

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS:
"WAR OF THE CHEAPSKATES"

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EXT. BIKINI BOTTOM. DAWN

NARRATOR

Ah! Bikini Bottom! As the sun
begins to creep over the horizon,
everyone is still asleep.

BOOM! The door of the Krusty Krab slams open as Spongebob
declares:

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Everyone except Spongebob
Squarepants!

SPONGEBOB

Good morning, Bikini Bottom!

He grabs a megaphone and yelps:

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)

Let's make this the
best...day...ever!

The word "ever" echoes through the town, awakening:

SQUIDWARD

Is it time to be miserable already?

He goes back to sleep, but Spongebob's echo comes back to
wake him once more.

ECHO

Ever! Ever! Ever! Ever!

The word "EVER" slips through his window, drags Squidward out
of bed and drops him down the stairs.

SQUIDWARD (O.S.)

Ow.

CUT TO:

THE KRUSTY KRAB

Spongebob closes up shop.

SPONGEBOB

Cleaning the toilets with my hands
took all night, but I only had to
pay Mr. Krabs fifty bucks!

AWOOOGAH!!! The foghorn ALARM on his watch goes off!

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)

Oh boy! It's time to go back to work!

Though he has the key, Spongebob leaps onto the window, pressing his face against the glass in a maniacal grin as he awaits Mr Krabs' arrival.

CUT TO:

MR KRABS

Happily counting money as he walks to work, Mr. Krabs accidentally drops a dime, which rolls into Goo Lagoon.

MR. KRABS

No! Me dime! Come back here, beautiful!

He follows the coin into the lagoon, where it is quickly scooped up by a giant, hideous SEA MONSTER.

The Sea Monster flips the coin into his mouth, swallowing it.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

I guess you can keep the dime.

He walks away.

MR. KRABS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

When Davy Jones washes his gym socks!

He leaps at the monster and a brawl ensues!

CUT TO:

THE KRUSTY KRAB

His face still plastered against the glass, Spongebob realizes that:

SPONGEBOB

Mr. Krabs is....late?

He starts to freak out, when BOOM! The ground shakes violently! Spongebob begins to slide down the glass.

BOOM! He slides off completely. BOOM! Spongebob bounces off of the glass, leaving his clothes behind. Naked, he turns and faces the source of the sounds:

A giant, pre-fabricated RESTAURANT being dropped right next to the Krusty Krab!

The smoke clears and we see the sign says:

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
"El Cheapo Tacos"?

ZOOM! Spongebob is run over by Mr. Krabs, who slams the doors shut and hides.

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
Mr. Krabs! Let me in! Mr--

SWOOSH! Spongebob is pulled inside and the doors are slammed shut once again. He looks around the darkened restaurant but his boss is nowhere to be found.

What's worse, the sign says "Sorry, we're"--

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
Closed? Noooooooooooo!!!!

Spongebob drops to his knees, crying.

CUT TO:

THE FRONT DOOR

An exhausted Squidward notices the "Closed" sign.

SQUIDWARD
Yesssssssss!

He drops to his knees, happy as a clam, then takes off running for home.

Meanwhile, inside the Krusty Krab.....

SPONGEBOB
We can't be closed! We just can't!
Mr. Kr--

His mouth is covered by a big, meaty claw!

MR. KRABS
Quiet boy! He'll hear ya!

SPONGEBOB
Mr. Krabs?

He looks around and notices there is no body attached to the claw!

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)

Ah!

Another claw covers his mouth, this one still attached to a disheveled and frightened Mr. Krabs.

MR. KRABS

I can't believe he found me!

SPONGEBOB

Who, sir?

MR. KRABS

El Cheapo!

SPONGEBOB

El Cheap--

Krabs covers his mouth with both claws, then walks away, armless.

MR. KRABS

It was many years ago. I was a young lad, still learning the ways of cheapness!

F/B 30 YEARS AGO. A TACO SHOP

A young Mr. Krabs works at the counter, wearing a sombrero.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)

I was working at this little taco shop.

FRED THE FISH bursts through the doors, his fin on fire!

FRED

Water! Water!

