

Soundscapes

By Claudia Haas and Sarah Grace Kraning

Claudiahaas12@gmail.com

*Before doing the scene, do listen to Holst's "Jupiter" on youtube.

(IRIS turns on Holst's "Jupiter." MARIEL enters with a makeshift crown. Both IRIS and MARIEL are working on crowns for a play based on the music we hear. IRIS is trying to explain the music to her. IRIS clearly sees everything. Use the COLOR CHORUS in the background as a visual for what IRIS sees.)

IRIS

So, after Stella gets rid of Pointy Star and his gang, there is a celebration. the violins – kind of flow, you know? Like long scarves. They flutter in the air. Then – listen to when the French horns enter. It's like bursts of light. Until it gets so light – we can't see the scarves anymore. And as we get into the music – well there're just mini stars everywhere – coming and going. Can you see it?

MARIEL

I never know what you mean about seeing stuff. It's music. You hear it.

IRIS

You're just not listening! Now, you're going to enter – as a Star Princess. And then the elephants.

MARIEL

Who's going to be an elephant?

IRIS

Jessica!

MARIEL

Never happen.

IRIS

I know. Anyway – then everyone dances and that's the end of the play. Better hurry up with your crown. Jess and Aiden will be here soon.

MARIEL

I don't want a crown. I want wings. I want to be a flying princess.

IRIS

You are supposed to be a helper from the stars.

MARIEL

I am sure star helpers have wings. Don't you have some – from when you were Tinkerbell for Halloween?

IRIS

Butterfly. I was a butterfly. Two years ago.

MARIEL

Whatever. I bet you have them. You keep everything.

(IRIS goes to closet or a box and pulls out some wings.
MARIEL puts them on. They are rumpled.)

MARIEL (cont'd)

And long hair. Flying star princesses need long hair.

IRIS

Who's the director?

MARIEL

We're all the directors, remember?

IRIS

Too many directors.

(IRIS retrieves a pair of gaily covered leggings and puts
them on MARIEL'S head.)

IRIS

There! Are you happy?

MARIEL

Yes. Thanks for asking.

IRIS

All right Princess Lucinda, you should kneel to me. Cause I saved you.

MARIEL

I don't kneel. I dance. And fly.

(And to the music, MARIEL dances around IRIS and takes
a giant leap off of something as if she is flying. IRIS is not
amused and turns off the music.)

MARIEL

Stop with your chicken-lips. It's just make-believe.

IRIS

Make-believe is serious. And for all you know – maybe I did come from a star.

MARIEL

Yeah yeah yeah. That worked on me when I was a little kid. Now, I just know you're crazy.

IRIS

You're the one dancing around with leggings on your head. Some people really do come from stars. I can show you proof from google. And if they think real hard, they remember being in the night sky and dancing in the milky way. They bounce off of Saturn's rings and jump to Jupiter's moon. Listen.

(IRIS turns on music – possibly Holst's "Mercury.")

Close your eyes and see the night sky. The stars are twinkling.

MARIEL

Twinkle twinkle little –

IRIS

SHHH! Can you see how happy the stars are? Sometimes I see myself back up there. And don't laugh – but sometimes I think I see you – bouncing off moons and then sliding on Saturn's rings. You're not wearing leggings on your head. You have long hair down to your butt and you're beautiful.

MARIEL

Really?

IRIS

I would never lie to you.

MARIEL

My mom says sometimes you seem to be in another world.

IRIS

I'm going to tell you a secret and you can never, ever tell anyone – promise?

MARIEL

Promise.

IRIS

Cross your heart and hope to die?

MARIEL

Stick a needle in my eye.

IRIS

Sometimes I go to my Sky-World. I fly for reals and hitch rides on comets. And sometimes – you’re there dancing on Saturn’s rings. And you glow. You’re all electrified and beautiful. Look out there, Mariel. See yourself in the stars. Can you see them?

MARIEL

No.

IRIS

You’re having the best time. Now – you’re sliding on Saturn’s rings! Look! See yourself! The rings are glowing purple, then blue and then white. And now you’re jumping! See it! SEE IT!

MARIEL

I do!

IRIS

Whoops! It’s gone.

MARIEL

Bring it back!

IRIS

I can’t. My magic isn’t that strong anymore.

MARIEL

You made that up.

IRIS

Nope. We come from the stars. It’s a fact. We’re made of stardust.

MARIEL

For reals?

IRIS

Don’t you read?