

DINNER DASH



A RACE TO CULINARY DESTINY!

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An Animated comedy short film with family adventure.

Created by Han Williams.

An estimated run time of 3 minutes.

Concept

Story

In a lively New York kitchen, as the sun rises over the city, various food items come to life, each with a singular goal: to race to the plate and become a part of the evening's dish. From the moment the sun rises, the kitchen is alive with energy as the main protagonists Leaping Leak, Tumbling Tomato, Clumsy Carrot, and Careful Corn among others, prepare for the ultimate culinary challenge, becoming a part of this evening's signature dish.

The competition pits food items against each other in a thrilling race against time and a race against ageing. Only the toughest and most determined will make it to the plate, earning their place in the coveted dish. For these animated ingredients, the race is not just a contest; it is their life mission, a chance to fulfil their culinary destiny.

However, amidst the kitchen chaos, there are other adversaries they must keep in mind. Older vegetables, on the brink of expiration. With their time running out, these aging ingredients are desperate to secure their spot on the plate, willing to do whatever it takes to halt the efforts of the younger, fresher vegetables. This animosity means the younger vegetables will stick together.

Design Style

The animation design style for "Dinner Dash" is vibrant and colourful, with a focus on anthropomorphic vegetables as the main characters. It would likely feature 3D animation techniques to bring the characters and their environment to life. The style would be whimsical and dynamic, capturing the energy and excitement of the race to the plate while also conveying the personalities and emotions of the vegetable protagonists. The overall aesthetic would be fun and engaging as well as pleasing to the eye.

Target Audience

The target audience will be primarily children between the ages of 5-10 years old. It will also be targeted towards families, meaning parents can enjoy it alongside their kids. The animation style will be vibrant and colourful, to keep the attention of the young audience. Additionally, the storyline is simple enough to follow along yet engaging to children in this age range.

Backstory and Setting

Set in New York City during the 2010s, the story revolves around a group of fresh vegetables with personalities as vibrant as the city itself. Among them are the protagonists Leaping Leek, Tumbling Tomato, Clumsy Carrot, and Careful Corn, each with their own unique quirks and motivations. As they embark on their race to the plate, they encounter many obstacles, not only from the challenges of the kitchen but also from other vegetables that want the same goal. In this fast-paced environment, it's every vegetable for themselves, with competition fierce and the stakes high. However, despite the nature of the race, the main protagonists occasionally find themselves banding together, they realise that teamwork is essential to navigate the chaotic kitchen and reach their shared destination. But it's not just their fellow vegetables they have to contend with, not far behind are antagonists, the same vegetables but older, this isn't their first race but will be their last. These vegetables are close to expiration and will not have another chance of making it to the plate. The vegetable heroes must rely on their wit, resilience, and friendship to overcome the odds and fulfil their culinary destiny. It's a high-stakes adventure where every twist and turn brings them closer to victory or to their demise, leaving you on the edge of your seat.

Premise

The story will begin with a shot of the quiet dining area in the restaurant, bathed in the soft morning light filtering through the windows. Tables are neatly set, chairs pushed in, and the ambiance is peaceful. Soft classical music plays in the background, adding to the tranquil atmosphere. Suddenly, the tranquillity is interrupted by the distant sound of voices and the clatter of utensils echoing from the kitchen. The camera follows the source of the noise, zooming in on a swinging door. The door swings open, revealing the chaos of the kitchen. Chefs in crisp white coats move with precision preparing for this evening's dinner service. The camera whips passed the kitchen and into the walk-in fridge, where we hear the animated characters arguing amongst themselves. The camera zooms in on their faces as the younger vegetables are shouting back at the older vegetables.

As the younger vegetables exchange heated words with their older counterparts, tensions escalate in the crowded walk-in fridge. Leaping Leek tries to maintain order, urging his companions to focus on the task at hand, while Tumbling Tomato's impulsive nature threatens to ignite the situation further. Clumsy Carrot attempts to lighten the mood with a joke, but her clumsy antics only seem to aggravate the situation.

