

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS

"Showbiz"

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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. STATEN ISLAND - SIDEWALK - NIGHT

NADJA and LASZLO walk side by side.

Nadja wears a thick cape with a furry collar. Laszlo wears a leather outfit and gloves.

LASZLO
It's colder than a witch's tit out here.

Nadja rolls her eyes.

NADJA
You cannot feel cold. You are always cold.

LASZLO
Of course I'm always cold. It's always freezing outside.

NADJA
No, you are always cold because you are a bloody vampire.

Nadja and Laszlo walk in silence for a brief moment.

Laszlo looks at his glove-covered hand.

LASZLO
I think I have a hangnail.

NADJA
You are wearing gloves!

LASZLO
I can feel it in there, darling.

NADJA
I do not care.

They are silent for another moment. People pass them.

LASZLO
I'm hungry.

NADJA
Shut up!

EXT. SIDEWALK - LATER

Nadja and Laszlo walk side by side.

LASZLO
I think I'd like to start my own
band.

Nadja face palms.

EXT. SIDEWALK - LATER

Nadja trudges next to Laszlo.

LASZLO
You do tend to ramble, darling. I
don't mind anymore.

Nadja growls.

EXT. CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Nadja stops. The sign above the door glows. Peppy music
contrasts Nadja's demeanor.

LASZLO
Damn, this hangnail really is the
worst.

Laszlo keeps walking. He inspects his gloved hand. He notices
that Nadja stopped and comes back.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
What is the matter, my dear?

NADJA
Just stop, Laszlo!

Nadja hovers in the air for a moment. Her eyes glow. Laszlo
stares at her, eyebrows furrowed.

NADJA (CONT'D)
You are so bloody annoying! Just
because we have been married for
centuries does not mean I want to
hear about your hangnails.

A MAN, early 40s, stands a few feet away at the corner of the club. He listens. The man wears a sport coat and jeans.

NADJA (CONT'D)
I am so tired of your shit! All you
do is think about yourself. Your
goddess of a wife is right next to
you and all you can do is complain.
Stop thinking about yourself for a
moment--

The man walks up behind Nadja. He taps on her shoulder.

Nadja jumps. She swivels around to sneer at the man.

NADJA (CONT'D)
What?!

The man swallows hard. He straightens out his coat.

MAN
My name is John. I'm the casting
director for the Teller Family
Theater down the road.

JOHN points down the street.

Nadja and Laszlo stare at John.

JOHN
I--

John coughs nervously.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Our productions are very popular
here in town.
(to Nadja)
I think you have real talent that
would translate beautifully on
stage.

Nadja raises her eyebrows.

John digs in his coat pocket. He pulls out a card and hands
it to Nadja.

Nadja looks at the camera and shrugs. She smiles.

LASZLO
What is happening?

Nadja and John ignore him.

JOHN
Call me if you want some change in
your life.

John glances at Laszlo.

JOHN (CONT'D)
You'd fit right in with the
theater.

Nadja laughs, flattered.

NADJA
Ok. Thank you. I will think about
it.

John winks. He leaves.

Nadja walks into the club.

LASZLO
(to himself)
What the hell?

Laszlo looks at the camera. He motions toward John.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
He just winked at my wife.

Laszlo follows Nadja.

INT. CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Nadja and Laszlo push their way through a crowd of dancing
people. The lights flash all different colors. Large speakers
blast up-beat music.

Nadja looks at John's card. She puts it in her pocket.

LASZLO
This music is so loud!

Nadja swivels back toward the entrance without looking at
Laszlo. On her way out, she grabs a CLUB GOER's cell phone
from out of their hand.

She grabs John's card out of her pocket and holds it in front of her. She furiously punches in the number. The club goer glares at Nadja.

Laszlo watches Nadja from afar, mouth agape. He tosses his arms up in confusion.

Nadja puts the cell phone to her ear. She forces her way through the crowd.

FADE OUT.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. MANSION - ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

NANDOR and COLIN ROBINSON walk past the stairs.

COLIN ROBINSON
I'm telling you, lint is the most
interesting part of dust.

Nadja and Laszlo open the front door and stroll in. Nandor spots them.

NANDOR
Oh, thank goodness.
(to Colin)
Goodbye, Colin Robinson.

Nandor hops over to Nadja and Laszlo.

Colin shrugs. He leaves.

NANDOR (CONT'D)
Hi guys. What is going on?

NADJA
I am going to be an actor.

NANDOR
Really?

Nadja glances at Laszlo.

