

LIFE AS A  
**PET EARTHLING**

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Based on  
PetEarthling.com

Oct. 2, 2021

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PetEarthling.com/movie

**FADE IN - COLD OPEN****1 INT. HOUSE - MORNING****1**

ROLO is a middle-aged man, fat and bald. He is sleeping in a round bed in pajamas. He slowly stirs, stretches, yawns, stands up, and puts on his slippers.

He trundles toward a counter. We don't see much of the room.

We hear ZIRA but do not see her. We cannot place her age yet, but she sounds chipper.

ZIRA (O.S.)  
Well look who's awake! G'morning,  
Rolo!

ROLO  
(yawns) G'morning, Zira.

ZIRA (O.S.)  
Are you ready for breakfast.

ROLO  
Um, yeah, sure.

He climbs onto a stool at the counter, and pulls a somewhat large bowl and weird spoon in front of him. He leans his cheek on his hand. As Zira talks we hear kitchen noises and eventually a can opener.

ZIRA (O.S.)  
Oh, it was so cute. Your legs were twitching in your sleep again. I think you were having a dream. After I come home this afternoon do you think it would be fun to go out and catch up with Yoola and Fabli? I think it's been like a week since you've seen them.

We see a can at the top of the screen with a cylinder of gray-brown goop slowly emerging with a slobbery suction sound. Rolo's eyes follow it. Then it stops. Then the can shakes up and down with rhythmic slurp sounds as the goop lowers a little more, then it free-falls into his bowl with a splat. Rolo looks at it, unmoving. Then we hear another slurp and a smaller glop falls on top.

ZIRA (O.S.)  
There you go. I made it myself!  
(laughs) Enjoy!

Rolo inhales through his nose to brace himself, picks up his spoon, and starts scooping small bites into his mouth.

We hear Zira pull out a large chair, sit and start eating something crunchy like bacon. Rolo sniffs and looks upward.

ROLO

Mmm, what are you eating? Can I have some?!

ZIRA (O.S.)

(half stern)

Rolo...o...o...

ROLO

(with begging eyes)

Pleeeeeeease?

ZIRA (O.S.)

You know you can't digest antimatter. Remember what happened last time?

ROLO

Oh yeah.

Now we see ZIRA from Rolo's POV. She is an alien girl, like age 10, but 14 feet tall, green, and cute. This is an alien home on planet Blorx, and she is a Blorxian. She is sitting at a breakfast table. Everything in this world is too big for humans.

ZIRA

Aww, wook at doze sad eyes. I can't say no to you. Here, this is safe for you.

Now from her level, we see Rolo sitting at a portable mini counter on the floor -- a pet feeding station for earthlings. Zira reaches out with a spoon of some glowing jam and drops a dollop in his bowl.

He smiles at her and starts eating it, getting some on his face.

ZIRA (O.S.)

There you go, you good boy!

## 2      **OPENING CREDITS - SERIES OF SHOTS**

2

Photos posted on an alien refrigerator. In chronological order we see Rolo and Zira growing up together, but at

different rates: Rolo ages from 4 to 44 while Zira ages from 6 to 10.

**PET SHOP** - 6-year-old Zira excitedly picks out out 4-year-old Rolo from a pen of several earthling children.

**HUG** - With a beaming smile, Zira hugs young Rolo tightly.

**SLIDE** - Zira goes down a slide with young Rolo on her lap.

**MIRROR** - Young Rolo is startled by his own reflection as he walks by a mirror.

**HORSEY** - Young Rolo is riding Zira's back like a horsey.

**POTTY TRAINING** - Young Rolo, looking guilty, stands next to his poop on the floor. Zira scolds him with a rolled up newspaper.

**LION KING** - Zira holds Rolo high in the air. He is afraid of the height.

**BABY YODA** - Zira wears a Mandalorian costume, holding Rolo in a baby Yoda costume.

**MUD PUDDLE** - Young Rolo gleefully rolls in a mud puddle.

**BATH** - Glum young Rolo sits in bath tub as Zira sprays water on him.

**SAND CASTLE** - Young Rolo smiles in the doorway of a giant sand castle on the beach.

**GROWTH CHART** - Zira is getting her height penciled on the wall corner by her parent's hand. Young Rolo stands in front of his own height markings.

**YARN BALL** - Young Rolo pushes a huge ball of yarn down the stairs unraveling.

**STALK PREY** - Young Rolo pounces out from under a bush to attack a cute alien mouse walking by.

**GIFT KILL** - The alien mouse is dead on the ground in front of Zira's feet. Rolo is proudly offering it to her.

**LEASH WALK** - Teen Rolo walks down the sidewalk with a big smile and a peppy step, wearing a leash harness, with Zira's legs walking behind.

**TANGLED LEASH** - Teen Rolo is tangled up in his leash around a sign post and Zira's legs.

**BICYCLE RIDE** - Zira rides her bike with teen Rolo riding in the front basket, excited with his fists in the air.

**CLUMSY** - Awkward teen Rolo stands on a countertop, leaning against an alien flower vase, surprised as it starts to tip off the edge.

**HEAD SCRATCH** - Zira scratches teen Rolo's head with her finger, making a goo-goo face too close to him. This is too much for him, making him uncomfortable.

**POOP SCOOPING** - Teen Rolo, wearing a leash harness, stands on the grass next to his poop, looking embarrassed as Zira's hand wearing a bag reaches for the poop.

**SNACK MEAT** - Rolo eats a large alien turkey drumstick.

**PILL** - Zira's hand holds Rolo's head up and mouth open, as her other hand drops a large pill in his mouth.

**MEAN MAN** - An aggressive, muscular earthling man strains at the end of his leash, yelling at Rolo. Rolo, on a leash, hides behind Zira's legs.

**FIREWORKS** - Rolo hides under the sofa in fear, plugging his ears. In the background we see Zira holding a sparkler, and fireworks in the sky like nuclear mushroom clouds.

**XENOMORPH** - A xenomorph from the movie *Alien* is outside the glass door, looking menacingly at Rolo inside. Rolo is frozen with a snack half-lifted to his mouth, looking over his shoulder nervously at the xenomorph.

**SHOO XENOMORPH** - Same scene. Outside we see Zira's legs, and she's holding a slipper, shooing away the xenomorph.

In the following Rolo gradually gets fatter and bald:

**LAP NAP** - Rolo sleeps on Zira's lap, drooling, as she watches TV.

**DROPPED FOOD** - Rolo is looking eagerly at a large alien ice cream cone that fell upside down on the sidewalk.

**SUNNY NAP** - Rolo sleeps on his back, arms and legs sprawled out, in a sunny spot on the floor.

**LITTER BOX** - Rolo is in a litter box, squatting with his pants down.

**LAUNDRY BASKET** - Rolo sleeps curled up in a laundry basket of clothes.

**TABLE SCRAPS** - Under a dining table, we see many alien legs, and Zira's hand giving Rolo some food.

**TEA TALK** - Zira and Rolo are drinking tea and talking. Rolo is slouched in a child's chair too big for him. Zira is kneeling on the floor.

**DOLLY DRESS** - Zira proudly holds up Rolo, showing him off in a ridiculous alien dolly dress. Rolo is annoyed, but limp and resigned.

**NAILS TRIMMED** - Rolo relaxes on Zira's lap, wearing a robe, with alien cucumbers on his eyes, as Zira's hand clips his toenails.

**CHASE** - Rolo runs away terrified from Zira who is gleefully chasing him with an alien cat toy. From his eye level she looks huge.

**SNACK BOWL** - Rolo slouches on an alien couch, looking at a giant alien magazine, eating kibble from a large dog bowl next to him like eating popcorn.

**BELLY RUB** - Zira rubs Rolo's fat belly with her finger, making a silly face too close to him. He is uncomfortable.

**CAT CONDO** - Rolo sleeps on giant cat condo.

**VACUUM CLEANER** - Rolo runs away in terror from a humongous, dangerous-looking alien vacuum cleaner.

**CUDDLE CHEEK** - Zira cuddles Rolo, squishing his head against her cheek. He's a little nervous.

END SERIES

**3 INT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON**

**3**

Rolo is lying on his back on the carpet in a sunny spot in the family room, staring up, lazily tossing a large unraveling ball of yarn from hand to hand. The house is silent except for a clock ticking.

QUIGGLES is sleeping on the cat condo over a beanbag seat, mouth wide open, tongue hanging out, drooling. He is Rolo's pet, an alien animal about 2 feet tall, 1 eye, 2 arms, 3 legs.

Rolo fumbles the yarn and it rolls a few feet away. He looks briefly, then without getting up tries to get the ball back by slowly pulling the tail of yarn. This only makes it roll in place. He tries pulling faster; same result. He tries a sudden yank; the yarn ball hops up spinning, then rolls

farther away. He stretches his arm out, but it's too far. He gives up, takes a long breath and a long sigh.

He looks at the wall clock. Instead of numbers it has strange math-like symbols, and multiple dials and many hands moving in different directions.

We hear a key unlocking the front door. Rolo struggles to sit up quickly, looks in that direction, then stands up and walks quickly to the front door.

Zira enters the front door.

ROLO  
Heyyyy! You're finally home!

ZIRA  
Rolo! Have you been a good boy? Have you?

Zira picks him up and squeezes him too tight.

ROLO  
Um, yeah, I guess so. Ouch, too tight!

Rolo tries slipping out of her grip, but she won't let him escape.

ZIRA  
Who's a good boy? Who's a good boy?

ROLO  
Haven't we already addressed that?

ZIRA  
Oh, you're just...so...cute!

She kisses him on the cheek, smashing his face into hers. He wipes off her saliva as she carries him into the family room.

ZIRA  
It's time for take off. Ready? 3, 2,  
1, weeeeeeee!

Zira swings him back and forth, then tosses him across the room onto the giant alien beanbag seat. Rolo looks terrified. He lands facedown on the beanbag with a groan.

ZIRA  
Wasn't that fun?

Rolo groans again, still facedown.

RIFFA enters the front door. She is Zira's older sister, like age 16, in an adolescent phase of aloofness, and stylish. She walks by the family room toward the hall, looking at her phone the whole time.

ZIRA

Hey, Riffa, watch Rolo fly again!

Zira approaches Rolo as he struggles to climb out of the beanbag unsuccessfully.

Riffa continues walking, giving Zira a side-eye then looking back at her phone, and disappears into the hallway.

Dejected, Zira slumps into the sofa.

On the cat condo, Quiggles wakes up. He sees Rolo in the beanbag below, so he stands at the edge of the cat condo like a competitive diver, and does a fancy trick dive into beanbag.

Rolo sees Quiggles diving toward him with his butt about to land on his face.

ROLO

Quiggles!

Rolo rolls away, and Quiggles lands near his face. Zira laughs. Quiggles licks Rolo on the face and mouth.

ROLO

Oh!--tphphp--okay--tphphp--that's enough, Quiggles --tphphp-- that's enou--tphphp.

Quiggles suddenly looks off in the distance and freezes like he heard something, then hops to the ground and very casually walks out of the room.

ZIRA

Hey Rolo, come up here. Up, up, up.

Zira pats the sofa cushion.

ROLO

Wait, gimme a sec.

Riffa reenters from the hallway, holding a sweater.

RIFFA

(to Zira)

Hey, squid squirt! Was Rolo sleeping on my bed again?!



ROLO  
I can hear you, you know.

RIFFA  
Well, were you?

ROLO  
Mmmaybee?

ZIRA  
Rolo, why didn't you sleep in your  
own bed?

ROLO  
When, for like every nap? What's the  
fun in that? I need variety, keep  
things fresh!

Riffa holds up the sweater with a sock stuck to it by static.

RIFFA  
Look, he's been laying on my clothes  
and shedding his electrons all over  
my sweater!

ZIRA  
Oh, you're sooo dramatic! Oh hey, do  
you wanna play Blorgon Pong with me?

RIFFA  
What? Ew, no!

Riffa goes back into the hall. Zira is dejected again.

RIFFA (O.S.)  
And tell Rolo to stay out of my  
room!

ROLO  
I can still hear you!

ZIRA  
Hey Riffa? ... Riffa!

RIFFA (O.S.)  
What?!

ZIRA  
Rolo has an appointment at the  
V.E.T.

ROLO  
I can spell, you know.

RIFFA (O.S.)

So?

ZIRA

So you need to come with us. You're supposed to be the responsible one while Mom and Dad are away this week, remember? ... Riffa?

Riffa reenters, looking at her phone, trudging toward the front door.

RIFFA

(resentfully)

Fine.

ZIRA

Then I wanna go to the earthling park after.

RIFFA

Whatever.

ZIRA

Wait, I'm looking for Rolo's leash.

RIFFA

(sighs) Hurry up, squid squirt.

Zira grabs a leash and her backpack.

ZIRA

Found it. Come on, Rolo!

Rolo follows Zira toward the front door.

ROLO

Come on, Quiggles!

Quiggles gallops up to Rolo and jumps on his back, riding piggy back. They all exit the front door.

