FADE IN: - DAY

A moving aerial view of a large metropolitan city.

POV - An array of office buildings, high rise apartments and town house rooftops with busy city streets in between.

LEESHA

This is my city. There's over a million creatures living in it. I don't know any of them, but I hear they all have a story to tell.

POV - The rooftop of a large concert hall with "TIGER HALL" in flashing lights .

LEESHA (CONT'D)

This is where I live. My momma tells me that some of the greatest names in music have played here. She also says that if I practice real hard, perhaps someday I could play on that same stage.

INT. TIGER HALL - CONTINUOUS

WE HEAR:

The various instruments in the orchestra pit tuning.

POV - A small, narrow railing a few feet above the top row in the balcony.

TARANEESHA, a stately, female Birman cat, watches and listens to a symphony Orchestra.

LEESHA

That's my mom.

LEESHA, the oldest sibling sits beside Taraneesha.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

That's me.

WIZZY and FIZZY, her two younger siblings are involved in projects of their own.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

That's my brother Wizzy and my sister Fizzy. We're all different, but we still love each other. I didn't understand what it meant to really love your family until. Well, it all started right here, in Tiger Hall. I was listening to a concert the other day when..

LEESHA'S VOICE FADES TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

As the Orchestra tunes up, the Conductor (half racoon/half cat) steps up to the podium, taps his baton.

INT. TOP OF RAILING - CONTINUOUS

WIZZY, Leesha's younger brother carefully balances himself while walking on his two front paws along the edge of the railing.

WIZZY

Mama. Look at me.

Wizzy performs a dare-devil stunt before slipping from the railing.

Taraneesha catches him with her paw at the last second.

TARANEESHA

Wizzy? How many times must I tell you, this is not a place for practicing your stunts?

WIZZY

I wasn't gonna fall momma. You always catch me.

TARANEESHA

Next time I'll do more than catch you, now behave.

Taraneesha glances at her grinning son then returns her attention to the stage.

INT. STAGE

As the music begins, the Conductor moves as classical music morphs into a symphonic Trip-hop groove.

INT. TOP OF RAILING - MOMENTS LATER

FIZZY, dressed in overhauls, construction boots with a Tool Belt busily attempts to repair the rear wheels on Wizzy's customized skateboard.

FIZZY

This thing is gonna need new ball bearings.

Wizzy ponders for a few seconds, then grins.

FIZZY (CONT'D)

What?

WIZZY

I think I know where I can get em.

FIZZY

Uh-uh, don't even think about it. You remember what happened the last time we..

Wizzy quickly covers Fizzy's mouth.

WIZZY

Ssh. You wanna get me in trouble?

Fizzy hands the skateboard to Wizzy.

Wizzy takes a couple of test laps around the area before climbing up to a higher ledge to gain enough speed to roll up the side of a wall, flipping in mid air and landing on the railing.

TARANEESHA (loudly whispers)

Children. Sshh.

Taraneesha returns her attention to the music. She smiles as she notices Leesha imitating the pianist.

As the orchestra concludes, Taraneesha, Leesha and Fizzy walk along the crawl space leading out of the theater followed by Wizzy slowly riding his skate board.

INT. BASEMENT CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy follow Taraneesha toward their room.

FIZZY

What's a talent momma?

TARANEESHA

Well, it's sort of like a special skill that everyone is born with.

FIZZY

Like fixin' a motor?

WIZZY

..or jumpin' through fire?

TARANEESHA

There's a little more to having talent than that.

LEESHA

Like what mama?

TARANEESHA

Talent is being able to express your special skill in a way that no one else can.

LEESHA

How do you do that?

TARANEESHA

Well, you have to listen to the voice inside that guides you whenever you have the need to express yourself.

LEESHA

Know what momma? Sometimes I hear a voice.

WIZZY

You do not.

LEESHA

Do to.

FIZZY

Do not.

TARANEESHA

Now, now children. Each of you will discover your talents in your own time.

LEESHA

What if we don't?

TARANEESHA

Let's hope that never happens.

INT. TIGER HALL - BASEMENT

In the corner of the room, Taraneesha sits listening to Leesha as she plays classical music. SHE closes her eyes as the classical music morphs into a jazzy musical intro.

DISSOLVE TO:

## P.O.V. - NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

A jazz trio backs a young Taranessha standing at the microphone in front of an audience singing "It Had to be You". As she sings, she notices a handsome male Abyssinian cat, dressed in a pin strip suit, sitting in the front row, smiling at her.

As the Abyssinian Male and audience applaud at the conclusion of Taraneesha's song, the sound fades returning to the sound of classical music.

FADE IN:

INT. BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Leesha concludes her piano practice then turns to Taraneesha who is lost in a daze.

LEESHA

Momma?

Taraneesha shakes her head and blinks her eyes.

TARANEESHA

Yes? Oh, yes Dear, that was wonderful dear. Your paw movement is improving.

LEESHA

Momma. Do you think I could play on that stage someday?

TARANEESHA

You have to be invited to do that.

LEESHA

How can I get invited?

Taraneesha looks around the room.

TARANEESHA

Where's your brother and sister?

INT. AUDITORIUM -

Wizzy and Fizzy sit on the railing of the front mezzanine looking at the large, red curtains.

FIZZY

Maybe this wasn't such a good idea.

WIZZY

Come on, stop acting like a Kitten.

FIZZY

Who you callin' a Kitten?

WIZZY

Ssshh. Quiet.

FIZZY

What.

WIZZY

I thought I heard something.

Fizzy watches as Wizzy looks underneath the curtain.

EXT. STAGE DOOR - REAR ENTRANCE

A shaggy, wide-eyed STREET MUTT, carrying a brown paper bag, continually looks over his shoulder before giving a rhythmic knock on the door.

Seconds later, SIR WINSTON CHIZZLE, a well-dressed, burly, pompous, overweight Birman cat, wearing a monocle, opens the door and glances at the disheveled Mutt.

SIR WINSTON

What do you want?

MUTT

Come on Dude, you know what I need.

Sir Winston looks around the area.

SIR WINSTON

Who sent you here?

MUTT

Bootsy.

Sir Winston signals the dog to remove the contents of his paper bag.

The Mutt reveals a gold chained Watch.

Sir Winston examines then takes the Watch.

SIR WINSTON

Wait here.

Sir Winston exits.

EXT. STAGE DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Sir Winston returns with a clear, plastic bag containing two, small, golden nuggets.

The Mutt snatches the bag.

SIR WINSTON

Hungry are we?

Sir Winston closes the door just enough to peek through the crack watching the Mutt open the plastic bag and chew the two nuggets.

The Mutt grins as he chews then starts to dance around to a Hip-Hop beat.

MUTT

Yo, now <u>this</u> is what I'm <u>talkin'</u> <u>about.</u>

As the Mutt continues to dance and lick his paws, his body slowly begins to dissolve.

MUTT (CONT'D)

Hey. What's happening to me?

The Mutt looks at a smiling Sir Winston as he closes the door and the Mutt completely dissolves.

Sir Winston snickers as he closes the door.

INT. AUDITORIUM

Wizzy and Fizzy stare at the elaborate stage setting.

FIZZY

Now what?

WIZZY

I think we have to go that way.

FIZZY

You think?

Wizzy jumps landing on a table.

WE HEAR:

The faint sound of wood striking the floor.

FIZZY (CONT'D)

Wizzy. I hear something.

Wizzy continues to look around.

WIZZY

I'm gonna climb up there.

FIZZY

Wizzy.

The sound of a closing door startles Wizzy and Fizzy as they climb up stairs that lead to a balcony.

WIZZY

What was that?

Wizzy and Fizzy rush to the edge of the stage. They look down into the Orchestra Pit.

FIZZY

What are we gonna do?

WIZZY

We're gonna have to jump.

FIZZY

Are you on, Catnip or something?

Wizzy covers Fizzy's mouth as the footsteps approach.

WIZZY

You can do this. Just stay close.

Wizzy jumps landing on the Kettle drum.

Fizzy hesitates then leaps landing on the drum causing Wizzy to bounce up and land on the cushion of a chair.

Sir Winston snatches open the curtain, looks around, walks to center stage and assumes the stance of an Orator gazing out into an empty auditorium.

SIR WINSTON (clearing his throat)
We were the preferred ones. The
Birman's, the Javanese and the
Siberian's. Pedigree's all. We
lived amongst the Humans respected
and adored for our purity. The city
belonged to us.

WIZZY

It's Sir Winston.

FIZZY

I hate him.

SIR WINSTON

The Humans were plagued with a bad economy. They had no choice but to reject and abandoned us for those non obedient, disloyal, less expensive, <u>mixed</u> breeds. <u>But this</u> is a new day.

Sir Winston closes his eyes to the sound of imaginary applause.

FIZZY

What's he talkin' about?

WIZZY

I don't know.

Wizzy and Fizzy creep toward the vast array of instruments and objects scattered around the orchestra pit.

SIR WINSTON

Now it is time for us to return and reclaim our rightful places amongst the Human's. Only the purest of our species will remain. The rest will perish from our midst <u>forever</u>.

Fizzy hesitates then leaps for the triangle barely catching hold swinging precariously over the other instruments.

INT. BASEMENT

Taraneesha frantically searches in every nook and corner.

LEESHA

Momma look.

Taraneesha looks at Leesha holding two bell necklaces.

INT. AUDITORIUM - MOMENTS LATER

Sir Winston closes his eyes to his imagined sound of applause.

His fantasy is interrupted as Fizzy loses her balance tumbling into the strings of a Harp.

Sir Winston turns towards the musical commotion.

SIR WINSTON

Who goes there?

WIZZY

Fizzy. Come on.

Fizzy rushes up the side of the harp and leaps toward Wizzy landing on the kettle drum.

Sir Winston approaches the edge of the stage. He looks over into the orchestra pit and discovers Wizzy and Fizzy.

SIR WINSTON

I should've known.

Sir Winston leans into the orchestra pit raising his cane.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

You've interrupted me for the last time.

Sir Winston takes a big swing with his cane.

Wizzy and Fizzy dart beneath the swinging cane scrambling toward the steps on the side of the stage. They race toward the house seats.

FIZZY

Wizzy. He's gonna kill us.

WIZZY

He'll have to catch us first.

INT. BASEMENT --

Taraneesha pushes the door of the basement open followed by Leesha.

TARANEESHA

<u>Wizzy.</u> <u>Fizzy.</u> <u>Where are you?</u>

LEESHA

I'll help you look for them momma.

TARANEESHA

No. You stay here. And keep the door closed.

Taraneesha races down the carpeted hallway toward the auditorium.

INT. AUDITORIUM -- CONTINUOUS

Sir Winston looks around the Auditorium.

SIR WINSTON

There's no need to be afraid. You don't have to hide from me. I have treats.

Wizzy and Fizzy listen from underneath a seat in the rear of the auditorium.

FIZZY

What's he talking about?

Taraneesha enters at the top of the second balcony rushing along the rails.

TARANEESHA

Wizzy, Fizzy, Where are you?

WIZZY

Uh-oh, now we're really gonna get.

Sir Winston notices Taranessha frantically searching for Wizzy and Fizzy. He slips into the section that leads to the orchestra pit.

SIR WINSTON (whispers)

When I catch those little mongrels, I'll make a new walking stick from their bones.

WIZZY

Come on. We gotta get out of here.

Taraneesha hears a seat in the auditorium as it falls into sitting position. She races toward the exit.

INT. - BACK STAGE

In a second floor hallway above the main stage, Leesha quickly scampers from door to door.

LEESHA

Wizzy. Fizzy. Where are you?

Leesha approaches a shining gold star on the last door at the end of the hallway.

INT. SIR WINSTON'S ROOM

Leesha peeks into a room filled with an array of theatrical props and equipment. In a corner, she notices several sacks labeled "Zangy Tangy". As she moves closer to the sack, a brightly colored ball of string blocks her path. She pushes the ball causing several musical notes to emerge. As the ball continues to roll, a line of string connected to the leg of an old wooden stool begins to tighten.

INT. HALLWAY

Fascinated, Leesha pushes the musical ball into the hallway. The tension of the string causes the leg of the stool to jerk. A heavy circular bell sitting on top of the stool rolls off and crashes into a small table where a gas light lamps, sitting on the table, tips over.

Leesha turns towards the noise from Sir Winston's room.

INT. AUDITORIUM

Sir Winston hears the sound of the falling seat as he watches from the orchestra pit but the sound of the rolling bell distracts him.

INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha, now entangled in the musical ball of string, notices "Flyboy", half Housefly, half moth, dressed in a basketball jersey, hat and high top sneakers, sits nibbling on a cookie crumb.

FLYBOY

It's a wrap Shorty. You ain't gettin' out.

LEESHA

Have you seen two kittens?

FLYBOY

Your brother and sister ain't here.

LEESHA

How did you know that? Who are you anyway?

FLYBOY

Yo, this ain't the time to play CSI Lil Ms. Whiskers. You better figure out how you gonna get out of that string before Mister Fat Cat comes wobbling down the hall.

Leesha looks in the direction of the door.

LEESHA

What should I do?

FLYBOY

You're the one with the paws. I'm out.

