

Once Upon A WASTELAND

Season Two: "Broader Lands and Better Days"

Episode 2

"The Kind of Peace We Wish to Make"

by

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Based on "Fallout 76" by Bethesda Softworks

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"THE KIND OF PEACE WE WISH TO MAKE"

INT. THE SPIDER'S WEB, EVENING

(Note: the end of Episode 1 is duplicated here; actors should not re-record lines 1-19)

AMANDA and DEREK are sitting at AMANDA's table and getting to know each other.

1	AMANDA	1
	Well, that's one thing about Appalachia - it's a great place for second chances. You seem like a decent guy. I hope you get yours.	
	(beat)	
2	We'd better start drinking. I don't want us to be all mopey when my friend gets here.	2

DEREK laughs.

3	DEREK	3
	Sounds good to me. Cheers.	

4	AMANDA	4
	Cheers.	

They clink glasses and drink.

The door opens. ODESSA enters.

5	AMANDA (CONT'D)	5
	Perfect timing. Here she is! You're gonna love her, I promise.	

6	DEREK	6
	Oh my God...	

7	AMANDA	7
	Yeah, she's a total babe, right?	

8	DEREK	8
	No, I... I'm not ready for this.	

9	AMANDA	9
	Ready for what?	

ODESSA approaches the table.

10	AMANDA (CONT'D)	10
	Hey, kitten! We were about to get started without you. You got here just in time!	
	(MORE)	

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(beat)

11 Kitten? Are you okay? Babe, sit 11
down, have a drink. What's wrong?
Did something happen at work? Is
Beth okay? Talk to me.

ODESSA slaps DEREK.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

12 Odessa! What's gotten into you? Why 12
did you do that? This guy saved not
only my ass today, but Beth's
mom's, too!

ODESSA

13 You bastard. How dare you! How dare 13
you just *show up* here like this!

AMANDA

14 Odessa, I need you to tell me 14
what's going on *right now*.

ODESSA seethes.

ODESSA

15 Did you tell her who you were? 15

AMANDA

(exasperated)

16 Who is he?! 16

ODESSA

(trying to maintain
control)

17 This is Derek Hewitt. 17

AMANDA

18 Wait... *the* Derek? 18

ODESSA

19 Yes. *The* Derek. The man I was going 19
to marry. The man who broke my
heart.

AMANDA

(coldly, to DEREK)

20 You need to leave. 20

ODESSA

21 No. He needs to *stay*. 21

(beat)

22 I spent the last three years 22
wondering. Wondering if I was the
one who was in the wrong.

(MORE)

ODESSA (CONT'D)

If I overreacted. If I ruined my
only chance to be happy.

(irritated)

23 And now I'm wondering what he's
doing here now. 23

(beat, resolute)

24 I'm done wondering. He's staying
until I get some answers. 24

AMANDA

25 Okay. But right now all anyone in
this bar knows is that you're upset
and he's the reason why. If you two
are going to talk things out you're
going to do it *calmly*. Otherwise
this thing is going to escalate and
there's going to be a riot in the
middle of my bar, and I'm not going
to let that happen. Capiche? 25

ODESSA

26 I understand. And I'm sorry. I
didn't mean to make a scene. I
just... 26

AMANDA

27 Baby, I know. And I would've done a
hell of a lot more than slap him if
I was in your shoes. 27

(beat)

28 We should move this to the back
room. 28

ODESSA sighs.

ODESSA

29 Yeah. No need to air dirty laundry
in public. Well, any more than I
already have. 29

AMANDA

30 No promises, but one of the...
features of my place is discretion.
And I'll make it *extra* clear that
nobody saw *anything*. 30

ODESSA

31 Thank you. 31

AMANDA

32 Bones? 32

BONES approaches.

33 BONES 33
Yes, boss? Do you want me to get my special shovel?

34 AMANDA 34
No, no. Well, not yet at least. We're going into the... "meeting room" and I think we're going to need a lot of liquid refreshment. I sure as hell do.

35 ODESSA 35
I'll need to keep my wits about me, but... I could use a drink. Or several.

36 BONES 36
You got it.

AMANDA, ODESSA, and DEREK leave the bar area for a back room.
AMANDA picks up two bottles on the way.

37 AMANDA 37
These should get us started, at least. You like bourbon, Derek?

38 DEREK 38
Er... sure.

AMANDA, ODESSA, and DEREK enter the back room. AMANDA closes the door. Chains jingle.

39 DEREK (CONT'D) 39
This is a meeting room?

40 AMANDA 40
Meeting, interrogation, torture... what's the difference?
(beat)

41 41
Don't look at me like that. This is the only place I have available for you two to talk. I'm running a bar, not a conference center. I'm not going to hurt you.
(beat)

42 42
Well, unless she wants me to.

43 ODESSA 43
I *think* you're joking, but just in case... no, I do not want you to hurt him.

44 AMANDA Okay. But if you change your mind... 44

45 (beat) I'll start pouring, you two start talking. And if things get... you know, *personal*, just say the word and I'll make myself scarce. 45

46 ODESSA Thank you. But I want to concentrate on practical matters, at least for now. 46

ODESSA and DEREK sit. AMANDA pours drinks.

47 ODESSA (CONT'D) Who are you here with? 47

48 DEREK I was able to assemble a team of people I knew I could trust, no matter what we found. It's just me, Dave, and Randall. 48

49 ODESSA What are you doing here? Specifically. 49

50 DEREK Our official mission brief is to ascertain the fate of the Brotherhood First Expeditionary Force. Ideally, that means re-establishing contact and bringing it back into the fold. Otherwise, well... finding out what happened and reporting back. 50

51 ODESSA So Danny never made it back? 51

52 DEREK "Made it back?" What do you mean? 52

53 ODESSA (cagey) He left with some Initiates about two years ago. Since we were... unable to re-establish direct communication with Lost Hills, he was going to deliver his report directly. 53

DEREK
54 Oh. I see. 54
(beat)
55 But Knight Shin... I'm sorry, I 55
don't think we should discuss this
with a civilian present.

