

The Moreaus Episode 1: Save The Hanson Pizzeria!

By

Blossom Smile Sky Studios

The Moreaus by NerdySweetiePeachy

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Blossom Smile Sky Studios

Blossom Smile Sky Studios
(989)502-1649
blossomsmilestudios@gmail.com

COLD OPEN

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - MORNING

JANINE MOREAU, 16, sleeps in her bed. On the walls are posters of singing groups and pop stars.

JANINE V.O.

The life of an heiress is not a glamorous one. There are so many things that you have to do to maintain appearances.

INT. METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART - DAY -FANTASY

A TOUR GUIDE leads TOURISTS through the museum. They're continuously taking photos of the exhibits. The tour group stops in front of a large display case.

JANINE V.O.

Sometimes, it feels as though I'm meant to be on display in a museum or something.

INT. METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART - CONTINUOUS

The tour group stands in front of the display case where Janine is sitting playing the harp.

TOUR GUIDE

This is our most popular exhibit. It's called the living portrait of a proper young heiress to the Moreau family fortune.

Janine's stomach GROWLS loudly.

JANINE

How long until I can be done with this charade? I'm very hungry.

TOUR GUIDE

(LAUGHS)

How cute! our little exhibit is showing basic human needs and emotions.

JANINE

I'm a human being not an exhibit!

TOUR GUIDE

Isn't she just darling? Now if you look to your right, you'll see another heir to the Moreau family fortune playing chess.

The Tour Guide leads the Tourists to another display case across from Janine's display case.

JANINE

(SIGHS)

Screw this, I'm going to go get a burger or something.

She opens the door on the back of the case. Janine climbs out of it and the alarms begin BLARING.

TOUR GUIDE

(GASPS)

Oh my, this just won't do.

She pulls out a walkie talkie from the pocket of her blazer.

TOUR GUIDE (CONT'D)

Security, I need back up! The exhibit has become self aware and has escaped!

A group of SECURITY GUARDS enter the room. They use blow darts to subdue Janine.

JANINE

(WOOZILY)

All I wanted was a burger.

She drops to the floor.

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - RESUME

The fantasy ends as the alarm clock begins BUZZING. The clock reads 6:45 A.M.

JANINE

(SHOCK)

I'm gonna be so late! Why didn't anyone wake me?!

CREDITS: GABRIEL MAMBO PERFORMS: "THE MOREAUS THEME" OVER THE OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE.

ACT ONE

LINDA THOMPSON-MOREAU, 44, Janine's mother looks up from her iPad.

LINDA

What am I going to do with that girl? Janine is always the last one to wake up on a school day.

JANINE V.O.

That's my mother Linda. She's the most feared woman in the business world. I think that even Donald Trump is afraid of her.

INT. TRUMP TOWER - DAY - QUICK CUT

Linda kicks open the door to the office belonging to DONALD J TRUMP. She sees him hiding under his desk. She pulls him up by the front of the lapels on his suit jacket.

LINDA

(ANGRILY)

There you are Trump! Didn't I warn you that if you ran for president that I'd be paying you a visit?

DONALD TRUMP

(FEAR)

It was a joke Linda. I'll go withdraw my candidacy now.

LINDA

(SATISFIED)

Good. Now where is Kanye West? I have a bone to pick with him about this nonsense about wanting to run for president in 2020. I'll be damned if I let a KardaSheenan live in the White House!

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

DARIN MOREAU, 5, enters the kitchen. He sits at the table where a Blue Superman bowl is sitting on the table. He is still dressed in his pajamas.

DARIN

(CHEERFULLY)

Good morning mommy.

LINDA

Darin, why aren't you dressed for school?

DARIN

I don't need to go to school today. I went yesterday and I learned all that I need to know about the world.

LINDA

Darin, you need to get ready for school. I'm in no mood to play games today.

DARIN

I don't need school cause I'm going to be a Power Ranger when I grow up.

JANINE V.O.

That's my baby brother Darin. Don't let his cuteness fool you. He's rather mischievous. We always assumed that he was switched at birth with another baby, he likes to drive our mother insane.

LINDA

(CONCERNED)

Darin, is there another reason why you don't wanna go to school?

DARIN

Well umm.

There is a KNOCK at the back door. Linda goes to the door and opens it. She sees their neighbor SHEENA WATERS, 5 standing on the porch.

LINDA

May I help you?

SHEENA

(CHEERFULLY)

Hi Mrs. Moreau! I came to walk to school with Darin.

Darin shrinks lower in his chair to avoid Sheena from seeing him.

LINDA

(CURIOUS;AMUSED)

Oh? you've come to walk to school with him? How nice of you! What's your name sweetie?

SHEENA

My name's Sheena. I'm in the same class as Darin.

LINDA

I see.

Linda looks over and sees Darin trying to crawl out of the kitchen. She walks over and catches the boy by the back of his shirt.

DARIN

(WHINING)

Let me go mommy! Don't make me go with her! She has cooties and she's gonna push me down in the dirt again!

