

# THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBUNNY

Book and Lyrics by Michael MacKenzie Wills

Music by Alastair William King

Vocal Arrangements by C. Colby Sachs

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# THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBUNNY

**Book and Lyrics by Michael MacKenzie Wills**

**Music by Alastair William King**

**Vocal Arrangements by C. Colby Sachs**

*Based on the Award-Winning Children's Book  
"Thumperino - Diary of a Superbunny"  
by Amber L. Spradlin*

**SYNOPSIS:** The Adventures of Superbunny opens to the shocking discovery that all of the vegetables in New York City have strangely disappeared. The police have no leads in the case so it is up to Thumperino Superbunny to solve the crime. Along the way he meets a cast of local characters, including a friendly police horse, and tangles with the evil villain Dr. Nilch and his robot henchmen. The Adventures of Superbunny deals with such issues as healthy eating, environmental awareness, consequences for one's actions, self-motivation, courage, and confidence.

Based on the book *Thumperino - Diary of a Superbunny*, by Amber L. Spradlin, winner of the Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award, The Pacific Book Award, and a 2016 Grammy Award Contender for Best Children's Album (audiobook).

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(1 female, 2 males, 1-7 either, 0-20 extras)*

### ACTOR #1:

THUMPERINO (m)..... A Superbunny. He is a rabbit who is small in stature but very boastful and proud, kind and gentle, fearless and sometimes shy. He's also a superhero with many superpowers. *(26 lines)*

**ACTOR #2:**

DR. NILCH (m/f)..... A Mad Scientist. He was once an award-winning creator of new flavors for a famous food company, but because of a terrible laboratory accident, he lost his sense of taste in the explosion. Now, since he can't taste anything he is determined to make sure that no one will ever taste anything again.  
(26 lines)

**ACTOR #3:**

FRANKLIN (m/f)..... A Robot Cockroach. (11 lines)  
CHEF LUIGI (m/f)..... An Italian Chef. (3 lines)  
SALLY SPARROW (f)..... A Concerned Mom. (3 lines)  
OFFICER MIKE (m)..... A Policeman. (11 lines)

**ACTOR #4:**

DAVE (m/f)..... A Robot Cockroach. (11 lines)  
THESPIAN (m/f) ..... An Actor. (7 lines)  
BRAGG STORY (m/f)..... A News Anchorman. (18 lines)  
RABBIT (m/f)..... A Police Horse. (Non-Speaking)

**EXTRAS:** Bunny Chorus members. (If performing with 4 characters, Actor 3 & 4 will make up the Bunny Chorus using bunny puppets.)

**DURATION:** 50-60 Minutes

**TIME:** The Present

**PLACE:** New York City

**CAST NOTE:** Each character can be played by a different actor or you can cast it as it was originally performed with just four actors. Also, any number of performers can be added as part of Dr. Nilch's Robot Cockroach army and as an additional chorus.

**PRODUCTION NOTES**

**SET:** The set should be minimal. Hand props should also be kept to a minimum. Can be performed with projections on the back wall, flats, or festival style with no set.

**SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**

**THE PROLOGUE:** THE THEATRE

**SCENE 1:** A ROOF TOP IN NEW YORK

**SCENE 2:** DR. NILCH'S FACTORY

**SCENE 3:** LITTLE ITALY

**SCENE 4:** DR. NILCH'S FACTORY

**SCENE 5:** A BACK ALLEY IN CHINATOWN

**SCENE 6:** DR. NILCH'S FACTORY

**SCENE 7:** THE HUDSON RIVER BANK

**SCENE 8:** CENTRAL PARK

**SCENE 9:** DR. NILCH'S FACTORY

**COSTUMES****ACTOR 1:**

THUMPERINO: Carrot T-Shirt, Cargo Shorts, Yellow Cape, Rabbit Ears, High Tops, White Socks, Black T-Shirt

**ACTOR 2:**

DR. NILCH: Fux Dickie with Bow Tie, White Coat, Goggles, Wig, Black T-Shirt, Pants

