

LEX FROM LUNA CITY

Pilot

Written by

Peter Di Cicco

Representation:
Sue Giordano
HUDSON AGENCY
914-737-1475
Sue@hudsonagency.net

COLD OPEN

INT. BUS - NIGHT

13-year-old ALEXANDRA "LEX" CORTEZ stretches out across a row of bus seats. Her head is propped up against the window with the night sky behind her, a COMPUTER TABLET balanced on her knees.

ON VIDEO CHAT, she talks with her best friend MARCO (13):

LEX

Dude! I miss you already!

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

It isn't the same without you, Lex.
I can't believe you left before the
Back to School Beach Bash!

LEX

You have to rub it in.

Just then, Lex's dad, CHARLIE, pops up from the seats in front of her. SANDRA, Lex's mom, is consumed by her laptop.

CHARLIE

Is that Marco? Say hi from us!

SANDRA

Hi Marco.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

Hi, Mr. & Mrs. Cortez.

LEX

Dad, Mom! Private conversation.

Lex hunkers back down in her seat.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

You're gonna have so much fun.

LEX

Yeah, but no more surf parties. No
more sneaking off to the Super-Go
Mart to stock up on movie night...

Marco <SNORT-LAUGHS>.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

Now I know you're playing it cool.
You hate the Super-Go Mart.

LEX
It makes me barf. But I love it.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)
Admit it, you're excited.

Lex holds it in for a moment, then suddenly bursts.

LEX
Okay, how can I not be?! I get to
live on the MOON!

Lex looks out the window, pointing the tablet's camera, and we realize this is not a regular bus. It's a SPACE SHUTTLE!

EXT. SPACE BUS - MOON - CONTINUOUS

ANGLE OUTSIDE: The glowing orb of Earth rises in the starry sky as the shuttle flies toward the surface of the MOON and the bubble city silhouette of the LUNAR COLONY.

BACK INSIDE:

Lex turns the tablet around to see Marco's eyes tearing over.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)
I should've stowed away in your
suitcase when I had a chance.

DING! The PA CRACKLES with an announcement:

PILOT (OVER PA)
We are on final approach. Please
secure your items for landing.

LEX
Gotta go. I'll check in with you
every day. Promise.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)
Don't forget about us Earthlings,
space sailor.

Marco's image on the tablet BLINKS OUT. Lex holds it tight for a moment and grins hopefully as she looks out at the futuristic LUNAR CITY below.

LEX
Best! Life! Ever!

SERIES OF QUICK CUTS:

- SLAM! THE SHUTTLE LANDS! It's chaos as Lex's backpack, and all of its contents go flying in low gravity.

- Lex is barely able to recover her things as two GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS whisk in and rush them out in a frenzy.

OFFICIAL
Mayor Cortez, this way.

- The Officials drag them along through a maze of corridors... Left, right, right, left. Lex trips over her feet as she tries to catch up.

OFFICIAL (CONT'D)
Careful in low-gravity, Miss. Your quarters are this way.

- Sandra is already in business mode as she is escorted down one corridor away from Lex and Charlie.

LEX
Mom! Mom, wait up.

- They are corralled through a nondescript door, whose only unique feature is the name: "CORTEZ."

OFFICIAL
Welcome to the Moon, Cortez family.
Your presence makes our future brighter.

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

SLAM! Lex and her dad stand in a stark, low-ceilinged plastic box with some bare furniture. A stateroom on the Starship Enterprise this is not.

CHARLIE
It's got... potential. Right, Lex?

Lex stares into a doorway. Her room looks like a closet with barely enough room for her suitcase. There isn't even a window. Lex checks her tablet: "NO SIGNAL."

LEX
Worst. Life. Ever...

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONE**INT. LEX'S ROOM - LATER**

Lex sits on her cramped bed, the contents of her backpack and suitcase strewn about in a half-hearted attempt to unpack.

CLASSICAL MUSIC plays on a tiny speaker as Lex records a message on her tablet, narrating dramatically:

LEX
 Captain's log. Night. Tuesday. I think. Time does not exist here.

Lex digs a handful of COLORED MARKERS out of her bag and draws a "window" on the wall above her bed, complete with a BEACH SUNSET.

