

THE COMPANY

"If You Go Into The Woods Today"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - MORNING

It's barely past dawn. By all appearances, the place isn't even open yet.

A car pulls up out front. The driver's side window rolls down and CAROLINE MORGAN peers out.

CAROLINE

Are you sure it's today?

The back door swings open, revealing a peppy VI MORGAN (perhaps too peppy for such an early start). She hops out.

VI

Maybe they already left.

SHANE EVANS slides out of the car behind Vi. He moves around to the boot, opens it, and removes two large backpacks.

SHANE

The buses always park around the back.

He hands one of the backpacks to Vi.

CAROLINE

Well, I can drive you around if you --

VI

No!

(beat)

We have to get used to the...

She heaves her backpack on with some effort.

VI (CONT'D)

... Heavy lifting.

CAROLINE

I promise I won't get out of the car, Vi.

VI

(reassuring)

Mum, I don't have a problem with you driving us to school in your pajamas.

CAROLINE

As long as nobody sees me?

Vi sighs. She motions to Caroline, the top part of her blue fuzzy dressing gown visible over the window.

VI
You can still tell.

Caroline rolls her eyes. Teenagers.

CAROLINE
Alright, then. Have a good time.

VI
We will.

CAROLINE
Bye! Love you!

She pulls away, leaving Vi and Shane alone. Shane waves to the retreating car.

SHANE
Love you, too!

Vi whacks him in the chest.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Ow! What was that for?

VI
Just because you've got multiple girls drooling over you, doesn't mean my mother is interested.

Vi walks away, towards the back of the school.

As Shane picks up his backpack, he looks confused and a little intrigued.

SHANE
What do you mean "multiple"?

He sets off after her.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - CAR PARK - MORNING

Two travel coaches idle in the middle of the empty lot. A few TEACHERS, MR. PARKER among them, try to wrangle the swarm of STUDENTS.

As Vi and Shane approach the group, Vi can't help but skip a little with excitement. As she does, she winces.

VI
Okay, no fast movements while wearing bag. Check.

SHANE

How much did you pack, anyway?
This is a wilderness retreat, not
the apocalypse.

VI

I want to be prepared.

SHANE

For an assignment, you mean?

VI

Hell no. I'm prepared for normal.
I have my hiking outfit and my
sitting around the campfire
outfit, my impromptu food fight
outfit, my --

SHANE

When did you turn into your
sister?

Vi doesn't hear him, having spotted ERIN FOWLER ahead of
them in the crowd. Shane rolls his eyes.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Oh. I see. Does there happen to
be a "tricking the boy of your
dreams into telling you he loves
you" outfit in there?

VI

That's called being naked.

Shane's eyes go wide. He clears his throat, suddenly
uncomfortable. Vi grins.

VI (CONT'D)

You're so easy.

She quickens her pace and joins the rest of the students.
Sidling up the Erin, they smile at each other a little
shyly - the awkwardness of their talk still fresh.

Shane hangs back, not particularly wanting to join them. He
spots GWEN HART at the front of the group, talking to some
friends.

He steels himself, takes a few deep breaths and starts
towards her.

MR. PARKER

Okay, everybody listen up!

Shane's forced to stop. Reluctantly, he steps up beside Vi
and Erin who have turned their attention to Mr. Parker.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
Seating arrangements have already
been made.

Collective GROANS from the students.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
Oh, calm down. It's not that bad.

He checks over a clipboard.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
If you're in homeroom one through
twenty - bus one. Homeroom twenty-
one through forty - bus two.

Students start to drift to their respective buses. Erin
turns to Vi. He shrugs, disappointed.

ERIN
Guess I'll see you at the other
end.

Vi smiles sadly.

VI
Yeah. Bye.

Erin moves off. Vi turns to Shane, annoyed.

VI (CONT'D)
This sucks!

Shane watches as Gwen heads over to the first bus. He takes
Vi's arm and pulls her way, over to bus two.

SHANE
Yeah, tell me about it.

They dump their bags by the luggage compartment and climb
on board.

INT. BUS - MORNING - NOT MOVING

Vi and Shane settle into two seats. Shane by the window, Vi
by the aisle.

Mr. Parker follows the last stragglers on board, ticking
off names on the clipboard.

VI
It'll be okay, though. I mean,
we'll still get to spend plenty
of time together. There's a whole
week. A whole week of just me and
Erin... re-connecting.

She glances at Shane who stares out of the window, trying to get a look at the other bus.

With a HISS, the bus doors close. The ENGINE RUMBLES.

MR. PARKER

Here we go!

People CHEER as the bus starts moving...

... And promptly jerks to a stop!

Mr. Parker stands and heads down to the front. Students crane their necks, trying to see what's going on. A beat.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

Violet Morgan?

Vi raises her eyebrows. She looks to Shane. He shrugs.

Slowly, Vi stands and heads down the aisle. Dozens of eyes follow her every step. She grows nervous.

Reaching the front, she looks to Mr. Parker. He nods to the door. Vi comes down the steps.

Outside, ANDREW FRIAR smiles sheepishly up at her from the pavement. He holds out a piece of paper.

ANDREW

Have a good trip.

Vi begrudgingly takes her assignment, her eyes narrowed into a glare. The doors HISS closed.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BUS - DAY - MOVING

"E35". That's all that's printed on the small slip of paper Vi holds in her hands.

She and Shane stare down at it, both trying to come to some sort of reasonable explanation.

VI

Part of me wants to make a comment about how stupidly vague this is.

SHANE

And the other part is telling you to shut up because you should be used to it by now?

VI

Exactly.

Shane looks up and out of the window. The town of Garretton speeds by them, just a blur.

SHANE

Maybe it's a highway or something.

VI

Or a bingo number.

SHANE

Yeeeeahhhh...

VI

Hey, you don't know how weird this job can get.

(beat)

Or, I guess you do now.

(then)

Have I told you how glad I am that they didn't suck out your memory?

SHANE

Not recently.

Vi scrunches up the paper and shoves it into the seat pocket in front of her.

VI

Stuff it. Like I'm going to be able to do anything until I get back anyway.

She settles back in her seat. Looking ahead, she sees Mr. Parker sitting in a seat up the front. He has a map spread out over his lap.

With a heavy, mournful sigh, she grabs the assignment paper from the seat pocket and stands.

SHANE

What're you doing?

Vi ignores him. She walks down the aisle, catching the attention of BIANCA PARRY. Bianca sits in the seat behind her and Shane, listening to her ipod.

Vi reaches Mr. Parker.

MR. PARKER

Vi, you're not allowed to be up while the bus is moving.

VI

I know, I know. I'm sorry but...

She points to the map.

VI (CONT'D)

Can I borrow that?

MR. PARKER

What? Why?

Vi thinks for a moment.

VI

Where in Garreton is Carmen San Diego?

Vi gives him a sweet, hopeful smile.

INT. BUS - MOMENTS LATER - MOVING

Vi collapses back into her seat, clutching Mr. Parker's map. She spreads it open.

SHANE

Vi, seriously...

She checks the assignment sheet again. E35.

Vi looks to the side of the map and finds the letter "E". Trailing her finger along the top, she locates the number "35".

VI

Geography, my dear Watson.

She drags her fingers over the page, lining up the number and the letter. She lands on a small square set amongst the vast expanse of green forest.

Tiny words beside it read: "Ranger Station".

SHANE

You have to go there?

VI

Looks like.

SHANE

Vi, we're staying...

He unfolds the map further and points to a spot a huge distance from the ranger station.

SHANE (CONT'D)

... There!

VI

I can make it.