**ACTOR 3:**

FRANKLIN: White Coveralls, Bowler Hat, Bug Glasses, Black T-Shirt, Black Shoes

CHEF LUIGI: Chef Hat, Apron

SALLY SPARROW: Babushka, Cat's Eye Glasses, Purse

OFFICER MIKE: Police Hat, Shirt

**ACTOR 4:**

DAVE: White Coveralls, Bowler Hat, Bug Glasses, Black T-Shirt, Black Shoes

THESPIAN: White Coveralls or Shakespearian Hat and Coat, or just a Jester Hat

BRAGG STORY: Suit and Tie

RABBIT: Horse Head, Hooves (for hands and feet)

**SPECIAL EFFECTS**

- Beeping sound (for a small transmitter)
- Faster beeping sound (for a small transmitter)
- Machine processing sound

**PROPS**

- “Adventures of Superbunny” sign
- Auger Machine (with a large ON/OFF switch, “NIFTY NUTRITION NECTAR” in large letters, “Nilch Industries” written in small lettering under the nectar name.)
- (2) bushel baskets (or more, if you have an army of cockroaches)
- Large colorful plush vegetables (including a carrot)
- Large white plush vegetables
- Handcuffs
- Prison bars (optional: 2 wooden dowels painted gray)
- Remote Control
- Garbage can (medium-large size)
- Transmitter
- Microphone
- (2) Human Face Masks
- (2) Bunny puppets (for BUNNY CHORUS)
- “NYPD – Mounted Police Stables” sign
- Location signs (Hudson River, Ricciarelli’s Italian Bistro, Nilch Industries, Boat House Cafe)

**MUSICAL NUMBERS**

- SONG #1:        OPENING**  
*(THESPIAN & ENSEMBLE)*
- SONG #2:        I'M SUPERBUNNY**  
*(THUMPERINO)*
- SONG #3:        FACTORY! #1**  
*(INSTRUMENTAL)*
- SONG #4:        THE NIFTY NECTAR JINGLE #1**  
*(DR. NILCH, DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #5:        LITTLE ITALY**  
*(INSTRUMENTAL)*
- SONG #6:        VEG-GE-TA-BLES**  
*(DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #7:        THE VEGETABLE ANTHEM**  
*(THUMPERINO, BUNNY CHORUS)*
- SONG #8:        FACTORY! #2**  
*(INSTRUMENTAL)*
- SONG #9:        VEG-GE-TA-BLES (Reprise #1)**  
*(DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #10:       THE NIFTY NECTAR JINGLE #2**  
*(DR. NILCH, DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #11:       NILCH'S STORY**  
*(DR. NILCH, DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #12:       CHINATOWN**  
*(INSTRUMENTAL)*
- SONG #13:       VEG-GE-TA-BLES (Reprise #2)**  
*(DAVE, FRANKLIN)*
- SONG #14:       BEING SPECIAL**  
*(THUMPERINO, BUNNY CHORUS)*

- SONG #15:**     **FACTORY! #3**  
                  (*INSTRUMENTAL*)
- SONG #16:**     **NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW**  
                  (*DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO*)
- SONG #17:**     **THE NIFTY NECTAR JINGLE #3**  
                  (*DR. NILCH*)
- SONG #18:**     **UP THE RIVER**  
                  (*INSTRUMENTAL*)
- SONG #19:**     **VEGETABLE ANTHEM (Reprise)**  
                  (*THUMPERINO, BUNNY CHORUS*)
- SONG #20:**     **CENTRAL PARK**  
                  (*INSTRUMENTAL*)
- SONG #21:**     **VEG-GE-TA-BLES (Reprise #3)**  
                  (*DAVE, FRANKLIN*)
- SONG #22:**     **KEYSTONE CAPERS**  
                  (*INSTRUMENTAL*)
- SONG #23:**     **LET'S EAT VEGETABLES NOW**  
                  (*ENSEMBLE*)
- SONG #24:**     **BOW & EXIT MUSIC**  
                  (*ENSEMBLE*)

**AUTHOR'S NOTES**

He flies through my dreams and hops across my pages but I never envisioned him dancing on stages and now Thumperino Superbunny has a whole new avenue to explore as a character in a musical. When Michael MacKenzie Wills approached me about doing a musical I was excited to see what an audience of children would do when their pal Superbunny appeared in his yellow towel super-cape for the first time and I am glad I was in the theatre to share the electric joy that filled the room during that very first performance.

