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Series Bible

by

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Series Vision

The original Rugrats series was groundbreaking in many ways: because of its quirky design and animation style; its unique POV of toddling main characters; its visual direction that amplified this pint-sized perspective; its comedic social commentary, delivered through the stories involving the adults; and its sophisticated storytelling. These core attributes are the DNA of the series. We intend to deliver all of these elements in this new iteration of Rugrats, updated for today's audience. Our aim is to attract the new audience of children and recapture their parents, the original fans, to jumpstart the franchise with a co-viewing entertainment experience.

The design style of the original series will be honored as we make the leap from 2D to CG. This is not without its challenges as we look to strike the right balance between cute and kooky. Some design elements of the original, like hair and costumes, translate easily to 3D, while others, like noses and eyeglasses, must be reimagined in this new medium. Our goal is that these new designs will eclipse the memory of the 2D designs by delivering the same emotional resonance that made the originals so beloved.

The direction of the series will also borrow heavily on what has come before, especially the use of forced perspective to achieve the sense of how the rugrats see their world. This is a series where the main characters toddle, they do not run. A cartoon in which the movements of the babies clumsily abide by real world physics, where the smallest physical barriers can be enormous obstacles, for maximum comedy effect. The rugrats live in a world where their baby-babble is indecipherable to anyone but themselves and other babies.

Fantasy sequences will be employed in much the same way as they were in the original series and feature films, broadly parodying cinematic genres that enable the comedy to play to both parents and kids. We will also take advantage of a broader pop culture landscape that enables fantasy play inspired by music videos, the internet, video games, or reality television to be funny and relevant. For the true fan of the series, we'll populate episodes with subtle references to favorite ancillary characters or plots of the original series. Because this is a series of "firsts" in which babies discover a world, we may borrow themes from past episodes like the anxieties of potty-training, frustrations of being left-handed in a right-handed world, or the injustices of childhood, but with a fresh take.

Our new rugrats are raised by millennial parents who share a bond no less close than the babies and who allow us to hold a mirror to the contemporary family existence. The adults will continue to provide fodder for a commentary on parenting. This is a generation who value long term friendships, often have one close confidant from childhood or college, and form larger groups of friends with whom they share holidays and vacations and game nights. They're a generation that follow their dreams, yet suffer anxieties along the way, especially as new parents.

We'll also have an opportunity to re-create Grandpa Lou. Where the original was part of the Greatest Generation, this Lou is a part of the peace and love and Save the Earth generation. This Lou is altruistic, curious, and easily distracted but will give us a great commentary on the modern dependence on technology for everything from dating, to running appliances, to answering trivial questions rather than employ the brain to think. Of course, technology in Lou's hands will lead to problems, like an unintentional right swipe, or an online purchase made by babies when Lou's unlocked phone is left within reach.

The stories will still focus on the babies and be told with the same degree of complexity as the original series. The babies will wander off, unseen and unsupervised, led by the intrepid Tommy Pickles, and learn about the world around them. They'll face challenges, seek adventure, and philosophize as only a baby can.

It is no small task to reinvent such a landmark property for today's audience, but with stories told with the same sophistication as the original and characters whose comedy is modern and pushes the boundaries with intelligence and respect for the audience, we are confident that this new Rugrats will be welcomed by the original fans and their children, as well as win a legion of new fans.

Character and World Descriptions

The Babies:

Tommy Pickles at one year old is the leader and hero of the show; he's the wide-eyed innocent hero, non-judgmental, noble, with a toy screwdriver with more than a hundred programmable sounds. Because of the close relationships of the millennial parents, the babies are often brought together and Tommy is the glue of this band of characters. Tommy's best friend is Chuckie, and vice-versa. Tommy will do anything to protect, comfort, and be there for Chuckie, without hesitation. Tommy has his own internal call to adventure but will also lead the charge for the cause or need of any of his friends. He is a bit reckless, with an optimism and enthusiasm that often overtakes caution. He remains cheerfully open to his cousin Angelica's manipulative schemes, always willing to see the best in everyone.

