

CHIDORI IN THE FANTASY DIMENSION

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FADE IN

EXT. SOMEWHERE IN THE USA – NIGHT

It's a frosty night. The ground is covered with freshly fallen snow. Flakes of the white stuff continue to fall and drift through the air landing wherever they may. Some of this snow lands on a cozy house that sits on the street corner of a quiet neighborhood.

A light shines from a window inside this modest little home. The rest of the house is dark.

INT. COZY HOUSE – BEDROOM –NIGHT

A soft light is on. It's a cozy enough bedroom but at the moment it is quite messy. The bedroom floor is littered with wrapping paper. CHIDORI (11) sits on her bed going through her presents and eating a piece of birthday cake.

She is a cute little girl (modeled off the late child actress Bridgette Andersen) but she has a bit of an attitude which some would call "Tomboyish".

Chidori looks at one of her presents and takes a photograph of it. She walks over to her desk and loads the photograph into her computer.

She notices a blinking light on her computer monitor. It's an IM request from her friend CANDY SPRINKLE. She sits down to have a quick chat with her friend.

CANDY IM

Did you get a lot of nice stuff?

CHIDORI IM

Tons. Still got one more.

CANDY IM

Did u get my ecard?

Chidori opens Candy's animated E-card and GIGGLES. She types back.

CHIDORI IM

Super cute. ☺

Suddenly, another IM request pops up on the screen. It's from a user named: UNKNOWN. Chidori frowns.

UNKNOWN

Happy birthday!

Chidori types a response.

CHIDORI IM

Thanx. But I'm not supposed to IM/w ppl
that I don't know. Who r u?

She gets no response. She frowns and shakes her head.
Chidori looks at the clock. It's 10:30 p.m. Her MOTHER
calls to her from the other room.

MOTHER

Get to bed Chidori. Lights out.

Chidori rolls her eyes. She types another IM to her friend.

CHIDORI IM

I got to get to bed. Talk to U later.

CANDY IM

K. Later.

Chidori goes back to her bed and looks at her presents
again. She picks up her last unopened present. It's wrapped
in simple red wrapping paper. Nothing fancy. No ribbons or
bows, just a simple tag. She opens the tag and it reads
"FROM GRANDPA".

Chidori traces the present with her finger and she is about
to open it when she shakes her head.

CHIDORI

I'll save this one for tomorrow.

INT. CHIDORI'S BEDROOM — MIDNIGHT

The room is dark except for the glow of the computer
monitor. Chidori is fast asleep but all is not quiet.
Something small moves across the plush carpet. Slowly,
carefully it makes its way over to Chidori's unwrapped
present.

The culprit is WORMIN. He is a sneaky little fellow that
resembles some sort of strange green-yellow worm. Three
tufts of green hair grow on his head. His eyes are large
and they shine with mischief. He wears a red, orange and
blue striped shirt. The letters PPP are stitched across the
front of the sweater.

A smile crosses his little features. He slowly reaches out
for the unwrapped present from grandpa, taking care not to
make any noise. When he has it, he snatches it away and
bolts for the computer.

In his haste, he bumps into a lamp that in turn falls into the window blinds creating a heck of a racket. Chidori wakes just in time to see the strange little Wormin character AND her present diving into the computer monitor.

Chidori stares, dazed and sleepy-eyed for a long moment. Suddenly, Wormin sticks his head out of the computer monitor and blows a raspberry before darting back in.

Chidori gets out of bed and races over to the computer monitor. There is an IM on the screen. It's from a user named "Periwinkle Party Pooper Bot". His name is next to his avatar pic.

PERIWINKLE IM

Thank you for the present young miss! I can't wait to see what's inside!

There is a pauses followed by another IM.

PERIWINKLE IM

Ha ha ha ha!!!

Chidori bangs her fist on the desk. She pinches herself to see if she is dreaming but pinches a bit too hard.

CHIDORI

Owww-A!

She plops down in her chair. Another IM pops up on the screen. The name by the avatar reads WORMIN.

WORMIN

Yeah! I can't wait too! Lolz

All is quiet once again. Chidori stares at the computer monitor in amazement. She looks at her pile of presents and notices that Grandpa's present is missing. She gets up and digs through the pile but to no avail. It's gone.

Chidori throws herself onto her bed and stares at the ceiling trying to figure out what just happened. She drifts into sleep.

INT. CHIDORI'S HOUSE – THE NEXT DAY

It's the next day. (A series of scenes) Chidori does her chores around the house. She vacuums the living room carpet.

She feeds the fish in the aquarium by the television. She cleans the kitty litter from Chachi's litter box in the garage while holding her nose and making a sour face.

She does her best to avoid her parents just in case they ask her about Grandpa's present.

INT. KITCHEN – NIGHT

Chidori makes a bag of microwavable popcorn. She stands next to the microwave as the popcorn is being popped. Her MOTHER finishes up with the dishes.

MOTHER

You're not taking that upstairs are you?

The microwave BEEPS indicating that the bag is done. She opens the microwave and takes the bag out.

CHIDORI

Can I eat this in my room while I chat with Candy?

Her mother nods her approval while she works. Chidori takes the bag and walks out of the kitchen. Her mother calls after her.

MOTHER

Just don't make a mess. Did you clean up that wrapping paper from last night?

Chidori stops in her tracks.

CHIDORI

Not yet.

Chidori's mother puts the pots back into the cabinet.

MOTHER

Make sure that you do. That room is a disaster. Don't forget to fill in those thank you cards. Grandma's address is on the envelope. I want to get those out tomorrow.

Chidori bites her lip. She nods her head.

CHIDORI

Ok.

Chidori races up the stairs.

INT. CHIDORI'S BEDROOM – NIGHT

Chidori sits at her computer munching on popcorn and looking for any signs of the mysterious Wormin or Periwinkle. She finds nothing in the files and nothing on the desktop.

She looks for a napkin or something to wipe her hands on. She picks up one of her shirts that's slung across the desk and uses this. She tosses it at the hamper by the bed. She misses by a mile and the shirt lands on the floor.

CHIDORI

It's dirty anyways.

She's about to get up from the computer when she sees something sitting on the desk. It's something tiny and shiny. It must have been hidden under her shirt.

Her eyes widen in fascination and curiosity. She picks it up and studies it. She turns the object over and holds it close to her lamplight. It's a computer chip. Chidori whispers to herself.

CHIDORI

This wasn't here this morning.

She places it back on the desk. She looks at the clock. It's 10:00 p.m. She leaves the computer on and crawls into her unmade bed. The sheets and quilt lie in a giant pile on the bed and floor. She pulls the messy pile of sheets onto the bed, pulls them up over her head and falls asleep.

INT. CHIDORI'S ROOM – 1 AM

Chidori is fast asleep under the sheets. All is quiet except for the sound of falling snow on the windows. The room is dark. The computer has gone into sleep mode. Suddenly the monitor comes on.

A strange, soft song plays over the computer speakers. The volume is low but it's enough to wake Chidori from her slumber. She sticks her head out of the sheets and looks around the room. The song plays like this: "Dooby Dooby Doooo. Here to help youuu. Dooby Dooby Doooo..."

Chidori gets out of bed and runs to the computer. She stubs her toe on her lunchbox that lays hidden under a pile of blue jeans and shirts. She puts her hand to her mouth to muffle her SHOUT. She plops down in her computer chair, grimacing in pain.

There is an IM request on the screen. The request is from "Dooby Birthday Bot".

An animated avatar pic is next to the username. It depicts a colorful robot waving his arms and balloons floating in the background.

IM REQUEST

Do you want your present back? I can help you.

Chidori ponders this for a moment and clicks YES to accept the IM request.

CHIDORI IM

How?

DOOBY IM

It's my mission to help kids just like you. May I cross over?

CHIDORI

You mean come into my room?

DOOBY

Precisely.

Chidori looks around and writes back.

CHIDORI

K. But don't make any noise.

There is a flash of light and suddenly Dooby steps out of the computer monitor. He's small at first but he quickly stretches out to his normal height – six foot two inches.

Dooby looks around the room cautious and curious. Chidori stares at the robot with absolute fascination.

CHIDORI

Whoa.

Dooby steps over a pile of clothes, school supplies and wrapping paper.

DOOBY

I think you need a cleaner bot.

Chidori stifles a giggle as Dooby nearly trips over her bed sheets. He sits down on her bed. There is a rustling SOUND followed by a loud SQUEAK. Dooby looks around the dark room, startled.

DOOBY

What was that?!

Chidori walks over to a cage sitting on an end table. She looks inside the cage. Chidori puts her hand to her nose and makes a motion as if to say: "This cage smells".

It's just as messy inside the cage as it is in her room. She reaches inside and pulls out a small, chocolate brown bunny rabbit. She strokes his fur and gives him a hug.

CHIDORI

It's just Chocolate Chip. See? You're not scared of a bunny are you?

Dooby looks relieved.

DOOBY

Oh. No. Of course not.

Chidori places Chocolate Chip back into his cage. She walks over to the robot and hesitates for a moment before rapping on his metallic torso with her knuckles.

CHIDORI

So you are real.

Dooby uses his metallic fingers and raps them on the top of her head. Chidori rubs her head and stares at the strange robot sitting on her bed.

DOOBY

Of course I'm real! I'm as real as you are.

Chidori sits down next to him.

CHIDORI

You're not from here. Are you?

DOOBY

I'm from where I'm from.

Chidori frowns. She points at the computer.

CHIDORI

From there?

Dooby nods.

DOOBY

That's a way to get to where I'm from.
Think of your computer as a highway to
my world.

Chidori shrugs. She's as confused as a kid could possibly be. She picks the popcorn bag up off the floor and digs through it to see if there is any popcorn left. She finds a few pieces and munches on them.

CHIDORI

So where is my present? I want it back.
Someone named Periwinkle stole it last
night.

Dooby nods.

DOOBY

We can get it back but we'll have to
work together.

Chidori looks at him, puzzled and unsure.

CHIDORI

You mean that I have to go on there? In
the computer? With you?

DOOBY

We'll have to work together. It goes
against my directive to retrieve it
on my own.

She hands Dooby the tiny computer chip that she found on her desk. Dooby studies it.

DOOBY

Yes. This is from Periwinkle. No doubt about that. See those three letters in the center? PPP?

Chidori looks at the computer chip. She squints and can see the tiny letters inscribed in the center of the chip. She nods her head enthusiastically.

CHIDORI

I can see them!

He hands the chip back to her.

DOOBY

He's left a message on this chip. A message for you.

CHIDORI

How can I see it?

DOOBY

We can analyze it at the Bot Lab.

Chidori stands up. She paces around the bed, deep in thought.

CHIDORI

I don't know. I mean, I really want my Present back. It's from Grandpa. But if I went with you, my parents would know that I was gone and then I'd be in serious trouble. I'd probably be grounded for a whole year.

She stands in front of Dooby and shakes her head.

CHIDORI

Don't take this the wrong way but this is really weird.

Dooby lets out a loud CHUCKLE. Chidori quickly puts her finger to her mouth indicating that he should be quiet. She runs to the door and listens for any movement. Dooby watches her with curiosity. Nothing. She walks back to her bed. Dooby stands up.

DOOBY

You need not worry about that. Time passes differently in my world. Weeks in my world are like minutes in your own.

The robot walks over to the computer.

DOOBY

The choice is yours. I offer my services to you.

Chidori thinks about this for a moment. She nods. She takes a sheet of paper and writes a quick note to her parents. It reads

"I'm inside the computer. No time to explain. Just don't turn the computer off because I might not get back if you do. Also, don't open my closet because all my stuff will fall out. I need to clean it. Don't forget to feed Chocolate Chip."

She places the note next to the computer and looks over at Dooby.

CHIDORI

Just in case.

She opens her dresser and digs through the disorganized pile of clothes and shirts. She finds an outfit.

CHIDORI

Could you turn around please?

Dooby quickly turns around and faces the computer.

DOOBY

Oh. Certainly.

Chidori changes into her clothes and taps Dooby on his metallic arm.

CHIDORI

Ok metal man, I'm ready. Do I need to Bring a coat or anything?

DOOBY

I can provide whatever we may need.

Dooby lifts his hand and reaches for the computer monitor.

DOOBY
Are you prepared?

Chidori nods her head.

CHIDORI
I can't believe I'm doing this.

DOOBY
Take hold of my arm.

Chidori takes hold of Dooby's arm. The robot touches the computer monitor and they disappear in a flash of light.

INT. DOOBY'S SPACECRAFT — COCKPIT

Chidori materializes inside the cockpit of Dooby's spacecraft. She looks around at the intricate flight panels, switches and other gadgets. ZELMY, a strange little fuzzy purple creature sits in the pilots seat. He is about two feet tall at most. He uses his computer terminal to plot a course. Dooby nervously straps himself into a seat next to the pilot.

CHIDORI
This is amazing!

Chidori sits down and watches as Zelmy flips through a series of switches. He speaks in a high pitched VOICE.

ZELMY
Hello! I'm Zelmy, your pilot for the day.

CHIDORI
Hello.

DOOBY
Buckle up.

Chidori pulls the seat belt down and straps herself in. Zelmy presses a button and the ship begins to vibrate as the engines come to life.

DOOBY
Ready?

Chidori gives the thumbs up and smiles. Dooby nods. He grips the armrests as the ship begins to move.

DOOBY

I'm a nervous flier.

Chidori looks at him with a puzzled expression. She shrugs.

Zelmy pulls back on the throttle and the ship takes off like greased lightning.

INT. COCKPIT

The ship streaks through a long and colorful wormhole. Chidori clings to armrests and grits her teeth as the ship races through space. The SOUND of the ship's engines fills the vibrating cockpit. It's a loud and grinding sound. It sounds as if the ship is about to tear apart at any moment.

Dooby starts to WHINE. He puts his hands to his eyes. Zelmy GIGGLES. Chidori looks over at him.

CHIDORI

I'm not even a grown up and I'm not scared.

Suddenly there is silence. They exit the wormhole and the ship drifts through the blackness. Chidori looks out of the cockpit window and can see a dazzling collection of countless galaxies floating in the black fabric of space. They're flying through intergalactic space.

Zelmy points to a pinpoint of light.

ZELMY

That's your galaxy.

Chidori's jaw drops. She puts her face close to the window and stares. Dooby slowly peels his hands from his eyes and looks out the window. He lets out a little GROAN.

CHIDORI

Are we going to another galaxy?

Zelmy adjusts another set of controls.

ZELMY

Another dimension in another galaxy.

He pulls back on the throttle. Chidori pulls back from the window as the ship streaks forward and enters another wormhole. This one is darker and the ride is more violent. The ship shakes and rattles. The engines ROAR and sound as if failure is imminent.