NADJA
Yes.

NANDOR
That is amazing, Nadja!

NADJA
Thank you, Nandor! I audition
tomorrow evening, but the casting
director says I already have the
part. He's not bad looking either.

LASZLO

I just don't understand why you want to be in a play in the first place. You've never mentioned it before. He's not that good looking.

NADJA

I have always wanted to be in a play! Ever since I was a little girl. Yes, he is.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Nadja sits on the couch. She talks to the camera.

NADJA

Back in my home town, we would put on these small productions every month to sum up what happened during that past month. They were usually very morbid. Lots of cows fell off of cliffs one year. I did not get to do anything creative. It was more like reporting the news weeks late than anything. So, needless to say, my talent was wasted. But not anymore.

INT. ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

Colin walks back into the room. Laszlo takes off his coat. He hangs it on the banister.

Nadja tosses her cape aside. It lands at the base of the stairs. Nandor picks up Nadja's cape. He hangs it on the banister.

COLIN ROBINSON

What's this I hear about an actor? Is Demetri Martin coming? I like him.

LASZLO

Everyone likes him, you fool.

NANDOR

Nadja is going to be an actor.

COLIN ROBINSON

Wow! Theater?

NADJA
Yes, Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON
I love the theater. Did you know
that the idea of theater started in-
-

Nadja turns into a bat. She flies out of the room.

NADJA (O.S.)
Damn you, Colin Robinson! Stop
trying to drain us.

Laszlo sits in a chair next to the stairs. He drapes his arms
over the arms of the chair. He frowns.

LASZLO
Go ahead, Colin Robinson.

Colin stares at Laszlo. Nandor's mouth drops open.

COLIN ROBINSON
Did you just tell me to "go ahead?"

NANDOR
He is not ok.

Colin smiles. He sits on the stairs.

COLIN ROBINSON
If you insist.

NANDOR
I am not listening to any more of
this.

Nandor flies out of the room.

COLIN ROBINSON
The idea of the theater came from a
very long time ago, so I'll start
from the beginning so you can get
some context.

Colin spots Laszlo's face. Laszlo's gazes far off into the
distance. He frowns.

Colin pauses.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)
She's just exploring new
opportunities.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)
You know she loves you. Just
support her. That's all she really--

LASZLO
Shut up, Colin Robinson.

Laszlo storms out.

Colin doesn't move. He looks at the camera and shrugs.

INT. TELLER FAMILY THEATER - AUDITORIUM - EVENING

Nadja stands on the stage. She rings her hands and shifts her weight. She wears a beautiful, long dress with red lace detail on the waist and bottom of the skirt.

She tries to smile. She wipes her hands on her dress.

INT. TELLER FAMILY THEATER - GREEN ROOM - EVENING

Nadja talks to the camera.

NADJA
Look at these pit stains.

Nadja raises her left arm and points at a dark circle on her under arm.

NADJA (CONT'D)
I know I look cool on the outside,
but--

Nadja points at her pit stain again.

INT. AUDITORIUM - EVENING

The DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, and John sit next to each other in the third row back.

JOHN
Whenever you're ready, Nadja.

Nadja glances at the camera.

NADJA
What?

The director and producer look at each other.

JOHN
The monologue. You can start
whenever you're ready.

NADJA
I uhh... didn't know I had to have
one.

The director and producer whisper to each other.

John clears his throat.

JOHN
It's ok! I'm sorry, that's on me.
Just-- Just say what you said last
night.

John grins at Nadja. She relaxes.

NADJA
Ok. I can do that.

Nadja breathes in. Her face shifts.

NADJA (CONT'D)
You are so annoying! Just because
we've been married for centuries
doesn't mean I want to hear about
your hangnails.

The director nods.

NADJA (CONT'D)
I'm so tired of your shit! All you
do is think about yourself. Your
goddess of a wife is right next to
you and all you can do is complain.

The producer's eyes well up.

John watches the director and producer. He beams.

NADJA (CONT'D)
Stop thinking about yourself for a
moment--

INT. MANSION - LASZLO'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Laszlo lays in his coffin. The lid is open. He stares at the ceiling. He crosses his arms over his chest. He calls out into the darkness as if he were a child calling for his parent.

LASZLO

Nadja!

Nothing.

INT. TELLER FAMILY THEATER - AUDITORIUM - EVENING

Nadja bows.

The director, producer, and John clap enthusiastically.

DIRECTOR

Well done!

PRODUCER

Amazing!

