

Marisol and Mezzaluna

by

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ACT I, SCENE I - EXT. BEACH. SUMMER MIDDAY.

YOUNG MARISOL, 12 years old wearing a T-shirt and shorts and YOUNG MEZZALUNA, same age with long flowing brown hair and wearing a gypsy dress and blossom crown, are in a red tent on the grassy patch under some trees. The beach has deep blue water with minimal sand, dotted with pine trees. Inside the tent the floor has a mirror, towels acting as a rug, as well as tarot cards. YOUNG MEZZALUNA holds up a marble to a ray of light through the tent flap, rotating it this way and that to catch a bigger shine.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

I see it, Marisol! You have a really good future!

YOUNG MARISOL

What do you see?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You're gonna get married, have a ton of kids... and oh! You are gonna be so rich! You're going to marry a prince!

YOUNG MARISOL laughs

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You are going to take over the universe!

YOUNG MARISOL

Queen of the universe! Awesome!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Your husband... I see him!

YOUNG MARISOL

Oh! Does he look like Jules?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

He doesn't just look like Jules...

YOUNG MARISOL

He is Jules?!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
He is the key to your future.

YOUNG MARISOL
So if I marry him, I'll be queen of
the universe...

YOUNG MARISOL grabs YOUNG MEZZALUNA'S hand

YOUNG MARISOL
And so will you!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Of course!

They both laugh and the tent unzips to reveal YOUNG GALATÉA,
age 17, wearing a tank top and mini-skirt, long hair in a
messy bun.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Marisol, hurry up or you're
grounded!

YOUNG MARISOL
You can't ground me, Galatéa.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Don't get smart with me, Marisol.

YOUNG MARISOL
Go away, Galatéa. I'm playing with
Mezzaluna.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Again with Mezzaluna... Look, get
up now or I'm telling Mom.

YOUNG GALATÉA leaves and Marisol sticks her tongue out at
her

YOUNG MARISOL
The first thing I'll do as queen of
the universe is ground Galatéa. See
how she likes it.

YOUNG MARISOL gets up

YOUNG MARISOL
I'll see you later, Mezzaluna!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Okay, see you later!

YOUNG MARISOL leaves the tent runs through the beach to the house, where YOUNG GALATÉA is talking to YOUNG RICO, 17, hair with frosted tips, wearing a t-shirt and board shorts. Other children are playing by the water. YOUNG MARISOL hides behind a ledge.

YOUNG RICO
So do you wanna go? A whole bunch
of us are gonna be there.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Yeah, I'll sneak out when
everyone's asleep. It's so lame how
our parents agreed to go on this
trip and yet we can't hang out.

YOUNG RICO
It is, but I'm glad you're coming.
I'll meet you there.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Awesome, I can't wait.

They continue talking and YOUNG MARISOL stalks past them still unseen and goes into the house from the back door where her mother is cooking.

SIDE WIPE TO:

SCENE 2 - INT. KITCHEN, SHORTLY AFTER.

MOTHER, mid 40s wearing a floral pattern dress, is testing the soup broth. The kitchen is made of white wood and is quite clean except for the counter which is laden with various fruits and vegetables and chicken.

MOTHER
Oh there you are. Come on and wash
the vegetables.

YOUNG MARISOL
Mama, it's about Galatéa...

YOUNG GALATÉA enters the kitchen where her MOTHER is standing with arms folded, YOUNG MARISOL copying her.

MOTHER

What's this about you sneaking off
with Rico to the beach at night?

YOUNG GALATÉA shoots YOUNG MARISOL a death glare

MOTHER

If you even so much as think about
it, you're in big trouble, young
lady!

YOUNG GALATÉA

But Mom --!

MOTHER

No buts! This is supposed to be a
nice vacation, I won't let my
daughter be a juvenile delinquent.

YOUNG GALATÉA

Mom--

MOTHER

I see now why you wanted to go to
this specific beach. Can't leave
your crush well enough alone. Now
come and make yourself useful, cut
up everything Marisol washes.

CUT TO:

Meanwhile in the similarly sparse living room their FATHER,
portly mid-late 40s wearing a button-down short-sleeve
shirt and knee-length shorts, is sitting on a green armchair
with his feet on the coffee table, watching TV and drinking
beer.

FATHER

Oh come on! What do you even have
eyes for, missing a shot like that!

MOTHER (OFFSCREEN)

No, Marisol! You can't just get
them wet and call them washed!

YOUNG MARISOL

(offscreen)

Ow! Mom, Galatéa hit me!

YOUNG GALATÉA

(offscreen)

I did not!

YOUNG MARISOL
(offscreen)
Did too!

MOTHER
(offscreen)
Oh, come on, you two. If you don't
stop this we might as well go back
tonight.

The telephone rings. FATHER grumbles as he gets up to go
answer it.

FATHER
Hello?...Yes, speaking...Yes...Oh.
I see. I'm sorry to hear that.
Now's not a good time, we're just
about to have dinner.

MOTHER is standing just outside the alcove watching FATHER

FATHER
I'll have to discuss it with my
wife. You know we're on vacation
with the girls. Well, we can't just
leave them here!...No, we
definitely can't bring them along,
either... Anyways, I'll call you
later. I will! Okay, bye.

MOTHER
Who was that?

FATHER
Work. They can't leave me alone to
save their lives.

MOTHER
I told you you shouldn't have given
them this number.

FATHER
It couldn't be helped. Less work
for me when I get back.

MOTHER
All right. Dinner will be ready
soon.

They kiss and he goes back to his seat.

CUT TO:

dinner table and everyone's eating.

YOUNG MARISOL looks from her parents to YOUNG GALATÉA and one blink later it's just her and YOUNG MEZZALUNA. The setting shifts to an elegant banquet with a plethora of exotic foods, and YOUNG MARISOL herself is in princess regalia and YOUNG GALATÉA is in a maid uniform.

YOUNG MARISOL

What are you doing? Go and serve
The King and Queen of England their
tea!

YOUNG GALATÉA

Yes, ma'am.

She hurries off and YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG MEZZALUNA laugh.

MOTHER

Marisol!

CUT BACK TO THE
KITCHEN

YOUNG MARISOL

Yes, Mama?

FATHER

We're going to have to leave soon.

YOUNG MARISOL

Why?

FATHER

Nevermind why. As soon as you're
finished your dinner go and pack
all your things. You're going to
stay with your Grandma for the
night.

YOUNG MARISOL

...Okay.

CUT TO:

SCENE 3 - INT. YOUNG MARISOL AND YOUNG GALATEA'S BEDROOM.

They are both packing. There are two twin-sized beds with white sheets and a nightstand between them with a single lamp. The walls are sea-green with a single window by one of the beds. YOUNG GALATÉA'S bed and suitcase is much neater

than YOUNG MARISOL'S, who is just shoving everything inside.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Marisol, you have to pack again.
Why are you just throwing
everything in there?

YOUNG MARISOL
Leave me alone, Galatéa. It's my
suitcase.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Fine, I'll do it for you.

YOUNG MARISOL
Hey! Quit it!

YOUNG GALATÉA
You quit it! You should be happy
I'm trying to help you.

YOUNG GALATÉA shoves YOUNG MARISOL aside and finds a diary haphazardly packed in her suitcase. She picks it up and reads it, much to YOUNG MARISOL's horror

YOUNG GALATÉA
Wow, you even write to Mezzaluna?

YOUNG MARISOL
Give it back, Galatéa!

YOUNG GALATÉA
"Dearest Mezzaluna, I had another
dream about Jules --"

YOUNG MARISOL
MAMA!

YOUNG GALATÉA
" we had a milkshake, the ones you
and I always get --"

YOUNG MARISOL
MAMA!

YOUNG GALATÉA

(laughing)

--and a chocolate chip cake!"

YOUNG MARISOL, in tears, headbutts YOUNG GALATÉA just when their MOTHER walks in.

MOTHER

What are you doing, Marisol! You could have really hurt your sister!

YOUNG MARISOL

But she was reading my diary!

MOTHER

That's still no excuse to get physically violent! Come on, Galatéa. Marisol, you're grounded. No TV for a week.

YOUNG MARISOL is left alone, and YOUNG MEZZALUNA appears.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Here, I'll help you.

YOUNG MARISOL

I wish I could just live with you, Mezzaluna. My family always hates when I wanna have fun. Telling me I have to grow up.

They pack Marisol's suitcase. Marisol, when holding her sundress, stands up and presses it against her body as if to wear it. She closes her eyes. As Marisol and Mezzaluna giggle, YOUNG GALATÉA'S stony face is visible as she listens in.

SLOW FADE TO BLACK

SCENE 4 - INT. FAMILY CAR. NIGHT.

YOUNG MARISOL is seated on the left and YOUNG GALATÉA on the right back seat. It is dark and cloudy and dimly lit on the road. Marisol looks out and imagines thousands of fireflies

MOTHER

Do drive a little more slowly, dear.

FATHER

You know how my mother gets if we get there any later than ten o'clock.

YOUNG MARISOL

I wanna be with Mezzaluna.

YOUNG GALATÉA

Well, you can't be with Mezzaluna.

YOUNG MARISOL

Can, too!

YOUNG GALATÉA

No, you can't, because I said so!

FATHER

Girls! Stop it, I need to concentrate. Man, the boonies get dark at night...

YOUNG MARISOL pouts and closes her eyes.

MATCH CUT TO:

SCENE 5 - INT. FUNERAL HOME.

YOUNG MARISOL opens her eyes and at a large photograph of her parents. She and everyone is wearing black, but she is the only one not crying.

PASTOR

Their two young daughters, Marisol and Galatéa, were their pride and joy...

YOUNG GALATÉA sobs and hugs YOUNG MARISOL around the shoulders. YOUNG MEZZALUNA is beside YOUNG MARISOL on her other side and they hold hands. Their GRANDMOTHER, late 60s wearing a black veil, blows her nose into a handkerchief as she weeps.

GRANDMOTHER

Girls, you're going to have to be strong. Galatéa, you especially. You have a big responsibility now.

YOUNG GALATÉA

Yes, Grandma.

GRANDMOTHER

Marisol, you... Looks like she's in shock, poor thing. Doesn't know what's happening. Bless her, maybe her imagination will save her.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

My princess... What's going through your mind...?

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 6 - INT. SCHOOL. MORNING.

YOUNG MARISOL is in class wearing her funeral clothes still. The other children whisper. YOUNG CONNOR, 12, blonde-haired and skinny, wearing a t-shirt and shorts, looks over at YOUNG MARISOL from his desk in the middle of the room.

YOUNG SAYA, 12 with bobbed black hair and wearing a yellow dress, watches him watching her from her adjacent desk. YOUNG MARISOL puts her jaw in her hands and sighs. YOUNG MEZZALUNA, also in class and seated beside Marisol, is wearing funeral dress as well.

JULES, 17 and shaggy black hair, comes through the door, wearing white. YOUNG MARISOL immediately has a mood shift.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

I knew this would cheer you up.

JULES comes to YOUNG MARISOL'S desk and smiles gently at her, and she blushes. YOUNG CONNOR, meanwhile, bristles.

YOUNG MARISOL

Jules...

YOUNG SAYA

Jules? Who's that?

YOUNG CONNOR

So that's who she likes...

CUT TO:

SCENE 7 - EXT. SCHOOL COURTYARD. NOON.

YOUNG MARISOL, YOUNG MEZZALUNA sit on the grass under the shade of a tree. YOUNG MARISOL is the only one with a bagged lunch containing a simple sandwich. YOUNG CONNOR and YOUNG SAYA sit away slightly out of the sun.

YOUNG SAYA

Marisol's become a goth. But a creepy one.

YOUNG CONNOR

She's not become a goth, Saya.

YOUNG SAYA

You always defend her, Connor. She doesn't even know you exist. She's off in her own world all the time. It's weird.

YOUNG CONNOR

Her world must be lots of fun.

YOUNG SAYA facepalms.

Meanwhile, YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG MEZZALUNA converse.

YOUNG MARISOL

Thanks for bringing Jules over. He's so dreamy.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Anything to cheer you up, my dear. I'm forever at your service, all you have to do is call for me. Jules as well.

YOUNG MARISOL

I wish I was grown up so I can marry Jules. Get away from everyone here. They always look at me funny or just aren't nice to me. I wanna play all the time, go to the beach with you.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

We can always do that.

YOUNG MARISOL

Yeah... Maybe you're right.

YOUNG MARISOL eats her sandwich. DR KANE, a woman in her late 40s wearing a business casual suit, strolls by and stops when she sees YOUNG MARISOL.

DR KANE

Hello, Marisol. How are you doing today?

YOUNG MARISOL

I'm okay, Dr Kane.

DR KANE

You're still wearing black two months later. Are you sure everything's okay? Because you can always come and talk to me if you want to, you know. About anything at all.

YOUNG MARISOL

Thanks, Dr Kane but I'm really okay.

DR KANE

Sure, Marisol. I just wanted you to know. Enjoy your lunch, my door is always open.

YOUNG MARISOL

Okay, I'm fine though. Thank you.

DR KANE leaves, and YOUNG MARISOL looks at YOUNG MEZZALUNA. YOUNG SAYA gets up and stalks over to them and YOUNG CONNOR follows.

YOUNG MARISOL

Gosh, she keeps bugging me. I keep telling her I'm okay but she never believes me.

YOUNG SAYA

Who doesn't believe you?

YOUNG MARISOL

Stop eavesdropping on me, Saya. I wasn't talking to you.

YOUNG SAYA

That doesn't matter. What did the school psychologist want?

YOUNG CONNOR

Stop it, Saya.

YOUNG SAYA

Are you gonna go see her?

YOUNG MARISOL

Of course not. You think I'm crazy or something?

YOUNG SAYA

You might be. You never make any sense.

YOUNG MARISOL

Just go away, Saya. I'm not crazy.

YOUNG SAYA

Then why don't you hang out with other people at all? Are you a goth now?

YOUNG CONNOR

Saya, leave her alone.

YOUNG MARISOL stands up, packing her things up and stomps away. YOUNG SAYA sighs.

YOUNG SAYA

Such a weirdo. Can't she see I'm trying to help her?

YOUNG CONNOR
Why would she? You're kinda
bullying her.

YOUNG SAYA
Bullying her? I can't believe you'd
say that.