Dooby puts his arms over his head. Chidori is pushed back in her seat. She tries to speak but her VOICE comes out low and sounds like a CD played in slow motion.

CHIDORI

Zelmy, are we going to crash?!

DOOBY

Don't say that!

Dooby checks his computer.

ZELMY

We're almost there.

The ship streaks through another set of dark and twisting wormholes and suddenly it's over. There is burst of light and a loud SNAP.

Then, all is quiet in the cockpit. The engines PURR like a cat and the ship approaches a beautiful blue and green world that looks just like Earth. The ship descends into the planet's atmosphere.

Chidori looks out the window and watches as they fly through a thick layer of clouds. She can see a vast ocean before Zelmy changes course and the ship flies to the west.

The ship slowly descends and she can see a city far, far below. It's a giant city that seems to stretch on as far as the eye can see. It's night and the city is lit up like a magnificent Christmas tree.

The little purple creature turns the control wheel and the ship performs an amazing flight trick. It flies upside down. Chidori can see the view of the entire city from upside down. Dooby starts to complain.

DOOBY

Zelmy! Fly normally!

Somewhere in this great city, off in the distance stands an enormous Skyscraper that looks as if it reaches at least a mile into the sky. The building is lit and stands like a mighty beacon.

ZELMY

That's Titan Tower. It's the tallest building in the world. It's one mile high.

Chidori presses her face to the glass and lets out a little "Whoa!"

The ship descends on the city. Chidori looks at the cars racing across a sophisticated looking highway system. They pass other ships flying into and out of the mega city. Zelmy flies them over the heart of the city that looks much like a combination between Times Square in New York City and Tokyo only far grander and more magnificent.

They fly over an enormous stadium where a concert is in progress. It's packed to capacity with fans and patrons. Fireworks and lights from the stadium's Jumbo-tron light up the sky.

EXT. BOT LAB - NIGHT

The ship lands on a small landing pad outside of a dome shaped building. The building is transparent and looks as if it is constructed entirely out of glass.

Chidori walks down a ramp and disembarks from the spacecraft. She stretches and looks around.

CHIDORI

What is this place?

Dooby motions for her to follow him. She follows him into the dome shaped building. She taps his metallic torso as they walk.

CHIDORI

You're a real scaredy bot aren't you?

Dooby shakes his head vehemently. Chidori LAUGHS.

INT. THE BOT LAB

Dooby shows her around the Bot lab. The lab is filled with all sorts of strange and crazy looking contraptions. There are computer terminals, beakers filled with colorful bubbling fluid, robotic parts on various tables and all kinds of other odd and ends. Most of the rooms are disorganized and cluttered.

DOOBY

Please pardon the mess. The Creator isn't here and Santi never cleans up after himself so things have gotten a little out of hand.

CHIDORI

You have seen my room, right Dooby Doo?

They enter another room in the lab. SANTI, the mechanical monkey, is fast at work repairing a Bot. Dooby takes a look at the clutter and junk piled against the wall and shakes his head.

DOOBY

Santi, this mess is deplorable.

Santi ignores him and continues working on the Bot. The mechanical monkey lets out a series of "OOOKS" and "EEEEKS" as he works.

Dooby walks over to a computer terminal. He types in a password and a monitor appears.

DOOBY

Now let's take a look at that chip.

Chidori hands him the computer chip. Dooby inserts the chip into a computer port and enters a series of commands. After a few moments Periwinkle is on the screen. The robot laughs and waves Chidori's present in one of his hands. Wormin sits in the background snickering and giggling. (He speaks in a deep Christopher Lee style voice)

PERIWINKLE

Well done Chidori. You've taken the first step. The first step of many to come.

He holds the present to the camera for her to see.

PERIWINKLE

If you want this then you'll have to take it back from me. Let's test your will, shall we?

Chidori looks at dooby.

CHIDORI

He thinks he's clever but he's just a thief.

Periwinkle continues.

PERIWINKLE

Find Mossimo, Maxx City's legend in his own mind. The rest is up to you.

Wormin blows one final raspberry for the camera before Periwinkle signs out. Chidori looks at Dooby, puzzled.

CHIDORI

Who's Mossimo?

Dooby checks the computer's search engine. He snaps his fingers.

DOOBY

Ah! It's as I thought. Mossimo is the Star performer at the Maxx City Opera House. He's the very best. Or so he claims.

Chidori jumps out of her chair and races to the door.

DOOBY

Where are you going?

She turns around, impatient and exasperated.

CHIDORI

To go see Mossimo! Let's go!

DOOBY

Those clothes won't suit you. They'd never let you in. They do have their standards you know.

CHIDORI
Standards?

Dooby leads her out of the room.

DOOBY
Follow me.

INT. BOT LAB — SLEEPING QUARTERS

Dooby takes Chidori to the lab's private sleeping quarters and resting chambers. He introduces her to the automatic wardrobe changer.

DOOBY
This is the automatic wardrobe changer. You simply enter your selection on this menu, step in through this door and the machine will dispense the outfit of your choice through a slot. Now go ahead inside and let's see if we can find something appropriate for you to wear.

Chidori enters the automatic wardrobe changer. Dooby looks through the wardrobe menu and selects an outfit. He presses a button.

We hear the sound of the machine working and moments later the sound of Chidori getting dressed. She steps out of the wardrobe changer dressed in an elegant pink dress, long pink elbow length gloves. She does a little spin to show off her new outfit.

DOOBY
Excellent! Now I will choose an outfit for myself.

Dooby selects an outfit, enters the wardrobe changer and changes into his opera clothes. He comes out dressed in a black and white tuxedo with a top hat. Chidori tugs on his arm.

CHIDORI
Great! Let's get moving.

EXT. MAXX CITY — MONORAIL — NIGHT

Chidori and Dooby arrive at the Maxx City Public Monorail System. This monorail system uses anti-gravity technology allowing for higher speed and tighter turns. Dooby pays the fair to the CONDUCTOR BOT and they board the monorail. Chidori takes a seat next to the window.

CONDUCTOR BOT

Thank you for using the Maxx City Public Transit System. Monorail 1701 now departing for Titan Industries Stadium, Maxx City Opera House and the Periwinkle Plaza Shopping District.

Chidori frowns. She punches her fist into the palm of her hand.

CHIDORI

Periwinkle!

The monorail departs. It picks up terrific speed and it streaks through the city at well over one hundred miles an hour. Chidori looks out the window and watches the world go by.

The monorail makes its first stop. Some passengers exit the monorail while others board.

CONDUCTOR BOT

Next stop: Maxx City Opera House.

The monorail departs again. It races into a dark tunnel and picks up speed, it's now moving at over 200 miles an hour. Dooby clings to his seat. He looks nervous. Chidori gives him a reassuring pat on his shoulder.

CHIDORI

Think of this as a really fast roller coaster ride.

DOOBY

Roller coasters scare me!

Chidori rolls her eyes. They emerge from the tunnel and into another district of Maxx City – the old city.

The architecture here is not as slick and modern as the other district. It resembles late 19th century and early 20th century style architecture. The monorail slows down and finally comes to a stop.

Chidori and Dooby disembark and head to the Opera House.
EXT. MAXX CITY OPERA HOUSE

Chidori and Dooby stand in front of the beautiful Maxx City Opera House. They make their way through the bustling crowd and over to the ticket booth.

Chidori sees a poster set inside a glass case. Pictured on the poster is a very well groomed black cat dressed like a matador. The cat stands in dramatic pose.

The poster reads "The Cat Who Broke a Thousand Hearts by Mossimo Di Giacomo." Next to the sign it reads "Sold Out."

This doesn't stop Chidori. She grabs Dooby's arm and pulls him over to the TICKET AGENT who is sitting inside a booth. Chidori flashes her sweetest smile.

CHIDORI

Two tickets for the Cat Who
Broke a Thousand Hearts please.

The ticket agent points to the "Sold Out" sign. Chidori frowns.

CHIDORI

You don't have any more? Are
you sure?

The ticket agent rolls his eyes. He speaks in a nasal British tone of voice.

TICKET AGENT

Of course I'm sure. I sell
tickets. It's what I do.

Chidori starts to argue with him.

CHIDORI

Can't you check again?

The ticket agent is becoming very annoyed.

TICKET AGENT

I don't need to check. There are
no tickets for sale little girl!

Chidori puts on her very best sad face, complete with tears
for sympathy.

CHIDORI

I came all this way to see
Mossimo and now this?

The Ticket Agent shakes his head. He reaches into his
pocket and takes out a pair of tickets.

TICKET AGENT

Oh don't cry. If it's that important to
you then I suppose I can offer you
mine. For a price of course.

Chidori's mood brightens immediately. She turns to Dooby
expectantly.

DOOBY

How much sir?

TICKET AGENT

One hundred coins for the pair.

Dooby hands him the money and takes the tickets. They enter
the opera house.

INT. OPERA HOUSE

The inside of the Opera House is beautiful. It's packed
with well dressed patrons. They sit at tables eating
cocktail appetizers while they chat amongst themselves in
eager anticipation.

Chidori pushes through the crowd and sneaks past a few
security guards. They go up a set of stairs leading to the
second floor. They walk through a long hallway and past a
series of dressing rooms, each one with a nameplate on the
door.

She finds Mossimo's dressing room. There is a large star in
the center of the door and his portrait is inside the star.
Chidori barges into the room without knocking.

She startles Mossimo who is practicing his warm ups in front of his mirror. Mossimo the cat is only three feet tall but he struts around as if he fills the entire room.

CHIDORI

Hi Mossimo! Nice dressing room.
Do you know Periwinkle Party
Pooper Bot?

Mossimo leaps down off his chair and begins to protest.

MOSSIMO

Who are you? Who let you up here?

CHIDORI

Periwinkle told me to look for you.

MOSSIMO

You are rude. Very, very rude!
Leave at once or I'll call the
Alley Cat Guard.

Chidori and Mossimo begin to argue back and forth. Dooby watches them but says nothing. Mossimo stamps his foot on the carpet. He looks into the mirror and brushes his fur back.

MOSSIMO

All of this arguing is going to
take the shine out of my silky fur
and make my whiskers droop.

He storms over to the door and throws it open.

MOSSIMO

I can't go on stage with shabby
fur and drooping whiskers. Now
go!

CHIDORI

Periwinkle told me that you're the
best. I came to see for myself.

Mossimo raises his eyebrow.

MOSSIMO

The best?

Chidori smiles and nods enthusiastically.

CHIDORI

The best and the greatest.

Mossimo puffs up his chest and struts back to the mirror. He looks at himself from various angles.

MOSSIMO

Well, he's right you know.
Periwinkle's a big fan of mine.
He gave me this collar as a sign
of his appreciation for all of
my fine work.

He shows off the ruby red collar around his neck. A diamond is set in the middle of the collar. She looks at the diamond and GASPS. Inside the diamond is another tiny computer chip – just like the one from her bedroom.

CHIDORI

Can I borrow this collar? Please?
It's important.

Mossimo pulls away. He shakes his head.

MOSSIMO

No. I don't think so.

DOOBY

We are prepared to pay for it
of course.

Mossimo shakes his head over and over. He walks over to his wardrobe still shaking his head. He opens the wardrobe and removes a neatly pressed Matador's outfit and red cape.

MOSSIMO

No. No. No. No. This collar
completes me and I'm not about
to become incomplete right when
I'm about to perform.

He points to the door.

MOSSIMO

Thank you very much but I have to prepare myself. You've wasted enough of my precious time.

Chidori grumbles under her breath and walks to the dressing room door. Mossimo stops them.

MOSSIMO

I'll tell you what I can do for you. Something that might make your day or even your year.

Chidori's eyes light up.

CHIDORI

Yes?

MOSSIMO

Hang around after my performance and I'll have one of my assistants give you an autographed Opera poster. Signed by me.

Mossimo turns back to the mirror and fluffs his hair with a comb. Chidori narrows her eyes and shakes her head. Dooby and Chidori leave the dressing room.

INT. OPERA HOUSE – UPPER BALCONY – NIGHT

Chidori and Dooby sit in the audience watching the Opera. She pouts to herself and sits way down in her seat, angry that she wasn't able to get her hands on the computer chip.

Dooby, on the other hand, is delighted. He claps his hands as one of the performers finishes her song. Suddenly, the theatre grows dark and a spot light shines in the center of the stage. The crowd lets out a big "OOOOOO!!" as Mossimo takes the stage looking snappy in his matador's costume.

He flicks his cape around for effect and the crowd applauds and cheers. Chidori sits up. She focuses on the collar around his neck.

After a dramatic pause, Mossimo begins his performance. He starts to sing.

MOSSIMO

Clementine, Clementine. Where
can you be my Clementine? I fight
the bull, every day all for you
my Clementine. I call to thee, I
wish to see the only woman who
deserves me...

Chidori rolls her eyes as the applause continues. Mossimo struts around the stage as he sings. A couple of actors dressed up in a bull costume take the stage. Mossimo fights the bull. The crowd gives him a standing ovation.

Chidori's attention begins to wander. She looks around at the audience. She looks up and studies the beautiful artwork on the Opera ceiling. She looks at the rafters above the stage and suddenly sees something.

Someone, dressed in a black outfit climbs down a rope. A black mask hides his face. Chidori grabs Dooby's arm and points to the mysterious little man in black. Dooby watches the stranger climb down the rope.

DOOBY

How very curious. Is this part
of the performance?

Mossimo stops fighting the bull and sheaths his sword. He puffs up his chest and is about to hit his high note when the bandit snatches him. The mystery man in black quickly ties him up and drags him off stage.

The crowd is stunned. They can hear Mossimo's cries of protests and complaints as he is being dragged off the stage. Chidori jumps out of her seat. She grabs Dooby's arm.

CHIDORI

He has my clue! That's my
clue!

Chidori gives chase. She runs down the stairs leading to the stage. The entire Opera House crowd is now in a state of disorder. Chidori jumps onto the stage and runs behind a giant curtain. Dooby follows her.

EXT. OPERA HOUSE ROOFTOP

Chidori chases the bandit all the way up to the rooftop. An airship that looks like a flying pirate ship sits on the rooftop. She can hear Mossimo's voice coming from somewhere on board the ship.

MOSSIMO

What is the meaning of this? I demand an explanation. Unhand me at once!

The airship's engines are powered up and ready to go. . Dooby puts Chidori on his back. He pauses for a moment. Chidori BANGS on his metal shoulders.

CHIDORI

Let's move Scaredy Doo!

DOOBY

Hold on!

Dooby chases the ship. He grabs hold of the ladder just as the ship is about to take to the air. The airship lifts off and flies over Maxx City. Dooby holds onto the ladder for dear life. He looks down at the city far below and let's out a YELP.