**4 INT. VETERINARY LOBBY - LATER**

**4**

Zira and Riffa are sitting in an alien lobby. We hear background muzak and the buzz of florescent lights. Riffa is looking at her phone. Rolo is sitting on Zira's lap, and Quiggles is sprawled out on Rolo's legs.

Other Blorxians are also holding their earthlings in the lobby. The earthlings give each other tentative looks. After what feels like an eternity, we hear a door open.

RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)  
Rolo and Zira? Doctor Zorxablorg  
will see you now.

**5 INT. EXAM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

**5**

A large alien veterinary exam room. Rolo sits shirtless on the exam table. Zira and Riffa stand nearby. In the background, Quiggles is walking around the counter looking at the medical equipment.

Dr. ZORXABLORG wears a white lab coat, examining Rolo. He is looking in Rolo's ears with an alien otoscope.

ZORXABLORG  
How's his diet been?

ZIRA  
Good.

RIFFA  
She gives him table scraps.

Zira shoots a look at Riffa.

ZIRA  
No, only on special occasions.

RIFFA  
Like, every dinner?

ZORXABLORG  
Let's try to keep a limit on that,  
okay? He's getting pretty heavy.

Rolo sighs with humiliation.

ZORXABLORG  
Is he having regular bowel  
movements? Good consistency?

Rolo drops his face into his hand.

ZIRA  
Um, yeah.

Zorxablorg examines Rolo's belly, pressing on it in different places. Rolo giggles with ticklishness. Then he farts.

ROLO  
That was his fault! He made me do  
it!

Zorxablorg gets a needle from the counter, then he tucks Rolo into his arm to hold him still.

ZORXABLORG

Now we just need to give him his shot to prevent bowel worms.

ROLO

No, no! I don't have bowel worms!

ZORXABLORG

(chuckles) Exactly, because of these shots.

ZIRA

Rolo, be goood.

He injects Rolo in the arm as Rolo groans through gritted teeth. Zorxablorg releases him and puts away the needle. Rolo rubs his arm.

ZORXABLORG

Rolo, you're all done! You've been a very good patient. Do you want a treat?

Zorxablorg holds out a treat. Rolo stares at him with resentment for a beat, then grabs it.

ROLO

Yes.

ZIRA

Good job, Rolo! I'm so proud of you! Now guess what? We get to go to the earthling park!

**6 EXT. SIDEWALK - AFTERNOON - LATER**

**6**

They are all walking down a suburban sidewalk. Rolo is finishing the last of the treat from the vet. Zira is holding Rolo's leash attached to his harness. Rolo is holding Quiggle's leash attached to his collar.

Zira is rambling to Riffa, who is behind her, ignoring her, looking at her phone.

ZIRA

So then we were making these dioramas for quantum tunneling, and Mrs. Glaxoblat said we could decorate it with dark matter if we wanted, but I ran out because I used

all mine yesterday on my report  
cover for antiquarks -- oh, I got an  
A on that! Anyway, I had neutrino  
glitter and plasma glue but I didn't  
have any more dark matter so I asked  
her if I could borrow some and she  
said...

While Zira is rambling, in the trees over the sidewalk we see  
alien squirrels scampering about the branches. One tosses an  
acorn on Rolo's head. Rolo wipes his head. Another one tosses  
another acorn. Rolo looks up.

ROLO

Hey!

Several squirrels toss acorns on him with evil grins.

ROLO

Hey! Stop that!

ZIRA

Rolo, stop yelling.

They toss another acorn. Rolo stops walking.

ROLO

Stop that!

Zira pulls on Rolo's leash.

ZIRA

Rolo, shush. Now come on.

Zira looks up. All the squirrels suddenly fluff up their  
tails, enlarge their eyes, and start nibbling on acorns,  
looking way too cute.

ROLO

But they're [throwing things] --

ZIRA

Leave the poor little squirlers  
alone. They're harmless.

Zira looks away, and all the squirrels revert back to evil.  
One tosses one more acorn and they all give him an evil eye.

Rolo grunts and resumes walking, keeping a cautious eye on  
them.

Outside the earthling park they pass by an animal-rights  
group with a table set up, with signs like "Earthlings are  
Not Property", "Earthlings Have Rights Too", "End

Speciesism", "End Abductions Now", "Ban Anal Probes". Rolo looks at them as they pass by.

ROLO

Hey Zira? Where do earthlings come from?

ZIRA

Oh. Well, uh. When a mommy earthling and a daddy earthling love each other very much --

ROLO

No, no, no, no! I mean where were all earthlings from originally? Like Blorfrica? Blorntarctica?

ZIRA

Oh, I never thought of that. Lemme see.

Zira concentrates and her brain-chip starts flashing and glowing more. She looks perplexed, then taps her brain-chip.

ZIRA

Hmm. That's weird.

ROLO

What's the matter?

ZIRA

I'm trying to find out, but there are no answers.

ROLO

Nothing?

ZIRA

Nothing. I'm searching online all over the nebula, but there's nothing at all.

ROLO

Huh. Is your chip broken?

ZIRA

No, everything else is fine, just no results for where earthlings come from. That's really strange.

ROLO

Hm.

**7 EXT. EARTHLING PARK - AFTERNOON - CONTINUOUS****7**

Like a dog park, but for earthlings, in a suburban neighborhood. We see many aliens and earthlings, some running and playing. The park has an agility course (like a dog show) with a few earthlings running through it. A seeing-eye guide earthling is leading a blind alien.

Riffa leans against a lamppost, still looking at her phone.

ZIRA

Okay Rolo, wanna play some blizbee?

ROLO

Yeah, sure.

Zira detaches Rolo's leash and Rolo detaches Quiggles' leash.

ZIRA

Riffa, will you play with us?

Riffa just rolls her eyes and shakes her head. Dejected, Zira's smile fades a little.

Zira pulls a flying-saucer-like frisbee from her backpack and throws it a short distance.

Rolo half-jogs to it, not wanting to tire himself. He picks up the large blizbee and with great effort throws it back.

**SERIES OF SHOTS:** Rolo playing blizbee. He is entertained, but not really smiling.

-- He jumps up to catch it.

-- He dives and misses it.

-- He spins around to throw it like a hammer throw.

-- His hands are out to catch it, but it hits him in the belly.

-- He watches it fly overhead, with Quiggles sitting on it spinning quickly.

-- His hands are out to catch it, but another earthling runs in front and intercepts it.

-- He reaches up and catches it with both hands, but it tips him backward and he falls.

-- He throws it.

-- His hands are out to catch it, but he's looking at something to the side. It flies by him.

-- He watches it fly too high over his head.

**END SERIES**

ZIRA (O.S.)  
Oops! Too high!

Rolo walks to the blizbee where it landed by a tree. He sees two of his earthling friends nearby:

YOOLA is a short, lively, charismatic woman in her 30s.

SMUFFINS is a large, intimidating looking man, but a gentle giant, in his 30s. He is wearing a large pink bow in his hair.

YOOLA  
Oh hey, Rolo!

ROLO  
Hi Yoola!

Yoola gives him a big hug.

SMUFFINS  
Rolo, what up, dawg?

ROLO  
Hey Smuffins!

They do that hand-grip-shoulder-hug.

YOOLA  
Is that a new harness?

ROLO  
Yeah, Zira and I want to the pet store yesterday.

YOOLA  
Looks good. Do you like it?

ROLO  
Well, I would have preferred the blue one.

YOOLA  
Why didn't you get it?

ROLO  
I dunno. She really liked this one.



SMUFFINS

Yo man, you just gotta tell her what you want.

ROLO

This advice coming from a guy with a big pink bow?

SMUFFINS

I pick my battles. Besides, I kinda like it, and it makes my girl happy. She's good to me.

Smuffins nods at his alien girl owner in the distance. She waves at him enthusiastically.

Zira jogs up. She pats Yoola and Smuffins on the head and talks to them in a sugary voice.

ZIRA

Well hello there, earthies! Found your friend, huh?  
Rolo, need to go potty?

ROLO

(embarrassed)

No.

ZIRA

Okay, well I'm going to go to the restroom for just a sec.

Zira attaches Rolo's leash and ties it to a tree.

ZIRA (CONT'D)

Have fun with your little friends.  
Be good.

She leaves.

YOOLA

(chuckles) You have such a cute owner.

FABLI (*fobbly*) struts to them. He is a show earthling, a fine specimen of an earthling man in his prime, very poised with shiny hair, and a high-brow foreign accent.

YOOLA

Yo, Fabli!

ROLO

Hey, Fabli.

Yoola gives him a hug.

FABLI

Hey, careful of the hair! I've got a big show tomorrow.

Smuffins and Fabli bump fists.

YOOLA

Which show is that again?

FABLI

The Blorxminster Kennel Club.

YOOLA

Oh yeah.

ROLO

(concurrently)

Wow, cool.

FABLI

Yeah, I think I've got a good shot at Best in Show this year.

YOOLA

Well, I hope you win!

FABLI

Thanks, Yoola.

ROLO

So how have you been? What have you been up to?

YOOLA

Let's see. On Blendsday we went on a walk. And on Blursday we went on a walk. Then on Bliday we went on a walk. Oh and I switched to a new food, which is pretty interesting. So it's been a pretty good week so far!

ROLO

Nice.

Quiggles has plucked a large flower, eating the petals like food on a stick, leaning on a tree watching them talk.

SMUFFINS

And I got a new toy for my birthday. It's one of those hover drones that

shoots laser pointers. It's pretty cool.

YOOLA

I dunno about that. It looks dangerous to me. I don't like going near that thing.

SMUFFINS

(smirking)

You jus' jealous.

YOOLA

Ha! You just wish you had my automatic ball launcher!

SMUFFINS

Oh please. That thing's not even close! No contest.

YOOLA

How about you, Fabli, what's new?

FABLI

Did some training, getting my agility times down for the show. Got my hair groomed and conditioned. And my owners arranged for me to spend some time on a stud farm next week.

He gives a sniff of pride. They awkwardly nod with approval.

SMUFFINS

Uhh.

YOOLA

Sooo, what about you, Rolo?

ROLO

Oh, same ol'. Naps, snacks, the usual. I guess I shouldn't complain. But, uh, can I ask you guys something? Like, don't you ever wonder if maybe there's something more?

YOOLA

More what?

ROLO

Like, like more we should be doing?

SMUFFINS

Like...car rides?

ROLO

No, I mean, I dunno, more than just being pampered and entertained?

SMUFFINS

What's wrong with that?

ROLO

Nothing.

FABLI

Are you on any new medications?

YOOLA

Well, what else is there? I mean we're safe, and healthy, and well fed, and our owners love us. There's nothing else we need, right?

SMUFFINS

What's the matter, buddy. Are you having a mid-life crisis?

ROLO

Don't you ever wonder where we came from?

FABLI

I came from a championship breeder.

ROLO

No, before that, like some place earthlings lived in the wild, where we ran around hunting and taking care of ourselves?

FABLI

Like those packs of stray street earthlings? Outside?! Ugh.

SMUFFINS

You don't hunt!

ROLO

Well, no. Bad example. But maybe I would if I had the choice.

FABLI

You could go into competitions.

(gestures to his body)

Well, not you.

ROLO

(sarcastically)

Gee, thanks!

YOOLA

I don't know what you're worrying about, Rolo, but this has always been the way things are. We've got it made! You should be happy with that.

ROLO

I know I should --

Rolo has unbuckled his harness to scratch an itch.

Two Animal Control robots roll up. They are about the size of adult Blorxians: T-L1 is short and squat, T-D3 is tall and thin. They are painted with insignias for Animal Control Force in a military style, with ID plaques.

T-L1

(menacingly to Rolo)

Civil code 473.7 requires all earthlings to wear a harness or collar at all times in public.

T-D3

(to all)

Identify your owners now.

Yoola, Smuffins, and Fabli point to their owners. (Yoola and Smuffins have the same owner.) Rolo looks around for Zira. T-D3 prods him.

T-D3

Where is your owner, earthling?

ROLO

(nervously)

Um, I don't see her --

T-L1

Civil code 314.9 requires earthlings to be under direct supervision of their owners or wranglers at all times in public.

T-D3

Present your identification tag, earthling.

Rolo nervously digs in his pockets and pulls out a photo ID. T-D3 scans it.

T-D3

Scanned. Accessing records...  
Your license is expired. Your owner  
needed to renew this on Bleptember  
40th.

ROLO  
I thought she took care of that.

T-D3  
And your veterinary records show you  
were never neutered.

ROLO  
Neutered!

T-L1  
Civil code 518.1 requires all mature  
earthlings without breeding permits  
to be neutered.

T-D3  
That is a class 2 violation. We must  
now take you in.

T-L1 opens a hatch in its body to contain Rolo. It reaches to grab Rolo.

Quiggles kicks dirt behind him into the Bot's hatch (the way dogs kick dirt after pooping).

Rolo removes his harness and runs away. The Bots chase Rolo as he leads them in a circle around the tree.

Yoola grabs Rolo's harness, still leashed to a tree, and hooks it onto one of the Bots.

Smuffins takes his leash out of his back pocket and ties the two Bots together. Then he hides out of sight.

Fabli stands back and watches.

Quiggles jumps on the Bots, opens their panels, and cross-wires their cables.

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles run away, dodging the crowd of other earthlings and Blorxians.

The Bots cut the leashes and pursue clumsily, disoriented by the cross-wiring. They stop and correct their cables.

Quiggles throws the blizbee and other earthlings' toys at the Bots, obscuring their vision and tripping them.

ROLO

Where's Zira?

YOOLA  
I don't see her. Where are you  
going?

ROLO  
There, the subway station.

He points to a SUBWAY entrance outside of the park.

From a long distance Zira sees him running away and the Bots  
pursuing.

ZIRA  
Rolo!

Rolo doesn't hear her. Zira runs toward Riffa.

ZIRA (CONT'D)  
Riffa, we have to catch Rolo!

Riffa briefly looks up from her phone, sighs, and looks back  
down.

Quiggles leaps up and snatches Riffa's phone, and runs after  
Rolo and Yoola.

RIFFA  
Quiggles! Give me back my phone!

Riffa and Zira chase after Quiggles. Quiggles runs past the  
Bots.

Rolo and Yoola run into the subway station, followed by  
Quiggles, then the Bots, then Riffa and Zira.

**8 INT. SUBWAY STATION - CONTINUOUS**

**8**

Alien version of a subway station, but instead of trains, a  
wormhole opens every few minutes. Over the platform a sign  
shows a countdown like "Next wormhole in 77...76...75..."

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles run into a wormhole, followed by T-  
D3.

The wormhole closes just before T-L1 can enter, so it finds a  
different wormhole and jumps in.

Riffa and Zira catch up. They jump into a third wormhole.

**9 INT. WORMHOLE - CONTINUOUS**

**9**

Inside the wormhole it looks like a tube of light, with graffiti that looks like crop circles. Seats float on both sides, arranged like a subway car. A floating sign shows what the next exit is, then the tube forks and individual seat-pairs and their passenger move onto that fork. Likewise other seat-pairs and passengers merge where wormholes join. (Basically like entering/exiting a highway, but seat-pairs instead of cars.) The exits have very similar confusing names, like "Blorzinton Station", "Bluxian", "Blazian", "Blorian", etc.

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles quickly take a seat. T-D3 comes up the aisle behind them.

YOOLA  
Quick, exit here!

They branch onto the next wormhole, and T-D3 follows.

YOOLA  
It followed us!

They branch again and the Bot follows. They quickly take the next branch and lose the Bot.

ROLO  
Wait, where are we?

They try to read the signs but they are too fast and confusing. They take the next branch.

YOOLA  
I don't know. Was that Bluxian?  
Blazian? Blorian?

T-L1 merges behind them. They shout and take the next exit, losing the Bot.

But in the new wormhole they see T-D3 is waiting ahead of them. So they quickly take another exit.

Zira and Riffa merge; their seat is now across the aisle.

ZIRA  
Rolo, there you are!

T-L1 merges. They shout and take two different exits. The Bot takes a third exit. (The camera stays behind on this wormhole which is now empty.)

Rolo & co. reenter, but upside down.

T-D3 enters (upside up).



Rolo & co. exit. As T-D3 tries to follow, T-L1 enters upside down and they crash into each other. Then each Bot takes a separate exit.

Zira and Riffa enter. Then they exit.

Both bots reenter from different directions, look at each other, turn around and exit.

Rolo & co. enter. Then Zira and Riffa enter.

**SUBWAY STATION** - In another station, we see a wormhole open and all five run out, pursued by T-L1 and T-D3. They run across the platform into another wormhole that was already open. It closes behind them, so each Bot jumps in a different wormhole.

We see a MAP of the Blorxian Subway -- a 3D globe with wormholes criss-crossing it, not across the surface but straight through the planet. A glowing dot shows the location of the party bouncing randomly all over the planet, even to the moon and back. Like a mall map it says "You Are Here" with the arrow following the moving dot.

Back in a WORMHOLE we see all five. They take an exit (camera follows). Then they crash through a series of barricades and caution tape that says, "Under Construction", "Do Not Enter", "Wormhole Closed", "Wormhole Ends", "Caution". Their seats screech to a halt before the broken end of the wormhole, through which we see a cavern with molten lava below. A caution sign reads "Planet Core is Hot!" with a graphic of a figure burning in lava. They back their seats away from the danger in reverse.

They merge onto a different line, still moving backwards. The Bots speed forward past them in the aisle, then turn around. But each party takes a different exit. The Bots stay behind and just wait.

Then both parties enter, and the Bots charge them. The parties take separate exits with each Bot pursuing.

Then both Bots enter, followed by both parties pursuing. The Bots turn around and charge them.

Quiggles tosses two banana peels in the aisle. The Bots stop before the banana peels, which then leap up hissing with teeth out and stick to the Bots' faces, giving them electric shocks. The Bots scramble to get the banana leeches off.

The camera follows both parties as they take the next branch together, leaving the Bots behind. It seems safe for a moment.

Then TD-3 enters in front and TL-1 enters from behind, and they close in. The camera follows Rolo & co. as they quickly exit. They watch cautiously as it seems safe.

ROLO  
I think we lost them.

YOOLA  
Where's your owner? Do you think they're okay?

ROLO  
I hope so.

Quiggles is holding Riffa's phone, chuckling. Rolo looks at it. Quiggles has posted a selfie making a funny face next to Rolo looking scared with a Bot behind them.

ROLO (CONT'D)  
Very funny, Quiggles.

Rolo takes the phone and puts it in his pocket.

**10 EXT. OLD BLORGTON - AFTERNOON - MOMENTS LATER**

**10**

An old run-down part of town, sparsely populated, with graffiti on buildings like crop circles and broken windows. It feels neglected and dangerous.

A wormhole opens over the sidewalk, like a bus stop. Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles hop out of the wormhole, then it closes. They rush into a nearby alley and look to see if the Bots will pop out of another wormhole.

YOOLA  
Where are we?

ROLO  
I have no idea.

YOOLA  
Do you think your owner will find us?

ROLO  
Uh oh, look, that was the last wormhole today.

Where the wormhole was a sign is counting down, "Next wormhole in 9426...".

ROLO (CONT'D)

There won't be another one until tomorrow.

YOOLA

What?! How are we going to get home?!

ROLO

Shhh, shh, shh!

A grungy alien rodent shuffles down the sidewalk. It growls at them as it passes by. Quiggles growls back.

YOOLA

Okay, we can do this, we can find our way home, right?

ROLO

Yeah. Or...what if we don't go home?

YOOLA

What?!

ROLO

No, I mean, maybe we can find out where earthlings came from, and then we go home.

YOOLA

Are you crazy?

ROLO

Mmmaybee.

YOOLA

Our owners are gonna be so worried about us! And dinner is in two hours!

ROLO

C'mon, when have we ever got to just walk around and explore on our own? It's kind of exciting, isn't it?

An alien garbage truck hovers down the street sputtering.

YOOLA

That's not the word I'd use.

11 EXT. OLD BLORGTON - SAME TIME

11

A few blocks way. A wormhole opens over the sidewalk. Zira and Riffa hop out of the wormhole, then it closes. They look

around.

ZIRA  
Do you see them?

RIFFA  
No.

Riffa looks at the sign where the wormhole was, counting down.

RIFFA  
Wait, that was the last wormhole today! Thanks a lot, squid squirt!

ZIRA  
What are you mad at me for?

RIFFA  
Because now we're stuck here because of you and your stupid earthling!

ZIRA  
It's not my fault! They were going to take him away!

RIFFA  
You're the one who forgot to renew his license! And now his stupid pet took my phone. Uggh!

ZIRA  
Why are you so mean to me, Riffa? C'mon, you need to help me find him! He's lost, and probably so scared. If we don't find him soon the bots will catch him and take him away!

RIFFA  
Fine. We know they got off at one of these wormhole stops, so they can't be far.

ZIRA  
Oh wait, I have an idea.

Zira takes a device from her backpack and presses a few buttons, then points it at a lamppost. A holographic "LOST" poster appears with Rolo's picture.

They start walking down the sidewalk. Zira yells into an alley:

ZIRA

Rolooo!

**12 INT. COMMAND CENTER - LATER**

**12**

The Animal Control Force Command Center looks like a high-tech military operation: a large dark room with big monitors and consoles everywhere, and a buzz of activity. Rolo's photo is on one of the monitors. The entire staff are robots, including Privates T-L1 and T-D3, a CORPORAL, SERGEANT, LIEUTENANT, and many other bots. The COLONEL has an appendage that resembles a cigar at the side of his mouth, and his head is shaped like an army hat.

SUPERIMPOSE: Animal Control Force, Command Center

COLONEL

(to T-L1 & T-D3, angry)

Now do you two bolt buckets want to tell me how you managed to lose an unneutered mutt in a subway?!

CORPORAL

Colonel, we are getting reports of a possible match, feral adult male and female earthlings in Old Blorgton, heading east.

COLONEL

Sergeant, get me satellite surveillance on the eastern seaboard, sector B41.

SERGEANT

Yes sir.

COLONEL

Corporal, put the surveillance camera feeds onscreen for all blocks north of Bluxenblorg.

CORPORAL

Yes sir.

COLONEL

Lieutenant, scramble the 5th drone squadron. How long till they can intercept?

LIEUTENANT

Sir, the 5th drone squadron is already engaged in sector S95, for the hippo stampede, sir.

COLONEL

Then who do we have available?

LIEUTENANT

Sir, squadron 14 is available, base sector G51, sir.

COLONEL

G51? Well, that'll have to do. Get them airborne ASAP!

LIEUTENANT

Yes sir.

COLONEL

We need boots on the ground. Who have we got in that region?

SEARGENT

The 2nd platoon is ready in sector C15, sir.

COLONEL

2nd platoon? That the best we got? What about the 7th platoon?

SEARGENT

They're deployed to the lemming flood in E17.

COLONEL

7th platoon?

SEARGENT

Toilet gators.

COLONEL

1st platoon?

SEARGENT

Sharknado containment.

COLONEL

Okay, then, we'll have to settle for the 2nd platoon. Deploy them.

SEARGENT

Yes sir.

COLONEL

(gloating)

I love the smell of silicon in the morning.

**13 EXT. OLD BLORGTON - LATER****13**

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles are walking down a sidewalk.

A Blorxian walking the opposite direction looks at them suspiciously. They lower their heads and keep walking.

They approach a PET STORE.

                    ROLO  
Hey look, a pet store!

                    YOOLA  
So? Do you need something?

                    ROLO  
They know about pets, so they'd probably know where earthlings come from, right?

                    YOOLA  
Oh, okay.

Rolo reaches up and pulls on the pet store door handle with great effort. It slowly opens, then they all slip inside.

**14 INT. PET STORE - CONTINUOUS****14**

Inside the pet store we hear various alien animal noises.

They cautiously stroll down the aisle of pets. Quiggles makes faces at the animals as they pass several enclosures of:

- alien lizards, geckos, iguanas, chameleons, dragons
- alien canaries, parrots, cockatiels, cockatoos
- alien mice, gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, chinchillas
- alien ferrets, cats and kittens
- and earthlings:

In the first earthling enclosure a woman is sitting on a couch with a bowl of kibble, eating it like popcorn. She looks up and nods at Rolo.

                    PET WOMAN  
Hey.

                    ROLO  
Hey.

The next cage has a boy sleeping on a couch.

Rolo continues past them.

A CLERK approach them. He is young and nerdy, wearing a smock. He starts to reach down for Rolo and Yoola.

CLERK

Whoa, how did you two get out?

Rolo and Yoola step back out of reach.

ROLO

No, no, no. We're, uh, we're here with our owner. She just went over there.

He vaguely gestures toward the back of the shop.

CLERK

Oh, aren't you a cute one!

The clerk kneels and rubs Rolo's belly.

ROLO

Hey, can I ask you a question?

CLERK

You want to ask a question?

ROLO

Yeah, we were wondering, do you know where we came from? I mean earthlings. Where earthlings came from.

CLERK

Oh, well, actually no one knows. We just know you're not native.

YOOLA

What do you mean?

CLERK

I mean you're not Blorxian. Earthlings have a completely different genetic structure.

ROLO

So we were engineered?

CLERK

No, I mean you all came from a different planet.



ROLO

Wait, what? You mean I'm...an alien?!

CLERK

Yeah, you all are.

ROLO

Whoa.

CLERK

Actually earthlings are considered an invasive species.

Rolo is stunned.

YOOLA

Huh. Which planet?

CLERK

Not even from our solar system.

ROLO

Why doesn't anyone know where?

CLERK

That's a mystery. There's just no records. But maybe your owner can find out at the science museum. That's just a couple blocks that way.

He points in a different direction than they were walking before. He stands up and looks around.

CLERK (CONT'D)

Where is your owner? You really shouldn't be wandering around off leash.

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles sneak off to another aisle while the clerk is looking away. They hurry toward the door.

Quiggle's sees bags of pet treats on a display. He points at them, jumping up and down excitedly. Rolo looks around, then grabs a bag, and they dash out the front door.

