Once Upon a Wasteland Season One

Part One: The Book of Odessa

Episode 2: "The Requisite Means"

by

D.K. Trueno

Based on Fallout 76

by

Bethesda Softworks

Final
16 October 2021

EPISODE 2: "THE REQUISITE MEANS"

INTRODUCTION/OPENING THEME

"Charon" by Mike Eastwood

NARRATOR (over music) 1 Once upon a time, 27 years after 1 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. (beat) 2 This is their story.

ACT ONE

EXT. RAIDER CAMP, MORNING

SFX - Walla

BETH KIRBY moves through a crowd at a Raider camp. She arrives at the door to a bar and knocks. The door opens.

3	TAVERN WORKER We don't want any.	3
4	BETH I'm here to see H.B.	4
5	TAVERN WORKER She doesn't want any, either.	5
6	BETH I don't think you have any idea how wrong you are right now.	6
7	AMANDA (from inside the bar) Princess?	7
8	BETH Yeah. Just kind of hanging out here	8
AMANI	DA OTIS approaches the door and flings it open.	
9	AMANDA (to the worker) Are you stupid?	9
10	TAVERN WORKER	10
11	AMANDA I'll take that as a yes. Look, if you want to keep this job forget that, if you want to keep your head attached to your body, be as careful about who you turn away as you are about who you let in.	11
12	TAVERN WORKER I'm uh sorry, H.B. Won't happen again.	12
13	AMANDA You're god damn right it won't.	13

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. (pause)	19
20	Now. Stay out here and find something to do for the next twenty minutes? Half-hour?	20
21	(beat) 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
	${\tt BETH}$ and ${\tt AMANDA}$ enter the tavern and close the door beh them.	ind
	INT. RAIDER BAR	
23	BETH (laughing) 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
25	BETH Of course I noticed. You're doing it too, by the way.	25

AMANDA laughs.

	AMANDA	
27	So what brings you here so early? Want to break the "nooner and lunch" routine? I have a crick in my back that would probably help me work out	27
28	BETH (interrupting) Actually I'm here on business. I'm sorry.	28
29	AMANDA	29
29	Oh. (feigning being upset)	23
30	I didn't want to bang anyway. I have a new boyfriend, and he never turns me down.	30
	BETH	
31	(laughing) You're a terrible liar!	31
32	AMANDA I am not! I'm an excellent liar! It comes with the whole Raider thing.	32
33	BETH Not to me you're not.	33
34	AMANDA And why is it so unbelievable that I have a new boyfriend? Just because we broke up	34
	BETH	
35	<pre>(interrupting)several times</pre>	35
36	AMANDAseveral times, it doesn't mean that I'm incapable of being in a relationship.	36
37	BETH That part's not unbelievable at all. I mean, let's be honest here, you're a catch.	37
	AMANDA	
38	Says the woman who caught-and- released me.	38

		5.
39	BETH We kind of released each other.	39
40	AMANDA It was more of a poorly controlled explosion.	40
41	BETH But the thing is, you'd never call him your "boyfriend." Your nose even curled a little bit when you said it.	41
42	AMANDA Remind me never to play poker with you. Well, unless it's strip poker. I think I have some cards behind the bar	42
	BETH laughs.	
43	AMANDA (CONT'D) And wait a minute, I called you my "girlfriend."	43
44	BETH Among other things.	44
45	AMANDA You loved being called those "other things."	45
46	BETH Still do.	46
	There is a long, awkward pause.	
47	AMANDA Um if we're going to talk "business," we'd better start doing it now. So	47
48	<pre>(clears throat)what's up?</pre>	48
49	BETH (gathering herself.) I, uh I have a holotape with a file that's got some kind of crazy encryption on it.	49
50	AMANDA Not exactly my wheelhouse, but I can probably figure something out.	50

