

Catherine Diamond

Journey to the Source: Monkey's Search for the Energy God

CHARACTERS:

- Scene 1 Jerry, Mary, Jessie, Sandra
- Scene 2 Sun Wukong, Monkey 1, Monkey 2, Monkey 3
- Scene 3 Sun Wukong, Man, Zeus, Patriarch, Disciple 1, Disciple 2
- Scene 4 Sun Wukong, Dragon King, Wife, Dragonella
- Scene 5 Sun Wukong, Keeper jade Emperor, Maiden 1, Maiden 2, Maiden 3, Queen of Heaven, Lao Tzu Guanyin, Buddha
- Scene 6 Max, Sigmund, Albert, Linus
- Scene 7 Liu Boqin, Linus, SunWukong, Mr. Gao, Mrs. Gao, Chu Bajie/Pigy, Little Girl, Old Woman, Yami Man, Sha Wuning/Sandy Yellow Wind Monster,
- Scene 8 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, Black Wind Monster
- Scene 9 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy
- Scene 10 Linus, Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, River Demon, Perch Mother, Mr. Chen, Chen Guan, daughter
- Scene 11 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, Spider 1, Spider 2, Spider 3, Spider 4, Mother Spider
- Scene 12 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, Yellow Flower Priest
- Scene 13 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, Princess Iron Fan, Bull Demon King, Cake Girl, Linji
- Scene 14 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy
- Scene 15 Linus, Sun Wukong, Bajie, Sandy, Dragonella
- Scene 16 Jerry, Mary

Journey to the Source: Search for the Energy God

Scene 1

(roommates in student dormitory)

Mary Jerry, have you done your homework for (teacher's name) class?

Jerry No.

Mary You might fail if you don't write that report.

Jerry I know. I'll do it later.

Mary What's the topic?

Jerry Energy in Taiwan

BLACK OUT *(electricity go off)*

Jerry Damn! Ting dian!

Sandra ting dian, ting dian. *(bring phone light.)*

Jessie *(bring candles)* What do we do now?

Sandra Go to sleep.

Jessie *(brings a guitar)* How about a song? *(sings 'blowing in the wind')*

Sandra No a/c. too hot. *(but sings with Jessie)*

Jerry Oh no, my phone battery died.

Mary Who wants a warm iced tea from?

Sandra *(to Jerry)* What were you playing?

Jerry A great game with Sun Wukong

Sandra Don't worry. He's lived thousands of years; he'll be waiting for you when the electricity comes back on.

Jerry Yeah, right, the way he waited for San zang to release him from under Five Elements Mountain...but I don't want to wait 500 years.

Jessie You don't like to wait even five minutes.

Jerry I wish there was some electricity god—you could just light a few incense sticks and pray to him...

Sandrato her

Jerry him, her, it, and the lights would go back on. Things were easier in the old days when there were gods instead of power plants—just make them happy and they make you happy.

Jessie Maybe the electricity will come back on in a few minutes

Sandra Or a few hours

Mary A few days

Jessie Or never. Then what'll you do?

Jerry Nothing to do, but sleep...and dream

(jerry goes to sleep)

BLACK OUT

Scene 2

(monkeys playing in the water, sound of rumbling stone and breaking apart as Sun Wukong jumps out)

Monkey 1 Look, a new guy! He's not one of us.

Monkey 2 Attack him.

Monkey 1 He's too big.

Monkey 3 I wonder if he speaks our language. Hey monkey!

Sun You talking to me?

Monkey 3 Who are you? What are you doing here?

Sun *(confused)* I'm not sure. I just burst out of a stone egg.

Monkey 2 *(all laugh)* That's the most ridiculous thing we've ever heard of! A stone monkey!

Sun Don't laugh. I'm stronger than all of you.

Monkey 2 Okay, prove it. You see that waterfall. We want to know what's behind it.

Monkey 3 If you dare to go through and tell us....we'll make you king.

Sun No problem. I'll be back before you can sayJack Robinson

Monkey 3 Huh?

Monkey 1 *(splashing sounds)* I think he's drowned.

Monkey 2 That takes care of him. Scratch my back, will you? *(they play while Monkey is gone, eat bananas, slip on peel, wrestle, groom, splash in water)*

Sun *(returns)* Come, there's nothing to be afraid of. The other side has everything we need—stone plates and chairs, places to sleep protected from the rain. And fruit trees.....

Monkey 2 I don't trust him. *(everybody else goes and he follows last.)*

Sun See, everything has been set up for us. *(monkeys eat fruits.)*

Monkeys Perfect! Delicious! How pretty! How comfortable!

Sun *(sits on throne)* Well, bow down to me?

Monkey 2 Why?

Sun You said you'd make me king. Keep your promise.

Monkeys Long live the king of the monkeys. *(all bow except Monkey 2)*

Monkey 3 *(to audience)* For many hundreds of years, we live in perfect happiness. We're protected from enemies, we have food, and life is pleasant, but then the younger generation starts getting restless; they want more and complain to the king.

Sun What's wrong with you—you have everything?

Monkey 2 That's the problem. We want....to want.

Monkey 1 We want....excitement

Monkey 3 ...adventure

Monkey 1 electricity.

Sun Electricity? What for?

Monkey 2 To run our computers....

Monkey 3 To charge our phone batteries...

Monkey 1 to chill our ice tea....

Monkey 2 to turn on a/c...

Sun Come on, it's not that hot, just sit in the shade and enjoy the breeze. Now tell me again, why do you need computers? You have everything here—friends, family, delicious food, clean clear water to drink and swim in, forests to explore, peace and no trouble....what will computers give you?

Monkey 1 Information about other places.

Monkey 2 Games.

Monkey 3 Facebook.

Monkey 1 Online shopping.

Sun But will it make you happy?

Monkeys *(jumping up and down)* Yes, yes, yes.

Monkey 1 *(to audience)* So the Monkey King grew thin and quiet.

Monkey 3 Your Majesty, why are you sad? Is it because you've discovered you're mortal and one day Yama, King of Death will come for you?

Sun No, I'm not worried about that yet. It's this electricity business I can't solve. How can we get electricity without destroying our lovely Flower Fruit Mountain? Everyone wants it, but I'm afraid we'll regret it if we're not careful.

Monkey 1 Perhaps you need to consult the Energy God.

Sun Good idea. I need to see what others have done about this problem. Don't worry, I'll be back before...

Monkeys You can say 'Jack Robinson.'

Sun Exactly right.

Monkeys *(jumping up and down)* Yay! *(he goes)*

Monkey 2 That should take care of him. If he doesn't come back soon, I'll persuade people he's died and I should be king.

BLACK OUT

Scene 3

(by himself)

Sun I've crossed oceans and forests, walked through dark villages and bright cities, but I haven't found anyone who knows where the Energy God lives. Every time I ask, they just say, 'tai dian, tai dian.' Who is 'tai dian.' *(sees a man turn on a light)* Ah, Sir, the light just went on when you pressed the button.

Man Of course.

Sun But where does the electricity come from?

Man What?

Sun Where does...

Man I heard you. From the god of storms, Zeus, who throws thunderbolts.

Sun Aha! Zeus who?

Man The Greek King of Gods.

Sun Where is he?

Man Mt. Olympus. Be careful, he might throw a thunderbolt at you. (*laughs and leaves*)

Sun I can dodge those. (*He flies past projection of greek ruins*). Zeus needs a better housekeeper, his houses are falling apart.

Zeus Who are you?

Sun I'm the Monkey King.

Zeus We have no monkeys in Greece.

Sun I've come from far away, in search of the source of electricity. My people want it.

Zeus For weapons against me?

Sun No, for computers and mobile phones, lights and refrigerators.

Zeus My bolts are too strong for those gadgets, over a thousand volts, and would explode them.

Sun You can't adjust the power?

Zeus No way.

Sun Oh dear, what do I do now?

Zeus (*sarcastic*) You have no bolts of your own, king?

Sun No, I can only make static electricity. (*rubs his fur*) See?

Zeus Pathetic. Go see one of your own immortals. You must 'enlighten' yourself before you can light up other people.

Sun (*leaves*) Humiliating! I'll go to the Patriarch Subodhi and ask him amplify my powers. Another long flight back to the other side of the world. Fasten my safety belt. (*computer projection of clouds, then bangs on door*)

Patriarch Who's making such noise and interrupting my meditation?

Sun Apologies Holy One, I am the Monkey King of Flower Fruit Mountain seeking perpetual enlightenment.

Patriarch Oh you tricky hairy-faced monkey. I don't trust you.

Sun Please don't turn me away.

Patriarch Ni gui hsing? 你貴姓

Sun Oh, I never show hsing. 性

Patriarch *(impatient)* No, no, what's your family name?

Sun I was born from a stone egg.

Patriarch So I should just call you 'stoned.' No, I'll give you the name 'Sun Wukong.'

Sun Oh, thank you. It's very profound. Aware of Emptiness.

Patriarch Rather, Knower of Nothing, that is, 'ignorant monkey.' *(gives him books)* Now, memorize these. There's an exam tomorrow.

Sun Essay or multiple choice?

Patriarch Study, foolish ape.

Sun *(to audience)* After several hundred years I finally learned all 72 transformations.

Disciple 1 *(enters)* Really? Prove it.

Disciple 2 Change into something right now.

Disciple 1 A pine tree.

Sun Nothing could be easier. *(changes)*

Disciple 1 Where did he go?

Disciple 2 There's a pine. It wasn't there before.

Disciples *(clap)* Bravo monkey

Patriarch What's all the noise?

Disciple 2 Monkey was showing off and turned into a pine tree.

Patriarch *(looks at pine tree, shakes it)* Knower of nothing. Change back into yourself right now. Change! I command you! *(pine tree doesn't change; instead a stone behind him changes)*

Sun Hah! *(jumps out from behind them)* I turned into a stone instead. *(laughs)*

Patriarch Foolish monkey, don't you know you shouldn't play tricks with your powers? They're for protection and enlightenment only.