Amidst the chaos, Careful Corn remains calm and composed, offering a voice of reason among the commotion. With his strategic mind and level-headed approach, he suggests that cooperation is the key to overcoming the obstacles they face.

Reluctantly, the younger vegetables agree to put aside their differences and work together as a team.

The animated vegetables set out on their race to the plate. Dodging the chefs and navigating through a maze of kitchen equipment, they encounter a series of challenges along the way. From slippery spills to towering stacks of dishes, each obstacle tests their agility, strength and ultimately their teamwork.

Despite the odds stacked against them, the younger vegetables press on, fuelled by determination and the bonds of friendship they've formed along the way. As they near the finish line, they find themselves face to face with their older adversaries once again, who are determined to stop them from reaching their goal.

In a dramatic showdown, the vegetables rally together, using their individual strengths and collective teamwork to outmanoeuvre the older vegetables and secure their place on the plate. With victory within their grasp, they finally cross the finish line, their journey ending in a joyful celebration of friendship, perseverance, and the power of working together.

Principle Character Descriptions

- **Careful Corn**



Careful
corn

Description

Careful Corn is a vibrant yellow chunk of corn. He uses his bright green husks to hide behind when he's nervous. Careful Corn has a cheeky expression, always with a smile on his face. He has bright curious eyes.

Personality

Careful Corn is known for his careful nature (It's in the name!) He analyses every situation with precision and doesn't act on irrational thinking, he is a thoughtful planner and uses his calm level-headed mind to put himself ahead in situations. Due to his husks and wide stature, he is not the fastest piece of veg in the kitchen, but his strategic thinking allows him to navigate any obstacle or challenge in his way.

Strengths

Careful Corn's strengths all lie within his mind, he isn't careless or irrational so he can take charge of a tricky situation. He may fall back on times, but where others lack in the brains department, he makes up for it and quickly catches up. His cautious nature allows others to trust him, making him a helpful teammate when alliances are formed.

Weaknesses

Careful Corn's cautious nature means he does not take risks. This allows the other vegetable to take advantage of the situation as he will often fall behind if the situation

has any risk factor. His overthinking may lead the other vegetable to get ahead of him.

- Clumsy Carrot



Description

Clumsy Carrot is a bright orange carrot with a curved figure. She has vibrant green leaves on her head and bright cat-like eyes. Despite her optimistic look, there's one thing she can't get away from; her clumsiness. She is constantly tripping over the roots attached to her, which could prove detrimental when it comes to making it to the plate.

Personality

Clumsy carrot is a kind yet sassy girl. She is a ball of chaos, constantly tripping over her roots, bumping into objects and even accidentally tripping up the other vegetables. Despite the accidents she causes, she's incredibly determined to help her friends but will not let anybody get in her way of making it to the plate.

Strengths

Clumsy Carrot is full of optimism, often giving the other vegetables motivation throughout the race to the plate. She is fierce and doesn't let anybody stand in her way.

Weaknesses

Clumsy Carrots clumsiness often hinders her ability to progress further to the plate. She often causes her friends to have delays that require all the protagonists to work together to overcome the other vegetables.

- **Tumbling Tomato**



Description

Tumbling Tomato is bright red plump tomato. He has glossy skin and cares way too much about his appearance. His green leaves fall into his face. He is energetic and comes across as your stereotypical high school football player.

Personality

Tumbling Tomato is the embodiment of energy and charisma. He is reckless and rolls with the punches. He looks out for the female vegetables and is never afraid of trying something new. He takes pride in his appearance and that shows with his confidence. This confidence makes him a natural leader and someone the vegetables can look up to.

Strengths

Tumbling Tomato's greatest strengths are his physical strength and his confidence. His positive energy lifts the spirits of those around him and his strong stature allows him to use his body to physically lift people around him.

