

## **Wow In The World - Hair Toothpaste** **By Mindy Thomas**

<<scene opens with Mindy, Guy Raz, G-force, and Reggie all standing outside Mindy's house>>

Mindy: And then I said, "this is the last time I share my hot dog with a raccoon."

G-force: Oh snap!

Reggie: Coo!

Thomas Fingerling: Never trust a trash panda.

Guy Raz: That is not where I thought this story was going.

Mindy: But at the same time, raccoons are so cute that they <<trails off as she sees Dennis>> ... umm... they they...

<<Dennis huffing and puffing in the distance as he rollerblades up to the gang>>

Dennis: <<huffing>> Weeeeeee! Hahahaha!

Guy Raz: Is that...Dennis?

Fingerling: Dentist?! Where!?

Guy Raz: No! Not dentist. Dennis! Over there on his rollerblades.

Dennis: <<distance>> Hi Mindy! Hi Guy Raz!

Reggie: Coo

Fingerling: Oh that feller... I didn't know he was a dentist. I should have him take a look at my chompers. Does this look like a cavity to you or just a normal tooth hole? <<opens mouth>> Ahhhhh

Guy Raz: Blagh!

G-force: Oh that's nasty.

Reggie: Coo

Mindy: Dennis! Come on over! We're just hanging out here in front of my gingerbread mansion!

Dennis: <<out of breath and rollerblading>> Coming!

Dennis: <<comes to a screeching halt on his rollerblades>> Whew! Hey everyone!  
<<breathing heavily>> Oh hey, Tommy! Is that a new cavity?

G-force: Close yer mouth, Fingerling.

Fingerling: Aha! I knew it was a cavity! Also, thank you for noticing, feller.

Reggie: Coo

Guy Raz: Hi, Dennis. Where are you coming from?

Dennis: Well I could tell you....

Everyone but Dennis: Yessss

Dennis: But I'd rather take off my helmet and let you see for yourselves!

Mindy: What??

Dennis: Check this out! <<exertion as he removes his helmet>> Ugh eee  
gah...there we go! Ta-daaaaaaaa!

<<everyone is bemused or unimpressed>>

Guy Raz: Uhhh...

Mindy: Oh... wow...

G-force: Yikes, boy.

Fingerling: Maybe keep that helmet on.

Reggie: Coo

Dennis: So, what do you think of my new haircut? Do I look like a little prince?

Guy Raz: A little prince?

Dennis: Yeah! All handsome like from a storybook!

Mindy: Well, it certainly looks like something alright.

Reggie: Coo

G-force: Boy, yer hair is shaped like a helmet.

Dennis: I know! Isn't it kew-wal! It's so round!

Guy Raz: <<obviously, trying to be nice>> Yeah... it sure is cool, Dennis.

Dennis: And check it out! Not only is it shaped like a helmet, my stylist put a bunch of hair gel in it so it's also hard like a helmet!

Fingerling: Ooo, can I see?

Dennis: Uh-huh!

Fingerling: <<knocks on hair helmet>> Oh yeah, that's CPSC certified. That's what that is.

G-force: Certifiably strange.

Dennis: Oh! That's the name of the salon! Certifiably strange!

Mindy: Well, I think it looks very nice Dennis. Even if it is shaped like your rollerblading helmet.

Dennis: Thanks, Mindy. Let's just say that my hair stylist 'understood the assignment.'

Fingerling: So whatcha gonna do with all the hairs they cut off?

Mindy and Guy Raz: Huh?

Dennis: Oh I just left them there on the floor. They're probably in a dumpster by now.

Fingerling: <<gasp!>>

G-force: Ah chicken slippers! Not the dump!

Dennis: What? That's what I do with all of my hair clippings! And my toenail clippings...and my...

G-force: Aaaaaahhhhhh!!

Dennis: What.

Fingerling: Don't do that! You gotta put the clippin's under yer pillow for the hair fairy!

Guy Raz: Hair clippings?!

Fingerling: Yeah!

G-force: And toenail clippings!

Fingerling: And scabs!

G-force: No. That's the scab genie. The hair fairy and the toenail goblin are only in the business of hairs and toenails.

Fingerling: Oh...right.

Guy Raz: I'm sorry...hairy fairy?

Mindy: Toenail goblin?

Guy Raz: I've never heard of these

Mindy: Yeah, me neither.

Dennis: Me three!

G-force: Can you believe this, Fingerling?!

Fingerling: No I can't! Listen you youngsters. It's real simple. When you get a haircut, you take the clippings and put em' under your pillow!

G-force: And the hairy fairy, breaks into your house..Usually through a key hole...and steals all yer hair!

Mindy and Dennis: <<gasp!>>

Fingerling: Yep! Swipes it right there from under your pillow while you're sleepin'!

G-force: You wouldn't even know'd he was there!