JOHN

Wonderful!

They join Nadja on stage. The director shakes Nadja's hand.

DIRECTOR

You'll make an amazing Nancy.

NADJA

Thank you so much. Who is Nancy?

JOHN

That's the lead character's name.

Nadja giggles.

NADJA

Oh, lovely.

PRODUCER

You'll make a perfect addition to the show.

Nadja practically glows. John pats her on the back.

INT. AUDITORIUM - BACKSTAGE - EVENING

Nadja speaks to the camera. She smiles from ear to ear.

NADJA

Ah!

Nadja holds up the top of a beautiful black dress and a thick script.

NADJA (CONT'D)

I have never felt so alive! This dress is perfect and the script, wow, the script is incredible. I have not read it yet because I just got it three minutes ago, but it is amazing. It is supposedly about a beautiful, young, single woman who is on a journey to find herself. I am pretty sure it was made for me. And apparently the director thinks so too.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT (4 WEEKS LATER)

An excited audience packs the seats.

Laszlo, Nandor, Colin Robinson, and GUILLERMO squeeze past people already sitting. They wear their fanciest outfits. The people sitting pull their knees in.

Laszlo, Nandor, Colin, and Guillermo sit down. They look at the stage. They're in the second to last row.

LASZLO

My wife is the star and these are the bloody awful seats we get?

Audience members around them stare. One CHILD turns around in her seat. She stares at Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON

(to the child)

You're being very rude.

The child blinks at Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)

You should learn to be less annoying.

GUILLERMO

(to himself)

Says you.

Colin squints at Guillermo.

The lights go down.

INT. AUDITORIUM - STAGE - CONTINUOUS

The curtain opens, revealing Nadja in a beautiful, enormous, black dress.

IN THE AUDIENCE

Laszlo gazes at her, mouth agape. His eyes sparkle.

ON STAGE

Nadja steps to the front of the stage. She stops for a moment, head down. She takes a deep breath, then looks up.

NADJA

One upon a midnight, a princess,
young but wise, discovered
something about herself. She was
tired. Tired of the world and her
place in it. She wanted change...
And that is what she got.

Nadja swivels to face backstage. The skirt of her dress swings around.

IN THE AUDIENCE

Nandor and Guillermo stare, mouths open wide.

Colin leans over to Guillermo.

COLIN ROBINSON

Did you see that?

Guillermo is oblivious to Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)

Did you know that the tail of
Nadja's dress is called a train?

Colin looks down at his knee.

The child taps on Colin's knee. She stares at him again.

CHILD

Shut up, mister.

Colin sticks his tongue out at her. She does the same back at him.

Colin looks back up at the stage. The child turns around. Colin kicks her seat. She swings around, but Colin stares straight ahead.

The child slowly turns back around. Colin grins.

ON STAGE

Nadja stomps morosely across the stage.

NADJA

What is truth? What is life? What does it all mean? She wondered to herself day in and day out about who she was and who she was meant to be. Maybe she is just another cog in the machine that is time.

Actors clad in black, skin-tight costumes dance slowly across the stage.

NADJA (CONT'D)

But maybe, just maybe she is more than that. Maybe she is meant for better things that she cannot comprehend. What if her life is more important than anyone ever imagined? What then?

ON STAGE - LATER

The entire cast comes out on stage. They line up along the front, Nadja in the middle. She grins from ear to ear.

The cast join hands. They raise their hands above their heads, then bring them down. They take a bow.

The audience stands up and applauds wildly. People whistle, hoot, and holler.

Laszlo and Nandor dab their eyes as if they could cry. Guillermo sobs openly.

John jumps up on stage and hugs Nadja.

Laszlo whips his head to look at the camera, mouth agape. He points at the stage. Nadja hugs John back.

Colin leans over to Guillermo.

COLIN ROBINSON

Why are you crying?

GUILLERMO
(through sobs)
Because it was incredibly sad,
Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON
Oh, I thought it was pretty funny,
actually.

The curtain closes.

Audience members slowly file out of their seats.

INT. BACKSTAGE - LATER

Laszlo, Nandor, Colin, and Guillermo join Nadja.

NANDOR
That was incredible.

COLIN ROBINSON
Absolutely hilarious.

Nadja opens her mouth to speak but shakes it off.

LASZLO
Yes, darling. You were wonderful.

Laszlo gives Nadja a kiss on the cheek.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
I don't know why that director man
hugged you there at the end. I
don't think that was part of the
show, darling. He shouldn't have
done that--

Guillermo, nose red and eyes puffy, hands Nadja an
extravagant bouquet of roses. She stands in front of Laszlo.

