EXT. BACKYARD - SLUMS - DAY

MAGGIE PIE is daydreaming when HECTOR joins her.

MAGGIE PIE (13) sits on top of a concrete wall overlooking the slums. Her neighbor HECTOR (7) comes in and sits beside her. The sun is going down.

MAGGIE PIE
Why you always in my space,
Hector? (beat) Can't you go somewhere else?

HECTOR
I'm alright.

MAGGIE PIE
You didn't bring your radio by any chance, did ya?

HECTOR
No..but, I got this?

Hector shows Maggie Pie a blue rock.

MAGGIE PIE
What is that?

HECTOR
It's a magic rock.

He hands it to Maggie Pie.
You make a wish and whatever you wish for, comes true.

MAGGIE PIE (SARCASTIC)
I wish.

HECTOR
Yeah. Make a wish. But you have to do it like this...

Hector takes the blue rock and cups it between his palms. He closes his eyes and whispers. He hands it back to Maggie Pie.

Now you?

MAGGIE PIE
What did---did you just wish something just then?

HECTOR
Uh-huh.
MAGGIE PIE
What did you wish?

HECTOR
You can't say the wish too loud cause then it won't come true.

MAGGIE PIE
Alright. How many wishes I get?

HECTOR
Infinity.

MAGGIE PIE
Really? This really must be a special rock.

HECTOR
Blue. It's a special blue rock.

MAGGIE PIE
Right. Special blue rock.

Maggie cups the rock between her palms, closes her eyes and whispers her wish.

She wipes a tear from the corner of her eye and hands the blue rock back to Hector.

HECTOR
Your wish will come true, Maggie Pie. It will come true.

MAGGIE PIE (SHE SMILES)
As visible as you always are, you're sweet.

HECTOR
I'm not candy.

MAGGIE PIE
Yes, you are, sweet like candy.

Maggie Pie tickles Hector who laughs. We should get going before it gets too dark and we need to be careful for that lose dog. You hear about that?

HECTOR
Uh-huh. It bit someone.

MAGGIE PIE
That's right. We better head on in before it bites us.
HECTOR
Okay. I will wish the dog won't bite you.

MAGGIE PIE
But you're not supposed to say your wish out-loud, remember?

HECTOR
It's okay, don't worry. Just you and me know....for protection. The blue rock will protect us.

MAGGIE PIE
Thank you, Hector.

HECTOR
You're welcome.

MAGGIE PIE
Let's head---

WILLIS
There you are you stupid shit, been looking all over for you! Dad's gonna have your ass!

WILLIS (14) grabs Hector by the shirt and stands him up.

MAGGIE PIE
Hey! Let him go! You can just tell him, you don't need to grab 'em.

WILLIS
Be quiet Maggie Pie, this don't concern you none.

MAGGIE PIE
You're on my property so it does concern me and I said don't put your hands on him.

Pause.

Willis stares at Maggie Pie defiantly but let's Hector go.

Hector runs off.

WILLIS (TO HECTOR)
Make sure you head straight to the house. That damn dog is running wild! (beat) (to Maggie Pie) What are you doing?
MAGGIE PIE
Not important. Stop bullying your little brother, doesn't he have enough troubles.

WILLIS
He does but if I don't shape him up my father will and that's worse.

MAGGIE PIE
Why ya'll so damn physical? We hear shouting coming from your trailer some nights.

WILLIS
Just the way it is. (beat) Best be going.

MAGGIE PIE
I didn't mean to yell at ya, Willis. Just don't like it when...oh...forget it.

WILLIS
You call that yelling?

Willis chuckles.
That was a soft serenade to what I know. How come you haven't been in school?

MAGGIE PIE
Haven't been well.

WILLIS
What's wrong with ya?

MAGGIE PIE
Nothing anybody needs to worry on.

WILLIS
Okay, I'll leave you to it.

MAGGIE PIE
Right.

Willis stares at Maggie Pie. He kisses her abruptly.

WILLIS
Sorry. I gotta get back. I didn't---

MAGGIE PIE
Go.
They exchange awkward looks before Willis jogs off
...blue rock.