# VALENTINES DAY: GRATEFUL DEAD

by Michael Cornetto

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#### RAINBOW HEARTS

dance on a black screen, mixing colours as they cross. TRUCKIN' by THE GRATEFUL DEAD plays in the background.

The hearts swirl until they meet in the centre to become a white heart on a black background. It pulsates with life.

JUSTIN CROCKER(male, 26) speaks.

CROCKER (V.O.) Vee Dee, Man!

The heart pulsates with light.

CROCKER (V.O.) Vee Dee Gee Dee Vee Dee Gee --

Then it explodes into

# PURE WHITE

which becomes

## JUSTIN CROCKER'S FACE

His sweat glistens in rainbow.

CROCKER Dee Vee Dee --

Below him DELORES(28), her voice PHASES.

DELORES (O.S.) Harder Crocker, harder. Big Bang's coming. Big Bang Big Bang. Shit! Fuckin' Cupids watching. --

As Crocker looks above, the air forms a

# VORTEX

Spark-like sprites fill the air.

CROCKER (O.S.) Fuckin' Cupids?

DELORES (O.S.) Armed Cupids, baby. Don't piss them off. Harder, baby, harder. Shit! I'm melting. No! Not before the Big Bang. Hurry Crocker. Melting -- And her voice melts into the music.

## JUSTIN CROCKER

smiles hugely as he SOLARISES and sings.

CROCKER Fuckin' got my stick stashed in, keep fuckin' like the do dah man, fuckin' til that big ole bang, just keep fuckin' on and --

Crocker looks down; nothing is there but swirling colours. The music warps.

CROCKER Delores? Fuckin' Delores! Oh shit, man.

He crawls backward through the rainbow maelstrom.

CROCKER Delores fuckin' melted. She fuckin' melted before the fuckin' Big Bang!

He hyperventilates.

CROCKER Oh shit, man!

He trembles.

CROCKER Come back Delores. Big Bang's coming. It's coming...

He cries.

CROCKER I loved you, man. I loved you...

They laugh.

Crocker wipes at his eyes as he scans the shifting landscape. Then he looks up at the

# VORTEX

Cupid sprites vibrate like laughing voices.

# JUSTIN CROCKER

is pissed off now.

The Cupid sprites zoom in at him and chuckle. He bats at them.

# CROCKER I said don't laugh! You stole her from me, man. Stole her before the fuckin' Big Bang. Fuckin' Cupids! I want her back. You hear me --

And he throws himself to the floor, beating his fists and kicking his feet against the lava-light ground.

CROCKER She's mine, you can't have her. Give her back!

Everything spins; Crocker goes foetal.

CROCKER You're playing with existence, man. The universe can't exist before the Big Bang.

Crocker stares up into the

#### VORTEX

The Cupid sprites make circular trails as they follow the spin.

CROCKER (0.S.) How can something so beautiful be so fucked up?

The vortex turns to army-surplus green liquid sky.

The spinning stops.

There's a buzzing now.

## JUSTIN CROCKER

opens his purple eyes wide as his orange skin turns red.

CROCKER Fucking Bee! Can't see the fucking Bee! -- Vee Dee Gee Dee --

The buzzing gets deafening. His eyes open wider. His volume goes louder.

CROCKER VEE DEE GEE DEE VEE DEE GEE DEE --

And the

## GREEN LIQUID SKY

is torn away to

#### BRIGHT BLUE

So bright that

# JUSTIN CROCKER'S

orange eyes turn green. He screams.

A stampede sounds off nearby. The multi-coloured Crocker, is curious. He sits up, leaving a rainbow trail behind him.

Then

#### GAZELLES

A herd of them rushes by. One stops to chat.

GAZELLE

Lease poe.

Then it skitters away.

CROCKER Wait! What the hell is lease poe? I don't understand Gazelle!

He stands and a rainbow trail follows him

#### HIGH INTO THE SKY

He looks down from above the clouds at the marching ants and laughs. His laugh echoes like thunder in a valley.

# JUSTIN CROCKER

seems surprised by this and he moves his hand to his mouth; a trail follows. He seems surprised by this too.

With a goofy smile on his face, he twirls both his hands like batons as he watches the trails they make.

Until the ants catch his attention with their small voices.

ANTS

Lease Poe!

CROCKER

What?

He bends his ear toward them and suddenly he is

## SMALL

and the ants are huge.

# ANTS

Lease Poe!

The collective sound from the enormous ants makes the ground shake.

# JUSTIN CROCKER

covers his ears and closes his eyes.

#### BLACK

Psychedelic snowflakes drift downward in shimmering colours.

Then a big flake with the flashing letter L in the centre floats to the bottom of the screen. Followed by another with the letter E, and another with A. Then S - E - P - O - E in quick succession.

A wind swirls them and they are replaced by

## ACRES OF FURRY WHITE BUNNIES

that play, hop, and run, swirling off in every direction.

#### JUSTIN CROCKER

stands in awe amidst them.

He trails his hand out and one hops onto it. He grabs the bunny tightly. It twists and turns trying to escape. Then it stares at him with its pleading pink eyes.

#### BUNNY

Lease Poe!

And it melts from his hand. Crocker looks down at his empty hand then he scans the land of bunnies.

His anger rises.

CROCKER What the fuck is Lease Poe?!

He runs after a too-quick bunny.

CROCKER Tell me! What the fuck is it?

He's almost grabbed one.

CROCKER

Lease Poe.

Another hops over him.

CROCKER

Lease Poe!

He's given up now. He stands his ground and shouts.

CROCKER Lease Poe! Lease POE! LEASE

Ah!

#### CROCKER POE LEASE! Shit!

Crocker turns and is confronted by a huge blue pig holding a black-light truncheon. The world around them blurs.

Crocker prepares his best Bruce Lee pose, his arm-trails make a protective rainbow sphere around him. The sphere reaches out toward the pig.

PIG

Oink!

The black-light truncheon pushes away the colours as it lands on Crocker's head.

BANG!

#### PRIMORDIAL MATTER

explodes into a billion stars, which in turn becomes

# JUSTIN CROCKER

as he lays on his back surrounded by some green canvas. Dried blood streaks his face. He opens his eyes and stares up toward the

## NORMAL LOOKING CLOUDS

A crow flies downward and lands just as

# JUSTIN CROCKER

sits up. He holds his head and lets out a moan, then he scans the

#### MEADOW

It's covered in camping debris. Hippies mull about, some oblivious, some unhappy. Stray police question a few of them.

Crocker examines his collapsed army surplus tent. He lifts a corner of the canvas and looks under it.

CROCKER

Delores?

FADE TO COLOURS, MAN