–Amber L. Spradlin, Author

*Thumperino – Diary of a Superbunny*

*The Adventures of Superbunny* is based on a children's book called *Thumperino – Diary of a Superbunny*. Now, from the title of the book alone, you can figure out that the children's book is a diary, and it's completely written in first person. This presents a couple of interesting tasks for the writer who decides to turn the book into a musical: 1) Creating dialogue between multiple characters, and 2) Developing an understanding of the inner workings and thoughts of all the characters who are not Superbunny himself.

Luckily, the songs in a musical are there to express a character's inner thoughts, not unlike a monologue or a soliloquy in a play. Songs in a musical allow a character to sing and talk directly to the audience, so creating songs from thoughts in a diary is a fun and exciting task to take on. Also, singing and talking directly to the audience creates a very real and strong connection between the children watching the show and our hero Superbunny.

The villain in this story is the evil Dr. Nilch who has an "army" of robot cockroaches. In the New York production that meant only two henchmen named Franklin and Dave, but in another production it could mean up to 10, 20, 30 or more. An entire dance troupe could be utilized to create the army of cockroaches and perform elaborate dance numbers and serve as a chorus. It is completely up to the creative team of each individual production.

While musicals are divided into many scenes and locations, I see this piece unfolding with great fluidity. Even when moving from location to location the action never stops. The transitions are seamless which is why I think it plays best on a near-empty stage or a non-representational set. In every production I personally directed of this show I used actors holding up painted signs to



indicate the location, but that is not necessary. Everything can be done with lighting, but with that said, I've directed a production on an outdoor stage with no set and no lighting, and it still worked. When Superbunny jumped off the front of the stage along with the NYC Mounted Police horse following him, all the children stood up and ran after them. It was a very exciting moment indeed.

I offer these thoughts only as noted from my personal experience. I am always genuinely excited to see and learn from how others interpret and stage their own production of this show.

–Michael MacKenzie Wills, Book & Lyrics/Director  
*The Adventures of Superbunny*

### PERFORMANCE HISTORY

***THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBUNNY*** was originally produced by Rabbit Hole Theatricks and Peter Cooper Village at The Stuyvesant Oval, New York, NY. The production was directed by Michael MacKenzie Wills with music direction by C. Colby Sachs and the following cast:

THUMPERINO SUPERBUNNY ..... Justin Galletto  
DR. NILCH..... Corrado Alicata  
THESPIAN, DAVE, BRAGG STORY,  
RABBIT THE POLICE HORSE ..... Jean Paul Morales  
FRANKLIN, CHEF LUIGI,  
SALLY SPARROW, OFFICER MIKE ..... Alex Simmons

**PROLOGUE**  
*THE THEATRE*

**AT RISE:** *The THESPIAN enters CS.*

**THESPIAN:** *(Spoken.)* Welcome—

**SONG #1: OPENING**  
*(ENSEMBLE)*

**THESPIAN:** Look upon this stage with your greatest imagination – for it will represent the whole of New York City; and actors will portray heroes and villains for you to watch as we present our awe-inspiring spectacle!

*(Sings.)* A GROUP OF FESTIVE ACTORS ARE WE,  
BRINGING LIVELY THINGS FOR YOU TO SEE.  
THERE'S LESSONS TO BE LEARNED,  
BUT DO NOT BE CONCERNED,  
WE DO OUR SHOW TO FILL YOUR HEART WITH GLEE.

*(Spoken.)* You will witness the evil Dr. Nilch try to take over the world—

*DR. NILCH enters and bows with a flourish.*

**THESPIAN:** *(Encouraging the audience.)* "Boooooo!"

*DR. NILCH sneers at them.*

**THESPIAN:** Because of him – You will see vegetable famine, giant polluting factories, robot cockroaches let loose in the city, and our hero Superbunny...

*THUMPERINO enters and stands proudly looking towards the sky with fists on hips.*

**THESPIAN:** *(Continued. Encouraging the audience to cheer.)*  
"Hooray!" *(Continued.)* ...drowning in a raging river.

**THUMPERINO:** Say what?

**DR. NILCH:** (*Triumphant.*) Yes!

**THESPIAN:** (*Sings.*)

WE'VE HEROES AND VILLAINS.

