

Season Two: "Broader Lands and Better Days"

Episode 6 "The Will and the Means"

by

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Based on "Fallout 76" by Bethesda Softworks

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"THE WILL AND THE MEANS"

SFX: SWIRLING PORTAL SOUNDS, SUBSIDING TO NORMAL

FADE IN:

INT. KIRBY HOME, LONDON - DAY

	SFX: CITY	AMBIENCE, DISTANT TRAFFIC	
	BETH is in	bed. She stirs, groggy.	
1		Ugh. Where am I? This oh no, I must've gotten caught in that portal and sent wherever this is. Can't complain about landing in a bed, at least. (beat)	1
2		Odessa was right next to me. Where is she? Maybe she didn't get caught in it. Lucky (beat)	2
3		Am I back in Pittsburgh? Hex and I can have another look-see and	3
	BETH gets	out of bed, a bit more awake.	
4		BETH (CONT'D) (mildly confused) Silk pajamas? How am I wearing silk pajamas?	4
	BETH click	s the light on.	
5		BETH (CONT'D) What the hell?	5
	BETH slowl	y walks around the room.	
6		BETH (CONT'D) These photos that's me. But it's not me. And that's mum and dad, but I've never seen the other girl before.	6
7		(beat) Come on, Beth, think this through. The portal was unstable. Something must've happened. But what?	7
8		(beat) This room is it's immaculate. Not a speck of dust or decay anywhere. Nothing like the real world.	8

BETH walks to a window and opens the curtains.

9	BETH (CONT'D) This this looks like London! Dad loved showing me photos, and of course! The portal was unstable, so it didn't send me to Pittsburgh, it sent me across the Atlantic. Good thing it didn't drop me off halfway, I suppose.	9
10	(beat) Wait, no, this isn't right. London surely would've been devastated during the Great War. Everything looks normal. If anything, it's rather shinier.	10
11	(beat) Oh no could I be in a Visiontron? Dr. Flagler said they were turning their research toward using the technology to stabilize people who've experienced neurological trauma. (beat)	11
12	Well, at least I'm alive.	12
13	(beat) If I need to find my way out like I did last time	13
	BETH rummages around on some shelves. She takes a boo	ok from
14	BETH (CONT'D) Photo albums? Might be something in there I can use.	14
	BETH leafs through the photo album.	
15	BETH (CONT'D) God, I hate these machines. This is cruel. The life I could've had, in vivid color. No war. No Vault. We all look so happy.	15
	There is a knock at the door.	
	ANDREW	
	(from the other side of the closed door)	
16	Elizabeth? Is everything alright?	16
17	BETH Was aladan arrawathians so fina	1 7
17	Yes, daddy, everything's fine.	17

	BETH walks to the door and opens it. ANDREW enters.	
18	ANDREW Good. We heard you talking and thought you might be getting a bit nervous about tomorrow.	18
19	BETH Oh, that. I'm sorry, sometimes my internal narration becomes external.	19
	ANDREW chuckles.	
20	ANDREW You get that from me, I'm afraid. Drives your mother mad. Germans tend rather more circumspect, and that took a bit of getting used to. Among other things, of course.	20
	BETH laughs	
21	BETH Of course.	21
22	ANDREW You're already packed! Brilliant!	22
23	BETH (rolling with it) Er, yes. Very excited about the trip.	23
24	ANDREW Nerves are natural, Elizabeth. I was a bundle of them before my first collaboration with a foreign intelligence service. But I'll be with you every step of the way.	24
25	BETH Thank you.	25
26	ANDREW Looking through old photos? That's not like you.	26
27	BETH I guess I felt that I needed a bit of a refresher to remember who I am - who I really am, and how I got here.	27

		4.
28	ANDREW I'm beginning to wonder if everything is actually fine.	28
	BETH sighs.	
29	ANDREW (CONT'D) Why don't we look through them together?	29
30	BETH I'd like that.	30
	BETH and ANDREW sit and leaf through the photo album.	
31	ANDREW Your first trip to Munich. You refused to wear anything but that Dirndl. Had to buy you another just so we could wash it.	31
	BETH laughs.	
32	ANDREW (CONT'D) But your grandparents were so happy to see you. Did you know that your grandmother was the first person to call you "Schatzi?"	32
33	BETH I didn't! I thought that was all mum.	33
34	ANDREW No but as soon as she heard her mother call you that she knew it was the perfect way to describe you. We should visit them when we get back from Washington. They miss you.	34
35	BETH That would be wonderful.	35
	ANDREW turns the page.	
	ANDREW	
36	Let's see	36
	ALEX rapidly approaches and bursts in.	
37	ALEX Sorry I'm so late. The Al was an absolute shambles. (MORE)	37

		5.
	ALEX (CONT'D)	
38	(beat) You're already in your jim-jams? Are you feeling alright? We have things to discuss.	38
39	ANDREW I'll leave you to it.	39
40	ALEX Thank you, daddy.	40
41	ANDREW Remember, wheels up at 15:00. Don't keep your sister up too late, Alexandra.	41
42	ALEX Wouldn't dream of it.	42
	REW leaves and closes the door.	12
	ALEX (CONT'D)	
43	Seriously, are you okay? You sounded fine this afternoon, but you seem a bit not yourself. I can go	43
	ВЕТН	
44	No, please stay. Dad and I were just looking through old photos.	44
	ALEX	
45	<pre>(mildly concerned) 0kay.</pre>	45
	(beat)	
46	So. Please don't be cross with me, but if you can tear yourself away from Washington for a few days I have someone I want you to meet. She lives in Manhattan and I may or may not have shown her your picture and suggested that we meet for drinks. Here. This is her.	46
ALE Z	X shows BETH a picture on her phone.	
	ветн	
47	(shocked) Casey?!	47
48	ALEX You said that like you know her; I didn't even realize you followed her! (MORE)	48

