

**The Pop Ups.** Stay seated. Three, two, one, ignition. Get ready for an adventure of magnificent proportion.

**The Pop Ups.** (Singing.) I don't know what you've been told, but we're in a golden age - so many discoveries that are jumping off the page. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world.

**The Pop Ups.** With Guy and Mindy. We're on our way, Houston.

(Soundbite of classical music).

**Guy Raz.** Aaaah. Just one more final detail and...finished! Perfecto! Wait until the Guinness World Record Association finds out about this...the world's first and largest sculpture of the Leaning Tower of Pisa made entirely out of sugar-free jello! So perfect...so precise!

(Soundbite of crashing).

**Mindy Thomas.** Umph! Did I hear somebody say tower of pizza?!

**Guy.** Oh no no no no no no...

**Mindy.** Guy Raz? Where are you?

**Guy.** Mindy, did you just fall through the chimney? I mean, I-I-have a front door!

**Mindy.** Where's the pizza? I'm starving!

**Guy.** Wait, wait, wait! Don't come in here!

**Mindy.** Whoa! Cool jello sculpture!

(Soundbite of jello wobble).

**Guy.** Please.

**Mindy.** You know, it kinda looks like that ancient tower in Italy...what's it called? The um...um...

**Guy.** Mindy, please. Don't come any further.

**Mindy.** It's super famous...man, what is it called?! It's on the tip of my tongue.

**Guy.** Mindy please....I'm submitting this for a Guinness World Record.

**Mindy.** Wow! That thing could break a world record?

**Guy.** Well...

**Mindy.** It is pretty awesome.

**Guy.** Well, thank you if I do say so myself. There's really never been anything like it. I've actually been working on it for–

**Mindy.** You know Guy Raz, I feel like if you're going to enter this jello sculpture for a Guinness World Record, you might want to straighten it up a little bit.

**Guy.** Oh no!

**Mindy.** It's totally leaning towards the side...

**Guy.** Oh no no no....please, please...Mindy don't! Don't! It's supposed to lean...

(Soundbite of jello wobble).

**Mindy.** Here, just a little to the left...

**Guy.** Nonononononono–

**Mindy.** Oh wait! I know what this is!

(Soundbite of jello falling).

**Mindy.** Oh!

**Guy.** It was the Leaning Tower of Pisa made out of sugar-free jello...

**Mindy.** Oopsie...

**Guy.** And now...it's...ruined...

**Mindy.** Wait a minute! I can fix it!

**Guy.** Fix it?! Mindy, look at this mess! You can't fix this! It took me three years just to design it and then another three hundred hours to get the jello in just the right shape!

**Mindy.** Guy Raz, all we need is a little glue.

**Guy.** Glue? You want to glue jello back together? Mindy, have you ever eaten jello?

**Mindy.** Have I eaten jello? Guy Raz, my Thanksgiving turkey was stuffed with jello!

**Guy.** What?

**Mindy.** I mean, personally, I would have made something like this out of stone or concrete, but—

**Guy.** Mindy, there is no glue in the world that would stick to something as slippery or jiggly as jello!

(Soundbite of jello wobble).

**Mindy.** Oh really?

**Guy.** Let's just clean this mess up, and pretend like it never happened, okay?

**Mindy.** But Guy Raz! The glue!

**Guy.** Why do you keep talking about glue? Glue doesn't work on jello!

**Mindy.** Well what if I told you that there's a new kind of glue that just might work on that jello masterpiece splattered all over the floor there.

**Guy.** What? Impossible!

**Mindy.** Impossible is my middle name, Guy Raz!

**Guy.** Really? I thought it was Darlene?

**Mindy.** And to get our sticky fingers on that super, rare, magical glue, all we've got to do is go to Europe!

**Guy.** Europe? Oh, yeah, great idea, Mindy, let's just, yeah, go to Europe...

**Mindy.** Okay! Reggie!

**Guy.** I didn't actually mean...

**Mindy.** Guy Raz. If there's one thing you should know about me by now, it's that when I break something...I fix it.

**Guy.** But...

**Mindy.** No buts! I broke your crazy jello sculpture of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and I am going to fix it! Hop on the bird, Guy Raz!

**Guy.** Ugh...why do I let you rope me into these things, Mindy?

**Mindy.** Guy Raz, say the magic words!

**Guy.** Wait. Where exactly are we going?

**Mindy.** No, the other magic words!

**Guy.** Oh right. Here....we...goooooooooooooo!

(Soundbite of flapping and music).

**Guy.** Ahh...what a great landing!

**Mindy.** Ooh, Guy Raz. Whaddya think of the flight?

**Guy.** Well, I must admit that was a very pleasant flight...

**Mindy.** Thank you!

**Guy Raz.** And the service was outstanding! I mean, I hardly ever eat cake, but that black forest chocolate cake was dee-licious...

