

Send Me To Heaven



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Candle Cinema 

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1 INT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY 1 *

A classroom full of 12 year old children sit listening to an **OLD NUN** as she drones on about scripture. *

OLD NUN *

And so it was children, that on *

this day the Lord did whisper to *

his faithful shepherd those secret, *

scared words... "Blah... blah... *

blah..." *

Almost none of the kids are paying attention to their teacher's lecture. They're all too busy playing with their iphones and ipads. *

Suddenly the voice of an all knowing **NARRATOR** chimes in. His voice is deep and his words are true. *

THE NARRATOR *

This is a story about a young girl *

with an old soul. *

The camera pans over to a girl pounding out notes on an old burgundy type writer. "CLICKETY CLACK..." *

THE NARRATOR (CONT'D) *

Her name is **LILA**, and one might say *

that she had a certain affinity for *

antiquity. *

Lila comes to the end of her page and the typewriter lets out a loud "DING". Everyone in the class, including the teacher stops what they're doing and looks at her. *

LILA

What?

2 EXT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - SCHOOL YARD - DAY 2

Sitting beneath a tree, Lila reads a first edition print of *The Wind in the Willows*. Suddenly, the sound of techno music can be heard nearby.

Lila looks up from her book and sees a group of 8th grade boys having a dance-off.

Annoyed with the electronic music, Lila walks away laughing at the dancing. She then takes out her trusty baby blue walkman and cranks up up some rockin' hot Gypsy Jazz in the style of Django Reinhardt. *

*

THE NARRATOR

To Lila, the present was boring. Or
at the least the people in it were.
But no matter. For she knew that if
she looked hard enough, she could
find gems of art, music and wisdom
hidden away like treasure.

*
*
*
*
*
*

3 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

3

Lila makes her way into an old and rustic antique shop.

*
*

*

LILA

These are some of my favorites.

4 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - VARIOUS ROOMS 4

Lila stands beside some of her favorite antiquing finds. An old Tiffany lamp, a stuffed otter, a vinyl record player from 1910. A rare copy of an old book... etc.

*
*

5 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS 5

Lila walks into the room of the antique store where all the movie paraphernalia is kept. The walls are lined with black and white head shots and neon popcorn signs.

On the back wall sits a shelf lined with old film cans. Lila walks over and picks up one that looks interesting to her. It's labeled, *Send me to Heaven*.

6 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - CHECKOUT COUNTER 6

Lila walks over to the check out counter, where an elderly **STORE CLERK** awaits.

STORE CLERK

Did you find everything alright?

LILA

Yep.

Lila places the film can and a couple other trinkets atop the check out counter.

STORE CLERK

That'll be \$8.50.

LILA

Here you go. Oh, and you wouldn't know where I might find a projector would you?

The store clerk picks the film can up off the counter.

STORE CLERK

Follow me.

7 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - CONTINUOUS 7

The Store Clerk leads Lila to a red curtain on the far end of the antique store. He holds it open for Lila to enter.

STORE CLERK

Right this way, Miss.

8 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - PROJECTION ROOM. 8

Lila sits down in the make shift screening room as the Store Clerk begins threading the projector. Once ready, he flicks a switch and the movie begins.

The black and white credits from the old Hollywood classic appear on the screen and function as the opening credits for this film as well. The final credit reads, "Starring... Sunny Littles."

FADE TO:

9 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - AS THE MOVIE COMES TO AN END 9

With the movie almost over, Lila anxiously watches the final scene.

10 EXT. TROLLEY STATION - LAST SCENE IN THE MOVIE 10

SUNNY LITTLES, a young and beautiful starlet of the silver screen, walks briskly through a foggy trolley station looking to catch the next line out of town.

CONDUCTOR

All aboard! Train departure in three minutes!

As Sunny hops aboard a trolley, a man wearing both a trench coat and a fedora (ala **HUMPHREY BOGART**) enters the scene.

HUMPREY BOGART

Leaving so soon?

SUNNY LITTLES

What are you doing here Rich? For Heaven's sake, I thought I told you...

*
*

HUMPHREY BOGART

I heard what you said, but damn it
I just had to know... How'd ya do
it?

*

SUNNY LITTLES

How'd I do what?

*

*

HUMPHREY BOGART

How'd ya steal my heart?

*

With a charming smile and a shrug of the shoulders, Sunny
delivers her character's signature catch phrase.

*

*

SUNNY LITTLES

Voila!

Sunny blows a kiss to the man in the trench coat and music
begins to swell. The camera then cranes high into the air to
look out over the trolley as it pulls away.

*

*

*

11 INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - SCREENING ROOM 11

The screen reads, THE END as Lila uses a tissue to dry her
tears.

*

12 INT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - CLASS ROOM - THE NEXT DAY 12

Back in class, Lila passes the time by drawing a sketch of
Sunny Littles.

*

OLD NUN

LILA!

LILA

Yes?

OLD NUN

What are you doing?

*

LILA

Nothing...

*

*

Lila tries her best to hide the sketchbook but it's futile.

*

OLD NUN

Bring it here. Now!

*

All the other children are looking at Lila. Dead man walking.

*

*

13 INT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - HEAD FATHER'S OFFICE

13

*

FATHER FRUMPHREY

I'm afraid you leave us no choice
but to throw the book at you.

A large book entitled "The Book of Disciplinary Code" slams
atop a large wooden desk.

On the other side of the desk sits **FATHER FRUMPHREY**, a bald
fat man with an apparent perspiration problem.

LILA

But I didn't do anything.

OLD NUN

Please! You know darn right you
were doodling amongst the others.

*

*

LILA

But I...

*

*

OLD NUN

And in French no less! That vulgar
devil's tongue...

*

*

*

FATHER FRUMPHREY

Lila, this isn't the first time
we've had to speak to you.

NARRATOR

To be specific, he was referring to
last week's diorama incident.

FLASHBACK:

14 INT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - CATHEDRAL HALL

14

Lila stands with a group of students by a table full of
disassembled nativity scene dioramas.

*

*

LILA

So if you want, try poking a 2nd
hole on the other side and see what
it's like to gain a fresh
perspective.

One of the of kids uses a wooden stick to poke out a 2nd hole in his diorama. With the 1st hole now facing away from the table, another young boy runs over and looks inside the diorama just in time to get poked.

DIORAMA CASUALTY

My eye!

Lila and the others look at each other, unsure what to do.

END OF FLASHBACK

15 INT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - HEAD FATHER'S OFFICE 15

LILA

But that wasn't my fault! And I...

FATHER FRUMPHREY

Silence! (beat) Three weeks detention.

LILA

What!?

OLD NUN

Lila, it's high time you learned to get your head out of the clouds.

16 EXT. CATHOLIC SCHOOL - SIDEWALK 16

Lila sits on the sidewalk curb, waiting to get picked up from school when her father comes rolling up in a beat up old Plymouth.

LILA'S FATHER

Care for a ride, mademoiselle?

THE NARRATOR

This is Lila's Father.

FLASHBACK:

17 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - SOMETIME IN THE PAST 17

3 year old Lila cries at the kitchen table while her father finishes putting a bandage on her freshly skinned elbow.

THE NARRATOR

As a retired humanities professor and single parent, he's spent the last 7 years of his life attempting to raise Lila with the aid of magic tricks and general buffoonery.

In an attempt to make Lila stop crying, her father pulls out his handkerchief and balls it up into his hands. He then blows on his hands and causes the handkerchief to vanish. *

Lila begins to stop crying as her father finishes up the magic trick. With a flick of his wrist, he snatches the handkerchief out of thin air and returns it to his pocket. *

END OF FLASHBACK

18 INT. LILA'S FATHER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 18

Lila hops in the passenger side of the car.

LILA'S FATHER

How was school today?

Before she answers, Lila looks out the car window and sees the Diorama Casualty wearing a white eye patch in an adjacent station wagon.

LILA

I don't wanna talk about it. *

As they pull away, the Diorama Casualty shakes his fist at Lila. *

19 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - LILA'S BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT 19 *

Lila sits cross legged on her bedroom floor and meditates by candle light.

NARRATOR

That night, after having a vision of how things could be, Lila decides it's time to take action.

Lila opens her eyes and then holds up a marker. She runs over to a nearby sketch pad and begins to hash out her plans.

20

INT. LILA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING

20

Now wearing slacks and suspenders, Lila stands by her sketch pad while making a presentation to her father.

Lila's white board displays a graph labeled, "Traditional Schooling." The X axis represents time spent, and the Y axis represents time wasted. The two are perfectly correlated.

NARRATOR

She realized that all she had to do was make a good case for switching things up a bit.

LILA

And if you look here, you'll see how my current courses breakdown.

Lila flips to the next page of the sketch pad which contains a subject pie chart. Subjects include: Math I'll never use, Gym, Latin, and Gregorian Chant. *

Lila's father nods his head and scratches his chin with interest.

LILA'S FATHER

But if not the Nuns, then who will teach you?

Lila takes a slow sip of coffee from her mug before tearing down the pie chart. On the next page of her sketch pad is the word "YOU!" written in big bold letters.

21

INT. SCHOOL - HEAD MASTER'S OFFICE - DAY

21

Lila's father signs the final line of the necessary paper work before sliding it back over to Father Frumphrey.

THE NARRATOR

You know, it's amazing how effective playing to one's ego can be.

Father Frumphrey simply shakes his head in disapproval while Lila and her father high five in triumph.

22 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - MUSIC ROOM - DAY 22

NARRATOR

Now although her father's teaching methods were considered unorthodox by many, they did result in Lila becoming well versed in several subjects including, Music...

Lila holds an oversize according on her lap while her father sits with sheet music and a conductor's baton at the ready. *

Lila's father taps his baton on the music stand. *

LILA'S FATHER

A one, a two, a one, two, three, four...

Lila begins to play the accordion, which transitions into background music for the rest of her educational montage. *

23 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 23

NARRATOR

...Foreign Languages.

Lila and her father sit at the kitchen table across from one another. On the table rests a bowl of raspberries, and in their hands they hold French textbooks.

LILA'S FATHER

(in French; subtitled)

In French, please tell me where all knowable information stems from?

LILA

(in French; subtitled)

From unknowable points of intuition!

LILA'S FATHER

(in French; subtitled)

Correct.

Lila's father tosses a raspberry towards Lila and she nonchalantly catches it in her mouth.

24 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - FAMILY ROOM - DAY 24

NARRATOR

...Painting.

Lila sits behind a canvas painting. Her father walks over to inspect her work.

The painting consists of several life-like bears who take tea parties very seriously. Their expressions are stern, and their attire elegant. Lila's father nods in approval.

25 EXT. LILA'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - DAY 25

NARRATOR
...The Martial Arts.

Lila and her father stand in the backyard wearing black karate robes. They bow towards each other before Lila's father holds out a piece of wood.

LILA
Hi-yah!

With a swift punch, Lila breaks the wood cleanly in half.

26 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY 26

Lila and her father stand at a work table wearing white lab coats and safety goggles.

NARRATOR
And of course... Chemistry.

Lila picks two colorful bubbling test tubes off the table and then pours them into an adjacent flask. BANG!

To her satisfaction, the flask erupts in an explosion of purple smoke which fills the frame.

FADE TO BLACK.

27 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - LILA'S BEDROOM - DAY 27

SUPERIMPOSE:

"13 YEARS LATER"

Lila, now 23 years of age, stands inspecting a bookshelf full of toy figurines.

NARRATOR
At the age of 24, Lila has now
blossomed into a young woman.
(MORE)

*

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Fearful of growing old, she plays with toys daily to ensure she'll retain her childlike sense of imagination.

Lila reaches towards the toys and picks up a small giraffe figurine before walking away.

28 EXT. LILA'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - DAY

28

After walking through her house, Lila steps out into her backyard and finds a picnic table covered with an array of spherical glass ornaments. She picks up a small yellow one and heads back inside.

Meanwhile, Lila's father stands in the backyard holding an ornament of his own. He juggles it back and forth for a moment before placing it in a satchel already filled with other ornaments.

NARRATOR

With his little girl all grown up, Lila's father now dedicates much of his time to home improvements.

With his gear ready to go, Lila's father swings the satchel over his shoulder and proceeds to start climbing a large oak tree in the center of the yard.

29 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

29

Over at the kitchen table, Lila opens up a small shoe box. She places both the giraffe and the small yellow sphere inside the box and closes the lid before looking inside via a peep hole on the side.

30 EXT. LILA'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - UP IN THE TREE - CONTINUOUS 30

With most of the oak now decorated, Lila's father withdraws the final ornament. High atop the tree he spots its perfect hanging spot.

31 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

31

Lila looks up from her shoe box diorama, satisfied with her creation.

LILA

Voila!

At that exact moment, her father loses his balance and falls out of the tall tree. Lila looks out the window just in time to view her father plummeting to the ground.

32 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S CENTER FOR HEALTH AND HEALING - LATER 32

Using a wheelchair, Lila pushes her father past a sign that reads, "Saint Marie's Center for Health and Healing."

33 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - CONTINUOUS 33

After entering the hospital, Lila and her father are quickly surrounded by a group of nurses.

DR. NEEDLEMAN, Saint Marie's odd yet respected head doctor, steps forward. His presence causes the nurses to stand at attention with respect for their "General."

Second in Command, and skeletal in shape, the stern **NURSE AGNES** steps to Dr. Needleman's side.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Hammer.

Nurse Agnes hands Dr. Needleman a small rubber hammer which he then uses to tap Lila's father's knee.

LILA'S FATHER

YEEOW!

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Nurse Agnes, wheel this man to the x-ray room immediately.

NURSE AGNES

Right away doctor.

34 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 34

Nurse Agnes wheels Lila's father down a long hallway and Lila follows close behind. When they get to the X-ray room, Lila tries to enter after them but is stopped by Nurse Agnes.

NURSE AGNES

Patients only.

Unable to follow her father, Lila is forced to wait in the hallway. Suddenly, a tea kettle shaped nurse known as **NURSE BAKER** walks by, pushing a cart full of delicious fruit tarts. Lila's stomach rumbles at the sight of the food, so she follows the nurse.

35

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

35

As Nurse Baker enters the hospital's day room, she walks over to a PA system and uses it to address the patients.

