

BEN 10: "The Eggman Cometh"

Outline (Second Draft), September 13, 2010

TEASER

1. GWEN'S MOM'S PLACE: GWEN'S MOM is in the kitchen, trying to make cookies while listening to a radio cooking show. She's not having much luck; the lady on the radio is talking too fast and going off on too many tangents.

When the voice on the radio calls for eggs, Gwen's Mom hurriedly pulls a carton out of the refrigerator; CAMERA moves in close on the words, "Grade AAA Free Range Eggs," and then it moves in even closer to show tiny letters that say, "Animo Farms."

Gwen's Mom doesn't pay attention to this fine print. She takes an egg from the carton and is about to crack it, when Gwen peeks in to say goodbye; she's off to see Kevin. Gwen's Mom puts down the egg and turns to say goodbye to her daughter. As she does this, CAMERA moves in close on the egg as it lies on the counter. Then it moves. Just a little.

2. As Gwen approaches Kevin's place, she's startled to see Kevin, in full combat mode, knocked clear across the road

in front of her. As Gwen watches in utter dismay, Kevin goes back in to confront BLUSTREEK, one of Ben's new aliens.

On Gwen's shock and disbelief, END TEASER.

ACT ONE

1. Gwen tries to break up the "fight," and only then does she realize it's not really a fight; Kevin and Ben both stop and explain that they were only sparring. It's something Ben has always done in order to familiarize himself with each new alien's powers.

Kevin now suggests that Ben try another alien, but Ben says he's tired. Kevin guesses that it's more than that; Ben's a little scared isn't he? Sometimes the power of these new aliens can be overwhelming, and it's not like there's an instruction book for Ben to use with them... which is why practice is so important. Ben says it's not that he's scared, he just doesn't see the point of some of these new aliens, that's all.

On this note, the phone rings.

It's Gwen's mother, and she's very upset. Gwen's able to calm her down just enough so that her mother can tell her that something unbelievable happened just a few minutes after Gwen left. Her Mom goes says she turned away from her mixing bowl for only a moment, and when she turned back she saw... something in her kitchen. "What was it?" Gwen asks. Her mother hesitates, then it spills out: "A Dinosaur Man," Gwen's mother shouts. "Small at first, but it grew and

grew, until it was ten feet tall - and then... and then... it flew out the window!"

Gwen, Ben and Kevin exchange worried looks. Something is obviously wrong with Gwen's mother, and they need to get over there right away.

2. IN KEVIN'S CAR, ON THE WAY TO GWEN'S MOM'S HOUSE: Kevin and Ben are both doubting the sanity of Gwen's mom when a large shadow sweeps over the car; they look up to see something flying overhead. Some kind of reptile? A man with wings?

"Or maybe... a Dinosaur Man?" Gwen suggests. Kevin admits that Gwen's mom might not be so crazy after all, then he floors the accelerator in an effort to follow the erratic path of the flying reptile. At the same time, Ben tries to select JetRay from the Omnitrix, so he can follow the thing in the air, but, because Kevin's car is weaving so much, Ben hits the wrong button, and he becomes tiny HAYWIRE, the new, gremlin-like alien with a compulsion to take apart mechanical things... in this case, Kevin's car - specifically its brakes. Before Kevin and Gwen can stop the manic little creature, the now-brake-less car is forced to make a perilous descent down a winding road. And it's not

until Kevin stops the car by driving it into a haystack, that Haywire regains enough control over himself to change back into Ben. "Now do you see why I steer clear of these new aliens?" Ben says. Gwen assures him there will be a time and a place for everything (and every alien). Ben isn't so sure.

3. AT GWEN'S MOM'S PLACE: Gwen's mother has calmed down a bit and is relieved to see that everyone believes her now. Ben becomes another new alien, CLOCKWORK, and shines his ray into the kitchen. The ray enables him to see what happened here twenty minutes ago - in reverse. So, what he sees is a half-human pterodactyl creature back in through the window, then shrink down to fit inside an egg. The egg closes up around the now-shrunken creature, and then Ben/Clockwork sees Gwen's mom put the egg back in the refrigerator. Ben switches back to his normal form and takes a closer look at the egg carton... and sees the words "Animo Farms."

4. AT ANIMO FARMS: Dr. Animo is trying to act "down-home" for the benefit of a TV crew taping a commercial for his 'farm fresh, free range eggs.' He tells his audience he's

so darn sure everyone in town's going to love these ol' eggs of his, he's going to be giving away free samples all week!

