1. At the Festival

words by Lauren Taslitz

music by Emily Chiu

A Festival. Aesthetic is Tanabata (literally “Star Festival,”) crossed with Mario Galaxy. Cosabella, a princess, is a weaver of silk tapestries and robes, elaborately embroidered with butterflies, blossoms, magpies and other whimsical designs. She is a vendor at the fair. Roy, a princess, has come to sell his sheep. For Cosabella and Roy, who live in the Milky Way, being vendors at the Festival is their way to visit Earth once a year. A feeling of merriment pervades. Magpie, far SR, observes.

much hustle and bustle. \( q=120 \)

MAGPIE
Once upon a time, there were a Prince and a Princess who had jobs as a herder and a weaver. One day each year, they left their homes in the Milky Way to attend a Festival on Earth, where the Princess sold her tapestries and the Prince sold his sheep.

Pno.

CHORUS 1

Mar ve lous acc i dents hap pen at the fes ti val!

CHORUS 2

Mar ve lous acc i dents hap pen at the fes ti val!
1. At the Festival

CHORUS 1

O - pen to Non-Anglo Sax ons is the fes ti val! The street jug - glers are jug - gling

CHORUS 2

O - pen to Non-Anglo Sax ons is the fes ti val! And the

Pno.

CHORUS 1

The sheep her-ders are herd - ing but the sheep they herd will soon

CHORUS 2

bird - ie birds are bird - ing The sheep her-ders are herd - ing but the sheep they herd will soon

Pno.

CHORUS 1

die! Prin ces and prin - ce sses min gle at the fes ti val!

CHORUS 2

die! Prin ces and prin - ce sses min gle at the fes ti val!

Pno.
Passerby (PB) stops at Cosabella’s booth. Roy is nearby and listens to their exchange. Magpie reacts to following dialogue.

COSABELLA
Good day. Do you like magpies? Would you like to see a magpie blanket?

PASSERBY
(repulsed) Magpies? Magpies are pests.

COSABELLA
Ta-pestries I’ve woven.

ROY
Alas! No more delaying to my cloven friends; fare thee... bye.
ROY
Oh, no. Magpies are beautiful, and very intelligent. It is said that a magpie can recognize itself in a mirror.

COSABELLA
They are so intelligent that a group of magpies is known as a parliament.

MAGPIE
(pleased by unexpected compliment) Which would make me Prime Minister.

Roy and Cosabellas’ eyes meet. A heart confetti cannon fires. The passerby exits. Roy and Cosabella are transfixed. Cosabella is the first to snap out of it.

COSABELLA
What a very sweet sheep!

ROY
Sweet. And tender. So long she’s not over-cooked.

COSABELLA
Cooked?

COSABELLA
41. At the Festival
ROY
Not this one. Bella is my friend-

COSABELLA
Her name is Bella? My name is Bella! Princess Cosabella.

ROY
My name is Roy. Prince Roy.

(Cosabella stands and begins to scratch where she’d come in contact with Bella.)

COSABELLA
Prince! Truly? Do you reside in a castle?

ROY
In a meadow, mostly.
COSABELLA
Where is the meadow?

ROY
In the Milky Way.

COSABELLA
I dwell in the Milky Way! Which part?

ROY
The Eastern-most part.

COSABELLA
I dwell in the Western-most part! What a remarkable coincidence that we should meet the one day a year I come to Earth for the Festival.

ROY
I also visit Earth once a year to come to the Festival. (beat) Suddenly I feel as if we are living in a fairy tale!

CHORUS 1
Fairy tales generally happen at a festival! So

CHORUS 2
Fairy tales generally happen at a festival! So

CHORUS 1
common destiny happens at the festival! Will there be a happy ending

CHORUS 2
common destiny happens at the festival!

For
CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

Pno.

CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

Pno.

CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

Pno.

CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

Pno.

CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

Pno.