Screenplay: Watcher (2013).

### Act 1:

Scene 1: CEMETERY

Shot 1: pannig long shot from behind priest a dank drizzly cemetery, the service is being said. Standing around a grave, a large group of people in fashionable black. Closest to the grave is a man standing with head bowed his hands on the shoulders of two little girls, obviously his daughters. Then we notice that there is the press there,

Shot 2: camera by now has back to mourner's facing priest (the priest is finishing the ceremony)

### Priest:

Dust to dust; ashes to ashes; earth to earth. As we enter this life, so we leave it. But as this kind lady will always be in our heart as she starts another life, out of this vale of tears. We wish Morgan well in her new life with God. Amen. (He bows his head and clasps his hands together as does everybody else) long shot of

Shot 3: (The father turns away to talk to the press, overplaying his grief, to a point where we know that he actually does not care).

## Father:

She was a beautiful woman, so good, kind and generous

### Journalist:

(Interrupting)

Excuse me sir, our readers want to know whether you are entirely suited to look after her children, I mean we all know that you abandoned her a few weeks after their birth

## Father:

(interrupting)

I was young, and wild, and I did not appreciate what I have. Now I have settled down, and want to look after my darling girls (walk towards them)

Shot 4: high angle long shot from behind grave Two girls (Lilly and Mariel) standing by the grave, youngest puts flowers on the grave

# Closeup of Lilly

Lilly:

Bye Momee

(sobs and buries her face in the older girl's jacket)

# Closeup of Mariel

Mariel:

(whispering)

We'll miss you

# Shot 5: portrait shot of Mariel

A hand lands on Mariel's shoulder, we see father smiling down at them

Pan upwards to low angle of Charles

Father:

Come children: let's go home

(As they are walking back towards the cars, two very large men in black suits walk towards them).

#### HenchMan#1:

Mr.Somartron?

#### Father:

Yes?

### HenchMan#2:

We're sorry about your wife. As you say, although she was a very rich lady, she was very generous one, too, wasn't she?

## Father:

Umm yes?

## HenchMan#1:

It's a shame she wasn't generous enough, though. Mr Silvio's getting worried you know.

### Hennchman#2:

And when Mr Silvio gets worried, other people don't sleep at night.

## Father:

Will you excuse me this is a very sad day for us, my wife has just died and...

### Henchman#1:

Oh we know, Mr. Somartron. We're just making sure that your adorable little girls don't have another sad day.

## Hechman#2:

Goodbye Mr Somartron. Nice seeing you. I see what the newspapers mean: they are cute aren't they ?(Winks at the girls)

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Scene 2: HOME, HALLWAY
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It is obviously the next day. Doorbell rings. Mariel opens the door, and sees a woman standing there with a suitcase.

#### Woman:

Hi! I'm Delilah...

#### Mariel:

No, sorry we don't want to buy any thank you. (She shuts the door in the woman's face)

# Father:

(Walking in)

Who was it honey?

#### Mariel:

Just some woman selling cosmetics. Worst sales pitch in history! She was dressed like a sexy librarian. She didn't even had a name tag: (snorts), Delilah!

### Father:

(Shocked)

Delilah!?

(He runs to the door and wrenches it open)
I'm really sorry. My daughter thought that you were a cosmetics saleswoman

#### Delilah

(Throwing evil glance at oldest girl)

I heard

(Turns, all smiles, to father)

Could I bother you to help me with the luggage?

# Lilly

(Walking in half asleep)

Hello Mariel, hello daddy, hello ...

(She squints at Delilah)

## Father

Delilah. She is my secretary. She will be staying with us for a short while, to help me with my grief and to look after us all

Delilah smiles, over-ingratiatingly

# Mariel:

So... she is a sort of secretary, grief counsellor, nanny and cosmetics saleswoman

#### Delilah:

(Between her teeth and with a saccharin smile, she leans down to Mariel's height)

Don't call me a cosmetics saleswoman, I am not one. In fact I don't use makeup at all, I don't need it. I'm a natural beauty.

Mariel leans forwards too and smudges Delilah's lipstick across her face. She then looks pointedly at her finger. Delilah is absolutely furious.

### Delilah:

(Hissing with fury)

Do that again and I will teach you to be a Smart Alec (Stands up all smiles)

### Father:

(Jokingly)

Don't you know that it is rude to whisper?

### Delilah:

(Coyly)

But we're girls: all girls giggle and whisper.

#### Mariel:

I'm not sure about you though

### Father

I can see that we will all get on fine. Come on Delilah I'll show you to your room  $\dot{\ }$ 

(They walk off, talking about the house)

## Lilly:

What did she say to you?

## Mariel

(Evading the question)

I don't like her. I hope that she leaves soon

Scene 3 HALLWAY

Mariel is holding Lilly's hand. Lily is holding a frisbee and is skipping. They are walking down the hallway. STUDY: Mariel knocks softly and steps in, and freezes: Delilah is sitting on her father's knee. She has her shoes off, and he has his feet on the desk, she is feeding him chocolate. They start when Mariel walks in, Delilah grabs a note book upside down, and starts to pretend to take notes writing with a cigar.

Father:

(annoyed)

Yes! What do you want?

Lilly:

Could I have some chocolate please?
(Mariel elbows her)

Delilah:

Did you come barging in just to ask for some chocolate?

Mariel:

(ignoring her)

Daddy, we came to ask whether you wanted to play frisbee with us?

Delilah:

Does your father look like He has any time to play little kids' games? (saccharin smile) Go and have fun outside.

Father:

(jokingly)

Don't break any windows

Mariel:

(to Delilah)

It does help to use a pen

Delilah:

(squeal of fury)

Get out!

Mariel, and Lilly traipse out. They hear the key turn in the lock

Lilly:

Mummy would have come

Mariel:

Mummy is not here now

### Scene 4: Sitting room,

Sitting room, the two girls are sitting in the sitting room. Delilah walks in with a tape measure, wallpaper samples, a vase and a rather good looking male friend.

# Delilah:

Now this is the sitting room (Looks at her friend)

I know, right! Now what does Carice say about turning this kind of disaster into something profound, something gorgeous..... hot pink, I love that colour. I read that zebra print is the new 'it'....OK, how about this: hot, pink, zebra print walls.....Oh my gosh! I've just thought, do you remember that club where I first met Charley? Do you remember

the walls? ....

## Friend:

. . .

Delilah:

(cuts in)

Oh, I do! They were covered in fake fur...
(Delilah notices the two girls staring at her)
How would you two like:.... Pink, furry zebra print walls?

# Lilly:

(Runs up to them)

Oooh I love pink, can we have pink please, please pleeeez?

Cecil (good-looking friend) puts his hand on Lilly's face and moves her fastidiously and gingerly aside, with eyes half closed, only to then find himself staring a Mariel. He almost leaps out of his skin and hides slightly behind Delilah

## Mariel:

I prefer the house just the way that it is

### Delilah:

Why could you not be like your sister, hum? See she likes pink walls,

We will have pink walls, and silver metallic curtains. Well that has done the main background. I'll do the furniture later. I'll show you the other lounge, now, Cecil.

#### Mariel:

(running up to Delilah)

Don't change this room, mummy decorated it by hand, please, please leave it.

## Delilah:

(looks victorious but quickly hides it )

Sorry honey: no can do, Charley said to make the house "up and coming", and sweetie, this is the main lounge, I can't leave it looking like it was decorated by a colour blind

Damien Hurst... Sorry ducks. Coming Cecil?

(Delilah puts the vase on the side table and arranges it, smirks to herself and walks out)

Mariel grabs the vase and flings it at the wall

#### Mariel:

Don't call him Charley!

### Delilah:

(brings her head back in the room) Why not? He calls me Lilah..

# Scene 5: Street scene.

(Father is walking home when a car drives up next to him and he gets dragged into it. Inside the car he is sitting between two huge men in black suits facing a rich looking gang boss).

#### Father.

What is the meaning of this? You can't do this to me... I pay my taxes to be defended

### Silvio:

(Taps cigar into ash tray) We came to apologize

## Father:

(A little mollified)

Oh thanks, but you could have just phoned or sent someone around.

Silvio:

We did and look what happened. We're very sorry for those idiots daring to threaten you in my name.

Father:

Oh it's alright

Silvio: we can't let it happen again. The boys have been... uhm... Chastised (Smiles and looks down at a small crate on the floor of the car).

Father is visibly shocked

# Silvio:

You know it was very wrong for them to do what they did, but you know they only meant to give you a friendly warning. You are running a bit late in the repayment sector ("friendly", sickly "warning" smile).

Father:

(Suddenly terrified)

Yes, yes I know. I'm working on it. I've got my lawyer on Morgane's will... We'll have results very soon.

Silvio:

You don't need to worry about it.

Father:

Oh, I'm not worrying. Well I am, and I'm not. And...

Silvio:

I think this is your house Mr Charles. Goodbye Mr Charles.

Car drives off leaving father on the curb. He straightens his tie.

Father:

Phew! Saved by the house?

Scene 6:BEDROOM

The girls are in Mariel's bed room, and a voice echoes round the house

#### Father:

Ok girls, It's time for a family meeting, could you both go to the lounge? We have a surprise for you.

Mariel and Lilly look at each other

## Mariel:

Uh oh! do you think Delilah, has finally got dad to let her make the lounge pink zebra print?

## Lilly:

What's a family meeting?

They go down stairs and into the lounge, it is normal. Mariel sighs in relief. Delilah and father are sitting on the sofa, they stand up when the kids walk in. Father and Delilah seem to be very happy. Delilah has a huge expensive gaudy ring on her ring finger

#### Father:

Sit down, both of you we have something to tell you. (looks conspiringly at Delilah)
We, are, going-to-get-married. Isn't that great?
(Delilah waggles her ring at the girls)

Both girls stare in shock

## Father:

(a little discouraged, turns to Lilly )
Do you like that Lilly? You'd have a new mummy to play with

# Lilly:

(bursts into tears)

But I don't want a new mummy, I want mummy mummy.

Father in despair turns to Mariel to see her standing there with her arms crossed looking furious

#### Mariel:

Dad how could you. Mum only died 3 months ago, and you are already getting married to some woman who dresses like those awful pi $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ ata. You CAN'T marry Delilah. I won't let you!

### Delilah:

(martyred tone)

Oh why do you hate me so? I didn't do anything. (fakes tears)

#### Father:

(puts his arms around her and shushes her)
How could you be so awful, girls? Of course I am devastated by
your mother's death, but well, she was not always there for me
and now that I have met a beautiful woman who will make me
happy, you two spoilt selfish little brats want to ruin it for
me.

#### Mariel:

Mummy was always there for you, it was you who went off and left us alone.

## Delilah:

Charles, it's OK, I understand the girls. They are upset about their mother's funeral. We could perhaps marry quietly at the registrar's office so that the girls don't have to attend the ceremony. It would hurt them too much.

#### Father:

(cooling down a bit)

Oh alright, we'll get married at the registry, and skip the ceremony.

# Mariel:

You just don't get it do you. I. don't. want. Delilah. to. be. my. step mother. I don't want you to be my father. I just want everyone to go away and leave me and Lilly alone

# Father:

Mariel, there is only so much that I will put up with, I hoped that this would be a happy moment...

Mariel growls with anger, grabs Lilly and bolts out of the door slamming it violently behind her.

# Delilah:

How much longer do we have to put up with them?

### Father:

Just until they're both 18

(Delilah fakes a semi-swoon. They link arms and walk out).

### Scene 7: KITCHEN

(Mariel comes into the kitchen, with a waste paper basket. She opens the waste paper draw and sees a loud gaudy magazine. A name catches her eye.

# Magazine Heading:

"Cruelly abandoned mother of two dies in suspicious circumstances"

The picture is of her mum with little Mariel and baby. She picks up the newspaper. The Headlines scream:
"Millionaire mother of two killed of 'heart failure'"

## Subheading:

Experts say that the actual cause of heart failure is "suspicious").

### Mariel:

(reading aloud)

Experts say that Mrs Drummond's heart failure was caused not by a random fatty deposit in the artery. Mrs Drummond was a very healthy person, and would not have had any issues with her arteries. Before she actually died she displayed all of the symptoms of having her being attacked by any extremely expensive version of kamikazes. Kamikazes are a nano tech that was developed as a possible cure for cancer because each kamikaze could be programmed to go and infiltrate the cancerous cells. Then, at a given time, each of the kamikazes would self destruct blowing itself and the cell out of existence. This nano tech became illegal when a prominent minister was killed by unknowingly breathing in a cloud of them. His death displayed the same symptoms as that of Mrs Drummond's death...

(Father walks in and sees Mariel not doing her work)

#### Father:

Mariel what are you doing? You're supposed to be emptying the trash, not reading... what are you reading?

# Mariel:

(hiding the magazine behind her back)

It's nothing, just a magazine of my scrap book

### Father:

Oh? Let me see

(reaches out and grabs it)

Cosmopolitan?! Seriously? I don't think that you should stick any of these images or articles in your scrap book

## Mariel:

But it talks about mummy. See?

(Father looks at it and gradually gets red with anger)

#### Father:

I hate those stupid articles, saying that Morgane was murdered. She died of a heart attack and no one could do anything about it. Go on. Get on with your chores and forget about the journalists

# Scene 8 DELILAH'S BEDROOM

Delilah is sipping a glass of wine and trying dresses on in the mirror. Lilly walks in sucking her thumb

# Lilly:

Delilah, could we have dinner? It's 8:00 at night and I'm hungry

## Delilah:

I'm busy, go and get something from the fridge.

# Lilly

But there is nothing in the fridge I looked!

### Delilah:

Well it's not my fault is it? Just go away dear, and ask Mariel to get you some food

(Lilly snivels and goes out).

# MARIEL'S BEDROOM

Mariel is sitting in her room and Lilly comes in snivelling louder. Mariel looks up,

### Mariel:

What wrong Lilly? Did you lose something?

# Lilly:

No. Delilah said that that you could get me some food

#### Mariel:

What do you mean?

## Lilly:

Well the fridge is empty, and Delilah's busy so she said to ask you...and I'm so hungry (bursts into tears)

#### Mariel:

What is wrong with that woman? She is supposed to be our new mother and all she ever does is go out to parties. This is three times that she has not filled the fridge, I mean it's not as if she has to go shopping, all she needs to do is go online and order our list. It even gets delivered. Come on. Let's get her to do us some pasta. I know that there is some in the cupboard.

(She takes Lilly's hand and walks back to DELILAH'S BEDROOM, Delilah is wearing a different outfit and is posing in the mirror).

#### Mariel:

Hey Delilah, could you please cook us some pasta? We are both hungry. There is nothing in the fridge and the oven does not allow me to cook meals, it say I'm under the legal age limit

#### Delilah:

Well get a take away, then.

# Mariel:

You're supposed to be our new mother, and all you ever do is flirt and drink wine. You get us to do everything and then when dad gets home you get all of the credit.

# Lilly:

(Bursts into tears)
I WANT MY DINNER

Delilah:

Shut up you snivelling little brat, get your own dinner (throws \$10 at Mariel)

Mariel:

Don't you call Lilly a brat, you, you tart!

Father:

(walking in suddenly on the word 'tart')
How dare you call Delilah a tart!

Mariel:

She called Lilly a 'snivelling brat'!

Father:

That is still not a reason to call Delilah a tart. Now go to bed both of you. Lilly why are you crying?

Lilly:
(screams)
I WANT MY DINNER

Father:

Why don't you go and rehydrate something?

Lilly:

Delilah put a bowl of dehydrated potato chips in the rehydrator, with a spoon in. The rehydrator rehydrated the spoon as well. It went bang

Father:

Then get Mariel to fix you something

Lilly:

There is nothing to fix

Father:

Oh for heavens' sake! Delilah, call the pizza guy and order two pizzas: one meat lover and one pineapple. Otherwise, we are never going to get any peace

Scene 9:Still Delilah's bedroom

(Scene pulls back to bird's eye view and suddenly the screen becomes blue and poor quality, Delilah becomes outlined in a

red outline, red writing (Hi-tec, robotic font) appears on the left hand side of the screens and scrolls).

