

**THE COMPANY**

Episode 3x10  
"This Is Not A Test"

by  
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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - DAY

Classes are in session. A late STUDENT sprints inside.

MR. PARKER (PRE-LAP)

This is it, guys. End of the road.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - AUDITORIUM - DAY

The entire SENIOR CLASS is seated. They all listen intently to MR. PARKER, the English teacher.

MR. PARKER

Well, almost.

Find VI and SHANE amongst the students, eyes on Mr. Parker.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

Your trial exams are in a couple of days and then a few months from now, the real thing. Every torturous minute spent studying will finally be worth it because you'll sit at that desk, pick up that number two pencil and realise... It's not that scary.

He smiles - confident, knowing.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

And believe me, if you can get through these next few weeks, nothing is going to surprise you.

A loud BANG startles the group. They look to the heavy doors - now open. ANDREW stands there, eyes wide. A loooooong beat.

ANDREW

Border control.

MR. PARKER

Pardon?

Andrew re-adjusts his shoulders. He strides into the room, full of fake bravado. Vi sinks low in her seat, embarrassed.

VI

Oh, boy...

ANDREW

We have reason to believe that some of your students are in this country illegally. I need to see Violet Morgan and Shane Evans.

Mr. Parker folds his arms.

MR. PARKER

Illegally? And where exactly are they from?

Andrew smiles nervously. Vi slowly covers her face with her hand - unable to watch the car crash.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Andrew, Vi and Shane round the corner and keep walking.

VI

Genovia? Really? Isn't that the country from The Princess Diaries?

ANDREW

That movie is severely underrated. Anne Hathaway is the Audrey Hepburn of this generation.

SHANE

I thought that was Emma Stone?

ANDREW

Please. She's Lucille Ball.

Vi rolls her eyes. She grabs Andrew's arm and stops him.

VI

Well, Lucy, you got some 'splainin' to do.

Andrew sighs, suddenly grim.

ANDREW

Come on.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - DAY

The trio push outside. DAVID and BONNIE, waiting against the stone steps of the entrance, turn to them expectantly.

SHANE

Bonnie? What are you doing here?

He jogs down the steps to her side. He looks between David and Andrew with concern.

SHANE (CONT'D)

What is she doing here?

DAVID

It's a nice day. Thought we'd take a stroll, maybe catch a show.

SHANE

Dude, come on. You know it's not safe for her out here.

From the top of the stairs, still at Vi's side:

ANDREW

It's not safe for her in the Company either. Not anymore.

VI

Okay, Andrew. What is going on?

He looks back at her, almost afraid to tell her.

INT. THE COMPANY - BENSON'S OFFICE - DAY

BENSON reads a file, his face expressionless. He closes it and places it on the table. ABIGAIL casually picks it up.

BENSON

Would you care to tell me what it is that I just read?

ABIGAIL

It's a report. I received it while I was looking into a possible lead in the disappearance of the Power.

BENSON

Oh? And where was that?

ABIGAIL

Barcelona.

BENSON

Ah, lovely. Tea?

He moves to the side table and pours two cups from the steaming tea pot. Abigail's sharp eyes bore into his back.

ABIGAIL

You know who that report is from.

BENSON

I did see the signature, yes.

ABIGAIL

I was surprised. Why would Gabrielle Dautry, your Head of Security, be sending me a report.

As Benson returns with the tea, she flips through the file.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Employees on assignments... That wasn't a shock. I remember you mentioned you had agents working on the unfinished assignments from the back-up hard drives.

(re: another page)

But here, Dautry says those hard drives were cleared months ago. Now that did catch my attention.

(closes the file)

Not a single branch is receiving assignments. So I'm wondering... What makes Garreton so special?

BENSON

I don't know.

She sighs and stands, slipping the file under her arm.

ABIGAIL

I assure you, I will get to the bottom of this. And I can do that with or without you in that chair.

(then; smiles)

Thanks for the tea.

She exits. Benson pushes his cup back and finally lets out the terrified breath he had been keeping in.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. THE COMPANY - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Light filters in from gaps in the drawn blinds. JENNA stands in the dimness, biting her nails. The door opens. She jumps.

BENSON

It's me, it's just me.

JENNA

(rushes to him)

What's going on? What did she say?

Benson peers into the reception area. There's an unusual security presence. GUARDS patrolling, checking ID badges, keeping an eye on things. Benson shuts the door firmly.

BENSON

Just the things I didn't want to hear. She's investigating the branch. And Gabrielle turned on us.

JENNA

Dautry? But she doesn't know anything.

BENSON

That doesn't mean she's not observant.

He collapses into a chair. Jenna puts a hand on his shoulder.

JENNA

Alistair, this isn't your fault.

BENSON

Yes, it is. Even partly.  
(off her confused look)  
The Company isn't able to function without the Power and we've had it just sitting here for months. I was convinced I could solve this without involving Head Office.

JENNA

That hasn't changed.

BENSON

Jenna, I hardly think we're in a position to --

She pulls out a chair and sits, facing him.

JENNA

Do you trust them?  
 (no response; harder)  
 Alistair, do you trust them?

BENSON

No. No, I don't.  
 (then; urgent)  
 We need to find Bonnie and move her  
 to a safe house.

JENNA

I took care of it. I saw the  
 security, figured it was time.

Benson is stunned. Jenna just smiles.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Dautry's not the only observant  
 one.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The books and boxes stacked around Sam's apartment may have  
 an order to them but you couldn't tell that by looking.

The walls are papered with notes and printouts. PETER is  
 slowly clearing these off when someone KNOCKS on the door.

He hurries to the door, a big grin on his face, to greet Vi,  
 Shane, Andrew, Bonnie and David as they troop in.

PETER

Welcome, hi everyone, hello!

He leans down to Bonnie. He speaks loud and slow, like  
 conversing with a child that's hard of hearing.

PETER (CONT'D)

And you must be Bonnie! It's so  
 wonderful to meet you! Make  
 yourself at home!

BONNIE

(equally as loud)  
 Thank you! It's wonderful to meet  
 you also!

Shane takes her arm and pulls her away.

SHANE

Bonnie, you don't have to yell.

BONNIE  
 (still loud)  
 But I enjoy yelling!

They move off, David and Andrew follow. Just Vi and Peter left now. An awkward silence stretches between them. Finally:

VI  
 Thanks for doing this.

PETER  
 Anything I can do to help.

VI  
 Who's place is this?  
 (joking grin)  
 Mum didn't kick you out too, did she?

The joke falls flat.

PETER  
 It's, ah, it's Sam's. From the paper. He decided to leave town for awhile so he won't be needing it.

VI  
 Oh. Okay.

She taps her fingers on a stack of books. Peter seems to jolt to life. He busies himself with tidying. Keeps moving.

PETER  
 How have you been?

VI  
 Good. Trial exams coming up.

PETER  
 Oh, are you excited?  
 (before she can react)  
 Okay, so maybe "excited" isn't quite the right word.

Vi smiles, shoves aside a stack of newspapers and sits on the couch. Their conversation flows with ease, back to normality.

VI  
 Actually, I sort of am. Not so much about the tests. Since I've decided to go to university, it's like this whole new world has opened up.

PETER  
 (stops cleaning; stunned)  
 You... you decided to what?

VI  
 Looks like I won't just be Company-girl next year after all.

Peter drops what he's doing and goes in for a hug.

PETER  
 That's fantastic, Vi! I'm so --

He pulls back, suddenly second guessing himself on that hug.

PETER (CONT'D)  
 (calmer)  
 I'm proud of you.

VI  
 Thanks.  
 (beat)  
 There's just one problem. I haven't exactly been super studious these past few years. I took physics because I knew I could count on Cam to tutor me. But now... Well, it's not like I can ask for his help.

Peter frowns and sits beside her.

PETER  
 You can always ask your family for help. That's what we're here for.

They share small, hesitant smiles.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Bonnie jumps happily on the unmade double bed while Shane sits on the edge, getting knocked around.

David and Andrew hang in the doorway. With his eyes on Bonnie, David looks concerned. He speaks quietly.

DAVID  
 Are we doing the right thing?

ANDREW  
 What do you mean?

DAVID

We're not any closer to figuring out how to get things back to normal. Even Bonnie doesn't know and she's supposed to know everything.

ANDREW

So you're saying we should just let Head Office have her?

DAVID

I'm not saying that but maybe... Okay, maybe I am saying that.

Andrew looks like he doesn't quite believe what he's hearing.

DAVID (CONT'D)

How would that be so awful? We're all on the same team.