**Mindy.** Shhhhh. Here. Take this magnifying glass.

**Guy.** Wait...I think I've been here before...this is...wait a minute...is this the...

**Mindy.** This looks like the Black Forest of Germany...

**Guy.** So that's why Reggie served that cake on the flight!

**Mindy.** Oh, no, he's been watching a lot of Food Network lately.

**Reggie.** Coo coo!

**Guy.** Oh! Well, what are we doing in the Black Forest of Germany?

**Mindy.** Okay, so we're looking for a special kind of miniature glue factory that can only be found in the forests of Europe.

**Guy.** Well, what would a glue factory be doing in the middle of this calm and peaceful forest?

**Mindy.** Well, Guy Raz, the only way to find out is–

**Guy.** Oh no. Not that again–

**Mindy.** I'm going to have to shrink us.

**Guy.** Wait. What?

**Mindy.** But now if I could just find my shrink wand in my adventure tool box here...and, ooh! Got it!

(Soundbite of zapping and whooshing).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Hey Mindy? I don't think it worked.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Sure it did! Look at that giant ant over there.

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Wait a minute. We are shrunk down, and that ant is looking at us like....like we might be his lunch. We better get outta here! Ruuuuuuuuuun!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Run run run run run run run run!

(Soundbite of dramatic music).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). I can't believe you shrunk us with that thing! We almost became human tacos for that ant!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Shhhh. Stay still, Guy Raz! I think I see it!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). See what?!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). The special miniature glue factory! Look! It's right up there past the giant stalks of grass.

**Guy.** (High-pitched Whispering). I don't see any tiny glue factory!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). It's right there!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Blahhhhh! It's a giant slug!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Shhhh! If you're going to talk so loud, come behind this toadstool. Okay, now when we go back out there, we don't want it to hear us coming.

**Guy.** (High-pitched crying).

(Soundbite of growl).

**Mindy.** (High-pitched. Sighs). Guy Raz, that's Dusky Arion of House Arionidae, Slug Lord of the Forest, The Bonded One, The Uniter of All Things Unfastened, The Prince of Paste, The Father of the Fix. He holds where all others—

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Ok, Mindy, I get it. He sounds powerful.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Yeah, but he's also a big scaredy cat. Which is good for us, because we need to scare the slime out of him.

(Soundbite of growl).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Aha, activate its defense mechanism.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Exactly. Now, Guy Raz, open the toolbox.

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Uh, okay...what do you need from it?

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). First, we'll need a squeeze bottle!

(Soundbite of spritz).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Check.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Next, hand me two tiny turkey basters.

**Guy.** (High-pitched). You mean medicine droppers?

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). They work for medicine or tiny Thanksgiving, Guy Raz. Today, they're glue-getters. Now, on the count of three, we're going to jump out from behind this mushroom and scare him.

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Are you sure we can do that? We're tiny. He's huge!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). I'm totally sure. He scares easily. Just think of the scariest thing you can and yell it out. Ok?

**Mindy and Guy.** (High-pitched). One...two...three...

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Rooooooaarr!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). All your library books are overdue!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). That was the scariest-

**Slug.** Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Woah! It worked! Guy Raz, quick! Get the slime into the bottle!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Blagh....this looks like mucus!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Oh! That's because it's mucus. Come on! We have to work fast. No time to waste!

(Soundbite of suction).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Mindy...I think I've almost got it all. But this last bit—it's stuck!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Pull on it with your hands!

(Soundbite of stretch).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). I'm trying...

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Ah! Just take what we've got, and let's get out of here!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Should we pay for this first?

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). I think a simple thank you will suffice.

**Guy.** Thanks, Mister Arion!

(Soundbite of growl).

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Yeah, thanks for the gross slimy mucus glue, Dusky! Sorry we had to scare it out of you!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Mindt, I think it's time to unshrink us.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Um, Guy Raz, my shrink wand is out of batteries.

**Guy.** (High-pitched). What?!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Just kidding! (Laughs maniacally).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Oh boy.

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Shrink wand, activate!

(Soundbite of zapping and whooshing).

**Guy.** Whew. Yeah. Whew. Glad to be back to full size.

**Mindy.** I don't know, I was kinda hoping my shrink wand would break and leave us like that forever.



**Guy.** Uh...nuh no.

**Mindy.** Okay, now let's get this glue back to your house, so we can fix your leaning tower of jello pizza!

**Guy.** But are you sure this slug slime glue is going to be enough to fix my Leaning Tower of Pisa?

**Mindy.** Guy Raz, hand me the squeeze bottle of the mucus slime glue we collected and then just sit back, relax, and let me work my magic!

**Guy.** I just think that maybe I should be the one who...

**Mindy.** Nope! I broke it! I fix it!

**Guy.** Ehhh....

**Mindy.** So allow me to tell you a little story while I work here.

**Guy.** Uh, okay.

(Soundbite of squirt).

**Mindy.** Once upon a time...like last week...there was a materials scientist at Harvard's Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering. And that scientist's name was Jianyu Li PhD—

(Soundbite of squirt).

