RISE OF THE GUARDIANS

Written by

JACK (V.O.) Darkness. That's the first thing I remember. It was dark, and it was cold. And I was scared.

The silhouette of a body appears as it drifts into a ray of light, refracted through water, which turns into...

A MOON - SEEN IN REFLECTION ON A SHEET OF ICE

The moonlight intensifies almost magically, and the ice above begins to spider-web and crack.

EXT. FROZEN POND - NIGHT

Snow-covered trees in every direction. The ice in the pond continues to crack, until finally a hole splinters open. A young man floats out of the water, bathed in the intense moonlight. This is JACK FROST - thin, pale, barefoot, his tousled hair frosted white.

JACK (V.O.) But then...then I saw the moon. It was so big and it was so bright, and it seemed to chase the darkness away. And when it did...I wasn't scared anymore.

Jack floats back down onto the ice as the hole closes up

underneath him.

JACK (V.O.)

Why I was there, and what I was

meant to do - that I've never

known. And a part of me wonders if

I ever will.

Jack looks around, confused, then turns toward the moonlight

as it dims a bit.

Jack carefully treads across the ice until he hits something

with his feet. He looks down, and at his feet is a wooden

staff. Curious, he picks it up. Almost immediately the

staff begins to glow a cold blue in his hands. Odd.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 2.

Jack almost drops it as the base of the staff comes in

contact with the ground. Frost shoots out and spreads across

the ice. Jack is visibly confused.

He touches a few trees with his staff sending frost up their

trunks. Then he swings the staff again, more confident, as

he begins to run across the frozen pond.

Another swing, and a gust of wind swirls him high up into the

air. Jack floats for a moment only to fall back down to

earth and into the trees. Jack grabs hold of a tree branch

and pulls himself up to see a small town off in the distance.

EXT. BURGESS SETTLEMENT - TOWN CENTER - CONTINUOUS

A collection of simple timber houses with thatched roofs.

Jack comes in for a landing, and it's a rocky one. He stands

up, still elated, and brushes himself off.

As Jack makes his way into town, settlers are warming their

hands by campfire. Jack doesn't recognize anyone.

JACK

(to the townsfolk)

Hello. Hello. Good evening,

ma'am.

(BEAT)

Ma'am?

The settlers walk past Jack, not noticing him. Jack crouches

down as a YOUNG BOY runs toward him.

JACK

Oh, ah, excuse me, can you tell me

where I am?

The boy runs right through Jack, as if he were a ghost. Jack

staggers back in shock. He's speechless, as if the wind had

been knocked out him. His emotions causing it to snow.

JACK

Hello! Hello!

Townsfolk continue to pass through Jack, unaware of his

presence. Shaken, Jack turns and retreats into the forest.

JACK (V.O.)

My name is Jack Frost -- how do I

know that? The moon told me so.

But that was all he ever told me.

And that was a long, long time ago.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 3.

We pan up as the moon shines down over the snow covered

trees.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 175 - INTRO TO NORTH

EXT. NORTH POLE - DUSK

FIERY GYPSY VIOLIN MUSIC as we move through clouds to reveal

a MASSIVE ICE CANYON, and just around a bend, the incredible

hidden fortress of NORTH, aka SANTA CLAUS.

INT. NORTH'S WORKSHOP - DUSK

We glimpse a familiar-looking RED JACKET and CAP with white

trim on a coat hanger just as a pair of tongs SLAM a block of

ice onto a stone work table--

IN QUICK CUTS: A CHAINSAW shears the block in half, spraying

ice. North lifts up the chainsaw revealing a massive tatoo

on his arm, the word NAUGHTY clearly visible.

Three ELVES huddle in a doorway around a plate of cookies,

each licking their own tasty morsel.

NORTH (O.S.)

Still waiting for cookies!

As North crosses the background, the elves lower the cookies

from their mouths, their faces frozen in fear.

The elves duck out of the way as North launches himself

across the floor on his rolling chair -- CLOSE as his huge

HAND gropes furiously among his WORK TOOLS, finally grabbing

a miniature HAMMER. As North's humming along with his music,

delicately CHISELING into the ice, we see a second arm sleeve

tatoo, the word NICE clearly visible--

His INTENSE BLUE EYE magnified in a JEWELER'S EYEPIECE -- a

delicate SCULPTING TOOL cuts fine details into the ice--

His hands place the finished piece on a curving ICE TRACK: An

ice LOCOMOTIVE. It belches ice vapor and chugs down the

track, picking up speed--

NORTH

Yes!

North's hand grabs a cookie from a plate held up by the two

Elves.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 4.

One of the elves gives his cohort a look and points to the

plate as it chews with a mouth full of food, to which it then

unfurls its tongue and lets the half eaten morsels spill out

onto the plate.

NORTH

Ah, finally!

He takes a bite and leans toward the ice track. He chuckles

as the train hits a loop, and launches off a ramp into midair

-- then WINGS unfold -- JET ENGINES sprout and ignite and the

train lifts off the track--

Suddenly, the DOOR is thrown open by one of North's concerned

YETIS, sending the flying ice locomotive skidding across the

floor in pieces.

YETI

Arghbal...

NORTH

Ach!

The yeti cries out covering his mouth in shame. North cries

out, devastated. The yeti, equally emotional, lets out

another whimper. North looks down at the broken toy and

takes a moment to collect himself.

NORTH

How many times have I told you to

knock?

YETI

Warga blarghgha!

NORTH

What...? The Globe?

North leaps up -- draws a HUGE SCIMITAR from its sheath and

HEADS OUT--

INT. NORTH'S GLOBE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A sea of tiny BELLS on the heads of panicking elves part as

North's huge boots stomp through.

NORTH

Shoo with your pointy heads. Why

are you always under boot?

He pushes his way past a couple of his YETI WORKERS --

they're looking up in fear at -

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 5.

THE GLOBE OF BELIEF

Covered with LIGHTS blanketing the continents. But North

notices that all at once, HUNDREDS OF LIGHTS suddenly go out.

NORTH

What is this?

Now MORE LIGHTS, in GREATER NUMBERS, as if something is

snuffing them out by the thousands. North's concern grows.

NORTH

(TO YETI)

Have you checked the axis? Is

rotation balanced?

YETI

(SHRUGS SHOULDERS)

Wardle bawddrel.

Before the Yeti can finish, a WIND whips up from out of

nowhere -- North stares in outrage as a blanket of SWIRLING

BLACK SAND, crawls over the lights, and shrouds the ENTIRE

GLOBE in inky DARKNESS--

The elves scurry in a panic, then all at once the BLACK SAND

WHOOSHES UP off the Globe -- rushes up through the ceiling as

the remaining sand bursts into a puff of smoke and dissipates

into the air --

As the wind dies, the scattered pieces of debris settle to

the ground, and the globes lights come back on, North whirls

to see a HUGE SHADOW flash across the floors and curving

walls of his fortress. It quickly disappears, leaving

nothing but the distant ECHO of...LAUGHTER?

North is frozen, looking up into the darkness, gravely:

NORTH

Can it be?

(then calls off)

Dingle!

A group of elves step forward gleefully pointing to

themselves, as if they're all "Dingle". The excitement

quickly turns to confusion.

NORTH

Make preparations! We are going to

have company.

North reaches out for a large EMERGENCY LEVER, TWISTS and

PRESSES IT--

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 6.

The Globe pulses with ENERGY, which lights up and ZOOMS UP

the AXIS SHAFT toward the roof--

EXT. NORTH POLE - CONTINUOUS

From the tallest spire of North's fortress, NORTHERN LIGHT

ENERGY radiates outward: for the first time in decades, the

GUARDIANS' CALL GOES OUT!

CUT TO:

SEQ. 225 - GUARDIANS GATHER

INT. CHILD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A little fairy, carrying a coin, flies above the head of a

sleeping child. She quickly ducks under the pillow and comes

out the other side with a tooth in hand.

EXT. TOOTH'S PALACE - DAY

Hundreds of fairies fly toward a hollowed out mountain, this

is Tooth's palace and it's a majestic site.

INT. TOOTH'S PALACE

Dozens of tiny FAIRIES flit about. Teeth are filed away in

tiny wooden drawers. Coins are handed out.

TOOTH (O.S.)

Chicago, Sector 6 -- 37 molars, 22

bicuspids, 18 central incisors.

Moscow, Sector 9 -- 22 incisors, 18

premolars: Uh oh, heavy rain

advisory!

(BEAT)

Des Moines, we've got a cuspid at

23 Maple. Head out!

A hive of activity, and at the center a winged figure barks

out orders like a harried air-traffic controller. This is

TOOTH. A Mini Tooth Fairy flies up to Tooth as thousands of

tiny MINI TOOTH FAIRIES continue their work behind them.

TOOTH (O.S.)

Wait!

And suddenly everything stops. Tooth whips around, and we

finally see her beautiful FACE.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 7.

She's holding up a little tooth, and gazing at it with dreamy

adoration. The surrounding fairies tweet with excitement.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

It's her first tooth. Have you

ever seen a more adorable lateral

incisor in all of your life?!

(GASPS)

Look how she flossed!

The fairies' tweets turn to concern, turning Tooth's

attention to North's AURORA SIGNAL stretching across the sky.

She gasps, and flies off like a rocket toward the source of

the signal, accompanied by a few of her ranking fairies.

NORTH (V.O.)

My fellow Guardians - It is our job

to watch over the children of the

world, and keep them safe - to

bring wonder, hope and dreams.

And so, I've called us all here for

one reason, and one reason only -

the children are in danger.

Much of this we hear over the following...

EXT./INT. CHILD'S BEDROOM

We pull out from the face of a sleeping child to reveal a

stream of sand swirling overhead. It's a dream and it's taken

the shape of a child playing soccer.

We FOLLOW the Dreamsand stream out his window and up into the

sky where we see DOZENS of strands of sand descending to

earth. Keep following up, through majestic CLOUDS...

...to reveal a small, GLOWING GOLDEN CLOUD of Dreamsand

shimmering among the clouds, trailing the golden threads.

The strands are being controlled by a small portly figure,

THE SANDMAN. Suddenly, North's emergency signal zips by. The

Sandman turns to look and his eyes narrow, visibly concerned.

Sandy closes his eyes and in an instant the Dreamsand cloud

suddenly SWIRLS around him, changing form into a small

BIPLANE, with Sandy in the cockpit. He BARREL ROLLS the

plane into a dizzying dive through the spectacular cloudscape

and flies off into the distance.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 8.

NORTH (V.O.)

An enemy we have kept at bay for

centuries has finally decided to

strike back. We alone can stop

him.

Much of this we hear over the following...

INT. EGG TUNNEL

A few EASTER EGGS pop up out of the ground; their little legs

carry them out of the way of a fast approaching object.

Speeding along through a subterranean tunnel, we can barely

keep up with a DIMLY-LIT FIGURE as it races at blinding

speed, leaping and zigzagging through a series of TUNNELS --

EXT. A SNOWY EXPANSE IN THE NORTH POLE

A hole opens in the snow, and a pair of rabbit ears pops out.

A huge rabbit climbs out and brushes off the snow, annoyed.

The six foot tall figure is BUNNYMUND.

BUNNYMUND

Ah, it's freezing.

He shivers with cold, then goes slogging through the snow.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

I can't feel my feet! I can't feel

my feet!

In the distance is North's ornately decorated and dimly lit

palace built into the side of a mountain of ice.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 250 - THE CEREMONY

INT. GLOBE ROOM - NIGHT

Sandy's biplane circles the massive chamber, leaving trails

of Dreamsand.

NORTH (O.S.)

Cookies? Eggnog, anyone?

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Oh, this better be good, North.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 9.

TOOTH (O.S.)

(to her fairies)

Montreal, sector six: ten

premolars, eight incisors and

twelve canines. Steer clear of the

wild goose migration.

NORTH

Sandy, thank you for coming.

Sandy descends from the plane and floats to the ground. He

joins North, Bunny and Tooth as they walk through the Globe

Room. Sand glyphs appear above Sandy's head communicating

that he is busy and has a lot of work to do.

NORTH

(TO SANDY)

I know, I know, but I obviously

wouldn't have called you all here

unless it was serious.

North, Bunny, Tooth and Sandy reach the center of the room.

Tooth does her best to shush her mini-fairies.

NORTH (CONT'D)

The Boogie Man was here - at the

Pole.

North points to the globe. The other Guardians turn to look.

TOOTH

(SHOCKED)

Pitch? Pitch Black? Here?!

NORTH

Yes! There was black sand covering

the globe.

BUNNYMUND

(CONFUSED)

What, what...what do you mean black

sand?

NORTH

And then a shadow!

BUNNYMUND

Hold on, hold on, I thought you

said you saw Pitch.

NORTH

Well, ah, not exactly...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 10.

BUNNYMUND

Not exactly? Can you believe this

guy?

Bunny turns to Sandy, who shrugs while forming a Dreamsand

question mark above his head.

BUNNYMUND

Yeah, you said it, Sandy.

Bunny goes back to painting one of his Easter eggs.

NORTH

Look, he is up to something very

bad. I feel it, in my belly.

BUNNYMUND

(his eyes narrow)

Hang on, hang on, you mean to say,

you summoned me here THREE DAYS

BEFORE EASTER - because of your

belly? Mate, if I did this to you

three days before Christmas--

TOOTH

(to her fairies)

Argentina. Priority alert! A

batch of bicuspids in Buenos Aires.

NORTH

Please. Bunny. Easter is not

Christmas.

BUNNYMUND

Here we go...

North grabs Bunny's painted egg, casually juggling it in his

hand as he walks off. Meanwhile Sandy, who is being served

eggnog by a yeti, suddenly notices something high above.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

(LAUGHS)

North, I, I don't have time for

this. I've still got two million

eggs to finish up.

The moon rises into view, high up in the ceiling; its rays of

light begin to shine brightly through as they cascade down

the walls of the globe room.

NORTH (O.S.)

No matter how much you paint, is

still egg!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 11.

Sandy points to the moon unsuccessfully to get the others'

attention.

BUNNYMUND

Look, mate, I'm dealing with

perishables. Right. You've got

all year to prepare.

TOOTH

(to her fairies)

Pittsburg, boy eight, two molars.

Saltwater taffy.

Sandy puts his fingers in his mouth to whistle, a silent

musical note forming above his head.

NORTH

(TO BUNNY)

Why are rabbits always so nervous.

BUNNYMUND

And why are you always such a

blowhard!

TOOTH (O.S.)

(to her fairies)

Ontario, sector nine: five canines,

two molars, and fourteen incisors.

Is that all in one house?

Sandy waves a sand flag above his head, pointing and jumping

up and down as the moonlight continues to fill the room.

NORTH

(turning his attention)

Tooth! Can't you see we're trying

to argue.

TOOTH

Sorry, not all of us get to work

one night a year. Am I right,

Sandy?

Sandy tries to signal with a golden arrow, pointing toward

the ceiling, but to no avail as the others continue their

bickering. Sandy thinks Tooth has noticed for a split

second, but then -

TOOTH

(to her fairies)

San Diego, sector two! Five

incisors, a bicuspid and a really

loose molar on stand-by.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 12.

BUNNYMUND

(MOCKING)

Come on, mate, Pitch went out with

the dark ages. We made sure of

that - remember?

NORTH (O.S.)

I know it was him. We have serious

situation!

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Well, I've got a serious situation

with some eggs.

TOOTH (O.S.)

Hey, I hate to interrupt the, "We

work so hard once a year club" but

could we concentrate on the matter--

Sandy can't take it anymore, grabs an elf by his hat, and

vigorously shakes it's bell. The other Guardians are finally

silenced and all turn to look at Sandy, who points up, a sand

crescent moon forming above his head. The dizzy elf staggers

away. Finally the others turn to see the shaft of moonlight

as it concentrates on the circle between them.

NORTH

Aah! Man in Moon! Sandy, why

didn't you say something?

Sandy gives him a deadpan stare, Dreamsand smoke shoots out

his ears.

NORTH

(to Man in Moon)

It's been a long time old friend!

What is big news?

Everyone looks to the center of the intense spot of

moonlight, the light ebbs away, leaving a dark spot --

-- which resolves into the shadowed silhouette of PITCH. The

Guardians look on, stunned.

BUNNYMUND

It is Pitch.

North pats his belly and gives Bunny a look.

NORTH

(back up to the moon)

Manny...what must we do?

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 13.

In answer, the shadow of Pitch disappears and the circle of

moonlight intensifies and SHRINKS, concentrating further

illuminating an ORNATE SYMBOL on the floor, at the center of

their circle. The symbol rises out of the ground revealing a

large gem at the head of a pillar.

TOOTH

Ah, guys, you know what this means?

The moons light suddenly refracts through the gem casting

light all over the chamber.

NORTH

(AWED)

He's choosing a new Guardian.

BUNNYMUND

What?! Why?

NORTH

Must be big deal! Manny thinks we

need help!

BUNNYMUND

(ANNOYED)

Since when do we need help?!

TOOTH

I wonder who it's gonna be?

A Dreamsand Four-Leaf clover forms above Sandy's head.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

Maybe the Leprechaun?

BUNNYMUND

Please not the groundhog, please

not the groundhog.

Then A BRIGHT FLASH, a rush of WIND - and a FIGURE resolves

over the central pillar: slight, hooded, bearing a familiar

hooked STAFF.

NORTH

Jack Frost.

The Mini-Teeth all sigh and swoon as the Guardians stand

there, stunned.

BUNNYMUND

Ah, I take it back! The

Groundhog's fine!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 14.

TOOTH

(caught admiring Jack)

Well, ah, as long he helps to

ah...to protect the children,

right?

BUNNYMUND

Jack Frost!? He doesn't care about

children! All he does is freeze

water pipes and mess with my egg

hunts. Right? He's an

irresponsible, selfish...

NORTH

Guardian.

This stops Bunnymund in his tracks.

BUNNYMUND

Jack Frost is many things, but he

is not a Guardian.

As we turn toward the face of the hooded figure.

DISSOLVE TO:

SEQ. 600 - SNOWBALL FIGHT

EXT. ST. PETERSBURG - NIGHT

A hooded figure with a familiar looking staff rests atop a

Post Office box on the opposite end of the street. The man

touches the staff to the ground, sending a streak of frost

across the street.

A RUSSIAN BOY approaches a water fountain, turns the handle

and moves in for a sip. But as he does, the water freezes

magically, and the boy's tongue is stuck to the frozen water.

His friends can't help but laugh.

RUSSIAN BOY

(tongue stuck to frozen

ICE)

Aahhhhh...!

A mail man walks across the street and a PATCH OF ICE

magically appears under his feet. He scrambles, and BOOM! -

lands on his butt. Just behind the man, we see the TRAIL OF

FROST climb up the side of a building. We stay on the frost

as it moves up along a rain pipe, and through the windows we

see...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 15.

A boy try to feed his gold fish, but a layer of ice suddenly

forms along the water surface and prevents the fish from

reaching its food. We move along the side of the building...

A writer in his study sits next to stacks of papers. The

window suddenly swings open and a gust of wind sends the

pages flying out the window. We move along the building,

across clothes lines and power lines as they freeze.

We continue to move up, and finally discover the culprit.

Jack Frost makes his way atop a cathedral spire and takes in

the view; the full moon bathes the city in moonlight.

JACK

(AMUSED)

Ah, now that, that was fun.

(BEAT)

Hey wind...

Jack chuckles as he calls the wind. The trees begin to sway

and leaves fly into the air. Jack grabs hold of the spire,

smiling as the wind blows past.

JACK

Take me home!

Jack lets go and the wind carries him into the air and

through the clouds. Night turns to day as Jack flies from

one horizon to the other.

JACK

Woooooohoooooooooo!

EXT. BURGESS - DAY

Jack falls through the clouds, smiling, toward the town of

Burgess.

JACK

SNOOOOOWWWW DAAAAYYYYYY!!!

Jack continues on down and zooms through the streets.