ANDREW

Mate, here's the thing you need to know about Head Office. They're not on anybody's team but their own.

He heads back into the living room. David stares at Bonnie for a moment longer.

INT. THE COMPANY - WOMEN'S BATHROOM - DAY

Jenna is alone at a basin, her purse propped on the edge. She takes the black velvet ring box from her purse and cracks it open. The diamond engagement ring sparkles back at her.

She glances around, makes sure she's alone, and pries the ring from the box. She's about to slip it onto her finger --

-- When someone enters. Jenna jumps and drops the ring. It disappears into the drain, CLINKING in the darkness.

JENNA

No!

She knocks her purse onto the floor as she gropes inside the basin.

Abigail steps up beside her, her purse in the crook of her elbow and a make-up compact in her hand.

ABIGAIL

Need some help?

JENNA

I've got it.

But the ring is long gone. Abigail puts down her bag and compact and removes her necklace. It's a pretty curved pendant on a thin gold chain.

ABIGAIL

When I was at uni, I lived in a dorm with twenty-four other girls. This is not a new occurrence for me.

She drops her necklace down the drain, hanging on to one end like a fishing line. She fishes around for a few moments.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

It's Jenna, right? You used to be the Assignment Coordinator?

JENNA

(nods; then)

I just... I needed a change.

ABIGAIL

Oh, you don't need to explain. I know what it's like. I used to be an Assignment Coordinator too.

JENNA

Really?

Abigail nods, smiling. Something catches in the drain.

ABIGAIL

I think I've --  
(the necklace slackens)  
Ah. Spoke too soon.

She continues to gently work the problem.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Let me know if I'm off base but, for someone who's no longer in a senior position, you still seem rather... involved around here.

JENNA

I guess you could say that.

ABIGAIL

Benson's right hand woman, so to speak.

She sneaks a glance at Jenna, who says nothing.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Of course, I'm not implying that there's anything nefarious going on. I'm sure you're just good friends. But if you did happen to notice anything suspicious...

The necklace gives a tug. Abigail pulls it up. The ring is hooked onto the end of the pendant.

Jenna smiles tightly, still suspicious of her.

JENNA

My heroine.

ABIGAIL

(handing over the ring)  
Definitely don't want to lose that.

She gathers her things and heads for the door. She looks back and smiles warmly.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Congratulations, by the way. You'll make a beautiful bride.

She exits, the door swinging closed behind her.

Jenna turns to the mirror and looks at the reflection - especially that of the glittering ring held in her fingers.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY

Vi presses her notebook against a row of lockers. She quickly writes: "Cam. Need help with physics. Be my tutor? - Vi".

She tears it off and slips it into the locker. She's about to leave when something MOVES inside. Something... alive.

Vi curiously peers through the slats in the locker. There's only darkness and then -- A pair of eyes, blinking at her.

VI

(leaps back)  
Gah!

CAM

(muffled)  
Vi?

VI

Cam?!

And sure enough, the eyes do belong to CAM. Vi moves closer.

VI (CONT'D)

Cam, what the hell are you doing in there?

CAM

Sensory deprivation. I'm getting in touch with the inner me.

VI

Really?

CAM

No! Can you let me out?

Vi grabs the combination padlock.

VI

What's your combination?

CAM

The year Newton discovered gravity.

There's a beat. Vi winces. She should know this...

CAM (CONT'D)

(unimpressed)

1666, Vi.

VI

Okay, okay. Jeez.

She spins the lock. There's a CLICK and the padlock pops open. Cam tumbles out.

CAM

Thanks.

VI

Who did this? And don't say you did it to yourself, I'm not that dumb.

Cam doesn't want to say. He looks afraid.

VI (CONT'D)

You can tell me. I'm your sister.

Something changes inside him. Cam's face darkens. He sneers at her as he starts down the hall.

CAM

I thought the idea of family was a foreign subject to you these days.

VI

(scampering after him)  
Okay, first of all? Ouch. And secondly, mum threw me out, remember? It wasn't my choice.

CAM

You could have at least called.

VI

You're right. I'm sorry. And no matter how it might seem, I really do care about you, Cam.

She puts a hand on his arm, bringing him to a stop. The look on her face is sincere. Cam sighs.

CAM

So, you need a physics tutor, huh?

Vi's confused for a brief second. Cam holds up her note.

VI

Yeah. As you could probably tell by that whole 1966 thing.

CAM

1666.

Cam's lightning fast correction gives her an idea. She shrugs and starts to walk away.

VI

But it's cool. If you don't want to, I can find somebody else.

CAM

No! Wait! I could... I mean, I don't mind. It could be fun.

Still facing away from him, Vi stops and smiles. She hides it, turns to him and sighs like she's doing him a favour.

VI

Okay. Fine. You can tutor me, but on one condition. You let me deal with whoever's shoving you into lockers.

CAM

Deal.

They shake hands.

INT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - VI'S ROOM - DAY

Despite the half empty closet and the bed stripped of sheets, the room looks untouched. Like Vi still lives here.

CAROLINE leans against the door frame. She stares into the room, a haunted look in her eyes.

She shakes off the feeling and turns to go --

THUD!

The sound brings her back. She looks to the window. Closed, curtains drawn. Another THUD from the roof, then some SCRABBLING. Someone climbing up.

CAROLINE  
(breathless; hopeful)  
Vi...

She rushes to the window and whips open the curtains.

A flushed looking Shane pops into view, clinging desperately to the window frame. His YELP is muffled by the glass.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
Shane?!

SHANE  
(muffled)  
Uh... Hi, Mrs. Morgan  
(slips a little)  
A little help?

Caroline pulls open the window and steps back as Shane hauls himself in. He collapses onto the window seat, wheezing.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
I forgot how tough that climb was.

CAROLINE  
So you've climbed through my  
daughter's bedroom window before?

A beat.

SHANE  
No?

Caroline raises an eyebrow. Shane stands, ready to talk.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
To be completely honest, I'm here  
to see Penny.  
(MORE)

SHANE (CONT'D)

I knew Vi wouldn't like me stopping by so I decided to be covert. Hence the window.

CAROLINE

Vi isn't here.

SHANE

I know.

CAROLINE

So how would she know how you got in?

Shane takes a second as he thinks it through. Caroline turns to leave.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Next time, use the door.

INT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - PENNY'S ROOM - LATER

PENNY lounges on her bed, painting her toenails. Shane stands before her nervously.

PENNY

You want me to do what?

SHANE

You want to be a life coach, right? Well, here's your chance.

PENNY

And what makes you think your cousin even needs a life coach? His store did get all burnt down. Maybe he's just taking some time to deal.

SHANE

You don't get it.

Penny looks up sharply. Shane gulps.

SHANE (CONT'D)

It -- It's just that Wicker Records is Jimmy's life. If he hasn't reopened by now, something's wrong.

PENNY

There's no one else? Girlfriend?

SHANE

Joined the Peace Corp. And she's dating a girl now.

PENNY  
Why can't you do it?

SHANE  
Trust me, I'm the last person he  
wants to see. He won't accept help  
if he knows it's coming from me.

Penny looks reluctant. Shane gets on his knees, clasps his hands together and crawls towards her.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
Please, Penny. I'm begging you.

PENNY  
(eyes wide; weirded out)  
I noticed.  
(sighs)  
For God's sake, get up.

SHANE  
You'll do it?

PENNY  
Sure. Whatever.

SHANE  
Thank you! You're the best!

Penny quirks a smile, pleased.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

School has ended for the day. A few STUDENTS move through, some with backpacks, some dressed for sport practice.

Vi and Cam are at a lunch table. He reads a text book while she picks at the paint chipping off the wood grain.

CAM  
Braggs used x-ray diffraction to  
investigate which of the following:  
A) Superconductivity, B) Crystal  
structure...

He notices that Vi is not paying attention.

CAM (CONT'D)  
... C) Bagel size or D) You're not  
listening to me.

VI  
(not listening)  
C. Definitely C.

She glances at him. He's not impressed.

VI (CONT'D)

B?

CAM

Vi! I thought you wanted to take this seriously!

VI

I do! I am! Don't get your nerd pants in a twist!

(heavy sigh; exhausted)

Can we take a break?

Irritated, Cam snaps the book closed and grabs a note pad.

CAM

Fine. It'll give me a chance to start on the flashcards.

Vi can't suppress the roll of her eyes. She slaps her hand on the note pad, forcing him to meet her eyes.

VI

Later. Right now, you tell me how long this bullying thing has been going on.

CAM

Since birth.

VI

I'm not talking about your garden variety Neanderthals.

