

Sick 'Em

By Stephanie Dube
KidZone

Starring: Daisy (the rat), Scrappy (the rat), Harvey (the owl), Robby (the veterinarian),
Professor Hotzenpepper, Rolex (the time machine)

SCENE ONE

SFX: Video sounds

VFX: Snow on the screen, and then the Professor appears with a phone to his ear.

SFX: Ring!

PROFESSOR:

Oh hurry! Pick up the phone.

SFX: Ring!

HARVEY: Who! Who! Hello? Whoooo is there?

PROFESSOR:

Hello Harvey! I'm glad I caught you. I heard that Scrappy and Daisy are sick. Since I'm out of town, I'm sending one of my best friends, Robby Rockwood, to check on them.

HARVEY: R...R...R...Rockwood? As in DIRK Rockwood?

PROFESSOR:

Yeah! He's Dirk's twin brother. But don't worry. Robby's a veterinarian, and a good friend. Do your best to make him feel welcome.

HARVEY: Sure Professor! You can count on me.

VFX: Video fades.

SCENE TWO

LIGHTS UP

DAISY ENTERS

DAISY: (Sick) Ohhhh..... Ohhh.....

HARVEY: Daisy? What's wrong?

Daisy is holding her stomach.

DAISY: Oh... My tummy hurts...

SCRAPPY ENTERS

Scrappy is being melodramatic. He has what appears to be an ice bag taped to his head.

SCRAPPY: I am soooo sick! Ohhhhhhhh.....

HARVEY: Scrappy? Are you OK?

SCRAPPY: No! Can't you see that I am horribly, terribly, awfully sick? My stomach is KILLING ME. This is the end of loveable Scrappy...

HARVEY: I'm sure it's not that bad.

SCRAPPY: It's all over, I tell you! Say goodbye to Scrappy, the rat you love more than anyone else...

Daisy momentarily forgets she is sick.

DAISY: What do you mean, "Love more than anyone else?"

SCRAPPY: Everyone knows I'm the most loveable, cutest, funniest rat in KidZone.

DAISY: Are not!

SCRAPPY: Are to!

DAISY: Are not! Are not! Are not!

SCRAPPY: Are to! Are to! Are to!

ROBBY ENTERS.

Robby (the “singing veterinarian”) is wearing a lab coat with stick-figure animals painted on it. The back of the coat reads: ROCKWOOD. He is wearing glasses, a stethoscope, and is carrying a stuffed cat. He *skips* into the room, singing to himself (the Mr. Rogers song “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood.”) Robby is very nice, sometimes almost overly nice in a “Ned Flanders from the Simpsons” type of way. He never gets angry, no matter how bad things get... He is the polar opposite of Dirk!

Scrappy and Daisy are arguing as Robby skips in, so they don’t notice him until he has skipped up the steps of the rathole stage and is in front of them.

ROBBY: He-lodely-lodely! Looks like someone didn’t take their “happy pills” today.

Daisy and Scrappy stop arguing, look at Robby, and scream.

DAISY: DIRK!!!!!!

SCRAPPY: And he heard us talking! (beat) Oh no! I’m still talking!

ROBBY: (laughs) Dirk’s my twin brother. I’m Robby the veterinarian.

Robby introduces himself with a flourish. The rats are visibly shaking.

ROBBY: (CONT) And this is my cat, Snowball.

Robby holds out the stuffed cat to the rats. They scream again.

DAISY: CAT!

SCRAPPY: Run Daisy! Run!

SFX: Running on stairs.

Daisy and Scrappy exit.

ROBBY: I don’t understand. Snowball wouldn’t hurt a fly, would you little snicker doodle?

HARVEY: Oh, that’s not the problem. They think you’re Dirk.

ROBBY: Well take out a crayon and color me blue! What am I to do?

HARVEY: Well, first you should tell your cat to “shoo.” And then explain that you’re Robby – that’s who!

ROBBY: Those are fine ideas coming from you. And so for now, I will say
 ... (singing) ...“Adieu, adieu, to you and you and you!”

Robby skips off stage.

Robby exits.

SCENE THREE

Daisy and Scrappy enter.

DAISY: I can't believe it!

SCRAPPY: Dirk must think we're really stupid if he thinks we'll fall for the "identical twin" line. That's the oldest trick in the book.

DAISY: Still... I kind of wish he WAS a vet. I feel terrible.

SCRAPPY: Me too...

HARVEY: But he IS a veterinarian. Robby is Dirk's twin brother. The Professor called and told me before he arrived.

SCRAPPY: Wait... (pause) How do I know you're REALLY Harvey?

HARVEY: Who! Who! What are you talking about?

DAISY: You could be an imposter...planted by DIRK!

HARVEY: No! I'm Harvey! I'm the security guard. The real thing! The one and only!

DAISY: Really? Then prove it!

HARVEY: I turn on the Who Vision every weekend. I sang in Owlywood!

SCRAPPY: Tell me something only Harvey would know.

HARVEY: Well...I know that you both love cheese!