YES, HE IS THE VILLAIN.

AND HE IS OUR HERO.

*FRANKLIN enters.*

**FRANKLIN:**

AND I PLAY EVERYONE ELSE!

*The music stops. DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN exit.  
Music plays.*

**THESPIAN:** (*Spoken.*) I see that you are skeptical...

(*Sings.*) WITHIN THESE WALLS I KNOW YOU WILL SEE

THE SKYLINE OF NEW YORK CITY.

AS SUPERBUNNY FLIES

THOUGH THE BOROUGH SKIES,

FROM CHINATOWN TO LITTLE ITALY.

WE'LL SHOW YOU THE CITY,

THE PARTS THAT ARE GRITTY,

AND SOME OF WHAT'S PRETTY.

*DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN appear.*

**DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN:**

A LOT A PARTS ARE PRETTY.

*DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN exit.*

**THESPIAN:**

THERE'S ROBOTS AND HORSES,

NO VEGETABLE COURSES.

WE'LL FIGHT EVIL FORCES.

*DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, AND FRANKLIN appear.*

**DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN:**

A LOT OF EVIL FORCES

*DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, AND FRANKLIN enter.*

**ALL:**

A GROUP OF FESTIVE ACTORS ARE WE,  
BRINGING LIVELY THINGS FOR YOU TO SEE.  
WE PLAY AROUND THE TOWN,  
SO YOU WILL NEVER FROWN.  
WE DO OUR SHOW TO FILL YOUR HEART WITH GLEE.

**THUMPERINO:**

IT'S TIME TO STRIKE A BLOW  
SO EVIL DOESN'T GROW.

**THESPIAN:**

SO LET'S JUST START OUR GIANT LITTLE SHOW!

**ALL:**

NOW TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE,  
BEHAVE LIKE YOU'RE FULL GROWN!  
WE'LL SING IN OUR BEST TONE.  
YES! WE'LL SING IN OUR BEST TONE!

**THESPIAN:**

IT'S TIME TO GET STARTED.

**THUMPERINO:**

YOUR HERO'S BIGHEARTED.

**DR. NILCH:**

I'M NOT FOR THE FAINTHEARTED.

**FRANKLIN:**

AND I PLAY

**ALL:**

EVERYONE ELSE!

*Song ends. DR. NILCH, THUMPERINO, and FRANKLIN exit.*

**THESPIAN:** Now I ask you to listen courteously to our play and please enjoy: *(He reveals a sign with THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBUNNY written on it.)* The Adventures of Superbunny. *(Beat.)* I can see that Superbunny is high above New York City flying towards us. He will be landing on this roof top any second now, so I must bid you ado.

*THESPIAN exits.*

## SCENE 1

### A ROOF TOP IN NEW YORK

**AT START:** *THUMPERINO enters.*

**THUMPERINO:** Hi everybody! My name is Thumperino and I'm a Superbunny... What's a Superbunny? Well, I'll tell you. I have super powers. I can fly, I have super hearing and super-vision. That makes me different from other bunnies and I like being different – Because of my super powers, I feel that it's my duty to fight crime.

### **SONG #2: I'M SUPERBUNNY**

*(THUMPERINO)*

**THUMPERINO:** *(Spoken.)* I must serve and protect. Just like the NYPD. It's a great responsibility.

**THUMPERINO:**

I'M SUPERBUNNY,  
AND YOU CAN BET YOUR MONEY,  
THERE'S NO ONE BETTER THAN ME  
AT STOPPING A CRIME-SPREE.  
I'M SUPERBUNNY.

I FLY REALLY HIGH ABOVE THIS CITY FAIR,  
AND FIND TROUBLEMAKERS THEY CAN'T HIDE ANYWHERE.  
THE WIND WHISTLES ROUND AS THROUGH THE SKIES I SOAR,  
MY TAIL WHIPS BACK AND FORTH, I'LL CATCH A CROOK FOR SURE.

I'M SUPERBUNNY,  
AND IT ISN'T FUNNY,  
THERE'S NO ONE BETTER THAN ME  
AT STOPPING A CRIME-SPREE.  
I'M SUPERBUNNY.

