

Once Upon a Wasteland
Season One
Part One: The Book of Odessa

Episode 2:
"The Requisite Means"

by

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Based on Fallout 76

by

Bethesda Softworks

EPISODE 2:
"THE REQUISITE MEANS"

INTRODUCTION/OPENING THEME

"Charon" by Mike Eastwood

NARRATOR

(over music)

1	Once upon a time, 27 years after the bombs fell, there were two people - a Vault Dweller, and a California girl. They met, and sparks flew. That's when things got interesting.	1
2	(beat) This is their story.	2

14 TAVERN WORKER
Um... right this way, Princess. 14

15 AMANDA
Hey. Only one person gets to call
her that, and it's not you. 15

16 TAVERN WORKER
I'm sorry... again... 16

17 AMANDA
And she's not interested. 17

18 TAVERN WORKER
What? I didn't even... 18

19 AMANDA
Yes you did. Don't. 19

(pause)
20 Now. Stay out here and find
something to do for the next... 20
twenty minutes? Half-hour?

(beat)
21 If you walk in on us, I'm going to
give you shaken-baby syndrome for
grown-ups. Got it? 21

22 TAVERN WORKER
Um... yes, ma'am. 22

BETH and AMANDA enter the tavern and close the door behind
them.

INT. RAIDER BAR

BETH
(laughing)
23 You were a little hard on him,
weren't you? 23

24 AMANDA
He started eye-fucking you the
second he opened the door. Don't
tell me you didn't notice. 24

BETH
25 Of course I noticed. You're doing
it too, by the way. 25

AMANDA laughs.

39 BETH 39
We kind of released each other.

40 AMANDA 40
It was more of a... poorly
controlled explosion.

41 BETH 41
But the thing is, you'd never call
him your "boyfriend." Your nose
even curled a little bit when you
said it.

42 AMANDA 42
Remind me never to play poker with
you. Well, unless it's strip poker.
I think I have some cards behind
the bar...

BETH laughs.

43 AMANDA (CONT'D) 43
And wait a minute, I called you my
"girlfriend."

44 BETH 44
Among other things.

45 AMANDA 45
You loved being called those "other
things."

46 BETH 46
Still do.

There is a long, awkward pause.

47 AMANDA 47
Um... if we're going to talk
"business," we'd better start doing
it now. So...

48 48
 (clears throat)
...what's up?

49 BETH 49
 (gathering herself.)
I, uh... I have a holotape with a
file that's got some kind of crazy
encryption on it.

50 AMANDA 50
Not exactly my wheelhouse, but I
can probably figure something out.

65 BETH 65
So, here's the holotape. I had
someone else working on it.

66 AMANDA 66
Whoa, whoa. This is a Brotherhood
holotape. What's the Brotherhood of
Steel doing with a file named after
you?

67 BETH 67
Hey, let's not jump to conclusions,
it isn't necessarily named after
me. Could be a coincidence,
remember? A big, weird coincidence.

68 AMANDA 68
Mmm hmm. How did you get this from
the Brotherhood? Did you have to do
anything...

69 BETH 69
 (sotto)
Oh my God...

70 AMANDA 70
Sexy?!

AMANDA laughs.

71 BETH 71
You're terrible.

72 AMANDA 72
Well? Oooh, did you seduce Paladin
Rahmani? Banging her would probably
open up all kinds of intel, and you
have a thing for authority figures.
At least Knight Shin is gone, that
guy was a *lot*.

73 BETH 73
Amanda.

74 AMANDA 74
I want all the details. Wait! I
want to *roleplay* all the details. I
know I have some Brotherhood
uniforms somewhere at my place...

75 BETH 75
Amanda! I didn't seduce anybody to
get the holotape. I was...
 (MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

kind of working with them and told them I had a friend who might be able to help decrypt that last file.