Weaknesses

Tumbling Tomato's go getter energy can sometimes be his downfall. He is impulsive and that's not always a good thing when the task ahead requires critical thinking. He is easily distracted and sometimes needs the other vegetables around him to reign him in a little.

- **Leaping Leek**



Description

Leaping Leek is a tall pale green leek with graceful flowing leaves attached to him. He is intelligent and has been waiting his whole life for this race, he is more determined than ever, even sporting his racers number proudly across his chest. He is a calm and strategic thinker with incredible agility.

Personality

Leaping Leek is a sophisticated individual that moves with fluidity and precision, after all, he has been training his whole life for this moment. He is a quick thinker with quiet confidence. He knows he's cool as a cucumber, but he doesn't need you to know it too.

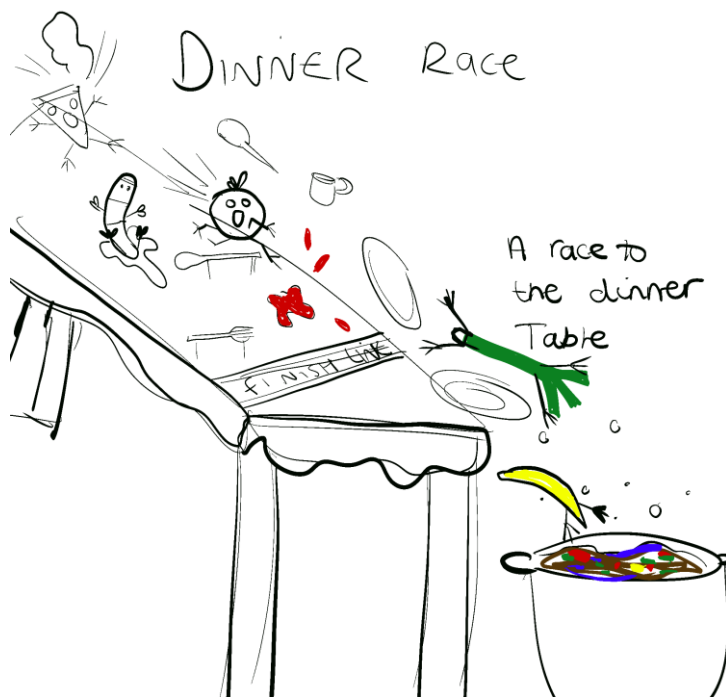
Strengths

Leaping Leak has many strengths, but his agility might be the greatest one of all. He is a master of strategy, and he can outmanoeuvre his opponents with ease and finesse. He's always one step ahead.

Weaknesses

Despite his many strengths, Leaping Leeks independence and remoteness makes it hard for the other vegetables to connect with him on a deeper level. His intense focus on making it to the plate makes him seem like he's detached from any real friendship, which can play a significant role when teamwork is necessary.

Early Concept

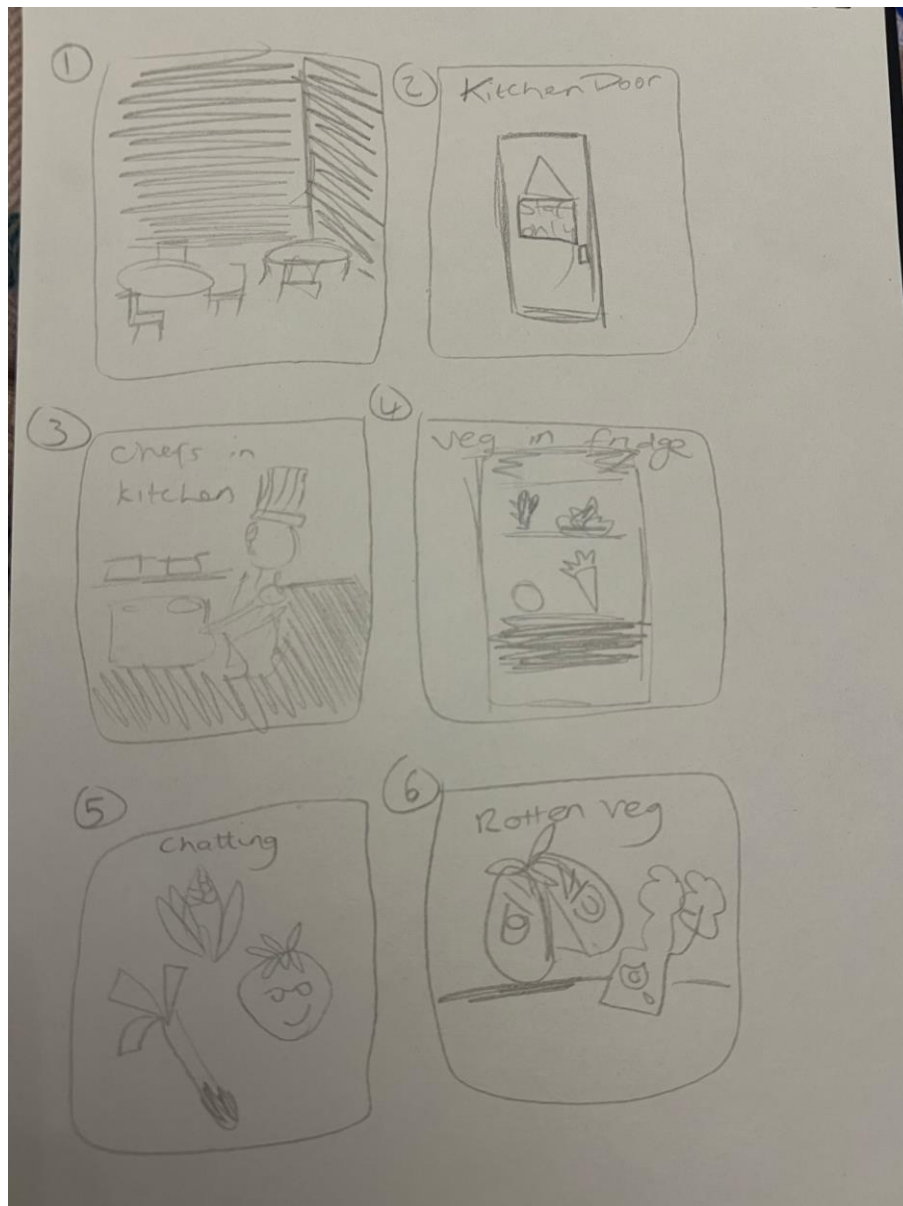


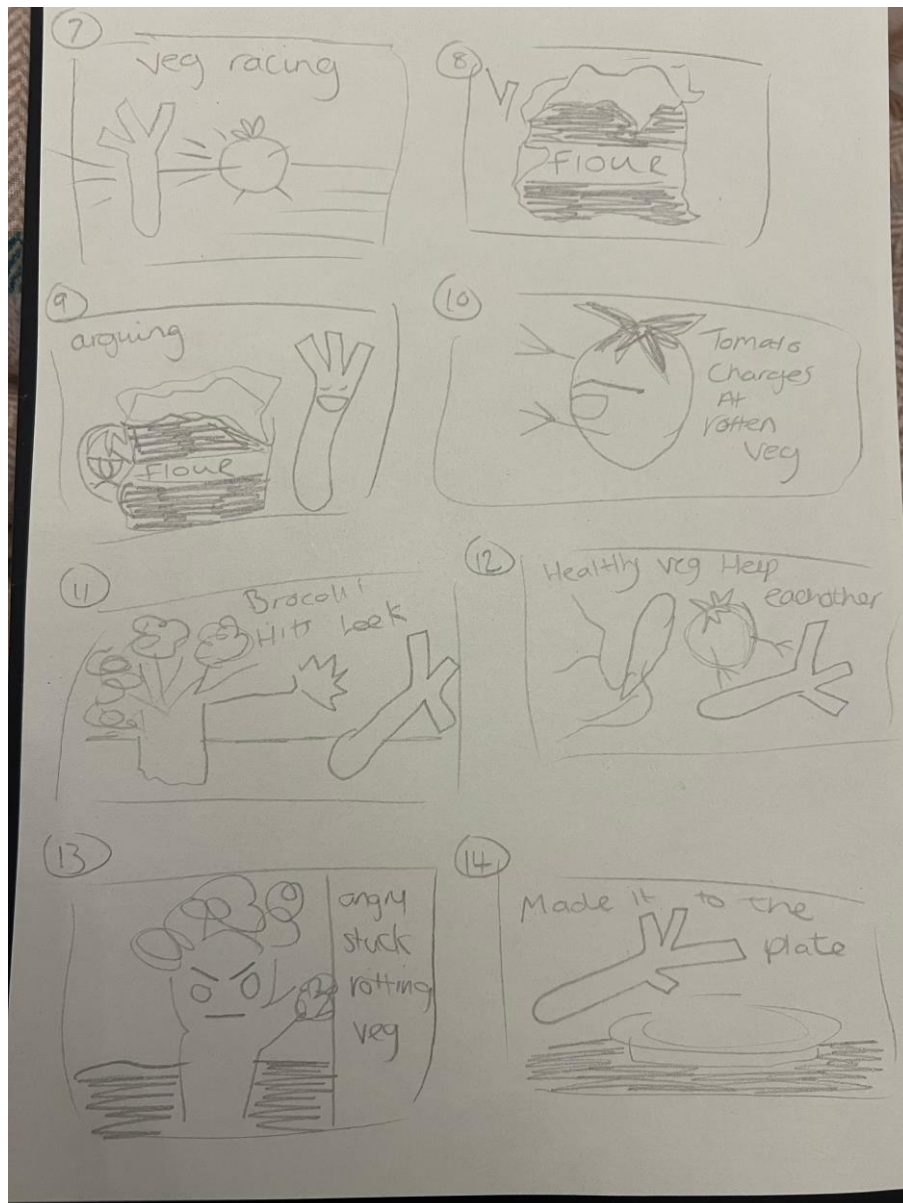
Environment





Storyboard





Script

Dinner Dash

written by
Han Williams

FADE IN:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

[The camera pans across the tranquil dining area of the restaurant, bathed in soft morning light. Classical music plays in the background, creating a serene ambiance. Suddenly, the peaceful atmosphere is shattered by the distant sound of voices and clattering utensils echoing from the kitchen. The camera zooms in on a swinging door marked "Kitchen - Staff Only".]

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

[The door swings open, revealing the chaotic scene inside the kitchen. Chefs in crisp white coats move with precision, preparing for the evening's dinner service. Amidst the chaos, the camera whips past the kitchen and into the walk-in fridge.]

INT. WALK-IN FRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

[Inside the crowded walk-in fridge, the animated vegetables are engaged in a heated argument. Leaping Leek, the leader of the younger vegetables, tries to maintain order among the vegetables.]

LEAPING LEEK:

(URGENTLY) Come on, everyone! we need to focus! arguing will get us nowhere. we have to be ready to make it to the plate!

TUMBLING TOMATO

(excitedly) Yeah! This is our chance to show those oldies our time is now!

CLUMSY CARROT

(optimistically) I-I'm ready too! Just watch out for my roots, okay? We don't want a repeat of last time..

CAREFUL CORN

(WHISPERS)

We need to be on the same page,
we don't want to end up like
them! (motions towards the old
vegetables)

ROTTING BROCCOLI

(INTERRUPTS)

HEY! We heard that! And don't
think you snot nosed kids are
going to pull the wool over on
us, not this time you hear me!