NURSE BAKER

Snack time!

Next to the PA system sits a vinyl record player. The nurse drops the needle and classical music begins to play.

Lila enters the day room and looks around. She sees a variety of patients, some young, some old. Overall the room is dull and the air is stiff.

After serving several patients fruit tarts, Nurse Baker places a tart in front of **PETEY**, the 12 year old boy with two broken arms (each in the shape of an L.) Lila watches as Petey struggles to get the fork to his mouth.

Lila walks over to Petey's table and sits down.

LILA

Here, let me help you.

She takes the fork from his hand and then serves him a bite of fruit tart.

PETEY

(still chewing)

Thank you.

Just then, the two grumpy and bedridden old men stationed across from Petey's table notice Lila. They go by the names **GIL** and **RUPERT**.

GIL

Hey! Whatcha do that for?

RUPERT

Yeah! Why'd ya help him?

LILA

Excuse me?

GIL

Watching that kid struggle to eat is the most entertaining thing we get to do all day!

RUPERT

Yeah! And you're spoiling it for us!

GIL
Oh come on! Sunny wouldn't mind!

LILA
(to herself)
Sunny?

NURSE BAKER
We've gone through this before! One
tart per patient!

RUPERT
Come on toots, give the man some
sugar.

NURSE BAKER
Call me toots again, and you'll see
what sugar does to teeth!

Nurse Baker makes a fist with her hand as she walks away with the snack cart. Shocked by the possibility that Sunny Littles might be somewhere on the hospital grounds, Lila follows Nurse Baker.

RUPERT
Hey Petey, check this out.

Taunting poor Petey one last time, Rupert eats his next bite of fruit tart while doing the wave.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
(still chewing his food)
Delicious!

36 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 36

Nurse Baker pushes her snack cart down one of the hospital's hallways until she comes to room # 26. She opens the door and finds **SUNNY LITTLES** (80) sitting all alone at her vanity mirror.

37 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 37

NURSE BAKER
Good afternoon, Sunny!

She waits for a reply, but Sunny just looks into her mirror as if she didn't hear Nurse Baker.

NURSE BAKER (CONT'D)
You know what today is? Fruit tart
day!

SUNNY LITTLES
I'm not hungry.

NURSE BAKER
Oh come on now Sunny, you've hardly
eaten anything today and besides,
fruit tarts are your favorite.

SUNNY LITTLES
I said I'm not hungry!

Nurse Baker is taken aback by Sunny's sudden shift in tone.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)
Now please... let me be.

NURSE BAKER
Suit yourself...

Nurse Baker leaves without closing the door.

38 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 38

As Nurse Baker leaves Sunny's room she scarfs down the last
fruit tart. With the door left open, Lila is now free to peer
inside room 26.

39 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 39

Sunny still sits at her vanity mirror fixated on her own
image. In the mirror's reflection, she sees Lila's silhouette
and quickly turns around thinking it's still Nurse Baker.

SUNNY LITTLES
I thought I told you to leave!

Lila jumps out of the doorway, but not before Sunny gets a
glimpse of her.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)
Wait! Come back here!

Nervously, Lila reappears in the doorway.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)
Who are you?

LILA
Me? Nobody, I was just looking for
someone but...

SUNNY LITTLES
What's your name?

LILA
Lila.

SUNNY LITTLES
Tell me Lila. Just whom is it that
you're looking for?

LILA
Sunny Littles.

SUNNY LITTLES
Speaking.

LILA
Sunny Littles, the actress?

SUNNY LITTLES
Is there any other?

LILA
Oh Ms. Littles, how embarrassing.
So sorry to disturb you, but I'm
just a huge fan and when I heard
your name I just had to...

SUNNY LITTLES
A fan?

LILA
Oh yes! I've seen all your films.

Sunny instantly perks up in her chair.

SUNNY LITTLES
Please, please do come in and for
heaven's sake, close the door. The
lighting is simply dreadful out
there.

While Lila closes the door and enters the room, Sunny
straightens herself up in the mirror.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)
So. You say you've seen all my
films have you?

LILA
All of them!

SUNNY LITTLES

You're a little young to be watching black and white movies, don't you think.

LILA

Well, they do tell me I have an old soul.

SUNNY LITTLES

Lila was it?

LILA

Yes

SUNNY LITTLES

Tell me Lila, if you've really seen all my films then you won't mind me asking. Which one is your favorite? Is it *A Midnight's Moon*? Or maybe *The Spanish Rose*?

As Sunny recites the names of her old films, Lila notices the corresponding movie posters hanging on the walls.

LILA

My favorite film? I don't know.

SUNNY LITTLES

Sure you do! You've seen them all, haven't you?

LILA

It's hard to say, but if I had to choose then I guess my favorite one would have to be "Send Me to Heaven."

SUNNY LITTLES

"Send Me to Heaven?"

LILA

Oh yes! I simply adore that film.

SUNNY LITTLES

That's funny. You know, I never saw that one.

LILA

You never saw "Send Me to Heaven!?"

SUNNY LITTLES

That's right.

LILA

What? How could you not have seen it? You were the lead role! I mean, a person would have to be crazy not to watch a movie they starred in.

SUNNY LITTLES

What did you say?

LILA

I said you'd have to be crazy.

SUNNY LITTLES

How dare you!

LILA

Oh no I didn't mean...

SUNNY LITTLES

Get out of my room!

LILA

But I...

SUNNY LITTLES

Get out!

Sunny points to the door and turns away from Lila. Confused and somewhat frightened, Lila gets up, walks to the door, and leaves.

40

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

40

Lila returns into the day room with her head hung low, which is why she doesn't notice a local florist stepping out of a neighboring hospital room.

BANG Lila and the florist, whose name is **LEOPOLD LUCKLESSER**, accidentally collide into each other and flowers go flying.

LEOPOLD

Oops!

LILA

Oh! I'm so sorry! Here let me help you!

Lila and Leopold crawl around on the floor picking up the falling bouquets.

LILA (CONT'D)

Here you go, I think that's all of them.

LEOPOLD

Thank you so much...

Their eyes meet. Leopold is speechless.

NARRATOR

When Leopold Lucklesser first saw Lila's eyes, he saw that she had tears in them. Tears that made the light in her eyes shimmer like the stars in his dreams.

LILA

Well, alright then. Buh-bye.

Lila begins to walk away, while the awestruck Leopold stands still. After taking a few steps, Lila turns around.

LILA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry to bother you again, but... How much?

LEOPOLD

What?

LILA

For a bouquet of flowers. How much?

LEOPOLD

Oh! No. These aren't for sale. I ah, I'm just delivering them. You see they've already been paid for.

LILA

Oh. Okay, well never mind then.

Lila walks away again, her head hung even lower. Realizing he just turned his dream girl away in her moment of need, Leopold takes desperate action.

LEOPOLD

Wait. What about if I...

Leopold withdraws several bouquets of flowers from his satchel and snaps a single flower off each. He then combines the single flowers into a whole new colorfully mixed bouquet.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)

There we go! Just don't tell anyone, alright?

LILA

Oh these are perfect! Thanks so much!

LEOPOLD

Wait!

Leopold wraps the flowers together with a ribbon, and then curls the ribbon with the edge of his pocket knife.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)

Now they're perfect.

Lila smiles at the sight of the ribbon.

LILA

How much do I owe you?

Lila reaches into her bag in search of her wallet.

LEOPOLD

Oh, no. It's nothing.

LILA

Are you sure?

LEOPOLD

Yeah. Besides, I don't carry change.

LILA

Well, thanks again.

Lila smells the flowers, which carry a delightful fragrance.

LILA (CONT'D)

You know, I don't think I ever caught your name.

LEOPOLD

Oh. It's Leopold.

Leopold holds out his vest lapel which holds a pin that reads, "Leopold Lucklessor, PetalPot's Flower Shop."

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)

And what's your name?

LILA'S FATHER

Lila!!!

At that moment Lila's father comes flying down the hallway in his wheel chair. He nearly wheelies out of control as Nurse Agnes and her assistants try to catch up with him.

NURSE AGNES

Slow down!

Lila's father stops just short of her and Leopold.

LILA'S FATHER

I think I am starting to get the
hang of this thing.

Lila notices that her father's ankle is wrapped in a green bandage.

LILA

Papa your leg!

LILA'S FATHER

Yes, don't you think the green
brings out my eyes?

NURSE AGNES

Your father has suffered a rather
nasty ankle sprain and will need to
report back here for some physical
therapy. You can schedule a time at
the front desk.

Nurse Agnes's assistant shoves a clipboard in Lila's face.

LILA

What's this?

NURSE AGNES

A release. If you would sign it
here and... here.

Lila signs the release and hands the clipboard back.

NURSE AGNES (CONT'D)

He's all yours.

The two nurses walk away.

LILA'S FATHER

(to Nurse Agnes)
Au revoir, ma cheri.

LILA

Papa, before we go, can you give me
a second? I just need to check on
something really quick.

LILA'S FATHER

Where are you going?

LILA
I'll just be a second.

Lila takes her colorful bouquet of flowers and heads back towards Sunny's room, leaving her father and Leopold alone with each other.

LILA'S FATHER
Nice bow-tie.

41 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 41

Lila walks down the long hallway to room # 26. She places the bouquet of mixed flowers in front of Sunny's room and then walks away.

FLASHBACK:

42 INT. THEATER - BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOMS - 50 YEARS AGO 42

The 26 on Sunny's door dissolves into a golden star with the words SUNNY LITTLES written on it. The show's **STAGE MANAGER** walks over to the door and knocks on it.

STAGE MANAGER
Hurry it up Sunny, you're on in two minutes!

A 25 year old Sunny Littles walks out of her dressing room

SUNNY LITTLES
Calm down, I'm a coming.

STAGE MANAGER
Really? Cause you had me fooled.

Annoyed, the Stage Manager heads off to fetch more actors while Sunny starts making her way towards the main stage.

PENELOPE
Ms. Littles?

Before getting far, Sunny turns around to find a 10 year old girl name **PENELOPE** standing in the hallway with a bouquet of roses.

SUNNY LITTLES
Yes?

PENELOPE
(really nervous)
Wow, it's really you.

SUNNY LITTLES

Are those for me? How sweet of you.

Sunny walks over to Penelope and takes the roses from her.

PENELOPE

So are you nervous?

SUNNY LITTLES

Come again?

PENELOPE

Jeez, I know I would be. What with all those people watching and all those lines to memorize! Gives me the jitters just thinking about it!

Just then the Stage Manager comes walking back down the hallway.

STAGE MANAGER

Sunny, do I have tell you again?
You're on now! Get to the stage!
And you, how did you get back here?
Come with me!

With the stage manager escorting Penelope away, Sunny resumes heading towards the stage. For a moment, she has a look of nervousness on her face, but shakes it off before tossing the bouquet of roses into a nearby trash bin.

43

INT. THEATER - STAGE - MOMENTS LATER

43

Sunny walks out onto the stage and quickly finds her mark. With her eyes closed, she takes a deep breath as the curtain opens up.

Suddenly, Sunny is struck by a spotlight. With the light in her eyes she is semi-blinded in her attempts to look out into the crowd. All she sees is darkness.

From the wings of the stage, the Stage Manager calls out to Sunny.

STAGE MANAGER

That's your cue Sunny!

SUNNY LITTLES

I um... I...

Sunny searches for the words, but nothing comes. Out in the audience, Penelope watches Sunny.

PENELOPE
Say something Sunny!

SUNNY LITTLES
Um... Line? Line!

As Sunny continues to search for a line, the audience begins to grow restless.

AUDIENCE MEMBER 1
What's going on?

AUDIENCE MEMBER 2
Get on with it!

Other members of the cast join the Stage Manager backstage.

CAST MEMBER 1
What's is she doing?

CAST MEMBER 2
Why won't Sunny say her lines?

STAGE MANAGER
Cause she never bothered learning them! I warned them about hiring a movie star.

With the murmurs of the audience growing louder and louder, Sunny's vision starts to blur. She attempts to walk off the stage, but her balance is next to go. She faints and the audiences gasps!

STAGE MANAGER (CONT'D)
Drop the curtain. Drop it!

The curtain falls and the audience goes mad. What were once frustrated murmurs have now become outright boos.

The Stage Manager and the rest of the cast run to Sunny's side.

STAGE MANAGER (CONT'D)
Somebody call a doctor! Hurry!

Penelope waits for the curtain to open back up, but it doesn't.

END OF FLASHBACK

44

EXT. CITY SQUARE - LATER THAT DAY

44

On their way back home, Lila pushes her father's wheelchair through the town's bustling city square. The square is lined with colorful shops and brightly dressed people.

LILA'S FATHER

So let me get this straight. You're telling me that you actually met Sunny Littles?

LILA

Yes!

LILA'S FATHER

Sunny Littles, the actress?

LILA

Is there any other?

LILA'S FATHER

Well I'll be. To tell you the truth, I thought she was dead.

LILA

She's not dead. But, I wouldn't say she looked very much alive either.

At that moment a crowd starts to form on the opposite side of the city square.

LILA (CONT'D)

Where's everyone going?

LILA'S FATHER

(matter of fact)

They seem to be going that way, which is not where we're going. Where we're going is home, so that I can crawl into bed, elevate my leg, and enjoy a nice cup of tea.

Lila and her father continue home and exit the scene but the camera follows the town's people as they join the growing crowd.

We see that the crowd is focused on a troupe of traveling actors parading into the town's center.

Some of the actors play music, while others cover the streets in confetti before a large eye catching caravan.

Trumpets blast as the caravan wheels to a stop. Atop the caravan stands none other than **THESPIS RIDDLESWORTH**, the larger than life troupe leader with a voice and presence built for the stage. He calls for the attention of the crowd.

THESPIS

Ladies and gentlemen! Animals and minerals! May I be the first to offer you my sincerest of congratulations! For today, you are winners! Winners in that you have all been blessed with the presence of the wonderful, the magical, nay, the mystical, Merry Misfits!

The trumpets blast again and the doors of the caravan beneath Thespis burst open. More members of the **MERRY MISFITS** tumble out of the caravan wearing colorful masks and enchanting costumes. Petals are thrown, music is played, and ribbons are twirled as the crowd applauds the theatrical display.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Thank you! Thank you! Good people, to ye the uninitiated I say that our troupe is composed of the greatest performers of spectacle theatrical the world has ever seen!