Cam hesitates. Vi raises her eyebrows. She's waiting.

CAM

A few weeks.

VI

Have you talked to mum and dad?

CAM

(bitter; pointed)

They've been a little preoccupied.

VI

Hey, don't blame this on me. I'm trying to help you, remember?

CAM

Yeah... I guess.

VI  
So just tell me this bully's name  
and I can fix this.

Across the courtyard, the doors to one of the locker rooms burst open. GIRLS wearing sports uniforms and carrying wooden hockey sticks stream out, followed by a female COACH.

VI (CONT'D)  
Cam? What's his name?

Cam looks sick. He stares at the group of girls as they pass.

CAM  
Judy.

Confused, Vi turns. And there she is, in the middle of the crowd, not noticing Cam at all. Petite, blonde, evil. JUDY.

CAM (CONT'D)  
That's her. Judy Carlyle.

Off Vi's shock --

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - STAIRWELL - DAY

A new day. Vi waits by the top of the stairs. Judy appears among the crowd and heads down. Vi sidles up alongside her.

VI

Judy! Funny seeing you here. I was starting to suspect you couldn't actually leave the Company. Like a poltergeist or Lindsay Lohan on house arrest.

JUDY

Bit of a dated reference, don't you think?

VI

(shrugs)

I dunno. It's only Wednesday.

They reach the lower level...

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Vi sticks to Judy's side like glue. It's clearly starting to bug the younger girl as noted by her sour expression.

VI

So I asked around. Seems Benson decided you needed an actual high school experience. How's that working out for you?

JUDY

What the hell do you want, Beth?

VI

My name is Vi.

JUDY

Really? Beth is a stupid name and you look stupid, so I just assumed.

Vi's had enough. She turns sharply in front of Judy, stopping her from walking any further.

VI

Just leave my brother alone, okay?

JUDY

Was that a question? Because the answer is no.

Judy tries to sidestep her --

JUDY (CONT'D)

And I don't even know who your brother is.

-- But Vi's too quick. Judy's not going anywhere.

VI

Cam. My brother is Cam.

JUDY

(brightening)

Ohhh, Cam! I know who you're talking about now!

VI

So you'll back down?

JUDY

(sour once again)

Piss off.

Vi sighs. The BELL RINGS and the hallway thins out - everybody heading off to their next class.

VI

I figured you'd say that. So I brought back up.

She nods over Judy's shoulder. Judy turns and comes face to face (well, face to chest) with NATHAN. He grins cheerfully.

NATHAN

Hey, Ju-Ju.

JUDY

Oh, God. What are you, the Fixer's little lap dog now? You'll do anything for a pat on the head and a liver treat, won't you?

This catches Nathan off guard. His mouth flaps open and closed like a fish. Vi glares around Judy in his direction.

VI

I thought you said you could handle her.

JUDY

(amused)

Were those your exact words, Nate?

Nathan gathers himself and glares. He grabs Judy's arm --

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

-- And pulls her into an empty classroom. Slams the door behind them. Judy furiously yanks herself free and goes to speak.

NATHAN

Shut up.

Surprised, her mouth snaps closed.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

I would say "this isn't like you"  
but this is like you, pretty much  
to a tee.

JUDY

Then aren't you glad I'm  
consistent?

NATHAN

Why are you picking on this kid?  
You may be a lot of things but I  
never thought you'd stoop to being  
a stereotypical high school bully.

(beat)

What's going on? You can tell me.

Judy stares at him for a long beat. Then her hard eyes soften and her shoulders slump. She sinks onto a nearby desk.

JUDY

We used to be close. Me and you.  
And now you're not my mentor  
anymore, I never even see you.

(beat)

They sent me to this school, told  
me to be normal. But I don't know  
how to be normal. I'm just...

(tearing up)

I'm scared, Nate.

This breaks Nathan's heart. He pulls her into a hug.

NATHAN

It's okay, Ju-Ju. It's okay to be  
scared. I'm here. Just let it out.

She cries into his shoulder. Then, the sound of SNIFFLING changes. It morphs into something else. Nathan's face drops.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

You're laughing, aren't you?

Judy pulls back, cackling in delight. She wipes away tears.

JUDY

I couldn't resist! You're hilarious when you go all white knight.

She hops off the desk and studies Nathan's icy expression.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Aw, come on. Don't be like that. I'm just having a little fun.

She pokes his side and he swats her away.

NATHAN

I'm not playing, Judy.

In an instant, her cheerfulness is gone. A cold ruthlessness takes its place.

JUDY

Fine. You want to know why I'm giving Cam Morgan such a hard time? He bugs me. Is that what you want to hear? He's a snivelling little snot without the guts to stand up for himself - against a girl, for God's sake!

(beat)

Anyway, I have to get to class. But thanks for the hug.

(fake sad face)

I really needed that.

She smiles cruelly and skips out, leaving Nathan to seethe.

Vi pops in.

VI

So?

But Nathan, still annoyed, has nothing.

INT. THE COMPANY - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Packed with EMPLOYEES. Murmurs of concern fill the room. David enters, confused at the unexpected crowd.

DAVID  
What's going on?

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)  
Just standard procedure.

He turns to the doorway. The commanding and statuesque GABRIELLE looms there, backed up by two SECURITY GUARDS.

GABRIELLE  
(to the room)  
I'll be asking you a few questions today. If you have nothing to hide, you don't need to worry. How about we start with...

She scans the room until she's looking directly at us.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)  
You.

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Gabrielle narrows her piercing eyes across the table.

GABRIELLE  
Have you noticed any suspicious activity around the office?

DAVID  
Nope. Nothing suspicious.  
(beat)  
Nothing at all.

He blinks a few times too many to be convincing. Gabrielle notices but keeps it to herself.

GABRIELLE  
Anything you can think of.

CUT TO:

Now the employee sitting across from her is CADBURY, a timid accountant with serious allergies. He snuffles into a tissue.

CADBURY  
You mean in the accounts department? Oh no, I make sure every dollar is accounted for.

CUT TO:

Next - PARIS, a petite and poised blonde.

PARIS

Paperclips. Cartons of them. They can't be walking off by themselves and I, for one, would like to know what you intend to do about that.

CUT TO:

SCOTTIE has his feet propped up on the table. He is unshaven and wears clothes that haven't been washed in over a week.

SCOTTIE

Have you seen what they serve for lunch on Thursdays? Now that's suspicious! Am I right?

GABRIELLE

Let me be more specific. What about assignments? Anything out of the ordinary there? Maybe some thoughts on where they're coming from...?

All three interviews - Cadbury, Paris and Scottie - are INTERCUT from this point on.

PARIS

Now that you mention it...

SCOTTIE

There is one thing.

GABRIELLE

What thing?

CADBURY

A girl. I was on my way home and I saw her in the conference room.

SCOTTIE

Yeah, scribblin' away. Assignments, I think.

PARIS

Yes. She was writing assignments. I assume copying them from the stored data on the --

CADBURY

-- Back-up hard drives. That's the memo Mr. Benson sent out.

GABRIELLE

This girl. Did you happen to catch her name?

SCOTTIE

It wasn't sexy, I can tell you that much. Sounded like a name you'd give a girl in some sissy musical. B... Bertha?

CADBURY

Bonnie.

SCOTTIE

Betty?

PARIS

Bonnie.

SCOTTIE

Ah, I got it! Bonnie!

PUSH IN on Gabrielle. A smile tugs at her lips.

GABRIELLE

Bonnie.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The place is a neater now. Peter peels the notes from the wall and hands them to Bonnie who sets them in little piles.

A KNOCK on the door. Peter goes over and lets in Bianca. Along with her school backpack she carries a duffel bag.

PETER

Thanks for coming. I'm already...  
(checks watch)  
Five hours late for work. Great.

Bianca sets her things down on the couch.

BIANCA

I have a free period after lunch so it's not a problem.  
(then)  
Hey, Bonnie. Brought you some clothes.

She tosses Bonnie the duffel bag. Bonnie rushes excitedly into the bedroom, pulling off her own clothes as she goes.

PETER

She's been helping me tidy up. And I said she could watch the midday movie while she has something to eat. I think it's Blue Hawaii.

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)  
 (embarrassed)  
 God, I sound like her dad.

Bianca smiles vaguely. He gathers his jacket and wallet.

PETER (CONT'D)  
 Well, I'm off. Call if you need  
 anything. Number's on the fridge.

He starts to go.

BIANCA  
 Mr. Morgan?

PETER  
 (turns back; smiles)  
 Call me Peter.

