

2052

PILOT

Written by

Aiko Hilkinge

Animation

aikohilkinge@gmail.com

TEASER

EXT. FUTURISTIC CITY - DAY

SUPER: 2052

A glistening futuristic technological city.

INT. FUTURISTIC CITY - CONTINUOUS

A bustling city center. Everything is clean cut, pretentious, as if Apple could design a new society.

Technology has taken over every menial task humans could possibly need.

Humans walk around, robots beside them. They have become overly dependent on their robot assistants and AIs for everything from walking, talking, shopping, etc.

A MAN FaceTimes with their FRIEND, the friend's face displayed on the robot's. A robot walks a dog, picks up its poop. Traffic is a bunch of self-driving square pods.

When suddenly, everything goes DARK.

Phones stop working, hologram tablets shut down, Wi-fi is disconnected.

Every robot in the vicinity turns on their human. They herd humans into manicured lines down the city.

On every screen, the words "Humanity's rule is over" flashes.

HOLOGRAM MAP OF THE WORLD - CONTINUOUS

A map of the Continents. Cities blackout. Flags are taken down. Perimeters are set up in five key parts of a map:

The Northern City (The Motherboard), The Western Colonies, The Eastern States, The South-Eastern Camp, and The South Border. The space in between them is referred to as the Wilderness.

The age of men is over, just as there is no Earth left to save.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. EASTERN STATES - MECHANIC WAREHOUSE - DAY

SUPER: FIVE YEARS LATER.

Inside a large sweat shop, LILLIAN "LI" YOUNG (15, Asian), an overly optimistic and enthusiastic people pleaser with a knack for problem solving, sits behind a small assembly table.

A conveyor belt runs beside her, rolling robot parts (arms, legs, etc) down the line to her.

Around her other PEOPLE work just like her. They pick up the part assigned to them, work on it, place it back on the conveyor belt, and passes it down the line to the next person.

Li works absentmindedly. It's methodical. *Robotic.*

She's good at what she does, a little *too* good and that can sometimes lead her to extreme boredom.

But not today. Today Li can't sit still. She fidgets with her tools, her foot bounces. Today is important.

Lost in her thoughts, she doesn't notice an arm piece come to a stop beside her.

After a second waiting to be picked up, the arm continues forward.

The MAN (30s) in front of her picks it up and starts to work before noticing there's a piece missing.

The man turns back to Li, angry.

He throws the arm aggressively on her station.

MAN

Hey! You missed a piece, idiot.

Li snaps back into reality. She jumps back, petrified.

LI

I am so sorry!

She scrambles to pick up her pace but the damage is already done.

More and more robot parts move forward down the line and, like a domino effect, the people in front of them are forced to stop working.

The angry mob turns to Li.

LI (CONT'D)

Oh no.

But before Li can start apologizing profusely, the conveyor belt turns off. Everyone stops working.

HEPH (O.S.)

Look what you did!

HEPHAESTUS "HEPH", a large Forger_06 model robot, built big and strong to oversee the warehouse, STOMPS towards them.

HEPH (CONT'D)

This will set our quota back, human. What do you have to say for yourself?

Li thinks for a moment.

LI

Well, it doesn't *have* to set us back. I can easily wire my parts in less than five minutes if everyone is willing to send them back to me.

Her response surprises Heph into silence.

LI (CONT'D)

And, if you'd like to optimize productivity by 20%, it would be easier to work in small groups rather than long assembly lines. That way each group is responsible for a smaller amount of parts--

Li's ID band starts to BEEP.

She practically bursts with excitement as she reads the notification.

LI (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I have to go.

Li grabs her coat and bag, rushes out of the warehouse. Heph tries to grab her, but she expertly dodges him.

HEPH

Your shift is not over!

LI
That's okay, I quit!

EXT. EASTERN STATES - MECHANIC WAREHOUSE - DAY

Li BURSTS out the doors and down the steps of the warehouse.

She rushes clumsily towards the various vehicles parked outside.

She runs down the line of fancy hover boards, motorcycles, until she reaches her old, "vintage" bicycle.

