

# **SECRET AGENT S**

## **SERENA SILVER**

Written by Sandra Mayer

EXT Street – afternoon – raining

See Derek walking along the footpath. He has his school backpack thrown over his shoulders he is soaked.

EXT Serena's house

Derek turns into Serena's driveway and walks down past the house to a large shed at the back.

He looks around to check that no-one is looking and pulls open a door that is hidden in the ground. We hear dulled music coming from the opening. He climbs down the steps closing the door above him.

INT Serena's lab

There are benches with chemicals, test tubes, books and various sorts of chemistry paraphernalia. Serena's backpack is tossed into one corner. There is a cat bed, bowl, hideaway cage and a well-worn scratching post in another. The door leading into the lab has a keypad next to it and there is a large screen on one wall.

Loud music is playing.

Serena is in her lab coat and goggles and with an eye drop is putting three drops of blue liquid into a beaker half filled with yellow fluid.

Watching her from his bed is her cat Mr No Name.

**Serena**

Cross your paws for me, this should be  
the last ingredient.

Serena stirs the liquid until wispy smoke floats out and the liquid turns a pale green.

Serena

There we go, all done.

Serena pushes her hair out of her eyes and goes over to her cat and picks him up.

Serena

Isn't your mummy clever, the invisibility formula's all done.

**Mr No Name**

Purrs

Mr No Name snuggles against Serena's neck and she rubs her face into his fur.

Serena and the cat turn towards the door as they hear Derek curse from the other side.

**Derek**

Shoot!

Serena gently places Mr No Name on the bench.

Serena

Quick, you better run and hide, it sounds like Derek is in a bad mood and you know how you annoy him.

Mr No Name swishes his tail indignantly jumps to the floor and slowly makes his way to his hideaway cage near his bed.

The door beeps and opens to a soaking wet Derek. He squelches into the room and tosses his back pack next to Serena's.

Serena

(Laughing)  
I guess it's raining?

She reaches into a closet and throws a towel to him.

Derek

Humph

The towel falls short and as he goes to grab it slips in a puddle of water that has dripped from his clothes.  
He straightens and uses the towel to vigorously rub his hair until it stands up even more than normal and then tries to dry himself off.

Serena

Are you okay?

Derek

I'm fine, just soaked.  
Is that your new formula?

He drops the towel on the floor, stands on it then starts squeezing the water out of his clothing.

Serena

Yeah, I've just finished.

She writes on a label and places it on the beaker and then stoppers it.

Derek

Great, what's this one for?

Derek squelches over to the bench and climbs onto a stool peering closely at the beaker.

Serena

Invisibility, neat hey?

Serena walks around her lab starting to clean up and gingerly steps over the puddle on the floor.

Her wrist band flashes and they all turn to the wall TV.

Mr No Name comes out of his hideaway and jumps up on a bench and presses a button on a remote control with his paw.

The TV flickers to life showing a man in his late forties in a dull grey business suit. Behind him is the government coat of arms.

## Uncle Bruce

Good afternoon, Serena, Derek, Mr No Name.  
What is that infernal noise?

Serena moves to the stereo and turns down the volume.

Serena

Oops, sorry Uncle.

Uncle Bruce

That's better.  
How's the formula coming along?

Serena picks up the beaker and gives it a swirl.

Serena

(Smiling happily)  
It's all finished Uncle.

Uncle Bruce

How long should the invisibility last?

Serena

It should last 45 minutes.

Uncle Bruce

We've just had intelligence tell us that Dr  
Misery is on the move again and we need  
something new to try and catch him this time.

Serena

Not again, didn't he learn from his last theft that  
the government was keeping an eye out for him.

Uncle Bruce

Apparently not, it's seems as if he is just getting more brazen. There have been a few robberies from the local banks lately and even though security has been increased it doesn't have seem to have stopped.

Derek

Are we sure that he's behind those thefts?

Uncle Bruce

No we're not one hundred percent sure but they just smell like him.  
So we need that formula.  
Is it ready to be tested?

Serena looks around smirking at Derek and Mr No Name.

Serena

Well, we can test it now but I will need a volunteer?

Derek jumps off the stool and nearly slips in the puddle.

Derek

(Protesting)  
No way, don't look at me.  
I'm still getting over that pixie dust you made me try.  
My under-shorts are still sticking to me from that.

Uncle Bruce looks down at Mr No Name.

Uncle Bruce

Well then, it must be your turn.

Mr No Name

(At the screen)

Hisses and meows

Serena reaches over and plays with his ear.

Mr No Name turns his head with a sniff.

Serena

Oh come on, you know that I need your help.

Serena increases her scratching and Mr No Name closes his eyes in ecstasy when she concentrates on his favourite spot behind his ear.

Serena

Come on kitty cat?

Do it for me.

Mr No Name opens his eyes when the clang of a cat bowl is put in front of him with a teaspoon of pale green liquid inside.

He sniffs at the liquid and raises his eyes at the screen as if to say, you've got to be kidding.

Uncle Bruce

Come on, it won't kill you.

Mr No Name

Meows

Mr No Name starts to lap at the liquid.

Uncle Bruce

(Quietly)

I hope.

After the liquid is all gone Mr No Name sits on the bench and they all wait.

As they watch his tail disappears then his paws.

Derek

(Surprised)  
Hey look at that?

Hi body goes next then finally his head disappears all except for his black nose.

Uncle Bruce

Has he all gone?

Serena

Not quite.

Then Mr No Name's nose vanishes.  
Uncle Bruce glances at his watch.

Uncle Bruce

All right, give me a call when he becomes visible again.

The screen blanks out.

Derek

Wow, it really did work Serena.  
But how do you know where he is?

Serena

Well that's the beauty of it, you don't.

While Serena and Derek are talking the apple pie on Serena's plate that is sitting on the bench starts getting bite marks in it and then disappears. Serena is still tidying up the lab and Derek helps her.

Derek

So what's the new formula for?

Serena

Not sure, but Uncle Bruce wanted to see whether I could come up with a viable option. I tried it in an aerosol but that didn't work very well as I couldn't control the over-spray enough.

Derek's backpack starts to wiggle and shake and there is a lump in the bag moving around.

Derek runs over and tips out his backpack everything falls to the floor.

Derek

Get out of my lunchbox you rat!

Derek reaches around for the invisible cat but can't find him.

Mr No Name

Meows!

Derek's back pack contents scatter as the cat scuttles away.

Up on a shelf the bottles rattle while the cat waits for Derek to get closer.

The invisible cat jumps onto Derek's back, digging in his claws.

Derek is an uncoordinated sight as he throws himself around with his arms flailing trying to dislodge the cat from his back.

Derek

Ouch!

Your claws are digging in to me.

Get off you dumb cat.

Serena is bent over holding her side as she has a stitch from laughing so much.

Derek manages to grab the invisible cat and tosses him to the floor.

Derek

Gotcha!

Serena

(Laughing)

Well it seems that having an invisible cat can be good for something.

I always wanted to see you dance and you've never asked me.

But now that I've seen your moves you may need to hit the dance floor alone.

INT Abandoned Warehouse

Old car-parts and garbage are lying around an old warehouse. The room is lit up by a single bare bulb hanging from a cord from the ceiling. A dirty old table with old coffee mugs and beer bottles on it is in the centre of the room with a couple of hard wooden chairs stacked up beside it. Behind the table is a fairly new white board with a blueprint of the World Bank stuck crookedly to it. Around the blueprint are scribbled notes in scratchy almost illegible writing.

OS a door bangs open

OS footsteps leading toward the room

The door creaks as it opens and a man in a dark grey coat and a hat pulled low over his eyes walks in followed by another rough looking man.

The man in the coat goes straight to the whiteboard and pins up a picture of Serena.

### **Accomplice**

Is that the next job Dr Misery?

Dr Misery nods as he stabs a pin into Serena's forehead.

EXT Sydney South High School - afternoon

Students and teachers walking into and around the school.

INT High School Hallway

Serena and Kiama talking as they walk along to class we cannot hear them due to the loudness of the other students.

## INT Economics Class

Students are filing into the classroom Serena walks in with Kiama and dumps her books onto the table next to her.

Serena

Oh Kiama, I don't know if this day will ever  
end, Economics is the worst!  
Why isn't it fun like Chemistry?

Kiama turns up her nose and sticks out her tongue.

**Kiama**

Serena, you're the only one who likes  
Chemistry.  
I'd rather be in boring Economics.

Kiama turns and looks at a good looking boy who has just entered the room. Her eyes light up with mischief.

(Exaggerated Sigh)  
I'd rather be dancing at my party tomorrow  
night with Brian Banner.

Serena flushes; she knows that Kiama is only teasing her.

Serena

So, what time's the party?

Kiama

7:30, Mum's organized pizza and stuff for 8:30.  
(Sighs Heavily)

Kiama digs Serena in the ribs when she notices Serena stealing another look at Brian.

And I know that he's coming too.

The teacher, Mr Speak, raps his ruler against the old wooden desk.

**Mr Speak**

Okay class, let's start.

The moaning and groaning class shuffle to take their seats as Mr Speak rapped his ruler against the desk again.

**Mr Speak**

Quiet everyone, I have some exciting news for you all.

Serena looks at Kiama with an eye roll as if to say what could possibly be exciting about Economics.

Mr Speak starts to walk excitedly back and forth across the front of the classroom.

**Mr Speak**

Students, tomorrow we're visiting the World Bank down on Roland Street as an introduction to your module on world finances.

**Students**

Groan!

**Mr Speak**

Now class, don't be like that. It's going to be great, you're going to see exciting stuff....visit the bank's vaults and record rooms, talking to banking experts....

**Brian**

(Loudly)  
And be given samples of cash!

**Students**

Laugh!

Mr Speak

(Grins)

Well I don't think so but you never can tell with those banker types they may be in a generous mood.

I'll hand out permission slips at the end of class, but for now open your books to Chapter 4 and we'll look at how the different banks of each country exchange currency and how they store that currency.

Serena steals another look at Brian as he opens up his textbook.

EXT World Bank – morning

A school bus pulls up and the students pile out of the bus to the foot path. There are a lot of pedestrians walking along and the students are getting in their way.

Derek is shunted away by a man in a dark grey coat, his hat is pulled low and we cannot see his face. Derek apologizes and shrugs his shoulders at Serena when he gets no response from the man. The man pushes through the students and walks up the steps of the bank.

Derek

Sorry.

Mr Speak finally gets out of the bus and starts to herd the students up the steps to the bank's entrance.

Mr Speak

Come on everyone, you too Derek.  
Hurry up.

