

*It was a lovely day. The sun was shining bright, there were barely any clouds. The perfect day to go outside, get some fresh air. Most people would probably love to just go out, and relax. And look, there's a red plane flying in the sky. Somebody going on vacation? Doesn't look like it. No, this is a private plane, and it belongs to a greedy treasure hunter named Wario.*

*"Wahaha!" - the pilot laughed. "This biplane is even better than my previous one. Worth every coin I spent on it. I'll be able to get even more rich now!"*

*Wario was surprisingly good at flying. Most of those who knew him would think this was his first time flying, because, let's be honest, this guy probably could get himself a plane easily, and fly without even having a licence. And most didn't know of the pink plane he used to have. But, after seeing a newspaper advertisement for Vehicle Market, Wario knew it was time for an upgrade. Wario sold his old plane, which was an easy profit. Getting a good deal on a new plane wasn't easy though.*

*"Come on! 100 coins, that's my final offer, Arik." - Wario said to the old man standing by the plane.*

*"Ok, one, I told you, my name is Akira and two, the price is 10 000 coins. That is cheap, you know, for this kind of thing."*

*“You drive a hard bargain, old man. Ok, 200 coins!”*

*“Sir, the price is 10 000 coins. Are you going to buy it or what?”*

*“Nobody would pay you 10 000 coins for this. You’ll just be stuck here all day, waiting for a potential buyer. Tell you what, Arik, how about I give you 500 coins, and we can both be on our waves? Wario has got treasures to find!”*

*“It’s Akira! And Mr Wario, the price is 10 000 coins. Fine, I’ll throw in a little discount. 9000 coins, are you going to buy it?”*

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*“Hehe. I can’t believe how easy it was to drop the price to 1000 coins.” - Wario said, as he flew over a large forest. “Now to make my way over to that valley. If what the crazy old guy said is true, those treasures...”*

*But suddenly, he was interrupted by a loud beeping coming from the planes control board. The plane started shaking, as a voice started yelling “SYSTEM FAILURE! SYSTEM FAILURE!”.*

*Wario tried his best to take control, but it was no use. With a big explosion, the plane fell straight down, crashing into the forest.*

*But if you think this little accident could kill the treasure hunter, think again. Wario fell onto the ground, but stood up perfectly*

*fine. “Mwahaha! You think you can beat Wario! I am invincible! You can’t stop Wario!”. However, as Wario looked around, he realised he was stuck in the forest. The fallen pieces of the plane could not be salvaged.*

*“What rotten luck! All that gold, spent on nothing. I should have known to never trust a guy who wants so much money for just a little plane. Can’t believe it. Where is Wario to find treasures now? This is just a boring forest!”*

*But as Wario looked to the side, he found a strange looking cave. “Oh, what’s this? A cave must mean there are treasures inside. Could my luck be turning back on?”*

*Wario had a strange feeling as he entered the cave. He couldn’t quite explain it, but he felt like this cave did not want to be found by anyone but Wario. He looked around, and saw just a music box, standing on a pedestal. It was quite a beautiful music box, a dome with an island-looking structure inside.*

*“Oh, this will be a great thing to add to my collection!” - he said, as he picked it up, and tried turning the key. But no sound would play. - “Is this thing broken? Come on, you stupid music box, play me some music!”*

*Just then, the music box flew out of Wario's hands, and started floating in the air, glowing an ominous light. Wario stared at it with amazement and confusion, before a ball of light consumed Wario, shrunk him down, and dragged him inside the music box, which then fell back onto the pedestal. If one were to enter the cave now, there wouldn't be any trace of what happened a minute ago.*

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*Wario woke up, and adjusted his eyes. He was in some sort of dark room, with ominous music playing. 'What kind of music is this? It's only playing 4 notes at a time' - Wario thought, as he tried to adjust his eyes to the dark. That's when he spotted a mysterious looking figure, a face made of stone.*

*"Are you aware, Wario?" - he heard a voice, which seemed to come straight from that mysterious figure. "This world is in the music box you were peering into..."*

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# THE WORLD INSIDE THE MUSIC BOX



## ***Episode 1***

### ***Pilot***

## TWO MONTHS LATER

The whole island shook. It wasn't like one of the dreadful earthquakes of the past, no. This was a relatively strong, but at the same time calm quake. The big spider crawled out of his tree, to see colorful stars storming from the sky. As a few of them touched the spider, he instantly felt different. He looked into a small puddle on the ground. The reflection looked exactly how he used to look like before the curse: white hair, short mustache. Even the same purple clothing, which somehow did not stink at all.

‘I was wrong...’ - he thought to himself. - ‘I was wrong all along. Wario did it. Wario helped us. We’re all gonna go back to the way things were.’

The old man, named George Melville, walked out of the woods, to a clearing between the woods and the village. It seemed that all the citizens were already gathering there, and everyone were going through the same transformation, being turned back into their human forms. Danny Amber was already back to normal, walking around and offering everyone apples, saying you need some good food after these transformations. Seamus and Miles were already arguing - of course! Everyone who was still a monster was patiently waiting for the stars to come to them, to join the celebration.

“You see, what did I tell you, Melville?” - came a voice behind him. George turned around, to see the old professor, Dr. Arewo Stein walk up to him. - “Wario did in fact save us all. You owe me 1000 coins!”

“Good to see you too” - replied George. - “You didn’t lose your human form, you master of luck. How about you let us recover, and take care of Wario?”

“Right. You ready with the speech?” - asked Stein.

“Yep. He should be here any minute now. You got the treasure bag?”

“Right here” - said the professor, holding out the bag. - “With the sword, and the gemstone sticking out, I can guarantee Wario will be very attracted by the bag, and not even notice these aren’t the treasures he collected.

“Good, good. Okay, there some Wario. I need to go talk to him now” - George said, as he walked over to the treasure hunter.

“Thank you very much!...”

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*Art by PaintingTree*