Fingerling: `Cept for the fact that if your hair clippings are nice and strong, he'll leave you a special treat!

G-force: Like a yacht.

Guy Raz: What?

Fingerling: But if your hair is all weak and damaged and full of split ends, he'll leave you a boiled egg.

Mindy: A boiled egg?

Fingerling: A boiled egg.

Dennis: Ooooooooooh!

Guy Raz: Why??

G-force: I dunno...why don't you ask all the stinkin' eggs under my pillow?

Guy Raz: You've been leaving the eggs under your pillow!?

Mindy: Isn't it...

G-force: It is very lumpy.

Mindy: And what does the hairy fairy do with all the hair clippings he steals?

Fingerling: Oh he wads the hair up into a little ball and shoves em in his mouth and uses `em to scrub his teeth.

Guy Raz and Dennis: Ew.

G-force: You ever scrub yer teeth with a ball a hair, garage?

Guy Raz: What? No!!

Mindy: Wait a minute!!! This is all starting to make sense!!

Everyone but Mindy: It is?

Mindy: It is!!

Guy Raz: Say more.

Mindy: Well, I just read this fascinating new scientific study on how hair could be the future of dental care!

G-force: Well rope me up and call me doggie.

Mindy: No really! I just read it in the journal, advanced healthcare materials!

Guy Raz: A scientific study on how the hair on our heads can help the teeth in our mouths?

Mindy: Bonkerballs, I know.

Guy Raz: Yeah..

Mindy: See researchers from kings college in london discovered that the stuff that makes up our hair and our nails...could one day be used to fix our teeth!

Dennis: Really?! What kinda stuff makes up my hair? Dandruff??

Mindy: No. The stuff inside the hair!

Dennis: Oh.

Guy Raz: Ah! Keratin!

Mindy: Yes! Exactly!

G-force: I knew'd there were a carrot in my hair.

Fingerling: That's why it tastes so good.

Guy Raz: What?!

Mindy: No no...not carrots...keratin! With a k! It's a protein...basically the building blocks of hair, and nails, and even skin!

Dennis: Keratin! That must be what the toenail goblin and the scab genie are after too!

Mindy: Anywho, these scientists discovered that this keratin that makes up our hair, can also help to repair the enamel on our teeth!

G-force: I do not know who that is.

Fingerling: Yeah, who's this enamel feller?

Guy Raz: No, tooth enamel is that super hard shield on the outside of our teeth.

Mindy: Yeah...and it's the hardest material in our bodies! And it's there to protect our teeth!

Guy Raz: And while it may be a super hard, protective shield for our teeth, it can still be damaged.

Mindy: Yeah, things like drinking soda, and eating candy, and grinding our teeth at night while we sleep, can wear it down over time!

Guy Raz: And once that protective enamel is gone, it can never grow back.

Mindy: And that's bad news for teeth.

Fingerling: Hey! Maybe that's what happened to your teeth G-force!

Guy Raz: You know, I don't think I've ever seen G-force's teeth.

Mindy: Oh that's because she doesn't smile.

Fingerling: G-force! Say cheese! Show 'em your little corncob smile!

G-force: Cheeeeeeeese!!

Mindy/Guy Raz/Dennis: <<Blagh!!>>

G-force: My teeth are just corn now.

Guy Raz: You really need to see a dentist!

Dennis: Or maybe eat a bag of hair?

Guy Raz: I don't think that eating hair is the solution that these scientists found.

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Mindy: Yeah, dolphinitely not.

Dennis: Well, what did they find Mindy?

Mindy: Well, what these scientists discovered was that on the teeth, when keratin, that protein found in hair, mixes with the minerals in saliva or spit, it begins to form this protective, crystal coating...

G-force: Oooh la la!

Fingerling: Ooooh! Crystals!

Dennis: Wowwwww

Mindy: And this coating keeps pulling in other good stuff like calcium to help it to continue to grow stronger and harder!

Guy Raz: And so I'm guessing that this crystal coating works a lot like real tooth enamel? Patching up the weak spots and stopping cavities before the start?

Mindy: Well not only that, but when these researchers tested in their lab, they discovered that this crystal, keratin coating, was 5-6 times stronger than the plastic resin coating that dentists use now!

Dennis: So strong! Like my hair helmet! <<knock knock>>

G-force: By the looks of it, you already did.

Fingerling: Nah, ya gotta mix it with spit first.

Mindy: Yeah, it's not quite as simple as that, and definitely not strong enough to protect your whole head, but eventually, when it's added to things like toothpaste, or mouthwash, or a tooth shield gel polish...it could be strong enough to protect your teeth!

G-force: Or my corns?

Guy Raz: Your what?

Fingerling: Her corns! G-force wants to know if milkin' hair for this carrot juice can make a shield for her lil' corncob mouth.