51	BETH Here's the thing, though. The	51
	encryption isn't the concerning part. The file it's named "Kirsche."	
52	AMANDA Oh. Hrm. That <i>is</i> concerning. Coincidence, maybe?	52
53	BETH Maybe. But I really want to make sure. It's a pretty big one, if it is.	53
54	AMANDA Yeah. And can I say how hilarious it is that your nickname used to be the German word for "cherry?"	54
55	BETH You have. Several times.	55
56	AMANDA And it never stops being funny.	56
57	BETH Come on, you know damn well it was because of my hair.	57
58	AMANDA Mmm hmm. Sure it was. What's German for "princess?"	58
59	BETH "Prinzessin."	59
60	AMANDA Doesn't really roll off the tongue. How about "rope bunny?"	60
61	BETH Amanda!	61
62	AMANDA Am I still the only person who can make you blush like that?	62
63	BETH Yes.	63
64	AMANDA Good.	64

65	BET So, here's the someone else wo	holotape. I had	65
66	Whoa, whoa. Thi holotape. What'	NDA s is a Brotherhood s the Brotherhood of h a file named after	66
67	it isn't necess me. Could be a	jump to conclusions, arily named after	67
68	Mmm hmm. How di	NDA d you get this from ? Did you have to do	68
	BET	Н	
69	(sotto) Oh my God		69
70	AMA Sexy?!	NDA	70
AMANDA laı	ighs.		
	BET	н	
71	You're terrible	==	71
72	Well? Oooh, did Rahmani? Bangin open up all kin have a thing fo	NDA you seduce Paladin g her would probably ds of intel, and you r authority figures. Shin is gone, that	72
73	BET Amanda.		73
74	I want all the want to rolepla know I have som	y all the details. I	74
75	get the holotap	t seduce anybody to	75

7.

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 And I went back to Atlas and offered to help the Scribe get at the data.	85
86	AMANDA "The Scribe," huh? We wouldn't be talking about a certain smoking hot little brunette Scribe, would we?	86
87	BETH Amanda!	87
88	AMANDA Did you debrief each other?	88
89	BETH You're incorrigible.	89
90	AMANDA Please tell me you used that line on her. I want to watch the shame wash over your face.	90
AMANDA la	aughs heartily, but lovingly.	
91	BETH ANYWAY!	91
92	AMANDA Oh my God, I was joking, you didn't really, did you?	92
93	BETH Can we move on, please?	93
94	AMANDA Fine.	94
95	BETH 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.	95
96	AMANDA Yeah if someone's out there naming files after you, it's really weird. And not "fun" weird, more like "creepy stalker" weird.	96
97	<pre>(pause) It'll help if you can give me some context.</pre>	97

98	BETH Well, I don't know much at this point. The lead I was chasing has something to do with some kind of neurological equipment and research that was related to a project before the war.	98
99	AMANDA What was the project?	99
100	BETH I don't know anything specific yet. I'm hoping the other data that Odessa decrypted can shed some light on that part. But here's the thing that concerns me - somebody, and I don't know who yet, really wants this stuff. And that implies that there's a lot more to this than just a regular old tech grab.	100
101	(pause) What?	101
102	AMANDA "Odessa?"	102
103	BETH Ugh.	103
104	AMANDA (singsong, teasing) You like her	104
105	BETH Stop.	105
106	AMANDA I love it when you pout like that, Princess.	106
107	BETH (frustrated) Okay! Maybe I like her! Will you please get off my back about it?! AMANDA laughs.	107
108	AMANDA Fine, fine! I'm all for it, Princess. You're always more fun when you're in the middle of one of your little flings. (pause) (MORE)	108

AMANDA (CONT'D) 109 And, um it's always fun when you share. BETH 110 I don't even know if she likes 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. BETH 112 I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. AMANDA You don't look sick to me. 113 BETH laughs.	
And, um it's always fun when you share. BETH I don't even know if she likes 110 AMANDA 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. BETH I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. AMANDA You don't look sick to me. 113	
I don't even know if she likes MAMANDA 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. BETH I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. AMANDA You don't look sick to me. 110 AMANDA You don't look sick to me.	
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. BETH I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. AMANDA You don't look sick to me. 111	
I don't know. Maybe I'm sick or something, I've been off my game since I crossed paths with her. AMANDA You don't look sick to me. 113	
You don't look sick to me. 113	
RETTU laughe	
DELI LAUVIID.	
BETH 114 That's sweet? 114	
AMANDA laughs.	
AMANDA Hey. Go get her. I want to hear all 115 about it.	
BETH Yes, ma'am. I was really worried 116 that you'd be mad.	
AMANDA 117 Come on, why would I be mad? I 117 mean, if "the scribe" is as hot as they say she is	
BETH My God, Amanda, even in that frumpy 118 uniform	
AMANDA giggles.	
AMANDA 119 And you're telling me you didn't 119 get her out of it yet?	

120	BETH	120
120	Hey!	120
121	AMANDA OK! Sorry, sorry, didn't mean to trample on the purity of your little crush, Princess.	121
122	BETH Look, as of right now, she's my best bet to get to the bottom of this, and that's what I'm trying to focus on.	122
123	AMANDA You're the expert, but you might want to figure out what "this" is.	123
124	BETH All I know is that it's big. You've been hearing about it for what, months now? It's been like that everywhere. The thing is, nobody knows enough on their own for any of it to make sense, so somebody's got to be behind it and looking to make a big play.	124
125	<pre>(beat) I just don't know what that play is yet.</pre>	125
126	AMANDA I'll see what I can do with this file. Maybe we'll at least be able to figure out if the filename is a coincidence or not.	126
127	BETH I really hope it is.	127
128	AMANDA Yeah. Me too. I worry about you sometimes, Princess.	128
129	BETH Only sometimes?	129
130	AMANDA Fine. All the time.	130

BETH

That's better.

131

132	AMANDA 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.	132
133	BETH And that's a bad thing?	133
134	AMANDA It is if you actually want me to accomplish anything.	134
BETH]	laughs.	
135	BETH OK. Fair enough. I need to check in with Odessa and see if there was anything useful in the data she decrypted.	135
136	AMANDA Bye, Princess.	136
137	BETH Bye, Amanda.	137

They kiss. Just a smooch.

13.

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 sure if you'd eaten yet, and my mom is trying to teach my dad to bake, so we had extra.	139
140	VALDEZ Aww!	140
141	BETH She's trying to keep him out of trouble. This is the seventh hobby she's tried, and she's running out of ideas.	141
142	VALDEZ I'm sure these are great, and thank you. It was really thoughtful.	142
143	BETH You may want to have Knight Banks try one first to hedge your bets.	143
	VALDEZ laughs and takes a bite.	
144	VALDEZ These are actually really, really good!	144
145	BETH Mom's a good teacher.	145
146	(pause) So now that I've bribed you, how's the data analysis going?	146
147	VALDEZ There's a lot to analyze, and it's really fascinating stuff. A lot of it is way above my head, though.	147

148	BETH I find that difficult to believe.	148
149	VALDEZ 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.	149
	BETH	
150	But	150
151	VALDEZ But there's also a lot of neurology, psychology, psychiatry This is some seriously heavy, involved stuff. I just	151
	BETH	
154	What is it?	154
155	VALDEZ 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?	155
156	BETH It would probably help if you told me what you found.	156
157	VALDEZ (flustered/embarrassed) Oh right I'm sorry, I got ahead of myself.	157
158	BETH (gently) It's fine, Odessa. In your own time.	158
159	VALDEZ 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)	159

		10.
	VALDEZ (CONT'D) basically anything that locked away parts of a person's mind, especially memories. Memories seemed to be the key.	
160	BETH A noble idea.	160
161	VALDEZ It is! It's inspiringly noble. It's the kind of thing that I hope we're able to work on at some point, when things get more stable.	161
	BETH	
162	Does it say who was working on it?	162
163	VALDEZ It does! When I said it was a "big" 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.	163
164	BETH Vault-Tec?	164
165	VALDEZ Yeah. One common thread in most of my research has been Vault-Tec. They had their hands in everything and	165
166	BETH And?	166
167	VALDEZ And not necessarily in a good way. In fact, usually not in a good way. I'm sorry, I know they provided most of your training, I wasn't implying	167

BETH takes a deep breath.

