

Scene 1

[The setting is in his bedroom, a violin leaning against the wall. He stirs slightly.]

Boy: **Wakes up, rubs his eyes and then stretches. A little later, he gets up, walks a bit, stops by the violin. He picks it up and plays for a few moments before stopping. He looks at the clock, before moving to dress up and leave for the bakery**

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Scene 2

[The setting is in a bakery, its sign posted above.]

[insert narration]

Boy: Hello? Anyone there?

Seller: Oh, it's you. Good morning, boy. Buying your usual, I suppose?

Boy: **nods**

Seller: **Leaves the counter for a bit, picks up a paper bag and goes back to the boy.** Here you go boy, fresh from the oven. Saved this batch 'specially for you.

Boy: Thank you so much, mister. **Grabs money from his pocket and pays up.** Have a good morning!

curtains close slightly

bp: **leaves ((out the curtain, curtain closes))**

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Scene 3

[The setting is outside the bakery. The curtains are closed and the boy is standing in front of it.]

Aida: **Walks in front of the boy; the boy notices, body language a bit rigid at the sight of her.**

Boy: **Reaches out to Aida but hesitates, pulling back and running it through his hair instead. He sighs and looks down**

[Agueda & Dodong enter the scene, both puts a hand on either of the boy's shoulders; the boy startles.]

Dodong: Dude, what're you doing out here?

Boy: Huh? O-oh...

[Agueda and Dodong looks at Aida's direction.]

Dodong: Aaah, I see. **pats the boy's shoulder and sighs sympathetically** There there, that's okay.

Agueda: **giggles** Aw dude, still? Listen, if you want to have a chance at getting her attention, first you gotta go get out there!

Dodong: Yeah! you think she'll notice you when you hesitate?

Boy: Easier said than done, guys. **He sighs, slightly shrugging Dodong's & Agueda's hands off his shoulders**

Agueda: Just saying, you know. At this rate, I'm not even sure if Aida is aware of your existence.

Dodong: **chuckles slightly** That's a bit mean, Agueda.

Agueda: **shrugs** Just letting you know.

Dodong: **scratches the back of his head a bit.** Alright, 'nuff about this. Remember we have a field trip to go to?

Agueda: **claps hands once** Oh yeah! We're heading into a museum, right?

Dodong: Right. **he turns towards the boy and claps a hand over his shoulder.** Lighten up, now! forget about all that for a bit and lets have fun, yeah?

Boy: **smiles and nods** Yeah, let's do just that.

[The kids exit into the curtain]

Scene 4

[The setting is simply a closed curtain, with bus sounds and slight murmuring in the background.]

[insert narration]

Scene 5

[The setting is in the museum; the students are roaming around nearby the wax figures.]

[continue narration]

Dodong: **picks up book about lumnay** Oh. Hey guys, check this out. This sounds interesting. **he reads a summary about The Wedding Dance**

Agueda: Wow. That's actually a bit sad, Dodong.

Dodong: **hums** You're right. It really is, now that I think about it.

Boy: **looking at the figures** Are these characters from the literatures themselves?

Agueda: I guess so? **looks around as well** Yeah, looks like they are. This one's Gloria from A World Is An Apple.

Dodong: Lumnay is from The Wedding Dance... Oh! This guy's named Pablo from The House on Zapote Street? **opens the book and silently reads, he frowns** Ouch, that's a horrible one.

Boy: This is one is... a guy named Alfredo Salazar from Dead Stars.

Agueda: Huh, that's really cool.

[Agueda hears the sound of the bus leaving the stop]

Agueda: ...guys?

[Dodong and the boy look at her]

Dodong: Agueda? What's up?

Agueda: I think the bus just... left us.

Dodong and the boy: What?!

[The lights close; Dodong was startled. He drops Lumnay's book on the floor and hides behind Agueda. The boy inches closer to them.]

Agueda: ...Alright, hold on. Stay here, I'll look for something to give us light.

Dodong: **when Agueda leaves his side** A-Agueda, wait!

Boy: Stop being a baby, Dodong.

Dodong: **huffs**

Agueda: **patting along the wall blindly till she feels a flashlight** Got it! **takes it and flickers it on, shining it on the two boys**

Dodong: Agueda!

Agueda: Sorry, sorry. **laughs and walks towards them** Now, how do we get out of here?

[A midnight bell rings eerily; Dodong startles again]

Dodong: What—

Agueda: **shushes him** Quiet.

[There was a pause; the silence accompanied by wax figure noises and murmuring]

Agueda: Do you hear that?

[Dodong shakes his head in fear.]

Agueda: **starts to walk around** Hello? Is anyone there?

Dodong: Agueda, don't! What if it was... a ghost?

Boy: Pfft, a ghost? Really?

Dodong: It's a what if. Don't judge me.

[They walk out the curtain, walks to the closed part and exits behind it. As soon as they're gone, the wax figures go out to the open area]

Pablo: Finally! **stretches** That was an exhausting day, let me tell you. Having people look at me with such scornful looks. **Slightly exaggerates his actions** I've been a bit too worn-out recently. Perhaps I should get a touch up.

Gloria: Yeah, yeah, keep blabbering. At least people don't look you with sickening pity, Pablo!

Pablo: Oh, but they do, dear Gloria! They almost never read my book, let alone pick it up, but who knows what kind of judgement run through their heads seeing a man who is shown to have shot himself in the head!

[Gloria looks at Lumnay who stayed on the side, fiddling with her necklace. Gloria walks towards her, tapping her on the shoulder and causing her to startle and step on her own book, the one Dodong dropped earlier.]

Gloria: Lumnay? You've been awfully quiet.

Pablo: Don't tell me you're sad and missing Awiyao again?

Lumnay: No, it's not that. **smiles** But today, some kid found my story...enthralling. **steps away, and picks up her book, flipping through the pages.** Ah, I remember this. **She frowns**

Alfredo: Lumnay?

Lumnay: **puts book back on the stand** It's nothing. **she stretches before looking at all of her companions** Wow, only now did I realize how the things we have in common come from our dark and tragic stories.

Agueda: Hello? I-is anyone there? Hello?

[The wax figures look at each other, whispering among themselves.]

Gloria: Who was that?

Alfredo: Why are they here?

Lumnay: W-what do we do now?

Pablo: Shut up, all of you!

[Agueda's flashlight shines on them, and the curtain pulls back revealing the kids.]

Agueda: What--

Boy: The--

Dodong: F— **The boy slaps a hand on Dodong's mouth**

[Lumnay tries to smile and wave at them but the movement causes Dodong to yelp, causing a chain reaction between all of them till Pablo stops them]

Pablo: Enough! **rubs his temples**

[Everyone quiets down, Dodong trying to hide behind the boy and Agueda; Lumnay notices him]

Lumnay: Hey! They're the kids from earlier!

[Gloria blinks, before smiling.]

Gloria: Oh! **she walks closer towards them but the kids take a step back. She sighs and rolls her eyes** Don't be scared, I don't bite.

Agueda: **looks at Dodong before back at Gloria** Yeah, Dodong. Wax figures don't bite. **she smiles at Gloria and Gloria smiles back**

Dodong: **in a whisper** Yeah? Wax figures aren't even supposed to be alive!

Alfredo: **sighs** As I was saying, I saw yet another beautiful woman today—

Pablo: Let me guess, Alfredo, it looked like your dear Esperanza again?

Alfredo: No! N-not at all, Pablo!

Pablo: Your dear Julia then?

Alfredo: **Irritably** Chale! Chale, Pablo. Deja de hablar de Esperanza o de mi querida estrella muerta Julia!

Pablo: *Ah, que hombre tan coqueto eres, Alfredo.*

Agueda: What..? **looks at Lumnay and Gloria**

Lumnay: **shrugs**

Dodong: Well, I believe Sir Alfredo told Sir Pablo to, **clears throat and mimics Alfredo's tone** *Tigilan mo! Give me a break, Pablo. Stop talking about Esperanza or my dearest dead star Julia!* And then, Sir Pablo called him a flirtatious man.

[Agueda and the boy looks at their friend strangely]

Dodong: What? I took my Spanish classes seriously.

Boy: **clears his throat** Uh, hi?

Pablo: **looks at him** What is it, kid?

Boy: Uh, I was going to ask if you guys knew a way out?

Alfredo: Kid, if we knew a way out, don't you think we'd have gone by now?

Boy: **pauses** O-oh...right.

Lumnay: **approaches him with caution** I apologize on everyone's behalf. I'm afraid we cannot aid you in your escape. We are merely wax figures after all.

Agueda: That's okay, ma'am!

Lumnay: M-ma'am..?

Gloria: So how did you little ones end up in here anyway? The museum was supposed to be closed hours ago.

Dodong: Funny story...

Lumnay: Well, since you lot are here, how about we keep you company?

Dodong: U-uh--

Agueda: That would be nice..um--

Lumnay: It's Lumnay. **smiles**

Agueda: Oh! You're the person from the story Dodong found interesting!

Lumnay: Oh...is that so? **she glances at Dodong** Well, let me tell you a secret. The story written in the books was a bit...altered, I suppose.

Dodong: Really? Will you tell us about it then?

Lumnay: I would be glad to! I'll even have the others tell theirs.

[They sit around, passing the flashlight to whoever was talking. The three kids sat obediently in front of them.]

Lumnay: I'll go first. So you see, I was married to this man named Awiyao. We had a wonderful relationship. But unfortunately, I was forced to be separated from him due to me being unable to bear a child. **she chuckles sadly** The entire village was out there dancing in glee for his marriage while I sat inside our house, crying.

Agueda: That's horrible...

Lumnay: That it may be, child. But I was reassured with a simple promise of everlasting love, in the form of this necklace.

Gloria: I have a story similar to hers.

Boy: You do?

Gloria: Indeed. But I wasn't forced away. My husband left home to have an illegal job in an attempt to earn money to cure our daughter. It was all because of Pablo...

Dodong: Pablo? You mean Sir Pablo over here?

Gloria: No, not him. But that's the very reason I do not trust that man.

Pablo: Petty as always, Gloria.

Agueda: Did your husband ever return?

Gloria: My story ended the moment he left, sadly.

Boy: That's...sad. How about your daughter? Did she get any better?

Gloria: I do not know either.

Dodong: Are all your stories this tragic?

Pablo: Well, Alfredo here has a brighter plot than we do.

Alfredo: It is in no way bright, Pablo.

Pablo: Well, compared to mine--

Alfredo: Then tell them your horrible mess of a story then.

Pablo: Very well. I was a very strict man - a police officer. My daughter got married to this scum whose name I can barely recall, and the wimp scurried away with my daughter just like that.

Gloria: Was she unhappy with the marriage?

Pablo: No. But I was overflowing with jealousy, I asked them to come over and shot them dead. I had come to realize what I had just done and that was the reason I ended up planting a bullet in my head.

Lumnay: May the Gods have mercy on their soul.

Pablo: **coughs** Alfredo?

Alfredo: Right. My story was indeed, lighter than his. I was off to be happily married to this woman named Esperanza till I met this lady, the dead star in my life, my dearest Julia...

Gloria: People like you...

Alfredo: Don't worry, I believe to have learned my lesson.

[Pablo spares a glance at the children, before looking back at Gloria]

Pablo: Gloria.

Gloria: What is it, you stuck up brat?

Pablo: Who're you calling stuck up? **sigh** Anyway, get these kids a blanket.

Lumnay: Oh...they've fallen asleep.

Alfredo: Must've gotten tired from all that. It is well late into the night, after all.

Gloria: Well, they were of enjoyable company. **smiling, she puts the blanket over the three of them. The curtain slowly closes, stopping when the audience can only see the kids and gloria.**

Gloria: Sweet dreams, little ones. **curtain closes fully**

Scene 6

[The setting is the same as in scene 1]

[insert narration]

Boy: **does everything in scene 1, stopping before he leaves.**

Boy: Was that...only a dream?