Suddenly, a **BEGGAR** wearing a dark cloak steps forth from the crowd.

CLOAKED BEGGAR

Wait just a minute! You merries don't look that special!

THESPIS

Not that special?

Thespis nonchalantly does a flip off the caravan and then walks towards the hooded beggar. *

*
*

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Well then looks must be deceiving. For I assure you that were a beggar like yourself to spend but a night with these manifestors of dreams, you would feel as if you were a king!

Thespis grabs the beggar by his cloak and rips it off to reveal one of the Merry Misfits dressed in kingly robes. The crowd goes wild!

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Tis true, tis true, and tis my
great pleasure to announce that all
of you will have the chance to
spend a night in our royal court.

Thespis hops aboard the wheel of the caravan to be seen
better.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

For in two weeks from this very day
we shall be performing a play by
the greatest poet who ever wrote
it. Mr. William Shakespeare's, A
Midsummer Night's Dream.

With a heavy bang of his fist against the caravan, Thespis
causes a large banner to unravel. In colorful calligraphy it
reads, "*A Midsummer Night's Dream.*" Thespis climbs back atop
the roof of the caravan.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Come one and come all. For it is
sure to be a night ye will not soon
forget!

With his last line, Thespis throws a stack of pamphlets out
to the crowd before doing a standing back flip off the roof
of the caravan and landing out of sight.

45 EXT. BEHIND THE CARAVAN - CONTINUOUS

45

The Merry Misfits join Thespis as he brushes himself off.

THESPIS

How was it? Too much?

Although there are about eight other members of the Merry
Misfits, we need only know two or three of their names. They
are **PETER PEARWEATHER**, **FELIX FIGBOTTOM**, and **TIMOTHY TRUFFLE**.

PETER

It was splendid!

FELIX

You were wonderful!

TIMOTHY

We have them, right where we want
them!

THESPIS

I hope you're right. For to seduce
is to succeed. Now come! There is
much to be done!

Thespis and the rest of Merry Misfits exit the scene as Leopold comes pedaling past in the background. The camera follows Leopold on his bicycle as the Narrator chimes in.

NARRATOR

If seduction was the goal, then indeed Thespis had succeeded. For the news of their performance would soon be all anybody wanted to talk about. All that is, except for Leopold, for he was too busy thinking about the girl from the hospital.

Deep in a daydream, Leopold smiles.

46

EXT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - EVENING

46

Back at the flower shop, Leopold stands behind the front counter. Although he should be working, he instead stares off into space while continuing his daydreams of Lila.

NARRATOR

He did not know very much about her, but he knew enough. He knew her smile.

INSERT CLOSE UP
OF LILA SMILING

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

He knew her eyes.

INSERT CLOSE UP
OF LILA'S EYES

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

And he knew that if she wanted to, she could break his heart to pieces.

Still in the slow motion of Leopold's daydream, a flower vase goes spinning past Leopold's head. Right before it leaves the frame, we exit the slow motion with the loud bang of the vase shattering against the wall.

The camera spins around to reveal that the vase came from Leopold's boss, the portly and ironically cruel **MR. PETALPOTS**. With another vase aimed at Leopold, Petalpots stands at the ready.

MR. PETALPOTS
What did I tell you! NO DAYDREAMING
ON THE JOB!

Mr. Petalpots sends another vase hurling towards Leopold, who manages to dodge it just in time.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)
You see! This is why I'm getting
complaints from people that their
orders are coming in short!

LEOPOLD
I'm sorry sir, I was just thinking
about that new soil formula I've
been working on.

MR. PETALPOTS
Ah! I swear, if you didn't have
such a green thumb I would have
tossed you out on the street years
ago.

As Mr. Petalpots makes his way towards the back room, he steps on some pieces of broken vase.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)
Well don't just stand there. Clean
this up!

Doing as he's told, Leopold grabs a broom and starts to sweep up the shattered vases.

NARRATOR
Ignatius Petalpots, owner and
namesake of Petalpot's Flower Shop
was not always the passionately
bitter man you see today.

FLASHBACK:

47

INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - 20 YEARS AGO

47

The rundown flower shop of the present fades into the cleaner-looking flower shop of the past. A much younger, thinner, and less bald Petalpots comes out of the back room with some flowers in his hands and a smile on his face.

NARRATOR

In fact, not long ago one would've
been hard pressed to find a man
more joyous than Ignatius.

Petalpots joyfully hands a customer their flowers before his
beautiful and plump fiancée **ISABELLA** rings them up at the
cash register.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

A year before investing everything
he had into the flower shop, he had
met his wonderful fiancée, Isabella.

48 INT. PETALPOT'S HEART - FLASHBACK CONTINUED. 48

The young Ignatius leads Isabella into a heart shaped room,
symbolic of his actual heart.

NARRATOR

He'd let her into his heart and
even though the flower shop was
starting to take off financially,
it was Isabella who made him feel
like a truly rich man.

Together he and Isabella sit on a love seat and eat heart
shaped chocolates.

FADE TO BLACK.

49 EXT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FLASHBACK CONTINUED. 49

Mr. Petalpots steps out of the flower shop and finds Isabella
watering the flowers in front of the store window. He gives
her a kiss before heading off to take care of some errands.

THE NARRATOR

Ah yes, all was perfect for the
young couple... That is, until that
cursed day the lumberjack showed
up.

Suddenly a rustic pickup truck, stacked high with logs, pulls
up in front of the flower shop. Isabella watches as a buff
and handsome **LUMBERJACK** steps out of the truck. With his axe
swung over his shoulder, he approaches Isabella.

LUMBERJACK

May I interest you in some wood?

Struck with the size of both his muscles and his lumberly confidence, Isabella invites the lumberjack into the flower shop. She opens the door and they both walk in.

50 INT. PETALPOT'S HEART - FLASHBACK CONTINUED. 50

Isabella leads the Lumberjack into the room shaped like Petalpot's heart.

THE NARRATOR

From behind closed doors, they tore
Petalpot's heart to pieces.

Isabella grabs one of the framed pictures of Petalpots and throws it on the ground. The Lumberjack joins Isabella by breaking the room's coffee table with the swing of his axe.

51 INT. PETALPOT'S HEART - POST DESTRUCTION 51

Petalpots watches as Isabella and the Lumberjack walk out of the heart shaped room arm in arm.

In disbelief, Petalpots decides to inspect the heart shaped room for himself. He walks inside and discovers that everything is in ruins. The picture frames are broken, the wall paper is torn, all that remains is a single intact vase.

THE NARRATOR

When Petalpots learned the news of
Isabella's betrayal, he was
devastated. In that moment he vowed
to never love again. *

Petalpots walks over to the last vase. He picks it up, looks it over, and then smashes it on the ground.

END OF FLASHBACK

52 INT. PETALPOT'S SHOP - LATER THAT DAY - SUNSET 52

We return to the present day flower shop, where we find Leopold still sweeping up the broken vases Petalpots threw at him earlier. As he sweeps up, music from outside can be heard. The music grows louder and louder until...

The door to the flower shop bursts open, and the Merry Misfits start pouring in. The ribbon twirlers, confetti throwers, and trumpeters all line the walls of the flower shop. Felix Figbottom steps forth as the trumpeters blow their horns.

Mr. Petalpots comes out of the back room.

MR.PETALPOTS
Leopold! What is all that ruckus?

FELIX FIGBOTTOM
Presenting the honorable Thespis
Riddlesworth!

Silence.

Leopold and Mr. Petalpots wait for something to happen but nothing does. They look at each other in confusion and then HELLO! Out of nowhere Thespis appears in the flower shop laying across the front counter.

THESPIS
Hello! Which one of you is the one
they call Petalpots?

Leopold points to Mr. Petalpots.

THESPIS (CONT'D)
Ah! Mr. Petalpots. So very pleased
to meet you!

Thespis extends his hand.

MR. PETALPOTS
Get off my counter!

THESPIS
Ah yes! They told me you were a
feisty one.

Thespis hops down from the counter.

THESPIS (CONT'D)
Do pardon the mess, you see I'm
never one to miss an entrance.

MR. PETALPOTS
What do you want?

THESPIS
What I want is a show! A spectacle!
A feast for the eyes, ears, and
souls of everyone in your town! But
more importantly, I want your help
giving it to them!

MR. PETALPOTS
What are you talking about?

THESPIS

In two weeks time the troupe and I will be premiering our newest traveling show and it's important that the premier go off explosively.

PETER PEARWEATHER

That's how you build word of mouth!

THESPIS

As I was saying, we've got to end the show with a bang, which is why we've come to you. We were hoping you might be able to help us figure out a way to somehow shower the entire audience with flowers!

MR. PETALPOTS

The entire audience?

THESPIS

The entire audience!

MR. PETALPOTS

Well I...

Mr. Petalpots looks to Leopold for an answer, but all he can do is give an unsure shrug of the shoulders.

THESPIS

Make no mistake, you'll be well compensated for your services.

Thespis withdraws a fist sized bag of coins and slams them on the counter with a sly grin.

MR. PETALPOTS

You know what? I think we may be able to help you after all.

THESPIS

Wonderful!

53

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - PHYSICAL THERAPY ROOM - NEXT DAY

53

Lila sits in a chair near the entrance of the room. She watches as Nurse Baker helps her father get out of his wheel chair and onto a medical table.

NURSE BAKER

Now. We'll start each one of these sessions with stretches. Let me know when it starts to hurts.

Nurse Baker begins to lift Lila's father's leg.

LILA'S FATHER

Wait wait wait!

(beat)

Lila, wait for me outside. This could get weird.

54 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

54

Lila waits for her father by reading a book in the hallway. When her reading light is suddenly blocked a shadow, Lila looks up to discover Sunny Littles standing over her. Sunny holds the bouquet of mixed flowers in her hands.

SUNNY

Did you leave these?

LILA

I ah...

SUNNY LITTLES

I thought so. You know you were right.

LILA

About what?

SUNNY LITTLES

It's about time I have myself a look at Heaven.

55 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

55

With Sunny sitting on her bed, Lila finishes setting up the projector.

LILA

Ready?

Sunny gives an affirming nod of the head, so Lila flicks out the lights and starts the movie. Although we hear the movie's opening soundtrack, we don't see the film. Instead we see Sunny's eyes as she watches her movie for the first time.

LILA

So... What did you think?

Sunny attempts to dry her eyes before turning to Lila.

SUNNY LITTLES

Well... I can see why this would be one of your favorites.

LILA

I swear it gets better every time I watch it.

SUNNY LITTLES

You're too kind.

LILA

Well I mean it! And your performance it's just so...

SUNNY LITTLES

Lila, do you know what it was that first drew me to acting?

LILA

No.

SUNNY LITTLES

It was the pretend! You see, when I was younger I thought that if I could pretend hard enough, to the point where I might actually start to taste it, see it, live it! Well then... What's the difference? With acting, a person could be anyone they wanted. You could choose to spend the day strolling around Heaven instead of being down here stuck with the cards life dealt you.

There is a long silence between the two of them.

LILA

Then why not keep acting?

Sunny just laughs at the idea.

LILA (CONT'D)

I'm serious. I mean after all, you're Sunny Littles!

(MORE)

LILA (CONT'D)

You don't belong in a place like this. You belong under the lights!

SUNNY LITTLES

You really think so?

LILA

I can see it now! Sunny Little's triumphant return to acting!

SUNNY LITTLES

Ha. You're sweet kid. But... I don't know, even if I wanted to get back in the game. How could I? When you've been in a place like this as long as I have, they don't just let you walk out.

LILA

Can't you speak to one of the doctors? Certainly they'll see that you don't belong here anymore.

57 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DR. NEEDLEMAN'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY 57

Sunny sits in Dr. Needleman's office across from Dr. Needleman and his team of medical personnel.

The room is covered in so many degrees and plaques that you can hardly tell what color the wall is.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

So Ms. Littles, it's my understanding that you wish to leave Saint Marie's?

SUNNY LITTLES

That's right.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

And why is that?

SUNNY LITTLES

I've decided to return.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Return?

SUNNY LITTLES

Yes, you see I've been away long enough now and I feel that I am ready to go back.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

I see.

Dr. Needleman flips through Sunny's chart.

DR. NEEDLEMAN (CONT'D)

Ms. Littles, my records tell me that you've been under the care of Saint Marie's longer than any other patient. I'm curious to know, why the sudden request to leave? Why now?

SUNNY LITTLES

(frustrated)

I told you. I'm ready.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Yes but how are you feeling these days?

SUNNY LITTLES

These days I'm feeling perfectly fine.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Is that right?

SUNNY LITTLES

Yes. Yes it is.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

I see. And what about your mood swings?

SUNNY LITTLES

(a little snappy)

What about them?

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Do you feel you're still having trouble controlling them?

The mere mention of Sunny's mood swings makes her want to explode. She takes a deep breath, and manages to resist.

SUNNY LITTLES

No. No trouble at all.

Dr. Needleman gives Sunny an examining look up and down.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

I see.

58 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 58

Sunny exits Dr. Needleman's office to find Lila waiting in the hallway. She walks over and sits down beside her.

SUNNY LITTLES
They're talking it over.

59 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DR. NEEDLEMAN'S OFFICE 59

While discussing Sunny with his nurses, Dr. Needleman paces about the room.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
Well. What do you think?

NURSE BAKER
She has been here quite some time.
Perhaps she's been cured!

NURSE AGNES
Unlikely. Let's not forget that Ms.
Littles is here because she tried
to take her life after a failed
performance.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
Indeed. Nurse Agnes, look and see
if Ms. Little's insurance policy
pays out life time benefits.

Nurse Agnes flips through Sunny's chart.

NURSE AGNES
Full life, Doctor.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
I see.

60 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 60

Lila and Sunny sit awaiting the doctor's decision when a nurse walks over and hands Sunny a folder containing her application for release. The nurse walks away before Sunny opens the folder to find a red stamp that reads: Denied.

Sunny is devastated by the news. She makes a feeble attempt to hide her feelings but then...

SUNNY LITTLES
What did I tell you!