CHIDORI

Don't you dare let go Doobster!
You have an obligation to me!

Dooby WHIMPERS as he climbs up the ladder. The airship accelerates. They can hear Mossimo YELLING and SHOUTING from somewhere on board the ship.

MOSSIMO

You've ruined my show! Literally ruined my performance! Get away from me and take me back to the Opera House post haste!

The airship glides in between a couple of skyscrapers and then makes a steep climb up higher and higher. Dooby manages to pull himself up onto the airship's deck. Chidori jumps off and looks around.

They can hear the CRASH of pots and pans coming from somewhere below deck. Chidori follows the sounds.

DOOBY

Be careful Miss Chidori! We don't know what this bandit is capable of. He could be exceedingly dangerous.

Chidori turns her head and gives him an "Oh please, are you kidding me?" sort of look. Dooby follows her below deck.

INT. AIRSHIP – GALLEY

Mossimo runs around the ship's galley. The mystery man in black chases him. Mossimo throws a pot at his kidnapper then a set of spoons and forks. The Chef Bots go crazy trying to cook the meal and clean up the mess that he's creating. Mossimo picks up a large frozen turkey and hurls it at the bandit.

MOSSIMO

Villain! You will rue the day that
You decided to kidnap Mossimo
Di Giacomo!

The turkey bounces off the wall and lands on the floor with a THUD. The bandit stops and LAUGHS. It's a rather high-pitched laugh. Mossimo throws a carrot, then a couple of baked potatoes. The bandit lunges at Mossimo.

MOSSIMO

What do you want from me? Is it
ransom? I'm one of Maxx City's
greatest national treasures. I'm
sure they'll pay you a huge sum!

Chidori races into the kitchen, followed by Dooby. The bandit stops in his tracks. This gives Mossimo just enough time to dart out of the other door and up a set of stairs. The BANDIT'S VOICE is strangely feminine.

BANDIT

Who are you?!

CHIDORI

I need to talk to Mossimo and
you're not going to stop me.

Chidori runs through the kitchen and out the other door. Dooby chases after her. The bandit chases after them.

Dooby runs faster. Now it's his turn to knock over pots, pans and dishes in an effort to slow down the masked bandit.

DOOBY

Don't take it out on me! I'm just
a birthday bot!

Dooby runs out of the kitchen and up the set of stairs that leads back to the upper deck.

EXT. AIRSHIP — UPPER DECK — NIGHT

The airship flies high, high above the city. Mossimo runs to the railing and looks down. The city lights twinkle like stars far below them.

The opera cat suddenly gets a touch of vertigo. He puts his paw to his brow and tries to steady himself on the railing.

MOSSIMO

This is not good. No, this is
not good at all. I'm not built
as tough as I look!

The ship makes a sudden turn and Mossimo looks as if he is about to faint. Chidori grabs him.

CHIDORI

I've got you.

Mossimo looks at her, dazed and slightly confused.

MOSSIMO

You. I remember you. The girl
who wanted my autograph?

CHIDORI

Your collar.

Mossimo nods his head. His fur is now messy and unkempt. His whiskers are drooping.

MOSSIMO

Oh, yes. Now I remember. Well,
get this masked menace away from
me and it's yours.

Chidori hides behind a pile of boxes as the bandit approaches. She makes a hand gesture telling Mossimo to stay put. The bandit points at Mossimo.

BANDIT

Stop running. Don't you know
who I am? I'm your number one
fan.

Mossimo inches away from the railing. The opera cat has a puzzled expression on his face.

MOSSIMO

That tells me nothing. Everyone
is my number one fan.

BANDIT

Then I'm your number one number
one fan.

The bandit lunges at Mossimo. Chidori leaps at the bandit and drives him to the floor. As the bandit is only about 3 feet tall, this isn't hard to do. Chidori and the bandit wrestle with each other on the deck.

BANDIT

What ARE you doing? Get off me!

Dooby watches them as they grapple with each other.

DOOBY

Be careful Chidori!

Chidori holds onto the bandit but her grip is starting to slip.

CHIDORI

You could help me you know!

Dooby nervously stamps his feet on the floor, unsure about what to do.

CHIDORI

Dooby!

Dooby lollygags around and can't quite muster the courage to jump into the pile. Chidori continues to struggle and

finally manages to pin the bandit to the ground. The struggle quickly comes to an end.

BANDIT

Get off of me!

Chidori continues to hold him down. She's huffing and puffing, exhausted from struggling with him.

CHIDORI

Take Mossimo back to the opera house.

The bandit nods and she eases her grip.

DOOBY

Look out, he might have another trick up his sleeve.

Chidori shoots him an agitated look.

CHIDORI

It's not like you're gonna help.

Dooby starts to say something but stops. He looks at the floor, embarrassed. The bandit stands up and shakes his head.

BANDIT

No. I'm done.

He pulls off his mask and reveals that he is actually a she. She is TEBBA the dainty Abyssinian cat. Mossimo GASPS.

MOSSIMO

Tebba! Heiress to the Satisfied Kitty Cat Food Company? You?! Why did you do this? Why did you ruin my show?

Tebba looks at the floor, ashamed of herself.

TEBBA

I could not bear sharing you with others. Your fans, your audience and I'm just another face in the crowd.

Chidori GIGGLES.

CHIDORI
Is she your girlfriend?

Mossimo takes his comb and combs his fur back into place. He uses one of the pots that he carried with him as a mirror.

MOSSIMO
I don't have a girlfriend. How could I? I'm more cat than any one woman can handle.

Chidori continues to needle him a bit.

CHIDORI
I think you love Tebba.

Mossimo becomes indignant.

MOSSIMO
I do NOT love Tebba.

Tebba looks away, embarrassed and somewhat ashamed of her actions. Mossimo's angry frown softens.

MOSSIMO
But I'll admit. I am flattered that you admire me enough to kidnap me, drag me onto your airship and put me in a situation where I nearly plummeted thousands of feet to my demise.

Tebba faces Mossimo. She flutters her eyelashes.

TEBBA
Truly?

Mossimo nods.

MOSSIMO
A very creative scheme. Much craftier than what most of my stalkers can concoct.

The airship begins to descend back into the city. It makes a soft turn and adjusts course for Maxx City International Airport. The tall air traffic control towers stand in the distance.

CHIDORI

Who's flying the ship?

TEBBA

The pilot bots of course.

Tebba timidly approaches Mossimo. The opera cat watches her, still suspicious.

TEBBA

I do apologize for ruining your show.

Mossimo finishes brushing his fur. He struts around the deck.

MOSSIMO

Yes. The show will get poor reviews I'm sure. I, of course will not but the rest of the cast will suffer. Such is the fate of a supporting actor I suppose.

Chidori rubs her chin and looks at him thoughtfully.

CHIDORI

Maybe not.

Mossimo and Tebba look at her, surprised.

MOSSIMO

What do you mean?

Now it's Chidori's turn to strut around the deck. She waves her arms for emphasis as she speaks.

CHIDORI

You weren't kidnapped.

MOSSIMO

I most certainly was!

CHIDORI

No. You weren't kidnapped at all. That was all part of the story. You added the scene at the last minute as a surprise for the audience. The great matador was kidnapped by the bandit in black. What happened to the matador? Will he ever return again?

She stops and draws an imaginary question mark in the air. She pauses before speaking again.

CHIDORI

It's the perfect excuse for a sequel. Part two. The Return of The Matador. The show will sell out in five minutes. You'll be the talk of the city.

MOSSIMO

I'm already the talk of the town.

CHIDORI

You'll be even BIGGER than you already are. A legend for all time!

Mossimo considers this for a moment. He squints his green eyes as if deep in thought. He paces the deck, rubbing his chin. He looks at his reflection in the pot.

MOSSIMO

A legend for all time. Yes.
I like that. I like it a lot.

Tebba CLAPS her approval.

TEBBA

I think that's a wonderful idea.

DOOBY

Yes. Miss Chidori should be a writer.

Mossimo nods in agreement.

MOSSIMO

Yes. This will work. This will definitely work.

Chidori smiles. She clears her throat and holds out her hand. Mossimo purses his lips and takes off his collar. He places the collar in Chidori's waiting hand.

MOSSIMO

Blue suits me better.

Chidori holds the collar close to her eyes and looks at the computer chip inside the diamond.

CHIDORI

How do we get this thing out?

DOOBY

We'll take it back to the Bot lab and extract the chip. First, let's celebrate our victory. Let's all go out to eat.

Chidori looks excited at this idea.

CHIDORI

Pizza?!

DOOBY

Absolutely, if that's what you want. Would you two care to join us?

Tebba declines.

TEBBA

I have to do some maintenance on the airship.

MOSSIMO

Pizza you say? I know of a place that makes the very best. My autographed picture is up on their wall of fame.

Chidori claps her hands.

CHIDORI
Now we're talking.

Mossimo and Tebba take a walk below deck. Chidori approaches Dooby.

CHIDORI
Look, if you're gonna help me then you're gonna have to start..like.. helping me. Know what I mean?

Dooby nods. He looks embarrassed.

DOOBY
Of course Miss Chidori. That's what I promised to do.

Chidori smiles. She pats him on his arm. The airship descends into the city and prepares for landing at Maxx City International.

INT. PIZZA PICCIONE – NIGHT

Dooby, Chidori and Mossimo walk into the world famous Pizza Piccione Pizza Parlor. It's a very colorful restaurant decorated with all sorts of different artwork and pictures. Mossimo points to his autographed picture hanging on the "Pizza Piccione Wall of Fame"

Chidori reads the autograph: "Thank you Chef Piccione, from one magnificent star to another. Mossimo Di Giacomo." The parlor is a buzz with activity. MUSIC plays over the sound system. Customers sit at their tables talking and enjoying their meals.

They take a seat at a booth. A WAITER BOT brings them some menus. Chef Pizza Piccione's picture is on the menu cover. He is the stereotypical Pizza chef with the white hat and the dark curling moustache.

WAITER BOT
Welcome to Pizza Piccione's. We thank you for your patronage.
Would you like to make an order?

Chidori looks through the menu and orders.

CHIDORI

I'll have the Pizza Piccione's
Pepperoni Delight Pan Pizza
Mini Portion with an order of
Piccione's Garden Garlic
Breadsticks.

She points at Dooby.

CHIDORI

He's paying.

The waiter bot enters the order. Dooby orders next.

DOOBY

And I'll select the Chef Piccione
Piping Hot Pepper and Sausage
Pizza with extra cheese.

Chidori looks at him, amazed.

CHIDORI

Robots eat?

Dooby looks slightly taken aback.

DOOBY

Well of course we do. The Creator
designed us with the ability to
attain nourishment from food.

The Waiter Bot turns it's attention to Mossimo. He flips
through the menu and shakes his head.

MOSSIMO

Where is the Mossimo Di Giacomo
Eggplant and Spicy Meatball
Parmesan Calzone?

WAITER BOT

I do apologize but there is no
such item on the menu.

MOSSIMO

Hmp. Chef Piccione told me that he
was going to create a dish in my
honor. Well, now I am offended.

He studies the menu again.

MOSSIMO

In that case, I'll just have one
Plain slice of pizza. (pause) Make
that two slices. With Pepperoni.
(beat) and anchovies.

The Waiter Bot collects the menus and goes to the kitchen to fill the order.

EXT. PIZZA PICCIONE PARLOR

Chidori and the gang eat their meals. She digs into her pizza with a vengeance. Suddenly, the background music stops. DRUMS ROLL and the kitchen doors are thrown open. The waiter bots play accordions and Chef PIZZA PICCIONE steps through the open doors. He does a deep bow and throws some flour into the air. It sprinkles down on him and he lets out a great LAUGH.

The Pizza Chef goes from table to table asking the customers how they're enjoying their dining experience. Chidori watches him with curiosity.

The chef takes a balloon, blows it up and twists it into a balloon giraffe. He hands it to a little girl with pigtails. Then, he bursts into song with a deep BASS VOICE.

PIZZA PICCIONE

Pizza pizza pizza time, oh what
a wonderful time it is. Pizza
pizza pizza time, we serve every
kind. Pepperoni, extra cheese,
sausage and mushroom too.
Mozzarella, parmesan and
breadsticks all for you. Pizza
pizza pizza time fun for the boy
fun for the girl. Pizza pizza
pizza time, Pizza Piccione is
best in the world!

Chidori and Dooby CLAP their hands. Most of the customers clap their approval as well. Mossimo gives a little, lukewarm applause. There is one BOO to be heard. It comes from the booth right next to Chidori's.

A pudgy-faced boy gives the chef the thumbs down. His FATHER chastises him.

FATHER
Corwin, that's rude!

CORWIN shoves a slice of pizza into his mouth and complains while he chews

CORWIN
He sings too much. Just bring me some more breadsticks.

INT. PIZZA PICCIONE'S

Chidori and gang are nearly finished with their dinner. She rubs her stomach.

CHIDORI
I can't fit another bite.

Dooby puts the leftovers into a box. Chidori looks over his shoulder and sees Corwin watching them. He grins mischievously. Moments later a fat meatball lands on their table. Corwin ducks down out of sight. Chidori can hear Corwin's MOTHER speaking.

MOTHER
Don't throw your father's meatballs at people!

Chidori narrows her eyes and gnashes her teeth. Dooby looks at her.

DOOBY
Just ignore him.

Another meatball is hurled at their table along with a thick wad of spaghetti and sauce. Chidori stands up.

CHIDORI
Quit it!

Corwin sticks his head up above the booth seat. He opens his mouth so that she can see what he's chewing.

CHIDORI

So gross!

Corwin LAUGHS. His parents continue to chastise him but to no avail. Suddenly a giant slice of pepperoni calzone is hurled over the booth striking Chidori square in the face. All hell breaks loose.

Chidori grabs her soda and hurls it at the little trouble maker. He throws a slice of pizza at her but misses by a mile. She picks up a piece of Mossimo's pizza and returns fire but hits Corwin's mother instead. The boy LAUGHS as he watches his mother wipe cheese off her face.

A full fledged food fight erupts. It's Pandemonium. Dooby hides under the table as other kids join in the fight. Mossimo stands up on the table and protests.

MOSSIMO

Stop it! Stop it! Listen to me!
I'm on the wall of fame!

A giant wad of spinach lasagna and mozzarella cheese strikes him and the opera cat falls off the table. Pizza Piccione runs out of the kitchen to see what's going on. He is hit by an enormous slice of pizza. It slides down his face and falls on the floor in a lump.

PIZZA PICCIONE

What is this?!

The Waiter Bots are confused by the commotion. They start to play their accordions. Chidori continues the fight and Corwin LAUGHS hysterically. Everyone is covered in cheese and tomato sauce.

INT. PIZZA PICCIONE'S

Dooby pays the bill. Chef Piccione stands in the doorway, his brow furrowed. He is absolutely covered with food and drink. He points at Mossimo.

PIZZA PICCIONE

I should ban you! I should ban
all of you!

Mossimo holds up his paws in protest.

MOSSIMO

Me? What did I do? I'm a victim!
It will take ages to wash this
sauce and cheese out of my fur.
I'm going to need lots of shampoo
and conditioner.

CHIDORI

I didn't start it Chef sir. He did.

Corwin is totally caked in sauce, cheese, garlic and soda.
He sticks out his tongue. His father gives him a WHACK on
the rear end. Dooby hands the chef some extra money.

DOOBY

For your trouble Chef Piccione.
please don't hold it against
us.

The Pizza Chef takes the extra money and GRUNTS. He nods
his head. Dooby and gang exit the pizza parlor and walk
down the street. Dooby hails a cab. The cab, driven by a
red Taxi Bot pulls up to the curb.

CHIDORI

I'm sorry for getting us in trouble.

She pauses then smiles sheepishly.

CHIDORI

But you know you enjoyed that,
right Dooby-Doo?

Dooby looks at her with a stern face that slowly breaks
into a smile. He winks at her. Mossimo uses his
handkerchief to clean the sauce and cheese out of his ear.

MOSSIMO

Well, I did not. This has not been
an enjoyable dining experience for
me. I just hope that no one important
thinks that I was involved in that.

Chidori and gang board the taxi and head back to the Bot
lab.

INT. PERIWINKLE'S LAB - NIGHT

Periwinkle sits in his lab next to a mountain of stolen presents. Wormin sits next to him playing a handheld video game. The game makes all sorts of electronic BEEPS as Wormin manipulates the control pad. He races the digital car along a track. He loses control of the car and it skids off the track. The game lets out a loud BONK sound. Game over.

Wormin slams the video game onto the floor and pounds it with his tiny fist.

Periwinkle selects a present from the pile. He tears off the wrapping paper and studies the box. It's a slick little cell phone shaped like a bunny. He SIGHS and tosses it aside, disinterested. Wormin snatches it and tears open the box. He throws the instructions into the wrapping paper and starts playing with the phone. Moments later, the phone is broken. Wormin frowns, disappointed.

WORMIN

Open more!

Periwinkle takes another present and tosses it over. Wormin tears into it the wrapping paper like a tornado. Periwinkle picks up Chidori's present. He reads the label. It's written in very neat print: "From Grandpa". Periwinkle studies it from every angle. He holds it up to his ear. Nothing. He shakes it and traces its outline with his mechanical fingers.

Wormin stops what he's doing and watches his master. He smiles eagerly.

WORMIN

Open that one now!

Periwinkle considers this for a moment and shakes his head.

PERIWINKLE

No. There's something special about this one.

WORMIN

Aww! Come on!

Periwinkle brushes him off.

PERIWINKLE

I want to savor it. I want to know what drives our young friend.

Periwinkle stands up. He takes the present with him.

PERIWINKLE

Besides, we have yet to see if she has what it takes to get it back.

Wormin watches him as he leaves the lab. He shrugs his little shoulders and continues opening presents.

INT. THE BOT LAB

Santi the mechanical monkey removes the diamond from Mossimo's collar. He places it on a table and examines it with a handheld magnifier. Chidori and Mossimo watch him work.

CHIDORI

How's he going to get it out without damaging the diamond or the chip?

Santi finishes his analysis of the stone and the chip sealed inside of it. He lets out a loud OOOK and EEEK. He picks up a heavy mallet and smashes the precious stone. Chidori puts her hands to her mouth.

DOOBY

It's fine Miss Chidori. Santi says that the stone was a fake. The chip is undamaged.

Chidori looks surprised. Mossimo looks positively offended.

MOSSIMO

A fake? Impossible!

CHIDORI

Periwinkle gave Mossimo a fake diamond?

DOOBY

Yes indeed. It was made of glass.

Mossimo STAMPS his foot on the floor.

MOSSIMO

Oh, that is IT. See if I ever endorse any of his products again. Unbelievable!

Chidori starts to GIGGLE uncontrollably. Santi picks up the computer chip and gives it to Dooby.

DOOBY

Let's give this a view.

They walk over to the computer terminal. Dooby places the chip into the port. Moments later, Periwinkle stands before them in holographic form. Wormin sits on his shoulder. He holds a snow globe in his hand.

PERIWINKLE

Congratulations for finding the next clue Chidori. I hope that operatic dolt didn't give you too much grief.

Mossimo frowns.

MOSSIMO

A dolt? What's a dolt? Is that a good thing?

Chidori looks at Dooby and grins. Periwinkle continues.

PERIWINKLE

Don't get overconfident. The real challenge begins. If you liked the Opera then you'll really enjoy the theatre. Colonel Pampa's Traveling Theatre Blimp is where you will find your next clue. This snow globe. How you retrieve it is up to you.

CHIDORI

Colonel Pampa?

Mossimo narrows his eyes. Chidori LAUGHS aloud at the Colonel's funny name.

MOSSIMO

Colonel Pampa? That amateur? He
Doesn't have a star on the Maxx
City Walk of Fame.

Chidori's eyes widen with curiosity and amazement.

CHIDORI

Do you?

Mossimo pauses.

MOSSIMO

Well. No. Not yet. I should
have one after all of the
entertainment and hope that I've
given this city. But I'll have
that star soon enough. Just wait
and see.

The hologram continues. Periwinkle waves Chidori's present
in his hands.

PERIWINKLE

Do hurry. You have time to get
this back but I won't wait
forever. I have no other virtues
so I have no need to be patient.

The holographic image fades. Chidori looks at her little
gang of friends.

CHIDORI

I'm going to do whatever it takes
to get grandpa's present back.
Are you guys with me?

Dooby nods enthusiastically. He bows at the hips.

DOOBY

Absolutely Miss Chidori.

Chidori looks skeptical.

CHIDORI

You won't get all chicken-doo on
me again?

DOOBY

Of course not! Have I let you
down so far?

She levels a look on him and raises her eyebrow. Dooby
pauses.

DOOBY

Yes. I suppose that I have. But
I'll stand right by your side from
this point forward.

She looks at Mossimo. He struts around the room with his
chest puffed. He stops and looks at his reflection in a
mirror. He rubs his chin and slicks back his fur.

MOSSIMO

Colonel Pampa owes me an apology.
He'll probably beg me to return,
tell me how great I am and what a
fool he was to let me go. I'm not
looking forward to the groveling,
and the tears of lament but I'll
go to help you because one good
meow deserves another. You did
save my milk after all.

Chidori pumps her fist.

CHIDORI

I knew I could count on you guys!
Let's go!

Chidori grabs Mossimo's arm and races out of the lab.

INT. PERIWINKLE'S SUITE — EVENING

Periwinkle's office suite is neat and clean. Several
colorful pieces of art hang from the wall. A shelf stands
against the wall. All kinds of interesting looking toys sit
on a shelf.

Periwinkle sits in front of a large view screen that takes
up almost the entire wall. He presses a button and zooms in
on the entrance to the Bot Lab. Chidori and gang exit the
lab and hail a cab.

Periwinkle turns to Wormin who is sitting on his desk chewing a thick wad of gum. He blows a bubble and it pops all over his little face.

PERIWINKLE

How would you like to do a little mischief?

Wormin's eyes light up. He nods his head enthusiastically.

WORMIN

I like mischief! Even more than presents!

Periwinkle CHUCKLES. It's a deep chuckle that seems to fill the room.

PERIWINKLE

Good Wormin. Now board the train bound for the Western Island and make things challenging for our determined little friend.

Wormin looks at his master, waiting for further instructions. Periwinkle waves him away.

PERIWINKLE

Be creative. Indulge yourself.

Wormin rubs his hands together, SNICKERING. He bolts from the room eager to start his mischief.

EXT. MAXX CITY TRAIN TERMINAL

Chidori and gang arrive at the Maxx City Train Station. It's very busy. Chidori walks through the crowd and almost gets lost in the hustle and bustle. Dooby walks up to a giant monitor and checks the departures listing.

DOOBY

Ah. There's one train bound for the Western Island departing in forty minutes.

CHIDORI

Western Island?

DOOBY

Indeed. Maxx City is massive. It's divided into many different districts. The Theatre Blimp is stationed in a section of the city that lies on the Western Island.

CHIDORI

Why can't we just fly there on the ship?

DOOBY

I wish we could but we can't simply fly anywhere we want. Maxx City has strict regulations.

An ANNOUNCEMENT comes over the terminal speakers.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Train 317 bound for The Western Island now boarding. Please check any baggage in at Baggage Service and present your boarding pass to the Conductor Bot before boarding the train.

Chidori grabs Dooby's arm and races for the terminals labeled: Terminals 300-330. Mossimo chases after them.

EXT. MAXX CITY TRAIN TERMINAL – BAGGAGE SERVICES

Wormin slips through the crowd. He finds the Baggage Service and sneaks inside. Baggage Bots pile suitcases and other luggage onto carts.

The carts are labeled with the appropriate train/destination number written on it. Wormin jumps onto the cart labeled "Train 317 WSTIS" He opens one of the suitcases and sneaks inside.

EXT. MAXX CITY TRAIN TERMINAL – TERMINAL 317

Chidori races to the ticket window, Dooby and Mossimo arrive seconds later. She snaps her fingers.

CHIDORI

Three tickets for the Western Island.

The white TICKET BOT accesses a computer and types in the order.

TICKET BOT
You arrived just in time. Have you any carry on luggage?

CHIDORI
Nope.

TICKET BOT
Would you like to travel on our first class passenger car? This fare includes unlimited meals and drinks for our dining car.

CHIDORI
Sure! It's the only way to travel!

The Ticket Bot enters the order.

TICKET BOT
Your fare comes to one thousand coins.

Chidori looks at Dooby expectantly. Dooby's mechanical eyes widen.

DOOBY
One thousand coins?

CHIDORI
Traveling ain't cheap, Doobs.

Dooby looks at Mossimo. The Opera Cat holds out his empty paws.

MOSSIMO
I would cover my ticket but I left my coin card back at my penthouse suite. All of this recent stress has discombobulated my routine.

Dooby SIGHS. He hands his coin card to the Ticket Bot. The Bot completes the transaction and hands each of them a boarding pass. Chidori and gang leave the ticket booth and find the boarding area.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Now boarding Train 317. Western
Island.

Chidori hands her boarding pass to the Conductor Bot. The Bot scans her ticket and she gets the green "pass" light. Chidori boards the train. Dooby hands his ticket to the Bot. His knees are trembling.

CHIDORI

What's wrong now?

DOOBY

Train rides make me nervous.

Dooby boards the train. Mossimo follows.

INT. TRAIN 317 – FIRST CLASS CAR

The inside of Train 317 is sleek, clean and beautiful. Chidori takes the window seat. Dooby and Mossimo take their seats next to her. The other passengers board the train but only a quarter of the seats are filled.

INT. TRAIN 317 – BAGGAGE CAR

A brown suitcase sits on the floor amongst a pile of other suitcases. Suddenly the suitcase opens. Wormin slips out of the suitcase. He sneaks past the Baggage Bots and slips into the passenger section of the train.

He sneaks through first class and stops. He sees Chidori in her seat. Chidori is LAUGHING with Dooby and arguing with Mossimo about something.

He SNICKERS to himself and makes his way out of first class, through the dining car and into the train engine (locomotive)

EXT. MAXX CITY TRAIN TERMINAL

Train 317 departs the Maxx City Train Terminal. It cruises through the city. It's a fantastic ride that takes the train past impossibly tall skyscrapers, past shopping districts, past Jordanna Park – Maxx City's beautiful city park.

INT. TRAIN 317 – FIRST CLASS CAR

Chidori looks out the window. She watches the city roll by. She puts her hands to the glass and let's out a little "Wow" as they speed through the futuristic city. She looks in the sky and can see a red hot air balloon sailing through the clouds.

She turns to Mossimo who reading the Maxx City Times. He pounds his seat with his paw. He holds up the entertainment section for Chidori to see.

The headline reads: "The Cat Who Broke a Thousand Hearts – Brilliant Opera or "Broken Down" Cliffhanger?" Mossimo reads from the article.

MOSSIMO

Mossimo DiGiacomo delivers a fine performance as Tristan the Matador but his bizarre exit from the stage can be seen as either brilliant or a cheap gimmick to guarantee a sequel. It seems that these days, it's all about the coin. How tragic.

Mossimo wags his paw at Chidori.

MOSSIMO

You told me that this would make me a legend! Look at me now! My legacy is on the line. My reputation is tarnished!

Chidori shrugs. She gets out of her seat.

CHIDORI

Bummer. Hey, wanna go to the dining cart with me?

Mossimo considers this for a moment before agreeing.

MOSSIMO

I need to drown my sorrows in a root beer or two.

Chidori looks at Dooby. Dooby has his knees up on the seat and he looks very nervous. Chidori pats him on the shoulder.

CHIDORI

We're going to the dining car. Try not to fall apart while we're gone.

Dooby nods.

DOOBY

Certainly. I'll be fine. Enjoy your meal Miss Chidori.

MOSSIMO

I hope that I don't get harassed for my autograph. I am certainly not in the mood.

Chidori and Mossimo exit the first class car.

EXT. TRAIN 317 – INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

The train travels across a bridge that spans the Industrial District. We see Dooby looking out of the window. He looks at the maze of metal rigs, factories and power plants far below. He shudders and looks away from the window.

INT. TRAIN 317 – DINING CAR

The dining car is beautifully decorated. Travelers sit at their tables eating and drinking while the Waiter Bots serve them.

Chidori sits at a table with Mossimo. She looks through the menu selections. The blue WAITER BOT takes her order.

CHIDORI

I'll have the Titan Towers
Titanic Pancake Stack and
mango juice.

Mossimo looks depressed.

MOSSIMO

I'll have a root beer. Large.

The Waiter Bot gets to work and sends the order in. The order is sent in by computer pad.

WAITER BOT
Service please!

Chidori turns to Mossimo. His whiskers are drooping and he doesn't seem to be his usual pompous self.

CHIDORI
What's wrong? You look so sad?
Nobody bugged you for your
autograph. You should be happy!

Mossimo lets out a loud SIGH. He puts his head on the table. The waiter bot returns with the order. Chidori stares at the enormous stack of pancakes. It's a virtual tower of large pancakes. The waiter bot places the plate on the table and she has to look up to see the top of the stack.

CHIDORI
Now that's a lotta pancakes.

