

ELINOR'S TOWN - PILOT EPISODE "B"

"THE TOWN PICNIC"

Written by

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1 EXT. A CLEARING IN THE FOREST - DAY, DAY 1 1

Title Card: "The Town Picnic"

It's the day of the Annual Animal Town Picnic! Everyone is gathered at a clearing in the forest. There are vegetable stands and different activities. ELINOR and her friend HAZEL are walking around the picnic grounds.

1 ELINOR 1
I just love the Town Picnic!
What should we do first, Hazel?

2 HAZEL 2
I don't know, Elinor. Let's see...
(She unfolds a picnic brochure)
Ooh, we can do wood-carving with
Mrs. Beaver.

We look over to Mrs. Beaver, who is speedily carving an elaborate statue from a stump of wood using her teeth.

3 ELINOR 3
(Excited) Ooh, yeah!

4 HAZEL 4
Or... Mr. Horse is giving everyone
hayrides.

We look over to Mr. Horse straining to pull a hay cart with the entire Hippo family on it.

5 ELINOR 5
(Ready to dash in that direction)
Awesome!

6 HAZEL 6
Or... We could watch Mr. Cat at the
dunking booth.

We see Mr. Cat, looking at the water tank nervously as little Suzie Aardvark prepares to throw a ball.

7 ELINOR 7
(Still excited) Woo hoo!

Suddenly, their friend ARI calls out to them.

8 ARI 8
Elinor! Hazel!

9 ELINOR 9
Look, it's Ari!

Elinor scampers over to Ari, with Hazel trailing. Ari is in a long line with other animals. He's holding a sandwich.

10 ELINOR (CONT'D) 10
Whatcha doing, Ari?

11 ARI 11
I am waiting in line for the best part of the picnic: Mrs. Gorilla's *super* special, World Famous, awesome ketchup!

12 HAZEL 12
Ketchup?

13 ARI 13
Yeah, it's everyone's favorite. That's why you have to get in line early.

14 ELINOR 14
Oooh...

15 HAZEL 15
Sounds yummy. Can we join you?

16 ARI 16
Of course!

Elinor and Hazel join the line with Ari. After a few beats, it becomes clear that the line is not moving.

17 HAZEL 17
Uh... we're not moving.

18 ARI 18
I know! I've been here forever!
Even that snail is moving faster than us!

We zoom out to see a snail inching its way across a nearby log.

Ari puts his hands on his hips and looks down the line. Hazel shrugs and pulls her Nature book out of her backpack. Elinor sighs a deep sigh.

19 ELINOR 19
Sigh...

Suddenly, a bee passes by, which catches Elinor's attention. She watches as the bee stops at a flower to drink its nectar and then flies off. Elinor looks interested.

Ari's stomach grumbles.

20 ARI 20
Oh, I hope the line moves soon, I'm
getting hungry!

(To Hazel) I heard that Mrs. Gorilla has a *new* recipe this year. It's supposed to be even better than last year's!

21 HAZEL 21
(Without looking up from her book)
Well, I hope it's worth all this
waiting... Right, Elinor?

We pan to reveal Elinor is no longer there.

22 HAZEL (CONT'D) 22

Elinor?

CUT TO:

2 EXT. SOME DISTANCE AWAY, NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CLEARING -- 2
DAY, CONTINUOUS

Elinor is curiously following the bee from a distance as it hops from flower to flower. After the bee leaves a flower, Elinor looks closely and sees the watery nectar the bee was drinking. The bee moves on and Elinor follows it over a narrow stream, skipping over some stones to cross. Finally, the bee reaches a tree, where a high branch holds a beehive. Elinor sees something cool.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. THE NARROW STREAM NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CLEARING -- DAY,³
CONTINUOUS

We see Ari and Hazel cross the stream and walk into the forest looking for Elinor.

23 HAZEL 23
Elinor! Where are you?

Suddenly, Elinor calls out to them.

24 ELINOR 24
Hazel! Ari! Stop!!!

Ari and Hazel freeze.

25 ELINOR (CONT'D) 25
Don't. Move.

You are about to get honeyed.

Ari and Hazel look up to where Elinor is pointing. High above them is the bee hive, buzzing with a couple of bees. Some of the honey from the hive has dripped down from branch to branch and there's a big glob of it on a branch right over Hazel and Ari's head that's about to drop.