76	AMANDA	Boring!	76
77	BETH	Have I ever mentioned that you're terrible?	77
78	AMANDA	You have.	78
79	BETH	It was not boring at all, I'll have you know.	79
80	AMANDA	You're being coy.	80
81	BETH	It's not Brotherhood data on the holotape. It was in a hidden lab complex under an old restaurant in the Mire. I got a line on a Brotherhood operation to get some stuff out of that lab complex and figured I might as well let them do the heavy lifting. I got in first and waited until I could make a grand entrance. They almost got killed by Super Mutants before I had the chance.	81
82	AMANDA	That would've been disappointing.	82
83	BETH	Yeah. The real disappointing part, though, was that the place was cleaned out, except for a terminal that had a bunch of encrypted data on it.	83
84	AMANDA	You're still being coy and now you're trying to distract me from noticing.	84

85 BETH 85
And I went back to Atlas and
offered to help the Scribe get at
the data.

86 AMANDA 86
"The Scribe," huh? We wouldn't be
talking about a certain smoking hot
little brunette Scribe, would we?

87 BETH 87
Amanda!

88 AMANDA 88
Did you... debrief each other?

89 BETH 89
You're incorrigible.

90 AMANDA 90
Please tell me you used that line
on her. I want to watch the shame
wash over your face.

AMANDA laughs heartily, but lovingly.

91 BETH 91
ANYWAY!

92 AMANDA 92
Oh my God, I was joking, you didn't
really, did you?

93 BETH 93
Can we move on, please?

94 AMANDA 94
Fine.

95 BETH 95
So I was hoping that you might be
able to work your magic on that
last file so I can figure out
whether I need to be worried or,
like, *really* worried.

96 AMANDA 96
Yeah... if someone's out there
naming files after you, it's really
weird. And not "fun" weird, more
like... "creepy stalker" weird.

97 (pause) 97
It'll help if you can give me some
context.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

109 And, um... it's always fun when you share. 109

BETH

110 I don't even know if *she* likes me... 110

AMANDA

111 Look, I know I'm biased, but you're basically impossible not to fall in love with. And since when do you act like this? The Beth Kirby I know doesn't doubt herself, especially when it comes to women. 111

BETH

112 I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. 112

AMANDA

113 You don't look sick to me. 113

BETH laughs.

BETH

114 That's... sweet? 114

AMANDA laughs.

AMANDA

115 Hey. Go get her. I want to hear all about it. 115

BETH

116 Yes, ma'am. I was really worried that you'd be mad. 116

AMANDA

117 Come on, why would I be mad? I mean, if "the scribe" is as hot as they say she is... 117

BETH

118 My God, Amanda, even in that frumpy uniform... 118

AMANDA giggles.

AMANDA

119 And you're telling me you didn't get her out of it yet? 119

132 AMANDA 132
Alright, get out of here so I can
get to work. I think we both know
what's going to happen if you hang
around while I work on this.

133 BETH 133
And that's a bad thing?

134 AMANDA 134
It is if you actually want me to
accomplish anything.

BETH laughs.

135 BETH 135
OK. Fair enough. I need to check in
with Odessa and see if there was
anything useful in the data she
decrypted.

136 AMANDA 136
Bye, Princess.

137 BETH 137
Bye, Amanda.

They kiss. Just a smooch.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. FORT ATLAS, DAY

BETH KIRBY climbs the staircase to ODESSA VALDEZ's lab.

She knocks on the door, which opens moments later.

138 VALDEZ Hi! 138

139 BETH Hi! I... brought pastries. I wasn't 139
sure if you'd eaten yet, and my mom
is trying to teach my dad to bake,
so we had extra.

140 VALDEZ Aww! 140

141 BETH She's trying to keep him out of 141
trouble. This is the seventh hobby
she's tried, and she's running out
of ideas.

142 VALDEZ I'm sure these are great, and... 142
thank you. It was really
thoughtful.

143 BETH You may want to have Knight Banks 143
try one first to hedge your bets.

VALDEZ laughs and takes a bite.

144 VALDEZ These are... actually really, 144
really good!

145 BETH Mom's a good teacher. 145

146 (pause) So now that I've bribed you, how's 146
the data analysis going?

147 VALDEZ There's a lot to analyze, and it's 147
really fascinating stuff. A lot of
it is way above my head, though.

148 BETH 148
I find that difficult to believe.

149 VALDEZ 149
The general science and technology
stuff I get. Even if I don't have
enough information or background to
fully grasp it, I can at least wrap
my head around it to the point that
I understand what they're trying to
do.

