

THE BACKYARDIGANS

"THE SEARCH FOR THE GOLDEN FLEECE"

Musical Genre: Doo-wop

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THE BACKYARDIGANS

"THE SEARCH FOR THE GOLDEN FLEECE"

OPENING MONTAGE AND THEME

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

UNIQUA runs around the lawn, making wind and wave noises. She calls out to an imaginary crew.

UNIQUA

All hands on deck! Hoist the  
mainsail! Turn to starboard and  
full speed ahead!

A large wave washes her off her feet. She sits up, laughing.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Ahoy. I'm Uniqua the legendary Greek  
adventurer. I live in ancient Greece  
where I sail to new lands and save  
people in danger. I have a ship...but  
I don't have a crew, or an adventure  
to go on. I've already been  
everywhere and done everything.

She hops on a porch, makes a telescope with her hands, and scans the horizon.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Any new adventures anywhere?

She spots something.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Ah ha! What's that?

Across the yard, she spies PABLO walking with AUSTIN.

PABLO

They say the Golden Fleece will grant  
one wish to anyone who can find it.

AUSTIN

Anyone?

PABLO

Anyone. But it's not easy. No one's  
ever done it before.

On the porch, Uniqua listens intently.

AUSTIN

Why not?

PABLO

It's on the other side of the ocean  
and there are lots of monsters and  
obstacles in the way. It would take  
a great adventurer to get past all  
that.

Uniqua bursts in front of them.

UNIQUA

HI!

PABLO/AUSTIN

Aaah!

UNIQUA

I'm Uniqua the legendary Greek  
adventurer.

PABLO/AUSTIN

Uniqua the legendary Greek adventurer?

UNIQUA

Yup.

PABLO

I'm Pablo the Greek sailor.

AUSTIN

And I'm Austin the Greek sailor.

UNIQUA

You're sailors?

PABLO

Yeah. We have an adventure to go  
on...but we don't have a ship.

UNIQUA

I have a ship, but I don't have a  
crew. Would you like to come with  
me on my ship?

PABLO

Would we ever!

AUSTIN

All right!

**SONG #1 - THE GREAT ADVENTURER:**

PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

DOO-WOP, SHOOPY DOO. DOO-WOP, SHOOPY  
DOO. DOO-WOP, SHOOPY DOO, WAH!

Pablo and Austin snap their fingers and continue to sing back-up throughout the song. Uniqua begins dancing lyrically.

UNIQUA

(singing)

THE GREAT ADVENTURER,  
THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.  
I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD  
FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.  
I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.

UNIQUA

(singing)

IF YOU WANT ADVENTURE,  
THEN I'M THE ONE FOR YOU.  
EVERY STORY'S A GUT-WRENCHER  
FOR THIS CAPTAIN

PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

AND FOR THIS CREW.

UNIQUA

(singing)

THE GREAT ADVENTURER,  
THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.  
I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD  
FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.  
I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.

Uniqua climbs atop the slide, feigning a strong wind.

UNIQUA

(singing)

WHEN THE WINDS BLOW ,  
AND THE WAVES GROW ,  
THEN I FORGE RIGHT ON AHEAD.  
FOR I NEVER  
STOP FOR BAD WEATHER.

She slides down to the grass, landing triumphantly.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

(singing)

I MUCH PREFER TO GO ON INSTEAD!

She and the boys dance on the lawn.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

(singing)

**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,  
THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN.  
I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD  
FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.  
I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

**AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.**

They strike a pose.

SONG ENDS.

UNIQUA

So what's your adventure?

PABLO

To find the Golden Fleece!

Her eyes widen with delight.

UNIQUA

The Golden Fleece?

Her face drops.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Uh, what's a Golden Fleece?

PABLO

Fleece is the wool or hair from a sheep, but this fleece is made of gold. Not only that, but it's magic. Whoever finds it gets one wish.

UNIQUA

A wish? For anything? Then we should get started.

AUSTIN

But where's your ship?

UNIQUA

Right over here at the dock.

She motions them to follow her.

TRANSITION BEGINS: THE BACKYARD DISSOLVES INTO A GREEK HARBOR, WITH ITEMS APPEARING AS MENTIONED.

PABLO  
With boxes and barrels ready to be  
loaded on ships!

AUSTIN  
And mountains rising out of the sea!

UNIQUA  
And lots of ships floating in the  
water!