Sunny throws the application at Lila's feet and then storms off down the hallway.

LILA
Sunny, wait!

Lila gets up to follow Sunny but gives up when she sees her turn the corner.

61 EXT. CITY SQUARE - LATER THAT DAY 61

Unsure about what to do for Sunny, Lila makes her way back home.

As she walks through the city square, she notices a crowd of people circled around The Merry Misfits. Lila pushes through the crowd and catches them mid-street show.

In the middle of the circle, a strongman misfit balances several people up in the air. To the right, a misfit uses a large ring to spin himself rapidly on the ground. To the left, a misfit juggles five bowling pins high into the air.

All at once, the misfits bring their tricks to an end and the crowd goes wild.

62 EXT. THE MISFITS' CARAVAN - AFTER THE PERFORMANCE 62

Lila walks up to the Merry Misfits' Caravan, which is covered in posters for their upcoming performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

She walks up the stairs to the caravan's door and gently knocks.

63 INT. THE MISFITS' CARAVAN - THESPIS' OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 63

The knock goes unheard because on the other side of the door Thespis is busy being unsuccessful in his attempts to try on his newly arrived Midsummer costume.

The show's sassy costume designer, Felix Figbottom tries with all his might to squeeze Thespis into the tight fitting costume.

THESPIS
Why won't it fit?

FELIX FIGBOTTOM
Well I took the right measurements.
I'm sure of it.

THESPIS

What about the other costumes?

FELIX FIGBOTTOM

They're all fitting fine.

Felix walks over to a table where some of the other costumes lay. He picks up a pair of fairy wings, and throws them on.

FELIX FIGBOTTOM (CONT'D)

See? A perfect fit.

THESPIS

I agree, never has someone been more suited to play the king of the fairies.

Insulted, Felix rolls his eyes at Thespis.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Come. Let us try again.

The door to Thespis' office slowly creaks open as Lila peers inside. She is too disturbed to look away when she finds Thespis and Felix struggling to get the costume on in a very suggestive position.

FELIX FIGBOTTOM

I can't get it on!

THESPIS

Well try harder!

The sight is too much for Lila. She puts her hand over her mouth in a failed attempt to hide her gasp. Felix looks over and sees Lila standing in the doorway.

FELIX FIGBOTTOM

Someone's here!

THESPIS

What?

Thespis turns to see a confused and frightened Lila.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Why hello there!

LILA

Oh my! I am SO sorry!

Lila moves to leave, as Thespis stands up and knocks Felix off of him.

THESPIS

Nonsense! We were just finishing up
here weren't we Felix?

Felix finishes gathering up the rest of the costumes and heads for the exit. On his way out, he turns to Lila.

FELIX FIGBOTTOM

He's all yours.

THESPIS

Come in, come in.

Thespis brushes himself off and then takes a seat behind his desk. As Lila cautiously walks into the office, she looks around at the posters and masks that line the walls.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Please, have a seat. Candy?

Thespis holds out a bowl of candies.

LILA

What? Oh, no thank you.

THESPIS

Suit yourself.

Thespis helps himself to a small hard candy.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Now. What can I do you for?

LILA

Well Sir, first of all, I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed your performers today.

THESPIS

A fan! Marvelous! Here, have a head shot.

Thespis slaps a head shot of himself on the table and slides it in front of Lila. He is substantially younger in the head shot and it's also already signed. It simply reads "Stay Beautiful."

THESPIS (CONT'D)

It's funny, I still remember when I took that picture.

Thespis effortlessly matches the pose in his head shot.

LILA
Sir.

THESPIS
Yes?

LILA
How did you become an actor?

THESPIS
How did I become an actor? Why, I was born an actor, naturally. Although, one mustn't discount my years of rigorous schooling.

LILA
Oh. I see.

THESPIS
Why do you ask?

LILA
Um...

THESPIS
Interested in becoming an actor are we?

LILA
Well...

THESPIS
It's going to take training!

Thespis slams his fist on the table.

LILA
Oh no sir, it's actually for a friend of mine.

THESPIS
A friend you say?

LILA
Yes, you see I have a friend who I think would make an excellent addition to your troupe!

THESPIS
My troupe?

LILA
The Merry Misfits!

THESPIS

Ah! So you have a friend whom you believe is worthy of Misfittery, do you? How cute. Now listen here um... What did you say your name was again?

LILA

Lila.

THESPIS

Lily, let me tell you something about theater. One does not simply walk into a troupe the likes of the Merry Misfits willy-nilly. It takes talent. Pizzazz. Years of auditions...

LILA

An audition!

THESPIS

Excuse me?

LILA

Maybe you could give my friend an audition!

THESPIS

An audition?

LILA

Isn't that what you said it takes?

THESPIS

I said it takes audition"s"! Besides, it doesn't work like that. Your friend needs experience, a resume, headshots, and an agent!

LILA

Oh, I see. Well, where does one find an agent?

THESPIS

Nobody knows my child. Nobody knows.

LILA

Well there must be something you can do. You are the troupe leader, aren't you?

THESPIS

I am.

LILA

So you're the leader of the Merry Misfits, the number one member of the number one theater group the world has ever seen!

THESPIS

Go on...

LILA

Well it's just that I can't think of anyone more suited to help a star learn to shine in these dark times than you!

THESPIS

Don't think I don't I see what you're doing. You're trying to play to my ego.

LILA

I...

THESPIS

Well it worked! For you speak the truth, I am a young actor's best shot at making it big these days. Tell you what, bring your friend by the caravan tomorrow and we'll try to squeeze in a quick audition.

LILA

Oh thank you! She's going to be so excited, I just know it!

THESPIS

Now don't go getting your hopes up. After all it's unlikely she'll make the cut anyway. Now, is there anything else I can help you with?

LILA

No, sir.

THESPIS

In that case, If you don't mind I have a three o'clock with my set designer.

LILA

Oh. Okay, well I'll just be on my way then. Thanks again.

Lila stands up, and makes her way to the door.

THESPIS

Good day.

64

INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

64

Mr. Petalpots finishes up a transaction with a voluptuous woman by the name of **MAGGIE MAPLETON**. Ms. Mapleton wears a large brimmed hat and carries a chihuahua in her purse.

MR. PETALPOTS

Let's see here, a dozen daisies for Ms. Mapleton. That will be seven twenty five.

Mr. Petalpots hands a bouquet of flowers over to Ms. Mapleton. She smells them before taking out her pocket book and handing Mr. Petalpots the money.

MS. MAPLETON

(flirtacious)

Lovely weather we're having.

MR. PETALPOTS

Would you like a receipt?

MS. MAPLETON

Oh no, that won't be necessary.

MR. PETALPOTS

Very well then.

MS. MAPLETON

Tootle-oo!

MR. PETALPOTS

Take care.

Mr. Petalpots waits until Ms. Mapleton exits the shop before yelling for Leopold.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Leo!

Leopold comes running out of the back room.

LEOPOLD

Yes Mr. Petalpots?

MR. PETALPOTS

How are the fireworks that crazy actor wanted coming?

LEOPOLD

They're coming along okay I guess. Still trying to get the explosives to combust without incinerating the petals.

Mr. Petalpots begins to put on his coat.

MR. PETALPOTS

Well try harder! There's lots of money to be made with this account. From now on you are not to leave the shop until you've got it working!

LEOPOLD

But Mr. Petalpots! I was hoping to have this Friday off. You see, there's this girl I've been meaning to...

MR. PETALPOTS

Out of the question! There's no time!

LEOPOLD

But...

MR. PETALPOTS

No buts! You work, eat, and sleep in this shop until it works perfectly! Do you understand?

LEOPOLD

(defeated)

Yes, sir.

MR. PETALPOTS

Good! Now, I'm off to my lunch meeting with the mulch brothers. I should be back later this afternoon. Can I trust you not to screw things up for once while I'm gone?

LEOPOLD

Yes, sir.

MR. PETALPOTS

Good!

Mr. Petalpots puts his hat on and walks out the door. Leopold just stands still behind the counter digesting his boss' demands when suddenly Mr. Petalpots bursts back in.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)
Get to work!

65 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - BACK ROOM - LATER 65

At his work desk in the back room, Leopold attempts to build the firework.

He shovels some gun powder into a casting shell before throwing in some tulips. He then uses a pair of tongs to mix in a flask of hot and bubbling magenta colored liquid.

Nothing happens at first, but when Leopold leans over the casting to see inside... BANG! He is blasted in the face with smoke and flowers.

66 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - CONTINUOUS 66

With his face covered in ash, Leopold stumbles out of the back room coughing violently. He finds a sink behind the front counter and uses it to wash his face.

With his face under the faucet he doesn't notice Lila entering the shop. She walks around the shop a bit before approaching the front counter.

LILA
Hello?

With dirt still covering much of his face, Leopold pops up from the sink.

LEOPOLD
How can I help you...

When Leopold sees that the person in the store is actually Lila, he is frozen like a deer in the headlights.

LILA
Oh hi. There you are. Petalpot's Flower Shop, just like your name tag said.

LEOPOLD
(the opposite of smooth)
Name tag? Oh! Right! Well there you have it, another name tag success.

LILA
You have something on your face.

LEOPOLD
I do?

Leopold looks at his reflection in a nearby vase only to find himself looking dirty and warped like a funhouse mirror. He quickly grabs a towel and starts wiping his face clean.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
Sorry about that. I was just
working in the back.

Leopold stops wiping his face, but there is still dirt on his forehead.

LILA
You missed a spot. Here, allow me.

Lila takes the towel from Leopold and wipes the last piece of dirt from his face.

LILA (CONT'D)
There you go.

LEOPOLD
Thanks.

There is an awkward moment of silence between them.

LILA
I brought you something.

Lila takes out one of her home made dioramas and places on it on the front counter for Leopold to see.

LEOPOLD
What's this?

LILA
Just a little something to say
thank you for the other day.

LEOPOLD
You shouldn't have.

LILA
It's a diorama I made. You look
inside through the hole on the side
and then... well here, take a look.

Leopold leans over and looks inside the diorama. He sees that Lila has successfully used forced perspective to create the illusion that a giraffe is watching the sunset over a tropical shore adjacent a giant pineapple.

He stands up and faces Lila.

LEOPOLD
You made that?

Lila humbly nods her head.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
Amazing.

LILA
I was also hoping I could pick up some more flowers.

LEOPOLD
Oh? Well what kind did you have in mind?

LILA
I'm not sure.

LEOPOLD
Well what's the occasion?

LILA
Let's just say I got a friend that needs cheering up.

LEOPOLD
Cheering up, huh? Well, as you can see we have all your basic floral varieties in the front room. Daises, tulips... Or maybe you're looking for something a little more unique?

67

INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

67

Lila and Leopold walk through the first back room which is full of soil bags and empty plant holders before they come to a door.

LEOPOLD
If my boss knew I was taking you back here he would freak but, he's gone so... what the heck.

Leopold opens the door for Lila and the two of them step into the inner sanctum of his work room. Inside the room is covered in lush plants and warm colorful holiday lights.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
If you're looking for a special
flower, this is the place.

LILA
Woah!

LEOPOLD
Here, check this out.

The two of them walk over to the center work table where some wondrous plants are laid out. The first one resembles a Venus Fly Trap.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
By doing some careful cross
pollination I was able to create
this guy.

LILA
What is he?

LEOPOLD
He's a Vegetarian Venus Fly Trap.

Leopold takes out a baby carrot and holds it near the plant's mouth. The plant opens wider as the carrot nears until finally... SNAP! It shuts tight and devours the carrot whole.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
Pretty neat huh?

LILA
Yeah, just a bit cannibalistic.

LEOPOLD
I guess I never really thought
about it that way.

Next to the Vegetarian Venus Fly Trap, Lila notices a couple of small test tubes glowing with a vibrant green fluid. She picks one up for closer inspection.

LILA
What are these?

LEOPOLD
Careful!

Leopold takes the test tube away from her.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
These are all filled with an
extract I took from a therapeutic
plant they use down in the Amazon.
Very powerful and very
hallucinogenic.

Leopold hides the test tubes away in his satchel before
walking Lila over to yet another plant.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
Take a look at this little guy.

Lila takes a closer look at the plant and notices that its
petals are shimmering with various colors.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
They called it a Mood flower. Named
such because its petals will change
colors based on the feelings of
those near it.

LILA
Really?

All of a sudden all the petals turn a beautiful lemon yellow.

LEOPOLD
Yellow represents curiosity.

LILA
How curious!

Lila looks to the far end of the table and sees both the fire
work casting and the flask full of bubbling magenta liquid.
She walks over for closer inspection.

LILA (CONT'D)
Ooo, what's this?

LEOPOLD
Now that, is what I'm currently
working on.

Leopold joins her by the bubbling flask.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)
It's supposed to be a kind of
firework that shoots out rose
petals.

LILA

That sounds wonderful.

LEOPOLD

It would be if I could actually get the darn thing to work. I still haven't been able to keep the explosives stable long enough for the petals to escape unburned.

LILA

(matter of factual)

Have you tried lowering the temperature of your explosive to help slow down its reaction rate?

Lila dials back the burner under the bubbling flask before stirring its contents with a long glass stirring rod.

LILA (CONT'D)

You might also try coating the petals in a polymeric membrane to help protect them.

As Lila leans down to inspect the flask, the liquid inside changes colors. It goes from being a hot magenta to a glowing shade of emerald green.

LEOPOLD

Well I'll be...

Leopold looks at Lila, impressed with her more than ever.

LILA

Yep, I think we've got good chemistry.

LEOPOLD

We do?

(realizing she's being literal)

Oh right, that's fantastic.

With Lila too focused on the flask to notice, Leopold lets his emotions show a bit by letting out a soft sigh. He's so in love that the Mood Flower picks up on it and begins to turn a blushing shade of red.

Trying to hide the flower's color change, Leopold quickly grabs a nearby packing box, and stuffs the flower inside.

LILA

That should do it.

Lila looks up and nearly catches Leopold hiding the Mood Flower.

LILA (CONT'D)
What's that?

LEOPOLD
What?

LILA
(pointing to the boxed
mood-flower)
That.

LEOPOLD
Oh. It's...

Just then the sound of the door bell can be heard ringing in the front room.