LEESHA

Hey. Wait a minute.

Leesha takes a swipe at Flyboy, but misses further entangling herself in the string.

INT. AUDITORIUM

Taraneesha eventually catches up with Wizzy, then Fizzy.

TARANEESHA

<u>I thought I warned you never to go into this section of the Hall.</u>

FIZZY

I didn't want to do it momma. `Wizzy told me to..

Fizzy cuddles up close to Taraneesha.

WIZZY

Momma she..

TARANEESHA

Enough. I'll deal with the two of
you later.

Taraneesha sniffs the air.

FIZZY

What's the matter momma?

TARANEESHA

Let's get out of here.. and stay close to me... <u>Hurry</u>.

Taraneesha and her Kittens race toward the rear of the auditorium.

INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Sir Winston arrives at the top of the stairs.

SIR WINSTON

Who's down there.

The sound of Sir Winston's voice frightens Leesha as she struggles even harder to unravel herself from the string.

Sir Winston hesitates, gripping the handle of his cane before proceeding down the hall. He swats at Flyboy who makes several circles above his head before turning the corner into a smoke filled corridor.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Good heavens.

Sir Winston rushes towards his room. In the thick smoke he stumbles over Leesha now deeply entangled in the red string.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

You.

An explosion of flames and glass breaking inside the door interrupts Sir Winston's attempted strike at Leesha.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

I'll deal with you later.

Sir Winston rushes into his room.

INT. BASEMENT -

Taraneesha places the Bell Collars back on Wizzy and Fizzy.

TARANEESHA

If either of one of you ever go near that part of the hall again without my permission I'll..

WIZZY

Where's Leesha momma?

Taraneesha looks around the room.

TARANEESHA

Children, listen to me. If I'm not back here in five minutes, I want you to get out of this room through that window up there. Do you understand?

FIZZY

But momma..

TARANEESHA

Do you understand?

WIZZY/FIZZY

Yes momma.

Taraneesha rushes to the door, stop, turns to her kittens.

TARANEESHA

And keep this door closed no matter what.

INT. BACK STAGE HALLWAY

Sir Winston stumbles back into the hallway coughing while pulling one of the Zangy Tangy sacks. He notices Leesha at the other end of the corridor, releases the sack and approaches Leesha.

Leesha struggles to free herself as Sir Winston approaches.

SIR WINSTON

So you thought you could destroy my Destiny?

LEESHA

Sir Winston, It's not what you think. I was only trying to find..

SIR WINSTON

<u>Silence.</u> You devious little hair ball. You and the rest of your miserable Mongrel family will pay for this with your lives.

LEESHA

No. Please. Someone help me.

Sir Winston strikes the tangled red ball of string sending Leesha rolling down the hallway.

Taraneesha stops Leesha just as she is about to roll down the long flight of stairs. She frees Leesha from the entangled string with one swipe of her paw.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Momma.

TARANEESHA

Quickly. Follow me.

Leesha and Taraneesha escape down the stairs.

Sir Winston emerges through the thickening smoke only to find a tangled ball of string at his feet. He steps back into the smoke then emerges with several small, clear plastic bags containing small, golden nuggets that he places in his pocket. before falling to his knees.

INT. BACK STAGE

Leesha and Taraneesha race across the stage.

SIR WINSTON (O.S.)

Help. Someone help.

Sir Winston falls to his knees, then collapses to the floor.

Taraneesha stops and looks back toward the stairway.

LEESHA

Momma. Come on.

TARANEESHA

Go to the basement, get your brother and sister, climb up to the window and get out into the alley, then wait for me.

LEESHA

But momma, I don't know what...

TARANEESHA

There's nothing to be afraid of Leesha. Now go.

Leesha races off toward the basement.

INT. TOP OF STAIRWELL -

Taraneesha finds Sir Winston lying motionless. She pulls him to the edge of the stairs then loses her balance under his heavy weight sending both of them tumbling backwards down the stairs.

INT. BOTTOM OF STAIRWELL -

Sir Winston staggers breathless coughing over Taraneesha's still body collapsing at the Stage Door entrance.

The distant sound of fire engines fills the auditorium.

INT. BASEMENT

Wizzy throws a rope up to the latch on the window then swings upward landing on the window sill. HE jumps backwards pushing away the stick that holds the window open then pushes against the window.

WIZZY

I can't get it open.

Fizzy grabs her Tool Belt then grabs hold of the hanging rope.

FIZZY

Pull me up.

Wizzy pulls on the rope as Fizzy climbs.

Fizzy takes out a small screwdriver jabbing it between the latch and the window frame then pulls on the end of the screwdriver pushing the window open allowing them to squirm out to the ledge.

EXT. WINDOW LEDGE

Wizzy and Fizzy watch as small plumes of smoke emerge from windows of the Hall.

WIZZY

We should try to find momma.

FIZZY

No. She said to stay here and wait.

Wizzy looks back into the basement, spots his Back Pac and squirms through the window.

FIZZY (CONT'D)

Wizzy. What are you doing?

INT. BASEMENT -

Wizzy leaps into the room then straps on his Back Pac.

LEESHA

Fizzy, you've got to get out of here.

FIZZY

Where's momma?

Leesha and Fizzy leap up to the window ledge at the sound of another crash.

EXT. WINDOW LEDGE

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy huddle close as the fire continues to rage.

FIZZY

What do we do now?

LEESHA

We wait here like momma said.

FIZZY

Why did you leave her?

LEESHA

I didn't leave her.

WIZZY

Why didn't she come with you?

LEESHA

I don't know.

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy watch as the fire trucks pull up to the front of Tiger Hall.

INT. TAVERN

The crowd of dogs react as McChops the half dog, half wolf, Sargent of the Police Canine Unit twirls his night stick then slams his fist on the bar sending a bowl of dog biscuits into the air that he slices into nibblets before landing.

BAR DOG 1

Whoa. McChops you da dawg.

BAR DOG 2

Hey McChops. Tell us again what you said to that alley cat you caught.

MC CHOPS jumps up on the bar and raps "I'm The One"..

MC CHOPS

"I'll kick ya behind/ Stomp on ya tail/Put the cuffs round ya neck/then throw you in jail/ If you get outta line/ McChop's gonna know/ I'll hunt you down in the rain/ track you down in the snow/Tell the Mutt's I'm the one/ this big dawg don't play/Break the law in this town and you make my day/ cause I'm the one."

The crowd cheers.

A two way radio signal interrupts the moment.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Hold your applause boys. Gotta take this one. McChops here.. What?.. Okay, I'm on my way..

McChops places his glass on the bar.

EXT. STREET

McChops emerges from the tavern to find the members of his Chew Squad, SQUIBS, PUBBO, and CHIPPY, surrounding a disabled car occupied by an attractive FEMALE dog.

McChops watches as the trio perform their "pick-up routine".

SOUIBS

Looks like there's a spark plug thug on the loose. But don't worry. The Chew Squad is on the case.

FEMALE

My goodness, you Officers are truly the cream of the canines.

MC CHOPS (O.S.)

Whenever you "creamy canine's" finish sniffin' you might wanna get your bone-headed, tail chasin' noses in the car.

McChops and his squad race toward Tiger Hall.

EXT. TIGER HALL -- LATER

Taraneesha is carried out of the building and placed in a small indented shelter near the Alley.

FIREMAN

The other one looks like he's gonna make it.

EXT. TIGER HALL

On the other side of the building McChops leans down to comfort a beleaguered Sir Winston.

SIR WINSTON

It was terrible. Even through the smoke I tried to save her, but she kept fighting me. And those precious little kittens, they were scampering around in front of the door to my room. One of them even had matches.

MC CHOPS

So what you're tellin' me is that her kittens started the fire?

SIR WINSTON

The simple fact Sargent is that when I arrived at the scene, my room was in flames.

MC CHOPS

Well, where are they now?

SIR WINSTON

Perhaps they're still in the building.

MC CHOPS

You ever heard of a Mother cat escaping from a burning building leaving her kittens?

SIR WINSTON

I told you what happened. Just make sure it's in your police report exactly the way I stated.

McChops lowers his head as he looks at the burning building.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Do I detect a soft spot in that tough hide of yours Sargent?

McChops shows his fangs.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

No need to expose your Alpha Male nature to me Sargent. Need I remind you exactly how you received those stripes?

MC CHOPS

I just don't like anyone calling me soft.

SIR WINSTON

Of course you don't. You're a brave, dedicated, member of law enforcement with a bite as hard as stone, ready to kill on command.

McChops walks away from a smirking Sir Winston.

EXT. TIGER HALL - MOMENTS LATER

McChops approaches his Deputies.

MC CHOPS

Spread out, take a look around for the mother cat and her kittens.

SQUIBS

What'll we do if we find em Sarge?

Sir Winston approaches the deputies.

SIR WINSTON

They are ruthless and dangerous. They must be destroyed on sight.

EXT. TIGER HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy attempt to revive a lifeless Taraneesha by licking her paws and ears.

WIZZY

Come on Momma. You gotta wake up.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Do you think she's...

Leesha and Fizzy glare at Wizzy.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Then you think of something Smarty Pants.

Leesha plops herself directly on Taraneesha's mid-section causing Taraneesha to gasp.

The Kittens gleefully cuddle and rub against Taraneesha.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

What happened Mommma? Why didn't you come to get us?

Taraneesha embraces her kittens.

EXT. TIGER HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Sir Winston and Mcchops stand across the street watching as the firemen continue their search.

MC CHOPS

Look, I hate cats as much as you do, but don't you think killing kittens is a bit over the top? After all, they're just..

SIR WINSTON

Need I remind you that Tiger Hall was my domain until I was forced to share my kingdom with a bunch of unwanted, mixed breed, mongrels.

MC CHOPS

So exactly what is it you want me to do?

SIR WINSTON

I want that pack of half breeds eliminated once and for all.

McChops looks up to see a large piece of blazing wood falling toward his deputies. He races across the street and tackles the Deputies out of harms way.

Sir Winston approaches the Squad.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Well Sargent?

MC CHOPS

Take a look on the other side. Check all the ground floor windows. If any of them are open, then inspect the basement.

**PUBBO** 

And if we find anything?

SIR WINSTON

Bring their bodies directly to me.

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Taraneesha and her Kittens watch the smoldering ashes rise into the evening sky.

Her Kittens cuddle close to Taraneesha at the sound of breaking glass and crumbing walls.

WIZZY

You think our room is all burned up Momma?

TARANEESHA

I don't think there's much left of anything children.

FIZZY

How did this stupid fire start in the first place?

Taraneesha turns and bows her head.

TARANEESHA

I don't know Wizzy, but I'm certain it was an accident. No one would be so mean and cruel to <u>want</u> to destroy Tiger Hall.

WIZZY

You think Sir Winston is still in there?

TARANEESHA

I have a feeling Sir Winston is safe.

FIZZY

Momma, Sir Winston called us Mongrels.

WIZZY

What's a mongrel?

TARANEESHA

It's a hateful name some creatures use to hurt others that are different.

WIZZY

Are we different momma?

TARANEESHA

Absolutely not.

FIZZY

Then why does he hate us?

TARANEESHA

It's a long story children. One day when you're older, I'll explain it.

WIZZY

Where we gonna live now Momma?

TARANEESHA

I'm not sure.

LEESHA

Momma. Look.

Taraneesha turns just in time to notice as the golden dome of Tiger Hall collapses.

EXT. ALLEY -

Taraneesha and Leesha scan the area from atop a fire escape while Wizzy and Wizzy sleep.

LEESHA

What's Zangy Tangy momma?

TARANEESHA

Where did you see those words?

LEESHA

On some old sacks in Sir Winston's room.

Taraneesha faces Leesha.

TARANEESHA

Listen to me Leesha. You must never, ever go near or touch Zangy Tangy.

LEESHA

Why momma?

**TARANEESHA** 

It's a substance made to harm certain creatures that..

Taraneesha's head and ears quickly perk up at the faint sound of barking dogs.

LEESHA

What is it momma?

TARANEESHA

Ssh.

EXT. OLD BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Sir Winston, spots Taraneesha and her kittens from a rooftop.

SIR WINSTON

There they are. Over there, in the Alley. Don't let them escape.

Seconds later, Pubbo and McChops appear at the entrance to the Alley. Taraneesha's eyes instantly focus on McChop's menacing growl as he and the Chew Squad race toward her.

TARANEESHA

RUN CHILDREN. STAY CLOSE TO ME.

Taraneesha and her kittens leap from the top of the fence as a Rap Voice blurts out "Betta Run"..

RAP VOICE

"Cut the alley/ jump a fence/ they hard on your tail/ from the street to the trench/ they got cha name/got cha face/don't stop Shorty/ it's you in the chase/ betta run/betta run."

EXT. STREET

Taraneesha races down the block close to the sides of buildings as Izzy and Wizzy run close behind as Leesha bring up the rear briefly looking back.

EXT. STREET CORNER - CONTINUOUS

Taraneesha stops at the street corner and looks out into the on-coming traffic. Leesha is the first to catch up with her.

LEESHA

Where are we going now Momma?

TARANEESHA

We've got to cross.

EXT. STREET INTERSECTION -

Wizzy and Fizzy approach.