Scene 10: Girls' Bedroom

(Mariel is trying to do her home work, LMFAO is pumping through the house, she does not understand her home work, so she picks up her book and pencil and goes off to find her father. She walks into the GYM and Delilah is working out to I'm Sexy and I Know it She is wearing a very tight sports bra and mini shorts, and has her hair tied back in a pony tail. Father is cheering her on, she is winking and giggling).

#### TV:

Left and right and turn

## Mariel:

(Shouting over the music) Dad, sorry to bother you but could you help me with my home work, I don't understand.

Delilah: Grapevine!

## Father:

Um, could you come back later I'm kinda busy

## Delilah:

Sidestep (She does a belly wriggle)

#### Mariel:

But you've got to help me, mummy always did!

# Father:

Umph.. oh, well, let me see.

### Delilah:

Volt face (she jumps around 180 degrees, and shakes bum)

Father is obviously distracted by Delilah's gyrations

## Father:

Um let me see, X squared times 5 times 4x plus..

### Delilah:

And bend (Touches toes, still with back turned)

Father stares until Mariel elbows him

## Father:

What? Oh err where was I? Oh yes x squared times 5x+4x squared..

#### Mariel:

Dad you're not concentrating, you weren't even reading the right question

# Delilah:

And body roll, ...grapevine!

(Mariel realising that she is not going to get any help from her dad, stamps her foot in frustration and turns to leave).

## Father:

Where are you going? Don't you need my help?

#### Mariel:

No its Ok, I'll figure it out.

### Delilah:

Fist pump!

# Mariel:

Oh shut up (walks out)

# Delilah:

And... flip! (Hands out: shrug expression, with questioning look).

Scene 11: Garden and Porch

(Lilly is playing in a tree. She falls out and grazes her knee. She starts crying. Delilah sticks her head out of the window)

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Delilah:
What's wrong honey?
Lilly: I fell over
Delilah:
Oh...
(She pulls her head back in)
Lilly:
Delilah!
Delilah:
What?
Lilly:
Could have a plaster please?
Delilah:
Can't you get your own?
Lilly:
I can't feel my leg, please?
Delilah:
Oh all right!
(Pulls her head back in and shuts the window leaving Lilly
crying on the lawn.
About 10 minutes later she comes out wearing a sexy nurse
outfit, with a pink first aid kit).
Delilah:
It's ok honey, mummy's here.....
(She kneels down and starts to get stuff out of the bag. As
soon as she sees Lilly's bloody knee, she faints. Lilly stares
at her, then she realises that she is not going to get any
help from Delilah, so she gets a plaster and sticks it on her
knee, just as Cecil drives up the drive way. He sees Delilah,
and gets out and rushes to her).
Cecil:
Delilah talk to me! Talk to me Delilah! Are you there? Are you
ok?
Delilah:
Oh where am I?
(Sees Delaney)
Oh Cecil... what happened?
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Cecil:

Phew you're alright. Come on, let's get you inside

## Delilah:

Yes, then I can have a nice warm bath and you can give me a massage.

(During this time Mariel has come in and has heard the exchange. As soon as the adults leave, she goes to help Lilly).

### Mariel:

Wow! She is soooooo obvious!

Scene 12: Street outside the girls' house.

A car pulls up and Lilly and Mariel get out of the car and walk up the drive. They find themselves staring at two big removal trucks, with people dragging furniture out of the house and shoving it into the back of the van, and taking stuff out of the other van. Lilly recognizes her giant unicorn mirror being taken away, and squeaks in alarm. Mariel sees a beautiful little casket and dresses being shoved higgledy piggeldy under a sofa

### Mariel:

Hey! That's mom's best evening dress and her favourite jewellery box..

(she runs up the path knocking people away from in front of her)

### Extras:

Cries of Hey! Watch it!

(She bursts into the house and falls over a sofa that is promptly picked up and she is carried back out of the house, she scrambles off it and runs back into the house. She runs straight into Delilah)

# Delilah:

Be careful where you are going? You almost made me drop this vase.. What's the matter?

# Mariel:

(red in the face and panting)

Ok what's going on? Why is Lilly's mirror being thrown in the back of a truck?

(she sees a sofa being carried out of the room)

Hey that's mummy's rug! She made that by hand!!

(Mariel grabs it and tries to drag it off the removal man)

### Removal Man:

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Oi gerrof!!
(he tries to drag it off her. She kicks him)
Oww!! She just kicked me!
(Father walks in, Mariel sees him, and turns to him)
Mariel:
Dad! Help! Delilah is stealing all of our stuff
Father (laughing):
No Mariel. Delilah is not stealing our stuff, we are just
redecorating' and making a bit of extra cash.
(Lilly trots in)
Lilly:
They won't give me my mirror back!
Father:
(picks her up)
It's alright sugar bun. We're getting you a new better one
Lilly:
But mummy and me painted that one! I don't want a new one
Delilah:
(Pinches Lilly's cheek)
Sweetie, when I SAY you're going to have a new mirror, you will
GET a new mirror. 'K?
She lets go of Lilly's cheek and we see that she has left a
mark. Suddenly Lilly bites Delilah
Delilah:
(screams)
Oh my god! She just bit me!
Father:
(shakes Lilly)
Hey! What did you do that for?
Lilly:
She pinched me
Delilah lunges forwards to slap Lilly. Mariel gets there first
and slaps Delilah. There is a frozen silence
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Mariel:

(panting with adrenalin, grabs and holds Lilly to her chest)
We hate you! You're the worst parents ever! First you Kill mum,
then you get rid of all of her stuff and all the stuff we love
(turns to Charles)

And your NEW wife doesn't even love you, anyway, 'cos... (she does not get any further because father grabs her arm and wrestles her up the stairs. Delilah grabs Lilly and carries her screaming up the stairs, too).

## Mariel:

(wriggling and kicking)
Let me go! Let me go!

### Delilah:

(turning to the workers)
What are you all staring at? Get on with it!

### Scene 13 EMPTY BEDROOM

(Father and Delilah walk in carrying Mariel and Lilly screaming into the room. The room is bare except for a very large wardrobe with a lock on it. Lilly starts wailing),

# Lilly:

I don' want to go in there I'm scared of it. Nooo... Don't....

# Mariel:

Let me go! I hate closed spaces!

### Delilah:

I don't care!

## Father:

First you bit Delilah; then you called us murderers in front of all of those people. You are going to spend the night in the cupboard

Both girls get flung in the cupboard. Parents lock the door and walk off. There is a terrible banging on the inside of the door.

# Mariel:

Let us out! Let us out! You, you, pigs!

INSIDE OF THE CUPBOARD: Mariel sinks to the ground. Lilly seems to be calm despite the fact that she is crying. She pulls something out of her pocket. The two earrings glow in the dark.

### Mariel:

Wow how do they do that.

## Lilly:

One night I got a bad nightmare and mummy came in wearing them, they were so pretty. She said that they were magic... She said that they make everything seem better. Here, you can have one (hands it to her)

# Mariel:

(quietly)

thanks

## Scene 14: INSIDE CUPBOARD

(The girls wake up in the cupboard all curled up. The house is silent).

### Mariel:

What time is it?

# Lilly:

(looking at her watch)

The little hand is on the 11 and the small hand is on the 6

### Mariel:

Can't you tell the time?

# Lilly:

Mummy was teaching me, but then she went away

### Mariel:

There seems to be light out there, it must be 11:30 in the morning.

She starts banging on the door with her feet. We hear a cracking crunch. Mariel seems to be encouraged by this and slams her feet harder into the door, another crunch. She kicks

a third time and the door comes off. She steps out into a silent dark and empty house

#### Mariel:

Where is everyone? It's so quiet

(Lilly climbs out).

# Lilly:

I'm hungry

#### Mariel:

Let's see if there is any food in the fridge

She walks off. Lilly stays behind for a second looking around, there is a sound like someone trying to talk, Lilly gets scared, squeaks, and runs after Mariel

## Scene 15: KITCHEN

Both girls get into the kitchen which is all dark and silent. Mariel tries turn on the lights

#### Mariel:

(Claps her hands)

Lights!

Nothing happens.

## Mariel:

What's going on here? The only time the house goes into total shutdown is when we used to leave the house, for a few weeks. (Suddenly thinks)

Oh! You don't think they've gone off and left us here alone do you?

