



ADVENTURE IN ATACAMA

TRANSCRIPT

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EP 0 - START THE GAME

[00:00:00]

This is ADVENTURE IN Atacama, an audio game from the creative minds at Studio Ochenta. Prepare yourself for an epic audio journey around the world..... At the end of each episode, you'll get to choose the journey you wish to take. But pay attention to your choices, because you might not get the ending you wished for...

[00:00:37]

Okay let's start. At the beginning of time, humans started creating the Magnificent Tower of Babelle. (Not the Tower of Babel, that's from the other book). And In this magnificent building they all decided they would speak ONE TRUE LANGUAGE - and my friends, it was not English. In this PERFECT society, everyone understood each other... BUT.... The Gods saw them and all the work they were doing to create this tower and he said "No more!!"

[00:01:29]

Stop, this is terrible. This is even worse than that Arc thing that guy did a few years ago. So he split them up. And sent them all around the world. Ever since then, people speak different languages and can't understand each other at all. Except for one special group of people...

[00:02:00]

These people followed a giant serpent-like creature named Unu to find a new home. She led them to one of many seas. Where she turned them into Babelinos; humans that can breathe underwater and speak the ancient language of Babelle.

[00:02:28]

But this isn't *The Little Mermaid* my friends. In this underwater society, no one had student loans, or mortgages, or global recessions, or lukewarm coffee...It was pretty great there. But, some of these fishy people decided that they missed living on land. So they went back... idiots.

[00:02:58]

When they left the waters, they lost all memory of the language, and became humans once again. And so time moved on...and on...and on until this very moment; when we meet our hero. But before we go to the deepest parts of the ocean for our adventure, we must first traverse the skies. Because our hero is a flight attendant...

[00:03:39]

But not just any flight attendant! She defeated a sumo wrestler in Japan - in a tickling contest. She can eat a ghost pepper from Louisiana without flinching. She can open any jar of Indonesian chili jam with nothing but her pinky. Her mother tongue is a language from a country she's never actually been to. She is...Mariela Perez Treviño, flight attendant extraordinaire.

[00:04:11]

And our hero in...*Adventure in Atacama*!! I bet you want to meet her right away, so jump to [Episode 1: Turbulence](#) to start your insane and epic adventure in Atacama!!

EP 1 - TURBULENCE

[00:00:00] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama, an audio game from the creative minds at Studio Ochenta. Now that we have that covered, we can get started for REAL. This is Episode 1: Turbulence. So we're on a plane on its way to Mexico City. And there she is...

[00:00:33] Mariela

Hello, Good evening.

Narrator

Mariela Pérez Treviño.

[00:00:39] Mariela

How can I help you?

Passenger

Hi, yes, could I have a glass of water please?

Mariela

Sure, coming right up.

[00:00:43] Fernando

¿No sea malita, señorita, me trae uno a mí también? Ya casi termino este libro y está de lo más bueno.

Mariela

Sure, I mean claro que si.....do you want still or spark...ling... *a pause* You know what? I'll guess. Be right back.

[00:01:06] Narrator

Hmm, who could make our Mariela so nervous?

Mariela

Was that him? No way... There's only half an hour left on the flight. Get it together Mariela. It couldn't be him...right?

Elisa

Whoa, Mari are you okay?

[00:01:26] Mariela

I'm fine, just, I haven't been sleeping much, I feel like I'm seeing things...

Elisa

Are you still dreaming of that giant snake thing? You know I read somewhere that it could mean *betrayal*...

Mariela

Shhhh.. The passengers are sleeping Eli...

[00:01:44] Narrator

Mariella carried the glasses of water swiftly through the darkened airplane aisle.... But wait a minute, someone's about to exit the bathroom... Oh my God, watch out Mari! The bottle!!

Passenger

What is this? The matrix?

Elisa

Whoa nice reflexes girl!

Mariela

Still got it. Why are you looking at me like that Eli?

[00:02:19] Elisa

You caught it an inch from the ground while bending backwards at a crazy angle!

Mariela

Yeahhh.... But don't you remember what happened with that polar bear back in Finland a few years back?

Mariela

I'm just... very flexible.

Elisa

Right...

Mariela

Let's get back to work okay?

[00:02:36] Narrator

Told you Mariela was no ordinary flight attendant!

Fernando

Mariela, hija

Mariela

What? Da.. dad?

Fernando

I know it's been a long time hija, pero quizás sepas que, como bien dicen: "El tiempo no espera por nadie".

[00:03:07] Passenger

Hey doesn't that guy look like Pitbull?

Passenger 2

No, stupid. The reggaetonero

Fernando

Con permiso mijita.

Narrator

Whoa what's going on with Mariela? Nothing bothers her. And I've seen her step on a lego and not even bat an eyelash.

[00:03:34] Mariela

Oh my god, oh my god....I've spent five whole years trying to get away from my old life only to have *him* show up on my freaking plane??

Narrator

Seriously, this is someone who has never tripped on anything, ever.

Elisa

Mari ! Snap out of it! We're about to land!

[00:03:53] Mariela

Eli, this is serious; I think my dad is on this plane.

Elisa

Your dad? Where?

Mariela

35B

Elisa

No freaking way, the papi rico in 35B is your dad??

[00:4:07] Mariela

Ew, did you just call him papi rico?

Elisa

I mean he is though, look at him.. He looks like Mr. Worldwide himself!

Mariela

Eli, stop. You know I haven't seen him since I left Mexico. He left me there with my mom and we know how that went.

Elisa

Right...sorry. Look just set up for landing. I'm sure it's just a coincidence that he's here..

Mariela

You're right. Let's get back to work...

[00:04:37] Narrator

Even though the sudden arrival of her father's shining bald head puts Mariela's nerves on edge...She continues to do her job...perfectly.

Mariela

Thank you! Have a good afternoon. Good bye, have a good afternoon. Merci, bon après-midi, *Señor Genao! Tenha uma boa tarde!*

Elisa

Hey Mari! 35B hasn't gotten out of his seat..

Mariela

I'll deal with him. Dad?

[00:05:13] Fernando

One moment please... (READING) "Las derrotas nos ayudan a volver a encontrarnos con nosotros mismos". A true masterpiece...

Mariela

What are you doing on my plane??

Fernando

UY ¿TU avión? JAJAJAJA oiaaaaaa.

Mariela

Dad! Stop playing around. What are you doing here?

[00:05:37] Fernando

Jajaja, Pues digamos que... ¡esta vez sí volví de la tiendita de abarrotes, mijita! What? Too soon? Sorry mija... I

Mariela

Get off my plane!

Fernando

But I haven't finished my cake yet!

[00:05:52] Mariela

Elisa, diga al capitao 35B que se recusa a!

Narrator

Hey I wonder how many languages our Mariela actually speaks?

Fernando

Mariela, estoy aquí por tu madre. Your mom is missing!

Elisa

Dear passengers: please deboard the plane so we can begin the cleaning process. Especially passengers between near 35B... and... 35B. Gracias!

Mariela

Vete, Papá. Vete. I don't have time for this.

[00:06:24] Elisa

Por ahí nos vemos Papi Pérez...

Fernando

¡Que tenga una linda tarde, señorita! Bye Marielita hija.

Elisa

Hey Mari, forget him. Come help me check that no one left anything.

Mariela

A cell phone near dad's seat! And it's open to a voice note...

Elisa

Everything good Mari?

[00:07:04] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! Because what happens to Mariela and this mysterious phone message is up to you!!! Here's how it works: at the end of each episode you'll be given a choice between two possible story journeys. Take your pick and listen to the adventure unfold...If you want Mariela to report the phone to airport security listen to [Episode 30](#): THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING. If you want to see what happens if Mariela keeps the phone instead, listen to [Episode 8](#): CABIN PRESSURE.

EP 2 - CABIN CREW

[00:00:05] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama. In the previous episode, Mariela and her father Fernando were trapped in Mexico City traffic deciding where to go next to find the missing Veronica... This is Episode 2: Cabin Crew.

[00:00:33] Mariela

Let's go.... to mom's house!

[00:00:37] Fernando

We're already here mija!

[00:00:40] Mariela

Right, sorry... I was in the zone.. Hey when you spoke to mom you said she was leaving right? But she didn't say anything to me about leaving the house...Let's see if we can find out when she left..

[00:00:58] Old woman

Ay esperen que apago este cacharro... Hola señorita, how can I help you?

[00:01:09] Mariela

Hola! Carmen, right? Doña Carmen?

[00:01:13] Carmen

Ayyy Mariela! It's so nice to see you *mija!*

[00:01:18] Mariela

Carmencita, I'm looking for my mom, Veronica.

[00:01:22] Fernando

¿OIGA Y A MÍ NO ME DA UN BESITO?

[00:01:24] Carmen

¡PAPI BIZCOCHO! ¡HACE MUCHO NO TE VEÍA POR AQUÍ! ¡VENGA PARA ACÁ APRIÉTEME BIEN!

[00:01:30] Fernando

You look amazing Carmen, the years have been good to you eh?

[00:01:34] Carmen

Y tu tambien Fernando!

[00:01:38] Mariela

Ay ya stop you two... Carmen, have you seen my mom?

[00:01:43] Carmen

I haven't seen her in a really long time *mija*...

[00:01:47] Fernando

¿De veras, no ha pasado por aquí reina?

[00:01:50] Carmen

No *bizcocho*... she hasn't been back for months.. But the neighbor in 804 complained about a super loud noise coming from her apartment a few days ago...

[00:02:02] Mariela

Who else could be looking for her?

[00:02:05] Carmen

Vayan a ver porque quién sabe, jmh, aquí pasan fugas de gas a cada rato y nomás es cosa de que uno se eche su coyotito y...

[00:02:13] Mariela

Let's go see then..

[00:02:17] Narrator

As they head up the stairs, Mariela's mind is racing... with each step she comes closer to finding out what happened to her mother... and also adds to her 10,000 step count for the day. Go Mariela!

[00:02:32] Mariela

Dad, hurry up!

[00:02:34] Fernando

Ta bueno, 'ta bueno. Yo no soy el que hace taekwondo mija, dame chancita... Wait for me!

[00:02:48] Mariela

Dad look! The door's unlocked... Help me look through her stuff. There must be a note or a clue here somewhere... Look, there's maps everywhere. That's Atacama, Peru... and a map of Japan? Dad, are you sure she's in Peru?

[00:03:17] Fernando

Pues eso es lo que entendí, mija...

[00:03:21] Mariela

It looks like Mom had been investigating this for a while then.

[00:03:25] Fernando

Oooh she left behind her red thong, my old favorite... you know your *mami es una persona brillante y hermosa*.

[00:03:35] Mariela

EW... Wait, actually, it looks like she left all of her clothes. Maybe she had to leave unexpectedly?

[00:03:44] Fernando

Qué extraño...

[00:03:45] Mariela

Look at the maps and the notes. It's odd she didn't use a computer for these...everything is on paper...

[00:03:53] Narrator

Oh, oh! I know this one! Veronica works as a consultant for the US NAVY so sometimes she prefers to keep things analog for security reasons. Unlike data in the cloud, paper can be burned, my friends.

[00:04:08] Mariela

Hey, I think I found something! Look, on all these papers there are references to the same set of numbers... 08... 2... 31... You two have a safe? What for? Last I checked we have no money.

[00:04:30] Fernando

Oh ya sabes, para el manuscrito de mi autobiografía y algunas piezas de oro que te dio tu abuela cuando eras bebé... esas cosas...

[00:04:37] Mariela

Your autobiography? What? Who would even read? Never mind. Wait, that's not her handwriting...

[00:04:47] Fernando

¡Ay güey! ¡Tienes razón! ¡Ella escribía hermoso y estos garabatos parecen de médico!

[00:04:52] Mariela

That means someone else was trying to get into the safe. Where is it?

[00:04:57] Fernando

Detrás de esta foto de Jere, el delfín preferido de tu mamá.

[00:05:01] Mariela

Okay let's carefully remove the photo frame... Looks like they never found it. Okey, let's see... 12... 31.. 08... 02... We're in! Are these... x-rays?

[00:05:36] Fernando

It's...

[00:05:36] Mariela

Sonograms...

[00:05:38] Fernando

Your sonograms *de cuando eras bebé, chamaquita*.

[00:05:41] Mariela

And my blood sugar levels, cholesterol, amino acids... Hold up. This says: TOP SECRET GOVERNMENT PROFILE: Mariela Perez Treviño. Why would there be a government file on me, dad??

[00:05:58] Fernando

Órale, ¡también está tu carta astral!

[00:06:01] Mariela

My star chart? Mom, the super scientist believes in horoscopes?

[00:06:10] Fernando

Haha, no she doesn't. That was me. But why keep it?

[00:06:15] Mariela

Check this out.. On the back of my star chart, there are some points... They look like coordinates, and there's a drawing of a snake!

[00:06:24] Fernando

Métela en Google rápido.!!! Creo que eso es cerquita de la costa de Chile!

[00:06:29] Mariela

So she really was going straight into the Atacama Trench?

[00:06:35] Fernando

Ah hijos, esto ya se está poniendo color de hormiga.

[00:06:41] Mariela

There's someone at the door! It could be mom or someone that's looking for her.

[00:06:47] Fernando

¿Siempre ha habido un agujero en esta pared?

[00:06:50] Mariela

SHHH...a hole? What are you talking about? Oh my God, it's a bullethole! Someone must have scared mom and tried to open the safe. Whoever it was must be looking for her... What do we do?

[00:07:19] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela and Fernando to confront whoever is at the door, listen to [Episode 23: Hand Luggage](#). If you want them to hide and observe the mystery person, go to [Episode 10: Bathroom Occupied](#).

EP 3 - CABIN SECURE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! Today we present: Episode 3, Cabin Secure.

[00:00:19] Mariela

Hello, is anyone there? Hello, is anyone there? What is this?... I'm...on a plane!

[00:00:36] Narrator (voice over loudspeaker)

Dear passengers, our in-flight entertainment service is now available. Our recommendation today is the series Under the Same Sky, starring Mariela Pérez Treviño.

[00:00:47] Mariela

I've never been an actress... Am I dead?

[00:00:52] Narrator (voice over loudspeaker)

Crew, please fasten your seat belts to enjoy the show.

[00:00:57] Narrator

Look, Mariela..

[00:00:59] Mariela

Ah! Where did you come from? Who are you?

[00:01:02] Narrator

I'm the one who controls the plane's entertainment. Sit down, make yourself comfortable. This show is the best! *clip from Episode 1: Turbulence plays* You didn't see Elisa again, by any chance?

[00:01:20] Mariela

What? No... I've been all over the world, how could I see her?

[00:01:26] Narrator

Hey calm down, I was just asking.

[00:01:34] Fernando (over clip)

Ha pasado mucho tiempo, pero quizás sepas que, como bien dicen: "El tiempo no espera por nadie".

[00:01:42] Narrator

Fernando's clever quips are the hit of the summer!

[00:01:49] Mariela (over clip)

How can you even breathe with that mask on? I'm curious...Do you ever take the mask off?

[00:01:59] Narrator

He's such a hunk! I ship Marucho! *pause with sounds* Wait a minute...

[00:02:14] Mariela (on stage)

Elisa, watch out! Leave it to me!

[00:02:17] Narrator

Ah, we haven't seen this one...

[00:02:19] Mariela

Quick, Eli, we must get him in here and return him to the North Pole!

[00:02:23] Narrator

So that bear in Finland was Elisa's idea! She set him free from the zoo, but he got violent and Mariela had to handle it. That Elisa is a wild one. What else have we got here...let's see... *small clips of show play in short succession*

[00:02:50] Mariela

It's weird to see me fighting so much. I don't remember that happening...

[00:02:57] Narrator

My dear Mariela, you are seeing fragments of your own history. The moments that have happened and the ones that haven't.

[00:03:08] Mariela

Get me out of here! We've seen these scenes 36 times. Are we even flying anywhere?

[00:03:17] Narrator

Now you're asking the right questions! You see, Mariela, this story should continue elsewhere. But as for us, well, our flight will... never land.

[00:03:31] Mariela

Well that is the dumbest thing I've ever heard in my entire death. Whoever you are....

[00:03:37] Narrator

Oh Mariela, you'll have to repeat this moment forever, that's what purgatory means.

[00:03:44] Mariela

How high are we? I could just jump out.

[00:03:48] Narrator

Oh Mariela... you act as if you can make your own choices...

[00:04:02] Narrator

Are you still there? I have no idea how you got to this podcast purgatory but if you want to keep going, you'll have to go back... [Episode 11: The Gilligan Lifeboat](#), [Episode 14: Evacuation Procedure](#), or Episode 26: Airplane Mode for more endings to this story. See you later in another place that is not this purgatory...

EP 4 - DUTY FREE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! In the previous episode, Mariela, Fernando and Lucho found an office in the great Dwarka temple. Many things surprised them there, including the unmoving body of a certain Dr. Rodrigo.. and a translation device that Lucho had a particular interest in...

[00:00:37] Mariela

That guy Lucho was so weird. He just stood there laughing to himself. Even after we left... It was such a turn off.. Ugh. And even after all that, we're not even close to finding mom! Let's just get some food. I need to think. How about Lamb biryani?

[00:00:58] Fernando

random breathing and noises

[00:01:01] Mariela

Right.. you can't talk. I'll take that as a no..

Transition music

[00:01:20] Mariela

Wow... it looks like everyone has the Atacama Effect.. *Fernando makes sounds in reply* I don't know what you just said, but let's just sit here... Looks like they serve pizza. Should be good.

[00:01:40] Narrator

How's everything going here... Would you like anything else?

[00:01:43] Mariela

No thanks--- wait.. you can still talk!

[00:01:47] Narrator

Would you like a glass of existential crisis Mariela?

[00:01:53] Mariela

I don't understand... Do you know me?

[00:01:55] Narrator

Yes. I mean no. It's complicated... Let me sit down.

[00:02:03] Mariela

Now hold on a minute----

[00:02:04] Narrator

There's a lot to get through Mariela. So I'm gonna have a drink...Would you like some?

[00:02:12] Mariela

Uh... sure...

[00:02:14] Narrator

I came to tell you... a story Mariela. At the beginning of time, humans constructed the tower of Babelle, not to be confused with the Tower of Babel. But that's another story...

[00:02:31] Mariela

Did you practice that?

[00:02:33] Narrator

Yes. But actually, this will go faster if I give you the SparkNotes version. Basically, I'm the one who caused the Atacama Effect.

[00:02:50] Mariela

takes a drink I'll have another please. *Fernando mubles in response* Sure, here's some for you dad. It's good.

[00:03:00] Narrator

Thank you, it was distilled in an angel's closet for 5,000 years... Anyway! As I was saying, when the Tower of Babelle came down, I sent a giant serpent called Unu to take the humans somewhere else, because, well, I really like the one true language and I wanted to preserve it!

[00:03:28] Mariela

So you're a god?

[00:03:31] Narrator

Noo! Yes... kind of.. don't Interrupt! Anyway, I had them start the underwater society and the Babellinos lived happily under the sea. I mean they don't even have to pay taxes ever! Until they decided to leave and become human again. Ungrateful fools! So I had to intervene. I wanted you Mariela, to save the world... But I had to take care of my cat, Cronos, so I had to delegate your decisions...to somebody else!

[00:04:07] Mariela

What?? What do you mean, my decisions? Do you mean I don't make my own choices.. I don't have free will???

[00:04:16] Narrator

Wait, wait, wait! Sorry, dear listener, if I'd let you hear that, reality itself would cease to exist.That and possibly the kitchen microwave of this restaurant would almost certainly explode. But now that we're alone, I wanted to talk to you directly. Yes, you! Stop munching on your chips, washing your dishes, or doing the downward dog. I have something to say: I have some *chisme*... No matter where you go in this adventure, love always finds a way (except in that one episode where Lucho dies, see if you can find that). Also, just between you and me, I never liked Simon, he owes me Babelcoin and he's just gotten so political. Anyway, back to our story...Mariela won't ever understand her lack of free will. Thank goodness you do. Let's continue!

[00:05:25] Mariela

Who did you give the power to choose? *Fernando mumbles in response* Dad, shhh, I'm trying to understand this guy!

[00:05:32] Narrator

In any case, I came to ask you a favor, Mariela. I'm tired of having you go around the world. I should've given you more clues so you could end up closer to the Atacama Trench. But here we are...you have the chance to change the world after everything you've been through. But you need to return to the Dwarka Temple to do so. What do you think?

[00:06:01] Mariela

Uh...I...I...

[00:06:12] Narrator

Hey it's me again, Narrator. Silly me, I almost forgot. Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to go back to the Temple of Dwarka to end the Atacama Effect, listen to [Episode 25: The Footrest Thingy](#). If you want her to have an existential crisis because she has just received too much information to process in such a short time, listen to [Episode 12: Chicken or Fish](#).

EP 5 - I'VE SEEN THIS MOVE ALREADY

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in Ataca-! Oh no, Atacama, no. This is Adventure in Dwarka, because we are actually in India! In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando stole a pair of scuba suits and dove into the depths of the Indian ocean to follow a mysterious light that could possibly, maybe, hopefully, *finally* lead them to the missing Veronica. Episode 5: I've Seen This Movie Already.

[00:00:50] Mariela

The sound... I think it's coming from the light...

[00:00:54] Fernando

¿Qué son esos ruidos raros?

[00:00:56] Mariela

They're....voices dad! Voices that are calling to us...

[00:01:02] Narrator

Mariela doesn't know this yet, but what she's hearing is the language of Babelle, and the voices she's hearing.... they're um... Oh just listen.

[00:01:16] Fernando

Marielita, esa luz está peligrosamente cerca. Marielita. Marielita!

[00:01:22] Narrator

Our heroes swim toward the mystical light and sound... recklessly and with complete disregard for their safety.

[00:01:34] Mariela

Look! Whoa...

[00:01:38] Narrator

Mariela and Fernando find themselves in front of a rocky and imposing underwater structure. This is the temple of Dwarka!

[00:01:56] Mariela

Dad? Can you hear me?

[00:02:00] Fernando

Ma-Ma... ¿Quién eres, mija?

[00:02:04] Mariela

Are you okay?

[00:02:06] Fernando

Oh...kay.

[00:02:09] Mariela

Oh, no! Dad, you're losing your speech! Is the Atacama Effect already here? How can that be?

[00:02:19] Lucho

Yes, that's right *Senorita Treviño*, but nothing will happen to you and me.

[00:02:29] Mariela

What? Wait...how'd you get here?