Sun Sorry, Master.

Patriarch You must leave. Your monkey mind will never understand the truth. And never tell anyone you've been my disciple. I'd lose all face.

Sun Please master, let me stay.

Patriarch No, now go. *(he and the others leave)*

BLACK OUT

Scene 4

Sun *(alone)* I can't turn into a light bulb and I still don't know where electricity comes from. I'll ask the Dragon King. Underwater some eels and rays generate their own electricity. There those jellyfish with phos...phos... *(can't pronounce phosphorescence, actor from wings helps him say it)* phosphorescence—like little light bulbs swimming around. I'll try to find the secret from them. *(puts on scuba mask)*

Dragon *(to his wife and Dragonella)* Oh dear, I knew he'd come. Bring out all the weapons. My dears, remember your parts.

Dragonella *(wife and Dragonella nod)* Yes, Father.

Sun Royal Sir, I have come to you for....

Dragon Yes, my good King of the Monkeys, I've been waiting for you and know all about your desire for a super weapon befitting your position.

Sun But, actually, it's not a weapon, I....

Dragon I know you might be disappointed but truly, I've brought out all my treasures.

Sun But what I really want is...

Dragon Please test them, perhaps one will suit you.

Sun Okay. *(tests them)* No, not heavy enough. No, not this one either. You call this a weapon? Come, don't you have anything heavier?

Dragonella *(whispers to father, he nods)*

Dragon My daughter reminds me that we have a rusty piece of iron.

Sun Show it to me.

Wife It's too heavy for any of us to lift.

Dragon You must go to it yourself.

Sun *(tries the staff/cudgel)* Ah, this is just about right. If only it were a little smaller.

Dragonella See, it's shrunk.

Sun Wow, that's great. Shrink some more. Even better. Thank you, and now, I have an important favor....

Dragon *(as if he were deaf)* Huh? What? Oh, no problem at all. My pleasure. Do drop by again. So glad to have this chance to meet you. Have a pleasant trip back. *(they force Monkey out)*

Sun Well, of all the dirty tricks. Not even letting me ask about phos.... phos... phosphorescence. *(begins to leave)*

Dragonella Monkey King, wait. Don't be angry with my father. He's conservative and just follows the novel. I can help you.

Sun Dear young lady, thank you but I'm afraid what I want is beyond your understanding. But you're very pretty, and perhaps I'd like to marry you.

Dragonella Listen, you stupid sexist ape, if you're not ready to listen to wisdom from unexpected sources, you can keep looking for a hundred years. You want electricity, right?

Sun Yes, how did you...?

Dragonella You live in Water Curtain Cave, right?

Sun Yes, I.....

Dragonella Then your problem is easy to solve with hydroelectric, you can generate electricity from the falling water.

Sun Really? By what magic?

Dragonella No magic. You've already got a natural waterfall, like Niagara Falls that had the first hydroelectric plant way back in 1879. You just have to channel the falling water to a turbine with a valve to control the flow and speed. The turbine converts the water flow into mechanical energy that turns a generator connected to power lines that distribute electricity to where you want.

Sun You make it sound so simple. There must be a trick.

Dragonella No trick. It's clean energy, no carbon emission, no pollution. And it won't be expensive either. You're lucky to have such a strong waterfall right at home.

Sun So I was right all along. Fruit Flower Mountain has everything we need. My offer of marriage still holds....Miss, uh Miss?

Dragonella Dragonella. (*goes*).

Sun Wow, I thought I was going to have a long dangerous adventure, but this young lady has solved the problem in an instant. Now I just have to build a turbine...whatever that is. Whoopee, back home with the good news.

BLACK OUT

Scene 5

At Flower Fruit Mountain

Monkey 3 And so our Monkey community built and used the hydroelectricity. We had light at night so the children had to study late and could not stop reading just because it got dark. More people got computers so they had to work at home and could not stop once they left the office. All the young people got mobile phones and spent hours on facebook so they didn't bother to meet each other face to face anymore. So everybody was happy.....sort of.

Monkey 2 But then the hydro began to have problems. The water fall was strong in spring when there were heavy rains, but in summer, it fell to a trickle. Lights began to flicker;

computers suddenly went off. Everyone got irritated because the electricity was unreliable. And they all blamed Sun Wukong.

Monkey 3 Your Majesty, the hydro that once saved us is no longer dependable.

Sun I knew electricity was going to be trouble. We were happier without it.

Monkey 1` But now people are used to it; they can't live without it.

Monkey 2 You'll have to go search for a more consistent source of power.

Sun What is consistent when global warming is changing all the weather?

Monkey 2 Young people are getting restless and there might be a rebellion.

Sun You'd like that, wouldn't you? Never mind, I'll go again. This time straight to Jade Emperor's heaven for an immortal source of power. (*he flies to heaven*)

Emperor Well, Great Sage, you caused a great deal of chaos the last time, but I'll give you another chance—Chief Gardener of the Immortal Peach Orchard.

Sun Your Majesty, I've come for a different reason, I...

Emperor Do you refuse?

Sun No, Chief Gardener sounds grand and not too difficult... (*aside*) maybe if I do something for him now, he'll help me later.

Emperor Go learn your duties. (*Emperor goes, monkey walks other direction to orchard*)

Keeper (*shoots*) Keep out! No trespassers.

Sun Step aside. The Jade Emperor has made me Chief Gardener.

Keeper What! A monkey?

Sun I'm here to inspect and taste...I mean test, the fruit.

Keeper I was not informed.

Sun Go read the novel. I'm your boss. Now, tell me about those trees in the center. They look the best

Keeper Those ripen only every 9,000 years. Whoever eats them outlasts heaven and earth and is equal to the sun and moon.

Sun Aside from all their vitamins, peaches are meant to be delicious. (*Sun picks one and eats it*)

Keeper You can't eat that!

Sun Don't you know that peaches are monkey biofuel—our bodies run best on juicy peaches. Besides as the Chief Gardener, I have to make sure that all the peaches are up to standard.

Keeper Biofuel? We press the pits for oil to make 'tao ren,' 桃仁 good for blood and digestion.

Sun Ah yes, I suggest you gather the pits as quickly as possible. (*eats peaches and throws pits in different directions*) Nothing like a full stomach to make one sleepy. I'll take a nap and then carry on with my duties. (*sleeps*)

(*fairy maidens enter doing fan dance*)

Maiden 1 The Queen of Heaven told us to pick only the most perfect peaches.

Maiden 2 They're all perfect since they're all GMO peaches that never bruise or decay. That's why they're "immortal."

Maiden 3 Look, several branches are bare.

Maiden 1 Some pest must have eaten them.

Maiden 2 I'll get the pesticide.

Maiden 3 (*Maiden 2 sprays*) Hey, be careful.

Maiden 2 (*screams*) A monster.

Maiden 1 Silly. It's a sleeping monkey.

Maiden 3 A very hairy ugly sleeping monkey.

Sun (*awakes*) Stop! How dare you come here and pick my peaches! I am the Great Sage Equal to Heaven. (*burps*)

Maiden 1 Great Sage, don't be angry. We're fairy scientists collecting peaches to research their photosynthetic properties.

Sun What?

Maiden 2 We're developing artificial photosynthesis with Lao Tzu. These peaches are best suited to replicate a perfect solar energy source.

Sun What?

Maiden 3 Artificial photosynthesis aims to produce a fuel from sunlight that can be conveniently stored and used when sunlight is not available. With the development of catalysts able to replicate the key steps of photosynthesis, only water and sunlight would be needed for clean energy with the only by-product being oxygen. It has the potential to replace fossil fuels.

Sun From peaches?

Maiden 1 The conversion of solar energy into hydrogen via a water-splitting process assisted by photoconductor catalysts is one of the most promising new technologies. And you have eaten some of these very important sources.

Sun I was making monkey biofuel. Excuse me while I return some of it back to earth. *(he turns and pees)*

Maiden 2 Disgusting.

Maiden 3 So wasteful!

Maiden 1 Fortunately, we can gather the ruined ones for our biomass project. Peaches like sugarcane can produce high grade bio-ethanol. *(they gather peaches on the ground)*

Sun How do I know you aren't just going to eat them?

Maiden 2 We'll have to report to the Queen what you've done.

Sun *(low voice)* I don't think so. Freeze! *(they freeze)* I can't let you go around spreading rumors about me.

Sun *(climbs up, enters Taoist laboratory)* What's this? Lao tzu's lab. It looks like they're making heavenly biofuel, peach wine! Another drop or two. *(drinks)* Oh dear, looks like I took a drop too much. These cinnabar pills don't look too bad. Taste weird. Oh bad boy! Oh bad monkey! When the Jade Emperor finds out, he'll skin me alive. I'd better get home and hide in my cave. *(stumbles)* It's a good thing I don't have to drive. *(he flies away)*

BLACK OUT

Jade Emperor *(everyone shouting at him)* One at a time, one at a time. You first, my dear.

Queen My fairy scientists tell me that your ape gardener has eaten all the peaches.

Emperor I thought he'd do no harm.

Queen A monkey in a peach garden is like a child in a candy store.

Emperor What are we to do now?

Lao Tzu *(entering)* Vengeance.

Emperor Dear Lao Tze, what's wrong?

Lao Tzu Someone has broken into my laboratory, drunk my elixir of immortality and eaten all my long life pills. They've broken my flasks, scattered my compounds and spilled my chemicals. Whoever has done this is now very dangerous because he cannot be killed.

Emperor Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear. Whatever shall we do?

Queen *You* must do something, you're the emperor.

Emperor Tell the planet generals to go to Flower Fruit Mountain and arrest the Great Sage.

BLACK OUT

Monkey 1 *(running to Monkey)* Wake up, wake up! Your Majesty, a huge celestial army is at our gates to arrest you.

Sun *(waking up)* What a lovely dream. Four maidens surrounded me saying what a charming fellow I was. All that peach juice must have fermented in my brain. Oh dear, everyone is going to be angry at me, but there's nothing they can do about it.

