



Spirit

U N T A M E D

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SEQ. 0100 - LUCKY'S BEGINNING

Open on the UNIVERSAL LOGO, followed by the DREAMWORKS LOGO. The DreamWorks' moon morphs into the center of a circus tent. A YOUNG WOMAN on her horse sails through it. We hear her SINGING in Spanish. This is MILAGRO PRESCOTT. She crosses the screen to great fanfare.

MILAGRO (O.S.)
Oye el viento cantar / Mira el
aguila volar /

INT. MIRADERO - RODEO ARENA

JIM PRESCOTT (late 20s) watches his wife in wonder when suddenly he is hit in the face with a strawberry!

JIM
Oh--! Thank you, Lucky.

BABY LUCKY PRESCOTT (AGE 2) squirms in Jim's arms. She claps and giggles for her mom, with her hands full of her favorite treat, strawberries.

MILAGRO (O.S.)
/ Siente el sol en tu piel /

Milagro and her horse land on the other side of a platform, her riding troop performing alongside her.

MILAGRO (CONT'D)
/ Y en tu camino ve con fe /

Milagro circles the tent. Baby Lucky stretches out her hands towards her mom. The troop calls out to the audience. The crowd cheers.

CROWD
Wow!

MILAGRO
Hola, Mijita!

BABY LUCKY (O.S.)
Mama.

JIM (O.S.)
Nice job, honey!

MILAGRO
/ Y si la noche fria esta /

AL (O.S.)
Let's hear it for Milagro Prescott!

CROWD
Milagro! / Milagro!

Colors flash before Baby Lucky as she watches her magical mother ride around the corral.

Milagro approaches Jim and Lucky, singing gently. She and Jim share a moment before she looks at Lucky.

MILAGRO
(singing)
/ En tu corazon un fuego siempre
habra /

JIM
Nice job, honey!

BABY LUCKY
Mama! Mama!

MILAGRO
(To Lucky)
Be fearless, Fortuna.

Milagro goes back into song:

MILAGRO (CONT'D)
(singing to Lucky)
/ Be strong, be brave / Let courage
lead the way /

She turns away from her family and slowly rides away on her horse, preparing for her next trick.

BABY LUCKY (O.S.)
Goodbye, Mama.

Milagro prepares for her final jump and rears back on her horse.

MILAGRO
/ Stand tall / And know who you
are /

Her horse takes off, Milagro soars through the air --

MILAGRO (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Wild heart, wild soul / Roam free
to the unknown /

But this time, she exits frame and her sash flutters down to Lucky who grabs it as we see the horrified crowd and a shocked, heartbroken Jim, holding an oblivious baby Lucky. We can see it on Jim's face. *There's been a terrible accident.*

SEQ. 0200 - THE CAMPAIGN

INT. PRESCOTT HOUSE / LUCKY'S BEDROOM - DAYTIME

CLOSE ON PHOTO OF MILAGRO ON LUCKY'S DRESSER as we pull directly out to reveal a young, bored, and frustrated LUCKY perched in the windowsill like a caged canary.

One leg swinging out, she shells peanuts putting them into a pile, snacking on one herself while she watches the fancy guests arriving at the front of the mansion, and listens to the fun and laughter of the festivities in the yard.

Kids laughing, a band playing, there's even ice cream... we realize that she is isolated and lonely.

Just then, a squirrel pops into the foreground and sniffs after Lucky's snacks. She is excited to see him and stretches a hand out to the tree to try and feed the little guy a peanut. She stretches so far out we may think she's in danger...

LUCKY

Come on, who's a good squirrel.
Come on! Trust me... They're
peanuts! You're favorite.... Come
on, Tom! Not even a nibble?

JUST as Lucky and the squirrel are about to connect, AUNT CORA bustles into the room looking for Lucky.

CORA

Lucky! Lucky? Lucky?... Where are
you?!

LUCKY

Ugh, Aunt Cora!

This sends the squirrel off in a panic, and he leaves Lucky bored, frustrated & alone again. She dryly shuts the curtain behind her trying to block Cora out of her world (This initiates the theme of this world and external forces always interrupting Lucky's chance at connecting with freedom and the wild). Off screen, we hear CHILDREN laughing and playing.

CORA

Lucky! Proper ladies do not hang
out of window ledges.

Cora whips the drapes open and reveals her unimpressed look. While Lucky slumps & makes faces as Cora talks.

LUCKY

Proper ladies also get to go to
amazing, fun parties!

Lucky closes the drapes on Cora. She opens them again.

CORA

Your grandfather is running for
Governor, Lucky. It's a bit more
important than an 'amazing fun
party.' Do I need to remind you of
what happened at the last event?

LUCKY

Mistakes were made...

CORA

Mistakes indeed!

CORA (CONT'D)

You're not missing anything,
besides-

Lucky whips the drapes shut again in frustration and
defiance.

LUCKY

Cake!

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Other kids-

CORA

Lucky...

LUCKY

Fun... an elephant!? Come on!

Off screen an elephant noise is heard. Lucky pleads. Aunt
Cora sighs on the other side of the curtain and opens it
again.

CORA

I know living with Grandpa isn't
easy. But part of being a Prescott
is not always having what you want,
but doing what's best for the
family.

Lucky whips the drapes closed again. Cora is done playing,
she opens the curtains again.

CORA (CONT'D)

Now come down from there and finish your math lesson. If this new tutor of yours has one more nervous breakdown...

Cora helps Lucky back in from the ledge and shuts the window behind her.

Lucky sits down at her desk, flips open her math book and sighs.

Cora tidies the room as she makes her way to Lucky and places a comforting hand on Lucky's shoulder looking sympathetic.

LUCKY

If a train travelling twenty-five miles per hour leaves the station at eight AM... ugh, when will I ever need to know this?

JAMES SR. (O.S.)

Cora? Cora? Cora! Coraaa!

CORA

(calling out to him)
Yes, father?

Just then Grandpa rushes into the room...

JAMES SR.

This is an emergency!

Cora nods yes as Grandpa and ties the tie for him.

JAMES SR. (CONT'D)

My tie. Oh, no, too tight. Just think of it, Cora: from Railroad Baron to Governor!

Lucky sighs.

JAMES SR. (CONT'D)

And why? Because --

He looks at Lucky expectantly.

JAMES SR./LUCKY

Prescotts never give up!

James Sr. nods to Lucky approvingly.

JAMES SR.

That a girl.

With that, Grandpa and Cora exit. We hear Grandpa whisper to Cora with a nervous glance over his shoulder at Lucky...

JAMES SR. (CONT'D)

Are you sure we shouldn't put a lock on the door?

The adults are gone, and Lucky mutters through her math problem when she hears a slap at the window.

LUCKY

If a train has to stop every hundred miles to refill water at what time will the train get to-- [the first water stop]?

Bob is back! Lucky rushes to the window & throws it open. The squirrel jumps inside staring at Lucky sweetly for a moment...

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Hello Tom! Oh, so nice of you to return, sir!

The squirrel tears into the room. Lucky gasps! Tom jumps from one surface to the next knocking things over as he goes.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Tom! We talked about this! Tom, you're betraying my trust, Tom!-

The squirrel runs up the wall, towards the door -- *uh oh*.

SEQ. 0250 - CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

INT. PRESCOTT MANSION - HALLWAY

Lucky's door flies open and Tom the squirrel runs out. Lucky rushes after him.

LUCKY

Wow, we really need to get a lock for that door.

INT. PRESCOTT MANSION - DOWNSTAIRS BALLROOM - SAME

The ballroom is all set up for the big event.

She chases the squirrel, who's running across an upper floor banister.

LUCKY

Stop! Stop! No, no, no, no! Come on, stop! Why are squirrels so fast?

The squirrel dodges Lucky, scampering up the banister leading to a pulley holding the Prescott portrait.

Lucky lunges for Tom just as he runs up the pulley rope holding up Grandpa's portrait. Lucky lunges for him, grabbing the rope and SWINGING out over the ballroom.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Grandpa's going to kill me! Whoa!

EXT. PRESCOTT MANSION

Fancy carriages come and go dropping guests off for the campaign event. James Sr. and Cora welcome guests, buzzing with anticipation and conversation, as they enter the family mansion.

JAMES SR.

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to this most auspicious day, my campaign launch.

GUEST

You've got my vote.

JAMES SR.

(confident)

I pledge to you that I'll run the state as firmly as I run my own home.

INT. PRESCOTT MANSION - HALLWAY

Grandpa delivers a speech O.S.

JAMES SR. (O.S.)

I'll put a stop to all this...

When he opens the doors to the ballroom and sees Lucky, hanging upsidedown --

JAMES SR. (CONT'D)

... chaos.

LUCKY

Hi Grandpa!

FLAMES erupt behind Lucky.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
(licks icing off her face)
Mmm, cake.

ON JAMES SR looking like he might EXPLODE when suddenly his PORTRAIT falls in front of him and then he's hit in the face by the flying squirrel-- SPLAT.

JAMES SR.
Ahhh!

The Crowd GASPS. The SOUND and light BURST of a PHOTO being taken as we FREEZE there.

SEQ. 0400 - MEET SPIRIT

INT. PRESCOTT EXPRESS TRAIN/FIRST CLASS CABIN - MORNING

Lucky sits across from Cora who reads the paper.

CLOSE ON the FRONT PAGE of The Inquirer: the squirrel plastered across James Prescott's face, Cora looking on in horror, the headline... *Should Prescott Give Up?*

LUCKY
(hopeful)
Front page is good, right?

CORA
(reading on, *oh god*)
Usually.

LUCKY
I mean, if anyone can pull off a squirrel on his face, it's Grandpa. He has to speak to us again eventually, right? Once, you know, his face heals?

CORA
(that's enough)
Grandpa just needs some peace and quiet to get his campaign back on track. We can go home at the end of the summer.

LUCKY
(feels like exile)
Why can't we just go back to the lake house?

CORA

(admonishing look to
Lucky)

Why? Because it's still somewhat
underwater, along with most of my
fondest childhood memories.

LUCKY

I said I was sorry.

The car door opens, revealing a LADY with a LITTLE GROWLING
DOG.

MRS. TWINKLES

(to her dog)

Mr. Twinkles, what are these people
doing in our cabin?

The little dog YAPS.

CORA

Oh, I'm terribly sorry but you must
be mistaken. This is...

The little dog YAPS.

The women angrily SHUTS the cabin door. Lucky laughs.

LUCKY

(giggly)

Mr. Twinkles! Did you see its
little tie? He looks like he's all
ready for the theatre or something.
Wait, do they have a theatre where
we're going?

Lucky opens the window, needing air. She looks out at the
vast, but very empty landscape.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Or a library? Or a zoo? Or
anything?

The newspaper Cora is holding blows into her face as she
reaches for the window.

CORA

(through the paper)

Let's keep the outside...

(closes the window)

outside. Shall we?

Lucky sighs and pulls her feet up onto the chair and hugs her knees to get a little more comfortable in the stiff cabin. Cora notices and corrects her instantaneously.

CORA (CONT'D)

Feet! We may be spending the summer in the wilderness, but we are not wild animals.

Lucky SIGHS and puts her feet back onto the floor, slumping back into her chair.

LUCKY

(apprehensive)
What's it even like in...
(mispronouncing)
Miradro?

CORA

(correcting her)
Miradero.

LUCKY

(her real apprehension)
What am I supposed to call him?

CORA

Well... you can call him "dad!"
Or... "father..." or um... "Jim."

LUCKY

(trying it on for size)
Jim. "Hello, *Jim.* How have the last ten years been, *Jim?*"

It all feels pretty awkward. Cora sympathizes--

CORA

Oh, honey. It wasn't easy for him after your mom died. Something -- broke in your father. And he...

LUCKY

Why didn't he come with me?

CORA

Sweetheart, he was alone in the wilderness with a baby. He did what he thought -- well, what we all thought -- was best.

A mustached PASSENGER opens the door, *another* interruption --

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
(bad directions)
Oh! This isn't the bathroom!

CORA
I beg your pardon!

He shuts the door. Lucky stifles a giggle.

CORA (CONT'D)
Lucky!

The door opens again. *That's it.* Cora raises her voice --

CORA (CONT'D)
Oh, this is a private cabin!

The TRAIN CONDUCTOR closes the door quickly when Cora yells, but sneaks his head back in to tell them --

CONDUCTOR
Sorry. Dining car closes in five minutes.

He leaves.

CORA
Well. I believe it is time for some tea. Don't move.

She stands, heads for the door.

CONDUCTOR (O.S.)
The next stop is Miradero!

Cora leaves. Lucky OPENS the window, the sights OUTSIDE so alluring, the wind pulls Lucky's BOW right out of her hair.

LUCKY
Oh no!

Lucky lunges for the bow, a stream of ribbon flying away. From that focal point comes a figure... Lucky breathes in, *amazed*... it's a **WILD HORSE**, a MUSTANG... galloping toward the train, running parallel to the tracks, partially obscured by rock formations.

Lucky is MESMERIZED by this horse -- its strength and power, its majesty and sense of FREEDOM -- she gasps -- as it races unfettered across the open plain.

As the train curves, bringing Lucky closer to the mustang, she is surprised to suddenly hears the SOUND of a hundred hooves... the mustang's **HERD** revealed behind him, following his lead.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Whoooooa!

The alpha horse is now just outside Lucky's window. He LOOKS AT HER, his proximity AWAKENING something inside of Lucky, she lets out a small giggle, *this is so cool*. She then laughs in amazement at the sight of the horse, until the train turns a corner and she begins to lose sight of the mustang -- Gasp! *Oh no*.

Lucky BURSTS out of the train cabin and chases after him through --

INT. PRESCOTT EXPRESS TRAIN - TRAIN CAR - SAME

-- Pushing past people, running through the aisle, tracking the horse's every move, tripping on a snakeskin boot as she goes, stirring a man (HENDRICKS) from his nap...

HENDRICKS

Ow, hey--

LUCKY

Oh, sorry!

Lucky smacks one of the sleeping wranglers (WALRUS) as she runs by and wakes him. He hits the guy next to him, thinking he hit him. The men scuffle.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)

(slapped awake)

Hey! What'd you do that for? You know I have trouble sleeping.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)

(snore, startled awake)

Hey. Huh? Wha, are we there? Get your elbow out of my face.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)

(gets jostled by the other men, startled awake)

Hey. He's touching me again! What did I tell you about my hat--

PASSENGER

My foot!

Never losing sight of that HORSE, Lucky throws open the doors out of breath leading to the CONNECTOR PLATFORM. The mustang WHINNIES.

EXT. TRAIN PLATFORM - CONTINUOUS

A virtual wind tunnel, Lucky holds on as she locks eyes with that horse who, seems nearly close enough to touch. The train pulls ahead again. Lucky continues on to open the next train door but sees CORA in the next car -- she draws in a sharp breath -- and ducks to hide.

She looks back at the horse and decides to GO AROUND the OUTSIDE OF THE TRAIN. She climbs out onto the side of the train.

INT. DINING CAR - SIMULTANEOUS

Cora goes to select a pastry.

CORA

Cake, mmhmmm, let's see. Chocolate.
Lemon. Ooh! Coconut--

The entitled Mrs. Twinkles beats her to it, giving the cake to her DOG, Cora sighs, frustrated--

MRS. TWINKLES

Oh, you are such a good boy! Yes
you are, yes you are!

Annoyed, Cora selects the *other* pastry, taking a bite just as Lucky APPEARS IN THE WINDOW behind Mrs. Twinkles, holding tightly onto the train car *from the outside*.

Cora spits her mouthful of cake in shock, right in Mrs. Twinkles face, the dog licking it off, as Cora SCREAMS and opens the window to get a better look.

CORA

Lucky! Oh! Lucky!

EXT. TRAIN/CABOOSE - SIMULTANEOUS

Cora watches as Lucky sidesteps along the train car, jumping onto the caboose, closing the gap between her and that horse.

INT. TRAIN - SIMULTANEOUS

Cora BOLTS down the corridor of the train, knocking over passengers and causing a ruckus to get to the back of the train before it's too late. The passengers on the train react and the little dog angrily chases after her.

CORA

Oh! Whoops! Woo-oo, whoops! Oh, oh,
oh! You wicked little dog.

MRS. TWINKLES

Mr. Twinkles! Down boy!

EXT. TRAIN/CABOOSE - SIMULTANEOUS

Lucky makes a final leap to land safely on the back end of the train, and holds on to the rails tightly. She looks up and sees the herd of horses lead by the mustang running closely behind the train.

LUCKY

Whoa!

She leans over the railing, reaching out her hand, stretching those fingertips... eye to eye with the horse, with *freedom*, when she suddenly the train hits a bump in the tracks, causing Lucky to SLIP, about to topple over... a HAND grabbing her, pulling her back to safety.

ON HER SAVIOR, a gruff voice underneath his ten-gallon hat--

HENDRICKS

Hey, hey, whoa! Watch yourself
there, Princess. You'll make
someone real unhappy you go diving
overboard like that. You-you best
just stay away from them wild
horses, alright?

Cora comes flying through the door--

CORA

Lucky! There you are!

LUCKY

Cora, I'm --

Cora grabs Lucky by the shoulders.

CORA
 You're going to be the end of me.
 (to the man)
 I am much obliged, Mister...?

HENDRICKS
 (tip of the hat)
 Well, the name's Hendricks, ma'am.

As Cora ushers Lucky back inside...

CORA
 I should put you on a leash, you know? And I'm going to. I'm going to put you on a leash.

LUCKY
 Ooh, just a second! Wait!

ON THE CABOOSE WINDOW as Lucky stares longingly out the window where the horse was, but it's gone.

SEQ. 0500 - TRAIN STATION

EXT. MIRADERO - TRAIN DEPOT - LATER/AFTERNOON

WIDE on the train as it pulls into MIRADERO DEPOT. The SOUND of a horn WHISTLE--

Cora exits the train, luggage and LIVESTOCK crisscrossing in all directions as she tries to stay out of the way. We overhear smatterings of English, Spanish, and Chinese.

The man who had barged into the cabin previously looking for the bathroom bursts out of the train and runs off into the station looking for the toilet, doing the pee-pee dance.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
 Ooh, oooo! (sees the bathroom)
 Whew, oh. (opens the bathroom door
 and a woman screams) Ah, sorry!

He waits impatiently outside the door. Some of the train passengers from the train walk off and begin filling the bustling station.

CORA
 (coaching Lucky)
 Just remember be yourself. Be your best self. Be the you that doesn't start fires.