Pedestrians clench their jackets and reach for their hats as

gusts of wind, snow, and streaks of frost are left in Jack's

wake.

EXT. FROZEN POND

Jack flies in, and with the wind behind him skates across an

all too familiar pond. As the wind zips across the pond it

knocks a BOOK out of the hands of a little boy walking alone,

this is JAMIE.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 16.

JAMIE

Whoa, whoa.

Jamie goes to pick up the book and we get a glimpse of the

cover - "THEY'RE OUT THERE! - MYSTERIES, MYTHICAL CREATURES

AND THE UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA." Jack flies into frame and

lands beside Jamie.

JACK

Huh, that looks interesting. Good

book?

Suddenly twins CLAUDE and CALEB, come barreling past them,

rough-housing and laughing as they slam each other into

drifts (all the boys are 8).

CLAUDE AND CALEB

Alright! Yeah! Waahoo! Snooow

daaaay!!!

Jack calls after the boys...

JACK

You're welcome!

JAMIE

(goes running after them)

Hey guys, wait up! Are you guys

coming to the egg hunt Sunday?

CALEB

Yeah, free candy!

CLAUDE

I hope we can find the eggs with

all this snow!

Caleb stuffs a handful of snow down his brother's Jacket

EXT. JAMIE'S BACKYARD - DAY

The kids arrive at the fence of Jamie's house. Jamie opens

up a secret plank, and heads into his yard. Claude and Caleb

are still messing with each other. Meanwhile, Jack walks

unseen along the top of the fence.

CALEB

(WALLA)

Stop!

CLAUDE

(WALLA)

No, you stop!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 17.

JAMIE

Whoa, it says here that they found

Big Foot hair samples and DNA, in

Michigan. That's like, super

close!

CLAUDE

Here we go again.

Jamie arrives at his front gate, sled in hand while SOPHIE

(Jamie's 2-year-old sister in fairy wings) sits down on their

Greyhound as it lies in the yard.

JAMIE

You saw the video too Claude, he's

out there!

CALEB

That's what you said about aliens.

CLAUDE

And the Easter Bunny.

JAMIE

(grabs his sled)

Wow, the Easter Bunny is real!

JACK

Oh he's real alright. Real

annoying, real grumpy, and really

full of himself.

Jack hops off the fence and walks amongst the kids, peering

over their shoulders as they play in the yard.

CLAUDE

(LAUGHING)

Come on, you guys believe anything.

SOPHIE

(GIGGLES)

EASTER BUNNY! HOP-HOP-HOP!

(FALLS OVER)

Ow!

Sophie begins to cry.

JAMIE

Mom! Sophie fell again!

JAMIE'S MOM comes outside. Caleb, alongside his brother,

stands at the front gate and calls out to Jamie.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 18.

JAMIE'S MOM

You okay, Soph?

CLAUDE

Are we sledding or what?

JAMIE'S MOM

Jamie, hat? We don't want Jack

Frost nipping at your nose.

Jamie's mom plunks the hat on his head, tweaks his nose.

JAMIE

Who's Jack Frost?

JAMIE'S MOM

No one, honey. It's just an

expression.

JACK

(smile drops - offended)

Hey.

Jack jumps down from the fence as the boys head off.

JACK

(MIFFED)

Who's Jack Frost?

Jack reaches down and grabs a hand full of snow from off the

ground. With his palm open, Jack uses his magic to form the

perfect snowball.

He then puckers his lips, and blows onto it with his icy

breath. The snowball turns a light shade of blue. There's

something going on here.

EXT. SNOWY HILL

WHOOSH! - the snowball goes flying through the air and -

BOOF! - the snowball hits Jamie smack in the back of the

head. Jamie looks up, peeved, and turns.

Then we watch as his face changes...a mischievous sparkle

comes into his eyes. A big smile. Make no mistake,

something magical has just happened.

JAMIE

(LAUGHING)

Okay, who threw that?

Jack flies in and lands amongst the group of kids.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 19.

JACK

Well, wasn't bigfoot kiddo.

Jamie scans the horizon for the culprit. His eyes land on a

couple kids making snow barricades.

MONTY (oddball with big glasses) with his back turned

suddenly gets a snowball to the back of the head, knocking

him face first into the ground.

MONTY

Ow!

PIPPA (brainy, pigtails, pink hat) steps forward and - BOOF!

A magical snowball from Jack hits her, knocking her back.

Pippa's face changes - a mischievous sparkle.

PIPPA

Jamie Bennett! No fair!

JAMIE

(LAUGHS)

You struck first!

CLAUDE

Oh!

Suddenly we see Caleb struck in the side of the head with one

of Jack's snowballs; Claude can't help but laugh.

JACK

Free for all!

And just like that we find ourselves in a take-no-prisoners

snowball fight, the kids pummeling each other mercilessly.

JACK

Alright, who needs ammo?

Jack supplies the kids with more snowballs. The kids are

loving this.

JACK

(WALLA)

Look at that.

The mayhem continues as Jamie, using his sled as a shield, is

knocked backward into a snowman, crushing it underneath him.

A snowball flies overhead and hits CUPCAKE, a tough third

grader as wide as she is tall, in the back of the head.

Dread sets in amongst the other kids, Cupcake squints -

gunslinger eyes.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 20.

CUPCAKE

Grrrrrrrrrrrr...

PIPPA

Crud, I hit Cupcake.

MONTY

She hit Cupcake.

CLAUDE

You hit Cupcake?

Jamie is flat on his back, terrified. He looks up to see

Cupcake standing over him. Then, BOOF! Jack hits Cupcake

with a magical snowball. The kids gasp in horror.

CLAUDE

Oh!

CALEB

Did you throw that?

MONTY

No.

PIPPA

Wasn't me.

A moment, and then Cupcake starts laughing as Jack's magic

takes hold.

Cupcake chases the kids down the hill, holding the head of

her snowman in her hands. Jack, all the while, runs along

side taking pleasure in the excitement.

JAMIE

(WALLA)

Hey, come on. Stop!

CLAUDE

(WALLA)

You can't catch me.

JACK

Ooh, little slippery!

Jack jumps ahead, blasting a sheet of ice behind him. The

kids fall to the ground, except for Jamie, who lands on his

sled, and slides head first down the sheet of ice into town.

JAMIE

Whooaaooah!!!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 21.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Whoaaa. Jamie, watch out! Stop!

JAMIE

(WALLA)

Aha, whoa!

KIDS

(WALLA)

Jamie! Turn, turn! That's the

street! What are you doing? Stop!

There's traffic!

Jamie suddenly shoots out between the trees and careens past

a set of parked cars.

Jack's path of ice covers the street. As Jamie turns, his

speed only escalates, sending him directly into traffic.

Jamie barely misses a moving truck, spinning it out of

control, sending furniture out the back, and causing a four

car pile up.

JAMIE

Whoa!

JACK

Whoa, don't worry kid, I gotcha.

Jamie looks back, then quickly ahead as terror comes into his

eyes. Jack can't help but smile.

JACK

Hold on. It's gonna be alright.

JAMIE

Ahhhh. No, no, no, no...

JACK

Keep up with me kid! Take a left.

Jamie rockets through a pedestrian intersection, narrowly

missing those in the crosswalk.

DOG WALKER (O.S.)

Hey, slow down!

JAMIE

Whoa, no, no, no, no...

Jack flies over to the far side of the street, sending the

streak of ice and Jamie up onto the sidewalk.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 22.

JACK

Yeah!

PEDESTRIAN #1 (O.S.)

Is that Jamie Bennett?

JAMIE

Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa...

PEDESTRIAN #2 (O.S.)

Hey! Watch it!

JACK

There you go!

JAMIE

No! No!

PEDESTRIAN #3 (O.S.)

Look at that dude!

Jamie flies off the sidewalk and back into the middle of the

street, almost knocking over a postman. As Jack flies by

Jamie's side he sees the look of excitement come into Jamie's

face. Jack smiles, knowing he's responsible.

Jack sees an oncoming snowplow and quickly jumps ahead,

carried by the wind, to divert the ice trail.

JACK

Whoa.

Jamie's sled suddenly turns, narrowly missing the oncoming

truck and barrels toward Jack's newly formed ice ramp...

JAMIE

AAAAHHHHHHHH!

Jamie closes his eyes as the ramp launches Jamie over the

street, high into the air, and toward the statue of Thaddeus

Burgess, colonial settler - 1680. Jamie's friends stand in

awe, mouths wide open, as he sails through the air.

Jamie opens his eyes and the look of fear suddenly turns to

joy. Jack looks on smiling.

Jamie lands safely in a large mound of snow. Jack jumps onto

the Statue of Thaddeus Burgess.

PIPPA (O.S.)

Oh my gosh!

JACK

Yeah!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 23.

Jamie's friends all come running to Jamie's aide, scared.

But Jamie gets up.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Wow, that looks serious! Jamie!

Jamie, are you alright? Is he

okay?

JAMIE

Whoaaa! Did you guys see that? It

was amazing! I slid - I did a jump

and I slid under a car­-ERF!!

A sofa from the moving van suddenly knocks Jamie down...

JACK

Whoops.

KIDS

(CRINGING)

Ooooh!

There's a moment of silence as the kids wait to see if Jamie

is okay. Then, Jamie rises up from behind the sofa grinning,

a new gap in his smile. He holds up a tooth.

JAMIE

Cool! A Tooth!

KIDS

(WALLA)

Dude, that means cash! Tooth Fairy

cash! I love the Tooth Fairy!

JACK

(his fun cut short)

Oh, no...

KIDS

(WALLA)

That's totally awesome. You lucky

bug! Lucky!

JACK

No!

JAMIE

I gotta put this under my pillow!

KIDS

(WALLA)

I wish I lost my tooth.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 24.

JACK

Ah, wait a minute! Come on, hold

on, hold on! What about all that

fun we just had? That wasn't the

Tooth Fairy, that was me!

KIDS

(WALLA)

I lost two teeth in one day once -

remember that?! What are you gonna

spend your money on? What are you

gonna buy? How much do you think

she's going to leave?

As Jack looks down from the statue his frustration grows.

Storm clouds overhead rumble and darken. Flurries of snow

begin to intensify.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Let's go...I'm cooold! My ears are

freezing. I can't feel my toes.

Ah, it's hot cocoa time.

Jack jumps down from the statue, trying to engage the kids.

But it's too late, the kids take off. Jack blocks Jamie's

way as the boy comes running at him.

JACK

What's a guy gotta do to get a

little attention around here!

WHOOOSH! Jamie runs through Jack, as if he where a ghost.

Jack is left momentarily shaken, then...

CUPCAKE

(walla; mocking her

FRIENDS)

"Oh, I'm cold, I'm cold, I'm co-

old."

KIDS (O.S.)

(WALLA)

Somebody take a picture. Hey,

stop! That was really awesome.

They're gone. Jack is alone again. His temper subsides.

He whips up a little wind and disappears.

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 25.

SEQ. 700 - NIGHT FALLS IN TOWN

INT. JAMIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jamie plays with a TOY ROBOT as DRAWINGS AND CHARTS of

mystery creatures hang on the wall behind him: UFO's, aliens,

Bigfoot, you name it. There's even a drawing of Jamie flying

in midair on his sled.

JAMIE (O.S.)

...I did this jump and it was

amazing and I slide under a car and

it was awesome! Then I was flying

down this hill and I was like

whoosh, whoosh, whoosh through all

these cars, and then the sled hit

this, this thing, and I was like

way up in the air.

He mimes flying in the air with his robot, then CRASHING to

the bed as Sophie and their dog sit listening--

JAMIE

-- and then BAM! The sofa hit me,

and, and see?

(opens mouth, tries to say

`my tooth came out!)

Ah hoo hay ow!

We reveal JAMIE'S MOM in the room. Sophie LAUGHS and tries

to stick a finger in the gap in his gums.

JAMIE'S MOM

Alright you, tooth under your

pillow?

Jamie sets the TOY ROBOT on his nightstand, then grabs a

stuffed rabbit next to his pillow to reveal a CAMERA AND

FLASHLIGHT.

JAMIE

Yeah. I'm ready.

JAMIE'S MOM

Now don't stay up trying to see

her, Jamie, or she won't come.

JAMIE

But I can do it this time! You

wanna help me, Soph? We can hide

and see the Tooth Fairy!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 26.

SOPHIE

(CRAZED)

Hide, hide, hide, hide!

Jamie's Mom picks Sophie up off the bed and lifts her over

her shoulder. Their dog gets up and begins licking Jamie's

face.

JAMIE'S MOM

Uh uh, straight to bed now, mister.

JAMIE

Mom...

...We see Jack Frost, outside, hanging upsidedown watching

them through the window. A pang. The glass frosts over.

EXT. ROOF OF JAMIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jack flips onto the roof, a little pensive. He makes his way

toward the roof's peak and looks up at the MOON, in full

view. It lights up the night sky.

JACK

If there's something I'm doing

wrong, can you, can you just tell

me what it is?

(NO RESPONSE)

Because I've tried everything, and

no one ever sees me.

(NO RESPONSE)

You put me here, the least you can

do is tell me, tell me why.

A beat. The Moon shines silently down. Jack turns away in

frustration.

Jack leaps off the roof, onto a telephone pole, and begins

walking across some telephone wires. A stream of Dreamsand

suddenly zips by behind him, then another, which swoops

around in front of him. Jack turns and looks up, a smile now

on his lips.

JACK

Right on time, Sandman.

The Dreamsand descends from the sky, and drifts into windows

around the town. Jack runs along the telephone wire until he

can reach out and intercept one of the passing streams. An

adjacent stream takes the shape of a dolphin which turns

toward Jack, before continuing on its way to a waiting child.

Then, we follow one of the streams into a window...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 27.

INT. CUPCAKE'S BEDROOM - BURGESS - CONTINUOUS

Dreamsand floats into a window, where CUPCAKE is in bed,

hugging a stuffed unicorn in her sleep. The Dreamsand swirls

over her head, and morphs into a little girl riding a

unicorn. The girl smiles at the lovely dream as it flies

around the room.

Then the room darkens as a wispy, shadowy figure with a

familiar laugh crawls out from under the bed, and rises up.

It's Pitch. He notices Cupcake's dream.

PITCH

Ohhhh, I thought I heard the

clippity-clop of a unicorn. What

an adorable dream!

His face softens, seemingly moved...

PITCH

(leans down to Cupcake)

And look. At. Her. Precious

child. So sweet, so full of hope

and wonder. Why, there's only one

thing missing...a touch of fear.

Pitch reaches into Cupcake's dream, and touches a bony finger

to the unicorn. It turns ashen and black, and disintegrates.

Cupcake flinches in her sleep. Pitch snickers, delighted.

PITCH

Hahaha! That never gets old!

Pitch swirls the Dreamsand around and it all turns into black

corrupted Nightmare sand.

PITCH

Feel your fear. Come on. Come on,

that's right.

The black sand morphs into a horrific, shadowy bucking horse -

a NIGHTMARE.

PITCH

Yesss. What a pretty little

Nightmare.

Gleefully, he grabs the Nightmare's mane --

PITCH

Now, I want you to go tell the

others the wait is over.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 28.

-- and sends it out the window, where it joins a posse of

other Nightmares coursing through the streets. They take off

and fly into the night sky.

EXT. BURGESS - NIGHT

Pitch steps out into the street from an adjacent alley,

avoiding the rays of moonlight. He looks up to the sky and

stares at the MOON.

PITCH

Don't look at me like that, old

friend. You must have known this

day would come. My Nightmares are

finally ready. Are your Guardians?

EXT. BURGESS - NIGHT

Jack walks along a telephone wire as the Dreamsand disappears

from the sky. Suddenly a shadowy figure and an unfamiliar

noise zips by behind him.

JACK

Whoa!

In the background, residents get ready for the night.

RESIDENTS (O.S.)

(WALLA)

Did you leave the windows open

again? The garage door is wide

open.

Jack leaps over a house to an adjacent tree to investigate

and again, something zooms behind him. Jack jumps down from

the tree and onto a truck in a nearby alley.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly: WHOOSH! The SHADOW flashes by, knocking over a

trash can.

Jack jumps down from the truck and backs up out of the

alleyway into a clearing...

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Hello, mate.

Jack turns around, ready to strike. He squints, as into the

light steps...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 29.

BUNNYMUND

Been a long time. Blizzard of 68, I

believe? Easter Sunday, wasn't it?

Jack is completely bewildered --

JACK

Bunny? You're not still mad about

that...are yah?

BUNNYMUND

Yes.

Bunny whips out his boomerang and casually looks at it as he

holds it in his hands.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

But this is about something else.

(BEAT)

Fellas...

Before Jack realizes what's happening a HUGE HAND reaches

into frame and lifts him off his feet.

JACK

Hey!

YETI

Durbha wahla.

Jack has been snatched up by two huge YETIS.

JACK

Put me down! What the...

Jack is shoved head first into a sack. A yeti whips out a

snow globe, and smashes it on the ground.

YETI

Durtal bardla burdlew.

A MAGIC PORTAL opens in front of them. The yetis make way

for Bunny to leap in, but he demurs --

YETI

Dwbard urghwetee.

BUNNYMUND

Me?

(LAUGHS)

Not on your nelly. See you back at

the pole.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 30.

He STAMPS HIS FOOT twice on the ground which SWIRLS OPEN -- a

RABBIT HOLE magically appears. Bunny leaps into it and

disappears along with the rabbit hole. In its place, from

out of the ground grows a small green plant.

YETIS

Bwardla arghl.

The yetis throw Jack through the magic portal.

JACK

Ahhhhhhhhh!

The yetis then charge in after and disappear into the portal.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 900 - JACK MEETS GUARDIANS

INT. NORTH'S LIBRARY - DAY

TOOTH (O.S.)

(to a fairy)

Tangiers! Incivie du haut, 421 rue

de Barat! Allez!

The sack flies out of the portal and lands on the floor. In

the darkness, Jack hears --

NORTH (O.S.)

He's here.

Jack struggles out of the sack to see two elves staring at

him.

TOOTH

(to another fairy)

Walla Walla, Washington. We've got

a trampoline mishap at 1340 Ginger

Lane.

NORTH

Quiet.

He then looks up to see North and Sandman looking down at

him. The Tooth Fairy is surrounded by a dozen hovering tiny

fairies who come and go as she blurts out orders.

T0OTH (CONT'D)

Canine, lateral and central

incisor. Ouch!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 31.

North clears his throat. They all turn to a bewildered Jack.

NORTH

Hey, there he is! Jack Frost!

As North holds out his arms to welcome Jack, a Dreamsand

snowflake appears above Sandy's head.

JACK

Wow, you gotta be kidding me.

Two Yetis suddenly grab Jack by the shoulders and lift him up

onto his feet.

JACK

Hey, hey. Whoa, put me down.

NORTH

I hope the yetis treated you well?

JACK

Oh, yeah. I love being shoved in a

sack and tossed through a magic

portal.

NORTH

Oh, good! That was my idea! You

know Bunny, obviously.

JACK

Obviously.

Bunny stands off to the side, grumbling with his arms

crossed. Jack suddenly notices the MINI TOOTH FAIRIES

hovering near him, staring and twittering.

NORTH

And the Tooth Fairy?

Before Jack can answer, she's gliding toward him.

TOOTH

Hello, Jack. I've heard a lot

about you. And your teeth.

JACK

My, my what?

TOOTH

(moves in way too close)

Open up! Are they really as white

as they say? Yes!

(GASP)

(MORE)

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 32.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

Oh, they really do sparkle like

freshly fallen snow.

Several swooning Mini Teeth flutter around a confused Jack,

batting their lashes and screaming like crazed Beatles fans.

Tooth collects herself, and...

TOOTH

Girls, pull yourselves together...

Let's not disgrace the uniform.

NORTH

And Sandman.

(sees Sandy is snoozing)

Sandy! Sandy! Wake up!

Sandy bolts up awake and steps up to Jack, smiling.

JACK

Hey! Ho! Anyone wanna tell me why

I'm here?

