

SCENE 1

**MEEK is trapped in
a basement.
SAMPSON a PIT BULL
barks and growls at
MEEK.**

MEEK

Please don't bite me doggy.

SAMPSON

**Hey, I'm just warning you, so just sit down...go on, sit
down...SIT and relax.**

MEEK

(his shoulders rise)

OKAY, OKAY.

**(SAMPSON moves closer. MEEK shrinks
back.)**

SAMPSON

You don't have to be afraid.

(MEEK stands up. SAMPSON GROWLS)

MEEK

Calm down doggy, calm down. Nice doggy.

MEEK

What you want?

SAMPSON

I want food.

MEEK

I got some hot dogs over in there ...

SAMPSON

(running everywhere, sniffing.)

WHERE, WHERE, HOT DOGS, HOT DOGS, GIMME A HOT DOG...

MEEK

You got to calm down first. Hey, you remind me of Scooby Doo.

SAMPSON

AAARF...

MEEK

Matter of fact, I got some Scooby snacks for you.

SAMPSON

(running around)

Where they at? Where they at? Where they at?

(SAMPSON leaps up at MEEK)

SAMPSON

RUFF, RUFF, RUFF.

MEEK

Oh my God! Don't tell me he's about to attack me now!

SAMPSON

What are you doing here anyway? This is Leroy basement and where I live.

MEEK

I just came by. I had no place to sleep. No home to go to, when Leroy throw me down here.

SAMPSON

Right now I'm very hungry and I would like for you to get me something to eat.

MEEK

What's your name doggy?

SAMPSON

Sampson.

MEEK

Oh, that a nice name.

SAMPSON

Well don't get too comfortable.

MEEK

Oh, I'm not Sampson.

SAMPSON

Where my Scooby snacks?

MEEK

I would love to get you some but I can't even get myself something to eat because I'm poor.

SAMPSON

Well I am too. I don't got a family to feed me. Leroy too mean to feed anybody. So when I'm hungry, I go to the dumpster and get whatever I see that's good.

MEEK

I'll get you some food, if you let me out that door.

(MEEK charges for the door. IBN-PIT BULL leaps out from under a table, barking and Growling, stopping MEEK at the door.0

IBN

**RUFF, RUFF! Where do you think you're going? RUFF!
RUFF!**

SAMPSON

Get him Ibn, he lied to me. He said he was going to bring me food.

(MEEK runs, IBN chases him.)

IBN

You gonna be my first bite in weeks!

MEEK

Stop! I'll bring food for you and Sampson. I won't run this time.

SAMPSON

If you run this time we're going to eat you for lunch and dinner.

IBN

And breakfast too!

MEEK

Trust me!

SAMPSON

How do I know you gonna come back?

MEEK

Okay, get me a chain and I'll walk you to the food.

SAMPSON

I don't like chains. How do I know you just ain't gonna tie me up and leave me somewhere? I warn you, you tie me up on a pole I'll be forced to crush your ankles. So let me walk free and just walk beside me, no chain.

MEEK

That's a good deal. Let's try it out. We'll practice right here. You're gonna walk along side me.

SAMPSON

All right. We're gonna try it.

(THEY walk slow and then MEEK speeds up.)

SAMPSON

You're moving too fast. Slow down.

MEEK

All right. I'll slow down.

SAMPSON

I got my eye on you. I got both my eyes on you.

IBN

Plus mine. That makes four eyes.

SAMPSON

I got your life in my paws.

MEEK

Didn't I promise you I'd get Scooby snacks?

(SAMPSON walks beside MEEK up the stairs and to the door.)

IBN

Hold! Where y'all think y'all goin' without me?

MEEK

All right. I'll try practicing to walk with you too.

(MEEK picks up the chain)

IBN

No, without the chain.

MEEK

All right! I'm going to teach you how to walk without the chain but you have to work with me.

IBN

I'll work with you as long as you don't try and hurt me.

SAMPSON

Less talking, more practicing.

MEEK

Sit doggy, sit.

IBN

I don't know what that mean.

(MEEK imitates a dog sitting. IBN doesn't get it.)

SAMPSON

Look Ibn like this. Two back paws down, lower yourself and two front paws in front.

IBN

How you know how to do this so good Sampson?

SAMPSON

I haven't been a stray dog all my life. I had owners once you know.

IBN

Oh, yeah, I remember the story you told me.

MEEK

What story? I want to hear it.

