

Wizards of Waverly Place
"The French Are Coming"
Season 1-ish
Lillian Gardner

PAN UP: EXTERIOR SHOT OF TRIBECA PREP

INT. CLASSROOM – DAY

Alex and Harper are seated for class. Gigi and her friends are also in the class.

Mr. Larry Tate enters the room

MR. LARRY TATE
(cheerful)

Howdy colts, fillies, and foals!

The class groans in unison

MR. LARRY TATE (CONT.)
Groan all you want, I have some exciting news

ALEX
(sarcastically)
You've decided to stop referring to us as farm animals?

MR. LARRY TATE
No, Alex. I am excited to announce that Tribeca Prep will be hosting an exchange student for the next two weeks.

HARPER
(to Alex)
Ooh! Where do you think they're from? Spain? Korea?

Harper leans in closer to Alex

HARPER (CONT.)
(whispers)
Argentina?

Mr. Larry Tate leans in

MR. LARRY TATE
Actually

Harper is startled and jumps back in her seat

MR. LARRY TATE (CONT.)
Miss Chloé Dupont will be visiting us from France

GIGI
(exclamation)
The supermodel?!

The class breaks out in conversation

MR. LARRY TATE
Now, now, calm your horses!

Alex raises her hand

ALEX
Mr. Larry Tate are you now saying that we own horses? I
thought we were horses.

MR. LARRY TATE
Oh, nevermind. Chloé will be here by the end of the day.

Mr. Larry Tate exits

ALEX
Hear that Harper? The French are coming!

Alex neighs
Harper laughs and joins in

TITLE SEQUENCE

FADE IN
INT. HALLWAY - DAY
Alex and Harper are standing by their lockers. Chloé walks
in surrounded by students. With her are Gigi and her
friends.

HARPER
Look at her! She's so sophisticated! I bet she's had all
those fancy French meals!

ALEX
Like the one with the snails? I'll pass.

HARPER
It's called escargo.

Shot of Gigi and friends with Chloé

ALEX (CONT.)

I can't believe Gigi and her dumb friends are kissing up to her like that. What's so special about Chloe?

HARPER

Not to be nitpicky, but I believe it's pronounced Chloé.

ALEX

(annoyed)

C'mon Harper.

HARPER

(meek)

Sorry.

Gigi and her friends walk by

GIGI

Those pants are so moche.

Gigi's friends laugh

GIGI

(whispers to Alex)

That means your pants are ugly!

ALEX

Since when do you speak French Gigi?

GIGI

Since Chloé Dupont started going to our school, duh!

Gigi turns to her friends and they start walking away

GIGI (CONT.)

We should ask Chloé to go with us to that new French restaurant.

ALEX

(yells after them)

Yeah you do that! I hear snails are great this time of year!

SCENE TRANSITION

FADE IN

INT. WAVERLY SUB STATION DINING AREA – AFTERNOON
Harper is sitting at the bar. Theresa is wiping down tables.
Alex is off screen making a sandwich for a customer.

Justin enters from EXT., followed by Max.

JUSTIN

Mom! You're never gonna believe what happened today at
school!

THERESA

I live with Wizards, I think I can handle it.

JUSTIN

Our English teacher paired me and Max together to write a
poem for the Tribeca Prep Poetry Slam

MAX

Wait, do you think there will be wrestling? I can't get
hurt! My face is too beautiful.

JUSTIN

See what I'm working with here?

Alex enters in from the kitchen.

ALEX

Oh please, it's poetry. You could write anything and be just
fine.

Alex gives a customer their sandwich.

ALEX (CONT.)

Bon appetit! Ha! Maybe I do speak French!

JUSTIN

Mom, I don't know how I'm going to do this. If our poem is bad, then I get a bad grade, then I fail this class, I don't become valedictorian, I never become president. There's a lot at stake here and my partner is Max.

THERESA

Well you'll just have to find a way to make it work between you. In your life you'll work with plenty of people you don't like.

Theresa looks at Alex.

Theresa shakes her head, walks off, and continues cleaning tables.

MAX

I was thinking we could write something about sandwiches. After all, salami begins with "slam".

JUSTIN

(confused)

No it doesn't!

MAX

Makes you hungry though, doesn't it?

Alex and Harper are at the bar

Chloé, Gigi, and their friends enter from EXT.

CHLOÉ

Puis-je avoir un sandwich au jambon, s'il vous plaît?

ALEX

What?

Gigi

Oh Chloé, they don't speak French. They aren't like us.

HARPER

Actually, I've been studying!

Harper pulls a book from her bag.

HARPER (CONT.)

(with heavy American accent)

Bonjour. Où est la bibliothèque?

Harper turns to Alex

HARPER (CONT.)

(excitedly)

I just asked where the library is!

ALEX

(sarcastic)

That'll be useful.

Gigi scoffs

GIGI

That was awful. C'mon Chloé, we still have tons to show you.

HARPER

Ooh! Can I come? Not to brag, but I know all the spots where that silver man performs—

HARPER (CONT.)

(angrily)

—and he's going to pay for what he did to my family!

GIGI

Oh, sorry Harper, we would invite you, but you don't speak French and Chloé might not understand you.

CHLOÉ

I am actually quite fluent. I've seen a lot of American movies like the one with the lost fish, and the princess without the shoe—

Gigi grabs her arm and starts dragging her out of the Sub Station

GIGI

Gotta go! Lots of New York to see! I was thinking we could start with the Empire State Building—

CHLOÉ

What about my sandwich?

Chloé, Gigi, and their friends exit to EXT.

ALEX

This whole French thing is pointless. When is Gigi ever going to use that? I've been taking Spanish all of high school and never used it.

HARPER

Doesn't your mom speak Spanish?

ALEX

My mom annoys me in one language you really think I need her to annoy me in two?

SCENE TRANSITION

FADE IN

INT. RUSSO KITCHEN/DINING/LIVING AREA – AFTERNOON

Justin and Max are sitting at the dining table

JUSTIN

So I was thinking for our poem we could do something classic, like a couplet, then switch it up with a tercet, and just when their comfortable with that, hit 'em with another couplet!

MAX

Why does it matter what kind of cups we're using?

JUSTIN

No, Max, a couplet. It's two lines that rhyme. And we're doing this my way because it needs to have structure and be grammatically correct.

MAX

(in thought)

Hm. Like a person.

Justin shakes his head in bewilderment

MAX (CONT.)

(with lots of pauses and expression)

How about, "Summer good, winter bad, wet pizza, Max mad."

JUSTIN

Or, we could do something different. I mean, you didn't use a verb anywhere in those sentences. How about this, you write your poem, I'll write mine, and when we're finished we'll go to our English teacher and have her tell us her favorite.

MAX

You're on!

SCENE TRANSITION

FADE IN

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Max and Justin are alone in a classroom with their English teacher

TEACHER

(crying)

Max... that was the most beautiful thing I've ever heard!

JUSTIN

What?

MAX

(at Justin)

I guess I just have a way with words.

TEACHER

(still crying)

Your commentary about how teenagers are tempermental without stability in the home is so moving.

JUSTIN

That was a line about pizza! And it wasn't even a complete sentence!

MAX

Hey man, she said it was beautiful!

JUSTIN

But his haiku component was too short! Haikus are only 3 lines and he didn't even do that!

TEACHER

It's not about that. It's about the emotion. What an artist.

JUSTIN

Well, do you at least want to hear what I wrote?

TEACHER

Oh, Justin, lunch period is almost over and I need to scarf down this tuna salad, but why don't you go with what your brother wrote. You could learn from him.

Justin looks confused.

SCENE TRANSITION

FADE IN

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Harper is walking through the hall filled with students

HARPER

Hey, have you seen Alex?

Student A shrugs

HARPER (CONT.)

Do you know where Alex is? 'Bout this tall, brown hair, looks like she's up to no good?

Student B shrugs

HARPER

Where could she be?

Harper walks past a supply closet

Alex's voice comes from the supply closet.

ALEX

Bonjour.