The WISP OF DREAMSAND above Sandy's head morphs into a

BARRAGE OF IMAGES.

JACK

That's not really helping. But

thanks, little man.

(TO OTHERS)

I musta done something really bad

to get you four together.

Jack walks away from the group, frosting an elf with a tray

of cookies as it marches past, then turns around.

JACK

Am I on the naughty list?

NORTH

(CHUCKLES)

On naughty list? You hold record!

But no matter. We overlook. Now

we are wiping clean the slate.

JACK

How come?

BUNNYMUND

(more to North)

Ah, good question.

NORTH

How come? I tell you how come!

Because now...you are Guardian!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 33.

Off Jack's confusion, yetis light CEREMONIAL TORCHES with a

WHOOSH. Elves leap from columns, unfurling homemade,

celebratory BANNERS as they descend. Jack brushes off a few

baby teeth who try to present him with a necklace made of

paper snowflakes.

JACK

What are you doing! Get, get that

offa me!

Jack's voice is drowned out by the sounds of horns and drums.

NORTH

This is the best part!

AN ELF MARCHING BAND strikes up, marching into the room. Two

yetis move Jack on to a designated spot on the floor.

Jack looks down to find an elf pointing at his bare feet.

The elf then directs his attention to two approaching elves,

carrying a pair of ceremonial boots. Jack's confusion

escalates.

JACK

Huh?

A Yeti hands North an old large book. North blows off the

dust, opens it, and begins clearing his throat. Jack

clenches his jaw as he scans the room: The Mini Teeth

continue to fawn, Sandy's smiling, Bunny's apathetic, and

North looks on with pride.

Jack suddenly SLAMS his staff down, sending a blast of FROST

and WIND across the room. The torches go out and everything

stops.

JACK

What makes you think I want to be a

Guardian?

North bursts out in laughter holding the book in his hands

then stops and looks to Jack, stone faced.

NORTH

Of course you do!

(to the elves)

Music!

The elves blare the trumpets again. Celebration!

JACK

No music!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 34.

The music peters out again. An elf throws his trumpet to the

ground and storms off. North, displeased, glowers.

JACK

Look, this is all very flattering,

but ah...you don't want me. You're

all hard work and deadlines, and

I'm snowballs and fun times. I'm

not a Guardian.

BUNNYMUND

Yeah, that's exactly what I said!

TOOTH

Jack...I don't think you understand

what it is we do.

Tooth swoops in and turns Jack's attention to the massive

globe behind him.

TOOTH

Each of those lights is a child.

Jack looks up at the Globe, taking in the enormity of this.

North suddenly moves to Jack's side.

NORTH

A child who believes. And good or

bad, naughty or nice, we protect

them.

(BEAT)

Tooth...fingers out of mouth.

We cut back to discover that Tooth is examining Jack's teeth.

TOOTH

(REMOVES FINGERS)

Oh, sorry. They're beautiful.

Jack moves away from the Globe and back toward the center of

the room.

NORTH

Okay, no more wishy-washy! Pitch

is out there doing who knows what!

JACK

(SCOFFS)

You mean the Boogeyman?

NORTH

Yes! When Pitch threatens us, he

threatens them as well.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 35.

North points to the lights on the globe.

JACK

All the more reason to pick someone

more qualified!

NORTH

Pick? You think we pick? No, you

were chosen like we were all

chosen. By Man in Moon.

Jack turns and looks to the group.

JACK

(stares, dumbstruck)

What?

TOOTH

Last night, Jack. He chose you.

BUNNYMUND

Maybe.

JACK

The Man in the Moon, he talks to

you?

Jack looks up to the skylight, taking in the awesome sight of

the moon as it shines down on Earth.

NORTH

You see, you can not say no. It is

destiny.

Jack is still confused by the news. What does it mean?

JACK

But why, why wouldn't he tell me

that himself?

(EXASPERATED EXHALE)

After 300 years this is his answer?

To spend eternity like you guys

cooped up in some, some hideout

thinking of, of new ways to bribe

kids? No no, that's not for me.

No offense.

Jack turns to leave, the Guardians are stunned.

BUNNYMUND

How is that not offensive?

Except for Bunny, who is relieved by this turn and looks to

the others.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 36.

BUNNYMUND

You know what I think? I think we

just dodged a bullet. I mean,

what's this clown know about

bringing joy to children anyway?

Jack turns back. A little pissed.

JACK

Uhh, you ever hear of a snow day?

I know it's no hard-boiled egg, but

kids like what I do.

BUNNYMUND

But none of 'em believe in you.

(leans in to him)

Do they? You see, you're

invisible, mate. It's like you

don't even exist.

TOOTH

Bunny! Enough!

Silence. Jack tries not to look stung by this.

JACK

No, the kangaroo's right.

BUNNYMUND

(GLARES)

The, the what -- what'd you call

me? I am not a kangaroo, mate.

JACK

Oh. And this whole time I thought

you were. If you're not a

kangaroo, what are you?

BUNNYMUND

I'm a bunny. The Easter Bunny.

People believe in me.

Sandy nudges North, who acknowledges the tension in the air.

NORTH

(TO JACK)

Jack. Walk with me.

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 37.

SEQ. 1000 - NORTH'S WORKSHOP

INT. TOY FACTORY - NORTH POLE - DAY

Jack and North ride an elevator, bearing the resemblance of a

Christmas ornament, down to the factory floor.

JACK

It's nothing personal, North. What

you all do, it's just, it's not my

thing.

NORTH

Man in Moon says it is your thing.

We will see!

North storms through factory floor, Jack trying to keep up.

An amazing place.

JACK

Slow down, wouldja? I've been

trying to bust in here for years, I

want a good look.

NORTH

(peeved - still rushing)

What do you mean, "bust in?"

JACK

Oh, don't worry, I never got past

the yetis.

Jack looks over his shoulder; an angry yeti pounds his fist

into his palm.

YETI

Rwwarrrrrr.

JACK

Oh, hey Phil.

NORTH

Keep up, Jack! Keep up!

North charges ahead.

North's factory is bustling with activity: Yeti's are

building toys, moving packages, while Elves are test piloting

the various flying toys.

As Jack walks behind North, surveying the factory, a duck toy

suddenly flies over Jack's head. Jack ducks just in time and

continues after North.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 38.

JACK

Whoa!

(BEAT)

I always thought the elves made the

toys.

NORTH

(WHISPERS)

We just let them believe that.

Jack looks over to see a group of elves eating Christmas

ornaments and another electrocuting himself with Christmas

lights. North smiles and calls to them.

NORTH

Very nice! Keep up good work!

North continues through the factory floor. He passes a yeti

putting the finishing touches on a blue toy robot.

NORTH

(TO YETI)

I don't like it. Paint it red.

The yeti reacts in dismay as we reveal hundreds of finished

blue robots.

NORTH

Step it up, everybody.

As North and Jack move to the opposite end of the chamber, we

finally glimpse the orchestrated chaos of the entire

workshop, in all it's magic and splendor.

INT. NORTH'S OFFICE - A MOMENT LATER

Jack follows North into his office. There are shelves filled

with toys. Sketches and prototypes everywhere.

North dusts his hands and turns to Jack. His sleeves are

rolled. Jack notices that on one of North's forearms is

tattooed the word NAUGHTY, and on the other, NICE. North

grabs a plate from a nearby elf.

NORTH

Fruit cake?

JACK

Ah, no, thanks.

North hurls it - crash! A pause as North looks at Jack.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 39.

NORTH

Now we get down to tacks of brass!

JACK

(TO HIMSELF)

Tacks of brass?

As North cracks his knuckles, Jack stands silent. The wind

suddenly slams North's office door behind them. Jack looks

to the door, it locks itself, and he turns back. North moves

in close to Jack, backing him up against the door.

NORTH

Who are you, Jack Frost? What is

your center?

North pokes Jack in the chest.

JACK

My center?

NORTH

If Man in Moon chose you to be a

Guardian, you must have something

very special inside.

North stands up straight and begins to stroke his beard as he

gives Jack a curious look.

NORTH

Hmmmm?

North is standing in front of a shelf of Russian nesting

dolls. One is carved to look like North himself.

NORTH (CONT'D)

Here. This is how you see me, no?

Very big, intimidating. But if you

get to know me a little--

(hands the doll to Jack)

Well, go on.

Jack gives North a curious look, then sets down his staff.

He twists the doll in half, and inside is another carved

North doll, this one is a more typical Santa Claus - red

cheeked and cheery.

JACK

You are downright jolly.

NORTH

Ah, but not just jolly...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 40.

The dolls get progressively smaller as he twists them open,

all versions of North, but all slightly different.

NORTH (CONT'D)

I am also mysterious.

(twist - smaller doll)

And fearless.

(twist - smaller doll)

And caring. And at my center...

Twist. As North approaches, Jack looks down and drops the

final Russian doll into the palm of North's hand. It's the

size of a jelly bean.

JACK

There's a tiny wooden baby?

NORTH

Look closer. What do you see?

Jack holds it up to examine it.

JACK

You have big eyes?

NORTH

Yes! Big eyes. Very big. Because

they are full! Of wonder! That is

my center. It is what I was born

with. Eyes that have always seen

the wonder in everything!

North raises his hands, and the toys on the shelves suddenly

spring to life. Jack-in-the-boxes pop, toy trains speed

around the room, soldiers march about, toy planes fly

overhead. An elf gets carried aloft by a balloon.

A flying toy plane glides by and we follow it as it makes its

way around the room. A Christmas tree is ablaze with bright

lights. Two double doors suddenly open as the flying car

enters the factory floor.

NORTH

Eyes that see lights in the trees,

and magic in the air!

As it crosses the frame, dozens of other toys are now flying

around the massive chamber. It's a truly magical moment.

North now stands outside his office, with Jack at his side.

NORTH

This wonder is what I put into the

world, and what I protect in

children.

(MORE)

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 41.

NORTH (CONT'D)

It is what makes me a Guardian. It

is my center. What is yours?

JACK

(BEAT)

I don't know.

Jack looks down into his open palm, the wooden baby stares

back at him. North closes Jack's hand. They exchange a look.

Then, something suddenly jets past a window outside. Almost

simultaneously, Bunny and Sandman come running down the

hallway toward North and Jack.

BUNNYMUND

We have a problem, mate! Trouble

at the Tooth Palace.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1204 - SLEIGH LAUNCH

INT. LAUNCHING SHED - A MOMENT LATER

North shoves open a set of double doors, followed closely by

Bunny, Sandy, and Jack. Several Yeti's rush by as they

prepare the hangar for launch.

NORTH (O.S.)

(TO YETIS)

Boys, ship shape. As soon as

impossible.

JACK

North, North! I told you, I'm not

going with you guys! There is no

way I'm climbing into some rickety

old...

Suddenly: the SOUND of POUNDING HOOVES. BEASTLY SNORTING.

SANTA'S INCREDIBLE SLEIGH comes into view. It's a huge,

shiny, tricked out, jaw-dropping hot-rod of a sled.

JACK

...sleigh.

Jack is understandably gob-smacked, so much so that he almost

gets knocked over by one of the reindeer.

JACK

Whoa!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 42.

NORTH

(TO REINDEER)

Hey! Moi deti, moi deti. Quiet,

quiet.

The sleigh comes to a standstill as the Guardians prepare to

climb inside. Several Yetis are still running around making

last minute preparations.

JACK

Okay, one ride, but that's it.

Jack jumps aboard. North smiles knowingly, and climbs

inside. Sandy hops up into the back seat.

NORTH

Everyone loves the sleigh.

North grabs the reigns, wrapping them around his arms. He

turns to see Bunnymund standing there, frozen and unnerved.

NORTH (CONT'D)

Bunny, what are you waiting for?

BUNNYMUND

I think my tunnels might be faster,

mate. And um, and safer.

NORTH

Ah, get in.

(hoists Bunnymund up)

Buckle up!

Bunny desperately looks around his seat.

BUNNYMUND

Whoa, whoa, whoa, where are the

bloody seatbelts?!

NORTH

(LAUGHS)

That was just expression!

North turns to one of the Yetis .

NORTH

Are we ready?

The Yeti throws his hands up in a fit shaking his head no.

NORTH

Good! Let's go! Clear!

(cracks the reigns)

Hyah!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 43.

The sleigh is off. Elves and yetis scatter out of its path.

Sandy, Bunny, and Jack fly back into their seats. Bunny

clutches the edge of his, terrified. Jack can't help but

laugh.

NORTH

Out of the way!

The sleigh heads down a luge-like track. North and Jack are

enjoying the ride.

NORTH

Hyah!

BUNNYMUND

Ohhhhhh no!

North cracks the reigns, the sleigh plummets, an almost

vertical drop. Sandy grins calmly. Jack loves this.

Bunnymund - not so much.

BUNNYMUND

(WALLA)

Slow down, slow down!

North pulls a lever, kicking the sleigh into overdrive. He

looks back as the sleigh enters a corkscrew.

NORTH

I hope you like the loopty loops!

BUNNYMUND

(NAUSEOUS)

I hope you like carrots.

NORTH

Here we go!

WIDE SHOT as the sleigh reaches the bottom of the ramp, and

shoots upwards, launching them into bright blue sky.

JACK

WOOO-HOOOOOO!!!!!!

EXT. SLEIGH - FLYING THROUGH THE SKY - CONTINUOUS

North, reins in hand, leans into the wind as the reindeer

climb higher.

NORTH

Klasno!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 44.

Jack, in his element, leaps up onto the rear of the sleigh to

watch the North Pole fade into the distance.

JACK

(LAUGHS)

Whoa!

Bunnymund peaks off the side of the sleigh, then leans back,

and holds on for dear life.

JACK

Hey, Bunny--

Bunny turns to see Jack standing on the back edge of the

sleigh.

JACK

Check out this view--

EEEYAAAAGGHGHH!

Jack is SWEPT OFF the sleigh and disappears! Bunny gasps in

horror and looks over the side...only to see Jack lounging on

the sleigh's skid.

JACK

Awww...you do care.

BUNNYMUND

Ah, rack off you bloody show pony!

Bunny glowers as Jack makes his way back into the sleigh.

NORTH

Hold on everyone, I know a

shortcut.

BUNNYMUND

Oh strewth, I knew we should have

taken the tunnels.

North holds a snow globe up to his face.

NORTH

I say, Tooth Palace.

An image of the Tooth Palace appears inside the snowglobe.

North throws the globe into the air and a giant vortex opens.

NORTH

Hyah!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 45.

EXT. SKY - SLEIGH JETTING THROUGH THE SKY

A surreal light surrounds the sleigh as it hits HYPERDRIVE

and gets sucked through the snow-globe portal with a WHOOSH.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1300 - TOOTH PALACE DESTROYED

EXT. SKY - NEAR TOOTH'S PALACE

The sleigh suddenly comes out of HYPERDRIVE at the outskirts

of the Tooth Palace. Streaks of black rapidly approaching.

NORTH

What!?

Suddenly our heroes find themselves in the midst of mayhem,

as hundreds of Nightmares and terrified Tooth Fairies jet

past. It's like a meteor storm. North yanks the reins, and

the sleigh veers sharply, dodging the oncoming Nightmares.

NORTH

What are they!?

Sandy and Bunny duck the onslaught.

BUNNYMUND

Whoa!

Jack now sees that the Nightmares are actually GULPING DOWN

the fleeing fairies and flying off with them. It's chaos.

JACK

They're taking the tooth fairies!

Jack looks up to see a lone fairy with a Nightmare snapping

at its heels. Jack leaps into the air and rescues it before

the Nightmare can snatch it away.

Jack lands back in the sleigh. He opens his hand to reveal

Baby Tooth, who's shaking with fear.

JACK

Hey little Baby Tooth, you okay?

As Baby Tooth nods, North steers the sleigh forward through

the storm toward the entrance of Tooth's Palace.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 46.

INT. TOOTH PALACE - A MOMENT LATER

A vast chamber supported by pillars containing millions of

tiny wooden deposit boxes from floor to ceiling. North spots

a Nightmare up ahead and hands Jack the reigns.

NORTH

Here, take over!

BUNNYMUND

Huh?

Jack, though surprised, quickly grabs the reigns and smiles

as he snaps them.

JACK

Hyah!

North readies his sword and SLICES the Nightmare in half --

NORTH

Yah!

SEVERAL TOOTH BOXES spill out of the split Nightmare and rain

down into the sleigh at the Guardians' feet. The Nightmare

disintegrates into black sand.

BUNNYMUND

They're stealing the teeth!

Sandy looks at his hands and sees the Nightmare sand take

shape and drift away. He and Bunny exchange a look.

The Guardians turn -- they're headed straight for a pillar.

NORTH

Jack, look out!

Jack pulls the reins --

JACK

Aaaahhhh!

-- the sleigh nearly misses the pillar and skids to a rough

stop on a platform. They see Tooth up above.

NORTH

Tooth! Are you alright?

Tooth is flying around, visibly frustrated. This is bad.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 47.

TOOTH

They, they took my fairies! And

the teeth! All of them!

Everything is gone! Everything.

Only then does it hit her. Tooth's wings drop in defeat.

She's completely lost amidst the devastation. The Guardians

rush to comfort her. Jack stays behind as Baby Tooth pops

out from the hood of his tunic and flies over toward Tooth.

TOOTH

Oh thank goodness! One of you is

alright!

PITCH (O.S.)

I have to say, this is very, very

exciting.

Pitch's voice echoes across the open chamber. They look up to

see Pitch, standing high above them with a satisfied smile.

PITCH

The Big Four, all in one place.

I'm a little star-struck.

(BEAT)

Did you like my show on the globe,

North? Got you all together,

didn't I?

Tooth darts after Pitch, but he escapes into the shadows.

TOOTH

Pitch, you have got thirty seconds

to return my fairies!

PITCH (O.S.)

Or what?

Tooth follows the sound of Pitch's voice and finds him near

one of her tooth box columns.

PITCH

You'll stick a quarter under my

pillow?

NORTH

Why are you doing this?

PITCH

Maybe I want what you have. To be

believed in.

Jack takes this in. Pitch moves along the walls and shadows

of the chamber and emerges from behind a column.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 48.

PITCH

Maybe I'm tired of hiding under

beds.

BUNNYMUND

Maybe that's where you belong.

PITCH

Ah, go suck an egg, rabbit!

Bunny looks down past the edge of the platform to find Pitch

upside down, staring him in the face. Pitch disappears again.

PITCH (O.S.)

Hang on, is that...Jack Frost?

(LAUGHS)

Since when are you all so chummy?

JACK

We're not.

PITCH

Oh good.

Jack turns and sees Pitch standing in the middle of a column.

PITCH

A neutral party. Then I'm going to

ignore you. But, you must be used

to that by now.

BUNNYMUND

Pitch! You shadow sneaking rat-

bag! Come here!

Bunny goes after Pitch, but he disappears and reemerges on an

opposite column. Tooth spots him, grabs one of Bunny's

boomerangs and flies at Pitch in a rage...

TOOTH

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

Pitch looks at Tooth with a smile and before she can reach

him, a huge Nightmare darts out of hiding and rears up at

her. Tooth falls back. Baby Tooth hides in Jack's tunic.

PITCH

(SOOTHING)

Whoa! Hey, easy, girl. Easy.

Pitch draws a wisp of black sand from Onyx's mane, twirls it

in his palm, and turns toward Sandy.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 49.

PITCH

Look familiar, Sandman? Took me a

while to perfect this little trick.

Turning dreams into Nightmares.

Pitch notices the shocked Guardians.

PITCH

Don't be nervous, it only riles

them up more. They smell fear you

know.

BUNNYMUND

What fear? Of you!? No one's been

afraid of you since the Dark Ages!

Pitch's eyes flash with anger. But then he smiles.

PITCH

(NOSTALGIC)

Oh, the Dark Ages.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A parent and her two children, huddled around a campfire,

scream as a shadow, resembling Pitch, washes over them. It

makes its way up the side of a mountain to reveal Pitch,

smiling as he stares up at the moon.