MR. PETALPOTS (O.S.)
LEOPOLD!

Leopold looks towards the front room and then back at Lila.

LEOPOLD
Oh God, it's my boss! You shouldn't be back here! Here just take this one!

Leopold shoves the box with the Mood Flower into Lila's arms, before running towards the front room.

LILA
But I...

68 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - CONTINUOUS 68

Leopold enters the front room to find Mr. Petalpots tidying up the shop.

LEOPOLD
Hello, Mr. Petalpots.

MR. PETALPOTS
Leo, when you get a chance bring out some more lilacs. These are starting to fade.

LEOPOLD
Yes Sir. How was lunch?

Leopold walks behind the counter and picks up the vase of faded Lilacs while Mr. Petalpots begins taking off his coat and hat.

MR. PETALPOTS

Awful! The Mulch brothers want to raise their wholesale prices ten percent this year! 15 years of business and now they're choking me like a weed!

As Mr. Petalpots turns away to hang up his coat and hat, Lila can be seen trying to sneak out of the back room unnoticed.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Did you at least get any work done while I was out?

LEOPOLD

Oh yes! In fact, I think I figured out how to get the firework functioning properly.

MR. PETALPOTS

Good!

As Mr. Petalpots turns back around to face Leopold, Lila just manages to avoid his sight by ducking behind some flowers and ferns.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

You know if there's one thing I've always said, it's that hard work is the only thing you can count on paying you back in this world...

Mr. Petalpots continues to lecture Leopold while Lila sneaks closer to the door. As she begins to open the door, it softly taps the doorbell. Mr. Petalpots starts to turn towards the door, but is distracted by the sound of Leopold "accidentally" dropping the vase of lilacs on the floor.

Mr. Petalpots glares up at Leopold.

LEOPOLD

Oops.

With Mr. Petalpots looking the other way, Lila sneaks out the front door without being spotted.

MR. PETALPOTS

I swear you're going to be the death of me.

69

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

69

Back at Saint Marie's Gil and Rupert are quickly devising their latest prank on poor little Petey.

GIL
You got the thing?

RUPERT
Yep.

GIL
Hee hee.

Rupert and Gil walk over to Petey who is watching TV from a nearby couch.

RUPERT
Hey there, Petey.

Rupert picks up the remote and turns off the TV.

PETEY
What do you want?

RUPERT
Well Gil and I were talking and well... the two of us just wanted to say that we're sorry for giving you such a hard time is all.

PETEY
Really?

GIL
Yeah. Really.

The two of them share a moment of silence, and Petey really feels that Rupert is being sincere. Just then, Rupert motions to Petey as if he has food stuck to his cheek.

PETEY
What?

RUPERT
(pointing to his own face)
You've got some food stuck.

PETEY
I do?

RUPERT
Yeah it's, just a little schmutz.
Here, let me get it for you.

Rupert leans in close to Petey, but instead of helping him get food off his face, he slaps a red Indian bindi sticker right in the middle of his forehead.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
 (trying to hold in his
 laughter)
 There we go. Hey Petey, no hard
 feelings alright?

Rupert extends his hand for Petey to shake, even though he obviously can't due to his casts.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
 What? No good?

GIL
 Hahaha!

RUPERT
 Hahaha!

*

As Gil and Rupert walk away from poor Petey laughing their faces off, Petey glances over at his reflection in the Television. He sees the bindi on his forehead and tries to remove it. Eventually he gives up with a sigh.

Just then, Lila comes walking though the day room. With the Mood Flower in hand, she walks straight past Petey in route to Sunny's room.

70 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 70

Lila walks down the hallway towards Sunny's room. When she gets to her door, she softly knocks. There is no response so Lila turns the door knob.

71 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM 71

As the door opens up, Lila sticks her head inside to survey the room.

LILA
 Sunny?

Lila sees Sunny silently sitting by her vanity dresser wearing a glazed look of melancholy. Unable to look Lila in the eyes, Sunny turns her back as Lila enters the room.

LILA (CONT'D)
 I brought you something.

SUNNY LITTLES
 They denied me.

Lila takes the mood flower and places it on the vanity table, while Sunny continues:

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)

Just like that, they denied me. It seems I've outdone myself this time. Maybe I'm crazy after all. Why else would I get myself locked up in a place like this?

As her eyes start to tear, Sunny turns around and finds her self face to face with the mood flower. Sunny is entranced as the flower morphs in appearance. The petals turn a dark shade of blue, while the flower's center resembles a starry night.

Sunny sheds a single tear.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)

I'm worthless.

LILA

You're not worthless Sunny!

(beat)

Tell me this, if you're worthless then how come I was able to score you an audition?

SUNNY LITTLES

An audition?

As Lila reads her next line, the Mood flower behind Sunny begins to shift from dark blue to vibrant orange!

LILA

That's right! I just walked in and let them know that I was representing the great Sunny Littles, and snap! They were practically begging me to have you read for them!

SUNNY LITTLES

But what will I wear?

(snapping back to reality)

Oh, who am I kidding? I'm all locked up, remember? What good's an audition when you can't make the call?

The melancholy glaze returns to Sunny and as she slinks down in her chair, the Mood Flower reverts back to dark blue.

72 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

72

Lila leaves Sunny's room. As she heads towards the day room, she catches sight of the hospital **JANITOR** using his keys to unlock a side emergency exit door.

As he steps outside to take his lunch break, Lila looks into the day room and sees her father being wheeled out of his physical therapy session. She has an idea.

LILA
Psst... Dad! Come here.

LILA'S FATHER
What is it?

LILA
I need your help with something.

73 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S - OUTSIDE EMERGENCY EXIT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

The janitor finishes eating his sandwich before wiping his face and heading back inside St. Marie's.

74 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY

74

With her head peering around the corner, Lila sees that the janitor is making his way back inside and realizes it's now time to execute her plan. She looks down the adjacent hallway where her father stands ready with his wheel chair.

LILA
Now!

Balanced on one foot, Lila's dad uses both his arms to flip his wheelchair high into the air. Before it hits the ground, we cut to the janitor walking back inside.

BANG!

Startled by the sudden sound of the wheel chair crashing against the floor, the Janitor hardly has time to process it before Lila comes running around the corner.

LILA (CONT'D)
Help! He's fallen down!

The janitor looks at Lila dumbfounded.

LILA (CONT'D)
Hurry!

Lila runs down the hallway and the janitor follows her around the corner to find Lila's father underneath his wheel chair, pretending to be trapped.

LILA'S FATHER

Get it off me! Oh how it hurts!

THE JANITOR

Hold on! I gotcha!

The janitor bends down to pick the wheel chair off of Lila's father. With his back turned, Lila makes an attempt to snag his keys but is unsuccessful.

JANITOR

Here we go.

The janitor picks up Lila's father and carefully places him back in his wheelchair.

THE JANITOR

How's that? You alright?

Lila's father looks himself over, while Lila makes another failed attempt to steal the keys away.

LILA'S FATHER

Yes, yes, I think I'm alright after all.

THE JANITOR

Good. Slow down next time. These things aren't toys, ya know.

(beat)

Okay now, you two have a good day.

Having saved the day, the janitor begins to walk off. Still without the keys, Lila turns to her father. He speaks in french so the janitor can't understand him.

LILA'S FATHER

(in French; subtitled)

Did you get the keys?

LILA

(in French; subtitled)

No! What should I do?

LILA'S FATHER

(in French; subtitled)

Go get them!

Lila turns to run after the janitor. As she gets close to him, she takes desperate measures before he can sense her presence.

LILA

Hi-yah!

Using a single karate chop, Lila renders the janitor unconscious. After falling to the floor with a thud, Lila removes the keys from the janitor's belt.

As Lila flips the keys around her finger, she feels a tug at her ankle. She looks down and is shocked to find the janitor regaining consciousness.

Lila has no choice but to kick the janitor in the head, rendering him unconscious.

LILA (CONT'D)

I am SO sorry!

She makes sure he is still breathing and then drags him by his ankles into the adjacent closet to ensure no one will find him.

Having hid him away, Lila returns to the hallway to find her father waiting for her.

LILA'S FATHER

So?

Lila shows her father the successfully swiped keys.

LILA

Voila!

75

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM

75

Depressed as ever, Sunny sits low in her chair and stares off into her vanity mirror. Lila appears over Sunny's shoulder before tossing the keys on the table.

LILA

It's call time!

Sunny looks at the keys and then Lila. The shift of the Mood Flower from dark blue to vibrant orange and the semi-manic look of excitement on Sunny's face let us know that she's ready for the breakout scene!

76

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY

76

Lila pops her head out of Sunny's room to check if the coast is clear. Her father gives her the "you're all clear" sign, so she leads Sunny out of her room and into the hallway.

The two of them walk like cat burglars as they make their way to the exit door.

SUNNY LITTLES

We've just got to be back before dinner time. That's when they'll do the next head count.

LILA

No sweat.

Finally, they come face-to-face with the exit. Lila takes out the janitor's keys and realizes that she doesn't know which one fits the door. Quickly, she tries to find the key that fits.

Just then, Lila's father spots Nurse Agnes walking through the day room with a clipboard in hand. He tries to warn Lila and Sunny, but is unable to get their attention. He's left with no choice but to try and slow her down.

LILA'S FATHER

Nurse Agnes! Nurse Agnes please, I need to ask you something!

NURSE AGNES

(she keeps walking)
What is it?

LILA'S FATHER

Well it's just that I have this strange rash on my neck that I was hoping you could give a moment's inspection.

NURSE AGNES

All nonemergency examinations require an appointment.

LILA'S FATHER

Ah, but this IS an emergency! Who knows what a rash like this could mean? Please Nurse Agnes, you're the only one with any sense in this place.

NURSE AGNES

Very well, where is it?

LILA'S FATHER

Here!

Lila's father pulls his shirt collar down to expose his neck.

Back at the exit door, Lila continues her struggle to find the correct key.

SUNNY LITTLES

Come on! Come on! Come on!

LILA

Just give me a second.

Nurse Agnes finishes examining Lila's father's neck.

NURSE AGNES

I don't see anything. Your neck
looks perfectly fine.

She continues walking down the hallway towards Sunny and Lila so Lila's father wheels after her still trying to buy more time.

LILA'S FATHER

No wait! Look again! It's malignant
I tell you! Please, Nurse Agnes,
please!

As Nurse is about to round the corner and catch Lila and Sunny escaping, Lila's father wheels up to her and pulls her arm so that she faces him instead.

LILA'S FATHER (CONT'D)

You're the only one I can trust
with my body!

When Nurse Agnes pulls away from Lila's father, he looks behind her and sees that Lila and Sunny have escaped!

NURSE AGNES

Now just you listen here! If you
want an examination you will need
to set up an appointment to see Dr.
Needleman like everyone else! Do
you understand?

LILA'S FATHER

You know what? I think I'll just go
and set one up right now. Ta ta.

Lila's father zips off in his wheel chair as Nurse Agnes continues on her way, steaming and annoyed.

77 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S - OUTSIDE EMERGENCY EXIT DOOR 77

With smiles across their faces, Lila and Sunny run off the hospital grounds like the wind.

78 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - BACK ROOM - DAY 78

Back at his work station, Leopold makes another attempt to get the flower firework formula perfected.

Now wearing eye goggles, he takes Lila's advice and pours a clear polymeric membrane into a tray full of rose blossoms. He then takes the coated rose blossoms and places them into the firework casting. Using a pair of gloves and some tongs, he finishes by pouring in the emerald green explosive.

He waits to see if the explosive will erupt again but this time, the formula seems to hold stable.

79 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 79

As Mr. Petalpots finishes up with a customer, Leopold emerges triumphantly from the back room.

LEOPOLD

I did it!

MR. PETALPOTS

Did what?

LEOPOLD

The firework! I finally managed to get it to stabilize!

MR. PETALPOTS

That's wonderful, Leo.

LEOPOLD

I'll let Mr. Riddlesworth know he can pick it up tomorrow.

MR. PETALPOTS

Very good.

LEOPOLD

Okay, well I see you tomorrow then.

Leopold begins to take off his apron.

MR. PETALPOTS

Where do you think you're going?

LEOPOLD

Well, you said that once I had the firework working I could have the day off.

MR. PETALPOTS

I said nothing of the sort! There are flowers that need delivering.

LEOPOLD

But you see, there's this girl and I am afraid that if I don't take her out soon...

MR. PETALPOTS

"This girl?" Your saying you want to miss a day's pay for a girl? Psst, I won't have it!

LEOPOLD

But...

MR. PETALPOTS

No buts! Love is a lie Leopold! The sooner you realize that, the sooner you can focus on what really matters in this world. Fiscal prosperity!

(beat)

Now please, take these flowers and get going with your deliveries.

Leopold wishes he could do something, but is forced to give in to his boss' orders. As he goes to grab the flowers, Mr. Petalpots grabs his hand.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Leo... One day you'll realize I'm doing you a favor.

Without a word of reply, Leopold pulls his hand away, picks up the flowers, and walks out of the flower shop.

80

EXT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - CONTINUOUS

80

As Leopold walks over to his bicycle, he notices the voluptuous Maggie Mapleton spying through the shop's front window.

LEOPOLD

Can I help you?

MAGGIE MAPLETON

I um... Tell me, do you know if Mr. Petalpots is in?

LEOPOLD

Unfortunately. But if I were you, I'd come back another time. He isn't thinking straight.

Ms. Mapleton looks back through the front window just in time to catch Mr. Petalpots smell some tulips and then violently sneeze.

MAGGIE MAPLETON

Oh my.

As Leopold pedals away on his bicycle, his face tells us that he just had an idea.

81 EXT. CITY SQUARE - LATER THAT DAY

81

Lila and Sunny stroll through the crowded city square. Still wearing her hospital robes, Sunny watches the passersby.

SUNNY LITTLES

You know, it used to be that if I went outside I couldn't help but be swarmed by scores of adoring fans. But now they all just pass me by as if I were a ghost. I suppose even stars fade away.

LILA

Sunny look!

Lila points towards a poster advertising the Merry Misfits' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The two of them walk over to it for closer inspection.

SUNNY LITTLES

William Shakespeare. My absolute favorite.

