Orbital Bebop

Written and Directed by Jeanette Prather

Edited and revised by Kristin Wyatt with contributed dialog edits provided by actors

Cast

Humans

Stella Kendall
Marv Kristin
Lucy Ruby
Charlie Abby

Angelicans

Zara Annabelle
Miss Maya . . . Erin
Aurora Yona
Mello Leah
Venus Opal

Ensemble

Hoopin' Honeys & Molly

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE

PQ:1 - THE SPACE SHIP comes hurtling through space [via projection] and crashes onto a very colorful planet. Curtains open.

After a beat the inhabitants of the spacecraft slowly emerge [smoke and space ship set piece here] from the wreckage.

The humans emerge from the wreck appear haggard [dirty and torn clothing]but otherwise appear seem to be okay.

STELLA

(Looking around at and for her companions.) Is everyone ok?!

LUCY

I think so. The last thing I remember we were bracing ourselves for a crash landing on the asteroid headed towards us.

MARV

I got us around the asteroid.... But we got caught in the trajectory of this planet's orbit. (Pulls out gadget to test the air) Lucky for us the air here doesn't appear to be toxic to humans or we'd be goners for sure. Where is Charlie?

CHARLIE

(Coughing and gasping like she can't breathe the air...then realizing the air is okay, calms down.) Here. Right here. (Lucy helps Charlie out).

STELLA

Are you ok, Charlie?

CHARLIE

Uhhhh... Yes, I think so. (Begins counting fingers & toes through one torn open shoe.)

LUCY

Ok, well we should probably see if we're ecologically suited for this planet. I mean, it's beautiful, so I hope so!

MARV

(Scanning nearby rocks with something that looks like a metal detector.) Way ahead of you... My readings are showing that this planet is ecologically stable and seems to have an abundance of vegetation, water, and animal life.

The cast looks wonderingly around themselves; to the skies and down to the ground.

STELLA

Wait a second! (Putting a hand out towards the others and looking in the opposite direction.) Do you guys hear that? Listen...

SQ:C - Music suddenly can be heard playing in the distance, very quietly.

MARV

Yes I do! What is that?

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{CAST}}$ leans in towards the noise. Peering off the side of the stage as if over a cliff... the lights dim over the humans.

ACT ONE

SCENE TWO

THE CAST of Angelicans start to enter dancing from behind the audience. (set pieces of alien terrain and rocks). PQ:2 - an image of a beautiful environment is projected behind the Earthlings. The song "Walking on a Dream" by Empire of the Sun begins to play and one anglican is lip syncing along with the lyrics the Angelican cast will dance and hula hoop for duration of the song.

The humans, unaware of what's going on, stay out of view from the anglicans behind the rocks and terrain at the stages edge to watch the number.

The ensemble dance number finishes with the music, and as the anglicans dance off the side where they sit awaiting their queen LQ:3 - the lights fade on the

Anglicans and go up on the humans again.

The humans slowly emerge from their hiding spots.

MARV

Incredible! We've stumbled upon some sort of celebration... perhaps a ceremonial ritual? I wonder what they are celebrating?

(Marv takes out a small hand-held device and begins to busy herself with it).

LUCY

(Eyes still on the native dancers) Not sure what that was but these inhabitants don't seem hostile in the least. I mean, what natives would break out into a musical number with that kind of vigor and then turn around and not welcome newcomers into their society? Not these guys.

STELLA

I see where you're going with this, Lucy, but we don't know anything about this species. For all we know this could be their hunting ritual before they head up here and look for prey. We need to stay here and stay quiet until we know more about them.

(Pause a beat.)

Marv, what have you found out this planet's species?

MARV

Not much. It looks like AI thinks that any known humanoid species in this region of the galaxy died out eons ago. From what I could find, the known cultures here were known to be a peaceful and friendly.

LUCY

See, I told you so. I think we should head down there and introduce ourselves. I mean, we have the crash to prove that we're not invaders, right?

A young girl emerges from behind a rock and no one but Charlie sees her. He points and smiles but the cast remains oblivious.

ZARA (LITTLE GIRL)

Hi! (Stella, Marv, & Lucy jump startled.) How are you? That looked like a bad crash you had.

LUCY

Oh hi! How long have you been there? (Pause a beat.) And yes, that was a pretty bad crash.

MARV

(Gets down on knee to talk to Zara) Hello... is that your family down there? (Gestures towards celebration and Zara nods in response.)

Do you think they would welcome us if we went down there and told them we crashed our ship here?

ZARA

Do you want me to take you to our leaders?

MARV

I don't understand... the AI usually has a full record of all known species in the nearby galaxies. How is it that your kind isn't on the galactic radar?

ZARA

I'll take you to them so they can tell you more. Follow me.

LQ:4 - ZARA begins heads off stage right (lights dim) and the humans follow her. Curtains close and the stage is reset for Aurora's Solo). They reappear at floor level & walk along and stand in front of the stage. Zara looks to Charlie and takes his hand in hers and smiles.

The lighting stays dimmed on the floor area in front of the stage. LQ:5, PQ:3 - Miss Maya's solo piece begins to play and the spotlight goes on her at the top center of the audience and follows her for the remainder of her solo.

As Miss Maya's solo ends she reaches an arm out regally gesturing towards the stage (the humans and Zara turn towards the stage... Zara and Charlie keep holding hands)

LQ:6, PQ:3.5 - as the curtain opens the music begins again for Aurora's Halo solo.

The humans and all the Anglicans watch both solos in still silence. LQ:7 - As Aurora's solo ends she dismounts (lights go bright on the floor area and the curtains close behind her) and walks down the stage steps to stand regally next to her mother the queen (Miss Maya).

ACT ONE

SCENE THREE

Miss Maya looks towards Zara and the humans. Nodding she gestures towards Zara and Charlie's clasped hands.

MISS MAYA

Zara, who are your friends here?

ZARA

I found them crash-landed near the cliffs. They seem to be ok, but I thought we could help them.

(Zara releases Charlie's hand and moves towards Miss Maya and gestures the humans to follow her and the all step forward behind her.)

AURORA

Zara, we've talked about this before; you need to just let us know when intruders have landed and not bring them into our home. What if they are hostile or trying to trick us so they may harvest our planet?

Pause a beat.

ZARA

(Looking down sheepishly.) Sorry, Big Sis. I really don't think they mean us any harm. They've just been through so much...

CHARLIE

We love other species and cultures! (Charlie steps forward raising her arms like she is about to hug Aurora... Aurora looks at Charlie startled and slightly annoyed.)

MARV

(Placing an arm across Charlie's chest to stop her.) What she means by that is we travel the galaxy looking for other ecosystems to study. We're fascinated by different cultures and planets. It sounds like your species has been through a lot.

AURORA

(With a sideways glance.) We have... [sasily] AND, our "species" is called the Angelicans.

MISS MAYA

Our elders have told us that once upon a time, when they were all much known in the outer realms, too many intruders came to our planet in hopes to harvest it and rid the Angelicans. They said it grew very hostile and began to tear apart our beautiful planet. When they got rid of the invaders, the elders decided to take us off the grid by pretending that our species had gone extinct.

AURORA

Her name is Zara. (gestures toward Zara.) Since you led the… our guests to us, then they've become your responsibility. See that they are properly cleaned up and fed. Then, you all will meet us back here to discuss what to do next.

ZARA

Whatever. (Rolls eyes at her sister)

THE humans follow Zara out the door and exit house left. SQ:F - Jeopardy music plays here to parody the waiting time and allow for the Earthlings to complete their quick change.