BIANCA  
 Peter. Just for the record, I don't  
 think Bonnie would mind if you were  
 her dad.  
 (beat)  
 I know I wouldn't.

Peter is touched. Unable to form words. He nods, grateful,  
 and Bianca smiles back. He leaves.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY

Nathan rounds the corner, his brow furrowed as he wanders the  
 empty hall. He reaches a turn off. Another long hallway. He  
 turns in a slow circle, muttering to himself. He's lost.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)  
 Oh, thank goodness! There you are!

Nathan whirls around. A frazzled RECEPTIONIST thunders over.

NATHAN  
 Excuse me?

RECEPTIONIST  
 We've been frantic. They're  
 starting to get out of control.

She grabs his arm and half drags him down the hall.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY #2 - DAY

Nathan's on high alert, eyes open for an exit. The  
 Receptionist, however, is on a mission.

NATHAN

I think there's been a mistake. I'm just a little lost.

RECEPTIONIST

No kidding. Here we are.

They reach a classroom from which the sounds of ROWDY TEENS emanate.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

Remember, lesson plan is on the desk, don't let them see your fear.

(pushes him in)

You're a lifesaver, Mr. Becker.

NATHAN

Mr. Becker? But I'm not --

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HISTORY CLASS - CONTINUOUS

Nathan skids to a stop at the front of the room.

NATHAN

-- A teacher.

The Receptionist has gone. Slowly, Nathan turns to the now-silent class. Rows upon rows of wide-eyed TEENS stare back, waiting for him to start. Nathan gulps.

INT. WICKER RECORDS - MAIN FLOOR - DAY

Penny picks her way through the main room, still a burnt out shell littered with melted CDs and blackened instruments.

Large sections of the roof have caved in, leaving a huge hole above. The rest is held up precariously by the loft level.

JIMMY enters from the back, carrying a cardboard box.

JIMMY

Hey! You can't be in here!

PENNY

Really? I was hoping to get a copy of the new Jessie J album. Y'see, my stereo only plays melted pieces of crap that don't work.

JIMMY

I know you...

PENNY

I'm Penny, Vi's sister.

JIMMY

Well, "Penny, Vi's sister", Vi's  
not here.

He sets the box down in a corner of the room and opens it up.  
Jimmy unloads the box. Penny walks closer.

PENNY

I heard you hadn't started cleaning  
this place up yet. Looks like  
you're pretty --

One of the items is a folded lawn chair. Jimmy pops it open  
and sits down. He grabs a bag of Doritos from the box.

PENNY (CONT'D)

-- Busy.

JIMMY

Run off my feet, as you can see. So  
if you don't mind...

He motions for her to leave. She doesn't. Instead, she turns  
in a circle - surveying the damage with a critical eye.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Hey, Princess. This?  
(motions again)  
Means leave.

PENNY

We could get someone in here to  
inspect the damage tomorrow. If the  
structure's still solid, we  
wouldn't even need to tear it down,  
just repair.

Jimmy gets to his feet, seriously getting annoyed now.

JIMMY

What the hell are you --

PENNY

With the right crew, we could be  
open for business in a month.

JIMMY

Open for --? No, nuh-uh. Get out.

He takes her by the shoulders, spins her around and propels  
her to the front door. Penny steps aside, hands on hips.

PENNY

So you don't want to re-open?

JIMMY

Not if it means letting you turn my store into a Barbie dream house.

PENNY

But you need help.

JIMMY

Aren't you listening to me, Princess? I don't need help!

Something GROANS above. Jimmy looks up - not quite up to speed on what this means. Flecks of plaster float down.

A beam CRACKS in half. What remains of the ceiling starts to come down. Penny grabs the frozen Jimmy and runs with him.

EXT. WICKER RECORDS - CONTINUOUS

They hit the pavement. There's a deafening CRASH and they are swallowed up by the cloud of ash and dust that blooms through the broken store front.

Penny and Jimmy are heard COUGHING as the ash clears. They are pale and dusty, still lying on the ground.

JIMMY

(through his shock)

So... When can you start?

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY

Vi and Shane walk, arms heavy with books. Cam runs up, angry.

CAM

Vi!

VI

Hey, Cam. Ready for another study session?

CAM

What did you say to her?

VI

What?

CAM

Judy!

SHANE

Uh, Vi? What's going on?

VI  
Kinda what I'd like to know.

CAM  
You said you'd help me but you only made it worse! She wants to fight!

VI  
Fight? Are you serious?

CAM  
Tomorrow morning. It's all over school.

He swallows hard. Now it's clear that he's not just angry - he's afraid.

VI  
Cam, I swear, I didn't know Judy was going to fight you. Let me talk to her again, I'll fix this.

CAM  
I think you've done enough.

He glares coldly, then storms off. Vi feels helpless.

VI  
Cam, wait!  
(beat; sighs)  
Now who's going to tutor me?

A RUCKUS from an adjacent classroom distracts her. She and Shane turn to look inside --

It's Nathan, teaching a class. He bounces around, full of energy and enthusiasm. The kids seem to be into it too.

NATHAN  
(marks the board)  
That is correct! Go, Todd - another point for Team Awesome in the back!  
(then)  
Now, who can tell me what was so special about Tutankhamen?  
(over their shouts)  
Aside from the whole pharaoh thing!

A CACOPHONY OF VOICES - clamouring to be heard. It's all over his face - Nathan is actually enjoying this.

BACK ON VI AND SHANE

Their eyes meet. Both are a little weirded out.

INT. THE COMPANY - BENSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Gabrielle supervises as a couple of Guards turn the room upside down. They shake out drawers, toss aside papers and rifle through the bookcase.

Benson and Jenna run in.

BENSON

What on earth are you doing?

GABRIELLE

My job, Alistair. Don't worry, Ms. Ford approved everything.

BENSON

Oh, good. I feel much better now.

He strides over until he's right in her face.

BENSON (CONT'D)

Stop this, Gabrielle. I thought that we were --

GABRIELLE

Friends? Friends trust each other, Alistair. And you never trusted me.

BENSON

Perhaps with good reason.

GUARD #1

Ma'am?

He brings her a lock box, now busted open. Inside is a USB (from 3x05), a mini tape recorder and several tapes (3x06).

GABRIELLE

Well, look who's keeping secrets.

She snaps her fingers to the Guards who follow her out. Jenna steps up behind Benson as he stares at his trashed office.

JENNA

Benson... What do we do now?

He says nothing. He can't. Because he doesn't know.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. THE COMPANY - RECEPTION - DAY

The elevator spits a frantic Vi into the room. She almost collides with David, who takes her arms to steady her.

DAVID

Vi, what are you doing here? You should be at school.

VI

The front office paged me. Said my cousin called about an emergency.

DAVID

Your cousin?

Across the room, Vi's eyes land on Andrew. He and Jenna are by the reception desk - hands gripped together nervously.

VI

(joining them; David in tow)  
Andrew!

ANDREW

Finally! When are you going to charge your phone? I know you've got this "hating your family" thing going on but, jeez, just get your dad to drop off your charger or something.

VI

I'm sorry, when have I asked for your advice on my family drama?

ANDREW

Uh... Like every other day?

JENNA

Children, please! Can we focus?

Vi snaps back to the matter at hand.

VI

Focus on what, exactly?

INT. THE COMPANY - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

ANGLE ON LAPTOP

The USB is plugged into the side. The footage found in Marcus's office plays out on screen.

Bonnie is strapped to a machine, wires snaking from her skin. The wires spark to life. Bonnie jerks in the chair.

MARCUS (O.S.)  
It's working! It's working!

ANGLE ON ABIGAIL

Watching this, horrified. Reflections dance across her glassy eyes - the rest of the footage playing out. We hear a SCREAM.

Abigail hits a button and the sound stops abruptly. She closes the laptop and turns to --

Benson. His face is perfectly expressionless.

ABIGAIL  
(overwhelmed smile)  
Three times watching that is enough, don't you think?  
(beat; down to business)  
Security is searching the building now. But you and I both know they won't find anything, don't we?

No response. Benson's not giving anything away.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
You've already moved it. Somewhere outside the Company. Somewhere we wouldn't think to look.

BENSON  
Do you realise what you've just said? What you've called her? It. That girl is not an it, Abigail.

She slides one of the mini tapes toward herself. Taps it on the tabletop.

ABIGAIL  
Well, Mr. Benson, she's not quite a person either. Not if that footage is telling the truth. Not if these interview tapes --  
(slides the tapes to him aggressively)  
-- are anything to go by.  
(beat; colder)  
She's a human host for the Power.  
(MORE)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 But, of course, you already knew  
 that.