Mr. Krabs dumps a glass of water on him, putting the fire out.

FRED (CONT'D)

You saved my life!

MR. KRABS

That'll be fifty dollars, please!

MR. KRABS (V.O.)

That was when...HE walked in.

The doors swing open and in walks EL CHEAPO, a large crab dressed in black, a BULLWHIP by his side.

The wind seems to whisper:

WIND
El Cheapo!

His eyes meet Krabs' in an epic stare down.

MR. KRABS
What'll it be?

WIND
El Cheapo!

MR. KRABS
Well?

We hear the wind whisper once more, except this time we see it's been coming from Fred the Fish!

FRED
El Cheapo!

El Cheapo CRACKS his whip and steals Fred's mouth!

MR KRABS (V.O.)
I don't know if it was the sound of his voice, but what he said next made me sick to me stomach!

EL CHEAPO
I'll have a taco.....for free!

MR. KRABS
Fuh...fuh...fruh...free?

Krabs keels over and faints. The CASHIER opens the register and the smell of money revives him. He spies a sign over the register: "Tacos: \$1.00 each".

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
I decided to teach him a lesson!

MR. KRABS
That'll be one thousand dollars!

CRACK! El Cheapo's whip strikes each and every patron, removing their money. DOUBLE CRACK! He hits Fred's pockets twice.

Cheapo hands the money to Mr. Krabs who puts a dollar into the cash register and the rest into his pocket.

Krabs serves Cheapo HALF of a taco shell with a tiny amount of beef and cheese!

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)
Your taco, sir!

El Cheapo stares at the taco, then at Mr. Krabs.

EL CHEAPO
You're pretty cheap, kid. But me?
I'm magic!

CRACK! In the blink of an eye, the taco is gone, the cash register is empty and El Cheapo has disappeared!

WIND
El Cheapo!

Mr. Krabs stands there, his mouth open in shock. CRACK! The money is gone from Krab's pocket! DOUBLE CRACK! Krab's pants are gone, too!

MR. KRABS
Master!

CUT TO:

EXT. A MOUNTAIN

Young Mr. Krabs climbs the mountain, sweaty, thirsty and exhausted.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
One of me goals in life was to be
the cheapest crab that ever lived!
But El Cheapo had me beat! I
decided to track him down. The
journey was long and dangerous.

He looks behind him and we see he's only about a hundred feet away from the Taco shack.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
He lived on the edge of town in a
beautiful mansion!

The "mansion" is a used Styrofoam food container with multiple holes in it. Krabs stares nervously at the door knock, which is made of cardboard toilet paper tubes.

Suddenly, the door opens, and CRACK! El Cheapo's whip pulls Mr. Krabs in.

INT. EL CHEAPO'S HOUSE. CONTINUOUS

Krabs lay on the floor before El Cheapo, who is seated upon a chair made from a broken toilet.

EL CHEAPO
What do you want?

MR. KRABS
To be as cheap as you! Please teach
me! Please, please, please!

He cries. CRACK! The whip removes Mr. Krab's wallet.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)
Me money! Give it back!

El Cheapo opens the wallet and removes the \$5 bill inside.
The FACE ON THE MONEY coughs and blinks.

FACE ON MONEY
My eyes! My eyes!

He flips the money over and reads the writing on it:

EL CHEAPO
"To Eugene: Happy first birthday!
Love, Aunt Millie."

El Cheapo tosses the wallet back at Mr. Krabs.

EL CHEAPO (CONT'D)
Impressive. That must've been in
your wallet for 20 years.

MR. KRABS
Twenty three years, six months, and
seven days, to be exact! Oh, please
Mr. Cheapo! Take me on as your
apprentice!

El Cheapo thinks it over.

EL CHEAPO
Would you take candy from a baby?

Krabs pulls a BABY from thin air and takes the candy from his
hand.

EL CHEAPO (CONT'D)
Would you overcharge your own
mother?

Krab's MOTHER appears at the front door!

KRAB'S MOTHER

Eugene! You cheated me out of seven cents!

Krabs slams the door in his mother's face.

EL CHEAPO

Learning the ways of cheapness can be a scary thing. I don't know if you're ready!

