

LICKETY SPLIT

Written by

Josh Raff & Nathan Markiewicz

joshraff27@gmail.com
namarkiewicz@gmail.com

EXT. SUNNY SUBURBAN STREET - NOON

Montage set to the music of an ice cream truck.

It's a Rockwell-esque all-American scene as kids play, run along the street, and ride bikes. They scream with joy and laugh as the sun beams.

An Ice Cream Truck pulls up on the corner and stops its engine. THREE PRE TEENS approach the truck. ROCKY, a burly ice cream man in a paper hat, slides open the side window and makes quick transactions, doling out a series of cones, dips, and splits in exchange for small bills.

As the third of the children approaches to make his order, the camera pans down, past a pair of muddied adolescent sneakers, and focuses on an exposed manhole cover directly underneath the truck. Two arms from CROOK 2, clad in all black, emerges halfway up from the man hole. He reaches down and hoists two big duffel bags skyward. They meet the arms of CROOK 1 that stick out from a trap door underneath the truck. Crook 1 pulls the bags inside the truck and then returns to grab CROOK 2 and yank him up through the trap door.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Rocky continues to softly serve the cones as Crook 2 quietly climbs into the truck. Crook 1 reaches down to receive two more huge duffel bags labeled "Federal Reserve Bank."

Rocky nearly trips as he steps over the money bags to make a dip cone. The space is tight.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

The kids take their treats and run off.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Underneath the truck, CROOK 3 reaches up from the manhole. He grabs Crook 1's arm and gets hoisted up.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

As Crook 3 settles in, two more giant money bags emerge.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Underneath the truck, CROOK 4 emerges from the manhole.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Crook 1 taps Rocky on the shoulder and gives him a nod. Rocky nods back and hands off another cone. Crook 1 bends down to retrieve the last member of the crew. There is barely any space left in the truck. Rocky motions to close the window...

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

A fully dressed uniform officer hustles up to the window. This is OFFICER RHODES.

OFFICER RHODES
Hold it right there!

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Everyone freezes.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Rocky keeps a stern face as he looks out of the window.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Crook 1 slowly lets go of Crook 4's arm and crouches down. He gestures to the trap door to be quiet. Crook 2 reaches for a pistol on his hip. Crook 3 motions for everyone to stay calm.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Crook 4, still in the hole, looks around, unsure what to do. She sees Officer' Rhodes' blue pant legs right on the other side of the truck. She stays put.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Officer Rhodes knocks on the truck with his billy club and stops by the window. He attempts to hide his deep breaths.

OFFICER RHODES
I thought you were about to leave.
Not so fast! I want one "Lickety
Split!"

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Crook 2 exhales slowly. He releases the hold on his gun. A bead of sweat drips down his brow. Rocky splits a banana and preps a dish. He turns around but the truck is overcrowded with crooks and money bags. He can barely reach the ice cream machine. He stretches a long arm underneath the machine and holds the dish underneath the spigot. He motions to Crook 1 who pulls the lever and the soft serve begins to flow.

OFFICER RHODES
(From outside the window)
With uh...everything...hot fudge
and butter scotch and uh...

Rocky turns to the other side of the tiny mobile kitchen. Crook 2 has a ladle filled with fudge and spatters it into the dish.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Officer Rhodes eyes the menu board on the truck. Rocky comes to the window.

OFFICER RHODES
...walnuts...and rainbow sprinkles.

Rocky nods and ducks back inside.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Crook 4 stays motionless, halfway out of the manhole. She watches Officer Rhodes' legs.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

The bank-robbers move in concert like a synchronized swim team. Rocky moves to one side as Crook 1 applies extra toppings. Rocky swings the dish around to Crook 3 who is ready with the whipped cream.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Officer Rhodes fumbles with his wallet and drops it to the ground. It hits his foot and bounces under the truck.

OFFICER RHODES
Whoops.

He bends over and begins to grope for the wallet. Nothing. He gets lower, in a squat position, and reaches further. Rocky looks out the window. His eyes widen.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Crook 4 looks nervous as Officer Rhodes' arm blindly reaches around, inching closer to her position. She gently moves the wallet in anticipation of his next hand move. He gives an extra-long reach and touches the wallet with his index.

OFFICER RHODES

Ah!

He palms it and drags it back from the under the truck. His legs straighten back up to normal. Crook 4 exhales.

INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - SAME

Crook 1 crouches back down and pulls Crook 4 into the van. In the background, Officer Rhodes stands back up to meet the window.

OFFICE RHODES

How's it going in there, friend?

Rocky holds an epic-looking sundae and turns towards the window about to deliver.

OFFICER RHODES

Oh and don't forget that cherry on top!

Rocky pauses.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Crook 3 is upside down through the trap door, held by the arms of Crooks 1 and 2. He replaces the manhole cover.

INT. TRUCK - SAME

Crook 4 looks around and sees a plastic jar of cherries on a high shelf. She reaches for the jar but loses her balance and bumps into Crook 1, who holds onto one of Crook 3's legs. SLOW MOTION as the jar tips over and all the cherries fall out the bottom of the truck.

A close-up on each Crooks' face as the calamity happens. Crooks 1 and 2 begin to pull Crook 3 up by the legs.

EXT. STREET - SAME

A hail storm of cherries materialize on the manhole cover past Crook 3's face.

As Crook 3 gets yanked up he grabs a cherry and puts the stem in his teeth. Rocky takes the cherry from Crook 3's mouth and immediately places it on the Lickety Split Sundae.

EXT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Rocky reaches his arm out the window with the sundae in-tow.

ROCKY

On the house. For the boys in blue.

He winks and smiles to expose a gold tooth. Officer Rhodes gives an affirming nod and tip of the hat. Rocky closes the window and disappears into the truck. The engine revs and the music resumes. The truck pulls away.

Officer Rhodes takes a big bite of ice cream. He plucks the cherry and looks up at the sky as he lowers it into his mouth. He closes his eyes and really lets the moment sink in. As he pulls out the stem, he opens his eyes and they meet the ground to see a manhole strangely littered with red cherries.

Officer Rhodes walks towards this odd sight and bends down for closer examination. He looks across the street and notices the "Neapolitan Savings & Loan." He peers closer and sees a woman, bound and gagged, standing helplessly at the window.

The sound of a burglary alarm fills the air as the song from the ice cream truck fades into the distance.

Officer Rhodes looks up, down, and around with a giant sundae still in his hand. A million thoughts circulate in his head as he realizes everything that just happened.

CUT TO BLACK.