For the first time, Benson looks truly guilty.

BENSON  
 Please let me explain.

ABIGAIL  
 I'm done listening to your  
 explanations, Mr. Benson.  
 (stands; retrieves her  
 mobile phone)  
 Excuse me, I need to inform my  
 superiors of this development.

She crosses to the door. Gabrielle opens it for her.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 Ms. Dautry, please keep all  
 employees in-house. And I want the  
 location of the host. Do whatever  
 you have to.

GABRIELLE  
 Yes, Ma'am.

Abigail leaves. Gabrielle's eyes follow her out into the  
 reception area where they land on Vi, Jenna and Andrew.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)  
 And I know just where to start.

Off our trio, totally unsuspecting, CUT TO:

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

First up - Andrew. Gabrielle looms over him, intimidating.

GABRIELLE  
 Where is she, Andrew?

ANDREW  
 (looks around the room)  
 I think there's something missing.

GABRIELLE  
 Like what?

ANDREW  
 Well, you not slamming me into the  
 table and bruising up my chiseled  
 features, for one.  
 (cheeky grin)  
 (MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

You going soft on me, Dautry? Grown fond of me after all these years?

Gabrielle grits her teeth. Growls.

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - LATER

Gabrielle digs through Jenna's handbag.

JENNA

Is that really necessary?

GABRIELLE

You could be carrying a weapon. I'm just looking out for my own safety.

Jenna rolls her eyes as Gabrielle continues searching. She takes out the ring box and pops it open. Jenna stiffens.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)

Look at what we have here. Friar finally popped the question, did he? You know, this is traditionally supposed to go on your finger once you've said yes.

Jenna shifts uncomfortably. Gabrielle realises.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)

Which you didn't.

JENNA

(snatches the ring back)  
That is none of your business.

GABRIELLE

On the contrary, everything you do is my business. You made for sure of that the second you decided not to inform Head Office about what Bonnie really is.

(disgusted)

What happened to you, Jenna? You used to be so loyal.

JENNA

I still am. Just not to the same people as you.

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - LATER

Gabrielle paces around the room. She walks behind --

VI

What do you want me to say?

GABRIELLE

Just tell me where she is.

VI

I. Don't. Know.

Gabrielle slams the table, leaning in right next to Vi.

GABRIELLE

Oh, come on Morgan! I've seen you and your crew carting her around like a little lost puppy. I know she's one of you.

VI

Yeah, she is. So what makes you think I'd give her up?

GABRIELLE

Because I'm ordering you to.

A long beat as they stare each other down. Finally, Vi sighs.

VI

Look, I get that you're just trying to do your job. But have you considered that maybe Benson might be the right person to handle this, rather than some Head Office scientist who doesn't even consider Bonnie a real person?

GABRIELLE

She's not a real person.

VI

Okay, then. Good to know where you stand.

(stands)

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to go all Mr. Miyagi on my little brother.

GABRIELLE

We're not done here, Morgan.

VI

(shrugs)

That's fine.

(MORE)

VI (CONT'D)

But just so you know, I'm going to answer all your questions with Pat Morita quotes. "Wax on, wax off".

A beat.

GABRIELLE

Leave.

Vi smiles and happily scampers out.

INT. THE COMPANY - SECURITY DEPT. HALL - DAY

Vi emerges. David is being escorted in by a Guard.

DAVID

How'd you go?

VI

There is no fear in this dojo.  
(kisses his cheek)  
Good luck.

She walks off. David goes in, far less confident than her.

EXT. WICKER RECORDS - BACK ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Jimmy carts some boxes from the back entrance. Penny approaches from the mouth of the alley. She shakes ash from her hair as she snaps away her mobile phone.

PENNY

The clean-up crew will be here tomorrow morning. Looks like the whole thing will have to come down.  
(then)  
What are you doing?

JIMMY

There's some stuff in the back store room that wasn't damaged.  
(opens a box)  
Oh, look. Shane of the Dead demo CDs. Perfectly untouched.

A beat. He tosses them into the dumpster. Penny sits on the back steps and crosses her legs.

PENNY

So what exactly did Shane do to make you hate him so much? I never really got the whole story. Mostly because I didn't care.

JIMMY

Then why are you asking?

PENNY

Why aren't you answering?

She raises her eyebrows and puts a hand to her chin in an "I'm listening" gesture. A beat, then Jimmy sighs.

JIMMY

He just... he walked out on something I thought was important to him.

PENNY

That's it?

JIMMY

You want more? Okay, fine. He walked out on something he claimed was all he ever wanted, betraying his band mates and me and he doesn't even feel bad about it.

PENNY

(studying her nails)

I don't know about that. He seemed pretty torn up when he came to see me the other day.

Still on Penny, she cringes at the grime beneath her manicured fingernails. She looks up --

And Jimmy's staring right at her. He's shocked, hurt.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Oh, yeah... I wasn't supposed to tell you that.

(meek smile)

Oops.

INT. THE COMPANY - BENSON'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Benson stacks books back on the shelf. The rest of the room is still a mess. He senses someone but doesn't turn around.

BENSON

Did you come here to help or gloat?  
To be honest, I'm not in the mood  
for either if it's coming from you.

Abigail moves further in, not at all stung by his words.

ABIGAIL

I just got off the phone with Head Office.

BENSON

Long call.

ABIGAIL

There was a lot to talk about. Do you want to know who I spoke with?  
(beat)  
Mr. August.

Benson tenses. He knows the name.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

That's right. The big man.

BENSON

And?

ABIGAIL

We need to know where the girl is.

BENSON

I told you before --

ABIGAIL

I think you might want to reconsider that answer.

She's holding something back, a card she doesn't quite want to play. She takes a deep breath. Plows on.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

If you don't cooperate, this branch will be considered unsalvageable. It will be liquidated, with all employees marked for termination.

(beat)

And you know what that means.

There's a moment of stunned silence.

BENSON

That was his decision? I help you... or you kill everyone?

ABIGAIL

(uncomfortable)

Mr. August is... intent on fixing this problem as soon as possible.

(beat)

Do you need some time to --

BENSON  
No. I'll do what you want.

He turns away, steadies himself on his desk. Closes his eyes.

BENSON (CONT'D)  
I'll tell you where she is.

The decision pains him.

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Establishing.

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - BACK YARD - NIGHT

Cam slips out onto the back porch.

CAM  
(whispers)  
Vi? Vi, are you out here?

Vi stumbles from around the side of the house. She swats mosquitos.

VI  
Yeah. And I'm being eaten alive.  
You don't have any --?

He tosses her some bug spray. She smiles and coats herself liberally. She joins him on the porch.

VI (CONT'D)  
Thanks for meeting me. I know you  
were kind of upset earlier.

CAM  
Judy Carlyle had just challenged me  
to a fight. I think I had a right  
to be a little upset.  
(beat)  
Will you still help me?

VI  
Of course.

They sit side by side on the steps.

VI (CONT'D)  
It looks like reasoning with her  
won't work. No surprise there.

CAM  
What do I do? I can't fight her.

VI

Look at you, being all chivalrous.  
Not wanting to hit a girl.

CAM

Because she'd win, Vi.

VI

Okay, well... Maybe you could  
diffuse the situation with a joke?

Cam thinks for a moment. He perks up.

CAM

I got one.

(beat)

A neutron walks into a bar and  
orders a beer. He goes to pay and  
the bartender says "For you, no  
charge".

A beat.

VI

How fast can you run?

Cam groans. Puts his head in his hands.

VI (CONT'D)

It's not that bad.

CAM

I'm going to die!

She grabs his shoulders and forces him to face her.

VI

You're not going to die.

(beat)

Look, Judy's a bully, right?  
Bullies thrive on fear. It's the  
only way they can keep doing what  
they do. You just need to stand up  
to her, show her you're not afraid.

CAM

But I am afraid.

VI

We're all afraid of something. The  
trick is not to show it.

She lets him go. Cam studies her for a beat.

CAM  
What are you afraid of?

Vi's lips tighten into a thin line. She stares into the dark.

CAM (CONT'D)  
(quiet)  
You want to come home, don't you?

VI  
(beat; just as quiet)  
What if it's too late?

CAM  
It's never too late.

He slips his hand over hers and squeezes. Vi smiles but doesn't let the moment last. She pulls away and stands.

VI  
I have to go. First exam tomorrow.

CAM  
Don't forget the fight.

VI  
Bright and early. I'll be there.

Another smile. She leaves, disappearing around the side of the house. Cam stays for a beat, then goes inside.