LINDA

(SCOLDING)

Darin, that's a rude thing to say. This young lady went out of her way to come here to walk to school with you. So go get dressed for school now.

DARIN

But mommy!

LINDA

Don't argue with me young man, now march!

DARIN

(SIGHS)

Okay.

He exits the kitchen and goes upstairs to get ready for school.

LINDA

He'll be right back down. Would you like to come in for some breakfast?

SHEENA

No thank you ma'am.

LINDA

Okay dear, you can wait in the living room if you like.

SHEENA

Yes ma'am. Thank you!

Sheena goes to the living room to wait for Darin.

LINDA

What a nice young lady. If only Darin would learn a thing or two from her.

Linda looks up at the second staircase and then at the clock.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Janine! you're going to be late if you don't hurry up.

JANINE O.S.

Coming momm--woah!

Janine trips over a rug and a vase SHATTERING is heard upstairs.

ANNE O.S.

What was that?

ANNE THOMPSON, 37, enters the kitchen. She is wearing a T-shirt bearing the words New YORK STATE UNIVERSITY and a pair of black biker shorts.

LINDA

It was your niece.

She looks Anne up and down.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Why aren't you dressed yet? We have a business meeting today.

ANNE

(YAWNS)

YOU have a business meeting. I don't have to be in the studio until noon.

JANINE V.O.

This is my aunt Anne. She has her own television show that's like Soul Train and she has dated a few

(MORE)

JANINE V.O. (cont'd)

well known stars twice. However she is known for not wanting to deal with the family buisness.

INT. MANSION - QUICK CUT

ANNE

Sorry Lind, I'm going skiing with the Kardashians today. I can't cancel on Kim, Kourtney, and Khole again.

ANOTHER TIME - ANOTHER OUTFIT

ANNE

Oh, tonight was that charity function? Sorry but I had to cover the VMAs. I heard that Key and Peele are hosting.

ANOTHER TIME - ANOTHER OUTFIT

ANNE

Sorry sis, I'm going to party with En Vogue, and Bell Biv DeVoe. I hope you can hold down the fort for me until I come back.

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

LINDA

Anne, you told me last night that you were going to help me with the executives from Hong Kong and now you're bailing on me?!

ANNE

Why don't you ask Charlie or Roy to go with you?

Anne sits down at the table. She takes a piece of toast from the plate in front of her.

ANNE (CONT'D)

You don't need me there. Ask Charlie instead. What's so wrong with asking him?

LINDA

Let's see, why dont I ask Charlie?

ANNE

Why don't you?

LINDA

Oh, I don't know, because he'd probably try to get the executives to fund one of his ventures instead of focusing on what's good for the company.

CHARLIE THOMPSON JR., 49, enters the kitchen.

CHARLIE

Hey Lind, I was thinking of travelling to Miami this weekend, do you think I can use the company jet?

Linda looks over at Anne.

LINDA

See my point?

JANINE V.O.

My uncle Charlie's rather...well, he's eccentric. He has a lot of get rich quick schemes but seems to always need my grandma to bail him out of trouble. I think if it weren't for my momma, he would've sold the company to that Russian Mining company.

CHARLIE

So is that a yes? I'll bring it back in the condition it was in before.

LINDA

(SIGHS; IGNORING CHARLIE)

See what I mean Anne? And as for why I'm not asking Roy?

An EXPLOSION shakes the house and a man is thrown from the second floor balcony. He lands in the pool outside.

LINDA

And that is why I cannot ask Roy. We'd be tried for murder if he tried to demonstrate one of his

(MORE)

LINDA (cont'd)
 experiments on the clients from
 Hong Kong.

EXT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - POOL - QUICK CUT

Roy Thompson, 34 , breaks to the surface of the pool.

ROY
 Eureka! I've invented a pressurized
 system to make breakfast easier!

JANINE V.O.
 My uncle Roy's pretty much a mad
 scientist. He causes round the
 clock explosions. Some of them
 literally blows him right out of
 his shoes.

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Linda snatches the piece of toast from Anne's hand.

LINDA
 Go get dressed and then come back
 downstairs to eat.

ANNE
 (WHINING)
 I don't wanna go! You're the
 President, so you should handle it
 on your own! You don't see me
 asking for help with my show.

LINDA
 (ANNOYED)
 Oh please, you have your assistant
 to do everything. Anne, please go
 get ready now. You promised that
 you'd help me and you can't go back
 on your promises.

ANNE
 I lied! My fingers were crossed
 behind my back. So it wasn't a real
 promise.

LINDA
 (SIGHS)
 How immature. I guess I'll have to
 settle on Charlie to go with me
 then.

CHARLIE

Yeah, she'll have to settle on---wait a damn minute Linda, what do you mean "Have to settle on Charlie?!" Am I not good enough for your little meeting?

Charlie removes his glasses and sits them on the table. He looks at Linda.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

I'm the Vice President, that means you're not fully in charge of the company. All decisions need to pass my approval

LINDA

You're just in charge of advertising. It's not like I have a choice anyway. Anne's irresponsible and Roy's a walking death trap.

