

Treatment -- September 28th, 2022 by: Jacob S. Lee

<u>Logline</u>

A San Francisco hairdresser encounters havoc in a Western town while on vacation and befriends an unusual creature.

Characters

Ninfia - An anthropomorphic cat who works as a hairdresser at a San Francisco hair salon. Tired with overtime hours and countless mishaps, she decides to take a two-week vacation off and hit the road for a joyride. Despite being clumsy at times, Ninfia has a kind heart, is ready for any challenge, and has a stomach that's quite talkative.

Tiky - An odd-looking creature who wanders aimlessly through the desert until the kind-hearted Ninfia takes him under her wing as her pet. Unbeknownst to Ninfia, however, the long-lost creature is on the run.

Barbara - A waitress at the Shuck 'N Duck Diner who Ninfia befriends while exploring the surroundings of Fairland Village.

Jonathan - The sheriff of Fairland Village whom Ninfia meets in the middle of nowhere right after her car breaks down. He would later become one of her good friends after getting a chance to know her. Dr. Artemis Cowl - A scientist who is trying to retrieve Tiky from the clutches of Ninfia, believing that she stole him for her own personal gain. He plans to use poor Tiky as an experiment for creating a vaccine that will cure any animal-related diseases.

Synopsis

Living in San Francisco, California, Ninfia is an anthropomorphic cat who works at the Sugar & Spice Beauty Parlor as a hairdresser. After an entire day of countless mishaps (e.g. accidentally knocking items over) and working an overtime shift, Ninfia decided to take two weeks off from work for a cross-country vacation. After a long drive through the Mojave desert, Ninfia's stomach growls in hunger and tries to search for a nearby diner.

This plan soon comes to a halt when Ninfia comes across an odd-looking creature in the middle of the road and immediately stops the car. The frightened creature, labeled as "Tiky", is soon comforted by the concerned Ninfia, who plans to take care of him. The two friends continue their trip through the desert until they find a place to sleep at a nearby motel. As the next morning rolls around, Ninfia's car soon begins to break down and is greeted by Jonathan, a motorcycle police officer. After explaining the matter, Jonathan offers to lead Ninfia to Fairland Village, a modern-day Western town, and have her vehicle fixed. Ninfia agrees, and, as promised, Jonathan takes her and Tiky to the aforementioned village and drops them off at the town's sign.

A hungry Ninfia, still craving for a bite to eat, soon wanders through town and comes across the Shuck 'N Duck Diner, where she meets up with Barbara, a waitress. While preparing to order her breakfast, a group of bikers barge inside the restaurant and immediately cause trouble, even going so far as to steal an entire cash register. Both Ninfia and Tiky see this and spring into action. She swings her purse at the criminals while her companion proceeds to scare them off. Ninfia finishes off the confrontation by tossing her so-called weapon at the first biker and Barbara thanks them by serving them a big breakfast.

Barbara invites both Ninfia and Tiky over to her house and gives them a spare bedroom. While having dinner later that night, Ninfia gets to know the polite waitress and the two become friends in the process. As soon as their conversation is done, Ninfia and Tiky head off to bed just after Ninfia sings him a lullaby. The next morning, Ninfia is helping mechanic Steven with getting her car fixed and a montage is soon followed as Ninfia spends a whole day with Tiky, running across the fields, Tiky giving Ninfia belly rubs, and playing at the Fairland beach.

The two decide to take a stroll through town, and they soon come across a motorcycle bar nearby. The two hear some roughhousing from the inside of the building. "Oh, I know where this is going!", Ninfia remembers. "This is one of those cliches where the leads walk into a bar and cause trouble. Piece of cake." Soon after both Ninfia and Tiky enter the bar, they immediately get thrown out the window by one of the unseen bikers. Now fed up, Ninfia storms back inside and confronts the people who threw them out. One of the bikers recognizes her as the same person who stopped them from robbing the diner and immediately plans to kill both her and Tiky. The rest of the bikers aim their weapons at the duo, and Ninfia hatches an idea. She starts to sing "Blue Hawaii" and proceeds to put on a show in front of the bikers, even going so far as to do impressions of various characters after her singing.

The bikers clap and cheer for Ninfia's performance and they somehow start to go back to their usual fighting after the duo exits the bar. Later on, a purple 1970s Cadillac makes its way to town, causing everybody to panic. The Cadillac parks in front of the diner, and stepping out the vehicle is a scientist named Artemis Cowl, who is searching for one of his runaway experiments; that experiment happens to be Tiky. Ninfia overhears this and after seeing a now-frightened Tiky, she confronts Artemis, scolding him for trying to scare her pet. The doctor accuses Ninfia of stealing Tiky and orders Jonathan to arrest her for the charges of kidnapping and theft. Jonathan politely declines the offer. Ninfia refuses to believe that she stole Tiky and was just trying to take care of him. Artemis doesn't fall for her honesty and proceeds to handcuff her. He also takes Tiky with him, but he refuses to go. Artemis is then forced to toss the poor creature into an animal catcher truck and drives off behind the aforementioned truck. Ninfia is soon thrown into jail as night falls and hatches a plan to escape. After several mishaps, she gives up halfway and cries, feeling that losing Tiky was like losing a part of her.

Both Barbara and Jonathan come up with a plan to rescue Ninfia after Jonathan discovers something that is directly connected with Artemis. He shows Barbara various papers about Artemis' plan to create a vaccine that will cure any diseases that are related to animals and other creatures. However, according to one of the papers, the government says that Artemis has stolen the vaccine's documents and received the go-ahead to make the vaccine from a foreign pediatrician without the government's approval. This shocks Barbara and suggests that they break Ninfia out and rescue Tiky.

Jonathan and Barbara allow Ninfia to escape from jail by collapsing the cell to the ground with a pair of sledgehammers. They inform her about Artemis' disturbing plan, and Ninfia comes to a horrifying conclusion that Artemis is gonna kill Tiky if he doesn't complete the vaccine as his guinea pig. With the help of the same bikers from earlier, Ninfia and the gang set off to rescue Tiky and the rest of the captured animals. After arriving at Artemis' office, Ninfia and the gang split up; Barbara, Jonathan, and the bikers free the other animals from their cages, while Ninfia looks for Tiky.

She finds Tiky in one of the cages, and the two share a pretty emotional moment together. After freeing him, both Ninfia and Tiky are confronted by Artemis, who again threatens to arrest her for kidnapping, but Jonathan, Barbara, and the bikers step in and proceed to fight him off with their belongings. The lead biker and Barbara toss Artemis out the window of his office and Ninfia sends all of the dogs out to chase him out of town.

The next day rolls around, and both Ninfia and Tiky are lauded as heroes after Artemis is arrested for his various crimes. When Barbara asks her if she and Tiky would like to stay, Ninfia says the following: "I'd love to, Barbara, and I appreciate the offer. But right now, me and Tiky have other plans in our agenda. I promise you all this, we'll come right back here and visit you guys sometime, because even though San Francisco's where I live, Fairland Village will always be our home sweet home." The crowd cheers and bids farewell as Ninfia and Tiky pack up and head back to San Francisco.