As the door closes, reveal Caroline, watering can in hand, hidden by the rose bushes along the other side of the house.

She heard everything.

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

David's still here. It's been hours. He's exhausted. Gabrielle, sitting across from him, is still going strong.

DAVID  
(robotic; obviously  
rehearsed)  
I told you. I don't know where she  
is. If I knew, I would tell you.

GABRIELLE  
You look tired. Are you tired,  
sweetie?

David looks up, surprised. Her tone is strangely sweet.

DAVID  
Y-yeah. A little.

GABRIELLE  
Do you want a break?

DAVID  
Yeah.

GABRIELLE  
Maybe watch some TV?

He nods a little, now getting suspicious.

Gabrielle reaches into a satchel on the floor. She places a laptop on the table, flips it open and turns it to him.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)  
Sorry, it's not cable.

She hits a key and a video starts. It's a collection of news reports and videophone footage:

Raging fires, riots, assaults in the street, search parties for missing children. A montage of chaos. Hell on Earth.

DAVID  
What is this?

GABRIELLE  
This is a world without the Company  
and it's happening right now.  
Without us, everything falls apart.  
All that's left is death...  
destruction... and pain...

David's tired eyes are wide and glassy as he takes this in.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)  
We can stop this, David. You can  
stop this.

His chin quivers. He is overwhelmed by the images. It's all too much... too much...

INT. THE COMPANY - BENSON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Benson is slumped in one of the visitors chairs, completely drained. Someone moves over him, hands him a cup of tea.

ABIGAIL  
Let's get down to business.

She sits beside him and lays a note pad and pen on the desk.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

I'll need the address of where the host is located, any security measures you have in place and the names of the employees involved.

Benson nods slowly. He puts the tea cup down and picks up the note pad. With the pen poised to write, he pauses.

BENSON

(quiet)  
One request...

ABIGAIL

Pardon?

BENSON

(more confident; lays down  
the note pad)  
I have one request, before I take you to Bonnie. Actually, two.

Abigail goes to speak but Benson's faster.

BENSON (CONT'D)

One, we don't make a move until tomorrow morning. Until then, the location stays with me.

ABIGAIL

Benson, I don't think --

BENSON

The host will be secure for one more night, I give you my word.

ABIGAIL

(beat; begrudgingly)  
Fine. And the other?

BENSON

I should be the one to tell my employees. The ones involved. They deserve a proper explanation.

(beat; sad)  
A proper apology.

ABIGAIL

I can arrange that.

Benson nods gratefully. Abigail reaches over and takes his untouched tea. She takes a sip. Ponders for a moment...

Then she stands and rounds the desk. She rifles in a bottom drawer and returns with a half-empty bottle of whiskey.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)  
 (off Benson's surprise;  
 sloshing some in her tea)  
 Sidney Dobbs wasn't quite as  
 inconspicuous as he thought he was.

As Abigail takes a sip, Benson stands to make his own. With his back to her --

BENSON  
 What's next?

ABIGAIL  
 Well, I suggest you get some sleep.  
 Tomorrow's going to be a big day.

BENSON  
 Actually, I was referring to the  
 Company. Once Head Office has  
 Bonnie in custody...

Benson returns to sit beside her. Abigail offers him the bottle and he takes it readily. Pours some into his cup.

ABIGAIL  
 I'm sorry, Benson. I'm really not  
 authorised to disclose that.

BENSON  
 So I take it there is something  
 planned? Some theory as to how to  
 retrieve the Power from Bonnie?

ABIGAIL  
 (shrugs)  
 That's all I can tell you.

BENSON  
 I have the lives of my employees  
 hanging over my head. Do you really  
 think I'm still a threat?

Abigail sucks the inside of her lip. A tell. She doesn't even know she's doing it.

BENSON (CONT'D)  
 Or you just know I won't like what  
 I hear?

ABIGAIL

(places down her tea)

The original plan, when we found the Power, was to study it. To find some way of ensuring this never happened again. However, that was before we knew it was inside a human host. Now, the most important thing is simply... getting it out.

(beat)

Think of the host like a cage and the Power is a bird trapped inside. That bird was always meant to fly free, and to do that...

BENSON

(realises)

Bonnie needs to die.

As the sickening feeling hits him --

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - MORNING

Vi is in uniform, dressed for a new school day. She stares unblinking. There's a slight shine across her pallid face.

PULL BACK to reveal the shine is from the two-way mirror. She is looking at her own reflection. Also in the room - an exhausted looking Benson and Jenna and Andrew, both worried.

Benson is without his jacket and tie. The sleeves of his shirt rolled up. He hasn't changed since the day before.

BENSON

I've been assured by Abigail that it will be as painless as possible. She'll most likely be sedated before it happens. She won't even know.

ANDREW

Oh, that's alright then. At least she won't know she's being killed.

JENNA

Andrew...

ANDREW

What? I'm upset. I'm allowed to be upset about this.

JENNA

And you think I'm not?!

She shakes with emotion. Andrew drops his head, ashamed.

BENSON

Jenna, please...

He takes her hands and squeezes them supportively.

BENSON (CONT'D)

We need to be strong.

Jenna, teary, nods in understanding. Vi, still staring at her reflection, seems to come out of her daze.

VI

This isn't strong.

BENSON

What did you say, Vi?

VI

(turns to them)  
 This isn't being strong. Standing here, talking about "what's going to happen". We should be trying to stop this. We should be fighting!

JENNA

(soft; afraid)  
 Vi, please. They're watching.

Vi whirls back to the mirror. She gets right up close, absolutely bursting with rage.

VI

Then they can hear what I think of them!

(at her own reflection)  
 Hey! You in there! Yeah, you! I'm not afraid of you. You want to know why? Because you're just a bully. And I'm not afraid of bullies.

BENSON

This isn't helping.

VI

(whirls back on him)  
 You're not helping!

For the first time, the others see the tears in her eyes.

VI (CONT'D)

I can't believe you're just going to stand by and let this happen.

A long beat. Benson is careful to avoid eye contact with her.

BENSON

I need you to keep this from Shane.

VI

What?! But he --

BENSON

(stern)  
 He will make things even more difficult than they already are.  
 (beat)  
 Vi, I need to know you heard me.

Vi sullenly picks up her schoolbag. She heads for the door.

VI  
I have to get to school. I have  
exams today.

BENSON  
Vi --

VI  
I heard you!

She exits, shoulders hunched. Andrew sneers at Benson.

ANDREW  
Ever the Company man, aren't you?

JENNA  
Andrew!

But he storms out. Jenna rushes after, throwing one last  
scared look to Benson as she does.

Benson turns and faces the two-way mirror. Feels the uncaring  
eyes staring from the other side.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MORNING

Shane listens to his iPod and flips through a bunch of  
flashcards as he walks along.

He steps up to the corner and checks for traffic. He spots a  
WOMAN collecting her morning paper. Wave.

SHANE  
Morning, Mrs. Tate!

Just as he's about to step into the road, a window-less van  
screeches up. Shane stumbles back and hits the ground. The  
flashcards go everywhere.

The front passenger door pushes open, revealing Jimmy leaning  
over from the driver's side.

JIMMY  
Get in.

SHANE  
(scrambling up)  
What?! No! You could've killed me!

JIMMY  
Don't make me come out there!

SHANE  
Screw you!

He brushes himself off and starts to sidestep the van.

Jimmy grits his teeth and jumps out. He runs around and grabs Shane, with his free hand he pulls open the sliding door.

JIMMY

Get in!

SHANE

No! No!

Jimmy gets Shane in a headlock. He looks up. Horrified NEIGHBOURS have gathered. One is about to call the police.

JIMMY

S'ok! It's not weird!  
(quiet; to Shane)  
Shane?

SHANE

(pained; still in the  
headlock)  
It's fine! I'm okay!  
(muttered)  
Jerk.

Jimmy throws Shane into the back of the van.

INT. JIMMY'S VAN - MORNING

As Shane sits up, Jimmy climbs in the back with him. He slides the door closed. Shane rubs his sore neck.

SHANE

What happened to you not talking to me?

JIMMY

Had to make an exception after you sent some blonde bimbo around to check up on me.

Shane sighs in frustration. So that's what this is about.

SHANE

You didn't give me much of a choice, Jimmy.  
(beat)  
You love the Wicker and you weren't doing anything to fix it. I didn't want you to give up on something that made you feel...

JIMMY  
Special?

SHANE  
Yeah.

JIMMY  
I don't think the store ever really made me feel that way. Sure, it was cool but it wasn't what you had.

SHANE  
What I had?

JIMMY  
Music! The band! You had something special, Shane. Not me.