MY YELLOW CAPE FLAPS AS I'M LOOKING AROUND,  
WITH SUPER-VISION EYES I'LL CLEAN UP THIS TOWN.  
AS I KNOCK MY HOCKS AND SHIFT TO TURBO SPEED,  
I'LL CATCH ANY CRUMB WHO'S DOING A BAD DEED.

I'M SUPERBUNNY,  
SKIES ARE ALWAYS SUNNY,  
THERE'S NO ONE BETTER THAN ME  
AT STOPPING A CRIME-SPREE.  
I'M SUPERBUNNY.

*Song ends.*

**THUMPERINO:** So I'm off to make my rounds. No criminal is safe on my watch. Hock speed away! (*THUMPERINO leaps into the air and flies off.*)

**SONG #3: FACTORY! #1**  
(*INSTRUMENTAL*)

## SCENE 2

### DR. NILCH'S FACTORY

**AT START:** *There is a giant auger machine in the center of the factory.*

*DR. NILCH marches in followed by DAVE and FRANKLIN. DAVE and FRANKLIN are each holding a human face mask in front of their real robot face.*

**DR. NILCH:** Halt! That's enough rehearsal. I want to shoot this commercial and post it on YouTube sometime before dinner. The camera is all set up and, "I am ready for my close up." (*DR. NILCH strikes his pose.*)

*DAVE and FRANKLIN lower their masks while looking at DR. NILCH's pose.*

**DR. NILCH:** No, no, no. Don't lower your masks while we are shooting the commercial. We can't have people see that. Someone might recognize you as the vegetable thieves.

*DAVE and FRANKLIN lift their masks back in front of their faces.*

**DR. NILCH:** There you go. Much better – and away we go. (*DR. NILCH reaches into his pocket and pulls out a remote control...*) Three, two, one! (*Presses the button.*) Hello everyone out there in cyber land. This is Dr. Nilch, creator of Dr. Nilch's Nifty Nutrition Nectar. I'd like to talk to you today about good family nutrition.

*DAVE and FRANKLIN, still holding the human masks in front of their faces, join him as his back-up singers.*

#### **SONG#4: NIFTY NECTAR JINGLE #1**

**DR. NILCH:**

NIFTY NECTAR CAN'T BE BEAT,  
IT'S REALLY A NUTRITIOUS TREAT.  
VEG'TABLES YOU'LL NEVER EAT,  
WITH NILCH'S NIFTY NECTAR.

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:** (*Robotic voices.*)

NIFTY NECTAR IS SO GOOD.  
GO BUY SOME NOW AND YES YOU COULD,  
ALL FEEL HEALTHY IF YOU WOULD  
DRINK HIS NIFTY NECTAR.

**DR. NILCH:** (*Spoken.*) My Nifty Nutrition Nectar solves all your family's nutritional needs. No more worrying about what to cook for dinner tonight. Just pour them a big glass of my Nifty Nutrition Nectar and all your worries will be over. I guarantee that it's easy to drink. It's odorless, colorless, and flavorless. What more could you want? Get my Nifty Nutrition Nectar today and you'll never have to eat vegetables again.

**DR. NILCH, DAVE, and FRANKLIN:**

SO, DO WHAT ALL YOUR NEIGHBORS DO.  
WITH VEGETABLES YOU WILL BE THROUGH,  
AND YOU WILL BE HEALTHY TOO  
WITH NILCH'S NIFTY NECTAR!

*They exit.*

**SCENE 3**  
*LITTLE ITALY*

**SONG #5: LITTLE ITALY**  
*(INSTRUMENTAL)*

**AT RISE:** *Outside Ricciarelli's Italian Bistro. THUMPERINO enters by jumping from the wings onto the stage to look like he's landing from a flight.*

**THUMPERINO:** I just finished my rounds and it's a beautiful day. The skies are clear and all is well. The city seems to be peaceful and crime free today. On a clear night when I'm floating above the city, I can see all 5 boroughs. Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, The Bronx, and Manhattan. New York is an amazing city...

*THUMPERINO is interrupted by BRAGG STORY, who enters with a Special Report, holding a microphone.*

**BRAGG STORY:** FLASH! This is anchorman Bragg Story interrupting your normally scheduled programming with a Special Report coming to you live from just outside Ricciarelli's Italian Bistro:

Last night, another rash of vegetable disappearances erupted in New York City. Restaurants all over town have been forced to take salads off their menus.