Cora looks over her shoulder at Lucky who's... not there. In the background, a woman SCREAMS and the man leaves the women's bathroom to cross over to the mens.

CORA (CONT'D)

Lucky? I'm too young for gray hair.

INT. PRESCOTT TRAIN - FIRST CLASS CABIN - SAME

Lucky stares out the window.

Cora's face softens, empathetic--

CORA

Hey. Don't worry. He's really looking forward to seeing you. And I bet you the summer will go by much faster than you think.

Cora sweetly puts a NEW BOW in Lucky's hair with a smile.

EXT. MIRADERO - TRAIN DEPOT - SAME

Cora and Lucky step off the train, taking in their VERY RUSTIC surroundings -- Cora, especially, out of her comfort zone.

CORA

Ooh. Wh-what's that smell?

A wad of SPIT lands near Cora's shoe. She looks up: a LLAMA being led by a COWBOY.

COWBOY

Sorry ma'am, he spits.

The cowboy SPITS as he walks away.

CORA

Ughhh...

Cora's mortified, Lucky's amused, reassuring her--

LUCKY

Don't worry, Aunt Cora, I bet the summer will go by faster than you think.

CORA

Very funny.

Lucky looks around for Jim.

LUCKY
Is that him?

A cowboy in the corner BURPS.

CORA
No... I don't see him anywhere.

LUCKY
Are we in the right place?

Cora looks around at the pastoral town.

CORA
Yes, unfortunately. I'll go check
if he's in his office. Don't move
until I get back.

Cora gives Lucky one last look - *don't move* - before entering
the depot OFFICE.

Hendricks' gang begins to step off the train behind Lucky,
stretching and scratching from their long journey.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
Oh, man!

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
I'm hungry.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Where's the saloon?

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
Oh I could go for a steak.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
(O.S)
Yeah! I want some bacon!

Hendricks steps off the train, tipping his hat to Lucky, all
charm--

HENDRICKS
Stay outta trouble now, princess.

Lucky watches Hendricks reunite with a GROUP OF OUTLAW-TYPES
who look vaguely related, all sporting a comical array of
MUSTACHES after which they are named.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Hey, this ain't the coast!

HENDRICKS
Change of plans, boys.

SEQ. 0700 - MIRADERO

EXT. TRAIN STATION - SAME

HENDRICKS
Now listen up; we ran out of money.
I saw some horses from the train
that'll buy us our next ticket
outta here.

HORSESHOE and WALRUS look around the sleepy station.
Grumbling protests under mustaches.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
(sotto)
Hey, you know where they got money?
Banks.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
Whew-yoo.

Hendricks notices the bustling station and tries to make his
boys keep quiet.

HENDRICKS
You remember how well that worked
out last time?

In the background, Mrs. Twinkles passes by, her little dog
BARKING as she goes.

Chevron runs up to re-join the group after his bathroom
misadventure.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) (O.S.)
What'd I miss?

The gang likes the sound of this.

HENDRICKS
Now get going -- you'll earn that
bacon.

WRANGLERS (O.S.)
All right!

Lucky stands her suitcase, dutifully waiting. The train starts to pull away from the station, gradually revealing a small ARENA in the near distance... flags, crowds, fun, horses... under a SIGN: **'The Miradero Rodeo'**... Lucky is utterly ENCHANTED by what she sees, completely forgetting Cora's directive as she heads toward that beacon calling to her. In the B.G., a man's booming VOICE can be heard as the Emcee of the rodeo...

AL (O.S.)

Today's events are brought to you by Al Granger's Corral: Stable prices, for stabled horses. Come on down.

INT. MIRADERO - RODEO ARENA - SAME

ON LUCKY, wide-eyed as she takes in the hustle and bustle -- people and animals co-mingling, Spanish, English, and Chinese spoken in equal measure - while PASSERSBY steal their own glances at the girl who's clearly not from around here.

AL (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen, mares and stallions --

A small donkey run past Lucky as a LITTLE BOY (Snips) chases after it, making Lucky take in a breath of surprise and laugh. As they run off--

SNIPS

Hey, come back! Give me the ice cream back! I thought we were partners!

AL (O.S.)

Let's give a warm round of applause to Valentina and Las Caballeras de Miradero! Brought to you by Granger's Corral: "Stables so fine, you'll want to sleep there yourself!"

Lucky turns and turns, taking in a world so different from the one she knows.

SPARKLING HORSEWOMEN ON THEIR STALLIONS perform in the center of the ring. The women weave intricate patterns through each other at high speeds on their horses. Lucky is mesmerized as a faint memory tickles the back of her mind.

The women trot out of the ring to cheers from the crowd, one glancing Lucky's way, suddenly HALTING her horse, like she's seeing a ghost...

LUCKY

Whoa.

VALENTINA

Fortuna?

LUCKY

Hmm? What?

VALENTINA

Bienvenida, Fortuna!

LUCKY

Um, hola! Cómo estás?

VALENTINA

(off Lucky's blank look)

We've been expecting you. You look just like your mother.

LUCKY

I do?

HORSEWOMAN

Si, te pareces a tu madre.

VALENTINA

Bienvenida, Fortuna!

As Valentina begins leave, Lucky calls after her --

LUCKY

Wait, you knew her?

HORSEWOMAN

Ah, si! Everyone knew Milagro.

Valentina pauses and looks down at Lucky with a maternal smile and twinkling eyes.

VALENTINA

Here, you should have this. Your mother had one just like it.

Valentina tosses the sash around her wait to Lucky, it gently falls towards her pulling a memory from when she was a baby.

A confounded Lucky stares at the colorful Mexican textile. Altagracia nods, a sweet look to Lucky as she gallops away.

VALENTINA (CONT'D)
Welcome home, mija. Yee-ha!

LUCKY
Wait!

Lucky watches her go, trying to make sense of this encounter.

PRU
Excuse me, coming through!

Lucky turns, a well-postured girl her age (PRU GRANGER) rides past her on a breathtaking Palomino with a precision trot.

AL
(off big applause)
Next up, our very own Western
Reining champ - And the champion of
her old dad's heart -- my daughter
Pru Granger and the incomparable,
Chica Lindaaaa!

Off Lucky's awe--

Lucky spots a BARREL and CLIMBS onto it to get a better look as Pru RIDES INTO THE ARENA...

The CROWD cheers. Pru and Chica Linda SPEED-WALK BACKWARDS with remarkable precision before stopping on a dime to audience APPLAUSE.

QUICK CUT TO LUCKY, awed, as...

IN THE RING, as if balancing on one hoof, the pair spin like a toy top, dizzying the audience into more applause.

AL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
She's been making my head spin for
thirteen years, so I'm used to it!

QUICK CUT TO LUCKY--

LUCKY
Whoa! Horses can do that?

CROWD
That's Chica Linda! / Wow, that
girl can ride! / Go Pru! Go Chica!

LUCKY
Whoa...

AL (O.S.)
All right, you show-off! Don't you
have chores to do?

Pru and Chica Linda prance to the center and take a bow.

ON LUCKY who can't believe what she's seeing.

INT. MIRADERO - RODEO ARENA - LIVESTOCK PEN - SAME

A flustered Cora appears on the other side of the LIVESTOCK holding pen with a view of the arena. She suddenly spots Lucky standing on the barrel.

CORA
(over the pen/crowd)
Fortuna Esperanza Navarro Prescott!
You get back here.

Lucky turns and gasps as she sees Cora...

LUCKY
(excited)
Aunt Cora! You have to see this!

Cora looks around for the entrance...

Can't find one -- and doesn't want to risk losing Lucky -- so she CLIMBS INTO THE PEN. A COW MOOS as Cora FALLS in.

Cora tiptoes around the backsides of COWS when one of them starts swatting a fly, setting off a chain reaction of tails SWISHING AND SWATTING CORA from head-to-toe, a wild west car wash. Lucky can't help but giggle. AL'S ANNOUNCING mirrors Cora's actions as she struggles to navigate through the livestock.

AL (O.S.)
(In the background)
And here's our next contender!
Feast your eyes on this filly. Now
those are some smooth moves. Don't
try that at home folks! Ew, that
can't taste good. And what a
finale!

Cora makes it through the gauntlet and starts to climb over the fence, struggling, mid-straddle, when she hears a voice--

CORA
Ugh! Oh. Oh...

FLIRTATIOUS COWBOY

May I offer you a hand there,
ma'am?

Cora looks up to find a handsome COWBOY (45). No choice but to accept under the circumstances, she takes his hand as he helps her over the fence with a tip of his hat. She looks down at her now dirty dress.

Cora blushes at his proposition--

CORA

Well I never.

She walks away.

FLIRTATIOUS COWBOY

(a little smile)

I'm so sorry to hear that.

Cora grabs Lucky's hand.

AL (O.S.)

Today's events are brought to you
by Al Granger's Corral: Stable
prices, for stabled horses.

EXT. MIRADERO - MAIN STREET - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Cora and Lucky trudge down Main Street.

CORA

Unbelievable. Stranding us at the
station like common vagabonds.

Lucky's eyes are glued to that arena as Cora leads her away.

LUCKY

Did you see those amazing women
riding those horses? One gave me
this sash--

CORA

(to Lucky, exhausted)

I need a strong cup of tea. And to
burn this dress.

LUCKY

Aunt Cora, did you ever see my mom
perform?

CORA

Oh, yes! I'll never forget it. She was amazing. She did this incredible back flip off her horse -
- Oh! I believe my stomach did a back flip too --

As the luggage goes by on a cart --

CART DRIVER

Yah! Watch your step, ladies.

CORA

Wait, sir! A ride?!

SNIPS (O.S.)

Need a ride?

SNIPS (a red-headed 6-year-old) flips the sign on his donkey from 'TELEGRAMS' to 'FORTUNES TOLD' to 'RIDES,' all salesman--

SNIPS (CONT'D)

Snips is the name and this noble steed is Señor Carrots, my business partner. Where to ma'ams?

Cora takes one look at that tiny (dirty) burrow--

CORA

Thank you, no. But if you could just point us in the direction of the Prescott house.

SNIPS

I'll getcha there in a jiffy for just a penny.

CORA

No, uh-uh no uh!h!

Snips pushes Cora onto the mini-donkey's back, a little precarious and definitely weighing Señor Carrots down.

SNIPS

All aboard! Toot, toot! Next stop, Prescott house.

A few steps and Señor Carrots stops suddenly, refusing to go any further. Snips eyes him - *C'mon* - but Señor looks away.

SNIPS (CONT'D)

Okaaaay. Here we are. In a jiffy, as advertised. Your destination, just ahead--

(MORE)

SNIPS (CONT'D)
 (points up the hill)
 That'll be one penny.

Snips holds out his free hand for payment as Cora gauges the distance to the farmhouse perched on top of the hill.

A befuddled Cora hands him a penny as we HEAR--

CORA
 Okay...

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
 Snips! You little thief!

Snips YELPS.

SNIPS
 (taking the penny; rushed)
 Uh oh. You saw nothing. Enjoy your stay!

Snips jumps on Señor Carrots for his getaway --

SNIPS (CONT'D)
 Like the wind!

A toe-headed girl (ABIGAIL, 12, in pants), STANDS UP IN HER STIRRUPS, swinging a LASSO overhead --

ABIGAIL
 You better stop harassing those nice people!

Snips tries to escape when he's suddenly YANKED right off his burrow by the perfectly aimed lasso. Señor Carrots looks around, baffled by his sudden light load. He keeps going.

ON LUCKY, fascinated by this girl as she jumps off her horse and starts HOG-TYING her brother.

SNIPS
 Ahh! Oh, no. Hey, stop! Ah!

ABIGAIL
 (talking a mile a minute as she expertly ties Snips up)
 Ohmigosh, you must be Lucky Prescott! I like your hair. And your dress.
 (GASP!)
 Oh and your shoes. I didn't know shoes could be cute. Can I try them on? Sorry about my brother --

SNIPS

I'm the one you oughta apologize
to. Hey, stop, not the hair...

Abigail covers his mouth and smiles awkwardly, nervously
excited to meet this sophisticated city girl.

ABIGAIL

Oh, um, here.

She reaches down and takes a penny out of Snips' shirt
pocket, hands the penny back to Cora --

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

I'm Abigail, this is my best friend
Boomerang. Say hello, Boom...
(Boomerang smiles and Abigail
mimics him as if talking for him)
It's a pleasure to meet you madame.

LUCKY

(following Abigail's
voice)
It's nice to meet you too.

AL (O.S.)

Up next, no one beats the barrel
racing clock better than Miss
Abigail Stone...

ABIGAIL

Uh oh, I'm up. See ya later.

Lucky laughs at Boomerang.

Abigail jumps back on her horse--

FROM THE GROUND, still in a ball--

SNIPS

Abigail! You can't leave me here!

The bubble POPS like a gun starting a race as she goes--

ABIGAIL

Watch me!

LUCKY

(calling after her)
Good luck out there!

Boomerang takes off, rodeo-style, leaving a mesmerized Lucky
in her wake.

Cora, who has been inspecting her dress throughout the above, looks up, shocked and miserable --

CORA

I think that donkey ate part of my dress.

SEQ. 0600 - JIM'S HOUSE

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - SAME

Cora and Lucky walk up a dirt path. Lucky gushes to Cora about Pru.

LUCKY

She was my age and she was on this beautiful horse and did you know that horses could walk backwards? It's like crazy --

Lucky stops her chipper talking mid sentence as Jim's house comes into view. An idyllic farmhouse with lovely trees and a porch. Lucky's transported. She's studied it in pictures, but maybe she also... remembers?

CORA

Ah at last, civilization!

Lucky sits on the swing and gently rocks back and forth, overwhelmed with finally seeing this house in person.

Cora goes to the front door and knocks. No answer.

CORA (CONT'D)

Jim?

Cora walks down the porch and peeks in the window.

CORA (CONT'D)

(calls out)

Jim Prescott.

No Jim. She climbs up on a barrel on the side of the house and calls up to the window upstairs.

CORA (CONT'D)

James Prescott Jr.! Jiiim!

No answer. She pulls an apple from the barrel and tosses it up to the second level.

Lucky spots JIM (now 40) coming out of an adjacent BARN, wiping his oily hands on a cloth. Lucky's smile fades, trying to reconcile this older, grease-stained and grim-faced man with the smiling dad of her memories.

At the sight of Cora, Jim stops in his tracks.

JIM

Cora?

Cora is paused mid-bend grabbing another apple. She stands, pulling herself back together at the sight of her brother.

CORA

Oh! Jim.

Jim is perplexed. His eyes widen as he spots his daughter sitting on the front yard swing.

JIM

Lucky.

He doesn't know what to do. Neither does Lucky.

Lucky waves awkwardly. Jim looks back at Cora. Silence descends on the group, but is broken when the APPLE Cora threw earlier rolls off the roof- and hits Jim in the head. This seems to snap him out of it and he turns on the 'Welcome' charm as he leads them up the porch to the house.

JIM (CONT'D)

(laughing)

I can't believe you guys are here.
How was the trip? (through gritted
teeth to Cora) I thought you guys
were coming on the 20th? (nervous
laugh)

Cora rolls her eyes before smiling sweetly at her brother.

CORA

It is the 20th.

Lucky and Cora follow Jim to the house.

JIM

Oh. Right. Well, that explains it.

Jim starts to open the door but SOMETHING crashes into it from the other side. A train part rolls out --

JIM (CONT'D)

The house -- it's not -- I'm not
ready.

CORA
Oh for goodness sake.

Cora pushes him inside.

JIM
Uhh...

SEQ. 0650 - MI CASA

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - DAY

Lucky and Cora stand in the doorway, taking in the bachelor pad, not a lot of warmth, but Jim's clearly made an effort to spruce the place up, turning back around--

JIM
Yeah. Home sweet home. Uh, Mi casa, es su casa. Just step on over that one. Yeah, you can just... Sorry about the mess. I bring my work home with me.

ON LUCKY as she steps inside, having some sense memories, though no doubt everything looks and feels different. As Jim moves a few errant TRAIN PARTS out of the way, he points--

JIM (CONT'D)
(off their blank looks)
There is more. Of course. Uh. We eat...
(gestures toward kitchen)
There. And umm, and we- and we- and- the sleeping is upstairs.
(that didn't come out right; turns to Lucky)
Uh, I can show you to your room.

Jim picks up the suitcases as Lucky navigates train parts.

JIM (CONT'D)
(re: tracks; a true engineer, tech is the only thing he's comfortable talking about)
Watch your step... don't want those falling on any toes. Solid iron. You know, safer than the old strap-rail tracks. Much heavier. Ah, the hazards of running a railroad.

Lucky's actually interested, but he gets in his own head.

Lucky observes how *different* this house is from her grandpa's as she follows Jim up the stairs. Cora scans the room, shocked at the state of the house. She sets down the luggage.

JIM (CONT'D)
(re: the crates)
Don't get near those boxes, Cora.
Highly explosive.

Cora lifts the bags back up, takes a step back, looking for the crate that says: 'DYNAMITE.'

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR LANDING - SAME

Jim guides Lucky to the top floor of the house, the attic...

JIM
So, uh. This is your room. What do you think?

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LUCKY'S BEDROOM - SAME

Lucky takes in the room, its walls plastered with STRAWBERRY wallpaper.

LUCKY
Huh, that's a lot of strawberries.

Jim picks up a plush strawberry, confused--

JIM
Oh, umm, hmm. You like strawberries. Right?

LUCKY
I do?

JIM
Oh, ok, well. You-you used to.

He quickly tosses the toy out the window.

LUCKY
Oh. Huh.

An awkward moment passes between them...

JIM
Yep. You were-you were like this...
But now you're, now you're like this, so... umm.

He raises his hand to illustrate her height. Lucky sees that he's trying.

CORA (O.S.)

Ah--! Ah! A mouse! It touched my foot! Oh! Shoo! Shoo!

Jim's eyes are saucers -- he so desperately wants to connect with her -- to reach out to her. He notices the sash in Lucky's hands and all his sadness and fear come crashing down.

JIM

Well, uh, I'll let you unpack and get settled. Uh, where'd you get that?

LUCKY

Uh, a woman at the rodeo gave it to me--

JIM

Oh. Las Caballeras. They used to ride with your mother...

LUCKY

Right. Yeah, they actually said I look just like her.

It's too much, too soon for Jim. He emotionally shuts down, makes for the door.

JIM

(abrupt, making an excuse to leave)

Ah, well... umm... make yourself comfortable. There are, uh, extra sheets in the hall. Uh, towels.

Jim stops at the door, looks to Lucky, drowning in a flood of memories, good and bad.

