughs)

Ser: Well I'm pleased to meet you Princess. You'll love our little planet you know. It's become such a nice place since Mister Evada joined us.

C&C: Nice! nice! what do you mean. The place is horrid. Its the smelliest most disgusting planet in the entire universe! Nobody comes here,. Nobody can stand the smell.

Ser: But Mister Evada here says that it makes our planet special, it makes it unique....

Vad: Oh yes it does great Emperor. It makes our little planet the most special most wonderful place in the universe. Its smells are the richest and the sweetest you could ever hope for.

C&C: But I want a bath!

Vad and Ser: Gasp.

Ser: A bath!?

Vad: A bath!!? You want a bath...!? b...bb...But then you'd smell all ... all... all.... Yuck, you'd smell all clean. No little princess Clean and Clear. There are no baths here. No one baths on Pongadron, so you're just going to have to get used to it!

Bar and Pol: (off stage) Pooh, Ugh, Yuck! etc.

Pol: Even with this peg this place smells disgusting.

Bar: It's unbearable I know, but we must find the Princess Clean and Clear as soon as possible.

Vad: What's that? Intruders? Could it be the foolishly heroic Barny Cloud Hopper and his side kick Polo Solo coming to rescue the pretty little princess? I think a few precautions would be wise don't you princess. (He takes out something to gag the princess, once this is done) Come on Emperor Sergiotine, I think we better go and hide our guest from these trouble makers.

(Ser, Vad and C&C exit)

(Bar, Pol and C3P enter C3P is pulling R2D2)

Bar: I think we're close, very close. I can feel something in my bones. Let me listen. (stops and concentrates)

C&C: (off stage) Help me Barny Cloud Hopper help me, Help me Barny Cloud Hopper help me!

Bar: Yes, Yes, we're very near.

C3P: Oh dear, Oh dear, I really don't like the look of this. Bath-Evada is the most powerful criminal in the Universe. No one has ever beaten him or out witted him, and what's more, he was once a Jedi master, he knows all of your Jedi secrets, and ... and ... and He's very scary.

Pol: You know, I think C3PO is right. What are we going to do if we meet this Bath-Evada?

(Enter Bath-Evada)

Vad: What do you mean - IF - Polo Solo and Colonel Barny Cloud Hopper. There is no IF about it. You are bound to meet me, because I want to meet you, and, Oh by the way, Its not a question of what you are going to do, but rather what I am going to do. So grab your light Sabres Jedi's and fight.

(Vad grabs a light sabre and waves it around. Bar and Pol rush to C3P who provides them with light sabres. Battle ensues while music plays)

(Enter Sergiotine looking horrified)

Ser: Mister Evada, Mister Evada (They stop fighting) what are you doing? We don't fight here on Pongadron. We are a peace loving people. We may be smelly, but we don't hurt each other. Put that thing down and tell me what's going on.

Vad: (Throwing his light sabre to the floor with a grunt) These two scoundrels have come to try and take over our planet.

Ser: Oh yes and how are they going to do that may I ask?

Vad: They are going to try and make people ... w... w... w... wa... wa.... was.... was.... wash! And what's more, they want to kidnap the little Princess Clean and Clear and take her away with them.

Ser: Oh dear, Oh dear, Oh dearie me this will never do, never do at all. But Mister Evader, fighting is not the way to solve our problems.

Vad: Well if we don't fight them, what do we do with them?

Ser: We set them a challenge, (whispering to Vad) a challenge they can't possibly achieve! (to Br and Pol) who are you anyway?

Pol: Polo Solo, Jedi warrior,
 Bar: and Colonel Barny Cloud Hopper, saviour of the Universe! We've come for the Princess Clean and Clear. Hand her over now!
 Ser: Well ...errr.... um.... err.... NO! But if you want her, I have a challenge for you both. If you can go out into our little planet and get more than ten people to wash before this time tomorrow, then the Princess Clean and Clear is yours.
 C&C: (off stage) Help me Barny Cloud Hopper, help me.
 Bar: We accept your challenge, and we will return this time tomorrow with eleven people from your planet who have washed and changed their clothes and smell as sweet as Roses. Come on Polo, C3P0, R2 D2, lets go!

(They exit)

Vad: But ... But .. But what happens if they succeed?
 Ser: Succeed! Succeed! What here on Pongadron, the smelliest planet in the Universe! Ha! They haven't got a chance, not a chance. Everyone on Pongadron loves me, and they love you, they like things as they are, and no one, no one will ever wash here. So come on Mister Bath-Evada, cheer up, this time tomorrow they will be our slaves, and you won't have had to fight them at all.

(both exit)

Voice over mic: Will Barny Cloud Hopper and Polo Solo succeed in their task? Will it be too late for the Princess Clean and Clear? Or will it be the start of the great Pongadron scrub up?! Come back tomorrow for the answers to these and many other questions.

Music to end.