



Illustration by Jennifer Stolzer

Segment 7: Twimfina in San Francisco

(Late afternoon; receptionist is doing paperwork at the registration desk of a youth hostel in San Francisco; off to the side a dozen or more college-age travelers are sitting on sofas and doing some vocal harmonizing in a cozy corner; a police officer enters with Twimfina)

POLICE OFFICER

Hi Peggy.

RECEPTIONIST

Hi Burt. Got another releasee?

POLICE OFFICER

No, just giving a hitch-hiker a safe place to unwind after a high-speed chase on 101. She got picked-up by some guy we've been looking for. When we tried to stop him, he started driving like he was at the Indianapolis Speedway.

RECEPTIONIST

(to Twimfina)

Wow! Sounds like you had a little excitement today!

TWIMFINA

(chuckles)

Just like in that Steve McQueen movie!

POLICE OFFICER

Take care of her, Peggy – she's had a rough welcome to San Francisco. I've got to get back to the station. Good luck to you, Miss. I hope the rest of your trip is safe and peaceful.

TWIMFINA

(calling out to Police Officer as he exits)

Thanks again for your help – and for bringing me to this enlightened place.

RECEPTIONIST

(chuckling)

I don't know about the "enlightened" part, but you're free to stick around as long as you need to. There's a choral group practicing back there. If you decide to spend the night, let me know and I'll find you an empty bed upstairs in the dorm.

(Twimfina thanks her and walks over to the choir)

TWIMFINA

(after listening to them harmonize for a while)

Hi! My name's Twimfina. Do you mind if I join you?



Score on page 127

CHOIR

(various welcoming responses)

TWIMFINA

I just love the sounds of your voices! Where do you all come from?

CHOIR

(one by one, as individuals)

India (man) / Thailand (man) / Kenya (man) / Korea (woman) / Iran (woman) / Benin (man) / Japan (man) / Russia (man) / Egypt (woman) / China (woman)

TWIMFINA

Languages are so beautiful!

ANY CHOIR MEMBER

If Twimfina likes different languages, we should sing her the "Peace Machine".

(others happily agree)

CHOIR

(singing)

ONE WORLD, ONE SONG
AND WE HAVE COME TO SING ALONG
ONE JOY, ONE PAIN
SO, NO MATTER HOW LONG, AND NO MATTER WHAT GOES WRONG
WE WILL STAY AND SING (AND SING) THIS SONG



Score on page 128

1. SHANTI, SANTIPOP, AMANI
2. PYONG-HWA, PYONG-HWA, PYONG-HWA, SU-LA
3. FI-FA, FI-FA, FI-FA, HAY-WA
- 4A. WAY HUH-PING ER NOO LEE, ER NOO LEE
- 4B. WE'VE GOTTA WORK-WORK-WORK, WORK FOR PEACE
5. MIR, MIR, MIR
6. SA-LAAM

CHOIR (CONT'D)

ONE WORLD, ONE SONG
 AND WE HAVE COME TO SING ALONG
 ONE JOY, ONE PAIN
 SO, NO MATTER HOW LONG, AND NO MATTER WHAT GOES WRONG
 WE WILL STAY AND SING (AND SING) THIS SONG

TWIMFINA

Thank you! I loved that song!
(raising an imaginary glass)
 Here's to the bilinguals - the heroes of the world!

CHOIR

(all laugh, raise imaginary glasses and cheer for themselves good-naturedly)

ANY CHOIR MEMBER

Are you bilingual too, Twimfina?

TWIMFINA

I'm pretty good at Enemian - I learned it when I was real young.

ANY CHOIR MEMBER

(with a chuckle)
 Enemian? Wow – I guess you won't be having much of a chance to use *that* language!

TWIMFINA

(mysteriously)
 Oh, won't I?

CHOIR

(stunned)
 You're going to Enemia?!

TWIMFINA

(holding finger to her lips, then whispering)

Shh!... Going to Enemia is supposed to be “illegal” (uses air quotes) - whatever that means. So please don't ask too many questions. But I do need help getting down to the Port of San Francisco. I'm supposed to meet somebody there around midnight.

(Lights fade to black; stage is black except for spotlight on Twimfina as she stands alone in darkness on the water's edge in the Port of San Francisco; sounds of waves and ship horns)

TWIMFINA

(singing)

STRANGER IN THE OCEAN VERY FAR AWAY FROM SHORE
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN VERY EASY TO IGNORE
 STANDING SAFE ON SOLID LAND, DO I DARE TO LEND MY HAND?
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN YOU ARE TESTING WHO I AM.



Score on page 138

WHO AM I? AND WHY ARE THESE WAVES... SO HIGH?
 SOMEONE CRIES. BEYOND THESE WAVES... HE CRIES
 BEYOND MY HOME IS SOMEONE UNKNOWN WHO CRIES
 SHOULD I CARE? SHOULD I TRY? WHO AM I?

STRANGER IN THE OCEAN VERY FAR AWAY FROM SHORE
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN I CAN FEEL YOU MORE AND MORE
 IS IT REASON OR EMOTION THAT I STEP INTO THE OCEAN?
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN YOU ARE TESTING WHO I AM.

WITH ONE TOE, I TOUCH THE WAVES... AND I KNOW
 WITH ONE TOE, THE CRASHING WAVES... LAY LOW
 MY FOOT, MY LEG, MY BODY SLIPS WARMLY BELOW
 PAST THE WAVES, PAST MY FEAR, WITH ONE TOE

STRANGER IN THE OCEAN VERY FAR AWAY FROM SHORE
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN I AM SWIMMING THROUGH THE DOOR
 THROUGH THIS DEEP, DEEP, DEEP UNKNOWN,
 I WILL SOMEDAY FIND MY HOME
 STRANGER IN THE OCEAN I WILL SHOW YOU WHO I AM!

END OF SEGMENT 7



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