TRANSITION ENDS.

WE PULL BACK TO REVEAL AN ENTIRE MARINA FILLED WITH GREEK  
URNS AND SHIPPING PARAPHERNALIA.

The three walk onto the dock. They now wear togas and  
sandals. Pablo and Austin have woolen sailor's caps while  
Uniqua has a garland of laurels on her head.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
Well, there it is.

A massive ship looms over everything else in the harbor.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
...The Uniquos. What d'you think?

PABLO  
Whoa. Cool.

AUSTIN  
That's amazing.

Uniqua leads them to the gangplank.

UNIQUA  
Last one up's a dragon's egg!

She runs up the plank, with Pablo and Austin trailing behind.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Uniqua is waiting at attention as Pablo and Austin careen  
aboard, laughing.

UNIQUA  
Atten--TION!

Pablo and Austin attempt to stop but tumble over each other.  
Recovering, they stand up straight and each salute  
haphazardly.

Uniqua proceeds to give them a formal review.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Welcome to the Uniquos, the greatest ship in the sea. It is a great honor to sail under her banner.

VIEW of the ship's flag--a beaming portrait of Uniqua.

Austin and Pablo give each other a glance.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

As sailors on the Uniquos, you will be known as the Uniquonots.

They wrinkle their noses.

PABLO

Uniquonots?

UNIQUA

That's right--Uniquonots.

AUSTIN

Wait a minute. How come everyone on the ship is named after you?

She looks at them as though it's obvious.

UNIQUA

Because I am a great adventurer.

PABLO/AUSTIN

Oh.

**Song #1B (REPRISE) - THE GREAT ADVENTURER:**

Uniqua ushers them along the deck.

UNIQUA

(singing)

**IF YOU WANT ADVENTURE  
THE UNIQUOS IS ALL YOU NEED.  
EVERY STORY IS A FIST-CLENCHER  
BUT THE UNIQUONOTS ALWAYS SUCCEED.**

Pablo and Austin smile and start to wrap up loose rope and prepare the ship for launch.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

(singing)

**THE GREAT ADVENTURER,  
THAT'S HOW I AM KNOWN  
I'VE SAILED THE WIDE WORLD  
FROM PHOENICIA TO ROME.  
I'M JUST AN ADVENTURER,**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN  
(singing)  
**AN ADVENTURER OUT ON THE SEA.**

The ship is ready.

SONG ENDS.

UNIQUA  
Is the ship ready?

Pablo and Austin salute.

PABLO/AUSTIN  
Yes, captain!

UNIQUA  
Good. Sailor Austin, raise the  
anchor.

AUSTIN  
Aye-aye, captain.

He salutes again and scampers off.

UNIQUA  
Sailor Pablo, set a course due west.

PABLO  
Aye-aye, captain.

He salutes two times then runs towards the wheel.

UNIQUA  
We're going to find the Golden Fleece.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The Uniquos sails along an endless sea of blue.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Hot and tired, Pablo and Austin lean over the railing.

PABLO  
The Golden Fleece sure is far.

AUSTIN  
You can say that again.

PABLO  
The Golden Fleece sure is far.

They laugh. Uniqua walks up behind them.

UNIQUA  
Sailor Pablo! Sailor Austin!

PABLO/AUSTIN  
Aaah!

UNIQUA  
Shouldn't we be getting to the Fleece  
by now?

PABLO  
I don't know. I just know that there  
are obstacles and monsters along the  
way.

AUSTIN  
And we haven't seen any obstacles or  
monsters yet.

They sit down.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)  
By the way, what are you going to  
wish for?

UNIQUA  
I haven't decided yet.

AUSTIN  
Oh.

PABLO  
How about an automatic caramel ice  
cream-and-haircut machine?

UNIQUA  
A what?

AUSTIN  
No, what about a dual-stereo  
nutcracker with complementary fuzzy  
socks?

UNIQUA  
Huh?

Pablo and Austin are getting really excited.

PABLO  
No, no. An upside-down monkey cage  
with a built-in racetrack.

UNIQUA  
I haven't decided what to wish for  
yet, but I'll know when we get there.

SFX: <<CRASH -- CRASH -- CRASH>>

In the distance there is a slow but rhythmic CRASHING SOUND, growing steadily louder.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

What's that?

They run to the bow. Uniqua whips out her telescope.

POV--TELESCOPE: Two gigantic rocks fill the horizon. They slowly move apart, pause, then quickly CRASH together.