Monkey 2 A huge army has come to arrest you.

Sun Not to worry. I and my staff can take care of the whole bunch. *(fighting in the dark with glow sticks, Monkey wins)*

Emperor This is preposterous. All the forces of heaven cannot overtake a single monkey?

Guanyin I can throw my willow vase on his head.

Lao tzu If you miss, you'll break your vase. In fact, if it hits his hard head it'll break. I'll use my magic snare to catch him. Stand back. *(he throws snare over monkey and pulls him in. everyone claps and congratulates Lao tzu.)*

Emperor Take him to the execution ground and dispatch him quickly.

Lao Tzu I'll burn him to ash in my crucible. *(they celebrate)*

Messenger *(to Jade emperor with queen and friends)* Sire, we've tried every way to kill the evil monkey but since he has drunk the elixir of immortality and eaten long life peaches, he is impossible to kill. Because he is of the fire element, he's escaped from Lao tzu's crucible and is more powerful than ever. He is on his way here, destroying everything in his path.

Emperor Oh, what are we to do now?

Guanyin Majesty, the monkey's outrage has alerted the Buddha of the Western paradise and he's here.

Buddha *(Buddha and monkey enter from opposite directions)* Put down your weapon, monkey.

Sun What baldy monk are you, asking for trouble?

Buddha I am the Buddha of the Western Paradise. How dare you behave like this?

Sun I am the Great Sage Equal to Heaven and now being stronger and smarter than this foolish Jade Emperor, I intend to take over.

Buddha You're nothing but an impulsive monkey spirit who's learned a few magic tricks.

Sun The fact is that none of them, or even all of them together, can overcome me.

Buddha All right, if you're really so clever, jump off the palm of my hand.

Sun Nothing could be easier. I can somersault through the clouds one hundred and eight thousand miles.

Buddha If you fail, you'll pay penance for 500 years. Agreed?

Sun Sure, Ciao baby. Be back before you can say 'Jack Robinson'. (*flies through sky, to 5 pillars, writes his name 'wu kong was here' and pisses*) Bet you didn't even finish saying 'Jack'.

Buddha Ridiculous stinking monkey. You never left my hand.

Sun Hey, I got to the five pillars at the end of the world.

Buddha Look, and smell. Do you discern a distinctly stinky odor?

Sun Wow! Monkey piss! I don't believe it. (*gets ready to run, but Buddha captures him and puts him in a box*) Hey, what is this, Five Elements Mountain?

Buddha No, Lungmen nuclear power plant. It's as solid as a mountain and not being used now. There you will remain until your master releases you.

Sun Let me out! Not fair! I'll be irradiated. You tricked me. I had no trial. I'll melt in a meltdown. Not guilty! Let me out! This prison is too small. I'm starting to glow in the dark. I need some peach wine.

BLACK OUT

Scene 6

(*Scientists at a black board. Linus is in corner bent over computer, wears glasses, eats snacks, not paying any attention.*)

Max Our current energy practices are utterly unsustainable. We're facing a crisis. 98% of our energy is imported, from coal, oil, and gas. This is not only too expensive but our dependency makes us very insecure.

Albert 40% of it comes from coal that not only pollutes our air but raises our carbon emissions to an unacceptable level.

Sigmund As an island nation, we can't hook up with regional sources. We have to utilize our indigenous sources—wind, solar, hydro, wave-tide, and geothermal.

Max You know we can't develop them fast enough. We don't have the infrastructure in place. We need nuclear and must complete the fourth plant. We can't cut off our only option even if we use nuclear only to help us make the transition to renewables.

Albert The government plans to import more liquid natural gas.

Max Of course LNG is cleaner than oil and coal, but...

Sigmund It still leaves us dependent on other countries—Qatar, Indonesia, Malaysia.

Albert LNG will become more desirable, increasing both the demand and the price. We sell to customers at below the import price and can't continue.

Max And extracting LNG releases methane gas that contributes to global warming. We have no choice but to include nuclear. Renewables cannot replace fossil fuels and nuclear in a single decade. Impossible!

Albert But politically nuclear is 'no go.' We're stuck.

Max People protest against nuclear, but more people have died in coal mines than in nuclear accidents.

Albert They'll protest again when their energy bills double.

Sigmund Coal and oil pollution is killing everyone slowly.

Albert Not to mention that global warming will kill us all. Taiwan already contributes too much carbon emissions; we have the largest coal-burning plant in the world!

Max But we can't go nuclear-free and carbon-free at the same time. If only the Fukushima Daiichi disaster hadn't happened. We wouldn't be facing this problem.

Sigmund People want cheap energy, but they don't like any of the ways we get it. We're headed for the Dark Ages.

Albert We have to reduce consumption. No excuse not to reduce.

Sigmund It's not the public, it's industry that uses too much power.

Max Japan has already gone back to nuclear. It couldn't afford the imports. All other Asian countries are using more coal and more nuclear. What makes Taiwanese think they alone can do without?

Albert We need something new...something we haven't thought of yet, a new energy source that excites people.

Albert That safely delivers.

Sigmund And cheaply.

Max Reliably and consistently.

Sigmund We need....

Albert a miracle.

Max Who is up to the challenge of finding it?

Albert Someone of stealth and determination....

Sigmund Of courage and intelligence....

Albert Strong and handsome, yet scorns all women....

Sigmund Our resident supernerd.

Together *(they nod in Linus's direction)* Linus!

Linus Huh?

Max We've decided only you can infiltrate global systems and bring back the latest secret information on energy generation.

Linus Gee, well I...

Sigmund You have the lowest profile of all of us.

Albert Your expendability will be a great asset.

Linus Well, thanks guys, but I really didn't want to miss the next episode of...(name of TV show)

Sigmund The investigation shouldn't take too long and...

Max And you'll be saving your country. You can't really turn down an assignment like that, can you?

Linus Well, no....

Albert Congratulations. *(all slap him on the back)*

Linus Well, thanks. Uh, so what do I do?

Max Don't worry. You'll have some assistants....and a code name.

Linus Gee, my own code name!

Max *(snaps fingers)* Code name, somebody?

Sigmund Code name: Guanyin 3.5.

BLACK OUT

(sitting above)

Buddha Ah, people down there are really too evil. They don't deserve the beauty of the world. They dig deep holes for oil, they dam up the rivers for electricity. Burn the forests, filling the air with carbon, dump all their wastes in the oceans. Everything they touch they destroy. They're not even smart enough to preserve it for their own good. They really disappoint me and deserve to be punished.

Guanyin They're greedy and wasteful, but give them another chance.

Buddha I have the instructions for alternative energy sources, but they must seek them. If they're smart, they'll embark on green energy. But if not, then, they'll go up in smoke. Like my friend the Christian god said after the big flood, 'It will be fire next time.' The world is heating up....and it will burn.

Guanyin We must find a superhero that will get your instructions and teach people how to change their ways.

Buddha His helpers are ready and waiting, but I don't know where we can find such a smart, brave, willing human...

Guanyin I think I'll know him if I see him. I'll begin the search...ow! (*bumps into Linus who is looking at his phone and not watching where he is going.*) (*sarcastic*) Excuse me. (*he doesn't hear or answer; she says louder and pulls out his ear buds*) Excuse me.

Linus (*surprised*) Oh, okay excuse you.

Guanyin Not me! You idiot, you! Why don't you look where you're going? You don't see, you don't hear, you don't even know when you bump into someone. (*she takes the phone, throws it down*)

Linus Hey, you broke my phone.

Guanyin Yeah? What are you going to do about it?

Linus I have an app that can put together...

Guanyin You have no app because you have no phone. Now what are you going to do?

Linus Gosh, I don't know.

Guanyin You're going to go on a journey and bring back information on the perfect clean cheap energy.

Linus A journey? But now I don't have my GPS. Besides, I'm on a mission.

Guanyin Journey, mission, same thing. Some companions will join you and take care of you. I'll give you what you need to start.

Linus I need my phone.

Guanyin No, you don't. (*exit*)

BLACK OUT

Scene 7

(*standing alone*)

Linus I don't know whose idea this was, and I'm not sure what I'm looking for, or what direction to go. That funny lady said she'd give me provisions. (*he looks in bag*) Clean tee-shirt, bananas, sandwich, instant noodles, and a water bottle. Wow. No candy bar, no money. Not even a credit card. And I'm supposed to trust her when she says people will help. (*sound of car crash*) Uh oh! (*Linus helps Boqin walk*)

Liu Boqin You saw it! It was the other guy's fault.

Linus Absolutely.

Boqin He totaled my motorbike.

Linus Absolutely. Can you walk?

Boqin No way.

Boqin *(Linus helps him up)* Thanks. *(they hear another cry)*

Linus What's that?

Sun My master's come, my master's come.

Boqin Just the old monkey who was shut up in the nuclear plant.

Linus Did they do experiments on him?

Boqin They might have. They don't dare to let him out.

Sun Oh, Master, thank goodness you're here. I'm the Great Sage Equal to Heaven who created havoc five hundred years ago. The Buddha put me under this cement block to punish me. The Bodhisattva Guanyin told me to protect the traveler when he went to find the perfect energy source. I've been waiting day and night for you to release me, Master.

Boqin Mad. The radiation cooked his brains.

Linus Absolutely. *(they go)*

Sun Let me out!

Linus How?

Sun Go to the top. You'll see the secret code. Pray to Guanyin and then recite the golden words Om mani padme hum. *(follows instructions)* *(then everything begins to shake)*

Boqin Oh no, earthquake! Hold on! Ow! My leg. I can't believe my bad luck today.

Linus Oh god, maybe it's an atomic explosion.

Sun *(bursts out)* No, it's Super Sun Wukong! Stronger than ever, but bound by oath to serve you. *(kneels)*

Linus What am I supposed to do with a monkey? I really wish that goddess lady would just give me back my phone. If you're really so strong you can carry Liu Boqin back home.
BLACK OUT

Linus Monkey, it's been a long day. Can you conjure some dinner and a place to sleep?

Sun There's a mansion over there. We'll see if they let us stay the night.

Linus No, it looks too rich; all the lights are shining. They won't take in poor travelers like us.

Sun But there's a little house behind it. (*crying is heard inside. Sun knocks on door and Gao lets him in*)

Gao (*to audience as wife serves monkey and Linus food*) My wife and I didn't know what to think about the strange guests. They weren't beggars, but we weren't sure what they were. We wanted to be good hosts, but sorrow was eating at our hearts.

Linus (*comes out and burps*) Thank you for the excellent dinner.

Sun Mr. Gao, we heard someone crying before we came in, but I don't see anyone else here.

Ms Gao Our daughter is held prisoner in that mansion.

Gao A fat greasy monster keeps her there as his wife. He likes every kind of luxury. Always demanding expensive meats, taking long hot baths, leaving the lights on all night.

Ms Gao The air conditioning is so freezing we can hear our daughter sneezing when she isn't crying.

Gao He's an oil man and he uses a strange tool to make sure the oil pumps keep working night and day. The oil leaks into our water, into our fields. He's been a curse ever since he came promising to make us all rich.

Ms Gao Only he makes a profit. And he's so wasteful, throws away everything he doesn't want. The place looks like a rubbish dump. Twice a day we go clean up, but we never see our poor daughter locked inside.

Sun Well, I have a plan that will convert this pig. (*he puts on wig and mask*)

Bajie (*sound of a big car, honking horn*) I'm home, dear. How about a little drinkee? No, make that a big drinkee!

Sun Here's a drinkee, dear, and some snacks. (*Bajie stuffs in his mouth*)

Bajie Forget the drinkee. (*chases her*) You look so lovely I just want to gobble you up. Gobble gobble gobble.

Sun Oh, you're so cute when you gobble.

Bajie Gobble, gobble, gobble.

Sun Oh dear, you're getting a little spit on your chin. And your nose is a bit runny.

Bajie Come here my beautiful wife and love me to death.

Sun I suppose you made a lot of money today.

Bajie Yes, but I already spent it! (*laughs*)

Sun On me?

Bajie Sorry, honey, investment. More oil drilling. I can't stop now. The easy oil has run out. We have to dig deeper and farther out—it all takes more and more money just to make our enormous profits and keep the stockholders happy. Now make me happy, kissy, kissy.

Sun Well, you should make me happy too. If you don't, the Great Sage Equal to Heaven will come take me away.

Bajie (*grabs his rake*) Oh yeah? Then he can expect a good knock-down fight. No sage is going to mess with me and mine. (*monkey bursts out and fights him*)

Sun (*leaps out as himself*) I am the sage.

Bajie (*after fighting*) Why do you pick a quarrel with me? What have I done to you that you destroy my happiness?

Sun First, you stole a young girl from her parents. Second, you destroy the land with these hundreds of oil wells. And third, you are monstrosly rich and wasteful from the profits from your filthy oil, fourthly.....

Bajie Wait! I serve humankind. Everyone needs oil. Oil makes everything go.

Sun (*punches him*) And that's for making humanity dependent on fossil fuel, and creating global warming and causing oil spills in the ocean. I am a disciple of the great science nerd who is looking for the perfect clean and cheap energy that will put you out of business.

Bajie Not Linus Sanzang? Why didn't you say so? I have been waiting for him. I want to invest in his green project.

Sun No way. We don't want your greenwashing. All your money is polluted. Anything you touch, you'll dirty with your piggy greed.

Bajie I'm sincere. (*to audience*) I know there's no future in oil. Green fuel stocks are a good price right now. There's a lot of money to be made in these new-fangled renewables. Let me join up with you.

Sun I don't trust you. But if you pay your respects to my master, he might let you join us.

Bajie Oh goody goody. I want to get in on the 'ground floor' and invest in anything he promotes. By the way, where's my real wife?

Sun The girl you stole has gone back to her parents, you oaf!

Bajie I guess the good times couldn't last forever. (*keeps trying to nibble, but Sun slaps his hand*)

Sun Getting green and clean is going to be hard for you—nothing to eat but vegetables, nothing to drink but water, and nothing to wear but organic cotton monk's clothes.

Bajie Let me have one last supper, and then I'll be a monk to the new green religion.

Sun *(pulls Bajie by the ears)* Master, I've caught and converted the monster. Even though he is just an oily pig, he wants to be your disciple. He's strong and could be useful.

BLACK OUT

Scene 8

(street scene with people walking)

Linus Gee, for such a rich city, there're an awful lot of beggars. We won't have much chance of begging for food.

Sun I suspect not all of them are as poor as they look.

Linus That little kid. She's so thin and her clothes are just rags. I'd like to help her.

Girl Kind sir, please give me a little money and I'll tell your fortune.

Linus You can do that?

Sun Just superstition.

Girl I can see into the future. I can help you to know the challenges ahead.

Linus *(gives her some money and she takes his hand)* What do you see?

Girl You're on an important quest to find clean affordable energy for all.

Linus No, just 23 million on Taiwan.

Sun And Flower Fruit Mountain.

Girl There's only one answer—nuclear power.

Linus People have already rejected it.

Girl That's because they don't understand and are irrational about it. You, the great science nerd have to explain it so they can accept it. The fourth nuclear power plant was almost finished. Not to use it will be just a waste. Its design makes it twice as safe as the three old ones that are still being used.

Sun Safer than Fukushima Daiichi?

Girl Yes. And nothing will reduce carbon emissions as fast. The huge coal plant has to be shut down. Only nuclear can help Taiwan transition away from fossil fuels.

Linus Are you sure this is the future even with the DPP in power.

Girl Yes, the DPP doesn't like nuclear, but eventually it will have to accept it.

Linus I had better go back and report to the Energy Bureau.

Sun *(suddenly strikes girl and kills her)* No!

Linus You horrid monkey. You've killed this little child.

Sun Look at her body. She's no child but the White Bone Demon.

Linus You're mad, you miserable ape!

Sun She is one of the tricky advertisements for nuclear power, saying 'we're clean' 'we're safe'. Poor little girl, indeed! She was probably getting paid by the industry to deceive you.

Old Woman (*calling*) Has anyone seen my daughter? Oh, what happened to her? Who did this?

Linus I'm very sorry, m'am. There's been a terrible mistake, an accident. You see....

Sun No accident! Can't you see the little girl was too young to be her daughter? You, too, are a White Bone demon. Your radiated skeleton glows right through your clothes. You might fool the nerd, but you don't fool me. (*he strikes her*)

Linus (*horrified*) What are you doing, you criminal. You murderer!

Sun Master, you're deceived. The nuclear companies use an old woman to prey upon your sympathies.

Linus Out of my sight. I don't care what she is or what she's done.

Old M Oh, has anyone seen my wife and daughter....

Sun I don't believe it! Here comes another. (*looks at him closely*) Hey, where are you from?

Old M I'm a Yami from Lan Yu, where all the nuclear waste is stored. Many people complain about it, but I know it's perfectly safe. I live close by, and look how healthy I am.

Sun Lies! The people on Lan Yu suffer higher rates of cancer. If the waste was safe, why isn't it stored under the Taipower building on Roosevelt Rd? Why do they dump it near the homes of poor indigenous people? Next, they'll say my cave on Flower Fruit Mountain is a perfect storage dump. (*strikes him*).

Linus Wukong stop! You're going straight to monkey hell where they'll cut open your skull and eat your brains.

Sun You don't appreciate that I've saved you from some very nasty demons—all the more dangerous because they seem so innocent.

Linus I'm a skeptical scientist. I don't just believe everything I hear. But I know the data from many scientific surveys show that nuclear power is safe, efficient, and clean.

Sun Then why has Germany gone nuclear free?

Linus Germany buys energy from nuclear France. Even Japan has gone back to nuclear.

Sun That doesn't mean that Taiwan has to.

Linus Who are you to say ‘no to nukes?’

Sun I am the Great Sage Equal to Heaven. But you won’t listen to me. (*starts to go*)

Linus Where are you going?

Sun Home. We’re just monkeys. I told my people that we lived in paradise, but they didn’t listen to me either. They wanted to copy you people, who are just digging a deeper grave for the whole world. (*goes*)

Linus Don’t go. I’m willing to give up nuclear if we can find something better.

Bajie He’s too impatient.

Linus I miss him already.

Sandy Don’t worry Master, you’ve got me and Bajie. We’re as strong as the monkey and not so uppity.

Linus Yeah, but not as much fun either. Sorry, who are you?

Sandy Sha Wujing, English name ‘Sandy,’ another of your disciples. I’m an incarnation of the Curtain-lifting General and named after the sand-shifting river, but it would take too long to tell my story.

Linus (*suspicious*) Really? What’s the code name?

Sandy Guanyin 3.5. She sent me.

Linus Oh, okay, welcome. I just wish Wukong didn’t kill everybody he didn’t like.

Sandy Save your energy. That mountain ahead looks steep and we should try get over it before night fall. (*they walk*)

Linus (*coughing*) What’s that terrible sulfur smell?

Sandy Something burning?

Bajie Like a big fart.

Linus Hot steam is rising all about us. Should we run?

Bajie I could fart back.

Sandy Oh! It’s the Yellow Wind Monster.

Linus In this story everything is a monster.

Sandy Master, go up higher to escape it.

Linus Help! Help! There are more vents up here. The steam is so intense I can’t see which way to go. It’s burning my eyes. Help! Help!

Bajie There's the monster, huffing and puffing its stinking rotten egg breath from the Datun volcano. I can try to fight it but I'm afraid my delicate pink skin will get scalded.

Sandy You're already sweating.

Bajie Pigs don't sweat. That's why we have to sit in mud pools to cool down. But don't worry, I'll conquer him now.

Linus Bajie, don't go. (*Bajie fights with monster*)

Sandy Too late.

Bajie The monster is too strong and hot. His breath blasted my face. I'm being boiled from the inside. (*collapses, monster takes the other two*)

Linus Take your hot paws off me, you stinky monster.

