

SOMETHING ELSE

"Hello Dolly"

Written by
Leslie Mildiner

DRAFT TWO

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By Leslie Mildiner

EXT. SE'S HOUSE -- DAY

WE HEAR bales of giggles as we MOVE IN through the WINDOW:

SE (O.S.)
(Through giggles)
Kevin stop it...my sides are aching!

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

SE is on the BED, KEVIN on his chest, having a frantic 'tickle-fest'. They're rolling around, having way too much fun. *Salsa Music* blares from the gramophone. Suddenly, SE jumps up excitedly:

SE
(breathless)
Trampoline time!

He leaps into the air, bounces back down - sending KEVIN shooting towards the ceiling.

SE (CONT'D)
Blast off!

They continue BOUNCING like that as we:

CUT TO:

INT. SOMETHING'S WORKSHOP -- CONTINUOUS

SOMETHING is also BOUNCING: His head coming up and down into FRAME, but with a very studied expression on his face. WE PULL BACK to reveal: He's wearing huge BOOTS with SPRINGS attached to the soles, springing up and down on the spot. Suddenly he stops, looks round - peers up at the 'communicator horn' on the UPPER PLATFORM. Looks down at the boots.

SOMETHING
Hm...

He braces himself - then suddenly SPRINGS up into the air - spwanng! And lands neatly on the UPPER PLATFORM.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
(Impressed with himself)
Another outstanding invention!

He grabs the HORN, shouts into it:

SOMETHING (CONT'D)

SE - come see my new gizmo...it's ex-
e-llent!...

He waits. No answer from SE. He shouts down the horn again.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)

HE-llO?!...are you receiving
me?...HELLO?!

Nothing. He frowns.

CUT TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

SE now has Kevin hoisted on his shoulders. They're zooming
around the room, playing 'airplanes'

SOMETHING (O.S.)

SE, didn't you hear me calling?

Squealking with delight, SE falls backward over the FOOTSTOOL.
He looks up at his friend, as if suddenly noticing him.

SE

You called? Sorry, Kevin and I were
having sooo much fun, we didn't hear
you.

SOMETHING

Yes - I wanted to show you these...

He proudly hold up the boots:

SOMETHING (CONT'D)

My new "Bouncing Boots".

SE

(distracted glance)
...Yes, very nice...

SE grabs Kevin and goes to the fridge, starts rummaging around
in it.

SOMETHIN

(still on the boots)
....An ingenious new mode of -

SE

(cutting him off)
- I'm famished from all that
playing...

SOMETHIN

(snubbed)
- Transport..

SE
(to Kevin)
- What's it to be: "Double-Chocolate
Cookies" or "Triple Custard Trifle"?

At the mention of food - SOMETHING brightens.

SOMETHING
No contest! - Cookies!

SOMETHING starts hauling Chocolate CHIPS and bags of FLOUR
from the cupboard. SE blocks him.

SE
Uh-uh! A vote is in order, I think.

SOMETHING slumps. SE jumps on to the chair, as if addressing
a large crowd.

SE (CONT'D)
All favour of Cookies, raise your
hand?

SOMETHING raises his hand.

SE (CONT'D)
One. All those for Trifle?

SE Looks round, raises HIS hand.

SE (CONT'D)
One. Hm...Looks like Kevin has the
deciding vote.

He holds Kevin up to his ear, listens intently. After a
moment:

SE (CONT'D)
Kevin votes Trifle!

SE jumps down, goes to the fridge again, and in a moment is
mixing trifle ingredients in a BOWL.

SOMETHING
Kevin *always* votes with you. It's
not fair...

SE
(Holding up wooden
spoon)
Well, some friends just have the
same taste, that's all...sure you
won't have some trifle?

SOMETHING shoots him a look.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SE'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

A VIOLENT THUNDERSTORM: Lightning cracks across the sky....

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

THE POWER'S out. In his armchair, SE tries to read a story to Kevin by candle-light. But every time the thunder strikes - he jumps. He snuggles closer to Kevin.

INT. SOMETHING'S WORKSHOP -- CONTINUOUS

SOMETHING is feverish sewing something in the dark, muttering to himself.

SOMETHING
(mocking SE)
..."Kevin has the same taste..that's
all."...

A flash at the window lights up SOMETHING'S face. A weird look crosses it.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
Well - two can play at *that* game!

He holds up what he's been working on: It's a RAG-DOLL, that looks just like him. Except it's very badly sewn, mis-stitched...head held on by STAPLES, with a crooked little smile. SOMETHING turns the doll over, REVEALING two BATTERIES in his back, with a little power switch. SOMETHING switches to 'on' and closes the 'flap'.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
Now *I* have someone who'll always
vote for *me*...