MR. KRABS

I'm ready! I'm not afraid!

C/U El Cheapo's face.

EL CHEAPO

You will be. You..will...be!

He stands up and the broken toilet flushes!

TRAINING MONTAGE

As Cheapo watches, Krabs chases a bunch of small oysters. He manages to catch one, and it spits out a pearl!

CRACK! El Cheapo whips the pearl out of Krabs' claw. NEXT...

El Cheapo holds Krabs and a bunch of junk yard WORMS on a leash, then flings a juicy steak with a dollar attached to it. He drops the leash, and Krabs grabs the steak first, but a worm eats his arm. NEXT....

A blindfolded Krabs must smell every piece of money Cheapo puts in front of him and guess.

MR. KRABS

Sniff. Sniff. Twenty Dollars!

Cheapo rips the bill in half and tries again.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

Sniff. Sniff. Ten dollars!

NEXT....As Cheapo drops coins on the floor, a blindfolded Krabs identifies them by sound!

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

That was a nickel!

Cheapo rubs the same nickle under his arm pit and tosses it, trying to trick him.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

That was the same nickel covered in
armpit hair!

We see Krabs chasing the oysters once more, catching them all as they spit pearls into his hand. CRACK! This time, Krabs catches the whip and stuffs the pearls into his pocket. NEXT:

Krabs vs. the worms once more! This time, he recovers the money, cooks the steak and feeds it to the worms, all in a split second! Impressed, Cheapo smiles proudly.

INT. EL CHEAPO'S HOUSE

EL CHEAPO

Eugene, I've taught you everything
I know about being cheap.

MR. KRABS

So I'm ready to go out and rip off
the world?

EL CHEAPO

Not yet. There's one last test you
must pass.

He shows Krabs a green-stoned ring on his finger.

EL CHEAPO (CONT'D)

When you can grab this ring from me
claw, you can go!

Krabs makes a grab for it. CRACK! The pearls are taken from his pocket. He tries grabbing the ring with two hands. DOUBLE CRACK! He loses his shirt, then his pants!

MR. KRABS

Good grief! I'm naked!

MONTAGE

Krabs tries unsuccessfully to remove the ring when El Cheapo is sleeping, eating, in the bathroom, taking a shower, all to no avail. Each failure is met with a thunderous CRACK of the whip that takes his pants away.

INT. EL CHEAPO'S HOUSE

A bunk bed. Krabs sleeps on the bottom bunk as El Cheapo snores loudly from the top, his claw hanging off the bed.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
I tried to get that blasted ring
for three months, with no luck.
Then, one day, it hit me!

SPONGEBOB (O.S.)
An idea?

The ring slips off of El Cheapo's hand and strikes Krabs on the head. He picks it up.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
I was going to wake El Cheapo and
show him that I had passed the
test!

He almost does it, but takes a good look at the ring, instead.

MR. KRABS (V.O.)
But the ring was so shiny and
green, the same color as me
favorite thing in all the world:
money! I just couldn't give it
back.

We see Krabs slip the ring in his pocket and leave the house.
End of flashback.

THE KRUSTY KRAB. PRESENT DAY

SPONGEBOB
Mr. Krabs! You took El Cheapo's
ring?

MR. KRABS
No, lad! I just decided to borrow
it. Permanently! Don't ya see, boy?
I beat El Cheapo at his own game!

SPONGEBOB
So he's here to congratulate you?

MR. KRABS
No, dum dum! After all these years,
he's tracked me down! He wants his
own!

Krabs shows Spongebob the ring.

SPONGEBOB
Why don't you just give it back?

MR. KRABS
 And surrender me title as the
 cheapest crab in the sea ? Never!

WHAM! The doors of the Krusty Krab slam open and a gust of
 wind SWOOSHES in!

WIND
 El Cheapo!

MR. KRABS
 He's here!

SPONGEBOB
 Who's here?

WIND
 El Cheapo!

A dark figure appears at the door.

MR. KRABS
 Hide me, boy!

The dark figure walks in. It's Fred the Fish(pg. 4)
 whispering...

FRED
 El Cheapo!