INT World Bank Narrow Hallway

The students are hemmed in together and Serena is being jostled by her fellow students. A bank employee is leading the students and Mr Speak is behind them trying to shuffle them along faster. The students are stuck between the two adults and they looked extremely bored. The corridor is

painted a drab cream and a series of locked doors lead off the it. Innocuous names were printed on the doors like Security Room 2, Janitor Room 1 etc. There were security cameras placed every few meters and every door had a complicated lock. Brian accidentally bumps into Serena as they are moved along.

Serena

Hey!

Serena doesn't realize that it was Brian until she looks up and sees him

Brian

Sorry.

Serena

(Blushes)

No, that's ok.

Derek casts Brian a dirty look.

The Bank Employee stops the students at a door that simply says Security Room 1.

**Bank Employee**

(Bored)

Okay students

This is the area that you'll want to visit, the secure caged area for our clients' security boxes.

Mr Speak squeaks with excitement but tries to cover it with a raspy cough.

Mr Speak

Squeaks then coughs.

Serena raises her eyebrows at Derek and rolls her eyes. Derek grins back.

The bank employee punches in a code, the heavy door swings open and a rush of cool air hits the students.

Students

Groan in relief.

INT Security Room 1

Serena shivers in the cold and she sees her fellow students wrap their arms around their bodies as they enter the room.

Bank Employee

Sorry about the air conditioning but to help with our security system it is better to maintain a certain temperature and no person would want to be in this cold place for long, so it reduces the security risk.

Security Room 1 is a large room that contains a barred metal cage that houses security boxes of all different shapes and sizes.

The bars are about 5cm thick and spaced about 10cm apart and they are embedded into the concrete floor. The lock on the cage door has a red laser light, a key pad and a hand print pad. There are three bank employees inside the cage rugged up in shapeless woollen jackets; two are wearing beanies with the bank's logo on them while one employee is wearing a hat pulled low over his face. They are checking box numbers against information on clipboards.

Serena

What are those employees doing?

Bank Employee

They are doing routine checks of the numbers of the clients boxes.

They do not have access to the boxes but the checks still have to be done.

Derek

Can you tell us some of the names of the clients?

Bank Employee

No, that is confidential but  
(Boasting)

I can say that there would probably be considerable wealth in these boxes as some are owned by the city's most influential people.

Now if you will all follow me we will continue our tour.

Serena noticed the hat wearing bank employee watching the students file out of the room. She stops suddenly and stares at the employee.

Serena

(To herself)  
Dr Misery?

INT Narrow Hallway

Serena and Derek are again hemmed in with the other students being jostled down the hallway. They are whispering to each other.

Serena

I thought I saw Dr Misery.

Derek

Are you sure?

I mean you thought that it was him last week in the supermarket but it turned out to be Professor Makim from school.

Serena

Well I'm not certain but I will tell Uncle Bruce when we get home.

Serena pushes a concealed button on her wristband.

INT Serena's lab

The door to the lab beeps then opens, Serena, Derek and Mr No Name walk into the lab.

Serena's wrist band flashes.

Serena

Alright, alright!

Mr No Name goes straight to the T.V remote and presses the on button and the wall screen flickers to life.

Again Uncle Bruce is on the screen this time, looking a bit peeved.

Uncle Bruce

Serena you sent a priority message, do you have anything to report?

Serena

Yeah, sorry we're late Uncle but the bus was running behind from our excursion. We believe that Dr Misery is working at the world bank....

Derek

Hold on, you believe it Serena but I don't 'cause I didn't see him and every time you've thought it was him it wasn't

Serena gives Derek a dirty look.

Serena

I saw him in Security Room 1 with other employees, he was wearing the bank's uniform and was conducting an audit on the security boxes.

Uncle Bruce

Well that is interesting, intelligence has informed us that Dr Misery is still in town and is planning another theft.

We have an informer who works in Dr Misery's organisation but is not close enough to know any of the details so with your information we can assume that the target is the World Bank.

So Derek, Serena was probably correct in thinking that it was Dr Misery.

Serena sticks out her tongue at Derek.

I will want you to go undercover tonight and stake out the World Bank and see if you can find out what's going on.

Serena

But Uncle we have Kiama's party to go to tonight.

I can't miss another one, Kiama will never forgive me.

Uncle Bruce

Too bad Serena, if the government needs you  
you'll just have to miss out on the party.  
Meet Agent Johnson at the south entrance of the  
bank at 6.00 just as the staff locks up for the  
night. He will get you in with the help of one of  
the bank's security guards.  
Take the invisibility formula with you it will  
help you get past the laser alarms.  
Scout around for half an hour and then report  
back to Johnson who will remain on watch  
outside the bank.

Serena

(Sighs)  
Okay

The T.V flickers out and Mr No Name meows at Serena.

Mr No Name

Meows

Serena picks him up and snuggles against his fur.

Serena

You're right Mr No Name.  
You could go in just as easily as us but  
not this time, okay.

Mr No Name

Meows.

Serena turns to Derek.

Serena

(Sighs heavily)  
I really didn't want to miss that party.

Derek

(Sullen/Jealous)

That's because Brian's going to be there isn't it.

Serena flushes.

Well I agree with your Uncle, catching Dr Misery is more important than a stupid party.

INT Abandoned Warehouse

The man in the dark grey coat is working on a piece of machinery that is sitting on the table. He picks up the item and places it on the warehouse floor. Picking up a remote control he turns it on and plays with the dials. The machine responds by moving along the floor until it stops on a roughly drawn chalk cross. The man puts down the remote and picks up a silver metal pole on a wooden base and places it next to the machine. Moving back to the table manipulates the dials until the machine makes a loud whirring noise. Brightly polished blades come out from it and spin towards the pole. As the blades hit the metal bright sparks jump off. The man turns a dial and the blades spin faster and with ear splitting noise they start cutting into the pole. After a couple of minutes the blades cut through the metal and the pole falls to the ground with a loud clang.

**Dr Misery**

(Grunts)

Good.

Behind Dr Misery high up on shelf we see the glint of cat's eyes and the shadow of Mr No Name as he slinks out of the warehouse window.

EXT World Bank – night time

The city streets are cold and blustery. Commuters walking along the street and Employees leaving the bank pull their jackets tighter around their bodies and turn their collars up to ward off the chill. Off to one side of the Bank is an alleyway and a shadowy figure is seen lounging beside some old boxes and a dumpster.

A car pulls up and Serena and Derek get out. Serena is almost blown away with the wind. She grabs onto Derek's arm and together they survey the Bank. The Bank's lights are being turned off one floor at a time until the building was dark except for one floor.

Serena

Gosh it's cold.

Derek

Yeah.

Hey where were we supposed to meet...

Serena

Agent Johnson, down that side alley near the staff entry door.

Derek

Well let's go, its way too cold here.

Serena and Derek walk around the side of the building and Derek jumps slightly when Agent Johnson steps out from the shadows.

Derek

Hey!

You scared the bejeebers out of me.

**Agent Johnson**

Sorry.

Are you Serena and Derek?

Serena

Yes, and you must be Agent Johnson?

Agent Johnson

(Under his breath)

They're only kids.

(Louder)

Yes that's me, I'm glad to be able to work with you.

And this is Jones.

Agent Johnson indicates to a security guard who has just opened the staff entry door.

Derek

(Softly)

Sure you are.

Serena digs him in the ribs.

Serena

Thank you Agent Johnson.

Hi Mr Jones, thanks for helping us.

**Jones**

(Grunts)

Serena

We noticed that one whole floor of lights have been left on in the building. Do you know why?

Agent Johnson

Yes, Jones said that a couple of workers are staying back tonight to do some paperwork so only the regular day alarms will be turned on until they leave.

He expects them to be finished by seven.

Do you think that you will have enough

information by then?

Serena and Derek look at each other.

Serena

We expect so, Uncle Bruce just told us to do recon work, gather information then leave.

Agent Johnson

Okay then let's go.

He nods at the security guard and Jones lets them in through the staff entry door. The door clicks behind them and Serena notices that a red light appears on the alarm panel next to the door.

INT World Bank - hallway

Derek

Do you have somewhere where we can change?

Jones

(Grunts)

Jones leads them to the staff amenities and a large changing room.

INT World Bank – staff changing room

Serena

Excellent.

Derek can you please get the vial from the backpack?

Both Serena and Derek shed their heavy coats and outerwear gear just leaving them in black jeans, sandals and long sleeve shirts. Derek reaches into the backpack and pulls out two vials with swirling green liquid inside.

Serena

Great, thanks.

Agent Johnson

What's that?

Serena

(Giggles)

It's a surprise.

Derek

Let's check the time. I don't want to be in a tight spot when it runs out.

They all look down at their watches and check them against the clock on the wall. Jones adjusts his timepiece.

Serena and Derek nod to each other and unstopper a vial each.

Swiftly they drink down most of the formula and with the last few drops they sprinkled it on their shoes, clothes and the backpack. After the vials were completely empty Serena returns the vials to the backpack.

Serena

(Licks her lips)

I might try strawberry flavour next time.

Agent Johnson

Oh my goodness!

They all look at the teenagers' feet. They had disappeared. As we watch their legs disappear next then their hips and torso.

Derek

Hey, my stomach feels a bit strange.

Serena

Mmm, so does mine.

Then their arms disappear until lastly grinning like decapitated clowns their heads disappear.

Serena

See you in half an hour Agent Johnson.

Agent Johnson and Jones just stand there open mouthed as the door opens and shuts seemingly by itself.

INT World Bank – hallway

The hallways are gloomy and filled with shadows as only the security lights are on.

OS the mechanical hum of computers and the occasional hiss of the air conditioning.

Spooky shadows play across the walls and door frames.

Serena

(Whispering)

I don't think that the workers are on this level we had better go upstairs to see if they are in those offices that still have their lights on.

We see a door marked 'Stairwell' open and close.

OS footsteps ascending the stairs.

We then see a door marked level 3 open and close.

INT World Bank – offices

We see cameras scanning along the hallway.

OS we hear voices coming from one of the offices

**Goon 1**

Have you finished the download yet?

**Goon 2**

Hold on, hold on, it won't take up much more of your precious time.

Goon 1

Did you remember to install the block that Bob Miser gave us to hide what we are downloading?

Goon 2

Yes, now stop jittering, everything will be alright it's a foolproof plan.

OS we hear the stairwell door open and close

Goon 1

What's that?

Goon 2

Nothing, just your imagination, come over here and help me with this.

INT Stairwell

Serena

Derek?

Derek

Yeah.

Serena

(Sighs)

I wasn't sure that you were with me.  
How about we get some pictures of those two for evidence and then look around some more. I think that there's more going on here than it seems.

OS the sound of a zip being undone and rustling of items being moved around inside the backpack.  
A small digital camera seems to come from nowhere and appears to float.

