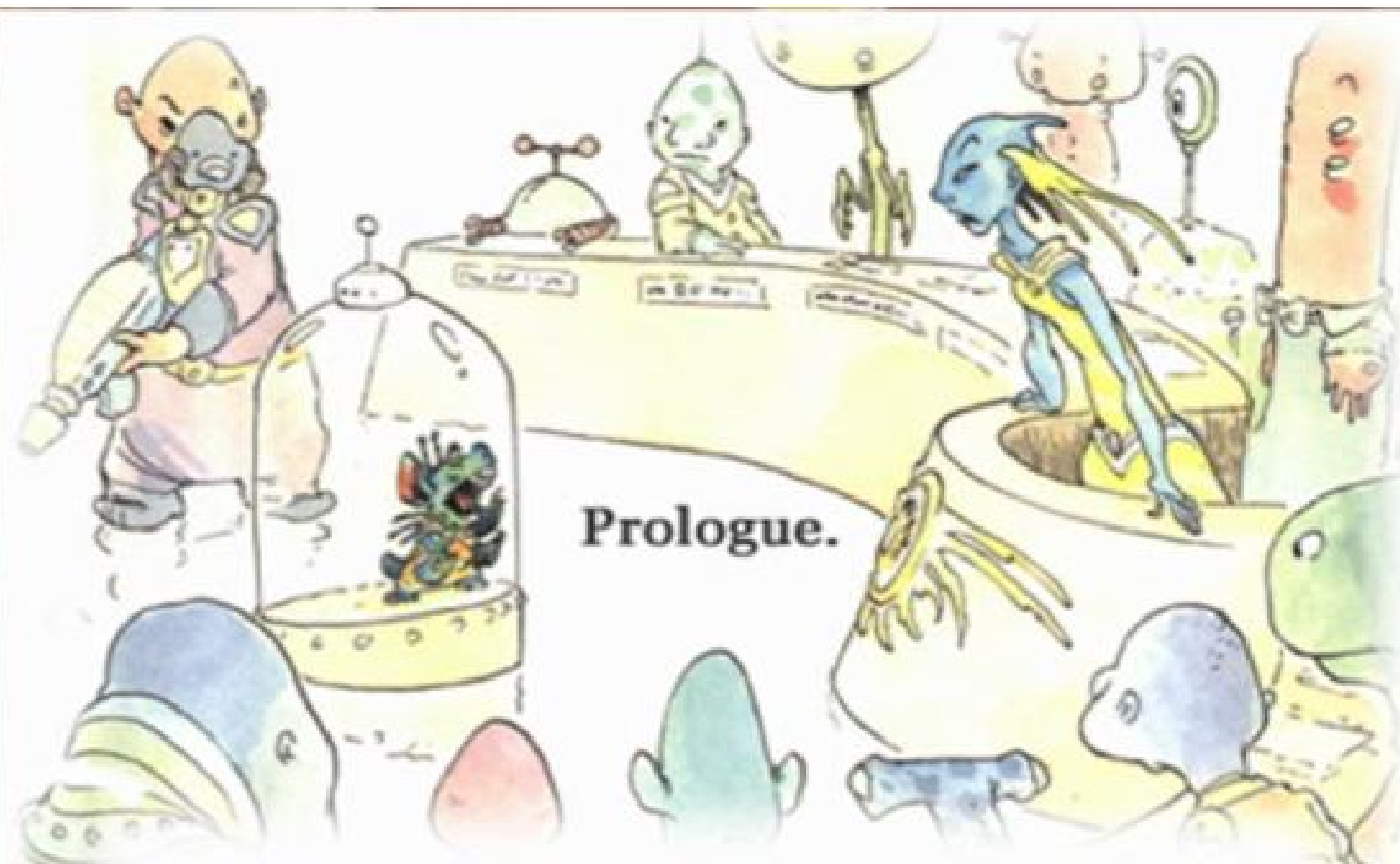


Lilo and Stitch

A love story of a girl and what she thinks is a dog.

By Chris Sanders





Prologue.

Stitch, the most dangerous creature in the known universe, has been found guilty of twelve thousand counts of hooliganism and attempting to enslave entire planets.

Stitch is sentenced to be imprisoned forever on a maximum security asteroid.