He looks down at the doll.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
...Won't I, NIGEL?

The doll twitches to life.

SFX THUNDERCLAP

CUT TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- MORNING

SE has a nervous expression on his face as he clings desperately to Kevin. WE PULL back to reveal: NIGEL the doll, lifting SE, KEVIN and the whole ARMCHAIR - up in the air with one hand. SE peers down at him.

SE
(to SOMETHING)
Nigel's certainly..
(gulp)
...impressive...

SOMETHING
(to SE)
You bet - I've fitted him with 'Super
Batteries' - he's got the strength
of ten..
(thinks: Glances at
KEVIN)
..um - dolls!

Nigel lets go the armchair - and it crashes to the floor
again, sending SE and Kevin sprawling. SOMETHING doesn't
notice because he's so excited.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
Nigel's super brainy too - watch!

SOMETHING places the CHESS BOARD in front of NIGEL, makes an
opening move. In seconds, Nigel has taken all SOMETHING'S
pieces - and slammed the board over.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
- See?

SE looks on, wide eyed.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
Plus - he's multi-talented!

SOMETHING runs out of frame, runs back - with a pile of
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS: In a flash - Nigel is set-up as a 'one-
man band':

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
Hit it!

NIGEL does - beating out an impressive but wonky, salsa/samba
number. SOMETHING boogies around him.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
(To SE, over the noise:)
Oh, it's going to be so much fun
having Nigel living with us!

SE looks on, his hands over Kevin's ears.

SE
(shocked)
"Living with us...?"

DISSOLVE TO:

MONTAGE OF NIGEL 'SETTLING IN':-

- SE sits Kevin down in the cozy armchair, steps away to grab a glass of milk. When he comes back - Kevin has been dumped on the floor, NIGEL has mysteriously taken his place - sitting there with that crooked grin. SE shoots him a black look.

- SE is sweeping the floor. He opens the patio door to sweep the dust out, glances up - and jumps: NIGEL is sitting in SE'S TELESCOPE CHAIR - but instead of checking out the view, NIGEL is checking out SE through it, following his every move. Suddenly spooked, SE rushes back in - closes the door.

- SE in his greenhouse: He picks up a WATERING CAN, goes to water a plant - but water mysteriously pours out of a HOLE in the bottom soaking poor SE. SE looks up to see: NIGEL outside, face pressed to one of the windows. He shoots SE a crooked grin, before hurrying away.

CUT TO:

EXT. SE'S PATIO -- DAY

Cleaning his windows, meticulously polishing a pane.

SOMETHING (O.S.)

(Laughing)

Nigel - you're a 'laff riot!'

SE LOOKS to over to see: SOMETHING and NIGEL lounging on a SUN-CHAIR, Nigel 'whispering' 'jokes' to SOMETHING. NIGEL cracks another one - SOMETHING clutches his belly.

SE looks on, feeling left out. He sighs, turns back to the window and his sad little reflection.

CUT TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- LATER

SE has made TEA. The table is set. In front of SE and Kevin are bowls of TRIFLE, across the table - a plate of COOKIES. But the chair in front of them is EMPTY. SE looks at the SOMETHING'S chair, forlorn.

CUT TO:

INT. SOMETHING'S WORKSHOP -- CONTINUOUS

SOMETHING and NIGEL are playing in the HAMMOCK, SOMETHING swinging it madly to and fro, Nigel clutching the side, smiling his crooked smile.

SOMETHING

(playful)

Whooooooooo!

CUT TO:

EXT. SE'S PATIO -- DAY

SE staggers out of the house, wobbly on a pair of ROLLER-SKATES. He's also carrying a second pair. He rolls across the deck to SOMETHING, who's sitting across the games table from Nigel.

SE

(shy: To SOMETHING)

Um..I thought we could go Roller-Skating - you love it when we Roller-Skate!

SOMETHING

Do I?...erm, not now SE - Nigel and I are 'thumb-wrestling'....

With that, he turns back to Nigel.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)

(to Nigel)

Okay buddy, Round Two...!

Dejected, SE rolls away again.

CUT TO:

INT. EVERYTHING YOU NEED SHOPPE -- DAY

THE STORKERS, SNOOT & SNIDE, step up to the Counter. SWIFT is serving. They're pouring over an impossibly long SHOPPING LIST....

SNOOT

(reading from list)

...And two tubs of "Beak Balm"...

SNIDE

- the 'non-greasy' -

SNOOT

-Yes -

SNIDE

-Thank you...

