

# The Great Pongadron Rescue.

## 4 To Wash Or Not To Wash, That Is The Question.

### 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.

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

3 People of Pongadron, Pongatrons (Po1, Po2, Po3)

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

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

*Scene: Somewhere on Pongadron.*

*(Bar and Pol are waiting outside the portable shower, C3p is singing inside)*

Bar: Oh come on C3PO we haven't got all day.

C3p: It's that dried on rotten egg, it's playing havoc with my circuit breakers and it's so hard to get off.

Bar: Well just do your best for the moment, but get a move on. Don't forget we've got a job to do.

*(C3P emerges)*

C3P: Ah... that's good, really good. There's nothing like the feeling after having a good neutron shower. It's ..it's .....

Po3: (from wings) Pst ....

CP3: its ...

Po3: Pssst, Psssst.

Pol: What's that? Have you sprung some sort of leak C3PO?

C3p: Err no Mister Solo, it seems to be coming from over there.

*(Pol, Bar and C3P all edge toward the side of the stage, Po3 enters looking round and going shush, Pol, Bar and CP3 all edge away nervously)*

Po3: No wait a minute, don't run away, I want to talk to you.

Bar: To us, but yesterday you were chasing us away and throwing rotten eggs at us! Why should we talk to you?

Po3: I know we weren't very nice to you yesterday, but you see you are very different from us, and we Pongatrons are a very suspicious people. Please just listen to me for a moment.

C3P: I don't think this is a good ...

Bar: (interrupting) All right, what do you want to say?

Po3: Well, the others sent me to spy on you you see, and I've been watching you all night, and I've watched you go into that err... err... showery thing over there.

C3P: you mean the super jetstream positive ionic neutron shower.

Po3: Well yes ... whatever it is. But the thing is you see when you came out each of you looked ...err... well .. you looked so ...err... happy. Happier than I've ever seen anyone look before. You see, no one is ever happy on Pongadron, no one laughs, no one even smiles, this is just a miserable place. But you, well you've got something special, and .... and ... whatever it is, I want it.

Bar: Well there's only one way to get it you know.

Po3: What's that?

Bar: to go in the super jetstream positive ionic neutron shower yourself.

Po3: But ... but if I do I'll ... I'll come out ....clean! And ... and then I'll be different from everyone else on Pongadron, my friends won't talk to me and ... and....

Bar: and you'll be happy. Its up to you you know. You could be clean and happy, or you could stay dirty and miserable. No one can make your mind up for you, it's your choice.

Po3: Oh... Oh.... I don't know, I don't know. It's all too hard to decide, much much too hard. I need some help. (Looks at audience) Maybe you could help me decide. I'll tell you what, if you think I should have a wash, shout err... clean peppers, and if you think I should stay dirty shout .. err.. rotten tomatoes. Ok? After 3, 1 2 3.

*(Audience shout)*

Po3: Well that's it then, thank you. Clean Peppers have it so in the shower I go.

*(Jumps behind portable shower that makes suitable humming and gurgling noises etc. Po3 starts to sing and squeal etc appropriately)*

*Enter Po1, and Po2.*

Po1: What's going on?

Po2: Where is he?

Po1: We told him to keep an eye on them,

Po2: and now he's sneaked off somewhere.

*(Shower stops and Po3 leaps out)*

Po3: I'm here.

Po1: But you're ...

Po2: You're....

Po1/2: (together) You're CLEAN!

Po3: Yes these good people have helped me! Yes I'm clean! this wonderful showery thing has washed me on the outside and on the inside as well. It's washed all that grimy grime off of my outside and all that grotty grott out of my insides. And .. and .. and I'm clean and I'm Happy, so happy, happier than I ever thought anyone could be! You must try it, you must, you must, you must!

Po1: Well he does look happy,

Po2: and I've often wondered what happy is like.

Po1: and it looks pretty good doesn't it.

Po2: I think we should..should ... should....

Po1: Why not, we've got nothing to lose, you go first.

