

Adventures in Odyssey: "Snow Day"
by John Beebee

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Scene 1: INT. ALEX'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING
(Alex, Radio Voice)

Alex is sleeping.

(SFX: SNORING)

ALEX-NARRATOR
Monday morning. 6:26 AM. I
was intensely studying the
insides of my eyelids.

(SFX: SNORING)

ALEX-NARRATOR
When suddenly, my clock radio
came on.

[The underlined part of the Radio Voice goes under Alex's
groan and "snooze button" line.]

RADIO VOICE
Connellsville and Odyssey
seemed to catch the brunt of
it last night, but some places
in the north were hit pretty
hard, too, with a few spots

ALEX
(groan)
Snooze...snooze button.

Alex gropes for the clock radio.

RADIO
reporting accumulation of up
to 15 inches!

Alex stops.

ALEX
Huh?

RADIO
Because of all the snow, the
Odyssey Police Department
recommends you stay at home
today, unless you have an

emergency. Now for the latest
on school closings...

ALEX

(Alex comes fully awake)
What? Oh man!

Alex throws off the covers and sits up in his bed.

RADIO

The following school systems
are closed today...
(shuffling papers)

ALEX

(gasp!)
Please, oh pleaaaaaase!

RADIO

(under Alex-Narrator)
Briarwood...Odyssey Academy...
Campbell College...Village
Christian...

ALEX-NARRATOR

I could just picture kids all
over Odyssey falling on their
knees in prayer.

RADIO

And the following public
school systems will be closed.
Anderson County...Baldwin
County...Butler County...

ALEX

Campbell County! Campbell!

RADIO

(shuffling papers)
Cadbury County...
(almost teasing, slowing
down)
Camarotto County...

ALEX

C'mon, c'mon! Campbell!
Campbell!

RADIO
(shuffling papers)
Cam--ber County...

ALEX
Doh!

RADIO
Campbell County...

ALEX-NARRATOR
And with those two words, the
radio announcer made my day.

(MUSIC: HALLELUJAH CHORUS)

ALEX
Yes!!!! Oh yes--oh yes--OH
YES! Wa-HOOOOOOOO! Snow Day!
YEEEEEEHAW!

ALEX-NARRATOR
You know, there's nothing
quite like the feeling of a
Snow Day. It's like...a
surprise holiday.

ALEX
(sings as he gets
dressed)
Alex opens/closes his dresser drawers, grabs clothes and
puts them on.

ALEX-NARRATOR
I got dressed as fast as I
could and then opened up the
blinds on my window.

ALEX
Wow!

(MUSIC: WINTER WONDERLAND)

ALEX-NARRATOR
(as Alex the Poet)
Everything everywhere was
covered in white. Our front
yard was pure snow, like a

blanket of cotton candy—except it wasn't sticky. And it wasn't pink. And it wasn't on one of those paper cone things.

Anyway, it was like a whole new world out there, just calling to me.

CAL

(off, outside the window)
Alex! C'mon outside!

ALEX

(calls from inside)
Hey Cal! Be right there!

ALEX-NARRATOR

But on my way out the door...

MOM

Alex, there's something I need you to do for me.

ALEX

Yes, ma'am?

(MUSIC: "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE" TYPE THEME)

ALEX-NARRATOR

Little did I know that the next words out of Mom's mouth would send me on an unforgettable journey that would test my courage, my perseverance and my skill to survive.

(MUSIC: PAUSE)

MOM

I need you to deliver these cookies to your grandma.

(MUSIC: DRAMATIC STING! (Nathan suggests the "exclamation" sfx from "I Want My BTV))

ALEX-NARRATOR

Operation Cookie Delivery.
It sounded simple enough.

But little did I know what
terror lay ahead for me and
one dozen cookies.

MOM

It's her favorite--chocolate
chip with macademia nuts.

Mom closes the metal lid on the cookie tin.

ALEX

Hmmmmm!

Mom puts the tin in a paper grocery bag while
she talks.

MOM

And I'd like her to get these
while they're still warm, all
right?

Alex zips up his coat and snaps his coat buttons.

ALEX

Yes, ma'am.

Alex's Mom hand her son the bag.

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 2: EXT. ALEX'S STREET

(Alex, Cal)

Alex closes the back door behind him and ventures into the
snowy wonder of outside, crunching through the snow.

ALEX-NARRATOR

You have to understand. My
Mom's cookies are world
famous. (Well, at least they
are in Odyssey.) We're
talking cookies that are the
stuff of legend--the most
delicious chewy chocolate chip
cookies you ever put in your
mouth.

I was now on my way,
carrying Mom's famous Golden
Cookie Tin, wrapped tightly in
a paper bag--for security
reasons. But once I rounded

the corner of my house, I came
face to face with something
hideous, something gruesome,
something...unknown.

CAL

It's Mr. Smiley the Snowman!

ALEX

(deadpan)

Mr. Smiley. Cal, is that...a
zucchini sticking out of his
face?

CAL

Yeah, we couldn't find a
carrot for his nose.

ALEX

Okay. And I guess those two
rutabagas there are his
eyeballs.

CAL

Yup. And how about the
broccoli for his hair, huh?

ALEX

It looks like Mr. Smiley
had an accident with a
vegetable stand.

CAL

Well, y'know, the one thing
Mr. Smiley really needs is a
hat. We were thinking about
using---hey! How 'bout your
paper bag there?

ALEX

(quick)

No!

CAL

Why not? He'll look great
with a paper bag hat! C'mon,
Alex! Please?

ALEX
(sigh)

CAL
Look, if you give Mr. Smiley a
hat, we'll let you help us
with our snow fort.

ALEX
Who's "us?"

CAL
Nathaniel and Mandy and me.
C'mon, the paper bag.

ALEX
Okay, I guess. Maybe you can
use this to cover his...face.

CAL
Great! Whatcha got in there,
anyway?

Alex takes the Golden Cookie Tin out of the sack.

ALEX
This.

(MUSIC: GOLDEN COOKIE TINKLE, ER, TWINKLE)

CAL
(gasp of discovery)
The Golden Cookie Tin!

ALEX
Shhhh, Cal!

CAL
(enthusiastic!)
It's your Mom's trademark!
The Golden Cookie Tin means
you've got your Mom's world
famous chocolate chip cookies!

ALEX
Shhhh!
(low voice)
I'm on a dangerous mission
here! Do you want to get me killed?

CAL
(secret aside)
Can I have one?

ALEX
Cal! These are for our
grandmother!

CAL
Yeah I know, but she won't
miss--

(SFX: SNOW MISSILE/SPLAT!)

Cal is slugged by a snowball--right in the head.

CAL
Ugggh!

ALEX-NARRATOR
Before I knew it, Cal was
assassinated by an enemy
snowball.

CAL
(over-dramatic reaction,
as if he's been gunned down
and he's dying in a B movie)
(dying grunt)

ALEX
Cal! Are you okay?

CAL
(grunt)

ALEX
How many fingers am I holding
up?

CAL
("dying" gasp)
Billings, Montana.

ALEX
Hmmm.

CAL

(“dying” gasp)
 Alex, I bequeath to you...my
 lime green glow-in-dark...yo-yo.

ALEX
 Cal, I don't want your yo-yo.

CAL
 (snaps back to normal)
 Wait a second, whaddya mean?
 It's a great yo-yo!

ALEX
 It's lopsided--and the string
 has knots in it.

CAL
 But I--

(SFX: A BARRAGE OF MISSILE SNOWBALLS)

CAL
 --yipes!

ALEX
 We're under attack! Quick!
 Which way to the fort?

CAL
This way!

ALEX-NARRATOR
 But just as we scrambled to
 get away--

(SFX: SNOWBALL MISSILE)

ALEX-NARRATOR
 --a long-range snowball scored
 a direct hit on Mr. Smiley.

