



Illustration by Jennifer Stolzer

20. Commissioner Visit #2

(Morning - dirt schoolyard; just as in the start of Segment 6, the children are playing before class begins; the 3 boys are upstage with Twimfina; the 3 girls are downstage, jumping rope)

AKEELAH, POCA, SCOUT

(chanting while double-dutching)

In a Garden is our school
 Love our teachers, Love our rules
 Love to come here ev'ryday
 Never want to go away

In a Garden is our school...

(Guru rings outside bell with rope from inside; students rush to the schoolhouse door and enter; Guru greets them as they walk through the door; Twimfina, carrying her guitar, enters last)

GURU

(singing cheerfully)
 Good Morning to you!


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CHILDREN

(singing cheerfully)
 Good Morning, Guru!

(The children stop on the way to their stools and look at the math problem GURU is writing on the chalkboard; TWIMFINA joins them, sitting in back.)

GURU*(singing)*

Today we're learning something that is very important

(As Guru writes on the chalkboard, the door opens and the Commissioner walks in holding a paper. Guru turns and pleasantly greets the Commissioner.)

(singing)

Good morning, dear Commissioner!

CHILDREN and TWIMFINA*(singing)*

Good morning, dear Commissioner!

COMMISSIONER*(singing with ebullience)*

Good morning, morning, morning my bee-yoo-tee-ful achievers

The test you took in Jeeno makes us doubtters all believers!

You have passed the big exam – and I don't just mean some

You have passed the big exam – each and ev'ry one!

CHILDREN, GURU, TWIMFINA*(Cheer excitedly)***COMMISSIONER (CONT'D)**

Yesterday I went to Jeeno, as it is my duty

There I met the other leaders, just like me – but snooty

They were giving speeches so I really didn't care

Until I heard the test results and I fell off my chair

“Where oh where is Garden School?” the jealous people asked

There has never been a school where ev'rybody passed

“It's in Ko-Lat Village” I stood up and blew a kiss

“And in Ko-Lat Village we are all as smart as this!”

They were not amused and so I left the meeting fast

Didn't want to stick around and get myself harassed

Now students want to transfer here because they think we're cool

And all the parents want their kids to come to Garden School

TWIMFINA

Dear Commish'ner, if you please, we ask of you a favor

The laws against a singing concert – we would like a waiver

GURU

And dear Commish'ner, if you please, we have one more request

That you allow Americans to come and be our guest

COMMISSIONER

Oh my teachers, you have made our Village very sunny
 I will give you anything – so long as it's not money
 So bring in the Americans and anyone at all
Fifteen years is much too long for us to have a wall

CHILDREN, TWIMFINA, GURU

(cheer in happiness)

ALL

(singing)

OUR BEAUTIFUL GARDEN HAS PRICKLES THAT PRICK
 HAS THORNS AND BARBS AND STICKERS THAT STICK
 WE MAY HAVE OUR PROBLEMS, WE MAY HAVE OUR NEEDS
 BUT OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS, NO,
 OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS.

OUR PLANTS FULL OF POLLEN ARE MAKING US SNEEZE.
 WE'VE THISTLES AND NETTLES UP FRONT.
 WE'VE POOR POISON IVY WITH FUNGAL DISEASE
 AND PLANTS OTHER GARDENS DON'T WANT.

WE'VE ALL KINDS OF PLANTS WITH ALL KINDS OF LEAVES
 WITH ALL KINDS OF FLOWERS AND ALL KINDS OF SEEDS

(Commissioner sings two lines alone)

BUT I'M THE COMMISH'NER AND I HAVE DECREED...
 THAT OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS

(everybody continues)

NO, OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS

OUR PLANTS FULL OF POLLEN ARE MAKING US SNEEZE.
 WE'VE THISTLES AND NETTLES UP FRONT.
 WE'VE POOR POISON IVY WITH FUNGAL DISEASE
 AND PLANTS OTHER GARDENS DON'T WANT.

WE'VE ALL KINDS OF PLANTS WITH ALL KINDS OF LEAVES
 WITH ALL KINDS OF FLOWERS AND ALL KINDS OF SEEDS

(Children sing two lines alone)

BUT WE ARE THE STUDENTS AND WE HAVE DECREED...
 THAT OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS

(everybody continues)

NO, OUR GARDEN IT DOESN'T HAVE WEEDS



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