LILA

Really?

SUNNY LITTLES

Oh yes. Reading his plays as a girl was what first opened my eyes to the stage, ya know. I could recite his plays by heart.

When he finally catches up to her, he manages to cut her off by bringing his bicycle to a screeching halt in front of her.

MS. MAPLETON

Oh my.

LEOPOLD

Ms. Mapleton! Oh, I'm sorry, did I startle you?

MS. MAPLETON

That's quite alright.

LEOPOLD

I have something for you.

Leopold pulls the letter out of his back pocket and hands it her.

MS. MAPLETON

What's this?

Ms. Mapleton turns the letter over to find her name written in beautiful calligraphy on the other side.

LEOPOLD

It's a letter from Mr. Petalpots. All he told me was that it was urgent and that I had to get it to you right away.

MS. MAPLETON

Oh. I see. Well thank you very much.

LEOPOLD

Don't mention it. Besides, I owed him a favor. See you later!

Leopold pedals off on his bicycle in the same direction from which he came.

MS. MAPLETON

Tootle-oo!

Ms. Mapleton opens up the envelope and pulls out the letter that Leopold (or rather Mr. Petalpots) wrote her. Although we can't see what the letter reads exactly, it's obviously something steamy as Ms. Mapleton begins to blush bright red.

87 EXT. CLOTHING BOUTIQUE - DAY 87

In slow motion, the doors to a clothing boutique swing open. Lila walks out donning a pair of sleek sunglasses while Sunny follows close behind wearing a simple but elegant dress, the kind befitting a movie star.

88 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' CARAVAN - LATER THAT DAY 88

Ready for the audition, Lila and Sunny make their way up to the Merry Misfits' caravan. Before they enter, Lila turns to Sunny for a brief prep talk.

LILA

Now remember Sunny, this is just an audition, so there's no need to get nervous.

SUNNY LITTLES

Nervous? Do I look nervous to you?

LILA

No. It's just that I thought...

SUNNY LITTLES

Sunny Littles doesn't audition for parts. She simply gives others the privilege.

Sunny takes a brief ego filled pause before Thespis interrupts with a scream from inside the caravan.

THESPIS (O.S.)

Are you insane?

89 INT. THE MISFITS' CARAVAN - CONTINUOUS 89

Inside the caravan, Thespis stands beside his costume designer and fellow actor, Felix Figbottom. Together they work to squeeze Thespis into a lacy corset.

THESPIS

There is no way that I am going to fit into this God forsaken corset!

Thespis rips the corset off and throws it on the ground before Felix goes to pick it up.

FELIX FIGBOTTOM

But Thespis, it's the only way you're going to fit into your costume in time for the opening.

THESPIS

Nonsense! You're the costumer;
surely there's something you can
do!

FELIX FIGBOTTM

(under his breath)

I guess I could take away all your
pies.

THESPIS

What did you say?

FELIX FIGBOTTM

I said, there's nothing left to
try! I've made all the alterations
I can and there's not enough time
to sew a whole new tunic.

THESPIS

Not enough time? What have you been
doing these past few days?

FELIX FIGBOTTM

Finishing this!

Felix picks up a large papier-mache donkey mask and throws it
to Thespis.

THESPIS

You did always love making me look
like an ass. (beat) Well, you'll
have to do something!

FELIX FIGBOTTM

I told you, there's simply not
enough time!

THESPIS

Well you're mad if you think I'll
be able to breathe let alone
perform Shakespeare in this mask
and a corset! Here!

Thespis puts the donkey mask down on his desk, and then
removes his tunic before chucking it at Felix.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

I don't care if you have to stay up
all night. You either fix this
costume, make a new one, or find
another job!

Felix glares at Thespis.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Well what are you waiting for? Get to work!

90 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' CARAVAN - CONTINUOUS 90

With the tunic under his arm and curses under his breath, Felix exits the caravan and storms off past Sunny and Lila. Lila turns to Sunny.

LILA

Wait here.

Lila climbs up the steps of the caravan and begins to turn the door knob.

91 INT. MERRY MISFITS' CARAVAN - CONTINUOUS 91

Lila cracks the door open and peers inside.

LILA

Mr. Riddlesworth?

Thespis turns around and reveals that he's now wearing the papier-mache donkey mask. The sight of which startles Lila.

THESPIS

(muffled by the mask)

Who's there?

Realizing he's still got the mask on, Thespis takes it off.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Ah, it's you again. What do you want?

LILA

I am here for the audition.

THESPIS

The audition?

LILA

Yes. I brought the friend of mine I was telling you about for her audition.

THESPIS

Ah yes, the audition! Well you'll have to come back later.

LILA

Later?

THESPIS

I've had my day's fill of loony actors asking me to bend over backwards for them!

LILA

But we're here now. And you said...

Thespis stands up as to intimidate Lila.

THESPIS

I said LATER! Now begone and leave me to my thoughts before I change my mind about the audition all together!

LILA

But...

As Thespis begins to move in closer on Lila, his overbearing presence forces her out the door.

THESPIS

Begone! And take your no name actor friend with you!

With a loud bang, Thespis slams the door shut on Lila.

92

EXT. MERRY MISFITS' CARAVAN - CONTINUOUS

92

As Lila walks down the steps of the caravan unsure of how she's going to break the news to Sunny, she realizes it won't be necessary. Sunny heard every word through the caravan's thin walls.

SUNNY LITTLES

No name, huh?

LILA

Sunny...

SUNNY LITTLES

Save it! After all, there's no use bending over for just another looney actor!

Sunny turns away and begins to head back towards Saint Marie's.

LILA
Sunny, wait!

SUNNY LITTLES
Why? So you can set me up for
another humiliation? HA! Forget it!
Face it Lila, I'm done and anyone
who thinks otherwise would do best
to get their head out of the
clouds.

Sunny storms off, leaving Lila all alone.

93 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - NIGHT 93

Lila makes her way down the hallway towards Sunny's room. She
knocks on the door.

LILA
Sunny?

Lila knocks again.

LILA (CONT'D)
Sunny, say something!

There is no reply.

As she gives up and begins walking away, melancholy accordion
music begins to play in a minor key.

94 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - LOW POINT MONTAGE - NIGHT 94

The music continues to play as Lila wanders around Saint
Marie's with her head hung low. In slow motion, she sees all
the depressing sights of the hospital.

An ill elderly patient coughing hard, a young man with his
jaw severely bandaged. Poor little Petey, who still wears the
bindi and just sits helplessly while old Rupert and Gil flick
almonds at him.

95 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - LOW POINT MONTAGE CONTINUED 95

Leopold sits alone in his back room. With his head hung low,
he feeds a strawberry to his vegetarian Venus Fly Trap.

96 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM - MONTAGE CONTINUED 96

Sunny picks up one of her old head shots. In the head shot, she's a starry eyed girl. A stark contrast to the teary eyed woman she sees reflected in the vanity mirror.

She lays her head in her hands and begins to sob.

97 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S - ROOFTOP - MONTAGE CONTINUED 97

The camera cranes up from outside Sunny's window to find Lila sitting atop the roof of the hospital. With the full moon behind her, she plays her accordion revealing that the melancholy music scoring the low point montage has been coming from her all along. *

FADE TO BLACK.

98 EXT. LILA'S HOUSE - BACK YARD - MORNING 98

Lila's father takes a kettle of fresh breakfast tea and pours two cups. He places one of the cups in front of Lila who sits at the table with her head down.

LILA'S FATHER
Cup of tea?

LILA
No.

LILA'S FATHER
Still feeling down huh?

LILA
Do you think I was wrong to get her hopes up like that?

LILA'S FATHER
Oh, I don't know. Hopes come and go, I suppose.

LILA
Maybe I do have my head in the clouds.

LILA'S FATHER
So what if your head's in the clouds? The air is cleaner up there, after all.

Lila's father takes out the large and beautiful ornament he broke his leg trying to hang earlier. As he delivers his next line, he attaches the ornament to a long fruit picking pole.

LILA'S FATHER

Lila look, ever since you were a little girl, you've seen the world a bit differently than the others. Where they saw an old relic, you saw an ancient treasure. That's a beautiful thing. What you've gotta realize is, when people tell you your head's in the clouds, it's only because they're afraid of what it means to leave the ground. But if you ask me...

Still sitting in the wheelchair, Lila's father uses the long pole to successfully hang the final ornament high up in the tree.

LILA'S FATHER

...The view's only ever as good as your willing to climb.

The camera pulls out to reveal the backyard tree in all it's ornamental glory.

99

INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

99

Leopold stands behind the front counter trying hard not to fall asleep. Mr. Petalpots enters from the back room.

MR.PETALPOTS

Alright Leo, I'm going home to soak my feet and pass out. Be sure to lock everything up!

LEOPOLD

Yes, sir.

After putting on his trench coat, Mr.Petalpots finds four tickets to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in his pocket.

MR.PETALPOTS

Ah, that's right. When I dropped off the flowerwork today, those Merry men gave me some tickets to their show. Ha! No, thank you.

Mr. Petalpots tosses the tickets in a wastebasket and then exits the shop.

100 EXT. PETALPOT'S FLOWER SHOP - THE NIGHT BEFORE 100

Mr. Petalpots steps out of the flowershop. Before getting too far, the sound of someone's footsteps stops him.

The footsteps grow louder and louder until coming to a sudden stop.

MR. PETALPOTS

Hello?

There is no response, and the silence is eerie.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Who's there? Show yourself!

Maggie Mapleton steps out of the shadows and into the light of the street lamp. In one hand, she holds a tissue, while the other clutches to the letter Leopold ghost-wrote earlier.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Ah, Ms. Mapleton! Strange to see you out this late. You know, you startled me there for a second. Wasn't sure if it might be best to make a run for it. Ha ha...

As Mr. Petalpots approaches Ms. Mapleton, he is stopped in his tracks when he notices Ms. Mapleton has the look of someone who has been crying.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Ms. Mapleton?

101 INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWERSHOP - CONTINUOUS 101

Leopold walks over to the wastebasket and picks out the tickets Petalpots discarded earlier. He then looks out a crack in the blinds at the scene outside.

102 EXT. PETALPOT'S FLOWERSHOP - CONTINUOUS 102

Speechless and still attempting to dry her eyes, Ms. Mapleton timidly approaches Mr. Petalpots.

MR. PETALPOTS

Is everything alright?

In an uncontrollable burst of passion, Ms. Mapleton lunges at Mr. Petalpots and kisses him deeply. Before the kiss is finished, Mr. Petalpots pulls away.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)
 Woah, Maggie. I ah... Okay... Um...
 How can I help...?

MS. MAPLETON
 I got your letter, Ignatius. It's
 so beautiful, every word of it.

MR. PETALPOTS
 My letter?

Mr. Petalpots takes the letter from Ms. Mapleton. He reads it over before turning towards the flowershop where he spots Leopold watching them through the blinds.

MR. PETALPOTS
 Will you excuse me for a moment? I
 just remembered I left something in
 the shop. I'll be right back.

Mr. Petalpots walks back towards the flowershop.

103

INT. PETALPOT'S FLOWERSHOP - CONTINUOUS

103

Mr. Petalpots bursts back into the flowershop as Leopold sweeps up in an failed attempt to appear inconspicuous.

MR. PETALPOTS
 Leopold!

Mr. Petalpots grabs a nearby vase and sends it soaring at Leopold. The vase just misses his head, shattering on the wall behind him.

MR. PETALPOTS (CONT'D)
 What is the meaning of this?

LEOPOLD
 Meaning of what, Sir?

MR. PETALPOTS
 Don't play stupid with me! This was
 your doing wasn't it?

LEOPOLD
 Sir, please! I have no idea what
 you're talking about. Really!

MR. PETALPOTS
 Read this.

Mr. Petalpots hands Leopold the letter which he pretends to read for the first time.

LEOPOLD

Why Sir, it appears as if this letter was written by you.

MR.PETALPOTS

I did no such thing!

Mr.Petalpots looks out the blinds to see if Ms. Mapleton is still outside.

MR.PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

My God. She's still there.

LEOPOLD

Well then maybe you should go talk to her?

Leopold hands the letter back to Petalpots.

MR.PETALPOTS

(tearing the letter up)

Absolutely not. I have been fooled by a woman before, I will not be fooled again. No thank you!

LEOPOLD

I know! Why don't you take her to see the Midsummer Night's show!

MR.PETALPOTS

Excuse me?

Leopold pulls the tickets out of his pocket and hands them to Petalpots.

LEOPOLD

Why I think it would be an excellent way to start things off don't you?

MR.PETALPOTS

Start things off? No, no, no! You're out of your mind. Instead, you will go out there and tell her I can't come out because I've come down with the flu.

LEOPOLD

The flu? Why, you were just speaking to her not moments ago!

MR.PETALPOTS

You're right. You'll have to tell her I'm dead!

LEOPOLD

Sir! Get a hold of yourself!

Fed up, Leopold grabs Mr. Petalpots by his coat lapel.

LEOPOLD (CONT'D)

Now, I don't know where that letter came from, but I do know this! There's a beautiful, buxom woman outside who wants to introduce you to her Chihuahua!

MR.PETALPOTS

Chihuahua?

LEOPOLD

It isn't everyday that a woman like that walks into our lives! Now take these tickets, go out side, and give that woman your flower!

Right as Leopold puts a single rose in Petalpot's hand, the front doorbell rings. The two of them spin around and find Ms. Mapleton standing in the store.

MS. MAPLETON

Sorry, it was getting cold out there.

LEOPOLD

(whispering to Petalpots)
Good luck, Sir.

Mr. Petalpots walks over to Ms. Mapleton with the rose and tickets in hand.

MR.PETALPOTS

Maggie...

MS. MAPLETON

Is that for me?

MR.PETALPOTS

I ah... Why, yes.

Mr. Petalpots hands her the rose, which makes her blush. In turn, Mr. Petalpots smiles.

MR.PETALPOTS (CONT'D)

Maggie, do you like going to shows?

MS. MAPLETON

Why, I simply adore them!

Mr. Petalpots extends his arm, and Ms. Mapleton takes it. As the two of them turn to leave, the flowershop fades away and the front door is replaced with the door to Petalpot's heart.