Laszlo scratches his head. He takes a step back.

She holds them close to her chest. She sniffs them.

NADJA
Thank you! I do not know why you
brought Colin Robinson with you,
but I am glad you all came to see
me.

LASZLO
(apologetic)
He invited himself.

Laszlo points at Colin.

Guillermo glances around him at the hustle and bustle of crew members breaking down the set. He smiles.

GUILLERMO
(to Nadja)
Do you know all of the crew, Nadja.

NADJA
No, no. I do not care to, frankly.

Nadja chuckles.

NADJA (CONT'D)
But they did do a wonderful job. I
appreciate them, I guess.

Guillermo's eyes sparkle. He gazes back at the crew.

Another cast member, ALECIA, approaches Nadja. She taps Nadja on the shoulder.

Nadja swivels around.

NADJA (CONT'D)
Oh!

Nadja and Alecia hug. They crush the roses between them.
Nadja doesn't notice.

Laszlo sees the crushed roses and looks slowly up at the camera.

ALECIA
Are you coming to the cast party,
Nady?

NADJA
Yes!

Nadja looks at Laszlo and Nandor.

NADJA (CONT'D)
My first real cast party!

LASZLO
Uh, darling. I thought you would be
back home after the show was done.

Nadja is oblivious to Laszlo.

ALECIA

(to Nadja)

You were so amazing. How have you never acted before?

LASZLO

Where are you going? Can I come with you?

Nadja walks away with Alecia, their arms linked. Nadja shoves the bouquet of roses in Laszlo's arms without looking at him.

Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin linger awkwardly. The cast and crew bustle around them.

GUILLERMO

(to Nandor)

Can I stay and ask the crew some questions.

LASZLO

We should probably leave before we get hungry and eat the stage crew.

A CREW MEMBER overhears and freezes in his tracks. He looks at them sideways.

EXT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin shuffle out of the theater.

NANDOR

That was amazing. Was that not amazing?

LASZLO

It was. I am most surprised by how--

NANDOR

Nadja seemed like she was having a great time with her new theater friends too.

LASZLO

That one that came up to her was quite--

NANDOR

I think she has found her people.

LASZLO

Bat!

Laszlo turns into a bat. He flies away.

Nandor looks at Guillermo and Colin, then the camera. He rolls his eyes. Nandor turns into a bat. He follows Laszlo.

Colin and Guillermo stroll awkwardly down the sidewalk together.

COLIN ROBINSON
So, what was your favorite part?

GUILLERMO
I don't know, Colin.

COLIN ROBINSON
Well, my favorite part was when
That slightly taller figure wearing
the black outfit came out on stage.
Or no, was it the shorter one? I
can't remember. Anyway...

Guillermo stares blankly into the camera.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. MANSION - LIBRARY - NIGHT

Nandor sits next to Laszlo on the couch.

NANDOR

Why did you fly away like that? We were having a conversation.

LASZLO

First of all, you interrupted me, so I would hardly call what we had a conversation. Second, I thought Nadja would be done with this "acting" business after the show.

NANDOR

Are you jealous?

LASZLO

No! Why would I be jealous? Just because she has tons of new friends and hasn't been home in weeks and she could be off with that John guy for all I know...

(beat)

I suppose I could kill him.

Nandor cautiously places a hand on Laszlo's shoulder.

NANDOR

You are still just as important to her as you have always been, no matter how many new friends she has. She loves you too much.

LASZLO

I doubt that. It's my fault she's drifting from me. Maybe I pushed her away by being too good of a lover. Maybe I've been listening to her too much? I don't know.

Nandor shakes his head at the camera.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
I'd do anything for her, but I
don't know if she would for me.

NANDOR
You are being crazy, Laszlo.

LASZLO
I have to get her back.

NANDOR
She is just living her life. She
has not forgotten about you. Just a
few weeks out of eternity is not so
bad.

Laszlo grabs Nandor by the shirt collar. His eyes are
pleading.

LASZLO
I need her, Nandor.

Nandor nods understandingly.

EXT. STUDIO CITY - SOLID STUDIOS - SOUNDSTAGE - EVENING

TITLE CARD: "Two Months Later"

A billboard above the stage shows Nadja posing in front of a
cheesy-looking spaceship.

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

An enormous UFO set sits at the back of the stage. Lights
blink. Various futuristic space sounds circulate. A crudely
drawn apocalypse cityscape makes up the backdrop.