Uniqua lowers the telescope.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Woah! The Smashing Rocks of the Far Ocean. I've never seen those before.

PABLO

All right! A new adventure!

He gives Austin five.

Uniqua stands erect.

UNIQUA

Attention! All hands to your stations! We're going through.

Pablo and Austin salute randomly and zip off.

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos approaches the Smashing Rocks, which loom as large as mountains.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Uniqua's face is set, determined. Pablo yells from the wheel.

PABLO

Our course is set, Captain Uniqua! Straight through the middle!

UNIQUA

Good! Sailor Austin, full speed ahead.

Austin salutes and pulls a large rope, raising a sail.

AUSTIN

Aye-aye!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The sails billow and the ship surges towards the rocks.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

UNIQUA

Here we go.

The Uniquos rushes forward, when a giant TYRONE--complete with crown, toga, trident, and fish tail (mostly submerged)--bursts out of the water in front of the ship.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

WHOA!

Tyrone holds out his hand.

TYRONE

Halt!

Pablo spins the wheel frantically.

PABLO

Halting!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos lurches to the side and to a stop. Tyrone towers over the highest mast, the Smashing Rocks behind him.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo and Austin inch up behind Uniqua. She puts her hands on her hips--she's not about to let any giant sea god stop her adventure.

UNIQUA

Hey! What's the big idea? You're blocking my ship!

TYRONE

I know. My name is Tyrone, the God of the Sea. The entire ocean is my kingdom, and you're trespassing.

UNIQUA

Well, I'm Uniqua the legendary Greek adventurer, and I'm on my way to find the Golden Fleece.

Tyrone is suddenly not as bombastic anymore.

TYRONE  
 You want the Fleece? But I won't  
 let anyone find the Fleece.

UNIQUA  
 Why not?

He thinks.

TYRONE  
 Um...because! That's why.

Uniqua looks at her crew. They're not so scared any more.

UNIQUA  
 (to Tyrone)  
 Look, we're adventurers. We're on  
 an adventure, and we're going to get  
 that Fleece. I don't know who you  
 think you are--

TYRONE  
 Don't you know who I am?

UNIQUA  
 Nope.

Tyrone points at Pablo and Austin.

TYRONE  
 Okay, sailors, back me up!

They shrug.

PABLO  
 Um, all right.

**SONG #2 - THE SMASHING ROCKS SONG**

Pablo and Austin start snapping in unison. Tyrone nods to  
 the beat.

PABLO/AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
 SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
 DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
 SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
 DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
 SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
 DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
 SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP-SHOOP

TYRONE

(singing)

I'M THE BIGGEST BIRD AND THE BADDEST  
CAT,  
OR AIN'T YOU HEARD? I DON'T BELIEVE  
THAT.  
I RULE THE OCEAN FROM COAST TO COAST.  
MY NAME'S TYRONE AND I'M THE MOST.

Uniqua rolls her eyes.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

(singing)

I GOT MY TRIDENT  
AND MY CROWN.  
AND I'M THE COOLEST SEA GOD IN TOWN.

Uniqua won't be intimidated.

UNIQUA

(singing)

WELL I'M UNIQUA AND I'M BAD TOO.  
I ONCE RAN THE RAPIDS OF KATMANDU -  
YOU CAN SING YOUR SONG AND STATE  
YOUR PEACE  
BUT PLEASE MAKE WAY--I WANT THAT  
FLEECE.  
I GOT MY SHIP HERE  
AND MY CREW  
AND I'M NOT GONNA BE STOPPING FOR  
YOU.

Pablo and Austin jump to center stage to show off their moves.

PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP,  
DOO-WOP, DOO-WOP  
SHOOP, SHOOP, SHOOP-SHOOP

Tyrone is impressed.

PABLO

(singing)

WELL MY NAME'S PABLO. IT'S NOT MY  
SONG,  
BUT MY IDEA IS WE GET ALONG.

Tyrone swings over next to Pablo and Austin.

TYRONE  
 (singing)  
**I LIKE YOUR STYLE. THIS MIGHT BE A  
 SHOCK  
 BUT I WILL LET YOU GO IF YOU GET  
 PAST MY ROCKS.**

He indicates the Smashing Rocks, which are swinging together.  
 Pablo and Austin look pale.

