

CAMP LUMOWALD

An Animated Series

"A Magical Misunderstanding"

Written by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. BUS - DAY

A bus with the words "Camp Lumowald" painted on its side drives through a dense forest.

Through the window we see MATT, 21 year old male with an average build wearing flannel, jeans, and a green bandanna.

BILLY (V.O.)

I can't believe you're running off to some remote camp.

CUT TO:

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

The bus is noticeably dated, but well kept, and devoid of any other passengers.

Matt video chats with BILLY, 21 years old, on his phone.

MATT

It's really not that big a deal.

BILLY

Your parents seem to think it is.

MATT

I'm not doing this for my parents.

BILLY

Right... well they better be paying you well. No way I'm babysitting some kids all summer.

MATT

Well looking after you has given me some practice.

Billy rolls his eyes.

BILLY

Ha, ha. Those kids will tear you apart in a day.

MATT

Not if I win them over...

Matt pulls out a duffle bag and rummages through it, pulling out a firework.

MATT (CONT'D)
...with this!

BILLY
Whoa! Isn't that a bit much?

MATT
I can handle it.

The bus hits a pothole, bouncing Matt into the air.
He loses his grip on the firework--
--flails his arms in a panic--
--and catches it before it hits the floor.
Matt lets out a SIGH of relief.

MATT (CONT'D)
See?

BILLY
Listen Matt, you're trying to
figure things out on your own. I
get it. Just know I'm here for-

Billy's video suddenly disappears.

Matt waves the phone around at different angles, but it reads
"No Connection".

MATT
Guess it doesn't get more remote
than this.

The bus abruptly stops and Matt is thrown forward, bashing
his head into the seat in front of him.

He drops his stuff as the duffle bag spills onto the floor.

MATT (CONT'D)
Ow!

Matt massages his forehead.

BUS DRIVER (O.S.)
We're here! Welcome to Camp
Lumowald!

Matt packs up the spilled belongings, which include a
textbook and polaroid camera.

He reaches out for the firework as the BUS DRIVER, 40 year old lanky man with a long saggy face, picks it up.

Matt nervously looks up at him.

BUS DRIVER (CONT'D)
Funny, I heard your specialty was humanities, not pyrotechnics.

MATT
Right! Uh, I just thought we could start the summer with a bang.

Bus Driver CHUCKLES to himself.

BUS DRIVER
A bang? Yes I quite like that. I think you might just *rocket* to the top here.

Bus Driver LAUGHS, clutching his ribs, as he hands Matt the rocket.

Matt shoves the rocket into his bag.

MATT
Totally. I'll do my best.

Matt slides past Bus Driver to the exit.

BUS DRIVER
Good luck!

MATT
Thanks!

CAMPGROUNDS ENTRANCE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Matt steps off the bus and walk through the archway of a rustic campsite.

Against the forest sits an old stone mess hall & services building with a thatch roof.

Across from it stands a cement washroom/shower house.

Small screened cabins dot the rest of the clearing, as walking trails snake between them into the forest.

In the center stands a beautiful wooden flagpole with a griffin on top.

The sound of BIRDS CHIRPING fills the air.

Matt walks up to the flagpole,--
 --runs his hand over it,--
 --takes a deep breath--
 --and releases a relaxing SIGH.

MATT

A new day.

Matt notices a handmade sign next to the flagpole.

"BEWARE OF GOAT! DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS UNATTENDED" is sloppily painted on it, with a goat-man face drawn in the corner.

SARA (O.S.)

HEY YOU!

SARA, 22 years old athletic girl with blue marble eyes, sprints up to Matt waving him down.

Matt, startled, drops his bag and stands stiff at attention.

MATT

H-Hello!

SARA

Humanities guy or whatever right?

Matt extends his hand out to shake hands.

MATT

Yeah, Ma-

SARA (CONT'D)

Cool, come with me!

Sara grabs Matt's arm and drags him towards the mess hall.

SARA (CONT'D)

Ever put out a fire?

MATT

Uh, just once.

SARA

Great!

Sara throws open the door to the mess hall and shoves Matt inside.

INT. MESS HALL - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Matt stumbles into the mess hall.

JOSEPH (O.S.)
Take it back!

MATT
Ahh!

Matt drops to the floor as a blue fireball flies past him.

Matt looks up to see--

--JOSEPH, a 12 year old boy whose half dragon body is covered in wine colored scales, throwing fireballs at--

--THESEUS, a 12 year old minotaur, who deflects them with a metal pot lid.

