Coco

Cast of Characters

Miguel Rivera

Dante

Abuelita / Pepita

Mamá Coco / Frida Kahlo

Ernesto de la Cruz

Héctor

Mamá Imelda

Mamá (Luisa) / Tío Oscar / Chachalaco

Papá (Enrique) / Tío Felipe / Chachalaco

Papá Julio / Chachalaco

Security Guard / Chachalaco

Tío Berto / Emcee

Remember Me

Remember me  
Though I have to say goodbye  
Remember me  
Don't let it make you cry  
For ever if I'm far away  
I hold you in my heart  
I sing a secret song to you  
Each night we are apart  
Remember me  
Though I have to travel far  
Remember me  
Each time you hear a sad guitar  
Know that I’m with you  
The only way that I can be  
Until you’re in my arms again  
Remember me

Que nuestra canción no deje de latir  
Solo con tu amor yo puedo existir (recuérdame)  
Que nuestra canción no deje de latir  
Solo con tu amor yo puedo existir (recuérdame)

[All move to wings of stage, listening, except for Miguel and Dante, closing their eyes and holding the pose of the last words of “Remember Me”]

Abuelita: Ay Miguel! Is that you singing again?

Miguel: No, Abuelita!

Tío Berto: Good! Because you know that music is not allowed in our familia.

Mamá : But you know what is allowed?

Papá: Shoemaking! Which you already know.

Abuelita: Or do you need to be reminded of how music destroyed our familia?

Tío Berto: Long ago, your great great grandmother, Mamá Imelda, [Mamá Imelda enters downstage of family] and your great great grandfather—

Miguel: Ernesto de la Cruz! [Ernesto enters downstage of family]

Familia: [covering Miguel’s mouth] WHOSE NAME WE NEVER SPEAK OF!

Miguel: [muffled] Whose name we never speak of.

Tío Berto: …Were so happy together that he would sing and dance for her every day.

Mamá: Until, one day, they had a beautiful daughter.

Papá: Your great grandmother, Mamá Coco.

Tío Berto: And then he would sing for them both every day.

Abuelita: But, then, that horrible man left his wife and his daughter to follow fame and fortune! [Ernesto exits]

Mamá: So Mamá Imelda cursed his name and did what she needed to do.

Papá: Shoemaking!! She passed this on to her daughter, who passed it on to the rest of us. Aren’t you glad?

Abuelita: So now, on Día de los Muertos,

Familia: TODAY!

Abuelita: We honor the dead by putting all of their pictures on our ofrenda, except for that horrible man’s.

Tío Berto: Which reminds me, we still have so much to do! [Family exits busily, leaving Miguel and Dante on stage]

Miguel: I wish my family could love music as much as they love shoes. Right, Dante? [Dante nods] Hey, maybe if I win the contest tonight at the Plaza de la Cruz, they might see how wonderful music really is! [Dante shrugs] You’re right, I don’t even have a guitarra… But I know where I can get one! Come on! [Both exit]

[Security Guard enters at the shrine of de la Cruz, where de la Cruz’s skull guitar sits on a pedestal. Miguel and Dante enter sneakily. Miguel whispers something to Dante. Dante runs around stage barking. Security Guard chases him offstage. Miguel picks up the guitar and strums it. The lights flicker and he crosses over to the Land of the Dead without knowing. Tío Oscar, Tío Felipe, and Papá Julio enter.]

Tío Oscar / Tío Felipe / Papá Julio: MIGUEL! Hola!

Miguel: Ahhhh! You guys are dead!

Tío Oscar: Well, if you can see us…

Tío Felipe: Then aren’t you dead, too?

Papá Julio: I don’t know, guys, he kind of looks alive to me.

[Dante enters, still followed by Security Guard. Dante can see Miguel and his dead family members. The security guard cannot.]

Security Guard: Ay Dios Mío. The guitarra! I’ve got to find it! [He exits]

Miguel: Wait, Dante, you can see me? [Dante nods]

Tío Oscar: Of course he can!

Tío Felipe: He’s a dog!

Papá Julio: Dogs can see all of us Muertos. And speaking of all of us Muertos, I think the only one who will know how to get you back to the Land of the Living is Mamá Imelda. Come on!