168

wasn't implying...

BETH

lot better than I wish I did.

understand Vault-Tec's dark side a

I know, Odessa. Trust me, I

173	BETH (CONT'D) 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
174	VALDEZ Well maybe. Probably. But I can see how that kind of tech would be useful in a post-apocalyptic environment.	174
175	BETH How?	175
176	VALDEZ 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
178	BETH 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.	
179	BETH 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
180	VALDEZ 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.

181	VALDEZ (CONT'D) Um insanity, emotional problems, significant personality shifts sometimes it left them catatonic or otherwise completely unresponsive. Just a whole lot of bad stuff.	181
182	BETH But it sounds like they pressed on.	182
183	VALDEZ They did. They kept trying to refine the technology, but it was a slow go. And then the bombs dropped. That's where the logs end.	183
184	BETH So this lab was only active before the war. And it just sort of sat there for about 27 years, until somebody decided to come grab everything?	184
185	VALDEZ And encrypt the data.	185
186	BETH Wait, whoever took the equipment encrypted the data? It wasn't the original researchers?	186
187	VALDEZ Yeah. That part really doesn't add up, does it?	187
188	BETH No. Assuming they copied it off 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.	188
189	VALDEZ Maybe a kind of off-site backup in case anything happened to their copy?	189
190	BETH Maybe. But still weird.	190

	VALDEZ	
191	Very.	191
192	<pre>(pause) Oh! That reminds me! Did your friend have any luck with that other file?</pre>	192
193	BETH I just dropped it off with her this morning.	193
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 that a problem?	197
198	VALDEZ No, of course not.	198
199	BETH Was there any mention of that file or that word anywhere else in the data?	199
200	VALDEZ Nowhere. Since all the logs were in 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.	200
201	BETH Well, I guess our last hope is that there's something in that file.	201
202	VALDEZ Oh! Another thing to add to the weirdness. That file was new.	202
203	BETH New?	203

204	VALDEZ 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.	204
205	BETH That's got to be when they cleaned the place out.	205
206	(beat) 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.	206
207	VALDEZ 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.	207
208	(beat) This? This doesn't make any sense.	208
209	BETH It feels like they're playing a game. Did you ever read about serial killers?	209
210	VALDEZ I've heard stories, but I never really studied them.	210
211	BETH 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.	211
212	VALDEZ You think that's what's happening here?	212

213	BETH I don't know. But at this point 213 it's the only thing that makes any sense.
214	VALDEZ If we can even call it "sense." 214
215	BETH Yeah. Here's hoping they got sloppy 215 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 It's me, Angel! Don't shoot! 216
	AMANDA chuckles wryly.
217	AMANDA Sorry, Dollface. Can't be too 217 careful.
	They kiss.
218	CINDY I'm sorry I'm late Colonel 218 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 It's okay I don't mind waiting 219 for you.
220	(beat) How early in the morning? 220
221	CINDY 0500.
222	AMANDA I guess that means that you can't 222 come over

223	CINDY I'm sorry. I really wish I could. The whole thing stinks. I I miss you.	223
224	AMANDA I miss you, too.	224
225	CINDY So what's up? Your message sounded pretty urgent.	225
226	AMANDA Um I need a favor.	226
227	CINDY (teasing) Oh, so you didn't just want to see me again?	227
228	(wary) What kind of favor?	228
229	AMANDA First of all, I always want to see you, Dollface.	229
230	(beat) But I have a holotape with encryption that's just been tying me into knots, and I thought you might be able to help.	230
231	CINDY I mean I'm really good with computers, especially with all the boring classes they've stuck me in, but that's not really something I know how to do	231
232	AMANDA Well, what I thought was maybe one of those fancy computers in that bunker could probably cut through it like butter.	232
233	CINDY Hrm, I don't know I could get into socooo much trouble	233
234	AMANDA I promise, I'll make it worth your while.	234

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
2.4.2	AMANDA	2.4.0
242	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

ACT THREE

INT. KIRBY RESIDENCE - DAY

BETH KIRBY types a six-digit code and opens the front door to her parents' residence.

