

The Defenders

**ANIMATED SERIES
PROPOSAL**



INTRODUCTION

In our age of reality TV, media stars, easy success, cynicism and political disinterest, there are still a few keep who keep the flame of civicism burning, fighters against injustice, dreamers of a fairer world where everyone can live in peace. These idealists look towards a fabulous future where everyone is equal, happiness is not bought, where war and poverty are relegated to the history books. Yes, you may laugh them away, but they are there.

You might where one can find such dreamers?

Deep; lost in the suburbs, hidden in the supermarket queues is a new breed of revolutionaries equipped with nothing but a dream to question the rules. Their voice echoes in our sprawling towns, the cry of social justice runs wild in the corridors of the countries housing estates. A new generation of young people will no longer accept misery and they are prepared to fight for their beliefs. This new generation is cynical of the cynics, laughing at the sophists, unable to justify the market place to themselves, they want to redress the balance, to build a fairer, safer world, with pure, sacred ideals. This noble, valiant spirit is the foundation of this proposal.

PROPOSAL

- A teenage / adult animation series made up of 26min episodes.
- The series comical collection of stories involving a less than competent group of part-time anarchists who live in a forgotten "new town".
- The group of young revolutionaries are motivated, naïf, likable and completely incompetent. Their enemy is injustice; their goal is universal happiness!
- The group's adventures are full as they are ridiculous, the enemy as devious as any monster. The characters are well rounded, clear and expandable. The subjects are inexhaustible.
- This fast paced, energetic acerbic and often absurd animated series talks to the youth of today (and their cynicism), taking on pertinent and provocative subjects with derision.

TARGET AUDIENCE

15 - Adult.

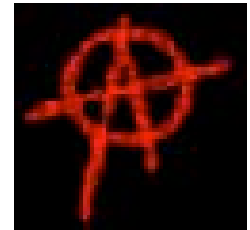
THE GOOD

BEAUVOIR POPULAR FRONT (BPF)

Definition

an·ar·chism (a_n__r-k_z'_m)n

1. The theory or doctrine that all forms of government are oppressive and undesirable and should be abolished.
2. Active resistance and terrorism against the state, as used by some anarchists.
3. Rejection of all forms of coercive control and authority: "He was inclined to anarchism; he hated system and organization and uniformity" (Bertrand Russell).



DESCRIPTION

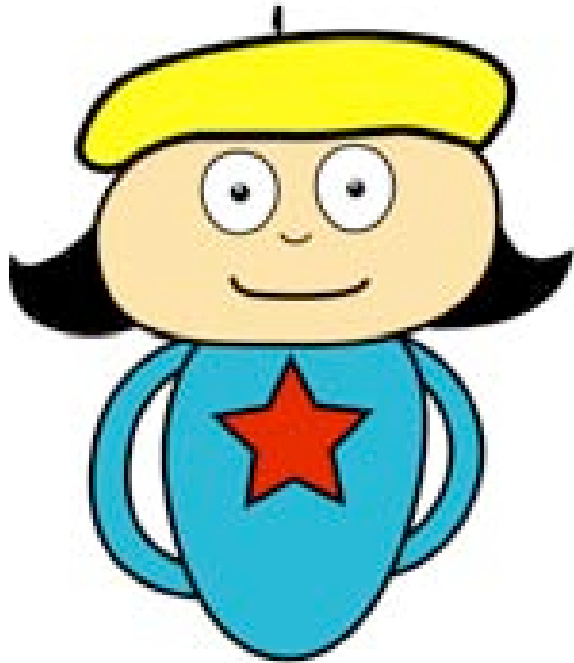
The BEAUVOIR POPULAR FRONT (BPF) is a local underground group of young pacifists who fight for the revolution but without hurting anybody. They organise 'actions' in the town of BEAUVOIR, applying their own sort of justice against the corrupt MAYOR DUPONT.

They are environmentalists, anti-car, anti-rich, anti-poor, anti-media, anti-right, anti-left; they are against any establishment, even if they are the first to take advantage of it.

They're fight for the people even if the people are disdainful of them. They fight as best they can, using anarcho-democracy that boils down to doing an awful lot more talking than fighting. Their primary goal is to liberate Beavoir from the MAYOR.