LEX (CONT'D)
 There is no telling how long we have been marooned on this lifeless world. All attempts to contact you have failed.
 (breaking character)
 The wi-fi here really stinks! I couldn't even download the latest episode of "Dangerous Dayz".

Lex collapses back on her bad and SIGHS.

LEX (CONT'D)
 I'll have to bust out the opera before I know it.

CHARLIE (O.S.)
 Lex, how's it going?

Lex bounces back up, acting dramatic again.

LEX
 I will attempt to make contact when I can. Send word of home.
 (breaking character)
 Miss you, Marco! Lex, out.

KNOCK KNOCK. Dad pokes his head into her room.

CHARLIE
 Not pulling an all nighter, I hope.

LEX
 It's only like 7:00.

CHARLIE
In California. We're on GMT here.

LEX
So that makes it...?

CHARLIE
Late.

Lex looks "out" the drawn-on window.

LEX
Is Mayor Mom home yet?

CHARLIE
She's on multiple time zones. Mayor of the Moon is important, but think of all the boring meetings.

Lex cracks a smile. Her spirit is undeterred.

LEX
It's just the first night. Gotta make this place hospitable.

CHARLIE
And get some sleep. First day of school tomorrow.

LEX
Right, school! Kids on the moon. Yeah, I got this.

Lex is suddenly energized and gives her dad a hug.

CHARLIE
And don't forget to set your alarm.

Dad closes the door on the way out, and Lex lays back on the bed, more excited and awake than ever.

LEX
What do cool kids do on the moon? The Moonwalk? Too obvious? Are there moon bands? Should I join a band? I could establish the first surf club on the moon...

She switches the lights out, plunging the room into DARKNESS.

LEX (OVER BLACK) (CONT'D)
Wow. I am not tired at all!

INT. LEX'S ROOM - MORNING

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! Lex's ALARM FLASHES.

CRASH! Lex stumbles around in the dark, the flashing alarm making it look like an alien horror movie until she reaches the light switch. The lights blare on, revealing piles of clutter have somehow multiplied overnight.

LEX
So... tired...

Lex sees clock and bolts awake.

LEX (CONT'D)
What?!

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - MOMENTS LATER

Lex bursts out of the room pulling on her sweater as she brushes her teeth. She dances around Charlie in the cramped kitchen as she rummages for breakfast.

CHARLIE
You're late. Mom already left.

Lex reaches for a coffee cup, but Charlie drops a warm breakfast burrito in her hand instead.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
No coffee for you. Breakfast burrito and OJ. And I upgraded your tablet with the city directory.

LEX
You're a life-saver, Dad. Whoa!

She trips over a chair, bounces in the low gravity, and lands on the couch, holding the burrito up high like she caught a touchdown.

CHARLIE
And the burrito is safe.

LEX
Are they going to fix the gravity?

EXT. MOON BASE CORRIDORS - MOMENTS LATER

Lex holds the breakfast burrito in her mouth as she tries to follow the interactive map on her tablet. She dashes down the corridors, trying to decipher which direction to go.

LEX

Ugh! Everything looks the same.

Then, she turns a corner, and her eyes light up.

EXT. MOON BASE PROMENADE - CONTINUOUS

Lex steps out into the Promenade, a circular area under the main dome of the base. This is the main hub, where all the activity and life of the base converges. It's a futuristic town square beyond the wildest dreams of EPCOT.

LEX

I could get used to this.

ASTRONAUTS, international REPRESENTATIVES, and CIVILIANS from all nationalities and ethnic groups go about their day. ROBOT DRONES zip in and out, carrying messages and packages.

BEDOO! Lex's tablet LIGHTS UP with messages. Marco's face pops up onto the screen.

LEX (CONT'D)

Finally!

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

Got your message. Make contact when you can. Good luck, space sailor!

The message GLITCHES. Lex starts bouncing and spinning through the promenade trying to get the best signal.

LEX

Not again! Come on, come on...

The message continues to glitch in and out as Lex tries to find the right spot, until it finally starts to clear up.

BUMP. She backs right into ASH (12) a pale boy on his way through the promenade.

LEX (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm so sorry.