150 BETH 150
But...

151 VALDEZ 151
But there's also a lot of
neurology, psychology,
psychiatry... This is some
seriously heavy, involved stuff. I
just...

154 BETH 154
What is it?

155 VALDEZ 155
I guess I just don't quite
understand why it's getting this
much attention. Pre-war, sure, I'd
totally get it. But now? It's the
kind of thing we'd be all over, but
why are Raiders after it? And Blood
Eagles?

156 BETH 156
It would probably help if you told
me what you found.

157 VALDEZ 157
(flustered/embarrassed)
Oh... right... I'm sorry, I got
ahead of myself.

158 BETH 158
(gently)
It's fine, Odessa. In your own
time.

159 VALDEZ 159
From what I've been able to gather,
there was a big research project
that was intended to create a cure
for dementia, Alzheimer's Disease,
neurological trauma...
(MORE)

VALDEZ (CONT'D)

basically anything that locked away parts of a person's mind, especially memories. Memories seemed to be the key.

BETH

160 A noble idea. 160

VALDEZ

161 It is! It's... inspiringly noble. 161
It's the kind of thing that I hope we're able to work on at some point, when things get more... stable.

BETH

162 Does it say who was working on it? 162

VALDEZ

163 It does! When I said it was a "big" 163
project, I mean *huge*. It was an international effort - the US government along with some of its key allies were in on it, along with Vault-Tec.

BETH

164 Vault-Tec? 164

VALDEZ

165 Yeah. One common thread in most of 165
my research has been Vault-Tec. They had their hands in *everything* and...

BETH

166 And? 166

VALDEZ

167 And... not necessarily in a good 167
way. In fact, usually not in a good way. I'm sorry, I know they provided most of your training, I wasn't implying...

BETH

168 I know, Odessa. Trust me, I 168
understand Vault-Tec's dark side a lot better than I wish I did.

BETH takes a deep breath.

BETH (CONT'D)

173 So, Vault-Tec's got their fingerprints all over this project, which means there's probably a hell of a lot more to it than just helping people with dementia and Alzheimer's. There's no good deed with them without an angle. 173

VALDEZ

174 Well... maybe. Probably. But I can see how that kind of tech would be useful in a post-apocalyptic environment. 174

BETH

175 How? 175

VALDEZ

176 Well, we've both seen that trying to build... well anything even resembling civilization is the kind of thing that takes a massive amount of effort from everyone. 176

BETH

178 I think I see where you're going with this - looking at it from a cold, Vault-Tec perspective, if there's anything that can be done to protect people from no longer being able to contribute to that effort, it's worth exploring. 178

VALDEZ

It's not really dissimilar to building defenses against Scorched, or Raiders, in a way.

BETH

179 Hmm. I mean, it does make sense, but if that's the case, why haven't we heard anything about it? You'd think that there would be a team from 76 out there curing people left and right. 179

VALDEZ

180 From the research I've read through so far, it sounds like they didn't quite get to the point where it was usable. There were... side-effects. Even in cases where it mostly worked. Things like... 180

VALDEZ checks her notes.

VALDEZ (CONT'D)

181 Um... insanity, emotional problems, 181
significant personality shifts...
sometimes it left them catatonic or
otherwise completely unresponsive.
Just... a whole lot of bad stuff.

BETH

182 But it sounds like they pressed on. 182

VALDEZ

183 They did. They kept trying to 183
refine the technology, but it was a
slow go. And then the bombs
dropped. That's where the logs end.

BETH

184 So this lab was only active *before* 184
the war. And it just sort of... sat
there for about 27 years, until
somebody decided to come grab
everything?

VALDEZ

185 And encrypt the data. 185

BETH

186 Wait, whoever took the equipment 186
encrypted the data? It wasn't the
original researchers?

VALDEZ

187 Yeah. That part really doesn't add 187
up, does it?

BETH

188 No. Assuming they copied it off 188
like you did, it would've been a
hell of a lot faster and easier to
just delete it, or even to destroy
everything they left behind.