On the prison transport ship Stitch hangs upside-down in his cell. Stitch grins, looking very confident for someone who is bolted into a block of concrete. The scene is interrupted as the armada of police ships comes under attack by Stitch's gang.

Stitch uses the distraction to break out of his cell and steal an escape pod. Free again, Stitch leads his squadron of hooligans in a ruthless and efficient attack on the police ships. During the shootout, a lone police cruiser manages a direct hit on Stitch's pod. Fearing another capture, Stitch quickly engages his unguided hyper-drive units as a last, desperate gamble to escape.

“WHERE IS HE?” screams the grand councilwoman as she bursts into the control room. The police report that Stitch will enter the atmosphere of a planet called Earth in a matter of hours. It will only be a matter of days before he enslaves or destroys the planet. The universe might not be far behind.

Jumba, a large, bounty hunter is summoned to extract – or if necessary – kill Stitch. Because of the sensitive nature of the assignment, he is paired with Cultural Contamination Control agent Pleakley. Jumba is unhappy with the deal – he only works alone.



Act 1.

**“What’s the
sign for
Hawaii,
again?”**



Lilo stands in a line of other five year old girls at Hula class. The teacher shows her, and they begin their exercise. Several times during the class Lilo stops to ask odd questions: what the signs are for Pele, volcanoes, lava, and mass destruction.

One of them tells her that she is crazy. Another tells the teacher she doesn't want to dance with Lilo anymore. A look of deep hurt crosses Lilo's face. The teacher begins the lesson again, keeping a close watch on Lilo.



After class Lilo hurriedly puts her costume in an old military duffel bag and runs barefoot down a gravel road that weaves through her small town.

Nani, her older sister of twenty-four, arrives home and gives Lilo a big hug and kiss. She can see from Lilo's face that things did not go well for her again today. The two girls have lost their parents and are coping as best they can.

Nani explains that if Lilo's teacher thinks there is something wrong at home, she will call the child welfare department, and they will take Lilo away. Lilo runs from the table, leaving her frustrated sister alone.

Nani knocks gently on Lilo's door and peeks in. She sees Lilo sitting on her bed, already in her pajamas, combing what remains of her doll's hair. Nani asks if it's all right to come in. After a moment, Lilo nods without looking up.

Nani sits cross-legged behind Lilo and brushes her hair. Lilo tells a strange but sweet tale that is obviously about herself. It is an apology for being such trouble to Nani.



As Nani kisses Lilo goodnight, a colossal shooting star lights up the night sky. Lilo becomes terribly excited and says she needs to make a wish. She makes a wish asking Madame Pele to cover her classmates with lava, and bring her someone new who will be her friend, who will like her. Someone who won't run away.

The shooting star is Stitch's ship, which crashes in the forest. Stitch rises out of the fiery wreckage. He is run over by a convoy of heavy cane trucks.



Stitch's uniform is shredded away, and the drivers think they have killed an unfortunate, ugly dog.

Stitch wakes up in a pound surrounded by dogs. He becomes alarmed when in the background he sees a bounty hunter and someone from the grand council. He knows that there is a good chance he might be captured before he could signal his gang for help.



Nani and Lilo come into the pound looking for a suitable pet that might be a friend for Lilo. Suddenly Stitch is very anxious to be adopted.



The view of Stitch leaving the pound is through an alien laser-scope. Pleakley forces Jumba to hold his fire when Lilo steps in front of Stitch. Stitch looks up at Jumba and Pleakley and smiles. The threat is clear: he is capable of hurting Lilo; she is his unknowing hostage.

Lilo is handed a pink piece of paper that is her receipt for buying Stitch. She is ecstatic.

It is a glorious Hawaiian Saturday and Lilo lavishes Stitch with love. She buys Stitch some dog food, and a whistle that makes Stitch hold his ears and bang his head on the ground when she blows it.

Lilo has visibly changed since getting Stitch; she is filled with an exuberance and lightness that was absent before.



Lilo buys a grass hat and sunglasses for Stitch. When she tries to put them on him, he growls and claws at her, until he catches a glimpse of himself in the mirror. He likes the way he looks in sunglasses. "They make you look very dangerous," says Lilo. They exit the store and make their way to the beach.