104 INT. PETALPOT'S HEART - FLASHBACK CONTINUED. 104

Arm in arm, the new couple poetically arrive back in Petalpot's broken heart. Inside, they find that the room is still in disarray from the destruction Isabella and her lumberjack suitor made earlier.

While romantic music plays, Mr. Petalpots and Ms. Mapleton begin fixing up the place. They straighten the pictures, stand up the furniture, and dust off the shelves. Before long, they find themselves kissing in a fully healed heart.

FADE TO BLACK.

105 INT. LILA'S HOUSE - DAY 105

Still feeling low, Lila sits at her easel and paints. Her current masterpiece depicts a sad sloth eating a giant tub of ice cream.

The door bell rings, so Lila gets up to see who's there.

106 I/E. LILA'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS 106

After taking off her painter's smock and hanging it on the coat rack, Lila opens the front door. To her surprise, she finds Leopold waiting on the other side.

LEOPOLD

Hello.

107 EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MOMENTS LATER - SUNSET 107

Lila and Leopold walk side by side down the side walk.

LEOPOLD

I hope you don't mind me showing up uninvited like this.

LILA

No, not at all. But, how did you know where to find me?

LEOPOLD

Nurse Baker. I told her I had a delivery for your father and she gave me the address.

LILA

Ah.

LEOPOLD

I usually wouldn't go to such extremes, but I had to catch you today.

LILA

Why? What's today?

Leopold takes out 2 tickets to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and hands them to Lila.

LILA (CONT'D)

(thinking of Sunny)

Oh, that's right. I forgot the show was tonight.

LEOPOLD

You don't sound so excited.

LILA

I'm sorry it's just... My friend, Sunny.

LEOPOLD

Is she the one you got the flower for? The one you said needed cheering up?

LILA

Yeah. I tried to get her an audition with the theater company but it didn't go the way I planned.

LEOPOLD

What do you mean?

LILA

I just thought that maybe if she had another shot at the stage, then maybe she'd remember what it was like when she was happy. But they rejected her.

LEOPOLD

Oh.

LILA

I'm sorry Leo, but I can't go with
you to the show tonight. Not
without Sunny. I gotta go.

Having arrived at her house, Lila leaves Leopold and walks
inside.

108

EXT. MERRY MISFITS' VENUE - OPENING NIGHT

108

Spotlights shine, as the Merry Misfits' welcome people to
their opening night performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Leopold stands among the people in line for the ticket taker
when suddenly Mr. Petalpots and Ms. Mapleton appear behind
him.

MR.PETALPOTS

Ah, Leo! There you are!

LEOPOLD

Hello, Sir.

MR.PETALPOTS

I trust you remember Maggie?

LEOPOLD

Of course. Hello, Miss.

MR.PETALPOTS

Now then, where is she? It's high
time I get to meet this mystery
woman of yours.

LEOPOLD

She... She couldn't make it I'm
afraid.

MR.PETALPOTS

Ah. Turned you down for someone
better did she? So it goes I
suppose. Ha!

Mr. Petalpots hands the tickets to the ticket taker while Ms.
Mapleton addresses Leopold.

MS. MAPLETON

Sorry about the girl, Leo. But
trust me. Love comes to us all when
we least expect it.

LEOPOLD

Right. I'll try to keep that in
mind.

*
*
*

The three of them walk past the velvet ropes, and into the
venue.

*

109

EXT. MERRY MISFITS' VENUE - CONTINUOUS

109

Inside, the venue has come alive. People scurry around making
their way to either their seats or the concession stand.

MAGGIE MAPLETON

Oh, that popcorn smells delightful!

MR. PETALPOTS

Quite right. Leo, why don't you
save us some seats while we grab
the goodies.

LEOPOLD

Yes, Sir.

As Leopold makes his way to the seating area, he hears the
sound of two familiar voices having an argument behind a
nearby velvet curtain.

THESPIS (O.S.)

Are you mad! I can't wear this! I
look absurd.

*
*

FELIX FIGBOTTOM (O.S.)

I for one, think you look charming.

*
*

THESPIS (O.S.)

I absolutely can not be seen
wearing this!

*
*

Deciding to investigate, Leopold ignores the sign that reads
"PERFORMERS ONLY," and pokes his head behind the curtain.

110

INT. MERRY MISFITS' SHOW - BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

110

To his confusion, Leopold finds Thespis standing back stage
dressed in a puffy pink lace tunic and matching three
cornered hat.

THESPIS

I look like a little girl's pirate
doll!

FELIX

That was the only fabric I could gather in time.

Felix is also already dressed in his costume. The outfit consists of a leaf covered vest, a pair of fairy wings, and a crown of flowers.

THESPIS

Don't lie to me! You did this on purpose, didn't you? Didn't you!

FELIX

I simply made the best of what I had.

THESPIS

You really expect me to believe that!

FELIX

Well... You could always try fitting back into your original costume.

Felix grabs the corset off of a nearby table and holds it up for Thespis to see.

THESPIS

Don't you dare mention that damn corset to me again!

Thespis rips the corset from Felix's hand before tossing it as far as he can.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

And after all I've done for you!

FELIX

All you've done for me? Ha.

THESPIS

You're lucky I don't throw you back on the streets where I found you!

FELIX

Allow me to save you the trouble!

Fed up with Thespis, Felix takes the crown of flowers off his head and throws it on the ground. He then begins to take off his wings, and vest.

THESPIS

What are you doing?

FELIX

Something I should have done a long time ago. Leaving!

THESPIS

You're leaving? You can't walk out on me! We have a show to put on and no understudies!

FELIX

Oh yeah? Watch me!

THEPIS

But who will play Puck?

FELIX

Go Puck yourself!

As Felix turns to leave, Leopold pulls his head back from behind the curtain.

111 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' VENUE - CONTINUOUS

111

Before Felix comes bursting through the curtain, Leopold manages to remain unseen by quickly stepping away from the "performers only" area.

After Felix storms past Leopold, Mr. Petalpots and Ms. Mapleton stroll over carrying a large tub of popcorn.

MR.PETALPOTS

Leo, you've gotta get in on this popcorn.

LEOPOLD

I've gotta go.

MR.PETALPOTS

What?

LEOPOLD

I'll be right back! Save two seats for me, will yah?

Leopold grabs a fist full of popcorn and heads towards the exit.

MR.PETALPOTS

Leo where are you going? We just got here!

112 EXT. LILA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER 112

Leopold comes running up the street to Lila's front door. He knocks twice before Lila opens the door.

LILA
Leo? What are you doing here?

LEOPOLD
I know how you can still give Sunny her shot.

113 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT 113

Lila and Leopold run towards Saint Marie's front entrance.

LILA
So you're saying they haven't a single understudy?

LEOPOLD
Not one. Well, other than Sunny that is.

98 LILA
Right! 98

114 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - FRONT LOBBY - CONTINUOUS 114

They walk past Nurse Agnes who sits at a computer behind the front desk. She glares at them with suspicion. Thinking quickly Leopold pulls a bouquet of flowers from his satchel.

LEOPOLD
(to Nurse Agnes)
Late night delivery!

Nurse Agnes buys Leopold's story and returns to her computer. After passing the Nurse, Lila turns to Leopold.

LILA
Who are those for?

LEOPOLD
Oh. Um... You.

115 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - I/E SUNNY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 115

Lila and Leopold run down the hallway until they come to Sunny's room. Lila bangs on the door.

LILA

Sunny! Sunny, it's me. Open up, I gotta tell you something!
Sunny? If you're in there I just wanted to tell you that I'm sorry.

Sunny looks up from her vanity mirror, but chooses to say nothing to Lila.

LILA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry about the audition, and I'm sorry I got your hopes up, but most of all I'm sorry that I tried to fix you... because the truth is, you never needed fixing! So you got dealt some lousy cards... So what? You're still a star to me, Sunny.

Lila waits for a response but when she gets none, the silence is deafening.

Feeling defeated Lila and Leopold turn to leave. As they make their way down the hallway they are surprised to hear Sunny's door open. They turn around to find Sunny standing in the hallway.

SUNNY LITTLES

Not all my cards were lousy. I got dealt you didn't I?

LILA

Oh, Sunny!

Lila and Sunny run down the hallway towards one another meeting in the middle with a hug.

As the two friends stand smiling at one another, Leopold comes over to introduce himself to Sunny.

LEOPOLD

Hello, Ms. Littles. Lila's told me all about you!

Leopold extends his hand, but Sunny holds off on shaking it right away.

SUNNY LITTLES

Who is this?

LILA

Oh, forgive me. Sunny, this is Leopold. Leopold this is Sunny Littles.

LEOPOLD

It's an honor to finally meet your acquaintance.

Sunny finally shakes Leopold's hand.

SUNNY LITTLES

(to Lila)

I like this one, he's cute.

LILA

Sunny, Leopold was just at the Merry Misfits show.

SUNNY LITTLES

Is that right?

LEOPOLD

Yes and when I was there, I saw one of the actors quitting the troupe.

LILA

And Sunny get this, they don't have any understudies!

SUNNY LITTLES

No understudies?

LILA

No understudies! Which means...

SUNNY LITTLES

They're in need of talent! Do you know which role they need to fill?

LEOPOLD

Puck.

SUNNY LITTLES

Puck? What luck!

Excited to make their escape Sunny, Lila, and Leopold make their way to the side exit door at the end of the hallway.

After turning the corner, they spot the hospital janitor blocking their way. With his head phones on and his mop in hand, he cleans while dancing in front of their exit.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)

(quick to give up)

Son of a... Well, there you have it. Can't say we didn't try.

LILA
We're not giving up!

LEOPOLD
We'll have to wait till he's done.

LILA
There's no time! We need a
diversion.

Lila looks around the hospital for a possible diversion until she spots Nurse Baker pushing her dessert tray from room to room. Lila turns to Leopold.

LILA (CONT'D)
Leopold! Let me see your man purse!

Leopold hands Lila his satchel. After searching through the bag, she pulls out the vial of green extract she saw him stow away earlier.

LEOPOLD
Oh, no.

LILA
Oh, yes!

While Nurse Baker is busy handing one of the patients a piece of chocolate cake, Lila, Sunny, and Leopold make their way over to the dessert cart. Lila takes the vial, and proceeds to lace each remaining piece of cake with a single drop of extract.

The three of them walk away innocently right before Nurse Baker returns to the cart.

116 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM

116

Nurse Baker pushes her dessert cart through the day room handing pieces of laced chocolate cake to the patients.

NURSE BAKER
Dessert time!

With his arms still in a cast, Poor little Petey is spoon fed his cake by one of the nurses.

Just about every single one of the many patients sitting in the day room enjoy a piece of the "magic" cake. Gil and Rupert both enjoy a piece; why even Nurse Baker has one.

Sunny, Lila, and Leopold look on from the corner.

SUNNY LITTLES

Well, they ate it. Now what?

LILA

Now... we wait.

As the extract starts to take its effects on Poor Petey he begins to chuckle to himself. He turns to the Nurse feeding him his cake.

PETEY

(through his chuckles)

I can't move my arms!

The rest of the patients all start to develop a case of the chuckles. When one of the patients smiles and has chocolate cake smothered all across his teeth, the sight of it causes the other patients to burst out laughing.

Petey's laughing then comes to a sudden halt. With his eyes dilated and his breath deepening, the hallucinations begin to take effect.

Although his arms are still in their cast, they begin to kaleidoscope and multiply like those of a Hindu god.

Meanwhile Gil and Rupert also start to feel the effects of the cake.

117 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - GIL AND RUPERT'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 117

RUPERT

Gil?

GIL

Yeah Rupert?

RUPERT

How are you feeling right now?

GIL

Why... Why, I feel wonderful! Hell, I'd say I feel splendiferous!

Gil hops out of his bed and onto his feet!

GIL (CONT'D)

How about you?

RUPERT

I feel fat and sassy!

Rupert also hops out of bed.

GIL

Say... Why don't we blow this dump?

RUPERT

Okay!

118 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 118

Nurse Baker has a laughing attack while flipping on music over the day room intercom. The music causes all the patients in the day room to stand up and start dancing. Now the party has begun!

119 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 119

The music from inside the day room causes the janitor to stop mopping. He removes his headphones to get a better listen.

120 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - FRONT LOBBY - CONTINUOUS 120

As Gil and Rupert joyfully make their way towards the hospital's front exit, they are spotted by Nurse Agnes sitting at the front desk.

NURSE AGNES

Excuse me! Where are you two going?

GIL

We two are leaving!

NURSE AGNES

Leaving?

GIL

That's right. A hospital is no place for two healthy young studs like ourselves. Ain't that right, Gil?

RUPERT

(too high to say anything else)

Okay!

Nurse Agnes stands up from behind the front desk and proceeds to cut them off.

NURSE AGNES

Now wait just a minute! Dr. Needleman's the only person who makes those decisions around here and until he says so, you are not to leave the hospital grounds under any conditions what so ev...

Nurse Agnes's finds her speech cut short when she hears the noise coming from the day room. She heads in to investigate.

NURSE AGNES (CONT'D)

Wait here!

121 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 121

Nurse Agnes quickly walks down the hallway towards the day room. When she turns the corner, she is shocked to discover the chaos erupting inside.

Once depressed patients now can't stop laughing! People in Wheelchairs race around popping wheelies! Two patients use their crutches to sword fight! In the middle of it all, Petey stands atop a table!

PETEY

I am a Hindu God!

122 INT. MERRY MISFITS' SHOW - BACKSTAGE - NIGHT 122

With the audience growing restless, the Merry Misfits pace around backstage worrying about what to do without Felix there to play the role of Puck.

THESPIS

That traitor just walked out on us with only minutes left till curtain!

TIMOTHY TRUFFLE

But he was our Puck! Our lead role! Now what shall we do?

PETER PEARWEATHER

Perhaps I could play the role?

THESPIS

Have you the lines memorized?

PETER PEARWEATHER

Well... no...

THESPIS
Blast, you tease!

Thespis turns to the other Merry Misfits.

THESPIS (CONT'D)
How about you? Do any of you feel
like you could recite Felix's
lines?

No one responds.

MERRY MISFIT # 1
(aside to another misfit)
I barely have my lines memorized!