PITCH (V.O.)

(NOSTALGIC)

Everyone frightened. Miserable.

Such happy times for me. Oh, the

power I wielded!

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK - CONTINUOUS

PITCH (V.O.)

But then the Man in the Moon chose

you to replace my fear with your

wonder and light!

North's sleigh flies in front of the moon. Tooth and her

fairies flit by while SANDY's Dreamsand dances across the sky

and Bunny leaps across rooftops.

PITCH (V.O.)

Lifting their hearts! And giving

them hope!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 50.

Pitch, thinner and weaker than he is now, slips back into the

shadows after children run through him while playing in the

streets, laughing as they go.

PITCH (V.O.)

Meanwhile, everyone wrote me off as

just a bad dream! "Oh, there's

nothing to be afraid of! There's

no such thing as the Boogeyman!"

BACK TO THE TOOTH PALACE

Pitch leans toward the Guardians, showing nothing but

contempt.

PITCH (CONT'D)

Well that's all about to change.

A SOUND behind Pitch: one of the COLUMNS of the Palace begins

to crack and crumble, as if decaying. Tooth is stunned...

PITCH

Oh look, it's happening already.

JACK

What is?

Tooth's eyes widen in shock.

VIGNETTES OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

PITCH (V.O.)

Children are waking up and

realizing the Tooth Fairy never

came.

Lifting pillows and finding their BABY TEETH still there.

PITCH (V.O.)

I mean such a little thing, but to

a child...

PULL OUT from the last VIGNETTE, all the way out of TOOTH'S

WIDE-OPEN EYE, and BACK TO SCENE. Jack, mystified, moves

closer to Tooth as the palace continues to crumble.

JACK

What's going on?

TOOTH

They, they don't believe in me

anymore.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 51.

PITCH

Didn't they tell you, Jack? It's

great being a Guardian -- but

there's a catch. If enough kids

stop believing, everything your

friends protect - wonder, hopes and

dreams - it all goes away. And

little by little, so do they.

Jack's realizes now the magnitude of Pitch's plan.

PITCH

No Christmas, or Easter, or little

fairies that come in the night.

There will be nothing. But fear

and darkness and me! It's your

turn not to be believed in!

Bunny throws his boomerangs at Pitch, who quickly ducks out

of the way as they fly around the chamber columns. Pitch

then jumps onto the back of Onyx down into the depths of the

Palace. The Guardians dive after him, followed by Jack.

Bunny grabs a set of egg bombs and launches them at Pitch,

exploding seconds before Pitch hits the ground.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1325 - JACK'S DECISION

INT. TOOTH PALACE - LAGOON - MOMENTS LATER

The Guardians land --

NORTH

He's gone.

LATER

Tooth, deflated, sits on the ground with an empty tooth box

in her hands. Baby Tooth, resting on a nearby broken tooth

box, looks to Tooth with concern. Jack walks up and crouches

down alongside Tooth.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Okay, alright I admit it, you were

right about Pitch.

NORTH (O.S.)

This is one time I wish I was

wrong. But he will pay.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 52.

JACK

I'm sorry, about the fairies.

TOOTH

(not her bubbly self)

You should've seen them. They put

up such a fight.

JACK

Why would Pitch take the teeth?

TOOTH

It's not the teeth he wanted. It's

the memories inside them.

JACK

(BEAT)

What do you mean?

Tooth leads Jack across the pond, the water freezing under

his feet as he walks.

TOOTH

That's why we collect the teeth,

Jack. They hold the most important

memories of childhood.

Tooth directs him to a MURAL, which illustrates this.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

My fairies and I watch over them

and when someone needs to remember

what's important, we help them.

Jack takes a second to admire the immense beauty of the mural

before him.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

We had everyone's here. Yours too.

JACK

My memories?

TOOTH

From when you were young. Before

you became Jack Frost.

JACK

(BEAT)

But, I wasn't anyone before I was

Jack Frost.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 53.

TOOTH

Of course you were. We were all

someone before we were chosen.

JACK

What?

NORTH

(CHUCKLES)

You should've seen Bunny.

BUNNYMUND

Hey, I told you never to mention

that!

Jack, confused, is trying to process all this.

JACK

That night at the pond...I just,

why I assumed...Are you saying, are

you saying I had a life before

that? With a home? And a family?

TOOTH

You really don't remember?

Jack's expression says it all. Finally the key to all his

questions.

JACK

All these years, and the answers

were right here. If I find my

memories, then I'll know why I'm

here.

(TO TOOTH)

You have to show me.

Jack, using his control of the wind, lifts up off the ground

and flies across the pond.

TOOTH

I...I can't, Jack. Pitch has them.

Jack floats down onto a rock, overlooking the Guardians.

JACK

Then we have to get them back!

Suddenly, a patch of Tooth's feathers fall out, and

disappears. The Guardians eyes fill with worry.

TOOTH

Oh no!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 54.

Jack is stricken. He looks back -- the ancient MURAL begins

TO DISINTEGRATE--

TOOTH (CONT'D)

The children. We're too late.

NORTH

No! No! No such thing as too

late!

(GETS IDEA)

Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait,

wait. Idea!! HAHH!!

He's gleeful. The others look at each other as if he's nuts.

NORTH (CONT'D)

We will collect the teeth!

TOOTH

What?

NORTH

We get teeth! Children keep

believing in you!

TOOTH

We're talking seven continents!

Millions of kids!

NORTH

Give me break! You know how many

toys I deliver in one night?

BUNNYMUND

And eggs I hide in one day?

North turns to Jack.

NORTH

And Jack, if you help us, we will

get you your memories.

Jack looks to Tooth, who gives him a reassuring smile. Sandy

gives to enthusiastic thumbs up while Bunny groans. Jack

looks back to North with a smile.

JACK

I'm in.

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 55.

SEQ. 1350 - TOOTH COLLECTION

EXT. SHANGHAI ROOFTOPS - NIGHT

We transition to the SHANGHAI SKYLINE as North BOOMS up out

of a chimney, dashing along the rooftops.

NORTH

(LAUGHS)

Quickly! Quickly!

North BOOMS down another chimney as Bunnymund races into view

a rooftop away.

BUNNYMUND

Here we go, here we go...

Jack zips into view, calling out to Bunny.

JACK

Hop to it rabbit, I'm five teeth

ahead!

BUNNYMUND

Yeah right, look, I'd tell you to

stay outta my way, but really

what's the point -- because you

won't be able to keep up anyway.

JACK

Is that a challenge, cottontail?

BUNNYMUND

Oh, you don't wanna race a rabbit,

mate.

As we pan across the rooftops, BOOM! North bursts up out of

a nearby chimney.

NORTH

A race? Is it a race??

North jumps into one chimney, then shoots out of another

across the way.

NORTH (CONT'D)

This is going to be...

North disappears down yet another chimney only to emerge with

a bang out the top of another.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 56.

NORTH (CONT'D)

EPIC!!

As North leaps out of frame, Tooth darts into view, in

hummingbird overdrive, dazzled by the lights and traffic.

Baby Tooth struggles to keep up.

TOOTH

Four bicuspids over there! An

incisor two blocks east! Is that a

molar? They're EVERYWHERE!

Tooth, overwhelmed, jets off without paying attention and

SUDDENLY --

THOOMP -- she smacks into a TOOTHPASTE BILLBOARD.

TOOTH

Ow!

Jack jumps up to the billboard to check on her.

JACK

Ah, you okay?

TOOTH

Fine...sorry, it's been a really

long time since I've been out in

the field.

JACK

How long is a long time?

TOOTH

Ah, four hundred forty years...give

or take.

Tooth jerks to attention: suddenly her VIEW ZOOMS IN thru a

LITTLE GIRL'S BEDROOM WINDOW: a tiny GLOW under her pillow

marks a freshly planted TOOTH.

Tooth gasps and her eyes go wide -- she FLIES to the window,

excited. Jack reacts, looks to Baby Tooth: it's gonna be a

long night.

JACK

Hmm...

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack, cocksure, arrives outside an open window. His smile

suddenly disappears when he sees a RABBIT HOLE open up in the

bedroom floor and Bunny hops out.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 57.

EXT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Bunny, now holding the tooth in his paw, turns to Jack and

laughs. Jack, not amused, zaps Bunny with burst of frost

from his staff.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Aaahhh!

EXT. MIDDLE EAST - NIGHT

The Guardians fly over a Middle Eastern city in North's

sleigh as the full moon lights up the night sky.

INT. KID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

North pulls TWO teeth, one with each hand: TWINS.

NORTH

TWINS

(BEAT)

Yipa!!

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bunny pulls out his hand from under a pillow revealing

SEVERAL TEETH.

BUNNYMUND

Jackpot!

Pull out wider to reveal HOCKEY TROPHIES, POSTERS and

PARAPHERNALIA EVERYWHERE. Bunny grins.

BUNNYMUND

Looks like you're a bit of a

brumby, hey mate.

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

North stands at the side of a boy's bed.

NORTH

(LAUGHS)

Is piece of pie!

He falls into a rabbit hole, finding himself face to face

with Bunny. He growls. SANDMAN enters and takes the boy's

tooth for himself.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 58.

BUNNYMUND

Ow!

NORTH

(LOUD WHISPER)

That's my tooth! Sandy! Sandy!

EXT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack parkours between two buildings and into a window.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jack flies in through the window when suddenly, a rabbit hole

appears. As Jack disappears through the rabbit hole, Bunny

appears through an adjacent hole laughing to himself.

INT. BEDROOM NIGHT

Tooth reaches under a pillow and pulls out a Tooth with a

mouse attached to the other end. Baby Tooth tackles the

mouse.

TOOTH

Whoa, whoa, whoa! Take it easy

there, champ! He's one of us!

Part of the European division.

(to the mouse)

Ca va?

The mouse gestures back angrily.

EXT. SKYLINE - NIGHT

North and the Guardians, riding North's sleigh, exit a

wormhole. North laughs as they fly over the city.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bunny pulls a note from under a pillow instead of a tooth.

BUNNYMUND

Huh?

The note shows an arrow, pointing toward the window. He

looks up to the window: North holds up a tooth as he grins,

then leaps off the ledge laughing.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 59.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Bunny lands on a rooftop, holding a tooth in his paw, and

proud of himself. Then, Bunny hears the sound of ice and

FROST--

BUNNYMUND

Crikey!

--and disappears from view. Bunny is now sliding down the

side of a roof on a sheet of ice. Jack grabs the tooth from

Bunny's paw as he slides past and holds it high in the air.

JACK

(LAUGHS)

Yes!

Jack holds up the tooth, but within moments a hand snatches

it. Jack looks to see Sandy waving `bye-bye' as he flies off

on his Dreamsand cloud.

JACK

No!

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

North dances across a rooftop and quickly drops into a

chimney to enter a house -- we DROP FAST THROUGH THE ROOF AND

CEILING...

INT. HOUSE UNDER ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

...to see BUNNY'S PAW as it LIGHTS THE FIREPLACE. Bunny

grins demonically in the firelight.

BUNNYMUND

Haha! Ho, ho, ho!

EXT. PARIS - SKLYLINE - NIGHT

A large burst of fire shoots out the top of a distant

chimney.

NORTH (O.S.)

Ahh!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 60.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Jack, North, Sandy, and Bunny stand proudly. Each one of

them revealing their own bag filled with teeth to Tooth.

Tooth is overwhelmed by their collective effort.

TOOTH

Wow! You guys collect teeth and

leave gifts as fast as my fairies.

Their eyes widen and Tooth is suddenly panic stricken.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

You guys have been leaving gifts,

right?

The rest of the group turns to each other, sinking their

heads and biting their lips in embarrassment.

EXT. LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The Guardians stand in line, waiting their turn to put dollar

bills into a coin dispenser.

A SERIES OF CLOSE SHOTS, VERY FAST

- Baby Tooth puts a COIN under a pillow.

- Now Jack puts a coin under a pillow.

- North's hand pulls a Tooth from under a pillow. He

replaces it pair of CANDY CANES and a few COINS.

- Bunny stomps his feet and falls through a rabbit hole to

reveal a pair of Easter Eggs atop a child's bed.

- Sandy walks through a doggy door with a coin in his hand.

In shock, he sees North laughing while arranging Christmas

decorations in the child's bedroom.

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A young boy, holding a stuffed animal and a sippy cup to his

mouth, looks out his bedroom window. The Guardians, cast in

moonlight, bound across the adjacent rooftops. The young

boy, dumbfounded, drops his juice.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 61.

EXT. SKYLINE - NIGHT

The Guardians fly across the night sky only to disappear

through a snowglobe portal. Nearby, a Nightmare observes as

the sleigh vanishes. It leaps off the roof, through a drain,

and down into the sewers.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1650 - PITCH'S LAIR

INT. PITCH'S LAIR - NIGHT

The SPY NIGHTMARE flies down into a dark cavernous space.

Large STEEL CAGES hang all around and trapped inside are the

MINI TEETH.

The Nightmare heads toward Pitch, standing at his own GLOBE,

which is conspicuously covered in lights.

PITCH

The lights...why aren't they going

out?

The Nightmare approaches from behind and lets out a soft

whiney; Pitch stiffens at the news.

PITCH

They're collecting the teeth?

The MINI TEETH perk up at this, and start twittering

excitedly, which echoes throughout the lair.

PITCH

Oh pipe down, or I'll stuff a

pillow with you!

The Mini Teeth begin to settle down. PITCH looks at the

Nightmare, frustrated, and scowls. The Nightmare winces and

disperses into tiny particles.

A strand of NIGHTMARE SAND from the Nightmare twirls in the

air, and Pitch twists it with his fingers, turning it into a

crude image of the SANDMAN.

PITCH

Fine, have your last hurrah. For

tomorrow, all you pathetic

scrambling will be for nothing.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 62.

And he crushes the image in his fist.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1575 - IN JAMIE'S BEDROOM

INT. JAMIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A cool looking ROBOT TOY rests on Jamie's bedside table.

Jamie is sound asleep in bed. A smile across his face

reveals the recently formed gap between his teeth.

TOOTH (O.S.)

Left central incisor, knocked out

in a freak sledding accident. I

wonder how that could have

happened, Jack?

Jack laughs as he looks at JAMIE'S DRAWING of himself during

the SNOWBALL FIGHT on the wall. He's midair, blasting his

friends with snowballs. He smiles and then turns to Tooth.

JACK

(LAUGHS)

Kids, huh?

He watches as Tooth reaches under the pillow. She hovers

over Jamie as he stirs in his sleep. A dreamy smile comes

over her as she gazes down at the sleeping boy.

TOOTH

This was always the part I liked

most - seeing the kids.

(BEAT)

Why did I ever stop doing this?

A beat; Jack sees how much it means to her.

JACK

It's a little different up close,

huh?

Tooth gives him a look: he's right.

TOOTH

Thanks for being here, Jack. I

wish I had known about your memory,

I could've helped you.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 63.

JACK

Yeah, well, look let's just get you

taken care of. Then it's Pitch's

turn, huh?

A sudden COMMOTION. They both turn to the window.

NORTH

Here you are!

North, carrying a large sack over his shoulder, struggles to

climb in through the small window. Sandman and Baby Tooth

climb in after. Everybody whispers.

TOOTH

SSHHHHHHHH!!

NORTH

Oh, what gives slowpokes!?

Jamie is still sound asleep.

NORTH

How you feeling, Toothy?

TOOTH

Believed in.

NORTH

(LAUGHS)

Haha! That's what I want to hear.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Oh I see how it is...

Bunny comes in through a rabbit hole in the floorboards.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

All working together to make sure

the rabbit gets last place.

North now holds his index fingers up to his lips.

NORTH

SSSHHHHHHHHH!!!

JACK

You think I need help to beat a

bunny? Check it out, Peter

Cottontail.

Jack lifts up his sack of teeth.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 64.

BUNNYMUND

You call that a bag of choppers?

(lifting larger sack)

Now that's a bag of choppers.

NORTH

Gentlemen! Gentlemen! This is

about Tooth. It's not a

competition! But if it was --

(reveals even larger sack)

I win. YEEEEEHAAAHH!

And he strikes a Russian dancing pose as...

Suddenly a bright circle of light is cast on the Guardians.

NORTH (CONT'D)

Oh no...

JAMIE (O.C.)

(SURPRISED)

Santa Claus?

They all turn slowly to see Jamie sitting up in bed, holding

a flashlight, wide awake and beaming in disbelief.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

The Easter Bunny?...Sandman...The

Tooth Fairy! I knew you'd come!

TOOTH

Surprise!

(GIGGLING)

We came!

JACK

He can see us?

Jamie looks around, amazed, he sees everyone but Jack.

BUNNYMUND

Most of us.

TOOTH

Shhh! You guys, he's still awake.

BUNNYMUND

Sandy! Knock him out!

They all look to him, scandalized. Jamie looks concerned.

JAMIE

Huh?

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 65.

BUNNYMUND

With the Dreamsand, ya gumbies.

But then Jamie's GREYHOUND rises up into frame, fully awake,

its nostrils flaring at the scent he's picked up.

JAMIE

No, stop that's the Easter Bunny.

What are you doing, Abbey? Down!

The dog is nose to nose with Bunnymund.

BUNNYMUND

Alright, nobody panic.

JACK

(ENJOYING THIS)

But that's a um, that's a

greyhound. Do you know what

greyhounds do to rabbits?

BUNNYMUND

I think it's a pretty safe bet he's

never met a rabbit like me -

While Sandy forms a Dreamsand baseball, Jack rolls his eyes

and notices an alarm clock on the bedside table.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

Six foot one, nerves of steel,

master of tai-chi and the ancient

ART OF--

Jack can't resist: he reaches over stealthily and SETS OFF

THE ALARM CLOCK with his staff. RRRRRIIIIING!

BUNNYMUND

Crikey.

Bunny is off like a shot, the greyhound right on his tail,

running laps in the small room, the dog barking like crazy.

JAMIE

Stop! Sit!

Sandy, amused, makes a Dreamsand baseball to stop the dog,

but bobbles it as the dog brushes past.

JAMIE

Down girl, down!

The others stand out of the way as Bunny and the dog run up

the walls and over the bed.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 66.

As Tooth tries to silence the alarm clock, Jack can barely

contain his laughter. Sandy takes aim as Bunny and the dog

run circles around him--

NORTH

Sandy, Sandy!

The dog jumps past North, knocking him back.

NORTH

Ah!

As Sandy winds up, the dog suddenly SMACKS right into him.

The Dreamsand goes flying.

TOOTH

Hey, this is not proper Tooth Fairy

behavior!

North ducks out of the way as the Dreamsand sails toward him.

The Dreamsand baseball smacks Tooth right in the face and

explodes into golden dust. Tooth and her fairy fall to the

ground as a golden tooth takes shape above their heads.

Streams of Dreamsand make their way around the room.

BUNNYMUND (O.C.)

Ah, this thing's rabid! Get this

dingo off me!

Bunny gets a whiff of the golden sand. The image of a carrot

quickly takes shape in front of his face.

BUNNYMUND

Oh no.

THUD! Bunny falls over asleep. THUD! So does the dog.

North tries to scramble out of the way, but there's no escape

in this tiny room.

NORTH

Candy canes...

He teeters for a moment as Dreamsand candy canes appear

before him, then falls like a giant Sequoia, landing - THUD! -

on the end of Jamie's bed, which sends Jamie catapulting

through the air.

JAMIE

Whoaaaaaaaaaa!

Luckily he lands -- OOF! -- in Sandy's arms. He starts to

wake up AGAIN, but Sandy is there with a fistful of sand --

BOOF! -- and Jamie too is out cold.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 67.

Jack and Sandy look down at the sleeping boy, relieved. Then

they look around -- a heap of sleeping, snoring bodies.

JACK

Whoops...

Bunny is snuggled up next to North. A carrot and candy

canes, made of Dreamsand, hold hands as they dance above

Bunny and North's head.