She throws her bag on the basket, and gets on, her excitement getting in the way of her safety.

She rides down the mountain, and towards the EASTERN STATES capitol.

EXT. EASTERN STATES - CAPITOL - MARKET - DAY

A bustling market.

Even with the technological advancements, the market resembles a traditional Asian market. But instead of selling food and spices, they sell tech parts.

Vendors YELL at ROBOTS that pass by. All the robots that walk this area look the same, clean cut and emotionless. Their corporal form thin and sharp.

These are the Citizen_07 version. New and improved, *middle class* robots.

Li rolls down the steps into the market, upsetting the manicured order of things.

LI
Excuse me! Coming through!

Li accidentally bumps into a robot. Its face immediately turns red, as it scans her.

ROBOT 1
Watch where you're going, human!

LI
I'm sorry!

But Li is long gone down the street.

ROBOT 2

We should've exiled them into space
when we had the chance.

EXT. EASTERN STATES - CAPITOL BUILDING - DAY

Li enters the round city center, a preserved architectural masterpiece.

From this point, the city becomes clearer. Skyscrapers rise into the atmosphere, taller than the eye can see.

To Li's left, charging stations for robots are set up. Robots sit, stand, walk around with large cables hanging from their heads. They mingle, read the news on their holographic tablets, or play games.

To her right, a PortalTM station.

Beside a cylindrical door a large mechanical hand picks out conscious-less robot bodies out of a rotating conveyor. The body is placed before the door and a HUMAN attendant plugs a cord into the back of its head.

A BALL of light filled with data comes up from to the door and a robot consciousness gets downloaded into their new body. They walk off from the station and towards the capitol building.

Li walks behind them to the human area.

She parks her bike with all the other human vehicles, and rushes to the entrance.

Li runs up the line, swerving robots and humans left and right.

They all shoot her annoyed looks. She's the chaos in this new world of perfect lines.

LI

I'm sorry, excuse me, pardon me.

As Li crosses into the building, a green light lights up.

INT. EASTERN STATES - CAPITOL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Li rushes into the building.

The inside is vintage. The original wood panels, and furniture from the second 70s revival.

Structured like a bank, tellers on each side of the room, and various long, curving lines of customers waiting for their turn.

Li waltzes past all of them, a wide grin on her face.

She looks down at her ID band. It instructs her to go to teller 7.

TELLER 7 - CONTINUOUS

Li stands before a Teller_04 model robot.

She's overly excited. This is a big moment for her.

TELLER
Oh, it's you again.

Li grins even bigger.

TELLER (CONT'D)
(content warning voice)
Congratulations on your first passport, Lillian Young. It is my duty to inform you that this passport is only valid for the duration of your internship. In order to stay out of the Eastern States any longer, you will require work sponsorship to re-apply. You must make it to the Western Colonies and sign in with your mentor in **four week's time**. Failure to uphold this timeframe will end in your rights stripped and a fine for desertion. Do you understand?

Li nods, terrified.

TELLER (CONT'D)
Good. Please sign here, here and here.

The teller slides a thick contract in front of Li.

Li places her thumb on the signature line. Her fingerprint appears.

The teller aggressively takes the contract back.

TELLER (CONT'D)
Smile!

FLASH.

Li's picture is taken. She blinks away the white spots.

TELLER (CONT'D)
Place your band here.

The teller points to a circular pad.

Li does. It BEEPS green. She removes it, a hologram of her passport floats up, with an ugly picture to match.

One of the lines reads "Mechanic Sculptor Intern".

Li's smile gets even bigger.

AUNTIE (PRE-LAP)
Are you insane!?

INT. EASTERN STATES - CAPITOL - YOUNG HOUSE - DAY

Inside a minimalist and lived in Japanese style tiny home.

Li sits at the table, an annoyed look on her face. Beside her, cooking up a storm, is her AUNTIE (50s, Asian), as kind as she is fierce.

LI
And this is why I didn't tell you.