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

[The animated vegetables burst out of the walk-in fridge,
ready to embark on their race to the plate. Dodging chefs and
navigating through a maze of kitchen equipment, they
encounter a series of challenges along the way.]

TUMBLING TOMATO

Follow my lead everyone!

CAREFUL CORN

On it, boss!

CLUMSY CARROT

Wait, where's Leaping Leek going?

TUMBLING TOMATO

LEEK? Stay close, what are you
doing?

LEAPING LEEK:

Every veg for himself! Trust me
guys, I've got this, you don't
need to look out for me.

ROTTING TOMATO:

(SKIDS PASSED)

Later, losers!

ROTTING BROCCOLI

Ha! You can't outrun experience,
kids.

TUMBLING TOMATO

(out of breath)
Come on Leek, stay with me, if we
band together, we're unstoppable.

LEAPING LEEK:
(HESITANTLY)

Fine... but you're following my
lead.

[The young vegetables, including Leaping Leek, Tumbling
Tomato, Clumsy Carrot, and Careful Corn, navigate through a
treacherous obstacle course of towering stacks of dishes and
slippery spills, determined to reach their goal.]

LEAPING LEEK:
(Determined)

Keep moving guys, we're almost
there!

TUMBLING TOMATO

You got it, leek! I'm right
behind you!

[As they press forward, they encounter the rotting vegetables
- Rotting Broccoli and Rotting Tomato - who block their path
with malicious intent.]

ROTTING BROCCOLI
(Sinister)

Well, well, well. Look what we
have here, fresh veggies thinking
they can make a fool of us!

ROTTING TOMATO:

Not so fast now, are ya? I've
been dreaming of this moment.

[The young vegetables exchange wary glances, they realise
they'll need to work together to overcome this obstacle.]

CLUMSY CARROT
(Nervously)

W-what do we do, Leek? They're
blocking the way, they're gonna
stop us!

LEAPING LEEK:

You got any big ideas, corn?

CAREFUL CORN

Maybe we can combine our strength
and get around them, we have them
outnumbered. T, can you create a
distraction?

TUMBLING TOMATO

(Confidently)
Sure can, little bro.

[Tumbling Tomato charges forward, drawing the attention of the rotting vegetables with his large size. Meanwhile, Leaping Leek leads the others around the spilled bag of flour]

[But just as they're about to break through, Rotting Broccoli lashes out, causing Leaping Leek to stumble and fall into a pool of flour.]

LEAPING LEEK:

(Grunting)
Help! I'm stuck, there's flour in
places flour shouldn't be!

[The situation looks dire as the rotting vegetables close in, gloating over their victory. But just as they think they've won it all, Tumbling Tomato springs into action, rallying the others to come to Leaping Leek's aid.]

TUMBLING TOMATO

You didn't think we'd give up
that easy, huh? Carrot, you know
what to do!

[With a united effort, the young vegetables rush to Leaping Leek's side, helping him to his feet. Together, they turn the tables on the rotting vegetables, using Clumsy Carrots roots to their advantage as well as their combined strength and numbers to overpower them.]

CLUMSY CARROT

HA, I knew this time my roots
would come in handy for
something!

CAREFUL CORN

Yeah, thankfully you didn't trip
me again!

[With the rotting vegetables defeated, the young vegetables press on, renewed determination in their hearts. Nothing will stand in their way as they race towards their ultimate goal - the plate.

ROTTING BROCCOLI

NOOOOOOOOOO!

ROTTING TOMATO:
You'll pay for this!

TUMBLING TOMATO
(Gloating- Shouts)
I doubt it!

[The young vegetables make it to the plate, their life's work has come to an end. The moment they were born for has finally been fulfilled, the culinary destiny is complete]

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Dinner is served.

[Fade out as the camera pans across the restaurant, capturing the enjoyment of the diners.]

Mood Board



Colour Palettes



- Bright
- Deep colours
- Vibrant
- Rich
- Aesthetically pleasing