An AUDIO TECHNICIAN cycles through sounds on a sound board.

Nadja struts from one end of the stage to the other and back.
She wears sunglasses and a cheap astronaut suit.

An assistant, STACEY, follows closely behind. She holds a
clipboard.

NADJA
Stacey?

Stacey runs to keep up.

STACEY
Yes, Nadja?

NADJA
Get me a grilled cheese sandwich.

STACEY
Right away.

Stacey sprints in the opposite direction.

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - UFO SET - CONTINUOUS

John ambles in.

JOHN
Actors on set for scene 17, please!

Actors wearing bright green alien costumes shamble in.

Nadja joins them. She takes her sunglasses off.

Stacey rushes up to Nadja with a beautiful grilled cheese sandwich on a plate. Nadja takes the sandwich.

NADJA
Thank you, Stacey.

Nadja drops the sandwich into a nearby trash can.

Stacey sighs. She shuffles away.

JOHN
Alright everyone, let's take it
from the top!

John grins at Nadja. She smiles back. John exits.

The alien actors position themselves in a circle around Nadja.

The FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA PERSON (1ST AC) holds a slate in front of Nadja.

1ST AC
Aliens in the city. Scene 17 hotel,
take one.

The 1st AC claps the slate and exits.

JOHN
Action!

The aliens wiggle their long arms unenthusiastically.

Nadja lets out a blood-curdling scream.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Cut! That's a wrap on scene 17!

The crew scramble around. They move set pieces, position ladders, take lavalier microphones off of the actors, etc.

The alien actors wander off.

John approaches Nadja.

JOHN (CONT'D)
That was incredible, Nadja, honey.
You're brilliant.

Nadja beams. Stacey runs up to Nadja, out of breath.

STACEY
That was amazing!

Nadja's demeanor changes.

NADJA
(knowingly)
Yes, yes, thank you.

Nadja puts her sunglasses back on.

Stacey holds a cell phone out to Nadja.

STACEY
Also, phone call for you!

NADJA
Who is it?

STACEY
A Jackie Daytona.

Nadja lowers her sunglasses. She takes the phone and puts it to her ear.

NADJA
What, Laszlo?

INT. STATEN ISLAND - MANSION - LIVING ROOM

Laszlo analyzes the curtains. He holds an ornate phone in one hand and the receiver in the other.

LASZLO
When are you coming home, darling?

INTERCUT NADJA/LASZLO

NADJA
I am not.

LASZLO
What?

Laszlo sits on the couch.

NADJA
I have a new life now and I love
it! It is so fun.

LASZLO
But, Nadja! I cannot live here
without you!

Nandor sits down in an elegant chair across the room from
Laszlo. He opens a book.

Guillermo dusts the mantle.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
At the very least let me come live
with you so I'm not surrounded by
these boobs all day by myself.

Nandor looks up.

NADJA
Oh, Laszlo. You do not realize that
you are a boob yourself.

LASZLO
I am not!

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - UFO SET - SAME

Nadja pulls the phone away from her ear. She speaks directly
into its microphone.

NADJA
I am not coming back. Ever.
Goodbye, Laszlo.

Nadja tosses the cell phone over her shoulder. Stacey dives
for it. It hits the ground and breaks into a million pieces.
A tiny fire starts. Stacey jumps back.

Nadja pushes her sunglasses back up.

INT. STATEN ISLAND - MANSION - SAME

Laszlo stands up.

LASZLO
Hello? Nadja! Damn!

Laszlo drop kicks the phone through the window. Sunlight streams in through the hole.

Laszlo and Nandor hiss. They cover their faces with their cloaks.

NANDOR
Plug it up, Guillermo!

LASZLO
Hurry, Gizmo!

Guillermo rolls his eyes at the camera. He glowers at Laszlo. He grabs a roll of duct tape and a newspaper. He tapes it over the hole.

Laszlo and Nandor hesitantly put their cloaks down.

NANDOR
Sounds like your phone call went well, Laszlo.

LASZLO
Shut up.

NANDOR
When is Nadja coming back?

LASZLO
She's not. And that's why we have to go to her.

NANDOR
We are what?

LASZLO
Oh... Gizmo?

GUILLERMO
What?

LASZLO
Do you think you could help me find her?

GUILLERMO
How on earth could I do that?

LASZLO

I don't know! That book face on your computer that you're always on has lots of information about people you haven't seen in awhile.

GUILLERMO

You just called her. Don't you already know where she is?

