

LUNA

By Berenice Flores

## CHARACTERS

CREO	60-year-old man selling fruit in the market.
BOY	Poor, young boy, about ten years old.
MOON	Trapped in a wall. Captured by King Lionus. Appears on stage as a woman dressed in gray, posing in front of a wall.
LIONUS	50 years old. King of the worlds. He wears all gold. He is always carried around by his guards.
CAPTAIN GALE	Short; wears a black uniform; attached to his uniform, he has guns and other weapons.
CAPTAIN HENRY	Tall; wears a black uniform with guns and other weapons. Has brooches attached to his uniform with different ranks.

ACT I

SCENE 1

*(The scene opens in a busy marketplace. Everyone is pushing people around. The streets are dark and dirty and only a couple of lights light the marketplace. A young boy walks towards a bread stand.)*

CREO

How can I help you boy?

BOY

Have you seen my mother? She usually comes home in the morning then comes to the market to get bread. She wasn't home this morning at all. Have you seen her?

CREO

I'm sorry boy. Not at all.

*(Creo looks down and moves away from the boy. The captains move behind the boy.)*

BOY

Sir! Please don't walk away!!! Come back! Sir!!Please!

CAPTAIN HENRY

BOY!

*(The boy looks back)*

BOY

Sir have you seen my mother? She wasn't home this morning. I'm scared that she's gone missing. Can you-

CAPTAIN HENRY

MOVE ON BOY!!..... You are causing trouble.

BOY

I'm looking for my mother. Please.

CAPTAIN HENRY

IF YOU DON'T MOVE I WILL HAVE YOU ARRESTED. Is that clear?

BOY

But Sir.

*(Captain Henry throws the boy to the side. The boy walks towards a wall and sits in front of it. He has no shoes and his clothes are covered in dirt. The boy starts singing.)*

BOY

Luna Luna light my steps. Guide me to the place called home. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one.

MOON

With the echo of your whispers as my only guide.

*(The boy stands up and looks around.)*

BOY

Mom!

MOON

Behind you.

BOY

Who's there? Captain?

MOON

In the wall. Behind you.

BOY

I've gone mad.

MOON

I'm the moon. You called for me.

BOY

You're talking. ....you can't.... Why?... you're in a wall. I can't believe it! You're real!

MOON

I thought you were gonna run off.

BOY

I know who you are. I....I....I....I.. CAN'T BELIEVE IT. My mother told me so many stories. I never thought she was telling the truth. She told me that she remembers you being in the sky. Right next to the sun. She loves you. She talks about you all the time, even with strangers. They don't believe her. Nobody does. They call her crazy. Why aren't you in the sky?

MOON

The temples of all men rose against the skies. They wanted power. They trained the best fighters so they could defeat the gods in the sky. Only one survived. King Lionus. They took me in and placed me here. I was his trophy, his way to show the gods in the sky and the people that men are stronger. The sun was sad that he could no longer touch me so he hid behind the shadows. With us gone, the people no longer had someone to guide them through their darkest times. They were left in the shadows.

BOY

Well, can't you get help, I'm sure people know you have gone missing, I mean the way you're describing it, it shows that you were very important.

MOON

No one wants me anymore. It's been far too long. Many don't remember me like you do. Besides my shine is gone, along with the glimpse of hope I once sparked. I'm of no use.

BOY

Are you dying?

MOON

No.

BOY

But .... You don't shine anymore.

MOON

Are you dying?

BOY

No... I don't think so... NO.

MOON

But it looks like your shine was taken too. You can't find your mother and I can't find my way back to the sky. We are both the same.

BOY

How was it up there? You got to see everyone and everything right?

MOON

From miles. Galaxies upon galaxies. Stars being born, things bigger than men.

BOY

Did you see the beach?

MOON

Yes, I laid on the water every night. Do you like the beach?

BOY

I don't know. I think I would have.

MOON

You haven't been to the beach?

BOY

No.

MOON

How?

BOY

I've only seen these walls. Like you said, we're both the same.

MOON

Close your eyes, little one.

BOY

Are we dreaming?

MOON

Repeat after me. Don't open your eyes.

MOON AND BOY

Walk along the river banks. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one.

*(Boy cuts her off.)*

BOY

With the echo of your whispers as my only guide.

*(The boy and the moon are in the same setting. Sand appears and the sound of waves crashing is heard in the background.)*

MOON

Feel the waves?

*(Waves move in the background.)*

BOY

Yeah.

MOON

Feel the sand?