Theseus throws a handful of mac & cheese back at Joseph.

THESEUS
Is that all you got?!

Other kids (an elf, a gnome, a fairy, a merfolk, an ogre, a centaur and a satyr) are in the midst of a food fight

Small blue fires burn across the mess hall full of overturned tables.

Matt rubs his eyes in disbelief.

MATT
Okay, wait!

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT 1**INT. MESS HALL - DAY**

Sara lifts Matt to his feet.

MATT
What is this?!

SARA
Ignore them.

Sara shoves a fire extinguisher into Matt's hands.

SARA (CONT'D)
You just take care of the fires.

MATT
Ignore them?! But-!

Sara brandishes a rusty shield and slowly walks towards Joseph and Theseus.

SARA
Don't make me break this up!

Matt nervously runs over to a fire in the corner of the room.

He fiddles with the fire extinguisher,--

--pulls the trigger,--

--slaps it,--

--inspects it from different angles,--

--but is unable to use it.

GUNTHER (O.S.)
Excuse me.

A small hand tugs on Matt's shorts.

He looks down to find GUNTHER, 10 year old gnome with a close shaven boxed beard, looking up at him.

MATT
Ah!

Matt jumps back and drops the extinguisher, which Gunther catches.

GUNTHER

You have to pull the pin first.

Gunther pulls the pin out and tosses the extinguisher back up to Matt.

Matt extinguishes the fire.

Gunther gives him a smile and thumbs up.

Matt nervously smiles back.

Matt SCREAMS--

--jumps on top of Gunther--

--a fireball whizzes over them and reignites the fire.

GUNTHER (CONT'D)

(chuckles)

Sorry about those two.

Matt scrambles up to extinguish the fire.

AT THE CENTER OF THE COMMOTION, Theseus rushes at Joseph, using the pot lid to crash through his fireballs.

Joseph jumps over him,--

--Theseus crashes into a table.

MICHAELA, 11 year old centaur girl with long flowing hair, eyes beaming with excitement, pops over the table and shoves Theseus towards Joseph.

MICHAELA

COME ON! FIGHT LIKE YOU MEAN IT!

VANESSA, 13 year old elf girl with dark purple skin and a short crimped hairstyle, leans against the table behind Joseph unamused.

She draws in a sketchbook until it is suddenly knocked out of her hands by food. She tosses her pencil down in frustration and turn to Joseph.

VANESSA

Hey, could you not spark up for one day?

JOSEPH

Can it!

Joseph ignites his fists.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Nobody disrespects me!

ACROSS THE ROOM, Matt works his way to another fire.

He hops table to table, avoiding flying food and fireballs.

As he extinguishes a fire, TRIP, 12 year old satyr boy, pops up from behind a table.

TRIP
BEGONE TALL PERSON!

Trip flings applesauce at Matt, coating his entire face.

Trip falls to the ground in a LAUGHING fit.

MATT
I'm not even tall! I'm 5'6"!

OVER BY THE WINDOWS, at the only upright table sits ERICA, 11 year old 8 foot tall lime colored ogre, and WANDA, 12 year old merfolk with shimmering scales but the figure of a human.

Erica calmly eats her lunch, paying no mind to the chaos around her.

Wanda doesn't touch her food. Her eyes dart around, anxiously tracking all the chaos.

WANDA
Should we not be joining in on the merriment of food combat?

Erica is hit by mashed potatoes, but is unfazed.

IN THE CENTER OF THE HALL, Joseph charges at Theseus.

Theseus throws the pot lid like a disc at Joseph.

Joseph slides under the lid--

--throws a fiery punch at Theseus.

Sara jumps between them, blocking Joseph's punch with her shield.

SARA
That's enough!

OTHER CAMPERS
Oooooooooooooo!

Joseph shakes the sting off his hand, then points to Theseus.

JOSEPH
He started it!

SARA
He started *this*?

Sara gestures to the room.

We see scorch marks and fires all around the hall as Matt scrambles from fire to fire.

SARA (CONT'D)
Last time I checked, minotaurs
can't breath fire.

Theseus teases Joseph from behind Sara's back, pulling down his eyelid and sticking out his tongue.

JOSEPH
He knows what he did!

Sara turns to Theseus, who quickly straightens up.

SARA
Theseus?

THESEUS
All I did was call the hotshot
"Joey".

Joseph stomps his foot.

JOSEPH
That's not my name and you will
show me respect!

Theseus makes a hand puppet as he mocks Joseph in indiscernible BABY TALK.

Joseph grits his teeth and reignites his fists.

SARA
Enough! Joe-

Joseph glares at Sara.

SARA (CONT'D)
-oseph. Threatening to char people
is not an appropriate response.

JOSEPH
You know he can take it.

SARA

That's not the point!

Joseph lets out a strong exhale through his nose and extinguishes his fists.

JOSEPH

Fine. Then I, *Joseph*, will fight on your terms.

THESEUS

Psh, yeah okay.

JOSEPH

Great. Let's have a good summer, *Fece-eus*.

Joseph turns to leave the mess hall as the other campers SNICKER.

Theseus turns red in embarrassment.

THESEUS

What'd you call me?!

As Joseph approaches the door, he turns to watch Matt put out the last fire. Joseph rolls his eyes.

THESEUS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Are you listening?! That sounds nothing like my name!

Joseph exits the mess hall.

Sara WHISTLES and the campers turn their attention to her.

SARA

Alright! Everyone go play outside while we clean up.

The campers file out of the mess hall.

Wanda walks over to Theseus.

WANDA

I do not understand. Is "dung" not also a word for poop to you all?

Theseus growls in frustration and stomps off.

Vanessa wraps her arm around Wanda and walks with her.

VANESSA

It's as stupid as you think.

WANDA

Really?!

Gunther cheerfully waves to Matt on his way out.

Sara walks over to Matt and gives him a proud slap on the back. Her strength knocks him forward and he rubs his back in pain.

Ow!
MATT

SARA
Not a bad start.

Sara walks into the back kitchen. Matt tosses the fire extinguisher aside and follows her.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Matt enters the kitchen to find Sara leaning over a table as she eats from a tub of ice cream.

MATT
What's going on here?!

SARA
Relax, we can clean after a quick break.

Sara extends the tub to Matt.

SARA (CONT'D)
Want some? It's pistachio.

MATT
I'm not talking about the ice cream! That's the most normal thing here!

SARA
Huh, most people think I'm weird for liking it.

MATT
Why are you so unfazed by this?

Sara shrugs.

SARA
I mean, those kids can be a lot, but that's why I keep so much ice cream.

Sara eats a spoonful of ice cream.

MATT
Kids?! They're like animals or something!

SARA
Ummm, yeah. Most kids are.

MATT
Most kids don't shoot fire!

SARA
Most kids aren't a demon lord's son.

Sara eats a giant spoonful of ice cream as Matt stands mouth agape.

MATT
I...wh-...WHAT?!

SARA
(mouth full)
Are you okay?

Matt pulls a crumpled flyer from his pocket.

It reads "Camp Lumowald! For The Magical & Miraculous; Don't Work A Job, Inspire The Future!" with phone number tabs.

MATT
This says nothing about demon boys, or gnomes, or- or minotaurs!

SARA
It says "For The Magical & Miraculous".

MATT
I thought that was hyperbole!

SARA
If anything it's an understatement.

Sara crams another hunk of ice cream into her mouth.

MATT
Ummm... Nope, no. I'm out.

Matt leaves the kitchen.

Sara feigns concern as she lazily reaches out to him.

SARA
(mouth full of ice cream)
Nooooo. Wait. Come baaacck.

EXT. MESS HALL - DAY

Matt storms out of the mess hall waving his phone around.

MATT

I'm just a guy trying to get away
from the world. I didn't sign up
for any magic or-

We see the bus start up and floor it down the road.

MATT (CONT'D)

Wait!

Matt sprints over to the archway waving his arms frantically
as the bus disappears in a cloud of dust.

Matt stomps in frustration and looks to his phone.

MATT (CONT'D)

(pleading)

Just one bar? Please?

Matt's phone dies. He shakes it vigorously in frustration.

MATT (CONT'D)

Come on!

Matt checks his pockets and pats himself down.

MATT (CONT'D)

Power bank... Power bank...

Matt snaps his fingers.

MATT (CONT'D)

Bag.

Matt turns to the flagpole to find his bag is missing.

MATT (CONT'D)

Wh-where's my bag?!

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2**CAMPGROUNDS - DAY**

Matt investigates the flagpole, searching for signs of his bag.

MATT

No, no, NO!

Matt drops to the ground, sitting against the pole.

MATT (CONT'D)

Why me?

Matt spots Michaela the centaur and Willow the fairy.

Matt runs over to them as Willow places a flower behind Michaela's ear and the two GIGGLE with delight.

MATT (CONT'D)

Hey! Horse girl!

Michaela and Willow turn to him confused.

MICHAELA

Uhhh I know you're not talking to me.

MATT

Sorry, ummm centaur?

MICHAELA

Michaela.

MATT

Michaela, where'd the bus go?

MICHAELA

I don't know. Maybe it went into town?

Matt lets out an annoyed SIGH.

MATT

Okay, okay. Have you seen my bag?

WILLOW

What's it look like?

MATT

Its a black duffle bag. I left it
by the flagpole.

Michaela facepalms herself as Willows gives a concerned look.

WILLOW

Oh! I see, I see.

MATT

What?

WILLOW

Trip probably swiped it.

MATT

I'm sorry, who?

Michaela over to the sign next to the flagpole.

MICHAELA

Can't you read? Why did I even make
this?!

Michaela kicks the sign out with her back legs.

MATT

Okay, okay. Where can I find him?

TRIP (O.S.)

(echoing in the distance)

Come on folks! This is a limited
time auction!

Michaela points at a trail into the forest.

Willow flies over to the trail as Matt chases after them.

CUT TO:

CAMP STAGE - DAY

Trip the satyr stands behind a podium on an old wooden stage
waving a polaroid camera in the air.

Theseus the minotaur, Gunther the gnome, Vanessa the elf,
Wanda the merfolk, and Erica the ogre stand at the front of
the stage.

TRIP

Now I've heard PBJ. Can we do
better than a PBJ?

THESEUS
I'll give you a pocket knife!

VANESSA
Epic Comics issue 56!

TRIP
Epic Comics going once! Going
twice! Sold to Vanessa!

Trip twirls the camera by the strap and flings it to Vanessa.

VANESSA
Rad.

Vanessa messes with the camera as she walks off.

Trip pulls out Matt's bag and rummages through it.

TRIP
Next we have...

Trip pulls out a thick textbook and looks it over.

TRIP (CONT'D)
"What the stat?! An introduction to
statistics"? Ummm...

Gunther jumps excitedly into the air as the other campers
stand disillusioned.

GUNTHER
One PBJ!

TRIP
...Sold?

Trip carelessly tosses the book down to Gunther.

GUNTHER
Yes!

Gunther flips open the book and begins reading.

Trip rummages through the bag.

TRIP
Alright, next up...

MATT (O.S.)
Hey!

All the campers turn towards Matt's voice behind them.

Willow comes flying out of the forest behind them as they frantically wave their hands signaling Matt to stop.

Matt sprints out of the forest.

MaTT (CONT'D) Willow
Hey! That's my ba- Wait! Wait! There's a drop!

The ground drops out from under Matt.

He jumps down onto a log bench--

--his impact makes the log roll off of its legs--

--and he log rolls down towards the stage.

MATT (CONT'D)
Wh-wha-WHOA!

The campers below SCREAM as they scramble out of the way.

Matt crashes into the stage.

MATT (CONT'D)
Ow.

Willow flies over to Matt as he massages his head.

WILLOW
Tragedy!! Are you okay?

Trip hangs over the front of the stage, swatting Willow out of the way.

TRIP
Hey man, you're disrupting my auction here.

MATT
Auction? That's my stuff!

Trip backs up defensively, placing himself between everyone and the bag.

TRIP
Hey, I *rescued* this abandoned bag.
Finders keepers.

Matt pulls himself up onto the stage.

MATT
Please don't test me because today is NOT the day. Just give me my bag and-

Matt takes one step towards Trip.

Trip's eyes suddenly go wide and glassy.

He bellows a piercing goat SCREAM and stomps around the stage like a wild billy goat.

Matt steps back cautiously.

Trip knocks over the podium with his hind legs and digs into the stage with his hoof as if to charge Matt.

A shadow looms over Trip.

The giant hand of Erica reaches down and grabs Trip, lifting him into the air.

TRIP
(stammering like a goat)
Heeeeyyyyy

Trip COUGHS, clearing his throat.

TRIP (CONT'D)
Hey whats the idea big guy? I had
him ready to tinkle!

Erica tosses Trip into a bush.

TRIP (CONT'D)
(stammering like a goat)
WHOOAAA!!!

Erica approaches Matt, who stands quivering under her shadow.

Erica reaches her hand above Matt who closes his eyes and braces himself.

Erica drops Matt's bag in front of him.

ERICA
Trip not bad, just brat.

Matt opens his eyes, seeing the bag at his feet. He picks it up and looks to Erica.

MATT
Th-thanks.

ERICA
Erica happy to help.

MATT
Matt happy to have help?

A slight grin breaks from Erica's stern face. Matt sheepishly smiles back.

Gunther's small hand reaches up to tug on Matt's shorts.

Matt turns to Gunther bashfully holding up the textbook.

GUNTHER

I think this is yours. It's a good read.

MATT

Really?

(chuckles)

You can have it if you like it so much.

A beaming smile crosses Gunther's face as he furiously nods yes.

Trip digs himself out of the bush.

TRIP

Heh, jokes on you.

Trip pulls out Matt's firework and waves it in the air.

TRIP (CONT'D)

The house always wins and boy is *this* a winner!

Trip runs into the forest.

MATT

Hey! That's dangerous!

Matt drops his bag onto Gunther and sprints after Trip.

CUT TO:

INT. FOREST - DAY

Trip gracefully runs through the forest using the nimbleness of his small stature to go through logs,--

--under branches--

--and dodge thorn bushes.

Matt gives chase, clumsily forcing his way through the obstacles.

Trip sees Matt falling behind and banks left out of sight.

As Matt goes left at the same spot, we see Trip perched above in a tree.

Twirling the firework in his hand, Trip watches as Matt runs deeper into the forest.

TRIP

Ha! What a dope.

Trip climbs down the tree and walks the opposite direction.

TRIP (CONT'D)

Now then.

Trip turns his attention to the firework and inspects it.

TRIP (CONT'D)

How do we make this bird sing?

Suddenly, Joseph can be heard GRUNTING as flashes of blue fire appear in the distance.

CUT TO:

INT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

Trip creeps to the edge of a tree line that opens up to a small clearing.

Joseph the demon stands in front of a scorch covered boulder jutting out of the clearing's center.

Joseph's hands ignite and he methodically shoots off fireballs, as if doing a martial arts routine.

He's disciplined, in control.

After a few shots, he fires off one that dissipates before reaching the boulder.

Joseph, PANTING, throws his arms down to his sides and GROWLS in frustration.

He closes his eyes, appearing to scowl.

THESEUS VO

Lil' Joey blowhard.

ALASTOR VO

Joey? That little match stick? Yeah right.

YOUNG VANESSA VO
Joe stop! You're scaring them!

AAMON VO
My son...

Joseph takes a deep breath.

AAMON VO (CONT'D)
...an utter disappointment.

Joseph lets out a MONSTROUS ROAR and releases a furious scattershot of fireballs at the boulder.

He stops, only his PANTING and the SIZZLE of the boulder fill the hushed forest.

Joseph slows his breath and closes his eyes.

Trip approaches Joseph from the edge of the clearing.

TRIP
Whoa! Any chance you can still spare a light, Joey?

Trip casually tosses the firework to Joseph from behind.

Joseph's eyes shoot open, bloodshot.

He quickly turns to shoot a fireball at Trip.

In slow motion he fires the shot, his eyes go wide in panic as he notices the firework directly in front of him.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FOREST - DAY

Matt runs through the forest as an explosion of yellow and blue erupt from the forest behind him.

He turns and shakes his head in disbelief as flaming debris fall onto the forest.

MATT
No... why would-?

Black smoke rises up into the air. Matt sprints towards it.

INT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

The once calm clearing is now a scorched earth, as fire spreads from tree to tree.

Smoke fills the space and seeps into the forest.

Trip stands over Joseph who lies unconscious with a gash on his arm.

TRIP

Hey Joseph! Joseph this isn't funny man!

Trip tries desperately to pull Joseph by his leg.

TRIP (CONT'D)

Joseph get up!!!

Matt sprints into the clearing and locks eyes with Trip.

TRIP (CONT'D)

Please you gotta help him!

Matt runs up to them and looks over Joseph. He notices the gash and checks for a pulse.

MATT

He's just knocked out, I think.

Matt pats himself down, starting at his pants pockets and moving up until he pats down his bandanna.

MATT (CONT'D)

Go for help, I'll get him out-

Matt turns to find Trip has already left.

Matt takes off his bandanna and bandages Joseph's wound. He then throws Joseph over his back, COUGHING as he chokes on the smoke.

MATT (CONT'D)

I got you.

Matt stares into the smokey haze that surrounds him, then marches into the burning forest.

INT. FOREST - DAY

Matt trudges through the forest, but the fire spreads faster than he can move.

JOSEPH
(groggy)
I'm sorry... I'm a disappointment.

MATT
You and me both. If I wasn't such a
coward I wouldn't even be here.

Some of the fire flares up on Matt's left, burning his leg.
Matt winces at the pain.

MATT (CONT'D)
Whoa!

Matt swerves to keep Joseph's body away from the fire as he
limps through the forest.

MATT (CONT'D)
(coughs)
And if I was at least a *smart*
coward, I wouldn't have run into a
freaking forest fire.

GUNTHER (O.S.)
The smokes coming from this way!

MATT
Hey! Its not safe! Stay back!

A sharp CRACKLING fills the air.

Matt looks up to see a tree branch snap above them.

Matt tosses Joseph out of the way--

--bracing for the impact of the branch.

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3**INT. FOREST - DAY**

Matt braces for the impact of the falling branch--
--the ground beneath him quakes.

At the last minute, Erica's arm shields Matt from the branch.

Erica GRUNTS as the branch shatters against her arm.

Matt looks to the see Erica forcing a grin as Gunther runs over to meet them.

GUNTHER
Are you two okay?

Gunther notices Matt's leg.

GUNTHER (CONT'D)
That looks bad.

MATT
I'm okay.
(coughs)
But Joseph-

Matt's focus snaps back to Joseph.

He moves too quickly and collapses from his burned leg.

Matt lets out a pained SCREAM.

SHOT: POV JOSEPH

In a haze we see Matt on the ground SCREAMING as Erica and Gunther stand over him.

Joseph blinks and the world around him changes to-

EXT. ABYSS - PAST

We see a purple landscape of rubble and flames.

Matt's SCREAM bleeds into the shrill chaotic SCREAMS of disembodied voices.

A dark castle looms as the silhouettes of the demons AAMON and ALASTOR, along with a YOUNG VANESSA, turn away and walk towards the castle.

YOUNG VANESSA VO
Joe stop! You're scaring them!

AAMON VO
Leave him.

YOUNG JOSEPH
No, please! I can do this!

Joseph tries to follow them, but falls over on his hands and knees.

YOUNG JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Please father! Don't leave!

He blinks again, now seeing-

INT. FOREST - DAY

The forest floor and Matt's bandanna tightly secured to his arm. His vision becomes clear as he focuses on the bandanna.

JOSEPH
What?...

MATT
Erica.

He looks back up to Matt and sees the raging forest fire.

MATT (CONT'D)
Grab Joseph and get him to camp.
Okay?

SHOT: END POV

Joseph stands up, fear in his eyes as he takes in the chaos.

JOSEPH
I- I didn't mean...

The others look over to him.

MATT
Hey! Joseph!

Matt rapidly snaps his fingers.

MATT (CONT'D)

Joseph!

Joseph turns his attention to Matt.

MATT (CONT'D)

It's gonna be okay.

A tree collapses under its weight next to Matt, sending embers into the air around them.

Matt turns to Erica, his eyes narrowed.

MATT (CONT'D)

Get them out of here.

Erica scoops up Gunther who resists.

GUNTHER

No wait!

Joseph looks back to the flames.

Deep in the flames, the shadowy figure of Alastor can be seen with a devilish smirk.

ALASTOR VO

Cowering again nephew?

Joseph stares down Alastor.

JOSEPH

No.

Joseph closes his eyes and takes a deep breath.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

I can do this.

He reaches out his hands--

--takes a deep breath--

--and lets out a MONSTROUS ROAR.

All the flames flare up and burn more intensely, now with a blue hue.

The others nervously look on.

MATT

Joseph, stop! Stop-!

Joseph's hands slowly clench, as if fighting to ball something up in his fists.

The flames respond and die down the more he clenches.

MATT (CONT'D)

...It.

Joseph's ROAR winds down to a hushed exhale of air, as his fists close tight and the flames extinguish.

Joseph opens his eyes and loses his balance for a second.

Matt forces himself onto his feet and quickly hobbles over to steady Joseph.

MATT (CONT'D)

Easy! Easy.

GUNTHER

That was really something.

MATT

How you feeling Joseph?

Joseph regains his balance and steps away from Matt.