A long beat. Shane runs a hand over his face.

SHANE  
I'm sorry. I never really apologised about that gig. About letting you down.

JIMMY  
Wasn't me you let down.

Jimmy gets up. Starts to climb over the centre console to the driver's seat. Shane gets angry and yanks him back down.

SHANE  
So why are you acting like I planned all this just to piss you off? Why the hell do you care?!

JIMMY  
Because you're me!

The admission stuns Shane. It even surprises Jimmy.

JIMMY (CONT'D)  
I used to have what you had. I was in a band, I had a dream. And I got so close, Shane, you have no idea.  
(beat)  
But I also got scared. So scared that I... I walked away. I just didn't want you to make the same mistake.

SHANE  
You never said.

JIMMY

Well, y'know, me being a massive failure isn't something I like to bring up in casual conversation.

They're both quite for a long moment. Then, quietly:

SHANE

I didn't make a mistake. I'm happy.

JIMMY

Nuh-uh. Not buying it. You're just saying that to make me feel better.

SHANE

(rolls his eyes)

No, if that were true I wouldn't follow it up with this -- You need to stop projecting your life onto mine. It's creepy and weird.

A beat. Jimmy bites back a smile.

JIMMY

You're an asshole, Evans.

SHANE

Where do you think I get it from?

Both grin. The mood relaxes. Jimmy heaves a sigh and whacks Shane's leg with his own. Then starts to get up.

JIMMY

Come on, I'll give you a ride.

SHANE

Yeah, okay. Better hurry. I think Mrs. Tate called the cops.

JIMMY

Whatever. I pick the music.

As Shane waits for Jimmy to climb into the driver's seat, he smiles to himself. Off this, CUT TO:

EXT. GARRETTON ACADEMY - BACK - DAY

By the school dumpsters. A few dozen cheering STUDENTS (13-15 years old) surround Cam. He's dripping with nervous sweat.

Judy steps up to him. Smiles wickedly.

JUDY

You ready for this, nerd?

Cam scans the crowd. Lots of faces. None of them Vi.

CAM

I -- I just n-need a minute.

JUDY

What for?

CAM

S-so a neutron walks into a bar --

Vi pushes her way to the front of the crowd, breathing hard from her mad dash. Cam smiles, relief flooding through him.

JUDY

Okay, that's enough. Let's give the people what they came here for.

She cracks her knuckles and gives him a shove.

CAM

(quiet)

Stop it, Judy.

JUDY

What? What'd you say?

CAM

I said... I said stop.

JUDY

I can't hear you over the sound of me beating the crap out of you.

She steps forward to shove him again, but Cam sidesteps.

CAM

Really? I thought it was just your peanut sized brain unable to process sounds more complex than a rustling chip packet.

VI

Yep. He's dead.

As Judy opens her gob to retort --

CAM

Don't bother. Watching you trying to construct a worthwhile sentence is both a waste of my time and yours. I just want you to listen.

He strides forward confidently, forcing Judy to stumble back. By now, the crowd has fallen silent - enthralled by the show.

CAM (CONT'D)

You can beat me up right now, you can continue your passion project of shoving me in lockers until we graduate but just know that it won't bother me. Why?

(beat)

Because I'm not afraid of you, Judy. Not anymore.

Judy blinks. She takes another step back. Cam looks to Vi and grins triumphantly. She grins back, then her face falls.

VI

Cam! Look out!

Cam whirls back --

Just in time to meet Judy's fist with his face. He hits the ground hard. The crowd reacts - they don't like this.

Cam winces and presses his palm to his eye. Then, a hand reaches down. It's Judy. The crowd falls silent.

Hesitantly, Cam takes it. Judy helps him up.

JUDY

Look at you, Morgan. You might have a little backbone, after all.

A displeased TEACHER stands a few yards away.

TEACHER

Judy! Principal's office - now!

Judy flashes Cam a smile - not at all bothered by being caught. She walks off.

Cam is swallowed up by the crowd. They slap him on the back, shake his hand, congratulate him. Cam beams.

Vi stands back. She smiles, watching this, then slips away.

EXT. UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE - DAY

The elevator chime ECHOES. Abigail, Benson and Gabrielle emerge. A black SUV pulls up, driven by a SECURITY AGENT.

Gabrielle gets in the passenger seat, Abigail and Benson in the back. Benson looks apprehensive as he closes the door.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

The SUV pulls out of the garage and turns into the easy flow of traffic.

INT. COMPANY SUV - DAY

Abigail looks across to Benson. Smiles reassuringly.

ABIGAIL

You're doing the right thing.

Benson doesn't seem to agree.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

Senior students gather outside the gym. Through the doors, rows of desks are set up. Teachers - including Mr. Parker - buzz about, calming jittery students.

Vi finds Shane and Bianca among the crowd. Bianca has her nose buried in a notebook. Last minute revisions.

VI

Bianca, is Bonnie okay?

BIANCA

(not looking up from her  
study notes)

Yep.

SHANE

Of course she's okay. Why would she not be okay? And where have you been? I heard you sneak out early.

VI

It's nothing.

Mr. Parker claps his hands from the gym doors.

MR. PARKER

Time to line up, everyone!  
Alphabetical order, please!

The students shuffles around. Vi moves towards the back. She's surprised when Shane stays at her heels.

VI

What alphabet are you working off?

SHANE

Something's up, I can tell.

VI

You're better off not knowing.

Shane grabs her arm. Pulls her around to face him.

SHANE

Sorry, you've already hit the limit on that excuse. Come on, Vi. Tell me.

Off Vi, torn in her decision, CUT TO:

EXT. SAM'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

The SUV pulls up out front. Gabrielle, Abigail, Benson and the Security Agent get out. Benson points to the entrance.

BENSON

Apartment 10-B.

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT BUILDING - HALLWAY - DAY

Gabrielle leads the way down the hall. Reaching the door, she pulls out her gun. Benson looks sick.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

Moments after Vi has given him the bad news:

SHANE

They're going to what?!

VI

Shane, please. Keep it down.

She drags him a few yards away from the group. Shane is freaking out - hand to his head, unable to keep still.

SHANE

This isn't happening. I won't let them. I'll kill them first.

VI

Good luck with that.

(deep breath; calmer)

Look, there's nothing we can do. We might as well try to get through this exam.

SHANE

Are you serious?! You actually care more about some dumb test than you do about saving Bonnie's life?!

## VI

I know it might seem like that. But that's the whole point.

There's a glimmer of a cunning smile, then --

INT. SAM'S APARTMENT - DAY

-- The front door is kicked open. Gabrielle charges in, gun drawn. The living room is empty. She motions to the Agent.

A quick succession of cuts:

- Gabrielle looks into the bedroom.
- The Security Agent whips back the shower curtain.
- Gabrielle checks the closets.

She and the Security Agent return to the living room as Abigail and Benson enter. Abigail looks around.

ABIGAIL

Where's the host?

GABRIELLE

Not here.

(holstering her gun; eyes  
on Benson)

He set us up.

Benson doesn't make a sound, no attempt to defend himself. Gabrielle's phone RINGS. She answers.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)

Dautry.

She listens for a beat. Then lowers the phone and looks to the Security Agent. She nods to Abigail and Benson.

GABRIELLE (CONT'D)

Get them back to the Company.

She puts the phone to her ear and turns away.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

Shane is no longer frantic. He looks to Vi questioningly.

SHANE

So... You're not just going to let them take her?

VI  
Of course not!

INT. THE COMPANY - BENSON'S OFFICE - NIGHT [FLASHBACK]

In the blue-tinged flashback, we see Abigail and Benson at the conclusion of their little tea party. Benson is slumped in his chair, looking like a broken man. Abigail exits...

VI (V.O.)  
After Abigail told Benson what Head Office was planning to do, he called Bianca and had Bonnie moved.

... And as soon as she does, Benson is a new man. Someone with a mission. He leaps up and grabs his mobile phone.

INT. THE COMPANY - INTERROGATION ROOM - MORNING [FLASHBACK]

Vi, Andrew, Benson and Jenna are dealing with the news that Bonnie must die. Benson takes Jenna's hands and squeezes.

VI (V.O.)  
He found a way to tell us the plan.

CLOSE ON JENNA'S HANDS

A folded piece of paper now in her palm. She closes her hand.

INT. THE COMPANY - ELEVATOR - MORNING [FLASHBACK]

David is just returning to the Company. In one hand, he has a take-away breakfast in a Styrofoam container. The doors open.

Vi rushes in, fuming.

DAVID  
Vi, what are you doing here so early? Is everything okay?