26 ARI 26
Aah!

There's a dramatic moment.

27 HAZEL 27
Aaaah!

Nothing happens.

The honey is really gooey and the drop just stretches in slow motion but doesn't droop down just yet. The friends are surprised.

Elinor looks puzzled.

28 ELINOR 28
Hmm?

She jumps up and down to get a closer look at the glob of honey.

29 ELINOR (CONT'D) 29
(In between jumps) That's... SO...
Interesting!

(Then, to the camera) Have YOU seen something SO goopy before?

Ari flies up to see it.

30 ARI 30
It moves so slowly...

Hazel stands on her tippy-toes trying to get a look.

31 HAZEL 31
I can't see!

Back on the ground, Elinor looks puzzled.

32 ELINOR 32
I wonder why honey is sooo goopy!

33 ARI 33
Yeah...

34 ELINOR 34
I saw the bee get the juice from
the flower, but that juice was
really watery! How do the bees turn
something so watery into something
so goopy?

35 ARI 35
Hmmm... Maybe they cook it! (He
mimics a stirring motion)

36 ELINOR 36
Yeah! Or, maybe they add some kind
of powder!

Suddenly, Hazel remembers something.

37 HAZEL 37
Wait, I just read about this in my
Nature book!

She takes out her Nature book again and opens it. We see the
book from behind her, and we see the illustrations come to
life as Hazel narrates.

38 HAZEL (CONT'D) 38
It says here that bees get the
nectar (that's the juice from the
flower) and then they bring it back
to the bee hive.

The illustrations show a bee collecting nectar, then flying
back to the hive, where it spits the nectar out into a
honeycomb.

39 ARI 39
Eeww!

40 HAZEL 40
Then the bees use their wings to
fan it, and that takes out some of
the water that's inside of the
flower juice.

We see the bees flapping their wings at the nectar. Little water droplet icons flutter away from it until the nectar turns into golden honey.

41 ELINOR 41
Ohhh... so taking the water out
makes the honey goopier!

42 ARI 42
That's so cool!



Ari flaps his wings at Elinor and Hazel, blowing them with a gust of wind. As they laugh, we hear the beginning of a ditty.

43 ELINOR 43
(Singing)
Some things are really goopy,
And some things are really soupy!
The goopy things move very slow,
The watery things really flow!

But something that flowed really quick,
Can become something super thick...
You can change one into the other,
All you do is change the water!

As they sing, the kids revisit the flower and its nectar, and also revisit the beehive and the slow-flowing honey glop. The song ends with the kids in the same spot where the song started and they are laughing again.

Suddenly, we pick up the drama again, and we see the honey drop is actually about to drop this time. Elinor notices it.

44 ELINOR (CONT'D) 44
Hazel, watch out!

It looks like it's about to fall on Hazel.

45 HAZEL 45
(Shielding her head) Oh no!

Right as the drop is about to fall on her, Ari jumps up and intercepts the glop. He lands back down and is now covered in honey.

46 Ari! ELINOR 46

47 HAZEL 47
Are you ok!?

You saved me!

48 ARI 48
(Wiping honey off his eyes)

My mom always says I'm really
(licking the honey) sweet.

The kids giggle.

49 HAZEL 49
How are we going to get all this
goopy honey off you?

Elinor pokes at the honey with her finger.

50 ELINOR 50
It's so gooey.

She has an idea.

51 ELINOR (CONT'D) 51
Hmm, if taking the water OUT makes
the honey goopy... then maybe
putting water back IN will make
it... less goopy?

Hazel catches on.

52 HAZEL 52
We need water!

Hazel runs back to the stream and sucks up a trunk-full of
water. She runs back and douses Ari. Ari, now soaked, is able
to clear his eyes.

Elinor watches as the honey turns more liquidy by the water
and starts to run off Ari.

53 ELINOR 53
Taking water OUT made the honey
goopy, and adding water back IN
made it runnier!

Ari beats his wings to dry off, sending water droplets in the
direction of Elinor and Hazel.

54 ELINOR AND HAZEL 54
Ah! / Hey!

55 ARI 55

Sorry!

They giggle. At that moment, Ari's stomach growls again.