*CHEF LUIGI enters. He seems to be very upset.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Chef Luigi, might I have a word with you.



*CHEF LUIGI goes over to BRAGG.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Bragg Story Channel 8 News. How are the vegetable disappearances effecting your business?

*THUMPERINO overhears the interview.*

**CHEF LUIGI:** *(Italian accent.)* Oh Bragg, what am I-a gonna do, I have-a no tomatoes to make-a de sauce for my-a lasagna!

**BRAGG STORY:** Mmmm... mmm... lasagna. One of my favorites.

**CHEF LUIGI:** I know, eet's-a everybody's favorite. And Chef FRANÇOIS, our-a pastry chef, has no-a carrots to make hees famous mile-high-a carrot cake. Ricciarelli's is famous for eet's-a lasagna and eet's-a mile-high-a carrot cake!

**BRAGG STORY:** So you'd say the vegetable disappearances are effecting your business negatively.

**CHEF LUIGI:** Eet's effecting everybody's-a business negatively. Who is-a dis-a mad man who is-a stealing all-a de vegetables? We must-a do something about it. But what can we do. Is-a dere no one who can-a help us? Is-a dere no-a heros anymore?

*CHEF LUIGI starts crying and exits back into his restaurant.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Well, there you have it. A grown man crying at the thought of never seeing another vegetable. Ricciarelli's, and I fear every restaurant in town, will soon be out of business because of the lack of vegetables. -- On the home front, concerned mothers everywhere don't know what to serve their kids for dinner.

*SALLY SPARROW enters.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Here comes one now. Madam, madam? What are your thoughts about not being able to serve vegetables?

*She speaks into BRAGG's microphone.*

**SALLY SPARROW:** *(New York accent.)* My kids never liked vegetables anyway. It always turns into World War III when I try to get them to eat their vegetables. "Just two more bites!" Nothin'. So, I'm thinkin' about gettin' some of that Dr. Nilch's Nifty Nutrition Nectar and see how they like that. My friend Mary got some and she said all the kids are drinkin' it. They're happy they don't have to eat their vegetables — If they only knew what it was like when we were growing up, 'ey Bragg?

*She elbows BRAGG and notices how sturdy he is.*

**SALLY SPARROW:** *(Invitingly.)* What do you want to have for dinner tonight — Bragg?

**BRAGG STORY:** Well, man can't live on mac and cheese alone.

**SALLY SPARROW:** You got that right. Why don't youse come over for dinner tonight, Bragg. I could whip you up somethin' real special.

*BRAGG ushers her along and turns back to the camera.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Thank you concerned mom. I'm sure all mothers across the entire city are asking that same innocent question, "What do you want to have for dinner tonight?" Yes, that is the question. To make matters worse I understand that the police have no leads.

*OFFICER MIKE enters. BRAGG tries to get his attention and shoves the microphone in his face.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Officer. Officer. It's Bragg Story Channel 8 News. Can I have a few words? I'd like to ask you some questions about the missing vegetables.

**OFFICER MIKE:** *(New York accent.)* Hello. My name is Officer Mike and I'd like to make an official statement: At this time, we have no leads.

**BRAGG STORY:** Not a single clue, Officer Mike?

**OFFICER MIKE:** No. I can safely report that: At this time, we do not have a single clue.

**BRAGG STORY:** What do you think would motivate someone to steal vegetables?

**OFFICER MIKE:** Well you see, Bragg, dat's da problem. We can't figure out why anyone would want to steal vegetables because d'ere's no motive. Who would do somethin' like dat? Candy, ice cream, hot pretzels, donuts – donuts, I'd understand donuts but vegetables? Fahgettaboudit.

*OFFICER MIKE exits.*

**BRAGG STORY:** Thank you, Officer Mike. One of New York's finest. *(Beat.)* Authorities believe that at this rate, vegetables will be extinct by the end of the week. *(Beat.)* This is Bragg Story signing off. Good news to you. *(Exits.)*

**THUMPERINO:** Oh no, this is terrible. I know I haven't seen a lot of vegetables lately, but to have someone stealing all the vegetables in New York, it just can't happen! I, Thumperino Superbunny, swear that I will put vegetables back on the plates of the children of New York City. I will solve this crime today.