Mossimo shrugs. He takes a deep chug from his root beer and uses his arm to wipe the foam from his mouth. Chidori works her way through the massive stack of food. She watches the television. A commercial is playing.

She suddenly sits up and takes notice. It's Periwinkle! He's standing inside a colorful toy store packed with customers. The store is filled with all sorts of toys and electronic games.

PERIWINKLE
If you're looking for quality
new and used toys then
Periwinkle's Toy Palace is the
store for you!

The commercial displays images of some of his great selections.

PERIWINKLE
We have new and used toys from
all over the world. Video games,
puzzles, phones and antique toys
not found anywhere else!

Wormin shows up in the picture. He's playing with a toy and smiles his approval. It's a sweet and innocent smile.

WORMIN

Periwinkle's Toy Palace is the best!

Periwinkle LAUGHS.

PERIWINKLE

Don't take our word for it. See for yourself! Come to Periwinkle's Toy Palace in Titan Towers. Our prices are a steal!

They both wave to the camera and smile.

PERIWINKLE

We'll be waiting!

Chidori narrows her eyes and pounds her fist into the palm of her hand.

CHIDORI

Periwinkle!

EXT. TRAIN 317 — THE CHANNEL

The train approaches the channel that separates the Maxx City Mainland from the Western Island. It enters the Channel Tunnel. The Channel Tunnel is transparent and allows travelers to see the view from underwater.

INT. LOCOMOTIVE

The Engineer Bot sits at his station and drives the train. Wormin takes a quick look around and slowly emerges from his hiding spot.

He sneaks behind the ENGINEER BOT and when the moment is right, he quickly and skillfully deactivates the robot. The Bot slumps over. Wormin SNICKERS and takes control of the train. He pulls back on a lever and increases the speed. The train speed jumps from 150 miles and hour to 215 miles an hour.

INT. DINING CAR

Chidori has just about had it with the pancakes. She barely got through a quarter of the enormous stack. She sits back

and shakes her head. Mossimo is already on his third root beer. He shakes his head and stares into his glass.

Suddenly, the train picks up speed. The sudden change in speed causes one of the waiter bots to fall over dropping an order on one of the customers.

Chidori's entire stack of pancakes slides off the table and onto the floor creating a giant mess. A waiter bot stumbles over the pile of pancakes and sticky syrup. She clings to the edge of the table.

CHIDORI

Whoa!

Mossimo looks out the window. They're racing through the tunnel. They race past an underwater mall, and make a sharp turn into another tunnel. A passenger slides off his bar stool and lands on his butt. The train picks up even more speed.

INT. LOCOMOTIVE

Wormin increases the speed to 295 miles an hour. He GIGGLES and begins to hit different switches at random. Lights go on and off and back on throughout the train as he plays with the switches. He hits another button. Loud ROCK music plays in every car on the train. Wormin bobs his head up and down, grooving to the tune.

INT. FIRST CLASS CAR

Dooby clings to his seat as the train propels forward through the tunnel like a bullet. The lights flicker on and off. Loud rock music plays over the speakers. A BOY stands up from his chair. He plays air guitar.

BOY

Chalien! I love this band!

Dooby begins to panic. He gets up and stumbles around as the lights go on and off.

DOOBY

What IS going on?! I have to find Miss Chidori!

Dooby uses the edges of the passenger seats to support himself as he walks through the first class passenger car.

INT. LOCOMOTIVE

Wormin chews on a thick wad of gum. He dances to the music as he presses a button here and a button there. He increases the speed to 330 miles an hour. The train begins to vibrate.

There is a BANG on the door. Two conductor bots race into the engine room. They try to capture Wormin but he is too fast for them. He darts behind them and deactivates them before they know what's happening.

Satisfied with his handiwork, he returns to the driver's seat. He presses a button and turns up volume on the music.

INT. DINING CAR

Chidori falls over as the train picks up speed and rounds a curve in the tunnel. She looks out the window and can see the sky once more. The train has emerged from the tunnel and onto the Western Island.

It speeds through a suburb of the city. Houses and buildings fly by. Chidori gets a sudden case of vertigo and she stumbles around as she tries to pick herself up. The train crosses a bridge and nearly slides off its antigravity tracks.

Mossimo let's out a YELP.

MOSSIMO

This is terrible! I'm too talented to die!

Dooby runs into the dining cart. The lights go out. He trips and falls in the darkness. He calls out for Chidori.

DOOBY

Miss Chidori! Are you here?

Chidori gets up and makes her way over to Dooby. She's covered in food and drink.

CHIDORI

I'm here Doobs. Are you ok?

Dooby is in full panic mode as the lights begin to flicker on and off again. His eyes are wide and he looks around frantically.

DOOBY
This is terrible!

One of the passnegers steps on Chidori's hand by accident. She lets out a loud "OWWW-A!!" At that moment, the train's speakers are turned on. She hears a SNICKER and a GIGGLE followed by a voice that she knows all too well.

WORMIN
Next stop, West Island Station!

Wormin blows a RASPBERRY over the speaker and cuts it off. Chidori's eyes widen.

CHIDORI
Wormin!

She grits her teeth and makes her way through the other passengers, stepping over fallen chairs and plates and over to the door. She exits the dining car.

INT. TRAIN CAR

Chidori runs through the car in the direction of the train's engine. Several Conductor Bots follow her. She finally finds the door leading into the locomotive. She presses a button and the door slides open.

INT. LOCOMOTIVE

Wormin's still jamming to the music and "driving" the train. He snaps around as Chidori races into the train's engine. He smiles, sticks out his tongue and bolts from his seat.

Chidori tries to catch him but he's far too quick. Trying to capture him on a moving train is like trying to snag a minnow in the water with nothing but bare hands. She trips over her own feet. Wormin LAUGHS and exits the locomotive.

Chidori picks herself up.

CHIDORI
I'm gonna squash you!

She chases after him. The conductor bots prop up the engineer bot and reactivate him. The robot wakes up and sees the danger of the situation. The robot immediately takes his seat and makes the necessary adjustments.

The train begins to slow down and resume it's normal cruising speed. The lights are stabilized and the music is turned off. The engineer bot presses a button and speaks.

ENGINEER BOT

We apologize for the malfunction
We have everything under
control and we should be arriving
at Maxx City Western Island
Terminal in five minutes.

INT. DINING CAR

The passengers calm down and take their seats once more as the train begins to operate normally. Mossimo brushes sticky jam and syrup out of his fur.

MOSSIMO

Last trip on a train. Ever!

Dooby's nerves start to ease a bit. The train slows to a crawl as it enters the station.

DOOBY

At least the train's under
control again. Good work
Miss Chidori!

As soon as he says this, Wormin races into the dining car with Chidori fast on his trail. Chidori calls out to her friend.

CHIDORI

Dooby, you bucket head! Grab him!

Dooby tries to tackle Wormin as he races by but can't seem to muster the courage. Wormin runs to one of the side doors and opens it. He smiles and blows one loud RASPBERRY and jumps off the train. He has escaped.

Chidori slumps into a chair and shakes her head. She's panting heavily. She pounds her fist on the table.

CHIDORI
I almost had him.

An announcement comes on over the speakers.

ENGINEER BOT
Now arriving at Western Island
Terminal. Please gather your
carry on luggage and proceed
To the exits. Do not exit the
train until it comes to a
complete and full stop.

The passengers GRUMBLE with dissatisfaction as they make their way out of the dining car and back to the passenger cars. Chidori helps Dooby to his feet and the three friends walk back to the exit doors.

EXT. MAXX CITY – WESTERN ISLAND – DAY

Chidori and gang arrive at the Pampa Theatre Troupe practice theatre. It's located in an older part of the city. The sidewalks are made of cobblestones and most of the buildings are built from red and brown bricks. The small theatre building stands in an alleyway.

The sign above it reads: Colonel Pampa's Theatre Troupe. Now accepting auditions. They can hear SHOUTING coming from somewhere inside the building. Chidori shrugs her shoulders.

CHIDORI
Well, here we go.

Mossimo makes a face.

MOSSIMO
Hmph. I never thought I'd ever
walk through THIS door again.

Chidori opens the door and they enter the practice theatre.

INT. COLONEL PAMPA'S PRACTICE THEATRE

The inside of the practice theatre is cramped and untidy. Boxes filled with props, costumes and books are stacked onto tables. Stacks of scripts and story notes are

scattered about the room in messy piles. An old piano stands in the corner of the practice theatre.

A MAN stands on the practice stage. He is tall – about six foot six inches. Most of his head is bald except for some cotton like tufts of hair on the side and back of his head.

He is lanky but very wiry and strong looking. His legs are long like a daddy long leg spider. He is talking to a YOUNG WOMAN who is standing on the stage with him.

MAN

No. So sorry. Colonel Pampa suggests that this role is not for you.

The young woman looks devastated by this news. She begins to cry.

YOUNG WOMAN

I can do it. My mother says that I'm a good actress!

The man shakes his head. He points to the door.

MAN

No. No. No. Colonel Pampa says no. That is all. Colonel Pampa is pointing to the door now. Please use.

The young girl sobs into her hands and runs to the door. She throws open the door.

YOUNG WOMAN

You're making a big mistake! I'll be famous someday. You'll see!

She slams the door behind her. The man SNORTS and breaks into a couple of jumping jacks. Chidori frowns. She looks at Mossimo.

CHIDORI

Is that?

Mossimo crosses his arms. He nods his head. Colonel Pampa stops his jumping jacks and looks at the trio. His gaze comes to a rest on Mossimo. He inhales deeply.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why do you stand there whispering
to yourselves?

Chidori approaches the stage.

CHIDORI

Colonel Pampa sir, My name is
Chidori. I'm here to audition for
a role.

He narrows his dark eyes.

COLONEL PAMPA

You say it like PAMP-a.

She looks at the eccentric theatre owner and frowns.
Colonel Pampa raises his eyebrow.

COLONEL PAMPA

PAMP-a.

Chidori repeats after him.

CHIDORI

PAMP-a.

He nods his approval.

COLONEL PAMPA

Is better. (beat) You
have acting experiences?

She shakes her head. He jumps off the practice stage and approaches her. He sizes her up.

COLONEL PAMPA

You sing?

She shakes her head again. He rubs his chin and ponders her for a moment.

COLONEL PAMPA

What you do?

Chidori thinks for a moment.

CHIDORI

I go to school but we're on break now. I like to use the computer a lot. I read, I like video games and I take care of Chocolate Chip. He's my -

He interrupts her.

COLONEL PAMPA

No. No. Colonel Pampa wonders what are Chidori's skills? Why Chidori wants role in Colonel Pampa's play?

Chidori thinks for a moment and then she smiles.

CHIDORI

I want to become an actress so I came to learn from the best.

Mossimo SCOFFS at this. She gives him a little pinch to shut him up. Colonel Pampa's eyes light up. He LAUGHS.

COLONEL PAMPA

Now Colonel Pampa thinks that Chidori uses flattery to butter Pampa's bread. But Pampa can see that you have the fire to learn. You can read?

Chidori nods enthusiastically. He opens his jacket and takes out a rolled up script. He hands it to her.

COLONEL PAMPA

Open page fifty-five. Read lines for Kimi.

Chidori opens the script to page fifty-five and gives it a quick read. She clears her throat and then reads her lines.

CHIDORI

No, Duke Puffindoodle...

She begins to GIGGLE at the name. Colonel Pampa raises his eyebrow.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why you laugh?

Chidori regains her composure and tries again.

CHIDORI

No Duke Puffindoodle. I did not take the silverware. I polished it and put it back in the cabinet.

She scans down the page and reads the other line.

CHIDORI

Do you want split pea soup, butterbean soup or chicken noodle, Duke Puffindoodle?

Dooby looks at Mossimo and shrugs. Mossimo can barely contain his contempt. Colonel Pampa closes his eyes. He inhales.

COLONEL PAMPA

Read last line again.

CHIDORI

Do you want split pea soup, butterbean soup or chicken noodle, Duke Puffindoodle?

Colonel Pampa waves his fingers around as if he's conducting an imaginary symphony. He inhales and exhales deeply. He opens his eyes and looks up at the ceiling as if deep in thought. Finally, he nods.

COLONEL PAMPA

Yes. You have role. Colonel Pampa will give you the role for Kimi.

Chidori pumps her fist. Mossimo rolls his eyes and collapses into a chair. Dooby pats her on the shoulders.

DOOBY

Congratulations Miss Chidori!
You'll make quite the actress!

Colonel Pampa turns his attention to Mossimo.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why you come back? You want role?

Mossimo looks indignant at the suggestion. He stands up and puffs out his chest.

MOSSIMO

I am THE star of the Maxx City Opera House. I played Prince Chi in "The Emperor's Last Son." I played Nono the Watchmaker in "Watch This." AND I played Tristan the Matador in "The Cat Who Broke a Thousand Hearts." among many other starring roles.

Colonel Pampa picks up a copy of the Maxx Times and opens it to the "entertainment" section.

COLONEL PAMPA

Yes. Here is review. Is terrible disaster.

Mossimo is about to say something but Chidori and Dooby hold him back. Colonel Pampa cracks his knuckles and considers them for a moment.

COLONEL PAMPA

Everyone quit or Colonel Pampa fires. No one to play roles. You want role?

Chidori looks at Mossimo and pleads with him. Mossimo SIGHS.

MOSSIMO

Oh very well.

Colonel Pampa tosses him a copy of the script.

COLONEL PAMPA

You play role of the Duke Puffindoodle.

Chidori breaks into another round of GIGGLING. Mossimo flips through the script.

MOSSIMO

Well, at least it's a somewhat prestigious role. Hardly worthy of an actor of my talent but I accept. Just this once. To show you what you missed out on.

COLONEL PAMPA

When Pampa fire you?

Mossimo's whiskers bristle.

MOSSIMO

You didn't fire me. I quit!

Colonel Pampa looks at Dooby.

COLONEL PAMPA

You want role?

Dooby holds up his hands and shakes his head.

DOOBY

Oh. No, Colonel Pampa I couldn't possibly -

The theatre director raises his eyebrow.

COLONEL PAMPA

You say it like PAMP-a.

Dooby looks flustered. He bows in apology.

DOOBY

Yes, of course Colonel Pampa. I'm no actor. I'm grateful for your offer but I'm not suited for the stage.

Colonel Pampa tosses him a copy of the script.

COLONEL PAMPA

You play Captain of the Guard. Is easy role.

Dooby takes the script and lets out a big SIGH.

DOOBY

Very well.

Colonel Pampa nods and looks satisfied.

COLONEL PAMPA

Is good. Now Colonel Pampa goes to fill other roles. We meet for exercises in one hour.

