

Despicable Me

Screenplay by
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Based on a Story by
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EXT: EGYPTIAN DESERT - DAY

FADE IN on a hot, sunny day in the Egyptian desert. Sand dunes as far as the eye can see. A GOAT HERDER and his HERD OF GOATS walk through frame. He looks out, over the sand dunes, and we SEE the GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZA. It's an awe-inspiring sight.

Suddenly VROOM! A TACKY TOUR BUS enters the frame and races through the spot where the goat herder and his herd were just standing.

GOAT HERDER

Whoa!

The goat herder is left coughing in the dust left by the bus.

EXT: TOUR BUS - SAME

A BRATTY KID squashes his face up against the window of the bus and lowers his sunglasses to get a better view.

The bus screeches to a halt. The bulk of the tourists pile out of the bus. Then the last TOURIST FAMILY piles out, Bratty Kid leading the pack attached to a Kid Leash.

TOURIST MOM

Justin!

Egyptian guards stand behind a roped-off area that surrounds the Pyramid of Giza. The Tourist Dad stands with the Pyramid in the background, holding out his hand so it looks like he's holding it.

TOURIST DAD

Quick honey, take my picture! I got the pyramid in my hand!

The Tourist Mom snaps a couple of pictures, when through her viewfinder she sees JUSTIN running off into the distance.

TOURIST MOM

Justin you get back here, right now!

The bratty kid has crawled under the roped-off area.

SECURITY GUARD #1

No stop!

SECURITY GUARD #1

No-- stop him! Do not cross the line! No!

SECURITY GUARD #2
Go back! Stop! Stop him!

The EGYPTIAN SECURITY GUARDS run after him as he is running up some rickety looking maintenance scaffolding.

SECURITY GUARD #2
Wait, wait, wait, wait! Hold on,
easy little boy.

The kid obliviously keeps playing with his little toy airplane.

SECURITY GUARD #1
Okay, stop child! Stop right there!
No!

The kid turns back to look at the guards. He YELLS as he slips and falls off of the ridge, plummeting headfirst toward the Pyramid.

SECURITY GUARD #2
Oh no, no, no, no, no! -- Oh...
there he goes.

Tourist Mom and Dad GASP.

Then--

KOOOSH! The kid hits the Pyramid with his head-- and bounces off of it.

WHOOOSH! The kid goes flying over the guards. The tourists raise their cameras and snap away. He heads straight for his mother. She screams even louder.

TOURIST MOM
JUSTIIIIIIIN!

The mom looks up in the sky, tracking the flying boy's trajectory.

TOURIST MOM
I've got him, I've got him!

SPLAT! The boy lands right on top of his father.

The pyramid deflates like a giant bounce house.

PTFPTFPTFPTFFFFSSSSSS!

INT: TV NEWS REPORT - NIGHT

A NEWSCASTER reports on the night's biggest story.

NEWSCASTER

Outrage in Egypt tonight as it was discovered that the Great Pyramid of Giza had been stolen and replaced by a giant inflatable replica.

FOOTAGE of EGYPTIAN POLICE attempting to re-inflate the pyramid.

NEWSCASTER

There is panic throughout the globe as countries and citizen try to protect their beloved landmarks.

We see FOOTAGE of FRENCH POLICE guarding the EIFFEL TOWER, a huge line of CHINESE POLICE guarding the GREAT WALL OF CHINA and a REDNECK with a shotgun guarding the WORLD'S LARGEST BEER CAN.

NEWSCASTER

Law enforcement still has no leads, leaving everyone to wonder: which of the world's villains is responsible for this heinous crime? And where will he strike next?

EXT: PARK - DAY

7 Gru walks through the park and sees a CHILD. The child is sad about a dropped ice cream cone. He stops and makes the child a balloon animal. He gives the child the balloon animal...and then promptly pops it.

Gru moves the child aside and continues on his way.

EXT: STARBUCKS

Gru walks down the street to his favorite coffee shop.

INT: STARBUCKS

Gru enters. The line is a mile long. With a groan, Gru pulls out his FREEZE RAY. He aims and...ZAP!

GRU

Freeze Ray, Freeze Ray, Freeze Ray!

Gru laughs and walks to the head of the line past the frozen customers. He approaches the terrified barista before daintily taking a cup of coffee from her and plopping a coin into the tip jar.

EXT: CITY STREET

8 Cars drive down a busy city street. First a subcompact... then an SUV...then an ENORMOUS metallic beast of a car, with Gru at the wheel. He sips his coffee.

EXT: GRU'S HOUSE - MORNING

In the middle of a typical suburban street sits a black, creepy-looking house. Gru pulls his car into the driveway.

EXT: GRU'S HOUSE - MORNING

Gru walks down from his car toward the fence.

MR. MCDADE (O.S.)

(laughs)

Morning, Gru! How you doing?

GRU

Hello, Fred. FYI-- your dog has been leaving little bombs all over my yard, and I don't appreciate it.

MR. MCDADE

(laughs)

Sorry. You know dogs, they go wherever they wanna go.

GRU

Unless they're dead. Just joking, of course. Although it is true. Anyway, have a good one!

MR. MCDADE

Ah, okay. Ah, yeah, hmm.

INT: GRU'S LAIR - CONTINUOUS

Gru walks into the living room carrying his Starbucks and a muffin. He goes to sit on the couch and sees his dog KYLE, a cross between a piranha and a pit-bull, SNORING soundly while lying in the middle of the sofa. Gru frowns.

Gru uses a foot to roll Kyle over. Gru sits down to enjoy his coffee and muffin. He just turns on the TV when--