

Mari: Legends Pilot

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FADE IN:

INT. THE SOYOKAZE HOUSEHOLD – EARLY MORNING

We are looking outside the window of Mari's room, seeing a dense mixed forest. In between the trees we see the sun rising above the horizon.

We hear an alarm clock beep and then get turned off. Then Mari passes by the window in her pajamas.

Mari gets on with her morning routine: Brushing her teeth, showering and getting dressed. After all is done Mari looks at herself in the mirror.

Mari
Today's the day, let's do this.

Mari runs down the stairs to the kitchen where her step-mother Sarah has just finished making breakfast.

Mari
(sits down to eat)
Good morning mom!

Sarah
Good morning honey, you got everything ready for your big trip around the world?

Mari
(nods, while eating)
Mhm! But are you really sure I should go? Who's gonna take care of the deliveries?

Sarah
I can handle that while Greg takes care of the office stuff for me.

Mari
(chuckles)
Glad to know you have everything figured out.

Sarah takes a sip of her coffee and looks out of the window. The look on her face shows that she is worried. Mari takes notice of this.

Mari
Is something the matter?

Sarah
You know Mari, it's been almost 20 years since I found you in that little basket and this is the first time that you'll be gone for such a long time. I know you've dealt with evil witches and eldritch beings in the past but usually, before I could even blink, it was over and my little girl was right back home.

Sarah puts her coffee down on the table, walks over to Mari and gives her a tight hug.

Sarah
Promise me that you'll be safe out there, okay?

Mari
I promise mom, I'll be back before you know it.

Sarah lets go and takes a few steps back.

Sarah
Well, I think it's about time you get going, I'm sure Dana's already waiting for you at the dock.

Mari
Yeah, she's usually super early.

Mari grabs her bag, walks to the door and opens it. She then turns to Sarah.

Mari
Goodbye mom and thank you. For everything.

Sarah smiles and waves Mari goodbye. Mari then closes the door.

EXT. SPRUCESIDE FOREST – MORNING

The sun is shining, flowers are blooming, it is a beautiful day. Mari begins to make her way towards the dock at the edge of the forest. Throughout her walk she spots faces of animals she's used to seeing. For the animals, seeing Mari is no different from seeing a leaf fall.

For a little bit Mari decides to stop by her favorite spot in the forest - a beautiful opening between the trees with a lake and a waterfall between rocks in the back. She looks down to the water, looking at her reflection. She looks determined for the big adventure ahead of her.

What kind of discoveries can she and her friends expect on this big trip around the world?

EXT. OLD DOCK AT THE EDGE OF SPRUCESIDE FOREST – MORNING

Mari eventually makes her way to the dock. Dana, an independent scientist and a friend of Mari's, is already there waiting for her. She has her boat tied to the dock.

Mari
Oh, hey Dana! I see you have the ship ready for sail.

Dana
Hello Mari, primed and ready for a worldwide adventure! It's been a long time since this thing had a proper sail so it needed some repairs, hopefully I didn't miss anything.

Mari
(chuckles)
Well, you made it here so I'm sure everything is fine.

Dana
Yeah, but that was with just me onboard, remember that we have yet to pick up our friends too.

Mari

You worry too much Dana! Besides, one of our friends is a ghost who won't weight anything.

Dana

I'm still a bit mixed on bringing a ghost with us. You know how much she can give me the creeps at times.

Mari

(smugly)

To be fair you are pretty easy to spook, for Yurei you're an easy target.

Dana

Target?!

Mari

(laughs)

Sorry Dana, I'm just messing with you. Yurei is a fine girl, she won't bring any harm!

Dana shakes her head, she then smiles

Dana

Well, if you say so. Let's not waste any more daylight, we've got friends to pick up! Hop onboard and let's set sail!

Mari

Aye aye captain!

Mari and Dana get onboard the boat and set sail to go pick up their friends.

EXT. SUNGLAZE ISLAND, BEACHSIDE GRAVEYARD – DAY

We move to a view of a graveyard situated on a beach that 300 years ago was a thriving place where an annual carnival was being held. At the edge of the beach by the ocean we see Yurei, a ghost girl who was killed during an attack on the carnival at the age of 12 and became a roaming ghost. She has not left the graveyard since her entry into afterlife and is excited and nervous to see how much the world changed during the 300 years.

As Yurei is blankly watching the waves of the ocean she hears a horn in the distance. She turns around and sees Dana's boat approaching.

The boat stops at an old dock, the wood is old and very creaky, some planks are missing. Dana ties the boat to the dock while Mari walks up to Yurei.

Mari

Yurei! Glad to see you've decided to join us after all!

Yurei

Yeah, I do think I could use a change of pace. Staying at the same place with the only form of entertainment being scaring people who happen to pass by does get old after... hmm... 300 years was it?