TYRONE (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
**THEY COME TOGETHER  
 WITH A CRASH.**

The rocks pound together, sending a wave that rocks the  
 Uniquos violently. Pablo and Austin hang on while singing.

TYRONE (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
**AND ANY SHIP THAT'S IN THERE WILL  
 GET SMASHED.**

Uniqua grabs her crew.

UNIQUA  
 Come on, we're going through!

Austin and Pablo each grab an oar and start rowing. Uniqua  
 takes the wheel and aims towards the rocks.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, ROW,  
 ROW, ROW!  
 SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, GO,  
 GO, GO!  
 SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, ROW,  
 ROW, ROW!  
 GO, GO--LET'S GO!**

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

While music plays the Uniquos moves past Tyrone and starts  
 its approach toward the Smashing Rocks.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo and Austin row in time with the music.

UNIQUA  
 Row! Row! Row!

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The Uniquos moves in between the rocks, which are just reaching their maximum distance.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN

(singing)

SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, ROW,  
ROW, ROW!  
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, GO,  
GO, GO!  
SHOOP A DIDDLY, SHOOP A DIDDLY, ROW,  
ROW, ROW!  
ROW, ROW--

EXT. SMASHING ROCKS - DAY

The rocks close together, and the surging wave pushes the Uniquos clear just as the rocks smash.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN

(cheering)

**LET'S GO!**

END SONG.

On THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROCKS, Tyrone shrinks down to his normal size.

TYRONE

Darn.

He dives under the water.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Onboard, the gang is celebrating, jumping up and down and giving high fives.

UNIQUA

We did it!

PABLO

Way to go!

AUSTIN

All right! Yeah.

Uniqua stops and comes to attention.

UNIQUA

Atten-TION!

Pablo and Austin, in mid-high five, try to come to attention but only succeed in falling down. They jump back up and salute.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Well done, men. We've passed our first obstacle, the Smashing Rocks of the Far Ocean. We have now journeyed farther than anyone has ever gone before.

Pablo and Austin are impressed.

PABLO/AUSTIN

Ooooh!

An awkward silence.

PABLO

So what's next?

Uniqua shrugs.

UNIQUA

I don't know. We've got to get to the Fleece sooner or later.

PABLO

Yeah. I'll go set a course!

AUSTIN

And I'll go trim the sails!

They hurry off, then run back, bump into each other, salute, and scurry off again.

INT. OCEAN - DAY

Tyrone swims down toward a beautiful coral garden. Amidst the fish and the coral sits a large rock throne on which he glides to a stop.

On a table next to the throne sits an old-fashioned telephone made of coral, with a conical shell for an earpiece and starfish for a rotary dial. Tyrone lifts the receiver and spins the starfish one time.

TYRONE

Hello, ocean operator? Get me Tasha the Mermaid please.

TASHA (O.S.)

Here I am, your majesty.

Tyrone looks up, startled. TASHA, with a toga and mermaid tail, bows before him.

TYRONE  
 (into the phone)  
 Wow. What service! Thanks.

He hangs up. Tasha swims up.

TASHA  
 What can I do for you, your majesty?

TYRONE  
 Mermaid Tasha, there's a ship on the surface that's sailing straight toward the Golden Fleece! I need you to go and sing your magical mermaid song.

TASHA  
 The one that makes people get lost on the ocean forever?

TYRONE  
 Yup. I need you to make sure they'll never find the Fleece.

She bows in understanding.

TASHA  
 Yes, my liege.

TYRONE  
 Thanks.

Tasha turns and swims toward the surface.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Pablo, Austin, and Uniqua with her telescope scan the horizon.

AUSTIN  
 Any sign of the Fleece?

UNIQUA  
 Not yet.

PABLO  
 Captain Uniqua, have you thought of what to wish for yet? Because I had a couple ideas.

She glances at him then returns to her telescope.

UNIQUA  
 Oh really?

PABLO

Yeah, yeah. How about a whipped-cream-covered bicycle with a musical microwave?

UNIQUA

A what?

AUSTIN

No, no! You need an underwater school bus with lemon-scented unicorns.

But Uniqua is not paying attention.

UNIQUA

Hey, look at that!

PABLO

At what?

UNIQUA

Land ho!

She tosses the telescope to Pablo, who flounders with it then gets it to his eye.

PABLO

Wow. We made it!

POV--TELESCOPE: Land lies in the distance. Jagged rocks litter the sea in front of the shore. A giant Austin fills the view.

AUSTIN

Let me see! Let me see!

Pablo hands the telescope to Austin, but he doesn't get to look.

UNIQUA

Atten-TION! All hands to your stations! We're going to have to steer the ship between all those rocks.

Austin and Pablo salute then rush towards their places. Tasha's voice, however, fills the air and stops them dead in their tracks.

**SONG #3 - LITTLE SAILOR MEN**

TASHA (O.S.)

(singing)

OOOH. AAH OOOH .  
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

Pablo's and Austin's faces glaze over. They stare dreamily off in space. Uniqua looks at them, puzzled.

UNIQUA  
Hey, all hands to your stations!

Pablo and Austin walk past Uniqua without hearing her.

TASHA (O.S.)  
(singing)  
OOOH. AAH OOOH -  
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

Uniqua runs to the rail next to Pablo and Austin to see where the sound is coming from.

Tasha sits on one of the rocks, the waves breaking around her as she sings.

TASHA (CONT'D)  
(singing)  
COME TO ME, YOU SAILOR MEN.  
YOU WILL HAVE ADVENTURE THEN.  
COME AND SEE ME, LITTLE SAILOR MEN.

UNIQUA  
You guys? You guys?

Austin and Pablo smile dreamily, then, to Uniqua's surprise, hum along.

TASHA  
(singing)  
OOOH. AAH OOOH -  
OOOH. AAH OOOH.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

TASHA  
(singing)  
DON'T GO THAT WAY ANY MORE.  
TURN YOUR SHIP, FORGET THE SHORE.  
STAY OUT HERE, MY LITTLE SAILOR MEN.

EXT. SHIP - DAY

PABLO/AUSTIN  
(singing)  
SHOOPY DOO-WEE, SHOOPY DOO-WEE  
SHOOPY, A SHOOPY DOO-WEE

PABLO  
(singing)  
WE COULD STAY HERE ON THE OCEAN  
AND WHILE OUR WHOLE LIVES AWAY.

AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**OR WE COULD JUST  
 GO ROUND IN CIRCLES.**

PABLO/AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**THAT IS THE WAY WE WOULD LIKE TO  
 STAY.**

Uniqua pulls them away from the railing and waves her hands in their faces.

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**UNIQUONOTS, WE'RE ON OUR WAY.  
 AS YOUR CAPTAIN, NOW I SAY,  
 COME WITH ME, MY LITTLE SAILOR MEN.**

They shake their heads in slight recognition.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

Tasha is annoyed.

TASHA  
 (singing)  
**OOOH. AAH OOOH.**

EXT. SHIP - DAY

AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**SHOULD WE LISTEN TO THE MERMAID  
 OR SAIL OUR SHIP RIGHT PAST?**

PABLO  
 (singing)  
**HER SONG IS SO SWEET  
 THAT WE JUST WANT TO LISTEN.**

PABLO/AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**BUT IF WE GO ON WE WILL FIND THE  
 FLEECE AT LAST.**

Uniqua smiles. Pablo and Austin turn to Tasha.

PABLO/AUSTIN (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
**SO THOUGH WE LIKE YOUR SONG, MERMAID,  
 WE CAN'T STOP OR BE DELAYED.**

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**ADVENTURE CALLS THE LITTLE SAILOR  
 MEN.**

They strike a tableau.

AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**DOO-WOP, WO, WO!**

END SONG.

EXT. ROCK - DAY

Tasha stares up at them, astounded.

TASHA  
 My magic song didn't work? You're  
 not going to stay here on the ocean  
 forever?

INTERCUT: ROCK AND SHIP

Pablo, Austin, and Uniqua lean over the rail.

PABLO  
 Sorry, but we're on an adventure.

AUSTIN  
 We're going to find the Golden Fleece.  
 There are monsters and obstacles and  
 one wish at the end.

TASHA  
 That sounds like a pretty big  
 adventure.

UNIQUA  
 Yup.

Tasha grows deep in thought.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
 Well, goodbye!

PABLO  
 Yeah, see ya.

They turn to go back to their stations.

TASHA  
 Wait!

They stop.

UNIQUA  
What is it?

TASHA  
Can I come too?

UNIQUA  
Huh? You want to come on our  
adventure with us?

The crew is intrigued.

TASHA  
Uh-huh. You don't know what it's  
like being a mermaid. Always swimming  
around, nothing to eat but seaweed...

Pablo and Austin each pull a disgusted face.

TASHA (CONT'D)  
...Never anywhere to go or anything  
to do. I want to be an adventurer  
too!

Uniqua and her crew look at each other, considering.

UNIQUA  
Can you hoist an anchor?

TASHA  
Nope.

AUSTIN  
Batten down a hatch?

TASHA  
Nu-uh.

PABLO  
Chart a course through perilous  
waters?

TASHA  
No way.

Uniqua, Pablo, and Austin look at each other, then at Tasha.

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN  
You're hired!

EXT. SHIP - DAY

Tasha is hoisted up the side of the ship by two ropes.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Tyrone watches the Uniquos from afar.

TYRONE

I can't believe it. They got past  
my Smashing Rocks and my Singing  
Mermaid. Now they're going to find  
the Fleece for sure.

He swims toward land.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The Uniquos glides through the waves, gracefully sliding  
onto the sand.

UNIQUA (O.S.)

All hands on shore!

The gangplank plops down in the sand. Uniqua trots to the  
bottom and waits for Pablo and Austin, who are carrying Tasha  
on their backs.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Golden Fleece, here we come!

TASHA

But where is the Golden Fleece?

Uniqua glances around then points straight ahead.

UNIQUA

I bet it's straight through there.

The others look.

A dense forest adjoins the beach. Scanning upwards, they  
see a wooded hill rising high into the sky.

PABLO

Um, do you think there's a flatter  
way to get to the Fleece?

UNIQUA

Nope. This is definitely the way.

Off she marches. Pablo and Austin adjust their grip on Tasha  
then trudge after her.

EXT. HILL - LATER

The four adventurers puff their way uphill through the trees  
and grass. Tasha is loving every minute; Uniqua is out ahead.

AUSTIN  
This sure <<HUFF>> is a steep hill  
<<PUFF>>.

PABLO  
You can <<PUFF>> say that again.

AUSTIN  
This <<HUFF>> sure <<PUFF>> is a  
steep <<PUFF>> hill <<HUFF>>.

Pablo tries to laugh.

PABLO  
<<WHEEZE>>

UNIQUA (O.S.)  
You guys! We're at the top!

PABLO  
We are?

They drop Tasha and run to catch up.

TASHA  
Hey!

EXT. CLEARING - DAY

Pablo and Austin join Uniqua on the edge of a broad field of  
grass.

PABLO  
We made it!

AUSTIN  
Where's the Fleece?

Uniqua points.

UNIQUA  
There.

Across the field, hanging from a short, gnarled tree, is the  
Golden Fleece.

PABLO/AUSTIN  
Wow.

Tasha comes bouncing up on her tail--the others to do a double  
take.

PABLO  
You can bounce?

AUSTIN  
We didn't have to carry you?

TASHA  
Yeah, why?

Austin covers his face in his hands. Uniqua has more important things to worry about.

UNIQUA  
I'm going to go get that Fleece.

She strides confidently toward the tree. Tyrone, however, is standing in her way.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
Hey! How did you get here? Where's your fishy tail?

TYRONE  
Sea god powers.

Tasha looks at her tail and frowns.

TYRONE (CONT'D)  
You guys found the Golden Fleece all right, but you'll never get it.

UNIQUA  
Sure we will--watch.

She strides around Tyrone, not watching where she's going. Pablo, Austin, and Tasha, however, notice something in her path.

PABLO  
Uh, uh, uh, Captain Uniqua?

She turns, slightly annoyed.

UNIQUA  
Yes?

He points.

PABLO  
Look at that.

Uniqua turns and sees a large DRAGON (not too scary) sitting between her and the Fleece. The dragon smiles.

TYRONE  
Meet my pet dragon. Come here, boy!

The dragon hops up, wags its tail, and, dog-like, bounds over to Tyrone.

DRAGON  
<<BARK! BARK!>>

Tyrone scratches its head. The others look on aghast.

TYRONE  
He's a really good dragon, aren't you, boy?

The dragon pants and nods, tail wagging.

TYRONE (CONT'D)  
He's a guard-dragon. His job is to guard the Golden Fleece.

Uniqua recovers her explorer's confidence.

UNIQUA  
You mean all we have to do is get past your dragon? That's easy.

PABLO  
It is?

UNIQUA  
Sure. Watch.

She picks up a stick and waves it in front of the dragon.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
See the stick, boy? Want the stick? Want the stick, boy?

The dragon bounces up and down, tongue drooping and tail flailing wildly.

DRAGON  
<<BARK, BARK, BARK-BARK-BARK!!>>

UNIQUA  
You want the stick? Ready? Ready?

Uniqua throws the stick over the dragon's head and past the Fleece. The dragon watches it go then turns back to Uniqua, tail wagging.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
Oh.

She slowly backs up to her group.

TYRONE

Yep, he's a good guard-dragon. And the best thing is that he never, ever goes to sleep.

UNIQUA

Doesn't he get tired?

TYRONE

Nope.

UNIQUA

How long has he been doing that?

TYRONE

About a thousand years.

ALL

A thousand years?

PABLO

Oh no. We've got to get past a dragon.

Pablo starts to walk in circles, flapping his wings vigorously.

PABLO (CONT'D)

He doesn't sleep, he's always awake, and he never moves. What are we gunna do? What are we gunna do?

UNIQUA

Pablo.

He's moving faster and faster.

PABLO

Oh no, this is terrible!

UNIQUA

Pablo!

PABLO

We'll never get the Fleece! What're we gunna do?!

UNIQUA

Pablo, atten-TION!

Pablo jerks to attention, saluting with his left then right hands.

PABLO

Yeah?

UNIQUA  
We'll get past that dragon. We just  
have to think for a minute.

PABLO  
Okay.

UNIQUA  
The dragon's been guarding the Fleece  
for a thousand years, right?

TASHA  
Yeah.

UNIQUA  
Well, wouldn't you get a little tired  
if you'd been up a thousand years?

TASHA  
Yeah.

AUSTIN  
Me too.

UNIQUA  
So then it should be easy to make  
him fall asleep.

The group smiles.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)  
Back us up, boys.

**SONG #4 - GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON**

Uniqua and Tasha amble up to the curious dragon. Tyrone  
watches with interest.

As Uniqua and Tasha sing, Pablo and Austin back them up with  
<<Oooohs>> and <<Aaaaahs>>.

UNIQUA/TASHA  
(singing)  
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.**  
**GO TO SLEEP--YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.**

Startled, the dragon jumps to its feet, tail erect, but it  
listens intently and is immediately charmed by the music.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)  
(singing)  
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.**  
**GO TO SLEEP--YOUR EYELIDS ARE SAGGIN'.**

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**YES, I KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT TIRED**

ALL  
 (singing)  
**YOU'VE GOT A JOB TO DO.**

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**BUT I THINK IF YOU RETIRED,**

ALL  
 (singing)  
**YOU WOULD FEEL BRAND NEW.**

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**AND I KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE ONE,**

ALL  
 (singing)  
**THE ONE WHO COULD GO, GO TO SLEEP.**

The dragon, slightly pacified, sits on its haunches, listening intently.

ALL (CONT'D)  
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.  
 GO TO SLEEP.**

PABLO  
 (singing)  
**YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.**

ALL  
 (singing)  
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON.  
 GO TO SLEEP.**

AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**YOUR EYELIDS ARE SAGGIN'.**

The dragon's eyes droop slightly before it jerks awake. Tyrone notices and is alarmed.

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**I REMEMBER THAT HE TOLD YOU TO GUARD  
 THE FLEECE.**

PABLO/AUSTIN/TASHA  
 (singing)  
**FLEECE, FLEECE, FLEECE.**

UNIQUA  
 (singing)  
**AND I KNOW YOU'RE THE MOST FEARSOME  
 MONSTER IN GREECE.**

PABLO/AUSTIN/TASHA  
 (singing)  
**GREECE, GREECE, GREECE.**

Uniqua and Tasha step right up to the dragon and wrap their arms around its neck.

UNIQUA/TASHA  
 (singing)  
**BUT LOOK IN YOUR EYES  
 AND IT'S NO SURPRISE  
 WHAT I SEE THERE.  
 YOU'RE FEELING DROWSY,  
 TIRED AND LOUSY...**

The dragon nods its sad consent.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
**SO GO LAY DOWN  
 IN YOUR DRAGON LAIR.**

The dragon emits an enormous yawn.

UNIQUA/TASHA (CONT'D)  
 (singing)  
**GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON,  
 GO TO SLEEP--YOUR ENERGY'S LAGGIN'.  
 GO TO SLEEP, LITTLE DRAGON,  
 GO TO SLEEP--YOUR EYELIDS ARE SAGGIN'.  
 GO TO--**

The dragon can barely keep its eyes open. It turns in a circle and lies down.

They sing and hold the pitches of a chord.

PABLO  
 (singing)  
**SLEEP**

AUSTIN  
 (singing)  
**SLEEP**

UNIQUA/TASHA  
 (singing)  
**SLEEP!**

They strike a tableau around the dragon.

ALL

Shhhhh...

END SONG.

The dragon is snoring peacefully.

UNIQUA

(whispering)

Good job, guys.

She tiptoes over to the tree and gently lifts down the Fleece.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

I got it.

The others run up.

PABLO

A wish! A wish! We get our wish!

AUSTIN

Purple-flavored popcorn!

PABLO

Snowballs for fish!

AUSTIN

Invisible toothbrushes!

Uniqua and Tasha can't believe it.

UNIQUA

Atten-TION!

The boys bolt upright. Uniqua holds up the Fleece.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

It is beautiful, but I still don't  
know what to wish for. I already  
have everything I want.

Tyrone, defeated, saunters up to the group.

TYRONE

You got past my dragon. You got the  
Golden Fleece.

UNIQUA

Why's the Fleece so important to you  
anyway?

Tyrone blushes. Tasha takes his hand.

TASHA

It's okay, your majesty, you can tell us.

He considers, then begins.

TYRONE

A long time ago, when I was just the god of a little stream, the Fleece was mine. It was my little teddy-sheep.

PABLO

A teddy-sheep?

TYRONE

Yeah. I used to take it everywhere and sleep with it every night.

Uniqua unconsciously hands the Fleece to Tyrone.

UNIQUA

What happened?

TYRONE

The other bigger gods decided to make it into a magical Fleece that could grant a wish to anyone who finds it. They took my teddy-sheep away and turned it into this Fleece.

TASHA

That's terrible!

TYRONE

So since then I've protected the Fleece to make sure that nobody found it and took it away again. But...you found it, fair and square, so here it is.

He slowly hands the Fleece to Uniqua, who just as slowly takes it.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Good job. You really are a great adventurer.

Uniqua doesn't seem to feel like a great adventurer.

UNIQUA

Thanks.

Tyrone strokes the Fleece, then turns and plods away.

The others watch him go with long faces, then Uniqua's eyes light up.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

Hey wait!

Tyrone turns.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

I know what to wish for!

PABLO

You do?

TASHA

Really?

UNIQUA

Yeah.

She holds the Fleece high in the air.

UNIQUA (CONT'D)

I wish that this Golden Fleece was Tyrone's little teddy-sheep again.

Tyrone's jaw drops.

The Fleece starts glowing and floats off of Uniqua's hands. In a flash it becomes a small, golden sheep toy.

TYRONE

My sheep! My sheep! You got my sheep!

He runs to the golden teddy-sheep and throws his arms around it.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Oh, thank you, thank you, thank you.

The others are impressed.

PABLO

That was a good wish.

AUSTIN

Yeah.

They all gather round to admire the sheep.

SFX: <<RUMBLE-RUMBLE>>

TASHA

Uh-oh. Did the dragon wake up?

Pablo looks embarrassed.

PABLO  
No, that was just my tummy rumbling.

UNIQUA  
Even great adventurers make time for  
a snack.

TYRONE  
Grapes and cheese at my house?

UNIQUA/PABLO/AUSTIN/TASHA  
Yeah.

They start walking off.

REVERSE TRANSITION: THE CLEARING DISSOLVES BACK INTO THE  
BACKYARD.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Everyone walks back to the yard, toward Tyrone's house.

TYRONE  
That was an excellent ancient Greek  
adventure, wouldn't you say?

UNIQUA  
Yes it was.

AUSTIN  
Indeed.

ALL  
**WE'VE GOT THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD IN  
OUR YARD TO EXPLORE.  
NOW IT'S TIME FOR US TO HAVE A SNACK  
MEET YOU NEXT TIME WHEN WE'RE BACK  
WITH YOUR FRIENDS, THE  
BACKYARDIGANS**

They go inside. The door shuts, then Uniqua pops back out.

UNIQUA  
Atten-TION! Tee-hee-hee.

She giggles and goes back in the door. SFX: <<SLAM>>

IRIS OUT. THEME AND CREDITS.