# Actor's Script

## Madagascar Jr.

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SCENE ONE – The Central Park Zoo

(#1 – IT’S SHOWTIME begins.)

IT’S SHOWTIME

(Lights come up on the zoo. The ANIMALS are preparing for the ZOO GUESTS to arrive.)

Bright Pop, swing 8ths

\[\text{ALEX:} \]

\[\text{Time to go, got a} \]

\[\text{real big show and it's almost time.} \]

\[\text{Got ta give the ol' hair a blow and my} \]

[Music Score]
MARTY:

teeth a good shine.     Gon-na give a good

sheen to the e-bon-y and i-vo-ry._

Crowd’s gon-na go wild when they see my best

Gene... Gene Kel-ly I mean!

GLORIA:

Gon-na do my toes, gon-na do my nails,

_a lit-tle make-up nev-er fails._ A girl should al-

-ways look her best__ when she's this blessed.
MELMAN:

Try-in' to drag my body out of bed.

I can't do the show with this aching head.

Poco rit.

Maybe I should see the doc instead...

ALEX: GUYS! It's ten o'clock. It's showtime! (The ZOO GUESTS gather to see the ANIMALS. The ZOOKEEPERS serve as guides and guards.)

Fanfare

ALL: It's show-time... show-time... show-time...

ZOOKEEPER ZELDA: Welcome to the Central Park Zoo!

Faster

at the Central Park Zoo!
ZOOKEEPER ZEKE: Featuring more than one hundred and fifty species from around the world!

(ZOOKEEPER ZEKE:)

It's Show-time!

ZOOKEEPER ZOE: Why not start your adventure in our African Savanna section, and say hello to Marty, the Zebra!

(Lights come up on MARTY.)

Funky

(ZOOKEEPERS:)

Crack-a-lack-in', He's so Crack-a-lack-in'

Crack-a-lack-in', He's so crack-a-lack-in'

MARTY: Gather 'round, people, gather 'round! Marty the Zebra is in the hizzy! Live and in beautiful black and white!

(MARTY:)

(tapped)

My name is

Mar-ty, and I'm a ze-bra. I ain't a
horse and I ain't no Lib-ra. I really

know how to put on a show. Give me a

(MARTY:) Yeah! You don't see THAT on Animal Planet!

groove and watch me go... Look out!

ZOOKEEPERS,
ZOO GUESTS:

Crack-a-lack-in', He's so Crack-a-lack-in'

Crack-a-lack-in', He's so crack-a-lack-in'
ZOOKEEPER ZEKE: Wanna see the third largest land animal on Earth? Visit Gloria the Hippo! *(GLORIA enters.)*

GLORIA: Haaaaay!

Slightly slower and funky

ZOOKEEPER ZELDA:

She's a

hip hip hip-po, she's round down-town, she shakes a

hip hip when she walks, it makes this sound... It goes:

GLORIA:

Boom! Boom!

Boom! Boom!

ZOOKEEPER ZELDA:

Boom! Boom! It goes...
ZOOKEEPER ZEKE: Attention patrons. The giraffe exhibit is now closed. (The ZOO GUESTS groan.) Please make sure our giraffe, Melman, feels better by allowing him his privacy.

(ZOOKEEPER ZEKE:) We apologize for any inconvenience. (Lights up on MELMAN.)
A tempo

had to call in sick today. I

took a blood test and an x-ray. On my

Poco rit.

back I found another spot. I'm not feeling so hot.

ZOOKEEPER ZOE: Stop by and visit our Antarctica exhibit, and say hello to our cute and cuddly penguins. 
(The PENGUINS waddle in and stand in line. They are blocking KOWALSKI who is standing behind them.)

Freely, under dialogue

(SKIPPER:) Kowalski! Progress report!
(KOWALSKI pops his head up.)
KOWALSKI: We're only five hundred feet from the main sewer line.
SKIPPER: And the bad news?
KOWALSKI: I don't think our shovel can take much more.
(He holds up an oversized plastic spoon.)

Mission Impossible

8
SKIPPER: Today we quit this dump, you understand? Now keep digging!
PRIVATE: And me, Skipper?
SKIPPER: As you were, Private. Just keep looking cute and cuddly. Now, where are we goin' boys?

ALL PENGUINS:

SKIPPER: Keep diggin' son!

We're go-in' back where we belong.

SKIPPER: Just smile and wave.

We're go-in' back where we belong.

We're bust-in' out of here by dawn.

We're go-in' back where we belong. On the

ZOO GUESTS: PENGUINS: ZOO GUESTS:

ice... on the ice, on the ice, on the
ZOOKIEPERR ZELDA: And now, ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, the Central Park Zoo is proud to present... The King of New York City... ALEX THE LION!

ice, on the ice, on the ice.

(ALAX and the LIONESSES enter.)

Elvis Fanfare

ALEX:

I'm the King.

Double time feel

(ALAX):

of New York City.

LIONESSES:

He's the King.

Doo doo doo doo

(ALEX:)

I get the grace and I got the style. I'm
(ALEX:)

Wild such a groovy kitty.

LIONESSES:

I'm the King of New York City!

(ALEX:) Central Park, what time is it?

ALEX:

Roar!

ALL:

It's Show-time! It's Show-time!
ALEX

Thank you! You're a great crowd! Thank you very much. Hey, check out my website. Twenty-four hour Alex cam!

(#2 – SHOWTIME (PLAYOFF) begins.)

(The ZOO GUESTS cheer and then move to watch either GLORIA or the LIONESSES. MARTY is left alone.)

MARTY

Yep, show's over folks. Thanks for coming. I'll be here all week! In fact, I'll be here for my whole life, three hundred sixty-five days a year, including Christmas, Chanukkah, Halloween and Kwanzaa...

(#3 – PENGUIN UNDERSCORE 1 begins. The PENGUINS slowly waddle across in front of the stage trying to be nonchalant. They have reached the edge of the stage and are standing near MARTY.)

Hey, you in the tux!

SKIPPER

Great Scott! We've been spotted!

(The PENGUINS freeze.)

MARTY

What the heck are you guys doing?
(SKIPPER unfreezes and looks at MARTY.)

SKIPPER

(to the PENGUINS)
At ease.
(The PENGUINS unfreeze except for PRIVATE, who stays frozen.)
Can you keep a secret, my monochromatic friend? We’re going to Antarctica!

MARTY
Ant-hootica?

KOWALSKI
Do you ever see any penguins running free around New York City?

RICO
We don’t belong here. It’s just not natural.

SKIPPER
This is all some kind of bizarre conspiracy. We’re going to the wide open spaces of Antarctica. To the wild! Move!

(The PENGUINS begin to quickly move offstage.)

MARTY
The wild?

SKIPPER
You never saw us here. Comprende?

(SKIPPER starts to leave when he notices PRIVATE is still frozen. SKIPPER crosses to PRIVATE and pushes him offstage.)

MARTY
Yeah. Sure. I never saw anything but I sure would like to!

(#4 – WILD AND FREE begins.)
WILD AND FREE

(MARTY:) I know there's got to be more than just this zoo.

Gently flowing

Out in the wide open spaces, where the land

seems to go on forever...

I could run as far as the eye could

see. Living where I was meant to be—

Where I could find the wild
A tempo

(The ZOOKEEPERS and ZOO GUESTS sing along quietly without looking at MARTY.)

FREE

ZOKEEPMER, ZOO GUESTS:

Runnin' wild

In the wild

(MARTY:) Runnin' wild! Wow! Where I could be... wild and free! Wild and free, imagine that!

(MARTY:) I know it can't be too far away
but ev'-ry-one wants to make me
stay.
I gotta keep reach-in' for

(MARTY:)

that place.
Where I could be

ZOOKEEPERS,
ZOO GUESTS:

Ahh!

free.
Where I could be free.
Runnin' wild.

In the wild

In the wild
Runnin' wild. Come on! You could
In the wild

graze all day, count the stars at night. gallop
grazed all day, count the stars at night. gallop

fields of green 'til you're outta sight. Travel
fields of green 'til you're outta sight. Travel

anywhere you wouldn't have a care.
No! If I could be free
Yeah, if I could be
In the wild

Oh, if I could be
In the wild

If I could be
In the wild

Running in the
In the wild
Running in the

18
wild.
Oh!
Run - nin' in the wild.

wild.
Run - nin' in the wild.

wild.
Yeah!
Run - nin' in the wild.

wild. Yeah!
Yeah! Run - nin' in the wild.

(The daydream world comes to an end.
The ZOOKEEPERS and ZOO GUESTS have suddenly turned around and exited.)

Slower

wild. Yeah! Yeah! Run - nin' in the wild.

Slow and Gentle
(MARTY:)

I could run as far as the eye could
Poco rit.

see liv-ing where I was meant to be.____

(ALEX pops onstage.)

ALEX

Surprise!

MARTY

Aaaagh! Alex, don’t interrupt me when I’m daydreaming. When the zebra’s in the zone, leave ‘em alone.

ALEX

C’mon, Marty! Can’t a guy drop by to see his best friend? His best buddy? Say hi? Maybe even say, oh I don’t know...

(GLORIA, MELMAN, the LIONESSES and MASON the Chimpanzee enter with a cake.)

GLORIA, MELMAN, LIONESSES, MASON

Happy birthday!!!

MARTY

Aw, you guys...

(The group recites their clearly planned birthday greeting.)

GLORIA

Happy birthday Marty! We made you something sweet.

ALEX

It’s covered in frosting and it’s so good to eat.

MELMAN

Ooh, it’s your tenth birthday, this party is for you.

GLORIA, MELMAN, LIONESSES

Because you act like a monkey and you smell like one too!

MASON

Smell like a monkey?! I say! Stop perpetuating that loathsome stereotype! Uncivilized barbarians!

(MASON screeches like a monkey and exits.)
MARTY
I can't believe you remembered.

ALEX
Ten years old! A decade! Double digits! The big One-O!

GLORIA
Let's go! Make a wish, babycakes.

(MARTY closes his eyes and blows out the candles.)

ALEX
What'd ya wish for?

MARTY
Nope! I can't tell ya that. It's bad luck.

GLORIA
C'mon, tell.

MARTY
You want some bad luck?

(The ZOOSTERS and LIONESSES gang up on MARTY and all speak at the same time.)

GLORIA
Oh, for crying out loud, Marty. Would you just tell us? Tell us.

LIONESSES
Oh, Marty. It's us. You can tell us.

MELMAN
C'mon! Tell us!

ALEX
C'mon it's one wish. Tell us your wish.

MARTY
(stops them)
Okay! I wished I could go to the wild!

ZOOSTERS, LIONESSES
The wild?!

ALEX
Are you nuts? That is the worst idea I've ever heard.

MELMAN
It's unsanitary.
MARTY
C'mon. Just imagine going back to nature. Clean air, wide open spaces...

GLORIA
I hear they have wide open spaces in Connecticut.

MARTY
Connecticut?

LIONESS #1
Sure. I think you can take a train there.

MELMAN
I wouldn't take the trains in this city. People are animals.

MARTY
But one could take the train... ? Just hypothetically.

(ALEX holds up a thick, juicy cut of steak.)

ALEX
You're not gonna find any of this in the wild. Steak is a highly refined... type of food... thing. That you do not find in the wild.

MARTY
You ever thought there might be more to life than steak, Alex?

(Alex (comforting the steak)
He didn’t mean that, baby. No, no, no.

MARTY
 Doesn’t it bother you guys that you don’t know anything about life outside the zoo?

ZOOSTERS, LIONESSES
(except MARTY)

MARTY
Well, thanks for the party, guys. It was really great. Really.

(MARTY walks away from the group.)

MELMAN
What’s eating him?
GLORIA

(to ALEX)
Maybe you should talk to him, Alex. Cheer him up.
(yells to MARTY)
'Night, Marty!

LIONESSES
Goodnight, Marty! Happy birthday. (etc.)

MELMAN
Don’t let the bedbugs bite! Seriously. There’s an outbreak.

(GLORIA, MELMAN and the LIONESSES exit.)

ALEX
Marty! Buddy! Everyone has days when they think the grass might be greener somewhere else.

MARTY
Alex, look at me. I’m ten years old, my life is half over. I don’t even know if I’m black with white stripes or white with black stripes.

ALEX
So, you’re having a mid-life crisis. I’m here for you, pal. I always am, aren’t I?

MARTY
Sure.

ALEX
Then, cheer up! What are you gonna do? Just go running off to the wild by yourself?

MARTY
No.

ALEX
Good.

MARTY
You and me, let’s go!

ALEX
What?

(#5 – BEST FRIENDS begins.)
BEST FRIENDS

MARTY: The wild! We can be back by morning.
No one will even know. Whaddaya say?
ALEX: You know what I say, Marty?

Light and bouncy

(ALEX:)

Ain't noth-in' in the world that could tear us a-part,

MARTY: Aw, don't do that.

(ALEX:)

You're my friend... Ain't noth-in' in the
un-i-verse that could come in be-tween us.

If you're in a rut, I will pick you up
...and bring you back to who you are.

Yeah! Come on, Marty!

MARTY, ALEX:

Anything that you need, I'm here for ya.

Wherever I need to be, I'm there for ya.

Unconditional, even if it ain't cool,

I'm there when you need me.
Need a shoulder to cry on, It's here for ya.

Need a friend to rely on, I'm there for ya.

Unconditional, I know you know you're my buddy, and you're my best est

MASON: Quiet, you fools! We're not all nocturnal, you know!
(MASON enters.)
(MASON exits in a huff.)

friend.

MARTY, ALEX:

Anything that you need, I'm here for ya.
Wherever I need to be, I'm there for ya.

Unconditional, I know you know you're my buddy, and you're my bestest friend.

Yeah! You're my bestest friend. I know you know you're my bestest friend.