LASZLO

That was the only number she'd give me and it was only for emergencies.

Guillermo sighs.

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

Guillermo and Laszlo sit in front of Guillermo's laptop.

GUILLERMO

This guy has a drawing of Nadja.

Laszlo pulls the laptop closer to himself.

LASZLO

What?! How dare he admire my beautiful wife.

Guillermo pulls the laptop back to the middle. He scrolls down.

GUILLERMO

Oh! This was posted two days ago. He says "So glad my favorite actor is shooting a tv show in my hometown."

LASZLO

Where is his hometown?

GUILLERMO

We don't know that his favorite actor is Nadja.

Laszlo waves his hand in front of Guillermo's face.

LASZLO

Tell me where the man in the computer lives...

Guillermo blinks at the camera.

GUILLERMO

Fine.

Guillermo scrolls down. He clicks.

GUILLERMO (CONT'D)

It looks like he lives in
Hollywood, California.

(beat)

Ok, but everything's shot there--

LASZLO

That's it!

GUILLERMO

Uh oh.

LASZLO

What?

GUILLERMO

John, that casting director Nadja
was so into back then?

LASZLO

"Into," is a strong word.

GUILLERMO

He's the director of Nadja's show.

Laszlo sprints out.

INT. FANCY MEETING ROOM - LATER

Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin Robinson gather on the
couches.

LASZLO

We're going go California to get my
wife back and that's final! I can't
do it alone as much as I'd like to.

Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin look at each other.

NANDOR

You don't really think she won't
come back, do you?

LASZLO

For all I know, she could be
married to that jackass, John by
now.

GUILLERMO
I... really don't think so.

LASZLO
Why not? He's gorgeous!

GUILLERMO
I thought you didn't think he was
"that good looking."

LASZLO
I command you to shut up, familiar.

NANDOR
As long as we get to go to the
beach, I'll go even though Nadja's
definitely not going to want to see
us.

GUILLERMO
You can only go to the beach at
night though.

COLIN ROBINSON
And I don't care for the beach.

LASZLO
How about this? Gizmo, you can have
some alone time at the beach,
Nandor, we'll go night shell
hunting, and Colin, there has to be
some sort of museum there.

Colin fist pumps.

COLIN ROBINSON
I think a road trip with just us
guys is just what we need.

LASZLO
I already have regrets.

Colin puts his arms around Laszlo, Nandor, and Guillermo.
They cringe.

INT. STUDIO CITY - SOLID STUDIOS - TRAILER - NIGHT

Nadja sits comfortably with a tiny kitten in her lap.

KNOCK. KNOCK. KNOCK.

NADJA
Come in!

A PRODUCTION ASSISTANT peeks his head through the door.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
They need you on set.

Nadja stares into the PA's eyes. She waves her hand in front of his face.

NADJA
I have five more minutes.

The PA's eyes go wide.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Five minutes to set.

The PA leaves. He doesn't blink.

Nadja admires the kitten.

NADJA
I am having the best time.

EXT. MISSOURI - GAS STATION - NIGHT (THREE DAYS LATER)

Nandor, Guillermo, Laszlo, and Colin pull up next to a pump. Their car looks like it's on its last leg. The bumpers are rusted and one door is a completely different color than the rest.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Guillermo puts the car in park. Nandor sits next to him in the passenger's seat. Laszlo and Colin lounge in the back.

NANDOR
Pump the gas, Guillermo.

Guillermo rolls his eyes and unbuckles his seatbelt.

GUILLERMO
It's going to take forever to get to L.A. if we can only travel at night.

Everyone ignores him. Guillermo gets out. Colin Robinson pulls his earbuds out.

COLIN ROBINSON
Hey guys, I've been listening to this really interesting audio book, and--

Nandor exits.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

Nandor saunters toward the shop attached to the gas station. His cape flows behind him.

A MAN opens the door to his pickup truck. He holds a drink carrier with four cups. He spots Nandor.

MAN

Hey! D'you just get off your shift
at the circus?

Nandor swivels.

NANDOR

Pardon me?

MAN

The circus. Your outfit is goofy-
looking, like a clown. Do you get
it now?

Nandor approaches the man. He waves his hand in front of the man's face.

Guillermo puts the gas pump nozzle back. He sees Nandor.

The man's arms shake. His drinks fall to the ground. They spill everywhere.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Laszlo puts earbuds in. The end of the earbuds is not connected to anything.

COLIN ROBINSON

And then the stamp maker puts the
sticky glue stuff on the back once
the design has dried.