Yellow You're a nice tender one. A little thin, but I think my chief will be happy with you.

Linus I'll never tell you any secrets.

Yellow (*laughs*) You think you know anything we don't? Silly boy, we're going to eat you. I will have to decide which way to cook you: Steam slowly, steam quickly, simmer, boil, poach, or sous vide.

Linus Sous vide, what's that?

Yellow It's French for "under vacuum" A special technique where we put you in an air tight plastic bag and cook in water that's a perfectly controlled temperature. La voila! Exquisitely tender meat with none of the taste lost.

Linus You should wait. I'm still not ripe.

Bajie And I'm overripe, almost rotten.

Sandy And I'm too tough.

Yellow Nice try. (*monster laughs and goes*) We'll have to sous vide you at different temperatures as your bodies are so different. Tough one first. (*puts plastic bag over Sandy*)

Linus Sun Wukong, why did you get angry and leave?

Bajie Oh stop moaning for the monkey. My oily hands are slipping out of the ropes. What should I do?

Sandy Put that metal cap on his head to keep the steam from coming out!

Linus Now attach the pipe. Then the steam can go through the turbines and produce electricity. Geothermal is an almost perfect source of renewable energy. It's almost carbon-free, doesn't put out poisonous gas or create radioactive waste, doesn't require cutting forests, doesn't

take up lots of room, and doesn't destroy the view. It's replenished by the natural heat of the Earth, and it's cheap!

Linus (*Bajie unties them*) Good going, Bajie.

Bajie You mean I did something right?

Linus Very right.

Bajie There, you see, pigs are as intelligent as monkeys. And I've found the answer we're looking for.

Linus Alas, no. Taiwan doesn't produce enough.

Bajie I'll force the monster to work harder.

Linus And geothermal has to be used right at source. It doesn't travel or store well.

Sandy We can put a refrigerator next to it.

Bajie Right-o. Ice cream. Cold beer.

BLACK OUT

Scene 9

(*walking tiredly*)

Bajie Are you sure there isn't more we can do to develop geothermal. If I twisted the arm of the Yellow Wind Monster he'd tell me where more volcano monsters are.

Linus We'd need them right in the middle of the city. The other problem is that it's difficult to dig and control the outflow. I'm afraid we have to keep searching.

Sandy Don't look now but I think the Black Wind monster is heading this way.

Linus It's really yucky brown.... (*Black Wind only laughs loudly*) Ah, it just looks like ordinary pollution to me. If Taiwan cut down the number of cars and the EPA did its job forcing factories to clean up, this monster would wither away.

Sandy No, he's leaping out of those coal-powered electricity plants.

Sandy Covering everything around him with black dust, blocking the sun. This one is so hard to fight; tiny particulates seep into the blood and lungs

Linus He's already eating us from the inside.

Bajie I don't feel anything. Don't worry. I'll go cut down his long neck.

Linus Oh no, his black fingers have got me by the throat. I can't breathe.

Sandy I can't breathe either. His strength has exceeded 2.5; his purple face is turning black with rage. Let me go!

Bajie (*swings blindly*) I can't see! The coal dust is blinding me.

Linus Bajie, if you can you still breathe, run for Wukong. (*Bajie exits*)

Linus (*Black Wind laughs and captures Sandy and Linus*) Now what are you going to do?

Black Eat you.

Linus Of course. Why does every demon in this story want to eat me?

Black Wu Cheng-en must have been hungry when he wrote the novel.

Linus Human flesh tastes bad, and mine is filled with toxins from city smog and pesticide-coated food.

Black Toxins are my spice. What kills you, makes me stronger! Not many city people come this way and I've been craving some tainted flesh.

Sandy I hope you're not going to sous vide us.

Black What?

Sandy This wind isn't so cultured.

Black I'm going to eat you raw. (*laughs, lights darken, freezes*) Drat! They've turned off the plant for awhile and my particulates are dispersing. I have to wait until its burning at full power again.

BLACK OUT

(*at monkey kingdom*)

Bajie (*panting*) Sun Wukong, you've got to come.

Sun (*lying down and eating fruit*) You're so fat you pant after 500 steps.

Bajie Please return.

Sun No, my monkey kingdom is suffering attacks from hunters—killing our people and stealing them for laboratories. I have to stay and defend them.

Bajie I'll let you tease me as much as you like.

..

Sun Are you getting bored having no one to argue with?

Bajie Exactly. Come back, monkey. The master regrets his anger.

Sun Will he apologize?

Bajie Apologize? Why should he? You killed three people.

Sun Not coming. They were demons and I saved his life.

Bajie (*goes away*) Foolish baboon, he'd rather be a monkey than a monk. Stupid ape, fit for only picking nits. He deserves to be struck by Zeus' thunderbolt.

Sun Arrest that porker. How dare you curse the Great Sage. (*monkeys catch him, turn him upside-down, grab his bristles, pull his ears, tug his tail, twist his hair*)

Bajie Enough! Tell them to stop. Great Sage, our Master is in deep trouble. The Black Wind Monster is going to eat him. You've got to save him!

Sun Stupid pig! Why didn't you say so in the first place? Jump on my cloud. (*they go*)

Black (*waking up*) Ah, the electricity plant is fired up again and so is my hunger.

Linus I'm vegetarian. It's against the rules to eat me as meat.

Black Who says? I respect no religion. I turn all shrines and temples black.

Sun Stand back, you disgusting pollution monster. (*puts on mask*)

Black Great Sage, you have no power over me. My particulates will penetrate your membranes. That silly mask won't protect you. Your eyes will turn red and sting from my smoke.

Sun Oh, my hair is falling out!

Linus Wukong, shut down the electricity plant. (*Sun flips a switch or presses a button*)

Everyone (*shouting offstage*) Ting dian! Ting dian!

Black (*freezes and laughs*) Hah! That might stop me momentarily, but you'll have to turn it on again. I've penetrated everything, stick to everything. I'm blown around and seem to disappear, but I always come back.

Sun Not if we find your cousin who is much cleaner and nicer.

Black You mean, that wimpy clear stuff, LNG?

Sun Exactly, liquid natural gas, still a fossil fuel demon, but not as evil.

Black Not as cheap either.

Linus You're not cheap once you figure in all the health costs. (*Wukong goes to untie Linus*)

Black LNG is imported and needs a docking port. My uncle CPC is still negotiating with Taidian. Nothing is ready. You've depended on me all these years; you can't get rid of me so fast.

Sun Even if I can't kill you, I can put you back where you belong.

Black Where's that?

Sun Deep in the earth. (*he begins to suck, bloating up his body and then blows the coal back through a hole in the ground*) Now stay there another million years.

Bajie (*blowing his nose*) The sky already looks a bit cleaner.

Linus (*cleaning his glasses*) He put a film over everything. I don't know why people endured him for so long.

BLACK OUT

Scene 10

(*they come to a river*)

Linus Wow. This river looks like it's a hundred miles across. I don't think we're in Taiwan any more.

Sun (*reads*) RIVER OF HEAVEN, 250 miles across; few travelers have been here.

Sandy You can just somersault over it, but what are the three of us going to do?

Linus We have to find a boat.

Bajie (*looks about*) No boat.

Sun Those waves look really big—it's probably too dangerous to cross. We have to go back to the village, and think of a plan. (*they walk to house and hear crying*)

Linus That doesn't sound good.

Sun Perhaps we can help. (*he knocks, and door is opened, Chen, frightened, shuts it again*)

Linus (*knocks*) Excuse us, we're looking for shelter for the night.

Chen You look okay, but your friends have to go to the stables in back.

Linus They may look strange but they are also holy pilgrims...pilgrims.

Chen All right, but we're poor and don't have much to offer.

Linus Thank you. We'll pay for our meal. (*they eat*) We don't like to intrude, but....

Sun Why were you crying?

Chen Every year a boy and a girl are sacrificed to the River Demon to bring rain to the farmers. This time my daughter and my brother's son must go.

Sun That shouldn't be too difficult to deal with. Bajie here and I will substitute the boy and girl, confront the demon and slay him. Pig, this time it's you who have to change into the little girl.

Bajie Me? (*he says a magic spell and his head is a girl's but he has a big belly; everyone laughs*)

Linus No good. Your belly is outrageous. *(pig says different spell, no change)*

Sandy Your belly defies all magic.

Sun Try again! It's so much fun watching you strain yourself.

Bajie You ape! I can't change anymore. Use one of your 72 transformations on me.

Sun *(blows on him and he changes into Girl)* That should do it. Now, I'll become the boy.

Chen Bravo! We'll take you to the temple by the river with all the other food offerings for the demon.

Linus And Bajie, no eating until your work is done.

C Guan If you give yourself away, I'll hit you with my staff, girl or no girl.

Demon *(loud humming noise in the background)* Fee Fi Fo Yum yum, who makes the sacrifice to feed my tum?

C Guan Royal sir, this year Mr. Chen has the honor.

Demon Is that so? *(to himself)* Very odd. The boy doesn't seem a bit frightened. What's your name?

C Guan Chen Guan.

Demon According to the custom, I should eat you first.

C Guan I've no objection. Go right ahead. Enjoy.

Demon Huh? You telling me what to do, smartass? Then I'll start with the girl instead.

Girl *(high voice)* Oh, it's better to follow the old custom.

Demon Shut up! I won't have two brats telling me what to do. *(he grabs Girl who hits him on the head)* Ow! What kind of kids are you? *(he runs away)*

C Guan Don't chase him. I can't follow in the water. We have to think of a plan. *(exit)*

(in the river demon court, loud humming sound)

Perch Mother Did you have a delicious sacrifice? Did you bring back any leftovers?

Demon No banquet for me, no scraps for you. They tricked me, but I'll get revenge. If you have an idea of how to catch them, I'll let you take the first bite out of their Master.

Perch Mother I do have a plan. Listen. *(she shouts in his ear)*

BLACK OUT

(at Chen's house; they are celebrating)

Linus *(laughing)* I wish I had been there to see the monster try to eat Bajie.

