

The Great Locomotive Chase

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Based on the music by Robert W. Smith

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1 MONTAGE 1

-Robber comes up to John with the bag, pointing the gun at him.

-A cliff bursts into a large ball of fire, destroying a railroad bridge.

-A train engineer is found with a gunshot to the head.

-The front wheels of a train have gone over the edge of a cliff.

2 EXT. COUNTY JAIL-DAY 2

The jail stands almost in the middle of nowhere. It's concrete walls have been chipping away for years. The iron bars having more rust than iron in it. A few miles down there is a railroad bridge that stretches across a wide ravine.

FADE TO

3 INT. COUNTY JAIL-DAY 3

Inside, the jail looks surprisingly older than outside. A desk sits at the far end of the room, spotted with criminal records and police reports. The SHERIFF, an older but strong gentleman, is sitting on the desk, reading the paper. The one jail cell is small, meant for holding at most two people. Right now, it's holding one, CASEY. Casey is big but silent. His hat always hides his eyes. He is sitting by the window bars. He smiles eerily.

SHERIFF

What are you smilin' for?

CASEY

Just a beautiful day.

Casey looks out to the railroad bridge.

CUT TO

4 EXT. RAILROAD BRIDGE-DAY 4

The railroad is fairly new, only a few years old. Attached to the cliff's edge are a dozen sticks of dynamite, waiting for the fuse that starts at the jail to run out.

CUT TO

5 EXT. TRAIN STATION-DAY 5

A long wooden building stands outside a large western town. People of all shapes and sizes are piling onto the large steam train. Steam fills the air, mixing with the clouds in the sky. People are piling on stacks of gold into the caboose. JOHN(34) and his two kids, AARON (12) and BONNIE (5), climb onto the train. Bonnie grabs onto her father's hand nervously.

CUT TO

6 INT. PASSENGERS CABIN-DAY 6

The inside is lined with red velvet seats and carpets. The cabin itself is made out of a dark mahogany and is in great condition. People pile in with suitcases and newspapers trying to find a seat. John and the kids find a seat and settle down. Bonnie is still holding on to her father. John turns to Bonnie.

JOHN  
(Comforting)  
Hey, don't worry. It'll be fun.

AARON  
(Teasing)  
Yeah, especially when the robbers  
come with guns and-

Bonnie stares at Aaron, now terrified. John turns to Aaron.

JOHN  
(Stern)  
Aaron, stop it.

Aaron stops speaking. John turns back to Bonnie.

JOHN (CONT'D)  
Nothing will happen. We won't let  
anything happen.

CUT TO

7 EXT. TRAIN STATION-DAY 7

The train begins to nudge forward. The heavy wheels begin to move faster and faster as the train leaves the station. Two cowboys wearing black bananas around their face and black hats watch the train leave. After the train is a ways off, the cowboys ride their horse towards it.

CUT TO

8 EXT. TRAIN-DAY

8

The train is rushing down the track at top speed. It speeds past several railroad signs and other trains. The horse with the two robbers is not far behind. They catch up to the caboose and the robber in the back jumps onto the platform. The other robber rides away.

CUT TO

9 INT. COUNTY JAIL-DAY

9

The Sheriff takes a long drag of his cigar. Casey looks at him with an evil grin.

CASEY

Mind if I have one. I think I at least deserve one.

The Sheriff looks at Casey and scoffs. He then flicks the rest of his cigar at Casey.

SHERIFF

I say what you deserve here. And that's all ya' get.

Casey looks away as the sheriff sits down at his desk. Casey then takes the cigar that was thrown at him and begins to use the burning end to light the fuse sticking out of the wall. The fuse is lit and begins to rush away.

10 INT. PASSENGERS CABIN-DAY

10

Aaron and Bonnie are looking out the window, watching the cacti and railroad signs zip by. A gunshot is heard as the robber walks into the cabin. He holds his gun up so that everyone can see it. A few ladies scream.