248	BETH Dad? You home?	248
	CHARLES WATKINS enters.	
249	CHARLES Hey, kiddo.	249
250	BETH Hey, Charles. Is my dad here?	250
251	CHARLES Um	251
252	BETH Charles	252
253	CHARLES He, um	253
254	BETH Did he get captured again?	254
	CHARLES sighs.	
255	CHARLES Yeah.	255
256	BETH He needs to stop doing that. They're going to catch on. Who is it this time?	256
257	CHARLES Raiders.	257
258	BETH UGH. Which group?	258
259	CHARLES He didn't say.	259

260	BETH He's been complaining that Amanda hasn't been over for dinner in a while, he probably did it so he could invite her.	260
261	CHARLES That tracks.	261
262	BETH He knows he can just walk into her bar at any time, right? Nobody's going to touch him. Hell, they'd probably buy him drinks all night.	262
263	CHARLES That's not really your father's style. Well, the free drinks part is.	263
	BETH laughs.	
264	BETH Do you remember anything about a project in the Vault about memory, curing dementia, that kind of thing?	264
	ANDREW KIRBY has silently entered and now speaks up.	
265	ANDREW That sounds like Project Mind's Eye.	265
	BETH yelps in surprise. CHARLES laughs.	
266	BETH Where did you come from?!	266
267	ANDREW Oh, just went out for a bit of a walk	267
268	BETH Mmm hmm.	268
269	ANDREW At any rate, the project you've asked about I'll help as much as I can, but I wasn't involved with it, even indirectly.	269

270	BETH How did you know about it? Vault- Tec compartmentalized everything.	270
271	ANDREW 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.	271
272	BETH And you got him to talk without even realizing it.	272
273	ANDREW 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.	273
274	BETH I guess I'll forgive you. Given that you didn't even have a daughter then and all.	274
275	ANDREW 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.	275
276	BETH 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.	276
277	ANDREW Where was that lab?	277
278	BETH In the Mire. Under an old restaurant.	278

279	ANDREW I believe there were five distinct locations. I don't know where most of them are, but I can tell you the location of one - the one that Tony was in charge of before the war, and where he was supposed to go after.	279
280	BETH Similar setup?	280
281	ANDREW Yes, in terms of reinforcements, radiation protection, that sort of thing. But it's under what was intended to be his home after the war rather than a restaurant.	281
282	BETH Have you talked to him since we left the Vault?	282
283	ANDREW Well that's a bit of a sticky wicket. We didn't have a falling out or anything of that sort, but he changed.	283
284	BETH What do you mean changed?	284
285	ANDREW It started when we were in the Vault. He gradually stopped being the person I knew. He still had that in him, but he started having problems controlling his emotions, and he became more and more withdrawn. I always thought it was just a side-effect of being in a Vault for so long, but I wondered if the project had something to do with it as well.	285
286	BETH So have you talked to him?	286
287	ANDREW I've sought him out, but he's turned into a bit of a recluse. Won't even see me now. (beat) (MORE)	287

		29.
	ANDREW (CONT'D)	
288	Now it's your turn, Schatzi. What's going on?	288
289	BETH 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
290	ANDREW 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
292	(beat) Have you heard anything about this?	292
293	ANDREW 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
294	BETH So if they are working together, they don't know it.	294
295	ANDREW 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
296	<pre>(beat) I'll get out there and see if I can find anything out.</pre>	296

29.