*(Sand starts to cover the boy's feet.)*

BOY

It smells. I'm at the beach. I know it.

MOON

It's just the smell of the ocean. You'll get used to it.

BOY

It's lovely. The water is bright blue, I can taste the salt. The sand is so soft. My face feels so warm. I can see the sun!!! He's here. *(The boy yawns.)*

MOON

He's beautiful isn't he? Boy? Are you okay?

*(The boy does not respond. He has fallen asleep. The sound stops. The sand disappears along with the waves.)*

MOON

It's all better now dear Boy. Rest. Walk along the river banks. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one. With the echo of your whispers as my only guide.

BOY

Take me to the beach. Please! (*Crying*)

MOON

What's wrong? Look up. Never look down. Answer me. Open your eyes. Wake up!

BOY

I can't find my mom. She might be at the beach. I need to find her. Please. She was going to get food. She left this morning and I haven't seen her.

MOON

It's okay. You're only dreaming. Look at me! Stand up! Open your eyes!

*(The boy lies against the wall. Light shines down on the boy and moon. The captains are cleaning their guns on the opposite side of the stage. They are sitting on old wooden crates from the market.)*

CAPTAIN GALE

8pm right?

CAPTAIN HENRY

Yeah! Damn Lionus. Leaves us with all the work. Collect the money. Search the houses. Make sure the people are not fighting over food. Now what?! Make sure they are home by 8pm. I'm no goddamn babysitter. I'm a captain!

*(Stands up and kicks the crate. He looks at captain Gale. They both start to laugh.)*

CAPTAIN GALE

Ahhh! Oh man! That's a good one. Look at you. The title of captain is making you go crazy.

CAPTAIN HENRY

It's not the title. This place makes people go crazy. Look at that boy. He was talking to that stupid wall. Now look at him. He's had his eyes closed for hours. Talking to himself and shit. Stupid!

CAPTAIN GALE

Yeah!! Hey Henry ....mmmhm.....did... did you...you heard what happened to area 96?

CAPTAIN HENRY

Yeah and?

CAPTAIN GALE

Nothing, just asking. That's all. Stupid question but....mhmh....don't....don't you...don't you think we should do something? They can't just do that to people. I think I'm going.

CAPTAIN HENRY

HEY! Shut up!

CAPTAIN GALE

What?

CAPTAIN HENRY

You must be crazy. We're in area 9, not 96. Not my area, not my problem. People in area 9 are supposed to work. Those who don't help and work are sent to 96, where they can starve. They are useless. I'm not risking my life for them. So stop talking about it. Keep your mouth shut or I'm gonna report you for treason. Got it? Good.

*(He puts his gun back together and shoots at a rat.)*

CAPTAIN GALE

You serious?..... we had family there..... we can help... just-

CAPTAIN HENRY

Shut up captain! You're are 9 don't forget. *(Looks at his watch.)* Shit! Its past 8. Get up, let's go. Watch your mouth. Lionus is going around the areas to see if the captains are working.

*(Captain Henry walks towards the boy.)*

MOON

Get up! Now! It's the captains. Open your eyes!!!!

CAPTAIN HENRY

Get up. It's time to go home.

*(The boy stands up. His eyes are still closed.)*

BOY

Have you seen my mom? She was at the marketplace this morning. Please. I was looking for her all day!!!!!!!!!!

CAPTAIN HENRY

Open your eyes boy!!!! You have been annoying me the whole day, talking about your crazy mom. She was sent to area 96 because she's crazy. Go home.

CAPTAIN GALE

Go on boy, it's fine. Leave the poor boy alone, Henry!

BOY

No! She's my mother! You can't do that to her! You can't do this! Walk along the river banks. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one. Walk along the river banks. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one. Luna Luna light my steps. Guide me to the place called home. Time turned the stones to the color of eternity. In the distance, a child, the sand, a pyramid became one. Help me!

*(Boy begins to cry.)*

CAPTAIN HENRY

GO HOME! YOU TOO GALE!! IF YOU'RE GONNA ACT ALL WEAK THEN YOU CAN GO! NOW!!!

*(Captain Henry exits.)*

BOY

She's gonna help me. Just wait. I know she's gonna help.

CAPTAIN HENRY

Go now! You're crazy - your mom is not gonna help.

BOY

*(Still crying)* It's not my mom. It's my friend.

CAPTAIN HENRY

Go home. You have no one. Stupid boy. Go home or I'm going to report you.

*(Captain Henry pushes the boy along with his gun.)*