ASH

No, I'm sorry. I-- oh... You're--

Ash's face goes even paler than it was a moment ago.

LEX

Hi, I'm Lex. I'm actually looking for the school.

Lex extends her hand, but Ash shies away from shaking it.

ASH

I'm, uh... I gotta go.

Suddenly, Ash takes off in the other direction. He is surprisingly fast, especially compared to Lex, who stumbles as she follows him into a corridor.

INT. MOON BASE CORRIDORS - CONTINUOUS

Lex skip-walks trying to catch up, but Ash has already disappeared. Lex turns through corridor after corridor, lost. As she rushes, her bag zipper slowly falls open.

LEX

Hey! Wait up!

CRASH! All the contents of her bag--tablet, books, cards, space pens, breakfast burrito!--spill out into the corridor.

LEX (CONT'D)

No no no no no!

The faster Lex tries to gather it all up, the worse it gets. Before long, she is tangled up in the corridor, waiting for the low-gravity to let everything float to the floor.

SUYIN (O.S.)

I found the new girl!

SUYIN (13, Chinese), a popular girl type who is always under intense pressure, towers over Lex.

Lex's face goes flush with embarrassment as she looks at the door in front of her: "SCHOOLHOUSE / ÉCOLE / ШКОЛА / 学校"

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

It's like an old-fashioned schoolhouse for the Final Frontier. A dozen INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS sit in two sections. The younger elementary aged students on one side separated from the older kids on the other.

Lex stands sheepishly at the front of the class as the teacher, MADAM GODARD welcomes her.

MADAM GODARD

With not many children on Luna, we have a combined classroom. Mixed lessons and independent study.

Suyin and the OLDER KIDS look at Lex with annoyance or don't bother looking at all, while the YOUNGER KIDS giggle.

MADAM GODARD (CONT'D)
Écoutez! We have a new family in
our growing city. Alexandra?

Lex clears her throat nervously. She is drawing a blank.

LEX
Uh, hi.
(big gulp)
I'm Alexandra Maria Salvatore-
Cortez. Everybody calls me Lex. And
yes, my mom is Mayor Cortez. That's
a pretty big honor. Oh, my dad's an
astronaut. He's really a pilot, but
now he's--

ANDREI, Russian boy with a peach-fuzz mustache, interrupts.

ANDREI
Da, all our parents are astronauts
or politicians or rich. Just one
question. Are you going to eat that
burrito?

The class LAUGHS as Lex realizes the breakfast burrito is somehow stuck to the back of her sweater.

Lex shrinks down into herself as she drifts to find a seat on the older kids side. The only empty seat is next to Suyin. Lex grins hopefully. Suyin stares daggers.

MADAM GODARD
We are going to review EVAC
procedures for our mock moonwalk.

LEX
We're going on a moonwalk?

The other kids roll their eyes and GIGGLE again.

MADAM GODARD
We are *simulating* one.

As Lex slumps down into her seat, she sees the lesson plan appear on her desktop display. It's a computer simulation. Fascinated, Lex starts fiddling with the screen.

The display on the desktop shows lessons, a virtual view of the teacher, a message app, and a window showing Ash's face.

LEX
I know him.

SUYIN
Shh! That's Ash. He studies from
home sometimes.

Lex absentmindedly scrolls through the computer screen as
Madam Godard continues on with the lesson.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

Lex is trying to pay attention to her lesson, but her eyes
droop and she almost nods off.

SUYIN
What are you doing?

LEX
Sorry. Space lag. No... <YAWN>
coffee...

She starts to drift again and leans on one elbow, which
brings up her CONTACT LIST on screen.

The display ACTIVATES: "CALLING MARCO"

Suddenly, Marco appears ON SCREEN, framed by palm trees. LIVE
MUSIC BLASTS in the background.

Everyone around her reacts as Lex scrambles to silence it.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)
Lex! There you are! How's the Moon?
Did you see "Dangerous Dayz"? That
episode was insan--

LEX
Shh! No I didn't see it yet. Wait,
is that a beach concert?

MADAM GODARD
Did you have a question, Lex?

Lex quickly covers her desktop screen and shakes her head.
Suyin stares at her disapprovingly.

LEX
I'll call you later.