ANNE

I'm not irresponsible! I'm youthful, and I'm able to have alot of fun. Unlike you stuffy Linda.

LINDA

Why do I even bother trying to get you to be responsible?

ANNE

You need to loosen up more Lind, Are those grey hairs starting to sprout from your head?

LINDA

(GRITTING HER TEETH)

Half of them are from you and your stupidity Annabelle...

ANNE

Don't call me Annabelle!

LINDA

Why not? Annabelle! Annabelle! Annabelle!

ANNE

Shut up!

**The two sisters argue.

****NOTE**** *Ad-lib an agrument that correspeonds with their previous disucssion.*

Janine enters the kitchen.

JANINE

Good...morning?

Linda and Anne stop arguing.

LINDA

Good morning Janine. You look very nice today. Did you remember to brush your teeth?

JANINE

Yes momma, I brushed them after I got out of the shower. I made sure that my uniform didn't have any tears or loose threads in the fabirc.

LINDA

Good girl.

Linda walks over to Janine. She reaches up to brush strands of hair from her daughter's face.

LINDA (CONT'D)

(NOSTALGICALLY)

I can't believe that you're almost all grown up, to think that a few years ago you were running around here without a diaper.

JANINE

(EMBRASSED)

Don't bring that up momma! I'm in high school now. I don't need to hear stories of when I was a baby.

LINDA

I'm sorry sweetie. Have a good day at school. Do you need money for lunch?

JANINE

No thank you. grandma gave me money last night. I've also made sure to charge my phone so I can call home if I'm working overtime tonight.

Janine hugs her mother, grabs a piece a of toast and leaves through the back door.

LINDA

Have a good day at school sweetie!

Linda shuts the door and locks it. She then turns back to Anne and Charlie picking up a broom as she does.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Now where were we?

CHARLIE

(FEARFULLY)

Linda put the broom down!

Linda swings the broom and misses an inch away from Charlie's face.

ANNE

(FEARFULLY)

Linda put the broom down!

Linda swings the broom again and knocks Anne's tea cup off the table.

ANNE

Oh dear God! She's gonna kill us!
Mama help us!

LINDA

(EVILLY; LAUGHS)

She left early this morning to go
have breakfast with Miss Jackie.

CHARLIE AND ANNE

Oh Goddamn it!

INT. CENTRAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL - INDOOR CAFETERIA - DAY

The cafeteria is full to bursting with many students, with backpacks and other bags sitting on the tables. DE'ANDRE WILLIAMS looks down at his watch tapping his foot impatiently.

DE'ANDRE

(Impatient)

Where is she?

He looks at the table he's sitting at with a group of girls.

DE'ANDRE (CONT'D)

Did anyone decide to call Bizzy
this morning?

IRENE YEARWOOD (Petite, Blonde, Blue-Eyed), 15 twists a drumstick between her fingers.

IRENE

I did but she ignored my calls all morning.

She starts tapping a steady rhythm on the table with drum sticks.

IRENE (CONT'D)

If I know Bizz, she's probably sprinting here at the speed of light to make it before homeroom.

A brunette sits the book she's reading down on the table. LAURA MCCOY, 15 shakes her head.

LAURA

Bizz, sprinting? She hates physical activity and that includes running. I doubt she'd sprint here. She is probably going to burst through those doors any minute, if she hasn't taken the family town car today.

DE' ANDRE

(GRUMBLING)

She better or else I'll wring her neck for being late. She's the one that called this meeting.

Janine enters the cafeteria. She jogs toward the table with her hand raised in greeting.

JANINE

Sorry I'm late.

She begins opening the Poptart she stopped at the store to purchase.

JANINE (CONT'D)

Hope you didn't wait too long for me.

DE' ANDRE

(ANNOYANCE)

Why are you so late? You're the one that called this meeting.

JANINE

Oh, umn so you guys know that I've been working hard at work right?

LAURA

You're kidding right? I've seen you carrying three trays at once. You even had one balanced on your head.

IRENE

She's right. But I don't get why you want to talk about work. We're all cheap labor and will die if we are worked any harder.

JANINE

I know, which is why I am going to be the first to tell you guys of my plan. I'm going to ask Mr. Hanson for a raise.

LAURA

Are you serious?

IRENE

Did you hit your head this morning?

DE' ANDRE

You're looking for a reason to be fired aren't you?

JANINE

Hear me out. If I ask for a raise I'll be able to afford to add more money to our band fund rather than having to wait a whole week to have more than twenty dollars.

DE' ANDRE

I think it's a dumb idea. Mr. Hanson isn't too kind with giving raises to his employees.

LAURA

Bizz, please get that stupid idea out of your head.

JANINE

You guys don't get it. Being in the party room and listening to those animatronics sing the same songs is more than enough to be a just reason to ask for a raise.

DE' ANDRE

If this works then I'm asking for a raise too. Old Man Henson owes us a lot of back pay. We may be teenagers but we ain't stupid.

IRENE

Bizzy, if you do this can you at least make sure that you have your locker cleaned out before you do it?