SHANE

Without anyone noticing that you've mysteriously disappeared?

Vi takes a wary pause.

VI

Tell them a dingo ate me.

Shane gives her a "you can't be serious" look.

VI (CONT'D)

I'll figure something out.

She sighs and slumps down in her seat.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - VISITOR CENTRE - DAY

A wooden sign reads, "Welcome to Garreton National Park Visitor Centre".

Moving UP and OVER this, we see the two buses parked in front of a large wooden building.

The Students already have their bags. They stand in a group, listening to Mr. Parker.

MR. PARKER

... And this building behind me is the dining hall.

He points to a dirt track running up beside it.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

Up this path are the cabins. Boys
cabins on the left, girls on the
right. The shower block is
between them.

He flips open his clipboard.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

Here are your room assignments.

The group lets out a loud, disappointed GROAN.

INT. VISITOR CENTRE - CABIN - DAY

Vi enters, lugging her heavy backpack. She's the first one
to arrive.

The room is small, with two sets of bunk beds on either
side and a dresser between them.

She chooses one of the bottom bunks and heaves her bag onto
it.

She turns to look out of the window. It shows a
breathtaking view of the valley - gorgeous green trees, the
sparkle of a river in the distance.

There's a soft KNOCK on the door. Vi turns.

Erin smiles shyly from the doorway.

ERIN

Anyone else in?

Vi shakes her head.

VI

I'm bunking with the "artistic"
types. They've basically stopped
to take moody black and white
photos of everything they see on
the way up here.

Erin starts to walk towards her.

ERIN

Maybe get a few poems in?

VI

Yeah.

Standing close together now, they share a smile. They lean
in for a kiss --

MR. PARKER (O.S.)

Morgan!

They leap apart. Mr. Parker stands in the doorway.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
No boys allowed. You're on lunch
duty.

ERIN
Mr. Parker, Vi didn't ask me in.
I'll do lunch duty.

Mr. Parker taps his clipboard.

MR. PARKER
It's not a punishment, Erin.
She's on the list.

He jerks his thumb over his shoulder.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
Now, get out!

INT. VISITOR CENTER - DINING HALL - DAY

Vi, wearing a hair net, apron and gloves, stands behind a counter. As each student passes her, she places a bread roll onto their plate.

Shane appears.

SHANE
(excited)
Hey, Vi!

She hands him a roll.

VI
(bored)
Hey.

Shane doesn't move. Students are forced to step around him.

SHANE
I have a plan.

Vi's eyes go wide. She leans towards him, her voice low.

VI
Say it louder, why don't you?

SHANE
Sorry.

She steps away from the counter, forgetting her lunch duties. Shane darts around the counter and hovers by her side.

SHANE (CONT'D)
I've got this.

He pulls a sheet of paper from his pocket.

SHANE (CONT'D)
I got it from Mr. Parker's
clipboard when he wasn't looking.
It's the group lists for
tomorrow.

VI
So?

Vi takes Shane's roll. She takes a bite.

SHANE
Group one leaves really early for
canoeing. You're in group two.
They sleep in for a bit, then
head off to archery.

VI
(mouth full)
Still not seeing your brilliant
plan here, Shane.

SHANE
The groups are split all day. We
erase your name from the group
two list...

Vi smiles.

VI
So they think I'm off canoeing...

SHANE
... And the other group thinks
you're playing bows and arrows.
(then)
We just might make it back before
they notice.

Vi stops, confused.

VI
What do you mean "we"?

SHANE
I'm coming with you, obviously.

VI
But --

SHANE

What would you do if you fell off a cliff? Or you got bit by something poisonous? Or --

VI

Yeah, I get it. No more death scenarios, thanks.

She takes a deep breath.

VI (CONT'D)

So... Sunrise?

Shane nods.

SHANE

Sunrise.

He steps back around the counter, grabs a second roll and walks away.

We FOLLOW him briefly, before stopping on Bianca who waits patiently in the lunch line. She watches him as he passes.

EXT. VISITOR CENTRE - MORNING

The golden sun breaks over the mountain crest, piercing the dusty grey of morning.

CRANING DOWN, Vi stands out the front of the dining hall. She tugs her jacket tighter around her, trying to fight off the morning chill.

We're TIGHT ON Vi now. She stares out into the forest, anxious to get moving.

A hand lightly touches her shoulder. Vi whirls around.

VI

(quiet)

About time! Thought you'd never --

Erin, dressed for a day of roughing it outdoors, looks surprised - but not more so than Vi, herself.

VI (CONT'D)

Erin!

ERIN

Was just coming to see you.

VI

Really? Why?

He looks down at his feet and kicks the dirt a little, embarrassed.

ERIN

Thought we could watch the sun
come up together.

Vi's face lights up.

BIANCA (O.S.)

Well, I wasn't quite expecting
this but okay...

They turn to see Bianca emerging from the path beside the dining hall. She stops and props a foot up on a log - tying her shoelaces.

ERIN

(annoyed)

Bianca, what are you doing here?

BIANCA

I could ask you two the same
question.

She straightens up and places a hand on her hip.

The door to the dining hall opens. Shane emerges, tucking some last minute supplies into a small backpack.

He looks up and freezes. He opens his mouth, about to speak, when Gwen charges around the corner of the building!

She whacks him on the back of the head and Shane - so startled by this - stumbles forward, falling down the porch steps and landing on the dusty ground.

Gwen marches after him. She clutches a piece of paper in her hand.

GWEN

What the hell were you thinking,
Evans?! Are you insane or are you
just stupid?!

Gwen looks up and notices the others for the first time.

GWEN (CONT'D)

All of you? You're all going?

Vi looks down at Shane, eyebrows raised in annoyance. Shane grins sheepishly.

SHANE

I had to tell someone. What if we
both died?

Vi shakes her head in disbelief. Shane climbs to his feet. Bianca reaches over and takes the note from Gwen.

GWEN

He snuck into my room and left it on my pillow this morning.

BIANCA

(reads)

"Vi and I are going on a hike. If we're not back in twenty-four hours, please send a rescue party or at least tell Mr. Parker. Thanks heaps - Shane".

She looks between Shane and Vi in disbelief.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

A hike? Are you guys serious?

(beat)

I can't believe I woke up early for this.

She thinks for a moment. Then, she turns on her heel and starts for the path to the cabins.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Well, at least I can still get you in trouble.

VI

Wait!

Bianca pauses and turns back. Vi's mind is obviously racing, trying to think of what to say next.

VI (CONT'D)

Don't you... want a... share of the prize money?

BIANCA

Prize money? What are you talking about?

Vi grows more confident as she continues.

VI

There's this... rare species of bird. It lives here. In the national park. Specifically, in this little spot right by the ranger station.

GWEN

Pfft! I've never heard of a --

VI

It's rare! Like... so rare that a picture of one is worth, I don't know, five thousand dollars?

Shane nods.

SHANE

At least.

VI

And there's five of us.

(beat; to Bianca)

You do the very easy math.

Bianca narrows her eyes...

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - MORNING

Bianca treks up a slope. Gwen and Erin follow behind.

Finally, Vi and Shane trail last. She looks to him, her face grave.

VI

We are so screwed.

Shane's expression tells us that he agrees. They exit frame.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - LATER

The sun's higher in the sky now. They've been on the move for a little while.

Gwen studies the map while she walks. She stumbles on a rock --

-- And is caught by Shane, who grabs her arm.

GWEN

Thanks.

Shane gives her a smile.

ERIN (O.S.)

Hey, guys!

Vi, Bianca, Gwen and Shane look up ahead.