YOUNG CONNOR
Whatever.

He also walks off, leaving YOUNG SAYA standing alone.

CUT TO:

SCENE 8 - EVENING. INT. YOUNG MARISOL'S ROOM

YOUNG MARISOL lays on her bed. She closes her eyes.

MATCH CUT TO:

She opens her eyes and she is wearing a white dress on the surface of the moon, looking down on Earth. Wind blows her hair to the right. YOUNG MEZZALUNA appears beside her.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
My princess, the Earth has been
eclipsed as per your wishes. What's
your next wish?

YOUNG MARISOL
I hope I never grow up. I wanna
stay like I am.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
But you always will.

YOUNG MARISOL
No... I can already feel myself
changing.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA frowns and waves her hand, returning the room back to normal. YOUNG MARISOL is now wearing a t-shirt and sweatpants, laying on her bed.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Do you want me to tell you your
fortune again?

YOUNG MARISOL
No... I'm not interested in the
future anymore. I'd rather just go
to bed.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Then at least let me tuck you in.

YOUNG MARISOL climbs into bed and YOUNG MEZZALUNA tucks her in, turning off the light as well.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

No matter what, though, Marisol,
we're always going to be friends.
We can face the future together.

YOUNG MARISOL smiles as she gets sleepier. YOUNG MEZZALUNA holds YOUNG MARISOL'S hand and sings the Mezzaluna's Sea of Stories song with YOUNG MARISOL humming along.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Today once again we get on our
ship, what's the name oh yes it's
friendship! Every day I see you my
heart fills with light, let's go
together, to our dreams tonight...

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 8 - PRESENT DAY, EARLY AFTERNOON. INT. OFFICE.

MARISOL, now 32 and wearing a rather unflatteringly big business suit, is behind a computer. All around her the sounds of telephones and indistinct conversations. Her phone rings, it's GALATÉA. MARISOL sighs.

MARISOL

This better be good, this is the
ninth time today.

GALATÉA

You've gotta do something about
your attitude. Anyway, make sure
you're home at exactly six o'clock
on the dot. Don't even pretend you
have plans.

MARISOL

But I do.

GALATÉA

Doing nothing does not count having
plans. Be there.

Marisol sighs as she turns her phone off and directs her attention back to her monitor, a blank page. She groans and slouches in her chair.

MARISOL

Just another half hour...

She looks at a photograph of her and GALATÉA beside her monitor and her expression softens. In the photo both sisters are politely smiling.

MARISOL

So this is what it's like being normal...

CUT TO:

SCENE 9 - INT. MARISOL'S HOUSE. EVENING.

Marisol is at her doorstep, in front of a blue door belonging to a two-storey white house with a simple lawn. She checks her watch and sees it is 5:59 p.m. She waits five seconds for 6:00 p.m. To strike before coming inside.

MARISOL

Galatéa, I'm home!

She takes off her shoes in the foyer and looks around. There is nobody present in the hallway or the periphery of the rooms. The floor is an aging carpet with photos on the walls. She walks down the hallway towards the living room. GALATÉA, now 37 with shoulder-length brown hair and wearing a pair of skinny jeans and a loose shirt, stands beside the same aged RICO, and 32-year old SAYA, hair still in a bob and wearing a yellow dress, seated on the couch. MARISOL grimaces.

MARISOL

You've gotta be kidding me.

SAYA

(politely)

Hi, Marisol. Nice to see you again.

MARISOL

I'm leaving.

RICO

I told you this was a bad idea, Gal.

GALATÉA

You shush. Come on, Marisol. Sit down. I'm making your favourite tonight.

MARISOL sighs and sits opposite SAYA while GALATÉA drags RICO out of the room towards the kitchen, which is yellow and has a table for three. GALATÉA immediately makes for the refrigerator where she pulls out beef and peppers.

RICO

It's gonna take more than a food bribe to get her to go for this, you know.

GALATÉA puts them on the counter and shoots RICO a look at the same time.

GALATÉA

I wish you were on my side more often.

RICO simply shrugs and smiles sheepishly while GALATÉA sighs.

CUT TO:

SCENE 10 - INT. MARISOL'S LIVING ROOM.

Silence as MARISOL and SAYA sit staring at each other with polite smiles. SAYA is seated with one leg over the other while MARISOL sits enclosed, all her limbs collected. SAYA coughs.

SAYA

So. How was your day at work?

MARISOL

Just work. Nothing special.

SAYA

...Of course. Work is work.

MARISOL

Look, isn't this against your ethical code or whatever? Making a house call when someone doesn't want your services?

SAYA

Well... Yes, but I'm not here as a therapist. I'm here as me. Saya. It's a friendly visit.

MARISOL

Uh huh. So why are we talking, then? Galatéa is your friend.

SAYA

You still think you and I can't be?

MARISOL

I mean... I guess we could...

SAYA

Good! I want to move past the past, too. I know you and I had our differences in the past but it's been long enough and I think we could really connect now if we tried.

MARISOL cringes ever-so-slightly as she shrinks back while SAYA remains enthusiastic, leaning forward.

SAYA
I mean, you didn't come to our
ten-year reunion.

MARISOL
Yeah, well. I didn't wanna go.

SAYA
Why was that?

MARISOL
That's your therapist voice.

SAYA
No, this is just how I talk.
Anyway, Marisol, talk to me. Just
say whatever's on your mind. Maybe
it doesn't have to be me leading
the way if you're not comfortable
with that.

MARISOL
Honestly I just wanna go to my room
right now. And no, you can't come
with.

SAYA
I, uh, wasn't gonna ask but okay.

RICO appears with a tray of drinks.

RICO
Sorry to interrupt.

SAYA
No, not at all.

He leans down for both of them to take their drinks and
before he can stand normally Marisol whispers to him.

MARISOL
(whispering)
Do we really have to do this?

RICO
(whispering)
It's just for the evening.

MARISOL
(whispering)
I know you're Galatée's boyfriend
but can't you take my side on this?
Why'd you let her do this?

SAYA
Uh, guys... I can hear you.

Rico stands up and excuses himself with a smile. There is a
silence between the two young women.

SAYA

Okay, listen, Marisol. I get that you're not into this. But you have to understand, while Galatéa wants us to have a professional relationship I would rather you and I have a personal one. The truth is, I've wanted to get to know you for a long time. And, well... Make up for how you no doubt see me now.

MARISOL

You were pretty uncool back then.

SAYA

Yeah... I guess I was, huh. But I hear you and Connor are friends now, you practically babysit his nephew Jeremy sometimes, no?

MARISOL

(muttering)

Of course Galatéa would tell you about that...

SAYA

I wonder what made you connect so much with Jeremy in particular.

MARISOL

I guess it's because he reminds me of me.

SAYA

How does he do that? He, uh... Is like you were back then?

MARISOL

(trailing off)

Yeah... Pretty much.

SAYA

Of course, I guess unlike you he actually has someone to talk to. Remember how you used to go on and on and on about your friend, what was her name again? Mozzarella?

MARISOL gets up, cutting her off. SAYA looks at her, bewildered.

SAYA

Is everything all right?

MARISOL

I'm sorry, I just... Really don't want to talk about this stuff.

SAYA
 (mumbling)
 Of course you don't.
 (normal voice)
 That's fine. I guess I did hit
 something of a nerve. I'm sorry.

GALATÉA pokes her head out of the kitchen and frowns at
 MARISOL who is almost out the door. She walks to her.

GALATÉA
 Where are you going? Dinner's
 almost ready.

MARISOL puts her shoes on.

MARISOL
 I told you I have plans.

GALATÉA
 Well, plans or not, don't just walk
 out. Sit down and have dinner.

MARISOL
 I'm not hungry.

GALATÉA
 Marisol!

Before she finishes talking, MARISOL leaves and GALATÉA
 sighs. SAYA and RICO join her and follow as she returns to
 the kitchen.

CUT TO:

SCENE 11 - EXT. CONNOR'S BACKYARD. LATER EVENING.

MARISOL is seated on one swing and JEREMY on the other,
 playing. MARISOL halfheartedly pushes her feet on the
 ground. Jeremy jumps off the swing. CONNOR exits the house
 via the back door, bearing a tray of lemonade. He sets it
 down on the patio table and approaches Marisol with one in
 his hand.

CONNOR
 You're pretty deep in thought.
 What's up?

MARISOL
 Oh, nothing. Just... you know.

CONNOR
 Not really, but okay.

He offers her the lemonade and she takes it. He sits on the
 next swing. She drinks the lemonade. JEREMY sits in his

sandbox drawing lines with his hand.

MARISOL

I'm sorry, it's just... I keep thinking about the past, I guess. About... her.

CONNOR

Saya?

MARISOL

How messed up is it that she's a shrink now... and thanks to Galatéa she knows so much about me. It's so weird, and so... embarrassing.

CONNOR

It is funny how things turn out, yeah.

MARISOL

She used to really want to read my diary back in school... was so desperate to know all my secrets. All she had to do was wait a few years and Galatéa airs all our dirty laundry. And she obviously wants me to see her!

CONNOR

Well... would you?

MARISOL

No, of course not. Even if she is different now... no. The fact of the matter is that I'm totally fine. I don't need to see her, either as a doctor or as a friend.

(Beat)

Oh, man, that came out worse than it sounded in my head. I'm so sorry, Connor.

CONNOR

No, it's fine.

MARISOL

I mean, she is your friend.

CONNOR
It's okay, Marisol.

JEREMY exits his sandbox and comes to get a lemonade, sitting at the foot of the swingset. CONNOR gets up and JEREMY swiftly gets up and takes his spot.

CONNOR
I'll be in the kitchen.

JEREMY
Storytime!

CONNOR leaves them. MARISOL appears to try to stop him but remains seated on the swing.

JEREMY
Tell me more about her!

FADE IN:

SCENE 12 - OUTSIDE, OCEAN. MIDDAY.

Begin flashback. YOUNG MARISOL is swimming in the ocean surrounded by tropical fish. YOUNG MEZZALUNA can be seen as well wearing a flowing swimsuit and light shines on her like a halo. She joins hands with YOUNG MARISOL.

YOUNG MARISOL
O Maiden of the Deep! Please grant
me my wish! Make Jules like me
back!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
O Princess of the Bridefish! Your
pure heart will surely make your
wish come true! Your Prince Jules
will kiss you at the stroke of
midnight and make you a human
princess!

FLASH FORWARD TO:

Midnight where the moon is large and full, and JULES is at the beach sitting on the rocks.

YOUNG MARISOL appears before him wearing a white dress and he smiles as he stands and takes her hand. He kisses her cheek and the stars above them turn to fireworks.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Now that you are joined as one, you will be prince and princess and rule across the land! Prince Jules has brought his noble horse and carriage for your honeymoon on the moon.

YOUNG MARISOL

That's what I've always wanted.

SMASH CUT TO:

SCENE 13 - INT. FAIRY CASTLE. DAYTIME.

Still in flashback, YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG MEZZALUNA are now wearing long flowing gowns and wings.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

The Blossom's Eve festival has begun! Roses and daisies and tulips abound! We will cover the whole world in flowers in honour of your wedding!

JULES appears alongside YOUNG MARISOL wearing princely fairy garb

YOUNG MARISOL

That's what I've always wanted.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA walks with YOUNG MARISOL and JULES behind her, each step leaving behind rapidly blooming flowers. YOUNG MARISOL looks up at a wisteria trellis rapidly blooming above her head

CROSSFADE:

SCENE 14 - INT. MEDIEVAL CASTLE. MIDDAY.

Still in flashback, YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG MEZZALUNA and JULES are now in a medieval setting, YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG MEZZALUNA are dressed as princesses while JULES is dressed as a knight fighting another.

YOUNG MARISOL

Sir Jules! Watch out for the dragon!

The DRAGON roars and YOUNG MARISOL winces as JULES charges forth and slays it.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Brave sir knight! Thank you for slaying the dragon terrorizing our kingdom! What will you take as your reward?

JULES kneels on one knee before YOUNG MARISOL and offers her a ring.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay! We have a brave new king!

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 15 - EXT. JEREMY'S BACKYARD. LATE AFTERNOON.

End flashback, return to the present.

JEREMY

Wow! That all happened?

MARISOL

Yeah, we had so much fun.

JEREMY

That's all so girly, all you did was get married.

MARISOL

(laughs) Yeah, well. That's what we dreamed of back then. Marrying and becoming a princess. I'm sure you dream all the time of being a hero, don't you?

JEREMY

Yeah, you're right. I want to fly and fight monsters.

MARISOL

What kind of powers do you want?

JEREMY

Hmmm... I wanna run really fast, shoot lasers out of my eyes, fly, be really strong...

MARISOL
Like Superman?

JEREMY
Yeah! But Spiderman is cool too...
and Batman... and MegaMan...

MARISOL
You can be all of them if you want.

JEREMY
Can I? But I dunno what I'd call
myself.

MARISOL
You don't have to decide right now.
Just think about it for a while.

Beat.

JEREMY
Tell me about you and Mezzaluna
again.

MARISOL
Well, all right...

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 16 - INT. CLASSROOM. MORNING.

YOUNG MARISOL is in her classroom, looking visibly dejected as she writes in her diary, oblivious to YOUNG SAYA peering over her shoulder.

YOUNG MARISOL
"Dear Mezzaluna, I dreamt about
Jules again. I want him to come
take me away from here. Galathea's
been really bossy. She keeps making
me get out of the bathroom so she
can get ready for more dates with
Rico and keeps grounding me every
time I answer her questions. She
says that when I move out, I have
to live with her because she's my
big sister. I want to get married
soon and never see her--"

YOUNG SAYA
What're you writing?

YOUNG MARISOL
None of your business!

YOUNG SAYA
I wanna read your diary.

YOUNG MARISOL
Well, you can't. It's private.

YOUNG SAYA
Everyone knows you only write in a
diary because you want someone to
read it, Marisol. So let me read
it.

YOUNG CONNOR
Stop it, Saya. She said no.

YOUNG MARISOL stuffs her journal into her backpack, YOUNG SAYA eyes it and looks away when YOUNG MARISOL glares at her and holds her backpack close.

CUT TO:

YOUNG MARISOL leaving for the bathroom during recess with her backpack.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA is there as well, and YOUNG MARISOL runs to hug her.

