

TIME CAN WAIT

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TIME: Present

PLACE: A small college town in the south

CHARACTERS:

ROBERT – A college student

SERA - A time traveler

SCENE ONE

ROBERT is in a piano practice room playing a Mozart composition. A bright blue light flash can be seen coming through the door.

ROBERT

Man, what is that? (Beat) Oh, I guess it doesn't matter, I still need to work on my Mozart for another few hours. Man being a music major is tough. I wished that Tiffany would come by, I haven't seen her for a few days, oh well back to Mozart. I better start practicing or something.

(ROBERT starts to play piano again. There is a knock at the door. ROBERT stops playing piano. ROBERT stands up to look out the small window to see who it is.)

Come in, the door is unlocked.

SERA

(Surprised) Thank you Cap... Thank you. I heard such wonderful music that I had to see who was playing it.

ROBERT

Do you play piano?

SERA

Just a little. My father made me practice when I was small. But I'm not as good as you are.

ROBERT

Are you a music major? I haven't seen you around before. Let me guess, you are a singer. (Shakes head) No you play the flute.

SERA

No, I'm not a music major.

ROBERT

Oh, what are you majoring in then?

SERA

Well, I'm not.... I'm not really in college right now.

ROBERT

So, you just hang out in music buildings listen to folks practice piano or something?

SERA

Not often.

ROBERT

Well what are you doing here then, if you don't mind me asking?

SERA

Funny you should ask me. Robert, what is your dream?

ROBERT

How did you know my name?

SERA

My name is Sera, and that doesn't matter right now. Robert what is your dream?

ROBERT

To play piano well? What do you mean?

SERA

Deep down inside, what is your dream? The dream that you can't tell anyone, even Tiffany.

ROBERT

How did you know Tiffany? What is going on here? Is this a joke or something?

SERA

Captain... or Robert, I don't have a lot of time left, what is your dream? You have had it all of your life, you dream about it every night. Except for when you dream about Tiffany.

ROBERT

I give up, you tell me. (ROBERT throws up his arms.)

SERA

Robert! Tell me now!

ROBERT

I dream about being the greatest warrior that has ever walked the face of the Earth. I dream about traveling through time to put things right that once when wrong. I dream about never ageing or dying. About being the best of the best. The last of the best warriors, the only *one* that can save humanity.

SERA

Yes Captain, that's your dream. What are you willing to give up to achieve it?

ROBERT

I don't know?

SERA

What if the fate of the world rested with you? What if you had to save time once again, and again and again? Would you give up everything to achieve your dream?

ROBERT

Man that is a tall order. I guess that I would give up my life to save the world or time or whatever. (Beat) I would give up everything to save the time line.

SERA

Captain, I am Lieutenant Commander Sera Merrick, I'm from the future.

ROBERT

Hey! Merrick, that is my last name too.

SERA

I know Captain, I'm your great great great great grand daughter. I still can't believe that I'm in your presence. You can't imagine what an honor it is to finally meet you, sir.

ROBERT

Great great great grand daughter? Man, I can't even get a date, how can you be my great great great grand daughter? All I do is practice piano or something. Tiffany barely knows my name.

SERA

Captain, there isn't time for this, we have to leave now!

ROBERT

Sera, you must be crazy or some kind of a nut. Why don't you go back to the nut house that you escaped from and let me finish practicing piano? I have a lesson tomorrow.

SERA

Sir, I was sent here to bring you back to the future. If you stay here, you will be assassinated.

ROBERT

Let me guess, by some robot from the future. Sera, I've seen the *Terminator*. As a matter of fact, I've seen it many times. Hundreds of times. I watched it last night on....

SERA

It was based on your life story, sir we have to leave NOW!

ROBERT

Where are we going? The future, what about the polluting the time line and all of that jazz?

SERA

This isn't Star Trek, this is for REAL! Sir, you're coming with me now!

(SERA grabs ROBERT's shirt. ROBERT and SERA then begin to fight. SERA gets a few good punches as well as ROBERT. Then a bright blue spot light appears.)

ROBERT

What the...

SERA

Oh no, we have to leave....

(A few laser bolts fly through the air barely missing SERA and ROBERT, SERA pulls out a weapon and returns fire.)

Sir, get behind me.

(A wormhole of blue light opens up. SERA pushes ROBERT through the vortex then she barely jumps in before the vortex closes.)

SCENE TWO

(SERA and ROBERT both are in a sea of blue light. They both fall to the ground for a few moments, then they wake up and stand up slowly.)

ROBERT

What was that?

SERA

That's a time tunnel. You should know, you invented them, sir.

ROBERT

What!? I can't even make a model plane without it falling apart. How am I supposed to make a time machine?

SERA

I didn't build it! You do. I'm sure when the time comes, you'll figure it out or something.

ROBERT

Does that always happen? (ROBERT points to the ground.)

SERA

Yeah, when you leave your time line, you pass out. It has something to do with G-forces or something.

ROBERT

Well, what now?

SERA

It is time for you to fulfill your destiny. Come will me Captain.

ROBERT

Captain, I like the sound of that. But why not Admiral or General?

SERA

(SERA gives ROBERT a dirty look.) Come with me sir.

(SERA and ROBERT walk out of the light. They go into a white room with bright white lights. The room looks Heaven like.)

ROBERT

Am I dead? It looks like I have died and gone to Heaven. I guess that I have been a good little boy so far.

SERA

No sir, you're not dead. This is where you must save Earth. Humanity rests on your shoulders.

ROBERT

What do I do?

SERA

You'll know. Good luck Captain. I'll see you when you are finished.

(SERA exits the white room.)

ROBERT

So. I am I suppose to do something? Say something profound? What am I suppose to do? (Beat)
Ok, I guess that I have to wait. Maybe I can write a song or something. Too bad I don't have a piano up here while I wait, I still have a lesson tomorrow, wherever tomorrow is right now or something.

(ROBERT sits down and a blue spot light appears. ROBERT's face goes blank.)

So that is what I have to do. Oh boy....

(The white room turns black, the audience can not see ROBERT anymore. Low pitched industrial sounds are heard as the blue spot light is seen again.)

SCENE THREE

(ROBERT is back in the piano practice room playing a classical composition. ROBERT finishes a phrase then stops. ROBERT stands up from the piano bench.)

ROBERT

Did I just black out or something? (Shakes head) No, it must be some kind of waking daydream or something. I guess that I should finish practicing. I do have a lesson tomorrow.

(ROBERT goes back to piano bench. A bright blue light flash can be seen coming through the door. A few moments later there is a knock at the door.)

FADE OUT

THE END

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