He unties the bandanna, his arm now healed.

Joseph ties it around part of Matt's burned leg.

JOSEPH

Joe.

MATT

Excuse me?

JOE

Just... call me Joe okay?

Joe walks off towards the camp.

Erica helps to shoulder Matt's weight off his bad leg.

They all follow Joe.

GUNTHER

Can I call you Joe? Can I?!

JOE (O.S.)

Ugh. YES!

CUT TO:

CAMPGROUNDS - EVENING

Sara corrals the campers as she takes a headcount.

SARA
Everyone settle down! Please!

Joe exits from the forest followed by Matt and the others.

Vanessa takes a picture of them as Sara drops her clipboard and rushes over to Joe.

SARA (CONT'D)
There you are! Are you hurt?

She parts his hair to check for injuries. Joe swats Sara away.

JOE
We're fine.

Sara moves over to Gunther. She licks her hand and rubs ash off his face.

SARA
You almost gave me a heart attack.

Sara turns to Matt, getting a glimpse of his burned leg.

SARA (CONT'D)
What happened?

MATT
Well-

JOE
I got careless.

Everyone turns to Joe.

JOE (CONT'D)
I was off training and let things
get out of control.

Joe points back to Matt with his thumb.

JOE (CONT'D)
If it wasn't for the new guy, I'd
be in serious trouble.

Matt looks over to Joe in disbelief.

MATT
I-I wouldn't say tha-

GUNTHER

He was carrying Joe outta that fire
all by himself!

Erica gives a big nod.

OTHER CAMPERS

Whoa!// That's so cool! // Joe?

Sara looks on skeptically with a sly grin on her face.

SARA

Huh? Gotta say I didn't peg you for
the hero type.

MATT

No, the truth is-

TRIP (O.S.)

Guys! Guys!

Trip comes barging out of the bushes.

TRIP (CONT'D)

There's been an accident! The new
guy had a firework and it-

Trip freezes as he sees Joe and Matt standing in front of
him. Mystified, he looks behind him at the forest, then back
to them.

TRIP (CONT'D)

Hey! How'd you beat me back here?

Sara's face turns red with anger as her hair stands on end.

She marches up to Matt, her eyes now slitted with a faint
glow, teeth sharper and more pronounced.

SARA

You brought a firework!

MATT

Whoa!

Sara gets up in Matt's face, grabbing him by the collar.

MATT (CONT'D)

It's not like that!

Matt trembles as if he were prey in Sara's hands.

SARA

Like what? Like bringing an explosive around children? Or causing a forest fire with it?!

JOE

Hey lay off! I'm the one at fault!

Sara tosses Matt back as she turns to Joe.

SARA

You're a child! I expect this sort of stuff from you!

Sara gestures to Matt.

SARA (CONT'D)

He's an adult! He's supposed to be responsible!

Sara turns to Matt.

SARA (CONT'D)

Right?!

A hush falls over the campground.

Matt tilts his head down in embarrassment.

Everyone stands still.

GUNTHER

No but-

MATT

She's right. I'm supposed to be the adult here and I'm not.

Matt looks up to Sara.

MATT (CONT'D)

But I can take responsibility like one.

Matt walks through the crowd of kids towards the flagpole, his duffle bag lying against it with a flower sitting on it.

CAMPERS

Wait. // What? Really? // No way...

CAMPGROUNDS ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Matt carefully pockets the flow and slings the duffle bag over his back as the bus pulls up in front of him.

VANESSA (O.S.)

Hey!

Matt stops in front of the bus as Vanessa runs over with the polaroid camera.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Figured you'd want these.

Vanessa hands Matt the camera and a picture of Joe, Erica, Gunther and himself exiting the forest.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

For what it's worth, thank you.

Matt gives off a slight grin and tucks the picture in his pocket.

MATT

Thanks, but looks like I won't be needing this.

He hands the camera back to Vanessa who cautiously takes it.

Sara and the rest of the campers approach the bus.

MATT (CONT'D)

Besides you got a good eye.

Vanessa blushes, embarrassed.

VANESSA

I mean, if you say so.

Vanessa walks off in an overtly casual manner, twirling the camera by its strap.

Gunther rushes over and hugs himself around Matt's ankle.

GUNTHER

Please don't go.

Matt leans over and pats Gunther on the head.

MATT

It'll be okay buddy. I've caused enough of a mess.

The doors to the bus swing open behind Matt, revealing Bus Driver sitting inside.

