

BARNEY AND THE....?

Written by

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For Create50 "the Impact"

ACT II

EXT. SUBURBAN BACKSTREET - DAY

The COSGROVE family car stops abrupt. Hits a dead end. Sound of distant horns beep. Distant yells. Unseen gridlock.

INT. COSGROVE CAR - DAY

In the car boot, squashed between bags, sits BARNEY the DOG. He stares through the rear window. Sad eyes. He turns to...

BARNEY'S P.O.V FOR REST OF SCENE - BARNEY NOT IN SHOT

MR COSGROVE wraps his arm round the seat for a swift reverse. Nods the two COSGROVE KIDS on the back seat to move over. Eyeballs Barney to duck down. He does so into bags...

...but can't resist stretching his neck and peeping out.

Mrs Cosgrove panics in passenger seat. Car reverses at speed into an oncoming car. Brakes. Barney smacks the glass.

EXT. SUBURBAN BACKSTREET - DAY

The driver's door opens. Mr Cosgrove clambers out.

Barney bounces through the open door. And flees.

One kid gasps. The other bangs the rear window. Mrs Cosgrove's head springs out of the passenger side.

COSGROVE FAMILY
(in chorus)
Barney...Barney...Barney

Barney's abandoned lead trails behind. He disappears.

EXT. SUBURBAN BACKSTREET BARNEY'S P.O.V - DAY

Barney darts towards an abandoned shopping bag on the pavement. Loose SAUSAGES. Barney races towards it.

Runs straight by. Uninterested.

EXT. EMPTY PLAYGROUND BARNEY'S P.O.V - DAY

Barney runs under swings. Towards a dropped ICE-CREAM. Cone up. Just melting.

Skips over it. Uninterested.

EXT. PARK - BARNEY'S P.O.V - DAY

Barney weaves through bushes. Leaps over a couple of frolicking JOGGERS, half dressed.

Barney eyes the park exit. Suddenly he's yanked back...

To face a HOMELESS MAN. Winks with a toothless grin. Pulls at Barney's lead. Desperate for friendship. He goes to pat his new buddy. Barney BARKS fiercely - companionship obliterated.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET BARNEY'S P.O.V - DAY

Barney hurtles by a freshly painted fence. All white. "WET PAINT" signs on the floor every few metres.

The newly painted section ends. The word "BOLLOCKS" are scrawled in white paint on the unpainted fence.

A spilt paint pot blocks Barney's path. He scuttles through.

EXT. COSGROVE HOME DRIVEWAY - NOT P.O.V. - MOMENTS LATER

Empty driveway but for abandoned belongings scattered. Signs of a rushed getaway. Garage door left open.

In the drive is a large blue RUBBER BONE. Chewed and loved. In the distance, down the street, Barney heads it's way.

A new spring in Barney's step. He targets his blue bone. Hits the home straight. White paint paw prints track his path.

Bounds up to his bone. But jumps over it.

EXT. COSGROVE HOME BACKYARD - NOT P.O.V. - MOMENTS LATER

Barney leaps onto his kennel with a "BARNEY" sign. Positioned under the back window and he BARKS! BARKS again!

Barney stands on his back legs and taps his white painted paw at the glass. Tilts his head - pleading eyes.

On the other side of the glass up jumps BETSY. The cosgrove CAT. She perches on the window sill. Her wet nose sparkles at Barney's wet nose.

Betsy's tail dances. Barney's tail wags.

Their paws almost touch, separated by glass.

The sky turns red.