[00:02:32] Lucho

I have my ways Mariela Perez Treviño.

[00:02:35] Mariela

Hey! Guy in the luchador mask...whatever your name is. How'd you follow us to India?

[00:02:41] Lucho

It's Lucho. And on a plane! How do you think?

[00:02:45] Mariela

What do you mean "the Atacama Effect won't affect us"?

[00:02:47] Lucho

We're special Mariela. Your mom knew that.

[00:02:50] Mariela

Don't talk about my mom.

[00:02:56] Lucho

We don't have time to fight.

[00:03:00] Mariela

That coming from a man in a luchador mask?

[00:03:04] Lucho

Forget about everything you think you know, Mariela. You need to follow me if you want to find your mother.

[00:03:11] Mariela

What makes you think I'll follow you? *Eerie sounds get louder* Whoa whoa okay okay I'm going.

[00:03:23] Narrator

Mariela, Lucho, and the now very silent Fernando, pass the gates to enter the Dwarka temple and arrive at...

[00:03:41] Mariela

An office? So random.

[00:03:44] Lucho

It looks just like the one on the base in Atacama. *Fernando mumbles inaudibly in response*

[00:03:49] Mariela

Relax dad, we're going to find a way to get you talking again. Look at this desk, there's papers in Japanese and in Spanish. Do these belong to Doctor Rodrigo?

[00:04:03] Lucho

Look there are more notes on the ground...

[00:04:06] Mariela

And they lead to...

[00:04:09] Fernando

Ahhhh!! Ahhh!! *Inaudible screaming and mumbling*

[00:04:12] Lucho

What are you trying to say Fernando? *Fernando continues to mumble*

[00:04:17] Mariela

What's wrong?

[00:04:18] Lucho

Your dad is staring at... Oh no! *Fernando screams in horror*

[00:04:26] Lucho

He's.... He's dead!

[00:04:28] Mariela

Who's that? He doesn't smell dead.

[00:04:33] Lucho

It's Doctor Rodrigo. It looks like he drowned? He's all pale and he's not breathing.

[00:04:38] Mariela

Isn't that the guy you hate? The one mom worked with? *Fernando mumbles in response*

[00:04:45] Lucho

And he's got a recorder in his hand.

[00:04:48] Narrator

What? Was Doctor Rodrigo recording a podcast of his own?

[00:04:51] Mariela

Press play! Press play! *Fernando spits and mumbles*

[00:05:01] Dr. Rodrigo

My beautiful seahorse. If you're listening to this, I'm probably dead by now for some reason I don't know yet. That doesn't make any sense... Hold on, I'm going to try again. Uh... Seahorse, please go back to Atacama as soon as possible. I mean it! It's the only way to put an end to all this. I left the prototype translator here in Dwarka. You'll have to finish the mission without it. I'm sorry, I really am.

[00:05:35] Mariela

Who is Seahorse?? *Fernando mumbles and spits in exasperation* Oh no! We should've gone to the Atacama trench instead...

[00:05:46] Lucho

Wait a second... Mariela, Doctor Rodrigo has been working for years on this thing. A universal translator capable of interpreting any language in real time into any other language... *and now, I have it.*

[00:06:02] Mariela

Here we go, another man with delusions of grandeur...

[00:06:06] Lucho

Not delusions, Mariela... It's a business opportunity! With this device, I can compete with all of those cool language learning apps! I will beat even Bilinguo and his aggressive owl!

[00:06:23] Narrator

When did this become South by Southwest? This is supposed to be an adventure! Not a single venture capitalist is listening to this podcast, Mariela. Unless you are, in which case you can email our production team *wink wink*. Now it's time to choose! If you want Mariela to escape with Lucho and Doctor Rodrigo's improvised translator, listen to [Episode 34: All Passports](#). If you want her to stay in the Dwarka temple and try to find a way for Fernando to speak again, listen to [Episode 4: Duty Free](#)

EP 6 - ACTION MOVIE PLANE CRASH

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! Episode 6: Action Movie Plane Crash. In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando wanted to better understand the intentions of the mysterious masked man, so they followed him and disguised themselves with aviators... and it worked! That is until you decided to get them out of there!

[00:00:37] Mariela

Dad, take the files! Let's get out of here!

[00:00:40] Fernando

Ah!!!

[00:00:42] Narrator

In a swift action that is unexpected from someone of Fernando's small frame, he knocks over the table in front of him, pushing Lucho to the ground.

[00:00:51] Mariela

Why did you do that??

[00:00:52] Fernando

Como en las movies mija!!...

[00:00:54] Mariela

Why though?? All you had to do was take the file.

[00:00:56] Drunk Guy

Ay, ay, ay, why??

[00:00:58] Drunk Guy 2

...hace usted armando problemas...

[00:00:59] Drunk Guy

...trying to have fun!

[00:01:02] *Drunks Guys chat and mumble and slur random words in conversation*

[00:01:07] Narrator

Listener, just so you know, this is more the “Tequila Effect” than the Atacama effect...

[00:01:15] Fernando

Ay aye, *calmate!*

[00:01:16] Lucho

You’re getting what you deserve bro, this isn’t the luchador way! *fight ensues*

[00:01:22] Narrator

Mariela takes advantage of this alarming display of toxic masculinity to look for the files.

[00:01:30] Mariela

Got it! The folder from the safe.

[00:01:34] Narrator

Now it’s time to get out of here...

[00:01:37] Fernando

¡Me quitas la mano de encima que si te doy un cabezazo vas a ver como te queda el diente!

[00:01:40] Mariela

Dad let’s get out of here!

[00:01:43] One of the Drunk Guys

Oh hey, hit me too babe... *Mariela hits him* Thank you....

[00:01:56] Mariela

You didn’t have to start that fight.

[00:01:58] Fernando

No supe qué hacer...

[00:02:00] Mariela

Dad, you had one task: take the file. But it doesn’t matter now, I have the files. Let’s go into this shop so that guy can’t find us.

[00:02:11] Cashier

...ever since I left the sea, it's not the same. I've gotten over the "fish tacos" concept but it's tough here man. I'm not sure if I should stay.... Wait wait, hold up a customer is coming. Welcome, we have a 3x1 offer on coffee, that's how much people drink right?

[00:02:29] Mariela

Yeah...But isn't that bad for business?

[00:02:32] Cashier

Lemme call you back okay? Listen lady; we're broke, no one comes anymore cause they can't talk. So we're selling it all.

[00:02:45] Fernando

¿Oye Marielita, este chavito debería estar perdiendo el habla, no?

[00:02:49] Mariela

Yeah, he shouldn't be able to speak...

[00:02:52] Narrator

Remember the humans that left their underwater paradise for dry land? Well he's one of them.

[00:03:00] Fernando

What's up with the turtleneck? Do you think he has gills?

[00:03:05] Cashier

Are you gonna buy something or what?

[00:03:07] Mariela

Yes, sorry! Give us two please. Dad, let's look at these papers. Look at this...

[00:03:17] Fernando

Oye ¿y esto qué letra será? Ya ni con Comic Sans se conforman hoy día.

[00:03:21] Mariela

It's Hindi... it's about a lighthouse and something lost? Underwater I think? It's a lighthouse that guides you to something underwater!

[00:03:33] Fernando

Mari, I think he really has gills!

[00:03:36] Mariela

Focus Dad! What could it mean? This is in Japanese... Both mention a Mr. Rodrigo? Sounds like someone important. Be careful with the documents Dad.

[00:03:49] Fernando

Hey, I know this guy!

[00:03:51] Mariela

I don't think it's anyone you know dad. So they're in Dwarka, India, and Yonaguni, Japan... Hey! Didn't you say you were coming from India when we met on the plane?

[00:04:04] Fernando

Yes mijita, I was finding myself.

[00:04:07] Mariela

Did you think to "find" mom there too?

[00:04:09] Fernando

How was I supposed to know she was there, mija!

[00:04:13] Mariela

So is mom in India or Japan?

[00:04:16] Fernando

¿Acaso importa? ¿Cómo vamos a llegar?

[00:04:19] Mariela

I know how we'll get there dad. I have...miles!

[00:04:31] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela and Fernando to go to Dwarka, India, listen to [Episode 18: Airplane Radar](#). If you want them to go to Yonaguni island in Japan, listen to [Episode 11: The Gilligan Lifeboat](#).

EP 7 - FLIGHT CONTROL

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! In the previous episode Mariela and Fernando had traveled to Yonaguni island, and Fernando fell off their boat. In her quest to find him, Mariela was captured by a Babbellino, an original speaker of the Babbelle language. This is Episode 7: Flight Control...

[00:00:34] Papelino

But you and I have so much to talk about! Would you stop moving? I want to take a selfie with you for FishBook! Pics or it didn't happen, amiright?

[00:00:46] Mariela

I know what I need to do...Hey Babelle guy!

[00:00:53] Papelino

You can call me Simom.

[00:00:56] Mariela

Right, Simon. Look, I'm super interested in supporting Dr. Rodrigo. Yes! I totally believe the ocean will rise again. It's so, so important.

[00:01:11] Papelino

That's what I've been saying! Right!

[00:01:14] Mariela

So can you go get some more stickers? That way I can show them how much I support the cause!

[00:01:21] Papelino

Of course! Hey Diego, where are all the stickers?

[00:01:26] Mariela

Hehehehe...

[00:01:28] Narrator

Bye bye Bybelino! Get it? like Justin Timber-lake? Get it? Hahaha...

[00:01:34] Mariela

Now it's time to find dad. Wait... is that him on stage? I'm coming for you dad!!

[00:01:42] Narrator

Mariela, swim with all your might!!

[00:01:45] Fernando

¡Mariela, no, espera!

[00:01:48] Mariela

Mom? I can't believe you're here! We came to find you!

[00:01:53] Veronica

Mariela, hija...

[00:01:55] Mariela

Dad, we made it! She's here! Now let's get Mom and get out of here...

[00:02:01] Fernando

Escucha, mijita...

[00:02:02] Dr. Rodrigo

My dear Mariela... It's been 25 years since I've seen that face.

[00:02:08] Mariela

Who are you?

[00:02:11] Dr. Rodrigo

I am Doctor Rodrigo Kleutzberger Blumenfeld!

[00:02:17] Fernando

You know *mija*, I used to hate this guy *pero ahora somos cuates*.

[00:02:21] Mariela

What does that mean?

[00:02:24] Fernando

Sí, Marielita. He tells it like it is *mija*!

[00:02:27] Mariela

What? So you agree with this guy now?

[00:02:31] Fernando

I'm sick of being in the skies *mija*. I love the ocean. *Aquí los jugos verdes son de algas de verdad!* Plus, no one here has a job, they don't need it! All they do is swim!

[00:02:46] Mariela

Are you kidding me? You really wanna stay here?

[00:02:49] Fernando

The ocean will rise again! *chanting "the ocean will rise again" in the background*

[00:02:55] Mariela

Rodrigo! We can't stay here. We humans need to go back up.

[00:03:01] Dr. Rodrigo

Not necessarily Mariela...

[00:03:04] Veronica

Mariela, listen *mija*...

[00:03:07] Mariela

Mom, I can't believe this was all your doing. I thought we were going to stop the Atacama Effect together. But you actually caused it?

[00:03:16] Veronica

I can explain everything Mariela, but you need to choose between... wait... Where is that thing? Rodrigo! Have you seen the control?

[00:03:27] Dr. Rodrigo

What control?

[00:03:29] Veronica

The one we used to get here, idiot! Oh here it is! Never mind. As I was saying... I can offer an explanation, my dear Mariela, but you must choose between one of these two interdimensional portals.

[00:03:52] Mariela

Why? Can't you just explain it to me here?

[00:03:58] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! (Even though Mariela doesn't want to.) If you want Mariela to choose the portal on the right, listen to [Episode 3: Cabin Secure](#). If you want Mariela to choose the left, listen to [Episode 28: Follow the Aisle Lights](#).

EP 8 - CABIN PRESSURE

[00:00:34] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* An audio game from the creative minds at Studio Ochenta. In the previous episode, Mariela found a MYSTERIOUS phone..and you decided to let her keep it... Episode 8: Cabin Pressure.

[00:01:05] Voice on Phone

Fernando, hola.

[00:01:11] Mariela

Mom?

[00:01:12] Elisa

Mari, I forgot my lipstick on the- Mariela Perez Treviño! You didn't report the cell phone!

[00:01:19] Veronica's voice on phone

Fernando, hi. It's been a long time... I don't miss you or anything, okay? This is important. You need to find Mariela. She's the key to fixing this mess. It won't be long before people start seeing the effects of this thing. Please, please, please find her! *pause* How do I end a voice note? Who designs these phones? Ah, it's here. *Beep*

[00:01:50] Mariela

What? What the hell is this?

[00:01:53] Narrator

Mariela has a lot of questions that only one person can answer: the bald man who always wears sunglasses indoors... her father, Fernando Perez!

[00:02:13] Mariela

Where is he? Where is he? Ah, there he is.

[00:02:18] Fernando

No, si no tienes un jugo verde dame solo un vasito de agua, porfa. No es que si no tienes productos detox ni modo. It's a shame because I happened to go with this diet....

[00:02:28] Mariela

Dad!

[00:02:30] Fernando

Chamaquita, how good to see you here! Did you find my phone? *Tengo que checar algo en mi* Facebook.

[00:02:36] Mesero

Would you like anything, miss?

[00:02:37] Mariela

No thanks. Dad, I heard mom's message.

[00:02:42] Fernando

Always the *chismosa* eh...

[00:02:43] Mariela

Be serious, dad!

[00:02:45] Fernando

Esto ya se hizo un desmadre. Mira.

[00:02:48] Narrator

Hey guys! I'm Narrator here reporting live from Peru. Did you guys know that a tectonic plate shift off the coast has been causing some weird stuff to happen? Some people are reporting losing the ability to speak. Check this out. This kid right here can no longer say anything. Hey, say something to the camera. *muffled noises* No? See, it's silence! Spooky! Anyway, don't forget to like and subscribe.

[00:03:12] Mariela

Wild.

[00:03:14] Fernando

This is serious *mija*! Your mami is there!

[00:03:17] Mariela

What are you talking about? Mom couldn't be all the way in Peru. I was supposed to stay at her place with her here in Mexico City for my layover.

[00:03:27] Fernando

¿*En serio?*

[00:03:28] Mariela

Yeah...

[00:03:29] Fernando

No *chamaquita*, I think she's away on a mission. She sent me this yesterday...

[00:03:36] Mariela

starts crying

[00:03:40] Fernando

Ay no, mijita! Don't cry, I'm sure she's fine.

[00:03:46] Mariela

Sorry....No wait, I'm not sorry. This is crazy! Dad, you can't just appear out of nowhere, after five years of silence, and tell me mom is missing! Ugh!! I just...I just need...

[00:04:08] Fernando

A vacation!

[00:04:09] Mariela

A drink. Waiter, a whisky please. Neat. You know, I started having the same dreams as her... with that big snake thing.

[00:04:20] Fernando

¡No amigo, deja así, only water para mijita!

[00:04:24] Mariela

Hold on a minute! *You* can't tell me what to do. *Especially* after leaving us the way you did.

[00:04:34] Narrator

Oh yes Fernando didn't count on his daughter having the best superpower of all: that of free will. Oh wait...

[00:04:45] Fernando

Mariela, you know what they say, "*una hija puede crecer más allá de tu regazo pero nunca más allá de tu corazón.*" I loved you as much as I could *mija*. *Y cuidé de ti todo lo que pude, bueno siendo un piloto profesional como lo era yo...* Besides, I left when you were already grown up so it's not so bad right?

[00:05:09] Mariela

Okay, first of all, you were only a pilot for a few years before you got fired. And you left me with mom! A loopy control freak obsessed with experimenting on me!

[00:05:21] Fernando

Ay hija...estoy haciendo, como se llama "therapy" y si te ayuda en algo. I... I know I wasn't the best dad hija.

[00:05:32] Mariela

No kidding! But I don't care about you right now. Let's talk about Mom. That's what you're here for right?

[00:05:41] Fernando

Mija, she just wants you safe. Especialmente ahora que no nos queda mucho tiempo.

[00:05:48] Mariela

What do you mean by "we don't have a lot of time"?

[00:05:52] Fernando

Es que neta esto está cabrón... or as you millenials say, the mierda is about to hit the fan.

[00:06:00] Narrator (on TV)

A tectonic shift off the coast is causing some weird stuff to happen. Some people are...

[00:06:07] Fernando

Your mom called it the Atacama Effect.

[00:06:13] Narrator

Oh yes, the Atacama Effect! Pay attention, because it's going to change the world forever! Dum dum dum!

[00:06:27] Mariela

Atacama, like the Atacama desert in Chile?

[00:06:31] Narrator

No! For the lesser-known, but equally important Atacama Trench, my dear Mariela.

[00:06:38] Mariela

Or is it the Atacama Trench, the deepest point in the Pacific ocean? The one mom always talked about?

[00:06:47] Fernando

That's right. *La última vez que hablé con ella tenía que reunirse en el pueblo de Puerto Grau en la costa de Perú.* She was going to meet with that stupid scientist.

[00:06:58] Mariela

The one you hate? Dr. Rodrigo Kreutz... something?

[00:07:03] Fernando

Tsss! No digas su nombre porque it's bad luck *mija*. Hey can I get another water?

[00:07:10] Mesero

Right away. I'll...I'll...I'll bring...Uh...What?

[00:07:16] Mariela

He said water...

[00:07:19] Mesero

I... I'll be back with the... cup of... the glass of... what??

[00:07:28] Narrator

Hm. Did a cat catch his tongue, or is he suffering from the Atacama Effect? Dum dum dum!

[00:07:41] Mariela

He sounded odd, didn't he?

[00:07:43] Fernando

Yeah. That's the Atacama Effect, *mija*. I guess it's already here. Look at my notes...*Anomic Afasia*, basic loss of word recognition. It says here that people would have difficulty using the right words to describe objects or events. Your mom said it would start with that.

[00:08:06] Mariela

So...people can't talk anymore?

[00:08:08] Fernando

And that's just the *first* phase. *No tenemos mucho tiempo*. We have to move fast, *mija*.

[00:08:15] Mariela

What do you mean?

[00:08:23] Narrator

Oh, this is getting good! Now is the time for the real Adventure in Atacama to begin! So, Listen to [Episode 36: Fasten Your Seatbelt](#).

EP 9 - BRACE FOR IMPACT

[00:00:33] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! In the previous episode Mariela, Lucho and Fernando jumped from a stolen plane right into the Pacific ocean. It's getting crazy in here! This is Episode 9: Brace for Impact

[00:00:55] Lucho

Gimme a second to catch my breath...

[00:01:01] Mariela

Me...too...We made it! Hey, how can you even breathe with that mask on? I'm curious...do you ever take the mask off?

[00:01:18] Lucho

What? No! I sleep in it.

[00:01:22] Mariela

Interesting...

[00:01:23] Narrator

Looks like things are getting hot for Mariela. And it isn't because of Atacama sunlight...

[00:01:32] Fernando

I'm alive, thanks for asking!

[00:01:35] Mariela

Hola Pa! Right, let's get back to the mission. The back door is over there by those palm trees right?

[00:01:43] Lucho

Yeah, that's the one.

[00:01:45] Mariela

See you there!

[00:01:47] Lucho

Huh, she's really something huh? Mari wait!

[00:01:51] Fernando

Hey, where you going? Wait for me!

[00:01:54] Lucho

This is where the officials come up to smoke.

[00:01:57] Mariela

The coast is clear!

[00:01:59] Fernando

Right, vamos! Before anyone notices!

[00:02:11] Lucho

They're probably looking for us already...

[00:02:15] Narrator

Ah, the sound of the legendary past coming to join the legendary present. Ooo, that was good. Ha ha ha...

[00:02:25] Fernando

What was that?

[00:02:27] Mariela

That sounds like the plane crash might have done more than we thought.

[00:02:32] Lucho

Oh no! Unu!!

[00:02:34] Mariela

Who or what is Unu??

[00:02:45] Lucho

An ancient creature. But I can't explain it all right now, we have to hide!

[00:02:54] Fernando

Let's go into this room!

[00:03:01] Mariela

We're underwater? Again??

[00:03:05] Lucho

Most of the base is underwater. Each zone is completely separate from the others and can only be accessed by swimming up to it. Come on!

[00:03:14] Fernando

Ay mijita. We're gonna have to swim again... Sorry!

[00:03:18] Lucho

That's right. We have to swim towards the part of the base that's deepest. That's where all the scientists are working. Look! Here are some suits and oxygen tanks.

[00:03:28] Mariela

It couldn't be a floating air base... No, it had to be an underwater one....

[00:03:36] Narrator

Mariela didn't expect this adventure to take so many wild turns, and remind her of bad memories.

[00:03:46] Mariela

Mama, I told you I can't hold my breath that long underwater!

[00:03:54] Lucho

Come on guys!

[00:03:57] Mariela

Wait! Before we go...

[00:04:00] Lucho

Yeah?

[00:04:01] Mariela

How long do we have to swim to the other part of the base?

[00:04:04] Lucho

Oh! Not long. It's less than five minutes away. And you've got your oxygen.

[00:04:11] Mariela

Why didn't they ever build tunnels between the zones?

[00:04:15] Lucho

They needed the budget for a similar base in Asia.

[00:04:18] Mariela

Right. Totally makes sense. Let's go then.

[00:04:23] Narrator

Mariela, Fernando and Lucho go deeper and deeper into trouble... I mean into the dark depths of the Pacific Ocean. As they swim in the vastness of the Atacama trench they look tiny, really tiny. Like ants. I wonder if they feel the insignificant nature of their choice-less existence in the universe?

[00:04:51] Fernando

Mija, do you remember if we parked on the right side of the street? I don't wanna get a ticket.

[00:04:56] Narrator

Oh well, I guess not.

[00:04:58] Mariela

Okay Mari, you got this. Everything is going well! Oh wow, there's a communicator on this thing. Hola Papa!

[00:05:08] Fernando

Hahaha...Hey check this out, I can sound like Darth Vader with this thing. Mariela, I am your father!

[00:05:21] Mariela

Yeah, yeah...

[00:05:22] Lucho

Alright! Let's go. It's a little further down.

[00:05:33] Mariela and Lucho

Unu!!

[00:05:34] Lucho

She escaped! The airplane must have broken her cage!

[00:05:37] Fernando

Is that a giant squid or something? Cause that would make a killer ceviche.

[00:05:44] Lucho

No, she's a serpent... thing... and the protector of the ancient temple.