Yurei quickly floats over to her own gravestone and stares at it.

Yurei
What year did you say it was?

Mari
It's *beep*

Yurei comes back to Mari.

Yurei
Yup, 300 years.

Dana
Well Yurei, you and I don't always get along with your pranks but I'm sure having you onboard is gonna be fun!

Yurei
(excited)
Well, what are we waiting for? Let's go already!

Dana
(quietly)
Aren't you eager?

The three of them get onboard and set sail to pick up the last member of the group.

EXT. SEAGULL ISLE – DAY

Seagull Isle is a small island with very few people living on it. One of these people is a quiet person named Clover who is playing with a Cockatoo named Chloe, who they befriended when they were a child.

As they're chasing each other around the beach, they hear the horn of Dana's boat.

Clover
They're here, I have to go Chloe.

Chloe
(in parrot speech)
Go, go!

Clover
I will be back soon, okay? Stay safe out here my friend.

Clover and Chloe hug each other. Chloe then flies off into the jungle. Clover watches Chloe leave, then turns around and heads in the direction of Dana's boat.

The boat stops near the shore. Mari and Dana together throw down an anchor with a little bit of struggle.

Mari
Phew, that thing was heavier than I thought it was gonna be.

Dana
This is why I usually prefer to just tie it.

Mari spots Clover approaching.

Mari
Hey Clover! You ready to travel the world?

Clover nods with a smile. Yurei quickly floats over to Clover, making them jump.

Yurei
So, this is that friend of yours I haven't met yet? Well nice to meetcha!

Mari
Yurei, please be a little gentle with them, they're shy.

Yurei
I am! If I wasn't I wouldn't approach them as casually, their soul would float off their body by now.

Mari shakes her head.

Mari
Well let me introduce you two. Yurei, this is Clover, Clover this is Yurei, she is a ghost as I told you.

As Yurei and Clover get acquainted, there is a rustling coming from the bushes. The group look over anticipating something.

The sound of the rustling gets closer and closer until Grayson, Mari's classmate from high school comes out.

Grayson
Hey guys, you weren't seriously thinking about leaving without me, were ya?

Mari
(surprised)
Oh, hey Grayson! I had no idea you were joining us!

Grayson
Of course I am, can't have you guys have all the fun. It was nice of Dana to invite me

Mari
(whispering to Dana)
Did you invite him?

Dana
(whispering to Mari)
I did not...

They stay silent for a bit. Mari then takes a deep breath.

Mari

Well, it will be nice to have you with us.

Grayson

Well, that was weirdly easy. I was just pulling your leg. Come on Mari, did you not learn anything since high school?

Mari

I know, I just really do think you should come along. It has been a while since we hung out. Besides, I can introduce you to my friends here.

Grayson

(shrugs and chuckles)

Well, if you say so, I won't mind.

Clover and Grayson get on board.

Dana

Alright, now that we have everyone, including a surprise guest onboard, let's head on to our first destination!

Everyone

Aye, aye Captain!

And so, they set sail to begin their big journey around the world.

EXT. OCEAN – DAY

The sun is shining and our heroes are sailing the sea. Grayson is laying down while drinking a nice cold drink, Yurei is floating circles around the boat while giggling, Clover is drawing on a piece of paper, Dana is steering the boat with Mari sitting on a chair behind her.

Dana

Are you sure bringing Grayson along was a good idea? You know how he was back in high school.

Mari

Come on Dana, it's been years since those times. Grayson has changed for the better.

(smugly)

Even apologized in a romantic way.

Dana

(chuckles)

Oh yeah?

Mari

(sighs)

Yes, I'm still wondering if he really did move on from my rejection. I still feel bad about it, even if it was a year ago.

Dana

You have nothing to feel bad about. Love has to be mutual, if you don't share the same feelings, it would be forced and would not end well. Trust me, I'd know.

Mari
Are you speaking from experience?

Dana
(nodding)
One day you'll find someone that you see eye to eye with. It will take time, but it will happen.
Especially for someone like yourself.

Mari
(laughs)
Wow Dana, how flattering... wait, do you hear that?

A whirring noise can be heard, getting louder and louder. Then out of nowhere a big floating ship appears next to the boat, casting a shadow onto it. Everyone gathers together to see what's happening. The top of it opens and two figures on hoverboards come up from inside. It's Yamita, an evil witch who claims to be the Queen of Dark Magic and Mari's long-time adversary. Alongside her is a man with a scarf over his mouth. This man seems to be Troy, another classmate of Mari and Grayson.

Yamita
Well, well, well, could it be? The rat and her friends.

Mari
Yamita? What are you doing here?

Troy
Huh, would you look at that. I didn't know you hung out with the rat now Grayson.

Grayson
(mockingly)
Hey Troy, didn't know you hung out with evil witches now.