Erin stands at the top of a rise. He beckons them over, then promptly steps back and disappears.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - ROAD - DAY

The gang emerge from the treeline and stop by a road.

Erin grins and motions to a car, idling nearby. The shape of the male DRIVER can be seen through the window.

VI
What's this?

Erin shrugs.

ERIN
Less time spent walking. Come on!

He starts for the car. Vi looks back at the others. They look tired already - sweat shining on their faces.

Vi turns back and reluctantly follows Erin to the car.

INT. CAR - DAY - NOT MOVING

The gang settles in - Erin in the front passenger seat, Shane and Vi in the back window seats, Bianca in the middle and Gwen half sitting on Shane's lap.

Vi closes her eyes and takes a deep, calming breath. This is definitely not going to plan.

DRIVER
(American accent)
So, where are you kids headed?

Vi opens her eyes, looking to the driver. She's about to answer his question but something stops her. She recognises him.

KIERAN JAMES adjusts his baseball cap.

He looks nice. He looks harmless. Vi, her eyes narrowed in suspicion, knows better.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAR - DAY - MOVING

The radio is now on, BLARING some oldies station.

Vi can't seem to take her eyes off Kieran. She watches as his hand drifts off the wheel and picks up a slip of paper in the ash tray.

Vi reaches across the backseat to where Gwen sits with the map, using a pencil to mark in a route through the forest.

She tugs at both the map and the pencil and Gwen releases them in surprise.

Using the map to hide her face from Kieran, Vi scribbles something in the corner. A message.

"BREAKER. Need to see his assignment."

Vi hands the map over to Shane. He takes it, reads it, and quickly glances up at Kieran. Vi follows his gaze...

... To find Kieran, using the rear view mirror, is looking right at her!

The corners of Kieran's eyes twitch. He smiles - but only for a brief second. Then, he frowns in concern.

KIERAN

Oh, no.

ERIN

Something wrong?

KIERAN

You guys don't hear that?

He switches off the radio and slowly pulls the car over to the side of the road.

BIANCA

Hear what?

KIERAN

The engine. I can't believe you guys didn't hear that.

He removes the keys and the car goes silent. He pops the hood and starts to climb out.

ERIN

Need some help?

KIERAN

It'll just take a second.

Kieran's about to close the door. At the last second, he ducks back in and grabs the paper from the ashtray. Vi watches him slip it into his pocket.

He closes the door. Vi immediately unbuckles her seat belt.

VI

(to Shane)

He put it in his pocket.

SHANE

Check.

Bianca glances between them and shakes her head.

BIANCA

You two are weird.

VI

Thanks, Bianca.

Vi opens her door.

ERIN

Vi, what're you --

VI

Car sick. Just need some air.

(beat)

Stay there.

She exits.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - ROAD - DAY

Vi closes the door behind her. She turns back, gives Erin a reassuring smile, and saunters up a bit further.

She reaches the front of the car. Kieran is hunched under the hood. He's not even looking at the engine, he's looking straight at her.

KIERAN

Fixer.

Vi chuckles and points to the engine.

VI

Well, I can't fix that for ya.

Kieran straightens up.

KIERAN

I know who you are. You worked on that assignment with Roxy awhile back.

VI

(pointed)

So did you.

(beat)

Why are you here?

KIERAN

Why am I here? Why would I not be here? Fresh air, beautiful landscape. You know, this country you've got here...

He makes the "OK" sign with his thumb and fingers.

VI

Look, I've got a job to do. I don't want any trouble.

KIERAN

(laughs)

Who said anything about trouble? By the looks of it, I'm the one helping you out.

He motions to the car.

VI

Actually, I'm not sure I like your kind of help.

Kieran smiles but it doesn't reach his eyes. He calmly closes the hood and wipes his hands on his jeans.

Then, in an instant, his hand is around Vi's throat. He SLAMS her down onto the hood of the car!

There are SHOUTS. The others scramble to help.

Kieran still has time to lean in close...

KIERAN

(hisses)

Actually, I'm not sure you know who you're messing with, Violet Morgan.

Shane and Erin grab Kieran and pull him off. They wrestle as Vi slips off the hood and onto the ground. She gasps for air.

Gwen hauls her to her feet. Bianca stands a little way away, edging back towards the trees.

BIANCA
Come on! Let's go!

Shane and Erin untangle themselves from Kieran and the group takes off for the forest...

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - DAY

They run. Hearts pounding. Adrenaline pumping. They run as if Kieran is right behind them.

Finally, they can no longer see the road. They slow and stop, panting heavily.

GWEN
Is he... is he even chasing us?

They look around. They're alone. The only sound is of their breathing and the call of distant BIRDS.

Erin moves back over to Vi. He gently touches her arm, concerned.

ERIN
Vi, are you okay? What happened?

Vi takes a moment. She shrugs.

VI
I dunno. He just went --

BIANCA
-- Psycho!

Everyone turns to her. She casts an angry glare upon Erin.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
You actually flagged down a car driven by a real life Norman Bates. Good work, Erin. Really, top marks.

ERIN
I'm sorry, guys. I didn't...
(beat)
Maybe we should just head back to camp.

Vi and Shane share a crushed look. They won't be able to persuade the others to stay on now.

Bianca turns her back on the group and starts walking again - UP hill! She calls over her shoulder.

BIANCA
If we get this stupid picture, my name comes first in the credits!

With a slight shake of her head, Gwen starts after her. Erin throws a look back at Vi and follows as well.

Vi and Shane start walking. Once again, they are a bit behind the others.

SHANE

Hey...

He holds something out to Vi. It's Kieran's paper!

VI

Shane! How did you get this?

SHANE

When Erin and I grabbed him.

(beat)

Pretty sure it looked like I was trying to cop a feel but, hey, all in the name of the Company, right?

Vi grins. She steps slightly sideways, bumping her shoulder into his in a friendly gesture.

SHANE (CONT'D)

So, come on, let's see it. The anticipation is killing me!

Vi unfolds the paper. She sees the words. She stops walking. Concerned, Shane stops as well.

We ANGLE OVER her shoulder, getting a clear shot of the words on the page.

VIOLET MORGAN

From this, we TILT UP - until all we see is the canopy above them.

SHANE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Don't worry, Vi. He won't find us.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - ROAD - SAME

Kieran picks his baseball cap up off the ground. He brushes it off, an angry glare in his eyes.

He moves around to the car to close one of the back doors - left open in our group's haste to escape.

SHANE (V.O.)

I mean, he doesn't even know where we're going...

Kieran spots something in the backseat. He reaches in and pulls it out.

In one hand, he holds Shane's backpack. In the other, the map.

With Gwen's handy pencil marked trail leading all the way up to the ranger station.

Kieran smiles.

INT. THE COMPANY - CONTROL CENTRE - DAY

A computer screen, flashing red. An ALERT TONE sounds from this same computer. Something's not right.

The EMPLOYEE whips up his phone, fingers moving to dial. JENNA COOKE steps up behind him.

JENNA
What's going on?

The Employee hangs up.

EMPLOYEE
I was just about to call you, Ms.
Cooke.

He types in some commands and the ALERT STOPS. The screen also stops flashing.

EMPLOYEE (CONT'D)
It's one of the assignments...

Jenna flips open her clipboard, her pen poised to make notes.

JENNA
Whose?

EMPLOYEE
Violet Morgan.

Jenna freezes.

INT. THE COMPANY - CONTROL CENTRE - LATER

Andrew enters. He takes a sweeping glance around the main bullpen, then jogs up the flight of stairs onto the balcony.

He pauses at Jenna's glass doored office. Looks inside.