123 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS 123

Not sure how to handle the hospital's erupting chaos, Nurse Agnes runs to Dr. Needleman's office and pounds on the door for help!

NURSE AGNES
Dr. Needleman! Dr. Needleman!

When Dr. Needleman finally answers the door, he has lipstick smeared across his face. Behind him we can see into his office where one of the younger nurses is buttoning up her blouse.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
Nurse Agnes, I thought I
specifically told you never to
interrupt me during administrative
examinations!

NURSE AGNES
I'm sorry doctor, but something's
come up that I believe requires
your expertise...

Nurse Agnes opens the office door wider revealing to Dr. Needleman the chaos erupting in the day room.

Dr. Needleman walks out of his office and puts on his spectacles to further examine the situation.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
What the devil is going on here!

At that moment Nurse Baker comes riding by atop her dessert cart.

NURSE BAKER

Wheeeee!

On the other side of the day room the Janitor finally turns the corner and sees what's going on. Distracted by the chaos, he fails to notice that behind him Sunny, Lila, and Leopold are sneaking towards the exit door.

124 EXT. SAINT MARIE'S - SIDE EXIT - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 124

Wearing their biggest smiles yet, Sunny, Lila, and Leopold joyfully run away from the hospital in route to the Merry Misfits' show!

125 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' SHOW - AUDIENCE - LATER 125

Through a crack in the curtains, Thespis watches as the audience members continue to grow restless.

AUDIENCE MEMBER 1

Hurry up already!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 2

Hear, Hear!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 3

We want our money back!

126 INT. MERRY MISFITS' SHOW - BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS 126

Thespis stops looking out the curtain, turning back towards his fellow actors!

PETER PEARWEATHER

I suppose we'll have to refund their tickets then.

THESPIS

We can't refund their tickets! If we did, we'd have no money left to promote the rest of the tour!

TIMOTHY TRUFFLE

(looking out the curtain)

If we don't go on soon these people might eat us alive!

THESPIS

Oh God, I'm ruined!

At that exact moment Lila steps out from behind the side curtain and joins the Merry Misfits backstage.

LILA

Excuse me.

THESPIS

What is she doing back here? This area is for performers only!

LILA

I believe you still owe my friend an audition!

Sunny steps out from behind Lila. Her face shines with a confidence reminiscent of when she was a young star!

THESPIS

Bless my stars! Is that Sunny Littles?

SUNNY LITTLES

You know who I am?

THESPIS

Of course I know who you are, Ms. Littles! I've seen all your films!

SUNNY LITTLES

Is that right?

Thespis walks over to the backstage cabinets and yanks them open.

THESPIS

It's true!

The inside of the cabinet doors are full of Sunny Little's posters.

LILA

Well then, in that case I guess you won't mind giving her a chance to audition?

THESPIS

Audition? I will have no such thing! If Miss Little wishes to play the part, then by all means the role is hers!

PETER PEARWEATHER

She can't play Puck! She doesn't know the lines!

THESPIS

Quiet, you fool!

Sunny looks Peter straight in the eye and then recites one of Puck's lines to him.

SUNNY LITTLES

Yet but three? Come one more. Two
of both kinds make up four. Here
she comes, curst and sad. Cupid is
a knavish lad, thus to make poor
females mad.

After Sunny finishes delivering the line, Peter is left speechless.

THESPIS

Ready the curtain!

127 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' VENUE - AUDIENCE / STAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Lila and Leopold take their seats amongst the anxious crowd. Suddenly a spotlight turns on to reveal Thespis standing on stage.

THESPIS

Ladies and Gentleman! Thank you for
your patience. There was a minor
technical setback that I am pleased
to say has all been taken care of.
So without further ado, I give to
you, Sir William Shakespeare's A
Midsummer Night's Dream!

Thespis walks off stage as the curtains open to the sound of harp arpeggios.

128 EXT. MERRY MISFIT'S VENUE - STAGE - CONTINUOUS 128

Several of the Merry Misfits walk on stage and begin delivering the play's opening lines while Sunny stands in her costume nervously watching from the wing.

Next to Sunny, Peter Pearweather stands flipping through a copy of the script.

SUNNY LITTLES

Is that the script?

PETER PEARWEATHER

Yep.

SUNNY LITTLES

May I?

Peter hands Sunny the script.

PETER PEARWEATHER

I thought you already knew your lines?

SUNNY LITTLES

Yes, well... A little review never hurt now did it?

As Sunny begins frantically reading, the curtain is drawn closed to the sound of applause.

THESPIS

Set change!

Several of the Merry Misfits pull ropes and move props to change the set at a blazing speed.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Go, go, go! Ready the scene! Yes, yes yes, and... Open the curtain!

The curtain opens back up to reveal the stage dressed as a beautiful forest. In the middle of the stage sits one of the Misfits dressed in a fairy costume.

Thespis walks up behind Sunny and yanks the script out of her hand.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

That's your cue!

With one hand, Thespis shoves Sunny out on the stage. The audience awaits her line but Sunny is frozen in the lights.

129

INT. SAINT MARIE'S - DAY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

129

We cut to Saint Marie's where everything is now in complete and utter disarray. Dr. Needleman pops up into frame.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Nurse Agnes?

We pan to reveal Nurse Agnes as she tries to direct the hospital clean up.

NURSE AGNES

Yes, Doctor?

DR. NEEDLEMAN
Where's Sunny Littles?

130 INT. SAINT MARIE'S - SUNNY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 130

Dr. Needleman, Nurse Agnes, and several other nurses stand in Sunny Little's room. Dr. Needleman finds a the pamphlet for the Midsummer Night's show.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
Nurse Agnes, you'll come with me,
the rest of you stay here and make
sure no else escapes, is that
clear?

ALL NURSES
Yes, Doctor!

131 EXT. MERRY MISFIT'S VENUE - STAGE - CONTINUOUS 131

Back at the venue, the audience awaits Sunny's line. Unsure of what to do, Sunny looks out into the crowd and spots Lila.

LILA
(under her breath)
You can do this!

Suddenly, Sunny remembers her line.

SUNNY
How now, spirit! Whither wander
you?

Thespi, Lila, and the rest of the audience all share a huge sigh of relief as the play continues.

DISSOLVE TO:

132 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM - LOVE POTION SCENE 132

Sunny nimbly crosses the stage to where the two misfits playing the roles of Lysander and Hermia lie sleeping.

SUNNY LITTLES
And here the maiden, sleeping
sound, on the dank and dirty
ground.

Sunny takes out a purple rose and rubs its enchanted petals upon Lysander's eyes.

SUNNY LITTLES (CONT'D)
 Churl, upon thy eyes I throw all
 the power this charm doth owe. When
 thou wakest, let love forbid sleep
 his seat on thy eyelid.

DISSOLVE TO:

133 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM - DONKEY HEAD SCENE 133

Thespis stands on stage with five of the other Merry Misfits.
 Thespis plays Bottom, while Timothy plays Quince.

TIMOTHY TRUFFLE
 Speak, Pyramus. Thisby, stand
 forth.

THESPIS
 Thisby, the flowers of odious
 savours sweet...

While Thespis and the other Merry Misfits act out the rest of
 this scene on stage, Dr. Needleman, Nurse Agnes, and four
 other nurses show up in the back of the audience.

Thespis crosses the stage as if to exit, but before he can
 Sunny jumps out from behind a stage flat and blocks his path.

SUNNY LITTLES
 What hempen home-spuns have we
 swaggering here?

With an outstretched hand, Sunny blows a hand full of fairy
 dust in Thespis's face.

The audience lets out a laugh, as Dr. Needleman spots Sunny
 on stage.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
 There!

NURSE AGNES
 Let's grab her.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
 No. Not yet. We don't want to cause
 a sensation.

Back on stage, Sunny leads Thespis behind one of the set's
 cardboard trees and blows even more fairy dust on him.

When he emerges from behind the tree, he wears the papier-
 mache donkey head.

THESPIS

If I were fair, Thisby, I were only
thine.

TIMOTHY TRUFFLE

O monstrous! O strange! We are
haunted. Pray, masters! Fly
masters! Help!

The audience rolls over with laughter when the remaining
Misfits frantically run off stage at the sight of the donkey
head.

DISSOLVE TO:

134 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM - PUCK'S FINAL MONOLOGUE 134

Sunny has the entire audience on the edge of their seats as
she delivers the play's final monologue.

SUNNY LITTLES

If we shadows have offended, think
but this and all is mended. That
you have but slumber'd here while
these visions did appear. And this
weak and idle theme, no more
yielding but a dream.

Sunny has the audience on the edge of their seats as we
INTERCUT WITH:

135 EXT. MERRY MISFITS' SHOW - BEHIND THE STAGE 135

Thespis watches as Peter and Timothy set up Leopold's flower
firework.

THESPIS

Spark the fuse!

Back on stage.

SUNNY LITTLES

Gentles, do not reprehend, if you
pardon, we will mend. And, as I am
an honest Puck, If we have unearned
luck, Now to 'scape the serpent's
tongue, we will make amends ere
long; Else the Puck a liar call.
So, good night unto you all.

Behind the stage.

THESPIS
Spark it, I say!

After repeated tries, the flint finally sparks the fuse. Peter and Timothy run and take cover while Sunny continues with her monologue.

SUNNY LITTLES
Give me your hands, if we be
friends, and Robin shall restore
amends!

Right as Sunny finishes delivering her final line, the firework rockets up into the sky. The entire audience gasps as their eyes follow the firework's trail of embers.

For a moment, Sunny begins to mistake the audience's silence for indifference before...

BANG! The firework explodes bringing the audience to their feet with thunderous applause.

As swirling rose petals float down from the sky, Leopold leans over and kisses Lila.

After a loving look at Leopold, Lila turns to Sunny who stands on stage taking her curtain with the other Merry Misfits.

The players on stage lock hands and take one large bow before the curtain falls and brings the play to an end.

136

EXT. MERRY MISFITS' VENUE - AFTER THE PLAY

136

With the audience cleared out, the Misfits work hard to pack up the stage and ready the caravan for the road. Lila and Leopold wait outside the venue to congratulate Sunny.

LILA
Sunny!

Still wearing her costume, Sunny finally comes out from behind the stage. Lila runs up to her and they embrace.

LEOPOLD
Bravo!

SUNNY LITTLES
Oh stop! You're making me blush.

THESPIS (O.S.)
There you are!

Thespis walks over and joins the group.

THESPIS (CONT'D)

Ha ha! What a night! A sold out show, a standing ovation, and all along side the legendary Sunny Littles!

Dr. Needleman gives a slow clap as he and Nurse Agnes come walking over.

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Well done Sunny.

SUNNY LITTLES

Dr. Needleman. What are you doing here?

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Why, I was just going to ask you the very same, Nurse Agnes.

NURSE AGNES

It's time to come home, Sunny.

Nurse Agnes snaps on a pair of rubber gloves.

LILA

Wait, stop! Sunny doesn't belong in a clinic! She belongs on stage!

NURSE AGNES

That's not for you to decide!

DR. NEEDLEMAN

Young girl, Ms. Littles carries what we call an affective mood disorder. With her high highs, and her low lows. She's a danger to herself and everyone around her.

THESPIS

Poppycock! High highs, and low lows, are not the signs of a mood disorder, they're the signs of an actor goddammit! Why do you think we chose that for our symbol?

Thespis points to the caravan. As its two main doors seal together, they reveal the image of comedy and tragedy masks.

Sunny looks like she just had an epiphany.

THESPIS (CONT'D)
 Anyway you can't take Ms. Littles.
 We need her for our troupe!

SUNNY LITTLES
 Do you mean it?

Thespis turns to Sunny.

THESPIS
 I hope you don't think I'm being
 too forward, Sunny, but the Misfits
 and I spoke and we all agree. You
 simply must join us!

Sunny looks to Lila for advice and finds her excitedly
 nodding in favor of Sunny joining the Merry Misfits.

SUNNY LITTLES
 Well... If you insist!

THESPIS
 Splendid!

DR. NEEDLEMAN
 Now see here! Sunny is under my
 jurisdiction and I say she's coming
 back to the clinic this very
 instant. Nurse, seize her!

The Nurses begin to move towards Sunny but Thespis is quick
 to act.

THESPIS
 Doctor, wait! Surely there's no
 rush. What say you and the nurses
 stick around a bit longer?

Thespis uses his fingers to give a loud whistle which calls
 over several of the other Misfits, including the **Strongman
 Misfit**.

THESPIS (CONT'D)
 We misfits can be quiet the fun
 bunch you know. In fact, Leroy here
 is known for throwing one hell of a
 cast party.

Dr. Needleman watches as the intimidating Strongman Misfit
 cracks his knuckles in anticipation of a beat down.

DR. NEEDLEMAN
 No. I think that'll be quiet
 alright thank you.
 (MORE)

DR. NEEDLEMAN (CONT'D)
 We'll just be on our way. Nurse
 Agnes, will you see to it that
 Sunny's request for release is over
 turned?

NURSE AGNES
 But Doctor!

DR. NEEDLEMAN
 That'll be all.

Dr. Needleman turns and runs away with Nurse Agnes following
 close behind.

LILA
 Sunny!

Lila and Sunny embrace.

THESPIS
 Well it looks like everything's
 almost packed up and ready to go.
 If you're going to say your good-
 byes, best get on with it.

Thespis heads back to the caravan, while Sunny turns to Lila
 with tears of joy in her eyes.

SUNNY LITTLES
 I don't know how else to say it
 but, thank you, Lila. None of this
 would've happened if it wasn't for
 you.

LILA
 Well... I guess this is goodbye
 then.

SUNNY LITTLES
 I guess so.

LILA
 In that case you better get going
 before Leo starts to cry.

LEOPOLD
 (with tears in his eyes)
 I'm just so happy!

LILA
 Goodbye, Sunny and be sure to break
 a leg!

SUNNY

You never know, at my age I just
might. Never the less...

Sunny swiftly runs over to the caravan and hops aboard as it begins to pull away. Holding on with one hand she turns to her friends and blows them a kiss.

SUNNY LITTLES

Voila!

Lila and Leopold join hands as the caravan begins to wheel off into the night. A red velvet curtain draws to a close across the screen.

~ THE END ~