[00:05:51] Fernando

¿Cuál protectora?

[00:05:52] Lucho

Unu was protecting the temple, but they captured her in order to get her out of the way to construct the base.

[00:05:58] Narrator

Wow, Lucho seems to know a lot!

[00:06:02] Mariela

I, I think I'm losing the signal here! Nunununu!!

[00:06:08] Narrator

Wait a second...

[00:06:09] Lucho

It's the Atacama...Effect... Nunununu...Mari!...

[00:06:17] Fernando

What are you guys saying?

[00:06:20] Narrator

That's the most ancient language?? The language of Babelle??

[00:06:26] Lucho

Nunununu...Mariela! Can you hear me?

[00:06:30] Mariela

Si! Nununununu...

[00:06:34] Lucho

Fernando can't understand us Mariela. It's the power of the Atacama Effect. We're speaking the language of the ancients: Babelle.

[00:06:46] Mariela

Nunununu... Really? I thought we were just speaking English!

[00:06:50] Fernando

What the heck are you saying? I don't like being left out.

[00:06:55] Mariela

Nunununu... Seriously? Is this for real?

[00:07:02] Narrator

Yes, it's real Mari. Realer than you think.

[00:07:06] Lucho

Nununu... In this part of the world, near the Atacama Trench, we can speak this language because we're near the temple.

[00:07:16] Fernando

Okay you know what? Since you guys are playing without me, I'm gonna do it too. **starts signing* Tres pececitos se fueron a nadar, el más pequeñito se fue al fondo del mar; vino un tiburón y dijo 'Ven acá', 'No, no, no, no, no porque se enoja mi mamá'...*

[00:07:30] Lucho

Nunununu... Mari! If we don't stop Unu, she'll destroy the base completely and maybe even destroy the temple. That's her reason for existing: protect the temple at all costs - even if it means destroying it!

[00:07:43] Mariela

Nunununu... But Lucho, we have to get to the base! That's where my mom is!

[00:07:59] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want our three heroes to wait for the creature to approach the base again, listen to [Episode 27: Lost Luggage](#). If you want them to swim straight to the next section of the secret underwater base, listen to [Episode 16: Cross Check](#).

EP 10 - BATHROOM OCCUPIED

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando went into Veronica's empty apartment. Now they must hide from the mysterious person at the door... This is Episode 10: Bathroom Occupied.

[00:00:32] Mariela

That's a bullet hole! We have to hide!

[00:00:36] Fernando

Pues yo digo que deberías darle un madrazo y noquearlo. ¿No?

[00:00:38] Mariela

I may be able to play rock-paper-scissors with a silverback gorilla in Cameroon, and win without fearing for my life...But I can't do anything if he's got a laser gun!

[00:00:47] Fernando

¡Ándale Marielita, ya sabes que el miedo no anda en burro!

[00:00:50] Mariela

Shh! Let's get behind the couch, quick! Can you see what he's doing?

[00:01:03] Fernando

¿Qué voy a asomarme si estoy más apretadito que atún en lata, hija?

[00:01:08] Mariela

Oh no! He's opening the safe!

[00:01:11] Fernando

No te preocupes, hija, no hay manera de que este cuate sepa cuál es el code.

[00:01:16] Mariela

Oh no, he knows the code!

[00:01:18] Fernando

Shh!!

[00:01:20] Mariela

Hey that guy is wearing a luchador mask!

[00:01:26] Lucho

Yes! That's it ! The Atacama Effect, the trench... *dials phone* Agent whoever you are, it's me. Look, I found the documents. It looks like someone else tried to look for Veronica's files. No they left everything. Yeah...I'm heading over now. What will you be wearing? Aviator sunglasses? Got it. See you soon.

[00:01:53] Mariela

Whew! That was way too close.

[00:01:55] Fernando

Deberíamos seguirlo.

[00:01:57] Mariela

Hm, I don't know if following him is the best idea.

[00:02:01] Fernando

¡Vamos, Marielita! He's getting away!

[00:02:03] Narrator

Mariela and Fernando follow the man in the luchador mask through the intricate streets of Mexico City until they get to....

[00:02:15] Mariela

A bar? That's odd.

[00:02:17] Fernando

Oooh Alejandro's! Claro mijita, yo venía aquí todo el tiempo a empedarme cuando me peleaba con tu madre.

[00:02:24] Mariela

Look dad, he's there! It's the guy in the mask, next to the bathrooms!

[00:02:28] Fernando

¡Qué bueno que traje otro par de gafas de aviador para que puedas pasar como espía, Marielita!

[00:02:32] Mariela

What? That's your plan? We're gonna convince him by wearing aviator sunglasses?

[00:02:38] Fernando

¡Las usaba cuando era joven! Tienes que creertelo hija.

[00:02:42] Mariela

Quiet! Here he comes...

[00:02:43] Fernando

Let's go before someone else wearing glasses gets here!

[00:02:48] Narrator

Mariela and Fernando walk up to the mysterious masked man and follow him into the bathroom.

[00:02:56] Lucho

Finally! Here are the files.

[00:02:59] Fernando

Sígueme el juego, Marielita. Of course, well done, I will send them to the big boss.

[00:03:07] Lucho

What?

[00:03:08] Fernando

Los archivos que... mandó... el jefe supremo.

[00:03:12] Lucho

I clearly said on the phone I had found two files, one from Veronica's apartment... and one from the boss! The blue one is Veronica's, and the red one is the boss's. So which one are you taking?

[00:03:29] Mariela

The red one. We'll take the red one.

[00:03:32] Lucho

Great! So have a look. I found these research files from Doctor Treviño's earliest experiments.

[00:03:42] Mariela

Right. Well let's grab a drink first, how about that?

[00:03:46] Fernando

Mari...

[00:03:47] Mariela

Shh, I need a second to think. Let's go, drinks are on me.

[00:03:53] Narrator

Oh can I have an appletini please? Thanks, this is my favorite. Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to ask the masked stranger for help finding her mother, listen to [Episode 14: Evacuation Procedure](#). If you want Mariela and Fernando to make a run for it with the files, listen to the [Episode 6: Action Movie Plane Crash](#).

EP 11- THE GILLIGAN LIFEBOAT

[00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando were debating whether they should spend Mariela's hard earned miles to fly to the mysterious city of Yonaguni in Japan... This is Episode 11: The Gilligan Lifeboat. Our heroes rented a boat from Taiwan to take them to the mysterious Yonaguni island. As they get closer to their destination....

[00:00:47] "Nunununu" sounds can be heard

[00:00:51] Mariela

Hey, what's that sound?

[00:00:56] Fernando

Uau, ¿quién tiene una voz tan linda como para hacer acapella?

[00:01:01] Mariela

I don't know. There are only a few other people on the boat. What could it be?

[00:01:08] Fernando

¿Qué fue eso? Godzilla??

[00:01:09] Mariela

Dad we're not in a movie. I'm sure it was just...rough waves.

[00:01:15] Fernando

Mari! I'm falling! *Ayudame!*

[00:01:18] Mariela

Relax, if you fall you'll just float with your life jacket.

[00:01:22] Fernando

Ahh!

[00:01:25] Mariela

Dad, are you okay??

[00:01:27] Fernando

¡Sí, mijita! I can swim, don't worry!

[00:01:38] Mariela

Dad, I'm coming! Okay?

[00:01:39] Fernando

Marielita...Estoy bien...Ahh!

[00:01:45] Mariela

Dad! Oh my God, what happened?? *Ayudame! Herupu Kudasai!* Help, please!! I guess I don't have a choice here. Here goes!

[00:02:01] Narrator

Mariela uses her language skills to convince a Japanese tourist to lend her a scuba suit.

[00:02:12] Mariela

Where are you dad? Oh no, his aviators! He lost them! Where'd he go??

[00:02:19] Narrator

Mariela dives deeper to find her missing father and stumbles upon what looks like a banner that says...

[00:02:29] Mariela

"The Ocean will rise again"? What language is this? It doesn't look like anything I've ever seen before... Who's there?

[00:02:46] Narrator

A mysterious being pulls on Mariela's fin and pulls her down deeper and deeper. Instead of blacking out from the water pressure, our hero (who once slept calmly next to a tiger in a cargo ship from Bangladesh) takes a nap. She awakens in...

[00:03:16] Mariela

What's this? A protest?? Underwater?? The lack of oxygen must've gone to my head!

[00:03:25] Papelino

Silence, human!

[00:03:28] Mariela

Ah! Who are you, and why am I chained to an anchor? Ah! What's that... is that a fish tail?? Are you a mermaid?

[00:03:38] Papelino

Shh! I'm asking the questions here. How did you learn our language?

[00:03:50] Mariela

What? I'm speaking English.

[00:03:53] Narrator

Mariela doesn't know it, but she's just met one of the oldest Babbelle speakers in the world: my cousin Simon. And yes, he does have a fish tail.

[00:04:04] Papelino

Are you one of us? You must be one of those traitors that went to live on land. Huh. In any case, I'm glad you came to your senses and came back just in time for the biggest event our society has held in the last three thousand years...

[00:03:24] Mariela

This is an underwater society? Are you for real right now?

[00:04:27] Papelino

A reunion like this has not been seen since The Great Unu brought us to the ocean! Oh my gosh, where are my manners? Here, take some campaign stickers. And you have to meet Doctor Rodrigo!

[00:04:42] Dr. Rodrigo

Babellinos!! The Atacama Effect is live! The Ocean will rise again! The effect is reaching the final phase. Soon humans will be unable to speak, understand, or dream in any language...except ours! Now give a round of applause to Veronica Treviño, the real mastermind behind the Atacama Effect.

[00:05:15] Mariela

What?? Mom?

[00:05:17] Papelino

Oh my God, she's your mom? She's so famous! And she's done so much for our species!

[00:05:23] Mariela

Let me go Aquaman!

[00:05:25] Papelino

Hey! That's a genetic slur!

[00:05:28] Mariela

Let me go!!

[00:05:30] Papelino

But you and I have so much to talk about!!! Would you stop moving, I want to take a selfie with you for FishBook! Pics or it didn't happen, am I right?

[00:05:41] Narrator

Listen to [Episode 7: Flight Control](#).

EP 12 - CHICKEN OR FISH?

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! Episode 12: Chicken or Fish. Mariela, you have a chance to change the world again, okay? But you have to go back to the Temple of Dwarka to do it. What do you say?

[00:00:38] Mariela

I...I...Um, uh...

[00:00:42] Narrator

Ow! Argh... *Fernando sputtering in background*

[00:00:50] Narrator

Mariela! Why?? *robot voice beeps* Blumenfield solutions, activated.

[00:00:55] Fernando *via VR*

Mariela! How could you?? You stabbed the narrator with a fork!

[00:01:01] Narrator

What...have...you...done??

[00:01:04] Mariela

I uh...I was in shock! What have I done?

[00:01:33] Producer

Uh, how am I supposed to work if everyone keeps interrupting me? Cronos! Get out of here for a second, you're covering my computer with cat hair. Don't squeeze that! There's always a problem with this show, jeezus... *phone rings* Ah, there she is. Hi Mariela, I'm one of the producers of *Adventure in Atacama*. Can you hear me?

[00:02:05] Mariela

Hello? Hello? Where am I?

[00:02:08] Producer

Great! Thanks for coming.

[00:02:10] Mariela

Why are there ones and zeros everywhere?

[00:02:13] Producer

Relax, Mariela! Now you're in-

[00:02:15] Mariela

Now I'm trapped in a computer! I don't even have a real body!

[00:02:21] Producer

Yes, I understand it must be hard. Just, hold on a second, let me get ahold of the scriptwriter... Listen, why did you have to kill the Narrator? He had a contract to work until-

[00:02:31] Mariela

It's not my fault! He just came in and said some crazy things. I think... I'm losing my mind!

[00:02:40] Producer

Yeah that wasn't part of the plan either. He's a difficult person. Or, should I say... entity? But we have a solution... Apparently, now that there's no narrator, you can replace him so you can have another chance.

[00:02:56] Mariela

How am I supposed to replace him?

[00:02:59] Producer

Yeah, just um... You have to say; This is *Adventure in Atacama* DUN DUN DUN! Or something like that.

[00:03:08] Mariela

Right, well. That's easy. This is *Adventure in Atacama*.

[00:03:17] Producer

No, you have to say it with more feeling, a little more dramatic. Like this: This is...*Adventure in Atacama!*

[00:03:28] Mariela

Right. Right. So it'd be like...This is *Adventure in Atacama!*

[00:03:35] Producer

Okay you're giving me a 6 and I need you at a 10.

[00:03:38] Mariela

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Now is the time to choose. Oh! It worked. Now what else do I say? Something about going back to another episode, right?

[00:03:55] Producer

Yeah! Try: "Go back to Episode 21: Airplane Radar" and we're done.

[00:04:02] Mariela

Okay! Here we go! "Go back to [Episode 18: Airplane Radar](#) to continue exploring more endings to my story. Do it right this time and get me out of here!!

EP 13 - JET LAG

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Lucho revealed his true nature, then a group of soldiers from the base took Fernando away and injected both Mariela and Lucho with a sedative!

Today: Episode 13: Jet Lag. Mariela and Lucho float in and out of consciousness in a quiet room in the super secret underwater naval base...

[00:00:39] Mariela

Wow! The ocean is so huge! Imagine swimming in it forever...

[00:00:51] Lucho

Mariela. We've been drugged!

[00:00:58] Narrator

Interestingly enough, the drug used to sedate our heroes was made by my aunt's brother's cousin after his divorce. He was actually an alcoholic but now he's a successful business owner. I love that journey for him.

[00:01:17] Mariela

Hi...Hello...

[00:01:20] Narrator

Ah! You scared me! Are you talking to me?

[00:01:26] Mariela

Who else would I be talking to?

[00:01:30] Narrator

Um...oh my God...how can you see me? Wow that drug is pretty strong, so strong she can hear my riveting narration! What should I say...

[00:01:45] Mariela

What a cute dolphin! Hehehe

[00:01:50] Narrator

What? Um...nothing to see here...

[00:01:54] Lucho

Mariela! Mari, don't talk to strangers, especially dolphin strangers.

[00:02:04] Mariela

But it's so cute! Wait a minute... Lucho, I'm mad at you for betraying us with your glistening six pack.... Wait, where's my dad? Did they take him fishing? Dolphin! Did you see my dad?

[00:02:29] Narrator

Wow she's really out of it. I should get out of here.

[00:02:36] Dr. Rodrigo

Of course they're still drugged!

[00:02:36] Lucho

Some one's coming Mari!

[00:02:38] Dr. Rodrigo

I told you idiots to use only a quarter of the dose you gave them! You've probably given them brain damage!

[00:02:44] Mariela

Dad? Is that you? You sound funny, like kind of evil.

[00:02:51] Dr Rodrigo

Good morning sleeping beauty! It's been so long. I think at least 25 years since you were born on this base.

[00:03:05] Mariela

Where.... where did the dolphin go?

[00:03:09] Dr. Rodrigo

This is gonna pinch a teeny bit, but you'll feel better soon. Here, you too Lucho.

[00:03:19] Mariela

You're... you're not dad!

[00:03:23] Dr. Rodrigo

Of course I'm not that bald idiot! I'm... I'm mother... friend...Damnit! Pass me the assistant!

[00:03:38] Mariela

Mom? Where is she? What did you do to her?

[00:03:43] Dr. Rodrigo

Vocal assistant activated Oh she's fine! Working hard to fix my, I mean our, little mistake.

[00:03:53] Lucho

Ro...Rodrigo Clausber...

[00:03:58] Mariela

Rodrigo.... So you're the famous doctor Rodrigo!

[00:04:03] Dr. Rodrigo

That's It Mariela: Rodrigo Kreitzberger Blumenfeld, Doctor of Neurolinguistics, post doctorate in-

[00:04:10] Mariela

Yeah yeah, I don't need your CV. Why are you talking like that?

[00:04:16] Dr. Rodrigo

We were the first to experience the Atacama Effect, being in the trench and all. We quickly found a solution with vocal assistants. Now I can laugh like this: Ha Ha Ha-

[00:04:31] Lucho

You promised not to hurt Mariela if I brought her here.

[00:04:34] Dr. Rodrigo

I've always told you, Lucho, the important thing to remember is power lies not in brute strength, but in resources. And you brought just the one I needed. Good job my little luchador. Now shut up. Guards! Shut him up. I'd like to talk to Mariela alone.

[00:05:01] Lucho

This wasn't part of the deal! Mari, you have to believe me! They said no harm would come to you! I had no choice!

[00:05:06] Mariela

Leave him alone!

[00:05:09] Dr. Rodrigo

That's better.

[00:05:10] Mariela

Where's my mom? And where's my dad? And why is everyone betraying everyone?

[00:05:22] Dr. Rodrigo

You have a lot of questions, Mariela and we'll talk about your parents, the beautiful Veronica and that bald idiot Fernando, soon enough.

[00:05:33] Soldier 1

Doctor, the subject is showing symptoms of the Atacama Effect. We can't understand him at all. But that might also be his natural stupidity. Listen...

[00:05:44] Fernando

Jugo verde, excrementos, ¡salsa verde...!, Yo, yo...

[00:05:49] Soldier 1

He's been saying that for at least an hour. So yeah, we're gonna put a muzzle on him.

[00:05:54] Mariela

No! Dad! *Lucho's cries are muffled*

[00:06:01] Soldier 2

Sir, the creature is...

[00:06:03] Dr. Rodrigo

Silence We need to focus here. I'd like to talk to you about the language you and Lucho spoke to get into the base, Mariela.

[00:06:11] Mariela

I don't know anything about your stupid language thing! I came here looking for my mother. That's it.

[00:06:18] Dr. Rodrigo

Your mother is a brilliant woman, but she's always had a weak spot: you. Even if you were the product of our experiments here, she couldn't let you go. She never let me run tests on you. But her scientific curiosity was her downfall, Marielita.

[00:06:41] Mariela

Stop calling me that, you don't know me! Wait no! Don't go to a flashback...

[00:06:49] Narrator

Too late Mariela! Dr Rodrigo has sent us back in time to when you were a toddler way before you had faced that bear in Finland. Though you had already wrestled a few grizzly cubs by then...

[00:07:07] Fernando

Marielita! Marielita! Veronica, stop! This is too much.

[00:07:11] Veronica

Fernando, we need to know if she carries the gene! And what part of the door being locked do you not understand, eh? Marielita baby, I need us to try again. See if you can hold your breath a little longer underwater. I can almost hear the language.... Please! One more time baby. Please, pretty please?

[00:07:32] Fernando

Stop this!

[00:07:33] Veronica

Hey, take your hands off my daughter!

[00:07:36] Fernando

She's not a science experiment. The whole point of taking her out of that place was so she could be protected from exactly this kind of test. This is the last straw. I'm gonna take her away from here!

[00:07:49] Veronica

Where? Where are you gonna take her so that they won't find her? Look I know this is hard, but she is special. I know it! I just need to prove it, activate the gene somehow, so I can protect her better.

[00:08:04] Fernando

Estas loca, Veronica!

[00:08:06] Narrator

Wow seems like Mariela had that entire conversation somewhere in the back of her subconscious.

[00:08:13] Mariela

Stop this! I don't want to think about all that again! *Mariela as a child* Mom! I just want to go play! Please stop making me juggle Chinese plates underwater...

[00:08:24] Veronica

Oh my God! How did you learn those words so fast? See Fernando, it's working!

[00:08:30] Fernando

We're going to Miami. And we're going to have a hell of an adventure to escape the Navy, of course. Imagine this: Mari and Fer: two Mexican fugitives escape from U.S. authorities...Oh, espera, esa historia la hemos escuchado ya bastante.

[00:08:46] Veronica

Just trust me Fernando. I know what I'm doing. She's special!

[00:08:55] Lucho

Mariela! Come back!

[00:08:57] Mariela

Whoa! Mom was doing the experiments even earlier than I thought I could remember.

[00:09:03] Dr. Rodrigo

My dear, I know you have a lot of questions, but I've known you your whole life. You were born on this base. Your mother took you away to protect you. So we needed someone else, special, like you, to do more experiments on.

[00:09:22] Lucho

And that was me. Veronica kept you from the worst of it. They did everything they could to induce me to speak that stupid language, including making me learn latte art, making me learn how to let the bartender know I want another beer with just my eyebrows... I even acquired echolocation skills to help bats find more comfortable caves!

[00:09:45] Mariela

I... I don't know what to say.

[00:09:48] Narrator

Hold that thought Mariela! Unu is here, and she's not happy.

[00:10:00] Soldier 3

We need to activate the evacuation protocol doctor!

[00:10:02] Dr. Rodrigo

Take Mariela to the temple. Leave Lucho here. Now that we have her, we don't need him anymore.

[00:10:10] Lucho

What??

[00:10:11] Soldier 1

Doctor, the impact will cause a catastrophic collapse of the dome, it'll flood and explode.

[00:10:16] Dr. Rodrigo

Mmm...Excellent! That way he won't be alive to share the secrets of this base.

[00:10:22] Lucho

No! No! NO!

[00:10:24] Mariela

You're gonna kill him even after he betrayed his mentor and his love interest for you? Why??

[00:10:30] Dr. Rodrigo

Relax, Marielita. The ocean will take care of him. Now take her to the temple!

[00:10:36] Mariela

Let me go! Let me go!!

[00:10:37] Dr. Rodrigo

I'll give you a proper tour of our base Marielita, or you can stay and say hi to UNU. The choice is yours.
Ha ha ha ha...

[00:11:11] Narrator

Now is the time to choo- oh wait. No choice here folks, go straight to [Episode 26: Airplane Mode](#). See you there.

EP 14 - EVACUATION PROCEDURE

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama*. In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando went to Veronica's apartment to find clues about her disappearance. Instead they meet Lucho, Veronica's luchador mask-wearing colleague. Together, they decide to head directly to the Atacama Trench to find Veronica. This is Episode 14: Evacuation Procedure. Our three heroes return to the Mexico City airport to find El Tucan, Fernando's most prized possession. This plane is their only hope to get to the Atacama trench, find the missing Veronica, and somehow stop the mysterious Atacama Effect.

[00:00:59] Mariela

We're almost there! Hanger 6 right?

[00:01:02] Fernando

Yeah, yeah, mija...*scrolling through TikTok*

[00:01:04] Narrator (as TikTok voice)

How were you affected by the Atacama Effect? I'll go first. I'm in California and I was trying to propose when I started losing the ability to speak. So I used Siri to ask "will you marry me?" And guys, she said yes!

[00:01:21] Mariela

Dad, stop watching videos on TikTok. Focus!

[00:01:25] Fernando

Sorry!

[00:01:26] Lucho

Looks like the effect is spreading!

[00:01:28] Mariela

And what about us? How come we can still speak in full sentences?

[00:01:32] Fernando

¡Sígueme los buenos! ¡Vamos rápido! Primero, ayúdame a noquear a ese tipo del tractorcito ese...

[00:01:43] Mariela

Why do we have to knock him out? Isn't it your plane?

[00:01:45] Fernando

Dios mío Mari! I don't have time for this!

[00:01:47] Lucho

I'll do it! *Lucho knocks out guys*

[00:01:58] Mariela

Lucho, what the hell?

[00:02:00] Fernando

Run, mija!

[00:02:05] Mariela

This isn't *The Toucan* Dad! Are we stealing a plane?

[00:02:10] Fernando

¡Sabes que "fruta de huerta ajena es sobre todo buena"! ¡Vámonos!

[00:02:23] Narrator

And with a swift punch by Lucho the luchador, our intrepid heroes take flight to the Atacama Trench!
Dun dun dun!

[00:02:39] Fernando

Now that we're in the air, can you explain to me *quien changos eres Lucho?*

[00:02:44] Lucho

Alright. I'm Veronica's assistant. The Navy offered me a ton of money to participate in a five-year study. Before that, I wanted to be a professional wrestler. Lucha libre, like my dad.

[00:02:58] Fernando

Lucha libre? What's your papa's name?

[00:03:02] Lucho

Tiburón Martillo.

[00:03:07] Fernando

Tiburón Martillo? Tu papa es Tiburón Martillo??

[00:03:12] Lucho

Yeah...

[00:03:13] Fernando

Marielita ponme esto en piloto automático. I have to hear this. This is incredible. Lucho. The way Tiburón Martillo fought with Matafuegos back in '98 was incredible!

[00:03:24] Lucho

Yeah... It was epic. I guess. But he died from the injuries. My mother died from grief not long after. Dr. Veronica found me and convinced me to join the Navy so I could pay his debts. She was like a second mother to me. Um, can you give me a minute? I'm gonna get some water. Or maybe a beer. This is a long and sad story.

[00:04:00] Fernando

Handsome and with a heartwarming backstory. A nice match for you Mari, eh?

[00:04:05] Mariela

No. He's just along for the ride. Plus, we don't know what his motives really are. Even if he is kind of cute...

[00:04:14] Fernando

Don't blush, mija!

[00:04:16] Mariela

I'm not red. That's the alarm light! Dad, what's happening? *alarm sounds*

[00:04:24] Narrator

Looks like they have company!

[00:04:27] Fernando

Ah la madre! We're hit, I repeat, we're hit!

[00:04:30] Mariela

We're being followed! What type of plane is that?

[00:04:34] Fernando

¡Es un avión de combate! Pásame ese jugo, Mari, necesito calmarme.

[00:04:37] Mariela

Now is not the time for a green juice dad!

[00:04:40] Narrator

Fernando knows all about combat planes. He used to pilot one until he fell... for the bottle that is. You see my friends, an alcoholic isn't exactly a good pilot and it cost him his job, his plane, his daughter's respect, and his hair.

[00:05:04] Lucho

What was that?

[00:05:05] Mariela

Lucho, you said that there weren't any planes around the base!

[00:05:09] Lucho

There weren't any when I left!

[00:05:13] Fernando

¡Estamos yendo derecho a una tormenta!

[00:05:18] Narrator

Wow! They are driving straight into a storm! I am literally on the edge of my seat and I don't have a body!

[00:05:27] Lucho

Fernando, give me our exact coordinates now!

[00:05:29] Fernando

23 degrees, 72 West!

[00:05:31] Lucho

We're really close! If we get close to the water, we can definitely make it!

[00:05:35] Mariela

What do you mean Lucho??

[00:05:37] Fernando

Oh I know what you have in mind! *Que buena idea luchito!*

[00:05:41] Mariela

Dad!

[00:05:42] Fernando

Mija, sometimes you just have to take a leap of faith.

[00:05:45] Mariela

No! Don't you dare. Papa!

[00:05:51] Fernando

We have to jump *mija!*

[00:05:53] Mariela

Lucho, stop him!

[00:05:55] Lucho

I'm with him! We have to jump now!

[00:06:01] Fernando

¡Es nuestra única oportunidad de encontrar a tu madre, Mari!

[00:06:04] Mariela

But it's the middle of the ocean!

[00:06:06] Lucho

Mariela, we can swim towards the base. It's not far. Okay I'll go first. *¡El vuelo del Tiburón!*

[00:06:15] Mariela

Lucho!

[00:06:16] Fernando

It's the only way, Mari! Here I go! *Que la virgencita me proteja con su santa gracia!*

[00:06:27] Mariela

Oh my God, oh my God! Why couldn't we just land normally? Calm down. Just breathe. Don't think about the past. *flashback to Mariela as a child* Mom, I'm not a fish, I can't breathe underwater that long!

[00:06:47] Unu

Wake up Mariela...Wake up and jump!

[00:06:56] Mariela

Ahh! Here I go!

[00:07:16] Fernando

See *mija*! I told you it'd be fine!

[00:07:21] Mariela

At least we're alive. Hey is that...a rescue plane?

[00:07:26] Lucho

No. That's our plane. It's still in the air and it's... going... to crash into the base. Yup, there it goes.

[00:07:44] Mariela

Let's get out of the water for God's sake!

[00:07:48] Fernando

Vamos!

[00:07:49] Lucho

Since the plane hit the base, we don't have much time. Almost there. See that little island? The entrance is under that coconut tree.

[00:08:00] Fernando

Ooo, *que misterioso!*

[00:08:03] Mariela

Wait! We can't just go and walk up to the main door, because they'd just arrest us right away. Right?

[00:08:10] Lucho

I know a back entrance that leads straight into the base!

[00:08:20] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want our heroes to just ring the doorbell to the base, go to [Episode 9: Brace for Impact](#). If you want them to take the back entrance into the secret navy base at the heart of the Atacama trench, go to [Episode 31: No Baggage](#).

EP 15 - NECK PAIN

[00:00:33] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! In the previous episode, Mariela and Veronica were reunited! But things quickly turned sour when Doctor Rodrigo called for his soldiers to come. Mariela used her very special skills to escape. This is Episode 15: Neck Pain. As they run away from Dr Rodrigo's toxic grasp, they contemplate their...shoelaces?

[00:01:10] Veronica

Run baby girl! Run like your life depends on it! Wait! Let me tie my shoes.

[00:01:16] Mariela

Mom, the temple could collapse any minute now! We don't have time! *Veronica hums a song*

[00:01:26] Veronica

Over and under... Left to right... That's the way shoes are tied...Oh no! More soldiers! Look! That one has a laser gun!

[00:01:34] Mariela

I'll kick his ass too!

[00:01:37] Veronica

Excellent form little human!

[00:01:43] Mariela

Thanks mom, but don't think this whole thing lets you off the hook. \We still have to talk about the trauma you gave me with those experiments! Ow! How dare you bite me you stupid underwater soldier? Run mom!

[00:01:58] Veronica

I know sweetie. But you know how these experiments go.

[00:02:03] Mariela

You experimented on your own daughter! And never gave me cookies when I asked for them! Like who does that? Who deprives a child of cookies at every turn?

[00:02:17] Veronica

It was to see if cookies had an effect on the language gene.

[00:02:20] Mariela

Are you kidding me? Agh! My therapist would have so much to say about that, but now's not the time. Run mom!

[00:02:33] Veronica

Great job sweetie! That bought us some time. Now listen. We're almost there. Ta da!

[00:02:42] Mariela

Whoa! It's beautiful. Hey, what's that rainbow thing behind the altar there?

[00:02:48] Veronica

Oh that's a portal that connects us to the other temples around the world, but that's not really important right now. Right now what's important is that you use your special skills to save the world! You can close the connections between all the temples in the world and turn off the Atacama Effect!

[00:03:06] Mariela

Wait you're talking about other temples. Are there more temples for the ancient language?

[00:03:12] Veronica

That's right. How else could the effect be so far reaching?

[00:03:17] Mariela

Incredible...

[00:03:19] Veronica

You see, this is what that idiot Dr. Rodrigo and I were studying: how the portal could connect us to the other temples, and possibly change international communication forever. Rodrigo used the translator we created together to speak the ancient language on these walls, when all of a sudden there was this huge earthquake underground. Tectonic plates shifted, spreading the Atacama Effect of linguistic afasia, or the inability to articulate coherent speech around the world. We haven't been able to close it since.

[00:03:54] Pedro the Alien

Come on Cholito we have to find an exit!

[00:04:00] Cholito

Pero soy tu cholito de la suerte...

[00:04:03] Pedro

Yes and I'm an alien on the worst vacation planet ever. Let's get out of here! Cabrito you too! Just hurry up!

[00:04:14] Veronica

And that's not all. The portals are just one part of it. The true power of this temple is in the ancient language. The Americans believed that controlling the ancient language would be the key to control. To imposing a single universal language for the entire world!

[00:04:33] Mariela

That's funny. Either way, everyone already has to learn English anyway.

[00:04:39] Veronica

Come here, Mariela

[00:04:40] Mariela

Wait, mom?

[00:04:42] Veronica

What?

[00:04:44] Mariela

You went through all the trouble to bring me here, even though you knew Dr. Rodrigo had gone mad with power.

[00:04:49] Veronica

Yeah...

[00:04:51] Mariela

So you have to understand; I'm a little lost here.

[00:04:54] Veronica

Uh huh...

[00:04:55] Mariela

You're so chill about it. What did that Rodrigo guy mean when he said that I was born on this base? And that Unu is somehow a part of me because of some injection?

[00:05:07] Veronica

Look those are all excellent questions. But please, we need to recite these inscriptions to stop the effect before the temple falls in over us! Read with me.

[00:05:19] Narrator

It's now or never Mariela! You've proven yourself as an above-average flight attendant that can fight bears, speak dozens of languages and knockout-punch dozens of soldiers. But now it's time to speak...Babelle!

[00:05:41] Mariela

Nununununu... Hm, I guess it's not like an open/close sesame situation then.

[00:05:57] Veronica

It can't be! Why is it still open?

[00:06:01] Mariela

It's not going to work mom!

[00:06:02] Veronica

It has to work! When Rodrigo used the translator it worked. And he's not even a gene carrier. But wait. The translator was connected to a transmitter on Unu! That's it! If we want this thing to work: we have to do it with Unu!

[00:06:21] Mariela

Unu??

[00:06:22] Veronica

Okay. Let me give you the short version of it...

[00:06:28] Narrator

Oh my God. This is my favorite story! Also please ignore the temple falling apart behind them, because I'm slowing that down for this narrative break.

[00:06:38] Veronica

A long long time ago in an ocean far, far away...

[00:06:43] Narrator

Here it goes!

[00:06:45] Veronica

27 years ago on this very base, Rodrigo was in his lab with his lab coat, like any other day, and he said "Hey Verónica can I modify your DNA with Unu's genes so I can see if it's related in some way to your very special FOXP3 gene?" And I was like "Sure!" because whoever has a FOXP3 gene descends from an ancient population that spoke Babelle, the first true language. They lived underwater and built these temples, like the one we're in. So, he injected me with Unu's DNA, but I didn't know that I was pregnant!

[00:07:28] Mariela

What?

[00:07:29] Veronica

He did it and I freaked out. I had to get away. I didn't know what to do. Fernando was someone I regularly hooked up with on base, and so he and I fled to Playa del Carmen. We spent the better part of that summer having sex on the beach...

[00:07:45] Mariela

Gross!

[00:07:46] Veronica

And then I found out I was pregnant with you. But you know what that means? It means that Unu's DNA... is in your veins!

[00:07:57] Mariela

You know, I came here to resolve some past trauma, but you are just throwing new ones at me left and right.

[00:08:04] Veronica

Those genes are in your bones, your eyes, and in your ability to speak the language.

[00:08:11] Mariela

Mom, this is crazy!

[00:08:13] Veronica

You're my daughter. But you're also a daughter of Unu, the great sea creature and protector of the Atacama temple!

[00:08:22] Mariela

I...I don't know what to do with that information.

[00:08:42] Narrator

Mariela's never been this stunned! (Not even when she found it actually wasn't butter.) She really needs your help. Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to leave her mother behind to look for her dad and get out of there, listen to [Episode 22: Cabin Control](#). If you want Mariela to follow her mother's crazy plan to talk to Unu, listen to [Episode 21: Clap When You Land](#).

EP 16 - CROSS-CHECK

[00:00:24] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama*! In the previous episode, Mariela, Lucho and Fernando were debating about whether they should enter the ultra secret underwater base, or stay outside and wait for the great Unu to appear. In the meantime, Mariela and Lucho are speaking in the mysterious Babelle language. Episode 16: Cross-Check.

[00:01:08] Lucho

Mariela, if we don't stop Unu, (Nunununu) he's going to destroy the entire base and that could collapse the temple, (nunununu). That's Unu's purpose: to protect the temple at all costs, even if it means (nunu) destroying it!

[00:01:27] Mariela

But Lucho, we have to get to the base first! (Nununu) Mom must be there! Although if you say we have to stop Unu from destroying it to pieces, (nununu) I believe you. Dad, we are going to find this snake and stop it. Dad? Where are you?

[00:01:47] Lucho

Fernando? Fernando?

[00:01:53] Fernando

¡Aquí estoy, muchachos!

[00:01:55] Unu

Hellooo!

[00:01:59] Mariela

What is that??

[00:02:02] Fernando

I was talking to my *amiga* Unu, and she was giving me a little tour.

[00:02:06] Mariela

Unu?

[00:02:07] Unu

Hi! So, I am Unu.

[00:02:16] Lucho

That's Unu!

[00:02:17] Mariela

Somebody pinch me, this can't be true!

[00:02:20] Unu

I am 100% real, no fake, Mariela the very special attendant.

[00:02:26] Mariela

I have a full name you know!

[00:02:29] Unu

It doesn't matter! What matters now is that you guys disrespected my temple, my home, the place that I've defended for millennia!

[00:02:44] Lucho

Oh no!

[00:02:45] Unu

I've put a lot of work into that place you know. It took so much time to decorate! Please, come in, come in

[00:02:57] Mariela

Lucho! I don't think she's right in the head.

[00:03:00] Unu

I insist that you come into my temple.

[00:03:03] Lucho

Yeah, Mari. It's like...

[00:03:07] Unu

Have you met my friend Mephistopheles? Say hello, little friend. *fakes voice* Hello, humans.

[00:03:16] Lucho

That's a mound of plastic bottles in the shape of a cat with a smile painted on its head!

[00:03:24] Unu

His name is Mephistopheles and he's my best friend! He's the only one who understood me when I was locked in that cage. Don't listen to them, Mefis, you're my best friend. These humans without fish tails only say horrible things.

[00:03:45] Mariela

Humans without fish tails?

[00:03:48] Lucho

Long story.

[00:03:49] Unu

Where was I? Ah, yes. Look at Mephistopheles' little face, see? He's so happy you're here.

[00:04:00] Narrator

A current suddenly carries Mephistopheles away!

[00:04:05] Unu

Mephistopheles!

[00:04:07] Lucho

Oh no. No no no no no. I'll get it! I'll go for it!

[00:04:10] Fernando

Too late, Luchito! Camarón que se duerme se lo lleva la corriente...

[00:04:15] Unu

Mephistopheles! Ahhh

[00:04:20] Mariela

Uh, guys?

[00:04:22] Unu

He's gone! He's gone!

[00:04:23] Mariela

Unu, it's ok! We can help you!

[00:04:27] Unu

Noooo!!

[00:04:31] Mariela

She's destroying the temple! Noo! We're going to die!

[00:04:36] Lucho

Mariela! We would have been an amazing couple!

[00:04:39] Mariela

I'm not sure! Libras don't really match with Virgos! Nooo!!

[00:04:49] Narrator

Muahahaha! You've reached one of the terrible endings of *Adventure in Atacama!* But! There's more where that came from. You can go back to [Episode 9: Brace for Impact](#) to continue exploring all the endings of this story.

EP 17 - AIRPLANE COLD

[00:00:24] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Today we present Episode 17: Airplane Cold. In the previous episode, Mariela and her dad Fernando woke up in an underwater-themed motel after drinking a little too much whiskey at Alejandro's tapas bar. They - I mean you - have decided to go straight to Veronica's apartment to get a clue about where she might be.

[00:01:17] Radio voice

Listen up! Are you at a loss for words? Like, have you literally lost the ability to speak? Well, you may be eligible for our brand new vocal assistant software! Go to Blumenfeld.com right now to be the talk of the town...that can't talk! Blumenfeld's new "Speak Up" App will have you wishing you had lost your voice before! Going on a date? Try our "suave Gentleman" preset. Skateboarding with your bros? Check out "California dude." It's "totally rad!" Try it now! Go to Blumenfeld.com and the first 1,000 people will receive a free Autocorrect plugin! That's amusing--I mean amazing!

[00:02:07] Mariela

Whoa, there's no one on the street here dad. It looks abandoned. Where is everyone? You know, I would still go out even if I couldn't talk.

[00:02:18] Fernando

Esto está más solo que piojo en cabeza de calvo... Mija. It's worse than I thought. Mariela. Your mom told me the Atacama Effect doesn't just make it hard to speak. *Te quita todo entendimiento de lenguaje.*

[00:02:37] Mariela

What do you mean? Like it makes you stop understanding things? There's no way that's a real thing.

[00:02:44] Fernando

Neta1 Te deja en shock. Como un vegetal. Toda Ciudad de México debe estar así. ¡Pero nosotros no! Así que ándale.

[00:02:56] Mariela

Hola Carmen. Sorry I'm from apartment 805. Veronica's daughter, remember me?

[00:03:03] Carmen

Mhm.

[00:03:04] Mariela

I'm Mariela, her daughter! Here with my dad. Do you remember me?

[00:03:10] Carmen

Mm! Mhmhm...

[00:03:13] Mariela

She must be under the effect. Look, I know you're not letting people in but I'd like to see my mom.

[00:03:21] Fernando

Reina Carmencita. ¿Todavía no se ha comprado un asistente de voz o qué? ¿No va a salir a darme un abrazo?

[00:03:28] Carmen

Mhm. Mhmhmhm.

[00:03:36] Fernando

Gracias, reinita. Te debo una cenita, ¿bueno?

[00:03:39] Carmen

Mhmhm.

[00:03:42] Fernando

No ese tipo de comida, Carmencita. Vamos, mijita.

[00:03:48] Narrator

Mariela and Fernando quickly go up the stairs to the eighth floor. I mean Mariela does. Because it seems like Fernando...has some trouble.

[00:04:00] Mariela

Come on, dad! Hurry up!

[00:04:03] Fernando

Gimme.. a ... sec... not. *Yo no soy el que hace taekwondo mija, dame chancita...*

[00:04:10] Mariela

Look! The door is unlocked.

[00:04:14] Fernando

Qué raro.

[00:04:20] Mariela

What happened here?

[00:04:22] Fernando

Parece que ya no llama al servicio de limpieza ¡AAAU!

[00:04:28] Mariela

Dad, *concentrate!* It looks like mom left in a hurry. It's a mess in here! There are maps everywhere. Trench? The Atacama Trench? But there's also something about India here. A city called Dwarka, and Yonaguni, Japan? Dad. Are you sure she said she was in Peru?

[00:04:53] Fernando

Pues eso es lo que entendí, hija.

[00:05:01] Mariela

This newspaper says "Explosion in an isolated location in the Pacific Ocean" Coordinates...What could it mean? *phone rings* Who could that be?

[00:05:15] Fernando

Podría ser tu mamá, Mariela ! Answer! Answer!

[00:05:25] Narrator

If you want to hear what happens when Mariela answers the phone listen to [Episode 33: Lack of Legroom](#). If you want to want Mariela to not answer the phone, well tough bananas cause there's only one choice here.

EP 18 - AIRPLANE RADAR

[00:00:33] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode our heroes were debating two possibilities: use Mariela's frequent flyer miles to follow the tracks to find her mother in Dwarka, India, or Yonaguni island in Japan. This is Episode 18: Airplane Radar. Your decision has taken them to the historical city of Dwarka....

[00:01:16] Fernando

Ni siquiera puedo entender una palabra de lo que dicen!

[00:01:18] Mariela

Dad stop complaining! At least they're still talking. It seems like the Atacama Effect hasn't arrived here yet.

[00:01:27] Narrator

Sorry, I was almost blinded by Fernando's shiny bald head glistening in the sun. Where was I? Oh yes. Mariela and Fernando enjoy the beach for a brief moment...but not for long!

[00:01:42] Mariela

Look dad, there's the lighthouse!

[00:01:46] Narrator

Ah Mariela, always so perceptive. Just like when she tipped NASA that Pluto wasn't a planet at age three.

[00:01:55] Fernando

Wow! Eso sonó.

[00:01:59] Mariela

Strange...The light is green. And it's got this odd shape. Like a tentacle pointing to something.

[00:02:10] Fernando

¿Segura que no tomaste algo raro, Marielita?

[00:02:12] Mariela

No, I haven't had a drink. Listen, this must be a sign. We need to go there!

[00:02:20] Fernando

¿Qué dices? Si no tengo speedos para eso.

[00:02:24] Mariela

You don't need to wear a speedo for this!

[00:02:28] Fernando

Eso lo dices tú, mijita. En Playa del Carmen me lo pedían a-gri-tos.

[00:02:33] Mariela

Let's go!

[00:02:35] Narrator

Mariela and Fernando walk towards the famous site and join hundreds of other tourists.

[00:02:51] Mariela

Wait a minute. Look at the guide...

[00:02:57] Fernando

¡Recórcholis! Tiene una, tiene una.

[00:03:01] Mariela

He's wearing a luchador mask! That can't be the same guy, how'd he get here?

[00:03:08] Fernando

¡Qué emoción, esto debería ser imposible! ¿Cómo llegó aquí? ¿Qué está diciendo, Marielita?

[00:03:14] Lucho

समुद्र में गोता लगाएँ (samúdr mein góta lagáen). खंडहर (khándajar). नगर (nággar).

[00:03:17] Mariela

That he's going scuba diving...to see the lost city underwater...Do you think he's talking about the same place? Maybe we should follow him.

[00:03:29] Fernando

No, no, no, no mijita, yo tengo licencia para pilotear, no para bucear.

[00:03:35] Mariela

I don't like the idea either but we're gonna have to go, if we're gonna find mom.

[00:03:40] Fernando

¿De verdad crees que estaría en una ciudad submarina?

[00:03:43] Mariela

No, yes... maybe. I mean we're already here right?

[00:03:48] Fernando

¡Yo tomo muy buenas decisiones y tú las ignoras, mijita!

[00:03:52] Narrator

Actually they aren't making any decisions. But let's not tell them...

[00:03:59] Mariela

Let's just go with that tour group.

[00:04:02] Narrator

The Arabian sea envelopes our intrepid heroes as they dive deeper and deeper.

[00:04:32] Mariela

Can you hear me? Dad?

[00:04:34] Fernando

Yes. Over.

[00:04:36] Mariela

Why are you talking like that?

[00:04:39] Fernando

Ay déjame divertirme tantito. We gotta have fun, mija.

[00:04:45] Narrator

Mariela spots something at a distance. Just as she spotted the white polar bear creeping up behind her in the snow back in Finland.

[00:04:56] Mariela

Dad, there's a light. What is that?

[00:05:04] Fernando

¿Será de un submarino?

[00:05:06] Mariela

Not a submarine, but maybe a lost plane? It's beautiful... Let's get closer.

[00:05:26] Narrator

Now is the time to skip to the next episode because there's nothing to do but go forward. So listen to [Episode 5: I've Seen This Movie Already.](#)

EP 19 - THANKS FOR FLYING WITH US

[00:00:33] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Today we present Episode 19: Thanks for Flying with Us. In the previous episode, Mariela, Fernando and Veronica, found the great Unu creature and saved the world from the terrible Atacama Effect. Our heroes emerge from the depths of the Pacific Ocean on the back of Unu.

[00:01:13] Mariela

Thank you for flying us out of there Unu! Do you think it worked? Is the Atacama Effect really over?

[00:01:10] Unu

I am over 3000 years old Mariela, and to that all I have to say is... maybe.

[00:01:30] Mariela

So did it work or not?

[00:01:33] Unu

Yes!

[00:01:36] Veronica

I think I'm gonna... *throws up*

[00:01:41] Unu

Please keep your hands and feet at your sides at all times. Thank you!

[00:01:47] Fernando

Verónica! ¿Estás bien?

[00:01:49] Veronica

The last time I did something like this was over 15 years ago... Do you remember when I came back you used to make me teas for the seasickness?

[00:02:02] Fernando

Of course! The secret recipe of the Perez.

[00:02:05] Veronica

Maybe you can make me one when we land, Fernando? Thank you for coming to save me!

[00:02:13] Fernando

De nada princesa. Si hubiera muerto allá abajo quién sabe quién me hubiera extrañado...

[00:02:18] Mariela

So what, you guys are friends now?

[00:02:21] Fernando

Amigos y mas, right princesa?

[00:02:23] Veronica

Hehe! We will see....Mariela, *mija*. Thank you for sinking to the bottom of the ocean and entering an almost totally dark pit to come and find me.

[00:02:39] Mariela

Thank Dad! If it hadn't been for him, we might not have made it in time.

[00:02:44] Veronica

I mean, I know it must not have been easy for you to do this.

[00:02:51] Mariela

You think so?

[00:02:53] Veronica

I know so! You know, I think it's time to leave that marine biology stuff behind. I'm sick of the ocean.

[00:03:02] Mariela

Really?

[00:03:03] Veronica

Yes. I almost lost you because of it! I don't ever want to risk that again.

[00:03:10] Fernando

Aquí está la costa peruana: eso es Puerto Grau.

[00:03:15] Mariela

We're here!

[00:03:23] Narrator

A few years later, Fernando published a fan-fiction called *Piloto en Atacama*. It tells the same story but in this version he's the one with the abs. Unu returned to the bottom of the ocean and decided to dedicate her life to collecting plastics to save sea turtles and redecorated the temple in the art deco style. As for Veronica, she left the deepest part in the ocean for the shallowest and now spends her days sipping piña colodas in Playa del Carmen and watching Fernando build sandcastles.

[00:03:59] Fernando

¿Me pasas la cubeta, vero?

[00:04:03] Narrator

Our brave Mariela went back to being a flight attendant. Ever since then she goes to therapy once a week to try to forget everything that has happened since her father's shiny bald head reappeared in her life.

[00:04:19] Mariela

He just never listened...

[00:04:22] Therapist

And how does that make you feel?

[00:04:24] Mariela

Like I'm under the Atacama Effect just like everyone else!

[00:04:28] Therapist

Interesting...

[00:04:33] Narrator

The world went back to the same old world it was before. And this story is added to the catalogue of millions of stories of humanity. At this very moment, a student is writing a thesis on this show. It will reach a Netflix producer, who will think this could be a great show for their platform. As for me, now that this is over, I'm finally going on vacation with my cousin Simon and Unu at her beach house inside the Mariana Trench. Mariela, will you do the honors cause I don't wanna miss my flight?

[00:05:12] Mariela

Yes! Finally, I get to do it! Now is the time to choose— Oh bummer. It's the end. Anyway, if you want to discover other possible endings to this adventure, go back to [Episode 26: Airplane Mode](#) and choose another way for me, Fernando, and Lucho to save the world. Thanks for listening. I hope you enjoyed the flight!

EP 20 - CLEAR SKIES WITH A CHANCE OF RAIN

[00:00:03] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! And this is Episode 20: Clear Skies with a Chance of Rain. In the previous episode, Lucho and Fernando were trying to escape from the room where Doctor Rodrigo and his evil last name were holding them prisoner. Now, just as they were getting ready to escape, Fernando - I mean you - have decided to press a mysterious red button that goes back in time.

[00:00:47] Dr. Rodrigo

Pushing that button is an excellent idea, Fernando! Mwahahaha!

[00:00:52] Mariela

Dad! Don't listen to him. From my experience, that laughter clearly indicates that it's a bad idea!

[00:00:59] Lucho

It's about time we agreed on something, Mariela.

[00:01:06] Robot voice

Time travel: activated. Time travel: activated. Time travel: activated...

[00:01:23] Narrator

In an instant, our heroes are transported to another time and place. They awaken in the middle of the ocean, on a huge ship.

[00:01:39] Fernando

Oh, estamos en un buque de exploración. He visto este barco en fotos, mijita.

[00:01:45] Mariela

Me too, Dad. I saw this boat in mom's old photo albums.

[00:01:50] Veronica (from a distance)

Yes, I'm sure we'll see the specimen again. It had a huge tail, it looked like an eel but there has never been a record of one of that size.

[00:01:59] Fernando

Imposible... ¿Verónica?

[00:02:02] Mariela

It's her! It's mom!

[00:02:05] Fernando

¡VERÓNICA! ¡VERO----!

[00:02:07] Mariela

She can't see us! That's like the basic rule of time travel! I'm going to let go now, but you have to stay quiet.

[00:02:16] Veronica

Boo! Get out of here!

[00:02:21] Fernando (speaker from helicopter)

Attention, crew members of the cruise Ship, this is Navy air force! *¡Qué chido se siente decir eso!*

[00:02:28] Veronica

They're really going to come and throw us overboard!

[00:02:31] Fernando (from helicopter)

We have detected a space-time anomaly on your ship *pero* don't worry *amigos!* This ship can only be destroyed by incompetent trainees.

[00:02:38] Mariela

Dad, it's you! Coming down from the helicopter! And you have long hair, look!

[00:02:46] Fernando

Orale si que soy guapo. Hello, me from the past! *Hola* I'm Fernando from the *futuro!*

[00:02:55] Mariela

Dad, don't do that! What did I tell you about the rules of time travel?

[00:02:59] Fernando

¡Pero mira, me está saludando!

[00:03:02] Fernando (from helicopter)

Hello, whoever you are down there! I can do this helicopter maneuver to say hello to you, look!

[00:03:14] Mariela

No! Nonononono....

[00:03:18] Fernando (from helicopter)

¡Perdí el control del helicóptero, mi hola se volvió un adiós!

[00:03:23] Narrator

Fernando from the past jumps from the helicopter into the open ocean to save his life.

[00:03:32] Fernando (from helicopter_

¡Estoy vivo, lo logré! Lo--- Ah!!

[00:03:38] Narrator

But a totally unknown creature from the depths rises to the surface and... eats Fernando from the past - and all of his hair too!

[00:03:52] Veronica

It was Unu!

[00:03:54] Mariela

Oh, no Dad! You're about to disappear!

[00:03:57] Fernando

Me lleva la---

[00:03:59] Mariela

Wait, if you're gone, then I'm also going to-

[00:04:08] Narrator

How sad to see Unu chewing up Fernando, especially when they had so much in common! But it isn't over yet. To keep playing, listen to [Episode 15: Neck Pain.](#)

EP 21 - CLAP WHEN YOU LAND

[00:00:29] Narrator

This is Adventure in Atacama! And we begin this episode at the end of the world! Here we go: Episode 21: Clap When You Land. In the previous episode, Veronica confessed some very extraordinary things to Mariela about who she is and where she came from.

[00:01:04] Veronica

Say something Mariela. I see your wheels turning. You have something to say.

[00:01:10] Narrator

Mariela is at a crossroad after finding her mother brought back so many unhappy memories. All she can say is...

[00:01:21] Mariela

Get away from me mom. I'm sick of this! I feel like nothing but a character in your story. But I'm more than that!

[00:01:30] Narrator

Go Mariela! Know your worth!

[00:01:33] Mariela

But all that nonsense doesn't matter now. I'm going to take matters into my own hands. I'm going to contact Unu myself. I'm going to finish this.

[00:01:43] Narrator

Before another problem knocks at the door...

[00:01:49] Veronica

Fernando!

[00:01:56] Fernando

Ah!

[00:01:58] Mariela

You're alive! Where were you all this time? Why are you covered in green goo? What is going on here??
Fernando continues screaming Poor thing...The Atacama Effect must be driving you crazy. Where's Lucho? *Fernando continues screaming*

[00:02:17] Dr. Rodrigo

It's me! Doctor Rodrigo Kreuzberger Blumenfeld!

[00:02:23] Mariela

Where are all these people coming from?

[00:02:26] Dr. Rodrigo

Lucho is dead!

[00:2:32] Veronica

You killed Lucho? No way, I don't believe you! You horrible disgusting man! You're worse than the blue ringed octopus that gets all shiny and bright with ideas, but the moment we get closer to you, you bite, and you make people die and agonize in the beach and die slowly!

[00:02:50] Dr. Rodrigo

It's time to end this thing, just as I should have done from the very first moment: by killing you all and escaping from this infernal temple! And you Veronica. You'll pay for this! All of you will pay!

[00:03:07] Veronica

Ugh Rodrigo stop talking! Even with the voice assistant I can feel you spitting your words.

[00:03:14] Mariela

Don't touch my mother!

[00:03:16] Dr. Rodrigo

Well, then you'll go first, Marielita, because before the Navy finds out that I caused the Atacama Effect, I'd rather kill you all in a place where you can't beat me!

[00:03:31] Veronica

Not this again...

[00:03:33] Dr. Rodrigo

In my mind!

[00:03:40] Narrator

Using one of the Navy's many mysterious machines, Dr. Rodrigo transports himself and Mariela to another plane of reality.

[00:03:52] Mariela

Where are we? A restaurant? Why a restaurant?

[00:03:59] Dr. Rodrigo

You're in the place where I would have taken your mother for dinner if she'd only paid a little attention to me, Mariela.

[00:04:09] Mariela

That's pathetic.

[00:04:11] Dr. Rodrigo

She's the pathetic one for rejecting me.

[00:04:13] Mariela

You know you're gonna get what you deserve Rodrigo. You said you've known me my whole life, well then you know what I'm capable of.

[00:04:21] Dr. Rodrigo

Well, yes. But there are things you can't do in a place where I control all the circumstances and the very laws of physics.

[00:04:36] Narrator

The final battle begins! As a flight attendant Mariela had flown on many planes in her life. But this is her first time in another plane...of existence!

[00:04:53] Mariela

You have no idea who you're dealing with Rodrigo! I once finished a 10,000 piece puzzle with all the pieces upside down!

[00:05:03] Dr. Rodrigo

You'll never win here, Mariela!

[00:05:08] Mariela

Why are you so strong here? There's no way you could survive that punch.

[00:05:14] Dr. Rodrigo

Mwahahaha!

[00:05:23] Mariela

Mom! Help me please!

[00:05:27] Unu

Good evening humans!

[00:05:30] Dr. Rodrigo

Unu? What are you doing here?

[00:05:34] Unu

I'm here to bring you the menu of course.

[00:05:37] Mariela

What's going on here? Unu, aren't you supposed to be destroying the temple outside?

[00:05:44] Unu

Yes, well, this looked like fun so I thought I'd step in. I'm the waiter at this restaurant (which honestly has the worst decorations I've ever seen). But that's not the point. I came here to say: "Remember where you come from Mariela..." Right?

[00:06:05] Mariela

I come from Mexico City?

[00:06:08] Unu

No, silly goose! You're one of the Babellinos, the fishy-folk. You come from me Mariela! My DNA is in your veins, along with my high cholesterol levels!! But most importantly my DNA!

[00:06:28] Dr. Rodrigo

You can't be here! It's impossible!

[00:06:31] Unu

I've always been in Mariela's head, Rodrigo. (Nunununununu) And you've always had the worst ideas.

[00:06:42] Mariela

Unu, I'm going to break this doctor's head from the inside!

[00:06:46] Unu

You can do it, Mariela! Try a little piece of Babbelino delicacy: underwater churros. Yum! I put sugar on it.

[00:07:04] Narrator

In what is perhaps the most bizarre scene in this story, Unu's special dish turns Mariela into the most special flight attendant of all!

[00:07:18] Dr. Rodrigo

It can't be!

[00:07:20] Narrator

With all the strength of Unu and her ancestors...

[00:07:25] Mariela

Take that Rodrigo! *Rodrigo screams* That's for keeping me hostage! And that's for causing the Atacama Effect and causing the language apocalypse! And that's for your toxic masculinity! And for not having any emotional maturity! And for being the most incompetent human on Earth!

[00:07:48] Dr. Rodrigo

Nooo!! There is no Blumenfeld solution for this! Bye bye....

[00:08:02] Narrator

And with that, Mariela and Rodrigo return to our plane. But not like a flying plane but like the reality plane? *Ay caramba!*

[00:08:14] Veronica

Where were you two?

[00:08:15] Mariela

On another dimensional plane fighting.

[00:08:18] Veronica

Ah, that's Rodrigo's body! We should feed it to Pedro, no?

[00:08:24] Unu

Mariela, you made it! Now, I must go.

[00:08:29] Mariela

What do you mean you're leaving? We haven't stopped the Atacama Effect?

[00:08:34] Unu

You see, Mariela, I was locked in that cage for 30 years, which is not very long in my thousand year life span but still... I had a chance to have a cup of tea and think: "Wow, not a single Babelino came to save me, after all I did for them". They left me here - drinking tea from a tea bag for God sakes - at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean, the least interesting of the oceans.

[00:09:15] Mariela

Wait, wait Unu! Don't, don't cry. People are selfish, but see, we saved you! That was our plane that set you free!

[00:09:26] Unu

Destroying this temple is the first thing I've done for me in a really long time, Mariela. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to do just that.

[00:09:39] Mariela

Unu, wait! Listen to me. You're free! You're free to choose! You can take us, or you can let us die here and your immortal life will go on! I know you look like a serpent but I also know you're not cold-blooded.

[00:10:02] Unu

You know if there's one thing I absolutely hate in this whole world is...leaving a bad impression. So...

[00:10:17] Mariela

So?

[00:10:19] Unu

I won't abandon you like they abandoned me. Let's save the world! Come on Mari you know the words!

[00:10:30] Mariela and Unu

Nununununu...Your voice is the key!

[00:10:40] Fernando

¡Ah! ¡*Esto es una peli de Indiana Jones!*

[00:10:42] Mariela

Dad! You can speak again!

[00:10:44] Fernando

¡Increíble!

[00:10:46] Mariela

Now let's get out of here!

[00:10:57] Narrator

Bravo dear listener! What an awesome, demolishing, absolutely devastating ending! You have brought the characters in this story to one of many satisfying endings! Now, for the epilogue, listen to [Episode 19: Thanks for Flying with Us.](#)

EP 22 - CABIN CONTROL

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is Adventure en Atacama! In the previous episode, Veronica revealed to Mariela that she is the hybrid daughter of Unu, Fernando and Veronica. And everything got really confusing after that. So here we go, Episode 22: Cabin Control.

[00:00:30] Mariela

You are my mother! You are the one who caused all my trauma and now you're telling me all this crazy stuff about being related to some primordial serpent monster thing? I can't believe dad and I came all the way over here to hear this!

[00:00:40] Narrator

As Mariela tears Veronica a new one, let's check in on Fernando, her Pitbull look-alike father, and Lucho, her Bruno Mars look-alike crush. They are locked in Doctor Rodrigo's office for as long as you've been playing this game. And, they are desperately trying to escape!

[00:01:07] Narrator on TV

And in the deepest recesses of the Indian Ocean we find the smallest of all of Earth's creatures: the phytoplankton. A fascinating being that truly merits an entire documentary voiced by a latin David Attenborough like myself...

[00:01:23] Lucho

Blah blah blah blah blah... Aye, I can't watch any more of this stupid documentary!

[00:01:32] Fernando

Y estos pinches nudos están más apretados que los de las bolsitas de verduras en el súper eh.

[00:01:37] Lucho

They're naval knots Fernando, clearly they know what they're doing. And shouldn't you? Weren't you in the Navy too?

[00:01:47] Fernando

Yeah, but I was Navy air force. NAVYair force. Not much rope in the skies you know?

[00:01:53] Narrator on TV

The zooplankton, cousin of the phytoplankton, is enormously important to the whale populatio. You see before whales reproduce, they invest a lot of time in the act of courtship, a true spectacle of nature:

leaping over the surface, displaying massive bodies, rubbing and thunderous blows, like the kind you see in some dungeons. After mating, a whale's pregnancy requires a lot of food for mother and child...

[00:02:05] Fernando

Debemos desatarnos e ir por Mariela y Verónica!

[00:02:09] Lucho

The only door we can use is being watched by Doctor Rodrigo. We have to get rid of him first. We have to set a trap.

[00:02:21] Narrator on TV

This is Blumenfeld TV, your favorite channel under the sea. Up next, we have wonderful series on the seahorse, which is neither sea nor horse! Warning: The following series contains images and light variations that may cause seizures for people with photosensitivity. Viewer Discretion is advised.

[00:02:44] Fernando

Hey Mariela loved this show when she was a kid!

[00:02:47] Lucho

Hey! I have an idea!

[00:02:50] Fernando

Ah conque debajo de esa máscara sí hay un cerebro, Luchito. Whatchu got Luchito?

[00:02:57] Lucho

Ooo! *makes sounds*

[00:03:02] Fernando

Lucho! What's wrong? *¿Metiste un dedo en un enchufe o qué?*

[00:03:09] Lucho

Come on Fernando, play along! I'm gonna do a luchador move but I have to wait for Rodrigo to enter.

[00:03:17] Fernando

Not the *ancla invertida*! The one your dad *El Tiburon Martillo* did in '95?

[00:03:23] Lucho

Wow you really were a big fan!

[00:03:25] Fernando

¡Pos claro, Luchito! Recuerdo cómo le cayó la jeta a Super Parlante en el 98, la pelea contra Armadillo del nuevo milenio. He's my.... hero.

[00:03:38] Lucho

Well then, let's make him proud.

[00:03:41] Fernando

Yes. This is for *El Tiburon!*

[00:03:45] Lucho

Well then. Where were we.... *Lucho starts making more sounds*

[00:03:52] Fernando

¡Oh, nooo, Lucho, por qué estás temblando como última hoja de árbol en otoño! ¡Dije... Oh no, Lucho!

[00:04:02] Dr. Rodrigo

What is happening here Fernando Perez? You are always making trouble! I told Veronica that those cartoons could give someone seizures one day!

[00:04:13] Lucho

Rodrigo please! The razor laser beams are gonna kill me... *continues making noises*

[00:04:19] Dr. Rodrigo

Veronica will never forgive me if you end up as a useless vegetable, like a carrot or something. I'll just turn off the TV.

[00:04:30] Lucho

He's close! Now, it's time Fernando! *Fernando grunts*

[00:04:38] Narrator

In a flash, Lucho el Luchador pushes himself off his chair...

[00:04:46] Fernando

Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!

[00:04:48] Narrator

...and sends Fernando flying upwards beside him!

[00:04:52] Fernando

¡Pera pera campeón, no tengo certificación para volar así! Whoa! *Lucho and Fernando grunting and making struggling noises*

[00:05:06] Narrator

Oh, that must've hurt! In the middle of this aerial attack Lucho el Luchador turns to the right and...knocks straight into the chest of Doctor Rodrigo Kratsbacon Bleubleh bleh! That must have hurt!

[00:05:27] Dr. Rodrigo

Ugh Lucho, they'll never forgive you for betraying us like this!

[00:05:31] Lucho

Sorry about your head Fernando.

[00:05:32] Fernando

It's just a scratch! *Una cicatriz me hará ver aún más sexy como Bruce Willis.*

[00:05:38] Narrator

Lucho el Luchador ties up Doctor Rodrigo Crossing-Bird Bloopermen or whatever his name is...

[00:05:45] Dr. Rodrigo

You'll regret this Lucho!

[00:05:48] Mariela

...You should've thought of that before agreeing to work in a trench 5000 kilometers from the Chilean coast and 8 km underwater mom! Ugh! I'm leaving to find dad. Wow this door is really slow.

[00:06:07] Dr. Rodrigo

I forgot to pay the electric bill.

[00:06:17] Fernando

Finally! I felt like I aged 10 years waiting for this door! Marielita!

[00:06:24] Mariela

Dad? You're alive!

[00:06:25] Lucho

Mariela! They didn't hurt you!

[00:06:28] Mariela

Lucho? What are you talking about- *Lucho kisses her* Hold on a minute...

[00:06:33] Lucho

I'm so sorry, I got caught up in the moment!

[00:06:36] Dr. Rodrigo

Ugh gross! I should've fed you to Pedro the alien when I had the chance.

[00:06:42] Mariela

Ugh, I can't believe you! Get away from me traitor!

[00:06:48] Lucho

But Mariela!

[00:06:52] Mariela

What's this button do or what?

[00:06:53] Dr. Rodrigo

Sorry, if I may... That button stops the Atacama Effect before it happens.

[00:07:02] Mariela

You've got to be kidding me.

[00:07:04] Dr. Rodrigo

Because it sends you back in time, which could have grave consequences...

[00:07:11] Fernando

Eso quiere decir. ¿Que podría intentarlo todo de nuevo? I could get a second chance?

[00:07:16] Mariela

A second chance for what?

[00:07:19] Fernando

Para intentarlo de nuevo con tu madre, Mariela! And Tiburon Martillo wouldn't be in a coma Lucho! We could change everything!

[00:07:27] Lucho

I don't think that's a very good idea.

[00:07:30] Dr. Rodrigo

It's an excellent idea Fernando! Mwahahaha!

[00:07:35] Narrator

Yep! You heard that right. Time travel is now an option. Here you go...Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to stop Fernando from pressing the button listen to [Episode 29 Itinerary](#). If you want Fernando to press the button listen to [Episode 20: Clear Skies with a Chance of Rain](#).

EP 23 - HAND LUGGAGE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela and her father Fernando entered Veronica's apartment to find clues about her disappearance. Suddenly, they were interrupted by a mysterious person sneaking in. This is Episode 23: Hand Luggage.

[00:00:33] Mariela

Dad! He's wearing a luchador mask!

[00:00:37] Lucho

Alright Lucho. You got this. You're just gonna get the little ticket and then you're gone. Poof! Nothing happened here.

[00:00:45] Mariela

A ticket?

[00:00:47] Lucho

Who said that?

[00:00:49] Narrator

Who said that you ask? Just a woman who turned the Bermuda triangle into a square while on vacation.

[00:00:54] Mariela

Me. I said that. *wolf whistle* Who are you? What did you do to my mom?

[00:01:03] Lucho

Well, well, well. What have we here?

[00:01:07] Mariela

I'm the one asking the questions here. You're the one wearing a mask and breaking and entering.

[00:01:15] Lucho

I don't know who you are, but damn is it gonna be hard to kick your ass with that face.

[00:01:21] Fernando

Pera, ¿qué?

[00:01:23] Lucho

But, I'll do it anyway.

[00:01:27] Narrator

The world has never beared witness to a fight like this. Or maybe they have. A thousand years ago and probably in a lot of superhero movies. But this is different. This is...this is... the flight attendant versus the mysterious masked man!

[00:01:52] Fernando

Who do you think you are? The Rock? *¡Mija te va a partir la mandarina en gajos!*

[00:01:58] Narrator

That's Mexican for 'giving someone a knuckle sandwich'.

[00:02:02] Mariela

You were trying to break into the safe! **they fight**

[00:02:04] Lucho

Veronica is my boss! She...gave... me... the... code!

[00:02:10] Mariela

She would never do that! **fighting continues, then buzzer rings**

[00:02:18] Fernando

I'll get it! Hello? Oh hi Carmencita!, *¿A quién le importa el ruido? ¡De eso no te quejabas antes cuando---!*
She hung up on me! How could she? You think you know a person huh?

[00:02:41] Mariela

Dad! Be quiet for a second. Okay luchador person or whatever. Let's say I believe you, huh?

[00:02:50] Lucho

I'm Lucho.

[00:02:51] Mariela

Ah, okay. Lucho. Why were you working with my mother?

[00:02:56] Lucho

Look, Veronica is my mentor, Mariela. I was, well, I am part of an experiment that her and her colleague Dr. Rodrigo Kreuzberger Blumenfeld organized years ago about a special gene and our capacity to speak a specific language.

[00:03:12] Narrator

A special language of the ancients, called Babelle. Oh, does this mean that Lucho is a descendant of the sea people who lived underwater? Oh. My God I have so many questions. Does he have gills under that mask? Is he really a wrestler? Wouldn't that be hard for a fish?

[00:03:32] Mariela

Ahem!

[00:03:37] Narrator

Sorry. I'll stop. Continue!

[00:03:40] Mariela

Thank you. So, that gene stuff sounds like mom alright. But she never spoke about you before.

[00:03:47] Lucho

I swear I'm telling the truth. Yesterday she sent me this.

[00:03:54] Veronica (on the voice recording)

Lucho, go to my apartment. I'm sending you the address via text. There's a ticket there to Porto Grau, take it and come here like the fate of the world depends on it, because it kind of does. I mean it! Rodrigo is out of control. He doesn't realize what he's done. I need you here, Lucho.

[00:04:20] Narrator

Things you should know about DOCTOR RODRIGO KREUTZ blah blah: he works with Veronica, is allergic to peanuts, is a lover of dictionaries, and has a bullet journal for his evil plans. Now, let's get into the story. *knocks* Knock, knock, Mariela. But before Mariela can answer...

[00:04:44] Carmen

Aye, stop all that racket! I'm trying to listen to my portable radio!

[00:04:47] Mariela

¡Virgen María——!

[00:04:51] Narrator (on radio)

The latest news. A number of volcanic eruptions in the Andes mountains have disrupted air travel in the area...

[00:04:55] Fernando

Wait, turn up the radio Carmencita!

[00:04:59] Narrator (on radio)

As I was saying before being rudely interrupted... A number of volcanic eruptions in the Andes Mountains have disrupted air travel in the area. The Chilean government has closed its national airspace and Argentina and Peru are expected to announce the same measure in a few moments. All this just 24 hours after a massive tectonic plate movement occurred just a few kilometers from the region...

[00:05:20] Mariela

Oh no! We have to go to Peru before-

[00:05:24] Narrator (on radio)

Breaking, breaking, breaking news! The Peruvian airspace has been closed. Any insane plan to fly out there would now be even more insane. And now, a word from our sponsor...

[00:05:38] Mariela

I guess we won't be able to use my miles to get cheaper flights out there.

[00:05:42] Fernando

Pft, eso no es problema mijita. See these aviators? This means I have a plan. I mean, plane. I mean, both.

[00:05:51] Mariela

Okay. But what about this guy?

[00:05:54] Lucho

Lucho. My name is Lucho! Look. I care about Dr. Treviño. I want to know what happened to her as much as you.

[00:06:02] Carmen

I don't care what you do. Take a train, a plane, a donkey or whatever. Just get out of here!

[00:06:16] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela and Fernando to go with Lucho to the Atacama Trench, listen to [Episode 14: Evacuation Procedure](#). If you want them to go to a bar to think things over listen to [Episode 35: This is a Smoke-Free Plane](#).

EP 24 - OXYGEN MASK

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela reunited with her father and together they've decided to find her missing mother. Episode 24: Oxygen Mask.

[00:00:28] Mariela

Let's go! To the police station!

[00:00:30] Fernando

Pero si acabamos de llegar, mijita.

[00:00:33] Mariela

Oh, right. Sorry my insomnia's got me.

[00:00:38] Commissioners talking

Do you think this time Matafuegos... will really beat Armadillo?well if he does what he did to Tiburon Martillo he will because....

[00:00:44] Mariela

Ahem.

[00:00:45] Commissioner Martinez

Hello Señorita.

[00:00:46] Commissioner Montes

How can we help you?

[00:00:46] Mariela

We'd like to report a missing person.

[00:00:48] Comm. Martinez

Of course. Please...

[00:00:50] Comm. Montes

...fill out this form so we can report...

[00:00:51] Comm. Martinez

...it to the missing person's unit.

[00:00:53] Mariela

Um sure. Dad, is it just me or are they finishing each other's sentences?

[00:01:00] Fernando

Hey you guys seem to be made for each other! *O cómo dicen por ahí, que pa' cada roto hay un descosido.*

[00:01:06] Comm. Montes

Please don't laugh...

[00:01:07] Comm. Martinez

At us sir. We've been...

[00:01:09] Comm. Montes

...like this for several days.

[00:01:10] Mariela

Is that part of the Atacama Effect, dad?

[00:01:13] Fernando

I think so, mija.

[00:01:15] Comm. Martinez

Alright, so do you have a recent photo...

[00:01:17] Comm. Montes

...of the person you're looking for?

[00:01:19] Fernando

Um yeah. Hold up, let me find it on my phone... Let's see... not this one... or this one she looks like Steve Harvey... No check out this one...

[00:01:31] Comm. Martinez

Thank...

[00:01:31] Comm. Montes

...you. Fill out this form...

[00:01:34] Comm. Martinez

...please.

[00:01:39] Mariela

They sound ridiculous.

[00:01:41] Fernando

Me gusta, they remind me of team rocket, *pero latino*. Hahaha.

[00:01:49] Narrator

Time jump time! A few days pass and Veronica is still nowhere to be found. That's not even the bad news! The Atacama Effect has spread to the entire world, interrupting conversations and natural speech like crazy. *phone vibrates*

[00:02:16] Mariela

Hello?

[00:02:17] Fernando

Marielita. Where are you mija?

[00:02:20] Mariela

I'm at a hotel near the city center. I tried to go to mom's apartment but the housekeeper. She...

[00:02:28] Fernando

Carmencita? What happened to her?

[00:02:32] Mariela

She looked at me with her eyes wide open until a fly landed on her eye. And well, I freaked out and ran! What's going on?

[00:02:43] Fernando

Rechanfles. Mija, it's bad. *Es el Efecto Atacama llegando a su peor etapa, Mariela.*

[00:02:50] Mariela

If the Atacama effect has spread around the world already, what do we do?

[00:02:55] Fernando

I'm afraid we can only do one thing mija.

[00:02:59] Mariela

Pray?

[00:03:01] Fernando

¿Cómo crees, Marielita? ¡Yendo a un bar a empedarnos!

[00:03:05] Mariela

Weren't you on a green juice cleanse?

[00:03:07] Fernando

Baby es el fin del mundo..

[00:03:10] Mariela

Right. See you at Alejandro's Tapas in 5 minutes.

[00:03:17] Ramon

Whis whis!

[00:03:19] Fernando

Gracias amigazo!

[00:03:22] Mariela

Same for me. You got the effect too huh?

[00:03:29] Narrator

In the hours that follow, father and daughter drink themselves into a stupor unequaled in the B.A.T, or Before Atacama Time. And just like that, it's the next day or days.

[00:03:51] Mariela

Ah! Where am I? What happened?

[00:03:56] Fernando

knocks Mari?

[00:03:56] Mariela

Dad! Where are we?

[00:03:58] Fernando

Some kind of under-the-sea themed motel!

[00:04:01] Mariela

How the hell did we get here?

[00:04:03] Fernando

¡No tengo ni idea pero debes salir ahora mismo!

[00:04:08] Mariela

What happened?

[00:04:09] Fernando

Mari! We've been here for days.

[00:04:12] Mariela

Days? But I only remember having one drink? Oh no, we blacked out?

[00:04:21] Fernando

Okay okay. Never have I ever fought a polar bear-

[00:04:25] Mariela

Hey, you did that on purpose!

[00:04:28] Fernando

Two truths and a lie: I like nachos, I have a secret plane in the airport, and I have a thing for old ladies.

[00:04:36] Mariela

Um, um... the third one?

[00:04:39] Fernando

How the hell did you know, *mija*!

[00:04:40] Mariela

Shot, shot, shot!

[00:04:42] Fernando

But that wasn't the problem either.

[00:04:46] Mariela

Who the hell are you? Why are you sneaking in on your tippy toes, I've never seen anyone dance like that before.

[00:04:54] Lucho

I...um...This drink is on me!

[00:04:57] Fernando

Yeah! Cheers to the luchador que hace tippy toes todo sospechoso...To the lucha...luchador!

[00:05:06] Mariela

Oh my God! Someone robbed us and drugged us. And they left us here. I think I remember now...

[00:05:17] Fernando

What do we do, *mija*?

[00:05:27] Narrator

Nothing like this has ever happened to Mariela, not even when she was a substitute circus ring leader that one weekend in Prague. Either way, now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela and Fernando to retrace their steps to see what the heck happened to them, listen to [Episode 35: This is a Smoke-Free Plane](#). If you want them to quit playing around, and go straight to Veronica's apartment listen to [Episode 17: Airplane Cold](#).

EP 25 - THE FOOTREST THINGY

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode I approached Mariela and Fernando in a restaurant and told them a lot of things that blew their minds. So, today we present: Episode 25: The Footrest Thingy. Mariela decided all by herself (wink wink) that she wanted to meet her people, the Babellinos in the depths of the Indian Ocean. There she comes across a political rally where the Babellinos are seeking their next leader.

[00:00:48] Papellino

(Nuuuuuuununununu) Who are you and why are you in the depths of the ancient, beautiful city of—!

[00:00:52] Mariela

I don't know what's going on but I need to get to that stage right away. I just made the most important decision of my whole life!

[00:01:01] Papellino

Well, that's pretty brave for someone who only lives an average of 80 years. I'll give you that, human.
(Nununu)

[00:01:08] Narrator

Mariela swims like a mermaid, even if she isn't one, convinced for the first time of something as senseless as it sounds.

[00:01:20] Mariela

Hello Babellinos!

[00:01:21] Dr. Rodrigo

Hey, give me back my waterproof microphone!

[00:01:24] Mariela

Dr Rodrigo. Wait, didn't you die?

[00:01:29] Dr. Rodrigo

Ah, yes. I was only half dead, which is totally different from fully dead. That is going to be the last time I let anyone eat peanuts in the office!

[00:01:38] Mariela

Well, never mind. I need a minute. Just a minute! Can you hear me now? Good. Can you hear me now? Good. Right I guess you guys don't have phones here... Um, okay, Mariela, breathe... My name is Mariela. I come from the surface.

[00:01:59] Babellinos

Boo!

[00:02:00] Mariela

Or, I should say, from the skies. Recently, one of you made me realize something important. I might not have a fish tail like you, but there is something even more important that I think unites us. Babellinos! I am one of you! I have Babelilno blood! *crowd cheering*

[00:02:31] Dr. Rodrigo

¡Bravo, Mariela!

[00:02:33] Lucho

Hey Mariela, are you getting into politics now or what?

[00:02:36] Mariela

I have decided to live among you! My people!

[00:02:41] Dr. Rodrigo

This is wonderful, Mariela! I can help you! I will be your teacher! I never expected this plan and it came out perfectly!

[00:02:51] Mariela

The ocean will rise again! *crowd cheering*

[00:02:56] Narrator

And she made the right choice for once, because over time, planet Earth was buried under water after decades of neglect in the face of climate change. Mariela learned that politics underwater are the same as they are on land, and Lucho became her main opponent.

[00:03:19] Papellino

Babellinos, we continue in our rally to elect our new leader. Extend a forced bow to the honorable daughter of Unu, Mariela!

[00:03:38] Mariela

If I remain on the throne of our underwater world, I promise that we will fill the moon with water and we can go and live there once the Earth is only water! *crowd cheering*

[00:03:52] Papellino

And now her opponent, Lucho the luchador, descendant of the great Tiburon Martillo!

[00:04:04] Lucho

And if you let me usurp your underwater throne, I promise only to charge taxes to those who have forgotten to sign the terms and conditions of the document they are holding in their hands at this very moment! *crowd cheering* Thank you, thank you very much! Support the coup d'état of Lucho el Luchador!

[00:04:29] Narrator

What the? Political competitors are also lovers! I should have foreseen this.

[00:04:39] Lucho

Mariela, promise me that if we dominate the underwater world together there will be wrestling on the moon.

[00:04:48] Mariela

You promise me that we can go visit the ruins of Buenos Aires as soon as everyone discovers that we are lovers and co-conspirators?

[00:04:56] Lucho

Of course, Mariela!

[00:04:58] Mariela

I love you, Lucho!

[00:05:00] Lucho

And I love you, Mariela!

[00:05:09] Narrator

Well, we don't want to hear that. You've come to one of those awesome conclusions I've been waiting so long to hear. If you want to explore more endings, go to [Episode 5: I've Seen This Movie Already](#)

EP 26 - AIRPLANE MODE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Episode 26: Airplane Mode. After Doctor Rodrigo Cheeseburger Bloomberg explained Mariela's mother's connection to the experiments on the base, he has decided to take her on a tour of the temple of Atacama. Meanwhile, both Lucho and Fernando have been left behind to their doom!

[00:00:44] Mariela

Let me go! Let me go!

[00:00:47] Dr. Rodrigo

Marielita, I want you to be witness to the marvelous things we found here, before I get rid of you and your mother forever.

[00:00:57] Mariela

You know, for an evil villain you're unsurprisingly direct.

[00:01:01] Dr. Rodrigo

Of course. I can't get rid of you until you both shut off the Atacama Effect.

[00:01:06] Mariela

You have got to be kidding me.

[00:01:08] Dr. Rodrigo

After you and your mother stop the effect with your FOXP3 gene, I will feed you to Pedro and then seek protection from the U.S. government for saving the world!

[00:01:23] Mariela

Uh huh? Tell me more about your evil plan. *whispers* I need to find a way out of here.

[00:01:30] Dr. Rodrigo

This temple is huge! We've been here for over four decades, collecting all sorts of anomalies drawn to the temple space. We like to call it the Latino Area 51. This is Pedro the Alien. We found him doing pilates on a floating barge nearby. Say hi, Pedro!

[00:01:55] Pedro the Alien

Hola, doctor Crossburton!

[00:01:57] Dr. Rodrigo

Ahem, Doctor Kreutzberger?

[00:02:00] Pedro

Sorry Doctor Kreutzhotdog. Hehehe.

[00:02:06] Dr. Rodrigo

Haha. He's a little slow.

[00:02:08] Pedro

Hey! On my planet we don't insult beings indirectly. We do it directly like this *blows raspberry* that means something like F and the letter U in your language, so there!

[00:02:16] Dr. Rodrigo

Whatever. Look to your left, Mariela and you'll see Bigfoot. And Shakira. she comes here to spa sometimes. Oh and the Cholito de la suerte! And here's the chupacabras creature. He's our in-house butler. He conjures a daily newspaper from the U.S. every morning since we don't have WIFI here. Oye, oye, Cabritas, what's new?

[00:02:51] Mariela

He's smaller than I imagined. Cabritas, let me see that. Death, language, apocalypse...Oh no, is the whole world fully under the Atacama Effect? Except me?

[00:03:05] Dr. Rodrigo

Something like that. You see, you're a descendant of the Babelle- We're here. Welcome to the core of the Atacama Temple!

[00:03:28] Narrator

Ah,yes. The core of the Atacama Temple. This is where the Babelle speakers of yore hung out, and spoke the...

[00:03:40] Mariela

Babelle language. There are inscriptions everywhere.

[00:03:47] Veronica

And you can read them, Mariela.

[00:03:51] Mariela

It can't be...

[00:03:52] Veronica

My dear. You are a native speaker of Babelle.

[00:03:58] Mariela

Mom? Let me go! Let me go! Mama!

[00:04:04] Narrator

Mariela uses her expert jiu-jitsu skills and uses them to attack... every... single... one of her enemies.. It is a cinematic triumph, if you could see it. But you can't. Obviously. So let's fast forward here.

[00:04:27] Mariela

Mom! Mom!

[00:04:30] Veronica

Little human I birthed!

[00:04:33] Mariela

Mom, I thought I'd never see you again!

[00:04:36] Veronica

Sweetie! This whole thing is my fault I can't forgive myself so how could you ever forgive me, I don't know.

[00:04:45] Mariela

Mom relax. We're together now.

[00:04:54] Dr. Rodrigo

How moving. The Treviño girls are finally reunited!

[00:04:56] Veronica

Rodrigo. Can you slow down?

[00:04:58] Dr. Rodrigo

Oh. Sorry, let me adjust the speed-

[00:05:01] Veronica

It's mainly so I can quote you correctly in my upcoming book about the most mediocre scientists of the world.

[00:05:11] Dr. Rodrigo

You're You wanted to do these experiments for the good of humanity writing a book about me? Really?

[00:05:14] Veronica

Shh! You wanted to do these experiments for the good of humanity. But this time you've gone too far! Rodrigo Eugenio Kreuzberger Blumenfeld the third!

[00:05:26] Dr. Rodrigo

You remembered my full name! You're the only one who ever got it right. Except you...

[00:05:35] Veronica

Spit it out already!

[00:05:36] Dr. Rodrigo

...you decided to get out of our experiment and go—

[00:05:40] Veronica

“follow that stupid pilot that doesn't even know how to crash a plane properly”!

How many times do I have to hear the same crap?

[00:05:50] Mariela

Wait. Exactly how many times has dad crashed a plane?

[00:05:53] Veronica

Rodrigo, you and I were working on groundbreaking science. I let you experiment on me. And Mariela! Even my dear Mariela.

[00:06:05] Mariela

Mama!

[00:06:06] Veronica

Friends don't experiment on their friends Rodrigo, and definitely not on their friends' kids!

[00:06:12] Dr. Rodrigo

No?

[00:06:13] Veronica

When I found out I was pregnant, it was too late. I knew she had to be special, so for years after that I became obsessed with activating her gene. I wanted to see if it would activate underwater, putting her in dangerous situations instead of protecting her. I realized too late that in the end, you won, Rodrigo. I bought into your crazy idea.

[00:06:42] Dr. Rodrigo

It's not crazy! I spent my entire career trying to understand the FOXP3 gene and Mariela was the perfect opportunity to test it. A mother carrying the gene, injected with the temple creature's DNA, to make a special being like no other.

[00:07:05] Veronica

You used me!

[00:07:07] Mariela

I think I've heard enough. Permission to kick his ass, mom?

[00:07:11] Veronica

Permission granted.

[00:07:14] Dr. Rodrigo

Don't do this! Don't question our work! You'd be nothing without me, Veronica! I don't care about ending the effect anymore. All I want is for you to shut up!

[00:07:32] Narrator

Dr. Rodrigo seems to be high on toxic masculinity.

[00:07:35] Mariela

Get away from my mom!

[00:07:37] Dr. Rodrigo

Come and get her Mariela! Either way, if she dies you can stay with Unu. After all, she's your mother too. Hahaha...Soldiers!

[00:07:54] Veronica

Oh no! Where did you all come from?

[00:07:57] Mariela

Mama! Oh no what's that? Is that Unu attacking the base again?

[00:08:16] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to try to attack Dr. Rodrigo while the temple falls apart around them, listen to [Episode 32: Unidentified Object](#). If instead you want Mariela and her mother to try to escape the collapsing temple listen to [Episode 15: Neck Pain](#).

EP 27 - LOST LUGGAGE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode Mariela, Fernando and Lucho arrived on the secret navy base and somehow began speaking the ancient language of Babbelle! Today we present Episode 27: Lost Luggage. Our heroes continue to plunge into the depths of the dark ocean.

[00:00:37] Mariela

Nununununu!

[00:00:41] Fernando

Marielita, I'm gonna assume you're saying *que encontremos a tu mamá ¿BUENO?*

[00:00:46] Mariela

Nunununununu!

[00:00:49] Fernando

I'll follow you wherever you go, *reina*.

[00:00:51] Mariela

Nununununu!

[00:00:55] Lucho

Okay, but if Unu comes and explodes everything and we drown, that's on you girl.

[00:01:01] Mariela

Whatever, just show us the base, quick!

[00:01:05] Lucho

Look, here's the door, but you have to pronounce the inscription out loud.

[00:01:09] Mariela

Lucho! Wait, wait...

[00:01:11] Narrator

The inscription draws Mariela in. She begins to read the text.

[00:01:19] Mariela

“This door holds wonders. Don’t take them, please. Whomsoever dares to enter must speak the One True Language? Speak it or risk being lost to the ocean for always and eternity”? And then somebody scratched this in here: “Your Voice is the Key. Love, Unu.”

[00:01:54] Fernando

So you have to do the whole speech every time you open the door?

[00:01:58] Lucho

No, the soldiers use a translator device to enter and exit, but it’s broken. Let’s go.

[00:02:05] Narrator

Our heroes enter the Atacama Temple, a great underwater structure surrounded by an air bubble and filled with wonder that you cannot take... Spooky, ooo!

[00:02:28] Mariela

How did I read that?

[00:02:30] Fernando

Marielita! Virgen Santísima, you’re talking to me now! That was torture! It was awful! No one could hear my beautiful voice! Whoa, que fancy esta oficina, I wonder whose in charge here. Aye aye, Mariela adonde vas?

[00:02:49] Mariela

This doesn’t look like a temple. It looks like an office.

[00:02:54] Lucho

The Navy put part of the base in the temple.

[00:03:02] Fernando

¿Qué haces mirando la basura mija?

[00:03:04] Mariela

It’s full of mom’s stuff. Photos, papers... and there’s this desk thing that clearly says: Oficina de Verónica Treviño. She worked here.

[00:03:14] Lucho

Yeah, she did. I came to this office when I was about 10 years old. Haven’t really left since.

[00:03:22] Mariela and Fernando

What??

[00:03:23] Lucho

It's a long and complicated story...

[00:03:26] Narrator

Yes! That's it, flashback time! And not even a boatload of Pomeranian puppies could beat the cuteness level of this next scene...

[00:03:41] Lucho

After my dad fell into a coma because of his last fight, my aunt and I were left with nothing. Everything we had came from his luchador matches.

[00:03:52] Narrator

Imagine a boy wearing a luchador mask that's much too big for his little head...

[00:04:00] Lucho (small boy)

Tia, I can go on the TV and fight like Papa! We'll get loads of money that way! Trust me!

[00:04:07] Lucho

My aunt took me to a talent show, and Dr. Veronica saw me live on TV by accident. She saw something in me.

[00:04:16] TV Presenter

And now a big round of applause for Mucho Lucho, the son of the incredible Tiburón Martillo!

[00:04:26] Lucho

At that moment something happened. Something that no one on the show noticed at the time.

[00:04:31] TV Presenter

What are you going to present today champ?

[00:04:34] Lucho (small boy)

Nunununununu!

[00:04:48] TV Presenter

Don't be nervous Luchito! But I can't understand you. Speak up!

[00:04:42] Lucho (small boy)

Nununununu!!

[00:04:47] Lucho

They all laughed. And I didn't understand why. I was speaking. I was saying, 'Hi everyone!' But they didn't understand me. But the doctor, she understood me. When she saw me on TV that day, she knew I was speaking the ancient language of Babelle.

[00:05:13] Mariela

Lucho. That means you've known my mom for many years.

[00:05:17] Lucho

Yes! A few days after the show, Veronica called my aunt. She told her I was super special, and she convinced her with money. So I packed up and came here.

[00:05:28] Fernando

Qué raro. Verónica no veía Big Brother ni Acapulco Shore ni La voz, but she watched a luchador reality show? I guess you never really know a person huh...

[00:05:39] Mariela

That means mom hid that from me for years! And Lucho you knew about me? And now, you brought us here?

[00:05:49] Lucho

Yep! Now you know... almost everything. One more thing. This temple door is pretty hard to open. I never really had to worry about it before because I never had to leave, Mariela. And neither do you. *sirens go off*

[00:06:09] Mariela

Lucho! No!

[00:06:12] Lucho

Sorry, Mariela.

[00:06:15] Soldier 1

We've got you surrounded. You're interrupting our ultra-secret research.

[00:06:19] Soldier 2

They already know that dummy. Now isolate the FOXP3 variants!

[00:06:26] Mariela

Wait, where are they taking dad?!

[00:06:29] Fernando

Ey ey ey quiten las manos de lo que es bueno, díganme pa' donde pero sin tocar ¿okey?

[00:06:34] Mariela

Dad! Don't worry I'll find you! I'll find Mom too and I'll get us all out of here!

[00:06:40] Lucho

Your dad is going to lose the ability to speak pretty soon.

[00:06:50] *flashbacks from previous episodes with interactions between Mariela and Lucho*

[00:07:06] Mariela

Traitor! We brought you all the way here so you could do this to us!

[00:07:11] Lucho

Hey, hey! I've always been shady Mariela, don't pretend you didn't know. I've literally been wearing a mask this whole time.

[00:07:19] Mariela

Goddamnit, Lucho! What the hell do you want from us?

[00:07:26] Lucho

Argh, you're so damn sexy when you're mad!

[00:07:28] Mariela

Ugh gross! I can't believe I even considered hooking up with you. Ugh!

[00:07:34] Soldier 1

Shut up!

[00:07:35] Soldier 2

Calm down the subject! Give her a sedative.

[00:07:38] Soldier 3

Matter of fact, give them both a dose.

[00:07:41] Lucho

Whoa whoa whoa, why me? I completed the mission. I brought her here!

[00:07:44] Mariela

A sedative? No, no, stop! Stop! Stop....

[00:07:52] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to wake up after she receives the sedative, go to [Episode 13: Jetlag](#). If you want Mariela to have a vision of the future as a side effect of the drug, listen to [Episode 3: Cabin Secure](#).

EP 28 - THE AISLE LIGHTS

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Today we present: Episode 28: Follow the Aisle Lights. In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando decided to follow a lead they found on Veronica's whereabouts. It brings them to the Atacama Trench! Dun dun dun!

[00:00:34] Fernando

Marielita, I'm exhausted. It's been five whole days on this boat!

[00:00:40] Mariela

Shh, we're almost there! We're lucky we didn't get caught in any storms.

[00:00:45] Fernando

Ay Mari it's so hot and there's no green juice here! *Tengo sed!*

[00:00:52] Narrator

As Fernando continues complaining, they reach land. Or what looks like it...

[00:01:04] Fernando

Oh my god *tierra!* Finally! Oh look at that turtle, it's giant! I'm gonna try to get a selfie. And maybe make some turtle soup...

[00:01:17] Mariela

Wait.. don't get off the boat! Oh well. It's not an island. It looks like it's moving. Breathing even... Whoa!! What are you? What?

[00:01:41] Unu

Nununununu! *¿Quién está ahí?*

[00:01:48] Mariela

Oh my God it can talk!

[00:01:50] Fernando

What are you talking about? *Ven aqui tortuguito!*

[00:01:57] Unu

Noo! I'm dying...

[00:02:03] Mariela

What's wrong? What happened? How can we help you?

[00:02:07] Unu

You can't. I'm dying because of someone's terrible choices. Nunununu...

[00:02:18] Narrator

Suddenly, two soldiers arrive on jet skis.

[00:02:27] Soldier 1

Halt! We're soldiers from the Navy base below us. How did you find us? And state your business.

[00:02:35] Mariela

Ah. You're using voice assistants too?

[00:02:41] Soldier 2

You're trespassing on private property!

[00:02:44] Soldier 1

Is it really private if we're government agents?

[00:02:47] Soldier 2

Shut up, Bob!

[00:02:49] Unu

Why won't anyone help me?

[00:02:53] Soldier 2

Wait. That's the creature that escaped.

[00:02:57] Mariela

I'm going to kick your asses if you don't help this thing, mutant whale or whatever to survive!

[00:03:06] Unu

No, you can't save me! (Nunununu) Just hear my last words: I leave the Temple of Atacama to my friend Mephistopheles. Tell Nessy we'll always have Scotland, and please, please, don't forget to water the anemones.

[00:03:33] Soldier 1

You know what? I never wanted to do this job. I'd better go!

[00:03:40] Soldier 2

Um... Well, I guess I will too.

[00:03:49] Mariela

Hm. Sometimes I also feel like running away from my responsibilities like that. Swimming towards the horizon.

[00:04:00] Unu

There's nothing you can do. The only way to fix this (Nununu) ...is....

[00:04:14] Fernando

Mm, come here little turtle. I wanna be your *amiguito*. Mm! *smacks lips*

[00:04:20] Unu

You didn't make the right decisions. Although, who decides what's right and what's wrong in this world full of injustice? In this world full of injustice....

[00:04:41] Mariela

Noo!!

[00:04:45] Unu

And by the way, I can't fully explain to you who I am in this timeline, but please know that I'm not a whale. Not that I have anything against them, they're pretty great. Noo...I am Unu...Now I die. Now I'm really dead. Goodbye.

[00:05:27] Narrator

Mwahaha, you have reached one of the terrible endings of *Adventure in Atacama*! But it isn't over yet. You can go back to [Episode 23: Hand Luggage](#), or [Episode 36: Fasten Your Seatbelt](#) to continue exploring all the endings of this story. Up to you!

EP 29 - ITINERARY

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Lucho and Fernando were trying to escape from a room where Doctor Rodrigo Crustáceo Montalbán, or whatever his name is, was holding them prisoner. Fernando felt like pressing a button and Mariela prevented him. What you'll hear next is a glimpse of the future that was unleashed thanks to your most recent decision...Hahaha. Episode 29: Itinerary.

[00:00:54] Narrator (documentary narration)

This is "Island of Dreams", the documentary. A production of Blumenfeld Industries. For most people, an ideal world is an impossible dream. But that isn't the case for the intrepid 51-year-old ex-pilot Fernando Pérez. He has always dreamed big.

[00:01:23] Fernando

(Nunununu, nunununu, nunununu) You know, I've always wanted more. If there was only orange juice at the American breakfast, I'd plant a tamarind tree. It's got more antioxidants. You know I'm that kind of guy.

[00:01:39] Narrator

Fernando Pérez was a pilot like any other, until his daughter prevented him from pressing a button to travel back in time.

[00:01:48] Fernando

(Nunununu, Nunununununu, Nunununununu) I didn't think Unu would eat Lucho's arm like a French fry, but you know what the great Daddy Yankee says: *lo que paso, paso*. (Nununununu. Nunununununu. Nunununununu) I'm happy that we were able to escape from the Temple after Unu made everything collapse. Look at me now, I learned a whole new language!

[00:02:10] Narrator

Fernando's work in the new village, founded by the survivors of the Atacama Trench is simple, but fundamental.

[00:02:19] Fernando

(Nunununu, Nunununununu, Nunununununu) Do you see these shells here on the beach? I'm in charge of collecting them, the more the better!

[00:02:28] Narrator

Sounds like a very important job!

[00:02:30] Fernando

(Nunununununu) And here Pedro the Alien helps me put them in bottles that we find in the sea from time to time. Right Pedro?

[00:02:39] Pedro the Alien

That's right!

[00:02:43] Narrator

Another member of this new island village is Mariela Pérez Treviño, the key to making this society work like clockwork.

[00:02:51] Mariela

(Nunununununu, nununununu, nununununu) I need him to at least keep busy, you know, otherwise I don't think we'd be able to survive here.

[00:03:03] Narrator

But why did they stay on the island above the now destroyed navy base? Wouldn't it be easier to go back to Mexico City?

[00:03:12] Mariela

(Nunununununu, nununununu) Well, it's just that, you know, we wanted to give ourselves a second chance away from the apocalypse. Hehe. And what better way than to try it on an island lost in the middle of nowhere?

[00:03:31] Narrator

You're a lousy liar, Mariela.

[00:03:36] Mariela

(Nunununununu, nununununu) Several soldiers from the base and even some androids who were underwater survived. Tell him, mom, that you worked with them.

[00:03:46] Veronica

(Nunununununu, nununununu, nununununu) Not much has changed up here. See these androids? They were my assistants at the base. My favourite is this one. I named him Roberto.

[00:04:02] Mariela

(Nunununununu) Mom, stop treating that robot like that!

[00:04:07] Veronica

(Nunununununu, nunununununu) I told you I'm not having an affair with Roberto, Mariela! What are you doing saying that in front of the camera!

[00:04:22] Narrator

Lucho, the former luchador and assistant to Doctor Veronica is in charge of training programmes on the Island of Dreams. Since he lost his arm, he has found motivation in helping others.

[00:04:37] Mariela

(Nunununununu) Hey, Lucho, whatcha doing?

[00:04:41] Lucho

(Nunununununu, nunununununu) Building sandcastles for quadrant four. There weren't enough!

[00:04:47] Mariela

(Nunununununu) Great work!

[00:04:52] Narrator

We're rolling, Veronica.

[00:04:54] Veronica

(Nunununununu, nunununununu, nunununununu) Oh, of course I knew about Unu long before I had Mariela in my belly. I saw her on an ocean expedition.

[00:05:05] Narrator

And do you guys use some kind of currency here, or?

[00:05:08] Mariela

(Nunununununu, nunununununu) Oh no, we don't need money. Here we reject all forms of rampant and savage capitalism.

[00:05:18] Veronica

(Nunununununu, nunununununu) But, between you and me, if Fernando hadn't sunk the boat we were going to leave on, we'd be in Mexico City by now. But I can get used to everything.

[00:05:35] Mariela

(Nunununununu) It's not so bad Mom, we're all right here.

[00:05:40] Veronica

(Nunununununu, nununununu) If I have eat another shark sandwich I'm gonna lose it!

[00:05:52] Narrator

Well, that was good. We can cut there.

[00:05:58] Pedro the Alien

Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait! You've got to get us out of here!

[00:06:02] Narrator

Pedro? What are you talking about?

[00:06:04] Veronica

(Nunununununu) Don't be like that, Pedro...

[00:06:07] Pedro the Alien

This never had to happen! We're going to stay on this island forever just playing volleyball and eating shark!

[00:06:15] Narrator

Yeah. Not my problem...

[00:06:17] Pedro the Alien

Get us out of here! Keep playing to find us a better ending than this nonsense! Quick, go to [Episode 22: Cabin Control!](#)

[00:06:32] Narrator

Produced by Blumenfeld Industries.

EP 30 - THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela found a phone on the plane after running into her long lost father. She's decided to report it to her coworker Elisa. This is Episode 30: This is Your Captain Speaking.

[00:00:34] Mariela

That's funny. Hey Eli, I found a phone near 35B!

[00:00:40] Elisa

You've got to send it to airport security Mari.

[00:00:43] Mariela

That's why I'm telling you.

[00:00:45] Elisa

Unless it's a new iPhone, in that case let me have it! I know a guy who can jailbreak it.

[00:00:48] Mariela

No it's an Android. But I think it's a more recent one.

[00:00:52] Elisa

No one wants an android, Mari. Whatever. Just take it to security at terminal 2. Sorry babe, but I've gotta go. I've got my boo waiting for me!

[00:01:00] Mariela

Have fun! I'll text you later for drinks okay?

[00:01:02] Elisa

Yep, see you!

[00:01:04] Narrator

That mojito happy hour will never happen. Dun dun dun!

[00:01:14] Mariela

I wonder where dad went...

[00:01:19] Narrator

Mariela starts heading to the security office. As she walks she thinks about her dad, with his suit and tie, and signature aviator glasses. And his hair, or current lack thereof.

[00:01:35] Mariela

¡La misma melena del Matador Hernández!

[00:01:39] Narrator

He had much more of it back then. That is, when he left her and her mother one day and never came back.

[00:01:48] Mariela

Mom would always yell at him for his crazy haircare budget. I guess now he's saving thousands.

[00:01:57] Veronica (flashback)

Wait a sec Nando, I think I'm gonna puke.

[00:02:00] Fernando

¿Comiste algo malito o qué, amor?

[00:02:02] Veronica

No! It's obviously that nasty serpent gel you've got on your head. It stinks!

[00:02:07] Fernando

It's Gorilla Glue, baby.

[00:02:15] Narrator

"Serpent" was an interesting choice of words, even back then. In fact, Veronica Treviño hated the stuff because it reminded her of a nasty encounter with a certain serpent-like "creature" during one of her marine research excursions.

[00:02:35] Mariela

I wonder if she still does those. That trip brought her some pretty bad recurring nightmares. She had nightmares of a giant serpent, like the one I've been seeing in my dreams.

[00:02:52] Narrator

Mariela! I know seeing your dad is bringing back memories, but girl, focus!

[00:02:58] Mariela

Right. The phone. Hey, there's a message here...

[00:03:03] Narrator

This is it. The moment! Mariela could go back to being a globetrotting flight attendant and avoid facing her destiny.

[00:03:16] Mariela

I know this number...

[00:03:18] Narrator

But then she isn't a very special flight attendant for nothing! Hehehe

[00:03:27] Veronica (over the phone)

Fernando, it's Veronica.

[00:03:31] Mariela

Mom?

[00:03:41] Narrator

Now is the time to choose- Oh wait. My bad you don't have a choice here. Listen to [Episode 8: Cabin Pressure](#). See you later!

EP 31 - NO BAGGAGE

[00:00:02] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, our heroes fell into the Pacific Ocean from a plane that Fernando stole from Mexico City Airport. Now they're going to swim to the front door of the top secret base they've just spotted on the horizon. Episode 31: No Baggage.

[00:00:41] Lucho

We just knock on the front door and that's it.

[00:00:45] Mariela

Wait, Lucho. Not so fast!

[00:00:47] Lucho

Trust me, Mari! Good. Here we go.

[00:00:53] Dr. Rodrigo

Who the hell is that? I told you to leave my Amazon deliveries at the door!

[00:00:56] Soldier 1

Sir, you know that the delivery of underwater packages is very unpredictable.

[00:01:01] Dr. Rodrigo

I'm doing something important! I don't have time for this! I don't have time for you!

[00:01:10] Narrator

On the other side of a door that appears to have been built as a nuclear-proof bunker, our heroes see a man dressed in a white coat.

[00:01:21] Dr. Rodrigo

Who dares interrupt me?

[00:01:24] Narrator

A man with the potential to change the world...

[00:01:30] Mariela

Hello?

[00:01:31] Fernando

¡Recuerda tu entrenamiento, Mariela!

[00:01:34] Dr. Rodrigo

How dare you interrupt me! I'm working on the next great invention: fried computer wafers—!

[00:01:40] Narrator

...and all the potential to ruin it too.

[00:01:46] Mariela

Hello. Very good morning, sir. I have an appointment here. One of the...residents, I presume, called to ask for my help.

[00:01:57] Lucho

Our help, to be exact. I'm not here, by the way, you don't know me.

[00:02:03] Soldier 1

Sir, it's Lucho! And those are the people we were looking for!

[00:02:07] Lucho

Dammit!

[00:02:08] Dr. Rodrigo

Ah, Lucho and others. Of course, of course, of course... Give me just a moment.

[00:02:19] Mariela

Dad?

[00:02:20] Fernando

¿Sí, mijita?

[00:02:21] Mariela

I have a bad feeling about this.

[00:02:23] Lucho

Mariela, I have to tell you something... *crash and others scream*

[00:02:28] Fernando

¡Qué es eso Virgencita Santísima!

[00:02:30] Mariela

I told you so!

[00:02:32] Lucho

This wasn't part of the plan!

[00:02:33] Narrator

The mad scientist rides out of the base on a giant android!

[00:02:38] Dr. Rodrigo

You thought you could just come and knock on the door?! That's very good manners. Very good and very stupid manners! Now you will suffer by hearing my long and exhausting plan. I am Doctor Rodrigo Kreutzberger Blumenfeld! My plan was this: first, the Atacama Effect was supposed to go well and give us a common language to all humanity! But it went wrong! Second: I had to open the temples everywhere....*speech speeds up*

[00:03:13] Narrator

Blah blah blah, we don't have time for these over-explanations, Rodrigo. Let's fast forward to the part where you take our heroes down...

[00:03:26] Fernando

Let me go! *¡Suéltame, suéltame!* Noo!!

[00:03:32] Mariela

Dad, noo!! Hey, why are you doing this, Mister Rodrigo Cheeseburger whoever you are?

[00:03:41] Dr. Rodrigo

Because I need to capture you, Mariela Pérez Treviño!

[00:03:45] Lucho

Watch out, Mari!

[00:03:48] Mariela

Lucho, no! Tell Elisa I'd like that drink now...

[00:04:04] Dr, Rodrigo

Now that you're in a coma you'll serve as part of my experiments to undo all this mess... Mhmhmm...

[00:04:14] Narrator

Dr. Rodrigo knocks out Lucho and Fernando with his giant robot arm and carries Mariela's body inside the top secret base.

[00:04:25] Dr. Rodrigo

Now, let's see... I plug this wire in the ear, this one through the nose... Or was it in the eye? It doesn't matter. Perfect. Monitoring brain... Oh, so many pretty images! You have had quite the life eh, Mariela? Mhmhmm...

[00:04:54] Narrator

Mariela's story ends here, in a comatose state. In her beautiful head she is reliving the scenes of this story over and over again. If you want to enter Mariela's coma dream listen to [Episode 3: Cabin Secure](#). If you want to go back and try to grab another story journey that doesn't end in purgatory, listen to [Episode 14: Evacuation Procedure](#).

EP 32 - UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Veronica and Dr. Rodrigo Cheeseburger whatever were locked in a battle of wits and Veronica was winning. Now, she and Mariela must face the horde of soldiers that are coming at them. This is Episode 32: Unidentified Object.

[00:00:30] Veronica

Oh no! Where did all these soldiers come from and why were they hiding all this time?

[00:00:34] Mariela

Mom! Don't worry! I can handle this. There...are too many!

[00:00:41] Veronica

Everything is falling apart! Lucho! Help!

[00:00:45] Lucho

Mariela, I'm going to help you!

[00:00:49] Narrator

The soldiers converge on our heroes like paparazzi on a pregnant Rihanna.

[00:00:54] Lucho

On your left, Mari!

[00:00:56] Mariela

Watch your six! Take this!

[00:01:00] Lucho

We make a good team Mariela. We should totally tag team wrestle together. I'm free Tuesday nights. Whoa!

[00:01:10] Mariela

Now is not the time! But i'll text you later!

[00:01:22] Lucho

Let's find a way out so I can finally take off this luchador mask and kiss you! Follow me. *groans* As my father the great Tiburón Martillo once said: "In life sometimes you are the one knocking out others, and sometimes you are the one who gets knocked out".

[00:02:00] Mariela

No!

[00:02:01] Lucho

Our kids would've made Chuck Norris cry. Adios!

[00:02:10] Mariela

Aye, Lucho!

[00:02:16] Veronica

Vamos Mari or we're going to be crushed to death by one of those giant stones! Ew, whats that? Oh my God Lucho, you're dead!

[00:02:30] Mariela

I can see his body in front of me, you don't have to—

[00:02:33] Veronica

Oh no! His six pack has been crushed., never to be recycled!

[00:02:40] Mariela

This can't be happening! No!

[00:02:55] Unu

Mariela! (Nunununu)

[00:02:58] Mariela

It's you, the serpent of my dreams! Is it time for me to die?

[00:03:04] Unu

Sorry, Mariela. (Nunununununu) The Temple has to fall. I have to fulfill my mission.

[00:03:15] Veronica

Mariela, hug me!

[00:03:17] Mariela

Mom!

[00:03:18] Veronica

Come here, mija!

[00:03:21] Narrator

In a very tragic and mostly unexpected way, Mariela and Veronica are buried at the bottom of the ocean after Unu finished closing its doors forever. Let's take a moment of silence for them. Okay now let's continue...while we still can!

[00:03:52] Fernando

¿Hola? ¿Aló? ¿aAó? ¿Hay alguien con vida por ahí?

[00:03:57] Unu

Me, the great Unu! I'm fine. Although now that I've torn down the Temple, I have no idea what to do with my life. Maybe it was a bad decision.

[00:04:14] Fernando

Funny, I've been feeling that way since I separated from my wife.

[00:04:18] Unu

Well, it seems we have something in common.

[00:04:23] Fernando

Hey, do you think we'd make a good show? You know, a pilot and a giant snake trying to save the world?

[00:04:31] Unu

Oh, oh oh! I've always wanted to be part of something bigger than myself! (Which is generally very difficult as I am already huge.)

[00:04:46] Narrator

This is *Pilot in Atacama*! A series never before produced by Studio Ochenta in which you will have to pray that Fernando makes the best possible decisions to save the world from itself or himself.

[00:05:04] Fernando

¡"Piloto, piloto en Atacama-cama"!

[00:05:16] Narrator

“Piloto, piloto in Atacama-cama”! So catchy! I love it. I’ll probably make that my new ringtone, hehehe. This is one of the endings of Pilot... I mean, of *Adventure in Atacama*! To keep playing, go back to [Episode 26: Airplane Mode](#), to hear more endings to this story.

EP 33 - LACK OF LEGROOM

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando arrived at Veronica's apartment after the Atacama effect had spread a "proverbial" apocalypse to the entire planet, hehe. See what I did there? Here we go, Episode 33: Lack of Legroom.

[00:00:30] Fernando

phone rings *Contesta Mari!*

[00:00:33] Mariela

Fine! Hello? Um, who is this?

[00:00:50] Automated voice on phone

music plays This is a message from Blumenfeld industries.

[00:00:53] Automated voice

Hello Veronica Treviño!

[00:00:56] Mariela

Is it an automated message?

[00:00:58] Fernando

Shh!

[00:00:59] Automated voice

Our records show that you have not yet purchased your vocal assistant.

[00:01:03] Mariela

My what?

[00:01:04] Automated voice

So I'm calling to offer you the deal of a lifetime!

[00:01:09] Mariela

This is definitely an ad.

[00:01:11] Automated voice

Nope! I swear I'm 100% a real person. Using our patented vocal assistant software to help you verbalize all of your deepest most inner thoughts. This service is available to you for a limited time, or maybe an unlimited time as we all really don't know how long this Atacama Effect will last, if you know what I mean.

[00:01:33] Fernando

Vaya, ¡la humanidad puede acabarse pero el capitalismo jamás!

[00:01:37] Automated voice

Yes, that's right Fernando Perez, capitalism is alive and well at the end of the world! Hehehe. We create personalized vocal assistants to give you the best version of your horrible voice. Like this one which is light and funny!

[00:01:57] Fernando

Hey!

[00:01:58] Automated voice

Or this one where you can sound like a very special flight attendant!

[00:02:03] Mariela

How rude!

[00:02:04] Automated voice

All this can be yours for the low low price of 9.99. Call 555-555-Blumenfeld and remember with Blumenfeld industries even your small insignificant voice can be heard! *phone hangs up*

[00:02:26] Mariela

Dad, are you okay?

[00:02:29] Fernando

What is...okay?

[00:02:33] Mariela

Oh no! Pa, it's happening! Just like with the waiter at the airport.

[00:02:40] Fernando

Waiter! Changos, el juguito no me preparó para esto.

[00:02:44] Mariela

We have to do something to stop it!

[00:02:47] Automated voice

There's nothing you can do to stop the effect on Fernando Perez, Mariela Perez Treviño. Why not take advantage of our crazy discount?

[00:02:57] Mariela

Ugh! Shut up! *slams phone* That's better. Now Pa, take my phone and download the stupid Blumenfeld assistant thingy.

[00:03:12] Fernando

Oooh it's translating me. Smashing! My word I sound like a sexy Latino Bond.

[00:03:21] Mariela

That's a British accent.

[00:03:23] Fernando

Wait that one's premium price. Hold on, let me get one that's cheaper. LA - American. Okay. Oh my God this is like so cool. Check me out, I sound like I run a startup! Can you make my latte with oat milk please?

[00:03:40] Mariela

Stop fooling around, Dad! Let's let's get out of here. Wait, what's this? It looks like its Mom's!

[00:03:51] Fernando

Mari! Now I can say 'Whoa totally! Yeah def circle back, but only after I'm back from my vacay in Malibu'. Hahahahahaha

[00:03:59] Mariela

Look... Mom wrote some coordinates in a notepad.

[00:04:02] Fernando

Ooo, so cool! I can have this thing do a Google search. Check it out: find coordinates bro. Wild! That's near the coast of Chile!

[00:04:13] Mariela

Wait, are these the same ones as the newspaper? The explosion occurred in the same place! This doesn't make sense. Let's just go. I don't think we'll find mom here anyways. And can you please change your accent? It's getting really annoying.

[00:04:31] Fernando

Fine. Just chill for a sec, okay? *beep* This is standard American.

[00:04:43] Narrator

Mariela's mother was an eccentric scientist that had prepared her for a lot of things: how to jumpstart any car with her bare hands, how to say 'more fish, please' in 26 languages including dolphin, how to tap dance in roller skates, and of course how to fight a rogue polar bear in Finland. But nothing, absolutely nothing could have prepared her for this. The lack of traffic in Mexico City! I mean really it's astounding. If you've never been, try imagining LA traffic x 10. And if you've never been to LA, well I guess Google it or something because honestly you'd be blown away.

[00:05:40] Fernando

You know it's like, the apocalypse, mija. No one talks. So random.

[00:05:45] Mariela

Oh gosh. Do you think we'll really have to get used to this, Dad?

[00:05:50] Fernando

We might, mija. But that's not so bad. Humans can get used to pretty much anything.

[00:05:56] Mariela

Do you think they'll still need planes in this version of the world?

[00:06:00] Fernando

Look, there's one right now!

[00:06:04] Mariela

Okay. Well, I guess they'll still need people to fly planes. By the way, where's yours now?

[00:06:17] Narrator

Well I guess this is officially post - apocalyptic. But fear not! We still have options! Because now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela and Fernando to try to go to the coordinates she found in Veronica's notebook, listen to episode [Episode 28: Follow the Aisle Lights](#). If you want Mariela to go back to working as a flight attendant (because she's still got bills to pay), listen to [Episode 37: Refundable Ticket](#).

EP 34 - ALL PASSPORTS

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela, Fernando and Lucho found the motionless body of Dr. Rodrigo in the mysterious underwater temple of Dwarka. Mariela and Lucho have a plan to get out of this situation...alive. Today we present, Episode 34: All Passports. Out of nowhere, the frustrated Fernando snatches the translator out of Mariela's hands.

[00:00:52] Lucho

Fernando grunting and making sounds in exasperation Oh Fernando, don't be like that, come on.

[00:00:54] Mariela

Dad, give me back the translator!

[00:00:57] Translator machine

Anomic aphasia detected. Interpreting stress signals from the subject. Translating on one, translating on two, translating on three.

[00:01:08] Translator

It's Fernando, you idiots. Doctor Rodrigo was alive when we were in the temple.

[00:01:15] Mariela

But we saw his dead body, Dad!

[00:01:21] Translator

A peanut gave him a tremendous allergic reaction and that's why he looked dead. He was still alive when we left him there. Now he's probably dead.

[00:01:34] Mariela

Give me that, Dad!

[00:01:38] Translator

Losing signal. Signal lost.

[00:01:45] Mariela

This device is very complicated to use. Lucho, look, if I press this...

[00:01:52] Translator

Select the language or dialect you would like to listen to next.

[00:01:55] Mariela

But if I press this...

[00:01:58] Translator

Select the radio station you would like to listen to. I have stations from 336 different countries.

[00:02:04] Lucho

Can it really do that? *songs play on translator*

[00:02:19] Mariela

Nothing in Latin America, nothing in Australia. nothing in Asia, nothing in the Cayman Islands!

[00:02:26] Lucho

The world can no longer talk about anything, Mariela. The Atacama Effect has changed everything. I have an idea, Mariela. I'd like to ask you a very important question.

[00:02:42] Mariela

Yes, Lucho?

[00:02:45] Lucho

Will you...

[00:02:47] Mariela

Will I what, Lucho?

[00:02:48] Lucho

...start...

[00:02:51] Mariela

Start?

[00:02:53] Lucho

...a podcast with me?

[00:02:54] Mariela

Yes! Welcome to the *Last Podcast Ever*, the only podcast left in the world produced by the only people who can still talk after the Atacama Effect changed the world forever! I'm your host, Mariela, and as always I'm joined by the very handsome Lucho. How are you, Lucho?

[00:03:18] Lucho

I'm great Mariela. Sitting next to your beautiful self over there. And because I have some excellent chisme for today's episode!

[00:03:27] Mariela

Tell me everything!

[00:03:35] Narrator

Oh my God, I love this show! I'm hooked. This is one of the many endings of *Adventure in Atacama*. Discover other endings by going back to [Episode 5: I've Seen this Movie Already](#).

EP 35 - THIS IS A SMOKE-FREE PLANE

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* Today we present Episode 35: This is a Smoke-Free Plane. In the previous episode, Mariela and Fernando woke up in a hotel days after blacking out in a bar. They, I mean you, decided to have them retrace their steps.

[00:00:35] Mariela

Hm. This place looks pretty dead.

[00:00:38] Fernando

You know what they say Marielita: "*Fiesta sin vino no vale un comino*". *Ramón, ¡dos chelitas!* Ramon? Hello?

[00:00:52] Mariela

I don't think he can talk, Dad.

[00:00:56] Fernando

¿Qué fue, mijita?

[00:00:57] Mariela

Does anything trigger memories for you dad?

[00:01:00] Fernando

Ahora, si mal no recuerdo, lo primero que hicimos fue tomar una chela. Y otra, y otra... Seguimos así hasta que perdimos la memoria y...

[00:01:12] Mariela

Yeah, that's how blackouts happen, Dad, one drink after another. But really think! Hey, isn't the street unusually quiet?

[00:01:26] Narrator

Ah, a classic zoom out on our apocalyptic world points out the obvious, the inevitable, the inescapable. It doesn't matter how many decisions you make now for Mariela. No. The Atacama Effect has reached every cantina in Mexico and every corner of planet Earth. Honestly there is only one possible ending at this point. It can only have one end... a what? Oh, no...

[00:02:07] Mariela

Ramon give me another...

[00:02:08] Fernando

Well, that's not a bad idea, mijita. Es mejor que todas las decisiones que has tomado hasta ahora!

[00:02:11] Narrator

What's happening??

[00:02:14] Mariela

Look whose talking, this rando is always following me everywhere.

[00:02:17] Narrator

What's...Hey! Gimme! Gimme that!

[00:02:19] Mariela

Hey give me back my phone!

[00:02:22] Automated voice

Downloading app! Thank you for downloading Blumenfeld Solutions, the best way make your voice heard.

[00:02:30] Mariela

Give me my phone!

[00:02:31] Automated voice

Please select your favorite vocal assistant. Cheapest option selected.

[00:02:38] Narrator

Finally, I couldn't speak! I can't believe the Atacama Effect got me! Me! The narrator! Why do I have this accent? Turn off the music, turn it off!

[00:02:52] Producer

Ok stop. Cut! Narrator, that's not your line. So, say it again!

[00:03:01] Narrator

This wasn't part of the deal! How could I lose my voice too? I was supposed to be the narrator!

[00:03:09] Mariela

What's he talking about?

[00:03:10] Producer

Come on, get back in the scene! You're wasting time!

[00:03:13] Narrator

I demand to speak to my agent. This is crazy. Where are the producers? Show yourselves!

[00:03:21] Producer

Ugh, dude, it's just me! Everyone handed in their episodes and went on vacation. And I just need to finish this. Do your job! Come on... Actors, am I right? Oh you're still there? Listen, you don't have to turn off the podcast but you can't stay here. It's a dead end, as you can see. If you want to continue playing go back to [Episode 24: Oxygen Mask](#). Now leave me alone, I've gotta ton of tape cutting to do. Ciao!

EP 36 - FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is *Adventure in Atacama!* In the previous episode, Mariela reunited with her estranged father Fernando. They had a drink at the Mexico City airport....where they both began to see the first signs of the Atacama Effect! Dun dun dun! This is Episode 36: Fasten Your Seatbelt.

[00:00:38] Waiter

Here's ... uh... a... whiskey. It's... speak... hard... *¡ah cabrón!*

[00:00:47] Mariela

Hey, I think you need this drink more than I do.

[00:00:50] Fernando

We could give him the best bourbon this side of the Rio Grande, *chamaquita*. But it won't work. *El mundo esta pasando por algo raro mija.*

[00:01:02] Mariela

Right. So they're gonna lose their speech. Then what.?

[00:01:07] Fernando

Tu mamá no quiso decirme. Pero se contagia como un buen chisme, Marielita.

[00:01:14] Waiter

Here, I have...

[00:01:17] Fernando

Yes mijo, pero I need you to be quiet a second.

[00:01:20] Waiter

Tears...I have...

[00:01:23] Mariela

Wait a minute. So let me get this straight. Mom told you all this was going to happen and told you to find me? But, our flight came from Paris. What were you doing in France?

[00:01:39] Narrator

Mariela seems to be missing the point. Or points on the map, if you will.

[00:01:47] Fernando

Venía de Delhi, India, pero its a long story mija, te la contaré más tarde.

[00:01:54] Narrator

Let's move things along. Allow me to break the fourth wall for a moment here; I never liked this news anchor anyway. Breaking news! Matafuegos is getting ready for the fight of the century against Armadillo Siniestro.

[00:02:14] Fernando

¡Uy! Hace años que no veo las luchas.

[00:02:17] Mariela

Dad, concentrate! Now is not the time to talk about a wrestling match!

[00:02:23] Fernando

Perale, mija.

[00:02:24] Narrator

The last time Matafuegos entered the ring was in 1999 against the infamous Tiburon Martillo.

[00:02:28] Mariela

Ugh, come on! Let's get out of here before we get stuck in the traffic for the fight.

[00:02:34] Fernando

Okay okay. Ándale, ahuecando.

[00:02:44] Narrator

Fernando and the incredible but still very confused Mariela run through the airport lobby, hop into the elevator, get into Fernando's yellow Mustang, only to find out... *car engine doesn't start* it's out of gas.

[00:03:06] Mariela

Seriously? Fine, let's use my car.

[00:03:13] Fernando

Un prius? ¿Neta? Como pudiste mija? I raised you for better things!

[00:03:21] Mariela

Just relax. Besides, this ride will surprise you! Oh no, traffic! Now what?

[00:03:41] Narrator

Mexico City at rush hour. Tensions are running high, and so is Mariela's lack of patience. Our heroine is nervous, pensive.

[00:03:53] Man in traffic

¡Mujer, volante, bomba nuclear!

[00:03:55] Mariela

¡La tuya, imbécil—!

[00:03:57] Narrator

After all, her mother is missing and there is a proverbial apocalypse happening.

[00:04:06] Mariela

Ah!

[00:04:08] Narrator

The Atacama Effect has already reached the city.

[00:04:13] Fernando

Marielita, calmate. Primero pon el radio así respiras un poquito, ¿vale?

[00:04:19] Mariela

Good idea.

[00:04:28] Radio Announcer

This WBMX 40, the home of the best top 40 hits! Up next: a song I forgot the name of! In other news, everyone is talking about the great fight tonight. Matafuegos makes his big comeback after the 1998 incident with Tiburón Martillo...*radio station changes* Reports are coming in from across the coast that people are having trouble... speak, speak.. hello? Mommy?

[00:04:58] Fernando

Marielita, tenemos que encontrar a tu mamá. She said that you...

[00:05:03] Mariela

That I...?

[00:05:05] Fernando

That you would be the key to stopping the Atacama Effect!

[00:05:10] Mariela

You sound excited about the apocalypse.

[00:05:13] Fernando

I'm sorry but it's so cool! You're like Neo in *The Matrix pero latina y más chingona*.

[00:05:21] Mariela

You're not making any sense. Just, let me think for a second okay? How are we supposed to do anything when we've barely gotten away from the airport?

[00:05:31] Narrator

Mariela takes a deep breath and does what her therapist taught her to do in times of crisis. She meditates. Good for you girl, self care don't care!

[00:05:45] Mariela

Give me a second...

[00:05:47] Fernando

Don't sleep on me now, mija! Mari?

[00:05:55] Narrator

She's already gone. Mari sees herself as a little girl in the park with her father.

[00:06:09] Fernando

Okey Mariela, chiquita. Just a few more kicks okay? Mommy said 100 and then we're done.

[00:06:16] Mariela

Sure, Papa!

[00:06:19] Narrator

As a little girl, Mariela trained all the time. Judo, Taekwondo, Karate, the other one from Brazil. Veronica, her mother, wanted her to reach her full potential. And Fernando (unwillingly) went along with it.

[00:06:34] Mariela

I'm tired, Papa.

[00:06:36] Fernando

Alright mija. Let's stop now and tell mommy we did them all. *Ven, vamos por una limonada y pa' mí un traguito de whiskey.*

[00:06:46] Narrator

All of a sudden a boy accidentally sends a ball toward Mariela! Look out Mari! Mariela kicks the ball back and it goes through the air so fast that it breaks the sound barrier! It even blows off a good part of Fernando's hair!

[00:07:09] Unu

(Nunununununu) Your voice is the key Mariela... *Despierta....Wake up Mariela... Despierta!*

[00:07:28] Mariela

That serpent dream again!

[00:07:30] Fernando

Mijita, *¿estás bien? Creí que ya había dejado de ser aburrido.* Hm, maybe I should work on my speaking skills. My name is Fernando...

[00:07:41] Mariela

Dad, focus! I don't want to be stuck in traffic until the end of the world! So here's what we're gonna do. I want answers. And we're gonna get them.

[00:07:54] Narrator

Mariela hits the breaks and pulls a stunt she hasn't used since she was a stunt driver on *Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift*. Anyway, they bolt through traffic at top speed...

[00:08:04] Fernando

Mariela! Wait, we need to go to your mom's house first!

[00:08:10] Mariela

Did you report her disappearance to the police yet?

[00:08:14] Fernando

Not yet, mija! Watch out!

[00:08:17] Mariela

Hm. They might believe us, or they might not. So let's go to.... Um, let's go to....

[00:08:27] Narrator

Now is the time to choose! If you want Mariela to drive to her mother Veronica's house, listen to [Episode 2: Cabin Crew](#). If you want them to go to the police station to report Veronica's disappearance, listen to [Episode 24: Oxygen Mask](#).

EP 37 - REFUNDABLE TICKET

[00:00:01] Narrator

This is Adventure in the Air! Not in Atacama, because there's no way she's getting there now. So, here we go... Episode 37: Refundable Ticket. In the middle of the end of the world as we know it, Mariela got a job on one of the last flights on Blumenfeld Airlines, departing from Peru's capital.

[00:00:37] Automated Voice

Voice assistant, activated.

[00:00:39] Mariela

Hi, hope you're enjoying your flight, how can I help you?

[00:00:43] Narrator

Even at the end of the world, there are aspects of a flight attendant's job that she can never escape.

[00:00:52] Passenger 1

Hello, Miss. Could you tell the pilot to slow down? My son is getting nauseous.

[00:00:57] Mariela

Um, I'll see what I can do.

[00:01:02] Narrator

But for Mariela Perez Treviño, flying and escaping are just about the same thing.

[00:01:10] Mariela

Ugh, I'm sick of this.

[00:01:12] Automated Voice

Blumenfeld Solutions, deactivated. Please note this is a decision that will not silence your voice.

[00:01:19] Mariela

Shh!

[00:01:20] Automated Voice

I only intend to help others realize that you are one of the few humans on Earth who can still speak with their own voice.

[00:01:26] Mariela

Power off! I'll just take a minute and get back to work. I hope dad got a job as a pilot again. I haven't heard from him for a long time.

[00:01:41] Fernando

¡Marielita! ¡Soy yo!

[00:01:44] Mariela

What? Dad! What are you doing here? Mariela is no longer my name, no one can know it's me.

[00:01:52] Fernando

I know Marielita. But know I'm part of a secret government group seeking out the last real speakers of the world.

[00:01:59] Mariela

Sounds like a great job Dad, I'm happy for you.

[00:02:03] Fernando

I was flying this plane, didn't anyone tell you at the airline that?

[00:02:06] Mariela

Wait wait wait! If you were flying it, who's flying it now??

[00:02:15] Fernando and Mariela

Ahh!!

[00:02:20] Narrator

So it really was the last flight of the airline. Mwahahaha...You've reached one of the endings of *Azafata en Atacama*! But it is never really over. To listen to other endings, go back to [Episode 33: Lack of Legroom](#).

THE END