

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE

*One year earlier – before the collapse.
The lanai of a ranch-style house in Kalaheo, Kaua'i. Patio furniture. High-top bar table and stools. Surfboards against the back wall.*

Downstage, a polished shortboard.

Christmas lights glow on the tiki bar. A neon sign: PAU HANA. Music, laughter, and the ocean's hush beneath it all. A fire pit flickers. Greenery frames the space. BLUE on uke, DANNY on drum.

BLUE

BUT WHAT WAS I TO DO?
I AIN'T GOT NO MONEY
AIN'T GOT NO FOOD
AND ALL MY SPACESHIPS
ARE OUT OF FUEL
AND I'M SO SAD
AND O SO CRUEL
AND THEY SAID

BLUE AND DANNY (CONT'D)

(chorus)
WE'RE FROM OUTER SPACE
AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW WE GOT HERE
TAKE US TO A PLACE WHERE WE BELONG
WE MISS OUR FAMILIES
SITTING ON A DISTANT PLANET
TAKE US HOME TO A PLACE WHERE WE BELONG

BLUE (CONT'D)

YEAH—
WHERE... WE BE-LONG.

Blue finishes with a riff on the uke.

Burnzie enters from the patio doors – fresh off the mainland. Linen sport coat, fedora, leather satchel. He takes in the scene.

BURNZIE

(applauding)

Bravo. O Danny Boy.
You always did know how to set a scene.

DANNY

Burnzie!
You're looking sharp.

BURNZIE

Life in the big city, brah.
Somebody's gotta represent civilization.

DANNY

The Big Apple?

BURNZIE

D.C., Danny.
The belly of the beast.

Blue jumps up and hugs him. Burnzie hesitates, then hugs him back.

BLUE

Uncle Burnzie! I'm Blue.

DANNY

Blue, this is Burnzie. Old friend.
Way back from journalism school.

BURNZIE

Back when your uncle still looked innocent.
Or at least knew how to fake it.

DANNY

Speak for yourself.

BLUE

Yeah, I know who you are.

BURNZIE

You do?

BLUE

You're in the book, Uncle.

BURNZIE

I am?

Burnzie reaches into his satchel and pulls out a weathered copy of Big Surf.

BURNZIE (CONT'D)

Brought the most coveted coffee table book in D.C.
Big Surf.
Thought I'd get the great man to sign it before he forgets
the little people.

BLUE

Not that book. The new one. *Surf Chronicles*.
You and Uncle Danny surfing around the world.

BURNZIE

Not familiar.

BLUE

Uncle says I wouldn't even be here if not for you.

BURNZIE

What's that?

BLUE

You remember my mom, Jazz?

BURNZIE

Jazz... sure.
Of course I remember Jazz.

BLUE

Jazzy says if you didn't chase her so hard back then,
her regular boyfriend might not have stepped up.
(grinning)

Then no me.

Burnzie laughs.

BLUE (CONT'D)

You coming down to Po'ipū Beach for the Big Luau?

DANNY

No can, Blue.
Burnzie and I get some catching up to do.
We'll watch from here.

BLUE

I'm debuting a couple new tunes tonight at the festival.

BURNZIE

Then break a leg, yeah?

BLUE

I'll bring back plates.
Uncle Burnzie, surf's going off tomorrow at Wreckies.

BURNZIE

Wish I could.
I'm on a tight clock. Gone tomorrow.

Blue hugs him again. This time he squeezes harder.

BLUE

See you tonight, Uncle. Aloha.

BURNZIE

Aloha.

Blue exits. Burnzie watches him go.

BURNZIE (CONT'D)

Handsome kid.

(smiling)

Guess I can take some credit for that, huh?

Burnzie strolls to the railing and looks out toward Po'ipū Bay. Soft drumming and festival sound float up from below. Danny joins him.

BURNZIE (CONT'D)

Big party, Danny.

Sorry you're missing it.

DANNY

No worries.

Whole island's been celebrating all month.

BURNZIE

A month-long festival?

At a time like this?

I've been whirling and swirling in D.C.

Hadn't heard a thing.

DANNY

Here.

Danny hands him a monocular.

Look.

DANNY (CONT'D)

There.

Just south of the Hyatt... whales breaching.

BURNZIE

(through monocular)

Beauties.

(quietly)

What a friggin' view.

That's Shipwrecks.

DANNY

I kept in touch with plenty people from the old days.

BURNZIE

You always did.

You were the journaler.

Me? I was chasing... scenery.

DANNY

Somebody had to keep the tribe together.

BURNZIE

So they came when you called.

DANNY

Enough of them.
Surfers, seekers, healers, lost souls.
Seemed like the right time for aloha.

BURNZIE

(smiling)

You brought the whole world to your doorstep.

LOKELANI (O.S.)

Yoohoo, boys!

BURNZIE

(grinning; low)

Oh, Danny...
I've got a surprise for you.

*Lokelani enters, leading Frankie by the hand.
Frankie is in white linen and silk. Sunglasses.
Burnzie hangs back, watching Danny.*

*Danny turns – then stops cold.
Silence.*

LOKELANI

I finally got to meet this elegant creature.
Danny, you left out a few details.

Frankie removes her sunglasses.

FRANKIE

Aloha, Danny...

It's been a while.

*Danny takes a step toward her, then stops.
No one moves.
The faint sound of the festival drifts up again.*

DANNY

Frankie?

FRANKIE

You look like you've seen a ghost.

DANNY

I thought—

DANNY (CONT'D)

— Wow.
You're really here.

*LIGHTS: Fade down on the lanai action (no blackout).
A SPECIAL isolates the MUSICIAN(S).
SLACK KEY GUITAR takes over and plays out the moment.*

END SCENE ONE.