*Before THUMPERINO can take flight, DAVE and FRANKLIN march out of the kitchen of Ricciarelli's Italian Bistro carrying crates of vegetables. They are no longer covering their faces with human masks. They are just robots with cockroach faces.*

**SONG #6: VEG-GE-TA-BLES**

*DAVE and FRANKLIN are singing in a marching cadence.*

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:** *(Robotic voices.)*

VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
WE HATE VEG-GE-TA-BLES.

*THUMPERINO hides behind a trash can so he can watch what they are doing without being seen.*

DAVE AND FRANKLIN ON THE SCENE,  
WE STEAL ANYTHING THAT'S GREEN.

DAVE AND FRANKLIN COME TODAY,  
ALL THE VEGGIES GO AWAY.

YOUR LEFT, YOUR LEFT, YOUR LEFT, RIGHT.

DAVE AND FRANKLIN LIKE TO PLAY,  
YOU WILL SEE HOW WE PAR-TAY!

DAVE AND FRANKLIN IN YOUR FACE,  
WE ARE GONNA ROCK THIS PLACE!

BOOM, CHECK IT OUT, CHECK IT OUT, CHECK IT OUT.  
BOOM, CHECK IT OUT, CHECK IT OUT, CHECK IT OUT.

**THUMPERINO:** Halt!

*DAVE and FRANKLIN look around for the voice.*

**THUMPERINO:** You must stop stealing vegetables in the name of all that's nutritious, delicious, and healthy!

*THUMPERINO picks up the trash can he has been hiding behind and throws it at DAVE and FRANKLIN. DAVE catches the trash can and swings it behind him to throw it back. In doing so, he clobbers FRANKLIN in the head shutting him down. FRANKLIN falls to the ground. DAVE quickly presses FRANKLIN's restart button and he's back on his feet. DAVE and FRANKLIN grab THUMPERINO, he struggles to no avail, they are too strong for him. They dump him into the trash can and knock it over. They then march off with the crates of vegetables.*

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:**

VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
WE TAKE VEG-GE-TA-BLES.

YOUR LEFT, YOUR LEFT, YOUR LEFT, RIGHT.

*DAVE and FRANKLIN exit.*

**THUMPERINO:** (*THUMPERINO pokes his head up out of the trash can.*) This has never happened before. I always win in battles of good vs evil. I'm afraid I'm losing my strength because I haven't eaten any vegetables in days. There hasn't been any vegetables to eat in days. I'm getting weaker and weaker.

**SONG #7: THE VEGETABLE ANTHEM**  
(*THUMPERINO, BUNNY CHORUS*)

**THUMPERINO:**

NOW I JUST FEEL MY ENERGY IS LOW,  
AND WHEN I HOP IT'S LIKE MY PAWS JUST DRAG.  
IF I KICK INTO TURBO SPEED TO REALLY LET GO,  
MY BUNNY EARS JUST DROOP RIGHT DOWN AND SAG.

*THUMPERINO climbs out of the trash can.*

BUT, WHEN I EAT MY VEG'TABLES, I GROW STRONGER.  
AND WHEN I EAT MY VEG'TABLES, I SUCCEED.  
WITH ALL THEIR VITAMINS, I CAN GO MUCH LONGER,  
SO WHEN I EAT... IT'S VEG'TABLES I NEED.

*The BUNNY CHORUS (puppets) appear as back-up singers.*

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

AH... OOH...

**THUMPERINO:**

EV'RY DAY WE STRUGGLE TO LEARN

**THUMPERINO and BUNNY CHORUS:**

WRONG FROM RIGHT.

**THUMPERINO:**

AND IT'S SO HARD TO BEHAVE PERFECTLY.

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

HARD TO BE PREFECT

**THUMPERINO:**

WITH PROPER NOURISHMENT WE CAN

**THUMPERINO and BUNNY CHORUS:**

WIN THE (GOOD) FIGHT.

EAT VEG'TABLES EACH DAY AND YOU WILL SEE.

**THUMPERINO:**

'CAUSE, WHEN I EAT MY VEG'TABLES, I GROW STRONGER.