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

GAELE



Founder and leader of the BPF, she is small, active, passionate, kind, vegetarian, tomboy, who is a studious, serious, energetic, militant and very revolutionary.

She has the voice of a little girl, is seemingly naïve but behind the façade is a ruthless revolutionary with a virtually schizophrenic ability to 'fly off the handle' when she doesn't get her way. This sulphurous temperament, capable of acts of violence adds up to an explosive personality. ANTOINE secretly loves her for this, but she says that she has no time for petty bourgeois emotions such as love (which is of course untrue.)

Inspired by Ché Guevara and Bonny, her dream is to live the clandestine life yet she loves her scrawny cat CHÉ too much to leave him. She is very conscious of the problems of the world but blind to the problems that surround her.

When not studying at the local art polytechnic or organising actions, she enjoys playing the guitar very badly.

SANDRINE



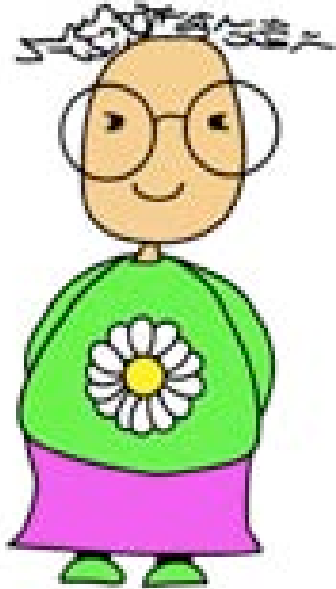
GAELE's little sister, she is her antithesis. She is blonde, sexy, vain, venal, vacuous, chatty little princess who is an easy lay (but only for the cause of course).

Even if she is not a true revolutionary, she often the best weapon the BPF have.

Her great ambitions are to marry ANTOINE, who she follows relentlessly and to win 'Stars in your eyes'.

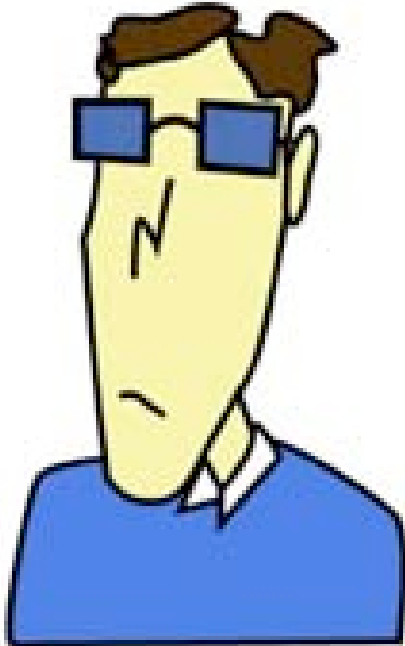
She works as the receptionist in the abattoir where is constantly harassed by the owners sons.

LATIFA



LATIFA is the ecologist of the group. She is mad about animals, sweet, well-meaning, naif, slow, romantic and always ready to listen. She loves to create inedible vegetarian meals, world music and camping. It is her good nature that gets her into all sorts of difficulties. She has an extraordinary talent, an ability to talk to the animals and plants. Even if the group is sceptical of her claim, she always seems to be very well informed. She is suspected of being a lesbian, lives with her widowed father and is studying sociology at the local University.

ANTOINE



ANTOINE

The young 'beau' from the rich family, he is shy, opinionated, intellectual, often insensitive to those around him and inflexible. He believes all he reads, is anti Sport (drug of the masses) anti-men, pro anything that GAELE says. He believes fervently in the struggle and is prepared to do anything to advance it, as long as he is back home by midnight. To show his revolutionary intent, he always wears a leather jacket and sunglasses yet he is very sensitive of his short extreme sightedness.

He is secretly in love with GAELE but resist showing the slightest affections. When she gets angry, he often loses his sexual continence. He is SANDRINE's unofficial fiancé, but will not commit until they have won the revolution.

He strives against all women oppression, would like to be a vegetarian but he is allergic to LATIFA's cooking and dreams being as cool as Andreas Baader.

He is a history student in the private college.

GASTON



GASTON

The well-meaning street urchin, GASTON is slow, stupid and deeply in love with SANDRINE. He is part of the group because he has no other friends. He has little interest in politics, is depressive, always sick and always moaning that he does not a girl.