FIZZY

Momma, I hear dogs barking.

WIZZY

I don't wanna go to jail.

Wizzy and Wizzy look at one another as the sound of barking dogs forces Taraneesha into action.

TARANEESHA

Children, listen. That light up there is going to do something to make the cars stop moving. When that happens, I want all of you to run as fast as you can to the other side. There's a car sitting on the side of that house over there. Hide underneath it.

Pubbo and Chippy spot Taraneesha and her Kittens at the corner rushing toward them.

Taraneesha watches for the light to change.

LEESHA

Momma. They're coming.

The light changes and the traffic stops.

TARANEESHA

Go. Now.

RAP VOICE

"How fast can you go?" /How quick can you get? /Run for your life/survive in the sweat/street's cold/wolves in a pack/concretes hard/and it don't give back/ betta run/move, move/betta run."

Taraneesha dashes into the street dodging underneath the stationary vehicles.

Leesha quickly rushes into the street closely behind her.

Wizzy hesitates at the curb.

WIZZY

Come on Fizzy.

Fizzy fumbles with her tool belt.

As Pubbo and Chippy approach, Wizzy whips out his compacted skateboard, snapping it into full size.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Get on.

Wizzy takes several steps back then races toward Fizzy swooping her up on the skateboard.

Wizzy's momentum pushes him and Fizzy into the oncoming traffic.

The traffic moves as the light turns green.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Hang on.

Leesha watches on the other side of the street, then covers her eyes as Wizzy maneuvers his skateboard underneath and around the wheels of fast moving cars and trucks.

Pubbo and Chippy watch as Wizzy and Wizzy swirl toward the other side of the boulevard.

CHIPPY

I got a box of Doggie Donut's says they don't make it.

The traffic light changes again.

**PUBBO** 

Let's go.

Pubbo and Chippy race across the street.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Pubbo and Chippy arrive at the driveway.

CHIPPY

You sure they ran this way?

**PUBBO** 

I saw one of the little ones make the turn right in here.

McChops and Squibs approach.

PUBBO (CONT'D)

We were right behind em Sarge.

**SQUIBS** 

She's runnin' scared Sarge. With three kittens. How far ahead of us could they be?

McChops looks around.

MC CHOPS

I want your noses under every blanket, garbage can, old box and car. Keep your Com Channels locked.
The only words I wanna hear is your location when you spot them. Now move out.

McChops and the Squad split into four different directions.

EXT. GARAGE ROOF - NIGHT

Taraneesha peeks over the side watching the Chew Squad as they continue their search.

A flash of lighting, followed by the crack of thunder pierces the night sky pressing Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy closer to their mother.

LEESHA

Are they going to find us Momma?

Taraneesha looks around and spots a nearby tree limb that nearly touches the garage roof.

Another streak of lightning followed by more thunder momentarily paralyzes Taraneesha.

TARANEESHA

Children, we're going to have to travel quickly and quietly. There's nothing to fear. Just use your skills.

Taraneesha turns toward a nearby tree branch and leaps landing on the branch of another tree. She quickly turns to see if her kittens have followed.

Leesha races toward the edge and leaps onto the branch.

Wizzy and Fizzy race toward the edge leaping into the air landing on a branch catching up with Taraneesha and Leesha.

Taraneesha and her Kittens race along the tree branches. Standing on the last remaining branch, they spot the roof of an old shack.

POV. TREE BRANCH -

Taraneesha looks down and sees McChops sniffing around. Her sudden move backwards pushes Wizzy from the branch down to a lower branch that causes a pine cone to fall at the feet of McChops.

McChops looks up and sees Wizzy hanging onto the branch with his front paws then makes an ear piercing howl that shoots through the night sky.

He leaps up to the branch holding Wizzy.

Taraneesha leaps down to the branch grabbing Wizzy by his tail causing his skateboard to fall from his Back Pac.

Taraneesha places Wizzy on a higher branch out of the reach of McChops.

TARANEESHA (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

WIZZY

Wow momma, you just made a one and a half, backward free fall front paw snatch.

Taraneesha looks at the distance between the branch and the garage roof.

TARANEESHA

You're going to have to climb higher.

Fizzy touches his Back Pac.

WIZZY

Momma.. My Board.

TARANEESHA

Do it now Wizzy.

Wizzy begins his assent up the tree followed by Fizzy and Leesha.

McChops is joined on the ground by Squibs.

SOUIBS

Hey Sarge. Did you hear that?

MC CHOPS

Hear what.

SOUIBS

That sound, like a wolf's howl.

MC CHOPS

Better lay off that Canine Cola.

SQUIBS

But Sarge..

MC CHOPS

Get focused Squibs.

McChops and Squibs look up as another bolt of lightning reveals the eyes of Taraneesha and her Kittens perched high in the tree.

SQUIBS

How we gonna get em down Sarge?

MC CHOPS

Wait here.

McChops looks up, grins, then trots out of the lot.

EXT. TREE -- CONTINUOUS

Taraneesha looks down in all directions for a possible escape route.

LEESHA

What'll we do now Momma?

TARANEESHA

No matter what happens, I want you to stay in this tree until I give the signal that it's safe. Do you understand?

LEESHA

Yes momma.

McChops returns with a large Duffel bag. He hands each deputy a set of metallic teeth with a leather muzzle and strap.

MC CHOPS

Start on the west side of the tree.

Taraneesha watches as the Chew Squad rips into the base of the tree. She spots a stack of plastic bags filled with empty aluminum cans.

Taraneesha turns to Leesha and places a small, silver necklace around Leesha's neck.

TARANEESHA

I want you to promise me to always protect your sister and brother.

LEESHA

Momma please, don't leave...

McChops looks skyward as the Squad continues to gnaw their way into the tree.

MC CHOPS

Stand back.

The Chew Squad moves away as a bolt of lightning races across the sky hitting the base of the tree.

The lightning strike crashes into the base of the tree.

Taraneesha leaps through the air landing on the cans.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Now.

McChops charges the tree taking one final bite causing the tree to tip toward the Shack.

Taraneesha watches fallen tree as her kittens cling to the branch. She pushes a large bag of cans from the pile with a crash that momentarily distracts McChops.

McChops spots Taraneesha.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Get the kittens. I'll take care of her.

McChops growls as he bolts toward Taraneesha.

Taraneesha races into a large pile of old tires, wooden crates and other debris.

McChops lashes into the pile of debris.

The Kittens scramble toward the street with the Chew Squad in pursuit.

EXT. STREET

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy race along the street quickly finding shelter underneath a parked lunch wagon.

WIZZY

What do we do now?

Fizzy notices her tools are missing from her belt.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

My tools. <u>I lost my tools</u>.

LEESHA

Quiet.

Leesha pushes Wizzy and Fizzy together inside the rim of the Lunch wagon's tire.

FIZZY

Are we just gonna wait here until those dogs find us?

LEESHA

We have to search for Momma.

FIZZY

We've lived in a Concert Hall since we were born. Now all of sudden we're World Travelers. <u>I don't think</u> so.

WIZZY

I'm hungry.

LEESHA

Keep your voices down.

WIZZY

Maybe we <u>should</u> find our way back. It can't be that far. Maybe that bag of Kitty Kookie's is still there.

LEESHA

And maybe Momma will come strolling around the corner with mittens, sweaters and a blanket. Just be quiet, both of you.

WIZZY

What's your problem? And why are you wearing Momma's necklace?

LEESHA

She gave it to me for safe keeping.

WIZZY

Why didn't she give it to me?

LEESHA

I don't know. Maybe because I'm the oldest.

WIZZY

But I'm the handiest.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

And I'm the hungriest.

LEESHA

Look, the two of you have to stop thinking like you're back at home where all you had to do is run to your a room where it was safe and warm every time you got in trouble.

WIZZY

All we did was look behind some stupid curtain.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Excuse me.. We?

LEESHA

Just forget about that now. We've got to figure out how to stay alive until Momma can find us.

The sound of barking dogs rapidly approaching.

Leesha spots a Lunch Wagon.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Come on.

Leesha and Wizzy race toward the Lunch Wagon.

Fizzy follows, stops, spots her tool belt lying on the ground and runs back to retrieve it.

Leesha spots Fizzy.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Fizzy.

Fizzy races to the Lunch Wagon joining Leesha and Wizzy hiding on the axle underneath.

Squibs stops at the Lunch Wagon, lifts his nose to the aroma of cooked hot dogs and burgers. He looks underneath the truck, but the lure of the aromas from above is too much.

Pubbo arrives in time to see Squibs looking up at the Lunch Wagon service window panting with his eyes closed.

**PUBBO** 

What's the matter with you?

SQUIBS

Shh.

Squibs inhales.

SQUIBS (CONT'D)

Cheeseburgers smothered in onions, two strips of bacon.

PUBBO

Stop foolin' around. We gotta find them before the Sarge catches up with us.

The sound of truck backfire sends Pubbo and Squibs into a slight retreat as they watch the truck pull away from the curb.

EXT. JUNK YARD - MOMENTS LATER

From a small hole of an old wooden box, Taraneesha watches as McChops slowly morphs into a Wolf.

MC CHOPS

My instincts are stronger than yours Taraneesha. The blood of my Alpha father and his pack runs through me.

McChops sniffs, then scans the Junk Yard. The sound of movement underneath a pile of old newspapers and magazines sends McChops into attack mode whacking through the debris.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

I'm under orders. That means I can't allow you to leave this area.. Alive.

McChops charges into another pile of cardboard boxes that causes several alley cats to leap from the pile.

Taraneesha watches as McChops chases the cats.

POV. - INT. WOODEN BOX

Taraneesha scans the Lot for McChops.

MC CHOPS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Turn yourself in. I promise to spare the lives of your kittens. It's only a matter of time before I find them.

Taraneesha emerges from the box turning at the precise moment to see McChops descending through the air.

EXT. STREET

Chippy joins Pubbo and Squibs at the site where the Lunch Wagon once stood.

**SQUIBS** 

The Sarge ain't gonna like this.

The sound of a wolf howling interrupts.

PUBBO

There it is again.

CHIPPY

Maybe if we find out what's making that howl, it might lead us to those kittens.

EXT. JUNK YARD - MORNING

McChops, now returned to his Police Dog identity, covers Taraneesha pushing several boxes over her body. He looks around and spots the moonlit silhouette of a lone cat sitting atop a pile of rubble looking down at him.

The lone cat slowly turns and disappears into the darkness.

McChops faces the full moon, then turns to see his wolf reflection in a broken mirror. He rushes away from the image into the rubble and darkness.

Squibs, Pubbo and Chippy enter the lot and begin to snoop around.

The sound of a falling steel drum startles the three deputies.

CHIPPY

What was that?

McChops silently emerges from the rubble.

SQUIBS (O.S.)

Sarge.

MC CHOPS

I could've killed you.

SQUIBS

How long have you been here?

Chippy and Pubbo join Squibs and McChops.

MC CHOPS

Long enough to know Taraneesha was here.

**SQUIBS** 

Did you get her Sarge?

MC CHOPS

She escaped.

**PUBBO** 

What are you gonna tell Sir Winston?

MC CHOPS

She died in the storm.

**SQUIBS** 

Did you hear that strange sound by any chance?

McChops looks at Squibs.

**PUBBO** 

Sounded like a wolf.

CHIPPY

We're talkin' Alpha male here.

MC CHOPS

What do you know about Alpha males?

PUBBO

I watch the Animal channel.

EXT. STREET - MORNING

EXT. LUNCH WAGON - CONTINUOUS

Wizzy and Fizzy are cuddled together sleeping under the Lunch Wagon parked at the curb of City Park.

Leesha sits on the edge of the back fender.

Wizzy and Fizzy sniff the air.

FIZZY

What's that smell?

Wizzy opens his eyes and sniffs.

WIZZY

I don't know, but whatever it is, I wanna bite it.

INT. CITY PARK -

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy follow the sound of hip-hop music blaring from another area. THEY make their way through a crowd of people to see KAZZ, a half squirrel, half chipmunk, wearing a pair of gold earrings, a head scarf, sneakers and a Hoodie sweat shirt with a Mic rapping "Gotta Be Up"..

KAZZ

"If you get kicked to the curb/get back on yo feet/you gotta jump back, shake it off then stomp in the da street/show what chu got/leave no doubt/if they lock you in a box you gotta scratch ya way out and be up/had to be, gonna be, wanna be, gotta be up"

Kazz ends her Rap with several Hip Hop dance moves. She puts the mic in her back pocket, picks up the various pieces of food tossed to her as the crowd applauds.

Kazz notices Leesha and her siblings watching as she stuffs her face.

Wizzy makes a move toward the scattered food.

LEESHA

Wizzy. No.

WIZZY

I can't help it, my tummy is talking in three languages.

Leesha, Fizzy and Wizzy watch as Kazz stuffs her face.

LEESHA

Don't you know it's impolite to talk with your mouth full?

Kazz chomps away.

KAZZ

Whatevah.

WIZZY

Who are you anyway?

Kazz looks at Fizzy.

KAZZ

Excuse me? So now you wanna stand there and act like you never heard of me?

WIZZY

We're not from around here. We're from..

Leesha puts her paw over Wizzy's mouth.