Chuckie Finster is the 2-year old worrier of the group and Tommy's best friend. He's a left-handed, creative-thinking, big-feeling toddler. As a child from a home that has been clouded by grief, he naturally expects the worst and feels the deepest. He has many phobias yet finds himself, along with his friends, on adventures that he would normally avoid. At the highest point of perceived danger, Chuckie will cover his eyes and insist that they are doomed, which is why he is so surprised and pleased when he realizes they have survived. Chuckie has a strong desire to be brave like Tommy - just not today. He often carries around a plush Reptar doll.

Phil and Lil DeVille are the 18-month twins that march to the beat of their own bongos. There is a Tao of Phil and Lil. Lil is yin to her brother Phil's yang; she is a bit eccentric, painfully honest, a diapered feminist who sees no limit to possibilities. Phil's the realist, assessing things for their bare essentials. Their squabbles are frequent but last mere

seconds, and then they revert to their united front. Phil and Lil enjoy getting messy, rough and tumble play, and Nature in the form of mud, worms, and bugs.

Angelica, at 3 1/2, is an attention-seeking, greedy, and manipulative toddler, disguised by an overly-sweet demeanor to adults. To the babies, however, she is always ready with misguided information, outlandish schemes, bold-faced lies, and snarky insults. She often uses a toy camera or her mother's "borrowed" phone to record her make-believe internet posts, seeing herself as a pint-sized influencer. But the truth is that Angelica's mastery of technology is often wrong. To her frustration, Tommy and his friends aren't as captivated by her "glory" as she would like them to be. Angelica has many toys, but her favorite is always going to be Cynthia, her Barbie-like fashion doll who has been maimed and mangled but is nonetheless beloved by her owner. She also races about in a little powered Cynthia car. Angelica has just started to attend preschool three days a week, which she believes gives her even more worldly experience and a higher status than the babies.

Susie Carmichael will be younger than in the original series. Rather than a peer to Angelica, she will be a peer to Chuckie - a little older than two, but still nonverbal to adults. This will solve the story problem her character often posed. Susie stands up for the babies against Angelica, but she's too small to be a real threat and unable to inform the adults of Angelica's schemes. Susie is excitable and eager to follow Tommy's lead, though she offers up some rambling ideas of her own, culled from tidbits she picks up as an actual "early reader." What Susie can't read, she makes up, often with fanciful results. Her vivid imagination is stoked by magical ideas about animals and undersea life, her favorite animal being the narwhal, or, as she calls them, "the unicorns of the sea." Susie has a large toy narwhal collection which Angelica considers with outward disgust but inward envy.

Spike the Dog is Stu and Didi's lovable family dog, a mutt from the pound, who looks after Tommy and the babies as if they were his own pups. Spike's obedience is easily won with a treat, which Angelica uses to her advantage. Spike enjoys riding shotgun in Angelica's little car, his head hanging out of the little window.

The Adults:

Grandpa Lou, 70, latched onto the last gasp of the hippie movement during the mid-1970's, when he was a young man. A former social worker who retired early after 35 years of service, he embodies the best of the hippie altruism. He is a Grateful Dead-loving, selfless, attention-span compromised (his words), community-loving activist who wears a tie-dyed t-shirt from the era. He's civic minded and often drags the babies along on his well-intentioned, but nutty protests like the Save The Snails Movement. Unlike the previous Lou, whose frequent naps gave the babies an opportunity to escape, this Lou is easily distracted by his various interests, giving the babies their getaway while under his care. He could be side-tracked by a Geezerpalooza concert that he's streaming, or re-organizing his vinyl record collection, recreating a recipe from his past, or looking up his old friends on social media. He's more than happy to have Stu and his family, including their dog Spike, come live with him, as he lost his wife a dozen years prior. Lou may even venture back into the dating pool, using a dating app called 'Silver Beagles,' in which expectations are lower than those of

its rival 'Silver Fox.' Lou is modest about his appeal, which is genuine. He may not have much hair on top, but what he has can still be pulled into a Willie Nelson-like braid.

It's not uncommon for Didi and Stu to come downstairs in the morning to discover a living room full of seniors (a majority of them single women) and hipsters being led in a Tai-Chi class or sitar lessons by Lou, with Lou's beloved grandson Tommy front and center. Lou will activate a lot of stories for the babies with his adventures. He calls Tommy 'pal' and refers to the kids as 'sprouts.' He is putty in the hands of his granddaughter Angelica.