**15 EXT. OLD BLORGTON - AFTERNOON - CONTINUOUS**

**15**

Rolo, Yoola, and Quiggles dash out of the pet store.

YOOLA

So now you're stealing too? Aren't we already in enough trouble?

ROLO  
C'mon, this way!

Energized with determination, he trots across the street. They follow.

YOOLA  
Where are you going?

ROLO  
To find that museum!

He opens the bag of pet treats, tosses one to Quiggles, and offers one to Yoola.

ROLO (CONT'D)  
Want one?

Yoola gives him a hostile look, then grabs the treat and starts eating it. He eats one too as they walk down the sidewalk.

ROLO (CONT'D)  
So we're actually aliens? Isn't that weird? Like, "Take me to your leader."

Yoola begrudgingly chuckles.

YOOLA  
"We come in peace."

ROLO  
"Resistance is futile."

They laugh.

ROLO (CONT'D)  
What do you think our planet is like? Do you think earthlings are still there?

YOOLA  
That would be weird. Like living in their own little houses, going to little schools, going on walks whenever they want, taking themselves on car rides.

ROLO

(chuckles) Yeah. That kinda sounds nice, actually.

YOOLA

Talking in some crazy alien language, probably running around naked and dirty, covered with parasites, and hunted by carnivores.

ROLO

Hm.

A block away, Zira and Riffa are walking, looking around.

ZIRA

Rolooo.

Zira points her device at another lamppost and posts another Lost poster.

ZIRA (CONT'D)

Rolooo.

Riffa sees Rolo and Yoola a block ahead. She points.

RIFFA

Wait, isn't that him up there?

ZIRA

Rolo!

They run toward him.

Rolo sees them approaching. He starts running away, but Yoola stands still.

ROLO

Uh oh, it's Zira.

YOOLA

Oh good! They can take us home.

ROLO

No, I don't wanna go home yet!

YOOLA

Rolo, think about this. Why is this so important to you?

ROLO

I just, I need to find out where we came from. And then we can go home, okay? So will you help me?

YOOLA

(a beat)

I can't believe I'm doing this!

They run away, chased by Zira and Riffa, running down alleys, dodging dumpsters and debris. They turn onto a street and run inside an abandoned WAREHOUSE and hide.

Zira and Riffa run past.

ZIRA

Rolo! Rolo!

(frustrated)

Where did they go?!

Zira and Riffa continue walking away from the warehouse.

**16 INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

**16**

The abandoned warehouse is mostly empty, dirty and dilapidated, with graffiti that looks like crop circles, broken windows, and missing doors. There is a small pile of palettes against a column. But it is calm and serene, with sunbeams shining through the windows in the dusty air. Rolo peeks outside.

ROLO

Okay, they're gone.

YOOLA

I've never run so much my whole life!

She sits on the palettes. Quiggles joins her and sprawls out.

YOOLA (CONT'D)

Do you have any more of those snacks?

Rolo tosses her the bag of treats.

YOOLA (CONT'D)

Can we just rest here a bit?

ROLO

Okay. I'll try to see where the museum is.

Rolo walks to a back doorway and slowly steps out.

**17 EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS**

**17**

The alley behind the warehouse, with dumpsters, garbage, boxes, and a curled up old mattress. Rolo cautiously steps out the doorway. He goes a little distance down the alley to look for the museum.

Suddenly we hear the gruff male earthling voice of ZEFFRO:

ZEFFRO (O.S.)  
Freeze! Don't...move...a muscle.

Rolo holds still, very frightened. He cannot see where the voice is coming from.

Then we see behind Rolo several monstrous carnivorous alien RODENTS, sightless, sniffing and listing, slowly closing in on him.

Suddenly one lunges toward Rolo, teeth out. But it is struck by an arrow and falls to the side.

ZEFFRO (O.S.)  
Run!

Rolo sees the rodents behind him and runs down the alley.

Now we see Zeffro running and jumping across dumpsters and boxes behind Rolo, shooting rodents with a makeshift bow. His hair and beard are long, messy, and streaked grey. His clothes are dirty and tattered. He's a stray street earthling, a survivalist of the urban jungle.

Zeffro passes Rolo, climbs up a dumpster, and reaches down to Rolo.

ZEFFRO  
Here!

Rolo grabs his hand as Zeffro helps him up. Then Zeffro pushes Rolo up a fire escape ladder.

ZEFFRO  
Climb!

Zeffro shoots more rodents that are climbing the dumpster.

ZEFFRO  
Faster!

Zeffro follows Rolo up the ladder, and they run up the fire escape steps and ladders. Rodents pursue as Zeffro shoots more of them.

Rolo reaches the top of the ladder and steps onto the roof of the warehouse, winded. Nothing happens for a while, so he peers over the top of the ladder.

A rodent pops up! Rolo jumps back. Then he sees it's actually dead.

ZEFFRO (O.S.)  
(straining)  
Here, grab this.

Rolo hesitates. We see Zeffro beneath the rodent's heavy body, pushing it up the ladder.

ZEFFRO  
Come on! It's not going to bite  
you...anymore.

Rolo cautiously grabs the rodent's front claw with disgust and drags it onto the roof with much effort. Zeffro climbs onto the roof.

ZEFFRO  
This way.

Zeffro grabs the tail and easily drags it across the roof. Rolo follows.

Several yards away they arrive at an open lean-to -- a roof made of scrap materials supported by poles, up against a wall. It looks like a bar, with a counter, upside-down buckets as stools, and shelves on the back wall. Somehow it has an exotic, romantic quality, with a beautiful view of the sky and city.

Zeffro stands behind the counter and heaves the rodent onto the counter.

ZEFFRO  
You hungry?

ROLO  
(disgusted)  
Uhhh.

Zeffro lifts an oversize cleaver and starts butchering the carcass. Rolo gags and turns away.

ROLO  
Oh! Ugh. What are you doing?! (gags)

ZEFFRO  
Haven't you ever had granger meat  
before?

ROLO  
Well, granger flavor earthling chow.

ZEFFRO  
And where do you think that comes from?

ROLO  
I know, but...I've never seen it before!

He tries looking but winces away.

ZEFFRO  
Have a seat.

Rolo sits on a bucket in front of the counter, avoiding eye contact with the carcass and the head laying on the floor. Rolo notices the museum a block away.

Behind the counter is an alien clothes iron, turned upside down, plugged into an extension cord. Zeffro slaps a couple steaks on the hot iron like a griddle. He presses it with a knife like a spatula as it sizzles.

As they talk he pulls crushed leaves, salt, seeds, and berries from the shelves. He seasons and flips the meat, and prepares a sauce in a pan.

ROLO  
You live up here?

ZEFFRO  
Yep.

ROLO  
Like, all the time?

Zeffro gives him a look.

ROLO  
You don't have an owner?

ZEFFRO  
I did.

ROLO  
Don't you miss living inside?

ZEFFRO  
Nope.

ROLO  
Where do you sleep?

ZEFFRO

Here. Under the stars.

ROLO

Doesn't it rain sometimes?

ZEFFRO

So?

ROLO

Hm. ... You know, I've never been to this area before.

ZEFFRO

No kiddin'.

ROLO

Actually we're kinda lost.

ZEFFRO

Yeah, I can see that.

ROLO

I've never even been off-leash this long outside before.

Zeffro puts the steaks on saucers, and like a chef he drizzles sauce on both steaks, sprinkles some spice, places a small sprig on each, and wipes the corner of the plate. He places a saucer in front of Rolo.

ZEFFRO

Here.

ROLO

Wow, this smells amazing! Uhh, do you have any silverware?

Zeffro grabs his own steak with one hand and bites off a huge piece, staring at Rolo the whole time.

So Rolo picks up his steak with two hands and takes a tentative bite.

ROLO

Oh! Oh! This is delicious! Mm!

ZEFFRO

(with food in his mouth)  
It's fresh.

Rolo ravenously takes a huge bite. Then another.



**19 INT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER 19**

Yoola and Quiggles are looking around the large warehouse.

YOOLA  
Roloooo! ... Roloooo!

**20 EXT. WAREHOUSE ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS 20**

Rolo hears Yoola through a broken skylight.

YOOLA (O.S.)  
Roloooo!

ROLO  
Oops! I better take this to go.

He heads back to the fire escape, holding his steak and taking another bite. He turns again to Zeffro and gives a thumbs up.

ROLO  
Mm!! Five star!

**21 INT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER 21**

Quiggles is helping Yoola look for Rolo. She yells out the door they had first entered.

YOOLA  
Rolo!!!

Rolo enters the back doorway, holding what's left of his steak, with sauce all over his face and hands.

ROLO  
Here! So sorry! I'm here.

YOOLA  
Where did you go?! And what are you eating?

Quiggles gallops up to Rolo, hops on his shoulder and licks his face clean.

ROLO  
(with his mouth full)  
It's granger meat.

YOOLA  
That's what granger looks like?! Ew, gross!



only chance. Will you please help me?

YOOLA

I'm sure we can find someone to help us figure out the subway to go home.

ROLO

No. You go ahead. I need to do this.

YOOLA

Are you sure? I hope you're okay, Rolo. I'll see you when you get home, okay?

ROLO

Thanks.

They hug.

YOOLA

Good luck!

Yoola enters the subway station.

Rolo and Quiggles walk to the museum.

An alien TIGER OWNER is sitting on the front steps of the museum, playing an alien harmonica. He has a large pet animal that looks like an alien TIGER, resting on the ground, wearing a studded collar and leash.

As they walk by Quiggles growls at the Tiger. It growls back. Then Quiggles charges at it. In a split second, the Tiger drops its jaw open as Quiggles runs straight inside, and snaps its jaw shut.

ROLO

Quiggles!!

TIGER OWNER

Krilly! Drop iiiit. Draaaawp iiiit!

With a reluctant look, the Tiger sits up and very slowly opens its mouth as Quiggles wiggles out, limb by limb, then falls to the ground. Quiggles brushes the slobber off himself and stomps away, but slowly starts circling around back to the Tiger, speeding up, and jumps onto it and tries biting the top of its head. The Tiger rolls its eyes.

TIGER OWNER (CONT'D)

Whoa there, little fella.

ROLO  
(concurrently)  
Quigglllllles!

The Tiger Owner gently pushes Quiggles off as Rolo pulls him down.

ROLO  
So sorry about that, sir.

Quiggles gives a final growl, then walks away with a smug sense of accomplishment, dusting off his hands.

ROLO  
Quiggles, I think you're my role model.

Rolo gives a wry smile. They continue up the museum steps but a security GUARD stops them.

GUARD  
Whoa, earthy, where do you think you're going?

ZIRA (O.S.)  
Rolo!

Rolo sees Zira and Riffa half a block away rushing toward him.

ZIRA  
Rolo!

ROLO  
Uh oh.

Quiggles is behind the Guard, with mouth open wide about to bite his leg.

ROLO  
Quiggles, no! I've got another idea.  
We're gonna need Zira's help for this.

Rolo jumps up and down, waving his arms.

ROLO (CONT'D)  
Zira! Here! Over here!

Zira and Riffa reach the top of the steps.

ZIRA  
(sweetly)  
Rolo, there you are, you bad boy!

ROLO  
(to guard)  
We're with them.

Rolo and Quiggles dash inside the museum. Zira and Riffa, flummoxed, run after them.

**23 INT. MUSEUM - CONTINUOUS**

**23**

The Old Blorgton Museum of Science. It is grand and echoey, with sunbeams shining through the skylights. It is not very crowded.

Once they are well inside, Rolo turns around, runs to Zira and jumps in her arms. She hugs him.

ROLO  
Zira! You found me!

ZIRA  
Rolo, poor thing. Were you scared?

Rolo takes Riffa's phone out of his pocket and hands it to her.

ROLO  
Here's your phone back, Riffa.

Rolo wiggles out of Zira's arms.

ROLO  
Bet you can't catch me!

Rolo runs into the exhibit hall followed by Quiggles.

RIFFA  
Ugh!

Zira and Riffa chase after him.

**24 BEGIN MUSICAL MONTAGE:**

**24**

Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles chase and play in the museum. Riffa is usually in the background looking at her phone or rolling her eyes at them.

**ZIGZAG** - Quiggles jumps onto Rolo's shoulders. They zigzag around several statues as Zira pursues.

**ELEVATOR** - There are two elevators to the upper level, both waiting with doors open. Rolo and Quiggles go in one, Zira goes in the other.

**WALKWAY** - There is an elevated walkway going through a rainforest atrium. Rolo and Quiggles walk briskly, followed by Zira.

**SLIDE** - All three slide down a spiral-shaped tree trunk in the rainforest atrium.

**PENGUINS** - All three walk like penguins in front an enclosure of live alien penguins.

**FLYING MACHINES** - Rolo flies in a primitive spiral-copter. Quiggles flies in a pedal-powered flapping-wing plane.

**CLUB** - Rolo chases Zira left with a caveman club.

**AXE** - Zira chases him right with a stone axe.

**SLING** - Rolo chases her left swinging a sling.

**SPEAR** - Zira chases him right with a spear.

**ARROW** - Rolo chases her left with a bow and arrow.

**SWORD** - Zira chases him right with a sword.

**ARMOR** - Rolo chases her left in an alien suit of armor with a sword. He loses balance and falls backwards, arms and legs flailing in the air.

**PLANETS** - All three sit on large mobile of their star system, with multiple planets in criss-cross orbits, double planets, and moons around moons. They are each sitting and spinning on a different planet or moon.

**DINOSAURS** - Zira holds Rolo as they ride an animatronic alien triceratops skeleton. Quiggles rides a t-rex.

**SURVEILLANCE ROOM** - In a room of many video feeds, we see the back of ZANANA watching. All we know now is that she is an old woman Blorxian, dressed professionally. She looks at a video feed of Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles playing. Then she zooms in on Riffa disengaged, looking at her phone. Then we see Zanana's face, watching thoughtfully. We cannot read her yet, but she is not angry.

**JAWS** - Quiggles stands inside alien shark jaws holding his mouth wide open. Then Rolo does the same. Then Zira does; her mouth opens surprisingly large.

**FLOWER** - Rolo leans over to smell a large flower. The flower snaps shut on his head and upper body, lifting him upside down. Zira springs to rescue him.

**BUTTERFLIES** - Zira and Rolo are looking at live alien butterflies. Quiggles shoots his tongue out to catch one floating by, but Rolo catches his tongue.

**MAMMOTH** - Zira holds Rolo as they ride an animatronic alien woolly mammoth. Quiggles sits on a tusk.

**BUGS** - Rolo holds Quiggles' mouth open and pulls out large insects one at a time, as Zira puts them back on an insect pin-board display.

**GEMS** - All three hold giant gems, refracting the sunlight from one gem to the next to the next one.

**EVOLUTION** - They look at series of life-size figures of the evolutionary stages of Blorxians evolving from salamander-like creatures. Quiggles opens his mouth to eat the smallest one; Rolo shakes his head no and he stops.

**SKULL** - Quiggles wears a dinosaur skull and stomps around like a monster.

**EGYPTIANS** - All three wear costumes like ancient alien Egyptians, posing like old murals.

**JELLYFISH** - Quiggles is inside a tank of alien jellyfish, swimming like them.

**CATAPULT** - Quiggles sits in a catapult. Rolo is about to pull the lever to launch him.

#### **END MONTAGE**

The security GUARD looks sternly at Rolo, with his arms crossed. Rolo freezes. The guard gestures with his finger to come with him.

#### **25 INT. CURATOR'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER**

**25**

A dark-wood-paneled office with many bookcases and artifacts. There is a large wooden desk with four chairs facing it.

Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles are each sitting in a chair, looking guilty. Riffa sits in the fourth chair, glaring at Zira.

Awkward silence.

The door opens and Madame ZANANA enters (rhymes with *banana*). She is the museum curator, the Blorxian who was watching the video feeds. She is like a wise elder.

She sits at her desk somberly and looks at each of them, mostly at Zira and Riffa, studying their faces thoughtfully,

but not angry. On her desk is a name plaque: "Madame Zanana, Curator". She contemplates incisively before each question.

ZANANA

(to Riffa)

Are you responsible for her?

RIFFA

No!

ZANANA

Is she your sister?

RIFFA

Yes.

ZANANA

Why are you angry?

RIFFA

I'm not!

ZANANA

You're not?

Riffa tries to hold her tongue, then blurts:

RIFFA

She keeps getting us in trouble!  
She's such a child!

ZANANA

(to Zira)

How old are you, dear?

ZIRA

72.

ZANANA

Is that all? Why, you're almost my  
granddaughter's age.

(to Riffa)

Such a child? What is it you expect  
her to be?

Riffa pauses, then mumbles:

RIFFA

I dunno.

ZANANA

Hm.

(to Zira)

Is this your earthling?



ZIRA

Yes.

ZANANA

Why isn't he on a leash?

ZIRA

Sorry. We lost it.

ZANANA

You lost it?

ZIRA

Well, we were in the park, and Animal Control was going to take him because I forgot to renew his license, and he ran away.

ZANANA

I see.

She leans forward toward Zira and says wryly in a hushed voice:

ZANANA (CONT'D)

Those Animal Control bots are just power-hungry. They should be put on leashes.

Zira smirks.

RIFFA

Are we in trouble? Did they break anything?

ZANANA

Oh nothing is broken out there. You two just looked a little lost, is all. As long as nothing is missing, you're fine.

(looking at Zira)

Is anything missing?

Quiggles shifts his eye for a beat, then opens his mouth, takes a large insect out (a dead one from the display) and puts it on her desk.

Zanana looks at it, then at Quiggles, then smirks.

ZANANA

(to Zira)

What's your earthling's name?

ROLO

Rolo.

ZANANA

Well, aren't you adorable, Rolo. You remind me of my dear Groogy, right over there.

In the corner they see a glass case containing a taxidermy earthling man with fake looking eyes, somewhat similar to Rolo, sitting on a large cushion.

ZANANA

He was just a chubby ball of dreams, like you.

Rolo looks embarrassed for a moment.

ROLO

Can I ask you, do you know what planet earthlings come from?

ZANANA

Your planet?

ZIRA

I tried looking online but I couldn't find anything.

ZANANA

No, of course not. That's because it was deleted.

ZIRA & ROLO

Deleted?

ZANANA

Come with me.

**26 INT. MUSEUM HALL - MOMENTS LATER**

**26**

A dim hall toward the back wing.

Zanana explains as they walk:

ZANANA

The Big Delete of 8449. Planet Blorx had accumulated so much knowledge that they were running out of data storage in the nebula. This was quite a global crisis, and no one could agree what to do. So one day a data clerk hacked into the data core

and simply deleted all the old useless information. Most of it was cat videos. But sadly, we lost all the earthling history too.

ROLO

Oh no.

ZIRA

Didn't anyone remember anything?

ZANANA

Most people just offloaded their memories to the nebula, so they all forgot. But...

**27 INT. MUSEUM GALLERY - CONTINUOUS**

**27**

They enter a small gallery with ancient Blorxian hieroglyph murals. One shows a large UFO saucer with several humanoids levitating up to it. Below them it looks like grazing cows. Zanana points to it.

ZANANA

We do have some clues in these ancient hieroglyphs. This mural here shows earthlings being abducted from their planet by spacecraft.

ROLO

What planet is it?

ZANANA

The ancients named it: Planet Earth.

ROLO

Earth? Earthlings from Earth? Not very creative, but easy to remember, I guess. Where is it?

ZANANA

They said it's the third planet around a star named Sol, but they gave no description of where it is.

ZIRA

So there's no other information?

Zanana pulls a large book from a bookshelf.

ZANANA

Well, there is one other source here that says something.

She lays the old book on a table. The title is barely visible: "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy". She turns the pages looking for the entry.

ZANANA

Let's see...it's right...here it is.  
"Earth: mostly harmless".

ROLO

(waiting for more)  
That's it?

ZANANA

Yes, I'm afraid so, dear.

ROLO

Hm.

ZANANA

Now there have been other stories,  
not written in any book though. But  
I know just the person who would  
know. Go to The Black Hole Tavern  
and look for Captain Blarzenhook.  
Tell him Zanana sent you.

**28 EXT. OLD BLORGTON - DUSK - MOMENTS LATER**

**28**

They exit the museum and walk along a sidewalk. The neighborhood is quaint and well maintained.

RIFFA

(pointing ahead)  
Okay, there's a subway station this  
way, near the boardwalk. That'll get  
us home.

ZIRA

It looks like the evening eclipse is  
starting. This is always my favorite  
time.

During this scene, darkness gradually progresses across the sky like a curtain closing -- a daily eclipse from a large planetary body.

ROLO

Hey Zira, how did you get me?

ZIRA

What do you mean?

ROLO

I mean when you first got me from the pet store, when I was little.

ZIRA

Oh yeah, you were just a little kid. I guess we both were. What made you think of that?

ROLO

I dunno. I've just been thinking about things. All I can remember my whole life is living with you. But I never thought to ask before, why did you pick me?

ZIRA

Well, I always wanted to get my own pet earthie for as long as I could remember. I begged my Mom and Dad all the time for years, but they always said I was "too young" to handle such a "big responsibility". But then on my 40th birthday, they took me to the pet store as a surprise, and said I could pick any pet. There was this pen thing with a bunch of earthies, and you just looked up at me with this smile, and I knew you were the one.

An Animal Control Force vehicle slowly comes rolling up the street behind them, scanning both sides of the street with beams of light.

Zira sees it and pushes Rolo and Riffa through some bushes.

ZIRA

Hide!

RIFFA

Why?

ZIRA

It's Animal Control!

They fall to the ground and hold still.

Through the bushes they see the vehicle slowly pass. Then it stops and backs up a bit, scanning nearby. Then it continues forward out of sight.

ZIRA

Okay, they're gone.

Zira's backpack is on the ground. Riffa sees something inside through the opening and grabs her backpack.

RIFFA  
Wait a minute!

Riffa stands up and pulls out a small palm-sized model ROCKET. She holds it out toward Zira.

RIFFA  
(angry)  
Where did you get this? Is this  
Lazro's rocket? Did you take this  
from the attic?

Zira remains sitting, looking defensive.

RIFFA  
Zira, answer me! You can't take  
this. You're not allowed to touch  
Lazro's stuff!

ZIRA  
Yes I am! He was my brother too!  
(a beat)  
Give it to me!

Zira leans over and grabs the rocket, holding it close, her eyes locked on it.

RIFFA  
Zira, you're going to break it! --

ZIRA  
No I'm not!

RIFFA  
You're going to get into sooo much  
trouble with Mom and Dad. We need to  
save all of Lazro's things. And why  
do you even have it in your  
backpack?!

ZIRA  
(a beat)  
I like to hold it. It reminds me of  
him.

She turns the rocket slowly in her hands, looking at it sadly.

ZIRA  
He always used to take me with him  
stargazing, and to go crater

sledding and watch the rockets flying. He made this for his science fair project, and he let me help him with it. That was right before we lost him, that night he was abducted by aliens.

RIFFA

Well he wouldn't have been abducted if you didn't make him take you to that swamp!

Zira looks up at Riffa.

ZIRA

It wasn't my fault, Riffa!

RIFFA

Ugh! Well, just don't break it, and put it back when we get home!

Zira looks back at the rocket. A moment passes.

ROLO

Um, I don't know if this is a good time to mention this, but I haven't snacked in like two hours.

Zira stands up and puts on her backpack, and they go back to the sidewalk and continue walking.

Rolo sees a sign ahead for The Black Hole Tavern, with an arrow pointing down a side road by a harbor.

ROLO

(hushed, to Quiggles)

The Black Hole Tavern. Hey, that's where that captain knows about Earth. Can you distract them while I run over there?

Quiggles gives a thumbs up. He walks in front of Zira and Riffa and starts doing a mime routine. Rolo falls back, then starts jogging down the side road.

From overhead we see the view from a surveillance camera, following them walking. It zooms in on Rolo, with the words "Suspect Identified".

**29 INT. COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT - SAME TIME**

**29**

We see that same video feed on one of the large wall monitors. Other monitors show maps and the positions of bot

forces and camera feeds. The bots chatter intensely.

CORPORAL

Colonel, we've got a location on the target, on Blearial Avenue heading north.

SERGEANT

Sir, the 2nd platoon is delayed in sector C30.

COLONEL

What's the hold up?

SERGEANT

Their wormhole transport slipped into Möbius time-loop, sir.

COLONEL

Why, that platoon couldn't navigate their way out of a paper bag with a compass! Now where is that drone squadron?

LIEUTENANT

They are airborne and en route, sir.

COLONEL

Still? We're gonna need more. No meat bag is going to escape under my watch. Lieutenant, let's get an attack sub out there in case they try to flee by water.

LIEUTENANT

Yes sir.

COLONEL

I can almost taste the victory!

**30 EXT. HARBOR ROAD - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

**30**

A small road alongside a harbor. The road is rustic, and dimly lit with street lights, no traffic. The moon is large and beautiful. We hear the water lapping against the docks, creaking of the undulating launchpads, a distant bell clanging with the rolling waves, and night insects.

The docks are like sailing docks, but instead of boats there are spaceships of various designs. They sit on launchpads floating on the water, with gangways to the docks. The launchpads and spaceships gently sway with the water. An alien seal on barks on a dock.



Rolo is running down the street to find the TAVERN, with Quiggles close behind. Then we see Zira running after them.

ZIRA

Rolo!

**31 EXT. TAVERN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS**

**31**

Zira catches up with Rolo in front of the tavern -- a dilapidated dinky drinking hole overlooking the harbor. The sign flickers "The Black Hole Tavern". We hear muffled activity from within.

Rolo runs around a garbage can so that she cannot reach him.

ZIRA

Rolo, why do you keep running away?!  
Don't you wanna go home?

ROLO

Don't get mad, Zira.

ZIRA

Why?

ROLO

This is where Zanana said we could  
find Captain Blarzenhook, and he  
knows where Earth is!

ZIRA

She said he might know.

ROLO

Well I really wanna find out. Aren't  
you curious?

ZIRA

Kinda, but we need to get home.

Rolo gives his best sad-eye face.

ROLO

Well, we're already here. Can't we  
just go in and check, please?

ZIRA

This isn't fair, Rolo. You know I  
can't say no to that face.

Rolo hugs Zira's legs, then runs to the front door of the tavern. Zira waves to Riffa in the distance, then she pushes through the heavy, creaky door followed by Rolo and Quiggles.

**32 INT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS****32**

The tavern interior is dark and cozy with astro-nautical decor. Plasma candles flicker at each table and from sconces.

The BAR PATRONS are rugged and haggard Blorxian star sailors, quietly drinking and murmuring. In the corner someone is playing a languid tune on an alien CONCERTINA (accordion).

Captain BLARZENHOOK is sitting alone at a table, sipping a large mug of ale. He is the Blorxian archetype of an old sea captain pirate: beard, pipe, eye patch, weathered face, dark coat, and a grumbly pirate accent. He is always thirsty for a willing ear to hear his tales of misfortune.

ROLO

Which one is Captain Blarzenhook?

Zira points blatantly at Blarzenhook.

ZIRA

He looks like a captain.

ROLO

Do you really think it's that obvious?

Zira approaches Blarzenhook.

ZIRA

Sir, are you Captain Blarzenhook?

Blarzenhook sharpens his gaze and scrutinizes them.

BLARZENHOOK

If you be askin', I am.

ROLO

(impressed it was that easy)  
Huh.

BLARZENHOOK

Blarzenhook do be my name, but I haven't been called by that rank since my fated ship was torn asunder by the curs-ed kraken's tentacles coiling out from under the Scalorrean stratosphere, with death in its wake and wave, my hapless vessel's crush-ed corpse, sunk into a gas-e-ous grave.

ROLO

Oookaay.

BLARZENHOOK

Now how is it the likes of you be  
knowin' my name, and where I dwell  
to imbibe my bitter ends?

He sips his ale.

ZIRA

Zanana from the museum said you  
might be able to help us. Do you  
know her?

BLARZENHOOK

Aye, I do...and yet for all world I  
wish I didn't. It's been many a moon  
and tides and years since that  
tender name has landed on my  
lonesome ears. And now that you have  
spoken it, an ashen memory is now  
relit, of a time when--

ROLO

Excuse me--

BLARZENHOOK

--my beating heart was in flame--

ROLO

Captain--

BLARZENHOOK

--by the smoldering heartache--

ROLO

Sir!

BLARZENHOOK

--within that name.

ROLO

Have you ever heard of the  
planet...Earth? Do you know what  
it's like?

Blarzenhook raises his eyebrows.

BLARZENHOOK

Earth?

For dramatic suspense he hooks his pipe in his mouth, ignites  
a plasma lighter, and draws it in to light the pipe. He sips  
a few puffs from the pipe, leans back and slowly exhales a  
wafting swirl of fire sparks.

BLARZENHOOK

I've heard many a yarn, stories spun  
by salty star farers o'er  
generations of ages and eons of  
yore. (dramatic pause) Legends of  
wayward worlds and exotic beasts,  
chronicles of lore from every corner  
of the ever-capricious cosmos.  
Whether these apocryphal tales be  
true or not, I cannot accredit nor  
counter. So, with that bein' said,  
and with my ration of ale--

He raises his mug, and gestures for them to sit. The  
CONCERTINA segues to the chords of the *Gilligan's Island*  
theme song as Blarzenhook speaks.

BLARZENHOOK

-- just sit right back, and you'll  
hear this tale, a tale of a fateful  
trip --

**33 EXT. DOCK - DAY - (FANTASY)**

**33**

A small spaceship named Minnow is sitting at the dock. Then  
we see the first mate, then the skipper, both Blorxian  
versions of the *Gilligan's Island* characters. Then we see  
five more Blorxians boarding the ship.

BLARZENHOOK (V.O.)

-- that started from this lonely  
port, aboard a humble ship. The mate  
was a mighty farin' man, the skipper  
brave and sure. Five passengers set  
aloft that day for a three hour  
tour.

**END FANTASY**

The Bar Patrons, having heard Blarzenhook's story countless  
times, mock him:

BAR PATRONS

(singing, laughing)  
A three hour tour!

Blarzenhook aims an icy stare at the Bar Patrons and grunts,  
waiting until they are quiet.

As Blarzenhook resumes his story, the CONCERTINA accompanies  
again and the Bar Patrons resume murmuring.

**34 OUTER SPACE - (FANTASY)****34**

We see a star with large solar flares blowing asteroids off their orbits, and the space ship Minnow flying away, battered by the flares and asteroids. The stellar dust swirls into a wormhole vortex, sucking the ship inside.

BLARZENHOOK (V.O.)

The stellar winds were flarin' up;  
the tiny ship was tossed. If not for  
the courage of the fearless crew the  
Minnow would be lost.

**END FANTASY**

Quiggles has joined the Bar Patrons and "sings"/squawks with them.

BAR PATRONS & QUIGGLES

(singing, laughing louder)  
The Minnow would be lost!

Angered, Blarzenhook throws his mug at the feet of the Bar Patrons. They CONCERTINA deflates abruptly and they shut up.

After a stern stare, Blarzenhook resumes his story, and the CONCERTINA accompanies.

**35 FANTASY SERIES OF SHOTS - EXT. EARTH - DAY****35**

We see planet Earth and zoom in to a shore of San Salvador (where Columbus first landed) where the Minnow is battered and broken, with the crew standing on the beach.

BLARZENHOOK (V.O.)

The ship set ground on the shore of  
this uncharted blue-green isle, with  
seven stranded castaways, now livin'  
in exile.

An alien holds up their cell phone trying to get a signal. Another one holds their tablet and cord looking for an outlet to charge it.

No cell phone bars, no motorcars,  
not a single luxury. No place to  
charge their tablets. T'was  
primitive as can be.

Primitive humans curiously approach the aliens and offer them corn.

The next day the natives welcomed them, with curiosity. These simple docile bipeds, not unlike our domestic breed.

The aliens look skeptically at the tiny corncobs in their much larger hands, then give each other a knowing look.

But this hungerin' crew had rumblin' bellies needin' of some meat.

Aliens roasting a human on a spit.

The natives were so plentiful, and such easy catch to eat.

Aliens eating cooked humans that are chewy and taste bad.

But their flesh had such a gamy taste, and gristly to chew.

Aliens hunting dinosaurs violently, then barbecuing a huge dinosaur part.

So they turned their teeth to giant beasts as slaughtered bar-becue.

In an ice age, humans are keeping company with aliens around a campfire.

Now as time went by the natives came to warm up by their side, and all grew fond of the companionship those critters did provide.

An alien shepherd watches over a flock of primitive humans.

So they raised them and protected them.

An alien looking like a shop teacher shows humans to how to use stone-cutting tools.

And taught them some new tricks.

We see Stonehenge, then Maya pyramids, then Egyptian pyramids and the Sphinx with an alien face.

Then as tribute they, with gratitude, built great shapes with giant bricks.

In the black night sky something large comes burning brightly through the atmosphere like a meteor.

Then one new moon, 'twas from the  
sky, a galleon cut the dark.

From the plasma emerges an ark-like spaceship, with a wake of  
aurora lights.

Three hundred cubits bow to stern,  
i'twas the Blorxian Ark.

The aliens are joyous.

It rained on them deliverance and  
tears of joyful mirth.

The spaceship uses tractor beams to lift dozens of humans  
into the ship.

So with two of every human pet, they  
left the planet...Earth.

The spaceship zooms away from Earth.

#### **END FANTASY**

Rolo, shocked and horrified, stares at Blarzenhook.

Awkward silence.

Blarzenhook nonchalantly slurps the last drop of ale from his  
(new) mug loudly, gulps it down, and exhales with  
satisfaction.

ROLO  
That...was not...the story I was  
expecting.

BLARZENHOOK  
Then careful what ya' be wishin'  
for.

ROLO  
How do we get there?

Blarzenhook, raising his pipe to his mouth, halts midway and  
raises an eyebrow.

BLARZENHOOK  
Ho, you think it's all real, do ya'?

Blarzenhook sips a couple puffs from his pipe.

ROLO  
(a beat, then determined)

I need to find out.

Blarzenhook nods and exhales fire sparks. They swirl into star constellations with illustrations of alien figures. With the stem of his pipe he points to the tail end of a constellation shaped like a creature.

BLARZENHOOK

They say the planet Earth roams  
about these here parts, orbitin' the  
last star of the constellation  
Chronarnious --

He points to a fist-shaped constellation next to it.

BLARZENHOOK

-- just past the Cold Grip of  
Despair.

ROLO

(frightened)  
What?!

BLARZENHOOK

It's just a name, matey, born from  
the idle minds of souls lost adrift,  
(pause, then abruptly)  
in the vast expanse of one's  
emptiness and meaningless  
existence --

**36 EXT. HARBOR ROAD - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

**36**

Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles exit the tavern. Riffa is waiting outside. They all walk back on the road out of the harbor.

RIFFA

Finally! What took you so long?

ROLO

(chuckling)  
I thought he would never stop  
talking!

ZIRA

He was funny. I like him!

Quiggles is zigzagging about, sniffing sign posts and trying to catch flying bugs in his mouth.

RIFFA

Okay, so if we hurry up we can make  
it home before 29 o'clock.



Rolo's smile fades. He stops walking as the others continue.

ZIRA

Ooh, can we stop for frozen  
squallers at the subway station?  
Remember we used to eat those after  
visiting the zoo?

She notices Rolo is far behind.

ZIRA (CONT'D)

Rolo, c'mon.

ROLO

(heavy sigh) Zira, I--

Zira walks back toward Rolo.

ZIRA

C'mon. Do you want me to carry you?

ROLO

No. It's not that. I just...I don't  
want to go home.

ZIRA

What do you mean?

ROLO

I want to find Earth.

ZIRA

What? Don't be silly!

ROLO

I'm serious!

ZIRA

No, that's ridiculous! Let's go  
home.

ROLO

Zira, I need to try. I want this.

ZIRA

Rolo, stop it! C'mon.

She reaches her hand out.

ROLO

You just don't understand. You never  
understood, and you never will!

He walks toward the harbor. Zira chases him so he runs.  
Quiggles runs past Zira.

ZIRA

Rolo!

RIFFA

(yelling the distance)

Ugh! See? This is why you're  
supposed to keep his leash on!

ZIRA

Rolo!

Rolo slips between the fence bars outside the harbor,  
followed by Quiggles and keep running. Zira grabs onto the  
fence; she cannot fit through.

ZIRA

Rolo! Come back here! ... Rolo!

Riffa rolls her eyes, tilts her head back and groans:

RIFFA

Ugggggggggh

**37 EXT. DOCK - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

**37**

In the starry sky we see a large moon. It is colonized, so we  
see vast city lights across its surface. A space elevator  
tether connects the moon to the planet, with lights traveling  
up and down it. Two small moons orbit the large moon.

Rolo is sitting on a dock, with his feet dangling over the  
water, looking at the moon over the mouth of the harbor.

We hear water lapping, the dock creaking, and alien crickets,  
frogs, and flying insects. The alien ocean glows blue with  
every ripple and wave, like an underwater aurora, crashing  
brightly against the breakers in the distance. It casts a  
rippled light on Rolo and the dock pylons. An alien seal  
barks on the dock, then dives in the water.

Quiggles is swimming a backstroke, squirting water out of his  
mouth, and doing synchronized-swimming tricks with glowing  
splashes.

Zira enters, slightly winded.

ZIRA

There you are!

She leans down to pat his head.

Rolo huffs through his nose and leans away from her. Hurt, Zira pauses, then sits down near him with her legs over the dock.

ZIRA

(choking up)

What's the matter Rolo? Why are you mad at me?

ROLO

You just don't understand. I just... I want to find something... more. I want to go find Earth.

ZIRA

But why? This is your home. This is your home, with me.

ROLO

I know, but --

ZIRA

Don't you like me anymore?

ROLO

Of course I do! I love you, Zira. But something just feels... empty. I feel like there's something more for me out there.

ZIRA

(teary)

But why? You have me! And Quiggles and Riffa. Aren't we enough, Rolo? You're my pet. Isn't that enough?

ROLO

I thought it was. I love being your pet. But it's always the same thing, everyday. I eat, I sleep, we play, I take naps.

ZIRA

What about today? That was different. That was fun, wasn't it?

ROLO

Yeah, actually it was. It was a lot of fun. But still... I want more than fun. I want to, like, make something, or do something important. I dunno.

ZIRA

Then I'll get you more toys! And we  
can get you another pet!

ROLO  
No --

ZIRA  
(crying)  
But why! Why?!

ROLO  
Zira --

ZIRA  
No! You're my pet! You're mine! And  
we're going home!

She reaches over to grab him.

ROLO  
No!

He dodges her and stands back at a distance while she gets  
up.

ROLO  
Zira, if you love me, then please  
understand! This is important to me.  
I want to find Earth!

ZIRA  
You can't go to Earth! It's, it's  
not even real! And you couldn't even  
get there! Who would feed you? And  
keep you warm? And where would you  
sleep? You'd be lost, Rolo! Who  
would take care of you?

ROLO  
(angry)  
Maybe I don't need anyone to take  
care of me!

ZIRA  
Yes you do! You're just a little  
earthling. You need me!

ROLO  
(choking up)  
Maybe if you didn't take care of me  
I could be more! You never let me  
just do my own thing. You never let  
me try anything or go anywhere on my  
own. Maybe I can do more, I want to,

but I'll never know if you keep  
holding me back! Zira, please  
understand --

ZIRA  
There's nothing to understand!  
You're my pet and we're going home!  
Now!

She stands firm and points at her feet, commanding him to  
heel. He takes a ragged breath.

ROLO  
I'm sorry.

He looks at her sympathetically. Then turns and walks away.

ZIRA  
Rolooooo!

Quiggles jumps out of the water and follows Rolo.

At a distance in the water we see a robotic PERISCOPE rise  
up. From the periscope POV we see it pan left and right, then  
lock onto Rolo and zoom in, flashing crosshairs with the  
words "Target Identified".

**38 INT. COMMAND CENTER - SAME TIME**

**38**

We see that same periscope video feed on one of the large  
wall monitors.

CORPORAL  
Colonel, we've identified the target  
at the harbor!

COLONEL  
Good! Sergeant, how long till ground  
troops intercept?

SERGEANT  
Sir, no ETA yet. Now their transport  
slipped into a time dilation drain-  
hole.

COLONEL  
Those brainless bots would lose  
their heads if it wasn't bolted on!  
(to T-L1 & T-D3)  
Privates, I can't believe I'm about  
to do this, but I'm sending you out  
to the field again. Do you think two

bolt buckets can manage to keep your  
nuts screwed on this time?!

T-L1 & T-D3

Sir, yes, sir!

They exit. The Colonel turns and rolls toward an office door labeled "General Glirk" on an elevated level overlooking the bullpen.

COLONEL

I've got about as much confidence in  
those two as a plastic worm gear!  
We're gonna need backup.

**39 INT. GENERAL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

**39**

From inside the office we see the door open and the Colonel enter.

COLONEL

General Glirk, Sir!

From the Colonel's POV we see the office. Unlike the command center, this is an outdated bureaucratic office, with an old desk, old wall paneling, filing cabinets, stacks of papers, a potted plant that's wilting, a dirty coffee maker, a mug on the desk, an alien wall calendar, and a poster of an alien kitten that says "Hang in There Krilly".

GLIRK is a Blorxian, not a robot. All we see is her feet on the desk and her hands holding a large holographic newspaper blocking the rest of her. Glirk is apathetic; animal control is just a civil desk job to her. She is wearing a typical animal-control uniform and cap, ill-fitting.

She lowers one corner of the paper and peers around.

GLIRK

(sighs) What is it now, Colonel?

COLONEL

General, we have an unlicensed  
earthling running feral in sector  
B41, considered unneutered and  
dangerous, abetted by two minors  
traveling north. The 2nd platoon has  
been delayed. Requesting backups.

GLIRK

(consenting)  
Whatever.

COLONEL  
General, should we deploy the 1st  
Cavalry or the Special Strike Force?

GLIRK  
For one earthling?

COLONEL  
Yes, General.

GLIRK  
(sighs) I don't care. Surprise me.

She raises her newspaper back up and resumes reading.

The Colonel stands motionless staring at her.

She lowers the corner of her paper again and peers at the  
Colonel with a head-shake and shoulder-shrug as if to say  
what are you still doing here.

COLONEL  
Boo!

Glirk rolls her eyes.

GLIRK  
No, I mean...just...do the first  
one, okay? And get out of my office!

COLONEL  
Yes, General!

The Colonel turns 180 and exits.

**40 INT. COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS**

**40**

The Colonel rolls out the office door a few feet and  
announces loudly:

COLONEL  
Code Red! Sector B41. Code Red! This  
is not a drill!

Alarms sound and flash, as the robots run to their consoles  
and work faster.

**41 EXT. HARBOR ROAD - NIGHT - LATER**

**41**

Riffa is sitting bored on a roadside bench, looking at her  
phone.

Zira returns from the harbor, upset, and sits in a rowboat resting on the ground between the road and harbor. She is in the front seat leaning back on the bow, looking at Lazro's model rocket while turning it in her hands.

Riffa sees her, puts away her phone, and walks to Zira.

RIFFA  
Where's Rolo?

ZIRA  
He ran away, to go find Earth. He's leaving me.

RIFFA  
Oh.

Trying to be comforting, Riffa steps into the rowboat and sits on the rear seat.

RIFFA (CONT'D)  
Well, we can get you another pet.

ZIRA  
You know you really suck at this!

RIFFA  
(agreeing)  
Okay.... But why are you always so clingy with Rolo?

ZIRA  
What does it matter? He's my pet, not yours.

RIFFA  
I know. But you hardly ever let him out of your sight. Why is it so hard for you to let him go?

ZIRA  
(a beat)  
Because Lazro is gone. And you're always mopey and you just ignore me. Rolo is the only one who loves me.

Zira starts to weep. Riffa is surprised.

RIFFA  
I love you.

ZIRA  
(angry)



No you don't! You're always mean to me! And you never want to play or hang out with me. And you never let me borrow your clothes or come in your room. (a beat)

We used to be a family, you, me and Lazro. We used to watch movies together under the blanket, and we'd put on costumes and make silly skits together, and we'd have splash fights in the swimming pool and whack each other with pool noodles. But not anymore. And now Rolo is leaving me and I'm going to be all alone!

Zira cries. Riffa sits unmoving, not knowing what to say. Then she has an idea.

RIFFA

Hang on.

Riffa walks to a vending machine nearby.

Across the street Rolo and Quiggles are walking out of the harbor. He sees Riffa so he stops, trying to hide in the dark.

Riffa gets two ice cream treats from the vending machine. As she turns she sees Rolo hiding, so she walks toward him.

RIFFA

Rolo, I see you there.

He steps out of hiding.

ROLO

Hey.

RIFFA

You're not coming home with us?

ROLO

No.

RIFFA

She really loves you, you know.

ROLO

I know.

RIFFA

Where are you going to stay tonight?

ROLO  
I don't know.

RIFFA  
How are you going to find Earth?

Overwhelmed, he shakes his head.

ROLO  
I don't know.

RIFFA  
Well, if you change your mind --

She gestures in Zira's direction. Then she walks back to Zira.

Riffa hands Zira an ice cream treat.

RIFFA  
Here.

Zira looks up, smiles a little, and takes the ice cream.

After a moment, Rolo and Quiggles approach from behind Zira's view.

ROLO  
(to Riffa) Do you have any more of those ice creams?

Riffa smirks. Zira smiles bigger.

**42 INT. COMMAND CENTER - LATER**

**42**

The monitors show surveillance and satellite video feeds of Rolo and company walking. Other maps show positions of bot forces. The bots chatter intensely.

CORPORAL  
Sir, Privates T-L1 and T-D3 are closing in.

SERGEANT  
Squadron 14 is about to intercept, sir.

CORPORAL  
Sir, 2nd Platoon has now fallen into a temporal cause-effect loop.

LIEUTENANT

1st Cavalry is almost in position,  
sir.

CORPORAL

Sir, the targets are entering the  
boardwalk recreational district.  
High civilian density, sir.

COLONEL

What are the weather conditions  
there? Get me a report ASAP!

LIEUTENANT

Colonel, should we recall the attack  
sub?

During this dialog, General Glirk leaves her office with her  
coat over her arm. She trudges to the elevators, presses a  
button and waits, watching the busy bots below. The elevator  
dings and doors open.

GLIRK

Okay, g'night everyone.

She gives a lazy wave. No one notices her. She enters the  
elevator and the doors close.

SERGEANT

(reading)

Sir, the weather is "calm and balmy,  
perfect for an idyllic stroll on the  
beach with the sand between your  
toes in the ethereal moonlight".

**43 EXT. BOARDWALK - NIGHT - LATER**

**43**

A beachside amusement park, with rides, carnival games, food  
stands, arcades, etc.

Zira, Riffa, Rolo, and Quiggles are walking on the sidewalk  
along the outside of the boardwalk. In the stillness of the  
night we hear the rides, games, people from the park.

Zira is finishing her ice cream and kicking a small stone  
ahead every few steps. Rolo is carrying Quiggles piggyback,  
and they are taking turns licking Rolo's oversized ice cream.

RIFFA

(pointing ahead)

The subway station is just past the  
boardwalk here, then we'll be home  
soon.

ZIRA

Riffa, remember we used to come hear every summer for Blormorial Day? And you and I had contests to see who could eat the most cornblogs?

RIFFA

That's not the way I remember it.

ZIRA

What do you mean?

RIFFA

I remember you eating too many cornblogs and candy and soda, getting sick, and throwing up all over my white skirt.

ZIRA

(laughs) Oh yeah. And I remember you took me to the bathroom to puke it all out... But you made me feel better.

This hits Riffa in the heart; she looks at Zira thoughtfully.

They pass in front of an ARCADE. In the center is a karaoke machine.

ZIRA

Oh, Riffa, you remember this arcade? This was always my favorite. And look, they still have that song machine! Can we go?

RIFFA

(a little annoyed)  
Zira, we're almost home.

ZIRA

Pleeeeeease, Riffa?

RIFFA

(almost warm)  
Okay.

Zira runs ahead to the arcade. The rest follow.

**44 INT. ARCADE - CONTINUOUS**

**44**

Alien versions of video games, air hockey, claw machine, etc., and the karaoke machine in the middle. Prize toys hang on the wall. The backside of the arcade is open to the

street, and the front side is open to the boardwalk. No one is inside.

Zira runs in, starts the karaoke machine, grabs the mic and sings.

ZIRA

(ballad intro)

When the weight of the world  
is filled with insincerity,  
it crushes me down  
a black hole singularity.  
When I'm out of luck,  
and trouble's irreversible,  
the answer's unclear,  
uncertainty's a principle.

Riffa picks up a mic and joins her in harmony. Zira smiles big. We see the lyrics on the monitor behind them.

ZIRA & RIFFA

When loneliness intrudes,  
a collision of seclusion,  
alone with my thoughts,  
a fission of confusion.  
And fate will collide,  
like a globalcidal asteroid.  
It craters my world,  
sinking me into a darkened void.

ZIRA

(dance beat)

But you shine in my heart,  
like photons in my arteries.  
I feel more alive,  
like licking 9-volt batteries.

Quiggles is sitting on the air-hockey table spinning. Rolo does dorky backup dancing.

ZIRA

You lighten my load,  
giving me such levity,  
and raise up my hope  
with your anti-gravity.

ZIRA & RIFFA

You fill the void.  
You fill the void.

ZIRA

The dark matter clears, yeah 'cause

ZIRA & RIFFA

You fill the void.  
You fill the void.  
You fill the void.

ZIRA  
(holds her heart)  
This space is never empty 'cause

ZIRA & RIFFA  
You fill the void.

ZIRA  
When I'm stuck in the mud,  
and I leave it unresolved,  
you helped me grow a spine,  
'cause it's time to evolve.

RIFFA  
When my patience explodes,  
a Big Banging of frustration,  
you help me cool my temper  
and find my constellation.

Quiggles is somehow inside the claw machine, acting out mime-in-a-box. Rolo is wearing silly costuming he found.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
Life is a struggle,  
I'm inert and unprepared, but  
you charge me with your energy --

ZIRA & RIFFA & ROLO  
(Rolo raps)  
like MC squared.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
The matter is real,  
but time's an illusion. You  
help me think things back and forth  
to start the right conclusion.

Rolo gestures blow-my-mind.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
(giggling)  
You fill the void.  
You fill the void.

RIFFA  
The dark matter clears, yeah 'cause

ALL  
(Rolo is tone deaf)  
(Quiggles squawks)

You fill the void.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
you fill the void.  
You fill the void.

RIFFA  
This space is never empty 'cause

ZIRA & RIFFA & ROLO  
You fill the void.

Quiggles lip-syncs the rap-break holding a mic. He's dressed like an 80's rapper with sunglasses.

QUIGGLES  
(rap lip-sync)  
Life can be unpredictably  
a nebulous pressure of intensity,  
a paradoxical cosmic entropy,  
a murky Milky Way of instability.

Alone is a singularity,  
a hole that's black and boringly  
an emptiness, inescapably,  
a vacuum nature fills abhorringly.

Atomically the bond that we  
connect is no anomaly.  
Elementally, with empathy,  
it's the nucleus of family.

(extended cut)  
We're falling through time  
deterministically,  
a perspective of relativity,  
effecting a loop of causality.  
It's gravely in our gravity.

Kinetically, momentarily, you're  
building up a sense of identity,  
potentially the energy of  
who it is that you're meant to be.

Quiggles does a mic drop.