Colonel Pampa walks out of the building. Chidori pats Dooby on the shoulder and smiles.

CHIDORI

Looks like we're gonna be stars!

Dooby SIGHS again. He shakes his head. Chidori rubs her hands together.

CHIDORI

Well, let's learn our roles and get on that Blimp. I bet that's where the clue is at.

Suddenly, there is a NOISE. A GIRL steps out from behind the curtain on the practice stage. She is a stunningly pretty little girl – about the same age as Chidori. She has fair skin and long black hair that's fashioned into two braids. Her eyes are almond shaped and dark as coal. She stares at Chidori for a moment. Then she focuses her gaze on Dooby. His eyes widen. He looks to the floor. She walks back behind the curtain, out of sight.

Chidori looks at her friends. She holds up her copy of the script.

CHIDORI

Ok. Let's get to work.

They sit down at a table and begin reading through their lines.

INT. PRACTICE THEATRE

Colonel Pampa gathers all of his new recruits onto the practice stage. There are about ten new actors and actresses. He is dressed in raggedy, green army fatigue

pants and a beat up white tee shirt that looks like it hasn't been washed in months.

Chidori breaks into a fit of GIGGLES as soon as she sees him. Colonel Pampa does a few warm up stretches and walks over to Chidori. The black haired girl follows him.

He introduces the girl.

COLONEL PAMPA

This is Ayame. Lost voice can't perform in play. You take over for her. Say nice hello to each other.

Chidori smiles and holds out her hand.

CHIDORI

Nice to meet you Ayame. I'm Chidori.

Ayame eyeballs her competition for a brief moment before taking Chidori's hand. It's a tense and curt handshake.

Colonel Pampa walks to the center of the stage. Ayame follows him. He claps his hands and the rest of the theatre troupe snaps to attention.

COLONEL PAMPA

Now we do the exercise. Good for body. Good for the mind. All must exercise to play role well.

He nods at Ayame. She presses a button and MUSIC begins to play. The music is LOUD. Colonel Pampa starts to do pushups on the stage.

COLONEL PAMPA

Now do pushups!

Chidori looks around. The rest of the actors and actresses begin their pushups. Chidori starts doing pushups. Mossimo rolls his eyes.

MOSSIMO

This again?

He reluctantly starts his push ups. Dooby tries to do push ups but it's a mess. He's having a very hard time of it. Ayame does her pushups. She glares at Chidori and starts to do them faster. Chidori recognizes it as a challenge and she picks up her pace as well.

Colonel Pampa jumps to his feet. He starts doing a set of "Windmills".

COLONEL PAMPA

Now Windmills. Do the Windmills!

The theatre troupe starts doing windmills. Chidori has no idea how to do a windmill so she watches his example and starts to do them. Ayame narrows her eyes. She does her windmills as fast as she can. Chidori accepts her challenge and tries to keep up the pace.

Mossimo is already out of breath. He does his set of windmills and complains.

MOSSIMO

This is ridiculous!

Dooby tries to do windmills but it's going just as poorly as the pushups. Colonel Pampa starts doing squat thrusts.

COLONEL PAMPA

Now do the squat thrust!

The others follow his example. Ayame's face is flushed but she doesn't give an inch. She challenges Chidori once again. Chidori falls and Ayame smirks with satisfaction. She gets back on her feet and does as many squat thrusts as she can.

Mossimo does his own half-baked version of a squat thrust and Dooby is totally lost. Colonel Pampa calls out to him.

COLONEL PAMPA

You! Doody! Do squat thrust.
You watch me. Captain of the
Guard must be fit. Do it!

Dooby tries but it's a disaster.

DOOBY
I'm giving it my all Colonel
Pampa.

The song ends and Colonel Pampa stops. Mossimo wipes his brow and breathes heavily.

MOSSIMO
It's done. Oh thank the-

Another song starts. Colonel Pampa starts to run in place. Mossimo tries to complain but his voice is drowned out by the music.

COLONEL PAMPA
Do the running!

Everyone follows his example. Ayame is still competing with Chidori. She mouths something to Chidori. Chidori reads her lips.

AYAME
That's my role.

Chidori narrows her eyes. She mouths back.

CHIDORI
Not anymore.

Ayame makes a face. She picks up her pace. Colonel Pampa busts back into Windmills.

COLONEL PAMPA
Now windmills!

The rest of the group follows his lead once again. Dooby falls over. He lands on the floor with a THUD. Ayame LAUGHS. It's a very hoarse sounding laugh. He picks himself up and tries again. Chidori frowns.

CHIDORI
Don't laugh at him!

Ayame LAUGHS again. Colonel Pampa stops. He motions for Ayame to stop the music. She turns off the music. He looks at Chidori.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why do you fight, Chidori?

Chidori shakes her head.

CHIDORI

No sir. I'm not fighting. Not fighting at all.

Satisfied with her answer, he nods his head. He does a few more stretches and wipes his face with a towel. Chidori and Ayame stare at each other in silence – neither one of them is willing to blink. Dooby whispers in her ear.

DOOBY

It's ok Miss Chidori. Remember our mission.

She nods her head. Mossimo is still panting. He checks his pulse.

MOSSIMO

If we had to do this at the Opera House I would quit. Quit!

Colonel Pampa dismisses the group.

COLONEL PAMPA

Learn lines tonight. Tomorrow we rehearse entire play. Only one day before big show. Mr. Pampa goes to blimp now.

Mossimo looks shocked.

COLONEL PAMPA

One day. Should be no problem for professional actor. Does Mossimo have problems with this?

Mossimo shakes his head.

MOSSIMO

Please. I'll be ready.

Colonel Pampa walks off the stage and out of the practice theatre. Ayame smirks at Chidori and Dooby. She follows Colonel Pampa out of the building.

Chidori wipes her brow. She lets out a big SIGH.

CHIDORI

One day. Looks like we have our
work cut out for us.

Dooby stares at the floor. He looks nervous. She taps him
on his metallic arm.

CHIDORI

You ok Doobster?

Dooby nods.

DOOBY

I'm fine. I just have a bit of
stage fright.

CHIDORI

You'll make it. Just learn your
lines. Then go on stage and
picture everyone in their
underwear.

Mossimo makes a sour face.

MOSSIMO

That's supposed to make him feel
better about the situation?

Chidori GIGGLES.

CHIDORI

Maybe not. Ok. Just learn your
lines. You can do it Hammy-doo.

She gives him a little hug. Dooby smiles. They all leave
the building together.

INT. KANDY KANE'S CANDY COVE — EVENING

Kandy Kane's Candy Cove is a colorful candy shop that sits
on the corner of a busy street on Maxx City's Western
Island. Kids run through the shop carrying shopping bags
packed with candy treats and their parents scramble to keep
up with them.

Ayame walks through the candy shop. She carries an enormous bag of candy that's only half full. Periwinkle walks alongside her and Wormin sits on his shoulder. Wormin snatches a lollypop and tears off the wrapper. He tosses the wrapper onto the floor and eats the lollypop.

She takes an enormous chocolate bot off the shelf and looks at Periwinkle. He nods his approval. She smiles and puts the chocolate bot into her shopping bag.

PERIWINKLE

Fill up your bag Ayame.

She puts some more candy into her bag and looks around. She tries to say something but she can't speak. Periwinkle reads her lips and smiles.

PERIWINKLE

I trust that this little shopping spree will make up for your... loss?

Ayame frowns. She narrows her dark eyes and mouths something else. Periwinkle nods.

PERIWINKLE

Yes. Of course. The lead role is yours. By the time filming begins, your voice will have returned and you'll be on your way to stardom.

Ayame smiles. She shoves a few more items into her shopping bag. Periwinkle opens a panel on his arm and hands her a package. She opens the package and finds twelve tiny ruby red eggs. She mouths something.

PERIWINKLE

Plant these on the Theatre Blimp. Hide them wherever you can. They'll hatch when the time is right

She closes the package and places it into her purse. They walk to the SHOP ATTENDANT BOT to pay for their candy. The attendant bot scans the items.

SHOP ATTENDANT

Your total comes to one hundred
coins.

Periwinkle scans his coin card. He hands the giant bag of
candy to Ayame.

PERIWINKLE

Now go and make mischief for
Chidori and her friends.

Ayame grins and nods enthusiastically.

INT. PRACTICE THEATRE – MORNING

The entire troupe meets in the practice theatre. Dooby sits
at a table, his knees are shaking and he looks like a
nervous wreck. Chidori pats his shoulder. She smiles at
him. He calms down.

A couple of actors rehearse their lines on the practice
stage. Colonel Pampa critiques their performance. He nods
his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

Is good.

The actors walk off the stage and return to their table.
Colonel Pampa looks at his list.

COLONEL PAMPA

Chidori, Mossimo and Doody.
Onto stage now.

Chidori jumps out of her chair. She grabs Dooby's arm.

CHIDORI

Let's go. The sooner
we do it, the sooner we're
finished.

Dooby gets up but his legs are wobbling. He takes a moment
to regain his composure. He follows Chidori and Mossimo to
the stage.

He passes Ayame's table. She sticks out her foot and Dooby
trips over it. He stumbles and knocks over a stack of

boxes. Ayame puts her hand to her mouth and LAUGHS. Colonel Pampa looks annoyed.

COLONEL PAMPA

Doody! Don't make messes. Takes long time to clean.

Dooby bows his head in apology. He takes the stage with Chidori and Mossimo. Colonel Pampa opens his script and reads.

COLONEL PAMPA

You have lines memorized?

Chidori nods. Mossimo rolls his eyes. Dooby stands on the stage like a lump.

COLONEL PAMPA

Now we rehearse from Kimi's song. Do it now.

Chidori assumes the role. She kneels down on the floor and pretends that she's scrubbing. She begins to sing.

CHIDORI

Scrubbing the floor, washing the plates. Working so hard and my back needs a break. Cleaning the windows and ironing the sheets, I just can't wait to get off of my feet.

She sings very well and she has a nice singing voice. Colonel Pampa nods his approval. He smiles and CLAPS his hands. The other members of the acting troupe applaud her as well.

Ayame folds her arms and slouches in her chair. Mossimo uses this moment to voice a grievance. He points to Colonel Pampa's script.

MOSSIMO

Well, I'm not satisfied with my character. Not at all. Not one bit.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why?

Mossimo stamps his foot on the stage.

MOSSIMO

My character has no arc. He's
a self centered narcissist from
beginning to end.

Colonel Pampa flips through the script. He nods his head in agreement.

COLONEL PAMPA

Yes. Is natural role for you.

MOSSIMO

I beg your –

Chidori continues reciting her lines in an effort to diffuse the situation.

CHIDORI

I'm being unfairly accused
Duke Puffindoodle. I didn't
do it.

Mossimo GRUMBLES to himself and recites his line.

MOSSIMO

You will work off your debt, thief
or I shall have you jailed!

CHIDORI

But my lord –

Mossimo snaps his fingers. Dooby reluctantly steps forward.

MOSSIMO

Captain, take her to the kitchen
and put her to work.

Dooby pauses. He fidgets and struggles to remember his line. Chidori, Mossimo and Colonel Pampa watch him and look at each other.

DOOBY

Don't slam the oven door or the
cake might fall.

Chidori whispers in his ear.

CHIDORI
That's my line Doobs.

Colonel Pampa slams his script on the floor.

COLONEL PAMPA
Doody!

Dooby closes his eyes and concentrates. He nods his head when he finally manages to remember the line.

DOOBY
Come with me.

Chidori bows. Dooby leads her off the stage and the scene is over. Mossimo stands on the stage, his arms crossed. He looks extremely agitated. Colonel Pampa CLAPS his hands together.

COLONEL PAMPA
Fifteen minute break. Then, more rehearsing.

Chidori and Dooby sit at a table. Mossimo jumps off the stage and throws himself into a chair.

INT. PRACTICE THEATRE

A series of scenes:

Chidori pretends to mop a floor while Mossimo struts around the stage flicking his imaginary cape. Colonel Pampa nods his approval.

Dooby stumbles across the stage. He falls and Ayame LAUGHS. Colonel Pampa's eyes bulge as he yells at Dooby and chews him out. Ayame's enjoys this.

Chidori stands center stage and sings. Ayame stands behind the curtain and shoots paper spitballs at Chidori and Dooby. One of them hits Dooby in the eye.

Colonel Pampa turns on some music and leads a military drill session. Mossimo rolls his eyes and plops himself into a chair. He bangs his head on the table.

INT. PRACTICE THEATRE

Colonel Pampacloses his script and struts to the center of the stage. He addresses the theatre troupe.

COLONEL PAMPA

Tomorrow is big day. We meet here
in the morning and go to blimp.

Chidori and Dooby exchange looks.

COLONEL PAMPA

Rehearse to yourself and get lots
of sleep. You may go now.

The actors and actresses file out of the building. Ayame glares at Chidori and Dooby as she leaves. Chidori looks at Dooby.

CHIDORI

She really doesn't like you.
I wonder why?

Dooby looks at the floor for a moment before answering her.

DOOBY

I helped her once. Just as I'm
helping you now. I told her that I
would get it back but I failed
her.

Chidori's jaw drops.

CHIDORI

You mean Periwinkle stole one
of her presents too?

Dooby nods.

DOOBY

It was my mission and I
was happy to help her but —

Chidori puts her hand on his metallic arm. She smiles at him. It's a warm and understanding smile.

CHIDORI

It's ok Metal Man. Things
will be different this time.

Dooby nods. He bows his head.

DOOBY

I'll do my best.

CHIDORI

Good. Now Let's go get some ice cream.
Know any good places?

She takes Dooby's hand, Mossimo's paw and together they
leave the practice theatre.

INT. HOTEL ROOM – NIGHT

Chidori and gang relax in their hotel room on the 100th
floor of a towering skyscraper. The curtains are pulled
back and we can see the magnificent city far below.

Chidori sits on one of the beds. The sheets are piled in a
giant, messy pile. She eats an ice cream cone and reads
from her script.

CHIDORI

Now do you believe me Duke
Puffindoodle?

Mossimo struts around the room. He's wearing a pair of red
one piece pajamas. His face is covered with white fur
moisturizing cream. He uses a hair iron to straighten the
fur on his head. He looks at himself in the mirror as he
rehearses.

MOSSIMO

This must be some sort of trick
but as I have no solid evidence
against you, I hereby release
you from my service.

Chidori tosses the script on the floor. She finishes her
ice cream cone and goes to the bathroom to brush her teeth.
She talks to Dooby while brushing.

CHIDORI

When do you think we'll get
a chance to look for the clue
tomorrow?

Dooby looks up from his script.

DOOBY

It might be best to search after
the performance while people
are celebrating.