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

EAT VEG'TABLES.

**THUMPERINO:**

AND WHEN I EAT MY VEG'TABLES, I SUCCEED.

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

EAT VEG'TABLES.

**THUMPERINO:**

WITH ALL THEIR VITAMINS, I CAN GO MUCH LONGER,

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

TAKE VITAMINS.

**THUMPERINO:**

SO WHEN I EAT...

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

SO WHEN I EAT,

**THUMPERINO and BUNNY CHORUS:**

IT'S VEG'TABLES I NEED.

**THUMPERINO:**

YES, WHEN I EAT...

**BUNNY CHORUS:**

WHEN I EAT,

**THUMPERINO and BUNNY CHORUS:**

IT'S VEG'TABLES I NEED!

*Song ends.*

**SFX:** *beeping sound.*

**THUMPERINO:** What's that sound? -- Where's it coming from? (*He looks around and then realizes that it's coming from inside the trash can. He reaches inside and takes out a small transmitter. He looks at it closely and reads what is written on the back.*) Nilch Industries, Patent Pending. —Hmmm... That name sounds familiar. Where have I heard that name before? Nilch... This is a clue. I'm going to do some research. To the library! The library is the best place to do research — Hock speed away!

*THUMPERINO exits with the beeping transmitter.*

**SCENE 4**

*DR. NILCH'S FACTORY*

**SONG #8: FACTORY! #2**

*(INSTRUMENTAL)*

**AT START:** *DR. NILCH, DAVE and FRANKLIN enter.*

**SONG #9: VEG-GE-TA-BLES (Reprise #1)**

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:**

VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
VEG-GE-TA-BLES,  
WE HATE VEG-GE-TA-BLES.

**DR. NILCH:** It's about time you two got back. We're going to make another commercial. Our first one has gone viral! Over 3 million hits! I'm famous!

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:** Hooray! Hip Hip Hooray!

**DR. NILCH:** Hip Hip Hooray, indeed. My plan is working perfectly. Where are your human masks?

*DAVE and FRANKLIN get their masks and hold them up to their faces.*

**DR. NILCH:** Good. Now, the camera's ready. This one's going to be live. It's called streaming – Here we go. In... *(Reaches into his pocket and pulls out a remote control.)* ... three, two, one. *(And presses the button.)* Hello everyone out there in cyber land, it's me again, Dr. Nilch. Creator of Dr. Nilch's Nifty Nutrition Nectar – Take it boys...

*He turns to DAVE and FRANKLIN and presses a button on the remote control.*

**SONG #10: NIFTY NECTAR JINGLE #2**

**DAVE and FRANKLIN:** *(Robotic voices.)*

NIFTY NECTAR CAN'T BE BEAT,  
IT'S REALLY A DISGUSTING TREAT.  
VEG'TABLES YOU'LL WANT TO EAT,  
WHEN YOU TASTE NILCH'S NECTAR.

**DR. NILCH:** No, no, no, no, no, no... Ha ha ha ha ha... That's not right. My associates are just having a little fun. We love to kid each other. You must drink my Nifty Nutrition Nectar and if you do, you'll never have to eat another vegetable as long as you live.

DO WHAT ALL YOUR NEIGHBORS DO,  
WITH VEG'TABLES YOU WILL BE THROUGH.  
YOU WILL BE SO HEALTHY TOO,  
IF YOU DRINK MY NIFTY NECTAR.

*DR. NILCH presses another button on the remote control.*

**DR. NILCH:** You idiots. It's a good thing I was able to cover your epic fail. Wait! People like it when you make fun of the product. This could be very good for us – me. It should double our hits by tomorrow night. Now get out of here, "I want to be alone."

*DAVE and FRANKLIN exit. DR. NILCH lets out a big sigh.*

**DR. NILCH:** Taking over the world can be so exhausting.

*DAVE and FRANKLIN appear upstage.*



***Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:***

***THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBUNNY***

*Book and Lyrics by Michael MacKenzie Wills*

*Music by Alastair William King*

*Vocal Arrangements by C. Colby Sachs*

*Based on the book*

*"Thumperino – Diary of a Superbunny"*

*by Amber L. Spradlin*

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