JANINE

Don't worry, he won't fire me. He's not that heartless. Unlike a certain theater teacher we know.

LAURA

You're still on that theory that our teacher's Godzilla in disguise?

JANINE

Yep.

LAURA

(GIGGLE)

Never change Bizzy, never change.

They see a young man enter the cafeteria. He looks lost and unsure of himself.

IRENE

Hey, check it out.

LAURA

Who's that?

DE' ANDRE

He looks like a new kid. He's wearing a different uniform than we are.

JANINE

Maybe he's an exchange student? I mean he is kind of cute. But, come on we should go now, we have to beat the rush of getting through the metal detectors.

They exit the cafeteria.

INT. CENTRAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL -HALLWAY - DAY

The group of teens go through the metal detector. SECURITY GUARDS check their bags for anything suspicious.

DE'ANDRE

I seriously hate having to go through this every morning. We don't cause any trouble so they should let us through.

JANINE

This is for safety. Besides you know it has to be done because Rich from Mr. Bean's class didn't know that his younger brother hid their mom's gun in his bag.

IRENE

You gotta feel bad for the guy. He was nearly expelled until his brother confessed.

LAURA

(SIGHS)

And this is why I'm an only child. I don't think if I had a brother he would've lived to confess. He would be playing Finding Nemo at the bottom of the sea.

IRENE

(HOLDING BACK A LAUGH)

Seriously Lau-Lou? Your parents started wearing contractepives the moment you were born.

LAURA

What's that supposed to mean Reney?

IRENE

(TEASINGLY)

Your birth certificate is an apology letter from the doctors!

LAURA

Why you little!

Irene laughs and begins running ahead of them as Laura chases her down the hallway.

DE' ANDRE

So, we're planning to meet at my locker after school.

JANINE

Yeah. We can go through the back exit to make it to the parking lot.

Laura comes back dragging Irene with her by the back of her shirt like a puppy.

LAURA

We're taking your family's limo to work right?

JANINE

We're taking the train to work. My momma needs the limo for her meeting and my aunt Anne's taking the town car to the studio.

LAURA

Oh. Hey it'll be fine taking the subway. We can see the new store they're building on Fifth Avenue.

JANINE

I know! It's sad that we have to go to Rockafella Center to go to FAO Schwartz.

IRENE

It's good that it didn't die. We can always go there to recreate when all of us met at Toys R Us.

LAURA

Oh man, we all met in the Barbie Dream house, I was holding a Nerf gun while Irene was dragging a teddy bear behind her.

JANINE

Well it was cute. I mean my momma did buy a part of the old display for our playroom. She just couldn't get a part of the Ferris wheel.

LAURA AND IRENE

(IN UNISON)

So cool! Yay Mrs. M! She saved our childhood!

DE' ANDRE

Why do I feel left out here? Can we not talk about work or girly nostalgia?

LAURA

(GIGGLE)

Sorry. You need more guy friends.

IRENE

Yeah, so you can have bro hugs and bro feels.

DE' ANDRE

(CHUCKLES)

I do love my girls though. So it's ok.

JANINE

And we love you too!

The three girls embrace De'Andre in a group hug.

KATISHA MONTIA, 16, walks right between them to break up the group hug.

KATISHA

Didn't anyone ever teach you that the hallway is a loser free zone?

JANINE

Oh then you must be lost.

KATISHA

That's exactly something I'd expect to hear from the likes of you loser.

JANINE

Who are you calling a loser?

KATISHA

It's four feet tall and smells like cheap perfume!

JANINE

(ANGRILY)

At least I don't walk around here looking like Smeagol!

EXT. THE PIT FROM MORTAL KOMBAT - EVENING - FANTASY**MORTAL KOMBAT ANNOUNCER**

Finish her!

Janine rapidly kicks Katisha off the platform into a pile of out of season clothing. Katisha emerges from the pile dressed in a mini skirt and a crop top.

KATISHA

(SHRIEKING)

I'm wearing last season's clothes!

Katisha jumps out of the pile of clothes and runs away in shame.

MORTAL KOMBAT ANNOUNCER

Fashion Fatality. Janine Wins!
Flawless Victory!

INT. CENTRAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY -RESUME

The sound of Janine and Katisha arguing ends the fantasy. Laura looks over and sees that Janine is taking off her earrings.

LAURA

Uh-oh this could get ugly. Fats grab Bizz.

DE' ANDRE

Why do I have to?

IRENE

(CHEERFULLY)

Because you're expendable!

DE' ANDRE

(INDIGNANT)

Expendable?!

LAURA

What she means is that you're the only one who can pick her up and drag her to class.

DE' ANDRE

Fine.

He picks up Janine and walks into their homeroom. Katisha goes to her own classroom across the hallway. She stands in the doorway to taunt Janine more.

KATISHA

Ha! A loser had to be saved by a loser!

She goes inside the classroom.

JANINE

(ANGRILY)

You better be lucky my cousin is holding me back!

INT. CENTRAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM 108 - LATER THAT MORNING

MARSHALL

Good morning class. I do hope that all of you had a good weekend. My weekend was filled with directing the school's production of Arsenic and Old Lace.