Chidori nods.

CHIDORI

That's true.

She finishes up and goes back to the bed. She throws
herself into the bed.

CHIDORI

Well, I'm beat. It's sleepy
time. Good night Doobster.
Good night Mossipoo.

Dooby looks at her. He smiles weakly.

DOOBY

Good night Miss Chidori.

She pulls the sheets up over her head and goes to sleep.
Mossimo sits down in a chair and SIGHS.

MOSSIMO

Well, I for one cannot wait
until this silly adventure is
over and done with.

Dooby places his script aside. He looks at Chidori. His
eyes reflect his sadness. He looks down at the floor and
thinks.

INT. HOTEL ROOM — MORNING

The early morning sun shines brightly in the hotel room.
Chidori wakes up. She pulls the covers from over her head

and sits up. Her hair is a mess and she's bleary eyed but she smiles when she sees the sunlight.

She looks around. Mossimo is still sleeping. She calls out to him.

CHIDORI

Wake up lazy bones.

Mossimo turns over in his sleep. She YAWNS and looks at Dooby's bed. She frowns. The bed is empty and looks like it has already been made. She gets out of bed.

CHIDORI

Doobs?

She walks around the hotel room but there is no sign of Dooby anywhere. She walks back to his bed and discovers a note placed on the pillow. A small bag sits next to the note. Chidori opens the note and reads it. She frowns and puts her hand to her mouth as she reads it. Her eyes widen.

DOOBY (V.O.)

Miss Chidori, I'm so sorry to have to write this note to you but I must. I can't finish the journey with you. It looks as if my fears have gotten the best of me. I'm just not able to fulfill my mission and the promise that I made to you. I've already failed once and unfortunately I have failed again. I can't explain these fears that I have but I know that I don't want them to get in your way. So I'm bowing out. I'll ask the Creator to send another Bot, one that's more worthy of the task. If you choose to go home, you can find Zelmy at the Bot lab. He'll help you. I've left you some money which should cover your food and traveling expenses. I had a wonderful time with you Chidori. I wish you all the luck in the world both in life as well as in your quest.

Chidori turns the note over and continues reading.

DOOBY (V.O.)

I hope that you don't think ill
of me. Please understand and
most of all, please forgive me.
Take care of yourself. Your
friend, Dooby.

Chidori stares at the letter, dumbfounded. She looks genuinely shocked and hurt. Mossimo sits up in bed. He rubs his sleepy eyes and smacks his lips.

MOSSIMO

You're up early.

Chidori doesn't answer him. She shakes her head. Her eyes fill up with tears. Mossimo frowns.

MOSSIMO

Is anything the matter?

She hands him the note. Mossimo opens the note and reads it to himself. He frowns and then his whiskers start to bristle.

MOSSIMO

Why that —

He tosses the letter on the floor.

MOSSIMO

Abandoning you at a time
like this. Who would
have thought that robots were
made of jelly.

He gets out of bed and gives her a hug.

MOSSIMO

He made a lousy Captain of the
Guard anyways.

Chidori smiles at this but she still looks upset. She walks to the computer on the desk and inserts the chip from Mossimo's collar. Periwinkle's holographic image stands in front of her. She presses a button on the computer and

magnifies the view. She looks at the snow globe in his hands.

Inside the snow globe stands a tall tower made of ice. There is a window at the top of the tower. Suddenly a little girl is standing in front of the window. She looks like a little girl but she's actually a doll.

Her face is expressionless. Her unblinking eyes look like they're made of two emerald stones and her black hair is tied into two pigtails. Her skin is porcelain white and she wears a little pink dress.

The doll child holds a bell in her hand. She rings the bell once and disappears from view. She turns the computer off and looks at Mossimo. He's practicing his dramatic poses in the mirror. She smiles to herself.

MOSSIMO

We'll give Maxx City a performance
that they'll never forget. Just
the two of us.

Chidori nods in agreement. She sees the note lying on the floor. Chidori picks it up and tosses it into the wastepaper basket.

EXT. MAXX CITY — WESTERN ISLAND — THEATRE BLIMP

Chidori and Mossimo arrive at the field where the theatre blimp is docked. Colonel Pampa's massive theatre blimp is a wonder of engineering design. The theatre ship is not a blimp in the technical sense.

It's more of a blimp/airship hybrid. It has a robin's egg blue "blimp" section. The section underneath the blimp can hold passengers and cargo. The rear section opens up into a stage where the performance takes place.

Chidori and Mossimo board the theatre blimp.

INT. THEATRE BLIMP — STAGE AREA

The stage is beautifully decorated. The actors and actresses are dressed in their costumes and practicing their lines. The stage is bustling with activity.

Colonel Pampa is supervising a few workers as they load supplies onto the ship. He sees Chidori and Mossimo.

COLONEL PAMPA

Chidori! Good morning. Is time to get dressed in costume. We leave soon.

He looks around and frowns.

COLONEL PAMPA

Where is Doody?

Mossimo's whiskers bristle. He's about to say something when Chidori stops him.

CHIDORI

He had to go to the Bot Lab for emergency maintenance. He says that he's really sorry about not being able to perform today.

Colonel Pampa stands frozen to the stage for a moment. Then his eyes bulge with anger. The veins on his muscular neck protrude like blue worms. He clenches his fists. He grabs a brick and smashes it on his forehead. The brick shatters like brittle ice. Chidori's jaw drops.

CHIDORI

Whoa.

She turns to Mossimo and whispers.

CHIDORI

He's taking it really hard.

Mossimo takes a few steps back from the angry theatre owner. Colonel Pampa pulls on the cotton white tufts of hair on the side of his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

Why do you do this Doody?!

He closes his eyes and takes a few deep breaths. He EXHALES and opens his eyes. He has calmed down.

COLONEL PAMPA

Is ok. Colonel Pampa will play role.

He motions for Chidori and Mossimo to follow him.

COLONEL PAMPA
To dressing rooms.

EXT. MAXX CITY — WESTERN ISLAND

The theatre blimp's engines ROAR and the ship lifts off from the airfield. It sails high into the evening sky and sails across the city.

MUSIC plays from the blimp's sound system as the ship glides through the air. It passes a group of towering skyscrapers and arrives at beautiful Jordanna Park where a large crowd has already gathered. There must be at least fifty thousand people gathered to watch the play.

The ship's arrival can also be seen on a massive television screen in the Western Island's business district.

Everyone CLAPS and CHEERS as the theatre ship comes to a landing in the middle of the park. Fireworks light up the sky and the celebration begins.

INT. THEATRE BLIMP

Ayame sneaks through the ship. She looks around to make sure the coast is clear. She plants one of Periwinkle's red eggs in between a couple of wooden chests.

She listens to the ROAR of the crowd as the ship lands in the park. She takes the last egg and walks to the stage area. Ayame sees Chidori dressed in her maid costume. Mossimo is complaining about his costume, which he says is not suitable for a Duke of his stature. She narrows her dark jealous eyes and SMIRKS to herself.

Ayame darts behind one of the curtains. She climbs up a pile of boxes and plants the final egg on top of a large equipment storage bin.

She climbs back down and looks around. She smiles with satisfaction.

EXT. THEATRE BLIMP

The stage opens up and the actors and actresses take their places. Chidori looks at the vast crowd in awe. Her nerves start to kick and and Mossimo notices this. He takes her hand and gives it a little squeeze.

MOSSIMO

Don't be nervous. Now is your time to shine.

Chidori smiles nervously. He gives her a little wink.

MOSSIMO

Just don't try to outshine me. You don't want to fly too close to the sun you know.

Chidori GIGGLES. Colonel Pampa steps onto the center of the stage. He's dressed in chain mail and a red tunic. The costume is a little too small for him. Both Chidori and Ayame put their hands over their mouths to suppress their LAUGHTER as he bows to the audience.

Ayame notices that Chidori's LAUGHING with her. Chidori looks at her and she quickly changes her face back its normal moody expression.

COLONEL PAMPA

Welcome and big thank you for coming to Colonel Pampa's Theatre Troupe performance of "Kimi and the Duke." Please do enjoy!

The crowd APPLAUDS once more. Chidori gives Mossimo a little pinch.

MOSSIMO

Ouch! Now what was that for?

Chidori smiles.

CHIDORI

For luck of course.

He rubs his arm.

MOSSIMO

I believe the term is "Break a leg".

The opening MUSIC plays and the performance begins.

EXT. JORDANNA PARK — THEATRE BLIMP — NIGHT

A series of scenes

Chidori, dressed as Kimi the Maid, scrubs the stage with a large brush. The spotlight is on her. She sings. The audience APPLAUDS her and several people throw coins on the stage. Ayame stands behind the curtain gnashing her teeth.

Mossimo plays Duke Puffindoodle. He struts across the stage. He flicks his cape and admonishes Kimi. Colonel Pampa, playing the Captain of the Guard, hands her a bucket and puts her to work.

Duke Puffindoodle dances with a serving wench during a festival scene. He raises his giant mug of root beer and downs it in one giant chug. The audience CLAPS. Kimi the Maid square dances with her fellow servants while the Captain of the Guard makes merry with the soldiers.

The audience CLAPS for the actors and actresses as the play comes to an end. Chidori and Mossimo get special acclaim. They receive a standing ovation. People throw coins onto the stage. The cast bows in unison. Ayame stands behind stage tapping her foot impatiently.

INT. THEATRE BLIMP

One of Periwinkle's ruby red eggs starts to move. It shakes and spins and begins bouncing up and down on the floor like a ping pong ball. The egg breaks and red smoke starts to pour out of the crack in the shell.

The shapeless red smoke swirls through the air and it slowly starts to take on a form. When this is done, we see a cute little Pixie flying through the air. She is slender and about six inches in height. She has a thin little face and poker straight flaming red hair. Her tiny lips part into a devilish smile.

The pixie darts through the air and heads for the stage. She zips past one of the stagehands and comes to a landing on top of a stack of boxes. She sits and waits.

EXT. JORDANNA PARK — THEATRE BLIMP

The crowd calls for an encore. The cast comes back to the stage. They hold hands and bow to the crowd. Chidori smiles. She waves to the crowd.

CROWD
Encore! Encore!

Colonel Pampa beams with satisfaction. He nods his head. Mossimo flicks his cape.

MOSSIMO
See? They can't get enough of me. I'll probably spend the entire night signing programs.

Colonel Pampa raises his hands.

COLONEL PAMPA
Cast will be available to meet and sign autographs in one hour. Twenty coins for autograph.

Mossimo's whiskers bristle.

MOSSIMO
I charge sixty.

Suddenly, the pixies attack. They descend on the stage like fighter planes. They attack anyone and everyone in sight. Chaos erupts as the pixies bite, SCREAM, knock over boxes and tear at the curtains.

Chidori runs for cover. She swats one of the Pixies and sends her flying across the stage. The little pixie scowls with rage and attacks her again. She lands on Chidori's arm and bites her.

CHIDORI
Owww-A!!!!

Chidori shakes her off takes shelter under a tarp. The pixies fly around the stage trailing red smoke behind them. The smoke begins to take shape and forms a new "generation" of pixies. Twelve pixies become twenty-four. Those twenty-four become forty-eight.

They swarm the theatre troupe like angry killer bees. Colonel Pampa swings haymakers at the attacking pixies but

they're too fast. Two pixies land on his head. One of the pixies digs her teeth into his nose and the other yanks the hair on the back of his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

What is this? Why does this happen to Pampa?!

Mossimo races for the stage exit. He is chased by three of the crazed pixies. They bite his arms and legs and pull at his fur.

MOSSIMO

What ARE these things! Get them off of me!

One of the pixies flies into his mouth and he gags.

MOSSIMO

Oh no! I think I swallowed one!

He panics. Mossimo runs across the stage and twists his ankle on some fallen stage equipment. Chidori throws off the tarp and runs to his rescue. She swats the pixies and grabs his arm.

CHIDORI

Can you move?

Mossimo shakes his head.

MOSSIMO

No. Am I done for?

Chidori picks him up.

CHIDORI

Don't talk like that. Come on.

She runs across the stage and finds an empty box. She places him inside the box.

CHIDORI

I've gotta go help Pampa.

One of the pixies attacks her. She swats at it knocking her off balance. The pixie falls into a bucket of water. She

lets out a high pitched SHRIEK and dissolves. Chidori's eyes light up.

CHIDORI

Water!

She gives him the bucket of water.

CHIDORI

Use this if they come back for seconds.

Chidori leaves Mossimo and looks for Colonel Pampa.

EXT. JORDANNA PARK — THEATRE BLIMP

The pixies dart through the air. Suddenly, there is more red smoke. The forty-eight pixies become ninety-six. They turn their attention on the crowd and attack with a fury. People run for cover as the pixies bite, kick, pull hair and tear clothes.

INT. PERIWINKLE'S SUITE

Periwinkle and Wormin watch the chaos on his giant flat screen. They both LAUGH at the mischief that they've caused.

WORMIN

I like this show!

Periwinkle CHUCKLES.

PERIWINKLE

They don't seem to like our last minute addition to their script.

Periwinkle presses a button. The camera zooms in on Ayame. She's standing behind the curtain LAUGHING at the mayhem. Suddenly, she is attacked.

One pixie drags her out from behind the curtain by her hair. Another one takes a stick and cracks it across her backside. Ayame struggles to get away from them. The pixies LAUGH.

PERIWINKLE

Poor Ayame. Caught in her own trap.

Wormin SNICKERS.

EXT. JORDANNA PARK — THEATRE BLIMP

Chidori finds Colonel Pampa. He's still struggling with several angry pixies.

CHIDORI

Water! Hit them with water!

Colonel Pampa shields his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

Pampa will look for the cleaning hose.

Chidori covers for Colonel Pampa as he rushes to the back of the stage. He tosses aside the boxes and other clutter until he finds what he's looking for. He connects a thick hose to an outlet in the wall.

COLONEL PAMPA

Time for soaking!

Chidori takes cover behind a box. Colonel Pampa flips a switch and a powerful jet of water sprays from the hose. Pampa grips the hose and aims it at the pixies. They dissolve into a cloud of red dust.

He soaks the entire stage and everyone on it including Mossimo who is still hiding in the box. He aims the hose at the crowd and douses them with water. Pixies disintegrate left and right.

Chidori watches the action from the safety of her hiding spot. She pumps her fist as Colonel Pampa makes quick work of the pixies.

Colonel Pampa shuts off the water when he's done. He breathes heavily. The stage is a mess. The actors and actresses are bruised and battered. Most of the crowd is gone.

Pampa looks around. He rubs one of the bites on his shoulder and shakes his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

Is disaster. Colonel Pampa is finished.

Chidori walks up to him. She pats him on the arm.

