

STEP IN TIME

"Pilot"

Written by

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ACT ONE

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Main Street, U.S.A. sits in silence. Lights off. Crickets chirp softly.

EXT. FANTASYLAND - NIGHT

Water flows into a grotto near a scuttled ship; the figurehead, a sculpture of Ariel, reaches out at the full moon illuminating the land.

EXT. LIBERTY SQUARE - NIGHT

The Haunted Mansion rests ominously on its perch overlooking the ornate iron-wrought fence below. Ghosts and ghouls can be heard moaning and cackling. A duck waddles past.

EXT. TOMORROWLAND - NIGHT

Tomorrowland sits in near-silence, like the rest of the lands, save for one building...

EXT. COSMIC RAY'S - NIGHT

The sounds grow louder outside of COSMIC RAY'S, an intergalactic Dino's with an unassuming facade. Lights emanate from its glass walls.

INT. COSMIC RAY'S - NIGHT

Inside of the lounge, SONNY ECLIPSE, the alien-lizard hybrid singer, sits at a futuristic keyboard. He's wrapping up an adagio performance of Billy Joel's "The Stranger" for the small purple dragon FIGMENT, who is seated nearby, doodling on a kid's menu. Two tables over, BEN FRANKLIN is passed out.

SONNY

Though you drown in good
intentions/You may never quench the
fire/you'll give into your
desire/when the stranger comes
along!

He finishes the song with a flourish and waits for applause. Nothing. He clears his throat and Figment snaps to attention.

FIGMENT

Oh!

Figment claps.

SONNY

Thank ya, Figment. And now for a
little tune I like to call
"Excitable Boy" -

FIGMENT

Oh, I don't know, Sonny. I was
gonna go ahead on home. It's late.

SONNY

So what? It's not like you have to
be at work tomorrow.

Figment sighs.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Hey, chin up! This place will be
back open in no time and you'll
have stuff to do again. Let's just
try to enjoy the quiet for now,
huh?

Sonny coolly rests his elbow on the keyboard, creating an
otherworldly note that startles Ben Franklin awake. He looks
around before standing to leave without saying a word.

FIGMENT

I think this downtime is affecting
everyone.

SONNY

Pfft, downtime! No such thing for a
supernova Bossa Nova lounge lizard
like me.

FIGMENT

You don't miss playing for big
audiences?

SONNY

Who doesn't? But hey, the music
scene ain't what it was twenty
years ago, kid. What with the
Ticketmaster, and the...

(BEAT)

Napster.

FIGMENT

You know what I mean!

SONNY

Yeah, yeah, yeah. I get it. You need an outlet. You can only teach Jack Sparrow so much about colors.

FIGMENT

Not that I don't want to!

SONNY

Chin up, Figgy. We'll get through this together, or my name isn't Plectu!

FIGMENT

Your name is Sonny.

SONNY

Oh!

(CHUCKLES)

That's embarrassing. Hey! I got something that can cheer you up!

EXT. OFFICE HALLWAY - NIGHT

A pair of closed double doors in a nondescript office hallway. On the wall, a laminated sign reads:

NOTHING TO SEE HERE

INT. STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Figment watches Sonny rummage through shelves upon shelves of old attraction hardware.

SONNY

Here we go!

Sonny pulls out a rugged FEDORA once worn by Indiana Jones.

FIGMENT

Ooh, I love it! What is it?

SONNY

It's the Dreamfinder's hat.

FIGMENT

That's not his hat!

SONNY

Sure it is! It's... someone's hat.

Sonny, defeated, tosses the hat back in the pile.

SONNY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, Fig. Sometimes it feels
like I can't get anything right.

He trips and falls face-first into a box labeled "PANTS
(SOILED)."

SONNY (CONT'D)
See?

He stands and brushes himself off while Figment is doubled
over laughing.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Well, I'm glad my shame brought you
amusement.

He reaches down by his feet and picks up a loose POWER CABLE.

SONNY (CONT'D)
What the heck is this doing, just
laying here? It's hazardous!

FIGMENT
I wonder what it's for.

SONNY
Probably for the yeti. Who cares?
It's a plug.

He tosses the cable down. Figment picks it up.

SONNY (CONT'D)
C'mon, quit messing around. What
are you doing?

FIGMENT
It's just like you said!

Figment hunches down by a wall.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)
I need an outlet.

SONNY
Uh, Fig? Are you sure you want to -

Figment plugs the cable in, creating a POWER SURGE that dims
the lights and makes a low, powerful HUM vibrate from a far
corner of the room. After a moment, the lights return to
normal and the sound fades.

SONNY (CONT'D)
What did you do?

FIGMENT

I have no idea.

(BEAT)

Let's find out!

Figment flits his wings and starts toward the source of the hum.

SONNY

Hey, Fig, I'm glad you got some excitement out of this, but I'm a little... What's the word? Scared.

FIGMENT (O.S.)

What's to be scared of?

SONNY

Scary things. You don't know what could happen! There could be Spectromen down here, or we could get stolen! Remember Buzzy? He had one bad day and now he's shell-shocked forever!

BUZZY, haggard and insane, pops out from a pile on a shelf.

BUZZY

Did somebody say Buzzy?!

SONNY

Oh, no.

Buzzy clambers out of the pile and shuffles towards Sonny.

BUZZY

Get over here, you! I'm gonna give you the biggest hug you ever got! I been to six states and got hugs for each of 'em! Come here! I wanna give you an Oklahoma!

SONNY

Uh, Figment?

Sonny speed-walks away from Buzzy.

Figment stares at the corner of the room in disbelief. Sonny approaches.

SONNY (CONT'D)

You may have woken up our old friend... What is this?

Sitting before them is THE TIMEKEEPER'S TIME MACHINE: a circular platform with a raised handrail along its edges. An integrated control panel is complemented by a giant red LED display that flashes "12:00".

FIGMENT

It's the Timekeeper's!

SONNY

A time machine? Come on Figment, you've had too many Beverlys. Or not enough.

FIGMENT

It still works! Look here.

He flies to the control panel, a simple LEVER with unlabeled knobs next to it.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

I don't really know what does what, but it can't be that hard, right?

SONNY

Time travel? No way. Sonny Eclipse don't time travel. He's right at home in the now, doing anachronistic space lounge music and occasionally lending the stage to Michael Iceberg and his Amazing Iceberg Machine.

FIGMENT

We can come right back! Come on, Sonny! We have a time machine sitting right here, and no one is using it! It's just collecting dust!

SONNY

Can't we find something else here that's collecting dust and less likely to ruin everything?

FIGMENT

Sonny, if you don't want to come, I'm not gonna make you. But I should warn you, you'll be stuck in this room with your other best friend.

Sonny turns around to see Buzzy lurching towards him.

SONNY

Gah!

BUZZY

Guys! The Milwaukee Bucks were nothing without me! They used me as a good luck charm!

Sonny quickly hops on the platform.

SONNY

Yeah, you know what? Time travel sounds wild. Let's go, baby! Where are you thinking? The roaring twenties? The fabulous aughts? The great...depression?

FIGMENT

How about... Nineteen eighty-three?

SONNY

Eh. A little flamboyant for my tastes, but you're the dragon. See you later, Buzzy!

Figment turns a knob and pulls the lever. The red LED begins to change numbers wildly, and LIGHT PULSATES from the base of the platform.

The machine disappears with a great burst of energy, taking Figment and Sonny...and an errant Buzzy, clinging to its bottom.

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - DAY

As a TRAIN pulls into the Main Street station, a burst of light appears behind it. The train pulls away, revealing Sonny and Figment. They pat themselves to make sure they're whole, then hug each other.

FIGMENT

We did it!

SONNY

Figment, you're a genius! Nineteen eighty-three is absolutely killer! It's everywhere you want to be! It's...

They look around. Afros & perms, bell-bottoms, plaid sweaters.

SONNY (CONT'D)
...Decidedly conservative. Well,
the decade never really starts
until mid-way anyway.

The two are jolted by the sound of a BRASS BAND coming down
the street.

FIGMENT
Listen, Sonny! Doesn't that sound
great?

A parade of costumed characters descends from the castle.
Confetti litters the sidewalks and streets.

SONNY
Yeah... Say, Fig, did you set this
thing to fourth of July?

FIGMENT
There wasn't really a confirmation
or anything. Let me check the
machine.

Figment heads back to the train depot, leaving Sonny alone.

SONNY
That's comforting. Well, I have no
choice to assume that today is, in
fact, July fourth.

A group of TOURISTS passes by.

TOURIST #1
Man, it's warm out for October!

SONNY
Alright, I'm gonna take that one on
the chin. At least it's definitely
the eighties!

Another group of tourists walks by.

TOURIST
I love being alive during the
seventies!

SONNY
Hmm. That is alarming. At least
it's the late seventies?

An OLD MAN walks past.

OLD MAN
(TO THE SKY)
The year is nineteen seventy-nine!

SONNY
Two out of three ain't bad!

A YOUNG WOMAN approaches him.

YOUNG WOMAN
Come on, pop-pop. We all know it's
nineteen seventy-one. Let's get you
some air conditioning.

Sonny sighs deeply.

SONNY
I see.

Figment flies back.

FIGMENT
We have a tiny problem.

SONNY
I know. It's nineteen seventy-one.

FIGMENT
What?!

SONNY
Oh, so you have more bad news.

FIGMENT
Sonny... The time machine is gone.

Sweat pools on Sonny's forehead. His lips tremble. He takes a deep breath, and...

EXT. FLORIDA SWAMP - DAY

Sonny's scream ripples through the water. A flock of flamingos lift their heads.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

BOB HOPE swings his club, only for Sonny's scream to cause him to miss, striking a clump of dirt. He throws his club down.

EXT. CONTEMPORARY HOTEL - DAY

A FAMILY OF TOURISTS stands in the lobby of the Contemporary Hotel.

TOURIST DAD

Thank goodness for this vacation.
Anything to take my mind off of
that colonoscopy I have coming up.

A monorail slides into the massive opening on the side of the hotel. The man watches aghast as he hears Sonny's scream echo through the area.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - DAY**

Figment sits on the edge of a curb.

FIGMENT

I can't believe I took us to
nineteen seventy-one.

SONNY

Try not to beat yourself up about
it. At least we're not hurt. I just
wish we knew where the time machine
went.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A WOOLY MAMMOTH roars as it stomps through a cluster of
cavemen as they attempt to fight back in vain. Buzzy rides
atop the animal, laughing and screaming.

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - DAY

FIGMENT

The machine made it all look so
simple! The Timekeeper did it!

SONNY

The Timekeeper did a lot of things,
and he wasn't even full-time. He
helped me kick churros.

FIGMENT

What would he do if he were here
now?

SONNY

Well, he would probably leave, of
course. Since he would have come
here on purpose and known what he
was doing.

Figment sighs.

FIGMENT

There's gotta be a way out of this!
How about we go over to
Tomorrowland and look around there?
Maybe the time machine is drawn to
its land.

SONNY

It's a machine, Fig. It doesn't
have a mind of its own.

FIGMENT

Yeah, I've heard people say that
about you, too.

SONNY

What? Who said that?

FIGMENT

C'mon!

Figment flies away.

SONNY

Did Michael Iceberg say that?
Figgy?

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - DAY

As they move through the crowd, Sonny bumps into a WOMAN
(30s) wearing a blue Cast Member polo. Her name tag reads
"MARY." She stares at him in shock as he passes:

MARY

Pardon me.

SONNY

No problem.

He walks for a beat before stopping and turning back. She's
gone.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Par for the course.

Figment catches up.

FIGMENT

Sonny!

SONNY

Fig! Did you see that person in
blue back there?

FIGMENT

You saw her too?

SONNY

Yeah, she had a weird energy. It was like playing a show with Pat Boone.

FIGMENT

Maybe she was a ghost!

Sonny ponders for a beat.

SONNY

I think you may be on to something there, Figment.

FIGMENT

We gotta get to Tomorrowland and find that machine!

EXT. TOMORROWLAND - DAY

Sonny and Figment are standing in front of the entrance to Tomorrowland, but it looks nothing like the modern-day iteration.

Landscaping is sparse, buildings are scarce and the retro-futuristic architectural flourishes are lacking on the few buildings that are there. Sonny falls to his knees.

SONNY

What have we done?!

FIGMENT

Sonny.

SONNY

We treated time like a child's plaything! We've ruined Tomorrowland!

(BEAT)

Today!

FIGMENT

Yesterday, Sonny. We're in yesterday. Tomorrowland was a lot different now.

SONNY

Stop talking like that!

MARY

You guys traveled through time?

Sonny and Figment turn around.

SONNY

Figment! The ghost!

MARY

Oh, I'm not a ghost. You can call me Mary.

SONNY

Well, listen here, ghost - this may sound a little kooky, but we're no ordinary lounge-singer alien and imagination dragon. We traveled through time to be here. We're stuck here with no sign of escape. Our only hope is a time machine we used to get here, but it's gone. Is there a storage room anywhere around here?

MARY

Yeah, but nothing with time machines in it.

(BEAT)

Not yet, I guess.

SONNY

So, what - we have to wait here for forty years? This land isn't even half-finished! See that orange wall over there?

Sonny points at a giant orange wall flanking the Circle-Vision theater.

SONNY (CONT'D)

I don't even know what that is! Didn't the Carousel of Progress exist by now? Why isn't that there? Why isn't my restaurant here?

MARY

You should go talk to those folks over there.

She points two fingers towards a group of business attire-clad WORKERS.

The team is looking around the area, discussing, and jotting down notes.

SONNY

Pencil-pushers! The real heroes of Disney. Thanks, Mary!

Sonny turns back, but she's vanished again.

SONNY (CONT'D)

You know, I was expecting that, and yet here we are.

He turns to Figment, who's staring off into the middle distance.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Hello? Fig? You wanna maybe pipe up? Let me know you're okay?

FIGMENT

That woman looked so familiar.

SONNY

One for words as usual. Let's get our time machine.

An opening-day team of Imagineers and contractors are gathered and in mid-discussion when Sonny and Figment approach.

IMAGINEER #1

There definitely needs to be some sort of relief on this -

SONNY

Excuse me! Hello.

The team turns, then collectively looks down at the duo.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Sonny Eclipse. That's right, the Sonny Eclipse. No autographs. Well, maybe one.

FIGMENT

You haven't been invented yet.

SONNY

Well, that one seems to be working on it.

Sonny smiles at one IMAGINEER who is staring at him, frantically scribbling on a notepad. Sonny's smile fades as the Imagineer continues to scribble, their eyes darting between the notepad and Sonny.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Hey, uh...

The Imagineer sweats as they write furiously.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Can you maybe give it a rest?
You're creeping me out. Hey!

Sonny snatches the notepad away and looks at it: it's a drawing of a stick figure with the word "ME" scrawled across the top.

SONNY (CONT'D)
Yeesh. You know what, do your thing.

He hands the pad back.

IMAGINEER #1
You must be the time-traveling alien and dragon.

FIGMENT
How do you know about that?

IMAGINEER #1
We heard you right over there. The alien's got a real set of pipes.

Sonny bows.

SONNY
Thank you.

IMAGINEER #1
Any time.

FIGMENT
Can you help us?

IMAGINEER #1
Well, I would love to, but you're a few decades too early for any time machine to be built. Plus, our plates are pretty full here.

SONNY
Speaking of plates, a restaurant over here would be nice.

FIGMENT
Isn't there supposed to be a mountain here?

IMAGINEER #1
Nope, that's Fantasyland.

SONNY

Uh, excuse me, mister high-salary person who does this for a living. I think I know Magic Kingdom. Fantasyland doesn't have a mountain ride.

IMAGINEER #1

Well, of course not. Not yet, anyway. You're a little early for that, too. Follow me.

The Imagineer leaves and Figment follows. Sonny stares at the orange wall.

SONNY

Y'know, it's still better than Stitch's Great Escape.

He cackles, then sighs.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Why is no one ever around when I'm funny?

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. FANTASYLAND - DAY**

Figment, Sonny and the Imagineer stand in the center of Fantasyland. Instead of the elaborate designs seen today, the entire land is a blend of circus tents and Bavarian structures.

SONNY

Good lord. You know, I remember this being much better-looking.

IMAGINEER #1

It's a work-in-progress. Everything is! That's part of the beauty of it.

FIGMENT

What does this have to do with Space Mountain?

IMAGINEER #1

Space what-now?

SONNY

The mountain! The one that looks like an albino volcano!

IMAGINEER #1

Oh! Well, the Matterhorn is what we're putting in Fantasyland.

FIGMENT

Matterhorn?

IMAGINEER #1

Yeah, the mountain will be there, and then we'll have an Alpine village with a boat ride. It'll make the one in Anaheim look like an ice cream cone! Why? Is there something wrong? Do you have news about the future that could impact the space-time continuum if I were to somehow know too early?

Figment and Sonny look at each other.

FIGMENT

(TO IMAGINEER)

Nope. You stay on course. I have a good feeling about this one.

Sonny pulls Figment aside.

SONNY

What are you doing? What if the whole reason we're here is to prevent that from happening?

FIGMENT

They should be allowed to make their own mistakes. This isn't a game, it's people's imaginations.

SONNY

Ugh. Where was this Figment I was writing my memoirs?

A blast of WHITE LIGHT appears from a nearby restroom. Sonny gasps.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Did you see that? The time machine must have needed to go to the bathroom! It makes perfect sense! And you said it didn't have a mind of its own!

FIGMENT

I didn't --

SONNY

Come on, Fig! It's time to go back to the future! Part four!

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

The time machine is in the middle of the restroom, crushing three stalls. Figment and Sonny run inside and are met by a MAN waiting.

MAN

I'm gonna find another one.

The man leaves. Figment flies to the middle stall and opens the door. Standing at the control panel is Buzzy, decked out in pirate gold and Geordi La Forge's visor.

SONNY

Buzzy? You little sneak! Have you lost your mind?

Buzzy starts laughing maniacally. Sonny and Figment share a look.

SONNY (CONT'D)
At least someone knows how to work
this thing.

Figment nods. They jump on the platform.

FIGMENT
Okay, Buzzy. Back to the present!

SONNY
Future.

BUZZY
Present!

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM MAIN STREET - NIGHT

The time machine ZAPS into modern-day Orlando. Figment, Sonny and Buzzy look out and see an apocalyptic wasteland on fire. Tourists run from DEMONS and lava flows from the Main Street windows. TOURIST #3 runs past them, engulfed in flames.

TOURIST #3
Agh! I have five minutes left on my
FastPass!

FIGMENT
What is this?

SONNY
I think maybe we meddled too much.

FIGMENT
We barely did anything!

SONNY
Then we didn't meddle enough!

BUZZY
I like it.

A BAT WITH A WOLF'S HEAD flies past them and howls.

BUZZY (CONT'D)
I changed my mind.

SONNY
So, is this still a theme park,
or...?

Buzzy pushes a button on the control panel and the machine disappears.

EXT. FANTASYLAND - DAY

The machine pops back into the seventies, next to the Imagineer in Fantasyland.

IMAGINEER #1

Hey, fellas! I see you brought a third with you!

SONNY

Put the mountain in Tomorrowland and call it Space Mountain.

IMAGINEER #1

What? What about the space-time --

Buzzy lunges at him.

BUZZY

Space Mountain!

IMAGINEER #1

Hey, I love the passion! Space Mountain, eh? Well, the snow won't make much sense, but we can work around it.

Sonny and Buzzy roll their eyes.

IMAGINEER #1 (CONT'D)

Thank you both. You've done something today. You gave me an idea. And for that, I'm grateful.

The Imagineer walks to a payphone, picks up the receiver and dials.

IMAGINEER #1 (CONT'D)

Hello, Doctor Selman? Yes. Yes, it's me. I think I need to come in for another appointment.

EXT. MAGIC KINGDOM - MAIN STREET - DAY

Figment, Sonny and Buzzy take one last look at the park before Buzzy flips a few knobs on the panel.

FIGMENT

Is everyone ready to go home?

SONNY

I don't know, Fig. What if things are still bad?

FIGMENT

They won't be!

SONNY

What makes you so sure?

FIGMENT

I was thinking about that that
Imagineer said. We gave him an idea
today. I forgot what it feels like
to give someone a spark like that!
As long as we still have that,
what's the worst that can happen?

SONNY

Did you see the bat with a wolf's
head? That's some indication.

FIGMENT

You said it yourself. We're in this
together.

SONNY

Ah, my treacly schmaltz is finally
appreciated. I just wish we could
have gotten you to nineteen-eighty-
two or whenever.

Buzzy continues to fiddle with the knobs.

FIGMENT

Yeah, but I still have the memories
and the imagination. No one can
take those!

SONNY

Well, Buzzy? What say you?

BUZZY

I gotta gotta gotta gotta gotta
gotta gotta gotta -

Buzzy continues to repeat himself while Figment and Sonny
exchange a worried look. The time machine disappears in a
burst of white light.

EXT. EPCOT - 1982

The time machine lands in front of The Living Seas. The trio
emerge and look around.

SONNY

Okay, so try not to panic, but this is neither Tomorrowland nor present-day.

FIGMENT

It's...

Figment looks around and gasps.

FIGMENT (CONT'D)

Wow!

BUZZY

Odyssey! Odyssey!

They each step off of the platform and walk towards the glass pyramids of the IMAGINATION PAVILION. The pavilion appears finished, but no one is around.

FIGMENT

Where is everyone? Where's Dreamfinder?

MARY (O.S.)

Fellas!

They turn to see the Mary, who hasn't aged a day.

MARY (CONT'D)

Glad you could make it! We need your help again.

FIGMENT

We?

SONNY

Help?

BUZZY

Nintendo?

MARY

You said it. I need you to come with me.

FIGMENT

But we just got here!

MARY

I know, but the Imagination pavilion is in a lot of trouble. You may be the key to saving it.

FIGMENT
Saving it from what?

MARY
(OMINOUS)
Never existing at all.

A beat as they stare at each other.

MARY (CONT'D)
Oh, and your time machine left
again.

Mary points with two fingers to where the machine was moments
before -- now gone. Sonny, trembling, takes a deep breath.

EXT. EPCOT 1982 - SPACESHIP EARTH - DAY

The FAMILY OF TOURISTS walks past an informational kiosk.

TOURIST DAD
Alright, everyone! Who wants to see
the Astuter Computer Revue?

Sonny's SCREAM is heard from across the park.

TOURIST DAD (CONT'D)
Okay, jeez! A simple "no" would
work!

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW

Thank you to Martin Smith and his fantastic videos that were
used for research:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC45mYYA2w1Gtaca6pfhdnHw>