

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE'S
ADVENTURES OF THE MONARCH MYSTERY

Written by

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Based on, "Sophie and Scottie's Adventures of the Monarch
Mystery." Copyright 2014 Cindy C. Murray

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FADE-IN:

EXT. - MORNING - SHEAR HEAVEN RANCH - 10,000 ACRE RANCH
PERFECT FOR RAISING A FAMILY, RAISING ANIMALS, AND SELLING
WOOL.

Sophie and Scottie (formal name is Scarlet) are non-identical twin sisters, 11 and a half years old with high energy and fondness for each other. Both have small noses. Sophie has green eyes with long straight dark brown hair with red highlights. Scottie has blue eyes with long wavy red hair and blond streaks through it. Sophie always wears green and Scottie always wears blue.

Scottie slides the large weathered barn door open to the left just enough to step into the middle aisle-way of the massive room. Her worn tan leather cowboy boots click on the wood floor of the barn as she makes her way down to the other end.

O.S. RUSTLING OF
STRAW IN LARGE
SHEEP'S PEN

CLOSE-UP OF SCOTTIE'S FACE: BRIGHT SMILE, EYES SPARKLE, MOUTH
DRAWS BACK AT CORNERS.

SCOTTIE
Good morning, Fuzzy Mama. Ready to
have that baby yet?

Sheep looks at Scottie without any sound while laying on the straw.

O.S. SCARLET,
WHERE ARE YOU?

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
(irritated voice)
You call me Scarlet one more time
and I'm going to shovel this dirty
straw all over your head.

SOPHIE
Boy, are you grumpy. (BEAT)
Any signs of the baby yet?

Scottie scoops up more soiled straw from the pen and looks at Sophie.

SCOTTIE

(irritated voice)

Not yet. Well, don't just stand there. Get another shovel or that rake over there and help me clean Fuzzy Mama's pen.

SOPHIE

Okay, okay, don't be so bossy! Just because you got to the barn before me doesn't mean you get to tell me what to do.

Both girls continue to clean the birthing ewe's pen.

O.S. BELL RINGS

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Hey, do you hear that? I think Ma is ringing the bell. Yep, breakfast is ready.

She quickly throws down the rake, hops over the pen's low railing and shouts.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Last one home is a rotten egg!

Scottie jumps over the rail to run after Sophie as she runs up to the main house.

INT. RANCH HOUSE/KITCHEN

Ma is busy fixing breakfast and usually wears a skirt and flowing blouse with cowboy boots or sandals.

MA

Hi, Sophie, has Fuzzy Mama had her baby yet?

Sophie is breathing heavy as she enters the kitchen first from running up from the barn. She proceeds to sit down on the large oak bench of the kitchen table.

SOPHIE

No, not yet. I can't believe that this is her fifth lamb.

Scottie pushes open the screen door and says breathlessly as she sits next to Sophie.

SCOTTIE

And they're so cute when they're first born.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Hi Pa!

Pa walks into the kitchen he always wears jeans, cowboy boots and button down shirt.

PA

(irritate voice)

Who left the barn door open?

SCOTTIE

(apologetic voice)

I guess I did.

PA

(more of an irritated voice)

You need to be more careful when you leave the barn. It would be a shame to put Fuzzy Mama in harm's way since she's big and slow with that big belly of hers. That lamb is due any minute and a coyote would love to have her as a main dish and her baby as dessert.

SOPHIE

Oh Pa, do you have to be so gruesome?

SCOTTIE

You're right, Pa. We'll, I mean, I will be more careful next time I close the door. Come on, Sophie, help me clear the table and bring the dishes to the sink.

Pa looks out the kitchen window and notices postal worker Wilson walking up the dirt driveway toward the front door.

PA

Can you girls see what Mr. Wilson is delivering?

Before he rings the bell, both girls run from the kitchen toward the double doors in the entrance hall and Scottie opens the left door.

INT. ENTRANCE HALL

MR. WILSON

(happy voice)

Good morning girls. Here is your regular mail and a package addressed to Miss Sophie and Miss Scottie Pratt.

The sisters look at each other with wide eyes and take the mail and package from him.

Ma walks down the hall toward the open door.

MA

Good morning, Jed.

MR. WILSON

Good morning, Kathryn. I usually wouldn't come up the driveway off the main road, but I thought the girls would like to see this special delivery as soon as possible.

MA

That was very thoughtful of you. Would you like some coffee?

MR. WILSON

No thanks, I've got to keep going and make all my deliveries. Maybe next time. Oh, by the way, I heard a commotion in your barn while I was walking toward your front door.

O.S. LOUD

WHISTLE SOUND

Scottie quickly shoves the package and mail into Ma's arms and the girls run toward the barn.

O.S. SOUNDS OF A

LAMB BLEATING

INT. GIRLS RUN INTO THE BARN TOWARDS THE BIRTHING PEN.

Pa sits on the fence railing watching Fuzzy Mama to see if she needs any help. Sophie and Scottie join him on the fence.

PA

Glad you two heard my whistle.

Within minutes, the baby lamb is born.

CLOSE-UP OF SOPHIE WITH EYES A LITTLE TEARY AND THEN SCOTTIE WITH A BIG GRIN ON HER FACE

Each sister stands up and hugs Pa with smiles on their faces.

SCOTTIE

Pa, how did you know the baby was coming now?

PA

I stood outside to say hello to Jed and noticed Jack down toward the barn waving his arms back and forth. So, I figured Fuzzy Mama was havin' her baby. After running down here to check on her, sure enough, Fuzzy was ready.

SOPHIE

(happy voice)

It's so cute and cuddly. Look at that snowy white face and tiny black nose. Come on, Scottie, let's get the small pitchforks and clean the pen with new straw for this new family.

For most of the day, the girls hang out in the barn. They take a break and eat a picnic lunch Ma packed for them at the large oak table with benches on each side next to the barn.

EXT. SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE WALK BEHIND THE BARN TO THE STABLES AND PUT HALTERS ON EACH OF THEIR HORSES.

Starburst - is Scottie's horse with a dark brown coat, flowing black mane and tail, and white "sock" on her front left leg. She also has a white star between her eyes on her forehead.

Firefly - is Sophie's horse with a chestnut and reddish-brown color with a deep red mane and tail.

Scottie gives Sophie and rope to clip onto firefly's halter and Scottie does the same with Starburst. They lead the horses closer to the barn at a hitching post and brush them.

SCOTTIE

Now that we're closer to the barn, we'll hear Fuzzy if she needs us.

SOPHIE

Great idea, sis. I think I'll braid Fireflies mane. It's so red and long, it'll look really wavy when I take the braids out; like mine looks when I take my braids out.

SCOTTIE

(enthusiastic voice)

This summer is turning out to be great! The horses are so fun to ride and take care of, and Fuzzy Mama now has her own healthy baby to take care of too. I have a feeling that something exciting is going to happen to us!

Sophie finishes her last braid and waves to Pa who walks up to them.

PA

There's not much more we can do for Fuzzy Mama and her baby right now. Be sure she has plenty of food and water after you put the horses back in their corrals. Then head on up to the house and wash up for dinner.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Okay Pa.

INT. THE SISTERS ARE BACK IN THE BARN FEEDING FUZZY MAMA ALFALFA PELLETS AND GIVING HER WATER. THE NEWBORN LAMB SUCKLES FUZZY FOR ITS FIRST MEAL.

SCOTTIE

This time you're going to the rotten egg!

Scottie quickly hops over the railing and runs toward the barn door.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(shouts over her shoulder while running)

Don't forget to close the barn door!

INT. MAIN HOUSE/KITCHEN

MA

(stern voice)

Whoa, whoa Scottie, you're going to break the screen door, storming in that way!

Sophie comes running in after Scottie

SCOTTIE

(Scottie says

breathlessly, bent over
with hands on knees)

Sorry, Ma.

SOPHIE

(Sophie also breathless
and bent over with hands
on knees)

We're going to wash up and change into clean clothes.

MA

(in an amused but stern
voice)

Honestly, girls, you'd think you were running in the Olympics the way you both sprinted in here! Now, how are Fuzzy Mama and the baby?

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

(loud and excited voices)

They're perfect!

SCOTTIE

Oh, Ma, where did you put the package that Mr. Wilson delivered?

SOPHIE

Oh, yeah, with all the commotion about Fuzzy, I totally forgot about the package.

Ma puts on her apron.

MA

I put it on the table in your room. It looks like Auntie Jill sent it during one of her many travels. I remember when she went to some remote Indian reservation and she got you girls the oddest boxes.

SOPHIE

(corrective voice)

No, Ma, they're not odd boxes.
They're rain boxes. It says on the
explanation sheets that came with
the boxes.

(begins to have a dreamy
voice)

Mine is red leather with a
beautiful beaded pattern on the
lid.

(now voice sounds
technical)

And Scottie's is midnight blue
leather with beads on the leather
too.

SCOTTIE

I think Ma's right, they are kind
of weird. I mean, when you open
the lid, instead of music, you hear
a kind of chanting sound with a
drumbeat in the background.

(in a puzzled voice)

I still can't figure it out how it
works. The info sheet just says to
shake the box for a few seconds and
open the lid. I don't know if the
boxes can really make it rain, but
it's neat to think that it does
work.

MA

(teasingly orders with a
smile)

Enough talk about boxes and beads.
Go get washed up for dinner. It
will be ready in one hour.

The girls hurry out of the kitchen, past the front entrance
hall, and turn right down the hall toward their bed room.

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM

Both girls walk into their bedroom where scottie picks up the
package that is on the large round oak table just inside the
doorway. The sisters share a large rectangular room with each
girl claiming one side. Beyond the table on each side of the
room is a bed, a desk at the foot of the bed, a dresser, two
walk-in closets, and the bathroom is at the end of the room.

The table is considered the "safe zone" where each child can put their stuff on the table and the other can pick it up and look at it or play with it without being yelled at by the other.

SCOTTIE

Ma was right, the package is from Auntie Jill.

SOPHIE

(in a snarky voice)

Well, are you going to stare at it or open it?

Scottie walks over to her bed with the package and sits down to open the package. She rips off the brown shipping paper that covers the package and an envelope drops onto her lap.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(in an excited and voice)

Ooh, a card! We should probably read it before we open the rest of the package. Look at the wrapping paper, Scottie. It's so brightly colored, like one of those really pretty blankets from South America or Mexico.

Sophie reaches over to grab the card from Scottie's lap.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

In fact, since you get to open the gift, I'm going to read the card.

CLOSE-UP OF SHOT LOOKING OVER SOPHIE'S SHOULDER AND SHOWING THE CARD AS SOPHIE READS IT. THE SIDE OF HER FACE IS IN VIEW.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(clears her throat)

Dear Sophie and Scottie, I'm giving this special gift to you both because you've proven to me how mature you two can be. When your father told me he put you in charge of Fuzzy Mama's birthing pen, I first thought this was too much responsibility. But when he told me about last spring's lamb dilemma and how you solved it, I knew you two were ready for this gift and the responsibilities that come with it.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

This gift will show you many places
and you will meet special and nice
people. Enjoy your gift and use it
wisely. Love, Auntie Jill

Sophie is still holding the card as she looks up at Scottie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Gosh, I didn't know Pa told Auntie
Jill about when Fuzzy's other baby
got out of the pasture and how we
found it and you threw the lasso
around its neck so we could lead it
back to Fuzzy.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(in a louder voice)

Now open the Auntie Jill's gift!

Scottie rips open the paper off the box in seconds. She pulls
out an object wrapped in bright orange tissue paper.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(in excited voice)

What is it? What is it?

Scottie unwraps the tissue paper and holds an 8 inch by 10
inch picture frame in her hand.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(still excited voice)

Let me see, let me see!

Sophie takes the frame from Scottie and holds it to inspect
it with the frame in view.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Wow, it's beautiful. It looks like
the frame is made out of hundreds
of tiny mirrored jewels or
crystals.

SCOTTIE

(disappointed voice)

Oh, big deal! I thought she would
send us something a little more
exciting or weird, like those rain
boxes.

SOPHIE

Well, that's not very nice. And
look, the frame seems to change
color as you come near it;

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
kind of like those silly mood rings
Ma talked about wearing when she
was a little girl.

SCOTTIE
(sarcastic voice)
Yeah, right.

SOPHIE
I mean it, Scottie. Look at the
color it's changed to since I've
been holding it.

Frame changes from silvery clear color to a deep blue tone,
and now in Sophie's hands it is a bright canary yellow.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(smile on her face in a
high voice)
I think it's happy to be next to
me.

SCOTTIE
Oh puleeze, I think you are losing
it.

SOPHIE
(in a snooty voice)
Okay then, let's see what color it
becomes now.

Sophie hands the frame to Scottie who holds it and the frame
crystals instantly turns black. This startles her and Scottie
drops the frame onto her bed.

SCOTTIE
(hesitant voice)
Okay, maybe this frame *is*
different.

SOPHIE
Auntie Jill never sends anything
that's ordinary. In fact, look at
the frame. She's already put a
picture in it.

SCOTTIE
Well, now, that *is* weird! And look
how there is a big diamond-shaped
piece of glass centered on top of
the frame. Oh wow, the frame is
turning bright blue!

SOPHIE

I knew the frame would warm up to you! But look at the picture, it looks like our ranch house.

THE PICTURE OF THE BUILDING HAD ARCHES IN FRONT AND A LARGE THREE-TIERED FOUNTAIN LIKE THEIR RANCH HOUSE. IT WAS SITUATED NEXT TO A ROAD THAT PASSED IN FRONT OF IT. THE PLANTS SURROUNDING THE BUILDING WERE PINE TREES AND FERNS WITH SOME TROPICAL LOOKING.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Wait, I see a small sign on the house at the top of the stairs behind the fountain. It says Rancho de La Joya. I don't think this is a house, Scottie. I think it's a hotel. I guess Auntie Jill took this picture somewhere in Mexico or South America.

SCOTTIE

But where is Auntie Jill? Why would she send us a picture of a hotel that looks like our ranch house in a forest without her in it?

SOPHIE

I don't know. Maybe she took the picture because of the similarity to our house and the hotel.

Sophie picks up the frame and turns it over

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(surprised voice)

Look, there's a note attached to the back of the frame. It says: Please do not remove this photograph until I send another one for you to replace it. You will understand why very soon. Love, Auntie Jill.

Sophie looks up at Scottie

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Is this gift weird enough for you now?

SCOTTIE
Oh, yes! This is more like our
auntie!

Sophie puts their new crystal covered frame on the bedroom
table with it facing the door.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
(blurts out)
Oh my gosh! We'd better clean up
and get ready for dinner. Then we
can show Ma and Pa the frame.

Each girl walks into their own closet to get changed.

O.S. A SOUND OF
SOMETHING
DRAGGING ALONG
THE TABLE

Sophie pokes her head out of the closet to look toward the
table where the sound came from.

SOPHIE
Scottie, did you move the picture?

SCOTTIE
No, my arms can't reach that far!

SOPHIE
Well, the frame is now facing us
and is closest to our beds; not the
door. So weird.

Sophie steps back into her closet to get changes and walks
out before Scottie, looking at the frame.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(puzzled voice)
Scottie, we must've had some kind
of earthquake because the frame is
on the floor!

SCOTTIE
What?

Scottie, now in clean clothes looks at Sophie who is now
looking at the frame on the floor

SOPHIE
(shocked voice)
Scarlet, look!

Both girls stare at the frame as it glows, turning to hues of red, Yellow, green, blue, and orange

SCOTTIE

It reminds me of a flame in a fireplace.

Scottie begins to walk over to pick up the frame. Sophie grabs her arm.

SOPHIE

(shouting)

Wait!

SCOTTIE

Oh wow, I think my eyes are playing tricks on me, but the frame looks bigger.

SOPHIE

(in excited voice)

It is bigger! This is no ordinary frame. And look, the picture is growing too!

O.S. SOUND OF
THE TABLE
SLIDING ALONG
THE WOOD FLOOR

Scottie looks shocked as the frame pushes the table back towards the bedroom door.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh, my, the frame has grown so much it's touching both walls and is almost touching the ceiling crossbeams.

