FADE IN:

INT. MIXEL BRIGHT'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

On his head, MIXEL BRIGHT (25) a radiantly roguish Russian bartender, chants:

MIXEL
Give us the lyrics to Life's Song--
oh spirit of Constance and
Nephadeum, and bring back sextoo amen!

O.S. SPIRIT NEPHADEUM
Glories stream from heaven afar.

Mixel collapses from his headstand. He stumbles to the coffee table where a paper lies loaded with scribbled-outs.

He reads and writes: Glories stream from heaven afar. Dawns-

MIXEL
What the hell? That's Silent Night. Quit messing with me, Nephadeum!

He grabs his cell and dials.

INTERCUT:

INT. ZAHRA GERSTEIN'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM

THE MELODY PLAYS in the ring tone of Zahra's phone and it magically fills the entire ornately decorated room where

SPIRIT CONSTANCE, (pixied Beyonce) and SPIRIT NEPHADEUM (Dwayne Rock Johnson) make love upon the gilded sheets.

Ad-lib: 'Oh Constance!' 'Oh Nephadeum!'...

Nephadeum bears down upon Constance. She cries for more of his love-- tears of joy fill her; he fills her completely.

SQUEEZE INTO MIXEL GETTING A REMOTE VIEW

MIXEL
Pryedstav'tye Syeybye!

LIVING ROOM

ZAHRA gusto GERSTEIN (25) customized red and purple upswept hair, sits cross-legged on the floor with her face caked over in a green facial mud. She's busy with Tibetan singing bowls.
ZAHRA
A Ting, a Swirly, and a Gong...

She sniffs a snort and chokes a cough.

ZAHRA
Lather, rinse repeat The Song--

THE MELODY, subtly infiltrates her space and her well meaning, but messed up mystical demeanor.

She PERKS to the phone's song and scrambles to the bedroom.

Mixel's remote connection drops. Upset! He applies antenna hands to his head. Anything to get THAT back.

As soon as she opens the door, the spirits of Constance and Nephadeum smile at her. They wear a warm afterglow that she cannot see, but she senses something on the empty bed, opens the phone and the melody extinguishes. A hollowness now.

MI XEL
Zahra--

ZAHRA
Mixel? Hang on!

Zahra skulks around the bed, waves her hand over nothing.
Mixel rubs at the TATOO on his arm, a globus cruciger.

ZAHRA
I know you're here. Show yourself!

Constance and Nephadeum turn to each other, whisper something, laugh, and disappear completely.

Zahra FEELS them leaving, a bit of glitter, see.

ZAHRA
Wait! I didn't mean to order you. Please, help us with the lyrics!

Mixel calls through the phone.

MI XEL
Zahra?

ZAHRA
(to the bed)
Come back. Quit playing games!
Zahra! 

Zahra hears Mixel calling through the receiver.

ZAHRA 
They were here again—Mixel—and—my—attacks—are—getting—worse—oh—God—
I’m gonna die and—I won’t know why!

MIXEL 
Tch-tch-tch-tch! Stop! Just stop it right now Zahra, you’re making it worse now grab hold of yourself!

Hyperventilating, Zahra grabs hold of herself; literally, she grabs hold of herself in a gigantic hug. Turns ’round, facing a large dressing table mirror, but her head hangs down.

In the mirror, is her reflection, a deflated and defeated looking woman in a black bathrobe.

She releases her tight grip, apparently getting a grip until she looks up into the mirror and flings the phone—Freakazoid! She grabs and reads the Mud Mask tube.

ZAHRA 
I left it on too long!

She crawls, frantically searching for the phone. There!

ZAHRA 
Mixel! I left my mud mask on too long! Will I be alright? It won’t hurt anything will it?

MIXEL 
Zahra, listen to me. Calm down and get yourself together. I need you to meet me at the bar.

ZAHRA 
(A overdone nods)

MIXEL 
Hasn’t helped me much lately. It’s supposed to—
ZAHRA
Oh Mixel I'm sorry! But I just can't have sex when I feel so screwed!

MIXEL
I feel screwed without the sex.

INT. FUBAR'S BAR AND GRILL - A LITTLE LATER

Mixel fills a tall thin glass from several bottles.

He pops the drink down for Zahra. FLZZY BLUE. She ignores it in favor of a bottle of saline nasal spray.

Her gorgeous face has an 'about to sneeze' dealywig.

She tilts her head back, shoves the nasal spray bottle up her nose and gives a hefty snort.

ZAHRA
I've got the worst cold in the world-- ever! It's a devil cold.
Maybe it's not even a cold. Maybe it's the flu. Maybe it's SWIne FLU!
( Achoo! )
That H-Tooner Thing-- that killer bug! And I could be dying...

Off Mixel's eyes, narrowing; his thoughts, narrowing.

Zahra takes a drink. Her eyes behold the glass, her taste buds, the taste-uch. It seems she drank straight lemon juice.

MIXEL
But the Lava Lust is your favorite?

ZAHRA
It's not the drink. I might be dying, Mixel. I can't die! Not like this. We gotta find out the lyrics! It's gonna kill me. I hate dying. It really sucks the big banana.

MIXEL
(I wish) Zahra, listen. I've got a theory about this whole thing.

Zahra perks.

ZAHRA
Ya do?
MIXEL
Da.

Zahra gulps back her Lava Lust.

ZAHRA
But my hypochondria, it's getting worse. A theory isn't gonna help anything...

Mixel sees it happening again.

MIXEL
Stop, Zahra-

ZAHRA
I think we're doomed Mixel. Doomed to spend eternity searching for lyrics to this song and those two ghosts - they're playing with us.

MIXEL
Just listen!

Zahra stops. Grabs her head.

ZAHRA
Oh God!

MIXEL
What?

ZAHRA
Mem!

MIXEL
Ha?

ZAHRA
That's it. The first word. It was Nephadeum - his voice.

MIXEL
What's mem?

SPLIT SCREEN
Mixel and Zahra look across the screen to see: a great sea reflecting images. The sea becomes a deep thin computer screen with symbols and equations and pictures flowing fast.
OMNISCIENT V.O.
Mem is the thirteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, numerical value 40.
Mem is water physical and spiritual cleansing waters the unconscious
the self conscious the super conscious waters flowing infinite
wisdom and waters of the womb bring memories mem is...

The voice zips by phenomenal as do Omni's associations.

FAST FORWARD people, places, things - gobbled winding sound.

END SPLIT SCREEN

Mixel and Zahra stare at each other. Ad-lib 'WTF'!

OMNISCIENT V.O.
AND THAT TOO!

ZAHRA
Memazing. Yeah. Ok-ok. What's your theory?

MIXEL
Remember when we first heard the music together? ...

ZAHRA
Before it got into my phone?
(dreamy eyed)
Yeaaah! And I re-mem-ber Eli.

FLASHBACK:

INT. ELI'S TATOO PARLOR - CHRISTMAS TIME - DAY

ELI MARCH, 30 art start and God's goatee, shakes their hands.

ELI
Eli March, pleased to meet you.

Handsome with appreciating eyes. Both his ears are pierced,
the earrings - that globus cruciger again, or the symbol for antimony or Venus, as you wish.

Zahra fixes on his earrings then the log - same symbols.

Mixel pulls Zahra away from the counter for a moment. The conversation continues at a whisper.
MIXEL
Are you sure you want to get a tattoo from a gay guy?

ZAHRA
What makes you think he’s gay?

MIXEL
He’s got two pierced ears which means he’s double gay.

ZAHRA
No, I think it means he’s bisexual. Any case, live and let live I say.

MIXEL
Bi means two so bisexual means twice gay I say.

ZAHRA
Oh hoopla.

Zahra slips back towards the counter.

ZAHRA
Not to sound intrusive, but could I ask you a question?

Eli shrugs, innocently.

ELI
Sure. Questions are the answer.

ZAHRA
Does having two pierced ears have any kind of special significance?

Eli smiles, getting it.

ELI
Oh you mean like does it mean I’m gay or something like that?

Mixel nods, smiling too.

MIXEL
I’m a bartender. I get to know a lot of the secret signals—especially with the hands.

ELI
Wow. That’s good.

MIXEL
People use their hands a lot when they’ve been drinking.

ZAHRA
(slurring)
’cause they can’t talk properly.

ELI
No, I’m straight as a ruler. For me it’s a matter of art and symmetry. I couldn’t give one ear preferential treatment over the other. Especially with this:

Eli points at the globus cruciger.

Mixel and Zahra scrutinize it. Eli nods.

ELI
I noticed you had your eye on this one. Maybe you’re like me then.

He gives a gentle tug to both ear lobes.

MIXEL
Just a tattoo’s good, thanks though.

ELI
I’m talking about listening.

ZAHRA
I can do listen. Him?

Zahra gives a gimpy flap of the hand at Mixel.

ELI
Listening for Life’s Song.

They stare questioningly at Eli and then

A RATTLING SOUND from underneath the counter.

Eli reaches down, retrieves an ornate pendant, the GC.

ELI
(hushed)
It calls. Hasn’t called in a long while. Meditate on the call.
ZAHRA
Meditate on the call?

ELI
That rattling sound you just heard. It’s a calling - your purpose in life. Some people just let Life’s Song pass them by.

ZAHRA
A rattle is the Melody of Life?

ELI
No, it's the call. Now I can give you the melody if you like, but you have to figure out the lyrics for yourself.

BACK ROOM - LATER - NIGHT
Eli finishes. He INJECTS the last ink droplets into Zahra’s leg, just above her ankle. They’re both done.

THE MELODY PLAYS. Spooky rendition, different than before. Zahra and Mixel do a scooby-doo around. Yuh! And sum thunder.

Ad-lib Eli with a ‘woops’! And a magic signal. Algood. Fixed. MELODY PROPER. Mixel opens his wallet to hand Eli cash.

Eli holds up a halting hand.

ELI
'tsOK. No need.

Zahra and Mixel shake Eli’s hand in thanks and leave.

EXT. WHERE-ARE-WE STREET - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

ZAHRA
What just happened in there?

MIXEL
I don’t know. It all feels surreal. Like it didn’t happen at all.

ZAHRA
We should go back. Ask him some questions.
MIXEL
What questions?

ZAHRA
I don't know. Like does he feel like he knows us? 'Cause I feel like I met him before.

MIXEL
Me too. OK let's go back.

EXT. ELI'S TATOO PARLOR - LATER

Zahra and Mixel stand outside the door, but the sign says 'closed' and so they look inside the dark window to: NOTHING. Not a single piece of artwork on the walls. Not any jewelry. Not any books. The counter is completely empty.

ZAHRA
This is crazy.

Mixel backs away to scan the upper part of the building. This must be the wrong one. Try next door--

To the next business. It's HODGE'S NOVELTY AND SMOKES.

INT. HODGE'S NOVELTY AND SMOKES

ZAHRA
Scews me, but have you heard of Eli's Tatoo Parlor?

Old man Hodge at the counter, puffs a pipe, looks far away.

HODGE
Yes, but Eli's been dead for years. Fell asleep with a cigarette. (regret) I sold him the smokes.

Zahra and Mixel back out of there. Snow blows around them.

INT. FUBAR'S BAR AND GRILL - PRESENT

Zahra looks a bit tipsy.
ZAHRA
But what's your theory? We have the tattoos. We're not (crazy face)-

MIXEL
My theory, (ahem) is that we were abducted by aliens.

ZAHRA
I think it's a WIGWOOU phenomenon.

MIXEL
WIGWOOU?

ZAHRA
Yeah, you know. What if God Was One of Us. He comes down like a man and tries to teach us something. Eli.

MIXEL
Eli's God? I'd bet more on Old Man Hodge as being God.

ZAHRA
Maybe they're both God!

MIXEL
Hodge said Eli was dead.

Mixel shakes his head; turns retarded, mocking himself.

MIXEL
Hodge said Eli’s dead. I'm mental.

ZAHRA
We've meditated ourselves to death and still no lyrics. I'm burnt out.

MIXEL
Meditation's making me bugaboo!

They sit a long sit, thinking. Then, ding! Excited-

MIXEL
Hypnosis! Let's try hypnosis.

INT. HIP HOP HYPNOTHERAPY - NEXT DAY

Zahra and Mixel look uncomfortable in the waiting room.
**MIXEL**
Hip Hop Hypnotherapy? They've gotta be kidding.

**ZAHR**
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING! You said we should give 'em a try!

**MIXEL**
Your hypochondria has me worried, Zahra... and everyone else had major big time waiting lists. Hip Hop's our hope.

**ZAHR**
Okay. What you say...

Koo-koo-ca-choo! Spirit Constance ENTERS DIANE and it's HIP HOP HYPNO, in quite the trippy garb. Hold it! Off come Hip Hop's shades. It's really Spirit Nephadeum! Go Ga-ga!

AND A WILD AFRICAN BEAT and the two of them PUSH Zahra and Mixel into 'Oh!' THE CHANGING ROOM. And the beat goes on...

And out they come! Cometh out! Zahra and Mixel, in luminous dress, the hip hop whips magically to: THE MELODY. They dance. Not long, 'cause they slip behind a screen if you know what I mean. Ad-lib: 'Oh Mixel!' 'Oh Zahra!' Roll lyrics:

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Mem
The letter Mem
It gives you pride
To find out
What's inside
The, let-ter, Mem
The waters Mem
Are now and then
Re-mem-ber-when-you-got-your-Mem
Upon the Ohr
To find out what's in store
Right-left through the door
And through the end
This is when you cried
This is when you died
You-worked-it-out-and-tried-it-all-again
Mem-Orh-les and A-Ha-Va
And Simply Once
Upon a Time
Again
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0+ Together both male and female +0