297	BETH Dad, you're retired!	297
298	ANDREW Semi-retired! And I was MI6, you know	298
299	BETH Thirty-five years ago!	299
300	ANDREW Moving to MI5 didn't soften me up that much	300
301	BETH How about being a college professor and living in a Vault for 25 years?	301
302	ANDREW Oh, the "kindly professor" thing has been absolutely invaluable.	302
303	BETH I'm going to talk to mom about finally finding you a hobby that sticks.	303
304	ANDREW I have hobbies!	304
305	BETH Getting captured by different factions just so you can see how long it takes you to escape is not a hobby.	305
306	ANDREW Well I did rather enjoy baking, too.	306
	BETH fails to stifle a laugh.	
307	BETH The pastries were wonderful, by the way.	307
308	ANDREW Thank you.	308
	(beat)	
309	Oh! By the way, Amanda will be joining us for dinner this evening. Will you be as well?	309

310	BETH Well, if Amanda's coming, that means mom's making spaetzle, so I will make every effort to be here. (beat)	310		
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		
313	(beat) 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		
317	<pre>(beat) I just need to make one stop to get something I need and I'll head right over.</pre>	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		

320	BETH Not nearly as far as I'm sure it would be over mine.	320	
321	(beat) You look great, by the way.	321	
322	VALDEZ Um, thanks but I still don't understand why I couldn't just wear my uniform. And how did you have something that fit me? We are not the same size, and you're like a foot taller than me.	322	
	BETH I am <i>not</i> a foot taller than you. (beat) Six inches, tops. (pause)		
323	I thought it best that you not wear a uniform because I don't know what the good doctor's opinion of the Brotherhood is and my father said that his mental state is fragile.	323	
324	VALDEZ Yeah. That's the part that has me worried. I kind of wish we'd brought Alan, or at least an Initiate.	324	
325	BETH Hey, I'm pretty good in a fight, if it comes to that. But it won't.	325	
326	VALDEZ OK. I trust you.	326	
	BETH		
	BETH takes a deep breath.		
328	BETH (CONT'D) Here goes	328	
BETH knocks on the door. There is no answer.			
329	VALDEZ Maybe he's not here? Or	329	
330	BETH Let's not think that way.	330	

	BETH knocks again, this time more insistently. After a moment, we hear stirring.			
	FLAGLER opens the vassi on the door.			
331	FLAGLER Who the hell are you? It's not delivery day.	31		
332	BETH I think we've met before. 33	32		
	FLAGLER pauses.			
333	enough to haul a bottle of Glenlivet all the way out here, and you're not him.	33		
334	(pause) Wait. Lily?	34		
335	BETH Hi, Dr. Flagler. I'm surprised you 33 recognize me.	35		
336	FLAGLER I wouldn't have if you hadn't 33 brought the Glenlivet. It took me a minute putting two and two together isn't quite as easy as it used to be.	36		
337	(beat) Get in here! It's dangerous out 33 there.	37		
	$\ensuremath{\mathtt{BETH}}$ and $\ensuremath{\mathtt{VALDEZ}}$ enter the home, and $\ensuremath{\mathtt{FLAGLER}}$ shuts the door behind them.			
338	FLAGLER (CONT'D) I can't believe how much you've grown. You're almost as tall as me!	38		
	BETH laughs.			
339	BETH I think you're safe. I'm about 33 75% certain that I'm done growing.	39		

FLAGLER

And who's your friend. Wait! Is this Amanda?!

BETH tries to interrupt.

340

341		Um	BETH	341
342		I've heard s	FLAGLER so much about you from	342
343		(whis	VALDEZ spering insistently)	343
344			BETH Flagler, please meet ez. She's a friend.	344
345		shouldn't ha	FLAGLER sorry, Miss Valdez, I ave assumed.	345
346		(angr Goddammit,	Tony, think!	346
347			BETH , why don't we open that talk a while?	347
348		Yes that I'm I'm swhat it used sometimes. It told you about the control of	FLAGLER ming down) 's a good idea, Lily. sorry. My mind isn't d to be. It's difficult I'm sure your father out that. Wait is o, that's why you're hy you brought that	348
		Dr. Flagler that	BETH , it's nothing like	
	FLAGLER's	voice begins	s to shake.	
349		he was here understand, talk about 1	FLAGLER an ass to him last time ! I tried to make him and he just wanted to nonsense! Who cares hings were back at VTU?	349
350			BETH y calmly) ld you please get some us? (MORE)	350

