# **GINGER**

Hey. Less of the 'rat', fat boy! This land used to be for everybody until you lot muscled in.

GREYS sarcastically Oooh!

# **GREY IN CHARGE**

I like a lady with a bit of spirit!

OK, boys .Round 'em up just like all the others.

My boss General Power will be well happy when I bring you two in.

The over-confident greys surround the reds ,thinking their task will be easy. (Audience see aerial view). The reds prove more than a match for them, however, as the greys increasingly desperately try to capture R & G.

From being very cocky at the outset, the greys are all knocked out by the end, with Ki and Sky proving very good at distracting the greys just at crucial moments as the greys are starting to get the upper hand.

Ginger uses kicks and punches mainly a la Ju-kar-do style.

Red does judo-throws mainly and moves free-runner style (runs up tree trunk and then appears behind bemused pursuer).

At one point ,two greys are grabbed by their whiskers by R & G
. They run off in two parallel diagonals but by the elasticated nature of their whiskers, their heads are banged together ,face on .Heads ring and vibrate like bells and they fall down knocked out.

R & G grab their own tails and hold them like light sabres to confuse greys who close in.

**RED** 

May the red force be with you, sister.

# **GINGER**

# And you, brother.

Our heroes then kick their bemused opponents under the chins for a knockout .Greys stagger about trying to win but these are two very determined fighters.

Red, being bear-hugged from behind by Grey in charge, jumps up and double foot kicks approaching grey under chin before his backward momentum helps him to land on the grey behind's chest, winding him enough to make him let go.

R & G high five each other and then point to Sky above. Two grey goons look up and then get clobbered.

R & G spin around, holding one of each other's wrists .we see aerial view of Busby Barkley water type scene as the two forearm smack-down the greys who come anywhere near with their free arms.

Red drops on back under on-rushing grey and throws him up tree behind upside down. Grey then knocked out by head dropping onto floor in front of tree .lots of comedy groans and noises.

Ginger being chased, fore-arms two whippy saplings as she goes past and lets them go in leaning forward pursuers' faces. Force knocks heads into body. When heads pop out again, G bangs their heads together into unconsciousness

# **GINGER**

Heads you lose. Tails I win . Twangs tail.
. Bodies quiver to ground comically.

Greys end up all over the place-draped over tree branches, on floor, leaning up against trees etc.

RED
Job done!
as last grey goes down comically

Right,let's get outta here. When those grey goons wake up, they'll be hot-pawing it back to Bushy and then every grey in Grey Britain will be out there trying to pick up our trail.

as they scamper away
You did good out there,sis..Told you,you would !'Ju-kar-do' rules
ok.

# **GINGER**

More like 'ju-kar-do' rules KO.

Punches the air with her fist

Ask that lot.

pointing back at martial art mayhem behind her
You didn't do bad yourself either. For a boy!
That's Reds 1 Greys 0 I reckon!
licks finger and marks up 1 on imaginary board in the air

# Captured!

# Evening

# **GINGER**

Right, Red. You're on first watch. Watch out for Greys and <u>don't</u> fall asleep!

#### RED

OK,Sis.!Calm down !(stretching luxuriously and cracking his fingers confidently)You know you can rely on me.
'Night Ki. 'Night Sky.

KI & SKY 'Night.

# Greys watching them from undergrowth, waiting for their moment to pounce

Red tries to stay awake, then his head starts to nod and droop x2wakes upx2, tells himself off, slaps himself around the face, but eyelids start closing again. He then makes one last effort to stay awake by putting tiny twigs in to prop open his eyelids. For a few seconds this works. But then the weight of his sleepy 'lids bend the twigs and then snap them as he falls into a deep sleep. (View from inside Red's head as lids close). Ginger snores comically and Ki and Sky snore-bird-whistle alternately on two different notes. Sky slightly higher.

POWER
(hisses)
Go! Go! Now's our chance!

*Greys move in stealthily.* 

Red and Ginger now tied up, hands behind back

#### **POWER**

Well !Well !Caught red-handed ! Power's the name. General Power to you! Take them away to Grey headquarters.Bushy will be well pleased with my work.Pity we didn't catch those blasted birds but what can they do against all of us?

# **GINGER**

furious and struggling with greys pushing her along
I thought I told you not to fall asleep!!

(boots brother up the bum)

RED (very down) Sorry,Sis...

# (more upbeat-whispers) Don't forget.Ki and Sky-they'll save us.Don't worry.

Ginger looks unconvinced.

# The world is grey

at Grey H. Q.

R & G aresitting tied up apart in a cave, guarded at front by greys with wooden branch staffs. Their hands are tied with ivy twine behind their backs and their feet are out in front. Ki & Sky are hiding in a nearby tree. But they cannot really help. We and R & G know they're there but the greys don't.

Power & Bushy are in a very good mood.

# **POWER**

Commander Bushy, shall we have a few verses of our glorious national anthem to celebrate the capture of those pesky little reds? We never see Bushy.just shadows or vague outlines.

# **BUSHY**

Excellent idea, G. P..

Men. The National Song. And sing it as though you mean it!

Troops all get up a bit half-heartedly and then stand with one arm across their chests

Bushy and Power start singing and rest of troops pick up song as leaders glare at them for more effort

The world is grey, The world's not red. You've gotta be grey, To get ahead, To get ahead.

camera cuts to R & G. They look at each other incensed and then decide to join in with song ,changing crucial words on 2nd verse

**GREYS** 

The future is grey, The future's not red.

*R* & *G* come in on 2nd line and sing\shout

The future is red!

guards and some of troops titter and smile. Bushy and Power sing louder to try and drown out reds

> Chase off those reds, Go for grey instead, Grey instead.

> > split screen

Power and Bushy sing their version and then R & G theirs

P & B

The world is grey,
The world ain't red.
You know what they say,
Better dead than red,
Better dead than red.

The world ain't grey,
The world ain't red.
You know what they say,
Better red than dead,
RED
But let's share instead!
Ginger repeating
let's share instead!

R & G sing their last verse version again together(5 lines) and it echoes over grey camp-Bushy & Power furious.

Proposed shortened version of Sum 41's 'Pain for Pleasure' song intro.

starts up

# **BUSHY**

Go and shut those two little big-mouths up!

# **POWER**

his voice over music which goes momentarily into background I'll attend to this matter personally,Sir.

cracks his fingers ominously; puffs out his chest; flexes his chest, starts walking purposefully, then trips up on fallen branch. He gets up and kicks branch away.

Stupid branch!

shoves sniggering greys out of the way No-one messes with the Grey song!

I'm going to enjoy this !(punches open hand and then screws fist into it)

They'll wish they <u>were</u> dead not red when I've finished with them!

words from song

stomps across to guards(to last of music)

Leave us.I want to have a little 'chat' alone with (2 famous pop singers' names of the time-one female\one male) !-eg Britney and Justin!

#### **GUARD**

Are you sure, sir ?They did take out that Grey patrol all by themselves.

# **POWER**

Silence! Go, now! Before I lose my temper! I'll deal with this!

Guards move off.

Power goes into cave .His huge shadow on wall with satanic-like horny ears.

to Ginger menacingly

Fancy yourself as a bit of a singer, do you? Right little chart topper, eh? You'll pay for that.

He moves towards her .She struggles up on to her feet as he approaches. Then she can no longer retreat as her back is against the cave wall

RED wriggling furiously to get free You leave her alone, Power or you"ll have me to deal with.

POWER, sarcastically
Ooh! I'm so scared!
feigns wobbly-legged terror.

to Ginger, leaning forward, holding her chin up with his index paw claw.

Now then ,missy top of the plops. What can we do to shut you up?

Ginger pulls back as best she can and then she brings up her knee suddenly and very powerfully into Power's groin.

screen fills with Power's reaction to this-eyes popping\watering\excruciating pain\can't move\ can't speak-falls to ground ,moaning, cradling his squashed bits. Then he passes out. Sky and Ki quickly fly into cave and bite through knots securing ivy twine.

R & G quickly tie up Power with these twines

#### **RED**

whispering and holding tree bark patch Ginger!Go and get me some of that super sticky tree sap.

# **GINGER**

sees what he's up to.clicks fingers and points Gotcha bro.

holding Power's chin up
Try and shut me up,ay ?We"ll shut you up,matey!

she quickly fetches the dribbley sap from a nearby tree, using the tree bark to carry it. R & G both slap the sticky bark patch over Power's mouth with great delight

RED pressing it on firmly
That should do the trick,sis.
patting Power on the head
And they do say :'Silence is golden'!

# **GINGER**

patting Power on the head And they're so right!

#### ΚI

C'mon, you two. Let's get out of here!
The place'll be crawling with greys when they find you've escaped.

# **SKY**

Ki's right.C'mon.Move it !Wow,is that Power gonna be mad when he wakes up !

# **RED**

He'll be so mad, he'll be speechless. Stuck for words!

They all stifle titters as they make their escape round side of cave and away.

Some greys can be heard singing R & G's alternative 'share' verse of national anthem

# **BUSHY**

Silence!.. or you'll be on a charge!

# **BUSHY**

to grey near him
What's keeping that pea-brain Power ?He must have finished his little 'chat'

does inverted commas sign in air
with the prisoners by now, surely ?

# DIM GREY

My name's not 'shirley',sir.

Bushy whacks him on head with his wooden branch crop

# **BUSHY**

Something's not right. We'd better check it out.

at the cave

Bushy goes in ahead of others. Sees Power ,now awake, trussed up and wriggling to try and get free. His top half is propped up against the cave wall. His feet are tied up at the ankles.

# **BUSHY**

You nut-brained nincompoop! How did this happen? How did you let those reds outwit you, you half-wit!?

Power tries to speak but can't .just shakes with anger, going very red.

Bushy rips off the gag with a tremendous wrench and ripping fur noise.

# POWER OWWWW !!

A big square piece of fur is now missing round his mouth!

Two guards untie him .He shrugs them off ungratefully.

Sorry, sir. Won't happen again, sir.

# **BUSHY**

You bet it won't, boy !You wait till I see your father!

# **POWER**

I'd like to see him myself.But that's another story.

thumping fist on ground,then getting up

They'll pay for this with their hides,when I catch up with them.And

I will catch up with them!

holds his mouth pensively and then realises how much fur is missing there.

He grabs at a passing grey's side, ripping off a piece of fur, exposing comedy underwear.

Grey jumps up and off screen in agony-OWWW!

# **POWER**

shouting to another grey
Sticky tree sap,NOW!
And what're you staring at,soldier?

grey fetches sap on big leaf.

Power patches up bald patch badly as other greys titter behind their hands.

# wizard of oz

R & G run as fast as they can with Ki & Sky flying with them

RED slightly ahead of G, comes into clearing, out of breath + hears some rustling ahead in bushes

Down everyone !Greys!

he looks again into same bush area and sees what looks like a giant red squirrel's head .Their eyes meet and the giant waves.But ,then the giant ducks down into the shrubs and foliage.

To other three just surfacing. Did you see that?

# **GINGER**

Did we see what ?What are you on about ?

# **RED**

I swear I saw a giant red....his voice tails off as he realises what he's saying

# **GINGER**

Well,mum always used to say not to swear. So stop it right now. Anyway, a giant red what ?...stop sign ?,tomato?,strawberry ? (post box,raddish,fire engine)

#### RED

Oh ,ha,ha.No,it's OK.It must have been a trick of the light.

# **GINGER**

makes mad finger motion by her temple to Ki &Sky I think you're losing it,bro.

# MATHILDA(a lady wallaby)

front half appearing out of bushes suddenly by group, but nearest to Ginger

G'day !Haven't seen any of your sort for ages.

Our foursome clock the 'giant red squirrel'. Collective terror shriek and all hug each other. Ki & Sky. R & G.

Wah!! Ginger biggest wah of all.

# MATHILDA

Stepping out into the open Calm down .It's only me.I mean you no harm.

They all see she is a wallaby and not a giant red squirrel. R & G become aware that they are hugging each other. They push each other off quickly and regain a bit of their composure.

#### RED

I knew I'd seen something..catches Mathilda's eye and realises what he's said sorry somebody.

Pleased to meet you. I'm Red and this is my twin sister Ginger. This is Ki and Sky.

They all shake paws\wings

#### MATHILDA

Mathilda's the name.I'm a wallaby.I'm living in the wild now.Escaped from a zoo a couple of weeks back.There's quite a few of us in this area. Some have been surviving out here for ages now. Middle England's not so bad. A bit nippy in the winter. But not too bad.

looking at Ki & Sky

Seeing you reminds me of home,back in Oz.you know,Australia.You look like a couple of kookaburras.

#### SKY

I think we are related. But we are in fact kingfishers.

# **MATHILDA**

That name suits you far dinkum.

# turning to R & G

Now, what's up? When I first caught sight of you, you were going like the hounds of hell were chasing you.

# **GINGER**

That's not a bad description actually. But it's those grey cousins of ours. They're trying to catch us and get rid of us. We're trying to join up with the reds up in Scotland.

#### MATHILDA

Oh,yeh.I've heard all about this.It's Bushy's bunch and that Power mad side kick of his who are behind all of it.The rest of them are OK,if you get to know them.It's just those top two who are the problem.

# **GINGER**

Bottom two more likely. I'd love to kick their butts so hard.

Anyway. Which way would you suggest now for us, Mathilda? Cos I don't think Power's posse are too far behind and *holding her nose* and indicating her brother Red's scent is very distinctive and easy to follow.

#### RED

Oy. Time out on the 'smell' jokes.

# **GINGER**

Wake up and smell the b.o.,bro !That's a serious pong you're packing there.

# **RED**

Everybody sweats when they've been running as fast as I have. Even you.

# **GINGER**

We girls don't sweat.Do we,Sky? We just glow .points hands towards herself as if to say-look at me.

# MATHILDA

*in a calm,maternal voice* Now,now,you two.Stop squabbling and make up.

#### **RED**

Sorry, mother. realises what he's said. Oops. Sorry about that.

# MATHILDA That's OK.

# KI

If you don't mind me asking,ma'am. What's that on your tummy?

# **MATHILDA**

That's my pouch. We marsupials have them to carry our babies around in.

#### RED

I wish we'd got one.It'd be dead handy for keeping nuts in.I'm always forgetting where mine are when I've buried them.

# GINGER I've just had a great idea.

# **RED**

I'll make a note of that in my diary!

# **GINGER**

after quick withering look at her bro.

Is there any chance you could give us a lift in your pouch? We need all the help we can get with the greys being on our tails.

# MATHILDA

No problemo. Hop in, both of you.

*R&G clamber in and stand looking out with their paws over the edge of the pouch.* 

# VOICE

from inside pouch
Oy. What's the big idea ?Get your bloomin' great feet off me!

a baby wallaby's head pops up between R & G's paws.He looks at Ginger

Did you wipe your feet before you came in?

# **GINGER**

smiles and then forcing herself to be serious No, sorry.

JUNIOR *turning to Red* And what's that funny smell?

# Red goes to speak

# GINGER I rest my case.

# **MATHILDA**

Sorry, son. This is Junior, everybody. No harm done, Ju Ju?

# **JUNIOR**

embarrassed

Mum !Don't call me that !Not when there's people..other animanals around,anyway!

# **MATHILDA**

to Junior

We've got guests for a few miles\kilometres. Hope that's OK.

JUNIOR *taking charge*Oh boy.OK ma.Move 'em out.Forward ho'!

Mathilda starts bouncing forwards with Ki & Sky flying in close attendance, one on either side.

# MATHILDA

Hang on everybody. I'm afraid there are no seatbelts. And Junior..please don't hang on to my teats. It really hurt the last time !They're for use at milk time not as child stabilisers!

Audience gets front row view of what R & G can see as M bounces along. A bit like an arcade video game as she bounces round and over bushes and obstacles.

R & G Woh!

# **JUNIOR**

C'mon,mom.Turn up the turbo !You can do better than this.Are you a wallaby or a snail with the hand-brake on ?

# **MATHILDA**

to R & G

Is it OK by you if we go a bit faster? No travel sickness?

# **RED**

Go as fast as you like.

# **GINGER**

not quite as convincingly but not wishing to be seen as a wimp by her sibling.

Yeh, whatever. grips onto pouch edge a bit more tightly

Mathilda speeds up

#### MATHILDA

Overdrive !Wallaby warp two!

R,G & JUNIOR Weeeeh!

RED

This is the way to travel, ay, sis?

GINGER *getting into it* Yeh.Go 'Tilda go!

# NARRATOR

With the help of Mathilda, our four friends put some serious mileage between themselves and their pursuers.

map shows distance covered in dotted line on Grey Britain map

MATHILDA slowing down and stopping
Right,that should do it.I'll drop you off here.I've got to get back to
make Junior's father,Big Wally his dinner.

RED *clambering out* I understand. Thanks for everything, Mathilda.

# **GINGER**

Yeh. Thanks 'Tilda. Have you ever thought about telling Big Wally to make his own dinner every once in a while?

RED Ginger!

GINGER All right. Bye,Junior. *They hug* 

# **JUNIOR**

Bye, Ginger. Bye Red. If we see that Bushy or Power, I'll get my dad to kick some ass!

MATHILDA Steady on, son.

JUNIOR Whoops! Soz,mum.

group hug for all and Red and Junior high five and shoulder rub like street dudes do

RED

Remember Junior. Do a good turn everyday.

(Junior nods)

# river crossing

day time

the fleeing 4 come to the edge of a wide river

# **GINGER**

Oh man! How are we going to cross this?

# **RED**

Sorry. This is all my fault. You see, without the map, I just set off in what I thought was the right general direction and we've ended up here! What I do know though is that there are no bridges for miles and I bet they're all being guarded by those grey goons anyway since we escaped.

Anybody got any ideas?