(SFX: SNOWBALL SPLAT)

ALEX-NARRATOR
 Vegetables flew everywhere.
 It was not pretty.

CAL
 Mr. Smiley!

(MUSIC: MELODRAMATIC TRAGEDY)

ALEX
Cal...he's...gone.

CAL
(sniffs)

(SFX: SNOWBALL MISSILE)

ALEX
Hurry, we gotta get outta
here!

CAL
The snow fort! C'mon, we'll
be out of range there! This
way!

Alex and Cal run as snowball missiles zing everywhere.

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 3: INT. SNOW FORT
(Alex, Cal, Nathaniel, Mandy, Rodney, Bone)

Alex and Cal approach the building site for the almost
complete snow fort.

ALEX
Wow! Cool snow fort,
Nathaniel!

NATHANIEL
Thanks! Cal and I did the
architectural renderings.

MANDY
And I did the interior
decorating.

ALEX
(trying to be
complimentary)
Hey...uh, nice...Mandy.

MANDY

Thank you! I thought the
calico curtains were a welcome
touch.

NATHANIEL

Whoa, Alex! The Golden Cookie
Tin! You brought your Mom's
cookies!

MANDY

All right!

ALEX

Shhhh!

CAL

They're for our grandma.

NATHANIEL AND MANDY
(very disappointed)

Oh.

ALEX

Speaking of disappointments...
(beat)

Well, Cal, don't you think you
should tell them? About...

CAL

--You tell them.

ALEX

All right. Nathaniel, Mandy?
(ahem)(like the scene from
"Bambi") Mr. Smiley isn't
with us anymore.

CAL

To put it gently, he was
decimated by a sniper
snowball.

NATHANIEL

Oh no!

MANDY

Who would do such a terrible thing?

ALEX

I don't know.

NATHANIEL

Look out!

(SFX: SNOWBALL MISSILE AND SPLAT)

NATHANIEL

That was close!

CAL

And look! It's the same kind of slushy snowball that struck Mr. Smiley!

ALEX

All right, I don't know who we're up against, but we've got to pull together to protect ourselves.

(speech)

This is an act of war!

NATHANIEL, MANDY, CAL

Yeah! That's right!

ALEX

(speech)

This is a day we will always remember! Who's with me?

NATHANIEL, MANDY, CAL

I am! I'm with you! I am!
Me!

ALEX

Good! I am now Captain Alex and you are my faithful troops. We may be in for the toughest battle of our lives, BUT ARE WE WARRIORS OR ARE WE WIMPS?

NATHANIEL, MANDY, CAL

WE ARE WARRIORS, SIR!

ALEX

Good! Now, here's what we'll do. First--

RODNEY

(off, calling)

Hey Jefferson! I know you got that Gold Cookie Tin. I seen it with my own eyeballs. We got ya surrounded. So come out with the cookie tin and with your hands up in the air and we won't hurt ya...much.

CAL

That's Rodney! That means we're up against the Bones of Rath!

NATHANIEL, MANDY, CAL

(scared reaction)

ALEX

C'mon, everybody! ARE WE WARRIORS OR ARE WE WIMPS?

NATHANIEL, MANDY, CAL

WE ARE WIMPS, SIR!

ALEX-NARRATOR

Now to be honest, I felt just like they did. But I gave a promise to my Mom. Somehow I had to get those cookies to Grandma's house.

CAL

Yikes! Here comes Rodney!

ALEX

Wait! He's waving a white hanky. Hold your fire.

Rodney speaks from about 20 feet away.

RODNEY

Hey, look everybody, I'm

a reasonable guy. All we want is that Gold Cookie Tin. And if we don't get it, we'll pulverize everybody. Okay? We'll give youse guys a minute to think it over.

NATHANIEL

Okay, Alex--

ALEX

--Captain Alex.

NATHANIEL

"Captain" Alex, why don't you just give him your cookies?