Laszlo puts his hands over his ears. Colin's eyes glow.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. STUDIO CITY - SOLID STUDIOS - DUSK

Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin Robinson creep between the buildings. They peer through gaps in doorways.

Above one of the stages is an enormous billboard of Nadjia promoting her new sci-fi tv show. Laszlo stops. He stares at it.

LASZLO

We have to get Nadjia back.

Guillermo peeks through another door.

GUILLERMO

Hey, over here.

Laszlo, Nandor, and Colin join Guillermo. They look through the gap in the door.

INT./EXT. SOUNDSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Nadjia passes by the door.

NANDOR

I see her!

The door swings open. Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin jump back.

The first assistant director, KEV, glares at them.

KEV

You're late.

Kev walks behind them. He shoves them through the door.

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Laszlo, Nandor, Guillermo, and Colin Robinson stumble in.

Laszlo spots Nadjia. She struts along the stage, sunglasses on.

LASZLO

Nadja!

Laszlo waves at her. Nadja is oblivious.

Someone shoves coffee cups into Colin's hands. Another gives tangled cords to Nandor. They're dumbstruck.

Nandor hands the cords to Guillermo. They watch the bustling crew.

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - LATER

Guillermo wears a headset.

GUILLERMO

The director needs his bagel. He'd better get it in the next thirty seconds.

Laszlo finds a fifteen-foot ladder next to a set decorated to look like the surface of Mars. He climbs the ladder.

JOHN

Action!

LASZLO

(to himself)

How'd that asshole get a gig like this?

Laszlo reaches the top of the ladder. On the side of the ladder is a tool bag. Just above his head hangs a light.

Laszlo grabs a wrench out of the tool bag. He loosens one of the bolts holding the light up.

2ND AD

(yelling whisper)

Hey!

Laszlo looks down. The 2ND AD waves at him.

JOHN

Cut! Establishing shot done! Moving on.

2ND AD

Get down!

LASZLO

Aright, mate. Don't get your panties in a bunch.

Laszlo puts the wrench in his pocket. He climbs back down. He glares at John.

LASZLO (CONT'D)
That bastard will get what's coming
to him one way or another.

Guillermo rushes around. He hands people scripts, coffees, perfectly wrapped cords, etc. He beams.

Colin sits next to the SCRIPT SUPERVISOR.

COLIN ROBINSON
Did you know that the first person
to make a movie was actually my
great, great grandmother in the mid
1800s? Most people won't admit it.

The script supervisor's mouth hangs open. Their eyes are empty.

EXT. SOUNDSTAGE - NIGHT

The cast and crew file out of the soundstage. They shuffle to their cars. Some yawn. Others chat with each other.

Nadja joins the crowd. Nadja and John chat cheerfully. Stacey follows Nadja's every move.

Laszlo, Nandor, and Guillermo exit a few feet back from Nadja. Laszlo spots Nadja. He jumps up and down. He waves his arms in the air.

LASZLO
Nadja! My love!

A swarm of people burst through the doorway. They overwhelm Laszlo like a ship in a storm. They drown out his calls.

EXT. NADJA'S TRAILER - NIGHT

Nadja opens the door. She waves goodbye to John. He smiles, turns, and leaves. She slams the door behind her. Stacey almost runs into it.

STACEY
Ok then, see you tomorrow, Nadja.

Stacey leaves. She clutches the clipboard to her chest.

An enormous bodyguard, TIM, appears out of nowhere. He stands in front of the trailer door just before Laszlo can knock on it.

Tim pushes Laszlo back. Nandor catches him. Laszlo glares at Tim.

LASZLO

Nadja! Is that John in there with you?

Tim shushes Laszlo. Laszlo puts his hand on his chest and gasps.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

See here, my good man.

Tim shushes him again. He puts his finger in Laszlo's face. Laszlo slaps it away.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

That's my wife! I can't talk to my wife?

Tim shushes Laszlo again, more intensely. Laszlo points at Tim. He slaps Laszlo's hand.

NANDOR

Nadja!

Tim takes a step forward. He shushes Nandor. Laszlo grabs Nandor by the sleeve and pulls him to the side.

Guillermo catches up to them.

GUILLERMO

Hey, so some of the crew is going out for drinks and I thought maybe-- What's going on?

Laszlo points at Tim.

LASZLO

That sack of cat shit won't let me speak to Nadja.

Guillermo looks at the muscular, looming Tim.

GUILLERMO

Maybe you should just try again tomorrow. While she's on set, I mean.