5. As soon as the taping is over, Animo enters a large barnlike structure; this is where the supposedly "free-range" chickens roam, and as he enters, Animo instantly drops his down-home demeanor, kicks some chickens out of his way, then goes to what appears to be the back wall of the structure. But when he hits a button on this wall, it swings open, and we realize that this is the vertical equivalent of a false bottom; there's a whole other room back here, and this one is filled with high-tech lab equipment. As Animo enters, a voice calls out to him from the shadows. Whoever this is, he complains that he's tired of having to be in here all the time, in the dark and cold.

"Don't worry," Animo says, "you and the others will have your time in the sun very, very soon."

Pleased by this, Animo's companion steps out of the shadows. It's another pterodactyl man.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

1. INSIDE KEVIN'S CAR: Ben, Kevin and Gwen are on their way to the Sheriff's station to tell the sheriff he must raid Animo Farms. (Ben and Kevin wanted to go straight to the farm, but Gwen convinced them to go to the authorities first.) She reminds them they've had a long and difficult history with Animo and his de-evolutionary experiments; this could be their chance to put him in jail permanently.

1A. THE SHERIFF'S STATION. Kevin's car pulls into frame, but then passes right out of it; Kevin hasn't managed to get the brakes up to speed again, after what Haywire did to them.

1B. When Ben, Gwen and Kevin tell the Sheriff what they saw, the sheriff, who seems a little dim, doesn't believe them; and he's certainly not inclined to bother nice old Farmer Animo, who, he assures them, is now a fully reformed pillar of the community.

"If you don't go there right now, there won't be a community much longer," Gwen shouts.

The sheriff tells her to chill; with the long-awaited re-opening of the local foundry scheduled for later this

week, the last thing this town needs is a panic.

1C. Leaving the sheriff's station, Kevin and Gwen are muttering derisively about the sheriff's IQ, when Ben remembers something: he has some 'Grade AAA Free Range" eggs at his place, too!

2. INSIDE BEN'S HOUSE: Camera starts on a carton of eggs on a counter; the carton is open, the eggs are all cracked open and empty, and now, the house is bursting at the seams with a dozen rapidly growing pterodactyl men. Ben, Kevin and Gwen wade in to battle them.

Ben becomes SwampFire, which turns out to be a mistake, because the creatures are drawn to him for some reason; so Kevin and Gwen must step up in order to turn the tide of the battle, and soon, they're able to lock the creatures in the basement.

Gwen wants to call the Sheriff to prove to him that the pterodactyl men are real, but Ben tells her not to waste her time; they need to confront Dr. Animo right now.

3. ANIMO FARMS - NIGHT: Ben, Kevin and Gwen sneak in; Animo is nowhere to be seen, and nothing seems out of the

ordinary -- except that they're being secretly observed by a shadowy figure.

Gwen goes to Animo's computer and turns it on; there doesn't seem to be anything out of the ordinary here, either - until Gwen clicks the "history" button on Animo's browser;

he's been visiting websites that pertain to an experimental effort to replenish the ozone layer, and thus, reduce global warming.

Kevin assumes Animo is some kind of tree hugger, but Gwen has a hunch there's more to it than that; remember how the pterodactyl men swarmed all over Swampfire? It was because of the heat he generated. Reptiles are cold-blooded and are drawn to heat, so if Animo is paying a lot of attention to an experiment that could end global warming, it's not because he wants it to succeed; he wants it to fail! And what do you want to bet he's going to do something about it?

When Gwen clicks on another website and sees that the scientists' experimental balloon is set to be launched from the desert tomorrow at dawn, she hurries back to the car.

Ben and Kevin follow, but camera remains inside for a beat - and that's when Animo's reptilian assistant steps out of

the shadows and picks up the phone.

4. INSIDE A TRUCK IN THE DESERT: Animo is out here in an egg truck, waiting for the sunrise; he gets a call from his assistant, telling him about Ben, Kevin and Gwen - but Animo says he's not worried; it's too late for them to interfere - they won't be fast enough.

He hits a button on his egg truck's dashboard and the truck's roof opens, revealing a Predator-style drone missile launcher.

5. As the sun rises, Kevin is racing through the desert, on his way to the site of the balloon launch.

Ben is eager to get to the site - so eager that he switches into Blustreek. Kevin warns him to be careful: Blustreek is a new alien, and Ben hasn't finished his practice yet.

Ben/Blustreek tells Kevin and Gwen not to worry, then he opens the car door, leaps out and quickly begins to outdistance Kevin's speeding car.

5a. Meanwhile, Animo launches his Predator.

5b. When Blustreek spots the Predator heading toward the giant balloon, he turns up the speed... but he soon loses control and overshoots his mark, tumbling and skidding across a mile of dry brush and sand before coming to a stop. As soon as the dust clears, he sees the Predator drone strike the balloon, destroying it with a big explosion.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

1. THE DESERT, MOMENTS LATER: The scientists are bereft; they tell an interviewer it'll take months to replicate this experiment.

1a. Animo, still in his truck, is watching the scientists on the Internet; smirking, he notes that his own experiment won't require months - only a few more days.

3. AT THE IRONWORKS: The sheriff is here for the official ribbon-cutting, but the ceremony is interrupted when Kevin screeches up (again overshooting his mark). Gwen tells the sheriff what just happened in the desert, but the sheriff assures her he's heard all about it - except he attributes the attack to "eco-terrorists". It's nothing the FBI can't handle.

Ben, Gwen and Kevin try to convince the sheriff otherwise, but he won't listen; he's not willing to stop the ribbon cutting ceremony.

So he goes ahead and cuts the ribbon, and the dignitaries enter the refurbished old foundry. The place looks like a 1940s steel mill, complete with red-tinted

lighting and huge tubs of molten steel. It is also filled with pterodactyl men.

The sheriff and his men try to drive out the pterodactyl men, but the lawmen are almost comically inept; it falls to Ben to use what he learned previously about these heat-loving creatures, and switch into Big Chill, who quickly freezes the pterodactyl men - and the foundry - with his icy breath.

4. ANIMO FARMS: Animo is running the light from a de-evolution ray over a conveyor-belt-load of eggs; he tells his assistant that nothing can stop him now. Soon, reptiles will take their rightful place as the rulers of this planet.

And that's when Ben, Kevin, Gwen and the sheriff's men burst in.

There's a huge melee; more pterodactyl men have hatched, and they, along with Animo, put up a big fight.

Amidst the battle, Ben comes upon Animo's de-evolution ray, and he sees an opportunity to get in some practice with Haywire; unleashing the little gremlin, Ben/Haywire quickly tears the ray apart.

4a. Meanwhile, on another part of the farm, Kevin has captured Dr. Animo – but Animo smugly tells him there are already too many of his pterodactyl men around town to be stopped. Even Ben, with his freezing power, won't be able to stop them all, Animo adds.

Kevin is sure there must be some other way to stop them, but if there is, Animo isn't saying. Frustrated, Kevin slams Animo into a wall; scared, Animo calls to Gwen to save him, but Gwen is in no mood; a quick demonstration of her power frightens Animo into admitting that there is another way to stop the pterodactyl men... by rewiring the de-evolution ray.

And that's when Ben steps in, he's horror-stricken; Haywire has just destroyed the one device that can save the town!

Thinking fast, Gwen takes Ben aside and tells him that whatever Haywire has taken apart, he must also be able to put back together. It's common sense – but Ben needs to have faith in himself – and in his ability to control Haywire.

With some reluctance, Ben turns back into Haywire and starts fiddling with the ray. As Gwen watches hopefully, Kevin comes up beside her and asks in a whisper how she can

be so certain Haywire can undo the damage. "I'm not," Gwen says, "but the important thing is that Ben is certain." On Kevin's worried look...

5. THE FOUNDRY: The pterodactyl men are unfreezing, and ready to cause more damage – but that's when JetRay makes his big entrance, soaring through the foundry with Animo's rebuilt ray strapped to him. Only this time, the machine is sending out a beam of a different color, which Ben/JetRay sweeps over the pterodactyl men... who fall to the ground writhing.

5b. All over town, JetRay continues his fly-over, and the pterodactyl men are brought low by the ray.

5c. Down below, Kevin and Gwen watch, pleased that Ben has overcome his confidence issues, and that Haywire has redeemed himself by saving the day.

But Kevin has a couple of questions for Gwen: first, the original ray caused de-evolution, while this new one is causing evolution, right? So what are the pterodactyl men evolving into?

The same thing the dinosaurs evolved into, Gwen says.

"Birds."

Kevin starts to look around - and everywhere he looks, he now sees clucking chickens.

That just leaves one more question: because the evolution ray is now blanketing the town, does that mean everything else is going to evolve, too?

Gwen can't answer that one.

6. A few blocks away, the Sheriff is shooing away some chickens when the colored ray sweeps over him. As soon as it passes, we see him do something he hasn't done before: he looks off and thinks. Then he looks around, spots a nearby building and goes in. Camera pans to sign above the building's door.

It's a library.

THE END