AUNTIE
You stupid child, you're going to get yourself killed, and for what?

LI
I'll be fine! It's not like I haven't been taking care of myself since I was 12.

Auntie turns to her, chopsticks in hand, a warning.

AUNTIE
No, you haven't. We took care of you.

Li looks deep into her eyes, sees she struck a nerve.

LI
You're right. I'm sorry, auntie.

Li reaches out for her hand. Auntie takes it. A small comfort in this world.

LI (CONT'D)
 I just want to try. It was my job
 to keep her safe, to look out for
 her. If there's even a small chance
 that she's still alive--

The air is heavy. Auntie nods, somber. An unspoken understanding.

LI (CONT'D)
 I know I can do it. Please. Let me
 try.

Auntie lets go of Li's hand.

AUNTIE
 You're not going to change your
 mind, are you?

Li shakes her head no.

AUNTIE (CONT'D)
 Then the least we can do is set you
 up to succeed.

Li smiles. Pushes her self-doubt down as far as it can go.

MONTAGE:

- Li packs a hiking bag full of clothes, shoes, and essentials.
- Auntie continues to cook, makes Li food for her journey.
- Li sits at her desk, she works on a new tablet attachment for her ID band.
- Li and Auntie stand over the kitchen table, a crude map of the Continents. NEIGHBORS surround them, all chime in with notes.
- Li points to a path that veers from the main one. A neighbor slaps her hand away, point to "*Thieves?*" written over it.
- Li listens to them, determined but a little scared.
- Auntie feeds everyone Soba noodles as they continue to talk.

END OF MONTAGE.

EXT. EASTERN STATES - CAPITOL - CITY GATES - MORNING

Li, decked in snow clothes and her comically large bag, walks with her Auntie and some of their NEIGHBORS down to the large city gates.

Before them are three different gates. One is a Portals™. The second is an underground "bullet train" that lower class robots and humans with money board.

The third is a door for humans with no money to exit and walk across the Continent.

Li turns back to her Auntie and gives her a big hug. She lingers, tightly showing all of her love in one hug.

AUNTIE
(whispers)
I know. I know.

Li fights the urge to cry as the gates open.

AUTOMATIC VOICE (V.O.)
Good morning. The gates to the
Wilderness are about to be open.
Please find your travel group and
get ready to exit the Eastern
States.

Li lets go of the hug.

AUNTIE
Look at me, Lillian. Do not veer
off. Just follow the path and
you'll be there in no time. Better
be safe than sorry, okay?

LI
I will.

Auntie smiles, she knows deep in her gut Li won't listen.

Li looks at the group one more time before heading to her designated travel group of 20 other PEOPLE. Together they watch as the large gates are open to a metal forest, a thin layer of frost over everything.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**EXT. THE WILDERNESS - DAY**

The Wilderness is the plot of land in between all the major sectors. It's what connects everything.

The whole planet is one giant AC keeping the robotic infrastructure cool. A thin layer of frost covers everything.

Nature is made out of metal, creating the illusion that the world is thriving, when in reality, there are no real plants left.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - HUNTER CAMP - DAY

But one cunning group still remains.

Nestled deep in the hills, a small CAMP is set up.

Tents made out of torn tarp and pipes circle a metal barrel fire pit.

The camp is alive with FIVE PEOPLE. They wear distressed clothes in a punk style.

These are the HUNTERS. A group of scoundrels that steal and destroy, living under the radar by raiding people on their way to and from big cities.

They sit around the small fire, warming up.

From the bushes a few meters down the camp, DAISY (Afro-Latinx, 11), a stone cold pessimist (Li's complete opposite) and a tough survivor, watches them.

Daisy always wears a crossbody pouch. She's overprotective of it.

Butterfly "Butter" (Mutt, 6), waits patiently beside her.

DAISY

Any minute now, Butter.

CARLA (16, Black), the youngest of the group, cuddles into AMERY (20s, Black), her "could kill you with a look" sister.

CARLA

I'm hungry.