56 ARI (CONT'D) 56
I'm glad we figured that out, but
can we go back to my sandwich,
please?

His stomach growls again.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

4 EXT. THE TOWN PICNIC LINE FOR KETCHUP -- DAY, SHORTLY AFTER 4

Elinor and her friends come back to the same spot they were before, and one of the kids waiting in line hands Ari back his sandwich.

57 HAZEL 57
The line hasn't moved!

ARI
No one has gotten their ketchup??

The animals in line shrug. We hear some of their stomachs grumbling.

Elinor looks curious again.

59 ELINOR 59
Hmmm...
We need more observations!

Elinor walks towards the head of the line in search of answers.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. THE TOWN PICNIC, MRS. GORILLA'S KETCHUP STAND -- DAY, 5
CONTINUOUS

Elinor and her friends arrive at the head of the line. We see there's a bit of a commotion.

RANGER RABBIT (Elinor's mom) seems to be mediating between an exasperated MRS. GORILLA and some hungry animals in line.

60 MRS. GORILLA 60
Nobody appreciates quality!

61 ALEJANDRO PIG 61
But I'm hungry!

62 ELINOR 62
Mom, what's going on?

63 RANGER RABBIT 63
Oh hi, Elinor. Well... Mrs. Gorilla
has made her delicious ketchup, but
it seems to take a long time to
come out of the bottle!

Elinor and her friends look closely at the bottle of ketchup
that Alejandro Pig is holding over his sandwich. They see
that the ketchup barely flows at all.

64 ALEJANDRO PIG 64
I've been here all day and my arm
is getting tired!

65 MRS. GORILLA 65
It's worth the wait! Fine eating
takes time!

The animals in line start to get restless.

66 RANGER RABBIT 66
Let's calm down, everyone...

67 ARI 67
(Whispering to Hazel and Elinor)
We have a saucy situation!

Ari grabs the bottle of ketchup from Alejandro Pig. He goes
through several contortions with the bottle trying to get the
sauce to flow faster. He fails. Hazel gives it a try and
shakes the bottle with her trunk, but nothing happens.

Elinor, who's been watching her friends, sees the ketchup
barely moving and seems to have a thought.

68 ELINOR 68
Ari, Hazel... I wonder if we can
solve the ketchup problem in the
same way we solved the honey
problem...

69 HAZEL 69
You mean..?

70 ARI 70
Add water to it!

71 ELINOR 71
(To Mrs. Gorilla)
May we try changing something in
your ketchup, Mrs. Gorilla?

72 MRS. GORILLA 72
But, I've been working on this
recipe for a whole year!

73 RANGER RABBIT 73
(Gently) Mrs. Gorilla... sometimes
to solve a problem, you have to be
willing to try something new.

Mrs. Gorilla begrudgingly moves aside. Elinor hops up a stool and stands before the ingredients table. She grabs a bottle of ketchup and a bottle of water.

74 ELINOR 74
Ok, let's try adding some water...

Elinor adds a medium amount of water to the ketchup. She mixes it, and when she turns the bottle over, she sees that it flows at a nice and even speed.

75 Yes! HAZEL 75

ARI

Now the ketchup can drip down faster!

Ari takes the bottle and pours some over Alejandro Pig's sandwich. With all the animals looking anxiously, Alejandro takes a bite.

77 ALEJANDRO PIG 77
(After a pause, and still munching)
It's delicious!

All the animals cheer.

78 MRS. GORILLA 78
Hmmpf, let me try that.

Mrs. Gorilla takes a bit of the sauce with her finger and tastes it. Her expression changes from grumpy to surprised.

79 MRS. GORILLA (CONT'D) 79
It... it tastes even better now!

The animals cheer again.

80

RANGER RABBIT

80

Phew!

Elinor repeats some lines from the ditty.

81

ELINOR

81

(Singing)
You can change one into the other,
All you do is change the water!

The line starts moving faster now, and everyone is enjoying Mrs. Gorilla's ketchup on their favorite picnic food. Mrs. Gorilla looks very happy to see everyone's positive reaction.

Ari takes a bite out of his sandwich with the sauce on it.

82

ARI

82

Mmm! Elinor, I'm glad you used your
powers of observation to do goop.

His stomach gurgles.

83

ARI (CONT'D)

83

Oops, I mean "good."

Everyone has a laugh.

END.