

MAD MAX

Written by

Forest Campbell

Address  
Phone Number

FADE IN:

EXT. "GOUDA FOOD'A" - DAY

CHEDDAR the Cheese Sorcerer stands in front of his new restaurant, talking to his real estate agent, MRS. SLINKY, a naga.

MRS. SLINKY  
(saleswoman-like)  
Thisssss isssss an incredibly  
popular area, plenty of hungry  
mouths to feed!

CHEDDAR  
(In a wisconsin accent)  
Sounds great, ma'am! Are we about  
done here?

MRS. SLINKY  
Yep! Just sssssign here. And one  
last thing about your location.

CHEDDAR  
(signing the page)  
Which is?

MRS. SLINKY  
It looksssss like you will have  
sssssome competition from your  
neighbor!

Cheddar glances over to where Mrs. Slinky is pointing, at RIGATONI the Noodle Wizard, opening his own restaurant, Oodles of Noodles.

The chefs glare at each other.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. COLLEGE DORM ROOM - DAY

CHEDDAR  
Again?! If you want to share my mac  
n cheese, just ask first!

RIGATONI  
(In an Italian American accent)  
Come on, I would never. Why you  
always accuse me of things?

CHEDDAR

Then where does it go? Just admit  
that you're a noodle thief!

RIGATONI

Damn you and your stupid mac n  
cheese!

Rigatoni absconds into the stormy night.

BACK TO PRESENT

CHEDDAR

Is it too late to change location?

MRS. SLINKY

Yep! Your ssssssignature is binding!

Cheddar groans and storms inside his restaurant. He paces  
back and forth, glancing out the window at Rigatoni's  
restaurant before he stops. A mischievous grin spreads across  
his face.

INT. OODLES OF NOODLES - DAY

Rigatoni is consoling an ANGRY CUSTOMER at one of the tables  
in his restaurant.

ANGRY CUSTOMER

Are you trying to poison us?!

RIGATONI

I'm sorry, miss, what seems to be  
the prob?-. . .oh, oh dear.

Rigatoni gawks at the food as he replies to the woman. It's  
all covered in mold! And it smells like...cheese?

Flustered, Rigatoni looks around. Everyone's food is moldy  
with the same cheesy stench. Many of the customers are  
getting up and leaving, absolutely repulsed.

Suddenly, he catches movement out of the corner of his eye.  
Outside the window is Cheddar running off back towards his  
own restaurant, turning around to make a rude gesture as he  
goes.

RIGATONI (CONT'D)

That rat bastard! I've got a  
reputation to uphold!

INT. GOUDA FOOD'A - DAY

Cheddar flips over the small "open"/"close" sign in the window to "open". Crowds of people pass by the restaurant, but none enter.

Cheddar polishes the restaurant until it shines, looking up periodically, until he eventually steps outside. A family walks by. They take one look at his restaurant and curl their noses in disgust. Cheddar turns around to see that "Gouda Food'a" has been magically renamed "Stinky Cheese" with a slimy, rickety sign to match.

Cheddar's shock turns to anger as Rigatoni saunters past him.

RIGATONI

(smug)

Just couldn't leave well enough  
alone, could ya?

EXT. OODLES OF NOODLES - NIGHT

Cheddar sneaks over to Rigatoni's restaurant with an aerosol can in each hand. He unleashes an endless stream of Cheese Whiz from the cans, making a Pollock painting out of the restaurant's façade. Then, he takes out his wand and conjures large hunks of hard cheese and smashes the windows with a few well-aimed throws. Once inside, he takes out a cheese grater and covers the whole interior in cheese confetti.

INT. RIGATONI'S BEDROOM ABOVE THE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Rigatoni startles awake to the sound of shattering glass. He hurries down the stairs, wand in hand. But when he gets to the bottom, the culprit is gone and his restaurant is in ruins. Devastated, he falls to the floor in sobs. After a beat, he looks up, bristling with white-hot rage.

RIGATONI

You've left me no choice, Cheddar.

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

Rigatoni checks his wristwatch nervously, scanning the alleyway for his contact. Suddenly, he hears a scuttling sound from above. He turns towards the sound, a giant spider lowering itself down into the alleyway.

Rigatoni yelps and presses himself against the alley wall in fear.

RIGATONI

I-I'm not looking for any trouble.

The spider leans down in front of Rigatoni's face.

Rigatoni flinches.

The spider retrieves from its back a small, writhing package wrapped in silk and presents it to Rigatoni.

SPIDER

And your end of the deal?

Reluctantly, Rigatoni takes out a knife and cuts off his beard, trading it for the package. The spider retreats into the night.

Rigatoni gapes at his prize squirming in his hand, until his expression shifts to determination and he nods.

INT. CHEDDAR'S BEDROOM ABOVE GOUDA FOOD'A - MORNING

Cheddar drags himself out of bed and shambles sleepily to the edge of the stairs. He takes a step. Snap! A floorboard splits in two and sends Cheddar careening down the stairs, crashing through the floorboards at the bottom.

Cheddar screams in pain and disgust. The restaurant is infested by giant termites. Most of the furniture is in ruins and the walls threaten to collapse.

Cheddar limps out of the ruined restaurant.

RIGATONI

(smug, O.S.)

Finally surrounded by repugnant vermin, much like yourself.

Cheddar turns on his heels and marches towards Rigatoni, absolutely seething.

CHEDDAR

You conniving bastard! Why do you always ruin my life??

RIGATONI

Your life? You're the one who poisoned my food and covered my restaurant in cheese!

CHEDDAR

And YOU ruined my sign and turned my restaurant into a bug-infested death trap!

RIGATONI

You've always been a paranoid narcissist!

CHEDDAR

We both know you took it, why can't you just admit it? And why did you open up a restaurant right next to mine?

RIGATONI

I never stole your damned mac n cheese! And I could ask you the same thing!

CHEDDAR

You're a goddamn thief and a coward!

RIGATONI

Vengeful, bumptious freak!

Cheddar raises a fist, prepared to strike. He goes to punch Rigatoni when a SQUEAK noise stops him in his tracks.

Both magicians stare down at a mouse scuttling between their feet, carrying a bowl of mac n cheese.

Cheddar and Rigatoni stare at each other, the mouse, the mac n cheese, and then back at each other. Shared realization spreads across their faces.

CHEDDAR

Is it possible...?

RIGATONI

It must be..

Rigatoni stares after the retreating mouse.

RIGATONI (CONT'D)

I've got an idea.

INT. OODLES OF NOODLES KITCHEN - DAY

The two chefs are in the least-demolished of their two restaurants, preparing a trap.

RIGATONI  
 Good thing, you didn't get to the  
 kitchen!

CHEDDAR  
 That would have made me a muenster!

Rigatoni laughs.

CHEDDAR (CONT'D)  
 Yeah, that one was a bit cheesy.  
 Just need you to add the final  
 touch!

RIGATONI  
 (laughing more)  
 Alright, alright, cheese man.

Cheddar casts a spell on the bowl of noodles attached to an elaborate mouse trap, turning it into irresistible mac n cheese.

EXT. ALLEY BETWEEN BOTH RESTAURANTS - DAY

The two of them carry it outside and place it in the alleyway between their restaurants.

CHEDDAR  
 Even I am having a hard time not  
 taking a bite!

RIGATONI  
 Who's the mac thief now?

CHEDDAR  
 (laughing)  
 Are we ready then, Toni?

Rigatoni sets the trap and the two of them retreat inside of the restaurant to watch. Ten minutes pass and a mouse slips into the alleyway, gunning for the mac n cheese. Followed by another. And another...

RIGATONI  
 Well look at that, Cheddar! We  
 gotta whole family on our hands.

Cheddar shrugs nervously.

All of the mice start stampeding for the mac n cheese, forming a writhing mass that descends on their prize when SNAP! The trap slams shut.

CHEDDAR  
 We did it! We're a pretty good  
 team, aren't we?

RIGATONI  
 Heh, I missed you, Cheddar.

Cheddar smiles but stops when they look around the cheese-covered restaurant.

CHEDDAR  
 (embarrassed)  
 So you really never stole it?

RIGATONI  
 We made it together, there was no  
 need.

CHEDDAR  
 I...I'm sorry... for everything...

RIGATONI  
 Yeahhh, I'm sorry too.

CHEDDAR  
 Is there any way that I can make it  
 up to you?

RIGATONI  
 Well, I think I know of a good way  
 to start.

EXT. MAD MAC CAFÉ - DAY

Rigatoni and Cheddar stand outside of their new restaurant, "Mad Mac" with a ribbon stretched across the façade. The line of eager customers extends around the corner, all waiting to try the rumored "bewitchingly" delicious mac n cheese.

Cheddar holds giant scissors in his hand. He hesitates.

CHEDDAR  
 Actually, why don't you do the  
 honors?

Rigatoni smiles.

RIGATONI  
 We'll do it together.

They each grab a handle of the scissors and cut the ribbon.

FADE OUT