**Guy.** Wait, so biologically inspired engineering...that must mean technology inspired by nature, right?

**Mindy.** Yep! Exactly! But you're interrupting the story, Guy Raz! Mmhmm. Where were we? Okay.

**Guy.** Oh boy.

**Mindy.** So Jianyu Li PhD and his seven tiny scientist friends, give or take—

**Guy.** What?

**Mindy.** —knew that there was a big problem in the medical surgical world.

**Guy.** And that problem was?

**Mindy.** Super gross.

**Guy.** What?

**Mindy.** I, I mean the problem was that there was not a tape nor a glue in the entire kingdom...I mean hospital...that would stick to blood and guts!

**Guy.** Okay. You mean like surgical tape or adhesive that you would use in a surgery.

**Mindy.** Yeah, pretty much. Can we scratch the fairy tale music?

**Music Player.** Yeah, okay.

**Mindy.** Thank you. (Sighs). Okay, when doctors have to perform a life-saving operation on a person, they need to be able to put that person's insides back together again. You know, leave things in better shape than how you found them?

**Guy.** Kinda like what you're doing on my jello sculpture.

**Mindy.** Exactly! And just like your jello sculpture over here...using things like stitches or staples to put it back together could wind up causing even more damage.

**Guy.** And of course it's too slimy and slippery for normal tape or glue to hold it all together.

(Soundbite of jello wobble).

**Mindy.** Yes, and just like your jiggly jello sculpture over here, some of the slippery, slimy organs in the human body...like the heart and the lungs...are so active, and they move around so much, that no tape or glue would even be flexible enough to keep up with them!

**Guy.** So, back to the science lab...did those scientists from Harvard think that slug slime could be the answer to their surgical glue problems?

**Mindy.** Well yeah! Basically!

**Guy.** Ugh!

**Mindy.** But before you get all freaked out thinking that surgeons are putting people back together again using slug slime after an operation, I should probably note that these scientists were only inspired by the slug slime.

**Guy.** Ahhhh.

**Mindy.** And they were particularly inspired by what it was that made it so sticky, and so flexible, even on slippery moving surfaces.

**Guy.** So did they get the recipe to make their own?

**Mindy.** Well, they came up with a whole new kind of sticky gel or a glue that kind of looks like a gummy worm or maybe even a gummy slug if you were to squeeze it out into the palm of your hand.

(Soundbite of squirt).

**Guy.** Interesting.

**Mindy.** But what this sticky, gummy gel glue can do, is incredible!

**Guy.** So...what can it do?

**Mindy.** Well, it has all of the sticking power of super glue, it's stretchier than even the stretchiest rubber band, it won't poison humans, and it works on slippery, wet surfaces like blood and guts!

**Guy.** Wow! So it will stick to organs inside of the body?

**Mindy.** Yeah! Moving organs, bones, cartilage, and basically every other gross thing inside your body that you can think of.

**Guy.** So when will doctors be able to begin using this?

**Mindy.** Well, like most new inventions, the scientists are still working out some of the kinks.

**Guy.** Oh!

**Mindy.** But so far, they've used it to seal holes in pig hearts, and rat livers, and they've even tested it out for short periods of time in humans.

**Guy.** And no one was poisoned?

**Mindy.** Nope! And these scientists are even working on coming up with a version that's biodegradable.

**Guy.** Ahh!

**Mindy.** Yeah, so after your body is healed, it basically just disappears!

(Soundbite of whoosh)l.

**Guy.** Well Mindy, looking at the progress you've made on my jello mold over here, I'd say that there might be something pretty magical about slug slime and the medical glue inspired by it.

**Mindy.** I know right?! And speaking of your jello sculpture, check this out!

(Soundbite of jello wobble).

**Guy.** Wow.

**Mindy.** I told you I'd fix it! The Leaning Tower of Pisa...in jello form! And held together by slug slime. Don't eat it. It looks good though, right?

**Guy.** It really looks like the real thing, doesn't it?

**Mindy.** Ah! What was that? I just had an idea!

**Guy.** Oh no. No no no no no no no no no no no no no no not that again.

**Mindy.** I've got my shrink wand!

**Guy.** No.

**Mindy.** Guy Raz, we can just shrink ourselves again—

**Guy.** No.

**Mindy.** –and then we can go on a tour of this one! It'll be better than the real thing.

**Guy.** Mindy, I–I–

(Soundbite of twinkle).

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Woohoo!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Mindy! Mindy, you put us back to normal right–

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Woohoo!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Waaaaa.

(Soundbite of bouncing).

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). This is bonkerballs, Guy Raz! Woah! This thing is really leaning!

**Guy.** (High-pitched). Mindy, it's not leaning....it's fallllllllling!

(Soundbite of jello wiggle).

**Mindy and Guy.** (High-pitched). Aaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhh!

(Soundbite of jello splat).

**Guy.** (High-pitched). We're okay!

**Mindy.** (High-pitched). Yeah, we're totally okay!