Beside them, NICO (20s, Latinx), their tech expert, watches a Gen_3 tablet closely. It resembles an iPad, a little older than what Li has.

Next to him, ROCO (20s, Asian), a mountain of a man, and JULISSA (20s, Latinx), their fearless leader, exchange a look.

NICO
New group just left!

CARLA
Finally.

JULISSA
Alright, let's gear up.

Everyone stands up, start to walk away.

Daisy perks up. They're leaving camp, perfect for her to steal from them.

She readies herself, takes out her handmade slingshot.

ROCO (O.S.)
Let's go rob some people!

JULISSA (O.S.)
Not you, Roco. Watch the camp.

Roco is not happy about this, but walks back to the fire.

Daisy is about to turn the bush when Butter stops her.

DAISY
(whisper)
What!?

Butter WHINES.

Daisy notices Roco stayed behind.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Ugh fine. Let's follow them
instead.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - PATH - DAY

Li and her group walk down a large marked path.

She's made herself at home in this group already, as she helps an OLD WOMAN (80s), walk down the path.

OLD WOMAN

How much longer till the rest stop,
dear?

Li takes out the folded map from her coat pocket and unfolds it enough to see the area they're in.

LI

Shouldn't be long now, just a few
more minutes.

The old woman smiles as they continue to walk in silence.

They don't notice as the Hunters stalk them from the side.

Nico and Carla, wearing hoods, slide down behind them. They walk slowly, and appear like the devil and angel on Li's shoulders.

NICO

You know, I heard that if you take
a right at the next stop, you can
get to the--
(checks tablet)
Western States five days ahead of
schedule.

CARLA

(terrible acting)
That's crazy. But shouldn't we stay
on the path?

NICO

I don't see why, it's perfectly
safe.

CARLA

Sounds like a great plan to me.

Li's wheels turn frantically. Is she too impatient to follow the rules?

Beside her, a COUPLE, have the same look on their faces. But they've made up their minds.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - REST STOP_01 - DAY

The group arrives at a small resting area designed like the ones you'd see on a hike.

Li helps the old lady down, takes a seat beside her.

She takes out her water flask, equipped with a filter. Takes a sip.

As they rest, she watches the COUPLE from before get up and sneak off to the path off the right.

Behind them, Nico and Carla follow suit.

Li waits a moment, conflicted.

AUNTIE (V.O.)

Do not veer off. Just follow the path.

OLD WOMAN (O.S.)

How much longer till the next rest stop?

Li looks down at her map. This time she looks at the journey as a whole.

The journey should take her 20 days, but every so often, there's a rest stop on the main road. There's a lot of them, too many.

Li notices the path to their right is crossed off, but it cuts her travel time by five days. The people were telling the truth.

LI

A few hours.

The old woman smiles and turns back to the others beside her.

Her eyes then land on the "*Thieves?*" comment. She weighs her options.

LI (CONT'D)

(to herself)

How bad can a question mark be?

Her mind made up. She picks up her things and pretends to go to the restrooms up ahead.

When she gets there, she turns back to see if anyone is watching her, before continuing forward to the closed off path.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - SHORT PATH - DAY

Li walks down the smaller path.

Everything seems perfectly normal. But a pair of eyes follows Li's every move.

Daisy.

Up ahead, the Hunters have already ambushed the COUPLE, but they're far away enough so Daisy has Li all to herself.

Li watches the "flora" around her carefully. Each plant is carved with precision and artistry, the insides of trees glow faintly as the cables that connect everything peek through the bark.

The earth moves up and down slightly, allowing for cool air to flow. It almost looks like it's breathing.

Li's distracted, excited. And that's when she arrives at Daisy's trap.

She stops abruptly as she notices Butter on the ground. Butter WHINES like a good actress.

Li rushes to her immediately, drops to her knees.

LI
Are you okay, little one?

Li puts down her bag, takes out her water flask.

LI (CONT'D)
Do you need--

Suddenly, Daisy jumps from the bushes behind Li and blocks off her path.

DAISY
Not another move, commoner!

Li turns around, terrified, but when she sees Daisy, she can't help but LAUGH.