GUITAR SOLO: Rolo plays air guitar on an alien broom. Zira and Riffa do synchronized dance moves. Quiggles does amazing hip hop dancing through the rest of the song.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
When my mind is entangled  
with every possibility,  
you help me see it clear

from a different locality.  
 I can't make up my mind,  
 I'm trapped in a duality,  
 like Schrödinger's cat,  
 you settle my reality.  
 When I think I've no choice  
 and I box myself in --

Rolo wears a masquerade mask like evil Spock.

ZIRA & RIFFA & ROLO  
 You push me through the multiverse  
 to beat my evil twin.  
 Yeah! (giggling)

ZIRA & RIFFA  
 You fill the void.  
 You fill the void.  
 The dark matter clears, yeah 'cause

ALL  
 You fill the void.

ZIRA & RIFFA  
 You fill the void.  
 You fill the void.  
 This space is never empty 'cause

ALL  
 You fill the --

The T-L1 and T-D3 Bots crash in to grab Rolo.

Quiggles jumps up and slides across the air-hockey table in a slide-across-car-hood fashion. He grabs prizes from the prize wall and throws them at the Bots.

Riffa picks up Rolo and with Zira they run out to the boardwalk, followed by Quiggles and the Bots.

**45 EXT. BOARDWALK - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS**

**45**

They run through the thin crowd and by the water-gun game. Quiggles grabs a gun in each hand and squirts the Bots' faces.

Then Quiggles tips over the duck-fishing game, spilling water and rubber alien-ducks at the Bots' feet. They trip on the squeaky ducks.

They run through a fun-house maze of distorted mirrors.



When the Bots come out of the maze, they do not see Rolo or the others. We see Rolo in the background, holding still hiding among a prize display of life-size plush-toy earthlings. He runs out when they are not looking, then they pursue.

Rolo jumps across a ring-the-bell game just as a Blorxian swings the mallet right behind him.

Quiggles grabs a bunch of helium balloons and releases them in front of the Bots.

Rolo dives into a ball pit and hides. The Bots circle around looking for him. Rolo jumps out and runs the opposite direction.

The Bots pursue and bump into the milk bottle game. A pyramid of milk Bottles wobble and almost topple, but somehow right themselves into a perfect pyramid.

At the balloon dart game, Quiggles grabs three darts in one hand and throws them at once, popping three balloons. He jumps up and grabs a prize bag of FIREWORKS.

As they run by an AIRBOARD rental stand (flying boogie-boards), Riffa, Zira, and Quiggles each grab one and start flying. Rolo rides with Riffa.

The Bots stop and watch them escape. Then T-L1 launches a flying NET from its body: a rocket-propelled hoop with a net of glowing strings of energy.

They all fly around the rides and signs, doing acrobatic twists and turns to evade the Net. Quiggles does amazing surfboard tricks. We see ocean in the background, beneath the moon and stars.

As the Net closes in on Rolo and Riffa, Quiggles gets between them and moons the Net's camera eye. We see the camera view of Quiggles' butt close up, and T-L1 reacts with disgust.

As the Net closes in on Riffa and Rolo, Riffa tosses Rolo to Zira midair. They toss him back and forth as they dodge signs and towers. Rolo is terrified.

They fly low around the games. After several quick dodges, the Net seems to catch Rolo. From the Bots' POV the monitor says "Target Captured". Then we see it is actually a plush toy earthling in the Net, not Rolo. It ejects the plush toy, launching it high into the sky.

Quiggles throws fireworks and smoke-bombs from his prize bag at the Net.

The Net bumps Zira's airboard, knocking her toward a large sign arching over the boardwalk. The sign is for the ride "Sky Walker". From her airboard above, Riffa sees Zira is about to crash into the sign.

RIFFA

Zira!

Without thinking, Riffa dives off her airboard, landing on Zira's airboard. Her momentum knocks them safely under the sign.

The Net crashes into the sign, and falls to the ground damaged. Zira sees the crash behind them.

ZIRA

You saved me!

RIFFA

Of course, squid squirt. You're my sister.

Riffa holds Zira in front of her endearingly on their airboard. Rolo rides solo on his airboard, wobbly. Quiggles joins them. They see the subway station ahead, and all seems safe.

Then the squadron of airborne DRONES arrive. They are small, but numerous. They swarm around everyone.

The four weave their way through the Drones, swatting them away.

They jump off their airboards in front of the subway station entrance and run inside. The Drones halt outside.

**46 EXT. EARTHLING PARK - NIGHT - LATER**

**46**

Riffa, Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles exit the subway station outside the earthling park. It seems safe.

Then we see the 1st Cavalry waiting there: 5 huge Bots 50-foot tall surrounding the subway station.

One of the Bots swings a large hoop down with a net of glowing energy strings. The net traps Rolo and Zira.

Riffa grabs the net handle and tries lifting it in vein.

RIFFA

Let them go! That's my sister! You can't do this! Let them go!

Quiggles has one large firework left. He throws it at the CAPTAIN Bot in the center. It hits the Captain's face with a ding, and falls to the ground. Then it goes off with a pathetic amount of sparks and smoke. The Bots are unfazed.

One of the Bots opens a hatch in its body -- a containment cell.

Quiggles tips over a nearby garbage can. He sees a banana peel and throws it at the Captain Bot's face. It sticks for a moment, then falls to the ground.

Across the street from the park, Yoola and Smuffins are at home sitting on their front porch. They see the commotion.

YOOLA

Hey, Rolo's back!

SMUFFINS

Uh oh, it's the Animal Control Force!

YOOLA

We need to help him!

Close up on Smuffins' face, intense expression.

SMUFFINS

Let's get...the toys!

Yoola holds her ball launcher, which looks like a bazooka. She cocks it like a shotgun.

Smuffins wears and heads-up display and powers up his hover drone, which makes an ominous hum, as the laser pointers converge on the same spot.

The Bot with the net lifts Rolo and Zira off the ground, trapped in the net.

Yoola and Smuffins pass in front of Fabli's home. Fabli is inside looking out the window.

YOOLA

Fabli, come help us. We need to save Rolo!

FABLI

But my show is tomorrow!

The net with Rola and Zira is slowly moving toward the containment cell in the other Bot.

Quiggles is throwing garbage from the can at the Bots, one piece at a time: paper cups, soda cans, water bottles, a chewed up blizbee, a bag of fast food, etc.

The net is almost in the containment cell.

Smuffins' drone suddenly flies around the Bots, pointing laser beams at the eyes of all five Bots. From the Bots' POV we see the lasers obscuring their vision.

We see Smuffins nearby piloting the drone.

SMUFFINS

(intensely)

Now let's see if you can catch the red dot!

Yoola charges in with her ball launcher, firing at the Bots' heads. Some balls go inside holes on the sides of the Bots' heads, like ear holes. With each ball she yells:

YOOLA

Fetch this! Fetch! Fetch! Fetch!

The Bots are disoriented. The Bot with the net turns, knocking the net into another Bot. The net falls.

Rolo and Zira escape. With Riffa and Quiggles they run under the Bots and into the park.

The Bots turn and pursue, but then they stop and shake the balls out, turning their head sideways and bouncing up and down, like getting water out of your ear.

Yoola and Smuffins join Rolo & co., running across the park. The Bots resume their pursuit.

Then Fabli dashes in like a speed runner.

FABLI

Split up!

Everyone runs in different directions. The Bots' have lost track of which earthling is which, so they each pursue a different earthling, with two following Fabli.

As the two Bots close in on Fabli, he reaches the agility course and runs through the tunnel, hoop, ramp, high jump. The course turns around and Fabli weaves around the poles heading directly toward the Bots. The Bots look at him puzzled.

Yoola and Smuffins run by.

SMUFFINS

Fabli, focus!

Fabli looks up at the Bots watching him.

FABLI

Oh yeah.

Fabli runs off. Everyone crosses paths. Mud splashes on Fabli.

FABLI

My hair!

Riffa, Zira, Rolo, and Quiggles are running out of the park.

RIFFA

We can make it home!

ZIRA

No, follow me!

Zira turns a different direction. They follow.

RIFFA

Zira, what are you doing?!

ZIRA

Trust me!

All five Bots pursue and close in. Then Zira and the others enter a forrest bordering the park. The Bots halt, unable to pass through the dense, tall trees.

BOT

Captain, what do we do now?

CAPTAIN

Hmm, we did not think through this contingency.

**47 INT. COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS**

**47**

Monitors show the action from the cavalry's POV. The Colonel is both aggravated and impressed to be outwitted.

COLONEL

You magnificent mongrel.

**48 EXT. FORREST - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS**

**48**

Zira and others stand several yards into the forrest. They see the Bots have stopped.

ZIRA  
Here, this way.

Zira leads the others on a path through the forrest, rising uphill. It is quiet and still. Glowing seeds occasionally drop from the trees, spinning like helicopter seeds.

ROLO  
Zira, what are we going to do?  
They're just going to wait there and  
catch me when we finally go home.

ZIRA  
You're not going home.

ROLO  
What?

ZIRA  
I know how you can go find Earth.

ROLO  
Earth? Really? How?

ZIRA  
Follow me.

**49 EXT. FORREST PEAK - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

**49**

They follow the path to a clearing at a peak in the middle of the forrest. The stars and moons shine brightly in the clear sky, illuminating the trees.

Zira takes off her backpack and pull's out the model ROCKET.

RIFFA  
(puzzled)  
That's Lazro's rocket.

Riffa hands Rolo the rocket.

ZIRA  
Here. You can take this to find  
Earth.

Rolo looks at the small rocket in his hand, then looks confused at Zira.

ROLO  
(to Riffa)

Did she get enough snacks to eat?

ZIRA

No, silly. It gets bigger. Just soak it in water.

Rolo looks around.

ROLO

Oh. But we don't have any water.

Quiggles struts by confidently, humming, grabs the rocket from Rolo's hand, then places it on the ground. We see Quiggle's back, standing with both hands on his hips. He cocks two of his legs like a dog, then we hear urinating.

From ground level we see the rocket grow huge, towering into the night sky.

Then we see Rolo towering above like a giant, leaning closer to look at the rocket. Then from eye level we see the rocket is actually only about 7 feet tall.

ROLO

Uh. I still don't see how this helps.

ZIRA

Look inside.

The hatch door opens. Rolo steps up and leans inside. His voice echos inside:

ROLO

Whoa! It's huge in here! Is that a foosball table? And a hot tub?!

ZIRA

Yeah, Lazro let me help him make it. But I want you to have it.

ROLO

Zira, I don't... I... Really?

Zira smiles and nods.

ZIRA

It's got everything you'll need.

ROLO

Wow. I... You really think I can do this?

ZIRA

I know you can.

She sits on her knees, tearing up.

ZIRA (CONT'D)

You're the bestest pet ever, Rolo. You were always there for me, as long as I can remember, growing up together. You played with me, and you stayed with me when I was sick, and when it was stormy and I was afraid of the thunder. But you're more than just my pet. And I want you to be happy, even if that's without me.

Rolo hugs her and she hugs him. We see each of their faces in the embrace.

**50 BEGIN FLASHBACKS**

**50**

**FIRST HUG** - In a Pet Store, 6-year old Zira sees 4-year old Rolo in a pen of other children. He looks at her and smiles. She picks him up, then hugs him tight with a huge grin. Rolo nestles under her chin.

**SLEEPING HUG** - At Home at night, 8-year old Rolo is asleep curled up in a sofa chair. 6-year old Zira gently lifts him like a baby to her chest. Still asleep, he wraps his arms around her neck and shoulder.

**HOME FROM SCHOOL HUG** - On a Sidewalk in front of her home, 7-year old Zira steps out of a school bus. 12-year old Rolo comes running toward her. She lifts him up and they hug.

**BIKE HUG** - 8-year old Zira is riding her bike. 20-year old Rolo is riding piggyback with his arms around her neck. She leans forward to pedal faster. Rolo is thrilled and holds her tighter.

**CRYING HUG** - The night Lazro was taken, 9-year old Zira is curled up on her bed, crying. 30-year old Rolo leans on her and hugs her. She puts her arm over him.

**END FLASHBACKS**

They finish their hug and hold hands.

ROLO

Are you going to be alright?

Zira looks up at Riffa, and back to Rolo.



ZIRA

Yeah, I'll be okay. (a beat)  
I hope you find what you're looking  
for.

Quiggles struts up to the rocket and hops in. He grabs a captain's hat from inside and puts it on.

Rolo goes to the rocket and climbs inside.

Zira stands up, and Riffa stands behind her with her hands on Zira's shoulders.

ROLO

Thank you, too, Riffa.

Riffa smiles and nods.

RIFFA

(to Zira)

What are we going to tell Mom and  
Dad?

ROLO

(smiling)

Just tell them I went to a nice farm  
upstate where I could run around and  
chase squirlers.

A laugh escapes from Zira and Riffa. Rolo waves goodbye.

ROLO (CONT'D)

(to Zira)

Be good.

The hatch slowly closes as Rolo descends inside the rocket.

The engine ignites, and the rocket gently ascends into the sky. The trust blows glowing tree seeds swirling into air.

We see Zira looking up at the glowing light, smiling tearfully, with her hand over Riffa's hand on her chest.

The rocket disappears into the stars.

**FADE OUT**