BUS DRIVER
I happen to enjoy messes!

Matt turns to the Bus Driver.

CAMPERS
Camp master!

MATT
Camp master?

SARA
And where the heck have you been?!

CAMP MASTER
We don't get to use the old girl
often! So-

Sara crosses her arms as her intense features begin to return to normal.

SARA
So you went on a joy ride?

Camp Master shrugs.

CAMP MASTER
Guilty.

MATT
I'm so sorry for all the trouble
sir.

Camp Master shrugs.

CAMP MASTER
Sure you screwed up, but you're
also showing what it means to take
responsibility. More than that...

Camp Master gestures to the campers standing around him.

Wanda turns to look behind her for what Camp Master is gesturing at, but Michaela faces her forward.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)
...you seem to have made quite the
impression on them already.

Matt looks over the crowd of campers, many of them with an inviting smile, while Trip sticks his tongue out in annoyance.

SARA

Look, he didn't even mean to come here, it was a mistake. All of this is one big mistake.

MATT

She's right.

CAMP MASTER

A counselor's job isn't to be perfect, I'm sure you know that Sara.

Sara crosses her arms in embarrassment.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)

Our job is to earn the trust of children, to teach them we can be better despite our flaws or difference.

Camp Master gets out of his chair and stands at the top of the bus' steps, looking down at Gunther.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)

That being said, its important to remember that if you love something, set it free. Only if it comes back is it yours.

Gunther looks at Camp Master, then back to Matt.

He reluctantly lets go of Matt's leg.

Matt looks to the bus, then back to the campers.

MATT

I... I think I have a lot to learn for myself first.

Camp Master extends his arm out to help Matt onto the bus.

Matt grabs his hand and pulls himself onto the bus--

--popping Camp Master's arm out of his shoulder.

MATT (CONT'D)

Wh-!

Matt falls out of the bus onto the ground. The campers let out a GASP.

CAMP MASTER

Well would you look at that? He came back! Guess he's ours!

Camp Master and the campers erupt into wild LAUGHTER. Sara GROANS.

Matt shakes off his confusion and finds Camp Master's detached arm laying on him.

Matt lets out a shocked SCREAM as Camp Master hops off the bus and picks up his arm, popping it back into place.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)

Silly arm! Just cause your name's the humerus, doesn't make you a *funny bone*.

Camp Master lets out a loud CHORTLE.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)

Well guess this suit's all used up.

Camp Master grabs his chest and rips off his clothes and skin like a breakaway suite, revealing a skeleton wearing a camp uniform underneath.

Matt sits, mouth agape.

MATT

Ya know what... at this point I'm not even shocked.

Camp Master helps Matt up, giving him a slap on the back.

CAMP MASTER

That's the spirit! You're gonna do great here kid, I can feel it in my bones. And I'm ALL bones!

Camp Master lets out a loud CHORTLE.

MATT

Oh, so this is a thing huh?

Joe, annoyed, covers his ears.

JOE

This is gonna be a long summer.

Vanessa playfully punches Joe's arm.

VANESSA
You said it, Joe.

Joe rolls his eyes, letting out the smallest grin.

Camp Master leans into Matt's ear.

CAMP MASTER
(whispers)
But between you and me, I need all
the help I can get with these kids.

MATT
What?!

CAMP MASTER
(whispers)
Plus you're under contract sooo-

Camp Master turns towards the campers.

CAMP MASTER (CONT'D)
-ooo who want's desert?! I've got
brownies for tonight!

Camp Master marches towards the mess hall as the campers
parade behind him.

CAMPERS
Nice! / Hurray! / I want nuts! /
Fudgey goodness! / Race ya there!

Matt and Sara are left alone at the bus.

Matt picks up his bag and slings it over his shoulder.

MATT
I... I guess I'm staying... We
cool?

Sara looks over Matt, then back to the campers as the sun
sets behind the mess hall.

SARA
Yeah... Just be better.

Sara jogs off towards her cabin.

MATT
Right! I'll do my-

Sara continues to jog away, ignoring Matt.

MATT (CONT'D)

-best...

CAMP MASTER (O.S.)

Get it in gear Matt, or I won't be
the only *bag of bones* around here!

Camp Master lets out a loud CHORTLE from the distance.

MATT

Coming!

Matt runs towards the Mess Hall.

We see the sign on the archway reading "Camp Lumowald For The
Magical & Miraculous"

END