

INVISIBLE MOONS EP. 2

Written by

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PANEL 1 - EXT. DAY

The opening is a top down shot of Zenith's quad where banners are shown pointing to a Spring Student Activities fair. Groups of students are seen talking and laughing among one another at the tables.

PANEL 2 - CLOSE UP

There is a close-up shot of one student speaking directly to Nina and Jo off-panel. The student rubs the back of their neck uncomfortably.

STUDENT 1
Ehh... a band sounds cool, but I'm
already in debate.

PANEL 3 - CLOSE UP

There's a second close-up shot of another student. The student speaks loudly and excitedly.

STUDENT 2
A band? Wait, are y'all Never the
Error??

PANEL 4 - CLOSE UP

A final close-up of another student. They nonchalantly fiddle with their fingernails.

STUDENT 3
I can only play the bassoon. Does
that count?

PANEL 5

We see Nina and Jo sitting at their kiosk table on the university's lawn. The kiosk is decorated with twinkly lights, fabric and a sign on its front that reads "Invisible Moons Seeks New Member!" with a stack of flyers sitting on the table. Both Nina and Jo prop their heads up with their elbows, lean against the table and let out huge sighs.

SFX
Sighhhhhhh

PANEL 6

Jo lies head first onto the table as Nina looks on.

JO
We've been at this all daaaaayyy.
This is hopeless Eshe.

NINA
Now what makes you say that?

PANEL 7

Jo props herself up and spreads her arms wide, for effect. Her face is turned up in frustration.

JO
What makes me say it? Look around! Everyone's either already in a club for the year or has absolutely no musical talent. Like zero. None. At all.

NINA
Yeaaaaaa I was just hoping you wouldn't say it.

Nina props both elbows up on the table now, head down with her fingers at her temples.

PANEL 8

Nina sits up with a shrug to her shoulders.

NINA
Well, that just means we have to look that much harder to find someone right?

Jo crosses her arms.

JO
And what exactly does that entail?

NINA
Expanding our search! The fair was just the first step, we gotta spread the word even further.

JO
Oh sis, we definitely don't got permits for that.

PANEL 9

They get up to leave, Nina clasping onto the stack of flyers. Jo starts to clear the table.

JO
But alright Eshe, let's go while there's still time before my next class starts.

PANEL 10 - LATER. - INT. DAY

Jo and Nina sneakily post flyers onto bulletin boards in different academic buildings.

PANEL 11 - INT. DAY

The two talk to some students passing by in a dorm building.

PANEL 12 - EXT. DAY

Nina skates down a street in town posting flyers onto lampposts while Jo stands on a block, in view, talking to some folks.

PANEL 13

At a local coffee shop, Nina orders a drink and Jo sits at a table checking her phone. They've finally taken a break after passing out most of the flyers.

PANEL 14

Nina yells after the barista, thanking him for her drink and heads towards the table to join Jo. Jo fiddles with her outfit some.

NINA

Aye! If you're ever interested in switching your controller for a set of drums, you call me Anthony!

JO

You kidding? You'd be lucky if he let you cop some of HIS old equipment. Ant never parts with any of that junk.

PANEL 15

Nina settles into her seat, latte in hand.

JO

Seriously though Eshe, I admire all the effort you're putting in. I just hope we actually find someone after all this.

NINA

Aw, you worry too much. But I really do appreciate all the help you've been with everything. It can't be easy trying to balance this stuff your first year.

PANEL 16

Jo swats a hand away.

JO

Eh, I'm over freshman year. Besides it's either this or doing cosplay shoots in all my free time. I just wish there was more I could do to help.

NINA

Oh, there might be one small thing...

Nina gestures, pinching her fingertips together.

PANEL 17

Jo raises an eyebrow.

JO

And what's that?

NINA

Calling the others?

Nina speaks apprehensively as a sweat drop slides down her temple.

JO

....you haven't told them have you?

PANEL 18 - ZOOM OUT

The shot zooms out to show the outside of the shop while Nina and Jo's speech bubbles can still be seen.

NINA

I was waiting for the right time! They listen to you, it'd be easier if you called them.

JO

If you forgot to plan practice, just say so you phony.

PANEL 19

A shot shows the outside of the Zenith's School of Music building.

PANEL 20 - INT. DAY

The next shot moves to a particular music classroom where two students, River and Fatimah, meet with Nina and Jo. Fatimah, on the right, is dressed in a peach crop top with a designer shawl and light washed jeans. She has on pear earrings and matching accessories in her blond bob-cut hair. She leans on the professor's desk still at the front of the classroom. River, on the left, dons a sporty short sleeve hoodie and has her frizzy, curly brown hair pulled back into a ponytail.

FATIMAH

The battle of the bands?

PANEL 21

Nina fishes the competition flyer out of her pocket.

NINA

Yup, they just started advertising for tryouts so I think it's the perfect time to start getting prepared!

JO

We wanted to run it by the two of you to see what you all thought.

PANEL 22

Nina hands the flyer to Fatimah.

FATIMAH

Us? The battle of the bands? Where real bands play?

JO

We're a real band.

PANEL 23

Fatimah glosses over the flyer's contents.

FATIMAH

According to who?

JO (*MUMBLES*)

Not her girlfriend I'm assuming.

Jo mumbles to Nina who is standing beside her.

PANEL 24

Fatimah narrows her eyes a bit at Jo while Jo looks away innocently.

FATIMAH

Try according to the judges of last year's competition who booted us in the first round.

PANEL 25

Fatimah folds the flyer back into a neat square.

FATIMAH

Look dolls, perhaps it's time we just face facts. What with a pressing spring schedule, my parent's insistence on my debut, and Nina! Your impending graduation

-

Nina glances away nervously.

NINA

Uhhh, well...

FATIMAH

Perhaps we should just stop wasting each other's time.

PANEL 26

Fatimah crosses her arms, pointing a finger towards everyone else.

FATIMAH

I mean, look at us. What do we have to show for all this time we've spent packed in this classroom like rats?

JO

Well, that's not really a positive attitude peach.

Jo pouts with her hands on her hips, facing Fatimah.

FATIMAH

I only speak the truth.

PANEL 27

Nina clenches her fists at her sides.

NINA
 You're right. Since you two joined
 us, we haven't really done much...

PANEL 28

She suddenly presents the Invisible Moons flyer from
 earlier, holding it up dramatically.

NINA
 But that's why I want to change
 things with this!

PANEL 29

Fatimah and Jo exchange questioning glances with one
 another.

PANEL 30

River pipes in, almost absent-mindedly. They toss a wadded-
 up song sheet into the air while laying against the
 windowsill across the room.

RIVER
 So have you had any luck finding a
 drummer?

PANEL 31

Fatimah closes her eyes and holds one hand on her hip, as
 she speaks to the others.

FATIMAH
 Exactly. Because I'll assure you,
 the last thing I'll do is go up in
 front of a crowd of my peers and
 embarrass myself. It may not be the
 same for you, but people expect
 things from me.

JO
 Peach!

Jo cuts her eyes in Fatimah's direction.

PANEL 32

Nina responds a bit anxiously.

NINA
 Well, we've been -

JO

Don't worry about that. Eshe's been working really hard to find our poetic missing puzzle piece okay?

As Jo interrupts, she holds an arm up in front of Nina to stop her.

PANEL 33

Nina looks down towards the crumpled up flyer in her hands with a slightly dejected look on her face.

PANEL 34

Suddenly, Nina's face turns up into a small smile while she still stares down at the piece of paper.

NINA

You both remember when we scouted you right? Fatimah, I used to squat outside your concert orchestra class your freshman year.

PANEL 35

Fatimah smiles, recalling the memory.

FATIMAH

Yea, it's a wonder you didn't flunk that semester.

Nina looks up at River now.

NINA

And how lucky it was that Jo's friend knew you from orientation River.

River responds, in view, with a silent nod.

PANEL 36

Nina looks back at her own hands, an excited expression curling onto her lips.

NINA

And do you all remember that moment we played together for the first time? What it felt like? Even if it was just here being in this room, it was like...

FATIMAH

Don't say some cheesy shit like
'The world was our audience' or
something.

Jo tries to stifle her laughs and River smiles.

PANEL 37 - SIDE PANEL

Nina jumps up, pointing towards her friends with passion.

NINA

That's the exact cheesy shit I'm
talking about!

PANEL 38 - SIDE PANEL

Nina looks back down, somewhat solemn.

NINA

I just... I'm really glad we found
you both. And I want us to have
that feeling again. I want to make
that feeling real. At least once.

PANEL 39

Jo, Fatimah and River share empathetic looks with one
another.

PANEL 40

Jo steps forward, pointer finger raised as to gesture along
with her suggestion.

JO

Okay, so how about this. If we find
a drummer in time, will you two
agree to do the battle?

PANEL 41

Fatimah sighs while River nods.

FATIMAH

Ughhh fine, no need to start waxing
all poetic now.

PANEL 42

Jo looks toward River and Fatimah.

JO
But for real, how long should
finding a drummer take?

Fatimah turns her attention to Nina.

FATIMAH
Not everybody's suited for it. Or
even skilled for that matter. Nina,
there's no one in your program you
can think of?

Nina holds up her arms a bit in defeat.

NINA
Nah, everyone I know's already got
their own thing going on.

PANEL 43

She then holds up a finger as she exclaims.

NINA
But! I have a really good feeling
about this. I even did a reading
last night.

Fatimah rolls her eyes.

FATIMAH
Here we go...

JO
Ooo, do tell. What did the cards
say to you my dear?

River looks on silently but expectantly.

PANEL 44

Nina closes her eyes and responds happily.

NINA
To embrace change brought about by
a fated encounter.

FATIMAH
What's that supposed -

PANEL 45

They are interrupted by a voice and knocking by the door.
The 4 of them glance up towards the doorway, looking to
someone off-panel in surprise.

UNKNOWN VOICE (OFF-PANEL)
Umm, excuse me?

SFX
Knock, knock

PANEL 46 - WHITE BACKGROUND

UNKNOWN VOICE (OFF-PANEL)
Is this room 308?