Lex hangs up on Marco. She is sad and clearly jealous.

Then, a new message pops onto her display. She tries to swipe it away, but clicks it open instead. She is horrified to see an edited video of her in a space helmet with a crown on top. It LIGHTS UP with the words: "MOON PRINCESS!"

LEX (ON VIDEO) (CONT'D)
My mom's the mayor, and my dad's an astronaut!

Suyin can't help letting out a LAUGH as she turns around, shaking her head at Andrei, who grins innocently.

MADAM GODARD
Qu'est-ce que c'est?

ANDREI
Nothing.

MADAM GODARD
C'est vrai. There is nothing funny about the vacuum of space...

Lex tries to swipe it away too, but in doing so, the display somehow scrambles video windows and lesson plans. Everything She does to swipe one window away opens five more.

MADAM GODARD (CONT'D)
So, what do we do next? Lex, can you tell me?

LEX
What?

MADAM GODARD
You've reentered the airlock. What's your next step?

Lex looks down at her display, but it's now a jumbled mess.

LEX
I, uh... remove my helmet.

MADAM GODARD
Suyin?

SUYIN
She's dead because she exposed herself to the vacuum of space.

Everyone LAUGHS.

LEX
No no no, I mean, I open the airlock. Obviously.

SUYIN

And now everyone else is dead
because you decompressed the base.

LEX

No... I mean, ugh!

Lex hits her display, and suddenly everyone else's displays light up, mirroring Lex's desktop, including the smart board at the front of the class. Lex desperately tries to stop it, but it's too late.

LEX (CONT'D)

Nonononononono...

The entire classroom lights up with images of Lex in the "MOON PRINCESS!" crown:

LEX (ON VIDEO) (CONT'D)

My mom's the mayor and my dad's an astronaut!
My mom's the mayor and my dad's an astronaut!

Lex melts into her chair from shame.

LEX (CONT'D)

Where's the nearest airlock because
I think I'd like to be dead now.

As all the kids laugh...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. LEX'S ROOM - DAY**

Lex is face down on her bed as OPERA MUSIC blasts out of the tiny speaker at her bedside. No light aria for Lex. This is heavy and dramatic Wagner-esque opera.

KNOCKS rap at her door.

CHARLIE (O.S.)
Lex? How was your first day?

Lex CRANKS THE VOLUME.

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Charlie turns away from Lex's door to his video-phone with Sandra on the display. She looks concerned.

SANDRA (ON PHONE)
Is that classical?

Charlie winces and takes a deep breath.

CHARLIE
Opera.

SANDRA (ON PHONE)
I'm coming home!

CHARLIE
No, you stay put. You have enough on your plate. She just needs a patented pep talk from Dad.

SANDRA (ON PHONE)
Just don't say it to her like that.

INT. LEX'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

As opera continues to play, Lex lifts her head up to check her tablet: "NO SIGNAL." She slams it down again. Another KNOCK at the door, and Charlie pokes his head in.

CHARLIE
Want to talk about it?

LEX
I'm dead.

CHARLIE
It can't be that bad.

Lex finally looks up.

LEX
We simulated a space walk, and I
took my helmet off. Then, I
depressurized the entire city.

CHARLIE
Yep, that'll get you dead.

Lex buries her face in her pillow again and SCREAMS.

LEX
I embarrassed myself in front of my
class, which is literally every kid
on the moon. Maybe there's a colony
on Mars we can move to?

Charlie sits next to her on the bed. Dad story time.

CHARLIE
Your grandpa got transferred to new
air force bases so often, I don't
think I finished two consecutive
grades in the same school.

LEX
And you got to see the world.

Lex glances at the drawn on "window" on the wall of her room.

CHARLIE
Wanna go for a walk?

LEX
Did they fix the gravity yet?

INT. LAUNCH BAY - LATER

Lex stands with her Dad in the launch bay, a space-age garage of airlocks and maintenance stations. A locker station and hanging space suits line one wall, and ROVER VEHICLES are parked behind a larger airlock door.

Lex looks out the window port at a couple ASTRONAUTS walking on the surface.

CHARLIE
Remember what your mom said when
she got this job?

LEX

That I can't surf on the moon.

CHARLIE

After that.

LEX

That we're building a new
international community.

Charlie points out the different astronauts and launch bay
TECHS. Each has a different nation's flag on their sleeve,
multiple genders, all various racial and ethnic groups.

CHARLIE

Half of us don't speak the same
language or wouldn't even talk to
each other if we did. But you kids
are the ones that can make it work.

LEX

But none of the other kids is the
Moon Princess.

Charlie points to two astronauts coming through the airlock.
LINWOOD, one of the astronauts, gives a friendly wave as he
removes his helmet.

CHARLIE

That's my counterpart, Linwood, and
his son.

The other astronaut lifts up his faceplate to reveal Ash,
Lex's video classmate.

LEX

Ash?

CHARLIE

He has a rare immune deficiency.
Linwood won the lottery so they
could be the first family on the
moon. Sealed environment, clean
air. He's as healthy as anybody.

LINWOOD

And an expert moonwalker. Boy might
take your job one day, Charlie.

Ash blushes.

CHARLIE

Then, I can retire. How's the
crater look?

Charlie pulls Linwood aside, leaving Lex and Ash alone.

LEX

I guess I know why you ran away.
Sorry about that. I'm Lex.

ASH

I know. Sorry about the Moon
Princess thing.

Lex shrugs.

LEX

At least it makes me memorable. Not
as cool as youngest moonwalker
ever, though. I doubt they'll ever
let me out there.

ASH

Everyone has to. Safety training.

LEX

In case some fool decompresses the
base?

ASH

Something like that.

They share a LAUGH. Suddenly, Lex's tablet starts BEEPING.
Lex is surprised when the signal comes through. It's Marco!

LEX

Marco? Finally! This thing works.

MARCO

Lex? Whoa! Is that an astronaut?!

LEX

Marco, this is Ash.

ASH

Greetings, Earthling.

LEX

So, how was the beach concert?

MARCO

Lame. Well, I was gonna ask if you
can vid-chat to the Back to School
Beach Bash, but you'll probably be
busy walking on the moon and stuff.

Lex gets a spark of inspiration.

LEX

I will be walking on the moon, AND
I will be calling you at the bash.

MARCO

Really? That'll be so awesome!

LEX

It *will* be awesome.

Forming a scheme, she turns to Ash.

LEX (CONT'D)

Can you give me pointers on
moonwalking?

INT. LEX'S ROOM - LATER

Lex excitedly runs into her room and immediately puts on music, an UPBEAT SYMPHONY. Then, she sticks a calendar on the wall and circles "FRIDAY."

LEX

Alexandra Maria Salvatore-Cortez,
you have three days to get approved
for a moonwalk.

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - LATER

Sandra comes home to music echoing from Lex's room. She looks concerned at Charlie who is setting dinner on the table.

SANDRA

Pinafore?

CHARLIE

Penzance.

Sandra looks relieved and knocks on Lex's door.

SANDRA

How about a study break? Dinner?

In a blur, Lex reaches out, grabs a plate, and retracts.

LEX (O.S.)

Thanks! Love you!

Slightly disappointed, Sandra sits down with Charlie to dinner, as MUSIC continues to play through...

MONTAGE:

With Ash's help, Lex studies up on the Lunar Colony and space walking, determined make that date on her calendar.

-- LEX'S ROOM - Lex talks with Ash on video chat. They LAUGH and swap pics from home on Earth.

-- LAUNCH BAY - Lex sits next to a tech station as her Dad suits up. She LAUGHS with Marco on the tablet as she munches on a space protein bar.

-- CLASSROOM - Lex sits seriously in class. Ash, on her desktop screen, prompts her. She eagerly raises her hand. She ignores Suyin and Andrei staring at her suspiciously.

-- PROMENADE - Lex wanders the promenade talking to Marco on the tablet. She trips in low-gravity. This time, she does a little surf move and catches herself.

-- LEX'S ROOM - Lex marks off the last day and collapses on her bed. She is ready.

END MONTAGE.**INT. LAUNCH BAY - DAY**

Wearing space suits, all the students from class line up in the launch bay. Ash, who is near the head of the class, gives an encouraging nod to Lex as Madam Godard addresses them.

MADAM GODARD

This is not a holiday, but a serious training exercise.

Suyin catches Lex smiling confidently at Ash.

SUYIN

What are you so happy about, Moon Princess?

LEX

Because I'm going to prove who the Moon Princess is-- I mean, this princess belongs on the moon just as much as-- Just... you'll see!

MADAM GODARD

Please check your tablets for your group number.

Lex sees the letter "A" on both her and Suyin's tablets.

LEX

Looks like we're both in the same group, huh?

MOMENTS LATER

Suyin, sporting a RED STRIPE, is Group A's leader, and she turns to Lex and three other students, all elementary kids.

SUYIN

Group A is the newbies, so I'll be your babysitter.

As the student astronauts all line up at the airlock, Lex frowns at Suyin, and the other kids laugh at her.

KIDS

You're gonna die! You're gonna die!

Ash, in a BLUE stripe, waves sheepishly at Lex. He leads a group of older kids. Lex could not be more embarrassed.

EXT. MOON SURFACE - DAY

Lex and the other student astronauts are arranged in their groups at a courtyard-like area outside the Lunar Base. The airlocks are nearby, and the "arms" of the base extend out opening to the crater-pocked surface of the Moon.

Madam Godard, along with several adult astronauts, including Lex's dad, supervise.

MADAM GODARD

No stunts, or we'll be back inside quicker than you can say, "Solar flare."

Lex watches helplessly as Ash leads his group beyond the "courtyard" toward the edges of the craters outside.

SUYIN

Lex, are you paying attention?

LEX

Of course!

SUYIN

Walk the line. If you can.

Lex looks at a straight line painted on the surface going up a slight incline in front of them.

LEX
Easy as moon pie.

Lex takes a wobbly step in the low-gravity. Then another and another. She's getting the hang of it, then...

Her foot slips on the powdery surface and falls on her butt.

KID #1
You're dead! You're dead!

As the other kids GIGGLE, Lex watches Ash and his older group circumventing a small crater.

PING! Suddenly, Lex's tablet, which is attached to her utility belt, lights up. She sees a message come in from Marco: "WHERE ARE YOU? LOOK AT THIS VIEW!" It shows a beautiful beach sunset on Earth.

Suddenly, one of the younger kids starts to CRY.

KID #2
I can't! I don't wanna get dead.

SUYIN
See? This is why we don't joke about getting dead. All right, everyone back in the airlock.

KIDS
Aw...

SUYIN
Rules are rules. Now stay together.

The little kids form a line behind Suyin as she leads everyone into the airlock. As they pass another line of students, Lex sees her chance and slips off.

Lex sneaks her way along the perimeter of the courtyard, bouncing from one foot to the other.

On the other side of the courtyard, Ash is leading his group and looks over to see Lex bounce along. At first, he grins with pride. Then, he frowns as he sees her heading toward the craters beyond the courtyard.

EXT. MOON CRATER - CONTINUOUS

Lex walks up to the edge of a magnificent crater, she is awed by the sight in front of her. The Earth hovers in the sky.

LEX

Wow.

Lex quickly grabs for her tablet. Even with her spacesuit gloves, she can easily operate it.

After a couple RINGING BEEPS, Marco pops up on screen, a beautiful beach scene behind him.

MARCO

Hey Lex! Whoa! Are you moonwalking?

Lex pans her tablet around so he gets a full view of the surface until she points it directly at the Earth.

LEX

Look! I think I can see your house from here.

MARCO

Hang on, we gotta get a group selfie with you.

On screen, Marco gathers Lex's other friends.

LEX

I know the perfect pose.

Lex holds the tablet up, standing on the edge of the crater with the Earth rising in the background.

MARCO

Okay... one, two, three!

On "three," Lex tries to do a cool moonwalk pose, but her foot slips and she fumbles the tablet. It smashes on a rock.

LEX

Mom and Dad are gonna kill me.

As she bends down to pick it up, the rocks suddenly slide out from under her.

LEX (CONT'D)

AAAAHHHH!!!

Lex tumbles down into the enormous crater...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. MOON CRATER - RESUME**

Lex tumbles down to the bottom of the enormous crater, coming to a rest at the base of the steep slope. She tries to remain calm as she slowly picks herself up.

LEX

Okay, okay, I'm all right. I'm not dead. Nothing broken.

She looks down at her shattered tablet and lets out a SIGH.

LEX (CONT'D)

Except that. Uh, hello? Mic check.

She taps a control at her wrist, attempting to use her suit's radio. It just returns STATIC. Then, she starts shouting.

LEX (CONT'D)

Hey! Can anyone hear me?!
(beat, to self)
Of course they can't, Lex. There's no sound in space.

ABOVE

Ash walks up to the edge of the crater where Lex fell. He quickly sees her and tries to flag her down.

ASH

Lex! Are you alright?
(beat, to self)
Why am I shouting?

Lex waves her arms and gives a thumbs up. Then, she gestures at her helmet like she can't hear.

On the edge of the crater above, Ash thinks for a moment, trying to decide.

ASH (CONT'D)

Okay, think dummy. Protocol says I should signal Suyin for help. But that'll take forever, and Lex will never live this down.

Ash looks down to see Lex give a shrugging arms up gesture.

ASH (CONT'D)

I can't believe I'm gonna do this.

BELOW

Lex is impatiently waiting for Ash to respond when...

Ash SLIDES down the crater toward Lex like he's snowboarding. He skids to a halt and sticks the landing next to her. She's impressed. The STATIC in Lex's radio becomes clear.

ASH (CONT'D)

You okay?

LEX

You'd make a good surfer.

(beat)

Wait, why did you do that? How are we getting back up there? Did you just get us dead?

ASH

You were out of range of the short-range comms, and this crater is too steep on this side to climb, and I didn't want you to get in trouble and embarrass yourself again.

LEX

That's kinda sweet, but you know we're both gonna get in trouble now right?

ASH

Yeah, that's why I'm freaking out.

EXT. MOON SURFACE - SAME

Suyin is back outside as the groups start to congregate. She looks around for Lex without trying to be too noticeable.

MADAM GODARD

Two minute warning, class! Deux minutes! I want us all back in that airlock promptly.

As the groups form up near the airlock, Suyin takes off.

EXT. MOON CRATER - SAME

Ash leads Lex along the bottom edge of the crater. Ash is clearly used to walking in space, but Lex keeps bouncing awkwardly and tripping in the low gravity. She gets frustrated as she falls to her knees again.

LEX

I don't know why I thought I could do this!

ASH

You're doing fine. It takes a lot of practice.

LEX

I don't mean moonwalking, which is way harder than it looks. I just thought I could act like nothing changed. That I'm still Lex from the South Coast. But I'm stuck up here. Everyone hates me. Even my friends are off having my beach party without me.

Ash sits next to her sympathetically.

LEX (CONT'D)

Pretty stupid, huh? I'm one of a dozen kids who's ever gotten to walk on the moon and I want to be on some beach.

ASH

I've never been to a real beach.

LEX

Now I really feel stupid.

ASH

You're not. You probably shouldn't be crying in your helmet thought.

LEX

Is it gonna get me dead?

ASH

That depends. Can you make it to that auxiliary airlock?

Ash points to where the crater starts to crest. A blinking beacon rises just in view. Excited, Lex hugs Ash, accidentally knocking him to the ground.

LEX

Sorry, sorry. I'm just excited to not die.

EXT. AUXILIARY AIR LOCK - CONTINUOUS

Ash helps Lex along as they finally reach the outer doors to the auxiliary air lock. Lex's relieved, grinning face suddenly turns dour when she sees Suyin standing there.

SUYIN

Would you two get inside before
somebody sees you?

INT. AUXILIARY AIR LOCK - CONTINUOUS

Lex, Ash, and Suyin pile into the airlock, and Suyin closes the outer door safely in place. A RUSH OF AIR HISSES into the compartment as it pressurizes.

LEX

Suyin, listen--

SUYIN

Save it. Do you think you're the
only one who's gonna get in
trouble? If we're lucky, we can
make it back to the launch bay
before anyone notices.

The air lock finishes pressurizing, and the inner door opens:

Half the class surround Madam Godard, along with Lex's Dad, several other Astronauts and...

LEX

Hi Mom.

Lex's Mom is furious!