LEESHA

Why do the Humans throw their food at you?

KAZZ

Entertainment. Show biz baby. All you gotta do is grab the Mic and spit. Before you know it, the Human's just be givin' it up. Peanuts, popcorn, pizza, chicken nuggets.

WIZZY

Did you say Chicken Nuggets?

LEESHA

Why would Human's give you treats just for.. Spitting?

KAZZ

You playin' right?

FIZZY (mouthfull)

Leesha lays the panoh.

WIZZY (mouthfull)

She ings too.

KAZZ

Plays the piano <u>and</u> sings huh, aight, show me somethin'.

Kazz looks up in the tree next to her.

EXT. TREE

DJ Nutty (half raccoon, half skunk) with shades, hat and headphones, stands behind a console with turntables and mic's.

KAZZ

Yo DJ Nutty. Gimme a tree stump beat.

As the music begins, Kazz hands her Mic to Leesha who looks around, hesitates before singing..

The applause from a crowd startles Leesha as they toss various pieces of food around her.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Hold up, Hold up.

LEESHA

What's the matter?

Kazz snatches the Mic from Leesha.

KAZZ

Yo, Ms.Thang. This is  $\underline{my}$  spot. I been holdin' it down out here hard for two long winters.

FIZZY

Your point?

KAZZ

My point is you can't just come up in here and roll over my Game just cause you got some skills. You need to show some respect.

LEESHA

What do you want me to do?

KAZZ

You know, I been thinkin' about puttin' this whole new act together. Dancer's, some singin'. Me rappin' out front of course. We could call it

(waving her arm)
Kazz and The Crazies.

LEESHA

The what?

KAZZ

Yo. DJ Runna. Hit me wit dat Bump groove.

DJ,Runna, a thin, white and tan Alley Cat dressed in a Hoodie with the initials DJR, shades and hat, stands at a portable console with two turntables and a pair of headphones.

WE HEAR:

Funky hip hop groove.

Kazz hands a mic to Leesha while various Creatures who are watching dance to the beat.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Aight, let's so what chu got.

Kazz hands the mic to Leesha.

Leesha looks around at the crowd, hesitates before placing the mic to her lips.

The song "Feel the Fire"

The crowd applauds as Leesha hands the mic back to Kazz.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Dang.

FIZZY

Hey look.

Leesha and Kazz's attention turns toward the Lunch Wagon where a bowl filled with chocolate milk sits by the door.

Leesha, Wizzy, Fizzy rush over to the bowl of milk.

A Human Hand strokes Leesha on her head.

HUMAN VOICE

You have a very nice voice young lady.

Leesha, Wizzy and Fizzy move in around the bowl.

FIZZY

What is it?

Leesha sniffs.

LEESHA

It smells like milk.

Leesha licks from the bowl, lifts her head, then smiles with brown whiskers.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Wow.

Wizzy and Fizzy gulp from the bowl.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Hey Kazz. Come over here. You have
to try this.

EXT. JUNK YARD -- LATER

Sir Winston and McChops sit atop a small hill scanning over the rubble and debris.

SIR WINSTON

So what you're telling me is those Keystone Canine's under your command allowed them to escape?

MC CHOPS

There's a lot of Junk in that Lot to look through.

SIR WINSTON

That's no excuse. After all, you are part wolf.

Sir Winston watches as McChops walks down into the rubble.

MC CHOPS

No need to worry about them. They're too scared to come back.

SIR WINSTON

It's bad enough you let them escape.. Again.

MC CHOPS

If they're alive, I'll find them.

SIR WINSTON

Make it your top priority Sargent. You still have a debt to pay.

EXT. CITY PARK

Leesha, Wizzy, Fizzy and Kazz sit on a tree branch watching as a crowd slowly gathers around the Lunch Wagon.

KAZZ

I been out here by myself since I could chew on a chestnut. Nobody's ever offered to share their food.

WIZZY

We always share.

FIZZY

We're family.

LEESHA

Where's your family?

Kazz lowers her head.

Leesha notices Kazz's tail.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

I think your tail is rather beautiful.

Kazz grins as she examines her tail.

KAZZ

What? This thing? I got some Chipmunk in me, on my momma's side.

WIZZY

Hey look down there.

Kazz and Leesha rush over to the window.

THEY spot half a cup of ice cream on the grass.

FIZZY

It looks like that creamy, sweet stuff the Human's eat where we live.

WIZZY

You mean where we use to live.

Fizzy and Wizzy lick their whiskers.

LEESHA

Don't even think about it.

KAZZ

I say go for it.

FIZZY

Yeah, that's what I say.

WIZZY

I could jump down three branches, hop over onto that bench, flip over that Can, be on that cup for a lick before another leaf hits the ground.

KAZZ

Whoa. You go boy.

LEESHA

Well, okay, but get your licks and come right back here.

Wizzy jumps out onto the trunk of the tree and goes into his acrobatics.

FIZZY

Hey. Wait for me.

Fizzy carefully scrambles down the tree.

KAZZ

I like him. He's got this whole wild, daredevil, edgy thang goin' on.

LEESHA

He's always jumping and leaping from one edge or another.

KAZZ

Around here, that's what keeps you alive. Come on.

Leesha follows Kazz as they climb to another level on the tree.

INT. TREE - KAZZ'S APT.

Leesha and Kazz enter a small room filled with various items found in the park used as furniture.

LEESHA

You have a nice apartment.

KAZZ

It ain't much, but it's home. Yo, check this out.

Leesha watches as Kazz goes to a corner, opens a small, wooden closet door revealing a collection of fancy jewelry.

LEESHA

Wow.

KAZZ

Bet chu ain't never seen that much swag in one place.

LEESHA

Where did you get those?

KAZZ

It's crazy. The Humans leave it out here. It's like they don't even want the things they have.

Leesha touches one of the necklaces.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Go ahead, try it on.

Leesha stands in front of the large mirror holding the jeweled necklace.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Wanna trade?

LEESHA

Trade?

KAZZ

I'll let you have this if you let me have the one you're wearing.

Leesha clutches the necklace on her neck.

LEESHA

Oh no, I couldn't. My momma gave it to me before..

Leesha lowers her head.

KAZZ

Gurl, people see you wearin' this kinda bling? This is a one of kind Baleechio baby.

LEESHA

A what?

KAZZ

Oh my God. Do not stand there trying to tell me you don't know who Henry Baleechio is. The humans be walkin' through the park talkin' about Baleechio this, Baleechio that.

Leesha stares at the necklace.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Look, the Humans love to see us wearing their stuff, they think it makes us look cute. Go figure.

Kazz looks at the necklace, then Leesha.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Okay, you can have it. Keep your momma's necklace.

LEESHA

Really?

(beat)

No, I couldn't.

Kazz places the necklace around Leesha's neck then steps back to inspect.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

What?

Kazz places a pair of sunglasses on Leesha, then circles her.

KAZZ

Not <u>dat's</u> what I'm talkin' about. Stand back. No pictures please.

Leesha grins as Kazz pretends to take her picture.

LEESHA

Do the other squirrels have.. Beleechio's?

KAZZ

I wouldn't know. They just a bunch of hater's.

Kazz tries on some of her jewelry.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Ever since I arrived on the Set, they been hatin' on me. But I don't care. I got talent baby and I'm gonna be a star.

LEESHA

Don't you ever get lonely?

KAZZ

Me? Lonely? Please.

(grins)

It's just more out there for me.

Kazz and Leesha walk toward the window.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Yo, I've been thinkin' about rollin' with a partner, you know, help me hold it down out here.

LEESHA

Hold what down?

KAZZ

Look, with you and me grindin' it out, pretty soon we'd have enough to build a concert stage, maybe even a recording studio.

Leesha looks at Kazz.

LEESHA

Do you really believe that you can do all of that?

KAZZ

Look, you need some quick school if you plannin' on runnin' these streets.

Kazz raps to a musical beat, "Get Yours" -

KAZZ (CONT'D)

"Jump lines/don't wait/if you don't get first you gonna get late/beat the odds/stack the deck/make sure it's a certified paycheck/they try to step on you/ do what cha gotta do/give an inch/ take a yard/ make it look easy/ break it hard and get yours." Feel me?

LEESHA

What?

Kazz sighs looking skyward.

EXT. CITY PARK - MOMENTS LATER

Wizzy and Fizzy watch several Skateboarder's doing various stunts while licking their paws from the ice cream.

IIZZY

Did you see that?

FIZZY

His wheels need adjusting.

IIZZY

You think I could..

FIZZY

No, don't even think about it.

The hand of a young boy scoops up Wizzy as it rolls by on a skateboard.

FIZZY (CONT'D)

Wizzy.

The Skateboarder makes a trick turn on a nearby plank.

IIZZY

Wooo. Hey Fizz, look at me.

FIZZY

Come back here right now.

The hand of a Little Girl scoops up Fizzy.

LITTLE GIRL

Can I take it home mommy, please? I promise I'll take care of it.

Fizzy attempts to escape the hugs of the Little Girl.

INT. TREE - KAZZ'S ROOM

Lessha and Kazz, in a pair of shades busily model different pieces of jewelry.

KAZZ

Whoo. That necklace is callin' your name Ms.Thang. Wearin' a Rock like that, singing like you do? We're talkin' Contract. Green Carpet.

Leesha removes the necklace.

LEESHA

Kazz, has anyone ever called you a
Mongrel?

KAZZ

Why would they call me that?

LEESHA

Well, you know, because you're mixed.

KAZZ

Girlfriend, I'm a straight up Sqimunk. Half Squirrel, half Chipmunk. I got the best of both.

Kazz vogues in front of the mirror.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

No more picture's, please.

LEESHA

Seriously Kazz, If you were a pure breed, maybe the other squirrels would like you.

KAZZ

Yo girlfriend, my momma said the only thing you have to keep pure is your heart. Now if you got a pure heart..

Kazz puts a gold earring close to Leesha's ear.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

..And one of these, then you're more than pure.. You're perfect.

Leesha and Kazz look at each other and laugh.

Leesha suddenly looks around the room then rushes to the window.

LEESHA

Oh no.

KAZZ

What's the matter?

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

Leesha races down the tree, followed by Kazz frantically racing around the area.

LEESHA

Wizzy. Fizzy. Where are you?

Kazz follows Leesha as she rushes from tree to bench to tree.

KAZZ

They couldn't have gone that far. They're just kittens.

LEESHA

You don't understand. I'm suppose to protect them, take care of them. I'm all they've got.

Leesha continues searching.

KAZZ

Ever think about yoga? Meditation? A weekend at the Spa?

LEESHA

What do you know? You don't have a family. You're just living for yourself.

Kazz turns to walk in the opposite direction.

Leesha stops, looks around for Kazz, then runs to catch her.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

What's the matter with you? I thought you were going to help me look for..

KAZZ

Oh, so <u>now</u> you need help. Ms."I Got It All Figured Out Don't Need Nobody."

LEESHA

What?

KAZZ

Go head. You so down to the ground.

LEESHA

I don't understand.

KAZZ

Oh really? Could'a fooled me.

LEESHA

Why are you so mad?

KAZZ

I'm out here grindin' day after day, tryin' to hold it down, hustlin', survivin'. All by myself. What chu think?

LEESHA

What about all of your Rocks?

KAZZ

You think Rock's is all I care about? I'd give em all up for just one true friend. Someone I could talk to when it gets too cold to look for food or just sit on a branch and listen to the music.

LEESHA

I thought you liked being alone.

Kazz makes the sound of Buzzer.

KAZZ

Wrong.

Kazz circles Leesha.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Okay, that's enough Therapy for the day. Now, if you were a kitten and you just tasted some delicious ice cream, where would you go?

LEESHA

I don't know. To get some more?

Kazz snaps her paws and clunks her head.

KAZZ

There's hope for you yet Ms. Thang.. Come on.

EXT. ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

DELAFONTE (Hamster/Chipmunk) dressed in a hospital gown, with a surgical mask hanging around his neck, watches as Sir Winston supervises another Persian Cat plastering "Wanted" posters of Leesha and her family along the fence.

DELAFONTE

Dang, that is straight up foul. Burnin' down Tiger Hall. (coughs)

SIR WINSTON

In criminal terms, it's called Arson.

DELAFONTE

How you know it was them?

SIR WINSTON

I was there. I barely got out alive.

DELAFONTE

I was in a fire once, smoke everywhere. I was tryin' to escape, but there was this huge trap in front of the door with this great, big hunk of cheese on it.

Delafonte checks his pulse, then looks toward Sir Winston.

DELAFONTE (CONT'D)

Do I have a fever?

SIR WINSTON

I wouldn't know, I'm not a Doctor. Even if I were, I would never examine something like you, but I <u>am</u> getting a bit hungry.

DELAFONTE

From where I'm standin', I'm the last thing you need to munch on. You'd be sicker than a dog.
(laughs)

Get it? Sicker than a..
 (coughs)

Sir Winston continues poster hanging.

Delafonte looks at the Wanted Poster noticing the word "Reward".

DELAFONTE (CONT'D)

Yo, what if, let's say, I were to come across these criminals. How much reward are we talkin' here?

SIR WINSTON

Have you ever heard of Zangy Tangy's?