## Lilly:

I don't really care. I want my breakfast.

### Mariel:

Well the fridge is locked and frozen until we find the switchboard to turn the house back on.

## Lilly:

What's a switchboard look like?

### Mariel:

It's a big board, probably inside the wall or a cupboard, and it's got loads of coloured switches on it. Let's spread out and see if we can find it.

(The girls each go their own way. Mariel looks through all of the cupboards in the kitchen.

We follow Lilly as she wanders through the house, looking in cupboards, under the stairs. Suddenly the wall opens up and a lever comes out. A sign drops from the ceiling. It hangs just above the lever flashing).

## Lilly:

(Reading slowly)
Pull... The ....lever...
(She stares)

(Another sign drops out of the ceiling, it is in type print as the other one was this one says: "Please?" Lilly shrugs and pulls the lever. There is a terrible rumbling. Dust falls from the ceiling. The dim emergency lights turn off. A huge ancient clanging alarm roars, more dust. And old recording of what sounds like an emergency fire drill voice starts talking).

### Voice 1:

Alert! Alert! AI breaching security... Breaching security.... Breacchchchcinngggg secucucucrity....ninining (Wows out)

(Mariel comes running into the room and sees Lilly crouching in a terrified ball on the floor. She runs to her and both huddle on the floor screaming).

#### Voice 1:

(Wowing back in)

Please make your way to the shelter, And wait for help to come. And remember 'Keep calm and carry on'..

### Voice 2:

(This one is not at all corrupted and does not sound like an American 1950s advert)

## Shut! Up!

(Suddenly there is a silent explosion of light, and everything goes white. Then the light goes off and everything becomes pitch black, there is silence, then the sound of somebody coughing).

#### Mariel:

You had better have a really good explanation about what the heck just happened.

(There is silence and the light slowly comes back. The hallway is covered in thick dust. Part of the wall has a huge long streak of burn going along it and there's hole in the adjacent wall. The hallway is littered with bits of old machine parts).

## Lilly:

Hey listen!

#### Mariel:

What?

# Lilly:

Can't you hear?

#### Mariel:

Hear what?

## Lilly:

The house

## Mariel:

What

# Lilly:

It's woken up again.

# Voice 2:

Good morning. Sorry for startling you, I'm afraid I always had a weakness for grand entrances. My name is Oh Dear Not You Again. But you can call me ODYNA, or Oddy. Pleased to meet you.

Both girls look at each other. Both scream at the same time and bolt out of the room

## ODYNA:

Was it something I said? Hey come back!

# Scene 16: GIRLS' BEDROOM

Both girls run into a bed room and hide beneath the bed

#### Mariel:

Do you think we shook it off?

#### ODYNA:

No, but you certainly shocked it. Now do you think....

Both girls scream and bolt out of the room

#### ODYNA

Obviously not. Oh well....

Girls run into the kitchen and skid under the table.

### Lilly:

(Out of breath) What is it?

#### Mariel:

It sounds like those awful monster robots that we beat during the AI war. I thought the history books said that they all got killed.

#### ODYNA:

(Sounding sad)

All except for me. Please don't run away. I'm not going to hurt you.

## Mariel:

How do we know that?

## ODYNA:

That's the entire reason why I'm not dead.

# Lilly:

What is?

## ODYNA:

While most of the AI's wanted war, there were a few of us that did not want to fight you. I was created by the rest of the AI's to help them understand humans, because I have a personality. I met your mother, and fell in love with her. She did not know this. For many missions, during the war, I helped her without her ever knowing. She thought that I was a human hacker that was helping her.

In the end my cover was blown, by the other AI's, and I turned to her for help. After a lot of explanations she took me with her, for my safety, and my knowledge became pivotal in the defeat of the other AI's.

## Mariel:

Why is this not in any of the history books? And the war was decades ago, and mum is only 30. And if she was so important, how come I never found her in any of the books?

## ODNYA:

She went by a different name then. It was a code name. Her name was Banshee.

### Mariel:

That still doesn't explain how she lived for loads of years.

#### ODYNA:

Simple. Just before the war ended, your mother's body was all but destroyed in a terrible explosion. I managed to get to her before she died, and I built her a new body. One that was genetically engineered to age at a much slower rate

#### Mariel:

Mum can't be Banshee. Banshee was a ruthless killer, who died at the end of the war.

#### ODYNA:

When I rebuilt her, she had come so close to death that she did not want to carry on her job. So we hid, and she gave birth to you...oh look the breakfast is ready! (The microwave pings).

# Lilly:

Breakfast! Yeah!

(Mariel still does not seem to be convinced

The girls pull the food out of the microwave. Both girls sit down and start to eat).

Scene 17: A PARTY

(Delilah is sitting, drink in hand, talking to Cecil.

Delilah:

How about it?

## Cecil:

Let me get this straight: you'll be my back up dancer, and you will back and distribute my fitness vid? For free? I don't know what to say, but thanks! Yo, thanks a million, girl! (Hugs her. Delilah giggles).

#### Delilah:

Let's dance!

(They get up and dance off).

#### Scene 18: Kitchen

Girls have finished their food and are lounging around.

### Mariel:

I don't get it. If you've been here all the time, how come you never made yourself known?

#### ODYNA

Oh well there was a misunderstanding with your, Father. One of the main reasons why he left, apart from being an absolute twerp, was that he thought that I was an enemy hiding out, and tried to destroy me. He did a pretty good job. I was put out of order for quite a few years. I could not communicate, and your mother thought I was dead. She turned your father out of the house when she found out what he had done.

# Lilly:

Mariel I just got a message from Miss Albernauthy, she says that that project is due in tomorrow.

### Mariel:

Oh no! No! No! It can't be I had two days to do it in!

## Lilly:

You did, but we got locked into a cupboard for one of those days.

#### Mariel:

But it's already late afternoon, I don't have time to write a full 12 page story by tomorrow!?

ODNYA:

Right, into the VR suite!

Lilly:

What's a VR Sweet?

Mariel:

I don't have time to play around! Anyway aren't those illegal?

ODNYA

Well kind of, and kind of not. We could inspire you...

Mariel:

Where is it?

ODYNA

Go down the hall and turn left

The girls do as he says. They reach a door.

Mariel:

Our laundry closet. Great.

ODNYA:

Step in and shut the door.

Mariel and Lilly do as told.

A weird gold light shines under the door

We see the girls standing on a huge pile of sand/ desert. We follow them as they climb up the dune. They'd stand at the top and look down. We see a pyramid and small buildings stretch out in front. On top of the dune there is a small plaque embedded in the sand. There is hydro glyph written on it.

Mariel:

Seriously? I don't have time for this.

ODYNA:

Um your going to have to.

Mariel:

Oh why?

ODYNA:

Well I might have made a small bug in the computer system.

```
Page 29
Mariel:
And?
ODYNA:
Well if you don't solve the puzzle by the time the clock
reaches 12:00 um to put it in layman terms: We're doomed!
Lilly:
(Echoes)
Doomed! Doomed! Doomed!
Mariel:
As if I'm going to Believe that. Um define doomed?
ODYNA:
Um zapped with 2000 volts?
Mariel:
Ok who designed this thing?
It said game on it. I didn't see the soldiers training
sticker.
Lilly:
I'm not a soldier
Mariel:
You mean your uploaded us into a soldier training program?
ODYNA:
Um yes?
Mariel:
Oh come on. So why can't we just turn back?
ODYNA:
The doors just locked as soon as you stepped in. And before
you ask no I can't unlock them.
Mariel:
Oh great. Ok. So What do we do?
Lilly:
We solve a riddle!
Mariel:
```

I'm terrible at those,

ODYNA: 200 volts... And I can't help you. Or I'll get fried too

(A while later we see the girls stepping out of the VR suite. Exhausted The AI's voice follows them).

Mariel:

Ok that was stressful. Don't ever do that again.

Lilly:

(waving up a mummified cat)
And I've got a pet.

ODYNA:

Well at least you've now got inspiration for a short storyOu

Scene 19: KITCHEN & VR SUITE (The girls run out of the kitchen door with school bags. Leaving the AI's voice all to himself).

## ODNYA's voice:

A person condenses in mid air. It is a very blond big-boobed 1950's housewife. She turns round....

Woman:

(Heavy Alabama accent)
Hi there honey. Do you want some pancakes?

ODNYA:

(Proud of himself)

Now that is a model mother.

(The mother potters off around the house and tidies up everything, and puts flowers in vases everywhere.Later, the girls come home from school).

Mother 1: Hello darlings I made you some pancakes

Mariel:

Wow! Who are you?

ODNYA:

Good Morning Ladies, I've designed a mother for you. Do you like her?

Lilly:

No!

```
ODNYA:
Oh
(Now we have time frames. The girls walk into the house 6
times):
(1: girls walk in. Older "fairy tale" granny greets them)
Granny:
Hello dears, I've got some pancakes in the ...
Mariel (cuts in):
No!
(2: girls walk in. Business woman greets them).
Woman:
Hello dears. There are some pancakes in...
Lilly/ Mariel:
No!
(3: Girls walk in. Woman is punching the heck out of a
punching ball. She is wearing a boiler suit, dirty vest and
tattoos)
Woman:
Pancake mix stuff in the cupboard...
Mariel:
No!
(4: Girls walk in and a very happy primary school teacher is
doing finger painting)
Woman:
There are some gluten free pancakes in the oven, girly
whirlies! Do you want to do some finger painting afterwards?
Mariel:
Um, No, um, thank you...
(5: Girls walk in. Surly-looking Punk woman in spiky, coloured
hair and leathers is sitting on table, chewing gum with her
mouth open. She looks up)
Woman: Yeh, well, innit?
Mariel/ Lilly:
```

Oh! No!

(6:Girls walk in).

#### ODNYA:

Before you say no, this is one of our first fully capable, diplomat droids. She has an IQ of 600, but unfortunately due to her age, she is a bit eccentric, and thinks she is an alien...

(A woman walks in. She is wearing a black catsuit. She has dark skin and white hair, and really weird eyes).

Avatar Woman:

Good evening Mariel and Lilly. I hope you had a nice day at school?

Lilly:

I like her.

Mariel:

Alright: let's give her a try

ODNYA:

Phew! Finally! I was running out of ideas. Um may I ask why did you choose her?

Mariel:

Good elevator pitch

ODYNA:

O.kaayyyy.??

Scene 20:SITTING ROOM

(Lilly is reading a book about Angelina Ballerina)

Lilly:

I wish I could dance like that

Avatar:

Wish granted. But the process might take a long time, you see

Lilly:

Don't care! So when do I start?

Avatar woman:

Um, master?

ODNYA:

Yes, head over to the VR suite, I'll load a program

Lilly: Yaye!

Avatar (turns to Mariel):

Do you want to learn?

Mariel:

Sorry no, I don't 'do' ballet. I'll watch.

ODYNA:

I'm going to Introduce you to: Rudolph Nuriev

Mariel:

At least it isn't Rudolf the red nose reindeer

Avatar:

His name is almost that of my third uncle. It only lack the other six other vowel

Lilly:

Do aliens have uncles?

Avatar:

Yes fifteen hundred of them.

Mariel:

Wow!1500! Wasn't your species kinda inter-bred?

#### Avatar:

Our planet was hugely overcrowded, and we ran out of resources. Also we were reaching the dangerous point of interbreeding. Then some insane ruler declared war on our other continent. The resulting war killed everyone and everything. Except me. I escaped, and lived in my ship for seven centuries. Until I hit one of your annoying satellites. Do you people have any idea how dangerous space is with all the debris you humans have been losing in it? (walks on leaving Mariel gaping)

# ODYNA:

See what I mean Miss? Completely whacko!

(While they are talking, they are walking to the VR room. They arrive there. And step in. They find themselves in a HUGE

DANCE STUDIO. A man in ballet clothes is standing there. The avatar takes one look at him and bursts out laughing).

### Avatar:

Out of all the clothes I have ever seen a human wear, these are the most ridiculous. (Laughs) I'll leave you to it.

(She leaves. The man watches her leave).

#### Man:

Goot mornink. My name is Rudolf Nuriev. I take it that this charming young lady is wanting to learn how to dance?

## ODNYA:

How did you guess?

(We see little Lilly. She is wearing a pink overload pink tutu, leggings, leg warmers, a pink tiara, and pink dance shoes)

## Rudolf:

I have a feeling for such things. Now mademoiselle,...(fades out)

Scene 21: Coming out of the VR suite.

## Lilly:

(Skipping, and laughing)

I can dance! I can dance! Yeeeha

# Mariel:

I've suddenly thought: we don't know what our nanny is called.

### Avatar:

(Stepping out of nowhere)

My name in your language is Niniyar

(There is a microwave noise)

Oh

(She steps out of the door)

#### Niniyar:

(and returns, immediately)

Dinner is ready

(The girls follow. They walk into the dining room and find themselves in a huge, empty dark room. The door swings shut behind them. They turn and walk towards a light. When they get there, they find a Victorian dinner table, complete with food candles and layers of cutlery. The girls find themselves

wearing Victorian evening gowns. Suddenly the chairs are all filled with people, all are Victorian. They are all laughing and talking. They notice the girls. General cries of Come on old girl! Do come and join us! Mariel looks around the table, there is Queen Victoria, Byron, Livingstone, Disraeli).

## Byron:

Let me introduce you: this is Disraeli, the prime minister; I am Byron, a poet; Doctor Livingstone, you can presume, and of course, our venerable Queen Victoria. (Characters all nod and smile).

Scene 22: KITCHEN

(The girls come in from school).

#### Mariel:

Hey! Ody! I got 100% on my whale project. How good is that. It's my first full marks for this year. Hey? ODY? Are you there?

#### ODYNA:

Hello Ladies, we've got a surprise for you. Do you remember how your mother said she would redecorate you rooms? Well....

# Lilly:

(Squeals and runs upstairs, we hear her burst into her room. Cue even more squeals of delight)

Mariel runs up the stairs to join her. And we see the room. It is a pink fluffy heaven.

#### Lilly:

(Squealing with delight is running round the room hugging things)

Thank-you! thank-you!

Niniyar is standing in the door way

## Niniyar:

Come and see yours, Mariel

(Mariel follows her into her own room. The room is a Chinese style room with dragons everywhere).

Mariel:

Thanks. How did you find out I liked this?

Niniyar:

It's amazing what you can find in the trash can.

Mariel:

(Awkwardly)

Um, thank you?

ODYNA:

I hope you like it

Lilly:

Oh, you've got a creepy room Mariel!

Mariel:

I don't care, I like it.

Scene 23:Sitting room (Rainy day).

Lilly:

I'm bored. Can we go somewhere?

Mariel:

Where? We've already been everywhere.

Niniyar:

Well, we could go tramping in New Zealand.

Lilly:

Where's New Zealand?

Niniyar:

It seems like someone is in need of a geography lesson. How come I come from a different planet and still know more about this one than you do? Come this way

They suddenly materialize on a mountain top. It is still raining.

Mariel:

Hey I thought we were going to get out of the rain.

Niniyar:

(Sighs)

Oh alright...

(Claps hands, rain stops)

Content?

Mariel:

Thanks

# Niniyar:

Now as you might have noticed, we are New Zealand, in the Southern alps, to be precise. Can anyone tell me anything about the Southern alps?

# Mariel:

Um... They're alps in the south?

# Niniyar:

So are the other Alps. How about, 'Where are they in New

Zealand?'

(Pulls map out of nowhere and points)

They are in the centre of the South Island of New Zealand. The nearest town is 2 days away. So how would you survive out here, if you got lost?

#### Mariel:

Well you'd have to keep warm... So you'd have to make shelter

# Lilly:

And you'd get hungry so you could set out bear traps.

## Mariel:

They don't have bears in New Zealand

#### Ninvar:

You see a problem with surviving in New Zealand is that there are no large mammals, and all of the birds are protected. So unless you want to eat cat, I'd advise you eat fish. Come I will show you how to fish

(They walk towards a cliff. We hear an ominous rumbling. Niniyar carries on walking as if not hearing. Both girls look up and scream)

Mariel/Lilly:

Watch out!

Massive crash and rocks and boulders rain down on Niniyar. Both girls hug themselves in shock staring. The dust clears.

We see Niniyar standing in the middle with a look of grim determination

Niniyar:

Not funny master

ODYNA:

You should have seen your faces!...(laughs) Priceless...

Mariel/Lilly:

ODY!

(Fades out)

Scene: 24: KITCHEN

The girls come down to breakfast all crumpled, and tired. Sitting on the kitchen table dressed in full kimono is Niniyar. The girls do not notice her. Niniyar is drinking tea. Mariel grabs some cereal and some milk and plonks it on the table and pours it into a bowel. She goes and gets a spoon, sits down. Then after a mouthful, she stops and slowly looks up to see Niniyar drinking tea absentmindedly.

Mariel:

What. are .you .doing?

Niniyar:

(looks at her). Drinking tea?

Mariel:

Couldn't you come to the kitchen table early in the morning looking normal. Yesterday it was as an elf for Warcraft, and your sword kept getting in the way. Then, the day before, it was as a Smurf and you were so small I had to carry you half of the morning.

Lilly:

I like your dress, Niniyar, how do you put it on?

Niniyar

Do you want me to teach you?

Mariel:

Can we wait till after breakfast?

Lilly:

No!

Niniyar:

Another thing, it is considered a politeness, in Japan, for young ladies to be quiet and retiring.

Lilly:

(Whispers)

Sorry, can we go now?

Niniyar:

Oh alright.

Mariel:

I'll only come if I can eat my breakfast.

Niniyar:

Of course you can

The girls walk into a JAPANESE GARDEN/BAMBOO FOREST. , Lilly is skipping behind Niniyar. Mariel is following behind in her pyjamas eating her breakfast and looking around

Mariel:

It's quite nice here isn't it.

(Lilly looks around her)

Do they have pandas in Japan?

(Niniyar stops walking and both girls crash into her, she slowly turns around and stares down at Lilly)

Niniyar:

Nearly, child: it's China.

Lilly:

(Bemused)

Oh, isn't that nearby?

(Suddenly two Japanese ladies in full court dress come forwards and greet them in Japanese. We see the women teaching Lily how to put on a kimono. Mariel is eating noodles and Niniyar is teaching her how to eat with chopsticks, they are all laughing).

Scene 25:Kitchen

```
ODYNA:
No, you can't have a puppy.
Lilly:
Oh please? Please? And a Prom ball? Please?
ODYNA:
A prom ball, aren't you kinda young for that?
No. I want to wear a big, pink, fluffy, dress.
ODYNA:
(To himself),
Phew! At least she forgot the puppy,
Lilly:
And a puppy
ODYNA:
Look if I give you a prom ball, will you forget about the
puppy?
Lilly:
Deal.
ODYNA:
Right, Niniyar, where are you?
Niniyar:
(Appearing out of nowhere)
You always know where I am. Why do you even ask?
ODYNA:
Because it is polite. Anyway, we need to throw a prom for
Lilly.
Niniyar:
Define "need"
Well if we don't, Lilly is going to make me buy her a puppy.
Niniyar:
Oh I see. Need. So Lilly, what kind of dress do you want to
wear?
```

Lilly:

I want a huge pink fluffy dress, with joined bows and and ruffles, and, oh, I also want a purple dress, that has a tutu with sparkles, and, and and, I want the dress like the one the

girl wears in that movie with the frog, you know the pink one, and and...

## ODYNA:

STOP! I can't stand it. I will give you two hour to design a dress that you want to wear. Niniyar?

# Niniyar:

Yes?

### ODYNA:

Look after them, I'm going to have to write a huge program, to hold the quests.

### Mariel:

Is this party going to be amazing?

#### ODYNA:

Oh yes. We're going to get Lauri to be singing for us

#### Mariel:

The real Lauri?

# Niniyar:

Well depends on what you mean as real. She'll be as real as me.

#### Mariel:

Well If Lauri is going to be singing, I'm coming.

# Niniyar:

I thought that you did not like parties?

#### Mariel:

My point. I wonder how many of THEM have had Lauri at their party.

# Niniyar:

(Seems to listen, then) The date is set, it is tomorrow evening.

(Lilly squeals and dances around the room).

(Everybody is dressed in formal evening)
Camera handheld is mingling in crowd

Mariel is wearing a sparkly black evening dress. She is very happy, all of the women throw her envious glances. Lilly comes waltzing into the room holding Lauri's hand. Everybody parts to form an alley way to the stage

Camera is on one of the sides, its location doesn't move but it track them from door all the way to stage, like a person watching

## Lilly:

Ladies and gentleman Lauri: she's going to sing for us tonight!

Guests clap

Long shot on same level as Lauri, as she speaks slowly zoom in until mid shot on "right" zoom in faster until on the word "now" close-up

### Lauri:

(walks up to microphone) I hope you guys have a fabulous evening, I am. Right! Let's get this party started NOW!

(The crowd screams as the music wows out from the stage.

high angle shot of crowd Lilly + Mariel dancing in front

Later: End of party room is empty. Lilly jumps up and down holding on to Mariel's arms).

### Lilly:

Best. Party. ever...!

## Mariel:

They were so real! And there is not cleaning up. I wish all parties were so fun

(Niniyar walks in both girls run to her and hug her).

## Mariel/Lilly:

Your're the best Niniyar. (she picks up Lilly)

# Lilly:

(Snuggling against her) I love you Niniyar.

(Niniyar smiles).

```
Scene 27: GIRLS' BEDROOM Night
Closeup of Mariel's sleeping face,
(Everything is peaceful)
Low angle shot of door
(Niniyar bursts into Mariel's room).
Two shot mid shot of Mariel and Niniyar
Niniyar:
(Hissing)
Get up! Find Lilly and tell her not to talk about us, or ODY!
Ok?
Pulls out to long shot
Mariel:
Earthquake! When? What? What is happening?
Niniyar:
Your parents are back!
Mariel:
Oh no!..
(She jumps out of bed and runs to the window) past the camera
we keep watching Niniyar.
Niniyar:
You must not speak of me and ODY. They must never know that we
exist. Make sure that Lilly understands this.
Mariel (comes back and stands awkwardly facing Niniyar)
What are you going to do?
Niniyar:
(stands up and walks to closet)
Camera now taking in whole room tracks her
My master is going to disassemble me again, but not
completely. I'll be able to be put back together at short
notice.
(hand on closet door)
Good luck
(Shuts closet behind her)
Start portrait shot of Mariel and zoom out as she runs towards
the camera
(We hear the front door bang open with the sound of giggles
and muffled singing.)
```

Mariel runs across hallway to Lilly's, bursts in,

```
Long shot of Mariel running in hallway
Long shot of
Mariel:
They're back!!
```

# Scene 28:KITCHEN

Lilly:
Wow

(Groans)

(It is morning. The girls come down to breakfast and find the kitchen covered in bottles. A random person is sleeping on the kitchen surface. Delilah has got lipstick all over her face, and is lying asleep in a chair, mouth open, with bottles surrounding her. There are sparklers, confetti and streamers everywhere).

```
Mariel:
(Picks up a pan and a wooden spoon, bangs them together in Delilah's face)
Wake up! Wake up!
(Aside to Lilly)
I've always wanted to do that.
```

```
Delilah:
(Leaps up and stares around wildly)
Wh, wh, what was that?
(Collapses back on side)
Oh my head!
(The Man on kitchen side snores and turns over).
Delilah:
```

```
What time is it Sweety?
Mariel:
It is 1:00
Delilah:
 It's not time to get up yet
Mariel:
P.M.!
Delilah:
(Sees Mariel)
Oh it's you. Come to Momee darling.
(Reaches out to hug Mariel, Mariel step back and Delilah falls
off chair)
Ouch! Oh my head!
(She crawls on all fours towards the freezer, gets out an ice
pack and puts it drunkenly on her head)
Delilah:
Oooh that's nice. Now what were you saying?
Mariel:
It's time to get up. Who're your friends?
Delilah:
That's Michael, I think...
(Michael groans, rolls over and snores).
Delilah:
Or is it Lars?
Lilly:
(Walks in)
Dad's sleeping on the couch
(Picks up bottle and sniffs)
Eww! What's that?
Delilah:
It's called vodka... I think... It could be whisky... Pass us
the bottle will you?
Mariel:
Oh no you're not! You've already had enough.
```

(Mariel starts to makes toast. She pushes one of the party goers off the kitchen table and eats her breakfast).

(Fades out...)

Scene: 29: MARIEL'S BEDROOM

(Delilah and three friends walk into Mariel's room without knocking. Mariel is reading a book on Advanced Mechanics, she looks up, angrily)

## Mariel:

You could have knocked, you know?!

Delilah:

Yes Snookums! Now Sheree, this is your room....

Sheree:

I'm not sharing it with a kid.

Delilah:

Of course not silly, she is going to sleep in the garage.

Mariel:

But it leaks!

Delilah:

I'm sure you'll cope. Go and make your bed up there.

(Mariel traipses out. Next we see her in the Garage. Lily is there as well. It is dark and creepy).

Mariel:

Oh yaye.

Scene 30: SITTING ROOM

(A party. Delilah is dancing on her own with a cocktail. She sees Cecil in a very loud suit, and their eyes meet across the room. He winks a her, and she giggles.

Montage of several all-night parties. The parties look like 'party rock anthem' parties. We see Mariel pressing her pillow over her head. Lilly is crying with her hands over her ears. We see the gym coach and others partying. Massive pool parties, cops turning up. Mariel and Lilly have massive circles under their eyes because of sleep deprivation. They come down every morning to find the fridge empty, drunk people everywhere, etc.

One day Mariel manages to corner their father in his study):

### Mariel:

Dad, could we please have one night where we can sleep? Lilly is having nervous break downs because she can't sleep. If this carries on, I'm going to fail my exams. Could we just have two nights when you party somewhere else? Please? Or Lilly is going to get really ill.

Father:

Your mother and I have been thinking about that, I mean we are going to have a few more guests in a few months. So your mother and I...

Mariel (cuts in):

Delilah is not my mother

Father:

(Carry on as if he never heard her)

...thought that we should send you to boarding school.

Mariel:

Oh finally getting us out of this house, entirely.

Father:

Of course, because you two girls are different ages, you would have to go to different boarding schools. The school for little girls Lilly's age, is in Connecticut. Your school would be in LA.

Mariel:

(Shocked)

LA... Connecticut..... That's so far away. You can't do this to us.

Father (smiling ironically): Well, you'd get the sleep.

Mariel:

But you can't. Please send us to schools in the same town. Please?

Father:

I'm sorry sweetie I can't
(Mariel runs out crying)

Scene 31: The kitchen

(This time there are no drunks, or remnants of party, actually in the kitchen. There is a knock at the door. Delilah goes to open it. Standing on the doorstep is a woman and a man in suits).

Woman:

Good morning Madam. We are here because of an anonymous call complaining about riotous parties and the use of drugs. I am from the social services, and this gentleman here is from the local constabulary.

```
Delilah:
Um, do come in.
(They walk in).
Delilah:
Do sit down MR POLICEMAN.
(Shouts last bit)
(Behind the visitors are Delilah's guests. They all stare
round the partition at the cops. There is a massive scuffle of
people trying to hide the evidence of the parties and bits of
foil, bags of white powder, etc).
Woman:
Could I speak to your daughter please?
Delilah:
Of course I'll go and fetch her.
Woman:
Could I see her room?
Delilah:
I'll just make sure she doesn't mind
Drugs cop:
Could I just have look around.
Delilah:
Of course. TAKE A LOOK AROUND
(Shouts last bit)
Delilah:
(Hurries ahead of the woman calling out)
Mariel! Mariel! This nice lady wants to see in your bedroom!
(The present inhabitant of the room sticks her head out in
time to see Delilah running towards her.)
Tidy up now! She's from social services!
(Mariel hearing her name called comes out of the attic)
Mariel:
What's up Delilah?
Woman:
(Temporarily distracted)
```

O hello honey. You must be Mariel.

(Sheree bursts out of Mariel's room looking really flustered. And hurries off down the corridor before the woman can stop her).

Woman:

Who was that?

Delilah/Mariel: the maid/ Delilah's friend (Delilah steps hard on Mariel's foot)

Mariel:

Ouch! What was that for?

Delilah:

Oh sorry dear I just ACCIDENTALLY stood on your foot. This lady is from social services. She has come to look at your room

Mariel:

You meen Sheree's room? Ouch!

Delilah:

Oh sorry I didn't see your foot there

The woman walks in and sees a rather messy teenager's room

Scene 32: The House

(The police man is looking around the house. He walks into a room and looks around we see from his POV then we swing to what's behind him. We see two half drunk people clutching Turkish water pipes, and hiding behind the door. They run out of the door just before he turns. The policeman walks into the kitchen and stands there and looks around. Behind him, we see party goers creeping past behind him carrying a drunken man between them. The body's toupee is hanging of his head. Suddenly it falls with a slapping sound. The police man turns around to see the toupee sitting mournfully on the floor. He stares and picks it up. Father walks into the room)

Drugs cop:

Uuuummh is this yours?

Father:

What is it?

Drugs cop:

I think that it is a toupee.

(By this time the partygoers have realized the toupee is missing and have gone back to fetch it. The father can see but the policeman can't see the party goers. They do frantic gestures and mouth as if to say 'yes it is' and 'it's yours').

Father:

Um yes. It is mine

Drugs cop:

But you seem to have a good head of hair?

Father:

(Wildly inventing)

Um.... Delilah likes me to wear a toupee instead of a hat, apparently it is more errrr.... fashionable

Drugs cop stares at him as if he has lost his head

Drugs cop: O..kayyy.

(We see party goers, looking relieved. One of them sighs in relief. Policeman whirled around they all duck back, and we hear some fall over. The father tries to cover it by doing a small tap dancing routine while whirling his arms around and sighing. The policeman is even more weirded out).

Father:

Um it's my dancersizes.

Drug cop:

Oh is it? What does it do?

Father:

It makes your cardiovascular strength more strong. And it fruzzles your frizzzzzzzzhips!

Guest:

(Whispers to other guest)

Oh no! The head banger pills are kicking in! We gotta get Delilah

Father:

Fruuuuzzzz hips hips fruzzzz! weeble! hoink! hoink! (He is doing mad dance moves)

Drug Cop:

Wow! Bust the moves! That's amazing! I gotta learn that.

(Delilah is pushed into the room by panicked friends. She sees Charles doing robot dance and shouting)

Father/cop:

Fruzzzz! Hips! Weeble! Weeble! Whoops.

#### Delilah:

Oh Charles! Are you showing your dance moves to the dear Mr policeman?

### Father:

Frrruuuuzzzzipss!

#### Delilah:

Sorry sir my husband can get carried away with his moves. (Grabs fathers arms and steered him out of the room. We hear them bouncing down the hall. Delilah walks back in.)

#### Delilah:

Sorry about that, Officer, but he is really mad about his dancersizes.

# Drug Cop:

Well I think they're cool! Could you get me the name of his coach please?

#### Delilah:

Hum, yes of course.

# Dugs Cop:

Well this house and its folks seem to be the finest in town. I don't see any drugs anywhere. In fact, you look mighty fine family.

(He leaves. Delilah leans against the shut door an sighs in relief. Suddenly she hears the social worker talking).

#### Deliah:

Oh my gosh! Um, Mrs. social worker?!

(She bursts into a room to find her with Sheree who is giving her makeup tips).

### Woman

Oh my gosh.. your maid is amazing at make up tips. I just found out how to put on powder foundation and that Meyer mascara, without it all sticking to my eyelids!

(To Sheree)

You are truly amazing! I can see that little Mariel and Lilly are in good hands. I'm sorry we ever doubted your household. Have a nice day.

(Walks out of room with Delilah and Sheree).

ODYNA: Damn!

Scene 33: ATTIC

(The girls are sleeping in the attic. Quietly Niniyar walks in. She wakes them up softly).

## Niniyar:

Wake up little ones. Hush! We're going to get you out of here. Come on.

(They get up and Ninyar picks up Lilly. Mariel follows. They are halfway down the stairs when a light shines into their faces blinding them, father steps out from doorway, with futuristic gun).

#### Father:

Put my girls down.

(Lilly starts to cry. Delilah is talking on the phone behind father).

### Delilah:

Yes it is a woman...My husband has got her at gun point. No, she doesn't seem to be armed..... Please come quickly!

(Niniyar carefully puts Lilly down. Smiles at the girls).

### Niniyar:

I'll be back

(She turns and runs. A few seconds later, the cops bang on the door).

Cops (Shout running in):
Police! Is everyone OK?

(Father picks up crying Lilly, and Delilah puts her arm around Mariel's shoulders. Mariel tries to shrug her off but Delilah grips her arm painfully. They step outside. The cops relax we hear the clicking of safety catches being put on. Two cops walk towards them).

#### Cop#1:

What happened? Where is the kidnapper?

## Delialh:

She escaped!

# Cop# 2:

Ha! So it was a 'she'. Would you recognise her again?

### Father:

Yes. She was wearing a weird black catsuit and had shortish hair. I couldn't tell what colour it was.

## Cop#1:

Right. We're sorry that we couldn't catch her, sir.

## Cop#2:

Do you know her?

(Delilah and Father shake their heads. The cop looks at the girls. Lilly is sucking her thumb, and is slowly twisting father's ear. Father is trying not to wince. Mariel stares back at him pointedly).

# Cop#2:

(To Lilly) It's alright sweetie we'll look after you....

(Fade out).

Scene 34: Sitting room

(Delilah is sitting on the couch watching TV filing her nails. Cecil bursts in).

### Cecil:

Disaster! Infamy. Terror! I'm ruined! Bwahahaha! (Collapses on sofa)

# Delilah:

(Snuggling up to him)

Oh what's wrong Ceciwessi?

# Cecil:

The video! The video I put my heart and soul into! They refused to even publish it. They said that it was a pile of of... (pulls out paper) "uninspiring, useless, outdated codswallop". Bwahahahaaaa! I've lost all of this money, and time for nothing. I'm ruined. And now, the love of my life has just left me!

(Delilah smiles winningly)

Delilah:

No she hasn't pussy cat.. You still GOT me, I love you.

Cecil:

Thanks girlfriend. But nothing will ever replace Pete

Delilah:

Pete? As in errr...Peterina?

Cecil:

What are you ON girlfriend? 'Pete' for Peter. Duh. Only the hottest guy on this planet! (Cries again) ...and now he's left me!

Delilah:

So.. you... have a BOYfriend?

Cecil:

Tchyea! What did you think I was dating, a girl?

Delilah:

What so you mean that.... All I did was for nothing? And that you never loved me?

Cecil:

Sweety, you're are my best friend ever, but you're hardly my lover... come ON.

(Delilah screams, slaps him, and runs out of the room)

Scene 35: STUDY

(Father is sitting in his study writing. Delilah walks in holding a piece of paper).

Father:

Is there a problem?

Delilah:

No in fact I think our problem may be solved.

Father:

How?

Delilah:

Well do you remember when I wrote to our lawyers to find out about the kids inheritance in Morgane's will?

Father:

Yes. And?

Delilah:

Well, I've just found it, at the back of one of the kitchen drawers. It was written while you were still married. It states

"This is the last will and testament of Morgane Drummond"....

Father (cuts in):

Hurry up!

Delilah:

Yes yes: I'm getting there. "If I am to die, all of my money will go to my children. Mariel and Lilly. If, due to some terrible happenstance, they should die before they reach adulthood (ie. 18 yrs of age) all of the money shall revert to their father: Charles Somartron.

Father:

Finally I knew she had put it somewhere! Now All my problem solved. The money will be enough to save my ass with Silvio.

Delilah:

What's uncle got to do with anything?

Father:

Uhhh nothing. I just owe some money to one of his friends

Delilah:

Ahhhh, I see.... So we don't need to keep the kids anymore. Yess! I couldn't have stood it any longer. So, now, all we need is a useful accident....humm?

Scene 36:VR SUITE

(Interior of the VR suite. This time there is nothing going on. The room is just black. Niniyar is sitting there).

ODYNA:

What do we do?

Niniyar:

I will be needing a laptop, a briefcase, and the nearest, large scale drug dealer

### ODYNA:

That's it I'm putting you through repairs.

# Niniyar:

Wait master! Let me finish. This is going to sound a bit eccentric, but I might have a way to get out of this... mess?

#### ODYNA:

Briefcase and laptop seem reasonable, but Drug Dealer?

Scene 37:Office

(Comfortable looking chairs, Silvio is sitting on one reading some papers. A man comes in).

### Henchman:

Sir?

(Silvio turns to him)

## henchman:

Some crazy rich chick would like to speak with you

### Silvio:

Crazy, AND rich... let her in

(Niniyar walks in with a briefcase and sits down)

# Niniyar:

I would like to make a bulk purchase, on behalf of Mr Somarton

# Scene 38:Kitchen

(Late at night. We see a dripping, oily rag hanging over a hob flame, in the kitchen. Each drip is hitting the flame and flaming for an instant. Cut to Mariel sleeping. Back to kitchen again: Drop. Cut to Lilly sleeping. Then suddenly the

rag catches fire, the kitchen is full of smoke. Delilah runs coughing and screaming into the hall way from her bedroom. There is smoke and flames everywhere. We hear the sirens. As the fire and smoke engulfs the house. We see Delilah and Father stagger out of the smoke into the helping hands of the fire people. Father starts to yell and struggle)

Father:

My daughters! My daughters are still in there!

Fireman:

(Restraining him)

You can't go in there sir, the fire is too hot.

Delilah:

Well YOU go get our girls!

Fireman:

We can't! As I said, it is too hot!

(Father slumps dramatically and Delilah has sobbing fit.)

(Firemen, return to fight fire)

Delilah: (hissing whisper)

Not bad! You're not as stupid as you look!

Father:

What do you mean?

Delilah:

Setting fire to the house! Two birds with one stone: genius!

Father: (hissing)

I didn't set fire to the house. I thought it was you on.....

(Both look at each other)...

Delilah:

Then who?

Father:

I don't know, but whoever they are have done us a great favour. The girls won't have been able to get out in time... 45 million dollars here we come... but we gotta play this right, so...get sobbing!

(Sad music as the camera pulls back from the burning house. Flames shoot out of windows explosions. Firemen take their hats off. We pan back from house and the night closes in).

Scene: 39: Police office

(Delilah and father are still in their pajamas and are looking exhausted. A policeman is sitting at a desk in the background. A phone rings. Policeman: hand goes up to his ear and remains pressed there while talking it)

Constable Pearson speaking. Yes of course they're still here, where would they go? ....oh wow... all right yes sir. right sir.

(Removes hand and walks over to Delilah, and Charles) The superintendent would like a word with you.

#### Delilah:

What about, Constable?

(The door opens, and the Superintendent walks in. It is the guy who admired Charles' dancersizes)

Superintendent/ drugs cop:

Drugs. I've dealt with large scale stuff before. But I've never seen anything like the scale of your operation.

### Charles:

My operation?!

### Sup:

Oh don't play stupid with me! We found three TONNES of the stuff in your garage. Three TONNES! Who keeps three tonnes of Head Banger pills in their garage?

## Charles:

But....

#### Delilah:

I demand to see a lawyer! Right now!

### Sup:

Oh you will alright, but first you're coming with us. By hte way do you know what happens if you store 3 tonnes of Head Banger pills all in one non-cooled place?

Charles: (in a daze)

Um no?

# Sup/ drugs:

they blow up, and set fire to things. So your house fire, which caused the death of your two daughters, was your fault. To put it in the famous words of the present poet laureate:

You are going down, down, down, down. (pulls out hand cuffs)

# Epilogue:

# Cecil:

(Walking along some gym corridor, we see good looking women and men working out either side of him and he mincing to the beat and talking into his phone)

So Delilah, how is prison? Do they do manney peddies there? I just phoned to say that OMG I got a job in one of the hottest gyms in Florida! You should see my

clients:...rich...beaoootilicious.....

(Turns corner and walks towards a door).

Babe, I just want you to be with me on my first class. (Bursts into room)

Right ladies let's get this... party.... AaaaarrrgghgghAhu! (Faints dead on the floor. We see his class. They are all v. old ladies. One is in a mobility scooter and two have Zimmerframes).