SAMPSON

All right. I once had an owner named Jessica. She treated me goood. Walking me without chains. Sleeping on herb bed. Playing catch in the backyard. Eating puppy chow with my girl, Kibbles'n'Bits. That was the good part. It got bad when Jessica's mother caught me biting on their shoes, leaving shoes everywhere, chewed up, and drinking out of the toilet until her mother stop feeding me, bathing me and leaving me out in the backyard. I bit Jessica twice. Next thing I know I ended up fightin' other dogs until mean Leroy throw me in his basement, tired and hungry.

(SAMPSON turns to the audience. HE and IBN rap.)

SAMPSON & IBN

Put your paws up, put your paws up, put your paws up...OWOWOOOOOOO.

I became a stray dog/

**Hangin' with strange dogs/
Since I was a young pup/
Hangin' with them young mutts/
Livin' in' abandoned house/
Sleepin' next to the big mouse/
Didn't know what to expect/
Young boyz caught me/fought me/
Leroy taught me/
Now blood's leakin' from my neck/
Now I'm in this ole shack/
I wish I had my home back./**

SAMPSON & IBN

It's just so beautiful, can a doggy get a minute?

(THEY cry. MEEK tries to open a window.)

SAMPSON

Remember, don't try any slick stuff.

MEEK

So how we get out of here? If you think Leroy's gonna let us out of this basement you're wrong cause if that's the case he wouldn't have put you put you down here.

IBN

We have to come together so we can get out of the basement so we can go forever.

(SAMPSON goes to the door to try it and MEEK goes for the window. IBN barks)

SAMPSON

What you yapping about?

IBN

Meek is going away. Get him Sampson! Get him!

MEEK

(shoving a stick at them)

Get away from me. Get away.

SAMPSON

You lied to me. You said you was gonna get us Scooby snacks. Now you gonna pay.

MEEK

I got some Scooby Snacks in my pocket. You just gotta calm down first, then I'll give them to you.

SAMPSON

(sits)

How do I know you got Scoobies in your pocket?

MEEK

Cause I do.

IBN

Yeah? Then show me!

(MEEK pulls out some Scoobies)

MEEK

Hey boys - here!

(MEEK throws some to the other side of the basement. IBN and SAMPSON run to get them. THEY eat them.)

IBN

You got any more?

MEEK

Yes...

(SAMPSON and IBN jump on MEEK)

MEEK

Down! Down!

SAMPSON

Give me some more, more!

(MEEK throws Scoobies everywhere and runs to the stairs. HE pulls the door open as SAMPSON runs to the door. MEEK slams the door on SAMPSON'S paw. SAMPSON falls, crying.)

SAMPSON

OOOOWW, OOOWWOO!!!

IBN

No! Get up Sampson! Get up! I need you Sampson! Get

up!

SAMPSON

Leave me. Leave me here.

IBN

No. No, I can't.

(MEEK kneels near SAMPSON, ready to pick him up. IBN tries to bite MEEK.)

MEEK

Stop Ibn. I'm trying TO help Sampson.

IBN

How do we know that we can trust you?

SAMPSON

Let him be Ibn. Let's see what he does.

IBN

He's the reason that you're hurt. Why do you even want help?

MEEK

I'm sorry for slamming your paw in the door. I was scared. I thought you were going to bite me.

SAMPSON

Help me, help me. Ibn, Ibn, where are you?

IBN

I'm right here. I'm not goin' nowhere.

MEEK

Hang on, hang on Sampson. Look, I gotta find something to wrap your paw.

(MEEK finds an old tool box and takes out a rag. HE splints SAMPSON'S paw.)

SAMPSON

What are you doing? How do you know that?

MEEK

Well, before Leroy threw me down here, I was a student practicing at a Veterinarians. I learned CPR, you know, mouth-to-mouth - which I don't have to do on y'all.

SAMPSON

Really?

MEEK

Yeah. I once worked in an animal shelter and the kind of animals that came in I felt sorry for. They were in dog fights.

IBN

We used to be fighting dogs. People made money off us.

MEEK

That explains the mark you have on your neck. That's why you didn't trust me next to Sampson.

**(MEEK kicks down the door and carries
SAMPSON to the street.)**

IBN

**I think we should be on our way now. Come on
Sampson.**

MEEK

**Where you goin'? I just helped you. Can't we be friends
at least?**

IBN

No. We can't trust nobody.

SAMPSON

**Wait, he wouldn't harm me. He try to help me -gotta
trust some day.**

**(MEEK sticks out his hand. SAMPSON
reluctantly places his hand over MEEK'S
IBN puts his paw out over MEEK. After a
moment:**

IBN

Hey, you got a house, a home, some food?

**(THEY walk off into the sunset.)
THE END.**