SWIFT

(scratching his head)

Non-greasy? - let's see...

He turns to check the shelves. As he does: NIGEL - weighed down by a pile of 2X4 PLANKS of wood, pushes past the STORKERS, and throws a bunch of coins - well ONE coin and 5 Buttons - on the counter...and pushes past them again. The STORKERS watch him leave.

SNOOT

(flat)

Well - that's something you don't
see every day...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- DAY

SE's steps up to his SAND COLLECTION: following a trail of labels that have been torn off the vials. Shock , horror! - *someone* has opened some vials and tipped the sand out, as well. Furious, SE looks up through the window to catch: Nigel waddling away...

CUT TO:

INT. SOMETHING'S WORKSHOP -- LATER

SOMETHING is testing his Bouncing Boots again...then writing results down on a clipboard. He's not really paying attention to the annoyed SE.

SE

...and now I *strongly* suspect, Nigel
has been messing with my Sand
Collection!

SOMETHING stops bouncing. Looks across to Nigel sitting innocently in the Swivel Chair.

SOMETHING

(distracted by the
BOOTS)

-Nigel?

SE

You haven't noticed?! - he's being
mean, to your dearest *oldest* friend!

SOMETHING

(brushing him off)

Nah - he's just being 'playful'...

SOMETHING bounces off. SE stands there with his mouth open.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

SE and Kevin are tucked up, cozy in bed, SE reading - glass of milk by his side. Suddenly, SOMETHING steps up to the bed. He's carrying NIGEL, who now has an 'ICE-PACK' on his head, and a THERMOMETER in his mouth.

SOMETHING

(concerned)

Nigel has a fever! And spots!

SE looks closer: Nigel does indeed have spots on his face...but there's something very suspicious about them.

SE

Oh...

SOMETHING

They may be contagious..Nigel needs to be in a bed on his own.

(sheepish)

Do you think...?

SE

My bed?!

SOMETHING

- He's sick!

SE

But....

CUT TO:

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- LATE NIGHT

NIGEL is now in SE's bed, on his own - snuggled into the fluffy pillows and blankets....

SE and KEVIN have been relegated to the armchair. SE shivers in a fitful sleep under a ridiculously thin blanket. Suddenly NIGEL, sits up: He looks down. His 'spots' are in fact, just 'stick-ons' and some of them have dropped off. He looks round - no one watching...he quickly sticks them back on.

Across the room, SE is watching all this - one eye open.

SE

(under his breath to Kevin)

I knew it! Nigel just wanted to snatch the bed. This is the last straw - Nigel has to go!

He pulls the pathetic blanket round the both of them again.

BREAK

INT. SE'S HOUSE -- MORNING

NIGEL sits on the edge of the bed, the picture of innocence, as SE frantically tries to find the fake 'spots'. SE throws the bedclothes around as SOMETHING looks on.

SE

The spots were *fake*! I saw them...little stickers...

He gives up.

SE (CONT'D)

Bah!

SOMETHING

(not impressed)

Hm. I think *someone's* just a tad bit *jealous* that Nigel and I get along so well...

SE scowls at him.

SE

I not jealous. I'm just....peeved...

He points an accusing finger at Nigel.

SE (CONT'D)

With him! What are you going to do about him?

SOMETHING thinks about this for a moment.

SOMETHING

Good question. I've got it - Take him on a picnic!

SE

What?!

SOMETHING

(idea)

Nigel's been so brave about his fever, he deserves a treat.

(Thinks)

...Hey, we could *all* go! It'll give you the chance get to know Nigel better.

SE

Better!?

SOMETHING is already grabbing the BASKET and GOODIES.

SOMETHING

Once you do - you'll be the best of friends!

SOMETHING shoves a baguette in SE hand, and exits.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SOUTH BRIDGE -- DAY

The sun blazing. The PICNIC set up down by the stream. SOMETHING is stuffing his face. Nearby, NIGEL sits in a DECK-CHAIR wearing cool SHADES, relaxing under a Sun-Umbrella. SE sits sweating on a lumpy log. He's sulking.

SOMETHING
See - isn't this fun? Fresh air,
good company...
(gestures to stream)
Crystal clear water...

An idea flashes across SE's face. He suddenly brightens.

SE
(to himself)
Water...?
(To SOMETHING, suddenly
cheerful)
SOMETHING - you're right. How are
Nigel and I to become friends if we
don't spend more time together?

He jumps up.

SE (CONT'D)
And the way to friendship is - fun!

SOMETHING
(through mouthful of
cake)
My sentiments exactly!

SE
How about Nigel and I play some fun
picnic games?