56

	ALEX (CONT'D) But yes, love, your sister is trying to set you up with Casey Barksdale herself. Now, I know the last couple of people I introduced you to didn't er, work out, but I have a good feeling about this one. A very good feeling. Kind of wish she had a brother (beat)	
49	So, what do you say?	49
50	BETH Well, I've always wanted to see New York.	50
ALEX laugh	ns.	
51	ALEX It hasn't been that long! Granted, we were still teenagers last time we were there, so I suppose we'll be seeing it in rather a different way this time round.	51
52	BETH Er, precisely.	52
53	ALEX Brilliant! Alright, I already cleared it with daddy. We'll fly up on Friday and come back Sunday night. Well, unless things go really well, of course. I booked rooms at the St. Regis, hope that's alright.	53
54	BETH The St. Regis will be lovely.	54
55	Oh, you're already packed? Overachiever. Well, I hope you saved some room, because we're going shopping first thing tomorrow. If "Halo and Horns" are going to conquer America properly, we'll have to do it with style. BETH	55
	DETR	

ALEX giggles.

Of course.

56

57	tonight. Suppose it's a bit late for that now, though. Bloody Al	57
58	(beat) But	58
59	BETH But?	59
60	ALEX Care to join me downstairs for a glass of wine? We can talk through whatever's bothering you	60
61	BETH I didn't say anything was bothering me.	61
62	ALEX Something is clearly bothering you. It's like you're on another planet or something. Did you really think I wouldn't notice?	62
	BETH sighs.	
63	BETH Alright. But can we talk about you, too? I want to hear all about everything you've been up to.	63
64	Deal. I'll tell you all about how Casey and I crossed paths. We ended up running from the paparazzi and my goodness did that turn into an adventure. Thought I was going to have to call you to rescue us for a minute there.	64
	BETH laughs.	
65	BETH Oh, I cannot wait to hear about that. Let's go.	65
	MUSICAL TRANSITION	
	INT. NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WASHINGTON DC, NIGHT	
	SFX: SWIRLING PORTAL SOUNDS, SUBSIDING TO NORMAL	

7.

SFX: LABORATORY AMBIENT SOUNDS

ODESSA lurches back to consciousness. A SAILOR has been trying to wake her up. His voice starts out highly distorted but come into focus.

66	SAILOR Commander? Commander! Oh, thank God, you're awake! Here, try to sit up.	66
67	ODESSA Urgh. What happened? Is Beth okay?	67
68	SAILOR Um I don't know what happened. I was bringing you the records you asked for, and when I came in you were on the floor. I don't know if you passed out, or	68
	ODESSA	
69	<pre>(urgently) Where is Beth?</pre>	69
70	SAILOR I don't know who Beth is, ma'am.	70
71	ODESSA Where am I? I don't	71
72	SAILOR You're in your lab, ma'am.	72
73	ODESSA Wh what? This isn't my lab. These aren't my clothes	73
Cap	otain Jay HOUSTON rushes in.	
74	HOUSTON I got down here as quickly as I could. What happened? Is she okay?	74
75	SAILOR Still trying to figure that out, Captain. She's awake, but disoriented.	75
	ODESSA	
76	I need to stand up.	76

77	HOUSTON Whoa, whoa, Commander, take it easy. Get her in that chair, Sailor.	77
78	SAILOR Yes, sir.	78
	The SAILOR helps ODESSA into a chair.	
79	SAILOR (CONT'D) (aside) Um, sir?	79
80	HOUSTON What is it?	80
81	SAILOR She's really disoriented. She said this wasn't her lab and she was asking for someone named "Beth." Is that her wife?	81
82	HOUSTON No. I don't know who she's talking about. Where the hell is the doctor?	82
83	SAILOR Should be here any minute, sir.	83
84	HOUSTON Okay. See if you can track him down. I've got her from here.	84
85	SAILOR Yes, sir.	85
	The SAILOR leaves.	
86	HOUSTON (gently) Odessa? Can you hear me?	86
	ODESSA (disoriented and in	
87	pain) Ugh. Yes.	87
88	(beat) It feels like somebody hit me in the head with a shovel.	88

9.

HOUSTON winces.

89	HOUSTON Ooh. Looks like you hit your head when you fell. Do you remember what happened?	89
90	ODESSA No. Where is everybody?	90
91	HOUSTON Uh, well, you decided to work late so you could finish a few things up. Everybody's probably either in their bunks or at a bar.	91
92	ODESSA I wish I was in either of those places right now.	92
93	HOUSTON (beat, concerned) I'm going to ask you a few questions, okay?	93
94	ODESSA Okay.	94
95	HOUSTON Can you tell me your name?	95
96	ODESSA Odessa Valdez.	96
97	HOUSTON And what's your birthday?	97
98	ODESSA October 17th.	98
99	HOUSTON What's your mom's name?	99
100	ODESSA Christina.	100
101	HOUSTON Great. You passed. Do you want some water?	101
102	ODESSA That would be great.	102