CLOSE-UP OF SCOTTIE'S FACE: EYES BIG AND ROUND

SCOTTIE

The plaster is about to chip off the walls!

Just as Scottie says this, the frame stops growing.

CLOSE UP OF SCOTTIE AND SOPHIE, EYES WIDE OPEN AND JAWS DROPPED.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
(low whisper)
This is no ordinary frame. It's
it's...

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE
(shout)
Magical!

Picture is very clear, plants and flowers along the road,
which almost run into the bedroom.

O.S. WATER
SPLASHING SOUND
AND BIRDS
CHIRPING

SOPHIE
(low voice)
Listen, you can hear the fountain
in front of the hotel.

SCOTTIE
I can hear the birds too. I can
hear something else. Look, it's a
horse and rider!

O.S. HORSE
HOOVES GALLOPING
ON ROAD

SOPHIE
(gasps)
Oh my, its galloping across the
picture; I think it's coming into
our room!

SCOTTIE
(panicked voice)
Oh no, we'd better move out of the
way.

SOPHIE
Wait, there he goes. Whew, that was
close.

Suddenly a brightly colored parrot flies into the room.
Scottie ducks her head as it buzzes her hair and lands on the
mirror attached to her dresser.

SCOTTIE
(low voice out of corner
of mouth)
Don't move. Do you see what I see?

SOPHIE
(loud whisper)
Yes!

The parrot tilts its head, winks at Scottie, and flies away.

SCOTTIE
(amazed voice)
Did you see that? I could swear
that parrot looked at me and winked
before it flew out of here and
through those open doors of the
hotel.

Before Sophie could reply, a butterfly floats into the room
and lands onto her shoulder.

SOPHIE
(whispers)
Look at the wings.

SCOTTIE
(low voice)
I've never seen a butterfly like
this before. It's twice the size of
the butterflies we see here on the
ranch and the wings look like they
are covered in glitter.

SOPHIE
(whispers)
I think it's more like crystals.
Oh, there it goes out towards the
hotel.

The girls just stand there looking towards the hotel.

SCOTTIE
(louder voice)
I don't know about you, but I want
to know what's going on and I think
that bright red parrot can lead us
to some answers!

SOPHIE
(stern voice)
No! No! We can't go over there. It
could be dangerous.

SCOTTIE

Oh, come on, where's your sense of adventure? This must be what Auntie Jill wants us to do or why would she send us such a magical frame with this picture in it?

SOPHIE

Well, first let's change into something more appropriate than these shorts.

Sophie runs into both closets and comes out holding two pairs of cargo pants.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Let's wear these pants. You never have enough pockets in a place you know nothing about, and these pants are a little short so we'll stay cool if it's hot.

Both girls lean into the picture to look up toward the sky. It is very sunny and a little breezy.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh, and we'd better get a light jacket just in case it gets cloudy

Sophie pulls Scottie back into their closets.

SCOTTIE

Uh oh, I think we waited too long.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(shouts)

Look! The frame is shrinking. Oh no, it's now back to its original size!

Scottie's hands on hips.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(loudly)

Thanks a lot! Because you took so long, the frame couldn't wait anymore.

Sophie's hands on hips.

SOPHIE

(loudly)

Well, now we know how long we have once the frame grows.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Heck, we don't even know what make it grow in the first place. Or maybe it's finished showing u what it can do and won't grow again!

SCOTTIE

(giggles)

This is crazy. Here we are, yelling at each other over a picture frame that glows and grows. Come on, help me move the table back to where it belongs and I'll put the frame back on the table towards the door.

O.S. KNOCK ON
DOOR

Door opens.

MA

Girls, time for diner. So what did Auntie Jill send you?

Sophie gives Ma frame.

SOPHIE

Auntie Jill sent us this frame with a pretty picture already in it. Doesn't it look a lot like the ranch?

SCOTTIE

It's a pretty frame, but a little boring compared to the other gifts Auntie Jill has given us.

MA

The picture and frame are very nice. You both need to send Auntie Jill a thank-you no matter how boring you think it is. Now then, dinner is ready a little sooner than I thought, so let's eat.

Ma sets the frame down onto the table and leaves the room with the girls follow her.

INT. HOUSE/KITCHEN - EARLY EVENING BEFORE SUNSET

Sophie and Scottie sit down at the dining table next to Pa.

SCOTTIE

Yum, pasta with red sauce!

PA

Now, hold on, Let's thank the Lord
for blessing us with such a
wonderful meal.

SOPHIE

And cook!

After they eat, the girls help Ma to clear the table,
constantly glancing out of the kitchen and down the hallway
that leads to their bedroom.

Pa lights his pipe.

PA

What are you girls up to the rest
of the fine summer evening?

Sophie links arms with Scottie.

SOPHIE

Oh, we're going to check on Fuzzy
Mama, and since it's still light
out, we'll probably brush the
horses.

MA

All right, girls, have fun but
don't get dirty again.

EXT. GIRLS WALKING TOWARDS THE BARN

Scottie suddenly takes Sophie's hand

SCOTTIE

Quick, this way!

Scottie pulls Sophie so hard that she almost falls to her
knees. Both head for the front door.

INT. HOUSE/FRONT ENTRANCE AND HALLWAY

The door opens quietly as both girls tip-tow towards their
bedroom.

SOPHIE
(irritated voice)
Gee, Scottie, you didn't have to
pull me so hard and we should've at
least checked on Fuzzy.

SCOTTIE
(bossy voice)
Oh, she's fine. Besides, Pa always
checks her before the sun goes
down. Now open the door. I said
open the door!

Girls are now in front of their room and door won't open all
of the way.

SOPHIE
I'm trying, but the door will only
open about an inch. I think there's
something in the way.

O.S. LOUD
SCREECHING SOUND

CLOSE UP OF BOTH GIRLS LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND GASP

SCOTTIE
(excited voice)
I think I hear a parrot screeching
in our room!

SOPHIE
(talking quickly)
Quick, Scottie, follow me.

The girls walk out of the hallway door that leads into the
back courtyard. Sophie points to their opened bedroom window
and they both nod their heads.

SCOTTIE
How did you know our window would
be open?

SOPHIE
I know because it's summer and Ma
always opens our windows in summer
to get a cross breeze going in the
bedroom to keep it cooler.

SCOTTIE
Oh, I don't think I ever noticed.

EXT. BACK COURTYARD

Both girls start hopping up and down to get a better look inside their room.

SCOTTIE

(laughing)

We must look like two giant Mexican jumping beans that are going crazy!

SOPHIE

(laughs too)

This window is higher than I thought. We need to figure out how to pull ourselves up onto the window frame and crawl through it.

Scottie and Sophie stop jumping.

SCOTTIE

I know, why don't you get down on your hands and knees to make a table? The I'll stand on your back so I can remove the window screen and crawl through the window.

SOPHIE

Wait a minute, why do I have to get all dirty! It's only fair to play 'rock, paper, scissors' to see who has to be the table.

SCOTTIE

Okay, okay, but hurry. I can hear that darn bird screeching again!

The girls begin the motions.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

(shouting)

Rock, paper, scissors!

SCOTTIE

(happy voice)

Ha! I win!

Scottie makes the motion of her fingers cutting Sophie's flat paper hand.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

Okay, Sophie, make a table!

Sophie rolls her eyes and gets down on her hands and knees below the window and Scottie stands onto her back.

SOPHIE

Do you see anything?

SCOTTIE

Yes, the picture grew as big as it did earlier in the frame. And, that parrot is sitting on my headboard of my bead preening its feathers!

Scottie grabs onto the window sill and jumps up onto it from Sophie's back. She pulls her self onto the sill and tumble into the bedroom.

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM

Scottie runs over to get her desk chair to stand on and places it next to the window. She reaches over the window sill and grabs Sophie's arms to pull her up through the window.

SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

Start jumping and I'll catch your arms to pull you up through the window.

Scottie gets a tight grip on Sophie and pulls her up.

SOPHIE

Ouch, you're squeezing my armpits!

Sophie leans into the window and tumbles to the ground, just missing Scottie and the chair. They both get their footing and stand between the grown picture and the bird.

SCOTTIE

I can't believe that parrot is still sitting there. Hey, did you see that? That bird just winked at us!

SOPHIE

I know, and look how it's still preening itself. Do you think it's the same parrot?

SCOTTIE

Oh yeah, I'd recognize that wink anywhere!

SOPHIE
 (wondering out loud)
 Well, now what?

SCOTTIE
 (determined voice)
 We walk through the frame, go
 across the street, pass the
 fountain and walk up those stairs
 that lead to the hotel doors of
 course! And we'd better hurray
 before the frame shrinks back to
 its normal size again.

Parrot's bright red and blue wings begin to flap back and forth and flies out of the room and back through the hotel doorway.

SOPHIE
 All right, but not more than an
 hour. We won't want to worry Ma
 and Pa.

Girls link arms and begin to walk into the picture.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 Wait, we'd better get our light
 jackets!

EXT. ON THE TRAIL WITHIN THE PICTURE

Sophie grabs them and they both hold their breaths as they walk out of their bedroom and onto a dirt trail that leads to the road in front of the hotel. After walking about ten feet, both turn to look into their bedroom. The forest plants were already hiding their room.

SOPHIE
 Let's be sure to find a landmark to
 remind us of where our room is.
 There, behind that large fir tree
 and fern-covered boulder is where
 our room is, straight out from the
 hotel fountain and across the
 street.

Both girls follow the flight path of the parrot and walk past the fountain, up the stairs, and through the hotel doorway.

INT. HOTEL

THE GIRLS HESITATE BEFORE WALKING THROUGH THE DOORWAY,
LETTING THEIR EYES ADJUST FROM THE SUNLIGHT TO THE SHADOWS OF
THE HOTEL.

A HUGE ROOM - HOTEL LOBBY. THERE IS A LARGE COUNTER TO
REGISTER FOR A ROOM AND TABLES AROUND THE ROOM WHERE GUESTS
CAN SIT AND HAVE A DRINK AND SOMETHING TO EAT.

A STAIRCASE WAS AT ONE END OF THE ROOM, AND AT THE OTHER END
WERE MORE TABLE.

The girls link arms and begin to walk around the lobby.

SCOTTIE

Let's look for the red and blue
parrot.

Both girls see the bird at the same time and slow their pace.
The parrot is sitting on the should of a man who is sitting
at one of the tables studying a large piece of paper. He
looks up and catches Sophie's eye. He immediately rolls up
the large paper and stands up towards the sister.

Man reaches out to shake each one's hand. He is a tall man
with a big barrel of a chest and strong arms. His blue eyes
were twinkling as he smiles and had a scraggly black beard
and a straight pointed nose.

DR. DRAKE

Ah, you must be Sophie and you must
be Scarlet, I mean Scottie! We've
been waiting for you. Welcome to
the town of Rancho de La Joya or
the Jewell Ranch.

CLOSE UP: BOTH GIRLS ARE SPEECHLESS WITH SHOCKED EXPRESSIONS
ON THEIR FACES.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Waiting for us?

DR. DRAKE

(laughing)

Yes, I am Dr. Rusty Drake, but you
two can call me Uncle Rusty if you
like.

SOPHIE

Auntie Jill never told us she'd
gotten married. When did this
happen?

DR. DRAKE

Quite recently. And this is why you are both here. Your Auntie is sorry she couldn't be here to greet you, but believes that you two can help me. Oh, here is a card from her that I'm to give to you.

Scottie reaches for the card and opens the envelope and reads it. She then hands it to Sophie, who reads the card and then looks at Scottie. Scottie then looks at Dr. Drake

SCOTTIE

Auntie Jill says that she's very happy that we are here and is sorry that she just missed us because she would've liked to introduce us to you, Dr. Drake. But, she knows we will all work together fabulously. So, congratulations!

SOPHIE

(hesitant voice)

Darn, I'm sad that we missed her; Congratulations Dr. Drake. Now, what kind of help?

DR. DRAKE

What I need is help solving a mystery, and I'd like to discuss it more after tea and snacks. So come along and let me show you to your room. I'm sure you girls won't mind sharing.

He began to walk towards the staircase.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Follow me and, oh, don't forget to get your packs.

Looking puzzled, both girls look around them and look at each other.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

What packs?

Scottie almost jumps as she sees two backpacks, each with their own name on them.

SCOTTIE

Wow! I guess Dr. Drake was expecting us.

The girls quickly pick up their packs and run after Dr. Drake who was already at the top of the stairs.

Sophie wasn't quite looking where she was going and trips on one of the stairs, bumping into a guest who was walking down the stairs.

SOPHIE

Oh, I'm sorry.

GUEST

(gruff voice)

No harm done, but you might look where you're going in the future.

Dr. Drake now at a hotel door with a plaque; Flora Bonita. As he put the key into the door knob, the door pushes open.

DR. DRAKE

Why that's odd. The maids must have forgotten to lock the door when they finished cleaning the room.

INT. HOTEL ROOM

Dr. Drake looks into the room and sees that it's clean and safe. The girls also peer in and notice two beds with bright colored flowers on each bed spread, a night stand between the beds with a lamp on it, a table with two chairs, and a fireplace.

Pointing to the fireplace.

DR. DRAKE

You'll want to use this at night.
It gets awfully chilly when the sun sets around here.

SOPHIE

(slight waver in voice)

Oh, wait a minute. We can't stay here overnight. In fact, we'd better be going back before Ma and Pa get worried.

Dr. Drake kneels down in front of the girls and takes each one of their hands

DR. DRAKE

(soft tone)

It's all right. Time moves at, let's say, a different speed here than on the ranch.

(MORE)

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

And I promise you're safe with me
or your Auntie Jill would've never
given you the frame.

Dr. Drake stands up.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Look through your packs to make
sure you two have everything you
need. After that, knock on my
door, which is right across the
hall, and we'll go back down to the
hotel's guest room for some tea,
hot chocolate, and honey cakes.
After we've eaten, I'll answer
questions you may have about me, my
mystery, and the map.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

What map?

Dr. Drake turns to the side before he leaves the room.

DR. DRAKE

You'll see.

Both girls look at the door as it closes and then looks at
each other, shaking their heads.

SCOTTIE

(dazed voice)

I can't believe this is happening.
I guess we should check our packs
and then knock on Uncle Rusty's
door when we're done.

Each girl opens their pack to review contents

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

I guess that's it. We have
everything; socks, shirts, pants,
pajamas.

SOPHIE

I know, he even packed us tooth
past, toothbrush, and a hair brush.

SCOTTIE

Yeah, I wonder if Auntie Jill had
anything to do with this.

SOPHIE

Wait, I feel a piece of paper in the bottom of my pack. It's a note from Auntie Jill.

SCOTTIE

What does it say?

AN OVER-THE-SHOULDER ANGLE OF SOPHIE READING THE NOTE.

SOPHIE

Dear girls, once again I'm sorry I wasn't able to stay with Rusty to greet you two. I know that walking through the frame took amazing courage and trust in yourselves and me. I also know that you'll be able to help him, in ways that may seem unimaginable to you. Enjoy your adventure! Love, Auntie Jill. P.S. I'm sure Dr. Drake asked you to call him Uncle Rusty. Call him whatever is most comfortable for you two.

SCOTTIE

Gosh, I wonder how she knew we'd come to the hotel?

SOPHIE

I don't know, but I'll fold this note back up and put it in my pack.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY

O.S. LOUD SQUAWK

Girls open their door and walk across the hall to knock on Dr. Drake's door. Dr. Drake opens door with a parrot on his shoulder.

SOPHIE

Dr. Drake, I hope you don't mind but Scottie and I have decided to call you Dr. Drake until we see Auntie Jill and congratulate her as well on your marriage.

DR. DRAKE

Why, I don't mind at all. If you girls are ready, let's go downstairs and get something to eat.

INT. ENTER THE GREAT ROOM OF THE HOTEL.

One wall consists of several giant windows that overlook the forest and a meadow. There are several tables in the room; they all pick a table near the window. Dr. Drake orders drinks and snacks.

SCOTTIE

Where is Rancho de La Joya anyway?