"Dogs love the beach!" Lilo pulls Stitch to the edge of the surf. Whatever species Stitch is, it doesn't like the feel of water and runs to the trees.

Stitch scowls, but stops when he notices a little red laser dot crawl over his belly and up to his forehead. Stitch runs to Lilo, the sand behind him being kicked up by short blue laser blasts. Without slowing down he grabs a surfboard in his teeth and crashes into the water.



Stitch looks like the bloated corpse of a puffer fish by the time the wave leaves him on the sand. Lilo gently floats in and gives him a kiss and hug, which squeezes some water out of him.



As they walk home, Stitch suddenly tears an unattended police car to shreds. As Lilo tries to stop him, he quickly pulls out the police radio. Jumba instantly realizes that Stitch is after a communication device. He bursts from the trees and runs toward Stitch, who crawls behind Lilo and puts his claws to her throat.

The sound of people approaching brings Pleakley into the open to pull Jumba back into the forest. The police arrive, and see their shredded police car. The only person present is Lilo. She looks at Stitch and says, "Bad dog!"

At home she tucks him into a cardboard box bed, and gives him a doll.



Stitch cannot stand Lilo anymore, and decides to take his chances with the bounty hunter. When Lilo is asleep Stitch takes apart some toys and rewires them inside two dolls. He takes the dolls and the police radio, and jumps out the window.

Stitch has wired the police radio to the top of a TV tower and is sending the last of his message to his gang when the handset is shot out of his paw by Jumba. Stitch throws the two dolls, which explode like hand grenades.

Stitch jumps in the back door in the morning.



While out for the day, it rains and Lilo and Stitch take refuge in an ill-chosen part of an old sugar mill. Lilo is chased and cornered by a vicious dog, and calls to Stitch for help. He does not, and in fact derives some satisfaction from watching as she is held at bay.



A cranky man shows up, pulls his dog away, and gives Lilo a vicious tongue-lashing as he chases them from his property.

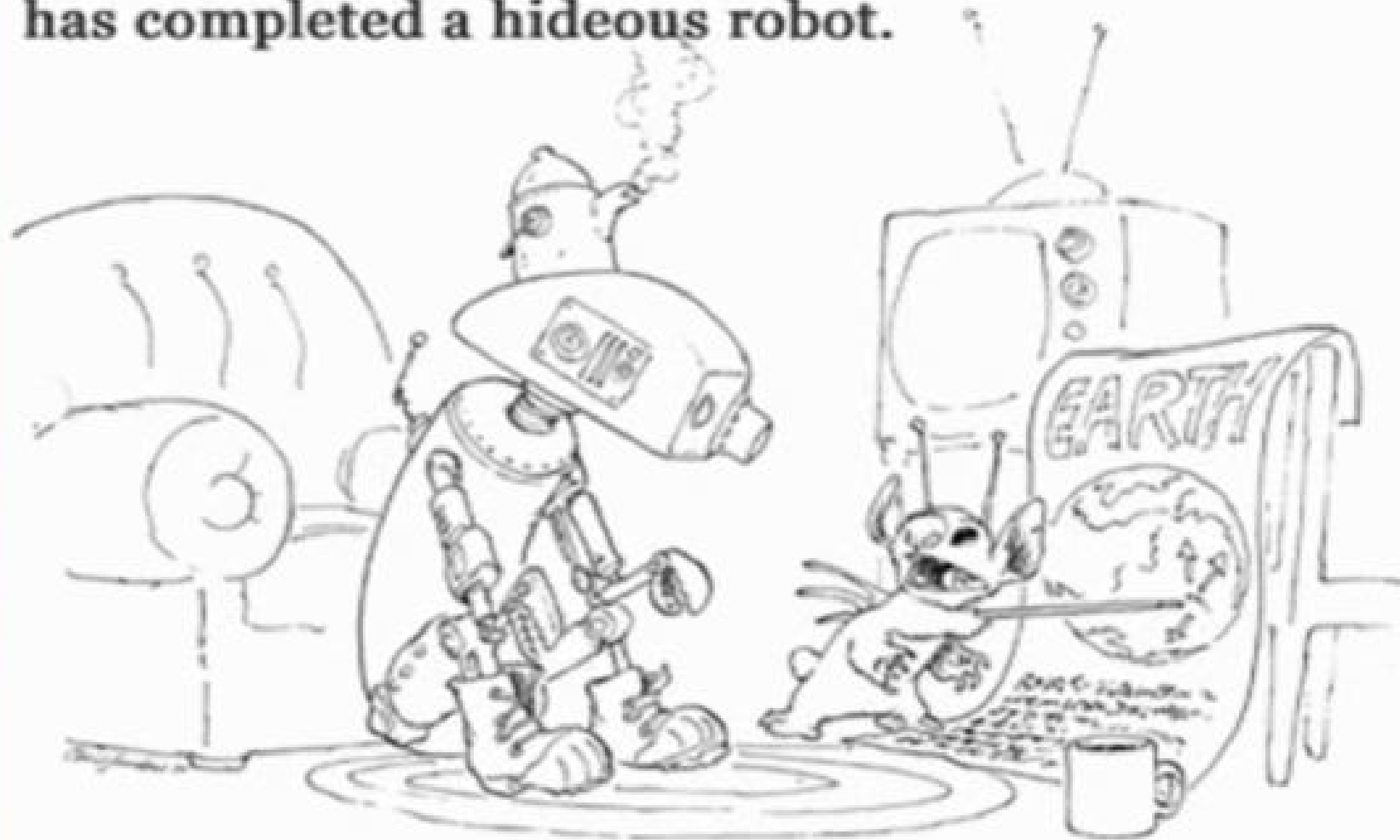
After the frightening episode Stitch expects her to cry...he's actually looking forward to it. But although Lilo is so afraid that she is shaking, she takes him in her arms and comforts him, thinking he was too frightened to help. Stitch is confounded by her.