JIM (CONT'D)

Yeah, you do uh... look just like her. Yup.

He nods and disappears.

JIM (O.S.) (CONT'D)

R-really glad you're here. M-missed you-I missed you...

She opens her suitcase, sighs, looking down at all her DRESSES and CITY SHOES. She pulls out some dresses.

JIM (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Uh, Cora?

CORA (O.S.)

It smells like old potatoes in here. Whatever this used to be, it's gone bad!

ON THE ARMOIRE as Lucky opens it, a tiny beam of light shining through the back panel. Lucky squints her eye to peer through a hollow knot in the wood...

ON LUCKY'S POV: a colorful room on the other side... Clothing, costumes, cowgirl hats, a poster...

Lucky gasps, pulling back, then compelled--

With effort, she PUSHES the armoire out of the way.

INT. LUCKY'S BEDROOM - MILAGRO'S DRESSING ROOM - SAME

Lucky stands at the threshold of this other reality: a room of vibrant life.

As she steps inside, her dress gets caught on a trunk engraved with the name: *Milagro*. Lucky looks around, amazed, stopping at a POSTER of Milagro standing on her horse. Lucky stares, mesmerized. She reaches up to undo her hair from the clean and demure style she had to the free-flowing locks like Milagro on the poster.

A gust of wind blows from her open window into the dressing room, the SOUND of something turning... tic-tic-tic. Lucky turns around, sees a wooden contraption on a dresser.

Lucky leans down to peer through the tiny EYEHOLE of a ZOETROPE as the breeze continues to spin it...

ON LUCKY'S POV: MILAGRO RIDING HER HORSE *IN MOTION*.

LUCKY

Mama...

Lucky laughs to herself, enthralled in the magic of this contraption. She is so focused that when she hears a horse whinny O.S. she, at first, thinks it is the zoetrope itself! The SOUND of a HORSE WHINNY makes the moving image seem that much more *alive*...

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Huh?

... until Lucky realizes the sound is coming from outside her window.

AT THE WINDOW--

Lucky leans out, listening intently. Another WHINNY finds its way to her... the sound so *familiar*, Lucky can't help but wonder... *is it the horse from the train?*

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - FOYER - SAME

Cora opens a cabinet to find a box of produce beside a box of dynamite. She shakes her head.

CORA

Oh, Jim, Jim, Jim, Jim, Jim, Jim...

Lucky calls out to Cora as she rushes outside.

LUCKY

I'm gonna go explore!

CORA

(droll; re: dynamite)
Yeah, it's probably safer outdoors.

SEQ. 0800 - KINDRED SPIRITS

EXT. MIRADERO - MAIN STREET - EARLY EVENING

We dolly down Main Street, following the sound of that horse--

TOWNSPEOPLE (O.S.)

Morning! / Good morning! Yeah, it's
such a beautiful day / pleasant
conversations] / Gonna be a pretty
day!

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL - SAME

-- catching up with Lucky approaching the corral, looking around.

From BEHIND the barn doors, she hears that familiar WHINNY, seemingly fighting an army of men as loud kicks and grunts are exchanged. Pru walks up, pouring water into a trough, eyeing the city girl as they OVERHEAR in fast succession--

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)
Look out boys! That's the craziest
horse I've ever seen.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
(O.S.)
Take it easy there, fella.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)
Look out for the tail--!

CHEVRON(W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) (O.S.)
(afraid of getting bit)
Ah, ahh, ahh!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Watch out, we got a biter!

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
Well, bite him back. Let's go!

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
I think he's too much horse for you
Hendricks.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
Step aside.

PRU
You're Lucky Prescott, right?

LUCKY
Hi.

PRU
Pru Granger.

In the B.G., the wranglers continue to argue.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Eyes on the prize there boys! This
one will sell for a good price.

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Come on we can't hold him forever!

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)(O.S.)
Ow! Son of a daisy!

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)
Oh, when he's broke he'll be worth
a lot of money.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

Take him left! Your othe left!
Knuckleheads! Hold him!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)

Hang on there big guy.

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)

Hold him, oof -- ow!

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)

(because Hendricks berated
him)

Aw c'mon, you don't mean that.

LUCKY

I know, I saw you at the rodeo, you
were amazing.

PRU

Thanks, but I totally messed up my
rein back. I'll get it right for
the festival at the end of summer.

LUCKY

(change of subject, trying
to be funny)

Is that barn... okay?

PRU

Should hold tight. Some clowns
rented the corral to break a wild
horse they just brought in.

LUCKY

(mortified)

Break?

PRU

It's not as bad as it sounds.

From inside the barn, a wrangler SCREAMS (aka the WILHELM
scream). Pru reacts (*maybe it is as bad as it sounds*). She
climbs over the fence.

PRU (CONT'D)

Umm for the horse anyway...

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)

Ow! He bit off my mustache.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)

Son of a daisy--

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Whoa! Look out! Hendricks, look
out, I can't hold him! Wait!

The horse BURSTS through the barn doors, bucking like a
bronco while Hendricks holds on like a pro.

His gang spills out of the barn, Horseshoe missing half his
mustache. They shout TAUNTS and LAUGH--

HENDRICKS
Yee hawww! You're going to be worth
a lotta money.

Spirit bucks harder, trying to throw Hendricks off

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
Yee hawww! Let's see what you're
made of.

Hendricks DIGS HIS SPURS into Spirit's side to amp him up.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
(laughs)
Come on! Oh, yeah!

ON LUCKY, horrified--

LUCKY
Stop! You're hurting him!

Hendricks doesn't even look over, too immersed in the battle
of wills. Pru agrees with Lucky, whispering to her--

PRU
Oh yeah, that's not right. Hold on.

Pru runs around the side of the barn.

IN THE RING: the horse bucks wildly as Hendricks holds on,
looking like he's actually *enjoying* this challenge.

HENDRICKS
If that's how you want to play it,
alright. Oh you kicking big now.

Hendricks digs in. The horse looks like he's had enough 'fun'
for one day, rearing back and THROWING Hendricks off, sending
him flying into the fence in front of Lucky--

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
Wahhh! UMPH! Ow...

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Hendricks, look out!

The horse charges forward at Hendricks who scrambles over the fence just in time.

HENDRICKS
Whoa, whoa, whoa, WHOAAA!

The horse stops short, careening into the fence, launching the saddle off his back. It clips Hendricks who looks vengeful as he spins around, suddenly spotting LUCKY for the first time.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
You crazy horse.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
You're the one getting broken today, Hendricks!

HENDRICKS
Yeah, we'll see about that.(Notices Lucky) Why hello there, princess.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Quick, get a rope on him!

HENDRICKS
See, I told you these horses right here, they're dangerous. You best just run along now.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Let's rope him up! (beat) On your left! Oh get in front of him, get in front of him!

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Cut him off! Cut him off!

Lucky scoffs at the insult.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
(to his men)
Now who's the knucklehead that didn't strap this saddle on right?!
Bunch a dimwits.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
It wasn't me! It was him!

Hendricks jumps over the fence, back into the ring--

One of Hendricks' men (HANDLEBAR - W2, WRANGLER STRONG A) runs through the corral yelling as he is chased by the horse.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
Woah! Waaaaa! Get him away from me!

HENDRICKS
Dang horse, do you ever give up?

Hendricks throws a lasso and soon two ropes are around Spirit's neck.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Oh! I got him! (strain effort)

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
Whoa, whoa!

HENDRICKS
Change of plans, boys. Let's get this animal under control, shall we?

Hendricks pulls out a bullwhip and cracks it.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
I got it, I got it! Hold up there big guy!

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)(O.S.)
Pick up the slack!

AL (O.S.)
Hey! Whoa, whoa!

Up walks AL, the owner of Granger Corral, Pru trailing right behind him with a 'watch this' look to Lucky.

AL (CONT'D)
(to Hendricks & co)
I don't know where you guys rode in from, but in my corral, we treat horses with respect. You don't like it, you can just move along.

Hendricks whips his lasso at the wranglers to make them stop. They react.

AL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Are we clear?

CLOSE ON HENDRICKS, a sly look to his cronies-- *I'll handle this*. He turns to Al, switching on the charm--

HENDRICKS

Yessir, we're absolutely clear.
Sure thing, Boss! We didn't mean
for it to get out of hand, this
mustang's just got a-a lot of
spirit. Alright, boys, let's-let's
call it a day. Give this horse a
rest.

The wranglers STRUGGLE to contain the horse, pulling on the ropes. CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) has climbed onto the outside of the fence. He uses it as leverage as he strains to pull the horse towards him.

Satisfied, Al turns his attention back to his pressing task, disappearing back around the barn as they wranglers tie spirit to the fence.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

We'll come back tomorrow...
(under his breath,
sinister)
When he's *nice and thirsty*.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) continues to struggle with the ropes, but he finally succeeds. He SIGHS in relief.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)

Hoo-wee!

Hendricks KICKS over the water trough as he exits. Lucky clocks his duplicity, her eyes narrowing at Hendricks.

Looking at the dumped trough she just refilled, Pru groans.

PRU

Ugh. Charming.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

Boys, I'll have this beast ready
for the work mill in no time and
then we can have all the money we
need.

CHEVRON(W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) (O.S.)

Ouch, did you see any epsom salts
in the barn?

Hendricks and his men head out, bantering and chuckling heartlessly as they go.

ON LUCKY, pained by the horse's struggle and confinement. She slowly approaches the post he's tied to.

ON PRU, eyeing Lucky--

ON THE HORSE, rearing up, fighting an invisible enemy, undeniably powerful and intimidating from this point of view.

The horse's hooves thunder back down to earth, his nostrils flaring as he eyes Lucky.

LUCKY

Remember me? From the train?

Lucky slowly reaches out and unhooks the rope from the post. The second he's untethered, he BOLTS to the opposite side of the corral.

ON LUCKY, a sense of RECOGNITION, seeing something of *herself* in this wild horse.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

(quietly connecting)

You do have a lot of spirit.

Lucky's heart beats fast as she watches him, understanding.

ON PRU, observing Lucky from a distance, not what she expected from this city girl. Lucky looks at the spilled trough and Pru.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

You want help filling that back up?

PRU

Oh, no way. I wouldn't want you to get your dress dirty.

LUCKY

What this thing? Pfft.

PRU

(laughs)

Ok, then.

The girls walk off together.

CUT TO:

SEQ. 0900 - LAYING DOWN THE LAW

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Lucky, Cora and Jim are around the table, mid-story, rotating dishes as they fill their plates. Jim pauses, his NEUTRAL reaction to what he saw in the newspaper impossible to read--

JIM

(hard to read)

Wait, wait, wait, let me get this straight. The squirrel came down the stairs in the middle of his campaign speech... and landed on my father's face? The honorable James Prescott?

ON LUCKY, mouth agape, mashed potato spoon mid-air, unsure whether she should affirm or deny as charged.

LUCKY

Yeaa--maybe?

A long pause... Jim's face hard to read, but then--

JIM

That's the funniest thing I've ever heard.

(escalating laughter,
picturing)

Lucky starts to chuckle, Jim's laughter infectious.

LUCKY

Yeah, one-one minute he was all--
(impersonates James Sr.)
The family motto is my campaign
promise to you--

JIM

Oh! Wha-wha-! Oh!

JIM AND LUCKY

Prescotts Never Give Up...

LUCKY

And then it-it jumped on his face
and he screamed!

Lucky accidentally flings the spoon she's holding, sending a large dollop of MASHED POTATOES flying across the table, splattering across Cora's face. Cora blinks, shocked.

CORA

Ahhh!

Lucky waits for Cora's outrage, surprised when she starts to chuckle instead, as Jim laughs uproariously when Cora's face hilariously DRIPS mashed potato onto her plate.

LUCKY
(she really is)
Sorry Aunt Cora.

Lucky hands Cora her napkin to help with clean up. Jim laughs lightheartedly. Cora can't help but join in with a chuckle.

JIM
(interjecting)
Oh, I think-I think that was just
overdue payback for some food
fights your Aunt Cora started back
when I--

CORA
(stopping him)
Oh, I have no idea what you're
talking about. I think we've told
enough stories for one night, don't
you, *Jim*?

Jim nods, remembering he's an adult first, little brother second. He redirects the conversation--

JIM
So... uh, Lucky, how-how-how was
your first day exploring Miradero?

LUCKY
Great! I made some friends.

Cora gasps happily.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Well, I *hope* we'll be friends...
One's kind of shy... and he's a
little wild...

CORA
(protective)
Wild?

JIM
(I'll kill him)
What's his name?
(stammers, then casually)
Wha-uh-Where's he live?

Lucky takes a second to think about this (Jim thinks she's stalling to protect 'him') officially *naming him*--

LUCKY

His name is... Spirit. We met on the train. Well, outside the train, technically.

Jim is so confused.

CORA

(connecting dots)
You mean... that *horse*?

JIM

(alarm bells)
The one-the one in Al's corral?!

Lucky's LOOK tells him *yes, that's the one.*

JIM (CONT'D)

No.

Now Lucky's confused, venturing--

LUCKY

No, what?

JIM

You will not go near that horse again. Ever.

Lucky looks at Cora who hangs her head, like she's suddenly at a funeral. Lucky realizes what this is about. She has to ask--

LUCKY

But why? It's not Spirit's fault mom fell off a horse.

It's clear Jim does not want to go there, but Lucky is not giving up on her question as she waits for his answer.

JIM

No, no. You don't-you don't know what you're talking about. You stay away from that horse, no horses.

His tone throws Lucky but she doesn't back down and neither does he. She stands up from the table.

LUCKY

(sharp)
I'm full.

She leaves and we hear her footsteps run up the stairs to her room. Jim sighs.

Cora looks at him with compassionate eyes, but Jim doesn't want to talk and leaves Cora alone in the dining room.

JIM
Ah... okay.

SEQ. 1000 - CONNECTING WITH SPIRIT

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LUCKY'S BEDROOM

Lucky wakes up from her dream, the wind ruffles her hair.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Cora fluffs out a tablecloth over the kitchen table. She sets the table with breakfast as she hums to herself.

Lucky enters.

LUCKY
Mmm, pancakes.

CORA
Breakfast?

LUCKY
My favorite.

Jim enters.

JIM
Good morning.

Lucky glances up at Jim.

LUCKY
I'm not hungry.

Before Cora can say anything, Lucky runs out the front door. Cora follows behind her.

CORA
Lucky?

Lucky stops for a beat and looks back at Cora.

CORA (CONT'D)
If you're going out, you can run some errands.

LUCKY

Fine.

Cora hands Lucky a basket. Lucky takes it and runs off. Jim comes out of the house and quietly walks past Cora to his shed.

JIM

(mumbling to himself)

I'm going to go check on my guys at the station, maybe they'll have breakfast with me.

Cora groans.

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL

Lucky with the bag hurries towards town. She sees the grocer, but keeps on running towards the corral.

TOWNSPEOPLE (O.S.)

--brought it back from San Francisco.

PRU (O.S.)

Don't you know we got chores to do? Sleeping on the job again.

AL (O.S.)

Oh, don't you mind me.

LUCKY

Whoa!

She runs into Al and Pru -- mid toss -- while they load their wagon with hay.

PRU

Look out!

AL

Oh! Sorry --

PRU

Hey, Lucky!

AL

Well, Lucky Prescott. Where you off to in such a gallop?

Lucky peeks at the corral behind Al.

LUCKY

(coming up with an excuse) I was-I was just... umm... getting some groceries for Aunt Cora...

AL

Well, you're a bit turned around, Grocers back that way...

LUCKY

Oh. Yes. Ok, thanks.

PRU

Bye, Lucky.

Lucky turns bashfully and heads off towards the direction Al indicated. Behind her, she can hear Al and Pru banter warmly with each other.

PRU (CONT'D)

I get to drive!

AL

Ok, but don't tell your mother, she'll have my hide.

ALL QUICK CUTS

Lucky walks out of the grocers.

TOWNSPEOPLE (O.S.)

[Spanish and Chinese overheard]

LUCKY

Gracias.

GROCER (O.S.)

De nada!

Hendricks and his men walk down main street as Lucky leaves the grocers, checking her basket.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)

So what time does the midnight express come in?

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

Midnight, dummy.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)

Security's looser than my grandpappy's teeth. Just the old man and his llama.

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
I hate llamas.

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL - SAME

Lucky races through town with the bag on her way to the corral. Spirit's calls getting more desperate, making Lucky pick up her speed towards him.

Lucky cautiously approaches the wild horse and unties him from the post.

LUCKY
Hey, easy now, easy. It's alright, boy. All this new stuff is kind of scary, huh? (to herself) I think we'll be ok. Trust me.

Spirit REARS up. Surprised, Lucky stumbles back. Pru comes up and joins Lucky on the fence.

PRU (O.S.)
Hey, city girl! Heyyyy! Careful. This is a wild one.

LUCKY
Yeah, he just startled me.

PRU
Uh, yeah. That's because you startled him.

LUCKY
Got it. (yells to Spirit) Sorry! (he spooks, so she whispers) Oh, sorry.

PRU
Just take it slow. Horses can feel what you feel, so if you want him to trust you, you've got to show him the three C's: calm, confidence -- and carrots!

Pru swings off the fence and leaves Lucky to it.

PRU (CONT'D)
Well, you have fun! See you later.

Lucky doesn't have any carrots, so she pulls a POTATO out of the pile of groceries on the ground, she holds it through the fence. Spirit eyes the potato from afar, not interested.

LUCKY
You hungry, bud?

Spirit subtly turns away, *not interested*.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Yeah, I don't like to eat when I'm
mad either.

Behind Lucky, Abigail trots by on Boomerang, and then reverse
trots back, slowing as she notices...

ABIGAIL
(to Lucky)
Is that a potato?!

LUCKY
Why? Would that be bad?

Lucky throws the potato behind her. Abigail slides off her
horse, taking pity on Lucky. She pulls an apple out of
Boomerang's saddle bag. Boomerang looks at the apple and his
eyes go wide. As Abigail talks to Lucky, Boomerang tries to
get the apple from Abigail.

ABIGAIL
You might want to try something...
a little less potato-y. Horses are
finicky, they've got a real sweet
tooth.

Abigail tosses the apple from hand to hand, Boomerang getting
dizzy as he follows it with his eyes. Then she tosses it to
Lucky. Boomerang NICKERS, bummed.

LUCKY
Thanks. That is better than a
potato.

ABIGAIL
I've gotcha covered buddy, don't
you worry.

She takes another apple out of Boomerang's saddle bag.
Abigail takes a bite of the apple. Lucky watches Abigail feed
the rest of the apple to Boomerang with the palm of her hand
open and flat. Boomerang slobbers and scarfs the apple down,
leaving Lucky a little grossed out, but grateful that Abigail
shared an apple with her. Lucky chuckles a bit as she turns
away from Boomerang.

LUCKY
(laughs)
Okay.

Lucky takes the apple and holds it out to Spirit... who completely ignores her on the other side of the corral.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

How about this one... Spirit?

ABIGAIL

It's okay. You can't rush these things. I spent a whole week singing to Boomerang before he would let me ride him.

LUCKY

Really?

Abigail takes the apple and ROLLS it into the corral, halfway between Lucky and Spirit.

ABIGAIL

Well, Snips said that Boomerang only really let me ride him so that I would stop singing. But I mean... I-I dunno. Point is it's-it's just, these things take time.

Abigail takes the apple and ROLLS it into the corral, halfway between Lucky and Spirit.

LUCKY

Well, I have plenty of that.

ABIGAIL

See ya later.

Abigail jumps back on Boomerang and heads into the stables. Lucky leans on the fence as Spirit eats the apple. She yells loudly to celebrate, but it spooks Spirit back to the other side of the corral.

LUCKY

Oh yes! Oh, no! No. Sorry.

Realizing her misstep, Lucky climbs off the fence and makes herself smaller.

Spirit paws the ground as if asking for more apples, now that they have an understanding.

Lucky enthusiastically seizes the moment and grabs her groceries before running back home with an idea.

MONTAGE BEGINS

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL - A LITTLE LATER

Lucky grabs two apples from an apple tree and runs back towards the corral.

At the corral Spirit tries to entertain himself by chewing on the fence. Lucky rolls one apple in and keeps the other in her hand flat, like Abigail had done to feed Boomerang. She waits. Spirit eats the first apple, but doesn't approach for the one in her hand.

She looks at him, perplexed, then looks to Abigail who gestures to her to 'just give it time'.

As she trains with Chica Linda nearby, Pru shakes her head at the whole thing.

Lucky eats the apple and heads back home. Spirit approaches the fence as soon as Lucky leaves.

Hendricks and his men approach the corral, ready to continue their work, but Spirit is not how he was left. Hendricks watches Lucky leave.

CHEVRON(W4, WRANGLER SHORT A) (O.S.)
Gee willikers, how'd he get loose?

Lucky looks back towards the corral as she heads home.

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - NEXT MORNING

Lucky runs to the barrel full of apples and loads up her bag as Cora watches from the window, eating her breakfast.

A huge BANG and some smoke come from Jim's workshop. He walks out of the barn and tries to say something to Lucky, but she barely acknowledges him and runs off.

JIM
Hey, what are you up to? Oh.

Despondent, Jim goes back into the barn. Cora rolls her eyes from the window.

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL - A LITTLE LATER

Lucky gets to the corral, unties Spirit and rolls three apples inside. She keeps a fourth in her hand. She waits for Spirit as he begins eating the apples in the corral.

After the third, he is so close to the fence, Lucky *can't contain herself*. She reaches out and tries to touch Spirit, but he bolts to the other side of the corral. He's not ready.

Lucky slumps in defeat. Abigail comes out of the barn, ukulele in hand and sits with Lucky by the fence. Pru puts down her work and joins the other girls. She's impressed by Lucky's perseverance and is finally as invested in Lucky succeeding as Abigail.

Lucky sighs and rolls the apple between her hands as she waits.

CROSS DISSOLVE:

Lucky sits in the same position as she waits for Spirit to come towards her. As the day wears on Abigail and Pru leave Lucky, but she still waits.

CROSS DISSOLVE:

Lucky's eyelids droop as she falls asleep, still holding the apple. Rain begins to fall.

ON SPIRIT, watching Lucky.

ON ABIGAIL as she and Pru stand in the barn. She slides off Boomerang to get a blanket for Lucky, but Pru stops her.

Spirit walks towards Lucky.

ON LUCKY, sleeping, as a figure shelters her from the rain...

Spirit now much closer.

Lucky stirs from her sleep, realizing Spirit is within reach. She very slowly, carefully, reaches out with the apple in hand. He very slowly, carefully, takes it from her OPEN PALM (like Abigail taught her)... the apple disappearing.

MONTAGE ENDS

Abigail and Pru approach with the blanket covering the from the rain. They give Lucky her space as she finally connects with Spirit, laughing and celebrating in the B.G., sharing a moment of celebration for Lucky.

PRU / ABIGAIL

Yes!

ABIGAIL

You did it.

Off Lucky, smiling at the BREAKTHROUGH she's finally made as they stare at each other in the rain. Abigail and Pru come up to her and cover her with the blanket as they watch Spirit.

From under the protection of the tree, a shadowy figure watches. Hendricks smiles - this girl just did all the work for him, breaking this horse. He takes a giant bite of apple.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NEXT MORNING

Jim sits down at the table with Cora. Cora looks over to him. Lucky runs in and actually joins them at the table. A *breakthrough*. Cora looks happily between them.

Jim glances up at Lucky, and she looks back at him. They exchange a slight smile before helping themselves to the meal Cora prepared.

JIM
Good morning.

LUCKY
Good morning. Could you pass me the strawberries?

The tension broken, Lucky, Cora, and Jim share a smile and a laugh.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. LUCKY'S BEDROOM - MILAGRO'S DRESSING ROOM- SAME

Lucky looks through a rack of clothes, sliding the dresses aside until she reaches pants. Milagro's riding pants.

ON THE MIRROR: Lucky steps into view, wearing the pants. She ties the purple sash Altagracia gave her around her waist. It all feels so right. Off her smile...

EXT. MIRADERO - MAIN STREET - SAME

Lucky walks through town in her pants, a newfound skip in her step as she greets people along the way, feeling like less of an outsider.

TOWNSPEOPLE (O.S.)
Hola, Fortuna!

LUCKY
Hola! Buen dia!

SEQ. 1100 - READY FOR A RIDE

EXT. GRANGER CORRAL - DAY

Lucky, in her new pants and sash, approaches the corral, humming Milagro's theme. She slowly climbs over the fence, entering Spirit's territory. No one around except him.

Spirit just looks at her. Lucky jumps down, her first time in the corral, as she takes a step toward Spirit...

Spirit steps back, HUFFS, unsure. Lucky pauses. Takes another step. Spirit is not a fan.

LUCKY

Easy boy.

She approaches him again. He neighs warning her.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

It's okay!

Lucky continues to walk towards him. Spirit runs around the corral away from Lucky.

Spirit circles the corral. Lucky turns and walks towards him again and he immediately turns and runs right back to where he started.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Easy boy, easy.

He pauses for a moment, Lucky takes advantage of this and takes another step closer to him. Spirit rears up and runs away once again.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

(disappointed)

Oh.

Lucky takes a deep breath and ON LUCKY'S SHOES, takes one step forward.

ON SPIRITS HOOVES, takes one step back.

Lucky begins to take another step forward, hesitates, then ultimately takes one step BACK.

Spirit, a little confused by this, takes one step forward.

Lucky gasps in excitement, a breakthrough! They circle each other like dance partners sizing each other up --

Spirit turns and circles the corral clockwise, Lucky follows and circles clockwise from the other side. Spirit turns counter-clockwise and Lucky follows suit.

Lucky takes a step left, Spirit takes a step right. Lucky takes a step right, Spirit takes a step left. Lucky takes one step closer to Spirit and he takes a step backwards.

Lucky begins to walk backwards continuously and Spirit starts to walk towards her. Lucky strategically slows down and eventually comes to a stop, but Spirit keeps walking until they are a few feet apart.

ON LUCKY AND SPIRIT, eye-to-eye.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Oh, I've got something for you.

Lucky reaches in her pocket and pulls out a sugar cube. Spirit sniffs it cautiously before eating the whole thing all at once.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Whoa!! Not my whole hand.

Lucky holds her hand up, hoping to pet him, but Spirit is only interested in another treat and searches her hand for more. As Lucky slowly reaches out to touch his neck, he circles around her still looking for treats and sniffing her as she turns.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

(giggles)

Hey!

Lucky laughs, then slowly reaches out her hand to TOUCH HIM, but Spirit pulls back. Lucky doesn't retreat, slowly reaching out again. This time, Spirit stays still... letting her touch his neck for two seconds before turning, *that's enough*.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

It's okay! It's okay... easy boy...
easy...

She peeks up around his back before placing her hands on his side. Spirit whinnies and backs away.

She holds out her hands to show him he's safe. He sniffs for a moment then huffs, blowing her hair back. She laughs.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Hey!

She blows back at him jokingly, before walking around to his side once again. She takes a step closer, he takes a step away. She takes a step back, he moves in closer.

Lucky reaches for Spirit's mane, swinging her leg up when Spirit suddenly MOVES, knocking her on her butt.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Alright, so that's how it's gonna be?

FROM THE GROUND, Lucky laughs good-naturedly, dusting off.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Let's try this again.

Spirit huffs in her face again, blowing her hair back. She laughs. She stands, dusts off, and makes her way back to Spirit's side. She grabs onto his mane.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Okay boy, here we go.

SEQ. 1200 - WILD RIDE

EXT. MIRADERO - GRANGER CORRAL - SAME

Lucky attempts to get on Spirit, but is startled by--

SNIPS
Hey there.

Lucky falls to the ground. Spirit runs away from her.

LUCKY
Ow.

SNIPS
Whatchu doin'?

Lucky looks over, sees Snips and Señor Carrots on the other side of the fence, by the gate.

LUCKY
Ugh, Snips! I almost had it!

SNIPS
Want some advice?

LUCKY
Is it gonna cost me a penny?

TIME CUT TO:

Lucky climbs to the top of the fence, Spirit almost within leaping distance. Spirit turns and looks back at her.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
(to Snips)
You sure about this?

Snips shrugs--

SNIPS
Pfft, easy peasy. It's how I first
learned to walk. My dad held the
carrot and I followed him around
the corral. Wait a second...

Snips runs back to get a carrot. He grabs it out of SENOR
CARROT'S MOUTH.

SNIPS (CONT'D)
Hey, what's that?

Snips starts to unlock the gate. He jumps up, reaching as
high as he can with the carrot, as Spirit stays still, eyeing
Snips, and Lucky makes her move -- it's now or never --
leaping onto Spirit's back.

LUCKY
Easy boy...

Snips opens the gate as Spirit BOLTS FORWARD with Lucky on
his back. Snips tries to quickly close it and gets thrown
backwards as Spirit BURSTS through, taking off towards the
canyon with Lucky onboard!

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Whhhhooooaaaaaaah!

SNIPS
Uh oh.

Pru, behind the barn, watering Chica Linda, when she sees
Lucky zoom by -- Ahhh! -- flying like a rag doll on Spirit's
back.

PRU
Watch it! Oooh, that's not good.

LUCKY
Please! Noooo!

ON SNIPS, jumping onto his burrow to go get help--

SNIPS
Ride like the wind, Señor Carrots!

Señor Carrots runs as fast as his little legs can take him,
which is not very fast at all, in the other direction.

EXT. MIRADERO - EDGE OF TOWN - SAME

ON LUCKY, half-exhilarated, half-terrified as Spirit picks up speed, Lucky bouncing her all over the place...

LUCKY
Easy boy, easy!

Not a chance. Lucky bears down, holding on tighter for the challenge of her life.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
(attempting to negotiate
while hanging on tight)
Slow down a little. Please?

Spirit tries to buck Lucky off of his back, she retracts.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
No! That's not what I meant.
Woaaaah! Woah! Careful! Careful!

Lucky clings to Spirit as he makes a beeline for the canyons on the outskirts of town...

EXT. MIRADERO - EDGE OF TOWN - SAME

Abigail is practicing her barrel racing moves, pivoting Boomerang around two barrels when Lucky tears past her, cutting her off mid roll.

LUCKY
Whoa! Whooooaaa!

ON ABIGAIL, impressed--

ABIGAIL
Wow, you really went for it!
(yelling after her)
Good for you!

ON LUCKY, yelling back--

LUCKY
How do you stop!?!

Pru zooms by Abigail, clearly chasing after Lucky.

PRU
(yelling to Abigail)
She needs help! Come on!

ABIGAIL
She looks like fun.

Abigail kicks into high gear--

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)
Crazy, but fun!

JUMP TO:

EXT. MIRADERO - MAIN STREET - SAME

Jim and Al stand on a street corner, catching up--

JIM
I said to her, 'No, it's not happening.' And I had-and I laid down the law. I put my foot down.

AL
Mmhmm. (chuckles) Daughters. Terrifying. You gotta earn their trust a little at a time. Two steps forward, fifty steps back.

JIM
Well, as long as none of those steps are in your corral.

AL
(laughs) She is her mother's daughter. I'll keep an eye on her and those wranglers...
(bugging him)
Something about that Hendricks is familiar --

In the background, one of Hendricks' men (W4) takes down WANTED POSTERS of Hendricks.

Snips and Señor Carrots suddenly careen around the corner, nearly tipping over as they spot JIM AND AL. Snips startles Al--

SNIPS
(feigning calm)
Hey!

AL
Ahh! Snips.

SNIPS

You know that wild horse you've got
in the corral?

AL

Yeah? What about it?

SNIPS

Well, there was this gust of
wind... and the gate flew open,
which I had nothing to do with! And
then... Lucky fell onto the
horse... and they took off towards
the canyon!

JIM

What?!

AL

That's not good.

EXT. BOX CANYON - SAME

Spirit carries Lucky deeper into the canyon. She holds on
tight, keeping her body as close to Spirit's as possible as
she tries to get her bearings.

Spirit jumps over a rock and jostles Lucky who almost flies
off, but recovers, clinging to Spirit, staying low.

LUCKY

Whoa! Wow. Whoa!

Spirit looks back at her, seeming surprised she's still
there.

Pru and Abigail race behind them, trying to catch up.

ABIGAIL

(encouraging yelling to
Boomerang)

Yah! Come on, Boom!

PRU

(encouraging yelling to
Chica Linda)

Yah! Come on, let's go girl! Go,
go, go!

The path ahead splits in two, one an incredibly narrow cliff
edge that Spirit veers onto while Pru and Abigail stay on the
wider path, running parallel to Lucky through the canyon.

LUCKY

Hold on! Wait, we have to turn back.

ABIGAIL

(eyeing the drop below)
Good thing her name's Lucky!

PRU

Well, is her middle name Irony?

Pru looks over at Lucky who almost falls off as Spirit's side brushes against the canyon wall, sending rocks spraying.

PRU (CONT'D)

(yelling to Lucky)
Lucky, sit up and hold on with your legs!

Lucky tries, but just can't get traction as Spirit weaves along the curves of the canyon.

ABIGAIL

(yelling out)
Or just hang on and whatever you do, don't look down.

As more rocks go flying over the edge, Lucky glances down--

THE DEADLY DROP BELOW... *whoops...*

LUCKY

Too late.

Lucky looks straight ahead, trying to recover, when she sees a GAP in the path ahead.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

(worried)
Just slow down, please! Spirit, you have to stop!

Off Spirit plowing ahead--

ON PRU AND ABIGAIL, eyeing the gap. Time for a rescue.

PRU

(to Chica Linda)
Okay.

Pru and Abigail jump across a narrow canyon 'bridge' connecting the two paths.

ABIGAIL
(to Boomerang)
You are getting so many carrots
later, bud.

Abigail works hard not to look down as they make it across, falling in line right behind Lucky who glances over her shoulder, so relieved to see them.

LUCKY
(to Abigail and Pru)
Hi.

ABIGAIL
(to Pru)
Let's do the two-hand pickup.

PRU
(never heard of it)
The what now?

As they close the gap on Spirit who's running out of runway--

ABIGAIL
Just grab a hand on the count of
two.

Quickly running out of runway, they flank Spirit--

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)
One!

ABIGAIL AND PRU
Two!

They lunge for Lucky, but can't reach her, their path quickly evaporating.

ABIGAIL AND PRU (CONT'D)
(to Lucky)
JUMP!

Lucky REACHES BACK, leaping off Spirit (an act of trust) as Abigail left hand, swinging her toward Pru who grabs her right as Boomerang and Chica Linda SCREECH TO A HALT, sending rocks tumbling over the edge as SPIRIT MAKES A STUNNING LEAP over the chasm, landing safely on the other side while Lucky lands behind Pru on the back of Chica Linda as--

Spirit bolts around the corner, disappearing from view.

ON The PALS, catching their breath. Lucky, finally feeling the pure exhilaration of that ride now that she's survived--

LUCKY

I just rode a horse! I almost died,
but I just rode a horse!

PRU

Around here we call that 'hanging
on for dear life.'

ABIGAIL

(vicarious exhilaration)
Hey, but it's a start! You're a
natural!

Pru looks at Abigail like 'don't encourage this' when JIM AND
AL race up behind the girls.

AL

There they are!

Lucky still elated jumps off Chica Linda as Jim, in a panic,
rushes to her--

JIM

Lucky!(jumps off horse) Lucky,
Lucky, are you okay?

She nods, still catching her breath. Jim is so relieved,
shouts back to Al--

JIM (CONT'D)

You okay? Fingers, toes, face.
Everything's okay. Okay. You're
okay. I'm okay. (calls to Al)
She's okay!

AL

(chuckles) I can see that.

JIM

She's okay, Al. Whole girl here!
Under control!

His head drops, absorbing that she's okay, other (less
relieved) emotions now surfacing as Lucky shares excitedly--

LUCKY

Did you see me? It was amazing! We
were going so fast and it was a
little scary, but mostly exciting
and then--

JIM

Lucky, you are lucky you didn't get
yourself killed.

Lucky stops, her elation balloon popped.

LUCKY
(contrite)
I know, but I was just gonna ride
him in the corral and then--

JIM
You shouldn't have been anywhere
near that horse.

AL
Come on, troublemakers.

Off Lucky, taken aback by his abruptness. She looks back at Spirit's path -- no sign of him.

SEQ. 1300 - THE BIG FIGHT

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - A LITTLE LATER

Jim comes through the front door first, his anger is running on adrenaline and fear... Lucky behind him, contrite.

JIM
I asked for one thing. One.

LUCKY
It was an *accident*.

JIM
You don't listen.

LUCKY
But --

JIM
You don't listen. That horse
doesn't belong to you.

LUCKY
He doesn't belong to those
wranglers either! They're
mistreating him and you don't even
care!

JIM
This isn't the city. Around here we
have different rules.

Cora steps into the hallway carrying a box, realizing this is an argument. She slowly steps back so as not to interfere.