DR. DRAKE

We are in an area of central Mexico that is considered quite sacred. Ah, here we are, hot chocolate, tea, and sweet honey cakes.

Dr. Drake reaches for the items after they are put on the table and so do the girls.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

I always say it's hard to talk about anything on an empty stomach.

SCOTTIE

What's your parrot's name?

DR. DRAKE

Her name is Papaya. I call her that because she'd eat that fruit all day if I let her!

Both girls begin to giggle.

SOPHIE

Does she go everywhere with you?

DR. DRAKE

Pretty much. I found her on one of my travels many years ago. She just showed up on my hotel balcony with papaya in her beak, and we've been together ever since.

SCOTTIE

So Papaya adopted you!

Dr. Drake laughs.

DR. DRAKE
Yes, I believe she did.

Dr. Drake notices that there is a jar of honey and offers it to the girls. Scottie takes it to slather more honey onto her honey cake.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)
Hmm, what would we do without honey bees.

SCOTTIE
(enthusiastic voice)
It's so sticky and gooey; I love honey!

DR. DRAKE
What are some things that bees do, Scottie?

SCOTTIE
Well, they make this yummy and sticky honey.

DR. DRAKE
Okay, what else? (BEAT)
Sophie?

Sophie rubs her arm as she answers.

SOPHIE
They can sting you and it really hurts.

DR. DRAKE
That's true, but they sting only when they are in danger or if their hive is threatened.

Dr. Drake holds his tea cup and leans back into his chair.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)
Another very important thing that bees do is to pollinated plants. Are you girls familiar with that term?

SOPHIE
(matter of fact voice)
Oh sure, we've learned about plants and pollination in school.
(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

In fact, I know that the pollen is picked up by the bee from the flower's stamen, which looks like thin noodles growing out of the inside of the flower. The pollen then gets carried to the pistil of the same plant or their plants. The stamen noodles surround the pistil, and the pistil holds the cells that the pollen fertilizes. Seeds grow from the fertilized pistil and then new plants grow from the seeds. So I guess without the bees pollinating, most plants would die out.

DR. DRAKE

(impressed tone)

Very informative!

SCOTTIE

(hushed voice)

Show off.

DR. DRAKE

What did you say?

SCOTTIE

Oh, nothing.

DR. DRAKE

You know, bees aren't the only living things that pollinate plants. Birds help do this, as well as other animals and insects, mostly without them ever knowing what they are doing. In fact, one insect that has made this area of Mexico so special is the butterfly. The butterflies come here to stay for the winter so they can fly all over the world to.

Scottie interrupts

SCOTTIE

(authoritative voice)

Pollinate plants also!

DR. DRAKE

That is correct, and to find milkweed plants to lay their eggs.

SOPHIE
(curious voice)
How do you know all of this?

DR. DRAKE
I am, among other things, an entomologist. I study and deal with insects. I've come here because my colleagues and I are concerned about a certain type of butterfly. You see, they seem to be late coming to his area; almost as if they've vanished.

SOPHIE
What kind of butterfly?

SCOTTIE
Speaking of butterflies, we had a huge one float into our room. It was beautiful and covered with sparkles.

SOPHIE
(corrective voice)
Crystals.

Dr. Drake leans forward.

DR. DRAKE
Are you sure it was a butterfly?

SCOTTIE
Oh, yes, I was right next to Sophie when it landed on her shoulder.

Dr. Drake leans back in his chair and scratches his head.

DR. DRAKE
Well I'll be. I've heard of the Crystal Creatures but they are considered a legend to the locals. Their stories are passed from generation to generation. In fact, the locals here are laughed at when anyone speaks of seeing anything glittering on them. The only creatures this area is known for are the Monarch butterflies. And I assure you, they're only covered with pure color and beauty.
(MORE)

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

In fact, millions and millions of them should be here already, but I'm afraid something has happened to them.

Scottie drinks some hot chocolate.

SCOTTIE

What will happen if they don't show up?

DR. DRAKE

If they don't migrate to this area, they won't winter here. Then in the month of March, they fly back north to lay their eggs under milkweed plants, eventually becoming beautiful monarchs. Millions of butterflies and generations of monarchs could be lost if they don't show up. Also, plants will be affected by not getting pollinated, which will affect animals as well as people over time. I mean, the bees can't do it all. Yes, the ecosystem will be in trouble. Therefore, I'm hoping that you girls can help me solve this butterfly mystery.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

(cheering)

A monarch mystery!

SOPHIE

But how can we help?

Dr. Drake reaches towards the chair next to him and puts a large paper scroll and puts it onto the table.

DR. DRAKE

I'm not sure. But I thought we'd start with my map. You see, it just won't cooperate!

SOPHIE

(confused voice)

What do you mean by that?

Dr. Drake unrolls the map.

DR. DRAKE

You see, here is the map of this area.

(MORE)

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

You can see the village of Rancho de La Joya and a defined trail to, (BEAT) well, I'm not sure where. It seems that this map leads to nowhere, but it keeps showing up in my duffle bag, my backpack, or my jacket. It wants to be near me but not tell me where to go. I was hoping the map would show me where to find the monarchs if they've fluttered to a new area, but it won't or hasn't yet.

SOPHIE

(excited voice)

So you have a map with its own personality. That's incredible!

DR. DRAKE

(sighs)

Yes, so it seems. I guess as long as it stays with me, I'll have to figure out a way to make it work. Therefore, I've decided that tomorrow after breakfast we'll hike this trail anyway and see what happens.

Scottie finishes her snack.

SCOTTIE

That sounds like a great adventure.

SOPHIE

(hesitant voice)

Yes, I guess it does sound like one.

Dr. Drake stands up and rolls the map up.

DR. DRAKE

Then it's settled. We start early in the morning, so we'd better get to bed. I'll wake you two up in the morning and we can all go to breakfast soon after that.

INT. HOTEL/BEDROOM

Girls sit next to the fireplace after getting ready for bed.

SCOTTIE

(yawns)

Boy, what a day it's been. I'm glad Dr. Drake is just across the hall if we need him. I'm really tired now. Let's go to bed.

Each girl gets into own bed. Scottie turns off the lamp that is on a table between the beds.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

Wow, it's really dark in this room, all you can see are the embers glowing in the fireplace. Good night, Sis, see you in the morning.

SOPHIE

Good night, Scottie, see you in the morn, (BEAT)
hey, I thought you turned off the light?

SCOTTIE

(irritated voice)

I did. It's almost pitch black in here!

SOPHIE

How can you say that? I can see as if it were as light as day. And look.

Sophie gets out of bed and walks over to the bedroom table that is in front of the fireplace.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

There's something on the table.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(gasps)

Oh, my gosh!

Scottie reaches up to turn on the lamp.

SCOTTIE

What is it?

SOPHIE

(loud voice)

It's the map!

Scottie runs over to the table and then stares at Sophie.

SCOTTIE

(Gasps)

Oh my!

SOPHIE

(concerned voice)

What's wrong?

SCOTTIE

It's, it's your eyes. They look like a cat's eyeballs with narrow slits.

SOPHIE

(demanding voice)

Quick, hand me a mirror! Oh my gosh, your right! Look, look, they're going back to normal. I guess the light in the room is turning them back.

SCOTTIE

This is creepy. First we find the map unrolled on our table and then we find out you can see in complete darkness. Let's try it again.

Scottie turns off the lamp and the room is now completely dark.

SOPHIE

I'm going to close my eyes and now I'll open them. Yep, I can see as if the lamp is on.

Sophie walks over to the table and the map, sitting near it. Suddenly the map slides over towards her. Startled, she jumps back out of the chair, knocking it over. Scottie hears this and quickly turns on the lamp.

SCOTTIE

What is it?

SOPHIE

I think the map likes me. It moved toward me and look! (BEAT)
The trail to nowhere is glowing!

SCOTTIE

Let me see? Oh, wow, we'd better take Maptrixter over to Dr. Drake to show him that we have it and to tell him our, uh, discovery about you.

SOPHIE
Maptrixter?

SCOTTIE
Well, I figured if the map is going
to be with us now, we might as well
name it.

Sophie carefully rolls up the map and both quietly peer out
their door to make sure no one is in the hallway. They
quickly tip toe across the hall and knock on Dr. Drake's
door.

O.S. WHO'S
POUNDING ON MY
DOOR?

INT. DOOR OPENS

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE
(loud whisper)
Dr. Drake! Dr. Drake!

SOPHIE
We have something that is yours.

Sophie hands the map to Dr. Drake

DR. DRAKE
(amused voice)
Well, well. So the map followed you
this time. It looks like this map
is now yours.

SCOTTIE
We've named it Maptrixter and
there's something else.

INT. HOTEL/ DR. DRAKE'S ROOM

Dr. Drake has parrot on shoulder and shuttles the girls into
his room.

SCOTTIE
We've also learned something about
Sophie. It got really dark after I
turned off the lamp next to our
beds and about one minute later
Sophie asked me to turn off the
lamp again. That's when I
discovered that.

Sophie interrupts.

SOPHIE

(excited and fast voice)
We discovered that I can see
perfectly in the dark, like a cat!

DR. DRAKE

Your Auntie Jill told me you both
were special, but I didn't realize
she meant this type of special, as
in special powers or talents.
Sophie, let me see your eyes.

Dr. Drake takes out a mini flashlight the size of a pen and
shines it into Sophie's eyes.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Does this hurt?

SOPHIE

No, not at all.

DR. DRAKE

Well then, it was meant to be.
Your new, uh, night vision may come
in handy, so if you're not bothered
by this, I'm sure you'll be fine.
But let's keep this new found
ability between us, okay?

SCOTTIE

(Yawns)

Sounds good to me. I think we'd
better get some sleep before our
big hike tomorrow.

DR. DRAKE

Now Sophie, try not to worry about
your new talent and focus on
getting a good night's sleep. I'm
sure you'll also have a lot more
success with the map, so I'm
letting you keep it.

Dr. Drake opens his door, crosses the hall, and opens the
girl's door to their room.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Good night girls and I'll see you
bright and early in the morning.

INT. HOTEL/GIRLS ROOM

Girls get into bed.

SCOTTIE

Dr. Drake seemed okay about your eyes and about Maptrixter choosing you.

SOPHIE

Yeah, maybe Maptrixter will help us on our hike tomorrow. Good night, Scottie. Be sure to say a prayer for Ma and Pa before you go to sleep. Heck, say one for us too!

INT. HOTEL/GREAT ROOM

Dr. Drake and the girls all have breakfast a little after sunrise. Dr. Drake finishes eating and stands up from the table to greet a young man.

DR. DRAKE

Ah, Senior Vargas, good morning. Sophie, Scottie, this is Diego Vargas and he will be helping us with our packs and food on our journey.

Diego shakes each girls hand.

DIEGO

(Spanish accent)

Por favor, call me Diego. After all of you finish eating, meet me out by the fountain. I have all of your backpacks ready to go.

DR. DRAKE

Very good, Diego, gracias.

SCOTTIE

(excited voice)

We need someone to help us carry our stuff? I can't wait to get going!"

SOPHIE

Is Diego from around here?

DR. DRAKE

Yes, he grew up in this valley and is very excited about what our hike may bring. You see, your story of the crystal butterfly got around the village rather quickly last night. Diego would also like to find the lost monarchs. He's sure they're here somewhere and wants to find out, like us, what happened to them.

EXT. HOTEL/IN FRONT OF FOUNTAIN

Each hiker had a backpack of clothes, a bed roll, and water canteen. The two men carry the food and tents. Papaya is on Dr. Drake's shoulder

DR. DRAKE

You've got the map, Sophie?

SOPHIE

Yep, I've got it right in my pack.

DR. DRAKE

(sighing voice)

Good, then let's get to the trail. No need to look at the map now. I know the "trail to nowhere" by memory.

EXT. TRAIL

While walking on the trail the group sees huge pine trees, ferns, a few wild flowers, squirrels and some deer. The dogwood trees were changing colors and birds are chirping.

SOPHIE

Is it Autumn here?

DR. DRAKE

Yes, but winter is almost here.

SOPHIE

Wow, it never occurred to me that we'd be in another season than the one at home.

All rest next to a creek. Dr. Drake takes off pack and feeds parrot dried fruit. Girls also take off their packs.

DR. DRAKE

What a great location for lunch.
Well done, Diego. How are you
girls doing?

SCOTTIE

I'm fine. How about you, sis?

SOPHIE

I'm okay. Just a little tired I
guess. What's for lunch, Diego?

DIEGO

We have cheese, dried meats,
tortillas, grapes, and sugar
cookies. It's simple, but the food
travels well and tastes good.

All survey the food as Diego puts it on a multicolored
striped blanket. All start to reach for the food.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

It looks great!

Scottie gets up and walks toward the creek, noticing
something floating near them and picks it up.

SCOTTIE

Is this a monarch butterfly?

DR. DRAKE

Yes it is. Where did you find it?

SCOTTIE

Floating in the creek.

DR. DRAKE

Well, it seems this one didn't have
much of a chance. Since it was
floating downstream, we're on the
right track to continue on this
trail walking north. We should
pack up; I want to reach the end of
the trail that's shown on the map
by sundown. There's supposed to be
a full moon tonight, which will
make setting up camp a lot easier.

Sophie pulls the map out of her pack to review it. Sure
enough, the trail they are on shows up next to the creek on
the map. She then rolls up the map and returns it to her
pack.

The trail they all walk on heads away from creek into the forest. Trail takes them to the left and next to a wide and slow flowing river.

Diego notices Scottie looking at the river.

DIEGO

We call this the Lazy River. We were walking along one of its creeks back there on the trail.

SCOTTIE

Oh, it looks refreshing.

DIEGO

Yes, it does, but the water is very cold right now, about 55 degrees. The river is too cold for swimming, but great for fishing. That is how we will eat our dinner tonight.

SOPHIE

You mean we have to fish?

DIEGO

Why sure, haven't you ever fished before?

SCOTTIE

Not really. We don't have a lot of rivers where our ranch is.

DIEGO

(matter of fact voice)

Then it's settled. You and Sophie will help me catch dinner!

EXT. CAMPING SITE

DR. DRAKE

We'll set up camp here. As you can see, the trail forks here with both trails looking rather overgrown. We'll have to choose which one to take tomorrow. As I remember, the map would stop right here.

Sophie pulls the map out and unrolls it. Dr. Drake is right; the trail ends where they are standing. Papaya decided to perch herself on a nearby tree.

DIEGO

(smiling)

Good, I'll set up the fishing poles
and the girls can help me fish.

SOPHIE

(sarcastic voice)

Oh, great, this should be really
interesting.

Diego shows the girls how to bait their hooks and cast the fishing line with their poles. Scottie is finding the whole activity boring and isn't paying attention to her pole.

SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

Oh! Oh! My pole almost yanked out
of my hands. Okay, I've got a good
grip. Diego, I think I caught
something. Now what do I do?

Diego runs over to Scottie to coach her.

DIEGO

Okay, slowly tip up the pole while
holding onto the reel and the
fishing line. Just like that, then
slowly turn the reel so the fishing
line begins to roll up towards you.
Now what ever you caught will come
to you, and look, you caught a
fish.

Diego reaches towards the thrashing fish to take it off of the hook. He puts the fish into a hole filled with water for the fish to be kept until dinner.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Muy bueno, Scottie! It's a little
slippery and I'd say about two feet
long. Heck, a few more of these and
we'll be eating dinner in no time
at all.

CLOSE UP OF SOPHIE'S FACE LOOKING LIKE SHE ATE SOMETHING VERY SOUR

SOPHIE

We have to gut them?

DIEGO

(laughing)

Oh, don't worry, I won't make you do that.

SOPHIE

To be honest, I hope I don't catch any. I don't think I can eat anything I might catch.

SCOTTIE

Oh Sophie, quit being such a wimp. We eat tuna fish sandwiches at home all the time.

Dr. Drake observed what was going on and begins to set up the tents. He also starts to write some notes down on a piece of paper.

DR. DRAKE

Hey Diego, I'm going to walk down this weedy trail to see if there are any clues to where the monarchs might be. I assume you've got everything under control with dinner?

Diego nods and gives him a thumbs up. Diego begins to cook the fish on a pan over the fire he built. The girls bring their packs and bed rolls into the tent.

SOPHIE

I have to admit, the fish smells really good. I'm getting really hungry.

SCOTTIE

I am too. Let's see if we can help Diego.

As the girls get out of their tent, Sophie notices Dr. Drake favored one trail over the other. The group serves themselves dinner that Diego sets up on a large boulder and sits around and area for a camp fire.

DR. DRAKE

Diego, you've out done yourself again! This mango salsa tastes perfect on the fish.

Diego lights the fire and all continue to sit around it after dinner.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

(Lower voice.)

Here, girls, I want to give you these flashlights. This way you both will be able to see in the dark. Remember, Diego doesn't know about your night vision abilities, Sophie, so be sure and use the flashlight.

SOPHIE

Okay, I will. In fact, we're tired, so Scottie and I are going to go to bed now.

DR. DRAKE AND DIEGO

Good night girls.

DIEGO

The birds will wake you two bright and early, so it's a good idea to get some sleep.

Dr. Drake stands up and pats Diego on the shoulder

DR. DRAKE

I'm heading to bed too. Gracias for a great dinner.

DIEGO

(yawns)

Good night, doc. See you in the morning.

Diego lays on his bed roll next to the fire while Dr. Drake walks into his tent. Neither of them notice Sophie's head sticking out from her tent looking toward the moonlit sky.

INT. GIRLS TENT

SOPHIE

(whispering)

Maptrixter, I can't sleep. And look at Scottie; sleeping like a baby. We're going for a walk.

Sophie puts on hiking boots, grabs the map, and tip toes past Diego and heads for the trail that Dr. Drake didn't take.

EXT. SOPHIE WALKING ON MOON-LIT TRAIL

Sophie stops on trail to look at the map.

SOPHIE

Gosh, I can't see anything on this map. Come on Maptrixter, you need to show me more than what's on this short trail.

Sophie decides to turn around and head back to camp

O.S. LOUD
SWOOSHING SOUND

Papaya lands on Sophie's shoulder.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(loud whisper)

Oh my gosh, Papaya. You nearly scared me half to death! I'm heading back to camp. It looks like Trixter doesn't want to cooperate with me either.

Sophie keeps the map open as she walks back to camp. She tries to roll it up, but now changes into a square board.

SOPHIE

(shaky voice)

I, I guess we're not done exploring the trails after all, Papaya. But which way do I go? The only trail left is barely visible.

Sophie begins to walk on the obscure trail and the map now turns into a burlap material.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Look, Papaya, Maptrixter is changing again. I guess this is the way we need to go. Thanks for being with me, Papaya. My night vision has kicked in, but I know its dark out there and strange things can happen in the dark.

Trail takes them to a rock wall that's at least 300 feet high.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

I guess this is the end of. Oh, my, I can see my footsteps on Maptrixter as well as this wall! But where do I go from here?

CLOSE-UP OF THE MAP THAT SOPHIE IS HOLDING WITH BOTH HANDS

Sophie walks left, footsteps disappear. Walks right and footsteps disappear again. Wall on map now begins to glow.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Okay Maptrixter, how am I supposed to walk straight? And Papaya, what do you have on your beak? Here let me wipe it off. Well, it won't come off; it looks like the crystal on that butterfly that floated in our room.

Sophie tries to rub the crystal off of papaya's beak.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Papaya! Could we be near where the crystal creatures live that Diego talked about? If we are, I think it's starting to affect your beak.

Papaya flaps her wings and begins to fly toward the camp, turns, and flies toward the rock wall.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(loud voice)
Stop, Papaya, stop!

Sophie drops the map and covers her eyes, waiting for a loud thump, but silence.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(loud voice again)
Papaya, Where are you?

Picks up the map to look for new directions.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Well, this is strange, my footprints are still on you, Trixter, and so is Papaya's wing span on the other side of this wall! How can this be?

CLOSE UP OF SOPHIE LOOKING DOWN AT THE MAP

Maptrixter rolls itself up in her hand and becomes very stiff like a stick.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Okay, I get it. Here goes nothing.

Sophie shuffles her feet and closes her eyes as she walks forward, holding the map like a sword and waiting for impact. But nothing, she opens her eyes and looks behind her on the weedy trail she was on.

EXT. NEW TRAIL INSIDE BOULDER WALL

Sophie looks around and notices a huge thorny hedge in front of her.

SOPHIE
Now what Maptrixter?

O.S. LOUD SQUAWK
SOUND

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Papaya? Papaya? Where are you? Are
you on the other side of this
hedge?

O.S. ANOTHER
LOUD SQUAWK
SOUND

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Oh great, I can't fly over these
thorns like Papaya did. So now
what?

Sophie looks at the map that is back to cloth again and notices the hedge with a glowing dot on the bottom of it. Sophie squats down and begins to crawl on her hands and knees in an opening. Stands up and brushes herself off.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Papaya, are you still here? I can't
find you.

INT. LARGE TUNNEL

Sophie is now in a large tunnel with a dim light covered in shimmering walls. Papaya is nowhere to be seen.

SOPHIE
This is so beautiful. It's like
there is glitter everywhere. Well
maptrixter, I guess we'd better
walk through this tunnel to try to
find Papaya.
(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

If she gets lost, Dr. Drake will
sure be mad at me.

Continues to walk in the tunnel. Her foot steps echo
slightly.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Gosh, this is nothing like the
ranch. Heck, I don't even know if
we're in the frame or Mexico
anymore.

O.S. OH, DON'T
BE SILLY, OF
COURSE YOU'RE
STILL IN MEXICO

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(startled voice)

Papaya, is that you?

Sophie continues to walk to the end of tunnel and towards
voice.

O.S. OH, NO,
SHE'S NOT
TALKING. I AM.

EXT. TUNNEL LEADS TO A CANYON

Sophie looks around her and see's a meadow and a lake with
water shimmering in the moonlight. She looks up towards a
voice on a large tree limb.

SOPHIE

Wait, you can't have said anything,
you're a toucan!

TOMAS

True, come closer my dear. Have
you never seen a toucan before?

SOPHIE

Yes, but in a zoo. I've never seen
one like you before. What are you
covered in?

TOMAS

This canyon has an amazing effect on many animals here; I call it the crystal covering! My name is Tomas and I am the observer and communicator of this land. Welcome to the Crystal Canyon!

Sophie walks closer to the tree and Tomas. The moonlight danced on his feathers with every movement he made.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

We thought you'd never find the tunnel, but Maptrixter, as you call it, came through for us. Gracias, Maptrixter for your help.

The map twirls in Sophie's hand.

SOPHIE

(voice full of wonder)

Maptrixter wanted me to find the Crystal Canyon?

TOMAS

Yes, you see, we need help from you and your friends. We've been hoping to find the right person to enter our canyon. After our scout landed on your shoulder, we knew that you and your sister would be the perfect choice.

SOPHIE

You mean the giant butterfly that floated onto my shoulder was part of a plan?

O.S. IT TOOK ME
A LITTLE WHILE
TO CONVINCE
TOMAS, BUT WE
KNEW BELLA IS
NEVER WRONG WHEN
SHE LANDS ON
SOMETHING OR
SOMEONE.

Sophie quickly turns around to look at the shoreline of the lake.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Who said that?

TOMAS

This is Jinx. He is our, uh, our security guard and knows every inch of this canyon and the land round it. No doubt your guide, Diego, has seen him every now and then, thinking his eyes were playing tricks on him. Jinx likes to tease humans when he's bored. First you will see him, and then Jinx will disappear into the canyon, leaving them staring at nothing while scratching their heads. We call him Jinx because it seems to suit him quite well.

Sophie stares at Jinx. He is the size of a Great Dane dog with the face and shoulders of a cheetah, but the rest of its body similar to a tiger.

JINX

Why, thank you, Tomas for such a kind introduction. We decided to let you come first from your group, Sophie, because of your night vision abilities and your calm nature. I'm sure, as is Tomas, that you're a little stunned right now. But, please, look around and see how special this land is. We are concerned, as is Dr. Drake, where the butterflies are. We're hoping that with your help we'll be able to find the missing monarchs.

TOMAS

Yes, Jinx and the hummingbirds have noticed some human activity on the remote outer trails around the canyon, and we think those people could have something to do with the monarch's disappearance.

As Tomas speaks, Sophie looks around her and can see beyond a huge shimmering lake a waterfall dropping about 200 feet into the lake. The flowers and trees are twice the size of any she's seen on the ranch. And Jinx shimmers in the moonlight as well.

SOPHIE

It is beautiful here. I can tell that the colors of the flowers are brilliant even in the moon light.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh, my, I've got to get back to camp before the sun rises! If Scottie wakes up and notices I'm gone, she'll wake Dr. Drake and Diego, and then they'll be searching for me.

TOMAS

You're right, Sophie. Will you help us and bring the rest of your group back to the canyon?

SOPHIE

I'm still in a little shock about this place, but yes, I'll do whatever I can to help.

TOMAS

(loud commanding voice)
Good, then let's get you back to camp.

Tomas claps his wings and two hummingbirds fly over Sophie's head faster than she's ever seen.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Escort Sophie back to the trail.

He looks at Sophie.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

The hummers will wait for you at the front of the boulders tomorrow morning. Please don't say anything to the others about us and describe few details about the canyon. Just show Maptrixter to Dr. Drake. He'll see your footsteps appear on the map and will follow you without too much hesitation, but with lots of questions, I'm sure.

SOPHIE

Why wouldn't Maptrixter cooperate with Dr. Drake?

TOMAS

(endearing voice)
Because, my dear, Maptrixter and I were waiting for you!

Sophie smiles and notices the blue hummingbird flying in front of her. The green humming bird flies in so fast that it bumps the blue one into the tree branches.

SOPHIE
(giggles)
They are so cute!

TOMAS
You'll have to excuse Paco. He's so fast that he can't control himself.

SOPHIE
I see, and where's...

TOMAS
Poncho is the other one. You can tell them apart by their color. Poncho has the bright blue feathered neck, and Paco's is green.

JINX
They're kind of shifty if you ask me. But they can fly ahead and let me know what's over the ridge or around the next turn on a road or trail without being detected.

TOMAS
Now, remember, Sophie, just use Maptrixter and Dr. Drake, Diego, and Scottie will follow you. Tell them as little as possible until you get to the tunnel. Then, for starters, you can tell them about me!

SOPHIE
Okay, Tomas, I'll see you in the morning.
(loud voice)
Papaya, Papaya, we've got to go.

Papaya swoops down from another tree and lands on her shoulder. Sophie notices that her beak has another crystal on it. The hummers buzz near Sophie's head to let her know it was time to go. She follows them and walks through the tunnel to another exit on the outer trail.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
I hope Dr. Drake won't notice your beak until I have a chance to explain the crystal when we reach the tunnel opening.

Papaya turns her head toward Sophie and winks.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

This is so strange, Papaya, I know we're walking up hill in this tunnel, but I'm not even breathing hard or getting tired. I think this place is magical.

Sophie follows the hummers and notices they bring her on a different trail out of the tunnel.

EXT. OUTER TRAIL

Sophie needs to look down on the outer trail due to the loose rocks among the weeds. She looks up and stops just before she runs into something.

DR. DRAKE

(loud and stern voice)

Sophie, where have you been? It's past midnight!

SOPHIE

Oh, you scared me! I, I decided to take a walk since I have this great new night vision. I also thought that Trixter would cooperate with me if I was alone.

DR. DRAKE

(sarcastic voice)

Well, obviously the map decided not to. You could've gotten lost, Sophie. This was very dangerous of you to leave the camp by yourself.

SOPHIE

I know it was, but Papaya was with me so I thought if I was in danger, she could fly to the camp to get you.

DR. DRAKE

Hmm, that sounds logical in a strange sort of way, but don't do it again, okay?

Paco and Poncho fly down and buzz Dr. Drake's hair and then disappear as fast as they had appeared. Dr. Drake instinctively ducks his head.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

(loud voice)

What was that?

SOPHIE

I think they were hummingbirds.

DR. DRAKE

Now, that's odd. I guess with the full moon, animals have a tendency to do strange things and not act normally.

SOPHIE

I think you're right, Dr. Drake. I don't think there's anything normal about this place!

DR. DRAKE

(orders)

Let's get back to camp. Oh, Papaya, how nice of you to land on my shoulder, you sneaky girl.

They all get back to camp and quietly slip into their tents.

INT. INSIDE TENT

SOPHIE

(whispers)

Gosh, Maptrixter, I can't believe what we just saw in the crystal canyon. I'm not sure how I'm supposed to get Dr. Drake and the others to follow me back. We'll have to figure it out in the morning.

SCOTTIE

(mumbles)

Did you say something, sis?

SOPHIE

No, go back to sleep.

Scottie turns over and falls fast asleep. Sophie closes her eyes and does the same.

Sun has risen and Scottie hears all sorts of noises coming from outside the tent. She gets dressed and leaves the tent.

EXT. CAMP SIGHT

Scottie has to keep from laughing as Diego is flapping his arms like a bird. Scottie joins in to help him.

DIEGO

(yelling)

Get away from my granola! This food is for us. Whew, it looks like all of the food is still here. Gracias, Scottie, for helping me to scare the deer away. You never know what we'll run into in this wilderness.

SCOTTIE

I was happy to help, Diego. I'll go wake up Sophie so we can help you with breakfast.

As Scottie walks over to her tent, Sophie pokes her head out and rubs her eyes. Scottie motions to her to come out and join them. Sophie disappears back into the tent and soon joins Scottie around the camp fire.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

Boy, did I sleep well. How about your?

SOPHIE

Oh, I slept okay, but I had some really weird dreams.

Dr. Drake and Papaya come out of their tent towards them.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh my!

SCOTTIE

What is it?

SOPHIE

Oh, I just remembered something.

DR. DRAKE

Good morning, girls. We'd better get some breakfast before we decide which way to go on the trail from here. Do you still have the map, Sophie?

SOPHIE

Yes, it's in the tent.

DR. DRAKE

(Stern voice)

Good, we'll need it for a reference and maybe even some guidance today.

SCOTTIE

Oh, I told Diego that we'd help him
set up breakfast. Come on, sophie,
let's go.

Scottie pulls Sophie up and they walk over to where Diego is
setting up the food.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Boy, Dr. Drake sure is in a grumpy
mood this morning.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(louder voice)

Here, Diego, let us help you.

They all sit on surrounding rocks and eat their breakfast.

DR. DRAKE

Diego, that was great. In fact, I
think I'll get more granola for the
hike ahead. Sophie, why don't you
get some for Scottie and you to
share?

SOPHIE

Good idea. I'll put the granola in
these small paper bags.

DR. DRAKE

Now, Sophie, we need to talk about
last night.

SOPHIE

I know Dr. Drake, I promise to tell
you everything when we're on our
way. The overgrown trail that you
found me on last night is the way
we should hike. Maptrixter and I
will prove it to you if you'll give
us a chance.

DR. DRAKE

Well, I guess it can't hurt to hike
that way for a little while. But
if we wind up going nowhere because
the trail is too difficult, you
have to promise me we'll turn
around without any complaints.

SOPHIE

I promise!

Just then two hummingbirds fly past her head so fast that she could barely tell what it was.

DR. DRAKE

It's those darn hummingbirds from last night? Why on earth would they come so close to you?(BEAT)
Hmm, I think we should pack up and get going, don't you Sophie?

SOPHIE

Yes, Dr. Drake, that's a very good idea.

Sophie runs back to her tent where Scottie is getting her things.

INT. GIRLS TENT

SCOTTIE

(confused voice)

Hey Sophie, look what I found. My rain box is in the bottom of my pack.

SOPHIE

How weird. I wonder how your rain box got in your backpack. It looks smaller than I remember.

SCOTTIE

Check your pack to see if you have yours.

SOPHIE

Yep, mines in here and it's smaller too. I wonder if they got smaller coming through the frame.

SCOTTIE

This is strange.

SOPHIE

What's strange?

SCOTTIE

I have a shiny quarter in mine, and it just fits into the box. I think I'll put it into one the pockets of my cargo pants for safe keeping.

(MORE)

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

Look to see if you have anything in your box, Sophie.

SOPHIE

Nope, mine's empty. I'm not sure why we have these rain boxes in our packs, but we'd better put them back and keep packing.

SCOTTIE

I don't know either, sis, but at least they're small because my pack can't fit another thing in it.

Scottie grunts as she lifts her pack and puts it on a rock. Both girls take down the tent.

EXT. CAMP SIGHT

Sophie checks to make sure Maptrixter is in her pack then she and Scottie walk towards Diego to give him the tent.

SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

Oh, my gosh, I think I see a striped snake behind that pine tree!

Scottie starts to walk toward the tree while Sophie notices the hummingbirds near it.

SOPHIE

(shouts)

Wait, Scottie! It could be dangerous. Go get Diego first.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Maptrixter, I think that's Jinx's tail.

Suddenly the tail is gone.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Whew, I think it's gone now. Let's not bother Diego and get our backpacks.

EXT. ON THE WEEDY TRAIL

All begin to walk on the trail that is very uneven and covered with loose pebbles. Sophie stops to look on the map.

SOPHIE

Look everyone, our footsteps are showing up on Trixter! This is definitely the way to go.

Dr. Drake looks over Sophie's shoulder and the map. He starts to tip his hat back and scratches his forehead.

DR. DRAKE

Well I'll be, I guess this darn map did cooperate after all.

Scottie quickly walks over, almost knocking Sophie down as she looks at the map.

SCOTTIE

Wait, let me see! Is this some kind of trick?

DR. DRAKE

No, Scottie, this is real and I can't explain it either.

Sophie smiles and rolls up the map.

SOPHIE

Shall we continue to hike on this trail?

The group nods and gets a drink from their canteens.

Sophie notices the boulder wall and looks for the hummingbirds. They fly by and buzz their heads. All duck to get out of the way. The birds then hover right in front of Sophie's face.

SCOTTIE

(low voice while reaching)
What are those hummingbirds doing?

SOPHIE

Don't reach for them! They are here to guide us further in the trail. I, um, met them last night. What they want us to do is look around to be sure that no one else sees us as we continue on the trail.

DIEGO

Their colors are so bright. Es muy bonita!

SOPHIE

The one with the shimmering blue neck is Poncho, and Paco has the neon green neck.

DIEGO

(blurts out)

That's crazy, loco! How could you possibly know their names?

SOPHIE

Because, Tomas told me.

DR. DRAKE

(concerned voice)

Who's Tomas? It sounds like you had quite an adventure last night.

SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

Adventure? You mean I slept through all of this?

SOPHIE

I promise I'll answer all of your questions, but we really need to keep going before somebody sees us.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(low voice)

Now, Scottie, I'm going to need you to do as I say and follow my directions. This way, Dr. Drake and Diego will follow.

Scottie nods. Sophie holds up the map and points it at the boulders. It transforms into a long stick like the night before.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(loud voice)

Scottie, I need you to put your hand on my shoulder and continue walking just behind me. Diego, you need to put your hand on Scottie's shoulder, and Dr. Drake, put your hand on Diego's shoulder.

Sophie turns to look back at everyone in a line behind her. T

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Okay everyone, follow me and we'll be fine.

They all nod and agree to follow Sophie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Keep your eyes forward and keep walking. What ever you do, don't stop.

SCOTTIE
Why?

SOPHIE
Because I don't know where you'll wind up.

Soon they feel the trail under their feet changes to a smooth surface. They are now within the boulder wall.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(excited voice)
Okay, you can look around.

All notice they are on the other side of the boulder wall with the weedy trail behind them.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
We need to walk toward a large hedge with giant thorns on it. Wait, let me check the map.

Sophie unrolls the map to look it over

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(excited voice)
Yes, here we are, and this is the opening! We need to crouch down and crawl through this space. It seems small, but we all can fit. Just crawl through slowly to avoid getting snagged by the thorns.

SCOTTIE
(amazed voice)
Wow, sis, how did you find this?

Papaya begins to flap her wings and flies off Dr. Drake's shoulder and over the hedge and out of sight.

DR. DRAKE
(shouts)
Papaya!

SOPHIE
It's all right, Dr. Drake. Papaya knows where she is going.

INT. INSIDE TUNNEL

They all crawl through the hedge. It is very dark. Sophie is the only one who can see and spots two torches on the tunnel walls.

SOPHIE

I can see two torches. Dr. Drake,
if you have some matches we can
light the torches that have been
placed on either side of the
tunnel.

Dr. Drake takes out a flashlight from his pack and sees the torches.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

I'm not sure your flashlight will
last.

DIEGO

Here, I've got the matches.

Diego pulls the torches from their wall crevice and Dr Drake lights them. Dr. Drake puts his flashlight back as the flames grow very bright.

SOPHIE

According to Maptrixter, we need to
walk through this tunnel to the
other end.

SCOTTIE

Wow! The flames make the wall
sparkle with all sorts of colors.
This reminds me of the glitter we
use in school art projects!

SOPHIE

Yeah, me too. Let's keep going.
We have a lot more walking to do.
I see that the tunnel splits, but
according to Maptrixter, we need to
go to the right tunnel.

DR. DRAKE

These crystal walls are quite
brilliant. I noticed a crystal on
Papaya's beak, but I wasn't sure
what to make of it. Now, Sophie,
I'd like you to tell us about
Tomas.

Suddenly something flies past them.

SCOTTIE
(Small Screams)
What was that?

DIEGO
Are there bats in here?

SOPHIE
No, I think that was Poncho and
Paco. (BEAT)
Paco, go tell Tomas that we're at
the end of the tunnel and we'll
soon be walking near the lake.

Paco flies around Sophie's head and is gone. Poncho stay back
with the group.

DR. DRAKE
Speaking of Tomas, this is a good
time to tell us about him.

SOPHIE
Okay, I guess I'll start from the
beginning.

SCOTTIE
You sound like you really don't
want to tell us.

SOPHIE
Oh no, I do, it's just that Tomas
isn't a, uh, person. You see, he's
a bird, a toucan to be exact!

DIEGO
(disbelieving voice)
You want us to believe that you met
a talking bird?

SOPHIE
Yes, that's what I want you to
believe. And there are other types
of animals with Tomas. In fact,
Diego, I'm sure you saw some of
them when you were young, but was
teased when you would tell your
family what you saw in the forest.

DIEGO
(surprised voice)
How did you know that?

SOPHIE

Well, I met one of those animals last night. His name is Jinx and he's amazing.

SCOTTIE

(sarcastic voice)

Does he talk too?

SOPHIE

Yes, he talks too.

DIEGO

(convinced voice)

I knew it! My family thought I was seeing things and that I was crazy at times. Will I be able to meet this Jinx animal?

SOPHIE

Oh, yes, Diego. Jinx is looking forward to working with you.

DR. DRAKE

(corrective voice)

You mean working with us.

SOPHIE

There is a lot to explain. But, yes, the creatures want, or should I say, have chosen to work with us because they need our help as much as we need theirs. You see, Tomas has convinced me that we all have a purpose here. That's why Trixter has agreed to cooperate with me because we're all her as a team. This team spirit will help us solve the monarch mystery.

They continue to walk towards the end of the tunnel.

SCOTTIE

I think it's getting lighter in here.

SOPHIE

(excited voice)

Yes, it is getting lighter. We're almost to the end of the tunnel!

SCOTTIE

Finally!

CLOSE-UP OF SOPHIE SMILING

SOPHIE

Dr. Drake and Diego, why don't you
put the torches in those wall
crevices. We won't need them any
more.

Poncho flies ahead of them.

EXT. CRYSTAL CANYON

The trail they are walking on gets washed with sunlight.
There are hundreds of colorful flowers everywhere. There is a
slight breeze in the air as Papaya swoops down and lands on
Dr. Drake's shoulder.

DR. DRAKE

Why, hello, Papaya. You seem to be
right at home here.

Sophie shows them where she walked last night. It was so
bright, all had to squint as they look around them.

DIEGO

(loud whisper)
This is incredible.

All notice the giant waterfall glittering in the sun as they
walk under a massive banyan tree.

DR. DRAKE

Well now I see where you've been
going to, Papaya. To that tree
packed full of Papaya fruit!

O.S. IT IS
BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T
IT? I NEVER SEEM
TO GET TIRED OF
OUR CANYON

The group quickly looks up at one of the branches of the
banyan tree.

SOPHIE

(cautious voice)
Is that you, Tomas?

TOMAS

Yes, my dear.

All notice a large toucan covered in crystals, which are brilliantly sparkling.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Welcome, all of you to the Crystal Canyon. This is a place of beauty and refuge for many creatures and animals of this area.

Diego makes the sign of the cross and mumbles something in Spanish. The girls just stare at the bird, jaws dropped and mouths wide open.

DR. DRAKE

(loud voice)

I'm not sure what kind of place this is. But if you intend to harm any of us, I can defend this group and myself!

DIEGO

(blurts out)

And I will stand beside you!

TOMAS

I promise you that we mean no harm to any of you. This is not a hoax or joke of any kind. We are in great need of your help, Dr. Drake. Please give us a chance.

Dr. Drake still has his guard up and both he and Diego continue to look around them for any danger.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Sophie, I'm so glad that you came back with the rest of your group. We don't have much time to waste, so let's get this meeting started.

Tomas claps his wings together.

O.S. SOUND OF
RUSTLING IN THE
BUSHES

All look toward the sound. One striped paw comes out from the bushes and then another. The large cat comes in full view in all his splendor. He glistens as the crystals cover his entire body.

SOPHIE

(blurts out and teases)
Jinx! You almost got caught this morning.

SCOTTIE

This is amazing! I wasn't seeing a snake this morning, I was seeing Jinx's tail.

JINX

Yes, I know, I am quite unique.

TOMAS

This is Jinx. He will be assisting you as you leave the canyon and continue with your journey. But first, we need to talk about what is happening here in the canyon.

Tomas lifts up a wing as if pointing to the canyon floor.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

As you can see, this is a special place, a refuge for animals and insects. They come here for strength and rest before going on their final destination in Mexico or wherever their destiny may take them. We've noticed a change in the pattern of one such insect, the monarch butterfly. We have plenty of milkweed plants for them, but no butterflies have come to pollinate the plants or lay eggs before their continued migration. We think they are being threatened in some way, which makes us very concerned. This is why we've allowed you to come here and team up with us to find the monarchs.

DR. DRAKE

Have you noticed anything strange in the land surrounding the canyon?

JINX

Yes, I've noticed some human activity on the north trail beyond the lake and out of the canyon.

DIEGO

What kind of activity?

JINX

The hummers and I have seen a group of hikers, with the leader showing them to a cliff area. Then they seem to disappear. The leader wears a hat similar to yours, Dr. Drake.

Dr. Drake strokes his beard with his left hand.

DR. DRAKE

Interesting. How do you think we can help?

JINX

This canyon runs for several miles and is surrounded by some very steep and uneven trails in the outer land. I can show you a quicker route, instead of going back to the trail where your camp sight was located. This route will lead us to the outer land and to the human activity I mentioned. Once we get there, we can decide how we can help each other even more.

DR. DRAKE

A short cut through the canyon does sound like the best way.

SCOTTIE

(announces)

That sounds great to me! How about Sophie and I take a dip into this wonderful lake while you all plan our next move.

SOPHIE

It does look refreshing.

JINX

Dr. Drake and Diego, let's review the map so we can choose the best route while they swim in the lake.

Jinx turn to the girls.

JINX (CONT'D)

I assume you two know how to swim?

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

We sure do!

The girls find bathing suits in their packs, change, and dive in. Through the clear water, the girls see glittering fish swirl around them. Soon they have a splashing contest against each other. Dr. Drake signals for them to dry off and get ready for their hike to the outer lands. All begin to hike with Maptrixter showing the route with a glowing line. Poncho and Paco follow by darting above their heads. Papaya settles onto Dr. Drake's shoulder.

SCOTTIE

Boy, swimming sure makes you hungry. Look at those yummy looking bananas. Maybe if I jump high enough, I'll be able to reach them.

SOPHIE

(sarcastic voice)

Yeah, right, sis.

Scottie takes off pack and begins to jump, mostly to annoy Sophie. Scottie reaches up into the air as she jumps.

SCOTTIE

Wow, I think this is working. I'm getting closer to them!

Sophie continues walking as the others are ahead of them. She turns and can't believe what she sees.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(amazed voice)

I'm jumping higher and higher!

Sophie runs back to where Scottie is jumping from.

SOPHIE

Oh, my gosh, Scottie. You must be jumping 10 feet! No, 15 feet!

All stop who are ahead on the trail and turn to watch what's going on.

SCOTTIE

Whoa! I think I can reach the bananas!

Scottie pulls on the bunch and it comes crashing to the ground. She then jumps lower and lower to slow herself down.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(breathlessly)

I don't think I've ever jumped that high before. It's like I'm on a really bouncy trampoline.

DR. DRAKE
Scottie, are you alright?

SCOTTIE
I'm fine. It doesn't even hurt when
I land on my feet.

DIEGO
(loud voice)
You must have jumped 20 feet high!

SOPHIE
(excited voice)
Scottie, I think you've found your
special talent. I wonder if you
can jump from tree to tree like a
flying squirrel.

SCOTTIE
I don't know, but I'd love to find
out. I know. I'll jump from the
outer limbs of each tree that hangs
over the lake. That way if I fall,
I'll just splash into the water
instead of hitting the ground.

Scottie turns to Dr. Drake.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
Is that okay?

Tomas flies to one of the trees Scottie will jump onto.

TOMAS
Focus on the branch you want to
jump to, Scottie, and you'll be
fine.

SOPHIE
(surprised voice)
Tomas! We thought you stayed back.

TOMAS
I decided to follow along until you
all get to the outer trail that
leads out of the canyon. Jinx and
the hummers will then stay with you
until you return to the canyon.

Scottie focuses on Tomas and practices a few short jumps. She
focuses her eyes, reaches for the sky and jumps as hard as
she can.

Scottie lands on the large branch and reaches for another branch to steady herself.

SOPHIE

(cheer)

All right, you did it! Now jump as Tomas said and concentrate on one branch of the other tree, like you did when you were reaching for the bananas.

Scottie jumps about 15 feet to reach the other tree branch. The branch is thinner than she thought and begins to wobble back and forth.

DIEGO

(yells)

Quick! Reach for another branch before you fall into the lake!

In a nick of time, Scottie reaches for the branch to steady herself. Sophie jumps up and down.

SOPHIE

(cheers)

You did it! You did it!

DIEGO

(amazed voice)

I've never seen anything like that.

DR. DRAKE

Scottie, I think it's time to jump down. We'll rest here and eat some of those great looking bananas you picked before we continue.

Scottie easily jumps down from the branch. Dr. Drake examines her ankles and knees for any sprains or pains.

SCOTTIE

I'm fine, Dr. Drake. My legs feel normal.

DR. DRAKE

Okay, I'll take your word for it.

Dr. Drake turns to Jinx.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

So, Jinx, how much further do we need to hike before we get to the outer trail and out of the canyon?

JINX

We walk toward the waterfall where
the outer trail will be very close.
In fact, the waterfall is how we
get out.

DIEGO

(shouts)

Look!

All look to where he is pointing and notice three yellow
monkeys taking the rest of the bunch of bananas that fell
from the tree.

JINX

Oh, those are our gecko monkeys
that live here in the canyon.
They've been with us all along.
You just didn't notice them because
they change color depending on what
they are next to. They are also
quiet as a mouse and will help us
out of the canyon if we need them
to.

Sophie and Scottie eat their last bite of banana and look at
each other.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

This place is amazing.

All finish eating, put on their packs and begin to hike. They
form a single line behind Jinx towards the waterfall and make
a sharp right onto a very steep and wet trail full of steps.

Jinx observes their difficulty in walking the overgrown and
wet trail.

JINX

There are vines running along side
the steps. Use them to steady and
pull yourselves up the trail.

Each man finds a vine underneath the dead leaves and plants
and pulls it up to his waist. Sophie and Scottie hold onto
each vine behind Dr. Drake and Diego.

Diego looks behind him because he feels something on the
vine. He sees 10 Gecko monkeys holding each vine, helping to
steady them as they walk up the slippery steps.

DR. DRAKE

Well, I'll be. You can barely see them as they've turned the color of the green plants surrounding them.

They all turn to continue to hike.

DIEGO

(whispers)

It seems like we're climbing up steps on an ancient pyramid.

Dr. Drake nods in agreement.

Sophie and Scottie let the vine go a few times to hike up on their hands and feet, helping to steady them even more from tripping.

JINX

We're at the top now. Please follow me in a single file because we won't fit through this narrow opening of this tree any other way.

SCOTTIE

(loud whisper)

Look, Sophie, we are going to walk through this huge tree's trunk!

The tree seems to stretch like it's made of rubber to allow them all to walk through it.

Once through it, they find themselves behind some giant boulders in the sun light.

JINX

All of you wait here, I need to check the area to make sure all is clear. (BEAT)
Okay, we can now walk on the outer trail.

EXT. OUTER TRAIL

The trail leads them into a thick forest. So thick, that you'd rarely see anyone else around you or ahead of you on the trail. All stop to get water and Dr. Drake observes a tree that's in front of him.

DR. DRAKE

Scottie, I have a task that I'd like you to do. Do you think you're up for it?

SCOTTIE
Sure, Dr. Drake, what is it.

DR. DRAKE
See that one limb on that pine tree
that's sticking out more than the
others?

SCOTTIE
Yep, I see it. Do you want me to
jump up there?

DR. DRAKE
It looks about 30 feet high. Do you
think you can do it?

Scottie points to the branch.

SCOTTIE
That branch up there will be no
problem!

DR. DRAKE
Great, then put this telephoto
camera and the attached cord around
your neck. The camera will allow
you to take exceptionally clear
close-up photos of anything that
might look, um, unusual.

All stop to take off their pack and to watch Scottie.

SCOTTIE
Okay, here I go!

Scottie squats down really low and begins to swing her arms
forward.

O.S. SWOOSHING
SOUND AS SHE
JUMPS

SOPHIE
(yells)
Wow, sis, that took about 1 second
for you to jump up there. You're
really getting the hang of it!

Poncho and Paco fly up to be next to Scottie.

DIEGO
(loud voice)
What do you see?

SCOTTIE

(shouts)

Let me steady myself and I'll start looking around to take pictures.

(BEAT)

I see lots of trees and mountains in the distance. Oh wait, I've spotted a clearing of some kind near a dark gray cloud that looks like smoke.

Diego looks at the others.

DIEGO

Do any of you smell smoke?

All shake their head no.

SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

I'm taking some pictures of hikers in the clearing. One man has a hat like yours, Dr. Drake, with a long gray ponytail and dark sunglasses.

Scottie looks down to the group.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

I'm getting some great shots. I'll just get a few more. (BEAT)
That's weird, they've disappeared!

Sophie looks at Dr. Drake.

SOPHIE

Dr. Drake, I've never seen anything like that camera before. Are Scottie and I in the future?

DR. DRAKE

Yes, Sophie, we are in the future.

SOPHIE

Then why aren't we older?

DR. DRAKE

That is a feature of the frame that is so amazing. The humans the frame allows to go through it aren't altered in any way.

SOPHIE

(murmurs)

I see.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(loud voice)

Oh, my gosh, that's why we didn't know that you and Auntie Jill are married because it hasn't happened yet in our time!

DR. DRAKE

(chuckles)

Exactly!

SCOTTIE

(yells)

Look out below, I'm jumping down now. (BEAT)

I was able to get some close-up pictures of the hikers. Here, Dr. Drake.

Scottie takes the camera from around her neck and gives it to Dr. Drake. He looks at the stored pictures in the camera.

DR. DRAKE

Well, that's interesting.

DIEGO

What is it?

DR. DRAKE

This looks like a colleague of mine that I did some research with a long time ago. He was in charge of a huge project done in the Amazon jungle. We were trying to crack the code of how insects communicate with each other.

Dr. Drake looks longer at the picture and scowls

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Just as I suspected. It is the professor.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Who?

DR. DRAKE

(matter of fact voice)

It's Professor Zooger.

SCOTTIE

(giggles)

You mean as in booger?

Sophie notices Dr. Drake's serious tone and elbows Scottie in the side.

DIEGO

What were you saying about a code?

DR. DRAKE

We've all listened to the radio. There are different radio stations that use different radio waves. I listen to AM stations, where AM stands for amplitude modulation.

SCOTTIE

Sophie and I like to listen to our favorite music on an FM station. What does FM stand for?

DR. DRAKE

It means frequency modulation. The radio waves have various band widths and are all around us.

SCOTTIE

(concerned voice)

You mean we breathe radio?

DR. DRAKE

Not exactly. We just breathe air. Professor Zooger and I believed that insects not only use their antennae to direct their migration patterns but also might have their own airwave frequency, which could be controlled in some way to help them find various plants easier. We began to call this code, or frequency, insect modulation.

SOPHIE

Or IM.

DR. DRAKE

Yes, and we were getting very close to proving this theory when suddenly the money funded by Brazil's government and the university that sponsored the project came to an abrupt halt. At least, that is what Professor Zooger told me.

DIEGO

That's terrible. What did you do?

DR. DRAKE

At first I protested, but the professor was in charge of this project so I had to agree. I always thought that it was strange how Professor Zooger seemed okay with the cancellation. Just imagine if humans were to understand this insect communication code. We'd be able to see how to work with the insects for farming and other possibilities.

SCOTTIE

You could team up with the insects to help grow plants around the world where people are hungry.

DR. DRAKE

That's right. I've always thought that Professor Zooger wanted the IM code for himself so he could see what the insects could do for him specifically. In fact, now that I've seen this picture, I wouldn't be surprised if he has something to do with the monarchs vanishing.

SOPHIE

Can I see the picture of him?

Dr. Drake shows her and Diego the picture.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(gasps)

Oh, my! This is the man that I ran into at the hotel. Remember when our door was unlocked?

DR. DRAKE

Yes, I remember. I thought the maid had forgotten to lock it.

SCOTTIE

And, I bet that Professor Booger, I mean Zooger, was looking for your room but had to leave quickly when we were coming up the stairs to our room.

DR. DRAKE

I think you're onto something.
There's also something strange
about this photo. Look at where
Professor Zooger and his group are
standing in the clearing. Just
beyond it, there is a cloud of dark
smoke or another material in the
air.

SCOTTIE

But we don't smell smoke.

DR. DRAKE

Hmm, we'd better keep hiking toward
that meadow to see what the
professor is up to.

They all agree and put on their packs to hike towards the
clearing where Professor Zooger was spotted.

JINX

I'm going to go ahead with the
hummers. I can run to that area in
half the time it will take for all
of you to get there. I'll also be
able to scout out the area for any
danger or traps.

DIEGO

Great idea. I'm going to run ahead
too. Jinx can then show me where
Professor Zooger and his men were
last seen. I know I can't run as
fast as Jinx, but I was a sprinter
in school, so I'll make good time.

Diego gives his backpack and supplies to Dr. Drake and the
girls.

DR. DRAKE

Now Diego, don't take any undue
risks and we'll see you soon.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Good luck, Diego.

SCOTTIE

Based on my experience on the
ranch, I'd say that meadow was
about three miles from here.

DR. DRAKE

You're probably right. Therefore we'll need to pace our selves so we don't get too tired. Let's have some water now, but be sure and save some for when we get to the clearing. Papaya, I have too much to carry. You're going to have to fly along the trail as we walk on it.

Papaya flies onto a tree limb and Jinx runs on the trail and picks up the scent of Professor Zooger and his men. He breaks off twigs onto the trail for Diego and the others to stay on the right one. The hummingbirds fly over Jinx to the clearing.

JINX

Well Poncho and Paco, it looks like this is the area, I can still smell those humans. I don't see them anywhere. Go fly around and tell me if you see them.

O.S. RUSTLING
SOUND IN THE
BUSHES

Jinx quickly turns around, hair standing on end.

JINX (CONT'D)

Why, Diego, I am impressed! You are a fast runner.

Diego gives Jinx a nod as he bends over to put his hands on his knees to catch his breath.

Diego stands up and looks around the clearing and notices a trail leading to a wooded area.

DIEGO

(shouts)

Hey, Jinx, I think I've found why the men seemed to disappear. Look next to this ravine on those trees. I guess this is the fastest way to cross the ravine.

Jinx runs over toward Diego.

JINX

What way would that be?

There in the trees almost hidden from view is a zip line.

DIEGO

A zip line!

Dr. Drake and the girls walk up to Diego and Jinx.

SOPHIE

We could hear you shouting for
Jinx. What's a zip line?

Dr. Drake points to the zip line with the harness attached to a pulley system which allows a person to zip along the cable at a high speed to the other end of the cable.

DR. DRAKE

As you can see, the rider stops the harness by pulling this lever, which make the wheels slowly stop the harness on the cable. Professor Zooger was very clever to put this zip line here. It looks like it goes down to the ravine floor.

DIEGO

(announces)
I'll go first.

DR. DRAKE

Okay, Diego, but first we'll put a pack in the harness to see if it can carry the load of the backpack. If it stays intact, then get ready to zip!

JINX

Well, I'm not waiting for that; see you at the other end.

Jinx leaves the group and runs along a trail that follows the cable. The hummingbirds stay behind to fly next to Diego as he uses the zip line. The rest begin to put rocks in a backpack.

DIEGO

These rocks will weigh down my pack quite a bit to ensure that the pulley system can carry my weight and not snap off the cable.

SCOTTIE

How will you know when the pack has reached the end?

DIEGO

I'm going to keep my hand on the cable. When it no longer vibrates, I'll know that the pulley system and harness are no longer sliding.

SCOTTIE

Oh.

DIEGO

I've noticed that the cable loops around to those pulleys attached to those trees. It must be the same way on the other end. Now if my thinking is correct.(BEAT)
Just as I thought. Look, the entire cable is moving because that clamp over there next to the cable is released. So, I will clamp it down and now the cable won't move.

SOPHIE

Why does the cable need to do that?

DIEGO

It must be to bring the harness back to load it again without needing to zip to the end and then hike back here to load their supplies.

DR. DRAKE

I knew I picked the right guide to accompany us on the journey. Good job, Diego!

DIEGO

Okay everyone, the pack is ready to go into the harness. It's all secure, so here it goes.

Diego pushes the harness with the pack in it to give it momentum on the cable.

O.S. LOUD
SLIDING SOUND

SCOTTIE

(excited voice)

It worked, Diego! The pack is out of site!

DIEGO

Okay everyone. Feel the cable. Do you feel the vibration on it?

SOPHIE

We sure do!

DIEGO

A few minutes have passed, I think the harness stopped.

All feel the cable and agree that it was still. Diego releases the clamp and all begin to pull the cable towards them.

SOPHIE

(shouts)

Look! I can see the harness with the pack still in it.

SCOTTIE

(cheers)

Way to go, Diego.

DIEGO

Let's hurry so I can get started.

Diego pulls the pack out of the harness, takes out the rocks, and puts his pack on. Just before he gets into the harness, the girls run up to hug him and Dr. Drake shakes his hand.

DR. DRAKE

Good luck, Diego.

Dr. Drake steps back to give Diego running room from the side of the ravine. Papaya flies down to land on Dr. Drake's shoulder.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Hello, Papaya, I want you to fly next to the girls as they zip line.

Papaya squawks as if to agree. The hummingbirds start to dart around Diego's head, ready to fly next to him.

DIEGO

I'll send the hummers back to you when I reach the end. Poncho and Paco will also be a sign that I'm okay.

Diego crosses himself.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 (shouts)
 Uno, dos, tres!

Diego quickly speeds along the cable. He holds tightly with both hands on the section that holds the pulleys to the harness. Diego quickly turns to avoid a tree branch sticking out near the cable. He begins to spin like a top.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 (loud voice)
 Whoa! That sure was close, Poncho!
 It looks like a grove of coconut trees and beyond is that weird dark cloud. We'll have to check that out.

Diego notices the pulley system slows down, but he didn't pull on the lever. He notices the cable is thicker at the end.

EXT. END OF ZIP LINE TRAIL

Diego looks around and gets off on a ledge that jets out from the ravine wall.

DIEGO
 Well Paco, I must be 20 feet above the ravine floor. Hmm, now what?

Diego gets out of his harness and looks around. Before he begins to push the cable toward where the others are still waiting, he takes a note pad and paper from the pack and writes them a note. Diego notices the cable is being pulled towards the others on their end.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 Oh good, Poncho, they are pulling the cable. Ah, ha! There IS a rope ladder to get down from this ledge. Now you two, go fly back to the others so they know to zip back.

Diego climbs down the ladder and begins to walk toward the black cloud. Not following orders, Paco stays back with Diego.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 Hey, Paco, you were supposed to fly back with Poncho. But you know, I'm glad you stayed with me. This place gives me the creeps.
 (MORE)

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Everything is so overgrown and,
(BEAT)
That's not smoke, those are
dragonflies. There must be
thousands of them all flying in the
same area. This place isn't only
creepy, its loco!

Diego continues to walk on the trail from the rope ladder and feels as if something is watching him.

O.S. DEEP AND
LOW GROWLING
SOUND

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Paco, do you hear what I hear?

Diego takes one more step and see's the biggest wolf-like dog he'd ever seen blocking the trail, growling and showing its enormous fangs with drool dripping from its lower jaw.

Diego turns and sprints as fast as he can towards the rope ladder.

O.S. BARKING AND
GROWLING LOUDER

From the corner of his eye, Diego sees a large object seeming to fly past him and attack the dog behind him. He stops and turns.

Tis's Jinx attacking the dog! His fur is standing on end and looks twice his size. The crystal fur is almost blinding with sparkles when the sun hits it.

Jinx and dog roll over and over, stopping with Jinx on top of the dog. Jinx' fangs are just about to bite down on the dogs neck.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

(gasps)

Jinx hesitates and looks at Diego. The dog uses its powerful legs to push Jinx off of him and runs away.

O.S. DOG YELPING
SOUND

Jinx stands up and shakes his entire massive body and walks towards Diego.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
(shaky voice)
W-wow Jinx, w-what took you so long
to get here?

Jinx rolls his eyes.

JINX
We'd better see if the others have
arrived before we explore any
further.

Diego nods and follows Jinx without another word.

EXT. ZIP LINE

Scottie puts her hand on the cable to feel the vibration.

SCOTTIE
(loud voice)
I think Diego is at the other end
now. I don't feel any vibration on
the cable.

They notice the cable is moving and begin to pull it toward
them.

DR. DRAKE
We need to wait until the hummers
fly back before we get in the
harness to zip to the other end.

Poncho arrives and buzzes around their heads.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)
You two need to decide who will go
next. Papaya will follow you and I
will zip last after she flies back
to let me now you two are safely on
the other side.

Sophie notices the note on the harness as it gets closer and
takes it to read to the others.

SOPHIE
Hey, look, Diego left us a message.
He says to watch out for a branch
that's close to the cable so we
don't hit it.

SCOTTIE

Good advice. I'm sure that would really hurt if we hit anything while we are zip lining.

SOPHIE

Scottie, is it okay if I go first?

SCOTTIE

(surprised voice)

Okay, Sophie, are you sure about this?

SOPHIE

Yes, I'm sure.

SCOTTIE

Then be really careful.

SOPHIE

I will, Scottie. Okay, Dr. Drake, help me put in the harness and I'll be at the other side of the ravine in no time.

SCOTTIE

Here's your pack. You should probably put it on your lap, that way you won't squish Mapatrixter.

SOPHIE

Good idea, Scottie. I'm ready, Dr. Drake, and I think Papaya is too.

All looked at Papaya as she kept flying to a limb of a tree and then back to Dr. Drake's shoulder. Dr. Drake pushes the clamp to make sure the cable doesn't move and pulls Sophie back along the cables with her in the harness.

DR. DRAKE

Okay, Sophie, here you go!

Dr. Drake runs behind Sophie and pushes her on the zip line. Soon she is out of site and so is Papaya and Poncho.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

(shouts)

Be sure to send Papaya back when you reach the other side.

Sophie keeps her legs in front of her as she zips along, being careful not to hit the tree branch Diego talked about.

She sees Papaya.

SOPHIE
 (loud voice)
 Now I know how you feel when your
 flying, Papaya. This is a great
 way to get around!

Sophie looks around as she is zipping along and notices the dark cloud.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 Ooh, yuck, Papaya, I think that
 black cloud is a bunch of bugs!

Sophie notices the bugs are dragonflies and they are everywhere. She zips to the ledge and looks for Diego and steps out of her harness.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 Okay, Papaya, fly back to Scottie
 and Dr. Drake to let them know it's
 Scottie's turn to zip.

Papaya flies down onto Sophie's shoulder and cocks her head in a way that lets Sophie know she understands and flies away. Poncho stay with Sophie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 Now I wonder where Diego went? Oh,
 look, Poncho, a rope ladder. I'd
 better stay here, all of those bugs
 flying around has creeped me out.

Sophie begins pushing the cable towards Scottie and Dr. Drake to get the harness back to them.

EXT. END OF ZIP LINE TRAIL

Diego and Jinx walk up to the zip line and see that Sophie and Scottie are on the ledge and Dr. Drake is just zipping towards it.

DIEGO
 That was good timing.

Jinx looks at Diego, but doesn't say anything.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
 (shouts)
 Hello everyone, I hope you had a
 nice trip! There's a rope ladder
 over there to get you down from the
 ledge.

All climb down on the rope ladder.

DR. DRAKE

Diego, we thought we'd heard a dog yelping. Is everything all right?

DIEGO

It is now. Jinx and I have looked around a bit and we should walk on this trail. It's a little close to all of the dragonflies, but they didn't try to attack us.

SCOTTIE

(disgusted tone)

Dr. Drake, why are there so many of them flying around here?

DR. DRAKE

They must be attracted to something that's in this area. Dragonflies will eat other insects. In fact, they attack their unsuspecting prey from below.

All look at each other.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

(loud voice)

Butterflies!

The group walks along the trail.

Trail ends into what seems to be a wall of vines. All stop to pull the vines aside to look through them

SOPHIE

Wait! I see something moving. I need to wait for my eyes to change. Here we go, I see two giant wrought iron doors that have bars in them and a sheet of fine metal mesh attached to the bars. (BEAT)
It looks like this is a huge cave and it's full of something on the other side of these doors. Let me focus a little more.

DIEGO

How can Sophie see anything? It's so dark.

SOPHIE
 (excited voice)
 We found them, we found them!

SCOTTIE
 Sophie has an unusual ability to see in the dark. Kind of like my new ability to jump so far, except she can see in the dark as if it is daylight.

DIEGO
 You two sure are full of surprises.

SCOTTIE
 Okay, sis, what did we find?

SOPHIE
 (still excited voice)
 We found the monarchs! They are in the cave and it looks like there are millions of them!

All notice a monarch float out from the vines and watched it as it was attacked by a dragonfly.

O.S. LOUD
 CLICKING SOUND

Jinx gets spooked and instantly runs away as a large net made out of rope hurls down upon them. The girls almost scream, but Diego holds them to keep them calm as they crouch down on their knees. Several men dressed in black hold the net down. A smaller gate opens within one side or the huge iron doors and opens.

PROFESSOR ZOOPER
 Well, well, if it isn't Dr. Drake. So we meet again. I thought I'd gotten you off my trail long ago back in Brazil.

DR. DRAKE
 Professor Zooger, I should have known you were the cause of the missing monarchs! These insects can't hurt a thing. Why on earth are you keeping them?

PROFESSOR ZOOPER
 Oh, no, Dr. Drake, this is only temporary. I'm not keeping them for myself.
 (MORE)

PROFESSOR ZOOGER (CONT'D)

In fact, I'm in negotiations with, let's say, the highest bidding customer. You see, I've discovered that farmers really love these monarchs, almost as much as they love bees. But, we all know that bees can't pollinate the world's crops alone, now can they?

Professor Zooger looks at the men holding down the net.

PROFESSOR ZOOGER (CONT'D)

(yells)

Guards! Take Dr. Drake and his, uh, guests through the gate and put them into the pit so I can decide what to do with them later.

The guards allow the captured group to stand with the net still on them.

SCOTTIE

(whispers)

Diego, did you see where Jinx and Papaya went?

All of them look around and Sophie notices Jinx's striped tail behind a tree. Dr. Drake notices where her eyes are looking and nods. The net is lifted off of them and they are allowed to go into the cave through the smaller door and then through about 50 chains hanging just inside the doorway.

INT. INSIDE CAVE

Sophie's eyes adjust faster than the others.

SOPHIE

(whispers)

This cave is huge! It must be 5 stories high and 2 houses wide!

SCOTTIE

(whispers also)

Do you still see the butterflies?

SOPHIE

(gasps)

Yes, there are millions of them! They're resting on chains and what looks like trays and trays of fruit and nectar.

DR. DRAKE

This cave must go on for miles.

A man steps out of the shadows and onto a platform 10 feet above the group.

PROFESSOR ZOOGER

Why, yes it does. This magnificent cave is compliments of an ancient civilization that lived here hundreds of years ago. I've completely explored this cave and its many passage ways and realized that this would be the perfect place to hold my beautiful butterflies. I can barely believe how brilliant I am!

DR. DRAKE

(loud voice)

So you figured out the IM code of the monarchs.

PROFESSOR ZOOGER

Oh, yes, and with the code, I've been able to control the butterflies' migration pattern. You remember Satellite 3-5-9 and its signal path? Well, I was able to combine that coordinate with the IM code and, voila, I noticed that I could control the flight pattern of the monarch butterfly. With this knowledge, I didn't need you anymore snooping around in the Amazon research camp.

DR. DRAKE

I knew you had something to do with the shut down of the project.

DIEGO

What are the dragonflies for?

PROFESSOR ZOOGER

Oh, aren't they amazing? They are my insect guards. I release a few butterflies every now and then to keep them interested in what's in the cave. Yes, I'm amazingly clever. (BEAT)
I can tell you all have been clever yourself.

(MORE)

PROFESSOR ZOOGER (CONT'D)

I'm not sure what scared Macro away, but I'll make sure my guards are doubled at the front of the iron doors in case there are any more surprises.

The professor points to an area of the cave.

PROFESSOR ZOOGER (CONT'D)

As you can see, there is a large pit near where you all are standing. The ancient people used this pit for various sacrifices to their gods. Of course, I won't be doing that to you, at the moment anyway. So please use the rope ladder to lower yourselves into the pit.

Diego begins to resist

PROFESSOR ZOOGER (CONT'D)

(shouts)

I wouldn't do anything stupid if I were you. It would be a shame for any of you to fall 15 feet into the pit and possibly break your neck.

The guards take Dr. Drake's and Diego's backpacks. They all climb down the ladder. The pit is lit by a few torches and is bare except for a large log to sit on.

DIEGO

I put some snacks in your pack, Sophie. We might as well eat something while we figure out what to do next.

DR. DRAKE

Good idea, eventually Zooger's guards will quit giving us so much attention and then we can devise a plan on how to get out of this pit.

SOPHIE

(assured voice)

I know we'll get out of here because Jinx and Papaya will bring help.

All nod and begin to nibble on their food.

EXT. CRYSTAL CANYON

Jinx sprints into the crystal canyon with the hummingbirds and Papaya flying above him.

TOMAS
(urgent voice)
Jinx, get a drink of water and tell
me what happened and where the
children are.

Tomas and Jinx pace back and forth on the trail after Jinx tells him what happened. Tomas would begin to suggest an idea to Jinx and then stops. Jinx does the same to Tomas.

Jinx notices a banana left behind by the gecko monkeys. He quickly picks it up with his mouth and runs over to Tomas.

TOMAS (CONT'D)
Oh, no thank you, Jinx, I'm not.
(BEAT)
(excited voice)
Why didn't I think of that? Why
yes, that's perfect. Hurry, Jinx,
take Papaya and go!

Jinx sprints away from the trail and heads for the jungle area of the canyon. The hummingbirds stay with Tomas.

JINX
Hmm, which way, which way! I know,
Papaya, go find the clearing and
let me know which way to go after I
cross this bridge.

O.S. LOUD SQWUAK

Papaya flies back, circles Jinx and flies in the direction Jinx should run to.

EXT. JUNGLE CLEARING WITH A HUGE BANYAN TREE

Jinx searches the area and notices a stick that seems to float below two black eyes and into a mouth full of big square teeth.

JINX
Good job, Papaya, Chewy always is
the one who can find something to
chew on and eat. I guess he
deserves to be the leader of the
gecko monkeys.

Chewy sits lazily in the crook of a giant tree chewing on a twig, similar to how humans chew on a toothpick. Because of his ability to change colors and patterns, his fur looks like the bark of the tree.

CHEWY

(speaks very fast)

WhyJinx,whatbringsyouheretomyhome?

JINX

And, hello to you too, Chewy. Would you please talk slower so I can understand you?

CHEWY

Oh,Iamsorry (BEAT)

(clears his throat)

I said, what brings you here to my home?

JINX

I thought that's what you said. I just can't get used to your speed-talk language. I'm here to ask you and your clan for help. Do you remember the humans who were here earlier today?

CHEWY

Of course, they had a hard time climbing out of the canyon, so we helped them. In fact, we've been near them the entire time they arrived in the crystal canyon, but once again, they didn't notice us. I sure enjoyed the bananas that the one human, uh, Scottie was able to pick and leave behind on the trail.

JINX

Yes, well, after your clan helped them out of the canyon, my journey with them took us to an enormous cave. Within the cave, to our amazement, was the entire colony of the beautiful monarch butterflies.

Chewy sits up and leans forward

CHEWY

(concerned voice)

Why are they in this cave?

JINX

They are in the cave because the butterflies have been captured and I'm not sure why. What I am sure of is that the humans you helped have also been captured and are now in extreme danger.

Chewy stands up and throws away his twig.

CHEWY

(loud voice)

Then something must be done!

JINX

(louder voice)

You're right, something must be done, and Tomas and I agree that the gecko monkeys are our only hope to save the monarchs and humans. The children were meant to guide Dr. Drake and Diego to this canyon and they were meant to help the monarchs. Now we are meant to help them!

CHEWY

Yes, my clan and I have watched Diego grow from a small boy to a young man. He is a good man, so we will help you.

JINX

(shouts)

Excellent! I'll tell you about the cave when you come down from the tree so we can head out of the canyon toward the ravine.

Chewy signals for the other gecko monkey to circle around him and Jinx. They begin to speed-talk and dance around, knowing they will be leaving the canyon.

Chewy quiets them down.

JINX (CONT'D)

There are many guards, human guards, outside the cave entrance. Half of your clan should distract them in some way to scare them away. I've noticed huge trees are all around the cave.

(MORE)

JINX (CONT'D)

The other half of you monkey clan should climb up those trees and find another way into the cave from above.

CHEWY

That plan is good, we will go now.

JINX

(shouts)

One more thing. As we get close to the cave, there will be a humming noise and you will see what looks like smoke.

A GECKO MONKEY

(shouts)

Smoke!

JINX

(loud voice)

Don't worry, it's not fire, but a huge swarm of dragonflies.

CHEWY

(excited voice)

Did you say dragonflies?

JINX

Yes, they are waiting to attack the monarchs that may escape the cave

The gecko clan begins to dance around excitedly.

CHEWY

Dragonflies are a delicacy to gecko monkeys. (BEAT)

(loud voice)

Lead the way, Jinx. We're ready to go!

All of the monkeys jump up into the trees and start to swing from tree to tree, following Jinx as he runs back into the jungle towards the outer trail of the canyon.

JINX

(orders)

Come on, Papaya, we have our friends to save and you hummers can come too!

O.S. LOUD SQUAWK
SOUND

Poncho and Paco almost salute and speed ahead of Papaya while following the Gecko clan.

INT. INSIDE CAVE

The guards light a few torches inside the dark and damp cave to so all can see.

SOPHIE

Hey, look.

The group turns to see that she is pointing to a faint light coming from her backpack.

DR. DRAKE

We'll stand around you while you check it out.

SOPHIE

It's Maptrixter; it's glowing.

Sophie unrolls the map and begins to study it. They are shocked to find that the map is now of the cave and its complete inner pathways.

DIEGO

(amazed voice)

It's showing us different escape routes in the cave. Look, there is the ledge that Professor Zooger stood on. You can see how the professor gets to the ledge from that inner stepped trail. And then look; the ledge has steps up to the cave's ceiling.

The map also shows steps from the ledge leading to the cave floor. Diego takes a note of this, just in case he gets a chance to run up and tackle Professor Zooger when they all get out of the pit.

SCOTTIE

And where is this upper opening?

Everyone in the pit looked up towards the cave ceiling, but it was getting too dark to see much of anything.

SOPHIE

I see it! It's up there, just before one of those chains hanging down.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

There's hardly any light, but my eyes are kicking in and I can see a small iron barred door with the steel mesh over it so the butterflies can't escape. There is a handle on the frame of the mini door, so someone can lift the door from outside. Yep, I can see it clear as day.

SCOTTIE

If I could jump out of here, I'd lower the rope ladder and get us out of this darned pit.

SOPHIE

Or, you could get us into a lot more trouble.

SCOTTIE

Be a lookout for me, I wan to see how high I can jump.

Just as she was about to jump, Diego rushes over to put his hand on her shoulder.

DIEGO

Be still. Here comes a guard. I can see the light from his flashlight coming toward the pit.

The guard floods the light into the pit, looks at them and laughs, mumbling a few words at another guard and walks away.

SCOTTIE

Sophie, I noticed something poking through your pack when the guard shined the light on it.

Scottie brings her pack onto the log to feel it.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

How weird, it feels like a box. I know that Diego was just in it to get some snacks, but take a look.

SOPHIE

Okay, Scottie, but look, I can see something bulging out of your pack too.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

(loud whisper)

Dr. Drake, Diego!

SOPHIE

Come over here, quick. I think our packs are growing something!

Scottie opens her pack and looks inside

SCOTTIE

Oh, wow, its my beaded rain box.

DIEGO

It's beautiful!

SOPHIE

It's also growing! I'm going to open my pack. (BEAT)
It's my rain box, and its growing too!

Both girls take the lid of their boxes, but no sounds come out. So, they put the lids back on.

DIEGO

Wait! When you opened the boxes, something began to happen. I'm not sure what, but I think it's affected the butterflies.

DR. DRAKE

Can you see anything, Sophie? In fact, open your boxes again girls and let me know, Sophie, if you can see anything unusual with the insects.

Sophie looks towards the butterflies on the chains and at their nectar stations. Scottie begins to jump.

SCOTTIE

There must be something strange in this dirt. I can only jump about 5 feet high.

SOPHIE

(excited voice)

Dr. Drake, the boxes are doing something to the butterflies. They're leaving their chains and feeders and are flying all over the cave!

Dr. Drake strokes his beard.

DR. DRAKE

Hmm, I wonder if the rain boxes are emitting some type of sound or signal, like a dog whistle that we can't hear but affects the butterflies.

DIEGO

You'd better close the boxes before Professor Zooger and his thugs get suspicious.

The sisters close them and put the boxes back into their packs. Sophie continues to look at the butterflies returning to the chains and spots something on the mini door on the ceiling.

Sophie taps Dr. Drake on the shoulder.

SOPHIE

(whispers)

I think there is something on the steel mesh of the mini door.

DR. DRAKE

Like what?

SOPHIE

(gasps)

Oh, my! I can see long skinny fingers reaching through the squares of the mesh parts on the mini door. There must be 40 fingers that are gripping the mesh. (BEAT) The fingers are pulling the door up from the ceiling. It's open!

Sophie nudges Scottie with her elbow and points upward. Diego looks up to.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

(excited whisper)

It's the gecko monkeys! I can see them climbing down one the chains that the butterflies didn't fly back to.

The others can now see the monkeys in the dim light and also hear guards yelling outside the cave.

O.S. LOUD
YELLING, CAN'T
TELL WHAT IS
BEING SAID

EXT. JUST INSIDE THE CAVE DOORS

A Sergeant stand at the cave doors and looks out through them to yell at his guards.

SERGEANT
(loud voice)
What's going on out there?

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CAVE DOORS

OUTER GUARD
(shouts)
I don't know, Sergeant! It looks like we're being attacked by coconuts! Ouch! We can't tell where they're coming from. It's, it's as if they're floating in the air and then hurling towards us

OUTER GUARD II
(yells)
Incoming! It's the ancient tribe's ghosts who used to live here. I told you, Serge, that this place is haunted.

OUTER GUARD
(shouts)
I'm out of here!

OUTER GUARD II
(yells)
Me too, before I get hit in the head and get myself killed!

SERGEANT
(shouts)
Hey! Get back here.

The sergeant unlocks the smaller gate of the huge iron doors and walks out.

O.S. EAR-
DEAFENING ROAR

INT. INSIDE CAVE

DIEGO
(announces)
That must be Jinx and more gecko monkeys!

Rope ladder drops into the pit.

CHEWY
(commanding voice)
You all must escape now!

SOPHIE
(shouts)
Quick, sis, get your pack!

All climb up the ladder and out of the pit

CHEWY
This way, this way!

Chewy shows them the smaller gate within the iron doors to walk through.

SCOTTIE
Wait! We can't leave the
butterflies behind. They need to
escape too!

Scottie looks around at the huge iron doors.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
Dr. Drake, where is your rope?

DR. DRAKE
It's in my backpack over there.

Dr. Drake runs over to his pack and pulls out his rope and gives it to Scottie.

DIEGO
(shouts)
Dr. Drake, you go with Scottie and
Sophie while I go with the monkeys
to check out what is going on
outside these doors.

DR. DRAKE
Good idea, Diego.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CAVE DOORS

Diego walks through smaller gate within the iron doors and sees Jinx and the hummers next to the sergeant.

DIEGO
He's out cold, great shot with the
coconuts.

JINX

Yes, the timing was perfect. After I let out my roar, this guard froze in his boots, making him a perfect target for the clan (BEAT)
Where are the others? Are they all right?

DIEGO

Yes, thanks to you, Papaya, and the gecko monkeys, they should be out as soon as these massive doors are opened. We'd better stand watch in case the other guards come back.

JINX

What about the professor?

DIEGO

I haven't seen him. We'd better look very carefully for any movement out in the trees that isn't a monkey.

PAPAYA

Good idea, good idea!

Jinx and Diego look up at the branch in surprise.

INT. INSIDE CAVE

Scottie is studying the doors opening mechanism and points above the doors.

SCOTTIE

See that lever way up there, about 3 feet above the doors. I've noticed there is a chain that goes from the lever to some gears on the left side of the door hinges. I've also noticed that the bars on these gates are too smooth for the monkeys to climb up and reach the lever to pull it down. I think the lever has something to do with opening these massive doors.

SOPHIE

Do you think you can jump up and pull down the lever?

SCOTTIE

I already tried to jump on this dirt. There's something in it that won't allow me to jump very high. But I was thinking if I use the rope to lasso the lever, then we can all pull on the rope to make the lever point down. I think this will make the chain and gears move, opening these doors.

SOPHIE

(excited voice)
Great idea, sis!

DR. DRAKE

Really concentrate, and still jump as high as the ground allows.

Scottie does what Dr. Drake suggests and lassoes the lever.

SOPHIE AND DR. DRAKE

(cheers)
Great job!

Scottie steps back to tighten the rope around the lever.

SCOTTIE

Okay everyone, hold onto the rope and pull.

The lever moves slowly downward as Sophie, Dr. Drake, and some of the monkeys pull on the rope.

DR. DRAKE

(shouts)
Stop! The rope is beginning to fray and all of our pulling might snap the rope.

CHEWY

We will climb up the rope and push down on the lever.

Diego walks through the smaller gate and starts to help Dr. Drake hold the rope tightly.

DR. DRAKE

Girls, while Diego and I hold the rope, get those rain boxes out of your backpacks and open them up.
(MORE)

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Some how, the box sounds are breaking up the IM code waves and are messing up how Professor Zooger controls the monarch's migration signals.

As the sisters pull out the boxes, they can see them growing larger before their eyes.

The moon light is now beaming through the iron doors and lights up the cave opening.

O.S. CHANTING
AND DRUMBEAT
SOUND

SOPHIE

I can hear the chanting and the drumbeats coming from the boxes.

SCOTTIE

(excited voice)

Me too. It's getting louder and louder. Look, the butterflies are releasing from the chains and are circling like a tornado.

SOPHIE

(loud voice)

And look, the chains are beginning to swing back and forth, hitting each other. (BEAT)
This is awesome, it sounds like rain!

O.S. LOUD THUMP
SOUND

The monkeys are able to pull the lever down and the massive iron doors begin to slowly open.

O.S. CREAKING
AND SCREECHING
SOUND

Gears are going round and round.

O.S. LOUD WIND
SOUND

DIEGO

(shouts)

They are opening just in time!
(MORE)

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Look, the butterflies are pouring
out of the cave through the door
opening.

Millions of butterflies fly past them and out of the cave and
into the moonlight and freedom.

In celebration, the gecko monkeys could be seen when lit by
the moon gorging on dragonflies to keep them from attacking
the butterflies.

PROFESSOR ZOOPER

(yells)

No, no, no! Not my beauties!

The professor is standing on the ledge inside the cave with
one hand holding a butterfly net and the other carrying a
large black book.

Chewy sneaks up to Professor Zooper and snatches the black
book from him and runs back to the cave opening.

PROFESSOR ZOOPER (CONT'D)

(shouts)

Oh no, not the IM code formula.
I'm ruined!

The professor drops the net and runs up the stairs towards
the smaller ceiling door. Diego runs after him, but it's too
late, he escapes.

SCOTTIE

(shouts)

The rain boxes are really loud now!
This is incredible, I think all the
monarchs have escaped!

Suddenly Jinx runs into the cave and almost tackles the
sisters.

SOPHIE

(also shouts)

Oh, Jinx, you did it, you rescued
us!

JINX

I also had help from Papaya.

Papaya swoops down onto Dr. Drake's shoulder. The chanting
from the boxes have now stopped.

DR. DRAKE

Great job Jinx and Papaya!

JINX

Dr. Drake, I want you to meet Chewy, the leader of the gecko clan. Without them, I would've had a hard time rescuing all of you.

DR. DRAKE

Very nice meeting you, Chewy. We thank you and your clan for taking this risk to save us from the wicked Professor Zooger.

CHEWY

It's our pleasure. I believe this book belongs to you.

Chewy gives the IM code book to Dr. Drake who quickly accepts it. Jinx looks round to make sure everyone is safe.

JINX

We must hurry. Chewy and his clan want to get back to the canyon before daylight. The monkeys will be our guide. The moonlight will help us to see them.

SOPHIE

Look at the butterflies, they seem to glisten in the moonlight.

SCOTTIE

They sure are beautiful.

DIEGO

Dr. Drake, what are you going to do with this guard? He's still out cold.

DR. DRAKE

Help me get any weapons and electronic devices he may have. Then I'll untie him. No one will be around here when he comes to, which will really scare him.

They all put their packs on and head back to the canyon.

EXT. CRYSTAL CANYON

Back in the canyon. Diego sets up tents in the moon light. All are exhausted and go to bed.

INT. GIRLS TENT

Both girls wake up at the same time and look at each other.

SOPHIE

(yawns)

I can't believe everything that happened yesterday.

SCOTTIE

I know. It's as though we were living in an action movie or something!

SOPHIE

It's amazing to think that we saved millions of monarch butterflies.

SCOTTIE

And it's also amazing that we had help from a stranger who happens to be our uncle. (BEAT)
Isn't Dr. Drake, I mean, Uncle Drake great? I can't wait until we get to go to Auntie Jill and Uncle Drake's wedding when we get back to our time on the ranch.

SOPHIE

Home. (BEAT)
It seems like we've been gone for a long time.

SCOTTIE

I know. I miss Ma and Pa a lot. We've never been away from them for this long. I can't wait to get back to the ranch and ride Starburst again too.

SOPHIE

Yes, but I'll miss Diego and our new friends from this magical place. Diego is very loyal to Dr. Drake, and he was so brave when we were on the trails and in the cave. He and Uncle Drake have become very good friends. (BEAT)
Anyway, let's get out of this tent so we can pack up and figure out how to get back to the ranch.

Sophie unzips the tent and pokes her head out.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Oh, wow, sis, you've got to see
this!

Scottie quickly gets out of her sleeping bag and looks out of
the tent.

SCOTTIE
(giggles)
The monarchs are everywhere! Look,
one has landed on my head!

Dr. Drake walks towards the girls as they get out of their
tent.

EXT. IN CANYON OUT OF TENT

DR. DRAKE
Why, good morning, sleepy heads.
Diego has set out some breakfast on
those boulders, so let's eat. I'm
starved.

DIEGO
Buenos dias, chicas.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE
Good morning, Diego.

SOPHIE
It's so beautiful here with the
butterflies.

Sophie looks around and sees Tomas on a tree branch above
her.

TOMAS
Yes, and without your help, we
might have lost them to Professor
Zooger.

SCOTTIE
Thanks, Tomas. And where is...
(BEAT)
Oh, there you are, Jinx.

Jinx walks over to her and both girls begin to pet him behind
the ears and his crystal covered furry neck.

DR. DRAKE

It's a relief to know that the monarchs are safe and can continue with their lifecycle here and throughout the world.

Dr. Drake eats a handful of trail mix and looks at the girls.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

(announces)

And I must say, job well done, girls, job well done!

DIEGO

I agree, but I'm angry that we didn't catch Professor Zooger.

SOPHIE

Me, too, but now we know that he is trying to control the earth in some way in order to gain money and power.

DR. DRAKE

Yes, I won't be surprised if Professor Zooger's and my path cross again in some other place and time.

All sit on a boulder and nod while eating.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)

Well, girls, we'd better pack up. I'm sure your horses are wondering why you haven't checked up on them yet.

SCOTTIE

(whispers)

How did he know?

Sophie runs over to help Dr. Drake take down the tent.

SOPHIE

Thanks so much for all you've done for us, Dr. Drake. Actually, Scottie and I would like to call you Uncle Drake if that's okay.

DR. DRAKE

I would love that.

Sophie walks over to where Tomas is perched on a tree.

SOPHIE

Tomas, I'd like to thank you for allowing me to be in charge of Maptrixter as well as believing in me to get everyone here to the Crystal Canyon.

TOMAS

I had the utmost confidence in your abilities, my dear. And I have a feeling that you should keep the map for a while until I ask for it back.

SOPHIE

You mean we can visit here again?

TOMAS

Why, of course, we wouldn't have it any other way.

CHEWY

I completely agree!

SOPHIE

(startled voice)

Oh, I didn't see you!

Sophie and Scottie walk over to give Chewy a hug.

SCOTTIE

(announces)

You gecko monkeys are the best! Chewy, you and your clan saved us from that awful Professor Zooger. Sophie and I will always be grateful.

SOPHIE

You've got that right, sis.

SCOTTIE

Did I hear you say, Tomas, that we can come back and visit again one day?

TOMAS

Yes, Scottie, that would be delightful.

SCOTTIE

That's awesome!

Scottie then looks around and reaches into her pocket to play with the coins she found earlier in her rain box.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
(loud voice)
Oh, no!

SOPHIE
What's wrong?

SCOTTIE
We forgot the rain boxes. They were such a great gift from Auntie Jill.

SOPHIE
I know, but remember how big they got? I don't think we could've fit them in our packs to bring them back.

DIEGO
Did someone mention rain boxes? I noticed them on the ground when we were leaving. They'd shrunk to their small size again so I picked them up and threw them into my backpack.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE
(blurt out)
Oh, thank you Diego!

SCOTTIE
You're the best!

Both walk over to give blushing Diego a hug.

DIEGO
Ah, it was nothing.

Dr. Drake walks up to give Sophie and Scottie a hug as well.

DR. DRAKE
You both were great on this adventure. You kept focused and never complained while we were trying to solve the monarch mystery.

Paco and Poncho begin to dart around the girls.

JINX, TOMAS, CHEWY
(shout)
Hip, hip, hooray! Great job!

PAPAYA
Great job! Great job!

All laugh.

DR. DRAKE
Now go finish packing.

DIEGO
Dr. Drake, I won't be coming back with you to the village. I've decided to stay here in case Professor Zooger happens to stumble into the canyon.

DR. DRAKE
That's a great idea, Diego. We can meet back at Rancho de La Joya later.

Sophie and Scottie put on their pack and begin to walk over to the group.

O.S. LOUD
JINGLING SOUND

SOPHIE
What's that sound?

SCOTTIE
I don't know, but I think it's coming from my outer pocket of my backpack.

Scottie takes off her pack and pulls a few items out of the pocket.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
I think it's my rain box.

Scottie opens the box.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)
How did these get in here?

SOPHIE
What is it?

SCOTTIE
How weird! I have two quarters in the box. I guess one for you and one for me.

Sophie and Scottie look at each other.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

The quarters have the year we were
born on it!

O.S. LOUD WINDY
SOUND

Suddenly a fierce wind picks up the girls and they are lifted
off the ground.

SOPHIE

(shouts)

It feels like we're bouncing from
one boulder to another. Quick, hold
my hand.

O.S. BIRDS
CHIRPING AND
WATER SOUND

SCOTTIE

What just happened?

Scottie's backpack plops down next to her as the girls look
around. Scottie picks up the pack and puts it on.

SOPHIE

Look, there's the fountain of the
hotel. Now I know why Uncle Drake
wanted to hug us again.

SCOTTIE

(sad voice)

I guess that was our final goodbye
from all of them.

Scottie looks at the fountain across the road where they
stood.

SCOTTIE (CONT'D)

(loud voice)

Look, Sophie, its Bella, the large
butterfly!

The girls run after her and stop just as they see where she
floats to; into their bedroom. Just before they enter, they
link arms and turn back to look at the hotel one more time.
The butterfly floats around their heads and flies back
towards the hotel.

SOPHIE AND SCOTTIE

Goodbye, Bella.

The girls walk back into their room and instantly the frame shrinks back to its original size.

SOPHIE

(gasps)

Oh, no, the picture faded away!

(BEAT)

Why did that have to happen? Now
how do we ever get back to the
canyon?

SCOTTIE

(quiet voice)

I don't know. We just have to trust
that Auntie Jill will send us
another picture of the hotel.

SOPHIE

We'd better put the table back.
Look, the window is still open.
It's like we never left.

SCOTTIE

(excited voice)

I don't know about you, but let's
go find Ma and Pa!

Girls run into the living room. They could see Ma and Pa talking to a man in a chair with his back to them.

MA

Here are my girls, and in such a
hurry I see.

Girls run up to hug her.

PA

We have a guest. (BEAT)
This is Dr. Drake. Dr. Drake,
these are our two daughters, Sophie
and Scottie.

Dr. Drake stands, turns around, and walks over to them to shake each one's hand.

DR. DRAKE

It's so nice to meet you two. I've
heard a lot about you from your
Auntie Jill.

Dr. Drake winks at them.

DR. DRAKE (CONT'D)
I have an envelope from your Auntie
to give you.

Girls don't move. Pa stands up to walk over to where they are
standing and looks at Sophie and Scottie.

PA
Well, is anyone going to take the
envelope?

Sophie takes the envelope from Dr. Drake.

SOPHIE
(loud whisper)
I think it's a photograph!

Scottie takes the envelope from Sophie and peeks inside. She
looks at Dr. Drake and then to Sophie.

CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON SCOTTIE'S SURPRISED LOOKING FACE

SCOTTIE
(loud whisper also)
I think you're right!

FADE OUT.