

YOKO! JAKAMOKO! TOTO

THE SPECIAL THING

Written
by
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"THE SPECIAL THING"

EXT. WILDERNESS

It is a hot slow day. The music takes its lazy laid-back cue from the three languid lizards baking on rocks in the foreground. They are stock still - interspersed with infrequent tiny jerky moves - as lizards do.

The title card comes up over this scene.

Yoko flies into shot. She glides around in a lazy way. The camera follows her, panning across the sparse desert landscape.

The camera settles on Jakamoko and Toto as Yoko glides around above their heads.

CLOSE ON Jakamoko and Toto. They are bored. Toto is sitting on the ground, leaning against Jakamoko's tail, with his hands behind his head and his legs splayed out.

TOTO

(Languid sigh.)

JAKAMOKO

(Slightly bigger, longer sigh.)

Toto flicks a steely look at his friend. Then lets out another sigh - purposefully longer than Jakamoko's.

TOTO

(Even bigger sigh.)

Jakamoko slowly looks back at Toto through hooded eyes - without moving his body. They make eye contact. Jakamoko is aware that Toto's sighs are now competitive.

Jakamoko takes a slow deep breath and lets out the mother of all sighs. Deep, rumbling, long and rich.

JAKAMOKO

(Mother of all sighs.)

Toto's eyes narrow. Toto takes a mega-deep breath - holds it - then lets it go - deflating with a weak sigh. He can't be bothered.

TOTO

(Big intake of breath - sad little sigh.)

Even more bored - Toto slumps back against Jakamoko, sliding down into a lower position.

A beat later, Jakamoko smiles and raises his head. He looks back at the slumped Toto.

JAKAMOKO
(Little laugh.)
Toto! Toto!

Toto doesn't respond, instead he slumps lower against Jakamoko's side.

JAKAMOKO
(Long and pleading)
Totoooooooooo!!

Toto looks at Jakamoko.

JAKAMOKO
(Noise of satisfaction at getting Toto's attention.)

Jakamoko moves his head a tiny bit closer to Toto. Then he does an amazing thing. He rattles his eyeballs very quickly from side to side. The movement is accompanied by the sound of a rattle.

Toto jumps back startled - then laughs.

TOTO
(Startled jump - amazed "ooh" - little laugh.)

JAKAMOKO
(Little laugh.)

Toto runs round from his position at Jakamoko's tail, to the front of Jakamoko and looks him in the eyes.

TOTO
(Laughing as he runs round - then gesturing noise.)

Toto gestures to Jakamoko to do it again. There is a pause - then Jakamoko does the eye rattle again.

Toto falls back, rolling over and over, holding his stomach - laughing his head off.

TOTO
(Big laugh – rolling about.)

Jakamoko joins in.

JAKAMOKO
(Joining Toto's laugh.)

As they laugh Yoko flies down to their side, looking at them quizzically.

YOKO
(Questioning noise.)

Toto can't wait to show her Jakamoko's special thing.

Toto tries to repeat Jakamoko's "special thing" to Yoko. Toto points to both his eyes with his hands, and swinging his eyes from side to side with dull clunks – jerking his head as he does so.

TOTO
(Little laugh)

Yoko is puzzled.

YOKO
Hu?

Toto puts an arm round Yoko and gently guides her forward to Jakamoko.

TOTO
(Laughing as he talks.)
Yoko! Yoko!

They both arrive by Jakamoko's face. Toto points at Jakamoko's eyes.

Yoko leans in - looking.

TOTO
(Suppressing excitement.)

There is a pause.

Jakamoko does his eye thing, with the same RATTLE s.f.x. as before

Yoko jumps back amazed.

YOKO
(Amazed in-take of breath.)

Toto holds his ground, he was expecting it.

YOKO/TOTO

(Laughter.)

JAKAMOKO

(Joins in laughter.)

As the laughter dies, Yoko starts jumping up and down on the spot - calling for her friends' attention.

YOKO

Toto! Toto! Jakamoko! (Little laugh)
Toto!

The two friends look at Yoko. Yoko takes a deep breath and holds it - straining.

YOKO

(Deep breath - strain noise.)

Jakamoko and Toto flick each other looks of concern as Yoko continues to make the straining noise.

Suddenly - without warning - Yoko POPS into a complete circle, with her feathers splayed out around the edges. s.f.x. POP.

Toto and Jakamoko fall about laughing.

TOTO/JAKAMOKO

(Falling about laughing.)

Yoko lets out her breath - deflating as she does so, then she joins in the laughter.

YOKO

(Releasing breath noise - laughter.)

Toto and Jakamoko both take deep breaths and try and do Yoko's "special thing".

TOTO/JAKAMOKO

(Deep breath – strain – release air.)

They can't do it.

They both take a step towards Yoko wanting her to do it again.

Toto is jumping up and down in anticipation.

TOTO/JAKAMOKO

Yoko! Yoko! Yoko!!

(Then silence in anticipation.)

The moment Yoko begins to draw breath again, both Toto and Jakamoko fall silent and watch.

YOKO

(Deep breath - strain noise.)

Again, she POPS into a circle s.f.x., and her two friends fall about laughing.

TOTO/JAKAMOKO

(Fall about laughing.)

Yoko exhales and returns to her normal shape and joins in the laughter.

YOKO

(Releasing breath noise - laughter.)

The laughter dies away. Toto is now in the middle between the other two. He is the last to finish laughing - wiping a tear from his eye.

TOTO

(Final sigh of laughter – almost crying.)

He opens his eyes to find the other two looking at him expectantly...it's his turn.

JAKAMOKO

(Slight cough.)

Toto looks from one to the other - then points to himself questioningly.

TOTO

Hu?

Both Yoko and Jakamoko nod excitedly.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO

(Affirmative noises.)

Toto has a moment of thinking on the spot, his fingers up to his mouth.

TOTO

(Nervous thinking noises)

Then Toto gives up. He can't think of anything.

TOTO
Humph! (Giving up.)

His shoulders slump and he walks off screen - dragging his feet. His two friends watch him go as they trade looks of concern with one another.

But not for long.

Jakamoko does a quick eye-wiggle.

YOKO
(Little giggle.)

Yoko takes a deep breath, obviously about to do her special thing, but she is interrupted by something oos.

YOKO
(Deep breath - interrupted noise.)

Both Yoko and Jakamoko look to the side in the direction Toto had exited. They are hearing noises. It is the sound of Toto trying to find a "special thing".

We pan in the direction Yoko and Jakamoko looked. The pan stops by a big rock, large enough for Toto to hide behind. It is from here that the noises are coming from. We slowly TRUCK IN on the rock as we hear Toto. Occasionally his arms or feet flit into view from behind the rock.

TOTO (V.O.)
- Finger popping in the mouth noise.
- Dismissive noise -
- Wailing noise as his arms flay around into shot from behind rock -
- Dismissive noise.
- Weird noise - little laugh.
- weird noise again -little laugh.

Toto runs out from behind the rock back to his bemused friends. He is excited.

TOTO
(excited noises)
(Clears throat) (Weird noise)

There is moment's silence. Yoko and Jakamoko look at each other - then back at Toto.

TOTO
(Half hearted weird noise, with question-mark.)

YOKO/JAKAMOKO

(Repeat the weird noise- then forced laugh.)

Yoko and Jakamoko laugh politely at Toto's 'special thing', but we all know that he hasn't hit the mark and it's not special at all. Toto's shoulders drop and he lollops off.

TOTO

(defeated sigh)

EXT. LANDSCAPE

Toto walks into shot and the camera pans with him as he slowly walks along. He stops for a beat as we hear the s.f.x. RATTLE and POP off screen.

JAKAMOKO/YOKO (V.O.)

(Distant laughter)

After flicking his eyes back towards the sound, Toto walks on.

ANGLE ON Lizards baking on a rock in the sun in the foreground.

A sad Toto lollops by behind the Lizards on the rock. As he passes, one of the Lizards fans out his neck fan and shimmers. The other Lizards laugh.