YOUNG MARISOL
I hate that we're not in the same
class! Saya won't leave me alone!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Maybe we will be next year.

YOUNG MARISOL
We never are, though! I think the
universe just hates us.

They hug, and from the corner of the entry YOUNG SAYA can be seen peering at them, a disturbed look on her face. She hurriedly hides when YOUNG MARISOL comes out of the bathroom. YOUNG SAYA follows YOUNG MARISOL in the hallway and then grabs her backpack and pulls her aside.

YOUNG SAYA
Why were you talking about me?

YOUNG MARISOL
I wasn't talking about you.

YOUNG SAYA
Yes, you were. I heard you. Who
were you talking to?

YOUNG MARISOL
Leave me alone, Saya. You're so
nosy.

YOUNG SAYA
No.

YOUNG MARISOL
Let me go!

They wrestle with each other and YOUNG MARISOL yelps and
YOUNG CONNOR comes and wrenches them apart.

YOUNG CONNOR
Saya! Leave Marisol alone!

YOUNG SAYA
Stop taking her side all the time,
Connor! Can't you see how weird she
is?

YOUNG CONNOR
That doesn't mean you should bully
her.

YOUNG SAYA
I'm not bullying her.

YOUNG MARISOL
Yes, you are! That's why no one
likes you, Saya. You're mean,
you're nosy, and you don't have any
friends.

YOUNG SAYA
I don't have any friends? You talk
to yourself! At least I have
Connor!

YOUNG MARISOL

I don't talk to myself! I was talking to Mezzaluna, she's a million times cooler than you!

YOUNG SAYA

Well if she's so much cooler than me, I want to meet her and see for myself!

YOUNG MARISOL pauses and YOUNG SAYA and YOUNG CONNOR are both at the forefront of other STUDENTS looking right at her.

YOUNG SAYA

See that, everyone? She made her friend up.

YOUNG MARISOL's heartbeat can be heard thumping, and finally she breaks down and runs away.

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 17 - EXT. JEREMY'S BACKYARD. LATE AFTERNOON.

JEREMY

Saya really said that?

MARISOL

She did, I was so mad. But she never did meet Mezzaluna. Nobody did, and I liked it that way.

JEREMY

I have some imaginary friends.

MARISOL

That's nice.

JEREMY

Mezaloona sounds like a lot of fun, though. My imaginary friends would have a lot of fun with her.

MARISOL

Yeah... I guess it would have been nice if Saya and everyone else met her. Anyway, let's go inside. Something smells good.

They get up and go back inside the house.

FADE TO BLACK

SCENE 18 - INT. KITCHEN. EVENING.

Begin flashback. YOUNG MARISOL is at the kitchen table with YOUNG GALATÉA and YOUNG RICO with a half-and-half pizza between them as well as one big bottle of soda and three glasses, the full one belonging to Rico, the mostly empty one belonging to YOUNG GALATÉA, and the half-empty one belonging to YOUNG MARISOL. She looks sullen as YOUNG GALATÉA sighs heavily.

YOUNG GALATÉA
What is it now?

YOUNG RICO
Gal.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Marisol.

YOUNG MARISOL
It's nothing.

YOUNG GALATÉA
It's not nothing. It's been forever since Mom and Dad passed away. You have to grow up.

YOUNG RICO
Gal...

YOUNG GALATÉA
You forgot about Mezzaluna at least which is good. But now you're quiet and hardly say anything. You're so annoying.

YOUNG RICO
Gal, seriously.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Quit it, Rico. It's about time she stopped sulking. She needs to make actual friends, not just ones that live in her head.

YOUNG MARISOL gets up.

YOUNG GALATÉA
I didn't say you were excused.

YOUNG MARISOL
I'm not hungry.

She leaves and goes to her room. She sits on her bed and opens her diary, not touching the pen on her nightstand. She closes her diary and turns to her side. YOUNG GALATÉA knocks on her door.

YOUNG MARISOL
Is that you, Rico?

YOUNG GALATÉA
(offscreen)

No. Can I come in? I brought you some pizza. Call it a peace offering.

YOUNG MARISOL
Okay.

YOUNG GALATÉA enters bearing a plate of two slices of pizza and puts it on her nightstand and sits on the edge of her bed.

YOUNG GALATÉA
You wanna talk, Marisol?

YOUNG MARISOL
Not really.

YOUNG GALATÉA
Make sure you eat, though.

YOUNG MARISOL
Whatever.

YOUNG GALATÉA leaves with one last look at YOUNG MARISOL.

CUT TO:

SCENE 19 - EXT. BEACH, RED TENT. NIGHT.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
My dear, you are troubled. Tell the oracle your fears.

YOUNG MARISOL
I don't want to be apart from you, Mezzaluna.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You never will be. I'll always be with you.

YOUNG MARISOL

But what if everyone's right? What if... you aren't real?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

As long as I'm real to you, Marisol... what does it matter what everyone else thinks?

YOUNG MARISOL

But everyone gets mad whenever I talk about you. I'm so sorry.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Don't be. I'll always be your friend and no one else's.

YOUNG MARISOL

Mine and no one else's... Just like Jules...

Thunder and lightning

CUT TO:

SCENE 20 - EXT. MARISOL'S NEIGHBOURHOOD. EVENING. RAINING.

YOUNG MARISOL is crying TO YOUNG MEZZALUNA. Thunder strikes and it rains harder. YOUNG MARISOL is wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants and getting soaked while MEZZALUNA remains dry except for her own tears in the rain.

YOUNG MARISOL

How could you do this to me! I thought you were both only mine!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

We are!

YOUNG MARISOL

But how come Jules likes you now? He doesn't even laugh with me anymore! All he cares about is you!

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

That's not true! Jules is your destined, your prince! I could never steal him from you!

YOUNG MARISOL

You're a liar, Mezzaluna! I'm not your friend anymore!

Lightning strikes. YOUNG MEZZALUNA cries as YOUNG MARISOL runs away.

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 21 - INT.- MARISOL'S ROOM.

YOUNG MARISOL, now dry and wearing her nightgown on top of her bed, grabs her pen and writes in her diary.

YOUNG MARISOL

"Dear Mezzaluna, I miss you so much. I'm sorry I said I'm not your friend anymore. I hope you and Jules are happy. Do you miss me, too? Everyone's nicer to me now but they all say I shouldn't be so sad. Galat ea wants me to see the school therapist and she's so creepy. Everyone will make fun of me all over again! I hate it here, Mezzaluna... I miss you. I miss you, I miss you, I miss you. Please come..."

FADE TO BLACK

SCENE 22 - INT. SAYA'S OFFICE. LATE AFTERNOON.

GALAT EA and SAYA are sitting opposite one another in a cold grey room with minimal decorations.

SAYA

So no changes with her?

GALAT EA

None. And she won't get help.

SAYA

She has to want to. The most you can do is encourage her.

GALATÉA

I guess you're right. But I really want her to talk to you. Weren't you friends once?

SAYA

I'm afraid that would be a conflict of interest.

GALATÉA

Of course, you have to do everything the hard way now...

SAYA

But let's go back to you, Galatéa. Everything all right with you and Rico?

GALATÉA

Yeah, but he won't listen to me about Marisol. Keeps saying the same things you say, really. It's like I'm the only one who cares about her.

SAYA

Just don't forget to give your own life and relationships some effort, too, Galatéa. Your sister is important to you but you should be, too. And that's all the time we have for today. Remember your affirmations and breathing. Think about what's good in your life, use that to heal.

GALATÉA leaves the office and sighs. She hears a radio programme and pauses, then shakes her head and leaves.

CUT TO:

SCENE 23 - INT. CONNOR'S HOUSE. DAYTIME.

When he bursts through the door and grabs her hand.

JEREMY

Marisol! You're not gonna believe this!

MARISOL
What? Did something good happen?

JEREMY
C'mon, c'mon!

He pulls her inside and the TV is audible. Connor is seated at the couch.

JEREMY
Awww it's over!

MARISOL
What is?

CONNOR
There's this new kid's show. He says you need to watch it.

MARISOL
A kid's show..?

CONNOR shrugs.

MARISOL
Sure, I'll watch it, if you say it's good, Jeremy.

JEREMY
It's really good! It reminds me of the stories you tell me about your friend, Mezaloona.

MARISOL
Oh yeah? That sounds nice.

CONNOR
I'll be honest, it does look pretty good. Kinda like the stuff we grew up with. Oh, it says there's another episode coming next. Speak of the devil.

MARISOL
Just like that? Nice.

She sits beside CONNOR and JEREMY. The theme song of the programme begins. Marisol hums along to it.

CONNOR

You know this song?

MARISOL

Yeah, of course I do. It's--

MEZZALUNA, 32, wearing an elegant pink and white lolita dress with her long brown hair flowing freely in waves down her shoulders, appears on the TV screen. Her stage is a dreamy sky with glowing stars behind her and she is seated on a pink suede armchair.

MEZZALUNA

Welcome, my children, to Mezzaluna's Sea of Stories! I'm your hostess, here with another story for you today!

MARISOL

Wait, what?

She darts to the TV.

MEZZALUNA

It's about a beautiful lonely princess who lived in the bottom of the ocean...

MARISOL

Oh my God...

JEREMY

She has the same name as your friend!

CONNOR

Marisol...?

MARISOL falls back. CONNOR gets up and kneels beside her.

CONNOR

Are you okay? I'll get you some water.

He leaves, and MARISOL gets up. MEZZALUNA in the TV makes eye contact with her and winks.

MEZZALUNA

Now the princess was known by the villagers as The Bubble Princess because legend had it that stars were formed by the bubbles that burst once they left the earth...

MARISOL

I remember that...

JEREMY

Is it her?

MARISOL

Yeah... it is ...

JEREMY

She's as awesome as you said she was!

CONNOR reappears with a mug of water and helps Marisol sit on the couch. She drinks.

MARISOL

This can't be happening...

CONNOR

What can't be?

MARISOL

That's Mezzaluna.

CONNOR

Mezzaluna?

MARISOL

Yeah, from... Oh gosh, I don't even know how to explain. I must have worked too hard, you'll think I'm crazy anyway.

CONNOR

No, I won't.

MARISOL looks at MEZZALUNA on TV. MEZZALUNA nods at her and MARISOL smiles shyly, and MEZZALUNA smiles widely.

MEZZALUNA

And they lived happily ever after in the castle at the bottom of the ocean. The end. Tune in next time for another story, my children! Bye-bye!

FADE IN:

ACT II, SCENE 1 - INT. BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN. NIGHTTIME.

Begin dream sequence. YOUNG MARISOL is the Bubble Princess. She uses her hands to form soap bubbles and blows them. And she blows one and sees MARISOL inside. MARISOL looks around, panicking.

MARISOL

Oh man, even this is exactly like I remember it.

She floats higher and higher until she reaches empty space and sees a gigantic MEZZALUNA.

MARISOL

Mezzaluna, hurry! Save me! I don't think this'll hold much longer!

MEZZALUNA

Oh my dear, you don't need me to save you. But if you insist, then you should be the new moon.

THE SOUND OF A CLOSING JOURNAL AND THERE IS TOTAL DARKNESS.

CUT TO:

SCENE 2 - INT. MARISOL'S BEDROOM. NIGHT.

MARISOL awakens with a jolt, crescent moon shining from her window. She pants and holds her head in her hands.

MARISOL

That dream again...

She turns on her bedside lamp and takes out her diary, turning to an empty page, completely oblivious to MEZZALUNA standing before her at the foot of her bed.

MEZZALUNA

Good evening, Your Highness.

MARISOL

Gah!

MEZZALUNA rushes over and envelops MARISOL in a hug.

MEZZALUNA

Oh Marisol! It's been so long!

MARISOL

What are you doing here? And do you even know what time it is?

MEZZALUNA

I've always been here. Anyway, that's not important. I've missed you so much! And I can tell you need me.

MARISOL

But we said goodbye that time...

MEZZALUNA

Not forever. Never forever. Anyways, come on. There's a reason you couldn't sleep. You know what that means.

MARISOL

Mezzaluna--

MEZZALUNA

It's time for an adventure! And tonight... we will go somewhere special for both of us. Come.

CUT TO:

SCENE 3 - INT. MARISOL'S ROOM MEETING THE OCEAN.

MEZZALUNA takes MARISOL's hand and the room comes apart. They are now in the bottom of the ocean with a giant seashell castle. MARISOL finds herself in a flowy white gown and seashell crown

MEZZALUNA

O Bridefish Princess! How fair you are in low tide!

MARISOL

I'm too old to be the bridefish princess.

MEZZALUNA

Nonsense! You can be princess for all eternity if you wanted. And it's a beautiful thing, a bridefish. But you know, you're right, it is lonely being a

(MORE)

MEZZALUNA (cont'd)
princess. That's why you need a
prince, or a king.

MARISOL
I don't need either of those.

MEZZALUNA
Oh, yeah, I nearly forgot. You're
still in love all these years.

MARISOL
I am not.

MEZZALUNA
Ohhh now that's a real tragedy.
Falling out of love. Or even worse,
never being in love at all.

MARISOL
Well I can't help it, Mezzaluna. I
had to grow up. And, well... just
make do.

MEZZALUNA
Oh my dear. No wonder you're so sad
now.

MARISOL
Well... yeah. And to tell you the
truth, I don't like who I've
become. All the colour and laughter
is gone.

MEZZALUNA
You poor thing... I couldn't have
foreseen this. But no matter. It's
time you got your old self back,
and I'm going to help you. I miss
my dear Marisol's precious smile.
And so does your kingdom, Princess!

SEA CREATURES clamour in agreement

MEZZALUNA
We will find your happiness for
sure, my dear Princess! I, your
ever-loyal advisor, will ensure
success!

The sun shines from her head like a halo glowing ever brighter.

FADE IN:

SCENE 4 - MARISOL'S BEDROOM, MORNING.

Marisol awakens at 7:24 a.m. She rubs her head and frowns, then takes off the seashell crown. Getting up from the bed she notices that she's still wearing the bridefish gown. She pinches herself and winces

MARISOL

No way...

She then looks around her room and notices that the walls look like the bottom of the ocean and her bed linens have seashells and fish patterns, her floor has coral sprouts, and there is a moon jellyfish shaped lamp on her ceiling and a matching one on her bedside table

GALATÉA screams offscreen. MARISOL runs out of her room to find that the hallway and other rooms are similarly deep - sea themed, complete with seaweed and kelp dangling from the ceiling.

GALATÉA

What did you do, Marisol? And why are you dressed like that?

MARISOL

I didn't do anything! I'm just as surprised as you!

RICO enters, looking around, not fully awake.

RICO

Hmm. Like what you've done with the place.

GALATÉA

Not now, Rico! This is... what's going on, Marisol?

MARISOL makes a sheepish face.

MARISOL

So, uh... It's kind of a funny story...

GALATÉA

Oh, that is it!

CUT TO:

SCENE 5 - INT. SAYA'S OFFICE.

MARISOL is seated beside GALATÉA and SAYA is watching both of them.

SAYA

And you really don't remember doing anything?

MARISOL

For the millionth time, no. I just woke up and everything was like that. Galatéa.

GALATÉA

It's true, I would've heard her. I'm a light sleeper.

SAYA

So you're saying someone else might have done it?

MARISOL

I told you telling her was a bad idea. Now she's gonna have both of us committed.

GALATÉA

Marisol!

SAYA

I assure you... I will do no such thing. All the same, I'm going to have to see for myself if you insist it's still like this.

MARISOL and GALATÉA exchange looks

CUT TO:

SCENE 6 - INT. MARISOL'S HOUSE. DAYTIME.

MARISOL, GALATÉA, and SAYA arrive in the house and see that the interior is now galaxy-themed; the walls have stars and nebulae on them, with planet mobiles. The lights are shaped like stars and the sun. The furniture is standard.

GALATÉA

What is happening...?

SAYA

I must say... this is breathtaking.

GALATÉA

Rico! You home?

MARISOL looks around and sees MEZZALUNA at the top of the stairs and gasps, prompting GALATÉA to look over and gasp as well. MEZZALUNA descends the stairs

MEZZALUNA

Welcome home, my darling! I see you've brought a guest?

GALATÉA

Who are you? And what are you doing in my house?

MEZZALUNA

Oh! Pardon me, we haven't properly met. I'm Mezzaluna. Nice to finally meet you, Galatéa, Saya.

GALATÉA

How do you know my name...?

MEZZALUNA

Oh, Marisol's told me so much about you, I feel like I know you personally already.

SAYA

So that time...?

MARISOL hurriedly gets between the women.

MARISOL

Heeeey uh, let's all sit down and talk, okay?

MEZZALUNA

Such good timing, actually, I just made a pie and some tea.

MARISOL

I'll help you serve! Go on, sit down, sit down!

MARISOL hurriedly pushes GALATÉA and SAYA towards the living room and darts to MEZZALUNA.

MARISOL
(whispering)
What have you done?!

MEZZALUNA
It's no wonder you're so depressed, Marisol. Everything here is so monotone and severe. It doesn't suit you at all.

MARISOL
Well, maybe not, but this is Galatéa and Rico's place anyway, not mine.

MEZZALUNA
Well, no wonder. You need your own place, then.

MARISOL
And how am I gonna get that? Housing prices are through the roof now.

MEZZALUNA
That's where I come in, never you mind about that. Anyway, let's go get the tea and pie. I wasn't kidding, you're gonna love this.

They go into the kitchen and MEZZALUNA slices the pie and MARISOL pours the tea. Meanwhile, GALATÉA and SAYA are seated in the living room.

GALATÉA
Mezzaluna... what is she?

SAYA
Gal, try to stay calm.

GALATÉA
Easy for you to say! You're not the one dealing with a strange person breaking into her house!

MEZZALUNA and MARISOL return with the refreshments.

MEZZALUNA

Thanks for waiting! Hope you like
chocolate pie and royal milk tea!

MARISOL and MEZZALUNA set down the refreshments onto the
coffee table and remain standing. MEZZALUNA pulls MARISOL to
her side.

MEZZALUNA

Please, help yourselves! They're
quite delicious, if I do say so
myself.

GALATÉA

Mezzaluna. If that is your real
name.

MEZZALUNA

Indeed it is.

GALATÉA

I'm gonna ask you again, what are
you doing in my house?

MEZZALUNA

Marisol needs me.

GALATÉA

What do you mean, she needs you?
She needs Saya more than she needs
you.

MARISOL

Galatéa! That's not fair.

GALATÉA

It's true! I don't care who you are
but I want you out of my house. If
I even so much as hear about you
again, I'm calling the police.

Pause. Nobody says anything for five seconds, MARISOL'S
heartbeat is heard.

MEZZALUNA

Go on, Marisol. Tell her.

GALATÉA

What?

MARISOL

Galatéa... I'm sorry.

SAYA

For what?

MARISOL

If you don't want to see Mezzaluna,
you're not gonna see me anymore
either.

GALATÉA freezes, unable to decide between showing shock,
anger, exasperation, and confusion on her face.

GALATÉA

Oh don't be ridiculous. For all I
know, you're being swindled, lied
to. Just... why am I even beating
around the bush, we don't even know
her! Seriously, get out of my
house.

MARISOL

Stop it, Galatéa. Mezzaluna is my
best friend, and I need her. And
I'm sick of you having absolute
control of my life. Yes, I'm
thankful for all you've done and
continue to do, but Gal... enough
is enough. I have to actually be
happy for once.

Pause.

GALATÉA

(pained)

Happy. For once.

(laughing)

For once, she says! Is that so? You
really think you'll be happy
without me? With... her?

SAYA

Ladies, calm down. This tea is
delicious, by the way.

MEZZALUNA

Thank you.

MARISOL

You're my sister, Galatéa. I'll always love you. But seeing Mezzaluna again has got to be a sign. She's... she's what I've been missing. Don't you see that?

GALATÉA

But Mezzaluna was...

MEZZALUNA

Now, now, don't fuss over the details, Galatéa. Your tea's gonna get cold.

GALATÉA

Saya, say something!

SAYA

Well...

GALATÉA

Tell her this is crazy! That she's crazy!

MARISOL

And so what if I am? Who am I hurting? In any case, I've heard enough. I'm gonna go pack.

MARISOL exits, MEZZALUNA following. GALATÉA rises.

GALATÉA

Marisol! You get back here right now!

SAYA

Let her go.

GALATÉA

What?

SAYA

I know how you feel. But let her go.

CUT TO:

SCENE 7 - INT. MARISOL'S ROOM, STILL UNDERWATER-THEMED.

MARISOL

Mezzaluna... where would we go?

MEZZALUNA

Anywhere you want. It doesn't even have to be on earth.

MARISOL

I wish.

MEZZALUNA

Granted.

MEZZALUNA levitates and the walls unfold to reveal another planet with open skies above.

MARISOL

I didn't mean that literally!

The room reformulates and MEZZALUNA comes back down.

MARISOL

But honestly... you know where I'd love to go back to?

MEZZALUNA

The beach house?

MARISOL

Yeah. Of course it would be too sad now. That was where we never saw Mom and Dad again. And I'm too big now to pretend I'm still young.

MEZZALUNA

That's true, those memories are already done. You can't live those again. But that's okay, Marisol. You can always make new ones. Even better ones. All you have to do is imagine and wish for them, then they'll come true.

MARISOL

You say it like it's always been
that easy.

MEZZALUNA

Of course it has. You remember. You
used to believe it was just that
easy.

MARISOL

You're right, I did...

GALATÉA knocks on her door.

GALATÉA

Marisol? Can I come in?

MARISOL

Sure. It's your house.

GALATÉA enters and sits on the bed, not looking at
MEZZALUNA.

GALATÉA

I'm sorry for how I acted. But
Marisol, you don't have to leave.

MARISOL

I want to.

GALATÉA

No, you don't.

MARISOL

Are you serious? Now you control
how I feel? Picking my life out
wasn't enough for you, now you have
to get into my head?

GALATÉA

Don't get it twisted. You know
that's not true. I'm just saying, I
have to look out for you. You need
me.

MARISOL

Did you come here to stop me or to
push me out? Because you're doing a
(MORE)

MARISOL (cont'd)
great job of one and a terrible one
of the other.

MARISOL closes her suitcase. GALATÉA makes a face.

GALATÉA
Okay, you know what... you're
right. But you're wrong about one
thing, this is your house too.
You're always welcome here.

Beat.

GALATÉA
Mezzaluna, too.

MARISOL
That's nice of you.

GALATÉA
Seriously, Marisol. Don't go. I...
I'll be better. I'll change, I'll
hear you out more. I... I won't
make you see Saya.

MARISOL
Thanks, but I need to be on my
own. I think I need a vacation at
least.

SMASH CUT TO:

SCENE 8 - INT. LIVING ROOM. EARLY EVENING.

MEZZALUNA is in the kitchen, humming her theme song as she
bakes another cake. SAYA watches her. MEZZALUNA notices her.

MEZZALUNA
More tea? The cake'll be ready in
another twenty minutes.

SAYA
Thank you, no. I was just thinking.

MEZZALUNA
What about? The past and how you
used to make Marisol cry?

SAYA

No, of course--wait, what?

MEZZALUNA

She told me all about it. You especially used to bully her over Connor.

SAYA

I --

MEZZALUNA

But by all accounts I'm sure she's forgiven you. I myself forgive you, too, since you've changed so much.

SAYA

(stunned)

Yes, well... it has been over 10 years.

MEZZALUNA

Indeed. It's been kinder to some than others. I'm sure you know exactly what I mean.

SAYA makes a conflicted face, showing MEZZALUNA is right. Meanwhile the oven beeps and MEZZALUNA takes out the cake and pours a cup of tea.

MEZZALUNA

Anyways, tea?

MARISOL comes down to the kitchen, bearing suitcases. GALATÉA follows closely behind.

MEZZALUNA

Are you ready?

MARISOL

Yeah. Whenever you are.

MEZZALUNA

Won't you have some cake first? It's your favourite. Besides, I'm sure Galatéa wants you to do at least that much, no?

GALATÉA looks conflicted but nods. MARISOL looks back at GALATÉA and then at MEZZALUNA and sighs.

CUT TO:

SCENE 9 - EXT. HOUSE. EARLY EVENING.

MARISOL and MEZZALUNA leave the house and MARISOL gasps. Next shot has an elaborate horse and carriage.

MARISOL
Oh my God, this is...

MEZZALUNA
The very same. Your carriage
awaits, princess.

She bows and holds MARISOL'S hand as she boards. MARISOL looks around and MEZZALUNA sits beside her. The interior is much bigger than the exterior. MARISOL appears ready until she remembers.

MARISOL
Wait, Mezzaluna. There's Jeremy...

MEZZALUNA
Oh, you'll be back for him. Come
on. Let's go.

The carriage moves. The neighbours all do a double take as it passes by them.

MEZZALUNA
You know, for old time's sake, we
need to dress up. Close your eyes.

MARISOL does.

MATCH CUT TO:

SCENE 10 - EXT. MOONLIT MEADOW. NIGHT.

YOUNG MARISOL opens her eyes and looks down, gasping at the beautiful white dress she's wearing as YOUNG MEZZALUNA grins. YOUNG MARISOL twirls and the sparkles glitter like stars. The castle can be seen behind her.

BACK TO:

SCENE 11 - INT. CARRIAGE. NIGHT.

MARISOL is wearing that same dress only longer. She then looks out the window and sees it's night and full of stars. MEZZALUNA is now wearing a princely outfit, and she looks directly at the camera.

MEZZALUNA

Welcome, my children, once again to Mezzaluna's Sea of Stories! I have a very special friend with me today, the bridefish princess herself, Marisol! Why don't you say hi?

MARISOL

Oh, uh, hi.

MEZZALUNA

We've heard from all of you all over the world, thank you so much for your letters. I think it's high time we continued that story you all loved. And that story, of course, is the one about my dear friend here. She herself will tell you.

(Turns to Marisol)

Now, my princess, everyone knows the bridefish princess was forbidden to leave her castle for her own good and how lonely she was. Everyone says it's so sad. What happened next?

MARISOL

What happened next...

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 12 - INT. CASTLE. NIGHT. STORMY.

Continuation of Scene 10. YOUNG MARISOL is in the castle, the windows barred like a prison. She is on the ground in tears.

YOUNG MARISOL

I wish someone would rescue me...
take me somewhere far, far away. ..

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You called for me?

YOUNG MARISOL

Is that you, my groomfish prince?

JULES appears in a tuxedo complete with tophat, offering her his gloved hand. YOUNG MARISOL takes it and lifts herself up, and then they begin to float.

YOUNG MARISOL

Of course! Since we're fish we
could always just swim up!

They swim with YOUNG MARISOL leading, for them to come up the water and realise they were in a fishbowl. YOUNG MARISOL takes a deep breath and submerges herself down to the gravel, and then breathes out and launches out of the water and her dress billows out like a parachute as she lands on the beach from the beginning scene. She looks around.

YOUNG MARISOL

Gosh, the world is so big... let's
go to our underwater kingdom, my
prince!

YOUNG MARISOL and JULES run towards the beach and dive into the water. They find the sunken ruins of the castle from the fishbowl. YOUNG MARISOL gasps.

YOUNG MARISOL

Was this because I was taken?
Everyone got so sad that the castle
fell apart? Well I'm back now, so
let's go to where we were before.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Your wish is granted, my princess.
Close your eyes.

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 13 - INT. CARRIAGE. NIGHTTIME.

MARISOL

Ahh that castle was even more
beautiful than before... was just
like Versailles but made entirely
out of gold and diamonds and all
the jewels of the colours of the
rainbow. It was even more beautiful
than anything on land, and all the
rooms were there, even little rooms
for fairies.

(she sighs and closes her
eyes in reminiscence)

My favourite was the room that had
a meadow in it, it was always sunny
like summer, and it went on forever
and ever. And no matter what, there
was a basket full of food, so there
was fresh pink lemonade, pie,
apples, bread, cheese... and a red
checker mat and big trees to climb

(MORE)

MARISOL (cont'd)
 and sleep under, and a family of
 rabbits would come and say hi to
 you, maybe even invite you over for
 tea if you were really lucky...

MEZZALUNA
 Would you all like to come visit?
 Come on, here we are!

MARISOL looks around and sure enough she is in an expansive meadow full of green grass as far as the eye can see with a massive tree in the background, and is sitting on the red checker mat with the basket full of food. A rabbit peeks up from the grass.

INSERT SHOT

SCENE 14 - INT. CONNOR'S LIVING ROOM. EVENING.

The camera pulls out and it's all happening on TV. JEREMY looks in wonder from his living room. CONNOR is offscreen in the kitchen.

CONNOR
 Jer? Turn that off, come have your
 dinner.

JEREMY
 She's so lucky...

MARISOL has tea with the rabbit on TV. This shot shows GALATÉA and RICO watching in their own living room, GALATÉA stern-faced and RICO captivated.

RICO
 I never knew Marisol wanted to be
 on TV. It actually suits her, don't
 you think? The way she tells the
 story... I never knew she was so...
 theatrical.

GALATÉA
 Yeah... "theatrical" is certainly
 one way to put it...

CUT TO:

Saya is also watching the show in her own living room. She writes in her notebook. She then picks up her elementary school class photograph focusing on YOUNG MARISOL. She looks closer, brows furrowed and MEZZALUNA is also present in the photo, beside YOUNG MARISOL.

SAYA
But that can't be...

She then picks up her other years' class photos and MEZZALUNA is in all of them. She then pulls her yearbooks out of the shelves and frantically leafs through them and finds several pictures of MEZZALUNA. She then looks at her own notes and gasps when she sees a written line reading: Folie à deux???

She then hurriedly calls CONNOR.

CUT TO:

SCENE 15 - INT. CONNOR'S KITCHEN TABLE. EVENING.

CONNOR and JEREMY are having dinner. CONNOR'S phone rings and he ignores it. After ten seconds he gets a text notification. A close up shows it's from SAYA and says "schoolphotos".

JEREMY
I miss Marisol.

CONNOR
Yeah, me too.

His phone rings twice. He sighs and picks up.

SAYA
Did you check our school photos?

CONNOR
No, I'm having dinner with Jeremy.
Why?

SAYA
Just check them. Tell me if you notice anything.

CONNOR
I will when I'm done with dinner.

SAYA
No, do it now.

CONNOR
Why? What's so pressing about old school photos?

SAYA
Just do it!

CONNOR winces but nevertheless shakes his head and gets up from the table. He walks to his bedroom and takes out a box from his closet, unearthing a photo album containing school photos. He nudges his phone against his ear.

CONNOR

Okay, I'm looking at them. What am I looking for?

SAYA

You'll see if it's there. I don't wanna say it unless it tricks you.

CONNOR

What are you even talking about...?

Each picture he has doesn't show MEZZALUNA but one picture has YOUNG MARISOL'S face cut out in a locket - sized oval.

CONNOR

Looks normal to me.

SAYA

Are you sure?

CONNOR

Yes, Saya, I'm sure. If you're not, why don't you come see for yourself?

SAYA

That is so weird...

CONNOR

Geez, you're not making any sense, you know. Are you... okay?

SAYA hangs up. CONNOR sighs and shuts the album and empties the box, finding a small handmade frame bearing the cut - out picture.

YOUNG MARISOL'S photo is framed by pressed purple flowers encased in resin.

FADE IN:

SCENE 16 - EXT. MIDDLE SCHOOL COURTYARD. DAYTIME.

Begin flashback. YOUNG MARISOL is sitting alone on a step, YOUNG CONNOR watches her from several metres away. Many other kids are playing and eating in the sunshine. He closes his eyes and takes a deep breath and takes a few steps forward and stops when YOUNG SAYA runs towards YOUNG MARISOL.

YOUNG SAYA

Come have lunch with us.

YOUNG MARISOL

No, thanks.

YOUNG SAYA

Everyone's saying you're a creepy loner.

YOUNG MARISOL

So why would I want to hang out with them?

YOUNG SAYA

They're really nice if you give them a chance.

YOUNG MARISOL

Well I don't want to if they think I'm some creepy loser according to you.

YOUNG SAYA

You really need to stop being so rude. No wonder you don't have any friends.

YOUNG MARISOL grimaces and gets up from the step, smashing her shoulder into YOUNG SAYA as she walks away, passing YOUNG CONNOR without even seeing him.

YOUNG SAYA

I'm just trying to help you, you know!

YOUNG SAYA sighs and walks towards three other girls sitting on a bench.

GIRL 1

Why did you invite her over? We don't wanna eat with her.

GIRL 2

Yeah, Saya. She's creepy and weird.

YOUNG SAYA

No, you guys. She's lonely.

GIRL 3

Well, we still don't want her around. She's not one of us.

YOUNG SAYA

Hey, that's not nice.

GIRL 2

You don't like it? Go eat with her. You can't sit with us anymore.

YOUNG SAYA, stricken, leaves them and sees YOUNG CONNOR.

SAYA
C'mon, Connor. Let's have lunch.

FADE OUT

SCENE 17 - INT. CONNOR'S ROOM.

CONNOR puts the frame away and gives the photographs another look and squints. JULES is present in the elementary school photos in his place at the far right of the photo, towering over the other kids.

CONNOR
Who the hell is that?

He calls Saya who picks up on the first ring.

CONNOR
Hey, so uh... there is something weird about the photos after all.

SAYA
I knew it! So you see her, too!

CONNOR
Her?

SAYA
Her! Her friend, I guess, Mezzaluna!

CONNOR
No, I don't see her. I see some kid in my place. No idea who he is.

SAYA
What do you mean some kid in your place?

CONNOR
I mean I'm not in the photos. Some kid is instead.

SAYA
Okay, I'll be right there, this is getting weirder and weirder.

She hangs up and CONNOR sighs, collecting the album and leaving the room. He goes to the kitchen to see that JEREMY isn't there . He then goes to the living room where the TV is on and JEREMY is sitting quite close to it.

CONNOR

Hey buddy. You should sit back a little.

He gently moves JEREMY further back and catches a glimpse at the TV, causing him to do a double-take.

CUT TO:

SCENE 18 - INT. MEZZALUNA'S STORY ROOM SET.

MARISOL and MEZZALUNA are still seated. MARISOL is spacing out.

MEZZALUNA

Thank you so much for joining us in today's episode of Mezzaluna's Sea of Stories. Do you have a special place where you feel like yourself? Where you feel safest? Make sure you treasure that place so when you want someone to see it, they will feel it's special to them, too.

(she grabs Marisol's hand)

I hope you had fun with my special friend Marisol here. See you next time!

MARISOL

Hey, you know, Mezzaluna... I've been thinking. About that last time we talked. When we were young. I wanted to tell you I'm sorry.

MEZZALUNA

Oh no, you don't have to apologise for that, Marisol. It's water under the bridge.

MARISOL

No, it's... more than that. It's been bothering me for years. I hurt you, didn't I?

Pause

MARISOL

I've missed you so much, Mezzaluna.

She hugs MEZZALUNA who hugs her back.

MEZZALUNA

Oh, Marisol. You're my princess no matter what you say or do.

MARISOL

I keep trying to remember where it all went wrong...

MEZZALUNA

It doesn't matter anymore, surely. We just took a friendship break.

MARISOL

No, Mezzaluna. It does matter. We... broke up, more than we took a break. And I know it was my fault. I just can't remember what it was about...

She thinks, then her expression brightens.

MARISOL

Right! It was over Jules. In fact... how is Jules?

MEZZALUNA

Jules...

MARISOL

In fact... why did you come back and not him?

MEZZALUNA

You... want to see Jules again?

MARISOL

I mean, even just to say hello.

MEZZALUNA pauses, then smiles gently.

CUT TO:

SCENE 19 - INT. CONNOR'S LIVING ROOM.

He and SAYA have their altered photos placed side by side. GALATÉA is off to the side, out of view.

SAYA

So it wasn't just me... but who is that kid and why is he in your
(MORE)

SAYA (cont'd)

place?

CONNOR

Hell if I know. Have you seen
someone like that before, Galatéa?

GALATÉA frowns and sighs.

GALATÉA

I've never seen that kid before in
my life. The only possible
explanation I can think of is that
your photos have been altered, as a
prank.

CONNOR

But what could you possibly gain
from doing that? And besides...
mine at least were packed away.

GALATÉA looks knowingly at him.

GALATÉA

If only Marisol had some sense...

CONNOR

Sorry, what?

The TV turns on in the other room and Mezzaluna's theme song
plays again.

MEZZALUNA

Welcome once again my dear friends
to Mezzaluna's Sea of Stories.
Today we have another special
guest...

GALATÉA frowns and gets up, SAYA following after her. When
she sees JULES on TV she gasps.

SAYA

Connor? You should come see this...

MEZZALUNA

Please say hello to our longtime
friend from years and years ago...
Jules!

CONNOR

But why is he just a kid?

JEREMY

Do you know him, uncle Connor?

CONNOR

...Kind of.

GALATÉA

Okay, Saya. I think we can agree that this has gone on long enough. Do you know where this studio or wherever they are is?

SAYA

Let's see...

She pulls out her phone and dials in "Mezzaluna's sea of stories" only for the results not to turn up.

SAYA

You've gotta be kidding me... it's like it doesn't exist!

CONNOR

Maybe they didn't make a website for it.

SAYA

No, I mean when you look it up, there's nothing. The program doesn't even turn up.

GALATÉA collapses onto the floor, laying on her back.

SLOW FADE TO BLACK

SCENE 20 - INT. GALATÉA'S LIVING ROOM. DAYTIME.

YOUNG GALATÉA has her arms folded as YOUNG MARISOL looks at her feet.

YOUNG GALATÉA

How many times do I have to tell you, Marisol? You can't just talk to yourself. People will think there's something wrong with you.

YOUNG MARISOL
 Maybe they should leave me alone.

YOUNG GALATÉA
 Well too bad. They won't. Even my classmates are talking about you, you know. You should stop before you get bullied. You're not a little kid anymore, so it's time you grew up and started acting normal.

YOUNG MARISOL
 I don't wanna be normal. I wanna be me.

YOUNG GALATÉA scoffs and turns away.

CUT TO:

SCENE 21 - INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. DAYTIME.

The principal's office is a cramped room with a wide desk and two chairs opposite the main one. There is a standing pencil case and framed photographs on the wall behind it. YOUNG MARISOL is visibly sad and had been crying. YOUNG GALATÉA stands between her and GIRLS 1, 2 and 3 and their mothers.

PRINCIPAL
 I'm sorry you had to miss your classes, Galatéa.

YOUNG GALATÉA
 No, I'm sorry my sister caused a disruption.

YOUNG MARISOL
 I didn 't cause a disruption! They bullied me!

GIRL 1
 We were just talking to you!

PRINCIPAL
 Girls, girls... settle down. We can't tolerate this kind of behaviour. Marisol, I think you need to talk to our school psychiatrist.

YOUNG MARISOL

No! I'm not crazy!

PRINCIPAL

No one's saying that. But it's obvious you need some help and your sister can't do more than she currently is. This isn't a bad thing, Marisol. Everyone needs help.

YOUNG MARISOL

I don't. I just want everyone to leave me alone!

PRINCIPAL

Marisol, this is not up for discussion. You will see Dr Kane once a week during your lunch hour, starting tomorrow. As for you girls, you have detention.

WOMAN 1

Detention? My daughter didn't do anything wrong!

WOMAN 2

Nor mine!

WOMAN 3 (TO GIRL 3)

We'll talk when we get home.

PRINCIPAL

Ladies, please. You may go.

CUT TO:

SCENE 22 - INT. DR KANE'S OFFICE. DAYTIME.

DR KANE'S office is even more cramped than the Principal's office, with sparse furnishings. DR KANE is seated on a simple office chair while YOUNG MARISOL is sitting on a chaise lounge.

DR KANE

So Marisol. I understand that you're a highly imaginative girl.

Pause

DR KANE

That's of course a great thing.
Maybe not everyone understands or
appreciates that right now. Don't
you want them to?

Pause

DR KANE

Marisol, it's okay. You can be
honest with me. I know deep down
you want to get along with
everyone. It's not pleasant to be
alone.

YOUNG MARISOL

I'm not alone.

DR KANE

How do you mean?

YOUNG MARISOL looks ready to speak but then remains silent.
DR KANE writes in her notebook.

DR KANE

I understand your hesitation to
talk to me, Marisol. But I can't
help you if you don't.

YOUNG MARISOL

If I show you I'm normal... can I
stop coming here? This really
doesn't help the rumours going
around about me.

DR KANE looks just a little bit annoyed, but she smiles.

FADE OUT

ACT III, SCENE 1 - EXT. PARK. DAYTIME.

MARISOL and JULES are staring at each other. This goes on
for several seconds. MARISOL then chuckles.

MARISOL

Man... I envy you. All these years
you haven't aged a day.

MEZZALUNA

Would you like him to?

MARISOL pauses to think about it. The next shot shows JULES not having changed.

MEZZALUNA

No, I guess you wouldn't, ultimately.

MARISOL

No. I... I'm glad to see you again but I can see now why we grew apart. But you'll always be the bridefish's prince.

MEZZALUNA

You've really grown up, huh, Marisol?

MARISOL

Yeah, well. Sooner or later I guess I had to.

MEZZALUNA

You don't seem happy about it.

MARISOL

No, but I guess no one really does.

MEZZALUNA

I think I know why you are unhappy about it, though. In fact it's blatantly obvious.

MARISOL

And why is that?

MEZZALUNA

You left your heart in the past. You convinced yourself that it was for the best.

MARISOL

But it wasn't. Not at all.

MEZZALUNA

And it hurt everyone around you to see it.

MARISOL

It did... oh, gosh, what do I do now?

MEZZALUNA

My dear princess... in your infinite wisdom, you know very well what you should do now.

MARISOL

I do?

She thinks and then stands up.

MATCH CUT TO:

SCENE 2 - EXT. MARISOL'S HOUSE. DAYTIME.

MARISOL appears at the front door of her house and knocks. RICO answers.

RICO

Oh hey, Marisol. You're back?

MARISOL

Rico, I'm so sorry!

She hugs him.

RICO

Uhh... it's okay? What's up?

MARISOL

Where's Galatéa?

RICO

Looking for you. Guess you didn't see her. Come on in.

They go inside, and Marisol stops. The interior is as it originally was.

MARISOL

I'm home.

RICO pulls up his cellphone and speed dials GALATÉA, who picks up after three rings.

RICO
Gal, you on your way home yet?

GALATÉA
No, Rico, what are you talking about? We haven't found Marisol.

RICO
Hah, guess I win. I found her.

GALATÉA
What do you mean you found her?

RICO
I mean she's here. At home.

GALATÉA
She is?! Put her on!

RICO
Marisol, Gal wants to talk to you.

He hands her the phone.

MARISOL
Hi, Galatéa --

GALATÉA
Where have you been?!

MARISOL
It's, uh, a long story. Where are you?

GALATÉA
That doesn't matter. Stay right where you are.

The line disconnects and MARISOL and RICO exchange bewildered looks.

CUT TO:

SCENE 3 - INT. MARISOL'S LIVING ROOM.

GALATÉA, RICO, CONNOR, SAYA, and JEREMY are all seated facing MARISOL on the couches.

MARISOL

Are we seriously doing this?

GALATÉA

Yes, we are. You need this, Marisol. This time you really went off the deep end.

SAYA

Galatéa, please. Let's keep our emotions in check. Marisol... we're all worried about you. I understand that what you're going through is sensitive but we need you to understand that we have your best interests at heart and only want to help you.

MARISOL

So you're staging an intervention. I guess it makes sense. Okay. So how does this work, do you talk and then let me speak or do I get to state my case first?

SAYA

Well, if you have something to say, I don't see why you shouldn't. Go ahead.

MARISOL

I want to tell you all I'm sorry for how I've acted the past couple days. The truth is that I haven't been happy for a long time. I've been... pretending to be someone I wasn't because I thought that's what I should have done. I thought that's what it meant to be an adult.

(holding back tears)

And seeing Mezzaluna again... well, it made me remember what I lost all those years ago. For the first time in a long time I felt happy, like anything was possible. And it made me realise, I know what I want to do with my life.

(perking up)

I want... I want to be a storyteller, maybe even a kindergarten teacher. I'm happiest when I'm with kids and I get to

(MORE)

MARISOL (cont'd)
 play with them. I feel most like
 myself. I... my whole life I've
 wanted to be like Mezzaluna. No,
 I've wanted to be Mezzaluna.
 That... that's it.

She coughs and looks down, smiling sheepishly. No one says
 anything for twenty seconds. GALATÉA pinches her nose.

SAYA
 Thank you, Marisol, for sharing
 that with us. Now, let's open the
 floor to everyone, starting with
 Con --

GALATÉA
 Marisol... are you serious? Are you
 sure you're thinking straight?

SAYA
 Gal --

GALATÉA
 No, no, let me finish. Marisol, you
 need help. Like seriously. You
 disappear, say you're gonna leave,
 you then show up on some kid's TV
 programme talking about stories you
 acted out and somehow that makes
 you want to work with kids? I'm
 sorry, but no. I wouldn't want you
 working with kids.

MARISOL scoffs.

MARISOL
 Of course. Count on you to ruin
 everything. You can't stand me
 being myself, you never could! All
 you cared about was me embarrassing
 you, and now you're saying my own
 realisation is wrong? Galatéa, as
 my sister I love you but as a human
 being... you're just awful.

SAYA
 Guys, let's not argue. Besides,
 Connor was supposed to talk next.

CONNOR meekly clears his throat, looking right at Marisol.
 For a brief moment YOUNG MARISOL is visible. He gulps.

CONNOR

Marisol... I've seen how happy you are with Jeremy. I think it's obvious you want to keep coming around to see him, and I'm glad for it. If nothing else... I want you to keep visiting Jeremy whenever you want. If you want to have more of a role in his life... I'm all for it. But I also have questions. For instance... who was that boy you appeared on TV with? And why is he in my old school pictures?

MARISOL

Jules? In your school pictures?

CONNOR

Yeah, see for yourself.

He hands her the photo album and she frowns as she sees the photos, and gasps when she sees JULES in them.

MARISOL

Oh, my God... Connor, I'm so sorry. I didn't think...

CONNOR

Putting aside our own theories... what's going on, Marisol? What's going on with you, personally?

MARISOL breathes somewhat heavily, eyes looking at everyone until finally settling on CONNOR, and she takes a deep breath.

MARISOL

I'll tell you... but alone.

CONNOR

Of course, of course. I'm all ears. Saya.

SAYA stands and ushers everyone out of the living room, GALATÉA tries to hang back but SAYA chides her as well, and MARISOL and CONNOR are left alone.

MARISOL

You're gonna think I'm totally crazy.

CONNOR

No, not at all. But try me if you're sure.

MARISOL

Okay... well, what if I told you that Mezzaluna was my best friend when we were in elementary school?

CONNOR

That wouldn't surprise me.

MARISOL

Okay, well... what if I told you that no one else could see her back then? And I wanted to see her again so badly that, well... Now you can see her, too?

CONNOR

That... is a little more surprising.

MARISOL

Okay, so then... what if I told you that she told me back then that Jules was my destiny, that he would be the reason I become queen of the universe, the bridefish queen, all that stuff? And I was totally in love with him back then, even though, well... I made him up?

CONNOR

That just sounds like something you'd believe as a kid. Doesn't make you crazy, especially not as an adult.

MARISOL

Well, that's just it... what if I told you that some part of me... that isn't even all that small... wishes that it came true? That I could just be a bridefish princess for the rest of my life and be whisked away by my prince and just... not be here? Ever? That's incredibly pathetic, isn't it?

CONNOR

You know, Marisol... it sounds to me like you've just been denying your real self all these years and it's become so habitual to you that you're gonna keep judging yourself over it until the end of time. Why don't you just be yourself without worrying about what other people think? I mean Jeremy totally loves you, and I...

Pause

CONNOR

...can tell you do, too.

Pause

MARISOL

Well... it would be pretty awful not to see him again, especially if he's afraid of me now, thanks to this intervention.

CONNOR

I don't think so. He's actually very understanding for his age. It's a real shame he doesn't have any friends.

MARISOL

He doesn't?

CONNOR

No. Never plays with anyone at the park, never invites anyone over, is never invited anywhere. And yet he's happy, because he has you.

MARISOL

Oh my gosh... I didn't know.

CONNOR

Yeah. So when I heard that you went away with Mezzaluna I was sure he would be crushed. But now he's jealous you know Mezzaluna. And he even asked about whatshisname.

MARISOL

About Jules? Oh... I guess I should explain more about him.

CONNOR

Well... yeah, I wanna know why my and Saya's photos were affected. I would remember Mezzaluna being our teacher.

MEZZALUNA

My princess, Marisol... might I explain that one for him?

CONNOR and MARISOL jolt when MEZZALUNA and JULES appear. MEZZALUNA sits beside MARISOL and JULES remains standing.

MEZZALUNA

Marisol, as you know, is incredibly special to me. I can't stand to see her sad. Her desire was so strong that in a way she projected it onto you and Saya.

CONNOR

How, though? There's no way to explain that except to say it's magic.

MEZZALUNA

O ye of little faith, it's more than just magic. Marisol just has a strong heart, with stronger emotions. She couldn't control them at that moment.

CONNOR

I don't understand.

MEZZALUNA

It's really quite simple. Her emotions and yours reached each other. Collided, if you will. Like how watercolours mix when they touch.

CONNOR

...Okay, I won't dive in. I have a feeling you explaining it will just confuse me more.

MEZZALUNA

But you know... it is curious how Jules overshadowed you in your own photographs. Pray tell. Why would
(MORE)

MEZZALUNA (cont'd)

that be?

CONNOR

That's what I wanna know.

MARISOL

No, Connor... she's right. You know the answer.

CONNOR

No... no, I don't.

MEZZALUNA smiles knowingly. CONNOR looks at MARISOL, and finally sighs.

CONNOR

Okay... you're right, maybe I do know. I guess I can't keep it a secret forever. Marisol... what I said earlier, about Jeremy...wasn't the whole truth. I mean yeah, I meant it all, but... I've loved you since then. But you only looked at me now because of Jeremy.

MARISOL

You... you love me? Since then?

MEZZALUNA smiles placidly.

CONNOR

Yeah. I... I'm sorry I couldn't tell you before. But I don't think it would've done anything, so I won't pretend it could've changed anything. Still... I always knew there was more to you than you were showing since you were so guarded.

MEZZALUNA smiles widely and throws a look to JULES, who begins fading out. MARISOL also notices, which makes CONNOR notice too.

MARISOL

Of course... it all makes sense now. Goodbye, Jules. And thank you.

JULES smiles and takes a bow, finally fading out as he stands back up. CONNOR checks the album and sure enough, JULES is no longer in YOUNG CONNOR'S place in the photos.

MEZZALUNA

I think we have to let everyone back in now, don't you? This is still an intervention, after all.

MARISOL

Yeah, I guess so...

CONNOR shrugs and MEZZALUNA stands up to go usher everyone else back into the room. SAYA clears her throat.

SAYA

So, uh... Mezzaluna. Nice of you to join us as well.

MEZZALUNA

Pleasure.

SAYA

Since it's private I won't ask what your conversation with Marisol was, Connor.

CONNOR

Yeah... thanks.

SAYA

But is there anything you would like to share?

CONNOR

Just that it's clear Marisol is doing the best she can and I think it's a great idea for her to pursue some sort of a creative career, especially if she wants to work with kids.

GALATÉA

You're not worried about her relationship with your nephew?

CONNOR

No. The last thing I'd want is for her to stay away from Jeremy.

GALATÉA

I can't believe this. Saya, this intervention is already a failure, we're not getting anywhere.

SAYA

It's not a failure, Galatéea. It's a process. We can't just dismiss it because it's not going your way.

GALATÉA

Marisol... come on. Please. Okay, I'm sorry for being hard on you but we have to do something and what you're planning isn't it.

MARISOL

Then what is it, Galatéa? You want me to go back to being sad and depressed and... not me? Because you don't like me being like Mezzaluna?

GALATÉA is silent.

RICO

Gal... why don't you tell everyone what you're really thinking.

GALATÉA

What do you mean?

RICO

You heard me. Tell everyone, but first of all Marisol, the truth. Since this intervention was your idea.

GALATÉA

Come on, Rico. That's... that's irrelevant.

MARISOL

Galatéa... what's he talking about?

GALATÉA's eyes dart from person to person, and finally she sighs.

GALATÉA

Okay, fine. If you're gonna insist... I really am worried about you, Marisol. Ever since Mom and Dad died... no, long before then. I was worried about you. But also... well, I guess I was envious, too.

MARISOL

Envious? Why?

GALATÉA

You didn't care what everyone thought. Even now you don't. And as much as I hate that about you... I love it about you even more and wish I could be like that.

MARISOL

I had no idea.

GALATÉA

You think I'd just come out and say that? C'mon.

MEZZALUNA

It's fine for you to say that other thing on your mind, you know.

GALATÉA

What other thing?

RICO

So you know it, too.

MEZZALUNA

Of course. I'm fluent in the language of the heart.

GALATÉA

"Language of the heart"? Be serious.

MEZZALUNA

I'm quite serious. Now it's your turn.

GALATÉA hesitates as MARISOL stares at her, and finally she sighs.

GALATÉA

This is ridiculous... but fine. The other thing... is that I wish you would talk to me and smile like you do with Mezzaluna. I've always hated how you felt so much closer to your imaginary friend than you did with your own sister.

MARISOL

Really?

GALATÉA

Yes. I never wanted you to know but now you do. And so does everyone else. I hope you're happy.

MARISOL

I am, actually. I had no idea you felt like that.

SAYA

Good job, Marisol. And Galatía.
We're making excellent progress.

MEZZALUNA

I still hear another secret just
itching to come out.

MARISOL

You do? Whose?

MEZZALUNA

It's not mine to tell, I'm afraid.

MARISOL

Then whose is it?

CONNOR

I know whose it is.

Everyone then turns to look at SAYA, who's visibly
flustered.

SAYA

Right... I guess I'm also a
participant as well as the
facilitator. It's only fair. Okay.
Marisol. So much of it has already
been said but I'll say my piece
anyway. I'm sorry for our
interactions when we were kids.
Like Galatía I've also often envied
your connection to Mezzaluna. I'm
sorry I often went about it the
wrong way, but I hope that now at
least we can be friends.

MEZZALUNA smiles knowingly.

SAYA

Right, well. I'm exhausted, that
was a lot of work for all of us,
wasn't it? Thanks everyone, thanks
Marisol. Intervention is done.

MEZZALUNA shoots MARISOL a look.

MARISOL

What?

MEZZALUNA mimes "my lips are sealed."

CUT TO:

SCENE 4 - INT. CONNOR'S CAR. NIGHT.

CONNOR is driving JEREMY and SAYA home. SAYA sits beside him.

JEREMY

Mezzaluna is so cool, I can't believe you never told me you know her!

CONNOR

Yeah, well. Now you met her. That's a new friend for you, I guess.

SAYA

I can't believe she did that.

CONNOR

Did what?

SAYA

Call us, Galatéa and I, out the way she did. What did she even mean, language of the heart?

CONNOR

It means she saw through you.

SAYA

And you don't see a problem with that?

CONNOR

Honestly, Saya, you're being a hypocrite.

SAYA

A hypocrite? Me?

CONNOR

You're a therapist. You haven't tried to see through people? To read them?

SAYA

That's not the same.

CONNOR

It's totally the same!

SAYA

No, it isn't! I actually pay attention to people over a span of time and listen to their words and also for what they're not saying.

(MORE)

SAYA (cont'd)

It's a skill I developed, and she just--she just--oooh, God, Connor, how do you not get it?

CONNOR

(voice raised)

What do you want me to say, Saya?

(takes deep breath, uses normal tone of voice)

You're right, I don't get it. You've always said you wanted to be friends with Marisol and yet you still can't really stand her. You went in expecting to put her under the microscope like you've always wanted and suddenly it's a problem when it happens to you. Please tell me how that doesn't make you a hypocrite!

SAYA, stunned, can't speak for fifteen seconds. Finally, she tears up.

SAYA

When you told all of us you wanted to be alone... you finally told her.

CONNOR

I knew you were listening.

SAYA

Did she return your feelings?

Long pause. CONNOR parks the car.

SAYA

Good night, Connor.

SAYA leaves, slamming the car door. CONNOR sighs and continues driving.

CONNOR

What a mess today turned out to be...

CROSSFADE:

SCENE 5 - INT. SAYA'S HOUSE, NIGHT.

The foyer is a gentle white, with throw rugs and statuettes of animals made of wood. SAYA comes through the door and shuts it with her back and breaks down in tears. MEZZALUNA appears.

MEZZALUNA

Welcome home. I made you some tea
and cookies.

SAYA

Why are you here? How did you even
get here?

MEZZALUNA

You called to me. And I wanted to
tell you I'm proud of you.

SAYA

(defensive)

You're proud of me?

MEZZALUNA

Of course. It takes great courage
to be honest with not just someone
you love but yourself.

SAYA

I don't care much for your being
privy to my innermost thoughts.

(beat)

Goddammit, Connor.

MEZZALUNA

Come on. Have your tea.

CUT TO:

SCENE 6 - INT. SAYA'S KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Before SAYA is a teapot, teacup and plate of cookies.
MEZZALUNA is washing dishes.

MEZZALUNA

Do you feel better now?

SAYA

Yeah, I have to admit I do. How do
you do that?

MEZZALUNA

I told you. I'm fluent in the
language of the heart.

SAYA

But that doesn't make any sense.

MEZZALUNA

Sure it does.

SAYA

It doesn't! It would mean you're...
I dunno, not human! In fact... does
Marisol know you're here?

MEZZALUNA

I don't see why that would concern
her.

SAYA

I don't get you. You appear and
disappear at will, you can read
people's thoughts, impact reality
itself... what are you? A witch?

MEZZALUNA

I don't suppose you'll accept that
I'm your heart's desire made
manifest.

SAYA

You're just making fun of me at
this point.

MEZZALUNA

Not at all. I'm speaking the truth.

SAYA

No, you're not. The truth has gotta
be that I'm having a powerful
hallucination right now. Or maybe
I'm dreaming.

MEZZALUNA

Whatever makes you happy.

MEZZALUNA snaps her fingers.

SMASH CUT TO:

SCENE 7 - INT. SAYA'S BEDROOM, MORNING.

She wakes up.

SAYA
What a weird dream...

Beat. She gets out of bed and looks at her school photos. They are as normal, without MEZZALUNA present. She sighs in relief until she remembers.

SAYA
Oh, no...

Pause. She sniffs and walks to the kitchen where MEZZALUNA is cooking.

MEZZALUNA
Good morning!

SAYA
No way...

MEZZALUNA
Just give me a couple more minutes.
Go ahead and sit down.

SAYA, dumbfounded, sits at the table.

CUT TO:

SCENE 8 - INT. MARISOL'S WORKPLACE. MORNING.

MARISOL is facing her computer which is now laden with colourful decorations and photographs of her and MEZZALUNA. She is visibly more energetic and bubbly. Coworkers talk away from her.

COWORKER 1
Man... that's the happiest I've ever seen her. Think she's got a date?

COWORKER 2
Gotta be. I always said she's pretty underneath it all.

COWORKER 3
Hey, Marisol. Got a date tonight?

MARISOL

Actually yeah, I do. My first. It's kind of exciting.

COWORKER 3

Your first?! No way, you must be really excited then!

MARISOL

Yeah.

Her phone rings. She answers.

MARISOL

Sorry, excuse me a moment. Hi, Galatía.

GALATÍA

You ready? I'm outside.

MARISOL

You really don't have to do this, you know.

GALATÍA

What are you even talking about? I've been waiting for this day forever! You didn't even go to prom, for God's sake! Let me have this!

MARISOL

Okay, I'll be right out.

She grabs her bag and waves to her coworkers and leaves. She enters GALATÍA'S car and they leave.

GALATÍA

I really hope I'm not dreaming. That this is actually happening.

MARISOL

It is, Galatía.

GALATÍA

This better not be some alternate reality Mezzaluna created.

MARISOL
It's not, Galatéea.

GALATÉA
God. My little sister, finally
going on a date. You're growing up.

MARISOL
Stop it, Galatéea.

GALATÉA
Okay, okay. Let's go shopping.

A MONTAGE OF MARISOL TRYING ON DIFFERENT OUTFITS IN A FITTING ROOM. FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER MONTAGE OF MARISOL BEING GIVEN DIFFERENT HAIRSTYLES TO CHOOSE FROM AND ULTIMATELY BEING GIVEN A SLIGHT CUT AND PERM.

CUT TO:

SCENE 9 - EXT. RESTAURANT. EARLY EVENING.

CONNOR looks around, shoulders tense. He stands when he sees MARISOL coming out of the other side and rushes over to her.

MARISOL
Hi, Connor.

CONNOR
Hey, Marisol, wow, you look...

MARISOL
I know, it's too much. But Galatéea
insisted.

CONNOR
No, it's... it's amazing. Anyway,
come. Our table's over there.

They walk to the table where he was seated and CONNOR pulls out MARISOL'S chair for her and pushes her in. He then sits down.

MARISOL
So how are things? How are you, I
mean.

CONNOR

All right. Just the usual. Was nice of Saya to offer to babysit Jeremy.

Pause. The waiter comes.

WAITER

Hello, can I get you started with anything to drink?

CONNOR

Just water, please.

MARISOL

Me, too.

WAITER

Of course, will be right back.

He leaves.

CONNOR

So uh, thanks for agreeing to this date.

MARISOL

No problem. I've been thinking a lot about what you said, actually.

CONNOR

And?

MARISOL

I've been a real idiot this whole time.

CONNOR

No, why?

MARISOL

It's been, what, practically our entire lives until I got a clue? I feel really bad. Oh, but that's not why I agreed to this date! It's not a pity date! Oh gosh, I'm so sorry, I'll shut up now.

CONNOR

(laughing)

It's okay. Besides, I think you know that I can't keep using Jeremy as an excuse forever.

MARISOL

(laughing hesitantly)

Yeah.

The WAITER returns with their waters.

WAITER

Did you decide yet, or do you still need another minute?

MARISOL

Another minute.

The WAITER leaves. They both read the menu.

MARISOL

Everything looks good... what are you gonna get?

CONNOR

Hmm... no idea.

MARISOL

Wanna just get something we both like?

The WAITER returns.

WAITER

Ready to go?

CONNOR

Yeah, can we get the prosciutto pizza? Share size.

WAITER

Of course.

He leaves.

MARISOL
I'm sorry, I know I'm awkward.
This, um. This is my first date.

CONNOR
Really? Your first?

MARISOL
I mean, it's the first real one.

CONNOR
First real one.

MARISOL
Yeah. I mean I've been on dates
before but it was just to kinda go
with the flow, you know? I'm sure
some of them were pranks.

CONNOR
Who would prank-date you?

MARISOL
It's a thing! But yeah... they
weren't bad dates but nothing super
exciting. This one, well... I
actually was excited for.

CONNOR
Well, that's good. Hope you're not
regretting it.

MARISOL
No, no.

Pause

CONNOR
Sorry, I don't know what to talk
about.

MARISOL
Me neither. But you know, maybe
that's fine. Let's just, I dunno,
be together.

CONNOR

Be together. Yeah. Okay, sure. I can do that.

They sit in silence, both flustered.

CONNOR

Okay, I can't do this.

MARISOL

Me neither.

CONNOR

I, uh... have to tell you something.

MARISOL

Okay.

CONNOR

Did you, um... feel anything when we were at your house last time? When I, you know...

MARISOL

I was happy, yeah.

CONNOR

Just happy?

MARISOL

Yeah. Why wouldn't I be?

CONNOR

Guess I can't ask for more than that...

MARISOL

Were you... of course you were, what am I thinking?

She laughs awkwardly.

MARISOL

I'm really sorry, Connor. This is all my fault.

CONNOR

Marisol --

MARISOL

Thanks for today but I think I should go. Enjoy the pizza.

She gets up quickly and so does CONNOR but she runs before he can stop her. He then sits down, defeated. MARISOL keeps running, in tears, on the grass. She runs straight into GALATÉA'S arms outside of the car and cries louder.

GALATÉA

What happened? Shh, shh, it's okay...

CUT TO:

CONNOR sits down, defeated. MEZZALUNA sits down opposite him, making him jump.

CONNOR

What are you doing here?

MEZZALUNA

I happened to be around. It seems tonight isn't going all that well for you, and I'm really sad to see that.

CONNOR

It's not really any of your concern.

MEZZALUNA

No?

CONNOR

Oh, yeah, right, you said her happiness is your business, didn't you?

(sighs)

This was probably a bad idea. I totally blew it.

MEZZALUNA

You need to be kinder to yourself, Connor.

CONNOR

Hah, "kinder." You didn't see how it went just now.

MEZZALUNA

I assure you, I did. Marisol was quite upset too, you know. At herself.

CONNOR

I don't need to hear this.

MEZZALUNA

Why? Are you denying that you'll run after her now?

CONNOR

Look, it doesn't matter. I... I shouldn't have said what I said.

Silence. The waiter then comes with the pizza.

WAITER

Oh, uh, you have a third guest?

CONNOR

...No.

The WAITER eyes MEZZALUNA and hurriedly leaves.

MEZZALUNA

Are you thinking about Jules right now?

CONNOR

No.

MEZZALUNA

Marisol let him go, you know. But somehow you didn't.

CONNOR

I don't even know Jules.

MEZZALUNA

True, you don't. And yet he left a mark on you.

CONNOR

He didn't. Marisol even said herself that she completely made him up.

MEZZALUNA

You don't need to lie to me, you know. I can tell you have a great many thoughts on it and all sorts of things.

CONNOR

I never thought I'd say this, but stop reading my mind. No wonder you got to Saya.

Beat.

MEZZALUNA

Connor, would you like to go on an adventure?

CONNOR

What adventure? And I haven't even eaten yet.

MEZZALUNA

I'll take care of that. Now, just relax and close your eyes.

CONNOR sighs and closes his eyes.

MEZZALUNA

Okay, now open.

SMASH CUT TO:

SCENE 11 - INT. RED TENT ON THE BEACH. DAYTIME.

YOUNG CONNOR opens his eyes and in front of him is YOUNG MEZZALUNA holding a marble.

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

I see it, Connor! Your whole future is taking shape!

YOUNG CONNOR

What's my future? Do I become rich?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Yes, you'll be so rich and not in money.

YOUNG CONNOR

Not in money? But how else are you rich?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You will be rich in love. In fact you'll be the envy of princes the world over.

YOUNG CONNOR

Does that mean...

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

It could.

YOUNG CONNOR

"It could"?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

I can see that you have one major adversary.

YOUNG CONNOR

What's that mean? An enemy?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

Yes, and he's quite a strong one too. You have to defeat him if you want to advance, but it will not be easy.

YOUNG CONNOR

Who is he?

YOUNG MEZZALUNA

You know him quite well. Better than anyone else, in fact. Close your eyes and the truth will be revealed to you.

YOUNG CONNOR closes his eyes, and when he opens them CONNOR appears.

CONNOR
You've gotta be kidding me.

YOUNG CONNOR
Who are you?

CONNOR
I'm you... from the future.

YOUNG CONNOR
Then you know who my enemy is.

CONNOR
Yeah, uh... I do.

YOUNG CONNOR
Well, who is it?

CONNOR
It's... it's me.

YOUNG CONNOR
It's you?

CONNOR
Well... you. You don't know it yet
but you're gonna make all sorts of
stupid mistakes and it'll all be
your fault.

YOUNG CONNOR
So I shouldn't do anything, then.
Thanks, mister!

CONNOR
No, you --

YOUNG CONNOR runs away, and CONNOR sighs.

MEZZALUNA
(offscreen)
Why don't you try that again?

MEZZALUNA snaps her fingers and YOUNG CONNOR reappears
before CONNOR.

CONNOR
Look... I know it's hard for you to
swallow. In fact, it's hard for me
to swallow too. But listen... you
have to be braver. That's the only
way you're going to make anything
happen. That's the only way...
you'll beat your enemy.

YOUNG CONNOR thinks about it, and makes a fist.

YOUNG CONNOR
I think I understand...

YOUNG MEZZALUNA
Now go, Sir Knight! Fight for your
princess!

She pushes CONNOR forward.

CUT TO:

SCENE 12 - INT. GALATÉA'S CAR. NIGHT.

MARISOL, disheveled, looks away from GALATÉA.

GALATÉA
You have to go back.

MARISOL
I can't! What if he's not there?

GALATÉA
Marisol... I say this as your
sister. You need to pull yourself
together and get back on your date
or so help me you're grounded
forever. You don't think you've
hurt him enough?

MARISOL
Of course I do! That's why I left.
He doesn't deserve me, Galatéa.

GALATÉA
Well if that's how you feel, go
back and say that to him yourself,
don't leave him hanging like that.

Pause. MARISOL takes a deep breath and makes to get out but
GALATÉA grabs her wrist.

GALATÉA
Not looking like that. Here, let me
fix you up.

CUT TO:

SCENE 13 - EXT. RESTAURANT. NIGHT.

Back in the restaurant, CONNOR is still at the table with
MEZZALUNA.

CONNOR

Whoa. That was... that was a lot harder than I thought it might be.

MEZZALUNA

You've definitely earned your pizza. Go ahead, don't mind me.

CONNOR eats. MEZZALUNA notices MARISOL marching over and disappears. CONNOR finishes the pizza and freezes upon seeing MARISOL.

MARISOL

No, don't get up. I... I'm sorry about that, Connor. I just...

CONNOR

No, Marisol, I get it.

MARISOL

No, you don't. It's... I don't want to hurt you more than I have, and this date, well... I realised I would hurt you more than ever before. I can't do that to you, Connor. I already know you don't deserve me.

CONNOR

But don't you think that's my call to make? You don't get to decide if you're good or bad for me, Marisol. And listen, I get that this date might have been badly timed but... dammit, I'm still glad it happened.

MARISOL

But I ruined it.

CONNOR

You would've ruined it by not coming back. But you did. So, uh... sorry I ate already...

MARISOL

That's fine. I'm really sorry, Connor. I really was happy to hear that you love me. But I...

CONNOR

It's fine, Marisol. You don't have to say anything you don't mean. But you know... I do want us to get to know each other more.

MARISOL

Yes, of course. I... I've been in my head too long. But you know, Connor... something about you is really different now.

CONNOR

Oh, uh... is it?

MARISOL

Yeah. You're more... how should I say, direct. And I like that.

CONNOR, stunned, begins to smile slowly.

CONNOR

Wow. This whole time, that's all it took...

He laughs wholeheartedly.

CONNOR

Sorry, sorry. It's an inside joke, I guess.

The WAITER returns.

WAITER

Alrighty, who wants dessert?

CONNOR

Actually --

MARISOL

I'd like a sundae. Two spoons.

WAITER

Of course.

He leaves.

MARISOL
Hey, after this... you wanna go on
an adventure?

CONNOR
Adventure?

MARISOL
Yeah. I wanna make it up to you.

CONNOR
Okay...

They sit and soon the waiter returns with the sundae and two
spoons.

FADE OUT

SCENE 14 - EXT. BEACH. NIGHT.

At the beach from the first scene. MARISOL is dipping her
feet in the water while CONNOR stands behind her one metre
apart.

MARISOL
When I was a kid we used to come
here a lot. I think it's where I
met Mezzaluna.

CONNOR
Is that right?

MARISOL
Yeah. One summer we came here as a
family for the last time. I don't
remember it too well but since my
parents died we didn't really come
here anymore.

CONNOR
I'm sorry to hear that.

MARISOL
No, it's fine. It was a long time
ago. But you know... maybe it's
affected me more than I realised. I
know Galatéa was bossier than ever
before, and I already couldn't talk
to her...

CONNOR

But you had Mezzaluna... right?

MARISOL

Yeah. Gosh, I look back and it's actually embarrassing how lonely I was. And how it was so bad I didn't want anyone else. It's no wonder Galathea thought I was really weird... and why I weirded everyone else out.

CONNOR

You were having a hard time.

MARISOL

Yeah. Somehow... I dunno, I guess I really wanted to tell you this.

CONNOR

I'm glad.

MARISOL

Mezzaluna would tell me my fortune over there in our little red tent. And man, I used to really believe them. It's silly looking back but it was so much fun. I was... happy.

CONNOR

You don't think you can be happy now?

MARISOL

Well no, but... don't you feel like adult happy is different from kid happy?

CONNOR

Yeah, I guess. But that's normal, isn't it? I mean we can't keep chasing childhood memories forever, right?

MARISOL

I guess not... but it's also a shame to just let them go. That's why I was so happy to see Mezzaluna again. And also... I guess I'm

(MORE)

MARISOL (cont'd)
worried about letting her go.

CONNOR
She's really important to you, huh?

MARISOL
Yeah.

MEZZALUNA
My princess, you're important to
me, too.

MEZZALUNA appears behind CONNOR and he jumps.

CONNOR
Jesus..!

MARISOL
I know you can't stay. I know that
eventually I'll have to let you go
forever.

MEZZALUNA
You don't have to.

MARISOL
I do! I meant everything I said
during the intervention, about
wanting to work with kids and being
just like you, but... Mezzaluna, I
live in reality. I can't just do
that.

MEZZALUNA
My princess...

MARISOL
I'm no princess.

MEZZALUNA
Yes, you are. And now you have a
knight.

MEZZALUNA looks to CONNOR, and MARISOL turns to look at him
too.

MEZZALUNA

You thought you lost your spark,
but really you were scared to let
it shine, my princess.

MARISOL

But it's just not the same now.

MEZZALUNA

That doesn't mean it can't be
amazing. My princess, I meant what
I said with my fortunes. You will
be the queen of the universe.

MARISOL

But how?

CONNOR

I think she means that you have to
stop being your own enemy and go
for it.

MEZZALUNA

Could not have said it better
myself, Sir Knight.

MARISOL

I have to go for it, huh...

MEZZALUNA

You can do anything you want, my
princess. You don't have to be my
shadow. What's more... you don't
have to give me up.

CONNOR

Yeah. Marisol, I know Saya and your
sister might pressure you to but
you are clearly happier now that
you have Mezzaluna again. Maybe
what you need is to find the
balance, I guess. And... I wanna
help you do that.

MEZZALUNA

I am so proud of you, Sir Knight.

MARISOL

Find the balance, huh...

She looks up at the half-moon in the sky and closes her eyes. Wind blows.

MATCH CUT TO:

SCENE 15 - INT. OCEAN. NIGHT.

MARISOL is wearing a long white gown under the sea, with the moon acting like a spotlight. She pinches the moon and moves it, revealing that all it is is a pure white marble emitting a bright light. The light illuminates a castle. MARISOL then waves her hand over the marble, turning the light yellow. She then lets go of the now golden marble which burns brighter and brighter until it explodes.

FADE IN:

SCENE 16 - EXT. AN ENDLESS SUNLIT MEADOW. DAYTIME.

MARISOL is still in the same white dress. She looks around, spinning as though showing off her gown. With a wave of her hand a castle appears, much more impressive than the underwater one. She smiles.

FADE OUT

SCENE 17 - INT. GALATÉA AND RICO'S ROOM. NIGHT.

The room is big with cream coloured curtains and a dresser in the corner. GALATÉA and RICO are in their queen size bed.

GALATÉA

It's pretty late...

RICO

She's an adult, Gal. You gotta let her make her own decisions.

GALATÉA

I know she's an adult. I'm still allowed to worry about her. Besides... I hope the date is going well. She almost walked out on him. I'm glad I hung back.

RICO

I told you.

GALATÉA

Yeah, yeah. Stop rubbing it in. I need a water.

She gets up and leaves the room and stops, relaxing her position. MEZZALUNA is standing holding a tray of two

glasses of water.

GALATÉA
Thanks... Mezzaluna.

MEZZALUNA
Of course.

GALATÉA
Do you have to just appear out of
nowhere like that?

MEZZALUNA
I can't help it if you want to see
me that badly.

GALATÉA
Who said I did... okay, fine. You
got me. Heart language, whatever.

GALATÉA takes a glass of water and chugs it. She sits down
on one of the stairs and MEZZALUNA joins her, putting the
tray behind her.

GALATÉA
So. I guess you know how Marisol is
doing.

MEZZALUNA
Of course.

GALATÉA
No matter what, you know.

MEZZALUNA
Yes. She'll be just fine.

GALATÉA
I hope so.

MEZZALUNA
You love her.

GALATÉA
She's my sister.

MEZZALUNA

And she is lucky to have you.

GALATÉA

Thanks. But you... you're always going to be a part of her, aren't you?

MEZZALUNA

Of course.

GALATÉA

Of course. You're not going anywhere.

MEZZALUNA

Nope.

GALATÉA

I really want her to be okay. Whatever that means.

MEZZALUNA

She will be.

GALATÉA

Yeah... because she has you.

MEZZALUNA

No, not because of me. Because of herself. Because of you.

Pause.

MEZZALUNA

My princess has a very loyal kingdom.

GALATÉA

Thanks.

MEZZALUNA

You will be okay, too.

GALATÉA smiles sheepishly.

MEZZALUNA

Between you and me, the future is
looking mighty bright.

GALATÉA

"Mighty bright," huh?

MEZZALUNA

I knew this day would come, I can't
wait to see it.

GALATÉA

What's gonna happen?

MEZZALUNA

You'll see soon enough.

GALATÉA

Okay...

Meanwhile, downstairs, MARISOL enters and Galatéa stands up
on the stairs.

MARISOL

Oh, you're still up? Sorry, I
should've called.

GALATÉA

Yeah, but... More importantly, how
did your date go?

MARISOL

Honestly... Pretty good. Only thing
is that I'm starving.

GALATÉA

Why, didn't you eat?

MARISOL

I did, but... Honestly, remember
when we were kids and used to make
bread pizzas? I realised that's
what I really wanted to eat.

GALATÉA

Bread pizzas? Yeah, of course I
remember.

MARISOL

Let's make some. And let's play our
song.

GALATÉA

Marisol...

They both hurry over to the kitchen and play their song on MARISOL'S phone and laugh, interspersed with memories of YOUNG MARISOL and YOUNG GALATÉA.

FADE IN:

SCENE 18 - EXT. CONNOR'S BACKYARD. DAYTIME.

Both MARISOL and JEREMY are dressed up like medieval characters.

MARISOL

Brave Sir Knight! You have endured
the three tests of might, the
princess awaits you in the castle.

JEREMY

Then I will proceed and rescue her.

JEREMY dashes forward with his stick and recoils.

MARISOL

Oh no! The dragon king stands in
your way!

JEREMY

This time I'll win for sure!

JEREMY acts out the fight with MARISOL, who pretends to take the death blow.

MARISOL

Sir Knight, you've defeated the
dragon once and for all! Quick, the
princess awaits!

JEREMY charges around the yard. CONNOR watches from the kitchen window.

CUT TO:

SCENE 19 - INT. CONNOR'S KITCHEN.

SAYA is seated at the table while CONNOR stands.

SAYA

You're not gonna join them?

CONNOR

Nah. They're having fun. They'll
invite me if they want.

SAYA
Do they often do that?

CONNOR
Sometimes.

He sits down.

CONNOR
Maybe sometime you can play, too.
Marisol's a very good storyteller.

SAYA
Really? I guess she would be. Well,
I wouldn't mind, but I'd rather
watch.

CONNOR
All right. But you're missing out.

SAYA laughs.

SAYA
You know... you seem a lot happier
than before.

CONNOR
How so?

SAYA
Well, I don't wanna give Marisol
too much credit but at the same
time I know it's because you
finally got your wish. I'm a little
envious but at the same time it's
really good to see you happy.

CONNOR
Hah. Thanks, Saya.

SAYA
Also... I've been seeing Mezzaluna
a lot these days. She's pretty much
worn me down. Won't give me a
straight answer on what she really
is.

CONNOR

You're still trying to figure it out, huh?

SAYA

Of course! You know me, Connor. I have to think logically. In any case... it's amazing what I'm learning. And despite what she says I think I've figured out what she is.

CONNOR

Sure you have.

SAYA

If you're gonna be like that, I won't tell you. Unless you don't wanna know?

CONNOR

I already know.

SAYA

Then what is she?

CONNOR

I'm not saying.

SAYA

Aww come on! That's not fair! You knew I was bluffing!

CONNOR

(laughing)

You're thinking too hard on it. She really is what she says she is.

SAYA

Fine, be that way. One way or another I'll figure her out!

MARISOL and JEREMY enter the house from the back door.
CONNOR goes to the sink and turns on the faucet.

CONNOR

You two sure had fun.

MARISOL

Yeah, I'm beat, though. Guess it'll be several lifetimes until us oldies can keep up with kids again.

CONNOR

Don't push yourself. Here, have some water.

MARISOL

Thank you.

CONNOR

And Jeremy, go wash your hands.

MARISOL sits down and gulps the water. SAYA shifts.

SAYA

I envy you.

MARISOL

Huh? Where'd this come from?

SAYA

You had a major breakthrough.

MARISOL

Yeah... I guess you're right.

SAYA

Marisol, do you think... you can teach me?

MARISOL

Teach? It's not really something to teach, and I didn't really do anything.

SAYA

Okay, well... can I join your game next time? Not to observe. I'll actually play.

MARISOL

Yeah, that'd be nice.

SAYA smiles and hides her face. She gets up.

SAYA

Anyway, I'll be going now. I'll call you.

MARISOL

Yeah, sure. Take care.

CONNOR

See ya, Saya.

SAYA leaves via the backyard door and CONNOR sits at the table facing MARISOL.

CONNOR

You're staying for dinner, right?

MARISOL

Yeah. Playing that hard really took it out of me.

CONNOR

That's good. Listen, actually... Jeremy told me he's going to a friend's house for dinner.

MARISOL

Is he actually? Good for him.

CONNOR

Yeah, so... I was thinking, you wanna try again? Dating?

MARISOL and CONNOR both blush and hide their faces, and MARISOL straightens up.

MARISOL

I was literally just thinking that. I'd love to.

CONNOR

Great! Um... You wanna go out, stay here...?

MARISOL

I like here. We can just be ourselves, relax.

CONNOR

Great, I was thinking that too. Hmm... What do you wanna have?

MARISOL

Honestly... I wouldn't mind making some pizza with you.

CONNOR

With me?

MARISOL
Yeah, it'll be fun. All we need is
some bread, tomato sauce, cheese
and whatever you like.

CONNOR
Sure, I should have all of those.

MARISOL
Great, let's get started.

CUT TO:

SCENE 20 - INT. CONNOR'S KITCHEN. EVENING.

MARISOL and CONNOR are seated at the table beside each other
with a plate of bread pizzas between them and soda cans.

MARISOL
What do you think? Great, huh?

CONNOR
Yeah, Jeremy would love these.

MARISOL
For sure. Galat ea and I used to
make these all the time when we
were kids. You know, before our
parents passed away. Our dad taught
us. We made some last night.
Talked. It was seriously just like
old times.

CONNOR
That's great, Marisol.

MARISOL
Isn't it? You know, Connor, I've
realised I should thank you.

CONNOR
Thank me? Why?

MARISOL
It's thanks to you I've made so
many positive changes. And I really
do feel bad I've wasted so much
time getting here with you.

CONNOR
Aw, c'mon, forget about that.

MARISOL
It's been a ride, though, hasn't
it?

CONNOR
You can say that again.

MARISOL

I feel like I can do anything now, though. It's like I'm full of magic. And I have so much more to say and yet I can't figure out the right words.

CONNOR

There is one way.

They both pause, and close their eyes and lean forward to kiss. They slowly break apart.

MARISOL

You've been wanting to do that forever, haven't you?

Connor looks around and sighs in relief.

CONNOR

Good... I was thinking Mezzaluna would suddenly pop up and give me away.

MARISOL laughs and kisses him again.

FADE TO BLACK

SCENE 21 - EXT. BEACH. DAYTIME.

MARISOL and MEZZALUNA are in the red tent. MEZZALUNA is looking through the marble.

MEZZALUNA

Your future is looking mighty bright. Just like the sun's reflection in the sea.

MARISOL smiles bashfully.

MEZZALUNA

I'm proud of you, my queen. You've come such a long way, finally found your kingdom.

MARISOL

I couldn't have done it without you.

MEZZALUNA

Anytime you need me, I'm at your service.

MARISOL hugs MEZZALUNA.

MEZZALUNA
Don't keep them waiting.

MARISOL
You're coming, right?

MEZZALUNA
Of course.

They leave the red tent and run hand in hand towards CONNOR, JEREMY, SAYA, GALATÉA, and RICO. MARISOL laughs.