ALEX

Because I've got to get these to my grandma! Besides, if we give in to the enemy now, we'll have to keep giving in.

NATHANIEL

But we're outnumbered!

ALEX

(speech)

Remember, we have nothing to fear except being afraid of itself...or something like that. We will fight them on the beaches, on the--

CAL

(whisper)

Captain Alex, we don't have any beaches.

ALEX

Good point!

MANDY

Time's almost up!

ALEX

All right, here's the plan. First, we secure as much ammunition as possible. Mandy

and I will be the shooters.
Cal and Nathaniel, you're the
ammunition handlers.

RODNEY

(off, calling)
How 'bout it, Jefferson? You
gonna surrender peacefully or
are we gonna have to come and
getcha?

ALEX

(calling)
We will never surrender our
homes, our lands or our
cookies!
(to his troops)
Don't fire till you see the
whites of their pupils!

CAL

Quad 5 is manned and ready,
sir!

ALEX

Very well.
(calling to Rodney)
You asked for it, Rodney!
(to his troops)
All right, troops! Commence
firing!

(MUSIC: BURSTS INTO MILITARY MUSIC)

The sounds of snow war pierce the air--snow missiles, snow
blasts, the injured crying out for mercy.

CAL

Look out! Bone at 2:00! Or
maybe 2:30!

BONE

(surprise)
Ha!

MANDY

I see him!
(grunts as she throws)

BONE
(grunts as he's hit)
Uh!

(SFX: TRIP AND FALL TO THE GROUND)

CAL
Actually, that was probably
quarter after 2.

ALEX
Way to go, Mandy!

MANDY
Thanks!

CAL
More ammunition, Nathaniel!

NATHANIEL
Okay, okay!
(aside to Alex)
Captain Alex, Nathaniel Graham
reporting, sir.

ALEX
At ease, Mr. Graham. What is
it?

NATHANIEL
Supplies are running low, sir,
and...my morale is dropping.

ALEX
What do you propose?

NATHANIEL
(somber)
Captain, I think it's time we
toss our cookies.

ALEX
Nathaniel, I can't! I've got
to deliver these cookies to my
grandma!

MANDY
They're coming closer!

ALEX

All right, looks like it's
time for Plan Zebra Alpha
Charlie Fettuccine Water
Buffalo.

CAL

Wow. Sounds like a great
plan!

MANDY

They're getting ready to
charge!

ALEX

(calling)

Hold it, Rodney. I think we
can work something out!

RODNEY

(off, calling)

Well if youse don't work it
out real quick like, we're
gonna turn your snow fort into
a giant slushee.

ALEX

Okay, everybody switch jackets
and hats. And put your hoods
up.

NATHANIEL

Huh?

ALEX

Just do it!

The troops switch jackets. Snowballs continue flying left
and right.

ALEX

Here's the plan. Mandy, when
I give the signal, you run
that way. Nathaniel, you run
the other way to your house.
Cal and I will run due south.

CAL

Here Alex, I got this!

Cal produces a metal garbage can lid.

MANDY

Whew! What's that smell?

ALEX

You got a garbage can lid?

CAL

This is no ordinary garbage lid. It's the shield of Captain Alex!

ALEX

Good stinking. I mean thinking. (cough) Whew. Well look, good job, you guys.

NATHANIEL

Watch out!

A snowball hits.

CAL

That was close!

MANDY

Give it your best, Alex. I sure hope you make it to your grandma's.

ALEX

Thanks. I'll give you back your jacket tomorrow.

MANDY

Take good care of it. It's a Powderpuff Pamela collector's jacket.

ALEX

Powderpuff-?!

MANDY

There's a picture of her on your back.

ALEX

Wait! I can't wear this!

CAL

Look out! Here they come!

ALEX

Oh great! All right then.
Let's...GO!

The kids yell as they scramble out of their bunker.

RODNEY

(off, calling)

Hey! What's goin' on?!

ALEX-NARRATOR

Rodney and the Bones were so
confused, they didn't know
what to do.

RODNEY

(off, calling)

There they go, Bones! Go get
'em! Wait! There goes
Jefferson that way! Naw,
that's him goin' that way! Aw
man! I'll get you yet,
Jefferson!

ALEX-NARRATOR

(triumphantly)

We were on our way to
Grandma's house.

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 4: EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

(Alex, Cal, Rodney)

(MUSIC: WINTER WONDERLAND)

Alex and Cal crunch along in the snow.

ALEX-NARRATOR

Now that we were out of danger, Cal and I could look around and enjoy the scenery.

(Alex the Poet)

Snowflakes drifted down like dandruff from the sky. And everything around us--the housetops, the trees, the streets--looked like the aftermath of a vanilla ice cream factory explosion. The pond in the park was iced over and people were gliding around on ice skates like ballerinas wearing really slippery socks on a linoleum floor. Wow.

And yet, something wasn't right. In fact, something was very very wrong. Suddenly, it hit me. Well, actually, it hit Cal--

(SFX: SNOWBALL BLAST!)

CAL

Auuuuuuugh!

A series of rapid fire snowballs pummells Cal.

ALEX-NARRATOR

He was assaulted by a rapid-fire snowball attack at close range.

RODNEY & THE BONES
(off, laughing)

ALEX-NARRATOR

Sure enough. Rodney Rathbone was back. He and the Bones caught us in an ambush.

CAL

What'll we do?

ALEX

Shields up!

CAL

Aye-aye, Captain!

ALEX-NARRATOR

The mighty blast of snowballs
came head to head with our
Super Anti-Snow Missile
Defense System! (Otherwise
known as a garbage can lid.)

Snowballs pelt the garbage can lid with a vengeance.

ALEX

Hold steady, Cal!

CAL

I don't know if I can take it
much longer, Captain!

ALEX

Steady...steady!

CAL

(worry groan)

ALEX-NARRATOR

The Bones were closing in.
I decided to employ a well-
known but very useful defense
strategy.

ALEX

Run for your life!

Alex and Cal take off.

RODNEY

(calling)

Bones! Attack! Get those
cookies from Powderpuff
Pamela!

(MUSIC: CHASE)

Alex and Cal run as fast as they can through the snow.

ALEX-NARRATOR

Cal and I darted between some
houses--and there was Harper
Street ahead of us. It curved
down and around to Grandma's
house way below--about a half
mile away.

CAL
(out of breath)
I don't think I can make it!

ALEX
(panting)
We've got to! The Bones'll be
on top of us any minute!

Alex stops and holds back Cal.

ALEX
Wait! Listen!

In the distance, kids shout and play.

CAL
What?

ALEX
Over there! That's Gumper's
Hill!

CAL
Oh yeah!

ALEX-NARRATOR
Gumper's Hill. One of the
biggest, meanest hills in all
of Odyssey. A treacherous,
winding labyrinth with a trail
of broken and twisted skeleton
sleds abandoned along the
downward path. If you ever
survived the trip, you still
faced Gumper's Creek at the
bottom. But it was the
quickest shortcut to Grandma's
house!

ALEX
C'mon, Cal!

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 5: EXT. GUMPER'S HILL
(Alex, Cal, Kid, Rodney)

Alex and Cal run up to a KID as others sled down the hill.
The kid is a bit on the tough side--a negotiator.

ALEX-NARRATOR
One kid was at the top of the
hill with a custom black
racing sled at his feet. He
was just ready to dive down
the slope.

ALEX
(running up)
Hey, kid!

KID
Yeah?

ALEX
Can we please borrow your
sled?

KID
(considering, then drops
it)
Mmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm. No.

ALEX
Aw c'mon, please? Our lives
and our cookies are in danger!

KID
Hmmm. Okay.

ALEX
Great!

KID
Cost ya two cookies.

ALEX
What? No way! I've got to
deliver these to my grandma!

KID
 You deliverin' a garbage can
 lid, too?

The kid taps on the lid.

CAL
This is a Super Anti-Snow
 Missile Defense System!

KID
 Looks like a garbage can lid.

RODNEY
 (off, calling)
 Comin' to getcha, Jefferson!

ALEX
 Cal! Let me have that lid!

CAL
 You mean our Super Anti--

Alex grabs the garbage can lid.

CAL
 Hey! What are you doin'?

Alex throws the lid on the ground and stomps on it.

ALEX
 There! Now it's a snow saucer!

CAL
 Huh?

ALEX
 C'mon, Cal! Jump on!

CAL
 But how do we--whoooooooooa!

Alex shoves off with Cal on the snow saucer.

ALEX-NARRATOR
 There was no time for talk.
 We shoved off, down Gumper's
 Hill.
 (beat)

Actually, it was more like
Gumper's Cliff.

(MUSIC: CLIFFHANGER CHASE MUSIC)

Alex and Cal scream by in stereo (left to right).

ALEX & CAL
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

ALEX-NARRATOR
I tucked the Golden Cookie Tin
inside my jacket and held on
to the saucer with all my
might.

The saucer rattles and bumps down the hill in stereo.

ALEX-NARRATOR
Meantime, Rodney grabbed the
kid's racing sled and was
right behind us.

RODNEY
(off but closer than ever
before)
Gotcha now, ya little twerp!
(laughs)

The racing sled skis down with a wickedly smooth glide—in
stereo.

ALEX-NARRATOR
Meantime, conditions aboard
the U.S.S. Garbage Saucer were
approaching panic. For the
captain and his crew.

The ride's a bit bumpy--and reflects in the voices of Alex
and Cal.

CAL
(bumpy voice)
How do you steer this thing?!

ALEX
(bumpy voice)
You don't! You just hold on
for your life!

ALEX & CAL
 (bumpy voices)
 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

RODNEY
 (off, but getting closer)
 You're mine, Jefferson!

ALEX
 (bumpy voice)
 Hang on! We might make it, Cal!
 Except for one thing.

ALEX & CAL
 (bumpy voices)(beat)
 THE CREEK! AAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

Alex and Cal's ride smoothes out as they pick up speed toward the bottom of the hill.

ALEX
 Put on the brakes!

CAL
 Huh?

ALEX
 Use your boots!

CAL
 Got it!
 (grunts)

(SFX: SUBTLE CORK-POP)

CAL
 Oh no! My boot came off!

ALEX
 Stop it with your hands!

(SFX: TWO SUBTLE CORK-POPS, PITCHED HIGHER)

CAL
 Aaaaaah! My gloves came off!
 (panic! bumpy voice)
 What'll we do?!

ALEX

Abandon ship!

CAL

What?!

ALEX

One...Two...Three!

ALEX & CAL

WHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOAH!

Alex and Cal roll off the saucer and crash on the hill.

ALEX-NARRATOR

We escaped just in time. The
saucer rolled down the hill...

The saucer rolls by in stereo.

...and into the creek.

The saucer plunges into the creek, a bit off mic.

Rodney is right behind the saucer--and flies by in stereo.

RODNEY

(yelling, approaching fast)
Where are the brakes on this
thing? AW MANNNNNNN!

Rodney's "Aw Man!" and sled swish is in stereo left to
right, then

(SFX: SPLASH!)--on the right.

ALEX-NARRATOR

As Cal and I recovered from
our dramatic leap, I
realized...we were now just
300 feet away from Grandma's
front door!

(MUSIC: DRAMATIC PUSH)

ALEX-NARRATOR

Then I heard a familiar
voice...in a very unfamiliar way.

RODNEY

(off, calling, chilled,
taking on water)
Help! Help me! I--I can't
swim! Help!

CAL
It's prob'ly a trick, Alex.
Don't fall for it.

RODNEY
(off, calling,
spluttering)
Help me!

ALEX
(sigh)
We've gotta check on him.
C'mon, Cal.

CAL
(reluctant)
Okay...

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 6: EXT. CREEK
(Alex, Cal, Rodney)

Alex and Cal approach the fast-moving creek.

ALEX
Right there! The sled's in
the creek.

CAL
But no Rodney!

ALEX
Oh no! Where is he?

Rodney jumps out from behind a tree.

RODNEY
Right here, ya little twerp!
(growls as he jumps out and
grabs Alex)

ALEX
(grunts as he's grabbed)
RODNEY

Hey, pretty jacket you got
Jefferson!

CAL
Let him go, Rodney!

RODNEY
(mimic)
"Let him go, Rodney!" Well,
first off, I'm gonna teach the
little dweeb a lesson if you
don't mind. Gimme those
cookies!

Rodney grabs the Golden Cookie Tin.

ALEX
No!

RODNEY
Ha! Got 'em!

ALEX
Those are for my Grandma!

RODNEY
Ah, now don't that just break
my heart. Stop it, you're
gonna make me cry.

Rodney pops open the Golden Cookie Tin.

RODNEY
Hmmm. Let's see here.
(beat)
Aw nuts!

ALEX
Huh?

RODNEY
Macademia nuts! Why'd your
Mom haveta ruin some perfectly
good cookies?

ALEX
That's the way my Grandma
likes them.

RODNEY

Of all the stinkin' dirty low-
down rotten tricks! I'm
allergic to nuts!

CAL
(snickers)

RODNEY
All this hard work for a
buncha cookies that make me
itch!

Rodney growls and tosses the Golden Cookie Tin on the
ground.

ALEX-NARRATOR
Mom's chocolate chip cookies
lay scattered all over the snow.

(SFX: DESOLATE WINTER BREEZE)

ALEX-NARRATOR
(beat)
I stood there, stunned.
(beat)
Then something occurred to
me. There were nine cookies on
the ground. That means there
were still three cookies hiding
inside the Golden Tin!
By now, if there was even
one cookie left, I was determined
to deliver it to Grandma.

ALEX
Well, Rodney...

RODNEY
(smart alec)
"Well Rodney" what?

ALEX
I guess I can...just take this
to Grandma's house then!

Alex grabs the Golden Cookie Tin, slams on the lid and takes
off.

ALEX
C'mon Cal!

Cal runs.

CAL
Right behind ya!

Rodney runs.

RODNEY
(off, calling)
Right behind ya, too, ya
dweebs! Nobody double-crosses
the Bones!

ALEX-NARRATOR
There was Grandma's front
door. 200 feet away.

CAL
Rodney's right on our tail!

ALEX-NARRATOR
Just then, my foot hit the
curb—

ALEX
Oof!

Alex hits the ground with a thud.

ALEX
(grunt)

ALEX-NARRATOR
In one split second, I was
flat on my back making snow
angels. Cal tripped on my
leg—

CAL
Whoops!

Cal hits the ground with a thud.

CAL
(grunt)

ALEX-NARRATOR

And now we were both laying on
our backs staring at the sky.
I thought about what Heaven
would be like once Rodney
was through with us.

RODNEY
Ha! (snickers)

ALEX-NARRATOR
And there was Rodney's
sneering face right over top
of me!

RODNEY
(sinister low voice,
close up)
You're mine now, Jefferson!

ALEX-NARRATOR
Suddenly, from out of nowhere,
two snowballs conked Rodney
in the head!

(SFX: TWO SNOWBALLS CONKING RODNEY IN THE HEAD)

RODNEY
Augh! Oof!

NATHANIEL
(off, calling)
Gotcha, Rodney!

MANDY
(off, calling)
Yeah! Stop picking on us!

RODNEY
(dazed, calling)
Hey, who did that?!

ALEX-NARRATOR
It was Nathaniel and Mandy
to the rescue. Rodney was
distracted. I saw my chance.

ALEX
C'mon, Cal!

CAL

Okay!

Alex and Cal run for all they're worth.

ALEX-NARRATOR

Grandma's front door. 150
feet away and closing in.

CAL

Rodney's coming!

Rodney lets out a war yell.

Cal lets out a fear yell.

ALEX-NARRATOR

100 feet.

ALEX

(out of breath)

We've got to make it! We've
got to make it!

ALEX-NARRATOR

Suddenly, it felt like time
shifted into slow motion...

(MUSIC: "CHARIOTS OF FIRE")

Alex's footsteps crunch in snow-motion.

[Production suggestion: The famous slo-mo sequences from "Chariots" first simplify the sound to the barest minimum-- then amplify it. Suggest we simplify the sound to just Alex's slo-mo footsteps and amplify it.]

ALEX

(in slow motion, slight
reverb)
We-'v-e--g-o-t--t-o--m-a-k-e--
i-t!

RODNEY

(in slow motion, slight
reverb)
I-'l-l--g-e-t--y-o-u--J-e-f-f-
e-r-s-o-n-!

Cal yells in fear-and in slo-motion.

ALEX-NARRATOR
(normal speed throughout)
30 feet...20 feet...10 feet...

RODNEY
(slow motion war yell,
slight reverb)

ALEX-NARRATOR
(overlapping Rodney's
yell)
5...4...3...2...1...

(MUSIC: SILENCE)

(SFX: DOORBELL RING)

(MUSIC: TRIUMPHANT WITH BELLS RINGING, MIMICKING THE DOOR
BELL)

ALEX--NARRATOR
We crossed the finish line.
The Golden Cookie Tin was home!

RODNEY
(way off) (back in real
time)
You got away this time,
Jefferson, but I'll get ya
sooner or later!

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

Scene 7: INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE
(Alex, Cal, Nathaniel, Mandy, Grandma)

Alex and Cal sit by the fireplace, along with Nathaniel and
Mandy.

(MUSIC: WARM, NOSTALGIC)

ALEX-NARRATOR
Nathaniel and Mandy and Cal and
I all sat down in the warmth of
Grandma's family room.
Before we could say anything,
Grandma was off to the kitchen
to fix us some hot chocolate.

Homemade. With big fat
marshmallows floating around
like Styrofoam cups in a
swimming pool.

Grandma hands Cal a cup of hot chocolate.

GRANDMA
There you go!

CAL
Thanks, Grandma!

MANDY/NATHANIEL
This is delicious!/Mmmmmmmmmmm!

ALEX
Um, we brought something for
you, too, Grandma.

Alex hands her the Golden Cookie Tin.

GRANDMA
Well, thank you. I appreciate
you coming on such a day. Did
you have any trouble getting
here?

ALEX
(almost to himself)
Grandma, you have no idea.

GRANDMA
(Grandma knows--she's
teasing)
Well I wonder what we have
here.

Grandma pops open the Golden Cookie Tin.

MANDY/NATHANIEL
(gasp!)/(groan)

ALEX
Oh no!

CAL
Oh great!

GRANDMA
Cookie crumbs!

ALEX
(dismay) Oh!
(beat)
Grandma, I'm sorry.

GRANDMA
Why? This'll be the perfect
topping for my apple crisp!

CAL/NATHANIEL/ALEX/MANDY
Apple crisp?!

ALEX-NARRATOR
There's only one thing as
famous as Mom's chocolate chip
cookies. And that's Grandma's
apple crisp.

(MUSIC: WARM, NOSTALGIC)

CAL
All right!

ALEX, NATHANIEL AND MANDY
(appropriate noises of
affirmation and anticipation)

GRANDMA
Well, c'mon to the kitchen and
we'll make some together!

The kids eagerly exit for the kitchen.

ALEX-NARRATOR
I learned something that day.
I learned the value of
perseverance, and I learned
about the sweet smell of
victory. And, you know, it
smelled a lot like Grandma's
apple crisp.

(MUSIC: UP AND OUT)