They walk together slowly, and Stitch becomes aware that Lilo has turned strangely inward. She leads him to a graveyard. "My mom is here." Stitch's eyes grow wide. Lilo sits down and pulls him close. She talks to her unseen mother, telling her she found a friend. Lilo says that she would've given up on the world if it hadn't been for him.

She pulls a little silver ring off her pinkie and puts it on his collar, and tells him that it is a medal of honor.



That night Stitch steals away to the basement of Lilo's home. He uses household objects to construct something. He stops, going upstairs to retrieve Lilo's record player. He continues his work as Elvis sings. Many old songs later, Stitch has completed a hideous robot.



The monstrosity walks away into the forest. Stitch giggles and looks at a watch on his wrist. On it is 12:00, and it begins to count down.



That morning at hula class Lilo tells the other girls that she got a new dog. The kids tell Lilo that no one would trust her with a live animal; she must be making it up. She promises to bring Stitch.

Lilo returns home and loads a sleeping Stitch onto a wagon and pulls him through town to class. She ties him to a palm tree and runs into the little yellow building.

Meanwhile, Stitch wakes up. He yawns, checks his watch, and realizes he has to be somewhere else. Stitch bites through his leash and walks away.

Lilo brings all the kids out for her big presentation. She pulls on Stitch's leash, and it falls out of the bushes with nothing attached to it. There is a sickening silence followed by an eruption of laughter from the class. Lilo runs away.

Stitch is standing at the edge of a trash dump, where his kitchen robot has been reproducing itself in larger numbers and larger size.

Lilo emerges from the forest just in time to see Stitch get blasted by the Jumba, now authorized to exterminate Stitch. Stitch's smoldering body flies into a steaming volcano crater. Jumba and Pleakley walk away, not noticing Lilo run up to the edge and into the volcano.



She pulls him from certain death. Knees and elbows bleeding, she drags him into the cool shadows of giant ferns and colorful orchids.

Lilo scoops water from a stream with her hands and tries to give him a drink, but the water simply runs out the side of Stitch's mouth. After all she has been through, this is the first time Lilo begins to cry.

Tears stream down her face and fall on Stitch's body. She begs Pele not to let him die. As night falls she does not move from that spot, depending on love alone to save him.

Sirens in the town below are evidence of a massive search for Lilo. Nani is talking to the police, who are asking lots of questions about Lilo's behavior before she disappeared. The more Nani tells them, the more crazy Lilo's behavior sounds.

Act 3.