[They all cross the Marigold Bridge to reach the Land of the Dead and exit. Security Guard and Héctor, disguised as Frida Kahlo, enter.]

Héctor: [High-pitched voice] Hola! It is me, Frida Kahlo. I will cross now to see mi familia.

Security Guard: Hold it right there. [He rips of Héctor’s fake unibrow. Héctor runs around Security Guard and then offstage.] Oye, come back here! [Exits chasing Héctor]

[Mamá Imelda enters. Miguel, Dante, and dead family members enter opposite.]

Tío Oscar: Mamá Imelda, por favor!

Tío Felipe: You have to help us!

Papá Julio: It’s Miguel, he needs your blessing!

Mamá Imelda: Wait, wait, wait. Now what is going on?

Miguel: Well… you see… what happened was… I strummed a magic guitarra—

[Family gasps]

Mamá Imelda: Hijo del Diablo, I will not give you my blessing! For you have betrayed our familia with your musical ways.

Miguel: Well if you won’t help me, then I know who can. [Miguel exits with Dante, running away.]

Mamá Imelda: Pepita! [Pepita enters, sniffing around. Family exits, hunting for Miguel.]

Security Guard: [from offstage] Come back here, by the power of Ernesto de la Cruz!

[Héctor enters, still running from Security Guard. Miguel and Dante enter opposite, still running from family. Miguel and Héctor do not see each other.]

Héctor: Hey, I know de la Cruz. I can get you front row seats to his Sunrise Spectacular. [Runs into Miguel. Both fall.]

Miguel: Did you say you know de la Cruz? That’s my great great grandfather. I need his blessing to get back to the Land of the Living.

Héctor: I think I can help you. And you can help me. We can help each other, but most importantly, you can help me.

Miguel: How?

Héctor: [Thinks, almost reaches an idea, starts over thinking, scratching head, pacing back and forth] Aha! His rehearsal. Wait here. [Exits in a hurry.]

Dante: This guy is weird. I like him.

Miguel: Ahhh! Dante, you can speak in the Land of the Dead?

Dante: Really, kid? Of all the strange things that have happened today?

[Miguel shrugs in acceptance. Héctor and Frida Kahlo enter. Frida is in the middle of explaining her vision for the Sunrise Spectacular.]

Frida Kahlo: There is darkness… And from the darkness… a giant papaya! Dancers emerge from the papaya, and the dancers are all me! [Dancers enter] And they go to drink from the milk of their mother who is a cactus, but who is also me! And her milk is not milk, but tears. Is it too obvious?

Miguel: I think it’s… just the right amount of obvious. It could use some music, though. Like, dun-DUN-DUN!! DAHHH!!!

Frida Kahlo: Inspired! You have the spirit of an artist. [Turning back to her vision] And then… [A de la Cruz mannequin is pushed on stage] He does a couple songs, the sun rises, everyone cheers.

Héctor: But where’s the real de la Cruz?

Frida Kahlo: Ernesto doesn’t do rehearsals. He’s too busy hosting that fiesta a the top of his tower.

Héctor: That bum! Who doesn’t show up to his own rehearsal? Come on, Miguel. I’ve got another idea.

[Héctor exits, running, with Miguel and Dante. Frida exits opposite. Emcee and Los Chachalacos enter.]

Emcee: Let’s give a big hand to Los Chachalacos! [Los Chachalacos wave and exit.] Remember, the winners of this contest get free entrance to the fiesta of Ernesto de la Cruz! Do we have another volunteer? [Héctor, Miguel and Dante enter, panting.] Señoritas and señores, give it up for…

Héctor: De la Crucito.

Emcee: De la Crucito!!!

Un Poco Loco

What color's the sky?  
¡Ay mi amor, ay mi amor!   
You tell me that it's red  
¡Ay mi amor, ay mi amor!

Where should I put my shoes?  
¡Ay mi amor, ay mi amor!   
You say, "put them on your head!"  
¡Ay mi amor, ay mi amor!

You make me un poco loco  
Un poquititito loco   
The way you keep me guessing   
I'm nodding and i'm yesing

I'll count it as a blessing  
That I'm only un poco loco

Dante: [Pointing out to audience] Oh no, Miguel, your familia! Run!

Emcee: Well, it looks like our winner is… Los Chachalacos! Let’s give them all another big round of applause. Now you may enter the fiesta, mis amigos!

[Emcee leads Los Chachalacos to the party. Miguel, Dante, and Héctor enter and sneak amongst los Chachalacos. Ernesto de la Cruz enters, along with party guests. Los Chachalacos exit.]

Miguel: Ernesto de la Cruz! I’m your great great grandson, and I need your blessing?

Ernesto de la Cruz: Did you sneeze? Haha! Bless you! Next fan!

Héctor: No, you don’t understand. He needs the blessing of a family member to send him back to the Land of the Living.

Ernesto de la Cruz: Haha, right. [He pulls a lever, dropping Miguel, Dante, and Héctor into a dungeon.]

Dante: No, now we’ll never get back to the Land of the Living.

Héctor: All I wanted to do was see my daughter, Coco, just one last time.

Miguel: Wait! Coco! That’s my great grandmother.

Héctor: But that means…

Miguel: That we…

Dante: Are related! Yay!!!

[Pepita enters, finds Miguel.]

Miguel, Dante, Héctor: AHHHHHH!!!!

[Family enters.]

Mamá Imelda: [To Héctor] You!

Héctor: Imelda!

Mamá Imelda: [Miguel and Dante try to sneak away. Mamá Imelda sees them out of the corner of her eye] And YOU! [Miguel and Dante freeze.] I’m still not done with you, yet. Why must you always cause our familia so much misfortune, Héctor?

Héctor: Imelda, you don’t understand. You see, I was murdered by none other than Ernesto de la Cruz.

Mamá Imelda: Curse that man! Pepita, take us to him! [All reach out to grab Pepita’s tail. All exit. Pepita flies Mamá Imelda, Miguel, Dante, and Héctor back to the party. Ernesto de la Cruz enters.] YOU!!! You will pay for murdering the love of my life!

Ernesto de la Cruz: I did what I had to do to seize my moment. [Ernesto de la Cruz pulls a lever, but it is the wrong lever,bringing Mamá Imelda onto stage among Frida Kahlo dancers.

Emcee: And now, Ernesto de la Cruz! [Mamá Imelda is surprised and out of breath, then begins to sing.]

La Llorona

Ay de mí, Llorona

Llorona de azul celeste

Ay de mí, Llorona

Llorona de azul celeste

Y aunque la vida me cueste, Llorona

No dejaré de quererte

No dejaré de quererte

Me subí al pino más alto, Llorona

A ver si te divisaba

Me subí al pino más alto, Llorona

A ver si te divisaba

Como el pino era tierno, Llorona

Al verme llorar, lloraba

Como el pino era tierno, Llorona

Al verme llorar, lloraba

La pena y la que no es pena, Llorona

Todo es pena para mí

La pena y la que no es pena, Llorona

Todo es pena para mí

Ayer lloraba por verte, Llorona

Hoy lloro porque te vi

Ayer lloraba por verte, Llorona

Hoy lloro porque te vi

Ay de mí, Llorona, Llorona

Llorona de azul celeste

Ay de mí, Llorona, Llorona

Llorona de azul celeste

Y aunque la vida me cueste, Llorona

No dejaré de quererte

Y aunque la vida me cueste, Llorona

No dejaré de quererte

No dejaré de quererte

No dejaré de quererte

¡Ay, ay, ay!

Ernesto de la Cruz: [Héctor pulls another lever, dropping a bell onto Ernesto de la Cruz] Ay, not again! [He is crushed.]

Mamá Imelda: Miguel, you have my blessing to return to the Land of the Living and put our [hugging Héctor] picture back on the ofrenda.

[Miguel and Dante are magically transported back to the Land of the Living, with Miguel’s living family, who all enter. Miguel puts the picture on the ofrenda, and Mamá Imelda and Héctor are able to hug Mamá Coco.]

Mamá Coco: [Reaching for Héctor] Mi papá.

All: [group hug] Mi Familia!

The World Es Mi Familia

Señoras y señores  
Buenas tardes, buenas noches  
Buenas tardes, buenas noches  
Señoritas y señores  
To be here with you tonight  
Brings me joy, que alegria  
For this music is my language  
And the world es mi familia

For this music is my language  
And the world es mi familia  
For this music is my language  
And the world es mi familia  
For this music is my language