SAVE OUR ICE

By

Seamus Smyth

The radio play.

Act 1

24 minutes long.

LIST of CHARACTERS

THE PRESSYDENT: Of the USA. SILVERGIRL: An alien with superpowers. WOMAN: Spokesperson for the multitude. DASTADON: Vile alien.

BEGIN BY PLAYING THIS LINK. ITS AUDIO CONTENT WILL SET THE MOOD.

(217) Save Our Ice! - YouTube

GIRL'S VOICE: Hello, Mr Pressydent.

PRESSYDENT: Who's that? Who's that talking to me? I can't see anyone. Guess I imagined hearing that.

GIRL'S VOICE: Hello, Mr Pressydent.

PRESSYDENT: Who is that? Who is that talking to me? Is it the Invisible Woman? Is the Invisible Woman talking to me? Are you the Invisible woman?

GIRL GIGGLES

PRESSYDENT: Then you're a ghost. You're a ghost, right? Come to haunt me from beyond the grave? Because that's where all ghosts come from, you know. That means you're a ghost, right?

GIRL'S VOICE: No, I'm not a ghost either. I am from another planet and I have the power to appear and disappear at will.

PRESSYDENT: Wow! Like a magician. That's great! I've never met a magician from another planet before.

GIRL: Well, you will now. I'm now going to appear.

PRESSYDENT: Wow! Look at you! You're all covered in silver and everything! Your boots, your hair, your dress...even your eyes are silver! You look like a beautiful young lady from a shiny silver coin.

GIRL: This is how people look on my planet.

PRESSYDENT: And do you have a name?

GIRL: Of course. But you couldn't pronounce it.

PRESSYDENT: OK. Then how about I just call you Silvergirl?

GIRL: Sure.

PRESSYDENT: So, what brings you here, Silvergirl?

SILVERGIRL: I've come to show you something. Would you like to see it?

PRESSYDENT: Of course.

SILVERGIRL: Then touch my hand and we'll vanish from this place.

PRESSYDENT: (scared) But where are we going?

SILVERGIRL: To see a great secret that's been hidden from the world since before the dawn of mankind!

VOICEOVER: Silvergirl and the Pressydent vanish from the Oval Office and appear high in the sky above the vast arctic wilderness where everything is covered in ice for as far as the eye can see and beyond.

PRESSYDENT: Wow! This is amazing! Look at how we're just hanging out up here in the sky and not falling to our deaths or anything! (beat) Hey, what's that? What's that down there sticking up out of the ice? It looks like the top of a submarine or something.

SILVERGIRL: Yes, I suppose it does. Only much, much bigger of course. It's the top of a spaceship.

PRESSYDENT: The top of a spaceship?

SILVERGIRL: That's right. The rest of it's buried under the ice.

PRESSYDENT: But what's it doing way up here?

SILVERGIRL: It arrived here thousands of years ago, when sabre tooth tigers and giant woolly mammoths roamed the earth. But it got stuck up here just as the last ice age was settling in and ended up entirely buried in snow.

PRESSYDENT: Wow! Real live aliens up here all this time and we didn't even know! Were they friendly?

SILVERGIRL: Oh no, anything but. They traveled the universe gobbling everyone up.

PRESSYDENT: Then we're lucky they got trapped up here and died.

SILVERGIRL: Oh, they're not dead. They're still alive.

PRESSYDENT: Still alive? But how can they still be alive after all this time buried way up here in the freezing ice?

SILVERGIRL: You've heard of bears hibernating during the winter, haven't you?

PRESSYDENT: Of course. They sleep all winter and come out again in spring.

SILVERGIRL: There you are then. The aliens are hibernating too, inside their ship. And when enough ice has melted to free their ship, they'll fly off and do what they came here to do — eat everybody.

PRESSYDENT: Oh my! People won't like that. They won't like it one little bit.

SILVERGIRL: That's why I brought you up here, Mr Pressydent. So you can go back and tell everyone on the planet how they can save themselves.

PRESSYDENT: That sounds like a really cool idea! Just tell me how they can do that, and I'll go tell them.

SILVERGIRL: By saving the ice of course. If the ice doesn't melt, the spaceship can't free itself. So, all they have to do is save the ice and the ice will save them.

PRESSYDENT: (alarmed) Hey! Wha...what's that? What's that opening in the top of the spaceship? Is that a door?

SILVERGIRL: Of course.

PRESSYDENT: But what's that coming out? It looks like a...a...? Is that one of the aliens?

SILVERGIRL: It is.

PRESIDENT: But look at it. Look at it's big monstrous head. I thought you said they were all hibernating.

SILVERGIRL: They are. All except that one. He stayed awake to guard the ship. He comes out every day in search of food.

PRESSYDENT: (Terrified) It can't get us up here, can it?

SILVERGIRL: Oh no. We're far too high up. He'll see us of course, but he won't be able to get to us.

PRESSYDENT: Are you sure? Because I don't like the look of that guy. Not one bit. How many of them are there?

SILVERGIRL: Probably around forty thousand.

PRESSYDENT: Forty thousand! That must be a big ship.

