

"Forbidden"
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INT. FORBIDDEN TEMPLE - DAY

Crash! The walls of a temple are closing in on our hero SPICY HERNANDEZ (early 30s, a suave Mediterranean Indiana Jones-esque adventurer). He runs between them and makes it out just in time. Poison arrows shoot from the walls, but he dodges every single one of them.

Once clear of that booby-trap, he flips his perfect glossy hair because that's what Spicy Hernandez does.

He's not out of the woods yet. Spikes shoot up from the floor, but he comes out with his crotch unscathed.

Stone columns collapse around him, and when the dust settles, our hero finally sets his eyes on the IDOL, a gold-plated statuette on a well-lit altar.

After a beat, he charges it. Just then a CROCODILE on ropes swings down at him. He runs up its face and down the back like it was nothing. The idol is his for sure!

Suddenly two sentient SKELETON GUARDS come out of the walls bearing swords, their eyes glowing red.

Our hero Spicy Hernandez runs at them at full force! Just then the floor opens up, and he falls into a pit of flames.

SPICY HERNANDEZ

Aaaaaaah!

The floor closes, and the two skeletons are left in an awkward silence.

The taller, thinner one claps his hands twice, and the house lights come on. They look around the room, and he speaks.

TERENCE

(in an articulate Mid Atlantic accent)

Well this is just *wonderful*! Would you look at the state of this place? What a mess!

The shorter, stockier skeleton named GALAHAD replies.

GALAHAD

(in a gruff 1930s New York accent)

Yeah, and what a klutz!

Terence makes his way over to a hidden closet. He takes out a broom and throws it to Galahad.

(CONTINUED)

TERENCE

And you know, that's the 5th intruder just this month.

GALAHAD

Ain't like it used to be.

Galahad catches the broom and starts sweeping the floor, while Terence starts collecting the fallen arrows and checking if they're still sharp.

TERENCE

It's as if no one even respects the forbidden temple anymore! No one cares if it's cursed!

GALAHAD

Hey c'mon, Terence, ya preachin' to the choir.

TERENCE

I'm sorry, Galahad, I just get this way, you know. A friend of mine in the temple down the way has been saying the same thing. They come in, they destroy the place, and they die.

GALAHAD

(with TERENCE)

And they die.

TERENCE

And they leave us to reset everything and clean it up. It's just the way it is, I'm afraid.

Galahad grunts as he pushes the crocodile back up to its starting position.

GALAHAD

(grunting)

All for that stupid idol.

There is a break in the conversation. Terence pulls a lever and the spikes retreat back into the floor. Galahad cracks his back. Then he gazes at the idol, then back to Terence, then back to the idol.

GALAHAD (CONT'D.)

Although...

Terence stares back at Galahad perplexed.

(CONTINUED)

TERENCE

Galahad! Are you honestly considering what I think you're considering?

GALAHAD

Hear me out. Hear me out. What if there was no more idol to protect? What if it just happened to, uh, I don't know...disappear...

TERENCE

Bu-

GALAHAD

Uhp uhp uhp! Think about it. If the temple ain't got the idol, there ain't nothin' to protect. Ergo, we can finally get the hell outta heah!

Terence considers it.

GALAHAD

We can finally see the world!

TERENCE

An autumn in Paris...but the curse!

GALAHAD

Eh, no idol, no curse!

Terence thinks long and hard. Galahad lifts the idol off the altar.

TERENCE

Oh my word. This is quite exhilarating.

GALAHAD

See? I told ya there ain't no-

KABOOM! The lighting changes suddenly to ominous colors. Smoke fills the room.

TERENCE

Put it back, Galahad! What have you done!?

A greenish ghostly GHOUL emerges from the altar in a mass of special effects. Wind and lighting shoot around the room, and the two skeletons fall to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

GHOUL

Boo! Bluh! Who dares disturb the
idol!?

TERENCE

Just put it back, and maybe he'll
go away!

GALAHAD

Psh.

The ghoul screams and the temple starts to shake and the lighting changes dramatically. Terence and Galahad panic and seek shelter under the altar.

TERENCE

We're doomed! He's gonna kill us!

GALAHAD

Wait a minute.

Galahad stands up in the swirling winds and quaking tremors of the Ghoul's wrath.

GALAHAD (CONT'D.)

Hey! Ya can't kill us - we're
already skeletons!

The Ghoul calms down when faced with logic.

GHOUL

Hm...logic...very well! I will give
you a punishment even more severe!
Bwah ha ha ha!

INT. FORBIDDEN TEMPLE - THE NEXT DAY

The idol again rests on the altar, though this time it has company -- the skulls of Galahad and Terence, which are now a shiny gold to match.

TERENCE

I can't believe I listened to you
and went along with this.

GALAHAD

Pipe down! Someone's coming!

Another adventurer KENTUCKY WILSON runs into the room.

(CONTINUED)

GALAHAD

Hey! Hey you, ovah heah!

TERENCE

Oh, please, sir! Get us out of
here!

He falls through the same trapdoor into the pit of flames.

GALAHAD

Ah...crud.

The End.