Sun I'm worried he'll want revenge.

Chen I'm also worried. The river demon blesses us with rain for the crops. If he's angry and brings no rain, we'll all die.

Sandy Could you build up the fire? It's suddenly gotten terribly cold.

Chen Brrrr. It does seem colder than usual. *(looks out)* It's snowing! And the River has turned to ice.

Linus Good, if it's frozen we can cross it.

Chen The ice won't be thick enough.

Sun We must test it first.

Bajie I'll hit it. *(he hits ice and his body shakes)* It'ssssss vvvvvery ssssolid.

Chen I still think you should wait.

Linus But we're eager to be on our way. *(they slip and slide across the ice)*

Bajie Everyone carry your pole sideways in case the ice cracks. Then you won't fall in all the way.

Linus *(suddenly there is a crack and Linus falls through)* Waaaaa! *(monkey jumps in air, Bajie and Sandy swim away. Demon and perch mother tie up Linus)*

Demon Your plan worked.

Perch I'm worried the others will come back to rescue him.

Demon We'll prepare the feast and you get the first bite

Perch Let's wait until we've defeated them before enjoying the tender meat. *(pinches Linus)*

Demon Good idea.

Linus Yeah, good idea.

Demon Clamp him in a clam shell!

Sun *(enter, to Bajie and Sandy)* You two are more comfortable in the water, so you go first.

Bajie You can ride on me. *(Sun puts on snorkel and rides on Bajie)*

Sandy Here's Sea Turtle House—perhaps it's where the demon lives.

Sun But I see only dead turtles caught up in nets or suffocated by plastic bags. What's that noise? I can't stand it.

Sandy It hurts my ears!

Sun I can't hear you. I am going to see if I can find the master.

Bajie I can't hear you. I'll wait out here.

Sun (*shouting*) Master, master, are you in here?

Linus (*shouting*) Wukong, is that you? I can't hear you.

Sun Master is that you? I can't hear you?

Linus Help! They want to eat me.

Sun Just let them try. (*Demon enters*) All right, you old fiend. The Great Sage Equal to Heaven is here. Come out and fight. You can't hide from me.

Demon Oh dear, it's the Great Sage!

Perch Don't fight him—you won't live if you do. (*she whispers to him*)

Demon Another excellent idea. Great Sage, your master is safe in an air bubble, so don't worry. But we also have a problem. If you can help us, we'll turn over your master, and no longer require child sacrifice.

Sun What? I can't hear you!

Demon That's the problem, the terrible noise! Many of us water creatures rely on echolocation to escape enemies and catch food. The noise confuses us completely.

Sun Where does it come from?

Demon The wind turbines above us create vibrations that magnify under water.

Perch And now it's more than just noise. It's also magnetism

Demon See those tanks over there? They generate electromagnetism from wave power. We sharks, turtles, and fish use magnetism to direct us in our migrations and these new machines are throwing us off course.

Sun You mean they can make energy from waves? Wow!

Demon They provide energy for *you*, but *we* pay the price.

Perch Waves have too much energy and are hard to control. Tides are better, more predictable. But tide machines create problems for the shore birds and animals.

Demon Fortunately, the technology is still rather primitive. That's why we want our voices heard before it gets too loud and nobody can hear us.

Sandy The good thing is that fishermen won't come in because their nets would get tangled up in the cables. You'll be safer.

Demon But larger fish and whales also get caught.

Perch Many island countries are using wave and tidal energy. All the structures make our migrations too difficult. We'll die.

Demon We just want to be left in peace. Well?

Sun This is too difficult for me. You'd better ask our nerd Master.

Demon *(lets him out)*

Linus Thanks, guys. Let's go. This noise is driving me crazy.

Demon And you don't even have sensitive ears like ours. This is our home. We can't go.

Sun *(to Linus)* You won't let me destroy those machines, will you?

Linus No, they're just in an early stage and need to be improved. Scientists are experimenting to test their effects on marine life.

Demon They don't care about us. You see that electric eel over there. He's Miguel Wattson sending out tweets with his own electric power—S-O-S.

Linus Wow, that's so cool. Look, I'll make a detailed report. I can't promise you a solution, but I'll stress the need to reduce the noise.

Demon Why should we believe you? Monkey, use your magic powers, do something now.

Sun I've got it! You know the conch shell you put to your ear and can hear the sea. I'll take a conch shell and when the scientists put it to their ears, the noise will deafen them.

Demon Good idea. But you, nerd, have offered nothing.

Linus Well, gee, I can't...

Demon *(takes Linus's glasses)* So we'll keep your glasses as ransom.

Linus But hey! I can't see!

Demon Just right. You can't see and we can't hear. When you get rid of the noise, we'll give you back your glasses. Remember, we could have eaten you!

Linus Yeah! Great deal. Let's go, guys. *(stumbles blindly)*

Sun This way, Master.

BLACK OUT

Scene 11

(walking on road)

Sun That's strange—the stream was flowing strongly and then disappeared.

Sandy It just flowed underground.

Linus I wanted to meditate beside it. The sound of the rushing water is very refreshing.

Bajie Well, at least now it's easier to cross.

Linus I'm tired and hungry.

Bajie Hey, that's my line.

Linus I haven't had any real food since we started. In Taipei I can get great vegetarian food, not this tasteless monk stuff.

Sun Don't mention food or will have to start listening to the pig's stomach growling.

Bajie I've seen you nibbling on your tail hairs.

Sandy Hunger makes us all bad tempered.

Linus I'll get some food at the next town.

Sandy There's a cave up ahead. Maybe someone's living there.

Sun Let me check it out first.

Linus No, I'll go. *(he stumbles without his glasses)*

Sun Hold on! It's an earthquake.

Sandy Goodness, there're a lot.

Sun It's the work of demons underground.

Linus Demons, again! It's all you think about. I'll be back shortly. *(he goes, sees 4 women sewing)* Oh dear, only girls. I'm not very good with girls. Without my glasses and phone, they'll just laugh at me. Oh, it smells so good! Dear little sisters....

Spider 1 *(laughs)* We're not as young as we look.

Spider 2 Nor as old as we sound.

Spider 3 We just sew and sew like Odysseus's wife Penelope

Spider 4 Waiting for her husband's return.

Linus Why do you work inside a cave?

Spider 1 It's cooler, of course. Come in out of the sun, and rest yourself. (*she pours water*).

Linus Yes, it is more comfortable. (*tastes water and puts it down*)

Spider 2 The coolness keeps our silk threads more taut.

Spider 3 They stretch but not too much.

Spider 4 They're soft but strong.

Linus Very nice embroidery. Such high quality silk must be expensive.

Spider 1 Indeed, but we spin it ourselves.

Linus (*earth shakes again*) Oh, another quake.

Spider 2 We're so used to them we hardly notice.

Linus I don't think I could.

Spider 3 It's just mother getting dinner ready. It's been a long time since we've seen such a nice young man.

Linus Uh really.

Spider 4 A little on the scrawny side, but...

Linus That's it. I'm famished. Surely you can spare a little food.

Spider 3 Yes, we're always cooking.

Spider 4 (*calls*) Mother, have you finished? (*mother enters*)

Mother I felt the vibrations in the web, I mean, I heard a voice, so I knew we had a guest.

Spider 1 Please feed him; he's very hungry.

Mother With pleasure. (*serves flies and insects*)

Linus Uh, this looks delicious, but I'm afraid I'm a vegetarian.

Mother Vegetarian? What kind of monster is that?

Linus I eat only vegetables...no flesh.

Spider 2 Not even insects?

Spider 3 They're full of protein. They may one day feed the world.

Linus If people were vegetarians, we wouldn't have to worry about feeding the world or creating greenhouse emissions.

Mother You talk nonsense like a spoiled child. Just eat what I've given you and be grateful.

Linus I'm sorry, I can't. I'd better go.

Mother You'd better stay right where you are. (*girls block his way, play with him like a ball, then tie him up with silk ropes*)

Spider 4 You'll be so delicious later on. Come, sisters, let's take a bath in the Filth-cleansing Spring before dinner.

Mother The clean water is all gone; there's only waste water left.

Spider 2 We don't mind, do we, sisters? (*exit*)

Sun Something's happened. The nerd is in trouble...

Bajie Or he's having one hell of a feast without us.

Sun Wait here. (*he becomes an eagle and spies on the girls who are off stage; he steals their clothes*) Sandy, Bajie, some she-devils have captured our master. I've stolen their clothes.

Sandy That's an odd way to rescue him.

Bajie No, it's perfect. I'll go force them to release him.

Sandy You need help?

Bajie With naked ladies? Absolutely not. (*Bajie spies on spiders, Sun and Sandy spy on Bajie*)

Spider 1 (*screams*) Who stole our clothes?

Spider 2 Don't worry, it won't take long to weave new ones.

Bajie Dear ladies, having a bath? The water looks nice. I'll join you. (*splashes in*)

Spider 1 You filthy pig. Get out!

Bajie You have a friend of mine. I want him back. Otherwise, I will have to take your lovely selves back with me. (*chases them*)

Spider 3 Sisters, tie him up.

Bajie Not so fast. You see this rake of mine. It is like a spaghetti fork—I just wind the silk like noodles around and then gobble it up. Like this!

Sun Yuck!

Spider 4 Mother, Mother, help us.

Bajie How do you like your new silk clothes now?

Mother (*aside*) Foolish pig. I can take care of him. (*she puts poison in the food*) Sir, you must be a very hungry hero. Here, have something to eat.

Bajie Just what I need. (*he is drugged and falls asleep*)

Sun (*flies in*) But you won't catch me so easily.

Mother No, I'll eat you right now. (*they fight, and Wukong makes himself small goes inside her, she burps*) Delicious, I haven't had monkey meat in a long time. New laws are against it.

Sun Indeed! I'm inside, but I'm indigestible. I'll give you such a tummy ache you'll beg for mercy.