Again we see the stairwell door open and close but we also see the camera bouncing along the corridor. At the office door the camera seems to fall to the ground but hovers just above floor level. The door creaks open, it stops for a second or two then creeps open more. The camera moves up higher then disappears around the door frame until with a couple of clicks it reappears.

The stair well door opens and closes again  
OS footsteps moving down the stairs  
The footsteps stop as a faint whining sound penetrates the stairwell.

Derek

Serena, do you think that noise is coming from the security cage where the safe deposit boxes are kept?

Serena

Sounds like it.  
I wonder what's happening down there.

OS running footsteps as Serena and Derek descend the steps. With the grinding sound becoming louder at each stairwell turn.  
We hear laboured breathing at the door of Security Room 1.

Derek

What are we going to do now?

Serena

I came prepared just in case I needed to see areas I cannot access.

OS Zip of backpack being undone and rustling of an item being removed.  
A small mirror on a telescopic rod emerges.

Serena

I brought a mirror to help us.

The door opens up a fraction and we see the rod and mirror curve around the open door. Reflected in the mirror's glass are crisscrossed tracks in the fine dust that is on the floor.

Serena

(Gasps)

Quick take a look.

The rod and mirror move like they have been handed over to someone else.

Again they are curved around the door frame.

At first we cannot see anything in the mirror and but it is angled at the floor a remote controlled machine crosses its view and stops at one of the metal bars that surround the security boxes. We watch as the grinding noise increases and the sharp blades make contact with the pole and sparks fly off the contact.

The mirror jiggles a bit and then is put onto the floor.

Derek

What do we do from here?

Serena

Maybe we can scare whoever is controlling that machine and stop what they are doing so nothing gets taken. But one of us will have to find Agent Johnson and get the police.

Derek

Serena, you know that we are not to put ourselves at risk, we are only meant to gather information not catch criminals.

Serena

We can't let whoever is in there get away with whatever is in those security boxes and don't forget they're hacking the computer system upstairs as well.

Come on let's be quick.

You go back upstairs and check on the guys in the office then find Agent Johnson and tell him what's going on so he can call the police.

I'll stay here and keep an eye on the person with the remote control.

Derek

I don't think so. I am here to keep you safe not to go running off.

Serena

Listen, you'll be in more danger than me if you run into those guys. They could be finished by now.

Derek

(Sighs)

Okay, but don't take any chances.

OS Derek's footsteps running up the staircase

OS we hear the backpack being dropped onto the ground.

A bottle of soft drink, a small packet of bicarbonate of soda a piece of string and a small hand held siren appear.

As we watch, the packet bicarbonate of soda is put in the bottle, the plastic encasing the powder starts to bubble slightly as the soft drink slowly melts it. A piece of string is tied around the bottle's neck.

The bottle and siren seem to float as a still invisible Serena carries them into the room.

The machine has already cut through two bars and is slowly making progress on the third.

We see the shadowy figure of Dr Misery manipulating the remote control.

The bottle and siren remain hidden behind a cabinet as we look around it from Serena's point of view.

OS Serena sneezes from the dust particles

Serena

(Sneezes)

Dr Misery cuts the motor on the machine and the room is silent. He looks around trying to see the source of the sneeze.

Serena holds her breath.

Dr Misery shakes his head and starts the machine back up.

OS Serena takes a deep breath and shakes the bottle mixing the powder with the soft drink and throws it towards him.

The bottle lands then explodes with a loud bang and sticky soft drink covers Dr Misery.

She then winds up the siren and its piercing noise reverberates through the concrete room.

Dr Misery drops the remote and swears.

Dr Misery

Damn!

He turns and runs away leaving all of his equipment behind.

Serena

Dr Misery!

From Serena's point of view we follow him as he runs up a set of stairs and then up and down corridors until he reaches a door.

OS Serena's running footsteps.

Serena cannot keep up and Dr Misery is far ahead and as he reaches the door presses a button on a small remote that he has pulled from his pocket. A small explosion sounds from the lock on the door. Dr Misery pulls open the door and escapes into the night.

INT World Bank

Agent Johnson and Jones are leading the two criminals in handcuffs out of the building to a waiting police car.

As Serena and Derek are talking they start to reappear, feet first then legs, torso and arms.

Serena

Derek?

Derek

Oh, there you are Serena.

How did you go with the man in the vault?

Serena

It was definitely Dr Misery, but I couldn't stop him and he got away.

But at least we stopped him stealing from those security boxes.

Serena and Derek's bodies have appeared without their heads.

Agent Johnson

(Gasps)

Jones

What on Earth?

Serena and Derek's grinning heads appear.

Serena

Even though we stopped him this time I bet that he'll be back.

They turn as they hear a motorbike start up in the distance and take off with a squeal of tires.

We see a shadowy Dr Misery riding the motorbike through the quiet city streets.

INT Serena's lab – night

Uncle Bruce's image is up on the screen.

Uncle Bruce

Thanks for your help in stopping the theft at the World Bank. Dr Misery did get away but we charged his two accomplices with information theft.

Once they realised that they were going to get booked they started squealing about Dr Misery and his organisation so hopefully it won't be long before he is behind bars.

Serena

Did they give any information on what he is up to next?

Uncle Bruce

Yes they did, something about kidnapping the Prime Minister. But we couldn't get any details except that it was to happen very soon.

Serena turns to Derek.

Serena

Hey it's only 8 o'clock we can still make Kiama's party; I feel like dancing.

Serena picks up Mr No Name and starts waltzing with him around the lab.

Derek

(Nods)

I reckon that we deserve a treat after capturing those crims. I'll meet you back here in half an hour.

INT Kiama's house

The party is in full swing and Kiama's mother is just serving up the pizza.

Kiama

Oh Serena, Derek there you are I thought you weren't going to make it.

Serena

Yeah, sorry we're late.

Derek helps himself to a piece of pizza and shoves most of it into his mouth.

Serena

Thanks for inviting us.

Kiama

That's okay.

Kiama nods towards the middle of the room where Brian is dancing slowly with one of their classmates.

Guess who's over there?

Serena looks.

Serena

He doesn't look like he has enough energy in  
him to match me tonight. So.....

She grabs Derek by the hand and drags him away from the pizza and onto  
the dance floor. Derek quickly shoves the last bite into his mouth.

(Laughing)

I reckon this bloke could keep up with me.

As they dance we see Mr No Name looking in through the glass window  
he is watching Serena and Derek. As we focus in on him his collar starts  
to flash.

He turns away from the window and with a trick of light his shape seems  
to change elongating into a mythical creature accentuated by the light and  
shadows.

Serena sees the flash from his collar and watches as he seems to change  
shape.

Serena

(Whispers to herself)

That gives me an idea.

INT Abandoned Warehouse - night

Dr Misery slams in through the door and stomps his way over to the  
whiteboard. He tears off the blueprint of the World Bank and crumples it  
up and throws it into the corner of the room. He then grabs Serena's  
picture and pulls it until the pin tears through the photo. He steps back  
and flips the whiteboard over to show scrawled writing and a photo of the  
Prime Minister holding her cat.

He pulls one of the pins from the board and viciously pins Serena's in the  
centre.

Dr Misery

You won't beat me next time  
Serena Silver.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT Serena's lab – afternoon

The lab is filled up with bubbling beakers; some of them are filled with clear nondescript liquids, others half filled with bright coloured fluids or gel like substances. A smoking glass sits in the middle of the bench with iridescent swirling rainbow liquid.

A notepad covered in scrawling hard to read formulas lies on the bench next to the glass.

OS loud music is playing

On the wall is a hand drawn police identikit picture of Dr Misery. Beside the picture is a collection of stick-on moustaches, beards, cut out hats and other various things that can be used for disguise. At the moment the picture of Dr Misery has been decorated by a small pink feather boa pinned around his neck and large pink clown lips.

A flash of black scoots past, we can barely make it out but it bumps into a stool and the stool tips precariously then falls over.

OS Serena's voice

Serena

Rats!

OS a clatter of cats claws trying to gain purchase on the slippery floor then a thump.

The other stool rocks as a cat jumps onto its seat.

The cat is Serena.

Serena

Finally made it!

Jeez being a cat is something to get used to.

Serena jumps from the chair onto the bench and goes over to the glass and sniffs its contents. Then she moves over to the notepad and looks down at the formulas.

She jumps off the bench startled when the laboratory door bangs open. Derek stumbles in carrying a shrieking, meowing, wriggling and very upset Mr No Name.

Mr No Name

Hissing, Meowing

Derek

Come on Mr No Name you cranky cat,  
there's no reason why you have to dig your  
claws into me.  
You wait until I see Serena and tell her how you  
behaved at the cat salon.  
Tell you what, that's the last time I'm taking  
you. What a waste and you were the  
absolute devil for the whole time that we were  
there.

Derek dumps him onto the ground and Mr No Name hisses at him then  
jumps onto the bench and goes to investigate the glass of rainbow liquid.

Mr No Name

Hisses

Derek throws his backpack into a corner and tries brushing cat hair off his  
clothes.

Derek

I don't know how she puts up with you, secret  
agent or not, you're a pain!

Derek rubs a spot on his hand where Mr No Name had scratched him.  
Derek looks around the lab expecting to see Serena

Derek

Serena, Serena?

He looks down to see the Serena cat weaving in and out between his legs.  
Derek reaches down and strokes the cat. The cat preens at his attention  
and snuggles against his hand.

Derek

Well hello, who are you?

Derek picks up the cat and she snuggles into his neck.

Derek

Mr No Name, do you know who this is?

Mr No Name squints at the other cat, his tail flicking back and forth.

Mr No Name

Hisses

Derek

Guess not.

You're a little beauty, are you going to tell me your name?

The cat looks up at Derek and flutters her long lashes at him.

Serena

It's me Derek, Serena.

Derek shocked by Serena's voice coming out of a cat throws her at Mr No Name.

Mr No Name scrambles away from the flying cat.

Derek

What on Earth?

The Serena cat rolls on the bench, the human laugh coming out of her cat mouth is weird.

Mr No Name unimpressed with Serena's undignified way of behaving turns his back on her then jumps off the bench and goes over to his scratching pole and starts padding it with his claws.

Serena cat looks surprised then quickly jumps off from the bench onto the floor.

Serena

I can feel myself changing back.

As they watched, her tail disappears then her ears and then with a puff of smoke Serena is sitting on the floor in her human form.

Derek

Gee that's a neat trick.

Serena's wristband flashes and they all turn to the large T.V.  
Mr No Name leaves his scratching pole and presses a button on the remote.

Uncle Bruce's regular grey suit is crushed; he has a well developed five o'clock shadow and looks like he hasn't slept in days.