SPONGEBOB
 Can I take your order?

FRED
 I'll have a krabby patty deluxe and
 a double-chilli kelp fries!

BOOM! Fred is run over by El Cheapo!

The two crabs eyes meet. Cheapo stares coldly while Krabs
 looks like he's about to cry. Spongebob breaks the tension.

SPONGEBOB
 Welcome to the Krusty--

CRACK! El Cheapo does not move, but somehow, his whip strikes
 Spongebob, removing his tie.

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
 Hey! My grandma gave me that tie!

CRACK! Cheapo's whip removes Spongebob's pants!

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
The Krusty Krab's employee dress
code prohibits nudity--

CRACK! Spongebob's Krusty Krab hat is gone! He looks up at his bare head and begins crying!

CRACK! The whip drops a fully-dressed Spongebob in front of the grill!

He happily throws a couple of krabby patties on it.

CUT TO:

KRABS AND EL CHEAPO

EL CHEAPO
You know what I've come for!

MR. KRABS
A double krabby patty with cheese?

EL CHEAPO
No! Besides, I hate cheese!

SPONGEBOB
You must be lactose intolerant like
Bubble Buddy! He used to get the
worst gas--

CRACK! The whip is wrapped around Spongebob's lips, preventing him from speaking. He still carries on, mumbling.

MR. KRABS
I don't know anything about your
ring--oops. Well, I'm not giving it
back!

EL CHEAPO
You know what this means?

MR. KRABS
I can keep it?

EL CHEAPO
It means....war!

CRACK! El Cheapo disappears, the doors are closed and the bullwhip is gone from Spongebob's mouth.

SPONGEBOB
....and it was around that time I
noticed I ripped my pants! Then--

Krabs looks outside the window and sees a HUGE line of patrons at El Cheapo Tacos!

He sounds an alarm and begins scrambling around frantically!

MR. KRABS

All hands on deck! Batten down the hatches! Man the cannons!

SPONGEBOB

What's wrong, Mr. Krabs? Did you lose a nickel again?

MR. KRABS

No, me boy! It's war!

SPONGEBOB

War?

MR. KRABS

War!

SPONGEBOB

War!

PATRICK

Oar!

Patrick appears from nowhere, an OAR in his hand. They begin chanting:

SPONGEBOB & PATRICK

Oar! Oar! Oar! Oar!

MR. KRABS

We need every man we've got!
Somebody find Squidward!

CUT TO:

SQUIDWARD SUNBATHING

A sweaty, panting, Spongebob and Patrick stand at the foot of his chair. He ignores them.

SPONGEBOB

Squidward! Get down to the Krusty Krab! It's an emergency!

SQUIDWARD

Did Mr. Krabs lose a nickel again?

SPONGEBOB
No! It's war!

PATRICK
Oar!

He holds up the oar as they chant:

SPONGEBOB & PATRICK
Oar! Oar! Oar! Oar!

SQUIDWARD
And here I thought it was something
stupid.

He goes back to ignoring them. BAM! Patrick accidentally whacks him with the oar! He flies through the air, landing inside the Krusty Krab.

Out of the darkness, we see Mr. Krab's face, covered in camouflage paint. He speaks in a hoarse whisper.

MR. KRABS
(whispering)
Squiiiiiiid-waaaaaaard!

SQUIDWARD
Yup. It's something stupid, all
right.

MR. KRABS
Horror...the horror...

SQUIDWARD
What are you talking about, Mr.
Krab's?!

MR. KRABS
He stole all me customers. All of
me money! It's war, Squidward. War!

Spongebob and Patrick BANG the door down and march in, carrying the:

SPONGEBOB & PATRICK
Oar! Oar! Oar! Oar!

SQUIDWARD
Can I be fired now, please?

MR. KRABS
Everyone to the war room!

SQUIDWARD

War room? Where the heck is the--

Mr. Krab's claw pinches Squidward's nose and drags him into:

THE BATHROOM

Krabs stands front and center as the rest of the "troops" are lined up in formation.

MR. KRABS

I'm gonna need one of you swabs to sneak into El Cheapo's place! Any volunteers?

A toilet flushes and Patrick exits, soaking wet, the oar tucked under his arm.

PATRICK

Boy! Those were some rough waves!

They turn to Patrick and smile wickedly.

EXT. THE KRUSTY KRAB

MR. KRABS

Buy one taco and bring it back here. Understand?

PATRICK

Duh.....

Drool drips from Patrick's mouth as Mr. Krabs tries to hand him a dollar. It seems like the money is stuck to Krab's claw with super glue. He hugs the dollar and begins to cry.

MR. KRABS

I can't do it! Don't worry, little dollar! Daddy's got ya!

He places the dollar back into his wallet.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

You're gonna have to use your own money, boy!

PATRICK

But I don't have any money! All I've got is this thousand dollar bill.

Patrick pulls out the bill. Mr. Krab's eyes light up.

MR. KRABS
I'll throw that out for you, lad!

He takes the money.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)
Forget about buying anything! Just
go in there and tell me what you
see!

INT. EL CHEAPO TACOS

Dozens of patrons scarf down the tasty tacos as El Cheapo
tosses shovel-fulls of cash into a large safe.

Patrick approaches the counter.

PATRICK
Duh.....

CRACK! El Cheapo's whip stuffs a taco into Patrick's mouth.
He swallows it whole.

PATRICK (CONT'D)
Oh boy! That was delicious!

EL CHEAPO
That'll be one dollar.

PATRICK
But I don't have any money.

EL CHEAPO
No.....money? No! Money?!

Patrick shivers with fear.

INT. MR. KRAB'S OFFICE

Krabs does his famous "money dance", Patrick's cash in his
hand. CRACK! El Cheapo's whip reaches through his window,
removing the cash from his claw!

Meanwhile, back at El Cheapo's Taco's.....

EL CHEAPO
Ok. We're good.

Cheapo does the Krabs "money dance" with Patrick's thousand
dollar bill.

INT. THE KRUSTY KRAB

Patrick glides in, a satisfied look on his face.

MR. KRABS

Well? What did you find out?

PATRICK

Duh.....

A smiling Patrick keels over and falls asleep. Krabs roars with aggravation.

MR. KRABS

Squidward! Front and center!

AWOOOGAH! The foghorn alarm on Spongebob's watch goes off! A tear runs down his face.

SPONGEBOB

It's 8pm? Time...to go home...?

A dejected Spongebob leaves the Krusty Krab in tears.

SQUIDWARD

Aw, too bad, Mr. Krabs! It's time to go home. Unless you wanna pay me...overtime!

Krabs YELPS in shock!

MR. KRABS

How dare you use such foul language in me presence? You go over to El Cheapo's place right now or you're fired!

Squidward is elated!

SQUIDWARD

Fired? You mean I never have to see Spongebob again? It's a deal!

He tries to walk out, but....

MR. KRABS

If you don't go, I'll tell Spongebob you want to be roommates!

ZOOM! Out of nowhere, Spongebob appears with GARY and a suitcase, clutching onto Squidward.

SPONGEBOB

You wanna be roommates? Yay! We can go jellyfishing, and talk, then stay up all night and talk, then go to work and talk!

Squidward pries him off, dumping Spongebob on the floor.

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)

Then we can go to Sandy's house and talk...

SQUIDWARD

Okay, Krabs. Maybe a meteor will hit me on the way.

EXT. EL CHEAPO'S TACOS

A meteor strikes the ground, knocking Squidward back through the front doors of the Krusty Krab!

SQUIDWARD

Ow!

MR. KRABS

What the barnacle?

Krabs runs outside to see PLANKTON examining the meteor.

PLANKTON

Egads! This metastable carbon allotrope is made of pure diamond!

CRUSH! El Cheapo steps on Plankton and hauls the diamond meteor back to his restaurant.

Steam rises out of Mr. Krab's head! We see flames in his eyes!

MR. KRABS

That's it! He's stolen me money, taken me customers and beat me to a metastable carbon allotrope! I'm gonna end this war right now!

SPONGEBOB

How, Mr. Krabs?

EXT. THE KRUSTY KRAB

Patrick stands outside holding a sign that reads: "SALE! Krabby Patties \$500 each".

SQUIDWARD

How is raising the price of a
Krabby Patty going to end this war?

MR. KRABS

At that price, all I have to do is
sell two patties a day!

Two serious-looking FISH in suits approach.

SPONGEBOB

And here come two customers right
now!

MR. KRABS

Two patties on the double, me boy!

ZOOM! Spongebob is back in a split-second, patties in hand.
Mr. Krabs hands a patty to each of the Fish.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

That'll be one thousand bucks,
boys! A hundred dollars more for
ketchup!

Instead of handing him the cash, one of the fish serves him
with papers.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

What's this?

FISH

Lawsuit papers, Mr. Krabs.

MR. KRABS

I'm being sued? By who?

FISH

By a Mr. "El Cheapo".

MR. KRABS

For what?

FISH

For being fat and ugly, sir.

SPONGEBOB

Mr. Krabs is NOT fat!

They leave. Krabs throws himself on the floor.

MR. KRABS

I give up! He's beaten me!

SPONGEBOB

Don't talk like that, sir! Did Patrick give up when he found out Starfish don't have brains?

We see Patrick drooling, a crazy look in his eyes.

PATRICK

Duh.....

SPONGEBOB

Did I give up when I failed the driver's test two hundred and sixty-five times?

MRS. PUFF's car appears and screeches to a halt.

MRS. PUFF

Two hundred and sixty-six.

She zooms off again.

SPONGEBOB

Did Squidward give up when that music critic said his clarinet playing sounded like a wounded whale?

SQUIDWARD

A wounded seal!

SPONGEBOB

Exactly! The Krusty Krab is your life's work, sir! Bikini Bottom needs this place!

SQUIDWARD

It really doesn't, actually...

SPONGEBOB

And Bikini Bottom needs you!

SQUIDWARD

We'd get along just fine without you, but...

SPONGEBOB

You may be fat and ugly on the outside, but I know the Mr. Krabs that was a Golden Claws boxer is still in there! And I wanna see him fight! Fight! Fight! Fight! Fight!

PATRICK
(oar in hand)
Oar! Oar! Oar! Oar!

SQUIDWARD
Quit! Quit! Quit! Quit!

Mr. Krabs gets on his feet. There is a dangerous look in his eye.

MR. KRABS
Aye, yer right, me boy! I beat El Cheapo once, and I can do it again!

SPONGEBOB
That's the spirit! Go get him, Mr. Krabs!

MR. KRABS
I'm gonna walk over there, slam the door open and say, "El Cheapo!"

EL CHEAPO
Yes?

Krabs turns to see his nemesis staring him in the face.

MR. KRABS
Gulp! Er, how are ya? Read any good books lately?

EL CHEAPO
I read a great book. It's called "Kicking your fat behind"!

SPONGEBOB
You can't talk to Mr. Krabs like that! Right guys?

PATRICK
Duh.....

SQUIDWARD
You can talk to him any way you want, actually. I don't care...

EL CHEAPO
You know what I want, Krabs! Give it up!

MR. KRABS
It's mine! I won it fair and square!

EL CHEAPO

Then I'll just keep selling me
tacos until I put you out of
business!

FRED

Did someone say "tacos"?

WHOOSH! A huge line of patrons appears at the doors of "El Cheapo Tacos".

EL CHEAPO

Now if you'll excuse me, I'll get
back to the business of destroying
yours!

A dejected Mr. Krabs enters the Krusty Krab and checks the cash register. It is empty. He checks the safe in his office and it's empty too. The strain of being broke is too great. Krabs passes out.

SPONGEBOB

Mr. Krabs! Hurry! Someone get some
money and put it under his nose!

Nobody moves a muscle.

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)

Squidward! Give me a dollar!

SQUIDWARD

I don't get paid enough to give you
a dollar!

SPONGEBOB

Patrick! Money!

PATRICK

Duh.....

SPONGEBOB

Gary!

GARY

Meow!!!

Gary makes a gesture to indicate he's broke. He then sneaks off to El Cheapo Tacos with a mouth full of cash!

SPONGEBOB

His wallet! He's got an emergency
five dollar bill in there!

Spongebob reaches for Krab's pockets, but the unconscious crustacean reflexively crushes Spongebob's hand.

SPONGEBOB (CONT'D)
Ouch! Wake up Mr. Krabs! Wake up!

CUT TO:

EXT. EL CHEAPO TACOS

We see the Sea Monster who stole Mr. Krab's dime (pg. 2) exit El Cheapo's holding his stomach in pain.

SEA MONSTER
Ugh. Too....many.....tacos!

He lets out a BURP that shakes Bikini Bottom to it's foundations! It shatters Sandy's Treedome, causes all the Jellyfish to leave town and awakens MERMAID MAN from a nap!

MERMAID MAN
Evil!

He burps and goes back to sleep.

CUT TO:

THE SEA MONSTER

The stolen dime flies out of the Sea Monster's mouth and rolls through the door of the Krusty Krab, where Spongebob is kneeling next Krabs' body.

MR. KRABS
Sniff. Sniff. Dimey!

He releases Spongebob's hand and jumps to his feet.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)
Why was your hand in me pocket boy?
Ya could've been killed!

SPONGEBOB
Mr. Krabs! You're back!

SQUIDWARD
(crying in disappointment)
You're back!

PATRICK
Duh.....

MR. KRABS

Aye! I'm back, boys! And I think I know how to beat ol' Cheapo!

SPONGEBOB

How, sir?

MR. KRABS

It's one of the deadliest types of confrontations in all the deep blue sea, lad!

SPONGEBOB

A belching contest?

C/U Mr. Krab's eyes.

MR. KRABS

No, lad! A "cheap-off"!

EXT. EL CHEAPO TACOS

Mr. Krabs appears, wearing a cowboy hat, Spongebob and the gang by his side.

MR. KRABS

El Cheapo! I'm calling you out for a cheap-off, ya yellow-bellied coward!

CRACK! Cheapo is standing there, wearing Mr. Krab's cowboy hat, his whip at the ready.

EL CHEAPO

Yer calling me out?

MR. KRABS

Aye!

EL CHEAPO

Aye?

MR. KRABS

Aye!

PATRICK

Oar!

CRACK! El Cheapo's whip cracks Patrick's oar in half!

EL CHEAPO

A cheap-off it is, then! If I win,
you give back me ring, close up the
Krusty Krab and move out of town!

SPONGEBOB

(crying)
Close the Krusty Krab? No!!!!!!

SQUIDWARD

(crying)
Yes!!!!!!

We see Patrick crying over the broken pieces of his oar.

PATRICK

(crying)
Oar!

MR. KRABS

And if I win, I keep the ring, you
close up shop and leave town fer
good!

EL CHEAPO

Deal. I go first!

MR. KRABS

I'll flip ya for it!

EL CHEAPO

Agreed. Your coin, then!

MR. KRABS

No, your coin!

EL CHEAPO

No, your coin!

MR. KRABS

No, your coin!

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Three....hours...later.

EL CHEAPO

Your coin!

MR. KRABS

No, your coin!

SQUIDWARD

Enough, already! Here! Take my
coin!

Both crabs smile gleefully!

MR. KRABS
Thanks! I'll take it!

EL CHEAPO
No, I'll take it!

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Five...hours...later.

MR. KRABS
I said, I'll take it!

SPONGEBOB
How about whoever wins gets to keep
the coin, too?

Krabs and Cheapo flash greedy smiles as a crowd gathers!

MR. KRABS
I call heads!

Spongebob flips the coin! It tumbles end over end, finally
coming up:

EL CHEAPO
Tails never fails! I win!

Mr. Krabs gulps nervously.

SPONGEBOB
El Cheapo goes first!

El Cheapo stares at Mr. Krabs intently.

EL CHEAPO
I take a brown bag to work for
lunch every day !

PATRICK
What's so cheap about that?

El Cheapo produces a brown bag and promptly eats it! The
crowd goes wild! Krabs is stunned!

SPONGEBOB
Gulp! Your turn, Mr. Krabs!

MR. KRABS
I once got a parking ticket and put
it on someone else's car!

EL CHEAPO

So?

MR. KRABS

The other car was me mother's!

The crowd cheers! El Cheapo is staggered! It's his turn.

EL CHEAPO

I take gas out of other people's
boats!

MR. KRABS

I've done that before!

EL CHEAPO

With me mouth!

CROWD

Gross!

Mr. Krabs reels like he's been hit with a hard punch. He
recovers.

MR. KRABS

I once punished me daughter for
throwing a penny in a water
fountain!

The crowd goes wild! El Cheapo starts sweating! He thinks of
something fast!

EL CHEAPO

I re-use dental floss!

MR. KRABS

I do that!

EL CHEAPO

Me neighbor's dental floss!

CROWD

Yuck!

Mr. Krabs panics.

MR. KRABS

Well, I re-use toilet paper!

CROWD

Ugh! Gross!

PATRICK

This is getting dirty!

EL CHEAPO
I save water by washing me dishes
once a month!

MR. KRABS
So?

EL CHEAPO
In the toilet!

Mr. Krabs falls to the floor, a beaten man! Spongebob literally falls to pieces as Squidward cheers and starts a fire with his Krusty Krab hat and name tag!

Patrick throws his broken oar on the fire and it rises, singing Squidward's eyebrows.

SQUIDWARD
Ow.

El Cheapo stands, triumphant, his whip CRACKING again and again in celebration!

EL CHEAPO
C'mon, everybody! Free water with
every taco! Well, I'll charge ye a
dollar for the water...

However, instead of cheering El Cheapo on, the crowd leaves!

CROWD
That dude is gross! I can't believe
I ate that guys food! My stomach
hurts! I think I'm gonna hurl!

EL CHEAPO
Where are you going? I won!

The line at El Cheapo Tacos disappears.

EL CHEAPO (CONT'D)
Come back!

The Sea Monster stands outside El Cheapo Tacos looking sick and angry. He pushes the restaurant over and it collapses!

EL CHEAPO (CONT'D)
Me tacos!

El Cheapo drops his whip into Squidward's fire and the flames rise, turning Squidward's shirt into a pile of ashes.

SQUIDWARD
Ow.

EL CHEAPO

No restaurant, no customers, no
money! I quit! You win, Krabs!

Spongebob's parts are re-assembled. Squidward's hat jumps out of the fire and back onto his head! His name tag re-attaches itself to his bare chest.

SQUIDWARD

Ow.

Patrick's oar fixes itself and jumps into his arms! He hugs it like an old friend!

PATRICK

Oar!

A line full of hungry customers forms at the Krusty Krab!

SPONGEBOB

Customers!

Mr. Krabs leaps to his feet!

MR. KRABS

Money!

The Fish in suits(pg. 19) toss the lawsuit papers in the fire.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

All hands on deck! Spongebob back to the grill! Squidward back to being miserable! Patrick, back to being stupid! We've got customers!

As he watches El Cheapo walk off sadly, Mr. Krabs looks down at the ring and decides to give it back.

MR. KRABS (CONT'D)

Wait!

He runs up to El Cheapo and hands him the ring.

EL CHEAPO

You don't have to do this, Eugene.
It's yours, after all.

MR. KRABS

You taught me the ways of cheapness and made me the biggest skinflint on the ocean floor! It's yours!

EL CHEAPO

No, I really mean it. It's yours.

El Cheapo removes the green stone from the ring and places it in Mr. Krab's claw. It unfolds and reveals itself to be:

The five dollar bill from Krab's wallet(pg. 7)!

FACE ON THE MONEY

My eyes! My eyes!

The money jumps back into Krab's wallet.

EL CHEAPO

You're cheap, Eugene! The cheapest crab in the sea! I taught you well.

They shake claws and Mr. Krabs watches El Cheapo walk off. A realization dawns on Krabs as the smile melts away from his face. He checks his pockets and his wallet is gone!

SPONGEBOB

There he goes, Mr. Krabs. Off into the sunset.

MR. KRABS

And carrying me wallet! Cheapo!
Come back here!

Crabs runs off after him.

THE END.