DAISY (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

Daisy's cold tone surprises Li.

Li turns back to Butter, who is up. She GROWLS at Li.

LI
Is this supposed to be an ambush?

DAISY
What else could it be?

Li continues to LAUGH as she grabs her bag and stands up.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Stay where you are!

LI
Okay, listen, kid. You don't have
to do this. I can give you some
food if you'd like.

Li rummages through her bag, oblivious to the look of surprise on Daisy's face.

LI (CONT'D)
I've also got some extra clothes,
just in case you're cold--

Daisy shakes off the surprise. This is not a time for feelings.

She steps forward and grabs Li's arm. Li's completely taken by surprise as Daisy kicks her on the stomach and uses the momentum to hook her legs over Li's neck.

In one smooth motion, Li is on the ground and Daisy on top of her.

LI (CONT'D)
What the--

DAISY
Butter, grab her bag.

Butter does as she's told, grabs Li's bag.

LI
Wait, no, please! I need those
supplies! I have to make it to the
Western Colonies to find my sister,
please--

DAISY
Shut up.

LI
But--

DAISY
Shhh.

Daisy pinches Li's lips together.

VOICES can be heard coming towards them.

DAISY (CONT'D)
The Hunters. We have to go.

Daisy gets off Li.

LI
Please, we can share! I need--

Daisy stops for a moment. Guilty. But she pushes through those feelings.

DAISY
Then you shouldn't have gone off the path.

Daisy and Butter run off.

Li is left on the ground, defenseless.

And that's when the Hunters find her. They corner Li, towering around her.

Li smiles awkwardly and waves.

INT. THE WILDERNESS - CAVE - DAY

Daisy helps Butter carry Li's bag into a small hole in the mountain.

The metal around the edges of the entrance look forced open. Below the metal, blackened and charred earth.

The inside of the cave is decorated with various knick knacks that they've collected from travelers over the years.

There's a cozy area of blankets over the metal grate floor. A small camping fire stove on the other end, and even an old doggie bowl for Butter.

Daisy and Butter set Li's bag down.

Butter immediately goes back to the entrance to stand guard.

Daisy sits on the floor and opens Li's bag.

DAISY
Okay, what did you pack, commoner?
Please have some cool weapons.

The first thing she pulls out is a handmade rabbit stuffed animal. Daisy's expression turns sour. This is the worst loot so far.

She tosses out clothes, more water flasks, and then arrives at a bento box, wrapped in a beautiful handkerchief.

DAISY (CONT'D)

What in the end of the world is
this?

Daisy pulls it out. It's still warm, causing Daisy to set it down before her.

She unwraps it. STEAM shoots at her, and then the SMELL hits her.

Daisy's stomach GRUMBLES as she looks down at the beautiful food before her. Her mouth waters at the spread of dumplings, rice, and spam.

Never mind, this makes it worth it.

And then her eyes land on a sticky note on the lid of the box. It reads: "Stay safe, stay on track. I believe in you. Give Mei all my love. - Auntie."

Guilt rises back to the surface. It triggers a memory.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE (QUICK FLASHES)

- Daisy (6), sits down for dinner, expecting to see her parents. But is met with a microwavable meal, a note on it. The note, in Spanish, reads "Working late, love you." Daisy is torn.

- Suddenly, fire destroys the image. The forest outside the home burns to the ground.

- Daisy finds her parents PILAR (late 30s, Latinx), and EDUARDO (late 30s, Afro-Latinx) in their underground lab. They hug, tightly. Their final moment as a family.

- Outside, the forest burns to the ground, along with their research. Pilar and Eduardo on their knees, being taken away like criminals.

- Daisy and Butter watch from a hiding spot. Daisy's expression is stone cold.

END OF MONTAGE.

A tear escapes Daisy. She quickly wipes it away. She has to go back and do the right thing.

She stuffs the bag full again.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - HUNTER CAMP - DAY

Li is dragged back to the Hunter camp as their prisoner.

LI

The kid took everything I have.
What more do you want with me?