Quick as a wink, SE grabs the paper the sandwiches are wrapped in, and fashions a large PAPER BOAT. He grabs NIGEL, puts him in the boat, puts the boat in the water.

SE (CONT'D)
(to Nigel)
- And there's nothing more fun than
sailing!

With a glint of revenge in his eyes - SE shoves the boat into the stream - the current whirling it away.

SE (CONT'D)
Bon voyage Nigel!

Up to this point, Nigel has been in "Cruise Mood" but suddenly bolts up when he realizes what's happening. But it's too late - the boat hits a ROCK, and catapults Nigel head first into the WATER. He disappears for a second, then bobs to the surface again. He reaches round - hits a switch on his back - and power-swims back to shore.

He emerges from the water like CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON. Before SE can stop him, Nigel has grabbed Kevin and is about to toss *him* in the stream. SE yelps... Which wakes the sunbathing SOMETHING. He yawns, blinks at them.

Instantly, SE and NIGEL freeze, making it look like they're having a 'tickle-fest'

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF SE TRYING TO GET RID OF NIGEL:

- "Blind-Fold Bluff": In a flash, SE blindfolds Nigel - then spins him round, super fast. Disoriented - Nigel staggers away across the meadow...and promptly, falls into a RABBIT HOLE. SE giggles and runs off opposite direction.

Moments later we see SE, sprawled out next to SOMETHING, also taking a nap. Suddenly SE splutters awake when a lump of DIRT hits him square in the face: It's NIGEL, who's tunneled up out of the ground right next him...

- Playing softball: SE winds up and pitches the ball - it rockets towards NIGEL, who catches it in his mitt - but the force propels him backwards into the middle of some THICK BRAMBLE. SE looks on, eyes wide: Surely that's the last of Nigel? But "Indiana Jones" type MUSIC swells - and NIGEL comes hacking his way out of the BUSH. SE slumps...

Suddenly awake: SOMETHING bolts up. He looks at SE and NIGEL and smiles.

SOMETHING

(yawn)

I'm so glad you're getting along...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SOUTH BRIDGE -- LATER

SE and Nigel covered in dirt, staring at each other.

SOMETHING (O.S.)

...You two have been playing so well together - you're going to love *this*..

From his bag, SOMETHING pulls out:

SOMETHING (CONT'D)

(excited)

My BIG KITE! The ultimate in Aerodynamic Engineering!

SE

(flat)

Very impressive...

But suddenly his eyes light up.

SE (CONT'D)

...Very impressive indeed! How about we give Nigel a ride in the kite?

Hearing this, Nigel suddenly panics, whirls round, starts to waddle away, but SE holds him back.

SE (CONT'D)

And there's a perfect view, right over by the VERY TALL TREE.

SOMETHING gives this a thought.

SOMETHING

Nigel would love that - that's a very Nigel type adventure...

SE shoots Kevin a look...

CUT TO:

EXT. NEAR 'VERY TALL TREE' -- CONTINUOUS

Nigel is strapped into the kite like a Pioneer Aviator - hat goggles, etc. SOMETHING rolls out the string.

SE

(nonchalant)

Um..how about *I* take the controls?

Nigel starts shaking in his seat. SE steps between him and SOMETHING.

SE (CONT'D)

After all, we've been having sooo much fun together...

SOMETHING

(hesitates)

But I wouldn't want anything to happen to little Nigel...

SE

(blurts out)

- You mean like - getting blown into the top of the VERY TALL TREE..and stuck there? Of course not!

SOMETHING

Oh - okay!

SE steps up, takes the string.

SE

Here goes!

He yanks the kite string, instantly the wind whisks it up, level with the UPPER BRANCHES of the TREE. It tugs violently against the string. NIGEL peers over the edge.

SE (CONT'D)
(TO SOMETHING)
See?

But suddenly a GUST OF WIND starts blowing the kite INTO the TREE. Just then, a SMALL BIRD swoops down and lands on the string. To the bird it look curiously like a worm. The bird grabs the string - and the kite spins around, dips - sending Nigel tumbling through the air.

SOMETHING
Nigel!

SOMETHING lunges forward, and Nigel lands neatly in his arms. AS he does, the BIRD lets go the string and the kite shoots heavenward again. But this time, the string gets wrapped around KEVIN, who's sitting nearby. Kevin is reversed 'buggy-jumped' up INTO the TREE. He gets wedged tight in the BRANCHES.

SE
(horrified)
Kevin!! I've *lost* Kevin!!

SOMETHING steps up.

SOMETHING
Don't worry - Nigel will rescue him...

SE
(aghast)
I'm not letting Nigel anywhere near Kevin...