DAISY: That doesn't prove anything. Anyone could know that. We're rats!

SCRAPPY: I don't believe you're really Harvey. Harvey wouldn't fall for Dirk's trick!

DAISY: This is all a trap! We can't let Dirk take over KidZone.

SCRAPPY: We've got to come up with a plan before he gets back. And I've got the perfect idea...

HARVEY: Oh no...

Daisy and Scrappy exit.

SCENE FOUR

Robby enters, singing as he skips onto stage.

ROBBY: (Singing) Gray skies are gonna clear up! Put on a happy face! (still singing) Hidey ho there winged friend! Is everything all OK?

HARVEY: Well...

Scrappy and Daisy enter. They are acting “overly friendly.”

SCRAPPY: Hello Robby! It’s great to see you!

ROBBY: Howdy there little rat buddy!

DAISY: Robby, we are so sorry for not believing you. You’re a great guy. And handsome too!

For a moment, we see “Dirk” in Robby through the following reaction...

ROBBY: Well, you know, I have been told that I am pretty devastatingly gorgeous...

Robby laughs and touches up his hair a bit. Then he goes back to being good ol’ Robby.

ROBBY: But hey little nice mice, don’t worry your big-eared selves. All is forgiven! Now I can give you medicine so you can feel better.

SCRAPPY: Sure! In fact, why don’t you come back here and visit our rathole? I’d like to show you our new Ratberry videos.

ROBBY: Well that’s sounds absitively-positlutely grand! I’m a ready-o for the videos!

Robby exits behind rathole stage.

Scrappy and Daisy exit.

SFX: Falling down stairs. Scuffling.

ROBBY (backstage): Hey! What are you doing? This is a Robby no no!

HARVEY: Scrappy? Daisy? What’s going on back there? You better not be doing anything to hurt Robby. He’s here to help you. Oh... This is awful!

Robby enters.

Robby's arms and legs are tied up, so he can only move by hopping. He hops out from behind the rathole stage. He also has on mouse ears and a fake red nose.

Scrappy enters.

SCRAPPY: We won't fall for your tricks Dirk! Now go home and leave
KidZone alone!

Scrappy exits.

SCENE FIVE

ROBBY: Well golly geez, if this doesn't put the "ick" in "tricked." How will I ever get those rats to believe me? If they don't get medicine soon, they'll just get sicker.

ROLEX: Robby, I think I can help you.

ROBBY: Really?

Robby hops over to Rolex.

ROLEX: I can bring a Bible Time Machine guest to untie you.

ROBBY: Great idea! Hey kids, I need someone to open the Time Machine.

Robby picks one kid from the audience by nodding to someone in the front row as he hops around since he's still tied up. Yep, he's still tied up. He's no Houdini folks.

ROBBY: (CONT) On the count of three... Time Machine! Time Machine!

SFX: Time Machine noises.

Kid opens Time Machine, and out comes a professional mourner in a black robe. She enters, wailing loudly. She is in the middle of a wail when she stops, suddenly silent, and stares at the man who is tied up.

MOURNER: And I thought *I* was having a bad day! What happened to you?

ROBBY: Well howdy-do my new friend. I'd love to chitty chat, but as you can see, I'm in a bit of a tat. Think you can lend me a hand and help me out of these bands?

MOURNER: Sure, why not? My day's already been weird. It can't get any crazier.

Mourner unties Robby. (His ropes should be tied loosely so this happens quickly.)

ROBBY: Thank you! Thank you! Now tell me, why are you so blue?

MOURNER: (Wailing and melodramatic) I'm a professional mourner, and I'm about to lose all my customers!

ROBBY: Hey, I've learned about you guys. Back in Jesus' time, people hired mourners to cry and make lots of noise during funerals.

MOURNER: Jesus? You've heard of Jesus?

ROBBY: Sure! We all have! He's my Savior and...

MOURNER: (interrupting) It's because of Jesus that I'm out of a job!

ROBBY: What?

MOURNER: One of my colleagues was hired to cry at a funeral for Lazarus. Well, Jesus came and raised Lazarus from the dead!

ROBBY: That's great! We're learning about Lazarus in our classes today.

MOURNER: What? You've already heard what happened? (wails) Oh, this is terrible! No one will want to hire me if people are coming back from the dead.

ROBBY: Don't be sad. You know, a smile is just a frown turned upside down!

MOURNER: What?

ROBBY: What I mean is that if you believe Jesus is who He says He is, then you won't have to be sad.

VFX: BELIEVE

MOURNER: Look, you can believe what you want to believe, but I have a job to do! I've got to go. How do I get out of here?

Robby walks Mourner to the Time Machine door.

ROBBY: Just right through this door... And don't forget – there's no need to cry boo hoo! Just remember what Jesus did for you. Toodely-doo!

Robby turns to Harvey.

ROBBY: Oh feathery friend-ery, how am I going to get Daisy and Scrappy to believe me?

HARVEY: Maybe the Who-Vision can help us. Kids? One the count of three... One... two... three... WHO!!