Delafonte paces, shaking, sweating, checking his pulse, examining his tongue with a portable mirror.

DELAFONTE

Did you say Zangy Tangy's?

SIR WINSTON (evil grin)

If they're found alive, I could be persuaded to..

(beat)

provide a treat or two.

Delafonte waves Sir Winston off.

DELAFONTE

Nah, that stuff is bad news. I heard that you get so high on that stuff you feel like you could just disappear.

SIR WINSTON

If you are a pure breed, it will cure all of your ailments. But if you have any mixed blood in you..

Delafonte removes three ribbons from his gown.

DELAFONTE

Me? Mixed? Yo, I'm the grandson of Big Chippy. A champion Hamster from back in the day. Look.

Sir Winston glances at the Persian Cat standing next to him as Delafonte takes the Golden Nugget.

DELAFONTE (CONT'D)

You know I use to sing. Will it do anything for me voice?

SIR WINSTON

Your voice will feel and sound better than ever.

Delafonte's face brightens as he chews. He reaches in his gown, removes a pair of dark glasses and turns facing Sir Winston and sings.

DELAFONTE (sings)

"Whooouuu, guess you're wonderin' how I knew/ bout those cats that came runnin' through/ Some other eyes seem em on the fence/ but it's two days now since I seem em since. You should've told me before/I had a chance to tell ya more/instead I heard it through the..

Delafonte stops, placing one hand on his chest, then his tail.

DELAFONTE

What's happening? <u>I can't feel my tail.</u>

Delafonte examines his hands, arms and legs as he slowly dissolves, then vanishes.

SIR WINSTON

It appears he's not the Pedigree Hamster he claimed to be.

PERSIAN CAT

You know what they say.. "More is less".

Sir Winston and the Persian Cat break into laughter.

EXT. CITY PARK - LATER

Kazz leans against a tree watching Leesha as she circles.

KAZZ

Yo Ms. Thang, you makin' me cross-eyed.

(beat)

At least change direction.

LEESHA

You don't understand. Wizzy and Fizzy could be anywhere by now. Maybe some humans captured them. Maybe they've been eaten by wild dogs.

KAZZ

How much television did you say you watched?

LEESHA

I don't have a television.

Kazz follows Leesha as she walks away.

KAZZ

This is New Katt City. People don't "capture" kittens, they look in store windows, make silly faces, walk in the store, pull em out the window, take em home, then throw em away when they get older. I've heard the stories.

LEESHA

No. That's not true.

KAZZ

Well, what've you heard?

INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fizy sits sulking in the middle of a pile of soft pillows and Dolls with a cute, pink Bib tied around her neck A tea set sits next to her. She ignores the little bowl placed next to her.

LITTLE GIRL

She still won't eat mommy.

Fizzy rejects the Little Girl's second offering.

LITTLE GIRL (CONT'D)

Why are you so picky?

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Little Boy watches as Wizzy does acrobatic tricks all around the apartment leaping from bookshelves to table.

LITTLE BOY

Yo Mom. You gotta see this.

EXT. STREET -- DAY

Leesha and Kazz walk along looking at various store signs.

KAZZ

So tell me again how you learned to read?

LEESHA

Well, my mother use to take me up to the concert hall library and show me different..

Leesha looks up and spots a sign.

BIGELOW BONNIE'S ICE CREAM PARLOR -

EXT. BIGELOW'S ICE CREAM PARLOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Leesha and Kazz watch as people exit the store eating from ice cream cones and cups.

KAZZ

Well, it's the right place.

LEESHA

But how do we know if Wizzy and Fizzy were here?

KAZZ

Suppose we just follow someone, maybe they'd lead us to them.

LEESHA

How do we know who to follow?

KAZZ

That's easy. The first one who offers us some ice cream is probably the one your brother and sister followed.

EXT. STREET CORNER - CONTINUOUS

Officers Pubbo and Squibs sniff along the sidewalk.

SOUIBS

The Sarge thinks at least one of them survived.

PUBBO

But they could be anywhere.

**SQUIBS** 

They're pedigrees. They're the kind that stay close to home and their food source.

EXT. BIGELOW'S ICE CREAM PARLOR - MOMENTS LATER

Leesha watches as Kazz throws down some Hip Hop dance moves.

LEESHA

It's not working.

KAZZ

Well, maybe if you stepped up and helped a Sista out, we might catch a little sump-sump.

LEESHA

I'm not going to do some ridiculous wiggling around just to get..

KAZZ

Oh, so now you too good to get ya pedigree paws a little sweaty?

A piece of paper falls in front of Leesha and Kazz.

Leesha picks up the paper.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

What.

LEESHA

This paper says that my family is wanted by the Police and there's a reward.

KAZZ

Dang girl, what did you do?

LEESHA

I didn't do anything.

KAZZ

What, so somebody just decided to advertise your <a href="https://www.mbole.com/whole.com/">whole family for fun?</a>

LEESHA

So now <u>you're</u> gonna accuse me of burning down Tiger Hall?

Kazz quickly covers Leesha's mouth.

KAZZ

Why don't you say it a little louder so we can both wind up in the Joint.

Leesha walks away with Kazz close behind.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Yo, why don't you just tell em it wasn't you?

Leesha faces Kazz.

LEESHA

Look, you don't understand how any of this happened and I don't need you following me around asking stupid questions. You can't even read.

Leesha walks away.

KAZZ

Maybe I can't read, but I know what a Fugitive looks like.

(beat)

<u>Public enemy.</u>

EXT. OPPOSITE STREET CORNER - CONTINUOUS

Kazz walks along mumbling.

KAZZ

Huh, who she thinks she is anyway. Some Wannabe Gangsta. Got me way over on the other side of town. This ain't my problem.

Kazz spots Pubbo and Squibs across the street then slowly backs away.

Squibs sniffs the air then spots Kazz running back toward the Ice Cream Parlor.

EXT. ICE CREAM PARLOR

Kazz catches up with Leesha pulling her by the tail.

KAZZ

K-9 Oh. Run.

Pubbo and Squib give chase as Leesha and Kazz bolt around the corner, twisting through the crowd of human legs, dodging two way traffic scampering up a tree.

Leesha and Kazz watch from the safety of a tree branch as Pubbo and Squibs turn the same corner in hot pursuit.

LEESHA

How did they find you?

KAZZ

Find me? For your information, police dogs don't give me the time of day. I'm a Park Resident. And you don't have to thank me for savin' your little stuck up whiskers.

LEESHA

I'm sorry Kazz. Thanks.

Kazz follows Leesha as she lowers her head and moves to another tree branch.

KAZZ

Look, I'm not tryin' to climb all up in your business, but I know <u>somebody</u> heard you all loud on the sidewalk about burning down Tiger Hall.

LEESHA

Just help me get away from here.

KAZZ

Look, you can hide for as long as you want, but you'll never find your brother and sister like that.

Leesha scans the roof tops.

EXT. STREET CORNER -- MOMENTS LATER

Squibs and Pubbo stand looking in both directions.

PUBBO

We lost em again.

**SQUIBS** 

Sarge ain't gonna like this.

**PUBBO** 

Call for backup. They couldn't get that far.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Fizzy is curled up in the Little Girl's lap on a big, soft sweater. The Little Girl comforts Fizzy as she shakes to the sound of thunder.

LITTLE GIRL

Are you afraid of the storm little kitty?

Fizzy jumps from the Little Girl's lap, runs over to the windowsill and looks out into the night. A flash of lighting illuminates the image of a cat sitting on a tree branch.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT -- CONTINUOUS

Wizzy lays on a pillow in front of a fireplace. He opens one eye, then the other. He leaps up on the windowsill looking out at the storm sniffing at the small opening at the base of the window.

EXT. TREE -- DAY

Leesha and Kazz sit on a branch scanning the ground below.

KAZZ

I think they're gone.

LEESHA

What am I going to do Kazz? We can't stay up here forever.

KAZZ

Well, "we" don't have plans to stay up here any longer than necessary, so let's go.

Kazz starts down the tree.

LEESHA

Where are you going?

KAZZ

They've lost our trail. Come on.

LEESHA

Wait a minute. What about my brother and sister?

Kazz looks around in all directions.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

What are you looking for?

KAZZ

If you were out here by yourself, what would be the first thing you'd try to do?

LEESHA

I don't know. Look for food?

KAZZ

Duh.

EXT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - CANINE UNIT

WE SEE -

A building constructed in the shape of a dog house.

INT. CANINE UNIT DOG RUN -- CONTINUOUS

The Chew Squad listens as McChops gives them assignments.

MC CHOPS

Starting today, our number one priority is to capture those kittens.

**PUBBO** 

What if they're chased into traffic?

**SQUIBS** 

..Or happen to fall into the Python Pit at the zoo?

CHIPPY

(grins)

Yeah, it can get pretty dangerous out there, especially at night.

LAUGHTER

MC CHOPS

Am I barking just to hear myself bark here?

**PUBBO** 

But Sarge..

MC CHOPS

That's an order Private.

McChops walks over to a map of the city.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Wanted Posters and Kitty Alerts are posted in these areas. They'll try to hide.

(MORE)

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

When enough Human's see this, they'll get adopted and registered. That's when we move in. Until then, I want every park, every alley and under bridge sniffed out. If you spot them, don't try to take them on your own. Call for back up. We'll have Units on the ready. I want results. Careers and lives are on the line.

EXT. JUNK YARD - MOMENTS LATER

A narrow stream of smoke drifts up from the chimney of an old, wooden shed.

INT. STEEL DRUM -

Sir Winston and McChops examine a map.

MC CHOPS

We lost them in this section.

SIR WINSTON

If you were that close, why did they escape.. again?

MC CHOPS

It was crowded. There were Innocents in the way.

McChops bows his head.

SIR WINSTON

I'm beginning to grow quite tired of your excuses Sargent. It appears that all of your police training has not provided the kind of leadership I'd hoped for.

MC CHOPS

Like I said, it was..

SIR WINSTON

It also appears that you're going to need additional help.

MC CHOPS

But..

SIR WINSTON

No buts Sargent.

Sir Winston picks up his cell phone.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Hello, I wish to speak to Senor Z.

McChops slaps the phone from Sir Winston's paws.

MC CHOPS

All right, all right. What do you want me to do?

Sir Winston picks up the cell phone, smiles.

SIR WINSTON

That's better.

INT. KAZZ'S TREE - LATER

Leesha stands in front of a mirror examining her big hat and dark glasses.

Kazz is dressed in a football Jersey, dark glasses, a baseball hat and a huge gold chain around her neck.

LEESHA

This isn't much of a disguise Kazz.

KAZZ

Girl please. You might get stopped for an autograph, but not for burnin' down Tiger Hall.

LEESHA

How many times do I have to tell you I didn't..

LEESHA/KAZZ

..burn down Tiger Hall.

Kazz changes Leesha hat to a dark colored Schoolboy cap.

LEESHA

Your loyalty is commendable Kazz. I won't forget it.

KAZZ

Whatever.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

McChops and his Squad patrol the streets in a Police car.

**PUBBO** 

Hey Sarge, you think Ol Man Chizzle was serious about putting Senor Z on the case?

CHIPPY

If you ask me, Sir Winston has too much influence in the Department.

MC CHOPS

Maybe we can change all that.

The Squad Car turns the corner disappearing down a back alley.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Leesha and Kazz walk along the street in their disguises.

The sound of a police siren causes Lessha and Kazz to duck into an alley.

Leesha peeks out of the alley before she and Kazz return to the sidewalk.

EXT. TIGER HALL - CONTINUOUS

Leesha and Kazz stand motionless gazing at the demolished remains of Tiger Hall. The site is littered with debris and rubble.

KAZZ

Okay, now what?

Leesha walks towards the piles of rubble.

LEESHA

Wizzy. Fizzy. Where are you?

KAZZ

Are you really expecting them to answer?

LEESHA

They could be hiding.

KAZZ

From what, some old bricks?

As Leesha leaps from one pile of debris to the another, she falls through a flimsy piece of cardboard tumbling down several feet into a dark hole. Dizzy from the fall, she slowly tries to climb but flinches her paw.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

<u>Leesha.</u> <u>Leesha.</u> <u>Where you at?</u>

LEESHA (faded)

I'm down here.

Kazz looks down in the hole.

KAZZ

You awight?

LEESHA

Something's wrong with my leg.

KAZZ

Hang on.

Kazz pulls a piece of curtain anchored to a piece of wood over to the hole. As she climbs down, the curtain slides from underneath the wood causing Kazz to plummet down into the hole.

LEESHA

Are you okay?

Kazz shakes her head.

KAZZ

Okay, so how you wanna play this?

LEESHA

Play what?

KAZZ

Look, your leg is messed up. That means you can't climb. I don't know if this thing can hold both of us.

The remainder of the curtain falls into the hole.

LEESHA

Now what do we do?

KAZZ

Hey, we need some help down here.

LEESHA

Will you be quiet?

KAZZ

Oh, so you want to be on the DL down here too?

LEESHA

Look Kazz, no one asked you to follow me.

KAZZ

<u>Follow</u> you. Like I need to be stuck down here waiting for some dirt to be dumped on me.

LEESHA

This was not my fault.

A falling pipe interrupts the argument. Leesha and Kazz look up and see a grinning Sir Winston looking down at them.

SIR WINSTON

The criminal always returns to the scene of the crime.

Leesha pulls Kazz away from the sunlight.

KAZZ

What?

LEESHA

That's him, Sir Winston. He thinks I burned down Tiger Hall.

Kazz jumps back into the sunlight.

KAZZ

Yo. She didn't do it. She was with me at my crib tryin' on..

Leesha covers Kazz's mouth and yanks her back into the shade.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Chillax. I'ma get you outta this.

SIR WINSTON

I couldn't have written a better ending to this little adventure.

Leesha steps into the sunlight.

LEESHA

Why are you doing this? You know I didn't start that fire.

SIR WINSTON

I know nothing of the kind. What I do know is that your mother should have been one of the greatest singers that ever graced the stage of Tiger Hall, but she was weak and sentimental, allowing herself to be cooed and wooed by some half-breed, back alley creature bringing disgrace to the family.

LEESHA

Family? What are you talking about?

SIR WINSTON

Enough talk, I'll give Sargent McChops the honors and the credit for the capture.. And the kill.

Sir Winston walks away.

KAZZ

Did he just say.. Kill? And who's McChops?

LEESHA

He's head of the City Canine Unit.

KAZZ

You mean the Chew Squad? Please.

Kazz scrambles around the area looking and tossing objects aside.

LEESHA

What are you doing?

KAZZ

We need something that can get us out of here.

LEESHA

But I don't think I can climb.

Kazz looks up.

KAZZ

Then I'll go get help.

LEESHA

Who's gonna help us Kazz?

KAZZ

You said he was going to get McChops right?

LEESHA

Yeah, but what has..

Leesha watches as Kazz leaps from one cross beam to the other climbing up to the top of the hole.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Kazz.. Where are you going?

Leesha makes a feeble attempt to jump to the wooden beam above her head before settling back into the darkness of the hole.

INT. HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Wizzy sits at the window watching two squirrels as they run, leap and zig zag up and around the tree next to the house.

LITTLE BOY

He won't do anything mom. He just sits looking out the window. He's no fun anymore.

Wizzy looks in the direction of the Little Boy's voice, then returns his attention to the tree.

INT. HOUSE -- MOMENTS LATER

Fizzy busily dismantles one of the Little Girl's dolls. An eye ball and one arm lay next to the doll. The Little Girl enters the room. Her scream sends Fizzy scrambling under the bed.

LITTLE GIRL (O.S.)

MMMAAA MAAAH

EXT. DEMOLITION SITE - MOMENTS LATER

The sound of Flyboy's wings alerts Leesha as she moves out into the broken beams of sunlight to get a closer look.

LEESHA

What are you doing here?

FLYBOY

I was just about to ask you the same thing.

LEESHA

Go away.

FLYBOY

Don't blame me cause you fell in a hole.

LEESHA

It was an accident.

FLYBOY

Word on the street is that you burnt down Tiger Hall.

LEESHA

That's a lie. You were there. You saw what happened.

FLYBOY

You mean when you were swattin' at me? Trying to squash me like a bug?

Lessha bows her head.

LEESHA

I was afraid.

SIR WINSTON (O.S.)

There she is Sargent. Now do your duty.

Leesha and Flyboy look up to see Sir Winston and McChops standing at the top of the hole.

FLYBOY

Uh oh, I'm out.

LEESHA

No. <u>Wait.</u> <u>Don't leave.</u> <u>You can tell them what happened.</u>

FLYBOY

Sorry Shorty, but my version of the story would just get me stuck to some paper.. Or worse.

Flyboy takes off.

MC CHOPS

How do you want me to do this?

Sir Winston looks around.

SIR WINSTON

This would be an excellent opportunity for you to use your <a href="hidden">hidden</a> talents.

MC CHOPS

No.

SIR WINSTON

Go on, no one's watching. I'll tell everyone it was all in the line of duty.

McChops looks in the hole at the reflection of Leesha's eyes in the sunlight.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Well Sargent?

McChops stands still sniffing and looking around.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

What is it?

MC CHOPS

I hear something.

McChops and Sir Winston listen quietly as the faint sound of a thousand marching boots approaches.

Sir Winston and McChops turn toward the thunderous sound as several columns of Fleas approach the Hole from four different directions lead by Queen LaFleeka on a Harley with Kazz seated on the back.

McChops prevents Sir Winston from running away.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Don't move.

McChops glares at Queen LaFleeka and Kazz as they dismount from the bike.

KAZZ

What. Cat got cha tongue? (laughs)

SIR WINSTON

Who is this?

KAZZ

Your worse nightmare times a thousand fat boy.

The sound of an American Chopper bike roars through the columns stopping at the feet of McChops.

QUEEN LAFLEEKA, dressed in full, hard core Biker gear, flies to face level with McChops.

QUEEN L.

Whassup McChops? Still using those Government Surplus Flea Bombs?

MC CHOPS

This is none of your business LaFleeka.

SIR WINSTON

Sargent. What is the meaning of this?

Queen LaFleeka gets in Sir Winston's face.

QUEEN L.

I was invited to the party.

O.LaFleeka looks Sir Winston over.

QUEEN L. (CONT'D)

Hmm. Aged but tender.

SIR WINSTON

Why you little flying piece of ..

McChops places his paw on the cane preventing Sir Winston from swinging at the battalion of fleas at his feet.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

Sargent, I order you to do something.

McChops looks around before reaching for a small leather pouch on his belt.

The Flea Battalion closes ranks rising slowly off the ground moving closer to McChops and Sir Winston.

McChops and Sir Winston back down.

MC CHOPS

This ain't over Queen.

QUEEN L.

Got that right. And the next time you try a Flea Bomb attack on my crew, make sure you kill the Queen.

MC CHOPS

I don't know what you're talking about.

QUEEN L.

Well, that just makes you twice as stupid.

SIR WINSTON

<u>Sargent</u>. Are you going to do just stand there and allow this, this..

Q.Lafleeka turns to Sir Winston.

KAZZ

Whassup Fat Boy. Forget to wear your flea collar?

SIR WINSTON

Do you realize who you are talking to?

KAZZ

Not really, but you and Bunchy Bow Wow need to help my girl Kazz with her situation.

SIR WINSTON

Why you...

Sir Winston raises his cane prompting the flea battalion to surround Sir Winston.

QUEEN L.

Guess you never felt a thousand hungry fleas chewin' around dinner time, huh? It's like pulling out your whiskers, one at a time.. In slow motion.

Queen Lafleeka nods toward her battalion prompting them to reposition at Sir Winston's feet.

Kazz joins McChops as they look down into the hole.

KAZZ

Yo Leesha. We gettin' you out. (MORE)

KAZZ (CONT'D)

(beat)

Come on, hurry up.

McChops pulls a rope from the side of the curtain hanging half way into the hole, tying it around his waist. He gives the other end to Sir Winston.

SIR WINSTON

I can't pull the two of you out of there.

Kazz, McChops and Sir Winston turn their attention to the sound of an approaching Police Squad car.

Pubbo, Chippy and Squibs rush toward McChops and Sir Winston. They spot the Fleas and reach for their holsters.

MC CHOPS

No. Stand down.

**PUBBO** 

But Sarge..

MC CHOPS

Just grab the rope.

Squibs nervously watches the Fleas as Pubbo and Chippy take the rope with Sir Winston to lower McChops into the hole.

SIR WINSTON

You realize what this means don't you.

KAZZ

It means that your fat butt <u>might</u> not get chewed up today.

INT. HOLE - CONTINUOUS

McChops stands over a trembling Leesha.

LEESHA

Are you going to kill me?

MC CHOPS

It would solve a few problems.

McChops grabs Leesha by her waist as he yanks on the rope.

McChops pushes away the planks to keep the ascension path clear.

LEESHA

Why did you kill my mother?

MC CHOPS

You've got a pretty wild imagination.

LEESHA

I saw you chasing her through the Junkyard.

MC CHOPS

A chase doesn't always end with a Kill.

Leesha and McChops arrive at the top of the Hole.

Kazz rushes to assist Leesha.

KAZZ

You all awight?

LEESHA

Who are they?

KAZZ

Who, LaFleeka? Girl me and Queen go way back. I didn't make the connect till you mentioned Dawgy Doo here.

(beat)

Yo Queen. This is my girl Leesha. Leesha, this is Lafleeka, Queen of the Flea Nation.

LEESHA

Hello.

QUEEN L.

Sup Shorty. You a'ight?

LEESHA

I think I broke my paw.

KAZZ

Don't worry. Poh-Poh gonna hook you up. Ain't dat right?

Pubbo and Chippy looks at one another.

QUEEN L.

There's a place about ten blocks from here. Nice joint, clean, smells good, kinda like Pet Food and chocolate. They'll have her jumpin' and runnin' in no time.

KAZZ

Thanks Queen, I got chu.

SQUIBS

Sarge, she's on our Most Wanted List. We should be taking her in for questioning, not sending her to some Clinic.

SIR WINSTON

If you don't mind, would you kindly call off these, these, flying blood suckers.

Kazzy looks around examining the situation.

QUEEN L.

Ain't no biggie. Besides, I'm gettin' this vibe from the Sarge that we got future business.

Lafleeka signals her Flea battalion to follow her disappearing into a dusty, airborne cloud from the rear of Lafleeka's bike.

EXT. DEMOLITION SITE -- MOMENTS LATER

Leesha licks her paw.

KAZZ

C'mon, we'd better get you to that Clinic place.

Leesha hesitates.

LEESHA

Maybe we should look around a little more, just in case.

KAZZ

Yo, you got a busted paw, you was almost a kitty sandwich for McChops and you still wanna be out here?

LEESHA

They're all I've got Kazz.

KAZZ

Duh. Look around. No food, no water, no place to hide. Just a lotta burnt up stuff.

Leesha scans the piles of debris.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Your brother and sister are long gone girlfriend. Maybe even..

Leesha gets in Kazz's face.

LEESHA

No. Don't you dare say something like that. Don't even think it.

KAZZ

Aight, aight, chill, I'm just keepin' it real, that's all.

LEESHA

Well, you just keep your "real" to yourself.

EXT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- MOMENTS LATER

A car pulls up to the entrance.

A portable cat cage is carried by a human through the front door.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- CONTINUOUS

The Cat Cage is placed on the counter.

Fizzy sits in the cage watching and listening.

MOTHER (O.S.)

She's not a bad cat, really. She just loves to take things apart. She even dismantled my daughter's favorite doll. I just didn't have the heart to bring her to a Shelter.

The Mother places Fizzy's tool belt on the counter.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Maybe you can find her a home in a Hardware Store.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Well, we can only keep her for a few days, then we have to give her to the Shelter.

Fizzy smiles then licks the finger of the female voice as she places it in her cage.

MOTHER

Goodbye little Miss Screwdriver, we're gonna miss you.

INT. PET CAGE AREA -- MOMENTS LATER

The door of Fizzy's portable cage opens into a larger cage. She pushes against the bars of the cage. The lock clicks shut as her attention turns to a voice from across the isle.

P1 (0.S.)

Is that Juicy Coutour?

INT. SPECIAL CAGE

P1, pure bred Cornish Rex, wearing sunglasses and a baseball hat with a "P1" emblem sits at the door of a cage containing spot lights, high tech cameras and cat toys.

FIZZY

Excuse me?

Р1

You do speak English don't you?

P2, a clone of P1, appears from behind one of the brightly colored balls wearing a sleeveless Hoodie sweatshirt and a baseball hat with the emblem "P2".

Fizzy looks from left to right.

FIZZY

The two of you look exactly alike. Are you twins?

P1 and P2 look at one another then collapse with laughter.

Р1

Does this look like a place for twins?

P1/P2

We're the Famous Feline Clones, FFC in the house, hey.

P1 and P2 give high five's to each other.

Fizzy looks around her cage then closely examines the lock.

Р1

Uh-oh, prison break.

FIZZY

Shut up.

Ρ1

Oh no you didn't.

Ρ2

Did she just tell you to shut up?

FIZZY

Look, just watch out for the Human lady.

Р1

Why should we do that?

FIZZY

I can get out of here. I'll take you with me.

P1 and P2 look at one another then collapse with laughter.

P1 (laughing)

Oh. Look at me running away.

P2 (laughing)

Stop, please, my tummy hurts.

FIZZY

Hey, cut it out. They'll hear you.

P1 picks up a microphone and starts to sing.

Р1

I can't get in/I can't get out/ tell me baby what it's all about.

FIZZY

Be quiet. Don't you want to get out of here?

P1 and P2 look around their elaborate cage and burst out laughing again.

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz watches as Leesha stops to lick her paw.

KAZZ

Only three more blocks. You can do this.

LEESHA

I'm nervous Kazz.

KAZZ

Nervous. Girl please, all you gotta do is just sit by the door, wait for it to open, then just start lickin' your paw.

LEESHA

Why won't you come with me?

KAZZ

Me? In there? Yo, they take one look at me and go "Woo, experiment Time. Let's see if we can find out how this one got that big, red tail and that cute little chipmunk nose."

Next thing you know, I'm stretched out on some table being poked at, picked at and..

LEESHA

I don't think I want to go in there Kazz.

Kazz nudges Leesha forward.

KAZZ

Why not? You a pure breed. All the right features. They probably give you a private cage.

LEESHA

I'm not so sure.

Kazz takes off her necklace placing it around Leesha's neck.

KAZZ

That should do it. Now just remember what I said. Wait for the door to open, then lick your paw. Maybe even throw in a few pitiful meow's.

Kazz pushes Leesha forward as she tries to back away.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

Go ahead. I'll be right here when you come out.

Kazz watches from a distance as Leesha limps toward the Clinic.

EXT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha approaches the front door. She sits and watches.

Suddenly, the Clinic door opens prompting her to lick her injured paw.

KAZZY

Yes.

At that moment, a net drops over Kazz.

**PUBBO** 

Got cha.

Kazz's struggle to escape entangles her deeper.

Pubbo picks up the net carrying it to the Squad Car.

PUBBO (CONT'D)

Sarge is gonna dance on the Bar for this one.

## INT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- MOMENTS LATER

Leesha is placed on the Examination table. She watches as a pair of Human hands examines her paw.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

I found her sitting outside the front door.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Why would someone abandon a cat dressed like this?

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

From the looks of her, we should be getting a call within the hour.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Let's get her fixed up in the meantime.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC EXAMINATION ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha, with her bandaged paw, is gently placed in a large basket.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC HOLDING AREA -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha is placed in an empty cage several cages away from Fizzy's.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS -- LATER

Pubbo and Squibs stand over Kazz who is tied by the neck to a chair.

KAZZ

Yo, I'm hungry.

(beat)

I know my rights. Ya'll need to be handin' me a tray of peanuts.

**SQUIBS** 

Anything else?

KAZZ

Got any Perrier?

LAUGHTER

KAZZ (CONT'D)

What's so funny? Ya'll be laughin' out cha behinds when I get through talkin' to my lawyer. I know my rights.

SOUIBS

When's the Sarge comin'? I'm gettin' sick of hearing this Diva screamin' about her rights.

KAZZ

That ain't all I'ma scream about if I don't get my peanuts and some lemonade.. And none of dat power stuff, too much sugar.

INT. JUNK YARD SHED -- LATER

Sir Winston stands next to a steaming kettle stirring with a large spoon watching a shivering McChops who is wrapped in blankets. He hands a tin cup filled with a hot liquid to McChops.

McChops knocks the cup away.

MC CHOPS

Get that stuff away from me.

SIR WINSTON

It's not Zangy Tangy if that's what you're thinking.

MC CHOPS

Just leave me alone, I'll get through this my own way.

SIR WINSTON

That will only take longer.

MC CHOPS

And whose fault is that?

SIR WINSTON

Certainly not mine.

Sir Winston prepares a second cup handing it to McChops.

McChops takes a small sip, grimaces, then lays down.

MC CHOPS

I can't go on living like this, pretending to be something I'm not.

SIR WINSTON

You won't have to if you allow your beastly nature to come out at the right moments. Balance dear boy, balance.

Sir Winston pulls up a chair next to the bed.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

I've always known the best way to suppress your beastly side. Luckily, your obedient dog nature still dominates your character.

(beat)

Not to worry, you still have the <u>appearance</u> of a Pure Breed.

McChops growls and shivers as Sir Winston places a blanket over him.

SIR WINSTON (CONT'D)

There, there, don't fight your anger, express it, release it toward the glow of the moonlight.

McChops attempts to resist the trembling within his body.

EXT. JUNK YARD -- CONTINUOUS

The sound of a howling wolf echoes through the neighborhood.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC HOLDING AREA -- DAY

Fizzy continues working on opening the cage door lock.

Р1

Let me know when you're done, I got an appointment for a new collar fitting.'

Ρ2

And I'm getting a Virtual Catnip Play Ring.

FIZZY

If I just had my Tool belt.

Ρ1

Did you hear that? She's not only an escape artist, she's a mechanic too.

## LAUGHTER

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - CANINE UNIT -- LATER

Kazz sweats and squirms as McChops enters the Interrogation Room.

SQUIBS

Sarge, where you been?

PUBBO

Look who I found.

McChops approaches Kazz.

KAZZ

Help. Police brutality. Cruelty to endangered species. Prisoner of war.

MC CHOPS

I don't think the Fleas can hear you.

KAZZ

Where's my lawyer?

McChops takes the file from Squibs.

PUBBO

I caught her casing the Animal Clinic over on Cropsey.

MC CHOPS

Let her go.

SQUIBS

What?

MC CHOPS

You heard me.

PUBBO

But Sarge, I thought you..

MC CHOPS

There's no crime for standing on the corner looking at a building. Yet.

Chippy unties the knot around Kazz's neck.

Kazz stands, shakes, brushes her tail.

KAZZ

You betta have my Stuff.

Kazz exits the room.

**PUBBO** 

I don't get it Sarge.

MC CHOPS

Follow her. Find out where she lives.

CHIPPY

Thinks she knows where our little thug Princess is hiding out?

MC CHOPS

We'll find out soon enough.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- MOMENTS LATER

WE SEE:

THE HUMAN LEGS OF TWO ADULTS AND ONE CHILD SLOWLY WALKING DOWN THE ISLE IN THE HOLDING AREA.

MOTHER'S VOICE

We went to the animal shelter. They didn't have one single kitten.

The Human legs stop in front of Leesha's cage.

CHILD'S VOICE

Mommy look. This one's hurt.

FEMALE VOICE

She just arrived. Her paw was injured.

MOTHER'S VOICE

Why would anyone want to hurt or abandon such a gorgeous little creature?

CHILD'S VOICE

Can we take her mommy? Plleeeaasse?

FEMALE VOICE

We'll keep her overnight. If no one claims her by morning, I think you can have her.

CHILD'S VOICE

Yyeeeeaaaaahhh.

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz makes her way through the streets trying to avoid heavy people traffic.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- MOMENTS LATER

Fizzy sits in a corner of the cage with P1 and P2.

FIZZY

Then he and his Squad chased us all over the city.

Ρ2

Whoa.

Ρ1

I'm glad I'm a Scientific Experimental. It's sound horrible out there.

INT. HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Wizzy is lying in front of the fireplace. An acorn falls from the chimney, bounces hitting him on the head.

Wizzy examines the acorn, looks inside the fireplace and discovers the opening in the chimney. He scans the room then smiles when he notices a box of Lego's in the corner.

EXT. STREET CORNER -- NIGHT

Kazz stands on the corner looking at the Animal Clinic. She starts toward the Clinic, then returns to the corner, then races toward the Clinic.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC HOLDING AREA -- CONTINUOUS

Fizzy sits next to P1 and P2.

Р1

Come on, you expect us to believe some whack story like that?

FIZZY

I'm telling you. The Police are looking for my whole family.

Р1

Okay, let's say we believe this "Crime Story".

Ρ2

And you're some kind of real Gangster.

**р**1

If you didn't burn down Tiger Hall, who did?

FIZZY

That's what we have to find out.

P1 and P2 look at each other.

Р1

We?

FIZZY

Yeah, my sister Leesha and my brother Wizzy.

Ρ2

From the way it sounds, you and your family would still be together if it wasn't for your Ice Cream Jones.

P1

You ever heard of "Just Say No"?

FIZZY

You ever tasted <u>real</u> ice cream?

Ρ2

Nah, just the Laboratory brand. We don't get out much.

Ρ1

We don't get out at all.

FIZZY

Don't you know what it's like to love something so much, you wind up doing something stupid just to have it?

Ρ2

Weellll..

Ρ1

Oh please, don't even try it. You should see this one whenever we get anywhere near some tuna fish. And if it's mixed with spicy mayonnaise? Oh my god.

Ρ2

Why you tellin' the whole world my business? Ms. Freaky French Fry.

FIZZY

Excuse me?

Fizzy giggles.

Р2

You should see her when it's French Fry night. She does this thing with her tail.

P1 sniffs, then pushes a button on the wall producing a hip hop beat.

Fizzy laughs as P2 whips her tail from side to side shaking her body.

P1 and P2 look at each other then join Fizzy in the laughter.

INT. LEESHA'S CAGE -- CONTINUOUS

The sound of the laughter wakes Leesha. She approaches the cage door but is quickly distracted by the voice coming from outside.

KAZZ (O.S.)

Yo. Leesha. You in there?

LEESHA

Kazz.

Leesha leaps up the windowsill. She spots Kazz standing under a tree in back of the Clinic.

LEESHA (loud whisper)

Kazz.

KAZZ

What chu still doing in there? You were suppose to get fixed up and bounce.

LEESHA (loud whisper)
Ssh. They're keeping me overnight.

KAZZ

<u>Up tight?</u> <u>Who's up tight?</u> <u>I'm chillin'.</u>

LEESHA (loud whisper)
No, I said over night. I think
someone's coming to get me in the
morning. I'll never be able to find
my sister and brother. What'll I do
Kazz?

KAZZ

Hang tight, I'ma bounce.

Kazz races off.

LEESHA

Kazz, where are you going? <u>Kazz.</u> <u>Kazz.</u>

Leesha returns to a corner of her cage and sings, "Love in Every Moment" -

LEESHA (CONT'D)

"When something hurts inside me/things that somehow make my spirit cry/I look for something better, something to believe in/something always worth enough to try/ I look for love in every moment/ that love I feel, that love I always see/a love in every moment/I know somehow I'll find it/ love I hope is given back to me."

INT. FIZZY'S CAGE -- CONTINUOUS

The sound of Leesha's voice is just loud enough to distract Fizzy from her teasing.

FIZZY

Ssh, wait a minute. Did you hear that?

Ρ1

Hear what?

FIZZY

That voice.

P2

I didn't hear anything.

Fizzy goes to the cage and sniffs.

Р1

What's the matter?

FIZZY

Nothing, I just thought that..

Fizzy returns to a corner of the cage.

P1 and P2 sit next to Fizzy.

P2

Don't worry kid, you'll get out of here sooner or later.

Р1

Yeah, someone's always adopting out.

FIZZY

Then why are the two of you still here?

P2

We're Identical Twins. They keep us around to play these weird games with toys that light up.

Ρ1

And the crazy things they try to get us to do when we're separated? Humans, go figure.

FIZZY

Have you ever been outside?

P1 and P2 look at one another then at Fizzy.

INT. CHIMNEY - CONTINUOUS

Wizzy climbs toward the opening of the chimney by stacking Lego blocks in a zig zag pattern. He reaches the opening, makes his way to the roof, scans the area then leaps onto the branch of a nearby tree. Taking one look back at the house, he climbs down the tree, looks in both directions, then races down the street.

EXT. JUNK YARD -- NIGHT

The glow of candlelight from the Shed reflects on the windows.

INT. SHED -- CONTINUOUS

Sir Winston sips his tea. A knock at the door brings a sinister grin. He opens the door where SENOR Z, half bloodhound/half chiquawa, dressed in white shirt, tie, hat, sunglasses and a trench coat stands motionless.

SIR WINSTON

Zeneeto?

Senor Z raises his eyebrow as he lights his pipe, places a pair of earphones on Sir Winston, then presses a button on his Mp3 player.

A male voice raps "Senor Z"..

MALE VOICE

Got shady in ya pocket/ no doubt/ don't play this Doggy/ he'll take you out/ be good in ya hood / the doggy don't play / word on the street /you won't get away / from who?

FEMALE CHORUS

They call him Senor Z.

MALE VOICE

Drop the gun/ hands in back / don't try to run / he's quicker than that/ he's behind ya Sun/ who is that?

FEMALE CHORUS

They call him Senor Z.

The music abruptly stops as Zeneeto takes the headphones from Sir Winston.

SIR WINSTON

Impressive.

Sir Winston slowly backs away allowing Senor Z to enter the Shed.

SENOR Z

Si, I even changed the flavor of my tobacco.

Senor Z blows a circle of smoke around Sir Winston's neck.

EXT. PARK -- MOMENTS LATER

Kazz races up one tree and down another checking to see if she's being followed. She arrives at her tree, takes one final look around before racing up to her door.

INT. TREE -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz opens the door to her room, looks around and discovers all her jewelry missing. She rushes from corner to corner looking everywhere.

KAZZ

АААААААНННННННН!!!!!!!!

INT. JUNK YARD SHED -- CONTINUOUS

Sir Winston sips his tea while watching Senor Z warming his paws by the Iron Stove.

SIR WINSTON

So, the former, undercover cop, who would never take a few extra treats, has become a Private Investigator.

SENOR Z

You didn't invite me here to go over my resume Senor Chizzle.

SIR WINSTON

I want someone found, correction, a group of someone's found.

SENOR Z

Go on.

SIR WINSTON

There's a single mother with three kittens. They destroyed Tiger Hall.

SENOR Z

What were they doing in Tiger Hall?

SIR WINSTON

Who knows. Perhaps they were just looking for a warm place to spend the night.

SENOR Z

So you're saying you've never seen them before?

SIR WINSTON

Well, not exactly. I've seen them on occasion, on the street,

(sigh)

Begging. It would break my heart.

SENOR Z

What should I do once I have found them?

SIR WINSTON

Alert me. And only me.

Senor Z slowly turns facing Sir Winston.

INT. TREE -- MOMENTS LATER

Kazz, dressed in Ninja gear, ties a rope around her waist before attaching extra, long steel tip nails to her paws.

EXT. PARK -- CONTINUOUS

A few trees away, a pair of eyes watches as Kazz climbs to the top of her tree.

KAZZ

Listen up! When I catch the poop sniffin', tail chasin', nasty, wet nosed, four legged creep that took my Bling.. There will be blood!

INT - JUNK YARD SHED

Sir Winston hands a brown leather bag to Senor Z.

EXT. PARK -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz climbs to the bottom of the tree noticing a pair of eyes in the nearby bushes as she disappears into the night shadows.

Wizzy peeks out from behind the tree.

Kazz grabs him from behind flipping him to the ground. She bears her claws.

WIZZY

It's me Kazz.

Kazz hesitates.

KAZZ

What are you doing here? Where you been?

WIZZY

I got catnapped, but I got away. Where's my sisters?

Kazz looks around.

KAZZ

Leesha's fine. She's gonna get picked up in the morning then lay back easy in a nice spot where some little girl is gonna feed and dress her. I don't know where Fizzy is.

WIZZY

Why are you wearing those weird clothes?

Kazz gets in Wizzy face.

KAZZ

I'm about to go Ninja on the creep that jacked my Stuff.

WIZZY

Can't you get more?

KAZZ

You got any idea how long it took me to get all that Stuff?

WIZZY

But..

KAZZ

But nothin'. Nobody's got my back, nobody's gonna adopt me. Look, I gotta go. Tell your sister something came up.

Kazz walks away.

WIZZY

But I don't know where she is.

Kazz points.

KAZZ

Just follow those street lights over there for about twenty blocks.

WIZZY

Kazz?

Wizzy watches Kazz disappear into a wooded area.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC HOLDING AREA -- MOMENTS LATER

Wizzy watches as P1 AND P2 set up several blocks, balls, two strings of bells before laying out a newspaper.

WIZZY

Are you sure this is going to work?

Р1

They'll never know what hit em. Just remember, when your cage opens, you have five seconds before the front door locks.

P2

Better get some sleep. Try to rest your paw. It won't be easy running with that stuff wrapped around it.

WIZZY

I promise not to ever forget you guys.

WIZZY (CONT'D)

Good night P1.. Good night P2.

P1/P2

Good night Wizzy.

EXT. PARK -- MOMENTS LATER

Wizzy looks around the area, then looks up towards Kazz's room. As he rushes toward the Park entrance, a wolf's claw grabs him by the collar.

WIZZY

Aaaahhh. Somebody help.

MC CHOPS

Shut up.

McChops muzzles Wizzy as he rushes to the Police Car. He quickly gages Wizzy before tying his paws, then tossing him in a cage.

MC CHOPS (CONT'D)

Now we'll find out just what your life is really worth.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC HOLDING AREA -- DAY

WE SEE:

P1 and P2 watch a mirror that they've angled just enough to see the other end of the aisle as Human legs walk down the aisle.

WIZZY

What are they doing?

Р1

They're taking that new one out.

WE HEAR:

P1 and P2 move around in their cage making various animal sounds.

FEMALE VOICE

Oh my goodness, what is that?

LITTLE GIRL

Mommy, it sounds like we're in a Zoo.

As the Female Voice rushes down the aisle, Leesha slips out of her cage and dashes for the door.

LITTLE GIRL (CONT'D)

Mommy, she's getting away!

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha rushes into the Reception area, slipping through several human legs and the small opening that remained from the closing front door.

A human hand pushes the Intercom button.

FEMALE VOICE

Doctor Bennet, please come to the Holding Area, Unit seven.

As P1 and P2 continue their sound effects, Wizzy's attempt to squeeze underneath the gate of her cage is thwarted as a Female Hand pushes her back inside.

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Leesha races across the street dodging traffic and the Human hands that reach for her.

INT. KAZZ'S TREE -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz places her paw between the doorway leading to her room.

WE HEAR:

An alarm in the form of loud hip-hop music.

HIP HOP VOICE

Kill da punk. Kill da punk. Put a crack in his back. Take em out with a sneak attack.

The music stops when Kazz pushes a button on the wall and picks up a long wooden pole.

KAZZ

A'ight, let another fool come up in here try to jack me.

LEESHA (O.S.)

Kazz. Kazz.

Kazz carefully peeks from a side window. She sees Leesha standing at the base of the tree. She quickly ducks her head back into the room.

KAZZ

Damn.

LEESHA (O.S.)

Kazz. It's me.

Kazz opens the door and looks down.

KAZZ

Hey Girl. Whassup?

EXT. KAZZ'S TREE -- CONTINUOUS

Kazz stands at the base of her tree remaining motionless as Leesha hugs her.

LEESHA

Oh Kazz, I'm so glad to see you. I don't know what I've would've done if you hadn't been here.

KAZZ

How you get out?

LEESHA

It's a long story. What happened to you? You were suppose to come back. I almost got adopted.

KAZZ

And I got popped by the Chew Squad, then I come back here and all my Stuff is gone.

LEESHA

Oh no.

KAZZ

Oh yes.

Leesha and Kazz turn to the sound of screeching Police Cars, slamming doors and loud voices.

McChops exits one of the Police Cars and directs the other Officer's.

**PUBBO** 

Take the east side, we'll come in through the south end.

LEESHA

It's McChops and the Chew Squad. Come on, we gotta bounce.

Leesha and Kazz take off into the Park as McChops and the Chew Squad rush Kazz's tree.

CHIPPY

Stand back.

Pubbo, Chippy and Squibs remove sets of steel teeth from their duffel bags. A voice interrupts as they begin to chew.

POLICE DOG (O.S.)

Attennn Hut.

The Squad comes to attention as McChops approaches the tree.

CHIPPY

Should we bring it down Sarge?

McChops looks up the tree.

MC CHOPS

We'll need a permit.

EXT. PIER - EVENING -- LATER

Leesha sits along the pier watching the sunset. She sings "Perhaps When I Grow Up".

LEESHA (sings)

"I wish that I could tell someone, how strange it looks from here/ The different way things happen, when life is not so clear/ But right or wrong I must decide/should I stay or run and hide, looking for the safest way to go/ Perhaps when I grow up, I'll know"/

(Chorus)

Perhaps when I grow up I'll solve this mystery/ I'll find a better place to be/those little ones depend on me/looking for the perfect place to go/ Perhaps when I grow up, perhaps when I grow up, perhaps when I grow up, I'll know./

The sound of applause turns Leesha around to see SUCKA LUV, a smooth, charming Mosquito/Butterfly, dressed in a Pimp wardrobe standing next to a Bentley convertable.

SUCKA LUV

Ump, ump, ump. I do believe I just heard an Angel with some skills.

LEESHA

Huh? Who are you?

Suka Luv smiles as he raps "I'll Blow You Up".

SUCKA LUV

I'm the First placah/ all four ace-ah/ Twenty-four Seven money chas-ah/I'm the charm on ya arm/ the Yes to ya No/the one who can make you the Star of the show/I'll blow you up/ rumble with fame/ earth shake the planet while they screamin' ya name/I plant the seed/all the bling dat cha need/ sold out concert's/ private planes/ Red carpet blow you up and ..

KAZZ

Hey.

Suka Luv watches Kazz approach.

LEESHA

Kazz. I thought I was never going to see you again.

Kazz looks at Sucka Luv.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Oh, Kazz, I want you to meet Mister.. Excuse me, what was your name again?

Sucka Luv hands a business card to Leesha.

LEESHA (CONT'D)

Suka Luv?

KAZZ

Sounds like a Pimp name.

Suka Luv turns facing Kazz.

SUCKA LUV

And exactly how many Pimps do <u>you</u> know Shorty?

Kazz becomes transfixed on the gold necklace with the initials NKC.

KAZZ

Is that a.. A.

Suka Luv dangles the necklace in front of Kazz, then moves it away as she attempts to touch the necklace.

SUCKA LUV

Henry Baleechio.

LEESHA

You must be very rich to have such attractive jewelry.

SUCKA LUV

What? This old thing? Hank made it for my birthday. That's my dog.

Suka Luv pulls the necklace from Kazz then turns to Leesha.

SUCKA LUV (CONT'D)

I guess pretty things just come to me.

Leesha and Kazz stare in amazement as Sucka Luv hovers slightly off the ground toward his car landing behind the steering wheel.

SUCKA LUV (CONT'D)

If you're ever down in New Katt City. Stop by Posha's. Just say Suka Luv sent you.

Leesha and Kazz watch as Suka Luv slowly drives away.

The sound of a police siren breaks their trance.

Kazz pulls Leesha by the arm.

KAZZ

Come on girl. Let's bounce.

Leesha continues to stare in the direction of Suka Luv's exit.

LEESHA

Maybe he really could've help us Kazz.

KAZZ

How, by gettin' in that Pimp ride?

LEESHA

Maybe he's not a, a Pimp.

KAZZ

Yeah, and maybe I'm Oscar the Grouch. Come on.

Leesha pulls away from Kazz then races in the direction of Suka Luv's car.

LEESHA

Mister Luv. Wait.

Kazz catches up grabbing Leesha.

KAZZ

Where you goin'?

LEESHA

You were very rude to him Kazz.

KAZZ

Me? Rude? You need to stop trippin'.

Leesha snatches away from Kazz.

LEESHA

Why do you always think I'm tripping whenever I believe something you don't?

KAZZ

What about our deal? You and me. Gettin' in the Game, a hundred people a day in the Park watching us do our Act, makin' it happen.

Leesha gets in Kazz's face.

LEESHA

Nothing's going to happen Kazz. I never agreed to any Deal. Being in Show Business was your dream, not mine. All I want is to find my family. I should've never listened to you.

Leesha walks away.

Kazz catches up and walks with Leesha.

KAZZ

Leesha, I got something to tell you. First you gotta promise, no matter what I say, we'll still be girls, a'aight?

LEESHA

I don't want to be Girls. I've lost my family, the Police are after me, and the <u>only</u> one who could really help me just drove away.

KAZZ

But..

LEESHA

Go away Kazz.

Kazz watches as Leesha walks away.

EXT. STREET -

Leesha slowly walks down a deserted street with gated store fronts, funky bars, Bodega's and store front churches.

RAP VOICE (V.O.)

By yaself, all along, figured out you was on ya own/reality check says wonder why/can't holla for help, too late to cry/no friends, no cash, all the same/killin' dreams is part duh game/hard luck, hard way/head down, learn to pray/one time to get it right/you Shorty today, but a child tonight.. Chorus/ She's just a child in the night/She just a child in the night..

Leesha stops and notices she is being watched by unsavory characters. She picks up speed at the sound of a wolf howling.

RAP VOICE (CONT'D)

Queen of the streets, wears the crown/but Shorty too scared to turn around/Good girls holla, take ya time, but the Boogie Man works for the criminal mind/keep movin', chase the sun/daylight sleep make it hard to run/one time to get it right/She's shorty today, but a child tonight..

EXT. ALLEY -- MOMENTS LATER

Leesha runs into a deserted alley to hide. She slumps against a wall to catch her breath. She gathers up the courage to bolt out into the street to face the approaching footsteps.

KAZZ

Yo, where you goin'?

Leesha sighs in relief.

LEESHA

Kazz. I'm so glad to see you.

KAZZ

Look, I'ma give it to you straight up. We broke. You know what that means out here?

Leesha embraces Kazz.

LEESHA

I'm not worried Kazz as long as you're with me.

KAZZ

Well, like they say, the good Lord and Human's will provide.

Leesha and Kazz walk along shoulder to shoulder.

LEESHA

I've never had a friend like you before Kazz.

KAZZ

You see the size of that Baleechio Pimp Boy had on his..

Leesha glares at Kazz.

KAZZ (CONT'D)

What? Aight, aight, maybe he's some big time music producer, maybe even a lawyer.. How's that?

Leesha looks in the opposite direction.

LEESHA

How far do you think it is to New Katt City?

KAZZ

You got me. But it can't be <u>that</u> far. Maybe we can hitch with somebody.

LEESHA

Know what Kazz? I'm going to teach you how to read.

KAZZ

For real for real?

Kazz puts her arm on Leesha's shoulder.

LEESHA

What were you going to tell me?

KAZZ

Huh? Oh, it was nothing. So how you learn to read anyway?

From above, Flyboy trails behind Leesha and Kazz.

In a shadowed corner of a nearby building, the silhouette of Senor Z watches Leesha and Kazz walking away.

EXT. JUNK YARD - CONTINUOUS

In an old, large cardboard crate, an elder cat watches over an injured female cat with familiar characteristics that slightly protrude from underneath the blanket.

EXT. STREET -

Leesha and Kazz continue down the street.

LEESHA

I'm getting hungry.

KAZZ

No problem Sista Girl, tomorrow? Show time.

The camera pulls back to reveal city rooftops. In the distance, a cluster of bright lights illuminate the symbol "NKC" in the shape of a cat. It's glow pierces the side streets and alleyways luring the lost and abandoned.

END PART 1.