LUCKY

Well, you should change your rules
and by the way, you can't just come
back into my life and tell me what
to do.

Lucky marches up the stairs.

JIM

You're going back to your
grandfather's. You'll be safe
there.

Lucky stops mid-step, her back to him, DEVASTATED.

LUCKY

What? That's not fair!

JIM

I'm getting you two on the next
train.

If you've never seen a little girl's heart break before,
you're seeing it now, but she won't give Jim the
satisfaction. She turns and looks him right in the eye.

LUCKY

(fierce)

I thought Prescotts never give up,
but you're giving up on me, again.

She turns away, heading for her room. Jim is crushed by this
interpretation. He moves to the stairs to plead his case--

JIM

I'm trying to keep you safe!

But all he gets is a view of her back.

LUCKY

Sorry to be such a burden!

The SOUND of her door SLAMMING.

We HOLD ON JIM. If you've never seen a scared father's heart
break before, you're seeing it now. He slumps onto the
stairs.

Cora steps in, no longer holding that box, and sits next to
him.

CORA

Well, just be thankful nothing's on
fire.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LUCKY'S BEDROOM - SAME

Lucky doesn't know what to do. She paces her room like a caged animal.

She pauses, throwing open the window, needing air. The breeze blows in, swirling around her. Lucky closes her eyes, feeling the calming force of the wind.

The FAINTEST SOUND of a horse WHINNY in the distance. Lucky's eyes suddenly OPENING... *could that be Spirit?*

Lucky stares out the window at the WOODS in the distance, listening. As the breeze picks up, THE SOUND OF A SQUEAKY WHEEL pulls Lucky's attention to...

SEQ. 1400 - LUCKY RUNS AWAY

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - MILAGRO'S DRESSING ROOM - SAME

Lucky's drawn to the zoetrope. She spins it, again, Milagro on her horse comes to life. Lucky stands straight, determined.

Lucky parts some of the clothes hanging on the rack and reveals Milagro's red riding boots.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LUCKY'S BEDROOM - SAME

Lucky walks into her room and looks at herself in her mirror, now in Milagro's pants, boots and sash. A horse whinny draws her to her window.

There, Lucky can hear bits of the conversation downstairs.

CORA (O.S.)

Maybe father was wrong taking Lucky from you.

JIM (O.S.)

No. He was right.

A whinny in the distance drags her attention to the window.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - DOWNSTAIRS - SAME

JIM

I couldn't keep her mother safe, how was I supposed to keep her safe?

Cora takes a deep breath, empathetic, but clearly time for some sisterly tough love...

CORA

What happened to Milagro was an accident. You said yourself she'd done that trick a hundred times before with her eyes closed.

Cora adjusts in her chair, uncomfortable. She pulls a stick of dynamite out of the cushion and hands it to Jim who throws it into the piano cover.

JIM

But she's so reckless!

CORA

Well the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

Lucky falls out of the tree, out of view, then pops back up, quickly plucking apples, dropping them into her bag.

JIM

She's-she's just not safe here.

CORA

Sometimes you have to take a risk, Jim.

JIM

I did that already and that didn't work out.

CORA (O.S.)

Jim, I've done everything I can for Lucky.

A whinny calls through the night and Lucky leaves, following the sound.

CORA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

What she needs now more than anything is her father. She needs you.

OFF JIM, taking that in, turning to the (empty) window, starting to understand his fear has robbed him of something precious.

JIM

I couldn't bear it if anything happened to her. Cora, I don't know what I'm doing...

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - SIMULTANEOUS

Lucky runs, slowing for a moment to look back at the house, before heading towards the BRIDGE that connects Miradero to the woods, tracking that distant WHINNY.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

Lucky sneaks past a SLEEPING COWBOY and his LLAMA. The llama watches Lucky as she sneaks off.

EXT. TRAIN TRACKS - NIGHT

Lucky walks along the train tracks, listening carefully for the sound of Spirit, but only hearing the HOOT of an OWL as she approaches the bridge.

SEQ. 1450 - LOST

EXT. MIRADERO WILDERNESS - BRIDGE - SAME

Lucky sees a yellowish LIGHT moving toward her through the fog, like a train coming down its tracks, headed straight for her! Until--

The light disperses into a BURST of FIREFLIES surrounding her, much to her amazement -- she draws in a breath, wow. The fireflies dance around Lucky as she laughs softly, watching as they flutter back toward the WOODS, *as if guiding her*. Lucky hears the WHINNY somewhere in the distance. She follows the sound and the tiny dancing lights...

ACROSS the train tracks, crossing the threshold into another world of UNTAMED NATURE.

EXT. MIRADERO WILDERNESS - WOODS - SAME

Lucky walks further into the dark which leads her to the edge of the woods... another WHINNY that sounds *a little closer*.

Lucky follows her instinct, bravely stepping away from the train track, pushing through thick, moonlit foliage...

She hoists herself up and over a large rock, sliding down the other side and landing on her feet.

LUCKY

Whoa!

Lucky takes in the deep woods as mysterious SOUNDS grow around her from all directions... the sounds of animals, the 'whoosh' of wind, and her heart quickening. A HOWL from somewhere within the abyss...

Lucky turns, GASPING at the silhouette of a COYOTE atop a mound of boulders... until her eyes adjust, revealing a rock formation in the moonlight. Lucky lets out a sigh of relief as she climbs the boulders, peering over the top, revealing a BEAUTIFUL MEADOW over which the fireflies hover...

Lucky, amazed, jumps down to the ground, heading that way...

EXT. MIRADERO WILDERNESS - MEADOW - SAME

AN OPEN FIELD, blanketed by dense FOG, now blinking on and off with the golden light of fireflies, the sky twinkling overhead. Lucky looks up... stars so close she could touch them.

The fireflies flutter around Lucky, their little lights slowly spiraling upwards...

FROM LUCKY'S POV, the fireflies magically blend with the twinkling stars in the night sky, like a natural wonder...

ON LUCKY, staring up in awe...

LUCKY

Wow.

SEQ. 1500 - MEETING THE HERD

EXT. MIRADERO WILDERNESS - MEADOW - SAME NIGHT

Lucky suddenly feels a PRESENCE, SOMETHING approaching, coming closer and closer. She holds her breath as a dark figure pushes through the fog, slowly revealing itself...

SPIRIT.

ON Lucky's relief and pure joy...

LUCKY

Spirit.

Lucky moves toward Spirit, but he chuffs... *slow down.*

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Oh.

She takes a breath and one step BACK, letting Spirit come to her, calmly reaching out her hand to touch his snout.

When he gives her a playful nicker, nudging her hand, Lucky moves in for a HUG and Spirit LETS HER, a *first*...

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Hey boy, I knew I'd see you again.

Spirit rests his head over her shoulder (as if to hug her back... aww), but really he's just digging into her satchel for the APPLES he smells! Lucky laughs, pulling out an apple--

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Hey!

She smiles, when she suddenly hears more RUSTLING in the fog, *something else* approaching.

Lucky looks worried until, out of the fog, steps...

TWO MORE HORSES.

ON LUCKY, speechless as yet A FEW MORE step through the fog... and then MORE... until Lucky and Spirit are SURROUNDED BY A CIRCLE OF WILD HORSES.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
(to Spirit, amazed)
Wow... your family.

The horses whinny, but KEEP THEIR DISTANCE, looking to Spirit, their alpha, and to their LIEUTENANT, as if to ask about the girl. The horses exchange NEIGHS with Spirit.

Lucky reaches into her bag, no sudden moves, rolling an apple toward the Lieutenant who eyes the offering skeptically.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Don't worry, it's ok.

She rolls more apples to the others in the circle.

CHUBS is the FIRST to step forward to eat an apple, giving others courage. But before DAISY can reach hers, Chubs chomps hers down too. Daisy nips at him. Lucky chuckles...

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Oh, I hope I brought enough. Here.

Lucky rolls another apple right to DAISY who's faster on the uptake this time with a satisfied look to Chubs.

Lucky turns to the horses BEHIND her, rolling an apple to each of them.

The horses move in closer to Lucky, a kind of INITIATION OF TRUST, which Lucky feels humbled by.

A FOAL suddenly steps from behind his mom's haunches, peeking at Lucky with curious eyes.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Aww. I have one just your size.
Don't be shy.

Lucky digs into her bag, worried it's empty... relieved when--

She holds up a runt of an apple, about to roll it when the foal trots right up to Lucky and eats FROM HER HAND, taking Lucky by surprise. As the foal looks up at Lucky with the cutest expression--

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Hello, Little Brave One.

The foal seems happy about that, trotting back to his mom with an extra bounce of 'pride'.

Just as the foal reaches his mom, Lucky notices Spirit's demeanor change, his ears UP as he listens carefully.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
W-what's wrong?

Spirit breathes heavily, adrenaline spiking when--

SEQ. 1600 - THE HERD IS WRANGLERD

EXT. MIRADERO WILDERNESS - CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

Out of the fog comes HENDRICKS and his WRANGLERS, charging at them, lassoes drawn. Spirit and his herd rear up in panic as they're attacked. Total mayhem ensues.

The wranglers charge in and break apart the herd, lassoing as many horses as they can. Hendricks and his men do not see Lucky who's at the center of this foggy chaos, blocked by the herd, trying not to get accidentally trampled.

HENDRICKS
Alright boys, let's round 'em up!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Yah!

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Whoo-hoo!

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
I told you boys we'd get the rest
of 'em.

CHEVRON(W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
Hiya, hiya, hiya!

The wranglers lasso up the herd, one at a time.

Mama is lassoed and pulled to the ground, Little Brave One
stands near her scared and shaking.

LUCKY
Leave them alone!

HENDRICKS
Yeah get 'em.

LUCKY
No!

HENDRICKS
All of 'em. Every single one.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
You got it, boss! Ahhh!

Spirit runs in and knocks WALRUS from his horse, his hands
releasing the lasso.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A) (O.S.)
(CONT'D)
We should've just robbed a bank.

Spirit turns and faces off with Hendricks.

ON HENDRICKS, eye on Spirit.

HENDRICKS
(To his men)
The stallion's mine.

LUCKY
Spirit!

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
Hiya!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Watch out your left! I-I mean your
right!

Lucky runs and trips over fog covered train tracks. She moves off of them just in time for a TRAIN to come barreling past her and slows to a halt.

HENDRICKS

Hurry it up now, come on. Load 'em up!

The fog disperses and the train ramp drops heavily.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

Have a nice ride, ladies. Go on, get in there!

Hendricks kicks the foal down on his knees and he struggles to stand back up and climb the ramp. Chevron pulls the mama horse further into the train car.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)

Easy, now. Whoa.

LUCKY

You can't do this!

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

Ain't no first class on this train!

The wranglers drive the herd up the ramp and into the car. They're trapped.

Spirit is still fighting back, doing his best to knock as many wranglers as he can off their horses. Spirit knocks Horseshoe and then Chevron off their horses.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)

Whoa-- oof!

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)

Whoa!

Spirit charges straight for Hendricks.

HENDRICKS

Yeah, I got you now, boy.

Lucky throws an apple and hits Hendricks.

LUCKY

Stop! Those horses aren't yours!

HENDRICKS

Ow! These horses are none of your business, but thank you for leading me straight to them.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Watch out for that stallion!

Just the distraction he needed, Spirit knocks Hendricks off his horse! His ten-gallon hat goes flying as Hendricks lands in the dirt. Hendricks looks up at Spirit with vengeful eyes as he gets back on his feet.

Spirit looks up at the train, the ramp door closes shut, locking the rest of his herd away. Before Hendricks or Spirit can make another move, a wrangler runs forward and helps Hendricks to his feet.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
Hendricks! We gotta go if we're
gonna make that six AM boat!!

HENDRICKS
Change of plans boys, the crazy one
stays here. Get off me.

Walrus has been trying to help him up.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
Hurry it up, let's go!

The train whistle blows.

LUCKY
Spirit! Wait! Spirit!

Spirit takes off after the train, he won't let his herd be taken. Lucky runs after him, but her two legs are no match for his four.

Realizing she can't keep up, Lucky decides to turn around and run back to town for help.

EXT. MIRADERO - TOWN LIMITS - EARLY DAWN

She comes around the ridge, out of breath. She can see Miradero in the distance. She takes a minute to catch her breath. She falls to her knees when she hears something behind her.

Spirit has returned! He was no match for the train and has realized he now needs Lucky. Spirit whinnies.

LUCKY
Spirit.

Spirit whinnies in the direction of Miradero.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
We can't do this alone.

Spirit falls down on his front legs to allow Lucky to climb up on his back. The first time he has submitted to anyone.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Alright boy, let's go get help!

They run down the hill towards town.

EXT. MIRADERO - TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Lucky and Spirit run through the main street of Miradero.

SEQ. 1700 - THE PLAN

INT. BARN - DAWN

An out-of-breath Lucky bursts through the doors jolting Pru who was calmly grooming Chica Linda. Chica chews on her hay and throws a "this is a bad idea" look and a head shake at Pru. We hear impatient Spirit outside.

LUCKY
Pru, I need your help.

The unenthusiastic look tells us Pru needs more convincing...

CUT TO:

Pru hands Lucky some water. Lucky chugs a canteen of water.

PRU
So, you want us to get on our horses, ride all night to stop a speeding train, take down a band of dirty old thieves, and release a herd of wild horses?

LUCKY
Yeaaaammmmmaybeeee?

PRU
Lucky. That's crazy.

LUCKY
But if we don't try, Spirit's herd is gone forever.

Chica Linda observes their conversation.

LUCKY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
You know what they do to horses up north? They work them to death!

Chica Linda REACTS.

Pru rolls a handmade map out over a nearby saddle. Pru points around on her map as she explains...

PRU
Okay. Let me show you exactly how impossible it is. Hendricks and his men are headed for a boat up here at the docks on a speeding train and we're down here with horses. It's too far.

Lucky traces her finger over the mountain to the water depot on the map.

LUCKY
What if we take a shortcut over this big pointy thingy?

PRU
That big pointy thing -- is Heck Mountain. It's impossible to cross on horseback. That's a full day and most of the night's ride. And even if by some miracle we did make it, how are we supposed to get the horses off of a moving train?

LUCKY
(to herself; recalling her math homework)
If a train traveling at twenty-five miles an hour has to stop every one hundred miles...
(louder; excited)
Aunt Cora was right! I do need to know this!

PRU
Uhh, what now?

Lucky points to the water depot on the map.

LUCKY
The train has to stop to refill water along the way. If we cut over the mountain, we can beat the train to this water depot at...
(counting on fingers)
(MORE)

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Noon tomorrow.

(reading map)

Woah, what's the Ridge of Regret?

PRU

You don't want to know.

The sound of a ukulele strums ominously off screen. Lucky and Pru look to the back of the dark barn. Abigail (on Boomerang) stalks out of the shadows Ukulele in hand.

ABIGAIL

From what I hear, there's a lotta dangers lurking around those parts. Dangers that only those with good fortune RETURN from!

LUCKY

Return from?

Lucky and Pru share a look as Abigail hops off Boomerang.

ABIGAIL

I've heard tales. The most treacherous and merciless creatures hiding in the shadows. Creatures you wouldn't believe!

Abigail grabs the lantern in front of Pru and Lucky and begins to make intricate shadow puppets.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

There's a moose... and he's a'waitin', but he doesn't know what he's waitin' for.

Lucky and Pru share another big look as Abigail sets down the lantern and gets more involved in her shadow puppets.

LUCKY

Uh, how is she...?

ABIGAIL

And they say at the bottom of a bridge is a shifty fox! Who's just sitting there being... shifty! And then... there's a possum that just hangs out lighting matches! Ha-ha-ha! Whoa!

By the end of her rant, everyone, including the horses are staring at Abigail. Abigail is completely tangled in her arms and legs, but finally sees she shadow creation -- she scares herself and YELPS! She falls over and knocks the lantern.

PRU

(re: the lantern)

Abigail! Not near the map! I think what Abigail is TRYING to say is it's way too dangerous.

LUCKY

If you're not going to help me, Spirit and I will be fine on our own.

Lucky leaves without hearing Pru's SIGH. Pru picks up her saddle, heading back to Chica Linda.

Abigail begins to worry about Lucky out there alone.

ABIGAIL

You know Pru, you're right. We would never be able to save those poor, innocent, beautiful horses...

Snips pops his head in the barn door with Sr. Carrots.

SNIPS

I smell rule breaking.

Abigail gets a mischievous grin and reaches for her lasso hanging on Boomerangs saddle. She blows a bubble with her gum as we...

SNIPS (CONT'D)

Uh oh.

Señor Carrots brays.

SEQ. 1760 - BRIDGE OF NO RETURN

EXT. TRAIN BRIDGE - MIRADERO SIDE - DAY

Lucky and Spirit move towards the edge of the bridge. Spirit is eager to press on.

She's clearly afraid, but she's never let fear stop her before. She squares her shoulders and urges Spirit forward.

PRU (O.S.)

Uh, Lucky! Lucky!

ABIGAIL (O.S.)

Hey, Lucky! Wait up!

ABIGAIL/PRU (O.S.)

Wait for us!

Despite her bravado, Lucky's so relieved to see Abigail and Pru riding up.

LUCKY
You changed your mind!

PRU
No, I still think this is a
terrible idea.

ABIGAIL
But...

PRU
*But this is Miradero, out here, we
stick together.*

LUCKY
Thanks guys.

All three move onto the bridge, Lucky in the middle and Abigail pulling up the rear.

PRU
(in go mode)
You can thank us after we make it
over that big pointy thing.

Pru points to the mountain ahead of them.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Heck Mountain!

PRU
We better hurry up if we want to
make it to the water depot before
noon tomorrow.

Headstrong and determined, Lucky is confident. Overconfident. She and Spirit struggle to be a rider and be ridden, made more precarious by the narrow bridge.

LUCKY
Woah! Easy, boy.

PRU
Keep your heels down, shoulders
back, eyes where you want him to
go.

Lucky tries Pru's advice, but goes too far. She and Spirit look uncomfortable.

ABIGAIL

Yeah, but like not so...
 (she copies Lucky's stiff
 posture, makes a noise to
 go along with her
 movements)
 You're liable to cramp.

Confused by the conflicting advice and wanting to press forward, Lucky brushes them off.

LUCKY

I know. I know.

Lucky continues to struggle. Lucky stumbles on Spirit again, and the horse runs ahead.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Hold on Spirit! Careful!

Pru and Abigail join Lucky's side.

SEQ. 1815 - ADVENTURE MONTAGE

The girls begin to head towards the mountains, Lucky still struggling.