AMERY

When I find that little twerp I'm
going to crush her--

JULISSA

That's enough. The child was smart,
can't fault her for that. We'll
just get Nico to hack into this
one's band and classify her as a
deserter. We'll get some rations
when we turn her in.

Li goes pale.

LI

No! Please. I have to get to the
Western States. I need to--I can
code! I'm really good at it.

JULISSA

Already have one of those.

Nico waves.

Li *thinks*. Blurts anything out.

LI

I'm a mechanic!

She's not. She's just an apprentice, but she does know a few
things she shouldn't.

Julissa stops. The Hunters exchange a look. Li notices.

LI (CONT'D)

I'm really good too.

Nico shrugs, what's the worst that can happen?

JULISSA

Fine, commoner. It looks like you
might be useful after all.

EXT. THE WILDERNESS - HUNTER CAMP - DISTANCE - DAY

Daisy, equipped with Li's bag, makes her way back to where she left Li.

She passes by the Hunter camp, thinks nothing of it, until she abruptly doubles back.

In the distance, the Hunters drag Li through their camp and down the hill.

Curious, she follows them. Butter close behind.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. THE WILDERNESS - FACTORY LANDFILL - DAY**

A large, wire fence closes off the landfill grounds from the public.

The Hunters drag Li towards the factory. KEEP OUT signs line the fence. Horrible signs of certain doom follow. Li is terrified.

LI

Um...are you sure this is safe?

She's met with silence in response.

LI (CONT'D)

Okay.

They stop.

JULISSA

Roco, cutters.

Roco steps forward. Instead of wire cutters, he uses his hands to pry open the fence.

Li is even more terrified now. The Hunters are ecstatic.

ROCO

After you.

He motions for them to get inside. Amery pushes Li into the factory. The rest follow suit.

INT. THE WILDERNESS - FACTORY LANDFILL - CONTINUOUS

Inside, the landfill overflows with piles and piles of scrap metal and old robot parts.

The group move in unison, guarding Li in the center.

As they move further into the factory, they arrive at the pièce de résistance: The Composter.

COMPOSTER - CONTINUOUS

A big furnace that melts metal to be reused looms over them.

LI
So, what do you need me to do?

CARLA (O.S.)
There!

Carla points to a pile close to the Composter.

Propped up against it is an Assassin_04 robot. With a sleek design like the Citizen version, the robot has clearly seen better days.

LI
An Assassin? I thought they were banned two years ago.

JULISSA
They were. You're going to reanimate this one.

LI
I don't think that's a good idea--

JULISSA
Can you do it or not? Because we have no problem handing you in.

LI
(scared)
I can. Totally. Don't you worry.

Li drops to her knees beside it. She presses down below its neck and the control panel opens up.

She turns back to the group, Nico already behind her with tools to help.

NICO
What do you need?

LI
Oh, a number 3 please.

Nico hands her a thin screwdriver.

Li gets to work.

Everything is going smoothly, until it isn't.

An ominous RUSTLE startles everyone.

The Hunters get back into fighting stances as four KOMODO DRAGON ROBOTS (that breathe fire) crawl their way towards them.

A BEAT. The Hunters and reptiles face off.

The dragons open their mouths, an announcer voice talks out of them.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This is a restricted area. Please exit immediately or we will be forced to forcibly remove you. This is an order by the Collective, refusal to comply will end in certain doom.

A BEAT. The Hunters look at each other.

JULISSA

No?

The reptiles pounce. One lands on Roco's face, another latches onto Amery's leg, and the final one aims for Julissa.

Julissa sees it coming and strikes it aside.

JULISSA (CONT'D)

Nico, stay with her. Carla, with me.

They nod. They've clearly done this before.

Carla and Julissa rush towards Roco and Amery to help.

Li's hands move quickly, as she reprograms the Assassin through her band.

NICO

Wait, why don't you connect it to my tablet?

Nico goes to hand Li his tablet, when a GIANT METAL CLAW drops from the sky and scoops both Li and the robot up.