Stu Pickles (33) Lou's youngest son, is a man-teen who loves video games and junk food, not necessarily in that order. Lou always wanted his two boys to follow their dreams and Stu did so by becoming an inventor. Stu believes he's always on the cusp of inventing the 'next big thing' but he misses more than he hits. His failures are spectacularly funny, especially when madly ill-conceived. He lacks common sense but is an engineering marvel. Didi is Stu's loyal audience to whatever latest gadget is on his test block in his workshop, never criticizing his endeavors, even when his cold-brew coffee machine yielded sludge. Lou, on the other hand, endorses tough love, and is unafraid to offer the sobering words maybe Stu needs to hear. But there is a great affection between Stu and Lou.

Didi Pickles (32) has been married to Stu for five happy years but together since their sophomore year when they met at a Pokemon cosplay beach party. Somewhere between the time one of the Pikachus fainted of heat stroke and another stepped on a sea urchin, the two fell in love. Didi was an Arts major and is every bit as passionate an artisan as Stu is an inventor. She currently works in fiber arts, which makes her father-in-law especially proud, since he credits himself with the macrame resurgence by displaying his dusty and cobwebbed plant hangers. Didi sells her work, including baby clothes, on an arts and crafts e-commerce website, while also writing a mommy blog which brings in additional revenue. Her sales are slow but Didi refuses to be discouraged. She works out of a converted garden shed now calls the She-Shed. Her love of global patterns and textiles is reflected in her home and wardrobe; her dress, in fact, was her first major knitting project and, despite a bit of unraveling, she never takes it off.

Like most millennials who look to a variety of sources for parenting techniques, Didi is fascinated by techniques from different cultures. For example, after Didi reads about how Icelandic women leave their babies out in the cold of winter (in their stroller) for the afternoon nap, she tries it with Tommy. She makes all of Tommy's baby food from scratch, using recipes she watches online as made by her favorite actress-turned-health-advocate, and only wears cruelty-free make-up, also branded by a popular actress. To say that Didi is solely influenced by celebrities, world trends, and the bombardment of parenting articles, books, and paths would be to discount her own inner journey, a journey which she is slightly anxiously still charting...on her felt vision board.

Betty DeVille (32) is Didi's former college roommate. They're like sisters, considering themselves "family." Betty was Didi's maid of honor at her wedding. Didi can always confide in Betty and the two are never far apart. Betty is a single lesbian who came out to Didi, over coffee, back in freshman year. Didi didn't blink at the declaration of sexuality but was more upset that Betty rejected the knitted poncho, then a top trend, that she proudly made for

her. Betty was forced to confess that she could never wear an article of clothing that restricted the buttering of a bagel, which shocked a cream-cheese loving Didi into never mentioning the poncho again. But the coffee confession, as they came to call it, inspired Betty to put her communications degree to good use by opening up a crowd-funded coffeehouse called Betty's Beans. The spot provides people with a warm, comforting place to connect. It's also a haven for performers and spoken word artists who might not have a platform elsewhere to perform. All of this, plus a revolving door of student employees, and a big commitment to her softball team, leaves Betty with little time to date, so when she decided that she wanted a baby, she went after the dream with her typical outsized and outspoken gusto. She found an IVF clinic and chose a donor who, according to his bio, embodied all the attributes she didn't have, "You know, to make them more well-rounded." She couldn't have been happier than to deliver twins, with Didi acting as her birthing coach, and Stu handing out chocolate-covered pretzel rods instead of cigars, until Betty gobbled them all, declaring that birthing two kids within minutes without an epidural would make anyone ravenous.

Howard Tucker (35) was the man who made the deposit, as a way to put himself through Baking School. Howard's rhubarb tart is legend. Once his career was underway, Howard suffered from deposit curiosity and sought a relationship with his progeny. Betty, ever the pragmatist, was quick to accept. "I need a nanny. And he's genetically predisposed to do a good job." The twins adore their 'manny,' and Howard provides baked goods for Betty to sell at the coffee house, so it's a win-win. Howard is along for many of the family and friend functions, depending on his baking schedule. If he's making croissants, he's likely to skip the event. The adults sometimes forget that Howard is even in the room. His own love life is nebulous and never discussed. It appears that Howard loves two things: rapid-rise yeast and fatherhood.