But Nigel flashes his crooked grin - and is up the tree like a monkey.

SE (CONT'D)
(panic)
...idea...
(Watching Nigel go)
I'd better help!

And SE too scrabbles up the tree. He pauses, looks back down. FROM SE'S POV: It's a VERY TALL TREE! He gulps, carries on climbing.

CUT TO:

EXT. ON THE VERY TALL TREE -- CONTINUOUS

KEVIN is wedged in some limbs at the end of a branch. NIGEL grabs him by the arms and lifts him out...then swings him out above the ground. NIGEL turns back to SE who's crawling towards him. He flashes his creepiest grin yet - and lets go Kevin...

But SE is there - to snatch KEVIN from out of the air.

SE

Phew...

CUT TO:

EXT. SOUTH BRIDGE -- CONTINUOUS

Hugging Kevin close, SE marches up to SOMETHING.

SE

Where's Nigel?!

SOMETHING looks round.

SOMETHING

He was probably too shy to stick around. He's such a humble hero!

SE

Hero?! Do you realise what he did up there?

SOMETHING

Yes - put himself in danger for his buddy Kevin - wasn't he brave?

SE

'Brave'?!

SOMETHING moves off. SE gives a groan of disbelief.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SE'S HOUSE -- LATER

Furious, SE marches up to his front door, swings it open - and STOPS DEAD: The door has been hurriedly barricaded by PLANKS of wood nailed across the doorway. SE runs to WINDOW: Same thing - PLANKS block his way. He peers in through a KNOTHOLE:

From his POV: the place is in shambles - furniture turned over, food everywhere - and NIGEL is lounging in SE'S beloved ARMCHAIR, little crooked grin on his face.

SE

Just look at him! I bet this was Nigel's plan along all along - to have the whole house to himself!

SOMETHING looks at the planks.

SOMETHING

Perhaps he's just trying to keep out a draft....

He too peers through the knothole.

SE
(exasperated)
SOMETHING - when are you going to
face the facts - Nigel is a complete
menace...!?

SOMETHING

(suddenly)
Right about now - NO!

Prom his POV: WE SEE Nigel, now wearing SOMETHING's beloved
'Bouncing Boots' - bouncing all over the furniture.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
My precious 'bouncing boots'...
(sad)
And I thought we were such good chums.
(sigh, the determined:)
But this is the last straw - Nigel
has to go!

CUT TO:

EXT. SE'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

SE and SOMETHING are on the ROOF, clinging to the edge,
hanging on for dear life. SE keeps one hand tight on KEVIN.

SE
(to SOMETHING)
Are you sure this idea is going to
work?

SOMETHING
(peering over the
edge)
Of course. All my ideas work!

With that, SOMETHING holds up - another RAG-DOLL. It looks
just like NIGEL, just as crudely sewn, but is obviously a
GIRL. It has ridiculously big eyes and long lashes. It
also has a ribbon tied round it's TRUNK.

Very carefully, SOMETHING lowers the DOLL on a piece of string -
over the side - and straight in through the UPPER WINDOW.

There's a beat. Then a TUG on the other end.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
(grin)
Got 'im!!

SOMETHING sharply yanks the string back up like a fishing
rod. Hanging onto the Girl-Doll's feet - with a love-

struck/embarrassed look on his face - is NIGEL. He's been caught red-handed....

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. EVERYTHING YOU NEED SHOPPE -- DAY

SE and SOMETHING with HANDFUL. HANDFUL is jumping up and down, excited.

HANDFUL
A Rag-Doll - for me?

SOMETHING
(shooting a glance at SE)
Yes - we wanted him to have a good home.

SE
That's right - someone *else's* "good home"...

HANDFUL grabs NIGEL.

HANDFUL
Thanks you guys!

SE & SOMETHING
Our pleasure!

SOMETHING
Oops - almost forgot -

He reaches over to Nigel's back - and pulls out the BATTERIES. Nigel slumps..like a rag-doll.

SOMETHING (CONT'D)
- He'll be a lot better behaved without *these*....

DISSOLVE TO:

PORCH MOMENT

SE and SOMETHING taking time out after their extremely trying day.

SE
(sighs: To SOMETHING)
It's certainly a lot more relaxing around here without Nigel, don't you think?

SOMETHING
I suppose so. But I have to admit - in a way I'm going to miss him.

SE
(cuddling Kevin)
Nonsense! Kevin is all the company
we need - and there's no nasty tricks
up *his* sleeve...

AND we CLOSE IN on Kevin's face..and the crooked little grin
that's suddenly crossed it....

END

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