103	HOUSTON Maybe you were just dehydrated. You've been spending a lot of time cooped up in here, and I know how you get when you hyperfocus. It's usually an advantage, but	103	
104	ODESSA But not when I forget to drink water.	104	
105	HOUSTON Or eat.	105	
	HOUSTON pours a glass of water.		
106	ODESSA Thank you.	106	
	ODESSA drinks.		
107	HOUSTON Feel any better?	107	
108	ODESSA A little, but my head is killing me and I'm still pretty fuzzy. It's like I stepped out of a dream. Or into one.	108	
109	HOUSTON What do you mean?	109	
110	ODESSA (starting to realize what happened) Sorry Captain. I must've hit my head pretty hard.	110	
	HOUSTON chuckles.		
111	HOUSTON It's okay, Commander. I'll make sure the doc gives you something for that. Your other half isn't getting back until tomorrow, right?	111	
ODESSA			
112	<pre>(hoping he's talking</pre>	112	

	HOUSTON	
113	As long as the doc says you don't have to spend the night in the infirmary, I'll have the Chief set up quarters for you here. Now, this is not an order, but I don't think you should be driving and I don't think you should be alone in that house tonight.	113
114	ODESSA Okay.	114
115	<pre>HOUSTON "Okay?" You must've hit your head pretty hard, I was expecting a fight.</pre>	115
	ODESSA laughs.	
116	ODESSA Ow. Don't make me laugh. (beat)	116
117	Captain, do you think you can pull up my service record while we're waiting? I think it'll help ground me a little.	117
118	HOUSTON Uh, sure. One sec.	118
	HOUSTON clacks at the keyboard and swipes and clicks the mouse.	
119	<pre>HOUSTON (CONT'D) I swear, these portals are going to drive me to drink.</pre>	119
120	ODESSA I know that feeling	120
121	HOUSTON I can't believe they changed the online portal again last month. I still have trouble finding my way around. I'm getting too old for this	121
	The computer beeps.	
122	<pre>HOUSTON (CONT'D) There you go. (beat, sigh) (MORE)</pre>	122

		13.
123	HOUSTON (CONT'D) I'm going to see if I can track down the doc myself. You going to be okay by yourself for a few?	123
124	ODESSA Yes, Captain.	124
125	HOUSTON Back in two shakes. Three tops.	125
	HOUSTON leaves.	
126	ODESSA Okay, here goes. I may not know where I am, but maybe this will give me some idea who I am.	126
	ODESSA clacks at the keyboard.	
127	ODESSA (CONT'D) (reading) "Lieutenant Commander Odessa Valdez. Assigned to the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC." So this is DC? And I'm in the Navy? Didn't see that coming	127
	ODESSA sighs.	
128	ODESSA (CONT'D) This is all service-related stuff. Nothing in here about who my "other half" is. At least I know it's not Derek.	128
129	(beat) God, I hope it's Beth I wish she'd just walk through that door so we can tell each other everything's going to be alright. Especially after that stupid fight.	129
	Captain HOUSTON enters with Commander CLARK.	
130	HOUSTON Found him.	130
131	CLARK Good thing, too. I was on my way out the door. What happened?	131
132	ODESSA I must've passed out.	132

1	4	١.

133	HOUSTON She hit her head pretty good, too.	133
134	CLARK Do you think you're up to walking to my office?	134
135	ODESSA I think a walk will do me good.	135
136	CLARK Still fighting some cobwebs, I take it?	136
137	ODESSA I feel better than I did a few minutes ago, but yeah.	137
138	HOUSTON She's all yours, doc. You know where to find me. I expect a full report.	138
139	CLARK Don't worry, Captain. I'll take good care of her.	139
	HOUSTON leaves.	
140	CLARK (CONT'D) Captain Houston said he gave you some cognitive tests.	140
141	ODESSA He asked me my name, birthday, my mom's name	141
142	CLARK Not exactly scientific, but it's good that you remembered those nonetheless.	142
143	(beat) He also said that you have a nasty headache. Take these. They'll help with that.	143
	ODESSA	
144	Thank you, doctor.	144
	ODESSA takes the pills and washes them down with water.	
145	CLARK Ready to go?	145

146	ODESSA After you.	146
	ODESSA and CLARK walk.	
147	CLARK Not feeling unsteady?	147
148	ODESSA No. In fact, I think once this headache's gone all I'll need is a good night's sleep and I'll be good as new.	148
149	CLARK I'm still going to draw some blood and run a standard set of labs, just to make sure nothing's changed since your last physical.	149
	ODESSA	
150	Okay.	150
151		151
	draw blood (beat, laugh)	
152		152
	CLARK opens his office door. He and ODESSA enter, and he closes the door.	
1.50	CLARK (CONT'D)	0
153	Before we go over to the infirmary is everything okay at home?	153
	ODESSA	
154		154
155	CLARK Well, your wife's been out of town a lot lately, and that can be stressful, even without everything else that's going on. It's only been a few months since your ship almost went down with you on it, no	155
156	less. (beat)	156

ODESSA sighs.

	ODESSA	
157	We had a fight. She overreacted, then I overreacted, and we didn't have a chance to talk it through before well, we didn't have a chance to talk it through.	157
158	CLARK I'm sorry.	158
159	ODESSA So am I. And so is she! That's what's so frustrating! Things have been going so well.	159
160	CLARK This is a bit outside my normal brief.	160
161	ODESSA I know, I know, I'm sorry to dump this on you.	161
162	CLARK Let me finish. It's a bit outside my normal brief, but I understand. Melissa and I have been married for 25 years now. A quarter-century. We love each other. We love our children. But that doesn't mean we don't have misunderstandings sometimes. That we don't have arguments. And yeah, some of those have ended up with me sleeping on the couch for a couple of nights.	162
163	ODESSA What did you do?!	163
C	LARK laughs.	
164	CLARK That's not important. What is important is that we cool down, talk it through, and we come away understanding each other a little bit better.	164

ODESSA sighs.