Drew Pickles (38) is everything a Baby Boomer-hippie fought against. He works as a pharmaceutical representative yet acts as if his job is as important as any doctor saving lives. He's quick to suggest to his father a new pill to cure the ills of old age, but Lou won't have any of it. "I'm only a geezer on the outside." The mere mention of a typical geriatric complaint sends Drew into a sales pitch. But Lou will only employ homeopathic cures, salves made by native peoples, or rituals performed by the local shaman. Drew is successful and enjoys the corporate perks which come with his job. He married a former colleague from the legal department, an older woman and fellow workaholic who was drawn to his philosophy of marriage being a business merger. They did not plan to have children, but when Angelica was born three years ago, Drew celebrated by taking the whole day off. He loves to shower his "little princess" with expensive items, not fully understanding that Angelica destroys almost everything she has. Drew's relationship with Stu is competitive and combative; Drew smugly assures Stu that a pill to cure "loserdom" is being researched and can't be far away. Despite this, Drew and Charlotte are quick to attend every family event. As Charlotte puts it, with their busy schedules, they really don't have time to make other friends.

Charlotte Pickles is a well-heeled and well-dressed 44, but tell anyone her age and you'll regret it. She has successfully manipulated public records to shave ten years off her age. She was recently elected to serve as Assistant City Councilperson, and lives and breathes politics, even if she's far from DC. She's always on her phone with tiny Bluetooth earbuds in place

that make it difficult for the others to know if she's talking to them. Also one to inflate her own importance, Charlotte makes certain that everyone in earshot knows how "important" her calls are, whether they're calls from (the assistants of) world leaders, negotiating the release of hostages (loose turkeys whose ownership is being challenged by neighboring turkey farmers); or calming civic unrest (a neighborhood group advocating for low-wattage street lamps so they can get some sleep). Charlotte sees in Angelica so much of herself and beams with pride even as she neglects her offspring to take another phone call or answer a text. She uses her daughter as a political prop when it suits her, as long as Angelica is "having fun with it," of course.

Jonathan Morales, mid-20's, is Charlotte's single, gay, over-confident, multi-tasking assistant. He is constantly by Charlotte's side, literally or via text, as Charlotte's conduit to the Latino community in her district. Jonathan makes no secret of the fact that he plans to be in Charlotte's position "in three or four years," glossing over that Charlotte spent decades in the business world before entering politics. Jonathan craves positive feedback, to Charlotte's vexation, and overtly seeks career advice, which he then puts through the "Jonathan-Morales Lifestyle Lens" (and if the advice includes taking fewer personal days or working long hours, he declares the 'tips' to be blinding). Charlotte and Jonathan have a symbiotic relationship which Charlotte generously likens to the crocodile and the plover bird in which each species gains something, though of course, being the crocodile, she could chomp the bird at any second. Jonathan prefers to see himself as a suckerfish who has hitched a ride on a shark; from here, he has the best view of all the other sharks in the sea who might one day need a witty and good-looking assistant. But honestly, too many metaphors give Jonathan a headache, which is remedied by a turmeric latte and a half-day.

Chas Finster (33) is Stu's best friend. They have been best friends and next-door neighbors since kindergarten until they separated to go to different colleges, a time that Chas would sooner forget. Because of Chas's allergies they rarely went outside, so the boys spent many a carefree sunny day in their youth, sitting inside and playing video games and dreaming of who they would become or if their facial hair would ever be as formidable as the Super Mario Brothers' moustaches. When Stu moved back in with his father, the two best friends were thrilled to fall back into their childhood ways with ease. Professionally, Chas plays 2nd chair oboe in the local symphony orchestra; he's certain he would be first chair oboe if it weren't for his damaged embouchure, thanks to the horse that sat on his head while with his late wife on their honeymoon. "Perhaps it was a doomed romance." He lost his wife a few months after the birth of their son, Chas Jr., nicknamed "Chuckie." But Chas soldiers on as best as a man with many obsessive compulsions, allergies, fears, and doomsday predictions can. Chas is very close to Lou, who treats him like a third son, albeit the son who he doesn't profess to understand. Chas is over at Lou's house frequently, both for nostalgia and since being an oboe player doesn't consume all of his days. He gives music lessons out of his house to teenagers who alternately frighten and inspire him.

Boris and Minka Kropotkin, mid-70's, are Didi's parents. They live in Florida where they are very active members of their Jewish community – more specifically, the Tromp L'Oeil, the high-rise on the beach where Mah Jong matches are a daily thing on the terrace. They both hail from Ashkenazim Jewish families who emigrated to the US from Russia when Boris and Minka were children, leaving them with both with Russian accents and childhood memories

of “the old world.” For decades, the couple ran a delicatessen, working side by side, and are now living their retirement dream, doing endless activities, still side by side. Boris and Minka are puzzled by vegetarians, couples who don’t live together (don’t get them started on Betty and Howard), and Lou Pickles, who might as well be from a different generation instead of a few years apart. Boris, who wears tailored suits, and Minka, draped in good costume jewelry and flowy pantsuits, would never be caught wearing a t-shirt. They even dress up to go to the building’s pool. But confused as they are by Lou, and more so by his hapless son Stu, they love their only grandchild, Tommy, and love to see him and his friends via Facetime on theirs and Didi’s respective tablets. The babies think that Boris and Minka have their own television show, which they love to watch, even if only half a face is visible at any given time on the call. Didi’s parents frustrate her in many ways (“We’re just not tech-y” Boris explains, “We would rather see you over a freshly-made sandwich.”) but she misses them dearly. It’s always a big occasion when they come to town. Boris and Minka are unimpressed with Howard’s baked goods (“A good cake doesn’t need to show off”) and are slightly afraid of Angelica, who insists on calling them Papa and Bubbe, though they are technically not her grandparents. Their son, Ben, is 28 and unmarried.

Lucy and Randy Carmichael, both 32, are Susie’s parents who live in the same neighborhood as Lou. The adults first met at the kiddie playground in the local park when they struck up an immediate friendship while Susie and their children played. By the end of their first afternoon, information was exchanged, and a group selfie was posted on all of their social media.

Lucy is a physician specializing in sports medicine, a field she approaches with seemingly endless energy and enthusiasm. She likes nothing more than to set a bone or set someone on a path to a healthy work-out. She’s a fun, generous, and bouncy personality who compliments Betty’s slouchy style and Didi’s nesting tendencies. Lucy is quite close to her older sister Min (short for Minerva; mother of three children, Alisa, Edwin, and Buster) with whom she often drops by the coffee shop. Lucy is the friend who gets them all out the door to try something new, whether it’s hitting a new movie the day it opens or organizing a group camping trip. Lucy doesn’t cook and doesn’t care; she’s got too much else to occupy her time.

Randy is an affable, good natured guy who works as a high school Science teacher, a job he truly loves, and he is in turn beloved by his students. Inspired by a passionate interest in ancient aliens and cryptozoology, Randy writes science/fantasy fiction in his spare time, selling it to online publications. This disconnect between real science and pseudoscience doesn’t bother Randy; he believes there is room for everyone’s point of view. Randy loves to pull together a mildly competitive game night or barbecue, or sometimes both combined. He’s a big supporter of Stu’s inventions, freely adding his opinion or offering to test out the product, to Stu’s delight.

Where They Live & Workplaces:

Grandpa Lou’s House

Due to financial circumstances, Stu, Didi, and Tommy, along with Spike, have moved back home to live with Grandpa Lou in the two-story Spanish style house in the Southwest where

Stu and his brother grew up. The house has a spacious fenced backyard, which is perfect for Didi's She-Shed. The yard also holds Lou's precious birdfeeders and garden gnomes, a kiddie wading pool, and small vegetable garden. Stu uses Lou's garage as his workshop, his tools and materials having to share space with Lou's old motorcycle and various protest signs.

Since Lou has no interest in worldly possessions, his vinyl collection aside, Didi and Stu are free to redecorate and babyproof his house to their taste and needs. They embrace a Cost-Plus World Market aesthetic and Didi fills the house with her wall-hangings, patterned rugs, and global art. Stu has many of the latest gadgets stacked in the living room (all child-safe) and both have tablets within the babies' easy reach, assuming the babies are not behind their baby gates. Touches of Lou are sprinkled throughout the room, from his guitar to turntable and vinyl collection to a few rock concert posters. There's a big comfy sectional couch where Stu and Chas face the television to play video games, and a cushioned-edge large coffee table for the adults to use for game night. When the men play their video games, the babies sometimes invent their own versions of an alternate world in their fantasy sequences and, likewise, when the adults gather for game night, the babies create their own versions of whatever loud and fast-paced game is being played.

In the center of the room is a glowing, Alexa-like virtual assistant called Duffy, voiced with a wry British male accent. Stu and Didi use Duffy the way virtual assistants should be used, while Grandpa Lou likes to ask it to fart for Tommy's amusement. When the babies try to use Duffy, their babble is impossible for the artificial intelligence to correctly decipher, thus Duffy responds with an outlandish answer or command, which the babies accept as truth and often sends them off on a misguided adventure.

The kitchen is now filled with lots of colorful plastic bowls, measuring cups, food processing and blending gadgets to make Tommy's baby food. Spike loves to pretend to be sleeping underneath Tommy's highchair to collect whatever bits of food fall to the floor. There's always a bit of chaos going on in the kitchen, since Lou's place is now the gathering place for best friends Stu, Didi, Chas, and Betty, and sometimes Howard, Drew, and Charlotte.

Tommy's crib is in Stu's old bedroom, while Stu and Didi now occupy what was Drew's old room, a source of mild annoyance to Stu, since Drew refuses to clear out his old trophies and awards. But Tommy's room has been made over by Didi into a warm and lively nursery, with a mobile over the crib, glowing stars on the ceiling, and adventure-inspiring artwork on the walls. Everything about the room sparks Tommy's imagination and spirit.

The Finster House

Chas and Chuckie live next door from the Pickles family connected by a well-worn path between the two homes. Chas leaves Chuckie at the Pickles home while giving music lessons at home. It's not uncommon for the babies to mistake the squeals and squeaks of amateur woodwind players as some strange animal. The babies are not all at Chuckie's house very often, since that would invite more germs into the living space than Chas feels he could handle. Chas embraces an Ikea look since he feels it's very easy to clean and also soothing to the eye. There's a cordless dust buster and humidifier in every room.

Chuckie's room is a cozy cocoon of nightlights and soft stuffed toys, none of them clowns, puppets, or animals with trunks or too many arms. His crib has been converted to a toddler bed and there's a potty of his own in the bathroom.

Angelica's House

A short car ride away is where the other Pickles reside in the Mayor's Mansion, a grand if old-fashioned residence high on a hill, which Angelica insists on calling her castle. The interior rooms, lavish and slightly out of date, all have the fingerprints of a hired decorator, since neither Charlotte nor Drew have the time nor interest (nor taste) to pick out their furnishings. The kitchen is seldom used except for making coffee and microwaving a meal for Angelica, since Drew and Charlotte either dine out or bring in take-out.

Angelica's Room

Angelica's room is fit for a princess. No corner has been left un-ruffled or un-swagged. Angelica's bed is raised off the floor so she can look down at the babies from her gauzy dream of a tent. There is also a four-foot-high Cynthia McMansion dollhouse, kid-sized overstuffed furniture, anything possible that a three-year old could ride or scoot on, and lots of pricey oversized stuffed animals. But if you look closely, most of Angelica's toys have been curiously altered in some way, as Cynthia has been. Angelica is tough on her toys. She has been known to cut hair, glue on glitter, swap out clothing, and use her mother's make-up to enhance their appearance. Angelica likes change and is also never satisfied with what she has.

The DeVille Household

Betty and the twins live in a condo in a small complex complete with a swimming pool and playroom, both of which Betty and Didi take full advantage of with the kids in tow. It's a friendly community of folks who all know Betty and her rambunctious kids. Betty keeps things practical with sturdy, inexpensive plastic furniture that's easily hosed off, which she figures she'll upgrade when the twins go off to college. The kitchen is nondescript except for Howard's prize Kitchen Aid mixer and canisters of every kind of flour, sugar, and sprinkles, located a little too close to the edge of the counter for Betty's liking, and, in fact, Howard's baking command center is a popular Mission-Impossible like adventure for the babies.

Phil and Lil share a room with two cribs side by side, since Betty realized early on it was impossible to separate them. The decor and garish colors in their room brings to mind a Fun House, which makes it hard for Chuckie to be inside for more than a few seconds.

Betty's Beans

Betty's coffeehouse is a favorite gathering spot of all of the adults, serving up coffee drinks in all forms as well as Howard's delicious baked goods. She recently added a juice bar to make healthy smoothies, at Lucy Carmichael's suggestion. It's a comfortable neighborhood spot where you might find Didi stopping in for a soy latte, Lucy dashing through for a green tea, Stu and Chas swinging by with the kids in tow, or Randy buying up all of the cookies for a school bake sale to raise funds for a field trip to a forest boasting a Bigfoot sighting. Betty takes pride in her fair trade, organic, specially roasted coffee beans and her shabbily comfortable furnishings which make the spot more appealing than cookie-cutter chains. Didi's fiber arts grace some of the walls and there are well-worn board games from the

adults' childhoods stacked on a shelf. Betty also created a safe space for the babies from which they can watch the steaming and hissing espresso machine, which Chuckie is convinced is a metal dragon. It's a place where Phil and Lil search the floor for crumbs, Angelica nabs un-eaten cookies, and Chuckie enjoys the soothing music on Betty's playlist. The setting will serve as a casual work space, breakfast spot, or afternoon meeting place for the adults. At peak hours, Charlotte has been known to drop by to knock back a triple-espresso and "mingle with the common people," usually with Angelica along for a nice photo-op as staged by a networking Jonathan. Even Spike is welcome at Betty's Beans, since Betty has a "No Critters Turned Away" policy, "As long as they're well-behaved and relatively housebroken."

Stories:

SEASON ONE (APPROVED / 114-CHARACTER OR LESS)

R001 – PILOT – KATE BOUTILIER & ERYK CASEMIRO

Chuckie's bravery is tested as the Rugrats go on a daring nighttime adventure while their parents see a concert.

Extended Pilot Logline: When Chuckie decides to become brave, he accidentally eats half a worm, leading Angelica to convince the Rugrats that Chuckie will turn into a worm-boy. But Tommy's optimism, along with Susie's "reading ability," leads the babies on a daring nighttime adventure in the park in search of a dinosaur tooth cure for Chuckie's condition, to Grandpa Lou's dismay when he discovers them missing during his first time babysitting all the kids. Meanwhile, the parents are reliving their own youthful days attending the reunion concert of a 90's era rock band.

R005 – LADY DECLUTTER – ALEC SCHWIMMER

No toy is safe when a household energy guru declutters the Pickles' house with secret villainous intentions.

R006 – JONATHAN FOR A DAY – LAUREN SHELL

When Angelica makes Phil her personal assistant, Lil enlists Chuckie to be her new other half.

R007 – TAIL OF THE DOGBOT – ALLAN NEUWIRTH

Chas and Chuckie's worlds are turned upside down when Stu foists his latest invention on them: a robotic dog.

R008 – MARCH FOR PEAS – ROBIN STEIN

The Rugrats try to cheer up Grandpa Lou when back pain keeps him home from what they think is a March for Peas.

R009 – THE LAST BALLOON – SAM CLARKE

The Rugrats help a nervous Chuckie take care of what they think is the last balloon in the world.

R010 – NEW PUPPY – LAUREN SHELL

Tommy and the Rugrats do everything they can to make sure his parents don't replace Spike with a new foster puppy.

R011– FINAL ECLIPSE – JEFF D'ELIA

Led by Susie, the babies go on an unexpected space mission while at a sci-fi movie convention with their dads.

R012 – ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY – JENNY JAFFE / STORY BY ALEC SCHWIMMER

When Tommy's family moves in with Angelica, Angelica decides she and Tommy are married and Chuckie is their baby.

R013 – THE FUTURE MAKER – LISSA KAPSTROM

Susie's disappointed when Angelica reveals a face filter's prediction of the babies' future and hers is a taco.

R014 – I DREAM OF DUFFY – ALLAN NEUWIRTH

A new tech device at Tommy's allows Angelica to have any toy she wants delivered right to their door.

R015 – THE PERFECT MYTH – SAM CLARKE

When the Rugrats play in a Greek mythology fantasy world, Angelica learns not everything needs to be perfect.

R016 – THE FISH STICK – SARAH ALLAN

The Rugrats go on a fantastical adventure inside Chas's brain to get their favorite song unstuck from his head.

R017 – ESCAPE FROM PRESCHOOL – LISSA KAPSTROM

The Rugrats try to help Angelica escape preschool when it appears she's not as happy there as she said she was.

R018 – THE TWO ANGELICAS – HALIMA LUCAS

Angelica competes for the babies' attention with her much nicer talking Just Like Me doll.

R019 – NO LICENSE TO DRIVE – JOE PURDY

Angelica struggles to adjust to life without her Cynthia car after Stu and Didi take away her driving privileges.

UNOFFICIAL LOGLINES - SUBJECT TO CHANGE**W006 – GOBLETS AND GOBLINS – JEFF D'ELIA**

While the parents play a Dungeons and Dragons-stlye game, Angelica leads the babies on a hunt of treasure guarded by a goblin.

W007 – BETTY AND THE BEAST – ROBIN STEIN

As Betty preps the café for a visit from an influential food blogger, the babies suspect a spell has transformed Stu into an espresso beast.

W015 – IT'S A JUNGLE GYM OUT THERE – LISSA KAPSTROM

Susie must face one of her only fears as she guides the Rugrats on an imaginary tour of the Amazon, all the while Grandpa Lou encounters a love interest in a drum circle.

W020 – RESCUING CYNTHIA – JENNY JAFFE

Angelica searches for Cynthia in a fantasy world after Charlotte replaces Cynthia with a doll named Tabitha.

W023 – THE PICKLE BARREL – JEFF D'ELIA AND RACHEL LIPMAN

Tommy and Chuckie fear for their friendship when, after discovering how much they love making music, they learn music ended Grandpa Lou's friendship with his best friend.

W024 – DRESSED FOR SUCCESS – JENNY JAFFE

The Rugrats' world is turned upside down when Phil and Lil accidentally get dressed in each other's clothes.

W025 – TRADITIONS – KATE BOUTILIER AND ERYK CASEMIRO

Despite their various cultural observances, the Rugrats and their families all find the true meaning of the holidays.

W026 – THE WEREWOOF HUNTER – JEFF D'ELIA

When their parents go to a costume dinner at a spooky castle, the Rugrats have to help turn Angelica from a werewolf back into a girl.

W031 – GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE – LAUREN SHELL

Susie must decide between having special telekinesis powers with Angelica and playing with all her other friends.

Key Props:

TOMMY'S SCREWDRIVER

Called his "Studriver," Tommy uses this as his trusty tool. It has programmable sounds - overly-positive affirmations – and sound effects and lights. This tool is something that unlocks a bigger world for the babies.

DUFFY

This is an Alexa-type device with a snarky John-Oliver-type personality who gets increasingly annoyed when he doesn't understand the command.

THE CYNTHIA CAR

–if there's a way to use it in the scene which doesn't feel forced, please do. We'd prefer you NOT use it as a runaway car, as it's used in the pilot, but find new ways. UBER-parody?

THE CYNTHIA DOLL

Angelica's beloved doll with the mutilated hair.

THE CYNTHIA TOWER PERFECT PENTHOUSE

This modern, two-story penthouse is at the top of a tall plastic collapsible skyscraper.

THE RUGRATS BALL

This iconic ball with its star will certainly be placed in scenes and used in play.

THE COFFEE SHOP TOY SET

This toy set is part of the kids' section in Betty's coffee shop. Phil and Lil treat the little playset like their establishment.

REPTAR PLUSH

This is a Reptar plush (with space helmet) that has been extracted by REPTAR IN SPACE series that the babies love.

SNAIL SANDBOX

This plastic sandbox in Chuckie's back yard is shaped like a giant snail as an homage to the snail in Rugrats In Paris