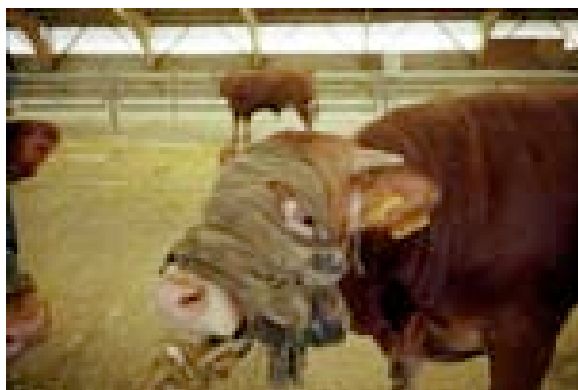
At the orphanage, he learnt how to be a great petty the criminal but he doesn't like it. He works in the florist as MR. GODOWSKI's assistant. He is housed in a first floor council flat, which is where the group meets.

He will follow the group anywhere, as long as there is a hope of meeting girls. He always listens attentively to the Group's discussion and tries his hardest to understand something.

The others often belittle him as he has a tendency to ask pertinently stupid.

He has a rust bucket car, which the group uses even though it is against their principles.

SECONDARY CHARACTERS



THE CATTLE

Ganged up in a huge tower block are the poor cattle that feed the abattoir next door. Most of them are unaware of the fate that awaits them, but there are some who have realised that it is best not to follow the crowd. They herd the others through the difficult ordeal moving from the tower block to the abattoir, by pushing them to the front of the queue.

With LATIFA's fantastic talent of being able to talk to them, they are the group's best ally. The leaders are always cynical, coarse, with a sharp sense of humour often quite philosophical of their lot.

THE PARENTS

The group's parents are never seen but often heard and are a great menace to the group's security.

LE BRAS FAMILY

GABELLE's and SANDRINE's parents are always arguing with GABELLE. SANDRINE is just like her mother and the family pride and joy. Both parents work at the abattoir, the father a floor manager, his wife is his secretary. Father loves his dog and hunt and his wife only resents that she is married to him.

BEAUGRAND FAMILY

ANTOINE's bourgeois family, life is comfort and security, tradition and etiquette crushing this longstanding, local family. The family 'castle' is hidden in plush land in the suburbs of Beauvoir. The father is a large landowner and executive director of the family sausage factory. But these old fashions values hide a dark family tradition of unfaithfulness.

ZOO FAMILY

LATIPA's father is a widower who works for the local government as a handy man. He is everyone's friendly foreigner who never causes a problem. Even if he is excruciatingly nice to his neighbours, he is always arguing with his daughter, who resents his being so amenable to the neighbours. He is often ridiculed by MAYOR DUPONT, who abuses his privilege as his employer.

MR. GODOWSKI

Warm and always happy to see the group, MR. GODOWSKI is florist who stands up to the ambitions of the local council. His flower shop in the centre of the Beauvoir estate is the greatest symbol of GAILLE convictions. Even if MR. GODOWSKI is a fighter, he is not political and certainly not an anarchist. He employs GASTON as his assistant, even if there is not enough work for two people. He is always optimistic as he is often reminded of his miserable past that he never wishes to talk about.

MRS. BERYL

Owner of the BELVIEW CAFÉ, she is the host of the local meeting point of the estate. She is a woman her fifties but she will never admit it. She is malicious, petty and small-minded. Her life is fed with gossip, which she is, often as not, is the creator of. She only accepts that the group enters her 'fine' establishment because she adores SANDRINE. But this does not stop her from mocking the others.

THE SAGE

This mysterious character often appears when the group is really stuck. He is a bum who spends most of his life at the BELVIEW CAFÉ propping up the bar. But behind the alcoholic front, there is always a truth. MRS BERYL is naturally contemptuous of him but he is undoubtedly her best client.