Mother I have hundreds of stomach acids and chemicals that will dissolve you in an hour. They are strong enough to cut through rock and release the oil and gas inside.

Sun I'll give you gas, all right, you fracking freak. I know why you spiders hide in caves, going deep into the earth where no one can see you. But your chemicals seep into the groundwater and poison it. The cracking of the rock creates earthquakes and subsidence.

Mother But everyone likes our cheap oil and gas.

Sun Not the people who live near your cave! No more fracking. It's too violent, and besides it uses far too much water—water better used in hydroelectric.

Mother What do you care? There's no fracking in Taiwan.

Sun It's part of the global market Taiwan buys from.

Mother That's too big for you, little monkey, to change.

Sun But I can make you groan, just like the earth with all the pumping, cracking, forcing, gushing. How does it feel to be fracked? (*she burbles up different color liquids, Monkey jumps out*)

Linus Wukong, over here. Cut me loose. They were going to eat me....again.

Sun Speaking of eating, where's the pig?

Sandy He's been paralyzed with spider poison. But he'll be okay.

Linus Let's get out of here; this cave gives me the creeps.

Sandy But how to get out—it's a maze, full of cracks and tunnels.

Sun Careful, it could all come collapsing down on us. I see a little speck of light.
Follow me.

Sandy But the light's moving. (*buzzing sound*)

Linus Follow it anyway—it's all we've got. At last, out of that cave. (*they all blink except Bajie who is still drowsy*)

Sun But what was our guide? A firefly?

Linus No, I see it now—an Oriental hornet. It's the only animal that can convert sunlight into energy like plants. Catch it! (*Monkey chases it and it stings Bajie*)

Bajie (*jumps up*) Ow! (*then blinks*) Turn off the spot light. Get the sun out of my eyes.

Sandy That's not just the sun—it's the reflection from that temple roof. It's gleaming super brightly. Perhaps we can rest and get some food there.

Bajie It shines like polished gold.

Sun That's because it *is* polished gold.

Sandy It's also inlaid with little mirrors! Don't look too closely; it'll burn your eyes.

Scene 12

Bajie We'll soon find out. (*he starts to knock and the door opens*)

Priest The priest of the Yellow Flower Temple welcomes you. Please sit down and refresh yourselves. I've heard about your daring adventures to find the perfect energy source, and I have to say, you've finally come to the right place.

Linus Really? Please tell us.

Priest Eat and drink first. Discussion after.

Bajie My sentiments exactly.

Linus I won't say 'no.' Our body needs energy too.

Priest And just like the food we eat, there's no absolutely perfect energy source. If food was perfect, we'd digest all of it, wouldn't we, and not have to expel any waste?

Linus You're right. I never thought about that.

Bajie Me either.

Sun Anybody who's smelled your waste has!

Priest The vegetables we eat are stored energy from the sun; those who eat animals eat an even denser consolidation of sun energy.

Bajie So all that we ever eat is always just sunlight?

Priest With a little water, minerals, and chemical transformations thrown in, but 'yes.' The sun is the cornerstone of all life.

Linus Wow! So harnessing the sun's energy directly is probably the cleanest cheapest method.

Priest Almost. The Earth receives more energy from the sun in one hour than is used in the entire world in one year. But our photovoltaics cannot store the energy when the sun doesn't shine, and the slightest imperfection on the surface of a panel, reduces its efficiency—just a bit of dust, or a leaf.

Linus Geez. It's too bad we couldn't uncover the secrets of the oriental hornet. I hoped solar would be the answer. The sun is free.

Priest But capturing it's energy is still expensive. And to make the silicon for the PV panels, a deadly chemical is used.

Bajie This is really discouraging. Perhaps we should just go back home.

Sun Back to your oil business? Did you feel at home with Mother Spider and her fracking?

Bajie I liked her daughters better.

Sun You're still the same greasy pig. My hydro is far better than your oil.

Sandy I rather like tidal power myself, if we could get rid of the noise.

Linus And the all scientists I work for all believe only nuclear can efficiently reduce carbon emissions. Perhaps this is the end of our search.

Priest Oh no, I don't want to discourage you. Come, I'll show you our array of panels. And then perhaps, instead of trekking all the way back home, you can ride in the first solar powered airplane. You know, it just completed its first world tour.

Sun *(they look at the panels)* Wow, this is very impressive. And Taiwan produces a lot of the solar panels.

Priest Yes, but mostly for export, and it must import the metals to make them. To produce enough to keep Taiwan's electricity users happy, you'd have to cover 700 square kilometers with panels—where are you going to find that much land?

Linus Rooftops is the logical place to start.

Sandy *(whispers to Sun)* I've been thinking....did you hear about that SOLAR company employee who stole hundreds of kilos of gold used in making panels?

Sun No. Do you think the Priest was involved, storing the gold on the temple roof?

Sandy It's possible. Jump up on your cloud and take a look.

Sun You're right. There are dozens of dead birds up there. They look like they've been fried right out of the sky.

Priest (*secretly coming up*) You've discovered my secret. Inside the tower are huge mirrors that concentrate the sun's light...

Sandy ...and create a bird-blasting death ray.

Priest ...that directly boils water to create steam energy—virtually no carbon emission and much more effective than those thousands of the PV panels below.

Sun Are you using the mirrors to conceal the gold you stole?

Priest Brilliant, eh? But you won't stop me. Only I have harnessed the great power of the sun and can turn it against you. (*takes off jacket and reveals shiny mirror on his chest*) A thousand eyes of flashing gold light—I can reflect the entire tower of power and burn your eyes right through. (*they fight, monkey keeps on bumping into things*)

Sun He's blinding me, but more than that, my head is going soft, like an overripe melon. I have to find a way to turn his fire power back on himself.

Sandy Wukong, make him bend down and his sun power will set fire to the tower's cables below.

Sun Good idea!

Priest Help! Help! I'm burning. (*his reflectors burn him, exit*)

Sun Run away! The whole temple is going to explode. (*they run off, sound of explosion; they rest and catch their breath*)

Bajie Too bad. And it seemed like such a good idea.

Linus They are good ideas, they just fell into the wrong hands. Look at the moon—it reflects the sun's light and doesn't hurt us.

Sun Doesn't create energy either.

Linus I always feel energized by the moon. Makes me want to howl like a wolf.

Bajie Since we're all feeling happy to be alive, let's celebrate with a little wine and poetry under the moon. (*pours wine*)

Sun Where did you get that?

Bajie I stole it from the Priest.

Sandy We're offered polluted water, poisoned tea, and you dare to drink wine?

Bajie If you're afraid, I'll test it first. (*drinks*) Ah, elixir of moon drops.

Sun Listen to him, one sip and he's a drunken Li Bai!

Linus Not bad for a pig poet. Wukong, how long do you think we've been traveling?

Sun (*counts*) About four years.

Linus Shouldn't we be graduating soon?

Bajie Have we grown wiser?

Sun You haven't. You're not even thinner.

Linus The first Sanzang and Sun Wukong faced a lot of difficulties, but they had it easier than us. They knew what they were looking for. We don't even know that.

Sandy But remember, they were tricked and first given empty scrolls. They had to go back for the real sutras. We too, have to keep trying.

Sun You're right. We have to keep going.

Bajie What? We're never going back?

Linus We can go back home, but never to the old methods. The fossil fuel past is over.

Bajie Ah, the good old days when you just tapped the ground and oil came spurting out!
Black gold.

Sandy Now it has to be green gold.

Bajie Not the same. Too much work. More wine.

BLACK OUT

Scene 13

(On the road, they stop to wipe the sweat from their faces and take off clothes)

Linus My god, it's already so hot and we've hardly started.

Sun (*jumps up*) Those mountains ahead are fiery red. Perhaps the Yellow Flower temple started a forest fire when it exploded.

Sandy You're right; flames are licking the sky.

Bajie Hey, we could go North instead of West. It'd be cooler.

Sun We have to help put out the fire. We might have started it!

Bajie *You* might have started it.

Sun Trying to rescue *you*, you fat, drunken, lazy, ugly, despicable pig!

Bajie Enough with the compliments. I'm hungry.

Sun (*sarcastically*) Maybe there will be a 7-11 around the next bend. (*he goes ahead of the others*)

Girl (*pushing a cart*) Cakes! Cakes for sale.

Sun I don't believe it! Here, boy. I'll buy some. Ah! They're too hot.

Girl If you don't like the heat, don't stay here. It's always hot.

Sun But how do you grow wheat for flour?

Girl Princess Iron Fan has a plantain fan; if she fans once, the flames go out, twice, the wind comes, thrice, the rain comes and we grow our wheat.

Sun So all I have to do is borrow her fan to put out that fire on the mountains.

Girl She won't let you, unless you bring offerings. She wants two sheep, two pigs, 100 cakes....

Sun I don't have time for that. I'll be there before you can say "Jack Robinson." (*flies and calls out*) Princess Iron Fan, the Great Sage Equal to Heaven has come politely requesting to borrow your Fan to put out the forest fire.

Iron What? My enemy has come right into my home. I will destroy him. (*holds a sword*)

Sun What is this show of enmity? I come only to put out an evil fire.

Iron Obviously you don't remember I'm the mother of Red Boy. You ruined him, and now you will pay with your life.

Sun Red Boy? Red Boy? He isn't in this play. Sorry, I've forgotten all about him.

Iron Well, I haven't. Stick your head out for me to hack with my sword. If you can stand the pain, I'll lend you the fan. If you can't, you go straight to King Yama. (*she strikes him and it doesn't hurt him*)

Sun Now the fan, please.

Iron You want my fan? All right, I give you my fan, you stupid ape. (*she waves it and it blows him around*)

Sun (*blown around, then clings to a rock*) I must have been blown a thousand miles.

Lingji 17, 000 miles to be precise.

Sun Who are you?

Lingji The Bodhisattva Lingji. What are you doing here?

Sun I was blown here by Princess Iron Fan.

Lingji Her fan is an ancient treasure formed by Heaven and Earth. I'll give you a Wind-fixing Pill to withstand it.

Sun Thank you. Wow! Everything used to be so easy—just a little magic pill and everything was solved. Now we have to use complicated technology. Please excuse me. (*flies off*)

Iron (*watches him come*) I see that the ‘sage’ is back again. Stupid ape. Can’t he learn?

Sun Dear Princess, I, again kindly request the use of your fan. I only want it a short time.

Iron Come here, ape, if you dare. This time I’ll destroy you once and for all.

Sun This time, you’ll do no such thing. (*they fight; she fans him and he doesn’t move*)

Iron All right, you win. I’ll let you use the fan, but you must return it to me in 24 hours.

Sun No problem. (*takes fan, flies to his friends*)

Bajie So this is the famous fan? Doesn’t look so impressive.

Linus Good work, Wukong. Let’s go. (*they walk, they sweat, their feet burn*)

Sandy It’s getting too hot. I can’t walk further.

Linus Wukong, use the fan and put out the fire.

Sun The first wave should quell the flames.

Bajie The flames jumped higher.

Sun The second wave ushers in the clouds

Sandy The flames are spreading more quickly.

Sun The third wave brings the rains.

Linus The fire has shot up to the sun. Everybody run!

Bajie Help! Run! It’s coming toward us! (*running till they rest in a safe place*)

Sun That damned Princess gave me the wrong fan. I’ll teach her to fool with the Great Sage. I’m going to turn into her husband, the Bull Demon King. He left her to go live with a concubine. She should be very glad he comes to visit her. (*disguises himself*)

Iron Dear husband, to what do I owe the pleasure of your company? Now that you have a new wife, you rarely see me.

Bull True but I never forget you. Recently I have been bothered by that rascally monkey, the Great Sage. I know you hate him too for what he did to our son.

Iron Indeed, he’s given me lots of trouble. But I’ve always kept the upper hand.

Bull Good, good. Together we can destroy him, and avenge Red Boy.

Iron Come, have a drink with me.

Bull My pleasure. How did you overcome him?

Iron First with wind. The second time, I pretended to give into him and gave him the wrong fan. Instead of putting out the flames, its wind made them worse.

Bull *(they laugh)* Excellent trick. But I'm afraid he'll be back to try again.

Iron He'll be angry as a hornet this time. I'm glad you're here to fight him.

Bull Where's the real fan, so I know it is safe?

Iron Don't worry. *(she spits it out)*

Bull How could such a little leaf put out a fire?

Iron Your new wife must have made you forget everything. You must tap it seven times, saying, 'Hui-xu-bei-xi-xi-chui-bu'.

Bull *(he repeats to himself, then takes off Bull mask)* Foolish Princess, see who you've been talking to!

Iron Oh, I could die with shame. *(pretends to faint)*

Sun What you do now is not my affair. *(flies to his friends)* Come, now I have the right fan. No time to waste. *(waves at the sky)*

Bajie The clouds are gathering...

Sandy The rains are coming...and the flames are going out. The air smells fresh and cool.

Linus Thank goodness it worked. I was afraid we were seeing global warming setting the world on fire.

Iron *(enters humbly)* Great sage, give me back my fan.

Bajie I like that, shameless woman. We spared your life.

Iron You promised.

Bajie Be gone, before we change our minds and kill you.

Sun How do we know you won't stir up dry winds and start the fires again?

Iron You don't. Winds bring clouds and rain, winds also stir up fires and blow the ocean waves. It is the way of wind. Leave me in charge of the fan.

Sun All right; I know you only fought me because you thought I harmed your son, but Red Boy is now with Guanyin and on his way to becoming a bodhisattva. You need not worry about him.

Iron Thank you. I'll be the beneficent guardian spirit of the winds and provide their gentle blowing. But if people keep heating up the earth, I won't be able to prevent the typhoons, tsunamis, and hurricanes from getting stronger. That's beyond my control.

Linus We understand.

BLACK OUT

Scene 14

(windy place, they are clinging to rock and clothes)

Sandy We're almost at the top of the mountain. We should get a good view soon.

Linus I can't see anything without my glasses. But this side of the mountain is certainly windier. Those gusts are really strong.

Bajie That damn Iron Fan Princess. She broke her word as soon as we turned our backs.

Sandy Hold on, master, or you'll be blown away.

Linus She must still be very angry.

Bajie I told you! Wukong, you should never have trusted her. Now look, she sends an army of wind monsters with thousands of waving arms and sharp swords against us.

Sun They don't frighten me. Thirty giants churning up the air, all of whom I mean to engage in battle and slay. For this is righteous warfare, and it is God's good service to sweep so evil a breed off the face of the earth.

Bajie Huh? What's he talking about?

Sandy I have no idea. He sounds like he's from another planet where they speak weird English.

Linus Not another planet, another novel. He thinks he's Don Quixote!

Sandy Why not? It might be one of his 72 transformations.

Linus Wukong, hold on. Those aren't what you think they are.

Sun It is easy to see, that thou art not used to this business of adventures; those are giants; and if thou art afraid, away with thee, and betake thyself to prayer while I engage them in fierce and unequal combat. *(puts on knight's helmet)*

Bajie He's lost his mind.

Sun Fly not, cowards and vile beings, for a single knight attacks you. *(he attacks the turbines)*

Linus This is what happens when you have too many demons spinning around in your head. Help him. He's getting smashed.

Sun (*staggers*) I think Princess Iron Fan has turned these giants into wind turbines in order to rob me of the glory of vanquishing them. But in the end her wicked arts will avail but little against my good sword. (*attacks again and gets knocked down, hits his head*)

Bajie He must have done some good; the turbines have stopped churning up the wind.

Linus They don't churn the wind; the wind spins them and generates electricity.

Sandy You mean, Wukong was trying to destroy the solution?

Linus Well, one of them. Even the wind of Princess Iron Fan can't be perfect.

Bajie Why not?

Linus People don't like the turbines—they blot the landscape.

Bajie Strange. They didn't mind hundreds of my oil drills "blotting" the landscape.

Linus They complain the noise gives them a headache. That's why the offshore wind farms are better.

Sandy What people can't see they don't care about. But the River King cares—the noise and structures damage the echolocation of his people.

Sun (*waking up*) Shall I destroy more?

Linus No, we just have to come up with a better model and place them more carefully.

Sandy There's a monastery up ahead. I'm sure we can get some medicine for Wukong and rest there.

Linus Good idea. Then we'll plan our next step.

BLACK OUT

Scene 15

(they sit around a table with food)

Bajie Master, I've decided to go home. We've wandered all over, seen many sights, endured many dangers, but we haven't found the energy solution.

Sun You can't give up yet. You haven't profited from your investment.

Bajie I don't think I ever will. This green technology is going to take too long and be too expensive.

Linus Oil and nuclear were expensive too. You just got subsidies from the government and tax breaks; green energy needs the same support.

Sandy But he's right. We haven't found the right answer.

Linus Not one method alone is perfect; they're all pieces needed to complete the puzzle.

Sun Then we can all go home?

Linus I guess.

Sandy But all the so-called green alternatives cause damage to the earth, water, air...in different ways. That doesn't make me feel enlightened. It makes me feel depressed.

Bajie What to do?

Sun We've come to the end of this mission....but perhaps it's only the first step of the journey.

Linus What do you mean?

Sun We've come as far as we can...for the moment. Let's meet again next year and see if we can go further.

Sandy Have our own convention on climate change!

Linus Let's meet at the Chen's house and see how the farms and river are doing. Then we can walk in a different direction to see what new developments have happened over the year.

Sandy Good, now I don't feel quite so hopeless. Good-bye everyone, till next year!

Sun Bye, Sandy, *(to Bajie)* Bye, you fat slob. I'll miss twisting your tail. *(he walks away)* Bye, nerd, get some new glasses. *(they go, Sun Wukong stands near Waterfall Curtain Cave, thinking. Dragonella comes out of the water)*

Dragonella Silly monkey, giving up?

Sun You talking to me? No way. The Great Sage....

Dragonella Equal to blah, blah, blah.

Sun I'm tired. Leave me alone.

Dragonella I told you the answer is right under your nose.

Sun Partial answer. Natural hydro is unreliable, especially with climate change and irregular rain fall.

Dragonella So, pump the water back up to the top of the waterfall. That way you always have enough. A recycling loop. Pumped-storage hydro is the best renewable energy source available. Mingtan at Sun Moon Lake has been doing it since 1995.

Sun Why do you tell me this now?

Dragonella Your monkey mind wouldn't have listened before.

Sun I'll begin work on it tomorrow.

Dragonella Tonight, the falls are full and beautiful. Shall we celebrate with a little peach biofuel?

Sun Ah, absolutely.

Dragonella Look, fireflies.

Sun I wish the patriarch had taught me how to convert their light.

Dragonella There are still many secrets.

Sun True.

Dragonella But it's important to remember the big picture, the consequences of our actions. Not to injure others when we find solutions for ourselves.

Sun Now you sound like Linus the nerd.

Dragonella Actually, he's my brother. My father got tired of his smart phone addiction and asked Guanyin to cure him.

Sun Let's set off on a different kind of adventure. (*embraces her*)

Dragonella Suits me. (*kiss*)

BLACK OUT

Scene 16

(*Jerry still dreaming*)

Jerry No, no, oh, yes, yes, yes, oh thank you, thank you, yes, more.

Mary Jerry, wake up.

Jerry I don't want to. I want to stay in my dream. I'm solving the whole energy crisis.

Mary Yeah? That's why it's dream.

Jerry We have to dream the solution before we can pursue it.

Mary You haven't even written your paper for (teacher's name) class.

Jerry Forget the paper. (*goes to computer*) I'm going to create a new game—find the best energy source. I'll set it up so that anybody can play for free—then if everyone is working on it from different angles we might be able to come with some amazing new solutions.

Mary (*doubtfully*) Will it be fun?

Jerry Of course. "Journey to the Source." Code Name: Guanyin 3.5.

BLACK OUT

END