

IN A SENTIMENTAL MOOD

Written by

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OPEN ON

(Music: In a Sentimental
Mood by Django Reinhardt)

DREAM SEQUENCE

A hazy vision of a cute dog fills the screen. The dog stares blackly ahead and licks her nose.

EXT. DUSTY ROAD - DAY

A dishevelled, mangy mutt, REX, takes a long walk down a dusty road. The sun is bearing down on him and a low hum fills the air. Sounds of wildlife chirp through, but the dog, seemingly not interested in anything other than where he needs to get to. He carries on down the road. He reaches a signpost. It reads "Town 1 Mile".

SLOW FADE

EXT. OUTSIDE A BUTCHERS SHOP - DAY

In town, REX arrives in front of a local butcher. He stops and has a quick look around and then gingerly sneaks inside. All appears quiet outside as the fly curtain slowly relaxes. It gently rests in the wind. After a short pause, the curtain flies open and out runs REX in full gallop with a furious butcher, overalls, hat and all charging after brandishing a knife. A trail of sausages dangle from REX's mouth and flaps behind him. He sprints down the road with the butcher following. The butcher soon realises he's beaten and gives up, not before taking off his hat and throwing it to the floor.

SLOW FADE

EXT. STREET CORNER - DAY

REX is perched on the edge of a pavement, his sausages hanging down from his mouth to the curb. He gazes ahead and is lost in contemplation but still chewing on a sausage. From his point of view, he appears to be staring at the sun. Slowly an image of the same cute dog fades up. REX appears perplexed and away with his thoughts. The dog again starts to lick her nose. As the image starts to fade the outline of another dog replaces her. This dog, a lot bigger and meaner looking is snarling at REX. REX quickly snaps out of his daydream and jumps back dropping his sausages. The other dog, fixing his eyes on REX slowly bends down and picks up the sausages in his mouth and slowly steps back out of shot.

Still, petrified REX looks around for a second and then relaxes. The other dog proudly trots down the road with his sausages dangling behind him.

SLOW FADE

EXT. DUSTY ROAD - DAY

Licking his wounds REX carries on down the road. He comes across a group of young children playing in the street. As he passes the kids, one throws a stone that narrowly misses him. He turns to see the children charging towards him brandishing sticks and throwing more stones. REX starts to run again, away from trouble and down the road.

EXT. MAIN ROAD - DAY

REX has slowed down to a stroll and is continuing down the side road. Cars are whizzing by. He is ignoring them, contemplating again about how cruel the world can be. After a few cars pass, a small bag of garbage is flung from one car and hits REX on the back of the head. He falls to the ground.

Dusting himself off, REX looks up again to the sun. His vision of the cute dog appears. He sits and stares for some time and then, like a spark, he jumps up, has one last look at the sun, turns around and starts running the way he came.

EXT. DUSTY ROAD - DAY

REX sprints passed a small pile of sticks and stones. No children nearby.

EXT. STREET CORNER - DAY

REX, still sprinting, passes the mean dog, who is sitting where he was sitting earlier. The dog, who is chewing on REX's sausages looks up at and watches REX pass by.

EXT. OUTSIDE A BUTCHERS SHOP - DUSK

REX flies passed the butchers shop. All the lights are off, the door is shut and the shop is closed.

EXT. DUSTY ROAD - DUSK

REX, still in full gallop, runs passed the sign "1 Mile to Town" and heads off into the distance.

EXT. POUND - EVENING

A looming building towers before REX. He slowly passes a big sign that reads "City Pound" and approaches the gates. He looks up at the building and then to the moon.

INT. POUND - EVENING

REX is on a leash being lead down a dingy corridor by a stern looking guard. Cages line the sides, which are filled with barking dogs. REX is lead to a cage towards the end of the corridor. The guard opens the cage and REX jumps in. REX, sitting in the cage turns to his left. Sitting in the cage next to him is the cute dog of his dreams. He smiles and looks forward again.

FADE OUT.

THE END.