In the soft morning light, Stitch slowly awakens. The only explanation for his being alive is Lilo, sleeping nearby. It is the first time anyone has sacrificed themselves for Stitch, and he is confused. The moment is interrupted by the arrival of small, evil-looking spaceships dropping slowly into the forest. Stitch's foul gang emerge from the ships and gather around him. One big alien grabs Lilo and holds her aloft. Lilo screams for Stitch to run, to save himself. She is shocked to see Stitch unfurl his arms, raise his antennae and greet them.

Lilo speaks up and says that Stitch is her pet. The aliens laugh, and Ramthar accuses Stitch of losing his edge. Stitch removes his collar and tosses it away, saying that Lilo was nothing more than a necessary convenience. She is hurt beyond measure.

Stitch's huge robots lumber out of the forest and surround the group, ready to receive their orders. Dropped, Lilo picks up Stitch's collar and runs.

Lilo bursts into the hula school, but nobody believes her about the impending robot army attack. The roof of the building is torn off. The robot's metal claw reaches for the screaming girls.





On a nearby hilltop Stitch and the rest of the gang watch the mayhem below. Robots are everywhere, chasing people and throwing police cars. In the schoolhouse Lilo screams in terror. Stitch's ears slowly rise; in the midst of the mayhem he can hear her voice above all the others. He unconsciously feels for his collar.

There is one more cry from Lilo, and Stitch goes for his gun. Ramthar and the aliens draw their guns as well, but Stitch is faster. The two bad aliens get blasted, and Ramthar retreats.

Stitch rescues Lilo from afar and continues to shoot the robots one by one. Nani runs to Lilo and protects her from the shower of robot parts. Stitch is horrified to see Ramthar dash out of the trees and grab Lilo from Nani. Ramthar bellows that he will have revenge for Stitch's treachery, and he runs to his spaceship. Before Stitch can act, he is grabbed from behind by Jumba.

Lilo sits in silence on Ramthar's ship. He tells her that she will be dumped into airless space. He is frustrated to see that Lilo is not afraid.

**She only seems concerned about whether or not
Stitch cares about her.**

**"Stitch was
never your
friend."**



Stitch is in near panic, pleading with Jumba and Pleakley to let him go, explaining the situation to them. They refuse to listen, until they are nearly stepped on by a robot.

Pleakley realizes that it would be a mission violation if he sets Stitch free, but if Lilo is hurt it will be a violation of intergalactic directives. In the distance they see Ramthar's ship take off. Stitch tells him that it will be sluggish in the Earth's atmosphere, they still have a chance to save Lilo if they act now. Jumba unlocks Stitch's handcuffs.

The passengers on a large jet are startled to see the cabin door open, and three aliens walk in. Pleakley displays his badge and tells the passengers that he is commandeering their plane.



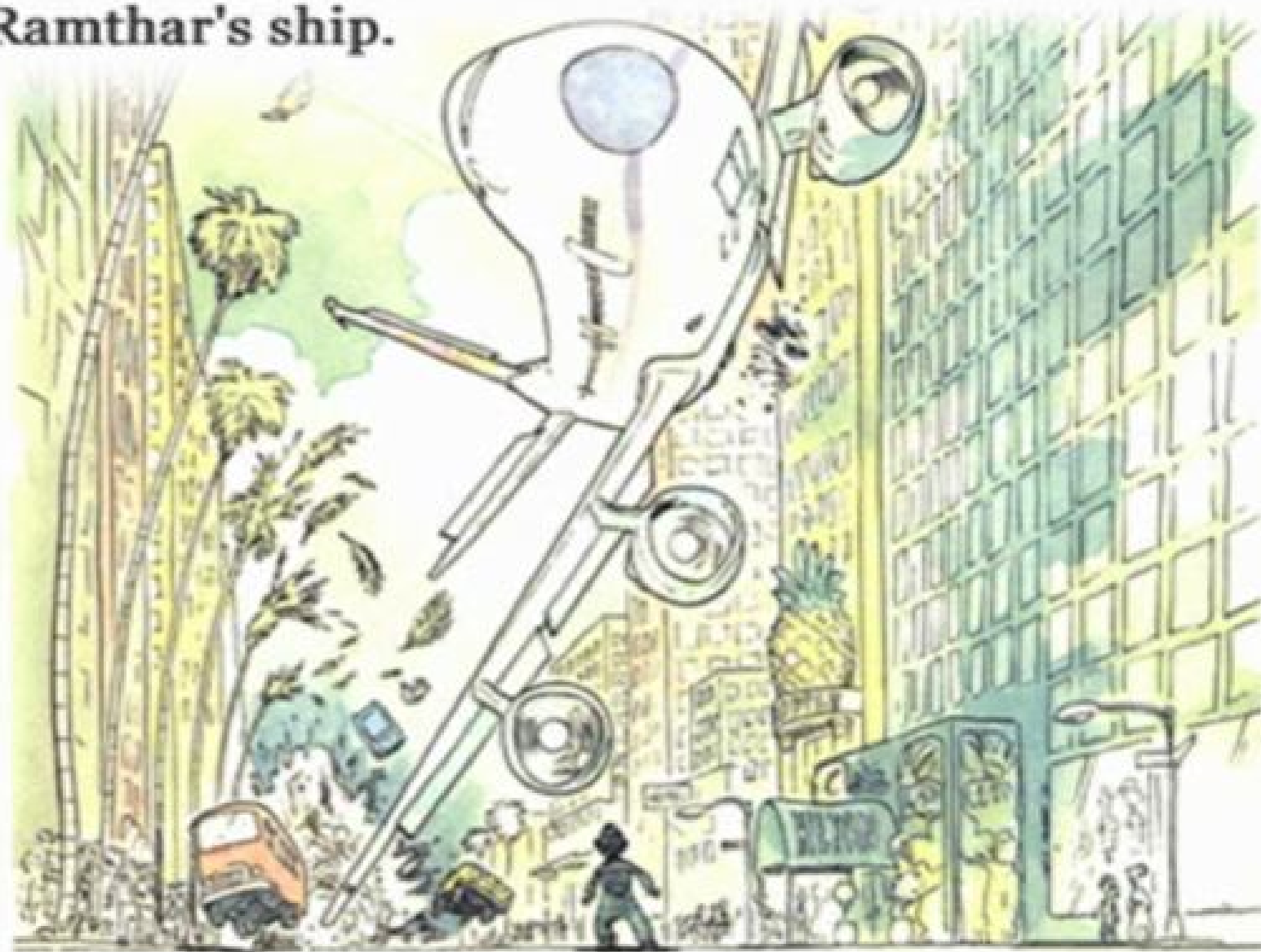
People stream from the plane in panic. In the cockpit Stitch is staring at a mass of controls twelve times his size. He smiles and cracks his knuckles.



**Behind Ramthar's spaceship
the silver tip of an airplane's
wing slices through the
clouds.**



When Ramthar fires on him, Stitch flies his jet sideways down main street Honolulu. Stitch puts the damaged jet on auto-pilot and leaps onto Ramthar's ship.



He tears through the bulkhead of the alien craft and battles Ramthar hand to hand. In the fight, Ramthar scratches Lilo with his claws. He pays for this mistake with a thorough thrashing from Stitch, who has found a new strength in his feelings for Lilo.

Stitch abandons the damaged spaceship and pulls Lilo and the unconscious Ramthar to safety across the length of the 747's wing.



Stitch makes an emergency landing in the ocean. On shore, the head of the galactic council has arrived and has Stitch put in chains. Lilo begs the Grand Councilwoman to leave Stitch; she tells her how he saved her life, and how he's the only friend she ever had.

She ignores Lilo and orders Stitch and the other members of his gang onto her waiting ship. Lilo chases after Stitch, and gives him back his collar with the little silver ring. He hangs his head, and a big tear falls onto the white sand. Lilo hugs Stitch until he is hustled away.

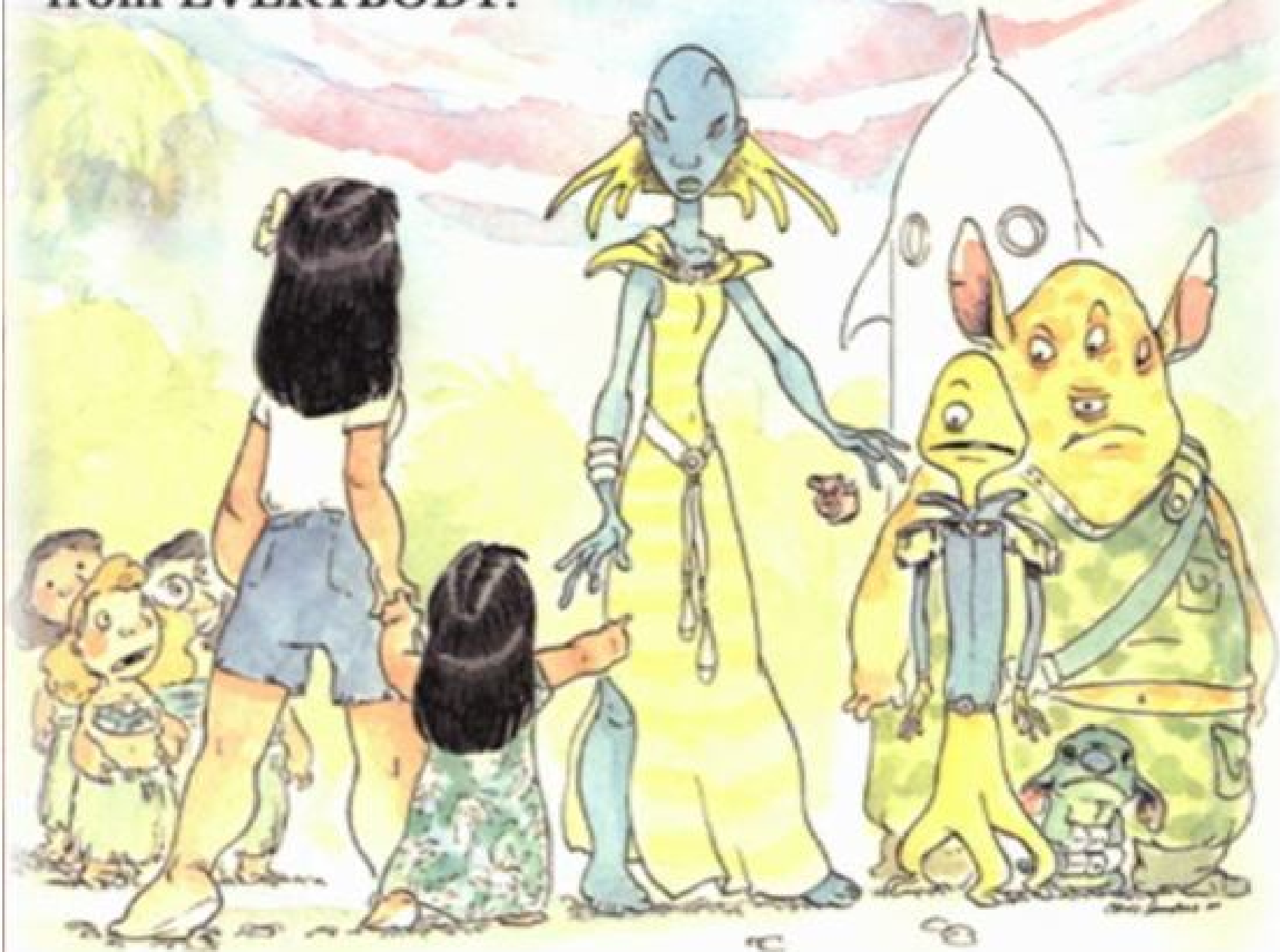


Pleakley apologizes to Lilo for the situation. He explains that it is against galactic code to ever break the laws of another planet, and Stitch has done exactly that. Lilo's eyes go wide, and she reaches into the front pocket of her dress, pulling out a carefully folded pink paper.

It is the sales slip from the pound; Lilo paid a four dollar processing fee to buy Stitch. She owns him. If the councilwoman takes Stitch, she is technically stealing him, and would be breaking an Earth law and an intergalactic code.

The Councilwoman crumples the paper and says she didn't see it. The Councilwoman walks to her ship. Nani, an alien prisoner, Jumba and one of the little hula girls all say they saw it – but to no effect.

The councilwoman bellows that that is **ENOUGH** from **EVERYBODY**.