Jack comes down off the dresser and turns to Sandy, who has

put Jamie back in bed. Sandy lifts North's arm and lets go,

it's completely limp and falls flat. Sandy smiles at Jack,

who chuckles.

JACK

Oh, I really wish I had a camera

right now.

Sandy eyes suddenly widen. There's a Nightmare behind Jack.

Jack turns to see A NIGHTMARE staring through the window.

Without hesitation, Jack jumps out the window after it.

JACK (O.S.)

(SHOUTS)

Sandy, c'mon! We can find Pitch.

Sandy pauses for a moment, then follows Jack's lead.

BACK IN JAMIE'S ROOM - INTERCUT

The sleeping Guardians are where we left them. Jamie's

bedroom door opens, and Sophie toddles in. She takes in the

scene, amused. She toddles over to North, giggling.

She pokes at his rotund belly. Then she notices something.

She reaches into his pocket and pulls out a snow globe.

SOPHIE

Pretty!

She looks over to see the Easter Bunny, sound asleep on the

floor.

SOPHIE

Bunny! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Suddenly the snow globe lights up. Sophie's eyes widen as

she looks at the beautiful vista inside the globe. It's

Bunny's warren.

She takes the globe and toddles off for the door, when she

trips - again - and the snow globe smashes on the floor.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 68.

SOPHIE

Ow!

BOOMF!! A flash of LIGHT. She looks up to see a magical

portal open in front of her. A GUST WIND comes blowing out

of the portal. Sophie giggles, and toddles through the

portal.

North's bleary EYES pop open mid-snore.

NORTH

Whuh-huh...?

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1600 - SANDMAN ATTACKED

EXT. BURGESS NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

TWO NIGHTMARES zigzag along the rooftops, searching for

victims. Jack, loving the chase, is in hot pursuit with

Sandy, who's riding along on a streak of Dreamsand--

JACK

Wahooo!

(BEAT)

Haha! Yes!

One of the Nightmares splits off, angling for a BEDROOM

WINDOW. Sandy calmly follows--

The Nightmare flies right through the WINDOW and SANDY does

the same -- the OTHER ONE angles up over the house's ROOF to

evade Jack, who PARKOURS over the roof after it--

JACK

Waaahahoooo!

Through the WINDOWS BELOW, FLASHES OF GOLDEN and SICKLY GREEN

LIGHT race through the house as Sandy battles the Nightmare--

The Nightmares and Jack ZOOM away from the house just as

Sandy and the FIRST NIGHTMARE blast out of the window, Sandy

wrestling it until -- POOF! It explodes into golden

DREAMSAND which he quickly transforms into a Sting Ray for

him to ride--

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 69.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BURGESS - CONTINUOUS

Jack flies through town on the heels of the Nightmare. It

makes a sharp turn down an alleyway and Jack is quick to

follow.

The Nightmare then veers up the wall of the alley and onto a

ROOFTOP. Jack whips a blast from his staff and HITS the

Nightmare before it disappears from view.

JACK

(JAZZED)

HAAAH! I got it!

Jack jumps up onto the roof and prods the frozen Nightmare

with his staff.

JACK

Sandy! Sandy, did you see that?!?

Look at this thing!

Jack can barely contain his excitement as he calls out to

Sandy -- but suddenly Pitch lurches out from behind an air

conditioning unit on the rooftop.

PITCH

Frost?

Jack blasts a WAVE OF FROST across the rooftop, but Pitch

easily dodges it, reappearing behind Jack on the adjoining

rooftop.

PITCH

You know, for a "neutral party" you

spend an awful lot of time with

those weirdos.

(BEAT)

This isn't your fight, Jack.

Jack's eyes narrow. He holds out his staff, ready to strike.

JACK

You made it my fight when you stole

those teeth.

Pitch regards him curiously.

PITCH

Teeth? Why do you care about the

teeth?

When he notices something and turns to find Sandy calmly

standing on the rooftop next to him. Pitch quickly

sidesteps, moving away from Sandy.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 70.

PITCH

(CHUCKLING)

Now this is who I'm looking for--

Before Pitch can finish a DREAMSAND STREAM whips around him,

forcing him to duck and dodge Sandy's sudden attack.

PITCH

Whoa--??

Pitch DISPERSES a stream of NIGHTMARE SAND, turning it into a

gigantic sickle and swings it back at Sandy. Jack ducks,

avoiding injury as Sandy's pushed back against a ledge.

Sandy quickly grabs Pitch with another DREAMSAND STREAM and

yanks him off his feet, slamming him repeatedly against the

tops of the buildings until finally throwing him off the

rooftop.

Pitch bounces off the ground as he crashes into an EMPTY

STREET. As Sandy dusts his hands and calmly steps off the

rooftop to follow, Jack looks on, astonished.

JACK

Remind me not to get on your bad

side.

EXT. EMPTY STREET - CONTINUOUS

Pitch shakes off the crash, trying to back up as Sandy

touches down and moves toward him, Jack following. Pitch

cowers on the ground in fear as they approach.

PITCH

(looks up, pleading)

Okay, easy! You can't blame me for

trying, Sandy. You don't know what

it's like to be weak and hated. It

was stupid of me to mess with your

dreams. So I'll tell you what-

Sandy continues forward, grim faced...but suddenly Pitch

stops cowering and stands up. His tone changes.

PITCH (CONT'D)

You can have `em back!

Before Jack and Sandy can react, a Nightmare shoots up

through a storm drain as several other Nightmares gather in

the alley behind him.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 71.

Jack and Sandy look around as hundreds of Nightmares descend

from the surrounding rooftops to encircle them. This doesn't

look good. Jack, worried, looks to Sandy and mutters...

JACK

You take the ones on the left, I'll

take the ones on the right?

Meanwhile, Pitch rises up from off the ground as Onyx takes

shape underneath him.

Pitch grabs onto Onyx's mane as it snorts and snarls. He

then leans forward.

PITCH

Boo!

Pitch's army of Nightmares begin to charge. Then suddenly,

the sound of BELLS and REINDEER echo in the distance--

NORTH'S SLEIGH bursts through the clouds. Jack and Pitch

look up into the sky as it circles overhead. The sleigh

turns toward Pitch, only to fly a few feet over his head.

Pitch turns as it passes over him, slightly confused.

NORTH'S SLEIGH

North's asleep at the wheel, along with Bunny and Tooth.

Suddenly, the sleigh clips one of its skis as it flies over

City Hall, jolting North to attention.

NORTH

Ah!

Bunny awakes with a fright from a bad a dream.

BUNNYMUND

Get outta my warren!

(realizes he's awake now)

Huh?

EXT. EMPTY STREET - CONTINUOUS

Still battling Nightmares, Sandy propels himself and Jack

into the air with a stream of Dreamsand and launches Jack

away from the Nightmares. Jack quickly orients himself and

knocks an oncoming Nightmare with his staff.

Tooth quickly jumps off the side of the sleigh toward Jack

and Sandy.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 72.

Jack, knocks away a few more Nightmares with his staff, and

looks up. Tooth suddenly flies into view through the swarm

of Nightmares, slicing them apart with her wings, causing

them to EXPLODE into BLACK SAND.

PITCH

Pitch gives a signal and leaps into the air, leading another

wave of Nightmares after the Guardians.

SLEIGH

Back in the sleigh, Bunny jumps out and lands on a nearby

roof.

Bunny quickly tosses his boomerang which disintegrates every

Nightmare in its path. Bunny catches the returning

boomerang, leaps off the roof, and grabs the skids of the

sleigh as it passes by.

THE SLEIGH

North stands, drawing both his scimitars, and dices the

oncoming Nightmares to bits as they attack.

NORTH

Ha. Ha. Ha. Come on!

Jack heads back to the sleigh by dodging two Nightmares as

they attack. As he continues his descent, Jack is suddenly

blind sided by another Nightmare, which knocks the staff from

his hands.

For a moment, Jack is in a state of panic as he finds himself

in free fall.

JACK

Aaaaaaaah!

He finally manages to hook onto the staff, control his

descent, and land on the sleigh as it flies past.

BUNNYMUND

(coolly, to Jack)

You might want to duck.

Jack DUCKS as a Nightmare rears up behind him, but one of

Bunny's BOOMERANGS blasts through it and zips back to Bunny's

waiting paw.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 73.

SANDY

Sandy high up in he clouds, does his best to contain the MASS

OF NIGHTMARES that are swirling around him.

PITCH

Pitch rises from behind a group of Nightmares. He stretches

his arms as an ARROW of NIGHTMARE SAND forms behind him.

SLEIGH

Jack and the Guardians watch as more Nightmares speed away to

join their herd. Sandy looks overwhelmed by the onslaught.

JACK

We gotta help Sandy!

NORTH

Hyah!

North cracks the reigns, turns the sleigh, and heads toward

the swirling cloud of yellow and black sand.

PITCH

Pitch takes aim and releases the arrow. It flies through the

air and into SANDY'S back, exploding on impact.

SLEIGH

The Guardians look on, horrified.

JACK

Noooo!

Jack leaps ahead of the sleigh and flies toward Sandy.

NORTH

Jack!

PITCH

Sandy feels the shock and turns around. A patch of blackness

starts slowly spreading across his body. Pitch laughs as he

and Sandy lock eyes.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 74.

PITCH

Hahahahaha!...Don't fight the fear,

little man.

THE SLEIGH

The Guardians continue to speed toward Sandy, but Nightmares

begin colliding with the sleigh, slowing their progress.

NORTH

Hurry, hurry!

PITCH

Pitch relishes this moment of triumph.

PITCH

I'd say sweet dreams, but there

aren't any left.

Sandy, his eyes filled with terror, falls to his knees as the

patch of blackness continues to spread.

JACK

Jack presses on, trying to reach Sandy as fast as he can.

SANDY

Sandy stands up, accepting his fate, and closes his eyes as

he and his Dreamsand cloud are consumed by the writhing

blackness of the Nightmare sand.

THE SLEIGH

NORTH

Sandy...

JACK

Horrified, clenches his staff as he flies toward Pitch.

JACK

No...NOOOOOO!!!!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 75.

SANDY

Sandy's gone. His beautiful Golden Dreamsand, now black,

merges with the rest of Pitch's Nightmare sand.

PITCH

Is beyond delighted. His plan actually worked!

Pitch then notices Jack flying towards him, glowing energy

emanating from Jack's staff. Pitch raises his hands and

sends a massive wave of Nightmares toward Jack.

THE SLEIGH

The Guardians are stunned.

JACK

Jack quickly realizes that's he's in over his head as the

attacking Nightmares begin to overtake him. He's engulfed by

Nightmares and there is nothing but silence.

PITCH

Pitch looks on with a smile until a bolt of lightning

suddenly erupts from within the writhing black sand.

JACK

JACK

Ahhhhhh!!!!!

A gust of wind blows past Pitch, quickly followed by a

massive wave of ice and frost that rockets back up the stream

of Nightmare sand toward him, culminating in an explosion of

ice and snow.

PITCH

AAAHH!!!!

EXT. BURGESS - NIGHT

Jack free falls back to Earth, unconscious.

NORTH

Jack!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 76.

Tooth quickly rescues him and sets him back down in the

sleigh.

TOOTH

Jack, how did you do that?

JACK

(REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS)

I, I didn't know I could.

EXT. BURGESS FOREST - NIGHT

Pitch pulls himself laboriously from the mud and weeds

amongst the trees where he's crash-landed, oddly, he seems

delighted.

He looks up to see a BRIGHT GLOW -- North's SNOWGLOBE PORTAL.

The sleigh zooms into it and it WINKS OUT.

Pitch shakes the FROST from his arms as scores of Nightmares

swarm behind Pitch, regrouping after the blast. Pitch, at

the center, seems as pleased as can be.

PITCH

Finally! Someone who knows how to

have a little FUN!

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1700 - GUARDIANS REGROUP

INT. NORTH POLE - GLOBE ROOM - DAY

We're in the midst of a somber ceremony, marking the passing

of Sandy. Burning candles line the perimeter of Sandy's

stone emblem.

Tooth sets down a candle and stands shoulder to shoulder with

North and Bunny. The three hold hands in solace.

The ringing of somber bells can be heard echoing throughout

the chamber, as we reveal the elves and a yeti ringing the

elf bells as part of a ceremonial dirge.

INT. NORTH POLE - GLOBE ROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Jack, facing a window, FROSTS OVER THE GLASS with his finger

to form a symbol of Sandy. North slowly walks up behind him.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 77.

NORTH

Are you alright?

Jack remains still, his eyes fixed on the image of Sandy.

JACK

I just, I wish I could've done

something.

NORTH

Done something? Jack, you stood up

to Pitch. You saved us.

JACK

But Sandy wo--

NORTH

(putting his hand on

JACK'S SHOULDER)

Would be proud of what you did.

Jack pulls back his hoodie and stands up.

NORTH (CONT'D)

I don't know who you were in your

past life, but in this life you are

Guardian.

JACK

But how can I know who I am, until

I find out who I was?

NORTH

You will. I feel it, in my belly.

Jack and North approach the globe which is losing lights at

an alarming rate.

TOOTH

Look how fast they're going out.

JACK

(GETTING IT)

It's fear. He's tipped the

balance.

Jack drifts up closer the globe. He looks at the lights

going out, then back to the Guardians. There's a nervous

tension in the room.

BUNNYMUND

(twirling his boomerang)

Hey, buck up ya sad-sacks. Come

on! We can still turn this around!

(MORE)

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 78.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

Easter is tomorrow and I need your

help. I say we pull out all the

stops and we get those little

lights flickering again!

CUT TO:

INT. NORTH POLE - FACTORY FLOOR - DAY

A massive wooden door swings open; North leads Jack and the

Guardians through the doorway, into an elevator, and through

his factory.

NORTH

Bunny is right.

(TO BUNNY)

As much as it pains me to say old

friend, this time Easter is more

important than Christmas!

BUNNYMUND

Hey! Did everyone hear that?!

NORTH

We must hurry to the Warren.

Everyone, to the sleigh!

BUNNY

Ohh no, mate. My warren my rules.

Buckle up.

Bunny directs the groups attention to the ground. He taps

his foot and a rabbit hole opens up under their feet.

NORTH

Shostakovich!

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1775 - PREPARATION FOR EASTER

INT. BUNNYMUND'S TUNNELS - DAY

The Guardians plummet through Bunny's tunnels.

INT. BUNNYMUND'S WARREN

Jack, Bunny and Tooth arrive gracefully in the warren's

antechamber, while North and the yetis comes to a crashing

halt.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 79.

NORTH

(CHUCKLES)

"Buckle up." Is very funny.

BUNNYMUND

Welcome to the warren--

Bunny stands before them when suddenly, he shifts his

attention. He turns, his ears perk up and his nose sniffs

the air.

BUNNYMUND

Something's up.

Something's amiss. A faint scream begins to echo from within

the depths of one of Bunny's egg tunnels. Tiny eggs come

scuttling out from the tunnel.

Bunny grabs his boomerang, North draws his sword, and Jack

readies his staff as the sounds of booming footsteps,

screams, and the rustling of foliage grows louder.

BUNNYMUND

Ahhhh!

Bunny begins to charge toward the tunnel. At his side are

the Guardians, yetis, and sentinel eggs all bellowing their

loudest battle cries until...Sophie bursts out. All momentum

comes to a halt.

JACK

Sophie?

They immediately withdraw their weapons, mildly embarrassed.

Sophie giggles and immediately runs after one of the elves.

SOPHIE

Elf, elf, elf!

BUNNYMUND

What is SHE doing HERE!!?

North looks down at his coat pocket - ooops.

NORTH

(EMBARRASSED)

Ah, snow globe.

BUNNYMUND

Crikey! Somebody do something!

JACK

Don't look at me, I'm invisible,

remember?

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 80.

Sophie giggles as she drags the elf by the bell atop its

uniform.

TOOTH

(CONFIDENT)

Don't worry, Bunny. I bet she's a

fairy fan.

(flies up to Sophie)

It's okay little one.

SOPHIE

(TO TOOTH)

Pretty!

TOOTH

Awww! You know what, I got

something for you. Here it is.

(she pulls something out)

Look at all the pretty teeth with

little blood and gum on them.

Sophie runs away screaming.

JACK

(LAUGHS)

Blood and gums? When was the last

time you guys actually hung out

with kids?

Meanwhile, Sophie is running around the warren, exploring and

playing. Sophie pokes her head into a small tunnel.

SOPHIE

Peek-a-boo.

NORTH

We are very busy bringing joy to

children! We don't have time...

(EMBARRASSED)

...for children.

Jack walks toward her, forming a SNOWFLAKE, which floats over

toward Sophie. She tries to grab at it.

JACK

If one little kid can ruin Easter,

then...we're in worse shape than I

thought.

Sophie follows the snowflake as Jack leads it over to Bunny.

SOPHIE

Weeee! Weee, weee, weee!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 81.

The snowflake lands on Bunny's nose and his concerns suddenly

seem to slip away. Jack's magic is taking affect.

INT. BUNNYMUND'S WARREN - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Close up on a flower, that opens to reveal an egg. The egg

stands up wobbly on its spindly little legs. We pull out to

reveal Sophie and Bunny's faces looking on, Sophie amazed,

Bunny proud.

BUNNYMUND

You wanna paint some eggs? Yeah?

SOPHIE

Okay!

BUNNYMUND

Come on then!

We pull out further to reveal a massive stone spire, covered

in moss, as thousands of unpainted eggs stream down the side

of it toward a green meadow. North and Jack stand in the

midst of it all, slack-jawed, as the eggs rush towards them.

NORTH

Rimsky Korsakov! That's a lot of

eggs.

JACK

Uh, how much time do we have?

A GREEN MEADOW

SOPHIE

Weeeeee!

BUNNYMUND

Woooohoooo!

Bunny hops into view, Sophie clinging to his back smiling,

leading a huge mass of eggs down a wide PATH. As he passes,

FLOWERS BLOOM on either side in his wake, BLASTING the

passing eggs with color as they go.

BUNNYMUND (V.O.)

Alright troops, it's time to push

back. That means eggs!

Everywhere!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 82.

THE SORTING STONES

North looks out over the eggs as they get sorted.

NORTH

(WALLA)

Single file!

Sophie, on her back, is carried by the eggs through the

sorting stones. She giggles as North waves at her while she

passes by.

BUNNYMUND (V.O.)

Heaps of you in every high-rise,

farm house and trailer park!

Baby Tooth flies across the screen, diverting our attention

to a multicolored stream off in the distance.

BUNNYMUND (V.O.)

In tennis shoes and cereal bowls!

Baby Tooth joins an elf, who stands alongside an egg at the

edge of a cliff. The elf pushes the egg over the cliff, into

the stream, and celebrates with a victory dance.

BUNNYMUND (V.O.)

Oh, there will be bathtubs filled

with my beautiful googies!

The elf turns just in time to see a stampede of colored eggs

come barreling toward him. They knock him off the cliff as

he and the eggs spill into the multi-colored stream below.

A SPARKLING STREAM

Colored eggs wade through the water, emerging with SECONDARY

COLORS and intricate PATTERNS of all kinds.

An unlucky egg veers off and gets stuck in a WHIRLPOOL. We

see a hand fish it out to reveal North, who looks at the egg

curiously. It's now got a SPIRAL PATTERN on it and its

little LEGS kick madly.

NORTH

Okay, that's little strange.

BUNNYMUND

Naw, mate --

Bunny's surrounded by butterflies and cute little eggs.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 83.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

That's adorable.

As a technicolored elf climbs out of the stream, North sets

the egg down and lets it rejoin the herd.

A GREEN MEADOW

As Sophie leads a parade of eggs, Bunny jumps to an adjacent

rock and sits up to address the eggs as they walk in stride.

Meanwhile, Jack rides atop a group of sentinel egg that are

marching in the back ground.

BUNNYMUND

There will be springtime! On every

continent! And I'm bringing hope

with me!

A GREEN MEADOW - CONTINUOUS

CLOSE ON: a line of eggs running down curled vines as yetis

sprinkle them with glitter. They continue on down various

vine corkscrew-like shoots, decorating the eggs with stripes.

A confused elf emerges from the vines, striped with paint and

walks off.

A GREEN MEADOW - CONTINUOUS

The striped elf walks past a Yeti, painting a mound of eggs

red. Bunny enters frame and hops across the screen.

BUNNYMUND

Too Christmas-y, mate, paint `em

blue.

The Yeti throws its arms up in defeat and tosses the eggs.

A GREEN MEADOW - MOMENTS LATER

A beautifully painted egg hides in the grass.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Oh, what's over there?

Sophie appears, spots the egg, and delicately lifts it out of

the grass. She holds it close to admire the intricate detail

of its shell. Sophie brings the egg to Bunny for him to

inspect.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 84.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

That's a beauty!

Bunny takes Sophie by the hand and leads her through a stone

archway.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

Now all we gotta do is get him and

his little mates through the

tunnels, to the top, and we'll have

ourselves Easter.

THE STREAMS OF COLORED EGGS

Bunny looks out proudly at the eggs gathered in front of the

TUNNELS in the distance.

Jack approaches from behind and makes his way alongside

Bunny, who holds Sophie in his arms. Its our first real

vista of the whole warren. It's a spectacular sight.

JACK

Not bad.

Sophie yawns and begins to fall asleep. Bunny turns to Jack

with a smile.

BUNNYMUND

Not bad yourself.

JACK

Look, I'm sorry about that whole,

you know, the "kangaroo" thing.

BUNNYMUND

It's the accent, isn't it?

North comes up from behind with Tooth at his side. They turn

toward Bunny, marveling at the sight of Sophie, fast sleep.

It's touching. Bunny's face softens, as if remembering a

distant memory.

BUNNYMUND

Ah, poor little ankle-biter. Look

at her, all tuckered out.

TOOTH

I love her!

They look up from the sleeping toddler toward Jack. He's

taught them something today.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 85.

TOOTH

I think it's time to get her home.

Bunny hands the sleeping Sophie over to Tooth.

JACK

How about I take her home?

TOOTH

Jack, no! Pitch is--

JACK

--no match for this.

(twirls his staff)

BUNNYMUND

Which is why we need you here, with

us.

The Guardians look at Jack with concern.

JACK

Trust me, I'll be quick as a bunny.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 1804 - RETURNING SOPHIE

INT. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack tries to lay a sleeping Sophie down in her bed, but she

won't let go of his neck. Finally, she releases her grasp

only to roll over and fall out of bed. Baby Tooth gives Jack

a scornful look.

JAMIE'S MOM (O.S.)

Sophie? Is that you?

Jack and Baby Tooth's eyes widen. Sophie, asleep on the

floor, is quickly covered with a blanket and given a squeaky

stuffed animal.

EXT. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

Jack closes the window and looks to Baby Tooth with a sign of

relief.

JACK

We should get back.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 86.

Baby Tooth nods, when...

VOICE FROM A MEMORY (O.S.)

(LAUGHING)

Jack...

Jack stops, confused. Where is that voice coming from? He

looks out across the town, toward the woods, and the sound of

the echoed voice.

JACK

That voice, I know that voice...

Baby Tooth looks to him, worried.

VOICE FROM A MEMORY (O.S.)

Jack...

With that, Jack leaps off the window ledge.

EXT. BURGESS - A MOMENT LATER

Jack, carried by the wind, flies across town toward the sound

of the eerie voice. Baby Tooth follows, trying to keep up.

Jack takes a moment to orient himself and lands, settling on

a rotating vent; as the momentum slowly spins him around, the

voice calls out to him again.

VOICE FROM A MEMORY (O.S.)

Jack...

Jack turns, looks to the woods, and takes off.

EXT. WOODS - BURGESS - A MOMENT LATER

Jack and Baby Tooth land in the middle of a thickly wooded

area. It's spooky. Jack scans the forest when again he

hears...

VOICE FROM A MEMORY (O.S.)

Jack...

Jack gives chase. He sprints through the thickets and enters

a clearing only to find the decrepit remains of a rotting

frame from a child's bed. Very creepy. What would that be

doing in the woods, and how long has it been here?

JACK

Don't worry, there's still time.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 87.

Baby Tooth desperately tries to get Jack's attention by

tugging at his tunic, and tweeting desperately.

Jack takes his staff, and breaks through the damaged frame,

revealing a hole leading deep underground.

VOICE FROM A MEMORY (O.S.)

Jack...

What to do? Jack jumps down the hole, reluctantly followed

by Baby Tooth.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 2100 - PITCH TRICKS JACK

INT. PITCH'S TUNNELS

Jack continues along a long dark tunnel with Baby Tooth close

behind. Eventually the labyrinth opens up to reveal a huge

underground cavern. Baby Tooth continues to tug at Jack's

tunic.

JACK

(waving Baby Tooth off)

Baby Tooth, Baby...come on!

(BEAT)

I have to find out what that is.

INT. PITCH'S INNER SANCTUM - CONTINUOUS

Jack can't believe his eyes. Dozens of huge bird cages

hanging from the ceiling, and in them are the mini tooth

fairies. They see Jack, and immediately perk up, tweeting

and flitting like crazy.

Jack jumps up onto one of the cages, then quickly leaps and

holds onto the side of another one.

JACK

(WHISPERS)

Shhhh! keep it down.

(leaps to another cage)

I'm gonna get you out of here, just

as soon as I --

VOICE FROM A MEMORY

Jack...

Jack turns away from the fairies, distracted.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 88.

VOICE FROM A MEMORY

Jack...

JACK

(under his breath)

As I can --

Jack looks down and sees the tooth drawers from Tooth's

Palace. Mounds of them heaped to the ceiling. And inside

the drawers are the missing baby teeth. He drops down to a

mound and begins rummaging through the drawers, looking at

the names on the boxes.

In an instant he forgets his duties, and the fairies, and the

Guardians and everything except those teeth, and the chance

to finally get his memory back.

The cavern suddenly goes darker than it already was. Jack

finally looks up, as a shadow of Pitch crawls up a nearby

column.

PITCH (O.S.)

Looking for something?

Jack swings around with his staff, shooting off a blast of

ice, but Pitch isn't there. Jack takes off, following the

sound of Pitch's cackle as it echoes throughout the chamber.

Jack rounds a corner as he sees Pitch's shadow glide across

the walls into a shadowed corridor.

PITCH (O.S.)

Don't be afraid, Jack. I'm not

going to hurt you.

Jack continues along a shadowed corridor.

JACK

Afraid?

Jack sees Pitch on a bridge across the cavern and heads after

him.

JACK (CONT'D)

I'm not afraid of you!

PITCH

Maybe not. But you are afraid of

something.

Jack steadily approaches, cautious and alert.

JACK

You think so, huh?

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 89.

PITCH

I know so. It's the one thing I

always know.

Pitch finally turns to face Jack.

PITCH (CONT'D)

People's greatest fears. Yours is

that no one will ever believe in

you.

Panic flashes in Jack's eyes. As he backs away, the chamber

fills with shadows, and Jack is spun around. He's

disoriented as he thuds into a wall, which flips to reveal

that it's actually the ground.

Pitch, unseen now, chuckles.

Jack's unsure of where he is. He looks back to see the

cavern entrance -- he's right back where he started.

PITCH (O.S.)

And worst of all, you're afraid

you'll never know why. Why you?

Why were you chosen...to be like

this?

Jack discovers that the entrance has been blocked with bricks

as Pitch's shadow encroaches on him.

PITCH

Well fear not, for the answer to

that...

Pitch is now directly in front of Jack, holding out a tooth

box.

PITCH (CONT'D)

Is right here.

Jack's eyes widen at the sight - the face of a young boy

etched into the box, and under it is the name "Jack Frost."

PITCH

Do you want them, Jack? Your

memories?

He holds them out to Jack. Jack stares, fighting the impulse

to grab them. He closes his eyes, struggling to make a

decision, but when he opens them again, Pitch has

disappeared.

Pitch's shadow moves across the pillars of the cavern.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 90.

Jack heads down a corridor, cast shadows from the Mini Tooth

cages everywhere.

PITCH (O.S.)

Everything you wanted to know...

Pitch's face moves in and out of the shadows over the

following.

PITCH

...in this little box.

Every time Jack turns, Pitch disappears. It's like Jack's

trapped in a fun house.

Multiple Pitch shadows have appeared on the wall around Jack.

They're closing in on him.

PITCH

Why did you end up like this?

Unseen. Unable to reach out to

anyone.

(BEAT)

You want the answers so badly. You

want to grab them, and fly off with

them. But you're afraid of what

the Guardians will think.

Jack's breath quickens. He's been pushed into a corner.

PITCH

You're afraid of disappointing

them.

(SMILES)

Well let me ease your mind about

one thing. They'll never accept

you. Not really.

The shadows have overcome Jack.

JACK

(trying to scramble away)

Stop it! Stop it!

Almost reluctantly, the shadows back away and Pitch appears

before Jack.

PITCH

After all, you're not one of them.

Jack aims his staff at Pitch.

JACK

You don't know what I am!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 91.

PITCH

Of course I do. You're Jack Frost.

You make a mess wherever you go.

Why, you're doing it right now.

Pitch tosses the box to Jack, who instinctively catches it.

Jack looks up. Terror comes into Jack's eyes, as he

realizes...

JACK

What did you do?

PITCH

More to the point Jack, what did

you do?

Pitch begins to back away, becoming one with the darkness,

laughing as he disappears. Jack charges towards him only to

be swallowed whole by one of Pitch's black holes.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 2200 - GUARDIANS BREAK WITH JACK

INT. EGG TUNNEL - DAY

Jack flies out of Pitch's shadow, ready to strike. Suddenly,

Jack realizes he's forgotten something.

JACK

Baby Tooth!

He turns to re-enter the hole in the wall only to find

himself face to face with one of Bunny's stone emblems.

PITCH (O.S.)

Happy Easter, Jack.

Jack turns around. Suddenly, his eyes fill with dread as he

realizes where he is. Thousands of broken egg shells lay

strewn about, forming a path toward the light at the end of

the tunnel.

JACK

No.

EXT. PARK - ENGLAND - DAY

Bunny peaks through the bushes to take in the scene - an

Easter Egg hunt.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 92.

BRITISH KIDS

(WALLA)

There are no eggs. There's none

anywhere. I give up. Come on,

let's go. I don't understand.

Bunny checks the eggs in his basket, then looks back toward

the kids.

BRITISH GIRL

Maybe he just hid them really well

this year.

Bunny, egg basket in hand, approaches a group of kids who

seem to be wandering around searching halfheartedly,

disappointed and listless.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

Kids! Oi!

BRITISH BOY

I checked everywhere! There's

nothing!

BUNNYMUND

(steps towards them)

Yes there is! There is! I mean

these aren't my best lookin'

googies, but they'll do in a pinch!

He holds out a broken Easter egg. The kids just stare.

BRITISH GIRL

I can't believe it.

BUNNYMUND

I know.

BRITISH GIRL

There's no such thing as the Easter

Bunny.

The girl turns to leave.

BUNNYMUND

What?

BRITISH KIDS (O.S.)

(WALLA)

Easter's over. Forget this.

It's only then that we realize he's too late. The spark of

childhood has already been extinguished in all of them.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 93.

BUNNYMUND

No! Wrong! Not, not true! I'm

right in front of ya, mate!

BRITISH KIDS

(WALLA)

There's no such thing. I know.

The kids walk through Bunnymund as if he were a ghost. Bunny

is stunned by this, and finally realizes...

BRITISH KIDS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(WALLA)

Now come on. I don't understand.

Why wouldn't he come? Let's get

out of here. Easter Bunny, where

are you? This is the worst Easter

ever.

BUNNYMUND

They don't see me.

(BEAT)

They don't see me.

JACK's watching this all unfold and it's heartbreaking,

because he knows it's his fault. Tooth flies to Bunny's

side. Jack hears a rustle in the bushes behind him.

NORTH (O.S.)

Jack, where were you?

Jack sees North, with his scimitars drawn and having just

come from battle. He's exhausted, wild-eyed, distraught.

NORTH (CONT'D)

The Nightmares attacked the

tunnels. They smashed every egg,

crushed every basket. Nothing made

it to the surface.

TOOTH (O.S.)

Jack!

Tooth rejoins the group from off screen.

TOOTH (CONT'D)

(GASPS)

Where did you get that?

Jack looks down at the tooth box in his hand, then back to

Tooth.

JACK

I was...it's...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 94.

TOOTH

Where's Baby Tooth?

(FEELING BETRAYED)

Oh Jack, what have you done?

NORTH

That is why you weren't here?

North steps forward to confront Jack.

NORTH (CONT'D)

You were with Pitch?

JACK

No, listen, listen...I'm sorry. I

didn't mean for this to happen.

BUNNYMUND (O.S.)

(TO OTHERS)

He has to go.

Jack turns to see Bunny, disheartened.

JACK

(STUNNED BEAT)

What?

BUNNYMUND

We should never have trusted you!

(FORLORN)

Easter is new beginnings, new life.

Easter is about hope.

(BEAT)

And now it's gone.

Bunny turns away and moves toward the park, looking at the

sign that reads, `Easter Egg Hunt.'

This is like a punch in Jack's gut. He looks back to Tooth

and North, both of whom look away, too hurt by Jack. He

looks at them with a pained expression. This is exactly what

Pitch said would happen.

Jack reaches into his pocket, pulls out the tiny Russian

nesting doll that North had given him, drops the doll to the

ground, and takes off.

As Jack leaves, carried off by the wind, we see the tiny

Russian nesting doll laying on the ground.

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 95.

SEQ. 2600 - JAMIE STILL BELIEVES

EXT. JAMIE'S HOUSE - DUSK

Jamie, atop a ladder, strains for what looks like an Easter

egg, hiding in the rain gutter. The ladder totters and Jamie

loses his balance, beginning to fall.

JAMIE

Whoaaa, whoa, whoa...aaaah!

Jamie grabs the gutter but it breaks loose, sending Jamie

crashing down into a mound of snow.

As Jamie gets up off the ground, he sees that the Easter egg

was in fact a dirty old tennis ball. Jamie stands up,

bewildered, and dusts himself off as his friends LAUGH. A

few have empty EASTER BASKETS.

JAMIE

Let's check the park again.

CALEB

Really?

CLAUDE

(ANNOYED)

For what, the Easter Bunny?

JAMIE

Guys, I told you - I saw him! He's

way bigger than I thought, and he's

got these cool boomerang-things-

CALEB

Grow up, Jamie.

CLAUDE

(SIGHS)

Ah man, seriously.

JAMIE

What's happened to you guys?

CALEB

It was a dream. You should be

happy you still get dreams like

that and not...

They begin to turn away from him.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 96.

CUPCAKE

(HAUNTED)

Nightmares.

Pippa's the lone straggler. She looks tired, depressed, and

hands Jamie her basket as she leaves.

PIPPA

Forget it, Jamie. There's just no

Easter this year.

CALEB (O.S.)

I can't believe this.

JAMIE

He really is real!

Pippa walks away, trailing the others. Jamie doesn't know

what to believe. He hangs his head and looks into the Easter

basket, it's empty.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

I know he is.

INT. NORTH POLE - GLOBE ROOM - DAY

Yetis stare at the globe of belief, in shock as more and more

lights begin to fad away. We push in toward Antarctica as we-

DISSOLVE TO:

SEQ. 2304 - JACK IN ANTARCTICA

EXT. ICEBERG - ANTARCTIC CIRCLE - DAY

Jack runs to the edge of a floating iceberg, ready to throw

his tooth box into the ocean. He resists, looking down at

the box as he clutches it in his hand. He's never been more

alone in his life.

PITCH (O.S.)

I thought this might happen.

Pitch is revealed, standing not far behind Jack.

PITCH (CONT'D)

They never really believed in you.

I was just trying to show you that.

But I understand.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 97.

Jack whips around and shoots a burst of frost at Pitch, but

it's quickly deflected by the Nightmare sand.

JACK

You don't understand anything!

Jack continues to attack, lashing out with his staff. Pitch

blocks the attacks of ice and frost -- his control over the

Nightmare sand has gained considerable strength.

PITCH

(SHOUTING)

No? I don't know what it's like to

be cast out?

Pitch strikes back, putting Jack on the defense. Jack jumps

in the air. Their show of force escalates until they're

shrouded in a blanket of snow, ice, and wind. As the wind

and snow settle, Jack looks around stern and alert.

PITCH (O.S.)(CONT'D)

To not be believed in. To long for

a family.

Jack turns around to find Pitch. There's a look of

compassion on Jack's face as he listens.

PITCH (CONT'D)

All those years in the shadows I

thought, no one else knows what

this feels like. But now I see I

was wrong.

They lock eyes. A moment of true connection between them.

PITCH (CONT'D)

We don't have to be alone, Jack.

This isn't a trick Pitch is making a real offer here.

PITCH (CONT'D)

I believe in you. And I know

children will too.

JACK

In me?

PITCH

Yes! Look at what we can do!

Pitch gestures to a fantastical ice and nightmare "sculpture"

that was created (off-screen) when Jack attacked him.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 98.

PITCH (CONT'D)

What goes together better than cold

and dark?

Jack looks at the fractured reflections of themselves cast in

the icy sculpture.

PITCH (CONT'D)

We can make them believe. We'll

give them a world where everything,

everything is...

Jack turns to face Pitch.

JACK

(DEADPANS)

Pitch black...

Pitch, realizing how this looks, clarifies...

PITCH

And Jack Frost too. They'll

believe in both of us.

Jack stares at him, considering the offer. Then finally...

JACK

No, they'll fear both of us. And

that's not what I want.

Jack turns and walks away.

JACK (CONT'D)

Now for the last time, leave me

alone.

Pitch looks confused and hurt. This is not the response he

was expecting. Then...his eyes flame with anger. He made

himself vulnerable, and Jack rejected him. No more

negotiating now.

PITCH

Very well. You want to be left

alone? Done. But first...

Suddenly Jack hears a familiar twitter. Pitch reaches into

his coat to pull out...

JACK

Baby Tooth!

Jack charges forward. There's terror in Baby Tooth's eyes.

She squeaks as Pitch clenches her tight with his fist.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 99.

PITCH

The staff, Jack.

Jack settles and the winds and snow subsides.

PITCH (CONT'D)

You have a bad habit of

interfering. Now hand it over.

(BEAT)

And I'll let her go.

BABY TOOTH

(twitters - Don't give it to him!)

Baby Tooth struggles to get loose, but Pitch only tightens

his grip. She can hardly breathe. Jack has no choice.

Jack...hands over...the staff.

Pitch twirls the staff.

JACK

(re: Baby Tooth)

Alright, now let her go.

PITCH

No. You said you wanted to be

alone.

(BEAT)

So be alone!

Baby Tooth squirms until she's finally able to peck Pitch in

the hand with her beak. Pitch shrieks and throws Baby Tooth

in the air and down into the mouth of a crevasse.

JACK

No!

Jack, enraged, can't believe what he's seeing. Pitch lifts

the staff, and breaks it over his knee, cracking it in two.

Light EXPLODES from the staff and terror comes into Jack's

eyes, clutching his chest as if in pain.

Suddenly, Pitch sends a burst of Nightmare sand, blasting

Jack and slamming him into the iceberg wall behind him. As

the ice cracks, Jack comes loose and falls forward into the

chasm below.

Pitch looks down into the ice fissure chuckling. He throws

the broken shards of Jack's staff down into the crevasse and

casually walks away, disappearing on the horizon.

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 100.

SEQ. 2308 - JACK'S MEMORY

EXT. ICE FISSURE - NIGHT

It's cold and dark down here, and Jack is more alone than

he's ever been. Battered from the fall, Jack slowly looks up

and notices Baby Tooth, lying lifelessly on the ground.

JACK

Baby Tooth!

He pulls himself to her and cradles her in his hands.

JACK

You alright?

Baby Tooth nods, but she's hurt, and cold. Jack does his

best to shield her from the cold.

JACK

Sorry, all I can do is keep you

cold.

Jack sits up and holds Baby Tooth in his hands.

JACK

Pitch was right - I make a mess of

everything.

Jack is devastated. Baby Tooth's never seen him like this;

it's heart breaking...then she gets a thought. Her

expression hardens with determination.

She wriggles deep into his pocket.

JACK

Hey?

Jack leans back and begins to close his eyes when he hears

SOMETHING --

VOICE FROM A MEMORY

Jack... Jack...

-- and then he FEELS something. Looks down: There's a SOFT,

GOLDEN GLOW coming from his pocket.

Jack jumps, taken aback. He reaches in and pulls out the

TOOTH BOX -- it's pulsing with light.

VOICE FROM A MEMORY

Jack...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 101.

Baby Tooth gives him a reassuring look.

Baby Tooth motions to the box, then looks back at Jack. Jack

reaches to touch the box, but as he does its top magically

UNFOLDS to reveal a handful of BABY TEETH - then the box and

everything else glows BRIGHT WITH INTENSE LIGHT -

The WALLS of the fissure seem to suddenly fall away. In

brief FLASHES we see: The COLONIAL SETTLEMENT Jack visited.

Children running playfully down a hill.

JACK'S MOTHER

Come on Jack, you can't have fun

all the time.

CHILDREN'S LAUGHING FACES as a familiar BOY hangs upside down

from a tree limb.

JACK'S SISTER

Jack, get down from there!

A HAPPY FAMILY at a roaring fire as the same boy jokes around

with antlers on his head.

COLONIAL BOY (O.S.)

You're funny, Jack.

Jack walks toward the woods with his sister. His mother,

face unseen, calls out to him.

JACK'S MOTHER

Be careful.

Jack shakes his head like he's heard it a million times but

never pays it any mind.

JACK

(LAUGHING)

We will.

AND THEN--

START JACK'S MEMORY

We are on an eye, a familiar eye but this one is brown not

blue. PULL BACK to reveal young JACK, brown hair, brown

eyes. He is staring directly at the camera, a look of...what

is it? It's hard to read but it's VERY intense. We keep

pulling back to reveal him dressed as we first saw him in

16th century clothes. Behind him, dark winter trees and snow

come in to focus.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 102.

EXT. FROZEN POND - BURGESS - DAY

JACK

(calm, serious)

It's okay. It's okay. Don't look

down, just look at me.

Jack reaches slowly down and removes the second of two

rudimentary ice-skates, leaving him BAREFOOT on the surface

of a familiar FROZEN pond. And now we see what he sees, a

girl of about FOUR (with an uncanny resemblance to Jamie's

sister Sophie) stands in her skates, rooted to the spot. A

spider's web of cracks emanates from where she stands.

JACK'S SISTER

Jack, I'm scared.

CRACCKKK! The ice below her splinters more. She wobbles as

it starts to separate.

JACK

I know, I know...but you're gonna

be alright. You're not gonna fall

in. We're gonna have a little fun

instead.

JACK'S SISTER

No we're not!

JACK

Would I trick you?

JACK'S SISTER

(fighting back tears)

Yes! You always play tricks!

JACK

(CHUCKLES)

Well, alright. Well, not, not this

time. I promise. I promise,

you're gonna be...you're gonna be

fine.

Jack fixes her gaze...holds it...there's nothing but the two

of them.

JACK

You have to believe in me.

Jack's sister pauses a moment, then smiles through her fear.

And just like that, Jack's demeanor changes. A light is

switched on inside him and the last thing that could be

happening is what is actually happening.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 103.

JACK (CONT'D)

(casual, playfully)

You wanna play a game? We're going

to play Hopscotch! Like we play

every day!

Jack's sister looks more reassured.

JACK (CONT'D)

It's as easy as...one...whoaaaa...

And Jack shows his sister the first leap, but mugs for her,

almost losing his balance then catching himself. She laughs.

JACK (CONT'D)

Two...

(the next jump)

Three!

He turns toward her with his arms spread out.

JACK

Alright...

He reaches down to pick up a familiar-looking stick lying on

the ice. He extends it towards her --

JACK (CONT'D)

Now it's your turn.

Jack's sister looks down. She is trying to gather her

courage. Jack, never breaking his gaze with her,

JACK (CONT'D)

(SOFTLY)

One...

She hops, wobbling, but catching her balance.

JACK

That's it, that's it...two...

She's almost there, Jack's staff just beyond her reach.

JACK

Three.

She grabs hold of Jack's staff and in one massive effort he

slings her with all his might to safety. But the movement

propels him into the cracked ice. He looks up to see his

sister safe - smiles - and then plunges into the dark cold

water.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 104.

JACK

Whoa...

JACK'S SISTER

Jack!

Jack falls back into the icy water. SPLASH!

UNDERWATER

We're looking up at the hole in the ice, descending into the

dark icy depths...then THE FULL MOON appears from behind the

clouds as Jack's hands claw through the water towards it, but

it's helpless. The MOON glows bright...brighter...

Jack's BODY begins to glow, bathed in MOONLIGHT. PUSH IN on

his FACE, becoming brighter and brighter until his brown hair

turns white and JACK'S BRIGHT BLUE EYES flash open --

EXT. MOUNTAIN FISSURE - NIGHT

The icy walls rush back in as we pull out from Jack, reeling

from the memory. He sees Baby Tooth.

JACK

Did you -- did you see that?

She shakes her head `no', tweets `of course not'!

JACK

It -- it was me! I had a family!

I had a sister!

His excitement suddenly turns to realization.

JACK

I saved her!

He looks up at the opening above. The MOON peeks out from

behind the clouds.

JACK

(whispers up to Manny)

That's why you chose me.

(TO HIMSELF)

I'm, I'm a Guardian.

The Moon seems to shine a little BRIGHTER. Baby Tooth tries

to take flight but she sputters and lands back in the palm of

Jack's hand.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 105.

JACK

We have to get out of here.

Jack looks down at the two halves of his staff, and picks

them up. He tries to fit them back together, but nothing

happens. He tries again, this time using every ounce of

strength left in him. Baby Tooth watches, her eyes widening

as, a SPARK of blue light shoots off the staff.

Jack continues to push, until a the icy blue light spreads

and melds the two ends of the staff back together. Jack

smiles.

EXT. ICEBERG - DAY

Suddenly Jack, with Baby Tooth tucked safely in his tunic,

SHOOTS UP out of the fissure, high into the sky and through

the clouds.

JACK

Come on Baby Tooth! I owe you one.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 2500 - THE LAST LIGHT

INT. PITCH'S LAIR - NIGHT

A SERIES OF QUICK CUTS: The Mini Teeth TWITTER as Jack jumps

from CAGE to CAGE, opening them as he goes. Jack opens

another cage and notices the fairies standing still.

JACK

Come on, let's go.

Jack looks around and notices that all of the Minis are still

in their cages.

JACK (CONT'D)

What's wrong?!

The fairies are just standing around, listless.

JACK (CONT'D)

None of you can fly?

Baby Tooth directs Jack's attention to the Globe at the base

of Pitch's lair.

JACK

The lights...

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 106.

INT. NORTH POLE - FACTORY FLOOR

A Yeti very carefully sets the last of a group of newly

painted red robot dolls on a shelf. He breathes a sigh of

relief.

Suddenly, the entire factory begins to shake, knocking the

robot doll to the ground. He dives after it, juggles it in

the air, and catches it just before it hits the ground.

Suddenly, streaks of BLACK SAND whoosh up into and around the

factory. The dark sand snakes its way up and around the

globe, causing the Yetis and Elves to scatter and knocking

TOYS to the floor.

The Yetis and Elves look up in horror as the black sand, now

covering the globe, gives rise to Pitch, who stands before

them cackling.

PITCH

You're all free to go! We won't be

needing any Christmas toys this

year, thank you! Nor ever again!

The yeti with the robot dolls sinks his head and sighs in

defeat.

INT. PITCH'S LAIR - NIGHT

Jack lands on the ground, now standing before PITCH'S GLOBE --

and it looks almost completely devoid of light.

JACK

They're all going out...

INT. NORTH POLE - DAY

Pitch is practically dancing across North's globe, he's so

giddy, counting down as the last few lights go dark.

PITCH

Only six left! Six precious

children who still believe in the

Guardians with all their h--

(a lights blinks out)

Make that, five.

(ANOTHER)

Oo! Four!

(MOUNTING)

Three!

(ECSTASY)

TWO!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 107.

His eyes widen as he snaps his fingers with anticipation and

glee. All of his hard work and planning - finally paying

off!

Pitch stares down at the one last light, waiting for it to go

out. He snaps his fingers a few more times. Still nothing.

His smile fades. His face goes cold as he realizes...

PITCH

(TO HIMSELF)

One.

INT. PITCH'S LAIR - NIGHT

Jack jumps up onto the globe to closely inspect the last

light. The light is brought into full view. Jack smiles.

JACK

Jamie!

We're tight on the globe, where the LAST LIGHT flickers. We

PUSH IN to the light and...

EXT. BURGESS - NIGHT

...down onto the streets of Burgess. We race over the town

until we land on Jamie's house, a single light shining from

his bedroom window.

DISSOLVE TO:

SEQ. 2000 - JACK AND JAMIE

INT. JAMIE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jamie is sitting up in bed, talking to an old stuffed rabbit,

and whispering.

JAMIE

Okay look, you and I are obviously

at what they call a crossroads, so

here's what's gonna happen -

Jack appears outside Jamie's window and moves closer to get a

better look.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

If it wasn't a dream and if you are

real, then you have to prove it.

Like right now.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 108.

Jamie waits. He looks around expectantly. Jack looks on

from outside the window, wondering if anything will happen.

JAMIE

(desperation creeping in)

I've believed in you for a long

time, okay? Like my whole life in

fact. So you kinda owe me now.

Jamie picks up his stuffed rabbit and holds it close.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

You don't have to do much, just a

little sign so I know. Anything.

(BEAT)

Anything at all.

He waits. It's excruciating.

JAMIE

(A WHISPER)

I knew it.

Jamie lets the stuffed animal fall to the floor. Jack comes

into the room and watches as the light slowly fades from

Jamie's eyes, disbelief setting in.

Jack doesn't know what to do. He takes a moment to

concentrate, then enters the room.

Then, Jamie notices the window as the panes of glass freeze

over. The image of an Easter egg suddenly appears...

JAMIE

(seeing the window)

Huh?

Jamie looks down at the stuffed rabbit on the floor. He can

barely comprehend what he's seeing. Jamie looks back to the

window as more of the window panes frost over. Jamie's eyes

get huge with amazement.

JAMIE

He's real.

Jack, excited, continues to exert himself trying to bring

life to his drawing. And when he does, the frost rabbit

comes leaping off of the window.

JAMIE

Whoa...

The rabbit hops around Jamie's room, bursting like a snowball

over Jamie's head, the snowflakes sprinkling down on him.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 109.

JAMIE

Whoa!

Jack is as amazed as Jamie. But Jamie's amazement turns to

confusion.

JAMIE

Snow?

A snowflake lands on the tip of Jamie's nose. The snowflake

glows a magic blue. And in that moment a light comes into

Jamie's eyes - an idea starts to take hold.

JAMIE

(WHISPER)

Jack Frost?

JACK

(a stunned beat)

Did he just say--?

Jamie stands up on his bed.

JAMIE

Jack Frost.

JACK

(DISBELIEF)

He said it again. He said --

(BEAT)

You said...

Jamie turns around and suddenly his eyes go wide...

JAMIE

Jack Frost.

JACK

That's right! But-but that's me!

Jack Frost! That's my name! You

said my name!

Jamie's mouth drops open. Only then does Jack realize...

JACK

Wait, can you hear me?

(JAMIE NODS)

Can you... Can you see me?

(JAMIE NODS)

He sees me. He sees me!

Jack leaps for joy, and the room suddenly explodes with snow.

Jamie can't believe it.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 110.

JAMIE

You just made it snow.

JACK

I know!

JAMIE

In my room.

JACK

I know!

JAMIE

You're real?

JACK

Yeah! Who do you think brings you

all the blizzards and snow days,

and you remember when you went

flying on that sled the other day?!

JAMIE

That was you?

JACK

That was me!

JAMIE

Cool!

JACK

Right?!

JAMIE

But what about the Easter Bunny and

the Tooth Fairy I mean--

JACK

Real-real-real! Every one of us is

real!

JAMIE

I knew it!

Jamie's mom calls from down the hall...

JAMIE'S MOM (O.S.)

Jamie, who are you talking to?

JAMIE

Um...Jack Frost.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 111.

JAMIE'S MOM (O.S.)

(a little chuckle)

...okay.

Suddenly, the sound of thunder and North's sleigh as Jack and

Jamie look to the open window.

SMASH CUT TO:

SEQ. 2800 - JACK AND GUARDIANS REUNITE

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

NORTH (O.S.)

Whoa, whoa, whoa...

NORTH AND TOOTH arrive on the sleigh completely out of

control, and crash land outside Jamie's house.

The reindeer are separated from the sleigh and run into the

woods. A disheveled Tooth and North emerge from the

wreckage.

NORTH

Ah, moi deti! Come back!

As North stands, his back suddenly gives out.

TOOTH

North! Are you okay?

NORTH

Is official. My powers are kaput.

TOOTH

Look!

(GASP)

Jack!

Jack comes flying toward them.

TOOTH

(flies to him)

Jack--!

Tooth falters and falls to the ground.

JACK

You okay?

They greet each other with a smile as North draws near.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 112.

NORTH

What are you doing here?

JACK

Same as you.

Jack looks off to the side as Jamie appears from out of his

backyard.

NORTH

The last light!

JAMIE

(to North and Tooth)

Wow! It is you! I mean it is you!

I knew it wasn't a dream.

NORTH

Jack! He sees you!

Jack puts a protective hand on Jamie's shoulder. Jamie looks

up at him and smiles. Jack and North exchange a look.

JACK

Wait, but, where's Bunny?

NORTH

Losing Easter took its toll on all

of us. Bunny most of all.

Jack's face goes pale. North lowers his head in sadness.

Then a twitchy-nosed LITTLE BUNNY appears on the sleigh.

JACK

Oh...no...

JAMIE

(CHUCKLES)

That's the Easter Bunny?

BUNNYMUND

Now somebody sees me! I mean,

where were you about an hour ago,

mate?

JAMIE

What happened to him? He used to be

huge and cool! And now he's cute.

Jamie gently tickles Bunny under his chin. Bunny begins

involuntarily thumping his paw.

BUNNYMUND

Oh, that's good.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 113.

Bunny catches himself and pushes Jamie's hands away.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

(TO JACK)

Did you tell him to say that?

(hops over to Jack)

That's it! Let's go! Me and you!

Come on!

JAMIE

No! Actually he told me you were

real. Just when I started to think

that maybe you weren't.

Bunny stops. Did he just hear that right?

BUNNYMUND

He made you believe? In me?

A moment of reconciliation between them, broken by the sounds

of THUNDER. The Guardians look to the sky to see Pitch

enveloped by dark clouds as he stares down at them from atop

a writhing mass of Nightmare sand.

JACK

(to the others)

Get Jamie out of here.

NORTH

Be careful, Jack!

Jack leaps into the air, and goes flying directly at Pitch.

Meanwhile, the Guardians take Jamie to find shelter.

ON PITCH

His eyes flash with anger at see Jack coming toward him.

PITCH

Jack Frost! Let's end this, shall

we?

Pitch sighs as he rolls his eyes and flies down to meet Jack

head on.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

Jack sends a blast of ice and frost at Pitch as he barrels

toward him. Pitch easily absorbs the attack with his

Nightmare sand.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 114.

PITCH

That little trick doesn't work on

me anymore.

Jack's plan backfires as Pitch charges ahead and unleashes a

roaring fury of Nightmare sand that knocks Jack out of the

sky.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - MOMENTS LATER

Jamie and the Guardians do their best to avoid the patrolling

Nightmares. North struggles to keep up.

BUNNYMUND

Quick, this way this way!

Bunny leads them down an alley, but it's no use.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

Dead end. Other way other way!

Jack suddenly falls from the sky, lands on a dumpster, and

falls limp to the ground. THUD! The others turn their

attention and wince.

JAMIE

Jack!

They rush to Jack and help him to his feet.

NORTH

That was good try, Jack! A for

effort!

JACK

(groaning in pain)

He's stronger. I can't beat him.

North and Tooth trade looks of concern. Then, a menacing

chuckle. The Guardians keep a watchful eye as Nightmare

shadow streaks across the alley.

PITCH (V.O.)

All this fuss over one little boy.

And still he refuses to stop

believing.

A CRACK of Thunder reveals the shadow of an approaching

Nightmare as the sounds of hooves clacking against the ground

echoes from the opposite end of the alley.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 115.

PITCH

Very well. There are other ways to

snuff out a light.

Bulbs start bursting as the arm of a shadow moves across the

remaining lights in the alley. Terror in Jamie's eyes. What

does that mean?

BUNNYMUND

If you want him, you're gonna have

to go through me!

With a finger raised, the shadow arm glides along the floor,

curling around the back of Bunny.

PITCH

(laughing, genuinely)

Look how fluffy you are! Would you

like a scratch behind the ears?

Bunny jumps back into North's arms.

BUNNYMUND

Don't you even think about it!

Pitch comes into view, riding atop Onyx. A gleeful smile

strewn across his face.

PITCH

I can't tell you how happy it makes

me to see you all like this. You

look awful.

They are weak and defenseless. But still the Guardians

gather around Jamie, to shield him from whatever may come.

JAMIE

Jack, I'm scared.

There's a sudden moment of realization. Jack has heard these

words before.

JACK'S SISTER (V.O.)

Jack, I'm scared.

CUT TO:

EXT. FROZEN POND - FLASHBACK - DAY

We pan up from the ice to find his sister as he saw her in

his memory. She is smiling.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 116.

JACK (V.O.)

I know, I know. But you're gonna

be alright...

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

Jack, wide eyed.

JACK

We're gonnna have a little fun,

instead.

(BEAT)

That's it. That's my center.

Jamie gives Jack a questioning look. What does Jack have in

mind? Pitch gets closer.

PITCH

So what do you think, Jamie? Do

you believe in the Boogiema...

BOOF! A snowball suddenly hits Pitch in the face. Two

Nightmares look at each, unsure how to react. Jamie can't

help but snicker and North lets out a chuckle.

Jack looks around the alley. He spots a wooden crate, a

trash can lid and a discarded wok amidst a pile of trash.

JACK

Now let's go get your friends.

Pitch wipes the snow from his face and looks up to see a

track of ice leading out of the alleyway. Jack, Jamie and

the Guardians are gone.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. THE STREETS AND ROOFTOPS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

An aerial view of Burgess. The streets are empty and the

city is quiet. Suddenly a streak of blue begins to

materialize, making its way through the tranquil suburb.

A man walks his dog across an empty street when suddenly a

cold wind blows behind him. Jack and Jamie come flying past,

leaving a trail of ice in their wake. And on that ice - the

Guardians careen along in make-shift sleds. They are scared

and thrilled, but they're having fun.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 117.

JACK

Yeah! Come on!

JAMIE

Whoa! Cool!

INT. CUPCAKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

A terrified Cupcake lies in bed awake. The Guardians'

reflections streak across the window when suddenly, BOOF! A

snowball strikes the pane of glass.

Cupcake pulls the covers down to find that it's suddenly

SNOWING inside! As the snow circles around Cupcake's head,

she sits up and smiles.

EXT. PIPPA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Pippa sits in bed amazed as it snows in her room. She hears

a KNOCK at her window and moves toward it to find Jamie

floating outside.

She throws open her window and looks down to the ground to

reveal that they are two stories up.

PIPPA

Jamie, how are you doing that?!

JAMIE

Jack Frost! Come on, we need your

help!

Jamie takes off flying down the street, and as a snowflake

lands on her nose she suddenly sees him.

PIPPA

Hey is, is that?

MONTY (O.S.)

Jack Frost!

Pippa looks up to see Monty across the street with his head

out the window and snow coming down in his room, a gaping

smile across his face.

EXT. CLAUDE AND CALEB'S HOUSE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Caleb and Claude sit up in bed in amazement, staring at the

snowflakes as they stream down from the ceiling.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 118.

CLAUDE

Huh?!

THUD! The twins look down to find neatly wrapped gifts at

the feet of their beds as a jolly voice bellows in the

distance.

NORTH (O.S.)

Merry Christmas!

The twins open their window, amazed to see their heroes sled

past.

BUNNYMUND

Happy Easter!

TOOTH

Don't forget to floss!

Caleb looks to his brother, dumbfounded. Suddenly Cupcake

skids past, laughing and screaming on her own sled.

CLAUDE

Cupcake?

And so it goes through the town.

CLAUDE

(WALLA)

Yeah!

PIPPA (O.S.)

Jamie you were right!

CALEB

The Easter Bunny's real!

PIPPA (O.S.)

And the Tooth Fairy!

CLAUDE

And Santa!

MONTY (O.S.)

They're all real!

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 119.

SEQ. 2900 - SHOWDOWN

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - MOMENTS LATER

Jack, the Guardians, and the children all come to gliding

halt on their sleds. They look up to see Pitch standing atop

a building with a confident smile, while the clouds stir

behind him.

Monty, late to the party, comes running joyously past Jamie

and the Guardians who stand in silence as they stare up at

the sky.

MONTY

Whoa, yeaaaaaaaah!!!

(sees Pitch, makes U-Turn)

Ahhhhhhhhhhhh!

PITCH

You think a few children can help

you? Against this!

The Nightmare sand storm descends from the sky. North draws

his sword, but the weight of the blade pulls him down. He

can barely stand. Jack moves to North's side as they look

back to Jamie, noticing the concern on his face.

JACK

They're just bad dreams, Jamie.

BUNNYMUND

And we'll protect you, mate.

PITCH

Aww, you'll protect them.

(SMILES)

But who will protect you?

Jamie takes a moment to reflect while his friends look up at

the sky in fear. Jack looks down, surprised, to see that

Jamie has taken a position in FRONT of him.

JAMIE

I will.

Suddenly, Jamie's friends move to join him.

CUPCAKE

I will.

CALEB AND CLAUDE

I will.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 120.

PIPPA

And me.

MONTY

(RELUCTANT)

I'll try.

The Guardians, amazed, watch as the kids squeeze past them.

PITCH

Still think there's no such thing

as the boogeyman?

Pitch's wave of Nightmare sand snakes its way through town

causing destruction wherever it goes and converges toward a

single point as it heads straight toward the kids.

JAMIE

I do believe in you. I'm just not

afraid of you.

Jamie thrusts out his hand toward the Nightmare wave. His

friends follow suite, just as the Nightmare sand smashes into

them. As it makes contact, the black sand...bursts into

streams of GOLDEN DREAMSAND.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Whoa...whoaaaa!

Everyone is amazed, hardly believing their eyes. Streams of

Dreamsand swirl around the children. And then it's

pandemonium. The Nightmares buck and jump as the sand makes

its way past them.

ON PITCH

He watches, aghast, as his precious Nightmares transform back

into golden Dreamsand and makes its way across town.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

Tooth, amazed, watches as her wings suddenly flutter with a

resurgence of strength and energy. She takes off and flies

past the kids who cheer her on.

CUPCAKE

(WALLA)

Yeah, Tooth Fairy! Whooaaa!

North's eyes widen. He straightens his back and unsheathes

his scimitars.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 121.

MONTY

(WALLA)

Whoa, yeah!

ON PITCH

PITCH

No! Get them!

Pitch gives a signal and sends another wave of Nightmares

toward the Guardians.

PITCH (CONT'D)

Do your jobs!

ON BUNNY

The petite rabbit looks at himself, waiting to be

transformed.

BUNNYMUND

Oh yeah, come on, come on!

When suddenly he's pursued by a snarling Nightmare.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

Oh, crikey!

Bunny takes off running.

ON NORTH

North throws two snowglobes down to the ground, through which

an army of yetis and elves emerge.

CALEB AND CLAUDE

No way!

ON BUNNY

Bunny tries to scurry under a parked car in order to evade

the attacking Nightmare, but he is snatched by his tail

before he can get away.

BUNNYMUND

I'm just a bunny!

Suddenly, Bunny transforms back to his normal size and whips

out his boomerangs while being held upside down.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 122.

BUNNYMUND (CONT'D)

G'day, mate!

Bunny kicks the Nightmare, flips into the air, and throws his

boomerangs which slice through two more Nightmares, turning

them to dust.

Bunny drums his feet on the ground and an army of sentinel

eggs suddenly rise up out of the earth. Caleb finds himself

riding on top of one as they join the yetis and elves in

battle.

CALEB

(WALLA)

Whoa!

BUNNYMUND

(WALLA)

Come on! Wooooohoooo!

Elves riding toy ducks and planes come flying in overhead

like bombardiers, turning Nightmares into puffs of black sand

as they fly through them.

The kids look to see a Nightmare charging toward them, only

to stop in it's tracks once the kids turn to face it.

CUPCAKE

Let's get `em!

KIDS

Aaaaaahhhhhh!

The kids, accompanied by two elves in a bike and side car,

charge an incoming Nightmare. The elf behind the wheel

lunges toward it, biting at its haunches.

CUPCAKE

(WALLA)

Come on guys, we can do it!

The kids put their hands on the Nightmare, turning it to

Dreamsand.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Pitch looks down with a smile at the chaos in the streets

below. Suddenly, a THUD! Pitch turns toward the noise to

see Jack on the roof.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 123.

Jack quickly sends a streak of frost toward Pitch's

Nightmares, disabling a few of them.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The Guardians turn toward the explosions of ice and snow

taking place atop the surrounding buildings.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Pitch begins to charge and responds with an attack of his

own. Jack jumps to an adjacent roof and lets out another

blast of ice.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

BUNNYMUND

(TO NORTH)

All yours, mate.

Bunny taps his foot on the ground and creates a rabbit hole

for North and himself to travel through.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jack runs into Pitch as he rounds the corner of a chimney.

Pitch let's a Nightmare arrow fly, which is suddenly

deflected by Tooth as she flies through the area and takes

out a few Nightmares of her own.

JACK

Thanks, Tooth!

Suddenly, Bunny comes flying out of a nearby chimney, drawing

his boomerang as he lands.

BUNNYMUND

(THROWING BOOMERANG)

Ho, ho, HO!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 124.

The Nightmares surrounding Pitch explode into dust as the

boomerang tears through them.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

North shoots out of a bunny hole, his scimitars at the ready,

only to have landed on a roof some distance from the

Guardians.

NORTH

Hyah!

(LOOKS AROUND)

Wrong roof.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Pitch tries to escape the attacking Guardians and slips into

a nearby shadow, emerging through the side of the building.

North jumps off the roof to greet him mid-air with his

scmitars.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Pitch is knocked to the ground. As he gets to his feet he

forms a scythe with his Nightmare sand and begins crossing

swords with North.

In an instant Pitch finds himself surrounded by the

Guardians. Each of them take their turn to deal Pitch a few

humiliating blows.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jamie looks over Caleb's shoulder as a wisp of Dreamsand

leaves his palms and rises into the air.

CALEB

Look at that!

JAMIE

(gets an idea)

I got it.

(off their confused looks)

(MORE)

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 125.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

I know what we have to do! Guys,

come on!

Jamie leads his friends as they follow the streams of

Dreamsand down the street toward the growing mass of golden

sand.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The Guardians advance toward Pitch.

JACK

It's over Pitch! There's no place

to hide.

Pitch give them a wry smile and quickly descends into the

shadows, casting multiple versions of himself along the alley

walls.

Suddenly, in their moment of distraction, Pitch rises up

behind Jack, his Nightmare sand AXE in hand.

BUNNYMUND

Jack, look out!

The other Guardians look on in horror as--

A golden whip wraps itself round Pitch's hands. We follow

the whip to reveal Sandy, coalescing from the funnel cloud of

Dreamsand. He gives Pitch a look, wags his finger, and then

uppercuts him into the air.

KIDS (O.S.)

(WALLA)

Whoa! The Sandman!

Sandy looks off to the side to where Jamie and his friends

have gathered. He forms a Dreamsand hat and tips the cap to

Jamie. Jamie, gleeful, waves back to Sandy as his friends

stand behind him in awe.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Man, this is so cool! Yeah,

alright! Wahoo! Wow!

Sandy then looks to his whip and tugs on it, slamming Pitch

into the ground and knocking him out. The Guardians cheer as

they welcome Sandy's return.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 126.

NORTH

Welcome back, old friend!

JACK

(STUNNED)

Sandy.

TOOTH

Oh, Sandy. You're alright!

BUNNYMUND

Sandy, come here!

JACK

Yeah!

BUNNYMUND

Mate, you are a sight for sore

eyes!

Sandy floats into the air, and shoots streams of Dreamsand in

every direction.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

A wisp of Dreamsand floats into a child's bedroom and touches

his forehead while he sleeps. Suddenly, a Dreamsand figure

forms above the child's head, it's the Tooth Fairy.

INT. PITCH'S LAIR - CONTINUOUS

Lights begin to appear on the globe. Baby Tooth notices

this, and perks up. Her wings start to flutter.

Other fairies begin to fly. They shoot down to the tooth

boxes and begin opening them. We see one of the faces on a

box, and transition to the actual child who she goes from sad

to happy as her fondest memories flood back. We zoom out of

her face to see thousands of fluttering fairies and...

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

Sophie peers out of her bedroom window, watching as streams

of Dreamsand dance along the Burgess skyline.

SOPHIE

Pretty!

CUT TO:

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 127.

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT

More and more windows begin to shine bright with gold as

swirls of Dreamsand fill the night sky. We pull back to

reveal the globe in North's sleigh, now decorated with spots

of yellow light.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF BURGESS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

A Nightmare comes barreling towards Cupcake. It screeches to

a halt, inches from the girl's face. She gently taps the

creature on the nose and turns into a Dreamsand Unicorn.

CUPCAKE

Whoa...

A gigantic Dreamsand dinosaur foot comes down revealing a

Dreamsand brontosaurus. As Dreamsand creatures fill the

streets, the Guardians and children rejoice.

MONTY

(WALLA)

Yeah!

Jamie stands in awe of a school of beautiful Dreamsand fish

as they float by. Suddenly, he's hit in the head with a

snowball. He turns to look and sees Jack, smiling. Jamie

picks up a snowball and throws it at his friends. Almost

instantaneously, a snowball fight ensures.

CLAUDE

(WALLA)

Oh yeah? Bring it on!

Sandy salutes Jack and North, who are standing off to the

side while the snowball fight escalates.

NORTH

Your center?

JACK

It took awhile, but I figured it

out.

North tosses Jack a small item. Jack catches it and looks to

his open palm, it's a Russian nesting doll in the image of

Jack, similar to those found in North's workshop. Jack

smiles and North gives him a wink in return.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 128.

BOOF! North is suddenly hit by a snowball and turns. He

sees Claude, Caleb, and an elf; they immediately point

fingers at each other.

CALEB AND CLAUDE

Ooohhh.

A beat, until North bursts out in laughter.

NORTH

(LAUGHING)

You're all on naughty list.

(TO BUNNY)

Bunny, think fast!

He throws a snowball, which hits Bunny smack in the face.

Pitch groans in pain, and rises up to see the town crawling

with Dreamsand creatures, snowballs flying and yetis playing.

PITCH

(TO HIMSELF)

No.

He whips around to see the kids - having the time of their

lives - and no fear in their eyes. He rises up, his entire

body shaking with rage, and screams at them.

PITCH (CONT'D)

You dare have fun in my presence!

I am the Boogeyman! AND YOU WILL

FEAR ME!

He lunges at Jamie who come running toward him, Pitch's hands

outstretched as if he's going to grab him by the throat. But

Jamie runs right through him, laughing, joyous.

PITCH (CONT'D)

Noooo!

Pitch gasps, realizing that he no longer has any power over

the children. The devastation plays across his face.

PITCH (CONT'D)

(under his breathe)

No.

He sees the Guardians approach, standing side by side with

one another. Pitch turns and flees into the forest.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 129.

EXT. POND - NIGHT

Pitch runs through the shadows in terror. He comes crashing

through the trees of the forest, and out onto the ice of the

pond. He looks over his shoulder to see if the Guardians are

on his tail, when BOOM! He runs smack into North's chest.

Pitch slips on the ice, and falls backwards. He looks up to

see North smiling down at him.

NORTH

Leaving the party so soon?

TOOTH

You didn't even say goodbye.

Tooth tosses something to Pitch which he catches. He looks

down. It's a quarter.

PITCH

A quarter?

BLAM. A fist punches him right in the jaw, and a single

tooth goes skittering across the ice. Tooth shakes out her

hand.

TOOTH

And that's for my fairies.

PITCH

(SCOWLS)

You can't get rid of me! Not

forever! There will always be

fear!

NORTH

So what? As long as one child

believes, we will be here to fight

fear!

PITCH

Really? Then what are they doing

here?

Hundreds of Nightmares emerge from the woods, surrounding the

pond. It's terrifying, but the Guardians seem unphased.

NORTH

They can't be my Nightmares, I'm

not afraid.

JACK

Looks like it's your fear they

smell.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 130.

Suddenly, Pitch's eyes get huge with terror as the Nightmares

move in on him. He begins to back away, but the Nightmares

pick up speed as they charge toward him.

PITCH

Ahhh, no....AAAAAHHHHHH!!

He tries to run, but it's impossible to get his footing on

the ice. He falters, and is swept up in the stampede of

Nightmares. The streaks of black whip and latch themselves

onto Pitch as the black cloud carries him through the forest.

PITCH (CONT'D)

No, no, nooooooo!

Pitch struggles to escape, but the mass of black sand pulls

him deep into the forest, under the frame of the broken bed,

and back down into the dark depths of the underground. He

looks up at the moon as he disappears and the hole in the

earth seals itself up.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 3200 - THE OATH

EXT. POND - THE MOON

Pale and faint in the day, but oddly close and welcoming. It

can't be, but -- is that the barest hint of a FACE on the

Moon? Jack smiles as he looks up at it. He hears Tooth's

laugh and turns to find North, Tooth, Bunny and Sandy, their

faces shining with pride.

Tooth comes flying in to give Jack a hug. She lifts him off

the ground as they embrace. They share a moment and she soon

recoils with giddy embarrassment as Baby Tooth interjects.

Jack acknowledges Baby Tooth and gently pats her on the side

of her face as North steps forward.

NORTH

Are you ready now, Jack?

(BEAT)

To make it official.

Jack looks over, a stern elf is hitting a horn against his

palm. A Yeti hands North the book we saw when Jack and the

Guardians first met. Sandy and Bunny share a boastful look.

NORTH (CONT'D)

Then is time you take Oath.

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 131.

North opens the book, flips through several pages, and takes

a moment before he speaks.

NORTH (CONT'D)

(TO JACK)

"Will you, Jack Frost...vow to

watch over the children of the

world?

Jamie and his friends along with a crowd of yetis, elves, and

eggs all make their way across the pond to the rest of the

group. As they approach we see settle on Jamie, who stands

at the center of the group.

NORTH (CONT'D)

To guard them with your life -

their hopes, their wishes, and

their dreams? For they are all

that we have, all that we are and

all that we will ever be."

Jack takes a second to look back at Jamie, then back to

North.

JACK

I will.

NORTH

Then congratulations, Jack Frost -

for you are now and forevermore...a

Guardian.

Jamie and the kids erupt in a CHEER, as do the Yetis and

Eggs.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Oh man! Woo! Yeah, Jack! Yeah,

Jack! Yeah! Wooo!

NORTH

(WALLA)

Yippa!

BUNNYMUND

(WALLA)

Yeah! Wooo! Good job, mate. Good

job!

KIDS

(WALLA)

Alright! Yeah! Go, Jack!

Alright! Woo. Alright!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 132.

NORTH

Klasno!

North picks up Jack, gives him a hug, and kisses him on both

cheeks. Jack winces, then looks up to North with a smile.

BUNNYMUND

(WALLA)

That's my boy! Woo!

KIDS

(WALLA)

Alright Jack. Yeah! Awesome!

Imitating North, an elf picks up the elf standing next to him

and gives him a big kiss. After an awkward pause, the

affectionate elf is punched in the face.

Jack looks to see several fairies hovering nearby, forming

the shape of a heart. One of the swooning fairies faints and

falls to the ground.

TOOTH

Keep it together, girls.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Jack! You did it Jack! Wooo!

You're in the Guardians! Yeah,

Jack! Yay! Yeah! You earned it!

You're Jack Frost! Yay! Awesome,

yay!

CALEB

(WALLA)

You guys, look!

MONTY

(WALLA)

That's Santa's sleigh.

The group looks up to the sky as North's sleigh comes in for

a landing. The tie-dyed elf rescues a lone egg from the skis

of the sleigh as it glides across the icy pond.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Wow, it's real. That is wicked!

Whoa, that was awesome! Ohh...can

you believe this? Whoa, did you

guys see that? That's awesome!

Wow! Whoa!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 133.

BUNNYMUND

(to North, wryly)

Everyone loves the sleigh.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Wow! Look at that! So totally

insane!

North turns away from Bunny and puts his hand on Jack's

shoulder.

NORTH

Time to go.

As the kids look on in wonder, Sandy throws up his hands

creating a shower of Dreamsand, which drifts down on the

children.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Whoa! It's beautiful. Wow, that

was awesome!

Meanwhile, Bunny hands an egg to Sophie who giggles and pats

the brim of his nose.

BUNNYMUND

Happy Easter ya little anklebiter.

I'm gonna miss yah.

SOPHIE

Bye, bye, bunny.

Jamie realizes what's about to happen.

JAMIE

You're leaving? But, what if Pitch

comes back?

Jack looks back at Jamie, who seems wistful and worried.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

What if we stop believing again?

If I can't see you --

Jack kneels down to look Jamie in the eye.

JACK

Hey, hey, slow down, slow down.

You telling me you stop believing

in the moon when the sun comes up?

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 134.

JAMIE

(considers, then)

No.

JACK

Okay, well do you stop believing in

the sun when clouds block it out?

JAMIE

(SMILES)

No.

JACK

We'll always be there, Jamie. And

now...we'll always be here.

(points to Jamie's heart)

Which kind of makes you a Guardian

too.

Jamie smiles. Jack stands up and heads toward the sleigh.

Jamie's friends stand off to the side rubbing their eyes as

they become drowsy.

KIDS

(WALLA)

I can't keep my eyes open. I think

I gotta go home. Let's go home.

What time is it? I'm sleepy.

JAMIE

Jack!

Jamie runs over and wraps his arms around Jack. For a

moment, Jack's astonished and then gives Jamie a warm

embrace. Jack stands up and gets in the sleigh with the rest

of the Guardians.

NORTH

Hyah!

Jack and the Guardians look toward the kids as the sleigh

takes off. Jamie RUNS behind the sleigh, following Jack. In

spite of it all, he doesn't want to let go. The sleigh takes

off into the sky. Jamie stops unable to follow.

KIDS

(WALLA)

Woooo! Yeah! Yay!

Guardians Screening Script 9/6/12 Avid 135.

IN SLEIGH

JACK (V.O.)

My name is Jack Frost. And I'm a

Guardian. How do I know that?

Because the moon told me so. And

when the moon tells you something,

believe it.

Jack moves to the back of the sleigh as the Guardians pat him

on the back. Jack smiles...and forms a snowflake in his

hand. For Jamie, for all of us in the theatre. It glides

off his fingertips and flies toward camera as we...

FADE TO WHITE

Rise of the Guardians

Writers : David Lindsay-Abaire

Genres : Animation Adventure Family

User Comments

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