Jenna stands at her filing cabinet, quickly flipping through files.

Frustrated, she SLAMS the thing closed and collapses into her chair.

Andrew frowns in concern. He pushes the door open and enters.

INT. THE COMPANY - JENNA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jenna stares at her computer screen.

ANDREW
Knock, knock!

JENNA
(not looking up)
You didn't.

ANDREW
Well, yeah, because then me saying "knock, knock" would be sort of redundant.

He sits down in the chair opposite hers.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
What's up?

Jenna sighs. She looks up at him.

JENNA
Something's weird.

ANDREW
Weird?

JENNA
Okay, come and look at this.

Andrew stands and comes around the desk. He leans down, looking at the computer screen.

It's Kieran's Company profile. The most notable features of the page are the "Authorised Personnel Only" text across the top, his picture in the corner and text which reads: "On assignment - 'Violet Morgan'".

JENNA (CONT'D)
This guy, Kieran James. He's a Breaker. His assignment is --

ANDREW
Vi.

JENNA
That's not so weird. I mean, it's happened before. Fixers are people too.
(MORE)

JENNA (CONT'D)

Sometimes find themselves on the wrong path and some sort of connection needs to be broken.

ANDREW

Right. So, the weird part?

Jenna types in a series of commands. As she does, Andrew realises how close they are.

He takes in the features of her face - a rare chance to get a close up look. Jenna is oblivious.

JENNA

Here.

An endlessly repeating string of letters and numbers trail across the screen.

JENNA (CONT'D)

This is the data trail for his assignment.

ANDREW

Data trail?

JENNA

Every assignment has a line of code that identifies it as part of a connection in the universe. They're all different.

She types in a command. The screen splits in half, horizontally. Now, there are two data trails.

JENNA (CONT'D)

This bottom one is the data trail that goes along with Vi's assignment. The one she's on right now.

ANDREW

They look sort of... the same.

JENNA

They are the same. Identical.

ANDREW

What does that mean?

Jenna scoots back from the computer. This causes Andrew to take a few hurried steps back.

JENNA

Vi's assignment and Kieran's assignment are part of the same connection.

Andrew's face is blank. He's still not getting it.

JENNA (CONT'D)
You can't fix and break one
connection at the same time.
(beat)
It's just not possible.

Off Jenna's worry...

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - DAY

Shane, Vi, Erin and Bianca stand in a rough line, staring at something off screen. They are expectant. Waiting.

A REVERSE ANGLE reveals Gwen. She stands on a rock, looking out over the valley below them. She looks up to the sun, shielding her eyes. She's deliberating. Calculating.

Finally, she bounces down from the rock.

GWEN
At this pace, we'll get there
after dark.

SHANE
Oh, good. That's just when the...
blue-crested... spotted... owl...
sparrow... comes out to feed
on... leaves and... small... bush
rats.

Vi glances to him. Raises an eyebrow. He shrugs.

The group sets off again. Gwen falls into step beside Shane.

SHANE (CONT'D)
How do you know how to do that?
You only had that map for like
twenty minutes.

GWEN
I memorised it.

SHANE
You memorised the route to the
cabin. Wow.

GWEN
Oh, no. I memorised the map.

A beat. Shane grins, impressed.

A little further ahead, Vi and Erin walk together. They both look like they want to say something. Vi breaks first.

VI

Why are you so cool with this?

ERIN

With what?

VI

Back at the visitor centre, when I revealed our big stupid plan... You didn't even argue. I was expecting more... resistance.

ERIN

I dunno. I guess I just thought it would be a good opportunity to spend some time with you.

Vi smiles. He returns it.

BIANCA

'Scuse me.

She barges in between them, heading up the hill at a quick pace. They let her pass. Then:

ERIN

But maybe not.

Vi doesn't even try to hide her disappointment.

INT. THE COMPANY - RECEPTION - DAY

Jenna walks swiftly into the room, a file clutched tightly in one hand.

GLENDAMORRISON, sitting behind the reception desk, looks up when Jenna enters.

GLENDAMORRISON

Hi, sweetie. How are you?

JENNA

Good thanks, Glenda. Is Sidney in?

She nods towards the closed door of the director's office. Glenda nods and purses her lips as if a tad disgusted by the thought of him.

GLENDAMORRISON

Yep. Sure is.

JENNA

Thanks.

She's about to continue on towards the office when she notices ALISTAIR BENSON.

Sitting on the couch by the wall, he's hunched over a sheet of paper, trying to fill it in. However, the rather flimsy magazine he's using to lean on isn't giving him much stability.

Jenna approaches him.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Hello, sir.

Benson looks up, and quickly puts the magazine aside.

BENSON

Jenna... Er, Ms. Cooke.

(embarrassed)

Not quite sure what to call you these days.

JENNA

I could say the same for you.

She looks to the sheet of paper - half filled in with Benson's dignified scrawl.

JENNA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

BENSON

Ah, one of Sidney's newest inventions. I'm to complete my own performance review as well as write a report on...

(pained)

... On what I've learnt from him in his time here.

Jenna sits down beside him, suddenly angry.

JENNA

That guy has some nerve! And he hasn't even given you your own office yet?

BENSON

It wouldn't be beneficial to me. I'm to observe him and I can't observe him if I'm off on my own somewhere. His words.

JENNA

So, you're supposed to observe him from reception? With your desk being an old copy of Woman's Day?

BENSON

I'm not sure logic is one of his strong suits.

Jenna looks down at the file she's carrying. She thinks for a moment.

JENNA

Yeah, you're probably right about that.

She stands.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Well, you can use my office whenever you need it. Even when you don't.

BENSON

Thank you. That's very kind of you, Jenna.

JENNA

You're very welcome...
(beat)
Alistair.

She gives him a meaningful smile and walks off.

Instead of turning towards Sidney's office, she disappears down the hallway again.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER - DAY

The group emerges from the treeline. A wide, shallow river flows gently in front of them. Cool, refreshing and inviting.

Without breaking stride, Erin pulls off his shirt, followed by his shoes, socks and jeans. He tosses them down by the riverside and wades in.

Erin, a big dopey grin on his face, ducks under water. Coming back up, he waves the others in.

ERIN

It's great! Come on!

VI

Um...

GWEN

Well, that's... interesting.

Shane glances from her to Erin. She seems to be paying particular attention to Erin's tanned, well muscled chest.

Shane hurriedly starts to pull off his own clothes.

A bit less coordinated than Erin, he ends up in his underwear, hopping around trying to get his pants off.

BIANCA
(under her breath)
I knew it.

Finally free, Shane dives into the water. Erin flicks back his wet hair and motions at Vi.

ERIN
Come on, Vi!

Vi is quick to look away, her face flushing pink.

VI
Er, n-no. That's okay. I'm fine.

Bianca smirks. Vi notices this.

VI (CONT'D)
What?

BIANCA
(innocent)
Nothing.

Vi glares.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER - LATER

Vi, Gwen and Bianca now lie on a big rock by the river side. Half asleep, they let the sun wash over them.

Erin and Shane sit nearby, on separate rocks, letting themselves dry off.

Shane wanders back over to his clothes. He tosses Erin his, and they start to dress.

Gwen groans and clutches her stomach. She sits up.

GWEN
I'm so hungry.

Shane looks forlorn.

SHANE
Well, I had packed a bunch of food but... I left my bag in that guy's car.

GWEN
That's okay.

SHANE
Oh, but I do have --

He digs around in his pocket and pulls out a pack of...

SHANE (CONT'D)
Gum!

