



Starlight Express

The plot

Act 1

Completely absorbed, a little boy plays with his trains in the evening. When it is time to go to bed, the mother sends the tired child off to the land of railway dreams with a lullaby. There, things are fast-paced: the locomotives and wagons come to life. Trains from all over the world enter the station at night. Who will win the world championship of locomotives? Diesel, electricity or steam?



The reigning champion, the cool diesel locomotive from the USA Greaseball, only laughs at his challengers, such as Coco, the express train from France, Manga, the Shinkansen train from Japan, Espresso, the Rome-Milan Express and the German "always on time" ICE Ruhrgold, among others.



Greaseball is only worried about challenger Electra, the electric locomotive. The eccentric superstar fascinates all trains and wagons with his energetic performance and state-of-the-art technical equipment. Another newcomer to the World Locomotive Championship is Pearl, the first-class wagon. The beautiful wagon and Rusty, the young, rusty steam locomotive, meet for the first time. For Rusty, it is love at first sight and he invites Pearl to partner up with him. Nevertheless, Pearl agrees to do the first race with Electra.

Disappointed by Pearl's decision, Rusty doubts himself and no longer wants to take part in the world championship. His place is taken by the old and strong steam locomotive Mama - and she wins with her last (steam) power. At the finals, however, Rusty has to take Mama's part to save the honour of the steam locomotives and regain faith in himself. To do this, Rusty asks the legendary Starlight Express for help.

Act 2

Rusty receives support for the world championship of locomotives from the shady Caboose. But the corrupt brake wagon plays false and manipulates the race: He makes sure that Rusty falls and the finale has to be repeated.

Despondent and alone, Rusty sinks to the ground. But suddenly the legendary Starlight Express appears, like a shining comet in the dark night sky. Amidst thousands of twinkling stars, the powerful voice resounds and Rusty finally realises what really matters in life: Faith in oneself. With renewed courage, the young steam engine enters the finale. Can he defeat the seemingly overpowering competitors and win Pearl's heart forever?



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