LIZARDS

(Laughter.)

Toto has stopped for a beat to watch this display. It makes him sadder. Even they have a 'special thing'. He sniffs back a tear.

TOTO

(Sad sniff.)

His shoulders fall as low as they are able, and Toto walks on, dragging his feet.

We follow Toto.

On occasion Toto stops and lets out a half-hearted attempt at a "special thing", that isn't really special at all.

TOTO

(Thinking noise) (Sticks tongue out with a Blurrrr!! noise)
(Dismissive noise.)

He walks on.

He puts his arms up above his head, with little noise.

TOTO
Eeek! (Dismissive noises.)

He walks on.

CROSS DISSOLVE TO:

DESERT LANDSCAPE

Yoko and Jakamoko are walking/flying along, looking around for their friend, calling his name. Yoko flies up and looks in a palm tree – and then flutters down to Jakamoko. Toto is not there.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO
(Calling.)
Toto!! Toto! Towwwww-towww!!

They pass concerned looks as they carry on walking/flying and calling.

They stop and sit.

YOKO
(Concerned noise.)

JAKAMOKO
(‘tut’)

Hold a beat. They look at each other.

Jakamoko does his eye rattle to Yoko – half-heartedly. Feeble s.f.x. RATTLE.

YOKO
(Little laugh – not quite convinced.)

Yoko takes a weak breath and half-heartedly POPS into her round shape. Her s.f.x POP is weak – and she deflates immediately.

YOKO
(Breath in – weak POP.)

Jakamoko gives a perfunctory “humph” in response. None of it is quite the same without Toto.

JAKAMOKO
(Humph)

Yoko and Jakamoko both look at each other again, then get up and move out of shot with renewed vigor, calling after their friend.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO
Towwwwwww-Towwwww!

CROSS DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LANDSCAPE WITH BUSHES

Toto is sitting on the ground, with his head in his hands. He is sitting in front of some bushes.

TOTO
(Sigh.)

Yoko and Jakamoko's heads appear behind Toto from behind the bushes. They react at seeing their friend, pleased to have discovered him.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO
(Loudly and happy) Toto!!!!!!

Toto jumps up in shock. His tail goes ridged, like a pole, with his on top, to the sound of a PENNY WHISTLE. He stays there, balancing in the air on the end of his tail.

Toto and Jakamoko give an amazed intake of breath – then laugh their heads off, looking up at Toto. Wow!

YOKO/JAKAMOKO
(Amazed intake of breath – laughter.)

Toto looks down confused, then looks at what he has done.

TOTO
Hu?

Yoko and Jakamoko jump out from behind the bush, standing either side of Toto. Yoko jumps up in the air, mimicking the penny whistle noise and laughing.

YOKO
Weee! (Laugh.)

Jakamoko gives a little jump and a laugh.

JAKAMOKO
Wooo! (Laugh)

Toto's face snaps into a big happy smile as the penny drops. He has discovered his 'special thing'.

TOTO
(The penny drops noise.)

Toto laughs too as his tail goes floppy again and he falls back to earth.

TOTO
(Happy laugh)

Toto does his 'special thing' again, jumping up, with his tail going ridged to the PENNY WHISTLE sound. Toto drops back to earth as he and the rest laugh.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO
(Happy laughter.)

They each do their special things:

Jakamoko does his eye wiggle to the sound of a RATTLE.

Yoko takes a deep breath, strains and POPS into her round shape.

YOKO
(Deep breath – strain – pop!)

Then Toto bounds up onto the top of his ridged tail to the sound of the PENNY WHISTLE and then comes down again.

As Yoko deflates back to normal their theme tune kicks in.

YOKO/JAKAMOKO/TOTO
(Happy laughter)

As the theme tune kicks in our trio are all happy that they each have a 'special thing' that they can share. Each of them does their special thing in time to the music, laughing and whooping as they do so.

On one round of the theme, they do their noises instead of their names.

The credits slide by as they have fun.

THE END