SCENE SIX

SFX: Video whirring sounds.

VFX: Max on screen.

MAX:

Hello Harvey! Hi Robby!

HARVEY:

Max, do you have a video for us about believing?

MAX:

Sure! I've got one right here.

SFX: Video whirring sounds.

VFX: Video – “A Girl’s Prayer”

Close up of a young girl sitting by a window, writing a letter. The camera zooms onto the letter and you hear the following voiceover...

GIRL:

Dear God... Uncle Chuck is in the Army. He left for Iraq this summer. I was hoping he'd be back for Christmas, but he wasn't. I miss him so much! God, please keep him safe. Please bring him back soon. I believe You can do anything...

The girl pauses from writing her letter. She looks out the window and sees a truck pulling up and a man in a military uniform stepping out. She smiles and jumps up.

GIRL:

Uncle Chuck!

She turns back to the letter. We see her writing and hear the voiceover at the same time...

GIRL:

Thank you God!

We see an image through the window of a girl running out to the car...

VFX: Video fades back to Max.

MAX:

That one gets me every time... Max the research rat, over and under.

VFX: Video fades.

SCENE SIX

Robby is wiping tears from his eyes.

ROBBY: (Sniffing) That was so sweet...

Robby composes himself and walks onto the rathole stage.

ROBBY: That little girl really believed God, didn't she? You know, it looks like there's a theme going on today...

VFX: BELIEVE

ROBBY: If only I could get Daisy and Scrappy to believe ME. What should I do? I know! I need to pray! OK, here goes... "Dear God, please let Daisy and Scrappy trust me so I can help them. I believe You can do anything... Amen."

Daisy and Scrappy enter. They are sluggish and their heads are hanging.

DAISY: Oh... I'm feeling worse...

SCRAPPY: Me too... Hey! What's *he* doing back?

ROBBY: I'm here with medicine that will make you feel ship-shape!

SFX: Phone rings.

DAISY: I'll get it! (Grabs phone.) Hello? Oh hey Professor! You're what? Robby? He was supposed to do what? Oh... Yeah... Ok... Bye.

HARVEY: Was that the Professor?

DAISY: (sheepishly) Yes... He asked if Robby had given me medicine for my stomachache. (to Robby) I am so sorry! I didn't believe you...

VFX: BELIEVE

ROBBY: It's all okeley dokeley! What's important is that now you can get better.

Robby pours a cup of medicine (it's actually empty) down Daisy's throat. He turns to Scrappy.

ROBBY: OK Scrappy, now it's your turn. Open wide...

SCRAPPY: No way! That phone call could have been faked! (holds stomach)
Oh... My stomach...

ROBBY: You know Scrappy, I have a little song that might help you believe me so you will take your medicine.

SFX: “Spoonful of sugar” music from Mary Poppins

VFX: The words to this song will be on the screen, perhaps with a karaoke bouncing ball if that is not too difficult.

ROBBY: (singing) Just a spoonful of believing helps the medicine go down... The medicine go downnnnn, the medicine go down! Just a spoonful of believing helps the medicine go down. If you will just believe!

SFX: Applause

SCRAPPY: Hey, I’ve got an idea. I’ll take that medicine... *If you just quit singing!*

DAISY: Scrappy, that wasn’t very nice!

ROBBY: It’s all righty right, Daisy. (baby voice) Little Scrappy’s just feeling a little sick...

Robby pinches Scrappy’s cheeks.

SCRAPPY: (holding stomach) Oh... Now I’m feeling worse...

ROBBY: Well then you better get a spoonful of believing and take your medicine!

SCRAPPY: Oh my stomach... I feel like I’m gonna...

ROBBY: Open wide!

Robby gets his medicine cup (actually empty), and Scrappy opens his mouth wide. Backstage, someone grabs a can of silly string (the audience can’t see this). Scrappy makes a “throwing up” sound, and the can of silly string is released onto Robby, making it look like Scrappy just threw up on him!

SFX: Stomach churning/throwing up sound.

HARVEY: Incoming! Take cover!

DAISY: Oh Scrappy! You didn't just...

EVERYONE: Ewwwww! Gross!

ROBBY: Oh, it's no problemo... Better out than in, I say! I'll just get cleaned up in a jiffy!

DAISY: Scrappy, you better help Robby clean this mess up!

SCRAPPY: Huh? Oh my, look how time flies. I think I hear Mom calling... Gotta run!

SCRAPPY EXITS.

DAISY: Scrappy! Come back here!

DAISY EXITS.

ROBBY: Well kids, we learned an important lesson today, didn't we?

VFX: BELIEVE

SFX: Accompanying sound for the word of the day.

ROBBY: If Scrappy and Daisy believed me earlier, they would have gotten better sooner...and I wouldn't be such a mess! Have you ever had trouble believing in God? Has there ever been a time when you didn't believe He was there for you, and you found out later that He was? Well, today in class we are going to see what happened when Mary and Martha had trouble believing Jesus would help Lazarus. Now, who wants to say a prayer for us before the worship team comes?