VALDEZ

189 Maybe... a kind of off-site backup 189
in case anything happened to their
copy?

BETH

190 Maybe. But still... weird. 190

191 VALDEZ Very. 191

192 (pause) Oh! That reminds me! Did your 192
friend have any luck with that
other file?

193 BETH I just dropped it off with her this 193
morning.

194 VALDEZ Her? 194

195 BETH Hmm? 195

196 VALDEZ You said you "knew a guy." 196

197 BETH It was just a turn of phrase. Is 197
that a problem?

198 VALDEZ No, of course not. 198

199 BETH Was there any mention of that file 199
or that word anywhere else in the
data?

200 VALDEZ Nowhere. Since all the logs were in 200
English and that filename was a
German word, I tried to search for
every possible iteration or
variation I could think of.
"Cherry" in dozens of different
languages, different fruits, other
German words... I came up empty.

201 BETH Well, I guess our last hope is that 201
there's something in that file.

202 VALDEZ Oh! Another thing to add to the 202
weirdness. That file was new.

203 BETH New? 203

204 VALDEZ 204
Yeah. I was able to extract a
creation date from it... it was the
only thing I was able to actually
pull out of it. It was created
about six weeks ago. Everything
else on that terminal was from
before the war.

205 BETH 205
That's got to be when they cleaned
the place out.
(beat)

206 206
So they broke into the lab, took
the equipment, presumably also took
the data, but encrypted it rather
than deleting it and also added
another file.

207 VALDEZ 207
I just don't understand. I mean,
I've dealt with people here that
were unhinged, diabolical, ultra-
violent... but what they did
usually made sense, in a sick sort
of way.
(beat)

208 208
This? This doesn't make any sense.

209 BETH 209
It feels like they're playing a
game. Did you ever read about
serial killers?

210 VALDEZ 210
I've heard stories, but I never
really studied them.

211 BETH 211
Some of them played games with the
police. Like a "catch me if you
can" kind of thing. It wasn't
enough to kill people, their
satisfaction really came from
getting away with it and rubbing
everyone's nose in it. It was like
a... psychological imperative.

212 VALDEZ 212
You think that's what's happening
here?

213 BETH 213
I don't know. But at this point
it's the only thing that makes any
sense.

214 VALDEZ 214
If we can even call it "sense."

215 BETH 215
Yeah. Here's hoping they got sloppy
and put something in that file we
can use.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

EXT WHITESPRING RESORT, NIGHT

AMANDA OTIS walks through the grounds, keeping off the path
to avoid the various robots making the rounds.

She hears a noise and wheels around, gun drawn. It's CINDY
CONNER, an Enclave lieutenant.

216 CINDY 216
It's me, Angel! Don't shoot!

AMANDA chuckles wryly.

217 AMANDA 217
Sorry, Dollface. Can't be too
careful.

They kiss.

218 CINDY 218
I'm sorry I'm late... Colonel
Valeria wanted to go over a mission
briefing for a thing in Grafton
tomorrow morning and I thought she
was never going to leave.

219 AMANDA 219
It's okay... I don't mind waiting
for you.

220 (beat)
How early in the morning? 220

221 CINDY 221
0500.

222 AMANDA 222
I guess that means that you can't
come over...

223 CINDY I'm sorry. I really wish I could. 223
The whole thing stinks. I... I miss
you.

224 AMANDA I miss you, too. 224

225 CINDY So what's up? Your message sounded 225
pretty urgent.

226 AMANDA Um... I need a favor. 226

227 CINDY (teasing) Oh, so you didn't just want to see 227
me again?

228 (wary) What kind of favor? 228

229 AMANDA First of all, I always want to see 229
you, Dollface.

230 (beat) But... I have a holotape with 230
encryption that's just been tying
me into knots, and I thought you
might be able to help.

231 CINDY I mean... I'm really good with 231
computers, especially with all the
boring classes they've stuck me in,
but that's not really something I
know how to do...

232 AMANDA Well, what I thought was... maybe 232
one of those fancy computers in
that bunker could probably cut
through it like butter.

233 CINDY Hrm, I don't know... I could get 233
into sooooo much trouble...

234 AMANDA I promise, I'll make it worth your 234
while.

235 CINDY Give me the holotape and I'll see what I can do. 235

AMANDA gives CINDY the holotape.

