

Sunshine's Last Wish

A Short Children's Play

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Cast of Characters

BAS: The Poor Writer. Any age and gender of Filipina/o descent. Pronounced like Boss. Short for Basilia/o.

MAX: The Rich Producer. Any age and gender of Filipina/o descent. Short for either Maxima/o.

Setting

Anytime. Anywhere.

Lights up on BAS and MAX.

BAS
For the last time, this play will work, Maxima/o!

MAX
I have to disagree, Basilia/o.

BAS
It's a time-cherished tale.

MAX
Meaning that it's been done before.

BAS
But not the way I will be writing it!

MAX
It's Aladdin. Everybody knows Aladdin. And I don't want to be sued by Disney, again. Besides, we already know the story: someone gets three wishes and they live happily ever after! Story done.

BAS
But the Genie in our play...

MAX
Not my play. Your play, Bas.

BAS
In *our* play, Max, the Genie will be Filipino and his name will be, Apolinario. And he won't be coming out of a lamp, he'll be coming out of a barrel.

MAX
Making him a barrel man?

BAS
Better. A Barrel Genie!

MAX
Okay... so who finds this Barrel Genie named Apolinario?

BAS
A lost girl named, Maribel.

MAX
Hmmm... not Maribel.

BAS
Marisol?

MAX
Too many stories with a Marisol.

Then... Sunshine. BAS

Sunshine? MAX

Your daughter would love that name. BAS

I hope so since that's her name too. MAX

It is? Wow. What a coincidence. I never knew.... BAS

So Sunshine finds a barrel and she rubs it like a lamp? MAX

No. She lifts it up. BAS

It's supposed to be a family show! MAX

It will be! BAS

Then he better wearing something underneath the barrel. MAX

Well, he is a barrel man. BAS

But if this is going to be a play for the public... with kids in the audience... and if *I'm* going to be producing the play with *my* money then Apolinario will need to be wearing something. MAX

He'll be wearing a bahag! BAS

Ooo... a Barong Tagalog! MAX

A barrel man doesn't wear a Barong?! BAS

What about a bahag... and a barong? MAX

Ahhh... doubling down on marketing the Filipino Culture? BAS

That's why I'm the producer.	MAX
Quite right.	BAS
So, Sunshine lifts the barrel..	MAX
In <i>OUR</i> play, she lifts it three times. And on the third lift, the Wooden Man becomes a Genie!	BAS
Ohhh... and then Apollo / gives her-	MAX
Apolinario	BAS
Apolinario grants her-	MAX
Sunshine	BAS
Grants Sunshine three wishes?	MAX
Yes.	BAS
Ahhh... and since she's a lost one, she must be starving, right? So, her first wish should be for food! Like...	MAX
Lechon Kawali	BAS
Lumpia	MAX
Adobo	BAS
Lumpia	MAX
Pancit	BAS
Lumpia	MAX

Menudo BAS

 LUMPIA! MAX

 Filled with ground pork, carrots, green beans, raisins... BAS

 Raisins make me utot. MAX

 No raisins! Definitely no raisins! But it will be filled and fried to a perfect crispy golden brown that crunches even though it's been dipped into a bowl of Sweet & Sour- BAS

 Mmmmm... MAX

 Ketchup? BAS

 What the?! MAX

 Don't judge. BAS

 Fine. But ketchup? MAX

 Fine.. A bowl of Vinegar BAS

 Yes! With garlic and salt and pepper. MAX

 Masarap! BAS

 (Beat.)

 Ahhhhh.... BOTH

 So... what does she wish for after she's finished eating? MAX

 Naturally, she'll wish for a credit card with unlimited money! BAS

 Then she could buy all the food in the world! MAX

BAS

Like, Leche Plan! [pronounced pl-ah-n]

MAX

Oh, Leche Flan. [pronounced fl-ah-n]

BAS

Plan.

MAX

Flan.

BAS

Plan!

MAX

We are talking about the same dessert, di ba?

BAS

I could taste it now.

MAX

Oooo... me too! What else does Sunshine need?

BAS

She'll need somewhere for all that food and a place to sleep.

MAX

Like a mansion?

BAS

Or a castle!

MAX

Yes! She could buy a big castle with 200 hundred rooms!

BAS

With a game room!

MAX

And a bowling alley!

BAS

And a swimming pool!

MAX

And a family room the size of-

BAS

A movie theater-

MAX

That will stream every movie ever made.

BAS
Netflix, Disney Plus, and Amazon Prime...

MAX
Don't forget HBO Max, Hulu, and YouTube...

BAS
... but late at night, Sunshine would still wish for something more.

MAX
How could she wish for more!? With those two wishes, she'd already have everything! A kitchen full of her favorite food, like Leche Flan.

BAS
And don't forget the Lumpia.

MAX
Who could forget the Lumpia? And late at night, she could fall asleep watching her favorite movie in a family room filled with everything I would die to have!

BAS
Everything except for a family.

MAX
She doesn't have a family?

BAS
Remember? Sunshine became a lost one ever since she got separated from her family while vacationing at Disneyland.

MAX
Disneyland?

BAS
When she saw Snow White's castle she couldn't help but walk towards it. And right when she reached its gates, she turned around and never saw her family again.

MAX
No! So, if she used her first wish on food and her second wish on a credit card to buy the castle... then her last wish needs to be able to see her family again!

BAS
I wish it were that easy.

MAX
What do you mean?

BAS
Apolinario had a gambling problem and when he lost a bet, he lost Sunshine's last wish to a blue Genie from a place called Agrabah.

MAX
I told you, I don't want to be sued by Disney, again. So, no Agrabah in your script!

BAS

And when Apolinario told her that he couldn't grant her the third wish to see her family, Sunshine cried so much that the moat around the castle caused a flood.

MAX

Well, that's not a happy ending at all. Who's going to want to watch a sad fairy tale?

BAS

But Apolinario found a loophole because he felt so bad for what he did.

MAX

There's a loophole to the Genie Contract?

BAS

Oh yes. It's like the Santa Clause. But that loophole came with a cost.

MAX

Couldn't she put that cost on her credit card?

BAS

Again, not that simple. Even though Apolinario gambled away her third wish, he found a solution: if Sunshine wanted to make one last wish, she would have to give up her first two wishes.

MAX

What?! You mean, no more Lumpia?

BAS

Nope.

MAX

What about the Leche Flan?

BAS

Gone.

MAX

No more credit card!?

BAS

If she wanted her last wish, she would have to say goodbye to her warm bed, all the lumpia she could eat, and the streaming movie theater.

MAX

Oh, no! I didn't think I could get even sadder.
So, what does she do?

BAS

What's enough food to eat if there is nobody to share it with? What fun is it to watch your favorite movie when there's no one to laugh or cry with? What good is a warm bed if there is no one to tuck you in, kiss you on your forehead and say, "I love you" as they turn off the lights.

BAS (CONT'D)

So when she made her last wish to see her family again, all the food, the movie theater, and the bed went away in a puff of smoke.

And when the smoke cleared, she was standing in front of Snow White's castle and heard a familiar voice yelling,

"SUNSHINE! Hoy! What are you doing there!? You come back here right now or you're going to get the belt or the slipper?! Belt or the Slipper?! How many times did I tell you not to go off galivanting around like that?! If you keep doing that, you're going to be lost forever! Do you want that, huuuhhhh?! Susmariyosep! Come here! Halika dito!"

And as she reached out to grab her mom's hand, Sunshine let out a big smile and walked away from that castle because she was truly home again.

The End.

END OF PLAY