165	ODESSA That's what we do, too. I just want to get to that part, and well, I just don't know when that's going to happen.	165
166	CLARK Just have faith. Look, I'm a doctor. Not the same kind of scientist as you, but still a scientist. That doesn't mean we can't trust the universe sometimes.	166
167	ODESSA Maybe you should've been a therapist.	167
	CLARK chuckles.	
168	CLARK Maybe. That or an astrologer.	168
	ODESSA laughs.	
169	ODESSA Well, either way, I think you might be onto something. So many things had to happen just right for us to find each other in the first place.	169
170	CLARK And maybe that means the universe wants you to be together.	170
171	ODESSA Let's go with that.	171
172	(beat) I don't suppose this conversation is going to get me out of that blood draw, is it?	172
	CLARK chuckles.	
173	CLARK I'm afraid not. But, if you're very brave I have a drawer full of lollipops with your name on them.	173
174	ODESSA How about a glass of bourbon instead?	174
	CLARK laughs.	

175

175 That works

That works, too. Let's head over. Jay talked to Chief Wilkins on the way back to your lab. He should have your quarters squared away by the time we're done. Get some sleep. Tomorrow's another day.

CLARK

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WASHINGTON DC, DAY

SFX: CAR PULLING UP. DRIVER GETS OUT AND OPENS DOOR.

176	ANDREW Of all the Naval facilities I thought I'd visit, the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington was not among them I've never even gone undercover as a scientist, much less been one. I'll be fascinated to learn why the foreign secretary was so adamant that I was the right person for this job.	176
177	ELISE Well, whatever the reason, it's important enough to not only pull you out of retirement	177
178	ANDREW Semi-retirement.	178
	ELISE chuckles.	
179	ELISE Semi-retirement, but to reactivate your commission.	179
180	ANDREW I was rather hoping for that second star.	180
181	ELISE Perhaps they're waiting to see if you do a good job.	181
	ANDREW laughs.	
	BETH	
182	I read the file three times on the plane, but I can't fathom why the Americans specifically requested me, either. I even read my own file to see if I could cross-reference something, or if there was some sort of error. And, unlike you, I'm not a naval officer.	182

	ANDREW	
183	A brilliant young agent who's demonstrated a singular ability to work within any environment she finds herself, no matter how foreign? That part makes perfect sense.	183
184	BETH It might make more sense if we had some idea what this was all about.	184
	ANDREW	
185	Indeed. Both of us are cleared for eDV and TS-SCI yet the file was still heavily redacted.	185
186	(beat) Elise, please do say hello to Ambassador Haber for me. And tell her we're very much looking forward to dinner tonight.	186
	ELISE	
187	I will. I'm sure Alexandra would rather be anywhere than in a stuffy old building meeting with stuffy old diplomats.	187
	ALEX	
188	Are you kidding? I get to spend the day with the most beautiful and vibrant diplomat the AA's ever seen. How could I pass that up?	188
	ELISE laughs.	
	DI TCD	
189	ELISE How indeed. You have your father's charm, Alex.	189
	ALEX	
190	And your looks. What a combination, eh?	190
191	(beat) Beth and I have plenty of time to paint the town, don't you worry. And we will.	191
	ELISE laughs.	
DI TOD		
192	ELISE Major, can you take us to the German Embassy?	192

193	Of course, ma'am. Should take us about 25 minutes, so you'll be there in plenty of time.	193
194	(beat) Commodore, we'll be back at 1800 hours. If you need me to come by earlier, just give me a call.	194
195	ANDREW Thank you, Major.	195
-	ELISE and ALEX get back into the car, which drives off.	
	Captain HOUSTON approaches.	
196	HOUSTON Welcome to Washington, Commodore. Captain Jay Houston, skipper of the USS Bonhomme Richard.	196
197	ANDREW Good morning, Captain Houston. This is Agent Elizabeth Kirby.	197
198	HOUSTON Pleasure to meet you, Agent Kirby.	198
199	BETH Please, call me Beth, otherwise I'm going to assume you're talking to my father.	199
	HOUSTON laughs.	
200	HOUSTON Sure thing, Beth. I take it your flight from London was uneventful?	200
201	ANDREW It was.	201
202	BETH He even took the controls for a couple of hours.	202
203	HOUSTON JBAB's only about ten minutes away if you want to get a few more hours in.	203
204	ANDREW Tempting.	204

They begin to walk toward the entrance.

205	HOUSTON I was hoping that our lead scientist would be able to join us this morning, but she's not feeling well. You'll meet her soon enough. She's already pestering me to get back in the lab.	205
	They enter the building. They pass through security.	
206	HOUSTON (CONT'D) Here are your credentials. You'll have pretty wide-ranging access to the facility.	206
	SFX: METAL DETECTOR BEEPS.	
207	HOUSTON (CONT'D) The SCIF is upstairs. Once we get in there, we'll read you in.	207
208	ANDREW I trust our biometrics are on file?	208
209	HOUSTON They are.	209
	They walk toward, and then up the stairs.	
	SFX: SEVERAL BEEPS AND WHIRS AS BIOMETRICS ARE CHECKED.	
	They enter the room and close the door.	
210	<pre>HOUSTON (CONT'D) Commodore Kirby, Beth, this is Devon McKnight.</pre>	210
211	DEVON Good morning. I trust you had an uneventful flight?	211
212	BETH (trying to mask shock) We did. It's a pleasure to meet you.	212
213	DEVON Do we know each other? I'm detecting familiarity. But I don't think we've ever met.	213

	ANDREW	
214	(covering) Well, you've been in the press so much recently, it's almost like we've known you for years.	214
	DEVON	
215	(skeptical) Ah. Of course.	215
	(beat)	
216	Well, at any rate, let's get to it. My company has been working with the Navy on Project Emerald Pike	216
	BETH	
217	Project what?!	217
	HOUSTON	
218	I know, I know, these project names get hokier and hokier every time. I can't really say anything, though, I'm not creative enough to come up with good ones, either. I'd probably just name them after exgirlfriends or something.	218
DEVON lau	ghs.	
	DEVON	
219	Anyway, we've been working on this for several years now. Instantaneous travel between any two points on the planet. Well, the travel itself is instantaneous, it can take a little bit of time to open the door	219
	HOUSTON	
220	And a lot more to close it. And the door is incredibly unstable.	220
	DEVON	
221	I have my top two scientists working on that. It's been a slow go, and there have been setbacks.	221
	HOUSTON	. -
222	Our most recent test at sea ended up with a hole the size of a dump truck in the side of my ship. Fortunately, there were no casualties. My lead scientist was way too close for comfort.	222

223	You said she wasn't feeling well. Is it related to that incident?	223
224	HOUSTON No. Well, not directly. She's as focused a sailor as I've ever worked with, and she's really thrown herself into solving this. Not to get too deep into it, but that on top of some personal stuff that's been going on she's always been great at keeping stuff compartmentalized, but she's human and that's a lot of stress.	224
225	BETH I can empathize with that.	225
226	HOUSTON Anyway, here are unredacted versions of the project file. It doesn't have the in-the-weeds technical information like schematics, but if you'd like to see that level of detail I have those available as well. Everything has to stay in here, of course.	226
227	ANDREW Of course.	227
228	DEVON I was thinking we'd give you two some time to look the file over so you have a baseline, then we'll show you around the facility and roll into a full briefing with my folks after lunch.	228
229	ANDREW That sounds fine.	229
230	DEVON Great. The Captain and I have some things to discuss. We'll be back in a little while.	230
231	HOUSTON If you need anything, the Chief outside will set you up.	231
232	BETH Thank you, Captain.	232

DEVON and HOUSTON leave.

233	ANDREW Well, that's our morning sorted.	233
234	BETH I thought being a spy was supposed to be exciting.	234
ANDR	REW laughs.	
235	BETH (CONT'D) Before we crack these files open, I wanted to ask you about something.	235
236	ANDREW Of course, my dear.	236
237	BETH If I wanted to find someone an old acquaintance, let's say, so I could visit them while I'm on this side of the pond how would I go about that?	237
238	ANDREW Hmm. I know that you know how to navigate the various databases we have at our disposal to locate someone, even outside the United Kingdom.	238
239	BETH (rolling with it) Of course. This is something I'd prefer to keep	239
240	ANDREW Off-the-books?	240
241	BETH Yes. And I don't know where to start.	241
242	ANDREW I see. Well, I can make some calls when we get outside. But Elizabeth, I need to ask is there anything that I need to be concerned about? Going through back channels to find an "old friend" is well, it's a bit irregular.	242

0.4.0	BETH	0.40
243	No, it's nothing like that.	243
244	ANDREW Alright. I trust you. Just remember, there's nothing you can't tell me.	244
245	BETH I know, daddy. You've always had my back. And I'll always have yours.	245
246	ANDREW It's brilliant that we're finally able to work together on an operation. I thought we'd run out of time. There never seems to be quite enough of that, does there?	246
247	BETH (wistfully) No. And I'm bound and determined	247
247	not to waste any.	241
248	ANDREW A wonderful attitude to have. Now. Who can I help you find? Where does she live?	248
BETH sighs	ş.	
	BETH (growing upset but holding it in)	
249	That's the frustrating part. I don't know. We were separated, quite abruptly. I don't even know if she's out there, but I have to believe that she is. Because if she isn't well, I don't know what I'm going to do. There were so many things left unsaid. I never got to tell her how sorry I was	249
	ANDREW (surprised but	
250	comforting) Shh it's going to be okay, Elizabeth, I promise. I'll bring the full might of MI6 to bear to find her if I have to. I'd move heaven and earth for my girls. (beat) (MORE)	250

		27.
251	ANDREW (CONT'D) Let's start with something simple. What's her name?	251
252	BETH Her name is Odessa Valdez.	252
	MUSICAL TRANSITION	
	INT. NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (OFFICER'S QUARTERS), WASHINGTON DC, DAY	
	HOUSTON is at ODESSA's door. He knocks.	
253	ODESSA Come in!	253
	HOUSTON enters.	
254	HOUSTON Good morning, Commander. How are you feeling? Looks like you've been busy.	254
255	ODESSA Just trying to get myself up to speed. Back up to speed, I mean. I've been going back over my research, from the beginning.	255
256	HOUSTON Always good to look at something through fresh eyes.	256
257	ODESSA (sotto) If you had any idea how fresh my eyes are	257
258	HOUSTON Pardon?	258
259	ODESSA Nothing.	259
260	How did you sleep? Be honest.	260
261	ODESSA Dr. Clark suspected I might have trouble sleeping, so he left something just in case I needed it. And I did. It helped a lot.	261

262	CLARK The lab is backed up, so I'm still waiting for the results of that blood panel. I'm not comfortable signing off on full duty yet.	262
263	ODESSA I feel much better.	263
264	CLARK I'm sure you do. But I'm not going to risk another episode. We were lucky Petty Officer Barnes came back when he did. We might not be so lucky next time.	264
	ODESSA sighs.	
265	ODESSA Okay. I'll behave. But can you maybe try to put a rush on it?	265
266	<pre>HOUSTON My next phone call is to Walter Reed.</pre>	266
267	ODESSA Hopefully he'll be able to get things moving.	267
	HOUSTON laughs.	
268	HOUSTON Well, at least your sense of humor is intact. Dr. Reed himself probably won't be much help at this point, but I should be able to get ahold of someone at the hospital they named after him who can help	268
269	speed things up. (beat) Oh! You left this in your lab in all the commotion.	269
	HOUSTON hands ODESSA her phone.	
270	ODESSA (no idea what it is) Oh! Thank you! Definitely don't want to lose that.	270
271	HOUSTON I lost <i>my</i> phone last month and it felt like I misplaced an appendage.	271

DEVON knocks at the door.

	ODESSA	
272	Come in. (beat)	272
273	Devon! What are you doing here?!	273
	DEVON laughs.	
274	DEVON It's nice to see you, too,	274
	Commander. (beat)	
275	Jay and I just got out of a quick	275
	meeting with the folks Langley called in to join us on the	
	project. We gave them your regrets.	
	They're excited to get started, and so am I.	
276	(beat) I sense confusion. Did you forget	276
270	about the meeting?	270
	ODESSA	
277	Oh. Yes. I've been so busy with	277
	research. And experiments. It totally slipped my mind. I'm sorry	
	I couldn't be there.	
	DEVON	
278	I figured you'd be champing at the	278
	bit to get in there and work with them. Andy and Alli should get into	
	town tomorrow and we'll start to	
	plan out next steps. <i>Real</i> next steps.	
	ODESSA	
279	It's very exciting.	279
	DEVON	
280	Doctor, do you think it would be	280
	alright if Commander Valdez and I went over some new findings?	
	CLARK	
281	That should be fine. Just don't get	281
	her too excited, okay?	
282	DEVON	282
202	I promise.	202

283	CLARK I'll be back as soon as I hear back from the lab and we can go through the results. Hopefully that will be a short conversation.	283
284	HOUSTON And I have to make that phone call to Walter Reed. (beat)	284
285	The hospital, not the person.	285
	ODESSA laughs.	
286	ODESSA I'm never going to live that down, am I?	286
287	HOUSTON Not as long as I'm around. We'll talk soon. Devon, I'll come grab you when it's time to take our guests to lunch.	287
288	DEVON Sounds like a plan. We'll see you later.	288
	HOUSTON and CLARK leave.	
289	<pre>DEVON (CONT'D) I'm glad you're feeling better.</pre>	289
290	ODESSA Me too. Last night was scary. I hope we can get to the bottom of what happened and get me back where I need to be.	290
291	DEVON Adam's a good doctor. He'll figure it out.	291
	DEVON closes the door.	
292	DEVON (CONT'D) Odessa, I didn't want to bring this up in front of Jay and Dr. Clark, but I'm sensing a lot more than confusion from you right now.	292
293	ODESSA What do you mean?	293

	DEVON	
294	That's the strangest part. I don't know what I mean. Not exactly. I've never felt anything quite like this. And now I've felt it twice in one day. There's dissonance surrounding you.	294
295	ODESSA Dissonance? I don't understand.	295
296	Neither do I. But the bottom line is that you're different somehow. Every person has a um a signature. Or a fingerprint, I guess. Once you kind of tune into that, you can feel shifts. Like, I can tell Jay is extremely worried about you even though he's putting on a brave face. That's probably obvious. But what's not obvious is that it's not just because you collapsed in your lab last night.	296
297	ODESSA What else is he worried about?	297
298	DEVON It doesn't work that way, I'm afraid. I'm not a mind reader. It's more about feel. Took me a hell of a long time to figure it out to the extent I have.	298
299	(beat) What I'm feeling from you, though? It's new. I need to figure it out, and I think I'm going to need your help to do that.	299
300	ODESSA Okay. I want answers as much as you do. No - I need answers. And I don't know what it is, but I really feel like I can trust you.	300
301	DEVON Because you can. And that's good, because we're both going to have to trust each other on this.	301

ODESSA sighs.

302	DEVON (CONT'D) What's wrong?	302
303	ODESSA I guess I just feel like I don't know who I am.	303
304	DEVON Ah, an existential dilemma. I can empathize. I've been so many different people over the course of my life	304
305	ODESSA What's that supposed to mean?	305
	DEVON chuckles ruefully.	
306	DEVON That is a story for another time.	306
307	ODESSA Okay. But you can't just leave something like that out there you're going to have to tell me at some point.	307
308	(beat) But, you know	308
309	DEVON What is it?	309
	ODEGGA	
310	ODESSA It's kind of a crazy idea, I'll admit, but I was thinking I may be a little fuzzy on who I am right now, but maybe if you tell me what you know about me it will give me a little bit of clarity. Something to focus on.	310
	DEVON	
311	I'm not going to argue that it's not a crazy idea, but I'm not a psychologist, and, well, I've heard crazier. (beat)	311
312	Let's see we met about a year ago, when you got your current assignment, which coincided with your promotion to Lieutenant Commander. O-4 at 28? Well done, by the way.	312

ODESSA			
313	(rolling with it) Thank you.	313	
314	DEVON Your middle initial is "M," but I don't know what your middle name is.	314	
ODESSA la	ughs.		
0.4.5	ODESSA		
315	It's Maria.	315	
316	DEVON There, I already know more than I did going in. (beat)	316	
317	You decided on Annapolis over West Point, which annoyed your parents since they're Army through-and-through.	317	
318	(beat) You have a PhD in particle physics from the University of Chicago - go Maroons - and that's one of the reasons you came so highly recommended.	318	
319	ODESSA	319	
319	I came highly recommended?	319	
320	Oh, yes. I was strongly encouraged to get you assigned to our team. Even called in a few favors to make it happen. You were already stationed here at the NRL, so that made it a <i>little</i> easier.	320	
321	ODESSA Interesting	321	
	DEVON		
322	Let's see, what else you were born in California - Monterey, I think? You're an only child	322	
323	<pre>(beat) Oh! You're married - very happily, I might add - and have been for three years, I think?</pre>	323	