SILVERGIRL: About the size of Florida.

PRESSYDENT: The size of Florida? What? The whole state?

SILVERGIRL: The whole state.

PRESSYDENT: Look at the size of that thing! What are they called?

SILVERGIRL: Dastadons.

PRESSYDENT: Dasta what?

SILVERGIRL: Dons. Dastadons. The most feared creatures in all the universe.

PRESSYDENT: Look at it glaring up at us. It wants to gobble us both up.

SILVERGIRL: It's hungry.

PRESSYDENT: I think I'd better order my Air Force up here and drop our big bombs on that guy, the biggest ones we've got.

SILVERGIRL: That wouldn't work. Wouldn't even make a dent. I've seen others try it on other planets and with more powerful bombs than you have. No, I'm afraid the only way to save the world is to save the ice. You must stop it from melting.

PRESSYDENT: But the only ones who want the ice to stop melting are the kids. If it were up to them it wouldn't even be melting in the first place. But grown-ups are different. They know it's been melting for years and don't care. Most of them anyway.

SILVERGIRL: You need to go back and do a live television broadcast to the world. Tell them about me and what you've witnessed here. Video the dastadon on your phone now and stream it live for everyone to see. Warn them that time is running out. They must act, and they must act now!

Music 1. Let's Save The Ice For The Children.

(217) Let's save the ice for the children - YouTube

VOICEOVER: After returning to the Oval Office and alerting the world to the greatest threat mankind has ever faced, the Pressydent was so tired he fell fast asleep on the couch. But as dawn broke over the White House, Silvergirl woke him and told him that something very strange had happened. So the Pressydent rushed to the French windows and looked outside.

PRESSYDENT: (Amazed) Wow! You're right! Look at all the people! There's millions of them. And the TV cameras are here and everything.

SILVERGIRL: They've come from all over America, Mr Pressydent. And they're all grown-ups.

PRESSYDENT: All grown-ups?

SILVERGIRL: They're frantic with worry. They fear the end of the world is coming. They've chosen a spokesperson. Shall I bring her in?

PRESSYDENT: Of course, of course, bring her in right away.

SOUND OF WOMAN BEING SHOWN IN.

WOMAN: Hello. Mr Pressydent. So great to meet you.

PRESSYDENT: So great to meet you too. What is it all the folks would like you to tell me?

WOMAN: Well, Mr. Pressydent, and you too, Silvergirl, besides speaking for everyone here today, I'm sure I also speak for all the people of the world, when I say that we are begging you from the bottom of our hearts to save our ice. Stop it from melting, Mr. Pressydent. Please. Please stop it from melting.

PRESSYDENT: But I thought grown-ups didn't care if it melted.

WOMAN: But that was before the dastadons came. But we care now, don't we everyone?

MULTITUDE OUTSIDE: (An almighty roar) YES! YES! YES! YES, Mr. Pressydent. Yes, Silvergirl.

PRESSYDENT: Well, I must admit I'm really surprised to hear this.

WOMAN: Well, you see, Mr Pressydent, grown-ups weren't going to be affected by the ice melting before because we'd all be dead by the time it melted. But now that the dastadons are coming, that changes everything. We want you to save the ice now.

PRESSYDENT: Well, I can't do that. I don't know how.

SILVERGIRL: I know a way. Would you like to hear it, everybody?

SILVERGIRL: Alright! OK. Here's my plan. I can see to it that a mountain of ice is put on top of the spaceship. A big ice mountain. It will once again bury the vessel and stop the dastadons from coming out of hibernation. But the sun will melt it again and we'll be back where we started.

WOMAN: Oh no we won't! Because this time we will all do whatever it takes to stop it from melting. We will save the ice and the ice will save us. Isn't that right everybody?

SILVERGIRL: OK. Alright. So let me tell you what will happen. I will go now and do as I have said, and I will video it and come back so you can see for yourselves. The world

will be safe. But only if you stop the big ice mountain from melting. Which means you will all have to change the way you live your lives.

WOMAN: Oh, we will! We certainly will. We will change the way we live and we will save the ice and the ice will save us.

VOICEOVER: And so Silvergirl vanished and returned later with a video, and it was shown on televisions and computers all over the planet. And the people saw that the dastadon ship had been buried under a big ice mountain. But the children weren't convinced the grown-ups would keep their word. So they pleaded with them.

<u>Music No 2.</u>

(217) The Help The Little Children Song - YouTube

VOICEOVER: And the grown-ups heard the children's plea and kept their word. They changed the way they lived, the climate began to heal and everybody was happy. Even Sir David Attenborough. And that's when Silvergirl appeared once more to the Pressydent.

SILVERGIRL: That went well, Mr Pressydent.

PRESSYDENT: It sure did, Silvergirl! You know, I've been meaning to ask you something. You know how other superheroes have different superpowers? Well, I was wondering if you had others besides moving big ice mountains, and appearing and disappearing and stuff.

SILVERGIRL: Oh, I didn't move any big ice mountains, Mr. Pressydent.