ODESSA
56 I trust Amanda with my life. And 56
she's been a vital part of several
sensitive Brotherhood efforts.

DEREK sighs.

DEREK
57 Alright. Knight Shin had other 57
orders. Nobody on the expedition
knew about them, not even Leila.
Hell, I didn't even know until I
got promoted.

ODESSA
58 You were promoted? 58

DEREK
59 Yeah. About a year and a half after 59
you left. With you gone... well,
with you gone the only thing I
could do that kept me sane was
work. Took on a lot of missions,
dangerous ones. I guess... I didn't
want to die in battle but that
possibility wasn't a dealbreaker.

ODESSA
60 Oh, Derek... 60

DEREK
61 Anyway, I guess Maxson was 61
impressed, so he promoted me to
Star Paladin.

ODESSA
62 Star Paladin? 62

DEREK
63 It's a new rank. No idea if it'll 63
stick. He's launched several
organizational initiatives to make
things more efficient. And to
tighten his grip on power, if you
ask me.

64 ODESSA What were Knight Shin's "other orders?" 64

65 DEREK That I *don't* know. The only people who do are Maxson and the Council of Elders. So whatever it is, it's big. 65

66 ODESSA My girlf-- um, we were involved in a situation last year that involved technology that was located in DC. There's a lot there, the problem is getting to it. 66

67 DEREK So you haven't seen Danny or those Initiates since he left? 67

68 ODESSA No. But like I said, we didn't expect to. We thought they were going back to California. 68

69 DEREK The plan was for him to... do whatever it was he was supposed to do in DC, check back in here and resupply, *then* come home. So if he didn't do either of those things... 69

70 ODESSA Dammit. Danny and I didn't see eye-to-eye on... well, much of anything. But he was still a friend, and he always had my back. And those Initiates... I didn't update the Codex because I didn't want to assume the worst. 70

71 DEREK Just mark them as "missing." Danny, too. 71

72 ODESSA (irritated) Is that an order, *Paladin*? 72

73 DEREK No, no... a suggestion. I'm just trying to help. 73

74 ODESSA 74
Is that why you're here, then? To
"help?"

75 DEREK 75
I told you, I'm here to ascertain
the status of the First
Expeditionary Force. What happens
after that is... well, it was
always going to depend on what I
found. Maxson gave me a lot of
discretion there.

76 (beat, softly) 76
I just had to know if you were
still alive. I hoped and hoped, but
I had to *know*. And if you were, I
was... hoping you'd come home.

77 ODESSA 77
(coldly)
Amanda, would you excuse us,
please?

78 AMANDA 78
You got it. I'll be at the bar.
Just grab me if you need anything.

79 (beat, concerned) 79
Anything at all.

AMANDA leaves.

80 ODESSA 80
Did you really think that I'd go
back to California with you? That
we'd just... pick up where we left
off?

81 DEREK 81
No. I *hoped* that might happen,
eventually. That maybe you'd found
a way to forgive me. But I wasn't
counting on it.

82 ODESSA 82
Good, because I haven't.

DEREK sighs.

83 DEREK 83
I don't blame you.

84 (beat) 84
For what it's worth, everything
I've done from the moment you
left...

(MORE)

DEREK (CONT'D)

I've been trying to prove that I'm still the man you... fell in love with. The one you wanted to spend the rest of your life with.

ODESSA

85 But were you ever that man, Derek? 85
Or did I just... talk myself into believing you were because I was so invested in *the idea* of us being together?

(beat)

86 It took me a long time to trust my 86
instincts about people again. And that only happened because I was finally able to compartmentalize how wrong I was about you.

DEREK

87 You weren't wrong about me! 87

ODESSA

88 If that were true then you wouldn't 88
have done what you did.

DEREK

89 Not everything is ones and zeroes. 89
Odessa. People aren't machines.

ODESSA

90 No. They're not. 90

ODESSA sighs.

ODESSA (CONT'D)

91 Sometimes I wish I was. 91

(beat)

92 I'm... sorry I slapped you. 92

DEREK

93 I deserved it. 93

ODESSA

94 Yes, you did. But I'm still sorry. 94

DEREK laughs.

DEREK

95 Fair enough. 95

(beat)

96 I'm just so glad you're okay. And 96
you're not just okay, you're...
you're *thriving*.

(MORE)

DEREK (CONT'D)

When you walked through that door, you looked so happy. So fulfilled and confident. Your hair's a little longer, but... well, that was the Odessa I remembered. The one I've dreamed about every night since you left.

ODESSA

97 Derek, please don't... 97

DEREK

98 So many things have changed back home, and it's obvious that a lot of things have changed for you, too. But the one thing that *hasn't* changed... I still love you. 98

ODESSA

99 Derek, I... I'm not ready to have this conversation. Please, I... I just can't. Not now, maybe not ever. 99

ODESSA stands and walks to the door. She is trying to hold herself together but cracks are beginning to show.

ODESSA (CONT'D)

100 I'm going to send a message to Leila to meet us here tomorrow at 1100 hours. I don't think you walking into Atlas unannounced is a good idea, and we need to discuss the parameters of your presence here before we even consider allowing you inside there. 100

DEREK

101 "Allowing" me? Odessa... 101

ODESSA

102 Please, Derek. Just go. We'll talk about all of this in the morning. 102

DEREK

103 Okay. I'll... I'll see you tomorrow. 103

DEREK leaves. A few moments later, AMANDA enters and closes the door.

