

SCENE 2

Outside the Princess Cafe. What seems like a chorus of bugs chirping 'tik-tik' can be heard through the POURING RAIN.

Farrah smokes, huddled in a small dry spot under a tree.

She approaches the BUSH OF GARDENIAS at the side of the *nipa* hut. The bush is thick, sprawling up onto the roof.

FARRAH

You're some loud ass crickets, aren't you?

She pokes through the blossoms.

FARRAH (cont'd)

Where are you, you little suckers?

The *tik-tik* noises soften.

She scrambles back to her dry spot. She's about to take a drag of her cigarette - it's wet. She flicks it away.

START -----

She's about to head back into the Cafe when the MOON snags her attention. She digs in her pocket, fishes out her camera. She snaps a picture, reviews it.

Leelee sneaks on. The RAIN HALTS. She watches as Farrah snaps more pictures.

LEELEE

You like to take pictures?

FARRAH

Fuck!

LEELEE

(laughing)

Don't be frightened.

FARRAH

I'm not. I was just--

LEELEE

You like the moon?

FARRAH
Yeah, I-- it's really bright.

LEELEE
(giggling)
The rain, it stop.

Farrah stares up at the sky.

FARRAH
Thank God.

LEELEE
You think God stop the rain?

FARRAH
Uh, I guess.

LEELEE
God stop the rain so you can smoke.

Leelee laughs in delight.

FARRAH
How old are you?

LEELEE
Nineteen years. Why do you ask?

FARRAH
You seem young.

LEELEE
You look younger than you are.

FARRAH
I'm old.

LEELEE
But you are looking young.

Farrah smiles, smokes.

FARRAH
You guys got a lot of crickets.

LEELEE
What is that?

FARRAH
Crickets? They're bugs?

LEELEE
Bugs?

FARRAH
Bugs. Insects. Making those noises. The chirping?

LEELEE
Aha. You think those noises are from insects?

FARRAH
Yeah. (beat) Right?

LEELEE
You have much to learn, Manang Farrah. Come look at the moon.

FARRAH
I see it.

LEELEE
Over here, it is different.

Leelee pulls Farrah over to her.

LEELEE (cont'd)
Look above.

FARRAH
It's very orange.

LEELEE
Yes, like Fanta.

FARRAH
You're right, it's totally Fanta. A little more neon though.

LEELEE
This is the strongest the moon becomes.

FARRAH
Strongest how?

LEELEE
This is the night and the hour with the strongest glow for us. Shortly after midnight. This is when we can see the entire town in the moon. The people and their houses.

FARRAH
(laughing)
You see people in the moon?

LEELEE
I am not making a joke.

END -----Farrah heads back towards the Cafe.