Uncle Bruce

Good Morning Serena, Derek, Mr No Name,  
we have word about Dr Misery's latest  
movements.  
He has been seen at *La Belle Pet Palace*.

Derek

What!  
Mr No Name and I have just come from there.

Serena

I take Mr No Name once a month to get his  
nails trimmed and a shampoo done at that salon.  
I've never seen Dr Misery there.

Uncle Bruce

Mr No Name, what about you,  
have you ever seen Dr Misery at the salon?

Mr No Name shook his head and then looked down to admire his newly trimmed and painted nails.

Serena

Why would Dr Misery be so interested  
in a pet grooming salon?

Uncle Bruce

We are not sure, but we'll check it out.  
By the way how's the shape changer formula  
coming along?

Serena

(Laughing)  
Great!  
The cat formula is ready and I have already  
tested it.  
It allows me to stay as a cat for 90 minutes.  
But when it runs out you change back fast.

EXT Abandoned Warehouse - night

Two Goons are trying a load a large whiteboard into the back of a small  
van.

**Goon 3**

Why do we have to move now for  
do ya know?

**Goon 4**

Don't know, but that's what the boss says.

Goon 3

Don't make no sense to me.

Goon 4

Well it don't have to does it,  
just get this in and we'll go.

## Goon 3 and 4

### Groan

They shove the board into the back on an angle scraping its side.  
They walk to the front of the van and get in.  
As the van takes off we see Mr No Name sneaking around the corner of the building and he watches as the van leaves.

### INT High School Gym – afternoon

Serena and other students are up on stage practicing dance moves.  
Mrs Queenie the dancing coach is directing the students.  
There are stage hands moving equipment around on the stage and behind the wings.  
A student is practicing the piano in front of the stage his tune clashing with the beat of the music the dancers are trying to follow.  
Derek sits with some mates in the audience they are making fun of Mrs Queenie by exaggerating her moves.  
Serena is in the back row of dancers. She is very awkward in her movements and is half a step behind the others.  
She stops to take a breath and looks at Derek and his friends having fun.

### Mrs Queenie

Come on Miss Silver stop daydreaming  
and get with the steps.

### Serena

(Sighs)

She tries to follow the student in front of her but stumbles again when Brian Banner walks onto the stage.

### Kiama

(Teasingly)  
Hey Serena, Brian looks cute today  
doesn't he?

Serena moves her arms the completely opposite way of the rest to the chorus.

She gulps and tries to keep up with the others but totally misses a step when Brian starts singing scales as a warm up.

Kiama

(Laughs at her)

Mrs Queenie

Miss Silver!

Serena pulls her eyes away from Brian to find Miss Queenie standing right in front of her stamping her foot in time to the music.

Serena

Yes Miss?

Mrs Queenie

Concentrate!

Serena

(Gulps)  
Yes Miss.

The music finishes and the dancers give a sigh of relief.

Dancers

(Sigh)

Serena, Kiama and a couple of others drop down on to the floor. Serena exhausted lays down flat on her back.

Serena

Thank goodness that's over.

Mrs Queenie

Okay, well done.  
Chorus dismissed.  
Be back on Thursday for next practice and  
Miss Silver...

Serena raises her head up from the floor and looks at the dance coach.

I suggest that you do more practice at home and  
try to keep your mind on the steps and  
not on...

Mrs Queenie nods at Brian

...other things.

Serena blushes in embarrassment.  
She pulls herself up off the floor and makes her way down the front steps  
to the back of the auditorium to where Derek meets her.  
They step outside just as the bell sounds for the end of the school day.

Derek

Hey Serena, not bad moves up there.

Serena

Yeah sure, I was terrible as I'm sure you heard.  
I just haven't had enough time to practice with  
all the work that Uncle Bruce has given me.

She adjusts her back pack on her shoulders.

Hopefully I will be able to get some practice in  
the next few days as the Eisteddfod is next  
week and I don't want to let them down.

Derek

Well don't bet on it. Don't forget that your Uncle is gathering intelligence on Dr Misery and *La Belle Pet Palace's* clients, we could be called in at any time.

Serena

(Sighs)

Yeah I know.

They start walking down the street towards Serena's house when there is a rustling in the bushes beside them.

They stop as the rustling becomes louder and then there is an unholy howl.

A dog runs out of the bush straight in front of them yelping and whining it takes off down the road with its tail between its legs.

Derek

What on earth!

Serena

I know what's going on?

Come on you, out you come.

Mr No Name nonchalantly saunters out of the bushes with a pleased look on his face. He jumps into Serena's arms.

Serena

Well I can see that you are having fun chasing poor innocent dogs.

Why are you out here to greet us?

Mr No Name Meows puts his paw onto Serena's wristband.

Serena taps at her wristband and holds it up to her ear.

Serena

I must have a message from Uncle Bruce.  
Maybe my wristband is broken...well  
I hope its good news.

They hurry down the road to the lab.

INT Serena's lab – afternoon

Uncle Bruce

Intelligence has informed us that there are  
some pretty special clients that visit that salon.  
One of them is the Prime Ministers cat  
Penelope.  
We expect that Dr Misery may be planning a  
kidnapping.

Serena

(Smiling)  
Don't you mean a catnapping.

Derek looks at Serena in disgust at her joke.

Uncle Bruce

(Dryly)  
No, kidnapping.

Derek

Do we know when the Prime Minister will  
bring in her cat?

Uncle Bruce

No unfortunately, we can only guess as the Prime Minister takes her cat everywhere she goes, so we can only pin-point the times she visits Sydney on some engagement. The Prime Minister doesn't need an appointment for her cat, she can just go in at any time.

Derek

Does the Prime Minister take her cat in herself or does someone else take it in for its beauty treatments?

Uncle Bruce

Mainly it's one of her bodyguards who drops it off and picks it up. But it is known that the Prime Minister does take it herself every so often. So that is why intelligence thinks that it is the cat that will be kidnapped not the Prime Minister herself.

Serena mouths silently to Derek

Serena

(Silently)  
Catnapped.

Uncle Bruce

Now Serena and Mr No Name we know that the Prime Minister is in town tonight and tomorrow so you will both have to go in under cover and be at the salon to see if Dr Misery is there.

Now, as he knows who you are Serena you will have to use your new formula and pose as a cat in your visits.

Derek, I will have you take both cats in and then wait in the coffee shop across the road for Serena's signal. You will inform me by phone if Dr Misery arrives or is already in the salon so I can send in uniformed officers to arrest him.

Serena

But Uncle Bruce I have to practice my dancing for the Eisteddfod.

Uncle Bruce

You will have to practice after the mission Serena, it's important that we try to stop Dr Misery and catch him this time.

Serena

(Sighs)

I understand but I hope that Mrs Queenie does as well.

INT Run-down office

Dr Misery is standing next to the whiteboard.

Goon 3 is sitting on an old chair in front of a desk that has three computer monitors on top.

One of these monitors shows a scrolling news channel that stops on any news that involves the Prime Minister. (It is continually stopping) The goon has to press the space bar to find the next report.

One monitors shown an airport timetable and the other what appears to be the Prime Ministers daily itinerary.

Goon 3

The plane arrives at 10.40 tonight.

Dr Misery

(Grunts)

He writes up that detail on the whiteboard.

Goon 3

Her itinerary says that she's staying two nights but it doesn't say which hotel.

Dr Misery

(Grunts again)

Goon 3

Do you want me to keep searching?

Dr Misery nods.

INT Serena's lab – early morning

Serena

Come on Mr No Name, I have to get you dirty again so that we have an excuse to take you back to the salon.

We have to have a legitimate reason to be back there so soon.

With a spatula Serena stirs some thick oozing mud inside a bowl. She picks up the spatula and they all watch as the mud slowly slides off of it.

You are not going to be the only one, you know. When I change into my cat self I will have Derek spread mud on me too.

Serena crosses her fingers behind her back. Derek sees her and grins. Mr No Name wasn't having any part of it and starts to weave in and out of the beakers and test tubes on the bench.

Serena catches Derek's eye and they spilt up circling around the cat. Mr No Name doesn't know which way to turn and just as both Serena and Derek lunge at him he bumps into a beaker filed with bright blue sticky gel.

The beaker tips over onto his head and the gel runs down his face then onto his chest and front feet.

Serena

(Laughs)

Well that beats trying to get this mud on you. Don't worry that's just a control formula, nothing dangerous, you are not going to change into a human or anything.

Mr No Name shakes his head and some of the blue gel flies off and lands on Derek's tee-shirt.

Derek swipes at the blue mess.

Derek

Great, just great.

Come on let's get you to the salon.

EXT Alleyway beside pet salon

Derek carrying Mr No Name is standing beside a dumpster that Serena is hiding behind.

Serena

Okay, let's check the time so that I know when I'm going to change back.

They check their watches.

Derek

10.05?

Serena

Yep, that's what I've got.

Derek

What method are you going to use to get my attention at the coffee shop if you see Dr Misery?

Serena

There is an open vent next to the front window so either Mr No Name or I will come out and get you so that you can ring Uncle Bruce. By the way what are you going to call me when I'm a cat, don't call me Serena it's too obvious?

Derek

(Ponders for a moment)  
I'll call you Suzette after my grandmother's cat.  
She was an old tabby that liked to get into mischief.

Derek checks the time on his watch.

Alright let's get started.

Serena takes her formula out of Derek's backpack and opens up the stopper. The liquid swirls around like it has a life of its own.

Serena

Remember Mr No Name 90 minutes only so we will have to leave the salon in 80 minutes so no mucking about and misbehaving this time.  
I know that you don't like being washed but you'll have to put up with it for the mission.

Mr No Name

Meows.

Serena

Okay here goes.

Serena drinks the formula then quickly sits on the ground.  
First she grows a tail and then some ears. Then with a puff of smoke  
Serena disappears and a cat appears in her place.  
Derek reaches down and picks her up and while supporting a cat on each  
arm walks around to the front of the salon and enters.

INT Pet Salon

**Collette**

Mr No Name what are you doing back here  
already and what on earth do you have all over  
your face?

Mr No Name rubs his head all over Derek's shirt smearing blue gel over  
the front of it. Derek hands Mr No Name over to Collette the salon  
owner.

Collette

And who is this?  
Oh my goodness it's the Prime Minister's cat.  
What are you doing with her?  
You naughty cat you are not supposed to be in  
until tomorrow.

Derek

No, no this is my grandmother's cat Suzette.  
Does the Prime Minister's cat look like her?

Collette

Oh yes, a spitting image of her, and a girl cat too.

Well, well, who would guess that there are two cats that look exactly the same?

Derek places Serena down onto the counter.

Derek

(Offhandedly)

So you're expecting the Prime Minister's cat tomorrow?

Collette

Yes, we normally don't know when she will be brought in for one of our special treatments but we just had a phone call to expect Penelope sometime before lunch tomorrow.

Collette strokes Serena's fur.

Now how can I help you today?

Derek

Do you have space available for two cat washes right now?

Collette looks down at her appointment book.

Collette

Unfortunately no, we only have room for one but I can book the other cat in for tomorrow morning if that suits?

Derek

Great since Mr No Name is the dirtiest I'll get him done now and bring Suzette back in the morning.

Collette

Okay, I will have him ready in a hour.

Derek

Thanks.  
Come on Suzette let's go.

Mr No Name

(In protest)  
Meows

INT Pet Salon – Morning next day

The salon is overflowing with clients.  
The cat cages were filled with all different sizes and types of cats and the pampering tables are all occupied as well.

Derek is at the counter with a transformed Serena when the door bell tinkles and a brawny man who is gingerly carrying a cat comes in.

Collette leaves Derek at the front counter and takes Penelope from the man's arms.

Collette

Welcome, welcome, come in I see you have brought Penelope.

**Bodyguard**

Yes, I will be back to pick her up in an hour.

Collette

Yes, yes no problem.  
She will be ready when you return.  
Come on Penelope my lovely your turn to  
be pampered.

Collette turns away and passes Penelope to one of her workers.  
Derek looks shocked, Penelope and Serena are identical and the only  
difference he could see that Penelope is wearing a diamante collar.

Derek

Collette, you were right Suzette and Penelope  
look exactly the same.  
How are you going to tell them apart after their  
collars are removed?

Collette reaches down into a draw underneath the desk and takes out a  
plastic tag similar to one like patients wear at hospital.

Collette

Like this.

She writes Suzette onto the tag and gently clips around Serena's hind leg.

I will attach this to Suzette's leg so that we  
will know which cat is which.

Derek

Great idea.

Collette picks up Serena and hands her to an assistant.  
Derek leaves the salon and walks over to the coffee shop across the road.

EXT Coffee Shop

A waitress is placing Derek's coffee in front of him, when a black car  
with heavily tinted windows pulls into the alleyway.

**Waitress**

Your coffee sir.

Derek

Thanks.

Derek forgets about his coffee as the driver's side door opens and a bodyguard gets out. He glances left and right looking up and down the road. He has a quick look into the salon front window. He glances around again and his eyes meet Derek's. Derek pretends not to notice and takes a sip of coffee. The man hesitates for a second before opening up the passenger side back door. Derek looks up in time to see a man in a white coat just like the workers in the salon exit from the car opens a door at the side of the building and disappears inside.

Derek

Dr Misery?

Derek leaves his coffee and walks up the street a little way out of sight of the driver in the car. He crosses the road and walks back down to peer into the salon window.

INT Pet Salon

Serena and Penelope are in cages next to each other waiting for their turns.  
OS the back door of the salon opens  
Serena turns her head and watches a man in a white coat enter the salon.

Serena

(Whispers)  
Is that Dr Misery?

The man heads straight for Collette and taps her on the shoulder. Collette turns with a dripping cat in her arms.

Collette

Ah Michael, thanks for coming in with such short notice. We can use the extra hand right now.

Dr Misery

No problems.

As Serena watches Dr Misery starts doing chores around the salon. But whenever he gets close to the cages he peers in at Serena and Penelope.

Serena makes sure that she keeps her leg with the leg band on hidden from his sight.

After a little while there is a commotion as one of the cats that is being washed gets shampoo in its eyes and jumps out of the bath hissing and scratching.

It starts to race around the salon dripping water on other cats that then start to hiss and meow in complaint.

Two other cats escape from their owners arms and start to have a fight.

Derek races inside to try and separate the fighting cats.

OS a clang of noise as the cat cages are unlocked.

Derek looks up at the noise but is knocked over by a rush of cats as they escape their cages and rush to get out of the front door.

Derek pulls himself up off the floor and races to the back of the salon.

The back door is open and when Derek looks back at the cages Penelope is still sitting in the back of her cage hissing but Serena is gone.

Derek races through the door to the alleyway but the black car has disappeared.

He runs back into the salon and locks Penelope back in her cage then he pulls out his mobile to ring Uncle Bruce.

EXT Street

Derek, talking in his mobile, runs down the road towards Serena's house.

INT Black Car

Serena is putting up a fight in the back seat of the black car.  
Dr Misery is trying to stuff her into a sack but she is scratching him trying to keep free.  
Serena's claws are ripping up upholstery of the car she is shedding hair everywhere.

Serena

Hissing, wailing and meowing!

Dr Misery

Come here you darned cat!

Serena

Hissing!

Dr Misery

Where is that gun?

He reaches down for a tranquilizer gun and pulls it free from a bag on the car floor.

Bodyguard

Do you want me to stop boss?

Dr Misery

No, no, just keep going.  
Where is that darned thing?  
Ah, here it is.

He turns the gun onto Serena she jumps trying to get out of the way but as he tries to grab her his finger gets caught in the leg tag and rips it off.  
He drops the gun into his lap and reads the name tag.  
Swearing he drops the tag and captures Serena.

Dr Misery

We've got the wrong cat?

Bodyguard

What boss?

Dr Misery starts lowering his window.

Dr Misery

The wrong damned cat...  
There were two the same and I grabbed  
the wrong one.

Body guard

So what now boss?

Dr Misery

Nothing.  
Get out you rangy mutt!

As Dr Misery flings Serena out of the car window she swipes out at him and her claws scratch a large bloody mark on his cheek.

Dr Misery

Ouch!

She lands awkwardly and slowly moves to the side of the road favouring one leg and watches as black car fades into the distance.  
When the car disappears she turns around and sticking to the footpath limps carefully home.

INT Serena's Lab

Derek and Mr No Name are talking to Uncle Bruce via the T.V monitor.

Derek

Yes, Serena has been kidnapped by Dr Misery.

Uncle Bruce

Do you have any idea where he could have gone?

Derek

No, I didn't see the car leave so I don't know which direction it went....

Uncle Bruce

And we haven't found his new hideout yet.

Behind Derek there is a hissing sound and the scratching of nails down Mr No Name's hidden cat access tube.

Serena slips out of the base with a plop lands onto Mr No Name's bed.

Serena

Meows.

Derek

Serena!

Mr No Name

Meows!

Just as Serena lands on Mr No Name's bed her tail disappears and then her ears and with a puff of smoke the cat is gone and Serena in her human form sits on the cat bed in its place.

Uncle Bruce

Ah, there you are thank goodness.  
What happened?

Mr No name jumps from the bench and snuggles against Serena and purrs.

Mr No Name

Purring.

Derek

Gee Serena you were lucky, if you had changed any sooner you could have been stuck in the tube.

Serena nuzzles her face into Mr No Name's fur.

Serena

Uncle, the Prime Minister's cat was the target but Dr Misery grabbed me instead. When he realized that I was not her cat he threw me out of the car window.

Serena pulls up her pant leg and her ankle is swollen and already turning purple. She rubs at it and Mr No Name seeing that she is hurt tries to pat it better with his paw.

Uncle Bruce

We have informed the police of the make of the car and its plates but most likely it was stolen. Thank goodness you're safe Serena, it wasn't my intention for you to replace Penelope and put yourself in harm's way.

Serena

(Grimacing)

Well at least we saved Penelope that's the most important thing.

But...

(Sighs)

Dr Misery has escaped again.

INT Campbell Town Council Concert Hall – evening

Posters line the halls entry promoting tonight's Eisteddfod.

The concert hall is packed with students, teachers and parents from local district schools.

The atmosphere is electric and when each school finishes their performance their respective audiences rise up from their seats and cheer. The lights dimmed

**Announcer**

And now for the last act for tonight,  
Ladies and Gentlemen let me introduce  
Sydney South High School presenting  
*Australian Classics.*

A bright light lights up the stage and a perfect male voice starts the song *Waltzing Matilda*. The chorus joins in with singing and dancing and the crowd goes wild.

In the audience Serena turns to Derek.

Serena

(Dramatic sigh)  
Doesn't Brian sing wonderfully?

Derek

(Begrudgingly)  
Yeah, he sings okay.  
Do you wish that your leg was better so you  
could be up there?

Serena

No, not really.  
I'm not much of a dancer, I think that Mrs  
Queenie was quietly pleased when I told her  
that I had hurt my leg and couldn't perform.  
I know that I hadn't done any practice and I  
didn't want to let the school down.  
So I'm glad to be in the audience rather than up  
there making mistakes.

The stage lights dropped and Brian spoke into the microphone.

Brian

May we all be upstanding for the national anthem.

Serena had to lean on Derek to stand up and as she wobbled he placed his arm around her to steady her.

Serena

(Smiles)  
Thanks.

She leant into him as Brian led the whole audience into a very passionate rendition of the national anthem.

Serena and Derek wait for the happy audience crowd to leave the auditorium. They then make their way to the foyer with Serena leaning heavily on Derek for support.

Serena

What a wonderful night.

Derek

Yes it was.

Derek gave Serena a cheeky look.

Serena

What?

He suddenly sweeps her up into his arms.  
Serena looks into his eyes.

Serena

It's just as nice being in your arms as a girl as it was when I was a cat.

She places her head onto his shoulder and he carries her to a waiting car.

INT Run-down office – night

Dr Misery slams into the office followed by his bodyguard. Goon 3 was still at the monitors but one of them is tuned into to the *Angry Birds* game. He quickly switches it over. There is an unopened newspaper on the desk.

Dr Misery

Get out, GET OUT!

The bodyguard and Goon 3 look at each other then quickly leave. Dr Misery starts to destroy the office, picking up things and throwing them at the white board. The coffee from a half filled cup splatters all over the picture of the Prime Minister and Serena. He picks up the newspaper and starts to tear the pages apart when an article captures his attention.

He takes the page to the table, we focus in on the article and picture. The picture is of *St John the Baptist* and the heading reads, Da Vinci visiting Melbourne.

He tears the article from the paper and moving over to the white board flips it over. He pins up the new article and stares at it thinking.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

CAPTION – 3 weeks later

EXT Melbourne Museum - night

Show the museum quiet and still in the darkness of the night. Shadows play across the building and the lights from the city are reflected in its windows.

A black car pulls up in a shadowy corner and a small figure dressed all in black gets out and makes her way down the side of the building.

The car turns around and parks hidden under a large tree.

The black figure starts to scale the side of the building.

INT Museum – night (Specialist’s Chamber)

A guard rounds the corner of the chamber and walks slowly past framed art works. He plays torchlight onto the canvasses and display cases dotted around the room. His light flicks past the objects into the corners of the chamber. His footsteps echo in the quiet room.

Focus on a rope slithering down a wall from an air conditioning vent.

As the guard rounds another corner and leaves the chamber a black figure slides down the rope and lands in a crouch on the floor.

The figure pulls back a sleeve to show a watch face glowing in the dark.

The time is checked and then the figure reaches up to a small LED lamp attached to a band around her head and flips the light on.

A pouch like belt is unravelled from the figure’s waist and placed on the floor are two aerosol cans and a pair of goggles.

With one last look around the chamber the thief stands up and slowly exhales.

The LED light plays across the display cases until it picks out the domed one in the centre of the room.

The small dome on a marble pedestal was lit from within. The dome looks fragile but the glass is thick, it is held down by heavy duty bolts and on a black cushion in its centre is a magnificent Argyle Pink Diamond.

The figure picks up the goggles off the floor and places them over her eyes then picks up the two aerosol cans.

The goggles pick up intricate laser beams that crisscross the dome and pedestal.

The figure slowly moves towards the glass case with an aerosol in each hand.

As she reaches the dome a fine mist is sprayed from one aerosol into the air around the dome. The red lasers disappear.

Putting down the empty can she reaches into her pocket and removes a small velvet bag.

After spraying the second aerosol directly at the glass dome, a section of the glass turns white then just vanishes.

Quickly the second aerosol is placed on the floor, velvet bag opened and carefully reaching into the small opening the thief removes the diamond and slips it into the bag and places it gently into a zippered pocket of her coat.

Stepping back the thief watches as the mist dissipates and the glass reforms so that the dome returns back to normal. Then the red lasers flick back on.

The thief repacks her pouch and reties it back around her waist, another check of her watch and the figure climbs back up the rope to the vent.

EXT Museum roof

The figure climbs out of the vent and glances around the roof as if spooked.

As the figure climbs down two bright cat eyes peer around from a statue of a lion poised on the corner of the roof.

The figure reaches the ground and runs to the waiting black car.

INT Black car

The figure slips into the back seat.

Uncle Bruce

Did you get it?

Serena takes off her balaclava and shakes her hair out. She unzips her pocket and places the velvet bag into his hand.

Serena

Yes, easy as.

They will have to believe you now that the museum's security is not up to scratch.

I mean if I can take an important item like the Argyle Pink Diamond it would be a piece of cake for Dr Misery to steal anything that he wishes from the collection of da Vinci paintings visiting the museum next month.

Serena reaches out to close the car door when a cat jumps straight onto her lap.

Serena

Oh, there you are Mr No Name.  
Where were you?

Mr No Name

Purrs.

Serena

Were you watching me you tricky cat?

Mr No Name rubs his head into her neck as the car starts and drives out of the parking lot.

Thanks for letting me try out my  
Evaporating Mists Uncle Bruce.

Uncle Bruce

That's ok. I knew that you wanted to try them out and I know that I could have got one of our other agents to do this job but I believe that it will make more of an impression to the museum staff as well as the Government Security Division that the theft was done by a teenager rather than an adult.

Uncle Bruce reaches out and gives Mr No Name a stroke.

I sent Mr No Name up to the roof as well to keep an eye out for you, if there was any trouble he would have been able to reach me faster than even a message on a walkie talkie, especially if you were unable to speak.

Serena

So that's where you were.  
I thought that someone was watching me but I couldn't see anyone.  
You are a sneaky cat.

As the car travels through the night Mr No Name curls up on Serena's lap and falls to sleep.

EXT Police station

Uncle Bruce opens up the front door of the station for Serena to enter.

INT Waiting room

Serena is sitting on one of the cold hard chairs in the Police station's waiting room. A number of officers and people pass by the room and suspiciously glance in at her. She clicks off the game that she's playing on her mobile phone and gets up to pace the floor rubbing her arms to ward off the chill of the room.

OS A door slams open

OS Uncle Bruce speaking very loudly

Uncle Bruce

Why can't you admit that your security procedures aren't up to scratch?  
If a 15 year old girl can enter your precious museum and remove a valuable object like the Argyle Pink Diamond, how easy do you think it would be for an adult to enter and steal one or more of the da Vinci paintings?

Serena peers around the corner of the doorway and looks down the hallway to see Uncle Bruce running his hand through his thinning hair.

**Police Detective**

Now Agent Silver, we have gone through that again and again.  
We are happy with our security arrangements for the da Vinci tour.  
We don't believe that we need to do anything more to keep the paintings safe. Thank you for your time but all has been taken care of.  
We will return the diamond to the museum and make sure the laser system is upgraded.  
Now if you don't mind I have another appointment scheduled.

Serena watches as the Police Detective escorts Uncle Bruce down the hall towards her. The detective goes back into his office and slams the door.

Uncle Bruce

(Angry)

Of all the most pig-headed, pride-driven,  
men he must be the worst.  
No matter what The Division said to him or  
what evidence I gave he will not move a  
muscle and lift the security of the da Vinci tour.

He runs his hand through his hair again

(Frustrated)

Let's go, there is nothing more we can do here.

Serena follows him through the station and back outside.

Uncle Bruce

Thanks for your efforts Serena but I will have to  
make my report and recommendations to the  
Division directly without involving the police to  
try and influence the Museum to increase  
security.

Serena pulls her jacket closer in the chilly breeze.

Serena

So what now Uncle Bruce?

Uncle Bruce

We'll go back to the hotel and collect our things  
and Mr No Name then catch a flight back to  
Sydney. Sorry this trip has been so short Serena  
but I will need to report this in person and try to  
come up with another plan.

Serena

(Disappointed)  
That's okay.

Serena grabs his arm.

Come on, there's a cab.

INT English Classroom

Serena enters the classroom and dumps her books on the table beside Derek. The class is a buzz with conversations while they are waiting for the teacher to arrive. She sits down and grabs one of his chips from an open packet on his desk.

Serena

What's going on?

Derek

The year 10 art class is going to Melbourne to see the da Vince Exhibition. I texted you last night about it, didn't you get my message?

Serena

No, I didn't check my phone last night, we caught a late flight back and I was so tired that I forgot to turn my phone back on after we got off the plane.

Serena waves at Kiama.

When did you find out?

Derek

Miss Davis announced it at the end of art class yesterday arvo. Shame that you missed that class for everyone was ecstatic as we had been studying da Vinci's paintings during that lesson and everyone was commenting on his work. I suppose that she had it all planned, for once she told us, we couldn't concentrate on the paintings anymore everyone just gabbed on about the trip. By the time that we got out of class the whole school knew and everyone that didn't do art wanted to join just so that they could come on the trip with us. You'll need to pick up an agenda and permission form today and get it in quick smart so you don't miss out.

Serena leans over and grabs the last chip out of the bag.

Serena

Did they say that we would be able to do any sightseeing while we are there?

Derek

Yeah, the agenda shows that we have plenty of free time during the day and night so that we can go and see whatever we want.

Derek snatches the chip out of her hand and pops it into his mouth just as the bell rings for the beginning of class.

INT Cafeteria - lunchtime

Serena and Derek walk into the room where Kiama calls out to them.

Kiama

Hey Serena, have you heard about the trip?

Serena slips her tray onto the table.

Serena

Yeah it's great, I can't wait to go.

Kiama

I can't wait either, my Grandad lives in Melbourne and when I emailed him last night he said that we were welcome to visit and 'cause he works at the museum he can take a few of us to the storage and restoration rooms so we can actually see what goes on.

Serena

Hey that's great. Can Derek and I go along? I've always wondered what happened behind those doors that say 'Staff Only'.

Kiama

Sure, Grandad said that with the da Vinci exhibition security would be tight but he would order passes that would get us into the back areas but he said that we must stay as a group.

Serena's wristband starts to vibrate and give off small flashes. She jumps up from the table and gives Derek a swift look.

Serena

Sorry guys, I'll be back in a minute there's someone I have to call.

After walking outside she pulls her mobile from her pocket.

Hi Uncle Bruce, it's me.

Uncle Bruce

Thanks for calling in so quickly Serena.  
The agency has heard about your art class trip to Melbourne and it has been decided that I will meet you there and we'll try to set a trap for Dr Misery and foil any intentions he may have to steal one of the paintings.

Serena

How did you know about the trip?

Uncle Bruce

We have our ways.  
Are you working on anything in your lab at the moment that could help us?

Serena

Yeah I have a couple of ideas in my head but I won't share them with you yet, not until I am certain that they will work. But I'll need more info on what item you suspect Dr Misery wants.

Uncle Bruce

We'll work on it. Just keep me informed of your progress.  
See you later.

Serena

Okay.

INT Serena's lab – Afternoon

A dark grey plume of smoke puffs out of a bubbling beaker perched on top of a Bunsen burner.

Serena

Hold your nose, or you're going to get a nasty surprise.

Mr No Name shrieks and jumps from the stool and dashes around the lab. Serena holds her nose with one hand and wafts the smoke away with the other.

Mr No Name was just about to go through his cat door when the lab door is opened and Derek walks in. The cat launches himself at the door and miscalculates and with his claws out lands on Derek's chest.

Derek

Arghh, get off you beast!

Derek throws the cat off his chest as he stumbles into the room. He trips over a cat toy that has been left on the floor. His assignment folder flies from his arms and lands with a thump on the floor breaking apart with papers going everywhere.

Derek

Damn cat!  
I just finished that assignment and now look at it.

He gets down on his hands and knees and starts to shuffle the papers together but they keep slipping around on the floor. Serena gets down to help him.

Serena

Goodness!

Derek

Phew, what on earth is that smell?

Serena

Oh, it's just one of my experiments that went wrong.

Derek

Is it one of the ones for your Uncle?

As a piece of assignment flutters out of his hands, Serena quickly nabs it and puts it in her pile. They get up to sort the papers out on Serena's bench.

Serena

No it's a different one. Those ones I finished on Wednesday they just need to be tested.

Derek

So how does your formula work this time?

Serena

Well....

She leaves the papers and goes over to a bench with blue and red aerosol cans stacked in a pile and beside them a small sheet of glass. She selects one blue and one red can. The cans rattle as she shakes them.

Serena

When I spray this aerosol onto a solid object like a painting it gets captured and then I reform it later in some other place.

Derek

So what's that piece of glass for?

Serena

Oh, that's what captures the image.

Serena brings the aerosols and the glass over.

Serena

Now watch this.

She grabs two pages of Derek's assignment and sprays the contents of the red can over the pages. She sweeps the mist from the pages to the glass. The pages start to disappear and slowly two fuzzy images appear on the glass sheet. As the aerosol runs out the assignment completely disappears from the bench.

Derek

(Panicking)

Arghh, it's gone, what am I going to do!  
I have to hand that in tomorrow morning and I  
accidentally deleted it from my computer.  
It took me two weeks to write that assignment.

Serena

Oh Derek, just look!

Serena points at the glass where the two sheets have reformed but in miniature.

Derek

Is that them?  
But they're so small, and how am I supposed to  
get them off there, take a photo and print it or  
something?

Serena shakes her head at him and selects the blue can and shakes it up then directs the spray onto the glass sweeping the mist from the glass to the bench top.

A foggy mist develops on the bench as the images on the glass disappear. Same as before as the aerosol runs out the images have gone from the glass sheet and have formed back on the bench in their original size.

Derek

That's all it takes just two aerosols, one to  
move it and one to reform the object?

Serena

It depends on the size. One aerosol can will do for these pieces of paper but if the object is larger it will need two or more cans to move it. So that's why I will need your help in Melbourne carrying extra aerosols and the glass sheet.

Derek

Can you use any glass or does it need to be special stuff?

Serena

It's got to be this one, it's specially treated. It also cannot be any smaller than this as I don't know as yet what painting Dr Misery is after and this is the smallest I could make and still have it work.

Reaching into the bench drawer Serena pulled out some bubble wrap. A small scrap fell out into the floor. When Mr No Name came to investigate his claws popped the bubbles.

Serena

So we can't break it or the picture will not reform.

Serena's wristband begins to vibrate and flash so Mr No Name leaves the bubble wrap and presses the button on the remote control which turns on the large monitor.

Uncle Bruce

Good evening Serena, Derek, Mr No Name how are the experiments coming along?

Serena

They're all done and we just tested them on  
Derek's assignment.  
So we're ready to go.

Uncle Bruce

Excellent.  
I have just got word that the Museum has  
refused to increase its security and we are  
powerless to go against their wishes and put  
agents in the building.  
We will have to place them outside and wait for  
Dr Misery to leave.  
But the agency has agreed to place you two into  
the museum to try to save the painting from  
being stolen, but you are not to put yourselves  
at risk and try to catch Dr Misery.

Serena

Do you have any idea which painting he wants?

Uncle Bruce

We believe that it will be the one called  
*St John the Baptist*.  
There have been lots of discreet enquiries about  
this painting lately in certain circles.  
So we believe that this one will be the target.

Derek

Don't worry, we'll be alright.

Uncle Bruce

Okay, you go next week.  
I'll be in touch when you arrive in Melbourne.

Mr No Name turns off the T.V monitor.

Derek

That's the one we studied last week.  
It's supposed to be one of the most valuable  
paintings in the world.

Serena

Yeah, and luckily it's not too large so if we  
have to we can preserve it on the glass.

Mr No Name goes back to popping bubbles.

Mr No Name

Meows.

EXT Sydney Airport - morning

Dozens of cabs are pulling up to drop off passengers. Bus drivers are unloading an assortment of bags blocking the already busy sidewalk. The school bus pulls up and the happy, excited students tumble out of the door into the teeming terminal.

INT Sydney Airport

The airport is very busy and there are long lines of people waiting to check in their baggage.

Serena yells into Derek's ear to try to be heard over the noise.

Serena

Gosh, this is even busier than the last time I was here.

**Miss Davis**

Come on, this way.

The students with their baggage join the queue. The line moves very slowly and the students start to get bored with the waiting.

Finally they reached the front of the line.  
Serena and Derek have just been processed when a figure in black catches Serena's eye.

Serena

Look Derek!  
Is that Dr Misery?

Serena dashes off into the crowd leaving everyone else behind to follow a man in a black coat with a hat that was pulled down low. She dashes through the crowd after the man but she keeps getting jostled and stopped by the crowd in the busy terminal. Not watching where she is going she trips over a couple's luggage.

Serena

Ugh!

**Elderly lady**

Watch out love; don't be in such a hurry.

Serena

Sorry!

Serena hurries down the terminal trying to find the man in black. Until right at the opposite end of the terminal she sees the man going into the men's room.

Serena

Rats!

**Announcing System**

This is the first boarding call for flight  
CN200 for Melbourne, please make your way  
to gate number three.

Serena

(Gasps)

Oh no.

She turns and runs back through the terminal.

She just reaches gate three when she is yanked to a stop by Derek.

Serena

Umph.

Derek

Where on earth have you been?

Serena

(Puffing)

I thought...I thought I saw Dr Misery.

So I chased after him... but I lost him.

Then I heard... the announcement for our flight... and I realised that I was... at the other end of the terminal.

Announcing System

Final boarding call for flight CN200 for

Melbourne, please make your way to gate three.

Serena digs into her pocket looking for her boarding pass.

Serena

(Panicking)

Oh no, my boarding pass it's gone!

She turns to run back down the terminal.

Derek

Serena stop, you didn't lose it down the terminal.  
You dropped it when you checked in your bag.  
Here!

He puts her pass into her hand.

Serena

(Sheepishly)  
Thanks.

EXT City Grill Room Restaurant - evening

Serena and Derek walking up to the restaurant door and going inside.

INT Restaurant

Uncle Bruce, Serena and Derek are sitting at a small corner table.

Uncle Bruce

I have the outline of the plans right here.

He lays a blueprint of the museum on the table.

We will be stationed at each entry and exit point of the museum and I will also have agents positioned at strategic points along the streets and near the underground.

Once you have concealed the painting, hide yourselves until I signal you on your wristband that it's safe to come out. Dr Misery may try for a different painting but we are pretty sure *St John the Baptist* is the one he wants.

Derek

Has the museum security been improved?

Uncle Bruce

(Shaking his head)

Not even the laser system that you infiltrated last time has been updated Serena.

It will be a cinch for you to get in and position yourselves and hopefully conceal the painting before Dr Misery steals it.

But under no circumstances are you to put yourselves in danger.

If Dr Misery gets the painting so be it, I don't want either of you to get hurt.

Serena

We'll be okay. Derek and I will take a good look around the museum tomorrow.

Kiama's grandfather has got passes so that we can go into the 'Staff Only' areas.

This will help us try to figure out the safest way to get to the painting and try to keep out of Dr Misery's way.

Maybe then he will make a mistake and you can catch him when he leaves the building.

A waitress comes up to the table with their dinner so Uncle Bruce puts away the blueprint.

Uncle Bruce

Thank you.

INT Hotel room

Dr Misery in a black coat and hat pulled low enters the hotel room. He has a small overnight bag in one hand and a garment bag in another.

He throws the overnight bag on the bed and hangs the garment bag on the cupboard door.

He unzips the bag revealing a museum guard uniform.

EXT Melbourne Museum – Morning

Kiama

Come on Serena, Derek, my Granddad's waiting.

Serena and Derek hop off the bus to see an elderly gentleman waving at them from the front steps.

**Mr Mac Donald**

Welcome everyone, please pin on these badges and follow me.

Just a couple of rules okay.

No eating, drinking or smoking in the museum and you must stay together as a group.

I am going to take you into the back rooms to see what goes on behind the scenes but as there are precious artworks being restored...

No touching.

Mr Mac Donald grins and leads the students into the foyer.

INT Museum Dinosaur Exhibit

Woolly Mammoth Exhibit

Derek

Wow, look at that beast?

He must have eaten a lot of plants to keep alive.

Mr Mac Donald

Did you know that another mammoth was found in Russia last week and there is still some flesh on the bones?

They say it had been frozen for 30 000 years before it was uncovered in the glacial melt.

Now everyone through here and we will visit the da Vinci exhibit.

The students pass through a wide door that leads into the art gallery.

INT da Vinci Exhibit

The students stand around mesmerized by the spectacular paintings.

Serena

Oh how wonderful they are, they look so much better than the photographs we studied in our books.

Mr Mac Donald

That's right, you cannot really appreciate the Masters until you have been close enough to touch.

But don't... 'cause if you do an alarm will go off as they are all wired to the alarm system and even a fly landing on them would set it off.

Serena

Why is the Melbourne Museum putting on this exhibition rather than the Melbourne Art Gallery?

Mr Mac Donald

It's a coup for the Museum to host this exhibition. It will prove to other exhibitors that the Museum is an alternative place to show their exhibits in the city of Melbourne.

The Art Gallery is fully booked for years to come and they just cannot fit in another show, but with the Museum now as an alternate venue where they can confidently display their art work or sculptures, this will bring more tourists to Melbourne and maybe the visitors will go to both venues.

Derek was looking at the ceiling while Mr Mac Donald was talking and he noticed some scaffolding partially hidden behind some drapes. The

scaffolding was tall enough to reach the ceiling and above it was an open vent that appeared to lead to the air conditioning system. He nudged Serena and nodded his head towards the corner of the room. Serena looked a bit puzzled at first but once she saw the scaffolding and the open vent she turned back to him and smiled.

Miss Davis

If we go over here students, this last piece of exceptional work by da Vinci is the portrayal of *St John the Baptist*. I think that this is the most outstanding piece of work in this exhibition. What do you all think?

Mr Mac Donald

I certainly agree.

Serena

(Quietly to herself)  
Wow!

Derek

(Whispers)  
Is that the one?

Serena

(Nods)

EXT Museum Car Park – night

Serena, Derek, Uncle Bruce and Mr No Name are waiting in a car in the car park. Uncle Bruce passes over a copy of the blueprints of the buildings air conditioning vents to Derek.

Uncle Bruce

Okay, here are the plans of the air conditioning duct work for the museum.

Serena

Have my formulas arrived yet?

Uncle Bruce

They will be here in about five minutes.  
We had to courier them down as they couldn't  
be flown in with all the airport security  
measures.

Derek

What about the special glass?

Uncle Bruce

I have it right here.  
It's protected by layers of bubble wrap so you  
can place it in your back pack.

Derek

Shouldn't we unwrap it now 'cause the  
bubble wrap could make too much noise  
when we are inside?

Serena

Yeah, good idea, just wrap it up in your jumper  
that should protect it enough unless the bag gets  
dropped.

A van pulls up beside them.

Uncle Bruce

Ah, here is the courier van now.

They all got out of the car. Mr No Name jumps onto the car's roof to see  
what's going on.

Serena and Derek load themselves up with aerosol tins, Serena six red tins and Derek six blue tins.

After placing headbands with LED lamps over their heads they waved goodbye to Uncle Bruce and walked around the building to the air conditioning vent. Another agent had removed the vent cover and he helped Derek then Serena inside.

#### INT Air Conditioning Vent

They wiggled into the tight vent and started making their way around the twists and turns. The only source of light was from their headbands. The vent and building creaked and groaned around them.

Derek

(Whispers)  
Are you okay?

Serena

(Frightened)  
No, not really but I suppose I'll get used to it.  
How far along do we have to crawl here?

Derek pulls out the blueprint from his front pocket and plays his light on it.

Derek

Just a few more metres and then we turn right.  
Luckily this air conditioning vent has ridges built into it or we would never have been able to climb up the next section.

Serena

Is that the last section?

Derek

Yes then we will be in the gallery ceiling.

OS a loud creak sounding like a section of metal giving way

Serena

(Gasp)

What on earth is that?

Derek

It's nothing, just the metal cooling down.

Serena

There was something I'm sure.

They both stopped moving and listened.

Derek

I think you're imagining things.

Serena

No, I'm not.

I'm sure I heard something.

Derek starts moving forwards again.

Derek

Come on, we've got to get going or Dr Misery may grab the painting while we are still in this pipe.

Serena unsure turns her head to shine her light back down the vent. Finally they make it to the vent in the ceiling above the gallery.

INT da Vinci Exhibit

The exhibit is only lit with security lights and the room was full of shadows and dark corners.

Derek looks out through the open vent and plays his light around the room. He slides down to land on the top of the scaffolding which tremors and squeaks lightly as he climbs on.

He turns and helps Serena.

They carefully make their way down the scaffolding to the floor but their combined shifting weights cause it to creak and groan which sounded very loud in the quiet room.

As they reach the bottom rung they hear footsteps approaching so they slither off and hide behind the drapes.

Serena clicks her headlamp off and does the same to Derek's.

Serena looks around the drape to watch the security guard but just as his torch light plays across the curtain Serena's lamp gets caught and the drape moves.

The guard jumps forward and pulls the drape back exposing Serena and Derek. He grabs them by the arms and pulls them out.

The guard whistles shrilly and other guards come running from outside the room.

### **Guard 1**

Well, well, what do we have here?

We were told to look out for unwanted visitors' and there is a bonus in it for me for finding you.

The guard pulls out his gun and waves them forward until they were standing directly under a light.

### **Guard 1**

Come on, get moving you two, I'm going to lock you up until the police get here.

When the other guards come into the room they escort the teenagers through the gallery until they were locked into an empty room.

### **Serena**

You don't understand, we are here to help you protect the paintings.

Guard 1

Yeah sure, a couple of teenagers, you're here to steal one aren't you...come on, as if you are here to protect anything.

The guard grabbed the blueprint out of Derek's hand.

Guard 1

And I'll take that as evidence.

Derek

(Shrugs)

You can have it but you'll be sorry not letting us go to do our jobs. The agency sent us in to help you protect the paintings and without us there...

Guard 1

As if we would need help from a couple of kids. Now you stay here until the police arrive and question you on why you're really here.

The guard slams the door and locks them in.

Derek

Oh no, what are we going to do now?

He goes to the door and kicks it.

Serena inspects the lock and looks around the room for a window or another way to escape.

Serena

I suppose that we will have to wait awhile until we are sure that there are no guards outside and then escape.

Derek

(Loudly)  
Escape, how?

Serena

Shush.

After a little while there is scratching sounds at the door and a meow.

Mr No Name

Meow.

Serena

Mr No Name is that you?

Mr No Name

Meows.

Serena opens up her backpack and removes a vial of yellow dust.

Derek

What's that?

Serena unstopper's the vial and blows some of the dust into the keyhole of the door.

Serena

Mr No Name said that the coast is clear and that we can get out. Luckily I brought some of this dust from home, it will help us escape.

As they watch the dust starts to solidify and fits itself around the barrel and turns itself into a makeshift key.  
Serena places the lid back on the vial and slips it back into the back pack. She reaches forward and turns the key in the lock.

Mr No Name jumps into her arms.

Serena

Thanks for helping us you clever cat.

She places him on the floor.

Can you lead us back to the gallery without us being seen?

Mr No Name

Meows.

The cat leads the teenagers a weaving path through the museum avoiding the patrolling guards.

Eventually they are back in front of the painting.

Serena

(Whispers)  
Thank goodness it's still here.  
Quick Derek, take out the glass and the cans.

Derek places the glass on the floor as close to the painting as he can, then he arms himself with the two red cans while Serena grabs another two.

Serena

One, two, three now!

They sprayed a fine mist onto the canvas as one can ran out they grabbed another.

Serena

Okay, that should be enough, now direct the spray towards the glass.

The painting had turned hazy and as they moved the spray towards the glass it starts to disappear from its frame and reappear on the glass.

Serena

It's working, keep going.

Derek

I'm just about out of spray.

Serena

Don't worry its working.

They all stared at the glass. The painting had completely materialized and it's frame on the wall completely bare.

Serena

There all done.

OS footsteps

Mr No Name

Meows.

Derek

(Gasps)  
Oh no.

Serena

Quick pick up the glass.

Mr No Name

Moans.

With the glass and the empty cans they move behind the drape.

OS guards heels tapping as they round the corner of the room.

Derek peeks out from behind the drape.

He looks shocked and turns back to let Serena have a look.

It's Dr Misery dressed up as a museum guard but instead of holding a torch he has a backpack, a large cloth and a rope.  
Dr Misery stops at the empty frame and with a curse yanks it down from the wall. The frame lands on the floor with a loud crash and an alarm goes off.

Dr Misery

Damn!

He turns away and starts to run down the darkened corridor.  
Mr No Name streaks out from behind the drape and crosses in front of Dr Misery's legs tripping him. He falls forward and bangs his head on a display cabinet knocking him out cold.

OS pounding of feet running along corridors.

Serena and Derek come out from the drape as the guards run around the corner.

Serena tries to walk over to Dr Misery but a guard catches her arm and drags her back. They don't see him on the floor.

Guard 1

Oh no you don't!

Serena

But you don't understand.

Guard 1

You're not going anywhere and how did you get out of that room?

Guard 2

(Gasps)

Sir, the painting, it's missing!

The security guard grabs both Serena and Derek and pulls them along the corridor.

Guard 1

That's it, both of you are under arrest.  
You're going to the curator's office this time  
and we are not going to let you out of our sight.

Serena

But what about him?

She points to the still figure on the floor.  
The guard finally notices Dr Misery lying still on the floor.

Guard 1

Frank, you look after him and bring him to  
the office when he wakes up.

Guard 2 nods and goes to Dr Misery.

Derek

But we didn't steal the painting.

Guard 1

No talking you.  
The police and the curator will be asking all of  
the questions.

He leads them out of the room.

Derek

But, but!

The guard pull out his walkie talkie.  
Mr No Name watches from the top of the scaffolding, he then turns and  
jumps into the air conditioning vent.

Guard 1

Yes, Sir, we are on our way now.

Can you please inform the police?  
Thank you Sir.

Alright let's go, we are going to Professor  
Smither's office the police are on their way.

The guard escorts Serena and Derek through the museum.

INT Curator's office.

Serena and Derek are alone but OS guards are talking outside the door.

Derek

What are we going to do now?

Serena

There's not much we can do, but  
did you see Mr No Name?

Derek

No.

Serena

Well I saw him heading up the scaffolding as  
we got led away so hopefully he will get Uncle  
Bruce and he can explain the whole thing to the  
police.

OS thumping and banging and Uncle Bruce and the guard talking

Uncle Bruce

Let me in, my agents are in there.

Guard 1

No Sir not until the police arrives.  
Ah, here they are now.

The door opens and Uncle Bruce, Professor Smithers, the guard and a police officer walk in.

Uncle Bruce

Serena, Derek are you alright?

Uncle Bruce gives Serena a hug. She is surprised.

Serena

Yes Uncle but Dr Misery was knocked out when he tried to escape.

Uncle Bruce

Yes, I know. We have him under guard in...

**Police Officer**

None of that now.  
Where is the painting, we know that you have taken it?

Derek

It's in the gallery we removed it from the frame...

Police Officer

So you admit to stealing it?

Serena

No we didn't steal it we were going to return it to it's frame once the agency had caught Dr Misery.

**Professor Smithers**

Is that true?

The curator looks at Uncle Bruce.

Uncle Bruce

Yes, come on now let's go back to the gallery  
and let them retrieve the painting.

Uncle Bruce opens the door and leads them out.

INT da Vinci exhibit

The empty frame lay flat on the ground where Dr Misery had thrown it. Dr Misery watched over by a couple of agents was sitting on a chair with a makeshift bandage around his head. He looked malevolently at Serena when she walked into the room.

Police Officer

So where is the painting?

Serena walks to the drape and pulls the sheet of glass out from behind it.

Serena

It's here.

Professor Smithers

It can't be?  
It's too small.

Serena

No look.

Serena put the glass on the floor next to the empty frame.  
Serena and Derek picked up the blue cans and started spraying the mist onto the glass.

Professor Smithers

What are you doing?  
You'll ruin it.

Derek

Watch.

They all watch as the painting disappeared from the glass and reappeared in the frame. Dr Misery's face shows disbelief then anger as the painting appears.

Uncle Bruce

Professor Smithers, will you please verify that the painting is authentic and has not been tampered with in any way.

The curator got out his magnifying glass and peered at the painting carefully.

Professor Smithers

(Relieved)  
It's genuine.

Uncle Bruce

Excellent.

Uncle Bruce turns to the police officer and the security guard.

Can you please take this man into custody he is wanted for a number of crimes in Sydney.

Police Officer

Yes Sir.

As Dr Misery is led away he turns back to Serena.

Dr Misery

One day Serena Silver I will get you.  
One day I will get you for all that you've done.

Serena

(Grins)

But not for a very long time...

Serena and Derek grinned at each other as he was led in handcuffs from the room.

EXT Tram Station

The students laughing and joking wait for a tram to take them to Luna Park.

Serena

I can't wait my first tram ride.  
Yippee.

Kiama

Here it is now, come on get on.

Kiama pushes Serena playfully towards the tram's open doors.  
She sits down next to Kiama taking in the sights of Melbourne.

Kiama

Look, there's the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Derek

And look there's Southbank.

They sit and watch the city roll past.

EXT Luna Park

Derek

Come on, let's go on this ride.

He grabs Serena's hand and drags her towards the Ghost train.

Serena

(Laughing)

Oh, ok just to make you happy.

They climbed into the carriage and as the ride starts to take off Derek turns to Serena.

Derek

Are you glad that Dr Misery has been caught?

Serena

Of course, what about you?

Derek

Sure, but what are we going to work on next?

They enter the darkest part of the ride where ghostly sounds echo around the room and scary robotic statues laugh hideously and try to kill the patrons with plastic machetes.

As a plastic grim reaper jumps out at the train Serena moves closer to Derek.

Serena

I'm sure we'll think of something.

She leans over and kisses him.

FADE OUT

CREDITS