	ODESSA (hopeful)	
324	Do you know my wife?	324
325	I'm afraid not. I've never met her. But I do know that she's a restaurateur, and she's already planning a big 30th birthday party for you that you're kind of dreading. I think Jay mentioned that she was in Chicago opening a new restaurant? But she's due back today. I'm sure you can't wait to see her.	325
326	ODESSA You have no idea	326
327	DEVON That's everything that springs to mind. Hope it helps.	327
328	ODESSA Every little bit does. Are you ready to go over those new findings?	328
329	DEVON Oh, I made that up. I really wanted to talk this stuff through while the feeling was fresh in my mind, so I had to figure out a way to get rid of them.	329
330	ODESSA (laughing) I'm starting to like your style, Devon McKnight.	330

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL, WASHINGTON DC, MORNING

BETH has just woken up and is preparing for her day. ALEX knocks at her door.

331	headed	ALEX (from other side of closed door) cent in there, love? I'm down to get some breakfast, t you might want to join.	331
	BETH opens the do	oor. ALEX enters. BETH closes the doo	r.
332		BETH e you this chipper? It's It's already 8:30?	332
333	How are	ALEX e you still not up and d?	333
334	I've ev	BETH the most comfortable bed ver slept in. I can still t beckoning me to return.	334
	ALEX laughs.		
335	eating? ever ea mean ir	BETH (CONT'D) w can you even think about ? I swear, I don't think I've aten that much meat. I don't n one sitting, either, I mean ne course of my entire life.	335
336		ALEX a formal dinner at the Embassy. Were you expecting d bar?	336
	BETH laughs.		
337	I suppo	BETH ose not.	337
338	brekkie to go f	ALEX since a Waldorf Astoria e isn't tempting, do you want for a run? Dad said you have rning free.	338

339	BETH That sounds lovely. Especially after last night. I think I'd have to run a thousand miles to work that meal off.	339
340	ALEX Let's start with five? Regardless, I want as much sister time as we can manage while we're here.	340
341	BETH I'd like that. You're a remarkable woman.	341
342	ALEX What can I say? I have excellent role models.	342
	BETH laughs.	
343	ALEX (CONT'D) Still excited for the weekend? No pressure, but Casey certainly seems to be. She's been posting about it all week.	343
244	BETH	244
344	She has?	344
345	ALEX Look for yourself.	345
	ALEX pulls out her phone and pulls up Casey's socials.	
346	BETH	346
340	Are you sure that's about me?	346
347	ALEX Oh, quite sure. She has to be careful about specifics, for obvious reasons. Ah, the life of an "it girl"	347
2/10	BETH	240
348	I wonder	348
349	ALEX Wonder what, love?	349
350	BETH Maybe that's why I'm here.	350

351	ALEX I don't understand.	351
352	BETH I'm sorry. Just been a bit I don't know, reflective lately? So many things happening, pulling me in all sorts of different directions.	352
353	ALEX You're 24, love, bit early for a midlife crisis.	353
	BETH laughs.	
354	BETH It is.	354
355	For what it's worth I think you're here to spend as much time as possible with your lovely sister. And, considering we don't have a erm, meat extravaganza on the docket for tonight, I thought we could paint the town a bit. Well, a lot.	355
356	BETH We do have that dinner	356
357	ALEX Oh, bloody hell, I'd already forgotten about. Diplomats I can handle. But scientists? Ugh.	357
358	BETH Now, now, I think you'll find that some of them can be quite charming.	358
359	ALEX Oooh, did you date a scientist and not tell me? Did you think I wouldn't approve?	359
	BETH laughs.	
360	BETH Oh, if you'd met this one I know you would.	360

361	ALEX Tell me about her! I mean, unless you don't want to	361
362	BETH No, no, I do!	362
363	ALEX I think I might need to sit down for this. The way your face lit up	363
364	She's smart. I mean, really smart. Smartest person I've ever met, in fact. She's kind, funny brilliant dancer.	364
365	ALEX Ooooh!	365
BETH chuc	ckles.	
366	BETH Ooooh indeed. She's beautiful. My jaw dropped the first time I saw her. And she some how managed to get more beautiful every day.	366
367	ALEX So what's stopping you?	367
368	BETH What do you mean?	368
369	ALEX She sounds fantastic. Why aren't you two together already? Is she with someone else?	369
370	No, it's nothing like that. I did think there was a figure from her past that was going to throw a spanner in the works, but ugh.	370
371	ALEX What's wrong?	371
372	BETH I'm the one who threw the spanner in the works. And now I don't know if I'm ever going to get the chance to make it right. I thought (MORE)	372

		39.
	BETH (CONT'D)	
373	(beat) Ugh, it's stupid.	373
374	ALEX I doubt that.	374
375	BETH Do you believe in fate?	375
376	ALEX I never really gave it much thought, if I'm being honest.	376
377	BETH Neither did I. But from the moment I met her, it felt like we were meant to be together. The universe keeps throwing obstacles at us, but we've always gotten past them. Hell, if anything that's just made us closer.	377
378	ALEX	378
376	But?	376
	BETH sighs.	
379	BETH But this latest obstacle it's different.	379
	ALEX	
380	Well I don't know anything about fate, or destiny, or universes either wanting or not wanting people to be together. But what I do know is that worrying about all that, whether it's true or not, is just going to get in the way of you being happy.	380
381	(beat) There's an old saying in Spanish. I've taken it to heart, and maybe you should, too: "Vivir con miedo es como vivir a medias."	381
382	BETH What does that mean?	382
383	ALEX "A life lived in fear is a life half-lived."	383

INT. RESTAURANT, EVENING

DEVON and HOUSTON are present.

SFX: RESTAURANT AMBIENCE

ANDREW, ELISE, BETH, and ALEX enter and approach the table.

384	DEVON Commodore! Great to see you, so glad you could make it. Beth, wonderful to see you as well.	384
385	ANDREW This is my wife, Elise.	385
386	DEVON Mrs. Kirby, a pleasure.	386
387	ANDREW And my younger daughter, Alexandra.	387
388	DEVON Miss Kirby, a pleasure as well.	388
389	(beat) Please, have a seat.	389
390	ELISE Are we waiting for someone else? There's still an empty chair.	390
391	HOUSTON Yes, Our lead scientist will be joining us soon. She warned us that she might be a little late. It's been a long couple of days for her.	391
392	ANDREW I do hope she's feeling better.	392
393	HOUSTON She is, thank you.	393
394	DEVON I have good news, too. Andy and Alli McGillis are in the air as we speak. They can't make it to dinner, but they'll meet us at the lab first thing tomorrow. That means we'll finally be ready to get to work.	394

395	HOUSTON I love getting the band back together.	395
	cogether.	
396	DEVON What's the latest on your ship?	396
397	HOUSTON Repairs are ongoing. I made sure they saved some samples of the hull so you can run metallurgy on them, maybe get some insights into what happened.	397
	DEVON	
398	I'm going to be very interested to see what we come up with there. I have some theories, but I'm trying not to get too far ahead of myself.	398
	HOUSTON	
399	My priority is ensuring that my crew are not in harm's way next time we put out to sea. We got lucky last time, and I don't like relying on luck.	399
400	DEVON I share your concern, Captain. We'll do everything in our power to make sure ship and crew get back to port safe and sound.	400
401	ANDREW And we stand ready to assist in any way we can.	401
	HOUSTON	
402	Thank you, Commodore.	402
ODESSA rushes in.		
403	DEVON You made it!	403
404	ODESSA Sorry I'm late. I had to improvise something to wear. I hope this is alright.	404
	BETH	
405	(shocked, happy) Odessa?! Is it is it really you?	405

406	ODESSA Oh my God! Beth! You're here!	406
407	DEVON You two know each other?	407
408	(sotto) Interesting that explains a lot.	408
409	BETH We have so much to talk about.	409
410	ODESSA Can I steal her for a few minutes?	410
411	DEVON Of course.	411
	ALEX	
	(stage whisper)	
412	Hey! Is that	412
413	BETH Shh! I'll explain in a bit.	413
	BETH and ODESSA walk quickly to the bar.	
	ODESSA	
414	Beth	414
415	ODESSA (CONT'D) I was terrified that I'd never see you again.	415
	BETH	
416	So was I. I'm so sorry.	416
	ODESSA	
417	So am I.	417
	They kiss.	
	Demu	
418	BETH Have you figured out what's going on? Or what happened?	418
419	ODESSA No. I'm still not cleared for duty, and nothing in the project notes explains any of this. This is just speculation, but I think that unstable portal at Flagrante Bello sent us to a mirror universe, I guess?	419

	BETH	
420	Yes! At first I thought it might be a Visiontron, but I've been inside one of those, and there's a level of surreality that just isn't present here. (beat)	420
421	So, we're in a mirror universe where everything's kind of familiar, but still very different. The Great War never happened, dad's MI6, mum's part of the German foreign service, I'm also MI6, I have a sister	421
422	ODESSA	422
422	A sister?	422
423	Yes. And she's well, she's brilliant. I love her already. But, um I feel like you should know this happened before we got here, but she wants to set me up with Casey.	423
424	ODESSA You're not the only one with a um romantic entanglement. Look.	424
425	BETH A wedding ring?!	425
426	ODESSA Yes. I was hoping I was married to you, but I'm not. I don't know anything about my wife.	426
427	BETH None of that matters right now. The important thing is that we're together. Finally.	427
428	ODESSA And now we can try to figure out how to get back home. The smart play is to bring the people involved in this project on-board. They're our best shot. It seems like what they're working on is very similar to what Vault-Tec was doing.	428

429	BETH Brilliant. Let's just take a breath, maybe have a drink. I don't know how to broach this subject, but we need to do it as soon as possible.	429
AMANDA ap	pproaches.	
430	AMANDA Hey, babe!	430
431	ODESSA Amanda?!	431
432	AMANDA Jay texted me and told me you guys were having dinner here, so I came straight from the airport. I tried to call, but I think your phone's off. Are you okay? He said you passed out last night!	432
433	ODESSA I'm fine. I just it's been a long couple of days.	433
434	AMANDA You want me to take you right home? We can pick something up on the way if you're hungry. I really missed you. Like, a lot.	434
435	(beat) Oh, sorry, I didn't mean to be rude. Do you work with Odessa at the NRL?	435
436	BETH Um, yes. Temporary assignment, just got here yesterday. Elizabeth Kirby.	436
437	AMANDA Nice to meet you, Elizabeth. Amanda Valdez. Will you excuse us for a moment?	437
438	BETH Of course.	438
439	AMANDA Come here, Odessa. I've been waiting all week for this.	439

AMANDA and ODESSA kiss.

THE END