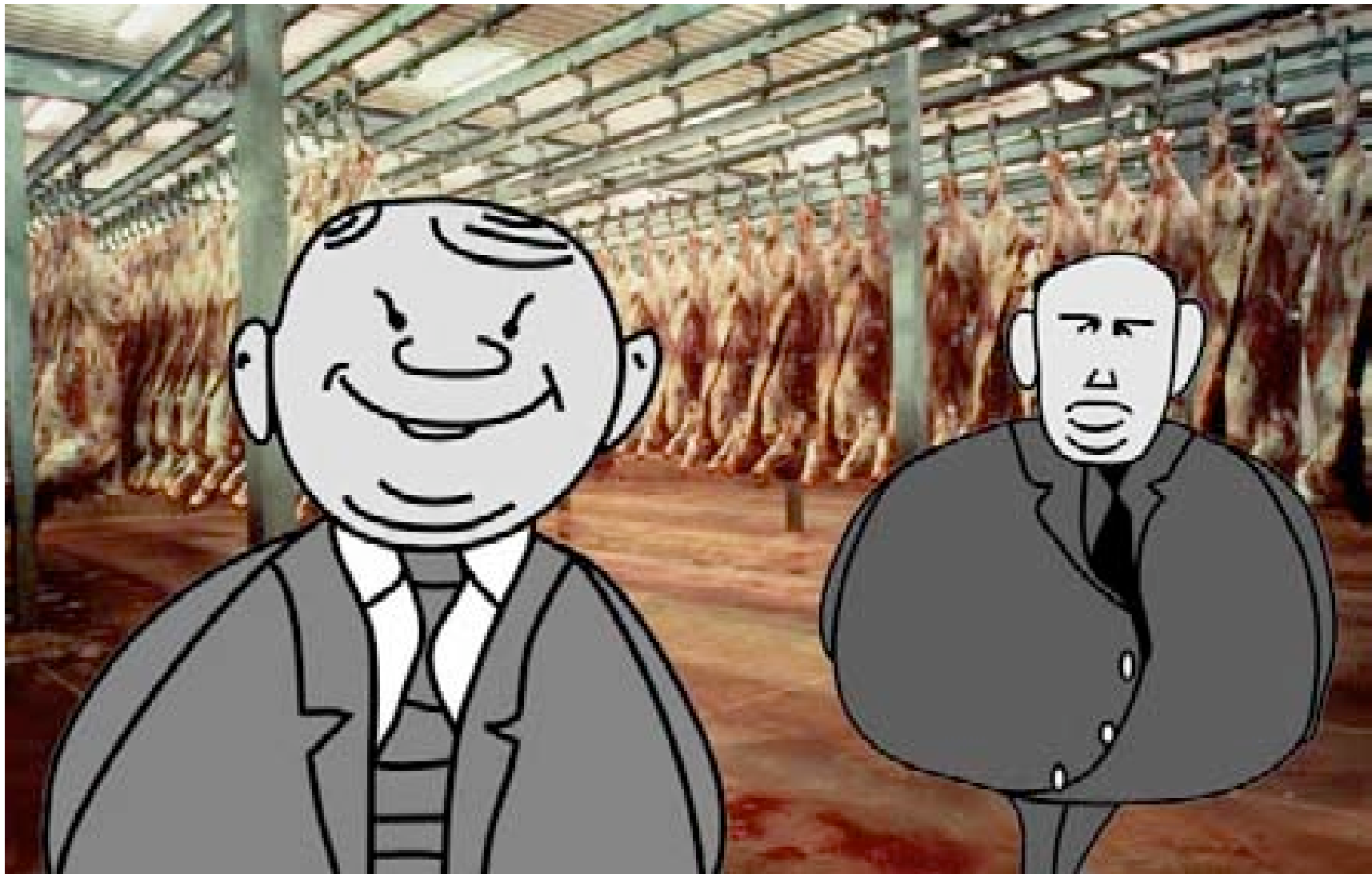
THE NEIGHBOURS IN TOWER BLOCK

The block is a microcosm of the town. There are the old, the young, the families, the forgotten, the wise, the mad, the foreigners and they are all one under the penthouse of the DUPONT family. For the most part they are happy with their lives and have no interest in the revolution.

The characters are too numerous mention, but suffice to say that there is a huge variety.

THE BAD &

THE UGLY



MAYOR DUPONT & HIS FAMILY



MAYOR DUPONT

Mayor and boss of the abattoir, MAYOR DUPONT is the master of BEAUVOIR. He is the king of the town and his wife its queen and that suits them just fine. He is proud, manipulative, unscrupulous, egotistical, populist, untrustworthy, cruel and small minded. He is a snake with the most 'pleasant' smile.

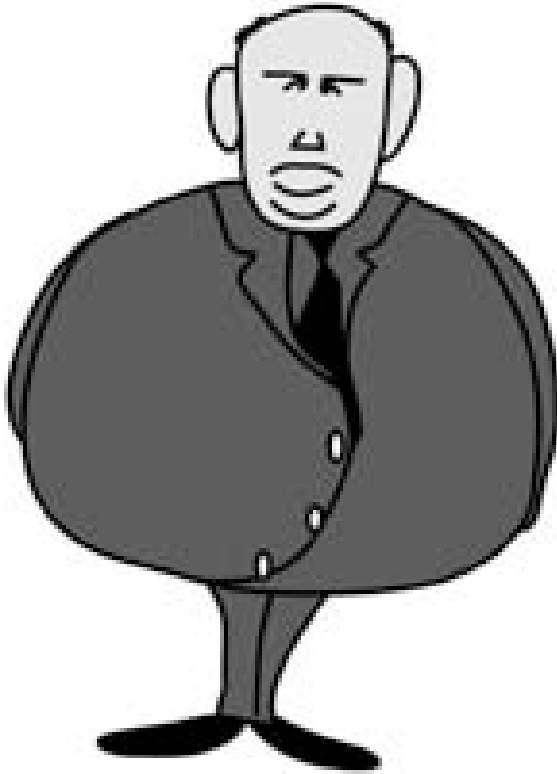
He is also the biggest employer in the town as he is the owner of the abattoir. His greatest passion is butchery, which performs with pride and joy on anything he can. There, you see his true colours.

MRS. DUPONT

As with her husband, she comes from a poor family and married him young. Yet with his success, she has easily slipped into the expensive life becoming a veritable local queen. Her life is a series of lunch parties, gossip, shopping and organising galas for her husband. Her has a weakness for SANDRINE and her little dog BRIGITTE.

THE DUPONT SONS - THIERRY & SYLVAIN

THIERRY and SYLVANT are the true heirs of their father's domain. Each is as mean as the other, each a pretender to the throne but neither has an ounce of charm. They are constantly fighting for SANDRINE's hand



Mr. MELDOCH

Owner of the local shopping centre, he is a crook with big ideas. He is MAYOR DUPONT's machiavellian adviser, dreaming up schemes to exploit everyone.

He is cold, power hungry and a formidable schemer.

THE SHADOWS

The shadows are a group of local thugs. MAYOR DUPONT is proud of his personal army that surveys his domain. The corridor menace, you never see their face as they are always hidden under their sweat hoods.

LOACTION FEEL

The world is cold, hard and graphically interpreted, influenced by cubism and collage. The backgrounds will be a mix of collages photos and paintings, exaggerating the situation.





BEAUVOIR

BEAUVOIR is a poor, new town. It is grey concrete, built in the 60's to house the local chemical factory workers. Now the factory is closed and has been replaced by the biggest abattoir in the world, owned by MAYOR DUPONT.

The town is built on the outskirts of the factory. Naturally, the factory dictates life for all the employees, which is just about everyone.

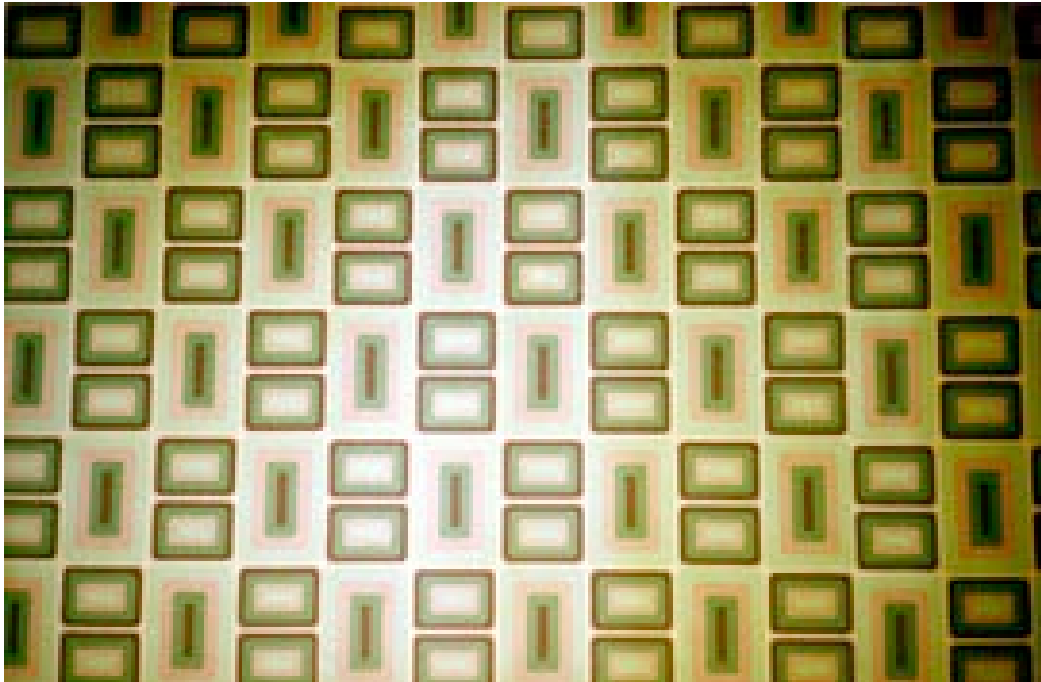
The young people hang out in the crumbling corridors, a lost generation to the excess of modern life. The local meeting point for them is the BELVIEW CAFE and if there is a municipal life, it is all but dead.

In the numerous towers that encircle MR GODOWSKI's florist, the apartments of the poorest are on the ground floor; the richest in the penthouses. Naturally MAYOR DUPONT has the largest apartment of them all. The closest block to the abattoir houses the cattle that feed it.

Hidden in a dingy apartment on the first floor, lives GASTON and it is from here that the FCP meets.



ABATTOIR



GASTON'S APARTMENT



DUPONT'S FRONT ROOM



MR. GODOWSKI FLORIST



BEVIEW CAFE

GRAPHIC REFERENCE

The graphic style of the series is highly influenced by animation of the 20's & 30's. The characters are constructed with simple forms, clean, lines, using circles and a large dose of innocence. The good guys are very expressive and elastic whilst the bad are angular and heavy set.







SYNOPSIS SELECTION

1. SUPER BIO

The BPF conceive and attack a field of GM wheat. They eventually burn the field only to realize that it is the wrong one and worse still the burning one is owned by ANTIONE's father.

2. THE WAR OF THE ROSES

A gay couple move into the flat above GASTON. Initially the group is very happy with the new arrivals until they realise that the new neighbours are fervent capitalists. Inviting the block to an "open flat" party, they make fools of the group in front of the guests. Sceptical, GAELLE investigates the couple, discovering that they are the leaders of a perverts group. Breaking into the flat, the group find it has been turned into a dungeon for conducting sick experiments on the local animals. The BFP go on the offensive.

3. IT'S ALL LIES

The local media arrives when a much publicised refugee family moves into the ground floor. The block is horrified and GAELLE takes up their cause, protecting them from a lynching mob. Yet things change when they discover that MAYOR DUPONT bought them as a publicity stunt. Turning on the family, she denounces them and they are relocated to become slaves at the abattoir. But GAELLE is filled with remorse and the group tries to free only to fail.

4. THE RALLY

The BPF infiltrates a bourgeois ball with the intention of closing it, but the opposite happens. SANDRINE seduces the rugby team, which makes ANTOINE very jealous. GASTON takes a taste for rich, stuck

up girls who want a little "rough". But GAELLE and LATIFA save the mission, disentangling GASTON from the girls.

5. THE SHOPPING EXPEDITION

The BPF attack Mr. MELDOCH's newly built super market, aiming to deface all the labels. Getting in is easy but their exit becomes blocked by the HOODS. They eventually negotiate their escape when SANDRINE does a striptease for them.

6. FIRST OF MAY

The BPF organises a May First parade. During the parade, the float loses its breaks and ANTOINE is knocked down. When he wakes up, he believes that he is MUSSOLINI. His alter ego takes the microphone, declaring his intention to make BEAUVOIR strong again. A friendly crowd assembles but the anxious MAYOR DUPONT threatens ANTOINE to shut up or suffer the consequences. ANTOINE wakes up just as he is about to pronounce his engagement to SANDRINE.

7. MAD COWS

The CATTLE in the abattoir go on strike, demanding better conditions. LATIFA helps them to escape from their TOWER BLOCK in the hope of squatting Mr. MELDOCH's Supermarket. After the accidental killing of a policeman, the cattle have to fight their way back to the tower block.

8. THE HUNTING CONFERENCE

MAYOR DUPONT proudly opens BEAUVOIR's first Hunting and Gun conference. During the opening ceremony, the police take GAELLE hostage and torture her by forcing her to watch hunting films. The BPF organise

a rescue, only to be foiled. MAYOR DUPONT takes the opportunity to encourage the red necks to hunt the anarchists.

9. THE ALIENS

LATIFA dreams that a strange circle in a sunflower field is an extraterrestrial landing strip. She goes mad with this idea, dragging the rest of the group to a nocturnal meeting with the Martians. But after exchanging gifts and SANDRINE seducing the captain, they discover that they are a cloning experiment in advanced intelligence and they are all looking for their father, Adolf.

10. THE PARTY

To celebrate BEAUVOIR's thirtieth birthday, MAYOR DUPONT organises a Roman themed weekend. Building an arena for Roman games, the BPF try to save the animals only to find them trapped and forced to become gladiators against the hungry wild beasts. Just as they are about to be mauled, GAELLE's parents realise what they is happening and the crowd saves them.

11. DESPERATE LOVE

Even more depressed than usual because he can't find a girlfriend, GASTON decides to become a woman. Dreaming of being SANDRINE, GAELLE and LATIFA begrudgingly help him to fulfil his dream. But on his coming out day, all goes well until the chief of the SHADOWS takes a shine to hime

12. THE OLDS

The BPF discovers that the abattoir has gone into the funeral business and the corpses from the local old people's home are finding their way into the cattle's food. The group decide to help the old people

to escape but the plan back fires when they discover that the old people are all happy to die as soon as possible. Perplexed, the group discuss the merits of euthanasia before helping the occupants to their demise.

13. DREAM PENTHOUSE

GASTON is seduced by LOLO, a porno starlet who has just moved into the apartment above arrived. Promising to turning to turn him into a porno star, GASTON turns his back on the group , leaving them without a place to meet. All their plans to save GASTON from LOLO fail until ANTOINE finds a picture of GASTON in a very compromised position, playing with his "squirrel" playing with a real squirrel. Ridiculed by all of BEAUVOIR, GASTON apologises to the group and LOLO leaves the block in the arms of a muscle builder.

14. WINTER

GABELLE opens a "soup kitchen" in GASTON's apartment and the whole estate lines up to get the free food. But soon enough their reserve dry up and the crowd turns against them.

15. GAËLLE TOMBE AMOUREUSE D'UNE MOTARD

During a hot summer, a group of bikers arrive in Beauvoir. Seduced by a young biker, GABELLE falls for one of them and to follow him on the open road. But after an evening of passion, he dumps her and drives off. Her anger against men is so strong that she dreams of becoming a man killer and starts stalking men in the corridor. Fear paralyses the estate as rumours of a stalker send the HOOD's running home. GABELLE is saved from capture by SANDRINE when she tries to kill ANTOINE.

16. **HOLLYWOOD**

A film crew come to BEAUVOIR to film a car chase around MISTER GODOWSKI's florist. The scheming designs a plan MAYOR to be 'accidentally' rid of the nuance florist. As the film needs an explosion, MAYOR DUPONT secretly gets the SHADOWS to move the explosives into MISTER GODOWSKI's shop. But the plot is foiled when the earthworms inform LATIFA and the BLF moves the explosives to the abattoir.

17. **WOMEN'S LIBERATION**

The group attacks a brothel hoping to liberate the enslaved women, but all goes wrong when ANTOINE discovers his father being beaten by 3 Philippine midgets. The midgets send a blackmail letter to the MAYOR who tries to exploit them, only to come unstuck when the group send compromising photos of him with GERALD the gerbil. The liberated women get jobs in the abattoir and find it so dull that they open the brothel again.