Guy Raz: Yeah, again...you really need to see a dentist about that.

Dennis: Mindy?

Mindy: Yes, Dennis?

Dennis: I have a question.

Mindy: Okay, let's hear it.

Dennis: Mother says that if I get fluoride at the dentist and brush my teeth with fluoride it'll keep my teeth niiiiice and strong.

Mindy: Well it's true that fluoride does help to strengthen and protect your tooth enamel, but it can't completely prevent it from wearing down over time.

Dennis: Oh. I better tell mother. <<dials phone. Phone rings>> Hello, mother?...

Guy Raz: So Mindy, you're saying that this keratin can help to stop damage to tooth enamel and prevent cavities or holes in our teeth once and for all?

Mindy: That's what the findings in this study suggest! And what's even more wow, is that instead of using plastic or chemicals on our teeth like dentists do now, they'll be able to use a material found on our own heads!

Fingerling: Wow. Hair toothpaste.

Dennis: Ew. I don't like it.

Fingerling: Well, if brushin' your teeth with hair is good enough for the hair fairy, I say it's good enough for ol Fingerling!

G-force: I already brush my teeth with my hairbrush.

Guy Raz: Gross! Why?!

Mindy: No no, these scientists aren't suggesting that they plan to put real human hair directly into toothpaste!

G-force/Fingerling: Awww!

Fingerling: Well what about adding raw hair clippings to mouthwash?

Guy Raz: Yeah, how do these scientists plan to get keratin from hair to toothpaste, Mindy?

Mindy: Well, the process itself is pretty complicated, but basically, the plan is to use special chemical and heat treatments to break down hair and release the keratin proteins.

Guy Raz: Ahh, and then I assume they'll purify it by cleaning, filtering it.

Mindy: Exactly, and then they'll refine the keratin protein into a safe, usable powder or gel.

Everyone but Mindy: Ohhhh

Mindy: And then that keratin powder or gel can be added as an ingredient to toothpaste, or mouthwash, or an enamel sealer for dentists to use.

Dennis: So no clumps of other people's hair in my mouth?

Mindy: No clumps of hair. Just the secret ingredient found in hair.

Dennis: Hooray!

G-force: I'm ready to go milk some hair.

Guy Raz: So Mindy, how soon could we start seeing this keratin infused toothpaste?

Mindy: Well, optimistically, it could be as little as two to three years if all goes well when they test it for safety and taste and know for sure that it works.

Guy Raz: But realistically?

Mindy: Realistically, probably five to ten years before we see actually see keratin toothpaste on the shelves in stores.

Fingerling: <<yelling>> Aaaaaaahh!! G-force! Let go a my head!

G-force: Hold still Fingerling, quit wigglin!

Guy Raz: What now?

Mindy: What is happening?!

Dennis: Umm... it looks like Granny G is trying to squeeze all the keratin juice out of Tommy's hair!

Mindy: What?! No!

Guy Raz: Did you not listen to anything Mindy just said?!

Fingerling: What. This ain't how you squeeze juice?

Guy Raz: <<quietly to Mindy>> Mindy, what is happening?

Mindy: I'm wondering the same thing.

Fingerling: Boy don't you know about the hairy fairy?

G-force: And the toenail goblin?

Guy Raz: The...hairy fairy??

G-force: And the toenail goblin.

Fingerling: When you cut your hair or your toenails, you give them the clippings!

G-force: Everybody know'd that.

Guy Raz: Uh...I didn't!

Mindy: Yeah, me neither.

Fingerling: You know...the hairy fairy! You know...hairy little meatball with wings...

Dennis: Me three! Will you tell us about the hairy fairy and the toenail goblin, granny-g?

G-force: Nooooo.

Dennis: Aww!

G-force: But Fingerling will.

Fingerling: Okay.

Dennis: Hooray!

Mindy: Yes!! Story time! Story time! Story time!

Guy Raz: Well, it's been great seeing you all today! I think I need to go home now and...water...my...teeth?

G-force: Plop yerself down, garage. Yer not goin' anywheres.

Guy Raz: <<scared>> Okay!

Reggie: <<swooping in>> Coo

Mindy: Reggie! You're just in time! We're about to sit down and listen to Thomas Fingerling tell the story of the hairy fairy and the toenail goblin!

G-force: Yeah, have a seat, pigeon.

Reggie: Coo

Fingerling: Okay...story time...

Mindy: Yesssss!

<<story time transition music/sfx>>

Fingerling: For more than three hundred thousand years, ever since the invention of people, a simple yet primitive invention known as the scissor, has ruled the human head.

Guy Raz: Well, I don't know about that.

G-force: Silence!!

Fingerling: With a single snip, thousands of perfectly good hairs, hairs that would never hurt a fly...would fall to the earth...waiting to meet their sad fate.

THE END