CHIDORI

That's not true. This is just a teeny weeny little setback. I'll help you clean up.

She hears a MOAN coming from Mossimo's box. She runs over to the box and looks inside. Mossimo is holding his ankle.

MOSSIMO

You'd better call a medic bot. (beat)
How am I going to perform in this condition?

CHIDORI

Oh no. Hold on. I'll go tell Pampa.

Chidori gets help for Mossimo.

EXT. THEATRE BLIMP - LOUNGE

Mossimo sits in a wheelchair. A white MEDIC BOT wraps a bandage around his ankle. Mossimo MOANS.

MEDIC BOT

This will require surgery. You should be functioning normally in five weeks.

Mossimo MOANS again.

MOSSIMO

This is going to set my career back -

Chidori pats him on the shoulder.

CHIDORI

By five weeks. That's not so bad right Mossipoo?

Mossimo crosses his arms and pouts. Colonel Pampa taps Chidori on the shoulder. She turns around and sees him standing behind her. He holds the snow globe in his hand. She GASPS.

COLONEL PAMPA

Pampa wants Chidori to have this. As sign of gratitude for great job.

Chidori beams. She's beyond ecstatic. She takes the snow globe and looks at it.

CHIDORI

Thank you! So much.

He smiles. It's the first sign of warmth that he's displayed the entire time.

COLONEL PAMPA

Colonel Pampa thinks that Chidori is –

He pauses and bows his head.

COLONEL PAMPA

No. I think that you are very special girl. You are always welcome here any time.

Ayame sits at a table and watches. A band aid covers a bite on her forehead. She pounds the table with her fist as she watches Chidori take the snow globe and hug the theatre owner.

The medic bot wheels Mossimo to the door. Chidori stops him.

CHIDORI

Wait.

She takes a comb out of her pocket. She combs Mossimo's messy hair until it's nice and neat once again. She smiles.

CHIDORI

Now you're ready.

Mossimo smiles and nods his thanks.

MOSSIMO

Will you be ok by yourself?

Chidori nods.

CHIDORI

I'll figure something out. Maybe Doobs will come running back now that the play is over.

Mossimo gives her a pinch.

CHIDORI

Oww-A!

Mossimo winks.

MOSSIMO

For luck of course.

Chidori GIGGLES.

CHIDORI

Thanks. I'll visit you and sign your cast.

Mossimo smiles as the Medic Bot wheels him away.

MOSSIMO

Make sure that you do. Just think of how much value that cast is going to have someday. The cast that healed the ankle of Mossimo the Opera singer, legend of Maxx City.

Chidori watches the medic bot wheel him away. She SIGHS. She says her final goodbyes to Colonel Pampa and leaves the theatre blimp.

EXT. JORDANNA PARK — NIGHT/EARLY MORNING

Chidori walks through the park. The stars shine brightly in the sky. The pale moon is full. She walks past a bubbling stream and across a wooden bridge. She finds a wooden gazebo underneath a giant tree. Wind chimes hanging from the great trees branches blow in the breeze.

She finds a bench and sits down in the gazebo. She takes the snow globe out of her backpack and shakes it. She watches the snowflakes as they drift through the globe. The little doll child looks out the window at the top of the ice tower.

Chidori speaks to the doll child.

CHIDORI

Who are you? (beat) Where are you?
Where do I go from here?

She looks at the bottom of the snow globe's base and finds a little key shaped like a bell. She takes the key and looks at it for a moment before replacing it.

There is another key on the side of the snow globe's base. She turns the key and the snow globe plays an enchanting, melancholy tune.

She SIGHS. She hears a CHUCKLE coming from the darkness. Someone approaches. Chidori's eyes widen. It's Periwinkle! The music stops.

PERIWINKLE

Chidori Chidori, why so sad? You've found the next clue so you should be glad.

He pauses.

PERIWINKLE

Little girl...

Chidori places the snow globe into her backpack. She stands up and confronts him.

CHIDORI

Give it back. I've done what you've asked me to do. I've played your game.

Periwinkle stands silent for a long moment. His unblinking eyes are emotionless and vacant of any expression.

PERIWINKLE

Where's Dooby?

Chidori pauses.

CHIDORI

He had to go.

PERIWINKLE

He abandoned you.

Chidori bites her lip. Her eyes tear up.

PERIWINKLE

It hurts doesn't it? What lesson did you learn from this?

Chidori stands motionless. She looks at the ground. Periwinkle approaches her. He puts his hand on her shoulder.

PERIWINKLE

Empty words and broken promises.
(beat) That's what you'll be left
with if you trust in others.

She looks up at him. She wipes the tears from her eyes and shakes her head defiantly.

PERIWINKLE

Every single time.

He backs away.

PERIWINKLE

You would be wise to remember that.

He reaches into the bag that hangs around his shoulder and pulls out her present. He shakes it. The moonlight shines on the simple red wrapping paper. Chidori looks at it.

CHIDORI

Give it to me.

He wags his finger.

PERIWINKLE

Not yet. This journey still has a few
more lessons to teach you. A few more
tests to throw your way.

He places her present back into his bag.

PERIWINKLE

I'll be waiting for you at the end
of the road.

He waves his hand and walks away into the night. Chidori watches him walk away. Once he's gone, she opens her backpack and takes a look inside.

She sees the bag of money and the key to their hotel room. The key is labeled "Parkview Estate Room 1000 A". She places

the key in her pocket and walks away into that twilight hour between night and dawn.

INT. PARKVIEW ESTATE – ROOM 1000 A – MORNING

Dream sequence

Chidori sits in the park with her GRANDPA. She looks younger, about 7 years old. They're sitting on the grass eating a picnic lunch. Grandpa is a kindly looking old gentleman. He has white hair and a big, curly white mustache. A mother duck and her ducklings approach their picnic blanket.

GRANDPA

Here comes momma duck and her babies.

Chidori smiles.

CHIDORI

Momma duck's my friend. I see her all the time when I come here with daddy.

Grandpa CHUCKLES.

GRANDPA

Is that so? Then let's give her a little treat.

Grandpa throws some bread on the grass and the ducks devour it. Chidori GIGGLES and throws some of her own bread on the grass. Grandpa looks at Chidori and smiles. His blue eyes twinkle.

GRANDPA

Friends always take care of each other.

Grandpa fades from view. Dooby stands in front of her. He's smiling. He nods his head in agreement.

DOOBY

That's right Miss Chidori. Friends always look after each other. I'm your friend. Right?

Chidori looks around. She sees a large tree standing on a hill. She GASPS. Periwinkle is sitting on a branch. Wormin

sits on his shoulder. Periwinkle jumps out of the tree. He approaches her.

PERIWINKLE

Dooby left you all alone. Some friend he turned out to be.

Wormin snickers.

WORMIN

Yeah. Thanks a lot Dooby!

Chidori wakes up. She sits up in bed and looks around. She finds herself back in her empty hotel room. The room could use some cleaning. Soda cans and empty candy wrappers litter the floor. A bowl of melted ice cream sits on the end table.

Chidori sits on the bed. She pulls her knees up to her head and she sits and thinks for a moment. She SIGHS.

CHIDORI

What now Doobs?

The television is still on. A familiar tune begins to play. It's a commercial for Pizza Piccione. The pizza chef stands in front of a table of kids. The kids are enjoying their pizza party.

PIZZA PICCIONE

Everybody loves a pizza party and nobody throws a better pizza party than Pizza Piccione!

VOICEOVER

Visit our newest location in One Thousand Lagoons. Kids under ten eat free every Sunday!

Chidori lets out a big YAWN and she crawls back into bed. She pulls the sheet over her head and goes back to sleep.

INT. PARKVIEW ESTATE — ROOM 1000 A — EARLY AFTERNOON

Chidori is fast asleep. She sleeps with the covers pulled up over her entire body and head. The top of her head is the only part that's visible.

Her phone RINGS. The phone has an opera theme as its ringtone. Chidori moves under the covers. She lets out a loud GROAN as the phone continues to ring. She tosses the sheets aside and climbs out of bed. She stumbles around the room looking for the phone and finally finds it under a pile of towels. She answers the phone. Her voice sounds groggy and tired.

CHIDORI

'Lo?

Mossimo is on the other end of the phone. He sounds surprised.

MOSSIMO

Did I wake you?

Chidori rubs her sleepy eyes.

CHIDORI

I was just taking a nap.

MOSSIMO

Sleeping?! Here I am trapped in a hospital bed, dying to be out and about mingling with my fans and you're still sleeping?

Chidori sits down on the bed. She watches the television.

CHIDORI

Whatever.

There is a KNOCK on the door followed by a VOICE.

VOICE

Cleaning service.

Chidori rolls her eyes. Her hair is a mess, she looks exhausted and she's not in the mood to be bothered. She shakes her head.

CHIDORI

Ok. Come in.

The MAID BOT enters the room. She takes a look around to assess the damage and starts cleaning the room. Mossimo continues talking.

MOSSIMO

Oh! Turn on the television. Channel
Seventy-three!

Chidori changes the station. It's a news report. She sees a clip of her performance on the Theatre Blimp. She sits up and takes notice.

CHIDORI

I'm on the news!

She watches herself performing on the stage while the audience CLAPS.

REPORTER

The role of Kimi was played by a young actress named "Chidori". Her performance certainly captured the hearts and imagination of the tens of thousands who came out to see the live show here in Jordanna park.

The screen is split in two. The NEWSANCHOR smiles.

NEWSANCHOR

No doubt about it. That kid sure is special.

Mossimo SNORTS on the other end of the phone.

MOSSIMO

Hmph. No mention of me? That station is biased!

Chidori turns up the volume when she sees Colonel Pampa on the screen. Pampa takes a swig from his can of "Kandy Kane's Grape" soda. The reporter puts a microphone in his face.

REPORTER

This is Colonel Pampa, owner of the Theatre Troupe. What are your future plans for this production?

Pampa raises his eyebrow.

COLONEL PAMPA

You say it like PAMP-a.

The reporter stares at him for a moment before the words register with him.

REPORTER

Yes. Ah. Colonel Pampa. So sorry. Do you have any future plans for "Kimi and the Duke"? A world wide tour perhaps?

Pampa closes his eyes. He inhales and exhales. He thinks for a moment and then opens his eyes again.

COLONEL PAMPA

Yes. Pampa likes idea for world wide tour. Pampa will also release play in digital chip. One widescreen edition and one limited edition with program signed by Pampa. Is good. You like.

REPORTER

Can you tell us a little about the events that took place after the play? Were those creatures pets of yours?

Pampa's eyes bulge and he clenches his fist. He takes the soda can and crushes it on his forehead. Purple grape juice pours down his face.

COLONEL PAMPA

Pampa has no comment on this topic!

The screen cuts back to the news anchor.

NEWSANCHOR

We'll be back right after these messages.

Chidori SIGHS.

MOSSIMO

Are you going to continue your mission?
Looking for your present that is?

Chidori stares into space for a moment. Her attention wanders.

CHIDORI

I don't know.

A COMMERCIAL comes on. It catches her attention. It shows a beautiful island and an enormous amusement/theme park. It's an amusement park unlike anything that she's ever seen before.

The commercial shows a theme park with all sorts of rides, a gorgeous water park and some luxurious hotels and resorts.

COMMERCIAL

Come to One Thousand Lagoons and
experience the entire world in one
day!

The commercial ends.

MOSSIMO

Ah. Did you see that? Why don't you
take a break? Recharge your battery
a bit?

Chidori lies back in the bed. She pulls the covers up over her.

CHIDORI

I'm not really in the mood.

MOSSIMO

Not in the mood? That doesn't sound
like the Chidori I know.

Chidori holds down the remote button and scans through the hundreds of channels.

MOSSIMO

You should consider it. You can't lie
in that bed forever.

Chidori shrugs.

CHIDORI

Maybe tomorrow. I'm going to go back to sleep. My stomach feels icky.

MOSSIMO

Very well then. I'll talk to you soon. Think about it, ok?

CHIDORI

'K.

Chidori hangs up. She pulls the sheets over her head and falls back to sleep as the maidbot continues to clean the room.

INT. PARKVIEW ESTATES - EMPEROR LI'S RAMEN DINER - NIGHT

Chidori sits at a stool in the small ramen soup diner located on the fiftieth floor of the hotel. She sits at the soup bar and quietly watches the cooks prepare the soup. The CHEF BOT takes her order.

CHEF BOT

Welcome to Emperor Li's. What will you have tonight?

She looks at the pictures on the menu.

CHIDORI

I'll have the Sh. Sho. Shu -

She struggles to pronounce it so she simply points to the picture.

CHEF BOT

Yes. Shoyu. It's made with fresh ramen, chicken and vegetable broth with onion and chili spices.

She closes the menu and nods.

CHIDORI

Yep.

The chef prepares the soup. Chidori puts her head on her hand and looks around. She watches the customers. She watches the television on the wall. A COMMERCIAL comes on.

COMMERCIAL

Tomorrow night at eight, don't miss
"BETRAYED", the story of two friends
who -

The chef places a bowl of soup in front of Chidori. The steam rises off the hot broth.

CHEF BOT

Be careful. It's very hot. You
might get burned.

Chidori nods her thanks. She blows on the ramen and proceeds to eat in silence.

EXT. PARKVIEW ESTATES - LOBBY - MORNING

Chidori stands at the front desk as the RESERVATIONS BOT checks her out. Chidori turns in her key reaches into backpack. She takes out the bag of money that Dooby left for her.

RESERVATIONS BOT

Your hotel bill has been paid
compliments of M. DiGiacomo.

Chidori looks surprised. The reservations bot hands her a colorful laminated ticket along with a note.

RESERVATIONS BOT

He also purchased this guest pass
for One Thousand Lagoons and asked
us to give it to you along with
this note.

Chidori looks at the pass. It reads "Good for one guest. The pass holder is entitled to complete access to One Thousand Lagoons Theme Park, Water Park and Dining Court. Unlimited rides and games for duration of visit. Non-redeemable."

CHIDORI

Thank you.

Chidori walks to a quiet corner of the lobby and sits down in a chair. She opens the note and reads it.

MOSSIMO V.O.

No need to thank me for the hotel bill. I hope that you enjoy the guest pass that I bought for you. Take a break. Enjoy a bit of the city. I have a house on the Island. It's Located at 710 Coco Palm Avenue. You're welcome to stay there. I asked the butler bot to let you in. Please try not to make a mess of the place. Make the bed, no ice cream on the floor, don't leave the water running. That sort of thing. Enjoy!

Chidori folds the letter and puts it in her backpack. She looks at the guest pass and contemplates it for a moment. Chidori leaves the hotel and moves on to the next adventure.

FADE OUT