Troy
What can I say, evil witches pay well for my knowledge.

Grayson
So, you're a sellout now.

Yamita
Kids, there is no time to be playing now. After all, we've got places to be, we're just making a quick stop and then heading straight to Caldera for The Wishing Pearl.

Mari
(surprised)
The Wishing Pearl?

Yamita
You heard me. And to be honest I can't have you stand in our way so consider this a little present for your vacation.

In her hands, Yamita charges up a spell and casts a laser beam. Grayson quickly runs in and blocks it with a shield.

Yamita

Oh, you don't have to act kind, I've got lots more where that came from so you are free to take some.

Yamita starts firing smaller shots of spells, one of them hitting Grayson in the leg. Clover runs to him, grabs him and brings him behind cover. They then begin a healing spell.

Yamita focuses on Mari. Mari is swiftly dodging.

Dana

Mari! Use this to reach her!

Dana tosses over a box which deploys a small trampoline. Mari jumps onto it, pulls out her light ring saber and slashes Yamita's hover board.

Yamita

(angrily)

Come on! I just got this fixed after the last time you put it to ruin you brat!

Mari

Maybe it's your heart that needs fixing.

Mari goes for more swings, Yamita just barely dodging.

Going back to Clover and Grayson, Clover is still using their healing spell

Grayson

Thanks Clover, I appreciate it.

Grayson hears a bullet and quickly blocks it. Troy hovers over to them.

Troy

You got good reaction time Grayson, but is it quick enough?

Troy points his weapon towards Yurei who is standing in confusion on what to do. He fires it.

The flaming bullet phases through Yurei and hits Yamita's ship which catches fire.

Yurei

Huh, not a bad shot. Too bad you can't kill something that's already dead. By the way, you smell something burning?

Yamita notices the fire.

Yamita

You bumbling moron! Look what you did!

With Yamita distracted by the fire of her ship Mari swings at Yamita's hover board and brings her down with it.

Yamita lands on her burning ship. Troy quickly floats over and grabs her.

Yamita
(angrily)

Ugh, this isn't over yet! When I get the Wishing Pearl, you will wish you hadn't messed with me!
Move it Info boy!

Troy floats away with Yamita.

Everyone lets out a sigh of relief as the battle is over for now.

Dana
Everyone alright?

Grayson
I got hit but Clover's got me covered. Thanks, buddy.

Clover
It was nothing, I'm just glad you're alright.

Yurei
(laughing)
It's always hilarious when people don't realize I'm a ghost! Did you see the look on that guy's face when he set fire to his own ship? Gahahahaha!

Mari
Good to know we're all in one piece, but Yamita said something about the Wishing Pearl in Caldera. She must be up to no good.

Dana
Yeah, if she gets her hands on it, it's bad news for the whole world.

Mari
Dana, we need to make a detour to Caldera!

Dana
It's not far from here so we should be there in a flash!

Grayson
Well guess the vacation's over, that "Queen of Dark Magic" just won't leave you alone, huh Mari?

Mari
Just another day, but hey, who says we can't take a look around Caldera once we stop Yamita?

Grayson
Sounds like a plan.

Mari
Then let's get going!

The group turns the ship and moves toward Caldera.

EXT. CALDERA, OLD TOWN PART OF THE CAPITAL CITY – DAY

We move to a view of the Old Town part of Caldera's Capital City, with its architecture it reminds of Spanish historic towns. Many people are seen walking around the restaurants and markets spread around the colorful town.

Among the crowd we see Mari and co. passing through. Yurei is pretending to walk as she floats to blend with the crowd.

Yurei
Wow, this place is a lot more crowded than the last time I've been here.

Mari
Have you been here before? Why don't you share what this place was like back then?

Yurei
Yeah, my mother took me here for vacation, back then this city was about half its current size and there were lots of guards all over the place. The regime here used to be quite strict. Glad to see things have changed for the better.

Grayson
Let's not lose our focus, Yamita and Troy are most likely headed for the cathedral where the Wishing Pearl is kept. We gotta move fast!

As they walk Dana's voice is heard.

Dana
Woah!!

The group quickly rushes toward the sound of Dana's voice. When they get close Dana seems to be watching something in awe.

Mari
Dana! Is everything alright?

They look the direction Dana is looking. They see white Capybara looking creatures with horns on their heads.

Dana
You guys! They have Hornstrollers!

Dana quickly grabs her camera and starts rapidly taking pictures.

Dana
These guys were nearing extinction just a few years back but now they're getting repopulated again! They're so beautiful!

The entire group sighs.

Mari
It's fascinating Dana but-

Clover
Look, over there!

The group looks the direction where Clover is pointing. Yamita and Troy are seen hovering towards the Calderian cathedral.

Mari
We're losing time! Grayson, give me a boost.