ROBBER

Everyone calm down and no one gets hurt! Don't try to be a hero.

Everyone is now frozen in fear. The robber takes out a bag and begins to collect everyone's jewelry and money. John brings the kids close.

JOHN

(Whispering)

Listen, stay calm. Aaron, take Bonnie to the back. Go to the back of the train and hide. You'll be safe there. Okay?

(CONTINUED)

Aaron nods his head. Bonnie is still frozen in fear. Aaron gets onto the floor, makes Bonnie get down with him, and leads her under the chairs to the back. Just as they leave, the robber comes up to John with the bag, pointing the gun at him.

ROBBER

You're coming with me.

CUT TO

11 EXT. RAILROAD BRIDGE-DAY 11

The fuse reaches the dynamite. The entire cliff bursts into a large ball of fire, destroying the railroad bridge.

CUT TO

12 INT. COUNTY JAIL-DAY 12

The building rumbles during the nearby explosion. The sheriff shields his face from the flying debris. The force of the explosion is enough to knock the outside cell wall down, letting Casey go.

CASEY

Thank you for the cigar, sheriff! I needed it!

The second robber on horseback rides up to the newly destroyed wall. Casey jumps onto the horse, laughing. The horse runs away. The Sheriff quickly rushes out the door.

CUT TO

13 EXT. COUNTY JAIL-DAY 13

The Sheriff rushes out on his horse after Casey. He stops as he sees the destroyed bridge. He looks back at the two getting away, then looks off into the distance and sees the train coming. He quickly rushes towards the train.

CUT TO

14 INT. CABOOSE-DAY 14

The robber and John fling the door open and enter. The caboose is filled with piles of money bags and stacks of gold bars.

ROBBER

Go get the money.

(CONTINUED)

He shoves John towards the bags and he begins to gather them up. The two kids peek their heads out to see what's happening.

BACK TO

15 EXT. TRAIN-DAY

15

As the train is rushing down one way, the Sheriff rushes towards it. He is waiving his arms and screaming.

SHERIFF

STOP THE TRAIN! STOP THE TRAIN!

He looks closely and sees that the train engineer has been shot in the side of his head. The Sheriff turns his horse around and begins to go in the same direction as the train.

BACK TO

16 INT. CABOOSE-DAY

16

The robber is standing next to the stack of gold that the kids are hiding behind. John is still gathering money. Bonnie begins to try and push the stack of gold. Aaron is still watching. John sees Aaron and stops.

ROBBER

What are you doing? I said get the money!

Aaron quickly hides behind the stack and helps Bonnie. The gold falls onto the robber and knocks him out. John rushes over to his kids and embraces them.

BACK TO

17 EXT. TRAIN-DAY

17

As the train begins to catch up with him, the Sheriff reaches out towards it. He is just out of reach and the head of train passes him. He finally grabs onto a railing and pulls himself onto it. He inches towards the engine as the train rushes forward.

CUT TO

18 INT. TRAIN ENGINE-DAY 18

The Sheriff climbs inside and pushes the dead body aside. He looks around and finds a bright red lever. Without thinking, he yanks it backwards. The train jolts as it begins to screech, trying to stop.

CUT TO

19 INT. PASSENGERS CABIN-DAY 19

All of the unsuspecting passenger get thrown forward suddenly as the train begins to slow down.

20 BACK TO 20

21 INT. TRAIN ENGINE-DAY 21

The Sheriff is still holding on to the lever tightly. He looks out towards the rapidly approaching wreckage with a worried look on his face.

CUT TO

22 EXT. RAILROAD BRIDGE-DAY 22

The train is slowing down but is still crawling towards the ravine. The train has now reached the edge of the cliff and it's still moving. The front wheels have gone beyond what's left of the railroad and is dangling over the edge. Rubble falls off the cliff into the ravine. The train inches forward for a few moments. Now half of the train engine is over the cliff. The train has now stopped.

FADE OUT

23 THE END 23