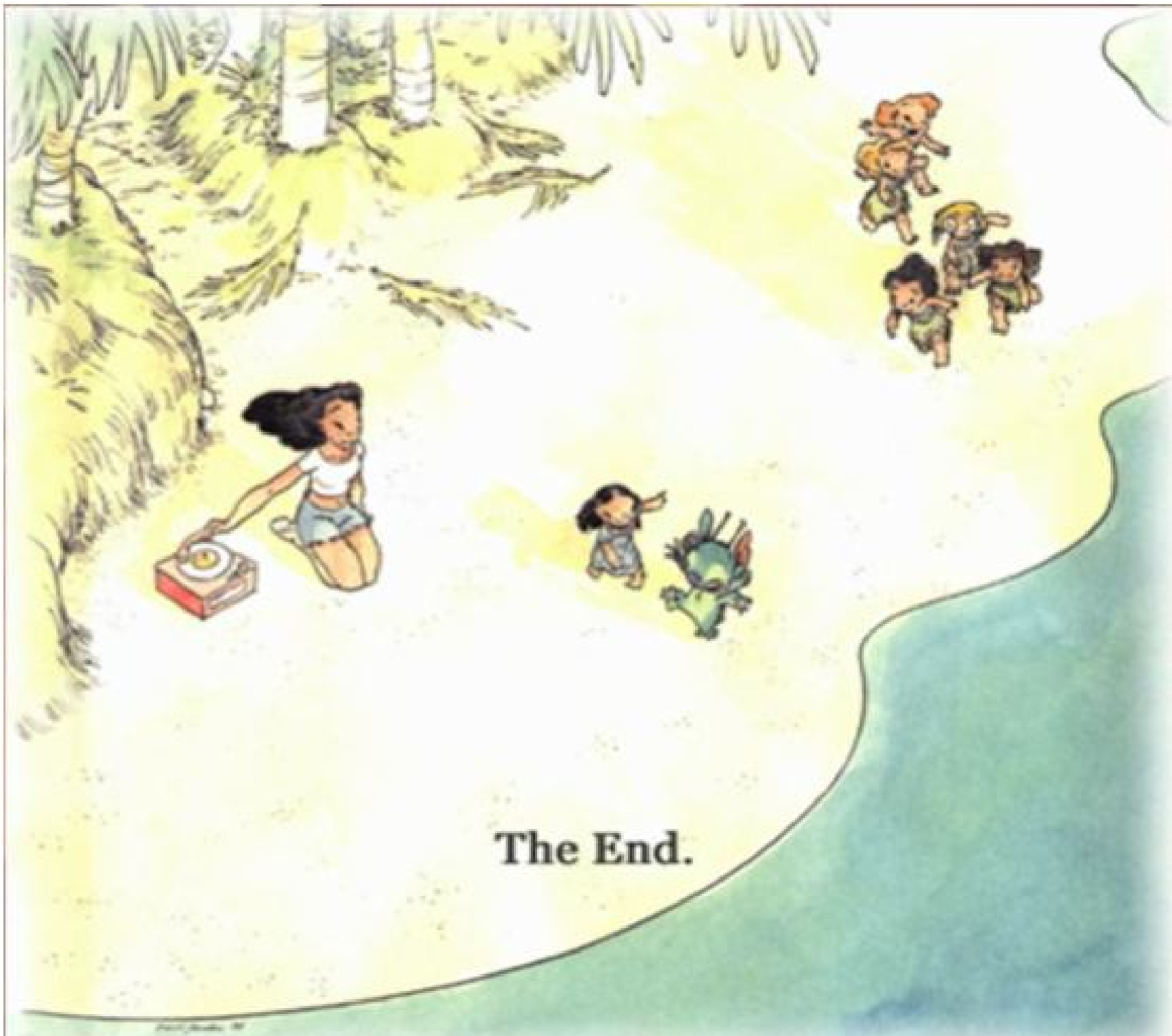
Pleakley steps forward into the gap of silence. He pulls out his gleaming intergalactic badge. "Well I am Pleakley Grathor, Contamination Control agent 444, and I saw it."

The Councilwoman is silent.

No one moves.

Cut to the beach at sunset. Lilo, Stitch, Nani, and the whole hula class are running for the water, their portable record player with them.

Elvis music drifts up through the swaying palms.



The End.