Laszlo and Nandor ignore Guillermo.

NANDOR
What if we yell at the same time?
She would be sure to hear us.

Good plan. LASZLO

Nandor and Laszlo turn back to Tim.

LASZLO (CONT'D) NANDOR
Nadjaaaaaa! Hey! Darling! We are outside! Nadja! Hey!

Tim shushes them furiously.

INT./EXT. NADJA'S TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Nadja holds the ears of her headphones. She bops to intensely sad, droning music. Through the window, Nandor and Laszlo jump up and down.

EXT. NADJA'S TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Guillermo watches from behind Nandor and Laszlo as they yell at Tim. Guillermo shakes his head.

Colin Robinson appears next to Guillermo.

COLIN ROBINSON
Heyyyy.

Guillermo jumps.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)
What's going on here?

Colin points at Laszlo and Nandor.

GUILLERMO
That's Nadja's trailer, but that
guy won't let them through to talk
to her.

Colin cups his hands around his mouth.

COLIN ROBINSON
(yells)
Why don't you just use hypnotism on
him?

Laszlo turns around.

LASZLO
Colin Robinson!

Laszlo glares at Colin with wild eyes.

COLIN ROBINSON
Never mind.

Colin puts his hands out in front of him. He takes a step back.

INT. SOUNDSTAGE - EVENING (THE NEXT DAY)

The cast and crew hustle.

Nandor climbs up on the same ladder that Laszlo did. He pretends to fix the light.

NANDOR
I am working. Yep, this is fun.

Nandor grabs a screwdriver. He bangs it against the light.

KEV
Quiet on set!

ON THE MARS SET

Nadja and her SCENE PARTNER stand on their marks. Nadja wears her space outfit. Her scene partner wears detailed makeup. It makes their face look scaly.

DIRECTOR
Action!

SOUNDSTAGE

Nandor stops banging on the light. He looks down. He taps one last time on the light. The light falls. It crashes down on Nadja's scene partner.

Nadja swivels. Everyone freezes. No one makes a sound. Everyone looks up at Nandor in unison. Laszlo laughs.

LASZLO
Good one, Nandor!

The cast and crew whip their heads to look at Laszlo.

Guillermo slides a script into an actor's hands. They don't react.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

Shit.

Laszlo runs toward the door. Everyone watches.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

Come on, lads, we've got to get the
fuck out of dodge.

Nandor hovers off of the stairs and toward the door.

Guillermo hides behind a rack of costumes.

Nandor grabs Guillermo by the shirt collar and drags him out.
Guillermo reaches toward the set.

GUILLERMO

Noooo! I need this!

Nandor flies out, Guillermo hangs below him. He flails.

EXT. SOUNDSTAGE - NIGHT

Nadja sprints toward Laszlo.

LASZLO

Darling! Finally, I can speak to
you.

Nadja grabs Laszlo by his cape. She flings him to the ground.
The concrete cracks beneath him.

NADJA

You donkey's asshole! Why would you
do that?!

LASZLO

I didn't drop the light, this idiot
did.

Laszlo points at Nadja. Nandor whistles. He avoids eye
contact.

NADJA

It was your idea and you know it.
It doesn't matter anyway. I was
getting tired of show business.

LASZLO

Really?

NADJA

Yeah, they made me work during the daytime and I prefer sleeping, so.

Laszlo smiles.

NADJA (CONT'D)

I am pissed you killed that guy. I was going to drink him after today's shoot and now look at him. You spilled all of it.

LASZLO

I'm sorry, my love. It was supposed to hit John.

NANDOR

Does this mean you're coming home?

NADJA

Ugh, yes! Someone needs to watch you invertebrates. Obviously Gizmo is not.

Guillermo glares at the camera.

LASZLO

Yay!

Nadja, Laszlo, and Nandor simultaneously jump in the air. They freeze midair. Guillermo shakes his head.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

FADE IN:

EXT. SOUNDSTAGE - NIGHT

Colin Robinson sits next to the script supervisor.

COLIN ROBINSON

There's an interesting book on
water wheels that I think you might
be interested in. It has a few
sequels too so be sure to check
those out too. You won't regret it,
I promise. My favorite part is when
the water wheel...

The script supervisor slumps in their chair. Colin's eyes
glow.

The cast and crew stare at the fallen light and the blood
puddle expanding below it. Stacey takes a picture with her
phone. John runs his hand through his hair. He sighs.

FADE OUT.

END EPISODE