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Over the Garden Wall: Schooltown Follies

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TV Show Review

Title: Over the Garden Wall: Schooltown Follies

Main Performers: Elijah Wood, Collin Dean, and Melanie Lynskey

Studio/Network: Cartoon Network

Reviewer: Olivia Noli

Season/Episodes: 1/3

Air Date: November 4, 2014

TV Rating: TV-Pg

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Review



In this chapter of *Over the Garden Wall*, Greg wanders off and sees a schoolhouse. Trying to find him, Wirt and Beatrice look inside the old fashioned school. Meanwhile, Greg plays outside with some poor animals (as indicated by their clothes). He rushes inside when a large gorilla attacks. Seeing how sad all the young animals who attend the school are, Greg sings a song about putting molasses on their potatoes. This is stopped by the owner of the school who comes and takes all the instruments away and sends the animals to bed. Greg wants to make the world a better place, so he goes and steals the instruments back in order to hold a concert fundraiser for the school. When the gorilla attacks the concert, Wirt falls on it and the head falls off the gorilla costume, revealing the school teacher's lost love who has been trapped in the costume. Greg conducts a rendition of his song "Potatoes and Molasses" to celebrate.

This chapter of *Over the Garden Wall* is perhaps the sweetest chapter, and the least creepy. The young school animals are all drawn to look extremely cute, and the story revolves mainly around Greg, who's childish innocence makes the episode more magical. Greg simply wants to make the world a better place just by spreading joy. At first, Beatrice despises this attitude, but in the end accepts it and tells Wirt to let Greg have fun before they continue on their journey to find Adelaide. Aside from the "gorilla" attack, nothing scary happens in this episode and the tone is lighter than most of the chapters in this miniseries. Wirt can be annoying in this chapter since his already boring character continues to show how immature he is, but even Beatrice comes to accept him for who he is in the end. Overall, this is a delightful chapter in the miniseries.