Grayson
You got it!

Mari grabs her light ring and summons the hover tool which creates a glider above her, Grayson with his shield creates a strong gust of wind which sends Mari flying towards the cathedral.

Yurei
Wait for me Mari! I won't let you have all the fun yourself.

Yurei floats behind Mari. The rest of the group make a run to follow them.

INT. CALDERIAN CATHEDRAL

We see a room decorated with stone pillars and checkered flooring. At the top a big window made of stained glass, depicting a woman holding a dying flower. The petals of the flower seem to then bring new life to other flowers.

Troy and Yamita break through the glass-stained window. They slowly hover towards a glass enclosure in the middle of the room. Inside the enclosure is the Wishing Pearl, shining bright.

Troy
Getting in here was easier than I thought. I knew the security was lacking but not this much.

Yamita
The better for us. Makes this that much easier.

A shadow appears above them. Mari through the hole in the stained glass falls down into the room. She grabs onto the chandelier and swings down from it. Yurei is closely behind.

Yamita
Darn! How did you get here so quickly?

Mari
When it's you who's up to no good there is no time to waste. Get away from that pearl!

Yamita
In your dreams you glorified hamster.

Yamita turns around and grabs the pearl. When she does so a boomerang flies in and hit her in the hand, knocking the pearl from Yamita's hand. The rest of the group arrived and the boomerang returns to Clover.

Clover
Mari!

Mari swiftly jumps forward and grabs the pearl.

Mari
Nice throw Clover!

Troy hits Mari with his hoverboard and grabs the pearl instead.

When he looks behind at Mari, chuckles to himself, but he fails to notice Grayson running towards him to knock him off his hoverboard. The pearl lands in Grayson's hand.

Yamita summons spears of dark magic and shoots them towards Grayson.

Grayson runs across the room, dodging the spears. He looks over at Yurei.

Grayson
Hey ghost girl! Catch!

Yurei
No wait-

Grayson tosses the pearl towards Yurei. She tries to catch the pearl but it just passes straight through her.

The pearl falls into the ground and shatters. Everyone looks down in horror.

An old man enters the room.

Old man
What's with all this ruckus?

The old man sees the pearl, shattered into shards. He sighs.

Old man
Well, guess not all things last forever.

Dana
This is terrible! With the Wishing Pearl broken, who knows what will happen-

Old man
Quiet down wouldja? Nothing bad is gonna happen.

Everyone looks at the old man in confusion. He seems unphased by the pearl being broken.

Mari
But the pearl it-

Old man
Oh, that little marble of glass? That thing ain't do nothin'.

Yamita
Huh?

Old man
That tale about The Wishing Pearl was a hoax I've made up and somehow everyone believed it for decades. While it's a shame it's broken, it has already made me enough money that I can retire with a mansion and three wives!

The old man giggles to himself.

Old man
Well kids, it was fun while it lasted. Let's just keep this whole thing between us, okay?
The Old Man walks out of the room. Everyone stands in silence. After a bit Yamita breaks the silence.

Yamita
(furious)
GAAAAHH!!!! You good for nothing baboon! You got me all the way to Caldera for some little fairy tale?!

Troy
Can you blame me?! Everyone else also believed it!

Yamita
Ugh! Whatever! I'll give you one more chance to prove yourself useful! Take me to the next Legend you know about!

Yamita and Troy get on their hoverboards. Yamita then turns to Mari.

Yamita
This isn't the last you've seen of me during your vacation rat. Next time we meet I will be ready.
Yamita and Troy hover away from the Cathedral. The group, still confused just keep looking at each other processing what just happened.

Yurei
Oh yeah, now that I think about it, I don't recall any magical pearl that could grant wishes from back in my day.

Grayson
Why didn't you say anything?!

EXT. CALDERA CAPITAL CITY, DOCKS – SUNSET

At the dock the ship is tied up and everyone is sitting down, drinking some refreshing drinks. Yurei watches the sunset with Clover. As they're all sat down after a tiring day, they discuss what to do next.

Grayson

So, Yamita's back on our butts and Troy is now with her.

Dana

Yeah, they just won't leave us alone, not even for a vacation.

Mari

Hey, we can still have fun! I mean yes, a lot happened today but we're here in Caldera, we got to see the Cathedral and after the whole Pearl Hoax debunking, we did get to see some sights afterwards! Sure, we've got Yamita to deal with but we still get to see the world!

Clover

Mari is right, we can't let Yamita ruin our fun.

Grayson

Yeah, we can still kick her but and have fun doing so!

Yurei

Now you're speaking my language!

Mari hops onboard the ship and looks at everyone.

Mari

Well, let's get some rest for now. But this was just the beginning of our adventure! We've still got more places to see and more of Yamita's plans to put a stop to! We ready?

Everyone

Yeah!

FADE OUT