AMANDA

104 Odessa? Are you alright? 104

ODESSA tries to hold back tears, but fails.

105 ODESSA
No, Amanda. I'm not. 105

106 AMANDA
Come here. It's going to be okay. 106

107 ODESSA
Is it? 107

108 (beat)
I don't know what to feel right now. I never expected to see him again. I was finally able to deal with the memory of someone who was 3000 miles away, but now he's here. 108

109 AMANDA
Shh... hey, let's get out of here. 109

110 ODESSA
(crying)
Will you stay with me? 110

111 AMANDA
Of course, baby, of course. Do you want to go home or stay at my place? 111

112 ODESSA
I want to go home. 112

113 (beat)
God, I wish Beth was here. I need her so badly right now. 113

114 AMANDA
I know. Let's get you home. 114

MUSICAL TRANSITION

EXT. APPALACHIA, ROADWAY NEAR THE FOREST

AMANDA is walking ODESSA home.

115 ODESSA
At least it's a nice night. 115

116 AMANDA
It is. Still, I kinda can't wait to get to your place so we can unwind a little. 116

ODESSA sighs.

117 ODESSA 117
Yeah. Maybe it's a "Screaming
Viking" kind of night. I hope I
still have cucumbers at the
house...

AMANDA laughs.

118 AMANDA 118
I'll make you as many as you need.
You definitely earned 'em. That was
one hell of a slap!

119 ODESSA 119
I'm still upset with myself for
reacting that way.

120 AMANDA 120
Are you kidding? You were a model
of self-control.

ODESSA laughs.

121 ODESSA 121
That's very kind of you to say. I
just hope I can keep it up. This
is... ugh, this is not something I
saw coming. And not only do I not
know what's going to happen -
which, fine, I've dealt with that
before - I don't know what to do,
and that's something I'm not used
to.

122 AMANDA 122
Give yourself a break. Your world
got turned upside down what, twenty
minutes ago? Even the great Odessa
Valdez isn't going to have
everything figured out that fast.

123 ODESSA 123
Please don't make fun of me.

124 AMANDA 124
I'm not! I think you're pretty
great. Have I not made that clear
enough for you?

125 ODESSA 125
You have. I guess I'm just not
feeling all that "great" right now.

126 AMANDA
Then I guess it's *my* job to do something about that. 126

127 ODESSA
Thanks. Between the fresh air and those shots, I'm feeling a little better already. 127

128 AMANDA
(teasing)
Just the fresh air and the booze? I see how it is. 128

129 ODESSA
I think you know better than that. 129

130 AMANDA
I do. But I think I'm going to have to dig a little deeper in my bag of tricks when we get you home. I'm worried about you. The way you reacted when you saw him... 130

131 ODESSA
I just felt... overloaded. So many emotions, all at once. Powerful and conflicting. 131
(beat)

132 ODESSA
Being with Beth reminded me what it was like to *feel* powerfully. But those emotions always felt like they... I don't know, worked in harmony? Even now, with her away and missing her as much as I do, it hurts but it's almost a... good kind of hurt? 132
(beat)

133 ODESSA
Ugh. I'm rambling and that didn't make *any* sense. 133

134 AMANDA
It makes perfect sense, babe. I'm well acquainted with Beth's ability to make people feel things. 134
(beat)

135 AMANDA
For what it's worth, Derek looked pretty conflicted himself. I guess the big difference is that not only did he know seeing you was a possibility, it was pretty much the ideal outcome, even if it didn't necessarily play out like he expected. 135

136 ODESSA 136
 No, Derek's a planner. It's one of
 the reasons he's such a good
 officer. I'm sure he played out a
 dozen different scenarios in his
 head on the trip here.

137 (beat) 137
 He may not have been *hoping* for a
 slap and a lecture, but he knew it
 was a possibility.

138 AMANDA 138
 I bet he played out the scenario
 where you leapt into his arms a few
 times.

139 ODESSA 139
 I'm sure he did.

140 AMANDA 140
 I bet there were, um... *other*
 scenarios he thought about, too.

141 ODESSA 141
 Hey!

142 AMANDA 142
 Sorry! I know those are the kinds
 of scenarios *I'd* have concentrated
 on. It's a long way to Appalachia!

ODESSA laughs.

143 ODESSA 143
 You're incorrigible.

144 AMANDA 144
 And you love me for it.

145 ODESSA 145
 Yes. I do. You're a good friend.

146 AMANDA 146
 Hey, don't act like it's one-sided.
 You've been there for me, too. I
 don't know if I would've been able
 to navigate things with Cindy
 without you around.

147 ODESSA 147
 If Beth's parents have taught me
 anything about relationships, it's
 that "love finds a way."

148 AMANDA 148
Man, those two are relationship goals, aren't they? They've been together longer than I've been alive and they still look at each other like teenagers.

149 ODESSA 149
My parents were always the same way.
(beat)

150 150
At least Derek can tell me how they're doing. He didn't mention them, and that means they're okay. He would've said something if they weren't.

151 AMANDA 151
Look at you, finding silver linings already.

152 ODESSA 152
I'm still not quite past the shock of seeing him again. Or the anger, if I'm being honest.
(beat)

153 153
I finally felt like I'd moved on. Professionally *and* personally. Seeing him like this... I guess I feel like I'm back at square one.

154 AMANDA 154
Look at it this way - I know how much it bothered you that you couldn't get closure. Far as you knew, Rahmani slammed that door shut when she smashed that communications array.
(beat)

155 155
It's like I told Derek before I knew who he was - Appalachia's a great place for second chances. Maybe this is yours.