LUCKY

Careful! Whoa!

PRU

When you trust yourself, your horse will too. He'll know exactly what you're thinking. Then you'll be "joined up."

ABIGAIL

(gasps in delight)
Joined Up? That's my favorite trail song!

Abigail pulls out her ukulele. Pru SIGHS in exasperation, *here we go...*

PRU

Ugh--

Abigail launches into the song.

The girls embark on their adventure. As Abigail sings, the landscape behind them changes showing the different environments they are trekking through to get across the mountain. All three horses share the same "she's still going" look that Lucky and Pru have on their faces.

ABIGAIL

(singing)

When the trail gets rough, I've got
my pal and that's enough

We Join up, Join up

It's easier than ever when we do
things together

Join up, Join up

Heels down in the saddle with my
very best friend

Nothing beats having someone you
can trust to the (Abigail hits a
crazy high note) ennnnnnd-oof!

Chica Linda TEARS OUT AND THROW A BUNCH OF FLOWERS, roots and all, into Abigail's face, but she's undeterred.

PRU

Whoa.

ABIGAIL

(singing)

We just listen to each other and
together make it through it

We Join up, Join up (whistles out)

SEQ. 1775 - THE CHASM PT. 1

EXT. CANYON - DAY

Lucky, Pru and Abigail ride into a canyon. Lucky's still uneasy on horseback. All her focus is on staying upright. Abigail braids Boomerang's mane.

ABIGAIL

We all heard about that time that
you "liberated" a monkey from the
zoo.

ON LUCKY as she listens and reacts.

PRU

The birthday that flooded--

ABIGAIL

Or that time you accidentally
locked the math tutor in the closet
and couldn't get him out.

LUCKY

I did get in trouble for that one.
(beat; serious)
He really talks about me that much?

Lucky takes all of this in. Pru and Abigail nod.

PRU

Sometimes my dad pretends he has to
go to the bathroom just to get your
dad to stop talking about you.

The girls find themselves in a canyon and hear a moose CALL
in the distance.

ABIGAIL

See, I told you there was a moose
waiting.

Lucky and Pru share a look and laugh as the group comes to a
ravine.

PRU

Here it is, we cross this bridge
and then it's a straight shot up
the mountain to the water depot.

The bridge is a threadbare SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

LUCKY

Is it supposed to move that much?

Gulp! They look over the edge.

PRU

It's fine. Suspension bridges are
built to support incredible weights--

Chica Linda places a single hoof on one of the slats, it
dislodges PLUMMETS into the canyon. A quietly freaked-out
beat, then:

There's a distant CLATTER.

LUCKY

Oh!

ABIGAIL

Gulp. (yelling) Now what?

Lucky's shoulders slump. Pru and Chica Linda turn around, back toward Miradero.

PRU

Now I decide not to die falling into a canyon, but instead go home and have my dad kill me for even attempting this.

LUCKY

And just give up?

Lucky and Spirit follow her.

PRU

I'm sorry, Lucky. We tried, we really did, but we don't have a choice.

Lucky and Spirit turn from Pru, looking for another possible route.

LUCKY

No. Give me a minute. I'll figure out a different way.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)

Take your time!

PRU

What?

LUCKY

What?

ABIGAIL

Boomerang and I'll just wait over here!

LUCKY / PRU

What?

Lucky and Pru stop arguing and look over, seeing Abigail waving on the other side. Abigail taps into Pru's competitive spirit, playfully taunting her from the other side.

PRU

How did she--

ABIGAIL

What? The great Pru Granger can't handle a little jump?

PRU

(pointed)

I can -- but we can't!

Lucky looks back and forth between them.

LUCKY

I can do it.

She looks back at the chasm and GULPS --

PRU

I don't know if this is a good idea...

Spirit flares his nostrils: he's ready. Lucky is clearly doubting herself, but he charges on, headstrong as ever --

LUCKY

Ahh!

PRU

No--! Lucky! Wait!

As they charge toward the edge, Pru coaches Lucky on --

PRU (CONT'D)

Ok, umm, I guess we're doing this. All right. Don't look down, don't pull back, and just trust him!

Spirit's in top form, but Lucky doubts herself and looks down just as they reach the edge.

Pru and Chica Linda break into a gallop with Lucky and Spirit next to them, heading straight toward the platform. As they reach the edge, Pru leans forward and relaxes her grip, trusting Chica Linda. The horse vaults up -- up -- up and onto the platform!

Spirit and Lucky are about to land next to Pru and Chica Linda, but Lucky tenses up and grabs Spirit's neck. When she tensed, Spirit did too. They're short, Spirit's hooves clatter on the edge but the two fall from the platform.

Pru and Chica Linda land in a cloud of dust on the other side.

Lucky and Spirit go skidding down the side of the canyon! It takes everything Spirit's got to keep his footing on the steep bank. He's kicking up plumes of dust as he goes.

PRU (CONT'D)

Lucky!

ABIGAIL (O.S.)

Lucky!

Lucky holds on for dear life and chokes on the dust, but her hold breaks and she falls from Spirit's back. They both skid and tumble painfully down the canyon edge.

SEQ. 1780 - WHERE IS LUCKY

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - FOYER - SAME

Jim walks in as Cora, now dressed in jeans and one of Jim's work shirts, consolidates train parts, the house looking more like a *home*. Jim is clearly preoccupied, doesn't see she's carrying a heavy part.

JIM

Uh, have you seen Lucky? I-I feel horrible about last night.

Cora smiles, happy for his step in the right direction.

CORA

I'm sure she's just blowing off some steam. Just give her some time.

She drops the heavy train part into Jim's arms --

JIM

I was, uh, looking for this...

CORA

I'm sure she's perfectly fine wherever she is.

Cora pushes Jim out the front door.

SMASH CUT TO:

SEQ. 1810 - THE CHASM PT. 2

BACK ON LUCKY, who is very not fine.

Surrounded by kicked up dust, she can barely see her hand in front of her face.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Lucky!

PRU (O.S.)
Lucky!

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Are you dead?

LUCKY
A little. I could really use that possum lighting matches.

The dust slowly clears. Spirit behind her, down on his side. She hurries to him, patting him down. He's scraped up pretty bad.

Spirit tests putting weight on his legs -- he seems to be okay. He nuzzles Lucky. So relieved, she buries her face in his neck and then pulls back.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry boy. I should've trusted you.

Abigail and Pru call down to her.

PRU (O.S.)
Lucky, just follow our voices.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
What should I say?

PRU (O.S.)
Where are all your weird random stories when we need them?

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
I don't do well under pressure!

Lucky climbs onto Spirit and they begin to walk up the side of the canyon.

LUCKY
Easy boy.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
I know! I'll sing you a song! (deep breath) Welllllll--

Pru gives her a glare and takes the ukulele.

PRU
Intermission. (to Lucky) That's it.
Leg on!

One step at a time, Lucky and Spirit scramble over rocks.
Lucky sees a route. This is it.

LUCKY
Come on, Spirit.

Lucky and Spirit make their way unsteadily forward.

Spirit hops onto the first boulder, but Lucky nervously grips Spirit's neck, causing him to lose his footing! His hooves scabble on the boulder.

PRU (O.S.)
Yes, you've got it!

He manages to find purchase on the rock.

Lucky takes some breaths and starts to remember to all of the advice from Pru and Abigail she has been given because Spirit stumbled when she doubts herself. Pru looks down at where Lucky is --

PRU (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Just trust and move with him.
Breathe. You guys can do this.

LUCKY
Okay, we've got this.

ABIGAIL
You gotta to loosen up. I said
loosen!

LUCKY
Easy there. Easy, boy.

Lucky and Spirit make a jump onto another boulder and then another.

PRU (O.S.)
You're doing great!

LUCKY
We're gonna make it!

PRU
She's got it.

ABIGAIL
I thought she was a goner.
(yelling to Lucky)
We never doubted you!

The girls watch nervously as Lucky gains confidence. She and Spirit start to move in sync. Lucky puts everything into it -- exhaling/exertion EFFORTS as she goes. Pru cheers Lucky on.

PRU
Yes! You got it!

ABIGAIL
Good, good, yes!

Lucky and Spirit make their way up the last few boulders.

PRU
Yes!

Lucky and Spirit make the last jump up onto the ledge and she breaks into a nervous grin. The horses happily reunite.

LUCKY
I told you we'd find a different way.

ABIGAIL
I'd call that different.

PRU
Yeah, but now we're too far down the canyon and don't have time to backtrack.

LUCKY
(looks up at the light further above them)
Well, let's go up so we can get a better view of where we are.

PRU (O.S.)
That was the scariest thing I have ever seen.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Yeah, nothing can be scarier than that.

SEQ. 1800 - RIDGE OF REGRET

EXT. HECK MOUNTAIN - SIMULTANEOUS

The temperature on top of the mountain has dropped significantly. Spirit and Lucky approach a precipice.

LUCKY'S POV: Before them -- the only way across -- is the Ridge of Regret, an extremely narrow ridge with a sheer drop on either side. The wind whips through the air. Pru, Abigail, and Lucky take this in. Abigail shakes her head "no" as she mumbles unsure.

LUCKY

Uh, I'm guessing this is the Ridge of Regret?

Pru just nods quickly.

ABIGAIL

I regret it already.

Chica Linda paws at the ground and part of the earth crumbles into the clouds below them.

PRU

Chica Linda! Careful girl!

LUCKY

Okay, where are you guys with all that great advice now?

No answer. Lucky looks back at the girls.

Spirit NEIGHS and leads the way pulling Lucky onto the dangerous ridge.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

(terrified)

Whoaaa!

Abigail and Pru look on in horror.

ABIGAIL

Lucky!

PRU

Lucky!

Lucky begins to panic, but Spirit neighs softly.

Spirit neighs again and looks back at Lucky.

A voice whispers across the wind.

MILAGRO (O.S.)
Be fearless, Fortuna.

She takes a deep breath and slowly unclenches her fists -- trusting him -- as Spirit moves forward. We see an ease in Lucky's posture and a subsequent ease in Spirit's gait.

Lucky, a bold act of trust as she *closes her eyes* and BREATHEs, letting Spirit lead, nervously sings the song Milagro sang in the prologue.

LUCKY
(singing)
*Listen to the wind roar,
See the mighty eagle soar*

Spirit takes it a step at a time, moving slowly across the path.

LUCKY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
(singing)
*Feel the sun on your face /
Trust that you will find your way /
And when the night is cold and dark-*

Not what Pru meant, but she and Abigail share a look. Pru hands Abigail her ukulele back.

ABIGAIL
Here we go.

Boomerang steps onto the ridge. Pru takes a deep breath.

Shakily, Abigail gathers her courage and begins to strum along to the song as she joins Lucky on the ridge.

LUCKY
*Know that you have fire in your
heart.*

Pru looks at Chica Linda and the other girls. *Time to let go.* She is going to try this Lucky and Abigail's way. Pru takes a step onto the ridge and joins the song.

LUCKY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Be strong, be brave-

Pru takes a breath. Her turn.

PRU
Okay.

She follows and starts harmonizing with Lucky.

LUCKY

Let courage lead the way-

The girls begin to hum and harmonize with Lucky as they slowly creep across the dangerously narrow ridge, rocks and pebbles falling from under the horses feet with each gentle step.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

*Stand tall and know who you are/
Wild heart, wild soul/ roam free to
the unknown / And know that you
have everything you need / To be
fearless / Fearless.*

Finally, Lucky hits solid ground and dares to open her eyes.

Abigail and Pru follow closely behind her. Abigail slides off Boomerang and rolls onto the ground.

ABIGAIL

Oh, I love you, ground! So solid!
So supportive! So reassuring!

PRU

Woo, yes! Thank you, thank you,
thank you. Chica Linda. Oh, I love
you, I love you, I love you. Oh we
made it. We did it!

LUCKY

(To Abigail and Pru)

I cant believe we just did that!
(to Spirit) If we can do that, we
can do anything! We'll get your
family back Spirit, I know it.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)

Good job, Boomerang!

Spirit goes over and touches noses with Boomerang and then Chica Linda, checking to make sure they're okay. Pru looks at Lucky meaningfully.

PRU

(kindly teasing)

Only Lucky Prescott would finally
join up with her horse on the Ridge
of Regret.

Lucky knows this is high praise from Pru. She smiles at her new friend.

LUCKY

I couldn't have done it without you guys.

ABIGAIL

Look! The water tower!

Abigail points over the landscape. The water tower! The horses are relieved, they are exhausted and could not have gone much further.

LUCKY

I can't believe it.

ABIGAIL

We made it!

PRU

We can camp at that overlook. When the train comes at noon we'll see it for miles.

As the girls and their horses head toward the water tower --

Lucky slides off Spirit, walking like John Wayne.

LUCKY

Okay, but I'm walking the rest of the way.

ABIGAIL

Pru, you have a pretty good voice. We should start a band!

PRU

Nope.

SEQ. 1820 - THE PALS

EXT. PLATEAU CAMPSITE - LATER

Pru lights the fire and blows on it to get the fire going. The fire blazes, lighting Abigail's face.

ABIGAIL

Tomorrow... we face our destiny... but tonight, WE FEAST!

Abigail brandishes sticks stacked with marshmallows.

PRU

Woo! Yes! I am starving.

Abigail passes out the sticks of marshmallows.

Lucky laughs, looks to her friends.

PRU (CONT'D)

What?

ABIGAIL

Oh, do I have marshmallow on my face?

LUCKY

(starts to laugh)

Well yes, but that's not it: We crossed the Ridge of Regret. Us.

PRU

(also laughs)

Yeah, we did the impossible.

ABIGAIL

(cracking up)

That was crazy. We made bad choices.

The ridiculousness of it all and the exhaustion sillies hit Lucky too. She messes with a lasso and tangles herself up in it, but then launches it and snags Pru! The three girls have a classic slumber party giggle fit.

LUCKY

And tomorrow we're going to take on a bunch of dangerous bandits.

PRU

(laughing even harder)

It's not funny!

LUCKY

I know!

(beat; serious)

Are we insane?

The girls get quiet and then burst out laughing. Boomerang shoves his head into the bag of marshmallows, trying to be sneaky, but Abigail catches him.

ABIGAIL

Boomerang P. Stubbles! Get out of there!

He pulls his head out guiltily as Chica Linda judges him. One marshmallow is stuck to his face and she finally relents and plucks it off his cheek, munching happily.

The two horses look over and see Spirit patrolling the area, whinny over to him to bring him back over to the fire. The herd is together.

PRU (O.S.)

You can see all the stars in the universe from here.

Abigail pops up and digs in her saddle bag.

ABIGAIL

OH! I forgot! I made us something.

Abigail gives them each a BRACELET made of twine and found objects: stone fragments, and a piece of flat bark, one stenciled with a 'P', one an 'A', one an 'L.'

LUCKY

Aww, Abigail.

PRU

When did you have the time?

ABIGAIL

There's always time for friendship-based crafting.

The girls slip them on and jingle them on their wrists. They each stick a hand out, displaying their new bracelets.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

P. A. No wait...

Abigail scoots around so her 'A' is right side up and in line with Pru and Lucky.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Pru, Abigail and Lucky. We're PALs!

PRU

I'm never going to take this off.

Pru's clearly emotional too, but she remains outwardly stoic.

ABIGAIL

Pru! You big softie! I knew you liked me.

Abigail throws her arms around Pru. Pru is completely stiff.

PRU

Okay. Cut it out. Cut it out!

ABIGAIL
Never. Never...

PRU
You're getting marshmallow on me.

Lucky smiles at her new friends. She picks up Abigail's ukulele and plinks out a few chords as she starts to sing their trail song:

LUCKY
*When the trail gets rough, I've got
my pals and that's enough. We join
up...*

The usually buttoned-up Pru starts sing with Lucky. Abigail looks happily at both of them.

Pru nods towards Abigail's ukulele and she gasps as she gleefully grabs it, strumming with her friends. They all sing:

ABIGAIL, LUCKY AND PRU
*Join up. It's easier than ever when
we do things together. Join up.
Join up. Heels down in the saddle
with my very best friend. Nothing
beats having someone I can trust to
the end!*

They all hit a ridiculously funny high note and collapse in giggles. A fox howls behind them and the girls laugh harder.

ABIGAIL
Hush! Do you hear that? It's the
shifty fox... and his family!

End with a wide on the girls at the fire, enjoying their night, laughing.

SEQ. 1817 - WHERE IS PRU

INT. MIRADERO CORRAL - AL'S BARN - SAME

Al opens the barn, surprised.

SNIPS (O.S.)
Stand still, stop moving!

Snips and Senor Carrots are tied together acting as each other's anchors bouncing from the rafters of the barn.

AL
(antennae up)
Um... Snips?

SNIPS
Oh, hello, Mr. Granger.
Information, hot off the press, for
just a penny!

SEQ. 1805 - I AM THE TRAIN

INT. LUCKY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jim comes up the stairs leading to Lucky's room.

JIM
Lucky? Lucky?

Jim clocks that Lucky found Milagro's closet. He's not looked in there in years.

INT. MILAGRO'S CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

Jim hesitantly approaches.

ON JIM'S SHOES pausing at the threshold of the closet, taking it in, feeling it all... the past, everything he compartmentalized, the fear he let get the best of him.

AL
Jim? Jim? J[im]--

Al enters but his urgency is momentarily undercut as he clocks the wallpaper.

AL (CONT'D)
Whoa. What's with all the berries?

JIM
(ignoring Al)
I told myself I was keeping her
safe by sending her away.

AL
You can tell me all about it on the
way.

JIM
But who-who was I really trying to
protect?

Al can see his friend is going through something, but he has more pressing matters to get to.

AL

Yes, protect them. We need to do that. As in right now.

JIM

... all those years lost! I never should have let her go.

AL

Yeah, go is the word of the day. As in, the girls are gone.

Cora gasps from where she's eavesdropping at the bottom of the stairs.

Jim snaps out of it--

JIM

What?

AL

So now we have to do *whatever* this is, later.

JIM

Gone where?

AL

(finally getting it out)
They're headed over Heck Mountain to save a herd of wild horses and I'm afraid those rustlers stole the train.

Al shows Jim the wanted poster from town with a drawn mustache over the picture - Hendricks!

JIM

(head exploding)
Lucky is riding over Heck Mountain?! On a horse?!

Cora reacts and runs up the stairs.

CORA

What the heck is Heck Mountain?

JIM

Wh-why are we sitting around here talking?

As Jim heads for the stairs, Al wonders--

AL
Did you catch the part about the
train?

Jim stops midway down the stairs, turning to Al with utter
clarity-

JIM
I am the train.

CUT TO:

EXT. JIM'S BARN - CONTINUOUS

Barn doors open to reveal a gleaming black steam engine
embossed with *MILAGRO* in freshly painted gold letters.

AL
Whoa.

Cora gasps at what her brother has created.

JIM
She's the fastest train ever built.
I had some spare parts.

Al and Cora stare in awe at Jim's creation.

Jim runs his hands along Milagro's name, whispers to her --

JIM (CONT'D)
Let's go get our girl.

SEQ. 1850 - THERE GOES THE TRAIN

EXT. CANYON CAMPSITE - PRE-DAWN (TWILIGHT)

Lucky, Abigail, and Pru ride their horses to the edge of the
canyon that overlooks the train tracks.

PRU
Alright, remember the plan! First,
we're gonna get to the water
depot...

ABIGAIL
Then we're going to bring the reign
of righteous retribution --

LUCKY
(cutting Abigail off)
Yah!

ABIGAIL
Let's go!

PRU
Yah! We got this!

EXT. WATER DEPOT/TRAIN TRACKS - PRE-DAWN (TWILIGHT)

The girls spring into action. Lucky gallops towards the first train car where Hendricks is driving the train.

ABIGAIL
Yah! Let's go! Woo!

PRU
Come on, Chica! Faster! Woo!

Lucky STANDS on SPIRIT'S BACK in her red boots (reminiscent of Milagro). The wranglers turn around and see Lucky gaining on them.

HENDRICKS
Huh?

Lucky LEAPS onto the train like a TRICK-RIDING NINJA!!!

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
Hey, little--

INT. TRAIN CAR - SAME

Lucky jump kicks, knocking him out, then kicks the stop button, causing the train to come to a screeching HALT.

LUCKY
Ha, ha! Ha!

PRU
Go! Go! Go!

She jumps on TOP OF THE CABOOSE, running along the train, looking for the livestock car, leaping over car divides as three more wranglers get in her way.

One by one, Lucky jump kicks the men in the face, while shouting out to Pru and Abigail--

LUCKY
 (to girls)
 On three! One!

Lucky kicks Walrus (W3, Wrangler Big A), followed by Horseshoe (W1, Wrangler Thin A), who SCREAMS as he falls off the train.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
 Two!
 (kicks wrangler)
 THREE!

She kicks the final wrangler, Chevron (W4, Wrangler Short A) who goes FLYING into the sky! Then, Pru and Abigail turn their horses around and kick in the door of the livestock car, freeing the herd.

PRU
 Ya!

ABIGAIL
 Woo!

The herd bursts out on. Spirit whinnies in celebration.

LUCKY
 Yeah!

Lucky mumbles as she sleeps.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
 (half-asleep)
I'll show you...

Lucky snaps awake when she hears a TRAIN WHISTLE and Spirit's anguished WHINNY. *It was all a dream.*

SEQ. 1875 - ALL IS LOST

EXT. CAMPSITE - PLATEAU - PRE-DAWN/REAL TIME

Spirit's distant WHINNY wakes Lucky who realizes she was just DREAMING.

LUCKY
 (still sleepy)
 That'll show you...

Disoriented, she looks around--

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Spirit? Spirit!

She looks out at the water tower, sees Spirit being restrained by Hendricks and his men. They slept through the train arriving!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Hendricks, you see'n what I'm seeing?!

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
Ha, well what do you know. Where'd you come from?

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
I can't believe it!

LUCKY
The train's too early!
(waking the girls)
Abigail! Pru! Wake up! Let's go!

HENDRICKS (O.S.)
Everybody, look who came back.
(laughs) Wrangle that stallion!

Abigail and Pru are still groggy. Abigail pulls a marshmallow off her face and eats it, breakfast of champions.

ABIGAIL
Huh? Huh. The train! Pru, come on, let's go!

PRU
Oh, no. Wake up, Chica.

Pru and Abigail quickly get saddles on their horses and race after Lucky who has taken off by foot to help Spirit.

LUCKY
Stop!

HENDRICKS
Why this must be my lucky day.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)
Get a rope on that horse!

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)
You got it!

Hendricks and his men throw lassoes around Spirit. Handlebar (W2, Wrangler Strong A) and Horseshoe (W1, Wrangler Thin A) tug on their ropes with effort.

HENDRICKS

(acknowledging the bruise on his face)
Thanks for the new tattoo. Now I get to return the favor.

Lucky sees the ropes go around Spirit's neck. She is still too far to be any help to him.

LUCKY

No! Don't touch him. Don't get in there Spirit, please.

Hendricks has the jump on Spirit and begins to force him onto the train.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

No, you wanted to come back to daddy. Get him on the train. Load him up! Ya! Ya!

Hendricks men begin to fill the water tank of the train.

Pru and Abigail catch up with Lucky. She will never get to Spirit on foot.

ABIGAIL

Come on, faster!

PRU

Two hand pick up!

ABIGAIL

Lucky!

The girls reach out their hands, now familiar with the move. Lucky grabs a hand each and they swing her up behind Abigail.

HENDRICKS (O.S.)

Aw, you just couldn't stay away.

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)(O.S.)

I got him!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A) (O.S.)

Hiya!

LUCKY

Go! Go!

ON LUCKY'S POV over Abigail's shoulder, watching as Hendricks pulls out a whip and cracks it on Spirit's neck.

HENDRICKS
Hold him tight.

LUCKY
No! Stop!

HENDRICKS
Get him in there.

Spirit is no match for six lassoes as they FORCE HIM INTO A SEPARATE LIVESTOCK CAR beside his herd who cry out...

The girls ride as fast as they can.

ABIGAIL
Oh, come on, hurry.

HENDRICKS
Hurry it up now!

The train begins to MOVE...

LUCKY
Hurry, hurry!

PRU
Faster girl, faster.

LUCKY
Just get a bit closer, I can jump!

ABIGAIL
Okay, great idea!

PRU
No, what? Bad idea!

ABIGAIL
Pick it up, Boom!

LUCKY
Ready? No!

Boomerang and Chica Linda are cantering, but they're losing the race as the train gains speed, gradually leaving them in the dust as the girls finally arrive - too late - at the foot of the water tower, the train disappearing from sight.

Lucky slides off Boomerang, yelling after the train.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Noooo! Spirit!

Pru and Abigail look at each other, not sure what to do.

SEQ. 1885 - HOPE RESTORED

INT. TRAIN CAR

Spirit bucks and slams into the empty train car, trying to break his way out, but it is no use.

HENDRICKS
Yep, enjoy the sunrise boys, it's our last one in this country. We're almost home free.

The train speeds up as Spirit whinnies.

EXT. WATER DEPOT - SAME

Lucky, on her knees, slowly lifts her head up and watches the train shrink in the distance. Abigail and Pru approach, unsure what to do to help their friend.

Abigail looks between both of them. They need a pep talk!

ABIGAIL
You know, once I was playing checkers and I lost all my pieces -- ALL of my pieces -- and I STILL won the game!

Pru comes to her new friend's rescue --

PRU
Um... I think what Abigail is trying to say is, the Lucky we know would never let anything stop her. Until Spirit gets on that boat, we still have a chance.

ABIGAIL
We'll never know if we don't try. We are the PALs aren't we?

PRU
What do you say, Prescott?

Lucky stands, and the wind blows through her hair as she contemplates...

CUT TO:

SEQ. 2200 - MILAGRO TRAIN

EXT. WILDERNESS - TIMELAPSE (DAY TO NIGHT)

The Milagro Train zooms towards us. Jim leans out the window, determined -- Cora and Al by his side. As the train rushes by, Jim's hat flies off and he doesn't even notice.

SEQ. 2300 - THE DOCKS

EXT. CITY PORT STATION/INT. TRAIN CAR - SAME

The wranglers are quickly UNLOADING THE HORSES, funneling them onto a CARGO SHIP.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
I don't know about you, but I can't wait til feel that cold hard cash in my hands.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
I'm already sick from all of the steaks I'm going to eat.

SAILOR (O.S.)
Mr. Hendricks, captain says he's ready to go.

Hendricks looks around, half-expecting an ambush--

HENDRICKS
(to his crew)
Let's hurry up and get outta here.

INSIDE THE TRAIN CAR, Spirit is alone. He bangs on the car door.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
Get along now! Get along!

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Let's move out.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
Steady now.

OUTSIDE THE TRAIN, the wranglers continue to funnel the horses onto the ship.

Spirit kicks and thrashes in his train car, alone.

EXT. CITY - SAME

Pru, Abigail, and Lucky come up over a hill, spotting the wranglers at the dock loading the herd up onto a ship.

ABIGAIL
There they are!

LUCKY
Where's Spirit?

PRU
He's in the green car!

The GIRLS' POV: a train car shakes in the distance.

LUCKY
Go!

ABIGAIL
Yah!

PRU
Yah!

They head for the train car.

EXT. CITY - DOCKS - SAME

Outside of the car, the wranglers get ready to bring in Spirit.

DOCK WORKER (W5, WRANGLER THIN A)
What do they have in there, a
rhinoceros?

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
[WHISTLE EFFORT]

They move towards Spirit's car.

Lucky STANDS UP on Boomerang, waiting for the perfect moment to...

LUCKY
Okay, steady...

LEAP ONTO THE CABOOSE (a la fantasy sequence but more realistic this time), running across the tops of the train cars toward the livestock car.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Cover me!

DOCK WORKER(W5, WRANGLER THIN A)(O.S.)

This is the last one.

She finds an opening in the top of the car and opens it to reveal Spirit.

LUCKY

There you are. Hey, bud!

Pru and Abigail jump from around the train car and chase after the wranglers, knocking them aside.

DOCK WORKER (W5, WRANGLER THIN A)

Come on.

PRU

Chica Linda, let's go! Coming through!

ABIGAIL

Go, Boomerang, go!

THE DOORS suddenly fly open -- the men (W5 and Handlebar, W2, Wrangler Strong A) try to dodge the door falling and the horses running at them.

DOCK WORKER (W6, WRANGLER STRONG A)

Ack!

LUCKY

Yah! Yah!

CHEVRON (W4, WRAGNLER SHORT A)(O.S.)

(literally screaming to get Hendricks' attention)

HENDRICKS!

Lucky and Spirit bolt out like superheroes, headed for the ship, knocking the workers (W6 and W8) aside.

HENDRICKS

Doesn't that girl ever give up? (to the men on the dock) Get rid of her!

DOCK WORKER (W7, WRANGLER BIG A)

Get 'em! Ooof!

Pru and Abigail ride along Lucky to keep the wranglers off of her.

HENDRICKS
Hurry up, birdbrains!

They're nearly there when the plank is RAISED UP and the ship moves away from the dock with the SOUND of a horn blow.

LUCKY
No!

Lucky and Spirit arrive at the dock's edge, the ship out of reach, the frightened faces of the herd looking back at them. Spirit whinnies.

HENDRICKS
Ah, would you look at that. Breaks my heart, you come so far for nothin'. Kinda brings a tear to my eye.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
You're hilarious, Boss.

HENDRICKS
(counting his money)
That's a lotta money. Woo-ooo.

Hendricks and the men laugh (Horseshoe - W1, Wrangler Thin A, and Handlebar - W2, Wrangler Strong A).

Lucky scans the area... she sees a CRANE PLATFORM and several crates stacked together leading up to it. Bingo.

LUCKY
YAH!

Her red boot nudges Spirit into a sprint toward the CRANE PLATFORM at the far end of the port, blocked by an obstacle course of CARGO CRATES leading to steep stairs. She goes for it, wranglers close behind.

DOCK WORKER (W5, WRANGLER THIN A)
Hold it right there!

PRU
Yes, sir.

ON PRU & ABIGAIL: A wrangler chases after Pru, lasso ready, when she pulls Chica Linda to a halt, causing the wrangler's horse to stop dead in it's tracks sending him flying off it's back. Another Dock Worker rides up and tries to throw a lasso around Abigail and Boomerang.

DOCK WORKER (W8, WRANGLER SHORT A)
Oh no you don't!

Abigail gallops on Boomerang, running around a wrangler, W8, roping him (similar to 1200 "Wild Ride" and roping Snips).

ABIGAIL
Oh no YOU don't! My six-year-old brother moves faster than you.

DOCK WORKER (W8, WRANGLER SHORT A)
(struggles as he is tied up)
Hey!

Pru takes her lead, backing Chica Linda into a few wranglers.

PRU
Nice night for a swim.

DOCK WORKER (W7, WRANGLER BIG A)
Hey. Ooof! Watch it!

One Dockworker (W6) SCREAMS, then SPLASH! The men go into the water.

Meanwhile, Abigail adds some last minute knots to the Dock Workers (W8) she just hog-tied, they struggle.

ABIGAIL
He smells better too.

Pru nods, looking up.

PRU
Umm, Abigail?

Pru and Abigail jump on their horses, back in action, leaving their captives behind.

Lucky and Spirit scale the crates (similar to their boulder climb in 1810 "The Chasm Part Two").

EXT. SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The wranglers watch from the ship as Lucky and Spirit make their way to the platform.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Ooh, she's crazy!

HENDRICKS
Nuttier than a road apple.

EXT. CRANE PLATFORM - CONTINUOUS

Lucky and Spirit climb towards the top of the platform. Pru and Abigail watch in horror from the ground.

PRU

Is she thinking what I think she's thinking?

ABIGAIL

I think so.

EXT. CRANE PLATFORM - SIMULTANEOUS

Lucky GASPS as she reaches the platform.

LUCKY

Alright, you ready?

EXT. CITY PORT STATION - SIMULTANEOUS

Jim's EXPRESS TRAIN pulls into the station. Jim, Cora and Al lean out the window just in time to glimpse Lucky up on that platform bridge. Cora GASPS. They get off the train and stare up at Lucky.

AL

Oh.

CORA

Lucky?

JIM

Lucky?

AL

Oh, that's not good.

JIM

Lucky!

CORA

Oh no.

JIM

Lucky!

Cora covers her mouth in shock.

ON ABIGAIL as she covers her eyes.

ABIGAIL
Oh, I can't look!

Lucky's red boot taps Spirit's side and AWAY THEY GO!!!!!!...

LUCKY
Hee-yah!

Lucky and Spirit move as ONE, gaining incredible speed.

LUCKY AND SPIRIT BECOME A MIRROR IMAGE OF THE ZOETROPE OF MILAGRO RIDING HER HORSE, nothing but certainty in their stride as they gallop across the bridge platform.

EXT. CRANE PLATFORM - SIMULTANEOUS

ON LUCKY AND SPIRIT as they reach the edge of the bridge and LIFT OFF INTO THE AIR.

TIME SLOWS as Lucky LEANS FORWARD with unflinching faith.

EXT. DOCK - SIMULTANEOUS

ON JIM, watching in disbelief.

ON PRU AND ABIGAIL, jaws dropped.

EXT. CARGO SHIP - SIMULTANEOUS

CUT TO THE HERD ONBOARD THE SHIP, STARING UP.

CUT TO HENDRICKS AND HIS MEN, A LOOK OF SHOCK, AS OVERHEAD...

HENDRICKS
Huh?

Lucky and Spirit do the near-impossible, barely clearing the railing, LANDING ON THE SHIP'S DECK! They right themselves and Lucky lets out an exhilarated laugh -- they did it!

EXT. DOCK - SIMULTANEOUS

Abigail and Pru cheer.

PRU
You think she'd teach me how to do that?

Pru and Abigail hug.

ABIGAIL
I told you she was fun!

PRU (O.S.)
She made it! She really made it!

EXT. TRAIN - SIMULTANEOUS

ON JIM/CORA/AL as they exhale in relief.

Jim and Cora SIGH in relief and Al laughs. Then, Al leaves to find Abigail and Pru as Cora and Jim race towards the end of the dock.

JIM
Hey!

SEQ. 2400 - LEAP OF FAITH

EXT. DOCKS - CONTINUOUS

Jim and Cora run up to the edge of the dock as the ship drifts off into the water.

CORA
Lucky!

JIM
Cora, by any chance did you pack your bathing costume?

Jim instinctively jumps into the water. Cora ducks away from the splash.

CORA
Oh, my... Jim.

Cora spots a small row boat directly next to the dock.

EXT. CARGO SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Hendricks and his men run up the stairs, making their way towards Lucky and Spirit.

HENDRICKS
Let's go, turtle legs.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Come on, let's get her.

Chaos breaks out as Hendricks and his CREW run to the BOW, finding Spirit -- bull fight ready -- but no Lucky. Huh??

HENDRICKS
(to his men)
Find the girl! Find her!

Some of the men spread out to look for Lucky.

EXT. CARGO SHIP/LOWER DECK - SIMULTANEOUS

Around the backside of the lower ship deck, Lucky runs out towards the holding tank where the horses are locked up.

Lucky pulls on the locked gate but it doesn't budge.

EXT. CARGO SHIP/UPPER DECK BOW - CONTINUOUS

Hendricks and his other RUSTLERS inch toward Spirit, lassos drawn.

HENDRICKS
Alright, Devil Horse. Nice and easy. Yeah... I'm gonna teach you some manners.

Hendricks swings his lasso. Ropes swing from all directions, one loops around Spirit's neck.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
Ha! You're not goin' anywhere.

Handlebar cinches his rope, but Spirit pulls twice as hard, yanking him forward and KICKING HIM with his hind leg, sending him straight into a BELL... DING. Down. ROUND 1.

HANDLEBAR(W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)
(CONT'D)
Whoa! Whoa! Ooof!

From the lower decks, the herd NEIGHS in excitement.

Spirit CHARGES Walrus (W3, Wrangler Big A), tossing him head over heels into the BELL. Diiiiiiing. Lights out. Round 2.

WALRUS (W3, WRANGLER BIG A)
Whoa! Huhh! Ahhh!

The herd reacts again, neighing.

EXT. CARGO SHIP'S LOWER DECK - SIMULTANEOUS

Lucky uses all of her weight to try to get the rusty lever to move and it sends her to fall on her back. Chevron comes around the corner with a crowbar.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
(sinister laugh)
Lookin' for something?

As he approaches Lucky, a HOOF kicks through the bars, KNOCKING HIM OUT. He drops the crowbar.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
(CONT'D)
Ow!

Lucky gets up and picks up the pipe.

LUCKY
(laughs)
Atta girl.

Lucky grabs the crowbar and tries to use that as leverage to get the gate to move. The lever gives, sliding the gate open. The herd storms out of the holding tank.

EXT. CARGO SHIP - UPPER DECK

Horseshoe (W1, Wrangler Thin A) is spun in a circle by his rope and flung into the BELL.

HORSESHOE (W1, WRANGLER THIN A)
Wh-wh-whoaaa--oww, oof!

The last sailor backs away... *no thanks*. He grabs a ring, throws himself overboard.

SAILOR
I don't get paid enough for this!

ON SPIRIT, surprised by a lasso as he turns to find...

HENDRICKS wrenching the rope around the bell pole...

HENDRICKS
(laughs)
Nice and easy. You're not going
anywhere boy.

Hendricks ties the rope tighter.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

Time to tango.

Spirit bucks and struggles as the rope gets tighter and tighter. Lucky runs up to the upper deck and sees Spirit lassoed by Hendricks.

LUCKY

Stop. Stop!

Hendricks eyes Lucky.

HENDRICKS

Aw, why you gotta be such a pest?

LUCKY

Spirit! Easy boy... easy! I'm here boy.

Lucky tries to calm the bucking stallion as he pulls against the rope around his neck.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Easy...

Hendricks laughs at her.

HENDRICKS

You swim along home now, girl.

LUCKY

You first -- Hee-yah!

Lucky jumps onto Spirit's back.

HENDRICKS

Ha-ha, come and get me!

Together they race towards Hendricks. Hendricks begins to jump over the deck rail.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

No, no, no, wait! Wait!

But they don't wait. Spirit and Lucky ram Hendricks.

EXT. SHIP - SAME

WIDE ON THE SHIP as Hendricks is launched OVERBOARD.

HENDRICKS

Whoaahhhh!

SPLASH!!!

EXT. SHIP DECK - SIMULTANEOUS

The herd cheers as Lucky and Spirit right themselves. Lucky takes the lasso off Spirit's neck. She and Spirit head for --

THE EDGE OF THE SHIP. Chevron (W4, Wrangler Short A) struggles to try to escape the boat and Spirit, closing in. He opens the gate on the side of the deck and leaps into the water, leaving the gate open behind him.

CHEVRON (W4, WRANGLER SHORT A)
Whoa-no, no, no--wahhh!

Lucky looks down. It's a BIG JUMP into the water. Spirit's eyes widen.

Behind them, the herd looks nervous, backing away.

LUCKY
Easy now, Spirit. It's alright,
boy. Trust me.

Spirit narrows his eyes. His hooves step closer to the edge.

A beat.

ON CORA AND JIM who row up to the side of the boat.

JIM
Cora, keep rowing. Keep rowing,
keep rowing, Cora. Lucky! Lucky,
no!

CORA
We're over here!

JIM
Lucky! No! Lucky!

Cora SHOOTS a FLARE GUN into the night sky, lighting it up.

Spirit and Lucky go soaring into the water. The herd follows closely behind, following their lead.

CORA
Oh! Oh no!

UNDERWATER: a dramatic ballet of horse legs...

Spirit and Lucky get separated.

Lucky comes up for air, frantically looking around for Spirit. She coughs as water fills her lungs.

LUCKY

Spirit!

JIM AND CORA row through the water searching for Lucky.

JIM

Lucky!

CORA

Lucky? Where is she?

JIM

Lucky!

LUCKY (O.S.)

Spirit!

JIM (O.S.)

Lucky!

Spirit breaks the surface of the water and turns at the sound of the foal (Brave One) crying from the ship. His mother tries to encourage him into the water, but he is too scared.

Spirit calls Brave One, still on the ship, trying to help soothe his fears.

HANDLEBAR (W2, WRANGLER STRONG A)

Quick, grab 'em!

Brave One, quickly followed by Mama, jump into the water and surface near Spirit.

Lucky struggles to keep her head above water, coughing and sputtering.

LUCKY (O.S.)

Spirit! Where are you?

She goes under the surface. Jim, now back in the water, dives down and pulls Lucky back up. They struggle a bit in the water but they resurface --

JIM

I got you, Lucky. I won't let you go.

Spirit emerges near Jim and Lucky and pulls both of them to shore, the herd following behind them.

SEQ. 2500 - HERO DADS

EXT. DOCKS - SHORELINE - SAME

Abigail and Pru gallop over the hill from the docks, but two dock workers have followed them.

Lassos whip out and hook around Chica Linda and Boomerang. Abigail and Pru are caught by surprise.

ABIGAIL
Boomerang!

PRU
Hey!

DOCK WORKER 6
Where do you think you're going?

DOCK WORKER 5
I got 'em!

The wranglers close in on them when suddenly a barrel flies towards them --

AL (O.S.)
Heads up boys!

-- and smashes into the dock workers (W5 and W6). The dust clears to reveal Al dusting off his hands with a chuckle.

PRU
Dad!
(realizing she's in
trouble)
Oh, Dad...

ABIGAIL
Uh oh. Nice knowin' ya.

The dock workers run off.

PRU
I'm grounded, aren't I?

Al runs up to Pru and hugs her.

AL
Yep. For life.

Abigail laughs.

AL (CONT'D)
(to Abigail)
And your parents want a word with
you too, young lady.

Spirit, Lucky, and Jim emerge from the water as Abigail and Pru CHEER.

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Oh my goodness!

PRU (O.S.)
Yeah! Yeah!

ABIGAIL (O.S.)
Nice one, Lucky!

PRU (O.S.)
You did it!

Meanwhile, something - *someone* - BUBBLES UP behind them all in the water, like the creature from the black lagoon...

ON THE WATER'S SURFACE as HENDRICKS' furious face emerges, his burly body lumbering to shore, fists clenched. He comes at Lucky and Spirit!

HENDRICKS
(driven mad)
Somebody's luck just ran out!

Cora, behind Hendricks in the row boat, SMACKS him with her oar.

CORA
Yes, yours!

But Hendricks shakes it off, pure fury on his face.

HENDRICKS
Ow!

Behind him, a lasso wraps around his middle, restraining him.

HENDRICKS (CONT'D)
Hey!

REVEAL at the other end of the lasso: LUCKY. Lucky throws the other end of the rope around Spirit's neck.

LUCKY
Go!

Spirit takes off dragging Hendricks out of the water and he face plants into the sand. The herd cheers. Brave One (the foal) happily prances around and sits on Hendricks as Abigail hog-ties him.

HENDRICKS

Let-let me go!

ABIGAIL

Good job, little guy.

AL

(re: the boat)

Pru, give me a hand.

JIM

Lucky--

LUCKY

I know. I broke the rules. Your one rule. I'm sorry.

JIM

No, no, no, Lucky. I'm sorry. I should've known how far you'd go to save Spirit. Your mom would've done the same thing. I am so proud of you.

Jim stares in wonder at his daughter.

JIM (CONT'D)

Now go finish what you started. You're also a Prescott and Prescotts never give up.

She hugs her father full of emotion.

LUCKY

Thanks, dad.

Cora tears up as watches from the shore. From the water, Handlebar (W2, Wrangler Strong A) and Walrus (W3, Wrangler Big A) struggle out of the water to shore. Horseshoe (W1, Wrangler Thin A) is under Al's arm. Al drags him out.

Cora SMACKS Walrus (W3, Wrangler Big A) with an oar as he crawls out of the water. She does the same to Handlebar (W2, Wrangler Strong A), wack-a-mole style.

AL

Nice rowing, Cora. Woo!

Cora hits another Wrangler.

AL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
You got quite an arm.

Jim helps Lucky get up onto Spirit's back.

JIM
(to Spirit)
You take good care of her.

Spirit gives a little shake of his head in acknowledgement.

Pru and Abigail ride up behind Lucky. Jim, Al and Cora wave the girls off. Hendricks is now propped on Jim's horse, hog-tied -- defeated.

JIM (CONT'D)
(To Hendricks)
Kids these days. They grow up so fast.

Jim pinches Hendricks' cheek. Hendricks groans.

CORA
Be careful out there.

AL
Be back for dinner tomorrow. And no ridiculously dangerous shortcuts.

ABIGAIL
(sotto)
Can't make any promises.

AL (O.S.)
I heard that!

ON LUCKY:

LUCKY
Let's ride!

The girls CHEER.

Lucky and Spirit take the lead. Spirit rears up, calling to the herd. They all whinney back and follow after.

LUCKY (CONT'D)
Yeah! Yah!

PRU
C'mon Chicka! Let's go! Yes!

ABIGAIL
We did it!

The PALs LAUGH and CHEER in celebration as they gallop off on their horses.

SEQ. 2600 - SETTING SPIRIT FREE

EXT. WOODED PARADISE - CONTINUOUS

Lucky rides, feeling utterly free, the wind at her back, and at her side, Pru and Abigail ride, their exuberance beyond words, their bond set for life. They gallop on their horses toward the WOODED PARADISE AHEAD.

The girls CHEER and celebrate their success and the herd's freedom. Abigail narrowly ducks under a branch.

ABIGAIL
(laughing)
Woah! I almost died!

PRU
Eyes on the road, Abigail.

Our three girls lead the herd through flora and fauna, no other human as far as the eye can see, the LUSH BEAUTY of the raw land something each of our riders appreciate in her own way.

Through the path, they jump over a fallen tree. No obstacle big or small can stop them after all they've been through. Even the foal scampers over the log, his mother close behind.

EXT. PARADISE OVERLOOK - A LITTLE LATER

Perched over an expanse of forest that leads to the VAST WILDERNESS beyond, the girls take stock of their surroundings.

ABIGAIL
Wow, look at this place!

PRU
This is it. Nothing but wilderness
for miles!

Lucky absorbs that, overwhelmed, by both the stunning vista and what 'this is it' means. A quiet beat, then --

Lucky guides Spirit forward, just the two of them.

LUCKY

Well, Spirit. I guess it's time for me to go.

Spirit gives a little shake of his head as if sensing what's coming. *He doesn't want her to go.* Lucky looks back at the herd.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Your herd needs you.

She slides off his back, the end of the road. She takes a deep breath, fighting tears. She slowly turns and walks back toward Abigail and Pru.

CLOSE ON LUCKY, the SOUND of hooves clip-clopping behind her, a nudge to her back, horse-speak for: *don't go.*

Lucky turns around, looking into Spirit's eyes. Spirit prances around, encouraging her for more adventures together. Lucky's face falls, hating to disappoint her new best friend. He neighs as he nudges her face.

LUCKY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry boy, but I, I can't go with you... my herd needs me too.

Spirit seems to understand. He steps forward into her, and Lucky throws her arms around him to give him one last hug. Spirit takes a step back, and Lucky lets go of him. Spirit looks from Lucky to the wilderness before him.

Lucky suddenly feels something touch her leg. She looks down. The foal has nuzzled up against her. Lucky smiles, bending down, eye-to-eye, whispering to her little foal friend --

LUCKY (CONT'D)

Stay fearless, Brave One.

Spirit watches, then rears back, letting out an ALPHA NEIGH that pulls everyone's attention to him, a call to his herd as he turns toward the open wilderness and begins to run...

The mama horse circles around the PALs and gives Lucky one last nudge, as if to say *thank you*, before running off with her family.

ABIGAIL

Bye, Mama. Take care of the little one.

Lucky, Pru, and Abigail watch this powerful embodiment of unbridled freedom as Spirit's herd runs past him, a stampede of hooves. Spirit stops for a moment, giving one last look to Lucky, before running off into the wild.

They watch the herd go, mission accomplished.

WIDE ON THE HERD as they run over the rolling hills.

Lucky sniffs and draws in a breath, on the verge of tears.

SEQ. 2700 - THE DRESS

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - WEEKS LATER - JUST BEFORE SUNSET

The leaves on the trees are turning gold and orange, as summer nears its end. Lucky sits on the window ledge looking at her PALs bracelet...

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LUCKY'S BEDROOM - SAME

Cora walks by in the background. They are packing to leave.

CORA (O.S.)

I told you the summer would be over
before you knew it.

Cora's bright demeanor momentarily cracks slightly but she keeps up her chipper face for her niece.

CORA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

We'll come to visit more now. At
the holidays. And next summer.

Lucky heads inside and packs the strawberry toy into her suitcase.

Cora tries to come up with reasons to be cheerful:

CORA (CONT'D)

And there's still the big festival
tonight. Your father's probably
wondering what's taking us so
long...

Lucky nods. Cora is just as disappointed as Lucky. She doesn't want to play this old role anymore or go back to the way things were either. But Cora plasters on a happy face for her niece's sake as she holds up two dresses (They're the city dresses we saw Lucky wear earlier in the movie).

CORA (CONT'D)
Now which one of these says
'Miradero Festival?'

Lucky shrugs. Cora looks at both dresses. *Neither are right.*

LUCKY
Uh...

CORA
Hmm... I see your point.

Through the doorway, a light breeze rustles Milagro's red dress. Cora and Lucky both turn towards the red dress hanging in the closet.

SEQ. 2800 - THE FESTIVAL

EXT. MIRADERO - FALL FESTIVAL - JUST BEFORE SUNSET

The festival is alive with KIDS eating ICE CREAM, jugglers, and a band playing MUSIC (as in our opening)...

Snips and Senor Carrots sell ice cream near the entrance of the festival.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)
Welcome to the Miradero festival!

SNIPS
Ice cream, get your ice cream, one penny! (Senor Carrots runs off eating the ice cream) Hey! You're eating all the inventory. Hey! Senor Carrots!

Lucky's dressed in Milagro's favorite dress. She and Cora enter the Festival looking for Jim. Lucky spots him.

LUCKY
Dad, over here!

SNIPS (O.S.)
You owe me a penny!

Jim turns from one of the booths. He is stunned for a moment, seeing her for the first time in this dress, as she walks towards him.

Jim takes in the moment. Lucky twirls in her dress.

In the b.g. Snips and Senor Carrots run between the booths.

SNIPS (CONT'D)

We can't make any profit if there's no ice cream! Wait for me! I can't run that fast!

JIM

(re: Milagro's dress)
Your mother's dress. It suits you.

CORA

I had to take it in a little bit.

A hand O.S. grabs Cora's.

FLIRTATIOUS COWBOY

Ah, may I offer you a hand there, senorita?

She looks over to see the FLIRTATIOUS COWBOY from earlier! Cora blushes. She gasps as he takes her hand and twirls her.

CORA

(laughing)
Oh, I never!

FLIRTATIOUS COWBOY

Care to make an exception?

CORA

Well...

They laugh and the cowboy dips her! She's loving it.

INT. MIRADERO - FALL FESTIVAL TENT - JUST BEFORE SUNSET

Jim and Lucky chuckle as Cora is whisked away and the two walk into the festival taking in all the sights and sounds. TOWNSPEOPLE dance as the BAND plays a traditional Mexican song from the stage.

JIM

This was your mother's favorite place.

LUCKY

What was she like?

JIM

Well, she was crazy about strawberries, just like you. Uh- and, she was a wild soul, and the bravest person that I ever met... until you.

(MORE)

JIM (CONT'D)

(exhale-laugh) Well, th-there's no way I can tell you everything about your mom before you go home. Unless, I mean, you stay?

We stay on Jim, his confidence crumbling the longer he looks at Lucky until, finally --

LUCKY

I am home.

Jim and Lucky embrace. They laugh as Jim spins her around the dance floor, both elated and happy.

JIM

Yes, you are!

Al and his two left feet dance over with Pru...

PRU

Aw dad, you're doing great.

AL

I think my horse is a better dancer.

PRU

It's step, step, clap.

AL

Step... step... clap.

SNIPS (O.S.)

Dance lessons, one penny!

PRU (O.S.)

Yeah, not bad for an old man.

They keep dancing past.

Lucky suddenly hears a familiar voice from the stage behind her.

JIM (O.S.)

Uh, excuse me! Hey everybody! Everybody! Uh, I have an important announcement about my daughter!

Lucky reacts -- she's embarrassed.

LUCKY

(sotto, awkward laugh)
What're you doing?

JIM
She's staying!

The crowd cheers! Lucky can't help but chuckle at her dad.

JIM (CONT'D)
This song's for you, Lucky. Your
mother sang it much sweeter than I
ever could, but welcome home.

Jim's heart swells -- this is his moment. His veneer cracks and he sings "Fearless," the Milagro Song. He starts out timidly, his voice small, but then, Jim FINALLY lets go. His voice is just awful but all his bottled up love for his daughter -- all the things he doesn't know how to say -- burst out through the song.

JIM (CONT'D)
/ Listen to the wind roar / See the
mighty eagle soar /

The crowd audibly cringes. Lucky watches in amazement.

We move through the crowd, finding all of our characters:

Abigail stands with Snips on her shoulders and Senor Carrots nearby.

SNIPS
Whoa. Mister Lucky's dad is a
really bad singer. Take me closer.

ABIGAIL
Okay. Last stop.

Abigail rolls her eyes and walks towards the stage.

JIM (O.S.)
/ Feel the sun on your face / Trust
that you will find your way /

Al looks at Jim, the only one seeming to enjoy this performance.

AL
We should start a band.

PRU
Nope.

Jim's confidence builds and he hits his stride, his voice really not bad after all.

JIM
/ Be strong, be brave / Let courage
lead the way / Stand tall and know
who you are /

The Flirtacious Cowboy dips Cora into frame next to Lucky.

CORA
If you're staying, then so am I.

Suddenly the ground shakes as Valentina and her riders circle the crowd, the horses stamping their feet along with the song.

JIM
/ Wild heart, wild soul / Roam free
to the unknown /

VALENTINA
Brava, Fortuna!

JIM
/ and know that you have everything
you need /

Jim finishes his song and Lucky smiles.

The riders a circle the crowd. In unison, the riders pull themselves up onto their horses' backs and assume the same pose Milagro does in the zoetrope.

LUCKY (O.S.)
Wow.

JIM
/ to be fearless /

Lucky looks around in awe. Her two best friends Abigail and Pru CHEER as they run to the center of the floor to join her.

PRU
Hey, Prescott! You're staying in
Miradero?

LUCKY
PALs forever!

PRU / ABIGAIL
(laughing)
Yeah! Yes!

JIM O.S.
(spoken)
-- Come on, guys! --

ABIGAIL

Then you're gonna need a horse!

JIM O.S.

(Finishing song)

/ Fearless.

The PALs dance, laugh, and jump in celebration, a knowing look on Lucky's face, as we MATCH CUT from Lucky's smiling face and her flowing hair to --

SEQ. 3000 - SPIRIT & HIS HERD RUN FREE

EXT. WOODED PARADISE - SIMULTANEOUS

MATCH CUT to Spirit running, his mane flowing in the wind. As he crests a hill, the HERD emerges behind him. They are running free, heading towards Horse Rock in the distance.

THE END