He tosses it to Gwen. She happily unwraps a piece before handing it on to Bianca beside her.

GWEN
Thanks, Shane.

Bianca passes the pack straight on to Vi. Vi takes a piece and unwraps it, popping it in her mouth.

As she chews, she looks down to fold up the logo-covered wrapper. At this exact moment, the words around the logo read: "He's coming".

Startled, Vi scrambles to her feet. She spits out the gum.

SHANE
Vi, what's wrong?

VI
Uh, we should go. We need to go.

Dressed now, Erin moves over to her.

ERIN
Whoa, what's wrong?

VI
What if he... That guy from the car... What if he comes back?

ERIN
He hasn't shown up all day. You really think he's gonna find us now?

KIERAN (O.S.)
No time like the present.

And Kieran stands a few feet behind them!

Without wasting another second, he lunges for Vi. Erin steps forward, ready to protect her, when --

-- WHAM! A fist collides with Kieran's face!

Dazed, he shakes his head, and looks around for his attacker.

Bianca's in a fighting stance; her fists raised, her eyes narrowed in determination.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

What the --

She lashes out again with another punch to the jaw. Spinning into a roundhouse kick, she knocks Kieran back.

His lands with a heavy THUD. Eyes closed, he doesn't move again.

There's a long beat. Mouths gaping open, the gang looks from Kieran to Bianca and back again.

Bianca stands normally again. She dusts off her hands. Then, she kneels by Kieran's feet and begins unthreading his shoe laces.

BIANCA

Come on. Help me tie him up.

Still stunned, Erin moves forward.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER - MOMENTS LATER

Kieran is propped up against a tree, his hands bound around the trunk by his own shoelaces. He's still unconscious.

In the background, Vi, Shane, Bianca, Erin and Gwen walk off, along the river bank...

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - WATERFALL - LATER

... And have now found themselves standing beside a roaring waterfall. A tree has fallen across it - forming a natural bridge.

BIANCA

We should go back and cross where we were before.

GWEN

What if he's woken up by now?

BIANCA

He's tied up.

SHANE

With shoelaces.

(beat)

Vi, what do you want to do?

Unsure, Vi looks to Erin. He shrugs. Vi waves a hand towards the log.

VI

It looks strong enough.

BIANCA

Why don't you go first and test that theory.

Vi rolls her eyes and starts for the log. Erin takes her arm. He moves in front of her and steps onto the log first.

The log is wide and pretty sturdy - aside from a few rotten branches.

Erin crosses easily, moving one foot in front of the other, his arms spread out.

Vi follows. Again, no problems. Vi and Erin, now on the opposite side of the river, watch as Bianca steps up.

Half way across, she steps on a branch. It breaks, rotten through. Bianca lets out a small scream as she rocks to one side, dangerously close to going into the water.

She rights herself, takes a calming breath and continues. She joins Vi and Erin.

VI

Come on, Gwen!

Gwen, shaking and nervous, steps onto the log. She moves slowly, afraid. Her gaze drifts to the water, flowing rapidly beneath her. She stops moving.

SHANE

Gwen! Are you okay?

GWEN

I... I can't.

SHANE

You're halfway there!

Gwen starts to tear up. She turns her head, looking back at Shane. Her face is stricken with terror.

Shane nods, making a decision. He climbs up onto the log.

ERIN

What are you doing?! Shane!

Shane edges towards Gwen.

BIANCA

It's not strong enough!

Shane reaches Gwen. He gently takes her hand.

SHANE

We're going to do this together,
okay?

Gwen nods, numb.

CRACK! The log splits apart beneath their feet!

Without a word, without a look to the others standing on the opposite bank, Shane and Gwen tumble into the water.

Vi, helpless and terrified, watches as Shane's hand breaks the surface, reaching out for help...

... Then, he disappears over the edge of the waterfall.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - WATERFALL - DAY

Vi, too shocked and terror stricken to cry, dashes to the edge of the cliff, the waterfall beside her.

VI

Shane! **Shane!!**

There's nothing. The roar of rushing water. That's all. Erin moves towards her and gently tries to pull her back.

ERIN

Vi, come on.

Vi shrugs him off. She slowly sinks to the ground, overcome by it all. Erin looks torn.

Bianca, teary and shaken, touches Erin's arm.

BIANCA

Just let her --

SHANE (O.S.)

(faint)

Vi?!

Bianca freezes. Vi quickly scrambles to her feet. She looks back at them.

VI

Did you guys hear that?

SHANE (O.S.)

Vi?!

Vi, Erin and Bianca rush to the edge of the cliff, trying to get as close to the waterfall without going over.

VI

Shane?! Are you okay?!

A NEW ANGLE reveals Shane and Gwen. They lie on a wide, flat rock, jutting out from the waterfall.

SHANE

Got lucky!

He looks to Gwen. She clutches her ankle, pained.

SHANE (CONT'D)

But I think Gwen's hurt!

Back on the cliff top, Vi looks around helplessly.

VI

We can't get down to you!

Shane shifts a little, wiping water from his eyes. He squints into the waterfall behind him. There's a cave behind it.

SHANE

Don't worry about us! There's a cave or something! Vi, keep going!

VI

What?!

SHANE

Keep going! Get to the ranger station!

VI

(beat)

Okay!

Erin is stunned.

ERIN

Vi, this is crazy. Your best friend almost died and some guy is chasing us through the woods.

BIANCA

This isn't worth a picture of some dumb bird.

Vi throws up her hands, sick of the charade.

VI

You guys still believe the bird thing? Really? We don't even have a camera!

Then, before they can demand answers:

VI (CONT'D)

Look, our only hope of saving Shane and Gwen is getting to that ranger station. There'll be someone there who'll know what to do.

ERIN

(beat)

Okay. Let's go.

Vi walks between them, continuing on the journey.

INT. NATIONAL PARK - CAVE - DAY

Shane and Gwen stumble through the curtain of water, into the dark interior of the cave.

It's small and narrow but there's enough room to stand upright - the tops of their heads just brushing the ceiling.

Gwen limps, favouring one foot.

GWEN

It looks like a tunnel.

SHANE

So there's another way out?

GWEN

Maybe.

She hops ahead but stops suddenly, wincing in pain. Shane hurries forward.

SHANE

Here.

He awkwardly tucks an arm around her waist. She slings her arm across his shoulders. They hobble further down the tunnel.

GWEN

We could have died.

SHANE

I'm focusing more on the positive. You know. That we didn't.

GWEN

I know. I just wanted to thank you.

SHANE

I didn't do anything. Except add more weight to the log thereby causing it to crumble beneath our feet. So, yeah, in terms of almost killing us, I did do quite a bit.

Gwen laughs. Shane reacts in surprise.

GWEN

You came to help me even though it was dangerous. You're really brave.

Shane blushes, lucky for him Gwen doesn't see it in dim light.

GWEN (CONT'D)
You've always been pretty brave.

SHANE
How do you figure?

GWEN
You told me you liked me. Even when you knew Niko would beat you up.

Shane cringes.

SHANE
I was kind of hoping you'd forgotten about that.

GWEN
Well, I was confused at first. Maybe a little embarrassed.
(beat)
But now...

She stops and looks ahead. Shane can't take his eyes off her, waiting for her to continue.

SHANE
Yeah?

GWEN
Do you see that? Do you see light?

She slips out of his grasp and hobbles ahead, out of frame.

SHANE
(desperate)
But now... But now, what?

Off his unanswered question, cut to...

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - DAY

Vi, Bianca and Erin walk in a straight line - a few metres in between each of them.

Erin quickens his pace, catching up to Bianca. His eyes flick ahead to Vi, wary, before he speaks.

ERIN
Hey, Bianca.

BIANCA
 (unsure)
 Hey...

ERIN
 I was just wondering... Where'd
 that come from? You know the...
 kung-fu, karate stuff?

BIANCA
 The self-defense? I started
 taking classes last year. After
 that thing at the Happy Vampire.

Erin looks a little disappointed.

ERIN
 Oh.
 (beat)
 Why didn't you tell me?

BIANCA
 Because I knew you'd get like
 this.

ERIN
 What?

BIANCA
 All mopey. Like you're all
 wounded that your girlfriend
 doesn't trust you enough to
 protect her.

ERIN
 That's not --

BIANCA
 Hey, it's fine. Not my problem
 anymore.

She motions to Vi.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
 You've got yourself a new damsel-
 in-distress.

Erin glares at her.

ERIN
 Why'd you even come along today,
 Bianca? It's not like you need
 the money.

BIANCA
 I have my reasons.

ERIN

Really? I figure you've only got one.

Bianca stops walking, shocked.

BIANCA

You are such a jerk. You think I want you back?

(beat)

Do you need a reminder of exactly who tried to kiss who a few weeks ago?

Erin looks ashamed.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Yeah, didn't think so.

Bianca continues walking. Erin darts in front of her.

ERIN

Bianca, please don't tell her.

Bianca looks back up to Vi, now a good way ahead of them. She looks back to Erin and smiles coolly.

She steps around him and walks on. Erin, suddenly full of guilt and nerves, follows.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER SIDE - DAY

PUSH IN on an old tree - high, gnarled roots protruding from the ground. Then, Shane's hand pushes up from between them.

The loose dirt falls away as the rest of his arm appears, then his head. As he struggles to climb out, a boot - shoe laces dangling free - steps into frame.

Shane notices it. He slowly looks up.

SHANE

Uh-oh.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - DAY

We're TIGHT ON Vi. She plods along. She yanks up the sleeves of her jacket and wipes sweat from her face.

Somewhere in the distance, there's a SCREAM. Vi stops and spins around.

A bit further back, Bianca and Erin have stopped. They look around, searching for the source.

Another SCREAM.

VI

Gwen!

She takes off down the hill, back the way they came.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER SIDE - DAY

Vi, Erin and Bianca creep along quietly, ducking behind bushes and shrubs. Vi stops and peers down to the river side.

Kieran holds Gwen against him, his hand tight around her front. Shane lies on the ground nearby, wiping blood from his nose.

Kieran paces, dragging Gwen along with him. She's crying - both from fear and pain.

KIERAN

(loud)

Violet Morgan!

Vi's eyes widen. Erin turns to her.

ERIN

How does he know your name?

KIERAN

(sing-song)

Vi-o-let... Vi-o-let...

(angry)

I'm gonna snap her neck!

He gives Gwen a vicious shake.

BIANCA

Oh my God...

KIERAN

But I'm willing to make a trade.

(beat)

You for them.

He waits for a moment. Turning in a circle, he scours the forest.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

I know you're out there!

Behind the shrub, Vi starts to stand. Erin grabs her and yanks her back down.

ERIN

What the hell do you think you're doing?!

VI

I have to.

She gives him a soft smile.

VI (CONT'D)

I know you want to protect me,
Erin. But I've got to help them.

She starts to stand and, again, is yanked back down. She goes to brush Erin's hand off...

... But finds Bianca's hand clutching her jacket sleeve. She looks up, meeting Bianca's eyes.

BIANCA

I have an idea.

Vi blinks in surprise.

INT. THE COMPANY - RECORDS ROOM - DAY

There's a SOFT KNOCK on the door. It opens and Jenna enters.

The room is almost how we remember it. Musty and dimly lit with endless aisles of file boxes.

The computer desk, which used to face the wall opposite the door, has been turned around.

MYRON QUALLEY, wearing headphones, sits behind the desk. He looks up when Jenna enters and pulls off the headphones.

MYRON

Oh, hello.

JENNA

Hi, Myron. You changed the desk.

MYRON

Yeah, yeah. I've kind of developed this... thing about people sneaking up on me.

JENNA

Right. Well, it looks good.

MYRON

Can I help you with something?

JENNA

Actually, yes. Can I, um, is there anywhere I could sit down?

Myron looks around. His is the only chair. He stands up and starts to wheel his chair around the desk to her.

JENNA (CONT'D)
Oh, no. I can just stand.

MYRON
Sit. It's fine. I'll just...

He leaves the chair with her, goes to the end of one of the aisles and grabs a hefty file box. Dropping it on the floor, he sits down on it.

Jenna smiles and sits in his chair.

JENNA
Okay, well... One of the current assignments has a bit of an anomaly attached to it.
(beat)
The data trail is identical to that of another assignment.

Myron looks intrigued.

MYRON
That's rare.

JENNA
I thought so. The thing is, it's twin is an assignment for a Breaker.
(beat)
I was wondering if you could do a search of past assignments. See if anything like that has ever popped up before.

MYRON
So you can decide how to deal with it now.

JENNA
Exactly.

She waits.

JENNA (CONT'D)
So... could you?

MYRON
I've already started.

JENNA
(realising)
Oh! In your...

She touches her own head.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Right.

(beat)

So the memory implant is still working okay, even after the accident?

MYRON

You mean when Vi pushed me down the stairs? Yep. Works fine.

JENNA

She really is sorry about that, by the way.

MYRON

I know. I got the flowers.

She and Myron share a small smile as a comfortable silence settles between them.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - RIVER SIDE - AFTERNOON

Kieran, Gwen and Shane haven't moved. Shane slowly climbs to his feet. Kieran, alerted to the movement, turns to face him.

KIERAN

Do you want me to break your nose some more?

Shane slumps back onto the ground.

VI (O.S.)

Hey!

Kieran turns back around. Vi stands twenty feet away. Erin and Bianca are nowhere in sight.

Kieran releases Gwen and she stumbles away. Shane crawls over to her.

KIERAN

Knew you'd come around.

He motions for her to come closer. Vi shakes her head.

VI

They're not involved in this. Follow me.

She turns and starts to walk away. Kieran follows.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - CLIFF SIDE - LATER

Kieran emerges into a clearing by the rocky cliff. The sheer drop looks out over the valley.

He looks around, not seeing Vi anywhere. Then, something catches his eyes.

The corner of her jacket. It pokes out from behind a large rock. A smile creeps over Kieran's lips. He stalks towards it --

-- Only to find Vi's jacket draped across a shrub on the other side.

He turns around.

Vi, Erin and Bianca each hold part of a hefty tree branch. They surge towards him, knocking him in the chest, and corral him towards the edge of the cliff.

At the last minute, Kieran manages to grab hold of the branch and push backwards - barely saving himself from tumbling backwards into the valley below.

He wrangles the branch off them and tosses it off the cliff where it SMASHES to bits on the way down.

KIERAN

Are you gonna kill me, Vi? You really have that in you?

Vi takes a step back. Erin, however, steps forward and socks Kieran in the jaw.

Kieran stumbles backwards and slips over the side. As he falls, he manages to grab a series of thick, tangled roots protruding from the ground.

Shane, helping a struggling Gwen, arrives in the clearing. They join the others, who watch Kieran trying to struggle back onto solid ground.

There's a noise from overhead. A WHIRRING. It grows louder and louder. The gang looks around.

Bianca points excitedly to the sky.

BIANCA

There!

A rescue helicopter suddenly flies across the top of them, blowing up a storm of dirt.

As the others SHOUT, trying to get its attention, Vi notices something else. A small tree with dead branches shaking in the wind.

The branches crumble away and reveal an old wooden arrow - "Ranger Station". It points towards a disused dirt track.

SHANE

It doesn't see us!

The helicopter continues overheard, moving down the mountain. The SOUND FADES and the wind settles.

Kieran is still clinging on for dear life. He throws angry glares at the teens standing in front of him.

Vi turns to Shane.

VI

Shane, get down the mountain.
Back to the visitor centre.

SHANE

What about you?

Vi looks to the trail marker and Shane nods, understanding.

VI

Be nice if you could send the
helicopter, too.

SHANE

I have something for you.

Shane digs around in his pocket. He pulls out a black marker. Popping off the lid, he shakes out a little water.

He writes something on her forearm. "BE CAREFUL" in big, black letters.

SHANE (CONT'D)

If you need a Sign...

Vi smiles.

VI

Thanks.

GWEN

Whoa! Guys!

Looking over, the group sees Kieran about half over the cliff edge. Vi takes a deep breath and approaches.

VI

I'll handle this, guys.

She stands over Kieran - a confident, superior smile on her lips. Then, she kicks a clod of dirt into his face!

VI (CONT'D)

Tag! You're it!

She dashes back into the forest, darting up the ranger station trail.

With an infuriated ROAR, Kieran pulls himself up and sprints after her.

ERIN

Vi!

He's about to after them when Shane grabs his shirt, pulling him back.

SHANE

She's doing this for us!

Moving quickly, they start back the way they came.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - TRAIL - AFTERNOON

Vi sprints along the trail, running as fast as she can go. She can hear Kieran catching up, crashing along the path.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - LOOKOUT - AFTERNOON

The ranger station is a small, one storey building. It sits beside a man-made lookout point, built on top of the cliff.

The sun is setting over the valley. It could be a beautiful, relaxing spot. Any day but today.

Vi bursts from the path and cries out in relief upon seeing the ranger station.

INT. NATIONAL PARK - RANGER STATION - AFTERNOON

The door swings open, crashing into the wall. Vi strides inside.

VI

Help! There's a --

She stops, a look of utter shock and disbelief on her face.

The ranger station is empty. The desk and the shabby cot in the corner are covered in dust and cobwebs.

Behind her, the floorboards CREAK. Vi whirls around. Kieran clamps a hand around the back of her neck.

As her head collides with the door frame, we --

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. NATIONAL PARK - RANGER STATION - NIGHT

Orange and black. That's all we see. Two masses of colour, blurring together.

KIERAN

(soft; sings)

*If you go into the woods today,
you're in for a big surprise.*

The images SHARPEN. Kieran sits on a chair, an old oil lantern glows brightly from the desk beside him.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

*If you go into the woods today,
you'd better go in disguise.*

He looks over at us and smiles. He stands and begins to move across the room - graceful, dangerous.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

*For every bear that ever there
was, will gather here for
certain, because today's the day
the teddy bear's have their
picnic.*

On the last word, he stops right in front of us. His jeaned legs the only thing in frame. He crouches down, until we see his face.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Hey, there sleepy-head.

A REVERSE ANGLE reveals Vi, lying on the dusty old cot.

Her face is stained with dirt and sweat. Dried blood is caked through her hair and down her neck. The pillow beneath her is red.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Got anything to say to your pal
Kieran?

VI

I think you're singing it wrong.

Kieran's smile drops. He cruelly yanks Vi into a sitting position. She yelps in pain, her head throbbing.

Kieran straightens up and wanders back to the desk. He sifts through some papers on the top.

KIERAN

Found some things you might be interested in. Seems that this ranger station is only used in the summer. Which... Well... Lucky for me, I guess.

(beat)

What I can't figure out is why you were so damn determined to get here. I assume that your assignment was this cabin but... why?

There's a beat as Vi considers not answering him.

VI

I don't... I don't know.

Kieran shrugs.

KIERAN

Guess it doesn't matter now. I've got my own assignment to finish.

He sits back down in the chair and props his feet up on the desk.

Vi touches her head tenderly. She's woozy.

VI

Breaker's don't... We're supposed to be on the same side.

KIERAN

Oh, but we are. I'm doing this for you too, Violet. You have a connection that shouldn't be, well, connected.

VI

So... To break connections, you just --

KIERAN

-- Get rid of the connector.

(beat)

It's not exactly in the rule book but Mr. Pierson, my director, he practically encourages it.

(beat)

And, I get to put my own talents to good use.

Realisation dawns upon Vi.

VI

You did this before. Before the
Company.

Kieran's eyes light up.

Once again, he gets to his feet. He moves swiftly to the
cot and sits down beside Vi. She flinches away, scared.

KIERAN

(excited)

It might have been on the news
here, I don't know. What I do
know is that when I was brought
back to life after being so
unceremoniously gunned down in a
hail of bullets, the Breakers
back home decided that it wasn't
exactly good P.R. to have a
supposedly deceased serial killer
walking their beat. Transferred
me *Dahn Undah*.

He cocks his head quizzically.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

So, I guess, you can blame them
for your current predicament.

He reaches out and gently traces her face with his fingers.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Come on. Aren't you even gonna
cry a little bit?

Kieran moves in closer. His lips at her ear:

KIERAN (CONT'D)

(whispers)

It's no fun if you don't cry.

Vi suddenly surges to her feet, swaying from side to side.
She takes large, lumbering steps towards the door.

Kieran laughs and stands, not in much of a hurry to stop
her.

Vi swings open the door and stumbles outside. Kieran
follows, swiping the oil lantern from the desk.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - LOOKOUT - NIGHT

Vi moves slowly through the moonlit night while, behind
her, Kieran follows. He swings the oil lantern and happily
WHISTLES "Teddy Bears Picnic".

Vi slams into the metal railing which runs around the lookout point. The valley stretches out below her - a terrifying drop.

The moonlight glints off the railing. Vi looks down to it, and sees Shane's message on her arm. "BE CAREFUL".

As she watches, the words begin to melt. They shift and mutate and change into something else. Something new. Something important. A Sign. "DON'T LOOK DOWN".

VI

(reads; confused)

Don't look down.

Kieran's right behind her. He puts on a mocking frown.

KIERAN

Aw, is the brave little Fixer
afraid of heights?

Before Vi has time to react, he grabs her around the middle and hoists her up, half slinging her over the railing.

Vi SCREAMS and flails her arms, trying to push herself backwards. She knocks the oil lantern and it slips out of Kieran's hand.

The lantern goes down, a yellow spot falling and falling and --

-- SMASH! It lands on a ledge several feet below.

The rest of the oil ignites and it creates a small fire, illuminating the HUMAN SHAPE lying on the ledge beside it.

Before Vi has a real chance to process this:

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Guess this is goodbye, Violet
Morgan. It was nice working with
you.

He lifts her up, about to throw her over the railing when --

-- A SEARCH BEAM hits them both and, out of the darkness, comes the WHIRRING rescue helicopter.

Alarmed, Kieran looks from the valley, back to the helicopter. Making a decision, he pulls Vi back and drops her roughly on the ground.

He disappears from the search beam as he takes off, running back into the forest.

From the ground, Vi looks weakly up at the helicopter...

INT. HELICOPTER - NIGHT

They're in the air. Two MEDICS buzz around Vi, strapping her onto a stretcher. One fits an oxygen mask over her face.

The PILOT speaks into his headset.

PILOT
We've got her. Heading straight
to Garretton General. Over.

Vi reaches up, pulling the oxygen mask from her face.

VI
The man...

MEDIC
The man's gone. You don't have to
worry about him anymore.

VI
No... The man... Don't look
down... Don't look...

And the screen goes BLACK as she passes out.

The SOUNDS of the helicopter continue - the crackle of the radio, the whir of the blades and then...

PILOT (V.O.)
Hey, do you guys see that?

MEDIC (V.O.)
What?

PILOT (V.O.)
Down there. It's like a... I
think it's a signal fire.

The sounds FADE OUT.

EXT. NATIONAL PARK - VISITOR CENTRE - NIGHT

The place is buzzing with activity. POLICE, SEARCH-AND-RESCUE TEAMS and PARAMEDICS are all mixed in with the mass of gawking students.

We find Shane, Erin and Bianca in the crowd. They talk to a POLICE OFFICER who's taking notes.

SHANE
... Well, I don't know. I didn't
get a good look at him.

BIANCA

You didn't get a good look at the guy who punched you in the face?

SHANE

His fist! It was distracting!

The Police Officer looks to Erin.

POLICE OFFICER

What about you?

ERIN

Uh... He was kind of tall. Brown hair. Um... He had a hat on... for a little while.

Bianca rolls her eyes, interrupting him.

BIANCA

He was six foot, white, light brown hair, brown eyes, American accent and really, really cute.

Erin looks at her incredulously.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

What?

(beat)

Oh, yeah. And I think he, like, knew Vi, as well. I mean, he kept using her name and, it was just weird.

Shane quickly steps forward. He places his hand on Bianca's shoulder, proudly.

SHANE

But, you know, it was really Bianca that saved the day.

BIANCA

What? No, I --

ERIN

-- Yeah, she really did.

He gives her a small smile. Bianca, however, is suspicious.

Shane slips away. He heads over to Gwen, sitting on the steps of the dining hall. The CAMP NURSE is just finishing up bandaging her foot.

She gives Gwen a smile and moves off. Shane sits down next to her.

SHANE
How's the ankle?

Gwen leans over and kisses him quickly on the lips. Shane jolts backwards, shocked.

SHANE (CONT'D)
Whoa! What was --

GWEN
I have spent my entire life researching every possible angle before making a decision on anything. It took me four weeks to change my conditioner from ultra-nourishing to extra shine, for Gods sake.

SHANE
Gwen...

GWEN
Hang on, Evans! I'm getting there!
(beat)
What I'm trying to say is, do you want to be my boyfriend or not? Because I almost died today and I don't want to waste the rest of my life over-thinking --

Shane kisses her. It's longer this time, a bit more intense. A few seconds pass and Gwen pulls away.

GWEN (CONT'D)
A kiss is not a sufficient response, Shane. You don't say yes or no with a kiss. You have to --

He grasps both sides of Gwen's face and kisses her again. This time, neither pulls away.

The helicopter flies overhead, its search beam illuminates the screen...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

A kindly male DOCTOR waves a pen light in front of Vi's eyes.

We PULL BACK to reveal that she's sitting up in bed, wearing a hospital gown. A bandage is wrapped around her head.

The Doctor nods, satisfied, and turns to Caroline and PETER MORGAN, who stand by the bedside.

DOCTOR
Everything looks fine. She'll be up and about in no time.

VI
(hopeful)
So I can go home?

DOCTOR
I'd like to keep you overnight. Just for observation.

VI
But --

CAROLINE
Listen to the doctor, Vi.

PETER
Doctors are smart. They know stuff. They spend years studying to get where they are.
(to Doctor)
Exactly how long does that take, by the way, because I'm looking for a new profession and --

CAROLINE
Peter!

Peter thumps the Doctor on the back.

PETER
We'll talk later.

A confused expression comes over Vi's face. Caroline frowns, concerned.

CAROLINE
What's wrong, sweetie?

VI
I was just wondering...

She looks up at the Doctor.

VI (CONT'D)
What happened to that guy? The one on the cliff?

DOCTOR
Oh, yes, the hiker. He'll be alright. Thanks to you, of course.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

(beat)

If that rescue helicopter hadn't been sent up there to get you, well, I doubt anyone would have found him in time.

(beat; to Caroline and Peter)

You have a very brave daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan.

CAROLINE

Oh, I know.

(pointed; to Vi)

And we're going to have a long talk about that when she gets home.

Behind them, Vi sees Andrew appear in the hallway. She stretches out her arms and yawns dramatically.

VI

Gosh, I'm tired.

DOCTOR

Yes, she needs rest.

Caroline leans down and kisses Vi's forehead.

CAROLINE

See you later, sweetheart.

PETER

Good night, Vi-Pie.

Caroline, Peter and the Doctor exit the room as Andrew darts out of sight.

A moment passes and Andrew checks that the coast is clear. He slips inside the room, closing the door quietly behind him.

ANDREW

How are you feeling?

VI

Like I was knocked unconscious by a psychopath.

Andrew sits down in the chair beside the bed. He looks like he has something to say.

VI (CONT'D)

What?

ANDREW

You've been through a lot...

VI

Andrew!

Andrew sighs.

ANDREW

Fine! But don't blame me if your brain overheats or something.

(beat)

I found out some stuff about your assignment.

Vi raises her eyebrows.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Or, you know, Jenna and Myron found out some stuff and explained it to me in a way I could understand.

VI

So, with sock puppets?

Andrew narrows his eyes. Vi smiles.

VI (CONT'D)

Okay, okay, continue.

ANDREW

Apparently, Kieran's assignment...

(awkward)

Kieran is the guy who --

VI

Yeah, I know who he is.

ANDREW

So, um, his assignment wasn't exactly real.

VI

(beat)

What do you mean?

ANDREW

That's the theory Jenna's working on, anyway.

(then)

A few years back, there were these two assignments. After awhile, they figured out one of them was a fake. They thought it was sent by the Power controls the Company in order to, I don't know, help the other assignment along, I guess.

He takes a moment, letting this sink in.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
 Anyway, Jenna thinks... Well...
 She's pretty sure that Kieran got
 your name because the Company
 predicted how he... would try to
 complete his assignment.
 (beat; uncomfortable)
 I think it knew that his way of
 breaking connections was to --

VI
 -- Get rid of the connector.

She nods, understanding.

VI (CONT'D)
 He chased me, I ran, that stupid
 lantern had to fall so the
 helicopter could see the hiker...

She sighs.

VI (CONT'D)
 I feel so used.

Andrew chuckles. Vi starts to smile as well but winces suddenly, screwing her eyes shut.

ANDREW
 You okay?

VI
 Just a headache.

Andrew nods. He starts to stand.

ANDREW
 You should get some sleep.

Vi reaches out, grabbing his hand.

VI
 (scared)
 What if he comes back?

A beat. Andrew looks down at her. She looks so weak. So helpless...

MUSIC CUE: "I Fought The Angels" by The Delgados.

He flashes her a reassuring smile. Then, slumps casually back down into the chair.

ANDREW
 I'll kick his arse.

Vi scoffs, instantly back to normal.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
Hey, I'm tough.

This time, Vi can't help but laugh. Andrew grins.

He dips his fingers into the cup of water beside her bed and flicks the droplets over her.

Vi holds her hands out, shielding herself, and laughs.

VI
Oh, yeah. That's tough.

ANDREW
Like you could beat me up?

VI
Bianca could beat you up!

ANDREW
Hah!

Eyes wide, Vi nods.

VI
No, seriously. Bianca.

The MUSIC grows louder, drowning out their conversation.

We PULL BACK from the scene, moving THROUGH the glass window. On Vi and Andrew inside...

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE