

DING-DONG! Gru grimaces and gets up from the table. He walks to the front door to see who it is.

GRU
Oh, you've got to be pulling on my leg!

INT: GRU'S LAIR - MOMENTS LATER

Gru arrives at the door, holding a club in his free hand. He hears a little girl's voice on the other side.

VOICE (O.S.)
Helloooooo? Cookies for sale!

Gru stops and looks through his front door peephole, revealing--

MARGO, EDITH and AGNES. Three little girls carrying boxes of MISS HATTIE'S COOKIES. Agnes holds a RAGGED STUFFED UNICORN. She's never without it.

GRU
Go away. I'm not home.

INTERCUT with Margo and the other girls on the doorstep.

MARGO
Yes you are, I heard you.

GRU
(like a recorded message)
No, you didn't...this...is a recording.

MARGO
No it isn't.

GRU
Yes it is. Watch this-- "Leave a message--BEEP."

EXT: GRU'S HOUSE - SAME

Edith kicks the door. There's a MUFFLED "OW" from the other side of the door. The girls walk off. Agnes waves.

AGNES
Goodbye recorded message!

MARGO (O.S.)
Agnes, come on!

INT: GRU'S LAIR - SAME

Gru walks back into the living room. Kyle is no where to be found! He looks around and suddenly -- CHOMP! Kyle has devoured half of Gru's arm, along with his muffin.

GRU
Kyle! Bad dog! No, no, no! Sit!
My muffin!

He tries to shake the dog off when suddenly the TV flashes:

"INCOMING CALL." It is Dr. Nefario on television. Gru stops dead in his tracks, with Kyle attached to his arm.

DR. NEFARIO
Gru.

GRU
Ah, Dr. Nefario.

DR. NEFARIO
I know what you must be feeling. I too have experienced great disappointment. But in my eyes, you will always be one of the greats.

GRU
What? What happened?

DR. NEFARIO
It's all over the news. Some fella just stole a pyramid. They're saying he makes all other villains look...lame.

Gru attempts to process this. Is this it? The end of his career? Is his run on top over?

Gru somberly replies.

GRU
Assemble the minions.

Gru shakes Kyle off his arm and runs to his Rhino chair. Then he presses a button and immediately the room converts into an elevator. The cannon drops from the ceiling and turns into a pod that drops Gru down a shaft.

INT: GRU'S UNDERGROUND LAB - DAY

Gru rides a moving platform down to his underground lab. He yells at a group of MINIONS, one-eyed creatures that are working.

GRU
Minions assemble!

A minion who was about to hammer a nail being held by a fellow minion stops in his tracks. He alerts the others and we voyage downwards into the lab, peeking in on other rooms populated by minions. In one room, a group of minions are doing a form of Minion-aerobics.

As we continue to pan through the lab, we stop on two minions who giggle as they watch the bubbles gurgle up in a water cooler. They imitate the bubbles.

The minions stop what they are doing and race down to hear what Gru has to say.

INT: GRU'S UNDERGROUND LAB - NIGHT

All of Gru's minions are gathered together for a big presentation. Gru takes the stage and they explode with cheers and applause and whistles.

GRU
Looking good, Kevin!

Gru walks on stage.

GRU
How's the family? Good? Alright.
That's my Billy Boy! What up,
Larry?

The minions going even crazier, screaming like girls during Beatlemania.

MINIONS
Gruooooo! Gruoooooooo!!!

GRU
Hello, everybody. Alright!

Gru tries to get them to settle down.

GRU
Simmer down. Simmer down!

A minion screams.

GRU
Thank you, okay.

The minions quiet down.

GRU
Now I realize that you guys have probably heard about this other villain who stole the pyramid. Apparently it's a big deal -- people are calling it the crime of the century and stuff like that.

We cut back to the minions who take this in.

GRU
But am I upset? No! I am not. A little. But, we have had a pretty good year ourselves. And you guys are alright in my book!

A minion eagerly raises his hand.

MINION
Ooh ooh ooh!

GRU
No, no raises! You're not going to get any raises.

The minion frowns.

GRU
What did we do? Well, we stole the Times Square Jumbo Tron!

Gru gestures to the TIMES SQUARE JUMBO TRON.

GRU
Nice, huh? That's how I roll!
Yeah, you all like watching football on that, huh?!

The minions all cheer.

GRU
But that's not all! We stole the Statue of Liberty!

The minions cheer!

GRU
The small one from Las Vegas. And
I won't even mention the Eiffel
Tower!

A minion wheels in a tiny Eiffel Tower.

GRU
...also Vegas.

GRU
Okay, I wasn't going to tell you
about this yet, but I have been
working on something very big.
Something that will blow this
pyramid thing out of the water!
And now, thanks to the efforts of
my good friend Dr. Nefario...

Gru gestures to DR. NEFARIO, an ancient Dr. Strangelove-like
scientist, in the crowd. He comes riding in on a motorized
rascal cart.

NEFARIO
Thank you, thank you.

GRU
Oh yeah, there he is. He's
stylin'.

Gru presses a button on his remote.

GRU
We have located a shrink ray in a
secret lab. And once we take this
shrink ray, we will have the
capability to pull off the *true*
Crime of the Century! We are going
to steal...

The minions erupt into applause and cheers.

GRU
Wait...wait! I haven't told you
what it is yet!

They quiet down. Except for one minion who shoots off a
small rocket. KABOOM!

GRU
Hey, Dave. Listen up, please!