351	BETH (CONT'D) The kitchen is that way, isn't it Dr. Flagler? Through that door?	351
	FLAGLER pauses to gather himself.	
352	FLAGLER Thank you. I the fog it just won't lift.	352
353	BETH It's OK, Dr. Flagler. I understand. Why is this happening?	353
	FLAGLER speaks haltingly, every word and every thought it clearly a struggle.	behind
354	FLAGLER I suppose it doesn't matter now. 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.	354
355	BETH Dr. Flagler, do you remember talking with Elise about where she grew up?	355
356	FLAGLER Yes Elise Elise is from 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?	356
357	BETH That's right, doctor. Please go on. Odessa has those glasses for us. You remember Odessa, don't you?	357
358	FLAGLER I do. Thank you, Odessa.	358

VALDEZ fills each of the three glasses. They drink.

359	FLAGLER (CONT'D) That helps.	359
360	BETH Doctor, Odessa is going to ask you some questions about the project. She's a scientist, just like you. Is that alright?	360
361	FLAGLER Of course, Lily. What would you like to know, Miss Valdez?	361
362	VALDEZ I've studied some of the pre-war research, and it's well, it's truly fascinating. And it sounds like an incredibly noble effort - helping people who've lost access to their memories because of injury or disease	362
363	FLAGLER If that had been the real goal, I would agree. And I thought it was, for a long time.	363
364	VALDEZ If that wasn't the goal, what was?	364
365	FLAGLER Memory is a powerful thing. Nobody understands that better than I do right now mine are betraying me. I tried. I did what I could to protect people, but in the end they were just too good at their jobs. They wanted to weaponize memories.	365
366	VALDEZ How can you weaponize a memory?	366
367	FLAGLER These people can weaponize anything. And even if they couldn't, they were certainly going to try.	367
368	(beat, struggling) It was about reading and writing. I had paper, but I I didn't have the pencil. (MORE)	368

	FLAGLER (CONT'D) Not one that could do what they wanted it to. Too sharp or not sharp enough	
369	BETH Doctor, can you look at me for a moment?	369
370	(beat) Let's take a drink.	370
	BETH, VALDEZ, and FLAGLER drink.	
371	BETH (CONT'D) Now, I want you to think about the time our theater club did that production of "My Fair Lady." Do you remember that?	371
372	FLAGLER I I don't know	372
373	BETH It's alright, I'll remind you. There weren't enough boys, so I played Henry Higgins. Casey - do you remember Casey?	373
374	FLAGLER I I do.	374
375	BETH Right! You're doing so well. Casey played Eliza, and	375
376	FLAGLER (interrupting, happy) And she couldn't do an English accent to save her life!	376
	FLAGLER laughs.	
377	FLAGLER (CONT'D) Oh, that was a sight, wasn't it? But the two of you lit up the stage.	377
378	BETH We did, didn't we?	378
379	FLAGLER Miss Valdez, I'm sorry. Where was I?	379

200	VALDEZ	200
380	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 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	388
389	VALDEZ Do you still have your research here? I'd love to look at it.	389
390	FLAGLER 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.	390
391	BETH Vault-Tec took the equipment? When?	391
392	FLAGLER About a month ago, I think? Time sort of bleeds together these days.	392
393	BETH 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.	393
394	FLAGLER 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!	394
395	BETH It's alright, Doctor, it's alright	395
396	FLAGLER (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.	396

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. VALDEZ heads up the stairs.	401
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

407	FLAGLER You as well, Miss Valdez. Goodbye for now. I hope we can chat again sometime.	407
	and Valdez leave. FLAGLER closes and locks the doord them.	
408	VALDEZ Are you okay?	408
409	BETH (clearly not ok) Yeah.	409
410	VALDEZ Why did he call you Lily?	410
BETH o	clears her throat, gathering herself.	
411	BETH When I was ickle, I couldn't say "Elizabeth." It sounded a bit like "Lily," and it stuck. But only a few people call me that. My parents, a couple of their friends	411
410	VALDEZ	410
412	That's totally logical. Thanks for explaining.	412
413	(beat) I guess we should get back to Atlas so I can start looking at this stuff. It's going to be nice to have some context maybe we'll finally figure out what this is all about.	413
41.4	BETH	414
414	About that.	414
415	VALDEZ What?	415
416	BETH I was well, I was thinking that we could go to my place, instead. I think it would be nice to decompress a little.	416
417	<pre>(beat) And I'd really like to make dinner for you.</pre>	417

		42.
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.

		(goir	VALDEZ ng with it)	
428		We could		428
429		What?	BETH	429
430		Did you have dessert?	VALDEZ e anything in mind for	430
	VALDEZ sta	ands.		
431		I did, yeah	BETH •	431
	BETH moves	s closer.		
432		One of those	VALDEZ e pastries?	432
433		No.	ВЕТН	433
434		Ice cream?	VALDEZ	434
435		I was think hotter.	BETH ing of something	435
436		I think that	VALDEZ t's exactly what I	436
	They kiss. passion.	. Tentatively	y at first, then with increasing	
437		How was that	BETH t?	437
438		Sweet.	VALDEZ	438
439		Would you la	BETH ike a second course?	439
440		Yeah	VALDEZ	440
	They kiss	again. Mid-k	xiss, the door flies open.	
	AMANDA ent	ers out of	hreath	

	AMANDA	
441	AMANDA Beth! I Oh, no. I am so sorry.	441
442	(beat) Uh, I'm Amanda. I'm an old friend of Beth's.	442
443	VALDEZ That's Amanda?!	443
444	BETH Odessa Valdez, Amanda Otis.	444
445	AMANDA Oh Oh! Look, um, I really am sorry I broke up whatever this was about to turn into, but you need to see this.	445
446	BETH See what?	446
447	AMANDA Here.	447
448	VALDEZ Is that my holotape? This is the friend you gave it to? Beth, what the hell is going on?	448
449	BETH Odessa, I'll explain everything, I promise. Amanda, what's got you so fired up?	449
450	AMANDA That file? It is about you.	450
451	BETH Dammit. How do you know?	451
452	AMANDA Look for yourself.	452
	AMANDA loads the holotape into a terminal and clacks a keys.	at the
453	BETH Oh, no. Oh, no.	453
454	VALDEZ (more distraught than angry)	454
454	Beth, if you don't start explaining right now, I'm leaving.	454

455	BETH 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?	455
456	VALDEZ Of course I do. "Kirsche." German word for "cherry." And?	456
457	BETH And Kirsche was a nickname I had in the Vault.	457
VALDEZ sc	offs.	
458	VALDEZ Why didn't you mention that?	458
459	BETH I was hoping it was just a coincidence	459
460	AMANDA A big, weird coincidence	460
461	BETH 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.	461
462	AMANDA I didn't read it, by the way. I know that there are things in there well things that nobody should see.	462
463	BETH 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.	463
464	VALDEZ 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)	464

		46.
	VALDEZ (CONT'D) The kind of thing that even my tools couldn't crack.	
465	(beat) Why could yours?	465
466	AMANDA I called in a favor.	466
467	VALDEZ (conflicted, upset) Beth, I I feel like I'm on the 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.	467
468 VALDEZ lea	BETH (meekly) OK. I'll see you tomorrow. Please be careful, it's late.	468
469	BETH (CONT'D) DAMMIT!	469
470	AMANDA Shit, Princess, I'm so sorry. I really fucked this up, didn't I?	470
471	BETH (crushed) It's not your fault. You did the right thing. This couldn't wait.	471
472	AMANDA Those sick fucks.	472
473	BETH And I should've been more forthcoming with her, too. I really like her, Amanda.	473
474	AMANDA I know, baby.	474
475	BETH I guess there isn't much to do until I talk to her tomorrow. (MORE)	475

		47.
476	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) I don't know	476
	OUTRO MUSIC BEGINS AND SWELLS	
477	AMANDA Do you need me to stay?	477
478	BETH (softly) Yeah.	478
	CLOSING MUSIC REACHES FINAL VOLUME	

END OF EPISODE 2