Li SCREAMS, holding on for dear life.

LANDFILL - CONTINUOUS

A reptile spits fire at Carla. Julissa grabs a metal pole and rams it through the head of one. It shuts off.

Onto the next one. Roco grabs it by the waist and tears it in half with his bare hands.

Carla rushes to her sister, hits the dragon latched on Amery's leg on the head and it releases.

But it's a little too late, the damage has been done as blood drips down Amery's leg.

Roco arrives, grabs the dragon by the tail and swings it away.

NICO (O.S.)
Julissa! We have a problem.

Julissa turns to Nico. Notices Li is gone.

JULISSA
Where's the commoner!?

Nico points to Li as the claw sets her down on the conveyor belt headed directly to the furnace.

COMPOSTER - CONTINUOUS

Li frantically looks around her for a way down. It's high off the ground, but not high enough so that she can't jump off.

Her eyes land on Daisy who stands at the other side of the Composter, right in front of the controls for the claw.

LI
You!?

DAISY
You're welcome!

LI
What are you doing!?

DAISY
Saving you, duh?

LI
Does it look like I'm safe?

DAISY
Just jump! Leave the robot.

Li thinks for a second. No, she made a promise. She goes back to work. She's almost done.

DAISY (CONT'D)
What are you doing? Just jump!

DAISY - CONTINUOUS

Daisy watches as Li continues to work on the robot.

She's utterly confused, a little annoyed.

Butter GROWLS beside her, causing Daisy to turn around.

From her left, the Komodo robot that Julissa shoved aside stalks up on them.

LI - CONTINUOUS

Li gets closer and closer to the roaring fire.

The flames reflect on the Assassin's body.

On Li's terrified eyes.

Is this the end?

INT. THE WILDERNESS - FACTORY LANDFILL - DAY

Butter pounces on the Komodo robot. She bites down on its head, but the robot's metal skin is too thick.

It quickly overpowers Butter, sends her flying across the factory with a flick of its tail.

Daisy SCREAMS after Butter.

Butter still breathes, but she's down for sure.

The Komodo then turns its sights on Daisy. But before it can attack, it opens its mouth.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This is a restricted area. Please
exit immediately or we will be
forced to call reinforcements. This
is an order by the Collective--

A large foot squishes the robot's head to a pulp.

Daisy looks up at Roco.

Julissa and Carla behind him. They look at Daisy with hungry eyes.

JULISSA

Well, well, if it isn't the reject.
It's nice to see you again.

Daisy turns to run away but immediately bumps into Nico, who helps Amery walk.

She falls back to the ground, her pouch exposed.

Julissa notices it immediately.

JULISSA (CONT'D)

What do we have here?

She goes to grab it, but Daisy is immediately defensive.

Daisy bites Julissa's hand. Julissa pulls away, fast.

Roco immediately moves forward and picks up Daisy with one hand.

She fidgets, thrashes.

DAISY

Let me go!

Julissa shoots Daisy a cocky smile.

JULISSA

Now, why would I do that?

Julissa steps forward and grabs Daisy's sling.

DAISY

No! That's mine!

Julissa is even more intrigued now.

JULISSA

Let's see what's got you in such a
fuss--

As soon as she opens the bag, a bright glow blinds them all.

JULISSA (CONT'D)

It can't be.

Julissa takes out the tube for everyone to see.

Inside the self-sustaining terrarium tube, a small PLANT grows. A sturdy stem and leaf sprig from a large apple seed.

Julissa's mouth curls into a wicked smile as the rest of the Hunters watch the plant in awe.

JULISSA (CONT'D)

Oh, you're going to make us rich.

Daisy struggles against Roco even more, but he just places her under his arm.

Suddenly, the furnace RAGES. The flames overflow and engulf the conveyor belt.

All eyes turn to it. Li is nowhere to be seen. Julissa is annoyed.

JULISSA (CONT'D)
Useless girl. Whatever, let's go.

The Hunters turn to leave when the Assassin_04 model lands dramatically before them.

Li holds onto its back for dear life.