236 CINDY (CONT'D) Oh, no, Angel... this is a Brotherhood holotape! I don't know if I should, if the Colonel found out she'd be furious! 236

237 AMANDA Ooooh, would she punish you?! 237

CINDY playfully shoves AMANDA.

238 CINDY Stop it! 238

239 AMANDA I'm joking! Mostly. She seems like she might be more into being punished anyway... 239

240 CINDY I'm going to go ahead and not think about that, thanks. 240

241 (beat) You're not going to let me say no, are you? 241

242 AMANDA Nope. 242

243 CINDY Well, in that case, I'll do everything I can to make that file readable. 243

244 AMANDA That's all I can ask for. 244

245 CINDY But no promises, okay? 245

246 AMANDA Thanks, Dollface. 246

247 CINDY So... I do have a little bit of time until I have to get back to the bunker... 247

MUSIC SWELLS

END OF ACT TWO

270 BETH 270
How did you know about it? Vault-
Tec compartmentalized *everything*.

271 ANDREW 271
One of my friends - Dr. Anthony
Flagler - was involved in it. He
let something slip about it one day
when we we'd had a bit of drink,
and I thought it sounded
fascinating.

272 BETH 272
And you got him to talk without
even realizing it.

273 ANDREW 273
Now, if I'd known that my daughter
would come to me for information
about it twenty-five years later, I
would've been rather more thorough.

274 BETH 274
I guess I'll forgive you. Given
that you didn't even have a
daughter then and all.

275 ANDREW 275
I can tell you that it was
something they worked on right up
until Reclamation Day, and the plan
was to continue that here in
Appalachia. They'd set up their
laboratories so that they'd be able
to survive anything short of a
nuclear detonation directly on top
of them.

276 BETH 276
Yeah. I saw one of them a few days
ago. Any tech that was in there got
cleaned out, but other than that it
looked like nobody had been in
there since before the war.

277 ANDREW 277
Where was that lab?

278 BETH 278
In the Mire. Under an old
restaurant.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

288 Now it's your turn, Schatzi. What's going on? 288

BETH

289 I'm still trying to figure that out. All I know is that someone's making a big play for a bunch of technology and research that's in several secret locations in Appalachia. I finally got a lead on one, and glommed onto some Brotherhood muscle to get inside. But there was nothing there but dust and a bunch of encrypted data. 289

ANDREW

290 That certainly fits in with what I know about the project. Who are the players? 290

BETH

291 That's the crazy part. There are several groups in on the effort, but I can't tell if they're all working under one person or if they just found out about some valuable tech and are going after it because of FOMO. 291

(beat)

292 Have you heard anything about this? 292

ANDREW

293 I did hear some rumblings. Mostly from the Blood Eagles, my goodness do they love to prattle on. But nothing specifically about what the technology was, and certainly nothing about any one person or group leading the effort. 293

BETH

294 So if they are working together, they don't know it. 294

ANDREW

295 That's my read on it. If I'm being honest, what I heard out there didn't seem like anything to be concerned about. But what you've learned changes that significantly. 295

(beat)

296 I'll get out there and see if I can find anything out. 296

297 BETH 297
Dad, you're retired!

298 ANDREW 298
Semi-retired! And I was MI6, you
know...

299 BETH 299
Thirty-five years ago!

300 ANDREW 300
Moving to MI5 didn't soften me up
that much...

301 BETH 301
How about being a college professor
and living in a Vault for 25 years?

302 ANDREW 302
Oh, the "kindly professor" thing
has been absolutely invaluable.

303 BETH 303
I'm going to talk to mom about
finally finding you a hobby that
sticks.

304 ANDREW 304
I have hobbies!

305 BETH 305
Getting captured by different
factions just so you can see how
long it takes you to escape is not
a hobby.

306 ANDREW 306
Well... I did rather enjoy baking,
too.

BETH fails to stifle a laugh.

307 BETH 307
The pastries were wonderful, by the
way.

308 ANDREW 308
Thank you.

309 (beat) 309
Oh! By the way, Amanda will be
joining us for dinner this evening.
Will you be as well?

310 BETH Well, if Amanda's coming, that means mom's making spaetzle, so I will make every effort to be here. 310

(beat)
311 I'm going to pay Dr. Flagler a visit. Maybe I can sweet-talk him into providing some intel about the project. If he's even still alive... 311

312 ANDREW Just be careful. I haven't spoken to him in over a year, and I suspect that his... decline hasn't abated. I'll have Charles send his location to your Pip-Boy. 312

(beat)
313 And here. Take this. It might help. 313

ANDREW retrieves a bottle from a nearby cabinet.

314 BETH Glenlivet? That's... wow. Are you sure? 314

315 ANDREW Anything for my little girl. 315

316 BETH Aww. Thank you, daddy. I promise to provide a full report on what I find. 316

(beat)
317 I just need to make one stop to... get something I need and I'll head right over. 317

MUSICAL TRANSITION

EXT. DOCTOR FLAGLER'S HOME, AFTERNOON

318 BETH You're the scientist, Odessa, so you two will speak the same language. 318

319 VALDEZ I'm not a neurologist, though. And the data I've analyzed is way over my head. 319

BETH (CONT'D)

The kitchen is that way, isn't it
Dr. Flagler? Through that door?

(beat)

351 Dr. Flagler, look at me. It's Lily. 351
Lily Kirby. My father is Andrew,
and my mother is Elise. They're
your friends, and they're both
fine. And you're fine, too.

FLAGLER pauses to gather himself.

FLAGLER

352 Thank you. I... the fog... it just 352
won't lift.

BETH

353 It's OK, Dr. Flagler. I understand. 353
Why is this happening?

FLAGLER speaks haltingly, every word and every thought behind
it clearly a struggle.

FLAGLER

354 I suppose it doesn't matter now. 354
Keeping secrets for the "greater
good." At least I thought we were
trying to do good, but... but we
were doing more than that. We
didn't know. Some of us didn't
know. Not me, not until the end. I
figured it out. The system just
wouldn't do, would it? It had to be
wrong.

BETH

355 Dr. Flagler, do you remember 355
talking with Elise about where she
grew up?

FLAGLER

356 Yes... Elise... Elise is from 356
Munich. I spent a year very near
there when I was an
undergraduate... we talked quite a
bit about it. And that's where she
met your dad, isn't it?

BETH

357 That's right, doctor. Please go on. 357
Odessa has those glasses for us.
You remember Odessa, don't you?

FLAGLER

358 I do. Thank you, Odessa. 358

FLAGLER (CONT'D)

Not one that could do what they wanted it to. Too sharp or not sharp enough...

BETH

369 Doctor, can you look at me for a moment? 369

(beat)

370 Let's take a drink. 370

BETH, VALDEZ, and FLAGLER drink.

BETH (CONT'D)

371 Now, I want you to think about the time our theater club did that production of "My Fair Lady." Do you remember that? 371

FLAGLER

372 I... I don't know... 372

BETH

373 It's alright, I'll remind you. There weren't enough boys, so I played Henry Higgins. Casey - do you remember Casey? 373

FLAGLER

374 I... I do. 374

BETH

375 Right! You're doing so well. Casey played Eliza, and... 375

FLAGLER

(interrupting, happy)

376 And she couldn't do an English accent to save her life! 376

FLAGLER laughs.

FLAGLER (CONT'D)

377 Oh, that was a sight, wasn't it? But the two of you lit up the stage. 377

BETH

378 We did, didn't we? 378

FLAGLER

379 Miss Valdez, I'm sorry. Where was I? 379

380 VALDEZ
Reading and writing? 380

381 FLAGLER
Ah, yes! The part of the program that I originally worked on was rewriting pathways so inaccessible areas of the mind could be accessible. Kind of a... detour so that the information could get to its destination. 381

382 VALDEZ
I'm not a neuroscientist, but I think I remember reading that we still only use a small part of our brains' capacity, so there must be unused pathways that could be reprogrammed. 382

383 FLAGLER
There were! And we were making real progress in getting them to do what we needed them to. But what I eventually learned was that they were trying to extract memories directly from the brain, and also write those recorded memories to an unused portion. 383

384 VALDEZ
Ah! So in the event that an area of the brain was damaged but the memories were still readable, they could be rewritten to an undamaged area! 384

385 FLAGLER
Precisely! Oh, my dear, you're exceptionally perceptive. 385

386 (pause)
But, unfortunately, that was a cover story. As I said, they wanted to weaponize memories. And they wanted to do that by inserting altered, or outright false memories into people's minds. 386

387 VALDEZ
Could it also be used as an interrogation tool? Like, forcibly extracting information from people's minds? 387

388 FLAGLER 388
Oh, yes. That was the other part of
their plan. This technology was
going to be the basis of an
entirely new type of human
intelligence operation. Talk about
being made more sinister and more
protracted by the lights of
perverted science...

389 VALDEZ 389
Do you still have your research
here? I'd love to look at it.

390 FLAGLER 390
Well, my dear, I do still have my
personal journals, and you're
welcome to take them. I have no use
for them anymore. But Vault-Tec
took the centralized data when they
took the equipment.

391 BETH 391
Vault-Tec took the equipment? When?

392 FLAGLER 392
About a month ago, I think? Time
sort of... bleeds together these
days.

393 BETH 393
Doctor, are you sure it was Vault-
Tec? The only official Vault-Tec
presence out here is the Overseer,
at least as far as I know.

394 FLAGLER 394
I... well, I recognized them from
the Vault, and they had
credentials. But I suppose they
could have just held onto the ones
they had, and... oh, no. Oh, God!

395 BETH 395
It's alright, Doctor, it's
alright...

396 FLAGLER 396
(agitated)
I... I just wanted it out of my
sight. I tried to... fix myself.
Recreate the experiments, write
everything back. But it was already
lost.

397 BETH I understand, Doctor. Doctor, look at me. It's Lily, and I'm here with Odessa. You were just chatting with her. Just a nice chat over some drinks. Remember? 397

398 FLAGLER I'm tired, Lily. I'm just... I'm tired. Odessa, you can find my journals and research materials upstairs in my office. First door on the left. 398

399 VALDEZ I'll get them. Thank you very much, Doctor. 399

400 FLAGLER You're welcome, my dear. It was... nice to talk to a fellow scientist again. Thank you for that. 400

401 VALDEZ It was my pleasure. 401

VALDEZ heads up the stairs.

402 FLAGLER Can you do me a favor? 402

403 BETH Of course. 403

404 FLAGLER Can you tell your father that I'd like it if he'd visit again? We can empty the rest of this bottle of Glenlivet together. 404

405 BETH I think he'd like that. I'll tell him as soon as I see him. 405

VALDEZ returns.

406 VALDEZ All set! Thank you again, Doctor. It was really wonderful to meet you. 406

418 VALDEZ
You... really? 418

419 BETH
Yeah. Really. What do you say? 419

420 VALDEZ
I'd like that. Today has been... a
lot. 420

421 BETH
It has. I'm a pretty good cook. And
if you don't like it, I have a lot
of booze, too. 421

VALDEZ laughs.

422 VALDEZ
You're a woman of many talents,
Elizabeth Kirby. 422

423 BETH
Thank you. Let's get out of here. 423

MUSICAL TRANSITION

INT. BETH'S HOME, NIGHT

Dinner is wrapping up, glasses and silverware clink.

424 VALDEZ
That was amazing, Beth. Thank you. 424

425 BETH
It was nice to cook for somebody
other than just me for once. Did
you really like it, or did I just
give you enough wine to mask the
taste? 425

VALDEZ laughs.

426 VALDEZ
Well, there was a lot of wine, but
it was excellent. Really. The,
um... company was better, though. 426

427 BETH
(turning on the charm)
You know, if you want, we could...
make this a regular thing. Dinner,
I mean. 427

BETH stands.

VALDEZ
(going with it)
428 We could... but, um... 428

BETH
429 What? 429

VALDEZ
430 Did you have anything in mind for
dessert? 430

VALDEZ stands.

BETH
431 I did, yeah. 431

BETH moves closer.

VALDEZ
432 One of those pastries? 432

BETH
433 No. 433

VALDEZ
434 Ice cream? 434

BETH
435 I was thinking of something...
hotter. 435

VALDEZ
436 I think that's exactly what I
need... 436

They kiss. Tentatively at first, then with increasing
passion.

BETH
437 How was that? 437

VALDEZ
438 Sweet. 438

BETH
439 Would you like a second course? 439

VALDEZ
440 Yeah... 440

They kiss again. Mid-kiss, the door flies open.

AMANDA enters, out of breath.

441 AMANDA 441
Beth! I-- Oh, no. I am so sorry.
 (beat)

442 AMANDA 442
Uh, I'm Amanda. I'm an... old
friend of Beth's.

443 VALDEZ 443
That's Amanda?!

444 BETH 444
Odessa Valdez, Amanda Otis.

445 AMANDA 445
Oh... Oh! Look, um, I really am
sorry I broke up... whatever this
was about to turn into, but you
need to see this.

446 BETH 446
See what?

447 AMANDA 447
Here.

448 VALDEZ 448
Is that my holotape? This is the
friend you gave it to? Beth, what
the hell is going on?

449 BETH 449
Odessa, I'll explain everything, I
promise. Amanda, what's got you so
fired up?

450 AMANDA 450
That file? It *is* about you.

451 BETH 451
Dammit. How do you know?

452 AMANDA 452
Look for yourself.

AMANDA loads the holotape into a terminal and clacks at the
keys.

453 BETH 453
Oh, no. Oh, *no*.

454 VALDEZ 454
 (more distraught than
 angry)
Beth, if you don't start explaining
right now, I'm leaving.

455 BETH 455
You're right, you deserve to know.
I didn't want to say anything
unless I was sure. You remember the
name of that file?

456 VALDEZ 456
Of course I do. "Kirsche." German
word for "cherry." And?

457 BETH 457
And... Kirsche was a nickname I had
in the Vault.

VALDEZ scoffs.

458 VALDEZ 458
Why didn't you mention that?

459 BETH 459
I was hoping it was just a
coincidence...

460 AMANDA 460
A big, weird coincidence....

461 BETH 461
But what you're looking at on the
screen is my full personnel file
from Vault 76. And when I say the
full file, I mean it - it even has
the redacted and compartmentalized
stuff.

462 AMANDA 462
I didn't read it, by the way. I
know that there are things in
there... well things that nobody
should see.

463 BETH 463
Thank you. But even that doesn't
matter now. We need to figure out
why that file was there, and why it
was encrypted differently than the
other data.

464 VALDEZ 464
If it was a Vault-Tec file, it
probably still had Vault-Tec
encryption on it. And not the
normal kind, some sort of... I
don't know... top-secret AI-based
encryption.

(MORE)

VALDEZ (CONT'D)

The kind of thing that even my
tools couldn't crack.

(beat)

465 Why could yours? 465

AMANDA

466 I... called in a favor. 466

VALDEZ

(conflicted, upset)

467 Beth, I... I feel like I'm on the 467
verge of either saying or doing
something I'm going to regret and I
don't want that to happen. I should
go.

(beat, gathering
herself)

I think we should talk about this
tomorrow, at Atlas.

BETH

(meekly)

468 OK. I'll... see you tomorrow. 468
Please be careful, it's late.

VALDEZ leaves.

BETH (CONT'D)

469 DAMMIT! 469

AMANDA

470 Shit, Princess, I'm so sorry. I 470
really fucked this up, didn't I?

BETH

(crushed)

471 It's not your fault. You did the 471
right thing. This couldn't wait.

AMANDA

472 Those sick fucks. 472

BETH

473 And I should've been more 473
forthcoming with her, too. I really
like her, Amanda.

AMANDA

474 I know, baby. 474

BETH

475 I guess there isn't much to do 475
until I talk to her tomorrow.

(MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

I already know everything that's in
that file, and we already know that
it's not tied to anything in the
other data from that lab. I just...

(beat, trailing off)

476

I don't know...

476

OUTRO MUSIC BEGINS AND SWELLS

AMANDA

477

Do you need me to stay?

477

BETH

(softly)

478

Yeah.

478

CLOSING MUSIC REACHES FINAL VOLUME

END OF EPISODE 2