156 ODESSA 156
How did "second chances" come up?

157 AMANDA 157
(hesitant)
Um... well... I thought he was on the run, and...

158 ODESSA 158
Amanda...

159 AMANDA 159
Okay, fine! He was pining for his
ex and talking about how badly he
screwed up with her and I was
trying to make him feel better!
You've seen those puppy dog eyes,
what was I supposed to do?

160 ODESSA 160
(ruefully)
Yes, I've seen them. Stupid pretty
eyes...

161 (beat) 161
I just don't want the idea of us
getting back together to kind of
hang over everything. I was hoping
he'd moved on, but that clearly
hasn't happened. He... told me he
still loves me.

162 AMANDA 162
I'm sure you shutting him down and
telling him all about Beth threw
cold water on that.

163 (beat) 163
You *did* tell him about Beth, right?

164 (beat, more urgently) 164
Odessa, don't tell me you...

165 ODESSA 165
(interrupting)
I told him I wasn't ready to have
that conversation. And I'm still
not. I was in shock, Amanda. You
said it yourself, my world was
turned upside down and all I wanted
to do at that point was find out
why he was there and deal with the
rest later.

AMANDA sighs.

166 AMANDA 166
Okay. But you need to tell him
tomorrow, as soon as you see him.

167 ODESSA 167
I will. I'm even going to bring
pictures of us to the meeting.
He'll understand, and maybe that'll
be the closure *he* needs to move on.

168 AMANDA Here's hoping. I know I only talked to him for a few minutes, but he seems like a decent guy. And everything I know about you tells me that there's no way you would've fallen for him if he wasn't. 168

169 ODESSA He *is* a decent guy. He's always been one of the best people I've ever known. That's what makes this so hard. As hard as I tried, I could never reconcile who he was with what he did. 169

170 (beat) The only thing I know for sure is that decent, great, whatever, he's not the person I'm meant to be with. 170

AMANDA and ODESSA stop walking abruptly.

171 AMANDA Hey. Shadowy figure, 2 o'clock. You got your sidearm? 171

ODESSA cocks her pistol.

172 ODESSA Safety's already off. 172

173 AMANDA I doubt those dipshits who hassled me and Elise yesterday are stupid enough to come back for seconds, but let's be careful. 173

174 ODESSA Maybe they'll just keep walking. 174

The SENTINEL approaches.

AMANDA sighs.

175 AMANDA So much for that. 175

176 ODESSA Let's see what they want. They may need help. 176

177 AMANDA Or it's another Samaritan Snare. 177
God, I hope that doesn't turn into
a trend...

178 SENTINEL Hi! I'm glad I finally ran into 178
you.

179 AMANDA Are you late for something? You 179
keep looking at your watch.

180 SENTINEL No, no, just a nervous habit, I 180
guess.

181 AMANDA Why are you glad you ran into us? 181

182 SENTINEL Oh... um... I didn't mean you 182
specifically, just that I ran into
somebody. I figured there would be
more people around.

183 ODESSA It *is* weirdly quiet tonight. I 183
guess I didn't notice
considering... well, everything
else that's going on.

184 AMANDA What do you need? I have some 184
purified water in my pack...

185 SENTINEL Oh! No, I'm not thirsty, but thank 185
you. I'm trying to find...

The SENTINEL pulls a piece of paper from their pocket.

186 SENTINEL (CONT'D) 186
"Foundation." Do you know where
that is?

187 AMANDA I do, but I don't know if you're 187
going to make it all the way there
tonight. It's kind of a hump, and
it can get... dangerous around here
at night.

188 SENTINEL Oh. I see. 188
(beat)

189 I have a sleeping bag with me, but 189
it sounds like that wouldn't reduce
the potential danger.

190 AMANDA Not really. 190

191 SENTINEL Is there a town nearby? I'd 191
probably be safe if I hunkered down
in an abandoned building...

192 ODESSA As long as someone else isn't 192
already there.

193 AMANDA A friend of mine runs a... I guess 193
it's technically a motel. It's only
about a mile from here, and it's
not exactly a five-star
establishment, it's safe. And I
know the owner won't try to rob
and/or kill you.

194 SENTINEL Oh, that would be perfect! Thank 194
you!

195 AMANDA It's called the "Sleep Eazy Motel." 195
He... repurposed the sign from an
actual motel that burned down and
not all the lights work, but you'll
know it when you see it.

196 (beat) 196
Keep heading in the same direction
you were going. You'll come to a
fork in the road in about a half-
mile. Hang a left and you can't
miss it. Tell him Amanda sent you.

197 SENTINEL I'll do that! Thank you so much, 197
Amanda! And you, too...

198 ODESSA Odessa. Good luck and safe travels. 198

199 SENTINEL You as well! 199

The SENTINEL leaves.

200 ODESSA 200
No matter what else is going on, it
always feels nice to help people.

201 AMANDA 201
Yeah. It's not exactly the niche I
expected to find myself in, but I
like it.

202 ODESSA 202
The watch thing was odd, though,
wasn't it?

203 AMANDA 203
Yeah. I guess time is very
important to him. And as nervous
tics go, well, I can think of
worse.

204 (beat) 204
Speaking of time, we should get to
your place before we run into any
of that nighttime danger we warned
him about.

AMANDA and ODESSA continue walking. There is a loud explosion
in the middle distance.

205 ODESSA 205
What was that?!

206 AMANDA 206
It sounded like a... bomb, maybe?

207 ODESSA 207
We check it out.

208 AMANDA 208
You want us to go *toward* the
danger?

209 ODESSA 209
We have to go that direction
anyway, and we need to know what's
going on. If the Blood Eagles
decided to launch a new offensive I
don't want us to be in our pajamas
and halfway through a bottle of
bourbon when we find out.

210 AMANDA 210
I didn't bring any pajamas.

211 ODESSA
You know what I mean! 211

212 AMANDA
Alright, alright, fine. We'll check
it out. 212

AMANDA and ODESSA move quickly down the road.

213 AMANDA (CONT'D)
Maybe some dope forgot how grenades
work and took himself out of the
gene pool. 213

214 ODESSA
Hopefully it's something simple
like that. It sounded bigger than a
grenade, though. At least there was
only one... 214

AMANDA and ODESSA arrive at a crater.

215 AMANDA
Whoa. Definitely not a grenade. 215

216 ODESSA
Looks like... artillery, maybe? 216

217 AMANDA
I don't want to jump to any
conclusions, but a *single* artillery
shell in a spot with no buildings
or people nearby? And at night, no
less, when it's even less likely
anyone's going to be around? Feels
like an accident. 217

218 ODESSA
I agree. But... 218

219 AMANDA
What is it? 219

220 ODESSA
If my math is right... 220

221 AMANDA
(interrupting)
...and it always is... 221

ODESSA laughs.

222 ODESSA
If my math is right, we would've
been right about here if that
person hadn't stopped us for
directions. 222

223 AMANDA
Really? That was lucky, then. Guess
there's something to be said for
helping people out. Gotta love
karma. 223

224 ODESSA
Regardless, I'm glad we're not at
the bottom of that crater. 224

225 AMANDA
Let's get to your place so we can
celebrate our good fortune, or
karma smiling on us, or whatever it
was. 225

END OF ACT ONE

RAHMANI (CONT'D)

Well, I wasn't sure what to expect,
but it certainly wasn't you.

DEREK

248 Actually... it's Paladin Hewitt 248
 now. And I hope it's a *pleasant*
 surprise.

RAHMANI

(still shocked)

249 It's always nice to see a friendly 249
 face, but I have to admit, you
 being here raises a *lot* of
 questions.

DEREK

250 And I'll do my best to answer every 250
 single one of them. I gave Odessa
 the broad strokes, but now that
 we're together we can get to it.

AMANDA

251 If you guys need anything, just 251
 come get me, okay? Odessa, you know
 where stuff is if anybody wants a
 drink. Or needs one.

ODESSA

252 Thanks, Amanda. 252

AMANDA leaves.

DEREK

253 The first thing I should make clear 253
 is that I'm here, first and
 foremost, to find out what
 happened. Why we never heard from
 you. And I'm so relieved it's not
 because you didn't make it.

RAHMANI

254 Some of us didn't. Knight 254
 Connors... Alan died on the way
 here, defending a settlement from
 Raiders.

DEREK

255 I'm so sorry, Leila. I know you 255
 were close.

RAHMANI

256 Danny and I had... a falling out, 256
 and he left.

257 DEREK A falling out? Over what? 257

258 RAHMANI Philosophical differences. 258

259 DEREK I see. We can talk about the specifics of that later, but Danny is one of the things I wanted to talk to you about. 259

(beat)

260 DEREK Did you know that he had additional orders, straight from Maxson? 260

261 RAHMANI (surprised) No. What kind of orders? 261

262 DEREK I don't know anything about them other than that he was supposed to do *something* in DC and then come back home. I was hoping that Maxson at least read *you* in, as the leader of the expedition. 262

263 RAHMANI No, he didn't. And I don't like secrets. 263

(beat)

264 RAHMANI With that said, I'd like you to explain what your presence here means for us. 264

265 DEREK Like I said, Maxson sent me here to find out what happened to you. And I'm not here to jam you up, or to get in the way. 265

(beat)

266 DEREK He was against the idea of sending another team out here. Thought it was a waste of resources since the most likely reason we didn't hear from you was that you were all dead. But I... wasn't ready to take that for an answer. 266

267 RAHMANI I see. So this was your idea. 267

268 DEREK 268
Yeah. But I didn't have the stroke
to get in Maxson's ear to convince
him. Not that I didn't try. I had
to wait until I got promoted to
Paladin, then I started calling in
every favor I could. My parents
helped out there. Yours, too,
Odessa. The stress of not
knowing... it's been hard on them.

269 ODESSA 269
Are they... okay otherwise?

270 DEREK 270
They are, yeah. In fact, the
Knights Valdez are pretty much
legends at this point. They've been
invaluable in helping to get all
our new Initiates brought up to
speed and trained. They miss you,
terribly. But they're strong. I see
where you get it from.

ODESSA chuckles.

271 ODESSA 271
You have no idea.

272 DEREK 272
I have *some* idea. Don't forget,
your dad was the Knight who trained
me.

273 ODESSA 273
Until he transferred you to Knight
Connors.

DEREK laughs.

274 DEREK 274
I thought that might have something
to do with who I was dating at the
time.

275 ODESSA 275
It wasn't hard to convince him to
transfer you.

276 DEREK 276
(laughing)
Wait... that was you? You never
told me!

ODESSA

277 As much as I, um... enjoyed feeling 277
like we were sneaking around, I
wanted us to be "official." And
that wasn't going to work with my
dad as your superior officer.
Maxson would never allow it. So I
suggested that moving you to Alan's
team might be a good way to expose
you to a different leadership
style.

DEREK laughs.

DEREK

278 You should've gone into 278
intelligence! Or maybe politics...
(beat)
279 I did kind of miss sneaking around, 279
though.

RAHMANI clears her throat.

DEREK (CONT'D)

280 Sorry, Leila. 280
(beat)
281 Bottom line, I'm not here to take 281
you back to Lost Hills in shackles.
The first part of my mission is
complete - find out whether anyone
from the expedition survived. Now
that I know you and Odessa did, we
can move onto the second part,
debriefing you on what happened and
the current status of the
Appalachian chapter.
(beat)
282 From there... well, let's cross 282
that bridge when we come to it, but
Maxon's standing orders were to re-
establish communications with Lost
Hills and bring you back into the
fold, assuming that was possible
given the situation.

RAHMANI

283 We have a lot to discuss. And we'll 283
have a lot of decisions to make.
Both of us.
(beat)
284 There's no reason for you and your 284
team to sleep rough, or to worry
about where to get your next meal.
(MORE)

ODESSA (CONT'D)

well, I thought that you might try
to force me to go back with you.
And I just can't do that.

DEREK

295 Odessa, the biggest mistake of my 295
life was trying to force you to
stay home rather than going on this
expedition in the first place. I
should've supported you, fully and
without question. But I didn't. I
panicked. I had this... picture of
what our future was going to look
like, and that didn't involve
hiking 3000 miles to West Virginia
and possibly never coming back
home.

(beat)

296 I lost sight of fact that the only 296
thing we needed was each other. It
didn't matter where we were as long
as we had that.

ODESSA

297 Derek... I need to tell you 297
something.

DEREK

(hopeful)

298 Yes, Odessa? 298

ODESSA

299 I... met someone. 299

DEREK

300 You mean... 300

ODESSA

301 Yes. I fell in love. It took time 301
and a lot of healing. But I did.

DEREK

302 What's he like? 302

ODESSA

303 I brought pictures of us together. 303

ODESSA takes a folder of pictures from her pack.

DEREK looks through the pictures.

ODESSA (CONT'D)

304 Her name is Beth. 304

DEREK

(surprised)

305 Oh. She's... beautiful. And you 305
both look so happy together.

(beat)

306 I'm sorry, I'm a little surprised, 306
I didn't expect...

ODESSA

(interrupting)

307 I didn't expect it, either. But it 307
happened, and... well, it feels
like *she's* the reason I was meant
to come here all along.

DEREK

(downcast)

308 And why I wasn't. 308

(beat)

309 The only thing I've ever really 309
wanted was for you to be happy. I
wish I'd realized that before I...
let everything else get in the way
and drove you away.

(beat)

310 And as much as I wish I was still 310
the one who makes you happy...
well, the important part is
covered.

ODESSA

311 I'm sorry, Derek. 311

(beat)

312 I'm not proud of this, but there 312
was a long stretch when I *wanted* to
hurt you. I wanted you to feel the
anguish that you made *me* feel. But
I stopped wanting that a long time
ago. I *know* you want me to be
happy, and I want that for you,
too.

(beat)

313 You're a good person, Derek. One of 313
the best I've ever known.

DEREK

314 Thank you. Just knowing that you're 314
not just alive but *happy* makes this
whole journey worth it.

(beat)

315 I'm going to go talk to the boys. 315
They're pretty excited to see Fort
Atlas. Dave wants a crack at that
communications array.

316 ODESSA I'll see you later, okay? Stay safe out there. 316

317 DEREK I will. 317

DEREK leaves.

A few moments later, AMANDA enters.

318 AMANDA I wasn't eavesdropping! 318

ODESSA laughs.

319 ODESSA I... didn't think you were. 319

320 AMANDA How'd it go? Need a drink? 320

321 ODESSA It went... surprisingly well. And yes. It's not too early for a Bloody Mary, right? 321

322 AMANDA Never. 322

323 (beat) Did you tell him? 323

324 ODESSA About Beth? Yeah. 324

325 AMANDA How'd he take it? I assume he was hoping that you two were going to get back together... 325

326 ODESSA He took it surprisingly well. He was disappointed, but... happy for me. 326

327 (beat) Maybe that will be what he needs to finally move on. 327

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. THE SPIDER'S WEB, EVENING

AMANDA and CINDY are hanging out and chatting, waiting for ODESSA.

BONES brings drinks to the table.

	CINDY	
328	Thank you, Bones.	328
	(beat, to AMANDA)	
329	So... how "dreamy" are we talking here?	329
	AMANDA	
330	Cindy!	330
	CINDY	
331	What?! I just want to maintain... er, appropriate situational awareness if we encounter him and his team in the wild!	331
	AMANDA	
332	Mmm-hmm. Sure. And his level of dreaminess is an important part of that.	332
	There is a pause.	
	CINDY	
333	Well?	333
	AMANDA chuckles.	
	AMANDA	
334	I swear, a hush came over the bar when he walked in.	334
	CINDY laughs.	
	AMANDA (CONT'D)	
335	You know how Odessa's a total smokeshow, right?	335
	CINDY	
336	Er, right...	336

337 AMANDA Well, those two together must've 337
been so hot that people had to
avert their eyes when they walked
by.

338 (beat, sigh, wistfully) 338
"One cannot gaze too long at the
sun."

CINDY giggles.

339 AMANDA (CONT'D) 339
And he's... nice? Like, most guys
that look like that *know* they look
like that and they're totally full
of themselves, right? Not this guy.
He's downright humble.

340 (beat) 340
I know what he did, I get it, all
I'm saying is that I totally get
what she saw in him.

341 CINDY 341
I mean... that makes sense, right?
Odessa would've been smart enough
to see through it if it were all an
act.

342 AMANDA 342
Yeah. How does she put it? She does
not "suffer fools gladly." If
there's any bullshit, she doesn't
hesitate to call them on it. That's
one of the reasons she's so good
for Beth... I love her, but she can
get inside her own head sometimes
and make really lousy decisions.
Hurtful ones. Self-destructive,
even. Odessa doesn't put up with
that, and it's helped Beth kind
of... grow up, I guess.

343 (beat) 343
Oh! Speaking of growing up!

344 CINDY 344
(wary)
Yes...?

345 AMANDA 345
Odessa's 30th birthday party! We
need to start planning it.
(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I was going to wait for Beth to get back but we only have a couple of weeks and I want it to be *perfect*. You only hit that dirty thirty once.

CINDY

346 I still remember yours. Kind of. 346

AMANDA laughs.

AMANDA

347 I don't think we're necessarily going to go full bacchanal for hers, but we'll see how things shake out. 347

CINDY

348 Definitely want to leave our options open... 348

AMANDA

349 Cindy! What's gotten into you tonight? 349

CINDY giggles.

CINDY

350 I don't know, you're the one talking about dreamy strangers and Odessa being a "smokeshow." 350

AMANDA

351 I guess I *am* in kind of a mood. But hey, you get to reap the benefits. 351

CINDY

352 I'm not complaining. 352

(beat)

353 Is he... coming tonight? 353

AMANDA

354 Here? No. I don't think so? I mean, he has as open an invitation as anybody, but this is going to be his first night at Atlas and he's probably going to stay there. 354

CINDY

355 What about Odessa? 355

AMANDA

356 I hope so. She's been pretty lonely 356
with Beth still gone and I know
we'd be able to cheer her up. I'd
hate to think she's just sitting in
an empty house eating ice cream in
the bathtub or something.

CINDY laughs.

CINDY

357 I *cannot* picture Odessa doing that. 357
I think she'd, like, build a suit
of power armor from scratch or
something instead.

AMANDA

358 That definitely seems more her 358
style.

(beat)

359 I'm glad you were able to get away 359
from the bunker for the weekend.
It's been tough not seeing you.

CINDY

360 I know. And I'm sorry, you know I 360
am. It's just that we have *so much*
going on...

AMANDA

361 Yeah. And I know how important the 361
work you're doing is, and not just
to you. There are a lot of people
who depend on you.

(beat)

362 But it's like... when does it slow 362
down? When do we get to spend time
together like a couple? We're not a
secret anymore. Valeria knows all
about us, we don't have to protect
Beth from finding out, but we see
each other less now than we did
when we were trying to keep us a
secret.

CINDY

363 Amanda, I... 363

AMANDA

(interrupting)

364 I've been talking it through with 364
Elise. She's been through it
before, so getting her perspective
helps.

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

So does all the time I've been spending with Odessa. But it still bums me out.

CINDY

365 I guess... I just get so caught up in trying to impress the Colonel, trying to justify all her faith in me, and I get caught up in the moment and put myself out there for operations and projects as soon as they come up. 365

(beat)

366 But you're the one that gives me the strength to do all that. To be the woman that I never had enough faith in *myself* to ever really be. 366

(beat)

367 I wouldn't be where I am today without you. Not personally, not professionally... I don't know who or what I'd be, but without you none of it would mean a thing to me. 367

AMANDA

(tearing up)

368 I know you mean that. It's just... it's hard, you know? I'm so proud of you, and proud to be the one who gets to be in love with you. But when I can't see you for those long stretches... well, it hurts. And I don't like to hurt. 368

CINDY

369 I don't want you to hurt. I... I didn't know that this was bothering you so much. I'm glad you said something. 369

(beat)

370 I should've seen it... 370

AMANDA

371 I've always been self-sufficient, my whole life. Had to be. It kills me to be this needy, but... I *need* more of you. I'd never ask you to resign your commission or even be less ambitious, I just... can we just spend more time together? 371

372 CINDY Yes. Yes! Now that I know, I can 372
work things out with the Colonel to
make sure that I have me time...
"us" time.

373 AMANDA Do you think she'll understand? 373

374 CINDY I know she'll understand. 374

375 AMANDA Good. We'll still make up for lost 375
time this weekend, though.

The door opens and ODESSA enters.

376 ODESSA
(panned hard right)
Hi, Bones! Looks like a busy night 376
already!

377 AMANDA There she is! 377

ODESSA approaches the table and sits down.

378 ODESSA Hi, guys! You didn't start without 378
me, did you?

379 AMANDA Never! 379

380 (beat)
Okay, yes. A little. 380

381 ODESSA That's okay. I put my order in with 381
Bones on the way in so I'll catch
up soon enough.

382 CINDY You look so nice! 382

383 ODESSA Thanks! I guess I felt... pretty 383
today, so I ran with it. After I
got back home from Atlas, of
course. Besides, Beth likes it when
I get... tarted up a little so I
thought this would be good
practice.

384 AMANDA Looks to me like you're already an expert. Damn, girl! 384

ODESSA laughs.

385 ODESSA Thanks, Amanda. 385
(beat)
386 So, what did I miss? Any shadowy figures come by? Or strange drink orders? 386

AMANDA laughs.

387 AMANDA No, it's been a pretty normal night for a change. Which is nice. The last couple of days have had enough surprises and general weirdness to last me a while. 387

388 ODESSA Agreed. A quiet night with friends is the perfect antidote. 388

389 AMANDA How'd Derek's arrival at Atlas go? 389

390 ODESSA It went great. He already has a gaggle of Initiates following him around like baby ducks, but that isn't surprising. 390

391 AMANDA No it is *not*. 391

392 ODESSA But I really believe that he's going to give us a fair shake. I don't know what that's going to entail, exactly, but once he has a chance to really see him in action, he'll understand that we've built something worth protecting, even that means protecting it from Elder Maxson. 392

393 AMANDA That's great, babe. He seems like a good guy. And anything I can do, of course... you know I'm always here for you. 393

394 ODESSA 394
You just want an excuse to see
Derek again.

AMANDA laughs.

395 AMANDA 395
Cindy here wants to meet him.

396 CINDY 396
Hey!

397 AMANDA 397
Am I wrong?

398 CINDY 398
Well, I mean, it would be
interesting to meet another person
from the original Brotherhood of
Steel...

ODESSA laughs.

399 ODESSA 399
I'll introduce you. We're not...
hanging out or anything, but we'll
be crossing paths a lot.

400 AMANDA 400
Does that mean you're back at work?
I mean, you took time off to spend
it with Beth, but she's not back
yet...

401 ODESSA 401
I still want to take some time to
recharge a little. I'll still be on-
call if Leila needs anything, but
I'm not going to be there all the
time, just in case they need me.

402 AMANDA 402
Good.

403 ODESSA 403
I think demonstrating that it's not
just the "Leila and Odessa show"
will help prove the viability of
our chapter, and that its
independence is one of its core
strengths.

404 AMANDA Plus, I think you need some time 404
away even more than you did before.

405 ODESSA Why do you say that? 405

406 AMANDA You're putting on a brave face 406
right now, but I know you've got
about a thousand different things
running through your head right
now. It's one thing to deal with a
memory, it's a lot different when
that memory is standing in front of
you.

ODESSA sighs.

407 ODESSA Yeah. Stupid handsome memory... 407

AMANDA laughs.

408 AMANDA At least you've got a good attitude 408
about it.

409 (beat) Any word from Beth? 409

410 ODESSA Not yet. I have my radio with me, 410
and the comm relay is set up at the
house. If she's able to get in
range, I'll have to go... but until
then, I just want to have a fun
night with my friends.

411 CINDY I think that's what all of us need. 411

412 AMANDA I'll drink to that. 412

BONES arrives with drinks.

413 BONES Here you go, ladies. 413

414 CINDY Perfect timing as always, Bones. 414

BONES sets the drinks on the table.

A radio beeps.

415 AMANDA
That you, Odessa? 415

ODESSA checks her radio.

416 ODESSA
No. Got my hopes up for a second,
though. 416

417 CINDY
It was me. Ugh, whatever it is,
I'll do my best to get out of it.
It's a little noisy in here, I'll
take this in the back room. 417

418 AMANDA
Thanks, dollface. 418

CINDY leaves.

419 AMANDA (CONT'D)
Okay, babe, it's just you and me.
How are you, really? 419

420 ODESSA
I feel great. I was so angry when I
saw him. All that pain came roaring
back, and it overwhelmed me. But
now that I've had a chance to
actually talk to him, and spend a
little time with him again... 420

421 (beat)
I'm not going to say that I'm not a
little nervous about what he's
going to tell Elder Maxson and what
that's going to mean for the future
of the Appalachian Brotherhood, of
course. 421

422 AMANDA
Yeah. But at least you know that
he's going to do things with your
best interests in mind. Maybe even
over the Brotherhood's. 422

ODESSA notices a familiar figure.

423 ODESSA
Hey, look over at the bar. Isn't
that the guy who was trying to get
to Foundation? 423

424 AMANDA 424
Yeah, it is... well, I don't know
if he ever made it there but he's
still breathing, so we didn't steer
him *completely* wrong.

425 ODESSA 425
He spotted us.

The SENTINEL approaches.

426 SENTINEL 426
Hello there! I wanted to thank you
for your help last night. The motel
was safe and comfortable, and I
made it to Foundation this morning.

427 AMANDA 427
Glad you made it safe and sound.

428 SENTINEL 428
The gentleman with the deep voice
at the bar said that this is your
place?

429 AMANDA 429
Yeah. I've owned it for about ten
years now.

430 SENTINEL 430
Well, it's a great tavern, and I've
seen more than my fair share of
them. It's the kind of place that
makes you feel like everything's
going to turn out okay, even when
things look bleak.

431 (beat) 431
It can be hard to have faith in a
world like this. You've created a
place that fosters it. Just... make
sure you don't forget to keep that
faith yourself.

432 AMANDA 432
O... okay.

433 SENTINEL 433
Have a good night. Thank you again.

The SENTINEL leaves.

434 AMANDA 434
What was that all about? I thought
he was going to try to sell me a
Bible. Or a... Mothman pamphlet or
something.

435 ODESSA 435
I don't know. It was like he was
trying to tell us something. And he
was checking his watch again.

436 AMANDA 436
I'm going to talk to him. His drink
was full, so he must still... well,
shit. Where'd he go?

437 ODESSA 437
He just kind of... disappeared. He
didn't go to the bathroom; he went
the opposite direction when he left
the table.

438 AMANDA 438
He's like a cheshire cat...

439 ODESSA 439
Don't let it bother you. As a
scientist, I have no doubt that
there's a rational explanation.

440 AMANDA 440
Maybe he's just an expert at the
Irish goodbye.

441 ODESSA 441
Exactly.

CINDY bursts in and runs to the table.

442 AMANDA 442
Whoa, Cindy, what is it? Do you
have to leave? Did something happen
back at the Bunker?

443 ODESSA 443
Are you okay? You look upset.

444 CINDY 444
I'm okay, I'm fine. It's Beth.

445 ODESSA 445
(concerned)
What about Beth?

446 CINDY 446
That was the Colonel. They were
just finishing up their mission.
Beth was hanging back with their
contact, Hex, exchanging intel.

447 ODESSA 447
Beth mentioned Hex. Said she was
trying to talk her into coming down
here for a visit. They really hit
it off.

448 CINDY 448
The thing is, when they went back
to get her, Beth was gone.

449 AMANDA 449
Gone?!

450 CINDY 450
Yeah. Hex said that she met up with
somebody and they went off to take
a look at... something.

451 ODESSA 451
At *what*?!

452 CINDY 452
Hex didn't know. And she didn't
recognize the person Beth left
with. But not long after that, a
bunch of Fanatics attacked the
building Beth had been staying in,
and practically leveled it.
Whatever she was investigating
probably saved her life.

453 (beat) 453
But the thing is... Beth is
missing.

END OF EPISODE TWO