JULISSA (CONT'D)
What!?

The Assassin holds an arm up, a simple laser gun exposed and aimed at them as Li gets off.

LI
Stop! I did what you asked, so let her go.

Julissa BURSTS out LAUGHING.

JULISSA
I don't care about that piece of junk now.
(holds the Seed out)
Not when I have this.

LI
Then you don't need the girl either.

JULISSA
No, she's just a nice bonus for all the trouble she's caused me.

Li looks at Daisy, she's terrified.

She then looks at Julissa. She's not backing down.

LI
(fake surrender)
Fine, I guess you're right. I'll get out of your way.

Julissa smiles smugly, unaware.

LI (CONT'D)
Just one more thing before you leave.

(MORE)

LI (CONT'D)
 (turns to Assassin)
 Assassin, engage.

The inconspicuous robot takes a step forward.

LI (CONT'D)
 Retrieve.

An awkward BEAT before it TRANSFORMS into a badass killing machine.

JULISSA
 Oh no. Run!

Julissa bolts as the robot pursues them.

Roco drops Daisy on the ground as Li, a broken pipe in hand, swings at him.

Roco dodges, runs away with the group.

On the opposite side, Butter is back up. She runs after Julissa. Daisy notices and runs after her.

INT. THE WILDERNESS - FACTORY LANDFILL - CONTINUOUS

Butter bites down on Julissa's wrist. The test tube falls from her hand and towards the ground.

In slow motion, Daisy dives under it and expertly catches it.

Li stands over Julissa, pipe in hand, threatening.

Julissa scurries backwards, towards her people.

JULISSA
 This isn't over, commoner!

Li and Daisy watch as the Hunters run away, the Assassin hot on their heels.

LI
 I think that's enough.
 (to Assassin)
 Assassin, mission complete!

The robot processes the command and transforms back to its normal form. It walks back to them.

Li notices Daisy is uneasy, Butter takes a protective stance in front of her.

LI (CONT'D)
It's okay. It can't hurt you. I
control what it does.

Li shows Daisy her modified hologram screen with all the
controls for the robot.

DAISY
I thought robots were supposed to
have a consciousness of their own.

LI
Hmm, I guess you're right.
(to Assassin)
Assassin, down.

The robot drops to its knees for easier access to its
mainframe.

Li quickly opens it back up and flips a switch.

LI (CONT'D)
I'm Li by the way.

DAISY
Daisy. This is Butter.

Butter BARKS.

GIGI
Hello Butter!

Li jumps back.

The Assassin, or GIGABYTE (GIGI) reanimates. A kawaii
animated face appears.

GIGI (CONT'D)
I am Gigabyte, but you can call me
Gigi.

Li and Daisy exchange a look.

DAISY
She can't actually speak...

GIGI
Oh, of course. Silly me. She's just
a dog.

DAISY
Hey! She's more than that!

GIGI
Yes, of course, a loyal companion.
(turns to Daisy)
And that is a *Malus domestica*.

LI
A what?

DAISY
Apple tree.

LI
Wait that's real?

Daisy clutches the seed in her hands. Overprotective.

GIGI
I believe it is the first recorded
plant since the Extinction.

Li looks at Daisy with a turbulent expression, her mind
races.

Could this be Earth's salvation?

END OF ACT THREE

TAG**EXT. THE WILDERNESS - TREE - SAME**

From a tree, a realistic ROBOT PIGEON watches them. It zooms into the group as they talk.

Closer into the plant.

Its eyes blink red. Recording.

INT. THE MOTHERBOARD - MAIN SERVER - DARK

Inside a server room. Lights flash, blink, fans WHIR.

A hooded body connected to by a lot of cables to the environment around it, watches the live feed from the bird.

Its bony looking metal hand reaches out softly at first, then dramatically SMASHES the monitor to pieces.

LEADER
BRING ME THAT CHILD!

Small pterodactyl like robots turn on. They CHIRP as they climb up from the floorboards and up the room.

They fly out the window at the top. *Hungry.*

END OF PILOT