PRESSYDENT: But we all saw you. We all saw you do it in the video. You vanished, you put the big ice mountain on top of the dastadon ship and came back and showed us all on video. Right?

SILVERGIRL: Yes. But I didn't move it. I just went back up to the arctic and videoed the first big ice mountain I saw and *told* everybody I'd moved it and they believed me.

PRESSYDENT: But if you didn't cover the dastadon ship with it, then the world is still at risk from them. We're doomed, Silvergirl. Doomed! The ice around their ship will melt

quicker than we can stop it from melting, and they'll all stop hibernating and come out and get us.

SILVERGIRL: There are no dastadons, Mr Pressydent. There never were.

PRESSYDENT: No dastadons? But I saw one. Everybody did.

SILVERGIRL: You asked if I had any other powers. Well, it just so happens that I do. I have the power to do things that deceive the eye. Everyone on my planet does. We are all illusionists. So, I created an illusion for everyone to believe. But it wasn't real.

PRESSYDENT: Not real?

SILVERGIRL: You see, Mr. Pressydent, I came to Earth with a vision, a vision to save the children from a horrible future. A future in which millions and millions will be homeless and on the move with nowhere to go. Think about that, Mr. Pressydent. Imagine having no home. Imagine there not being enough space on Earth for everyone to have a home. Grown-ups refused to save the ice for future generations of children, so I made them so afraid of being gobbled up by vile creatures called dastadons, that they saved the ice to save themselves, thereby saving the children as well.

PRESSYDENT: Well, well! I never saw that one coming, Silvergirl. I never saw that one coming at all.

SILVERGIRL: You won't tell the grown-ups, will you?

PRESSYDENT: Me? No. No, I won't tell anyone. I'm glad you did it. Really, really glad.

SILVERGIRL: Me too.

VOICEOVER: And that's how Silvergirl and the Pressydent came to do this wonderful thing for all of us. And that includes you! But as time passed, children started coming together in groups and discussing what grown-ups had done, and they went to their parents and said: 'Why did you save the ice to save yourselves but refused to save it to save your children's futures?' All around the world they did this. They asked the question of every grown-up they saw. But grown-ups had no answer. And the children were so, so sad. So, so sad...!

Music 3. Our Wonderful & Beautiful Blue Friend

(217) Blue friend with orchestra - YouTube

End.

LYRICS

LET'S SAVE THE ICE FOR THE CHILDREN

By Seamus Smyth

Verse 1 Wouldn't it be nice if we saved the ice And saved all the kids as well? Surely we can do what's right by them Surely we can fight this fight for them Verse 2 It would be so sad if all the little lads And all the little girls weren't saved We would never see them smile again We would never see their like again Chorus So let's save the ice for the children And theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs For if we find we're out of time they won't have any heirs Ice means life for the children And theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs We must find the strength of mind to save those in our care Verse 3 Please take my advice and save all the ice And save all the kids as well Even cheeky little so and so's Who never ever do what they're told Verse 4 Children are so nice they're cheap at half the price They're really nice to hug as well Even little naughty girls and boys Who run around making so much noise Chorus So let's save the ice for the children And theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs

For if we find we're out of time they won't have any heirs Ice means life for the children And theirs and theirs and theirs and theirs We must find the strength of mind to save those in our care

THE CHILDREN'S PLEA

By Seamus Smyth

VERSE

All the little children want from grown-ups grown-ups Is for them to make our dreams come true

Children want to save the ice and help our planet Children want to live as long as you

All the grown-ups need to get their act together Don't they know we're running out of time

Don't they know that ice is vital to our future Ice means life for all of humankind

CHORUS

We plead with all the grown-ups Listen to our call Help the little children Save the ice for all And never ever ever vote For anyone who dares To say our lovely planet Doesn't need our care

VERSE

All the little children want from grown-ups, grown-ups Is for them to make our dreams come true

Children only want to grow and have a future Children want to grow up just like you Why don't all the grown-ups follow our example Children round the world would be so pleased

Is it fair to make us have this constant worry Is it fair to make us make this plea

CHORUS

We plead with all the grown-ups Listen to our call Help the little children Save the ice for all And never ever ever vote For anyone who dares To say our lovely planet (short pause, then:) Doesn't need our care

REPEAT CHORUS

OUR WONDERFUL & BEAUTIFUL BLUE FRIEND

By Seamus Smyth

Verse 1

The world's our friend, it gives us life, it's everything we are It gives us hope, it gives us love, our world is such a star We can't exist unless we fix and always must defend Our wonderful and beautiful blue friend Verse 2 Who else but we can help it now in its time of need We must act for all our sakes, surely we can see The only way to save our kids is always to defend Our wonderful and beautiful blue friend Chorus Our wonderful and beautiful blue friend Verse 3

We mustn't treat the world this way it's time to love it back It's time to say we're sorry now, and get it back on track The world is ours but only if we always comprehend Our wonderful and beautiful blue friend Verse 4

A second chance is all we ask to help us make amends To end the hurt we've caused to our adorable blue friend We really mustn't mess this up or it will mean the end For our wonderful and beautiful blue friend Repeat chorus.