SANDRA

"Hi Mom"? Do you have any idea how
worried we've been?

LEX

Before you say anything-- Wait.
How'd you find out so fast?

SANDRA

Marco called me. He thought you got
hit by a meteor.

Sandra holds up her phone. Marco is on the video screen.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

Sorry, Lex. Sorry, Mrs. Cortez. Hi everybody on the Moon. I'm Marco. Big fan.

EVERYONE

Hi Marco.

LEX

It's not your fault, dude.

ASH

It was my fault.

SUYIN

What?

LEX

What?

ASH

I've been tutoring Lex on station and EVAC protocols, and I thought she would be impressed by the crater. I underestimated the stability of the ridge. And it's my fault we fell.

Lex and Suyin stare at Ash with mouths agape. Lex's Mom studies the three kids with a piercing mother's gaze. Lex shakes her head.

LEX

Ash is just trying to help. It's not Suyin's fault either. I took advantage of her and snuck off. I wanted to show off.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

So cool, though!

SANDRA

Not the time, Marco.

MARCO (ON VIDEO)

Glad you're not dead. Bye!

Marco's video chat blinks off, and Sandra SIGHS heavily.

SANDRA

All right, everyone, the excitement is over. I think we've avoided an inter-planetary incident for today.

Everyone disperses, leaving Lex to face her mother alone.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Do you have any idea how much trouble you could've caused? How much you *did* cause?

LEX

I really am sorry. I know I messed up. I guess... I just miss home.

Sandra softens.

SANDRA

I know you do. And I'm sorry too. I know I've been busy, and this is all so different. But you know you can always talk to me and your dad, right?

LEX

I know. And I don't know if I really said it, but I'm really proud of you.

SANDRA

And I'm proud of you, my Moon Princess.

Sandra hugs her, but Lex squirms.

LEX

Please don't let that catch on.

SANDRA

And I think I'm not the only one you need to apologize to.

INT. LAUNCH BAY - MOMENTS LATER

Suyin is hanging up her space suit gear when she sees Lex. She tries to escape, but there's nowhere to go.

LEX

Hey Suyin. I know you hate me. Just hear me out. I had no right doing that to you. I know we got off on the wrong foot, but I promise I'm not just a stupid moon princess. I'm sorry.

Suyin is quiet for a long moment. Then, she grins.

SUYIN

You're mostly a stupid moon princess.

LEX

I deserve that.

SUYIN

I don't hate you. But do you think it's easy for any of us? I have to look after everyone because we're all counting on each other. Back on Earth, it was the end of the world if you weren't popular or had the wrong friends or failed an exam.

Lex nods sympathetically.

SUYIN (CONT'D)

But on the moon, if you mess up...

LEX

I know. You get dead.

And for the first time, Lex sees Suyin let out a CHUCKLE. Even Suyin is surprised.

SUYIN

But I guess that's what makes living here so exciting.

LEX

Well, there's one thing you don't have. Beach party!

Lex twirls and does a dorky little dance and HUMS a TUNE. Suyin shakes her head but betrays a little grin.

LEX (CONT'D)

See, I knew it. We're gonna be friends.

SUYIN

Don't press your luck.

MUSIC transitions to a CLASSICAL WALTZ and plays into...

INT. LEX'S ROOM - LATER

Lex has finally decorated her room. There is still no window, but she has put up more artwork and a shelf to make the "window" area look a little more realistic. As she lies back on her bed, her tablet chimes. Ash's face appears.

ASH
What are you listening to now?
Beethoven?

LEX
Wow, not even close. Strauss. We
gotta work on your musical trivia.
All next week: showtunes.

Lex does JAZZ HANDS.

LEX (CONT'D)
How long do you have to quarantine?

ASH
One more week. How long are you
grounded?

LEX
Two. Then, you can teach me how to
moonwalk, and I'll teach you to
crater surf!

ASH
I wish I got to experience a real
beach.

LEX
Well, ask me anything. I am the
beach expert.

ASH
Okay... How many diseases can you
catch from marine life? Have you
ever been stung by a jellyfish? Can
you really pee in the ocean?

LEX
I don't know. Yes, and it really
hurts. And ew!

Off their <LAUGHTER>...

END PILOT