She shakes her head. As the doors start to close, Andrew shoots his hand in to stop them. Jenna and Andrew squeeze in.

ANDREW  
We can't let this happen. Benson can't just expect us to do nothing.

JENNA  
He doesn't.

She opens her hand, revealing the note.

DAVID  
Uh... Guys? What's going on?

Jenna, Andrew and Vi look to each other in turn. They each feel the gravity of what they are about to do.

SHANE (V.O.)  
So where's Bonnie now?

EXT. PARRY RESIDENCE - DAY

Present day. Bianca's gorgeous mansion.

VI (V.O.)  
Somewhere safe.

EXT. PARRY RESIDENCE - SIDE ENTRANCE - DAY

A side gate opens. Jenna ushers Bonnie out and into Andrew's waiting car. They take off. Gravel flies.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

VI  
Jenna and Andrew have a route out of town. It should be over by now.

SHANE  
And Benson just wants us to sit here and do this exam like --

VI  
Like everything's totally normal.

SHANE  
It's not though, is it? Nothing will ever be normal again.

They take a beat at the sobering thought. Over by the gym, the senior students start shuffling in.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
I think we're going in now.

Vi nods and takes one last look around the courtyard. David rounds the corner of the building. He looks pretty rough.

VI  
Give me a minute.

Shane nods and joins the other students. Vi approaches David with a smile.

VI (CONT'D)  
Hey, this is a surprise. I could do with a good luck kiss.  
(off David's face)  
(MORE)

VI (CONT'D)

Or a good luck tense silence works too. What's wrong?

David rubs the back of his neck, clearly agitated.

DAVID

I like Bonnie, I do. But... we need the Power back. This plan, tricking Head Office, I don't think it's a good idea.

VI

David... They're going to kill her.

DAVID

And how many people have died because we weren't around to stop it? Because we couldn't fix things before they got out of hand?

VI

I don't know! I don't know, alright! But I do know that I don't want Bonnie to die.

(beat; hurt)

I thought you'd want the same.

DAVID

Well maybe I'm just looking at the bigger picture.

Vi puts her hands on his chest, bunches them into his shirt.

VI

Please don't do this, David. Please don't tell Gabrielle about this.

DAVID

Why not?

His coldness hits Vi hard. She shoves him back roughly.

VI

Because this isn't some difference of opinion where you piss me off because you're wrong and won't admit it! This is my life and I need you to support me!

David looks down for a long beat. He appears to be fighting back tears. When he looks up, his face is set.

DAVID  
 I'm sorry, Vi. I can't.  
 (beat)  
 You should go in, do you test. Try  
 to forget about all of this.

Still reeling, Vi backs up and heads for the gym.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - GYM - DAY

Vi enters. The other students are already in their seats.

MR. PARKER  
 Morgan, you're late. Take a seat.

She shuffles down the aisle towards her empty seat at the back. With every step, she changes. Grows more determined.

She stops at Shane's desk. He looks up - eyes wide.

VI  
 Wanna go save our friend?

SHANE  
 I thought you'd never ask.

He leaps up. Shocked MURMURS ripple through the room as they race out.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - COURTYARD - DAY

David is shocked as Vi and Shane march towards him.

VI  
 Car keys.  
 (he doesn't move)  
 If you ever cared about me at all,  
 you will give me your keys.

David drops them into her waiting hand.

INT/EXT. ANDREW'S CAR/DOWNTOWN GARRETON - DAY

Andrew drives with Jenna in the passenger seat and Bonnie buckled in the back. The mood is tense. They turn --

And a black SUV pulls out to block their route. Andrew slams on the brakes.

ANDREW  
 How the hell did they find us?!

JENNA  
 (looking behind)  
 Andrew!

Another SUV is barreling down on them from behind.

INT. COMPANY SUV - DAY

Gabrielle, face determined, clenches the wheel.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT/EXT. ANDREW'S CAR/DOWNTOWN GARRETON - DAY

ANDREW  
 Hang on!

He puts the car into reverse. Looking over his shoulder, he heads towards Gabrielle. They are moments from a collision --

When Andrew yanks the wheel, puts the car in drive and powers down a nearby alley. The two SUVs give chase.

Andrew's car flies out of the alley mouth, careening into the flow of traffic. Other cars HONK and brake to avoid them.

Gabrielle and the other SUV are right behind them.

Up ahead, the traffic lights turn red.

ANDREW (CONT'D)  
 (nervous)  
 Jenna...

JENNA  
 Run it!

He hits the gas. The car shoots forward, speeding through the crossing traffic. Gabrielle is seconds behind. She makes it.

The second SUV is not so lucky. A truck slams into it. The SUV flips and is hit mid-air by another oncoming car.

ANDREW  
 (over his shoulder)  
 Did you see that?!

BONNIE  
 Detour!

ANDREW  
 Huh?

She grabs his head and turns it to face the road --

Just as they plow through a yellow 'DETOUR' sign. Behind it, a ROAD WORK CREW are digging up the road. The workers leap to safety as Andrew, Jenna and Bonnie scream in terror.

They clang into a cement machine, knocking it over to spill fresh, wet cement onto the unfinished road. Gabrielle pulls up, watching the sticky substance block her way.

Growling under her breath, she puts her SUV into reverse. Up ahead, she watches Andrew's car disappear around a corner.

END INTERCUT.

INT. ANDREW'S CAR - DAY

A moment of relief. Jenna blows a strand of hair from her flustered face.

JENNA  
We need help.

ANDREW  
On it.

He makes a turn.

Bonnie presses her face to the window. She looks up at the looming brick building - Garretton Academy.

Still traveling at speed, they thump over the speed bump into the parking lot. Students jump out of the way.

Andrew hits the brakes and screeches to a stop --

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

-- Right in front of Vi and Shane.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - FRONT - DAY

Gabrielle pulls up. Through the open window of her SUV, we see her get on her radio.

GABRIELLE  
Immediate back-up requested at  
Garretton Academy. I have them  
cornered.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - PARKING LOT - DAY

Everyone's out of the car. Shane hugs Bonnie. She's shaken.

SHANE  
Bonnie! Are you okay?!

BONNIE

I can hear my heart in my ears.

SHANE

(to Andrew)

What did you do to her?

ANDREW

She's just in awe of my mad driving skills. Skills with a Z, Vi! You should have seen me!

Jenna casts a nervous glance back the way they came.

JENNA

I'm sure she will on the six o'clock news. We need to get out of here. Dautry was right behind us.

SHANE

But there's no other way out.

A tense beat. The adrenaline is fading, reality sinking in.

VI

I have an idea.

She opens her hand. David's keys lie in her palm.

EXT. GARRETON ACADEMY - FRONT - DAY

Gabrielle stands outside her car. Arms folded. All is quiet.

David's little blue hatchback comes flying over the hedges lining the parking lot. Gabrielle dives clear - but gets a look at Andrew and Jenna in the front as the car zooms off.

She gets on the radio as she scrambles back into the SUV.

GABRIELLE

They switched cars! Heading South on Williams, cut them off at the bridge!

AGENT (V.O.)

(on radio)

Roger that. Bridge is secure. Over.

Gabrielle's SUV screams after them.

A beat and Andrew's car pulls calmly out of the lot. It heads in the other direction. Inside - Vi, Shane and Bonnie.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. EVANS RESIDENCE - AFTERNOON

Caroline, dressed in her work skirt and blazer, is about to knock. She hesitates - not ready - and starts back down the porch. LORI opens the door and Caroline whirls back.

LORI  
Caroline?

CAROLINE  
Lori, hi. Hope I'm not disturbing  
you.

Caroline's bubbling with nervous energy. She doesn't notice that Lori clutches a cordless phone to her heart and her face is pale with worry.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
I was looking for Vi. I know she  
probably doesn't want to see me but  
do you think she'd... Well, it's  
silly but... I miss her.

LORI  
Caroline...

CAROLINE  
I thought I was doing what was  
best, you know? Making her see how  
she was hurting us. But I think I  
just pushed her away. I made a  
mistake. I just want to --

She laughs and shakes her head.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
You know, what? I really should be  
telling her this. Is she here?

LORI  
She's gone.

A beat. Caroline finally senses something wrong here.

CAROLINE  
What do you mean she's gone?

LORI  
I got a call from the school. Vi  
and Shane walked out of their exam.  
Shane's not answering his phone.  
(beat)  
They're gone, Caroline.

Off Caroline's shock, CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

Andrew's car - driven by Vi - blurs past, following the sinking sun over the horizon. Heading out of town.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE