

BOB MARLEY'S
THREE little **BIRDS**

Synopsis

In Cattawood Springs, Jamaica, the townspeople are enjoying the beautiful weather and singing a medley of “One Love” and “Jammin’.” Ziggy is looking for his mother, Cedella, but when he can’t find her, he sneaks back inside his house to watch television. When his mother finds him, she encourages him to go outside and have fun. But Ziggy is an anxious child—he is concerned about hurricanes and tropical storms. He asks when his father will be back from fishing and she assures him he will be back by dinner time and forces him outside to enjoy the day.

He runs into Nansi who greets him, complimenting his hair, but he ignores her. This attracts Duppy, an evil spirit bird, who is attracted to his hair. He sings “Natural Mystic” and explains that he has been collecting hair since 1596. We learn he needs young people’s hair to keep his spirit on the ground. More hair means more power!

Ziggy is back in his room with his three birds: Doctor Bird, Tacoomah, and Montego. Doctor Bird teases him about how Nansi has a crush on him. Ziggy wishes Nansi would just go live on the other side of the Blue Mountains. Doctor Bird explains how beautiful it is on the other side of the mountain and offers to take Ziggy, but he refuses. They sing “So Much Trouble in the World.” During this, Duppy is peeking through Ziggy’s window.

Cedella enters and thinks something is wrong. She explains that she can feel Duppy drawing near, but that Ziggy’s hair will keep him safe. Just in case, she counts to eight because counting to eight is unlucky for Duppy. Nansi appears and asks if Ziggy can come outside to play. Ziggy refuses to play with Nansi, saying that she cheats at games, and they sing “Lively Up Yourself.”

Cedella leaves to go to work where she sells jerk chicken to tourists at the ocean port. Ziggy worries that a hurricane will hit the port and his mother will be lost. She acknowledges that hurricanes can be scary, but not to worry today. She asks Ziggy and Nansi to fetch water from the well for tonight’s supper, and then come to the port to visit her at work. Ziggy refuses to come until he checks the weather report.

Nansi begins to sing and play “Brown Girl in the Ring” by herself. Ziggy asks her to go away, but she has a gift for him. She promises that it is a special gift, but she pulls out a spider. Ziggy exclaims that it is disgusting, but Nansi thinks the spider is beautiful. She reveals she named the spider Baby Ziggy.

They set off to get the water, but Nansi wants to go straight to the ocean port. Ever the trickster, she plays a few tricks on Ziggy. He sings a medley of “Is This Love” and “Don’t Rock My Boat” with the birds. Again, we see Duppy try to catch Ziggy.

Ziggy and Nansi are exploring the island but Ziggy is anxious. They begin to argue and sing “Riding High.” The two separate and Duppy begins to follow Ziggy. A moment later, Nansi returns to apologize, but finds he is gone.

Ziggy laments that he didn’t stay home to watch television. He and Doctor Bird sing “I Know.” Ziggy tries to get Doctor Bird to see his side of the argument. Doctor Bird talks to him about forgiving Nansi and exploring the island with her. They sing “One Love.” We learn about Doctor Bird’s history and meet his ancestors from Spain, Britain, Africa, China, and India. As each ancestor joins the song, they bring their own beat and rhythm which affects the song and dance. Soon, we have a song that is influenced by each of the ancestors and reflects all of them. Each counts in their own language and brings their own traditional dance. Once again, we see Duppy try to catch Ziggy.

Nansi is still trying to find Ziggy to apologize. Duppy approaches her and asks to play. Nansi can sense this is a trick but doesn't realize it is Duppy. She thinks Ziggy is trying to trick her, so she decides to trick him back. Ziggy enters and runs into Duppy. He compliments his hair, but Ziggy thinks it is Nansi playing a trick on him, so he tricks Duppy into thinking a hurricane is coming and hides with Nansi. They realize that they can't be tricking each other if they are both hiding in the same spot and realize who Duppy really is! A chase ensues while singing "Running Away." Ziggy forces Nansi to offer her pet spider as a gift to Duppy. Duppy finds the spider adorable and they all count the legs. When they count to eight, Duppy's hair begins to fall off. The kids keep counting to eight in order to defeat him. Duppy exits crying, and the kids go to the ocean port.



They arrive at the ocean port and tell the story of what happened. Ziggy explains that Nansi tricked him to come see her and see the whole island, how Doctor Bird taught him about the history of Jamaica, and how they defeated Duppy. Ziggy asks if he can go to the other side of the island to meet Doctor Bird's family and his mother gives him permission as long as he takes Nansi with him. They greet the tourists by singing "Smile Jamaica."