*(Po2 goes in the shower emerging with big smile, then Po1 does the same)*

Pol: This is brilliant, brilliant, that's 3 washed Pongatrons.  
Po1: This is amazing! I'm off to get my brother.  
Po2: I'm off to get my Mum and Dad and my Gran.  
Po3: And I'm off to get my Aunt and uncle and my cousin.

*(Po1,2,3 exit)*

Voice over mic: An hour later.

Pol: Well we've nearly done it Barny, that's ten washed Pongatrons, we just need one more.  
C3P: There is just one problem Mister Polo. We only have 3 minutes and thirty three seconds left. If we don't leave for the Emperor's palace now we will fail the challenge no matter how many people we have washed.  
Bar: Well come on what are we waiting for? Let's go, we might find someone else on the way.

*(They all exit)*

*(The throne is placed back centre stage. The shower is left in place)*

*(Ser enters and sits on the throne. Vad enters with C&C)*

Vad: Well Emperor Sergiotine it seems that you're plan was cleverer than I thought. Barny Cloud Hopper and his side kick have not returned and they have only one minute left. Soon the Princess Clean and Clear will be mine and our 2 super heroes will be our super slaves for ever! (Laugh)  
C&C: (Bursts into tears)

*(Sudden commotion as Bar, Pol and C3p enter)*

C&C: Barny Cloud Hopper!  
Bar: Don't worry Princess Clean and Clear, we'll have you out of here in no time at all.  
Vad: Oh really. You may be on time but I don't see any clean pongatrons any where, do you Emperor Sergiotine?  
Pol: They're all outside. They wouldn't come in because of the terrible smell. They all said it was going to make them sick. Just look over there.

*(Vad and ser go to side of stage and peer)*

Ser: Good grief! He's right you know. There's a whole group of them, and they look ... they look so clean. It's... it's ... it's amazing!  
Vad: Hang on a minute there's only 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 of them, we said more than ten. You little cheaters. You.....  
Ser: Wait a minute Mister Bath-Evada, there is something about this lot that I don't understand. Yes they're clean but there's something else, they look err... errr... happy? They're smiling and laughing. No one normally smiles or laughs on Pongadron.  
Bar: Well that's what happens if you wash Emperor Sergiotine. Our super jetstream positive ionic neutron shower washes all the grimy grime off of your outside and all the grotty grott out of your insides as well and it makes you feel happy.  
Ser: Well If that's what being clean does to you then look no further for number eleven, I'm next.

*(Ser dashes over to shower and goes in. It makes suitable humming and gurgling noises and Ser begins to sing, squeal etc. He emerges with a big smile)*

Vad: (shouting) No! No! I'll get you for this Barny Cloud Hopper! You always spoil my plans.

*(He grabs a light sabre as do Barny and Polo. They fight for a while with suitable comments. As they fight they push Vad toward the shower, he falls in and the shower starts, everyone stands and watches as Vad screams and groans and moans, then all goes silent)*

Pol: What's happened?

*(Bar goes over and looks in the shower)*

Bar: He's gone. There's nothing there. He was so dirty that when the shower cleaned him and got rid of all the dirt and grott, there was nothing left, nothing at all!

C&C: Oh Barny, Barny, my hero.

Bar: That's all right Princess Clean and Clear, I think we better get you home as soon as possible. Good bye Emperor Sergiotine . We will leave you the super jetstream positive ionic neutron shower for the rest of your people.

*(Bar, Pol, C3P and C&C exit)*

Ser: Well I never? Who'd have guessed it. I hereby declare that Pongadron will now be called Fragradron, and instead of being the smelliest most disgusting planet in the universe, it will be the sweetest smelling most perfumed planet in the universe, and it's all thanks to Barny Cloud Hopper and Polo Solo.

*Exit.*

Voice over Mic: So Barny and Polo have succeeded. The princess Clean and Clear is saved and Pongadron is now Fragradron the sweetest smelling planet in the Universe. Come back tomorrow to see if the ending can get any happier!

*Music.*

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