JANINE

(WHISPER TO IRENE)

More like Arsenic and big old disgrace.

A few students sitting near her laugh and snicker.

MARSHALL

(SHARPLY)

Janine Moreau!

Janine looks at him innocently.

JANINE V.O.

This is my homeroom teacher and one of the two theater teaches here at Central Arts, Mr. Jennings. He is one of those teachers that believe the whole world revolves around his productions. I think he's pretty full of himself.

MARSHALL

Before, I was interrupted by Miss Moreau. I'd like to remind everyone that a requirement for my homeroom class is to participate in one of my productions at least once this semester.

Irene raises her hand.

IRENE

What if we're in one of Mr. Osmond's productions?

MARSHALL

(ANNOYED)

It won't be counted for anything in this class.

MANDY LOGAN, 16, stands up. Marshall notices her standing.

MARSHALL (CONT'D)

Yes Amanda?

MANDY

Sir, that's a little unfair. We're all in Mr. Osmond's drama class too. So don't you think it should count as a grade?

MARSHALL

Osmond and I have come to an agreement that *My* homeroom students have an obligation of being in one of the productions that *I'M* directing.

MANDY

Fine.

She sits back down in her seat.

MARSHALL

If that's all. We have another order of business to take care of. We have a new student with us today. He just transferred from a school in Japan.

MASAYA NAMIKI, 16, enters the classroom. He is the same young man that Janine, Irene, Laura and De'Andre saw in the cafeteria.

MARSHALL

This is Masha Namiki. He is a transfer student from our satellite school Morozuno Academy in Tokyo.

MASAYA

Um, sensei, my name is MA-SAI-YA.

MARSHALL

I'm sorry, you'll have to give me a few days to learn how to pronounce your name correctly.

MASAYA

(QUIETLY; SIGHS)

Ok sensei.

MARSHALL

Why don't you tell the class a bit about yourself?

MASAYA

(NERVOUSLY)

Hello, I'm Namiki Masaya, but um, you can call me Namiki or Masaya. My family just moved here from Tokyo a few days ago and we're opening a new restaurant in town. I hope to get along with all of you.

LAURA

(WHISPERS TO JANINE)

He's rather cute don't you think?

JANINE

(DREAMILY)

Yeah, really cute.

IRENE

Uh-oh, I know that look. She's in love.

LAURA

Oh come on, that's not true! Bizz's not some boy crazy girl who believes in love at first sight.

JANINE

(GIGGLES)

Mrs. Janine Namiki....Wait no Mrs. Janine Moreau-Namiki.

LAURA AND IRENE

(IN UNISON)

She's in love.

MARSHALL

Please take a seat in any empty desk you like Masha.

MASAYA

(SIGHS)

But my name is...nevermind.

Masaya looks around the classroom for an empty desk. Janine snaps out of her daydreamy state when she realizes she has an empty seat next to her.

JANINE

Hey! There's an empty desk next to me! Sit here!

MARSHALL

Janine Moreau, there is no yelling my classroom!

Janine ignores him.

JANINE

Come sit here! It's really neat in the back!

MASAYA

Uh OK?

Masaya walks down the row of desks and sits next to Janine.

MASAYA (CONT'D)

Thank you for letting me sit here. Uh, it's nice to meet you, what's your name?

JANINE

Janine, Janine Moreau.

MASAYA

Oh, well then thank you Moreau-san. And it's nice to meet you.

JANINE

(GIGGLES SHYLY)

You're welcome!

She turns to face the front of the classroom for a moment but then glances at Masaya dreamily.

JANINE V.O.

I didn't know what kind of love this is but if it's at first sight then, it feels so right! I think I'm in love!

END OF ACT ONE

INT. HANSON PIZZERIA - AFTERNOON

Two trays of pizza float in front of a buttoned uniform.

WIDE: A FAMILY OF 5 ARE SERVED PIZZA BY JANINE.

JANINE

Just call me if you need anything else.

MOTHER

I will be sure to keep that in mind.

Janine leaves the party of 5. She goes over to the order pick up window.

DE'ANDRE

Hey Bizz, the pizza for table five is almost ready.

JANINE

Alright, Thanks a lot Fats.

She looks around the busy pizzeria.

JANINE V.O.

You're probably wondering why I have a job at such a rundown establishment. You see I took matters into my own hands and got a job so I didn't need to rely on my family's fortune. But this place is like a sweatshop instead of being a family friendly place.

INT. SWEATSHOP - DAY - FANTASY

Janine's leg is chained to a large lead ball. She wears a ragged uniform. A HOODED MAN, Age unknown has a whip. He uses it to hit her.

HOODED MAN

Work faster! I'm not paying you twenty five cents an hour to slack off!

JANINE

Yes master, I'm sorry master I will work harder.

HOODED MAN

(LAUGHS)

After you're done here, clean up the pile of worker bodies in the corner.

The Hooded Man **CRACKS** the whip.

JANINE

(YELPS OUT)

Whatever you say master!

HOODED MAN

And don't forget to refill the beverage machines with liquid nitrogen.

JANINE

Yes master.

INT. HANSON PIZZERIA - RESUME

JANINE V.O.

I really need to find a better job.

The door bell **JINGLES** ending the fantasy. A JAPANESE MAN, 47 enters the restaurant. He goes to the office in the back of the building.

LAURA

Who was that?

JANINE

I really don't know, maybe someone is here to invest in this place?

IRENE

Or it might be the health inspector.

De'Andre pokes his head out of the small window to see what the three girls were looking at.

DE' ANDRE

Whoever it is, I don't think we should concern ourselves about it.

He goes back into the kitchen.

JANINE

I'm going back there to find out. Cover my tables for me Reney.

IRENE

Bizzy, you could be fired for snooping! Bizz!

Janine goes down the hallway to the back office.

IRENE (CONT'D)

I really hope she enjoys unemployment.

INT. HANSON PIZZERIA - MANAGAMENT OFFICE - SAME

JOHNATHAN HANSON, 59, sits behind a large desk with a lighted cigar in his hand. He looks up at HAYATO NAMIKI.

HAYATO

Johnathan, I'm offering you a chance to retire early.

JOHNATHAN

You want to buy my business that I've spent many years pouring sweat and blood into?

HAYATO

This place has become a hell hole. I could've sworn I saw children playing with hammers and nails.

JOHNATHAN

That was the activity center. They love it!

HAYATO

And your employee uniforms are a disgrace. But if you sell to me I believe I could breathe new life into this place.

JOHNATHAN

(AMUSED)

If you want to take this place off my hands go right ahead. Hell, you can have it for free!

HAYATO

(CURIOUS)

You don't want financial compensation?

JOHNATHAN

Nah, you can have this place. It'll finally become something better. You're going to turn this place into a Japanese buffet or something?

HAYATO

In a way, but not a buffet.

JOHNATHAN

Good luck and God speed.

He opens the door. Janine falls into the office at his feet.

JOHNATHAN (CONT'D)

Well if it isn't a nosy worker?

JANINE

I'm sorry sir, I was just trying to see what was going on. Ah, please don't fire me!

JOHNATHAN

I can't fire you. I am no longer the owner of this establishment.

JANINE

(CURIOUS)

Really? Then who owns it now?

JOHNATHAN

That man right there.

He points to Hayato.

JOHNATHAN (CONT'D)

From now on you work for him. That is until nine-thirty when he shuts this place down for good.

JANINE

(SHOCK)

Shuts down for good?!

Janine runs back to the front of the restaurant and toward the kitchen doors.

INT. HANSON PIZZERIA - KITCHEN

Janine enters the kitchen where De'Andre, and Mandy are working.

MANDY

Bizz, we're working as fast as we can to fill orders. Tell the customers it'll be another ten minutes.

DE' ANDRE

Yeah, the ovens aren't heating up as quickly anymore.

JANINE

Forget the customers and orders! We have a major crisis on our hands!

DE' ANDRE

You asked for a raise didn't you? You idiot, why couldn't you have been happy with what you were being paid?!

JANINE

We're all out of jobs. Mr. Hanson sold this place to some business looking dude.

MANDY

What the hell?! we need this job!

DE' ANDRE

How are we supposed to pay for our instruments and studio time now?

JANINE

I don't know, but we need to do something. We can't let the new owner turn this place into a buffet.

MANDY

I'll go grab Irene, and Laura. We need to discuss this.

Mandy exits.

JANINE

I knew this was going to be a horrible day. How could that old man sell this place?

DE' ANDRE

Even if this place is falling apart. It's still our jobs that are on the line.

JANINE

We'll need to think of something, so we can save this place.

INT. HANSON PIZZERIA - KITCHEN - AFTER CLOSING TIME

JANINE

So, we need to come up with a plan to help save this place. While I know that we've had to work long hours for low pay and the pizza may taste like cardboard and the--

DE' ANDRE

You're not helping Janine.

JANINE

What I mean is that we're all like a family here. If we lose this place we never see each other again.

MANDY

So, we need to try to keep this place open? But how?

JANINE

Well err...

IRENE

You haven't thought that far have you?

JANINE

No! I have! I just...don't work well under pressure.

LAURA

Bizz, we should at least have a solid plan.

JANINE

We can probably think of something. It's pretty easy to come up with a good plan.

IRENE

Guess we'll have to wait until another day to think of a plan?

JANINE

Yeah, I'll have a great plan together by tomorrow morning.

LAURA

Janine, we'll leave it all to you then!

JANINE

Wait a second I didn't say I'd...

MANDY

We're counting on your to have a brilliant plan!

JANINE

(UNSURE)

But I didn't agree to...

SAMANTHA

We're counting on you Janine! I know if my cousin in County Gem was here he'd cheer you on.

JANINE

Fine, leave it to me I guess...

EXT. QUIET SUBURB - EVENING

Janine walks home deep in thought. She rounds the corner of the street leading to her house. The sound of guitar MUSIC fills the otherwise quiet street.

JANINE

Where is that music coming from? It sounds so close...

Janine begins walking faster. She stops in front of a large house. She sees Masaya Namiki sitting on the porch playing a guitar.

JANINE (CONT'D)

(GASPS)

It's him...Masaya.

She dives behind the fence to keep out of sight. Masaya is undisturbed as he continues playing his guitar.

KAMIKO O.S.

Masaya, it's time to come in!

Masaya stops playing.

MASAYA

Coming, Okaa-san.

Masaya gets up from the stoop to go inside of his house. He stops and looks over at the fence and sees Janine hiding.

JANINE

(SQUEAKS; EMBARRASSED)

He saw me!

She comes from behind the fence.

MASAYA

(SURPRISED)

Janine-Chan?

JANINE

Hey there! Nice to see you again
Masaya! Err See you later!

Janine runs down the street towards her home. She doesn't look back to see if Masaya is still staring after her.

JANINE V.O.

I can't believe he lives down the street! Oh god why is he here?! How could I not notice that he and his family were moving in over the weekend!?

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Janine enters the mansion and removes her shoes.

MAGNOLIA O.S.

Welcome home baby doll.

Janine enters the living room where her grandmother MAGNOLIA THOMPSON, 70, is sitting at a piano.

JANINE

Hi grandma! Oh, are you here by yourself?

MAGNOLIA

No. Your uncle Roy is upstairs working on an experiment. So I'm not alone.

JANINE V.O.

My grandmother Magnolia is a wonderfully kind and gentle woman. Before my momma was the President, my grandmother was the fiercest woman in the business world.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. THOMPSON MANUFACTURING - BOARD ROOM - DAY (1962)

A young Magnolia is standing before her staff in the board room. There is a large screen behind her with charts and graphs.

MAGNOLIA

Gentlemen, as you can see this year's fiscal year earnings are higher than they've been in years. I do believe we can branch out into new territories.

A MAN, CECIL GAINES, 29, interrupts the meeting.

CECIL

I hate to object to your idea of exploring new territories, but do you think a vehicle company will thrive on manufacturing womens' goods?

Magnolia looks at Cecil.

MAGNOLIA

What's your name?

CECIL

Cecil Gaines.

MAGNOLIA

Well Cecil, I'm sure that you wouldn't be one to make the assumption that the company is falling into manufacturing women's products based on the fact that I am a woman right?

CECIL

I always thought that your husband was in charge of this company and you worked as his secretary.

MAGNOLIA

I see, well how about you go downstairs and tell my husband your feelings toward the Vice President.

CECIL

But the Vice President isn't here right now.

MAGNOLIA

You're looking at the Vice President.

CECIL

(NERVOUSLY)

I...um...see...

MAGNOLIA

(SWEETLY)

Please pack your desk and move to the manufacturing line downstairs.

CECIL

But why?

MAGNOLIA

Think of it as a punishment and lesson in respecting women.

CECIL

(DEJECTED)

Yes ma'am.

Cecil gets up from the chair and begins leaving the board room.

MAGNOLIA

Let that be a lesson to all of you. I'm not here to look pretty or serve my husband. I'm here to make or break deals. Now about moving forward with new innovations...

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - LIVING ROOM - RESUME

MAGNOLIA

Janine, how was school today?

JANINE

Oh, it was good, I met a boy today.
He's so cute!

MAGNOLIA

You've fallen in love with him
already? Oh my, you do know that
love at first sight isn't always
real right?

JANINE

(STAMMERING)

I'm not in love with him, I just
think he's cute.

MAGNOLIA

(LAUGHS)

So you're not in love with him?
Then tell me why are you blushing?

Janine looks into the mirror.

JANINE

That's not a blush.

MAGNOLIA

(LAUGHS)

Whatever you say. So besides there
being a new boy in your class, did
anything interesting happen?

JANINE

The pizzeria's closing. Mr. Hanson
sold the pizzeria to someone from
Japan.

MAGNOLIA

That's awful. so are you and your
friends going to fight to save your
jobs?

JANINE

I want to try to save it but I
can't think of any good ways to do
it.

MAGNOLIA

Well when I was your age, the
bakery down the street from my
house was closing. My friends and I
decided to put together a benefit
to save it.

JANINE

A benefit? You mean like Farm Aid or Tsunami Aid?

MAGNOLIA

Yes. It helped a lot and we saved the bakery. So you could do the same to save the pizzeria.

JANINE

(HAPPY)

That's a brilliant idea grandma! My friends and I could perform, and we could ask the other bands at school and performers to help. Maybe Aunt Anne can help it get publicity!

MAGNOLIA

I'll help with funding it.

JANINE

(SURPRISED)

Really grandma? Are you sure?

MAGNOLIA

Why not? I love helping causes that have a meaning.

Janine hugs her grandmother.

JANINE

I have to call Fats and the others. We have a benefit concert to prepare for to help save Hanson pizzeria!

She runs upstairs to her bedroom. Magnolia looks down at the photo album in her lap and turns to a page with a photo of her and her friends in their younger years.

MAGNOLIA

(THOUGHTFUL)

Now, what did I do with my Pink Ladies jacket?

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - JANINE'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT EVENING

Janine is sitting at her computer desk in front of her screen. She is in a video call with her friends.

JANINE

We can have a benefit concert to save the pizzeria.

DE' ANDRE

A benefit concert? How can we get it together in a week?

IRENE

There's a lot of planning that goes into these things Bizz.

JANINE

I think we can stage one. We can use Central Park for the event, make flyers, and get other people to help us out.

LAURA

What other people would want to help us?

JANINE

We can ask Rodney's band, The boys in Ms. Welch's class formed a boy band last year called Wakanada Forever and I think we can ask Haruna and Natsuna to perform a ballet routine.

IRENE

(THOUGHTFULLY)

Hmm, what do you think Fats?

DE' ANDRE

That sounds like a plan to me. We'd need to practice day and night though to be ready.

JANINE

Then we'll go for it! I even know someone who can perform a guitar solo performance.

LAURA

You know someone?

IRENE

Who did you find?

MANDY

Where did you find them?

JANINE

(GIGGLES)

He lives next door. I heard him playing when I was walking home tonight.

LAURA

Ooh so he's a musician? Well ask him! I bet he'd be awesome.

IRENE

Are we seriously doing this? Because if we're serious we'll need to have name for this event.

MANDY

We'll call it...uh I don't know maybe Hanson Aid?

JANINE

That's perfect! Hanson Aid!

LAURA

Of course, we're all going to perform as well. So how about we meet at Fats' house after dinner?

IRENE

We'll need to practice if our band is going to perform too.

JANINE

(GIGGLES)

Of course! Hanson Aid is a go!

DE'ANDRE, IRENE, LAURA AND MANDY

(IN UNISON)

Yeah!

INT. MOREAU FAMILY MANSION - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The Moreau family is gathered around the dining table. There is a faint almost quiet ambiance of classical music in the background.

LINDA

So how was everyone's day?

ANNE

My day started out boring but then became a little more exciting once I got the studio.

LINDA

I was talking to the kids not you Anne.

ANNE

(POUTS)

Fine.

DARIN

I made a pretty picture for you mommy and I learned new math problems.

LINDA

I'd love to see your art once dinner is done Darin.

Linda looks over at her eldest son JAMES "JAY" MOREAU JR, 26, who is cutting his steak.

LINDA (CONT'D)

Jay, how was your day?

JAY

It was great. Libby and I started making plans for our wedding in March.

LINDA

Oh, speaking of the wedding. Have you two finalized your guest list yet?

JAY

Not yet. Libby still has a lot of people she wants to invite.

LINDA

Good, Good. Invite her over tomorrow for afternoon tea and we'll discuss the rest of the plans.

JAY

Ok mom. I'll call her after dinner.

Linda then looks across the table at Janine. She sees her daughter is eating faster than normal.

LINDA

(CLEARS HER THROAT)

Janine, honey do you want more macaroni and cheese?

JANINE

No thanks momma, I'm going to meet the girls at Fats' house so we can practice for the benefit concert.

LINDA

A benefit concert? What benefit concert?

JANINE

We're planning to save the pizzeria because it's being closed down.

ROY

Hanson's pizzeria? That old place is rundown and should've been closed years ago.

JANINE

We want to save it for the sake of our jobs. Fats, and the girls all agree with me about it.

CHARLIE

If it's closing down, you should be able to find a better job Janine.

JANINE

But, we want to work together and if it closes all of us will be separated. It'd be horrible, and if this works out maybe Mr. Hanson will promote use.

LINDA

So how are you going to arrange this benefit?

JANINE

Err, Well I was hoping that maybe, our family could fund it?

ANNE

I'm all for that! I can promote it on my show tomorrow afternoon.

LINDA

(GENTLY)

Janine, sweetie we can't fund a benefit for a place that's been bought by another company.

JANINE

Why not? It's for the sake of the many people who will be our of jobs. You said it yourself that the job market is pretty thin.

LINDA

Yes but...

JANINE

And if we do this, we can save a lot of people from unemployment.

LINDA

(SIGHS; RELENTING)

Okay, Janine, we'll help you arrange the event.

JANINE

Thanks momma! you're the best! This is going to be so amazing! We're getting a lot of people from school to perform, and I was also hoping that you'd perform too Aunt Anne.

ANNE

I'd love to Janine! I can perform an amazing set of songs from yesterday and today!

JANINE

Oh can you sing the song you perform whenever you open your show?

ANNE

Of course! I have to wear something nice too. I think I'll wear that pantsuit I wore to Coachella last year or maybe that romper I wore when I sung at the Windmill Place during our last family trip.

ROY

I'll invent some lighting rigs to make the stage lighting easier.

JANINE

(PANICKED)

No!

ROY

(CONFUSED)

Why not Janine?

JANINE

Uh, because I need you to help
momma and Uncle Charlie with
publicity and advertising too.

ROY

Alright.

JANINE

(SIGHS IN RELIEF)

This is going to be awesome! I know
we'll save the pizzeria!

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO